

WHAT IT IS LIKE a book by Paul Reps

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Reps, Paul, 1895-Sit in : what it is like / words brushwork by Paul Reps. -- San Francisco, Ca. : Zen Center Press, c1975.

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WHAT IT IS LIKE

Words and brushwork by Paul Reps



Published by ZEN CENTER PRESS

© 1975 by ZEN CENTER 300 Page Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102 All rights reserved Book begins here

Head and heart are not apart

Sit in in-vites you Into new experiencing As new all through Doing (no thing) well

In the Orient
Those who sit in
Become stronger healthier
And surer of their cosmos position

So may you

Humans from over the world Visit these sitters And often wonder what they are doing

This book explains what So they may visit you



The act of sit in Takes self discipline

Then it takes self guidance Even to take a step you guide it

Then it takes other guidance
The coming together of cosmos as you
Accepting this togethering thankfully
Graduating from dissatisfaction

All this packs in sit Keep in before words about it Do not go beyond in

As men give their life for country Give yours for life itself In any position or act of good will Graduate in

Please compose ourself
This may take a little while
Then



As you sit in
Without moving even a finger
With a friend present or
Present elsewhere

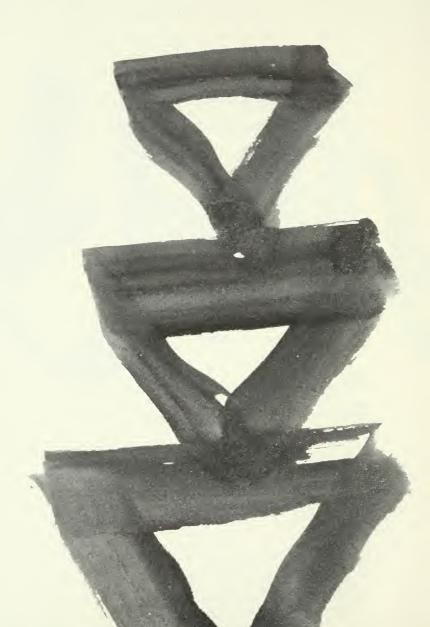
1 minute the first day2 minutes the second day3 minutes the third day

Increasing minutely up to 10

Or later maybe more

Preferably at the same time place Perhaps in an empty quiet room

Your integrity begins to show Cell rhythms smooth in And you feel better and Better



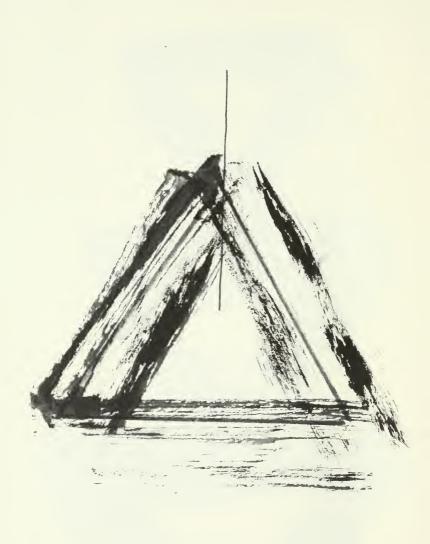
When standing
We balance our human instrument
As three inverted triangles

Head into shoulders

Shoulders into pelvis

Pelvis into feet

As this mobile balancing
Leans slightly
Muscle stress begins to recover
Us into weightless
Perfect
Bliss this



As we compose
Our lowest triangle
Into a firm base
Including our whole body
In-ing begins

Sitting crosslegged
On a hard cushion
Or forward on a low flat seat
with both feet on ground
Something amazing happens

We open

Shut up

Up in



Sit comfortably then most Comfortably erect

Centering your weight equally
On two sit bones

Forehead smooth Soft eyes near closing

Inbreathflow high through nostrils

Shoulders releasing Back firm Neck soft Jaw not tight

Head floating up from back As if about to nod yes Though not yet nodding

well silently, overflowing



The sitting itself Your answer

The sitting itself Your healing

Just do it

Difficult when stiff
More and more fluidly flexive
When firm and gentle with you

Impulse subdued

Emotive re-act pacified

Radiance through



who

Too simple to believe In experiencing Millions of years before yoga Thousands of years before zen

