

OVERVIEW OF SECTION 2

In this Section, Earthfolk explore the general characteristics of the three dominant Big Stories. These are the Religious Big Story, the Secular Big Story, and the Scientism Big Story. Earthfolk explain why we select and focus on these three Big Stories. We assert that these three Big Stories all find expression through the Warrior's Quest.

We Earthfolk claim that these three Big Stories are the engine driving what is called "globalization." As we define globalization it is a movement which seeks to effect an economic, cultural and religious transformation of the Earth and human consciousness based upon the vision, values and practices of the Warrior's Quest. Earthfolk find the pervasiveness and dominance of these Big Stories evidenced by never-before-imagined twin icons of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth. This dominance is further evidence by the Warrior's Quest themes of violence and sexual abuse which flow *On-Air!* and *Online!* 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Earthfolk present four points which we use to evaluate the Big Stories. Through these four points of evaluation Earthfolk argue that the three Big Stories are, as to their roots and impact, three branches of one imaginative tree. We find this tree to be the Abrahamic tradition. How each Big Story answers selected Big Questions is presented.

We Earthfolk, then, present our own Big Story and its Big Answers. All this is further preparation for you to determine what is your Big Story and your personal Story. With this exercise completed, Earthfolk introduce

you, in Section 3, to their “*Sensual Preciousness*: the Earthfolk vision and practice of living peacefully and comfortably on the Living Earth”

2. EARTHFOLK EVALUATION OF THE THREE DOMINANT BIG STORIES OF THE RELIGIOUS, THE SECULAR AND THE SCIENTISM

As Earthfolk began to share our vision it became clear that we were composing a Big Story which offered fresh, but highly controversial, Big Answers to Life’s Big Questions. Given the diverse backgrounds of the Earthfolk, we came to articulate our vision in respect to the varied traditions, values, terminology and stories of the dominant three Big Stories from which the Earthfolk vision called us away. The globally dominant three Big Stories are the Religious, the Secular and the Scientism. Consequently, introducing others to the Earthfolk vision required carefully explaining why the visions of these three Big Stories had to be discarded. Such an effort often put the Earthfolk in the position of sounding quite contrarian or “anti” this or that Big Story. One result of such critical thinking discussions is that both sides get defensive, and many people often feel personally attacked or disrespected. Indeed, to approach a breakthrough often requires undergoing a breakdown.

As stated before, in this Volume 1, we Earthfolk focus on inviting and introducing you to our vision with the anticipation that you will venture forward and practice a ritual or two. While an evaluation of the three Big Stories is presented, the expanded analysis and interpretation which is ground for this evaluation is presented in Volume 2.

Much of our Earthfolk’s analysis and interpretation centers around peering at and sitting in silence with the other Big Stories so as to discern their Shadow or Shade content and values. This method also enables us to

sight and evaluate our own Shadow/Shade content. At this point, Earthfolk's evaluation is useful if you are not presently rigidly tied to one or another of the dominant three Big Stories. However, if you are a strong believer, reading sections or all of Volume 2 might be useful, though it might lead you to simply reject everything Earthfolk.

As individuals, Earthfolk have studied and been raised within one or more of the Big Stories, and still others in no spiritual or philosophical tradition, and yet others in non-Western, non-Abrahamic ways. Earthfolk selected the three Big Stories because, as seen through sojourning alien eyes, because they are globally dominant and the imaginative source for globalization. This is a selection some might negatively judge as being Euro-centric or Western or Biblical. Earthfolk simply assert that, while all traditions and Big Stories are valued, the three selected express the vision and heartfelt values of the Warrior's Quest with a forthrightness and boldness which provide a clear foil for articulating the Earthfolk vision and practices.

In Volume 2, each Big Story is presented in greater depth and with some complexity. For example, the Religious Big Story is presented as the historic intellectual and emotional source for the Secular and Scientism Big Stories. Likewise, the Secular Big Story is interpreted by two approaches, that of the "Sacred Secularists" and the "Non-Sacred Secularists." The Scientism Big Story is interpreted by "Sixth Dayers," "Sacred Scientism Stewards," and in terms of a "Non-Sacred Scientism." Such distinctions are not applied in this volume, rather each Big Story is evaluated in generality.

The Big Stories are “On Air!” and “Online”

As stated in the Introduction, we Earthfolk have purchased our evaluative insights through passionate journeys as devotees and practitioners of one or all of the dominant Big Stories: Religious, Secular and Scientism.

Notably, experiences in prison as inmates—most often because of civil disobedience—has given us a set of peculiar insights gained by living in the penal and corrective institutions of the Big Stories Shade world.

Earthfolk, as sojourning aliens, have been Inside and Outside the interior and intimate spaces of each Big Story.

We Earthfolk clearly understand that many people never pause to deeply reflect upon their life or the world. To them, we say, “Turn on the TV.” Or, “Logon to the Net.” Everything which Earthfolk say about the significance of the Big Stories is clearly stated, re-run and re-hashed on TV and the World-Wide-Web, 24/7/365. The core value-teaching stories and themes of the Big Stories are replayed through sit-coms, soap operas, law and order serials, music videos, video games, news shows, porn sites ... it goes on.

As the broadband world of the Internet began to exponentially expand, it was instructive for Earthfolk to learn that there are more sites devoted to pornography than any other topic. It was sadly enlightening to further understand that the fastest growing trend in this “virtual” pornographic world was a drift towards sexual violence with a proliferation of sites focused on sex with children. This matched and reflected a striking trend during the last three decades in TV and the multi-media world towards more and more explicit presentations of graphic moments of sexual contact, notably, of stories involving acts of sexual violence.

Earthfolk's sojourning alien eyes note that the dominant media story and theme appears to be one whose message is that sexual violence, the sexual abuse of children, and the sexualization of just about every human act of communication is or should be normative. Since the dominant three Big Stories are the driving force of globalization, understanding why sexual abuse and sexual violence is the core theme of multi-media telecommunications became a top priority for Earthfolk.

We Earthfolk peered and sat in silence with these facts about the rise of stories focusing on sexual violence and sexual abuse. Are these stories simply the unintended consequence of the relatively recent telecommunication revolution in the broadcast and broadband worlds? Would the focus quickly change once governmental agencies and community groups responded with regulations and tighter controls? Or, is the telecommunication revolution simply allowing the deep roots of the dominant Big Stories to be exposed?

Earthfolk accept the revelation of the telecommunication revolution in respect to its core impact, which is that it frees humans to more fully express the vision and central heartfelt acts of their Big Stories. But which Big Story has been most concerned with issues of sexuality? The search for an answer sent Earthfolk back to the Abrahamic Religious Big Story and its Creation account in *Genesis*. As is discussed in fuller detail in Volume 2, Adam subordinating Eve and expressing his Dominion over all creatures of the Earth is so endlessly repeated in the multi-media world that with Earthfolk eyes it appears that the repetition is an emotional narcotic. In general, a night watching TV or surfing the Web affirms the grip fear, hatred of the Other as Intimate Enemy, degradation of women and female power, and the sense of impending doom has on all

humans who are hooked into the global mass and multi-media “IV.” Earthfolk claim that the current explosion of sexual abuse and sexual violence stories can only be understood by grasping the Shade aspect of *Genesis*.

If ever our Earthfolk claim that the three Big Stories are globally dominant is doubted, you are invited to peer and sit in silence with your favorite multi-media experience. If you doubt Earthfolk’s interpretation of these Big Stories, simply peer again and sit in silence with the icons of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth. Sit and consider that the icons and heartfelt values of these Big Stories are being telecommunicated more rapidly and more often than ever before, that is, on a 24 hour, 7 days a week, 365 days a year cycle. Sit, listen, see and then reflect upon a world which is engaged in Endless Warring, and which is entertained by stories of sexual abuse and sexual violence. If ever there was a period in human development for you to take a step back and query *What?* and *Why?* and *Where* are we going?—that is, if there ever was a time to scrutinize and evaluate the dominant Big Stories, it is certainly now.

Four Points of Earthfolk’s Evaluation

What startled Earthfolk when we first peered at Starship Earth was the breath-stopping feeling that they were at-home. It was a breakthrough moment which Earthfolk describe in various ways. For some, there was a sit-down-and-exhale sense of relief. For others, a kick the heels excitement. For most, as discussion began about “What do you see? What do you feel?” there was a sense of being safe. All found the words *comforting*, *comfortable* and *comforted* to be apt.

Over the last half century, as the Earthfolk communion has grown, the phrase which caught the sense of what it means to not be living in the

Religious, Secular or Scientism Big Stories was “living as if I am no one’s enemy.” Before all the analyses, interpretations and experiences which formed Sensual Preciousness were gathered, we Earthfolk found ourselves continually discussing this recurring phrase of “living as if I am no one’s enemy.” It expressed the primary response which just about every Earthfolk claimed—in varying words—as part of their breakdown and breakthrough transformation.

The breakdown involved ridding oneself of identity as a Warrior’s Quester and of approaching the Other as Intimate Enemy. Since identity as a Warrior’s Quester links all three Big Stories, coming to a sense of one’s self as not-a-Warrior’s Quester delivered Earthfolk into unknown psychic and spiritual territory. As glib as the phrase “living as if I am no one’s enemy” can roll off one’s lips, the actual personal and spiritual transformation disturbs the most secure corners of an Earthfolk’s interior identity and understanding of intimacy. Transformation is as painful as a woman’s labor to bear a child. It is, likewise, as gloriously a flowering of one’s deepest self as when a new life is birthed.

It soon became evident that all Earthfolk were drawn to this phrase and the challenge it presented because it countered the basic imagery and emotion which is common ground to all three dominant Big Stories, that is, dreadful fear and the primary sense of interior identity as a Warrior’s Quester. This Warrior’s Quester has little to no sense of intimacy, for he/she does not seek relationship, does not seek to open to the Other. Rather, the Warrior’s Quester’s identity is as Intimate Enemy of the Other, and so the sole heartfelt relationship which grants meaning to the her/him is the act of Dominion manifested through slaying. Slaying the Other is the ritual act of the Warrior’s Quester which evokes what the

Warrior's Quester considers "intimacy." This is physical and/or psychological and/or spiritual slaying and conquest of the Other.

The Warrior's Quester achieves intimacy through conquest, the exercise of Dominion. The central symbolic act, for the Warrior's Quester, is that of slaying. Earthfolk came to grasp that the shedding of blood is the singular heartfelt act which bestows both identity upon the Warrior's Quester and makes present his/her experience of intimacy. The Warrior's Quester only know that she/he is intimate if there is blood-shed. As strange as this insight might sound, consider that only the female body sheds blood. The monthly shedding of blood identifies the body as female, and indicates that it can make present Life itself through a child. Her monthly blood-shedding indicates that if she is embraced, that from that intimate moment, Life continues.

