

Awakening UP

... some in-Sight-full ponderings on
what it means to *Awaken* to True Self



via Scaughdt
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“Once the Soul awakens, the search truly begins ... and you can never go back. From then on, you are ablaze with an internal longing that will never again allow you to linger in the lowlands of hollow complacency and partial fulfillment. The fresh awareness of the Majestic Eternal makes you urgent to become ONE with it once again, and you are thereafter ever-loath to allow compromise or the threat of danger hold you back from arriving at that most glorious summit.”

~ inspired by John O'Donohue

Awakening is ...

... choosing to celebrate each morning's fresh dawning. It is openly celebrating this world, and it is openly celebrating your brief-yet-potent time within it.



Awakening is ...

... opening up to a Friend; openly showing them you Care.



Awakening is ...

... realizing with a brilliant & all-consuming clarity that everyone around you in your life -- each & every random passerby, each & every stranger, and each & every friend -- is living a life as vivid and as complex and as important as your own; that their lives matter just as much; that indeed -- their lives and your life are One.



(inspired by John Koenig)

Awakening is ...

... seeing everything (& everyone) around you as a priceless work of art, and treating life itself like a blank canvas -- perfectly pristine; waiting patiently for the next bold stroke of your Love's gentle brush.



Awakening is ...

... comprehending the Truth that we need no longer cast wishes upon shooting stars; that every sincere desire of our Souls -- every single yearning of any true worth or merit -- has already been given us in full.



Awakening is ...

... first remembering that every stranger you meet is actually a long-lost Friend -- and choosing to act accordingly.



Awakening is ...

... being there for others (silently & gently & humbly & non-judgmentally)
while they repeatedly rediscover their own innate Cleanliness.



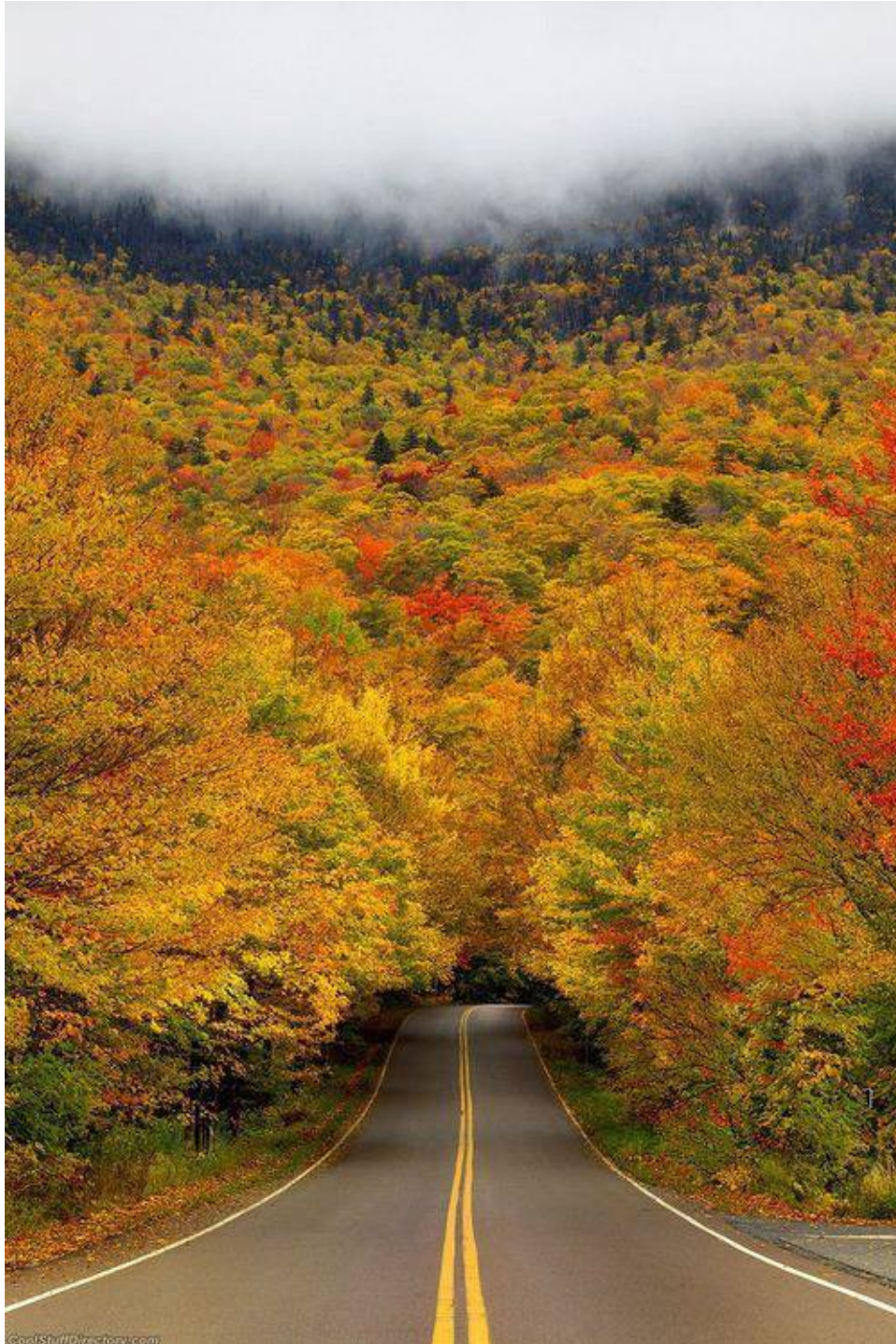
Awakening is ...

