**Rise and Fall of Resonance**

Potential media: Series of animated shorts

Music inspirations:

Artist: M83

Album: Hurry Up, We’re Dreaming

After many years, the Stone Elemental civilization dominated their island home. Art in many forms flourished, but inequality was present. Elementals that made especially great art received much praise and more beautiful living quarters, but overall your age determined your caste. The eldest domineered over the younger, and so many generations had passed that the “young” caste had grown massive. To rectify this, Nn decided to create a special Elemental. During the yearly festival, Nn crafted a Crystal Elemental. The Stone Elementals held a massive celebration, and named the new Elemental Resonance. Devoting an entire sound, especially one that is hard to make, had not been done since the eldest caste named themselves.

Resonance lived an opulent life in the main city. She was immediately elevated to the highest caste, and even among the eldest held power over all. Seen as the Elemental closest to Nn, uniquely blessed, all looked to her. This devout worship immediately inflated her ego, and she soon saw herself in much the same way. She thought of Nn often, and at the yearly festivals she would watch him craft a new Elemental. Slowly, she began to fall in love with her creator. She wished to craft something that would impress him, a task none had even dared to think before. To do so, she set about devoting all of her time to developing her elemental powers. She quickly began to form simple crystals like quartz from rocks, accelerating their growth. Much time was spent cataloging naturally occurring crystals, and Resonance would attempt to recreate them. Soon, she was creating crystals that couldn’t form in nature, crystals that could hold Nn’s latent power in unique ways, and then relay them. Stone Elemental civilization was quickly revolutionized, as an equivalent of electricity was discovered through this.

Resonance grew both in strength and gall through the years. Eventually she was erecting resplendent statues with the wave of a hand, composed of various crystals. She continued to drown in praise, and her sureness of her divinity grew deeper. Her adoration of Nn for blessing her compounded as well, and would peak as the festival of that year was abruptly ended. As dawn broke, massive ships could be seen in the far clouds of the sea. Nn disappeared mid-creation, leaving an inert lump of stone on the ground, and reappeared in the distance. The ships began to fall, and the far clouds broke into clear skies. The Stone Elementals panicked while Resonance watched from the shore. Nn’s figure flashed myriad colors, and a thrumming could be heard as a massive translucent shield rose from the sea, meeting at the zenith of the sky over the island. Resonance collapsed, and resolved to pay Nn back for his work.

After her 100th festival, Resonance left the Stone Elemental city and traveled to the far, mountainous side of the island. Over the course of the year, Resonance cracked open the massive mountain rising above the city, splitting it towards the dawn. From it, she raised gigantic crystal pillars, fractally spreading out like fingers reaching towards the sky. The crystals crackled with energy, and Resonance flooded more into them of her own connection to Nn. The energetic pressure began to draw particles of Nn’s power, latent in the land, into the display. Animals and plants fell towards it, and soon the area was devoid of life, populated only by grotesque crystalline corpses.

The festival day came, and as the sun rose Nn appeared. Immediately drawn to Resonance’s massive display, Nn appeared before the Crystal Elemental. Resonance, overjoyed, approached Nn. The god, however, was deeply displeased. He flashed angry colors, and uncontrolled emotions of anger and frustration emanated from his humanoid form. He gestured to the surroundings, generating transient images of all the death Resonance had caused. Resonance falters, and falls to her knees. Realization of what she had done echoed through her being as Nn violently disappeared, and reappeared over the island. He gestured faster than Resonance could follow, and suddenly water crashed down over the mountain. Delicate crystalline structures cracked and broke, and the earth quaked wildly. Flora began growing quickly, and the water around the island crashed furiously against the shores. The crystal gash in the mountain began to close up, and Resonance was thrown down the mountainside. Nn reappeared before her, his very presence shaking the air, and he reached out at her.

Resonance was disassembled, then immediately reassembled. Nn recreated the Elemental anew, this time with an exterior more akin to Stone Elementals, but with a geode-like core of crystals. This new Elemental retained no memory of their past life, and was essentially born anew. The new Elemental woke up alone, and wandered to the west. Coming over the mountain, she saw the massive spires of the Stone Elemental civilization, and made her way to it.