

INTRODUCTION

This book offers what I hope you will find to be a refreshingly plain and lucid theory of consciousness—one that satisfies the rational scientific impulse yet accords with the most profound and ancient spiritual intuitions. It is not an attempt to persuade you toward or dissuade you from any particular view of the divine cosmic order. Nevertheless, the scope of this theory is vast—as it must be, considering the immensity of the subject matter. The theory calls for a thorough re-examination of the brain’s neuroanatomical structures and processes, employing a fresh conceptual vision. It delves deep into our own evolutionary history—to the very origins of sentient existence—exposing the primordial roots of our most problematic human emotions and behaviors and confirming how difficult will be the task of releasing ourselves from their tenacious grip.

The theory is predicated upon a single metaphysical postulate—that *light* itself is aware; awareness itself is *light*—that the quantum field is brimming with an intrinsic but initially undeveloped proto-awareness, from which our own terrestrial forms of embodied consciousness are fashioned by specific evolutionary processes. This is where the theoretical model first emerges into view from behind the veil of the Great Mystery of the union of spirit and light—or in the language of modern physics: the inseparability of the *observer* and the quantum event. From here a much sturdier and more orthodox chain of logic and scientific inference will guide us toward an understanding of what embodied consciousness actually is and how it came to be.

Although microscopic in size, neurons within the brains of animals generate inordinately strong electrical voltages when they fire. The small perturbations of the electromagnetic field that accompany these firings are, I contend, the source and conduit of the *Light* of conscious awareness. The conscious mind manifests as an intricately patterned, *pixellated* quantum field created by the coordinated firings of the hundred billion neurons of the cerebral cortex. By means of countless intricate “neurobioluminescent” effects, *Light* itself is shaped by the brain into the vivid three-dimensional presentations of sight, sound,

smell, taste, and touch that form the *sensorium* within which we indirectly experience our existence.

Surrendering to the ineluctable force of evolution, *Light* is linked to mind, and mind to matter, as the brain links billions of brightly firing neurons together into elaborate circular chains. These complex oscillators combine to form a vibrant, multisensory *neural resonance chamber*. Its repertoire of rousing tunes and ominous chord progressions alternately motivate and dissuade the inwardly luminous sentient being, now endowed with a full complement of emotions, desires, and aversions.

From the *Unborn Light* to mind to matter—to the dense physical body with its primal impulses of desire and aversion—we trace the path of spirit from an initial state of inherent freedom to one of virtual enslavement. Implicit within *the Theory of Neurobioluminescence in the Evolution of Sensorium Consciousness*, however, is the realization that nothing can ever separate us from what we fundamentally *are*—the free and blissful *Light of Awareness*. All that keeps us in this apparent bondage is the *appearance* of bondage itself—which is termed “ignorance” in Buddhist philosophy—a mistaken identification with this mortal body and its compelling presentation of a solitary and constricted, but ultimately illusory *self*.

Christians celebrate the Transfiguration of Christ as the culmination of his teaching, wherein he revealed his divine inner *Light* to three of his disciples upon a high mountaintop. “His face did shine as the sun, and his garments became white as light.” Saints and mystics have been described as emanating halos of golden light, and some people claim to be able to see colored auras surrounding all living beings. “*Mehr Licht!*” (“More light!”) cried out an ecstatic Goethe with his final breath. In so many cultural traditions, the vocabulary of spiritual attainment makes reference to an increasingly brilliant clarity: an “enlightenment” or “awakening” or “illumination.” Perhaps the most rational explanation for this universal insight is that it is quite literally true. We actually are beings of *Light*—right now—just as we are.