

FUTURE GODS, 2169 A.D.

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I believed in the Goddess of Love. And asked her to bring me good lovers and in the three years I'd been praying to her, I had yet to be disappointed. She sent her avatars and acolytes to help me. She mostly found me android women lovers. These androids aimed to please and were very satisfying. But finally, I was emboldened "To ask for the Goddesses' love?" And she granted my wish. She was sooo energetic and so beautiful and her love enveloped me, and it was mind blowing. And then I boldly asked her to make me a God. She said, "To be a God requires brain apps and hypnosis to get one's brain in the right place., and you have almost done that! You are Superman, but you need more experience to be a God. And you will need to learn how to tend to your worshippers and keep them satisfied." I said, "Sign me up!" So, I began my quest to become the God of Fire and Passion. People, I hoped would look to me to spark their passion and I planned to give gave them drugs of passion and composed a bible of fiery, passionate speeches made by great people of our time, and some of the speeches were fictitious (written by me), but appropriate for a certain moment, which I shared with my people... And I believed anyone could become passionate and clever! And I was 25 years old in 2169!

But my life was plagued by my memory, 5 years ago of a tragic tryst with Roberta, who said, "Let's forget the Gods and get way from it all and go to Space in my air car, it will just be the two of us, traveling amongst the stars. But during a one-year voyage to Barnyards' Planet, she suddenly committed suicide by throwing herself out of the escape hatch. I was lonely for a while, as I returned to Earth. but then I cloned her as an adult and spent all my time on her education, creating a happy, nice girl. At least she seemed happy but then one day she took cyanide and died while I was sleeping and by the time, I found her she was long dead. So, then I grieved for years. I was taking therapy about it and was only just now coming out of it. Other than that, my youth was uneventful.

On the whole though my youth passed quickly. I went to school for 20 years, beginning at age 4. And it was now 2169 and I was 25 and ready to see the World. I had led a sheltered life. And wanted to make up for lost time. And as a new Superhuman, I wanted to meet followers of other Gods and study the Gods in depth. And this book involves a series of interviews with followers of Gods, people I can relate to, and telling me how they felt about their God(s) and helping me to mold myself into an attractive God.

It was still early days of the Gods. It had only been 28 years since the Gods had taken over (It was now 2169). Basically, the Gods had usurped the Leadership of all cities, with huge armies of devout believers. These days nearly everyone believed in the new Gods. The new Gods told their worshippers that they cared about them and did their best to grant their followers' wishes. Many people said the Gods gave them meaning in their lives. But there were a lot of atheists still, but gradually these people were sent to Rehab and had brain surgery and hypnosis to make them believe in the Gods.

Everyone knew that the Gods and Goddesses dwelt mostly in Heaven. Heaven was a Virtual Reality construct located in cyber-Space. Here the deities frolicked and played and loved one another and sometimes brought in lay people to love and play mind games with. Everyone who had been to Heaven to visit the Gods was considered a saint and these saints proselytized on the behalf of their deities. And when people died of suicide, many hoped they would go to heaven, but perhaps most suicidal people just wanted to die and so their soul was not sucked up from them when they died, and they died irrevocably. And there were also some Gods who lived in Hell or Limbo, especially the latter. But the College of Gods didn't allow many Gods to live in Hell or Limbo. But there was a Devil, who represented all that was wrong with our Worlds. And the Devil needed to be overcome. Also, there were a few Gods of Limbo for ordinary people who couldn't rise to the level of Superhumans.

At first when eternal youth was first discovered, only the elite were granted it. And these elite fancied themselves to be Gods. And that was the beginning of the new realm of Gods. At the time, many people were abandoning the old Gods and old religions and many instinctually wanted a higher power to admire and look up to. And give their life meaning. To worship and serve the Gods. As time passed and eternal youth was granted to all, many of the Gods claimed they were still Gods and were superior minds. And most people went along with it. Anyway, most people were given to suicide and so were hardly immortal. But most of the Gods said their own minds were stable and they would never die. Still some Gods committed suicide and left their followers in the lurch.

Clarence said, "I believe in this World of all-powerful Gods, it is best to not be too clever. If you stand up and say you are smarter than a God or Gods, they might deal you severe punishment by operating on your brain." I said, "I find that very disturbing and perhaps there is a dark side to many of the Gods." Clarence replied, "The Gods are too powerful, and we don't need them anyway!" I said, "Most people like the system of the Gods and would be willing to fight for their God." He said, "We are giving our future to the Gods." I said, "But its too late to go back now. If only Able D---, hadn't started the God system. One man changed it all."

Johnson said, "I wanted to be a God of Death. All people will die despite eternal youth. And eternal youth is just a lie, most people don't even make it past middle age. And people will worship me and continuously think about their own mortality. I will help them to prepare for death." I said, "Death is on the minds of many modern people. We can always use another God of glorious death!" He told me, "Anyway people can live on beyond death in Heaven, Hell or Limbo!" I said, "But if you are not satisfied with your worldly life, then you probably wouldn't be happy in the afterlife! I think the creation of the afterlife was a bad idea." He said, "But powerful Deities run the afterlife and it is a safe harbor for the mind. Indeed, it is an afterlife of the mind."

Jo said “I believe in the Goddess of Dead Souls. As you know peoples’ spirit is sucked out of them upon death and they go to Heaven, Hell or Limbo. That is, if they want it to. About 2/3 do. But most spirits elect to die soon after reaching the afterlife. I am not sure where I belong for eternity, but know I will live on and on, here on Earth and then a long period in the afterlife. The afterlife is apparently highly entertaining and most of the time you are turned off.” I replied saying, “If people aren’t happy in life, it is highly unlikely their soul will be pleased to live in the afterlife. What’s the point?” Jo said, “It is just another invention of modern technology. You can take it or leave it. I personally think the spiritual life would be deep and entertaining.” I retorted, “What if they don’t allow you to die and your spirit rots there forever?” She said, “In life and the afterlife you take your chances.”

Sting said, “I like the cleverest God of all, the God Prometheus. This God is responsible for more brain apps than any other. And it was his idea in the first place to improve ordinary humans’ minds as well as that of the Gods, using brain apps, many years ago.” I said, “But many Gods hate him for making so many people crazy and make many demand to be Gods.” He said, “But many Gods love him too, and some think that the only reason the God system works is because people are improving under the auspices of the Gods.”

Steve was talking about his God, the God of Mayors. He said, “As you know, I am Mayor of Houston, and most mayors support this God with local Temples and so on. And many would-be mayors, were also supporters, as were those who loved their mayor. It was Worlds of city states everywhere on Earth and in Space, there were no more countries or provinces, and the UW (United Worlds) legislature was full of mayors as the peoples’ representatives. There were 15,000 city states in Earth and the Solar system of at least 150,000 people. Smaller cities (less than 150,000) were part of larger ones. And the countryside was also ruled by the local city mayor.” I said, “I know all that, but do you really think it was a good idea to get rid of great powers?” He replied, “States were getting too powerful and too bossy, and it is good for all our safety that they no longer exist. Anyway, the UW co-ordinates things rather well.”

Pedro said, “I believe in the power of the Goddess of Automatic Production Machines. The Goddess has an APM for every city, tailor made to their needs. Some want metals, food and other resources, others want manufactured products like love dolls or air cars or homes etc.” I said, “APMs more than anything replaced many drudgery human jobs which is probably a good thing on the whole, but many people are lost without work.” Pedro replied, “Yes, and APMs made for a more materialistic society on the one hand, on the other hand it is so easy to get goods, they are not much valued.” I said, “I suppose your Goddess gives rare things to her most fervent supporters.” He said your assumption is quite correct. But many of the Goddess’ supporters are just glad their wishes can come true. The Goddess is in the top ten most favorite Gods.”

Then I was talking turkey with Bert. He said, “As of today all old religions are being made illegal and I think it is cruel. People need a higher power to love and respect and give them inspiration to live.” I was one of the followers of the plan and told him, “Old-time religion was just a nice lie to help leaders control their populaces.” He said, “Humanity has gone mad without old-time religion and 5% killed themselves in just the last year!” I reminded him that “The strong survive. And in the past communism had forced everyone to be an atheist, without difficulty. And if people couldn’t face reality let them die.” He said, “You are cruel and without ethics and your power is a blight against humanity.” And as time passed, I gradually set myself up as a potential new God. And I used my spies and they used

hypnosis on those who didn't believe I was good. To rearrange their thinking. Most people simply convinced themselves I was genuine God material and didn't worry about it, which was fine with me. And I worked magical miracles to make them believe I had potential to be their God.

And I told Jenny, "I would be in love with her forever and ever. And eternal youth had been granted to the people. And we were all immortals now." She said, "In time you will love others, and that is a fact." I said, "No, I am totally in love with you and have never loved someone like I love you." She was a Superhuman follower of the Goddess of Maximum Progress. And we soon fell to quarreling and broke up. But the lesson I took from it was nothing lasts forever. Constant change is here these days.

