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Foreword by Harry van der Zee

In the alleviation of the vast width and depth of mankind's suffering, homeopathy is one of the most scientific systems of healing available today. Samuel Hahnemann established and developed a thorough methodology with clear practical guidelines based on an insightful philosophy.

Despite this, a scientific mindset is scarcely found in homeopathy. The very word "science" may even call up feelings of antipathy in many homeopaths because it is associated with the lack of recognition homeopathy has been treated with until today from evidence-based conventional medicine.

However, to attain a healthy balance in itself, and to move forward in its development, homeopathy sorely needs a cross-fertilization through inputs by scientists from other fields of knowledge and research, even those seemingly opposed to homeopathy such as conventional medicine, or disciplines operating ostensibly far outside the homeopathic domain.

And homeopathy needs homeopaths with an open scientific mind looking for answers to bold questions, instead of clinging to firmly-held beliefs.

Irene Schlingensiepen-Brysch is a scientist who used to work in a field very different from homeopathy; after becoming a homeopath she maintained her scientific attitude, striving to verify her results and looking for the Source and methodology behind successful prescriptions.

In Irene the left side of the brain unites with the right one, analysis meets synthesis, male reaches out to female and east meets west. Here are some expressions you will encounter in her writings to illustrate this: "following irregularity in free associations as expressed by the patient is an essential tool in case-taking"; "if the therapist is no longer able to follow the patient this indicates they are close to the Source."

This book describes Irene's journey to uncovering the Source of disease as well as the Source of healing and is the result of the alchemic process that has taken place inside her when she crossed the boundaries of the prevailing material paradigm to enter a new spiritual one. A variety of fascinating cases are offered as examples of how in case-taking the patient can be led or followed to start expressing the Source directly.

What then is this Source? First of all, in the context of homeopathic practice, the Source indicates the substance which may heal the patient

when prepared homeopathically. At the same time this substance is defined by Irene as the Source of the talents an individual is meant to express in life. In this sense the simillimum is simultaneously the Source of healing and the Source from which the higher purpose of life is meant to unfold itself. What more exciting journey could a homeopath undertake than the one leading to the very Source of an individual's being?

Harry van der Zee, MD

Norg, the Netherlands, 1 May 2008

Reflections about this Book by Jan Scholten

In medicine there are two approaches: the one treats from within, the other from without. One could also speak of an “inside” and an “outside” method of healing: the one centripetal, the other centrifugal.

The outer method is the conventional one and is therefore applied by most practitioners, and in most cases. It seeks the causes of an illness in outside factors. According to the outer method, illnesses are brought on by bacteria, viruses, poisoning, traumata, lack of nutrition, overeating and suchlike.

Conventional therapies are therefore developed in analogy to this view of things: Each respective outside cause of illness must be battled with antibiotics, antivirals, and a host of other “anti-” substances.

Most medicines are listed in such “anti-” groups: antihypertensives, antihistamines, antipsychotics, antidepressants.

This is the language of war. In our culture it is expressed as “the war against cancer,” “the war against drugs,” “the war against terror.” This implies that all could be well, if only things in the world outside were good – in other words, when evil things and evil people had been exterminated and the so-called good was cultivated and protected.

The inner method of healing is turned inside. It perceives the cause of an illness as something stemming from within, as a disturbance of an inner equilibrium.

Healing then means to restore that equilibrium.

With this process comes insight and understanding.

Homeopathy is counted among the methods that are designed to heal from within. Originally, homeopathy meant nothing else but **that which corresponds to the suffering**.

Hering’s law underpins the inner aspect with a scientific foundation. This law states that *an illness will heal outwardly from within*. Everything is preceded by the disposition, forwards into illness, forwards into healing.

This empirical experience underlines the primacy of the mind over the body – of the psyche over the physis.

Additionally, in homeopathy, a growing development is emerging that concentrates with increasing precision on the mental disposition. A development that advances further and further into the depths of the mind to disclose the cause of illness. In the old teaching books and repertories, more than 90% were descriptions of physical symptoms. The last 20 years in homeopathy, however, have witnessed the discovery that the essence of a remedy is at the same time a mental essence that the body expresses.

This development reaches an apex in this book.

The Source can be comprehended as the deepest level of the characteristic pattern of an illness and hence as its most essential.

Because this pattern can be the furthest removed from our daily consciousness, it often cannot be reached easily. At the same time, however, this level is also the most obvious and the most pronounced.

Here we encounter a paradox.

Paradoxes are an essential part of homeopathy. Homeopathy at first sight looks like almost nothing, but it can result in the deepest cures.

The usual criticism about homeopathic remedies holds that they are practically insubstantial, yet they become the more effective the higher they are potentized.

