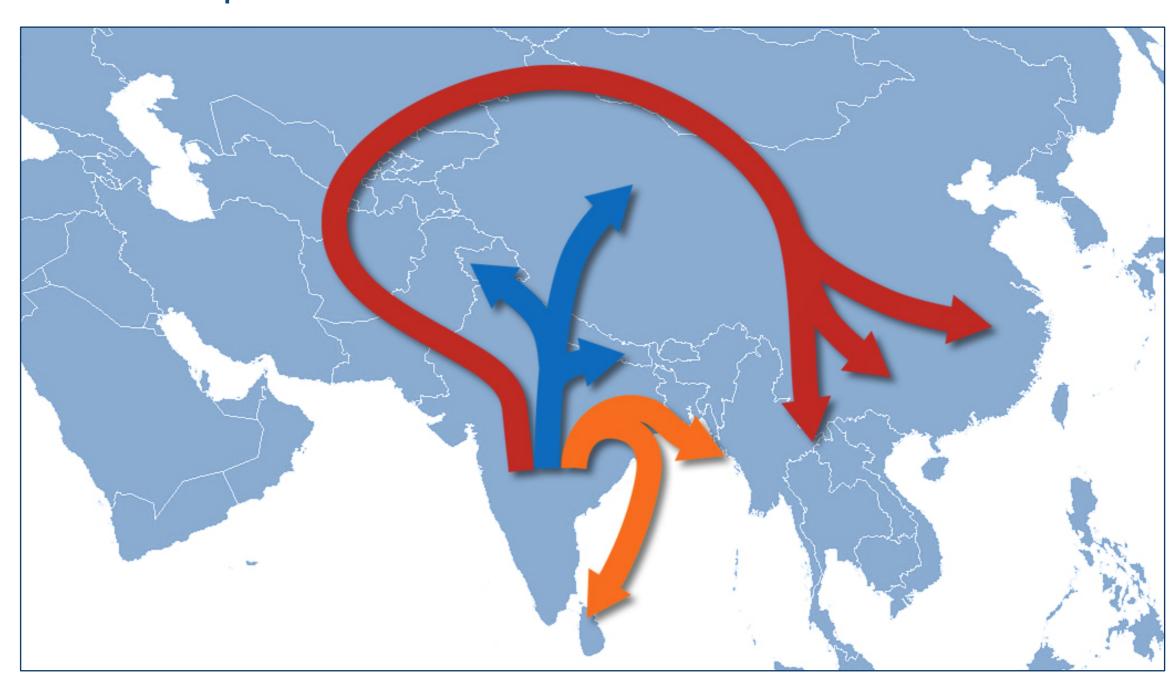
Role-Modeling: The Third Wave in the History of Asian Buddhism



The Three Phases of Asian Buddhist Thought and Practice





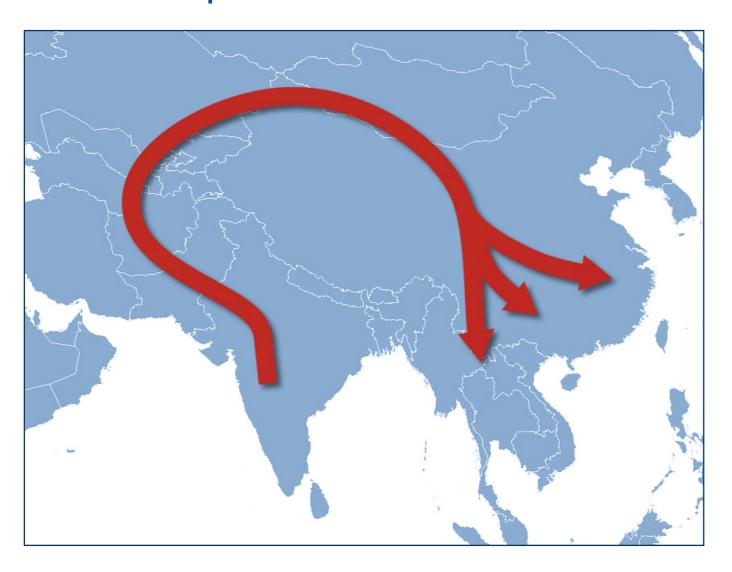


The Three Phases of Asian Buddhist Thought & Practice

•The Individual Vehicle (*Theravada*) of Monastic Buddhism

Preserved in Sri-Lanka, Burma and Thailand





The Three Phases of Asian Buddhist Thought & Practice

•The Universal Vehicle (*Mahayana*) of Lay Buddhism

Preserved in China, Korea, Japan and Vietnam

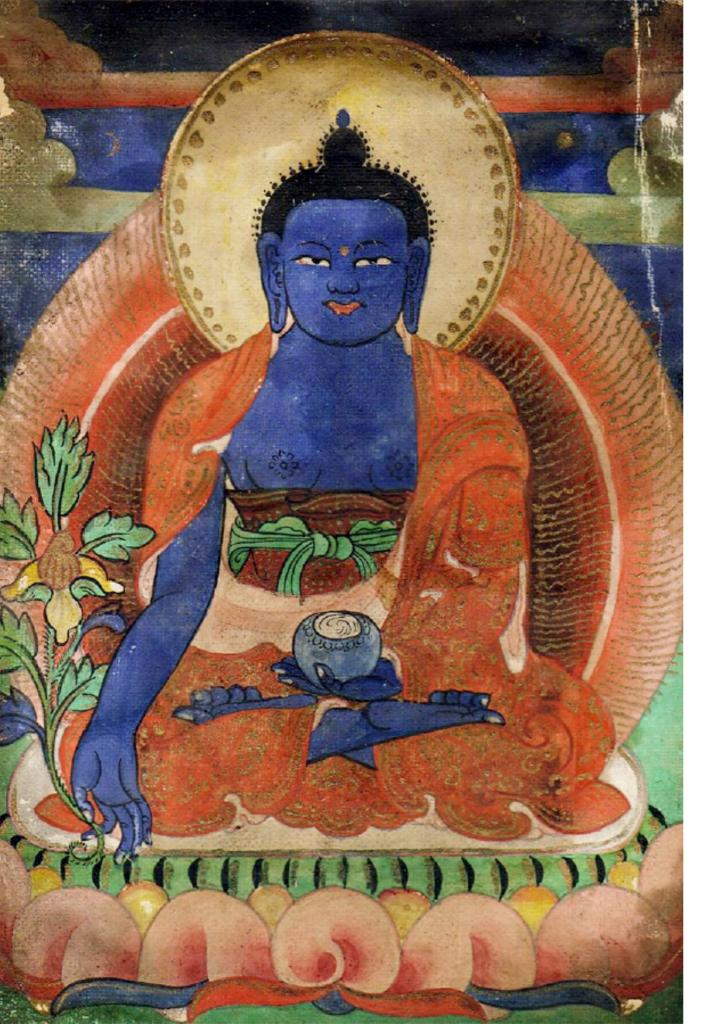




The Three Phases of Asian Buddhist Thought & Practice

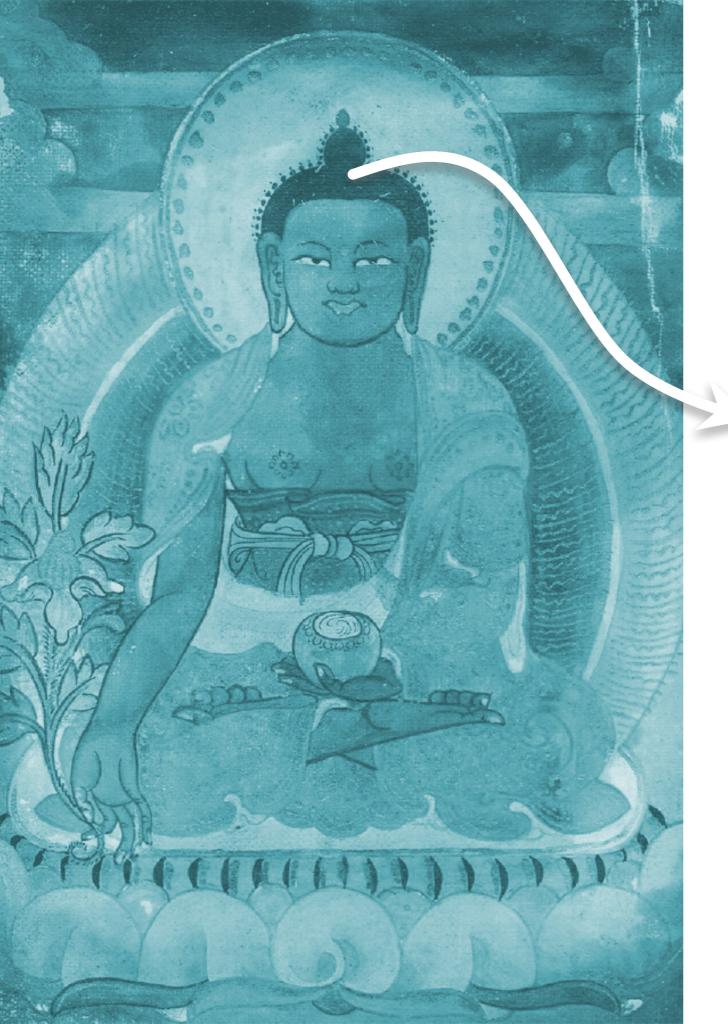
•The Process Vehicle (*Tantrayana*) of Esoteric Buddhism

Preserved in Tibet, Nepal, Mongolia and Bhutan





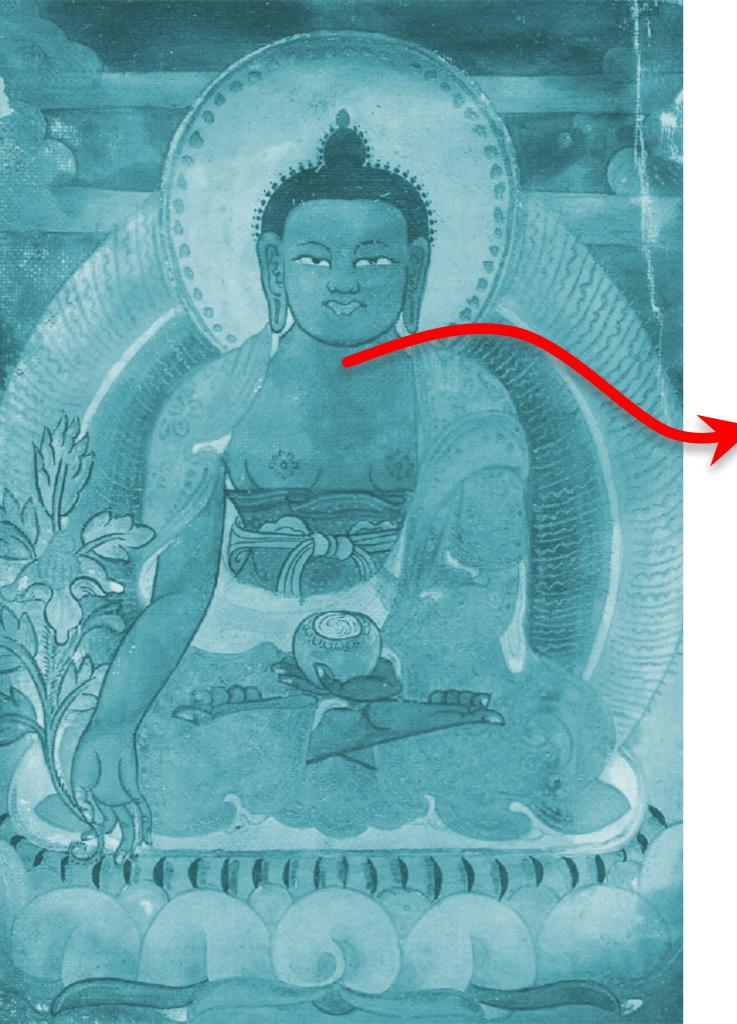
- Individual Vehicle
- Universal Vehicle
- Process Vehicle





