

# Noesis

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### EDITORIAL

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Well, Rick Rosner has finally "made it big" and in so doing is "burning the candle at both ends." The last I heard, he had 63 days of solid writing assignments, and probably his pipeline will fill up as fast (faster than?) he can empty it. While all this was happening, he became a first-time father. As a result, he has to regretfully resign as Editor of the *Noesis*. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Rick for all the hard work he put in editing the last 70 issues of *Noesis*. Rick has been Editor since January 1991, and I will miss him. He had a lot of notable lines, but perhaps my favorite was the last line of his last comment in his last issue (appropriate, eh?), a quip on the Newcomb paradox: "I'd take only the million dollars, but I wouldn't expect to be able to spend it."

Which means we need a new Editor, and in an issue that will accompany this issue in the mail (or be close behind it) there will be a ballot for nominating yourself. In the interim, I will serve as acting Editor. However, don't expect much from me, as my free time is extremely limited. So please, nominate yourself! Also, note that the policy of extending subscriptions by one issue for each two pages of material is suspended.

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### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following recently qualified new members of the Mega Society: Paul Jones and Steve Schuessler. If you'd like to get to know the other members, please send us something about yourself and include your address.

### A QUESTION

Richard May

Considering the scale of cosmic being and the food-chain relationship among living, evolving systems, does it seem improbable that if there is any reality corresponding to the human idea of God, then humans are merely food for God? And what then does it mean specifically that "God loves us?"

# Thoughts for Meditation

Ronald M. Yannone

As I read through the [1997] Guinness Book of World Records (GBWR) I meditate on corresponding spiritual texts and Shaker Thoughts (ST). I have captured several here for your reflection and contemplation.

*Record1* - "The annual average at Yuma, AZ is 91 percent of the possible hours of sunshine (4,055 hours out of 4,456 possible hours in a year)." GBWR, p. 56.

*Spiritual1* - "For the Lord is a sun shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." Psalm 84:11.

*Shaker1* - "Charity, like the sun, brightens every object on which it shines." ST, p. 8.

*Record2* - "La Regente, a pearl weighing 302.68 grains and formerly part of the French crown jewels, was sold at Christie's, Geneva, Switzerland on May 12, 1988 for \$864, 280." GBWR, p.60.

*Spiritual2* - "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." Matthew 13:45-46.

*Shaker2* - "A forgiving spirit is an emblem of Christianity, a gem that is worth our earnest endeavor to possess." ST, p.33.

*Record3* - "The large optics diamond turning machine at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Livermore, CA was reported in June 1983 to be able to sever a human hair 3,000 times lengthwise." GBWR, p. 64.

*Spiritual3* - "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12.

**Shaker3** - "Write your errors in your own mind, but there blot out all the errors of others." ST, p. 43.

**Record4** - "The longest wire ropes are the four made at British Ropes, Ltd., Wallsend, England, each measuring 15 miles long. The ropes are 1.3 inches in diameter, weigh 120 tons each, and were ordered by the CEGB for use in the construction of the 2,000 MW cross-Channel power cable." GBWR, p. 71.

**Spiritual4** - "Many are inquiring, "How am I to make the surrender of myself to God?" You desire to give yourself to Him, but you are weak in moral power, in slavery to doubt, and controlled by the habits of your life to sin. Your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand . . . . What you need to understand is the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise . . . . you can *choose* to serve Him. You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure." SC, p. 47.

**Shaker4** - "On the anvil of life we are forging the chains that shall link us to heaven or hell." ST, p. 46.

**Record5** - "A book published in 1940 entitled *The Pythagorean Proposition* contained 370 different proofs of Pythagoras' theorem." GBWR, p. 72.

**Spiritual5** - "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10.

**Shaker5** - "Pay thy tithes to earth, but save thy immortality for heaven." ST, p.12.

**Record6** - "A commercially available atomic clock manufactured by Hewlett-Packard of Palo Alto, CA was unveiled in December 1991. Designated the HP 5071A primary frequency standard with cesium II technology, the device, costing \$54,000 and about the size of a desktop computer, is accurate to one second in 1.6 million years." GBWR, p. 73.

