



1

Purpose and Journey

Bring new insights about the Tier 1 to Tier 2 transition by:-

- Opening and expanding the dimensions and perspectives involved
- Embracing Dynamic Complexity, Non-linearity and Paradox
- Fresh perspective on Integration
- Being vs Seeing

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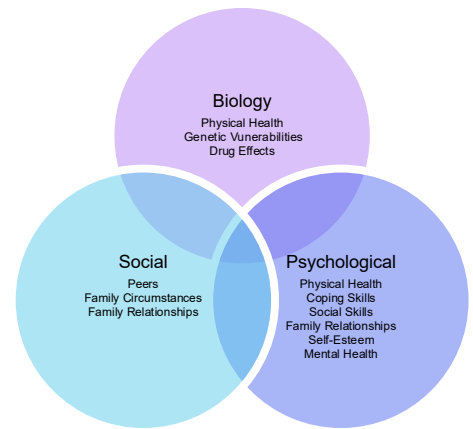
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Purpose and Journey

Bring new insights into the Tier 1 to Tier 2 transition by:-

- Including the Body: A Bio-Psycho-Social model
- Including both brain hemispheres
- Revisiting the stages – a view from above
- Raising the WHOLE SPIRAL – Yellow plus Turquoise plus ???
- Living Systems Thinking and Relational Being



By Seth Falco - <https://commons.wikimedia.org>

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“It ain’t what you don’t know that gets you into trouble; it’s what you know for certain that just ain’t so”



This might get a little complicated. And complex.

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“...since Beck, Cowan and Wilber first defined the content of second-tier intelligence, the existential-problems half of the model — ... to which our human intelligence must adapt — has completely changed as more research points to the epochal shift from the bliss of the Holocene era to the planetary existential threats of the Anthropocene.

This shift is what is demanding that the human intelligence of the Holocene gives way to the natural intelligence of the Anthropocene.”

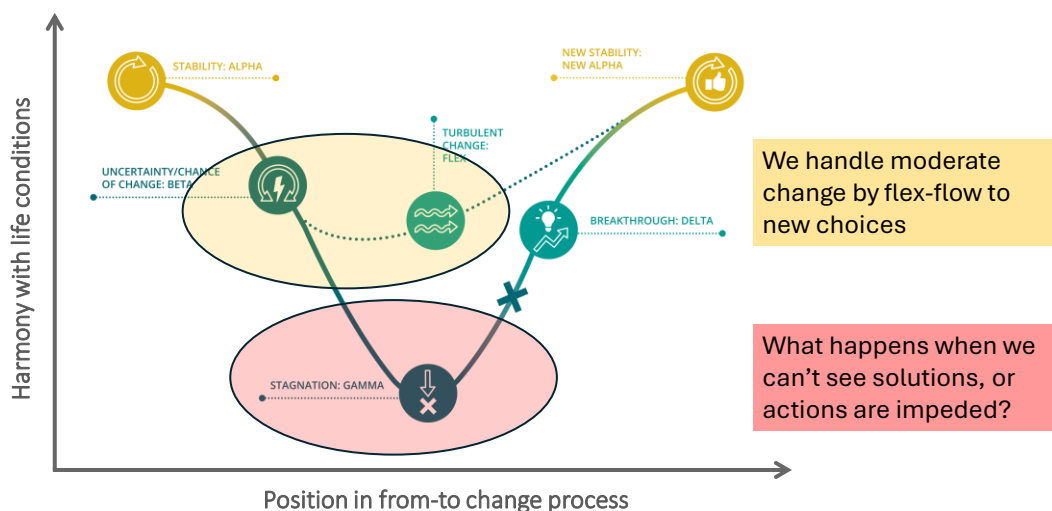
Said E. Dawlabani: Second Sapiens

Ecopsychology + Ecosociology in the Neurosphere and Biosphere

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The dynamics of change – where are we?



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From Subsistence to Being

What did Graves mean?

- Crossing the line between animalism and humanism
- Seventh level man is simply not afraid. "The compulsiveness and anxiousness ... are gone"
- Eighth level "there will be no bowing to suffering, no vassalage, no peonage"
- "If you took all the fears that we have out of ourselves and had all of that energy freed to activate our cognitive processes, look at what we might be able to do."
- "There has to be an **unbelievably radical change in the way of thinking** to avoid a sense of doom."
- "History says that when such a change is needed, it has always taken place."



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Leaping and Integrating

- **There is no Second Tier without First Tier**
- You can't leave everything behind
- What to bring and what to leave?
- What do "Include" and "Transcend" amount to?

So - What changes?

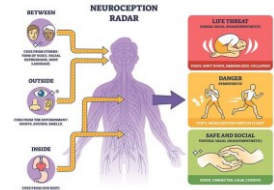
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Dimensionality – Stages

- Beige through Red stages are pre-rational and non-cognitive
- They operate through
 - Direct experience
 - Pattern-sensing and **intuition**
 - Instinct, feeling and emotion - low levels of control
- Blue through Green stages are rational and cognitive
- They operate through
 - Learning to override and manage emotions
 - Expanding the range/complexity of intellectual understanding



- What do we need to add to our picture of the stages?

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Refreshing our perspective - BEIGE



Biological and deep psychological **safety**

- Meeting core mammalian needs
- First established when we are helpless infants
- This can fail due to circumstances (e.g. famine) and poor care

Yet:- We are fed and comfortable

- Despite that, people are fearful and anxious
- Feeling that our existence or way of living is threatened
- Beige isn't only physical – it's mental/emotional



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Refreshing our perspective - PURPLE

More than Survival and Safety

Pre-verbal children (1-2) – observing, identifying and copying

The **roots of our bonding**: Foundations for the healthy “WE”

- **Connection** to people, through parents, tribe, story/myth
- Connection to place and environment, including the spirits of other living things



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The potential for wounding and disconnection

- Possible trauma
- Lack of continuity
- Incomplete or disrupted bonds



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Refreshing our perspective - Red

More than power and dominance.