#### Individual Vehicle

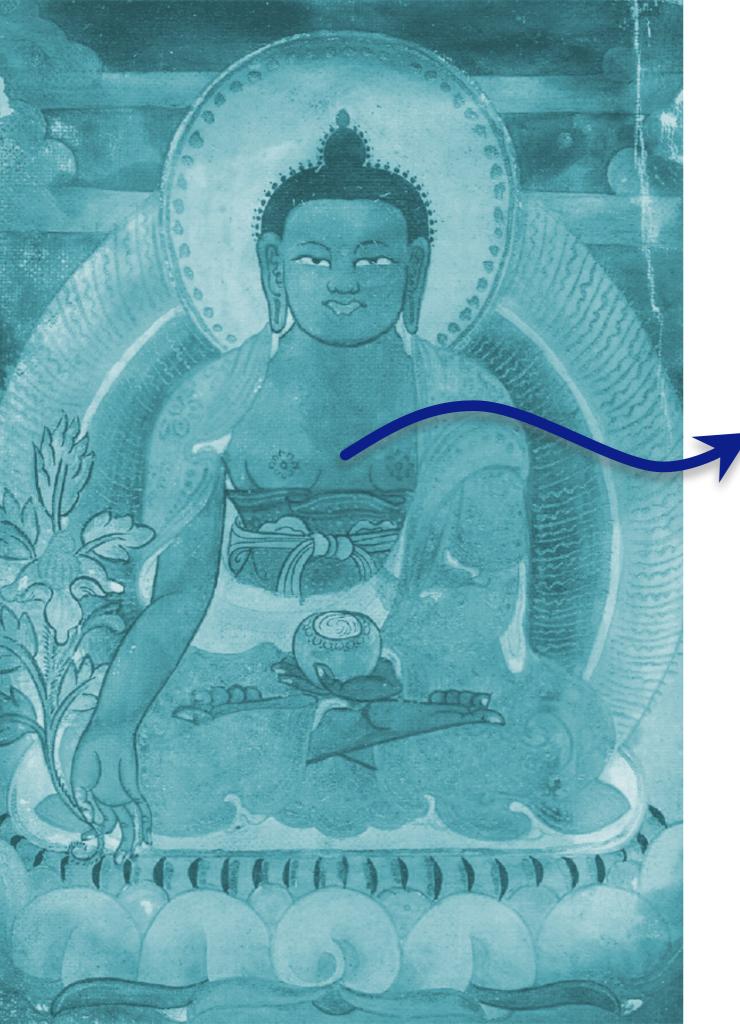
- Science of Self-Analysis
- Art of Mindfulness
- Ethic of Dispassion





Universal Vehicle

- Science of Interdependence
- Art of Emotional Intelligence
- Ethic of Compassion





Integral Process Vehicle

- Science of Self-Regulation
- Art of Role-Modeling
- Ethic of Pure Passion

#### Nalanda Tradition Preserved in Tibet

- Integrated Three Vehicles into One
- One Gradual Path of Contemplative Healing
- Tailored to Life in the Stress-Driven World





#### Three Paradigms of Buddhist Psychology

- Analytic Psychology (Sarvastivada/Sautantrika) from Shariputa (400 BCE) to Vasubandhu (400 CE)
- Relational Psychology (Madhyamika) formulated from Nagarjuna (150 CE) to Chandrakirti (600 CE)
- Depth Psychology (Yogacara) formulated from Asanga (400 CE) to Shantaraksita (800 CE)



What are Embodied Practices of Buddhist Depth Psychology and How Do They Work?

 Top-down tools: imagery, narrative bottom-up: posture & breath-work

 Role-modeling imagery helps internalize ideal self-other states

 Recitation helps revise traumatic selfstory into heroic vision & narrative

- Heroic posture and breathing tap flow states to fuel vision & narrative
- Breath-induced flow states help fire & wire vision & narrative into flow traits



#### Embodied Contemplative Practices: The Tantric Yoga Traditions of India & Tibet

- Contemplative methods explicitly meant to tap and transform the subtlest core layers of mind/CNS
- Tantra—"loom" or "weave"—means re-weaving the fabric of the core layers of the mind/body process
- After mindfulness and compassion preliminaries, topdown and bottom-up methods transform the core
- Creative imagery stage meant to "purify and revise" traumatic perception of self and world
- Integration stage meant to unblock core bliss network, tap flow states and pure flow awareness

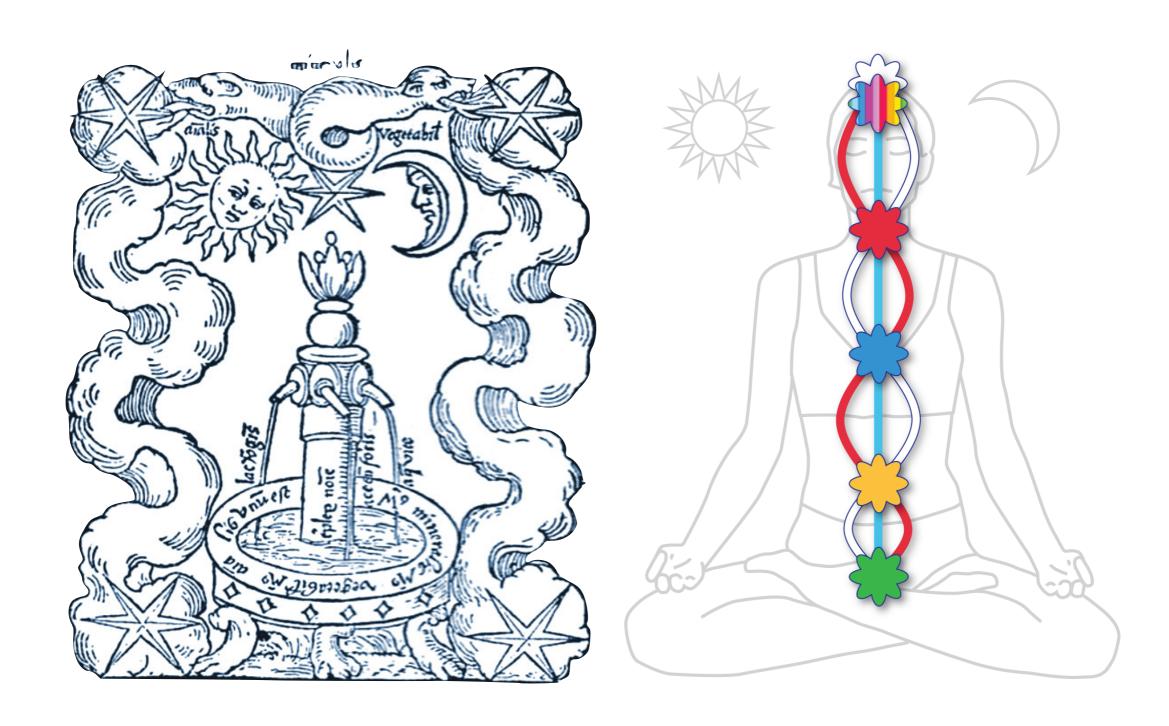


### Tantric Depth-Psychology Resonates with Jung's "Alchemical" Approach to Self-Transformation

- Jung found himself drawn to Tibetan Buddhism and one of his key concepts—archetypes of the collective unconscious—may reflect his study of it.
- He traced his approach to the alchemical lore he studied in various languages. In *The Psychology of the Transference (1946)*, he reprinted one such text in full.
- The text depicts the transformational space—both interpersonal and intrapsychic—as a vessel or crucible containing a three-spouted fountain.

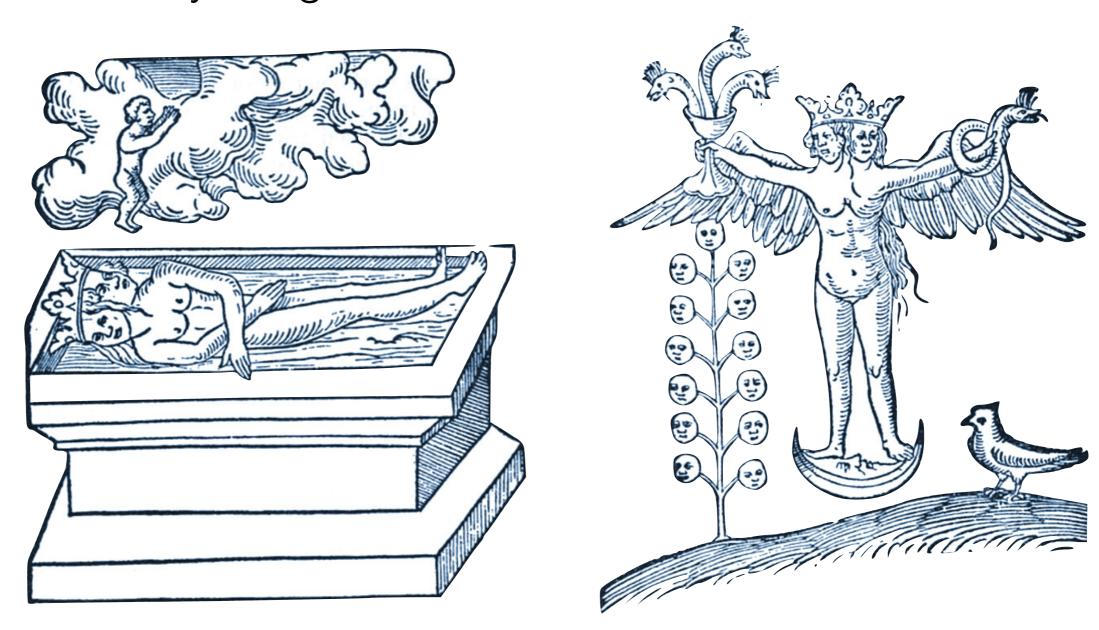


## Jung's Alchemical Approach Based on *Rosarium Philosophorum*: "The Fountain" = Subtle Body?





His map leads psyche—in both its male/female, solar/lunar aspects—to dissolve into the "Mercurial" Fountain, the deep psychic source of illness and health, love and death; then re-emerge in a newly integrated, Heroic Individual





## Kohut Draws on Jung—Claiming Psyche Is Healed Through "Transmuting Internalization"

- Kohut sees the alchemical healing and transmutation of the fragmented self through transference in **four phases**:
- **Idealization**: the wounded psyche seeks wholeness in the mirroring of one onto whom it projects its own ideal self
- **Identification**/twinship: the introjection of the basic wholeness mirrored by the ideal, as inner sense of equality
- Internalization/grandiosity: the ideal is slowly owned and manifest as the true self, accepting and healing wounds
- **Integration** or healthy, "cosmic" narcissism: full access to our capacity to love all beings as parts of our ideal self.



#### Embodied Contemplative Practices Map Transformation in Similar Alchemical Way

- The mentor-student bond works in four stages to catalyze transformation from baseline to fruition
- Engaging the mentor as an ideal other who provides safety, connection, and guidance (*Kriya-tantra*)
- Practice identifying with that ideal as a mirror of the potential you own and practice realizing (*Carya-tantra*)
- Internalize the ideal as actually present and truly manifesting from within you (Yoga-tantra)
- Integrate the ideal so completely you see it in you, your mentor, and all life at once (*Anuttara-yoga-tantra*)



### Embodied Contemplative Practice Catalyzes Self-Transformation in an Alchemical Way

- The work begins with an encounter that galvanizes a sense of possibility and leads to a confidential bond
- The first phase of work is guided by top-down heroic imagery and narrative in the creative imagery stage
- The imagery is co-created with the mentor following a chosen set of images, affirmations & practice scripts
- Once the ordinary traumatized self-state is displaced by the heroic self-state, narrative transformation begins
- Narrative transformation has three nodes: dissolving traumatic self; emerging as nascent hero; then as fully integrated hero (loss of trauma-self; transition; new life)



## Embodied Contemplative Practice Revolves around a Congenial Mentor-Archetype Bond

- Tantric depth-psychology intentionally encodes maps and tools in symbols which the mentor slowly decodes
- The student chooses the mentor and archetype s/he finds reliable, inspiring, and congenial
- The basic practice involves a seven step process of bonding with and integrating chosen role-models



## Chosen Archetypes, like Campbell's Hero w/ 1000 Faces, Come in All Shapes, Moods, & Sizes

- Hero and Heroine Forms (*Deva/Devi*) Solitary/Paired
- Their Affects Range from Calm, Mixed to Fierce
- For Transmuting Addictive Craving, Defensive Anger, or Reactive Self-Enclosure
- Grounded by Link to Positive Mentors & Role-Models
- Include Transformational Family, Mansion & Natural Environment (*Mandala*)



Mystic Communion (Guhyasamaja)



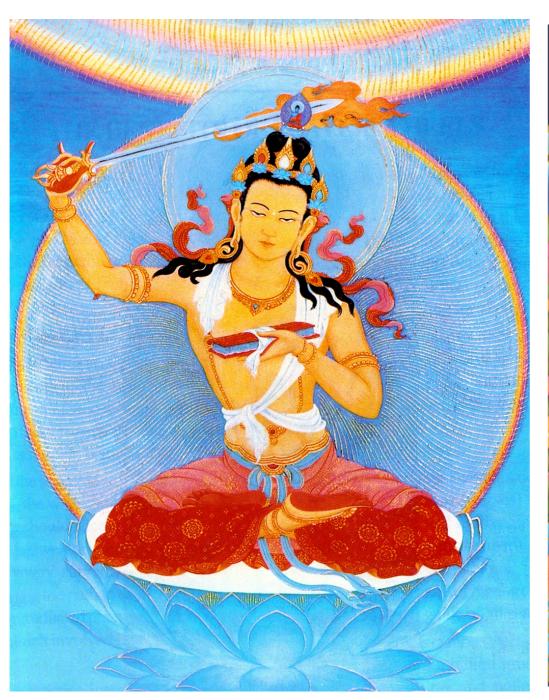
## Basic Calming Archetypes: Healing Mother (*Arya Tara*) and Healing Mentor (*Bhaishajyaguru*)