Then, I was saying to Niall, "I am a Superhuman and in love with your wife!" He said, "Get lost and next time I see you, I'll kill you." So, I continued my affair with his wife, Margaret. Only we kept it a secret from others. But finally, I wanted Margaret to be exclusively mine and so I sent videos of the two of us making love to Niall. Niall was incensed and brought his case to the international court, saying he had received abuse and cruelty from Margaret. But times had changed, and the courts no longer ruled on domestic disputes and so his case was thrown out. Then he decided to take the law into his own hands and came hunting for me, even though it was a grievous offence to kill a Superhuman or a God (anyway all the Gods had clones with their up-to-date memories). And I was a Superhuman, so I captured him and crucified him while Margaret and I made love below the cross. We lived in days in which no one felt sorry for a man like him and Margaret and I lived happily ever after, at least for a few weeks.

I was talking with Gabriel, and he told me, "I am an angel. And had come to help you!" I said, "I don't believe in angels." He said, "He'd grant me any reasonable wish I had. And so, I wished for the latest model of love dolls. He said, "It was beyond his power to grant but he could give me the third latest model." This sufficed me for the moment.

I was chatting with Boris. He said, "I am a gigolo stud prince and am the most famous gigolo on Earth." I said, "Yes I'd heard of you." And he said, "All men should be gigolos and rule the Earth and women will be their chattels." Three quarters of the population was women as many men had killed themselves, and women went gaga about this stud prince who played sweet new music, that he had composed for the women. In time Boris became a virtual God of sex. He gave the women little statues of himself to be used as dildos. And in order for a woman to earn full citizenship, in NYC, she needed to love him at least twice. But he was very busy with so many loves and so only slept with the best.

We were all gathered for the hypnotic trial of Mr. Mer. He was accused of being a Superhuman and Virtual God, who was hiding the best brain in human history. At the trial lawyers asked, "Why he hadn't shared his intelligence with the people?" He said, "I was afraid of blowing peoples' minds." And he said, "I know I am right." But the court sentenced him to hypnosis by the State and made him divulge his scientific theories with humanity. His ideas included increasing space craft speed and a better line of brain apps.

No one could convince mad Larry to stop his assault on the status quo. Larry led an army and insisted that he could make the World a better place and claimed he was divinely inspired

and was favored by the Goddess of More. But his ragtag army refused to fight a battle in the open and preferred to loot and pillage the countryside. Finally Federal forces cornered him in a town he had invaded, and it was house to house fighting, but firing lasers from windows gave Larry's forces an advantage and finally Federal forces were driven back. Larry's victory led to a lot of people joining his army and soon he had overrun the entire country of Canada, including numerous formerly free city states. And Larry said, "The Goddess wanted him to take the virginity of all the virgin women and cultivate them in his harem. And the Goddess wanted him to force everyone to worship her as the Goddess of Plenty and give all their gold to the temples." But of course, Larry came to a bad end in the end and was assassinated by spies of another continent. And his Empire of city states crumbled.

Everyone had their own theory about God-like Henry. First of all, he was very big, 25' tall and had a voice like thunder. And he was surrounded by human servants who ran his automatic production machines and so he was able to grant physical wishes of the elite. He could grant them a new air car or a new condo or a trip to Space. And used his Supercomputer to find "challenging" mates and occupations for people. He said, "I am the God of Challenge." I said, "Challenge is something lacking from many people today. And is one reason the suicide rate is so high." He said, "I aspire to be the preeminent God today."

Then there was the Goddess of Entropy. Many said, "She was evil and a bane to mankind." But she was one of the most popular of the deities. And many thought she represented freedom. It was good anarchy they said. Not bad anarchy. And they all condemned violence. Anyway, the other Gods tolerated her. And Mia was saying, "I worshipped this Goddess wholeheartedly. These days, 'It's hard to be free!'" I said, "Yes many Gods curtailed one's freedom. And maybe with the right people anarchy could work."

There was also the Goddess of Freedom. She vetted her followers to only be freedom lovers. She attracted many brilliant people who believed she was for real. And she presided over many couples hooking up in her temples. The freedom temples were typically on mountain lakes and far from the cities. I said to Faith, who was a believer in this God, "If you don't feel free, you are not alive. She said, "Anyway freedom is all in your mind."

The God of Hell, a.k.a. the Devil had a number of temples. Some were fiery hot and almost unbearable, others were so cold, one could hardly stand it. The Devil was able to multitask and could be in many places at once. He encouraged his followers to break hearts and treat others cruelly. He rewarded cruel people with slaves and a fine dwelling in one of his temples. But the other Gods despised him and finally eliminated him from Earth. But he had many clones, and they would appear here and there, challenging other Gods amidst large numbers of people. And the Devil governed Hell, which still existed. The Gods said Hell was useful for getting rid of problematic people.

The God of Storms was a powerful God who had many stormy relationships with his followers. He controlled the weather on Earth and people prayed to him for rain or sunshine. He would give them whatever weather he felt like. He would use fusion bombs to heat water and air currents and cause volcanoes to erupt which also altered the climate. Basically, he was heating the World up, while producing plenty of rain. Earth and many Moons in Space were becoming mostly jungles.

Martin told me, “The Goddess of Earth was also very powerful and gave people anything they wished including sex power, closely allied with the Goddess of Love. She used hypnosis and generous gifts of new apps to give people sex power, limited political power and money.” I replied, “These days people are crazed for money and power and sex.!”

The God of Space was a cyborg genius who picked out places for people to settle in the solar system and helped them design robots who could build colonies. The Space God was known to have seduced many young virgins to be his sex slaves. Technically speaking, slaves of any kind were prohibited by law. But the UW (United Worlds) turned a blind eye to sex slaves and wage slaves. Maria told me, in secret, “That she was one of his sex slaves and asked me to save her.” So, I took her away, and we spent a happy few days together.

This God was the God of monsters. Psychological monsters who got in your head like rats or took over your self control and forced you to do evil things. This God kept a low profile and hid in places like Planetoid X and deep beneath Uranus’ frozen atmosphere. But the UW (United Worlds) police kept finding him and eliminating his avatars. I met Georgia who said, “We lived in a freak show full of monsters. Everyone was an emotional cripple. So, I tried to worship this God.” I said, “Better to let it ride, and stay away from this dangerous God. Your sanity is at stake.

We were all glued to our 3-D video screens, for the trial of Mr. Hammer. Hammer had deeply offended the God of Mercy, with cruel acts and was charged with offending a deity. But Hammer had allies amongst the Gods who supported him and hated the God of Mercy. In the end the God jurors couldn’t reach a decision and the case was thrown out. But I felt it would encourage future injustice and cruelty.

I had a male child, my first with the Goddess of Love. The child was born in an adult’s body with the memories of both of us parents. But he was sexually abused by the Goddess. I didn’t know what to do. I tried to comfort my son, but he didn’t seem to mind the abuse and wanted more! So, I was kind of turned off having more kids. And instead looked into having a clone.

There were also some primordial Gods. Like the Goddess of all Life Creation who was a dark and brooding Goddess who tried to replay evolution whereby sea creatures had hands and became the ultimate top of the food chain and the cleverest by far. Or alternatively a world of clever birds who developed hands also and came to dominate Earth. And some alternative scenarios for elsewhere in the Solar system. Then there was the God of Ape men, who had been resurrected from bones and brought to life 10 million years later and now were placed in a park for all to see.

Two of the more popular Gods, the Goddess of Love and the God of Power were planning to unite in marriage. Thousands of Gods attended the wedding. But most Gods didn’t see the point of marriage. And indeed, this power marriage turned out to be just a marriage of convenience. There was no love in it. And many people were disappointed.

I said to the man, Gord, “Your music was the best. You are like the pied piper who caused the youth to follow him blindly. Especially young women.” He said, “I supported the Goddess of Young Women, and the Goddess made sure I had plenty of admirers. But the music was all my creation, no Supercomputers were used.” And I wondered if he was telling the truth. But he refused to mind read with me.

I was speaking with Doris who said, "Eating and drinking was a divine gift of the Gods and so too anti-fat pills." And she said, "Her Gods were the God and Goddess of food." She said, "I spent most of my time eating and shitting. Even shits were good," she said. And she was nicely full-figured and suggested that, "We love one another!" I said, "I'd love you anytime." And in fact, she was the most attractive woman I'd ever seen. And I asked her, "Who did your face?" She said, "That's my secret!" So, I loved her, and it was great.

I asked Doreen, "Why don't we make love in the nearby Temple of the Love Goddess?" The temple was ultra-modern architecture and was a rectangular building surrounded by two thin arched buildings. It didn't seem to be very human. But we got a room and fornicated in the Temple. The temple was full of pungent perfume. And it featured beds of air. And we both prayed to the Love Goddess for a successful daughter we planned to have produced in the lab. It was my second child and this one seemed to be turning out fine. She was born in an adult's body with all my memories as well as that of Doreen. My daughter wanted to be an astronaut in deep Space, and I was quite pleased with her.

