

# “The Only Thing I Know Is That I Don’t Know Anything At All”

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I was truly irked the first time I'd ever heard that statement. I'd always thought of myself as having average to above average intelligence, so naturally I wouldn't go around professing I don't know anything at all. I'd sound like a moron! But once I relaxed and digested the phrase more, I came to grips with it and what I think it really means.

I think it represents the end, certainly the wisdom of a humbling process. For instance at the end of a relationship due to a parting of the ways, a divorce and even worse a death. It could even relate to the end of a career or what one thought was a career. I've gone through all of these experiences and let me tell you they are equally as frightening, hard to swallow and left me feeling like I didn't have the answers for the simplest things..

I can remember thinking when I was first separated from "Mr. X" that what used to be up was now down, left was now right, white was now black, all with no rhyme or reason. I had to accept it, but at the time I just wasn't equipped to do so. I was lost in a bubble of doubt and confusion.

I finally came to realize that all I had to do was breathe. Before I can do anything else, take a step back, relax and breathe. Then as I breathed and showed myself that I was indeed still standing, albeit not unscathed, I

felt a whole new wisdom had been bestowed upon me somehow. Like a magic wand had been waved over me. If I stopped talking, and started to listen, I would somehow be shown the way.

"When the student is ready the teacher will appear" I saw this tattooed on a co-worker a long time ago and the saying has stayed with me ever since. Now I know that no matter how old I am or get, that I, we, are never too old to be the student. Once open to that thought, I was fortunate to then be flooded with a wealth of experiences that have changed my life forever.

We're never too old to learn something new, about the world, our culture, the universe, politics, our neighborhood, our friends, family and especially ourselves. We are all students whether we realize it or not.....we just need to be open and recognize the teacher when they appear. Make no mistake, that old saying, 'everything happens for a reason', is true. Even the most gut-wrenching of experiences help to add the stones to our kingdom, our being.

I am not always this deep, more often I seem quite aloof and carefree but don't let people's facades fool you, mine or anyone else's' for that matter. For when you least expect it and need it the most, I'm certain, the next teacher to (will?) appear.