



THE LITTLE BOOK  
OF REALITY

BY

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Do we ever really open our mind to the  
world around us?

B. S. Benev

9<sup>th</sup> January 2009

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# 1

## BOTH AN INTRODUCTION AND A DISCLAIMER



You should never be told that there is only one answer or that just because something is true today it will be true tomorrow. Similarly, this little book aims only to provide a starting point for discussion. Think of each tiny chapter as a trigger to start your mind working whether you agree with it or not. Enjoy.

## 2

# THE MOST ELUSIVE ANIMAL OF ALL



Throughout human history peace has been momentary, disparate and localised, rarely lasting more than a couple of generations. Romanticised views of lasting, global peace have never been within our grasp and, save for a dramatic change in the status quo, are unlikely to be so during the rest of our existence.

## DIDN'T THE LEAVES DO THE SAME THING LAST YEAR?



If there is one thing we can know for sure is that history will repeat itself over and over again. Cycles exist everywhere from the stock markets to the rise and fall of civilisations. Our limited collective memory means it is very difficult for us to learn from our mistakes because future generations forget the magnitude of the repercussions.

WE'RE NOT THAT DIFFERENT  
AFTER ALL



We are where we are because of our diversity. It has driven our progress but also been the source of many of our conflicts. Diversity often results in conflict through fear: a fear of the different. As the world becomes smaller the hope is that fear will turn to understanding, allowing us to focus on the potential derived through diversity.

YOU CAN DO BETTER THAN  
THAT

Education is as much the process of developing one's own ideas as it is learning the ideas of others. Educational structure should be such that it promotes individual creativity and achievement. Children should be allowed to face failure and not taught that 'everyone always wins'. Instead, try to teach them the positives of failure.

## INTERESTING, BUT WHY SHOULD I CARE?



Often we question why we need to concern ourselves with all the little elements which come together to make us what we are and where we came from. The truth is that we cannot hope to truly advance unless we strive to understand these fundamentals because they shape our past and our future and are our very substance.

DADDY, WILL I BE PRESIDENT  
ONE DAY?



Thirty or forty years from now it will be today's youth running the world. The ideas and principles we sew in the heads of the youth today will underlie the style of future leadership. The form of education received today reflects much more than the kind of job they will get tomorrow: it reflects the way we want the future to be managed.

# THE LITTLE BOOK OF REALITY

*“One should never have to be sorry for  
their opinions as long as they can stand by  
them with an open mind”*

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