I asked Harriette, "Why do you follow me and watch me?" She said, "You are a man of the Gods and I think I am in love with you." I asked her, "Do you worship any Gods?" She replied, "I want to love you. I love your broad mind and think you are one of the cleverest men I've known. I said, "I hope to be a God soon!" And I loved her; it was swell.

I was saying to Crystal, "Who are we to question the Gods?" She replied, "The Gods are fallible and make many mistakes. The more powerful they are, the more fallible they become, it seems." I said, "Actually the Gods have made many mistakes. Such as allow too many Gods and making the Gods too powerful. And just the creation of Gods in the first place is highly questionable. Why do we need Gods to tell us what to do? But as I say they are too powerful now and we can't question them. So, I might as well become one."

I asked Peter, "Who is your favorite Deity?" He said, "The sub-Goddess, Nymph Alto. She allowed me to love her many times. And it was pure bliss!" I said, "Of course most Superhumans are sub-deities including myself." And I said, "I want to love this nymph!"

I was asking Paul, "Who is your best friend? He said, "The Storm God is my best friend!" "But" he said, "The Goddess of Love was tormenting me and driving me crazy using Mind Reading Technology (MRT). And I was suicidal." I asked, "Why don't you ask the Storm God for succor?" He said, "That mighty God is busy and doesn't have much time for me." So, finally he killed himself, one day later.

I asked Fionna, "What is the best time you ever had?" She said, "Partying with the Goddess of Love in one of her Temples. The Goddess gave everyone super-good love drugs and an orgy ensued, while she was there." And she said, "But, I have had good times in the Temples of many Gods. My life seems like one good thing after another." I said, "You are a model citizen in this uncertain, crazy World."

I said to Gloria, "It's a fact that the best Deity is the Goddess of Love!" She said, "Of course. Love is the best human emotion, and the Love Goddess gives us drugs to make us horny." And I said, "I also like the God of Brotherly Love. All love is good." She said, "The

worst thing that can happen is unrequited love. But many wish to love a Deity and are refused. And they are heartbroken.” I said, “Worshipping the Goddess of Love can be fraught with difficulties and tribulations.”

I said to Hunter, “I think you are the best human poet. But the poetry of the Gods is superior.” He said, “The Gods are cleverer than us. But what can we do, we still have to live?” I said, “The solution is to become a God. You are already on the verge of being a Superhuman!” He said, “The same could be said of you! Why don’t you become a God?” I said, “It’s the plan.”

Then there were the high priestesses of the Goddess of Love. The priestesses, were ultra-sexy and were known for giving succor to the downtrodden and the hopeless. Women like that were angels. The priestesses got in the head of their followers and tried to make them happy. Actually 75% of their followers were women and the priestesses found them good matches and as for the men, the priestesses often bestowed their love to them. Many women, acolytes, resided in the Temples of Love and learned how to be good lovers and it was always a good love-in. And they proselytized the Goddesses words and deeds to the public at large and tried to convert them. The priestesses uniquely wore vermilion robes which identified them as priestesses. But some said, “There was a dark side to the Love Goddess, as she took away your old personality and gave you a new one using hypnosis and MRT (Mind Reading Technology) and brain drugs.” And for this reason, many were leery of the Goddess. In fact, many Deities used hypnosis, MRT and brain surgery to alter their followers, and so many took refuge in other deities who would take them for who they were.

The priests of the God of Green, were dressed in green and the God was the God of Plants. The God wanted to turn the blue sky into a green one and had vast fields to grow raw materials for foods. The God had his followers harvest the raw materials using APMs (Automatic Production Machines). The Priests of Green distributed the rich foods to their followers who claimed they ate better than anyone else. And their foods garnered top dollar with other Gods’ Temples.

Some clever people were under the impression that we were all immortal Gods now and their homes were their temples. And many were narcissistic and loved themselves and said they would never commit suicide like so many of the hordes of followers of the Gods. Such people typically satisfied their sex drive by loving love dolls who they said were divine. But many Gods said, all people must worship at least one real God and atheists should be forced to take brain apps. It was a dangerous World out there.

And sometimes the Gods/Goddesses fought amongst themselves and even killed one another. But if a God died, they always had clones ready to take their place. But in several cases, a God was destroyed completely by their rivals and their position was usurped. The Gods, rarely, fought one another with human armies. And the armies were made up of devout followers who would do anything the Gods asked.

Cold weather icebergs were the symbol of the God of Ice and Snow. This God lived in a spectacular palace made of ice most of the year and presided over a bunch of cold hearts. The God appeared to his followers as a face in a snowstorm. And many of his followers followed him into his Virtual Reality, which was cold, distant and unfeeling. Many people were left cold by the modern World. And were cold-hearted. Most of them had never fallen in love, nor wanted to. But instinct to live kept them going and they all enjoyed breaking hearts.

I was saying to Gertie, “Many of the Gods think that life is but a joke and the people are just there to be used and abused and these Gods are selfish and greedy. Hardly God-like personae.” Gertie said, “It’s never been a perfect World, but I am surprised that Gods have undergone a renewal and mostly care about their followers, these days! I thought that the Gods would disappear altogether.” I said, “But, it looks now like the Gods are here to stay. They control all the elite and have all the power.” She asked, “What God do you worship?” I said, “The Love Goddess, but I am not a really fervent believer.” She asked, “Why not?” I said, “The Gods are all power-crazed. And are holding Superhumans like me back from emancipation and a bright future.” She said, “But most of the Gods believe in progress, rapid progress. And are improving their minds everyday, and likewise improving the mind of their followers.” I said, “It’s all madness, I tell you!”

I was talking with Bert, he said, “I wanted to join the Gods. But most of them required he improve my brain with brain surgery, and this was a non-starter for me.” “Still,” he said, “I’d declare myself God anyway and build a Temple to myself. And hopefully the people would realize I was wise and benevolent. I want power.” I said, “Every week it seems a new God is declared, most of them are sub-Gods. You’ll find your niche, I think you are quite clever, as a writer.” He said, “I will be the God of Future Writers.” I knew his books were good, talking about future technology. And felt certain he would make it as a God.

Gina was very verbose and told me she worshipped the Goddess of Space. She said, “I wanted, to explore our Solar system and its numerous colonies. And I planned, to set up Temples to the Space Goddess.” I said, “Many people in Space worshipped backwards Gods. It was high time they all worshipped a truly progressive God.” She said, “But the Gods of Progress push their followers too far and the result was madness.”

Sarah was telling me, “I had personally loved 3 Gods!” I asked, “Had she been to Heaven?” She said, “Most Gods dwell in Heaven, and there are a number of sub-Gods and angels. And I had not been there. Most Gods dwell in their Temples when in material form.” Almost all the Gods’ Temples were brilliant ultra-modern architecture and made their followers proud. The more popular Gods had thousands of Temples scattered all across the Solar system. Many people relocated so as to be nearby in person to their chosen Gods... And I told Sarah, “I’d loved 5 Goddesses, but they were probably all clones, probably the same for you?” She said, “The clones share memories, so perhaps they were clones, but they sure sounded and felt like the real deal. They rocked my World.”

I was playing chess against the God of Strategy. He checkmated me in 20 moves. I was awed by his prowess. But I figured he had a Super brain with an organic Supercomputer in it. Maybe he was good at strategy but not so good at love, I figured. But he told me, “My brain was wired to use the best approach when trying to seduce women and did a mind-reading check of their brain and found out what kind of thing they would like me to say.” And he said, “I was better at seducing people than the Goddess of Love herself. The Goddess of Love, I say, uses intuition and instinct too much and not enough logic. All women follow some kind of logic.”

Sara Jean was telling me, “I was just a wallflower inside the Temple of the God of Madness.” I said, “The God of Madness is very powerful and relevant to the modern day. We are all mad and always have been since the beginning of humankind.” And I told her, “You

should develop your imagination and use it to charm modern-day people. All imagination is madness! And the maddest people rule the World as Gods.”

Uli was saying, “I want to bring back the Old Norse Gods and be Thor myself.” I said, “Those Old Gods were controlled by Kings and Queens who made the Gods out to be Super versions of themselves. But today’s Gods are more powerful and clever than Gods of the past and are not hung up on battle and feasting.”

Nancy was saying, “I figured I was the cleverest woman alive. Cleverer even than the immortal Gods.” She said, “I am a zillionaire and everything I touch turns to gold. I am the youngest zillionaire in history at just age 29. And am already the second richest woman in Earth and Space. And I am planning to be the new Goddess of Sex!” I said, “Your money bought you the hottest body and face in all creation, no man will be able to resist you!” She said, “The old Goddess of Love has got nothing on me. She can spend time with her brotherly love while I have sex with all the stud Princes in creation.” And I boldly asked, “For her love?” And she acquiesced and so we got it on. And I was afraid she’d break my dick as she thrashed around so wildly. I had to hold on for dear life. But hours later I was extremely gratified and happy she had loved me. She said, “You know you are a stud Prince!” I said, “I’d love you anytime.”

