12ACP and SCW Remote Learning #2 – 3/23/20

1. **Read Part II of *The Metamorphosis*** using the same link as before.
2. **Write me another email/letter**.

Feel free to **spend a paragraph or three giving me an update** on how you and your people are doing. Here’s mine:

*Every time I check the news I get nervous. I don’t want to check the news because I know it will make me nervous, but I do it anyway. My mom, dad, and brother have decided to self-quarantine entirely. What happened was that my brother (who is older than me and lives with my parents in PA) was told to work at home and given all this equipment by his employer to set up a home office space. He had some connectivity issues, so they called Xfinity to help with the setup. The Xfinity guy showed up, got his hands all into everything, but then left suddenly saying he wasn’t feeling well. The guy they sent to finish the job said that the first guy had a fever. My mom works in a nursing home and made the very tough decision not to go to work for two weeks. No symptoms at this point, but it has me a little on edge.*

*In my own home, I’m running out of ideas to keep my kids productive—it’s still going well I’d say, but I’m losing my patience a little more frequently. My 7-year-old did manage to keep up with me on a 21-mile bike ride yesterday. She’s the bomb.*

*In other bright news, my novelist friend Journey sent me his latest novel draft. He’s written 3-5 novels, but none of them have gotten published. This one’s about a guy who lives in Montana, and he initially went to Mexico because a friend of his got in a fatal motorcycle accident there, and he wanted to figure out what went down; he’s been back several times since, but in the meantime he’s engaged to a Mexican girl and he’s getting ready for the wedding. So far it’s really good.*

**Then write another paragraph, or more, in response to one or more of the prompts below**. Also feel free to refer back to any previously unaddressed prompts from the last assignment—those are just as relevant to Part II as Part I.

*The Metamorphosis* Part II Prompts

1. The first time I read this story, my interpretation was that it was all a dream—that Gregor never actually woke up, or, if he did, it was within *another* dream. How viable do you find this interpretation?

Creative Spin-off: Start keeping a dream journal—just some paper or note-app by your bedside. Every time you wake up, immediately write down as much as you can remember from what you dreamed. You should find that over time, you’ll be remembering more and more details of your dreams—because you’ll have trained your conscious mind to be more attentive to those unconscious levels. What was your most vivid and interesting dream?

1. In Part II, Gregor’s thinking capacity seems more-or-less the same as before, but some of his *instincts* are changing. Which instincts are becoming more animal-like, and which human ones have remained?

How would you assess your own balance of thought to instinct? Do you believe you generally rely more or your reasoning, or on intuition? What is the best or worst action you’ve ever taken based largely on gut? What’s the best or worst decision you’ve made based entirely on reason, where you’ve set instinct aside?