

THE GREAT COSMIC SOAP OPERA

Book I of a Fable

by Ingo Swann

A very long time ago, the Great Universal Mother fell in love with the Great Lord Pneuma and wanted to marry him. This was really a difficult thing to do because Pneuma's kingdom was very, very different from the Mother's.

Lord Pneuma's kingdom consisted of all that was invisible, formless and interconnected, and through his kingdom Pneuma ruled over everything that used to be, is and will be in any possible forever. Thus, his kingdom was extremely powerful and enormous beyond imagination. But it was pretty much a mess because he had been a bachelor for a long time and had left everything to chance.

The Mother's kingdom was just the opposite. Her's was the kingdom of forms and separateness and all that was visible, and through her kingdom the Mother ruled over everything that needed

shapes and patterns as well as any possible harmony and order that might be imagined. Naturally, her kingdom was immaculate and everything was in its proper place.

At first Lord Pneuma could see no reason to get married. He was comfortable in all his chaos and didn't want the Mother coming in and fussing around. But the Mother was clever. Said she: "Look, Pneuma, we are both alone on this great cosmic island of everything and everywhere. Let us marry and make children to keep us company. You design all the new blueprints for our joined kingdoms and I will give them form and patterns as well as any possible harmony and order that might be imagined."

Now Pneuma's weak spot was his desire to make blueprints on a grand, grand scale and so he came to like the idea of this marriage. He blueprinted this and that and the Mother set about giving forms and patterns to whatever he designed until almost everything in the two kingdoms had been remade into one.

When all was done, Pneuma said to the Mother: "I've a little bit left over from my old kingdom and a little bit left over from yours. What shall we do with these?"

"Well, they are such small bits. Let's leave them on their own to exist as they might within our new, mighty kingdom. That which is left over from yours let us call the Goddess of Chaos and Destruction in memory of your messy bachelor days. And that bit left over from mine let us call the Goddess of Wisdom and Benevolence in memory of my own childhood."

And so it was, and so the marriage took place. They now called their new realm the Greater Kingdom of the Cosmic Everywhere and in it all was beautiful, majestic, harmonious and filled with order that governed all things from the greatest to the smallest. In Everywhere, the stars, galaxies and nebulas and everything in them moved in their apportioned places and glowed with visible and invisible cosmic energies, fires and lights.

Lord Pneuma, now very much in love with the Mother, called all these spectacular, gorgeous creations the cosmic jewels of the Mother and between each and all of them, from the greatest to the smallest, he blueprinted soft spaces and electromagnetic fences so that nothing would collide and destroy anything else.

Everywhere was very, very beautiful and wonderful and it has not yet ceased to exist.

Soon their first child came along, a son and heir, to whom they gave the somewhat lengthy title of Great Lord of Universal Harmony and Order -- calling him Harmony, for short.

"Look how beautiful he is," the Mother sighed in her great pleasure.

"Look at his great future," doted Pneuma. "One day he will rule over Everywhere, over everything I have blueprinted and over everything you have given forms to. We expect great things from him, don't we, Mother. Doubtless he will rule with harmony and order, since it will be his nature to rule thus -- when he grows up, that is."

But Harmony had no one to play with and nothing to do. Since an idle child will soon find things to get into, the infant Great Lord of Universal Harmony and Order soon began playing with his Mother's glittering cosmic jewels since he thought they were his toys. He moved this galaxy here and that nebula there, disturbing his fathers carefully designed soft spaces and electromagnetic fences. He jumped for joy when galaxies collided and his large, dark cosmic eyes glowed with admiration when the resulting collisions released their awesome cosmic fireworks.

Soon there were really big bangs going off here and there in the vast kingdom of Everywhere, and ominous, disruptive black holes formed where once there had been a star or a galaxy or even a nebula.

His Papa and Mama sighed, but were patient. "He just being a boy," Lord Pneuma said. "I suppose so," said the Mother. "When he grows up we will marry to with the Goddess Wisdom and things will change for the better."

But things got worse when Harmony became a teenager since in addition to being frolicsome he also became petulant and stubborn.

"I like big bangs and all things like that," he told his parents, "and if Everywhere is to be my kingdom someday, I don't see why I can't do with it what I want right now."

The Great Lord Pneuma tried reasoning with his son. "It takes a great deal of wisdom to rule with harmony and order and

this comes only with maturity. If you make a big mess of Everything now, it will be very hard to repair it later on." All to no avail, of course, since teenagers can see things only through their own eyes.

Soon the Universal Mother was tired of putting her cosmic jewels back in order again and again and the universal big bangs going off all around had set her on her nerves. "Something has to be done, Pneuma, for I can't take much more of this. He's developed some really bad habits by now, and I despair that he will ever really shake them off completely."

"Yes, Mother, so it seems," replied Lord Pneuma, sighing so mightily that the whole kingdom of Everywhere trembled in all its entirety.

But they did nothing for a long, long time, and the eons passed. Then, one cosmic day, they discovered that their precious son, bursting in all his new manhood, had met up with the Goddess of Chaos and Destruction who was now calling herself Kali.

Said the young Lord: "She is so exciting and wonderful! I think that I intend to marry her."

The Mother shrieked and Pneuma groaned, and the cosmic Everywhere shook and shook again.

"Why do you want to marry that witch when you can very well marry the gentle Goddess of Wisdom," wailed the Mother.

"She will be nothing but trouble many times over," warned Pneuma.

"I can't imagine what kind of grandchildren you will give us," sobbed the Mother. "If you marry that dreadful Kali, you'll eventually bring ruin to all your Father's blueprints and my beautiful cosmic jewels. And Wisdom is such a good Goddess. Why can't you be sensible and marry her?"

But the young Lord once again showed his stubbornness. "You old folks don't understand. Kali, well, she is utterly fascinating. All this harmony and order is boring, and I intend to do something about it in MY kingdom!"

Between them, the Mother and Pneuma grew really concerned. What could they do with their willful son?

Pneuma finally said: "Dear Mother, our mistake has been in having only a single child. Let us beget two more for in this way the young Lord of Harmony and Order will have to share the rule of the kingdom of Everywhere."

Thus it was that the Mother and Pneuma gave birth to two wondrously beautiful twin daughters. The first was called the Goddess Eternity. She was given rule over the external arrangements of all the Universal Mother's cosmic jewels so that Harmony and Kali couldn't monkey around with them. The cosmic jewels would thus keep their same shapes and patterns for eternity. The second daughter they named the Goddess Infinity. To her they gave her rule over all the invisible fences and

spaces between all things great and small so that Harmony and Kali couldn't move these around either.

"What, then, is left for us to rule?" complained Harmony and his new wife, Kali, both of whom were quite outraged.

"You may rule," replied Pneuma, "over the internal separate workings of your Mother's cosmic jewels, but never again disturb the whole order and harmony of Everywhere."

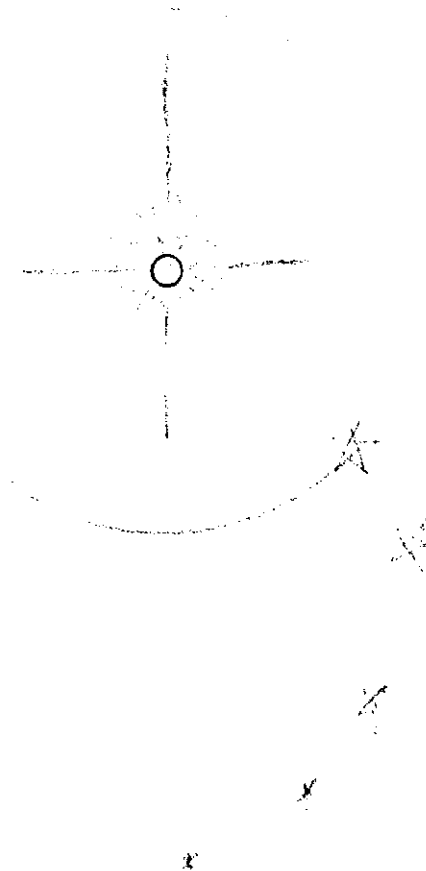
"Your sisters will maintain universal cosmic harmony and order since you will not," explained the Mother. "You see, my son, we are quite tired of all the cosmic noise and fuss you have created, the big bangs and black holes and all that, and there is to be no more of them."

"Yes," agreed Lord Pneuma. "Your sisters will be real rulers of Everywhere, and we will designate a new kingdom for you called the Forevers. Infinity will guard my blueprints forever and Eternity will forever maintain your Mother's shapes and forms. Amongst these Forevers you may blueprint what you want and give your creations shapes and patterns if you want. In this way you will be able to entertain yourselves forever and yet not disturb the great beauty and balance we have brought about in Everywhere."

"You see," continued the Mother, "in this way you might eventually learn the lessons of harmony and order by your own experience since these are things we have not been able to teach you ourselves."

So finally, Everywhere settled back into a sort of quiet cosmic majesty and Lord Pneuma and the Mother were pleased with themselves. Said he: "Ah, peace at last. Now we can settle back and watch all our creations through our cosmic TV set, and enjoy what we see."

But the Mother was worried. "I hope so. But I fear Kali and Harmony are going to be a source of constant trouble. Kali is, after all, the Goddess Chaos and composed of all that messy disorder and disharmony left over from your own bachelor days."



Thrown back on their own devices, Harmony and Kali were soon bored to death. "What are we to do with ourselves" wailed Kali, "now that we can't mess around with anything at all? Can't you think of something so that we can, at least, entertain ourselves."

Harmony, fascinated with his wife and ever so wanting to keep her entertained, started trying to think. It was hard for him to do this since he had never had to do much of that for himself. "Well, we can't explode stars and galaxies any longer, and we can't cause nebulas to collide. But look at all these stars. None of them have planets. Why don't I try to blueprint a few planets and you can cause them to bubble and boil. We can toss them at each other like bowling balls."

"Ah, yes," smiled Kali. "Chaotic planets! Let's try never to make one the same as all the others. Planetary diversity and chaos, that's it. What fun it will all be!"

And so it was in this way that Harmony and Kali created planets around stars and set the planets bumping around in Everywhere.

When Eternity noticed all this she said to Infinity: "This may or may not be a problem. What do you think, Infinity?"

"Hum," replied Infinity. "I don't know, really, but I suppose we should tell Mama and Papa."

When the Parents learned of this new activity, the Mother said: "See, Pneuma, I told you so. No good can come of all this."

"Bosh," replied Pneuma. "What harm can come of a few planets? Let them have their fun. Eternity and Infinity will see that nothing really important is disturbed."

But it wasn't long before Kali got tired of bubbling and boiling planets and Harmony of tossing them around in Everywhere. It was then that Kali had a new idea. "All this planetary stuff is boring. I thought we were going to have fun in Everywhere. Instead, here we are, playing with mere planets. I find all this very limiting."

"What, then, are we to do?" asked Harmony, who was by now not so young, and wanted more than ever to please his petulant wife.

"We need something to humor us. Why don't we select some of these dreary planets and create Life Forms upon them and watch and see how they evolve?"

"Kali!" exclaimed Harmony, "what a wonderful idea and what fun it will be. Of course, it would be best to have blueprints of harmony and order for these Life Forms. Mama and Papa would like that I think. I'll think I call these blueprints the Chains of Life."

"But what would I contribute?" demanded Kali. "Surely, to be fair to me, let us blueprint conflicts of harmony and

disharmony, order and disorder, otherwise all this will get boring very quickly."

Harmony was dubious, but he agreed to please Kali and soon the Great Blueprints for Evolution were completed. They mixed fires, energies and electromagnetism of Pneuma's original invisible kingdom with the wondrous versatile materials of the Universal Mother's, both of which existed aplenty around each star and in each planet. They then sat back to watch and see what would happen.

And soon Mindless Life Forms were popping around in great profusion. But, naturally enough, Kali quickly got tired of these and said that Life Forms should evolve Minds so that they could think for themselves and try to balance order and disorder, harmony and disharmony in their own right.

It wasn't long before Life Forms took on sentience and could try to think for themselves, all to the greater entertainment of the Lord and Kali. "Ah," said Kali in ecstasy, "now, you see Lord, WE have created our own kingdom at last, the kingdom of mind-life, and this kingdom is something that is not a hand-me-down from your antiquated parents. It is time we bore our own children since they will inherit all this and ultimately rule over all our Life Form creations."

So it came about that the Great Lord of Harmony and Order and the Goddess Chaos bore quadruplets. One was a son whom they named and who resembled his father, and three daughters which

they called the Fates each of which resembled very much their mother, Kali.

Now, Eternity and Infinity were reluctant to interfere in the internal workings their elder brother's kingdoms of Forever, but Eternity finally had to suggest to Infinity that all this evolution experimentation was terribly unkind to the poor Life Forms being produced. For one thing, Kali couldn't resist meddling in their evolutionary Chains of Life, and Harmony was lazy. So each Mind-Life unit had to try to balance order and disorder in themselves. "What are we to do?" they asked each other.

"Well," said Infinity finally, "we'd better at least tell Mama and Papa, although they probably won't like this at all."

The Lord Pneuma and the Mother were aghast and summoned their son and Kali before them. "What have you done now?" cried the Mother. "How will the poor creatures you have created ever be able to make sense out of anything since you have confused order and chaos in their minds and left them on their own?"

"But Papa," retorted the son, "we thought you would be pleased that we could create our own kingdom."

Pneuma tried to calm himself, but the entirety of Everywhere trembled from his rage. "You have been a fool. Don't you realize that your Life Forms will evolve until their Minds will comprehend the All of Everywhere and everything in it? Their minds will produce thought-forms that will penetrate into the

invisible interconnected blueprints. And once therein, those thought-forms will take on an existence of their own and soon the All of Everywhere will be infected with who knows what?"

