The
Blue Cliff Records
The Great Unraveling

Zen Book One
Acknowledgement

The Blue Cliff Records were compiled by Ch’an by Master Yunmen about 980 A.D. in Chinese Ch’an is Zen in Japanese Containing 100 Koan Stories it is considered a masterpiece of Chan.

Dedication

To the beloved Ch’an (Zen) Masters who have kept the beauty and tradition of Chan, (Zen) since Bodhidharma came to China from India in about 500 A.D.

To My beloved Sri Nisargadatta Maharaj, whose teaching style is mirrored in Ch’an, (Zen), and whose enquiry and guidance revealed the depth of Enquiry-Koan study
Watch Your Step

A Word of Caution

Nisargadatta Maharaj: “Question everything, don’t believe anything.”

As you are about to go through this book please note that nothing you are about to read is true. It is merely words which represent things which do not exist.

Please do not fall into the trap of words.

Recall two Archetypes, (Current in the ocean that form waves, then foam, (the “I”, and bubbles).

The First Archetype is of the “Genie in the Lamp”. In this current the right words, (magic words) must be said, (chanted) for the genie to appear and grant your wishes, (kind of like mantras).

The second Archetypical current is Using a Treasure Map to Search for the Buried Treasure. Kind of like a spiritual paths searching for enlightenment, (the holy grail) of the “spiritual quest.

Why is this important to remember as we tread through this series of books? Because all pointers and metaphors are using words which represent
and describe things which do not exist. In short, “Don’t fall into the words and language games.

Finally, be aware of regressed tendency forming precognitive traps that offer pleasure and rewards for understanding and learning the words and their meanings. This deeply imbedded current assures only more craving and a fixation on learning more and more words to have more and more experiences with the belief that both experiences and words/understanding will lead to the ultimate experience, termed some form of “Enlightenment”.

Nisargadatta Maharaj: “…all experiences will lead you to is more experiences…expect nothing from experiences…”

As we will see Koans are designed to break the language patterns, BUT, throw the thorn away, otherwise you will fall into the trap of words and the joy of learning and experiencing their meanings.

With Love
Your Mirage Brother
Stephen
Introduction

Words words and more words
Meaning nothing
Going Everywhere
Within the dream-realm

Pointers to nothing
A model of non-existent Absoluteness
That a model is a model
Which represents something
What an interesting idea

All seems so real in the dream world
Words and models
What lies beneath them?

Droplets on waves
Another model
A metaphor pointing to and at nothing which is

Best to not ride the waves of words
The currents can pull you down
making you believe you are

1
A model of nothingness

A pointer at nothingness will not change you

Enquiry Koan: Who are you prior to words?

Siddharameshwar Maharaj to Nisargadatta

Maharaj: “You are not who you take yourself to be.”
Wave One

Bodhidharma’s Vast Emptiness

The Emperor asks Bodhidharma, “What is the highest truth?” Bodhidharma answers, “Vast emptiness no holiness.”

Penetrate emptiness
The emptiness of empty
Empty without holy
The holy truths are empty

Emptiness is subtle form
form solidified emptiness
A Wave

The metaphor of the sacred mirror

Heart Sutra: “Form is emptiness, Emptiness is form”

One and the same
Neither are
Not a grain of sand is
Absolute(ly)
A wave is absolute(ly)

Not a particle is in a Wave

Ones own form is empty
Empty without empty
A wave

The illusion of a fixed memory
No fixed positions
A Wave

The illusion of a fixed state is called a person

The Emperor asks **Bodhidharma**: “Who is in front of me?”

**Bodhidharma** replies “I don’t know”

**OR**

**Bodhidharma** replies, “Not knowing”

**In the first Mantra:**
“I don’t know”
Deconstruction occurs

**In the second Mantra:**
“Not knowing”
No knower
No known
No knowingness
The essential without is attempted to describe
Absolute(ly)
Wave Two

The Ultimate Path Is Without Difficulty

Chao Chou: “The ultimate path is without difficulty avoid picking and choosing.”

As soon as there are spoken words there is picking and choosing
As soon as you have affirmation and negation, there is picking and choosing
Without picking and choosing.

Zen Saying: “In one there is many kinds, in two there is no duality.”

Jumping layers
From unity comes the many
Back again
Two is a word, an abstraction
There is not two in two
No duality
No non-duality
Mind and objects are Buddha-Consciousness
As consciousness-Buddha both the subject and
object disappear
No world

Without clarity or contradiction
Without yes or no
Without discrimination
Without delusion-enlightenment, sentient or
insentient

Zen Saying: “The Great Way is easy for those with
no preferences.”

The Great Way has no preferences

“Seeing” anything one loses “oneself”
Being aware of anything one loses “oneself”
Before appearance there is nothing

All is a bubble
A wave in the ocean
The ocean
“It”

The Ultimate and the phenomena have no time
interval
The Great Way: The Great Function
One shot
When the skull has no consciousness, only then are the eyes clear
The skull has no consciousness

Nisargadatta Maharaj: (paraphrased) “…It is the consciousness prior to the eyelids which “sees…”

Enlightenment is valued
if you are content with it, then a new trouble will arise,
amely Dharma sticking blindness

“…Without picking and choosing…”
When asked how do you feel today?, Master Baso replied, “Sun Faced Buddha, Moon Faced Buddha.”

Without fixed rules
  The potential appears
  The actual is actualized
  The Absolute is

All perceivables cover the earth and universe

When the Absolute manifests it deconstructs “all that is”
  The Absolute is without rules or fixed principles
  The Absolute is closer then your breath

Enquiry Koan: “From where does the moon arise?”
Enquiry Koan: From where does the sun appear?

