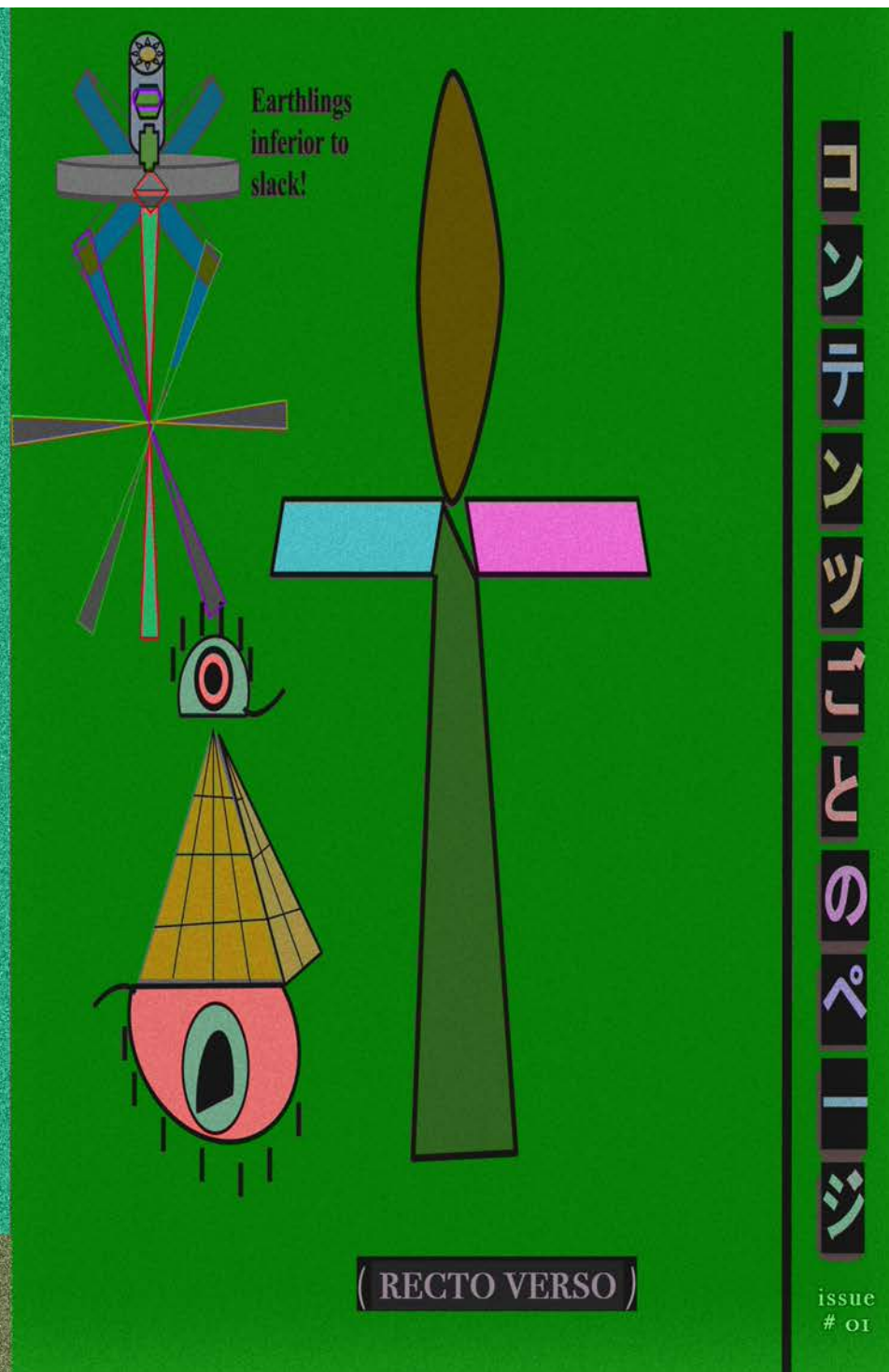
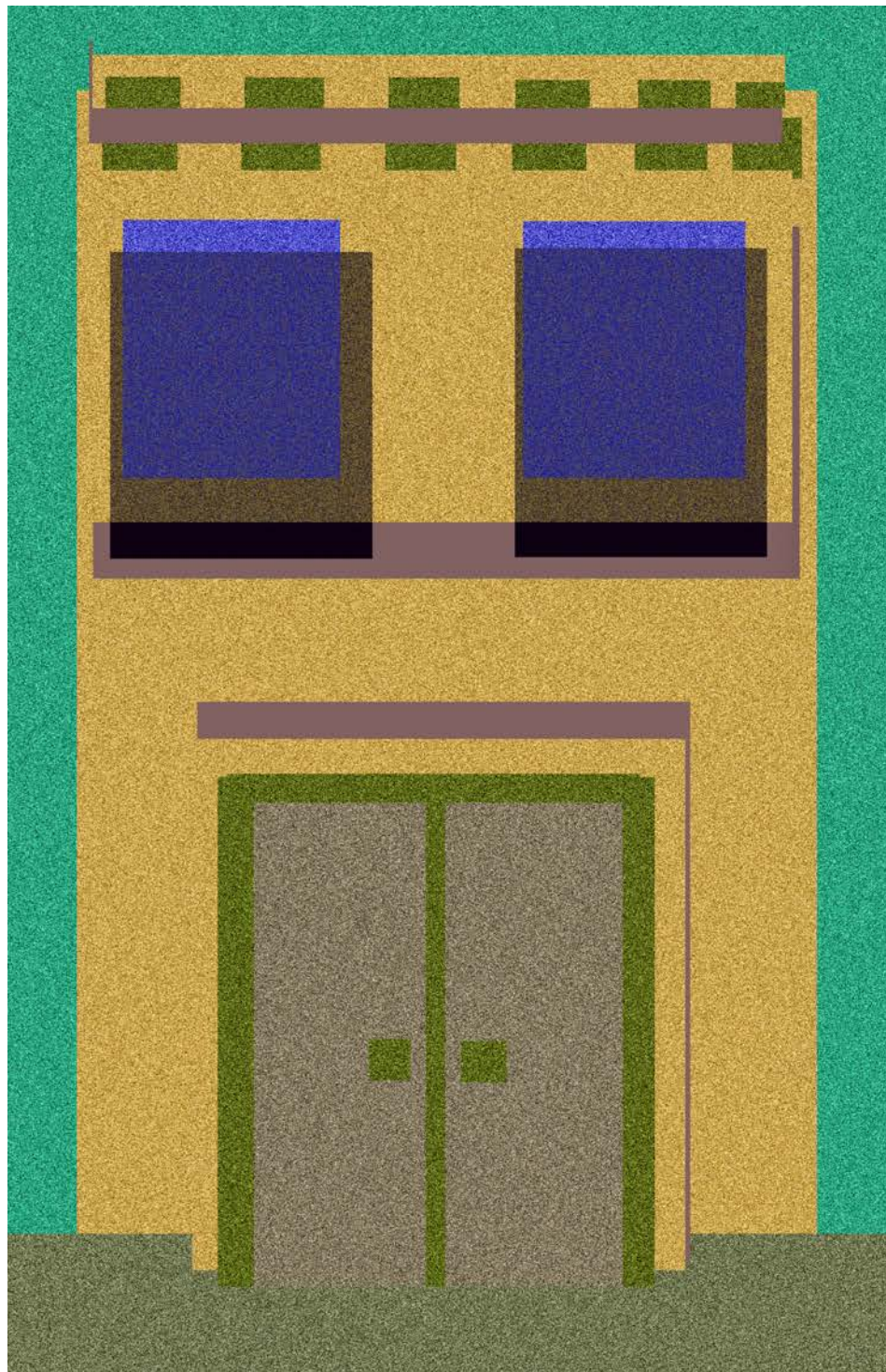
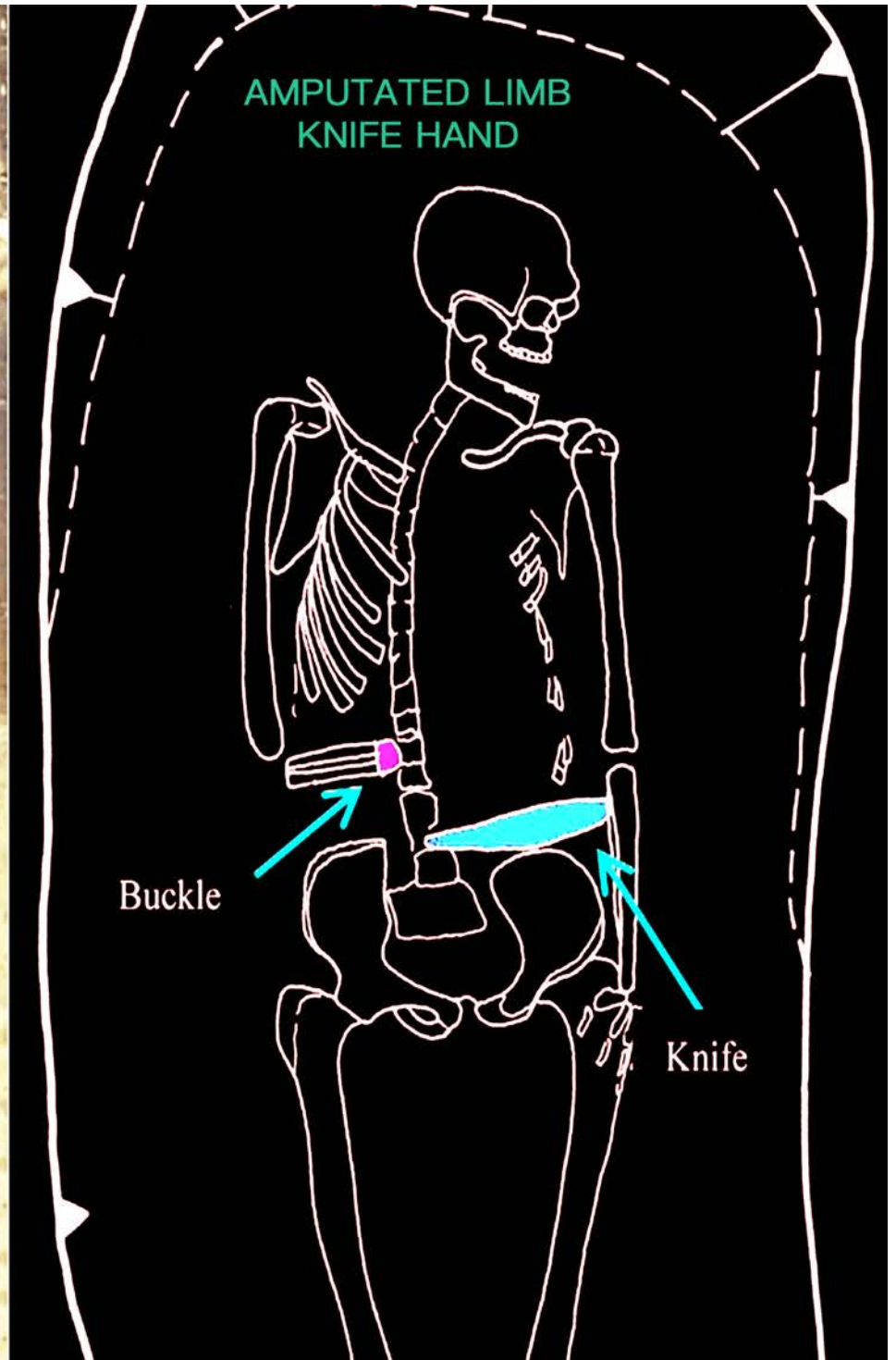