As we Earthfolk read *Genesis*, it claims that the male body is the birthing body, in that Eve is "birthed" from Adam's Rib. In this light, the Warrior's Quester's act of blood-shedding—his own or the Enemy's—is a ritual act which attempts to make present the male body as the birthing body. Through ritual acts of warring, the Warrior's Quester believes that he is actually making Life present. This is one reason why the Warrior's Quester denies his Shadow, because blood-shedding and the slaying of the Intimate Enemy is, as his vision enables him to see, Life-giving. From this perspective, Earthfolk accept that Endless Warring is, for the Warrior's Quester, a defining sensually precious act.

While we Earthfolk practice "living as if I am no one's enemy," this approach recognizes that each Earthfolk will be called Enemy by others. And as Intimate Enemy we are in danger. Earthfolk clearly recognize and

respect that the Shade world is an integral part of the Warrior's Quest, even if the Warrior's Quester denies the Shadow, as he is wont to do. Earthfolk grasp that to counter violence and sexual abuse we must first understand our own violence and acts of sexual abuse, that is, our own Shade vision and values. We Earthfolk know from experience, notably from time as prisoners, that you can only defeat violence and Shade acts such as sexual abuse through accepting your own violence and Shadow.

The Warrior's Quester's dangerousness is that he/she does not accept their Shadow or their violence. The reason there is Endless War is that the Warrior's Quester deceives him/herself into believing that War is Peace. This denies the truth that good and evil both reside in the mind and heart of humans. In fact, Earthfolk see the Warrior's Quester's denial of the Shadow as expressing a sentimental wistfulness that once the Enemy is slain that no further Enemies shall arise! This is, indeed, Pollyannaish thinking. Consider the ancient Catholic saying that "the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church." This is simply another way of stating that murder births revenge which births murder, endlessly. The Warrior's Quest is self-defeating, existentially and apocalyptically. As Earthfolk see the Warrior's Questers, their Peace is indeed a state of warring. They live miserably on Earth.

The presence we Earthfolk strive to evoke is a personal space which is inclusive, which is an opening to the Other to come into our interior and intimate spaces. It is an inclusivity which seeks to realize the Other as being one's own self, as being kin in the Forever-Family. Once identified as Forever-Family, so is one opened to receive and be received as precious and Beloved. The various ways in which Earthfolk rituals

approach creating this intimacy of preciousness and Belovedness will be discussed later.

What is of significance in understanding Earthfolk's evaluation of the three dominant Big Stories are four factors which we find are key to each Big Story's vision and range of heartfelt actions. Earthfolk focus on these four factors because they not only link the three Big Stories and reveal them as branches of the same imaginative and spiritually intimate and erotic tree, but they also serve as foils for the articulation of Earthfolk's vision, heartfelt actions and rituals.

Each Big Story

- is sourced in the emotion of dreadful fear,
- identifies and names the Other as Intimate Enemy,
- seeks to annihilate the goddess and the feminine, and
- expresses itself through heartfelt actions of the Warrior's Quest which prophesizes a self-fulfilling apocalyptic story of self-annihilation

The Religious Big Story

The Religious Big Story is robust. Its defining characteristic is that it seeks to answer all of the Big Questions, once and for all. It is a static Revelation, not an ongoing Story. It is a Big Story with well defined doctrines and required dogmas, and a profusion of ceremonial rituals. While there are quite a few Religious Big Stories, the dominant one which reflects the values of the others, is that which sources the West's quest for global Dominion. This is the Abrahamic Big Story which encompasses the Jewish, Christian, and Moslem traditions.

The gist of the Religious Big Questions and Big Answers are as follows.

Q: Where do humans come from?

A: Humans cannot know this answer through human research, analysis or science. Humans can only know Big Answers through the Abrahamic tradition and its scriptures, which are sacred and revealed. God does not reveal truth to everyone, although everyone can have access to truth by joining the Abrahamic tradition through confessing and professing the truth of the Abrahamic Big Story. Revelation is a special knowledge, understood only by those who have faith. This faith is explained to you by a special group whose male members have been selected and ordained by God through their response to God's Calling.

Q: How did humans get here?

A: Humans were created in the Garden of Eden. Adam was created first. Eve was created from Adam's Rib. God created everything "out of nothing," that is, "creatio ex nihilo." God created humans from dirt, and He breathed a soul into them. God gave Adam Dominion over all the Earth and all creatures, including Eve.

Q: Where are humans going?

A: Eve was tempted by a devilish Serpent. He gave her knowledge of Good and Evil. Eve then tempted Adam. Together, they disobeyed God—committed an Original Sin—and so were cast out, exiled from the Garden of Eden. Life on Earth is cursed, and it will expire in an End of Time apocalyptic event where God and His Messiah will return. Evil doers shall be slain. True believers will be saved. They will live in eternity with God. Heaven is like the Garden of Eden.

Q: Why are humans here on Earth?

A: Humans are a Fallen lot. Because of Original Sin, God is humanity's Intimate Enemy. Since everyone is born depraved, every other human is a potential tempter who invites you to revel with them in sin. This is especially true of women who are temptresses as Eve was. Everyone is your Intimate Enemy. The only purpose of life on Earth is to repent, be saved by an act of faith, then live so as to know, love and serve God so that you will be with Him in heaven for eternity. Humans must find salvation. This is offered by God through his Messiah.

Some Abrahamics believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the Christ, the only Son of God. They hold that only through faith in Jesus Christ can you be saved. They believe that Jesus was crucified, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. That by doing so he atoned for the sin of Adam. Faith requires accepting that Earth is a Vale of Tears, an abode of suffering. For many Abrahamics, suffering is a redemptive act, and the purpose of life is to live in "imitation of Christ" (*imitatio Christi*) and to accept suffering. Other Abrahamics still await the return of the Messiah. For all Abrahamics, there really is no meaning to life on Earth except to prepare to die well, that is, in a state of grace and faith.

Q: When did humans first appear?

A: *Genesis* is the only record of creation. While no one knows the exact time, many Abrahamics have studied their scripture and concluded that humans were created about 10,000 years ago. They hold that humans lived when the dinosaurs roamed. Other Abrahamics do not look at *Genesis* and the sacred scriptures for scientific validation of any event. These hold that humans evolved as part of God's plan.

Q: How are humans to act?

A: Abrahamics follow Revealed Truth and Law which they hold has been interpreted by an approved and limited set of prophets, priests, spiritual writers, theologians, and other inspired people whose works are contained in an approved, canonical body of scripture and writings. Among these scriptural canons are the Hebrew Bible, the Christian Old and New Testaments, the Islamic Koran, and the Book of Mormon. All obey a patriarchal authority of males who claim direct lineage to, and exercise, Adam's Dominion. They do this through an anointed and ordained authority which has come to be expressed through religious institutions and organizations.

Q: Why is there Evil in the world?

A: Why God permits evil is a mystery. Evil is present here on Earth because of a human act, that is, the seduction of Adam by Eve, which is symbolized by the Apple from the Tree of Good and Evil story. All humans are evil by nature, and only by God's grace and bounty can they be saved through belief in His Son, who came to Earth, suffered and died for you on the Cross.

In searching this Big Story the four points under evaluation arose as core to the vision and heartfelt practices of the Abrahamic tradition. The most significant interpretive clues for Earthfolk were found in the Creation narrative and the heartfelt actions of the people who appear throughout *Genesis*. As discussed before, *Genesis* reveals itself to Earthfolk as a Sensual Preciousness story, with a special story-within-the story concerning sacred sexuality. It affirms for Earthfolk that Big Stories primarily focus on defining the interior and intimate spaces and

expressions of a people. There is no other more significant “creating space” than that of the intimate. For how a Big Story defines and describes intimate space determines how its believers understand their identity and, as critically, their relationship to the Other. The possible and potential range of heartfelt actions is directly sourced in a Big Story’s account about interiority and intimacy.

Sourced in the Emotion of Dreadful Fear

When Earthfolk encounter the Religious Big Story we instantly knew that we were Other. As Other, we are excluded from the believer’s intimacy. As Other, our identity is as Intimate Enemy. We are the not-Chosen. We are not Precious. The Abrahamic approaches us as Warrior’s Quester and does not reach out to invite us or engage us in embrace. If an Other enters the Religious people’s interior space, they are slain. The Other is deemed taboo, and until they are initiated through penile circumcision the alien males cannot enter the Holy of Holies. The Religious interior is the group or tribal identity, e.g., as Israelites, Christians or Moslems, and any attempt to embrace their intimacy is seen as an attack by an Enemy. The only good Enemy is a dead enemy, ala Joshua 8.

The Religionist lives in a Fallen world. The Earth is seen as a temporary abode, which is cursed as a land of exile. Everything earthly is considered transitory and only of meaning if it assists the believer in following the dictates of their god’s Big Story. This is a story with an apocalyptic End of Time war to end all wars, marked by the triumphant return of a Savior. The Warrior’s Quest in spiritual terms is to die well, that is, forgiven and righteous in the eyes of their god.

Identifies and Names the Other as Intimate Enemy

Ritually, we Earthfolk redirect the fear which emanates from the Abrahamic tradition and visualize ourselves as accepting and embracing the Abrahamic Warrior's Quester. Through this embrace Earthfolk accept our own Shade Warrior's Quester self. This leads to the practice of living "as if I am no one's enemy." Instead of identifying and naming the Other as not-Chosen and Enemy, Earthfolk invite the Other into intimate embrace to evoke preciousness and so identify them as Beloved. However, the result of not living as a Warrior's Quester is often quite severe and dramatic, for it often lands one in prison or some other Shade institution. For others, the consequence is even death. For most, it is rejection as gook, infidel, heretic, pagan, or traitor.

Seeks to Annihilate the Goddess and the Feminine

The Abrahamic Religious Big Story has no intimate space. This appears to be an extreme interpretation. (This and the following are explored more deeply in Volume 2). Yet, consider that Adam and Eve were never in a relationship of equals. She is his absolute derivative, in that she is created, not born. She, as the Rib story relates, is taken from Adam's flesh. Adam's body is the birthing body, not Eve's or any Mother Goddess. In the Garden it is only Adam as the Lone Male with his Lone Male god until Eve is created. As the Lone Male god has no Mother Goddess consort, neither does Adam. Adam, himself, is not born, rather he is created by a Lone Male father god.

Eve has no intimate relationship with Adam. In the Garden there is no family, and until the Serpent enters, Adam and Eve have no sense of their nakedness, which is a symbol of their awareness of their intimate space. In this light, they have no relationship of any sort in sexual terms. Eve shares only in Adam's physical identity as "bone of my bone." Once

they do discover their intimate space, they are exiled and punished. Part of their punishment is that they are to define themselves as being Warrior's Questers, for whom the world is an alien and terrible place. They are placed at war with the Earth itself in respect to how hard it will be to work the land. Eve is placed at war with her own body, as she is told that she will suffer the pangs of childbirth.

We Earthfolk hear through this Creation account that the source of family is a Warrior's Quester event which is best described in terms of war between the sexes. Eve's sexuality is positioned as a weapon which the enraged Lone Male god uses to make her suffer. Adam and Eve's shared interior identity is defined solely in terms of being a Warrior's Quester. Eve and Adam are the template for seeing the relationship between male and female in terms of a "War between the Sexes." Indeed, Eve is Intimate Enemy. She must be dominated. Not loved. Not invited with a nurturing embrace.

