

Hive Mind

A Chapter from the Book "AHYOKA: The Last Neanderthal"

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Abstract

The following is a chapter titled "Hive Mind" from John Bickart's newest book, a collection of essays called "*AHYOKA: The Last Neanderthal*."

The Truth About AHYOKA

The truth is ... I was not visited by a CaveWoman, a CaveMan or any Cave Individual, by the name of Ahyoka or any other name, from tens of thousands of years ago. I just made up the whole story. I am using a book of dialogues with Ahyoka to tell you what I think humankind used to be - and further - what I think humankind can become if we integrate our distant past selves with our current selves. You see, I have been obsessed with the idea of what the next version of humankind will become since I can remember - perhaps since I was three years old. I think that - more than having that idea - that idea had me - just about all of my life. So, this book is indirectly my way of guessing how the consciousness of humankind could have had two versions up until now, as we are about to enter the third version of humankind - HUMANKIND 3.0. Version 1.0 would have been the version Ahyoka came from - the prehistorics - the indigenous humans who came before anyone was using language to write down history. Version 2.0 is us - basically from tens of thousands of years ago until just recently. Version 3.0 is the human consciousness some of us think we are already becoming.

I think I'm one of them.

Keywords: *holistic, indigenous, mindfulness*

Hive Mind

*"... what more can you say
of the group as a whole?*

*do we band together?
is there a group soul?"*

- Bickart

The Holistic Indigenous Mind

Me: Ahyoka, you have said on more than one occasion that your Version 1.0 prehistoric people used to sense the wholeness of the community, the tribe. Your descriptions sound like your people were aware of some firm connection to everything around them that seems quite tangible - a oneness - a palpable reality. Would you say that this connection is something we cannot even relate to?

Ahyoka: (breathing a heavy sigh) ... You certainly cannot, if you continue looking through a consciousness that is not open to the POSSIBILITY of a deeper level of reality. We traversed the spiral. We brought the whole world into ourselves, then came back out with what you call 'powers'.

Let me see if I can explain. Now that I have been living in your time, perhaps I am learning to use my left brain to articulate ideas and powers that we Version 1.0s 'just had.' And mind you, if you access these latent powers, you will be a Version 3.0.

What you call a "sense" is exactly what we had. For us, however, it was vastly different. We used senses that you do not currently even acknowledge. You often speak of 5 senses: sight, smell, touch, hearing, and taste. These are all physical. We had those five - probably to a much higher degree of intensity. But we also had senses that allowed us to be aware of the spirit in the tree, the spirit in the water, the spirit in each other. You speak of empathy - a feeling for the other. This experience of what another is feeling/thinking was for us an extremely deep inextricable truth. We were one with each other, and what we meant by 'other' was much more inclusive. It included the plants, animals, land, fire, water, and air.

This experience of connection was not a mental, left brain representation of something real; it was

*the reality itself. We were not told to think of our relatives; we didn't sit around talking about this; it was an authentic experience; the whole world was our family; we were related to each other and we knew/felt this in our hearts. We didn't think about an abstract symbol of the spiral, we moved/lived/breathed in the path of the spiral. We didn't just play lightly with ideas; we had **heart thoughts**.*

Me: What happened to us? Why can't we see any of this?

Ahyoka: It's like this. You know how you wake up from a dream that feels very important, but no matter how hard you try, you can't remember it?

Me: Yeah.

*Ahyoka: That's life protecting you. You forget some things when your **day** is very young, you forget some things from when your **life** was very young, and you forget some things from when **humankind** itself was young. Mostly what you forget is the spirit stuff. It's a protection for your own good.*

We had what you moderns call a story. For us it was more a chant or recitation or prayer or promise. It was said in us - and would come out of us as if we were speaking - but it was speaking in us. I cannot translate the actual words because your words are too small, so I will interpret. But as I say it, you must imagine large import to each phrase. It went like this...

you sleep and dream the big dreams

after sleep, you wake

after waking, you forget,

after forgetting, you watch
after watching, you try to understand
after trying, you enter the fire
after burning, you wake again
- then you know -
after knowing, you sleep again

It is the song of life. It is the dance of the spiral. It is the day, the life, and the lives. It tells of the 'stuff of spirit', the 'spirit stuff'.

