

# This Book

This Book is a map and an escape plan.

When existence grips you in a vice so you cannot breathe, as it has done with me, when you are hopelessly disappointed by your life and do not see any way out, this Book will find you, will appear in your hands and you will know that you are ready for your Individual Revolution, for the greatest adventure a man can possibly imagine: The regaining of his integrity, of his paradise lost.

This Book is the story of my attempt to get out of the rut of a predetermined, collective destiny and be an individual. On this journey back to the Essence, I have had to undertake the impossible endeavour to shuffle off the mortal ballast of the darkest parts of my Being: destructive thoughts, negative emotions, second-hand convictions and ideas.

As most ordinary people, I used to think about my life and talk about it as if it were only made up of external events. However, on the journey to ‘conquer myself’ I had to acknowledge that the events and outer conditions of our life are no more than a reflection of our emotions, thoughts and beliefs, a materialisation of our Being.

There is a cause-effect relationship between inner life and external world, between Timelessness and Time. All what we feel, all our passions, thoughts and fantasies, our hopes, ambitions, secrets, memories and imaginations, fears and uncertainties and all our sensations, attractions, desires, loves and aversions belong to the impalpable but very real world of Being. The level of our Being can make us wealthy or poor, can make us happy or miserable.

## *Our Being creates our life*

Once that I realized that the quality of my external life, for better or for worse, was my sole responsibility, that the negative, and sometimes tragic events of my existence depended upon my states of Being, and were nothing else but the expression in material form of my fears, destructive thoughts and negative imagination, I stopped complaining, to accuse others, to regret or feeling self-pity.

I came across the deeper meaning of two Latin words “Mea Culpa” in a precious code, written by Lupelius in the ninth century. From the manuscript of this enlightened monk-philosopher, I become aware of the vertiginous power which lays hidden behind this aphorism. Mea Culpa means that everything is my fault, and no one else’s in the entire universe. This is the most concise and potent expression of the idea of responsibility. It holds the secret of boundless energy.

For thousands of years, as though locked in a treasure chest, this formula of unlimited responsibility has been preserved and continues to pulsate as a lighthouse in the dark sea of human unreliability and recklessness. Since then, ‘Mea Culpa’ became the axiomatic principle, the main tenet of my life.

It was then that I started the most precious and fruitful of all activities: the observation of myself. It starts paying attention to your inner life, studying yourself, observing your reactions, your thoughts and convictions, your attitudes. The work of self-observation, with the aim to discover and know myself, has taken many years and strenuous efforts. It has been a most engaging task but also

the most rewarding part of my search. It has given me the progressive capacity to take control of my existence and set the direction of my destiny.

*Self-observation is self-correction.*

The general frame of all my work and the real gateway to any understanding has been the acceptance in my new set of beliefs of another universal principle: *Visibilia ex Invisibilibus*. All that we see and touch, all that which is visible, the reality in all its variety is born from the invisible. This principle led me to be aware that we are surrounded by invisibility, that we live in a world which has its source in the impalpable solidity of dreams.

*The dream is the most real thing that exists*

Beyond the powerhouses of industry and skyscrapers of finance; behind all that you see and touch, behind all that is useful, beautiful, and true among man's conquests; at the origin of every great institution and scientific achievement, there is always one man's dream, an individual's vision.

At first, the philosophy that I learned from Lupelius' manuscript, The School for Gods - which has given the title to this Book - appeared to me to be a transgression of the natural laws that govern all of Humanity; yet the direction that it indicates is the peak of man's intelligence and his possible evolution. It is both frightful and wonderful, difficult and joyful, but as necessary as the journey of the salmon returning upstream against the current.

The book is also the story of my encounter with an extraordinary Being, who I named The Dreamer. At the end of my apprenticeship He gave me the most incredible task: to create a planetary 'School', a University without frontiers. With His help I founded it in London basing it on the great laws, the ideas and principles that I learned through hard work on myself. The mission of this new university was meant to be at the service of the individual, bring together the future dreamers from around the world and prepare them to be visionary individuals, the pragmatic utopians that the world needs.

But after many years I had to conclude that I was going astray from my Dream, that the School that I had envisioned could not have walls, could not be made of campuses, classrooms, or libraries, as in any traditional one; above all it could not be bound by textbooks and frozen academic programs, which are more or less the same, in every part of the world. Certainly, it could not depend on a watchful, many-eyed academic authority - worshiping the status quo. In my vision it had to sink its roots into the classical age, into the dream of Plato and Plutarco, and be inspired by the Renaissance era, in its search for beauty, creativity and excellence.

I put my heart in it and I conceived this educational project in the form of a laboratory, an academic research program with the visionary intent to be a forge of men and women of integrity - miraculous people inspired by the ideas and tenets of the School for Gods.

Hence, on December 2nd, 2010, I left my position as Rector of ESE, stepped down as Vice President of the Foundation in New York, and reduced any other commitment in order to create a most advanced leadership Program: Future Leaders for the World, to teach to specially selected students a sense of greatness, unlimited love for freedom, and an incorruptible integrity, as the central quality of leadership and the most important achievement of Man's life. They are the leaders for the future, the most strategic resource for the economic growth and human development of all nations. Without them no progress is possible.

At the time I dreamed of this university I believed that writing, and above all teaching, were the truest form of giving. I know now that one can only teach if one doesn't know. Those who truly know don't teach!

*What we have 'learned' what we truly 'possess', cannot be transferred.  
Happiness, wealth, knowledge, will and love, cannot be acquired from the outside,  
cannot be 'given' but only... 're-membered', be led out (ex-duco).  
They are the inalienable, natural inheritance of every man.*

In recounting the lessons I learned from the Dreamer, I have deliberately avoided including episodes, events and revelations which might go beyond the reader's acceptance, referring only to those that, though still 'revolutionary' seem to me to be within the grasp of humanity in its present state.