

Libby Hague's

martian odyssey # 25



#25

day after peace

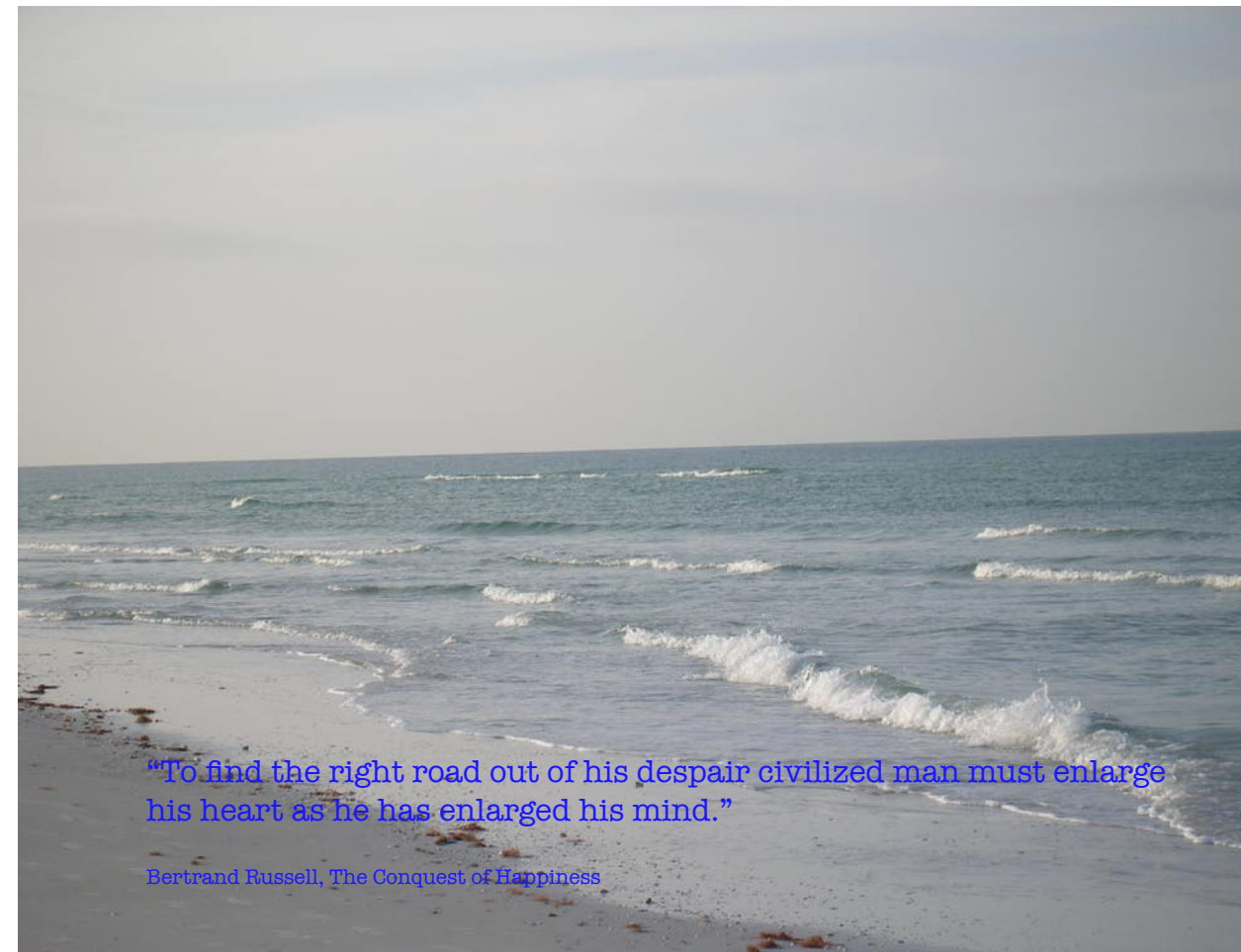
## Marianne's story: thread 25

Dear Baby Bee - Peace.  
The magic word. I hear the wind  
in the tall trees. I see a beach.  
Little waves uncurl on the sand.  
Birds are flying and they are  
singing:

“Honey Bee  
Baby in a box  
mystery  
miraculox”

