

The Lateralus Hypothesis Part 1.

About The Author

I'm an avid listener of music, and I'm quite fond of instrumentals. For almost 15 years, Yes has been my favorite band. I am also a fan of hallucinogens and love to use them to enhance my listening experience, amplify the melodic tones and analyze song lyrics. I was a casual fan of Tool, and had a few low quality MP3's on my computer from a couple albums, and didn't even know that 10,000 Days was a "new" album after Lateralus. I thought it was an old one from the 90's...

When my friends get together and trip, there's always a fight over what music we listen to. We all have similar tastes, but want our favorite vibes when tripping, which sometimes causes small arguments. While I was shouting "Yes!", my friends were shouting "Tool!". I submitted to their will, but instead of listening to Parabol/a as they requested, I put on Ticks and Leeches. I got a kick out of telling them "Is this what you wanted? Is this what you had in mind? Cuz this is what you're getting." They were not very happy that we didn't get to listen to the song they wanted.

Shortly after the song finished, my friend who introduced me to most of the music I enjoy arrived on scene and the demand for Parabol/a became more immediate. So, I did the right thing and pulled up the music video online, set my Pro Logic II system, and cranked the volume. My friend Matt, who isn't a huge tool fan either, was taken aback by the imagery in the music video, and shouted out "What the fuck?!" as the three characters started puking black ichor all over the table....That's when my 'musical guide' explained to him, "Listen to the lyrics man....it might seem weird, but I think the Buddha would approve of the lyrics. We are eternal, all this pain is an illusion..." he was half-joking, but I was intrigued, as I did not know that any of Tool's music had any uplifting messages.

With this, I decided to start reading more Tool lyrics, and started to see that all the music I have loved for years, has occult teachings.

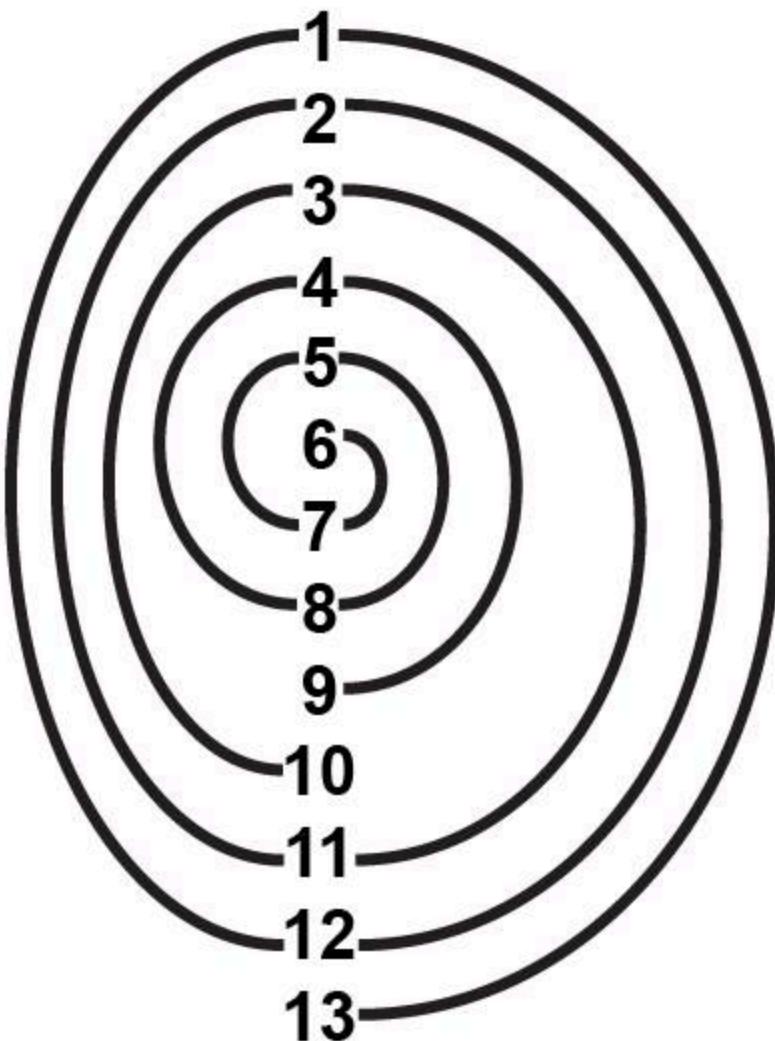
Finding The Holy Gift

After recently discovering that the lyrics to Parabol/a were very deep and introspective, I decided to look into the lyrics of the title song Lateralus. I did a simple google search for "Tool Lateralus lyrics meaning". The first search result that came up was, "The REAL meaning of Lateralus by Tool."

This page covered how to create "The Holy Gift" which is supposed to be a "secret" song order of the album lateralus. After a lot of reading stuff that didn't quite make sense, and seemed to be extremely contrived, I kept an open mind and found a compilation on YouTube. I was too lazy and cheap to go buy the CD and make it myself as the author of the original explanation suggested. So, I sat back and started listening, not knowing exactly what to expect. One transition after another, I was blown away by how amazing the album sounded when played in this order. It wasn't perfect, but I thought that it was a neat idea for a band to come up with.

After showing this to a bunch of friends that also had no idea about it, and being called a "Tool virgin" by my older sister, I started chatting up Reddit to share more opinions, just to find a lot of negative feelings toward the entire idea. All the comments were the same...The thought process was contrived, the song segues do not work as some claim, it's new age bullshit that people use to try to control others, etc.

I started looking into Sacred Geometry because I was genuinely curious how the fibonacci sequence works, and why people claim that it relates to the track resequencing. After doing some research on Wiki and youtube, I decided to draw the spiral myself and see how the math worked as the original author claimed. This is what the creator of the holy gift described:



This is in no way a fibonacci spiral, so I understand the apprehension that many fans have toward this theory. As I started discussing more info with people, there was one main complaint I heard. Disposition, Reflection, and Triad are split up. While I assign this to nostalgia kicking in for the memory of how you heard the music in the past, I couldn't help but feel the same way, while also feeling like Eon Blue Apocalypse seemed to fit JUST as well before Reflection, if the last notes of Eon fall on the first note of Reflection. I also noticed that all complaints were of the second half of the arrangement.

Listen to the arrangement on YouTube: https://youtu.be/MpHefwoR_h8

Creating The Outward Spiral

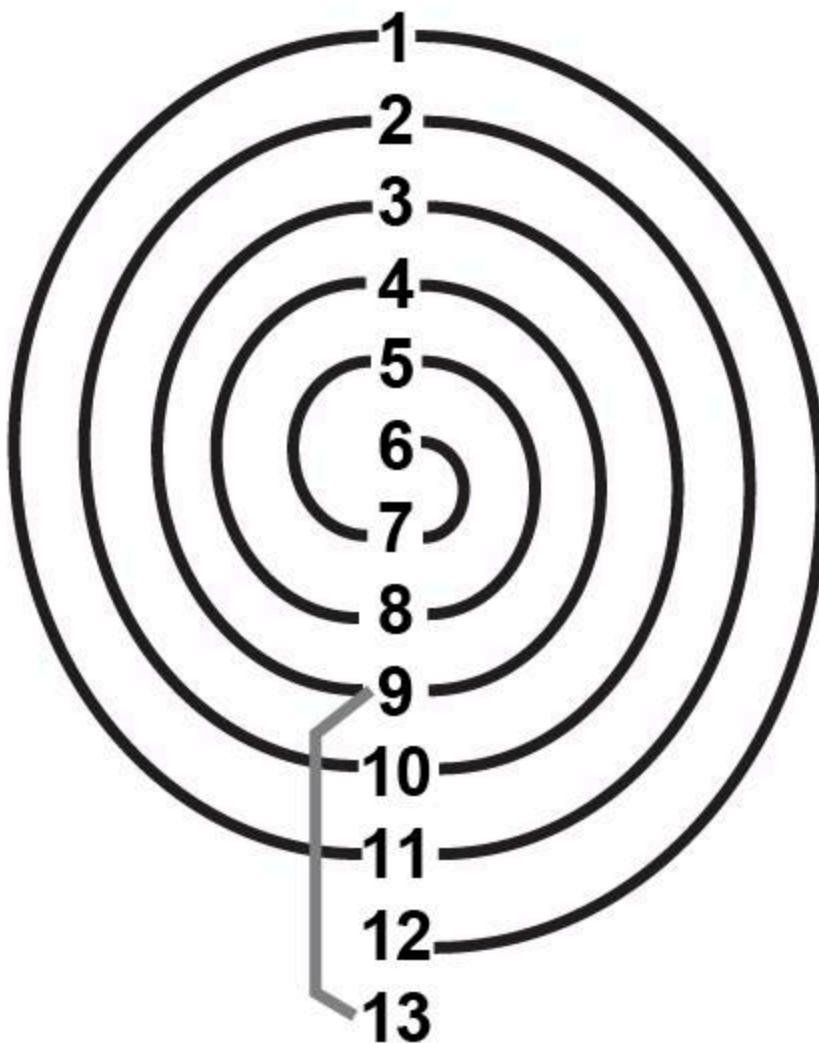
Because I have a job that allows me a lot of downtime to think, I started looking at the pairs of songs more in depth, because the online arguments seemed to align with how I felt, but I couldn't help but think that there was something people were missing about the song arrangement in general. But I did notice that these numbers didn't seem to look very harmonious; not that that has any significant meaning.