In the absolute all vanishes
  Yet is?
The perception of the moon is a perception  
\textbf{Mu}  
The perception of the sun is a perception  
\textbf{Mu}  
Tear the screen  
Tear the screen  
Tear the screen

\textit{The Absolute is closer than your breath}

\textbf{Buddha the Diamond Sutra}: “\textit{Give up all perceptions of objects}.”

Two facing mirrors, in-between there is no reflection

The teacher is always looking for a place to enter the student waits in anticipation, anxiety and need  
The teacher must enter without leaving a wound or driving the self deeper.

The Great Way The “Great Use”, The Great Function  
Use is the Way (function) of activity of the Absolute  
No Time  
Pure isness without is  
No location  
No difference

\textbf{Nisargadatta Maharaj}: “\textit{...instantaneously... there is no (movement or activity) in the state of Parabrahma...}”
One
Not one
Tear the screen
Tear the screen
Tear the screen

*The Absolute is closer then your breath*
Wave Four

No Movement

Without directions
Without distance
Without Location
Without cause and effect

Zen Saying: “Bodhidharma did not go to China.”

“See through form”
It is seen through: exposed

Do not build a nest in any state or fixed position
even enlightenment.

Tear the Curtain
1000 Negations
No Buddha
No “I” to know That

Mind itself is Buddha
Past mind cannot be grasped;
Present mind cannot be grasped;
Future mind cannot be grasped
Without gain or loss;
Without acceptance or rejection;  
Nothing ordinary, nothing extraordinary  
Without discrimination

Three Zen Sayings For Teachers:

“Zen teachers should Give Medicine according to the illness”;

“If one does not know how to take the pulse of the ailing, one cannot be a teacher”;

“Remedies are given according to the ailments of the learner.”

Tear the Curtain  
When the “I” dies, all dies  
1000 Negations  
No Buddha  
No Teacher
Wave Five

Clear Mirror-
No Mirror: One Shot

As the emptiness its reflection of consciousness seems smaller than a grain of sand as the absolute neither are

Without right and wrong
That and this are not separate
No intervals
One shot
One straight shot
Form-Emptiness and the Essential appear simultaneously
Absolute(ly)

“One Hand”

Discard all as not this, not this
The still mind is not it
Stillness illusions
The mirror is essentially without emptiness or form

That and this are not separate
  No intervals
  One shot
  One straight shot
Form-Emptiness and the Essential appear simultaneously
  Absolute(ly)

“One Hand”
Wave Six

Body-less, Formless

No States Can Enter

Zen Saying: Nesting in enlightenment is called the stagnant waters of transcendence

Master Setcho: “Voidness is lamentable, (do not get stuck in the void), reject it.”

Moving from emptiness, (subtle form), to solidified emptiness, (form) is like a painful shock (30 blows), metaphorically the pain of movement.

Nisargadatta Maharaj, “There is no Karma, (movement or activity) in the state of Parabrahma.”

A Monk asks, “what is Buddha?”
The Master replies, “Don’t talk in your sleep.”
  Sleep talking
  Sleep walking

The waking state is a solidified dream
The deep sleep state a no knowing dream state
From sleep to waking
A continuum of dreams
Many dimensions
Multi-layered dreams with the illusion of separate
boundaried states

As soon as you make up a system you step in shit
As soon as you utter a phrase discard it as not this
not this and realize the source-less source without
any element of creation or a creator.

*Do not build a nest even in enlightenment*

Formless Emptiness without is the “body”
Without a form
Without a “body”

*Shunyata* means the emptiness without empty
Empty-less
Body-less
Form-less

*Enquiry Koan:* Without knowingness, how could
the state of enlightenment reside there?

**Buddha:** “Many beings have entered Nirvana, no
beings has ever entered Nirvana”
Wave Seven

What Is Buddha?

Question to Zen Master: “What is Buddha?”
Answer (modified): “You are you”

Buddha is all perceivables and conceivables
Buddha is not perceivable or conceivable

Enquiry Koan: “Is there a teaching prior to words?”
Enquiry Koan: “Is there a teaching prior to sound?”

Prior to words
Prior to sound,
Not a thing has been taught

Pre-voice or pre-sound is the teaching that can
never be taught

Without voice, without sound is the teaching that
can never be transmitted

Forget Buddha
A solidified emptiness
Not a thing
An appearance of and in a wave in the Ocean
The ocean knows nothing of Buddha
The Ocean has no knowingness
No Buddha
Absolute(ly)

Seamless Buddha
Without form nor in a state of formlessness
Essential without essential thing-ness
Essential without essential beingness
Essential without essential is-ness

Pre-voice or pre-sound is the teaching that can
never be taught

Without voice, without sound is the teaching that
can never be transmitted
Wave Eight

The Great Function: Without

The Great Function-Way, without rules
Without the senses
Prior to wave
Yoga: To yoke
Yoga: Union

The function appears without fixed rules.
The Absolute Function is what it is
Buddha
A blade of grass

Zen Saying: “Rid yourself of the stink of Buddhism.”

The function appears without fixed rules
Absolute(ly)
A monk asked Joshu, “What is Joshu?”
Joshu replied, “The east gate, the west gate, the north gate the south gate.”

If there is an inside and outside then there are things in front of your eyes

Without an inside or outside is the gateless gate
Without the concept of location
No reference point

Everything is open
No barriers
Nakedness
Without the concept of distance or direction

Both teacher and student have their devices, the student with defenses, the teacher with the sword of deconstruction.

Ego is being conscious of yourself.
The teacher kills the students ego freeing them from dependence
Freedom is being free of yourself
Prior to patterns
Without interest in nothingness
Without believing nothingness is a thing

Mindfulness is being mindful of yourself
Non-minding has no identification with a self

Nisargadatta Maharaj:”…I don’t need anything, I don’t even need my own self…”

Without an inside or outside is the gateless gate
Without the concept of location
No reference point

Everything is open
No barriers
Nakedness
Without the concept of distance, location or direction

Without an inside or outside is the gateless gate
Enlightenment State

Enlightenment is a state
A state appearing within the illusion bubble of world and states
Recognizable by an “I”

Enquiry Koan: “What is the state of enlightenment made of?”