Children, toddler+ (2-4) – challenging, individuating

The development of will, the emergence of individuality and empowerment. Impulsiveness is an expression of impulse.

A healthy “I” as a source of systemic energy. **Respect**



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The potential for suppression and repression, or boundary failures

Weak and underdeveloped sense of self

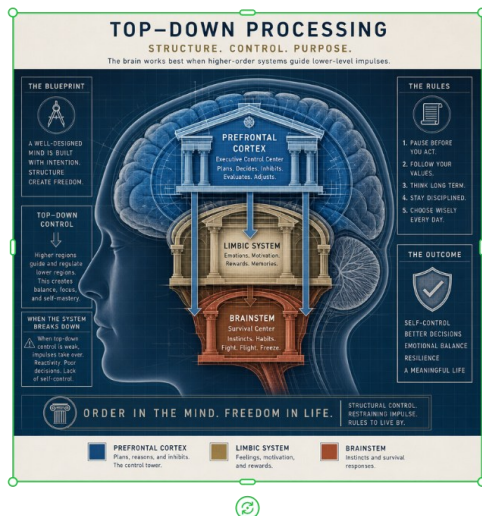
- bullying as overcompensation
- rejection or abandonment of one's power

Overdeveloped sense of self – bullying as exploitation of power
Compensation for Respect issues

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Refreshing our perspective - Blue



Children (K-12) – Learning the codes to live by

Developing the capacity to restrain impulse, postpone gratification and fit in with the requirements of others (**rules and correct ways**).

Self-control and structural control of others. Finding Order.

Forming a sense of purpose – driven from what the world requires.

Potential for both self-control and structural control to become rigid, paralysing and unable to adapt to change.

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Refreshing our perspective - Orange



Adolescence - finding and choosing my place in the world

How to make things happen. Shaping rather than complying.

Strategy. **Learning the levers of control.**

Bend the rules to fit **ME**

Finding a sense of drive – from an intentional choice of who I will be.

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Refreshing our perspective - Green

Adolescence - finding my peer-group and shaping our generational place in the world

Seeking fairness, developing a sense of care for others. Socialisation and community

What is it to be **US**?

Exploring human bonding beyond tribe and belief systems

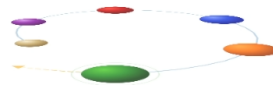


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**Then something
new needs to
happen**

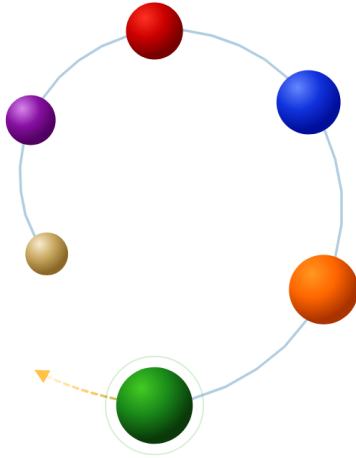


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Harmonising the whole



As we approach Tier 2 we need to look back on the Tier 2 stack.

Our first task, in ourselves and in the world is to bring each stage into its healthy, well-adapted form and function in its Tier 1 context.

Our second task is to recognise that each stage contributes to the whole system, that all exist for a reason, and need to be able to flow dynamically in relation to one another.

This creates our third task, which is to raise them to their next "octave".

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What kind of thinking were you taught?



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Life is Paradoxical (Constriction in Blue)

Academics are describing the need for a science of contradictions and saying that exploring paradoxes stimulates higher-order thinking.

Why is that?

Evolution is open-ended. Life requires unpredictability.

We cannot progress via Either-Or thinking. That will paralyse development. The Spiral moves dynamically between polarities.

There is no “right answer”. The Spiral is about adaptation to changing conditions. There are no absolute rules that can work.

