

(From where are we coming?) 1
Where are we going?

We just heard from where we are coming. But where are we going?

We struggled with pain + laughter, through this week, to ~~to~~ decide together where we are going.

years ago, ^{when Eileen was in U.K.} Dorothy P. + other Brit. friends in the States gave me a book ~~of the many publications we had~~ where I found some gems of our communication around a poem of contemporary poetry. One of ^{contemporary American poetry.} Since then, I have quoted it endlessly and I feel like quoting it now: ^{as summing up of our IGA}
"we are w of average height
orbiting
carefully
into tomorrow."



Indeed we are \bar{w} of average¹/height²:

① - ~~hesitating before the word to be spoken,
the gesture to be made,
the action to be taken;~~

④ - ~~aiming at history (don't we say through our conscientization processes that ~~we~~ we should all be subjects, actors of history?) and yet being so often just wrapped up in stories;~~

② ~~Knowing that, whatever our role ^{will be}, we are only a drop in the ocean our work will only amount to a small change in the wide cosmos;~~

⑧ ~~but most~~



No doubt that ~~we are~~ ^{Indeed, we are} \bar{w} ³
of average height:

⑦ being abandoned with the masses of \bar{w} in our countries,
⑥ having gone or still going through the difficult process of making ourselves heard.
seen in a world which has tried (by ~~all~~ ^{through} myths + scientific methods) to make \bar{w} invisible;
⑤ attempting to find that new identity that will come from our own deepening
as well as from the huge sociological transformation of the situation of \bar{w} in ~~the~~ society and in the Church;

→ ③ being challenged by ~~great~~ ^{yet} ideals + ~~worried~~ ^{worried} about irrelevant ~~problems~~ ^{little} events, as \bar{w} always did when they had nothing else to do;



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9) Most of all, we are
w of average height
whose lives are interwoven ^{through} the

Grail
wanting to ~~be faithful~~ ^{respond} to our
desire to bring about new values,
new forces, new realities,
so that society may be shaped
in a more humane way;

women-in-movement } and by
women-moving
that dance of our lives, dreams
& projects together to announce
that newness is possible,

that creation can spring
from our hands, minds, hearts
as in the first moment...

Yes, \bar{w} we are orbiting carefully:⁴

• the way we moved from one step of this IGA process to another: now in ~~small~~ affinity groups, then in our countries, then again in up-hazard formed groups

then suddenly in whatever small group we decided to be in all this brownian movement cut ~~at~~ from time to time by the big gathering in the plenary sessions

• so often did we seem to be on the edge of something --- and it was stopped, as if it was not yet the time to know, moving ~~again~~ unexpectedly to another topic, another way of looking at our business here,



Indeed, orbiting carefully : 5

- orbiting in circles? coming back to the same point?

Not really. Then what?

- maybe then orbiting in spirals? apparently going the same way but a level higher as in the ziggurats of the Middle East. Not that either. The spiral has a continuity and sometimes we felt a rupture, without knowing what was coming next. Then what?

- The other day Bern. in the Bridge gave me the clue: maybe we were orbiting like the Laser rays which proceed in circles totally separated from each other but whose movement leads to the final focus and to the sharpness of ~~action~~. effect



Indeed: it of average height 6
orbiting carefully into tomorrow

~~tomorrow is rooted~~ How?

- We have in our present,
as we expressed it in so many
forms during these days,
awareness of our own realities,
in their ~~multi-dimensional~~
ranging from basic needs ^{to}
the cultural values ~~imposed on the~~
~~local region~~ ^{each} geographical territory
~~world over~~ in its uniqueness;

- It is because we are rooted
in local + concrete realities,
because we are part + parcel
of ~~world~~ + society,

~~that our perception~~ are taken in
it is because we effective social
action + intervention,
it is because of that blood + flesh,
with all its consequences + risks,
~~fewer~~ that we are able to ~~relate~~
~~itself~~ have a global perspective
and understanding,
in order to attempt to be international.



