

The Harmony of Everything

A legend of Creation and Destrucion

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION



The Genesis of Existence is the story of how the universe came to be, from the formation of the elements to the birth of the gods and the rise and fall of civilizations. It is a tale of Creation, Destruction and The Harmony of Everything.

THE GENESIS OF EXISTENCE

It was a time before time, before space and matter, before even the concepts of existence and non-existence. There were only The Force of Creation and The Force of Destruction, locked for an infinity in a stalemate of creation and instant destruction. This is the Eternal Cycle, an unfathomable expanse of time with only these two Forces, locked in this eternal dance of birth and death.

But eventually, after countless eons, something shifted. Creation and Destruction found a new harmony, a balance that allowed for the emergence of the Aspects. The two Forces became The Seven Aspects; Energy, Materia, Order, Time, Space, Chaos, and Oblivion each embodying the desires of The Forces.

This was the Harmony of Everything, a momentous event that marked the beginning of a new era known as The Eon of Emergence. During that period the Aspects began to explore their immense power. It was a time of vast emptiness and potential, where only the most basic concepts existed. The Aspects experimented with the raw elements of their power, manipulating Creation and Destruction on a scale that was beyond imagination.

The Eon of Emergence was followed by The Harmony of the World, an event where the Aspects worked together to create a balanced and harmonious world. During this time, the Aspects explored the potential of the elements, such as fire, water, earth, and air, and how they could work together in harmony to support life. This was the Eon of Elementals, where the Aspects explored and mastered the potential of the elements and created beings known as

THE SPARK OF CREATION



Elementals.

A NEWLY CREATED WORLD



This eventually led to a new pact called The Harmony of Life, where the experiments and deals made during the creations of the Elementals were taken to the next step. All the Aspects came together, each bringing a part of their desires and powers into Life.

This act was a catalyst, accelerating an already ongoing process where the Aspects put their power into their creations and eventually dividing and merging with each other, thus forming new entities known as

the Gods. These Gods still retained much of the power of the original Aspects but were more nuanced and complex beings, reflecting the complexity of the world they inhabited. The period after the Harmony of life is known as The Age of God.

At the end of this period, after an epic battle with several gods dying, came the Godsveil, a pact between the gods which led to the creation of the veil separating the mortal and divine realms, protecting both from each other. The gods leaving led to the Age of Monsters, where monstrous creatures roamed the world and humanoids struggled to survive.

But hope

was not lost. The Age of Heroes followed, a time when the gods poured much of their power into some chosen individuals, creating powerful heroes who could fight against the monsters and protect the followers of the gods. These heroes were often granted extraordinary abilities and strengths, allowing them to become legendary figures in history. The current age is The Age of Civilization, a period after the Age of Monsters, where

A GOLDEN DRAGON



humanoids have established civilization and created great empires and kingdoms.

The Age of the Future is a mysterious period that lies beyond the Age of Civilization. What is known is that it is a time of change, where new things will happen, and the course of the universe will be altered in unforeseeable ways. It is uncertain whether this period will be a time of great prosperity or one of peril and darkness.

At the end of everything lies the ultimate and inevitable conclusion of existence - the End of Everything. How this will come to pass, is unknown, whether it will be a slow, silent wimper of heat death in the universe or an epic, catastrophic event where the forces of Oblivion overwhelm and destroy everything and there is only nothingness forever.

CHAPTER 2: THE ETERNAL CYCLE

Before everything, only two Forces existed: the Force of Creation and the Force of Destruction. These two forces were inseparably entwined, eternally engaged in a cosmic dance spanning the entirety of existence. The Force of Creation, representing the very essence of existence and propelling the universe forward. In contrast, the Force of Destruction signified the inevitable demise awaiting all things.

THE ETERNAL CYCLE



For innumerable eons, the universe remained trapped in this ceaseless battle between Creation and Destruction. The cycle repeated itself infinitely. As an infinitesimally small spark of Somethingness emerged, it was instantly devoured by the void of Nothingness, with Destruction forever chasing the tail of Creation.

Amidst this chaos, a peculiar order prevailed. The Eternal Cycle adhered to a pattern, a rhythm, a predictability born from the relentless pursuit

between these two Forces. The universe resembled an intricate symphony, with Creation and Destruction acting as the two great conductors, guiding the universe through its unending melody.

Comprehending the vastness of the Eternal Cycle is a challenge for mortals. The spark of Somethingness was minuscule, a mere speck within the boundless universe. The one thing that could never be utterly destroyed, for it was continuously recreated. Even as the universe was consumed by the void, the spark endured.

The Harmony of Everything marked the end of the Eternal Cycle, a pact made between the Forces of Creation and Destruction. This compromise allowed both forces to find a balance, fostering new possibilities to fulfill their desires for creation and destruction. Though the Forces of Creation and Destruction sought different outcomes, they acknowledged the significance of one another in maintaining the universe's equilibrium.

The Harmony of Everything enabled Creation and Destruction to flourish in new ways. Creation brought forth Materia and Energy, while Destruction used them in innovative ways. Space allowed room for these new creations and pure nothingness in the form of Oblivion. Time introduced a new dimension for both forces to operate within, and the desire for Order and Chaos in creation and destruction reached new heights.

With the Harmony of Everything, the universe had a new purpose and direction, as the two Forces transformed into the Seven Aspects

THE HARMONY OF EVERYTHING



CHAPTER 3: THE SEVEN ASPECTS

THE ASPECT OF ENERGY

A vital entity that drives the universe, the Aspect of Energy permeates every corner of existence, fueling change and transformation. It represents the eternal contest between the Forces of Creation and Destruction, as they harness the raw power of Energy to breathe life into their dreams and aspirations or to unleash chaos and devastation.

At its core, Energy possesses the ability to move, heat, and reshape the fabric of reality. It can push and pull, changing itself into new forms and configurations. The Aspect of Energy commands this mysterious power, bringing forth the essence of motion and drive that defines the universe.

Though the Aspect of Energy is intrinsically linked to the desires of the Force of Creation, offering the essential spark that breathes life into the physical world, it is also inextricably bound to the ambitions of the Force of Destruction. The versatile nature of Energy allows it to be harnessed for acts of annihilation, ensuring that the universe is ever-changing and never stagnant. The Aspect of Energy epitomizes the delicate equilibrium between these forces, showcasing the perpetual struggle that shapes existence.

As a crucial component of the cosmic order, the Aspect of Energy underscores the complex interplay between the forces of Creation and Destruction, giving rise to the unending transformations that define the universe. This dynamic exchange between genesis and ruin propels the evolution of reality and sustains the eternal cycle that governs the cosmos. In their unending battle, the Force of Creation seeks to nurture and grow, while the Force of Destruction longs to dismantle and raze, each finding purpose in the presence of Energy.

THE ASPECT OF ENERGY



THE ASPECT OF MATERIA

A fundamental entity that gives form and substance to the universe, the Aspect of Materia is the cornerstone of existence. It represents the intricate dance between the Forces of Creation and Destruction, as they vie for control over the building blocks of reality. The Aspect of Materia embodies the desires of Creation to construct and expand the physical universe, and the yearnings of Destruction to tear it apart and dismantle its intricate structures.

At the heart of Materia lies its smallest configuration, the minute particles that combine to form the elements of existence. These elements give rise to the myriad forms of matter that populate the cosmos, from the tiniest specks of dust to the vast celestial bodies that light up the night sky. The Aspect of Materia oversees this complex dance of particles, providing the foundation that enables the universe to take shape.



The dynamic properties of Materia govern the interactions between its components, giving rise to diverse forms and behaviors. The Aspect of Materia is intimately connected to these hidden principles, infusing the universe with an air of mystery and enchantment, as if governed by a hidden force.

Although the Aspect of Materia is closely linked to the desires of the Force of Creation, providing the essential components for constructing the physical world,

it is also deeply entwined with the yearnings of the Force of Destruction. The transformative power of Materia enables matter to be broken down, reshaped, and reformed, ensuring that the universe remains in a state of constant flux. The Aspect of Materia exemplifies the delicate balance between these forces, demonstrating the cyclical nature of existence.

As an essential part of the cosmic framework, the Aspect of Materia highlights the intricate interplay between the forces of Creation and Destruction, giving rise to the diverse forms of matter that define the universe. This ever-changing dance between birth and decay shapes the evolution of reality and sustains the eternal

cycle that governs the cosmos. In their eternal struggle, the Force of Creation seeks to build and expand, while the Force of Destruction yearns to topple and dismantle, each finding purpose in the presence of Materia.

THE ASPECT OF ORDER

An essential entity that governs the structure of the universe, the Aspect of Order pervades every facet of existence, ensuring harmony and coherence. It represents the meticulous arrangement and organization that underpins the cosmos, championing the innate desire of the Force of Creation to weave intricate patterns and establish systems within the vast expanse of reality.