Me: What do you mean 'spirit stuff'?

Ahyoka: A sense of the spiritual world. All of humankind and also each one of us forget what you are told when you were over there - what you learned - the advice you were given.

Me: What advice was I given - and how is forgetting a protection?

Ahyoka: In order to be your own free person, you have to be guided gently, then allowed to be on your own. That means that in your dreams - in your early childhood - in prehistoric times - you were shown how to be. You were gently guided. But then you were set free to make decisions on your own as you grew up. Every day has this pattern as does every life and the same goes for the life of this species we call humankind.

We play a game that helps this get absorbed into our being. It is like when you moderns are hypnotized, and you speak of some idea getting into your subconscious.

Me: I would absolutely love to hear this game. Would I understand how it goes?

Ahyoka: Well ... perhaps. First of all, picture that when we play it, we are not being playful. We are serious. We empty our entire being (something almost none of you moderns have the ability to do). Then we enter a state that you call meditation. Then we kind of 'load' the life story/the path of the spiral into ourselves after having recited it. This loading is a repeat of having recited it, but without words - we just load the whole story - the whole picture as it were...

	One Day	One Life	All Humankind
1	<i>sleep</i>	<i>birth</i>	<i>pre-species</i>
2	<i>morning</i>	<i>childhood</i>	<i>Version 1.0 prehistorics</i>
3	<i>midday</i>	<i>teenager</i>	<i>Version 2.0 moderns</i>
4	<i>evening</i>	<i>adult</i>	<i>Version 3.0 future</i>
5	<i>sleep</i>	<i>death</i>	<i>post-species</i>

After loading the whole story into our soul, the next step in the 'game' is to review. This review is a ritual of walking through the spiral pattern of life. We physically walk in what you call a 'counter-clockwise' motion, in the pattern of the spiral from outside to the center, then in one continuous motion back out. The repetition is a comforting experience because we are not thinking about it - we are IN IT - we are EXPERIENCING the spiral.

Holistic Day/Life/Species
<i>1) We review our day and examine how we felt/thought as we awoke from sleep. That</i>

<i>was a review of the time we were in our direct spiritual connection.</i>
<i>2) Then we review or replay (in our minds) our morning to re-experience our pre-reasoning time.</i>
<i>3) Then we watch like a movie our midday conscious time.</i>
<i>4) Then we see if we matured to the fire - the initiation into the spirit world.</i>
<i>5) Then we watch ourselves die and return to the spirit world at the end of the day.</i>

Me: Wow. The word "game" really does not translate! This sounds heavy. Does it leave you tired? Is this game difficult for you to do?

Ahyoka: No, no, no. We were not heavy. We were light. We were not lost in thought - we lived in our right brain, in our senses, in the here and now. We did not live in the world of good and evil - in the judgements of the mind. We were like little children. What does a child do three minutes after being told, "This is very, very important ... always keep your hands away from the fire."? Does the child think more about it, or just go on with the day?

Me: I see what you mean. A child "can meet with Triumph and Disaster and treat those two impostors just the same," as Rudyard Kipling reminds us.

Ahyoka: Right. A child returns to the present - which is where the spiritual world lives. What you modern Version 2.0s have so much trouble with is this idea of a spiritual world. I totally understand. Most of you can't see or physically measure such things. And you project onto everyone else that they must be like you, so you figure that anyone describing entities that are non-physical must be making up myths.

Me: I have read about this in a book by Malidoma Patrice SomÈ. He was a modern person who

passed through *initiation* - if you believe him - into a re-connection to the spiritual world. His book is called *Of Water and the Spirit: Ritual, Magic, and Initiation in the life of an African Shaman*. He just passed away recently, in 2021.

Ahyoka: What was his story?

