

# **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**

Translation: Joseph Bailey

**Content**

January 11<sup>th</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917 ..... 3

### Part 3: January 11<sup>th</sup> 1917 - September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1919

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917

Yes, I am here, Sigwart.

I would like to tell you something about the connection between us. There have often been hindrances seeking to separate us, but I have always managed to eliminate them, up to now.

Was it currents that were disturbing to me, or was it emanations? Was it your thoughts, or was it you yourselves – you weren't exactly living harmoniously in such situations – who hampered my getting through to you? These are all matters of grave significance in our relationship. It is now necessary for you to know exactly *what* state of mind you should be in before you enter into contact with me, because often you could put these hindrances aside easily. If for instance you are surrounded by people who generate any kind of counter-currents, these currents have such a strong – if only indirect – effect on you and your momentary state of mind, that it is only with great effort that I can get through to you. People have no idea of the role that even the smallest detail plays in the spiritual world. *Every* thought anyone thinks has an effect and is considered a deed! What an enormous amount of sins are committed here by people who believe they are permitted to think whatever they want. As long as *this error* is upheld, humanity will never be able to raise *itself* up. An ascent on the part of the human race will only be possible when everyone bridles him or herself and no longer permits any bad thoughts to emerge.

There are of course also the many elements of evil at work here that derive gratification when people think bad thoughts. They sidle up everywhere, especially to people who have started keeping their thoughts in check; the forces of evil often make it particularly difficult for these people, because they feel how such people immediately take on power when they strive in this direction.

Despite all your efforts, I believe you could accomplish even more to this end. Your inner lives would become much more tranquil then, because this is the only place where people can find the happiness they are always looking for. So: what matters are thoughts, not deeds; the deeds are only the thoughts' brief result. What precedes them, *that* is the important thing! The so difficult life on earth is only bearable when everyone has found his good fortune and his tranquility *within himself*. This "finding of happiness within" means: never seek happiness outside yourselves, but only within, and build it up by constantly trying to destroy what accosts you in the way of outer temptations.

Try it in solitude first, where these influences are not so powerful, but then do it precisely among people. In this way, you can always gauge for yourselves how far your struggles have gotten you. I know it isn't easy, and please do *not* to think "Sigwart is getting so boring with his eternal preaching!" But you can sense how through these suggestions everything can become bright and luminous for you, and for that I thank you.

*Sigwart*

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917

A lot has happened on your earth since I last wrote. What happened is what I told you: if the fighting goes on, the consequences will be terrible. You hear only what is in the newspapers, but you don't see who is behind the events, how evil powers are active and do harm wherever they can. There is much at stake; even entire peoples constantly have to defend themselves against these powers. Providing help is mainly the task of those who have been killed in the war. They continue fighting in *their own* way; this is how they participate in the war. There is scarcely a one of them who is not ensouled with this wish. It is the great influence that holds sway now, and it carries everyone along with it. The fighting here is much more beautiful. There is no longer any suffering, only a battle of the spirits. And how gladly they engage in this battle! United in immense hosts, they hover out toward the adversary. They are filled with jubilation, and the power that they jointly create is enormously strong. They experience more than you; even now they feel the blessing that comes from the struggle. You don't yet. You cannot look beyond the last mountain yet, but even *it* will step back when the nations submit to the *new* call!

I am not allowed to say anything about *your* fate; it rests in God. Trust in Him. Of course, a fate as beautiful as my God has given me is seldom indeed. But yours can become just as beautiful, if you serenely wait for what is coming and direct your gaze inward: "Within you lies the Godhead; to seek it is your duty!" This is what the noble pilgrim told me when I was on my way to you as a seeker still suffering severely because you did not believe me. How different that is today, and how it fills me with happiness!

All yours, Sigwart

January, 1917

Today I, Sigwart, want to tell you all something that will give you joy! Now, after the grave battles I have had to witness, more peaceful, more beautiful things are coming back. These are the creations of the different hierarchies. These creations are deeds of enormous size, from the primeval times of the being of humanity until now. Hierarchies, that's what they call themselves. They are all the diverse spiritual beings that were only concepts to me earlier; but now I see *all* of them who live in Devachan. There are a considerable number of them; from time to time they also descend to the earth, but only in order to perform great deeds. I currently live for these gods, and their creations charge me with enthusiasm. Most people know nothing about their existence, and when these gods draw near and bring their blessing, such people don't know where their influence comes from.

February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917

Today I have a lot to proclaim about our circle.

This circle has received enormous strength in the course of this past year. Every one of you contributed to this process, and then the circle also passed over into the spiritual world. There it found very many adherents who work the same way as you. They too congregate in order to exchange their thoughts and impressions. That is exactly the way you operate. They know all of you quite well, but you unfortunately do not know them consciously, yet. In sleep, though, you come together frequently, and it is always a cause of great joy when you all are united.

