

My Inheritance Journey

When my mother passed away in September of 2010, the last thing on my mind was the fact that I would be inheriting money. Although the illness that led to her death wasn't a complete surprise, I really thought she would pull through. At one point in her prognosis, it was a distinct possibility that all of her money would have gone to supporting her long-term care. My daily attentiveness to her languishing state in the hospital precluded all focus on the business aspects of what might be coming...as an Ennea-2, I had to process my feelings before being able to deal with any facts.

After the memorial service, when visitors left and the fog cleared enough to see past a few hours, then it hit me. My brother and I were receiving a significant inheritance.

The thought was overwhelming. So many friendly faces were willing to give advice, but it varied and often conflicted: Don't do anything hasty/Meet with a financial advisor right away. Rent out her house instead of selling it/Sell her house and be done with that responsibility. Voices in my head contributed to the confusion...how far was this money supposed to go, and how would I possibly please everyone in the fallout?

Diane Fromme



I felt that the par-
celing out of my mother's money was a huge decision even though I didn't fully understand the deeper psychological importance of the inheritance as the last tangible gift from my mother. How would I reconcile the voices, make decisions, and move forward? I'd never had more than about \$20K accumulation to my name. What in heaven's name was I going to do with 15 times that amount of money? What would be the responsible thing to do? And so, in savings it sat.

Luckily, my brother helped me by going through all of my mother's files. Then it was up to me to make the chart of assets and appropriations. Upon seeing the chart, I felt an odd mix of panic and excitement. This money could really help our family have an easier lifestyle; perhaps we could work less and enjoy each other more both at home and through travel together.

The inheritance research also unearthed some surprises. The largest of these was the discovery that my brother was listed as the only beneficiary for a very large annuity, whereas all the other assets were equally split. This seemed odd – was it an oversight on my mother's part? How many times had she purposefully mentioned that we should make
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Views on Enneagram and Integral

At a recent Enneagram-in-Seattle Study Group meeting, we got into a discussion about how to look at levels of health and/or development within the context of enneagram work. Many of those in attendance had more background in Enneagram Worldwide (the Palmer-Daniels approach in which levels are not emphasized) than in Riso-Hudson's levels-of-health approach (in which they are strongly emphasized). At that meeting, one of the persons present said she did not feel qualified to talk about levels because her training didn't really cover this; also, she wasn't sure that looking at levels was an idea about which she felt entirely comfortable. I too expressed some reservations about the idea of placing too much emphasis on levels (as opposed to differences in perspective).

However, because of my ongoing work linking the enneagram with Ken Wilber's Integral Operating System, I was aware that there is a very big focus on vertical levels within the Integral community, especially as seen through the lens of Spiral Dynamics (SD) and other vertically-oriented developmental scales (e.g., Lovinger's, Cook-Greuter's, and Wilber's adaptation of SD). And I was aware of the

developing relationship between Integral Institute and Enneagram Worldwide, as evidenced by the involvement of a number of Enneagram Worldwide teachers (e.g., Terri Saracino and Leslie Hershberger) interest in Integral work. (At that point, I was not yet aware that the topic of the next IEA conference would be "Mile-High and Integral"—nor that Helen Palmer would be giving the keynote address at the 2013 New Year's What Next Integral Conference. These latter developments make this topic even more timely.)

What I *did* know at that point was that, two weeks hence, the group was bringing Leslie Hershberger to Seattle for a workshop linking the enneagram with Wilber's Integral approach. I didn't know what topics she would cover, but given the levels-orientation of Integral work, I felt that this was a topic in need of discussion. As it turned out, a couple of days before Leslie arrived, she wrote an essay about her approach for distribution to workshop participants. Upon reading it, I wrote a reply. So this is the context for the two articles that follow.
—Susan Rhodes

