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I do not wish to go into the whole technique of work with a guru but one thing is clear.

The student realizes that "awakening" or "realization" will never come unless at least once the student has surrendered the "boss-concept" of ego or self, the idea that it is a Supreme Court in itself, self-sufficient, "Captain of My Soul" (as Henley boasts & poor Bertrand Russell squeaks after him) ---

Since the student is seeking to realize "that" to which he is subordinate, second-in-command, it is obvious he must lower his flag, admit his lower status, at some time.

It is extremely easy for one person even like you to hold the great "God" (so-called) of the Universe AWAY. One little finger suffices. Even a penny can hide the Sun. Thus without your active cooperation, & agreement to do as your guru says, there is not even a ghost of a chance of realization. If the student wishes to "win" he should not be a student because it is hard enough when both guru and student are eagerly cooperating! Such a "win" is a Pyrrhic victory - it is far too easy.

Thus in Japan the applicant must wait outside the gates of the monastery, a day or so. It is done rather symbolically now - once it was very real & the applicant was repulsed, treated roughly, told to go away & the gate slammed in his face.

But nowadays with Ipana toothpaste with Hexa-Hexa-Hexachlorophene & innumerable detergents competing over TV Little Richard wants to be wooed, gently persuaded, urged to enter - and the \$1,000,000 bill must be washed & ironed & handed on a silken cushion before he will accept it.