THE OTHER WORLD SUMMER 172

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Trek

Trek 15 c

Charles Moore

Death and wonder and radiance and glory thingd that I have come upsh the sea of tranquillity

greature Death and wonder and radiance and glory, things that I have come upon on the Sea of Tanquillity and perhaps it would be good to be warned that, as I see it, things move very slowly on the Sa of Tanquillity, and the boat rocks comfortably even with great waves threatening it on every side . Maybe there is no danger in going slowly and comfortably on the Sea of Tranquillity than theree is in the unknowness of the Land of Mystery THEREXTHEREXES the icy waters of the River of Consciousness or the steep rocks of the Muntain of Care. If you were to see down the side of the chart of the Trek _ Number 15, I think it is _ you will see that I have written something like this "slowly surging knowledge in my vitals and aching pleasantness in theso appropriates; sudden illumination comess, the past transformed, grateful acknowledgement occurs and everything is unquestionably all right, surprised by joy, my own self transfigured, alive beyond life and the dance goes on saved by certainty beyond which mis nothing, stillness is storm and all ready for my consummation.. Now that's not really a poem but a series of thisgs....? hant I wrote a poem once when I was fifteenan Ode to the Sun and it was not a poem so but I nearly blost my eyesight so I say during this trek during this trek I came upon death in life vile spiritsin your charts,, and I can never forget the day I mamma cannot forget the moment when it I did not think these words became clear in a flash, something like this m The disease is normal yes and hen, but now this is what I know I thought "thin ease fisse or makeredy college it happened as a result of the strangest thing when I don't enture contest

and in trying to decide whether to become a clergyman the struggle was so deep and unpleasant that I decided that the only way to get out of it was to die a natural death which is a little bit difficult to arrange but as you can imagines but I found a way and decided that I had a slow moving but ultimately fateful disease . I went to a physician . This is a little crude, but this is what I said to him "I have a strange sensation in my bowels , an uneasy rolling down inside "n So he took pictures of my inside and he listened to my story and he did his examination and then he said "You know what is wrong with you __ nothing. No thing is wrong with you? neither physical, nor mental nor emotional. What is wrong kank with you.. it is the sickness unto death. And I can not describe the joy, not at this point the leaping kind, but the joy to know this disease is the way life is. It is the interior awe , feeling like some kind of troubled stimulation . A joyful pain, a soothing hurt that still comes to me again and again and again . You know when it comes. If comes when I am thinking something through and my thoughts turn authentic I get it down insideogk. You know the way I know when I am finding being . Well I have that same experience that came to me when kxxxx in college I decided I was going to die You see what has happened finally is that I say what is going on is God and I knew that then . I would not say that that name is final, do you understand ? If you understand that, then you understand the joy and Bissing that is on the S a of Tranquillity. That name I repeat is? There is no And so this rapture was the woe . It walks with the woe si my no other. what is summer all the years of saying whathe going on is this or that misspent life or the other when I knew that what was going on was God. And still this rapture walks with woe because I am always saying that what is make going on istthis or that or the other and I know that what is going on is God.

So you see my calm is complete for it is contentment kx for it is contentment after all of saying that all that is is good and no problem can ever hinder me as long as that is true, and that is true as long as I say that is true . This disease is the way life is . That I came upon while trekking on the Sa of Tranquillity . Another thing I came upon m is wonder . I think we called this spontaneous gratitude and if what the other had to do with if the death had to do with myself primarily wonder points to all history and past . Wonder has to do with looking back at everything that has ever happened and deciding what it all meansy, and I can never forget the day , scarcely even the hour when somehow it came to me as I look back across all history and thought about egerything that had ever happened to me or ever happened to anybody else, it came to me there is only one reality . I do not know whether that is shocking to you or not. There is only one reality? so set in moral dualism so trained to see the good and the bad 7 it seemed to me the most shock deikektfaktantelegkeskasket ontologically delightful skeet. There is only one reality. And how I first saw that k was in seeing the utter unchangeability of the past . That seems so simple. HOw could anybody miss it? HOw could anybody not know that the past is the past and can never be touched again and not one bit of can ever be changed ? Well, I kept trying to change it and holding on to and harbouring those things that happen in the past that I had not liked while telling myself that if only they had not happened I would be happy . I was, you see, proclaiming towreality ---? all the brave tremendous thingsxkxkaskxkask that I thought about. Ikssa things like "if only, if only, that, that doctor's son

