

THE OTHER WORLD
SUMMER '72

This is
only copy

The Original Gratitude

Trek IX

Fred Buss

On the chart, you can see that we move from the areas that are colored in in
grey and blue to the areas that are colored in purple and green. We move from
that
~~an~~ an area/~~we~~ we have been working on for 55 years into an area that is relatively
new to us. The whole effort relative to the renewal of the church has come down
on the pole of mystery and consciousness and/~~move~~ ^{we} move now to the ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ care
and tranquility. I can remember getting as angry as I ever got in my 20's
~~and~~ ^{who} at/people/~~that~~ suggested that it was possible to be in peace. And
yet now we move into that part of the other world that talks about care and talks
about peace. I think that in every one of these lectures there ought to be
just
a pole droppped somewhere that tells us/~~why~~ why in the world we are doing all of
this . I do not really think you can figure out the plural before hand
that
but I thought/~~just~~ just in case, I would repeat the one from George West.
I guess he gave the first one did he not? ^{what} George~~s~~ is talking about that
car wreck where his car went out of control and he went sailing through
the ~~air~~ air and there ~~was~~ was a period of just calm, there ~~was~~ was a period
of ~~just nothing happening~~ just just nothing happening. I think he used the
word suspended. ^{out} Now the illustration does not have anything to do with waht
~~was~~ want
I ~~was~~/~~was~~ to say . Now following that _____ was for me when ~~was~~ a
great star shell just burst open -a whole _____ ~~case~~ case right after that
he said, "I ~~don~~ not reccommend ~~this~~ kind of experiende. But if it happens
remember." And I decided, Well, I had not cast my vote yet but I am now
prepared to vote for havang spirit lectures this summer. I now understand
why we need to do this because we need to remember, we need to remeheber ~~is~~

that we have life going on around us , all the time , all the time.~~XX~~

And we do not even remember it. The jelly [^]bowl ~~can~~ can arrive
in front of
empty/~~at~~ your place and for all of life the meaning just dribbles out.

Now getting on top of these charts ~~is~~ ^{is} not so easy. As a matter of fact I find that
every time I come up to it, all the boxes have shifted and ~~there~~ ^{what} there are new

things written on them. Have you noticed that? That at night people come in

and write them in. ^j So ~~just~~ ^(small bite) just to get us all ??????(right) on the whole
thing, I am going to read the fourth line in each one of the first boxes...

It is a fantastic ~~trick~~ ^{trick}, just listen to this... ^{??} A dark cloud of awe,

And everything is out in the open, Number twelve, And life is endless
celebration, sixteen, And love has won the day , twenty, and there is a
~~whimsical~~ whole at the center, twenty four, and ????????????????? is a sign of

life, twenty ~~four~~ ^{eight} eight, with a charge to keep, thirty two, and the
mystery has its _____? , thirty six, ^{AND} Everything is unexplainable.

????? _____. Forty, And then you get caught in doom. Forty four, And
there is no one to show the way. ~~Forty-eight~~ ^{Forty-eight} eight, And begin to move

mountains. Fifty ~~two~~ two, And you have become an avatar. Fifty ~~six~~ six,

And only integrity everyday. Sixty , And everything is worthwhile. Sixty =
four, And eternity is everywhere. Sixty four, Sixty four states of being.

That is, that is what that chart is all about. ^{Now} The last two weeks we have
spent on the inward dimensions, the more inward dimensions. The next two weeks
we are going to spend on the more outward dimensions. Consciousness is

is now the mountain. We move from the River of Consciousness to the Mountain of Care. Now there are four treks in the mountain of Care. And, (whole sentence here that is unintelligible) The four treks are entitled, The ORIGINAL GRATITUDE, UNIVERSAL CONCERN, SINGULAR MISSION,, and the TRANSPARENT I/ For agape is appreciation, agape is compassion, agape is obligation, agape is motivation.