The most powerful paradox of homeopathy, however, is “like cures like,” the so-called Law of Similars. It initially seems like a contradiction that something that acts in the same direction should effect an improvement in such a state. From a superficial perspective we would expect “same” to exacerbate “same.” Yet that it very definitely “heals same” is a paradox. Remarkably, such paradoxes are also encountered in psychotherapy:

Sensory flooding is a paradox therapy in behavioral therapy. The paradox therapy of Milton Erickson has become famous. Jay Haley goes as far as to say that the paradox part of a therapy is the essential one.

In this respect, we might say from our experience that the Law of Similars describes the law of deepest healing.

In her book, Irene explains the concept of the Source very visually. She describes how one can seek and detect the Source. She guides the way through all the various levels to encounter the Source. The many cases in this book illustrate how deeply homeopathy may have an effect if it is applied in

this fashion. Her explanations of the procedure and the contact with the patient are excellent. She shows how cases might develop independently from within. At the end, the homeopath is the ignorant one and the patient the learned one – a state that Irene describes very well: the homeopath who repeatedly stands bewildered before the world, confused and at the same time full of wonder. Again we encounter a paradox: at that moment, when the remedy is right before your eyes, you are utterly ignorant.

I recommend this book to all homeopaths, even to those working with different methods. Irene's approach requires and emphasizes talent, intuition, feeling and other abilities. And, as we know from the literature as well as from her own statements, there are many roads leading to Rome and to the right remedy.

But even for those who follow a different methodology as a homeopath this book can enable a very deep understanding of the effects of the remedies, their essences and Sources.

This book helps us to understand not only the remedies but also the patients.

It makes homeopathy fertile and alive.

Dr. Jan Scholten

Utrecht, the Netherlands, June 2008

Preface by Uta Santos-König

Irene Schlingensiepen-Brysch follows the stream of her patients' words and gestures carefully, patiently and unswervingly, upstream towards their healing Source. Her path is new in being so radical and is clearly illustrated, step by step, for the reader.

The secret of her impressive successes seems to be this: to create a space during the case-taking for the inner knowledge of the patients and the "learned ignorance" of the therapist. Thus – embedded in profound knowledge of modern physics – new knowledge unfolds that is neither watered down by subjectivity nor reducible to mere objectivity. Instead, it is enriched from the inexhaustible store of the unconscious – both individual and collective. This is a source of inspiration for us readers and exemplary for a homeopathy with integrity at a high scientific level.

Dr. Uta Santos-König

Vienna, May 2008

2

Eye and Soul

How it all began

“I can see how I melt ... disintegrate ... nothing of me remains. As if I had no weight, no distance, no personality. That comes together with ... panic attacks – as if someone had stuck electrodes into my brain and pressed them ... mortal fear... The core of my personality gets destroyed ...”

A man of youthful appearance, sitting in front of me and relating his experiences haltingly, had come for treatment because of the permanent blind spots in his right eye after a pre-thrombosis of the retina. This was a remarkably early result of his juvenile high blood pressure, as well as his exceptionally high rate of caffeine and medicine consumption. There was also his severe asthma and significant depression since early childhood.³

To gain an understanding of another human being to the extent that we can find the most effective remedy for them, it is possible that at the end of a case-taking we might reach a point where we understand that person as deeply as if for a moment we were perceiving life through their eyes. However, on the way towards that point, we allow ourselves to be drawn into a world in which for a long time the further we are being led, the less we know the way.

Often enough we are deeply confused, because the images we encounter there seem to be completely divorced from all common logic. And yet, in the intensity of what is being said, we sense and hear a wholeness, an entity, an inherent truth. It is this which carries us through our challenging work and the astonishing tasks it may on occasion pose.

The young man detailed the development of his permanent blind spots:

I had slept very badly, had asthmatic fits and began the day with plenty of coffee. Inhaled an anti-asthmatic drug – overdosed. In the course of the day I had an aperture-like black contraction in the right eye. In the central field of vision, blind spots – yes, exactly as if you’re gazing into a blinding light that is too bright.

³ The medical history of this man can be found on Page 92.

It is pointing to the fact that I have to change a lot in my current life situation, one that I am very, very dissatisfied with. It is a hint.

I have fears of losing my partner ...

I would describe this feeling as disintegration.

I had the feeling that I disintegrated, that the emotional relationships with the people I know were changing unilaterally. I was being dropped and I was becoming weak because of that. That is a very existential threat to me.

The fear of not being able to live at all on my own ...

Fear that I might give in to this fear and that my carefully-built walls might tumble down.

[Then] when I break away, I withdraw and finally lose my identity.

Whenever I am in my disconnected state, I am not part of the whole, of the flow of life. I withdraw all these contact arms.

This loss of identity looks like a crystallization at one point ...

A crystal ... No light, black, dark, infinitely heavy, stuffy and tight.

It is about the opening, not the rest of the sphere. Light gets swallowed through this opening.

It is black, pitch black. Like a hohlraum emitter ... A black hole from which nothing escapes any more. One cannot discern structures any more either.