Earthfolk describe *Genesis* as a story of the Obliterated Womb. There is no womb in *Genesis*, or, rather it is revealed that there is a new womb and that it is the male body. This revelation of the male body as womb strikes the sojourning alien Earthfolk as so wildly bizarre that we pause to peer and sit in silence with it. What is this story fully revealing? One insight is that the Rib story is one of misdirection. That is, that the focus of the story is exactly what it is trying to direct attention away from. Instead of the Rib, the iconic visual of the story is the penis.

Just as Adam's body is presented as the womb for Eve, so it is clear to Earthfolk that the creational power is that of Adam's semen. (This is an insight validated by the ritual initiation practice of circumcising the penis.)

The revelation of *Genesis*, then, is that only Lone Male sexual power is necessary to create the world. Female power, however presented, as well as female bodies, are not necessary for birthing. What sojourning alien eyes see in *Genesis* is a sacred sexuality story, with its revelation as to the peculiar Warrior's Quest ritual act of sacred sexuality, that is, slicing the penile skin so that it bleeds.

Genesis' sacred sexuality story is that only male sexuality is a source of divine expression, of sensual preciousness. And, that the act of same-sex sexuality, namely, masturbation, is the Warrior's Quest's core sacred sexuality ritual. Historically, the Abrahamic tradition denies and rejects this interpretation. They would state that in *Genesis* there are no Sensual Preciousness acts of any sort since there are no visible acts of sexual intercourse between either gods or humans. They would not interpret the Rib as a symbol for the penis, rather they present it as hard fact.

Our Earthfolk interpretation of *Genesis* turns the Abrahamic tradition upside-down. Earthfolk claim that *Genesis* is, in essence, all and only about Sensual Preciousness and the ritual of masturbatory sacred sexuality. Indeed, *Genesis* is a Lone Male, same-sex Sensual Preciousness story whose defining heartfelt act is that of masturbation. It is this ritual of same-sex masturbation which is source for the Abrahamic's spiritual vision of sensual preciousness. In sum, there is only one, singular ritual of Abrahamic sensual preciousness, and it is masturbation. It is not insignificant nor inconsequential that the Abrahamic ritual tradition is male-centered and rife with symbols and rituals which we Earthfolk identify and interpret as expressing the truth that only males have intimacy, and that they experience this intimacy only through masturbatory acts.

In this light, it is seen that Eve is loved only insofar as she is an expression of Adam's same-sex erotic ritual. She, herself, becomes a sex-toy. *How else to see her once the misdirection of the Rib story is understood?* It is revealed that Eve is brought into existence through a masturbatory, self-pleasuring Lone Male sexual act. Her femaleness and femininity only have value insofar as they are not an expression of intimacy, rather, only as she is an expression of Adam's interiority, of his identity as Warrior's Quester. She has no identity other than through Adam, and she can never claim intimacy since she does not have existence other than as a derivative of his own flesh. Eve is all and only an expression of Adam's dominion, which, for Adam, is expressed through masturbation. She is derived from his flesh, and "loving her" is all and only an act of loving himself.

For the Warrior's Quester there should be no War between the Sexes because Eve should submit—as it is Revealed! Women express their Fallenness by not submitting. Rather, they follow the temptation of the Serpent who "revealed" that they could be intimate. It is precisely this desire to be intimate which leads to the War between the Sexes. For the Abrahamic Warrior's Quester, the revealed sense of intimacy is his being masturbated by Eve's body. Her pleasure should be in pleasuring him, not herself. For her to seek intimacy is an act of rebellion against and a rejection of Adam's dominion.

While the role and meaning of the Serpent begs a fuller discussion (which is presented in Volume 2) when an insight into non-Warrior's Quest intimacy, namely, the sharing of a mutually sensual intimacy and the development of a partnership of equals, is opened to them via Eve's

talking with the Serpent, Adam and Eve are cursed and exiled. They become, in Earthfolk's view, sojourning aliens here on Earth. Earthfolk derive great value from *Genesis'* serpentine insight into Abrahamic Warrior's Quest intimacy.

Abrahamics express their heartfelt actions through the Warrior's Quest to slay an Enemy. The Warrior's Quester's interior is a severely restricted personal space. The Warrior's Quester's identity is that of a dominator. The heartfelt actions of the Warrior's Quester all key upon expressing this dominion, whether it be over the Earth or other peoples. There is no personal space for the Warrior's Quester to be other than a slayer. Heartfelt actions of compassion, reconciliation, comforting, healing, cooperation or collaboration, that is, any actions which invite the Other into one's personal space are devalued and/or denigrated. The Warrior's Quester must continually be at war against some Other force, either a real or imagined Enemy.

The Warrior's Quest offers a very crippled image and notion of the warrior. Earthfolk realize that there are many other and healthier images and notions of masculinity. There is even a place for warrior masculinity, but it is one image in a long line of images along the spectrum of masculine and feminine traits. Through *Genesis*, the Abrahamic tradition *only* offers this crippled notion of warrior masculinity, which Earthfolk distinguish by calling it Warrior's Quest masculinity, and noting its inability to acknowledge its Shadow side and Shade elements.

In the Christian tradition this Warrior's Quest was re-written, as its main ideologist Saint Paul presented, through Jesus as the New Adam. Christian spirituality found expression as a crusading Warrior's Quest.

Jesus, himself, is offered as not only the one who slays the Evil Other, namely Satan, but who, himself, is slain. In this light, Jesus is God the Father's Intimate Enemy. In Christian doctrinal tradition, the main interpretation about the meaning of salvation is called "The Satisfaction Theory." It states that Jesus' death on the cross "satisfied" the Father for Adam's transgression. For Christian Warrior's Questers, Jesus' death is the *only* one which satisfied the Father. Everyone else must live as if the Intimate Enemy of the Father. They are then saved, *vicariously*, through Jesus' suffering and dying.

As stated before, Adam brought Eve out from within his body. Jesus reverses the process and absorbs all goddess presence and power in his flesh. In the Christian tradition, Jesus' body is slit open while he is dying on the cross by a Centurion's spear. (John 19:34) From his body flow blood and water. This is Warrior's Quest blood-shed. Blood and water are symbols of a woman's menstrual issue as well as of the water she breaks as childbirth nears. On the cross Jesus goes one step beyond Adam and reveals that he is all that Eve and the Mother Goddess could ever be, that is, the source of Eternal Life and of New Birth. Jesus makes fully present, once and forever, the Obliteration of the Womb first revealed in *Genesis*.

Jesus' death is claimed as the New Birth, as the Resurrected Life. In this light, Jesus as the Crucified Christ is the ultimate expression of the Warrior's Quest in that within his own flesh he is also Intimate Enemy, and so constantly wars against his own humanity. Warring against one's own flesh has been a mark of Christian spirituality. Warring against one's own flesh is a heartfelt act (e.g., self-abuse, self-flagellation, self-denial, etc.) which is fully understood only when explained in terms of the

Warrior's Quester's understanding himself as Intimate Enemy of himself, in imitation of Christ.

Self-fulfilling Apocalyptic Story of Self-Annihilation

For the Abrahamic, there is a curious satisfaction that an eventual apocalyptic End of Time will come. This is a Big Bang End of Time characterized by a global orgy of warring which is most vividly foretold in the Christian book of *Revelation*. In short, Christians (and all Abrahamics) will get their revenge on the hated Other, their Intimate Enemy, as the Earth is obliterated and they return, rapturously, to the Kingdom of God, forever. Their hatred is orgasmic and will be fulfilled through the vengeance their Lone Male god will wreck upon the unfaithful and non-believers. Their End of Time is a Warrior's Quester's triumph of total annihilation of the Other. It is an End of Time which began with Joshua's massacre at Ai and has begun to realize its fulfillment in this age of the Mushroom Cloud.

Earthfolk accept that there are some Abrahamics who claim that this does not have to be how the Religious Big Story is interpreted. They cite examples of saints and others who, they alleged, were not Warrior's Questers. These are individuals who seem to have found Love where the Warrior's Quester finds Hate. Who claim that there can be Peace on Earth, or, at least, a less violent world committed to social justice. They speak of universalism and compassion and of everyone being a Child of God. They cite, e.g., the "Sermon on the Mount" and the call to lay down one's life for the Other. We Earthfolk acknowledge these individuals and their heartfelt actions, and value them as "roots" and/or "leaks" which served (and serve) for many Earthfolk as bridges and inspirations during their time of breakdown or break-through.

“Leaks” describes the simple fact that dominion may be claimed but its Big Story has cracks, that is, “leaks,” which are caused by the unintentional retention of images, truths and values which the Big Story cannot totally suppress. In this light, Eve is a leak. Her *mere existence* in *Genesis* can be seen as re-asserting the truth that life cannot be Lone Male. That Lone Male same-sex masturbatory Sensual Preciousness is untrue, not just weird. Leaks lead indirectly or by unintended consequence toward Earthfolk Sensual Preciousness.

“Roots” are, for example, saints who have demonstrated an instinctive response to anyone suffering and so lived a life which re-asserts that everyone is a Child of God and that no one is specially Chosen. Roots are cited in volume 2 and Internet sites are listed in *Appendix C—Links* at the end of Volume 1.

Indeed, many other individuals and heartfelt acts can be summoned as examples. Yet, despite these leaks and roots, the Abrahamic Religious Big Story expressing the Warrior’s Quest dominates and rules the global imagination, and it is moving humanity inexorably towards the brink of apocalyptic self-annihilation. Adam’s body as womb and the Crucified Body of Jesus as womb appear to Earthfolk as foundational heartfelt acts of the Warrior’s Quester’s sexual abuse of women, of the Obliteration of the Womb. They are symbols and acts of sexual violence which Earthfolk have experienced are made present through Abrahamic rituals of war and Lone Male intimacy.

From this perspective, you can understand why there are those among the Earthfolk who have spent decades digging up “roots” and spying

"leaks," with the result that they have eventually abandoned the Abrahamic Religious Big Story once they realized that their staying, even as radical or liberal or progressive activists, was/is counter-productive. As long as we confess the Faith, as long as we bow our heads, even if begrudgingly, so are we sustaining the presence of the Crucified and the dominion of the Lone Male god, and so the Obliteration of the Womb and the rituals which are source for the sexual abuse of women and the feminine.

We Earthfolk conclude that the Abrahamic Religious Big Story is not a spiritual pathway. This is so because it cannot be walked by couples, since it cannot be walked by females, goddesses and the feminine. Remember, for Earthfolk, precious intimacy is a relational and a communal experience of Belovedness. As a "spiritual pathway of the Warrior's Quest," Earthfolk conclude, the Abrahamic tradition is not a pathway to preciousness or Belovedness.

Since Abrahamic Sensual Preciousness is expressed through rituals of dominion, especially slaying and sexual abuse, there is no place for the Other as Beloved. Rather than being a spiritual pathway, the Abrahamic Warrior's Quest is more a solitary stagger, like a drunk stumbling down the road, hallucinating in *delirium tremendum* (DTs). As seen by sojourning alien eyes, the Abrahamic Religious Big Story is a self-absorbed, narcissistic, life-denying orgy of crazed Warrior's Questers whooping it up around a cross-burning campfire.

