

**SCIENCE AND
MYSTICISM**

IT ALL STARTED OUT SO SIMPLY

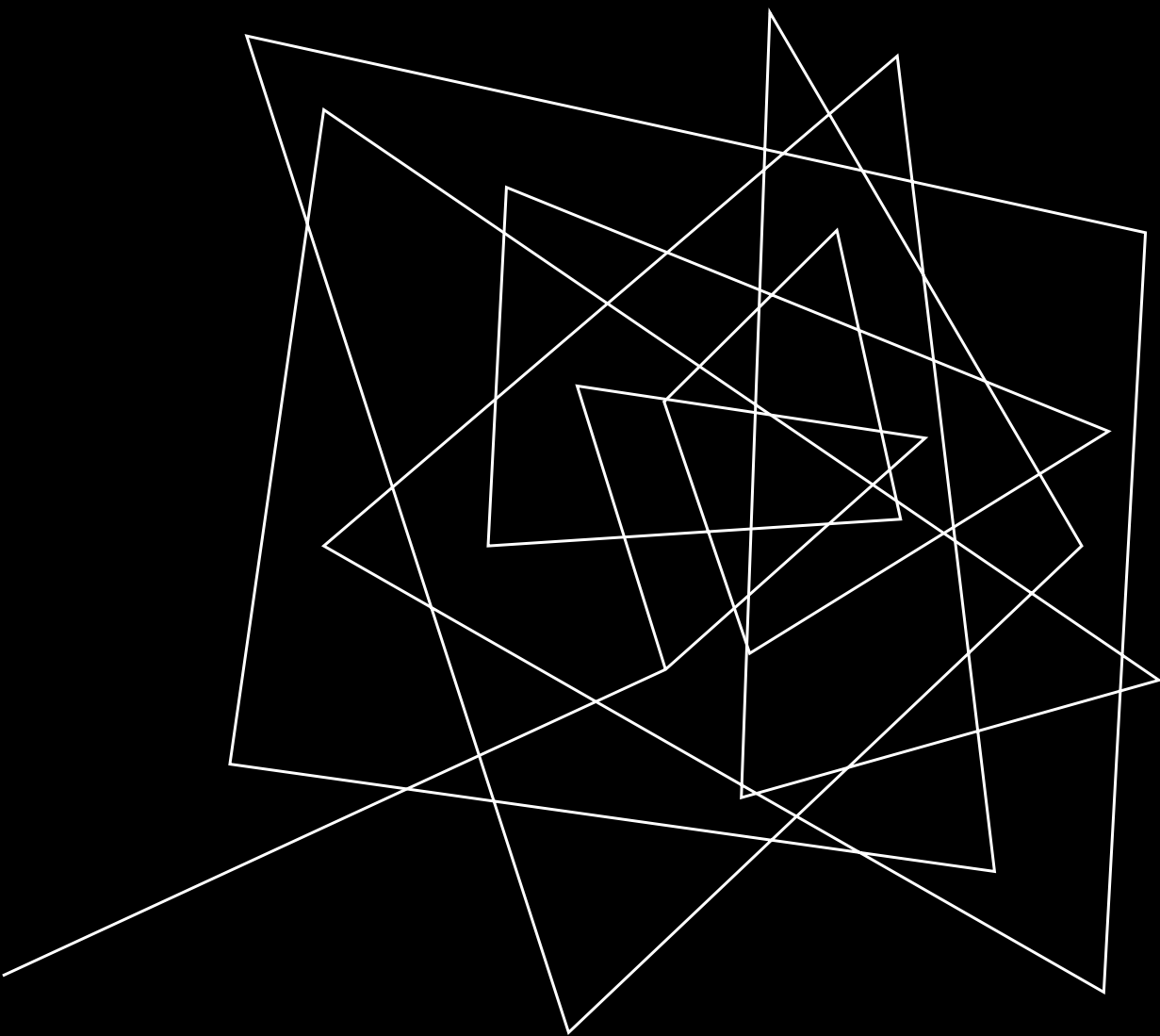
- It wasn't even my idea.
- I thought we had already crossed that bridge.
- Science has something to teach religion.
- Religion needs to keep up with science.
- That's what we are all doing.
- But let's start by defining our terms....

DEFINITION OF SCIENCE

- Science is evidence based.
- Science questions everything.
- Conclusions are shared and are reproducible.
- Science is a methodology

DEFINITION OF MYSTICISM

- Mysticism is an awareness of a nonvisible interiority.
- A mystical experience is an awakening to the spirit of one's true self.
- Mysticism is union with the divine.
- Mysticism is an experience



WAIT A MINUTE



SUDDENLY


We were not all on the same page.

SCIENCE

- Science has undergone a dramatic shift from Newtonian physics to quantum physics.
- The fundamental nature of reality is still a mystery
- Scientists are facing public disbelief.
- What can we learn from this?


