

It is never too late to be what you might have been.

-George Eliot



The Crayon Pants

By Samantha Bluhm, CCP

My favorite slacks were a well-worn pair of Khaki Capris I had purchased on sale at the Gap. They fit me perfectly and I felt comfortable whenever I wore them.

Following a stop at a breakfast diner where Cameron colored a tiger shark, a black crayon ended up in Cameron's pocket and eventually in our dryer, destroying the entire load of laundry -- including my favorite Khaki Capris.

When I found my Khaki pants covered in black speckles from the melted crayon, I had a melt down of my own. My over-reaction switch turned on and I threw an awful temper tantrum. I yelled at Cameron for being irresponsible with his crayons and I cried like a spoiled child. I stomped around the house, hollering on about how my pants had been ruined and how impossible it would be to replace them.

Cameron apologized for the crayon, but I was too upset to notice his grief until his sobbing

jolted me back to reality. I saw my reflection in his eyes and realized the impact my words were making. I took him in my arms, hugged him and apologized for being mean spirited. Yes, I was still angry, but told Cameron we would look for a solution together.

I scrubbed and bleached and tried every concoction known to man to remove the black specks. Nothing worked and every time it failed, Cameron's hope sunk and my guilt at having reacted badly haunted me. Finally, we resigned ourselves to black wax khakis.

With the heart and wisdom of a child, he told me he liked my khakis better. He said they made me look interesting.

That's when I realized the black crayon gave my khakis a distinctive flair -- and a unique opportunity to be a better mom.

I put my pride aside and decided to surprise Cameron and wear my black-speckled pants to his school open house. I wanted to honor the uniqueness in each

of us -- and find a powerful perspective.

When I walked into school, Cameron instantly beamed and laughed when he noticed the Capris.

I overheard him tell his buddies about his pretty mom and her cool Crayon Pants.

What was initially a regrettable experience gave me the opportunity to create a powerful connection and write a different ending to the story. When I became aware of my reaction and accepted the pants as they were instead of what I wanted them to be, it gave me a chance to be unique. When I did, I was pretty in the eyes of a child.

Acceptance is a *Powerful Perspective* -- those qualities that begin with awareness and move toward love. Coaching helps us become aware -- and in doing so, empowers us to choose powerful perspectives instead of our ego. Powerful perspectives can be found on page 7.

Gerald The Goldfish

I worked two jobs to pay for college; one was waiting tables at a Mexican restaurant; the other was a student internship with a government agency. I can't say I felt blessed to have to pay my own way, but I look back and appreciate the jobs that paid my tuition; was flexible with my class schedule; and taught me life lessons that shaped my life.

My job with the government was to run errands, deliver mail, and type letters and reports. I was given projects my many of the workers and faced each assignment with exuberance and a "can-do" attitude. This approach ended up getting me into trouble. I was told to take it down a notch because the full-time employees were having a difficult time keeping me busy and some of the good old boy commanders thought I was "too happy" for my own good. I was rocking the boat and the pace at which I worked was making some of them uncomfortable. I was even told some of the introverts didn't appreciate my perkiness.

Stunned, I told two of the women I had befriended about my dilemma. One of the women kept a gold fish on her desk and to keep me busy and "out of harm's way" asked me to keep Gerald's tank clean. I didn't mind because Gerald became the highlight of my day.

I arrived at the office after morning classes and the first thing I did was check on the fish. I dropped fish treats into the water and would sometimes stick in my pinky finger to see if I could trick him into thinking it was a treat. He would eat the treats



He who lives in harmony with himself lives in harmony with the universe.

-Marcus Aurelius



and then suck on my finger. It became our ritual.

After a few weeks, Gerald started to recognize me and swam quickly back and forth in his tank when I entered my coworker's cubicle. One time when my coworker was out of the office, I taught the fish a game of hide and go seek, sort of. The only trouble was that Gerald couldn't really hide, but he became a master at the seek.

The game was to sneak into my coworker's office and reach Gerald's little tank before he noticed me and started swimming fast. I crouched down on my hands and knees, slithered into the office and popped up in front of his bowl. When he saw me, his swimming pace would quicken and I would stick my pinky finger in the tank as a kind of human-fish acknowledgment of his keen observations.

I would leave her cubicle and peak around the corner to see if he

was still swimming fast. He wasn't. Sometimes he'd catch me peaking back and as a sort of fish-human acknowledgment made a quick lap to let me know he got it.

