

RDA Comments on Faith Like Potatoes

1. “The condition for a great miracle is impossibility.” – Typically, we think we can take care of ourselves. Often, it’s only when the situation is dire and there’s nothing we can do that we allow ourselves to surrender. Through surrender, we discover what the benevolent universe can do when we get out of the way.

This reminds me of the Tao Te Ching – The Taoist master does nothing, and nothing is left undone. That’s because the universe takes care of everything if we stay out of the way and don’t “push the pendulum” with low vibration thinking as we try and control/fix things.

2. “I will make this work my way.” – In the beginning, Angus fought everything. Again, this reminds me of the Tao Te Ching, because the Tao Te Ching teaches that the one who tries to force things goes against the Tao; he is out of harmony with natural movement of the universe, and this will only create trouble.
3. When Angus’s wife invites him to go to an event at the local Methodist church, he throws a fit about having to wear a tie. Going to church represents an opportunity to rise in vibration. Although Angus is clearly suffering, he is afraid of change. He’d rather stay in his current hell than face the unknown. The ‘I am bad’ thought is most certainly a part of his stuckness.
4. When Angus gives his life to Jesus, it represents surrendering the ego. After this, he doesn’t try to push the universe around. Instead, he listens within and tries to walk in harmony with the universe, which he perceives as God.
5. When the fire gets out of control, Angus prays for rain, even though it isn’t the season for rain. This symbolizes not believing that the world is real. Angus believes in something beyond the world that is more real than the world.
6. Angus reading the Bible in the corn symbolizes a change in his priorities. Instead of working 18 hours a day, 7 days a week to try and make the world conform to what he wants, he works in harmony with the universe and takes time for contemplation of God. His life is more heart-centered now.
7. Angus told the preacher, “God spoke to me in there. He said, ‘Just trust me.’” Trust is a higher vibration than fear, worry or trying to control things. Regina was once told, “Trust trust.” Since trust is a higher vibration, choosing to live in trust is a choice we can trust. It is *much better* than living with worry.”

8. When the woman was killed by a lightning strike, Angus prayed, "Lord Jesus, help me. Oh God, I don't know what to do." With this complete surrender, Angus became the empty vessel moved by the Tao (by consciousness). As we learned in Gentle Healing:

"When the conditions are right, consciousness manifests as a temporary appearance within consciousness. That temporary appearance could be a flower, a baby, a disease, or an appearance that appears to defy the laws of our world. When the basics of the creative principle are understood, to the degree that those basics can be understood, it is seen that temporary manifestation occurs because the conditions come together in a way to create that appearance."

In this case, conditions came together so that the woman was raised from the dead.

After the woman was raised from the dead, another woman knelt at Angus' feet. Angus did not allow the ego to take credit. He knows he was the empty vessel and didn't do anything. He gave credit to God.

This reminds me of an excerpt in NTI 1 Corinthians:

Do not make the mistake of believing that an empty shell is something other than Me. It is not. It is only Me. This is possible because it is an empty shell (and no one else). Therefore, do not praise your brother or yourself apart from Me for My Word as it is shared. Thank your brother for being a shell, and be grateful that you remembered to put yourself aside. But thank Me for My Word. In that way, you acknowledge what is real for its reality, and you thank that which isn't real for recognizing its unreality and for getting out of the way of truth.

9. When a hailstorm destroyed Angus' crop, and it looked like he might lose his farm, he decided to trust God anyway. His trust was not conditional. He did not let appearances lead him back to lower vibrational choices like fear, anger, or victimization. He stayed with the higher vibrational choice. In this case, the corn rose up and was good enough to be sold as corn seed.
10. At one point God asks Angus, "Are you prepared to be a fool for me?" Regina was once asked to be a "lunatic" for God. When this kind of inner prompt comes, it is asking if we will follow intuition even when intuition makes no sense to our thinking mind or the thinking mind of others. Saying 'yes' to this kind of an inner question is taking a big step.
11. God also asks Angus if he is willing to spend less time with his family. At some point, we need to be willing to surrender our individual values. If we

cling to our individual values, we cling to our false self.

