Smart Phone Edition
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B. Recommended Reading

Lesson		Lesson	
$\begin{array}{c} 1^{st} \\ 2^{nd} \\ 3^{rd} \\ 4^{th} \end{array}$	Homework Eleven Benefits of Love Anapanasati Sutta Class Etiquette	9 th 10 th 11 th 12 th	The Fall of Emperor Palpatine Metaphorically Playing Victim If we are short of temper what When Religion Opposes
5 th 6 th 7 th 8 th	What was the Buddha? Why do we Meditate? What is the "Unborn"? Why "THE buddha"?	13 th 14 th 15 th 16 th	Fear in the Time of Covid 19

II. CIRCUMSTANCE: the Fourth Base of Mindfulness



A. Blissful Centering

Breathing (Pa-na in Pali) and Relaxing (Pas-sad-dhi in Pali)
Bliss (Pi-ti in Pali) and Letting-go (Pas-sad-dhi in Pali)
or Meditation WITH an object

Blissful Centering

IN-breath: Grin to nostrils...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

touch tip of the left little finger to its palm

count four breaths upon each of the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

B. Compassionately Soothing Dangers

for all {Circumstances or Phenomena} {Dhamma in Pali} of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} Compassion {Ka-ru-na in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

This Circumstance

IN-breath: Soothe these dangers...

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Circumstances

IN-breath: Soothe <u>neighbors</u>' dangers...

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Circumstances

IN-breath: Soothe <u>earthlings</u>' dangers...

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Circumstances

IN-breath: Soothe all beings' dangers...

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

C. Wisely Releasing Dangers

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

1. The <u>Stress</u> of Shoving Danger away

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How hate <u>dangers</u>?

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

2. The <u>Impermanence</u> of Danger

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could dangers...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

3. Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by Danger

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could dangers...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

4. Merely Noticing Danger and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice dangers...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

D. Lovingly Wishing Good Fortune

for all {Circumstance or Phenomena} {Dhamma in Pali} of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} Wishing-love {Met-ta in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

This Circumstance

IN-breath: Boon for this <u>lot</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Circumstances

IN-breath: Boon for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Circumstances

IN-breath: Boon for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Circumstances

IN-breath: Boon for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

E. Wisely Releasing Good Fortune

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Reaching for Good Fortune

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How crave boom?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The Impermanence of Good Fortune

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could boon...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves with Good Fortune

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could boon...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Good Fortune and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice boon...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

F. Wisely Releasing our Circumstances

{ or **Lot** in Life }

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Grasping at our Lot-in-Life

{ or Duk-kha in Pali }

IN-breath: How grasp <u>lot</u>?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>little</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The <u>Impermanence</u> of our **Lot**-in-Life

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could <u>lot</u>...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>little</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Lot-in-Life

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could <u>lot</u>...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>little</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing our Lot-in-Life and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice <u>lot</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>little</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

G. Meditation's Spontaneous Release

through WATCHING the Play of Mind and RELAXING into its Release

Awareness {Sa-ti in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali} or Meditation withOUT an Object

Sa-ti Pas-sad-dhi – Mindful Release

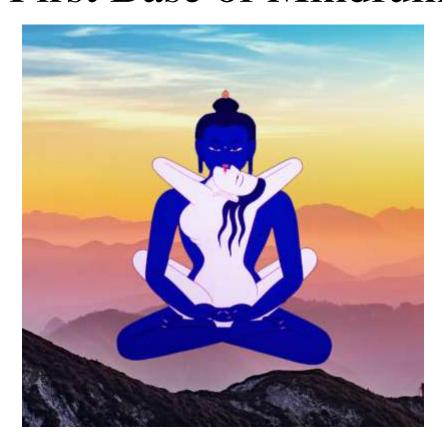
IN-breath: Notice this...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

slide left thumb further on left <u>little</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **middle knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

III. BODY: the First Base of Mindfulness



A. Blissful Centering

Breathing (*Pa-na in Pali*) and Relaxing (*Pas-sad-dhi in Pali*)
Bliss (*Pi-ti in Pali*) and Letting-go (*Pas-sad-dhi in Pali*)
or Meditation WITH an object

Blissful Centering

IN-breath: Grin to nostrils...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

touch tip of the left ring finger to its palm

count four breaths upon each of the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

B. Compassionately Soothing Illnesses

for all Bodies { or Forms } { Kaya in Pali } of the Four Bases of Mindfulness { Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali } Compassion { Ka-ru-na in Pali } and Letting-go { Pas-sad-dhi in Pali }

