

Between the dreaming and the coming true ...

In his book with the wonderful title - *Between the Dreaming and the Coming True*¹, Robert Benson writes of the wondering we all do at some point in our lives. We all, I think, remember asking or being asked (maybe STILL ask!) the question "SO, what do you want to be when you grow up?"

Benson suggests another, perhaps more effective way of asking this question. He suggests we might better wonder "WHO do I want to be when I grow up?", then the work we do, could be work that sustains and nurtures the unique 'beings' that we are.

He recalls the story of Rabbi Zusya, one of the great wisdom teachers of the Hebrew tradition, who once said that in the world to come, he would not be asked 'Why were you not Moses?', rather, he would be asked 'Why were you not Zusya?'

It is precisely this dreaming, this wondering, that for me forms the 3 basic questions of life:

Who am I truly?

What do I really want? and

What do I have to offer to the world?

For me, these questions constitute the foundation of coaching - all other questions are 'embroidery'! ... the embellishment of the details of our dreams.

I echo the sad words of Russell Montfort who remarked he suspects many "die with half our music left in us". Robert Benson further explores this image - "Maybe we do not know the words to our own song." To the extent that this is so, "it is not just our own little melody that suffers; the whole chorus is not as good. If you leave out enough of the words, even the Song of the whole universe will sound funny."

My part of the melody of the universe, the 'word' the Dreamer whispered into me, and which I offer to the world is this:

I am a woman, named Maralyn, whose essence qualities are childlike wonder, love, and wisdom.

What I really want is to invite those I meet to be fully alive! - to live as authentically as they know themselves, in the biggest arena possible ... and

I do this by creating a safe space in which I warmly invite others to wonder and dream - to gently uncover and name the words of their own song. This is the journey of my life - regardless of the role - wife, mother, friend, coach, passerby - I am playing in any

¹ *Between the Dreaming and the Coming True* - Robert Benson. Published by HarperCollins 1996

given moment.

Benson ends his book with these words, "The journey between the dreaming and the coming true is a journey made on holy ground. ...if we will listen, we can hear the whisper of the Dreamer echoing deep within us, calling us to become what the Dreamer sees when our names were first whispered ... This is what we have been sent here to do. And we will. The Dreamer's dreams will always come true."