

A radium-dialled watch is kept on the table in a dark room. In the enveloping darkness I am searching for the watch. As I remove the various papers and books that have accumulated on the table, suddenly I come to recognise, by its own light, the watch so earnestly sought. The self-effulgent Truth, when hidden behind the fumes of ignorance, may, for the time being, appear as though non-existent. When the enveloping ignorance is removed, Its own Self-effulgence is sufficient to illumine it.

When the "DARKNESS OF IGNORANCE IS DESTROYED BY THE LUMINOUS LAMP-OF KNOWLEDGE," the Self stands revealed in its own glory as THE One-without-a-second, All-pervading, and All-full. This act of Self-revelation is undertaken and performed by the Lord, the Self, who ever "ABIDES IN THE HEART OF HIS VERY DEVOTEES." This kindly act of revealing the Self is undertaken "in a spirit of compassion" --- in fact, towards Itself. When I am tired of walking, I sit on the roadside in my pilgrimage --- out of compassion for myself.

This compassion cannot be directly invoked unless the seeker pays the price for it. In day-time, when I open the windows of my room, the sunlight, "out of compassion," illumines the room for me; and, we know that the sunlight has neither the freedom to withdraw this compassion so long as the windows are open, nor has it the capacity to show its compassion before the windows are opened. In short, the sunlight is invoked the moment, the object which obstructs the sunlight is removed.