This Body

IN-breath: Soothe these ills...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Bodies

IN-breath: Soothe <u>neighbors</u>' ills...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Bodies

IN-breath: Soothe <u>earthlings</u>' ills...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Bodies

IN-breath: Soothe all beings' ills...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

C. Wisely Releasing Illnesses

of the Body {Ka-ya in Pali}

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Shoving Illnesses away

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How hate <u>ills</u>?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The <u>Impermanence</u> of Illnesses

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could ills...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Illnesses

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could <u>ills</u>...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Illnesses and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice ills...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

D. Lovingly Wishing Health

for all Bodies { Kaya in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} Wishing-love {Met-ta in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

This Body

IN-breath: Health (bliss) for this form...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Bodies

IN-breath: Health (bliss) for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Bodies

IN-breath: Health (bliss) for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Bodies

IN-breath: Health (bliss) for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

E. Wisely Releasing Health

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Reaching for Health

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How crave <u>health</u> (bliss)?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The **Impermanence** of Health

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could <u>health</u> (bliss)...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Health

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could <u>health</u> (bliss)...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Health and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice <u>health</u> (bliss)...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

F. Wisely Releasing our Bodies {Form}

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Grasping at our Bodies

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How grasp form?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>ring</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The <u>Impermanence</u> of our Bodies

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could form...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>ring</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Bodies

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could form...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>ring</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing our Bodies and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice form...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>ring</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

G. Meditation's Spontaneous Release

through WATCHING the Play of Mind and RELAXING into its Release

Awareness {Sa-ti in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali} or Meditation withOUT an Object

Sa-ti Pas-sad-dhi – Mindful Release

IN-breath: Notice this...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

slide left thumb further on left <u>ring</u> finger until it comes to rest upon the **middle knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

IV. FEELINGS: the Second Base of Mindfulness



A. Blissful Centering

Breathing (*Pa-na in Pali*) and Relaxing (*Pas-sad-dhi in Pali*)
Bliss (*Pi-ti in Pali*) and Letting-go (*Pas-sad-dhi in Pali*)
or Meditation WITH an object

Blissful Centering

IN-breath: Grin to nostrils...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

touch tip of the left <u>middle</u> finger to its **palm** count four breaths upon each of the right: **little**, **ring**, **middle**, and **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

B. Compassionately Soothing Scorn

for all Feelings { or Feels } { Vedana in Pali } of the Four Bases of Mindfulness { Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali } Compassion { Ka-ru-na in Pali } and Letting-go { Pas-sad-dhi in Pali }

These Feelings

IN-breath: Soothe this scorn...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Feelings

IN-breath: Soothe <u>neighbors</u>' scorn...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Feelings

IN-breath: Soothe earthlings' scorn...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Feelings

IN-breath: Soothe all beings' scorn...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

C. Wisely Releasing Scorn

{ Vedana in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Shoving Scorn away

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How hate scorn?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The Impermanence of Scorn

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could scorn...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Scorn

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could <u>scorn</u>...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Scorn and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice <u>scorn</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

D. Lovingly Wishing Praise

for all Feelings { Vedana in Pali }
of the Four Bases of Mindfulness { Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali }
Wishing-love { Met-ta in Pali } and Letting-go { Pas-sad-dhi in Pali }

These Feelings

IN-breath: Praise for <u>me</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Feelings

IN-breath: Praise for <u>neighbors</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Feelings

IN-breath: Praise for <u>earthlings</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Feelings

IN-breath: Praise for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

E. Wisely Releasing Praise

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Reaching for Praise

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How grasp praise?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The Impermanence of Praise

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could praise...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define our selves by our Praise

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could praise...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Praise and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice praise...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

F. Wisely Releasing our Feelings {or Feels}

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Grasping at our Feelings

{ or Duk-kha in Pali }

IN-breath: How grasp feels?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>middle finger</u> until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The <u>Impermanence</u> of our Feelings

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could feels...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>middle</u> finger until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Feelings

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could feels...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>middle</u> finger until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Feelings and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice <u>feels</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>middle</u> finger until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

G. Meditation's Spontaneous Release

through WATCHING the Play of Mind and RELAXING into its Release

Awareness {Sa-ti in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali} or Meditation withOUT an Object

Sa-ti Pas-sad-dhi – Mindful Release

IN-breath: Notice this...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

slide left thumb further on left <u>middle finger</u> until comes to rest upon the **middle knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