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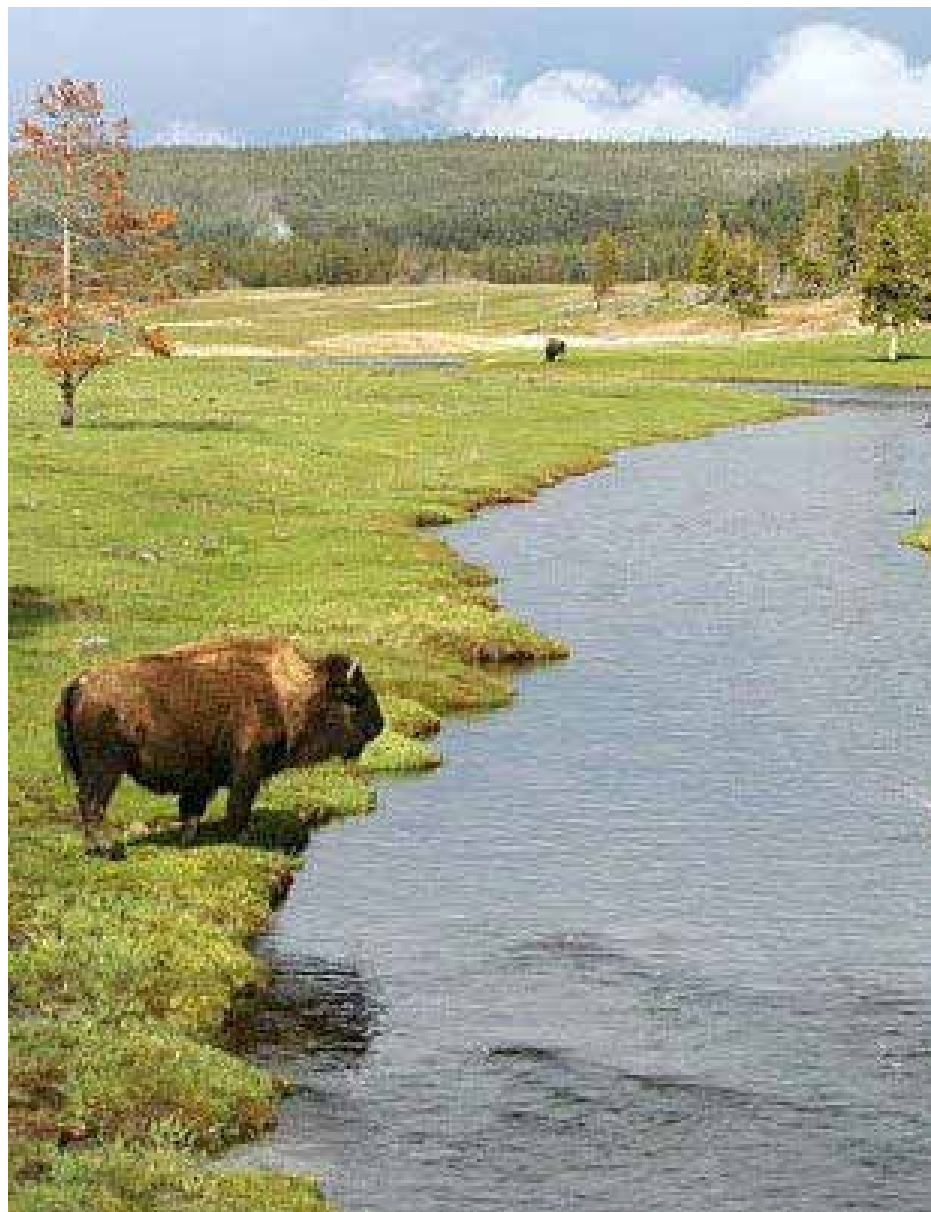
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We're back, refreshed and full of new resolutions after our little vacation trip to Yellowstone. I highly recommend not waiting for a life changing catastrophe (as in receiving bad news from our doctor, banker, some governmental regulating or taxing agency) or waiting for New Year's eve to make a resolution about something that was stuck in our craw for a long time. Why not, instead of carping about our inability to get down to deal with unpleasant business, *carpe diem* and break a protracted rut with a little vacation...Hmm, we'll have to remember that and do it again, soon.

So our little trip to Yellowstone turned out very well indeed. As soon as we left California, the quality of the roads jumped 200% and gas prices dropped some 20%. Well, but on that sliver near the coast where we live, the weather makes up for that. Crossing Nevada was actually a fairly smooth and peasant drive. We had miles and miles of perfect highways to ourselves most the time. The scenery changed in Utah towards more dramatic and then Idaho with its gentle rolling hills.

Approaching Yellowstone we could see the crumpling of the earth crust as we were driving through what seemed a geologic time warp. Every 600 000 years Yellowstone has a mega eruption that could wipe out half the population in the North American Continent; didn't happen this time, but it was impressive to see so much bubbling and sputtering was going on top of this "skinny" crust.