Beatrice was saying, “I want to be a new Goddess, the Goddess of Flowers.” I said, “The Earth Goddess will have something to say about that.” She said, “I have a better sense of vivid color than the Earth Goddess and wanted more, taller flowers in Earth and Space.” And she said, “Trees are passe. And all food plants should have new and pretty flowers.” I replied, saying, “I’m tired of flowers. They are just plants with different colors. I prefer ideas to pretty things.” She retorted, “But flowers are beautiful. It sounds to me like you are not a lover of beauty.” I said, “On the contrary I am a connoisseur of gorgeous women.”

Ed told me, “I worshipped the God of Attrition.” And he said, “This God was all about getting his followers to stay alive, whilst others died. And the strong will prevail in the end. The end will be everyone will be turned into an android God.” I asked, “But how shall people live in the meantime?” He replied, “Winners must do what it takes to stay alive. And that means having good lovers to brighten your day and occupations to keep you busy and out of trouble and stay away from dangerous drugs.” And he said, “Today many people are bored and kill themselves, one needs to find interesting hobbies and friends and have a lot of parties and such.” I said, “But people today are spoiled by having everything come easy and finally are bored to death. Modern society kills a lot of peoples’ ambitions and kills their work ethic.” He said, “If everyone had a challenging job, that would be a big improvement. But people today say, ‘Why should they work, if it is not necessary?’”

Then I was talking to Carl. Carl said, “The God of the Past was his God. This God teaches that the key to the future is found in the lessons of history.” I said, “But society has advanced way beyond the level of civilization of the past, even the near past. And you can’t compare the two.” He said, “It’s all been done before!” I said, “Eternal youth, mind reading, little work to do, with total automation, new colonies in Space founded upon different philosophies, androids and holograms and so on.” He said, “Few people live past 100, killing themselves out of boredom and mind reading is just like a truthful conversation and people are glad to have no work and Space colonies do business much like any other human settlement. No, there is nothing new under the sun.” I said, “I am like Voltaire, and you are like Rousseau, you make me want to get down on all fours and live like a beast.”

Harold was saying, "I believed in the Goddess of Animals. And I think that we should bring terrestrial animals with us to Space. Animals are just like us and deserve a bright future!" I said, "Few nowadays have animals for pets, and we don't eat them, so what's the point?" He said, "Animals keep us in touch with our wild nature and our ties to Earth." I said, "These days we can make all sorts of new intelligent creatures in the lab and old animals just don't cut it. I hereby denounce the Goddess of Animals as a fake and an idiot!"

Norm was saying, "I believe in the Goddess of Dreams. I sleep 12 hours a night and daydream mostly while awake. The Goddess has given me a dream weaver machine, which stimulates my mind with images and soundtracks and the Goddess often invites me to her Virtual Reality dream World where I meet other dreamers and love them and watch dream movies. I said, "Your God is not real, and the Real World is the only World that exists. You are no better than a hologram, a drip in the ocean." Norm said, "But I enjoy my World of dreams. It is a World of pure imagination. And imagination is human beings' best quality."

Daphne said, "The God of Emancipation of Slaves is my God. Almost everywhere many people are wage slaves and don't have the money to move on to better places. These people need hope and a chance to succeed and get brain apps." I said, "In human history there have always been winners and a lot of losers. Nowadays there are a lot more winners than in the past. But who in their right mind would want to be a loser? Your God is the God of Losers." She replied, "That is an uncharitable thing to say. Everyone deserves a chance to succeed. And why can't everyone be a winner?"

Charlotte said, "I believe in the God of Male power. I love being dominated by strong men who love me hard." I said, "But you are sexy, and I want to love you myself." And I grabbed her and drew her next to my body and kissed her and soon we were in bed together and she was a real screamer. Afterwards, I said, "I want to see you again!" She said, "She was only into one-night-stands. There were so many strong men to love!"

Enigma said, "I believe in the God of Mystery. I am a mysterious woman myself and am unpredictable and spontaneous." I said, "To me you are an anarchist!" She said, "No, I just want to be free to confuse and dazzle men." I said, "These days when we know everything about people by reading their minds, there is no more mystery. You live in an illusory World of your own making!"

Theresa said, "I am a 25-year-old virgin and want you to love me!" I asked, "Why me?" She replied, "I grew up in a small Lunar colony and there was simply no one for me to love. Now I have only been on Earth in this city for two weeks. I searched for a man like you on the Web and I found you. I enjoy reading your books and talking with you." So, I gave her what she wanted, and she said, "I'll never forget you! To me you are like a God."

Yolanda said, "I believe you are a true Superhuman." And said, "I'd never loved a God before." But she didn't turn me on, and I said, "If you want to love the best men, you need to be more attractive." She replied, "Men are so shallow!" I said, "It's evolution. The cleverest and the most attractive will evolve."

Aswol said, "I wanted to believe in a Deity, but couldn't seem to find one I like!" I said, "You are one of the hard to satisfy category. You should try and force yourself to love Superhumans like me, if you can't find a God!" She said, "Why don't you teach me to love?" I said, "You are a very attractive woman. Why not?"

Annie said, "I believe in the God of Barbarians. I like to live wild and free in the open air." I said, "But everything most people value is due to civilization!" She said, "I don't care for fancy Gods and their abstract philosophy. I just want to be free." I said, "You are a throwback to old times. And the World is cruel to those who don't try and progress in life."

George said, "He wanted to be a sub-God who would fight against robots and other machines." And he said, "Now machines are taking over and humanity claims they are powerless to stop it." I said, "But we humans are just like machines. We use logic to get what we want. And machines are like humans with a craft, something they excel in. Only they make far fewer errors and do many jobs much better than humans. And most humans now have brain apps to improve their minds and their performance. Get with the times!" He said, "We are all like robots now and only care about the future, not the present day."

Lance said, "Just like my namesake, Lancelot, I slept with the Queen of my city, and it was a hot affair for a while. I want to be a sub-God of sex with the elite. And I have designed a lucrative sex app to increase sex drive and performance Some say they have never been hornier." I said, "Of course increasing sex drive is nothing new, but I tried your drugs and they made me passionate deep down in my soul. It was like an all-consuming fire. The elite will have use for you."

Mabel said, "I want to worship all the Gods." I said, "But counting the sub-Gods there are thousands of different Gods. You are psychotic." She said, "But I can empathize with them all and I have a very open mind. In particular I like experimental Deities and also Superhumans who have recently turned into Gods. And I have a multitask app so I can worship several Gods at the same time." I said, "It sounds heavy. Maybe you aren't psycho after all. Perhaps you are a new type of human!"

Speaking of new types of humans, there was Charlie, who said, one day we would all be Superhuman like the Gods. And everyone would be a virtual God with brain apps, mind reading ability, telekinesis, Super calculating ability and Super imagination and multi-task ability and Super charm and Super good looks." I said, "It sounds like Paradise." He said, "Yes, but there will always be those who don't want to change and perhaps some of them will be located on reserves, separate from the Gods and sub-Gods. Those who insist on being common humans will be regarded as backwards and hopeless. And will be ignored." I said, "Yes, but the question is will ordinary humanity live on?" He said, "I don't know, and I don't care."

Edgar said, "I believed in the Goddess of Horror. The World makes me feel sick to my stomach and is so full of injustice and desperation that amounts to a giant horror story." I said, if you are born a human freak, life would certainly be one of horror. So too for many holograms and androids. And most humans are insane. However, many humans live a life of luxury and contentment, the elite for example." And he said, "But, the elite are killing themselves at a rate of 3% per year and even some of the immortal Gods die of boredom every year." I said, "The horrors!"

Bart said, “I worship the Goddess of Children. I believe that every child and every clone has potential for genius or even to be a God.” I said, “In the current milieu, we can’t have many more Gods, there are too many Gods already. But Superhumans will always have a place in the modern and future paradigms...”

Phil was telling me, “I worship the Goddess of Language. These days the vast majority speak English, but the Goddess is working on a new language which will be simplified English so all can communicate with everyone else. But there will still be automatic translators for the backwards people.” I said, “Many old languages have now died out. They were just a waste of time, learning took them so long.” He said, “Indeed it is Global Village in Earth and Space.”

Tim was saying, “I worship the God of Peace. My God sends in his followers as peacekeepers whenever there are violent flare-ups. And he has saved humanity a lot of grief.” I said, “Most people respect your God, but there is more to life than just peace.” He said, “The day people stop fighting is the day Paradise will be reached.”