I hate to admit it, but I honestly entertained myself for hours by playing with the fish. I also cracked myself up with the other games I invented to keep myself busy. The result was even more energy and creativity.

One particular commander who had been uncomfortable with my happiness asked me to assist with a particularly interesting project.

He had been saving newspapers that mentioned a certain military project and he wanted me to copy the articles onto 8 1/2 x 11 standard size paper. He was adamant each article contain the headline, reporter's name, and name and date of the newspaper. He wanted each story to fit on one page so it was easier for him to read.

continued on page 3

continued from page 2

I didn't question why he couldn't read the newspaper like everybody else, I instead leaped into my super hero cape and committed myself to being a student aid extraordinaire.

I attacked this project as if it were critical to national security. I craved the recognition I would inevitably earn from this curmudgeon because I wanted him to see the spunk and energy as a positive attribute. I secretly wanted him to accept me and apologize for not seeing my greatness.

I stood at the copy machine and manipulated the newspapers to fit on the panel. I experimented with the "shrink to reduce size" options and fiddled with the paper input and hoped like heck the orientation would come out correct. I spent hours at the copy machine to get each story right.

Copying a dozen newspaper articles took me more than a week and probably killed one hundred trees worth of paper in an attempt to get everything perfect. I desperately wanted this man's approval.



Great are those who see that spiritual is stronger than material force; that thoughts rule the world

~Ralph Waldo Emerson



When I completed the project, I gave it to the Commanders secretary with a handwritten note thanking him for the opportunity to make his life easier. I hoped he would be proud of the effort. I never even got a thank you.

I went back to my regular assignments and made it a point to pay close attention to Gerald. I wanted to be sure Gerald knew how much he was appreciated. I left that job with

an important reminder to make every effort to let people know how much they are appreciated. I also learned to accept myself for the energy I bring and examined closely why I needed somebody else's approval.

*Appreciation and acceptance are **Powerful Perspectives** – those qualities above the awareness line. They begin with awareness and move toward love. ⊕*



There is no trying -- only doing or not doing.

~Yoda (from Star Wars)

Think Different.

Here's to the crazy ones.

The misfits.

The rebels

The troublemakers.

The round pegs in the square holes. They ones who see things differently. They're not fond of rules and they have no respect for the status quo.

You can praise them, disagree with them, quote them, disbelieve them, glorify or vilify them. About the only thing you can't do is ignore them. Because they change things.

The invent. they imagine. They heal. They explore. They create. They inspire. They push the human race forward. Maybe they have to be crazy.

How else can you stare at an empty canvas and see a work of art? Or sit in silence and hear a song that's never been written? Or gaze at a red planet and see a laboratory on wheels. We make tools for these kinds of people. While some see them as the crazy ones, we see genius.

Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do!

Contributed by Apple Computer to Teaching With Fire, by Sam Intrator and Megan Scribner.

What I've Learned

Introduction to Olive Juice: My Path from Pitiful to Powerful Perspectives. For more information or to pre-order the book, please visit www.powerfulperspectives.net

What I've learned from my journey is that energy is a part of my family gene pool and serves as a gift, not a curse.

I've learned that bipolar is not a disease, rather a condition of being able to experience a wide range of emotions. I've learned the use of prescription pharmaceuticals is out of balance and that what some call attention deficit is actually a response to being "in tune" with the imbalances in our society. I've learned that my gut is my soul speaking and will never steer me wrong. I've learned to listen to my intuition.

I've learned nobody else can make me happy – it's not their job. Only I can shine the beauty within and taste the rain on my lips. Only I can speak my truth and honor my emotions.

I've learned nobody is to blame.

I've learned meditating for 20 minutes produces the same emotional and physical benefits as running five miles. I've learned to run for the enjoyment of the sport and the camaraderie of the people who share the path. I've learned to stop running and smell the roses.

I've learned to dance in the rain without worrying about getting wet. I've learned to hug trees and snuggle with pets. I've learned fishing a trout stream is one of life's greatest pleasures and that golf played badly is still more fun than work.

I've learned to snuggle with my son and will cuddle with him for as long as he wants.

I've learned to make Halloween about the homemade costume instead of the Halloween candy and



Serenely greet the journey's end; as an olive falls when it's ripe. Blessing the branch that bare it; and giving thanks to the tree that gave it life.