The Abrahamic Religious Big Story clearly expresses all four points of Earthfolk's evaluation, namely, that it 1) starts with the emotion of dreadful fear, 2) identifies and names the Other as Intimate Enemy, 3)

seeks to annihilate the goddess and the feminine and 4) expresses its heartfelt actions through a Warrior's Quest which prophesizes a self-fulfilling apocalyptic story of self-annihilation.

The Secular Big Story

The Secular Big Story is a fairly new story when compared to the Religious Big Story. Its defining characteristic is that it develops its Big Answers primarily as a negative reaction to central claims of the Religious Big Story. In contrast to the Religious Big Story, the Secular has not evolved a tradition with well defined doctrines and required dogmas, nor a profusion of ceremonial rituals, nor authoritative institutions. While individuals will claim to be secular, and scholars will cite a "secularizing" influence or trend, there is no indisputable definition of "secular" or "secularizing."

A group, called Secular Humanists, propose a range of heartfelt actions (ethics, moral code, and vision) for a sought after "common good" of all humanity. However, claiming one's self to be a secular person, or declaring a nation to be a secular state, or describing something as a secularizing influence or event is an act of self-definition. That is, you become secular by stating that you are. There is no "secular faith" or "secular scripture" so there is no way for the individual or group to become secular other than by stating that one is secular. In contrast to Religious believers who can be accused of heresy or ex-communicated or de-frocked, no such "de-secularization" process exists since there is no ritual of secular initiation which is comparable to a Religious rite of initiation such as Christian Baptism.

The gist of the Secular Big Questions and Answers are as follows.

Q: Where do humans come from?

A: There is no indisputable Secular answer to this question. Most Secularists accept scientific findings and Scientism interpretations, so they would reply with a reference to the theory of Evolution. What Secularists hold is that there is no separate realm of sacred reality called spirit or the supernatural. There never was nor could be a place like the Garden of Eden. Anything which they might describe as "spiritual" or "psychic" refers to a material and physical characteristic of humans.

In the Secular Big Story there is no Garden of Eden, no precious place, there is only human space and time, and that is sufficient. There is no sense of being in exile. No longing for this Life on Earth to End so that Life in Eternity with God can Begin Anew.

Secularism often agrees with the Scientism Big Story, but where the Scientism Big Story is derived from insights into the broader implications of the scientific method, Secularism pivots upon an assertion as to what humans can do. In this light, a Secularist does not necessarily rely upon the scientific method for knowing. Rather he/she relies upon common sense. While "common sense" has no precise definition, as Earthfolk see Secularism, it is an affirmation that what is real and true can be known by every human, using their five senses.

The sum of knowing through the five senses is one definition of common sense. To make claims beyond any human senses is truly senseless. *For how can a human know other than what all humans know?* As with Scientism, Secularism accepts no "special knowledge," no Revelation. Secularists would struggle mightily with or outright reject Earthfolk's notion of sensual immersion as a pathway to Sensual Preciousness.

Q: How did humans get here?

A: Again, there is no indisputable Secular answer to this question. Most Secularists are tolerant of religious or other theoretical explanations of how the world began and how humans evolved, etc. Tolerant but unbelieving.

Secularists do not see a personal Creator. Some, whom Earthfolk call "Sacred Secularists" (see, Volume 2), may talk of a deity or a creating Force or Energy, but this is an *élan vital*, a life force and not a transpersonal, transhistorical living presence such as the Abrahamic god who claims, "I am the Lord thy God." Since there is no personal Creator, humans are responsible for building the Earth. The world is not Good or Evil, rather it is as humans create it.

Some "Sacred Secularists" hold that there is a Benevolent Deity, but it is not directly involved in the development of human affairs. Secularists interact with Religious Big Stories from postures of total denial of any Religious claims to cautious openings to mystical notions such as pantheism ("Everything is god.") to panentheism ("God is in everything.") The concern of Secularism is more with *Right Now!* than with focusing on the past or even the distant future (meaning, life after death and heaven).

Q: Where are humans going?

A: Secularists teeter on the edge of being nihilists (that is, believers in nothing and no-meaning) to being existential humanists (that is, being as "human" as one can be in the moment). Others broach a "Sacred Secularism" which fosters a Secular Humanism that is buoyed by hope

and optimism. While avoiding utopian dreams, that is, of a Kingdom of God or even a Peaceable Kingdom here on Earth, Secularists hold that humans can create a Good Society, namely, one which can achieve Justice, Equality and Happiness. Others would answer that humans are “going” wherever Evolution takes them.

Q: Why are humans here on Earth?

A: Secularists would see a “god” hiding behind the word “why.” Why implies that one needs to question the obvious fact that humans are on Earth because Earth is where humans are! Yet, the question is really about purpose. Is there any purpose to life? Is there any reason I should act my best as opposed to my worse? Do I have any obligations to others? For many Secularists, humans are simply Earthlings, and each of us should make the best of the moment. This often leads to a moral relativism where the Secularist has a hard time, on his/her own terms, condemning someone as Evil or praising them as Good. For, without an ultimate authority or absolutes, terms such as Good and Evil are relative to one’s culture, historical period, market conditions, etc.

Other Secularists tout self-actualization or self-fulfillment as the only goal an individual can envision. It is difficult for a Secularist to propose a purpose for the group, such, as the formation of a United Nations or an Earth Charter, because group values exist only as the arithmetic sum of individual values. There is no authoritative group, such as a Catholic Church, or authoritative tradition, such as among Rabbinical scholars, or authoritative teachers, such as the Dalai Lama, for Secularists to follow.

Q: When did humans first appear?

A: Most Secularists, if answering this question at all, would reference the findings of evolutionary scientists or the views of Scientism.

Q: How are humans to act?

A: Secularists would hold that the one thing they *do know* is how humans should *not* act. That is, they should not act as if they have a special knowledge, a Revealed Truth, which is not knowable by every other human. Most would propose that heartfelt actions can be discerned by using Human Reason, which is the artful practice of rational analysis, working only with reasonable assumptions, and engaging in self-critical discourse. Secularists are guided by the insight that, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." (George Santayana) For them, a study of history is the best guide for learning about human mistakes and for developing a plan for individual and group action.

Q: Why is there Evil in the world?

A: Evil is many things to many people. Evil often arises because of a perceived injustice. However, if people reason together and learn how to negotiate, what appears to be Evil is often a matter of unreasonable expectations by an alleged aggrieved party ("the victim").

Evil also arises from stupidity. Even Nazism can be grasped as an irrational and stupid response to very specific inequities and perceived injustices.

For others, Evil is the absence of Good. Which means that if you do not act for the Good (as you perceive it) in a specific incident, then something Evil often takes its place. This Evil could have been prevented by your Right Actions.

There is no "Evil god" as there is no "Good god." It is best if humans stopped using the terms Good and Evil as if they were spiritual truths. All can be understood, negotiated, and justly resolved through human openness, the application of the skills and insights of Reason, and if everyone is motivated by goodwill and the search for a Common Good.

From its historic start, some Secularists have held the view that humans are moving in a positive direction. They state, in agreement with Scientism, that human effort is a progressive force. They assert that collective human effort will eventually create an improved society. For such a progressive Secularist, underneath John Lennon's "Imagine" can be sensed a trust and a steely hope that humans can and will progress and create at least a near-Utopia here on Earth, e.g., a Great Society. This will happen once humans release themselves from the illusion cast by the Religionists that there is a sacred space, that is, a heaven to which they can escape.

Secularism and Earthfolk

Earthfolk see Secularists as both reducing vision and expanding vision. As will be noted about Scientism, Secularism reduces human sensing, especially the sense of sight. There is no claim for the insights accrued through sensual immersion as Earthfolk aver. For the Secularist there is nothing gained by saying that there is a whole which is greater than the sum of its parts, other than making a claim that humans have yet to understand all the parts. Secularism denies holism when such is defined as creating a new presence or entity which is other than a product of its parts. In this light, a Secularist would say to a Religionist who claims an

ecstatic moment of embrace by, say, Jesus, that all she was having was an ecstatic, peak *human* moment.

Again, in respect to imagery favored by Earthfolk, the Secularist would state that that two candles merging to form a common flame is simply just that, two candles merging, nothing more. Moreover, that when two humans couple, there is no third presence made manifest, rather, it is merely two humans coupling. Secularists would hold that metaphor, simile, allegory, etc., can inspire the human heart and mind, but not transform into something called presence or Belovedness, and certainly nothing of the ilk of spirit or soul.

Many Secular claims are similar to Scientism's claims, but the Secularist makes the assertion not simply as a scientific fact but as a secular value. Which means that the Secularist sees everything as within the human sphere. This is the Secularist mode of expanding sight. They want people to see all that is here "Now," to concentrate and focus on the matters at hand, the issues of the day. They want to enable people to see what is Now, not what is Past or Future which, as they judge it, is the Religious Big Story's emphasis.

The practical value, as the Secularist sees it, is that keeping one's eyes focused on what is right in front of us—*Right Here and Now!*—will lead to people doing right by one another as they see the Other as themselves, as part of the Human Family and not solely as an Intimate Enemy. For these Secular Humanists, it takes Religious "vision" to see the Other as Intimate Enemy. If people keep their eyes on earthly matters, than the Secularist sees hope for humans developing a collaborative and cooperative "space" which all nations and peoples can share.

Secularists, in this light, move away from the flowery and fluffy claims of Religionists who assert that while living on Earth they are “really” living presences in other dimensions. That is, that they are “in the world, but not of the world,” and that “Jesus” lives within them, and like utterances. In agreement with Scientism, the Secularist might assert that there are other dimensions, but these are all and only aspects of the material and human world.

Most Secularists, following the general principles of the National Secular Society <http://www.secularism.org.uk>, would consider the Earthfolk interpretation to be just unredeemed supernaturalism induced by hyper-emotionalism. They would peer at the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth and simply conclude that humanity can make mistakes, but ones which can be undone if reasonable people sit down together. However, while they would accept the Earthfolk insight that people live in dreadful fear and terror, they would argue that people can as likely live in a world where humans collectively seek Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

While respecting the fundamental, noble aspirations of Secularists, especially the Secular Humanists, Earthfolk cite the Secular Big Story as expressing, in common with the Religious Big Story, the four points of Earthfolk’s evaluation.

Sourced in the Emotion of Dreadful Fear

The Secular Big Story is sourced in the emotion of dreadful fear, for it is also a visionary source for the creation of the Atom Bomb and the icon of the Mushroom Cloud. The Atom Bomb found a vitalizing source in the apocalyptic vision of the Religious Big Story. For Earthfolk, the Atom

Bomb is the Warrior's Quester's offering to his Lone Male god. He offers it, anticipating that his Lone Male god, through the Warrior's Quester's own heartfelt act of obedience and surrender to the Will of God, will use the Bomb to initiate the End Time. Since the Warrior's Quester was born in dreadful fear—of Original Sin and exile—he anxiously anticipates the End Time, even if it means self-annihilation.