MYSTICISM

- The term itself is ignored by some of our favorite teachers such as Thomas Berry,
- One cannot understand mysticism without understanding the entire belief system that it is embedded in.
- What does mysticism mean to you?
- Here are some examples.




“Mysticism is a felt awareness of the energy of the seamless plenum that is integral to, thus not cannot be separated from the patterns of energy that comprise the matter of our daily world.”

[Mary Coelho, *The Depth of Our Belonging: Mysticism, Physics, and Healing*. p. 28]



The seamless plenum, according to David Bohm, is the hidden dimension of the manifest world within which matter and consciousness unfold simultaneously.

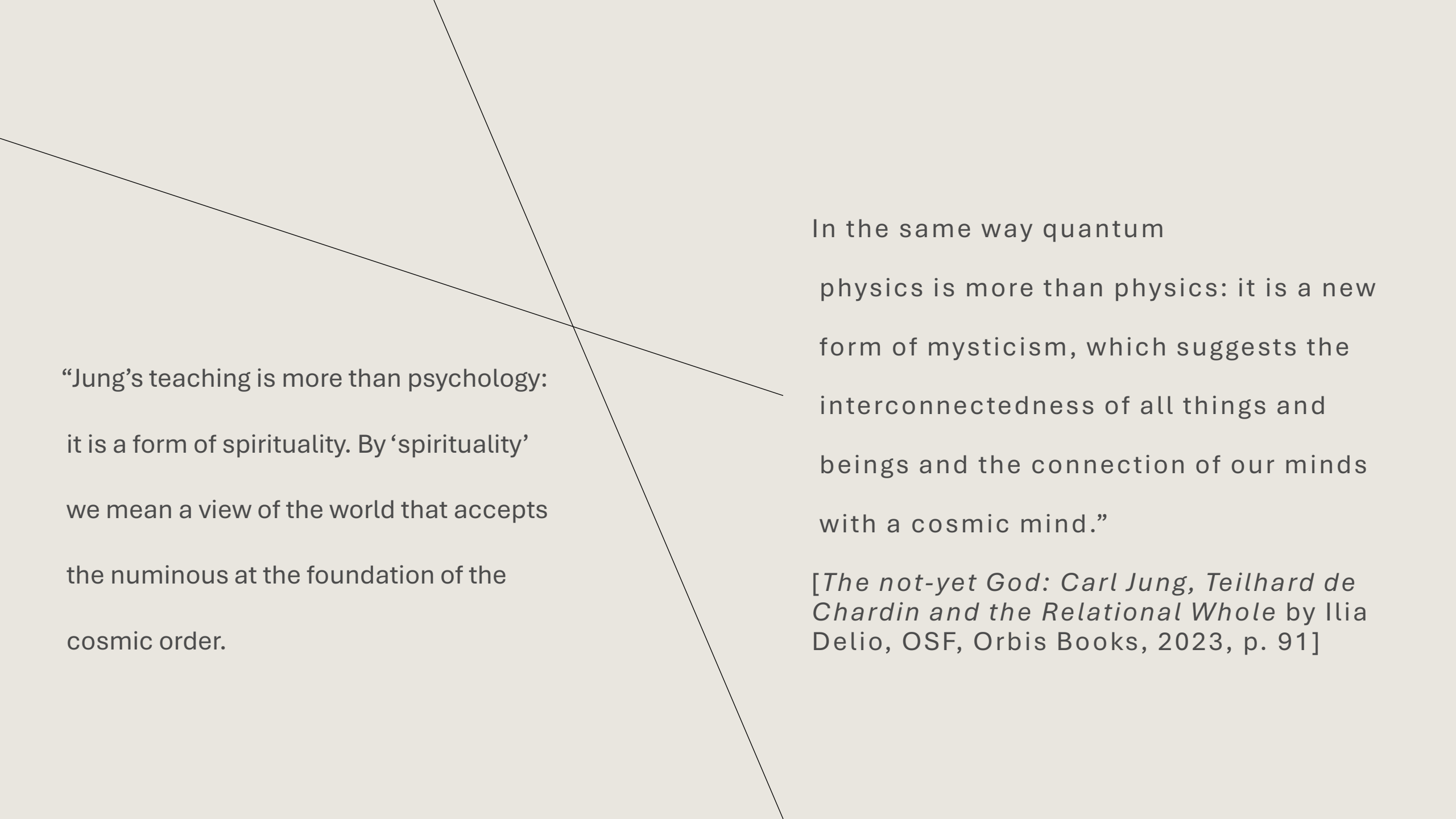
[Mary Coelho, *The Depth of Our Belonging*, p. 28]



“...The consensus of the mystics of all living religions, namely that God is nearest me in me, that God is the very self of my self, and that we are all members of one godbody, who is the very ground of our being.”

