

# **Bridge Across the River**

**Communications from the life after death  
by a young artist killed in the First World War**

**In 4 Parts**

**Botho Sigwart Earl of Eulenburg**

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## Content

March 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>, 1916

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I felt you waiting, but it was impossible for me to get to you sooner. You need to know that I consider any statements from the deceased in general to be very dangerous. Such statements, even accurate ones, often lead us off the right path, because it is only very seldom that the person making the statement is truly called to do so. Once a spirit has reached a certain level, he will never impart any sweeping information to anyone, unless he has received permission from his superiors. At the beginning, I too always wrote about everything without first asking. Then the moment occurred when my communications normally would have ended. That was when the trial period began that was to determine whether or not I was worthy of interacting differently with you and whether or not you were mature enough. It was a difficult time for me at first, being uncertain of this and then suddenly being faced with a decision. When this decision had fallen in favor of both sides, the utterly different connection began between us. You probably hardly noticed, but from then on it became something almost holy, exalted, something that really only rarely takes place.

The first times I wrote while under higher supervision were like a kind of exhibition in the presence of infinitely many other spiritual beings, most of whom were on higher levels. You can't imagine how seriously it all was taken. It was very difficult for me the first few times; still, I had to make sure not to lose the thread. This initial higher spiritual communicating took me an enormous exertion of will. And then, everything was judged as correct and good and I was permitted to stay in direct contact with you. But from then on, stern boundaries were set for us; if I had crossed them, I would have squandered everything. I had to tell you this, so that you don't confuse your interaction with me with just any spirit messages. The very highest masters I know here are always interested in this and often inquire about your development and the way you receive the one or the other communication.

Now you know how extraordinary this whole thing is, and you probably understand how the prospect of one of you inadvertently damaging this connection in some way, whether by not taking it seriously enough, by passing it on to others, or through incredulity, makes me tremble.

That's why I entreat you once more today: take my words seriously, hold them in honor, *believe in me!*

Your  
Sigwart

March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1916

Today I would like to tell you about power, the power in our spiritual world. That way you can see how even here everything fights against everything else: the stronger, that is, the higher, against the lower. This lower element often has such enormous strength that a genuine struggle comes about. Of course, that happens only at levels where the lower still exists. But because of its mighty powers and the abilities it acquires, the lower is also able reach to higher levels, to a degree that downright amazed me at the beginning. But there is a barrier which thank God the evil ones cannot cross. They clothe themselves in forms that can be fascinating, and this often puts one in great danger. Fortunately, I only allowed myself to be deceived once by such a metamorphosis, but I soon noticed its intent. I've never told you about it before now because I hadn't reached the level at which I could speak about lower elements without setting off unpleasant consequences. But

now there is no longer any danger whatsoever in doing so, because I am in the sphere above these elements and have stronger powers at my disposal.

These beings play their pranks on poor unknowing souls just like they do on earth with weak people. This in fact happens quite frequently on earth, where it is every bit as fatal as it is here. This is also the danger lurking in any mediumistic activity, because spirits of this kind are on the spot immediately and take great pleasure in deceiving the earnestness, the fear, or the unrest of the session participants.

I too struggled a lot at the beginning, until no one disturbed me anymore when I spoke with you. Now it is completely out of the question that any truly bad element might get to me when I am speaking with you. That is wonderful! But you also deserve praise, for thanks to the way you lead your lives and your inner blossoming, you have all been a strong support to me in this work.

And now I would like to utter a short verse to you , which has the power to dispel all that is bad:

Great is the power of Good,  
Great is the will of Good,  
Great is the love toward God,  
Great is the power in me.  
Evil must withdraw, Everything strives upward  
to behold heavenly things.  
Holiest love,  
you force primordial of the Good,  
You alone exist!

### March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1916

Today we want to touch on another topic, the topic of love.

You know, after all, that love is the highest and is the only thing that goes along through all incarnations, until at the end it itself becomes the spirit in which it is incarnated. But there are thousands of ways to love; indeed, love is the most diversely manifesting feeling there is, because no two people on earth love in exactly the same way. At the highest levels of development, there is only one and the same love, and it is after this love that we must all strive. As long as we are human beings, self-centeredness only too gladly has an influence, which is not the pure love of the heart. We all ought to be able to love in a pure way; by that I mean *really* selfless love, which helps and forgives and never thinks of its own advantage.

