You will realize that it has always been closer to you than any thing you thought you knew.
How can this be said?

"The mind has to know that it can't grasp what I'm about to describe. The vastness is perceiving itself out of itself at every moment, within every particle of itself everywhere simultaneously."

- Suzanne Segal

"When I say the word 'you' I mean a hundred universes."

- Rumi

How can this be said? It is seen so clearly, but with that peripheral vision: when one turns toward it to grasp it in a concept, to express it in language, it is gone. All the teachers, the ancient masters, dance around this: it brings a smile every time I come across a reference pointing sideways at this. Yet it cannot be said. It's genius. Beyond genius: absolute, staggering Brilliance. The 'divine hypnosis' is Self hypnosis.
Perfect Brilliant Stillness

Have you ever tried to play a game of hide and seek with yourself? Not much fun; you always know where to look, and pretending you don’t isn’t very convincing. Where can I hide myself from myself so that I can’t find myself... until I do? You know the answer. You just don’t know you know it.

You know there’s something wrong with the world, with the whole set-up. It’s like that splinter in your mind. It just doesn’t add up; something’s wrong with this picture, but you just can’t for the life of you figure what. You seek and search and struggle and try and hope and pray and listen and learn and every time you feel like you’re getting it, it slips away. And you realize that that’s part of what’s wrong; it’s crazy, it shouldn’t be that hard. Then, suddenly, you’re given what you want; and you realize, it shouldn’t be that easy. That’s not what you really wanted. And you’re off again, seeking and searching and struggling.

Never realizing that that is it.

Not only do you have a lifetime of your own personal history working against you, all your experiences and thoughts and memories and hurts and wounds and loves and victories and what you think you have learned and gained and lost. But even greater is the inherited weight and momentum of this whole marvelous experiment, billions of body/minds like you but different, all hell-bent in the same direction and lending encouragement and support and shared common wisdom and reassurance to coax you along from cradle to grave. Whether you join the revolution or the Republican Party or Harley Owners Group or the Catholic Church or the Islamic Jihad or a Zen monastery or NOW or AA or the AAA or the devotees of Sri Ram or the local soccer team or Weight Watchers or the hospice volunteers or
Greenpeace or the Marines, they’re all the same. They will all encourage you to do what they do and think the way they think, and you’d like to believe them but on some level you know they’re all full of shit.

You’re right about that part. The whole premise is wrong. The basis on which all the working assumptions about life, the universe and everything are made, is 180 degrees off target. What is believed and taught and supported and rewarded as natural and normal, right, healthy and sane, good and true, valuable, helpful and caring, even sacred and holy, will if followed lead you right down the garden path, valiantly doing the best you can but remaining thoroughly asleep in the dream.

One of the really amazing things about all this is the realization that the whole human tradition and history and movement and tendency toward ‘spirituality’ and ‘the holy’ and ‘sacredness’ is entirely off track. It is totally misguided. There is nothing holy or spiritual or sacred or divine about All That Is. It is entirely a-theistic. It is completely and thoroughly impersonal from start to finish. The human tendency toward awe and mystery and the numinous is just that: a tendency, part of the programming of the body/mind organisms.

There’s nothing wrong with it, nothing to be shunned or avoided or corrected. This particular body/mind, with both Native American and Roman Catholic backgrounds, has it in spades: that devotional, bhakti tendency that brings tears to the eyes when we sing bhajans or read Rumi; and as you may have noticed it tends to express itself accordingly. It’s a wonderfully endearing quality of these body/mind things in the dream, and in fact it can be quite beautiful.
But it's only a matter of their functioning, only a matter of perspective. There's nothing inherently spiritual or holy in realizing that the one that thinks it feels spiritual or holy does not exist. It's just What Is.

"You see, the search takes you away from yourself; it is in the opposite direction; it has absolutely no relation. The search is always in the wrong direction, so all that you consider very profound, all that you consider sacred, is a contamination in that consciousness. You may not like the word 'contamination,' but all that you consider sacred, holy and profound is a contamination." (U.G. Krishnamurti)

The Truth is the opposite of everything you have learned. Things are not as they seem nor as you have been led to believe. Thinking is not your normal state. Personal involvement is not your natural state. Even something as 'sacred' and elevated as what you call 'love' is not your natural state. Trying, caring, longing, desiring, having beliefs, having opinions, needing to defend those positions, needing anything at all; none of these are your original nature, your true being. All these are learned, conditioned behaviors, hypnosis to keep you asleep in the dream. The conditioning goes so deep you think it is your true nature, but I assure you it is not. Go back. Your Self is prior to everything that you think you know is true or real.

And when Self, this Truth, the no-thing-ness of your original nature, explodes and annihilates your dream awareness, you will realize that it has always been closer to you than any thing you thought you knew.

"I've told you all that constitutes the very core of Truth: there is no you, no me, no Superior Being, no disciple, and no guru." (Dattatreya)
Nihilism? You call this nihilism? This is so far beyond nihilism you have no idea. Are we getting anywhere here? Am I saying what cannot be said? Of course not.

"The world's existence is like the dream world of a dreamer. We sense the world to be real because we feel our body to be real, and vice-versa. This is the primordial illusion. People think that the world is ancient. Actually, it arises with your consciousness.

"That which is seen is the reflection of your own consciousness.

"You see yourself in the world while I see the world in myself. To you, you get born and die; while to me, the world appears and disappears."

(Nisargadatta Maharaj)

You see? A glimpse, maybe, a glimmer; but this is pointless, because you know the unspeakable as well as I do. You are I. Here we go again.

There's only ever one thing happening here. I know, I'm always saying there's nothing happening. Same thing. It looks amazingly, infinitely complex, zillions of things interacting and intricately interrelated; but it isn't. It's completely simple. You know this. There is only ever always one thing going on, one dance, "the only dance there is," and I is dancing. And that dance is Stillness.

I once spent an afternoon listening to a teacher explaining reality like this: Say you have spent your whole life looking at a photograph of a tree. Beautiful, full color, fine resolution. So you think that's all there is; that beautiful photograph of a tree is what you think of as reality. But I'm
here, he said, to take you back a step, before the photograph. (He had read Maharaj.) So I show you the negative from which the photograph was made. (This was before digital cameras.) Suddenly, you realize your whole reality has a flip side. Here in duality, everything has its opposite, which exists along with it. Now, if you place the negative over the photograph, you can see they cancel each other out. Where there is dark in the photograph, there is light in the negative, and vice versa. Even the colors are the opposite of each other. So what you get when you hold them together is: precisely nothing. The positive cancels the negative and vice versa so there is neither positive nor negative, there is nothing. Void. And that is what reality truly is. Not what you have always thought it is, and not its opposite, but the simultaneous existence and non-existence of both. Finally, I got up and walked out.

What he was saying of course is perfectly accurate. What then? What's the problem?

The tree, you fool! My god, man, go back a step yourself! There's a tree outside, in the rain and sun, roots in the dirt, leaves in the wind, which somebody pointed a camera at to make that negative and photograph. And the living truth of that tree is so far from the whole belabored logic of the photograph and its negative and the nothing of the two of them combined that you can't even guess it. Talk about Plato's cave! Wake up! All this talk is useless. The truth of What Is is so far beyond what you perceive and think and theorize that it's all really quite useless.

But you know this too.
44. How Can This Be Said?

“This we have now
is not imagination.
This is not grief,
or joy, not a judging state,
or an elation, or a sadness.
Those come and go.
This is Presence
that doesn’t.

What else could anyone want?

This we are now
created the body, cell by cell;
the universe, star by star.
The body and the whole universe
grew from this;
this did not grow
from anything.”
(Rumi)