

# EARTHQUAKE ~ Shinzen Young

00:00:00 Now that sounds like the wealth of the earth, meaning that it could become a major turning  
00:00:23 point in the history of our species.  
00:00:29 We're having an earthquake.  
00:00:31 Is that what that is?  
00:00:34 Yeah.  
00:00:35 It's my first earthquake.  
00:00:38 I've been waiting 14 years.  
00:00:44 Well, I hope you weren't disappointed.  
00:00:51 That ain't much of an earthquake, baby.  
00:00:59 We have some entertainment up here in Palos Verdes just for y'all for tonight.  
00:01:02 Thank you.  
00:01:04 They seem to happen on Friday nights like this.  
00:01:06 Our second one in about two months on a Friday night, just about this time.  
00:01:12 Oh no, that's great. We were enjoying it.  
00:01:16 Chell is having a complete experience.  
00:01:22 What can I say? We could do a lot better than that.  
00:01:31 Yeah, we don't get them on the East Coast very much, it's true.  
00:01:39 The earthquake, yes. What to do when the earthquake comes.  
00:01:49 Well, there's a Zen koan.  
00:01:56 Anyone care to answer? What to do when the earthquake comes.  
00:02:01 That's the explanation. Or the manifestation.  
00:02:09 My explanation would be you can't shake the shaking.  
00:02:17 But permanence, complete experience, actually does feel like an earthquake.  
00:02:25 That earthquake was on cue for me.  
00:02:29 At least I'm going to interpret it that way.  
00:02:33 I was just about to say that when you have a completed experience,  
00:02:38 it feels like an earthquake.  
00:02:41 It shakes heaven and earth because it is the authentic person without a fixed position.  
00:02:52 I wasn't going to relate it to an earthquake.  
00:02:58 But it is a reasonable comparison and one, in fact, that I have made numerous times in the past.  
00:03:08 One of the times when I knew that this practice was really doing something industrial strength for me  
00:03:20 was when we had the center, some of you were around back that far, on Eldon

Avenue, remember, in Koreatown.

00:03:29 One morning I had to go in to do something that I'd forgotten.

00:03:40 I had gotten in my car and then I said, oh, I forgot to do that.

00:03:45 I ran into the center and I left the keys in the car.

00:03:52 It's downtown, right?

00:03:55 And sure enough, like two minutes later I came out, the car is gone.

00:04:04 And what was that experience?

00:04:07 I'm remembering it because at the time it was just like an earthquake.

00:04:14 That's all. There was no thought, there was no emotion as an object.

00:04:20 It was so complete that it was just space rocking.

00:04:26 It was just like that last penultimate scene in the first Matrix when ...

00:04:39 What's the name of the character?

00:04:41 Neo.

00:04:43 Neo, yeah, Neo realizes who he is, right?

00:04:50 And the whole frame of the movie sort of goes like that.

00:04:58 I mean, that's really what it was like.

00:05:00 It wasn't just my mind and my body, it was the sight and sound, everything.

00:05:06 The whole frame of the self and scene was just this wave.

00:05:14 And then it was just like being massaged.

00:05:20 And then I just went in, called the cops, and that was that, you know, reported it.

00:05:27 That was dramatic.

00:05:29 That was a complete experience of having your car swiped in downtown L.A.

00:05:39 The gangbangers that took it were so stupid, they put their graffiti in it.

00:05:47 And the cops busted them.

00:05:51 I eventually got the car back.

00:05:55 Left the graffiti just for the cultural.