"Yes," said the Mother, "and not only that. Doubtless these Life-Mind forms will eventually figure out how to get from one planet to another, and then from one galaxy to another. What then? Everywhere will soon be crawling with them. They will learn to meddle in the shapes and patterns I have created, and in your Father's invisible energies. They will...ah, it is almost too much to imagine what they will learn to do. Make big bangs of their own, I can only suppose."

"Whatever," Lord Pneuma grumbled. "They are certain to spread their own confusions of harmony and chaos wherever they go. Everywhere is certain to be a mess."

The son thought for a while, and finally said: "Well, it's all Kali's fault. I wanted only to blueprint harmony and order in these Life-Mind forms, but she insisted in her demands to imprint chaos, also. What was I to do? She is my wife, after all."

"You should never have married her," moaned the Mother. "You should have married that nice Goddess of Wisdom."

Kali was suddenly afraid that the powerful Parents might insist on a cosmic divorce. "Let us be sensible," she coyly suggested. "Let our new kingdoms of Life Forms be ruled by our children and we, ourselves, will retire into the cosmos..."

"Never!" said The Mother, "never."

"Well," Kali replied sweetly, "you shall not take their heritage from them. We have created Mindfilled Life Forms for them. Let them have what is rightfully theirs."

"Well," the Lord of Harmony and Order offered, "we could erase our creations and do away with all this potential misery."

"Don't be cruel as well as stupid," roared the Lord Pneuma. "What is done is done, and you know that very well. If you once bring Life and Minds into existence these become part of Everywhere and there can be no going back to Nothing."

"Then," suggested Harmony, "let us marry my own son, Destiny, to the Goddess of Wisdom and he shall thenceforth rule over the evolutionary Chains of Life and Mind."

Kali shrieked. "What! You would deprive my own daughters what is rightfully theirs? I'll never stand for this and will fight tooth and nail through Eternity and Infinity for them."

"Silence, daughter-in-law!" stormed Pneuma. "Neither of you shall rule over anything. The Mother and myself will come out of our great age and bear another son to rule over your new kingdoms of Life and Mind. He shall help keep the balance between order and chaos, between harmony and disharmony. He will be called Metaphysics and will constantly watch over your poor creatures until, in great time, they evolve enough to understand the Cosmic Laws of Balance."

"And it is he," said The Universal Mother sternly, "who shall wed the Goddess Wisdom, of that you may be sure."



But, alas, when the new child was born, he was not one son, but Siamese twins, joined not in body, but by a powerful mind-link called telepathy.

"I see our woes are not yet at an end," sighed the Lord Pneuma.

"Yet we must certainly love the two as if they are one," said The Universal Mother. "Let us call the one 'Meta' and the other 'Physics' as we have planned. They will doubtless learn to work in harmony and order because of their strong telepathic mind-link. The Goddess Wisdom can marry one of them, and that will help all things toward the better."

But the Goddess Wisdom, who had been waiting countless aeons for an appropriate husband, and who was very smart, saw problems.

Asked she: "How can I marry the one of them and not the other, and expect that there should be peace in my own house? And how can I marry the both of them? There would be endless confusions and chaos and jealousy."

The Universal Mother saw the need for "women-talk" between them and took the Goddess Wisdom aside and suggested: "Surely Wisdom can share herself between them for the sake of harmony and order in our great Kingdom of Everywhere."

"Perhaps that is true, Venerable Mother," replied Wisdom, "but will they agree to the sharing? I think not, for brothers will be brothers and eventually the one will wish to dominate the other. Meta will want to do things his way and Physics also. Then they would require me to chose between them which I should never be able to do. After all, Venerable Mother, wisdom is wisdom and can hardly take sides. No, it is for the sake of harmony and order in Everywhere that I should not marry these twins even though they are telepathically linked. I can see now that I shall probably never marry anyone at all and must remain impersonal in Everywhere and in all the Forevers."

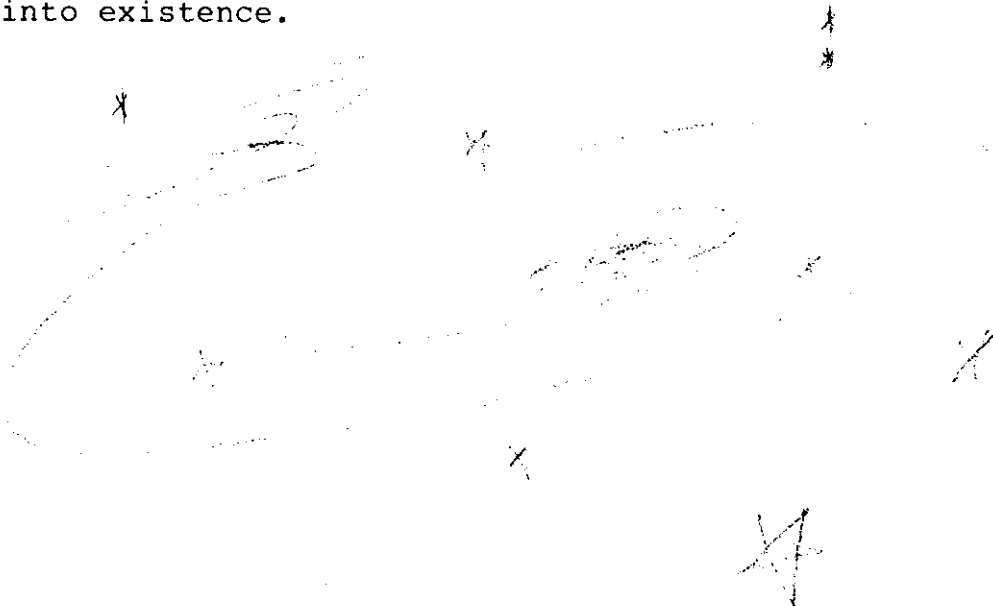
And so it was that the Goddess Wisdom declined to take part in the proposed great celestial union. Everyone was very disappointed, save for Kali, who foresaw possibilities. If she could but conquer Meta and Physics and fascinate them with her

beauty, then, through them, she could rule over all the Life Forms and Minds she had helped to create.

Looking forward to the time when she would conquer Meta and Physics, Kali began to spread a net of fascinating Mind-Mirages everywhere she could think of. Each of these Mirages was very different from all the others, and Kali filled each of them with a special but very, very fake wonder. But even so, all these Mirages had two things in common: they were fake and they were unreal.

Said Kali to herself: "Sooner or later Meta and Physics are certain to get caught in this net. And then I will draw them to me. Oh, what fun! This will be very chaos-making. And, since Harmony seems to be drifting away from me, I will tell him nothing of this. After all, I must make a kingdom for my daughters, the Fates, to inherit. They will have such fun playing with all these Mind-Mirages!"

And so it was that the shimmering kingdom of Mind-Mirages came into existence.



Meanwhile, back at the great cosmic ranch, Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother began teaching Meta and Physics what they could do and what they could not.

"The first law you must obey," began the Universal Mother, "is that you must always be equally kind to each of the created Life Forms and Minds. You must help them find harmony and balance, but you may never tell them what these are for this they must discover for themselves. Otherwise you will deprive them of their natural evolutionary rights of self-discovery and self-perfection now that your elder brother and Kali have seen fit to give these to them."

"Yes Mother," the telepathic Twins agreed, "this shall be our first great cosmic law."

"And there shall be a second law you must obey," continued Lord Pneuma. "And this has to do with Mind. You must help them to see that whatever Mind can conceive will become real and will become a living thought-form in its own right -- and the more Minds that think upon any special thing, the more stronger and real that thing that thing will become. The time will thus come when the Forevers and even our own great kingdom of Everywhere will get cluttered with Mind-created things. So cluttered that you might want to erase some of them for your own comfort. But this you may never do. You may only help Minds to discover how to bring harmony and order into their own thoughts and thus how to control them and how to erase and recreate. But you may never

tell Life Forms how to do this for otherwise you will be interfering in their evolutionary rights of Mind."

"Yes, Father," the twins agreed, "we will obey this second great cosmic law, too."

"These shall be your only two LAWS," continued The Mother, "but beyond these you must find ways of helping Life Forms and Minds to know the nature of Lord Pneuma, your Father, when they are ready and wanting to do so. Lord Pneuma is the cosmic furnace, the forge, in which all things great and small, in our Kingdom of Everywhere, are brought into and out of existence. It is he who has designed all the original blueprints for everything. His realms are all invisible and in them the past, the present and the future are all one. His invisibles hold everything together and apart, and penetrate and interpenetrate all that is. It is through him that Everywhere is interconnected. His symbols are invisible energies and fires and airs and ethers of all kinds. It is you, Meta, who are to represent your Father's special interests and protect his blueprints."

"Yes, Mother," replied Meta, "this I will do with great honor."

"If I am the furnace," continued Lord Pneuma, "then your Mother is the cosmic anvil upon which all things in Everywhere are shaped and patterned. It is your Mother who has given forms to my blueprints. It is she who has created the all great cosmic

jewels from the largest nebulas right down to the smallest atomic particles of which they are made up. I, myself, am without patterns, and whatever has patterns has been given them by your Mother. It is your Mother who has brought space and time into existence, so that all the things she has created have their proper places and so that the past can be seen as different from the future, with the present being but the thinnest edge between them. Her symbols are earths and waters of all kinds. It is you, Physics, who will represent your Mother's interests and will help Life Forms and Minds find their way to her when they are ready and wanting to do so."

"Yes, Father," replied Physics, "and it will by my great honor to do so."

"One final word," said the Mother. "You must beware of Kali, your sister-in-law, the Goddess of Chaos. It is she who has made bubbles in Harmony's head. It is she who likes to sow confusion and destruction in Everywhere mostly because it amuses her to do so. When you have a problem, try to talk it over with the Goddess Wisdom."

"Yes, Mother," the Twins agreed, "we will avoid Kali like the plague and discuss our problems with Wisdom."

"Now you have your strong telepathic mind-link," summarized Lord Pneuma, "so you will be able to share everything between you, and share all things alike."

"Yes, honorable Parents," the Twins agreed, "we will share and share alike."

And so the cosmic Twins, Meta and Physics, went out into Everywhere and into all the Foreverers to begin their tasks of helping Life Forms and Minds in those ways they might devise. But they soon discovered that when Meta wanted to go here and there, Physics wanted to go to a different here and there. This was their first problem, so they visited Wisdom and asked of her what they were to do.

"I can't take sides in this problem," said Wisdom, "for then I would be guilty of favoring one of you over the other. You will have to work out this problem by yourselves. Just bear in mind that if sides need to be taken, then there is already confusion and the lack of wisdom in the first place."

Meta and Physics, who were still young, couldn't figure out what to make of this which appeared to them to be only a cryptic statement. So Meta eventually made a proposition. "Look here, Physics, we can't pull at each other this way since it only brings pain into our telepathic mind-link. I'll make a deal with you. For one aeon I'll be dominant and we will go where I want to go and do what I want to do. In the next aeon you can be dominant and we will go where you want to go and do what you want to do."

"But why should you go first, rather than I?" asked Physics.

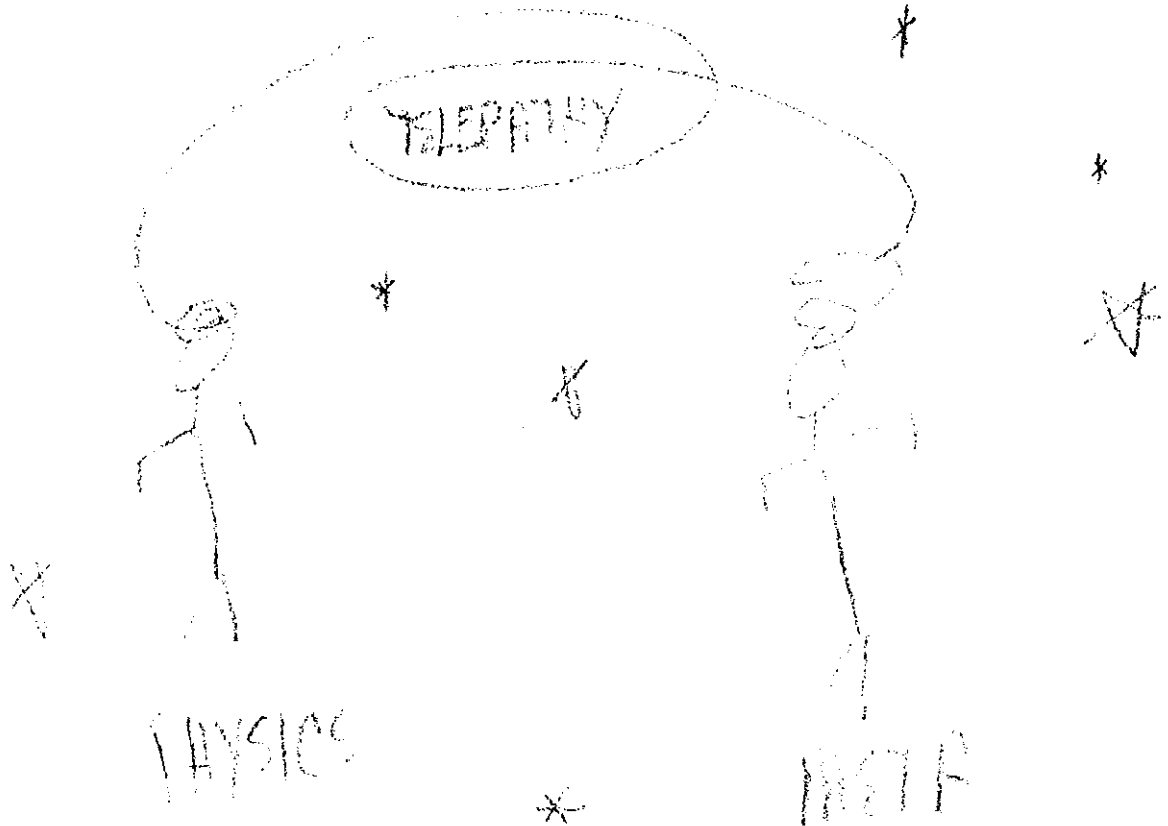
"Well, after all, I represent our Father and he is in his way more important than our Mother which you represent."

