

# Sister Who's Perspective

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*Life is a collaborative effort, encompassing more than we know. In a time of abundant "information overload," news, communication, and travel across great distances, we often talk at each other without listening, communicating, or understanding. Humanity needs its icons, but also its iconoclasts to grow beyond the good and bad qualities that now limit and describe us. The essences of both Godde and us remain, in the midst of questions, to be discovered, experienced, and expressed. Please share in this ongoing dialogue, remembering to indicate whether and how you wish to be identified. Blessings, love, and peace to you. ---Sister Who*

## Overview

I apologize to the woman whose name I cannot recall, but I find her suggestion quite recommendable. Specifically, since virtually every belief system recognizes divine aspects of both maleness and femaleness, of both masculinity and femininity, and of a sort of holy androgeny (the integration rather than the annihilation of gender-related qualities), a worthy resolution to debates about gender and the Divine is to alter the spelling from God to Godde. Although the two words sound the same, the latter encourages a broader perception of the Being That is the perfection of wisdom and love which pre-existed humanity and That is beyond complete human comprehension anyway, but That chooses nevertheless to engage in a relationship of love and wisdom with humanity.

I hope that my words this month will serve to broaden your perception of the Divine as well.

May one and all and everything, blessed and loved ever be.

## Pursuit of Godde

It seems obvious that to perceive something larger than one's self, one would need broader perception, a wide-angle lens, a larger window, or whatever other metaphorical description one may wish to use. Additionally, when we begin to genuinely perceive more of Godde, we also begin to perceive more of ourselves and more of each other. In sharing and comparing perceptions, however, humanity has often been confused rather than educated by the differences and variations that are thereby discovered.

Like the six blind men and the elephant, it is imperative that we concede the possibility that someone else's different perception is potentially just as reliable and true as our own—that the object we are experiencing is larger than we thought and potentially includes aspects, qualities, and parts that we ourselves have thus far not directly discovered. That being the case, we can benefit by acquainting ourselves with others' discoveries. It would not be honest, however, to describe someone else's

discoveries as in fact being our own. We may or may not be able to repeat the other's discovery, but even if we are not, our failure does not confirm that the other did not experience what he or she reports to have experienced.

Similarly, if someone is unable to have the same experience that we have had, our experience is no less true, simply for being our individually unique experience. What must be encouraged is for others to have whatever unique and empowering experiences they can.

Perhaps "pursuit" is an odd word to use for this discussion, since the Divine is omnipresent, awaiting discovery that is empowering, healing, and enlightening. The sense in which this is genuinely pursuit, however, is that we must reach beyond ourselves, go where we haven't been, intelligently explore what we've never considered, and arrive at ever greater understandings of ourselves. It is quite possible that Godde has been "speaking" to each and every one of us in a million different ways since the moment of our first breath, but that we have never adequately learned to listen.

Curiously, it is the "doing by not doing" that listening entails, which is the first step of any pursuit of the Divine. Specifically because listening to that which is beyond ourselves, describing the indescribable, and comprehending the incomprehensible are such pioneering activities, dogmatism is inseparable from arrogance and truth is inseparable from humility. We must allow the Divine to communicate to us and to others in whatever ways or metaphors the Divine knows to be appropriate and effective.

What is most important, therefore, is to be engaged in our own pursuits and—without judgment or prejudice—to encourage and support others' pursuits. Time and time again, in reaching for genuine Wisdom and Love through whatever means or methods, humanity has individually and collectively found itself joining hands in the on-going and ever-evolving miracle of life, finding both holiness and wholeness.

May one and all and everything, blessed and loved ever be.

## Discovery of Godde

I'm not sure who first voiced that everything begins with an idea, but it's not a particularly original conclusion. If the entire universe were at some point in the infinitely distant past merely an idea in the mind of Godde, I suspect that would have probably been the most complex and intricate idea anyone ever had. What is perhaps even more amazing is that such an idea would obviously have included a detailed description of each of us, had the idea been examined in adequate detail.

The wonders and discoveries made possible by the invention and perfection of the microscope did not first begin to exist when they were observed; they were there all along, waiting for us to catch up with the awareness of their reality. Specifically because such discoveries have finite or limited forms, however, they are accessible to microscopic observation. In being infinite, multi-dimensional, and so forth, Godde may not be available within the current limits of scientific measurement or examination. One must remember, however, that there was a time before the Geiger counter was invented also and radiation was not for that reason less real.

A principle reason that the Geiger counter was ultimately invented is that effects were observed for which the cause was not initially known. Throughout all of human history are extensive debates about effects attributed to Godde. Some have been explained by other means, but a great many have not. Synchronicity and serendipity are only partially able to explain immaterially oriented events of human history and experience. Will we ever be able to scientifically explain everything? Certainly not within my lifetime. Beyond that, well, Godde knows.

