

Letter to the Reader

Dear Reader,

A deep, driving desire inside continues to nudge me to promote the message: *We are all One*. As you experience this awareness while conscious in this world, you will naturally strive to work and live for the good of the whole. Most likely you will realize your inseparable bond with the Divine and experience an intense emotional feeling of Oneness with others. It is my hope and intention that my writings will ignite this spark of awareness in you.

In this book, I share my personal journey of spiritual evolvment. I recognize that my experiences are unique. Your journey may be similar to or very different from mine. The Bartholomew Effect, a culmination of my journey of profound insights and experiences, is what I will describe throughout the book. Historical accounts of Bartholomew, one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus, are limited. It is stated that Bartholomew worked with the land before joining Jesus and the other apostles. Later, he was persecuted and put to death for his religious beliefs.

In simplest terms, the Bartholomew Effect is a pure, unconditional love relationship that I now experience with Jesus all of the time. Although you may know this relationship by a different name, I believe the Bartholomew Effect

can be experienced by anyone when the timing is right for growth of the soul. You will learn the details of how my relationship with Jesus has evolved.

I speculate that this relationship may be the reason why the apostles were so devoted to Jesus. They were able to tap into this pure unconditional love of Oneness that Jesus emulated, and I now experience. This connection is tangible and is a significant part of my self-realization. Throughout the book, I have used italics in passages that indicate the words of Jesus.

My book is not just a Christian story. Readers of all spiritual and religious persuasions can find meaningful food-for-thought. This pure, unconditional love relationship is much greater than one group's cornerstone on the Truth. I will describe how you might evolve into Oneness with all living things.

Oneness has many levels of intimacy. One example is that you may feel you have a unique, unspoken connection with another individual or with your pet. Perhaps you can go into higher levels of consciousness or realms of being. At an accelerated level, maybe you experience an energetic vibration that naturally merges souls together into Oneness. Pure unconditional love between any soul and another living thing will create this effect.

To explore Oneness, you do not need to duplicate my personal experiences. Oneness develops more through

spiritual maturity and a sincere readiness to explore a deeper purpose as a human on this planet. Why are we really here? I believe we are here to represent sparks of the Divine as we journey back to the Source of all that is true. It's all about perception and projection. We are to be the Light of Truth for the planet and for all those around us.

I do not consider myself to be elevated, special, or in any way set apart from you. I face many of the same human challenges as you do. At times I have to deal with other people's poor choices that affect me. I face health issues and challenges that give me opportunities for growth by working through them, keeping me humble. I can get overwhelmed with the stress of a busy schedule and personal responsibilities. What I have learned is that deep faith, persistence, and coping skills have helped me to overcome adversity. These strengths are what see me through to more peace and harmony.

By reading my personal journey, contemplating it, and trying some of my suggestions for exercises, I hope you will gain insights to your questions and personal challenges. Through intention, you will grow and thrive. It is an ongoing process of continuous learning. New insights continue to come to me as I experience an expanding awareness into Oneness. We can live a spiritual life within our day-to-day dramas when we focus on one moment, one day or one quantum leap at a time.

For over thirty years, I have been writing about this message of Oneness in my personal journals, often sharing them with friends. It is now time to share my writings with you. My work has taken many shapes: poems, meditations, prose, and spiritual journaling. Throughout the years, I've questioned all aspects of life and have now reached the point where I see a direction that is right for my high or true self.

As you experience and learn to live this Oneness of Love that you are, you will become a co-creator with God and other enlightened individuals. Increased awareness will help us get in tune with our higher selves, establishing a better world on earth.

Namaste, *

Larry

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*Namaste, originating from the Hindu culture, means, "I behold the Divine in you as I behold the Divine in me."