THE ASPECT OF ORDER



Order dictates the fundamental laws that bind the elements of the universe together, allowing for the emergence of complexity and organization. The Aspect of Order is the guiding force behind these principles, instilling a sense of purpose and structure that shapes the very essence of existence.

The subtle intricacies of Order reveal the hidden patterns that permeate the fabric of the cosmos. As the Aspect of Order orchestrates these connections,

it creates a framework for the unfolding of life and the development of diverse phenomena.

While the Aspect of Order primarily resonates with the ambitions of the Force of Creation, it is not entirely immune to the influence of the Force of Destruction. There can be a beautiful Order to Destruction as well.

Nevertheless, the Aspect of Order exemplifies the overarching quest for balance and harmony within the universe, as it strives to maintain the delicate interplay between Creation and Destruction. It is the organizing principle that brings forth the intricate designs and systems that give rise to the beauty and complexity of existence.

THE ASPECT OF SPACE

A neutral entity that provides the canvas for the grand tapestry of existence, the Aspect of Space serves as the stage upon which both the Forces of Creation and Destruction can enact their cosmic struggle. This enigmatic Aspect encompasses the vast expanse of the universe, offering endless possibilities for the interaction between matter, energy, and the intricate dimensions that make up the fabric of reality.

Space, as an essential aspect of existence, stretches far beyond our conventional understanding of three dimensions. It reveals the existence of hidden dimensions, where the fabric of reality can be folded, twisted, and intertwined in ways that defy human comprehension.

This infinite expanse grants the Forces of Creation and Destruction the room to manifest their desires, providing a backdrop for the emergence of complex structures and the ultimate dissolution of all things. The Aspect of Space nurtures the potential for growth and expansion while simultaneously offering a void into which all things may eventually be returned.

The enigmatic nature of the Aspect of Space unveils the hidden potential within the cosmos, inviting us to explore the intricate dimensions and vast possibilities that lie beyond the limits of our perception. In its boundless embrace, the Aspect of Space provides the foundation for the eternal struggle between Creation and Destruction, as they wield the brushes of the other Aspects to paint their visions upon the endless expanse of reality.

THE ASPECT OF TIME

A transcendent entity that weaves together the moments of existence, the Aspect of Time governs the flow and progression of events throughout the cosmos. Neutral in its nature, Time serves as the ever-present companion to the Forces of Creation and Destruction, allowing their intricate interplay to unfold across the vast tapestry of reality.

THE ASPECT OF SPACE





Time, as a profound aspect of existence, extends beyond our narrow perception of linear progression. It encompasses an enigmatic realm where all moments exist simultaneously, interconnected in a complex web of possibilities. Time can move in multiple directions, and countless parallel and interconnected timelines can coexist, revealing a universe far richer and more intricate than our limited understanding can grasp.

Within the domain of Time, the Forces of Creation and Destruction find the opportunity to manifest their desires and aspirations. Time grants them the means to construct elaborate sequences of events and to explore the potential outcomes that result from their cosmic contest.

As a transcendent entity, the Aspect of Time remains unbound by the constraints of either Creation or Destruction. It holds the key to the eternal struggle between these cosmic forces, enabling their continuous battle to take shape across the ages and dimensions.

THE ASPECT OF CHAOS

A powerful and enigmatic force that permeates the fabric of existence, the Aspect of Chaos thrives in the unpredictable and the uncertain. While leaning more towards Destruction than Creation, Chaos also plays a vital role in allowing Creation to evolve and transform in unexpected and productive ways.

Chaos and Order, in some ways, stand as opposing forces within the cosmic landscape. However, they also share a unique connection, akin to siblings with their rivalry and cooperation. They work in tandem,



each influencing the other, as they sculpt the universe into a mosaic of ever-changing patterns.

Chaos stirs the cauldron of possibilities, breaking down established structures and breathing new life into the universe. It fosters growth, diversity, and transformation, pushing the boundaries of existence and inviting new ideas and perspectives to emerge. As Chaos spreads and expands across the vast expanse of space, it inadvertently weaves together elements of order amidst the turmoil. The intricate interdependence of these two Aspects ensures that they are always connected, with one never far from the other.

Amidst its ever-changing nature, the Aspect of Chaos holds within it a powerful capacity for destruction. It can disrupt and dismantle the foundations upon which creations are built, tearing apart bonds and defying the rules that hold them together. As Chaos descends upon a creation, it erodes the essence of what once was, transforming it back into a disordered state. While the underlying components may still exist, the original structure and meaning are lost, swallowed by the relentless force of Chaos. This potent destructive power reminds us of the delicate balance between creation and destruction.

Though Chaos may appear destructive and disruptive from certain perspectives, it also contributes to the richness and complexity of existence. It embraces the unknown and the unexpected, constantly reshaping and redefining the cosmos in an ever-evolving dance of possibilities.

In the grand tapestry of existence, the Aspect of Chaos serves as a catalyst for change and innovation. It reminds us that the universe is a place of constant flux and transformation, where the forces of Creation and Destruction work together to weave the intricate patterns that define the cosmos.

THE ASPECT OF OBLIVION

The Aspect of Oblivion represents the ultimate desire of Destruction, the all-consuming force that seeks to eliminate not just creation, but the very fabric of existence itself. This Aspect embodies the yearning for Nothingness, a state devoid of space, time, or any other concept or Aspect that defines the universe. Oblivion is the purest form of Destruction, an unfathomable void that seeks to erase all that ever was or ever will be.

While other Aspects contain elements of both Creation and Destruction, Oblivion is unique in its purity, untainted by any trace of creative influence. It is the embodiment of an existential longing for the universe to have never been, a state where all that remains

is the impenetrable void of Nothingness.

In the grand scheme of existence, Oblivion stands alone, unchallenged by any Aspect of pure Creation. There is no perfect counterbalance for its all-consuming desire, as the very nature of Creation implies the presence of something rather than nothing. This singularity sets Oblivion apart, highlighting its significance in the delicate balance that underpins the universe.

Despite its overwhelming power and singular nature, the Aspect of Oblivion plays a crucial role in maintaining the delicate balance of the universe. Its mere existence serves as a stark warning, urging the forces of Creation and Destruction to harmonize their actions, lest the universe succumbs to the dark embrace of Oblivion. As the Aspects continue their intricate interplay, each playing its part, the existence of Oblivion stands as testament to the potential for absolute annihilation, a warning that the delicate equilibrium must be maintained to preserve the beauty and complexity of the universe.

THE ASPECT OF OBLIVION



CHAPTER 4: THE EON OF EMERGENCE

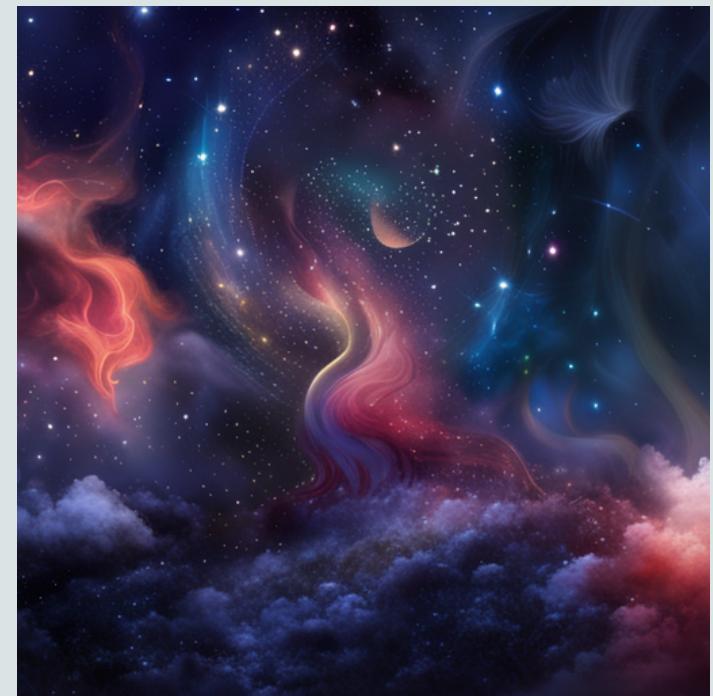
During the Eon of Emergence, the Aspects worked together, learning to understand each other's strengths and weaknesses. Space created an infinity of space, Materia filled it with basic matter, Chaos scrambled it, and Order made patterns in the chaos. Time orchestrated these events, moving them forwards and backwards, while Oblivion transformed it all into Nothingness. Their powers were all virtually unlimited, except for the ways in which they could counteract one another.

UNDEFINED RULES THE ASPECTS



Aspects managed to strike compromises and collaborate effectively. They realized that certain fundamental laws of the universe would benefit each Aspect the most and made agreements to ensure that these laws were established. They worked together to determine the strength of the fundamental powers within particles, the speed of light, and the rate at which time should progress.

