

Divine Heritage

By S. Evette Gardner

About the Author - From the Author

For as far back as I can remember (and my earliest childhood memories go back to when I was one year old) I have been living with the strangest inkling that there was something rather significant that I was neglecting to remember. I didn't (and still don't) know what this something could possibly be, but something about just having this inkling had always made me feel like there was something inaccurate about the world. That something was off from how I felt things actually were in reality. And as I grew older I began to believe that I was the only one in the world who felt this way. That this strange inkling was an abnormality that was limited to me, and that this therefore meant that there really was something peculiar (though not with the world but) with me. I have since grown out of this insecurity but the inkling still lives on, having survived all my attempts to try to shake it and keep my attention focused on more "normal" things.

None of us comes into this world afforded with the opportunity to consciously pick and choose what our purest fascinations will be – the things that seem to grab hold of our attention and never really let go no matter how much we try to ignore them. Not the things we express an interest in because we are trying to impress others. Not the things we express an interest in because we are trying to fill a void in our lives. But the things we have an interest in because we're simply and joyfully enthralled by them. The things we have an interest in because we feel especially connected to something extraordinarily deep within ourselves when we devote our consideration to them. Mystical thought and study is such an interest for me. I don't understand why this is I just know that it is one of those things about my life experience which simply is – like being born with brown eyes.

I have been keeping a personal journal since my late teens, which is not at all unusual but for the fact that (from the very beginning) my journal entries have been more of a chronicle of my efforts to articulate my developing understanding of spiritual curiosities than they have been about chronicling my day to day experiences. I used to believe that this irresistible pull that I felt to explore mystical thoughts was evidence that there was something odd about me. It took a while but I finally grew out of my abashment for having a love affair with the intangible. Odd or not, I came not to care one way or the other. Outside the norm of what our society considers to be a practical life pursuit, I'm still growing towards becoming less and less concerned about. I am learning to appreciate the joy in reveling in my fascination because I am learning to feel comfortable about *what* it is I am fascinated about. I feel I am being more of myself when I am exploring mystical wonders than I do when I am engaged in any other activity. I love the wonder of being immersed in wonder. I love the feeling I get when I ask a question of life and the answer seems to waft up from some deep unseen place within me. I love the validation and encouragement I experience when some short time later something or someone shows up in my experience just to externally reinforce the very same thing I had just internally realized. I never get tired of witnessing how beautifully all things seem to come full circle.

This book, *Divine Heritage*, probably reveals more about me (in this moment in my life) than anything else I could tell you about myself. These are the things that I spend my time thinking about during those quiet moments I am able to steal away for myself. These are the thoughts that I don't usually share with others in my day to day interactions, but which are always not too far from my foremost attention. This book is like the longest journal entry I have

thus far written. If anything in it serves in some way as an inspiration to another person, just as I have sometimes been inspired by the written words of others to look at my own life in a more affirming way, then I am ecstatic! I do, however, reserve the right to have my understanding of the ideas presented in Divine Heritage change. This book is merely a snapshot of my current way of thinking about and understanding spirituality. I wholly expect this understanding to evolve as my life experience evolves. I am not one who is resistant to changing my way of thinking because I believe that while Truth Itself never changes, our understanding of Truth can and constantly does morph into deeper and deeper degrees of perceptiveness . It is my belief that this is the meaning of evolution.