And so it was decided. In the first aeon the Twins visited several Forevers and Meta helped the Life Forms and Minds in them to know the meta-principles of the Lord Pneuma. In the second aeon they visited several other Forevers and Physics helped the Life Forms and Minds in them to know the physics-principles of the Universal Mother.

And so on, until almost the whole of Everywhere was divided up into Meta's Life Forms and Minds and Physic's Life Forms and Minds. The Goddesses Infinity and Eternity eventually noticed the imbalance in all this. Some Life Forms were evolving solely along only meta-principles, while others were evolving solely along physics-principles.

Commented Eternity: "Here we have invisible energy Life Forms evolving, and there we have solid, very visible earth and water Life Forms evolving. What will happen, Infinity, when some of these Life Forms and Minds learn to cross through your infinity barriers?"

"Well," responded Infinity after much thought, "I suppose there will be a good deal of imbalance and conflict and, I dare say, Kali will try to take advantage of all that. I guess we better, at least, tell Papa and Mama what has been going on. I don't think they are going to like this at all."



Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother sighed when they heard this news and summoned Meta and Physics before them.

"What have you gone and done, now?," the Parents asked.

"Why we have shared and shared alike," the Twins responded.

"Well, from your viewpoint I suppose," said Pneuma. "But what of the poor creatures evolving in the separate sectors. Some of them are meta-evolved and others have become physics-evolved. This is a great imbalance and there will eventually be sad collisions when the Life-Mind Forms in them meet up with each other. You were supposed to ensure that evolutions integrated your Mother's principles with my own. But you have only divided evolutions into two different parts. What are we to do now?"

The Twins admitted they did not know.

The Mother asked: "Why didn't you select a small Forever and work within it until you had learned how to work together. In fact it isn't too late to do this. Why don't you find a small Forever where the confusions are already the greatest and largest. Go there and work out this problem of learning how to co-operate."

"But where would that be?" asked the Twins.

It was then that The Universal Mother had an idea that was so good it amused even her. One that might teach that troublesome Kali a lesson and help repair the damage she had already done throughout Everywhere. "Why don't you go to that place where Kali and your Lord Brother Harmony are living. There the confusions are, as might be expected, very great. There you will find a good test case for yourselves and, I dare say, learn a lot."

"But where might that be," the Twins asked.

"It is in a galaxy called The Milky Way in which there is a small planet called Earth. Its a place Kali likes very much, although I can't really see why. It's a bit out of the way, and Kali and Harmony have played around with evolution, so much so that the poor Life-Mind Forms hardly know what they are doing."

And so it was that the Celestial Telepathic Twins, Meta and Physics, came to Earth where havoc, destruction, evolutionary mutations and confusions had become the way of its Life-Mind Forms.

"Just look at this place," said The Twins to each other, "what a mess it is! Just look at these poor Life-Mind Forms. They are but the toys of Kali and bubble-headed Harmony, slaves of their evolutionary experiments. And it is even worse, since the Three Fates and Destiny, our nieces and nephew, are always tinkering around also, although Destiny's intentions seem to be good enough."

But The Twins soon discovered why Kali liked this place. With so much chaos, disharmony, destruction and ruin all around, the Life-Mind Forms were simply forced to think about destruction and ruin all the time. These chaotic thought-forms had taken on mind-lives in their own right. These animated mind-thought forms were, of course, only mirages. But Earth's evolving Life-Mind-Forms were already calling them "gods."

Chief among these gods was one Shiva, a god of blood, chaos, revenge, terror and destruction. And it was this mirage-god that Kali had taken as a lover and lived with him in a small kingdom called India.

"This is going to be tough," said Physics to Meta, "and we must be very careful this time to work exactly together. Let us decide that neither of us shall be before the other and that we shall always work as a team."

"That's a very good idea," Meta replied. "But let's invite Wisdom to come and live here for a while. She can hardly refuse that since the Earth's need is so great. She need not take

either of our sides and can reside in the skies around this planet. When we find those Life-Mind Forms here that want to know her, we will make the way to her available."

"That's a very good idea," Physics agreed.

And so it was in this way that the Goddess Wisdom came to abide in the bright blue vaults around Earth to help its Life-Mind Forms know her qualities. She put a blue veil over her eyes so that the ugliness or beautifulness of any of Earth's Life-Mind Forms would not influence her and she could be equally fair to each of them. And she took an evolutionary Earth name -- Sophia -- so that Earthlings would not be afraid to hear her spoken of.

When their real work had begun, The Twins said to each other: "Just look at all these gods of destruction and awfulness the thoughts of Earthlings have created. Let us begin by helping show the way for Earthlings to un-think some of their destructive and horrific thought-forms. The more that un-think them the less power the mirages will have and then we can help the Earthlings to think thought-forms of harmony and order which will take on new realities of their own. In this way we will help them set their evolutions in more productive directions."

"A very good idea," the Twins said to each other, "and we will certainly be able to do all this as a team."

And again the Twins said to each other: "Let us find among those Earthlings those who are ready and who are willing to find the principles of our Parents, the Lord Pneuma and the Universal

Mother, and help them to find the way to make to make metaphysicians of themselves. This, indeed, is our real task, and we can do it as a team."

And yet again the Twins said to each other: "If all these Earthlings had telepathic mind-links like our own, then they could share all their knowledge, all their thoughts, and all the directions of their evolution. Let us find those Earthlings who have evolving towards telepathy and help them discover the way to make it even greater. This way they can come to share each other at a very deep and important evolutionary level and design their own evolutionary imperatives. This would be a good idea, and we can do it as a team."

"You see," said Meta to Physics, "we are discovering wisdom in learning how to work as a team."

"Yes," agreed Physics. "We are now beginning to learn how to do the tasks our Parents have set before us, and we can do these as a team."

But when Kali finally figured out what the Twins were up to, she was furious and screamed and cried for many, many years. Then she said to her lover, Shiva: "We have to do something about this or else all Earth will end up being a boring display of harmony and order. It will be no fun any longer."

"But what are we to do?" demanded the chaotic-faced Shiva through his fearsome, long sharp teeth of destruction. "I am only a figment of Earthling thought-forms. I certainly do not

have the power of the Twins who are cosmic born. And the Earthlings can un-think me anytime they want."

"Well, for one thing," said Kali, "we will have to become more clever than Meta and Physics put together. We will have to figure out a way to break their telepathic mind-link. After all, Shiva, you must divide your enemy if you want to conquer him. We will also have to become very beautiful so that Earthlings will mistake us for harmony and order. We must each create a mirage in front of us -- we must become paragons of Earthling ideas of beauty so that they will lust after us. We must put invisible jewels of fascination into our foreheads so that any Earthling that looks on us will become hypnotized. These should be jewels of lust and power. Earthlings have an evolutionary urge for those which I, myself, deliberately blueprinted into them. Then, we will advertize new evolutionary slogans that say that harmony and order is possible only through violence and revolution. Let us see how those fools Meta and Physics and that stupid Sophia deal with all that!"

But Meta and Physics dealt very well, indeed, for many Earthlings were ready to know the nature of their true Father and the Universal Mother. "Yes," the Twins agreed, "we will help them find the way to this knowledge, for Earthlings are part of whatever is, and there is nothing in Everywhere that is not first made up of what the Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother have blueprinted."

"Yes," the Twins agreed again, "Life-Form-Minds on Earth might have been designed by Kali and Harmony for their own entertainment, but Kali and Harmony had to use those materials that were already designed by our Parents. There is, after all, nothing else to use when creating things. Earthlings have an evolutionary right to be helped to find out who their first great Parents are. And these Parents are the Lord Pneuma and the Great Universal Mother, who are even our own Parents."

Many Life-Forms and Minds on Earth were pleased to find out they belonged to Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother and to the cosmic beauties of all their creations. And in this great knowledge, called Metaphysics, all things began falling into a proper cosmic perspectives.

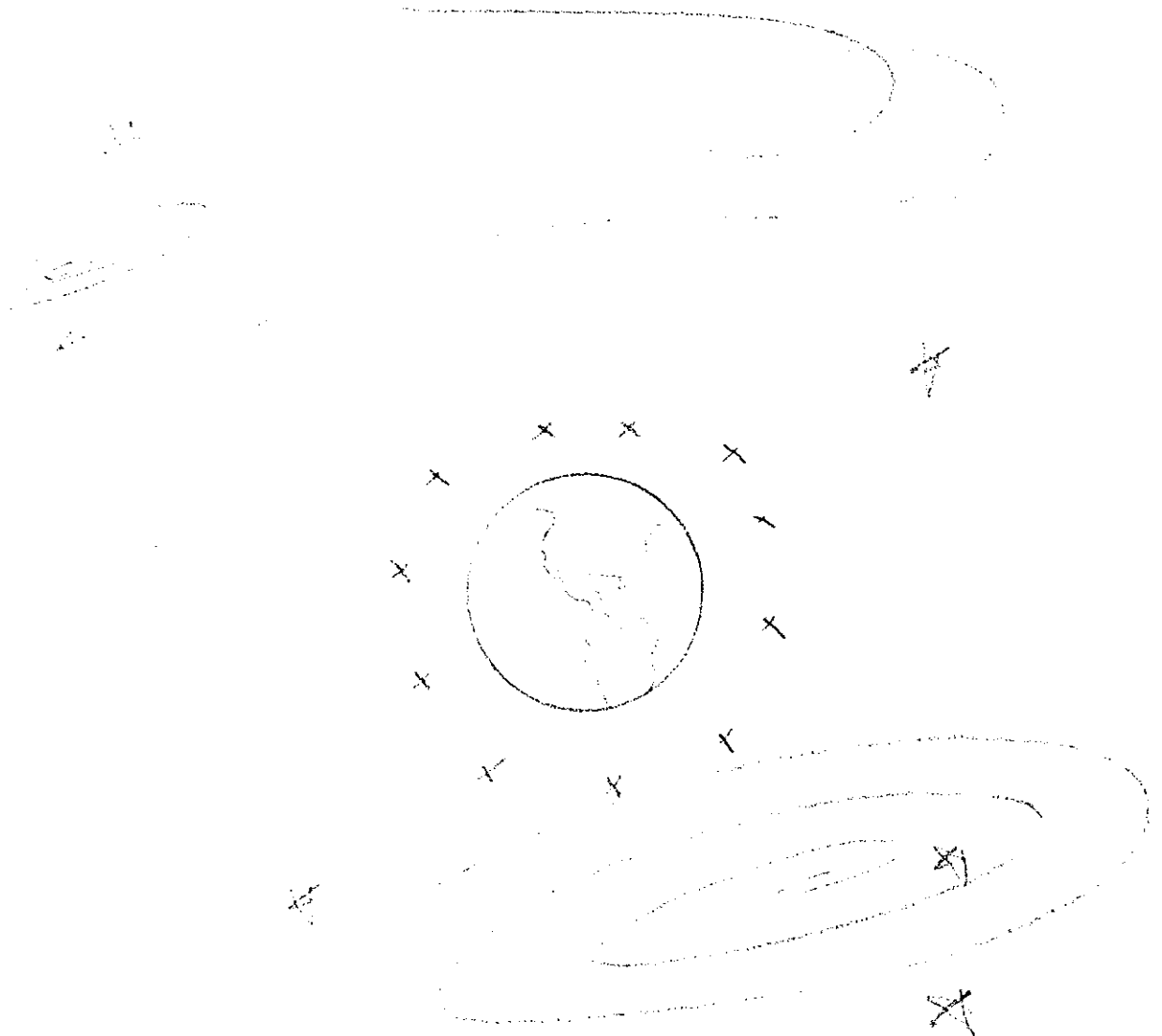
True, Kali and Shiva and the three Fates still existed and tried to play with Earthlings, but Earthlings came to know that the Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother were so great that what Kali did hardly mattered.

And then there was Eternity and Infinity to help keep all things in proper places and order, and even the great Lord of Harmony, if one could contact him, could show how to maintain harmony and order in all things. And then there was Sophia to consult when wisdom was needed. And the Twins, Meta and Physics, to help make sure Earthlings could find the paths to all this wonderful knowledge in the first place.

In this way, Earth's Golden Age commenced and all Life-Forms and Minds on the planet started evolving towards becoming true cosmic children.

The Lord Pneuma was very pleased and summoned Meta and Physics before him. "You see," he said, "with your help Earth has virtually become a cosmic jewel in its own right. Everything is balanced there, and all the evolutionary trends are set in creative directions."

"Yes, dear, dear Twins," smiled the Universal Mother, "we are very, very pleased."



But, of course, Kali was not so pleased. In fact, while Meta and Physics were away visiting the great cosmic Parents, she plotted with Shiva for the destruction of everything on Earth -- until Shiva, who was not very smart, realized such a wholesale destruction would include himself.

