

The Self Comes to Consciousness

here language is irrelevant
- Ludwig Feuerbach

1

The self comes to consciousness less
a bearer of reason than an embodied being
in sensuous relationship with other
sensuous beings and comes to realize
in that self-differentiation that it is
a social being, a member of the human species.

Every self he said is driven by
an inexorable desire to unite
with another which leads to the apprehension
of the species concept which is reason or love
identical in all human beings.

It is not a matter of ideas in symbolic forms
but feeling which presents itself as longing
(subjectivity unfettered by nature
or reason: the deepest wishes of the heart)
which coupled with imagination provides
sensuous images for hopes and dreams.

The mystery is that said imagination
under pressure of wish and feeling turns speech
into an individual. Man
objectifies his being then makes himself
the objectified image of himself as subject.

The object a subject relates to, be it mortal
or immortal corporeal or etheric,
is the subject's own objective nature
informed by intersubjective relations with others.
Insofar as I think, I Am Thou,
we find ourselves in finding one another.

2

His too a love generation longing
for the revolution when desire will be released,
lives of spontaneous feeling liberated, wanting
so much to believe that all we need is love —
omnipotent pure freedom — that they did believe
themselves loved by the ones they loved.

Atheists making god in their own image,
(the highest subjectivity of man,
abstracted from himself), never doubting
that what we know we all know as surely as
moral and mathematical truths are known,
the same intelligence in all minds.

True love is unity of self
and personhood, which impels the sacrifice
of self to an other. Essence touches essence,
the individual being of both disappears
with all divisions of what used to be two.