V. MIND: the Third Base of Mindfulness



A. Blissful Centering

Breathing (*Pa-na in Pali*) and Relaxing (*Pas-sad-dhi in Pali*)
Bliss (*Pi-ti in Pali*) and Letting-go (*Pas-sad-dhi in Pali*)
or Meditation WITH an object

Blissful Centering

IN-breath: Grin to nostrils...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

touch tip of the left index finger to its palm

count four breaths upon each of the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

B. Compassionately Soothing Shame

for all Minds { Citta in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali}
Compassion {Ka-ru-na in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

This Mind

IN-breath: Soothe this shame...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Minds

IN-breath: Soothe <u>neighbors</u>' shame...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Minds

IN-breath: Soothe earthlings' shame...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Minds

IN-breath: Soothe all beings' shame...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **lower** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

C. Wisely Releasing Shame

{ Citta in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Shoving Shame away

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How hate shame?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The Impermanence of Shame

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could shame...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Shame

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could shame...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Stress and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice shame ...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **middle** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

D. Lovingly Wishing Fame

for all Minds { Citta in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Sa-ti-pat-tha-na in Pali} Wishing-love {Met-ta in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

This Mind

IN-breath: Fame for this mind...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index finger</u>'s **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Minds

IN-breath: Fame for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Minds

IN-breath: Fame for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Minds

IN-breath: Fame for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

E. Wisely Releasing Fame

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The **Stress** of Reaching for Fame

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How crave fame?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The Impermanence of Fame

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could fame...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by our Fame

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could fame...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Fame and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice fame...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **tip** count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

F. Wisely Releasing our Minds

through the Lens of the Three Marks of Existence

{Ti-lak-kha-na in Pali}

Right View {Sam-ma Dit-thi in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

The Stress of Grasping at our Mind

{or Duk-kha in Pali}

IN-breath: How grasp mind?

OUT-breath: Relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>index finger</u> until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

The Impermanence of our Mind

{or A-nic-ca in Pali}

IN-breath: How could mind...

OUT-breath: always change?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>index</u> finger until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Ceasing-to-Define ourselves by Awareness

{or A-nat-ta in Pali}

IN-breath: How could mind...

OUT-breath: NOT be "me"?

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>index</u> finger until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Merely Noticing Awareness and Simply Letting-go

{or Sat-ti Pas-sad-dhi in Pali}

IN-breath: Notice mind...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

slide left thumb over tip of left <u>index finger</u> until comes to rest upon the **higher knuckle**count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's:
lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

G. Meditation's Spontaneous Release

through WATCHING the Play of Mind and RELAXING into its Release

Awareness {Sa-ti in Pali} and Letting-go {Pas-sad-dhi in Pali} or Meditation withOUT an Object

Sa-ti Pas-sad-dhi – Mindful Release

IN-breath: Notice this...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of sixteen breaths

slide left thumb further on left <u>index</u> finger until comes to rest upon the **middle knuckle** count the four breaths upon the right: little, ring, middle, and index finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as their tips.

VI. Love and Letting-go: a concise practice



A. Wishing Good Fortune for all Circumstances

{ or Phenomena } { Dhamma in Pali } of the Four Bases of Mindfulness { Satipatthana in Pali } Wishing-love { Metta in Pali } and Letting-go { Passaddhi in Pali }

This Circumstance

IN-breath: Boon for this <u>lot</u>...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Circumstances

IN-breath: Boon for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Circumstances

IN-breath: Boon for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Circumstances

IN-breath: Boon for all beings ...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>little</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

B. Wishing Health for all Bodies

 $\{Kaya in Pali\}$

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Satipatthana in Pali} Wishing-love {Metta in Pali} and Letting-go {Passaddhi in Pali}

This Body

IN-breath: Health for this form...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Bodies

IN-breath: Health for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Bodies

IN-breath: Health for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Bodies

IN-breath: Health for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>ring</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

C. Wishing Love for all Feelings

{ Vedana in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Satipatthana in Pali} Wishing-love {Metta in Pali} and Letting-go {Passaddhi in Pali}

These Feelings

IN-breath: Love for these feels...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Feelings

IN-breath: Love for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Feelings

IN-breath: Love for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Feelings

IN-breath: Love for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>middle</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

D. Wishing Wisdom for all Minds

{ Citta in Pali }

of the Four Bases of Mindfulness {Satipatthana in Pali} Wishing-love {Metta in Pali} and Letting-go {Passaddhi in Pali}

This Mind

IN-breath: Wise for this mind...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index finger</u>'s **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **little** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Neighbors' Minds

IN-breath: Wise for neighbors...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index finger</u>'s **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **ring** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

Earthlings' Minds

IN-breath: Wise for earthlings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **middle** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

All beings' Minds

IN-breath: Wise for all beings...