... recalling the Truth that -- no matter how frustrating or difficult or even painful it can sometimes be -- being human is always a brilliant Blessing.



Awakening is ...

... knowing there is an inevitable Rebirth on the other side of each & every passing, while simultaneously seeing the innate & precious Beauty that lives within each & every Death.



Awakening is ...

... realizing that the only shoes you ever need to fill are your own.



Awakening is ...

... choosing to get involved – both openly & intimately – in your own Community; persistently choosing not to disappear.



Awakening is ...

... having the courage to reach out to others who are different than you; especially those who seem "sacrilegious" or "scary" or "strange".



Awakening is ...

... understanding that all "criminals" remain inherently innocent even after they are "proven guilty".



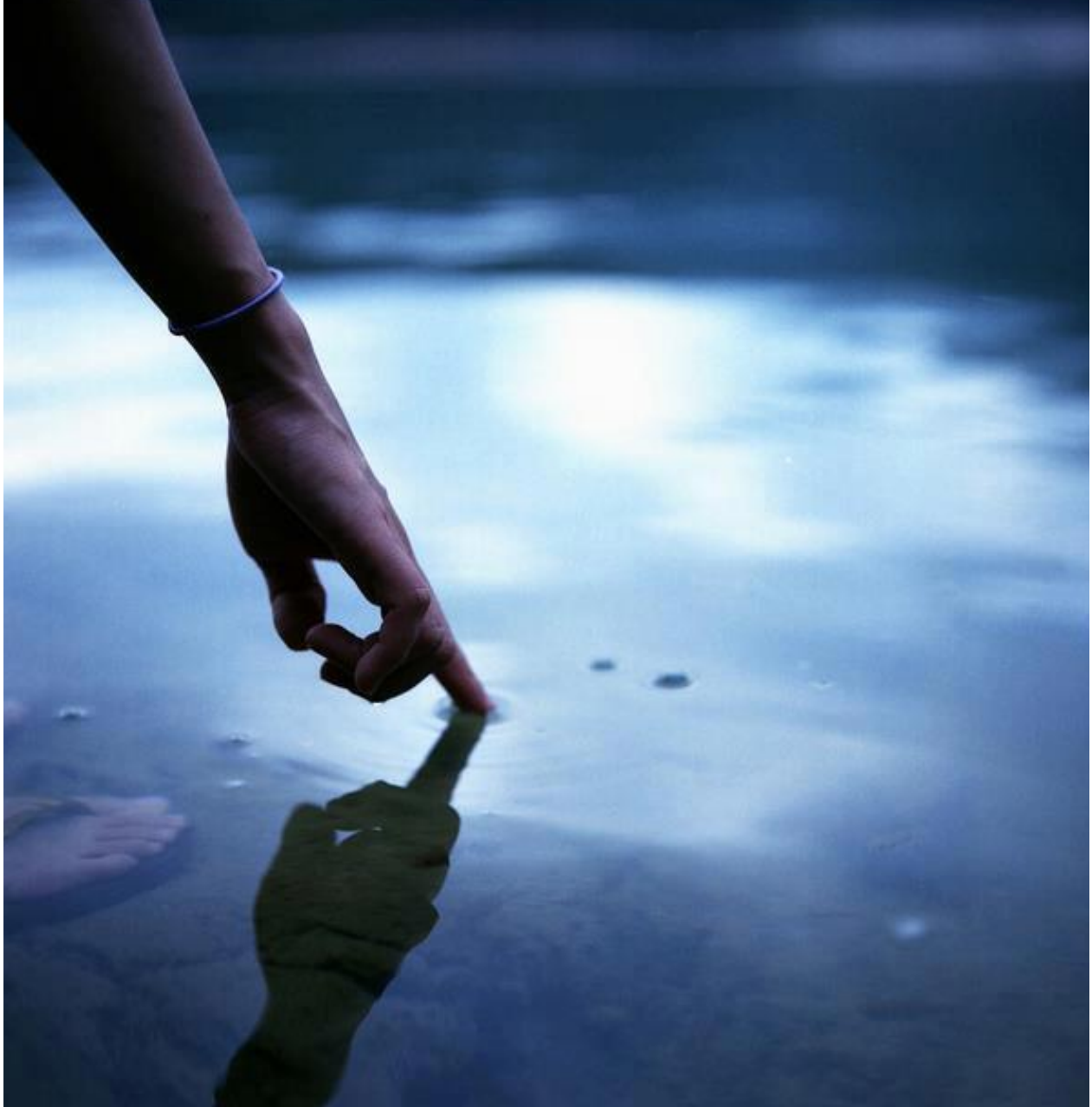
Awakening is ...

... recognizing the Truth that, just as there is always a spark of life that thrives in the desert, so too is there always a glimmer of Love that lives on in a wounded Heart.



Awakening is ...

... accepting that you will never truly know how "cold" or "warm" the water of your life truly is until you have the guts to dive all the Way in.



Awakening is ...

... enlivening the Truth that true LOVE always lets the other have the bed.



Awakening is ...

... engaging your relationships with real LOVE (the verb), while simultaneously remembering that real LOVE always has a very loose grip.



Awakening is ...

... understanding that living life Meaning-fully requires fully owning your moments -- by consciously calling nothing your own.



Awakening is ...

... remaining rooted in the moment with Love & Gratitude; making every deed Divine -- no matter how "small" & no matter how "simple".



Awakening is ...

... comprehending the Truth that every act of "self-defense" is actually an act of SELF-destruction.



Awakening is ...

... standing directly in front of an enemy, and seeing the Wearer within, as opposed to merely his cloak.



Awakening is ...

... discerning the awesome Power of sincere repentance; that asking for forgiveness needs neither an open recognition nor an announced acceptance thereof to still blossom fully within the one to whom it is given.



Awakening is ...

... using the fruits from your own past greeds to feed your community's present needs.



Awakening is ...

... braving the cold to bring others Warmth.



Awakening is ...

