



DZOGCHEN AND
THE ART OF POETRY

JAMPA DORJE

DZOGCHEN AND
THE ART OF POETRY

JAMPA DORJE

KAPALA PRESS

2021
ELLENSBURG



For Clayton Bohnet

Dzogchen (Wylie: *rdzogs chen*, “Great Perfection” or “Great Completion”), also known as *atiyoga* (utmost yoga), is a tradition of teachings in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism aimed at discovering and continuing in the ultimate ground of existence. The primordial ground (*ghzi*, “basis”) is said to have the qualities of purity (i.e. emptiness), spontaneity (*lhun grub*, associated with luminous clarity) and compassion (*thugs rje*). The goal of Dzogchen is knowledge of this basis, this knowledge is called *rigpa* (Skt. *vidyā*). —Wikipedia

DZOGCHEN AND THE ART OF POETRY

Writing equals path
view of what is—vision, action, meditation

The conduct, being a poet 24/7
view, vision

Winning out against the poem, outside, view of what is, poem as a box, “follow the lineaments of desire,” book as measure

Base of poetry, poetry is everything
Said Jung, “Try and buy the well
and it springs up somewhere else.”

Poetry as experienced

Rigpa

Action equals writing, eye-mind-hand conceive, mind-lungs-voice, sing speak, dick-gut-heart, compose, mind series

Space series, form/content
logopoeia, melopoeia, phanopoeia

Pithy series,
Said Pound, "After all's said and done,
it's the feelings remain."

How we look at the world
illusion
material
both

Williams: *No ideas
but in things*

BASE

The Source
From whence comes the poem?
"inspiration"
need to fulfill promise
result of a prayer, or possibly
habit

Inspiration
flooding feeling, bliss
the zone
vision-external-vision

Apocalyptic need
to write like crazy

PATH

Make the poem
"We've come to bring you metaphors for your poems."
mind treasure is a Ter
Chaucer as Garab Dorje
Shakespeare as
Guru Rinpoche

Build like a box
a Grail for Gail—a poem
for her birthday, an occasion

inside out

Subconscious or nature

first word

best word

beauty

outside in channel

ghosts, Martians

The Muse

Demons/Angels

Mind Ter

the Unconscious

hypnotic intoxicants, both

“Just starts to happen”

Visualization – mind

Breath/rhythm – energy

Word – body

Tulku Sangnak, beaten in prison, dances

The Dance of King Gesar

FRUIT

Somehow things come
together

Brought its own solution
which was very poetic

Taught me how to draw
a bunny

Saying something

is more appropriate

than you could dream of

Saying something

more profound

even if you don't get it

Crow story—

how he got a drink

In the poem I was

able to cry

To name it kills it

“My cat died the other day.”

Confessional poem, in the 50s
like a sheep sheared in a pen,
and then you stamp it
Don't want you to miss
the point

“Capture
phrases
that
come to
mind”

The occasion arises
by the occurrence
then, you somehow write it:
“I met a traveler from an antique land.”

Stuff coming into life
that haunts you of
things I said
I shouldn't have
things said
I could have said better
things other people said

“It was a beautiful day,
and I want to remember it.”

“Misery comes from every direction.”

“Whatever are we going to do about it?
we can't always be watching TV.”

Inner story
a séance
a poem
a book review
a skit
the voice of the Supreme Source

“I feel like a

blind man who
doesn't know
where he is"

"Did you think
the Kaliyuga Age was going to be easy?"

Poetry of the mind
poetry of the voice
poetry of the body

Internet, reality tv

Am I forgetting anything?

My tale

ON IRWIN ROAD AND ABROAD

near Emerisa Gardens, I
found an amethyst, fractured, peered in
saw Arya Tara
and Coyote

I know just enough to know
I know enough to know
I just don't know

So, I'll say
"I'll let this go without comment."

Heideggerian questions:
how to breathe? how to fuck? how to know?

The question is not how there's something
rather than nothing, but how
there's something that IS nothing.

On the Pine Ridge Rez
moving to the Sun Dance
moving to drum and wind
midnight visages under a Shinto moon
zephyr rustling the buffalo grass
my tent covered
with tarantulas

Medicine Man says, “This I’ve never seen.”

.

Jesus Tantra—
purification
then, refuge
raise Bodhi

100 syllable prayer
mandala offering
guru yoga, manifest as Mary Magdalene

Where in this mandala are you?
Can you see the glory? the temple
not built with human hands?

Tantra wants all your stuff, your baggage,
your neurosis, your psychosis, your passion
to transform into virtue

Sutra like Newton’s physics
Tantra like Einstein’s theory of relativity
Dzogchen like quantum mechanics
You = U

.

as above, so below

2 values
3 values
5 values

create unrest in the “self”
a carousel of bumper cars

.

