



Phase Transitions

clouds turn to rain / ice melts
we heal / grow
stir cream into our coffee
people fall in love

Phase Transitions happen

all around us every day
when the overall behavior of a system changes
emerges with an alternative pattern
breaks with the symmetry of what had gone on before

Sensitivity to Initial Conditions

describes how such phase change is possible
a single act / the wiggling of a butterfly wing
can meet with resonance / and,
reiterated,
cascade upward through the network

Phase Transitions often happen

when complex adaptive systems evolve to the edge of chaos
where contradictory forces are unable to be resolved
the network facing serious threat
a bifurcation needs to take place
it becomes a time of choice

climate change / deforestation / oceanic degradation

unsustainable population growth
international conflict / nuclear arms
gross social, economic, political inequity / hunger / fear / hatred / war
political gamesmanship / corruption / denial of truth

it's the agents that make up the system

by way of self-organization / the choices each one makes
who produce the novel strategy that represents the rescue
Phase Transitions aren't imposed from without
no one can force someone to love

words are only arbitrarily connected to the referent

the narratives we've been telling can be re-told
at the heart of our being we've found we're made of quarks sharing energy
the cells of our bodies live by way of the altruism of their organelles
So it's not too much to expect the unexpected from ourselves
a wondrous yet unseen