

Escaping The Patriarchy

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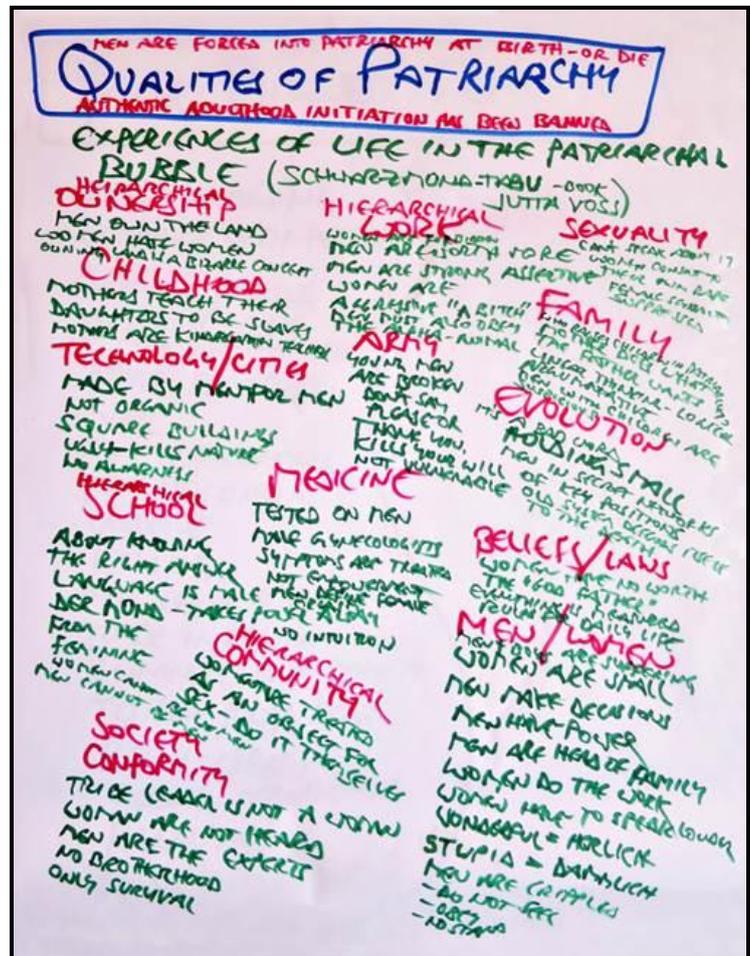
(NOTE: Possibility Management is open code thoughtware. The copyleft notice affirms that this material cannot be copyrighted. The use limit is to assure that if an unqualified person tries to deliver this initiation and runs into problems, they alone are responsible. This is a powerful adulthood or archetypal initiatory process that tends to catalyze expansion in personal consciousness. It needs to be delivered within a specifically held context by a person with a specific skill level, quality of consciousness, and intention.)

FORMAT: This is a 3-hour-long loud massive process, very physical, designed for groups of 15 or more people in a Possibility Lab setting. This means it should be delivered within a 3 to 5 day extended training space so there is plenty of preparation and integration time. It can create huge life-changing liquid states. This is not recommended for workshops.

PURPOSE: To use group rage to create a safe but transformational space in which men and women can help each other symbolically – and yet also somehow in reality – escape from the crippling morphogenetic field of modern culture’s capitalist patriarchal empire. No one can do this work for you. No one can stop you from doing it.

PREPARATIONS

If the process is going to work, and there is no guarantee that it will work, you will need to have three thick sturdy bed mattresses already in the training room. Thin foam mattresses will NOT do. The mattresses should be in the training room from the beginning of the training on, ostensibly to be used for simultaneous personal processes, for example, Possibility Making in groups of 3.



PROCEDURE

On day 2 or 3 of a training, after the participants can already feel their feelings and are energetically present, call them to sit in cauliflower formation around the flipchart board in their chairs. The two Trainers stand in the front of the room and ask people to describe in

detail how the various qualities of the capitalist patriarchal empire of modern culture influence our lives. (See sample flipchart map.)

Trainers write details as fast as they can in various life categories such as WORK, FAMILY, SEXUALITY, LAWS, MEDICINE, CITY DESIGN, BUSINESS, ORGANIZATION DESIGN, RELATIONSHIP, TECHNOLOGY, ENTERTAINMENT, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, RELIGION / SPIRITUALITY, etc. The attitude of the Trainers is intellectual, cold, hard, behaving like patriarchal authority figures. Perhaps the male Trainer speaks more dominantly while the female Trainer is more silent and smiling. This must be subtle and matter-of-fact, *as if nothing out of the ordinary is going on.*

DO NOT 'ACT' THESE ROLES OUT. DO NOT OVER DO THIS. IT IS NOT A SHOW. Your behavior needs to be subtle but pervasive, as if you do not know what you are doing, as if it is normal, automatic, as if you are the prison guards and they are the prisoners and this class about the patriarchy is what you have been told to do with the prisoners now. The space should feel like a mandatory school curriculum studying the effects of patriarchy.