*Spiritual6* - "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; . . . a time of war, and a time of peace." Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

*Shaker6* - "A second is a short space of time, but without it there are no centuries." ST, p. 2.

*Record7* - "The switchboard in the Pentagon, Arlington, VA has 34,500 lines and handles over 1 million calls per day. Its busiest day was June 6, 1994 - the 50th anniversary of D-Day - when there were 1,502,415 calls." GBWR, p. 73.

*Spiritual7* - "Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend." With God's omniscience, every one in the world can communicate with God - at the same time! SC, p. 93.

*Shaker7* - "Prayer, like a golden key, unlocks treasures of inestimable value. Be careful which way you turn it." ST, p. 60.

*Record8* - "The most expensive car ever built was the U.S. Presidential 1969 Lincoln Continental Executive delivered to the U.S. Secret Service on October 14, 1968. It has an overall length of 21 ft. 6.25 in. with a 13-ft.-4-in. wheelbase, and with the addition of 2.2 tons of armor plate, weighs six tons (12,000 pounds). The estimated cost of research, development and manufacture was \$500,000. Even if all four tires were shot out it could travel at 50 MPH on inner rubber-edged steel discs." GBWR, p. 99.

*Spiritual8* - "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil . . . loins girt about with truth . . . breast plate of righteousness . . . feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace . . . shield of faith . . . helmet of salvation . . . and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God." Ephesians 6:11-17.

*Shaker8* - "The best capital to begin life with is a good character." ST, p. 4.

*Record9* - "The 250-room Biltmore House in Asheville, NC is owned by George and William Cecil, grandsons of George Washington Vanderbilt II (1862-1914). The house was built between 1890 and 1895 on an estate of 119,000 acres, at a cost of \$4.4 million; it is now valued at \$5.5 million, with 12,000 acres." GBWR, p. 78.

*Spiritual9* - "In my Fathers' house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2.

*Shaker9* - "Every house set in order must have laws, rules and regulations to keep it so. But whoever knew one kept in that condition, unless the gift or principle of obedience reigned there?" ST, p. 6.

*Record10* - "The world's narrowest street is in the village of Ripatransone in the Marche region of Italy. It is called *Vicolo della Virilita* ("Virility Alley") and is 1 ft. 5 in. width." GBWR, p. 104.

*Spiritual10* - "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matthew 7:13-14.

*Shaker10* - "[The letter] 'I' is the narrowest letter in the alphabet, yet it can be placed so near the organ of vision as to cover even the sun. Thus it is morally. Egotism can so blind us that the whole universe is eclipsed, and we see nothing but I." ST, p. 5.

*Record11* - "[One of] the most frequently sung songs in English [is] 'Happy Birthday to You' by Mildred Hill and Patty Smith Hill (written in 1893 and under copyright from 1935 to 2010)." GBWR, p. 134.

*Spiritual11* - "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3.

*Shaker11* - "Conscience is the voice of the soul; the passions are the voice of the body." ST, p. 2.

*Record12* - "The Perth Entertainment Center, Western Australia is the largest theater measured by capacity. It was completed in November 1976 and has 8,003 seats. The stage area is 12,000 square feet." GBWR, p. 146.

*Spiritual12* - "The world is a theater. The actors, the inhabitants of the world, are preparing to act their part in the last great drama. God is lost sight of." [In reference to Matthew 7:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12→*The Unfailing Test*].

*Shaker12* - "Correct the faults in yourselves that you think you see in others." ST, p. 44.

*Record13* - "The deepest point in the world's oceans is in the Marianas Trench in the Pacific Ocean. It was pinpointed in 1951 by the British Survey Ship Challenger, and on January 23, 1960, the manned U.S.N. bathyscaphe Trieste descended to the bottom. On March 24, 1995, the unmanned Japanese probe Kaiko also reached the bottom and recorded a depth of 35,797 feet." GBWR, p. 52.

*Spiritual13* - "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Micah 7:19-20.

*Shaker13* - "When love is at the helm of the ship, as we sail upon the sea of life, we fear not the storms that may arise." ST, p. 54.

