

SPARK 95

Distinction: In the moment you seriously consider suicide your authentic life can begin.

Notes: Most people have at one time or another had the thought of committing suicide. Even if the thought only flashed through your mind you still thought it. Killing yourself can seem like an obvious solution to dealing with insurmountable problems or unbearable pain. “Why not simply end it all?”

When you catch yourself thinking of suicide you might react: “Oh my God! This is bad! Look at what my life has come to! There must be something wrong with me! Do I keep the thought to myself? Do I try to get some help?” And so on.

The point is that the thought of suicide is exactly that: a thought. Thoughts are formulated by your Box (you easily forget this) and are generated to suit your Box’s purposes. You are a prisoner within the thoughts permitted to you by your Box...

Until that moment when your Box seriously considers suicide. Finally the Box has hit bottom and has given up hope of managing your life. The Box says, “I can’t do this anymore. I may as well end it all...” This thought is an exit door. Fine. Use it.

The thought of suicide is your Box admitting its inadequacy for managing the complexities of your life. This thought signals a precious chance for you to make a fundamental shift, because the inadequacy is true. Hallelujah! It’s about time the Box gets out of your way! Your heart beats all by itself and will keep beating until it stops, independent of the Box’s dramatics. Finally you have a chance to enter authentic life!

Experiment: Considering suicide is a valuable opportunity. The next moment you seriously consider suicide take your thinking all the way through that open door. Do not let your Box wiggle back and forth between yes or no, one foot through the door, one foot held back. This is how the Box blocks you from life. The Box has been caught in its act. It is too late for the Box. Making you confused about life will not interfere with your life anymore.

The instant you notice the thought of suicide put your fingers around its throat, look it straight in the eyes and say, “I heard you. That is it. You have come to your end. You have given up. From this point on you lose your rights to my life. My life does not belong to you anymore. You have forfeited the rights to my plans, my wishes, my limitations. The life “I” had does not belong to “me” anymore, because that “me” has just killed itself. My life now belongs to humanity, to the greater good. My actions are hence forward no longer oriented around personal preference. From now on my life is dedicated to serving all beings everywhere. I will do whatever is wanted and needed. My Box has lost its rights to have an opinion about my life.”

You cannot know what this means or how you are going to do it. But actually that does not matter. It is none of your business anymore. It is humanity’s business. Your Box has played itself out. Immediately go for a walk outside in the town carrying with you the sensation that most everything you previously used as reference points for World Copyleft © 2016 by Clinton Callahan. CC BY+SA International 4.0 License. You are granted permission to copy and distribute this SPARK as long as this author, website, and copyright notice are included. To get your own free email subscription to SPARKS click on www.nextculture.org/sparks/en. Thanks for experimenting! Experimenting builds matrix to hold more consciousness.

your self-definition has committed suicide. What remains is a less knowable and more authentic you stepping into a new life with a wide range of simple resources. You can still breathe and see. You can speak and take actions. Your life is now about providing whatever you can of what is wanted and needed by humanity, specifically those people in your immediate presence at home, at work, or at play. This is not theoretical. This is very practical. It is a fresh orientation towards what needs doing. You do not have to worry about what to do anymore.

Humanity is whoever shows up in your circle. Perhaps it is your child or your child's friend. Kneel down, greet them, listen, find out what they need and provide it. This is not complicated. You are not a robot or a doormat. You are serving. Perhaps they need a glass of water. Bring it. Perhaps they need a shoe tied. Tie it. Perhaps they need a boundary or a clarification. Make it. Perhaps they need to share their pain. You just listen. If you are careful to detect the true need you will often discern that you are needed to only listen. If they specifically ask for help then there is something for you to do. Otherwise just be with them until they are filled with being. Then keep moving. Your next job will come along in a moment and it will be obvious. You can neither predict nor control who will show up next in your circle. But you can trust the source of jobs, and you can feel gratitude about being involved in this new arrangement.

Stay relaxed. Stay open and attentive. Don't rush. Participate in whatever happens. Stay connected. Take care of yourself so that you can take care of whatever you see needs done. No one else sees things like you do. If you see a job that needs done that is your job.

Wash the dishes. Make a call. Pick up messes. Give feedback. Put things where they belong. Provide an idea. Complete the job. Write a letter. Do the next thing. You are not waiting around to be served anymore. Instead you are serving with kindness, cheerfulness, and attention. You are doing the next thing as if everyone else's needs were also your own needs, as if you were just as happy about helping other people get to wherever they need to go as you used to be about helping yourself.

Impulses to move come from your center, halfway between your hipbones, not from your mind. You may start to move before you know what you are doing. This is fine.

You may notice that you are debating in your mind whether or not you should do something. As soon as you notice the debate look to see what the impulse was. Be grateful for the impulse. If it is not too late, skip the debate and take the action. Soon enough you will get feedback about whether or not your service actually served. The debate is completely unnecessary. Skip the debate.

There may be times when no job seems immediately next. Then your job is to wait. It can be useful to find ways to wait well, that is, to wait without impatience but also to wait without going to sleep. Just waiting does not necessarily mean to be inactive. You can be interiorly active and exteriorly passive.

There may be times when so many jobs become obvious that you work harder than you ever worked before, beyond any reasonable limits of personal comfort. Do what

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you can that you see needs doing, whatever it is. Try this for a while. See what happens.

Best wishes,
Clinton