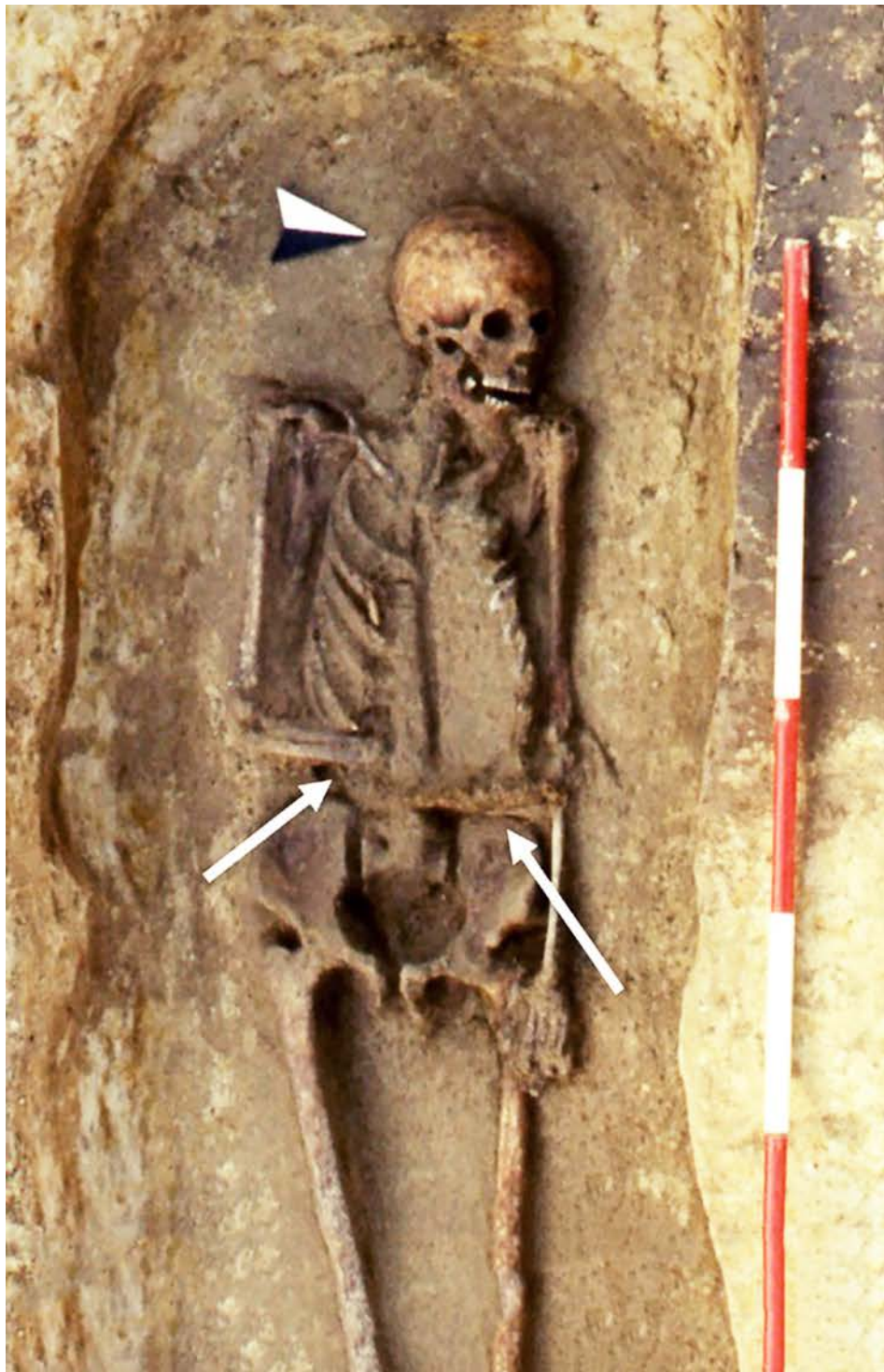
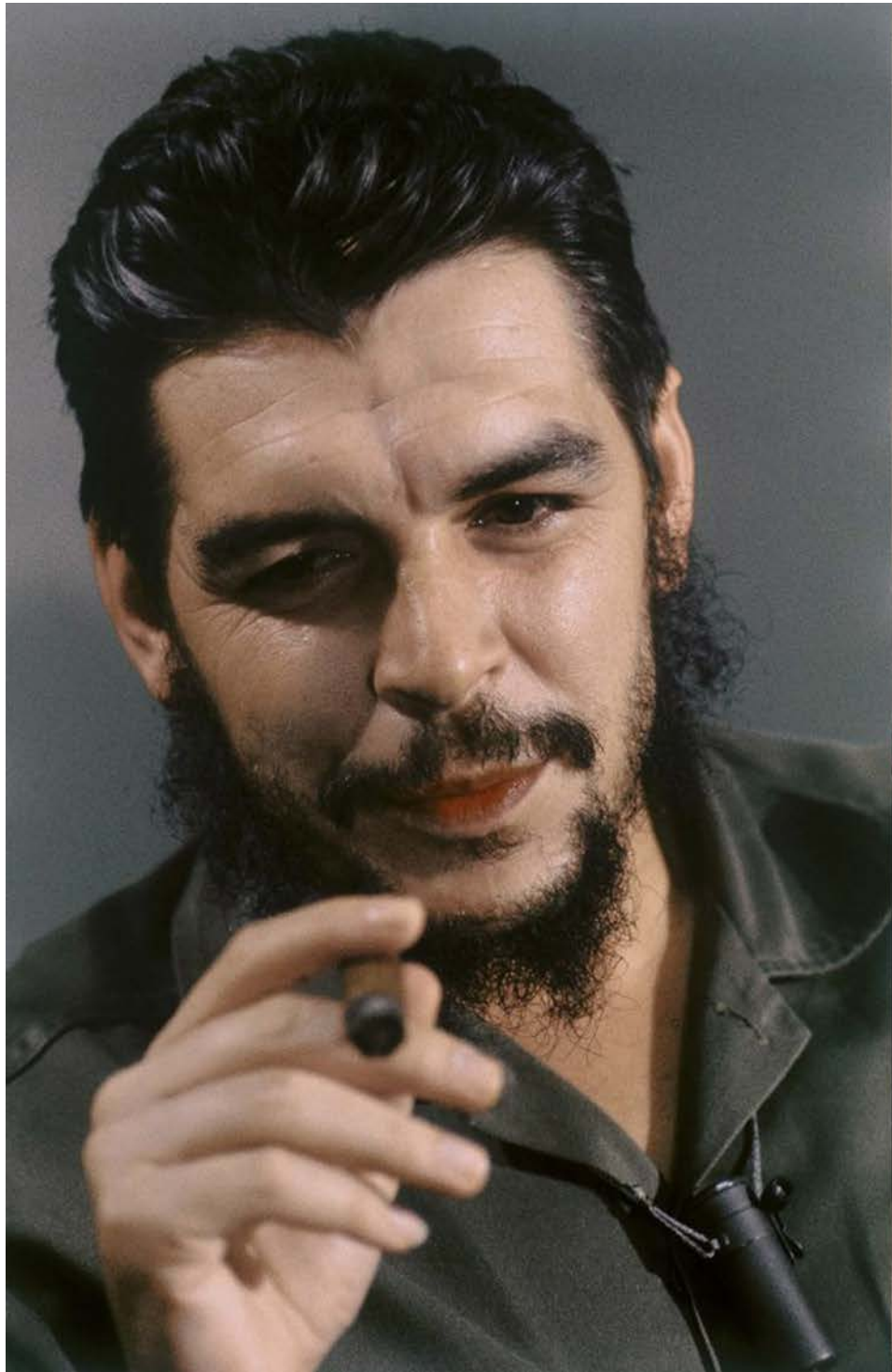








