WHY COMMON SENSE IS NOT COMMON

Every man carries with him the world in which he must live.

F. Marion Crawford

There are two reasons why you sometimes act without common sense. They aren’t your fault, but—since you are an adult—you are responsible for the consequences. They are:

Kryptonite to Common Sense

1. the power of your unconscious thoughts and feelings
2. the predictable shortcomings of human judgment and decision making

Your adult mind is fine-tuned for two worlds that no longer exist: the collective world of Your Hairy Ancestor and the individual world of The Child You Were. Actually, these worlds do exist. They exist in your mind, in the dark.

You are a ship piloted by three captains. You, the adult, are visible at the helm. Your Hairy Ancestor and The Child You Were have their invisible hands next to yours on the wheel. When you are not paying close attention (i.e., most of the
time), they steer the ship. Often they steer it well. Sometimes they steer the ship onto the rocks. Sometimes your logic is psycho-logic.

If you marry, then there are six captains on the bridge. This is called a committee.