Our timing was perfect. The crowds had disappeared, the weather was pleasant during the day, nippy at night with snow only in the higher elevations (Bear-



tooth Pass was closed, arrgh!). We didn't see any bears (the photos are borrowed), but ran into plenty of buffalo, deer, small critters, crows (my favorites) and eagles. The park was fairly empty, no crowds and we criss-crossed it daily taking in the scenery and snapping a few pictures. Impressive. So much beauty, it's worth a trip

From the Editor

from anywhere.

Oh, and as to the resolutions, we actually got down to it and upon return spent a week re-organizing and cleaning old messes. Now we need to go on another vacation to find the strength and resolve to tackle the need to upgrade our

computers and programs...well, that will require finding a place that tops Yellowstone, any suggestions?

In this Issue:

"My Inheritance Journey" turned out to be quite a trip for **Diane Fromme**. Financial matters for many people are as taboo as speaking of sex used to be in the Victorian Age. Our schools (in the capitalistic USA!), offer almost zero training in money matters until higher education levels where you must choose courses on business, the economy or accounting to get the rudiments of how to deal with money. Whenever we hit with an unexpected "windfall" or problem, we are left to our own devices i.e. leaning towards the "automatic pilot" of our enneagram type. Our type of course, when challenged, will make us resort to our basic motivation and style, our default position.

Diane piloted through her Inheritance journey observing carefully her own impulses and dilemmas and noting the interplay of her "head versus heart and gut." There were few mentions of financial matters in these pages and would really appreciate similar stories from our readers.

"Views on Enneagram and Integral." In recent years due to enormous interest in the subject, "Integral" became a noun rather than an adjective. Since Ken Wilber put some fire under the transpersonal discourse a number of offshoots were "spawned" and Integral is one of them. **Susan Rhodes** wrote a number of articles on this subject in the past 3-4 years and her soon to be released third book is entirely focused on this subject.

Last month in Seattle, **Leslie Hershberger** gave a weekend workshop on using the enneagram in the context of Ken Wilber's Integral Operating System (IOS). Susan Rhodes was one of the attendees. As part of the preparation for the workshop, Leslie wrote a paper ("Worthwhile or Distracting") detailing some of her ideas; Susan wrote a reply ("Not Distracting but Perhaps Divisive"), detailing their views of what these two fields have to offer one another. These articles provide some grist for the mill for the upcoming 2013 IEA conference, "Mile-High and Integral." What are your thoughts on how the enneagram and Integral can inform one another? (We'd like to know—just keep those cards and letters comin'!)

"The Enneagram of Death, part 3" by **Liz Wagele** deals with the "other" rarely mentioned subject besides money...we all use money and we all will eventually die. It doesn't get more universal than that. Liz did a brilliant thing in collecting a number of personal stories from several writers of each type. Liz compiled them into a book adding her own stories and a bunch of cartoons to punctuate with humor the stories involving the grim reaper. In this issue we have two stories excerpted: *Accepting Death Without Fear* by **Georgia Bailey**, a Social Subtype type Six wing Five and *"If you don't give me the time I'm requesting, I'll push you out forever"* by **Helen Clarkson** a Sexual wing Seven type Eight.

And now to the "third" unmentionable subject, sex, that has eclipsed money and death in recent months -- "Sex, Love & Your Personality -- Type Three: the Achiever



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in Love” by **Mona Coates** and **Judith Searle**. Finally, we are catching up in this department of essential human behaviors and needs. We are so grateful for the impressive collection of interesting and illustrative of type real life stories from Mona’s therapy sessions and Judith’s literary skills. This month’s stories are about Two Sexual and two Social type Threes, a male and a female and their “issues”. Although type Three is particularly interested in performance, attractiveness and appearance in most areas, in the arena of sex we all probably will resonate with a lot of it.

“The Maya Series” by **Clare Cherikoff** is a humorous approach of the very serene (not to say serious) issue of enlightenment (or the state of unity) and its nemesis, Maya, the concrete world of multiplicity with its infinite diversity. 700 illustrations liven up this series that in a humorous way portrays the enneagram type dilemmas and tribulations we all muddle through life with in search of enlightenment. Meanwhile, we keep bumping into all those neat distractions that Maya throws in our way. It’s a trilogy available at Amazon. Come to think of it, it’s the first

cyber trilogy with the enneagram in mind (that’s trilogy, not trinity).

“Book Review: *The Enneagram of Death* by Elizabeth Wagele” intrigued **Courtney Behm** enough to write a review. It’s odd how a universally significant aspect of life (and the surrender thereof) has escaped scrutiny from the enneagrammatic perspective for so long. Well, enough said. It “caught up” with us now and hopefully we will get more submissions on the subject.

