

## Meeting #17 April 22nd

### English-German Tales

— Page 103 - 108 —

Attendees: Robin, Paula, Ekant, Frieda, Dirk, Vanya, Sandy, Bobbie, James

Sandy: p105 a couple of observations: 3 in a row folk wisdom sayings and another soon after from Mullah Nasr Eddin. Fascinating.

Also etherogram – story interrupted and no explanation and don't take it up later.

Vanya: In English is listening to etherogram and in German reading.

RB: Very curious.

Bobbie: When he introduces etherogram or servant, something is going to change.

Bobbie: Amused with the word struth.

Ekant: Maybe something deeper behind etherogram and maybe also just wanting to remind us he is telling a story. Reality going on in background.

Vanya: A reminder.

Ekant: When I think more about it there could be a tendency to get lost in the story when I take it to myself – in my thoughts or inner world – outer happening reminds me something is happening. When disturbance from outside, he continues his story without distraction.

James: Could it be the servant is an association?

Hui / struth!

Bobbie: Struth = God's truth.

Vanya: Hui – making sound of air coming by – could be expression of surprise or if something is very positive, or ghost sounds.

Bobbie: Common names – Smith and Brown. Talking about Tolstoy? Fritz Muller and Hans Meier.

RB: Talking about Tolstoy. Would be John in both cases in the English.

Vanya: ephemeral?

Bobbie: Lasting a short time.

Frieda: German translation not quite the same. Imagination or conceit ...

James: ephemeral from Greek – means lasting a day, became applied to organisms with short life spans.

Sandra: Literary term – things you don't quite believe.

Ekant: ephemeral sounds important – a special word

Vanya: Talking about being partkdolg duty – in English absent and in German version lack of fulfilment of being partkdolg duty, so not as if completely fails. Both times, same difference in translation.

James: German more optimistic.

Ekant: More polite ...

Ekant: gebricht – lack of, different from English.

Vanya: Not common German word.

James: Anything to do with broken?

Ekant: Yes, but not used in this sense. If someone is sick we might say gebricht. Makes sense, but second time is slightly different than the English version: ... failed to realize ...

Vanya: brechen – falling into pieces

Bobbie: Crystallized – translates as is?

Ekant: Yes ... except we would usually not use in this sense – for chemicals ...

RB: We wouldn't normally say that ... a person has crystallized anything – used as a metaphor.

Frieda: They believe everything ... in German version don't believe what we ourselves could find out - confusing

RB: The English version is saying people have stopped working things out for themselves and that we should ... active reasoning, meaning that we should work it out for ourselves. American saying: Are you going to believe me or your lying eyes?

Ekant: Healthy considerations – same.

RB: Sane means healthy in Latin – mostly applied to psychology.

Vanya: kristallisieren and Bestand <https://www.dwds.de/wb/Bestand>

Ekant: Bestand - Use this word for 'stock' in a shop or when we count population of deer in the forest.

Sandy: Implies clarity? For good purposes or not so good.

Ekant: We use this word normally to explain an idea which is not clear and sort out true from untrue – growing out of the mass of the facts – crystalize out.

Frieda: Connotation is almost always positive or bound to the truth.

Ekant: Can be negative ...

I find it helpful when coming back to word 'Bestand' when not used in this meaning usually, have no previously formed idea around this word and now it has a specific meaning, but just from

Gurdjieff.

Frieda: He uses also in the other way – for increasing population of people.

Ekant: on p106. Reading the German not clear if Bestand is same meaning as before, or population of humans.

The use of the word Bestand, when we use in normal sense, is population of I's – many I's – man is legion.

End of p106 explains for first time from which influences we are built. There is a list later of influences for three-brained beings.

Sandy: 'coated'? ... which word in German?

Ekant: geformt – meaning 'brought into form' – Gestaltung in German and formation in English.

Sandy: ... makes me think of formatory thinking ... about not being able to trust your own investigations because of formatory thinking.

Ekant: Gestalt means the shape of something.

James: Think Gestaltung is a very good translation of 'arising and formation'

Ekant: In later explanations hear the term 'coating of higher being bodies' and here he says directly the exterior forms with which they are coated – coated is translated as which form they get.

Vanya: Coating of higher being bodies is translated differently

James: This coating is a fine substance. Think it is something that permeates.

Sandy: Like that it seems very physical at this stage and turns into what you are talking about.

James: Probably referring to keshjan body and maybe the soul.