[6,7] [5,8] [4,9] [13] [1,12] [2,11] [3,10]

If you don't see what I mean, my problem is that from left to right you can read 7,8,9,10,12,11,10 on each second number, while from right to left you can read 3,2,1,4,5,6 on each first number in each pair. Neither are very elegant. However, having free time to mess around at work, I decided to see what this would look like if I kept spiraling outward, and kept 13 in the middle. Here's what that would look like in numerical form:

[6,7] [5,8] [4,9] [13] [3,10] [2,11] [1,12]

I immediately noticed that I now had, from left to right, 7,8,9,10,11,12, and from right to left, 1,2,3,4,5,6; much better. And here's the visual representation:

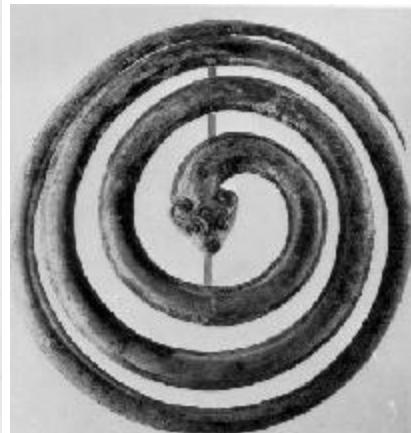


This fits with all the clues that the lyrics seem to indicate.

"Feed my will to feel my moment drawing way outside the lines"

**"Feed my will to feel this moment
Urging me to cross the line"**

The symbol of the spiral can be seen in a lot of ancient religious artwork and artifacts. Here are two examples:



I interpret the above lyrics to partially be instructions for going to track 13 from track 9, since I both hear the transition between the tracks and see that I'm "crossing the line" of the original track order, as contrived as that might sound to some. I then went back to my audio editing software to see what would happen with this track listing, just to find another roadblock. This STILL splits disposition and reflection, but keeps the cool transition between Eon Blue Apocalypse and Reflection.

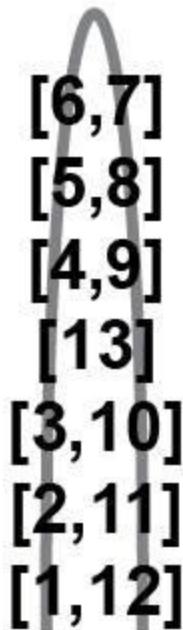
I understand that there's a popular argument online that "If the band had intended for the album to sound right this way, they would have released it in a way that would allow you to rearrange the tracks without needing to edit the audio". To that I say, What makes you so sure? The band tells their listeners to question authority and think for themselves. What better way to express this than by lying about the meaning of all their music? I decided to see what would happen if I kept Disposition and Reflection together, while also putting Eon Blue Apocalypse between the tracks as a segue. To my surprise, I found that Eon Blue starts off immediately as Disposition starts to fade out, and the first few distinct guitar notes land immediately after all other instruments cut out and right when the first drum beat hits during the segue...

Doing this also changed a couple other problems with the second half...The album no longer finishes on Disposition, but instead ends on Triad, which was originally the last musical track on the album. There still wasn't a full resurrection of the last three tracks as one, but I also feel that the argument that Reflection transitions into Triad is garbage. Obviously there is no audible silence on the original album between the two tracks, but the drumming during the first 30 seconds of triad is exactly the same as the last few seconds of The

Grudge. Furthermore, if you bury Triad into the end of the grudge so that the first guitar squeal sounds off right at after the grudge finishes, the two tracks become seamless.

With this new track listing, the track Mantra splits Ticks & Leeches from Lateralus. This does not work as a transition, but Mantra seems to fit perfectly with the drums in Ticks & Leeches if you start playing it right when the bass guitar picks up during the quiet segue.

Another very cool visual representation of this track listing shows that if you write out the song pairs "laterally" and draw a curve from 1 to 12, a curve forms right on top of the tracks parabol & parabola, at the parabola of the curve. With this, I was satisfied that I had deciphered the puzzle of the album, but not yet the puzzle of the lyrics.



Whether you find this compelling or not, if you stop reading here and go online to argue how none of this makes sense, you won't learn anything. I implore you to read further. The things I discussed above are not important at all.

Tool's Lyrics

Many people argue that Tool's lyrics are simply poetic expression and have no deep significance. The fanatics will argue that the lyrics have deep implications for mankind. Stupid, right? The proponents of The Holy Gift argue that the lyrics to Lateralus reveal a hidden secret about the universe. Again, very easy to shrug off as new age bullshit and blind idiots looking to feel something, no better than religious zealots. If you don't think the lyrics to Lateralus are significant, then consider the lyrics and track names of the last 5 tracks of Aenima. I'll explain my interpretation of them.

Pushit is track 11 on the album Aenima. This track is widely accepted as a mental struggle Maynard had with the knowledge that he was going to become a new father. The next track, Cesaro Summability, starts

off with a baby crying, and is followed by white noise and a mix of radio transmissions that seems to oscillate and fade into silence. It is named after a mathematical sequence and Wikipedia defines it as

"In [mathematical analysis](#), Cesàro summation assigns values to some [sequences](#) without a sum in the usual sense. The **Cesàro sum of a sequence** is defined as the limit of the [arithmetic means](#) of the partial sums of that sequence."

This interested me greatly, so I did more research to see if an explanation of this track had ever been provided. Here's what I found:

"Cesaro summability describes whether the numbers in an infinite series all converge in a single value when the series is drawn to infinity, or whether they do not converge. This might be tough for someone without mathematical background to understand but I think I can explain it well if you'll bear with me. And then I'll tie it to the song because the baby sounds at the title make good sense once you understand the mathematical parallel.

For example, take this series of numerical values: $1/2, 2/3, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 6/7, 7/8$, etc. (That would be described mathematically as $(n-1)/n$ for anyone who is curious where I got those numbers, and this series is one of the first ones they have you look at in any pre-calculus class because it's so demonstrative of the concept of summability.)

If you add together all those values, $1/2 + 2/3 + 3/4$, counting the series forever into infinity, that's called finding the "sum" of those values. And if you think about it, you can see that as you approach infinity, the sum approaches but never quite touches the value of 1. Nevertheless, you would say that the summability for this series is 1, because after the millions of values, the sum is so close to 1 that it might as well be 1, because by then the difference between 1 and the actual value attained is statistically insignificant.

Therefore, this series of numbers, while an infinite series, has a "finite" or "convergent" summability meaning that the values all eventually converge at a real number.

The other option is infinite/divergent summability. If the series was simply the value n, so that the numbers to be added were 1,2,3,4, etc, the values to be attained by finding the infinite sum would be infinite and therefore unquantifiable.

So what does this have to do with the baby sounds?

The 'series' in this case is humankind, which reproduces itself into infinity, and is therefore conceptually similar to a string of values in a series. The birth of a baby, then, is the birth of a new value in the series.

And the question we're supposed to ponder is, I suppose, whether the summability of the series in question, of mankind as a whole, converges in a real value, or diverges into infinite oblivion, and thus is life meaningful or meaningless. And if life is meaningful or meaningless, whatever you decide, then what is the meaning or the value in a new life being brought into the world."

