

KANZ NEWS – September 2023

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Krishnamurti Foundation of America May Gathering



The KFA Annual Gathering is held in Ojai, California, each year in May.

A highlight from the Gathering will be presented in this newsletter over the coming months.



The third Gathering highlight to be presented is "Caught Between Freedom and Conformity" with Will Horner and Aaron Gardner..

This is the world the young people have to face, and naturally they are really frightened. They have an idea that they should be free, independent of routine, should not be dominated by their elders; and they shy away from all authority. Freedom to them means to choose what they want to do; but they are confused, uncertain and want to be shown what they should do. The student is caught between his own desire for freedom to do what he wants and society's demands for conformity to its own necessities, that people become engineers, scientists, soldiers, or specialists of some kind.

This is the world students have to face and become a part of through their education. It is a frightening world. We all want security physically as well as emotionally, and having this is becoming more and more difficult and painful.

J. Krishnamurti

Join Will and Aaron as they explore these guiding questions: – How can we provide the scaffolding and support to help students design and execute their own journeys of learning, while still giving them opportunities for meaningful choices and autonomy? – To what extent are the students aware of the conditioning and pressures that create a paralysis of choice? – How can we create experiences that prepare students for the pressure of the many choices they have to make during these major transitional periods in their lives.

Will Hornblower teaches high school history at Oak Grove School, Ojai, California, as well as serving as the Parent Education Coordinator. Next year, he will be taking on the role of Dean of Studies at Oak Grove, coordinating the school's academic initiatives and curricular development. He received his B.A. in History and Latin American Studies from the University of Chicago and his M.Ed. and teaching credential from UC Santa Barbara. He has been teaching at OGS since 2011.

Aaron Gardner teaches middle school Humanities and high school Poetry Performance and Composition classes at Oak Grove. He also

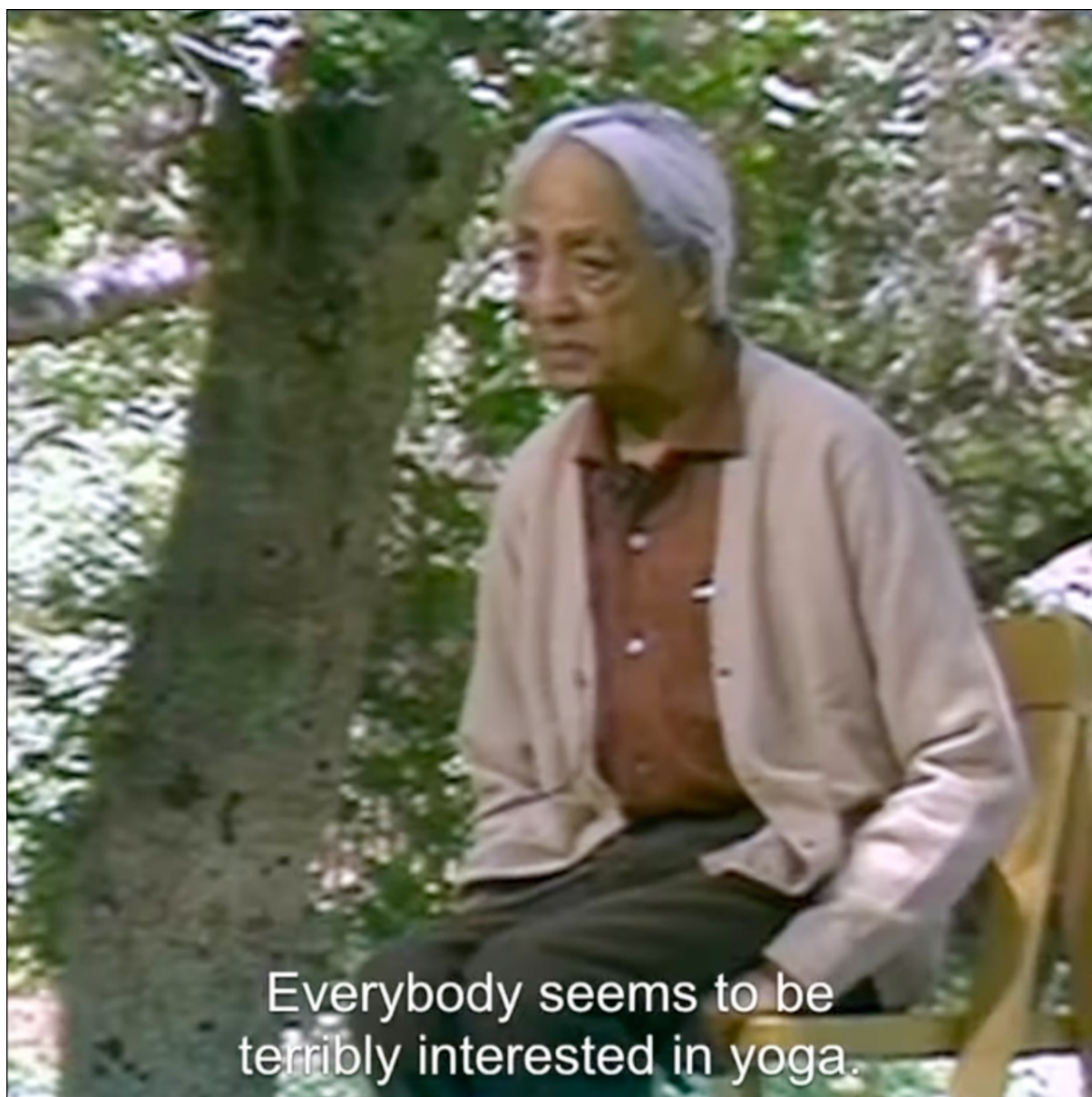
coaches the school's Condor League champion basketball team. He received his B.A in English from the University of California, Berkeley and his teaching credential from California State University East Bay. He has been teaching at Oak Grove since 2016.