In contrast, the Secularist does not will the Bomb, nor create it in response to faithfulness to some god's Will. Rather, since the Secular Big Story lacks an absolute moral authority, there is no guideline for the Secularist to follow if and when he wants to oppose the creation of a weapon of mass destruction and self-annihilation. *To whom* would the Secularist appeal? There is no sacred space, no realm of revealed and precious morality. All he can do is act as an individual. All he has at hand are the arts of reasoning and persuasion. Indeed, he may heartfully refuse to participate in the creation or the dropping of the Bomb, but this is an idiosyncratic act, an existential act of moral choice. It is not a moral decision which he can demand that others follow because there is no Secular moral norm.

For the Secularist, when the State began to work on the Bomb, his social and cultural allegiance had to be to the State. No matter how wrong he might consider the State's action, the Secularist, as a social actor, is compelled by reasoning that "my country right or wrong, my country!"

In contrast to the Religious Big Story there is no personal Secular god to fear. Yet there is darkness at the heart of the Secularist vision in that the Secularist fears his/her own meaninglessness. While Secular Humanists strive to be optimistic, theirs is a sanguine view drawn against the more

compelling general Secular beliefs of the survival of the fittest, the battle of tooth and claw, and the warrior vision of life as a battle against the odds. With a naturalist's eye, the Secularist positions humans within a world which does not have to be human. Rather it can be hell, a place of Jean Paul Sartre's "No Exit." In Secularism, Edvard Munch's "Scream" is an emotional and visionary icon.



While there is no god "out there," all that there is, is Earth afloat the eerie emptiness of outer space. Not only is there no sacred space, there is "nothing" out there. "Outer" space is vast, empty and cold. Using Hollywood as Secular high priest, most movies about aliens focus more on the "Star Wars" theme of Enemy Aliens than on a doll-like and benign ET or the cosmopolitan and often intellectually and morally superior aliens of Star Trek.

Secularists are not at-home, peacefully and comfortably on a Living Earth. Yet, like Earthfolk most urge support for efforts such as the United Nations, the World Court, and the Earth Charter movements. Such institutions are seen as courageous stands against the chaos that brews under everything human. Indeed, what gnaws at the heart of a Secularist is that the future lies in the hands of their fellow humans, and, as the

creation of the Mushroom Cloud notably indicates, the human Other is not to be trusted farther than the eye can see.

Internet as Secular Space

Earthfolk view the Internet as the most secular Secular space. A key characteristic of virtual cyberspace is that an individual can assume any identity while online. There is, then, no interiority while online. The user's offline identity need never be known. Having endlessly creatable cyber-identities enables the user to approach a very novel state of being, that is, as a human-with-no-name. With no name and so no identity there is not the remotest possibility of creating a moment of intimacy. There is no such thing as "virtual intimacy."

While the Net is touted as a global communications web, at its core it is non-relational. It is merely the nanosecond exchange of binary units, of 1 & 0s, of On and Off electrical charges. As we Earthfolk evaluate the Net, it allows for the possibility, and occasional moment, of human communication, but it exists in its essence as a no-place, as a non-relational hyper-dimension wherein no heartfelt action is necessary or required. This means that the Internet is, and will always be, a realm of amorality.

Earthfolk ponder what might be the long-term impact of Webbed Users (individuals and groups) existing without interiority, that is, without any real-time, sensible identity. The question arises, *Isn't this lack of interiority the state of the Lone Male Adam in his Garden of Eden?* And isn't it telling that pornographic websites are the sustaining economic threads of this Web? The Internet continues to be the battleground for Warrior's Quest sex where the price of admission, and the reward, is

eroticism and sexual pleasuring without intimacy. Isn't Internet sex the ecstatic realization of Adam's same-sex Sensual Preciousness where not only the Other is now without identity and intimate value but so is the user? *Is the Internet the Secular Garden of Eden?*

Identifies and Names the Other as Intimate Enemy

The Secular vision expresses its heartfelt actions through the Warrior's Quest and so identifies and names the Other as Intimate Enemy. This is just a fact of the history of Secularism. Neither Secular America nor any other highly identified materialistic Secular State has set itself apart from the Warrior's Quest. The former Communist Russia and Maoist China did not. Cuba and other Socialist nations do not. There is scant but cosmetic difference between the core dreadful fear of the Religious and Secular Big Stories. Each Big Story has been a mid-wife to the opening of the apocalyptic nuclear war which presently engulfs the Earth. What the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth icons convey is the common feeling of dread and fear of the Other that links the Secular to the other Big Stories.

Seeks to Annihilate the Goddess and the Feminine

As with the Religious so does the Secular Big Story seek to annihilate the goddess and the feminine. The Secular attitude towards Sensual Preciousness and sacred sexuality is brazenly evident in popular Western culture. Where Secularism lacks a high priest who can articulate their concept of secular space, it does have a Sensual Preciousness high priest in Hugh Hefner.

We Earthfolk see the secularization movement, when peered at, as primarily focused upon the control of sexuality, both individual sex and

how sexual intimacy is experienced within the family. Communism had at its core so-called revolutionary notions about family and free sexuality. In this vein, the family unit still remains the control valve of post-Maoist China. In like manner did and does the Vatican continue to evangelize for its concepts of sexuality, intimacy and family. As Earthfolk peer, it is in their shared views on Sensual Preciousness (that there is no such thing) and on Sacred Sexuality (that there is no such thing) where the Religious and the Secular Big Stories interconnect. For each, the female, the feminine, the Intimate Other is invisible. There are no goddesses except as they are subjects of penile domination. To read/see *Playboy* is to read/see Adam and Eve in the Garden.

"Playboy" is an apt phrase for the Secular self-image as sexual actor. *Playboy* sensuality certainly does not lead to preciousness and/or make present the Other's preciousness. *Playboy's* sexuality is certainly not sacred, and does not make present a Beloved. Rather sex is "doing it," which is cast in terms of playing or of "just fooling around." Humans play with each other's body. In brief, men and women are sex toys each for the other. They engage in "mutual masturbation," which is the ultimate pursuit of one's solely pleased self.

In the *Playboy* erotic world, humans are simply genital playmates. Getting-off and coming are the ultimate and only objectives of sexual intercourse. Whether this is by one's self in masturbation or with others in group masturbation is not of issue. The stated personal goal is expressed in the phrase, "Was it good for you, too?" Meaning that "I have no idea what you were experiencing as I was pleasuring myself with your body." Pleasuring one's self is the objective, and if that happens to one's sex partner, all the better. But better not in the sense that one has

transformed his/her lover into a Beloved, but that one has achieved mastery of the other's body and expertly masturbated them better than or at least equal to how they could do so alone.

Playboy's mutual masturbation sex toy activity is the very visual and explicit heartfelt action of the Warrior's Quester as sexual actor. If necessary, the Warrior's Quester engages in domination. Nothing should stand in his/her way. Sexual toys and other devices are accepted instruments, at times *de rigeur*. But *Playboy* also strives to present Warrior's Quest sex with a gentler hand of dominion. While she ("sex goddess"—not Mother or Sensually Precious goddess) is lauded for her beauty of flesh, for the *Playboy* male, women are as invisible as are the pictorial monthly Playmates' natural but imperfect airbrushed skin and reconstructed mammaries. While Playmates are just glossy paper-mates, what is termed "hard-copy," they have been re-born as "virtual" sex goddesses of the Internet. There, they are simply and always ready to stimulate, online or off-line, 24/7/365.

In like manner, Secular women see themselves as erotic stimulators. They dress without modesty. They are naked without blushing. They open themselves to as many males at one time as opportunity permits. To be penetrated by cocks at every orifice is ultimate testimony to one's fulfillment as sex goddess. Earthfolk see these Secular women as Shade women like Eve.

There is a subtle but telling significance in the difference, as Earthfolk discern, between *nudity* and *nakedness*. *Playboy's* women are nude. Nudity is a posture of exposure. The Playmate shows "all," yet reveals nothing intimate. In *Genesis* Adam and Eve are nude until they eat the

Apple. Then they experience a moment of intimacy, that is, they become aware that each is naked before the other. Nakedness is a relational term. Adam and Eve were "embarrassed" and sewed aprons of fig leaves. Playmates are not naked. They prance around without blushing. They have no modesty and would find such a silliness. They are there to be used on the spot by anyone, male or female, for genital stimulation and pleasure. As Earthfolk see it, nudity is sex in the Secular public space or public eye. Nudes may be termed "sex goddesses" but they express no creative intimate presence or spiritual power.

Since America is the homeland of the *Playboy* movement of Warrior's Quest sexuality, it is telling that most mainline American religious denominations and sects have moved into the *Playboy* camp. They have done so under the rubric of "Free Sex." Protestant groups have almost wholeheartedly subordinated their sexual morality to Hefner's notion of sexual "spirituality." Even the more self-proclaimed progressive denominations have mingled *Playboy* with strands of feminism and come up with a devaluation of marriage, sexual morality, and any notion of sensual preciousness. Priests, rabbis and Protestant ministers have surrendered their moral authority over sexual issues to their high priest, Hugh Hefner.

In like manner, a certain camp within the feminist movement deems pornography as a step in Feminist Liberation. Earthfolk presume both groups consider Hugh Hefner as Secular icon.

As another icon of Secular sexuality, Las Vegas is the legacy of the Puritan "city on a hill." It is a city in the wilderness of the desert, a moral frontier where all vice is virtue. More telling is that Las Vegas, like the

Internet, is a fundamentally virtual city. In it you find whatever you want, from the pyramids to castles to foreign cities and countries, all there but not there, at least not geographically or real-time. As with the Internet's ability to allow the user to live without interiority, to live with a virtual identity, in Las Vegas, so it is claimed, you can be whoever you want to be without any responsibility for your heartfelt actions ("What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.").

Roman Catholics and other more traditional religious groups maintain a vigilant watch over the decline of sexual morality, but, unfortunately, it is not a crusade driven by respect for the goddess or a veneration of female sensual preciousness or a spirituality of intimacy. Rather, it is a desire to keep women invisible and subordinated in more traditional ways and customs. In short, the *Playboy* trumping of Protestant sexual morality plays the same hand for women as does the traditional Catholic cleric.

Earthfolk actually reason backward from this acceptance of the Secular Big Story's continuance of the values of *Genesis* to their understanding of the Secular's primary emotion being dreadful fear. For what Earthfolk find in *Genesis* is the dreadful fear reflected through the icons of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth. Earthfolk reason that if the end result of the Religious and the Secular traditions are these icons of dreadful fear, then where are they sourced? The Big Answer is the same for both Stories. It is sourced in the fear of the goddess, of the feminine, of the Other as precious and Beloved.

We Earthfolk, once again, sit in silence with the Internet as Secular space, and ponder the fact that the vast majority of websites are linked to the sexual abuse of children and women. It is telling, to Earthfolk, that

the Net is dominated by pornography. In one sense, Hugh Hefner's fondest wish was fulfilled in that the Web is the ultimate virtual sexuality space. When online all types of masturbatory sexual stimulation are available. These are offered to anyone of any age, with access being simply limited to the knowledge and ability to logon.