OUT-breath: relaxing!

one set of four breaths

touch tip of left thumb to left <u>index</u> finger's **higher** set of creases count the four breaths upon the right **index** finger's: lower, middle, and higher sets of creases, as well as its tip.

VII. Appendix

A. Youngling Training

1. Parable of the Movie Concessions

It was 1971 and I was in first, or second grade. A class mate's mother had taken many of us to see "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" for his birthday.

My family did not often go to movies so this was very exciting for me.

Timid, and uncertain, and polite, I did what I was told, and gratefully accepted what I was offered.

I was offered hot buttered popcorn and what seemed like a huge vessel of Dr. Pepper, a soda I had heretofore never tasted.

So there I sat, in the darkened theater, with my class mates and several hundred strangers;

eating my popcorn, and sipping my Dr. Pepper, and all the while enjoying the movie, which I still remember, to this day.

Upon first consideration one could understandably assume that the movie could distract me...

from my snacking and sipping and thus undermine my enjoyment of them.

But I experienced the opposite to be true: that the movie enhanced my enjoyment of the popcorn and the soda...

and the popcorn and the soda enhanced my enjoyment of the movie.

And this could be very much like our practice of meditation...

where during our inhalation we silently, and mentally recite, "*Grin to nostrils...*"

and during our exhalation we silently, and mentally recite, "relaxing!"...

while actually physically relaxing as best we can.

For just as I was able to observe the movie while snacking and sipping we can notice our mind while noticing and relaxing.

We could notice sensations, and flavors, and scents, and sounds, and sights...

as well as our emotions, and intentions, and reasonings, and recollections, and imaginings.

And we could notice all those things passively and non-conceptually.

And as we physically relax into each exhalation, for that is what our bodies have evolved to do,

all that we noticed as we breathed in could feel a little less graspable and a little easier to mentally release as we relax into our out breath.

And just as the snacking and the sipping did not undermine

my enjoyment of the movie but rather enhanced it...

likewise our silent and mental recitations of "Grin to nostrils..." and "relaxing!" in harmony with our breathing...

does not undermine our ability to watch the play of mind or relax into its non-graspable nature but rather facilitates it.

More than two millennia ago a Jewish carpenter is said to have explained

that man was not made for the Sabbath, but Sabbath for man.

Likewise, I tell you that we do not sit in meditation that we might more efficiently recite "Grin to nostrils..." and "relaxing!"

but rather that we silently and mentally recite "Grin to nostrils..." and "relaxing!" that we might more efficiently meditate

so that our passive and non-conceptual observation of the play of mind

and our physical, and visceral, and mental relaxation into its non-graspable nature....

might be more easy, and effective, and transformative.

Recall Darth Bane's rule of two, wherein there must be a master to have power, and a student to crave it.

This is a form of elitism and manipulation.

And over the millennia many so-called spiritual teachers have used cryptic meditation instructions, and techniques...

to reinforce a rule-of-two-like elitism and coercion.

Some deliberately chose obfuscation and coercion because they embraced elitism and power, and prestige...

others chose the same obfuscation and coercion because they lacked the mental acuity to know better.

But I am here to tell you that something does NOT have to be difficult to be effective.

I'm telling you the opposite. I'm telling you that something must be easy and intuitive....

if it is to be sustainable, no less profound.

But do not take my word for it; put it to the test.

Play with these techniques every morning and every evening that you, like Rey Skywalker...

might meditate like a Jedi.

2. Parable of the Movie Patron

Let us revisit our friend the movie patron. He has purchased his ticket, and his snack, and his beverage, and has taken his seat in the air conditioned comfort of the movie theater.

After a handful of trailers, how many?

Just enough to make him forget what movie he came to see.

And after those trailers the movie begins.

And whether it is adventure, or horror, or comedy, or drama our friend the patron sits back and enjoys the ride as he knows he has little other choice.

For he does not confuse himself for the screenwriter, nor editor, nor director, nor producer and knows completely

that what occurs upon the screen is utterly out of his control.

So he nibbles his snack and sips his beverage and enjoys the show.

Likewise, when the wise sit down, cross-legged to meditate

they know it is NOT their job to select the sensations, or flavors, or scents, or sounds, or sights, or emotions, or intentions, or reasonings, or recollections, or imaginings that cartwheel across the metaphoric stage of their mind.