John Youngblut (a Quaker)

[Mary Coelho, *The Depth of Our Belonging*, p. 41]

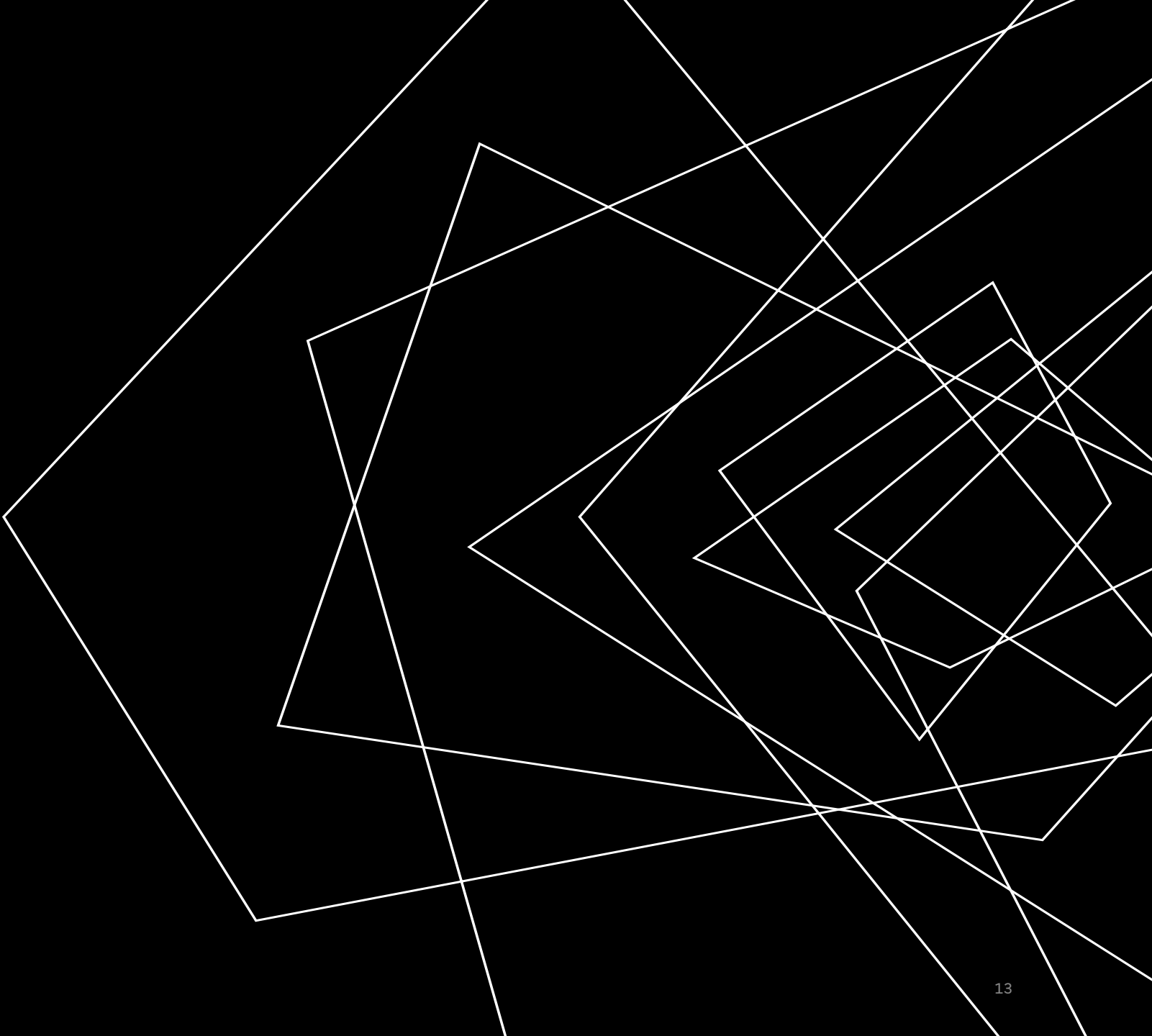


“Jung’s teaching is more than psychology:
it is a form of spirituality. By ‘spirituality’
we mean a view of the world that accepts
the numinous at the foundation of the
cosmic order.

In the same way quantum
physics is more than physics: it is a new
form of mysticism, which suggests the
interconnectedness of all things and
beings and the connection of our minds
with a cosmic mind.”

*[The not-yet God: Carl Jung, Teilhard de
Chardin and the Relational Whole* by Ilia
Delio, OSF, Orbis Books, 2023, p. 91]

WHAT CAN YOU
SAY?



WHERE DO WE GO NEXT?

“So the big question is: How can I add value? How can I add to the ongoing creative process that began so long ago and work for its health and continuance? The answer to this cosmic question is highly personal. It is up to you to figure it out based on your talents and circumstance. It is an exercise for the reader. One way that I am doing it now is by hunting and pecking for the next key on my computer. Hopefully, by detailing many of the ways that our cosmos is creative, I have helped you figure out your creative role in this very creative universe. Elephants usually know what they should do. ”

Mike Mallory, “Our Improbable Universe,” p. 162