

Bust Out of Your Box

The Lion People through Ellyn Dye

As the whirlwind of change continues, humans hunker down in their boxes, waiting for it to blow over. Similar to their beloved housecats, humans love boxes. People feel safe and secure in their own little worlds, their own tightly defined boxes. When people are in their boxes, they feel mastery over the world. They understand it: They know the rules and how it all works. They know where to go to work, what to wear, what time to get there, and where the bathrooms are. They know how to interact with others. They can live on autopilot and not think about things too much and not worry about making mistakes or being embarrassed. (They seem to think that's a good thing.) They feel comfortable, and even if there are difficult or nasty elements, those are known.

People love their boxes so much that they put others into them too, secure in the knowledge that they understand them once they've been labeled. Of course, that's not understanding; that's generalization and categorization based on superficial traits.

People do this because they hate change. It's funny how difficult change is for most people. They struggle to create the illusion that everything is set and nothing will change. Children go through change all the time: They must learn to feed themselves, to crawl, and to walk. They have to go to elementary school, then middle school, then high school, and then work or college. For the first eighteen to twenty-two years of life, people go through a gauntlet of change, and then most people stop! They're done with change, and they want to become "settled." Not only do they want it; those around them want them to have it too: "You need to get a job and settle down." "You need to get married and settle down." "You need to buy a house and put down roots." In fact, people are more than simply encouraged to settle; they receive the message that something's really, really wrong with them if they don't. "You need to get into that box and stay there!"

Have you ever noticed how uncomfortable people are around those who have different lifestyles (such as the musician or artist, for example, who does not have a [day] job or that older, single woman or man whom "settled" people do not know how to relate to)? People feel more comfortable around those who are in boxes too (as long

as they are the "right" kind of boxes that are similar to their own).

So here you are, like it or not, in your little box, however loosely or tightly defined. You're comfortable there. You've decorated, and it's cozy in its way. Even if you aren't really happy — even if your life is not really supporting or nurturing you — you stay there because it's familiar. Fear of the unknown is the most prevalent and worst fear most people have, and it keeps you in your box.

What does this have to do with 2017? Everything! There was a famous thought experiment called Schrödinger's cat. Physicist Erwin Schrödinger devised an experiment about reality and observation. In Schrödinger's experiment, a cat was placed in a box with a flask of poison. The point of the experiment was that at any given moment, the cat could be either alive or dead. It could certainly not be both simultaneously, and with the box closed, no one knew which condition was true. Once the box was opened and the interior observed, the fate of the cat became known (or did it come into reality?).

Humanity has been in a box with a large vat of pervasive poison administered over centuries by authority figures, the media, and society. This is the year that people will break out of their boxes! That can be viewed as good or bad, depending on how deeply embedded and comfortable you are in your box. But make no mistake: The boxes are about to burst open. Since most boxes are toxic to some degree, this is a good thing!

There will be continuing change on every front, but the primary change will be one of consciousness. As humanity nudges itself slowly toward unity and oneness, every person will be called on to choose either love (life) or fear (death). One cannot be both alive and dead at the same time, and a choice must be made. That choice begins with self-love and acceptance.

The Perpetual State of Change

Yet again, everyone is being asked to change, and all will change whether they want to or not. Like those who lived in the period that is the setting for the popular television



series *Downton Abbey*, this is a time of dramatic change on every level, and those who are flexible, those who let go of the past and try (and think) new things, will thrive beyond their dreams. Those who cling to the past and continue to follow the old ways that no longer work and who indulge in the old beliefs and thought patterns of separation and ruthless competition will find that life becomes harder and harder. Many of those will, in fact, choose death — some literally and some figuratively — rather than change long-held beliefs, worldviews, thoughts, prejudices, and ways of life.

These changes have been happening over the past decade. You are well into the shift times, and there really is no going back. Deep, unconscious, internal changes encouraged by the great Uranus–Pluto square will also burst out of the box and manifest more changes faster than anyone can imagine. Those on the public stage who demand that the clock be turned back will only look more and more foolish as the year progresses. As more revelations are revealed, the “glorious past” will be seen for what it was: a time that was never nearly as glorious as it has been idealized (except for the few who benefitted), a time that is over, and it’s for the better.

The “new kids” are coming of age with a bang, and if you watch them, you will see humanity’s direction. Watch for amazing technological breakthroughs in all fields, such as personal electronics, medicine, science, energy, and environmental cleanup. Often, those making the breakthroughs will be people in their twenties and thirties. Like the teenagers of the 1960s, they have a different vision for the world and are not content with what their elders have created for them. They will continue to challenge the status quo not only in ways that threaten the dominant and crumbling paradigm but also in ways that amaze and assist humanity.

Institutional and Planetary Rumbings

Organizations and institutions big and small will continue to be under huge pressure and (similar to individuals) those that can be flexible, innovative, and fair in their dealings and those that make changes in the way they conduct their business and work with the community will thrive. However, those that lumber along in their out-of-date methods and ideas will flounder and crumble. Those that have thrived in the past through secrecy and greed will be exposed and bankrupted. In the age of transparency, the deep, secret machinations of many institutions will come to light, and people will vote with their feet as they suddenly stampede. Despite great resistance, the houses of cards will fall faster than anyone could imagine.

