

ROBERT ANTON WILSON

by Robert Anton Wilson

I can't stand blind faith, I think blind faith is the most destructive force in the universe. As far as I can see the old forms of blind faith (most religious groups and scientists) are in terrible trouble these days. These are the only forms of blind faith that have somehow passed themselves off as intellectually respectable.

I want to cause a revolution. James Joyce is my favorite writer. He definitely aimed to cause a revolution and to some extent he succeeded. The fact there has been nineteen paperback printings of *Finnegan's Wake* is astonishing, considering how revolutionary that book is, and I think Joyce's effect will be felt more as time goes on. What I'm after is not just a political revolution. I think they are kind of dull and they never lead to what they are expected to. A revolution in politics is usually very geometrical; it goes around 360 degrees and finally comes back to the place it starts. I'm interested in a revolution in the mind.

If I start thinking about what people say about me I'll either have delusions of grandeur or I'll commit suicide. I get extravagant praise and extravagant condemnation. So I really don't know. I don't worry about it. I just go on with my work. I'm a fraud too. I got that in a letter from somebody from the Committee of Scientific of the Paranormal. He said if I would submit to a scientific test he would prove it. I didn't know what kind of thing they thought I did.

Questioner: Are there things you can advise for our readers?

RAW: Yes, using your left hand increases right brain activity. My book *Prometheus Rising* is full of mind expanding exercises that I strongly advise people to try. One of my favorite exercises is this very old Buddhist one. It gets better the more often you do it.

"I am sitting in this room doing this exercise because"... then I list all the reasons. You have to include not only "why am I doing this exercise" but "why am I in this room? Why am I in this city and not somewhere else on the planet? How did I get here and not somewhere else? What are the forces that brought me here? Why am I doing it tonight instead of last night?" and so on. This is a very powerful exercise, that really changes your perspective on things. Do it for about twenty minutes; then do it the next week for about twenty minutes. You'll grow a great deal. Another of my favorite exercises is of Sufi origin. It's a listening meditation. I don't know the technical Sufi name for it. You just close your eyes and listen to all the sounds around you. I have found that in four minutes you get into deeper meditation that you can in twenty minutes of most others. As far as concentrating on geometric figures some people can do it; for me they just keep fading away. I find this listening meditation tremendously valid. I have been trying it in my seminars. I time it. I only let them do it for three minutes. After three minutes I ask "how many people felt they were getting into the astral?" It creates a very tranquil, blissed out feeling. Most of the hands go up. Just three minutes! All you have to do is listen to the sounds and try not to put names on them. Try not to say that's an automobile, or that's garbage coming down the dumbwaiter, or whatever. Just listen. Hear the sounds without names. I have a hundred others in *Prometheus Rising* but those are two of my favorites.

RAW: I think we are going to have space colonies. At least in ten years. I have it on very good authority that for the great big colonies they are waiting for more funding. They are waiting to get more public support, more pressure on the government. Right now they could put up colonies of a hundred people, with the technology we have right now...

N.A.S.A. could put up a colony with a hundred people every couple of months, if they wanted to; they don't want to. They want the demand to grow stronger and do it big. I think in the next five to ten years they are going to start putting up hundred person colonies if they can't get the funding for the bigger ones. Now THAT I'm pretty sure of. Another I'm almost that sure of is a major breakthrough on longevity research. I don't know what the first one will be. There is going to be some major breakthrough soon. Instead of living to 85 like George Burns being abnormal, everyone will expect at least that and probably a lot more. Maybe 85 will be the average age. After that breakthrough there will be bigger ones following shortly. I think we can predict in the next ten years major breakthroughs in longevity. Not only that but I think