The opposite is a radiance of the same size, blindingly bright, filled with matter that decays rapidly, breaking down into subatomic particles. Gleaming hot, core particles and electrons are dislocated: energy and matter in its most active form. Electromagnetic radiation. Seething chaos. The highest degree of entropy. A radiance, blinding light, filled with matter that decomposes quickly, decomposes into subatomic particles. Nuclear particles and electrons are separated.

If you want to have an image, an image from physics: the sun, the atomic bomb, yes exactly, radioactive ...

It was certainly anything but a learned lecture the patient was giving here: rather, as if awakening from a dream, the young man, very slowly, piece by piece, drew all these pictures to the surface of his consciousness, letting me take part in the process. But what was he talking about, for heaven's sake?

Let me summarize the most remarkable points of this essence of a case-taking that was done in two entirely different sessions: regarding his body, at the moment of the pre-thrombosis inside his right eye, the patient had sensed something like *an aperture-like black contraction*, as if he were *gazing into a blinding light that is too bright*. The bodily process associated with this experience had done permanent damage to his retina. The images within his soul he associated as follows:

Like a crystallization at one point, like a black hole from which nothing escapes any more ... infinitely heavy, stuffy and tight.

In counterpoint, he contrasted this with *a radiance: blindingly bright, everything is breaking down into subatomic particles, at racing speed ... the sun, the atomic bomb ... yes, exactly, radioactive ...*

Where in all the world were we here?

Some initial scientific research eventually helped me out of my cluelessness:

It led me to fundamental processes of the universe: a supernova is the sudden explosion of a huge star, often a billion times brighter than our Sun. It becomes as bright as an entire galaxy before burning out.

As a result of the forces at work there – mainly gravitation and the so-called strong atomic force⁴ – ever-heavier atomic nuclei come into existence. Thus all elements heavier than iron are formed in this most singular process in the universe. Matter grows increasingly dense, and at the end of such a process occasionally a black hole may be formed. However, this process – like any other process in the universe – is apparently opposed by a contrary force: due to the so-called weak atomic force, the atoms created in this way partially decompose *radioactively*.

Apparently the patient had “dived,” as if dreaming, through images his unconscious had created into this primary process of the universe. This succession of images, however, unlike the mostly surreal scenes of our nocturnal dreams, depicted in its details a real and completely coherent sequence of events that does indeed exist in this fashion, outside of our human experience, in the cosmos. Remarkably, he had evoked from the images in his soul the very cosmic process that is responsible for creating what is, according to a determination via the homeopathic systematic

⁴ The fundamental forces of the universe: gravitation as well as strong and weak forces and electromagnetism are explained on Pages 254-256.

evaluation of the periodic table, his most deeply effective remedy: the radioactive salt *Radium bromatum*.⁵

It was this particular day and this individual that opened the door for me into a new dimension of understanding. Initially my perspective was just about understanding his specific medicine; a little later, similar remedies for other patients came into the picture. Remedies that are still not widely known in homeopathy. Remedies however, that can procure for an astonishingly large number of people similarly far-reaching experiences of restoration, judging from today's perspective.

The patient related how he had previously taken a number of other homeopathic preparations, none of which, however, had made any difference to his overall physical and mental pathology.

Using *Radium bromatum* in 1M did more than just restore full vision – in the sense of a *restitutio ad integrum* – contrary to the prognoses of experienced ophthalmologists and the university hospital's ophthalmology department. Both the juvenile high blood pressure and the depression also disappeared shortly after the first dose and have not reappeared in all these years. The exceptionally high rate of caffeine and medicine consumption has normalized. Only the asthma is still an occasional problem, and this requires a repetition of the remedy once or twice a year.

Usually such an imbalance in bodily health occurs together with an imbalance of the soul as well, for which ingestion of the medicine reliably acts as a stabilizer. For four years now the patient has lived in a happy relationship. A few weeks after the first dose he described an experience that was new for him as follows: he felt a religiously undirected deep spiritual gratitude. This changed fundamental perception of his life has remained with him – as he puts it – throughout the various upheavals of his life, to this day.

Without my realizing it, a path was then opened for me that gave new access to the formative processes in the universe: to the dynamics that might once have started with the Big Bang, and eventually set in motion the unfolding of life on our small, blue planet on the outskirts of a peripheral galaxy.⁶

5 For details see Page 92.

6 For details of this development, see the chapter about the cosmos on Pages 251-271.

From the understanding of this initial case, the procedure in our daily practice has changed, imperceptibly at first and then more and more consciously: the case analyses of recent years in our practice gave decisive impulses to exploring further and ever more thoroughly the art of case-taking and of the subsequent prescriptions.

Thus it has come to pass that now my colleagues Ute Scheiber, Sabine Wörz and I search for this way together with every patient who is willing to undertake such a daring journey, the path to the Source of their remedy.