

Excerpts in question from Ed Brown's talk of July 18, 2018

Bathrooms

I'd also like to let you know, in case you haven't been here to Green Gulch, where the bathrooms are. Excuse me. I've gotten older and I need them more often. Right over here on this side of the building, there's a building going out perpendicular to Stillwater Hall, and on the side of that building there's a restroom, which I think is for both sex. And then over on this building that goes out perpendicular on the other side, on the far side of that building there's a men's room and a women's room, and I don't know that we're particular about who uses which. I think you get to decide for yourself, which gen—I don't know about all that stuff anymore. Can't keep up. I'm—you figure it out.

Byron Katie tells a funny story about how she was in the—she went into the women's room and—Byron Katie—Loving What Is: “Judge your neighbor. Write it down. Ask four questions. Turn it around.” Amazing, amazing work that she does, which she calls The Work. And she tells a story about going into a women's room, and she goes into the stall, and the toilet seat is all wet. And she thinks, what's going on here? Was the person in here before me a transvestite and standing on the toilet seat and peeing all over it? What happened here? This is outrageous. And then she does her Work and she's okay with that and she cleans it off and she uses the toilet. And then, when she flushes it, the water sprays all over. So much for what you think and....

Zendo Attire

So I'm going up to Seattle in September, and I'll probably see him [Jack Elias]. I haven't seen him in all these years, but we—I refer people to him. And coincidentally we're both working with a group called One Taste. Do you know One Taste? Huh? They practice OMing. O-M for “orgasmic meditation,” OMing. Jack and I don't—as far as I know, Jack doesn't practice it with them. I don't practice that with them. I teach meditation and outdoor walking and Qi Gong, and he works with them on the phone mostly but occasionally does retreats with them. So we may collaborate and do a retreat together with the One Taste people. They've come here two or three times, and they're much better than they were many years ago. You missed it. Ten years ago they were here—thirty of them. And in the dining room at lunchtime they were sitting in each other's laps. And at the end—at the very end of the day, I got up from my cushion where I'm sitting, and there was a woman on the other side of the zendo there, and she was bending over to straighten her cushion like I talked to you about this morning. And, as far as I could tell, she had—didn't have anything on but black panties. And I thought—well, it's embarrassing. You don't want to keep looking at something like this. And I forgot that I'm the teacher and I probably should say something about wearing clothes in the meditation hall. You forget it's up to—oh, I'm the authority here. I should say something. Little did I know. So I went back to straightening my cushion, and then when I turned around she had her clothes on. It worked out. Yeah. Okay, I'm going to take a few minutes now to straighten my cushion. In the meantime, if you all could get dressed....