

doing it. Instead of lonely self-promotion as unique stars, cosmic actors glory in the camaraderie of joint success.

Becoming aware of one's co-creative power gives rise to a sense of responsibility for its use. Knowing that the capability to unleash subtle energies that wreak havoc on unprotected others also has the potential to destroy oneself, conscious beings learn to exercise judicious constraint. The functioning of the Principle of Cause and Effect makes it impossible to escape the ramifications of one's intentions: for beings with the inborn-power humans possess, the universe guarantees accountability by individuals, groups, and nations. Solarians have no choice but to cooperate in the interest of their own long-term well-being.

A leisurely pace for developing interplanetary cooperation may be fine in Asimov's fiction, but humans do not have another thousand years to prepare for membership in the cosmic fraternity. From within human society come the challenges of interracial, intercultural, and intragroup breakdowns that are straining social institutions on every continent. And at any moment, humans could be faced with learning to interact constructively with a variety of sentient beings: co-habitants of Earth, co-Solarians, or beings from without this solar system. Humans now have no choice but to accept a cosmic perspective: the internal and external pressures to expand our vision cannot be held back.

Humanity's twentieth century, an explosive period of emotion-charged creativity and violence, must certainly have been of interest to older, more advanced cultures. They may seek overt dialogue if we do not seek them, providing answers to questions we did not know to ask. Who knows, we may be seen by other civilizations as the "generation to come," with ideas and energy that will change the course of Solarian or galactic development. We could be offering them as much hope for the future of the larger community of cosmic beings as our children do for us. (Some channeled materials suggest this, but maybe the messages are only our hopeful projections.)

Self-Regulating Membership

Sustaining membership in a galactic fraternity of a self-learning universe must be a self-regulating process. Our Solarian legacy and our inner powers make it easy to envisage our participation in an intergalactic era of cosmic creativity. But whether we obtain and maintain the rights of cosmic citizenship remains our responsibility.

I suspect that even the tentative acceptance of the likelihood of the existence of other actors in the cosmic drama puts us on the tryout list. But as long as we are concerned about being upstaged, replaced in the homocentric role we have given ourselves in the universe, we are not likely to be called for tryouts. We are probably still a bit too anxious because we do not yet know the power and attitudes of our fellow cosmic players. Whether their intent will be hostile, cooperative, supportive, or disdainful of the human level of development remains to be seen. With no clear idea of what to expect in terms of languages and appearances, their personal habits, or their social norms, how can humans prepare for all the possible scenarios?

We can only work on ourselves, knowing that breakthroughs cannot come until we imagine another way of being. Many believe that humanity is already in some sort of transition. I believe the ultimate transition will be a planetary renaissance. With such an act of discovery and redefinition, we will emerge from the current phase of constricted consciousness and emerge into an expanded level of awareness of our legacy and potential. (See some of the eight books by Jacquelyn Small dealing with this kind of transformative process. She uses an integrative breathwork technique to help individuals clear the channels of the energetic and noumenal senses.) We must do the same thing on the species level.

I believe metascience can help prepare us for the shock of full awakening. Its model of a three-level universe provides a set of principles that give us the basis for reasonable assumptions. First, the Principle of Correspondence suggests that obvious differences between humans and ABs are in form, not substance. Thus, the term "alien" is inappropriate for beings

who are fundamentally like us—in reality our cosmic siblings. All incarnated beings, regardless of planet of origin, are irrevocably linked to one another beyond space-time at the emotional and mental levels. And as we saw earlier, humans have no difficulty communicating with subtle-energy beings or beings of pure consciousness. We need only to open ourselves to these other dimensions.

One likely surprise for many people will be the discovery of the parallels between humans and other cosmic beings in the area of psychic capacities. One of the desirable, and probable, outcomes of recognition of our cosmic siblings, in spite of surface differences, will be a change for the better in attitudes and behaviors among members of the human family. We will recognize, like the early Mahayanist reform movement in Buddhism, that in the search for greater illumination and wisdom we must consciously improve the performances of the species before any individual can fully progress. Most likely, more advanced beings will have already learned this lesson, so we should begin to put it into practice among humans before we get on the larger stage.

The physical differences among cosmic siblings with which humans will have to cope will generally require only adjustments in the way we think of them in relation to ourselves. While this incarnation may have us in different species, humans may recognize beings they have known in other incarnations. This recognition is possible because the physical life spans of beings from other planets are likely to be a function of some factor such as the duration of their home's orbit around its sun, while the longevity of noumenal entities may be comparable across the galaxies.

One of the confusions that apparently arose in earlier human contacts with extraterrestrials was the impression that they were immortal. To ancient humans, the normal life spans of beings whose home-base years were so much longer than humanity seemed like eternity. Judging from the perceptions of human civilizations during the period from 6,000 to 3,000 B.P., the visiting beings chose not to share knowledge of differing life spans with humanity. Some humans came to believe that the offering of extended life to a few faithful

human servants was the gift of immortality. Unfortunately, that understanding has been used to buttress belief in misleading religions by holding out the promise of eternal life to those who die in service of their causes. Loss of such a lure should return life's focus to the cosmic here-and-now.

