

Article 143: Are Embellishments Enhancements?

Are you trying to embellish a tired old lifeself? ...or looking for someone or something to perk things up? Embellishing means to adorn or ornament ...or make additions to something or someone, such as yourself, which makes it seem more attractive or desirable, ...what do you feel will make your self and life more attractive and desirable? Will that really embellish you? ...or make you feel better about yourself? Will it actually enrich you? Will that even adorn you? Or maybe you are reasonably pleased with your lifeself and merely want to add a flourish here ...and an accent there; ...if so, what flourishes and accents do you want to add? Are these little embellishments? Or will you require a more-extensive redecoration? Could it be that you are merely too judgmental and critical of your self and life? Are you just as judgmental and critical of others? Why? What do you expect to gain by such actions? Are these truly-desirable embellishments? ...or are these flourishes true expressions of your inner enthusiasm, zest, and excitement? Does it seem that your outer life doesn't live up to your inner-life? Instead of adding embellishments to your present self and life, why don't you apply your self and energy and life to living your dreams? ...your inner visions and desires? ...instead of struggling to rearrange outer-appearances? After all, if you live the self and life you desire, won't that appear as you desire? ...and won't additional embellishments be redundant?

If you believe you need embellishing, why not make those a real and genuine enhancement of your lifeself ...rather than an applied adornment? Be authentic in everything you say and do ...and no adornment or embellishment will be necessary? Actually, if you see your lifeself from our point-of-view, no embellishments or enhancements are necessary ...or even desirable. Maybe you don't see yourself as you truly are. Since your inner-life and visions are so much more and finer ...and more desirable than the lifeself you are living, instead of embellishing the outer appearances, why not live more openly, honestly, and intimately ...and invite others into your inner-world? Your judgments hold people at arm's-length and frequently shut the door on what you truly desire.

The finest embellishment you have is to embellish others, ...do you regularly, easily, and fully express your approval and gratitude? Do you acknowledge others' kindnesses? ...show your appreciation? Instead of struggling to change others, embellish them; ...and though you might declare that changing them IS embellishing them, that's really not so, simply because you begin by judging them ...and all such judgmental embellishments are false. The greatest and finest embellishment you can offer is to see without judgments, ...and this alone will genuinely embellish and enrich you and the other. Have you ever seen a building that was over-adorned ...to the point that it was not pleasant or desirable? Be careful not

to do the same to yourself. Instead of decorating the lifeself you judge to be inadequate or not sufficiently appealing, create, live, and elaborate upon your dreams, ...for why ever would you want to continue an inadequate or insufficient lifeself ...no matter how you embellish it? Do you know your true dreams? Look carefully, ...for your dreams are wholly within the lifeself you are living ...and hastily judging away. Be more insightful than that, or are you afraid to look that closely and carefully?

No embellishment will change or improve your trueself, ...therefore, whatever you embellish will not be what you really desire ...and may, actually, mislead you and others, ...is that what you want? To embellish suggests falsification ...or outright dishonesty, ...is that what you want to live? Is it appropriate for others to offer false appearances to you? How will you know they are false? Is your life so dull? If so, how will you choose a desirable embellishment? And if you can see and choose desirable embellishments, why not live those embellishments as true aspects of yourself? **What is not true for you will not embellish ...and what is true needs no embellishment.**

In the past, composers frequently wrote a melody and expected the performer to embellish that as it was performed, ...maybe you should consider embellishing yourself. What adornments do you feel will best beautify and enhance your lifeself? What if those embellishments, being unnatural, turn out to be gaudy ...or impossibly vulgar? Are you actually seeking the rewards of a lavish or luxurious life? Why do you feel this is your due? Did you earn it, live it, or offer it to others?

Are you seeking to be splendidly embellished? ...or will a little touch-up do? Do you tend to embellish what you say and do with clever words? ...or by adding real or imaginary facts or details? Is that open, honest, or intimate? Is it desirable? After all, how will people know when you are true and real? Do you constantly embellish yourself in these ways? ...or just sometimes? Are you trying to embellish yourself ...or make your life seem more interesting and exciting? ...more rewarding and satisfying? Are you seeking fine judgments from others? ...greater judgments than you deserve ...or feel you deserve? Have you lived and offered your finest? Maybe you are overlooking more of your self and life than you realize. What you embellish, you have already judged to be inadequate, ...why are you doing that to yourself? Frills never add to or change truth.

Do you frequently enlarge matters or yourself? ...or exaggerate? Embellishing and aggrandizing is not enhancement ...and they will never actually heighten or raise you. Aren't you really making much ado about nothing? What are you trying to conceal under your desired embellishments? Isn't this being false or deceptive? See yourself without judgments and you will realize the redundancy of any embellishment. It seems that you have a tendency to overdo things, to go too far or to

extremes, to hold on too long, to exaggerate and over-elaborate, to lay it on too thick, to overextend and overburden yourself, and to just plain overwhelm yourself. You are probably too exacting ...and too demanding of yourself and others. Ease up! Keep it simple!

Though you may believe otherwise, to embellish is to put on a false front, to be shallow and insincere, to be false and superficial, to create pretensions to mislead or misinform ...and misdirect one's attention, and it is an attempt to convey an untruth. Think twice before seeking to embellish your self and life in any way. .