

Illumini

Shane Moffat

It was a journey into the stars Beyond known galaxies
and above the heavens once imagined by our ancestors
The heavens always imagined by our ancestors
unimaginable astronomical units from home.

Sitting in a classroom looking at images of distant exoplanets, binary stars
and solar systems that are no longer creations in our mind
But puzzles that we observe in real time and try to solve together
No one is beyond the ice line outside of the warmth of our world.

It would be nearly impossible to capture this knowledge in writing
and describe the vastness of distances we covered
I could attempt to frame my understanding of the abstract
Like the field of science that is constantly changing,
while we struggle to make more meaning of it.

There is poetry in the stars that follows a new knowledge,
progressions, and changes that are now and forever
a part of our consciousness.

There is no doubt in my mind where we come from
The elements that are found in our bodies
that comprise our entire existence are the same elements
that can be found at the edges of our expanding universe.

It is not a coincidence that most of the ancient organized belief systems
are founded on creation stories that ultimately begin in the cosmos

It is not a trivial phenomenon that we constantly reach for the stars
using telescopes and vessels designed to leave Earth and traverse the heavens

Moving toward brightness we are always trying to go home

luminosity is no longer the brightness that comes from our Sun

The bulb that illuminates our dinner plates

The halo that shines down at night on the shuttle stops where we wait

It is coming towards us in varying shades of blue

And fleeing away in scarlet shades anew

luminosity is within us

It is in the heat of our heartbeats

the brightness that comes from our Suns

The knowledge we use to build technologies that offer us insight

into objects beyond our terrestrial reach

came from those objects we are trying to observe.

Both of the sources that sustain our lives

in the form of sunlight for photosynthesis

and water to nourish our cellular fabric

originated in places beyond our Earthly ceiling

At the beginnings of our stellar evolution

The eccentricity of our forged community is zero percent

We are living a full circle existence

and the gravitational pull that brings our lives into perfect resonance
must be the unrestricted distribution of knowledge.

I see what we are learning now
and how far our understanding of astronomy has come
I see how everything is interconnected internally
to the smallest particles in our being that can't even be seen,
to spaces so far beyond our technology
that only our imagination can perceive what could be.

I know history holds the memories of our ancestors
in a sacred place that still remains within our reach.
If I could return in time to our foremothers and forefathers,
the ones among us that took time to look up towards the skies in wonder,
I would ask them to reconsider their understanding of the one Sun
that shines in the daytime and the moon and stars
that reflects the same sun at night.

Then, before returning to the future, I would predict in all confidence
and without any doubt that there are universes of knowledge
that can be gleaned from a single point of Light.