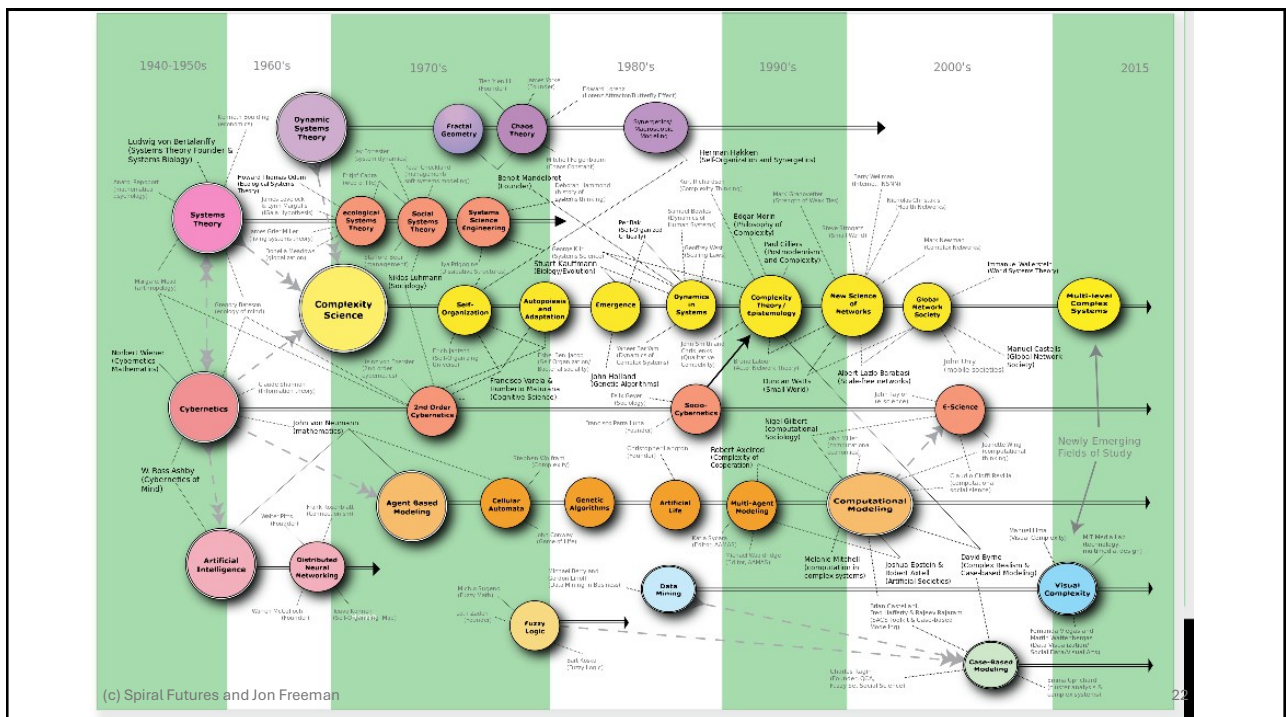


We must escape the limitations of Blue-framed desire for certainty

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From Linearity to Systems Complexity

Complex systems exhibit interdependence, emergence, non-linearity, tipping points, unpredictability, adaptation, multiple scales, feedback loops and self-organisation

Emergence: the properties of a system that arise from the interactions of its parts, leading to behaviours that are not predictable from the individual components.

+

Non-linearity: small changes in one part of a system can lead to large, unpredictable effects elsewhere

+

Interdependence: the actions of one part of a system can significantly influence others, creating a feedback loop

Multiple feedback loops, scales and adaptation can produce self-organisation

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Constrictions and Limitations in Orange

Materialism: The belief that only matter and energy truly exist.

This is not true. ✗

In its perspective, everything in the universe is governed by physical laws.

This is also not true ✗

One consequence: You can manage human existence by managing money.

This is not true either ✗

Another consequence: Scientific exclusion of the not physically measurable, i.e anything contextual, spiritual or experiential. "Only matter matters" excludes people.

✗

Second Tier cannot be lived from with this mindset

"Consciousness is relational in every sense. There aren't solid entities with fixed localities in the universe, there are only relationships between things — and relationships are not things."

— Iain McGilchrist

"I regard consciousness as fundamental. I regard matter as derivative from consciousness. We cannot get behind consciousness. Everything that we talk about, everything that we regard as existing, postulates consciousness."

— Max Planck, Nobel Prize in Physics in 1918

"The stuff of the world is mind-stuff."

— Arthur Eddington, physicist

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Not everything that can be measured, matters

And not everything that matters can be measured

That scientific blind-spot has prevented understanding of both human existence and “spiritual” experience.

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Constrictions and Limitations in Green

Green is Hard. It is where the cracks show up

The road to hell is paved with good intentions:

- We want to care for everyone but we don't know how to afford it
- We want racial equality against a tide of embedded systemic history
- We want the needs of every gender expression and neurodiverse condition to be accepted as normal, while making special provisions for them
- We want to deal with inequality and ecosystem breakdown while being dependent on the systems that have caused them
- We are trapped between cultural diversity, inclusion and identity appropriation
- We want everyone to be empowered to express themselves but cannot handle disharmony
- We want decisions to be consensual and non-hierarchical where everyone's opinion is of equal value, while not all have equal expertise or understanding
- Potential to reject Yellow financial solutions because of Orange allergies

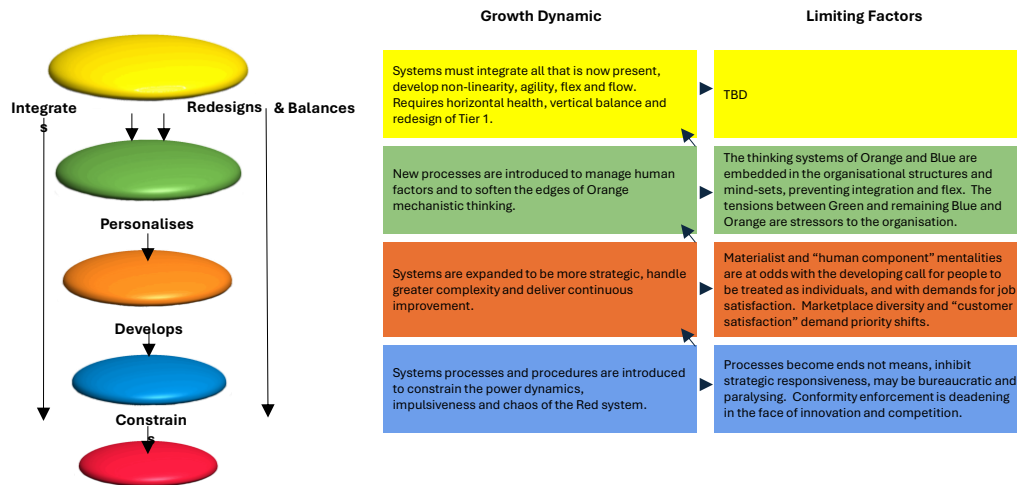
“Only people matter” thinking struggles with systemic complexity

