

A Tiber Talks
Vision Quest Tale
by
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EPISODE TWELVE

**TIBER TALKS OF
WHY THAT LIFE?**



Travis was visiting the Bronx Zoo with a new girlfriend he had met earlier this year. She was in most of his classes in school. It was the start of Easter Break, and they had been meeting quite a lot during class recesses and have even had what might be considered a couple of test dates. They were not really serious dates, whatever the serious term means to high schoolers, but they did seem to like each other a lot.

They also both loved animals, so they mutually decided that their first actual date away from school would be to the Bronx Zoo. They could go there via Line 5 of the New York subway from Brooklyn Heights, and get off on Pelham Parkway and walk to the Bronx Zoo. Today was a beautiful day in New York City, and the walk, although a bit on the long side, would be fun in itself, particularly when you had a really nice companion to walk with.

Anna was a pretty girl, and most importantly, didn't act like she knew it. She was very, very nice, and the pretty part was simply a confection of some sort. It was a nice, sweet confection, though, and if it suddenly disappeared, Travis convinced himself that it wouldn't really matter. Even if Anna somehow became average-looking, he convinced himself that he wouldn't care. But he also sincerely hoped that he wouldn't suddenly wake up one day to find all that prettiness was gone. He enjoyed looking at her.

After leaving the subway at Pelham, their walk to the Zoo was very enjoyable. Anna seemed to know exactly what to say to keep Travis's interest's activated. The conversation wasn't all about animals, and it wasn't all about school, and it wasn't all about him either. Travis wasn't sure that it was any one thing she was saying that held his interest, but perhaps it was that she was also holding his hand while they were walking that had him captivated.

Travis was also noticing that numerous birds were darting from treetop to treetop this morning. They also seemed to be singing more and different avian-style songs than he had ever heard and absorbed before now, and he was someone who always paid attention to birds singing. Anna noticed it too and told him so. That was one more thing he really liked about her.

Soon they arrived at the entrance to the Zoo. The large curved blue-green metal cut-out sculptured animal forms overhead created a very welcoming Gate for visitors to see. Travis and Anna walked under and through the gate and were excited, knowing that they were soon going to see all manner of animals on display. Travis said he felt somewhat sad that these creatures were not free to roam at will. Anna agreed, and they both convinced themselves that all of the animals were being treated carefully and kindly. They had sufficient shelter, food, and healthcare and were not being abused. At least they both believed this. These thoughts made them feel better, but even so, they wished the animals were free to roam their original habitats.

And so, the happy couple proceeded to roam the Zoo in the conviction that they had put their concerns to rest, at last for the time they were visitors here.

They spent some time just walking around to see the many zoo attractions. They decided that strolling the park after that walk from the Pelham subway station was telling them to rest a bit. So they decided to take a ride through the Dinosaur Safari attraction. Not only was it a lot of fun to view the giant T-Rex, but sitting side by side was super-nice as well, and Travis loved giving protective hugs to Anna when the T-Rex and other giant predators threatened them during the ride. After they saw many wonderful dinosaur creations and other paleontological activities, and now being rested from the ride, they decided to walk around some more.

After seeing the gorillas, lions, cougars and many more fantastic animals, they wandered the park until they came upon the squirrel monkey cage. Anna thought they were so cute, and Travis had to agree. There was a tree limb that ran close to them, inside the cage. A handsome squirrel monkey leaped onto that limb and put his face against the screen close to Travis.

Travis suddenly felt a mental nudge, which was difficult to put into words, and he saw the monkeys' lips starting to move. "Good morning Travis! Who is the pretty girl you can't seem to stop touching on your walk through the Zoo?"

Travis was startled, to say the least, and he glanced over towards Anna to see if she had heard this monkey talk. She did not, and as a

matter of fact, was not even moving. Nor was anyone else surrounding them moving, and the monkeys in the cage were all totally motionless as well.

Travis turned back to the monkey and said, "OK, Tiber! You had to do it again, didn't you? And just to throw me off of my game. And how did you make everything come to a dead stop?"