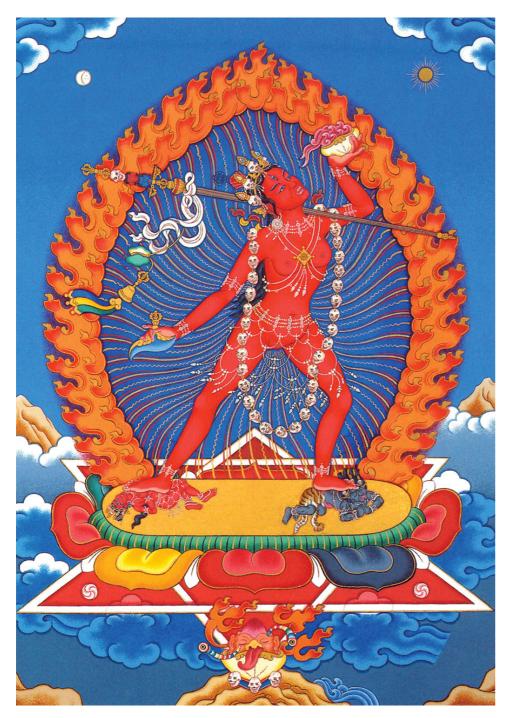
## Mixed Fierce-Calm Insight Archetypes: Sheer Brilliance (Manjushri) and Wisdom Mother (*Prajna*)







Fierce Forms Transform Drive States into Ecstatic Openness and Fearless Presence: *Diamond Yogini* (*Vajrayogini*) & *Fierce Brilliance* (*Vajrabhairava*)







## Embodied Contemplative Practice Revolves around a Congenial Mentor-Archetype Bond

- Admiring = focusing on the desired qualities the mentor/archetype embody
- Sharing = arranging/envisioning and offering to share all desirable objects and positive experiences
- Disclosing = exposing one's deepest self-doubts, worst errors, and most shameful limits and flaws
- Enjoying = rejoicing at the mentor's affirmation that the we naturally share her/his qualities



## Embodied Contemplative Practice Revolves around a Congenial Mentor-Archetype Bond

- Asking for help = requesting guidance and encouragement needed to deeply transform
- Requesting continuity = asking the mentor/archetype for a long-term commitment to one's full transformation
- Dedication = earmarking the transformative intuition,
   affect and energy stirred by practice to full realization



# The Eight Step Dissolution and Five Step Re-Emergence Process of Self-Transformation

#### Eight-Step Dissolution

- Solids->Liquids, Mirage/Vision
- Liquids->Heat, Smoke/Hearing
- Heat->Gases, Sparks/Smell
- Gasses->Space/Taste & Touch
- Seeking>Moonlight/Luminance
- Guarding->Twilight/Radiance
- Isolating->Midnight/Immanence
- Void Clarity->Predawn/Translucency

#### Ten Step Re-Emergence

- Deep Space
- Energy Field
- Solar Heat
- Planetary Water
- Solid Land
- Moonlight
- Sunlight
- Breath Sound
- Implement
- Wisdom Hero



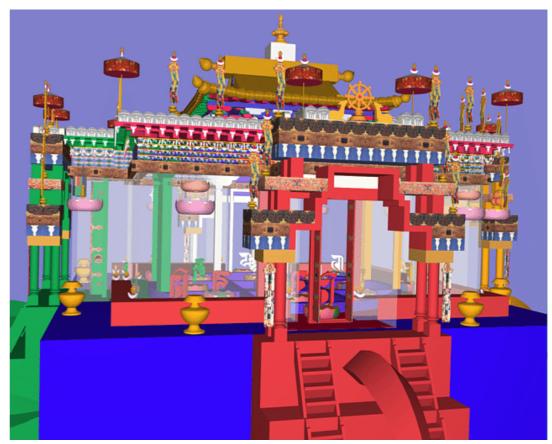
### Narrative Self-Transformation Revolves around Three Existential Nodes

- Turning near-death states into a way to embody the truths of impermanence, selflessness, and emptiness
- Turning death-life transitions into a way to embody the joyful expression of conscious self-creation
- Turning fully emerged life into a way to embody the joyful energy and artistry of heroic altruism



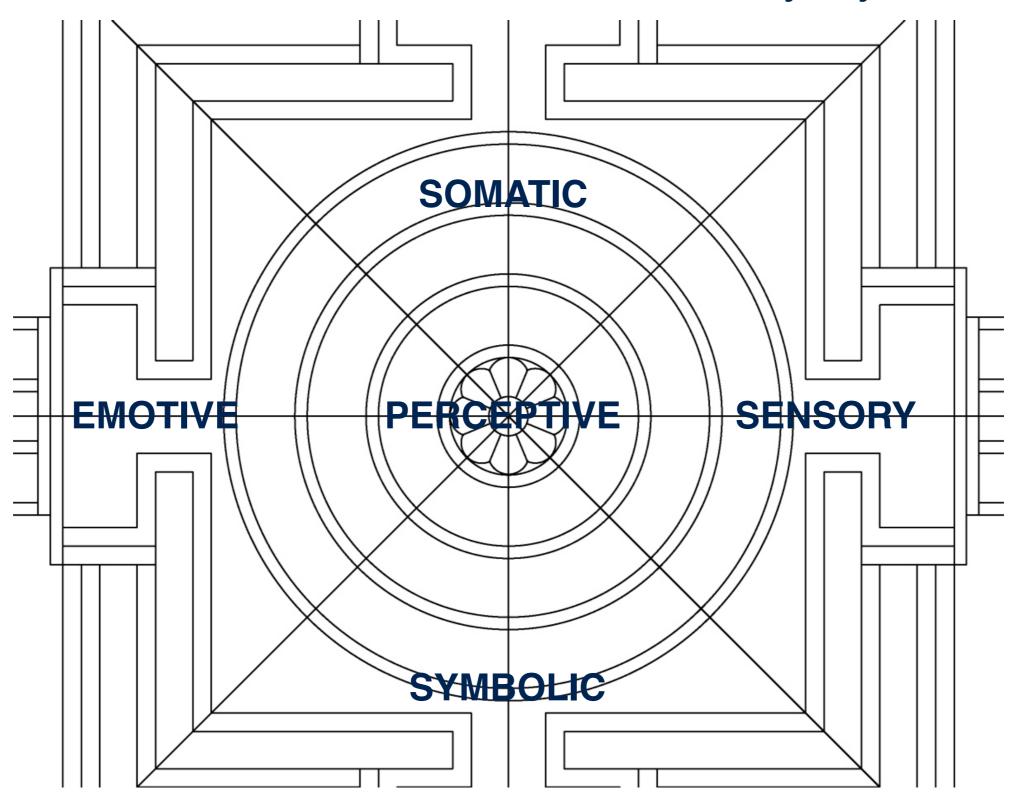
# The Nested Crucibles of Mystic Communion: Nature, Home, Body, Meme, Energy Drop





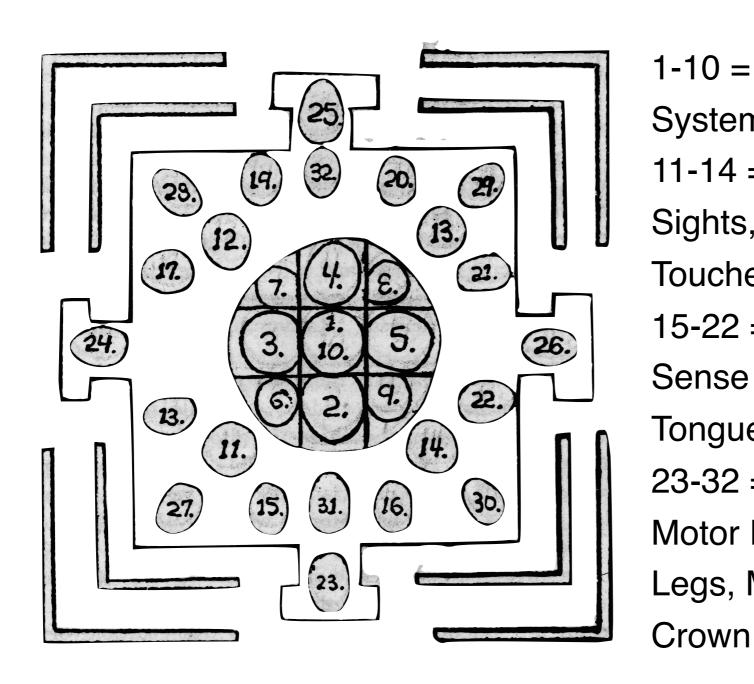


#### Base Metal: The Five Mind/Body Systems





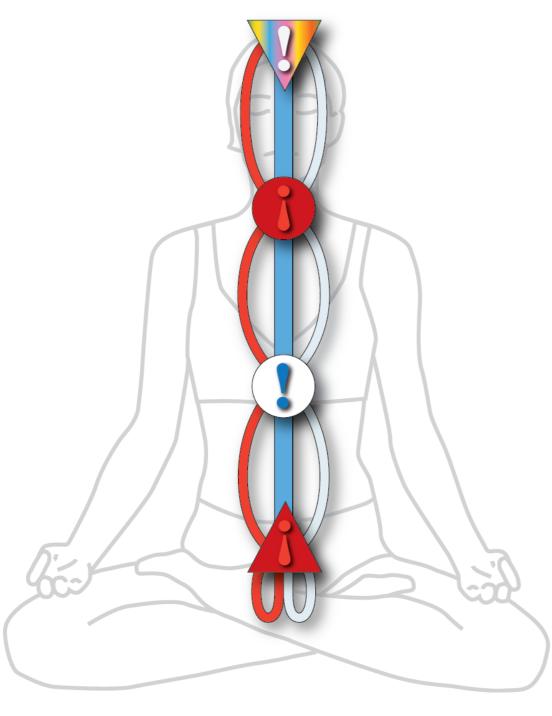
# Body Mandala: Making the Mind/Body Process a Crucible for Transforming Trauma to Bliss



1-10 = Memes of the Five Life Systems and Physical Elements 11-14 = Memes of Five Senses: Sights, Sounds, Tastes, Smells, Touches 15-22 = Memes of the Eight Sense Faculties: Eyes, Ears, Tongue, Nose, Body 23-32 = Memes of the TenMotor Functions: Hands, Arms, Legs, Mouth, Pelvis, Feet,



### Body Mandala: Installing Mentor Archetype Memes to Guide Breath-Induced Flow



- Lucid Mind Hero sends calming
   lunar bliss chemistry from crown
- Blessed Speech Heroine sends solar warmth up to melt Mind Hero
- Open Heart Hero sends mixed sunmoon bliss chemistry from heart
- Embodied Passion Heroine sends solar fire up to kindle bliss network