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The way we learn the stages



The Adaptive History Systems dynamics through ascending stages

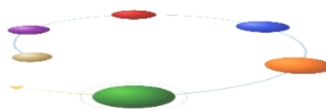
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**Changing our
perspective.**

**The view from
Tier2**

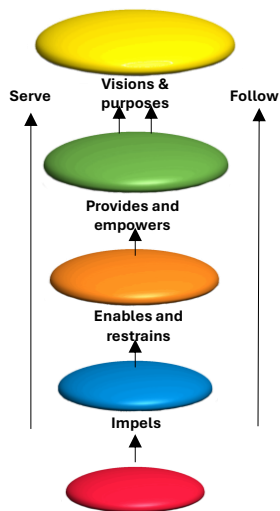

[↶ Replay](#)

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The Review from Tier 2



Review Dynamic

Systems must integrate all that is now present, **develop non-linearity, agility, flex and flow**. Requires horizontal health, vertical balance and redesign of Tier 1.

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Horizontal Health

The development of living systems perspectives. Natural design raised to the next level. All quadrants / all levels seen as both bottom-up and top-down, maximising the contribution of each individual and all components of the systemic intelligence expressing.

People are important and all voices matter but consensus is neither demanded nor imposed. Community bonds are porous and allowing. Diversity support is no longer blind to Red manipulation and care systems expect responsibility.

The excesses that Orange has been prone to are held in check and the striving achiever dynamic supports both the individual and the collective in a balanced way. Money and material success do not dominate.

Flexible rules, responsive and delegated decision-making. Can hold firm boundaries that restrain excesses from below and above. Becomes an enabler of innovation and a respecter of the positive drive of the Red system

The Adaptive Future

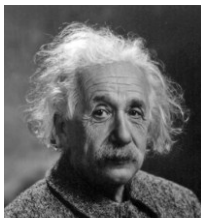
Systems integration from Tier 2 perspective

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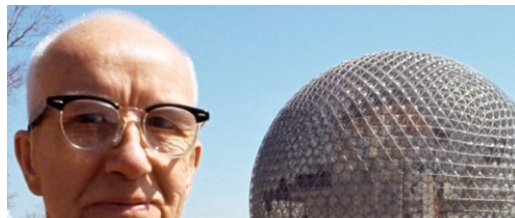
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Pre-requisites for the Transition



"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them." -Albert Einstein



"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete". – Buckminster Fuller

What does this mean for us in practice?

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The Relational Nature of Reality

**“It is only in interactions
that nature draws the
world... reality is only
interaction.”**

— CARLO ROVELLI

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“The Leap”

A whole-system reframe to the way we
think and operate

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Conversations

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We cannot integrate all stages of the spiral if we don't grasp everything within the mindsets.

We cannot experience the reality of constellations or intuition if they are excluded from our framework

We can't understand the system if we don't know how it is connected.

We can't take a holistic view if we are leaving out parts of the living system

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It is a shift of reality

Do you know what this is?

ABBREVIATIONS: MC = MAIN COLOUR NAVY · CC = CONTRAST CREAM · SL = SLIP PURLWISE · WYIB = YARN IN BACK · WYIF = YARN IN FRONT · REP = REPEAT

Row 1 **RSCC** — *Sl3 wyib, k3; rep from * to end. (Cream knit sts form right-shifted dashes; CC floats behind slipped sts on WS.)

Row 2 **WSCC** — *Sl3 wyif, p3; rep from * to end. (Keep pattern aligned with Row 1.)

Row 3 **RSMC** — Knit all sts.

Row 4 **WSMC** — Purl all sts.

Row 5 **RSCC** — *K3, sl3 wyib; rep from * to end. (Dashes now sit in the gaps between Row 1 dashes — creates the stagger.)

Row 6 **WSCC** — *P3, sl3 wyif; rep from * to end.

Row 7 **RSMC** — Knit all sts.

Row 8 **WSMC** — Purl all sts.



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It is a shift of reality

What do we see?



**Naive
View**



**Scientific
View**

ABBREVIATIONS: MC = MAIN COLOUR NAVY · CC = CONTRAST CREAM · SL = SLIP PURLWISE · WYIB = YARN IN BACK · WYIF = YARN IN FRONT · REP = REPEAT

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Do we know that this exists?

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Have you experienced ...?

Revealed in a Constellation

A strong intuitive or psychic event

OUBE / NDE

Deep knowing / Oneness

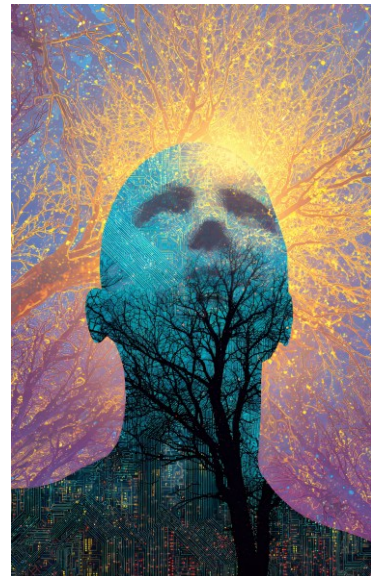
Psychedelic experience

Soul Contract

Seeing/Sensing a presence/ghost

Visiting a clairvoyant or tarot reader or channel

An astrological reading / I Ching divination



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Connecting it All: The Cosmic Knitting Pattern

The 20th Century **Quantitative** Frame: The Universe is all Energy.

Matter is made from Energy. $E=MC^2$.



The unasked question. What is it that shapes energy as it becomes matter?

Requires a **Qualitative** response.