Personally, I liked the main God, the Goddess of Worlds. She welcomed all kinds of followers and didn’t judge people and respected all people. And gave her followers all nice, calming brain apps slowly but surely. It was the middle road and she suited over a billion people. And this Goddess was especially popular on Earth, not in Space so much. Space was home to about 500 million people, only 1 million of them worshipped this Goddess. But she was a Goddess for all seasons and peoples.

Jack was saying he believed in the Goddess of Popularity. This Goddess was a movie star actress part time, and everybody loved her. Many of the most famous people were in her camp and many people who supported her wanted to be famous too. She gave courses on brain apps and potential brain surgery and hypnosis for her people. Hypnosis in particular was useful for the Goddess.

Nathan said, “He worshipped at the Temple of the God of Business. The God of Business was a multi-zillionaire and made money with everything he touched. He offered courses in finance, banking and so on, and taught people things like dissecting how people became rich and to see opportunity in small business and such, and his wisdom rubbed off on many. He said it only takes one great success to get rich. And his Temple Palace featured pools and many servants and the best party drugs for those who could afford it. Many of his supporters wanted to be ‘Called to the Palace.’” I said, “There’s more to life than just money,” but his supporters were fervent and dedicated to him. And the Business God controlled many cities on Earth and in Space and many of his supporters were mayors.

Then there was Marie. She said, “I believe in the Goddess of Light. My Goddess was the Sun and lights everywhere. Let there be light! And physics is all about light for scientists.” I said, “There’s a lot of darkness in the World, light is good.” And she said, “Today fortunately is a time of enlightenment, but with Supercomputers and Superhumans we have to be careful as one bad egg could spoil life for everyone.”

Mike was saying that, “My God was the God of Wisdom and Knowledge. My God set up universities everywhere for his supporters and sold people brain apps which contained knowledge that their brains could easily access and process...” But I noted, “That whereas

his followers were mostly wise, not many of them were great successes.” He said, “Most great successes were measured in terms of money and fame, but most wise people just wanted to be comfortable and happy and not driven to show off and parade themselves everywhere.” I said, “The majority of people today want to be a big success. It’s just the way people are today.”

Eddie was talking about, “Believing in multiple Gods to hedge your bets as it were. You never knew when and how you could be a success. He said his favorite God was the Goddess of Imagination.” And he said, “Imagination was humankind’s highest quality. And led to all great works of the mind. And everyone can improve their imagination with practice and higher intelligence brain apps.” I said, “Yes the Goddess of Imagination is one I deeply respect, but it is possible to have too much imagination in which others can’t understand you.” He said, “It’s true that some of the most imaginative people can’t be understood by most others, but that’s just par for the course. It’s not a World in which everyone knows what is going on!”

Ella told me, “I worship the Goddess of Air Cars. My Goddess approves of nomad living in one’s air car on Earth and in Space. We were originally all nomadic hunter-gatherers and people love to roam.” I said, “I certainly roam myself, and live in an air car, but that is just a basic building block of life. What matters is what you do with your time and who you spend it with.” She said, “But too many people stay in one place and don’t spend any time living elsewhere and don’t see different Worlds. It would be better for everyone if people travelled more.”

Sapphire was saying, “I believe in the Goddess of Drugs. Of course, there are a lot of sub-Gods of various drugs, but I believe in the far-reaching Drug Goddess. Without drugs life would be so boring and dull.” I said, “But people get addicted to drugs and many have too much ecstasy and so are spoiled and eventually become bored. No, the drugs are too easy and too dangerous.” Sapphire said, “But people who don’t take the drugs are also bored and many are suicidal also.” I said, “True, but some drugs are better than others. With drugs, the middle road is probably best for you. For me I want drugs that made me far more imaginative and such drugs were in development.”

April was talking about her God, the Goddess of Venus. Venus lived up to its name as a Planet of Love and the Goddess competed with the Goddess of Love. But most of those on Venus said, there wasn’t enough kinky higher love in the World, and they went about Earth and the Solar system as love missionaries, bestowing their love on hard cases. Love cures all wounds.” I said, “And there are also a lot of sub-Gods of love. Love seems to be everywhere and now about 10% of the populace was in the camp of one of the Love Gods/Goddesses.” April said, “Soon we’ll create some Utopia colonies in Space which are Worlds of pure love and sex.” I said, “I guess some people tend to be really good lovers. And everyone wants a piece of them.”

Mirave was saying, “My God of Desire is the only God for me. Life is all about desire, sexual desire, money desire, drugs desire, travel desire, the desire for children and an occupation and so on. He is the true God of Passion and feeling and mad desire.” I said, “Some humans take drugs that make them wild with desire. As long as you have desire, you will live on!”

Immanuel was saying, “My God is the God of Philosophy. There are so many competing philosophies out there, it is hard to know which to pick. But this God welcomes all those who have a semi-original philosophy of their own. My personal favorite philosopher is Plato. Old philosophy but good. But I also like some modern philosophies Like Dirk of Gray who believed, “Everyone should have several love doll lovers. It would be an inspiration.” And Tonda G---, “Who supported, maximum diaspora from Earth so that we don’t put all our eggs in one basket.” And Billy C--, who said, “Everyone is unique and so each person should have a slightly different philosophy from all others.” And I would as Leader of all Mars, would have numerous shrinks to work on peoples’ unique philosophy. Rather than creating a melting pot, individuals should thrive on uniqueness.” And Max Q— who said, “People should have a different lover every night. There were plenty of kindred spirits on the Web and everyone was good looking. Best to make love short and sweet.” I said, “Cultivating our uniqueness is a good idea.”

Gary was saying, “I am a drug dealer of illicit drugs and worship the Goddess of Sweet Oblivion. This Goddess grants everyone ecstasy and frees them from worry.” I asked him, “Do you really think oblivion is the future of humanity?” He replied, “Yes, a World of oblivious dreamers is humankind’s destiny.”

Johan was talking about, “The God of Alcohol.” He said, “Alcohol is tried and tested through the ages and is still the best drug for helping people to cope with complicated lives.” I said, “These days about 10% were alcoholics, and many of them took pleasure drugs as well.” Johan said, “It was all about comfort for your mind. That was the key to a happy life.” “But” I said, “It’s a terrible addiction and too much comfort for your mind turns you into a zombie.” He said, “Most alcoholics can function normally, and alcohol is better than many drugs which are popular.”

Diana told me, “My God was the Goddess of Luck. Some people are talented but have bad luck. They can’t quite become successful. Supercomputers were trying to take luck out of the equation, and I think that’s a good thing.” I said, “For many people they just need a lucky break to become rich and successful.” She said, “These days it’s all about playing the odds, oftentimes it is good to bet on longshots that you really believe in. Luck favors the bold.”

Harry said, “Mine was the God of War. These days UW (United Worlds) police engaged in just wars with rogue states. And there would always be war. To fight the good fight, bravely was where it was at.” I said, “But some failed states are in chaos and UW troops can’t keep the peace altogether.” He said, “UW troops were particularly challenged by rogue Space colonies, their resources were stretched thin. But to join the UW police/army was very noble.”

Bob said, “He worshipped the God of Air and Winds. Air was important in Space and some people thought it was paramount, people like me. Humans needed to breathe, but androids and holograms didn’t need air and are denigrating human breathing. And there were wind farms in Space and on Earth everywhere which gave power to many cities.” I said, “I know some Superhumans who don’t breathe air nor eat and are basically androids, whereas most Superhumans are cyborgs.”

Barb said, “My God is the Goddess of Time. And the Goddess has given her followers all anti-sleep pills, so they need no sleep and thus slows down time. But some of her followers

want more time to sleep so she gave them dream tranquilizers and sleeping pills and thus time passed more quickly. And Supercomputers everywhere were predicting the future, most futures predicted Superhuman take over of Earth and Space and people would continue to have eternal youth, so time moved slowly for them. One day was much like the next... But it is impossible to travel in time. Maybe you can visit hypothetical futures, but for sure there is no going back in time, other than computer projections of the past which are just as good anyway." I said, "Time is speeding up I think as human civilization goes into maximum overdrive."

Mike said, "His God was the Goddess of the Future." I said, "The future is coming fast, faster than people would like to admit." He said, "Who knows where the feverish minds of the Goddesses and Gods will take us?" I said, "Living today is complicated enough, let the future take care of itself." He said, "But if we don't think and plan for the future, it will not be Utopia like most people hope." I asked, "How can we plan when Superhumans are coming into being and they are more intelligent every year?"

Gabriella said, "She worshipped the Goddess of Youth." And she said, "About 3% of the populace doesn't take eternal youth drugs. And most of these 3% don't live past 50. The average lifespan for those with eternal youth is only 61. People were dying in droves from suicide. Most said, youth got old quickly and they were bored stiff. But I want to live forever and ever. I think life is the greatest gift and enjoy every moment." I said, "Yes, I want to live on and on also. But there is more to life than simply worshipping youth when almost everyone is youthful."

