

A Gift to Glenda from her dear friends of the 'Change Agency Mob' and the 'Temenos Mob'

Gathering Civilisation – the Resounding Silence

It is the 1980s. We are informed and ambitious for a new world; feeding off the 1960s and 70s which were simmering and boiling with energies for change: intense activism challenging Australia's participation in the Vietnam War, demanding that the women's movement be heard, calling for Indigenous land rights and opposing apartheid and more. Weaving in and around these big social issues is our increasing awareness and demand for changes in how women and men engage with each other and with society. By the mid 70s the Centre for Continuing Education in Canberra was offering year long courses on Women and Society and then Sex and Society which were wildly popular. The introduction of free university saw more women at university and increased studies in psychology and sociology feeding the simmering and boiling.

It is the 1980s. It is 1986. Glenda marries Tony; they have their first son, Daniel. They decide to change the path to walk along and open The Change Agency consulting business in the Griffith shops here in Canberra. Everywhere they turn there are change initiatives underway: in the Australian Public Service, a real trendsetter employer introducing equal pay, flexible working hours and more (setting the standards for the private sector), in education at all levels, in opportunities to dig deeper into what all these changes might and could mean. The spirit of synchronicity is well and truly alive. Everywhere Glenda turns she encounters women and men engaging in diverse ways with bringing to being a new depth of understanding of who we are, who we can be; what is this world, what can it be.

The Change Agency provides for this rich and growing pool of people by proffering extraordinary workshops. Storytelling, the significance of the great mythic stories of Ancient Greece, music, dance and more all add to the richness of the spirit of synchronicity and the weblines connecting us.

A significant path into all this being actively explored and applied by us is Jung's work on Psychological Types. The Swiss psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, Carl Jung explored the relationship of the individual to the world, to people and things; the various aspects of consciousness, the various attitudes the

conscious mind might take toward the world. His studies drew on literature, aesthetics, religion and philosophy. His works lead Glenda, the Change Agency mob and so many of the people who take part in workshops and meetings into the realms of the Apollonian and the Dionysian, Prometheus and Epimetheus, and on to Oedipus and Jocasta and on...to the Temenos. The Temenos empowers and holds us.

In Ancient Greece a Temenos was a piece of land marked off from common use and dedicated to a god, a precinct such as a sacred valley or grove. In psychotherapy temenos is the sacred space within the boundaries of the therapeutic work within which the work of psychic transformation takes place. Creating or being in such a space, set aside from daily preoccupations, is the starting point of any process of deep reflection, healing or transformation, whether one-to-one, or working with groups or organisations.

A group of 11 or so, a lovely circle of friends, growing out of our Change Agency experiences, acknowledging the Temenos holding us, begins meeting weekly. Sharing, discussing, exploring the learnings we are having and are applying in our work and life. These are heady, exciting, transformative times. Glenda gives expression to all this with her insights into Jung's works and sense of poetry and music.

It is the 1990s. The energies of the Change Agency and of this Temenos circle of friends begin to feel the energy of the Telos, of being drawn along 'by something that knows what to do with us' as Glenda describes it. The Greek word for this kind of energetic pull is 'telos' which means a purpose or goal, a destination or destiny. The capacity to tune into this beckoning force is a universal democratic reality in human nature. Jung recognized the telos as the energetic driver of healthy development and the patterned lifelong individuation project through which one becomes fully oneself. Glenda talks of telos as in the poetry, the music and images of the Zeitgeist – the particular spirit of an age – that waits for the receptive symbolizing capacities of people.

In the 1990s. The telos is in full flow for so many of us in so many diverse and lifechanging ways. Glenda is on her exciting journey into her Masters on the Resounding Silence and then Doctoral studies on The Axiom of Becoming and undertaking the work to become a Jungian psychoanalyst.

In 1991 she contributes to the exciting initiative of an International Women's Day Conference – a national conference to explore what women bring to their

work in the Australian Public Service. Led by several strong articulate women it attracts more than 500 women on the day. Glenda talks of the work she has been doing on the great stories of the civilization to which most of the women there that day belong; that in those stories there are a lot of women, but the women are mostly there because of how they relate to the men, the heroes; as consorts and mothers, as damsels in distress needing to be saved by the boys, or old hags; and terribly silent, their stories do not make it through to the great stories of our culture. She acknowledges this conference as having a part in sounding the diversity of women's voices. She has created a song for the day and sings Unveiling Our Voices, including the chorus

We women are changing the world

As we find our many voices

And hey, we are poets and leaders

We are mothers and lovers and keepers of the Earth

And oh, we are singers of songs –

We are singing the world anew.

It is the 1990s. The weekly circle of friends, the Temenos mob, feeling the pull of Telos decide to establish a Temenos journal, an Australian Jungian and Cultural Review. This has a central focus on how Jungian practice was evolving in Australia. We also hope to contribute to Australian culture by providing a space for personal expression, poetry and original visual art. Significant Jungian analysts, therapists and more from across Australia contribute. An ever-widening net of readers emerge and the first issue quickly goes into a second printing, with subscribers from across Australia and New Zealand and across the world. Our energies last but two years. We all have loads of professional, family and personal commitments which sadly conflict with maintaining a top quality international journal. We all move on along our telos paths. We all maintain the spirit of the Temenos in our ongoing connections with each other, in everything we do...

Always with the spirit of Glenda...

Rain spits in this dry land

And she cries at the serpent's bite

*As earth is seared in strike of light
She is riven with the splitting seed.
On the water comes dancing the goddess,
In the earth lies stirring the spore.
The cup is refilled with wine,
And the cry of the babe
And the song of the angel
Shall sound in the greening land.*

Extract from Spring in a small collection of Glenda's poems entitled To the Beloved 1988

[The Temenos Mob- now](#)

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