RB: Reminds me of the idea of a body being hermetically sealed. You can go into the way plasma behaves – substances of that nature that are not solid can form coats. For instance around the Earth there is a magnetosphere, and it is coated with dual layers of plasma. Something that wasn't really known and starting to be known and is a radical way of thinking about things. Seems there is no such thing as a neutron. In center of atom electrons coated by protons and number of electrons in orbit ... can coat itself with multiple protons. Reason for thinking there is something to this – never had an explanation for why the center of an atom doesn't blow itself apart – has no negative charge. Invented a force called strong nuclear force – way of saying 'I don't know'. The reality seems to be no such thing as neutron – just combinations of protons and electrons. No longer need to have this strange strong nuclear force. Another force called weak nuclear force used to explain radioactive decay and that is not necessary either.

Book: The Nature of the Atom by Kaal, Otte, Sorensen, Emming

Ekant: p107 – first reference to strange psyche and enumeration of some of the properties. Main particularities which leads to war. First time I saw that war is not necessary. Usually in religion or spiritual things says peace and war have to be in balance and G only one to say so strange and only place in Universe it is happening. Not only outer – refers to inside also.

Vanya: Calls it what it is – process of destruction of each other's existence. Brings more to core of what it is.

James: Confronts us with the terror, the horror, stupidity of it.

Sandy: And suggestibility that it is inevitable.

James: Going on right now.

Vanya: Not like it is because of the organ kundabuffer – it is our own fault.

RB: This is a recurring pattern throughout the book. Some things are a consequence of kundabuffer and some things that we ourselves did.

This word Beeinflußbarkeit' – means suggestibility?

Ekant: To be receptive for influences. Directly before he says 'until become adult' and in German it is 'mature' or 'responsible' and is the introduction to what comes next.

Frieda: mündig - Meaning of responsible or ability to give consent.

Vanya: Has 'mouth' in it – can speak for himself.

Bobbie: Can be an adult and not be at all responsible.

Vanya: Talking about adult or mündig and then about strange things in our psyche, which is not at all how we would behave.

Frieda: In quotation marks – so ironic – not at all like adults. Just biologically. We are mündig or adults when we become 18, but not responsible according to G.

Ekant: Things we are not responsible for around notion of kundabuffer – in-built in our mechanism and things we are responsible because of things we built around ourself.

James: Different aspects of kundabuffer. No kundabuffer, kundabuffer and consequences of the organ kundabuffer. Not under influence when born and growing up and when laying ground for personality under its influence and then through destiny, fate or magnetic center, still under the influence of the organ kundabuffer and perhaps some of that material is needed to enable us to free ourselves from the organ kundabuffer.

Ekant: In past meeting – seemed that kundabuffer could be in an early stage of development and is inbuilt in a person and everyone has. Not something we can avoid and have the consequences in us and have to do the best and use for our work.

James: Spent half an hour with a someone from Afghanistan today. She was a grandmother of a little girl and she had not a trace of kundabuffer in her eyes. Probably will when will start growing a little bit.

Ekant: Agree. See same in our small children. Imitate and learn things. Pick up strange and unhealthy things.

James: Lays stress on this phenomena called suggestibility.

Bobbie: Worked with a young child around 18 months old. Asked him what he liked and what he

wants and why did I imprint this into him – so changed it.

Ekant: See in every child book. Sick ideas and notions that children read and imitate.

James: Remember watching Popeye and Pluto as a kid – knocking stuffing out of each other – Popeye smoked a pipe and Pluto ogled his girlfriend.

Sandy: Can't think about any time when I work when trying to observe kundabuffer. Where is it? Try to observe suggestibility.

Had a salesman in the house this morning and I bought the whole package – big blue eyes and a smile.

Vanya: Video games and how they influence kids – even without – if I see behaviour and how they copy all this nonsense from anyone, don't need to play video games.

PS: Average age children are exposed to pornography (in UK) is 9. Toxic masculinity has been identified as a problem in schools – behaviour of young boys.

Ekant: p107 – exercise for next week: functions which exist under the names 'egoism,' 'self-love,' 'vanity,' 'pride,' 'self-conceit,' 'credulity,' 'suggestibility,' and many other properties quite abnormal and quite unbecoming to the essence of any three-brained beings whatsoever.

Sandy: Establishes war and mutual destruction ... raises a number of things that he says he will come back to later. Kundabuffer, Parktdolg duty ... set up for many important things for rest of book.