What then is their job?
To notice: vulnerable, and passive,
without bothering to analyze or label
and to physically relax that they might mentally let go.

And to do all this in harmony with the tightening tendencies of each inhalation and with the relaxing propensities of each exhalation.

For, in our very good fortune, that is how evolutionary biology selected for our bodies and minds to best operate.

And if we put this advice into action, every morning and every evening, then we could very much be like a child, with a video game: difficult, and frustrating, and seemingly impossible to prevail against;

who at long last receives the manufacturer's cheat-codes and is at last able to transform their time spent with the video game from an ordeal, into a delight.

3. Karezza Tantra's ROMANTIC Panacea



One can not gaze at an image of Dröl-ma Mar-mo Yab Yum without noticing that she is sporting in Tantric union.

Just as the Baskin Robins franchise of ice cream parlors claims to offer thirty-one flavors likewise there many flavors of sexual tantra.

As with all things, there are also patriarchal as well as matriarchal takes on what the Buddhist Tantrikas refer to as Karma Mudra in Sanskrit, or Yab Yum if you prefer Tibetan.

In the book "Cupid's Poisoned Arrow" the author Marnia Robinson does an outstanding job explaining the flavor of sexual tantra that could be described as: matriarchal, or valley, or yin, or bonding, or oxytocin-oriented,

through the lenses of anthropology, and genetics, and neuroscience, and trenchant pragmatism.

Oh how I wish that her text was required reading in every junior high school Sexual Education class for the way we choose to make love or masturbate, and our choices in pornography, and erotica, and even fantasy

have a profound effect upon each of our midbrain's dopamine pathways, and oxytocin pathways, and our mental health, and our physical health, all our relationships, as well as our educational and vocational well-being.

The endocrino-neurological, and emotional, and intellectual, and romantic, and social, and educational, and vocational, and developmental healing made available

by the subtle and often G-rated techniques of Karezza tantra are a virtual panacea.

Purchase this book from Amazon dot com tonight either as a paper back or read it through the FREE kindle app on the digital devise of our choosing.

Read it with your partner aloud before bed. Apply its teachings, for no less then twenty-eight consecutive days, and watch your life change.

FULL DISCLOSURE: the Buddha Joy Mediation School makes NO money from your purchase of Marnia Robinson's "Cupid's Poisoned Arrow."

4. Panic Attack

Observant inhalation: Notice this...

Tranquil hold-breath: notice this...

Relaxing exhalation: relaxing...

Tranquil pause-breath: relaxing!

four to sixteen breaths

5. Lethargy

Squeezing inhalation: 1, 2, 3, 4,

Releasing exhalation: yes!

This performed while making the "thumbs up" gesture with one hand while squeezing the nail into its thumb with the thumb and index-finger of the other hand in rhythm to the counted breaths.

6. Whole-food Veganism's PHYSICAL Panacea

Buddhist tantra is the path of love and letting-go. Love is more than just a feeling.

Compassion is an intention that effects our choices, and our behaviors, and the ripples that we generate that, in turn, effect the world around us.

Choosing a cruelty-free diet is one of the easiest ways to diminish the suffering created by our consumer choices.

The benefits generated by embracing a whole-food vegan diet are not limited to non-human animals with whom we share this planet,

nor even this planet itself, the only place in the known universe that we are certain sustains life (for the time being).

The physical, and endrocrinological, and neurological, and psychological benefits that we could savor on a whole-food vegan diet have been observed in peer reviewed scientific journals.

In the parody song "White and Nerdy" Weird Al Yankovic sings of a fellow who "...does calculous just for fun...".

Which reminds me of Dr. Michael Greger, M.D. whose full time job is to analyze EVERY peer-reviewed, nutrition-oriented study published in English, every year.

This man is no ideologue, content to twist the facts in order to support his world view.

For his top priority is to discover the dietary interventions that could prevent disease, reverse disease, and increase quality of life as well as longevity.

And towards that end he uses meta-analysis to follow the facts wherever they lead; like a contemporary, medical Sherlock Holmes...

if Sherlock was so geeky as to name his book after a Monty Python skit.

"How NOT to Die" first explores the top fifteen causes of premature death in America, secondly shares a dozen things we could do to prevent and reverse these disorders,

and thirdly contains hundreds of citations to peer-reviewed studies.

This book is a virtual panacea of all medical disorders. It is available on Amazon dot com and the Buddha Joy Meditation School receives NO remuneration for your purchase of this life-saving book.

