

Elemental Experiential Exploration

By Jon Beschen

Intro

My exploration into the Elements and Spirit as an Element has been varied and ongoing. The Elements represent so much more than could ever be written or spoken. Ultimately they must be experienced to have true meaning, otherwise they are simply a shadow of an idea handed down as a key to finding their true existence. In writing this essay I realize that I can never truly pass on my experience of any of these Elements. I may however be lucky enough to give a glimmer of the experience to another. The hope is that my words will trigger a personal exploration so that the Elements may be known better for any who would read this. This is not a guide, it is simply a representation of my inspiration for each of these Elements. Dear reader I hope it inspires your own experiences.

Air

The element of Air, communication, constructed thought, defined and structured expression, is a friend from first waking thought. This energy of song, and pattern, of mutable geometry and bardic story telling, this being of ritual design, etheric movement, auric perception and flourishing motion given purpose is present in every tale that tingles the imagination, in every note that raises awareness and in every beat that plucks at consciousness' edges. It is of the wing and of the wind, it is the cry of the storm and the sound wave that carries the thunders. It strikes us where body and mind collide and reverberates through to our very core if we are delicate enough to let it.

But these descriptions are inadequate to truly empower the reader to perceive the essence of the Element of Air. The Royal Air is proud but not boastful, honest and true, careful and aware of all the impacts of each reverberating oscillation sent forth from its 'lips'. True Air knows that no motion is ever ceased, that every word has far reaching impacts and that even thought is a commitment to greater creations. This can leave Air undecided or torn between options but also allows air to be a scale of balance in uneven times. Air seeks constant change in venue or location for the winds of change cannot be contained for long. They seek to run free over the long grasses of the open fields to dance with the fall leaves and to send mountain top snow flying in a flurry. This is Air as I now know it. Words will always fail to represent what only experience can explain.

Fire

The element of Fire, impassioned creation, the fury of new desire and development. Heat of will, and strength of courage. It is unturnable in its commitment to envelop and transform whatever medium is obtainable for its never ending hunger to grow and expand. It is a beautiful but aggressive friend, an energy that draws attention with its hypnotic glow and promise of unending passion of inspiration and creation. It sweeps us up in a torrent of energetic renewal and if we ride these passions it can take us to new heights of ecstasy even while clawing away the illusions of self we hold so dear.

This element is so much more and no words will ever be able to effectively spread the cinders of the Element of Fire. The Royal Fire is quiet, brooding, and ever moving, preparing or acting on opportunity and available fuels as they present themselves. True Fire takes direct and immediate action when available or waits patiently for a new fuel in the smallest calmest unseen embers. Fire can act, and act aggressively when the time comes and the conditions are right but they must be sparked into action by the right fuel. And the fuel determines the type and state of the flame as much as the Fire itself does. It is a product of its environment yet unrestrained by its environment. It lives the dychotomy of creation.

Water

The element of Water, flowing emotions, churning heart-light, bubbling impassionate coalescence, moves deep and calm or fast and energetic but is concerned most with the solidifying reception of psychic and emotional energies. It is not stable or consistent in its Way nor can its state be fully relied on as it flows freely from raging torrent to deep cool calms. In its darkest depths the secrets and universal truths of motion, coalescence and dissolution can be found. This Element shows the value of connection between all beings. A ripple or drop of emotion here will inevitably have some effect on all of the other beings within the great waters of Creation.

Words are not for this element and hold little bearing. Love of a fine day, a dearest child, a wounded animal, a fond memory. The tears of joy, of loss, of emphatic realization and of absolute desolation these match this Element far better than any statement could. The Royal Water sways, and moves with the tides and currents of time. True Water unlocks the flood gates and pours forth through our very heart of hearts in a rushing gushing flood of love, joy, sadness and even fear if we are willing to surrender to its deep and mysterious currents.

Earth

The element of Earth, sprouting in spectral diversity, light slowed to the most firm crystals of manifest forms. Foundation in gold, frozen light, solid playground on which life and manifestation can dance and dual. The song of the Earth moves so finely through us that we are as one with the wave of a single note. The fractal existence is most apparent here, for all elements dance in the element of earth as all life dances in the environment of a greater life and all consciousness is connected and manifest in a more unified consciousness.

Words move far too fast for the element of Earth. The Royal Earth sits in silence with no movement, simply receptive to all the experiences of the moment. True Earth understands that state of being and extends that level of understanding in all directions. It can see and feel the movements of all those that depend on its strength for sustenance. The rushing little ones who don't even realize it is there but it gladly and continually sacrifices for. Fertile ground for infinite forms of life and manners of manifestation. To love and give for no gain is the way of Earth.

Spirit

Spirit is the capstone of all these feelings, Elements, and experiences. It is the synthesis of existence between manifestation and potential. It binds the other elements together while simultaneously being derived from their more basic existence. To understand Spirit is to

experience the unity of all matter, thought, emotions, causality and even duality, as a singularity from which all is born and all has already returned. There are endless possibilities for the expression of Spirit and, in fact, those possibilities themselves are an expression of Spirit as well. Spirit is beyond the infinite as we understand it now, and if considered mathematically it is and always will be one axis beyond what we are able to perceive and measure. It exists outside of the realm of manifestation and can never be fully measured by objective means. Only one's Soul can touch and measure it through subjective and personal experience and that is how its impact is felt in the manifest realm.

The experience of Spirit goes beyond that of the other elements in several ways. Though it is described as an Element it is also much more. The experience of Spirit is the endless fractal of existence. The iterations of the repeated but slightly varied pattern of Spirit are often described as a different part of Self, Group minds, Angels, Gods, Entities and even The Source itself. We often think of the varied layers of the individual in terms of Qabalah or Chakras but the same factors exist and apply to spiritual evolution and those beings which stand at each strata of the Divine Singularity. We all represent each part wholly and yet divided while we work in this form within creation. This realization of direct and unignorable Unity is the first key to the long road of the experience of Spirit. When one considers and truly embraces their existence as One with all other beings, animate or not, then they begin to realize their role as a/the source of Divine consciousness.

This unity/non-unity dychotomy is exactly what makes us Divine beings and separates our various selves. We are the Divine Source, yet we live in the divine creation that is not of our own making, yet it truly is. This seems very paradoxical but as you begin to realize that you and everyone else is in fact the Source of all creation as a whole, it become easy to see how this dychotomy of all and part creates the necessary pressure for evolution. And what greater purpose could be held in the realm of Spirit then that of growth and forward progress? This is what I believe our higher and lower selves are. They are the mandatory attempt by our consciousness or Soul to reconcile the variance created by the dual existence of Unity and non-Unity. We are in fact the Divine Spark, if only we choose to stand responsibly in that role then we begin to unlock the secrets of creation.

Conclusion

This essay though a simplistic read can lead to further and much deeper understanding. These words are not meant to communicate to your conscious mind, you can find that anywhere. They are meant to trigger the inner parts of self that truly knows the Royal Elements and the Sacred Unity and sings out in connection with them. Visualization and personally evoking the feelings of each statement will help to garner the deeper understanding that the words themselves can never trigger. My only hope is that the words serve to inspire new understanding in those that read them.

Blessed Be.