

“Cosmic walk ritual script” by Sister Lucy Slinger

Part I The Beginning or our Universe

(1) GREAT EMERGENCE 13.7 billion years ago.

Some 13.7 billion years ago, our Universe flashes into existence. Time, space, and energy become the gifts of existence. The universe expands and cools rapidly. Energy condenses into matter, sub-atomic particles emerge as radical new beings with new powers. Drawn into relationship subatomic particles transform into atoms of hydrogen. Intense pressures act on hydrogen to fuse helium a heavier atom. Atoms are new beings with new powers. We know today that a vacuum is not an empty void of nothingness but something filled with the infinite possibilities that can literally, and did generate our universe. All matter has its own fundamental interiority or subjectivity – the containment of what gives rise to unique purpose for every speck of matter that exists. Every speck of matter contributes toward something by its mere existence. All has infinite potentiality.

(2) 380,000 years later, the COSMIC WEB EMERGES.

As the Universe continues expanding, small differences in the density of matter are stretched into gigantic filaments of streaming gases, forming the Cosmic Web. This Cosmic Web is the primordial or first and ongoing creator of structure. This is the initiation of all relationships that have emerged to weave the web of life we know today. **Communion** defined as the inter- and intra-relationships found in matter and energy, is a fundamental principle of the universe. Chaos lead matter and energy forms to creative new more stable relationships because of the four primary

forces of the universe: magnetism, electricity, gravity, strong and weak nuclear forces.

(3) 200 million years later, just 1/2 billion years after the beginning, PRIMAL STARS EMERGE

Concentrated by the gravitational force of dark matter these gaseous filaments of the cosmic web collapse individual hydrogen atoms into enormous stars. Stars are made of densely packed hydrogen atoms. Atoms under so much pressure that nuclear fusion occurs causing hydrogen atoms to become helium atoms and converting some matter to turn into energy. Many of these short-lived star beings implode and become black holes, gathering together other stars and black holes to eventually become the stupendous black holes that live at the center of today's millions and possibly trillions of galaxies.

(4) One billion years later, about 12 billion years ago, GALAXIES EMERGE.

Flowing dark matter draws together stars, black holes, and gaseous clouds into small galaxies wherein stars are born, live, and die. Over time these clusters of stars merge into the giant galaxies we see today. As they live, stars transform their hydrogen and helium into heavier elements by the forces heat fusion generates: carbon, oxygen, aluminum, etc. all the foundational elements of matter, we know today, are formed in the stars. Some stars in their death implosion become supernovas, giving out to the cosmos their precious gifts of selenium, tungsten, and uranium. Many of these treasures will be gathered into the bodies of future generations of stars and planets. Supernovas are the mothers of the Universe, creating in their wombs the seeds of life. Birth - death - resurrection is an ancient theme of the Universe. The simplest elements are transformed into other elements with new properties and abilities. Diversity and ever more complex relationships of

atoms are pulled into existence generating new possibilities for the future.

(5) Interstellar dust produces MOLECULES. 2 billion years later, 3.7 billion years since the beginning of our universe - 10 Billion years ago since our time.

Within the chaotic matter generated by the supernovas, interstellar dust, atoms, form new relationships – greater communion, and molecules form. Molecules are unique relationships of atoms that have new properties and capabilities. The chemical gifts of the supernovas are “nurtured into simple organic molecules. Molecules that are the vital component for all later emergence of life. Chaos leads to creativity expressed in more complex relationships. The power and promise of diversity was seen in the formation of the first atoms which now have morphed into molecules by trial and error to find stable and sustainable new relationships that open the ways for even greater diversity in the matter and energy of our unfolding universe. Diversity is a principle that governs the directional unfolding ways of our universe.

Part 2 Earth, Our home, forms

(6) 4.6 billion years ago, our grandmother star births OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.

Our ancestral star, Tiamont, gives itself into the transforming mystery of a supernova. Our Sun and a great disk of matter, all the planets and other members of our solar system family, emerge from the dispersed body of this, our grandmother star. Here begins the story of what will become one blue-and-white pearl of a planet. Earth is a reality!