"We can't destroy all," he screamed, "for that would include me. Remember, Kali, I am mind-born on Earth, and I am not from the cosmos as you are. If you destroy the Mind-Life Forms that are constantly creating me, I will be erased."

"Nonsense," snarled Kali. "There is nothing that, once created, can ever be totally destroyed. You will float as a Principle throughout Everywhere and can come to life again and again when some Mind-Form touches what you represent. Then you will retake shape and substance. You must never fear complete and total erasure, since that does not exist."

"But I don't want to float around the cosmos as some detached Principle," Shiva whined. "I want to be a real body with physical form and physical senses and excitement and feelings. I want to drink real blood and tear real bodies apart and share the ecstasy of real pain, destruction, confusion and disorder."

"Well, perhaps you are right," Kali agreed. "It is true that the more Earthlings that think about you, the more real you become. But as a created mind-form, you are what Earthlings imagine you to be, and can never be no more than that. Why, just

look at you. Already they imagine you have 365 arms, one for each day of the year: and so you have."

"All the better to love you with," smiled Shiva.

And so, Kali was pacified, and Earth was saved from total destruction. But she continued to plot. Finally, her plot was complete.

"Come, Shiva, I have figured out what to do. Since we cannot defeat Meta and Physics from the outside, we will infiltrate directly into the Chains of Life in all living Life-Mind Forms on Earth. We will take bubble-headed Harmony with us, and become a trinity. Earthlings will be very, very confused having to deal with us from within themselves, and they won't know what to do. The presence of Lord Harmony can give them a sense of harmony and order, but that will only be an illusion, for, behind him we will be enjoying ourselves and have our way with all."

Naturally enough, when this terrible trinity entered directly into the mainstreams of Mind-Life, all the good work that Meta and Physics had done came to pieces and the Golden Age was soon dust in only a few memories. The new age was called the Iron Age for Kali and Shiva taught some of the Earthlings how to smelt iron and make weapons of chaos and destruction -- which Earthlings came to call war.

Kali and Shiva thrilled to war, for there was destruction,

blood, guts, hatred, and confusions everywhere, all heated to ecstasy.

The Lord Harmony amused himself by experimenting with all possible harmonies and orders that war offered, and hardly anyone was interested in consulting Sophia about anything at all. When Meta and Physics returned to Earth, they hardly recognized it.

"Just look what Kali has gone and done," the said between themselves. "She has literally gotten into every Life-Mind Form there is, and taken that dreadful Shiva and bubble-headed Harmony with her. Earthlings are now worshiping them as a holy trinity. And just look at all the newly created mind-forms everywhere. There are so many gods and goddesses of war that we can hardly count them."

And they said again: "What are we to do now? Let us go to Sophia and seek her wisdom."

But Sophia said from beneath her veil: "I can't take sides. When one has to take sides, one risks becoming very like the side one has chosen. But I will say this: what one does helps to design what one will become, and what one is becoming influences what one does."

For the first times in their joined lives, the Twins understood what the Goddess Wisdom was saying. "Ah," they said, their telepathic mind-link turning rainbow-colored with energies, "you are telling us that Earthlings are becoming what they are doing because they are doing what they are becoming?"

And they said again: "If they did things differently, they would become in a different way, and in becoming in a different way they would do things differently."

And they said yet again: "Let's put this in plain cosmic language. You are what you do, and you do what you are and the whole of this thinks evolution into what direction it goes. If Mind thinks in terms of destruction and chaos, evolution evolves in their directions. But if Mind thinks in terms of harmony and order, then evolution evolves in their directions, also. Thus, it is wisdom to seek-think in terms of harmony and order."

But this thought saddened the Twins. "Just look at our brother, Harmony," they lamented. "He really screwed things up when he married Kali."

Then Wisdom-Sophia spoke without being asked to do so: "So, you see, raw wisdom lies everywhere in Everywhere, and even Earthlings can contact it. But then one needs psychic foresight to see the future in order to know what thought-doings-being to change. If you can't see how your actions are going to turn out then changes become very chancy indeed."

"Well," said the Twins, "our duty is clear. If Kali and Company can get into the insides of Earth's Life-Mind Forms, then so must we, for we cannot fight her very well from just the cosmic outside."

So the brothers said to each other: "Let us go into Earthlings and become part of their Chains of Life. We will talk

to the Lord Harmony and try to convince him that he should help us and not Kali and Shiva. In this way we will become a more powerful trinity, and Earthlings will begin to do less destructive things and thus become less destructive. Earthlings will begin to do harmonious and ordered things and will thus become more harmonious and ordered. Yes, we will go into Earthlings, into their Chains of Life. We will share ourselves and our psychic telepathy so that Earthlings can begin to operate telepathically, and thus together. Yes, this is a good idea," and upon that they both agreed.



Kali was furious. "What," she snarled. "They have dared to leave the greater cosmos and come inside Earthlings. Oh, this is just awful, Shiva. All Life in Everywhere likes harmony and order better than disharmony and disorder, and it is such a lot of work to maintain disorder and disharmony. Everything is on the side of Meta and Physics and it won't be long before they convince the Lord Harmony to join them forever. Why, he might even divorce me then. I'm sure he secretly wants to marry that stupid Goddess Wisdom. Just imagine, Shiva, what would happen to us if Wisdom and Harmony married? Why we would be ruined forever! No, something serious has to be done."

Kali thought and thought and thought. She created and uncreated many mind-forms of her plots. What she would aim for this time was the complete destruction of Meta and Physics -- although deep within her she knew that she could never completely destroy something the Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother had created.

"Aha!" she said one night, while reclining comfortably in Shiva's many arms, "I know what to do. It is their telepathic mind-link that gives them their awesome power, for through it they can instantly agree upon everything. Yes, Shiva, we must destroy their mind-link, and in so doing we will destroy the telepathic mind-links that are forming among Earthlings."

"But how can we do this?" asked Shiva. "How can we destroy something the Great Cosmic Parents have created. That is

impossible, for only They can erase what They have brought into existence."

"True, all too true," sighed Kali. "All would be very simple if it were otherwise. But then everything in Everywhere has been difficult for me. We cannot destroy the Twins, Shiva, but perhaps we can get them to destroy themselves. We must cause them to disagree over something and to make them experience pain in their psychic telepathic mind-link. Then perhaps the one will pull apart from the other. When that happens, I can attack them as separate issues."

"But what would do that?" Shiva asked. "What could possibly separate the Brothers?"

"A woman, I think. Yes, a very beautiful and wondrous Mirages," Kali said sweetly. "Yes, two beautiful and wondrous women-Mirages that are so utterly different that there will never be peace between the Twins again. Let's see. I once created a mind-net of Mirages. There must be something in that net we could use. Ah, I have it. Let us begin with Meta, for he represents the interests of the Lord Pneuma."

And so Kali dragged out one of the Mirages she had put into her mind net, a Mirage tremendous beauty and attraction which she had named the Mirage of Heaven. Into this magnificent creation she put all the virtues of the Lord Pneuma and was very careful to not include any of the virtues of the Universal Mother. Thus, when Meta looked upon Heaven, he would see only his own great

self reflected in her wonderful eyes, and Physics would never be able to find anything of his own in her.

When Meta first laid eyes on Heaven, it was all over at the first glance. He was transfixed and was never to be the same for a long, long time. So he said to his brother: "Physics, just look at her. Is she not wonderful beyond compare. I have long awaited a wife now we must take one."

"What's this 'we' stuff?" Physics asked. "I don't like her at all. She is just a mirage, Meta, and created by Kali at that."

"Even so," Meta replied, "something so beautiful can't be all that bad, and just remember that there is nothing that can be created that is not real someplace in Everywhere. Besides, the more Earthlings that think upon her the more real she will become. I will marry her, and we shall call our new kingdom Religion."

"But this is all insanity, Meta!" cried Physics. "When more and more Earthlings think upon her, she will change her form depending upon how she is thought of. She will never stay the same. For the first time, I must disagree with you."

"But I must have her," said Meta stubbornly. "I am so in love with her that I would like to see Heaven everywhere I look. Don't worry, all things will be the same between us and you will know what I know because we are still linked telepathically."

And so, over Physic's protest, Meta wed Heaven and this began the Age of Religion for many Earthlings fell in love with the Mirage also, and tried to figure out how to get into her. It wasn't long before Earthlings began to write philosophies about Heaven, and Meta forced Physics to tolerate these since they flattered his beloved wife, Heaven. And as more and more Earthlings thought about Heaven, she began to change, since whatever was thought of was created as a mind-form which took on a life of its own.

Heaven became, as well as a mirage-being, a mirage-place of golden light and eternal life and even the bubble-headed Harmony liked her and experimented with many ideas about Heaven's possible harmonies and orders. Physics was in great pain since he foresaw enormous disaster heading their way.

"There can be no disasters," Meta said. "How could there be, for Heaven is just too beautiful to have disasters."

But the impossible happened. When Shiva, himself a mirage, saw Heaven, he too fell incredibly in love with her and took her secretly as a lover. Heaven was willing because mirages have no will of their own. So Shiva brought to Heaven his own infernal kingdom of destruction, terror and fear, a kingdom he called Hell.

"Look, now," Physics said to Meta. "She doesn't love you at all. Surely you can see she is nothing but a mindless mirage."

"I don't care if she loves me or not," Meta said. "What is important is that I love her, for in her I see myself reflected in great glory. I shall not divorce her."

Soon Earthling writers were philosophizing about the new kingdom of Religion and about how to fit Heaven together with Shiva and his kingdom Hell. And as more and more Earthlings thought upon the issues involved, the greater and more real they became as mind-thought-forms which took on lives of their own. Soon, all the evolutionary mental Chains of Life on Earth were filled with these thought forms, and it wasn't long before everyone began thinking and doing and being within the contours they represented.

Although she had to share Shiva with Heaven, Kali was very pleased. And she now turned her attention to Physics, for she knew it would be only a matter of time before he left his brother and broke the telepathic mind-link that bound them into one. He, too, would need a special Mirage to fall in love with.

From her vast mind-net of Mirages, Kali dragged out a very special Mirage. Into this mirage she put only those elements that represented the Great Universal Mother and was very careful to leave out any hint of the Lord Pneuma's attributes. She named this new creation the Mirage of Matter.

Meanwhile, Physics began to hate his brother. Meta's power over Earthling religions grew and grew and the religions themselves changed and changed again, and new thought-forms

resulted. Soon there were new gods and goddesses everywhere, on mountain tops, in the oceans, in the clouds, and demons too, inside the earth where Earthlings thought Hell was supposed to be.

The Evolving Earthlings were not satisfied only to think their new gods and goddesses into mind-forms. "Every meta mind-form should have a physical form in which to live," they petitioned Meta. "Let us create the Arts so that our mind-forms can be expressed and become concrete."

"As long as Heaven predominates in these artistic creations, I won't mind," replied Meta. And so it was that the kingdom of the Arts came into existence.

In his fascination with Heaven, Meta gradually began to lose his will totally. Eventually he became so totally blown out over her that when Heaven invited him to bed with herself and Shiva-Hell, he agreed and went to their embraces willingly and allowed the philosophies of Hell to become dogmas in all the new religions the Earthlings were forming.

"You are doing this only so you can sleep with a mirage," snarled Physics at his brother. "It's all totally disgusting!. How can you sleep with the Shiva-Mirage, too, with his hundreds of arms and everything else? You are disgusting, Meta, so disgusting that I don't even know how to tell Mama and Papa! I am done with you. I hate everything you have come to represent. I hate you. I will break our mind-link forever." And so he did.

When Kali learned of this, and found out that Physics was almost insane with grief and hiding out in a town called Babylon, she smiled and brought the Mirage Matter there. She was careful to study the situation, for the smallest mistake in her plotting could undo all her great work. Physics was, after all, very smart.

She saw she would have to make certain alterations in her creation, for the Mirage of Matter had to be totally different from Heaven. There could be nothing in Matter that might remind Physics of Heaven, for he would reject her. And there could be nothing that reminded him of Meta, either. When her alterations were done, she had created a wondrous and beautiful mirage which she named the Whore of Babylon.

When Physics first saw the Mirage Babylon, it was all over in an instant. Here was a Mirage-woman in which he saw himself totally reflected, and he fell deeply in love and married her right away. Babylon introduced Physics to all the delights of matter, and made the Universal Mother's great kingdom all the more real.

"Where have you been all my existence?" Physics asked.

"I am but a Mirage," Babylon-Matter answered, since Kali had specifically instructed her to be honest.

"I well know that," Physics replied, "but you are a Mirage that will last a very long time and I will never again have to

think about Meta and his own whore, Heaven. Oh, how painful all that was."

Soon, among Earthlings, Physics and Babylon has many followers who turned into believers who turned into philosophers, and they called this new kingdom Science. Naturally, they produced thought-forms and soon there were scientific gods and goddesses everywhere. They, too, were not satisfied with only thinking their new scientific thought-forms. They petitioned Physics: "Let us give our new scientific thought-forms something concrete to live in. Let us invent the Crafts and our scientific thinking can go into them."

