

SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS WITH *EVERYDAY ITEMS*

† It was once known that the energy, time and consideration built into the creation of something doubled the quality of the item. A house built by a whole family is placed deep within your spirit in comparison to a new apartment which you had no part in completing. We have created a pipeline for consuming material which was once sacred to humans. Many revolutions have brought us here to the present but one particular industry which I would like to speak of is the industry of cloth, particularly cotton.

We have always had trade, this is an absolute natural state of humanity, but the rapid growth of industries such as the cotton industry brought ruin to the true dignity and spirit of creation. Spinning is an ancient practice, mostly feminine in nature, that has been passed down from culture to culture, always retaining a deep reverence and respect. The time it took for one mother to spin the fibers of an entire garment for her daughter, the time it took the daughter to pick up the trade from her mother and most of all, the commitment that both would shelter in creating something entirely for themselves- secret from the rest of the world. Secrets. These are things that are wholly missing today. Silence that sifts through our atmosphere, that subtle sensation of grace and elegance.

Rituals disappear more and more these days as we see the replacement becoming the false world of the internet. The unexplored potential of individual ritual remains within each of us. These sacred traditions of spinning and weaving, writing and constructing, the true human power that rests now in the darkness. It was once an entire world, countless hours and dignity were grounded in our daily lives. This is not a plea toward romanticism but merely a reflection on the portion of the soul which now has no voice. What becomes industrialized, what becomes too efficient, then becomes mundane and common by all accounts.

The treasures made by your ancestors, passed down to the coming youths, will now be purchased from chain suppliers. These chain suppliers in an effort to create even more efficiency and lower cost, will push responsibility on the poor factory worker in turn incentivising slave labour.

We have submitted to the great challenger of our collective spirit, the leading few whom laugh in the darkness as we smile and offer our greatest gifts for little to no return. What was once a rite of ritual and communion becomes a mutilated desire. It is not even the materialism which concerns

me at the deepest level. It is the desire for that which the machine cannot provide, this is the greatest concern. You may today find yourself in the arms of your comforts, but that synthetic sheen which glitters atop new material faded quicker than the rough fabric that has spent decades in your grandmothers closet. That image taken from your modern devices is quickly forgotten compared to the small, stained pictures kept in your family books. All of the greatest treasures are flawed and difficult to reproduce. This is what made them great.

The ability to have anything you desire, the ability to see all of your dreams within physical reach, in turn leads to the paradox wherein all interest fades from that world. You find yourself obsessed with compulsions of searching in hopes to find that which is extinct from the modern material world. You touch a screen in hopes to greet it and spend days of your life attached to the streams of media in hopes your thirst for knowledge or beauty will be quenched. How could this be? How could man reach anything in proximity with the divine without some sort of struggle?

It is the entire cycle of the world, the whole wheel of the universe which cradles us, not the final image. It is in this same way for example that the journey of Christ, most importantly his crucifixion, brings us to rebirth, and in that journey and wholeness we find solace and truth. The vital and living portion of the rituals for knowledge, creation and connection are dwindling now as we speak. It is an inherent paradox that we should find any meaning within these practices.

Materialism, Consumerism, Atheism, Mass Hysteria, Identity Confusion- these are the symptoms of a dying spirit. This is the vision of a post-human realm.

k.w

The Angels appearing to the Shepherds (1809)