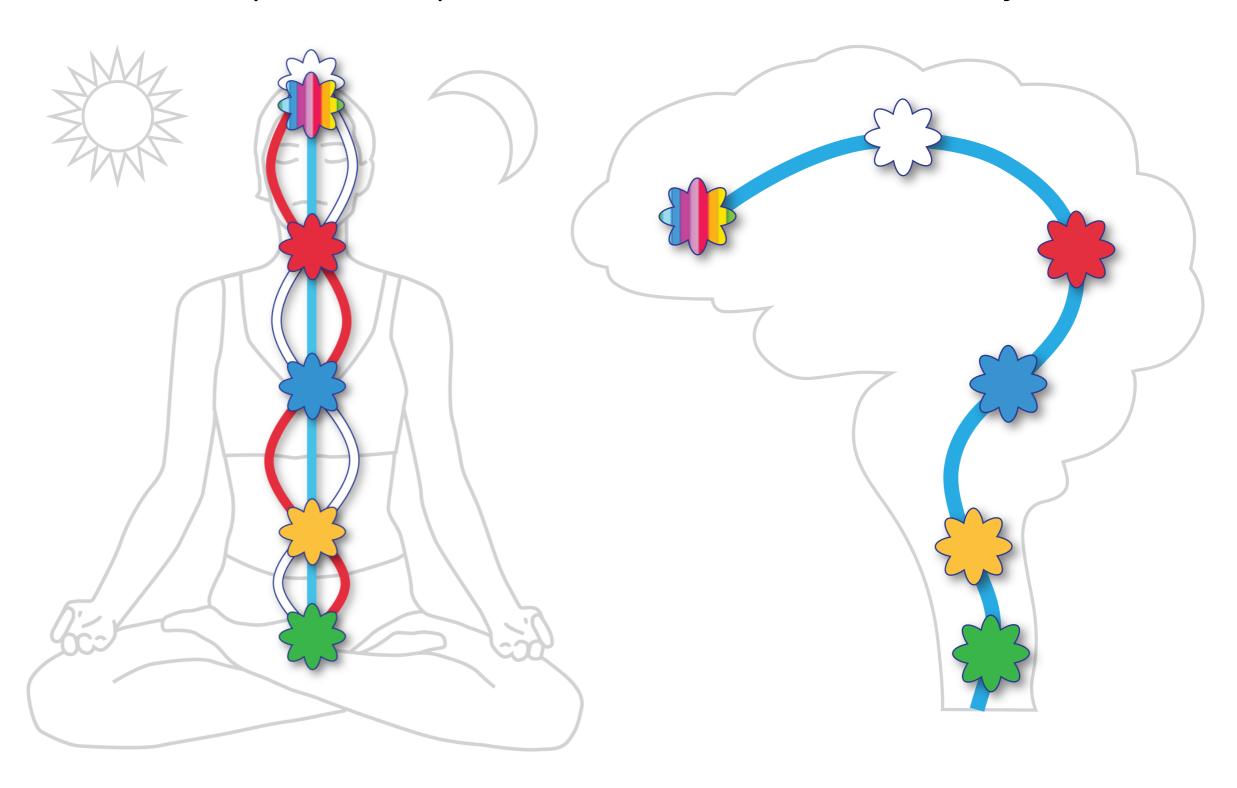


## Embodied Contemplative Practices Integrate Deep Transformation in an Alchemical Way

- When role-modeling imagery and narrative have been internalized, the work enters the integration stage
- This stage transitions to bottom-up work, with the stage set by installing mentor memes/family in the body
- Then dissolution process (simulating death) is primed by intensive breath holding, w/ or w/o erotic imagery
- Breath holding is accentuated by upper and lower "breath-locks" mimicking the diving reflex
- Psychic kindling is achieved by priming dorsal vagal and sympathetic afferents to induce a mixed flow state



## Bottom-Up Embodied Practices Use Yoga's Interoceptive Map of the Central Nervous System





# If the Indic subtle body maps the CNS, why so different from our brain map?

#### Subtle Body Map

- first/second-person, qualitative
- virtual, functional map
- for self-care and self-regulation
- maps network at end organ synapse
- to live better in one's own body

#### Brain Map

- impersonal, quantitative
- gross anatomical
- for mechanical intervention
- maps at central cell body
- to diagnose and treat others



# How might the primary circuits of the subtle body map relate to the brain?

- The six primary circuits of the subtle body model map the complexity of the CNS
- Each circuit is a distinct system that integrates a number of elements
- Metaphors are hub and spokes of a wheel, center and petals of a flower



#### How are the primary circuits characterized?



Command Hub behind the forehead, 6 control elements align with PFC



Thousandfold Bliss Hub under the crown, 32 sensorimotor elements align with neocortex



Pure Enjoyment Hub behind the throat, 16 mood state elements align with limbic system



Truth Hub behind the heart, 8 reward and appetite elements align with midbrain

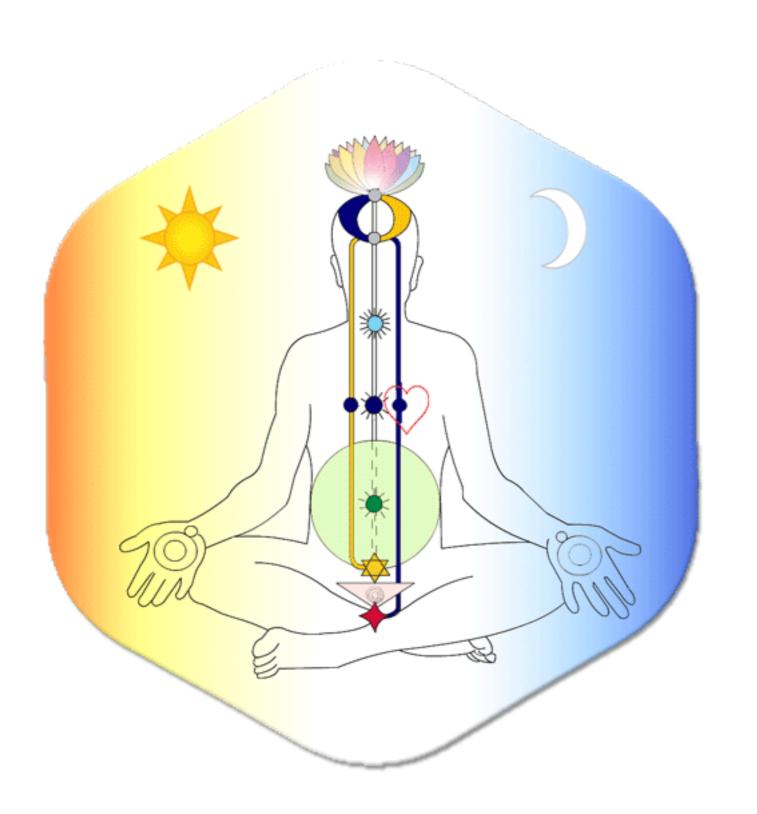


Embodiment Hub behind the navel, 64 vital energy elements align with pons



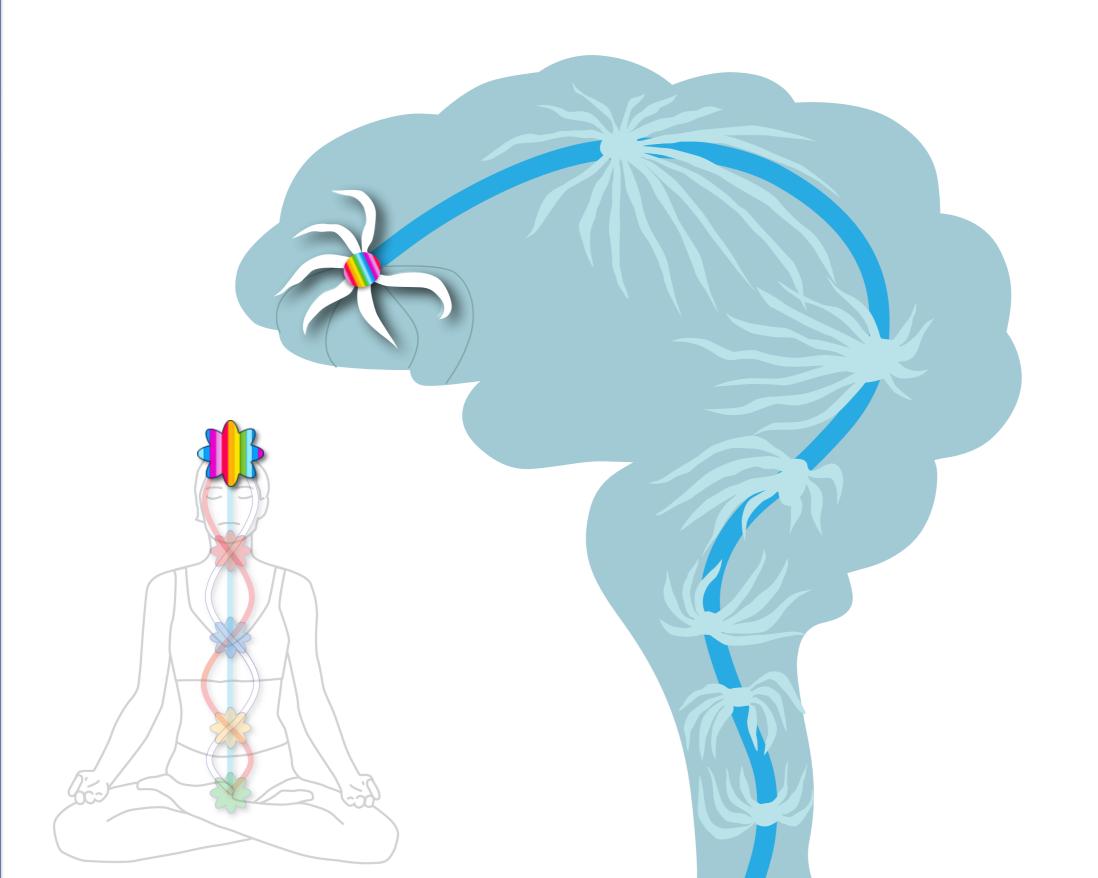
Secret Hub within the sexual organ, 32 life support elements align with medulla