View the presentation [here](#).

YouTube Short

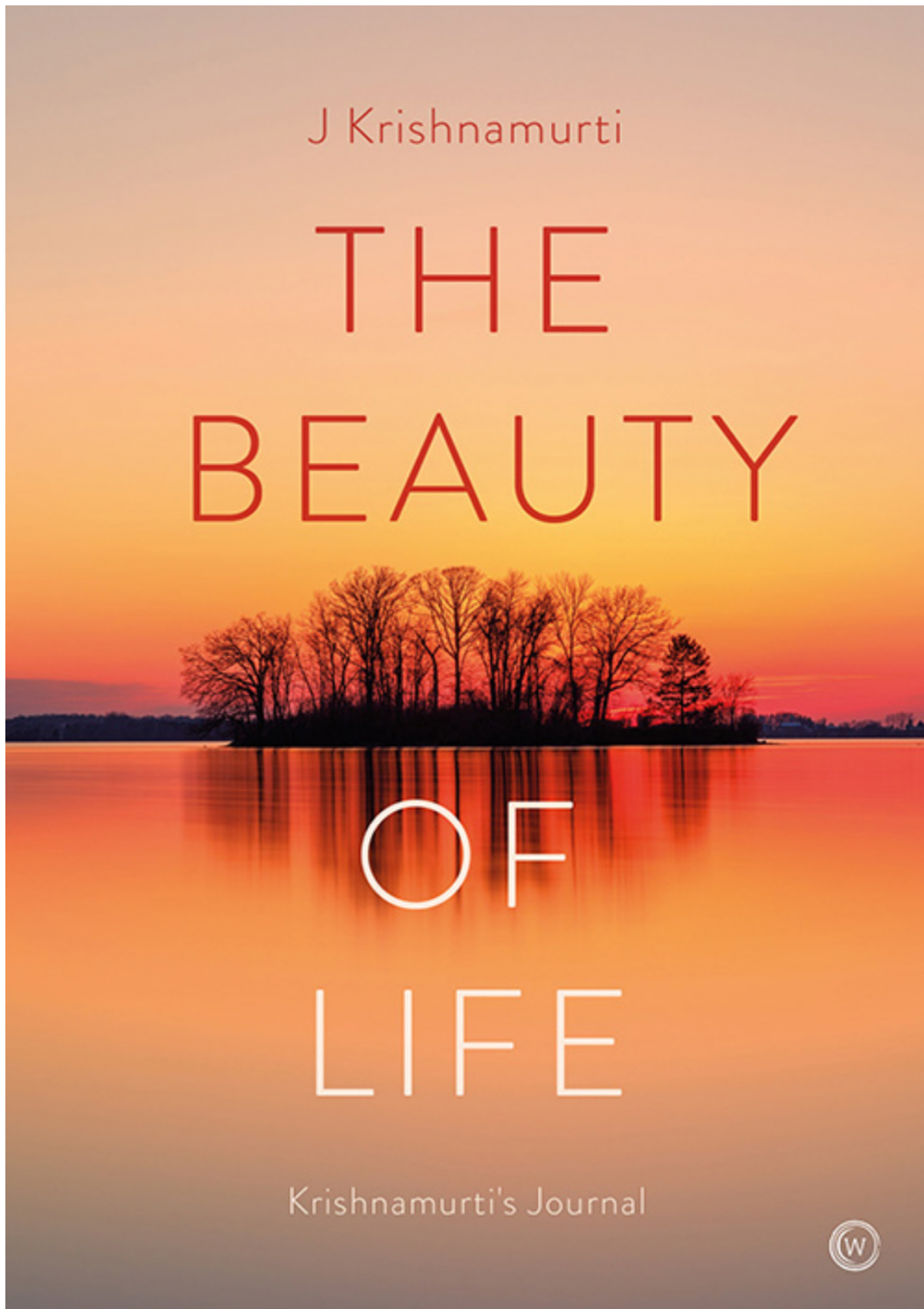
Yoga Has Become a Business

From Public Talk 3, Ojai, 1985



Watch video [here](#).

The Beauty of Life
Krishnamurti's Journal



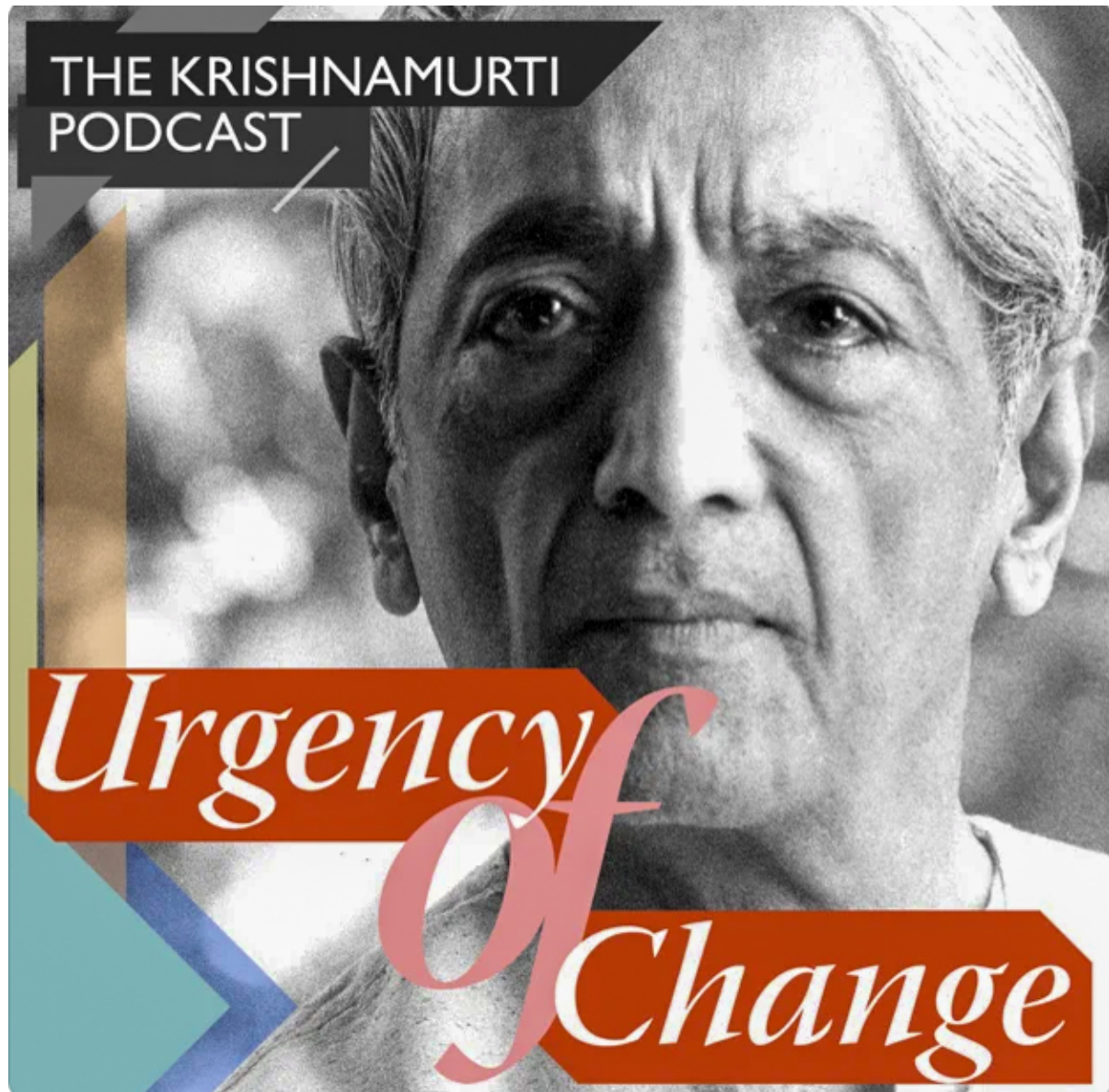
"High in the mountains, there were hardly any birds; there were some crows, there were deer, and an occasional bear. The huge redwoods, the silent ones, were everywhere, dwarfing all other trees. It was a magnificent country and utterly peaceful, for no hunting was allowed. Every animal, tree, and flower was protected. Sitting under one of those massive redwoods, one was aware of the history of humanity and the beauty of the earth. A fat red squirrel passed by most elegantly, stopping a few feet away, watching and wondering what you were doing there. The earth was dry, though there was a stream nearby. Not a leaf stirred, and the beauty of silence was among the trees. Going slowly along the narrow path, round the bend was a bear with four cubs as large as big cats. They rushed off to crawl up trees, and the mother faced one without a movement, without a sound. About fifty feet separated us; she was enormous, brown, and prepared. One immediately turned one's back on her and left. Each understood that there was no fear and no intention to hurt, but all the same, one was glad to be among the protecting trees, squirrels, and the scolding jays.

