

[*12] A quick Google search of “primal matrix” turns up two very current but interesting threads, both more recent than Glendinning’s book. One of them pertains to the multiplayer video game *Wildstar*. According to one source, “the Primal Matrix unlocks the latent power in every hero on Nexus allowing for additional advancement at level 50. Through Drusera you’ll be able to further increase your power by way of Primal Essence—an element that’s collected in and spent through the Primal Matrix interface—allowing you to customize and unlock your newfound potential . . .”

[<https://steamcommunity.com/games/376570/announcements/detail/240217180983075529>]

I have never played a video game and likely never will so I have no expertise with this particular application of the term. The pertinent fact here is that the game was released in 2011, long after Glendinning coined her version of the term. The other thread pertains to a current lifestyle movement that promotes “childhood deconditioning” as a path to self-recovery, also more recently formed, but more in Glendinning’s general wheelhouse.

Other potential analogies that cross my mind derive from: (1) Buddhism, both the Chan version (rooted in Chinese Taoism) and the Zen version (now more familiar, transported via Japanese practices), in terms like “dharma” and “zen” itself; and (2) fractal geometry, whereby the sequential, progressive solutions of specific equations produce not just the beautiful images made famous by Benoit Mandelbrot, but the foundational forms of the natural world, which may appear random and chaotic but are in fact simple forms iterated infinitely and elegantly.