... remembering the simple Truth that, while poverty itself is complicated, feeding a child is not.



(inspired by Billy Shore)

Awakening is ...

... celebrating this one moment like it's the only one you've got.



Awakening is ...

... realizing that the only way to get back to the Light is to Purpose-fully head straight through the Storm.



Awakening is ...

... having the courage to distance your Self (and thereby dis-illusion your self) from your dogma.



Awakening is ...

... rediscovering the Truth that -- while It is indeed a residence much larger than vast, and while we can thus never hope to witness even the smallest portions of its majesty -- the Beauty of the Universe is always within you; that you carry It with you wherever you go.



Awakening is ...

... understanding that engaging in selfless service for others is the key to attaining true Happiness for ourSelves, along with the fact that *every single one of us* can serve. It is also understanding that we are not called to "save the world" or do things that are "awesome" or "great" or "spectacular", but rather that we are simply to do whatever we already can – wherever we already are, with whatever we already have – to try and make the world a more Joy-full & Peace-filled place.



Awakening is ...

... refusing to be conned by the false whisperings of your ego; that weak & cowardly voice constantly telling you that you are "only human" -- constantly tempting you to "take care of yourself". Awakening is listening instead to the Voice of your Soul -- the True Self that knows the deeply Caring Human being you truly are; the True Self that resides patiently within you in all your times of trial & turmoil; the True Self that cheers you ever onward to acts as Kind as they are courageous ... the True Self within you that has always had (and always will have) your back.



Awakening is ...

... consciously & purposefully setting aside all sadness & grief & mourning.
It is powerfully honoring the dead by cheerfully living your Life.



Awakening is ...

... aligning your actions with forces more Power-full than mere "power".



Awakening is ...

... drumming to the Soul-rhythms of everyone around you; and when you do decide to so drum, drumming with everything you've got.



Awakening is ...

... choosing to drink gratefully from every cup that is given.



Awakening is ...

... letting go of everything that makes it difficult to give; especially all things judged "priceless" or "pretty". Of course, it is also remembering that we don't have to discard our things to let them go ... that sharing them with others counts as well.



Awakening is ...

... remembering the innate Truth that every loss, every disablement & every death is nothing more than a Making-Way for something new.