Sane, seine, saints
lots of holes in my mental net

Juice for neuro-anatomical re-programming

HOW WE GOT HERE

Lifetimes to find a Human form
to find the Dharma
to find my Guru

Tantra is all about stuff
uses everything to polish the buddha belly

Boiling it down to
virtue and purification
 Use every sense
common sense and nonsense

Turn your crap into compassion fertilizer
 Spread it on the floor of samsara
dry it, cool it off, plow it into
 That Garden of Earthly Delights
 That Garden of Horrors Untold

*grandure [sic] of grey dawn in transparent gold,
Myramids [sic] of restless weary wanderers
to play the harp strings of youth*

Occult—
Finding knowledge
hidden in gambling games
roulette, craps, blackjack
auguries

Art—
Apollo + mask
Muse = Spirit = Subconscious
 sung by Someone
to close in on the ineffable Source

CLOSE (A.C.D.)—
to stop, obstruct
to shut, surround
to bring together, join
to get rid of at a reduced price
to bring an end to
to come near
to grapple, engage in
to agree
to come to an end, terminate
to be worth at the end of trading

lacking freshness
confined, narrowly confined
heavy, oppressed
secretive, reticent
stingy, parsimonious
scarce, as with money
not an open season
near, near together
intimate, confidential
compact
a juncture, a union
not deviating from the subject
short, near the surface
not deviating from the model or original
strictly logical
strict, searching, minute
end or conclusion
enclosure
narrow entry, alleyway
(British) a piece of property w/o buildings

Power of the triad—

Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva,
Creator, Sustainer, Destroyer
Father, Son, Holy Ghost
Dharmakaya, Sambhogakaya, Nirmanakaya
View, Path, Fruit
Body, Voice, Mind
Truth, Beauty, Goodness
Id, Ego, Superego
Imaginary, Symbolic, Real
Inner, Outer, Secret, Inner Secret Secret

I'm a trust-fund Buddha in voluntary house arrest
"Voluntary house arrest has the stink of liberty."

Adhere to the samadhi of equanimity
when it comes to Beauty
BUT retain the option to weigh in
on any kind of

ontological/cognitive/evolutionary dualisms

It's easier to box than to throw rocks.

“box” means to categorize
aesthetic
vision _____

Allegory of quinine seed
as a path to samadhi

Sky walking with the dakinis
they help give shape to my world

“You need to have an ego
if you’re going to get rid of it.”

Get rid of something
that doesn’t exist

Point of it—
Point to it
To come to the point
and integrate the personae

How deconstruct it?
Take a chop at it
cut through
leap over

Re-evaluations
Realizations
Visualizations
And mantras binges

Leibniz, monadology of self-reflecting selves
Spinoza, geometrical values of God as substance
Orpheus, orphic creation

Out of the tip of the branch, making buds
moon spheres, mind spheres
cyclic, samsaric
just say, “I’m sorry.”

Help others, so all may rest

Going to do that
so that
all my rest
helps others

find the four boundless states

One man's search for something enduring
by making some
thing out of the ordinary
 making something out
of the
ordinary
to keep love alive

“Elegant portrait of y'all
wrapped in myrtle,
leading us into this tale of
a relationship's travails
and triumphs! A pure
pleasure to move through.”

Flatworm as a proof of God—
we inherited a predator's intelligence on the food chain
or we would have remained a sponge or coral

Arrive, May 19, in Newark
Return, May 28, to San Francisco

explore
 leaving tracks on the moon
 and on the ocean's floor

“Like moons in water”

when I was 10, I
saw an angel in a hollow redwood tree

Blindsided with baptism at 14
in basement of High Street Presbyterian Church in Oakland
at 16
I bought *Why I'm Not a Christian* in a Sausalito bookstore
Atheism leading me to Mysticism

“Like moons in water”

Like moons in water=adverbial phrase
Sights=subject, deceive=verb
Us=direct object

We of second clause=subject

forever roam=verb and adverb
in cyclic chains= prepositional phrase
modifying “we”

So=conditional clause
all may rest in their clear mindstreams
I/Raise/Bodhi
in 4 boundless states

“Like moons in water”

Base
Path
Fruit

two needs complete

Three views

Terminator
Matrix
Bladerunner

Dzogchen Presbyterianism
Passion as a Chöd Feast
Immortals, rainbow body, ascension
empty/exists

“Like moons in water”

Alchemy, chemical, elemental
Divination, intuitive mind
Yoga, union of mind-body

Karma cleared up with prajna
via dharma

slows the wheel
enough to step off
but not enough to be detached

“Like moons in water”

Monk stand-up routine
Monk can joke about death
Monk can deny existential dilemma
Monk can deny existence of creator
Monk can use dirty language

Form is an extension of content
Content is an extension of form

There is a war
There is not a war

Emptiness is form
Form is emptiness

“Why not fly off to Madagascar and pose for tsunami relief?”
Shutter speed 1/32 second, wisdom moment

REVEALED CORRESPONDENCES

Revealed correspondences
to understand the world

Divination
understand the world in Time

Act on both world and mind, 5-Dimensional
realm of Emptiness
realm of Imagination
realm of Ideas & Impressions

Mind's 3 ways to interpret
truth, goodness, beauty

Truth, to think either/or
both/and
relative truth
logical truth
Truth, meaning of U

Good acts
on/off

Beauty of graven images, *mimesis*—
invention, to rival nature
representation, praise nature
feeling the sap in the vine

Zab-lam sputterings on a spring day

