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by Robert Temple

# A CONSCIOUS UNIVERSE

It is time for us to realize that the Universe may be conscious. This has been suggested by numerous mystics over the ages, and the underlying concept of God implies it also.

But what has changed? In my new book *A New Science of Heaven* (Hodder & Stoughton), I present the latest findings of science, and they support this.

What are these findings? The first, and fundamental, is that the Universe is made of 99.9% plasma, and not

of matter made of atoms ('physical matter'). But what is plasma? I am not referring to blood plasma, which is familiar to all doctors and nurses. I am referring to what physicists since 1928 have called plasma, a form of matter which is made of *particles and ions*. It was first discovered in 1879 by Sir William Crookes, the inventor of the vacuum tube. He named it 'radiant matter', but the name was changed to plasma by the scientist Irving Langmuir half a century later.

You might find it surprising to learn that the Universe is not made of atoms. That seems to go against everything we were taught at school. And so I have sad news for you: *the schools were wrong*.

In my book I give the evidence and quote many of the world's leading astrophysicists. There is no doubt about it. It is true.

But what is an "ion"? Particles we have heard about, namely electrons and protons. But what about ions?

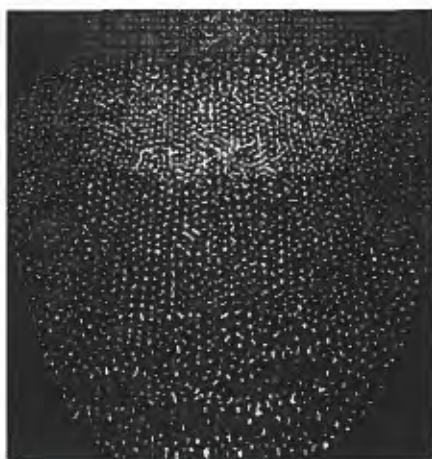
An ion is something which is almost an atom but not quite. People who think in terms of atoms might call an ion "an incomplete atom". But I view atoms as "value-added ions". Atoms have a balanced charge, the negative charges of the electrons matched by the positive charges of the protons. Atoms are therefore *non-charged*. But ions are always charged. Most of them are positively charged, and some negatively, but they are never balanced. So the essence of plasma therefore is that it is composed of a mixture of positively charged material and negatively charged material. On rare occasions a cloud of plasma might have a brief and transitory balance of charges, but essentially plasmas are charged either positively or negatively.

Our solar system is filled with a positively charged *solar wind* emitted by the Sun. It also contains streams of negatively charged electrons streaking through it. The Sun is entirely made of plasma, and so are all the stars in the Universe. So we live on a very strange atypical world, and have bizarre bodies made of atoms. Such situations are incredibly rare in the Universe. In other words, we live on a tiny rock in a vast seething sea of plasma.

Now we come to the second point. As I explain in great detail in the book, quoting the relevant authorities, *plasmas can be intelligent and hence 'conscious'*. This may be shocking, but read the book (or listen to the audio version recorded by myself) carefully and you will see that it is true, and *why it is true*.

So the first thing to occur to us: does that mean therefore that the Sun is intelligent and conscious? Yes, it is a strong possibility. But not only the Sun, it is likely true of *all stars*. It is essential to read the details of how this happens by the processes of emergence through self-organisation. The Sun is 300,000 times the size of the Earth, and is such a gigantic computer that it knows everything about us. The blobs of plasma that it spews out sometimes are called *plasmoids*, and they can contain a coded series of instructions and programmes. Furthermore, the plasmoids themselves can be conscious. In connection with this, I suggest that some plasmoids known as ball lightning are *plasmic drones*, as are some of the mysterious UFOs which glow and move in strange ways in the sky.

Recently in *New Dawn* magazine I suggested that most intelligent life in



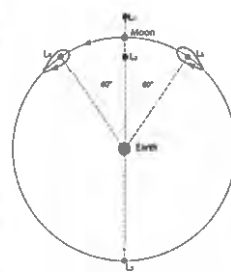
A plasma ball made in a laboratory glow discharge in 1996 which contains the gaseous, liquid, and crystalline phases of plasma all at once. The charged grain sizes in this dusty complex plasma structure are between 1.8 and 4.8 micrometres. This structure was formed at atmospheric pressure

(From V. Y. Fortov, A. A. Nefedov, O. Petrov, A. Samarin, and A. Chernychev, *Physical Letters*, A 219, 1996, p. 89)

space is probably inorganic and non-biological, and instead takes the form of plasma clouds, balls, suns, etc. We even have two such invisible clouds in our own Earth-Moon system which together are 18 times the size of the Earth. They are known as the Kordylewski Clouds, named after the Polish astronomer who discovered them in 1961. Their existence was confirmed in 2019. Who therefore needs to look for little green men by SETI when we probably have two gigantic extraterrestrial entities very near the Earth?

And if the Universe is full of brainy stars and clouds, which are all alive in some way, perhaps resembling highly advanced AI systems, then it is the next step to conclude that the *Universe itself is alive and intelligent*.

So where does that leave us? Well, it looks like we are a rather low level of 'the spawn of the cosmos', and that Life on Earth is a vast training programme for souls. It is also pretty much inescapable to conclude that we are ourselves bioplasma entities temporarily incarnated into physical bodies. I call our physical bodies our 'smart overcoats'. The good news: nobody dies. The bad news: nobody dies. Think about it. We cannot die no matter how hard we try. And that means we are stuck with ourselves forever. It follows therefore that we should try and become our best self. We all have wonderful goodness within us, what the Quakers call 'that of God in everyone', and we should do our best to let it become our dominant feature. If the Sun can shine, so can we. ☺



This diagram shows the locations of the 'Lagrange Points' known as L4 and L5 of the Earth-Moon system, indicating the positions of the two clouds. In this diagram, the Earth is at the centre, and the Moon is directly above it. Although distinct, bounded balls of plasma can form anywhere

at modest scales (as for instance, the tiny balls of ball lightning on the Earth), for really big ones in space it is helpful for them to come to rest in spaces free of gravitational pulls, and when such a niche appears it is pretty certain that it will soon be filled by plasma which will form a ball as big as the niche allows. And that is why the L4 and L5 points are perfect homes for huge plasma clouds, for they are the only two points between the Earth and the Moon free of gravitational pull from either the Earth or the Moon. This image is not drawn to scale and the relative sizes of the bodies shown here bear no relation to their true sizes, this image is intended solely to show the geometrical spatial configuration. Seen at this scale, the Earth and the Moon would be extremely tiny or perhaps even too small to see, and each of the Clouds is four and a half times the size of the Earth. (Image drawn for the author by Eric Wright)

## MEET THE AUTHOR



### PROFESSOR ROBERT TEMPLE

is the author of a dozen books, commencing with the international best-seller, *The Sirius Mystery*. He is Visiting Professor of

the History and Philosophy of Science at Tsinghua University in Beijing and for many years was a science writer for the *Sunday Times*, the *Guardian*, and a science reporter for *Time-Life*. He is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and has been a member of the Egypt Exploration Society since the 1970s. He has produced, written and presented a documentary for Channel Four and National Geographic Channels on his archaeological discoveries in Greece and Italy. With his wife, Olivia, he is co-author and translator of the first complete English version of Aesop's Fables.

### On the web

[www.robert-temple.com](http://www.robert-temple.com)

### Bookshelf



A NEW SCIENCE OF HEAVEN: HOW THE NEW SCIENCE OF PLASMA PHYSICS IS SHEDDING LIGHT ON SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE BY ROBERT TEMPLE, published by

Coronet/Hodder & Stoughton, Illustrated Hardback (416 pages)