Of course, everybody already knows the horrible and horrifying effects of patriarchy. But since we were born and raised in the capitalist patriarchal empire we have had to learn to endure the pain and insanity of patriarchy for our whole lives. We endure it mostly by keeping the pain and insanity suppressed and unconscious. We try to forget about it. This time at the flipchart board is intended to make the pain and insanity AS PAINFUL AND INSANE AS POSSIBLE by clearly naming it and writing it on the flipchart.

The unspoken question for participants in the space is, *Why are we doing this to ourselves? Why do we agree to live like this with each other? Why do we support the patriarchy continuing? Why are we sheep? Why do we not speak out? Why do we do nothing differently? Why do the women teach their daughters how to live as a sex-slave in a patriarchal empire instead of teaching them how to be women with dignity and self-respect? Why do the fathers model to their sons to give away their souls to be a Zombie in the patriarchy? (You support the values of whatever gameworld you play in. A *Zombie* is defined as someone who is not aware of the values they support.)*

Write small on the flipchart board. Give no idea that you are going to do anything other than keep writing down the insanely painful consequences of living in a patriarchal culture. Be willing to patiently write for hours. You may need to do it for hours. Do not ask any other questions. Simply keep documenting the insanity and the pain.

If this process works (and there is no guarantee that it will), then as some point after an hour or so, someone will start trying to destroy the space. They may be polite about it. Their Gremlin may start side-talking. They may fidget around in their seat. They may complain to someone. They may ask why you are doing this.

Do not answer their question reasonably. Just say you are studying the effects of living in a patriarchal culture. However, have the secret intention that they start becoming conscious of their feelings and emotions. THEIR IRRITATION IS THEIR SAVIOR. Their righteous rage is their way out of this insane and painful concept prison called Capitalist Patriarchal Empire.

WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? They have lived in there for their whole lives. They are still living in there. They have so far done approximately nothing to get out of the patriarchy.

Why not? Why have they not escaped the patriarchy before now?

1. Because they didn't know how.
2. Because they did not see anybody else doing it.
3. Because they had no role models.
4. Because they did not know it was possible.
5. Because they did not know it was allowed.
6. Because there are some nice things in the patriarchy, like iPhones, and McDonald's, and cars that look cool and can drive fast.
7. Because they do not want to be punished.
8. Because they do not want to make their parents wrong.
9. Because they do not want to feel all alone out there beyond the thoughtlimits of the patriarchy.

These are all reasons. That is all. They are reasons that we have sold our souls to. They are unconscious reasons we use to unconsciously justify our unconscious decisions to unconsciously waste lives as victims and slaves in patriarchal governments and companies rather standing up and trusting out own inner knowing and doing something completely different.

The moment when these people start standing up for themselves to live something completely different could in reality begin during this authentic adulthood initiatory process... that is, if you hold and navigate the space well.

You standing in front of the flipchart in the prison classroom might start to crumble apart.

If this process is going to work then it must come from the participants that they start standing up and shouting.

Shouting at each other. Shouting at themselves. Shouting at the patriarchy. Shouting at the flip chart board. Shouting at you the trainers for doing this patriarchal shit on them.

You must not get offended. You must not be hookable. You must not justify yourselves as Trainers. Instead be dumbfounded. Act stupid. Be shocked. Be scared. Go to the edge of sanity along with the participants because they are breaking the RULE. The RULE is DO NOT QUESTION THE PATRIARCHY.

IF YOU ARE LUCKY THE TRAINING SPACE WILL GO INTO COMPLETE BREAKDOWN. Your neat little training space must be destroyed by the participants.

THERE MUST BE CHAOS. There must be hatred, and grief, and angry hopeless gestures, and shouting, and the terror of repercussions.

IF THE SPACE DOES NOT ERUPT and COLLAPSE IN CHAOS YOU HAVE FAILED TO ENTER THE SPACE WHERE THIS PROCESS IS POSSIBLE.

And... *you cannot take the space into chaos by your own intention* as the Trainers. That will kill the possibility of people taking back their own authority, their own voices, their own choices, their own capacity to determine the qualities of the culture they want to live in. The patriarchal order needs to be destroyed by the participants of the patriarchal order, or the whole thing is fake.

If the Trainers lead into the chaos process then the Trainers are still the authority!!!

