

# Why the Dreaming?

Sundari (Isabella Viglietti)

2016-11-11

Source: <http://www.shiningworld.com/site/satsang/read/3052>

**Michael:** It is part of this journey for me to be curious.

I am listening to a talk by James on the *Gita*, and it is providing so much clarity... blowing away the cobwebs and letting the light shine (so to speak).

But one question plagues me throughout it all.

Why is *Isvara* doing all this when it was wholeness and perfection anyway?

Or is it the case that since this is all no more than seeming (a kind of dream)?

It still is whole and perfect and never did, in reality, split apart.

But still, why the Dreaming?

Thank you so much for your time.

Be well.

~ Michael

**Sundari:** Hello, Michael.

No one is doing anything. *Isvara* is not a big person. *Isvara* is awareness plus *maya* in the role of Creator. *Isvara* creates the world so that the Eternal *Jiva* can work out its *karma*. This world is all just an impersonal play of the *gunas* as they weave and project an apparently real story onto the screen of awareness. It is all *mithya* and no more real than a dream. Only you, the knower of the dream, awareness, are real, "real" being defined by that which is always present and unchanging, which only applies to awareness. There is no answer to the "why" question, except that for awareness to be unlimited it must contain the potential to be (apparently) limited.

*Maya* and the world it creates does not make much sense if you look at the dream from within the dream, from the perspective of the limited, non-eternal or personal *jiva* within the apparent reality. It is only with self-knowledge that we can step out of or "wake up" from the dream and see that the "why" does not matter, because none of it is real. Do you ask yourself why you had a dream when you wake up in the morning? You don't, because you know the dream is not real and the answer is unimportant, even if the dream has symbolic significance to you.

Awareness under the apparent spell of *maya* (the *jiva* identified with the subtle body) seems to sleep and dream, but it is not a real sleep or dreaming, because *maya* does not cover awareness and self-knowledge has the power to permanently remove *maya*, *avidya*, or personal ignorance, from the mind. As awareness, you never wake up, because you never went to sleep.

Even though the world seems like a crazy place, it is all perfect. We can only see what we can

see as the *jiva*, we do not have *Isvara*'s omniscience. Everything contributes to the whole and there is always an upside and a downside in the *maya* world. You are right. Nothing "split apart," because reality is non-dual and not a duality. It is *maya*'s power to delude that makes reality look like it has parts and is real.

~ *Om*, Sundari

**Michael:** That is a very clear answer and beautifully put.

And it's so true that I don't question the why of my night dreams when I awake... hey... never thought of that before. I think, after much searching of many traditions, that searching has ended with Vedanta, it's just so damn clear. After all, how on earth can that which is doing the searching find what it is looking for when it IS what it seeks?

The more I practise my *karma yoga* the more I seem to just be grinning for no reason at all.

Thank you for responding.

Be well.