Introducing the Information Field

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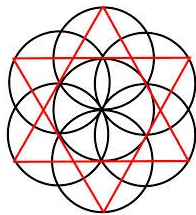
The Information Field



- The knitter
- And the needles
- And the instructions
- And the actions
- And the memory

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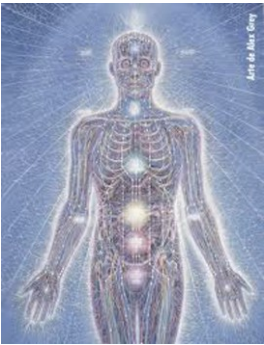
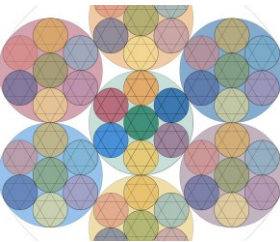
Everything the Universe knows of itself



Group \ Period	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	H																	He
2	Li	Be																Ne
3	Na	Mg																Ar
4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
5	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
6	Cs	Ba		Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
7	Fr	Ra		Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Lv	Uup	Lr	Uub		

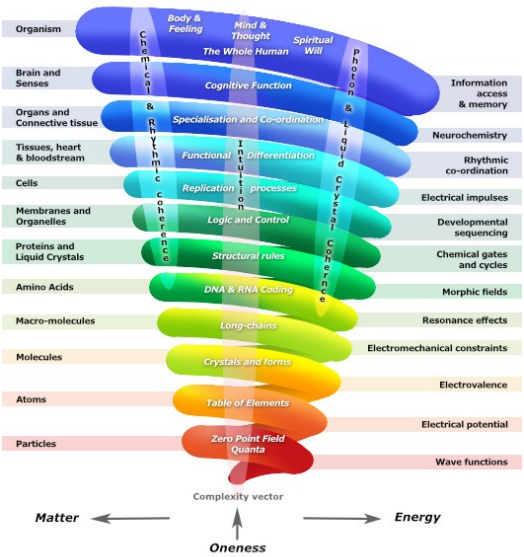
Lanthanides: La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Pm, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu

Actinides: Ac, Th, Pa, U, Np, Pu, Am, Cm, Bk, Cf, Es, Fm, Md, No, Lr



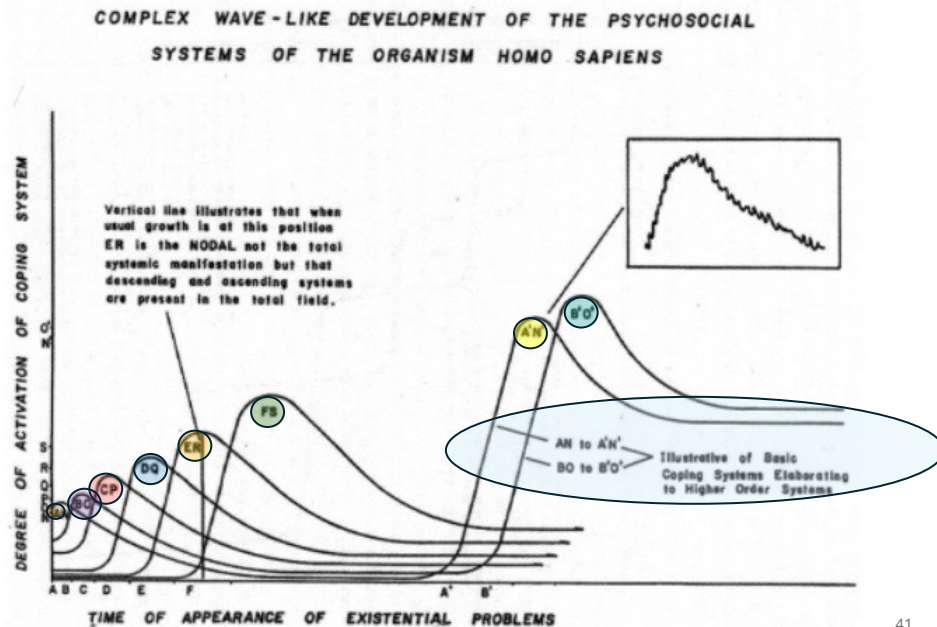
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Oneness to Complexity Spiral



This spiral is not intended to delineate exact boundaries. It illustrates the balance between the energy and matter aspects of creation (right-left) and depicts layering of increased complexity (bottom-top). The central pillar of labels indicates the successive addition of information content layers to the story of creation and represents the front-to-back dimension as the spiral loops around. Correspondences between these layers and the material or energy aspects to either side are indicative approximations which inevitably overlap and are superseded and included within later layers.

It's how
Graves
drew it



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The Locus of Adaptive Control (in First Tier)

When we are in the “I” systems we seek ways of changing the world and other people so that IT / THEY will fit to US.

When we are in the “WE” systems we seek ways of changing ourselves so that WE are better adapted to the world and other people.

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How Graves described it*

*The **Intuitive** Existence – The B'O' State*

The 2nd Being Level

The B'O' – Experientialist Existential State

Adjust to the realities of one's existence and automatically accept the existential dichotomies as they are and go on living

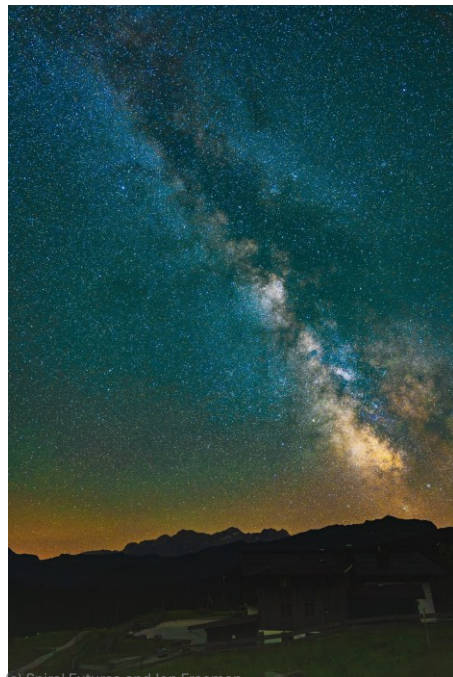
Sacrifice the idea that one will ever know what it is all about and adjust to this as the existential reality of existence.

