



In Search of Being: The Fourth Way to Consciousness

By G. I. Gurdjieff

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Are we able to say that life is governed by a group of conscious people? Where are they? Who are they? We see exactly the opposite: that life is governed by those who are the least conscious, by those who are most asleep.

Provocative ideas such as these have attracted generations of thoughtful people to the methods of self-study and inner work devised by Gurdjieff, one of the most radical spiritual teachers of modern times. According to Gurdjieff, the wars raging at this very moment are nothing more than millions of sleeping people trying to annihilate millions of other sleeping people. Contrary to popular belief, there is no such as thing as progress and evolution as long as humanity remains asleep.

Two hundred conscious people could change the whole of life on the earth, Gurdjieff says. If we want to become those conscious people, we must learn how to change ourselves. With the help of self-knowledge and an understanding of our relation to the universe, we can awaken to a higher level of being—if we wish to change ourselves.

All of Gurdjieff's fundamental principles and methods of transforming the intellect, emotions, and body, in the system known as the Fourth Way, are presented in this book in his own clear, precise words preserved by his closest pupils.

Arranged in an orderly sequence of passages drawn from two primary source books—P. D. Ouspensky's *In Search of the Miraculous*, and *Views from the Real World*, recorded and arranged by Mme. Jeanne de Salzmann—this material is an indispensable introduction for those determined to undertake the efforts and practices necessary for awakening consciousness.

All the basic concepts and methods are covered, including:

- man is "asleep"
- we have no unified "I"

- the need for self-knowledge
- functions of the human "machine"
- states of consciousness
- levels of being
- three centers: moving, emotional, and thinking
- personality and essence
- the possibility of self-development
- self-observation
- remembering oneself
- conscious evolution
- the law of three forces
- the ray of creation
- the law of octaves
- the Enneagram, a universal symbol
- the variety of spiritual ways
- esoteric Christianity
- working in groups
- the necessity of schools

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Editorial Review

About the Author

G. I. Gurdjieff (1866–1949) created an original system of self-transformation that reconciled the great mystical traditions, known as the "Fourth Way" or "the Work." He initially gathered pupils in Moscow and in 1915 organized a study group in St. Petersburg that included P. D. Ouspensky, a leading figure in the spread of the teachings. Amid revolutionary turmoil in Russia, in 1917 he moved to the Caucasus and in 1922 established an institute for his work in France. The sources of the present book stem from this early period.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Shannon Harvey:

Reading a book tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the story that share in the publications. But also they write about the information about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write for their book. One of them is this In Search of Being: The Fourth Way to Consciousness.

Angelita Estes:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day every day to reading a reserve. The book In Search of Being: The Fourth Way to Consciousness it is quite good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can more easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book features high quality.

James Matter:

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you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, often the book you have read is actually *In Search of Being: The Fourth Way to Consciousness*.

Melanie Finnegan:

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