



masculinity

if we inform the Ego with the Self-as-Separate idea  
translate our differences into not-being the Other  
seek self-worth in comparisons of being better-than, having more  
take Earth to be an Object  
the reality we create: uncomfortable, contentious, powerful  
will prevent us from discovering who we are  
may ultimately lead to our failure as a species.

all of us learn in childhood to compete  
the games we play and watch on our screens, the field, the board  
normalize the relationships of our World  
we adore winning — knowing someone else loses

from a blending of notions  
guy talk, older siblings, relatives, schoolmates, friends, chatrooms...  
the narrative beneath pornography and the portrayal of women in the media...  
boys master a set of ideas, values, permissions  
masculinity constructs a “we” around notions of power, control, superiority;  
with girls and women as inferior, the obstacle, the sex object;  
and other males as competitors;  
leading to the realities of hierarchy, force, violence.

even if girls play along — no one likes subordination.  
no one wants to be denied control over their own Body. Their own Self.  
from the objectifying look, the evaluation, the comment,  
to sexual assault, domestic violence, bullying...  
what heart not broken.

masculinity is a learned pattern, not determined by genetics  
other cultures give rise to other masculinities  
women can fall under the spell, can also engage in masculine behavior  
it's Equality — Wonder and Generosity, serving One Another  
makes Love not War