

BOOK SEVEN CHAPTER TWELVE ENTELECHY

Homo sapiens was destroying its own habitat. A message in a dream, “Wait for a pat on the cheek.” A yellow Labrador named Marcus and a three legged cat named Snug, five youngsters, Shilli Louwrens (Namibia), Emilie Larsen (Denmark), Asha Singh (India), Samuel Karam (Lebanon) and Julian Emerson (the United States) meeting for the first time at a world wide sports competition in Australia, agreed to do everything they could to help show the way. Ayres the orangutan and Victoria the chimpanzee filed a legal action against the human race for depraved indifference. After the trial, they received the Nobel Peace Prize, fraternity between nations, abolition of armies. the promotion of peace.

Marcus had been killed. Lapis had stepped in after Samuel died, saving a dog from a fire. Lapis was then murdered. As did Shilli, Asha, Julian and Emilie, Chopper the English bulldog and Chloe the sloth believed the human species would meet the challenge. Changes were beginning.

Marcus - “There is a connection between all living things. The natural world has the ability to change the Earth in ways humans don’t yet understand. Important issues for the human species could no longer be deferred. Accelerating awareness in an unorthodox manner was the only remaining choice. We are deeply troubled but endlessly optimistic. It isn’t what humans have done, it is what so many have failed to do. It is time to summon will power and courage, to explore, investigate, discuss and consider new social and economic structures.

The white ear tipped Labrador continued. “Anger is a sign of life. It serves a purpose, has helped us survive. There are positive qualities of anger that mobilize resources, increase our vigilance, facilitate the removal of obstacles to pursuing worthy goals. Don’t be fooled by the comfort anger can offer. If not used for positive change, it can be poisonous. Social change isn’t predictable, small steps in bits and pieces. then huge changes, slowing down suddenly, then speeding up. People will change in their own way and time, their options open. Solutions will not be obvious. The familiar and predicible are comfortable. What is ahead will be uncomfortable.

How you interact, cultivate the strengths of those around you, respect one another, your reverence for all living things, not just human life, the energy of positive thought and action will spread. Don’t let all the good things that are about to take place allow you to forget those that have already occurred.”

Many of you do not see the beauty in front of you, Animals, flowers and oceans don't complain. They notice. Why hasn't your species learned from the teachers of the natural world? Because they are not like you, you believe you are superior. By knowing only your own kind, you limit yourselves. All that is loves and feels love."

The night before the latest outage ended, Shilli, Asha, Emilie and Julian had a dream. There was to be a meeting of the Council. Each made plans to leave for Bhutan the following morning. Jane Green made arrangements for Ellen March and Sang to accompany her. King Wangchuck graciously arranged for everyone to stay at the same guesthouse in Paro where, two years past, after the youngsters had noticed odd lights shining through a wall partition, a startling discovery was made. Chopper the English Bulldog and Snug, the three legged cat, had led the five (Lapis was still alive) along the banks of the Thimphu Chuu River to meet with the Council. Their message - "All is a priority over self. All of us. Though uncharted, the gap is bridgeable."

Walking back to the traditional two story wooden house, its woodwork intricately painted with designs of animals, flower and birds, everyone heard what sounded like a baby crying. Clinging to a branch at the water's edge was a tiny animal. Asha approached, carefully picking up the creature, cradling him and humming softly. Asha - "Do you remember when we first met the King? There was a picture in the hallway outside of his office, a pale cream colored, almost yellow, monkey with a black face and a very long tale. When I asked one of the guards, he told me it was a golden Langur, an animal considered sacred in the ancient Kingdom, now one of the most endangered species."

The baby monkey continued to make sounds, not a cry, but a clear communication. "Competition for power is at the heart of violence. Be prepared for the unexpected." Arriving at the guesthouse, Asha held the tiny monkey close until someone from the animal rescue mission came to care for him. The men who'd arrived to look behind the wall, left holding something wrapped in a white cloth. Shilli, Asha, Emilie, Julian and Lapis were asked by the property's owner to write their name and a message on the back of the newly installed removable panel.

Everyone planning to return home the following day, Jane Green discussed her recent conversation with King Wangchuck. The cause of the beams of light shining through the ridges between the wall panels? A solid gold mask of a Langur, a mask whose existence most Bhutanese considered a myth.