Now as we move from the River of Consciousness to the Mountain of Care, it is almost like in one of those cartoons where the character is running in one direction and all of a sudden / it occurs to him that he, that something has happened. Or that as we ~~make~~ make a transition ~~from~~ this ~~morning~~ morning from consciousness to care, this morning's trek is primarily taken up with the dawn, the care dawning or the possibility of care dawning. So that we don't move so much to care this morning as to dawning. It is like this morning is when our eyebrows go up ...on care. You know, ~~as~~ you know that?

About it happening . We have ~~somebody~~ ^{one} in our temple who in my opinion embodies the eyebrows being up all the time. Her name is Linda. It was amazing ~~how~~ ^{have} ~~she~~ ^{had} // ? her in our congregational meeting after the watch and she ~~just~~ ^{just} ~~was~~ ^{was} been bubbling away as she always does. Good Lord, we are grateful for people like that. Especially at that point. Anyway, there we were ~~at~~ ^{with} after the wake and Linda was on the back row ~~over~~ at the far left- just bubbling away with her eyebrows up And so the meeting went on, And I was ~~walking~~ ^{looking} over in this direction doing something over here, I looked back over there at the left, there was Linda, and I swear she had gone to sleep with her eyebrows up. It was such a shock, I could not even say anything about it. I felt like ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~well~~ ^{well} had been ripped off reality or something. And ~~that~~ ^{that} that I had seen the sun go ~~down~~ ^{down} with ~~that~~ ^{that} it still turned on'

am able to
or something. I could not ~~XXXXX~~, even, usually I/~~XXXXX~~ say "Hey L0ek"
to every ~~XXXXX~~^{body} else in the room but I could not even ~~XXXXXX~~, I could not
even manage it. This morning we want to talk about what it means to show
up ~~onss~~ this planet with a lot of others -----? in a dormitory.
And everything is unexplainable, that I have been given an unbelievable
opportunity to do a life in the only world there is . Footnote; Charlie
Brown. And with every creature~~and~~ each one a presence, each one a presence
imagine I get to be a presence ~~an~~ history. And you know there are so many
people that do n ot understand that. I sometimes t~~h~~ink the only people in
history who know what it means to arrive someplace are Greek archbishops and
prima donnas. Now Greek archbishops, I mean when they arrive^{of} you are so

You can not
clear... ----? beard, stomach, black hat./You can not ignore them. I mean
cl
they walk into a room andthe room just fills with awe. I have never had
that happen to me with any human being until I once was in a hotel room with
Lynden Johnson that wasabout as big as these four columns ~~th~~ here and I could
not stand it.. literally... the man is pysicaly a big man, but he just/~~XXXXX~~^{literally}
filled the room . That was back when we still had ~~had~~ him as one of our local
men. But, I remember, I remember being on a train one time in Australia
that was late leaving. Oh in Australia there are very good about having
their
~~XXXXX~~trains leave on time and this was the trans=Australia Express.
The one,^{which} they decided not to pave the roads -----?----- so they had the

railroad instead and ^{of} it is a very important train . And the train was late
you know and that was just unbelievable. And there were a lot of extra cars on
board because they were taking a whole company of Auntie Mame to Perth that had
been showing in Adalaide^{and} and the whole company was going to Perth on train

We are, we are fated to consciousness. What we, what we decide in that kind of situation is to live one glorious life... of consciousness. Now we come upon ourselves as a foreigner, ~~that~~ I am fated as a foreigner. ~~That~~

just
I keep coming into one situation after another where I am clearly out of it .
I am just clearly alone. I am clearly a foreigner. Then, I remember as a kid all I can growing up.. I never could play baseball. ~~That~~ I had done ~~nothing~~ to defeat the mythology that that is our national pasttime. Yet , still it goes on and on. When I go on a picnic, I carry a little darringer with me.