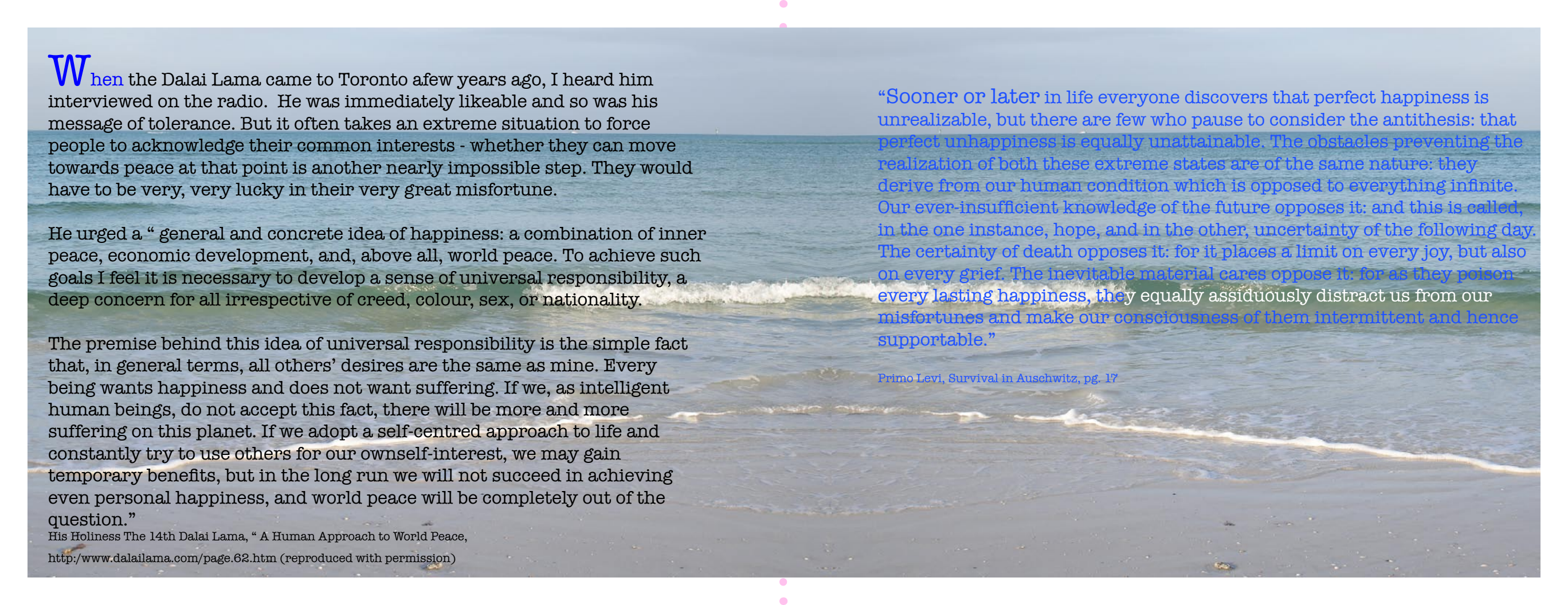


Oh, happiness



“To find the right road out of his despair civilized man must enlarge his heart as he has enlarged his mind.”

Bertrand Russell, *The Conquest of Happiness*



**W**hen the Dalai Lama came to Toronto a few years ago, I heard him interviewed on the radio. He was immediately likeable and so was his message of tolerance. But it often takes an extreme situation to force people to acknowledge their common interests - whether they can move towards peace at that point is another nearly impossible step. They would have to be very, very lucky in their very great misfortune.