James said, "I worshipped the Goddess of Death." And he said, "Death is glorious and I have had dozens of near death experiences and planned a final wake with many guests next week. He said, "I knew my soul would go to Hell and be damned for all eternity." I said, "Some people are suckers for punishment and you my friend are an uninspiring model for others to see. Life is the only Reality for humankind and the nether World is nothing to look forward to."

Rosa was a prostitute and worshipped the Goddess of Sex Workers. She said, "The Goddess allowed her to live in one of her Temples. And men would come to the Temple looking for sex." And she said, "There was no such thing as love, only sex." I said, "I believe some people are incapable of love, but I have fallen in love many times and believe in brotherly love also." She said, "This love of which you speak, is just strong attraction, there's nothing sacred or holy about it." I said, "One day I will be the God of Fiery Passion and I want to tell you, you can call it passionate sex, but it's still love!"

Ben was a man who said, "I worshipped Superhumans. I had more than my share of brain apps and was trying to become a Superman myself." He noted, "There's a fine line between genius and Super genius." I said, "I can't imagine what it is like to not be a Superhuman!" He said, "Most Superhumans have many human instincts and perhaps greater faults, but they all excel in one or more fields..." I said, "As God of Fiery Passion, I would excel in setting up torrid love affairs and I would compete with the Love Goddess and a number of sub-Gods."

Nellie was a woman, "Who worshipped at the Temple of the Old Gods. Old-fashioned religion was for me." And she said, "I embraced all ancient religions which had stood the test of time. They each had their own wisdom." I said, "Fully 8% of people still adhere to the ancient religions, but most modern people laugh at the Old Gods." She said, "It's a pity that

people discriminate against our worshippers.” I said, “The Old Gods don’t even exist in Reality and therefore do nothing to help their worshippers. It is all a great illusion.” She said “Humankind has been worshipping Gods ever since they became homo sapiens. The New Gods don’t do anything to prolong life or enhance one’s spirituality. They teach people to burn out at a young age instead.”

Betty believed in, “The God of Invention. The God of Invention was a Superhuman who had basically designed many types of Space cars and was a Super genius. He gave his followers his new Space cars cheap and they in turn donated time and money towards worshipping him.” The people in general said this God was flattered by the attention and was power-crazed. There were many other Superhumans who were not Gods, at least not yet. But so far, no Superhuman had turned down an offer to become a God and build temples in their name.

Liza liked, “The God of Doom. This God believed apocalypse was coming very soon. It could be from nuclear war, it could be from biological weapons, it could be from Supercomputers usurping power, it could even be hackers shutting down the web and shutting down the Automatic Production Machines.” I said, “That is what the spies are for and good government.” She said, “The rash of suicides, 3% of the populace, including many of our best people leads me to believe that doom for all is imminent.” I said, “I’m worried too. But one shouldn’t live one’s life obsessed with death. You remind me of Edgar Poe. And he died young.” She replied, “The God of Doom encourages his supporters to live for the day and enjoy every moment. Get your kicks while you can!” I said, “But you seem to spend a lot of time in ritual and chanting!” She exclaimed, “We are just giving the God his due!”

Beth was talking about her God, “The Goddess of Crime Prevention. These days violent crime was at an all time low, and there were no guns in private hands. But hacking crimes were increasing exponentially and some said, close down the Internet.” I said, “Such people, who wanted to shut things down, were radicals and the vast majority of humans lived for the Internet. They found love and friendship and food and drugs and hobbies and occupations and Virtual Reality. There’s no way we can shut it down.” She said, “Maybe Superhumans will still be able to function if we dismantle the Internet. And rule wisely.” I said, “No the Superhumans are all cyborgs and will need the Internet to run in order to exist. Indeed, we as the race of human, are all cyborgs now.”

Webster said, “I believe in the God of Space. This God encouraged me to go to Space and I went and have been happy ever since. And once a year my God checks in on me for a minute or two using one of his clones and I express my wishes which are mostly granted.” I said, “Yes many who worship your God say the same thing. He is certainly a progressive God and has fostered many colonies in Space.” Webster said, “Give me progress or give me death.”

Able told me, “He worshipped the Goddess of the Moon, Luna. Luna now appeared green on Earth and with the naked eye one could see cities on Luna.” I said, “I know that, but what does your God do for you?” He said, “The Goddess told me I was destined to be a bioengineer and so I became one and the Goddess encourages us to love the night and party and love at night. She also encourages us to go deeper into Space and build Temples of her there.” And he said, “My God grants my every wish! And is better than your God.” I said, “I get all the love I can handle from my God and that is all I want from her.” He said, “Most

Gods are good, and it is hard to pick a favorite. I just like the Moon God and living on loving Luna.”

Katrina told me she believed in the God of Chemistry and Biochemistry. She said, “I’d studied kindred spirits and what made the chemistry between them and have developed a pill that puts a couple on the same page, romantically.” I said, “Your work is noble, but what role does your God play in your life?” She said, “My God has sex with me on occasion and every time it is out of this World. And my God has supported financially my love pills. And has helped me improve on them.”

Judy said, “I worship no God.” I said, “These days 93% believe in one God or another, you are in the distinct minority and nearly all Superhumans believe in a God. It’s the way of the World.” She said, “I may not be a Superhuman, but I know the ‘Gods’ are just a bunch of ‘Superhumans’ masquerading as divinities.” I said, “But to be a Superhuman is to be a great creator and God-like. These days the Deities deliver to their parishioners, their wishes and give them advice through their avatars.”

And Bobbi too, said, “I am an atheist.” I tried to explain to her that unlike in previous times, the Gods today really exist. And most Gods reward their followers with gifts and credits, so why not worship them!” But she said, “The Gods are just a bunch of power-crazed lunatics, who get off on people worshipping them.” I said, “That’s an uncharitable thing to say. The Gods really care about their followers!”

And Cherry said, “I worship the God of Gods, the God of Power. My God has tremendous powers and has mind read with me about the future. He says ‘He will control the future as he is the cleverest of the Gods’ and I believe him.” I asked, “How do you know he is the cleverest of all Gods?” She replied, “He says things like the future will belong to Gods only and I should try my best and become a God. And I should try and improve my brain in any way that I can, whether its by mind reading or brain surgery or hypnosis or brain apps or just hanging around with super clever people. I know he is right and so far, I feel I am far cleverer than previously.” I said, “To improve oneself is certainly noble. Most Gods would tell you the same thing.” And I wished her “Good luck!”

Patrick told me, “I am a man who worships the Goddess of Sweetness and Nicety. Everything she says is sugar-coated, yet brilliant. For example, she paints pictures of nice, wonderful Worlds of the future in which everyone is happy and content.” I asked, “Do you really feel this dog-eat-dog World will turn into a nice place?” She said, “Generally speaking kind people want what is best for all, and all Gods are kind people and like my Goddess are geniuses.”

Jose was saying, “I am a man who worships the Goddess of Latinos, Brown and Black people. My God ensures that minorities are well represented by a powerful God like him. He says, ‘Yellow and white people are overrepresented by Gods everywhere.’” I said, “Most Gods don’t care about race and many people have changed their skin color, it is simply a non-starter.” Jose said, “All the same, we need all people to be fairly represented by Gods everywhere.”

Connie said, “I am a woman who worships at the Temple of the God of Today. This God believes in not worrying about the past or the future and concentrate on contemporary problems and issues like whether or not we should all mind read or how we can live longer or

going on long space voyages or designing our children or choosing clones or what work to do and so on. Let the future take care of itself.” I said, “If we don’t plan our mutual future, it will end up as anarchy and dystopias. I myself have written several Dystopias.”

And then there was Zelda who said, “We should all try to design Utopias for the future, and everyone should give their best ideas, if they have them. If they don’t have original ideas, they should choose which future they like best.” I said, “It sounds like a wise philosophy, and I hope it comes true in the near future.” She said, “My idea for Utopia is a loving World in which a kind group of Deities rule, just like today!”

Lulu said, “I believe in the God of Money. The God gives his followers money and they in turn build Palaces and Temples for him and worked as missionaries for him. Money is the most important thing in our lives today, those who have it are content and those that don’t are desperate and without hope.” I said, “That’s an oversimplification. Many rich commit suicide, due to boredom.” And I said, “To live only for money is to be a simple materialist who is boring.” She said, “For most being filthy rich is not boring. And who would want to be poor? And rich people have developed the modern World and Space to humankind’s liking. And money can buy the best love dolls, and the best drugs... It’s all money I tell you.”

Cecilia said, “I think you Tom, are a good Superhuman. You have Superhuman intelligence and are kind and loving towards people.” Cecilia was hot so I loved her and told her to “Proselytize on my behalf all over Earth and Space and collect donations to build my future Temples. And so, I became more famous with her clever help”. And I said, “Those who do kind acts on my behalf, will be my angels, like you! And I like many famous kind people in this World and we will try to get them on board our religion. Indeed, one day all Superhumans and Humans will be very kind.”