(7) 4.3 billion years ago, the Great Bombardment creates the EARTH-MOON DANCE.

For hundreds of millions of years, Earth sweeps around the Sun gathering more matter unto herself by gravitational forces. These remnants gathered are of the disbursed body of our grandmother star's supernova event. Earth grows, swelling as she attracts more and more matter. Collisions with other space matter, great and small, kept Earth a churning, molten mass during this time. At some point in time a large planetoid crashes into Earth. Some of the outer layers of the molten Earth and planetoid splash out into Earth's orbit, solidifying into Moon. Eventually the cataclysms of birth are over, and Earth and Moon begin to cool and the cyclic rhythms of earth, moon and sun relational orbiting and rotating for the pattern we still experience today with day and night, seasons, and the daily tides.

Part 3: Life as we define it begins.

(8) 3.9 billion years ago, life emerges, FIRST CELLS.

As the young molten Earth quiets and cools, an atmosphere begins to form. Then, the first rain! Soon the oceans form. Within the newly formed oceans a rich variety of chemicals gather together to birth the wonder of single cell life. Earth comes organically alive.

(9) 3.8 billion years ago, cells invent PHOTOSYNTHESIS.

Earth learns to eat the Sun! Molten rock, now in the form of small bacteria, learns to capture the Sun's photons and store the energy in chemical bonds. In doing so, they claim a new source of food, water, for the growing bacterial population of Earth. However, the process liberates oxygen. Eventually the atmosphere becomes oxidizing, threatening all life.

(10) 2 billion years ago, oxygen-loving bacteria and the NUCLEATED CELLS emerge.

These tiny creatures invent respiration, breathing, a new source of energy for Earth and a way of life that gives a unique purpose and use for oxygen. In the process single cells enter into communion with each other forming larger colonies of cells thereby protecting self from the toxic oxygen atmosphere developed because of other cells becoming able to photosynthesis. . This communion of new relationships leads to the nucleated cell, the invention of chromosomal memory, and rudiments of cellular metabolic processes. The foundations specialization within cells and across cells is laid when the first cells unite in response to environmental changes. Necessity is the mother of invention. Chaos leads to creative new relationships with infinite potential.

From billions to millions

(11) 1 billion years ago, 1,000 million years ago, SEXUAL PROCREATION emerges.

Single-celled organisms learn to share their genetic heritage and give their progeny an extravagance of possibilities. Offspring no longer emerge only by assuming all the physical matter of the parent as cells of clones in new generations. Now offspring have some, but not all the characteristics of the parent cells. The possibilities for differentiation explode exponentially across the generations of these rapidly reproducing single celled beings of the primal seas because of the dynamics of sexual reproduction.

(12) 0.8 billion years ago, 800 million years ago, MULTICELLULAR BEINGS & DEATH Emerges

Single-celled nucleated, Eukaryotic beings give up their immortality and enter into a great variety of novel relationships that bring about the creation of multicelled, sexual beings. Life invents purposeful cell death to facilitate the growth of these multicelled organisms and the explosion of forms of complex life. Death of not merely the individual celled organism, but also of single cells within the individual as multicelled organisms. Death is an ongoing process that enables constant but contained changes to occur within as well as across cell, within and across organisms. Only by death of cells in the subsystem can the differentiation of embryonic cells give way to creation of organs and other specialized cells that make up a multicelled organism's specialized body parts. Time has unfolded a magnificent interiority of self-sustaining organization - first within the elements of matter, then in atoms & molecules, subcellular organelles & single cell beings with and without a nucleus, and finally in multicellular creatures. Creatures with outside and inside cells, that now experience birth, differentiation and death as a single, unique member of a species.

