

# Towards a Human Cosmology: Synthesizing Mythic and Social Calculus

## Abstract

This thesis proposes a single explanatory frame—*human cosmology*—that emerges when (i) a *mythic calculus* of *connection–disconnection–transformation* (the narrative domain of meaning) is composed with (ii) a *social/experiential calculus* of *connection–disconnection–naught* (the systemic domain of moral action). In this synthesis, *social naught* functions as the motivational floor that makes *mythic transformation* intelligible and repeatable at phase-transition thresholds. Where the 1900s staged a *race for power*, the 2000s require a *race for meaning*; meaning becomes measurable and durable when these two domains are rigorously coupled.

## 1 Thesis

*Human cosmology* is the lawful interaction of narrative structure, moral action, and material continuity. Formally: myth supplies *why* (teleology of change), social calculus supplies *how* (operators that move systems toward or away from coherence and agency).

## 2 Domains and Operators

**Mythic domain (meaning).** The mythic calculus encodes three primitive actions—*connect*, *disconnect*, *transform*—on a story graph in which realized coherence (Order) and unrealized option value (Freewill) co-determine narrative thresholds and climaxes.

**Social/experiential domain (moral action).** The social calculus instantiates three system operators—*connect*, *disconnect*, *naught*—with explicit moral charge (contentment/stress energies), a running Order–Freewill evaluation, and convergence toward a singularity of coherent agency as the target of collective behavior.

## 3 The Motive Bridge: Social *Naught* Under Mythic *Transform*

We identify *social naught*—the deliberate non-action that suspends a tie without severing it—as the motivational bedrock from which *mythic transformation* becomes possible. Practically, *naught* creates potential (a contained tension) that neither affirms nor negates; it *holds space* until the system reaches a phase threshold at which transformation is viable and safe. Thus *naught* is not absence; it is a conserved gap that feeds transformation with stored possibility. Myth names and interprets that leap; social calculus supplies the operational discipline that prepares it.

## 4 Phase Transitions and the Emergence of Human Cosmology

Phase transitions occur where the story graph's thresholds (myth) coincide with the system's convergence dynamics (social calculus). At these boundaries, Order (realized coherence) and Freewill (unrealized option value) re-balance, producing qualitative jumps—new identities, institutions, and rituals. We call the recurrent pattern of such lawful jumps *human cosmology*: a map of how communities move from wound to elixir, from fragmentation to renewed coherence.

## 5 Contributions and Claims

- C1: Integrative ontology.** A minimal cross-domain operator set (connect, disconnect, naught/transform) explains how micro-moral moves scale into macro-mythic change at identifiable thresholds.
- C2: Operationalization of meaning.** Order/Freewill metrics in the social calculus provide a running *measurement* of narrative health; myth supplies the interpretive schema indicating when metrics warrant transformation rather than mere connection or severance.

## 6 Conclusion

A civilization that once raced to master *power* must now race to transmit and preserve *meaning*. The synthesis offered here shows how to do so with parsimony: let *myth* say why we change, let *social calculus* govern how we change. This duo is not ornamental; it is the minimum viable architecture of a livable future.