Shilli, Asha, Emilie and Julian didn't fully realize how much they'd matured and grown since their first meeting over five years ago. What began as the individual efforts of five young people, had grown into the beginnings of worldwide change. Logical thinking about making a living, preparing for a job more often than not taught them not to take the risks they were considering. For each, their choice was different, their beliefs having changed, as had their resolve. As the months (and years) progressed, they listened to the whispers in their heads and, after considerable thought, ended up following their instincts. Even in the face of strong opposition, they stood up for what they believed was right. Knowing what was at stake, they were not afraid of taking a risk.

Bhutan had no rigid class system. One of the few independent countries in the world that had never been conquered, occupied or governed by another power, the goal (accomplished) was gross natural happiness of the residents, relationships were the key. Human to human, human to animal and to nature.

After dinner, sitting in the guesthouse's interior garden, everyone talking at once, catching up with one another, Julian, Shill, Asha and Emilie, Sang, Ellen March and Jane Green were naturally curious about the upcoming meeting. When a raven swooped through the window landing on Julian's shoulder, calm, forceful, with an natural authority that communicated trust, "Please follow me," no one was surprised. After meeting with the Council two years ago, the four youngsters' expectations ran high, ready for challenges ahead. Sang, Ellen and Jane Green were uncertain, having no idea what to expect.

Under a rising full moon, walking through dense groves of trees, the sumptuousness of nature's appearing and disappearing lights and shadows impossible to ignore, the rustling of crisp leaves underfoot was the only sound. Two years ago, everyone remembered a similar trek, crossing rope bridges over rapids, the sounds of monks' prayers in the background.

In less than a half hour, everyone arrived at an open space. The lowest, not highest, branches of a nearby blue pine tree were filled with crows' nests, the cackling birds had been hard at work to ensure everyone's comfort. Hollowed out tree trunks, sycamore, cherry, pine, maple, locust, alder, hickory, aspen, walnut, dogwood, redbud, ash, poplar, were filled with blue poppy blossoms, comfortable nest seats for one and all. An Alanthus tree trunk was explaining his uniqueness to an interested porcupine. "Humans call me by different names, the tree of heaven, the tree of hell, the stink tree." Raw sapphires covered the ground like pea gravel. The Raven, as he had done two years prior, addressed everyone's unspoken thought. "Worth is not financial."

As the MoChu River flowed in the distance, rhododendrons blanketing the landscape. a white bellied heron and black necked crane circled overhead,

As Asha walked to settle into a nest, a pale cream colored monkey with a black face and long tail, the golden langur she'd rescued two years ago. walked toward her, placing a small pearl in her hand. "Thank you for saving me." He was the first to speak.

GOLDEN LANGUR.

"I am MERRY HEART CREPUSCULAR GRATITUDE, MHCG for short. What was said by Bhutan's human representative at an organization called the United Nations is worth repeating. "Man is just a sentient being, among other forms of existence. The assumption that man is on top of the chain of beings is misplaced, considering the mysterious web of interdependent relationships that is now being confirmed through scientific studies. Reality is not hierarchical but a whole, circular, enclosed system. Sustainable development is, therefore, in the interest of every being, every day, not just in the interest of future generations. We are here today to introduce you to the concept of the Multiverse."

While MHCG was speaking, a blue poppy, gazelle, black necked crane, orange tabby cat, ant, rabbit, white bellied heron, carp, takin, porcupine and a white crow quietly took their nest seats. What was that odd sound? A group of hummingbirds in a nearby tree snoring.

MHCG continued. "We have guests who would like to speak." Into the clearing walked a mountain gorilla, his arm around an amur leopard. "I am GOOD. This is REIMAGINE. We're disappearing from your planet." As he spoke, a black rhinoceros (a hawksbill turtle sitting on his back) and a South China tiger walked into the clearing holding a blanket between them, carrying a rare Vaquita porpoise, obviously near death, who whispered. "I am BRUNO. Please help me!" The group left quietly.

In the distance, Marcus the yellow Labrador (murdered four years past) was walking toward them, Samuel (who'd died in a fire saving Argos the Golden Retriever) and Lapis, Emilie's husband, (recently killed in Russia) both at his side. Having come to expect the unknown and unexplainable from The Council, Shilli, Emilie, Julian and Asha knew this wasn't a dream or an illusion. Lapis' voice was emotional. "We are made of light, here to tell you that we love you and will always be be a part of you. You are loved." In an instant, the three were gone. One by one the members of The Council spoke from their nest seats.