**(13) 0.6 billion years ago, 600 million years ago, ECOSYSTEMS EMERGE;
Predator- Prey Relationships**

Predator organisms arise. Predators are organisms who have learned to use the complex biomolecules of neighboring organisms for their source of energy and matter for more efficient growth. Preying on another is harvesting more complex molecules to save the predator energy and genetic resources for the development of greater physical capabilities. Here begins the predator-prey dance that promotes the vast diversity of life: the power of the lion and the speed of the gazelle.

(14) 0.5 billion years ago, 540 million years ago, SIGHT IS INVENTED; EYES EMERGE.

Earth sees herself for the first time and is dazzled. The foundational neurological base for inner world's anticipation and response to outer world unfolds. The foundation for anticipation and conscious awareness emerges when sight becomes a physical reality. The foundation for quicker responses to environmental changes unfolds. After 13.2 billion years the foundations for sight and insight become reality.

(15) 0.46 billion years ago, 460 million years ago, PLANTS AND ANIMALS MOVE ON LAND.

Leaving the water, they seek the adventure of weather and gravity. A "vacuum" likes to be filled and all organisms are in need of space. This land adventuring provides new space and ways of being in relationship. Organisms respond to opportunity with unknown purpose. Curiosity and adventure become a part of the dynamic relational dance between the living and their environment.

(16) 0.33 billion years ago, 330 million years ago, INSECTS INVENT FLIGHT

Earth learns to fly. Living organism are invaders, adventures, explores and to explore new territory changes not just oneself but all the rest around. The web of life is more complex then we can even imagine

17) 0.235 billion years ago, 235 million years ago, DINOSAURS EMERGE.

For 170 million years, these creatures explore the extremes of size, speed, and strength. Learning that bigger isn't always better because it requires more resources from the environment to simply sustain individual existence. Existence isn't a guarantee in an unfolding universe.

(18) 0.215 billion years ago, 215 million years ago, MAMMALS EMERGE.

Molten rock has reshaped itself to be able to express a mother's love for her child. Progeny are born dependent and instinctual response gives way to intergenerational education and increased social structure. The species begins to explore the advantages of working together as collective individuals with a common purpose – just like the single cells became multicellular beings to better survive in environment that had become toxic as a result of changes. Life is a complex system of many subsystems enabling greater diversity within a unity of all beings.

(19) 0.150 billion years ago, 150 million years ago, BIRDS AND FLOWERS EMERGE.

Birds follow the insects into the vast vault of the sky while Earth adorns herself magnificently in color and fragrances, and invites the sky creatures into a new dance. This is the creation we are a part of today. The creative potential that leads to new creatures with ever greater reflective and consciousness abilities.

Part 4 Organisms of Today

(20) 65 million years ago, the CENEZOIC ERA BEGINS.

With the disappearance of the dinosaurs, mammals are given unlimited opportunities to explore new habitats, new food and new varieties of size, shape, defenses, and creative expressions. This new community of animals, plants, birds and insects produce the great florescence of Earth life, which will last 65 million years. This is the creation we see today. The creative potential that leads to new creatures with ever greater reflective and conscious awareness abilities.

(21) 25 million years ago, mammal invade the Oceans

The giants of the mammals are found in the ocean. Whales, dolphin, manatees and many other mammals are again found in the sea. Modified fins with bones similar to hands and feet propel and skeletal bones sustain mammoth warm-blooded mammals to withstand the pressures and temperatures of modern seas.

Part 5: Highly reflective, consciously aware beings emerge

(22) 6 million years ago, JUVENILE AFRICAN CHIMPANZEES leave their forest home, stand upright and walk on two legs.

The savannah offers the challenges and opportunities for these courageous young creatures to evolve into humans with brains and nervous systems complex enough that Earth would eventually bring forth a conscious self-awareness of herself in the species that have become our own human species of today.

(23) 150 thousand years ago, MODERN HUMANS & LANGUAGE EMERGE.

Pondering Earth and cosmos in their range of beauty and harshness, humans shape language, art, music, and ritual to respond to the mysteries of existence.