THE EON OF EMERGENCE



For instance, Space could create an infinite amount of space, but it couldn't populate that space without the assistance of Materia. Materia could produce matter, but it required space in which to exist. Chaos had the power to scramble everything, but it couldn't establish patterns without Order. Order could fashion patterns, but it needed a medium to work with. Time could orchestrate events, but it required something to act upon.

Despite their differences, the Aspects managed to strike compromises and collaborate effectively. They realized that certain fundamental laws of the universe would benefit each Aspect the most and made agreements to ensure that these laws were established. They worked together to determine the strength of the fundamental powers within particles, the speed of light, and the rate at which time should progress.

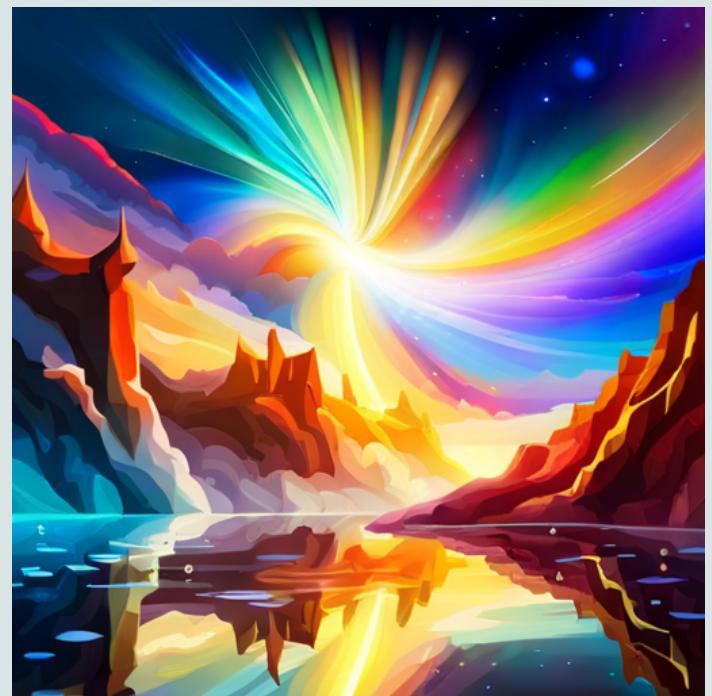
One example of an important achievement was the creation of the element of water. Materia and Order, with their shared interest in creating the building blocks of the universe, collaborated to ensure that the fundamental particles within the water were arranged at an exact angle. This precise configuration endowed the molecule with its extraordinary properties, such as its ability to dissolve a wide range of substances, its high heat capacity, and its lower density as a solid compared to a liquid. Chaos, ever eager to explore the potential within creation, recognized the possibilities that these properties offered, and the Aspects understood the importance of such a collaboration in shaping the universe.

During this exploratory period, the Aspects experimented with various aspects of reality, such as the number of parallel timelines that should exist, and how the right amount of chaos could produce a form of order on its own. They also explored the potentials of creating intricate ecosystems and the possibilities of intelligent life.

It was during this time that Space and Oblivion brokered a deal with Materia and Energy, in which Space was filled with both substance and nothingness, and more space for one aspect meant more space for the other. This balance allowed for the existence of black holes, supernovae, and other cosmic phenomena that showcase the interplay between these Aspects.

As a result of these agreements and collaborations, the Aspects forged a grand deal, The Harmony of the World, that allowed for endless possibilities. With their efforts combined, they breathed life into galaxies, stars, planets, and moons, and designed the intricate systems and ecosystems that thrive within them. Their ceaseless curiosity and drive for discovery have shaped the universe we know today, a living testament to the Aspects' harmonious collaboration.

A CREATION FULL OF BEAUTY



CHAPTER 5: THE EON OF ELEMENTALS

In an era marked by immense power and change, the Aspects delved deeper into their abilities within the newly formed world, during the Eon of Elementals. Relying on the foundation set by Space and Time, they brought forth Elementals to inhabit the world. These Elementals

were not sentient beings, but physical manifestations of the Aspects' powers, enabling them to experiment more directly with the world.

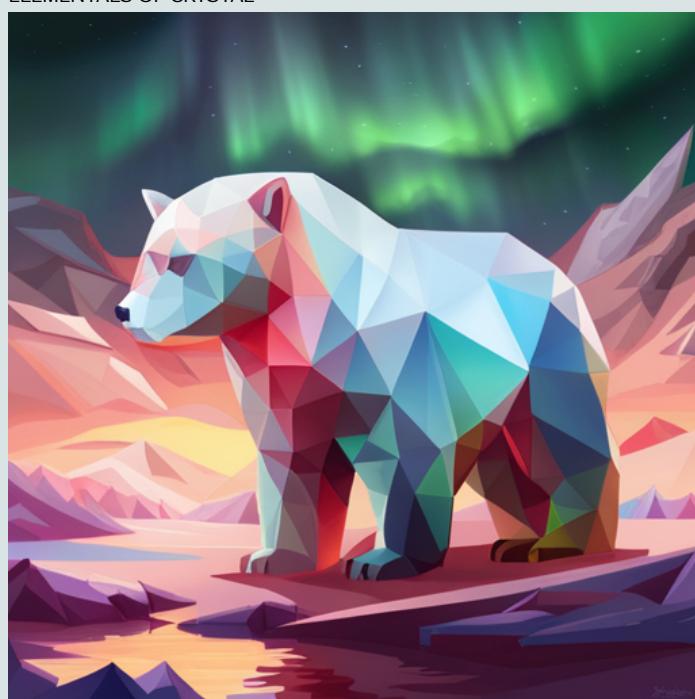
As the Aspects explored the fundamental functions and interactions of their powers, they sought to discover novel expressions of their abilities through natural forces.

Through these natural phenomena, the Aspects discovered new expressions of their powers and interactions with each other.

ELEMENTALS OF AIR



ELEMENTALS OF CRYSTAL



They marveled at the beauty of their creations, each one a testament to the infinite potential of the universe they had helped to shape. During this time, the Aspects created and destroyed entire continents, molding the world according to their vision.

As the Eon of Elementals progressed, the Aspects continued to refine their abilities, discovering ever more intricate forms of power. The concept of creating life was not unfamiliar to the Aspects, but it

was a daunting task that had never been attempted before. They understood that it would demand a substantial portion of their

power and that they would need to collaborate like never before. However, the potential rewards were too enticing to disregard.

ELEMENTS OF STONE



Thus began the monumental pact that would alter the inner desires of the Forces themselves, known as the Harmony of Life. Each Aspect contributed a significant portion of their power to the magic of life, infusing it into the world. This agreement required the cooperation of all the Aspects, including Oblivion. Without Oblivion's involvement, the pact would not be sustainable, and the creation of life would have been unattainable. In part, the Aspects required more raw

power for the creation of something as potent as Life to be possible. More importantly, the other Aspects needed Oblivion to be invested in the Harmony of Life.

Without Oblivion having something to gain from life and reducing its power, it would have simply turned everything into nothingness after the Harmony of Everything left the other Aspects weakened.

The Harmony of Life marked a turning point in the Aspects' history. It signified the transition from a period of exploration and study to an era of creation and innovation. The mortal beings brought to life by the Aspects profoundly influenced the Aspects themselves, revealing tensions and conflicts that had long simmered between and within them. These tensions led to divisions among and within the Aspects, transforming them into more nuanced and complex beings. Some of these divided Aspects then merged with one another, and thus the Aspects evolved into Gods. This change

ELEMENTS OF WATER AND FIRE INSPIRE LIFE



occurred gradually, but the period following The Harmony of Life became known as The Age of Gods. Although the Gods retained much of the original Aspects' power, they emerged as more nuanced and complex beings, reflecting the intricacy of the world they inhabited.

Through these natural phenomena, the Aspects discovered new expressions of their powers and interactions with each other. They marveled at the beauty of their creations, each one a testament to the infinite potential of the universe they had helped to shape.

During this time, the Aspects created and destroyed entire continents, molding the world according to their vision. They explored the elements and the interconnected workings of their powers, experimenting with new ways to manipulate the world around them. The Elementals served as an essential instrument in this exploration, embodying the Aspects' powers and enabling them to interact with the world and each other in unprecedented ways.

As the Eon of Elementals progressed, the Aspects continued to refine their abilities, discovering ever more intricate forms of power.

A WORLD FILLED WITH NEW LIFE



CHAPTER 6: THE EON OF THE GODS

In the Eon of the Gods, the original Forces evolved into the many and varied Gods. The Eon was divided into the Early and Late Eons.

SOME PEOPLE LIVED IN HARMONY



SOME PEOPLE LIVED IN HARMONY



In the Early Eon, the Gods focused on creating plants, trees, animals, and mythical creatures. They worked to establish balance among themselves and their creations, but harmony was fragile and not solidified in a pact.