Me: Well, he was born in a small tribe that had remained outside of 'the white man's world' in the Dagara community in Dano located north of the convergence of Ghana, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire in West Africa. At the age of four he was kidnapped by Jesuits to be raised in their religion and learn the European culture. After 15 years in the seminary, he escaped and walked 125 miles back to his tribe. There, at the age of 20, he underwent a difficult, month-long initiation that was normally experienced around the age of 13. In the initiation, the elders helped him enter a gateway to another world. After this, he said that he understood the ancestors and their wisdom - he understood the sacredness of the natural world and *the supernatural world*.

Ahyoka: This is an important story. It means to me that you Versions 2.0 moderns may be able to regain the sense we Version 1.0s had. Perhaps sensing spirit is a latent ability. Perhaps this is a way to become Version 3.0.



#121 The Old Badger and the French Hen



An old badger was pouring his usual bowl of coffee to go sit for his morning routine by the edge of the garden, nestled between the servant's quarters and the stables. He had invited his friend, a French hen, who also enjoyed life's little pleasures. He had his kitchen prepare some of her favorites: a wonderfully crusty baguette with butter and strawberry jam, pain au chocolate, and a perfectly ripe, sliced peach with crème fraîche. "The morning sun promises a delightful hour," observed the badger. "I quite agree," rejoined the hen, "I do believe it is bringing out the full fragrance of the privet blossoms."

Unbeknownst to the consumers, their morning gathering was also joined by a host of little spiritual beings. Here were the actual chefs. Here were the ones responsible for the feast of tastes and smells. Here were the workers that grew the fruits and flowers, encouraged the wind and the sun and the dew, supported the cooks in the kitchen and the servants in their quarters, and made the morning itself possible. They watched with great satisfaction that their labors had not gone unnoticed. But what about them - the beings behind the scenes? As the little ones relished the morning repast, they enjoyed a hearty laugh, gently making fun of the old badger and the French hen. "And when will they appreciate us? Yes, we are little, yet all of our little deeds basically run all of nature!"

*DO NOT MISS OUT ON LIFE'S LITTLE
PLEASURES*

Ahyoka: In my day, what you call Version 1.0 of humankind, we just knew that we were all connected - we did not step back or step outside of this connection to ponder it and philosophize about it. In the tens of thousands of years since then, I can see that people have seemingly lost the ability to deeply sense connection, though I'll bet it is lying dormant - perhaps about to awaken. On the other hand, I can see that humankind has gained a freedom to act as individuals. Version 2.0 has also gained the ability to assemble the mental clues to figure out that everything is connected - that there does exist a oneness to all.

As I read some of the great authors speaking about this connection, I feel like I am watching blind people, feeling their way around a new room. They do not know where the furniture is, so they have to carefully stumble and pick up clues to 'see' the lay of the land.

Me: Exactly. Watching the natural world, we infer a supernatural world. Watching the physical events, we infer possible spiritual causes.

Ahyoka: So, how did you guess that there is connection? How did you infer the existence of "hive minds?"

*Me: The expression "hive mind" comes from the reference to the beehive, where bees are possibly able to know what each other are thinking as if they all have one mind. Ralph Waldo Emerson described a type of universal mind for all of humankind, saying that we tap into it for wisdom. Walt Whitman writes a very strange kind of poem in his large poem/book, *Leaves of Grass*. When you read him, you often find long lists of the things he is looking at or thinking about. Perhaps he is trying to get us to connect our separate parts to see the whole grouping or perhaps, hive mind.*

The Hive Mind

Ahyoka: But Emerson and Whitman are rather modern - mid 1800s - in my timescale that was quite recent. Didn't others suspect universal connection?

Leonardo da Vinci

Me: Sure. Leonardo da Vinci alludes to a holistic view of nature. He points out that the Golden Mean (or Golden Ratio) appears in many, many plants, animals and a myriad of natural phenomena.

Ahyoka: What is the Golden Mean?

Me: It is a number. It comes from a ratio.

Ahyoka: What is the number? What ratio?

Me: The Golden Mean is the ratio you get when you divide some whole up into parts in a very special way. Look here at this piece of cake. I'll show you the Golden Mean with this cake. May we share it so that I can make the special ratio?

Ahyoka: We can share it.

Me: Do you mind if instead of giving you exactly half, I make one piece larger?

Ahyoka: Sure. And, you can have a bigger half - I'm watching my weight.

