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Ownness is my whole essence and existence, it is myself. I am free from what I am *rid* of, owner of what I have in my *power*, what I *control*. I am at all times and under every circumstance *my own*, if I know how to have myself and do not waste myself on others. Being free is something that I cannot truly *will*, because I cannot make it, I cannot create it: I can only wish for it and—strive for it, because it remains an ideal, a phantasm. The fetters of reality cut the sharpest welts in my flesh at every moment. But I remain *my own*.

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Malfew

Seklew On

Ownness

Essays from the book 'The Gospel According to Malfew Seklew, and Other Writings By and About Sirfessor Wilkesbarre by Trevor Blake & Kevin I. Slaughter' which you can get from underworldamusements.com
Also check out ninebandedbooks.com and littleblackcart.com for more books.

Selfishness or Selfism

Supercratic Egoism or Enlightened Selffullness

"There is something chaotic, yet complete, that existed before man, and is now the dominating factor in the lives of all human beings. Oh, how still it is, and how formless, and yet how powerful! Standing alone without changing, reaching everywhere without suffering harm, it is a great square with no angles. It is a great image with no form."

It is a great voice that cannot be heard except by a few Unique Egos. It has the power of transmuting and perfecting all things.

This Mighty Magician, this miracle of mind and matter, has many labels. Some call it the Great Transformer, the Cosmic Urge, the Great Spirit, the Eternal Energy, Vital Force, others call it God. The Truthseeker calls it Selfishness. Selfishness has all the attributes of the Godhead. It is Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent. It is the parent of passion, prejudice, pride, and all the vices; and the progenitor of faith, fortune, and all the virtues to be found in mankind. It is Nature's masterpiece for good or evil.

This great principle of pain and pleasure can not be denied without injury to self.

Nature produced Unity: Selfishness. Unity produced Duality: Self Love, which never dies; and self-interest, which rules the world. Duality produced Trinity: Love, Vanity, and Hate; and this trinity tantalizes, torments and tortures mankind, until the Ego Conscious organism becomes the Captain of his own Ego and the Director of his own Destiny.

All these dynamic forces are the offspring of selfishness. They are the Eternal Verities that govern our lives, and the

What a difference between freedom and ownness! One can get *rid* of a lot, but one doesn't get rid of everything; one becomes free from much, but not from all. One may be free inwardly despite a condition of slavery, though, once again, it is only from a whole lot of things, not from everything; but as a slave one does not get *free* from the whip, the imperious temper, etc., of the master. "Freedom lives only in the realm of dreams!" On the other hand, ownness is my whole essence and existence, it is myself. I am free from what I am *rid* of, owner of what I have in my *power*, what I *control*. I am at all times and under every circumstance *my own*, if I know how to have myself and do not waste myself on others. Being free is something that I cannot truly *will*, because I cannot make it, I cannot create it: I can only wish for it and—strive for it, because it remains an ideal, a phantasm. The fetters of reality cut the sharpest welts in my flesh at every moment. But I remain *my own*. Given over in bondage to a master, I think only of myself and my advantage; his blows indeed strike me, I am not *free* from them; but I endure them only for *my benefit*, perhaps to deceive him and make him feel safe with my sham of patience or, again, to avoid rousing anger against myself through my insubordination. But because I keep an eye out for myself and my self-interest, I grab the first good opportunity by the forelock to crush the slave-owner. That I then become *free* from him and his whip is only the result of my earlier egoism. Here someone might say that I was "free." even in the condition of slavery—that is, "in myself" or "inwardly." But "free in oneself" is not "actually free," and "inwardly" is not "outwardly." On the other hand, I was own, *my own*, completely, inwardly and outwardly. Under the rule of a cruel master my body is not "free" from torments and lashes; but it is *my* bones that groan under the torture, my *fibers* that twitch under the blows, and *I* groan because *my* body groans. That *I* sigh and shiver proves that I have not yet lost *myself*, that I am still my own. My leg is not "free" from the master's stick, but it is *my* leg and is inseparable. Let him tear it off me and see if he still has my leg! He holds nothing in his hand but—the corpse of my leg, which is as little my leg as a dead dog is still a dog. A dog has a beating heart, a so-called dead dog has none and so is no longer a dog.