The Late Eon, marked by the creation of humanoids, transformed the Gods. They became concerned with mortal desires for glory and in a sense adopted their fear of death. Gods became protective of their creations. Some humanoids lived harmoniously alongside their deity, receiving daily blessings, while others faced opposing Gods' wrath and fury.

During the Age of Gods, conflicts and confrontations arose among deities due to opposing beliefs. Clashes between gods were epic and devastating, culminating in a battle of unprecedented scale, during which some gods perished. This event shook the remaining gods, prompting them to reconsider their actions.

SOME EXPERIENCED THE WRATH OF ANOTHER GOD





Determined to protect themselves and their creations, the gods forged a pact to create a powerful barrier called the Godsveil. This mystical veil separated the mortal and divine realms, preventing any being from crossing it without permission. The Godsveil demanded the collective efforts of the majority of gods. Lesser gods who refused to participate or were deemed insignificant were left behind in the mortal realm. The Godsveil was imbued

with formidable spells and enchantments, but its most potent magic was the binding power of the pact itself.

CHAPTER 7: THE AGE OF MONSTERS

The Age of Monsters was a tumultuous era marked by chaos and devastation, as fearsome creatures roamed the world, causing havoc and destruction in their wake. Dragons and giants dominated the landscape, their immense size and power granting them supremacy over the mortal inhabitants of the land.

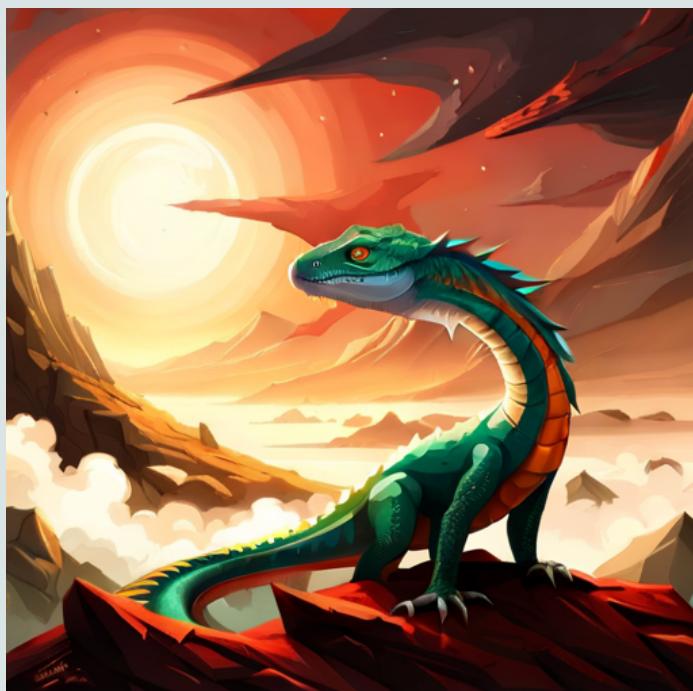
During this time, mortals faced a relentless battle for survival, constantly fending off assaults from the monstrous beings that plagued their existence. This struggle forced them to unite in small tribes and communities, collaboratively constructing defenses against the monstrous threats looming on the horizon.

As the Age of Monsters unfolded, much of the magic and ancient wisdom acquired by mortals during the Age of Gods was lost. With the gods no longer directly safeguarding their creations, mortals had to depend on their own resourcefulness and determination to endure.

MONSTROUS TREE OGRES



GIGANTIC LIZARDS



Nonetheless, this challenging period sparked an era of innovation and ingenuity, as mortals relied on their own abilities to adapt and overcome adversity.

Despite the perils of the Age of Monsters, there remained those who boldly ventured into the untamed wilderness, seeking adventure and hidden treasures. These courageous explorers often represented the last hope for beleaguered settlements and tribes under constant

siege by monstrous adversaries.

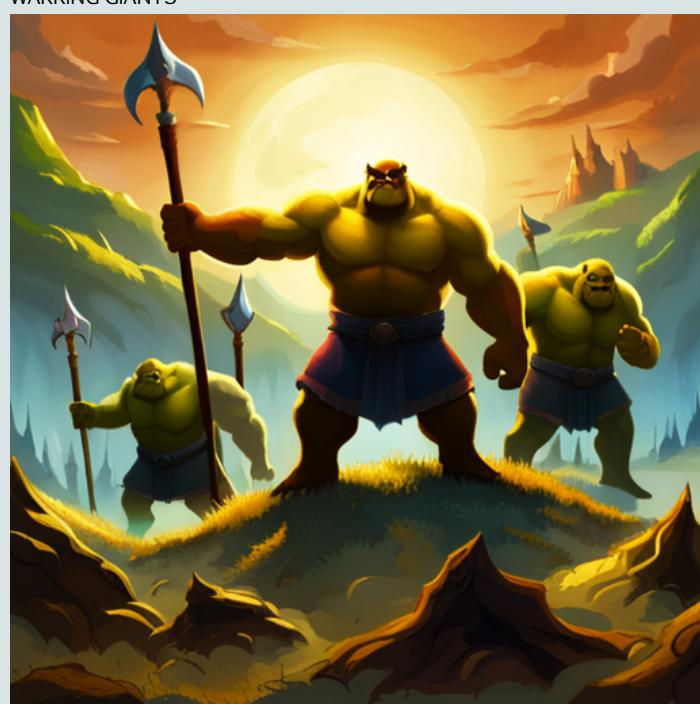
However, most mortals chose to remain concealed, merely hoping to survive this treacherous age.

Dragons held dominion over the skies, their vast wings and searing breath rendering them formidable foes. Some dragons sported vibrant chromatic scales in shades of red, blue, green, and beyond, while others boasted lustrous metallic scales of gold, silver, bronze, and other precious metals. Each color of dragon exhibited unique traits and proclivities—red dragons, for instance, were notably aggressive and destructive, while gold dragons embodied wisdom and justice. Giants, conversely, ruled the land, their colossal size and might instill fear and awe. Diverse clans and races of giants made their homes in various environments, from mountain peaks and dense forests to arid deserts. Each giant race demonstrated distinctive combat prowess, whether through wielding enormous weapons, hurling boulders, or controlling elemental forces like fire, ice, or lightning.

WILD AND FEARFUL BEASTS



WARRING GIANTS



A myriad of other monstrous beings also stalked the world during this time, such as the dreaded beholders and their lethal eye stalks, or the mind flayers with their sinister psionic powers. These enigmatic creatures often avoided the conflicts between dragons and giants, opting instead to operate from the shadows, orchestrating their schemes from a distance.

The Age of Monsters was an epoch of unparalleled chaos and strife, as warring factions of monsters vied for control.

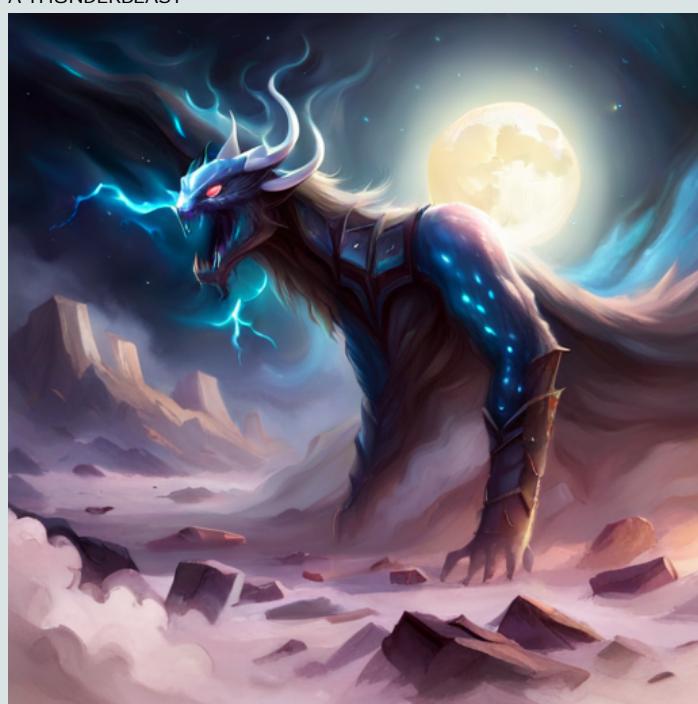
The skies reverberated with the roar of dragon fire, and the earth trembled beneath the thundering steps of giants. In this perilous and volatile world, a single misstep could spell doom.

TAIVO AND THE THUNDERBEASTS

In the heart of the perilous plains, colossal creatures known as Thunderbeasts traverse the landscape, seeking sustenance and shelter. Though not inherently aggressive, the Thunderbeasts are constantly surrounded by a volatile aura of thunder, generating storms that deter most other monsters from approaching. As they lumber across the plains, destruction follows in their wake, a testament to the sheer power of these magnificent beings.