7. Two Paths

In the Tao Te Ching we read of two paths in any endeavor, Lao Tzu warned against the former and encouraged the latter:

the path of yang or the path of yin, the path of patriarchy or the path of matriarchy, the path of rigidity or the path of flexibility, the path of elitism, or the path of egalitarianism,

the path of control or the path of permissiveness, the path that craves certitude or the path that is comfortable with ambiguity, the path with authority as its source of truth or the path with truth as its source of authority,

the direct path or the circuitous path, the active path or the passive path, the path of competition or the path of cooperation, the path or cruelty or the path of compassion...

the path of pride or the path of love, the path of ego or the path of NO-self (aka NOT-self), the path of contrivance or the path of spontaneity, the path of scatteredness or the path of centeredness, the path of effort or the path of ease.

B. Padawan Training

1. Essence of the Four Vows

Karma Chakme Rinpoche was a brave soul who received sky treasures, or Ter-ma in Tibetan, from Chen-re-zik, the archetype of enlightened compassion, guiding him to begin the journey out of sectarianism and fundamentalism.

In his effort to transcend sectarianism he embraced the teachings and practices of both the Kagyu as well as Nyingma sects as best he could.

In his effort to transcend fundamentalism he strove to simplify Highest Yoga Tantra or Ut-ta-ra Tan-tra in Sanskrit, as well as essentialize the hundreds of Hinayana, Mahayana and Vajrayana vows.

Towards the latter: he taught that the essence of all the Refuge vows was to simply trust in the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha, he taught that the essence of all the Pratimoksha vows of morality is NON-violence,

he taught that the essence of all the Bodhisattva vows of compassion was to share all our good karma with all beings,

and he taught that the essence of the Tantric Samaya of wisdom was to see ourselves as Chen-re-zik and see our teacher as Chen-re-zik's teacher, A-mi-ta-bha.

Many centuries later Lama: Jigme Gyatso received sky treasures, or Ter-ma in Tibetan, from Chen-re-zik, guiding him to journey further out of sectarianism, fundamentalism, and patriarchy.

In terms of sectarianism he was led to explore the teachings and practices of each sect of Buddhism and in terms of transcending fundamentalism, which is one of patriarchy's symptoms,

he was taught further simplify the four sets of vows thusly: the essence of the Refuge vows is to simply **rely** upon the example of Buddha's life story, **apply** the instructions of the Dharma,

humbly **rely** upon the support offered by fellow Sangha members, as well as lovingly support Sangha members with our skill set as best we can;

the essence of the Pratimoksha vows of morality is still NON-violence which includes a whole-food, vegan diet;

the essence of the Bodhichitta vows of compassion is to set compassionate intention of soothing all: loss, pain, scorn, as well as shame

and lovingly wishing great: gain, bliss, praise, and fame for all beings everywhere;

the essence of the Tantric Samaya of wisdom is to enthusiastically apply our teacher's instructions and follow his example as best we can.

2. Good night and Wake up Channels

In Buddhist Tantra it is often taught that within our bodies of flesh, blood and bone, lay energy channels

that fundamentalists invest inordinate amounts of time and energy visualizing as tubes comprised of light.

It is said we have a blue central channel, the width of an arrow shaft, that begins in the lower abdomen, ascends about a thumb's width before the spine,

piercing the horizontal bladder wheel (or chakra if you prefer Sanskrit), navel wheel, heart wheel, and throat wheel

as it ascends into the skull where it arches forward brushing against the crown wheel at the fontanel before terminating between, and just above the eyebrows.

There are two side channels.
The moon, or left, side-channel is white, the width of hay or straw and begins at our urethra,

brushes past the most sensitive part of either our cliterous or our penis, climbs up the left of our central channel,

winding once around the central channel just below the bladder wheel and then winding once just below the navel wheel,

winding thrice around the central channel just below the heart wheel,

winding once again just below the throat wheel, and then winding once just below the crown wheel before terminating in the left nostril.

The sun, or right, side channel is rid, also the width of hay or straw and begins in our rectum,

brushes past either our G-spot or prostate, climbs up the right of our central channel,

winding once around the central channel just above the bladder wheel and then winding once just above the navel wheel,

winding thrice around the central channel just above the heart wheel,

winding once around the central channel just above the throat wheel and then winding once again just above the crown wheel prior to terminating in the right nostril.

As liberals upon the path of matriarchy none of this needs to be memorized or even visualized.

