

Of Life, Death & Salvation

Chapter Eight: Hypnotic Trip through the Depths of the Soul

„[...] dies ist die zeitliche Unsterblichkeit: In Folge derselben ist, trotz Jahrtausenden des Todes und der Verwesung, noch nichts verloren gegangen, kein Atom der Materie, noch weniger etwas von dem innern Wesen, welches als die Natur sich darstellt. Demnach könnten wir jeden Augenblick wohlgemuth ausrufen: »Trotz Zeit, Tod und Verwesung, sind wir noch Alle beisammen!«“

„[...] this is the temporal immortality: as a result of which, despite centuries of death and decomposition, nothing has yet been lost, neither a single atom of material, nor even less from the inner being, which represents itself as nature. As a result we could truthfully call forth at any given moment: »Despite time, death and decomposition, we are all still united!«“

In the CD booklet I had to shorten this quotation because of lack of space, but here you can now read the full thought that Schopenhauer wanted to explain. It means that despite of millenniums of death and decay nothing has been lost, no atom of matter and even less of our inner being, which is representing nature. Therefore we can comfortably exclaim every moment in life: *„Despite of time, death and decay we are all still together!“*

What a wonderful quotation to close here our considerations. Nothing ever gets lost and life is constant presence. BUT: as we learned Schopenhauer is also teaching us a way out of this endless cycle of life: if one has the luck to be born as a wise and intellectual character, then he has the possibility of attaining the greatest goal in existence: the illumination by denying the will of life. Schopenhauer explains that this character is not searching for company and family, he doesn't want to reproduce himself and by that continue the suffering of life; no, he wants to deny the urge of sexuality, lives a lonely and deeply reflecting life, is aware of the unity of all beings and eats only as little as possible, because he knows in this world he will never find redemption. His life will be hard, difficult and confusing, it will be a *„hypnotic trip through the depths of the soul“* – but in the end he may get free and then he finally won't be reborn – he will truly get divine!

In this sense I close our considerations with Schopenhauer's words as he is saying:

„Ich glaube, dass wenn der Tod unsere Augen schliesst, wir in einem Lichte stehn, von welchem unser Sonnenlicht nur Schatten ist.“

„I believe, that when death closes our eyes, we will stand in a light, compared to which our sunlight is merely shade.“