*Record14* - "The purple nutsedge, nutgrass or nutsedge (*Cyperus rotundus*) is a land weed native to India. It attacks 52 crops in 92 countries, including the United States, where it is found primarily in the southern states." GBWR, p. 43.

*Spiritual14* - "Behold a sower went forth to sow . . . . And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them . . . . He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful." Matthew 13:3,7,22.

*Shaker14* - "Life might be a paradise of beauty, if the seeds of disobedience had no soil wherein to germinate and grow." ST, p. 50.

## "Home for the Holidays"

As Mr. Yannone was browsing for just the right Christmas card this year, we noticed that he selected the 1994 "Home for the Holidays" edition by 1996 Graphic Artist of the year Thomas Kinkade. We selected Mr. Yannone for our annual holiday "21-Question" interview which follows for your contemplation and reflection.

**Q1** - Mr. Yannone, how old are you?

**A1** - I am 42.

**Q2** - Mr. Yannone, what specifically were you looking for in a Christmas card this year?

**A2** - I wanted a card that captured an old-fashioned scene where travelers are meeting good friends in a winter scene.

**Q3** - Mr. Yannone, you described the setting, but what were you hoping the card would do for the viewer as they first glanced at the setting posed by the card?

**A3** - I wanted a card that would instantly draw the viewer away from the present and place them "at home" in a mysterious and magical way.

**Q4** - Mr. Yannone, how would you define being "at home"?

**A4** - This is a simple question that has a very intricate answer. Do you have time to record this?

**Q5** - Mr. Yannone, we certainly do. This is exactly what we were hoping for. If you don't mind, please proceed. Take whatever time you need.

**A5** - Okay . . .

To me, being "at home" has a lot to do with one's state-of-mind. We all experience changes in our lives and our frame of reference can change too. A person can physically be at home, in their residence, and yet not be "at home" with the situation they are in. Being "at home" involves being comfortable with the setting one is in. Being "at home" encourages a "peace of mind." It might be expressed as a warm comforter blanket surrounding you securely as you sit by the fire on a cold winter's night.

**Q6** - Mr. Yannone, do you mind if we interrupt you?

**A6** - Of course not. Can I help clarify something I have said?

**Q7** - Most definitely, Mr. Yannone. You have said a lot already in just a few sentences. You are saying that being "at home" for you means being comfortable no matter where you are,

under any circumstance. To find this "comfortable" setting, do you need to expend effort on your part, or does it just happen?

A7 - A little bit of both. I'll cite some examples. All through my life I have enjoyed eating at unusual locations and settings - be they at my home table where I grew up in Neptune, NJ, or far away places.

When I was living in Binghamton, NY I would study my Mobil Travel Guide for the descriptions of restaurants that appealed to me. One was in Corning, NY - an Italian place. I was really at home there. The food was delicious and the service and environment "warm and inviting." Corning was 70 miles away from where I lived. In this regard, to experience the "comfort" sought after, I had to travel 140 miles round-trip. I did this with practically no effort at that time. The year was 1980.

In NH, there is a favorite pancake place in Sugar Hill, NH called Polly's Pancake Parlor. The coziness and mountain views were experienced by traveling 180 miles round-trip. It has always been what I anticipated it would be. The reward was always well worth the effort expended. The White Mountains are a genuine splendor to admire and study.

While in Utica, NY I would travel a 100-mile round-trip to the Otesaga Hotel in Cooperstown, NY just to sit on their porch facing beautiful Lake Otsego to write my letters to family and friends as I was inspired by the view in front of me. I'd often bring a change of clothes and have dinner in their formal dining room in the evening before returning to Utica.

QB - Excuse us, Mr. Yannone. It really shows that you are willing to travel great distances to secure the environment that puts you "at home." Does it always involve traveling such great distances to find this atmosphere?

AB - Typically the answer to your question is "yes." The trip may not always involve traveling in a car or on an airplane or in a bus or train. But "travel" is always involved. Many times, the ideal places result from an unexpected detour that I have decided to embark on, just for the fun of it. In this respect, I am a pioneer.

