

Heavenly Trinity

Prologue:

When you look at the sky, what do you see?

A question as simple as this has led mankind to study for centuries what lies beyond our skies. What is hidden behind our clouds, behind the celestial radiance of the firmament? We know our sky, our sun, our clouds, our stars and our moon, but do we really know them?

For years, such questions have led our ancestors to encounter an endless series of answers, each one more fantastic than the last. Our more distant ancestors used to believe that beyond what our eyes can see lay gods; unimaginably powerful beings whose very existence conditioned our very humanity, what we are, what we do. Today, however, we know that beyond our skies lie other planets, satellites, stars and galaxies, something completely different from the gods devised by ancient civilizations... right?

Because, yes, we tend to think that all these celestial bodies are inert, simple accumulations of stellar dust whose existence need not affect us, need not matter to us. But how true is this? And if, on the contrary, these celestial bodies are precisely the gods that our grandparents feared and respected so much; they fulfill the most basic characteristics, immense beings whose power is capable of determining the existence of other beings, the existence of life itself. Is this not, perhaps, enough to be considered a God?

In the following, we will witness what one of the most impressive and terrifying displays of power of the three celestial bodies closest to us is capable of achieving: the Moon, the Sun and, of course, our planet Earth.

Chapter 1: Origins

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the Earth."

Before even the slightest hint of the formation of the planets, there was already in our system a being that has been here long before our arrival, and will still be here long after our departure. It learned to cope with its loneliness, while harvesting the strength necessary to keep with it the little company that would, at some point, come to ease its feelings.

The Sun, the star closest to our existence. We tend to take for granted its brightness, its presence, its warmth. We even feel discomfort on the days when it visits us with greater enthusiasm. We long for the visit to distant and possibly extinct stars, without appreciating for a moment the beauty of that being who, in his eagerness to accompany his life, has given us ours.

For many years, he strove to bring into his orbit other celestial bodies which, although much smaller and less powerful than himself, were all he needed to make his light shine more brightly. Over time he made mistakes as he learned what it was like to be the center of his own system. Some planets collided with each other, some came so close to it that its heat and brightness overwhelmed them, others are so far away that they can barely feel its shelter, but there is one that, by mere chance, or perhaps by our star's own divine intervention in an attempt to further inhabit its small planetary garden, was able to surpass any expectations of its creation.

It is not the largest planet, the richest, or even the one that presents the best visual spectacles; since Saturn's rings or the mesmerizing swirls on Jupiter's surface undoubtedly take that place. At first sight it has nothing to make it stand out among the rest, what could be that which motivated our Sun to place that small blue and ordinary planet, right at the point where it granted it the power to create life?

We speak, of course, of our home, the surface on which the greatest minds in our history have coexisted; where great empires have risen and also where they have fallen, the place where, by fate, you find yourself, and I find myself.

Chapter 2: Growth

The years passed, and that primitive life on the small blue planet gradually began to bear fruit. The Sun watched in amazement as these beings in such a short time managed to become more and more complex. They began with small unicellular bacteria, with an appearance and capabilities so insipid that if our eyes were to judge them blindly, we would believe them to be nothing more than a mere accident of nature. But the persistence of these tiny bacteria created increasingly complex structures.

New microorganisms began to emerge, capable of transforming the sun's energy into their own source of life. In time, plants emerged, responsible for cleaning the surface of the planet and giving us the oxygen that still allows us to live day by day. With it came the first amphibious beings, brave specimens that dared to leave the safety of water, their world, to expand their possibilities.

Time seemed to take no rest on our planet, and the Sun was always an attentive spectator. It watched in awe the age of the giant insects, watched with attention the dominance of the dinosaurs, and wept bitterly at the fall of their empire.

On one of many days observing our planet, he noticed a small insignificant being, a relative much uglier and much weaker than the mighty primates that had so amazed him with their exploits. No, this being was different. It seemed to have no chance of developing since its short capabilities made it easy prey for more experienced predators. The Sun thought this was just another species destined for early extinction, oh dear, if you only knew how wrong you were.

Centuries passed and that little species not only did not go extinct, but was able to balance its capabilities with beings even more powerful than itself. How was this possible? What made that poor ape more capable than the vast number of other species on the planet?

When these beings began to use the resources of his planet as no one else had done, to manufacture tools that would help him gain an advantage over his opponents, the Sun decided never to lose sight of what they would do in the future.

Chapter 3: Crisis

"What the heck are they doing?"

It did not take humans long to understand that those tools with which they were able to match far more powerful beings, which for so long had given them the ability to progress and climb in dominance of the planet, could also be used as a tool to overcome the enemies of their own species.

In just a few thousand years mankind went from living in caves to building great civilizations. The Sun could not understand how such simple beings were able to create such immense and meaningful structures. He was moved by the structures and the stories dedicated entirely to him and his greatness, but the pleasure was short-lived when, a few years later, humanity would focus on its own destruction.