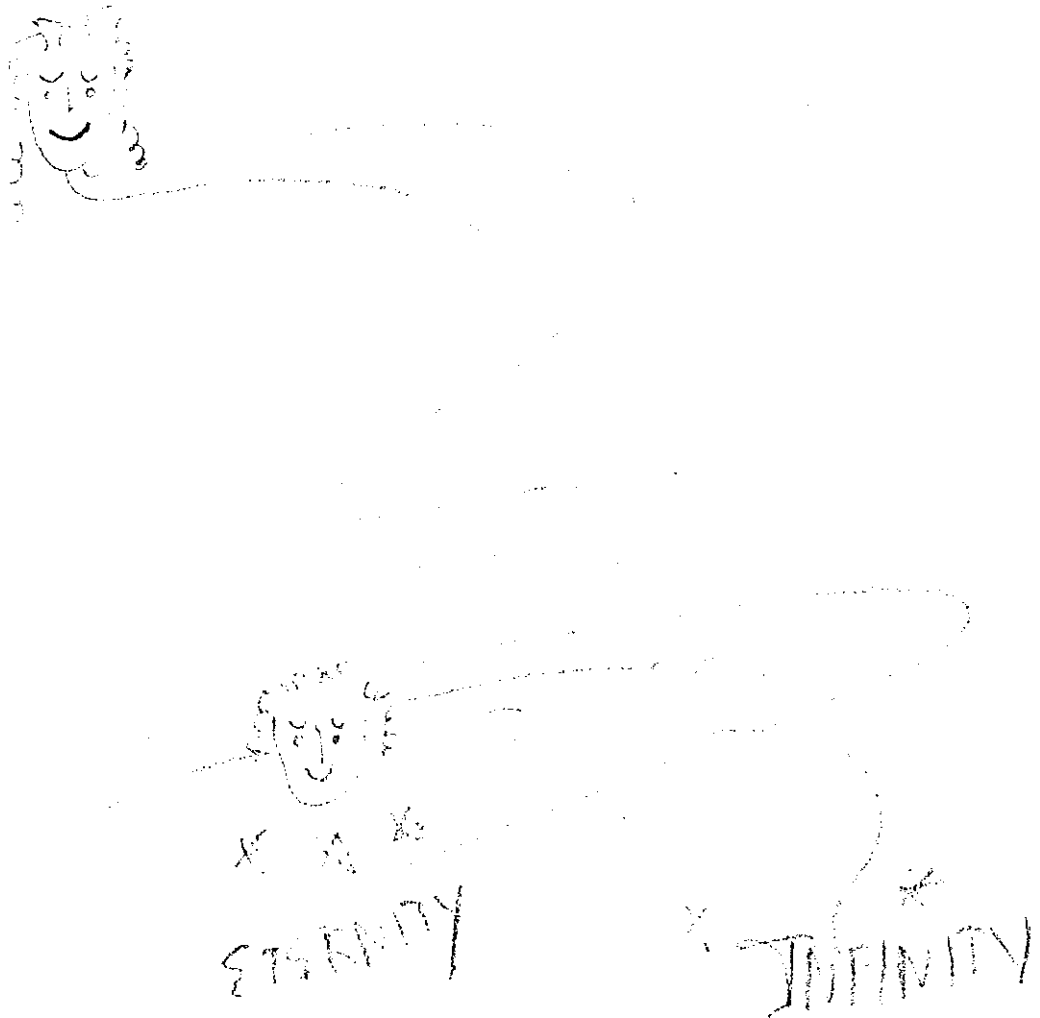
"I shall not mind this," replied Physics, "so long as Matter predominates and there is no hint in the crafts of anything Meta." And so it was that the kingdom of the Crafts came into existence.

Thus it was that Earthlings became divided into the followers of Meta (all varieties) and the followers of Physics (all varieties), and Kali smiled and began her dirty work of destruction and confusion anew.

After a while, Eternity (who took her time over everything) finally noticed this division and saw that Kali and Harmony as well as Meta and Physics had actually taken the very unusual step of entering into the evolutionary Chains of Life on the planet Earth.

"I can't imagine what they hope to gain by doing this," Eternity said to Infinity (who never knew where anything began or ended).

"Yes," agreed Infinity. "Why should they want to get into evolution when they are above and beyond it in the first place? This seems like a really stupid thing to do and I'm sure Mama and Papa are not going to like this development at all."



And the Great Pair certainly did not! The Universal Mother was furious: "How dare they enter into their own creations!"

Can't they see they will soon mistake their creations for themselves? Soon they will not know which is themselves and which is not themselves. Alas, poor Earth and the poor Earthlings upon it. Now they are going to be really confused."

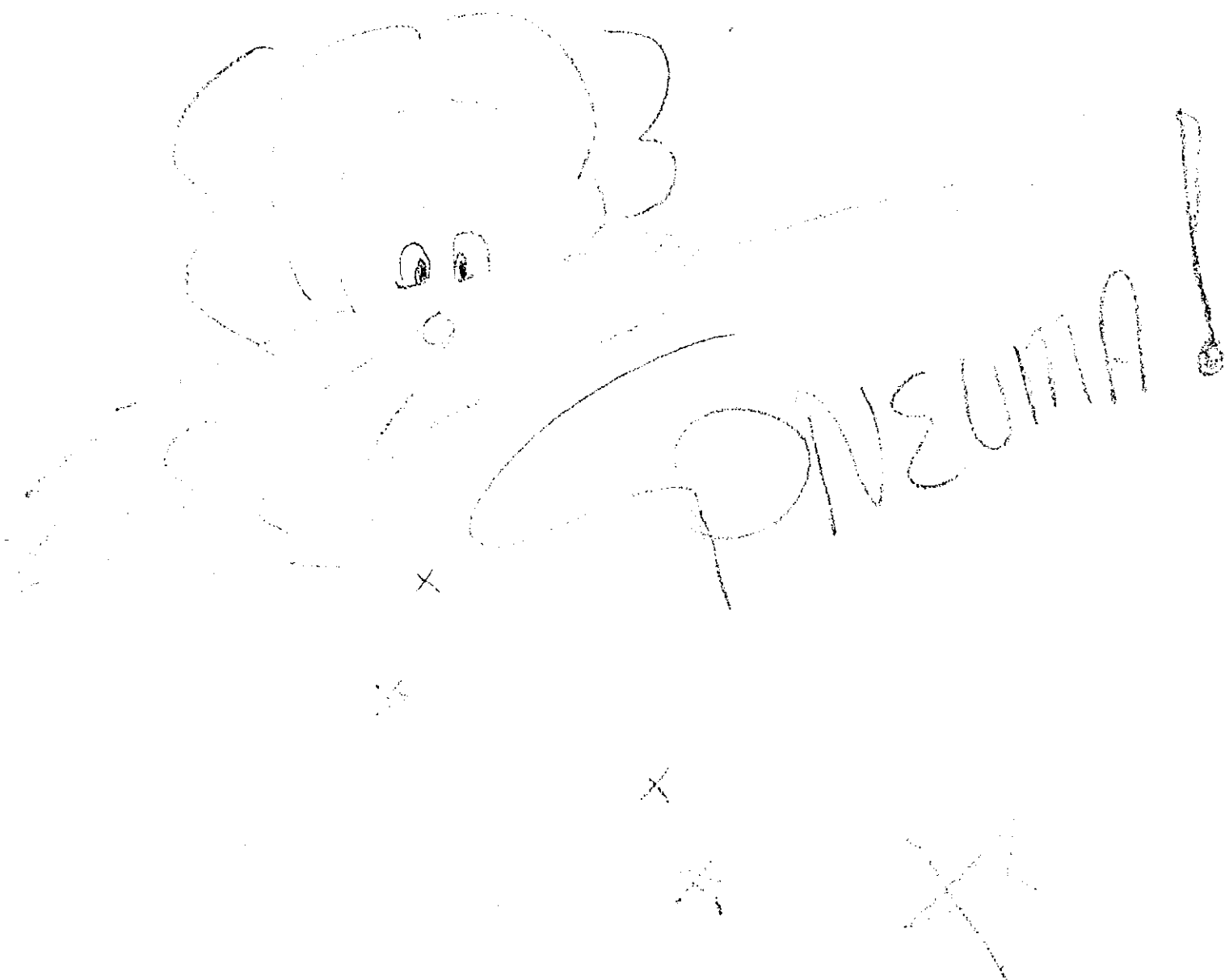
"True," sighed Lord Pneuma, his mighty breath rocking all the boats in the all of Everywhere, "all too true, Big Mother [his pet name for her when they were being close because of their problems]. We have been not very fortunate in our children. And what of Earthlings? Their particular Forever is going to be such a mess that even Eternity and Infinity will not know what to do about it all."

The Mother continued grumbling and Lord Pneuma continued sighing, until all the Forevers in Everywhere started shaking and quacking and everything and everyone from the greatest to the smallest understood that the Great Cosmic Pair had a great problem bothering them.

Said the Mother: "What will happen when Earthlings learn to travel through Eternity and Infinity to other stars and nebula, to other Forevers? Doubtless they will infect the evolutions going on therein. They will spread their confusions throughout the whole of Everywhere. Quite possibly, Pneuma dear, they will disrupt your blueprints altogether. Then where will we be?"

"True, all too true, Big Mother," said Pneuma. "We will have to quarantine Earth and the solar system in which it is until our children learn to make right what they have made wrong."

And I, myself, will go there to do it -- and to lecture our errant children."



And so it was that the Great Lord Pneuma -- whose very glance could turn topsy turvy such a small dust-mote thing as a planet -- came to visit Earth. When they learned of his coming,

Meta and Physics were terrified. "See what you have done, Meta!" yelled Physics. "You have brought Papa's wrath down upon our heads."

"Heaven help us," moaned Meta while Physics scuttled off to hide in the arms of his own wife, the Mirage called Matter.

The very boundaries of Eternity and Infinity creaked and groaned as Pneuma made his great voyage and a lot of stars exploded and a few galaxies and nebulas even collided.

Kali, too, was terrified. "My father-in-law is on his way here," she screamed to Shiva and to Lord Harmony! I can't imagine what he has in mind by making such a long trip in his old age. This is all your fault, Harmony, for it is you who has failed to maintain harmony and order in our evolutionary games of pleasure and entertainment."

The Lord Harmony didn't like this accusation very much. "What I've done I've done to please you, Kali. I've done all this because of my love for you!"

Lord Pneuma realized that his coming would shake up Earth quite a bit so he sent out his own great telepathy to warn those Earthlings that were capable of hearing him. "Go to the mountain tops or build big boats, for my coming means tremendous storms and floods and your tiny planet will rock and roll. Volcanos will erupt and some of your continents will shake loose and collide and change shape. New mountains will rise up and the sea beds will empty themselves."

And when Lord Pneuma arrived in the environment of Earth, his mighty breath could by everyone be seen moving through the storms and clouds in the skies above the shaking land and churning great walls of water.

Said (roared) Lord Pneuma to his children: "You are all a bunch of nasty brats and don't deserve to be called cosmic-born at all. You have turned your Parent's great enterprise into nothing more than a cosmic soap opera. I have come, now, to tell you what is to be done, and what is to be done is my will, and thus it will be done.

"Since you have, in great error, lusted to enter into your own evolutionary creations the more to mold and shape them into your own confusing ideas and games, from this moment on that is precisely where you will stay until, through them, you learn to resolve all the problems that have resulted. No more shall you have the great powers of myself and the great Universal Mother. You are demoted and limited to the state in which you now find your own creations until such time as you raise them up and free them from your own mistakes."

"Father!" protested Lord Harmony. "This isn't fair! You are depriving us of our heritage."

"So I can, and so I have just done," nodded Pneuma. "I have so spoken, and so it is done. There is no recourse."

"But this is all Kali's fault," Harmony continued, "and I

now want to divorce her and marry the Goddess Wisdom and I want sole custody over our children, the three Fates and Destiny."

"Never!" screamed Kali. "I want the children, and I want child support and alimony, for what am I to do without Harmony's powers? I shall be destitute!"

"Harmony has no more powers now, save for those he can create for himself," replied Pneuma. "As to your children, you may have sole custody of your daughters, the three Fates, while Harmony shall take Destiny, his only son. Thus I have spoken, and so it is done."

While Kali wailed, and while Harmony was glad enough to get his son, Lord Pneuma spoke to the Goddess Wisdom. "I am particularly disappointed in you, Sophia. What good does it do to sit in the skies above Earth with your eyes blinded by your veil? This is not wise, for it only keeps you from seeing things clearly. You have made the mistake of trying to treat equally all those who have come to you for help. Yet you have not been able to see that it is better to help harmony and order than it is to help chaos, disharmony and disorder. It's no wonder you don't have many clients among the ever-evolving Earthlings. From this time onwards, you are forbidden to wear your veil and your eyes are to be perpetually open. As to marrying Harmony, you may do so if you want. So I have spoken, and thus it is."

"Venerable Father," sobbed Sophia. "I can now see that even Wisdom can err if she is too far above the problems that need

her, and too detached from their internal workings. I have been a snob. I will do penance by marrying Harmony, but I regret that I was never his first choice. I will try to be a good step-mother to his son, Destiny, and through him try to instill the principles of harmony and order with those of wisdom. And I promise never again to let wisdom be blind by snobbery."

"Thus I agree, and thus it is," replied Pneuma. "Now, around Earth and its solar system I shall create a ring-pass-not. Neither yourselves nor any Earthlings may exit this ring nor may any visitors from any other Forever pass into it. This ring shall be closely guarded by Eternity and Infinity and I now give them permission to create all manner of mirages to ensure that no one will ever penetrate this ring until you have saved Earthlings from yourselves and until they are suitable to go into the cosmos without the threat of infecting all and sundry with your mistakes. Thus I have spoken, and thus it is."

The Lord Pneuma made ready to leave Earth's environment. He spoke his final words. "Lest your forget all these new rules, your Mother and I shall come out of our old, old, old age and bear yet two more children. The first of these will be the Lord Akasha, who will remember all things external to of those evolutionary Chains of Life you have created, but will include memories of those, too. The second will be the Goddess Psyche. We shall send her to reside inside the Chains of Life you have created and remember the blueprints and everything that has

happened since the blueprints were first designed. Neither Akasha nor Psyche will be answerable to any of you, and their sole purpose will be to serve these poor Earthlings you have brought into existence, and all other of Earth's Life-Mind Forms. In this way, Earthlings will have memories of what you have done. These we will send to Earth, and these cosmic children will be the last to penetrate the ring until this Forever in which it exists is shaped up."

