

A speech given by John Crosby on 6/17/09 after rediscovering the Wizard of OZ again. Only this time it turned out to be a metaphor for your soul's journey home.

### **“There's no place like home”**

We all remember those words from the Wizard of OZ. I had the good fortune the other night of watching the Wizard of OZ again. I certainly remember the impact that the tornado, witch and of course the flying monkeys made on me as a kid. This time around it was as though I was seeing it with an entirely different set of eyes.

The Wizard of OZ had somehow morphed into an entirely different movie, one in which Dorothy's desire to find her way back HOME had become a metaphor for all of our own personal desires for self-discovery and following our own soul's journey home.

When we first enter the world as babies, we are quite connected to our original true selves and I believe fully understand our place in the universe. In time that begins to fade, and as we make our way in the world, we begin to feel the influence of parents, teachers, and employers or any of societies many other morals and standards.

It's awfully easy to get caught up playing the game and following all of those societal sanctioned goals. Eventually, you begin to absorb society's expectations for the roles you should play as if that is who you really are. No accident there as the process is hard wired to facilitate this wandering away from our true self with its reward and punishment stimuli of acceptance, money, status, approval, or any of the other perceived rewards that are offered up as part of the deal in which we trade away being our true selves for something else.

It takes a lot of energy to keep up a false front and live a life that is not in alignment with your true self. This eventually sets us up for a life that is not sustainable, often resulting in what has come to be referred to as a midlife crisis. Have any of you ever heard of it?

“Lions and Tigers and Bears! Oh my!” Just in case you are wondering if there is any way out of this not so enchanted forest, there is good news here, we do have a choice. As a soul-filled being, we are under no obligation to play that game, or make those Faustian deals with the devil in which we trade away a little part of our true selves each and every time we exchange it for a “reward”.

So instead of taking another biscuit by participating in any more of these bad Pavlovian experiences, consider at some point stopping and listening to your heart. Take a deeper dive into your own process of self discovery and making the journey home again as you reconnect with your own inner truths.

Inner truths need to be in alignment with the role that you wish to play within the larger whole, your reason for being here.

Imagine, if you will, yourself back in OZ, with Dorothy who has just missed her chance to catch a ride with the wizard and get back home to Kansas. She is absolutely beside herself with the

thought that she may never get back to Kansas when she is visited by Glinda, the Good Witch of the North:

DOROTHY : “Oh – will you help me ? Can you help me?”

GLINDA : “You don’t need to be helped any longer, you’ve always had the power to go back to Kansas.”

DOROTHY : “I have?”

SCARE CROW : “Then why didn’t you tell her before?”

GLINDA : “Because she wouldn’t have believed me. She had to learn it for herself.”

TIN MAN : “What have you learned Dorothy? ”

DOROTHY : “Well, I — I think that it — that it wasn’t enough just to want to see Uncle Henry and Auntie Em. And it’s that — if I ever go looking for my heart’s desire again, I won’t look any further than my own backyard, because if it isn’t there, I’ve never really lost it to begin with. Is that right? ”

GLINDA : “That’s all it is!”

SCARE CROW : “But that’s so easy, I should have thought of that for you. ”

GLINDA : “No she had to find it out for herself. Now those magic slippers will take you home in two seconds! So close your eyes and tap your heels together three times. And think to yourself, there’s no place like home. There’s no place like home. There’s no place like home. There’s no place like home.”

As Dorothy discovered, in order to change the conditions of the world that surrounds us, we are first invited to “Go Home” and find the answer that you desire from within.

Through this process of going HOME again we continually take step after step of letting go of anything and everything that no longer serves us, that is holding us down or holding us back.

By following your soul’s journey home, you initiate a process that eventually brings you back home again and reconnected with your true self. “There’s no place like home....”

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