has composed a mighty structure by augmenting these beautiful stories with this counterpoint of esoteric ideas.

This book provides indubitable testimony that there is a summit of achievement towards which man can strive. When a man as remarkable as Gurdjieff writes about men he considers remarkable, the results are wondrous.

From my point of view, he can be called a remarkable man who stands out from those around him by the resourcefulness of his mind, and who knows how to be restrained in the manifestations which proceed from his nature, at the same time conducting himself justly and tolerantly towards the weaknesses of others. (p. 31)

Four Poems
FROM The Children of Ourselves by Ben Goldstein

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

In the hotel of my heart
I inhabit four chambers
Pulsing, beating, surging
The nomadic corpuscles of my blood
Tumble down arteries
Pass into capillaries
Branch into the infinitesimal
And find the infinite

I once was separate, distinct
Like a gray patch on a
White paper
Isolated, alienated, alone
Until I began to look for the borders
Of self
Began to try to grasp the
Gray shabbiness of my life
I searched in the streets at dark
In the curious confines of my bed
In others minds
And each path beckoned me homeward
Inside

Nerve endings, tingling, exploding
Shooting up my spine
My brain coming
Bursting in light
All concepts ripped from me
Like a child ripped from its mother’s womb
Passing through abstraction
I flew apart
And in that moment listening to the silence
I became whole
THE JOURNEY INTO ECSTASY

Once upon a moon
the night was part
of the day
the light
before the phantasms of life
The wearless winds had not yet been
formed
The energy of the egg had not yet been
g-e-n-e-r-a-t-e-d
Only a presence existed in that great sea of silence
a
prelude
to the
ensuing concerto
Spewed forth in unerring multiplicity
came the ylem
the source of all being
the children of ourselves
threading out their own bodies
harmonically attuned
to
mind
Like some
infinitely dimensioned mobius strip
they twisted and turned themselves
into solidity
without losing their original nature
And so we find ourselves
perfectly narrated in 10 billion neurons
Witness to the primordial act of creation
stamped
Psychedelically in the synapses of consciousness

ONE OF THOSE DAYS

The heart within was my goal
as I surged through
the
innermost vessels of my mind
To use all my senses on the machinery
of my existence
Filled me with an unexpressible ecstasy
My body pulsed
with the beat of my heart
I could hear the auricles and ventricles
filling up
and emptying
The valves made a soft clicking sound
I felt the fibers of my muscles
s-t-r-e-t-c-h-i-n-g
and
recoiling
I flowed through my aorta and ran the gamut
of my body
returning to my heart.
I swayed and reeled in inner contemplation
I was floating through orbs unknown
The sun of phosphorescence burst to my left
the golden sun
the purple moons
the turquoise stars
the infinite lights
All were part of me
and I of them
I sit and think I'm the Buddha

I sit and think I'm the Buddha. And I guess I am... but I only recognize it... when I'm not thinking, not recognizing, not being, not not being. A jewel radiates within me everywhere the same... the world separate and inseparable in a universe of phantasms.

Action resides from past to future it has no place in the imperceptible now. Light is the only filler of the motionless moment. Legal policy is not forged in a vacuum. The materials on which it relies, and the guideposts which orient it, vary with the structure and the ideological climate of a society. It can be assumed, though, that in all civilizations, ancient and modern, the interstices of the legal framework were filled with "public opinion" emanating from custom and folkways. As an explorer of social conduct the social scientist, since Herbert Spencer's time, has increasingly contributed to legal policy, notably in the United States. Here the benefits he has provided for legislators, appellate judges, and upper-level administrators are too numerous to detail. Suffice it to mention the painstaking research as to the effects of capital punishment and segregation, or of the minimum wage on the labor market, and, in the field of procedural reforms, the analytic study of such problems as electronic eavesdropping, securing counsel to the indigent, releasing indigent defendants without bail during trial, appointing rather than electing the judiciary, summoning blue-ribbon juries. It was a natural step in this development that sociologists began to investigate the legal subject of drug control.

Dr. Lindesmith, a professor of sociology, clarifies the issues involved on a broad background of statistical surveys, including Great Britain, Israel, and Japan; examines the motivation of the attitudes taken pro and con by judges, administrative officials, patrolmen, organized medicine, and the people at large; interprets the so-called doctor cases decided by the Supreme Court; appraises the narcotic clinics and self-help clubs such as Synanon; deals with the treatment of narcotic offenders in the courts and prisons and comments on the inequality of law enforcement according to social status. He finally draws his conclusion in favor of transfer of authority from "the police" to the medical profession.

In contrast to the heated debate often indulged in when matters of moral concern are pursued, the discourse is comfortably air-cooled by sober reasoning free of self-righteous rhetoric and—also on account of ample bibliographical references to opponents of his cause and the author's candid admission of his own biases—disarmingly persuasive.

Well aware of the obstacles to reform but confident that they can be surmounted, Dr. Lindesmith designs a gradual program of entrusting the addict—a diseased person, not a culprit—to the physician whose duty it is to alleviate pain where cure does not seem within reach. The time to begin is now, notwithstanding the filibustering claim that "more research is needed." Even today the following "aims" concerning the addiction problem as a whole "would probably be agreed upon as desirable by all parties in the current controversy:

1. Prevention of the spread of addiction and a resultant progressive reduction in the number of addicts.
2. Curing current addicts of their habits insofar as this can be achieved by present techniques or by new ones which may be devised.