Freedom is to be a light to oneself; then it is not an abstraction, a thing conjured by thought. Actual freedom is freedom from dependency, attachment, from the craving for experience. Freedom from the very structure of thought is to be a light to oneself. In this light all action takes place, and thus it is never contradictory. Contradiction only exists when that law, light, is separate from action, when the actor is separate from action. The ideal, the principle, is the barren movement of thought and cannot coexist with this light; one denies the other. This light, this law, is separate from you; where the observer is, this light, this love, is not. The structure of the observer is put together by thought, which is never new, never free. There is no how, no system, no practice. There is only the seeing which is the doing. You have to see, not through the eyes of another. This light, this law, is neither yours nor that of another. There is only light. This is love."

Excerpt from *[The Beauty of Life](#)*

Krishnamurti Podcasts

Krishnamurti with Pupul Jayakar 5



This conversation between Krishnamurti and Pupul Jayakar was recorded at Brockwood Park in 1982. The inquiry includes: What is the source of all existence, all life, all action? What is the approach of a mind that wants to inquire into something that it doesn't know, something that demands an extraordinary quality of deep subtlety, deep capacity of order? Why doesn't one feel totally responsible for the wars, the brutality, the terrible things that are happening in the world? Human beings have created such disorder in themselves and therefore outwardly. How does one comprehend or be aware of the origin of disorder? What is the state of action that is born out of complete attention? Is it necessary to go through the process of watching one's reactions and observing diligently one's relationships? Any person who gives attention, who really says, 'I must find the source of life,' who is passionate about it, not just casual, will listen. They will listen: it is in

the air.

Pupul Jayakar, who died in 1997, was an Indian cultural activist and writer, best known for her work on the revival of traditional and village arts, handlooms and handicrafts. She was a close friend of prime minister Indira Gandhi, and was her cultural advisor and biographer. Having been to a school established by Annie Besant, Pupul became involved with Krishnamurti's work in the 1940s, becoming a trustee of the Indian foundation.

Listen [here](#).

The work of the Krishnamurti Postal Lending Library



Thank you for all the donations/legacies of Krishnamurti books which form the bulk of the library.

Apart from its usual function as a postal lending library, with a base of most of the Krishnamurti books ever published, the library has another function. It tries to put books 'into circulation', into the community. It can be regarded as a hub, a distribution centre. Books come in and go out, (although the library nucleus is maintained).

When there are surplus books, they are offered to second-hand bookshops in NZ. Some people are keen to pass them on to friends and acquaintances. They also go into public libraries, (although they have to be in mint condition for this to happen). They are made available at

Krishnamurti-related gatherings. And more recently the Library has been putting books into the small informal community libraries that pop up in various places, ("free books"), including books for browsing in cafés.

For this to happen, the Library relies on donations of Krishnamurti books. So if you have books that are gathering dust, stored away indefinitely in cupboards/on shelves, you might consider putting them into circulation through the Library. Krishnamurti books can be regarded as seeds, that can be given a chance to germinate.

Contact the Library at:

Krishnamurtinzwebsite@gmail.com

Library web address: <https://www.kanz.org.nz/library>

October Weekend Retreat An Exploration into Meditation



Following the weekend retreat last year at Waitetuna, another retreat is planned for October 2023. The theme will be "***An exploration into Meditation***"

The term "exploration" is important here. It is not the intention to spend the weekend following traditional meditational practices, but rather to enquire into the whole questions "What is true meditation?", "What is its meaning?", and, "What is its place in our everyday life?"

The words of J. Krishnamurti will play a part in the sessions, but not as an authority, only as a starting point for enquiry.