And then ~~the~~ SOB who inevitably arrives says" ~~Why don't we play a little baseball?~~
"Why don't we play a little baseball?" (?) I offer to go with hi m. ----?

basketball time,. He leans over ~~that~~ into the truck and blew a whole in the back of his head. Then shoved him in from the -----? Oh how I hate baseball.

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It all happened back there in the first and second grade. There in the west playground at Stephen F. Austin Grammar School where the baseball went on. I tried so hard to play baseball. Well, ^{I tried,} YOU know ~~that~~ I prayed ^{that} the ball would be ~~hit~~ hit in my direction. Well that was always just awful .

Have you
I could not throw it. ~~Did you~~ ever have a baseball and not been ~~able~~ able to throw it and all your friends are screaming at you. I tried running with it.

So then all of the rest of those years I spent playing in the East playground//s

at Stephen F. Austin Grammar School . But do you ~~the~~ know that only makes the situation worse. All those other people learned ^{to} to play baseball. While you are on the other side of the school ground and so it just gets worse and worse.

I was always terrified of a picnic ^{someone would} suggested ~~that~~ playing baseball.

And then I ended up as an assistant minister ~~at~~ at this very posh church in West Chester county . where all the beautiful people go to church and all ~~their~~ their children beautiful children were in my youth group.

And we had church picnics. Well, the instructors were such that ~~there were a lot of people bringing bats and balls and I was unable to wipe it out at _____?~~ And, well anyway, my youth group, all these beautiful boys came up to me and said. One of them ~~came~~ used to regularly appear in my (?) ~~favorites~~ long transparency ~~in grand central station.~~ whenever Kodak ~~would~~ have a picture of a ^{the ideal American} family going on a picnic, well, Chris would be the ideal boy. And Chris and all of his friends came up to ~~me~~ ^{have} me and said ~~We are going to play a baseball game and the boys are going to play their fathers and we get to have you on our side. Not have to have you on our side, but we get to have you on our side.~~ Well, anyway, three times up at bat, I got three hits. Can you imagine? Now, what I discovered was that over the years even never visiting the ~~West~~ ^{and over the years} playground/I had somehow acquired a picture what it means to encounter a flying ^{that} missile aboard (?). And ~~really~~ all that is necessary to do is to keep your eyes open, I somehow figured that out in the meantime, I think that was one of my early errors. And, just hold the thing out there and then it would hit this big globby thing that came by and but I think ^{that} maybe consciousness ~~is~~ one's fate is transformed That what happens is that the foreigner that you are becomes transformed by the very situation itself. Or that your fate or your destiny ^{begins to} takes over and one kind of a thing after another ~~begins to happen to you,~~ Now we, you and I try to defeat that ~~and~~ and my name for that is a Fifth Grade Problem. You know, you have a problem in the fifth grade and you go on rehearsing ^{first} that to yourself the rest of your life. I can not play baseball in the ~~fifth grade~~ so I cannot play it in the ~~second grade~~ so I can not ~~play~~ play it in ^{the} third, so I can not play it in the fourth, ^{so} I can not play it in the fifth, and by the time you are 30 years old, you really can not play baseball.

Only it turns out not to be true. Now that is not, my wife went to a bad high school. You know, the coach taught mathematics, ^{and} history and English...

Well in West Texas, the coach is the only important thing. And, so, she worked figured out that she was not an educated woman. And oh my she ~~worked~~ hard on that problem. She worries about not being an educated woman all the time.

All the time! Now ^{is possible} the fact that ~~she~~ she graduated at the top of her class, and you know, and went on ^{to} the ~~the~~ university and graduated the top of her class there and then got a Master's Degree. She is still running as hard as she can to become an educated woman. And that is how you and ~~now~~ respond so that the single great contradiction in our lives ~~is~~ nothing happens to it over the years, you know, people really do change, that is shocking, people ~~really~~ ^{intend} change. But never again do I ~~intend~~ to operate out of one of my fifth grade problems. That is to say, I know that I am a new man. ^{muscles} my ~~muscles~~ coordinate differently and my mind is different. That is to say I have a history of a whole lot of other situations. And I have new images.

