NOTHING IS HIDDEN— a narrative poem, with apologies to Ludwig Wittgenstein. © by Milton Moon

In the King James version of the Bible, the sentence that opens Genesis is *"In the beginning God created the earth and heaven...."* suggesting there was a 'time before' and 'time-after.' The Gospel of John 1:1 one reads: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* Something *is* hidden!

The ancient Indian parable tells of blind people feeling an elephant, with differing descriptions of what it was: the leg was like a tree, the tail like rope, the side of the elephant was like a wall and the trunk a snake, the ears a fan and the tusk like a spear; all giving an false interpretation of reality. Opinions differ about many things based on one's past experience, and which are dependant on the degree of blindness and the emphasis of the opinion.

Many opinions, like muddy feet carelessly trodden can not only cause ire and nuisance but leave a residue of careless mess for others who come after. Nothing is Hidden? If you are asked to give explanation by citing Schrodinger's cat to explain the mysteries of physical reality, or an explanation of quantum physics theory you can look elsewhere. One of the lesser-known Zen sayings is 'you can talk about it, and about it, but it is not IT'; the word 'about' is where some definitions stall.

A brilliant scientist friend, waiting to die vehemently observed "we know nothing". In my friend's case, he suffered an illness destroying his once agile and searching Mind, the cause and cure were both hidden. Too often things are hidden — the importance of a suspect lump, ignored by his carer-wife, caused her own early death soon after his.

The word Nothing also means no-thing, an abstract-something, certainly not found, and defying explanation or description. "There's nothing here" a person will say, a looked-for thing not obvious. Deeper thoughts come easily to some whilst to others they are merely an aberration, or an irritation, perhaps an embarrassment

Who knows the life of directed thought? Who knows the power of random thoughts? Who knows the origin of thoughts from afar? Why is that someone telephones to hear the recipient was thinking of the other at the exact time, "I was just thinking of you?" Why is it that a sudden awakening of a deeper state of consciousness a person automatically looks at the source of the intrusion and that person instantly looks away as though caught prying? Coincidence? Synchronicity? An audience, a television camera and a careless, intrusive, rudely focusing on a single person and that person immediately reacts an awareness response — not looking at any projected image but at the source, the camera-man. In a long life it has happened many hundreds of times, prompting the question—does thought have some telepathic form and *is* an entity itself? And feelings? Are *feelings* telepathic? an essence which is transmitted?

The philosopher Wittgenstein said, '...all the propositions of logic say the same thing, to wit nothing'. One Zen Master was quoted to have said, "Zen has nothing to say,"

Genetic researchers know a lot about the human genome but there are still mysteries beyond their knowledge especially on the subject of 'Nature and Nurture.' Does the foetus wholly depend on the genetic contest between egg and sperm — *and it is a contest* or is there truth, as some believe, that the foetus of the future child enters the contest obeying some law we don't understand?

The Cosmos was supposed to begin with the Big Bang, or, as some speculate, successive Big Bangs. But we don't know — we need a little more than suppositions by clever cosmologists and astro-physicists to know how it all began. Knowledge of Dark-matter, and all the other mysteries are both imagined and actual?...who knows? Many things *are* hidden. The Cosmos itself? Was there *a* time *before*? *Before the Cosmos*? At one time it didn't have a form we recognised? What was there? Emptiness? What is emptiness? Empty space? Nothing? No-thing? What *is* No-thing or Nothing? A time before Galaxies? Dark-matter? Before down to earth things? No minerals? No molecules? No Periodic Scale? No atoms? No quarks? No accelerated matter? No Quantum mechanics?. or even theories? Beyond us or before us? Who and what is God? "In the beginning God created the earth and heaven." Was it thought itself that became physical form?

Beyond Us? Before Us?

Is this where the god's exist? Heaven? Hell? the measure of all things? In a timeless formless place we can't conceive but which contains all thoughts and feelings, expressed in a language of *all feelings*? Inadequate feelings? Unrequited feelings? Feelings of love and hate? Exultant feelings? Every feeling we know and *are and have ever been*, able to pass through cosmic space without a trace? A time of thought and feelings, before our time existed but which exists now both within past and present time? Even Now? Thought and feelings within a structure seemingly without a structure? Hidden? The ancient wisdom knew it but now the sacred *is Hidden* until we learn the *Thought* of No-thought and glimpse the hidden Un-Seen. Throughout history there are many ways of attempting attainment or, at least, gaining the attention of various gods and godesses; and even dark spirits of the nether worlds.

Hindu India, Fakirs and Holy men and sacred cows There is uneasy peace within the Moslem population — Shia and Shiite everywhere differ on interpreting the Koran. Some say Sufism the mystical sect reveals the essence of Islam. Judaism too has a violent history. It's own mystical affiliation is known as the Kabbalah.

Buddhism which began in India five hundred years before the Christian era itself has a violent past. Open hostilities meant that soldier monks in both China and Japan spent more time perfecting martial arts than meditation.

In Buddhist Japan many priests were put to death for following the words of the Buddha.

Christianity today, within living memory has slaughtered millions in genocide and ethnic cleansing

The Buddha said, in the time of Mappo say the Buddha's name.

We say Namu Amida Butsu — but say it with a deep Mind, with a sincere Mind and with a Mind of aspiration.

Namu Amida Butsu

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