The Tale of Water-Dwellers and the True Nature of Reality

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Water-dweller physicists, immersed in the ocean of their discoveries, established that the world is governed by many strict laws:

- **Conservation of Ice Quantity (Charge):** They said: "An ice crystal cannot appear from nothing. The amount of 'crystallinity' must be conserved. We have many types: *Positive Ice* (like ice floating on the surface), *Negative Ice* (like an icicle hanging in water)"
- **Conservation of Barility (Baryon Number):** "In the world of water-dwellers: 'the structural number of a snowflake' — a certain topological invariance that prevents a snowflake from spontaneously turning into a glacier ice block"
- **Conservation of Vortex (Spin):** "Every piece of ice has its internal vortex, its 'twist'!" they argued. "It can spin right, left, or be motionless. This vortex is quantized, like a specific number of rotations around its own axis. And this vortex cannot be lost either; it can only be transferred to another piece of ice."
- **Conservation of White Color** – every snowflake must remain white.
- **Principle of Six-Fold Symmetry** – all crystals must have 6 arms.
- **Law of Transparency Conservation** – ice cannot become cloudy.
- **Conservation of Electric Charge** $\leftrightarrow$ in the water-dwellers' world: *buoyancy balance* — every particle has its "positive buoyancy" or "negative buoyancy", and the sum in an isolated system must be zero
- **Conservation of Lepton Number** $\leftrightarrow$ "principle of bubble conservation" — air bubbles trapped in ice do not disappear, they can only transition between states

And so, year after year, their list of laws grew longer. Water physics became increasingly complicated, and its textbooks heavy with thousands of rules and exceptions. All scholars were busy describing the infinite diversity of snowflakes, forgetting that they were looking at... water.

Then Came the Inquisitive One

The Inquisitive Water-dweller claimed that all complicated laws were an illusion. "It's all water, only the geometry changes."

"The Principle of Water Geometry" stated:

- **Conservation of ice quantity** = Conservation of total water volume
- **Ice vortex (spin)** = Local vortices in water – they don't disappear, only dissipate
- **Baryon number** = Number of "crystalline nodes" in ice – but these are only temporary water condensations

He hadn't studied water physics. He spent his time observing how a water droplet freezes into an ice crystal, how vapor condenses on a window, how an iceberg melts, returning to the ocean. And he saw what others, overwhelmed by complexity, did not see.

"**It's all WATER!**" – he announced. "Ice, vapor, snow, droplet – these are just different states, different 'geometries' of the same substance. Your 'Conservation of Ice Quantity' is simply the fact that the number of HO molecules is constant. Your 'vortex' is the way these molecules arrange themselves in space. And 'Barility'? That's just a particular, stable geometric pattern that water forms under pressure and cold. There are no separate entities – there is only one Principle of Geometry. One building block – Water – taking on an infinite number of forms."

He published his hypothesis: **"The Principle of Geometric Substance Conservation: Unified Foundations of Water Physics"**.

And... he was forgotten.

The Establishment's Reaction

"He's just an amateur" – they said. "Our wonderful, complex reality is just 'water'?" – mocked the water-dweller physicists. "Where in his theory is there room for the stunning diversity of snowflakes? How does he explain the complicated laws of ice melting? He disregards conservation principles. This is a naive oversimplification! He lacks mathematical sophistication!"

The water-dweller physicists argued:

- "It's too simple! The world cannot be that simple!"
- "Where are your equations? Your predictions? We can calculate exactly when ice will melt, what shape a snowflake will take. And you offer nothing but philosophical nonsense!"
- "Our equations work – why change them?"
- "Where is the evidence? Show us the equations!"
- "This violates established laws of crystallography!"

Were They Right?

In one sense – **yes**. Their complicated laws perfectly described and predicted what happened in their world. Thanks to them, they built magnificent ice cities and predicted iceberg movements. They were deeply committed to advancing their discipline and possessed impressive specialized knowledge.

But in a deeper, more fundamental sense – **Was the Inquisitive One right?** He saw the *essence*, while they saw only the *manifestations*. He understood that thousands of complicated rules were merely derivatives of one simple truth: everything is water, and diversity arises from geometry.

The moral of this story is perfect: **Sometimes it's precisely the lack of 'dogmatic contamination' that allows one to perceive the simplicity hidden behind apparent complexity**. The water-dweller physicists were very wise – they were simply too close to their snowflakes to see the ocean from which they all originate.