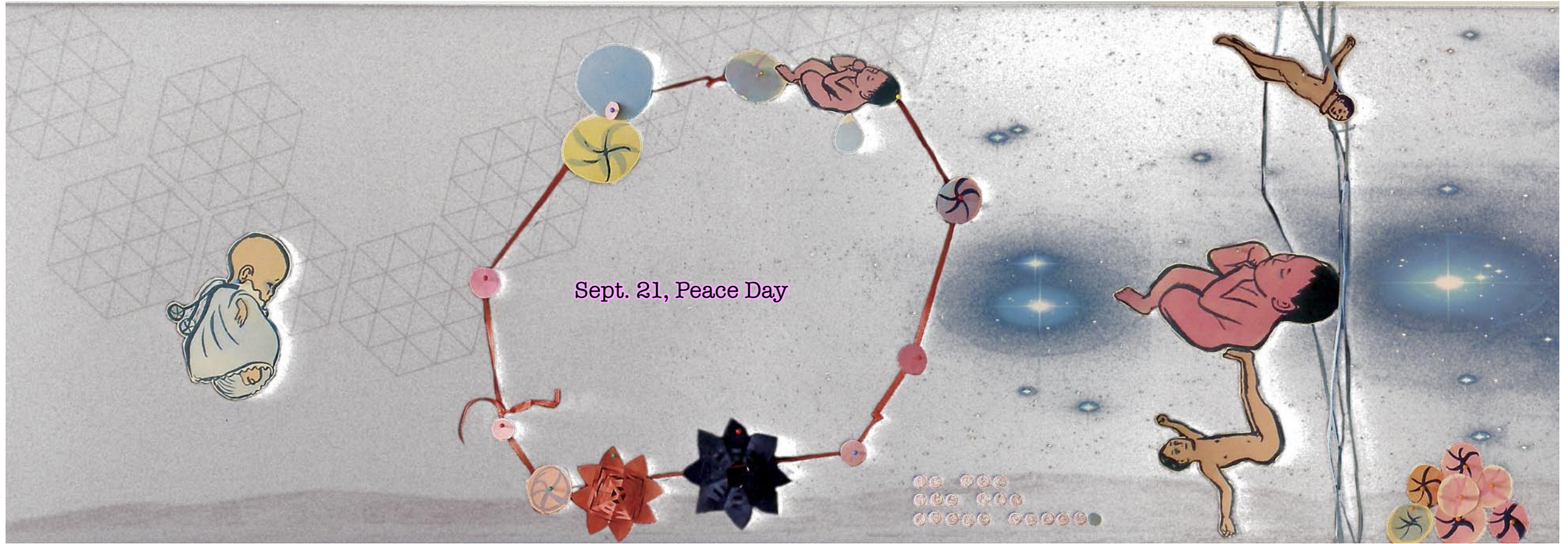
He urged a “ general and concrete idea of happiness: a combination of inner peace, economic development, and, above all, world peace. To achieve such goals I feel it is necessary to develop a sense of universal responsibility, a deep concern for all irrespective of creed, colour, sex, or nationality.

The premise behind this idea of universal responsibility is the simple fact that, in general terms, all others’ desires are the same as mine. Every being wants happiness and does not want suffering. If we, as intelligent human beings, do not accept this fact, there will be more and more suffering on this planet. If we adopt a self-centred approach to life and constantly try to use others for our ownself-interest, we may gain temporary benefits, but in the long run we will not succeed in achieving even personal happiness, and world peace will be completely out of the question.”

His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama, “ A Human Approach to World Peace,  
<http://www.dalailama.com/page.62.htm> (reproduced with permission)