Me: Just to let you know, I'm watching my weight, too. I'm watching it rise with age. Anyway, I will divide the cake into two parts. If I place the knife precisely where the ratio between the two parts is exactly 1.618, then the ratio of the whole piece of cake to the larger part will also be 1.618. It is where the parts of the cake and the whole piece of cake are related.

Ahyoka: The mathematics you Version 2.0s can do would be magic to my time.

Me: Would you like to see more?

Ahyoka: Oh yes! I find that my newly found abilities are allowing me to follow you. Please show me more.

Me: We can do a similar act to calculate the Golden Mean ratio. This time we will use very simple numbers. The name of this sequence of numbers is named after Fibonacci, an Italian mathematician from the 1200s, though they were mentioned around 200 BC by an Indian named Pingala who was noticing mathematical patterns in Sanskrit poetry. To get them, you keep adding the whole to the last parts - you will see what that means as we go. Ready?

Ahyoka: Yes.

Me: Ok. To start, add one plus one. If you didn't get two, you may not like the rest. If you got two, now add that two to the previous one to get three. Now add that three to the previous two to get five. What have we got so far?

Ahyoka: One, one, two, three, five. Right?

Me: Right. To keep generating Fibonacci numbers you just go on like that as long as you wish - it's what is called an infinite series. You always add the last two numbers in the series to get the next one.

Ahyoka: It seems similar to the Golden Mean in that they both relate the whole to the parts. Is that the only way they are related?

Me: No, that is not the only way the Fibonacci numbers are like the Golden Mean - there is so much more. Remarkably, if you make a ratio of any two Fibonacci numbers in sequence, it is close to the Golden Mean! If you keep making ratios of Fibonacci numbers that occur farther and farther in the series, the ratio gets closer and closer to the actual Golden Mean.

But here is the best part. You have noted how the Version 2.0s are becoming individualistic by being protected from complete guidance and having to figure things out on their own, right?

Ahyoka: Yes.

Me: Well, Version 2.0s combine the act of figuring things out by looking for clues with increased analytical skills. Therefore, we have found that both the Golden Mean and the Fibonacci numbers are all around us in counting numbers in nature.

For example, if you count the number of sunflower seeds in a right-handed curve going out from the center of the pod (unless there is a very rare exception), you will get a Fibonacci number. Count the seeds going out in a left-handed curve and you will get either the Fibonacci number just before the previous one or right after it.

But this just touches the tip of an iceberg. The Golden Mean and the Fibonacci numbers are found all over the proportions of the human body and mother nature's body. And all of this suggests, as Leonardo told us, that humans are somehow connected to each other and perhaps to every other single part of nature.

And so, the Version 2.0 mind has gathered clues and reasoned that if there are hive minds made out of these connections wherever there are groupings, then not only are there a lot of hive minds, but there may also be hive minds of groups of hive minds.

Ahyoka: And this also shows a benefit to having temporarily forgotten the spirit world. With the development of powerful reasoning by being 'on your own', humankind is arriving at the inference of the oneness and connection that we Version 1.0s were given as automatic, atavistic perceptions. Are there other clues you have gathered?

Me: I'll say. Michael Faraday and a group of scientists come to mind.

The Hive Mind at Work

Me: Michael Faraday is one of the greatest scientists of all time. He was one of Einstein's heroes. You've no doubt heard of Einstein?

Ahyoka: Oh, yes. He is one of the few scientists of your time who was celebrated during his own life.

Me: To be sure. Well, Faraday came up with the inventions of the electric generator, the electric motor, and even the electric transformer. These three inventions caused more change in our world than almost any other technological advance in recorded history. The funny thing - and the reason I bring this up - is that humankind hardly played with the technology of electricity until Faraday's time - the 1800's. Perhaps this is a clue toward the hive mind of humankind becoming interested in electricity.

Ahyoka: Why do you think it is a clue that there is a hive mind at work?

Me: Because no less than 13 great scientists in no less than 6 countries simultaneously made discoveries in electricity within a couple of decades of each other after humankind had virtually ignored electricity for millennia. And a good many of these discoveries occurred without the direct communication from one scientist to another.