MECONOPSIS BETANICIFOLIA

“I am BLUE POPPY.

Humans have a word - generous. It is a concept inbred in our cells.

GAZELLE

“I am KUBLER-ROSS.

Pleased that humans have begun to make progress, we’ve broadened our strategy with each new outage.

BLACK NECKED CRANE

“I am PEMA.

Insects leaving viruses on your food sources have peaked your attention.

WHITE BELLIED HERON

“I am DORJI.

A new way of thinking and behaving won’t happen quickly. Your changing DNA in embryos is one positive step.

PORCUPINE.

“I am KAZANTZAKIS.

With wearable translators, language is no longer an issue. Steps toward success, understanding, will be up to each individual.

ANT

“I am HARRIET.

Nature’s contradictions are many. They are there to inspire the human species to ask questions. Correctly defining “human syndrome” has been a challenge.”

RABBIT

“I am BETTELHEIM.

“The very young and very old are leading your species. During the outages, they have learned to communicate, not only with each other but with animals and others in the natural world, discussing the steps necessary for new behavior.

CARP

“I am WHEREIBELONG

“Art is all important to civilization.”

TAKIN

“I am HILDEGARD.

Letting go is difficult. Many will be angry. A number of humans will not do what is right unless they are forced. Advantages of the unexpected, positive effects of disruption.

WHITE CROW

“I am McCAY.

Since the beginning of life on your planet humans and those in the natural world have experienced what you call *Cancer*. Every form of *Cancer* is no more. Other illnesses have been put on hold. The future is in each of your hands. Every human, in their daily choices, plays a part. You have begun to awaken what has been dormant. *empathy*, yet you continue with the cruelty, stupidity, agony and terror of what you call “the rules of war.” Killing those who are different is a human disease.”

ORANGE TABBY CAT

“I am PENTACLES.

What have you learned this year”?

Shilli - “We see what we want to see, hear what we want to hear. Discounting the future in favor of the present seems to be normal for many of us.”

Asha - “This is the “Year of Pulses,” grains that need less water to grow. We are learning how to feed our planet’s growing population using less land.”

Julian - “I consider myself one of the privileged few to have known and spent time with Marcus the Labrador. There isn’t a day that goes by that something he said comes to mind. I learned that dark energy, dark matter, comprises ninety five percent of our known universe.”

Jane Green - “The importance of understanding nature, the power of climate.”

Ellen March - “From one situation to another, many humans suspend their values. I’ve learned that Bhutan is the only country in the world with the state religion of Buddhism. Their leaders work to ensure conditions necessary for everyone’s happiness.

Sang Ah Gohk - "Music is the universal language. Animals, human and non human, birds and insects, have long used the same frequencies of musical notes to communicate and to heal. The outage sparked a revival of local bands, street concerts and orchestras, people immediately recognized the importance of music in their daily lives, young and old began to design new instruments."

Emilie - "Australia's indigenous people, the Aborigines, believe the human species is not superior to nature. This was the message of the outages. I share their belief that humans are not only *not* superior to the natural world but, of equal importance, they are *not apart* from it."

Shilli, Emilie, Julian, Samuel, Asha and Lapis (each with an intricate, unique and defining individuality) had never known the depth of feeling they experienced when Marcus was killed. They had all turned into the people the yellow Labrador hoped they would be. Samuel and Lapis were now in spirit with the loyal dog who'd changed all their lives. Shilli, Emilie, Julian and Asha were strong willed. No one, nothing, would inhibit them from what they were going to do, each and every day. Mental control over the emotions. Not blaming, but addressing their own behavior with each choice they made, no excuse for inaction. All of Us.

What happened next had long been anticipated. As the distant fog horn tone everyone had first heard during the trial in the Hague began, a comforting sound, a small dragon bicycled into the clearing, Shilli, Emilie, Julian, Asha and Jane Green made eye contact, smiling. Ellen March and Sang had no idea what to expect.