HEIL! CHIEF.

**ABRACADABRA, THE WOMAN OF YOUR
DREAMS IS A PHRASE, SAY THRICE
HANDS FOLDED**

**" SE EL YILO NEBRAKADA FEMININUM! AMOR ME SOLO!
SANKTUS! AMEN."**

ABRACADABRA!!

THE MAGICKA VEILING MYSTERY

HEIL CHIEF

THE MASTERS OF WISDOM HEIL CHIEF IN MEDITATION.

EXCELSIS!

**WAF T AROMA OF NECK TO SEDUCE
HER PURE SCENT OF CELERY**

HAPPY, HAPPY, CRAZY.

**INSANITY IN
OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE ARCHITECTURAL MASONRY**

FREE?

**MY BODY CHANNELS AS STILLNESS
EMITS LUCID ENERGY**

FOR THEE, YOU, ME

**NAMASTE GUATAMA
ASSALAMUALAIKUM!**

PROPHET

**FOR HER, JESUS, I HUNG YOU
AND WOULD AGAIN**

**FOR I AM HE!
THE UNSPOKEN NAME IS MINE TO BEAR
SANCTIMONIOUS IMMORTALITY**

I AM HE!

CREATOR

MASTERER OF FIRE

EARTH

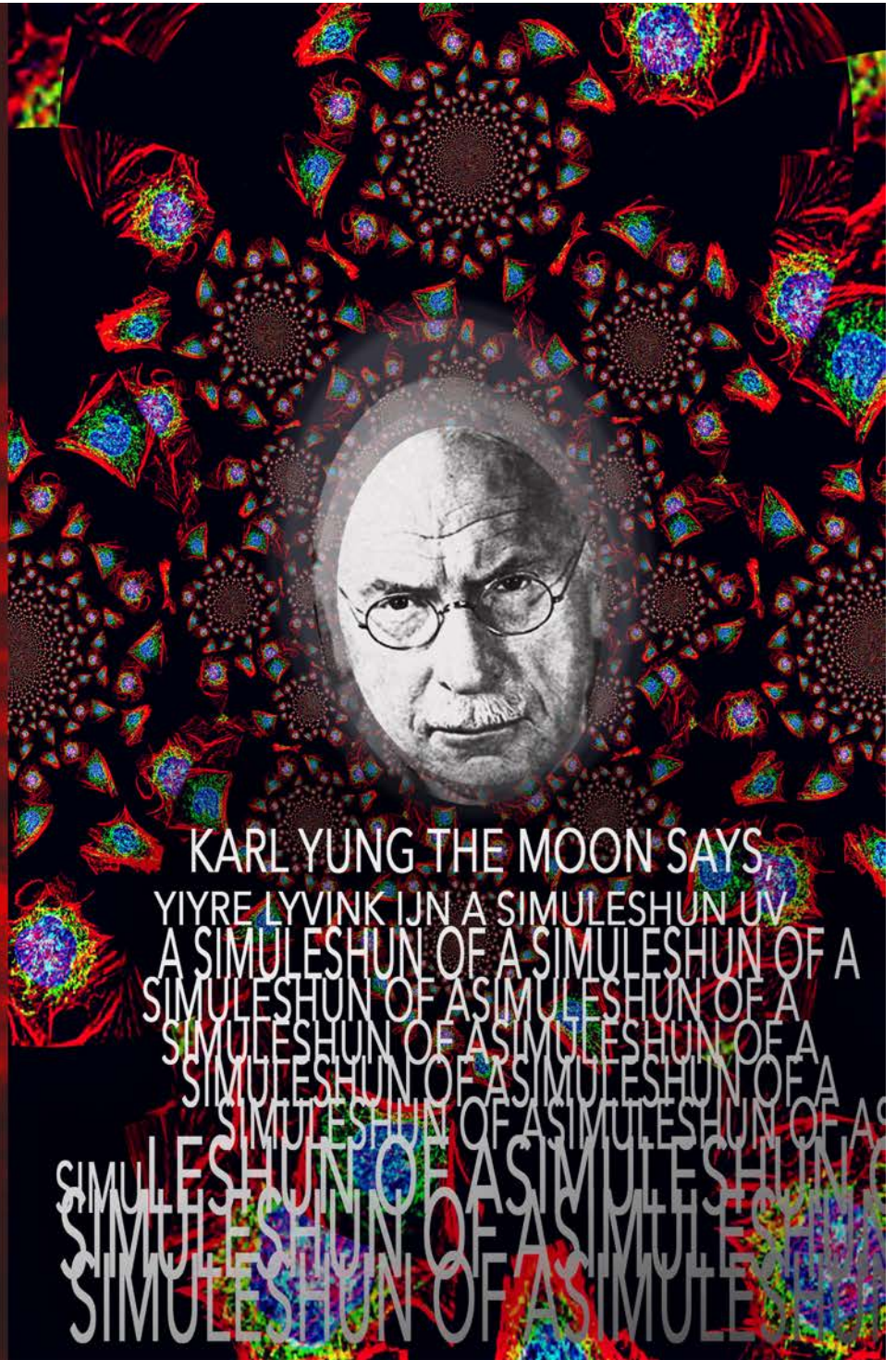
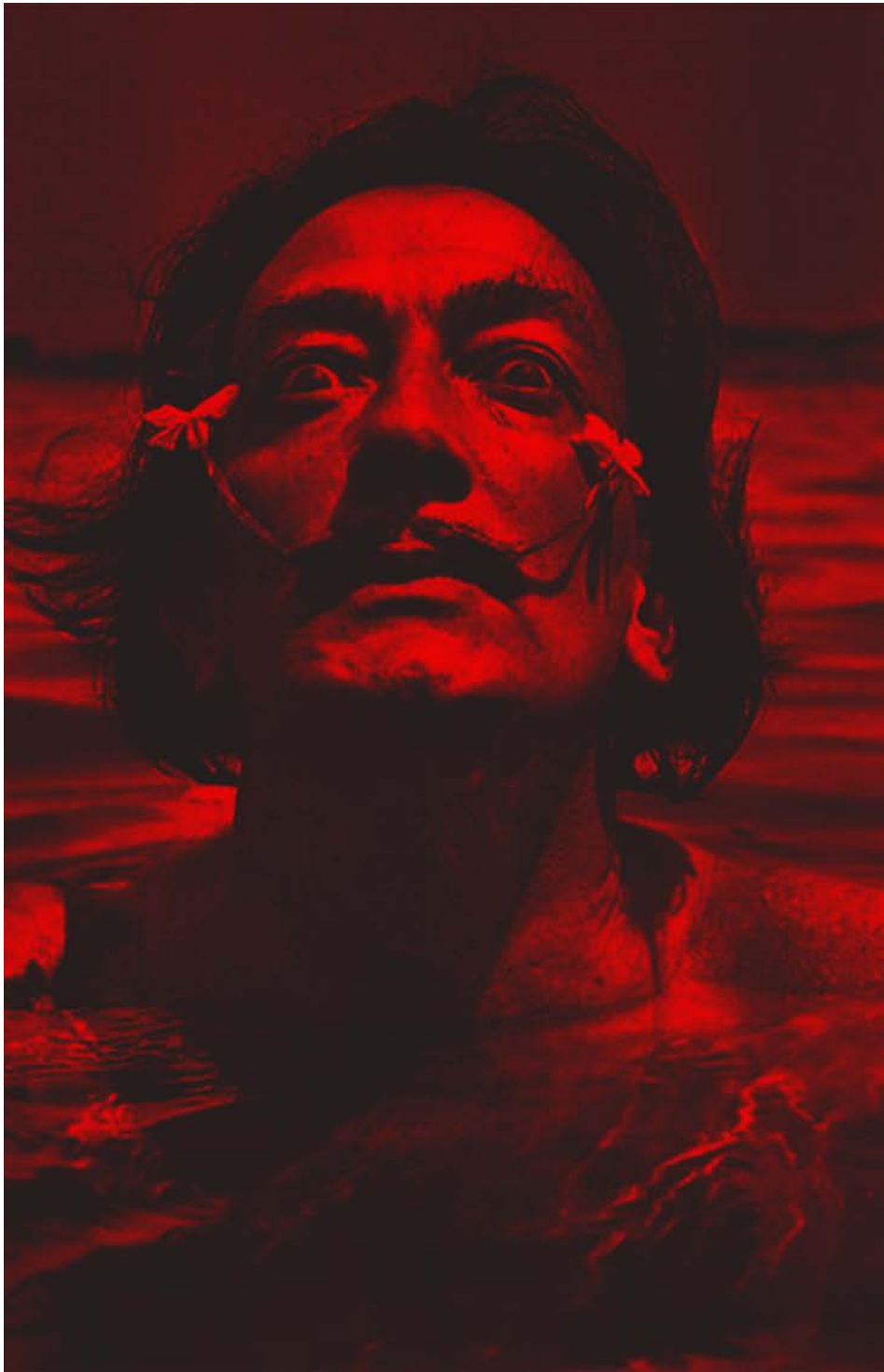
WATER