Another benefit to society of initiating the process for full membership in the cosmic community will be the demise of myths about divine beings, created to gain obedience from millions of believers. All the debate about the appearances of various "gods" and their miraculous feats, explained by Zecharia Sitchin and historians like him, will become moot. When people understand that tales in religious texts of seemingly divine travel in and communications from the air, and other seemingly miraculous feats, were only the normal activities of advanced civilizations, there will be no support for belief in divine commandments and special dispensations from such ordinary cosmic beings. When the concept of Yahweh is seen as a composite representation of several senior officials among visiting interstellar travelers, his alleged rules, and those of Mohammed (perhaps another such traveler) and other religious leaders, will no longer be taken as holy writ. Only scriptures that have experiential relevance to our multi-dimensional lives in this space-time will be considered worthy of teaching our children.

This means that religions still viable at the end of the twenty-first century, those truly relinking humans to their inner realities, will have divested themselves of "divinely inspired" scriptures and holy books. They will have eliminated their historically rooted hierarchies, done away with "special revelations," ceased artificial ritual, and stopped professing supernatural power. Instead, they will form natural communities of seekers after truth, using the experiences of all members to allow for the broadest possible use of noumenal knowledge integrated with daily experience. They will invite other communities of seekers to share their own findings and test conclusions of any group in public forums.

Thus, our membership in the galactic neighborhood will come from our own efforts to participate with all beings as

consciously as possible in the natural reality of our multidimensional, self-learning universe.

Fully-Conscious Living

How will it feel to become fully Solarian? As one gains an appreciation of the intricate and multidimensional nature of cosmic consciousness, the vision of performing at a higher level, in congruence with this new knowledge, becomes a strong motivating force. Solarians will be like the Olympic athletes who are spurred on by the awareness of their potential and the opportunity to demonstrate it before their peers.

To act routinely when there has been no opportunity for or awareness of greater possibilities is excusable, but not to attempt one's potential after the dawn of self-awareness leaves one feeling unsatisfied. For example, now that we know about multiple-leveled senses, to live without taking full advantage of them is analogous to engaging in a boxing match with one hand tied, or trying to paint by numbers without the color code. We feel the frustration of functioning with only half the resources available to us, and that knowledge incongruency (as discussed earlier) feeds the quest for new information and experience.

The quality that distinguishes the conscious performer from the uninitiated one is a desire to continually expand the circles of awareness of both the inner and outer worlds, using all the senses or gateways between the realms to enhance the richness of the incarnation. The ability to shift frequently, maintaining an overall balanced state, lessens the need for drugged sleep or artificial mood changers and converts the pace of waking life to one of sustained alertness to subtle information. This enhanced state of consciousness provides more options for deliberate self-direction in the management of one's own life, in collaboration with other conscious beings.

Solarians living in full awareness of their true legacy and its potential are awakened to assume responsibility for the quality of theirs and others' lives. People who know that their thoughts make a difference can no longer remain indifferent to their mental state. The idea of focusing constructive thoughts through large group meditations (coordinated over

distance) has gained wide acceptance. Some groups have organized times for small groups to gather at UN headquarters to meditate on peace and other themes, backed up by simultaneous meditations around the globe.

In a fully conscious state, life is seen as a cosmic dance, in which certain capacities and patterns of behavior are intrinsic to the incarnation, but where the design of the specific steps is left to choices made in conjunction with one's partners. Mature selfhood uses all the senses, stretching to the fullness of all polarities: anguish and joy, satisfaction and guilt, initiating and reacting, holding steady and abruptly changing course, and receiving and expressing. A single incarnation has many stages with all these qualities, with plenty of time to learn and practice. In maturity, the being, positioned and energized by the experience, clearly portrays its totality for all to see.

Precognition or prophecies will be part of everyone's portfolio. But they will be seen as only a glance at the possibilities or probabilities of events extrapolated from present trends. With that insight, instead of perceiving them as certainties, we will see them as options that require conscious choice on our part: whether to change the stream of events or to let our earlier habits determine the future.

Living as Solarians takes only a few crucial assumptions that provide the basis for self-direction. They involve appreciation of all senses and the power of conscious thought in shaping all aspects of life.

- Any person has all the cosmic powers that are inherent in others.
- Each being can test the assertion of knowledge by any other.
- Many developmental paths lead to self-realization.
- Conscious choice is required to stay on a chosen path.
- Intentions manifest themselves through both subtle and physical energies.

One implication of these assumptions is that the knowledge one has about self deserves the respect of others. A corollary of this is that, when two or more beings decide to act in concert, they have equal access to wisdom and should equally share in the design of their chosen joint ventures. Individuals should be careful not to define joint ventures in a manner that infringes on their valued inner boundaries. The maintenance of that equality in all interactions leads to the next insight: Social progress comes from learning how to balance between the two, providing for both individuality and cooperation.

