
Internal Growth

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6:57

ATTENDEE 1: Delia, why don't you say something about what happened in 1948?

DELIA: What happened?

ATTENDEE 1: When you went out to see Baba and then you got stuck in Bombay, isn't that right? For two months?

DELIA: Really?

ATTENDEE 1: 1948.

DELIA: Well, that was when I was with Jean.

ATTENDEE 1: When you went with Jean, yes.

DELIA: Oh, well, I don't think it's very interesting. Jean and I went out thinking that we were going to be with Baba for about six months. When we arrived in Bombay, we were told that we had to stay at Meherjee's house for several weeks because the Center Meherazad was not ready. Oh I was in a fever of impatience. I thought we only have this short time, and this was a test from Baba. You see, you have to accept that. But then after three weeks we were set up to the house on the hill at Meherabad. And we stayed. Then eventually when we were ready, Baba called us. And we were there for the opening of Meherazad. That was a beautiful opening.

That means 'Meher Free.' The other is 'Mastery in Servitude' and Meherazad is 'Meher Free,' at least I've been told that.

ATTENDEE 2: I've been reading Evelyn Underhill's book called, *Mysticism, a Study* [crosstalk]

DELIA: She's a real mystic. She has done lots of beautiful translations.

ATTENDEE 2: Do you know her?

DELIA: Of course. I don't know her but I've read her books. In fact, she did the translation of that book of Jacopone da Todi.

ATTENDEE 2: That's another question I'd like to ask you what she's like. This is a difficult question. The subtitle of that book is *A Psychological Study of Development of Mystical Consciousness*. I was hoping that you could say something about the changes that went on within yourself during the years that you were with Baba. That you would find different kinds of thoughts bubbling up as the years went by. Perhaps, some of the things you had been troubled by initially got dissipated by Baba.

DELIA: Well, when I first met Baba, I had rather austere ideas about spirituality. In fact, I really at one time thought I might like to be a nun, and although I was connected with the theatre.

[Laughter]

DELIA: Baba nailed that on the head by making me meet Him in the theatre. Yes, this is true. That was quite a shock because I visualized myself meeting Baba all alone and looking up and sort of bowing my

head and crying. And the discipline I had to have there, and then realized that the Master, the Avatar, is in everybody and everything, and there is no place where He is not.

Now how it changed me. I didn't really like people very much. Then I suddenly came to like people more and more. I had no contact with young people ever, really, apart from growing up with my own family and a few nieces and nephews. When the first young people came in 1967, they were, well what shall I say, the hippie type. And I found I loved them. I found I was a gypsy myself.

[Laughter]

DELIA: I wasn't shocked when they told me at that time, they were all taking drugs. In fact, one of them who sat next to me had been a heroin addict. She had stopped before she heard about Baba. I immediately felt in complete rapport with her and she and her husband did a wonderful book for Baba. They came to live in Richmond, they had an open house. They helped me by bringing more and more people and also they brought Peter Townsend to see me. So I really found that I like people which I didn't before. Well, that was just one thing.

ATTENDEE 2: Delia, do you feel Baba's presence, the intensity of Baba's presence vary from day to day, week to week? Is there a constant feeling that He is always with you?

DELIA: I think there is a lot. I know Baba's there all the time. There is nothing but Baba. But sometimes I am more conscious of Baba, it's as if He sort of builds up. Not when you try, sometimes when you least expect, just a few people who are in harmony it happens. But if you try it often doesn't. He's there but it's as if you close yourself. I don't know if I make any sense

saying it this way. I think the more you try sometimes the less you can bring Baba's presence. At Myrtle Beach, of course, you feel Him all the time because there is and in India but even there it varies. [crosstalk] I just feel all the time that Baba is in me and through me and all around me. But I don't always feel a consciousness of Baba's sort of enveloping presence. Baba said, *When two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of that.*

ATTENDEE 1: Delia: Is there one quality that you think that Baba would like us to develop more than any other? What would it be in the years which are to come? Particularly thinking of the troubles that are bound to come.

DELIA: True love. What else is there?