

STREAMS OF KNOWLEDGE: Interpreting a Platonic Allegory



Melissa: Streams of knowledge? All I see is a kaleidoscope. Where's the "knowledge"?

Tim: Think of each image as a Rorschach test – what we see reflects who we are.

Satoru: (raising his eyebrows) What's knowledge but structured information?
Centuries ago great thinkers suggested knowledge had an actual form – every object in the universe "speaks" in its own way.

Melissa: (shaking her head) Sounds like metaphysical nonsense!

Liao: The only true nonsense is believing our senses: they are liars. As Plato points out, sensory information is akin to shadows on the wall of a cave.

Melissa: (growing impatient) Ha, why waste time on such metaphysical talk?

Tim: (sighing) Ah. Well. Ahmm.

- T Newfields

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