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## The Answers are hiding within the Parallels of My Questions

Emily Sippel

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**Abstract:** Parallels between my questions appear clearly, but I am always looking for points of intersection.

Being centered in a world of inevitable, continuous change provokes many constant battles not only amongst opposing forces and individuals, but within each of our own complicated, intrapersonal relationships as well. Essentially, we must accept the reality that change is beyond our control. Knowing and understanding what we have to work with, whether it's our internal congeries or tangible objects, allows us to find a solution. By effectively rearranging this information and applying it in novel ways to the aversive situation, we adapt. How much control do we really have? With necessary mental modifications, a sense of control over one's self is the beginning that is rife with possibilities of what outcomes can be created. I create my sculptures as a physical means of experimenting with this understanding. Fortunately, control over the artwork always becomes shared between the medium and me. This enables me to constantly grow and learn by patiently changing through creative problem solving, leading to an improved outcome that is unique and inimitable (the strange goal of every human being.) Using art as a tool for knowledge helps me to draw parallels between the world I create and the world within which I live. I offer one interpretation of these spheres and my views on where humanity stands by navigating the space between these dichotomies in my work. There is no black and white anymore, and finding equilibrium, that middle-point of balance, is a constant process of life. We could dissolve into a world of gray or fall into the middle where true color exists. I choose to be consumed by the latter.

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