Wars, famine, catastrophes... Crises of all kinds and each time worse than the previous one, reducing the species in quantity and strength, delaying its development and, as if that were not enough, damaging more and more its spirit, damaging its art and that culture that with so much love the Sun had seen born and grow.

He thought he was finished, he did not want to lose sight of that little creation that, whether by accident or not, held him in such awe. However, he was watching intently a lady who was dedicated to caring for his creation when he was unable to do so. A lady who, while not giving off her own glow, was able to take the light of his being and somehow transform it into something even more beautiful.

In the glow of the night, the Sun found one more reason to fall in love with that little blue planet. In the glow of the night, he finally saw her, with a look so delicate and touched that he did not hesitate to approach her and find out what was that sorrow that grieved her being.

- My dear, what is the matter, why do you look at these beings with such concern?
- Oh sir, I don't know what to do to make them understand...
- How bad is their situation?
- Terrible, I'm afraid. In their eagerness to get more and more power, they have forgotten art, they have forgotten love, they have forgotten you, they have forgotten me. Where are those beings who were amazed by the power of their tools? Where, my dear, is that innocence, that love, that decency?
- I have seen it too... But isn't that normal? All species have a beginning and an end, all fall sometime.

- This time it is different, that which will make them fall, will be themselves.

Chapter 4: Alliance

Moved by the immense love that the Moon felt for those beings, who until now were simply an entertainment for him, he dedicated himself for years to devise a way to give them a sign, an idea, a way to give them a warning and that their art and magnificence would continue to motivate his beloved for many more years.

For 6 months the Sun would talk to the Moon about her discoveries, while the remaining 6 months she would try to appease the crisis of her little Planet. These seasons are characterized by the closeness or remoteness of the Moon to the Sun.

In one of these meetings, the Sun was able to observe how the humans seemed to realize what had happened.

- What's going on, dear?
- They... They see us?

While the meeting between the Sun and the Moon was taking place, a small group of humans seemed to become agitated by what had happened. In a small sector of the planet, the closeness of the Moon to the Sun was able to cause a shadow so large, that for that small population a night in broad daylight would occur, as amazing as it sounds.

The meetings would continue to occur and, at each one, the humans seemed more and more attentive to the interaction of these two celestial bodies. They had found it! The Sun and the Moon finally had a tool, a signal, a way to interact with that small and insignificant civilization that was capable of provoking so many feelings in both of them.

It was then that they understood, they had to continue with these meetings continuously, they had to continue giving signals to the humans, they had to be their gods.

Chapter 5: Trinity

For centuries, these momentary meetings were able to stop wars, create civilizations, inspire myths and even save the life of a young Christopher Columbus, who was able to pretend he had supernatural powers by correctly predicting the moment when one of these events would occur, thus preventing his crew from claiming it as food in the absence of such a resource on their ship.

They had succeeded! They finally had a way to influence the lives of humans, to be able to help them. At the same time, the frequency of all these meetings created a love between the two beings that is difficult to understand for beings as inferior as us. It was not an insistent or romantic love as commonly seen in our limited existence. No, it was really a heavenly love.

However, the frequency of these meetings caused humans to discover its secret. Since the earliest civilizations had the ability to predict exactly when one of these events would occur, which were called eclipses by the Greeks, in reference to how the Sun seems to disappear for a few moments.

Humans were able to discover not only in which seasons eclipses occur, but also that the Sun was not the only one to meet the Moon.

Something we have ignored up to this point, is the importance of our own planet in this story. Yes, it is the stage on which the interactions of the living beings that inhabit it occur, but it is more than that. Earth is not only our home, it is our guardian, our protector, our mother.

The Moon, wisely, had noticed this even before she met the Sun, it was this that motivated her to join the Earth in the first place. She was moved by how the Earth was able to sacrifice her own well-being so that we, her children, would be able to enjoy all her virtues.

With a nature similar to that of eclipses, the Earth leaves the role of spectator and also becomes the protagonist when its own intervention occurs between the relationship of the Sun and the Moon. It is thus, then, that the most important celestial bodies in our existence align themselves from time to time, in the hope that we stop for a moment to appreciate that beauty.

In the case of the Moon, it seeks to interpose itself between the Sun and the Earth, so that in its path it can reflect its shadow on us. Although it is true that not all of us can appreciate at the same time this sweet dance of the Moon in front of the Sun, since its shadow cannot cover the entire surface of the day, it teaches us that if we do not appreciate the light it gives us

every day, it will teach us to appreciate its darkness, to take a moment to appreciate the light that it and the Sun give us, to understand that it will not be there forever.

For its part, the Earth, in its attempt to return that favor to the Moon, settles between her and the Sun, not as an interruption of their love, but with the idea of painting the Moon with the beauty of its sunrises and sunsets, it tries to do the impossible, to make the Moon look even more beautiful.

The eternal friendship between these three bodies, inspired by the art and life that inhabits our Planet, is our stellar trinity. This pact is renewed about every 18 years, in a period called Saros, each time the three celestial bodies renew their alliance and relive anew each meeting that has made so many people marvel at their presence.