Why Knowledge is not Power

- and why the Philosopher’s Stone is not given to those who will use it!

It is often said that knowledge is power but this is a misperception. Knowledge is knowledge. Power is power. The two are separate commodities that should not be confused.

Knowledge is the acquisition of information. Power is a kinetic or moving energy. Useful knowledge combined with the right amount of positive power has the ability to create magnificent things in the world. By contrast, knowledge and power in the wrong mind is a global catastrophe. We need look no further than Hitler, or at any of the world’s wars created solely by man, to witness the capacity of devastation.

Why it is important to understand the difference between knowledge and power is that I have seen many ‘intelligent’ people, who no doubt have a lot of knowledge, drift over ‘to the dark side’ because they quite simply lacked a really important quantity – a muscle! Yes, knowledge requires a mind muscle to handle it, otherwise the temptation for an inverted ego to hijack it is immense. Your ego, when you have performed the necessary psychological acrobatics to make friends with it, is your best friend, but up until that point the ego is all about power and the management of it. We need to develop a muscle for knowledge and a muscle for power. Anyone who got flattered into a promotion that they had not the muscle to manage (that led them into a breakdown) will testify to this.
Knowledge enables us to form more accurate opinions and perceptions, leading us to making better decisions. Power enables us to conduct ourselves – quite literally!

On the upside, when your power is low, the ego will bring this to your attention by creating anxiety. Whilst this is the subject of another article, briefly, anxiety is a good thing in that it indicates you need to recharge. On the downside, when your power is being challenged, the ego will bring this to everyone else’s attention by creating war.

So how does someone develop a muscle for knowledge? The answer is to pace oneself. To gather information, then close the book, then allow a few days to pass as the knowledge becomes assimilated with prior understanding into the memory banks in the mind. Knowledge downloaded too fast from either a library or the Ether, can overload and cave a mind in. The neurological system of the mind frazzles under electrical activity overload. Slow down and learn not to use the knowledge you have been given.

How does one develop a muscle for power? By learning how to channel energy in the right amount, in the right way. Managing power, especially in huge volts, largely comes down to our ability to know when and how to ground it - and switch it off. Particularly when off duty!

Educate yourself. Accrue knowledge every day. Practice power management. And learn when to use, or more importantly, when not to use either. And then one day, just maybe, you might be shown the Philosopher’s Stone.

_All good things,

Carole_