Enquiry Koan: ‘What is the house you dreamed of made of”?
Wave Eleven

The Absolute-This

Enquiry Koan: “Is there Zen prior to the word Zen?”

Can a word describe that which is not?
All teachings are words which ultimately distract

Concepts born of nothing
Nothing behind words or labels
No teacher can convey this

Buddha: “In my forty-nine years of Dharma activity I did not teach a word.”

(Favorite Hint): “Bodhidharma never went to China”)

You are already expressing the absolute-this
You are the absolute-this
With or without self consciousness

The absolute-this
The absolute-this

Not this
Not this
A monk asked Tozen: “What is Buddha?”
Tozen answered: “Three pounds of flax.”

Working metaphor its all Buddha, (consciousness)

Zen Koan: “What Buddha is Beyond Buddha”, (consciousness)
Answer: “No Buddha”, (The Absolute)

One substance call it what you will
Three pounds of flax
A dildo
No one substance

Students grab after experiences and understandings like monkeys grabbing at reflections of the moon
A junkie grabbing after junk

A demon going up and down the pole
There is no end to the process of enlightenment,
Sometimes “you” come down from the pole and join the world
Sometimes “you” go up the pole and there is extinction or Nirvana
There are no rules
No Time sequence
An illusion made of nothing

**Nisargadatta Maharaj:** “Anyone who thinks their actions will liberate them is deluded.”

Just the mind
Appearance-disappearance
The Essential does not know this
Absolute(ly)

The pole is a hundred feet high
No pole dancing
Leave the pole and you are in the VOID of VOID
Without
Absolute(ly)
Wave Thirteen

No Great Way

No such thing as boundaries or differences
No good or bad, choice, will or volition
The Great Way is

Both ways, this is that

No Great Way

The whole world
What world?

Buddha: “We refer to it as a world, but there is no world.”

One ocean
One wave
One shot
No one

No Great Way
Wave Fourteen

One Word

All of the teachings of the Buddha are in one word

Enquiry Koan: “What is the word that reveals all of Buddhas teaching?”
A monk asked Ummon, “If not for the present potential, if not for the present phenomena what is it?”
Ummon replied, “An upside down statement.”

Koan (Updated):
Without abstraction, what is it?
Without sequence what is time
Without transduction what does hello mean?

Without mind
No object
No existence outside of the mind
No Buddha without mind

The emptiness of all things.

Translated variation

A monk asked Ummon, “What is it when no thought is stirring and nothing presents itself?”
Ummon replied, “No preaching on oneness.”
Enquiry Koans: (updated)
Is there oneness without thought?
Is there oneness without words and meanings?
Is there oneness without perception?

The illusion of oneness
Always one, no separation
Non-duality
An infantile state

Realize no one
No oneness
Without non-duality or duality

Without movement
With movement
Does the ocean know its waves

Without movement
With movement
Does the waves know the ocean

With abstracted-waves plus ocean
Without abstracted waves
What is an ocean?

The waves appear in constant movement
we forget the ocean which is still and motionless
Without abstracted waves
Are you?
Without abstracted waves
   No oneness
   No non-duality
Wave Sixteen

The Chicken or the Egg

Metaphorically a student is like a chick trying to break out of its shell
Pecking from within

The teacher the hen
Tapping from outside
The pecking must be in unison and harmony
The student struggles before they find “themselves” standing outside the broken egg shell.

Imagining if you “break free” you will, or the “I” will survive is delusion

When later abstractions like spirituality turn inward to meet earlier abstractions like sensations or consciousness this is called purification

Without naming, describing and labeling Untie the knots of spirituality
Abstracted representations of things which do not exist
like an enlightened self

It all vanishes woosh
Submerged like a wave in the ocean

Your original face is without thought, speech, knowingness, sound or perception
Without a knower a perceiver
Without a bubble

Untie the words and bonds of Guru’s, Buddha’s and Zen Masters
Utter distractions

Nisargadatta Maharaj “Forget me, forget Maharaj, forget the teachings…”

It all vanishes woosh
Submerged like a wave in the ocean
Wave Seventeen

Who Comes From the West?

Zen Koan: “What is the meaning of Bodhidharma coming from the west?”

Answer: “Bodhidharma coming from the West”

It’s all a dream, a mirage, therefore give up even satori experiences and understandings

Zen Saying: “Bodhidharma never came from the west.”

Not knowing.
Wave Eighteen

Seamless

One
One seamless “event”
Boom
No event

This is that
That is this
No mind to distinguish

One is two
Two is one
No one
No two

Seamless
One hand clapping
No hand
Seamless

Without separation
Without oneness
Wave Nineteen

One Without Oneness

The master answers all questions by raising one finger

Without location
The palm and back of the hand move simultaneously as one unit

The whole universe “moves” as one
Without location

As a current is an abstraction of the ocean
As a wave is an abstraction of the current
As the foam is an abstraction of the wave
As the bubble is an abstraction of the foam

Still the ocean
Still the ocean
Still the ocean

As the ocean no currents waves foam or bubbles
The whole universe is the whole universe whatever
The one finger with or without movement is the seamless one

Without the illusion of one
No finger
No oneness
Enquiry Koan: “What exists if it does not have a space to exist in?”

No Sound
Without sound

Enquiry Koan: “Without sound and its perceiver, are you?”

Zen Koan: “Why did Bodhidharma come from the west?”

An answer is like a punch in the face

Nisargadatta Maharaj: “Doing seva, (Karma Yoga-selfless service) is like beating the Guru with a stick.”