The Kingdom of Bhutan was a biker's dream. When the dragon made his way to the center of the circle of nests and stopped pedaling, the bicycle remained steady and upright. "I am DRUK. Clues left for your scientists and archaeologists of a new dimension have gone unnoticed, as have cries, not only in the wilderness, but everywhere across your planet. Because you have each committed to something most of your species would think insurmountable, the concept of a Multiverse, an Inter galaxy Interface, alternate universes with inhabited planets, those who have been waiting are now ready to contact you. Do you know how many developing stars have organic molecules? A disquisition isn't necessary. There is much you don't know, a great deal to learn about forms of matter you don't yet understand. Without hope, people fall into apathy. Do not be afraid, be ready!" As the dragon bicycled from the clearing. a rare snow leopard. his thick, soft white coat glistening, approached to take his place.

Snow Leopard - "I am HOPE.

"We live in the digital age of conflict, cyber and biological warfare, nuclear weapons and artificial intelligence. Fear is contagious, generating revenge and more fear. Until now, your species seemed unable to understand the idea of *All*. Humility is not weakness. There is no ending. How you transport yourselves from one place to place is curious, that you judge people on their skin tone is amusing, as is your concern with gender identity and sexual orientation. For your species, patriarchy has long been institutionalized, Do you not understand that gender equality and happiness are connected? Over your history, humans have lived according to many false ideas. Earth's ozone layer protects your planet from ultraviolet radiation, that layer now being impacted by atoms. Because you are destroying your own habitat, your interest in interplanetary exploration is not surprising. Your species' wounds are self inflicted.

Poverty, hunger, power, anger, fear, economies, resources, unfairness: accept it all. The human species appears to enjoy the violence and intensity of war and killing, The time and money you spend on researching and building weapons is incomprehensible to those in the natural world. Dropping bombs on children? The holocaust, then Rwanda. At no other time in the history of your species were so many slaughtered so fast, a million people butchered in a hundred days. Human nature? Inhuman nature? The root cause?

Anger has played a positive part in the change that is beginning. Anger is an honest and natural feeling, a perfectly healthy emotion - a good emotion. Anger is appropriate in response to an injustice or a wrong that needs to be righted. It arises with recognition that injustice exists and contains the hope that things can be different. Not liking a situation doesn't mean it isn't helping in some way. To get your attention, the Natural world has repeated their message to press your species to make changes.

The snow leopard walked slowly around the circled nest seats, looking at each person. "While we are here, every human being has been put into a dream state, becoming a non human animal, an insect, bird, whale, a dog, an elephant . . . to understand and experience what humans are doing to animals and the natural world. All of us experience suffering. It's how we respond that matters.

The dreams will be remembered. In many of your printed pieces, it's been stated the concept of forgiveness doesn't exist in nature and the animal world. *This is incorrect.* "Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong." Animals and nature are the purest definition of strength."

As two English bulldogs, a male, (MANK) and female, (TOLLY), pranced into the clearing, HOPE the snow leopard sat down, extending his front paws. MANK, with a horseshoe crab on his back and TOLLY, carrying a moth with iridescent wings, went to sit enclosed by HOPE's large and protective paws.

MANK - "Expectancy is everything. The natural world is ready to help. Why have human scientists been unable to detect hope in animals? Because they didn't know how. Hope can inspire, but also confuse. Do animals understand, better than humans, that what appears as a challenge, sadness, illness, even a death can be perceived differently? A desirable difficulty? Coral reefs communicate. They are explaining what must happen for them to survive. Are you listening? Does the human body have the ability to heal itself, your species just needing to be taught the process? A placebo has profound implications. Each of you is equipped with a life data recorder, your body has archived everything you have thought said and done, since you were born, including what was said and done to you.

The horseshoe crab jumped from Mank's back onto Tolly's. "I am FLEMING. I'm actually more like a spider or a scorpion than a crab. Having armor as a king (some of you call me King crab) comes in handy. I've been around for five hundred million years, longer than your dinosaurs, what you call *prehistoric*, except for one thing. . . *prehistoric* is only your history."

TOLLY the female bulldog had a cinnamon colored mark on her right side, which looked oddly familiar to the onlookers. TOLLY - "Woo Hoo! It sounds like a portion of dark energy is about to be illuminated. One of your teachers defined it clearly. *The law of singularity - all law break down!* The unforeseen is about to arrive. Get ready. You can't miss what you've never experienced. By the way, why do you value stones? When you spend enough money on stones to feed all the hungry on your planet, you show you value stones more than life. Emilie and Asha looked at one another, knowing well TOLLY was referring to diamonds and other jewels.