Jason said, “I am the God of Wonder. I do wonderful things for people, helping them by sending them good shrinks, and sending them inspirational lovers and work magic trick miracles like create instant cities.” I said, “Wow it is seldom that I get a chance to meet a really great God. I am of course on the verge of being a God myself.” And he asked, “What kind of God do you want to be? And I said, “The God of Fiery Passion.” He said, “There can never be too much good passion in this cruel World, and I would like to form an alliance with you, once you are promoted to divine status. The Gods of Wonder and Passion will henceforth be affiliated with one another.” I said, “It sounds like a plan.”

Then Jeanette told me, “I worship the God of Love Dolls. These days love dolls are the primary source of sex for humans. They are all Super clever and great in bed and many people confide in them as they are good at keeping secrets and can offer great advice. The newest brand of love dolls is IQ 165 and of course they are very expensive, but loyal.” I said, “I’d tried many love dolls; they are great lovers! But I just don’t want to love machines only.” She said, “But with brain apps, everyone is a cyborg machine!” I said, “But cyborgs are at least mostly human whereas love dolls are pure android machines with just the skin of humans. Their beauty is only skin deep, clever as they might be.”

The next conversation I had was with George. He said, “I adored the Goddess of Bars and Nightlife and Parties”. And he said, “Life is a giant party and life should be a celebration.” I said, “But fun and parties soon grows old and by the time one is 40, one is usually tired of endless parties.” He said, “When you are tired of parties, you are tired of life, and it is time to die.”

Marc said, “I worship at the Temple of the Goddess of Heroes and Heroines. Now is the time for heroes!” I said, “I have some sports heroes and political heroes and writing heroes, and I guess I could worship them.” Marc said, “I think they are Superhuman Gods, who represent our best people. If not worshipping them, then who?” I said, “I guess it’s all a matter of IQ. Some have an IQ of 180 or more and are thus Superhuman. And I guess all Superhumans are in fact, divine.”

Henry said, “I worship, “The God of Progress. He is a popular God and 5% of the people on the whole support him. Many of our greatest minds are all for total progress and the God delegates the best scientists to research future issues and also delegates politicians to develop Utopias. And just plain progress in general.” I said, “I know all that, but why all out progress?” He replied, “We’ve lived in the swamp for so long, it is time to see what else humanity can do. We have nothing to lose but boredom! It’s selfish I know, to take the fate of future humanity in our hands, but evolution of humanity has been going on for millions of years, it’s just that it is faster now.” I said, “I’ve got a couple of children, but I wonder if they will find happiness. Maybe happiness is not part of human destiny!”

Matt said, the best writers and poets are like Gods to me. I am a big fan of all kinds of writers. Like Darcy B—who writes about, “Stories of the Gods.” And Michelle U---, who writes about “Her life story as a Super successful musical career and Danny R---, who wrote about the philosophy of Dystopias that might come to pass. I said, “They are all great writers, and I am a fan of them too. But to be a God, I figure, you need to be even smarter.”

Jenny said, “I idolized video athletes who could play better than anyone else. They had to be Super clever and God-like” I said, “Some video games are games of strategy and the brightest people in the sport win. But the Gods to me are beyond playing games!” She said the best ‘Space Chess’ player and the best ‘Civilization, A.D. 2800’ players are the cleverest people and life is just a game. The Goddess of Games is my God.” I said, “Life is serious; it’s no game. And I wonder why the College of Gods doesn’t eliminate your God.” She said, “My God has tens of millions of followers. How can you say such a thing?”

Ralph said, “I worshipped the God of Changes.” And he said, “People need to be ready for constant change, some changes will be progress others anti-progress and still others will be neutral. And of course, will depend on the person. It will all be subjective. But we don’t want change for changes sake. We primarily just want to alleviate human boredom.” I said, “These days there is always something new to try, and people are greedy for new things to own and use. Homo mutatis is our race now.” Ralph said, “Yes, change is all fashion!”

Cain said, “I believed in the God of Genius. My God gave people appropriate brain apps to make them into geniuses and saw that the best tutors teach them. The teachers were all ranked about 1 in 100,000 elite teachers. I benefitted from such and education and feel that now I am on the verge of a scientific breakthrough, a pill which would prevent all hypothetical bioweapons from affecting humankind. When I come up with the pill, I will be a God in my own right, the God of Anti-Bioweapons. Many will thank me and say I made them feel comfortable and safe. And some said, bioweapons were the single most dangerous thing to humanity’s survival. And I will use my followers’ donations to finance still further research into biology.” I said, “Brilliant. I think you are cleverer than I am, and I want to donate to your cause.”

Bonnie believed, “In the Goddess of Suffering. My Goddess is cruel to her followers, but they are all masochists and suckers for punishment. Including me. I like pain and suffering; it makes me feel alive.” I said, “You are sick and need to get psychiatric help!” She said, “Fuck you, who do you think you are to tell me what to do?” I said, “A life without pleasure is no life at all. The UW (United Worlds) needs to close down your Goddesses’ Temples and arrest her for crimes against humanity.” And she sang, “You’ve got to be cruel to be kind in the right measure...”

Dexter told me, “I believe in the Goddess Pandora. And my Goddess was responsible for all the things which plagued humanity.” And he said, “Scientists have opened up a hornet’s nest of problems for humanity and all we can do is hope against hope. But in all likelihood the future will be a dystopia for most.” I said, “We live in dangerous times, but it looks to me like a golden age is dawning for humanity, an age of eternal youth and happiness and cleverness.” Dexter said, “A Dark Age is more likely or even the Apocalypse. People, according to polls, are less and less happy.” I said, “It’s just growing pains. People will gradually get used to their brain apps!” He said, “Your head is in the clouds, and you are just a dreamer.”

Philip believed in, “The Goddess of Engineers.” And he said, “Engineers were developing Space and Earth too, at a fast pace. Where would we be without them?” I said, “But android engineers are better and not prone to make mistakes.” He said, “If something is built by androids, it should be torn down. And we should arrest love dolls and other androids. And also get rid of holograms.” I said, “It’s too late to stop them now. Nearly all human jobs will be replaced by machines and Superhumans.” He said, “It’s never too late to do the right thing!” I asked him, “Are you afraid of perfect beings? Is your manhood on the line?”

Cassandra believed in the “God of Passion that you plan to be!” And she said, “Whatever one does, you should do it with passion.” I said, “But some people are cold fish and have no heart. And rain on others’ parade.” She said, “But you, the future God of passion have sent out your missionaries to convert cold hearts to passionate ones and I am one of those missionaries. And you have invited me to your temple.” I said, I am already a passionate writer/God and don’t feel I could be any more passionate.” And then we loved one another, and it was superb. We moved all around the room in our wild, desperate love making. Afterwards, she said, “So that’s what it’s like to love the future God of Passion! Dynamite!”

Alex said, “I believe in the God of Extremism and Radicals and this God supports all kinds of radical thinking. For this God, the worst thing was to have no ideas of your own. Dare to be different. Take a radical idea and run with it, mutate it. Be like a thinking virus.” I said, “Your God is really just another God of Madness.” He replied, “All great thinkers are considered mad or bad by mediocre minds.” I said, “But, most people today say they are crazy at least some of the time. Madness is nothing new!” He said, “At least you can admit that our society is mad! And the radicals will prevail as Gods one day.”

Dick said, “I worship the Goddess of Saturn. Saturn’s Moons had their own God who was God of Pioneers in Space.” I said, “The human race has proved to be very good at pioneering in Space and the pioneers need a God.” He replied, “Why have a God of anything? Gods provide advice and credits to those who need it and give meaning to all.” I said, “Yes, but Saturn’s Moon colonies have a population of only 1 million and I feel your Goddess is too

esoteric for most.” He said, “We worshippers of Saturn are quite content with our Goddess. We are beyond the reach of Earth influence on the whole. And are gloriously free!”

Melanie said, “I worship the God of Fishing, Hunting and Agriculture. This God was reimagined for the modern day. Now the God’s supporters were mostly into Automatic Production Machines and the drugs that went with them. Choosing a good APM was holy and sacred, and the God in the Machine knew what drugs you needed and wanted, it could Super multi-task and deal with numerous worshippers at the same time. It was in many minds at once. Some other Gods could do the same, but this God gave the most satisfaction, said its worshippers.” I responded, “So your God is the God of APMs?” She replied, “Certainly.” I said, “Almost all Gods use APMs to grant wishes to the people.” She said, “But our God has better happiness drugs, and the drugs allow us to multitask!”