I suggest that very little faith is required to believe that "there's something there." Genuine faith, however, is not at all threatened by inquiry or skepticism, as long as that inquiry or skepticism is oriented toward further exposure of truth and not toward termination of dialogue and discussion. If we do not grant ourselves the freedom to disagree and to question further, we will never know any more than what is already known.

Conversely, if we cannot be honest with ourselves that we have perceived and experienced whatever it is that we have perceived and experienced, we will never become more than we are or have ever been. If this limitation is projected onto others, we are essentially enslaving

them, mentally and emotionally. If this limitation is even projected onto Godde, we put the Divine into a box and oppose any ability to do whatever the Divine might otherwise feel moved to do. In words paraphrasing those within earlier writings and conversations, "If Godde is no bigger than human theology, then Godde is not big enough to be Godde."

Considering that That Which is Truly Godde is primarily spiritual, it logically follows also that one cannot discover the spiritual entity that is genuinely Godde without discovering the spiritualness of one's self. The realization that each person is more than merely a combination of chemicals and energetic exchanges puts us at the beginning of the profound but yet unanswerable quest for the sources of individual or collective consciousness. When we realize and begin to nurture those parts of ourselves that are more than just the sum of our chemical ingredients, we begin to truly live. Considering that life is finite and that human bodies are generally (or at least currently) not equipped for immortality, I suggest we waste no time in discovering and positively developing what spiritual realities we find within ourselves.

Please to note, the Divine does not always reveal itself as a person or by any name utilized by any popular religious system. What matters, however, is not whether the way that the Divine is revealed is unique, but rather that such revelation happens at all. Especially for those who have experienced extremes of religious abuse, a time of no named Deity may actually be therapeutic. This should not, however, become an excuse for neglecting one's own spiritual health.

Whether walking a meditation labyrinth, sitting quietly while staring at a candle, engaging in conscious and rhythmic breathing, or chanting any particular phrase in any particular language repetitiously until such practice borders on self-hypnosis, principles of spiritual health are just as important as those of psychological, emotional, social, or physical health. Health within any of these areas is generally not by accident. One might consider that being a spirit within a material body is an exercise in stewardship; an extended complex package of activity within which the spirit benefits or suffers in correspondence to the care and maintenance the body receives.

In the final analysis, what is at stake is simply how big or small our lives will be. By working together, life can be enormous indeed.

May one and all and everything, blessed and loved ever be.

## Embrace of Godde

Now may not be the best time for some of you to embrace any specific conception of Godde. Then again, for now at least, some of you may be most empowered by relating primarily and specifically to either Goddess or God. I recall a time when I experimented with addressing the Divine exclusively as feminine for a period of perhaps six to eight weeks. Obviously my experiment did nothing to change Godde, but the impact upon my personal experience of Godde was eye-opening indeed.

What is essential is not what kind of empowering relationship you have with that which is greater than yourself, but that you have any means at all of constructively relating to birth, death, aspirations, consciousness, dreams, meaning, and whatever milestones your life may include. There is little that is so disappointing, perhaps even heart-wrenching, as looking back at times and opportunities which are no longer within reach and realizing what wondrous things one could have done, but didn't. One proactive response to this sad possibility is the recognition included within a song I wrote a number of years ago that "tomorrow is yesterday—still here in our hands." It is by proactively embracing today that tomorrow is equipped and empowered to include and to do so much more than yesterday was able to include or to do. If we also do whatever it is together, the possibilities are magnified further.

An embrace of Godde, therefore, may be synonymous with an embrace of possibility rather than of limitation. A very peculiar irony, however, is the general ideological enslavement that has occurred throughout human history by the imposition of societally mandated religious practices. While professing to serve an infinite Godde, the product of religious institutions' activities has more often been limitation. What was originally intended to produce greater freedom, ultimately produced greater enslavement. Under an excuse of making Godde accessible,

*"If we do not create space  
for Godde within our lives,  
we will have only godless space  
within which to live."*

*-- Sister Who*

religious leaders strove to make Godde less divine and more human—and then wondered why Godde seemed so impotent and unable to respond.

An embrace of Godde is therefore first and foremost choosing to believe that better answers—even improbable ones—are absolutely possible. An embrace of Godde is choosing to believe that every good answer has something to do with wisdom and with love. Consequently, if one is facing a particular challenge and doesn't know what to do, seeking a way to infuse love or wisdom is always a good place to start.