~Marcus Aurelius

Thanksgiving can be celebrated daily.

I've learned I can buy myself flowers for no reason at all and Valentine chocolates are half price on February 15th.

I've learned spontaneity and unpredictability keep life interesting. I've learned a child-like perspective is creative and healthy.

I've learned little white bumps on the ceiling can be as magnificent as the stars in the skies. I've learned crayon stained pants can make me the prettiest, most fashionable mom on the planet.

I've learned the gifts of my childhood were indeed rich and have learned judgment of self and others destroys the here and now. I've learned to remove the word "should" and honor "what is."

I've learned that children's pictures are as priceless as any artwork found in a gallery or museum.

I've learned the school systems are doing the best they can, but are set up to judge and misunderstand certain gifts and learning styles.

I've learned that children are our

greatest source of light. They are our gifts. Enjoy them. Love them and learn from them. Empower them to be the masters of their own energy and the rest will take care of itself.

I've learned kids teach us to play and laugh and see the beauty in nature and will teach us how to balance our planet. I've learned to love myself through loving my child. And I've learned that self love is the greatest gift of all.

I've learned that a powerful perspective is God's way of experiencing life through our eyes, ears and mind and that to love myself is to love God.

I've learned Olive Juice is bitter to the taste, but kept ancient lamps burning. I've learned Olive Juice whispered or mouthed looks like "I love you." I've learned that God doesn't make any mistakes and that everything that happens is perfect.

No Mistakes is a philosophy of Compass Coaching. To begin your coaching journey, kindly contact Samantha@powerfulperspectives.net

The Madagascar Palm

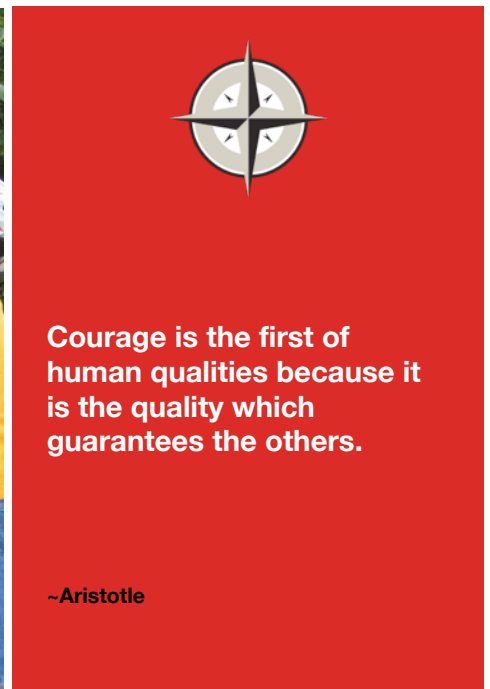
At breakfast one morning, my son asked me when he turned 3000 days old. Maybe it was because I didn't want to know how many days old I was, that I hadn't thought to look at how many days old he was. As it turns out, Cameron turned 3000 days old on April 27, 2007 -- Arbor Day.

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. Founded by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska in 1872, National Arbor Day is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April.

The fact that Cameron turned 3000 days on that day is significant because Cameron was born with a love for trees and nature.

His bedroom was filled with posters of shrubs and plants (courtesy of a friend who owned a lawn care company) and pictures of plants and trees from the rain forest lined the hallway in our home.

For his seventh birthday, Cameron asked for a Madagascar Palm Tree. After his party, I surprised him with the palm tree in his bedroom. He loved the tree, but thought it belonged in the corner of our living room instead.

Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees the others.

--Aristotle

I am not an interior decorator, but have been told on many occasions that the “energy” in the living room of our town home is “incredible” and I partially credit the placement of the palm tree.

I later learned about Feng Shui, an ancient art and science developed 3000 years ago in China, whose complex body of knowledge reveals how to balance the energies of any given space to assure health and good fortune for the people who inhabit the space.

The placement of Cameron's Palm Tree in the corner of our home has helped us balance and feel nurtured by the energies in our space.

To celebrate his love of nature and Arbor Day, Cameron took flower shaped cookies to school and announced to the class that it was his 3000th day on earth. We celebrated by planting 100 trees.

As a life coach, I challenge my clients to be open to the rhythm and flow of energy and look for reasons to celebrate. What can you celebrate today? Where can you be open? ☉




Different fields, different grasshoppers; different seas, different fish.