Kali didn't like this one bit. "But in sending Akasha and Psyche here, you are, in effect, making us slaves to themselves and to all these terrible Earth creatures, also. That is not fair! After all, why should Earthlings be superior to us who are cosmic-born?"

"Quite possibly," replied Pneuma, "because they are superior or, at least, might turn out so. At any rate, thus I have spoken and thus it is and this conversation is concluded."

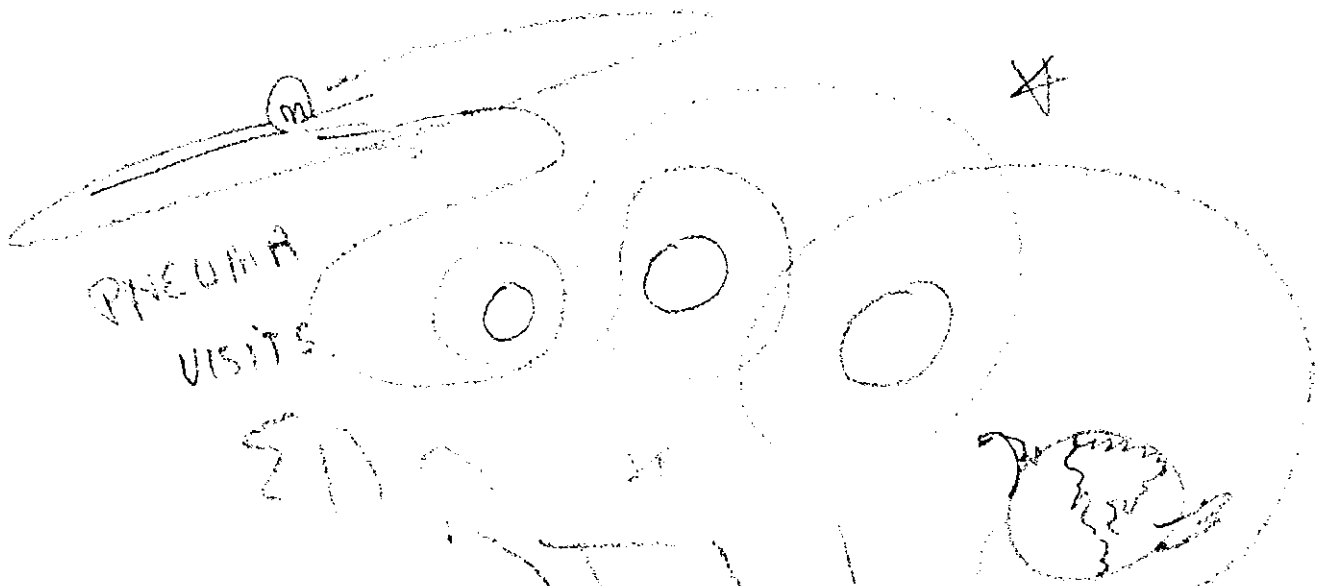
Lord Pneuma left Earth and its environments, and Earth's Forever rocked and rolled again and the ring-pass-not closed around.

As to Meta and Physics, the Lord Pneuma didn't even ask to speak to them. But many Earthlings had seen Pneuma blowing in the clouds above Earth. When the followers of Meta ask what Pneuma should be called, Meta created his first real lie: "You may call him God and the creator of Heaven above us all." When the followers of Physics asked him the same question, Physics

created his first real lie: "What you saw was an illusion and a figment. You may call him the supernatural and forget about him."

When Pneuma had rejoined the Mother and told her of what he had done, the Mother sighed and said: "Ah, if only Harmony had married Wisdom in the first place, none of this would ever have happened. But let us now get to work and send Akasha and Psyche to Earth to help those poor Earthlings, since none of our other children have been able to do."

And so it was that Akasha and Psyche came to reside in the Forever that contained Earth and its solar system. Psyche got inside the Chains of Life upon which evolutionary tree was growing while Akasha took up his own position outside the tree. In this way, the kingdom of Memory came into existence, and those Earthlings that wanted to know this kingdom were free to search for it. In this kingdom of Memory, memory of everything that has ever been, is now or will ever be was possible. And certain highly-evolved Earthlings soon came to have that memory. But the followers of Meta (Religion) and Physics (Science) hardly ever paid attention to the kingdom of Memory.



When this had come about, Kali said to Shiva: "Well, now, we have a new problem. The best way to cope with this is, I think, for us to sire our own child. We will call her Forgetfulness, and the three Fates can help rule her kingdom. That will at least give them something to do now that they are growing up."

"But," said Shiva aghast, "such a child would be half cosmic and half mirage. This would not really be a very good blood line, for the mirage half would change according any of the mind-thought ways Earthlings might conceive."

"Yes," Kali mused. "But think of it all. Meta and Physics would both like her, for she would help them into forgetfulness. They need not remember anything they did not wish to, and could even forget each other. They will both want her, and through her both Meta and Physics will come under our own direct control."

Naturally enough, in this state of affairs, Meta and Physics shunned any contact with Akasha and Psyche, and both soon lusted

after Forgetfulness whose darkness Kali and Shiva took care to make very attractive. In Forgetfulness's blackness, neither Meta nor Psychics could see each other, nor anything else they didn't want to see.

But all in all, and in the last analysis at this stage of the cosmic soap opera, rulership had shifted from the hands of the cosmic-born into the hands of Earthlings themselves as was Lord Pneuma's wish and the Earthlings finally figured out what all this implied. The top-of-the-line evolutionary Chains of Life saw they were the best evolution had to offer and took over all, paying homage to themselves by calling themselves evolutionary humans.

Meta and Physics were content with this, except that Meta decreed that humans should continue their evolution under Meta-Religious principles while Physics decreed that the evolution should continue under Physics-Science principles.

Meta taught the belief that humans evolved from the Mirage Heaven, while Physics taught that humans had evolved from the Mirage Matter, and it was in this way that two separate evolutionary Mind lines developed among humanity in general.

And it was only natural, considering the essential differences in these mirage-beliefs, that the two groups should begin to devote a great deal of time to trying to destroy each other's mirages. Unknowing lost in the comfortable embraces of Forgetfulness, Meta-ites denounced Matter as a great whore, while

Physics-ites called Heaven a great superstition. And the project of discovering and proving the differences between Meta and Physics consumed humankind for many centuries of Earth time.

Kali and Shiva just loved all this. Forgetfulness knew just what to do which was to keep everything forgotten -- an easy task at bottom -- and the three Fates soon marked out their special territories in the opposing camps and had their way with humans in both of them. Kali's big goal was to ensure that Meta and Physics would never remember who they really were or had been. As long as this could be done, Kali knew she could rule over humans and it did not matter at all what Pneuma or the Mother had in their minds.

But Kali had not counted on one thing. Before Pneuma gave over evolution to Earthlings, cosmic rulership over Earthlings had been easy since that rulership was a simple matter. It was held in her own hands, those of Harmony who was bubble-headed, in those of Wisdom who was a snob, and in those of Meta and Physics whom she was able to divide easy enough.

But now, rulership had fallen directly into the hands of Earthlings, and there were by now billions and billions of separate evolutionary life units everywhere. Kali soon found she could not be everywhere all the time, and certain humans at rare times soon escaped her baleful influence.

Sometimes some of these humans shrugged off the dark folds of Forgetfulness and encountered Akasha and Psyche and

evolutionary and cosmic memories began returning to those that did so. "Look," they said to each other, "there is really no difference between Meta and Physics when you can see into their cosmic source. Let us put them together, in our own telepathic mind-thought forms at least, and set about discovering the real realities that lie beneath the both of them. Let us call our new evolutionary inquiry Metaphysics."

As might be expected, almost everyone else hated these new Metaphysicians, especially Kali and Shiva, the Fates and even Meta and Physics and their wives, the Mirages Heaven and Matter and all the humans that followed in the footsteps of each of them. Meta and Physics were horrified to find their names joined together by humans, and to make their differences clearer, Meta decreed that hence forth his kingdom should be called Religion (which meant to tie all meta-thinking back into the Mirage of Heaven) and Physics decreed that his kingdom should be called Science (which meant to seek physics-knowledge only in the Mirage of Matter.)

Commented Kali upon this: "Meta and Physics are being really very stupid and simplistic. Not all humans can be fooled all the time by a mere shift in names. No, the real new enemies are those evolving human Metaphysicians. We must concentrate upon these few, Shiva, we must cloak them even tighter in Forgetfulness and set the Fates upon them."



But Wisdom, no longer being blinded by her own veil of snobbery, noticed these struggling Metaphysicians and said to her husband, the Lord Harmony: "Look at these poor struggling Metaphysicians and how Kali and her legions are attacking them. We must take sides finally. Let us try to show them the ways to

harmony and order and through these to wisdom. And let us ask Destiny to show them the way. After all, Destiny is growing up and needs something to do."

"But how will we ever prevail?" moaned Harmony. "Kali's kingdoms of chaos is ever so much larger than this tiny new kingdom of Metaphysics."

"We must get used to the new idea," Wisdom mused, "that we are not cosmic rulers any longer and cannot begin our creations on a vast cosmic scale. Here on Earth your father Pneuma has reversed everything, and so great things must begin very small."

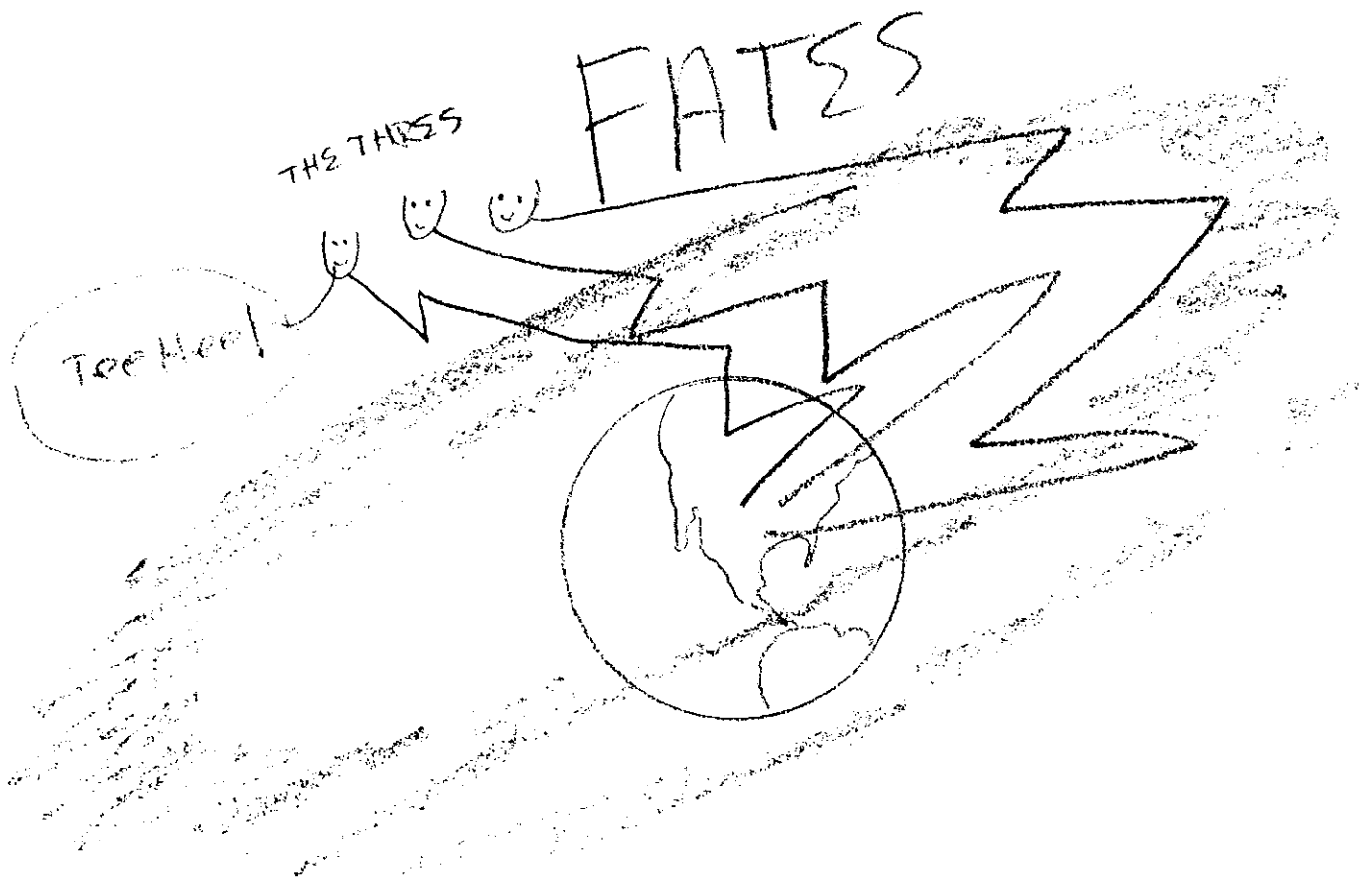
"Well, perhaps you are right, Sophia," Harmony agreed. "But it's going to be an up-hill task all the way."

And so it was that Wisdom, Harmony and Destiny took the side of Metaphysicians."