Conversely, an embrace of Godde is not a matter of metaphorically putting one's self or anyone else onto a pedestal. It is not, after all, our descriptions or claims that make anything what it inherently is. We are more shaped by our choices and our actions (especially the repetitive ones) than by our words. It is more genuinely imitative of the Divine and hence godly to be servants of life rather than striving to be life's master. As a servant, I can learn and I am focused upon giving. As an alleged master of life, I am predisposed to take admiration, resources, and so forth and I am further pressured to be an inexhaustible source of answers—but the honest truth is that there are a great many times when I simply don't know; when certainty is about as common as hens' teeth; and when the current moment of life is so without precedent that I simply have to make it up as I go.

Even in the midst of not knowing, however, I can still open my arms for an embrace and perhaps even recognize that Godde's arms have been extended as a welcoming embrace for a very long time already. Considering what ungrateful children most of humanity has been for literally thousands of years, the patience of Godde is clearly beyond human comprehension.

My best guess is that such patience is specifically an out-growth or by-product of Godde's wisdom. It is because we know to some extent what a particular seed will become, that we have the patience and perseverance to plant and tend the seed, the sapling, and the tree until fruit finally appears upon its branches.

In similar fashion, it is perhaps the beautiful fruit born by mature spirits, which persuades Godde to maintain the open embrace of love and wisdom just a little bit longer. From our perspective (for those with eyes that see), it may be the beauty of all that we cannot explain that keeps our arms open, welcoming still more.

May one and all and everything, blessed and loved ever be.

## Surrender to Godde

An essential distinction is that surrender to Godde is not the same as surrender to religion. An additional important point is that surrender to Godde does not always feel good. Among the qualities associated with divine character and godly behavior within virtually every human belief system, is self-sacrifice motivated by genuine love.

The surrender of which I speak is not accurately described as an act of giving up or giving in, but rather of moving the entirety of one's self—ones' thoughts, words, actions, feelings, beliefs, hopes, dreams, aspirations, and so on—into greater truthfulness about the relationship of one's self to that which is (and presumably always will be) infinitely greater than one's self. In this sense, one could also describe the pursuit of surrender to Godde as a pursuit of greater harmony within all relationships of one's life—relationships to ideas, actions, words, emotions, physical forms, spiritual realities, and so forth.

The paradox of surrender to Godde, consequently, is that one is empowered rather than diminished by doing so, specifically because a relational bond, bridge, or connection is created with that which is greater than one's self. From a contrasting perspective, however, this surrender could also be regarded as disempowerment. In surrendering to Godde, for example, I release the ability to cope with challenges by lying; I release from my life the ability to cope with challenges by becoming violent or destructive; and I release from my life the ability to cope with challenges by disconnecting from greater awareness of the interconnectedness of all things. An additional resulting paradox is that great strength is required to embrace this unique sort of weakness. People who are too weak, may have great difficulty ever surrendering to Godde.

The blessing and the answer to that difficulty, however, is that, as with the physical body, there are ways to build up one's strength—using self-discipline and wisely executed exercise of whatever abilities and resources one has.

As a bodybuilder, I commit to sustained and wisely executed physical exercise. Surrendering to Godde requires similar action using our spirits. Although we can encourage each other to do this, it remains true that whoever wants the muscles, must lift the weights. So if it's muscles that you want, find some weights and lift them.

May one and all and everything, blessed and loved ever be!

## On a Personal Note

A particular transformation of the past couple of weeks has been quite amazing, even to me. Specifically, because the county within which my home is located has decided that this will finally be the year to build a real street with sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and pavement and (if I understand correctly) to replace all of the water, sewer, and gas lines while doing so, a formal survey has been done that at last clearly identifies the true location of the county's "right of way" for street placement and construction. Unfortunately, mistakes of previous owners have resulted in fences being placed beyond that line. The appearance will be that the street has been widened, but the truth is simply that it's actual measurement has finally become completely and accurately visible.

For my home and consequently God Space Sanctuary, this means that the fence along the street must be moved closer to the house—not much closer, but enough that all landscaping of the meditation garden had to be removed and will have to be completely redone. For a while I was very concerned that the purple ash tree would become a casualty of the project as well, but that danger seems to have finally passed. In any case, after five very long days of removing the majority of previous landscaping, the next step will be to reinstall fencing and landscaping, at which time an updated photo will of course be placed within the website, [www.GodSpaceSanctuary.org](http://www.GodSpaceSanctuary.org). Clearly it is a very good thing that I've never been afraid of long hard work. Ah, well, I suppose it's just a matter of doing whatever apparently needs to be done and hoping that it will be a blessing to myself and others from that point onward.

As a reminder, the next Metaphysical Fair at the Denver Merchandise Mart will be March 16-18 and both I and the portable chapel will be there, serving the personal and spiritual growth of others. Thankfully I have been blessed with two assistants for set-up and removal of the chapel.

May God's blessings, love, and peace be with you now and always, *Sister Who*

### Subscription Information:

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