

**Excerpts from *You Are Gods* and *The Splendour of Tiphareth* on Spiritual Grafting
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Grafting is something that man has learned to do in order to improve the quality of fruit. For instance, you can graft a slip from a cultivated pear tree which gives sweet, succulent fruit on the stock of a wild pear tree which is very sturdy and vigorous, but which produces only hard, inedible fruit. The cuttings will benefit from the vigor of the wild stock and produce delicious, juicy pears. Human beings have become experts in the techniques of this kind of grafting, but when it comes to the psychic or spiritual domain, they are not nearly so capable or ingenious. One sees many distinguished people – scientists, well-known writers and artists, philosophers and statesmen – in the grip of some vice or passion, and incapable of freeing themselves from it. So many artists of talent – of genius even – drank, took drugs or ruined themselves at the gaming tables or with women... They have all gone to the grave with their weaknesses still intact. If they had known the rules of spiritual grafts they could have grafted all kinds of qualities and virtues on to their weaknesses.

Now, how is this done? Suppose, for instance that you have a very loving nature, but that your love is very sensual. You can look on it as a great strength, use it as you would a tall vigorous tree and harness its energies to nourish and strengthen a cutting from another kind of love, a love that is pure, noble and disinterested. The sap produced by your lower nature will rise and circulate through the new branches, that is, through the new stereotypes, the new circuits etched into your brain, and produce magnificent fruit, the fruit of a prodigious love which will enrapture and inspire you in ways you never thought possible.

Or perhaps it is your overweening vanity which absorbs all your energies. There too, you can graft a quality on to it. Instead of always trying to be great and glorious in the eyes of the world, in the eyes of gossips and gawking idiots, you can continue to work for glory, but for a heavenly glory, a divine, unalterable glory which will never fade.

If you have a violent temper it is more than likely that, in a fit of rage, you have already destroyed more than one friendship and spoiled your chances of future promotion. Well, instead of letting the blind force of your anger explode like a thunderbolt, you can do a graft and transform and sublimate it. If you do this, you will be tireless in the battle against all your weaknesses and evil tendencies. You will become a valiant servant of God, an invincible soldier of Christ. Instead of creating havoc and laying waste all around you, your martial energies can be used to build something positive. All you have to do is find a cutting to graft onto them.

You may say, "I have read about such and such a hero, saint or prophet who lived in the past, and I find his life tremendously inspiring. I have great admiration for him. Do you think he could provide me with a graft." It is quite possible. The only trouble is that, as someone who existed a long time ago, you cannot be in close touch with him and talk to him as you could with a living being. In fact, even if you choose a human being who is still alive – a friend, a renowned philosopher or artist, for instance – and whom you greatly admire, the graft would still be somewhat imperfect, because everybody has some weakness or defect. No one is absolutely strong, luminous, powerful, warm and generous. Ah, but there is someone who is infinitely more intelligent, more loving, more powerful and more generous than anyone you

could ever find on earth, and who has a storehouse full of cuttings which are ideal for the grafts you require, and that being is the sun. He is the one you have to go for your cuttings

From now on, when you are in front of the rising sun, speak to him and ask him for the grafts you require.:

“Oh sun, my friend, there are so many things I desire to understand, but my intelligence is so limited. But you are all light, you give light to the whole world. I know how generous you are, please give me a few cuttings from your immense intelligence.”

And he will, you know! He will give them to you free of charge, and you can graft them into your brain. In fact, if you are not sure how to set about it, he will even send you an expert to help you. Then you can ask him for other cuttings such as kindness, beauty or wisdom, for example. You can ask him for all the cuttings you need, for he has them all. But do not ask for them all at the same time. You would not be able to graft them all at once, and some of them would wilt and die from lack of attention. Ask for them one by one...

I have used these methods myself for years, and I can assure you that they are very effective. In fact, there are many other things I have not told you about grafting, but what you do not learn from me you will learn directly from the sun. You may be astonished to hear that the sun can reveal things to human beings, but it is true nevertheless.

Of course, it is possible to use cuttings from a great master, because he represents the sun. But still, you cannot really compare a master with the sun. A human being can resemble the sun to the extent to which he spreads warmth, light and life to those who approach him, but the sun gives light, warmth, and nourishment to the entire world. Every living thing that grows and matures, every creature that lives and moves on this earth does so thanks to the sun. An initiate can do some good to mankind, but he can never have such power as this. No mortal can be compared to the sun...

Only the sun's rays are capable of replacing all that is impure, worn out or obscure within you, and they can only do so if you learn how to receive them. If you welcome them with your whole heart, they will begin their work of replacing the “old man” in you, so that you will be wholly regenerated, renewed and resuscitated; your thought, feelings and acts will all be different. Only the sun's rays are capable of working this transformation within you. Nothing else can do it. Unfortunately, human beings, who experience all kinds of enjoyable sensations when they are eating and drinking, smoking or kissing each other, feel nothing when they are in the presence of the sun. This is because they are on too low a vibratory level. The lower levels of reality make a great impression on them, but they are impervious to sunlight. Once a disciple begins to advance and evolve, however, he becomes more sensitive to the sun's rays, and they give him revelations and raptures and truly heavenly sensations.

And this, too, is something new: psychology has not yet discovered that it is we who determine whether or not the effects produced within our hearts and souls by the sun's rays are powerful enough to regenerate and resuscitate us. And this means, of course, we have to prepare ourselves, for otherwise the sun will always be a stranger to us. One has to prepare for days, even months, in advance, so as to be perfectly calm, free and lucid and capable of tuning in to the power and the divine purity of the sun's rays. – *The Spirit of Tiphareth*, pages 175-178.

But the most powerful, the most sublime grafting of all is, of course, to unite with God by saying: "Lord God, I feel that if I am left to transform myself on my own, I shall never succeed. So use me, work through me. I am in your service, I will carry out your wishes. Come and manifest through me." It may not be God himself who comes to you, but he will send one of his angels or archangels, as he did to the patriarchs, the prophets, the apostles, and all the saints. And then your tree – that is, you yourself, who had as yet produced only inedible fruit – will begin to bear delicious fragrant fruit. What has happened? You have dedicated the crude forces surging within you to the service of heaven, and heaven has accepted them and will transform them. All instinctive, negative tendencies can be transformed in this way, and note that I use the word 'transformed', not annihilated, because that is impossible. In fact, if we were able to annihilate them, the outcome might even be worse. It has often happened that people from whom certain vices had been uprooted have fallen prey to even greater vices...

Only the work you do on yourself really counts, whatever your weaknesses or shortcomings may be. Indeed, qualities and virtues do not have any absolute value. So many people possess great virtues. But what do they do with them? Nothing. Whereas others have all kinds of faults, but they desire to improve, and by working on themselves every day they become able to accomplish great things. If they did not have those faults they might never do anything. I assure you, one often sees people who achieve great things because they work on their faults, and others who, satisfied with their qualities, achieve nothing much. Well, be aware that heaven is concerned not so much with your qualities, as with what you do with those qualities.

The only important thing is the work we do on ourselves in order to put both our faults and our qualities at the service of a high ideal. So many people moan about sinful human nature which bears within it the seeds of evil. But it is no good bemoaning it; the only thing that is needed is to work. Each one of our defects – be it vanity, arrogance, anger, jealousy, sensuality – must be put to work. This is true alchemical work. *You Are Gods*, pages 330, 332, and 333.