James: Before he takes trip to First Descent. Set up nicely. Found this chapter light reading compared to some of the rest of the book. Available in a way.

Ekant: The beginnings of perspectives promising nothing very cheerful.

Exercise discussion:

Vanya: I realise I react very much to comments of others. Very childish. Many times it happens – I feel offended. Really have to work and breathe and not react.

James: Times in the last week when the exercise came a little bit too late. Reaction to things that were said perceived as a slight or not being appreciated enough. A theme when I could observe my behaviour. How far away I am from my aim. I got angry a couple of times – even at things not personally involved ... angry at other drivers on the road. Behaved like a crazy man.

Vanya: Other side was to watch in others – see it in others and is different – wonder why they are like that. Perception is different – ridiculous from outside. Take as insulting.

Bobbie: I see the vehicle, don't see the person.

Ekant: Took as an exercise when I feel the rage and I pass the car and see the driver. Very often see a young woman or an old grandma – this impression would resolve in me like a neutralising force.

Sandy: Important to notice the neutralising force.

Bobbie: Don't think they are recognisable.

PS: Neutralising force can be reason ...

Vanya: The tail of Beelzebub stands for Reason – I also want to have this tail.

RB: Question worth asking any time you experience strong emotion. Question is am I having this feeling because I think I am important. It is active reasoning – undermines identification with the emotion.

Ekant: Got a good sentence from a good therapist: he said instead of thinking the other doesn't want to, assume that the other person cannot. Now when I observe conflicts, they don't think about it – assume that there is an intention behind bad behaviour. I learned that there is not at all intention. Is the other not willing, or not capable. This conflict is not there in the same colour – changes. Book about Madame de Salzmann's work – Ravi Ravindra was complaining about a situation and she asks: "how did you help?"

Bobbie: Ask why do I have this expectation?

RB: About 20 years ago I was working in a house I was living in and I was clumsy and banged into a radiator and got angry with it. Later it occurred to me how stupid it is and same as getting angry with people who are mechanical. I decided not to hit the radiator with a hammer.

Bobbie: Frieda, is there anything you can share about your impressions from this book?

Frieda: Think I heard some passages before from Ekant and Vanya. Many fundamental thoughts and concepts are already known to me. So not so life-changing or incredible – interesting to read it myself and to concentrate on it and read 10 or 11 chapters in one evening. I enjoy talking about it and generally enjoy discussions and analysing things and dominated by thoughts. There are passages that deeply touch me – like about war – not new, exactly how I feel about it and nice to know there were other people who had same views.

Bobbie: I have a note from another time – the Earth is leant to us by our children.

Sandra: Childishness and naivete – most of the people I know are online one way or another and making contact with somebody new to me and wrote an email to them about a page number and they invited me to join their websites – may be online a lot but don't know about everything – told me about sub-stacks and don't know about them. Had a hard time signing up and a sub-stack is a group of websites and go from one to another and first one I hit on was a political one that I didn't want to be on ... and felt like I can't stand this and don't want to talk to this person again. Eventually got to what I was hoping for ... was a childish reaction I think. Like a reaction to an etherogram ...

What was I expecting of myself, what was I expecting of this person – do I have any agency?

Bobbie: I found I had to limit my intake on a lot of stuff coming at me – had to stand back and let it go some place else.

Sandy: Boston Marathon – robots in the race – living our life on screen and run our races by machine.

Ekant: Who is looking at it?



# AI Meeting Summary Apr 22, 2025

## Quick recap

The team discussed various topics including the peculiarities of three-brained beings on Earth, the meaning of the word "ephemeral," and the translation of the word "crystallized" in the context of a book. They also explored the concept of "Kundabuffer" and its influence on human development, and shared their personal experiences with emotions and reactions. The conversation ended with a discussion on their impressions of a book they've been reading together and the impact of modern technology on daily life.

## Next steps

- All participants: Continue reading Chapter 15 for next discussion
- All participants: Work on observing and reflecting on egoism, self-love, vanity, and other common psyche functions for the next week
- James and Frieda: Prepare a task for next week's discussion focusing on the common psyche functions mentioned on page 107
- All participants: Practice observing suggestibility in daily interactions and prepare to share experiences in future discussions
- All participants: Reflect on how they worked on the tasks from the previous week and prepare to share at next meeting

## Summary

### Casual German Conversation With Frieda

In the meeting, Sandra and Frieda engaged in a casual conversation in German, with some language barriers. Frieda and Vanya discussed their ages and family backgrounds. Later, the group welcomed Dirk and others, and Robin suggested a brief pause before proceeding with the planned discussion.

