

The Experience of the Gold Fish amongst the Sea Water Likes

ABSTRACT: "Gold Fish" is truly a treat to the eye when it dancingly moves in the crystal bowl. The same is applicable to this beautiful article by Dr Chetna Shukla. The words and explanation describes the Gold Fish like never before and we are sure you would agree with her deeper thoughts.



Dr CHETNA N SHUKLA

1, Thelma Apt, Vakola Market Road Santacruz East, Mumbai 400 055, India
Email: drchetna.shukla@123india.com

THE PRE THOUGHT...

The get-together was of Sea water fishes like the Dolphin, the Octopus, the Sea horse, Ambra-grisea, Sepia...so the fresh water Gold Fish had no business to be there! It was a mutant in this scheme, but nonetheless, because it was a part of the gathering, maybe it did have some higher business?

ON DEEPER THOUGHT...

'Nothing happens without a reason!', 'Nothing is a chaos, it is just a pattern not well understood!' I thought deep and was able to dive even deeper into the realm of the cosmic sea of information to find what its purpose was.

And lo! After I could suspend my critical abilities, the link was so clear.

THE LINK... The main difference was the salinity! The Sodium (Na +2) ion being an outsider contributed to the relationship issue of the sea water members. The absence of which gave a meaning to relationships especially with the father (in Gold Fish) whose responsibility is to take help in the experiences with the outside world but with a conflict of he appearing very dominating to the Gold fish. The Gold Fish probably was there to initiate relationships.

The *Gold-Fish's* place was in a chair between

<i>Ambra-grisea</i>	<i>Gold-fish</i>	<i>Murex</i>
Embarrassment about private things, < strangers	Bashful, shy, < strangers	
Lack of reaction to danger	Fear of injury / wronged	
Attached to family	Attached to family and friends	Independence, relationship sucks out energy
Fear of getting crazy	Fear of insanity	
	Romantic	Sexual erythrism, Lascivious
Quarrelsome	Fights, quarrelsome with friends and father	
< Warm drinks	> Warm drinks	
Timidity	Mildness	
< Music	Singing and dancing	
Bereavement	Issues of separation	Death and rebirth

Ambra and *Murex*. How did she fit the continuum?

After having found the place in the larger scheme so well, it was lovely to be amongst the family of fishes and friends!

THE IMMIGRANT LIFE OF GOLD FISH...

Any proving is an attempt to live the life of that cosmic being for a stipulated period of time. It is like a conducted tour into the life of that being. Whereas any case of that cosmic being is a 'native' to the life of that cosmic being. The conducted tour/proving brought out the following themes...

1. Separation, parting, closeness
2. Fights, quarrelsome
3. Egotism
4. Friend/s
5. Father
6. Injury/Wronged, falling
7. Self reproach, guilt, revolt
8. Work, hardworking, lazy, responsibility
9. Talk, openhearted, singing, company
10. Sentimental, romance
11. Clothes, stylish, colours
12. Fear, anxiety

THE NATIVE LIFE OF GOLD FISH...

I saw the patient in July 1999 for the complaint of repeated high fevers. After the first interview I was not sure whether to give her *Ambra* or *Platina*. She had the bashfulness of *Ambra* combined with the exclusivity of *Platina*. And there was no anxiety to achieve results. As she was already on allopathic medicine, I gave placebo to get a clear picture and the parents were happy and they didn't come for a follow up for 4 months as the fever was now not as high as 103-104°F. Their child would still get fever every 15 days, but it was between 101-102°F. Every time she came for a follow up she would sit on the chair, remove her handkerchief and start to wipe my desk. After a break of 4 months she came back for continuation of treatment. I decided to re- assess the

information available in an attempt to search for the *Similimum*.

She is 3 years with beautiful big glowing eyes. She sat in the chair wearing an ink blue frock and a nice matching cap. She sat there not looking at me but looking all the time in the mirror to her left. When I said a hello, she looked up but covered her face with the handkerchief. I gave her some plain pills in a bowl to eat and she started to eat them one by one.

Mother (Mo): I told her to tell you "I have a bad cold, I want medicine" but she said that she wouldn't tell you. She still gets the fever doctor, what to do?

Doctor: Tell me everything about her nature?

Mo: She is very shy. But in the house she is very carefree. She will do anything, bang, jump, dance, sing. In school she has no complaints. But the teacher says that she is more observing than participating. She is in her own world doing something else. Eating is a big fuss. She is otherwise playful, not moody, but keeps falling down all the time, banging into things, running blindly; her movements are so fast that she runs blindly into things and doesn't see what is in her way and falls down. She picks up studies fast. She asks a lot of questions.

She doesn't like me telling her what to do, even if she is wrong. She doesn't like to be told what to do. She doesn't like to be corrected in front of others. She is attached to my neighbour who has lot of fishes and she likes her, so if the neighbour corrects her, she has tears in her eyes. She doesn't sit in one place; is moving all the time. She doesn't stand still, but turns and moves, look here and there. She is cleaning all the time at home. The moment she gets a chance she is wiping, cleaning the floor and table. If I am wiping the floor, then she comes and helps me. She loves playing with soap and water. She loves drawing and dancing a lot. Every time

there is a little music, even on the hand gadgets, she starts dancing. *(She started looking in the clinic mirror)* She loves looking in the mirror. Whenever she changes clothes she has to look in the mirror. She loves sweets, chewing gums and bananas. She is fond of pepper-mint, "Mentos". She can stay without food entire day. But she will keep asking for water. She loves juices and mangoes. *(She finished the pills in the bowl, looked at me and smiled. She had sunglasses that I asked for, she gave me, I wore them and she smiled again, but didn't say a word. I asked if I could keep it and she nodded a 'No'. So I gave them back. She wore them and started looking in the mirror.)*

