

THE HALF DEMON – A TALE ABOUT THE DIVINE MASCULINE AND FEMININE, THEIR UNION AND REDEMPTION OF EVIL

The subject of the eternal masculine and the eternal feminine emerged (again) in the last AGM 2018 meeting in Toronto. In one of its keynote talks on the theme “Creating Moral Substances”, Rev. Jonah Evans talked about the union of these opposite characters in each human being and in humanity as a crucial step towards building the New Community. He drew resources both from the Old Testament, which is more of the feminine character, and Spiritual Science, which is more of the masculine character.

The Bible’s Cain and Abel story shed light on many profound aspects of this subject. The Temple Legend shed light on still other aspects. Other aspects of the union of these opposite characters in man were also portrayed in numerous fairy tales and legends, including my favorite love story of Penelope and Odysseus in Homer’s *Odyssey*. The divine feminine and masculine are also evident in the polarities of various streams in humanity described by Rudolf Steiner, such as between the Platonic and Aristotelean streams, or between the Buddhism and Christianity streams (in lectures of the theme “From Buddha to Christ”). We can also experience the feminine and the masculine in the Zodiac sign of “the Twin” with the help of Steiner’s suggestion for meditation for that sign, “Perseverance becomes faithfulness.”

As we evolve into the future and build the New Community or the New Mysteries, humanity will gain more understanding of this deep subject. And I believe that we will necessarily discover more and more other significance of these opposite but most intimate characters of man.

This subject recently became my dearest subject of spiritual research. Here I would like to share some of my recent intuitive findings, put in the form of an imaginative tale. The tale is about the union of the divine masculine and feminine and its redemption of evil. As far as I am aware of, the aspects that this tale here recounts have not been portrayed explicitly elsewhere. I leave it up to the reader to verify the truth of it, as I do myself too.

Before I am going into the tale, let me say a few more words on what the union of the eternal masculine and feminine is about. To me, of this deep subject, we can say first and foremost the following. In Abel, the feminine, we see selfless devotion that offers sacrifices to God and these sacrifices are God’s creation. In Cain, the masculine, we see devotion colored with man’s pride that offers to God man’s own creation. Thus, in the union of these two characters, in its culmination, we have to see a devotion that offers sacrifices but these sacrifices are both God and man’s highest creation. And this is nothing other than man’s being itself, after being worked on and purified by him. God created man and man then worked on it and offered up all of himself. An earthly archetype of this has been done once for humanity at Golgotha.

A TALE ABOUT THE HALF-DEMON

Once upon a time, there were a boy and a girl about the same age growing up together and they like each other very much. They always played together as if nothing in the world could separate them. When they came to about nine years old, life however happened that each of them had to go on their own way. After years they forgot about each other. The boy became a young man with a good heart. He traveled many places, helped people in need and fought against demons that wreaked havoc on them. People loved him but the demons hated him.

Now in his journey wandering about, he heard rumors about a maiden of unparalleled beauty living in a far-away land. He also heard about her loving heart that would bring warmth to any one that she spoke to. Needless to say, countless proposals came her way but so far she had not accepted any. Out of curiosity, the young man asked people for directions to the maiden, and since people loved him and thought the two would make a perfect couple, they always helped him when they can. After a long journey the young man finally came to meet the maiden and soon they recognized each other to be their childhood mate. Love quickly blossomed between them and they married each other.

The news of their marriage soon came to the demon king. Having always wanted to take revenge on the young man and to inflict great suffering on him, one day the demon king stole away the newly-wedded wife, imprisoned her in his kingdom of darkness, and condemned her a gradual death.

Now, although the young man had defeated numerous demons before, he was no match against the powerful demon king and his army. A wise old man advised him that the only way to save his new wife was that he must get deep inside the kingdom of darkness, look and act like a demon, gradually gain the king's trust in order to come close enough to the king and kill him. However, the wise man also said, the time the young man would live like a demon in that kingdom of darkness would also gradually convert him to a demon himself, and therefore even if he would successfully free his wife, as a demon he would not be able to live together with his wife anymore any way.

The thought that his beloved wife was gradually dying was so unbearable to the young man that he decided he would rather become a demon and lose her instead. So things went as the wise old man said. Thanks for his cleverness, it didn't take too long before the young man mastered the ways in the kingdom of darkness, earned the demon king's trust, killed the king, caused major upheavals in that kingdom, and brought his wife home. He however had turned into a half-demon, half-man creature. That he was still a half-man was thanks to his good heart.

The young wife was so heart-broken that she was now free only to find her beloved husband having turned into a demon. Living with a half-demon was surely unbearable, but much more so for her to let

him go, since he was now her life. So her husband the half-demon still was, but she determined with all her heart to tame the demon. After years and years of untold hardship for both of them, the demon in the husband was completely transformed and he became fully man again. And the couple lives happily together forever since.

AFTERWORD

The tale just recounted leaves open a few questions concerning the redemption of evil, such as how the conversion to a demon of the young man actually takes place, how the upheavals in the kingdom of darkness actually come about, or how the taming and transformation of the half-demon actually happen. And what do these questions have to do with the sickness of the Father God and the healing of it? As I live with these questions, their significance also gradually unfolds in me. Leaving them open here, I would like to invite the engaged readers to let these questions and this deep subject become alive within them.