Tiber responded with a tone of superiority. "I stopped it the same way I did when we had our lesson in Wendy's. Remember, I explained to you that time is an illusion, and an illusion can be modified or halted if you know-how. And I know how."

"Right!" Travis responded back. "And I suppose you want to have a lesson right this instance, even though I am here on an important date."

"Yep!"

Travis looked at Tiber with an impatient scowl. "And now you are going to use my cleverly brief responses instead of giving me a proper explanation? What is this?"

"I am perfectly capable of being brief when I want to, Travis. And your responses were never really not all that clever, by the way. And as far as this lesson, there is no time like the present. But come to think of it, there is no time at all unless we want it to be. And I really don't need to give you an explanation anyway. Remember, you asked for these lessons well before you were born into this world."

"You are going to hold that request against me forever, I see. But I guess it will be OK to have a lesson as long as my girlfriend doesn't know it, and she isn't annoyed by it."

"She won't be aware of it, and when did she become your girlfriend? The last I knew, she was just a friend. Isn't this going too fast?"

"Forget I said it Tiber. What is the subject for this lesson?"

"The subject is about why you chose a certain life. But we are going to change our teaching methods for this lesson, so it will actually be two lessons in one."

"Well, Hell! That sounds doubly interesting, Professor. I'm sure that finding out why I selected a certain life experience will be very informative. But what's the companion lesson?"

"The other lesson will be experiencing remote spiritual travel. We will be leaving your physical body here in the Zoo along with you and can I still say girlfriend, and everyone else while we travel to remote locations?"

"I have to say that this sounds great, Tiber. I love to travel, and I guess I don't need to pack any bags or check-in with Customs or Immigration anywhere. Right?"

"See! You are trying to be clever again, Travis. But in actuality, you are right. No bags, no customs or immigration checks, and no medical shots. And it's free! Does it get any better than that?"

"No! But do I need to change my clothes? You often say I don't dress properly for the occasion."

"You can wear anything you want, Travis, or I should say you can wear anything you can think of. What you think of is what you are, my boy. But in any case, no one but me will see you during these trips, so perhaps you should get my approval first, so I am not offended."

"I'll do that. But I hope you will stop talking through the squirrel monkey's lips. You know how I feel about those images. And where will we go first?"

"I could boggle your mind if I filled you in on the actual number of your life experiences, or perhaps we could call them reincarnations for simplicity purposes. As you know from previous lessons, an incarnation here in this Earth or elsewhere is selected to learn through actual life experiences. Through those experiences, we evolve into a more complete individual soul."

"I do remember those lessons Tiber. Of course, I do. But you have already told me that I will review them thoroughly after I leave here and get into the Transition Realm, so why do it now as well? "

"Excellent question, my boy. It shows that you are thinking. Knowing about previous life experiences during your time in an Obstructed Realm gives you a leg up dealing with current challenges. Everything you do now or did then helps form a base of experience for challenges to come and provides the knowledge to make better decisions."

"Then why not give us the memory of all of those previous life experiences right from the beginning of our lives here?"

"Because your brains couldn't deal with it, my boy. And you don't really need all of that information in a given life span here in this Realm. The trips I am proposing give you the ability of specific selectivity. You will seek the information and only the information that you will need. This will prepare you for whatever you want."

"OK, Professor! Let's get to it."

And then, quicker than the quickest wink, Travis found that they were standing at the edge of a cleared area surrounding a city full of large buildings. The jungle's edges were full of animals moving through the tree canopies and occasionally scampering around on the ground. Tiber said that the Mayans often threw scraps of food at the jungle's edge to attract the animals. It made it easier to hunt them later on when they wished. Travis noticed a lot of spider monkeys on nearby tree limbs, which were hollering at them. Travis said now he knew why Tiber has chosen this creature to start their conversation back at the Zoo. Besides the spider monkey, there were a few coatis, wild pigs, small toucans, and of course, some howler monkeys.