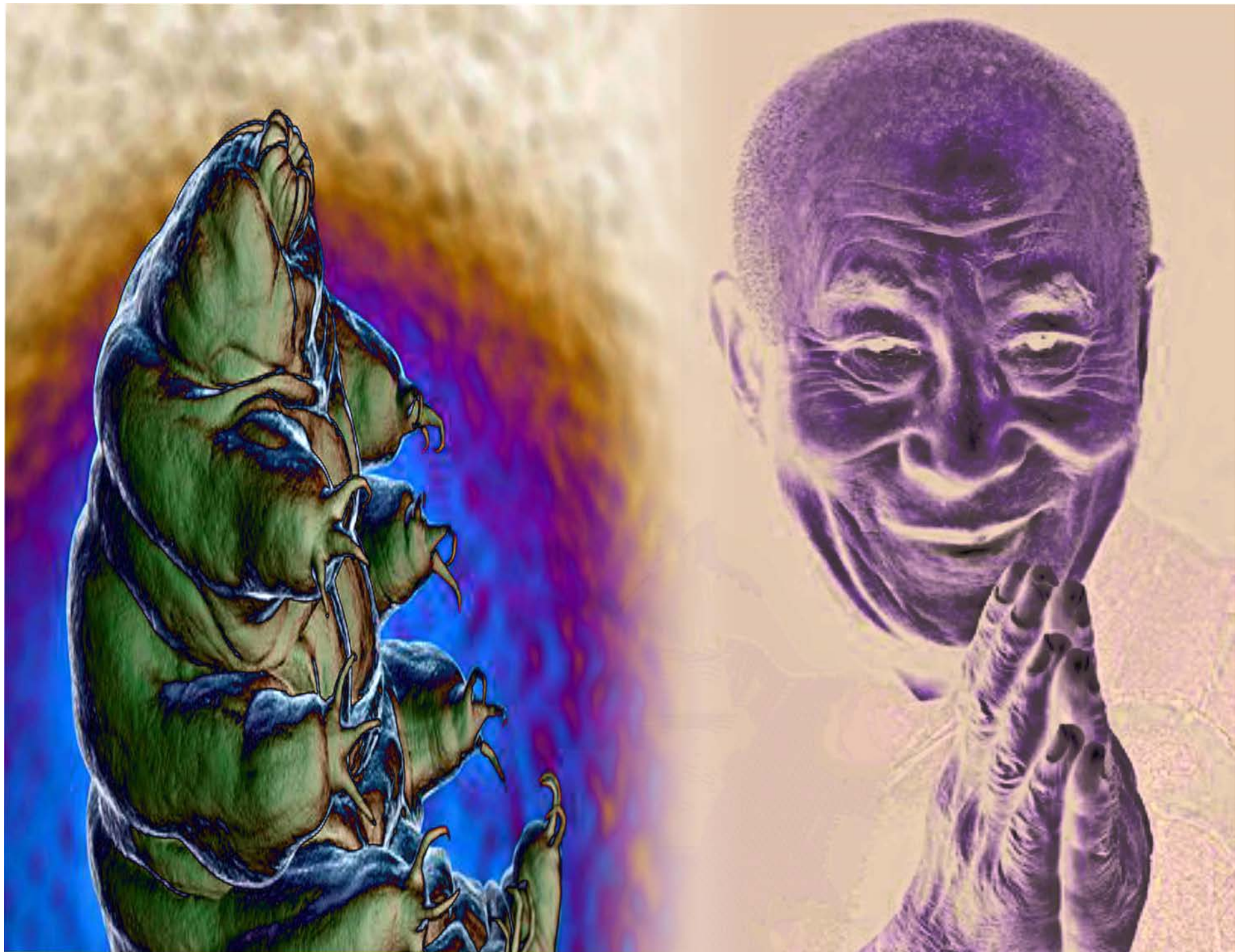
AIR

MELEK TAUS

PEACOCK ANGEL SELF AWARE







THE CASUAL COSMOS

AN IN-DEPTH SUMMARY



By : William Masterson

Missoula, Missouri Grade 4

How is Space

Whether you're in a VR simulation on Mars doing experiments with the Curiosity Rover, a Corporate CEO with a finger on the pulse of civilian space travel or mining asteroids, and Kazakhstan. One similarity is threaded through here, a role being played in the next step on what some say is the final frontier. With people starving and dying en masse here from diseases still without a cure we collectively have an itch to spread and colonize another planetary body. Romantic seemingly as seeing a night sky full of wonder, and how far we have come since Earth being the center of the solar system. Are we still willing to ask how ready are we to take the next step out of our only known place of existence into the next chapter of humanity? And not only if we're ready but who to entrust this task to and why?

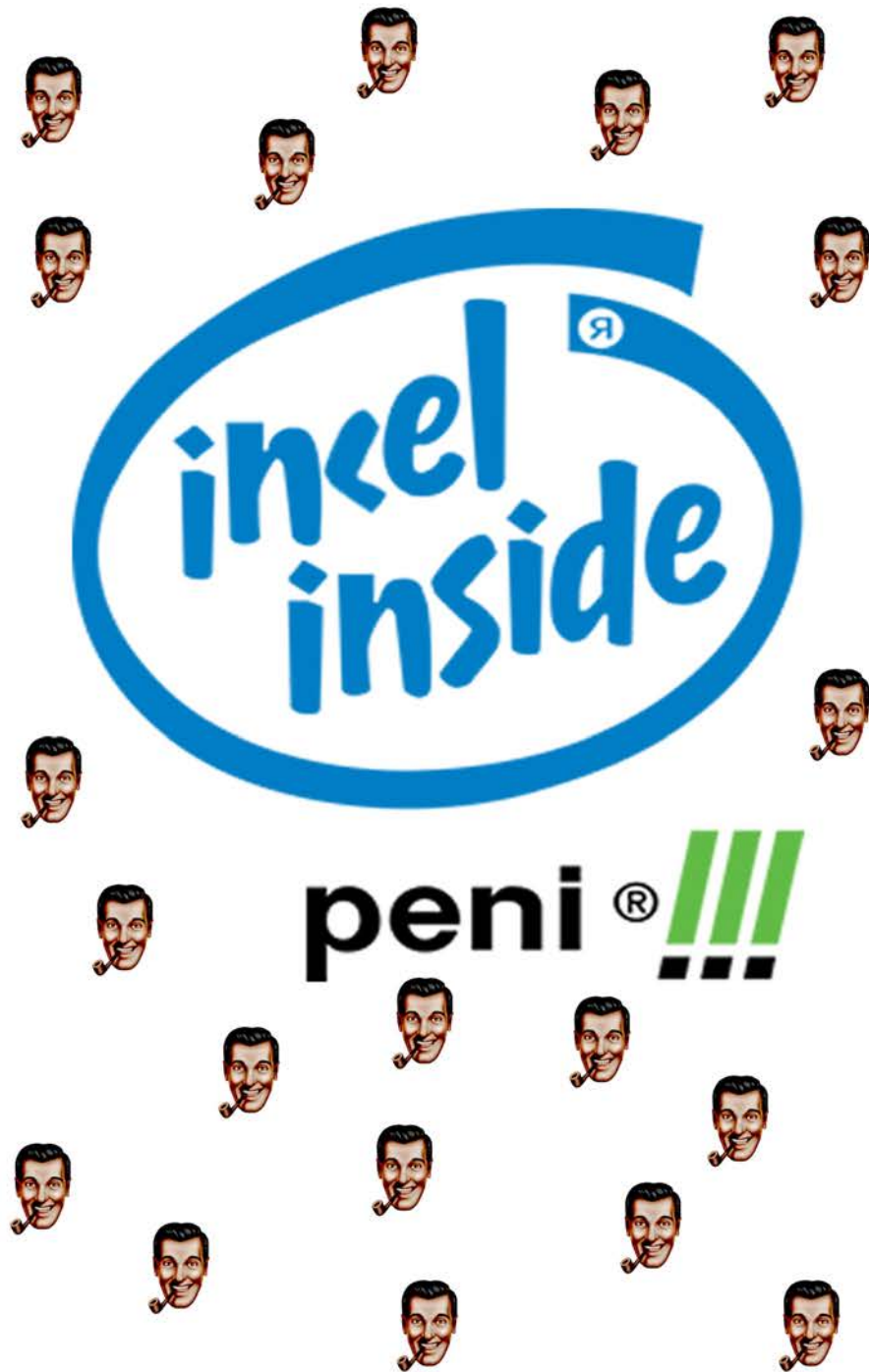
Corporate “Geniuses”

Amazon, Facebook, Google, Boeing, Apple, Tesla, Virgin, and many unmistakable self righteous CEO accredited soon to be trillionaire cogs. How to envision the average citizen in twenty years or even ten if we're not all Amazonians by then, taking our space shuttles to our Amazon warehouse moonbase to be sure there are Christmas packages back on Earth that have somehow cleverly dodged a planetary tax law that now every other space company henceforth will be held to. There is the romanticism and reality to face with space, with every branch of business feeling a necessity for a foothold now a Space Force, next a Space War. Then a Space peace treaty, who and why are investing in space to shoot cars attached to rockets because #billionaire. This kind of throwing of resources and currency at an issue that yes deserves the attention of the great minds and revolutionaries of our time. These are the same minds that can't and don't get it right on this planet. Having a full proof space structure is great and all until you're in space and your Blue Origin has a non-fatal seeming malfunction and your engineer was hired through Facebook and can't get through the Google fiber optic call soon enough to update your iOs and then it is blamed on the consumer for demanding a product before proper tests were able to have the full gauntlet ran.