QS - Please Mr. Yannone. We are confused. If you do not use the conventional means of transportation, what alternate transportation do you use?

AS - Recall that I stated that being "at home" has a lot to do with one's "state-of-mind." It all begins in our mind. It involves a relationship with God as our heavenly Father. In the beginning we may be mentally and physically at one point, with a certain level of "comfort" or "discomfort." To reach the "destination" sought involves "traveling" from this desired or undesired point to the "place" desired. The Bible encourages us to be content in whatever state we find ourselves in. We can be in prison, where we cannot physically travel, and yet our mind can take us to "heavenly places" thousands of miles away. Hearing a musical tune can immediately transport us away in time and location to a place we encountered before. In the Bible, Paul encourages us: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."



Q10 - Mr. Yannone, we are beginning to see what you are saying. What may normally defy logic as to where a certain person can be "at home" is actually very sound logic with reference to the specific person and what constitutes "comfort" for that person. Very interesting. We like the real travel experiences you shared. Are there others that come to mind?

A10 - Yes. Another favorite here in NH was a place called The Balsams Grand Resort Hotel in Dixville Notch. I read about this place in my Mobil Travel Guide and the description sounded what I was looking for - secluded and yet a world all of its own - with fine culinary experiences to be enjoyed. The 7-hour round-trip was very well worth the research.

Q11 - Wait a minute, Mr. Yannone. Did you say "research?" Do you have to travel all those miles to do research so that you will know for sure if the place you read about places you "at home?" Whew! This is getting heavy. We need to catch our breath before you give us the answer to this one.

A11 - I never travel alone.

Q12 - Hold on Mr. Yannone. Are you saying that you always travel with someone? Are you saying you need company for you to be "at home?" We're confused.

A12 - I rarely do anything, or go any place, where I am not mentally taking my friends or family members or even strangers with me. The great majority of the places I research as locations to be "at home" at, are the very places that these other people will also be "at home" if I can get them there.

Q13 - Mr. Yannone, are you saying that the places, and research you do, is oftentimes to set the stage for a selection of ideal settings for others to enjoy also?

A13 - Yes. Jesus did the exact same thing while He was here on earth. He said in John, chapter 14, that He goes to prepare a place for us. Why? So that where He is, we may be also!!! There is no "heavenly" place where Jesus is that He would not want us to be with Him also. Places can be heavenly to a certain person. But that same place can be even more heavenly if the people you did the research for are there to enjoy it too - with you!

Q14 - Mr. Yannone, we realize that time is running out, but we want to learn more about this very interesting "home" you are constantly on the look out for - for others. Are you saying you are a travel guide?

A14 - In many respects, YES. When I am in a shopping center or on a trip, I am almost always conducting "research" for family and friends. In this respect, you might call me a "travel" guide.

Q15 - Mr. Yannone, do your friends and family members realize your true "identity?"

A15 - Sometimes they do, but more times than not I succeed at keeping this facet of my life a secret.

**Q16** - Mr. Yannone, can you share a variety of outcomes from your research that placed people "at home?"

**A16** - I'd be happy to. I have captured a few of these in the table below. I was the "tour guide" in each circumstance.

My parents, brothers Vincent and Gary, and my aunt Pauline stayed at The Red Lion Inn one foliage season.
My mom, aunt Pauline, brother Darrel and his wife Cindy went to Niagara Falls one summer.
My brother Brian and his wife Rosanne stayed at the Otesaga Hotel for a nice weekend treat one summer.
My brothers Gary and Vincent, and my parents stayed at The Balsams for the foliage season in October during the 1980's. My parents, brother Gary, and I stayed here on a separate occasion a year or two earlier.
My mom and aunt Pauline went to colonial Williamsburg for a week in March one year.
My parents enjoyed 9 foliage trips to New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts.
My mom and aunt Pauline went to New Hope, PA one summer.
My brother Gary and mom went to Stowe, VT in the summer of '96.
My parents enjoyed visiting the Corning Glass Works in NY around 1980.
My parents and aunt Pauline enjoyed the Otesaga Hotel for dinner one evening when they came to visit me when I was living in New Hartford, NY. They loved the porch overlooking the lake.
My parents and I enjoyed a 3-day vacation at the Otesaga Hotel one summer in June, 1990.
Barbara Juzwa, Joe Daigle and Anna Bates are SDARM church members as a result of a 2500-mile research journey I took in the early '90's.
I have taken dozens of people on mystery car rides that included Polly's Pancake Parlor.

