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The Addicts

by Douglas Cole

When Dan and Amy arrived at the coffee shop at the same moment, there was no doubt in either one's mind that this was no coincidence! They embraced, smiled, stood back and raised their hands, palm to palm, and summoned the energy of the universe and the energy of their souls there, in a ball between their hands.

Namaste.

Om Shanti.

The Buddha in you!

No, you!

No, you!

And they laughed. They were friends, sure, but old soul friends, friends from how many lifetimes back and to come—they had maybe shared a body once. They were convinced...something connected them.

Chai?

Groovy!

And they drifted on their spirit legs over to the couches with a million things to say and nothing at all because that's the way of the void— But Dan was his usual stone animated monkey self, head bouncing, Yeah, yeah, hey, you know I went to an aura cleansing workshop the other day!

Oh, cool...I want to go!

Yeah. It was great. It was beautiful! A total aura peel, you know what I mean?

Tell me!

Yeah, you know—peel off all that muck that accumulates, you know, like a chemical peel for your soul! The adjuster said my aura was as flat as a bad soufflé. But afterwards, woah!! My aura was towering like a soul erection! Automatic grocery store doors were opening miles away!

They laughed.

You nut! she said, and she kissed him on the cheek. He was pleasantly confused, lost his train of thought for a moment, face going blank and then back to a smile...yah!

So you going to the regression workshop? she asked.

Nah, not this time. Unless you're going? I might go if you're going? Are you going?

I don't know.

Yeah? You know, I did one of those already. Let's see...I was a warrior, a spirit guide...I've been building up to be a healer! See, that's my thing this time around. I'm supposed to be a healer, but, not like in the fucking conventional ways, you know? Like, degrees and shit. Huh! I'm supposed to heal with my body through dancing, right? And music, right? Like, my body is this lightning rod—

Ooooh! Lightning rod, huh?

Yeah, yeah!

You keeping it polished?

Oh, come on! He was delightfully confused again, slipped out of his mask, then said...yeah, yeah...like, I've been self-ministering for a long time!

Oh really? she said, smiling. Self love is a beautiful thing! And she raised her eyebrows, nestling her lip at the edge of her cup. She loved to tease him this way.

So, anyway, he said, fuck! I was at this ecstatic dance the other night, right?

Yeah...ooh, I want to do that, too!!

You should come with me!

Sure!

Anyway, I was at this dance, right? And it's fucking cool. I mean, it's all hot and sweaty and funky and I was just grooving, you know, and shedding, like, twenty years of bullshit and of course, you know, trying to pick up on girls! And I was dancing near this one chick, and I thought, just send it out, right? Just try it? And so I did, you

know...and she reacted, right? Like, fuck! She just lit up and came over and we were bumping and grinding our sacral chakras all over the place, and I just knew...I was made for this, right? The energy just flows...so...

So, what's next?

Oh! Oh! You'll love this! After I got the aura cleansing, I met this woman at a stone reading, right? And she told me about this class you can take to find your spirit guides, right? It's like speed-dating for spirit guides!

Right on, she said, laughing. You!

I am so totally down for it!

You go, you!

Yeah, yeah...get it, see, I just love so much, you know, I just want to send as much love into the universe as I can, right? I mean, what the fuck are we here for? And like... sure, maybe along the way I might get laid, that would be groovy, too, sure, but that's not really what it's about, you know? It's me, see, and I am just making myself this vessel for love. Cause, like, God is in the gap, right?

The gap?

You know! Our bodies are just all these molecules, right? Full of empty space, right? So, I say, fuck it! Fill the gap with love!

Fill the gap with love! You goof!

Yeah, yeah, he said, trying not to lose his train of thought. So, now, I'm thinking, how am I going to do that? How am I going to fill the gap with love?

I can think of a few ways!

Huh! Yeah....oh, man! Like.....huh! So....yeah, I'm just going to be and think love, you know, all the time! Like my friend Ben said—you know, I keep aging, right? He says, yeah, you keep aging, but you keep going back. He says, you keep going back to being eighteen. And, like, this is my fourth time being eighteen, right? So this time I'm going to be a lightning rod healer, you know? It's so cool, man, I'm so stoked!

Ahhh, she said, look at you! And she leaned in and kissed him on the cheek and hugged him and held him for a long time and said...I love you!

And once again, he was pleasantly confused and laughed and held her and said, yeah...wow...I love you, too! But he knew, then and there, whatever it was—the gap, the void, God, even—it was always there, and it was always between them.