“Well, I looked at my data and, lo and behold, eighth level was mostly like two. So, eighth level is a higher-level form of tribalistic thinking”

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* Never-Ending Quest Chapter 14.

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**The Universe
isn't “Out There”**

**You are not
“In Here”**

Everything is in the Field



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The Primacy of Context

“It is impossible to overrate the importance of context because nothing at all exists in isolation. It only ever exists in relation to other things.”

— Iain McGilchrist

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Concurrent shifts across lines

Emotional Line – A new perspective-taking on our somatic interior :
Emotions as data

Moral Line – Shifting from polarity and absolutes to Both-And flexibility. Care for **both system and individuals**

Cognitive Line – The recognition that paradox has displaced any potential for certainty
- Ending the right-wrong between subjective and objective

Spiritual Line – Theism, Atheism, Pantheism and Panentheism in a sequential shift away from projecting stage -oriented humanness onto the Divine. There is no singular “higher power”.

The Divine is...

Nature in the raw

Our ancestors and spirit connections

Projections of Power

Projections of Order, Rules and Right ways

A creation of our irrationality

The Human Spirit

Second-Tier “Spirituality”

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Concurrent shifts across dimensions

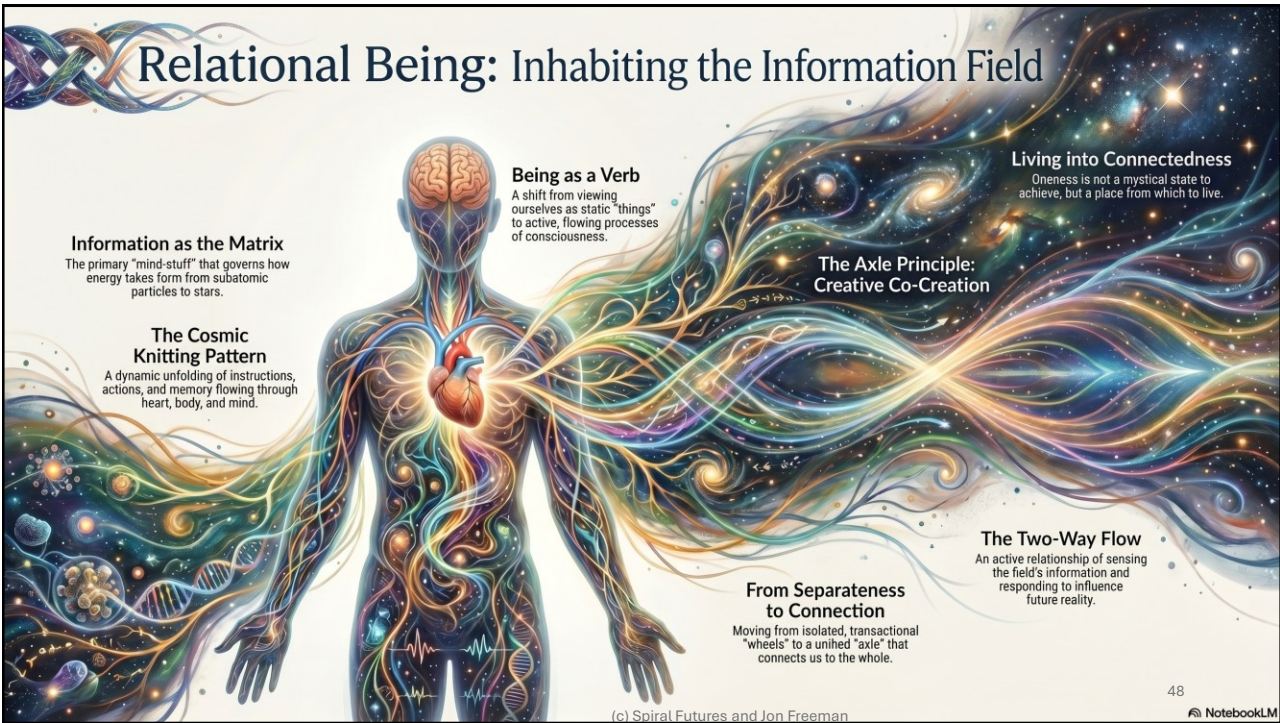
What is the Holistic Self?

FROM	TO
Fear/Survival	Being/Coherence
Linear	Non-linear
Nouns	Verbs
Transactional	Relational
Left-Brain priority	Right-Brain priority
Control Over	Flow With
Cognitive	Intuitive
Systems Thinking	Systems Sensing

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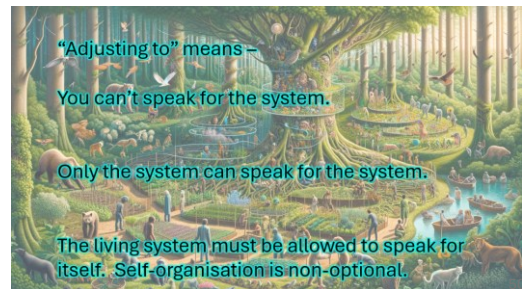
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In Second Tier, there is no control

“He values wonder, awe, reverence, humility, fusion, integration, unity, simplicity, the poetic perception of reality – **non-interfering perception versus active controlling perception**, enlarging consciousness, and the ineffable experience.”