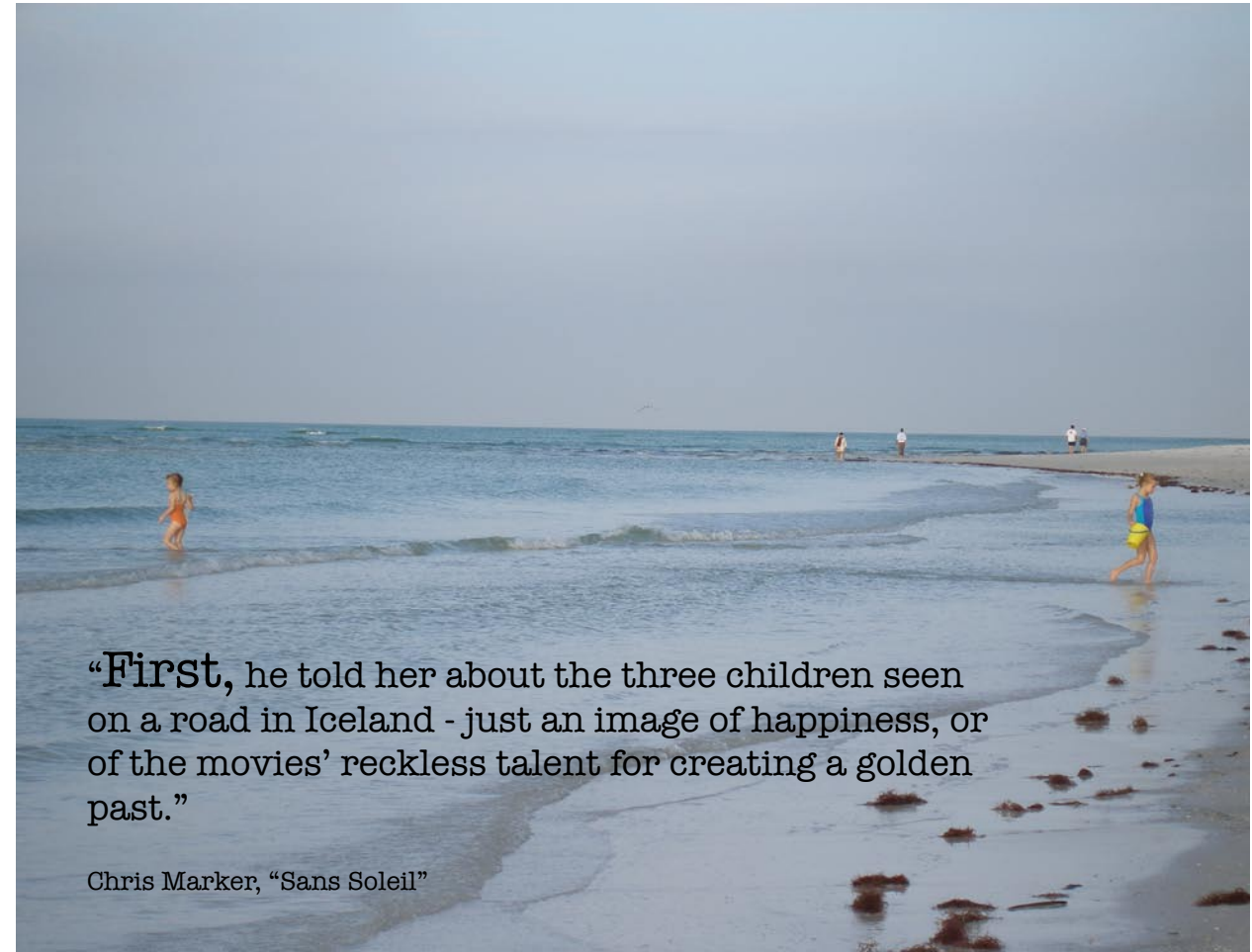
“Sooner or later in life everyone discovers that perfect happiness is unrealizable, but there are few who pause to consider the antithesis: that perfect unhappiness is equally unattainable. The obstacles preventing the realization of both these extreme states are of the same nature: they derive from our human condition which is opposed to everything infinite. Our ever-insufficient knowledge of the future opposes it: and this is called, in the one instance, hope, and in the other, uncertainty of the following day. The certainty of death opposes it: for it places a limit on every joy, but also on every grief. The inevitable material cares oppose it: for as they poison every lasting happiness, they equally assiduously distract us from our misfortunes and make our consciousness of them intermittent and hence supportable.”

Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, pg. 17



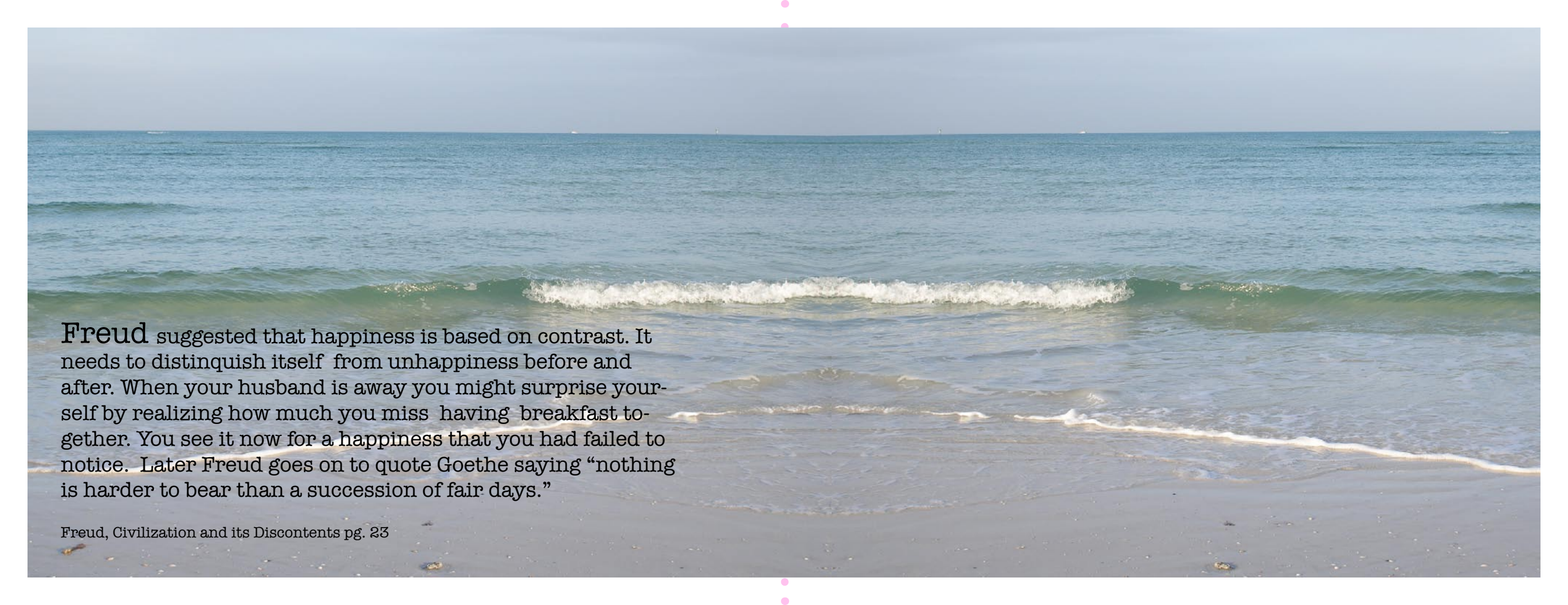
martian odyssey: day after peace, stone lithography with digital output, 20 x 78 in.

Sky photo (Pliedes) credit Nasa, ESA, AURA/Caltech and martian landscape image credit : Nasa



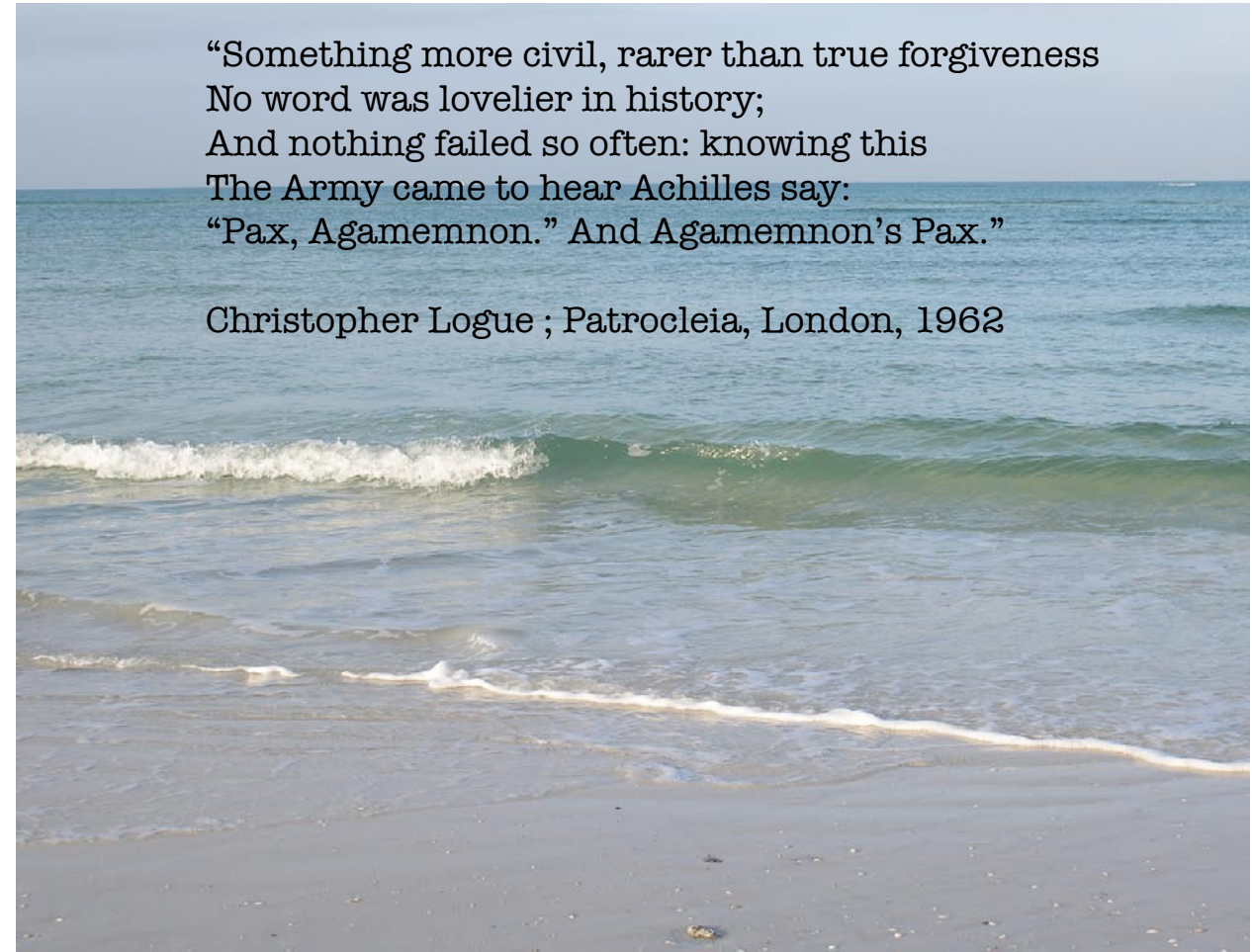
“**F**irst, he told her about the three children seen on a road in Iceland - just an image of happiness, or of the movies’ reckless talent for creating a golden past.”