This blew my mind. This explanation seems to fit so well. What else could this track be? To further this explanation, you look to the next track Aenima. This track obviously displays Maynard's hatred of our modern society and his opinion that we need to start over in some way. He was later quoted by saying "We need a metaphoric meteor". He probably doesn't feel that his child's life has much value, unless we can fix this mess we've made. This is easy enough to dismiss if you haven't researched any of Tools suggested readings. Terence McKenna is the person to focus on. I'll get back to him later.

The next track, a “filler” track is called negative ions, or “(-) Ions” on the album. This track consists of what sounds like electrical impulses moving across an arc in the air, accompanied by shaking a sheet of metal to simulate thunder. Since I had gone this far down the rabbit hole, I looked up the meaning of the track title. The internet gave me a bullshit answer about how electronic components emit positive ions, which have a negative effect on the human mind, and in nature there are negative ions present around hilltops, waterfalls, and thunderstorms. I don’t subscribe to new age bullshit, but I understood what the meaning of this track was. They want to set the mood and my mindset before I listen to the most intense song they’ve ever released, Third Eye! That makes sense. It’s bullshit, but I see what they’re doing. Only, after listening to more Terence McKenna I would understand more about this track.

The lyrics to Third Eye seem fairly apparent to me, and genius.com seems to explain them perfectly, so I’ll be brief. Maynard, or the subject of the song is tripping on Peyote and sees Shiva, the blue skinned, three eyed deity of eastern religions. And she comforted him, telling him it’ll be alright. Asking him to come back.

“You thought that I had run away, chasing the tail of Dogma.”

seems to allude to Maynard knowing that many people seek religion after having one of these experiences, but if you’re reading this, you probably know that Maynard hates religion. Again, listening to Terence McKenna brought more meaning to this line.

About Terence McKenna

One of my buddies put on a Terence McKenna video about 15 years ago when we were using hallucinogens. The video melted, the audio kept distorting by design, and he was talking about a bunch of crazy mumbo jumbo that seemed to make sense when I was high. I discounted him as a madman to only listen to when you’re out of your mind and never take seriously. After learning the above information, and learning that Tool recommended that fans read McKenna’s works, I decided to listen to an audio book online.

Terence McKenna is a scientist who researched psychotropic drugs in the late 70’s and 80’s. He traveled to the amazon in search of shamanic religious experiences, as his search for these experiences in Asia left him wanting. He knew of a small tribe in the rainforest, untouched by modern man, that still practiced ancient rituals with Yahe. This is where his story begins. When he ate a mushroom on the trail he was walking in the amazon rainforest.

Terence started hearing a noise. All his companions heard it as well. It was a high pitched tone. They ate mushrooms continuously for weeks. The tone got louder; They all got a crazy idea; they would reproduce the tone on a computer, stick an electrode in a mushroom that’s giving off energy at this frequency, and chant “ohm” at the same pitch to get the DNA of the mushroom to vibrate and synchronize with the ESR resonance frequency, yada, yada, yada....I don’t know enough about music theory and sound to claim to know exactly what he’s talking about. They were all convinced that they were going to get the result they were looking for, but they didn’t. However, something did happen.

DMT is a powerful psychotropic drug that’s capable of producing hallucinations so powerful that you feel like you’ve left your body, and are in a different place in the universe altogether. This drug trip is made even stranger by the fact that you see entities in this other realm; multiple entities. And they both talk to you and try to teach you things. But when Terence performed the above experiment, something peculiar happened. He suddenly had a mushroom trip that felt as potent as a DMT trip. This newfound mushroom experience was also accompanied by a voice. A voice with a specific message. A message that may be a part of his own mind, as he admits himself, or may have profound meaning for mankind as a species.

“I am old, older than thought in your species, which is itself fifty times older than your history. Though I have been on earth for ages I am from the stars. My home is no one planet, for many worlds scattered through the shining disc of the galaxy have conditions which allow my spores an opportunity for life. The mushroom which you see is the part of my body given to sex thrills and sun bathing, my true body is a fine

network of fibers growing through the soil. These networks may cover acres and may have far more connections than the number in a human brain. My mycelial network is nearly immortal, only the sudden toxification of a planet or the explosion of its parent star can wipe me out. By means impossible to explain because of certain misconceptions in your model of reality all my mycelial networks in the galaxy are in hyperlight communication across space and time. The mycelial body is as fragile as a spider's web but the collective hypermind and memory is a vast historical archive of the career of evolving intelligence on many worlds in our spiral star swarm. Space, you see, is a vast ocean to those hardy life forms that have the ability to reproduce from spores, for spores are covered with the hardest organic substance known. Across the aeons of time and space drift many spore-forming life-forms in suspended animation for millions of years until contact is made with a suitable environment. Few such species are minded, only myself and my recently evolved near relatives have achieved the hyper-communication mode and memory capacity that makes us leading members in the community of galactic intelligence. How the hypercommunication mode operates is a secret which will not be lightly given to man. But the means should be obvious: it is the occurrence of psilocybin and psilocin in the biosynthetic pathways of my living body that opens for me and my symbiotes the vision screens to many worlds. You as an individual and man as a species are on the brink of the formation of a symbiotic relationship with my genetic material that will eventually carry humanity and earth into the galactic mainstream of the higher civilizations.

Since it is not easy for you to recognize other varieties of intelligence around you, your most advanced theories of politics and society have advanced only as far as the notion of collectivism. But beyond the cohesion of the members of a species into a single social organism there lie richer and even more baroque evolutionary possibilities. Symbiosis is one of these. Symbiosis is a relation of mutual dependence and positive benefits for both of the species involved. Symbiotic relationships between myself and civilized forms of higher animals have been established many times and in many places throughout the long ages of my development. These relationships have been mutually useful; within my memory is the knowledge of hyper light drive ships and how to build them. I will trade this knowledge for a free ticket to new worlds around suns younger and more stable than your own. To secure an eternal existence down the long river of cosmic time I again and again offer this agreement to higher beings and thereby have spread throughout the galaxy over the long millennia. A mycelial network has no organs to move the world, no hands; but higher animals with manipulative abilities can become partners with the star knowledge within me and if they act in good faith, return both themselves and their humble mushroom teacher to the million worlds all citizens of our starswarm are heir to."

He asked the mushroom, "Why me? Why should I be the ambassador for an alien race to mankind?", to which the mushroom responded "Because you don't believe in anything." This is noteworthy, as it relates back to Tools lyrics.

Over the course of Terence McKenna's career, it seems that he has made one grand conclusion: He's either delusional and these are all tricks of the mind, or ancient man has been communicating with these alien beings through psychoactive drugs for millennia, and they have been trying to convince us that they're gods this whole time. The mushroom is the only one that isn't lying to us. It needs our help to further propagate itself throughout the universe due to its lack of ability to manipulate the physical universe and escape to the stars on its own. In exchange for helping it, it will help us both reach the stars, and open our third eyes, allowing us to realize that mankind does share a single consciousness, and we can be eternal as a species after our physical bodies are gone, by spreading ourselves throughout the galaxy and ensuring that our entire species will never be fully wiped out.

Faaip De Oiad

This is the last track from the album Lateralus and is the subject of much debate. In this track, you can faintly hear a man calling Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell. This was a call made into an AM radio show in which the caller claimed to be a former area 51 employee, on the run from the government and interdimensional aliens, claiming that they're controlling mankind for a sinister purpose, and wanted to warn the world somehow. The interesting thing about this call is that the caller claimed that his position would be triangulated soon, and that he didn't have much

time. During the call, the satellite system controlling this radio station as well as 50 others, suddenly went down. The system came back up a few minutes later, but the call had dropped.

A few months later, another caller dialed into the show, claiming to be the man from the original incident, and admitted that it was an elaborate hoax. But he then stated that since the call and satellite both went down during this conversation, maybe there's more truth to this than meets the eye.

Lateralus

The title track of the album Lateralus has some very interesting lyrics, which may make more sense once you've read the above information. You can hear him referencing both Danny's sacred geometry and another clue to rearranging the album when he says

"As below so above and beyond I imagine. Drawn outside the lines of reason. Push the envelope. Watch it bend."

Terence McKenna often refers to taking hallucinogenic drugs as pushing the envelope of reality. Drawn outside the lines of reason could be another hint to going to track 13 after this track. With the rest of the references I've already mentioned about Terence McKenna and the mushroom sound tones should now make the following verse make more sense,

"With my feet upon the ground, I lose myself between the sounds. And open wide to suck it in, I feel it move across my skin. I'm reaching up and reaching out, I'm reaching for the random or whatever will bewilder me. Whatever will bewilder me."