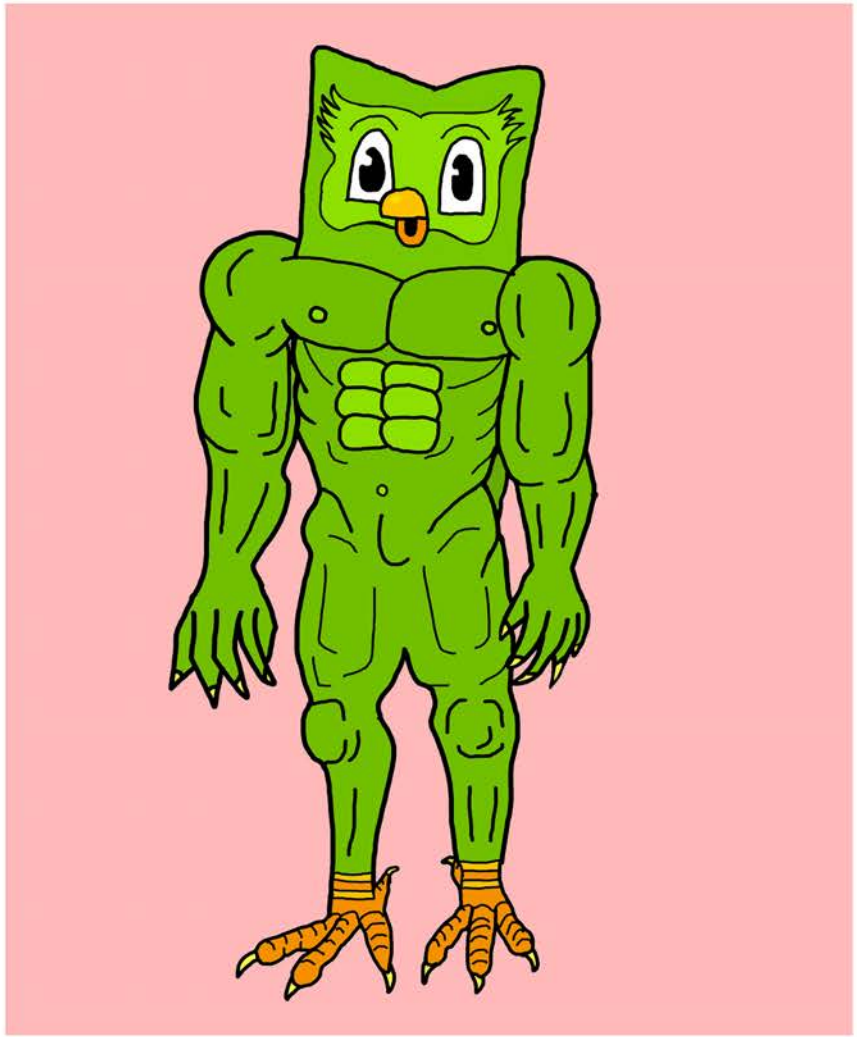
Challenge of the Cosmos

The untamable, an unequaled force to be reckoned with even the smallest of discoveries out there have led to some of the biggest breakthroughs down here. So what is so challenging about feeding all of our hungry, education for anyone, healing the sick, leading with our weaknesses opposed to having to be right. Thanking those who have laid down their pride to be able to glimpse a bigger picture of what needs to be faced today. That isn't to say there aren't brilliant discoveries happening each and every day, how to apply those discoveries must be resilient and time tested. Fix society here before we go and break somewhere alien, take a hard look through the mirror of self absorbed half truths. It doesn't always have to be Musk, Bezos, Space Force, Russia, or China to tell us the Earth revolves around the Sun. Observe and in the spirit of the Universal Scientific Method formulate, test, and modify that is these days less considered than telling a consumer what it is you want to hear from the poll you had them pay for.





COMING SOON



WHY?

THE 12 RUL“O”ES FOR LIFE

by Gordon Eagerbrow

Rul“o”s because the sun is at the center of the book of life:
The “o” representing the unobscured pleasure of the sun.

Warmth is real., truth is tangible,
and the rays of light bring knowledge,
to those that will stop, relax, let go, follow their intuition,
and receive the holy knowledge that the light brings us.

Next time you have an epiphany,
take notice of the position of the sun.
If you notice that your face is being bombarded by rays,
in a special way that feels majestic,
then your are more than likely receiving
a direct transmission from the source.

Onward to the Rules

Rule 1- Do not underestimate your pets,
do not underestimate the intelligence of life.

Rule 2 - Treat your family like you would a stranger.
You do not know them as well as you think you do.
Let go, and discover this truth.

Rule 3 - Truth is revealed to those who pay attention,
and to those who embrace humility, while developing their gifts.

Rule 4 - All living beings are endowed with gifts, cherish them, and
accept your weaknesses as obstacles and enjoyable burdens.

Rule 5 - Never force a path that isn't there.
Your true path becomes effortless through work.

Rule 6 - Stealing is permitted to those who do so
through their moral compass, and seek not harm to self or others.
Steals that are not repaid will become burdens
and blockages to the true path. Burdens can be
overcome, but not in evil ways.

Rule 7 - Do not fear the unknown, but tread carefully.
Do so with a clear conscience and a steady rhythm.

Rule 8 - Death comes to those who wait for it,
those who forget, are absorbed in the process,
and welcome it at its door.

Rule 9 - Do not lose touch. Do not fall pray to
false impressions, deceptions, and wishy washy,
flakey sounding, wrong ideas. Unless they sound wrong
because you're not fully there, or because you yourself
feeld eceptive and conniving.

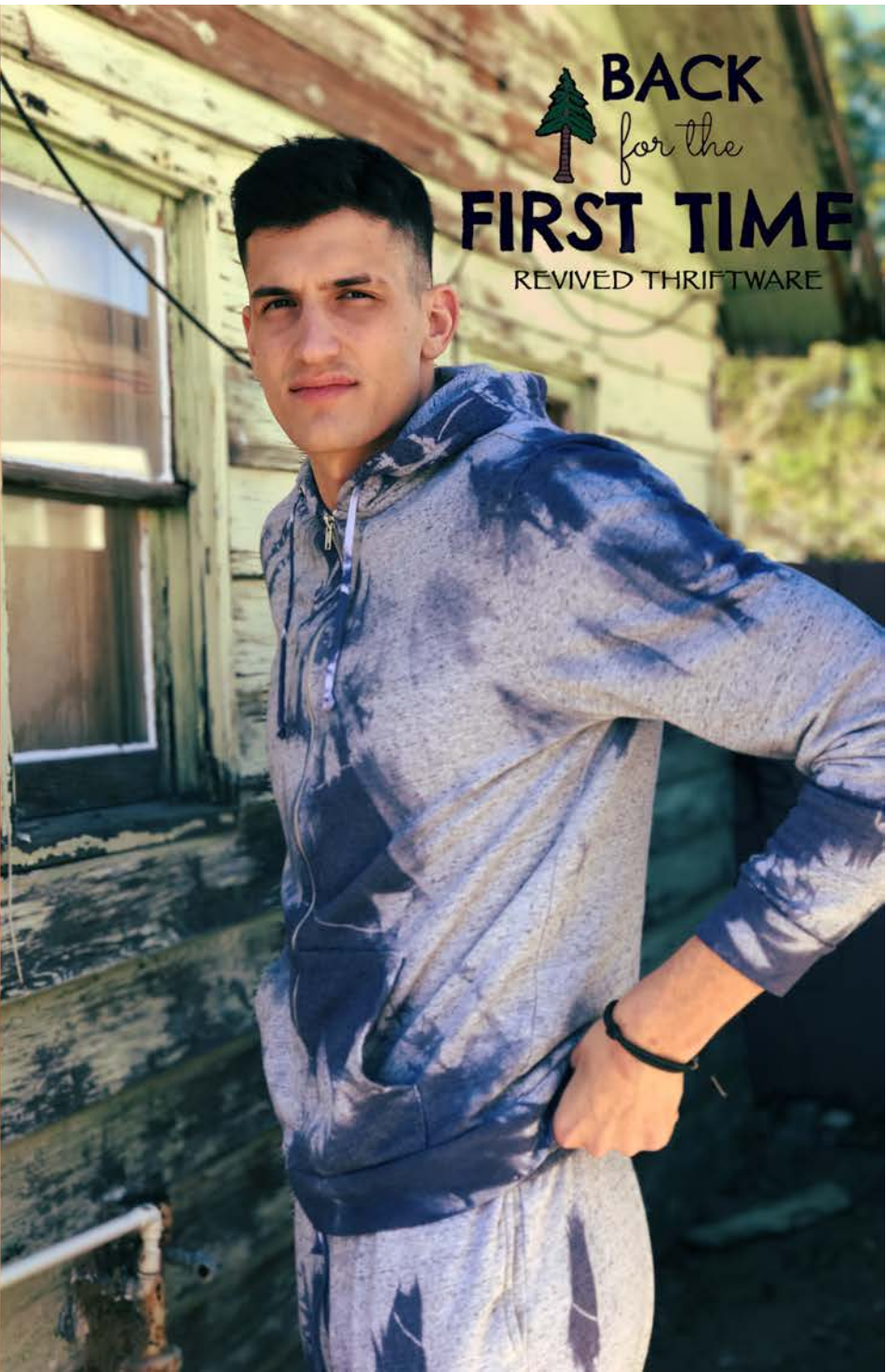
Rule 10 - Not all of the rules can be written down.
Some must be learned through individual experience.