Zen Saying: “Bodhidharma never came from the west.”
Wave Twenty-One

That and This One Are the Same

The Absolute Ocean
The perceivable universe
One and the same
This is it

Can you separate the head from the body
The body from the head
A bloody mess

Patterns are no Patterns

Understanding without language patterns is Zen

Equiry Koan: “Is there Zen prior to the word Zen?”

Outside of conventional language
Can you separate the ocean from the water
The Absolute and its activities are one and the same

Outside of conventional language
Can you separate the water from the waves
The Absolute and its activities are one and the same

Outside of conventional language
Can you separate the water from wetness
The Absolute and its activities are one and the same
Withdraw

Neti Neti until all identities are removed
Dissolve sticking points
See through assumed states
Destroy the tracks of associations
Stillness is not it

Seeing without patterns
No seeing

The universe is smaller than an atom
Unseen
Without a wave-seer the universe is unseen
No universe

Zen Dialogue: A monk asked Chimon: “How is it when the lotus flower has not yet emerged from the water?”
Chimon answered: “A Lotus Blossom”
The monk asked: “What about after it has emerged from the water?”
Chimon answered: “Lotus leaves”

A wave emerges from the water
looking, the ocean is nowhere to be seen
If you try to be anything, you get its opposite

A wave emerges from the water
   “I” appears
A wave dissolves in the ocean
   An “I” dissolves
   No dissolving
A wave has not yet emerged
   An “I” submerged
   Still the ocean
   Always the ocean
Wave Twenty-Three

Anywhere and Everywhere

Pointing to That is easy
Point anywhere
Wave Twenty-Four

It can take years to eradicate the traces of realization and attachment and pride. And the sense of specialness it brings.

This is what happens when an “I”, or a no-“I” state thinks its realized.

Prakashananda Baba: “If I tell you my experience I will think I had it…spiritual experiences are just ego…”

Prakashananda Baba: “You don’t want libeation, if you have liberation you won’t be there to appreciate it.”
Wave Twenty-Five

A State of What?

Enlightenment is a state
A state of what?

Enlightenment has no use
Has anything a use?

The enlightened state should not be shown
Remain independent of all states
No enlightenment
Sitting alone
Without alone

No perception
No perception of a perception
No perception of a perception of a perception
No perception of a perception of a perception of a perception ETC.

Without past, present, or future
No time no remembering
No time
Nothing to look ahead to handle this
Nothing to look back to remember that

Words grant isness, beingness and thingness
No this prior to words
No That Prior to words
Wave Twenty-Seven

All Is All Is the Same

A monk asked Ummon, “What will it be when the tree withers and the leaves fall?”
Ummon answered, “You embody the golden breeze.”

Death, how joyous
The end of game
Nothing happens
Nothing happened

Being all that is not
No not
1000 Negations without a knower

The teacher and student imagine they enter
Mind to mind
One mind
No mind

Entering into minds contact with the alleged other
is like walking into a forest full of traps and snares
Beartraping
Both the student and the teacher engage, releasing the traps, and sidestepping the snares, walking through the gaps to reach that which always was in and through the cave of awareness.

Meeting the student where they are
Spring, summer, fall and winter, with nature all in turn,
plus and minus equals zero with no one to know.

Cutting off the stream of thought,
No heaven no hell,
Without problems or contradictions in the essential

The teacher adapts to the student,
each answer fits each question,
The two are realized as one,
The questioner and the question dissolve

The teacher and student imagine they enter
Mind to mind
One mind
No mind

Death, how joyous
The end of game
Nothing happens
Nothing happened
No Abstraction Process Without Fragmenting Perception

Master Nansen: “It is not mind, it is not Buddha, it is not things.”

“It is not mind” as mind is an abstraction a linguistic metaphor

“It is not Buddha”
As Buddha is a name for something which is not, As Buddha there is no Buddha

“It is not things”
As the perception of things is a fragmentation A fragmenting perception A droplet viewing the abstracted ocean

When the mirror is clean, without comparisons, there is only the empty mirror Without
“It is mind”  
As the mind is It  
As a droplet of water is the ocean  
Without separation

“It is not Buddha”  
As it is Not Buddha  
(hint: consciousness)

“It is not things”  
As waves are to the ocean  
Without abstractions  
Without the description of abstraction  
Without the illusionary explanation called abstraction

Without the fragmenting perception  
The part is the whole  
The whole is the part  
No part, no whole  
No one  
No non-duality  
No abstraction process  
Without fragmenting perception
Wave Twenty-Nine

Perception Is
No Perception,
No Perception
Is Perception

The “I” is no “I”
The No “I” is “I”

Deconstruction is not deconstruction
Not deconstruction is deconstruction

Nothing is created
Nothing is destroyed

Knowing is not knowing
Not knowing is knowing

Being is not being
Not being is being

The True Teacher or Guru is the False
Teacher or Guru
Without a perceiver there is no world
Existence is no existence
No existence is existence

Nothing is something
Something is nothing
Perception is no perception
No perception is perception

Nisargadatta Maharaj, “if you can forget it or remember it it is not you, therefore discard it.”

Nothing is something
Something is nothing
Perception is no perception
No perception is perception
When Joshu is asked, “I heard you have followed Master Nansen, is that true?”

Joshu replied, “Chinshue (province) produces a great Radhish.”