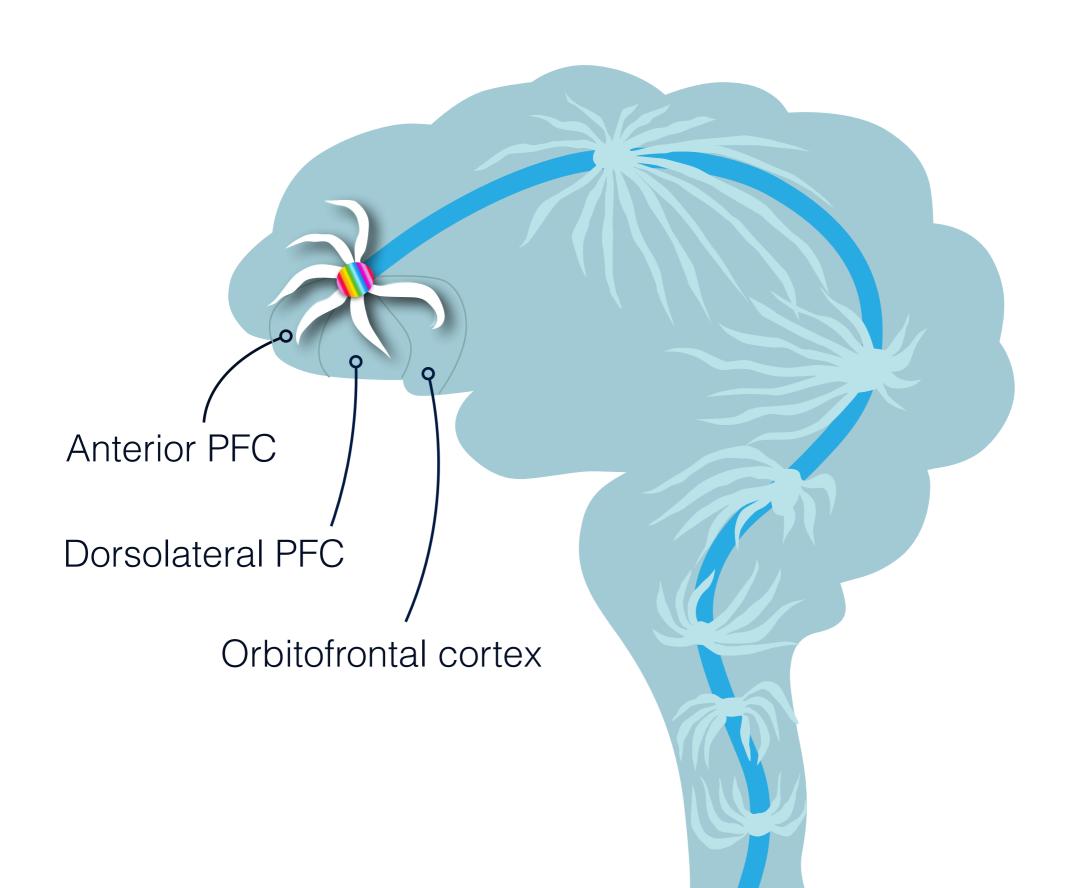


### Command Hub



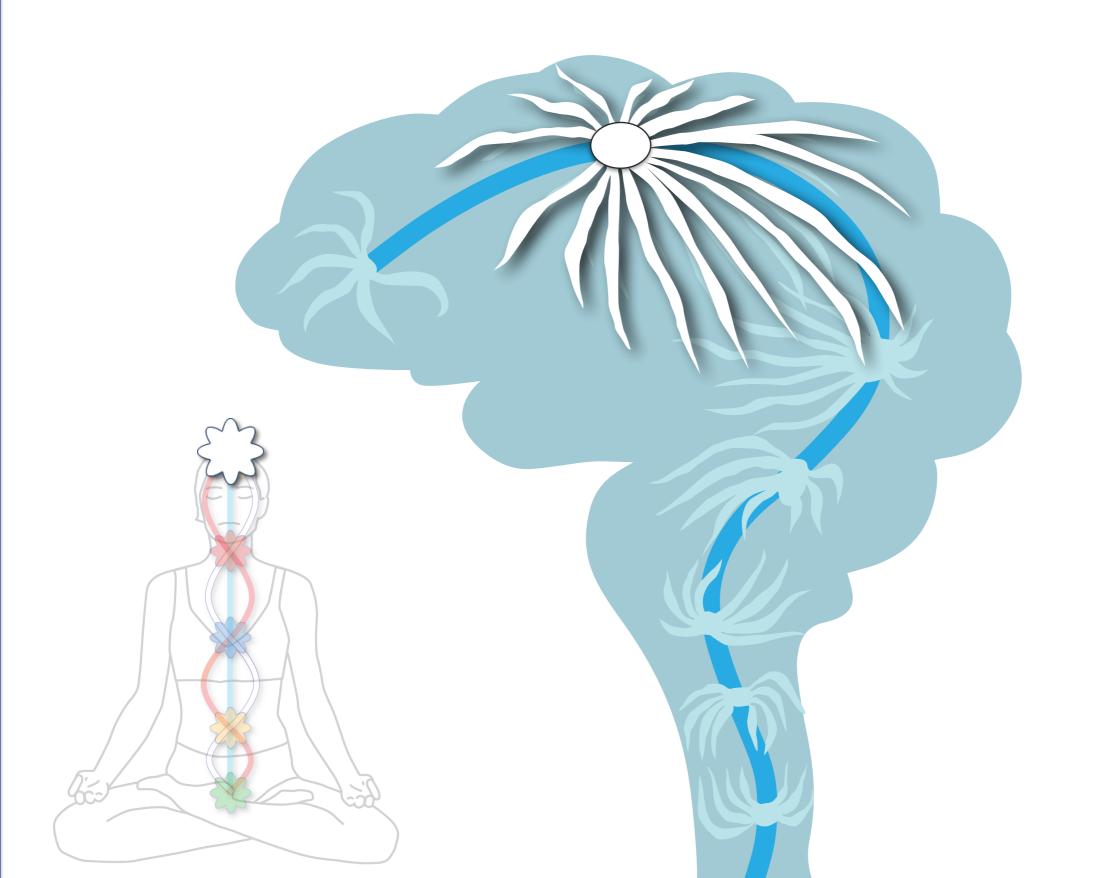


#### Command Hub



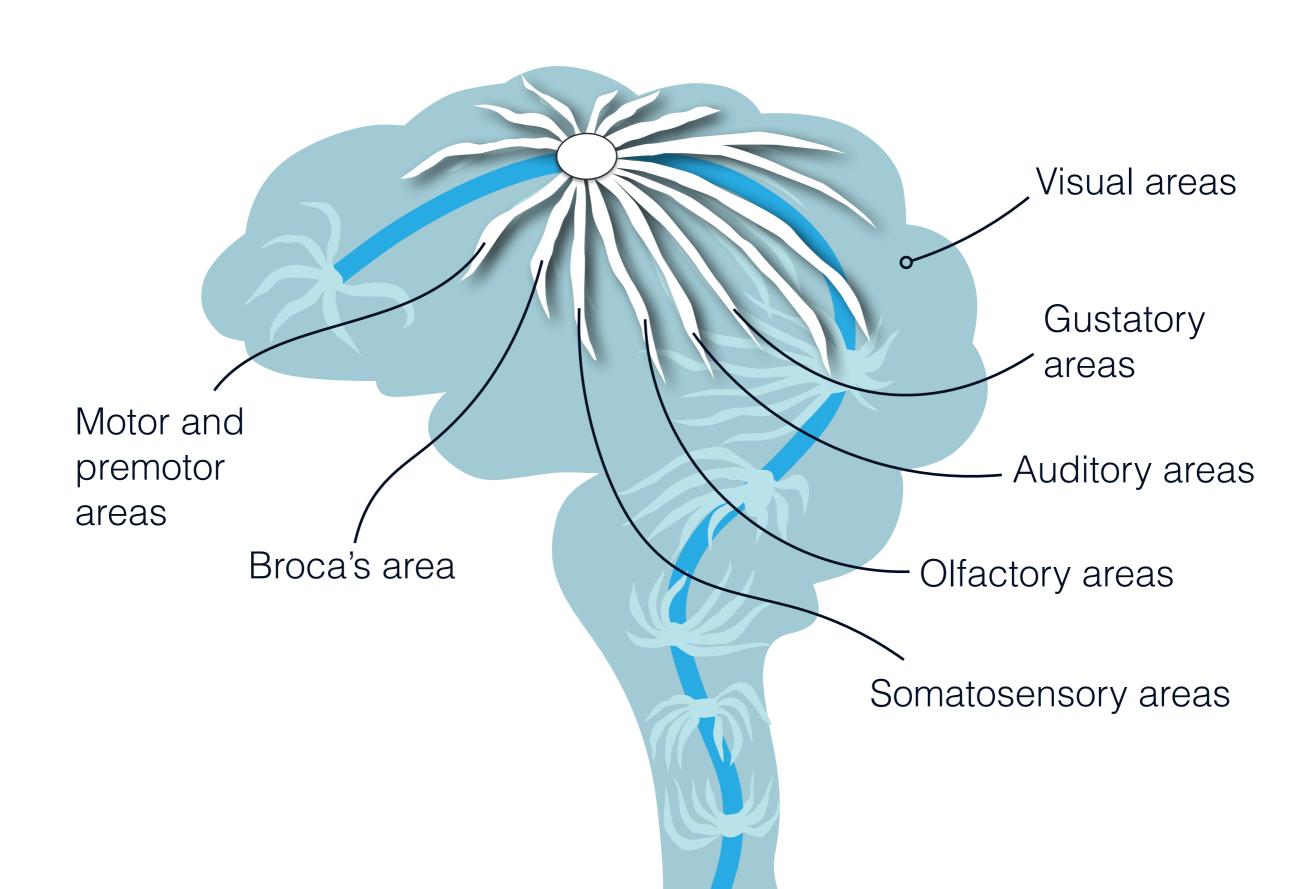


### Thousandfold Bliss Hub



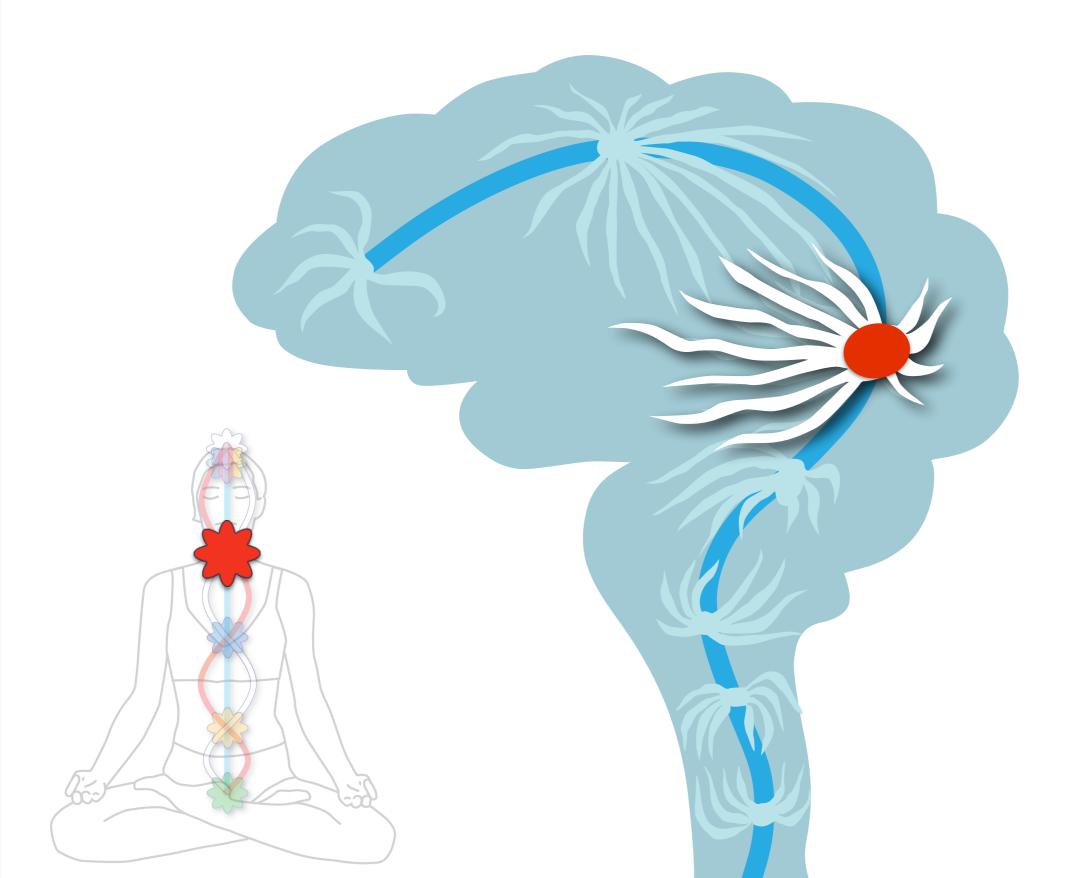


#### Thousandfold Bliss Hub



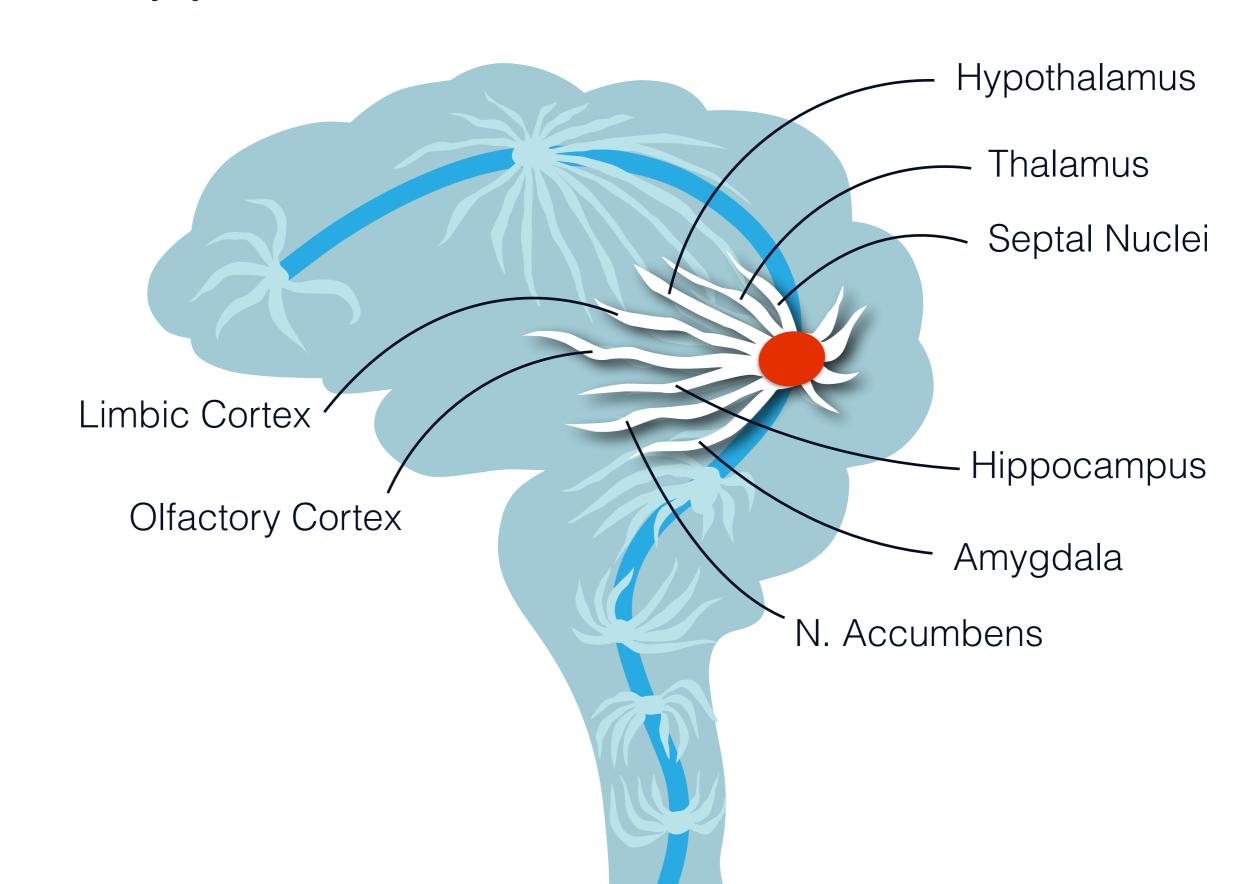


## Pure Enjoyment Hub



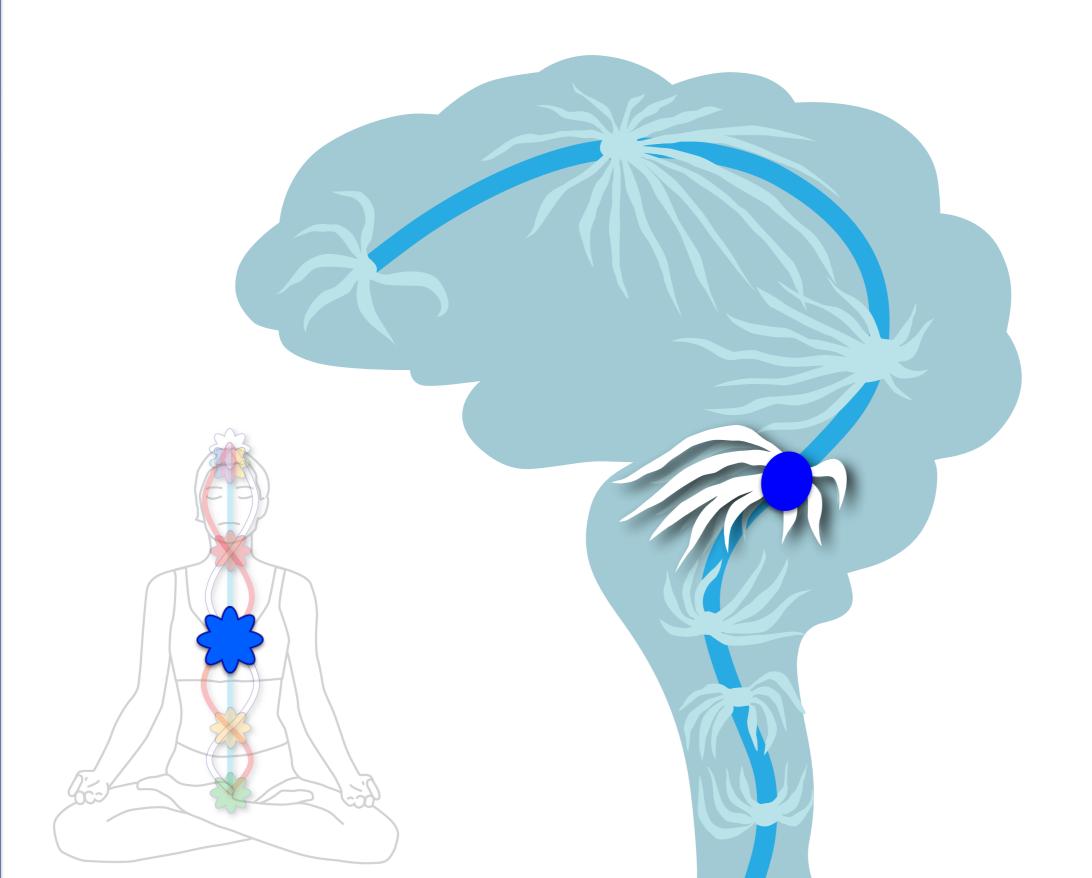


#### Pure Enjoyment Hub



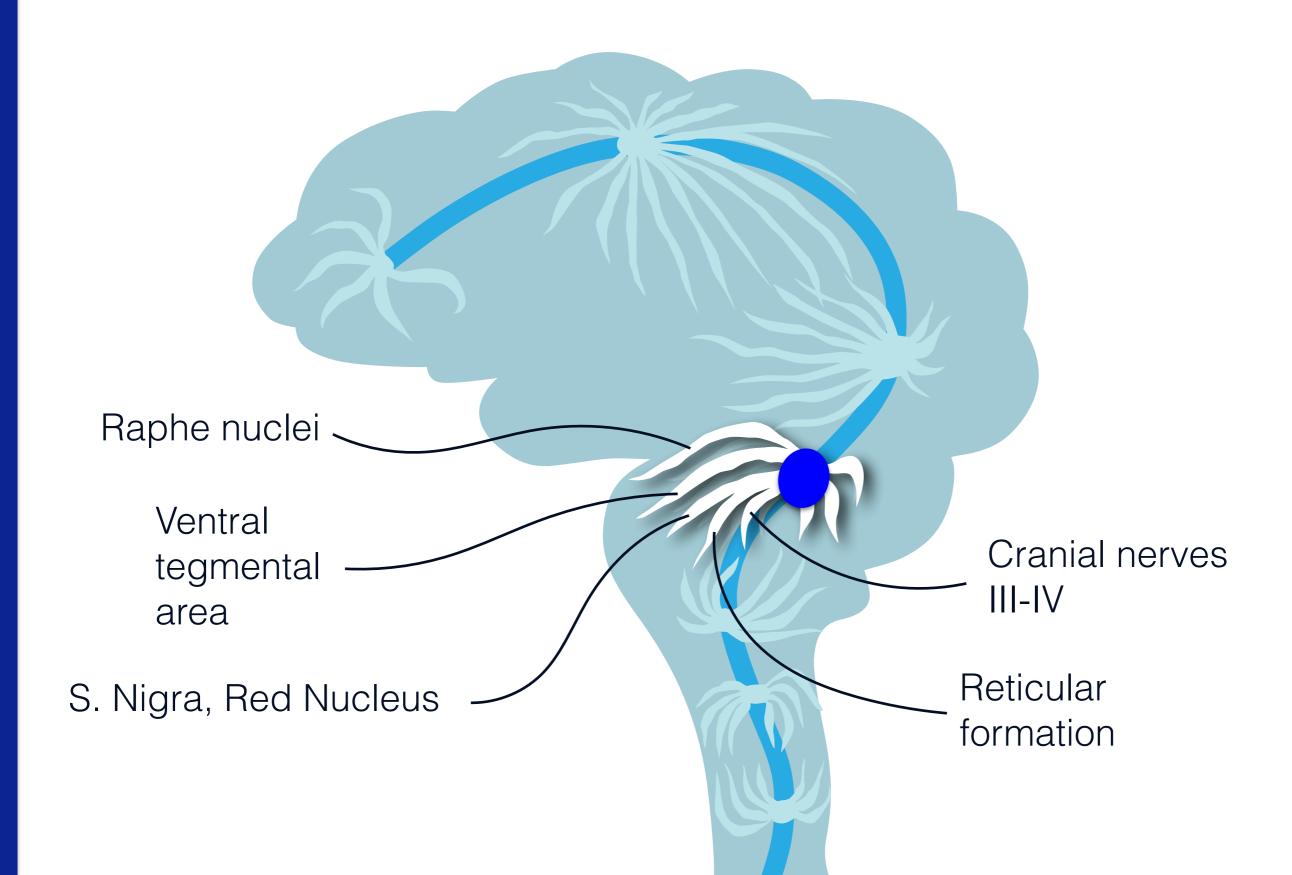


### Primal Truth Hub



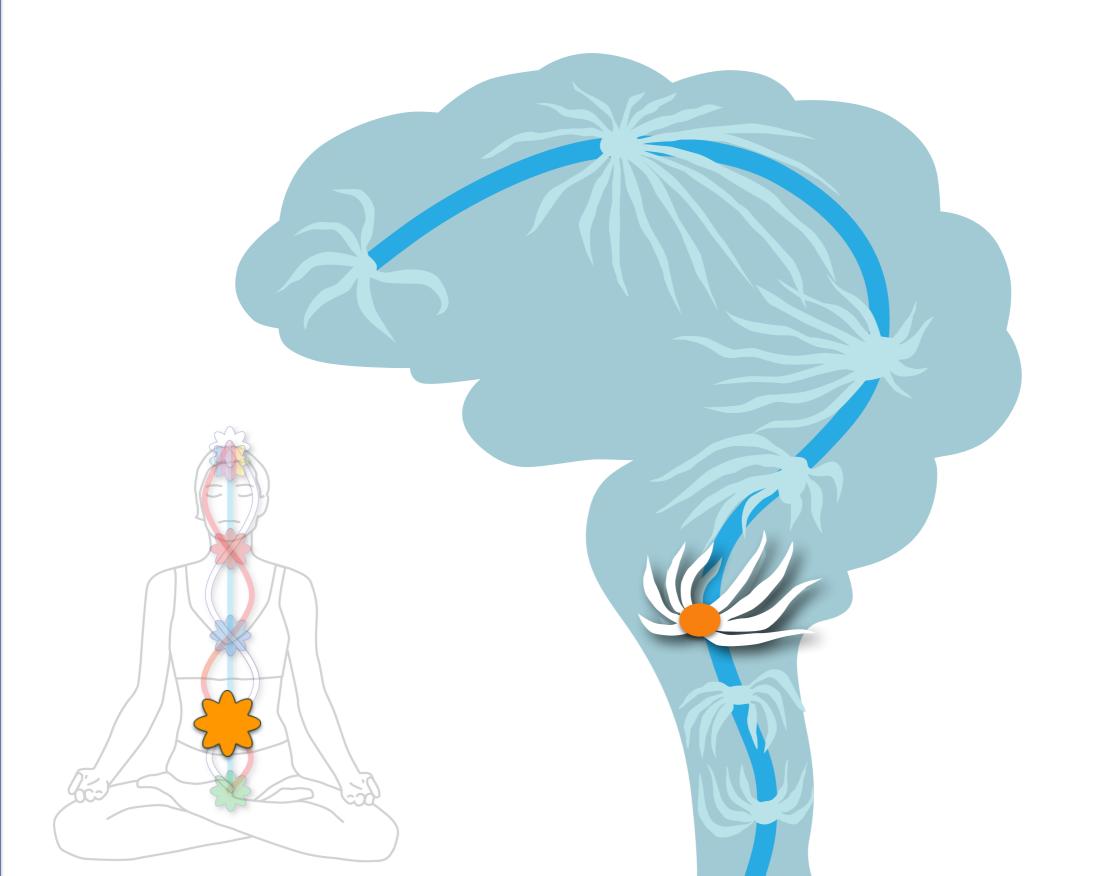


#### Primal Truth Hub



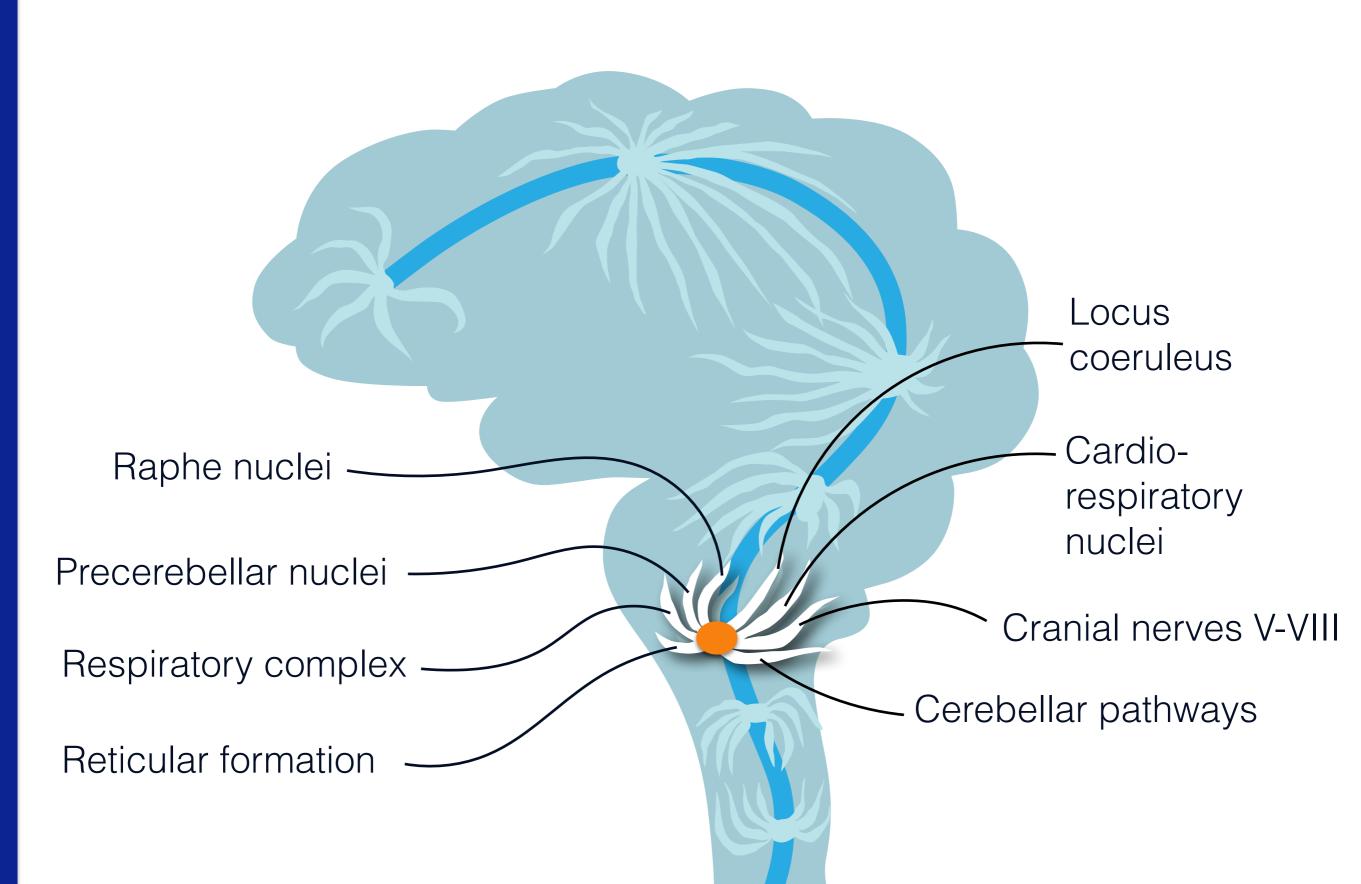


### Embodiment Hub



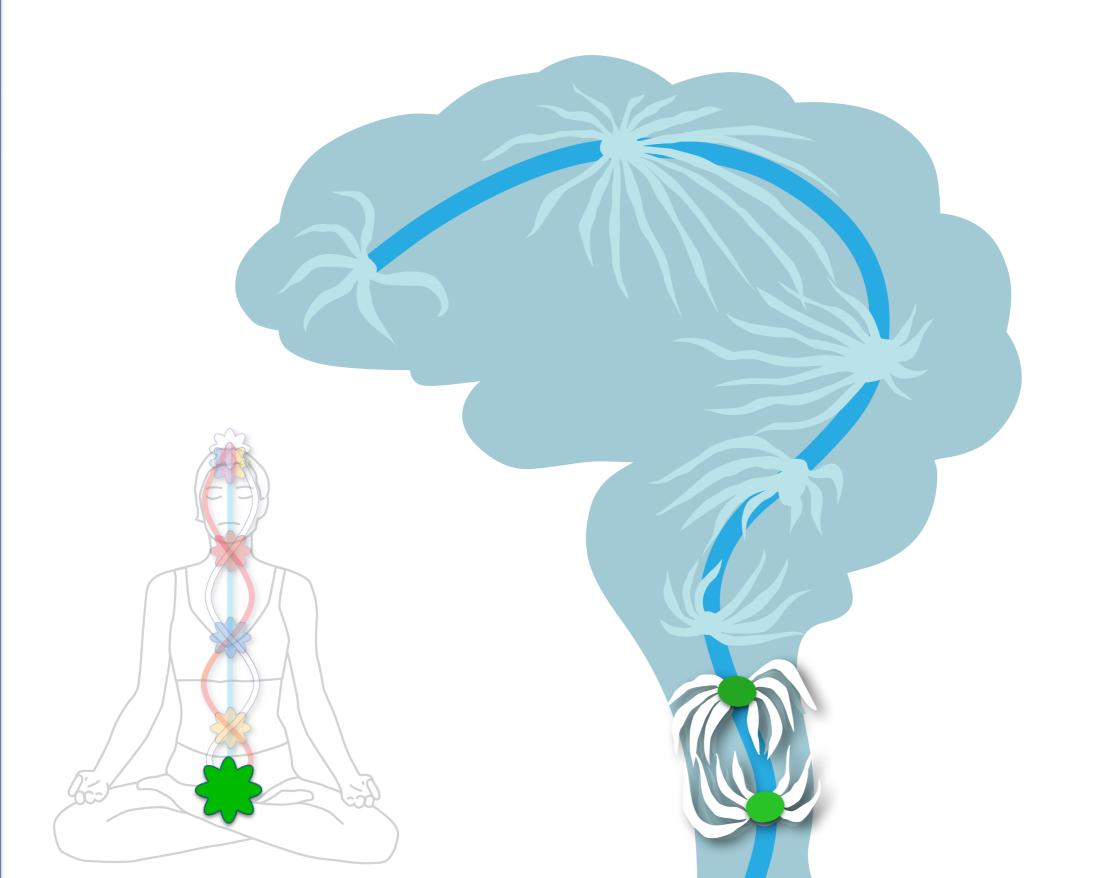


#### **Embodiment Hub**



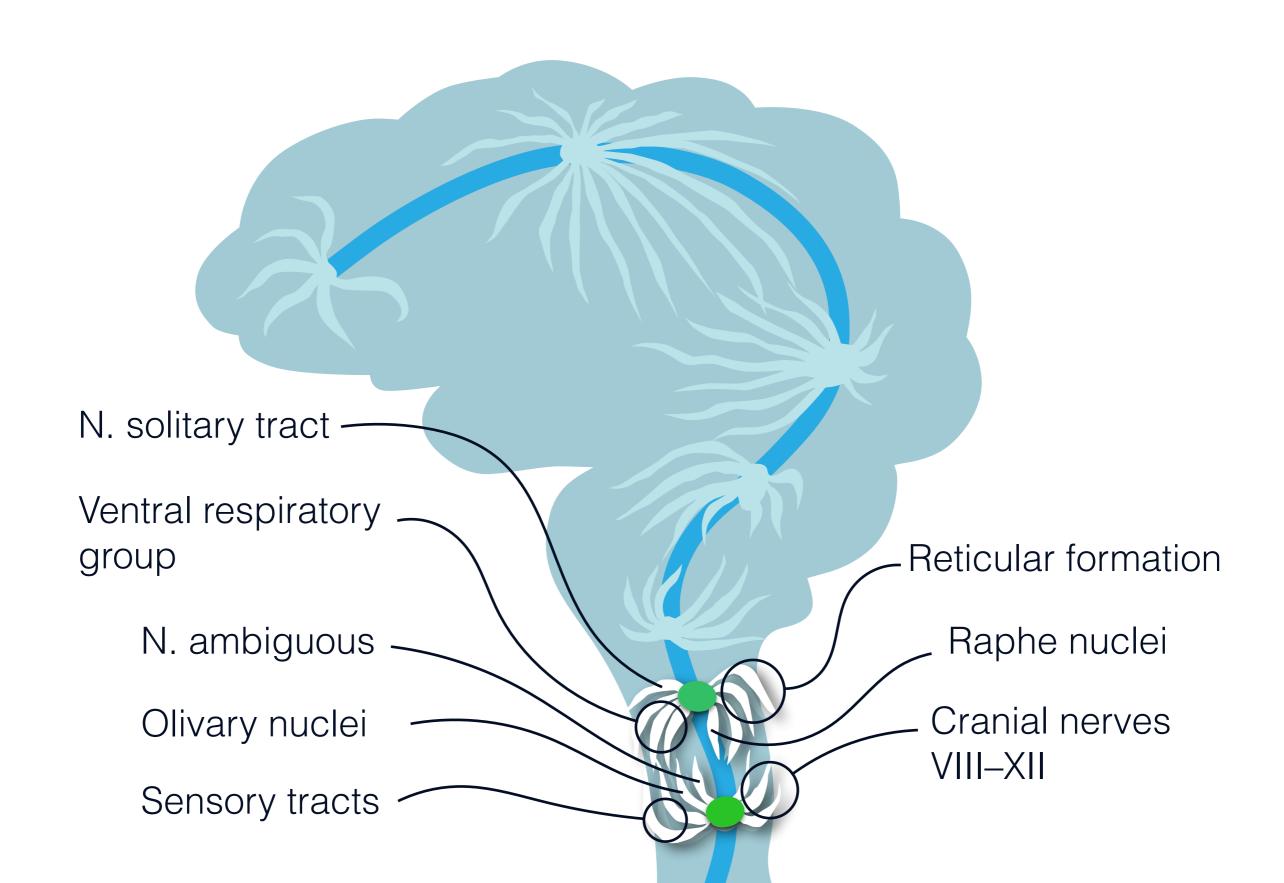