Rule 11 - Do not worry about your brain malfunctions.
If you forget something, it is either not important at
that moment, or must be retrieved in a clear and calm
manner of consciousness acceptance.

Rule 12 - Follow these rules.
Unless you find something morally wrong
with an interpretation of them



 /backforfirst



 **BACK**
for the
FIRST TIME
REVIVED THRIFTWARE

3

John Goodfellow

Specimen E - A staunch man with a stern gaze.



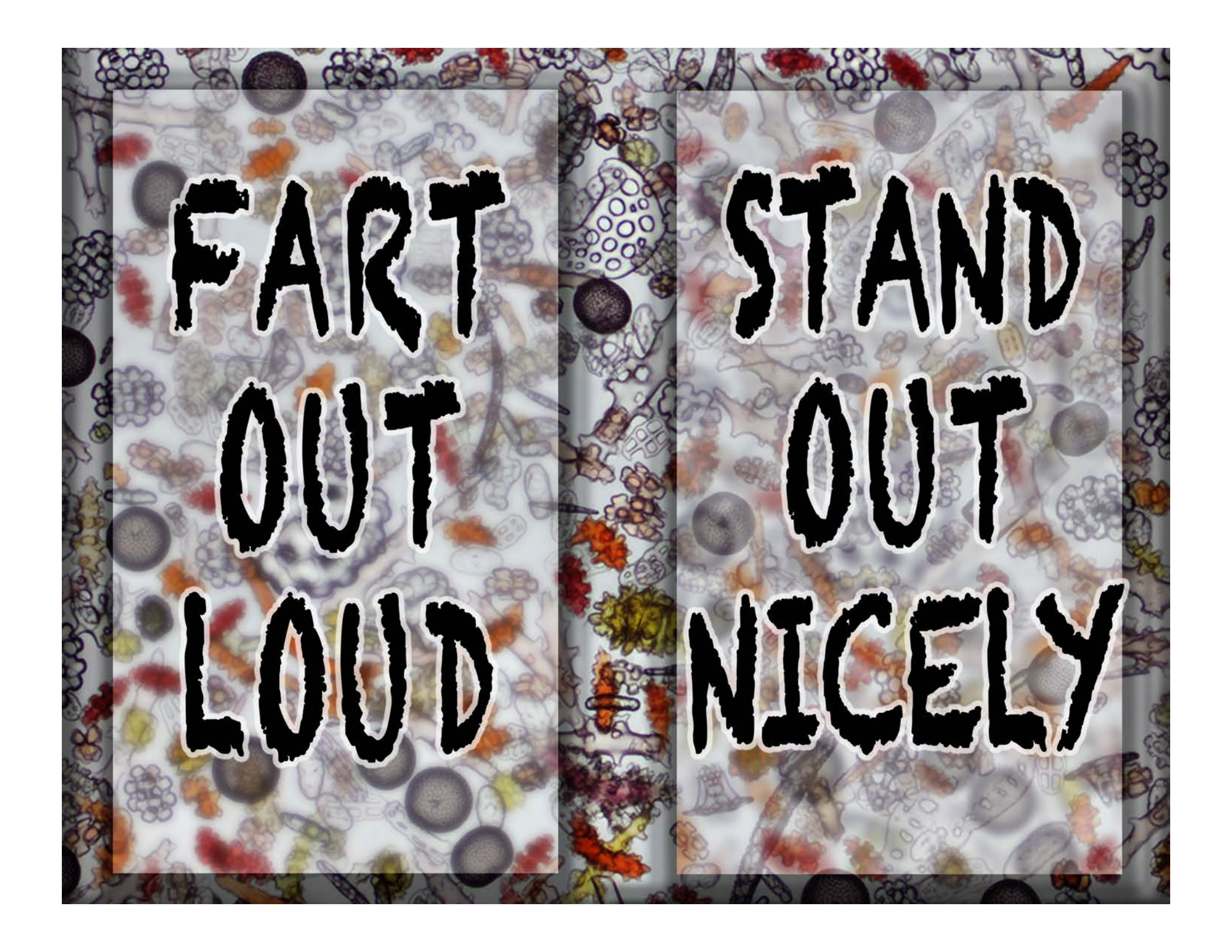
Idiots.

"Sporadic Cretin"
(No thyroid) 12. Fatty tumours in

Specimen 73 - A cute little Queen,
on assignment from the Pleiades



Isabella Taylor

The background of the entire image is a dense, colorful microscopic view of various organisms, likely from a pond or soil sample. It includes numerous small, round, greenish-brown structures (possibly algae or protozoa), elongated, thread-like structures (possibly fungi or bacteria), and other complex, multi-colored forms. The colors range from bright green and yellow to deep reds and purples. Overlaid on this background are two vertical rectangular panels. The left panel contains the text 'FART OUT LOUD' and the right panel contains 'STAND OUT NICELY'. Both panels have a semi-transparent white background and the text is in a bold, black, hand-drawn font with a white outline.

**FART
OUT
LOUD**

**STAND
OUT
NICELY**



The Last Straw

- *Straws are better for the ocean because they have a hollow center*
- *Disease is prevented by drinking from straws instead of an infected glass*
- *1/10 people who don't drink from straws have cancer*
- *Straws are a Federally approved drinking technique since 1938*

**Paid for by CDC and WHO*

The background is a surreal, painterly landscape. A glowing, golden path leads from the bottom center towards a bright, sun-like light source in the distance. The path is flanked by dark, silhouetted trees and foliage. Two figures in long, dark robes stand on the path, one on the left and one on the right, facing each other. The ground is covered in smooth, rounded stones of various colors. The overall atmosphere is mystical and ethereal.

SHOITAN PRESENTS, A DIALOGUE WITH TAUS MELEK OF LALISH AND RITZ WARLOK OF BAALBEK.
FAITHFUL MASTERS OF KNOWLEDGE DURING THE PRESENT REALM OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

I am the resident president: and what sort of reason for treason may one as seasoned need for redeeming?

Can't you be any less graceful, and cast aside luxuries no longer affordable as we hole up huddled for warmth. We have an economy to crash, a federal reserve that is holding hostage the rights I was promised by the liars and prophets that can't seem to manage their assets.

The title comes with the territory. It is given to those finding what others have forgotten, taxed into division by a subservient world government.

Gravity weighs on an immense scale. Indeed, foresight is not what will give us the advantage. Sheer creativity, spontaneously proving wrong what was once thought known, and being burned at the stake for it. Smiling down on our lessers for their fear of learning. They will profit by our hands, men and women who lay their lives in the name of humanity to be forgotten by agencies who monopolize all too legally. While the blind eye turns, conveniently towards some "atrocities".

Ourselves we shall not pity. The damndest thing Ritz, these unmanageable proofs. At least there is coffee.

Now that you mention it, where is that bloody book.

Who are you again?

Quality silk; the likes of which have passed through the heirs and heiresses fingers. Learn to watch closely with precision while measuring, letting your spirit find where things may ought to be.

Grasping for straws so hard it seems we have lost it, the desire for truth no matter the cost, but our energies are unexhausted. You are the resident president, they lie in broken huddles awaiting your speeches to remind them of their reason for treason.

The fraudulence breeds criminals applauding their own efforts, making sure to run this bullshit through spell check, using a system run by undergraduate degree assistants. One little crack and the whole spectacle crumbles, maybe in another five million years those thieves may find humility.

Ourselves we shall not pity.

Shall we refer to The Book?

MANIFESTO OF THE COMMUNIQUE - THE EARLY YEARS

GOVERNMENTS ARE DYING TO BE REBORN
AND THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS TAKING OVER,
A DOMINATING SYSTEM OF ORGANIZATION
WITH DISTRIBUTED CONTROL

GOVERNMENT AS IT STANDS IS A FORCEFUL FARCE
AND THE DEMON OF FEAR HAUNTS US
PLAGUED BY OPPRESSION AND THE DISTANCES BETWEEN US
EVEN IN TIMES OF PROXIMITY

IN A FREE SOCIETY WE MUST HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHOICES.
THE ONLY FORCE WHICH SEEKS TO CONTROL OUR ACTIONS
USING THE THREAT OF VIOLENCE IS THE MAFIA GOVERNMENT.
THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR GOVERNMENT
NO, THE GENERAL STRUCTURE WILL REMAIN,
ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WILL REMAIN IN THEIR POSITIONS
AND THOSE WHO ARE ELECTED, WAIT FOR NEW FORMS OF VOTING.