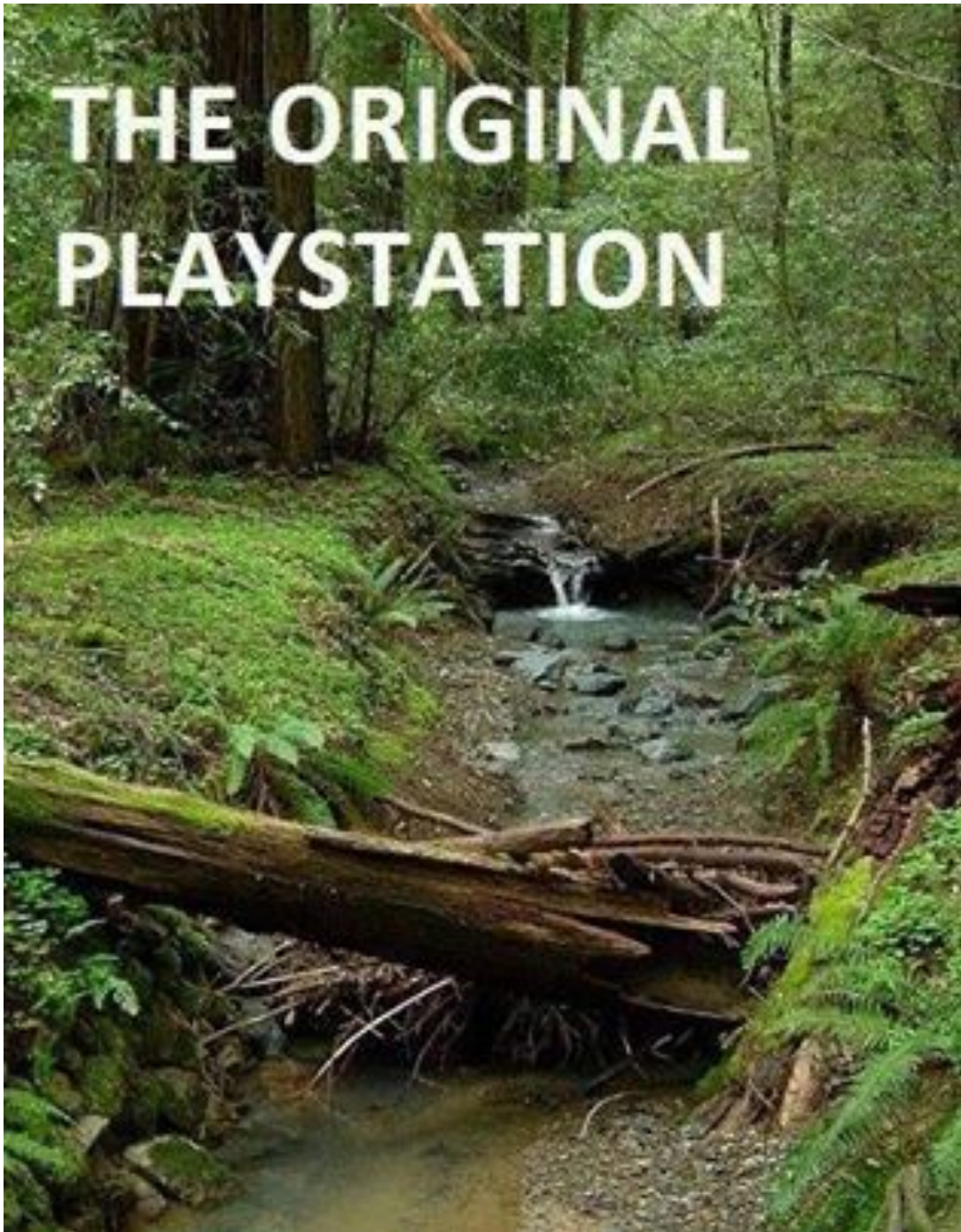
Awakening is ...

... seeing the smear of "dirt" on others -- the flaws of your friends; the sins of your strangers; the evils of your enemies -- and choosing to Love them anyway.



Awakening is ...

... turning off your television (and your i-pod, and your "smart" phone, and your i-pad, and your laptop), and turning *ON* your Life.



Awakening is ...

... realizing that there isn't much time left to start being radically thankful for *EVERYTHING*.



Awakening is ...

... knowing that, even though all the sandcastles you build will ultimately dissolve & fade away – that even though all your achievements & accomplishments & accolades will one day fade & be no more, the LOVE that you put into building them remains forever immortal ... and will forever hum its soft & Caring melody.