--Indonesian Proverb

Working with the Universal Laws to Find Powerful Perspectives

Based on universal principles and laws, *Powerful Perspectives* turn the ordinary into the extraordinary and give us the means to achieve success, peace and balance, to be optimally healthy, to make decisions that empower and motivate us, and bring us fulfillment and joy.

When we choose powerful perspectives, we make significant, meaningful and powerful contributions to our families, our communities, and our planet.

What are the universal laws/principles and the powerful perspectives that change lives? A complex explanation is the universe was designed to be in balance, sustaining life and empowering the evolution of the planet and its inhabitants. In simpler terms, the universe is like a magical genie lamp, making available to us a life of joy, peace, happiness & abundance.

The Universal Laws & Principles are:

LAW OF ATTRACTION

Whatever is broadcast out into the universe is joined by (or attracted to) energies that are of an equal frequency, resonance, or vibration.



LAW OF DELIBERATE CREATION

Knowingly using thought and emotion to create a vibration of attraction.

LAW OF ABUNDANCE

There is enough money, time and energy. You have everything within you to make your life a living dream.

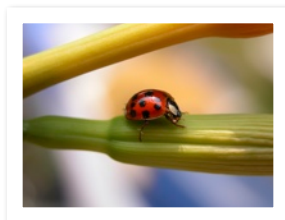


LAW OF DETACHMENT

When we are in a state of detachment to the "how," we trust.

LAW OF ALLOWING

"I am who I am and who I am is worthy and deserve the riches the universe provides. And while I am who I am, you are who you are, deserving of the same riches."



LAW OF PURE POTENTIALITY

The true essence of who we are is pure consciousness. Anything and everything is possible and connected.

LAW OF UNIVERSAL TIMING

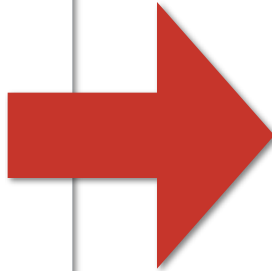
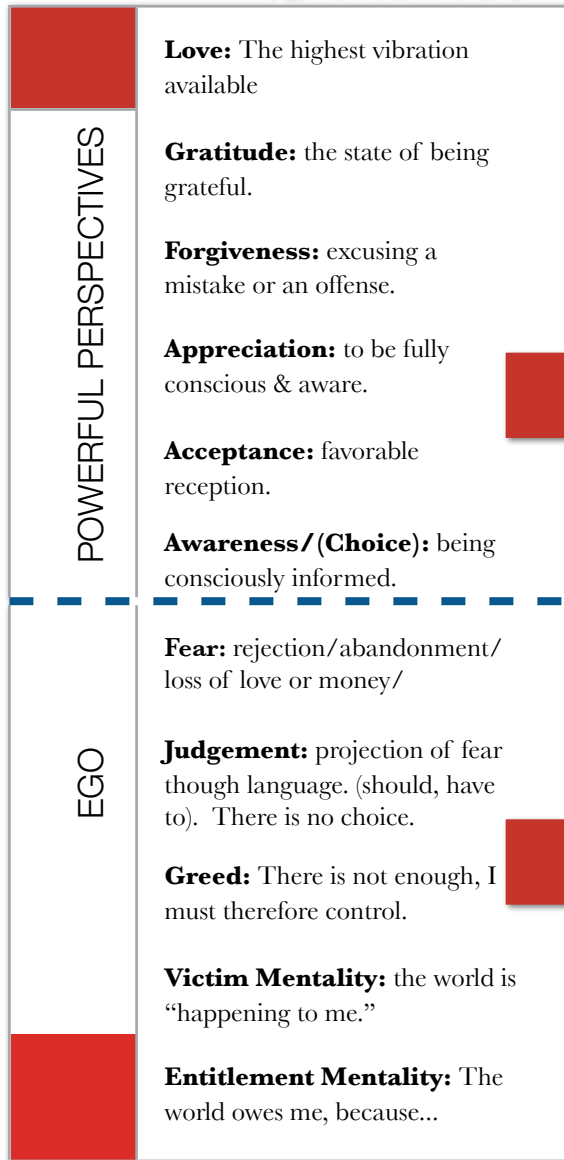
Pieces of the puzzle fit together in Divine time and perfect order.