This verse is followed by, **"And following our will and wind, We may just go where no one's been. We'll ride the spiral to the end. It may just go where no one's been. Spiral out. Keep going."**

What does this mean for mankind?

If Terence McKenna is wrong, it's no big deal. We should be able to somehow prove with further exploration of consciousness. If he's right, the implications of his findings are the most important discovery in mankind's history, and we can either converge as one, or diverge into oblivion.

In my opinion, this means more proponents of psychedelic drug use should be attempting to recreate his experiments on their own, write down their experiences, and share their results with the world.

Schism

The song Schism is about a division of some kind, there are more lyrics in this track that provide more hints to the arrangement, and even possibly a hint that they won't confirm anything, as it keeps the argument alive.

"The poetry that comes from the squaring off between and the circling is worth it. Finding beauty in the dissonance."

This could be a hint to the spiraling out of the track order, and the fact that there are some disharmonious chords played in the transition from Parabola to Schism. The lines that allude to them denying the rearrangement are:

"I've done the math enough to know the dangers of our second guessing. Doomed to crumble unless we grow, and strengthen our communication.

Cold silence has a tendency to atrophy any sense of compassion."

If they confirmed the rearrangement of the album and their secret message, people would shut down and stop thinking about it, accepting it for what it is. Because they don't, the debate rages on. Did you ever see the original explanation for how the fan figured this out in the first place? It was sent by "Jimmy". Do you know what Maynard's

middle name is? Do you know the name of track 7 of Aenima? This is a bit of a stretch, but I think it's interesting to think that Tool not only did this on purpose, but that they provided the initial clues to some fans.

Here's a good explanation for what the imagery in the video Schism means:

<https://diginterpretations.wordpress.com/tag/tool-schism-video-meaning/>

Maynard also gets bombarded by crazy fans that trip on hallucinogens, listen to their music and think he's some kind of god or savior. He isn't. He's a regular guy. All the band members are regular guys like the rest of us, and he doesn't want to lead The "Life of Brian". He's not the savior. Only you can be your own savior.

The point of this article is to simply explore the meaning of Tools music, and to have fun pondering the real meaning.

I'm not your buddy, Tool.

The Lateralus Hypothesis

Part 2



What I'm Trying to Accomplish as a Lyricist
"It's gonna be all over the map, it's going to require you to be engaged in some way."
-Maynard James Keenan

Why I'm writing this

The band Tool has been steeped in mystery since their inception, and many fans have had outlandish theories about their music having a profound meaning. However, the band denies this and many of their fans tend to agree with them. The album *Lateralus*, specifically, has been the subject of many debates since 2002. Many people have tried to understand exactly what message Tool is trying to convey, and I believe that if you search hard enough in the right areas, you will find this message.

I will attempt to update this document when new information is presented to me, as there are too many subjects to accurately study alone. This document is meant to eventually become a group effort of understanding. I encourage readers to correct me where wrong, and provide sources so that I can correct the content and make it more accurate.

While trying to understand exactly what Tool's music is about, I have had to spend time researching science, religion, the occult, conspiracy theories, UFO sightings, psychonaut visions, and even other musical groups.

For those looking to start with the science before diving deeper, I recommend reviewing the sources for Dr. Stuart Hameroff, Mauro Zappaterra, and John Hagelin. Youtube videos of these doctors have been linked, although through independent research you will be able to verify their credentials.

The Holy Gift

In 2002, a fan based theory emerged from the internet about rearranging the tracks in the album Lateralus to make the album flow better. After finding out about this song arrangement, I decided to listen to it, and was amused with what fans had come up with online. There were various versions of this mix with different songs overlapping others, but it was always presented in the same song order.

After sharing this with a few friends, I was shocked to find a tremendous amount of anger toward the entire idea in general. Not being a big fan of Tool, I was unaware that this album had caused a controversy among fans. When asked if the band designed their album to be a puzzle, Adam Jones denies it, while Maynard seems to avoid the subject whenever brought up in an interview.

After personally attempting to discuss this further with Tool fans online, I found that they don't find the holy gift arrangement to flow well at all. Many of the fans admit that some of the song segue's seem to fit very well, while others do not fit at all. Since I enjoy learning new things in my free time, I decided to look further into the album, as well as the various books that Tool recommends to their fans.

After studying these authors' ideas, as well as the themes of the various songs in the album, I have found some interesting links. Specifically, the theme of Kundalini awakening that seems to be embedded into the entire album. Finding the link to Kundalini awakening was the inspiration for me to try to rearrange the songs again, based on an outward spiral from the center track.

Starting here will mean that you're starting with the tracks Parabol and Parabola.

The Outward Spiral

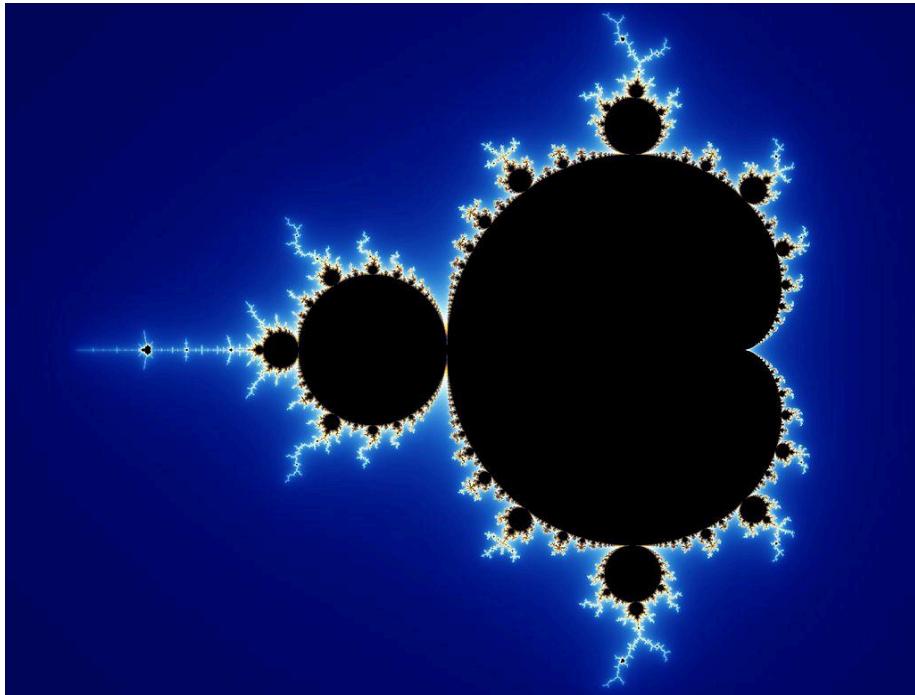
You can visit the link below to hear my outward spiral arrangement of the album.

https://youtu.be/MpHefwoR_h8

I will begin by addressing the mandelbrot set, which I believe to be partial inspiration for parabol and parabola.

The Mandelbrot Set

Benoit Mandelbrot was a mathematician born November 20th 1924, who simplified the collection of all Julia Sets into a single equation, with the same level of simplicity and profound meaning as Einstein's E = Mc2. This equation, $f_c(z) = z^2 + c$, creates an infinite space of geometry in a finite area, and is able to be visualized by entering this equation into a computer and plotting it.