Excerpts from *The Unique and its Property* by Max Stirner

Alienation is a hallmark of the “sacred.” In everything sacred, there is something “eerie,” i.e., alien, in which we are not quite familiar and at home. What is sacred to me is *not my own*, and if the property of others, for example, were not sacred to me, I would look upon it as *mine* and would take it for myself when a good opportunity arose; or, on the other hand, if the Chinese emperor’s face were sacred to me, it would remain alien to my eyes, and I would close them at its appearance.

Whether nature, or God, or the people’s choice, gives me a right, it is all the same *alien* right, it is a right I did not give or take to myself.

So the communists say: equal work entitles people to equal enjoyment. Formerly, people raised the question of whether the “virtuous” shouldn’t be “happy” on earth. The Jews actually concluded: “That it may go well with you on earth.” No, equal work doesn’t entitle you to it, but rather equal enjoyment alone entitles you to equal enjoyment. Enjoy, then you are entitled to enjoyment. If you have worked and let enjoyment be taken away from you, then—“it serves you right.”

If you *take* enjoyment, it is your right; if, on the contrary, you only yearn for it without helping yourself to it, it still remains, as before, a “well-earned” right of those who are privileged for enjoyment. It is *their* right, as by helping yourself it would become *your* right.

The dispute over “property rights” staggers in vehement agitation. The communists state: “The earth rightfully belongs to those who till it, and the products of the same to those who produce them.” I think it belongs to the one who knows how to take it, or who doesn’t let it be taken from him, doesn’t let himself be deprived of it. If he appropriates it, then not only the earth, but also the right to it, belongs to him. This is *egoistic right*, i.e., it is right for *me*, therefore it is right.

Everlasting Virtues that rule mankind, for good or evil. As a philosopher wisely said:

"Selfishness is at once my most essential friend, and my most dangerous enemy, for it is the zenith and nadir of desire, and the alpha and omega of aspiration."

The highest purpose of intellectual cultivation is to give man a perfect knowledge and mastery of his inner self. To attain this knowledge one must study the philosophy of Scientific Egoism, which examines and explains the motives, emotions, passions, prejudices and desires of the Ego; with the result that we find that all these dynamic forces are regulated by the Magic Power of Selfishness, for Selfishness is the Eternal Energy seeking expression through mankind, thus enabling man to find himself out, from within.

Selfishness is essential, absolute, changeless, and everlasting. Selfishness is the Infinite Force that controls all life, especially human life. Selfishness is responsible for all the evil in the world, as well as for all the good. Man catering to his passions brings on pain; man catering to his desires brings on disease; man catering to his ignorance brings on poverty, and sins against himself. This is man unconscious of his own Ego, of his own necessities, of his real needs, and of his own powers.

Ego Conscious Man, aware of his possibilities, realizes that the same force that brought misery and pain will, when understood, bring pleasure and power-to one and all.

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All Life is selfish ; all Reform is selfish; all Politics is selfish; all War is selfish; all Business is selfish; all Thought is selfish; all Action is selfish; All is selfish, and selfishness is rampant with and without reason throughout the world.

Selfishness is necessary to preserve one's self; Vanity is necessary to assert one's self; And hate is necessary to protect one's self from one's enemies.

Even Mother love is a very selfish love. Biologically and instinctively a mother does her best for her offspring; but psychologically she is the

unconscious enemy of her child. She transfers all her delusions, prejudices, and superstitions to her children, if she is ignorant and uneducated. Just as readily does she transfer her wisdom, tolerance, and kindness when she is progressive and cultured. In both cases she does it to satisfy herself. The results, however, are different. An ignorant mother perpetuates her ignorance from one generation to another, thus impeding progress. Such mothers are the enemies of evolution, and the matrix of mediocrities.

The mother of the genius is an exception, because she is psychologically great. Genius is a psychological conception, rather than a biological production. Ignorant mothers produce inferior organisms. That is the reason why mediocrity is the malady of the day. The wise mother moulds the child during the period of gestation into the design she has in her mind. Every great man is the special product of such a mother.

When a woman becomes aware of her psychological powers, miraculous perceptions will be as plentiful as commonplace conceptions are today. The genius-to-order will be the order of the day. Poets, artists, writers, scientists, and aristocrats of all kinds will be as plentiful as cheap organisms are nowadays.

Enlightened Selfishness will demand the best and get it. Mind will mould matter to its own design. Will the Fulcrum of Fancy, and the Director of Desire, will regulate the Destiny of the super-child to be. Woman as the Monarchess of Mentality will become the Chemist of Consciousness; the Alchemist of Humanity; and the Originator of Supermanity.