All is nature,
An appearance made of Consciousness called Buddha Mind

Nature without an “I”
The Master is nature
a plant
The teacher teaching is a dog barking

Grass is green
Sun is hot
Water wet
Mountains high

A Big Radish
Nature
A chick is born
Nature without an “I”
The Master is nature
   a plant
The teacher teaching is a dog barking
Currents in the Ocean

Currents in the ocean
Subconscious stirring

The awareness of thought is stirring
The awareness of stillness is stirring
Awareness is stirring
Currents in the ocean

A current
A wave forms
Silence and empty
Sound and stillness
Form and emptiness
A twin voidness
Currents in the ocean
Neither are

Teachings are medicine for the non-existent disease
Without the label called life and death

Awareness of enlightenment is delusive
With experience or thought imagined, lose of being as is
With foam or waves or currents  
The ocean is forgotten  
The is of is is vanishing

Without labels or descriptions lies the ocean

**Bodhidharma, “Not Knowing”**

Without

Awareness of a thought  
do not be fooled by this false awareness,  
it is the current  
The Buddha mind is prior to it  
Currents in the ocean  
No Buddha Mind  
No Mind

**Zen Saying:** “By looking to it you are looking away from it.”

**Zen Saying:** “By looking for it you look away from it.”

By thinking-imagining-experiencing yourself to be it, you miss your own SELF  
Experiences are currents in the ocean  
The experience of “no-I” or non-duality is a current in the ocean

The illusion that I have no illusions  
Currents in the ocean
There is no life-death-delusion-enlightenment-
Buddhas or Bodhisattvas

Nothing to grasp
Nothing to accept
Nothing to reject.

The teachings are medicine for no disease
Currents in the ocean
Wave Thirty-Two

This Is It

With each “moment” currents-waves-foam-bubbles
With each “moment” a new foam-ego
The abstracted-illusion of continuation
The abstracted illusion of constancy
The abstracted-illusion of sequence
must be realized

Without before during and after
One ocean
One shot
No sequences
No logic
No constancy
No order
No logic
No logos

Ocean
Currents
Wave
Foam
Bubbles
Ocean
Abstracted-formless archetypical “energy”
Abstracted-Pre-I-self container
Abstracted-I-self
Abstracted-I-self reflecting ego
An I-self re-enforcing loop
Without sequences
Without logic
Without constancy
Without an order
Without a logos

Without good or bad
Without judgment evaluation or significance

I-self-reflecting abstracted-illusion solidifies the loop
“I” is not “I”
the “I”-self keeps changing

Constancy illusion makes the ego seem constant
and the same
They are not
A new “moment”
Mu
A new “I”
Mu

One ocean
One shot
No sequences
No logic
No constancy
No order
No logos

A mirror reflection

This is it
This is it
This is it

One ocean
One shot
No sequences
No logic
No constancy
No order
No logos

This is it
This is it
This is it
This is it
Wave Thirty-Three

Unconcern

Unconcern
Without intension
No such thing as concern
No such thing as intension
Wave Thirty-Four

Between Being and Non-being

Free to
Free not to

Letting go and holding on
Two equal states
Holy and profane two equal states

Enquiry Koan: “What is the state between being and nonbeing.”

Nisargadaata Maharaj (paraphrased) stay in the in-between state between being and nonbeing

Free to enter
Free to leave
No entering
No leaving
Without coming or going
Suchness
Justness
Without Sacredness

A straight shot
See not form
Hear not sound
Without distractions
Absolute absolute(ly)

Bodhidharma: “…no holiness…”

No enlightenment
No delusion
No sainthood
No Nirvana

Bodhidharma: “…no holiness…”
If “I” Perceive It, It Must Be There

Life’s perceptual illusions
  Bliss
  Piss
  Life
  Death

We call it life
It is really the name of a perception
A label on “nothingness”

Without perception
  Not Buddha
  Absolute(ly)
A Mirage With Holes

Instantaneous experience
To Late to claim doership

All that is perceived is an abstracted illusion
All transmissions are not
See through words and mirage-like experiences
With descriptions labeled “spiritual” and “mundane”.

A mirage with holes
Without something or nothing
A mirage with holes
Without something or nothing
A mirage with holes
Without something or nothing
A mirage with holes

Without spiritual
Without enlightenment
Without Buddhas
No Buddha
No dharma
No not Buddha
No not dharma

Images appear as if they are emerging from the skull

If there was a mind you could seek its source
If there was a source you could arrive at your logos-like destination

A mirage with holes
There is no such thing as something
There is no such thing as nothing
Wave Thirty-Eight

Patches: Void Universes

Without a word
Without anything to say
Without a transmission
   Without helping
   Without hindering

All forms including emptiness or enlightenment
   awareness or witnessing or consciousness
   Are just impressions of the one mind
      Patches
      Void Universes
      Labels

   Illusions holes that can be lifted
   Patches pulled up reveal nothing

Trying to go or stay is a patch
   Fish in a watery mirage
      Patches, holes
      Nothing prior
   Formless impression of the one mind
Wave Thirty-Nine

Illusionary Holes

Without self
Without no self
Without the emptiness of self
Without the emptiness of form
Without the emptiness of emptiness
Patches

Without the emptiness of awareness
Without the emptiness of consciousness

Do not be fooled by experiences
Patches
Holes to be lifted
Underneath
Extinction
Wave Forty

Dissolving the Glue
of the Dream

The final cut
An unusual ending to a dream

Saying we have the same root or body
A poor metaphor which leaves to many traces of a
body with boundaries
a me and a you
a root or origin

Body with boundaries
A me and a you
Root or origin
Define the dreams delusions

Perception and cognition even silent cognition
appear together

Gluing the holes in the dream shut
Pointing out the “other side”: The emptiness holes smashes the mirrors delusion of form and emptiness which define the dreams delusion
See the dream?
Waking-Up Is Part
of the Dream.

