

## Glossary

**Attention:** Sensuous receptivity in a direction. Attention instantly suspends judgment, allowing one to receive spontaneous expressions from a thing. Attention always produces a response, and so always gives way to some form of engagement.

**Bewilderment:** When a judgment is suspended or disrupted and not looking to reassert itself. This is in contrast to confusion, where a judgment is disrupted and attempting to reassert itself.

**Channel of engagement:** The bond between an expression, noticed through attention, and the experience in us that expression calls forth. Roughness, light, the color green, the curve of a tree, etc are all expressions that can become channels of engagement.

**Engagement:** A dialog of attention and response. These responses may include feeling-responses and metaphoric seeing, among others.

**Expressive agency:** The felt experience that things, when attended to, spontaneously express themselves in a way we innately associate with intention and will.

**Feeling-response:** A kind of response within engagement wherein we perceive affectively some expression of the thing we are engaged with. That tree feels compassionate towards me; that river is angry.

**Full engagement:** When we are engaged with as much of ourselves as possible, whether through the depth of our engagement, the variety of ways we are simultaneously engaged, or both.

**Judgment:** A final ruling on what something is and possibly could be. Judgment is at play whenever we describe a thing as “just” something. Something can never be judged and attended to at the same time. Judgments rely on the belief that we can entirely contain all that matters about a thing.

**Metaphor:** A kind of response within engagement wherein a secondary thing emerges (either through spontaneous experience or through our communication) to capture the way a particular thing engages with us. “This feels *like* that.”

**Phenomenology:** A branch of philosophy that asks the question “What is something *like*?” and answers through careful descriptions of experience.

**Poetic language:** Language used metaphorically, where the intention is not to communicate a use or a function but is instead to communicate a particular experience of engagement.

**Story:** A way of speaking, often metaphorically and poetically, that is intended to place you in relationship with a thing. This is in contrast to an explanation, which is a way of speaking intended to conclude your relationship with a thing.

**Wonder:** Full engagement with something that bewilders you.

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