**Q17** - Mr. Yannone, we are beginning to appreciate the effort you have put forth in researching locations that "place" people truly "at home." It almost sounds like a divinely-ordained ministry with storybook adventures that result! Do you continue to perform such intriguing research?

**A17** - Yes. Would you like me to close with my latest effort?

**Q18** - Mr. Yannone we certainly do. But before you close would you list whatever "settings" come to mind that have placed you "at home" over the span of your life? We would be blessed by this

**A18** - Sure. I'll just list them in the table that follows - as they come to mind - with no rhyme or reason.

Q19 - Well, Mr. Yannone, you certainly have a wide range of situations that place you "at home." We would like to close our interview by having you share your latest "efforts."

A19 - Okay. I'd be glad to. To set the stage though, I need to give you the background briefly so that you will see how one event leads to the next. The most succinct way to do this is by using the table below.

THE RED LION INN ADVENTURE STORY
I moved from Utica, NY to Pittsfield, MA in September 1978. I worked for GE Ordnance Systems Department.
I researched for nice dining locations - I learned of The Gateways Inn in Lenox which I liked a lot. I learned about The Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge. I decided to check it out on a very snowy evening in late January, 1979. I fell in love with it the first time I walked into the lobby. The aromas of food and the cozy, formal dining room attracted me immediately. But the dress code was for "jacket and tie." I excitedly made a reservation for about an hour later and rushed home that cold, stormy night to get dressed. My dining experience lasted 3 hours - I still recall the lemon bread. Hmmm.
The Red Lion Inn became my favorite, next to the Gateways Inn. I dined at both frequently. During a heavy snowfall one late February evening, the garage that I housed my car in collapsed, and my car was in the shop for a month. Fortunately, there was a bus that ran between Pittsfield where I lived to the corner street down the road from the Gateways Inn. The lovely music and great cooking by the chef-owner gave me a nice place to dine each week till my car was repaired. I still recall them playing Perry Como Christmas music in the background during the Christmas season.
I moved to Binghamton, NY in the fall of 1979. I knew I was going to really miss my faithful visits to The Red Lion Inn. I had always wanted to spend a Christmas at The Red Lion Inn from my first visit that cold, snowy evening January 1979. I loved walking the halls, examining the antiques and the Norman Rockwell paintings.
During the winter of 1979, we had a business meeting at the GE plant in Pittsfield, where I previously worked. I made my reservation at The Red Lion Inn for lodging, rather than downtown Pittsfield. Sometimes you have to leave a place in order to return to it under a different "wardrobe". While living in Pittsfield, I had always dreamed of staying at The Red Lion Inn - but didn't. Here, the sadness of moving brought the joys of returning!
We began to do foliage trips and The Red Lion Inn was a good intermediate stop for my parents and I. We'd stay there usually on our return trip from the north for one night. But we were usually so wiped out from the hundreds of miles on the road that we could not really "savor" the experience - and never at Christmas!
Time went by, and was the year 1984. I was now in Utica, NY, and GE teamed with Sanders in Nashua, NH on a project that I worked on. On many occasions I would make dinner reservations at The Red Lion Inn - as it was the half-way point between Utica and Nashua.
In April '86, I started work at Sanders in Nashua, NH.
Recently, I have had the strong yearning to spend my Christmas at The Red Lion Inn - <i>NEARLY 18 YEARS LATER.</i>

Q20 - Mr. Yannone, your ending in the above table leaves us wondering with strong curiosity as to the "conclusion" of your story? Is it okay to ask?