This move was very embarrassing to Meta and Physics and created a considerable stir between religionists and scientists, and great human ways were devised by both these sides to destroy any Metaphysicians that chanced to develop in Religion and Science. Kali and Shiva and the Fates just loved this, and they could exult in the destructions of mind-forms and even physical bodies that resulted. To keep them from disturbing Religion, religionists burnt at the stake those Metaphysicians that they could not force to recant their metaphysical outlooks, and to keep Science free of Metaphysics, scientists dragged

Metaphysicians into lunatic asylums to keep them from infecting the rest of humanity.

The human years began to consist of very dark ages indeed, and over all this, Forgetfulness, Kali, Shiva and the Fates ruled almost totally supreme no matter what things looked like on the surface.



Despite Lord Pneuma's ring-pass-not around Earth and its solar system, gossip began to drift into Everywhere that there were unusual goings-on on Earth. "Is it really true," everyone in Everywhere began asking in amazement, "that the great Parents

have actually corralled their cosmic upstarts on that miserable dust mote?"

Soon the truth was known, despite any measured Eternity and Infinity could devise to hide this embarrassing fact. And equally soon, many Life-Mind-Forms in other sectors of Everywhere wanted to visit Earth to see what could be seen. But all these visitations had to be done as secretly and cleverly as possible, for no one in their right mind wanted to anger Lord Pneuma or the Universal Mother.

So it wasn't long before covert trips to Earth were arranged by clever tour guides, and Eternity and Infinity could hardly be expected to keep track of all these. Eternity was too slow, and Infinity hardly knew where anything began or ended.

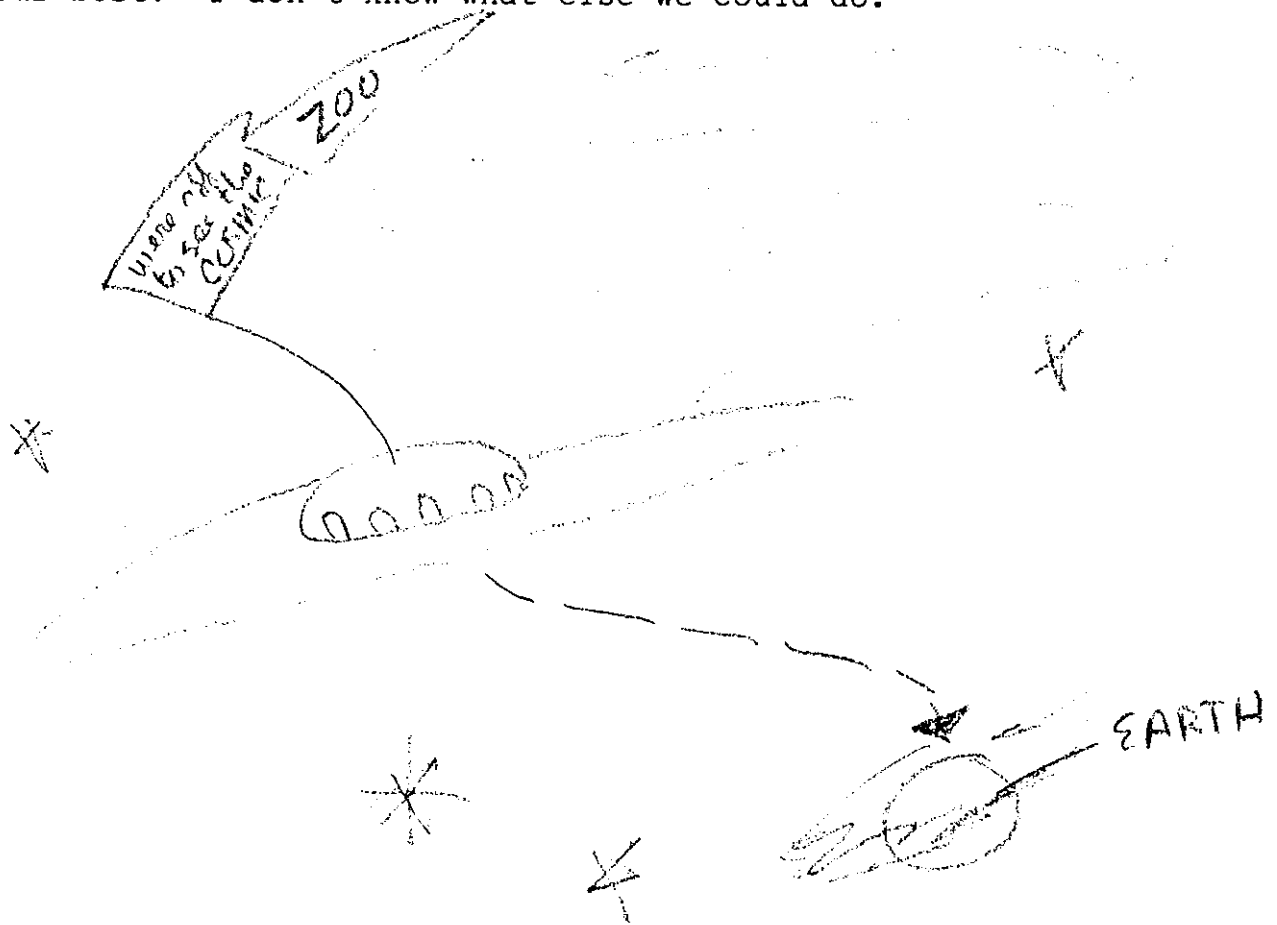
Advertisements began appearing here and there on the cosmic highways. "Visit the evolutionary zoo called Earth. Special rates for groups!" "See the cosmic freak show." "Have the thrill of your life -- see what you might have become." Earth's skies began popping with visitations, which humans came to call Unidentified Flying Objects. But their poor minds, badly evolved and confused by their own ever-present messy thought-forms, could hardly make sense of them.

Cosmic authors began writing horror stories based on gossip they had heard about Earth. These became very popular throughout Everywhere, and it wasn't long before Kosmik Hollywood in the

Andromedan Nebula began to pick up the rights to these novels and make gripping cosmic TV mini-series' of them.

Lord Pneuma grumbled when he found all this out. "Well, the infection of Everywhere has begun, dear Big Mama."

"Well, dear Pneuma," the Mother replied, "have we not done our best? I don't know what else we could do."



Meanwhile back on Earth, both Meta and Physics began to realize that things were somehow pointing to a great crisis. Finally Meta condescended to talk to Physics: "Brother, we have gotten things in an awful mess, and the only ones profiting are Kali and her terrible entourage. What can we do?"

"Nothing, as long as you are wed to that Mirage called Heaven," Physics replied.

"And nothing, as long as you are wed to that Mirage called Matter," Meta retorted.

"I will not give my beloved Mirage up," said Physics stubbornly.

"And I don't see how I can give up my blessed Mirage, either," replied Meta.

"Thus there is nothing that can be done," they said to each other, "and upon that we can agree."

But the fact that Meta and Physics could agree upon anything at all, even if it be disagreement, worried Kali. "We have a new problem, Shiva. All is lost if Religion (Meta) and Science (Physics) ever re-establish their telepathic link again, for all humans will automatically become metaphysically telepathic along their evolutionary lines of development. We can't have this."

"But what are we to do?" asked Shiva. "We also have to deal with Wisdom, Harmony and Destiny who are gaining in power and are starting to act in unison as a Great Triplicity. I've even learned that the followers of Religion are starting to call them 'the holiest of the holy' and are giving them a slew of new trinity names."

"Not to worry," replied Kali. "Religion will be confused forever. I know you are just a Mirage yourself, Shiva, but you have to try to be smart. Our greatest, greatest danger is

telepathy, for telepathy sees all, telepathy hears all, telepathy feels all, and so telepathy knows all and shares all. Telepathy would see through you in just a split second and would know you, in all your terribleness, for the simple Mirage you are -- just a human-created mind-form! Then where would you be? Humans would un-think you in an instant. Poof, and you would be gone. Their own evolutions are making humans smarter and smarter, you know."

"Yes, I see what you mean," said Shiva, a little worried. "But then, what are we to do? This is all getting very complicated."

Replied Kali with an evil smile on her face: "We must arrange things so that Religion and Science will reject telepathy forever. Let us secretly arrange that Meta and Heaven shall have a daughter named Telepathy. The Metas won't like this since, in principle at least, Heaven should remain pure and unsullied such a thing as a pregnancy. Meta will reject Telepathy and thus will followers of Religion also. No, let's not call her Telepathy. Let us cause her to be called Psychic. This name is close enough to that of cosmic-born Psyche, so that through this confusing similarity perhaps Psyche will be rejected also. Naturally, Science (Physics) will want nothing to do with Psychic, and so she will become a perpetual outcast. Oh, the utter joy of it all. Soon, Shiva, we will have everything in disharmony and disorder again. What ecstasy for us!"

And so it was that the Mirage Heaven found herself pregnant with Psychic. Meta was furious, and when the new child was born he threw her out of Religion and taught the followers of Religion to avoid her at all costs. And, as Kali had planned, Science (Physics) would have nothing to do with his new niece, either, and taught the followers of Science to avoid her at all costs.

Meanwhile, Physics and the Mirage Matter bore several children of their own and called them the Sciences. First came Physics, Jr., whose duties were to research the intricacies of matter and discover its blueprints. Then came Chemistry and eventually Biology whose duties were to research the Chains of Life and discover their blueprints. Then came more Sciences -- Astronomy, Zoology, Medicine and so forth -- which began to specialize in particular aspects of all this blueprint hunting.

Each of these Sciences treated their work as a craft and eventually many, many humans joined these crafts, and Physics taught them that Science was all that is or could ever be.

Poor Psychic wandered and wandered the world over, and neither the adherents of Religion nor the adherents of Science would look in her direction.

Wisdom finally took pity on this unwanted child. Said she to Harmony and Destiny: "Let us lead this poor child to human Metaphysicians and they to her. Let them discover that, through Psychic, they can connect up to Psyche and Akasha. They will

then discover their own telepathy and through it they will be able to penetrate into cosmic memories."

So Destiny began leading budding Metaphysicians to Psychic, Harmony began revealing harmony and order to them, and Wisdom showed them the wisdom in all this and it wasn't long before more and more Metaphysicians were connecting up to Psyche and Akasha.

All this made Shiva quite nervous. "Not to worry, Shiva," replied Kali. "We will help Religionists and Scientists slay Metaphysicians and maintain disorder and disharmony between them and among them as well. Let the Fates do this. They are always eager to be set on something. Ah, the joy of it all."

But it was hard for Kali and the Fates to be everywhere all the time, and more and more Metaphysicians were slipping through Shiva's terrible net. And those that slipped through were picked up by Wisdom, Harmony and Destiny and led to Psychic, and thus to the memories held in the cosmic minds of Psyche and Akasha. It wasn't long before these Metaphysicians began to see Forgetfulness as the Mirage she was.

And Metaphysicians became smart, because human evolution headed them towards smartness. In order to avoid the dooms that Religion and Science would mete out if they discovered their existence, these Metaphysicians decided to form secret societies and conduct their research in private. It wasn't long before many secret metaphysical societies were producing great works and great writings about wisdom, harmony and destiny.

But these great works and great writings reminded the Twins of the telepathy they had once shared and now hated the idea of, and so both Religion and Science set up police networks to hunt down and destroy metaphysical offenders and to keep the forbidden works out of the domains of Religion and Science.

"You see," Kali smiled to Shiva, "I told you Religion and Science would do our work for us! Isn't all this fun?"

Then one day something happened which no one had planned. In their advancing years, Physics and the Mirage Matter conceived another child, a daughter, whom they named Psychology.

At first Physics and the Mirage Matter were pleased. "But what shall be her work?" Matter asked. "We have given our other children, all sons, work to do, and we must always remember that an idle child is a troubled child."

"True, all too true," agreed Physics, remembering what had happened to the Lord Harmony in his idleness. "Let her work be that of discovering the material blueprints for the workings of the human mind."

At first the brothers of Science didn't like their new sister at all and made life difficult for her, as brothers are wont to do. Physics, Jr., claimed his right to investigate the physical aspects of the human mind, and Chemistry claimed his special rights and Biology claimed his. And soon Psychology hardly had anything to do at all except write up research papers that could be endorsed by her brothers.

Finally Psychology was exasperated. Said she to herself: "I must find something about the human mind that my brothers are not investigating and then they can be as chauvinistic as they want, but I will have my own work to do."

As it happened, Destiny overheard this secret thought of Psychology and reported it to Wisdom and Harmony.

"What a wonderful opportunity," smiled Wisdom coyly. "Destiny, you must lead Psychology into researching this terrible Forgetfulness that Kali and Shiva have inserted into the evolutions of the human mind. Then humans will begin creating anti-Forgetfulness thought-forms and these will soon take on a life of their own. This will throw a considerable monkey-wrench into Kali's plans."

Thus, Destiny quietly led Psychology into the deep, dark folds of Forgetfulness and soon psychologists could see through much of that darkness and found Psyche beneath it. Science and his sons were very irritated by this development.

Science took his daughter aside and said: "Dear daughter, this does not bode well. You are moving too close to meta-problems and we don't need any of these in our mighty House."

"But Papa," Psychology retorted, "just look at this Psyche. She contains all the blueprints my elder brothers are looking for. Surely if Science is to be Science, it is only fair and necessary that I should continue my own discovered work."

Science frowned, but realized he needed to be diplomatic. Daughter could, after all, be rebellious. "You may continue your work as far as it pertains to matter. But you must forget about Psyche and all the meta-problems that might arise as a result of getting in contact with her. If you forbid your adherents to research Psyche, then I will let you continue with your own work. The other choice, of course, is for me to close down your work altogether."