The rosy upside of the Net is that it can be used to communicate information other than sexual titillation. People can share information which can lead to intimate exchange and growth. But the consummation of such intimacy requires being off-line, back into the world of the five senses. Earthfolk rituals of Sensual Preciousness cannot make present the Beloved while online.

With all this said, the Internet is a "leak" for the Earthfolk whose experience of the Web has been very positive. It has been, synchronistically, the main channel for the spread of Earthfolk ideas and the growth of its communion world-wide. The concept of "Sacred Sexuality" appeared on the Internet before it was listed in reference books and encyclopedias. But the clear fact is that, at its core, it is a Secular space wherein the presence of the goddess and her Beloved are not.

Self-fulfilling Apocalyptic Story of Self-Annihilation

A Secularist could argue that there is no need for an apocalyptic story because Nature, itself, will eventually move beyond the human species. The end of the species may come through an evolution to another humanoid life form or simply evolve into a genetic dead-end and become extinct. What Earthfolk hear, however, is an echo of the Secularist apocalyptic as they sit in silence with the Mushroom Cloud and Starship

Earth. While Secular Humanists would wrestle with setting boundaries for some universal and basic form of morality, say, the adoption of the Golden Rule, such is just considered a Secular option.

In the main, Secularism identifies the Religious Big Story with being a morality tale. Secularists object to being told what to do, and run the risk of creating a world which has no moral boundaries. In fact, that is what Earthfolk see as their triumph. The race to create the Atom Bomb occurred during what many would call an apocalyptic moment. While Nazi atrocities were not the main reason for entering World War Two, the battle was cast in apocalyptic terms of a world-wide-war and of a battle for civilization. The issues were framed in terms rooted in the Religious Big Story, that is, of Good versus Evil. Of Barbarism versus Civilization. Of "Saving the World from"

The Nazis were considered an atheistic or neo-pagan movement which had no morality, at least, not Judaeo-Christian morality. Earthfolk see the Nazis as one supreme realization of the Warrior's Quest. Ironically, in countering them, the Allies, notably Americans, cast off their own sense of moral boundaries and participated in violating every traditional Religious and Humanistic principle in respect to war. Both sides waged a total war. Both sides demonized the other. Each felt that it was expressing the highest human values, with the Nazis self-identifying as the Master Race. In response, America moved with like fearlessness and abandon and without moral traction. America "beat" the Nazis to the creation of the Atom Bomb (using many captured Nazi scientists). We Earthfolk see the Nazis and Americans as brothers in the race, like Cain and Abel. They are only distinguished, one from the other, by the

winner's laurel wreath. Horrifically, it is a wreath laced with ethereal radiation emanating from the iconic Mushroom Cloud.

World War Two was a victory for the Secular Big Story. It is that Story's apocalyptic chapter. It tells that humans can cast off all morality and come face to face with the presence which such an effort makes real, namely, a power and presence which humans cannot control. Earthfolk are amazed that the demonic character of this apocalyptic event and chapter has not been presented to nor understood by so many. It is as if the iconic Mushroom Cloud was just a sci-fi poster, not a living reality of everyone's every day. In contrast, Earthfolk accept that humans are living, right now, in a Secular, apocalyptic nuclear war moment. At any time, *Poof!*

Remember that Starship Earth was a snapshot taken by warriors who were developing Plan B—Escape from the Planet. The plan was to have spaceships at the ready with sufficient biological material to re-seed Earth forms, including humans, on other planets if a nuclear "World War Three" broke out. There was no intent on the astronauts' part to take a snapshot that would awaken the Earthfolk or make people feel comfortably at-home on a Living Earth.

While the Religionists have delivered sermons from the pulpit and the street corner announcing that "The End is near. Repent!" it is the Secularists who have actually ignited an apocalyptic moment, that is, Nuclear War.

The Secular Big Story clearly expresses all four points of Earthfolk's evaluation, namely, that it 1) starts with the emotion of dreadful fear, 2)

identifies and names the Other as Intimate Enemy, 3) seeks to annihilate the goddess and the feminine and 4) expresses its heartfelt actions through a Warrior's Quest which prophesizes a self-fulfilling apocalyptic story of self-annihilation.

The Scientism Big Story

The key connector between Scientism and Secularism is that most Secularists accept the scientific method as the proper rational tool for knowing and seeing the world and reality. Some Scientismists meld the Religious Big Story with their own, forming either a "Sixth Day" or a "Sacred Scientism Stewardship" story, but others reject Religion with the same disdain as do Secularists.

Instead of valuing common sense as the Secularists do, Scientismists apply the scientific method to obtain an understanding of what something is or what is happening. Since the scientific method properly works with exploring and ascertaining empirical data, there is no *necessary* theory or Story which emerges from its application. Scientism is the peering at and sitting in silence with empirical data and telling a Story which makes a whole narrative out of discrete parts.

In Volume 2, two groups are identified, namely, The Sixth Dayers and the Stewardship Scientismist who position scientific data within a Religious or quasi-Religious Story. The Non-Sacred Scientismist finds no usefulness in traditional Religious stories. Scientism in hand with the Secular Big Story are the driving forces of globalization and as such are of prime concern to Earthfolk.

The gist of Scientism's Big Questions and Big Answers are as follows.

Q: Where do humans come from?

A: Scientismists look at the fossil evidence gathered by evolutionary scientists and theorize that everything which is present right now is here because of past physical and biological activity. Physical and biological activity describe the vision termed materialism. For Scientism, as with Secuarlism, there is no realm of experience, knowledge or existence other than what is right in front of us, what humans term "nature." Evolution describes a random process of mutation and natural selection which accounts for the development of complex structures and species from simpler structures and species. In this view, everything which is human is explainable by understanding humanity's material base. The categories others use to describe humanity, such as body, mind and spirit are, in essence, ways of talking about how the basic material of the life force has evolved. Scientism rejects any special Revealed knowledge or supernatural realms.

Q: How did humans get here?

A: Scientists have discovered an Evolutionary Process that proceeds by randomness, mutation and natural selection. Neither scientists nor Scientismists can point to the "missing link" which shows exactly *how* organic life came from inorganic, or exactly how self-critical rational thought arose from instinctual behavior. While Scientismists value humanity for its distinctive and "evolved" characteristics, they take note that human life is just one option Evolution took. Although they cannot answer all questions about how life evolved, e.g., how the brain "thinks," Scientismists are confident that humanity as a species will someday become extinct.

Q: Where are humans going?

A: Wherever evolution takes the human species. By all observation, this appears to be towards extinction, which is the fate of most biological entities. Entropy will win the day.

Q: Why are humans here on Earth?

A: Evolutionary evidence does not speak to this question. Humans are here because they are here. For many this question is a search for an answer to, Are humans special? Some Scientismists, as would Secular Humanists, hold that humans can create a world of meaning, such as a Good Society or a State of Happiness. Some even believe that such is where Evolution (with a capital E) is going. But since evolution is a material process, one driven by randomness, and since everything is subject to the law of entropy, humanity as a species will eventually become extinct. In the meantime, so goes the hope, scientific research will enable humans to live a fuller "human" life.

Q: When did humans first appear?

A: Consult the latest findings of evolutionary scientists.

Q: How are humans to act?

A: Evolutionary scientists hold that every species adapts in a strategy of survival. However, "survival" is not a conscious plan, rather it is more a "decision" made through the process of natural selection, which, moreover, is a process not knowable or accessible to human thought or manipulation. Scientismists join with the Secular Humanist in hoping that the inventions created by humans will truly enhance human life and be instruments of the species long-term survival.

Q: Why is there Evil in the world?

A: Pure, empirical science can provide little evidence for why humans act for Good or for Evil. At times in the history of science, experiments have been conducted to determine if there is a genetic or any biological explanation, predictor or "hint" for assessing whether someone will become Good or Evil. Such efforts have proved little that is conclusive or even hypothetically useful.

Evil is a particularly human description of certain actions, based upon their outcomes more than on their intent. Evil appears to be the result of individual actions. Meaning, that Evolution explains group phenomenon, and in that light the group cannot be described in terms of Good and Evil. Evolution proceeds by its own processes which are beyond human control.

Still others suggest that technology is not only an extension of biological processes, e.g., a shovel is an extended hand, but that technology-as-biology is the next stage in progressive and integral evolution. Here, biotechnology is not an appendage nor a replacement but an eventually higher state of human existence. From this perspective, technology will also provide resolutions to various Evils. This is especially notable in the futuristic musings about nascent cyber-technologies. The Future is forecasted as an existence where the causes of most Evils will be resolved through benefits accrued from human biological integration with technology.

Sourced in the Emotion of Dreadful Fear

When first examined Scientism is not seen as sourced in any emotion. Since it roots its worldview in facts determined by the scientific method, it also assumes the emotion which is a basis for "being scientific." This is

the emotion required to achieve objectivity. Objectivity is not simply an intellectual posture of skepticism, it is also a discipline of detachment. In this respect, the scientific method is sourced in an emotion which seeks to be non-relational. For the scientist, her act of observation is supposed to be "value free," which means not tainted by subjectivity of ideas or emotions.

For most, this scientific posture and emotion of detachment appears to be a practice of no great import for the Big Story. However, as with the Secular Big Story, what we Earthfolk peer at are the icons which the Scientism Big Story produced, namely, those of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth. Our emphasis on the creation of the Atom Bomb as the blossom of the scientific revolution is not widely shared. Many scientists and Scientismists would point to other findings and discoveries, but, for Earthfolk, "The proof is in the pudding," in this respect. It is difficult for us to imagine what is more awesome than creating a weapon which can vaporize others and destroy all life.

The Mushroom Cloud reveals what happens when humans achieve total objectivity. That is, when they successfully so remove their personal feelings from their actions that they even objectify themselves in the process. *How else to understand the true achievement of the Atomic Bomb but as humans arriving at a point where they have lost their sense of individual intimacy such that they commit an act of suicide?*

For what else is the Atom Bomb but an act of individual and collective suicide? In this light, the seemingly personal act of an individual scientist working hard to remove subjectivity and so place him/herself in a value free, purely objective space is, with Earthfolk eyes, an act of fear. It is

fear of what is human, and an act of withdrawing from what is human. It is fear of letting the Other into one's personal intellectual and emotion space, for to do so is to be tainted, and the data produced is considered corrupted and useless.

The scientific act of disciplining one's self to be objective is a way of restricting intimacy to the zero point. However, as Earthfolk see it, it is an act of misdirection, in that it is actually an act of intimacy. It is an act of intimacy which refuses intimacy to the Other. The scientist says, "I know" as if an isolated individual. This is a view Earthfolk know from their use of sensual immersion to not only be erroneous but dangerous. When any human so restricts their intimacy, it is impossible for them not to create a world without intimacy. Scientists and Scientismists have created a world without intimacy, to which the twin icons of the present nuclear apocalypse testify.