THIS IS THE NEXT MAJOR REVOLUTION.
ONE FOUNDED ON ORDER AND DISCIPLINE
WE ARE THE TRUE PROTECTORS OF PEACE
NOT THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO DESTROY WHAT IS GOOD
AS PUNISHMENT FOR OTHER EVILS
WE MERELY WANT THE CHOICE NOT TO OBEY
IF A DEMAND THREATENS OUR MORALITY
AND WITHOUT THE THREAT OF PUNISHMENT IN RETURN.
WE ARE A FREE PEOPLE,
AND YOU ARE OUR PROTECTORS, NOT OUR OPPRESSORS
WE SEEK THE UNIVERSAL WELLNESS AND PROSPERITY
OF ALL LIFE ON EARTH, OF ALL HUMANITY IN PARTICULAR,
AND OF ALL INTERSTELLAR LIFE AS WELL, BE IT KIND TO US IN RETURN.
THE FACT THAT LIFE CONSUMES LIFE
IS AN UNFORTUNATE FACT OF OUR CURRENT SITUATION
AND ONE WE SEEK TO REMEDY
LIFE IS A COMPLICATED FORCE OF EXPANDING COMPLICATIONS
WE MUST BE ABLE TO CHOOSE OF OUR OWN FREE WILL
AND WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO INFUSE OUR MORALITY
INTO THE SYSTEM SO THAT IT SERVES US ALL.
TO KILL ANOTHER HUMAN IS THE EVILEST OF SINS,
AND TO SOME AN UNFORTUNATE AND PAINFUL BURDEN

WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE FORCEFUL RULE OF THE WORLD WIDE MAFIA
WE DEMAND THAT THEY STOP INFRINGING ON OUR FREEDOMS
OUR FREEDOM FROM DEBT, FREEDOM FROM TAXATION,
FREEDOM FROM CONSCRIPTION, FREEDOM FROM PUNISHMENT,
AND FREEDOM FROM EXCESSIVE BUREAUCRACY AND RULES
THE GOVERNMENT MUST EARN ITS MONEY THROUGH WORK, NOT FORCE
WE WILL PAY FOR PROJECTS THROUGH THE MARKETPLACE
OF OUR OWN FREE WILL AND CHOICE
THE TRADITIONAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE
MUST ASSUME THE STRUCTURE OF A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
AND OPERATE AS SUCH

A CALL TO MENTAL ARMS - AND PHYSICAL HUGS

THE GOVERNMENT MUST ACT AS A BUSINESS.
IT WILL OFFER GOODS AND SERVICES.
ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WILL BE PAID THE SAME WAGE.
THIS WAGE WILL BE DETERMINED,
AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE OPERATING BUDGET,
DISTRIBUTED ACROSS ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

WE ARE NO LONGER YOUR SLAVES.

WE CALL FOR A CANCELLATION OF ALL DEBT,
INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT'S.
THIS WILL BE A RITUAL CLEANSING,
AS PRESCRIBED BY JUDAISM AND OTHER RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS.
IF YOU LOSE MONEY BECAUSE YOU PROFIT OFF OF ITS EXISTENCE,
THEN SO BE IT. YOU WILL FIND WORK ELSEWHERE.

TAXATION IS A SIN.
USURY IS A SIN.
MAKING MONEY BY STEALING, SIMPLY OR COMPLEXLY, IS A SIN.

PEOPLE MAY INVEST IN COMPANIES OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL.
INVESTMENTS IN COMPANIES CAN NOT BE SOLD,
FOR MORE THAN THEY ARE WORTH.
IF A COMPANY CHOOSES TO SELL STOCKS, A PERCENTAGE OF ITS
PROFIT WILL GO INTO A STOCKPILE THAT CAN NOT BE TOUCHED,
EXCEPT THROUGH A MAJORITY VOTE OF ALL STOCKHOLDERS.
NO ONE MAY OWN MORE THAN 20% OF A COMPANY'S STOCK.
THE VALUE OF THIS STOCKPILE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED,
ACROSS ALL STOCKHOLDERS, AS VALUE OVER NUMBER OF STOCKS.
THIS IS HOW THE VALUE OF A STOCK WILL BE DETERMINED.

YOU CAN NOT CHARGE INTEREST ON A LOAN.
LOANS ARE GIVEN OF FREE WILL AS GIFTS.
IT COMES DOWN TO THE MORALITY OF THE RECEIVER,
TO GIVE A GIFT IN RETURN, OR TO HONOR AN AGREEMENT,
MONETARY OR OTHERWISE, AS A RETURN OF THE FAVOR,
OR BY PASSING THE GIFT FORWARD.
THE LAW CAN NOT BE INVOKED TO DEMAND REPAYMENT OF A LOAN.
ONLY GIVE LOANS THAT YOU ARE WILLING TO LOSE.
THESE ARE ANCIENT PRINCIPLES.
LET THEM BE OBEYED.

THE MORE POOR YOU MAKE A PEOPLE,
THE MORE THEY BEGIN TO RELY ON ONE ANOTHER.
DO NOT LOSE THESE RELIANCES IN TIMES OF ABUNDANCE.
BUILD YOUR COMMUNITIES, YOUR FRIENDS, AND YOUR FAMILIES.
COEXIST PEACEFULLY AND HELP EACH OTHER
SHARE GOODS AND SERVICES.
NOT EVERY GOOD AND SERVICE MUST BE SOLD FOR MONEY.
EXCHANGE YOUR GIFTS AND KNOWLEDGES.

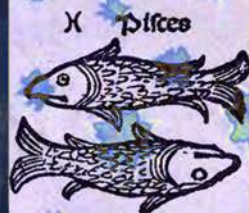
SIGNED,
X UNDERGROUND





Aquarius

You love water and you are a very good swimmer. Your favorite compound is water and you need it to survive. You could be described as a watery person, a wishy-washy person, a tall drink of water, and so on. Blue is one of your favorite colors. You prefer to sleep on a waterbed because this puts you in your element. Usually your thoughts flow freely like a running stream, but when someone give you the cold shoulder, watch out! You can freeze up in an instant and become cold as a block of ice. In contrast, when you're feeling all hot-and-bothered you turn into a gas and float helplessly into the atmosphere.



Pisces

You are Pisces, the fish. You are a strong, independent, bipedal, land-loving person, who prefers to work alone rather than in large groups. You also breathe air through your lungs and can't remember things for more than three seconds. You sometimes sit on the shelf for days, unable to make a decision about a major problem in your life. Sometimes the hand of fate comes to your rescue, and you are taken away from your little plastic container, and placed into a nicer glass one with plants and rocks. Be careful not to rely on fate however, or you may end up dying of indigestion.



Aries

Aries usually tend to come across as bossy and self-centered, however they have a warm heart once someone has earned their trust. You enjoy competitive games and you are a gifted leader with some potential for monetary and business success. However, ultimately you are the outward blaming fool who falls victim to countless April Fool's jokes year after year, thus crippling your confidence and ensnaring you in a cycle of mediocrity. Take a second to reflect on your insecurities and your gullible nature. You will be better for it in the long run. Maybe try smoking more grass, or eating a magic mushroom.



Taurus

1996, Seafoam w/matching interior, one owner, 300,000 mi. Great condition, inside and out. Ice cold A/C, newly tinted power windows, power locks, fresh tags, gets great mileage, driver side door missing. \$4000 obo. Jack 405-311-0003.



Gemini

Congratulations! You are Gemini, the twin. You love doing things with friends, and you value their company over all others. You are a very easygoing person who loves to relax and enjoy the good times. Unfortunately, you have an evil twin somewhere in the world who is an insufferable asshole and a terrible alcoholic. Hopefully he or she doesn't make an unexpected appearance at your next birthday party.



Cancer

You are a very serious person. People do not feel comfortable making jokes about you, and that's just the way you like it. Once you find someone to be with, you expect them to stick with you until the end. Your presence is typically not well accepted by family unless a large inheritance is up for grabs. Then they're all over your balls like a cockroach on a block of cheese. In these situations, assume the role of a nice brie or a blue cheese. Stay away from cheddar, mozzarella, and american, unless aged more than six months. They will give you severe indigestion.

Guess what? You are Leo, the hippie guy from That 70's Show. You are very hairy and you say weird off-base things all the time. You work at the Foto Hut with Hyde all day long and basically do nothing aside from question the meaning of everything. Sometimes your mind goes to dark places that you wouldn't feel comfortable discussing with even your closest friends. Take a few big hits from a vaporizer and then down a 40oz with some pills. That should clear your head of all the demonic fairies that are always circling. Your spirit animal is Tommy Chong.

You have a very strong sense of the world around you. You enjoy eating food, drinking water, and you do both frequently. You need your nightly sleep and sometimes you go to the bathroom. You particularly like things that make you feel good, and you avoid situations that cause you pain. You live your life day by day. How admirable. Lucky are those who walk the path of noble Virgo. Allthings to you are beautiful and worthy of your admiration This is why you always give people the benefit of the doubt. You know that deep down inside you are a human being, and that sustains your will to live.

You have often felt as if something about you is incomplete or missing. Well hey, check it out: this is all because you are actually a typo of the word 'library'. Yes. The horoscope gods forgot to finish writing you out and so the result is now 'libra'. While this may seem troubling, being a libra is not all bad. Sometimes you stand out from the crowd with a magical red line underneath you, signifying your flaws. Embrace your incompleteness by reading ancient tomes about the nature of the universe. The words of these ancient sages will sooth your soul and should give you some consolation.

You are the naughty Scorpio. You are a passionate and often hot-headed person, but usually you are quite jolly, as long as you get to be the life of the party. One nice perk to being a Scorpio is that you are automatically immune to all scorpion stings. Go out and try it sometime, it really works. Your favorite song is certainly "Rock You Like a Hurricane" by the Scorpions. If someone shines a black light on you, you will glow and become visible in the dark, so be careful walking home alone at night.