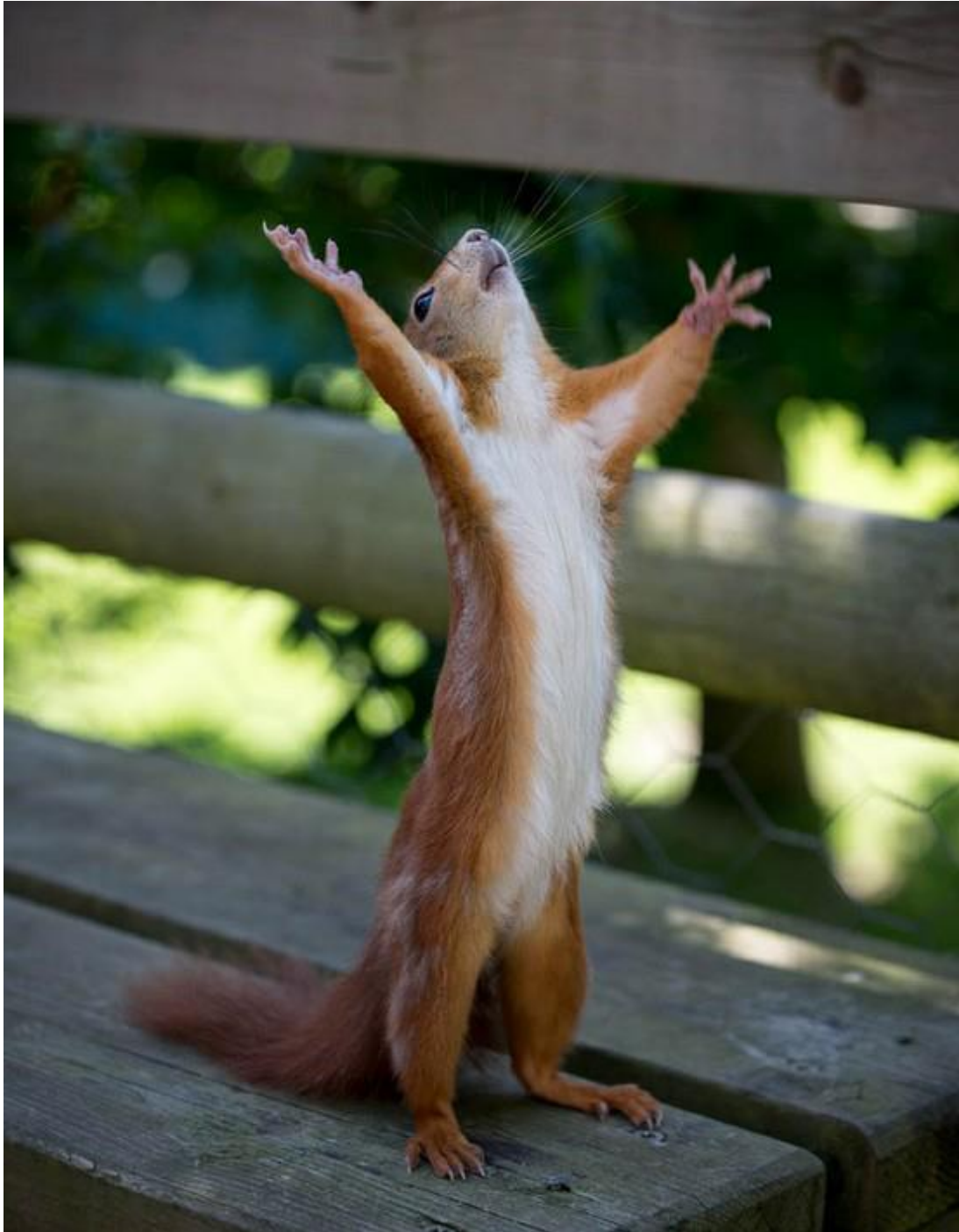
Awakening is ...

... remembering – with your actions more than your words – that your life is not about you.



Awakening is ...

... understanding that real Peace requires real Humility, and that real Humility requires frequent & openly flagrant expressions of Gratitude.



Awakening is ...

... realizing that, for life to be Joy-full, it must be consciously & Purpose-fully filled with Joy.



Awakening is ...

... accepting the fact that Death comes to us all, that it almost always comes unexpectedly, and that in every Death rests both a Beauty waiting quietly to be recognized -- & a Purpose waiting gently to be enlivened.



Conclusion: a Time for Defiance

They tell us to avoid strangers and mind our own business ... Well I say it is time for us to be Kind to strangers; to make their Happiness our top priority.

They demand we worship a god who condemns & judges & punishes ... Well I say it is time for us to seek -- & find -- & emulate, the God of pure & perfect Love.

