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SYNERGISTIC EMERGENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

# *PNE Inspirations*

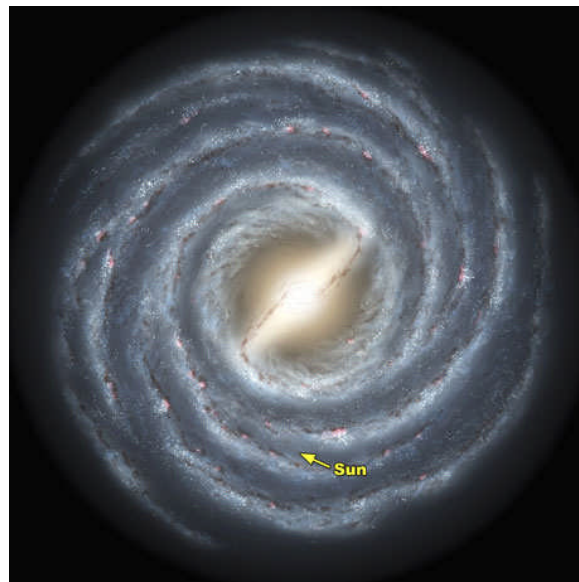
March/April 2006

## ***"Dancing In Chaos"***

**"Someday, after we have mastered the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness the energies of love. Then, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire"**

-Pierre Teilhard De Chardin (1881-1955)

***Our spotlight*** this issue shines on "**chaos.**" I found life is a lot simpler when you quit trying to expect order from a universe that, at its essence, is chaotic. Think about it. The mothers who parent effectively do it because they factor in the constant barrage of interruptions and chaos the kids bring in, on a daily basis, to every task. Breakdowns such as emotional and physical injury, communication misunderstandings, trauma, environmental catastrophes and everything else that hasn't been mentioned are *guaranteed to happen*. Chaos doesn't stop the effective mother. She may be deterred, but never daunted. She found out a secret ... life is chaotic, and you either go with the flow, or suffer. Saying, "***This shouldn't be happening,***" is deadly. It's like putting yourself in front of a bull, with your hand up, and saying, "STOP!" The best thing to do is step out of the way, and let the action complete its course.



For me, mastery takes this entire 'going with the flow' theme one step further. I have seen that masters not only flow, but they **Dance IN Chaos**. What is always in the background, in this chaotic dance, is love.

You hear about the POWER of love ... but *it's really true!* It's love that allows great teachers, artists, athletes, healers, doctors, managers, leaders, etc., to perform and produce phenomenal results. When you're operating from love, you have a reservoir of energy and inspiration that is *extra-ordinary*.

In the recent winter Olympics in Torino, Italy, a remarkable thing happened in the pairs figure skating. The Chinese pair, Zhang/Zhang (who are married), pulled off a miracle. They were skating the long program which meant it was going to be *long* and physically demanding. Right in the beginning, at the first execution of a dangerous maneuver, the husband lost balance while throwing his wife in the air and she landed on the ice face down, banging up her knee and losing her breath, not to mention her confidence ... only for a moment though! She got up ... checked in with herself, husband, and coach, and then chose to go for it again! Zhang Dan wasn't saying, "This shouldn't be." What happened next was beautiful, stirring, moving, inspiring and downright unbelievable. They danced an almost flawless performance that in the end gave them the silver medal. In one moment was chaos ... in the next, a courageously vulnerable, committed performance that touched all who watched. The world witnessed LOVE in ACTION on the ice that night.



**Zhang Dan and Zhang Hao at the Torino Winter Olympics, February 2006**

Vulnerability and commitment are two of the main cornerstones of love's foundation. Please don't confuse commitment in this way with being limited to commitment to another person. The commitment I am illuminating is something very large and all encompassing. It's a commitment to aliveness ... a commitment to all of life ... to vitality, to vibrancy! Love is whole in its nature, which commitment as its foundation gives.

Love is clearly not infatuation. Love is not externally based. Real love is chaotic and impossible to contain or define. It's something that burns from the inside out, like fire. **It uses you**. I know it is kind of scary to think of chaos (love) using you. We spend our whole lives avoiding being used ... not only would we be being used by love but we would be out of

control as well. This is bad news for control freaks. Look at any of them you know -- they tend to suffer from a lack of intimacy and usually don't look very fulfilled. To allow chaos/love to use you, *you need to be willing to let go*. If you really do this you'll discover something amazing. Instead of experiencing a disorienting, fearful, confusing view of the world, you'll find simplicity. Your day will feel like you're always in the right place at the right time; people will seem more interesting and playful. You'll feel that the strawberry you've just eaten is the most delicious food you've ever tasted. In the heart of chaos is an experience of your life being perfect just the way it is and not the way it's not.

Once you've **Danced IN Chaos** you're hooked! Nothing else can compare. Yes, the sublime dance of chaos is risky; as I said, breakdowns are guaranteed. However, you're stronger than you know. As the famous quote goes, "It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." Bring out your dancing shoes!

**"When you've gone so far that you can't imagine one more step, then you've gone just half the distance that you're capable of."**

*-Greenland Proverb*