After they left the jungle and walked into the clearing, they went to the base of a huge Mayan pyramid. Tiber and Travis were surrounded by a mass of people who were obviously gathered for some grand purpose. This was obvious because they were quiet and standing in rapt attention for something that was soon to occur.

Travis looked over at Tiber, who began to explain just what this was they were seeing. "We are currently at a location that is Guatemala in our time, and this is the city we now know as Tikal. The people are gathered here to pay homage to their leader, who will soon appear here at the Great Jaguar temple. We are waiting for Jasaw Chan K'awill, who is the ruler at this time we are visiting. He will appear in that room near the top of the Jaguar Temple. From there, he will address all of us who are waiting for his appearance."

No sooner had Tiber told Travis this, a figure resplendent in a beautiful, highly colored, and brilliant robe came out of the room at the top, joined by two attendants. The crowd that Tiber and Travis were part of broke into loud cheers and salutations.

Travis bent over to whisper over to Tiber, as though he actually needed to do that, and said. "He's pretty impressive looking Tiber."

Tiber smiled and answered Travis in the same low whisper to keep the atmosphere going and replied. "Thank you, my boy. That King is me! Wasn't I great?"

Travis was pretty impressed. "For sure! But why are we standing here watching this? I didn't think you had a big ego. Did you want me to be impressed?"

"You will be my boy. Just stand by."

After a brief address, Jasaw Chan K'awill began the descent down an extremely steep flight of stairs and headed towards the bottom of the Jaguar Temple. Travis held his breath most of the way as it had to have taken great practice and exceptional balance to complete that task. The two attendants behind him must have been terrified of tripping and falling on their ruler. That mistake would send all of them to their doom. But once there, the King stood before a table of some sort at the base of the pyramid. He looked as though he had always been in that particular spot.

The crowd erupted into great chants, and the King raised his arms in appreciation and then indicated a command to cease the chants. He then motioned for those to his right to approach him. Two men did, and they had a young boy appearing to be about three years old walking between

them. They delivered him to the King, and then they lifted the boy up onto the table.

The King spoke, and Travis was amazed that he understood the language. Obviously, this talent of coming and going to locations via spiritual means included a translation talent. The King referred to a very decisive battle that had been waged against another kingdom to the East called Caracol. Apparently, the battle resulted in an excellent victory for Tikal. This ceremony was dedicated to the great God of War, Buluc Chabtan for allowing Tikal to victory. He then said that the boy lying on the table was the son of the King of Caracol, captured during the battle. As was the custom, the boy was being offered to the God Buluc Chabtan as a sacrifice. And with that, King Jasaw Chan K'awill was given a long knife that he used to slit the boy's throat. Without a scream, the boy perished with blood running down to soak the hard stone table he was lying on.

Travis was thunderstruck at this scene. He had not expected this and was scared to his core.

Tiber grabbed Travis by his arm and said, "And that boy was you. This was the first time we had met in an incarnation. Not to worry, my boy. After I died in the Transition Realm, we met again, and I apologized, and you forgave me. That incident was a learning experience. As King Jasaw Chan K'awill, I was doing what King's do, and it wouldn't have occurred to me not to do that. This boy, a Prince in that culture and at his age, was terror-stricken to be killed that way. But in the Transition Realm, all of that was understood and worked out between the participants. It was the start of a powerful and loving relationship between us."

"I think I understand, Tiber, but I am still horrified. I want to go back to the Zoo."

"Not yet, Travis! You wouldn't be able to hide the reaction you just had to anyone around you. Your eyes are leaking, and your facial features are full of shock. What would your girlfriend think?"

Travis didn't answer.

Tiber then continued. "That image will pass, Travis, as you think about it more and adjust that thinking to analyses rather than a reaction. Besides, there is somewhere else I want us to go.

Then before Travis could agree or object, they found themselves in a place that Travis could not begin to identify. He could see that they were standing in a high place and looking towards a dramatic vista. He could observe mountains, but they didn't look like any mountain he had ever seen. The vegetation was primarily blue rather than green, and the solid parts such as rocks or soil that we would expect to be grey or brown were primarily white. The sky was pink, and the clouds roaming them were white, just like our clouds, which Travis found he was somewhat thankful for. He looked towards the sun. He was relieved to see that there was only one of those but more orange in color than yellow. And then he saw two moons, with one being smaller than the others.