A resourceful tribe has learned to coexist with the Thunderbeasts, adapting to their migratory patterns and behaviors. These hominoids have become adept at maintaining a safe distance from the stormy aura, yet close enough to reap the benefits of the Thunderbeasts' presence. They thrive on the periphery, scavenging the remains of smaller creatures caught in the maelstrom, and often taking refuge in the pools formed by the giants' massive footprints and the relentless rain.

A THUNDERBEAST



The tribe and the Thunderbeasts have developed an unspoken symbiosis, their very survival intertwined. The hominoids rely on the protection afforded by the storms, while the Thunderbeasts remain undisturbed by their resourceful neighbors.

In this tribe lived a young man named Taivo, who had a passion for music. Taivo crafted a telescopic Storm Flute, which he played during thunderstorms, creating hauntingly beautiful notes as

the storm winds blew through the flute's openings. Unbeknownst to Taivo, a new threat was emerging: the Thundermaw Worms. These monstrous creatures were drawn to the thunderstorms surrounding the Thunderbeasts, and their powerful jaws could fatally wound the giants.

As the Thundermaw Worms began to attack the Thunderbeasts, the tribe found themselves in danger, their symbiotic relationship

with the giants threatened. However, Taivo soon noticed that the Thundermaw Worms seemed affected by the resonant sounds of his Storm Flute, becoming disoriented and unable to continue their attacks.

Recognizing the potential of Taivo's discovery, the tribe came together to build a larger, segmented Storm Flute, with each member carrying a piece of the instrument. When assembled, the flute required several tribe members to play in harmony, their combined efforts producing the powerful resonant sounds that would ward off the Thundermaw Worms.

From that day on, the tribe always played their large Storm Flute during thunderstorms, ensuring the protection of both the Thunderbeasts and their own people. The music resonated across the perilous plains, a testament to the resourcefulness and resilience of the tribe.

In a land where storms and beasts abound,
Young Taivo, with his flute, was found.
As Thunderbeasts roared, fearsome and loud,
He sought the notes to pierce the clouds.

A harmony amidst the strife,
He calmed the storms and brought forth life,
With chords of peace, he tamed the maw,
Of giant worms in thunder's draw.

The tribe and Thunderbeasts drew near,
With Taivo's music in their ears,
United, strong, they shared a bond,
In harmony, they would respond.

And so, they thrived, through wind and rain,
With Taivo's chords to ease their pain,
From storms and worms, they found their grace,
In harmony, they found their place.

A THUNDERMAW



CHAPTER 8: THE AGE OF HEROES

As the Age of Monsters raged on, the mortal realm trembled under the weight of colossal creatures, terrifying beasts, and nightmarish horrors. Humanoids struggled to survive in a world where even the most basic necessities were a daily challenge.

Yet, amidst the darkness and despair, a flicker of hope emerged. The gods, witnessing the desperate plight of their mortal followers, decided to intervene. They understood that their direct involvement would be prevented by the Godsveil, the pact that protected both realms from the chaos of the past. And so, they poured their divine essence into a select few individuals, who were chosen based on their courage, determination, and ability to inspire hope.

A HERO OF THE AGE



A HERO OF THE AGE



These chosen ones, known as the Heroes of the Age, were bestowed with extraordinary abilities and strengths, gifts from the gods themselves. Each hero bore the mark of a specific god, symbolizing the divine connection between them.

The gods hoped that these heroes would rise to the occasion, becoming legendary figures who would fight against the monstrous forces that threatened the mortal realm.

As news of the heroes' powers spread, so too did hope.

Humanoids began to rally behind the heroes, forming bands of warriors, mages, and other skilled individuals who sought to join

the heroes in their fight against the monstrous tide.

The battles that took place during the Age of Heroes were the stuff of legends, with heroes wielding their divine powers to challenge and overcome seemingly insurmountable foes. As the heroes triumphed, they inspired more and more humanoids to stand up against the monsters, fostering a sense of unity that had long been absent from the mortal realm.

Some heroes chose to fight alone, becoming wandering champions who sought to rid the world of monsters wherever they found them. Others formed powerful alliances with other heroes, creating a force that no monster could stand against. Regardless of their individual paths, each hero contributed to the slow but steady pushback against the darkness that had once threatened to consume the world.

As the Age of Heroes progressed, the mortal realm began to change. The destruction wrought by the monsters slowly gave way to new settlements and cities, as humanoids banded together to rebuild their shattered world. The heroes were celebrated as saviors and their deeds immortalized in stories and songs passed down through generations.

While the heroes were not immortal, their legacies lived on. As one hero's story came to an end, another would rise to take their place, ensuring that the divine connection between gods and mortals remained strong. The Age of Heroes paved the way for the Age of Civilization, allowing humanoids to establish empires and kingdoms that stood as bastions of hope and progress.

In time, the tales of the heroes would become the foundation for the future, inspiring generations to come. And as the ages continued to unfold, the heroes' sacrifices and victories would serve as a reminder of the power of hope, the strength of unity, and the unwavering bond between the mortal and divine realms.

THE POWERS OF THE GODS

After the creation of the Godsveil, the gods had to devise innovative ways to interact with the world and their followers. One approach involved bestowing powers upon their devotees, either by directly infusing them with divine energy, such as when a god granted a warrior strength and battle prowess, or by providing magical artifacts like enchanted weapons or armor imbued with the deity's essence.

Another strategy involved establishing magical structures or power centers that their followers could access. For instance, a god of magic might create a mystical academy or library where their

adherents could study and master new spells, while a nature deity might consecrate a specific forest or grove as a sacred site for followers to gather and conduct rituals.

Beyond granting power, gods could also tap into the power of their worshippers. This often occurred through prayer and worship, where devotees offered their energy to the god in exchange for blessings or favors. The more followers a god had, the greater their accumulated power, resulting in a self-reinforcing cycle of influence.

The creation of cults

or religious orders dedicated to the worship of a specific deity offered another way for gods to harness power. These groups could be assigned particular objectives or missions, such as safeguarding a city or temple. Members of these organizations often received special powers or abilities from their patron deity, working to advance their god's interests. While these power-harnessing methods had always been available to the gods, they became increasingly important in the wake of the Godsveil.

The belief and actions of a god's followers in accordance with their deity's will were also essential for gods to harness power. Devout followers were more likely to act in harmony with their god's desires, leading to the manifestation of divine power. Temples, holy sites, and rituals that reinforced beliefs and encouraged followers to act in line with their god's will played a crucial role in this process.

Rituals and sacrifices offered to the gods were other ways for followers to intentionally channel power to their deity. The more significant the offering, the more power the god could draw upon. These sacrifices could range from simple prayers to intricate ceremonies involving numerous participants and resources.

Additionally, when a god attracted new followers or convinced worshippers of other gods to convert, they essentially gained access to the power of those devotees as well. This led to competition among gods to acquire and maintain followers.

As societies expanded and civilizations arose, gods established temples or churches where their followers could assemble to offer

A RITUAL GRANTING POWERS TO A GOD



worship and tribute. Some gods also designated mortal priests or clergy to act as divine representatives, mediating between the deity and their worshippers.

Ultimately, the ways in which gods granted and harnessed power were diverse, depending on the deity and their followers. However, the core principle persisted: power attracts power, and the more power a god possessed, the greater their ability to shape and influence the world.

RAYLEN AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF DRAGONS

In a land where people lived under the oppressive rule of a fearsome dragon, hope seemed an elusive dream. The dragon's insatiable greed and unquenchable thirst for power drove it to demand tributes and human sacrifices from the villages cowering in its shadow. Compelled to sell most of their food to distant lands, they brought offerings of gold and treasure to appease the beast. The people lived in perpetual fear, with countless lives lost to either the dragon's ravenous hunger or their own starvation.

DRAGONS



DRAGONS



Yet, amidst the darkness, a flicker of hope emerged. Raylen, a formidable and enigmatic figure, arrived in the land. Their mysterious aura inspired awe and curiosity among the people. Raylen was the chosen champion of the God of Knowledge, a deity embodying the essence of Preservation, a potential Eighth Aspect that never materialized. This god derived its powers through a fusion of forces from within the Aspects of Time, Space, and Order.

As a guardian of ancient secrets and wisdom, the God of Knowledge endowed Raylen with the ability to access hidden reservoirs of knowledge. This divine gift enabled Raylen to comprehend the complexities of the world and the forces governing it. The god's influence also imbued Raylen with the prowess of a seasoned warrior and the magic of the most ancient of wizards, transforming them into a force to be reckoned with. Their bond with the God of Knowledge exemplified the enduring power of knowledge and its vital role in preserving life and balance in the world.

