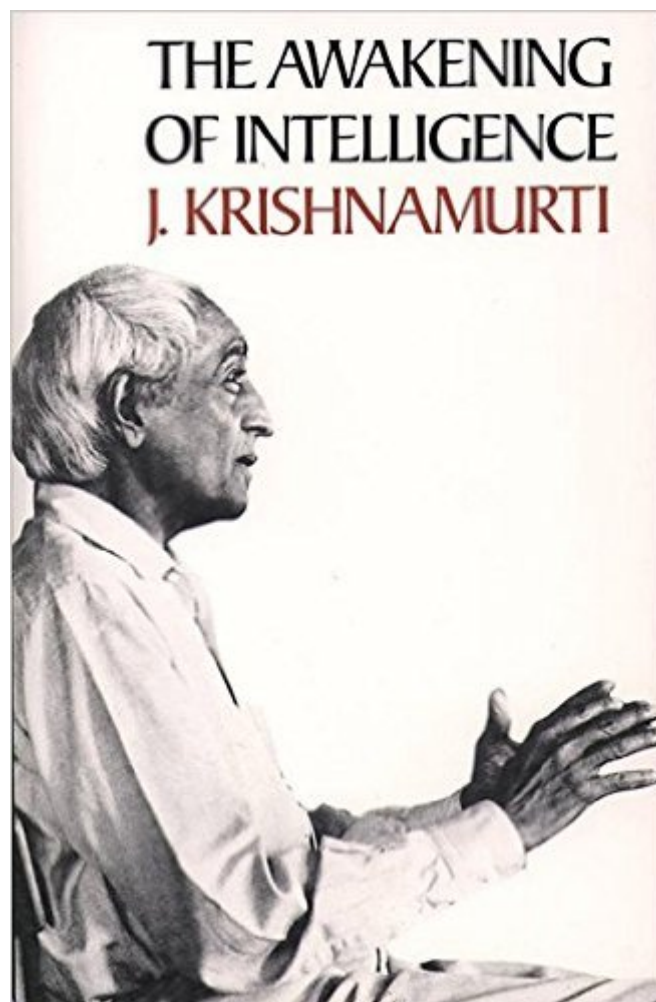


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The Awakening Of Intelligence



Synopsis

This comprehensive record of Krishnamurti's teachings is an excellent, wide-ranging introduction to the great philosopher's thought. With among others, Jacob Needleman, Alain Naude, and Swami Venkatasananda, Krishnamurti examines such issues as the role of the teacher and tradition; the need for awareness of cosmic consciousness; the problem of good and evil; and traditional Vedanta methods of help for different levels of seekers.

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"Some of you believe in the idea of reincarnation. You come and ask me what I believe, whether reincarnation is a fact or not, whether I remember my past lives, and so on. Now, why do you ask me? Why do you want to know what I think about it? You want a further confirmation of your own belief, which you call a fact, a law, because it gives you a hope, a purpose in life. Thus, belief becomes to you a fact, a law, and you go about seeking confirmation of your hope. Even though I may confirm it, it cannot be of vital importance to you. Whatever it may be to me, real or false, what is important for you is that you should discern for yourself these conceptions through action, through living, and not accept any assertions." - krishnamurti cannot recommend this book high enough.

This book is one of the most comprehensive and accessible of Krishnamurti's work. It is a collection of talks given at various parts of the world. In each series of talk Krishnamurti leads the listener to look into serious topics like Operation of thought, conflict, The art of seeing, freedom, the energy needed for freedom, do we need a teacher, etc. There is a huge difference between looking into an

issue and "thinking" about an issue. Thinking involves thought, and simply looking is mere observation. And Krishnamurti says that if this observation, the seeing is done with total attention without the interference of thought, then the intelligence operates. Many a times while reading this book, my mind will come to a complete stop and I would be taken to deep and spontaneous meditation. Krishnamurti is highly skillful in sparking our insights and allows us to see what he sees.

What Krishnamurti offers the reader here are exercises for the mind that will help us re-wire our brains to think in a different way, that will allow us to obtain a new perception of who we are, and what our world is, and the harmony of both, leading to a freedom that can't quite be explained in words, but will be felt by those few who experience it. Have you stopped to think that it really makes no difference what car you drive, the clothes you wear, the place you live, because you still will at times feel sad, troubled, depressed, sick, and happiness is not guaranteed by these material objects? What is our purpose in life? The author touches on these and other subjects, which we've been conditioned to believe as a universal truth, in today's modern "greed and riches are the only goal" society. He offers his ideas on how we free our minds from learned concepts, ideas, cultural traditions, and other thoughts that tie us into inflexible thinking, that doesn't allow us to understand new experiences, new ideas. Krishnamurti, explains that in order for us to understand, we must say to ourselves "I don't know" so that we can have a clean slate with which to experience new ideas. Therefore not letting old, inflexible, sometimes narrow-minded, ideas or experiences, which we may have gathered through life, which are the sum of the culture, traditions, and experiences of thousands others who may, or may not be entirely correct in their interpretation either do to lack of knowledge, or a tunneled vision. He describes how, by us depending on old ideas, acquired knowledge, and experiences, we are pre conditioned, and bias, to new experiences, making it hard for us to obtain the full effect of any new experience.

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