

Finding The Lost Treasure

It's sometimes said that the real treasure is the treasure of the heart. In other words, what we really love is the thing we value most. The tragedy is sometimes we don't actually recognise what we really appreciate the most, until we have lost it and so we let it pass us by.

It's really important to teach children about life and true values. The things that will bring happiness, not the momentary pleasure of a new acquisition. Learning to love wisdom and to cultivate it within oneself is perhaps the best education that anyone can receive.

We can show children these values by our actions and the books we give them, or read with them. A recently published book of stories for children of all ages (adults very much included) is a good antidote to the false values of much of modern life. It's called *Chronicles of King Argoz, Prince Ultan and Princess Maya* and it's by self-awareness expert, Paolo F. Tiberi. This is the first book of the 'Legends of Altai' series. All the stories have great inner truths, and profound wisdom. One in particular, the last tale in the book, called 'Looking Inside' addresses the issues of finding our true treasure.

The stories are set in the mythological past, during the time of kings. In reality royalty are usually no more or less wise than the rest of us. Kings in these stories represent what Carl Gustav Jung called the wise part of the soul. It may surprise us that there is something beyond the ego, the incessant, 'I want', 'I am right' part of our makeup. Mythological stories and fairy tales often show us these inner dramas where one part of us encounters another part of us. In a nutshell, what you despise is usually not out there, it is an unacknowledged aspect of yourself.

To get back to the story, 'Looking Inside' is the story of an old lady and the way she brings self-awareness to a village. The old lady is Malariba a very wise lady. In her life she has had many life adventures and experience that taught her the value of giving praise and recognition and recognise what truly matters.

Now as a older lady, she lives simply in a small village, which used to be peaceful and serene, but is becoming increasingly unpleasant. This is because the villagers' behaviour has become competitive and materialistic. They are no longer kind to each other and they certainly aren't happy.

Malariba intervenes, but in a clever way. She starts to look for something on the road outside her home. As night approaches, the villagers become curious about her strange behaviour. They ask her what she is looking for. She replies that she has lost a large diamond-like gem. They all get caught up thinking about the reward for finding such a precious jewel, not trying to help her out of the kindness of their hearts. In other words, their greed gets the better of them.

One of them ask her where she lost it and she replies in her house, a response which seems ridiculous to them since she is looking for it on the street. When asked why, she says that the light is better on the street. That makes no sense to them at all.

Then Maya starts to tell them what her behaviour has really been about. Why, she asks them, do you look for your happiness on the outside, when it is only to be found on the inside? She has vividly demonstrated how stupid it is to look for something that is lost in a place that it can never be found! Slowly the villagers get the point. The true treasure and happiness is in your heart and not to be found in getting more possessions than your neighbour. Competitiveness is only another form of greed as we attempt to win more than the next person.

This story will no doubt be read and re-read for the wisdom it so lightly contains. We all need to find the wise old woman, the interior Malariba, that lives in each and every one of us, irrespective of our age. We all need her to show us the light of inner truth, and correct our mistaken ideas.

The end of the story is simple and very beautiful. When the villagers have realised what Malariba has been saying, happiness rings throughout the whole village. Let your own heart shine today!

Chronicles of King Argoz, Prince Ultan and Princess Maya is the first of a series of riveting books in the Legends of Altai series by renowned self-awareness expert, Paolo F. Tiberi. If you would like to get a FREE chapter showcasing the book narrative style and story telling, please visit:

http://www.legendsofalta.com/pages/free_gifts.php