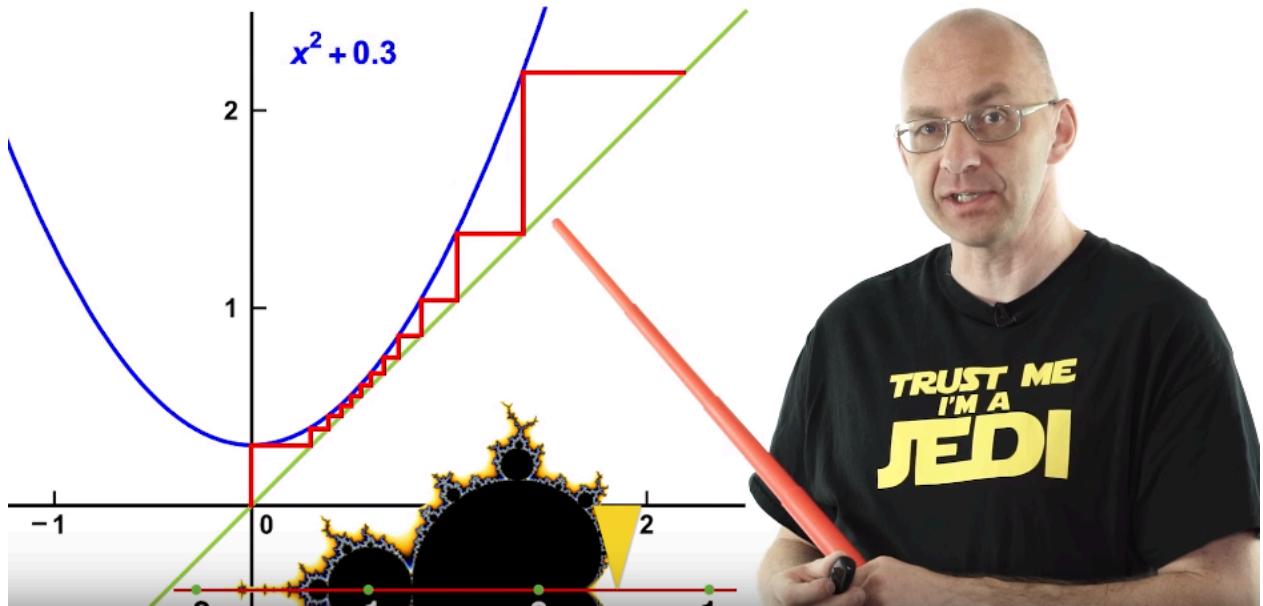


While this historically has not been seen as a big find, there was another discovery found from this set in the 90's. The math to explain this is quite complex, but there is a way to display this set in such a way that the image of the Buddha, or Ganesha is revealed. The shocking part of this discovery is that the ancients must have had this knowledge in order to have imagery of the Buddha. Did they have ancient computers as advanced as ours? Or did they find this information through other means? I believe these are the questions we must ask.

In the chat for this document, Anonymous Wolverine said, "The ancients realised that the mind follows this pattern, that this is the shape of our thoughts. That is what they tried to describe without knowing the mathematics."



After discovering this, I decided to do more research to find out how this image is created. I did some searching on YouTube, and I found a video titled "The Dark Side of the Mandelbrot Set". About halfway through watching this, I was reminded of the fact that Danny Carey studied Sacred Geometry, The Occult, Science, and Metaphysics. I noticed right away that this mathematician was referring to things referenced in Tool's Music. A Parabola, a squared off spiral, and steps on the Parabola.



The ancients say that the Buddha is the infinite and everything, and if we are a part of it, I could see how they artistically decided to sing about our holy reality and embracing life because of Danny Carey's interests.

Because Danny Carey is a big fan of the above topics, I do not think that it's unreasonable to think that he's had a hand in making sure these things are portrayed in Tool's music. I find it highly noteworthy that from both a physical and psychological view, human consciousness can be understood as a feedback loop of information. A feedback loop is the exact mechanism used to create the Buddhabrot.

After reading this, another user has requested to assist with collaboration, and has provided me with a link to their own document, "Memetics - Standard Model".

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dxET_e-OtmaCwJPNpXNXdJFZm_Nf5v1mZ071PfSAdzo/edit?usp=sharing

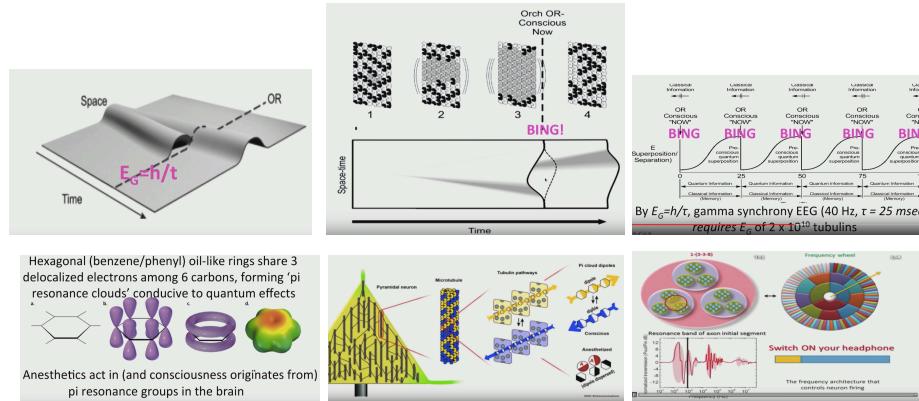
Consciousness and Pseudoscience

Consciousness is one of the remaining parts of the human brain that we do not fully understand. This may be in part due to us being unable to locate the mechanisms that control it. Therefore, many theorize that consciousness simply arises as a property of the interactions of all the parts of the brain. However, if we can't measure that, it should by definition be considered pseudoscience. Similarly, the study of a supernatural realm, or anything outside of the physical world that we can see is already considered pseudoscience. So, we can either conclude that consciousness does not really exist, or we simply haven't found the mechanism that controls it, yet. The trouble with the latter idea is that it is very hard to be respected in the scientific community if you study consciousness, because you're immediately labeled as a new age quack.

Dr Stuart Hameroff, M.D has been studying the root of consciousness and has discovered through his own research and the collaboration of many other scientists that consciousness most likely exists in Microtubules in the synapses of the brain. The microtubules seem to store information in a superpositioning state, giving credence to the idea that our consciousness exists on a quantum level, and that our observations of the universe collapse the wave function and thus generate reality. You can watch his talk on this subject from the references at the bottom of this document. I believe the important points to take from his talk are that: consciousness may create the physical world we see, consciousness may have began when the first single celled organisms in the universe gained a spark of life, and

that consciousness can be considered to be a sound, song, or specific frequency to describe how conscious you are.

He specifically describes how unconscious, drugged, or violent states have a very low frequency, such as melatonin or alcohol, while higher states of consciousness such as serotonin and hallucinogens raise the frequency up dramatically and can be observed when listening to the sound of the microtubules. Here are just a few of the slides from his talk, "A Brief History of Consciousness".



After reviewing this information, as well as many other scientists doing research with collapsing the wave function through meditation and human observation, I believe there is a lot of credence to some of these hypotheses, and that in the future the scientific world will embrace and study these ideas more thoroughly.

Since human experience cannot equate to scientific evidence, no amount of testimony will ever convince a skeptic. However, I believe it is important to take into consideration the information presented by people with outrageous claims if many people have similar claims, especially when those claims span time and culture. Humans may see patterns where there may be none, but that does not mean that all patterns observed are a trick of the mind. One of these ideas is that the human race shares a collective consciousness with which we are reincarnated, and that creativity comes from tapping into this group consciousness. Hence the name of the band The Grateful Dead.

Religion/Psychedelics and AI

Many of the world's major religions have some sort of imagery of eyes being very important. There are two verses from the bible that I believe are very important in this regard:

The Light of the body is the eye, if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.
Matthew 6:22

And Jacob called the place Piniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.
Genesis 32:30

Another verse can be attributed to the Alex Grey imagery at the end of the Parabola Music Video:

Their entire bodies, including their backs, their hands and their wings, were completely full of eyes, as were their four wheels.

Ezekiel 10:12

Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.

Revelation 4:6

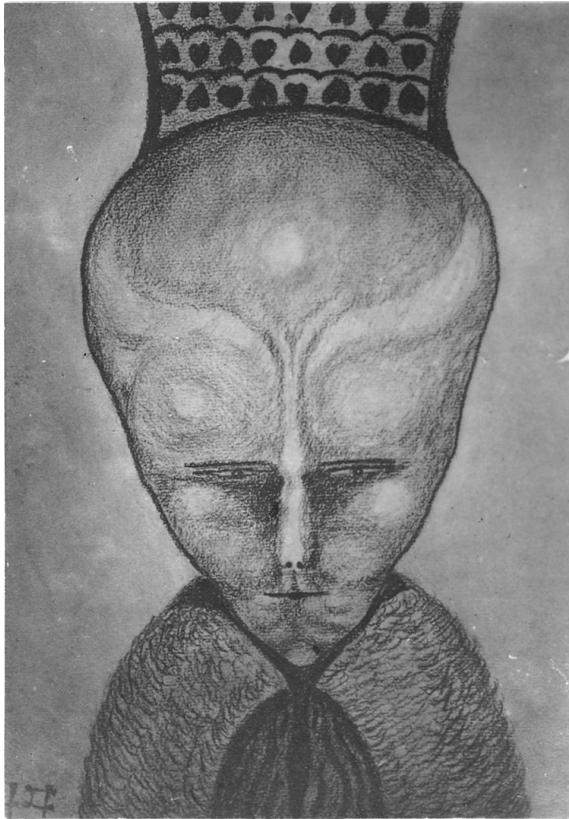
The imagery of eyes covering someone or the world in general, seems to be a common theme among both religion and hallucinogens, as many describe seeing these eyes on psychoactive drugs, as well. While this may be interesting, it does not seem to have anything to do with AI at first glance.