Our right channel could be stimulating, so we impede it when it's time to go to sleep, by closing our right eye and reading through our left and also by laying upon our right side when we wish to sleep.

Conversely, our left channel could be sedating, so we impede it when it is time to start our day, by rolling over to our left side

and laying in the fetal position for a few moments as thoughts of the day's tasks begin to clarify like friends emerging from a fog bank.

Upon rising, we could also close our left eye, and read though our right as we sit upon the toilet to further wake our bodies.

3. Walking Meditation

After ten days of twice daily sadhana practice you could have automatically memorized the basic pattern (if not the details) of the Buddha's meditations of centering, and compassion, and love, and letting-go.

Which could come in handy, as this week you could begin training in brisk, walking meditation.

Its simple, just perform the meditations centering, and compassion, and mindfulness, and love, and letting-go you've already grown accustomed to while briskly walking through your neighborhood.

This is especially useful during times of emotional upset or even PTSD episode.

Of course if you're so upset as to experience disorientation then please limit your walking path to simply orbiting your block, that way you will not get lost, or walk into traffic.

Blending the meditation techniques you've already learned with brisk walking allows us to bilaterally stimulate our hippocampus and amygdala which aids in the processing of difficult events and emotions.

REMEMBER: upon this path

we do not practice rigid concentration which stimulates our sympathetic nervous system, but rather relaxed mindfulness which access our parasympathetic nervous system; the quick path to the light sight, oh eager padawan.

4. Gazing Meditations

In "Heart Treasure of the Enlightened Ones" the phrase "king of the sky" could remind us of the literal the practice of sky-gazing,

where we could perform the contemplation, compassion, and meditation that we are taught in the sixteen week series of meditation classes while gazing into the sky.

Any time of day we could gaze into the sky while meditating, but it could be especially poignant to gaze at the sun, doing so only during the first hour of sunrise, or the last hour of sunset.

In Sanskrit this practice is sometimes referred to as Surya Chaku.
Common sense prevails:

1 – remove your corrective lenses or contact lenses, gaze with the left eye for four breaths, then with the right eye for four breaths, alternating back and forth;

2 – only do this for as long as it feels comfortable, giving yourself permission to progress gradually such as adding seven seconds per day, or seven minutes, or more every day.

3 – relax the tissues of your face, especially around the eyes, allowing the eyelids to close somewhat, viewing the sun through one's eyelashes thus occasionally giving rise to the illusion of subtle rainbows encircling the sun;

4 – don't wander into traffic, for your vison will be dazzled after completing this exercise, thus while it is fine to practice this during <u>opening</u> verbal contemplation & compassion, as well as the silent meditation...

I recommend turning away from the sun during the practice of the <u>closing</u> silent contemplation and compassion thus allowing one's eyes to recalibrate to the ambient lighting.

5 – I recommend the lion posture Simha asana, feet flat on earth or floor, resting one's tuchus upon one's calves, forearms resting upon knees.

Neither mysterious nor occult this practice could act as a subtle tonic to your body.

Yes, those were the instructions for the literal practice of gazing meditation embraced by many fundamentalists of Tibet's Nyingma and Kagyu lineages; but from the figurative point of view of matriarchy the sky merely serves as a compelling metaphor for emptiness

for whatever we notice during our inhalation could seem permanent, and independent, and quite tangible, however that self-same thing, when observed as we physically relax into our exhalation

could feel as non-graspable as a vast, empty void; like the illusion of the infinite azure sky, on a bright and beautiful cloudless day.

Let us now consider gazing from the perspective of the Mahamudra teachings.

Downward earth gazing could be rather sedating and as such act as an antidote to a turbulent mind.

Upward sky gazing could be quite stimulating and thus serve as an antidote to a sleepy mind.

Straight ahead horizon gazing could be quite effective at maintaining our mental equilibrium.

That is one of the reasons I will often set an eight inch statue of the Buddha upon a TV tray standing twenty-six inches above the ground about two meters in front of me when I meditate upon the grass.

I do this NOT to serve as a point of concentration for that would only stimulate my sympathetic nervous system as well as its crankiness and agitation;

rather the large statue, at eye-level serves as a comfortable object upon which to gently rest my gaze: passive and non-analytical.

C. Jedi Knight Training

1. Four Levels of Practice

- Browsers come to class but do NO homework
 - and see NO transformation.
- Students come to class AND do their homework every morning AND every evening;
 - they evolve.
- Yogis students who perform one-day retreats
 - every quarter, month or week,
 - practicing four times that day (i.e.: 6am, 10am, 2pm & 6pm).
- Monastics students who live as if on permanent retreat,
 - practicing four times every day (i.e.: 6am, 10am, 2pm & 6pm).

