

Sandy Jones and William Samuel Brief Life Sketch and Teachings

From a very early age, Sandy Jones was always seeking to understand “who are we?” and “what is life and how does all this exist?” One day in 1975, on vacation with her husband and three kids, she came across a book titled "A Guide to Awareness and Tranquillity". She read the book and the wisdom contained in it changed her life forever. She wrote to the author of the book William Samuel who became her teacher and friend.



Sandy Jones and William Samuel

He preferred to teach in unpretentious ways, saying: "We honor the Light that is Life, that every person is. We may very well appreciate a mirror that speaks to us with clarity and honesty - and we may consider that mirror unique among mirrors - but the authority lies with the awareness that looks into that mirror, and not the mirror."

William grew up in Birmingham, Alabama. His father owned a bakery. He had one sister and his father was very intelligent and liked to study religions. His father discovered Christian Science and soon William's mother and the family became members of the Christian Science church.

William's mother would take young William to church with her and William learned the basic tenets of Christian Science; That God is Love, and All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation; God is All-in-all. Spirit is immortal Truth. These enlightened metaphysical precepts set the foundation from which William's spiritual understanding would grow and expand.

When William was in his early teen years he was sent to military school, Clemson College in South Carolina. By the time he graduated WWII had started. He was only 18 years old and was called to duty as an infantry captain fighting in China.

At some point during those war years, William, the young American infantry captain, was fighting alongside the British and Indian garrisons. In 1944, William's troops were near the Burmese border holding off the Japanese invasion.

During that time along the Burmese border, William Samuel, then a 21 year old captain in the U.S. Army and a veteran of three years fighting with the Chinese Nationalist army against the Japanese in China was apparently called over to the India side of things and somehow must have found some much needed rest and reprieve, ending up at Sage Ramana ashram in Tiruvannamalai. Here he stayed for two weeks in April of 1944.

William tells us that he was the first American to visit the Ashram.

Here is what William writes in one of his books "The Awareness of Self-Discovery" about his time with Sage Ramana Maharshi.

“Some years ago, I was honoured to be the first American student of a renowned teacher in India. For fourteen days a group of us sat at the feet of this "Master," during which time he spoke not one word - not so much as a grunt - until the final day when he bade us farewell and assured us we had learned much. And to my surprise, I had... It took months before the seeds of those silent days began to sprout one by one, revealing that there are indeed many things for which the uptight, recondite babble of books and teachers is more hindrance than a help.”

We now know for certain that this Indian Master was indeed Sage Ramana Maharshi.

It is also known that while Mr. Samuel was there it was the month of April, 1944. And, on the day of the full moon, April 8th, William and a small group of others, circumambulated Arunachala. This little group celebrating the ritual of Girivalam included Adam Osborne the 10 year old son of famous biographer Arthur Osborne, and Adam's mother.

We also know that William stayed and sat in the Silence with Sage Ramana Maharshi for 14 days. William said that he learned much in Raman's Presence, though as he told, it took months before the seeds of those silent days began to sprout one by one, revealing that there are indeed many things he had been given to understand.

Before the war ended he was long back and fully entrenched in China, again fighting alongside Chinese troops retaking Ishan, Liuchow and Kweilin.

When William came home from that war in China he began to write and teach metaphysics. He was married and also taking care of his father's bakery. That time was short lived. By 1950 William was called again to war. He tells us that this Korean battle was even worse. It was during this war that William had one of his most extraordinary experiences of Illumination. (*A Soldier's Story*: [Link http://www.williamsamuel.com/warstory.html](http://www.williamsamuel.com/warstory.html))

After he returned from the Korean War, now married and involved in his father's bakery, he continued to teach and write and study.

William's first book was a small pamphlet, first printed 1958, which he would share with the people who came to learn from him. It was titled "2+2=Reality". It is a wonderful little basic primer on the study of Truth, God and Reality.

His second published book was written in 1964, it was titled "A Guide to Awareness and Tranquility". This book was well received by a large array of people including students, philosophers and other spiritual teachers.

His popularity grew and over the years thousands of people from all walks of life would come to study with William. Many of those found the freedom and understanding they were seeking. Quite a few of his students eventually went on to become writers and teachers themselves.

In 1986 William published his last book titled "The Child Within Us Lives! A Synthesis of Science, Religion and Metaphysics". This is a most marvelous book that leads us back to the Heart and where we can discover our Original Nature, the Child. One of the most important books, prophetic and inspired, written for any and all who are ready to honestly and joyfully Live the fullness of their own their own true divine Selfhood right here in the world.

William Samuel's own awakening, together with his unique genius in bringing together Western metaphysics and the Eastern spiritual teachings including those that were passed along to him from Sage Ramana Maharshi - all of this Light and Truth comes together in his offerings of an indispensable guide for any seeker wishing to awaken.

It is evident that William's work bridges the understanding of the Eastern philosophies by way a down to earth, simple, clear Western language. William has a gift with his words wherein one can find the simple Light of Truth and Live It in joyous humility, honesty and Love.

You will find that Sage Ramana Maharshi's teachings along with William Samuel's message create a real and powerful synergy that can open the doors of perception wherein you will find and live that Truth and Understanding which has been so diligently sought.

Before William passed away in May 1996 he made Sandy Jones his literary executor and gave the rights to her of all his work. For a short story about how Sandy came to be William Samuel's protégé and executor: *Sandy Jones and William Samuel Link*:
<http://www.williamsamuel.com/SandyBio.htm>

You can find all of Mr. Samuel's books available on Amazon. They will be of invaluable guidance and assistance to the seekers of 'Truth, Awareness and the Absolute'.

<http://www.williamsamuel.com/>

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