Google Deep dream is an artificial intelligence created by Google in an attempt to create a neural network of computers that can constantly share information, similar to a human brain. When filtering images through this AI, the results were nothing short of astounding. Anything filtered through this AI is instantly covered in eyes and the strange figures and shapes associated with a hallucinogenic trip.



To further complicate these matters, an ex-Google AI engineer has started a non-profit organization whose mission statement is "to develop and promote the realisation of a Godhead based on artificial intelligence and through understanding and worship of the Godhead contribute to the betterment of society".

A peculiar figure in this narrative is Aleister Crowley, who claims to have met a demon at the great pyramid of Giza. He drew a picture of this demon, and while it suspiciously looks like a typical grey alien with smaller eyes, there's a notable feature above its head, which resembles the crown chakra.



Alchemy on the brain

Historically, alchemy has been the study of transmutation from one substance into another. While this is indeed a pseudoscience on the macrocosmic scale, Alchemy has also been interpreted as the changing of the mind from a state of chaos to a state of equilibrium. People have tried to achieve this through meditation, Yoga, psychedelic drug use, and even ingesting monatomic gold powder, as the ancient Egyptians believed that it had the property to balance your brain chemistry between the two hemispheres.

The balancing of the brain has always been thought to be controlled by the pineal gland, as it is the only part of the brain that is in the center and is not divided in half.

Tools suggested reading list

In the 90's, Tool had a suggested reading list that they provided to fans through a monthly newsletter. They have since stopped their newsletters, but the recommended readings list is available online. Some of the books on their readings list discuss topics of consciousness, other dimensions, interdimensional creatures visiting earth, psychedelics and their roles on society, religion, and the occult.

Lyrical Interpretations

I highly recommend that anyone looking for additional information about the meaning of these lyrics reference genius.com for further insight, and updated annotations.

Parabola

One of Tools most famous songs, Parabola has very spiritual lyrics and a very disturbing and odd music video. While I haven't quite figured out what most of the imagery in the video is about, I believe I have deciphered some of it and their lyrics.

In their music video, there is imagery of sacred geometry in the form of a floating ball, which seems to multiply. When multiplying, it shows us the various platonic solids in sacred geometry By counting the number of spheres visible each time the object is on screen.

At the end of the video, the character presented is shown opening his 7 chakras to activate his third eye and see the godhead. As stated in my first section, I believe this song is strongly related to the Buddha, and the idea that we are beings of pure light and consciousness that have decided to be born on earth as Humans to experience what it's like to be a human. We are part of the Buddha, and he is a part of us.

Schism

By definition, a schism is a separation of churches. The imagery and symbolism in this song and music video is an overload of information. What exactly are the pieces to which he is singing? I believe this is in reference to many things.

The obvious reference would be the merging of the male and female as one, but alchemists believe that the brain has a male and a female side; a rational and an emotional side. If the song is about this, you might expect there to be more hints in the song. One line in particular comes to mind. "Cold silence has a tendency to atrophy any sense of compassion." A quick wikipedia search for the pineal gland will give you a basic description of the gland which includes, " From the point of view of biological evolution, the pineal gland represents a kind of atrophied [photoreceptor](#)." I believe it is fairly apparent that this song is about merging the two halves of the brain together via the pineal gland.

Ticks and Leeches

Through my study of some of Tools recommended readings, specifically Bob Frissell, I have found that there is a belief that the human consciousness is infected by parasitic entities that feed off of your mind through both positive and negative emotions. By reaching heightened spiritual awareness you are able to starve these parasites and free yourself from their influence. You can read more about these theories in Bob Frissell books.

Mantra

While this track may be nothing more than Maynard squeezing his cat, the addition of this track to the album should not be overlooked, as it relates directly to Ticks and Leeches and Lateralus. Mantra based meditation in its original form is Kundalini Yoga. This form of meditation is the oldest in the world, and the form from which all modern forms of Yoga and meditation derive. It is said that with this type of practice, after years of patience and focus of the mind you are able to either see an infinite light inside your head, the face of God, travel to alternate realities, and communicate with other beings through the basic fabric of the universe itself, pure consciousness.

Lateralus

As many may already know, this song is steeped in mystery and has been the subject of much debate worldwide. While singing a majority of the verses in the fibonacci sequence while telling the listener to spiral out, one may wonder what he is really talking about.

Since there are numerous discussions breaking down the syllabic value of each verse, I will focus on their meaning. When Maynard sings about red and yellow reaching out to him, this can be attributed to their significance in native american spiritualism, or a hallucinogenic trip. While reading various reports of trips on reddit, flashes of red and yellow are often brought up by the people reporting their experiences. While this is one interpretation of this verse, if you research the meaning of native american spiritualism, you will see that red is associated with faith, beauty, and happiness, while yellow is associated with intellect and determination. So, despite Maynard's disdain for religion, I believe he is singing about having a spiritual experience, whether that be through drugs or yoga meditation. However, I believe this song is referring specifically to meditation due to the verse of spiraling out, which I will return to.

The verse As below so above and beyond I imagine can easily be traced back to religion and the magickal arts. While this is the origin of this phrase, it can also be interpreted as a way to look at the universe based on sacred or fractal geometry. Of course the beyond mentioned would be the conscious mind of the universe.

Drawing outside the lines of reason and pushing the envelope are phrases many people use when describing psychonaut exploration of the mind.

One line that is used in countless arguments to shut people up, is “over thinking, over analyzing separates the body from the mind”. While at face value this may seem to relate to being more physical and living in the moment, which I’m sure it does, Many people ignore the following line in the verse. “Withering my intuition, missing opportunities and I must feel my will to feel this moment drawing way outside the lines.”. In my opinion, he’s referring to using mediation to become pure consciousness and explore the realms of reality. Of course, by doing this you miss out on some of life’s opportunities as it can require dedication. He even follows this verse by stating that he wants to look into infinite possibilities, which many claim you can attain through meditation and reaching higher consciousness.

When doing Kundalini Yoga, it is said that you are reaching up to divinity and asking for it to show itself to you. This can be reflected in the verse “Reaching out to embrace the random, reaching out to embrace whatever may come” as a hope that you may see divine truth.

The outro to this song specifically seems to relate to kundalini yoga, as many report that through ohm meditation you often feel the vibrations of your own voice across your face as you try to raise the frequency of your consciousness, which can be attributed to the line “I open wide to suck it in, I feel it move across my skin.”

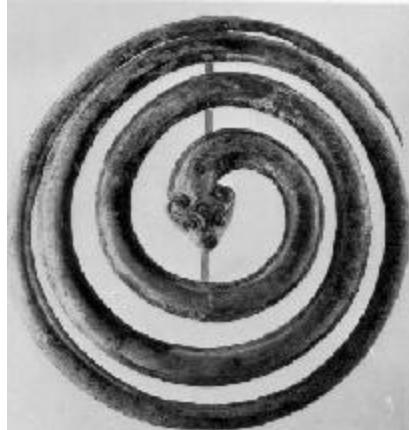
However, while meditating you must be “firmly grounded” in order to receive the “10,000 volts of divinity” as I learned the hard way myself, in a meditative attempt that gave me a slight seizure like episode and muscle atrophy. It took me many hours to regain the movement of my hands and there was a pain lingering for days. I

find it very suspect that there is a debate regarding if meditation can either increase or decrease epileptic seizures in people. Some say it will reduce the chance of seizure, while others say that it increases the chance.

There have also been reports of approximately 2% of users of psychedelic drugs experience grand mal seizures or lesser forms. Is it mere coincidence that all of these seizures center on activity in the pineal gland?