Twenty minutes of formal silent meditation

for First Level Students – those who are seeking a "life lubricant"

Forty minutes of formal silent meditation

for Second Level Students – those who desire a "profound evolution" such as healing PTSD, overcoming a tragic past, or transcending a disempowering and oft repeated pattern

Sixty minutes of formal silent meditation

for Third Level Students — those who yearn to rapidly master enlightenment's Blissful-mindfulness, Peaceful-insight and Spontaneous-compassion.

2. The PATH of Mastery

What if the word enlightenment was merely a fancy way of describing the mastery of: centering, and compassion, and mindfulness, and love, and letting-go?

But what could we mean by the term mastery? Abraham Maslow described the path to mastery in these following four steps:

Unconscious Incompetence Conscious Incompetence Conscious Competence Unconscious Competence

When have we mastered the archetypical Dakini's vulnerability, non-grasping, compassion and centered spontaneity?

When we practice their techniques: spontaneously, habitually, easily and effectively; and their practice has so defined us that we no longer chase a goal...

but are so content to practice the path that we no longer even feel the need to ask whether or not we have mastered it.



3. The MEANS of Mastery

Ten thousand hours of regular, lucid, strategic practice is often the minimum required to accomplish mastery needed to teach others. Any student who enthusiastically practices their homework every morning AND every evening for sixteen consecutive weeks could be considered an apprentice.

A <u>Journeyman</u> is an apprentice who has accumulated 5,000 hours of study and 5,000 hours meditation; ideally for eight hours daily over the course of three and a half years...

<u>and</u> has demonstrated intellectual comprehension and emotional **evolution**.

A <u>Master</u> is a journeyman who has accumulated an additional 5,000 hours of study and an additional 5,000 hours of meditation; ideally for eight hours daily...

over the course of an additional three and a half years <u>and</u> has demonstrated intellectual and emotional **mastery**. The 10,000 hours is a minimum, for some folks require 20,000 hours, 30,000 hours or more to demonstrate intellectual and emotional mastery.

Although this path of mastery can be long, it is neither mysterious nor occult.

D. Addendum

Week	Rumination	Supplementation	Meditation
		Youngling Training	
First	Homework	Parable of the Movie Concession	Blissful Centering
Second	Eleven Benefits of Loving Kindness	Parable of the Movie Patron	Compassionately Soothing Danger and Wisely Releasing Danger
Third	Anapanasati Sutta	ROMANTIC Panacea	Lovingly Wishing Safety and Wisely Releasing Boon
Fourth	Class Etiquette	Panic Attack	Releasing Circumstance and Meditation's Spontaneous Release
Fifth	What Was the Buddha?	Lethargy	Compassionately Soothing Illness and Wisely Releasing Illness
Sixth	Why do we Meditate?	PHYSICAL Panacea	Lovingly Wishing Health and Wisely Releasing Health
Seventh	In Buddhism what is the "Unborn"?	Two Paths	Releasing Body and Meditation's Spontaneous Release
Eighth	Why use the article "THE buddha"?	Essence of the Four Vows	Compassionately Soothing Scorn and Wisely Releasing Scorn
		Padawan Training	
Ninth	The Fall of Emperor Palpatine	Good Night and Wake-up Channels	Lovingly Wishing Love and Wisely Releasing Love
Tenth	Metaphorically Playing Victim	Walking Meditation	Releasing Feelings and Meditation's Spontaneous Release
Eleventh	If we are short of temper what it NOT our friend?	Gazing Meditation	Compassionately Soothing Shame and Wisely Releasing Shame
Twelfth	When Religion Opposes Science	Four Levels	Lovingly Wishing Fame and Wisely Releasing Fame
		Jedi Knight Training	
Thirteenth	Fear in the Time of Covid 19	PATH of Mastery	Releasing Mind and Meditation's Spontaneous Release
Fourteenth		MEANS of Mastery	Generic: Wishing Wisdom and Love
Fifteenth		Penultimate Q and A	Generic: Wishing Health and Good Fortune
Sixteenth		Final Q and A	Buddhist Sexual Tantra

Their nudity reminds us of mindfulness' vulnerability, their bodies comprised of light remind us of non-graspability, their beauty reminds us of love's energy, the stability with which he sits reminds us of centeredness, and the abandon with which she sports reminds us of spontaneity.