Humankind had the resources, the ingenuity, and the time to invent electrical technology all throughout recorded history - but did not. This sudden interest seems to be an example of the human hive mind focusing on something since several, separate individuals got the same idea.

Ahyoka: That is fascinating! I see that this must look to the left brain of the Version 2.0s as if humankind is one large body.

The Human Body as a Community

Me: Exactly. So, to follow your analogy to a body, look at the very recent work of Bruce Lipton. According to Lipton, the human body is composed of trillions of cells that are 'listening' to each other. I liken them to friends or pets. Lipton says that his research shows that the cell membrane controls the cell from the outside in - not from the inside out. In other words, there is no command center, like the formerly predominant theory that claims that the brain sends out instructions and the cells obey.

Lipton claims that the cells are a community of sentient beings - beings that have feelings. He asserts that there is no absolute ruler of the human body - and there is no absolute command center of the cell. They both are ruled by communal consensus or agreement. If Lipton is right, perhaps this is another case of a hive mind - this time the hive is the community of cells.

Ahyoka: Are there other clues from the animal world?

Possible Animal Hive Minds

Me: Yes, the animal world seems to be more receptive to 'hearing' each other, as if by telepathy, than humans are. And Malidoma Patrice SomÈ, whom I praised earlier, infers that the animals are better than humans and the plants are even better than animals at receiving communication and responding to the world.

Yet another example of Version 2.0s inferring connections from observing the physical world comes from Lewis Thomas. He won a National Book Award in 1974 for his book, *The Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher*. He tells wonderful stories where ants search over large areas of ground for the right size twig as they build walls. As a new size of twig is needed, the disparate groups simultaneously drop the twigs they were picking up and begin to find the new size twigs. It is as if there was one whole ant mind made up of several ant parts.

In another set of his notes, Thomas revealed how he observed termites building beautiful, large crystal palaces with columns and curving arches that are separate yet join precisely at the top. The sizes of these homes reach 40 feet in diameter and 25 feet in height. To me (an uninitiated person who cannot see any spiritual workings at this point), this begs the question, "How do the separate termites coordinate such architecture?"

Thomas then relates that bees, whether in the hive or far away from it, act in coordination as if attached by some invisible filament, making row after row of symmetrical hexagonal cells. When swarming time comes, the population splits up, half going with the old queen. Thomas observes that watching the split up, it looks like the process of mitosis in cells, an intelligent, choreographed movement as if someone or something were directing the action.

Thomas also describes how slime mold cells act synchronously to make a slug. At first, they are separate, single cells called amoebocytes, swimming around, not touching or appearing to have anything to do with each other. Then acrosin is secreted by special cells. Suddenly the amoebocytes touch, fuse together, and construct a slug as solid as a trout!

Ahyoka: This Lewis Thomas looks with the eyes of the poet, as you have praised me! He is not directly seeing or speaking with the world of spiritual beings, yet he is picking up clues that make a left brain person analyze that perhaps some intelligence is working behind the physical events.

In my day, all of us could 'hear' the multiple parts of the forest. The insects and birds and the forest four-leggeds 'showed' us where to get food and 'told' us when the weather was changing. And the trees, bushes, mushrooms, and fungi communicated guidance across the forest.

Me: A wonderful author who is of my time has collected physical scientific clues about this! Peter Wohlleben wrote a book in 2016 based on years of careful observations of a forest. It is called, *The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate: Discoveries from a Secret World*.

*Ahyoka: I would love to hear what he found but let me interrupt you for a moment. Do you see that the reason that the trees' feelings and communications are a **secret**? It is because of Version 2.0, left brain only perceptions? If Version 2.0s could make the jump that SomÈ did - to become initiated into the other world - we could be privy to the secrets. Perhaps humankind is on the brink of directly perceiving the forest once again. Possibly this is the coming of Version 3.0 of humankind!*

Me: I think you may be right. It is my life's wish that we learn to integrate your abilities to ours. Maybe Wohlleben is beginning this integration, although he is still doing physical science as opposed to spiritual science. He epitomizes a person who is an excellent observer using the left brain to make careful, detailed analyses. For example, he makes incredible observations about the mycelium network, made of millions of mushroom roots that connect the roots of

individual trees and plants under the floor of the forest. If extended, you could find over a hundred miles of mycelia in a pound of soil. Wohlleben coins the term "the Wood Wide Web" to describe how they facilitate complex messaging across a forest.