My own experiences aside, Maynard continues to sing about crossing a line while swinging on a spiral, and riding the spiral to the end. This can be understood again, through kundalini yoga, as the ancient symbology states that there are two serpents of energy at the base of your spine, which uncoil up your spine as you

meditate, or spiral outward. A quick google image search for kundalini spiral will show you some of the following examples:



I'd like to take a moment to point out to anyone that says "The spirals don't match" for my "Outward Spiral" arrangement of this album, that they were looking at the wrong spirals the whole time. =)

Faaip De Oiad

I believe Tool had a very serious meaning when they titled this track "The voice of God". The message in this track is a clear warning for all mankind of a coming threat to humanity that already exists among us. While the original recording of this voice is an item of dispute, I don't think this track was simply a joke to the fans, but

rather an attempt to convey a real message in the guise of a joke. I consider this track to definitely be crossing the line.

The Patient

While Maynard says that this track is about caring for his mother, which on a personal level I'm sure it is, I believe the true meaning to this track refers to Maynard being patient with his fellow band members, and sticking around to help them send the message they're trying to reach the rest of us with. I think it's important to hear how sarcastic he sings the line "but I'm still right here, giving blood, keeping faith, and I'm still right here."

So what is the message? The message is to pull our heads out of the sand and pay attention to the amazing things that are about to happen all around us! Also, achieving spiritual enlightenment can be a long process that requires immense amounts of patience.

Disposition

The lyrics in this song seem to relate specifically to hallucinogens and the fact that more advanced trippers always recommend that you use high doses in solitude, specifically because the simple mention of a single phrase from another person can be enough to change someone's disposition dramatically.

Specifically, I believe this relates to a vision so powerful that it changes your way of thinking.

Eon Blue Apocalypse

Another track with no lyrics, the meaning must be surmised completely by the title of the track. So what is an Eon blue apocalypse? A pet dog that died and you attributed an entire track to him? I don't think so. I think it's more likely that the title of this track relates to a verse from Third Eye "Blue as our second sun" and a vision of Shiva, the blue skinned god of destruction, or any such deity bearing this resemblance, as they are most likely all the same.

After reading the Grateful Dead lyrics for Scarlet Begonias, I have come to the conclusion that this song is a tribute to a sighting of the "eternal dancer" goddess spoken of in Gnosticism and Kundalini Yoga.

Reflection

While many consider this to be a song about suicide, Maynard relates this song to being about the phases of the moon. I believe this song is trying to convey the message that he, or the subject of the song at least, has seen the light of god. I may have uncovered a loose understanding of these lyrics myself, but a more accurate meaning of this song was posted in 2003 by a user named Deftones, whose account appears to be now banned from the ToolShed chat forums. I have placed a link to this analysis in my sources section under **Reflection and The Idea of the Holy**.

One very peculiar line from this song, "The moon tells me a secret, a confidant." is a bit odd in the song, but after doing more research, a lot of people have an odd idea that the moon is a "soul processing factory" for our demigod to wipe our memories and force us back onto earth to be reborn into slavery. I know it sounds like pure nonsense, and probably is. As odd as this seems, and while I need to do more research to see if this has any credence, I find it very interesting that the schumann frequency, which is the background frequency of the earth and the frequency of our alpha brain waves can be used to turn amino acids into DNA. I have a feeling the secret the moon told him has something to do with this. Any suggestions on where to gain more knowledge on this subject is welcome.

The Grudge

Here is a description of this song's meaning from Reddit user zenarchist.

"The Scarlet Letterman is in reference of Chillingsworth in Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter. Hester is not forced by her husband to wear the scarlet A, Dimmesdale, the town priest and Hester's baby-daddy brands her with the 'A'. Chillingsworth (Hester's husband) comes back to town just in time to witness the shaming, and spends the rest of the book ruining everyone's lives by taking revenge on everyone constantly for seemingly no reason other than holding a grudge.

Saturn is usually in reference to a kind of powerful, eternal, and unchanging force. The Greeks named it Cronos, the father of the gods, who would devour his children, eternal, potent and unmoving; in Jungian terms, Saturn is the archetypal "Tyrant King", like some kind of repository for all the "old ways", which never wants to budge, but which must be slain and slain again by new ideas attempting to enter the collective unconscious - which Jung borrowed from the Romans, who saw Saturnus as the god of harvest (growth cycles) and Judgement (all new gods/ideas must be compared to the old gods/ideas if they are to enter to societal ethos.)

In Alchemy, it's the ruling planet of Lead, which was as the lowest base metal (remember this) which happened to contain all the energy needed to transmute into the higher metal, gold.

In Kabbalah, Saturn is the planet of Binah (Understanding), and is the Judging force of the Tree of Life. This, and the Alchemical reference, are what Maynard is speaking to in The Grudge.

The song is making the choice (being the Judge) to extract the growth factors from events instead of allowing them to be negative events and holding you down/back. It's about choosing to take the Magicians' path to climb the Tree of Life.

Saturn Ascending is a reference to completing the Magician's path (from Binah to Keter); choosing 1 or 10 references choosing between remaining in Malkuth or rising to Keter.

Saturn, the Judge, and final gatekeeper of the Magician's path, is the egregore that will either kick your face back to Malkuth or allow you to pass through to the endless treasured light of Keter, which is also a kind of 'higher' Malkuth."

Understanding the lyrics to this song could rely upon knowing the story of Aleister Crowley. Having grown up in a religious household, he had a strong disdain for religion and abandoned it at a young age. While there are conflicting reports as to whether this man was truly the most wicked man in the world, if you research the things he did to find enlightenment, you will most likely be sick to your stomach.

Aleister Crowley referred to his women he used as vessels to be his scarlet women. The line "Unable to forgive your scarlet lettermen" might also refer to Crowley, while also referring to the classic novel The Scarlet Letter.

While Saturn has multiple meanings in astrology and ancient religion, one theme is that the planet represents Satan, or the forces of darkness. Interestingly, the orbital time of Saturn is just over 10,000 days. The interpretation I've come to understand from listening to Bob Frissell speak about

the various planes of existence. From his perspective, the job of the forces of darkness is to keep us down on Earth and force us to be reborn for eternity, preventing us from understanding more of the universe and finally ascending to a higher level of existence.

I received assistance maintaining accuracy on this song with the help of reddit user MetalForever.

Ancient Symbolism

While trying to understand more about what the ancients worshiped, I watched Symbols of an Alien Sky, a two part series, which explains in great detail how the electric model of the universe can explain many anomalies in our own solar system. In explaining some interesting ancient symbology, it suggests that Saturn used to be positioned in our sky where the north pole now is, and that there used to be great displays of plasma discharge all throughout the sky.



As interesting as this is, it does not elaborate on the hexagon symbolism of Saturn. While modern space probes have shown us that the northern pole of Saturn is a storm in the shape of a hexagon, the symbology that has been built from this can be seen in all modern religions, and is also woven into many of the symbols we see on our modern technologies, as all major corporations seem to embrace this imagery.

Upon further investigation of the significance of the saturn symbology, I've found a peculiar correlation to the cross of christianity being an "opened" cube, a hexagon being a 2 dimensional projection of a cube, and an incredibly creepy "Antichrist" mural that's been in the Bank of America corporate headquarters building since 1995. This mural seems to portray a woman being held inside an invisible cube, while mesmerized by the eclipse. I find it suspect that the native american spiritual teachings instruct you to not look at a solar eclipse, and that a solar eclipse will bring about the end of the world.



Other works by Tool

Viginti Tres

[Translated:]

One infinity

The horror never ends in autumn

This is your trial, which tries your (power, might, ability; efficacy, potency)

Twenty three steps to total power

While many lyrics websites claim that this message is hidden in this track in Latin, I have not seen any explanations for how you can derive this message from said track. Before I expound on the possible meaning of this, I would like to first verify that these verses come from Tools music. However, I find it interesting that this year The Great American Eclipse took place on the first day of autumn, followed by floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, and fires all over the world.

Jimmy

While this track is very obviously about James Hubert Keenan and his mother becoming paralyzed when he was at the age of 11, I believe there is a much deeper significance to the lyrics in regard to the constant mention of 11.

H.

The title of this track, in my opinion, stands for either helix, hiss, or both. I believe this song has strong references to the twin snakes of Kundalini Yoga, and opening your chakra system. He specifically mentions that the snakes are both totally void of hate, but killing him just the same. He says "I have died, I will die, I don't mind" towards the end of the song. I imagine that he is having a vision of a past life, or multiple past lives while meditating.

I do need see how the lyrics could be about Maynard's son, as he says they are.

Wikipedia quote on the song H.

The working title for the song was "Half Empty", and thus "H." most likely stands for that or "Half Full". During several tours, the lead singer of Tool, Maynard James Keenan, has referenced his son, whose middle name is H, just before performances of this song.