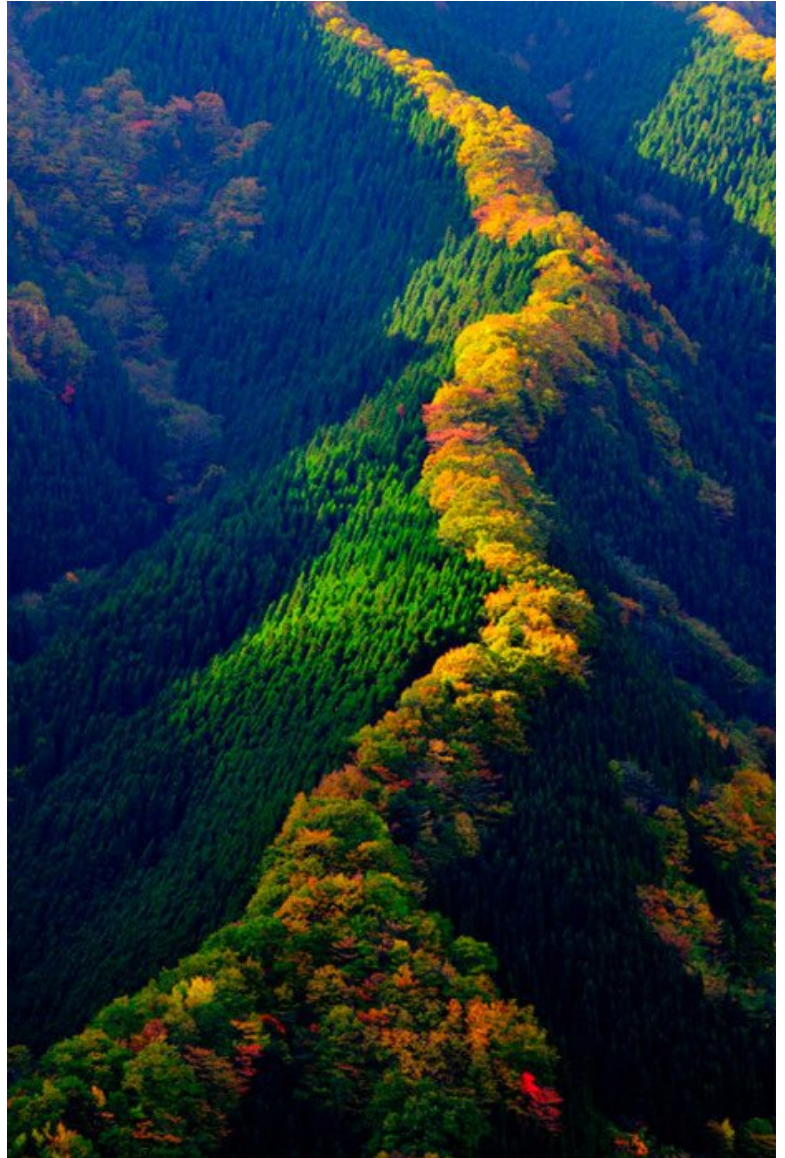
They order us to look the other way while grave injustices are being committed against millions upon millions of innocent animals ... Well I say it is time for us to have the humility to see those horrors, and the courage to stop supporting them.

They command us to "be responsible" & to "get serious" & to "act appropriately" ... Well I say it is time for us to boldly defy those orders ... by living lives overflowing with random acts of Kindness & filled with flagrant expressions of Joy.

They mandate that we "follow the rules" & "tow the line" & "respect authority" -- even when those rules are patently unjust, even when that line is blurred & bland & boring; even when that authority is perversely corrupt ... Well I say it is time for us to dismiss those rules; that it is time for us to cross that line; that it is time for us to hold all authorities accountable ... I say it is time to walk the Golden Way of Awakening ...

I say it is finally time to be Free.

Amen ... Let it be so.





*“And I will take one from a thousand
and two from ten thousand,
and they shall Become a single One.”
~ Jesus (Gospel of Thomas 23)*