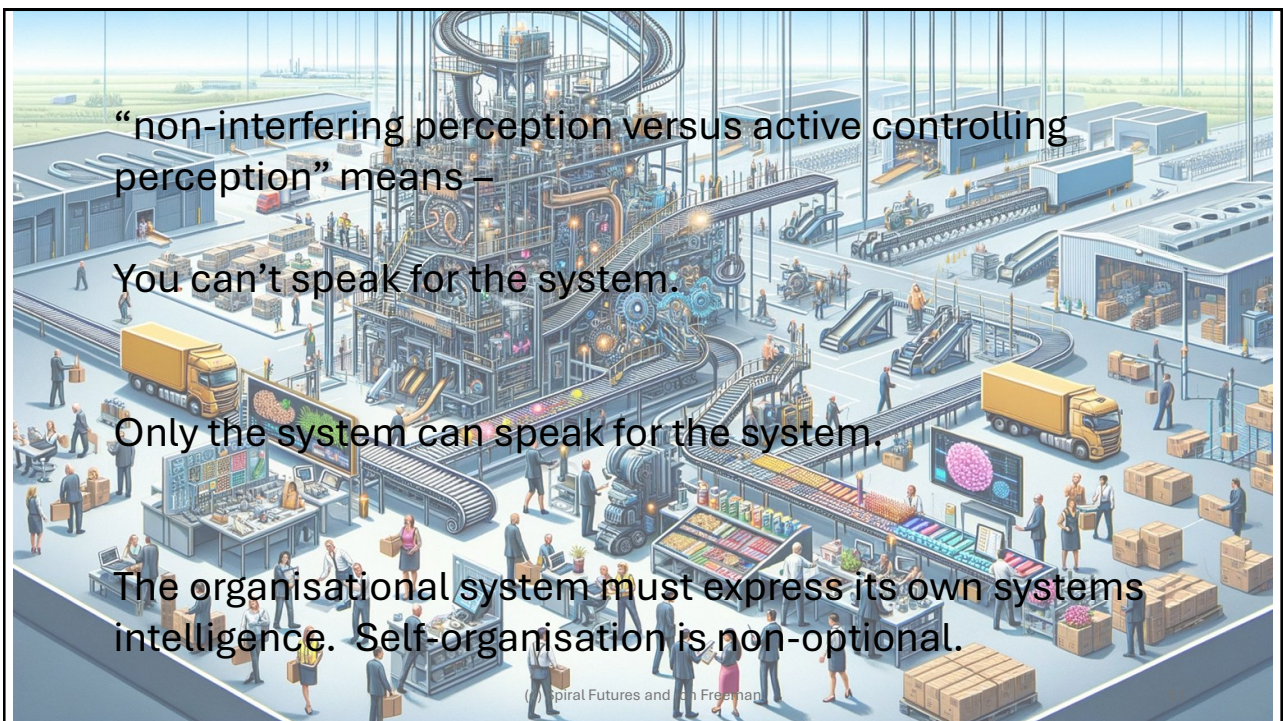


“The central core of this style of living is that one shall adjust to the realities of one's existence and shall automatically accept the existential realities ... as they are. Thou shall passively adjust to these and go on living.”