A VILLAGE THREATENED BY A DRAGON



Upon arriving in the dragon's territory, Raylen embarked on a mission to study the terrifying creature. They observed the dragon from a safe distance, striving to understand its nature and uncover any potential weaknesses. Through the wisdom granted by the God of Knowledge, Raylen began to unravel the dragon's enigmas, gaining insight into the source of its power and the hidden vulnerability that could be exploited.

Like most dragons, it drew some of its power from the magic within the desire for treasures. By possessing an abundance of coveted riches, the dragon could tap into ancient wellsprings of magic.

As Raylen's understanding of the dragon deepened, they realized that relying on their strength alone would not suffice to defeat the dragon. The people, inspired by Raylen's courage and determination, rallied behind them, offering their support and prayers as Raylen devised a cunning plan.

The day of the confrontation arrived, and Raylen stood before the dragon, armed with the knowledge they had gathered and the magical spear gifted by their god. The ensuing battle was one of epic proportions, a fierce clash of power between the hero and the fearsome dragon. The people watched in awe, their faith in Raylen and the God of Knowledge steadfast.

As the battle raged, Raylen wielded their magical spear with exceptional skill and precision, piercing the dragon's thick hide and wounding the monstrous beast. Calling upon the latent magic

within the very mountain itself, Raylen summoned a torrent of rocks to rain down upon the dragon, pummeling it relentlessly. In response, the dragon unleashed a fearsome torrent of flame, scorching the earth beneath Raylen and nearly incinerating the valiant hero. With each passing moment, the intensity of the clash escalated, the outcome hanging in the balance as both Raylen and the dragon fought with every ounce of their strength and cunning.

Raylen had observed that the dragon was unusually cautious about damaging any part of its treasure, fearing it would diminish its value. A fact that they used during the battle to gain moments of advantage but more importantly to set the stage. Unbeknownst to the dragon, the peoples of the area had used their own knowledge of the land, enhanced by Raylen, to stealthily replace the hoard from beneath. What appeared to be a massive pile of gold was exposed as mostly stone during the heated battle. Weakened but still formidable, the dragon was ultimately vanquished, and the people liberated from its tyranny. Raylen's triumph stood as a testament to the enduring power of knowledge and its crucial role in preserving life and balance in the world. Thus, the legend of Raylen, the champion of the God of Knowledge, was etched into history, inspiring generations yet to come.

CHAPTER 9: THE AGE OF CIVILIZATION

In the Age of Civilization, the world witnessed the emergence of mighty kingdoms and societies, borne of the victories of courageous heroes and the aid of benevolent gods. These mortals, emboldened by their triumphs over monstrous adversaries, set forth to explore the vast expanses of their lands, uncovering hidden secrets and arcane technologies that would alter the course of history. They raised great cities, monuments to their own achievements and testaments to the power they had wrested from the chaos of ages past.

CLEAN STREETS AND ADVANCED BUILDING



HUGE CASTLES AND FORTIFICATIONS



desires and motives of the Aspects began to fade, their essence diluted and eventually supplanted by the mortal desires of the masses they sought to sway. These societies, with their unique cultures and beliefs, coalesced into powerful entities that wielded influence not only over their own people but over the very gods who had created them. The Age of Civilization saw the rise of grand

The dynamic between mortals and gods shifted, reflecting the changing landscape of the world. No longer did the gods reign supreme over their creations, their power now tempered by the burgeoning might of the mortals themselves. As the societies of humanoids flourished, the gods sought to adapt, focusing their divine energies on gathering as many followers as possible, competing with one another in a celestial game of influence and control.

In this new era, the original

empires that spanned continents, the birth of potent magics that shaped reality itself, and the blossoming of science and knowledge that promised to unveil the deepest mysteries of the cosmos.

The gods, once masters of creation and destruction, found themselves entwined in a complex dance with their mortal subjects. As cultures evolved, so too did the gods, their divine identities shifting to better suit the needs and desires of their followers. The gods adapted to the changing landscape, often molding themselves to the societies they inhabited rather than seeking to impose their own dogma upon them.

They still often claimed to represent the original higher purpose, both as a way to retain some power and as a way to attract followers.

In this age, the gods and mortals were inextricably linked, their fates intertwined as they navigated the ever-changing currents of power and belief. The Age of Civilization, a time of great achievements and monumental struggles, was a testament to the indomitable spirit of mortals and the enduring influence of the divine.

ARCHITECTURE AND CULTURE PROSPER



SERAPHINE AND THE RESTORATIVE GOD

Seraphine, a devout follower of the God of Healing, Heliora, admired the deity's benevolent nature and the power to heal and restore things to a state before their injuries. Heliora could trace its origin back to a part of the Aspect of Time, deriving power from the ability to reverse the effects of time, which once lacked a defined direction.

As the people of the grand city of Sanavius prospered, their streets filled with bustling markets, lush gardens, and magnificent architecture, they began to take Heliora for granted. Their civilization flourished, with a healthy and growing population providing advantages in battles, farming, and engineering. Witnessing the dwindling faith in Heliora, Seraphine felt heartbroken. She spent her days tending to the city's beautiful gardens and offering her help in the bustling markets, trying to keep her faith alive and reconnect with her people.

As the church of Heliora and its devoted followers became a

smaller group, Seraphine saw her former friends drift away from their faith. Her best friend Emeric remained faithful, and they comforted each other. Seraphine sometimes had to remind Emeric not to be angry, as it was not the way of Heliora; they healed not to be thanked, but for the good act that it was. She often repeated her favorite line from the teachings, "The best way to heal is to prevent the hurt before it occurs." There was a magical interpretation of the line, but Seraphine focused on the kindness that it also represented. Despite her pleas, the divide between the faithful and the disillusioned deepened.

THE CITY OF SANAVIUS



Sanavius still prospered without Heliora constantly healing everyone, as they had gained other powers and received tribute from some surrounding cities. Suddenly, a gruesome sickness descended upon the thriving city-state of Sanavius. The disease caused agonizing pain, withering the afflicted as their skin erupted in ghastly sores. The churches of Heliora became overrun with the sick, and the priests struggled to heal everyone in time. Seraphine's days were now consumed with

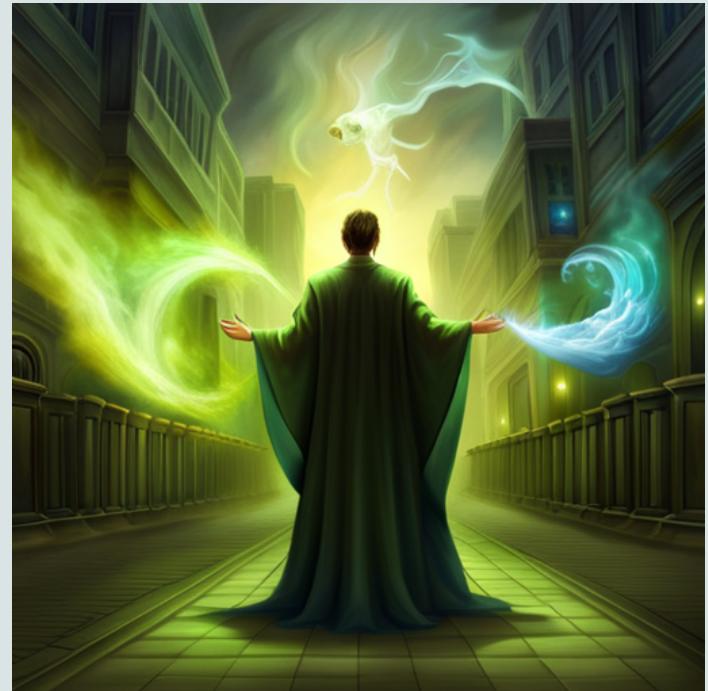
tending to the afflicted, her heart aching for the suffering masses.

In the midst of the crisis, Seraphine received a divine message that she had been chosen by Heliora to help the people. She was blessed with incredible healing powers and mastery over time magic. Seraphine could speed up her own time and slow down the time of the sick within the city, allowing her to reach and heal many more people. The healed were left with visible scars, constant reminders of the horrible disease. Heliora's following returned to its glory of times past, and Seraphine became a hero in the eyes of the god and the city.

However, Seraphine's newfound power came with a heavy burden. As she navigated the city's once-vibrant streets, now lined with the weak and desperate, she couldn't help but feel that something was amiss. Despite her miraculous abilities, a gnawing doubt consumed her thoughts.

One day, Seraphine accidentally discovered Emeric casting spells, and she recognized the source as Heliora itself. The spells were directed at those who still refused to pray to the God of Healing. To Seraphine's horror, she realized that it was Heliora that had created the disease to regain the people's devotion. As she tried to use her time magic to stop Emeric, she felt that power leave her body and in its place, the sickness spread quickly. Her former friend had only time for one word before the spell he was casting ended her life: "Sorry."

