



## 83 Problems



Then what is the good of all your teachings?

"There's an old story about a farmer who went to the Buddha seeking help for his problems. Either droughts or monsoons make his work difficult, he complained. What's more, he grumbled, even though he loved his wife, there were certain things about her he wanted to change. Likewise, his children - yes, he loved them, but they weren't turning out quite the way he wanted.

"I'm sorry, but I can't help you," the Buddha told the farmer.

"What do you mean?" railed the farmer. "You're supposed to be a great teacher!"



"All human beings have 83 problems," the Buddha replied. "A few problems may go away, but soon enough others will arise. So, we'll always have 83 problems."

The farmer asked indignantly, "Then what's the good of all your teaching?"

The Buddha answered, "My teaching can't help with the 83 problems, but perhaps with the 84<sup>th</sup> problem."

"What's that?" asked the farmer.

"The 84<sup>th</sup> problem is that we don't want to have any problems."

### Reference:

Bayda, Ezra (May/June, 2002). "Facing you monsters." Body and Soul, p. 44, 46, & 48.

Image courtesy of: [Takalani Radali @taki](#)

*The Tim Dukes Method provides an opportunity for self-reflective individuals to cultivate the capacity to receive into consciousness hidden aspects of the self, claiming your unique gifts – ensuring that today's brilliance successfully transitions into tomorrow's wisdom. The Tim Dukes Method is designed and implemented by Dr. Timothy Dukes for determined creatives to ensure long-term viability — as a continuing investment in the well-being of yourself, family, organizations, culture, society, and the Earth itself.*