

# Intro to Philosophy

Connections: muMs, Plato, the Tao

## The Truth, parts I & II

by muMs (aka Craig Grant), as performed on the HBO series *Def Poetry Jam*

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01      So that leads me to the Truth.

02      The Truth is the blueprint to all of what my retina captures.  
03      It keeps me peaceful inside raptures  
04      While I'm trying to enjoy the rain.  
05      I'm trying to find pleasure in pain.  
06      I'm trying to peer deep down into the darkness  
07      To understand the nothing that created something  
08      So I can settle suffering  
09      In my seeking of the finest fruit.

10      My man Saul said to me,  
11      He said, "Think about it like this, muMs: Time is loot."

12      Time is loot?  
13      Well then my mind must be a letter in the universe,  
14      And the universe must be Alphabet Soup.  
15      But somebody keeps stirring and stirring,  
16      And the Truth in my chest keeps burning and burning.

17      But don't ask me any questions,  
18      Because unexplainable Truth – sometimes it sounds like lies;  
19      And unexplainable Truth is visible to your eyes if you know what you're looking for.

20      You say,  
21          I'll know it if I see it.  
22          I'd flow through it if I could be it –  
23          Dust it off, keep it clean,  
24          Hold it close, keep it for self,  
25          Learn its slang, keep it black,  
26          Sharpen its edges, and keep it *Real*.

27      But that's not Truth.

28      Truth is the trans-universal thread weaved in the fabric of what is and what is not,  
29      While *Real* changes.  
30      *Real* don't make strangers.  
31      *Real* just tells you what other people did.  
32      *Real* makes you fear Hell like you forever been.

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33 But Truth –  
34 Truth is the place where Heaven and Hell lay their heads to rest,  
35 Where the Earth goes to get sh\*t off its chest.  
36 In front of Truth people want to wear their Sunday's best,  
37 But it don't matter  
38 Because Truth will always see you in Wednesday's worst.

39 When you're dying of thirst for affection  
40 Truth will be your resurrection and your destruction,  
41 Your Gatorade and your lethal injection,  
42 Your lemonade and your poisonous infection.  
43 And you're going to love it, and you're going to hate it,  
44 And you're going to want it, and you're going to fear it.  
45 But when you attain it  
46 You'll be able to weather all storms and survive all sunshine.

47 And, yeah, you'll try to explain it  
48 To a nurse who's just trying to give you your medication.  
49 And to her it will sound like the same old absent-mindedness,  
50 The same old out-of-timelessness.

51 But in the second's worth of that lifetime  
52 The Truth will swoop down over your bed and explain to you,  
53 HEY! The world is too serious.  
54 Love – *Love!?!?* – Love is too mysterious.  
55 And Time – Time is taking too much of itself  
56 To make you understand *you*.  
57 What you should have done was understand *me*.

58 Now understand *THIS*:  
59 The **TRUTH**:  
60 How easy it's going to  
64 BEEP...BEEP...BEEP...BEE...

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**CRITICAL THINKING:** Answer the following questions.

A. What central idea, message, or lesson do you think the poet wants the reader to absorb?

B. Why do you think the poet titled his work “The Truth, parts I and II” (specifically *parts I & II*)?