A20 - Certainly. Several weeks ago, the thought came to my mind to plan to stay at The Red Lion Inn by myself for a few nights for Christmas. I assumed that no member of my family in NJ would ever dream of traveling up north to New England - in the winter! But I decided to inquire. The results are summarized in the table below. Needless to say, I am planning little "touches" here-and-there to make the travel, the accommodations and the agenda as smooth and pleasant as possible. As Gary and mom have done very little winter travel, I put together a simple "check-list" for them to remember some of the items they may need to pack.

Christmas at The Red Lion Inn Check-list						
Gary						
throw-away razors	shaving cream	toothbrush	tooth paste	underwear	undershirts	1 pair of dress pants
1 pair of dress socks	deodorant	belts for pants	1 pair of dress shoes	1 dress shirt	1 tie	1 sports jacket
sneakers	casual pairs of socks	comb	hat	gloves	coat	YMCA shorts
YMCA sweat shirt	bathing suit	nails clipped	wrist watch	2 warm shirts	sweater	medication
rubbers or boots	scarf	social security card	medical card	drivers license	laundry bags	bathrobe & slippers
Mom						
personal clothes	gloves	hat	toothbrush	tooth paste	YMCA gear	sneakers
1 pair of dress shoes	1 dinner dress	coat	boots	perfume	chewing gum	cigarettes
comb	credit card	YMCA card	social security card	AARP card	cash	scarf
airline itinerary & receipt	small pocket book	hand lotion	hair spray	earrings	laundry bag	etc.
Use a yellow "highlighter" to mark the items off as you pack. This will allow you to "see through" the highlighted item for later reference.						

Q21 - Mr. Yannone, we want to thank you for carving out so much time with us to conduct this annual interview. We know the readers of this transcript will be blessed in a variety of ways. Do you have any closing comments?

A21 - As I reflect on the answers I gave to the questions you asked, it becomes more evident to me just how intricately connected the things we do are. I would have never imagined back on that cold, winter night in 1979 that an inner desire to stay at The Red Lion Inn for Christmas would be fulfilled nearly 18 years later? So many facets in my life seem to be more coupled than at first meets the eye. I pray that the reader will pause for a few minutes after reading this transcript to examine their own personal lives in this fashion. I think they will be pleasantly surprised.

Ronald Yannone - 53 Amherst Street, Nashua, NH 03060 - (603) 885-0454 [Voice Mail] →