Chris Marker, “Sans Soleil”



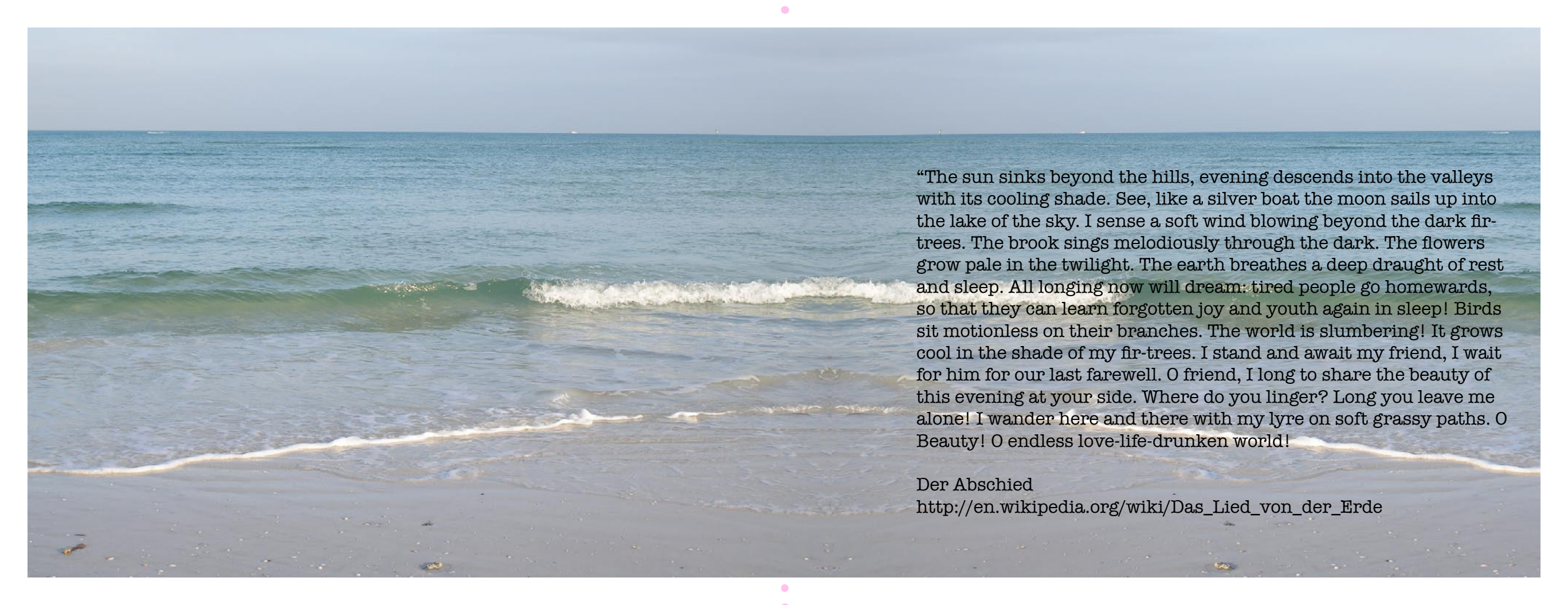
**F**reud suggested that happiness is based on contrast. It needs to distinguish itself from unhappiness before and after. When your husband is away you might surprise yourself by realizing how much you miss having breakfast together. You see it now for a happiness that you had failed to notice. Later Freud goes on to quote Goethe saying “nothing is harder to bear than a succession of fair days.”