### Secret Sexual Hub





#### Secret Sexual Hub





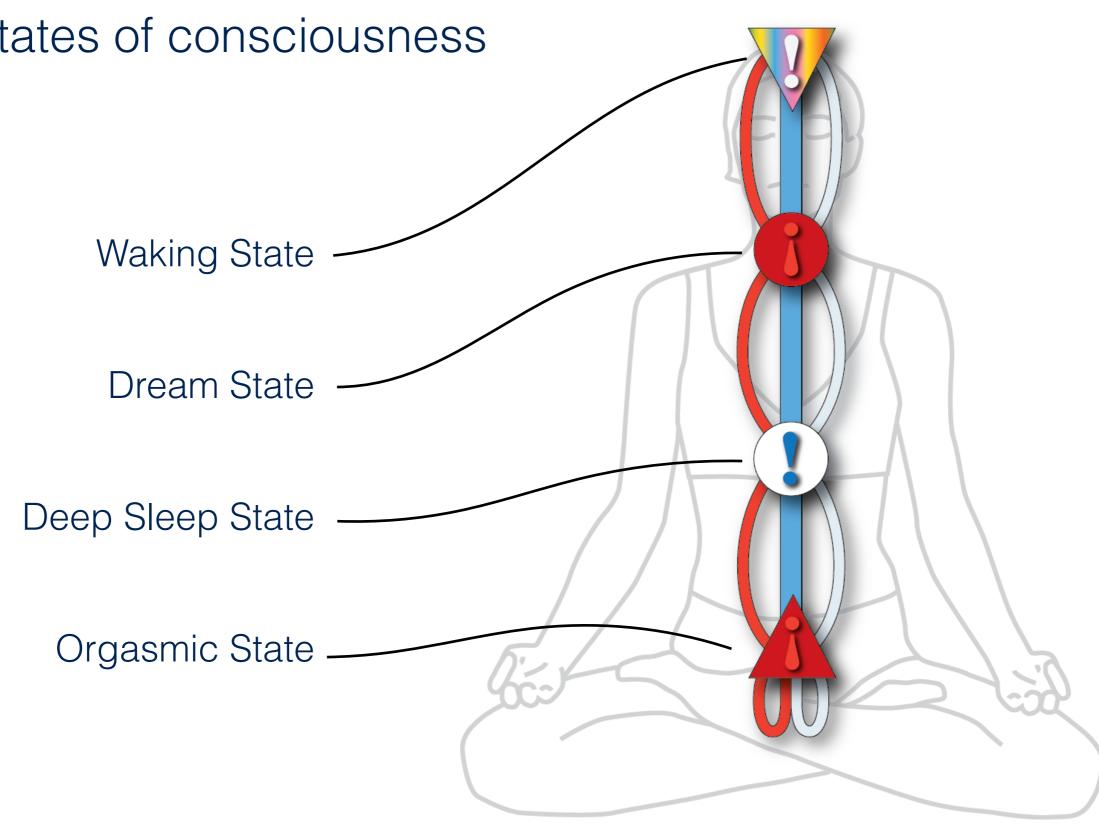
#### How the subtle body maps vertical integration

- It maps four states of consciousness as a hierarchy onto successive circuits of neuraxis
- More differentiated, higher states mapped rostrally, undifferentiated, primal states caudally

Self-Regulation	Practice	Mind State	Neural Level
Cognitive	Mindfulness	Waking State	Neocortical
Emotional	Compassion	Dream State	Mesolimbic
Intuitive	Imagery-Prosody	Sleep State	Mesopontine
Embodied	Breath-Control	Orgasmic State	Medullary



Subtle body map of states of consciousness





#### How the subtle body maps *lateral* integration

- As the self-regulation of polar left and right side channels with integral central channel
- Side channels parallel neuraxis, map sympatheticparasympathetic balance
- Central channel maps smart vagus and integrative reward and activation networks

Level of Integration	Mind-Body Practice	Dichotomy	Neural System
Coarse Mind/Body	Alternate Nostril	Approach/Avoid	L/R Neocortex
Subtle Mind/Body	Breath-Holding	Relax/Stress	Limbic SNS/PNS
Subtlest Mind/Body	Breath of Fire	Pleasure/Pain	Reward/Drive
Whole Mind/Body	Diamond Breathing	Whole/Split	Mind/Body Rhythms



Subtle body map of the autonomic nervous system

Central
Androgynous Channel
Called "Midnight," "Released"
Smart Vagal Control of ANS

Right Predominant
Feminine Channel
Called "Solar," "Luscious"
Sympathetic Nervous System

