

LETTERS 191

YES

By Rudyard Kipling

If you can stand firm when all around you
Everyone is obfuscating and criticizing your integrity,
If, when everyone doubts, you trust in your courage
And at the same time you know how to excuse their weakness.
If you can wait and to your eagerness put flange,
Or target of lies, wield the truth,
Or being hated to hatred to leave no room for it
And you neither extol your judgment nor flaunt your goodness;

If you dream, but the dream does not become your king;
If you think and thinking does not diminish your ardors;
If triumph or disaster does not impose its law on you
And you treat them the same, like two impostors;
If you can bear that your sincere phrase
Be a trap of fools in the mouth of the wicked,
Or you look at your beloved chimera in shreds
And turn it or forge it with notched tools;

If all your profits by putting in a pile
You risk them daringly in a stroke of chance,
And you lose them and then with brave heart
Not to mention the losses, you start over;
If you can keep up in the rough fight
Alert thinking and muscle tightening
To use them when everything in you falters
Minus the will that tells you: "Go ahead".

If among the mobs you give virtue shelter;
If, marching with kings, you have triumphed in pride
If neither friend nor foe can hurt you;
If you are good with everyone, but not too good
If you can fill the precious minutes
With sixty seconds of fierce combat,
Yours is the Earth and its coveted fruits
And what matters most, you will be a Man my son.

Here is the spoken portrait of a Real and Sacred Initiate. YUG, YOGA, YOGISM. Version 1948 and the following 2000.

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www.redgfu.net/jmn

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Please feel free to forward opinions and corrections.