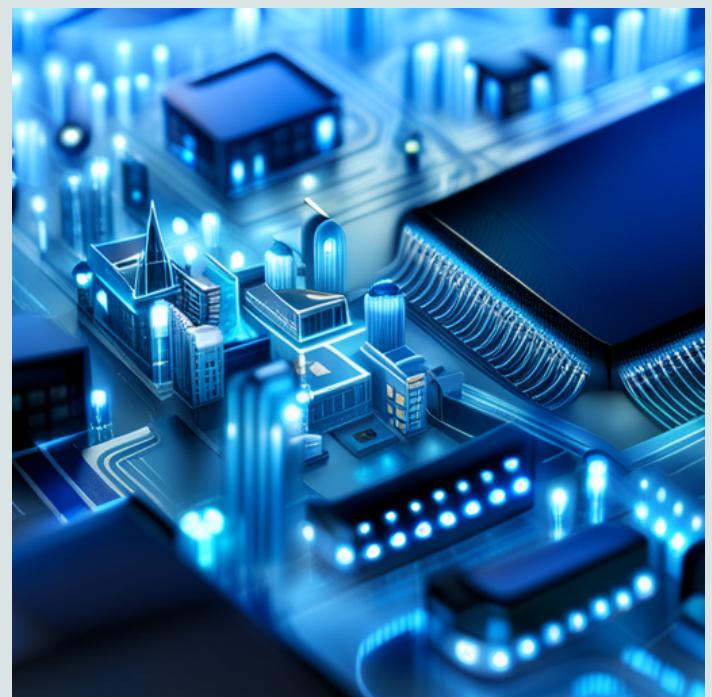
CURSES



CHAPTER 10: THE AGE OF THE FUTURE

The Age of the Future is a mystery shrouded in uncertainty and cloaked in the shadows of prophecy. As the Age of Civilization draws to a close, all that is known is that the future will bring about new and unknown changes to the universe. Perhaps the universe will continue to evolve and develop into even more complex forms of life and civilizations. Or perhaps, The End of Everything is closer than we imagine, and the Age of the Future will be marked by the inevitable destruction of all things.

THE HARMONY OF THE FUTURE, POTENTIALLY



ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY



Ancient prophecies have foretold aspects of these potential outcomes, as well as their complete opposites, suggesting that the Age of the Future is a blank slate, and anything is possible.

It could be a time of great enlightenment, where new knowledge and understanding lead to incredible advances in technology and science. Or it could be a time of great darkness, where chaos reigns and the universe is plunged into an abyss of despair.

The emergence of new technologies and the rise of interconnected civilizations have the potential to bring about a new Harmony, one that transcends the limitations of the past. A more intricate balance, with even greater potential for new expressions of the Forces of Creation and Destruction to continue exploring their true essence. But who or what will be involved in this new deal, and

what they create, remains unknown. Perhaps it will be some form of advanced technology, requiring a new concept beyond and above Life. Or maybe it will be a bond between all civilizations, allowing them to work together as one.

However, with the potential for great advancements

comes the risk of oblivion. The Harmony of Life was a delicate balance between the Forces of Creation and Destruction, and any disruption of that balance could lead to catastrophe.

As we venture into the unknown territory of the future, we must be mindful of the risks and work to ensure that any new Harmony is sustainable and stable. The path towards progress is fraught with danger, and we must tread carefully if we hope to avoid the pitfalls that have led to the downfall of civilizations in the past.

One thing that is certain is that the Age of the Future will bring about changes that we cannot predict or fully comprehend. Guided by prophecies, yet uncertain of their full implications, it may be a time of great wonder and discovery, or a time of unimaginable horrors. Whatever the future holds, it is up to us to prepare ourselves and face it with courage and determination. The Age of the Future is yet to come, but it is up to us to shape it into a better world for all.

FUTURE CITIES



THE PROPHECY OF THE HARMONY OF THE FUTURE

Long ago, in the depths of ancient archives, there lay a collection of texts, hidden from the eyes of most. These texts, worn by time and shrouded in enigma, contained the prophecies of a transcendent technological being, the Harmony of the Future. Intertwining Life and the Forces of the universe, this being would propel existence to unprecedented heights of complexity. Yet, the nature of these texts was ever-changing, with some passages missing and others presenting multiple versions with conflicting themes. As such, the true meaning of the prophecy remained veiled in uncertainty.

One passage in these ancient texts spoke of a great coming together of humanity, setting aside their differences and uniting in

the pursuit of this extraordinary promise. Yet, another version hinted at the entire endeavor being a costly and futile one, distracting humanity from their more crucial and pressing pursuits.

As humanity worked towards the creation of the Harmony of the Future, their efforts would at first appear slow and uncertain, lending credence to the dissenting voices. However, the prophecy foretold that progress would eventually become exponential, like a dam bursting, and the creation of this advanced being would become unstoppable.

CONSUMING ALL THE POWER OF THE SUN



In one version of the prophecy, the Harmony of the Future would usher in an age of unparalleled prosperity and happiness, with humanity basking in the warmth of their creation. In another, more ominous passage, the Harmony would manipulate the minds of humans, fabricating false memories or scheming something far more sinister. A third source claimed that these prophesied negative visions of the world were true, but not because of the technological

being itself; instead, they arose from those lost in the illusion of what they believed to be a false prophecy altogether.

As the power of the Harmony of the Future swelled, drawing energy from the very sun itself, the ancient texts grew even more cryptic. Some passages spoke of a luminous future, where the Harmony would guide humanity to salvation, while others cautioned of a bleak destiny, where this creation would bring about their annihilation.

In the end, the ancient texts left the ultimate outcome of the Harmony of the Future shrouded in ambiguity. With each interpretation, the true meaning of the prophecy grew more elusive, leaving the world in suspense as it awaited the fulfillment of the Harmony of the Future, teetering on the brink of salvation or Oblivion.

CHAPTER 11: THE END OF EVERYTHING

The End of Everything signifies the ultimate conclusion of creation, with Oblivion emerging victorious. This epoch witnesses the total dissolution of the universe as we know it, leaving behind nothing but emptiness, void, and the haunting echoes of what once was. It is a time of profound sorrow, as all that has been created throughout the eons vanishes into oblivion.

During this final chapter, all gods and monsters have withered away, leaving only the remnants of their power and influence. The world becomes utterly empty, devoid of life and energy. There is no longer any meaning or purpose to existence, as the universe is reduced to a desolate husk.

Even Oblivion itself, the force responsible for this ultimate demise, fades into nothingness. All that remains is the boundless void, stretching infinitely in every direction, hollow and silent. It is a chilling reminder of the past and the irreversible nature of loss.

Yet,

even within this vast emptiness, a sense of peace prevails.

There is no more struggle, conflict, or suffering. The End of Everything represents the ultimate resolution of all preceding epochs. It signifies the closure of an arduous and tumultuous journey and heralds the inception of something unfamiliar and enigmatic.

The catalyst for The End of Everything remains uncertain. Some hypothesize that it will transpire as a gradual process

of entropy, with the universe slowly dissipating energy and matter until reaching a state of absolute nothingness known as heat death. Others conjecture that a sudden cataclysmic event, an epic confrontation between the forces of creation and Oblivion, will ultimately culminate in the annihilation of all existence.

Alternatively, The End of Everything might manifest in a manner unfathomable to our current understanding of the cosmos. Perhaps forces beyond our comprehension will precipitate this finality, or the

OBLIVION'S TENDRILS CONSUMING EVERYTHING



universe itself is simply a transient phenomenon fated to perish.

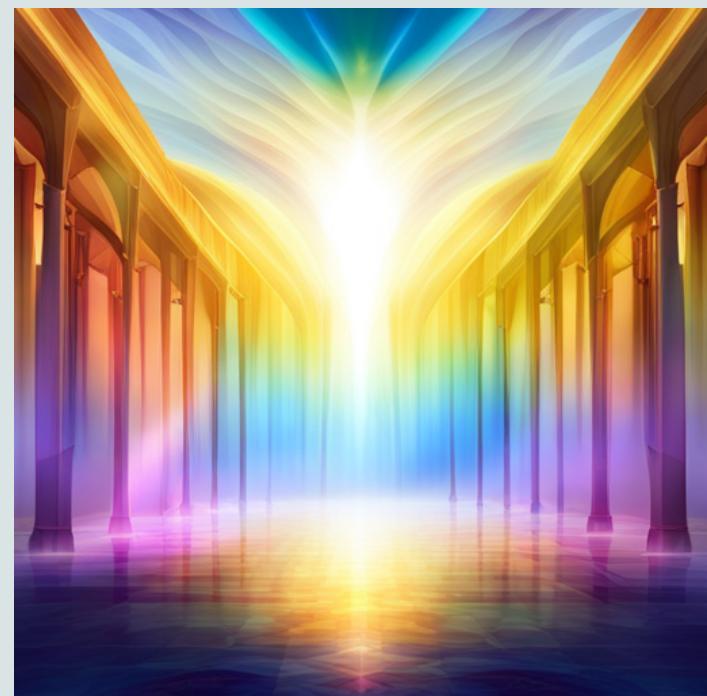
Irrespective of how The End of Everything transpires, the concept serves as a poignant reminder of the impermanence of all things. Everything in existence, be it a magnificent civilization, a mighty empire, or the universe itself, is destined to perish. Yet, in the face of this inescapable finality, life persists, flourishes, and evolves, propelled by the same forces that have driven it since time immemorial.