I am capable of manipulating this situation with ^{new} images. That is ^{is} I was able to keep my cool long enough to get up to bat. And all the time I had on the image of hero boy minister. And, by not shrinking and running off, I made it ~~that~~ that day. Well, Living yourself one glorious life of consciousness has to do with dealing with your fate and understanding how you are related ~~to~~ ^{just} ~~it~~ to your fate. You ~~just~~, you come upon yourself ~~as~~ as amazed to be in the situation where you are bound. And ^{on my} you are bound into it. There is no question about ~~it~~ that. But what does it mean to be only in this universe. I

remember in Summer 67 when we were going to paint that ^{big} mural -----?--
There were 7, 8 9, 10 teams assigned to paint that mural on the side ~~of~~ that of that building in 5th City and mine was one of ~~the~~ ^{these} teams, ~~that~~ and we were working out all of the details. I had assigned four college students

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5th

to go up on the roof and work with the ~~Sydney~~ Citizen who was a painter and who had some scaffolding ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ relative to setting the scaffolding and then they were going to start painting up there ~~and~~ ~~and~~ we were just ~~making~~ working right along and this so called friend who was just passing ~~who~~ ~~worked~~ through/I think he ~~went~~ to the National Cash Register Company, and he was in town for the training course and ~~he~~ he had come by to help that morning ~~and~~ ~~and~~ and up there and they were ~~making~~ working with all that scaffolding and all of a sudden he announced over the side of the building "Hey Fred, I don't think any of these kids up here are going to get on ~~this~~ this scaffolding."
/Well,
~~Extremely~~ I thought why does he bring my name on the front of that thing.

"I think it is you and me." And I remember so clearly my resentment. ~~Who~~ Who supposed the Hall does he think he is, he is not ~~even~~ even/~~to~~ to be here at this (celebration) making assignments ~~up~~ up there from ~~on~~ top of that of that ~~mountain~~? And I was so clear when I climbed over the edge of that mountain, You can not imagine how far down it is from the top, from the roof of a two-story building. (-----) fairly short
And that scaffolding, ~~just~~ I could have just as easily, ~~just~~ just as far as I was concerned I was stepping right into the ~~stairwell~~ stairwell art form. I see some of you thought about it. you know, how do you get out
The, I'm not supposed to talk about that./ How do you get out of ~~the~~ situation?
You are just, you find, you find the fates, the fates seem to be closing in on you and there is always some idiot who is ~~sponsoring~~ sponsoring the thing. I mean/you feel like that is the way it is. Mathews and I while we were in Guam were out on the beach and he was wearing his serrong and there was this Japanese guy who came by, fellow
And we were sorta talking, the Japanese/~~guy~~ could not speak English so that is the reason I say we were sorta talking. But a great deal of communication can go on even when you cannot speak the _____? languages. And one of the ~~subjects~~ subjects we got on to was ~~single~~ single wrestling. Cause one of us sorta looks like a single wrestler.