When the cut is not complete
The return can be a shock

Later the return softens and is assumed
In this assumption of a return
The dream brings life

Like buying a roundtrip ticket a traveler is certain
of returning
This certainty repeats the cycle anew

The deluded think the return is inevitable
Not knowing it is dependent upon this assumption
as is all Buddhas who imagine separation from the
birthless

Getting off the train
Getting off the wheel
Do not dull the shock
Do not make this sleepy assumption
Birthless
The concept of sleeping or waking up
is part of the dream
Zen Saying: “Snowflakes never fall in the wrong place.”

It is as it is
Without descriptions, explanations, labels, or understanding
Total isness
Without the is

Total nowness
Without the now

Total hereness
Without the here

Without location

Nothing comes from anywhere
Nothing goes to anywhere

Justness

No source
No origin

Justness
Water In a Mirage

The essence of water is not hot or cold
The essence of water is wetness
Water in a mirage

Without rules or regulations
Without standards or hierarchy

There is no organization

Between and beyond the emptiness and the manifested

Without organization

Dream appearances
Water in a mirage
Without believing
Without imagining assumptions mean anything
Assumptions have no meaning or influence
All actions are
Without understanding
Without explanation
Complete without the associations of complete
Don’t try to understand actions or events
Nobody knows why anybody does anything
Don’t try to “get” knowledge or interpret through the skull which perceives
Rid yourself of psychology’s delusional abstracted explanations
It doesn’t matter
Zen Koan:
A monk asked **Master Joshu:**
“Myriad of things return to the one. Where does the one return?”
**Joshu:** When I was in Sei Province I made a cloth shirt, it weighed seven pounds.

Advaita: Not two
Not One
Advaita resides in the bubble realm
A seductive illusion
Foam
Pop the bubble

Don’t imagine here is separate from there or there is separate from here
Not Two

Not One either
Wave Forty-Six

Without Sound

The space between
The empty mirror
Being the skull thoughts and perceptions appear
as real
The skull appears to be

Total expression without perception
A loss of self
No regrets
The Absolute

What is sound
Where is sound

Ramana Maharishi: “Go back the way you came.”

Without beingness
Coming from nowhere would make that difficult
Coming from nowhere would make that difficult

Four Enquiry Koans:
What is sound?
Where is sound?
Is there a listener?
Who hears?
There Is No Such Thing As Form

The dharma body
A weak metaphor

A formless body
Without form

There Is No Such Thing As Form

No beingness
Without boundaries
No isness
No such thing as existence or non-existence

It cannot be seen, heard, felt, smelled, experienced, thought, sensed, imagined, perceived, remembered, or conceived.
It does not fit into anything

There Is No Such Thing As Form
Wave Forty-Eight

All Supports All

All depends on all
Uncooked seeds support all

Without self-consciousness self-reflecting
problems never arise

A wonderous model
But not for “ME”
Wave Forty-Nine

Who Gets Free From the Net

The net of thoughts, memory, emotions, associations, perceptions, what you have been told and the body

Zen Koan: (slight variation) Where does one who escapes or gets free go?

Without an “I”, beingness, isness, distance or location

(hint) Nirvana means extinction.
Focused attention on everything reveals everything as everything
Focused attention on anything reveals everything as everything
Focused attention on everything or anything reveals no-thing

No one can teach or reach the absolute

**Buddha:** “….there are no atoms or molecules…”

Break through the seductive net of Samadhi-satori
   One shot
   Not two
Everything is everything
   Not One
Focused attention on everything reveals everything as everything
Focused attention on anything reveals everything as everything
Focused attention on everything or anything reveals nothing

There is no such thing as nothing
Wave Fifty-One

Without the Vehicles of Mind

This is it
Without yes and no
Without picking and choosing
Without accepting or rejecting
Without affirmation or negation
Without discrimination

This is it
One shot
This is it
No it
Wave Fifty-Two

Absolute and Function

No-State-state
Stateless state and function are one
If you lose one, you lose the other
Absolute(ly)

(hint: Not two)
(hint: Not one)

Nisargadatta Maharaj: “We are all rays of the absolute.”
Wave Fifty-Three

The Illusion of Movement

Without subjectivity
One mind
No student
No teacher
Devices destroy subjectivity
Devices destroy subjectivity
Devices destroy subjectivity

Without the illusion of movement or change
Without the appearance of movement or change

Nisargadata Maharaj: “There is no karma, (movement or activity) in the state of Parbrahma”

Nothing happens
There is no such thing as nothing
Wave Fifty-Four

There Is No Such Thing As Sound or Movement Etc.

Even silence contains sound
Even stillness contains movement

Without sound
Without movement
Without silence
Without stillness

Enquiry Koan: What is it that has neither sound nor silence, neither movement nor stillness?
Names Are Names of Perceptions

Life is a descriptive label, a perceptual illusion
Death is a descriptive label, a perceptual illusion

Without either
The one, nature with no fragmented illusions of “I”
is all that is perceivable and conceivable
Without

Nagarjuna: “…nothing comes, nothing goes…”
Wave Fifty-Six

All Is In The
Dream Bubble

Ramana Maharishi: “Go back the way you came.”

Reverse

The answer lies in the opposite direction

Go in and keep going
Prior to abstractions
Prior to prior and never stop

All is in the dream bubble
Once popped
Barely air is left to know

Zen Sayings:
“Buddha never appeared in the world.”

“Bodhidharma never came from the west.”

“No teachings have ever been expounded…”
All is in the dream bubble
Once popped
Barely air is left to know
Without Discrimination

Without discrimination says it all

Not knowing
The ultimate cut
Unseen by all

Unknown to the Absolute

Wonderful description
Without discrimination says it all
Absolute(ly)
Wave Fifty-Eight

No Such Thing
As Sound

Without non-discrimination
Without sound
Without a hearer
Unheard by all

Unheard of
No such thing as discrimination
No such thing as sound
Absolute(ly)
Wave Fifty-Nine

What Is Discrimination?

Zen Saying: “The Supreme Way has no difficulty, it rejects discrimination.”

