

Ferdie Rossi - A MYSTIC FOR OUR TIMES

By Felicity Loveday (his secretary)

I would like to share with you an on-going magical experience, since meeting a true mystic, clairvoyant and teacher in South Africa and starting on an extraordinarily interesting path of discovery with him, that has been on-going for over 20 years. He had, and still has a profound effect on my life, with his wisdom, insight and magical abilities, that help one along the rocky road that we call the spiritual path. That is what we are all trying to do in our own separate ways. I met Ferdie (short for Ferdinand) Rossi when he was 23 years old in 1984. He died very suddenly in July 2004 at the age of 43, and now I can talk openly and freely about him.

Ferdie was born on 19 March 1961 of an Italian father and Irish mother. However, because he was born to a couple who were not married, and at that time, this was considered to be 'taboo', he was adopted by a Dutch Reformed Afrikaans couple who were not able to have children of their own. ('Dutch Reformed' is the name of a conservative and powerful Afrikaans Christian Church that still exists in South Africa and is the religion of many Afrikaans people all over the country.) However, they did have two children later. As a child he was naturally psychic, very energetic and high spirited – full of practical jokes and pranks so that he was always in trouble with his mother, who spanked him regularly! One small example of his mischievousness is the time he had a pet mouse which he kept in his shirt pocket. When out shopping with his mother one day, she saw the creature peeping out of his pocket, and with a horrified scream, she ordered him to get rid of it immediately! They went into a shop that used a pipe suction method of sending money in a small container upstairs to the office, and the receipt and change would be sent back via the pipe. Seizing an opportunity to get rid of the mouse, Ferdie slipped it into the little container with the money while the shop attendant was not looking, and when it reached the office upstairs, loud shrieks echoed throughout the shop!

At high school, he underwent his first expansion of consciousness, when he 'became at one with the sun' – as he described it. His fun loving nature was expressed in his preoccupation with fireworks, and the pranks he played on people in authority at school. This time, his prank was very well planned! The headmaster of the High school where he was a student was a very unpleasant and unfair person, and so Ferdie and his friends decided to 'get their revenge' on him. Being scientifically minded, Ferdie used a needle syringe with liquid naphthalene to slip a minute amount in the headmaster's private little bottle of milk that was delivered daily outside his office door. Its effect would be rather devastating for the digestive tract, necessitating a rapid visit to the toilet, so to add fuel to the fire the boys rubbed itchy powder on the toilet paper in his private toilet, and waited for the inevitable to happen! Sure enough, they witnessed a very disturbed headmaster leaving the toilet, and attempting to rub his behind against the wall, in a vain effort to relieve the irritating and burning itch....!!

Another joke was played on the piano teacher, using 'touching powder', a white powder that exploded but did no physical harm when touched. One morning

before the School assembled in the hall, Ferdie visited the piano on the stage, and plastered one of the notes heavily with the white powder. Later, while everyone sang the National Anthem, all of a sudden a loud explosion filled the hall, giving everyone an awful fright, while Ferdie was nowhere to be found!

As a teenager, he could not find anyone to whom he could relate on a spiritual level, but he did find the gypsies, who lived in the bush in their caravans, and he found himself teaching the gypsies how to use the tarot cards properly! I personally met one of them and she was very successful as she used his techniques, which are all totally intuitive, as he always follows his feelings.

At the age of 21, all the knowledge and wisdom he had acquired in past lifetimes, came spontaneously back to him when he underwent his second jump in consciousness – giving him direct access to a ‘sphere of Tibetan wisdom’ as he called it. Any spiritually developed person with expanded consciousness *never loses his or her own* knowledge, wisdom and insight, (as opposed to book knowledge which is always lost) as it always returns spontaneously when one is mature enough to handle it. His one desire was to share this knowledge, and teach others. His parents tried to force him into jobs in which he had no interest, and they could not understand their ‘odd and strange’ son, who had no interest at all in the usual occupations a man would want to start, to earn a living. His only desire was to teach what he knew.