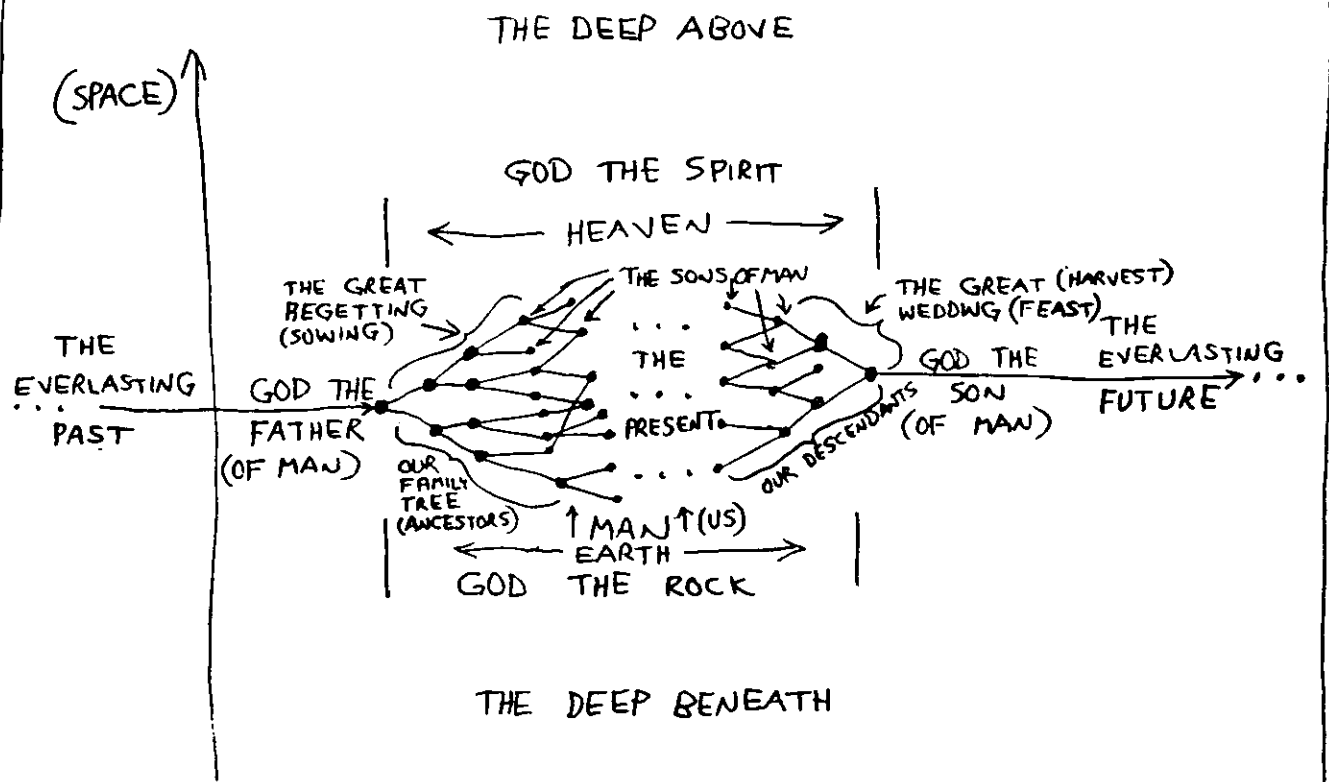
Cleaning the kitchen and setting the table before everyone in the house got up on a Saturday morning
The aromas of well thought out meals
Brothers and parents running all through the house around the holidays
Sleigh bells ringing off in the distance on a snowy evening
Sitting by a warm glowing fire place
Watching people dining in a nice restaurant with candles on the tables from the outside of the building
Listening to Christmas music at my parent's home on Thanksgiving day
Dining at Levi Lowells in Merrimack, NH
Trips to Delicious Orchards, fellowship with Barbara, Joe, Anna, Mullica Hill & Priscille
Picking my aunt Pauline up from Far Rockaway after midnight one Christmas eve - 140 mile round-trip on the spur of the moment to be us for Christmas Day for over a decade
Lugging a 24-foot extension ladder on the roof of my car from Utica, NY to NJ as a gift for my dad one Christmas; authoring Ron's MATHO-DAY puzzles each holiday
The sound of carolers outside on a cold, snowy evening
Visiting dozens of stores over and over till I found just the right gift for every member of the family
Having tea parties at Klaus Rittenbach's parent's home in NJ
Chats on math with David Anick at his parent's home in NJ, the Palmer's, Jackson's, & Berry's
Meeting friendly Japanese people in Kyoto; window shopping
Tape and scissors in my hand, wrapping presents with Christmas music playing in the background
Shoveling snow; times playing over math with Daniel Morasaku
Times with Mrs. Adams going over math problems; grocery store shopping with mom
My brothers and I driving around the neighborhood on our bikes to view the Christmas decorations on the homes, helping students with math at the Asbury Park Middle School in NJ
Trips to my aunt Minnie and uncle Joe with my parents and brothers and aunt Pauline
Staying at my aunt Minnie's for a week the summer of 1971
Cozy, lazy breakfasts; dinners at Terri's and Sally's with Bruce and Tony
Watching birds scurrying about on the snow-covered ground
Our house done up all festively each holiday
The sound of the telephone ringing on Christmas and New Year's eve
The beauty of trons and their trunks when they are bare in winter and covered with leaves in summer
The magical glow of a burning candle on the dinner table
The warmth of old-fashioned lace curtains on 4-foot wide windows
Going to the fire department the week before Christmas to pick up that special box of candy
The fragrance of nice perfumes; building underground tunnels in the back yard
Snowball fights; studying trees in each season; reading books in my pear tree as a child
Viewing a pond loaded with skaters of all ages
Spotting a deer off into the woods; tea parties with family and friends in the yard in NJ
Listening to the howling winds outside the window on a cold winter's night
The "melody" of a prayer said at a well-set table surrounded by loved ones
The exchange of gifts between loved ones and friends
Listening to a real, old-fashioned music box play Christmas songs
My dad working on our cars in the cold of winter or the heat of summer
The fragrance of nice perfumes; playing Frisbee with the neighborhood friends
Raking leaves and baking potatoes as we burned these same leaves
The sock used as a stocking that was filled with the traditional orange and candy cane each year
Bringing home a freshly cut Christmas tree to NJ one cold winter
Sunshine filling every room; enjoying my school years from beginning to end
Friendmade chats with my mom

