

life. Visualize a road that branches. Think about the dividing roads you have encountered in your own life, the choices made, and the roads untraveled.

3. Visualize a moon reflected in tranquil waves. What is the visual effect of the reflection in the waves? How many moons appear in them? How does that relate to the concept of Ālaya?

A. VERSES [112-122].

The next eleven verses introduce a series of vivid images, all relating to our need to establish contact between our personalities of this lifetime and our timeless Selves: a bird enclosed in a jar, a mirror gathering dust, a fool at the top of a high tower, and bread made from flour ground in a mill. They also continue the theme of head-learning and Soul-Wisdom, the Eye doctrine and the Heart doctrine, which appeared at the end of the last group of verses. The images are appropriate to that theme, for the Eye doctrine of head-learning pertains to the personality, whereas the Heart doctrine of Soul-Wisdom pertains to the timeless self within us.

[112] Yea, ignorance is like unto a closed and airless vessel; the soul a bird shut up within. It warbles not, nor can it stir a feather; but the songster mute and torpid sits, and of exhaustion dies.

[113] But even ignorance is better than head-learning with no Soul-Wisdom to illuminate and guide it.

[114] The seeds of Wisdom cannot sprout and grow in airless space. To live and reap experience the mind needs breadth and depth and points to draw it towards the Diamond Soul. Seek not those points in Māyā's realm; but soar beyond illusions, search the eternal and the changeless Sat, mistrusting fancy's false suggestions.

[115] For mind is like a mirror; it gathers dust while it reflects. It needs the gentle breezes of Soul-Wisdom to brush away the dust of our illusions. Seek, O beginner, to blend thy mind and Soul.

[116] Shun ignorance, and likewise shun illusion. Avert thy face from world deceptions; mistrust thy senses; they are false. But within thy body — the shrine of thy sensations — seek in the impersonal for the "Eternal Man"; and having sought him out, look inward: thou art Buddha.

[117] Shun praise, O devotee. Praise leads to self-delusion. Thy body