Don't forget that none of you are at a level at which you could judge others. Only the person who is perfectly free of sin would be allowed to do that, and this person only brings all the more love to bear on the profligate, in order to help him. As long as you are human beings, there are certain deeds the cause of which you never have an inkling; that is why you mustn't judge.

And now about love as we know it, as it permeates our lives like the blossoming spring. Yes, it has a deeper origin. The more spiritual it is, the more profound it becomes; and the less it resembles earthly love, the more certain its foundation becomes.

*Our* love is an a process of *becoming*. It once began beneath blue southern skies, and then was transplanted to the marvelous Germanic regions, in order once again to strive toward the highest spheres.

You must also demonstrate more love toward your fellow human beings. Try to enkindle a little spark of love even in those you deem the least worthy of your love. But do not do so with even the slightest least feeling that you are doing something for yourselves, for that would be impure love. Make an effort to love precisely where you feel it goes against your nature, and try to understand and recognize *this* love. I don't mean mere attraction or infatuation now, but love. It is just because it is so infinitely hard that I want to commend this task to you, because this is the love that Christ Himself taught.

Out of every thought of love in the sense I just described grows a tender little flower, and when you have finished making the wreath, Christ Himself will place it on your heads.

Think of me, your Sigwart, whose entire being is filled with love, but who still has a lot to learn, precisely in matters of love toward beings whom he does not feel attracted to.

### March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1916

Today we were relishing the earth's beauty together and I for my part took great pleasure in it. Your sense experience of the wonders of God's nature enabled me to enter your fluid circle and behold the same way as you did, and this put me in a state of profound enthusiasm.

After shedding one's physical body, the only people who can see sights like that are those who have earned them. But you can behold on earth at any time, without having to ask. Where I now call my home, everything is much stricter. There are laws, always and everywhere. This is very difficult at the beginning, because again and again one forgets that one's every thought is being seen and monitored. The dishonest souls among us have a particularly hard time because of that, since it takes them longer to get used to "being open". You should make a note of that and act accordingly.

There is something beautiful about the truth; it sows seeds that blossom and become golden fruit.

I heard what you were saying while you were reading my message, and I want to explain the matter to you. Devachan is heaven. Only those people have access to it who have overcome and shed everything. I am hardly able to write about Devachan, since I can't find any mode of expression for it.

You need to know that I haven't quite fully reached this sphere yet. I am currently located at a transitional level between the final astral sphere and Devachan. It was possible for me to believe I was already there because I carry within me a presentiment of this spheric level and behold inwardly what lies beyond it. This heavenly world surpasses all mental pictures you human beings are able to make of it, because it is so rich in comprehensive experience and highest vision that no one will ever be able to clothe these mighty impressions in words.

You are probably wondering why I am able to speak these things without being in the sphere myself. Here is how that works: I can see here what goes in and comes out there, and there are those who frequently return from there for a short time to have a look around for their friends. Since I will be received there myself very shortly, I feel what those visitors from there experience in the brief moments they are here.

Not too long ago I told you I was in Devachan. At that time I actually believed it was the heavenly sphere I had reached when I first got to where I am now. I only gradually became aware that there was more that I could not access yet. So please forgive this error of mine, but now you'll understand how it was possible for me to believe as I did, because here one already has everything one needs to feel the highest bliss. I only need to master perfect beholding and knowledge of all the beings of light; that is something I still lack. Nonetheless, I am surrounded by a sea of light, and new strength flows from it to me over and over again so I can create my music, and for other purposes. All of this is preparation for my entry into Devachan.

Think of me only as in a state of happiness, because my entire being is permeated by an abundance of the experience of happiness.

Still: descending to be with you creates absolutely no difficulty for me; on the contrary. I have acquired the powers and the means to do so: I envelop myself in your so loving fluids and immediately I enter your sphere. There is happiness and bliss for me both here and there. It is like gliding from the heights of the highest mountains down into valleys where the blooming of the earth and the fragrance of the flowers fill one with joy.

This is how you should imagine your *Sigwart* now, you, who have bound me in selfless love securely to the earth. It is your earth, and I still love it through you, because through it we are united.