The sun, for his part, and contrary to his appearance, was always sad. The one thing he wished for most was a friend. But when people looked at him they immediately screwed up their faces and turned away, which made the Sun think that he must be terribly ugly.

The consequences of having too many men, now coming of age, are far-reaching: Beyond an epidemic of loneliness, the imbalance distorts labor markets, drives up savings rates in China and drives down consumption, artificially inflates certain property values, and parallels increases in violent crime, trafficking or prostitution in a growing number of locations.

There once were four Teks. Their names were Mu, Xi, Zeta, and Eta.

They all needed repairs, the shortest Tek, Mu, did not have enough credits to pay.

Neither did the tallest purple Tek.

Nor the red Tek, who was only slightly taller than Mu.

Zeta had just spent their last credits ona beautiful yellow repaint.The blue Tek, who was a shopkeeper, had the economic smarts to suggest a solution:“Eta, you’re taller than the soldier, and the carpenter, grab that bucket from the top shelf!”

The soldier protested “I am far from the shortest here! I can forgive one of you, but I despise red and purple”

The soldier stormed out of the room. The shopkeeper smiled, and asked the remaining Teks to put credits in the bucket.

With those combined funds, the remaining three Teks could afford light repairs.

* Which was Xi’s job?
* What was the name of the second tallest Tek?
* And finally, what was the color of the farmer?

Trout, incidentally, had written a book about a money tree. It had twenty-dollar bills for leaves. Its flowers were government bonds. Its fruit was diamonds. It attracted human beings who killed each other around the roots and made very good fertilizer.

If time is a father and nature is a mother, is karma a bitch and reality a bastard? Is failure an orphan and art a widow? Are we related or are these all Freudian slips? A family that is dysfunctional by all means, median, and mode.

They pooled their life-savings, gathered their passports, posted travel blogs, and once they arrived they were beheaded.

The Earth was small, light blue, and so touchingly alone, our home that must be defended like a holy relic. The Earth was absolutely round. I believe I never knew what the word round meant until I saw Earth from space.

Confidence is contagious. So is lack of confidence.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8twpQTna_9w>

Bleachers - Don't Take The Money