

Dear Humans - an essay by Ray Melnik

We heard there would be a message, days before it happened. The social media sites were suddenly and simultaneously flooded with the announcement about it, in every language. It never referred to their dominant deity, but simply that it would be a message from the creator. Most of us considered it a hoax, but some religious groups became increasingly nervous. What if it was the creator? It might just reveal if they had chosen the correct path over all the others.

To the scientists and skeptics it was a field day as they frantically searched for the source of the announcement. To them it was a game trying to reveal the trickster. By the time the message was due to come they had not succeeded in locating a single source, but found it came from absolutely everywhere. Given all the worldwide broadcast and media security measures in place it was something experts considered impossible.

I was walking up Broadway through Times Square when all the giant screens on the buildings began showing the most relevant and violent scenes throughout history. Everyone stopped and watched when they began to realize this must be the mysterious message from the one who claimed to be the creator. When we looked at our phones they were all showing these same scenes. We would later find out that this was broadcast to every screen on the planet. What we were seeing in the historic footage was horrific and graphic. Much of it would later be determined to be accurate, but from no known existing source or archives.

Then the scenes changed to the best of humanity, with examples of selfless acts of bravery and charity. There were the sciences in the pursuits of discovery and the development of life saving cures. That soon changed to a frame with thousands of depictions of human deities. The screen continued to loop and we heard the voice for the first time. It was the voice of a woman, and later it was revealed that we were hearing her in our own languages no matter where we were in the world.

"Island Earth. When I set in motion all the natural processes that led to you I had no intention of intervening or interfering. All of the necessary tools have always been at your fingertips and my intention was to allow nature to take its course. This is true as well for the endless worlds stretched across the cosmos, where beings just like you search for their own meaning. There are those at your stage, some have come and gone and others are just being born.

So why speak with you now? I've watched your wars, your hate, your killing and your evil. I have seen how cruel you can be to one another and how easily swayed many of you have been throughout your history. There are those of you so greedy that you would pull the bread from the mouth of a poor child and ignore the aftermath while living deeply buried within your wealth. There are many others who allow this to continue unchecked. But I have also witnessed acts of selflessness and compassion, kindness and generosity.

To all the religions: You are all a little right, but all a bit wrong. You cannot pray to help others. You must help others. Nature will create problems that I have never interfered with. I look for no worship and I am none of the gods you have been told I was. I also see the good you have provided, as a voice for the poor, your food drives, and your contributions. This is a good thing.

Atheists and skeptics: You had it right about all the world's religions, but you were wrong about me. Still I see that most of you hold goodness in your hearts no different than any believer. No doubt you will dispute this is me and look for proof. That is a good thing.

So my intention is not to tell you what might come for you, but simply to say that you are at a precipice. I have no chosen people. You all matter, each and every one of you. I do not cause illness; natural processes do, but you have brilliant minds and can find cures and ways to ease pain. That also goes for maintaining the health of your planet. You will get no others with this much potential. And all these boundaries you created will never mask the fact that you are all related. And who you love, that's always up to you. No love is bad.

So before I leave you on your own again I will only ask that you choose wisely. Only you can make a difference in each other's lives."

That would be the last time we heard her voice.