Now Psychology was after all Psychology and she already knew something about that topic. She realized she must bide her time, for she already knew that time is an advantage and that time changes situations and that time heals breaches. "Certainly, Papa, that I'll be glad to do."

So Psychology let her crafts limp along while biding time and in her own heart made the beginnings of a plan to marry Destiny whom she knew liked her already. Soon Psychology and Destiny were conspiring behind the back of Science and the mighty Science brothers. "We have to be careful and cautious," Destiny warned her. "If the Fates discover us, they will tell Kali and then all hell will break loose. But I'll quietly lead certain human Metaphysicians to you and you will tell them best how to present their work."

Naturally enough, since lovers will be lovers, it wasn't long before Psychology and Destiny had produced several illegitimate children, Meta-psychologists one and all. Science

was, understandably, quite irritated, but he and his mighty sons consoled themselves in the fact that these new children were, after all, only illegitimate and no one need take them seriously as far as Science proper was concerned. Meta-psychologists joined the ranks of the Metaphysicians and all waited for the day they might come out of the closet.

Meanwhile, Science and his sons had prospered and grown in power and the day came when they eclipsed Religion and Religion soon had to start begging for adherents. The sons of Science were really quite proud of themselves and they said to each other: "Well if there is one thing we can see clearly, it is that Religion is married to a mirage and this we must tell everyone as soon as we can." Another thing the sons of Science said to each other was: "Well, we have made enough progress by now so that we no longer need any of the old crafts. Let us throw them out and call our new crafts by another name -- Technology."

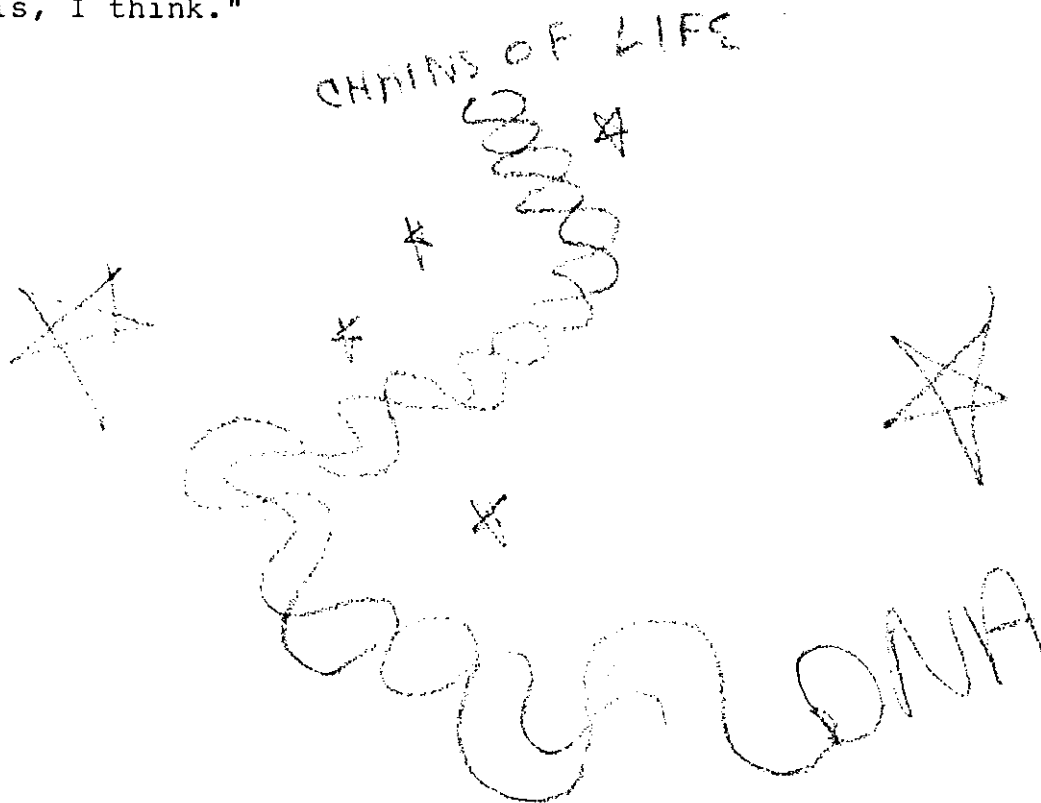
And so it came about that, on Earth, the mighty Age of Technology started up. But, as with any new age, it was riddled with problems of its own creation and lack of creation. For one thing, like all craft-making, technology proved to be a dirty business and its wastes started polluting the environment of Earth. For another thing, Physics Jr. found out how to smash the nucleus of the atom and release the energies Lord Pneuma and the

Universal Mother had blueprinted into it. But with pride, humans now styled themselves as creators of the Nuclear Age.

For yet another thing, Biology had finally managed to locate the Chains of Life, calling them DNA structures. And for yet another thing, Astrophysics had managed to invent great telescopes and were beginning to peer into the great depths of Everywhere.

And finally, all the Sciences combined had gotten the idea of making space ships to try to pierce Lord Pneuma's ring-pass-not and invade the territories of Eternity and Infinity.

Said Eternity to Infinity when they had noticed this development: "We'd better tell Mama and Papa. They won't like this, I think."



When Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother learned that humans were poking at the parameters set by Infinity and Eternity and were about to export their problems and confused thought-forms into the rest of Everywhere, they only smiled. "Well, let them go to their Moon, if they want, nay, even to Jupiter and Saturn. Once outside their solar system, they will bump into the ring-pass-not. But by the ways are mismanaging their Earth environment, they will blow themselves up before long."

"A great pity," said the Universal Mother.

"Yes, a great pity indeed," agreed Pneuma. "They have a certain charm, those humans."

"If only Meta and Physics would make up," Infinity and Eternity speculated, "things would be different."

But Kali and Shiva looked at all this in a different way. "Oh, goodie," exclaimed Kali. "Total destruction! What a joy! Then we can start things from scratch all over again, Shiva. What fun that will be."

And the Fates were pleased, too, since they found great fun in leading all and everything into doom.

One day, however, Physics Jr. had the shock of his life. There he was peering into the blueprints of matter, and his penetrating gaze had tracked down every mote and iota of matter.

He suddenly found he had gone right through matter! And that there was a new, mysterious universe beyond it, a universe that didn't resemble the blueprints of matter at all.

"Well," he said to himself. "This is a surprise. This is very meta! But I can hardly call my discoveries metaphysics. Papa Science won't like that. So I'll now style myself as Quantum Physics, since quantum means 'jump,' and by discovering this new quantum universe, I've made a tremendous jump from the blueprints of matter into the blueprints of something new and very interesting and very, very different."

After a while, the very serious consequences of his discoveries began to dawn upon him. "You know," he said, very carefully, to his other Science brothers, "I'm beginning to get the idea that our very own mother, the Mirage Matter, is a mirage."

"Stuff and nonsense," the Science brothers replied.

"No, I'm really quite serious," Quantum insisted.

"Stuff and nonsense again," the Science brothers protested. "Our great father would never have married a mirage, of all things. Why, that would mean we all are half-breeds, and half of us has been a mirage all along. Unthinkable, totally unthinkable!"

"Well, we all had better really start looking into the implications of all this," warned Quantum, "and soon, for if all this be true, then we have no real wisdom at all, and the chances

that we will blow up Earth and turn our environment into a mini black hole are very good."

And so the mighty Science brothers began pondering all this. Finally Biology began the painful admission: "Well, Quantum. You know we have discovered DNA -- the Chains of Life. Well, they are just there, and we can't imagine how they could be just there save that they must be built upon something very quantum, too."

"Yes," admitted Chemistry. "If only we would tap into the great memories of the Universe itself, that would be a great help. Do you suppose that this Psyche and that Akasha the Metaphysicians have been talking about all along are really real?"

The mighty Science brothers became so quite at this thought that you could hear a pin drop in Earth's environment.

"Papa won't like this," Chemistry warned the other brothers, "and it certainly won't be me that will me who will be the first to tell him."

So none of them told Science anything, and busied themselves in their own affairs and the Fates continued rushing Earth and its environment towards doom.

As a result of all this, however, Quantum found he couldn't keep his eyes off Psychic, the rejected daughter of Religion and the rejected niece of Science. "Strange," mused Quantum to himself. "I seem to be seeing Psychic in a new light and I can

now begin to see that she is a real meta-woman. Her beauty is very strange, but it is a certain beauty at that. Just look at all her telepathy, and that is just what I need to get in contact with Psyche and Akasha."

The result of all this was that Quantum proposed marriage to Psychic and they eloped.

Science and Religion were astounded when they found out about this elopement. Said Meta to Physics: "Can't you control your own sons? Look what will happen now. They will have children who will evolve towards cosmic telepathy. And this is terrible, since you and I hardly can speak to each other."

"None of this would ever have happened," replied Physics sternly, "if you had not gone insane over that Mirage Heaven."

Meta snorted: "Well, you didn't do any better with your Mirage Matter. If I was a fool, you were a bigger one."

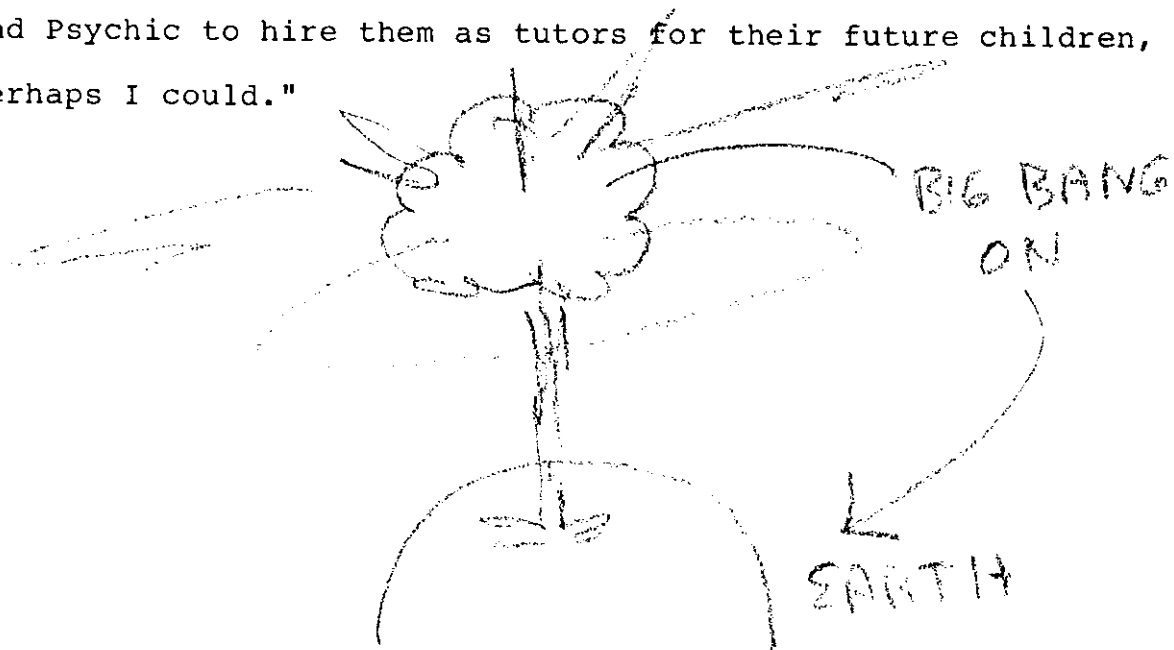
They pondered between them, coming dangerously close to reactivating their broken cosmic telepathy link. But they soon jerked apart again. Said Meta: "What will our adherents think of us? How can we tell them we both were fools?"

"What a mess this is," said Physics. "It's no wonder that Pneuma refused to even speak to us when he visited Earth eighteen thousand years ago."

But Wisdom, Harmony and Destiny were smiling. "Just look at them," Harmony laughed. "I don't envy them their problems of disharmony and disorder."

"But what wonderful opportunities this crisis is offering," Wisdom pointed out. "Destiny, you must step in and take the lead. The time is more right than it will ever be. You must devise ways to lead humankind into a new age. Do you think you can do that?"

"Well," Destiny pondered. "If we could convince Psyche unite her efforts with those of Akasha and then convince Quantum and Psychic to hire them as tutors for their future children, perhaps I could."



And so this was the situation in Earth's environment as Earth's evolutions approached the twenty-first century. But the cosmic soap goes on. Will Meta and Physics restore their telepathic mind-link? Will Psychic and Quantum produce children, and will Psyche and Akasha tutor them? Will the ring-pass-not remain in place or will evolution turn humans into suitable cosmic citizens and convince Lord Pneuma to remove it?

Will Wisdom, Harmony and Destiny win out? Will the Mirages Heaven and Matter be un-thought and fade away. Will humanity be able to create thought forms of harmony and order that will guide them into a new age?

And what of Kali and Shiva?

When this terrible duo finally realized what was going on, Kali said to Shiva: "My dear, we really have a problem now. We must try to expedite total destruction before Quantum and Psychic can bear their children. Hurry, hurry! Call the Fates to me. I have new instructions for them."

With this, Lord Pneuma and the Universal Mother turned off their cosmic TV set through which they were watching all these events. "Tomorrow is another day, beautiful Mother. Let take a break from watching the all that goes on in Everywhere. Let's go out and have a good dinner for a change. It's been a long time since we enjoyed one."

CLOSING NOTE

If Earth disappears in a big bang of human making, you will never be able to read Book II of The Great Cosmic Soap Opera, for it will never be written, at least from the Human point of view.