And it would be unkind to mention K names, and so anyway it turns out that this Japanese is an amateur sumo wrestler. He gets very excited about the subject. Whereupon one of the ~~two~~ two of us gets very excited about the subject. Oh yes sumo wrestlers - very good, very good. I said to myself, I don't have a victim image about sumo wrestlers, but I ^{think} ~~think~~ see sumo wrestling in my future. In about five minutes. So there I was, on the beach, in Guam - boy was I . And this strange man, strange muscular man was drawing a circle on the beach. A strange muscular man from another ur, who looks like an ~~angry~~ angry Japanese man, who cannot speak English, and therefore is not explaining the rules. It did not stop the bout from starting. Well you know, how do you get out of this situation? How do you get out of this outfit? As nearly as I can tell, it's nearly impossible to get out of the movement. Well I mean really, ~~it's~~ you know, it's charts like that that've done it to us. Where would you go to get out of the other world? As I was working on ~~this~~ this lecture, you know there's a kind of silly, ~~superficial~~ pharisaical, superficial kind of way of talking about pride that doesn't ~~have~~ seem to have anything to do with reality anymore and I found myself released in this area to even say, relative to fate, that now even ^{my} ~~by~~ past seems to be closing in on me relative to that. That all my neighbors seem to be closing in on me all the ~~fast~~ ^{deeps} seem to be closing in on me all the future seems to be closing in on me. My mother now seems to have had no role in history ^{except} but to bring me to this point. ~~In/History~~ But I'm not -- That is not the kind of ~~an~~ phrase where you say, you know, "my mother had everything to do with ^{where} ~~where~~ --". No. I mean it precisely the other way around, the meaning of my mother's life is that I am. That I am where I am. Now, the transformed, boxed_in_ ^{edness.} ~~in~~. The way this, the way this being caught, the way this being a foreigner seems to shift. I remember that second global

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odyssey told about the fantastic experience that they had driving in from the airport. As they drove in from O'Hare, having been ~~around~~ around the world, they sang a song to the tune of "There's no place like home". They changed the words to make it "There's no place called home". That arriving back from ~~the~~ that ~~odyssey~~ odyssey they realized that they had no home to come to. I remember getting very irritated at one of my colleagues who was talking about the George Holcombes (~~George~~ and Wanda, but almost no one remembers the Holdombes anymore, they'd been deployed overseas so long) But - George and Wanda Holcombe have been overseas, oh, a ~~number~~ number of months ^{past} beyond the time when the model now calls ~~for~~ for them to come home - we keep changing the model - but some more months - but ~~if~~ someone said "George and Wanda ought to come home for a while" and I got very angry. And I just asked my colleague "and where ^owould you send them", so they could be home? Where would you send them?" What - you might call that ization of gossip, that is base _____ but you can pick up the gossip in a very short time, But where would you send somebody to ~~send~~ send them home? I'm going to have to get myself an answer. When the archbishop passed through here a ~~minute~~ minute ago, he asked me where I was from. And it's just undone me. Where would I say I'm from? I'm so concerned about this, the last time we met with ~~the~~ the galaxy in New York, Sarah and I asked their permission to be a myopic ~~and~~ and parochial and narrow and blind and preoccupied as New Yorkers are so that we could have a place that we could call home. And they said well that'd be alright. You know what does it mean to decide you know that New York is gonna be where you're from. Or that Chicago is where you're from. Or that Texas is gonna be where you're from. Or that ~~Adelaide~~ Adelaide is gonna be where you're from. Oh my, it'd be exciting to be from Adelaide. Prisoners settled the rest of Australia but only good Englishmen settled in Adelaide.

Only good Englishman - it's such a fine town. ~~And~~ There's one restaurant open on Sunday afternoon. It's a town of what, 800,000 people? Eight hundred thousand people and one restaurant open. I don't know whether I could manage it after New York.

Well this great oneness with all of creation, this great yolk, this being tied in, ~~and~~ understanding that your destiny surrounds you is all flipped when you understand that no where is called home, because at that point everywhere is home. Everywhere is home. You're at home any ~~place~~ place. You have unbounded rapore. That you ~~live~~ literally look forward to sumo wrestling on the beach, with a man from another ur who can't explain the rules to you. That that's what it means to be a human being on the face of the globe today. And that that's possible. And that that's possible. One of the little boxes in this particular section is called "having a rock for an uncle". Well I know what that's like. We - at the seminarians' practicum in Denver/^{summer} a year ago, we drove up to the top of Mount Evans - they let you drive up to the top of Mt Evans so that you don't have to take the Karemer route - and getting up there we climbed on top of these boulders that are on the top of it and looked out ^{this} over the unbelievable expanses. Unless you've stood on the top of a mountain you ~~if~~ can't understand what I'm talking about. But whatever type of mountain you've stood on top of, imagine this one with a sheer drop and everything, and so we watched and we watched and ~~if~~ we watched and then we climbed down. And on the way down this path we came across this little boulder that wasn't any more than two feet high. And somebody started looking at it. They started looking at the sort of half green, half flower sort of things that grow ~~if~~ on the top of mountains. And then some other - and it finally became an orgy where everybody got down on their knees and started talking about all of the details. Can you imagine? A group of human beings just deciding to go out of their minds, in terms of the microcosism. And so - and that's what had happened.

