

Beyond Nothingness

From Once Being Told That by Living on Earth
I Am At the Center of the Universe
As God's Pinnacle Creation,
In Just a Couple Hundred Years,
I Have Been Degraded To Nothingness
In the Vastness of the Cosmos,
Not Even a Blip on "God's" Screen.

Moreover,
From the Presumed Preeminent
Intelligent Life Form in the Universe,
I Now Discover Myself to Be Barely Cognizant
Compared to the Many Much More Intelligent
Extraterrestrial Species.

Is There More?
Absolutely!

Statistically Scientists Expect
There Are Many Millions of Intelligent Life Forms
In Our Milky Way Galaxy Alone.

And,
Our Solar System Is Very Young
Compared to Most Other Solar Systems in Our Galaxy.
So, Compared to Me as a Human on Earth,
Life In These Other Solar Systems
Has Had Billions of Years Longer to Develop
And Evolve in Intelligence, Awareness and Capabilities.

Now It Arises
Some of These More Intelligent Extraterrestrial Species
Seem to Have Been Present
And Interacting with Humans on Earth
For a Very Long Time.

How Am I Related to These More Advanced Life Forms
From Outside Our Planet, Solar System, Galaxy?

All of This – Just Science Fiction! – Fantasy! – Right??

The Problem:
Once the Door Is Opened
To Superior Extraterrestrial Intelligence In My Reality,
I Don't Just Become Inferior,
I Emerge as the Likely Subject and Object
Of Control by That Intelligence –
Or More Likely by Several Different Forms
Of That Advanced Intelligence.
And I Do Not Have a Clue
What the Goals of These Intelligences
Are with Respect to Me.

Am I Merely Chattel Being Husbanded
To Some Advanced Intelligence's Unknown Purpose?

Am I Part of an Experiment
To Discover How Long It Will Take
Us Humans to Either Promote Our Own Extinction
Or Evolve to a More Mature State?

It Seems
I'm Not Just Irrelevant,
I'm Probably Backward Chattel!

At Best,
I May Be Just a First Grader
Among the Real PhDs of the Cosmos.

The Final Question:
Along with My Fellow Humans,
Can I Wake Up to the Big Picture
And
Discard My Obsolete, Anthropocentric Navel Gazing?

Thomas A. Burns
2023