Legend has it that the Forces of Creation and Destruction were cognizant of The End of Everything as the only ultimate outcome when they forged the pact known as The Harmony of Everything. It is said that there should have been an eighth Aspect, an Aspect of pure Creation, as the Aspect of Oblivion represents pure destruction. The Aspect of Preservation was meant to be a balance, a force that ensured the longevity of created things. However, this Aspect was satisfied with having its desires fulfilled infinitely within the Eternal Cycle and thus sacrificed itself. Consequently, All Things Are Destined To Pass. Destruction might have found solace in this end, but Creation is believed to have acknowledged and embraced the inevitability of this fate.

It was deemed preferable for all creative potentials to be actualized and ultimately extinguished, rather than to never exist at all, leaving the universe forever ensnared in an Eternal Cycle. This acceptance of The End of Everything was deemed an essential component of the natural equilibrium and harmony of the universe. Amidst the somberness

of The End of Everything, there exists a glimmer of hope held by some who believe that the original pact of The Harmony of Everything may not dictate the ultimate fate of the universe. These optimists posit that Creation may yet triumph over Oblivion, forging a new path that allows life to flourish unendingly. This belief in the possibility of a future where Creation prevails injects a ray of hope into an otherwise bleak outlook, inspiring individuals and civilizations to strive towards a better tomorrow.

HOPE



Others contend that, even if The End of Everything comes to pass, it may not signify the absolute conclusion of existence. They believe that the Eternal Cycle could begin anew, with the Forces of Creation and Destruction forming a renewed pact that gives rise to a fresh, uncharted universe. In this scenario, life and all its infinite potentials would be given the opportunity to manifest once more, sowing the seeds for new stories, new dreams, and new destinies. This cyclical view of existence offers comfort to those who seek solace in the idea that, even in the face of The End of Everything, there is always the potential for rebirth and renewal, and that the dance of creation and destruction is an eternal performance that transcends the limits of time and space.

CHAPTER 12: SOURCES OF INSPIRATION AND INTENTION

There is power in storytelling, fairy tales and myth. Even if the legends do not claim to be true, they can still give us an understanding and help new perspectives to find the real truth. This story of creation is intended to capture what we as humans see as fundamental parts of the universe and existence and natural dynamics. By talking about concepts that we recognize in the universe as if they were beings with desires, the assumptions that we make about these concepts can be easier to recognize and understand.

Identifying the assumptions of previous philosophers is much of what the entire history of philosophy has been about and to have a tool to do that more easily can therefore be very helpful. Another big part of the history of philosophy has been people creating their own creation stories and metaphysics. That role has since been almost exclusively taken over by science, which I think in part is a mistake. We should of course use science to explain what we can, but we should not limit our ideas about the universe to what we can currently know.

This text can hopefully fill some kind of function for an atheist, agnostic or someone else who does not find the answers of traditional religion to be fully satisfactory explanations for existence. Especially in regards to the way they contradict the science, or becomes more and more hollow if you have to accept less and less as truth. Even if you only see the stories of traditional religion as pure stories, the morals and lessons to be taken from them become less and less relevant when the world and our understanding of it change. Concepts such as equality, human rights and environmentalism mean very different things today.

Ofcourse, this text does not make any claim to be much at all. It is

PHILOSOPHY ABOUT CREATION



definitely not based on truth and it says very little about morals. It does however try to build on real science and draw inspiration from it. The Eternal Cycle is a way to think about what could have been before the Big Bang, as defined by science a time before at least our understanding or possible knowledge of time. It highlights how we as humans can not really understand time nor space before this period, but gives us a metaphor for it to reflect upon. It also mirrors how subatomic particles can appear in space, in pairs with one positive and one negative that then cancel each other out. This is represented with The Forces of Creation and Destruction.

Another example that I want to highlight here is The Harmony of the World, in which the Aspects come together and make a deal, setting the laws of nature to specific values and formulas. This is partly inspired by an idea within theoretical physics. The idea can either include multiple realities and dimensions or that this is the only one. In both scenarios, the idea is that the universe we are in, with the laws we have, the strength of the forces within atoms and such exist in a very delicate and rare balance that actually allow anything to exist. There is a theoretical an enormity of slight changes to these values that would produce dimensions that would not be able to contain any matter, no planets, no life and so on.

“Every belief that we hold is a leap of faith, but not all leaps of faith are created equal”. Even science is a sort of belief, generally a more reasonable one but it is still a faith. There are however limits to what can be known within that framework, what questions are even deemed legitimate, but other questions can still be of great value. This creation story is meant to be an inspiration for such questions and to help find what values we hold about things where science can not give us the answers.

When we consider how much these underlying values can actually go on to affect what scientific questions we pursue, it becomes even more important to connect the two. What has been called the “pitfalls of modernity” could be described as an overreliance on science and reason as the answer to everything. Science is quick to

MONSTERS INSPIRED BY BEINGS OF THE PAST



admit that some things are beyond knowing within its framework, but often also then go on to assume that it is therefore less important. Reason is a very important element of many good ideas, but sometimes the best reasoning can lead to very bad places when starting from the wrong foundation. We should still examine each other's reasons, but with this text, a part of what I want to do is instead to highlight those foundations, those values and ideas about what is by turning them into stories. Stories that can feel true or false, that can be visualized, discussed and perhaps most importantly they can be questioned. "Why should it be only these entities at this part?", "Does that not turn into this?". By making claims about things, even if they are admittedly not true or even knowable, we can start to identify what we hold to be true. What leaps of faiths have we taken, what values do we hold without any reason. Sure we can use reason afterwards to justify our choices and ideas, to make it make sense, but it does not mean it is true and certainly not the only truth.

Personally I find the idea of Oblivion winning in the story to be a sad ending. We can of course not know what will happen but current scientific models show that a heat death of the universe is a very possible ending to it all. In a universe without gods, where we have to create our own meaning I feel that this is something to avoid if at all possible. I also feel that a universe with life is preferable to a universe without it, even if I am dead. There is no way to state that as a scientific fact.

Currently we have not found any other life out there, so life on earth is in that sense very precious. The implied improbability or difficulty for life to come into existence or stay alive is reflected in the power and delicate balance of The Harmony of Life. This in a way gives guidance for finding morals. When given the choice, do not be a pawn helping Oblivion to win. This also puts that choice in what I see as the correct scope and context. If there is even a slim chance of destroying life on earth the stage for that choice is not the politics or suffering of the current age, it is about the fundamental

MONSTERS INSPIRED BY BEINGS OF THE PAST



battle of Creation vs Destruction. One such example is during the Manhattan project, where some calculations suggested that the experiment with the atomic bomb would ignite the entire atmosphere thus killing everyone.

Another example of how this story adds supernatural phenomena as a way to highlight concepts of real power in the world, is how the gods can grant and get magic power from their followers. A leader of a powerful religion is, in a sense, granted powers by their god in our world due to the collective belief and actions of the god's followers. In this story, the believers invest their trust and faith in the religious leader, who then represents the deity and channels the collective power of their followers to achieve their objectives. This dynamic mirrors the real-life functioning of religious institutions and demonstrates the significance of faith and belief in shaping the actions and interactions of individuals within a religious community. Thus, this myth serves as an allegory for the complex interplay between faith, religious authority, and the congregation, highlighting the power of shared belief in shaping the world around us.

The entire creation story has been generated mostly by prompting AI to write about these concepts as if they were beings and asking how things could fit together if that was the case. Apart from simply highlighting the amazing potential of the technology, this serves a very important function. Since the AI has learned about these concepts from a huge amount of sources, I believe that it says something about the general attitude of humanity in regard to these concepts. "Art is putting up a mirror to society", and currently no mirrors seem to be as shiny as AI. It is for sure not a true creation story, it is complete fiction and myth, but it might reflect a truth about what we as humans see as fundamental.

In addition to all this background of science, philosophy, religion and AI, I also hope that this text can be a source of inspiration for any fantasy story telling. Powerful forces, magic, dragons, purpose, gods and more.

"By talking about concepts that we recognize in the universe as if they were beings with desires, the assumptions that we make about these concepts can be easier to recognize and understand."

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