The moth with iridescent wings jumped onto the top of HOPE's head. "I am LOBJOIS. Humans don't think that animals share the same intelligence as they do. Do you know how difficult it is to appear **not** to know something? Does Nature have a conscience?"

Why do humans give each other so many prizes and awards? If everyone is doing their best, why does one person have to be the top of a list? Your bodies are constantly changing. Every year, ninety eight percent of who you are physically is replaced, Did you know the flesh and blood of one human body contains four octillion atoms? "

Two young men, identical twins, walked into the center of the circle, placing a large oval basket in front of HOPE. Shilli had given Emilie, Asha and Julian a similar basket the previous year, explaining how water hyacinths that were clogging waterways in certain African countries, were now being harvested, dried, and used to weave handicrafts. The basket was covered with a multicolored blanket. In reality, the "blanket" was hundreds of butterflies obscuring the contents.

"Humans have begun to consider a world of new ideas and complexities. Will this continue? We've been among you for thousands of years, doing no harm. We are not from this universe. When we first attempted to communicate with you. . . the young man turned to the man standing beside him. . . "What is their word?" "Berserk." "You went berserk! There was nothing hostile about our behavior but your fear overwhelmed you. Since that time, your books, films, games and personal conversations portray us as horrifying and violent creatures.

For the last several hundred years we've lived among you in non human form, animals, fish, hummingbirds, flowers, whales, to learn about your behavior without frightening you." Shilli smiled to himself, a "clinical trial" of humanity by those from another universe. Time to recalculate. The young man continued. "The country of Ecuador, home to the Galapagos Islands, Andean Mountains and Amazon rainforest, geologically, ecologically and ethnically diverse, is the first country in your world to recognize Rights of Nature in its Constitution. One of many positive steps.

"We've communicated with a chosen few. The breakthrough began several years ago when Marcus the Labrador met with five young people who, seeing the opportunity for a creative explosion, understood that the acceptance of everything is not a contradiction to alter what needs to be altered. A pebble in a stream change paradigm. Every situation has a question to be discovered and then asked.. They asked Marcus to teach them how to get people to care.

We would like to discuss with you what we've learned, hoping to accelerate the process you've begun. A happy and healthy life has nothing to do with economics or fame. Happiness and wellness are dependant on relationships, Loneliness can be toxic. Just as there are different human personalities and energies on your planet, those differences exist in other universes. To avoid more "berserk," seven of us are here to go home with you. Would you please leave your nests?"

Shilli, Asha, Julian, Emilie, Jane Green, Sang and Ellen March moved from their nest seats, walking slowly toward the two young men. As they approached, hundreds of butterflies flew over the clearing revealing the basket's contents, seven tiny apricot toy poodle puppies. As the puppies crawled out of the basket, they lined up facing the two young men, in a purposeful color spectrum, light soft cream shades of apricot to darker reddish browns. All shared a tiny mark inside their left ear. One of the young men picked up the third puppy from the left in the line, walked to Shilli and carefully put the tiny dog (weighing two pounds) in his cupped hands. The other young man then choose a dog, handing it to Asha. That specific animals were for certain people was obvious. As the last dog was handed to Sang, the young man said "You understand frequencies, healing and sound therapy. This is SNOW LOTUS. He is anxious to begin working with you. Sang smiled at the tiny apricot toned animal sitting in the palms of her hands.

When the two young men melded into one, the puppies communicated in unison. "The animals you have known and loved, Marcus, Snug, Argos, Chopper and Chloe, with all the others, were born on this planet. We are from another universe. Please don't call us "aliens." The word implies the concept of *foreign*. We are not foreign. Like you, we are JASLEMS, Julian, Asha, Samuel, Lapis, Emilie, Marcus and Snug, part of All of Us. Once we get to know one another, you can choose names that suit us. We have advanced hearing and vision. In our world, both males and females give birth. We are taking the form of animals to avoid another *berserk* reaction. As we interact, we trust you will keep our being here confidential."

HOPE the snow leopard, carrying the empty basket in his mouth, led the way back to the Paro Guesthouse. When the group arrived, King Wangchuck was waiting. When HOPE laid the hand woven water hyacinth basket at his feet, the king bowed. Scheduled to return home to Namibia, India, Denmark, the United States and South Korea the following morning, Shilli, Asha, Julian, Emilie, Jane Green, Ellen March and Sang never imagined the origin of their new colleagues. Having discarded apathy, they had never lost hope. Hope.

