

## FIRE

There is a law in human nature - there are many things in our inner life which are hidden and we seem sometimes not to possess them, and sometimes they are not even discovered. How long one requires to discover this inner wealth depends on the character, etc., but we know from history that as soon as something is really discovered - not intellectually understood - it may happen that from this moment it will become a fact in our nature, and it will become something which we can manage and control.

## FIRE:

Let us try to actually discover what the actor's fire should be. We are all of us playing the part of King Claudius. We are going to discover the fire - the actor's fire. This fire is something which fills - literally speaking - fill the whole body and makes it hot and burning. Actually this spiritual fire makes our body hot, so that not only the audience feels this strange flame, but we ourselves - being actors who have discovered this flame, this fire - we feel our own body hot and filled with real definite fire. This is point one.

Point two is when the fire is here you will feel around you, in a bigger or smaller space, the same fire. You will never notice the cold from the outside, you will always feel a warm atmosphere around you. Take it absolutely

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October 7, 1938

literally, not as a symbol, take it as a fact.

Let us do the following exercise. Imagine yourself sitting on the throne, then imagine the moment when King Claudius gets this fire, and because of this fire he jumps from his throne and, entirely lost in his mind and in his ability to understand his surroundings, runs away from the room. Imagine only one thing - how this fire comes into his nature, and how the king jumps up and attempts to run away, and then stops because of all the attempts to keep himself in check. Imagine it with all the power you have, several times, one after another, then incorporate this fire. The character is not important. The actor must be free - he must never be a madman - he must never be unaware of everything around him. This is wrong. It is the actor's artistic will, not the will of a madman.