. Wilson was his mame

stopped, and kept relling and rolling

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not if only that day we were playing football he had deliberately, because I came from the other side of the track, when I rushed in to block a pass drew bake back mathrages with all his strength and hit me full in the face with the football for no reason at all except topdemonstrate; to me the difference in our social positions, if only that skelett did not happen I would be happy . Then one High School I think it was I was reading a history book and I heard for day in the first time about the Black Hole of Calcutta remember that __ and I could not believe it . Somehow I had been sheltered from such realities in for a week about life , or at least I guess I had. I could not think of anything else aixisasi farxxxxxxxx except the Black Hole of Calcutta, about where people were driven in to this unbelievable jail and in conditions that you could not imagine and I went around saying "no, it cannot be , furthermore it will not be, and I will not have this in my universe " and it manusument me for is seemed like a long time. Finally I figured out a way to deal with it . I decided to be sympathetic for those who had been in that position , but it was not sympathy I found out after all in that double universe that I was in again, it was not sympathy, it was rebellion against God, it was saying "that is bad, and should never have happened and cannot be in the universe." And them somehow, I do not know exactly how, this historical affirmation came and the past was transformed in to just exactly what it was. But if you want to know when the moment was I will tell youeology really was gone ktxks another story. We that my moralf Sunday were playing baseball one sunny afternoon in the town where I lived and all of a sudden the fire whistle blew and the next things that happened was the ritual that always happens to the crowd went to Burma ? they said that is probably house brass button?? that means my hose is safe . So that went through and we kept on but the fire was?? and it blew gramma three limes and

and going and going until finally the game was stopped and everybody took off to see what was happening . Well, we followed the cars as fast as we could and we went several miles outside of town mand we got to the house the normal terminology of town fresh. They had never been any good. They were a trouble to everybody, especially the two older brothers. They drank a lot; and so we dashed in the gate and past the house, back around the lake and here was a great big crowd as all standing gazing speechless at a spot little row about twenty feet from shore where the RxO. boat was sitting, and in a minute or two we were able to establish that in their drunken state they had almost made for the shore and one had fallen out in the other had attempted to rescue i him and they both had? to the bottom of the lake. NObody there seemed to be able to move to try and get them out. Exxx EXEER Several of us were boy scouts and it was not that we wanted the job but we knew that if we did not do what had to be done we would never be recognised again , so in we went . Oh, that was someexperience . I remember going down again and again and again just about that far under the surface . Nabody could want see, nobody could tell that I was afraid to go down and find the bodies of the two men , but finally we managed to drag them out and we worked on them for ax rubber --- ? a long time and I felt the cold clammy bodies all? underneath my hands and cleaned the mucus out of his nose and finally covered his? and take it away. And the interesting thing, though, about it all is that of course the town people decided to the reason they drowned was that they were not any good. The reason their lives were taken was that they belonged to the bad universe and that for a long time was for me but I tell you now winx that the reason Red Busby and his brother drawards died was to save my life and they represent for ever the opportunity that I take to celebrate their

death as the salvation of my life. Perhaps weekeexx your walks are woe and the new morality is 'I live on behalf of men'. It is a fact their lives were worthless; it is a fact they never knew what it meant to be human in the way we talk about it . It is a fact that they were wasted/ It is a fact that their death senseless, but it was for me and they will for ever be my impetus to it that which to see is no such death ever occurs again in is not to say in any way wheteek whatsoever that there is are any longer two universes. And so whatever does happen in the future which eventually will come to pass I am clear that the way life is is always right and therefore I am released, and all the past is kkaxkamd for the future sake of the future that is, and I live in grateful acknowledgement of the unique succession of events which, wi thout excluding a single one of them has brought me to this moment and if anyone of them were excluded I would throught not be here this moment therefore all the past is what it is . It is mm approved and I am on the Sea of Tranquillity in a state of wonder. Something else I think upon while? and in its greatness this will.....? it. Again it seems anybody could understand that. This one life is it, there is 100 Example price and HOw could I have missed it for I was surprised by the joy that king shahing hithay kanya si asama kanda kantu kalunga samusani santu ingga k lies in always now and in makes xassix set xyes not then and not yet, but now. And I kasex Exxes is that one day Wesley's Aldersgate is happening in my life over and over and over again, so.....? and the people who chose that moment and said that has to be it, then we did not understand that every moment is the moment that is given and therefore the only moment in which life can be lived. And ever since that happening , ever since it dawned on me that life is always now and that it is always to be lived now I have I have experienced my own

It is real. Why, I do not even look like I did before transfiguration. that thought came to me , nor does anybody else who has ever seen this. Things beging to warm up inside and life begins to shine. observedly that begins to happen. Oh, I am so disappointed that my only, I think, High School re-union came at the same time as this Summer Assembly. Oh, I wanted to go. I really did. I get a warm ripple inside just thinking about it, not whatyo u think probably, because I wanted to hear them say, and this is weak probably, But I wanted to hear them say, "That's Ol speedy Moore?" "You remember that chubby guywho always gooked so bad bad and was such a flop at everything else that he made good grades and so But more cleverly they would say you mean that kid that ki d who was clever ones and the more sympathetic ones. always angry, who had sharp wordsfor everyone/ Dh I's love to go nothing but around and talk to each one of them, not for my sake,.... I mean to see the wonder of them observing a miracle befor their eyes. And you know as I remember when that really hapened somebody said in a lecture and I cannot remember who, I was sitting there and he said, "THE MEANING OF YOUR LIFE, IS YOUR LIFE [......... The meaning of your life is your

life"..and then it was clear, we well yes, the meainging of your wa/
is your lifeas ot was and is and ever shall be. So I am living my life
you you see how indicative this is don't you? I jsut showed up one day
and recognized myself as living my life and now I find I'm out of

breath from clikking my heals all the time. and rapture walks with woe again, because most of the time I observe, working I spend new ways of sating NO to living the moment I'm here. And rapture walks with woe because I see that other people spend most of their time figuring out how to say NO to the greatness of living this moment.

