

Meeting #21 June 3rd

English-German Tales

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Attendees: Robin, Vanya, Frieda, Bobbie, Ekant, Sandy

AI Summary only

Quick recap

The group explored various concepts related to time perception and its differences across different beings and planets, including discussions about the relative speed of time and its impact on three-brained beings on Earth. They examined mathematical calculations and discrepancies between English and German versions of texts, while also discussing the significance of specific numbers and the meaning of words related to transformation and transmutation. The conversation concluded with reflections on healthcare practices and personal experiences with time perception, including discussions about medical treatments and the role of practitioners in modern medicine.

Next steps

All participants: Practice observing personal experiences of time perception in daily activities as discussed in the meeting

Vanya: Research and document the differences between "transmutation" and "transformation" in scientific and spiritual contexts

Robin: Share additional information about the gradations of reason mentioned in the Tales with the group

Stuart: Continue observing and documenting experiences of time perception during bicycle rides as part of self-observation exercises

Barbara: Research etymology of medical terms discussed in relation to hypochondria for future discussion

Summary

Three-Brained Beings' Time Perception

Vanya explained to his grandson that the existence of three-brained beings on Earth is significantly shorter than on other planets, with their subjective time perception being 49 times slower than the objective time experienced by beings on the Sun. He described how the nature of these beings has gradually changed, with their original purpose of transforming cosmic substances now being compromised by their own abnormal external existence, leading to a drastic reduction in their life span. Vanya emphasized that the main cause of their current predicament is not an external factor but the abnormal conditions of their ordinary existence, which they have created and maintained over time.

Discrepancy in Calculation Versions

The group discovered a discrepancy between the English and German versions of a calculation,

where the German version showed 12 more years than the English version. Vanya confirmed the English version was correct, with the calculation being 389 times 12, while the German version had been rounded up. The team discussed potential reasons for the discrepancy, with Sandy suggesting it could be related to how age is calculated in Germany, but concluded it was likely a simple mistake that should be corrected.

Number 389.105 and Story Development

The group discusses the mathematical significance of the number 389.105, which represents the ratio of the moon's average orbit around Earth to Earth's average orbit around the sun. Robin explains that this number was known 2,000 years ago. The conversation then shifts to Hasien's developmental stage, with Frieda noting that the character is mentally and emotionally equivalent to a 12-year-old human. Barbara and Frieda also explore the meaning and translation of the word "pliant" in the context of the story.

Missing Paragraph Translation Discrepancy

The group discovered a missing paragraph in the English translation of a text on page 129, which was present in the German version. Frieda confirmed that the last sentence of the English paragraph was condensed into one sentence in the German version, and the missing content was not present in either version. The group discussed whether this was a printing error or intentional, with Robin suggesting it might not be accidental. They also noted that the English text was more difficult to comprehend than the German version, with Frieda agreeing that the German text was clearer in this instance.

Time and Transformation Insights

The group discussed the meanings of "transmutation" and "transformation," noting that while the words have similar meanings in English, "transmutation" is less commonly used in German. They explored how these concepts relate to personal growth and perception of time, with Stewart sharing examples of how his inner state affects his experience of time during activities like bicycle riding and conversations. Vanya described practicing Movement 11 on the piano, noting how her initial superficial experience evolved into a deeper, more meaningful engagement with the music. The discussion concluded with reflections on how inner work and changes in perception can lead to a richer, more profound experience of time.

Understanding Three-Brained Beings' Thought

Robin discussed the differences between one, two, and three-brained beings, emphasizing that three-brained beings are capable of mentation by thought, which one and two-brained beings are not. Robin explained that engaging in activities that require mentation by thought, such as pursuing language and understanding etymology, can help develop this ability. Sandy highlighted the distinction between thought and reason, noting that reason is a scale and thought can be mechanical. Robin described the higher emotional center as a target for understanding and bringing emotionality to everything, while also explaining that mentation by thought must break out of the limitations of the lower intellectual center. The discussion touched on the concept of reason's gradations and the improvement of Beelzebub's reason throughout the tales, as well as the Shiite view of the "man of light" as a symbol of perfection.

Perfection, Imperfection, and Hypochondria

The group discussed the concept of perfection and imperfection, with Robin explaining that people on the "holy planet Purgatory" have perfected their essence but are still imperfect and need to eliminate their imperfections to progress. They also explored the etymology of hypochondria,

with Barbara explaining its Greek origins related to the thoracic viscera and Robin clarifying that the modern meaning of hypochondria as excessive health anxiety is different from its original meaning of melancholy. The discussion concluded with Stewart sharing his personal experience with hypochondria in recent months.

Challenges in Modern Healthcare Practices

The group discussed healthcare practices, particularly in the UK, where general practitioners often gave patients antibiotics as a quick fix for minor illnesses, despite the lack of effectiveness. Paula noted that doctors would typically tell patients to return in two weeks if their condition didn't improve, as most illnesses resolve on their own within that timeframe. Barbara expressed frustration about the passive role of doctors in modern medicine, highlighting a personal experience where she was unable to get appropriate follow-up care after a broken femur. Robin shared his perspective on self-doctoring and emphasized that the immune system is the only true cure for illnesses, while avoiding poisons like fructose is a key aspect of maintaining health.

Challenges in Modern Healthcare Delivery

The group discussed challenges in modern healthcare, with Robin highlighting that many medical treatments are administered by practitioners who lack deep knowledge, while Paula noted that effective healthcare providers are those who demonstrate curiosity and effort. Sandy and Paula reflected on how medical professionals' roles have evolved, particularly since the introduction of antibiotics in the 1930s, which created an illusion of magical healing capabilities. The discussion concluded with participants sharing personal experiences of time perception, including Frieda's observations about time distortion during travel and Paula's experience waiting for medical care, with Robin suggesting techniques like counting exercises to maintain focus during waiting periods.