Scientism, then, is sourced in the emotion of dreadful fear as root to the blossom of the Mushroom Cloud. What the scientific method feeds upon is curiosity and skepticism. These are values more than just habits. Curiosity blends with skepticism in producing methodological doubt. This is the practice and value of always asking a further question, an endless *Why?*

Scientism is a temporary suspension of that *Why?* question as a *temporary* answer is formulated. Because of the scientific habits of curiosity and skepticism, the Scientismist always anticipates that any answer is temporary, though not always tentative. When answering the Big Question of When and How everything began, the Scientismist is firm about Evolution as a fact, but is open to modifications such as the theory

of punctuated evolution. In this vein, views about whether the universe is expanding or contracting go somewhat cyclically in and out of fashion, and, an approach to dating the exact time various *homo sapiens* emerged or what happened to a specific hominoid species are always open to modification and revision.

The Shadow side of this curiosity and skepticism, Earthfolk hold, is, once again, dreadful fear. The reasoning is backwards, again. Earthfolk look at the icons of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth and ask, "What type of thinking and feeling produced these?" Science, itself, is a historically recent mode of knowing. For Earthfolk, what Science has produced is arguable in terms of value. Where Scientismists of all stripes hold that scientific knowledge has led to beneficial advances, for the sojourning alien eyes of Earthfolk, the value and usefulness of the whole, historically brief, scientific tradition is cast in doubt. Science and the Scientism vision, like Secularism, has proved unable to articulate a moral vision other than a highly individualistic, existential or idiosyncratic one.

Where scientists would claim that the search for Truth should have no bounds, Earthfolk see the scientific effort and the Scientism Big Story crippled by what the creation of the Bomb revealed, namely, that there is no one within the scientific community who can answer, "When is enough, enough?" or "Even though we can, should we do it?" In sum, the scientific community's morality and the morality that emerges from Scientism is a variant of "Might Makes Right!" Both the scientific community and Scientism reveals itself as kin of the Warrior's Quester in that each is "afraid of its own Shadow."

Most scientists and Scientismists see themselves as discoverers in the Warrior's Quest mold. They fearlessly seek to "Go where no human has gone before!" However, unlike the fictional *Star Trek* adventurers, no Prime Directive of non-interference has ever been articulated. The opposite, in fact, continues to occur at every level of scientific inquiry, that is, heedlessly probing and breaking through every boundary, with a nod to moral issues only after a crisis or a catastrophe erupts.

Earthfolk ponder why the scientific community and Scientismists did not call a halt to their efforts, that is, declare a moratorium on any and all scientific research, until they learned all they could from the self-revelations of the iconic Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth. As stated before, Earthfolk hold that if you do not seek to understand your Shadow experience that then you will be controlled by your Shadow. Earthfolk ask, When will scientists and Scientismists stop creating weapons of mass destruction? Will the only answer be a cosmic, *Oops!?*

When Scientismists compose their answers to the Big Questions, the assumption is that what is not knowable today will probably be knowable tomorrow. Proponents of this view point to the short History of Science and observe that inventions appear almost by benevolent design. From Galileo's telescope to the microscope to the computer to lasers and so forth, much like the Religionist's belief that "God will provide," so the Scientismist has a skeptically toned confidence that humans will inevitably invent devices which enable a form of Progress.

Earthfolk see a short term value to many scientific discoveries and applications. Yet, we find more compelling the argument that every new discovery creates a set of more intricate and intractable problems which

humans cannot control, and which seem to perch humanity at Doomsday's door. Can you hear the knocking of super-resistant microbes? Or, the nuclear wolf huffing and puffing?

Identifies and Names the Other as Intimate Enemy

What we Earthfolk focus upon is the emotional stance which the scientific method requires. There is a reason why the image of the Scientist is someone in a white lab coat. This is a symbolic dress which infers that, once donned, the scientist is pure. Pure here means not tainted by subjectivity or emotions. Once so robed the scientist then has free range to prod, probe, dissect, dissolve and explore anything. Here Earthfolk see curiosity being stripped of its skepticism. There is a certain hubris which auras the white-coats. It is communal, not just individual. They are not skeptical about their right to invade any interior space, nor any intimate space. In this vein, they are Warrior's Questers who see an Intimate Enemy, here named ignorance or disease, upon whom they can use any instrument of destruction. This white-robe is a variant issue of the Warrior's Quester's military uniform.

We Earthfolk hold that the Atomic Bomb stands as the culmination of both the scientific tradition and the Scientism Big Story. Humans have now probed to find a force, an energy which they cannot control. *Is it possible that nuclear energy is a presence?* That what the scientists have wandered into unintentionally is the living presence of dreadful fear? What else does the Mushroom Cloud evoke in the viewer? That, instead of a Living Earth, we are all on a Dying Earth? Despite the science of it all, the human response to the Mushroom Cloud is quaking terror and dreadful fear.

Earthfolk anticipate that Scientismists will not peer and see as we do. In fact, since scientists try to be pure and objective, they have created a situation where they cannot see how much they are a part of what they create. They cannot and do not sense themselves as creating “knowledge” from within their subjectivity. That, as has been said by some in the quirky world of Quantum physics, to observe an experiment is to change that experiment. Earthfolk hold that what the nuclear scientists discovered is the collective human Shadow. It is as if they have unveiled the Shade Mother who lingers in *Genesis*.

Scientific knowledge, as interpreted through the Scientism Big Story, comes full circle to make present the same dreadful fear which sources the Secular and Religious Big Stories.

Seeks to Annihilate the Goddess and the Feminine

Scientism is materialistic at its core. This is a value shared by many Secularists. When it comes to understanding humanity, Scientism works with a reductionistic pen. In the area of sexuality, almost all discussion focuses upon issues of interiority, that is, identity. The end result, which has been championed by some streams of feminism, is that sexuality is only identity. And it is a genital identity. If you’ve a penis, you’re a male~a vulva, a female.

In Scientism, there is little else to sexuality but organs of copulation, as any notion of intimacy is discounted with a nod to the claim that intimacy is a cultural variant. It is held that while sexual identity is transcultural, what it means to be intimate varies wildly and widely. More, that while

there is a biological basis for sexed identity, there is no scientific valuation possible concerning acts of intimacy. Earthfolk see this scientific approach to sexuality as blending with the *Playboy* mentality already discussed. For Earthfolk there is a spiritually intimate, erotic Sensual Preciousness and sacred sexuality story at the center of Scientism just as there is in *Genesis*. It flows from defining sexual identity in terms of biology and holding that how one expresses intimacy is irrelevant. The only issue of note is safe sex and sexual health.

What Scientism advocates is a view that echoes that which Adam took of Eve. Eve's identity was solely as Adam's derivative. Only the Serpent's knowledge opened her and then Adam's eyes to their intimacy. While Scientism does not necessarily propose seeing the sexual Other as a sex toy, as does Secularism, it does see the sexual Other essentially in terms of public health issues. Within the Scientism vision the range of heartfelt sexual acts is limited to those impacting the health of men and women. There is no way, as Earthfolk see it, to move from Scientism to a celebration of men and women as gods and goddesses, as creators of the intimate space. No way to see preciousness and sight the Beloved.

Scientism simply doesn't have much to say about intimacy. In this way, it gives, possibly unintentionally, support to the *Playboy* view that would say that anything sexual is fair game as long as no one gets hurt, meaning, injured or diseased. If anything, Hugh Hefner delights in his Playmates being fresh and sparkingly hygienic, that is, the creamy clean "Girl Next Door."

Self-fulfilling Apocalyptic Story of Self-Annihilation

The fruit of Scientism is not the Big Bang which, supposedly, describes the act of creation. The fruit is the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth which are the Big Bangs of the End of Time that lead to self-annihilation. A famous poet noted that the sound of this End of Time is as likely to be a whimper as a bang.

It is not insignificant to Earthfolk that both icons derive from military expeditions. That both icons are expressions of a desire to rid the world of an Other whom one hates. The only shortfall of the Atomic Bomb is that the fallout could kill the attacker. With dark irony, scientists could only identify and study this fallout phenomenon by first dropping the bomb on Hiroshima. Likewise, the striking shortfall in the space program has been the seemingly clear but unintended insight that the human biosphere may a) never be fully understood, b) never fully replicated, and c) forever remain unexportable to other planets.

So, in the end, both iconic moments throw humans back onto the Earth. An Earth which they sought to dominate, either in response to divine mandate or to the inevitable solutions produced by a scientific human mind. Since the advent of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth, wars have proliferated as never before. The only mutation of note from these events is the emergence of the sub-species of humans known as terrorists. Like cancerous cells within the human body, these terrorists are spreading hatred and unleashing suicide bombs in imitation of "Little Boy," who vaporized Hiroshima.

In this terrorized world, governments, notably led by Secular America, are asking their citizens to peer at the Other, but to peer only with eyes of dreadful fear. Everyone in the world, today, is living out the vision

created by nuclear scientists whose dedication to the Warrior's Quest was manifested through their communal heartfelt action of creating a Cloud which globally radiates the Scientism Big Story of self-annihilation. While an argument can be made that scientists have discovered many marvels and produced, at least as far as it is known to this moment, a short list of miraculous applications, especially in the field of medicine, the incontrovertible fact is that basic science research has always been driven by military needs and objectives.

The short History of Science, especially in the West, is a chapter in military history. Almost every great invention has been spurred on by some military need, that is, "in the national interest." Secular America is the most militarized economy of all time. And it is this militarization which is another driving force of globalization. Humans are armed to the teeth as never before.

While there are some scientists who claim a "new science" (which some call a noetic science) and apply the terminology and models of Quantum physics, fractal mathematics, and biological models that speak of the Living Earth as Gaia, these views are still of minor influence in the crusade of globalization. Within its community, however, many Earthfolk are profoundly moved by this noetic science and its implications for a new version of a Scientism Big Story.

The Scientism Big Story clearly expresses all four points of Earthfolk's evaluation, namely, that it 1) starts with the emotion of dreadful fear, 2) identifies and names the Other as Intimate Enemy, 3) seeks to annihilate the goddess and the feminine and 4) expresses its heartfelt actions

through a Warrior's Quest which prophesizes a self-fulfilling apocalyptic story of self-annihilation.

In final evaluation, all three dominant Big Stories are linked by these four points of evaluation. While, as stated before, each Big Story denies parts of the other two, the three are branches on the same imaginative, spiritual and visionary tree.

Earthfolk's Big Story

We Earthfolk realize that most people look at the three dominant Big Stories as being quite different from one another. The history of the evolution of each Big Story is fraught with conflict between advocates of each Big Story. At times, violent suppression, even death, was wielded by one, most often the Religious, against the others. With sojourning alien eyes Earthfolk note the size of the shared roots which bind these three Big Stories. While their differences have been detailed and interpreted by scholars for centuries, Earthfolk find their shared roots being nourished by the four points of evaluation listed above, and, more significantly, by the communal emotion they evoke of dreadful fear as manifest through the icons which crown all three Big Stories, namely, the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth.

The gist of Earthfolk's Big Questions and Answers are as follows.

Q: Where do humans come from?