Krishnamurti frequently said:

“In meditation don't follow anybody, including the speaker.”

So although the sessions will be facilitated, there will be no authority figure, but rather a mutual self-enquiry, with a mix of dialogue and actual **doing**. Periods of silence will play a part in the sessions.

Following feedback from the previous retreat, there will also be more unstructured time available.

“Meditation is to be aware of every thought and of every feeling, never to say it is right or wrong but just to watch it and move with it. In that watching you begin to understand the whole movement of thought and feeling. And out of this awareness comes silence” – J. Krishnamurti.

So the retreat will simultaneously be a time for questioning and a time for silence. It is an opportunity for participants to slow down.

The retreat will question whether the issue of meditation can be approached without predetermined ideas of what it is, and if so is it possible to be in a state of learning about what it is, and is there a state of not-knowing that is part of meditation in itself?

Apart from the retreat sessions participants will help a little with food preparation and cleaning up after meals.

Detailed information can be downloaded [here](#).

Practical Details:

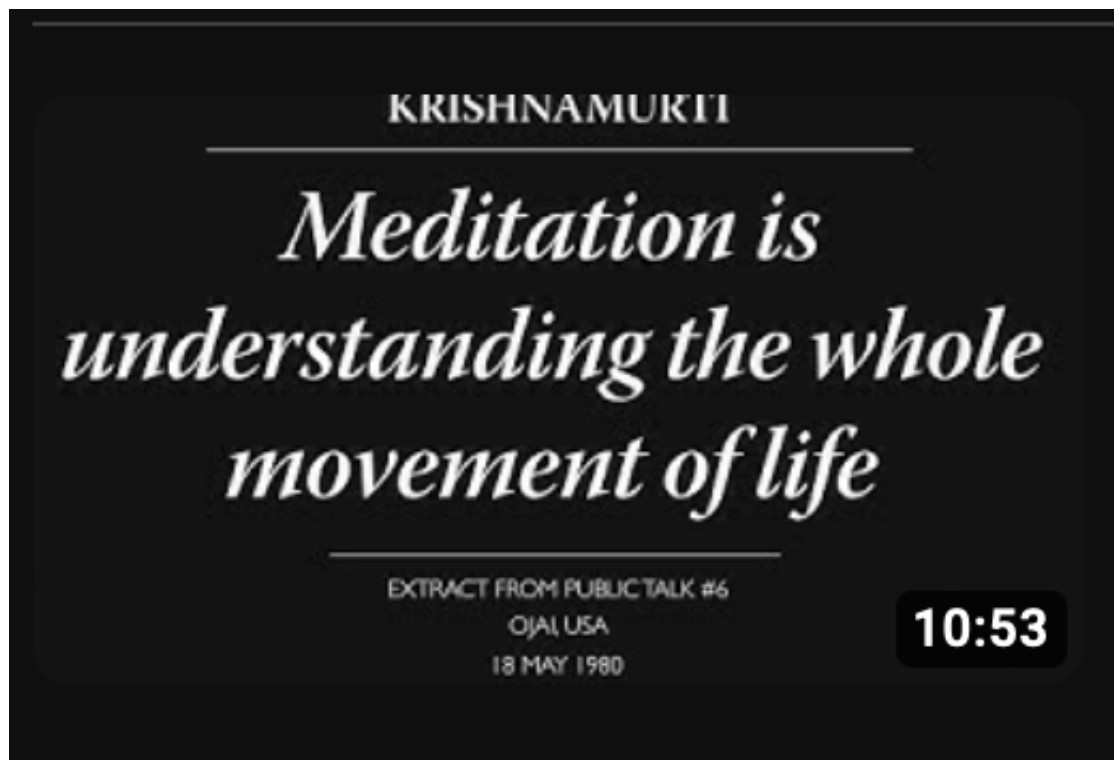
Date: October 13th–15th

Venue: Waitetuna Retreat Centre, Cogswell Road, near Raglan

Cost: approximately NZ\$310

For administrative details/bookings contact: Mirani Wijeyesinghe, email <anila3@live.com> mob: 0210 229 2644

For retreat content contact: Clive Elwell email <clive.elwell@gmail.com>



Watch video [here](#).

Auckland Dialogue Meeting

Meetings are held fortnightly on Mondays.

The meeting location has changed and meetings are now being held in New Lynn.

Please contact Brett Nielsen 021 974 960 to obtain meeting details and to advise attendance.

Showings of Krishnamurti videos and group dialogues:

CHRISTCHURCH

- contact Kyoko Giebel 03 329 4789 / aakaasha@glenrowan.nz- monthly:
- contact Pauline Matsis 03 312 1470 /

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