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Love based on ignorance is like unbridled selfishness, a calamity and a curse to all that come in contact with its force. Love sanitized by reason, and selfishness enlightened by experiments and experience, will eradicate ignorance in time; and make wisdom welcome for all time.

Love is selfishness satisfied for a short time. It is the propagation of passion, or passion in pain, striving for peace again.

Nietzsche

The Day Book 22 February 1916.

I beg leave to explain what Sirfessor Wilkes barre preaches. I have had the extreme pleasure of listening to the Sirfessor's lectures and found him to be an excellent expounder and popularizer of Max Stirner's and Nietzsche's philosophy. His mode of popularizing these great men's philosophy is by laughing them out of the philosophy of altruism and into the consciousness of the ego. For, according to Nietzsche, altruism is a slave morality, encouraging self-denial and killing self-reliance, and as he postulates that the "I" is older and stronger than the "Thou;" by ridiculing the egos who have been caught in the trap of slavish altruism, he tends to awaken them to their real importance. Proclaiming the "Thou" and neglecting the "I" leads to the depths of slavery. Altruism is meant for the other fellow, not for oneself. As soon as the masses realize themselves and become conscious of their power then we will see the glimmer of the dawn of a new day. This new day will be the evolution of man to surpass himself and to become a superman. A superman is a man who will follow this who represent his own thoughts, ideas and principles and will not follow anybody blindly, nor attempt by cunning devices to ensnare others to follow him for his own special benefit and for their enslavement.

In the noble words of Nietzsche:

Now I bid you lose me and find yourself; and only when you have denied me will I return to thee again.

I believe that such a philosophy is the greatest mental tonic and stimulate real and true clear thinking. It points to no clear economic goal, but if men were to become impregnated with such noble thoughts human salvation would be near at hand: for it develops a healthy psychology by urging the individual to believe in himself and he in turn should urge his fellowmen to do likewise.

-Sam Druck.

The IWW

The Day Book S October 1916.

History has recorded many forms of tyranny by rulers or sets of rulers holding the reigns of power. But I do not know of any form of tyranny more contemptible than practiced by members of the IWW in some of the western states, where the slogan is: "If you do not carry an IWW card you cannot ride a train." Of course, this applies to the hobo.

A poor, defenseless hobo beating it over a division is easy picking for a gang of organized bums (see hymn 25 of The Little Red Song Book), when not being able to show an IWW card he is promptly thrown off the train.

The state of Utah showed its power when it murdered Joe Hillstrong, a despotic act over which the IWW shed crocodiles tears on every other street corner. But I think if they, the IWW, had shown half as much energy and direct action on behalf of Hillstrong as they do in throwing some poor hobo off a train there would have been no funeral in Chicago.

Despotism is despotism, no matter whether coming from the Czar of Russia, the Pope of Rome or the IWW, and being a rebel in the true sense of the word I raise my voice against this particular brand.

As Sirfessor Wilkesbarre says: "give cheap organisms power and they will use it in a cheap way."

-W Kibbler.

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Why does evil exist in the world? Because everyone is born ignorant, and very few of mankind escape from this curse until they are old enough to die. Before the Enlightened Ego can transfer his wisdom to his fellow men in sufficient numbers to dominate the prevailing ignorance, a new generation of ignorant Egos comes upon the scene to swamp the effort of the reformers and to perpetuate the conditions where ignorance is ever in the ascendant.

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All so-called acts of self-denial are really attempts to attain self-realization. To live up to one's own standard of morality, or code of honor, is the aim of the Ego; regardless of the fact that such action is founded on a selfish basis. His motive is self-approval.

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Character is moulded by external and internal impressions. From without, we are pounded by events and by our clashes with our environment; from within, our thoughts are largely guided by what we read and imagine.

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"I use the term Egoism, like Stimer, for acts of normal self-possession and self-expression, excluding blind crazes, fanaticism, the influence of fixed ideas (ideologies), hypnotism dominating the subject and rendering him more of an automaton than an individual, although he goes through the motions. Rewards and punishments, promised and threatened, appeal to the Egoism of ignorant believers, but there is also an anti-individualistic craze or fascination in religion, and love and business, when the idea rides the man. In the last analysis it is a question of sanity or insanity.

