

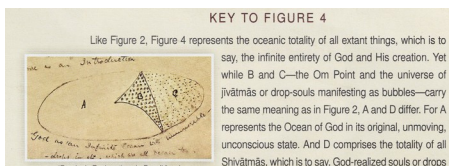
## Creation and its Causes: Another Case of Explanatizing Artificial Transparency?

Dan Tyler December 26 2021

In December 2021 Sheriar Foundation announced the imminent publication of *Creation and its Causes*. It joins *Infinite Intelligence* and *Tiffin Talks* to complete a trilogy of talks given in the 1920s by Meher Baba and disciples. The announcement suggests that the impending tome reprises the same misunderstandings and mistakes of its predecessors. From the announcement:

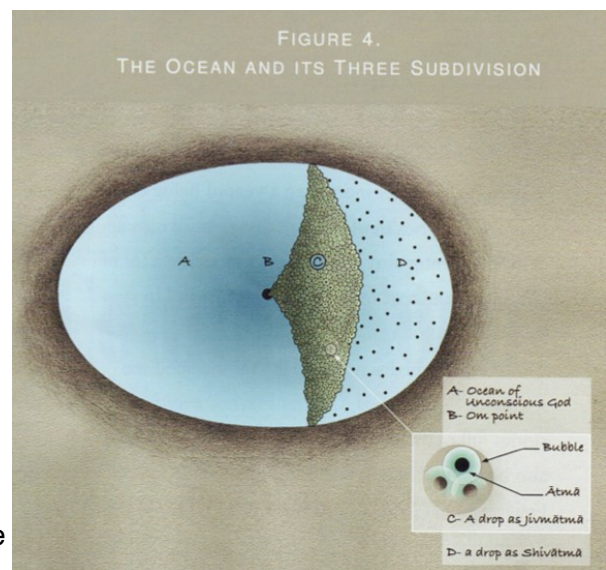
“As a critical edition – with notes and glossary and supplemental materials – *Creation and its Causes* tries to present Baba’s words as faithfully and transparently as possible.”

*Infinite Intelligence* and *Tiffin Talks* weigh in at 776 and 690 pages of crushing erudition that relegate the far briefer original material to endnotes, glossaries, and assorted editorial miniverses, mostly in back-of-the-book smaller print. The original, magnificent hand-sketched graphics in *Infinite Intelligence* were “improved” into misleading and in some cases ridiculous watercolor confections. The *Creation* announcement/pre-publication buzz features an original pencil graphic and its upgrade. Let’s look at one of several problems in this showpiece: the overlapping bubbles.



In the original drawing, individual souls in ‘B’ are represented as separate dots. The much larger upgrade shows individual souls as an overlapping triad, in a new section ‘C’.

Oxygen has three major molecular forms:  $O_1$ ,  $O_2$ , and  $O_3$ . They have different concentrations, properties, effects, and purposes in nature. No competent chemistry text would show  $O_3$  if a reaction involved  $O_1$ . Does the presentation of souls as a triad depart from the original meaning and inject inaccuracy or misleading speculation? In any case, such a departure is unwarranted because the original drawing is unambiguous. It deserves the care found in any chemistry textbook.



The editors again appear to misunderstand their mission and miss the obvious: transparency is irrelevant if original materials are faithfully presented. They’ve done it before: rebuild shorter original material into 700+ scholarly pages in the interest of transparency. Beware the editor who does his thing then champions transparency. That’s like a card shark explaining his ethics.