When people have pushed the chairs aside and are agitated and shouting around and don't know what to do, then **one of the Trainers should drag out the three thick mattresses**. Do this as if by accident. Do this without taking control of the space, without giving instructions, without even knowing that you know what you are doing. **DO NOT ALREADY KNOW HOW THIS GOES**. Lay one thick mattress on the floor as a soft place to start and land if you make it through the wall, and – perpendicular to this – stack two thick mattresses sideways on top of each other to build a wall (see photo below).

(I wish I had taken action photos. If you ever do this, also please take some photos for me of people trying to get through the wall of the patriarchy, legs sticking out, people holding them back for fear, people trying to help them through on the other side... etc. Thank you.)

Trainers start by helping to hold up the two mattresses – the patriarchal wall. If it is necessary you can point to the mattress wall one time and shout, *“This is the patriarchy. Can you get out of it?”*



(Note: This is a simulation only. No real pieces of bread were abused to make this photograph. – Clinton)

HOLDING THE WALL

Someone will understand the challenge. Someone will get it. Someone will start trying to dig themselves through the wall. At this point there needs to be people helping to protect the wall to make the struggle difficult. ***It needs to be nearly impossible to get through the wall for this initiation to work.***

People need to yell and sweat and curse and struggle and fight to get through the wall. **IF IS TOO EASY OR IF IT HAPPENS TOO FAST THEN YOU AS TRAINERS HAVE FAILED TO CREATE THE ARCHETYPAL INITIATORY PROCESS FOR THEM.** Please do not fail them by making the escape too easy.

There is no method of escape. If people start thinking that there is a method of escape you have failed.

The patriarchy... It is a wall. What is anybody going to do about it? It is fortified, strong, protected. Yet we are inventive human beings. There are *always* new ways through the wall. People can go through the slit in the middle between the two mattresses. People can go under the two mattresses. People can go over the two mattresses. People can knock the mattresses down entirely. Every successful escape is a success for everyone and everyone cheers for them! **“SOMEONE HAS MADE IT OUT!!! IT IS POSSIBLE!!! WE CAN GET OUT!!! ANYONE WHO WANTS TO CAN ESCAPE THE PATRIARCHY. LET’S KEEP TRYING!!! LET’S KEEP HELPING EACH OTHER OUT!!!”**

Pay careful attention that each person consciously and personally makes the decision to escape the patriarchy – or not. If they decide to escape, pay careful attention that they do it how and exactly when they choose to. Do not let others rescue or force someone to go through the wall and escape the patriarchy.

Some people will not make it. This is reality. Some will choose not to try. Let this be so.

COACHING THE FREE

As soon as one or two people have made it through the wall they tend to stand on the free side exhausted, automatically playing an *“I win, you lose”* game. The game is in their cells. They don’t know any better.

They escaped and then they stand there free and stupidly watching other people struggling and failing.

It is the Trainer’s job to shout loudly and shockingly at them over and over, ***“Hey!!! Wake up!!! What the fuck do you think you are doing standing here? Look at yourself! What are you doing? Nothing!!! You are doing nothing! You are still only thinking of yourself!! Wake up!!! There are millions of people still back there suffering. Try to help the others!! Shout to those who are back on the other side of the wall!!! Call to them!! Say, “Hey! There is another side! You can get out! I made it! It is safe over here!” They don’t know you made it!! They don’t know you are alive and free over here. Stop keeping it a secret!!! Shout to them that there is another side!! Shout to them that it is possible to escape the patriarchy!! Shout courage to them!! Tell them to try, and try again, and try again!!! Jeeezes!!!”***

SECURITY OFFICER PHASE 1

At this point one of the trainers, best the male, should shift identity and take on the character of a policeman or security guard. Start calmly and peacefully standing in front of the prison side of the wall with your arms crossed and loudly declare, *“Stop. Go back home. This is against the law. You are breaking the law. This is illegal. Calm down. You will be arrested. Go back to watching TV. Go back to your jobs. This is not safe. Go back to the bar and drink a lot of beer. Go back to watching soccer on TV. This is not legal.”*

Some people might try to physically move you away. Do not fight them, otherwise they might actually hurt you. *(It is your job to follow the rule to not get hurt! Their hatred and pain from being in the patriarchy runs deep in their cells and is still mostly unconscious and explosive. Do not get hurt and do not hurt them.)* Instead of resisting them, let them move you out of the way, and then come back in place from another direction as if you were a different security officer.