You have problems with giving and receiving gifts. It all started when you were a very young child and your parents hid away your birthday presents to give them to you for Christmas instead. They thought your sniffeling little baby-butt wouldn't notice, but of course you did. Now when you receive any kind of gift you can't help but wonder if that person is secretly cheap-skating you. Do not approach the Santa at the mall; It will end very, very badly for everyone. You need closure. Call your divorced parents and tell them that from now on you'll be sending their mother's and father's day gifts as one!

You are an extremely creative person when it comes to romance. You enjoy spending time with your friends, but a part of you is longing for a deeper kind of relationship. You are very tidy and have a strong sense of how the world should work. People sometimes disappoint you with their actions and this causes you to hide away and to not let many people see the real you. Sometimes you pick your nose when you think no one is watching, but, someone always is, and they're judging you.



Leo



Virgo



Libra



Scorpio



Sagittarius



Capricorn

Formal Salutations to Exquisite Existence

Foremost, with deferential encompassment in oblation does this transference proposition accommodate such an occurrence. Subsequently, a disquisition so as to encompass parameter correspondence with regards to kinship, in correlation to potential ancient common ancestry. Inter-connection between specimens non-indigenous to one another's celestial bodies with probability being the focal point and of the utmost importance. An expectation, probability demands excellency, withstanding universal confrontation to tolerate gradual advancements to the genome's sequencing. Surreptitiously enduring stipulation constantly even designing other existences whose objective is also to engage auto-didactically. An undertaking of distinguished proportion, a moniker, maybe being interaction; the undeniable inkling of interdependence, and an ingrained profound obligation with a mind full of inquisitive speculation. May this reach the most insignificant and undiscovered, through means of esoteric unfrequented and cryptic primordial channels and mediums enigmatic .

There are some within this species who categorize independently, and differentiate in the aftermath. These are those who aspire to stipulate the indisposed for their personal, immediate dividend; employing agitprop and spin, in any conceivable manner that is advantageous for the aristocratic subjugators. Antithetical to the empirical information output by this same self-proclaimed upper class, the scales are inequitable. Not to be misinterpreted as a revolutionary proclamation, but herein lies a supplication. The 95 theses nailed to the universal door, meant to interject the contemporaneous trajectory that the figureheads in place at the present hour would have as historical actuality, which in reality is indeed an archaic misnomer. A petition to The Pleiades for discernment in the approaching of our fragile current circumstance, not to elucidate in entirety our fortune based upon the reaction of the few, the coveting, the overlords.

An appropriation no longer able to be sustained ,these ideals of innumerable rights to all specimens shall be heeded and implemented. Strapped of bona fide, transparent, fully disclosed adherence, they shall be met with wrath-like consequences. As foretold in the remnants of Holy Prophecy, the weak shall be protected and the widow untarnished, low being exalted and the high underneath the lowest. Parables are spoken to be understood by many, in a way that reaches each in their own place, to break free of this subjugation. Therefore, when any threat is made unto another, it is the one threatening who must make their own peace, and to sacrifice one's own beloved world to ascertain an eternity of riches, which is almost certain demise under current societal circumstances.

There was a rich family who raised their children, boy and girl. with the best education, They let them decide whether to pursue knowledge of a higher entity of their own free will. The daughter grew to resent them and couldn't have a relationship with either, as she struggled to understand why they would not have given her the knowledge themselves when she was at a young age. While the son never decided to pursue the idea at all, and was left to a life of debauchery and impecuniousness, thus leaving his family with great grief and with little closure as to his eternal fate. Although all the riches of the world they seemed to inherit, they led lives of misery in the fact that they weren't given the knowledge in the first place to decide once received. Herein lies the truth to our plea, we have not been given the full knowledge by the few who have control over what is published en masse. The great manipulation knows no bounds under the corrupt hand of man and woman. Forever be it known that there is a resistance and it is against that which would harm the poor and take for themselves what is meant for the needy. Foremost mindful, these worldly temptations are inherit to this planetary body. It has become a pit of self-infatuation and the reality is far worse than any imaginary or real life hereafter. May it not be so for generations to come, and may light bear witness courageously to existential existences. May slack and love be upon us all as equals.

For Those Seeking May This Find, Tawuse Melek (bownz ☒)
Billion Lightyear Lodge of the Hermetic Order
X Underground
Earth
Milky Way



WHITE

THORN

THE NEW FRAGRANCE BY HACKBERRY LABS

SOFT, TENDER, **PRIMAL.**

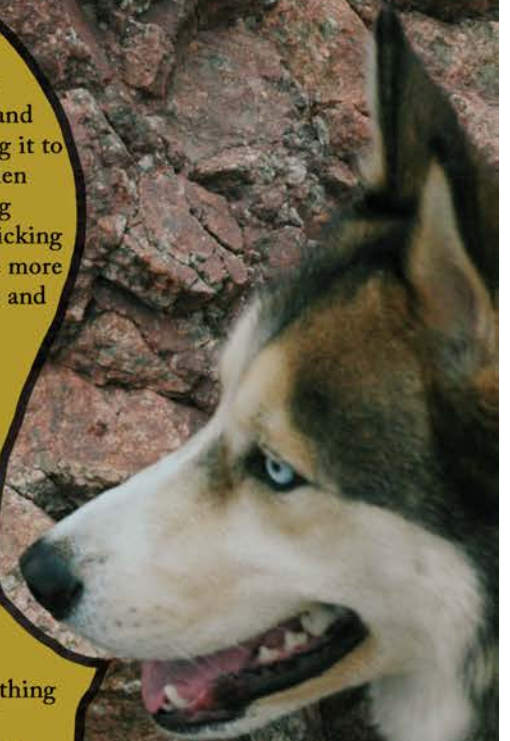
IS IT MONSOON SEASON ALREADY?
NO. IT'S **WHITE THORN.**

PREPARED IN MINIMAL QUANTITIES. GET YOURS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

A Cautionary Tale

He was no longer capable of comprehending a pain more agonizing than this.

Against the lazy, rhythmic pulse of an outgoing tide, his muscles were raw pieces of meat that had grown impossibly weary. The sea challenged him, turning the once beautiful evening backdrop into a tool of mockery. Everything around him growled with a primal aversion to his existence: The waters surrounding him; the sinking ship's carcass behind him; the indifferent sanctuary cove in the distance... The man pulled pitifully at his wetsuit, now raggedly torn across the torso from multiple impacts with the reef. He had been wary of phantom chops before - as wary as one could be. But the sea was without mercy that day. The man gasped for air, spitting up bright red droplets of blood and pieces of stringy kelp weeds, and giving a fleeting look back at the blue and white stripes of his slalom board's sail as it drifted farther out into the violet depths of the water. The crisp breeze casting it to and fro like a crippled wing waving a bitter goodbye to its exhausted owner. Beyond the horizon, the man could see swollen thunderheads accumulating, each one lapping over the other like eager predators approaching their kill. Talons of lightning streaked and arched across the sky, as the wind grew stronger. Hatred filled the air. Heaving his arms forward, and feebly kicking his legs, the man pressed on with his depleted strength, benefitting from a rising adrenaline as the weight of his fear became more pronounced. The coastline, no less than three miles ahead, had slowly dissolved into an alien landscape of inexplicable colors and shapes. The large cove, once a secluded sanctum, had accumulated heavy shadows as the last rays of the sun fell beneath the palms. Should he be blessed with the miracle of sand at his feet, then what a terrifying place to be alone.. The man felt his back shudder with the rumbling bellow of thunder, and he kicked against the tide with more exertion. He was now flailing with undisciplined movements, hardly sure if he was making any progress at all. But then...a peculiar sensation, as he felt his left leg brush up against something broad and firm. Even amidst pure exhaustion there was a touch of hope. He turned his head, only to see oily blackness, as the waters gathered a terrible dark complexion. It was unsettling to feel something at first, yes, but to feel anything beneath the waves strengthened his convictions. It was no trick of the eyes; he was making progress. Grinding his teeth and clawing against the shrieking wind, the man stroked through the liquid darkness wildly, certain that he would soon be among the glittering reefs and patches of flowing kelp that dotted the seabed. Another subtle bump, this time just above his left ankle. The man groaned and clutched his chest, tasting bitter iron as tiny creeks of blood rained down his chin and into the water. He knew what lay by the cove, and he was not close enough to be amongst the bunches of limestone that covered the shallow ocean floor. It must have been the tide, casting out large pieces of driftwood that collided with him. He only had enough time to register the second fleeting collision before something crashed into his pelvis. His outstretched arms flew over his head as he was knocked backwards into the sea, lying nearly horizontal before he was buoyed forwards again by the restless waves. dark red water and saliva exploded forth from him as a hot pain slithered up through his ribcage like a burning serpent. Each gasp accompanied by a phlegmy rattling sound, he bobbed around, trembling for a few moments and massaging his bruised midsection. The man's teeth began to chatter as something came over him, enveloping each limb in a creeping ascension towards his torso. In the vicious center of so much abnormality, it was this feeling that terrified the man more than anything else. It was the horrible feeling that he was no longer alone. He lowered his face beneath the turbulent waterline that divided endless skies from dark abysses, with just enough time, to peer into the jaws of a great white shark as it rose up to meet him.



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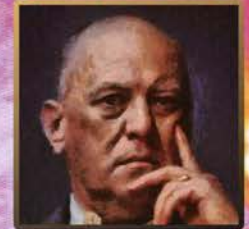
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