At the age of 22, (1983) he was in Pretoria (where I was living) one Saturday evening, when he ‘picked up’ the vibration of a Co-Masonic meeting that was taking place at the Theosophical Society Hall in Sunnyside. He literally ‘followed his nose’ and landed up at the door of the Lodge!! Of course he wasn’t admitted, but told to return when the Lodge was open to the public. This he did, and asked the President of the Society, a young man called Piet (Afrikaans version of Peter) if he could give a lecture. He was given the opportunity, and he became friends with Piet, who took him along to a weekend course in the bush, which I happened to be attending, with a spiritual group. I met him there, and quickly felt very much at ease with him.

I was living in a large house with my two children, taking in boarders to help with the rent, and was very curious to know more about this extraordinary person. Ferdie was looking for somewhere to stay – so this was a perfect opportunity for him to come and live in my home! There we painted out a small outhouse for him to give private consultations for people with problems, and after becoming a member of the T.S. he started giving talks at the Theosophical Society hall on Sunday mornings. When I first heard Ferdie talking, I really didn’t understand much of what he said at all – it was so very confusing! But something told me not to discard it – to just persevere, and that it will all become clear eventually – and that is exactly what happened! Bit by bit, different aspects that seemed to be separate and irrelevant, started to fall into place, and then the bigger picture slowly started to unfold. I soon found out that it is only in the actual *practicing* of his teachings, that insight can be gained, because while one actually practised, he was able to shift one’s awareness to new positions, which made the exercise easy to do, after which it would again be not so easy, and one then needed to reach that point again with one’s *own*

efforts, and then all of a sudden, something would 'jell', and new understanding, insight, or light would dawn! This has been an on-going meditation experience.

The three 'Highway to the Sun' books in three separate volumes are the result of the first short talks he gave at the Theosophical Society on Sundays over a period of a few years. From there it escalated to other cities, and I somehow fell into the position of being his secretary, and organising his consultations and courses. This I enjoyed immensely, as I learned a great deal from tape recording him every time, and transcribing the tapes. I wore out several tape recorders in the process! He really needed someone who was more 'down to earth', as his consciousness was mostly elsewhere, in other realms, where he was simultaneously in many places at the same time! He had absolutely no interest in money or possessions, as his whole being was outwardly turned, continuously involved in hard work, and the exploration of new fields. He was also a scientist, inventor and chemist, and taught himself a great deal by means of using his triune capacities of right and left brain plus clairvoyant vision and an all-encompassing intelligence.

He told me about a time in his life before I met him, when he worked in a firm that produced mosquito coils for eliminating insects. Beginning as a lowly office boy, within two years he had risen to being the head of the development section, by using his triple capacities in a very creative way. But he realised that this achievement had made him feel 'self important'- a definite '*no-no*' on the spiritual path - as he had lost some of his natural capacities, so he gave that job away immediately, and regained what he had lost.

As his organising secretary, my job was to arrange his consultations, visits to Johannesburg, Cape Town and other cities, and also weekend trips or 'power hunts' into the bush, where he taught people to identify with nature, and '*uplift the consciousness*' of rock, water, wind and plant – for we learned that when we 'fell' in consciousness, that was when *one* world became two separate worlds, (physical and etherical, or conscious and subconscious) and the *whole of Nature in our surroundings had also become separated from the Source. It was our task to re-connect all beings in our world to their Source once again.* This had many implications!

Ferdie had no desire to create an 'organization' around his teachings, as he 'went with the flow of things'. He preferred to work behind the scenes, teaching small groups in different towns and cities. So he needed to 'make the rounds' to them as time went by, to take his groups a step further in their development as they hopefully put into practice the exercises they were given. The result was a variety of different courses, each with differing approaches to his subject, and an enormous amount of cassette tapes, all needing to be transcribed! These have partially been done, in the form of courses, either on CD or typed into the computer as a book, and they all highlight the inter-relationship between the different facets of the Six Yogas of Naropa.