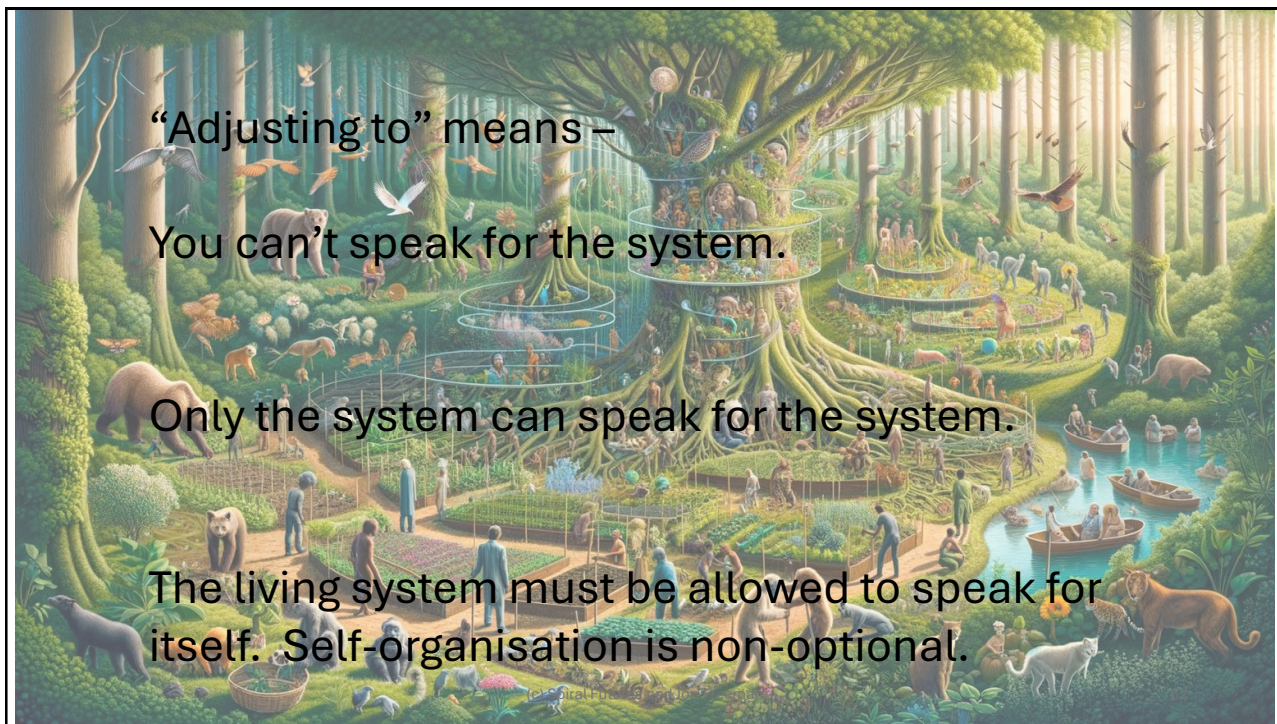


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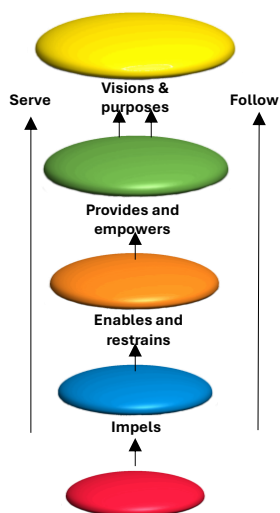


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The Review from Tier 2



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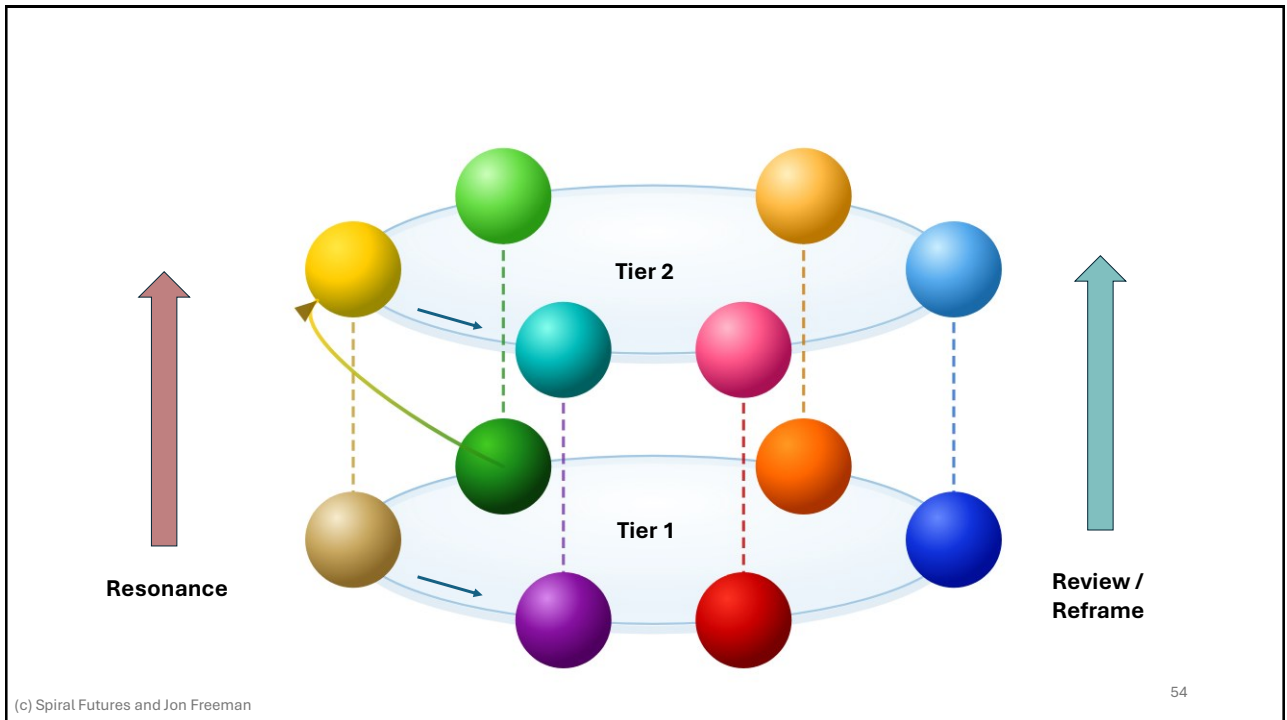
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The Adaptive Future
Systems integration from Tier 2 perspective

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“The gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages; the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage; neither our wisdom nor our learning; neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country; it measures everything, in short, except that which makes life worthwhile.”

Robert F. Kennedy.

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Book List

Braiding Sweetgrass: Robin Wall Kimmerer

The Myth of Normal: Gabor Mate

Humankind: Rutger Bregman

Your Body is your Brain: Amanda Blake

Behave: Robert Sapolsky

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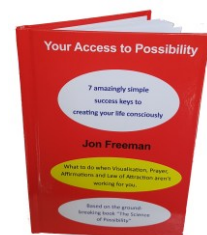
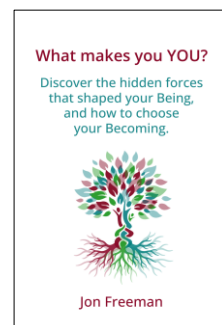
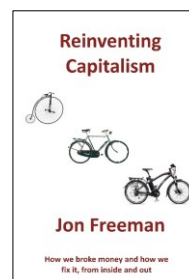
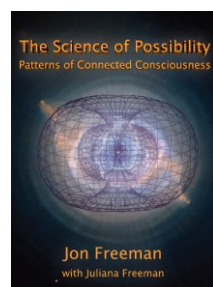
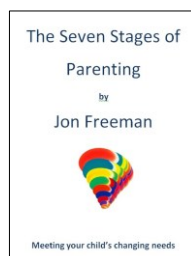
Thank You. And Questions

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