

Rajan Sankaran

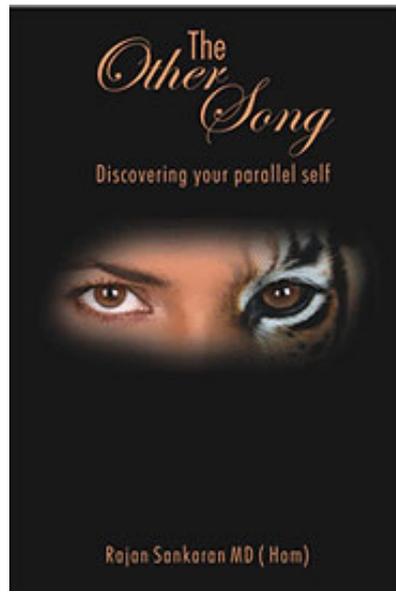
The Other Song

Reading excerpt

[The Other Song](#)

of [Rajan Sankaran](#)

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A Map To The Inner World

*Through careful observation, we come to
the paradoxical conclusion that ,
'each human being lives
two lives simultaneously'.*

The dictionary defines paradox as, "that which is apparently absurd (or contradictory) but is, or maybe, really true". Life is full of paradoxes. Scientists advance in their understanding only by accepting the truth of their observations, however seemingly contradictory, and seeking an explanation for

them. Modern physicists were forced by their observations to accept the paradox that light can behave as a wave form in certain experiments, and as particles in other types of experiments. Although wave and particle appear contradictory to us, both are true of the nature of light.

Although the statement each of us lives two lives simultaneously initially appears contradictory, a careful observation of human nature shows it to be true. To quickly recapitulate the earlier observations, one is our life as a human being where energy sings the human song. On delving deeper, we find a completely different world inside which seems to sing the 'Other Song' altogether, another melody. This other melody is not innately human but is a reflection of a pattern that we have borrowed from nature - be it from a plant, a mineral, or an animal. Therefore this energy pattern is appropriate to nature, not to us. We have borrowed it to cope with our perception of reality.

The natural world consists of the animal, the plant, and the mineral kingdoms. The energy of each of these kingdoms is very different, as outlined below. As humans, we borrow an energy pattern (from one of these kingdoms) which corresponds to our inner way of perceiving and reacting. Depending on which kingdom is the 'source' of the 'Other Song' within a given individual, human beings can be mapped into one of these three kingdoms. There is an innate difference in the basic problem issue of persons belonging to each of these three kingdoms.

Thus the basic problem in a person whose 'Other Song' is from:

- * The plant kingdom is that of heightened sensitivity,
- * That from the animal kingdom is survival, competition, and victim / aggressor issues, and
- * The mineral kingdom is a feeling of deficiency in his own make-up, his own structure, or a fear of losing a part of his structure.

THE RECOGNITION OF THE 'PLANT SONG'

The basic quality of a plant is 'Sensitivity'.

It is a living organism rooted to the soil, unable to move. To survive it needs to be sensitive to changes in the external environment and also capable of adapting to these unavoidable changes. Plants are extremely sensitive to all the changes in their internal as well as external environment.

Changes in

the soil constituents alter the growth rate of a plant.

We all

know that plants grow in the direction of sunlight.

Experiments have shown that even the slightest change in the atmosphere, including barometric changes, have tangible effects on plants. A plant is always a

true

reflection of its environment. For example, the nettle, grown in a shaded area, will be tall as it reaches towards the light, with wide delicate leaves spread out to absorb maximum light. The same growing in a bright sunny place will look very different; it will be



The *Other Song*

shorter with much smaller tougher leaves in response to the greater sunlight. All observation confirms the acute sensitivity and reactivity of the plant family to all factors in their immediate environment.

The book 'The Secret Life of Plants' by Tompkins and Bird highlights this incredible quality of plants. In experiments they were able to establish that plants have sensitivity many times more than humans. They could even read and react¹ to the intentions of the human approaching them. They could be sensitive to what was happening to someone who cared for them even though the event was happening in another city.

These features are also descriptive of a person whose 'Other Song' (or 'non-human song') is similar to the energy of a plant. He is of a sensitive nature. He is influenced by many things and is continuously adjusting and adapting to them. Emotionally, he gets affected very easily and he is expressive of his state, both through speech and gesture. His hands often move in all directions as he expresses himself.

The expressions he uses are:

**"I am affected by this", "I am sensitive to this",
"This hurts me", "I can't bear it", "This touches me."**

These expressions show him to be a sensitive and emotional person. His feelings are most important to him, and he has a constant fear of being hurt or offended,

THE CRISIS TYPE

"The situation is suddenly critical, but if I make an urgent, intense effort I can regain my security."

The Crisis Type has the feeling of a sudden, unexpected crisis which, if handled correctly, can be overcome. The reaction to any crisis is therefore one of immediate and intense struggle. The Crisis Type readily perceives this acute threat, but unlike the Panic Type, perceives himself as having the inner capacity to save the situation, through intense, concentrated effort on his own part. He feels he must rapidly regain his previous position of comfort and security, since there is always the inherent threat of sinking further during the time of crisis. Once the crisis is past, all is well with him again.

For example, if there is a bomb blast, the reaction to it is acute and instinctive; the situation is life threatening and warrants acute panic and immediate response i.e. escape. In contrast, if one's house is on fire, the response needed is one of intense struggle, a concentrated swift effort to put out the fire and resolve the crisis. Similarly, if a person owns shares and the stock market suddenly crashes, he will feel the threat of a sudden acute drop in his financial security. However, an intense, concentrated effort can result in the recovery of his fortune. Once the loss is recovered, the need for the effort ceases because a position of security and comfort has been regained.

Stage of life exemplary of the *Crisis type's attitude*

These reactions are typically seen in childhood. The attitude here is one of impatience. The person has to regain lost ground over a short period of time. He is therefore impatient, demanding, wanting things immediately, and grabbing things only for himself.

Dreams representative of *the Crisis type's perceived situation*

Dreams that typically signify the feelings of 'crisis management' would be an emergency room situation where the person is constantly facing an unexpected crisis which if handled correctly can be completely overcome.

The Game that mirrors the *Crisis type's pattern* of action

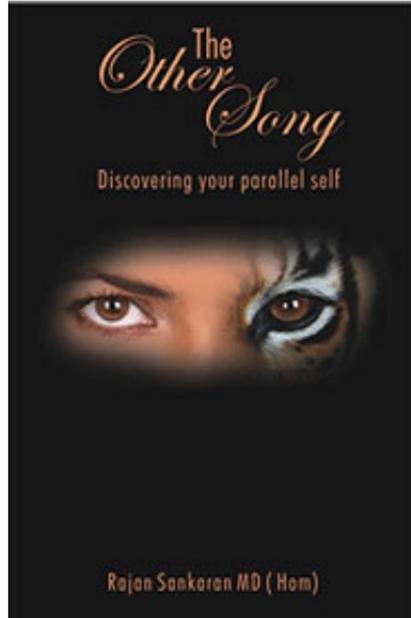
A game that personifies this attitude is hide-and-seek. The child has to put in an intense effort to find the hidden person. There is always the thrill, the threat that he may not find him. However, once he finds the person, all is okay and he is comfortable once more.

THE POSSIBLE TYPE

"The situation can be worrying for me, but never hopeless.

Life is a steady ongoing struggle."

The Possible Type has highs and lows. The struggle is like a tug-of-war with the outside world. Sometimes the balance is on his side and he feels high; at other



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Discovering your parallel self

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