12. Angus begins to be the “fool” for God when he insists that he needs King’s Stadium for a prayer meeting. This appears very impractical, because the stadium costs millions of dollars to rent. However, this feeling that he had—that, “We’ve got to have King’s Stadium”—did not come from his mind. It was an inner feeling that he trusted and committed to, even though it did not make sense to the practical thinking mind. (Similar to our feeling about Big Wall Ranch for the AT Retreat House.)
13. About Alistair’s death: This is a very important part in the movie. Magical thinking often gets in the mind of the spiritual seeker. Magical thinking is the idea that as I get into harmony with truth or the universe, things will begin to go “my way.” That thinking is purely egoic.

Remember the law that we reviewed earlier:

“When the conditions are right, consciousness manifests as a temporary appearance within consciousness. That temporary appearance could be a flower, a baby, a disease, or an appearance that appears to defy the laws of our world.” It could also be a tractor accident that kills a little boy.

Innumerable inputs are fed into the creative principle to create the script of the world. Because “everything creates everything,” *anything* is possible. To the universe, there is no difference between raining to put a fire out or a tractor accident that kills a little boy. It is just how “everything” came together to create the next “something.” Only the mind judges these things as good or bad, as what I wanted or what I didn’t want.

If we believe in a God-being who rewards us for faith in Him, manifestations such as Alistair’s death can throw us for a loop. When we realize what the creative principle is and how it operates, we no longer give credit or blame to a God-being for what we perceive as “good” or “bad” in our lives.

14. It is always helpful to choose the highest vibration possible, because our choices feed into the creative principle and are part of the “everything” that makes “everything.” In the movie, Angus is angry and feels shame that “pushes up like vomit.” However, the fact that he is talking to the minister about this (instead of turning against God and the church) shows he is trying to heal. Under this circumstance, trying to heal is probably the highest vibration he could choose. Choosing the highest vibration doesn’t always look the same; it’s simply the best we can do in that moment.
15. The woman on the street who asked, “Did Angus pray for the boy? God could have raised him from the dead,” symbolizes confusion. When the woman who was struck by lightning was raised from the dead, Angus was the empty

shell and what he did came through him. He didn't do it. Of course, when the tractor accident happened, Angus was too emotionally involved to be the empty shell in that moment. But even if he had been empty, that doesn't mean the boy would have been raised from the dead. The creative principle simply doesn't work according to our ideas of "good" and "bad" or in a way that makes sense to the mind.

16. When the dream came to Alistair's father, and he shared the dream with Angus, Angus was able to let go of believing he was guilty. When he let go of believing he was guilty, he healed from anger and shame, because they were caused by his belief that he was guilty. However, ...
17. The scene with Angus fighting the same stump that he had fought with in the beginning of the movie is a symbol that he hasn't yet let go of the idea that he is a separate, independent man. Letting the Zulus remove the stump their way was a symbol of Angus' final surrender, the death of the ego and the end of the belief in separation. After this, Angus represents enlightenment in the movie.
18. The phone call that Angus could rent the stadium at a price he could afford is evidence that we make a mistake if we believe what we think we know. Anything is possible with the creative principle. We need to follow intuition instead of our thinking.
19. At the stadium, Angus tells the crowd, "To heck with El Nino. Put your trust in God. We're going to plant potatoes!" This shows that he doesn't see the phenomena of the world as reality anymore. He lives in the realm of consciousness where appearances have no reality.
20. Enlightened Angus is definitely a fool for God, and it isn't even a challenge for him anymore. When everyone doubts his choice to plant potatoes, which need a lot of water, he isn't swayed by their doubts or what they see. They feel planting in dust is foolishness. Angus is told that no one is planting this year. "If you plant potatoes, your plants will die." Angus responds by saying, "Don't look at the weather and phenomena."

After the potatoes are planted, weeks pass without rain. The part of the plant that can be seen above the ground dies. Angus continues to follow his guidance. He doesn't dig up a single plant to see if it has also died underground. To do so, would be to slip into looking at the phenomena as if it mattered.
21. Of course, when harvest comes, the potatoes are perfect. That is the symbol that the world is not real. Only consciousness and the creative principal are factors in the world-appearance. Everything else is not a factor.

22. At the end, Angus teaches about faith by saying that our faith in God has to be like the potatoes he was holding in his hand. He said, "You can feel it. You can smell it. Your faith's got to be like potatoes." Angus isn't teaching this so people can use faith to get "their way" in the world. Angus is teaching the faith that awakens. Faith in something beyond appearance is necessary, or else we focus our eyes on appearance and that is all we see. If appearance is all we see, we continue to react to appearance with no rise in vibration.