# Christmas at The Red Lion Inn -- Data Sheet

*"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, just like the ones I used to know..."*

ITEM	COMMENT
Location	The Red Lion Inn, Main Street, Stockbridge, Massachusetts 01262
Red Lion Phone	(413) 298-5545
Airline Confirmation Number	IX4VBT -- Confirmation Number Tickets will be waiting for you at the Continental Airlines Ticket Counter at Newark airport. Need to bring your drivers license for you and Gary and preferably <i>the itinerary</i> they will have sent you in the mail prior to December 22
Airline Departure	Departure from Newark Airport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continental Airlines</li> <li>Sunday-December 22 -- 9:35 AM --Flight #3340</li> <li>Backup, alternate flight time: 12:15 PM</li> <li>Arrive at Bradley International Airport in Hartford, CT at 10:31 AM</li> <li>Take Limousine to The Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA -- 5 miles off exit 2 from the Massachusetts Turnpike in western MA via route 102 (1.5 hours)</li> </ul>
Accommodations	Rooms (Check-in time: 2:00p.m.): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gary has a "Bed &amp; Breakfast" room - shared bath down the hall</li> <li>Ron has a "Bed &amp; Breakfast" room - shared bath down the hall</li> <li>Mrs. Yannone has a room with private bath (please do not inquire)</li> <li>Gary and Ronald should bring a bathrobe and slipper togs</li> </ul>
Welcome Dinner	A Christmas "welcome" dinner will be provided for you at 5:00 PM in the Main Dining Room - Dress, Jacket and Tie required please
Activities	Schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are museums we can look into</li> <li>Exercise at the Pittsfield YMCA -- about 20 minutes away</li> <li>"Mystery" car rides -- including special, formal dinner one evening</li> <li>Old-fashioned "window shopping" spree - Lenox/Pittsfield/local</li> </ul>
Message	Scheduled Massage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs. Yannone has been scheduled for a 1.5 hour massage by Cory Faye Thompson (lady) in Mrs. Yannone's room on Monday at 4 p.m. If Mrs. Yannone is happy with the therapy, a second session can possibly be set up for Thursday. Yes, Cory's middle name is "Faye."</li> </ul>
Christmas Day	A "special" Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Mrs. Yannone, Gary and Ronald for a noon seating in the Main Dining Room -- round table
Airline Departure	Departure from Bradley International Airport in Hartford, CT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continental Airlines</li> <li>Friday -- December 27 -- 10:00 AM -- Flight #3387</li> <li>Backup, alternate flight time: 12:25 PM</li> <li>Arrive at Newark Airport 10:55 AM</li> </ul>
Host	Ron San Millet - Traveler/Planner "Extra-ordinaire"

*"Oh how nice it is to have a cup of hot tea sitting by a warm fire place on a cold winter's day."*



MY THREE-STORY UNIVERSE -- ROBERT DICK, 27 JAN 97 (TIME) →  
rdick@idt.net

CORRECTION TO 'THE FINAL TEST'

PAUL COOIJMANS  
POSTBUS 44  
5737 ZG LAARBEEK  
NEDERLAND

The introduction to The Final Test contains an example I now consider to be not quite right. It should rather be:

CAUSE A FUSS : KICK UP :: SPASMODIC CONTRACTION OF THE  
DIAPHRAGM : ?

The best solution would be HICCUP. Please also note that my address has changed; see above for the new address.