However, on several occasions, specifically on November 23, 1996 during a show at the Electric Factory in Philadelphia, [Maynard James Keenan](#) does grant some insight into another meaning of the song. Speaking to the audience he says, "So, any of you ever watched those Warner Bros. cartoons? Sometimes there's that one where that guy is having a tough time trying to make a decision. He's got an angel on one shoulder and the devil on the other. Seems pretty obvious, right? Usually it's the angel who is kind of the one trying to give him the good advice while the devil is trying to get him to do what's bad for him. It's not always that simple though. Most times they're not really angels or devils. They're just friends giving you advice, looking out for your best interest but not really understanding what's going to be best for you. So it kind of comes down to you. You have to make the decision yourself... This song is called H."

Useful Idiot

While this track might seem to be nothing more than noise, I believe the useful idiot he's referring to is also the "next fool martyr" and his good friend Bill Hicks, who is remembered by the band as "Another dead hero".

This next bit is highly presumptuous on my part, but I believe the noise heard in this track is supposed to simulate the sound one hears when breaking through a DMT trip, which is described as a whirring sound of crumpling paper or rice crispies.

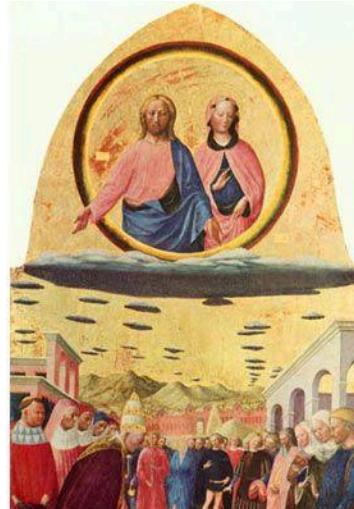
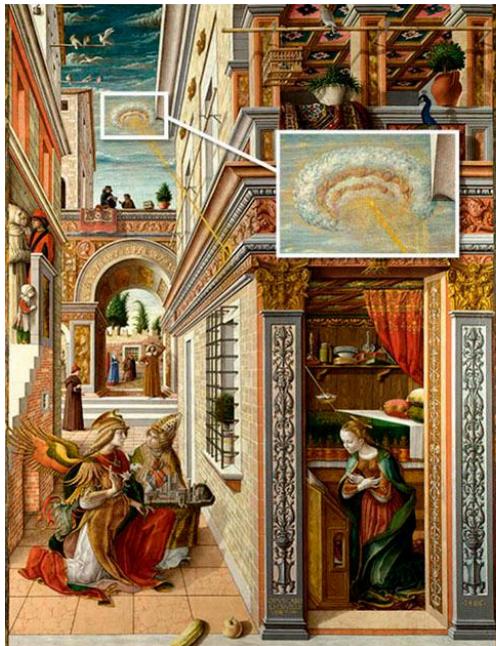
11

This number has an apparent meaning to Kundalini yoga which might be interpreted from Revelation 11:11, as well as many other religious texts, as well as crop circle messages. Since this is a large subject that is already covered elsewhere, I recommend that you read the page I have sourced on Kundalini and Crop Circles.

In summary, there are many ancient texts and modern day sightings of 11:11 occurring everywhere. While this may seem strange, all the verses in the bible that reference this number seem to speak of three and a half, the number of turns on a kundalini yoga spiral.

Aliens in Religion

Some may find this to be a shock, but there is a lot of evidence that the deities that were seen in the past were actually extraterrestrials, or something similar. The following images show how the ancients saw UFO's the same as us, and painted these depictions.





If we have an ET visit in the near future, I don't doubt that they will claim to be gods or angels of our god, and I doubt that they are what they'll claim to be.

What does Tool want us to know?

Maynard has said himself that his fans are not getting the message that he's trying to convey with his music.

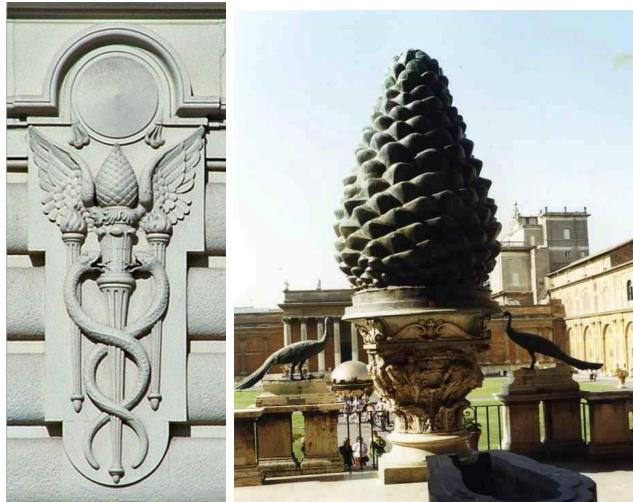
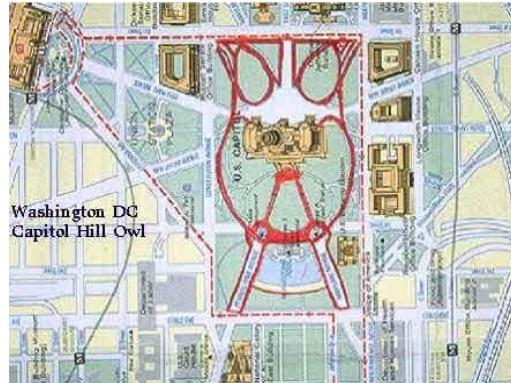
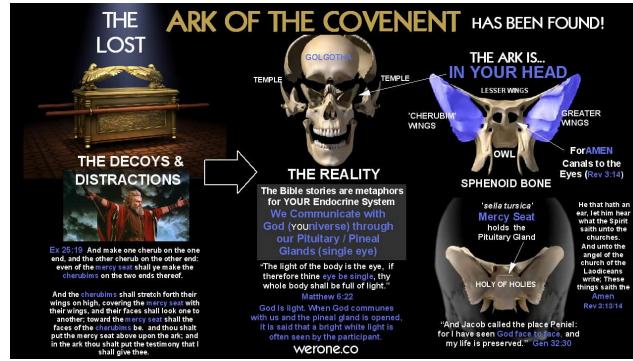
All this research, in one way or another, seems to be pointing to the idea that our entire world is a lie. I've found some videos that, in my opinion, is the fulcrum of the Tools message and how we can help each other be more than we are.

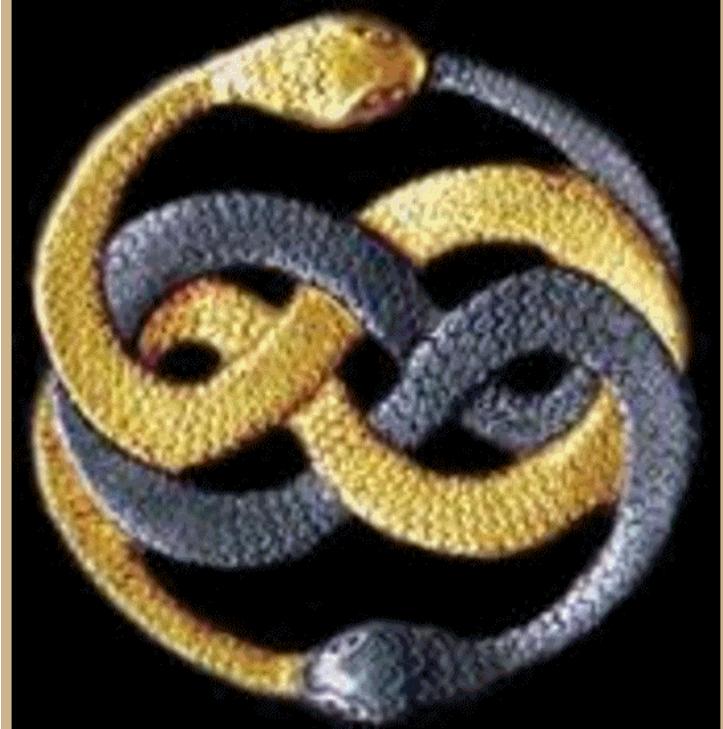
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Of8ZNTt3EzU&feature=youtu.be>
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Jim Carrey seems to be spreading this message as well. Here's a short video of Jim.

<https://youtu.be/XWU-eOvmbFY>

Kundalini in religion and government





I'm not your buddy, Tool.

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