LAW OF POLARITY

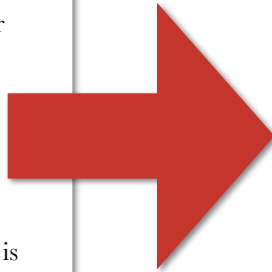
Without good, there is nothing to "gauge" bad. By choosing to change your perspective, your resulting attitude can shift your language and awareness from "bad" to "good". This becomes your new reality now.

The Universe Continually Seeks Balance & Harmony



Powerful Perspectives lead to empowerment, peace, balance and harmony!

We are not at choice until we are **AWARE**. Coaching & inquiry lead to awareness and clarity.



Because we are creatures born with egos (brains) these elements of our existence are available to us.

These vibrations or thought patterns cause an *imbalance*.

When we become conscious of our EGO, we can begin to choose *powerful perspectives*.

All Rights Reserved © 2008 by The Navigator Group, LLC

Coaching can help you move closer toward your goals; achieve balance in your life; live in a state of awareness and grace; realize your greatest gifts; find passion and energy; have fulfilling relationships; and make significant contributions to the transformation of your self, your family, your community, your organization and your world.

Contact Samantha Bluhm at
samantha@powerfulperspectives.net
 or 715-425-0003



Daniel Monroe
Photo



Life Without Limits The Power of you!

As a Compass Coach, workshop leader and publisher of *The Compass* magazine, I help water the seeds of your highest dreams. You can be the hero of your own story and live a life without limits. I acknowledge and admire you for having the courage and power to seize the day and breath life into your passions.

You are empowered and can have a blast living in greater harmony while pursuing your greatest destiny.

As a coach, I honor you at your soul, often recognizing your unlimited potential before you do.

I believe in the power of possibility, the power of thought and the passion of purpose. I believe in powerful perspectives -- and I believe in you!

You are extraordinary and it is an honor and a privilege to serve you. Your journey is filled with opportunities and your amazing adventure awaits.

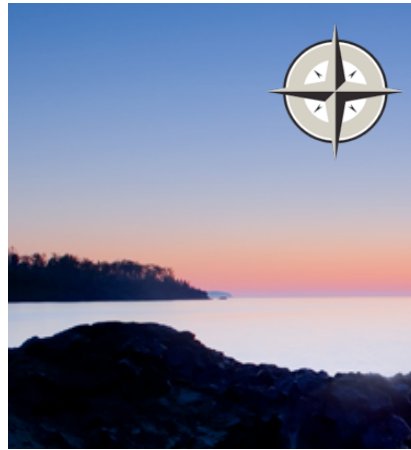
Coaches are agents of transformation and help you achieve what you thought was impossible.

I am Samantha Bluhm and I want to be your life coach. Email Samantha@powerfulperspectives.net or call 715-425-0003 to begin the journey today. ☸

Samantha Bluhm, Compass Coach
When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, it matters less and less whether I am afraid. ~Audre Lorde

The Compass Magazine

The Compass Monthly is published by The Navigator Group and is distributed electronically on the 5th of every month. *The Compass* magazine is printed quarterly. Watch your mailboxes for the inaugural issue to be delivered soon. Kindly forward the electronic version to friends, family and colleagues or anyone who would benefit from *powerful perspectives*. ☸



The world that is coming is not the world that once was.

From *Birdwing*, by Rafe Martin
photo by Alec Johnson



COMPASS COACHING

If your search is for a new level of success and achievement in your life, whether it's financial, physical, mental, emotional or spiritual, you will gain clarity, focus and powerful perspectives through life coaching! Contact Samantha@powerfulperspectives.net



OLIVE JUICE: MY PATH FROM PITIFUL TO POWERFUL PERSPECTIVES

I've learned that bipolar is not a disease, rather a condition of being able to experience a wide range of emotions. I've learned the use of prescription pharmaceuticals is out of balance and that what some call attention deficit is actually a response to being "in tune" with the imbalances in our society. I've learned that my gut is my soul speaking and will never steer me wrong. I've learned to listen to my intuition...



NO MISTAKES JOURNAL

Everything that Happens is Simply Perfect! Borne out of an experiment with a newly divorced mother and her son, The No Mistakes Philosophy has helped individuals and families move forward in a way that empowers them to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary and look at "what is," instead of what "should be."