

"THE PALE BLUE DOT"

From A Distant Vantage point, ^{Interest}
The Earth might not be seen of ~~any~~ Particular;
But for us it's different,
Consider Again that Dot, that's here, that's
HOME, that's US...

On it everyone YOU LOVE, everyone you KNOW,
everyone you ever heard of, every Human Being
who ever was, Lived Out their Lives...

The Aggregate of our JOY and SUFFERING,
thousands of Confident Religions, Ideologies,
and economic doctrines, Every HUNTER and FORAGER,
every HERO and COWARD, every CREATOR and DESTROYER
of Civilisation, every KING and PEASANT,
every young Couple IN LOVE, every MOTHER
and FATHER, Hopeful child, INVENTOR and
EXPLORER, every teacher of MORALS, every
Corrupt politician, every "SUPERSTAR", every
"Supreme leader", every Saint and Sinner in
the HISTORY of our Species Lived there-on
a MOTE OF DUST SUSPENDED IN SUNBEAM...

The Earth is a very small stage in a vast
cosmic arena. Think of Rivers of Blood
spilled by all those generals and emperors
so that, in glory and TRIUMPH, they could
become the Momentary Masters of A fraction
Think of ENDLESS cruelties of DOT.
Visited by inhabitants of one CORNER of
this Pixel on the scarcely distinguishable
inhabitants of some other corner, How frequent
their Misunderstandings, how eager they are to
kill one another, how fervent their hatreds...

Our Posturings, our Imagined Self-Importance, the delusion that we have some privileged position in the Universe, are challenged by this point of pale light. Our planet, is a lonely speck in great enveloping cosmic dark. In our obscurity, in all this vastness, there is no HINT that HELP will come from elsewhere to save us from Ourselves.

The Earth is the only world we know so far to harbour life. There is nowhere else, at least in near future, to which our species could migrate. Visit... Yes. Settle, NOT YET. Like it or NOT, for the Moment the Earth is where we stand.

It has been said that Astronomy is a humbling and character building experience. There is perhaps no better demonstration of the folly of Human conceits that this distant image of our tiny world. To ME, it under scores our responsibility to deal more KINDLY with one ANOTHER ANOTHER, and to preserve AND Cherish the pale Blue Dot, THE ONLY HOME WE'VE EVER KNOWN...

-Carl Sagan