All discrimination
Wave Sixty

No Perceiver—
No Universe

The Absolute pays no attention to
Has no attention, nor a knowing knower
Without an attentioner
Without a perceiver

The universe is no more

Enquiry Koan: “Where does the universe go.”
Wave Sixty-one

Pouring Out of Nothing

As long as even a particle exists or is perceived the game continues
When all dissolves as the Consciousness-Buddha
There is none

The absolute Not Buddha you are
How splendid that the consciousness pours out of the absolute No Buddha

Not two
Not one
Awareness, The Light Of Consciousness

Within form lies awareness
Between awareness and the world the substance of consciousness resides

Prior to awareness, and its awaring rests the Absolute-Not Buddha

Untouched as the “light” of awareness the consciousness assumes a form called Buddha

One
Not two
A sun with its rays of consciousness
The world illusion appears

Nusargadatta Maharaj: “….We are all Rays of the Absolute…”
Unperceived, What Is?

Unperceived
There is no such thing as existence and nonexistence

Unperceived
No such thing as sound
Absolutely

Enquiry Koan: Unperceived, What Is?
Unperceived, No Similarities No Differences

Enquiry Koan: Unperceived what is different from what?

Unperceived

Nagarjuna: “There are no similarities, there are no differences

Unperceived

Nagarjuna: “There is no duality, there is no unity, (non-duality)”
Wave Sixty-Five

Without Inside or Outside

All pervasive
A poor metaphor implying a thing with location
with something outside or inside which is known
or knowable

The gateless gate
Without an inside or outside

Without a source
Without an origin

The gateless gate
Without an inside or outside
No Separation, No Oneness

Trying to get something
The opposite is formed

There is no student
There is no master

The final step
Cut off their heads

Without the concept of separation
Without the concept of oneness

I Am That
That I Am

I Am The Absolute
The Absolute I Am

Without the concept of separation
Without the concept of oneness
Wave Sixty-Seven

There Is No Such Thing As Awareness

Buddha The Diamond Sutra: “We refer to it as a world, but there is no world.”

Without perceptions
Is it here?

Without the concept of perceptions
Without the concept of a perceiver

A bird is not a bird,
It is the name of a perception

There is no such thing as awareness
There is no such thing as awareness
There is no such thing as awareness

We refer to it as awareness, but there is no awareness
Nisargadatta Maharaj called it unawareness

Not Awareness
A Bird Is Not A Bird

A bird is not a bird
It is only the name of a perception

Name is not form
It is a representation of form

Form is not form
It is an abstraction of_____

Without name or form
A bird is not a bird
It is only the name of a perception
Wave Sixty-Nine

What Is Zen?

Without a place to enter
   Without a place
   Without teachings nor a teacher

Enquiry Koan: Is there Zen prior to the word Zen?
Enquiry Koan: Is there Zen practice prior to perception?

No trace
   No transmission
   No spiritual game

Enquiry Koan: Is there Zen prior to the word Zen?
Enquiry Koan: Is there Zen practice prior to perception?
A probing question (a pole) to test the depth of the student, (water)
A question to test Absoluteness

Does the One mind disguised as a teacher give all.

**Nisargadatta Maharaj:** “…I hold nothing back…”

Does anyone need to carry on a non-existent lineage story?
Wave Seventy-One

Not Sound

Without sound
    Not sound
There is no such thing as sound

The illusionary Master sits
There is no such thing as a master
There is no such thing as a student

Without anyone there
    One mind
    No mind
    Not sound
Wave Seventy-Two

No Being

The student too tests?
The Teacher is speechless
Not sound
Not knowingness
Without a being.

Buddha Diamond Sutra: “...We refer to it as a being, but there is no being....No being has ever entered Nrvana...”
Never Two, Not Knowing

Without asserting or denying
Without discrimination
Without yes or no

Bodhidharma:…”Not Knowing…”

Neither

Always Two

Bodhidharma:…”Not Knowing…”

Neither

Not knowing
Sakyamuni Buddha said upon realization “all beings at this very moment have attained the Way.”

Bodhisattvas vow to help all become enlightened.

Buddha:”…We refer to it as a being, but there is no being…”

No Bodhisattvas without the perception of a being.

No Bodhisattva

again

Sakyamuni Buddha said upon realization “all beings at this very moment have attained the Way.”

No Bodhisattva
Wave Seventy-Five

The Staff of the Absolute

Not different
All is all
A portal

What a blow to imagine you are not the absolute
What a shock

Not two
No giver
No receiver

Not One

What a blow to imagine you are not the absolute
What a shock

Not two

The Staff of the Absolute
Wave Seventy-Six

No Separation, No Oneness

There is no such thing as a giver
There is no such thing as a receiver

Being Blind to both, “one” cannot perceive either
Without the blinders of perception
No such thing as separation
No such thing as oneness
No such thing as a world
Without giving or receiving

No such thing as separation
No such thing as oneness
Cake A Perceptual Illusion

Buddha-Consciousness
Beyond Buddha-The Absolute

Cake a perceptual illusion
A speck of consciousness
The cake and the speck of consciousness
One and the same

Not Buddha
Neither
Absolute(ly)

Both?
Possibly
But not “from” the Not Buddha
Absolute(ly)
Believing Is Not Believing

Subtle feelings are part of consciousness
Believing them is part of the dream
Not believing them is part of the dream
“See” through them

Believing Is Not Believing
Impact is in the dream
Enquiry Koan: “Without abstraction-transduction what is?”

Enquiry Koan: “Without abstraction-transduction what isn’t?”