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I know now that I am recieved, that I was born for this and not for that, that I was born to win and not to lose, I don't know how I could have missed it so long. And there is one other thing I came upon, out off the sea of Tranquility, glory, Glory, final blessedness, it's called, It;s ; the state of having realized fixt one day I did, that I hadealready arrived. I have been saved by certaint and I am living in the ultimated assurange that life is meaningful , that I came upon on the Sea of Tranquility, and one of the things that's so delightful about it is that it enabled me to thank God for the Rev. James Puckett. A young Southern Baptist clergyman, I had atthought at that time the misfourtume to be in school with who followed me around, you know how those Baptists do sometimes, with his Bible in his hands trying to save my soulonly once, that's all he wanted, just once because he said, "Once saved , always saved. Well, James Puckett was right. Once it occurrs that the finall blessedness is already here it could no more be taken away than I don't know what. I eis the

everlasting Beatittudebeyond which is nothing. No longer the business you know of some day when all these distresses in life are pver tiem that will be themoment of Beattitude ... No no no. The distresses are mecessary I came to see, and in the afirming them the glory, what It mean is I have located the center boundary. The limit which gives all possibility, the stillness in the center of the storm, and I think mainly it is as fosephMatthews was saying a little different way the other day, I think that it was chiefly this offoffally, phenemon..logically "It is the heafenly feast of having said, Goodbye". You've had that experience, I remember the first time I ever went anywhere on a train. It was a trip that the community had made possible some way and so

little

this particular train didn't stop in our/town, we had to goto another one and so a whole bunch of people went over and my Mother was there and my Sunday School teacher was there and/I/Vss/ alot of the town folk, you know how it is trying to get you off on something, alot of hustle and

bustle and silly things said, I never will forget how peaceful it was/WMeM to sit down in the seat and have the train move off as I said, Goodby Well, you know after about 18 years, one day I said to Patricia, my wife. Good-by. And before that I had said it to my mother, Good-by. And then one day, I see now, I said to all my professors, Good-by. And even to do not depend on any of these either your approval or anything else necessary now I am happy all the days, and incredible to me as it must be to you, I say with objectivity, I am ready at any time for my connsumation. As a matter of fact, I'M sort of afraidnot to die right now .Wouldn't this be a fantastic time, don't worry I don"t have any premenitions, wouldn't ot be great, wouldn't it be glorious, to have it recorded forever of old Charles moore that he died just as he said to all the good people how he'd said goodby to all the gods of thes world . Oh that would be gloreous So I'm afraid to keep on living, afraid that in #M##/ one of those moments when I scream where are apl my props, that I will die. WEll, I remember, I never will forget the fact the first time I ever rode on a jet airplain Why it should have happened this way I never will know I guess it was a big one ' and my reasoning was thatif the thing fell out of the air that probably the tail would break off first. And so that would be the safest place to be. So I got the back seat right by the lavatory, and we were trying to get into Kennedy airport in New York, and it must have

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the last plane down. It was a summer thunder storm, and we were up there and you couldn't see anything out the twindow except it looked like solid water. Lightening was all around, ferocious thunder but the main thing was the wind. And remember I had chosen the tail. It was one of those 707's and it was like this/#f/ and I was terrified. And the terror was, I see now, not over gettingsy hurt when you hit the ground, that is not the thing, the I think anyone is not normal who doesn't fear the pain of injury or death, but the 'pain was I kept saying to myself. "I know ther must be meaning in life but I don't have it clear, I don't see it and my God I'm goin' to die right now before I ever have it figured out. But now, now I want to saythat if I get in that kind of situation again, I will still fear, the impact of hitting the ground I will still find it unpleasant, to think of myself strewn acorss the country side, I will stil I have emotional pangs ofer other people b#g// being sad at my departure, but I have no problems about dying, relative to having been to the center. I will never be more ready #N#### to die than I am/###/ this moment because Ihave been to thecenter and there is no place to ge after that. /Rapture walks with \psip \psi / woe. because the indicative is that my lifeis for the sake of eeading others to the center, and I don' know weather I need to be Funny or not, but most of them

don't want to go. But since I have

been to the centeryou see I have not desire to life diddinint/of less one second more mor than the mystery ordains, therfore, I and the Mystery are ONE. The sea is tranquil nowand will be forever. Now I want to end this by telling you a secret that I've never told before, that my Walter Middy is to be the director of the worlds greatestchior... nowI know nothing of music, I can't sing, Vai/ V I don't know how to move my arms but, I supose of I could do the one thing I most really would like to do it would be to be able to manipulate the voinces. I think directors do the directing only for themselfes so could we end this by singing at the center.