

What's the Role of Nature in our Evolution?

by Avis A. Burnett, PhD

With the approach of 2012, there are a plethora of theories about the future of Planet Earth. Personally, I join the ranks of those who foresee a transformation into a Lighter and more harmonious world. I draw my conclusions from many sources. Gregg Braden, to name one of many, points out that 2012 is simply the end of an Earth cycle (a world age) which provides the opportunity "for our collective emergence into our greatest potential".

David Hawkins, author of several books including *Power vs Force*, found a way to calibrate levels of consciousness and his research shows that humanity is steadily progressing toward more enlightened ways. According to him, in the mid-80's we passed a point where, COLLECTIVELY, we tend to use power more constructively than destructively.

His book also explains how a few enlightened souls can help the masses. (This was brought home to me in a personal way when a friend described being part of a TM experiment in Washington DC. To a statistically significant degree, a few highly-trained meditators reduced the crime rate in the entire city.) There are innumerable studies which clearly demonstrate how the focused prayers of "regular" people create a better outcome for a difficult situation, including health, political, or social crises.

In short, it seems that we're headed in the right direction and the positive input from even one can make a difference for us all.

What does all this have to do with Nature? Such a good question!

I have always responded to Nature. Who hasn't? Walking in the woods, watching a sunset, petting an animal, listening to the chirp of a bird, holding a beautiful flower... it's transformative.

Lately, it seems I've been given the gift of receiving messages from certain animals. It started last year with a goose who showed up at my neighbor's pond. I was far from welcoming. After all, who wants a bunch of geese messing up the neighborhood? Within a few weeks she was able to "talk" to me. More accurately, I was able to listen! She (her name was Loosey) pointed out that she came alone, which meant she had lost her mate and family. I felt my negativity shift into compassion. Furthermore, she seemed to say, she didn't come for my pity but to deliver a message. It was a message of courage, hope, and inspiration - that despite her hardship she still had wings to fly and could experience the goodness which life offers.

Shortly after that, I passed a field with a white donkey. He also offered sage advice about how to live life more powerfully and happily.

Both of these animals - and their lessons - changed my life.

It started me thinking. If, out of the blue, a goose and a donkey revealed such depth, insight and wisdom, could it be that every animal holds such secrets? Is it possible that every cat, dog, horse, and bird may be contributing wonders to the energy field around us?

My mind then wandered to my burgeoning bookcases filled with books describing the experiences many people have had with animals - stories in which animals demonstrated their wisdom, compassion, courage, and wit. And these were "ordinary" animals, both domesticated and wild.

I settled into an expanded state and allowed myself to imagine that every creature on this planet might just be beaming vibes filled with joy, compassion, and Divine Love. And if animals, why not plants? Crystals? Minerals?

Stilling my mind and expanding my heart, I imagined myself outside my window joining a pond full of ducks. I could feel the connection and divinity from each and all. Shifting my focus, I felt the positive feeling emanating from each leaf of a maple tree. I wanted to go out and lie on the lawn to experience a connection with every blade of grass! It was a deep mystical experience.

My left brain engaged at that moment. It said, "You enjoy trying to understand things at a quantum level. You know that the level of consciousness with which you observe something determines what materializes from your observation. You also know that what you focus on expands. You know that when a being beams Divine Love it has a wide-ranging effect on those around it and, indeed, the whole.

Could it be that Humans are able to survive the Earth experience of 'feeling separated from' (everything) in part because Nature is continually pumping Love and Unity Consciousness into the ethers? Might we even credit our evolution into higher states of consciousness and wholeness, in part, to the support of every aspect of Nature which holds the Divine Plan in its knowing and continually transmits it to us?"

All I know is that my soul is being fed at ever-expanding levels as I appreciate everything about Nature at deeper levels than ever before. I take comfort in knowing that **SOMEBODY** seems to know what's going on - and is transmitting "help" through some unlikely but powerful messengers! Namaste!