Ahyoka: I have been reading about the mycelium network. Your current researchers are learning more and more about this remarkable network and how it encourages a community of the separate individual trees and plants by providing a communications network. Your current research appears to be at the tip of an iceberg of how much the different species talk to each other. And what's more, your scientists are starting to find that ancient ancestors to the mushroom may have been alive in the ocean, prior to what you Version 2.0s had previously thought, perhaps 3 1/2 billion years ago. This would mean that these mycelium ancestors are perhaps the oldest 'plants' and the oldest community on the planet.

Me: Ahyoka, do you think humankind can once again communicate with each other telepathically? Do you think we can learn - or maybe evolve - to somehow communicate with nature?

What About a Human Hive Mind?

Ahyoka: Maybe. As I said before, you moderns have trouble with this idea of a spiritual world because you can't see or physically measure it. Instead of seeking a hive mind with non-physical connections among its parts, you project onto those who conjecture its existence that they must be making up myths.

But, nevertheless, some of you are starting to think that perhaps it is possible that we are being inspired by beings from the spiritual world. Some are even accepting the possibility that your

intentions, in concert with the intentions of others are creating some the world we see around us.

So, I think that there is hope of communicating with nature. Perhaps you can telepathically synchronize your separate intentions with each other and with the various parts of nature as a whole. I hope you reach consciousness of a human hive mind, and I relish the thought of how powerful your accomplishments might become.



#114 The Hive Mind



A bee and an ant stopped a busy day to chat.

Bee: Where we come from, you work together to accomplish a task. What is it with the humans? They seem not to be able to sense the whole of a community. They each go their own way.

Ant: I know just what you mean! In building our homes, each one of us senses what to do for the good of the whole group. The humans each build a separate home.

Bee: Ah, but don't you see? Possibly, each human IS working for the whole and they just don't know it, yet.

Ant: How can that be?

Bee: Well, see here, when you build your dome over your nest, it protects the nest with a very complex architecture, does it not?

Ant: Yes.

Bee: While you are building, can you see what the eventual structure will be? Are you aware of the magnificent dome that will result?

Ant: No, I just do my job.

Bee: Exactly. It is the same with us. A single Bee does not comprehend the complexity of a hive. Yet, when we step back, there it is.

Ant: So, what does this have to do with the humans?

Bee: Perchance, the humans are doing the same thing, but they do not see how to step back yet. You see, a single human is like a whole hive in that one of them can build an entire home. But wouldn't it be amazing if each human IS taking part in building and maintaining a very large home ... one that is far too sophisticated for a single human to engineer.

*Ant: But what home would they be building? And
how would one step back to see it?*

*Bee: Could it be that they are building the hive of
hives ... NATURE, herself! And as for stepping
back, well, some of them are learning to meditate.
Perhaps in meditation, a human mind can see the
whole.*

Human Hive

*one ant
building a modest home
cannot fathom
a geodesic dome*

*but several
in concert
without a conductor
can build a palace
like no other*

*is it so with humans?
for a single one
can whip up a home
to reach the Sun*

*what more can you say
of the group as a whole?
do we band together?
is there a group soul?*

*is there some advanced dwelling
rolling right past your nose
that we are composing
much greater than prose?*

*at what nest can you point
to which one is blind?
what is the outgrowth
of our hive mind?*

WHO IS BUILDING NATURE?

Author Bio

John Bickart likes to work in the background and let good ideas speak for themselves. He believes that children, and sometimes adults, know what they want and that they empower themselves when they listen to their hearts.

In the 80s and 90s, he consulted on adult education in the corporate world to Fortune 500 companies. He has taught every age group from preschool to adult and every type of student from emotionally disturbed to gifted in public and private schools as well as state prisons. He has taught in Shanghai to Peewaukie - New York City to San Francisco.