Another reason why it is so wonderful is that through this connection you will, after you have shed your physical bodies, be united with the circle's spiritual members. You must always bear in mind that the world you will then enter is so infinitely large that it would be very hard to find anyone there who is not *really* close to you.

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917

The masters who lead you have let me know that I may give you a new meditation! I am very happy about this, and I want to communicate it to you right away, so listen:

The strength that lies within me is eternal!  
The power that lies above me  
Lasts forever, for my good!!  
My strength lies above my being,  
Because my strength serves my Lord only.

Do this meditation very thoroughly and do not let up in exerting your will before and until you have really taken it in with your higher consciousness.

I too believe that you are gradually learning to understand what it really means to meditate.

May God continue to be your help.

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917

I want to give you a quick outline of the phases of time I have passed through most recently.

First I worked in the war sector, then came the divine music of the spheres, in which I was allowed to participate, and now a period of unceasing experience has set in. This period in its power streaming outward in all directions is perhaps the purest I have lived through up to now. There is no thinking here, only a receiving of infinite forces, which later are processed a million-fold by each individual. This receiving we call...; which is approximately intended to mean "multi-blessed approach of the highest my-hood, so that you transform Mine into Thine, Father!" The meaning is similar to this; I cannot frame it any better.

Often I am astonished that I am unable to clad the thoughts for you in any more understandable a way. But it actually is impossible to explain everything I do here.

I would like to try and give you another description of what I did *before* "Yours" and "Mine" fused together... In that state I existed as the center of the world that I had created and that enveloped me. There were great solemn events where I played the role of the creator and had to present myself as such. I was (of course) perfectly aware of the acts I was supposed to accomplish. The main act was the administering of certain white powers which could only be created out of this world, in which I represented the center. These powers were then distributed among the longing students-to-be, of whom there were quite a few in the world of white experience and knowledge. I am not their teacher, but I emanate, and they were included in the realm of my acquired knowledge, so that they might create a picture of it and with this emanated essence tread the path that awaits them. For me this emanating is of the utmost importance, because through it alone do I see what has been

formed in me throughout all this time. Even though this has only been an explanation of the most primitive kind, I nevertheless believe that you will sense something of the process.

Your *Sigwart*

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917

Today I would like to tell you some more about the world here. You think the main thing in Devachan is enjoying. And that is correct. But it takes a certain level of development. But I really do enjoy. I receive everything this sphere provides in the way of beauty, happiness, and the inability to be surpassed. I have earned the capacity really to enjoy. It was a lot of work to develop these senses the way I wanted to have them. In *this* receiving also lies the strength that I emanate back to cause this capacity to grow in others.

This is the task I spoke of before, a task that contributes to the development of others, a task called forth by the ability to take in *everything*. I can't give you a closer description of this force, but it is a thousand times greater than what I reached as a human being on earth.

There will come a time though, when new wishes will awaken, and then the gates will be open to me to investigate and research.

There are also smaller tasks I have to perform on the side here, usually concerning souls recently arrived here who spend their time in Devachan partly asleep and partly only slightly awake. And in these situations you are always the ones who surround me. This might seem strange to you, but, you see, everything you emanate in the way of the highest feelings flows into this heaven of mine, and with these feelings you yourselves are carried beyond all the other spiritual spheres to me. That is you, your innermost kernel, the essence that we all love so much about one another. Any and every truly exalted thought has the power to get through. And now that we are in closest connection with each other, they hasten directly to me, and I receive them as a piece of you.

Yes, my dears, it has really become a blessing for you that I left; for a lot has changed for you in this short time. And since I was permitted to be your teacher, I was even permitted to deflect nasty mishaps that are sometimes caused by spiritual sources.

Is there anything you would like to know? I am allowed to answer.

[*Question: Can a person also be alone in the spiritual world if he wants to?*] The opportunity to withdraw always exists, even after the crossing-over, but only the fewest ever do withdraw, since after their earthly death they are more communicative than they may have been while they were on earth; hermits by choice are a seldom occurrence indeed.

[*Question: do people ever exhibit signs of exhaustion in the spiritual world?*] In the early states, there are temporary feelings similar to exhaustion, but these are mere mirror images of the former tiredness on earth. They soon recede and are no cause of torment.

[*Question: Are there any spatial restrictions in the Devachan sphere?*] Our heaven gets through everywhere. We are in *the whole* of cosmic space.

[*Question: Do these planets also include those of other star systems?*] I have investigated everything of any interest to me, including the stars in their existence, but I am not permitted to become active on them, because I do not have the body for it; but we know them all.