Freud, Civilization and its Discontents pg. 23



“Something more civil, rarer than true forgiveness  
No word was lovelier in history;  
And nothing failed so often: knowing this  
The Army came to hear Achilles say:  
“Pax, Agamemnon.” And Agamemnon’s Pax.”

Christopher Logue ; Patrocleia, London, 1962



“The sun sinks beyond the hills, evening descends into the valleys with its cooling shade. See, like a silver boat the moon sails up into the lake of the sky. I sense a soft wind blowing beyond the dark fir-trees. The brook sings melodiously through the dark. The flowers grow pale in the twilight. The earth breathes a deep draught of rest and sleep. All longing now will dream: tired people go homewards, so that they can learn forgotten joy and youth again in sleep! Birds sit motionless on their branches. The world is slumbering! It grows cool in the shade of my fir-trees. I stand and await my friend, I wait for him for our last farewell. O friend, I long to share the beauty of this evening at your side. Where do you linger? Long you leave me alone! I wander here and there with my lyre on soft grassy paths. O Beauty! O endless love-life-drunken world!

Der Abschied

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Das\\_Lied\\_von\\_der\\_Erde](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Das_Lied_von_der_Erde)



“And suddenly the memory returns. The taste was that of the little crumb of madeleine which on Sunday mornings at Combray (because on those mornings I did not go out before church-time), when I went to say good day to her in her bedroom, my aunt Léonie used to give me, dipping it first in her own cup of real or of lime-flower tea. ...”

Marcel Proust, Remembrance of Things Past  
<http://www.authorama.com/remembrance-of-things-past-,-3.html>



### Thanks to:

Phil Anisman  
my parents  
\*Djivan Gasparyan for his song title  
Sally McKay, # 6, 8, 10, 14, 15,19, 26,  
27, 28, 30, 19, 21,  
Harry Glasbeek # 5  
Smadar Peretz # 23, 24  
Sasha Pierce # 7

and the many authors quoted in these books

### Brief project description:

This web /pdf edition of 30 booklets, connect and complicate the individual artworks in the Martian Odyssey series previously exhibited at Loop in Toronto. These booklets are intended to serve as a basis for comments on the artwork and their themes. If you want to have your comments considered for a web edition you can respond by sending an email to [libbylibby@sympatico.ca](mailto:libbylibby@sympatico.ca) with a subject heading of Martian Odyssey. I will be regularly updating the pdf's.

### Martian Odyssey titles:

1. luck 2. riddles 3. the animals 4. translation  
5. corps de ballet 6. The Girls 7. weave 8. net  
9. slow motion 10. Big Bang 11. alouette  
12. the wrong boat 13. the disaster  
14. RAGE 15. white arms 16. plague  
17. amnesia 18. ah.. 19. string theory 20.  
laughter 21. dreams 22. Rules 23. justice  
24. forgiveness 25. day after peace  
26. un-rebuilding 27. blue-sky-blue 28. play  
again 29. stars are wide 30. sing

**Libby Hague** is a printmaker + installation artist exploring themes of disaster, rescue and hope. [full cv](#)



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