He turned to Tiber and asked. "Where are we, Tiber? This is obviously not our Earth."

"No, it's not, but it was your home once. And mine. This planet is called Gret Hardre, and I am taking liberties with the pronunciation as you would not even understand the accurate vernacular. I will take you to the place where we lived, and you will observe an entirely different life form than humans. And you will also see you and me going about our normal lives here. So be prepared!"

Suddenly they were in a settlement, as evidenced by the fact that there were dwellings, but they didn't look like earth houses. They were more like a combination of a tent and stick house. It was all primitive from Travis's point of view. But it also seemed adequate, and the more he stared at everything, the more familiar it seemed to become. The individuals looked like a cross between mammals and reptiles. They resembled mammals. They were upright with legs and arms but reptilian because they had no hair, long tails, and their skin coverings were smooth with very little definition. Their skin appeared to be more like very fine scales covering the entire body. Their eyes had a certain reptilian look to them and were really quite pretty.

There were also many animals of weird description wandering everywhere. They didn't look anything like earth animals, and Travis did

not know what their functions were. He looked at Tiber, and he just smiled but did not offer any explanations. Tiber walked him to one of the dwellings. Then he walked inside, motioning Travis to follow. Once they were both in the dwelling, Travis could see three of these creatures. They were sitting cross-legged on a carpet of some odd fabrication and were eating something. Two of them were larger than the other, and Travis was certain that one was a woman, probably a mother due to the breast formations, and the other was a man and most likely the father. The little one had to be a male child.

Travis looked over at Tiber, smiling while looking at this tableaux and still smiling when looking at Travis. He said, "This lovely family scene brings back special memories for me, Travis. You are that little guy there, and I was your mother. We had a very nice life on this planet and learned much about getting along and loving one another. There were no wars and few personal conflicts on this planet. This civilization hadn't progressed much at that time. It still hasn't to this day, for that matter. But it was a fine place to live, and the people were wonderful souls. I brought you here to show you that our tapestry of life and its various incarnations are amazing and wonderful. We are continually creating very unique ways of living and learning."

"Why do I not remember this, Tiber?" I seem to know that it is true, but I still cannot comprehend it very well."

"That's what the Transition Realms are for Travis. It was designed by Supreme Consciousness to be a place of Contemplation and Analyses and Remembrance. It is there that each and everything that ever happened during an incarnation will be available for your personal Contemplation.

Tiber then took Travis's hand, and Travis instantly realized that he was in the middle of a terrible battle scene. Bullets were whizzing by his head and hoards of people fighting in hand-to-hand combat. When he looked down, he saw that his gnarled arms and hands were those of an older black man, and he was fighting with a machete instead of a rifle. He somehow knew that he was involved in an impossible situation here. His back was against that of another black man. He, along with others, were attempting to protect this important man from an army composed primarily of white men in European uniforms and they had rifles. They also

had armed black soldiers from another tribe, and they greatly outmanned the Kongos' Kuba Kingdom's army that this Travis was a part of. Information about this current happening was streaming into Travis's mind as the Akashic Records downloaded everything that Travis needed to know about this particular Now. Tiber had arranged for this transfer of information to take place.

This was the 1880's and the Kuba Kingdom was attempting to wrest control of their country from the Belgians' King Leopold. He had control of the Congo's natural resources such as rubber and ivory and, most importantly, the slave labor in this part of Africa.

Travis was also made aware that the leader he was trying to protect was non-other than his Tiber entity, who was then King of the Kuba Kingdom that was about to be eradicated by King Leopold's army.

Travis's emotions were now assailing him from two fronts. First, he was the soldier in the 1880s about to give up his life for his King, and secondly, he was a young man of this century receiving the full sensory effect of what that battle would mean to both of him.

