

On Enjoying One's Work

God bless you! Why are you worrying about experiencing a great deal of creative excitement? Do you think we want to turn you into a zombie? Admitting that all sorts of silly bits of egotism get mixed up in it – as you say: ‘I made it. Isn't it lovely!’ – you should thank God that you can feel it. What is needed is the capacity of switch off at will. Or, perhaps, to turn it in another direction, to get the flow of libido turning inwards. Generally, however, one has to be able to stop running out before the inward movement can start – spiritual mechanics!

Put it another way: You have a spirited horse. Is it going to gallop where it pleases, or are you going to decide when and where and how much? You don't necessarily have to deprive it of its favourite gallop – so long as it is roughly in the direction you want to go. It enjoys. You enjoy. But once you have seen that endless galloping will not take you where you want to go, you take charge. If the horse wants to gallop, it must also return to the stable when wanted.

In this context, the downcast eye may be all very well as an aid to break habitual out-looking, but the real point lies in balance. Through all eyes, He sees His patterns – beautiful, ugly – the lot.