Even Master-Gurus get upset, they want to keep the game going

Fuck them
Wave Eighty

The Dream of
“Still” and “Be”

A speck of consciousness in the distance appears to grow
An unstoppable flow

Don’t look now
The flow will gobble you up

“Still” and “be” are only in the dream

Stay “still” prior to “still” and “be” prior to “be”
There is no such thing as “still”
There is no such thing as “be”
Wave Eighty-One

I Am,
the Hub of
the Wheel

The I of I’s the I Am
The hub of a wheel
Shoot it down with the arrow
Of deconstruction

All vanishes when the I Am disappears

Nisargadatta Maharaj: (paraphrased), See through the superficially of the I Am... You are prior to the arising of the I am
Wave Eighty-Two

No Birth, No Death

Billions of cells
Bacteria

Nature with no-I

Enquiry Koan: “Who or what claims to be born or die?”
Without perception,
No Birds

Without perception
There is no such thing as mind
There is no such thing as Buddha

Master Baso: “No Mind, No Buddha.”

Enquiry Koan: Without perception, is there a mind with sky, birds and Buddha?
A Bodhisattva without perception of a being or a self
An oxymoron

Non-duality, a beginning step

Nagarjuna: “There is no unity, (non-duality) there is no duality.”

Non-duality: a deluded station

There is no such thing as non-duality
Absolute(ly)
Wave Eighty-Five

Instantaneous

Be all and not all
Simultaneously grab it instantaneously
Otherwise the mind will not rest
Like a thief who missed the wallet sitting in front of him

The Paradox

The “universe” moves all at once
without an “I” to do it

Yet the “universe” depends upon an “I” to claim doership
Awareness the light of the perceivable world
The illusion of many dependent on the one light

Zen Saying: “A monkey grabs at the reflection of the moon.”

Not knowing-Not awareness rests “beyond”

When Bodhidharma was asked, “who are you?
He replied, “Not knowing.”

Nisargadatta Maharaj called this unawareness

Not awareness also works
Nisargadatta Maharaj: (paraphrased) Everything is plus and minus…zero...

What is yourself
A perception of separation by the light of awareness?
A perception of oneness by the light of awareness?

Not awareness-Not Buddha
There is no such thing as awareness
There is no such thing as the light of awareness
The Absolute blind
The Absolute deaf
The Absolute mute

Only in the dream is understanding possible

What makes you think the Absolute is or does?

Krsna: “I am in every being, I am not in any being.”
Wave Eighty-Nine

No Awareness - No Seeing

Enquiry Koan: What is it that has an infinite number of eyes but cannot see?

Not Awareness no eyes
Nothing Holds Anything Together

The substance is the universe

Its purpose?
None

Its function?
None

What is it made of?
Consciousness

What is consciousness?
None

There is no such thing as substance, function, purpose or what something is made of.

Nothing holds anything together
Nothing holds anything together
Nothing holds anything together
Nothing holds anything together
There is no such thing as life
Life is the name of a perception

There is no such thing as self or “I”
Self or “I” is the name of a perception
          a perceptual illusion

There is no such thing as you or other
You and other is the name of a perception, a
          perceptual illusion

How can this be shared or lived?
How can this be shared or lived?
How can this be shared or lived?
Wave Ninety-two

Not Awareness
Appearing as a Perception

A particle
A perception
Concentrated consciousness though non-existent appears to be just as its perceiver appears to be
A closed loop

The Not Buddha without sound
Instantaneous unawareness-not awareness appearing as a perception
Wave Ninety-Three

One Is None
Is All

One appearance
All appearances
Nothing special
Extra special
Portals
Wave Ninety-four

Not Seeing

Seeing requires a perception plus awareness
“Not seeing” is without either

You cannot see my not-seeing because you are seeing

“Not seeing” “my” “not seeing” and “not seeing”
“your” “not seeing” is “you”
Not-awareness is without sound
Deafness

Enquiry Koan: Without sound, seeing, or hearing
What hears sees and listens?

Nisargadatta Maharaj: (paraphrased), If someone says something mean to you in a foreign language are you offended?

All words are merely sounds representing non-existent entities
Water in a mirage.

There is no such thing as sound in the not-awareness
There is no such thing as sound in the not-awareness
There is no such thing as sound in the not-awareness
Neti Neti

Neti Neti, not this not this
A description of the absolute-not Buddha-not awareness

All thoughts, memory, emotions, associations, perceptions, a perceiver and the body are consciousness-light of awareness-Buddha

As such all are dependent upon awareness
Awareness depends upon Not-awareness
Awareness too does not last
Awareness vanishes

Without mental images
Dependent upon awareness
Buddhas disappear

Neti Neti a description of a process, or a description of the Absolute?
Nisargadatta Maharaj (paraphrased) *All is plus and minus equaling zero.*

**Zero:** A description of a perception, or a description of not zero?

Either way, there is no such thing as zero-plus or minus
All words and teachings are metaphors not to be believed
Following sounds transduced as words is to fall in love with the water in a mirage.

The Shiva Sutras: “The cause of bondage is sound.”

Trying to understand through sound transduced as words is confusing words with the things they are supposed to represent which are mistakenly taken as existing.

It is like trying to swim in the water of a mirage
Wave Ninety-nine

All Words Imply
Boundaried Existing
Separate "Things"

“Reality” is the formless prior to perception
Be careful, the concept of a body is a metaphor
which demands boundaries

The mask of perception reveals a world made
of consciousness supported by the “light” of
awareness.

The peace of awareness is a lovely state
But state it is

The mask of perception reveals a world made
of consciousness supported by the “light” of
awareness.

Enquiry Koan: What is it that supports awareness?
All supports all and depends on all
Seamless
There is no “I” or all in all

All supports all and depends on all
A single particle supports the universe
The universe would not be the universe
if not for this particle

All supports all, depends on all, and is all
One Without Oneness

A single particle supports the universe
The universe would not be the universe
if not for this particle

One Without Oneness
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