Travis felt an awesome fear. He was aware of the sweat running down his face and onto his shoulders. It joined that sweat from the rest of his body that was sorely pained from the strain of battle. His nose was running, but there was no time or opportunity to do anything about that, and it just added to the awful reality of the end that was soon to envelop him entirely.

Then, when he turned to see where the King and the rest of the defending warriors were, he saw his King fall from a bullet into his head and others in various parts of his body. The other warriors were also dead, and the Travis avatar, in full physical and spiritual fury, launched an offensive leap against the wave of Belgian soldiers approaching him. Travis had no concept of how many bullets had entered his body, but he was aware of the immediate agony that ensued within his consciousness. He felt the two bayonets that opposition soldiers pushed into his chest. Suddenly, the pain stopped, and his consciousness left the physical form, and Travis was aware of his existence standing alongside his beloved Tiber.

Travis looked directly into Tiber's eyes and said. "That was horrible! The entire thing! Watching you being killed and then being massacred. It was almost like being there."

"You were there, my boy. Everything you felt then, you felt while we were there. It is the value of Supreme Consciousness recall. It's the perfect learning system. I call it Total Immersion. Let's try another!"

And bam! They were in India at the turn of the century. Travis noticed that he was female in this visited incarnation. She was sitting in front of a mirror at what appeared to be a cosmetic makeup table. Travis could see that his avatar was quite pretty. There were others in this room. They were all running about with various tasks apparently having to do with her.

Here again, information from the Akashic Records informed Travis that his avatar was preparing for a wedding ceremony. She would soon marry a man that her parents had arranged for her to marry some fifteen years ago. She was very nervous and wasn't at all sure that she wanted to go through with this.

She had met this prospective husband many times during the past years and determined that he was very nice, but that was the problem. He was just nice and not someone she was in love with or even very attracted to. Her parents, however, were highly pleased with this choice. He came from a good family, which was hugely important to them, and the fact that's his family gave their daughter this approval indicated that they felt that she and her family were good enough for them. Everyone's ego was satisfied with this arrangement except for Travis's avatar.

While she was combing her long and beautiful hair, Travis spoke to Tiber standing beside him. "And where are you in all this Tiber? You have been taking me to incarnations that we shared in the past, so I am sure you are here somewhere."

"You are right, Travis. I am the husband to be. Are you surprised?"

"Oh my God, Tiber! There is no way I am going to marry you. You are my friend and Professor. It was bad enough that you had been my Mom on that strange planet, but you are sure as hell not going to be my husband and the possible father of my children. I don't even want to think about it."

"Well, you don't need to think about it, Travis, because we did get married, and we had seven wonderful children. We had a pretty good love life as well. I remember it fondly."

"Oh shut up Tiber. I can't even allow myself to think about that. You should never have shown me this particular incarnation."

There is importance in showing you all of those past lives, my dear boy. They demonstrate the variety of lives we have had. Some of them we were together, and many others we were not. You have to understand that all incarnations have validity, and the only real thing of importance is how well you handled the challenges during each of those lives. An actor needs to accept the role they inhabit in a film. They will be judged both by themselves and by those watching how faithful they are to carrying out their assignments. The same will be the case in all of your incarnations."

"OK Tiber. I accept the premise but not the details of this particular life and getting married and having children. Can we get back to the Bronx Zoo now?"

Tiber acquiesced, and Travis found himself back at the squirrel monkey cage holding hands with Anna. To her, no time had passed, but to Travis, a lot of time had been registered in his consciousness.

Anna suggested that they take a ride on the Zoo's tram. She said it would take them over the Bronx River and head into a section of the Zoo where tigers, rhinos, elephants, and many more wonderful animals roam.

As they left the squirrel monkey cage, Travis glanced back at the monkey he had been talking to. The squirrel monkey winked at Travis, and Travis smiled back. Anna squeezed his hand and said to Travis, "Wasn't that cute the way that monkey winked at you?"

He just smiled back at her and held her hand as they headed for the tram and the rest of what would turn out to be a wonderful day.