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## CHAPTER 22 | Responsibility

The path to freedom and awareness runs along the path of taking responsibility for one's own life. A life of fear and slavery is overcome as soon as it is realized that personal responsibility is the key to liberation. This requires the willingness to base your life on a completely different foundation. Responsibility is counterbalanced by dependency. Personal responsibility means that you take responsibility for the consequences of your choices. And this is where it goes wrong in our modern society. The willingness to take this responsibility seems to have almost completely disappeared. Entrepreneurs are more familiar with this principle than their employees. After all, the consequences of choices translate directly into continuity risks for his business. Entrepreneurship and responsibility go hand in hand. Employees are not or to a much lesser extent confronted with the consequences of their choices. The consequences do exist, but the structure from which one works means that these consequences are usually passed on to 'the boss'. Then there is the group of people who are dependent on the state via benefits. Although the government claims to do everything in its power to persuade people to take charge of their own lives, the statistics show that this has had little effect to date. The government has no interest in this either. There is a reason that people in the Netherlands talk about the poverty trap. This is the phenomenon that people who are dependent on benefits, subsidies and allowances are trapped within it. It does not pay to do real work, because the total of benefits received is higher than the wage that can be earned. Given the structure of our society in which people allow themselves to be led by others, a life of dependency and victimhood is understandable. Living from free is an exception. That life requires that leadership is taken over and responsibility is borne for the choices that are made within that framework. After all, you then become 'the boss' of your own life. In that case you will realise that you need to develop leadership qualities in order to succeed. Responsibility does not come automatically, it has to be understood and learned. Understanding starts with accepting the idea that everything that happens in your life is caused by you and that you have to do something with it. Nothing just happens. Coincidence does not exist. Events happen to you to gain an experience so that other choices will be made in the future. Taking responsibility also means that pointing at others can be omitted. You have decided to be in charge of your own life, haven't you? This means that the responsibility for this cannot be shifted. With unconscious people it is different. In their perception, it is always someone else who has caused the misery. Again, this attitude is understandable. Unconscious people do not want or cannot (yet) see that things can also be different. On this point they are ignorant. This form of victimization is cultivated by the ruling elite. They derive their right to exist from it. The flow of rules of virtually all parts of the economy and society is the result of this. The dominant idea is that those who are confronted with the negative consequences of their choices must be supported. The reasoning is as follows: it is assumed that the underlying choices and subsequent actions have always been correct, or



that the consequences of these choices were unforeseeable. The cause of the setback must therefore lie outside the parties involved. This then makes it defensible for society to pay for these negative consequences. This reasoning is not logical, is unnatural and is based solely on political morality ('It can't be that ...'). Politics is about defending interests at the expense of the interests of others. The interests to be promoted are the structural interests of their supporters, but also the incidental interests that pass by and that strengthen the power of politicians and the government over society. The self-aware human being can't help but leave all this behind. Once you have taken the lead and responsibility for your own life, there is no turning back.