Left Predominant,

Masculine Channel

Called, "Lunar," "Succulent"

Primitive Vagal Nervous System



## How the subtle body maps neural plasticity and integration

- Loosening and releasing stress-reactive wiring patterns called "knots"
- Akin to Reich's "character armor" and Lowen's "bioenergy blocks"
- Seen as "atomic, subtle material structures" ingrained by reactive habit-patterns
- Block electrochemical flow within integrative reward and activation pathways





## How the subtle body maps neural plasticity and integration

- By mindfulness, concentration, wiser choices, and repeated practice
- Habit-patterns dematerialized and knots unravelled, releasing flow
- Mind and nervous system rewired for self-regulation and integration



Subtle body map of five main neural energy circuits

Cardiorespiratory
Energy

Sensorimotor Energy

Genitoexcretory
Energy

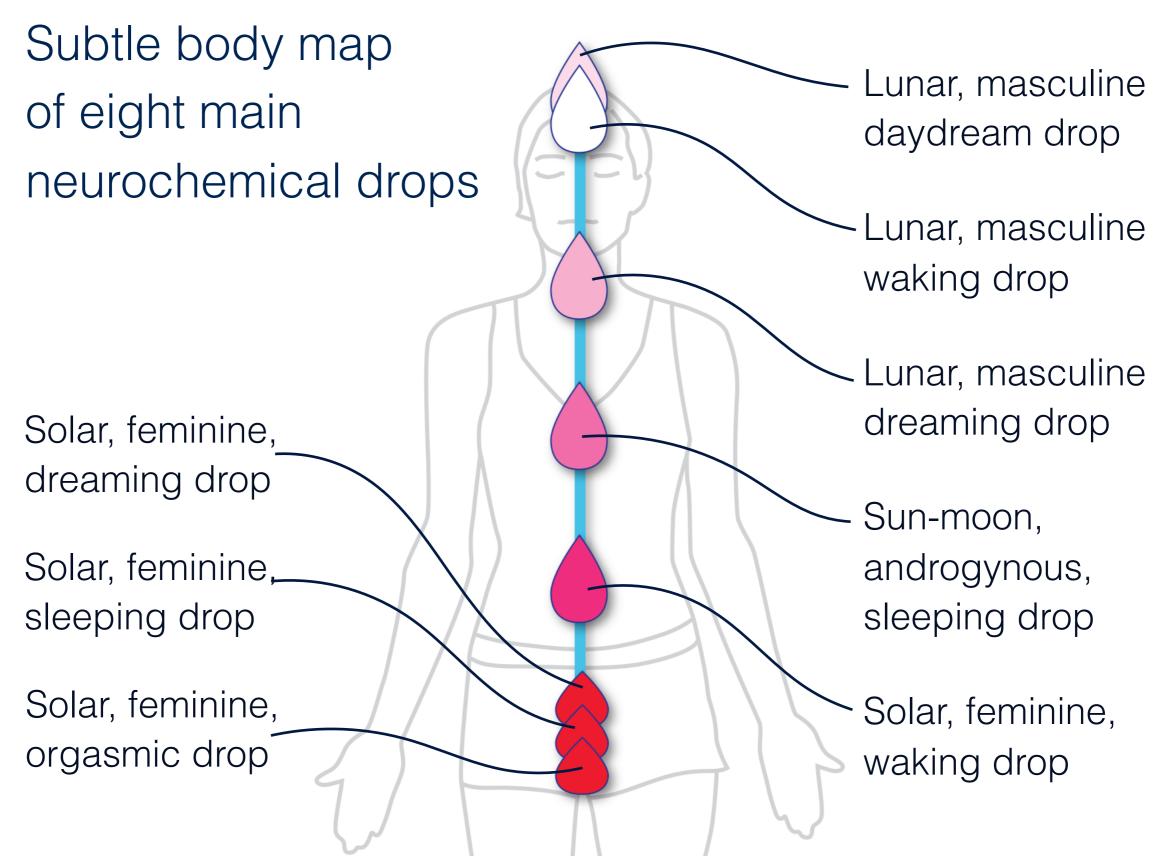
☐ ExpressiveEnergy

Digestive
Energy



Subtle body map of five secondary perceptual energies Visual energy Auditory energy Gustatory energy Olfactory energy Tactile energy







## How the subtle body maps bioenergetic and neurochemical integration

- Focusing on thoughts, images, sounds, gestures stimulates energies and drops
- The flow of energy-chemistry and information ingrains molecular pathways
- With mindfulness, compassion, imagery, and breath control
- Stress-reactive energies and chemistry can be accessed and mastered



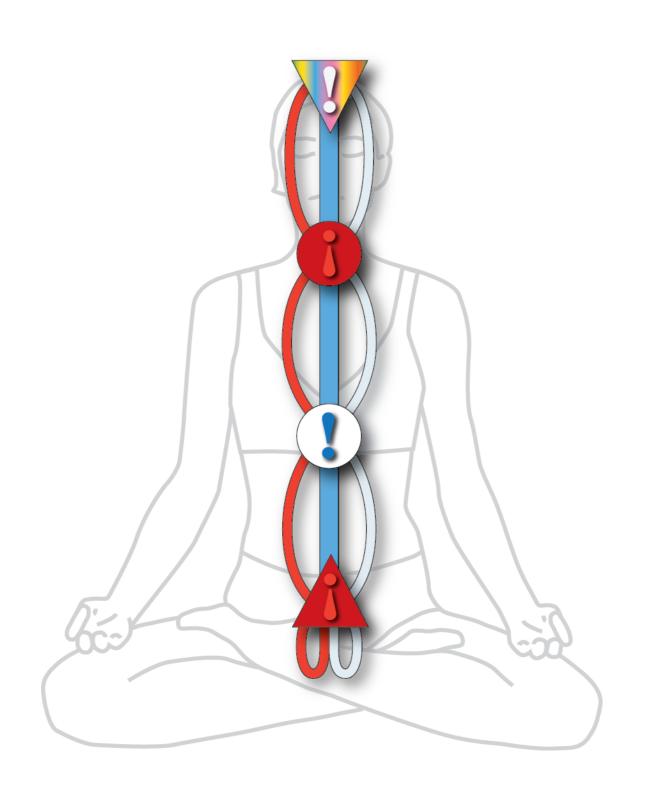


## How the subtle body maps bioenergetic and neurochemical integration

- Then harnessed and re-channelled towards full integration
- Includes 10 main neural energy circuits,
   8 kinds of neurochemical drops

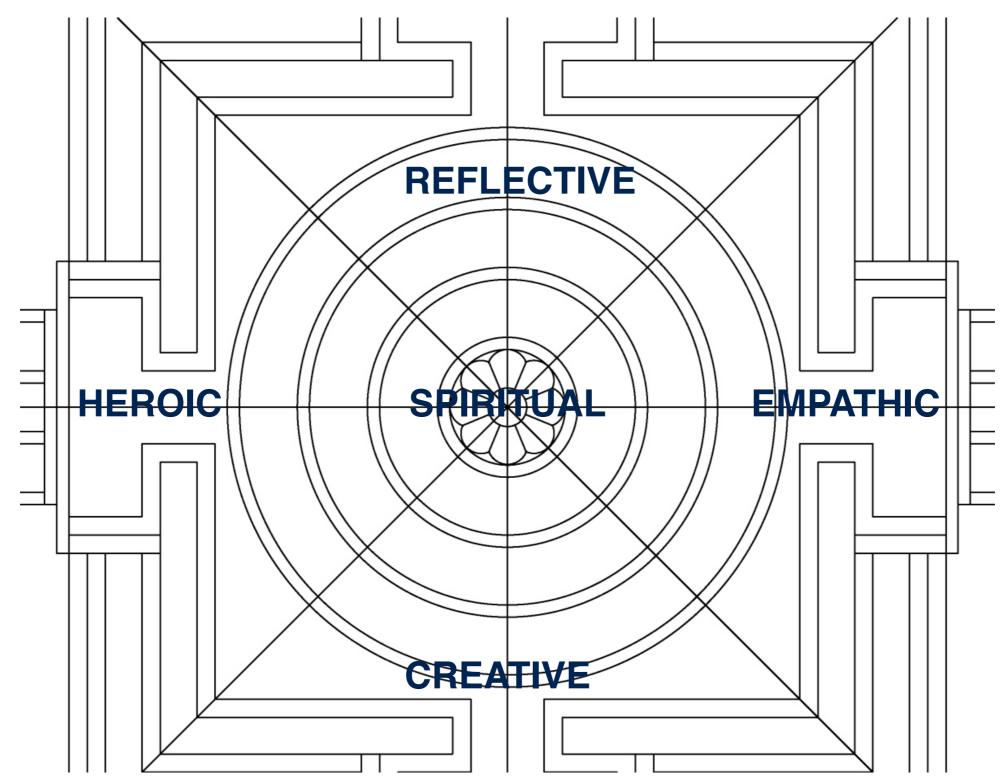


## Tibetan Breath-Control Unknots the CNS, Taps the Core Network of Lucid Bliss-Openness





#### The Five Embodied Lucid Bliss Intuitions





## Making the Heart a Crucible for Transforming Survival Energies into Lucid Bliss Energies

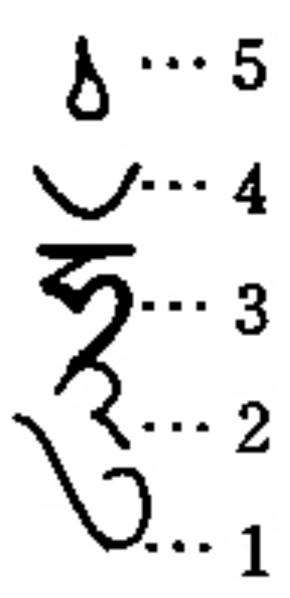
- Reflective In-Breath
- Empathic Gut-Breath
- Aesthetic Out-Breath
- Heroic Root-Breath
- Spiritual Heart-Breath





## Transmuting the Subtle Mind/Body Systems and Energies into Fivefold Lucid Flow Self

- Reflective In-Breath
- Empathic Gut-Breath
- Aesthetic Out-Breath
- Heroic Root-Breath
- Spiritual Heart-Breath



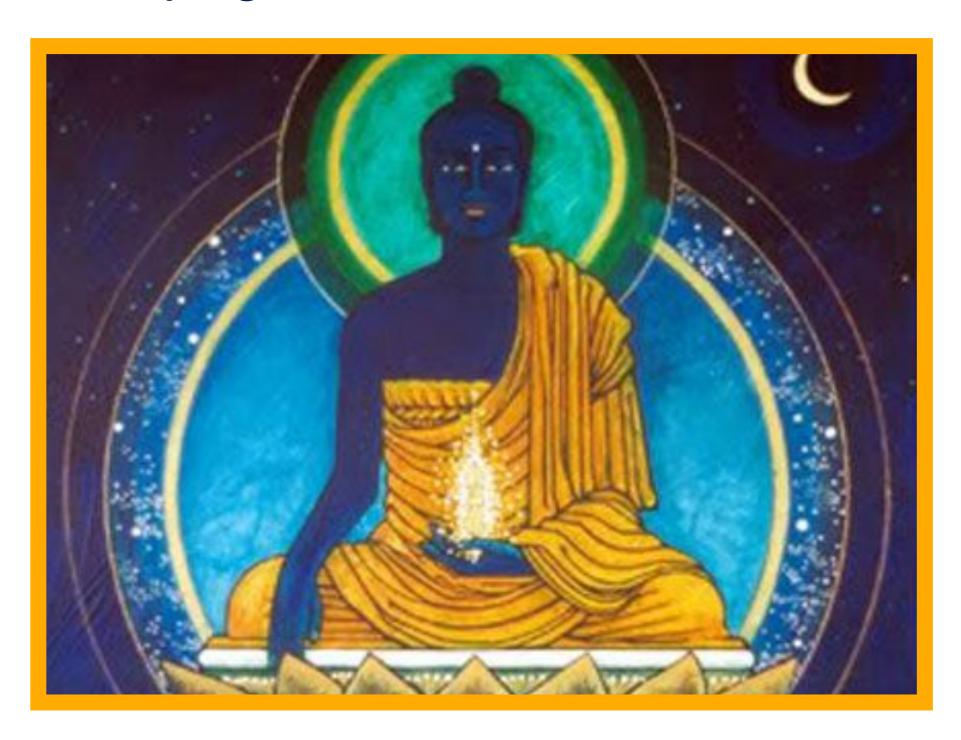


### The Rainbow Spirit of the Healing Mentor





# The Healing Mentor: Integrating and Embodying the Elixir of Blissful Altruism







nalandainstitute.org