She is shy of men, of all men. She only talks to some male friends of her father who plays and dance with her. *(She is looking in the mirror)*

I used to frighten her saying "kaalu mama" (Black man) will come, eat fast. For some days this worked and than she started to scare me with this "kaalu mama". When her father is eating, she scares him saying eat properly or else "kaalu mama" will come and take you away. She likes dressing up, dancing and laughing. If I am in the kitchen she cries out loudly for me and than when I come and find there is nothing wrong, she laughs. *(She purses her lips and blows her cheeks and blows air out and her lips flutter and she is happy.)*

She is not afraid of water. She is afraid of swimming but she loves water. She loves to sit in the water tub or in the water bucket, soap herself and play in the bathroom. Strangely, she goes in the sea but not in the pool. *(She started cleaning her sunglasses with her handkerchief.)*

She loves to eat fish. She doesn't like mutton, chicken and egg; she likes fish. She goes to the market and she touches the fish and says, "Mama, I want this one!". *(She starts pouting her lips again.)*

Nobody can shout at her, especially her dad. If he says don't do this in a loud voice, she sulks,

then he has to pamper her, play with her, dance for her and she comes across. With me, she is defiant. With him she eats properly and she has to eat from his dish. She mingles well with other children. Plays with big children. But she cannot fight. She never beats anyone in the school. Only I get all the beating. She is very loving otherwise.

Initially she never used to mingle around with children, most of the time she is on her own. It is as if she doesn't need anyone, she is happy being alone. In the building she has only two friends.

Doctor: Are we friends *(I extended my hand, she did not give her hand, she looked into my eyes softly and with the same smoothness she got busy playing with her handkerchief.)*

Doctor to the Mo... how was your pregnancy? *(She starts singing)*

Mo: We were shifting houses. All of a sudden we had to shift and I had no company. All people in the building were new, no building friends. I felt a bit low. I was all alone. I am also shy; if I don't know anybody, I will never go out to make friends or go and talk. If someone talks than I will talk. I have always been like that. In school also I was always in my own clan, with them only. We never thought of expanding our group, I used to mix around with people of my clan only. I never feel the need to have more friends, have more people around me. She is a bit like me. Unless she gets to know the person properly she won't talk. Even I don't make any conversation till I know the person well. Not just a brief know how. It takes several meetings to talk and to open up. But if the person is jovial than I start talking immediately. I don't like proud people, who show-off and who keep to themselves only. I like simple people. I am also very cheerful, joking and laughing all the time. I like fishes too, to eat. She is very much like me. She loves animals, watching circus. She loves to

pull at my ears when she is sleepy.

Doctor: What fish you like?

Mo/pt both said together I would love to have the gold fish in a tank, at my house. I like the gold fish very much.

THE UNDERSTANDING

The mother and the child, it seemed, were very similar in their disposition. So the symptoms were clubbed together. We had the following individualizing symptoms...

1. Shyness, bashful (*Ambra*)
2. Choosy (*Platina*)
3. Cheerful, dancing, singing
4. Talk aversion to (*Ambra*)
5. Cleaning and wiping
6. Sensitive to shouting
7. Falling down all the time
8. Loves to eat fish
9. Loves water but fears to go in the pool, but not the sea
10. Attached to father
11. Looks into the mirror; proud, vain (*Platina*)
12. Loves the goldfish
13. Mildness (cannot fight) (*Ambra*)

It is important to know, 'What you know and also know what you do not know'. I was sure that what I was seeing did not fit any of the remedies that I know. This was for me an indication for a remedy which did not exist in my *Materia Medica*. My thinking was driven to giving her the *Gold-Fish* as the similimum. I searched if it existed in the *Materia Medica*, but it didn't. I asked Karl Josef Mueller if he has ever prescribed it as a remedy, I got an insight into his way of prescription, his way of working with names of remedies. He wrote... "The remedy has symptoms of the fish and the metal *Aurum*"

WHAT WERE THE STEPS IN MY MIND...?

- Remedy did not fit in known *Materia Medica*
- She was for me a mix of *Ambra* and *Platina* corroborated by knowledge on *Gold-Fish*

behavior (that befitted her behavior)

That gave me the confidence, although it was not my way of working. These were for me clear indications to it. I went to a fish breeder and looked at the tank and followed my feelings to choose one for this calling. It pained me to choose this one; I asked for pardon from it while I asked for its removal from the water and put it in alcohol. It pained me even more when I saw it struggle for life, but I did it in the name of Homoeopathy. The fish was the red cap veil tail gold fish.

After a week I dispensed the remedy to her in the 30 K potency. And my plan was just to wait and watch and manage the fever with auxiliary mode of treatment (tepid water sponging) and if need be give an acute indicated remedy in that moment.

I saw the child every fifteen days to be sure that the improvement in her was following the guidelines mentioned in the Aphorism 253 of the *Organon* (6th Edition). She started to eat well and it was 30 days and she had no symptoms of fever.

The next month saw her improving at the school too. The teacher remarked that she is no more the old shy girl and makes friends easily and participates in group talks. She still cannot fight. She made many new friends in the building too. But what I noticed in the clinic was that she was still shy, made little eye contact. No fever still. No colds even after ice cream.

Next month, she sat in front of me, making proper eye contact and talking to my assistant and me too. Her cleaning and wiping got less, but she keeps her things clean and neat.

They followed up over the phone for around 18 months and all the months saw her enjoying good health. She still does not like to go in the man made pools. On deep probing I realized that both parents have a deep fear of water.