SECURITY OFFICER PHASE 2

When people are ignoring you and people start to get the idea how to go through the wall of the patriarchy it is time for the Security Officer to increase their fear and their resistance. Now you start saying,

1. *“No! No! Please do not leave the patriarchy!”*
2. *“What will we do without you???”*
3. *“We need you to stay at your jobs!”*
4. *“Please keep working in our corporations!”*
5. *“The army needs soldiers!!”*
6. *“It is not safe over there!!”*
7. *“Nobody knows what is over there!”*
8. *“You might go crazy!!”*
9. *“You will lose all your friends!!!”*
10. *“You will be alone over there!”*
11. *“Who knows what will happen to you?”*
12. *“You will be lost!”*
13. *“You will lose all your money!!!”*
14. *“You will lose your credibility!!”*
15. *“Don’t do it! Stay here!”*
16. *“We need people in the army and the workforce!!”*
17. *“Don’t leave us!! You will go crazy!!”*

At the same time you can start trying to hold people back by gripping their ankles when they are halfway through the wall. You can hold the cuff of their pants, their socks, or their feet. Again, be careful to not get kicked in the face. *If you get hurt it is your own fault.* Stay nimble AND create physical resistance. Even if you get kicked do not stop the process. If there is a little blood from rug burns or scrapes, or a bloody nose, this is what it takes to get out of the patriarchy.

Also beware that other participants might rip your hands away from their friends who are escaping the patriarchy. They are fighting for them so they can live, so they can have freedom. They might be quite aggressive towards you, shouting at you, pulling your hands off them. *This is perfect.* This is wonderful. Shout back at them and try to protect your totally insane patriarchal systems and laws, but you have already lost. They are leaving.

SECURITY OFFICER PHASE 3

It is possible that near the end of the escaping the security officer is still standing there in front of the wall warning away any other citizens saying, *"This is illegal. This is dangerous. You might get arrested for this. There is criminal law. You should go back to your hobbies. Stay calm and return to your jobs."* The security officer might be the last person on the patriarchy side of the wall. It is possible that someone could say, *"Push him through!"*

If this happens, it is an amazing experience. This happened to me (Clinton) and I did not resist. I also did not help trying to go through the wall because, of course, there are security cameras watching. If they saw that I was trying to go through then I would be a criminal. But neither did I resist them pushing me through the wall backwards. I was actually curious about what might be on the other side, and after so many people had gone through already and none came back I did not want to be left behind playing in a stupid gameworld.

But on the way through my whole identity as a security guard collapsed. As I dropped onto the mattress on the floor on the other side I had no idea who or where I was anymore. I was completely liquid. Without speaking a sweaty exhausted woman gathered me up into her arms like the baby that I was. She held me kindly and rocked me back and forth, gently wiping the sweat off my face with her hand. Finally I said, *"Where am I?"* She said, *"I don't know."* I said, *"I feel scared."* She said, *"Me too."* I said, *"What happens now?"* She said, *"I don't know."* She was speaking the radical truth and this was good enough for me. She just kept rocking me in her arms for about half an hour. Something new started growing in me. I got to start over from the beginning. As I looked around, a lot of the men were babies again and being held by the women. It is true, that men at birth must decide to join the patriarchy or die. As I left the patriarchy behind I got to start all over again as a baby.

WRAP UP

As the great escape slowly comes to an end it may be clear that a few people did not make it through the wall. Some people did not escape the patriarchy. Respect their choice. They have very good reasons for not doing this now. You can trust their process. They may be in liquid states of defiance and confusion. Some people may be trying to rescue them, or trying to help them justify their decisions. Gently interfere with any Low Drama.

The wall will eventually drop to the floor all by itself when people let go of it. Gravity will pull it down. Do not clean up the mess now. Do not pick up tissues or put things back into order.

Without saying anything, without being an authority, you can slowly stand with your arms held out sideways around someone's shoulders and slowly collect people to stand at your side, sweaty, bruised, exhausted, in a tight circle of heroes. Be sure to include everyone in the celebration circle, especially those who chose not to escape just now.

Nothing needs to be said. Some people may want to say something. This is a time to invisibly navigate space very strictly. People are innocent and trusting. Be careful of any Gremlins who may want to use the oneness experience to call in The Great Dark Mother and give thanks (or whatever... This is a real example.). Be careful of anyone trying to speak as "WE" or speak in the name of everyone. This is not a time for that. Put your sword instantly at their throat and make the boundary, *"I don't want you to speak for me. I will speak for myself."* even if your Box wants to agree with their emotional nostalgic proclamations.

This is independence day. Yes, the independence depends on interdependence... and... the space of not knowing at this point needs to be protected as a whole. That is your job as Guardian. **DO NOT FALL ASLEEP IN THE ONENESS!**

This is a time of not knowing, of being, of being together in not knowing, and of success. Invite people to take a half-hour mostly-silent break, walking around outside if possible. You can all clean up the mess later when starting the next session, if you ever want to. Or leave it as a reminder of your success.