Egoism is sanity. Egoism is not merely an idea; it is as fact, the force of a man untrammelled by superstition. It may be more or less generous or ungenerous; thus it may be called selfish or unselfish in common speech. He may be more or less impulsive, more or less deliberate and reflecting. He may so feel and act as to be called very dutiful; but the Egoist relation to all objects is conditioned quite differently from that of the mentally unfree

man. If he cares for others it is not because he is taught that it is his "duty" - a teaching that would make restraint out of an attraction; but it is because he is built that way, and this he knows.

Selfishness governs, alike, the good and the bad individual; the wise and the wicked Ego. The good Ego may do a kind act to another; the bad individual may do an unkind act to his brother. Both work from the same motive, self-gratification, with different results. The first is noble, because it is founded on wisdom; the second is ignoble, because it is founded on ignorance. The first is the source of all good; the second the source of all evil. The first brings concord; the second stirs up discord. The first is the conduct of an enlightened Egoist; the second is the action of an ignorant Egotist. Ignorance is the great Sin; Wisdom is the only salvation from sin and evil. The secret of salvation revealed for one and all. Choose for yourself.

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There is no crime recognized by us as such which has not somewhere and at some time been found and recognized as a virtue, and no virtue which has not been officially condemned. The murderous Fijians only fear is lest he should not be active enough in slaughter to win the approbation of his gods; with the Egyptians lying is honorable; while the Turkoman's code of moral injunctions prescribe theft. Polygamy is wrong in Europe and America, but right and proper in China, India and Turkey.

While infanticide, a practice we hold in abhorrence, is practiced in China and India without any qualms of conscience. Science now tells us that not only is every particle of matter, or every mass of matter, in a state of continual vibration, but also that light, heat, magnetism, electricity and every other form of Natural force results from a state of vibration.

In fact the distinction between the several planes of being is almost entirely due to the difference in the rate and character of the vibrations manifested. The difference between gold and steel, or diamond and clay, is entirely a matter of difference in vibrations. The conditions of material substances are created

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Sympathy is the sublime part of selfishness, for Sympathy for others is pity for self. Sympathy is therefore self-pity. Self-pity is self-love in a state of righteous fermentation. Self-pity is the law that makes sympathy possible ; Sympathy is the law that expresses itself in Congeniality. Congeniality is the law that produces Fellowship, and Fellowship is the law of Concord and Affinity, and Affinity is the law of Attraction and Attachment.

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Selfishness preserves and perpetuates the Ego. Hate protects and regulates the Ego ; Vanity makes for the power and progress of the Ego, for the time being. Selfishness is the dynamo of destiny; hate the dynamo of destruction and death, when recklessly handled; Vanity is the dynamo of success; and love the dynamo of desire. These four forces of good or evil, may be productive of good when manipulated by the Ego Conscious Supercrat. Their baneful influence is seen only when they control the actions of ignorant organisms.

Civilization is ages old, but it has found no certain way of putting wisdom on her thrones and eternal truth in her seats of power.

Could anything be more strange, after 10,000 years of human history, after centuries of literature and learning and progress, than that millions do not yet understand the fundamental laws of Nature ? Self-interest rules the world, and selfishness the individual.

The cause of all the trouble in the world is because selfishness is running riot in the hearts and thoughts of men and women. Selfishness righteously handled can be made the source of all good.

The socialization of selfishness is the remedy for the ills of the ego, and of the world.

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Something is holding humanity down to the animal plane of existence; what is it? Ignorant selfishness. Something in all the times has prevented spiritual psychic progress from keeping pace with material progress; what is it? Ignorant selfishness or lack of psychic wisdom.

If it is clearly demonstrable that man can be taught to do selfish acts that will bring happiness to others, and while so doing, be happy doing it, then we may say that selfishness is a social factor in producing harmony and concord among mankind. In fact, it is the only way that systematic and permanent concord can be found and found only among Ego Conscious or self-conscious organisms.

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As machinery will soon be cheaper than poor humanity, the working class as a class will be abolished. Civilization will then be possible, because man will have time to think, and logical thought will make him an Ego Conscious organism. Enlightened selfishness will do the rest, whatever it may be. Salvation by selfishness is the only Natural solution for all problems.

Egoism is the Baptism of the brain in the water of wisdom .