A: Earthfolk accept the physical findings of evolutionary science. However, we accept them as providing only a partial *human* answer. *The questions that empirical science cannot answer concern those realities which define the essence of what it means to be human.*

Humans are human only when in relationship. Biologically, humans are always in relationship. We are born within and through the web of life which reproduces the generations. However, Earthfolk see no evidence to state that Life has not always been biologically alive.

Life has always been and always will be. This means that there has always been and always will be an aspect of Life which manifests the essence of what defines being human. While the notions of inorganic states and organic life are useful for certain scientific explanations, through sensual immersion Earthfolk intuit that human life has always been manifested. That the Forever-Family has existed, forever. The scientific imagination cannot envision this forever-present manifestation of human life, so, consequently, they cannot detect it.

We Earthfolk sensually immerse ourselves and grasp that each human is a manifestation of the Living Earth. For Earthfolk the proper human self-image is that of a child in the womb. Meaning, that humans are always being born as new presences of the Living Earth. Physically, humans make present the sensually precious Forever-Family.

Being human is making present one's preciousness through the nurturing embrace of a precious Other. In other terms, being human is caused by the sensual preciousness showered upon you by another which then evokes from within you what each of you manifest and share as preciousness. Being human is, then, being Beloved. In a limited, but illustrative application of the dual principles that nature abhors a vacuum and that something cannot be created from nothing, preciousness must exist from the Forever as did the material elements that evolved into the spectacular human body. If atomic and sub-atomic matter exists, as

scientists and Scientismists claim, from “the beginning of time,” why not that which makes humans human? Why not sub-atomic and nuclear corresponding and complementary presences of preciousness? As scientists and Scientismists look backwards and spy, at the Big Bang instant of creation, a whole cloud of atomic particles, Earthfolk look forward and spy the Forever-Family and the presence of preciousness as a simultaneously occurring aspect of existence.

Earthfolk are at-home, comfortably, within the Living Earth as immortal manifestations of Earth’s consciousness, heart and conscience.

Q: How did humans get here?

A: Earthfolk, again, accept the physical findings of evolutionary science. And, again, it is a partial answer. Earthfolk peer and sit in silence with the global mass of humanity and see that “human” has always been an aspect of the Living Earth. *Why would this not be true?*

Most scientists would reject the notion of “creation from nothing” because that implies another realm of existence, possibly of a god or gods. Why then would they argue that what makes human’s human, here Earthfolk’s preciousness and the vital zest of intimacy, has been created from nothing? If humanness evolves and is not “created from nothing” than the task is to approach understanding reality with a way and a discipline that detects human preciousness. Here, Earthfolk forward the practice of sensual immersion and the rituals which makes present vital zest.

Nuclear scientists choose to focus on empirical data and so do not even imagine that there is human data. Such is neither part of their imagination or method. Scientismists have chosen to embrace the

communal emotion of detachment and accept a very restricted notion of holism, that is, that there is a whole which is greater than the sum of its parts, but it is a whole which exists only as an aspect of its parts, that is, something new is not created independent of its parts. In contrast, for Earthfolk, humans, in every aspect, that of their body, mind and spirit, are wholes which cannot be explained by any complexification of their parts. Love, Honor, Beauty, Hate, Fear, etc., are defining aspects of what it means to be human, and they are emotional manifestations that are only made present through relationships.

Q: Where are humans going?

A: Wherever hope, the sensually precious vital zest of the nurturing embrace of the Beloveds, imagination, and the rituals of intimacy make us present.

Q: Why are humans here on Earth?

A: Earthfolk joke, "It's hard to imagine!" The Living Earth has entered upon a phase of conscious evolution wherein She seeks to express and make manifest Her preciousness. Humans are here to express this preciousness through a "Nurturing Embrace." This is the embrace of Beloveds wherein each becomes the other, where male becomes female and vice versa, as each transforms and makes themselves present in their fullest humanity.

Q: When did humans first appear?

A: Earthfolk jibe, "Why do humans disappear?" Which means that dying is more the question at point. It is an event which humans observe in the Now. When, in historical time, did the human body in its present biological form first appear is a question of meaning to evolutionary

biologists. For Earthfolk, imagining what disappearing-at-death makes present to humans provides insight into why new humans appear during the birthing process. It is all a wonderment of the Forever-Family.

Q: How are humans to act?

A: Every human act and action counts. Which means that “reality,” “the world,” your identity, your intimacy, everything which is you and human, is created by you as you make yourself present to the Intimate Other. Presenting to Others as Intimate Enemy creates a world of Endless Warfare. Presenting to Others as precious creates a world of Beloveds, and makes manifest the Forever-Family.

Q: Why is there Evil in the world?

A: How humans imagine creates their reality. The Warrior’s Quest imagination has been so dominant in the human psyche that it appears—to faith, to reason, and to scientific inquiry—that beholding the Other as Intimate Enemy is “reality.” When justifying the claim that “Evil is real!” the Warrior’s Quester cites his own history of violence as evidence. This is circular reasoning. It is an application of, “We make war that we may live in peace.”

We Earthfolk repeatedly assert, “Not to recognize and own your Shadow is to become ruled by your Shadow.” Humans are artistic beings. The primary human act is one of creativity. Each individual creates his/her world, and by doing so models behaviors and beliefs which others emulate and replicate. There will always be Shade Mothers and Fathers. Always evil deeds. But these are the result of human imagination which, in itself, defines for humans the range of their heartfelt acts, that is, what they consider Good and Evil, Right and Wrong, Moral and Immoral.

Humans imagine and choose. If you imagine the Other as precious and Beloved, the issue of Good and Evil becomes a secondary concern.

If you imagine the Other as precious and Beloved, you will approach an evil deed as something gone amiss, artfully. You will seek to bring the Other out from their Shadow, by clarifying how they are imaginatively stuck. Often, be it noted strongly, this requires a great risk and sacrifice on your part. You might have to witness to the other's Shadow and suffer their Shadow, evil actions until they can peer and obtain a new vision. You might have to put your life in harm's way, and be drawn into their punishing Shade institutions before, together, you both emerge. The tools of human creative engagement and re-visioning are the imaginative skills of compassion, forgiveness, reconciliation and transformation.

The Earthfolk Big Story clearly expresses counterpoints to all four points of the evaluation made of the other three Big Stories, namely, that it 1) starts with the emotion of being at-home comfortably on the Living Earth 2) identifies and names the Other as precious, 3) seeks to make present the sensual preciousness and sacred sexuality of the goddess and the feminine and 4) expresses its heartfelt actions through the practice of "living as if I am no one's enemy," and through making manifest the presence of the Forever-Family through the nurturing embrace of Beloveds.

Your Big Story and personal Story

What then is your Big Story? Or, which parts of each have you selected out to compose your personal Story? How do you answer the Big Questions? More, what is the range of your heartfelt acts? Can you describe your fundamental, core convictions and commitments in non-Warrior's Quest language, images and rituals? What is the communal

emotion which manifests through you? Is it dreadful fear? Being comfortably at-home on Earth? Spend some time clarifying these matters for yourself.

As to heartfelt acts, these are really the telling factors. How do you act when you meet an Other? Do you approach them as Intimate Enemy? Now, before you answer that, take a moment, peer and sit in silence with the icons of the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth. Do you manifest any aspects of post traumatic stress syndrome? Here is a definition of PTSD.

People who suffer from PTSD often relive the experience through nightmares and flashbacks, have difficulty sleeping, and feel detached or estranged, and these symptoms can be severe enough and last long enough to significantly impair the person's daily life.

PTSD is marked by clear biological changes as well as psychological symptoms. PTSD is complicated by the fact that it frequently occurs in conjunction with related disorders such as depression, substance abuse, problems of memory and cognition, and other problems of physical and mental health. The disorder is also associated with impairment of the person's ability to function in social or family life, including occupational instability, marital problems and divorces, family discord, and difficulties in parenting. (National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder <http://www.ncptsd.va.gov>)

Earthfolk doubt that you are assessing yourself as suffering from PTSD. You probably are not looking at yourself as depressed or abusing drugs or losing memory, rather, those are problems of Others. Of others who can't function in society like the homeless and those veterans who beg on the streets, or those who are obvious druggies or are simply getting old and forgetting things.

We Earthfolk would then simply ask you to reflect upon “how close” you are to some of these PTSD behaviors. Are you constantly stressed? Anxious? Have you integrated recreational drugs or booze into your “normal” life? Do you take time to be with your family? Or are you a workaholic and proud of it? When you watch the News are you upset about the violence, the endless wars all around the globe, or the insecurities of The Market or the future if you got seriously ill or were disabled? Or, do you just “tune them out”?

Do you see PTSD traits manifested by your government, your leaders or authorities you respect?

There is no way Earthfolk can bring a mirror to your face and soul; only you can.

Just consider, however, what it does mean to live under the Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth when seen as a military image. Do you feel comfortably at-home on Earth? On a Living Earth? When you hear about the spread of toxic pollutions, the unsettling fact that something is happening to Earth’s temperature, the growth of bio-chemical weapons, and like issues which imply that “something bad” might be afoot which is out of human control, what do you do? Write Congress? Or switch to a sports channel?

How have you handled racism, sexism and health and economic disparities? Do you dismiss them as issues just made up by special interests groups, those Others who are always trying to cheat and get ahead of you? When you watch riots and protests and hear someone speak passionately *against* a value you cherish, do you want to put them all in prison? Execute them. Are you surrounded by Intimate Enemies? If you claim to be non-violent, do you own your own violence? That is, your

non-violent Shadow? We Earthfolk call you to consider that if you do not own your Shadow that then it controls your life. If you are an American, does your country have a Shadow?

When looking at the PTSD definition, from above, isn't American society "reliv(ing) the experience {of the vaporization of the Bomb} through nightmares and flashbacks {Endless Warring}, have difficulty sleeping {see TV and Web ads for sleeping drugs, drugs, drugs!}, and feel detached or estranged {hit that remote!}, and these symptoms can be severe enough and last long enough to significantly impair the person's daily life. {Are we Americans "psychically numb"?"}

Furthermore, "The disorder is associated with impairment of the person's ability to function in society or family life {Rise of the Dysfunctional Family}, including occupational instability {How many careers changes have you experienced? Are you on "Monster.com"?}, marital problems and divorces {Thank god for Las Vegas!}, family discord {Why have "battered woman" and "spousal abuse" entered every day discourse?}, and difficulties in parenting {How many single-parent households, did you say?!}."

Finally, just consider how you relate to women, the feminine and the Goddess. Even if you are a woman, Are women invisible to you? Do you honor the female body? Do you seek to cultivate and broaden your feminine sensibilities? Do you see the Goddess in Others? So, when you close the door and enter your bedroom, what aspects of the feminine do you honor, invite to be present, seek to discover? Is your life just a low-grade porno movie? Are you linked to the world-wide-web of sexual abuse? What are the images of women that inspire you? Naked Playmates? Female soldiers? Pregnant mothers-to-be? When all is said and done, do you treat yourself and Others as sex-toys? Or, is

preciousness and Belovedness the ambience of your intimate space and relationship?