

RISE - Spiritual Theme of the Month

December 2022

LEAP: Accessing my power begins with belief-in-myself; not only who I am, but what I am. It begins there. From there, the power to achieve, advance, and take action, for what I have come to do, comes forth. There is a price, however. The "price" is that I must release the idea of going backwards. It is a commitment, a *leap* I take. The "*leap* I take," is not a leap-of-faith, it is the *leap* forward. That is my focus, my desire, my need . . . "forward." It is both a spiritual and material elevation. My consciousness is designed to do this. I just need to let it. So indeed, forward I *leap*; I accept that I am the one who is responsible for me and that I am here to build myself in consciousness.

BRIGHTEN: I know what to do, when, where, and why to do it. Sometimes I even have insights on **how** to do it. But the facts are, I know, when I feel dark, that I must *brighten*; I must allow myself to shine again. It sounds so simple and obvious, but easily can I dwell in things less than my potential. There is always some important . . . "excuse," to stay down & dull. It can be an overused term, but it still resonates. *I must be here & now*, in order to do what I have come to do. Otherwise, I am wasting time. Fear and separation are enabled by my acquiescence in darkness (inside). "*Brighten* up, lighten up," my guidance chimes. That is their way of saying, join us, we are right here . . . just follow the lights.

EXPAND: I open myself and something wonderful happens, Spirit and the Universe come in. Or to say it another way, I expand into spirit and the universe. That is what life is all about, expand, expand, expand! "Life is expansion. If we stop progressing, technically and spiritually, we are not truly alive." Every time I truly learn (and grow) from my experiences, I outgrow a little part of planet earth. In other words, I become more one-with-it. I expand because I am incorporating the essence of the lesson; the need gets fulfilled. Because of that incorporation, I grow in consciousness. This is exciting stuff: living life from the viewpoint of an evolving soul, and the need for learning & growing. Now I see all my situations as opportunities. So, what am I waiting for . . . 3, 2, 1, GO!

CLIMB: There is actually little effort in moving up spiritually. It is more about *removing* limiting concepts and ideas that hold me down. That is where much of the growing pains are. There is an old saying: "The poor, are rich in concepts." If I am 'rich' in limiting ideas, I will be 'poor' in funds, relationships, and body. Here is an example: there is a difference between judging and evaluating. "Evaluating" is necessary in order that I find my own direction. "Judging" is not necessary and my direction ends up getting chosen for me. One is unlimited and allows me to *climb* higher, the other is limited and just digs a hole. If I find myself in a hole, then I simply need to stop digging and *climb* out. Ironically, it is the "*climb*" where I start releasing limitations. "Fall seven times, get up eight." No waste, no limitation.

CHEER: For the things I like and the people I enjoy, it is easy to cheer. But how often do I have that same feeling for myself? Do I *cheer* my little victories or my completion of my daily routines? I can get bored when I lose sight of what I am accomplishing. It is not too difficult to discern; is there sadness, depression, or apathy, around me? I did not come here to play in limbo (or confusion). I am here too free myself! I then apply this feeling of exuberance to all I meet and all I do. Nobody, or nothing, can keep me down or make me feel bad. That would require my consent, but I shall not give it. So, whether I experience a life change, "suffer a loss," or simply fall down, I will *rise* again . . . I shall always *rise*, ever higher.