

July 27/1983

To whom it may concern.

I'd like to talk about my personal history as a follower of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

I'm Italian, 28 years old, I'm an architect (I took my degree in Italy, Politecnico di Milano, in 1980) and an actress (I studied experimental theatre in Milano - Teatro del Minodramma - for about 3 years: 1977-1980).

My meeting with Bhagwan was through his followers; I was leaving in London at the time, 1981, for my studies in Architecture, and I was staying with some Samyasin friends. I never felt so much harmony and love, the way they were treating each other, the way they were treating me. I started reading his work, his books, and it was like a door opening, a totally new perspective that had an influence even on my work.

I was writing a thesis about Utopia, cities people dreamed about, where people could live happily and in harmony with each other; something men had always dreamed. Nothing seemed to click, the Utopia I was reading about,

were totally impractical, and impossible to realize.
Then I read in Bhagwan's books about the meeting
technology and art, creativity, about the melting of man
into nature, and a commune held together by
love and not personal interest, competition, ambition.

I took sannyas, I met my husband, and I came with
him to the States, his country. We've been living
in Atlanta, Georgia, for 2 years. That's what I call
the stereotype of an American town: business,
competition, rush, stress; it was difficult to meet people,
difficult to relax, difficult to smile. I came here, Rajneeshpuram
June 1st, and I was amazed. Finally a dream come true,
finally a city that doesn't crush nature, but support it
where people work together harmoniously, just to help building
a dream, not for personal gain. We worship (and it's
really worship, worshipping Bhagwan, worshipping life
itself) 12 hours a day, happily, because we are in love with
Bhagwan, with each other, with nature. His presence is everywhere,
when he drives by, it's always an incredible experience, so magical
there is no need for him to talk to us, looking at him is enough,
to remind us that something more is possible, and that miracles
are reality. What's happening here it's a miracle, made possi-
ble by his presence, please don't destroy our dream and
don't miss it!

Silvia Hipple

Thank you

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