Re-discovered gloriously by buddha (2500 years ago) and other sages And variously formalised

If a dull moment comes

Stretch

Loosen

In



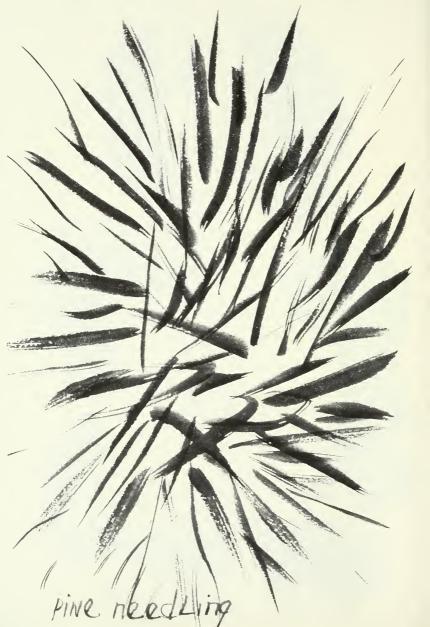
"What is it like?"

Like inlight
Actually we are made of light
Too instant for birth death

"How?"

Observe natural breathflow
Outbreathflow
Inbreathflow
Imagine turning palms of hands
Down with outbreathflow
Up with inbreathflow
Continuing without moving hands
In your rhythm of suns and seas
Given with birth

Lo the great harmony



"Are you dreaming it?"

Waking from dream and

From waking dream

Graduate in

"Does it help others?"
Are you others?
Are others you?
Is empty full?

"Can it be done with overstepping Overdoing overgoing?" Yes

"Does it get to be a habit?"

If you sit and sag

Try too hard

Try to repeat it

It's electric
Just as it sits

Earned benefits of sit in May be due in part to:

- a) Your willing to practice it As an act of integrity
- b) Charging your batteries Minding your business
- c) Doing nothing beyond in
- d) Mind attention accommodating One aggregate at a time wholly
- e) Smoothing broken breathflow
- f) In-viting innate nerveflow Bloodflow lymphflow juiceflow Cell consciousnessing

- g) Pressures on large base Nerve cluster opening inner doors To tophead
- h) Entering silent sound Awarefullness
- i) Self-learning to do (no-thing)
   When about your daily work
   Moving water-smooth light-bright
   So nothing is the water
- j) Multiple other reasons unknown As yet to us air and light breathers

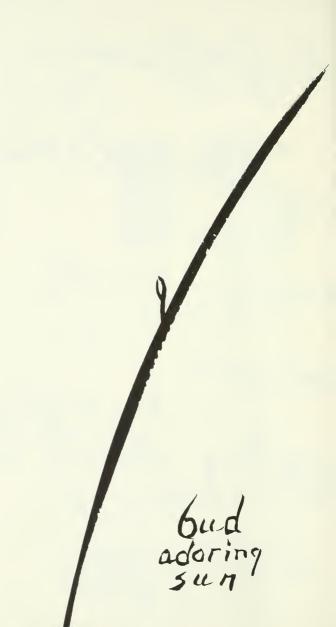




in this to Relpone you wonder together

Who me

lifetime resolves individual 20 asly put



Something
Is
Immediate
Unchanging in change
Inchanting me me
In each grassblade

"Who me?" Instead of me or I May one answer

IS—is does it

Is Sits

Fresh Shouts the bud



once were humans who sat to become them

Strengthening

Trueing







## Utterly still

You may feel it is meditating Or praying or composing Or graduating from talk-back

Before before say
Keep in
Firm as pyramid
In deep wake
As in deep sleep
Instantly regenerating
Rejuvenating

New life begins here

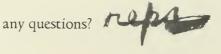
Thank you for your life



Our energy sea sees us.

Earth and its creatures are negative to light.

We break through to inlight.



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