

THE STORY SO FAR -- FULL-LENGTH VERSION

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Salutations, traveller of the virtual world. At the time of writing, almost five full years have elapsed since I first built this website, and many things have changed -- both in my world, and in the world at large. My understanding of the universe, including our place within it, has also undergone considerable evolution, and even though I have yet to find a way of permanently avoiding intermittent stints in the proverbial crucible, the island of equilibrium to which I return seems to have a consistent collection of defining features.

For this reason, I feel more qualified than ever to be sharing my experiences and ideas, in the hope that others may feel empowered to transform the world they inhabit into one that resembles, as closely as possible, the one they dream of.

The last major crisis of faith I survived was so utterly crushing that I wondered whether I shouldn't simply shut down this site. There are people who are capable of continuing to go through the motions of their doctrine and continuing to say what they've always been saying, regardless of whether or not they believe themselves, but the truth is that I am not one of them.

I felt like a hypocrite: how could I preach to others about improving their own lives, when I was starting to suspect that I'd been wrong about the most fundamental premise of my belief system? The premise I'm referring to, of course, is the idea that individuals truly do have the power to transform their lives if they wish to do so, and if they apply themselves to this goal with adequate persistence.

I believe I have finally settled upon a satisfactory explanation why, even now, I occasionally experience such devastating sojourns in the abyss, when it seems the universe is intent on breaking my spirit. I will share my conclusions with you in a forthcoming post, but in the short term, it will be more useful to reflect on the story of how I arrived at the point from which I transmit this information to you today.

For the last two years or so, I've been oscillating from one extreme of the ideological spectrum to another. And I can't deny the gentle irony of how much my relatively newfound realisations resemble the sense of home from which I embarked on this journey in the first place. But now, the circle closes, and my search for meaning brings me to an exciting new starting point.

Since my early teens, I've been fascinated with the idea that reality and consciousness are mutually interactive phenomena -- on the basis of my own experiences as much as through fictitious explorations of this popular theme. I'd never even heard the term ["Law of Attraction"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_attraction_(New_Thought)) until a few years ago, let alone had any inkling of what a colossal industry had arisen around the concept.

But the overwhelming reason why I built this website in the first place, was because I had enjoyed such profoundly transformative success in the field of manipulating reality by a concentrated and sustained effort of will, that I simply wanted to share my happiness with as many other people as possible. My objective, then as now, was to offer both inspiration and information that virtually anyone could use to enrich their lives, just as I had been so fortunate to do.

I will explain my love-hate relationship with the Law of Attraction, in what you might call its default interpretation, at a later time. For now, it will suffice to say that when I discovered New Thought in the formal sense, I was overjoyed at the staggering quantity of freely accessible information regarding this subject, and I gorged myself on it like [Kanoashi](http://spiritedaway.wikia.com/wiki/No-Face_(Kaonashi)) from *Spirited Away*.

Being open-minded to a fault at times, I was swept along by one brand of ideology after another, and I made astronomical investments of time, effort, faith, and emotional as well as physical resources on my journey of discovery. It is worth mentioning that I have a pretty solid background in science -- so, although the conviction and authoritative tone of various teachers did make a powerful impression on me, I had no illusions about how poorly many of seemed to understand well-established scientific concepts such as relativity or quantum mechanics.

Nevertheless, I could see what they were trying to say, and I respected the message at face value, even if the details were rather sketchy in an academic sense. I went through one school of thought after another, and I suffered quite a few soul-destroying failures along the way. However, I cannot deny that I also enjoyed an even greater number of successes -- some of them, so implausible that even if I described them as accurately and objectively as I could, my reportage would still read like fiction.

The net result of my struggles has been something of a return to my roots. I have decided to respectfully part ways with the more popular ideas regarding how the Law of Attraction is supposed to work, and blaze my own unique path towards the future. I hasten to add that my decision to diverge from the standard patterns of New Thought is, more than anything else, an expression of my wish to see beyond the horizons of my predecessors by standing on the shoulders of giants.

From my new vantage point, it has become startlingly clear that I need to revise my own assumptions, overhaul this website and forge decisively ahead. Part of this process has meant thinning out some of my earlier blog entries, since they no longer have a central relevance to the service I can provide.

If there is one thing that pretty much all the people selling the Law of Attraction have in common, it is the seemingly unending flood of promises and postulations that they churn out. This deluge can leave one drowning in disillusionment if a person's actual outcomes are inconsistent with the lofty expectations that are built up by such fervent and persuasive hype.

It is for this reason that my first priority is to offer you practical techniques that anyone can try immediately, and by doing so, verify for yourself that measureable results are within your grasp. To me, the ultimate litmus test of any self-help strategy is the repeatability of its results: if people follow a set of instructions and consistently obtain the promised effects, then I for one believe the method is worth recommending.

I am not in the business of baiting people with all the limitless wealth they can supposedly attain very rapidly and without actual effort. I demand no payment for anything offered on my website or YouTube channel, although I do gratefully welcome any donations you may wish to send. I don't expect you to blindly follow my suggestions, either: quite on the contrary, I welcome and even invite thoughtful criticism, and I discuss this subject more extensively in my [mission](http://hideokuze.com/pages/about.html#My_purpose)

statement.

What I *will* say with conviction, is this: if you invest just a little time and effort to start with, the ideas I wish to share have the *potential* to completely transform your life. The reason I place such emphasis on potential is because I believe people already possess every tool they need to build a new reality for themselves. Yet despite this, I see so many people failing to make use of these tools -- and almost without exception, the reason comes down to their own decision not to.

I am personally and painfully aware of how crippling it can be to lose hope in the idea that one has any power at all to decide one's own future. However, also on the basis of my own experience, I can guarantee with complete certainty that it is possible to ignite the first glimmers of change after only a few days of consistent effort. In some instances, the transformative effects can take place even more quickly -- sometimes, within a matter of seconds.

If you have indeed tried time and again to improve your world, and your spirit has been decimated by one failure after another, let me reassure you that you do not even need to make any particular investment of faith or belief into my suggestions. All you need to risk... is a little time and effort. The return, potentially, is a life that resembles, much more closely, the one you would ideally wish to be living.

Ernest Hemingway once said, "We are all apprentices in a craft where no-one ever becomes a master." As a fellow student at the academy of life, I humbly invite you to travel with me awhile.

I am real. The message that I have to share is meaningful, and the assistance I can afford to offer others is genuine. Let me share this information with you: its potential for change is more powerful than all the armies of the world. Perhaps, you will use it to rewrite the story of your own life into a diegesis of triumph over adversity.

And as always, I do hope very much that there is a star shining brightly over your world right now.