Look especially to the Neanderthal pharmaceutical industry known as big pharma. The creaking of the unstable foundations can already be heard as some companies make moves to dramatically increase their already obscene prices, sensing that the end is near. The common complaint that the industry does not seek cures because it prefers lifelong customers has much truth, and profits at the expense of others will no longer be viable. It won’t fall in a day, by any means, but crumble it will. And those who are invested in or who support that medical model will not necessarily go gently into that good night. Watch for an increase in nontraditional therapies and less-invasive methods, along with greater nutritional choices, to gain greater footholds.

Banking and the economy too will necessarily undergo change, and much hangs in the balance of how those changes come about. It has been clearly seen over the past decade that the very structure and guiding principles of the economy are deeply flawed. As long as profit is made at the expense of anyone or anything, including Mother Earth, the system is not sustainable. Giant cracks are already apparent, and philosophical and systemic changes must come not only to big pharma but to big medicine as well.

Extreme weather, violent storms, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions will continue in 2017 as Mother Earth continues to shift and purge centuries’ worth of accumulated negativity to position herself for a new blossoming. Water levels will continue to rise, threatening those living on the coasts. The continued violence against Earth through certain practices such as fracking will be met with more violent reactions. It will be up to the people to rein in the corporations and politicians who allow these activities, and it is merely a question of how bad things need to get before they will take enough action to make the politicians refocus their attention from their wallets and cronies to the task at hand and what is right for the planet and its people.

People Will Find Their Voices

Society will continue to shift, and as old beliefs and mores change, many will struggle to keep up, just as they have over the past few years. Extension of rights to all people will continue, and those who would deny rights will find themselves in the minority. In these times of almost instant feedback, those very ones may find themselves on the receiving end, similar to how so-called Christian sects that have denied the right of marriage or even certain services and products to those unlike themselves have been denounced.

In fact, as people exercise their rights of free speech more and more, there will be fast and furious denunciation as tolerance of abuse diminishes and abusive activities are revealed on social media. The public outrage generated in recent years by publicized animal abuse is a prime example not only of the power of social media and the voice of the people but also of a deep, fundamental change as more and more people speak out loudly against injustice. People will increasingly find their voices to speak out against abuse and negativity in individual relationships as well as at higher, more obvious levels. The outcry over a recent rape case is an example. Turning a blind eye will be a thing of the past. Even that will not be tolerated.

That trend will continue and will turn to other areas of injustice as well. In 2017, the people's voice will ring out loud and clear in ways it has not done before, and politicians, institutions, and corporations will ignore it at their peril. The force of the people can, indeed, become unstoppable. When the people realize the true power of their collective voice and start to wield that power (whether literally through their voices or by voting with their feet), the world will change.

The 2016 presidential election cycle will usher in a wave of political reform that is long overdue, and those in the U.S. Congress who have been dedicated to obstructionism will begin to be voted out. The increase in consciousness, vibration, and revelation will make it harder for corrupt politicians to conceal their true interests and intentions, and the people finally will demand reform and the right, honest governance they deserve.

Deep, unconscious changes have been happening in the collective over the past few years, and whether they have been obvious or not, those internal changes will now begin to manifest big changes in the outer world. The silent scream of a citizenry that felt powerless will be replaced by empowered, vocal activism. As people grow in self-love and self-awareness, they will realize that they deserve much more, and they will demand it!

This, then, is the greatest change of all! As vibrations on the planet continue to increase and as deep, internal changes within people start to rise to the surface, many past practices will no longer be sustainable or tolerated. The question remains: What will it take for the majority to stand up and be counted?

Relax into Change

The biggest challenge for most people in 2017 will be to keep up with the many changes on every front and to remain flexible, compassionate, kind, and loving. The

old ways of competing ruthlessly, disregarding others, and building walls will no longer be sustained. Those ways are based in fear and beliefs in lack and limitation.

Humanity must now embrace the attitude of "all for one and one for all." Humans are all in this together, and working together will ensure success. Those who have not learned this lesson will have more opportunities to learn firsthand that when one person suffers, everyone suffers. Collaboration, kindness, and generosity will grease the wheels of this shift and make the ride smoother, but some will choose to be the squeaky wheels that cause delays and stress for everyone.

Yes, more people will act out in destructive ways, and yes, leaders will drag their feet and cause much consternation. You are at the point of walking into the kitchen at night, flipping the light switch, and seeing all the roaches! But don't worry. Ignorance is no longer bliss, and you are well on the way to fixing the problem!

Relax and breathe. This is the time you have all been waiting for, the time you chose to be here. This is the roller coaster ride of the millennium, and you have your front-seat ticket! Feel free to scream for the fun of it, but know in your deepest heart that all is well, that each and every one of you is meticulously guided, and you simply cannot fail.

Recognize that letting go of old beliefs, old patterns of thought and behavior, old fears, and old attachments that no longer serve is the surest way to make the shift easier. Any efforts that support the highest good of all will be supported.

Become as authentic as you can, embrace yourself and others without judgment, and choose joy and optimism. The choice between love and fear — life and death — is always free, and each and every person makes that choice in every moment. You make that choice in every thought you have, word you say, deed you do, and dollar you spend. Recognize the choices you make, and make them consciously and authentically for your highest good and the good of all. When the box bursts open, which will you choose? It's time to set aside separation and fear and embrace unity and love. ✨

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