

# Light of Be-ing

## Introduction

“it is”  
to the sage the answer  
to the student the question . . .

*“Your own Self-Realization is the greatest service you can render the world.”  
Sri Ramana Maharshi*

Like “a finger pointing to the moon”, the verses of “The 3 Keys” and “The 8 Gates” point to that which is both timeless and real. They are not teachings in respect to their content, nor are they rules or precepts to follow. To describe them as such would be to miss the whole point of their message, as in concentrating on the finger and not seeing that which it is pointing to.

*"You don't understand. My wing. I can't move my wing."  
"Maynard Gull, you have the freedom to be yourself, your true self, here  
and now, and nothing can stand in your way . . ."  
"Are you saying I can fly?"  
"I say you are free."  
"As simply and as quickly as that, Kirk Maynard Gull spread his wings,  
effortlessly, and lifted into the dark night air."  
Jonathan Livingston Seagull  
Richard Bach*

All beings seek freedom, it is the universal nature of life. Yet the freedom we seek is both elusive and ephemeral. And like a rainbow, it seems always just out of reach.

The 8 Gate cards visually present the restrictions and judgments ego uses to imprison who we think we are. Their imagery lays bare the ideas and central core of those beliefs. Each person will see something different, like looking at a rainbow, no two people will experience it in the same way.

*“Normally, we do not so much look at things as overlook them”  
Alan Watts*

Along with the 8 Gate cards are the 3 Key cards and their verses. They are the keys of your true self, with which all is revealed. Although often overlooked and disregarded, they are the very essence of your infinite be-ing.

*“If you cannot find the truth right where you are, where else do you  
expect to find it?”  
Dogen Zenji.*

There are many deeper meanings embedded within each verse and card, as well as the frequency of self-realization. Like a bell that has been rung and cannot be un-heard, so too with these verses and cards. Once read or viewed, the resonant frequency of enlightenment rings within, and self-realization shines forth from who you truly are.

*"Each of us is an unlimited idea of freedom," Jonathan would say . . .  
that whatever stands against that freedom must be set aside, be it ritual  
or superstition or limitation in any form."*

*Jonathan Livingston Seagull  
Richard Bach.*

Take your time with them, as each releases ever widening ripples of light, until all is clear.