Part 6: Humans learn to modify the environment

(24) 13,000 years ago, HUMAN FARMING AND HERDING EMERGE.

With the knowledge and ingenuity to selectively cultivate their foods and domesticate their animals, humans begin to perceive themselves separate from and able to control their environment. A new level of the predator-prey dance begins with the domestication of plants and animals. Agriculture becomes a cultural reality that initiates the human hoarding potential. Mine – not outs begins to emerge as a social structure among the human species emerges. The chaos of war is seen as human species members view other species members as prey.

(25) 3,000 years ago, CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS & RELIGIONS EMERGE.

Over several thousand years, humans invent writing and more complex technologies and with them arise a variety of religious perspectives that gradually become institutionalized as Hinduism, Confucianism, Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. Religious cultures emerge that further differentiate the groups and culture of the human species social structures. With this complexification of differentiation comes greater intimate relationships as well as the chaos of conflicting conscious awareness of realities of human existence.

(26) 140 years ago HUMANS LEARN OF THEIR DESCENT FROM A COMMON ANCESTOR.

Charles Darwin confirms indigenous wisdom of Earth life as "all our relations" from a scientific view of how form informs function across species. The static nature of creation is challenged with the theory of evolution.

(27) 77 years ago, ASTRONOMERS OBSERVE THE EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSE.

After 2 1/2 million years we humans learn that we live in a developing Universe. One that continues to unfold through periods of chaotic events, one that unfolds with out repeating events, and one with itself from the beginning. Hubble confirms what Einstein thought but couldn't believe. Not only are species changing across time but Hubble found evidence that the entire universe is expanding across time. Change is a constant in all systems and subsystems that have emerged and all influences what the future might be.

(28) 55 years ago, HUMANS DISCOVER DNA, life's common language.

DNA is what links generations of species members. This fundamental mode of memory and communication has been shared by all life for four billion years. It carries the record of our embeddedness in and dependence on the great web of life.

(29) 40 years ago, SCIENTISTS OBSERVE THE ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE.

The cosmic background radiation, still streaming from the Great Emergence 13.7 billion years ago, is observed by humans for the first time in 1986 by Bell telephone researchers. This discovery changes our perspective of everything. We are no longer single entities that exist but are a collective, progressive accumulation of change across time.

(30) 35 years ago EARTH IS SEEN AS WHOLE FROM SPACE.

There are no real boundaries. Earth is seen as one living, interactive, global, ecosystem. From the macro perspective Earth is a subsystem of many subsystems in a universe system that likewise has subsystems beyond what we can imagine. From the micro perspective we know that every action impacts all these subsystems even if we cannot always define how this happens.

(31) 5 Years ago the HUMAN GENOME IS MAPPED. CONSCIOUSNESS AS PRIMORDIAL IS PROPOSED.

The physical world is not the only reality contained by what is. Awareness of self-reflective consciousness leads to new dimensions of "energy" exploration. "Spirit" is the glue that forms the connections between subatomic particles. The macrocosm and microcosm remain ultimate mystery even with all the science that is known. Morphogenetic fields tell us intentions are important and significant influences in the universe. Earth is a living, global being. We are a communion of subjects and not merely a collection of objects in a mechanistic Newtonian world.

Part 7: End of Cenezoic era - Ecozoic or Technozoic era begins

Significance of the story. This is our story with scientific evidence to support the theories we know today. No theory is total truth – it is just the best explanation and description we limited human creatures come up with to give meaning to life. A key question is how what we think we know influences the future of all that is. What is our role as one among the many species as one who has emerged from stardust and has the gift of conscious awareness that enable our species to modify others and the environment? The ability to choose to do good or not to use what we know for the good of others with the understanding that what we do to anything is what we do to all in a web of life, in an unfolding expanding universe that is progressing.

What would it look like to live in maximum diversity
Maximum interiority/subjectivity Maximum communion?

The Kingdome of God is right now but not yet

I have come to create a new heaven and new earth - how is the new earth and new heaven being created?

Unconditional love.