I continued assisting him as recorder, secretary and general 'dog's body' until I left South Africa on his advice. I arrived in Australia at the end of 1999, accompanied by him, and we stayed with Adrian my son in Gaven, Queensland for three months, where he saw a few people, and taught Adrian a technique of

using pure silver as a coating for different surfaces. Adrian perfected the technique over a period of a few years, and has since gone on to other creative fields, but is still very much involved with these teachings.

During those years of meditating regularly under Ferdie's guidance, which I still continue to do , I have grown to trust him completely, knowing that I have a teacher of great integrity who REALLY knows his subject thoroughly, and has the power to assist on other levels, which is a rare gift, and helps tremendously! Being an 'old hand' at his work of teaching students, he gives *a portion* of the knowledge about the spiritual path per se and leaves many clues around for the student to piece together, as he approaches the same subjects from many different angles.

If an individual goes to work using the exercises he gives, which can also be incorporated into any other regime of meditation – by one's own efforts, insights start to come, which gradually fill in the rest of the picture. The spiritual path is one of inner DISCOVERY! He has the gift of being able to talk about complicated subjects in a simple way, so that they are eventually fully understood. In fact, the real essences of the Spiritual Path are so VERY simple, that humans tend to bypass them completely! He stresses the fact that all that is needed is *regular practice*, and that it is NOT difficult to make the first jump in consciousness, when your light body or 'Merkabah' or the 'Christed self' is born. It only requires the will to persist and persevere, *no matter what* and to approach it with a light-hearted, innocent and child-like attitude, and not taking ourselves too seriously!

He is still very much 'involved' with his students, and no doubt in many other fields in those other realms of existence, now that he is no longer hampered by a physical body. Because he has started a 'new' approach to the spiritual path, called '**The Art of Movement**,' as his students succeed in making their major shifts in consciousness, so his methods become more accessible to humanity as a whole. This is a Law - "As above, so below, as below, so above." Therefore he is totally identified with these teachings, and as a result they are most magical and powerful in their effect! So one just keeps going, no matter what.....!

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From IAN GIBBS in South Africa

My experiences as a student with Ferdie

I had the good fortune of meeting Ferdie, and was a student of his for about 15 years. During this time we built a close relationship and became good friends. Ferdie is a unique Being who had a knack for teaching difficult abstract knowledge in a manner that made it easy for anyone to understand. He disseminated a constant flow of knowledge, and always "without a shadow of a doubt"

His primary purpose was to teach students to realise their full potential in their search for enlightenment, by 'shifting' or raising their awareness or consciousness. His teachings were derived from a mixed bag of philosophies; Eastern, Western, Native American & Middle Eastern. He simplified complex concepts, and always believed that if you learned the "trick", things were in fact simple.

Because Ferdie's approach was a very practical one, the exercises he prescribed could be applied immediately. He also taught people to become aware of life forms around them at an energetic level, particularly when he held periodic week-end teaching sessions (Power Hunts) out in nature. He also held classes once a week, which were recorded on tape, and a number of them have been transcribed into books that can be found on the website.

His ability to present courses on many esoteric disciplines without any preparation was truly phenomenal! Topics included such subjects as Crystal Ball Scrying, Tarot, and seeing Auras, which were all aspects of his core subject – The Six Yogas of Naropa.

Many people came to him on an ad hoc basis for a personal reading, which could either be a tarot reading, a full aura reading, a personalised lesson, or whatever was right for the person then, as Ferdie always did what was indicated to him by the 'Spirit'. Many people believed that Ferdie was a visionary who could see into the future, when he was actually recalling events and teachings from the past. Ferdie said that when dealing with people, and trying to understand what was going on, he always observed and followed the flow of the energies.

A major theme in his life is that of being an inventor. He invented numerous items and processes in many disciplines such as; electricity, electronics, chemical, mechanical, metallurgical and medical. I still have a box full of weird and wonderful experimental things that he built... which all work.

As human evolution is now moving at a more rapid rate, the present time calls for teachings that can be quickly learned and assimilated. The life- long quests of old are not required anymore in this day and age. This is where Ferdie's teachings are of such value and use!