In the final analysis, conscious self-awareness of unrealized potential for our universe motivates humans to step on the cosmic stage for a significantly bigger role. In one of life's great paradoxes, the only way to calm our trepidations about shouldering such new responsibilities is to give up our long-held security crutches. Acceptance of our Solarian legacy (the emerging human story) provides the basic framework we need to assume the galactic mantle of citizenship.

Filling out the new remaining holes in the human story requires an animated, community effort. I have attempted to suggest general directions for different disciplines and institutions, but a planetary renaissance depends on widespread individual enthusiasm. I offer the following meditation on what assuming the Solarian mantle means to me, for whatever resonance it may find in you.

No longer wrapped in the anthropomorphic arms of a father-figure, protective god of my childhood, no longer inhabiting a predictable universe in which my brothers and I had dominion, I now feel more at home and secure in my roles as both actor and director. Gone is the fear of a vengeful wrath if I fail to maintain obeisance to an unseen judge. Gone is the sense of puppet-like, supernatural strings that I can depend on to hold me up or jerk me offstage if I make a mistake. Released from admonitions that I accept on blind faith the answers of a few who claim divine connections, my curiosity quickens as I realize

partial answers to any question lead to a more profound, more illuminating plateau of untold possibilities. With the end of my dependence on traditional religion and conventional science, I opt for a meta-science of broad scope. Accepting all of my senses as valid, the rush of knowing gives me an awesome sense of power flowing through me from throughout the universe.

My sense of being part of a seamless universe—where anything is connected to everything else and where each being is securely embedded in an eternal and vibrant pulsing of consciousness—feels even stronger now than in the cosmology of my childhood. While recognizing that my current thinking, with its unknown interweavings, has more uncertainty than the explanations of any religion or current intellectual school of thought, I nevertheless am more psychologically at ease than ever before.

I see a marvelous galactic field of luminous beings—flowering plants and gamboling animals and soaring humans and ABs—adorned by the stars and planets in a matrix of patterns and forces visible to the mind's eye and linking all elements to each other. I see all of us playing both onstage and in the wings, adding our own variations of form, movement, sound, and color. We change roles at will, moving from that of actor to that of director, from coach to player.

With my inner eye open, I can no longer avoid "seeing" the luminal and subluminal vibrations of all the organic and inorganic entities around me. The boulder beside the path is as vibrant as the tree; its patterns, more stable in a field of flitting forms, helps to ground me to our material planet, and at the same time releases my vision, inner and outer, to soar to the stars. I feel myself suspended among all facets of the cosmic diamond, like the astronaut in microgravity. The winds of subtle forces cause the bodies

EXUSIV.

to waft back and forth throughout the rhythmic patterns of night and day, life and death.

I stand under the starlit sky and glory in the existence of innumerable conscious beings clustered throughout the universe. I am drawn to merge my partial story of creation and visions of the Grand Couple with my cosmic siblings' perceptions of our origins and our cosmic legacy. I no longer wish to hide in my human uniqueness, but yearn to reach out to the entire family of consciousness, across the galaxies and through the dimensions, to pool our human wisdom in a partnership of beings that vaults everyone to the next expansive plain of cosmic development.

I imagine swimming together in the ever flowing lake of the cosmic void filled with potentialities beyond imagination, aware that the manner in which we play the games of the day will determine a significant aspect of tomorrow's cosmic reality. Knowing that the pace of universal development overshadows the span of human lifetimes, I nevertheless sense each being's incarnation as an essential link in the unbroken spiral of progress. I know the reverberations of our efforts, creative and destructive, will live on in all realms until future generations transform them.

Why would admitting to the many gaps in our current knowledge, giving up the safe conventional theories, result in such a sense of release and ease? I believe dropping the childish pretense of scientific and religious dogma transmutes our suppressed energy of insecurity, caused by the unspoken fear that our certainties may be false after all. Admitting to our ignorance, ironically, gives us a full measure of self-confidence in the value of our own Solarian legacy, and in our collective ability to realize more fully its potential in the twenty-first century.

Notes

1. Labeled ALH 84001, it landed on Earth 11,000 years ago.
2. The work of the Program for Extraordinary Experience Research (PEER), established by Harvard psychiatrist John Mack at the Center for Psychology and Social Change, with humans who experience AB communications or abductions has helped to legitimize such efforts. See their Web site at www.peer-mack.org.
3. This is why we in academic and professional disciplines have not added to human wisdom as rapidly as needed. Attempting self-learning with mental blinders limits our recognition of incongruencies not directly in our path. The previously mentioned Intuition Network—see www.intuition.org—helps to create a world in which all people are encouraged to cultivate and apply their inner senses.
4. Judith Orloff, *Guide to Intuitive Healing* (New York: Times Books, 2000)