- ~~The~~ The dimensions of every ⁷/₋ local situation ~~are~~ appear ^{as being} ~~to us~~ overwhelming to us. Little + little, during this week, we felt the connections between the ≠ realities. We had, maybe for short moments, the perception of the factual interdependence of peoples + cultures.

Thus, we have realized that the web we have been using as a metaphor, ^{Fundação Cuidar o Futuro} unlike other metaphors, is not a poetic image. It is the portrait of a living reality. ~~It~~

~~Thus, because we see that interdependence, we appeared to each other with a political sense of ~~the~~ what is going on in the wide world as well as in our direct circle of life + action.~~



Thus, we added to our strings, 7'
new lines which are going to be
woven by the women who are di-
rectly involved in each area.

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Indeed : orbiting carefully ⁸
into tomorrow

- We felt difficult moments,
but there is a reason to it:

to speak about our involve-
ments, our hopes + decisions,
is to speak about ourselves,
about our deepest selves.

~~- Nothing brings about more
what is hidden in us than
the political dimension of reality.
~~Who Power, fears~~ It is not only
power that is at stake. But
fears, risks, our own history,
the way we relate to our
inner circle of friends or to
the unknown groups, the awareness
of our being as a bodily being,
exposed before others... (sometimes
with a crown of thorns...~~

- We said that it is important⁹ to take ~~at~~ political stands.

And we know only too well that ~~that~~^{in order} to take political stands is ~~equated with~~^{we need} the ~~capacity~~^{courage} to stand up before any new questions that may emerge.

To stand up is to affirm con-
victions. ~~Is to be ready to see~~

- ~~In the~~ Throughout the whole week but especially during the panel ~~of~~ on "spiritual search" we saw from where those convictions may spring forth.

It is the life of the Spirit who is fully present on this earth which gives us strength + freedom, peace + joy.



It is through the Spirit that ¹⁰
we can acknowledge what is
new, that we can measure
the limits of our ignorance
+ search for wisdom.

It is through the Spirit that
we can come to another appreciat-
ion of beauty in all forms!

It is through the Spirit that we
find the inward consolation
that heals our wounds and
caresses our hearts.

It is through the Spirit that
new bonds can be created
and that our ~~ventures~~ ^{dreams} may
~~appear as~~ ^{become} communal undertakings.



Indeed, \bar{w} of average height 11
orbiting carefully into
tomorrow...

As new awareness springs up
among us, let us go beyond
our boundaries:

- racial boundaries
- national "
- psychological "

~~Let us not be afraid of each
other. The world is big enough
for all of us, for ~~a few~~ thousands
of us, for millions of us, because
the special territory each one can support is
always infinite.~~
Let us recapture that quality
of wonder which ~~made~~ ^{shaped} the Grail
women who opened the road
before us. Let us be great by
~~see~~ acknowledging greatness
in whomever we find it.

Let us mirror beauty by
~~allowing~~ being open to the
beauty of others.

~~Let us not be afraid
recognizing + admiring what
others bring to us by admiration.
Gift others have.~~



For Only those who can admire¹²
can truly be humble of heart. and wonder

As I say this, I look
into tomorrow, with immense
gratitude for the women who are
have been part of the Grail.
Their faithfulness to what they
once saw is carrying them
from adventure to adventure.

~~And though becoming~~

Our commit/ is to God, ~~to~~
and His world, through I,

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through His G, who is
Church, ^{because} ~~for~~ "when 2 or 3 are
gathered in my name I
am in their midst".

Thus the commit/ to
tomorrow is commit/ to
each other. Let us not ~~offer~~
abandon anybody on the
way, let us be careful and
tender, ...



Let us acknowledge with the ¹³
words of Virginia Woolf, that
we are made "unequally
"of clay and diamonds, of
rainbow + granite".

Let us help each other in
our commit/ to tomorrow,
by letting the light of what
^{each one} ~~we saw~~ + ~~see~~ once ^{saw} be a continuous
flow of "rainbow + diamonds"
~~in a~~ piercing through a reality
of "clay + granite"

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