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**Fingers**  
by David M. Valadez

Deshi: Why are we here talking Sensei?

Sensei: What do you mean?

Deshi: Is not what we do beyond words?

Sensei: Why tell me that then?

Deshi: (remaining silent in response)

Sensei: Let me ask you: Can you grab your own right hand with your own right hand?

Deshi: I cannot.

Sensei: Why can't you?

Deshi: Because my fingers of that hand cannot move in such a way that I can grasp my own right hand.

Sensei: Shall I take this knife and cut off your fingers - give them to you - freeing them from your own right hand - will you then be able to grab your own hand with those fingers?

Deshi: Still, I will not be able to grab my own hand with those fingers you have just cut off.

Sensei: That is why we are here talking.