After seeing that vast expanse of space, you know, we were driven the other way. And that having a rock for an uncle is what happens when everywhere becomes your home. That is to say that the universe goes out macro in this direction and micro in this other direction. So that every small detail explodes. Explodes. This is why it's not B.S. when somebody says that there is as much to care for in a primal cadre ~~as~~ as there is in a continent. Or that there is as much to care for in a congregation ~~as~~ as there is in an Area. That there are universes in both directions.

What happens then is that the sacramental universe just falls on you. Every bush lights up. Everywhere you look, the bushes are catching fire. And one time after another, life explodes/ into meaning. Every moment and everywhere is leaking mystery. You're riding on a bus in New Haven. And you're trying to decide whether/ to fall into some half stupor or think about preparation about whatever you're going to do once you get there. And you notice the man's ear in the seat in front of you. And there's a half moon scar. And that ear just explodes. You look around the bus and you think "My God, everybody in this bus has ears." And suddenly, suddenly, everybody in the seats on the bus has ears. People sitting there with ears. And then you say to your self, animals have ears (yes, animals have ears). This bus is filled with animals. With ears. And they're all sitting upright. In their chairs. That's ~~the~~ what it is, this bus is filled ~~with~~ with animals and they all have ears and they're all sitting upright and in their seats ~~the~~ burning bush. ~~all~~ acting normal. You don't get a moral out of every ~~thing~~. Or I remember one time flying back from Toronto, and I'm one of those people - you know how you watch for the new people on the airlines, whether they take out all that garbage that the airline puts in the pockets - you gotta watch out for people like me - because even if I'm starting on my second half million,

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I pick out the garbage every time. And so I reached forward and pulled the stuff out. AND I was lloking at the postcards from American Airlines. God bless American Airlines. and there was this postcard of ~~the~~^a beach. And it was a rather nice picture. RATHER ordinary in terms of that kind of photography- Just a beach with the sun setting all over the beach, ~~/yol/ktok/~~ and there ~~were~~ ~~soff/di/gola/and/otok/~~ the sun was setting all over the beach, you know, and and there was those gold and brown tones - this beach. And I was - just looked at it you know. And all of a sudden the water receded. The water receded. Out about seven or eight miles. I remember saying to myself how glad I was to live on a planet where the ~~waters/~~ water is near the beaches. Well I don't get to tell that as often as I'd like but I'm glad/ about that. Imaginewhat it would be like to have to walk seven mile out to the water. But I though about other planets in the Solar System, you know, and all became immediatly possible/ for me to imagine that. Paul, would you say you're in the right state of being? Now I mean. [Yes ...?] _____ got that answer. Do you find yourself sometimes in the wrong state of being? [No, I don't think so.] There's a little doubt there on your hand, but in ~~the~~ these areas a little doubt in probably a helpful thing. That was the word you just heard. You never are, you never are in the wrong state of ~~bin~~ being. What ever state of being you're in is the right state of being, and ~~it~~ ^{news} although this is a bit of ~~it/dada~~, God ~~can~~ reach you in whatever state of being there is . We have 64 numbered up there, but - even if your in an unnumbered one

Well as we move into the ~~the~~ mountain of case, one thing that you can count on is that you're never, never in the wrong state of being.