### Beelzebub's Explanation on Earthlings' Traits

The summary discusses Beelzebub's explanation to his grandson about the peculiarities of three-brained beings on Earth. Beelzebub describes how Earthlings tend to believe what others say rather than relying on their own reasoning, and how they have developed abnormal traits like egoism, vanity, and suggestibility. He advises his grandson to be cautious when referring to Earth beings to avoid offending them. Beelzebub then begins to recount his six visits to Earth, starting with his first descent.

### Exploring German Story's Servant Character

The team discussed the German version of a story, focusing on the character of a servant. They explored the possibility of the servant being a metaphor for distraction or a reminder of the story's reality. The team also discussed the use of the word "Hui" in German, which can mean surprise or positivity. They also touched on the use of common names like Smith and Brown in literature. The conversation ended with a discussion on the full names of characters in English literature.

## **Ephemeral and German Translation Discussion**

The group discusses the meaning of the word "ephemeral," with James explaining its Greek etymology as "lasting a day." They explore its literary usage and compare it to the German translation. Vanya then brings up a difference in translation between the German and English versions of a text about "park dog duty," noting that the German version is more optimistic. The conversation shifts to analyzing the German word "gebricht," with the group discussing its meaning and usage in the context of the text.

## **Translation of Metaphorical and German Words**

The team discussed the translation of the word "crystallized" in the context of the book. They agreed that it was being used as a metaphor and not in its pure chemical sense. They also discussed the translation of the phrase "we don't believe what we ourselves have been able to record" and agreed that it meant people have stopped working things out for themselves. The team also discussed the translation of the word "bestand" in German, which is usually used to refer to stock or population, but not for the presence of a person.

## **Exploring German Word "Bestand" in Gurdjieff**

The group discusses the German word "bestand" and its various meanings in Gurdjieff's text, including population and presence. They explore the translation of "coded" in English to "geformt" (formed) in German, and how this relates to the concept of formative thinking. The conversation then shifts to the idea of "coating" higher being bodies, with James suggesting it refers to a fine substance coating the kesdjan body or soul. Robin draws a parallel to the concept of hermetic sealing and the magnetosphere's plasma boundary around Earth, suggesting a new perspective on understanding these ideas.

## **Neutron Theory and War Discussion**

Robin discusses a theory that challenges the existence of neutrons and the need for strong and weak nuclear forces. He suggests that the nucleus of an atom consists of electrons coated by protons, which explains why it doesn't blow apart. Frieda summarizes this theory for Dirk, explaining that it's a critique of scientific explanations that invent forces to explain unknown phenomena. The group then transitions to discussing war, with Frieda mentioning a text that suggests war is not necessary, which gave her hope. Vanya adds that the text attributes war to human fault rather than inevitability.

## **Kundabuffer and Human Development**

The group discusses the concept of "Kundabuffer" and its influence on human development. James suggests there are three aspects to it, noting that young children seem free from its effects. The conversation touches on suggestibility in children and the negative influences of media and technology. Frieda proposes working on tasks related to common psyche functions like egoism and vanity for the next week. Sandra points out that these chapters introduce several important themes that will be explored throughout the book, including war, mutual destruction, and crystallization.

## **Managing Emotions and Reactions**

In the meeting, the participants discussed their personal experiences with emotions and reactions. Vanya and James shared how they often react childishly and naively to comments from others, and how they struggle to control these reactions. They also discussed how traffic situations can trigger strong emotions. The group also discussed the importance of recognizing neutralizing



forces and using reason to manage emotions. Frieda shared her experience with a therapist who helped her change her attitude towards people, and Barbara emphasized the need to question one's expectations. The conversation ended with a reflection on the importance of not taking things personally and not reacting impulsively.

### **Book Discussion and Tech Impact**

The group discusses their impressions of a book they've been reading together. Frieda shares that while the content is not entirely new to her, she enjoys the discussion and finds some passages deeply touching. Sandra recounts a recent experience with online platforms, expressing her naivety and childish reactions to unfamiliar technology. The conversation then shifts to the impact of modern technology on daily life, including robots participating in the Boston Marathon. The meeting concludes with a minute of silence suggested by James.