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Education only can regulate selfishness and eradicate ignorance .

by the respective degree of vibrations manifested by each. In like manner the difference in men is the degree of in Ego Consciousness. The man of enlightened understanding and persevering ardor has many sources of enjoyment which the ignorant man cannot reach.

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Infinite powers are slumbering undeveloped and unused in the bosom of a nation. In the mind of thousands and thousands of men there is genius hidden which is trying vainly to soar because poverty and lowliness paralyze it. While a country may be waning in weakness and pining for a great man, perhaps in a miserable hut a Caesar may be following the plow or a Lincoln chopping logs.

Man unconscious of his own possibilities hitherto has been the slave of his tools of production, and therefore the of circumstances.

The Ego Conscious man changes his tools as he changes his mind. Then he changes his tastes and manages the future according to his tastes and manages the future according to his present consciousness.

It seems to me to be like this: weak men are the creatures of circumstances, but circumstances are the creatures of Man.

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Conscience, the humanities, and religious emotions, all are enemies of mankind unless resting on a foundation of egoistic consciousness. Christian ethics, moral or altruistic behavior, to be of any permanent value must be rooted in Egoistic wisdom. The reason that Christian morality has no lasting value is because it is founded on the false assumption that man is, Naturally, a moral, a social, and a religious animal. The fact is, man becomes moral and social from selfish reasons. Experience teaches man that enlightened Egoism is the force for good in this world of false formulas and stale shibboleths .

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Did you ever hear a man say : "There are no strings on me" -and yet we know there are strings on all of us. Strings of fear, strings of self-

interest, strings of envy, strings of false pride, strings of vanity: All these strings move people and together they pull people to what they call their fate.

As soon as men know the nearest, cheapest and best way to improve their lot, either morally, intellectually, or financially, they will accept it with thankfulness if they have the opportunity and the power.

All we need to abolish crime, misery, poverty, and ignorance is to purify our prejudices by learning how to socialize our selfishness. To be truly happy each Ego must have a chance to develop his own individuality, which is only another way of saying each one must have the power to be selfish with his or her own peculiar way.

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Selfishness is the life impetus which overlooks the good-and yet can overcome evil when properly understood .

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The highest law of mind is Self Consciousness. Consciousness consists of knowing how to do the right thing at the right time, so as to bring desirable results by using the experience of the past for the benefit of the present and for the future good .

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The Social Supercrat finds pleasure in doing things that brings pleasure to himself and others, because the more pleasure he procures, the more happiness he secures. The halo of happiness may be worn by all thinkers.

The gospel of Enlightened Selfishness-or Egoistic Self-fullness-must be preached before malignant selfishness can be dethroned; and benevolent selfishness can be crowned with the Crest of the Conqueror, and the Wreaths of the Righteous. It will pay in every way to be an Enlightened Egoist, because it is Nature's only way to Cosmic Consciousness. Ego Consciousness is the avenue along which all must travel who want wisdom, wealth and power.

Egoism is the greatest good to the greatest man, or the wisest organism. It is Nature's way. She rewards the one who struggles and strives towards Self Consciousness; and punishes the

lazy, the apathetic and contented Ego .

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Every person has two distinct minds-objective and subjective. Our objective mind acts consciously on sensations and ideas which come to us from the outside world. It is under the governing power of our will. Our subjective mind acts unconsciously on the instinctive impressions which spring from our inner consciousness. Ego Conscious Egoist seeks to become better acquainted with these two states of consciousness, and thus increase the power of his Ego.

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Is man a social animal? No! Because if he were, there would be no lynching. No jails or penitentiaries.

Man is not a political animal, or men and women would have had the ballot as soon as government began.

Man is not a religious animal, or there would never have been massacres, inquisitions, martyrs, religious wars, crusades, Peter-the-Hermits, and Mohammed, who enforced his religion by the sword.

Man is not a moral animal or there would be no humbugs, swindlers or murderers. Man becomes moral through sheer self-interest and because it pays.

Education along egoistic lines will make mankind moral, social, and really sane.

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Altruism, Christianity, Socialism, Communism, Bolshevism, Brotherhood of Man, with Equality, Fraternity, Liberty, are all impossible until man has learned how to socialize his selfishness, which means that he finds pleasure in giving away the surplus value of his ego.

The Great Affirmative

Jesus, the great Egoist, said : "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Light; only through me can you attain eternal life;" and yet there are millions of Christians who have not found themselves out-from within.