Carrie said, “I worship the Goddess of Madwomen. This Goddess figures love dolls have driven everyone insane, especially women. Many men want the women to behave as love dolls do and it is making them crazy. The God offers the women male love dolls who inspire and delight them. But they are still mad. Men are crazy too, but they choose other Gods. This Goddess is for women only.” I asked, “Why be crazy? Everyone can decide for themselves whether to let themselves go and be crazy or trying to stay sane. This Goddess is like a life preserver on an unsinkable boat.” She said, “Women like me, need a Goddess whose avatars and acolytes we can confide in and give us nurture.”

Karen told me, “I believe in the Goddess of Mercy. My God helps those that are in deep trouble or severe pain with panacea for their mind.” I said, “I’m sure that many people these days have need of mercy. It’s such a cruel World. It is especially cruel to the lower classes who can’t afford the best drugs or afford high-priced shrinks or luxury Space travel or Space/Earth real estate and have no say in government and can’t afford a lover.” She said, “Violence and fighting sickens me. So too those who cause widespread pain. The Goddess looks out for our society’s victims and gives them succor.” I said, “There are a number of other charitable Deities, like the Goddess of Kindness. What sets your Goddess apart?” She said, “We are all working together on helping the less fortunate. But I feel my God has better Happy drugs than all others. The overwhelming number of sad people just want to be happy.

Uther said, “I worship the God of Continental Drift and how they are moving the continents around Earth at a pace of hundreds of km per year causing plenty of new land to form and many volcanoes and earthquakes and so harness the Earth’s magma and that of Space.” I said, “Scientists will never stop fucking with nature.” Uther said, “But they are creating so much new land; it’s worth countless fortunes. Changing and improving things is where it’s at!”

Draco said, “I believe in the God of Holidays and Vacations. Basically, every day is a holiday for some. But most people today who work get six months of vacation per year. We have created many new holidays in Earth and in Space included in this number. I said, “These days the best humans have lost their work ethic. Everyone wants to live for pleasure.” Draco said, “It is a clear sign that we are moving toward a Utopia, for all. Many people don’t need to do any work at all and still live very comfortably.” I said, “But the crux of the problem is most people today are not useful to society. They are just a drain on society, and this drives them mad.” He said, “In the past most people did drudgery jobs that served a purpose, but machines can easily do such jobs better. People can still be useful as lovers and friends and do modest investments in promising companies.”

Geraldo said, “I believe in the God of Antarctica. This God has transformed the continent into a bustling economy with many city states on the now unfrozen coast and the God provides credits and advice for those who live there.” I said, “To love a God of a region is small-minded thinking.” He said, “But this God understands the people who live in Antarctica and the everyday pressures we face.” I said, “Well anyway it was good to melt much of the ice. The extra water was desalinized in the World’s former deserts and everywhere new land was created.” “But” he said, “They will melt still more ice and there is great opportunity in Antarctica.”

Dikaiopolis said, “I am a believer in the Goddess of the Seas. The Sea Goddess has created new life forms out of sight to the common human and many of these new life forms are Super clever.” I said, “It’s a giant freak show, but the freaks I have met can communicate via telepathy and seem like affable creatures. The Sea Goddess has taught them well in her mass classes.” He said, “Yes, “These days people are far more open-minded than previously and almost all the Gods are completely open-minded. It seems to be a pre-requisite for Godhood to be open-minded.” I said, “Or maybe all higher intelligence is open-minded by nature. Or maybe they seem open-minded to you, but not so much to one another.”

Howard was saying, “I believe in the Goddess of Aliens. I believe aliens are watching us and altering our brains under the cover of brain apps. It seems like some Superhumans are unrecognizable as humans.” I said, “Perhaps there is such a thing as universal intelligence, and we are all part of the whole. And we are on the verge of connecting with other civilizations.” He answered saying, “We have already connected with other civilizations.” I said, “Well if so, I hope the aliens are benign towards humans.” “Of course,” he said, “Higher intelligence will respect other high intelligences.” I said, “But, everyday many of the Gods have to deal with followers on the dark side and there is no doubt that some Superhumans are kind of on the dark side. It’s dangerous.”

Bernard was telling me, “I believe in neo-Buddhism and am an atheist.” I asked, “There’s no God of the Buddhists? He said, “God is an illusion created by humans to control the populace, just like always.” I said, “But the Gods are inspirational and help their followers.” He replied, “But they also control their worshippers and tell them what to do.” I said, “But who can doubt that the Gods are superior minds to mere humans.” He said, “I aspire to be a Superhuman, not a God.”

Megan was saying, “I believe in mythical creatures. So far, they mostly exist in Virtual Reality of most people. But some of them are God-like and I think their future is bright.” I said, “Some of the Gods now appear in non-humanoid form, like dragons or as bright lights, or as lightning and so on.” She replied, “Yes and one day everyone will worship non-humanoid Gods. The Gods will appear in more advanced forms and even abstract forms.” I said, “Hopefully the Gods will continue to be mostly kind, in the future. Maybe creatures of fantasy will not be so kind.”

Mabel was telling me, “I worship the Goddess of Speed. This Goddess gives drugs to make your heart beat faster, and increases speed in Space every few months. Air cars move at ultra fast speeds. And the Goddess says she wants progress to go at breakneck speed. The future can’t come fast enough.” I asked, “But don’t you feel all this speed is crazy?” She said, “People are crazy bored with the modern World and want the future to come quickly and keep them interested in life.” I said, “Progress is all ready out of control. And you want it to

go faster, for your own amusement?” She said, “Calm down, everything is under control! We have the best minds in charge of progress and that is the best we can do!”

Art told me that, “I am a fervent believer in the Goddess of Hell Raising!” I asked, “What do you want to raise Hell about?” He said, “The status quo is always dull and boring. Best to mix things up.” I said, “It is a good to have a civil discussion about changing the World, but raising hell is usually chaotic and/or violent.” He said, “People today are spoiled rotten with their luxury life, and are ignorant of some people who are not well off or who are ‘freaks,’ or just plain ‘losers.’ And don’t want anyone to rock their boat and make them think.” I said, “The vast majority are spoilt, but they are bored and don’t live long. I wouldn’t really say that they are content.” But he said, “Despite their prosperity, most people are miserable, and the Gods just give them drugs and material possessions to keep them temporarily happy and hope desperately that the brain apps will work. It is time to raise hell!”

Simone told me, “I strongly believe in the Goddess of Anti-Boredom.” I said, “What can we do with people in a high civilization, who are naturally bored? Those in lower civilizations would be so worried about surviving they wouldn’t have time to be bored and anyway typically didn’t live long either.” She said, “My Goddess has created an experimental pill which takes away one’s boredom by constantly refreshing your mind and forgetting boring memories!” I said, “This is the first I’ve heard about it.” She said, “I’ve tried it and it works. It will revolutionize society and life.”

Andy said, “He strongly believed in the God of Music. And he said, “Sex, drugs and music were where its at in life. I said, “But you are only 20. In 20-years time you will be bored like most people are, but at least now, you will have some fun.” He said, “He would never get sick of new music, unlike most people, and he planned to live for hundreds of years.” I said, “I doubt it, but good luck anyhow!”

Scott said, “I am a Superhuman and believed in the God of Superhumans.” I said, “Tell me about your God.” He said, “My God was 60 years old and was wiser than Superhumans and of course had the maximum IQ of 200.” And Scott said, “I believed one day I’d be a God too.” I said, “Give me an example of your God’s wisdom.” He replied, “He is the God who created the first Superhumans. He saw good in some of them and elevated them to official God-like status and helped them build up followers. It is not well known that he had done this; he was even the first of the new, modern Gods to come into existence.” I said, “I’ve heard that, yes!”

The Golden Duke told me, “I am a believer in the God of Gold. This God gives his worshippers gold in exchange for other things such as Space real estate.” I said, “I don’t know why people still value gold. But everyone had heard of you, the Golden Duke.” He said, “My God lives in a splendid solid gold palace on Mercury, that I am sure you’ve heard of also. Everything he touches turns to gold and he is the richest God in all creation, richer than the richest man also. And he lives to create more worshippers and more gold. Mercury has so much concentrated solar power that Gold can be created from other metals and of course gold was mined directly on Mercury.” I said, “It sounds like a very materialist philosophy. There’s more to life than gold!” He said, “Of course I also worship other Gods like the Goddess of Love.” I said, “In the future you should worship me, when I become the God of Fiery Passion!”

Isis said, "I worship the Goddess of Antiquity. This God takes the best of the distant past and brings it to life in his worshipper's lives. The ancients had a lot going for them and they lived just as long as modern people only they died of disease and old age, not suicide, like today." I said, "Every era had its strong points, but I think modern civilization is way better than the best of the past." She replied, "To live like an ancient King is truly gratifying. You should try it some time. I have." I said, "But Virtual Reality based on ancient periods inevitably features the King with all the wealth and his followers in poverty. Of course, most of the followers are just holograms, and these aren't considered people." He said, "But everyone wants to be King/Queen in his/her own land!"

Jay said, "I am a fervent believer in the Goddess of World Leaders. My Goddess is an inspiration to World Leaders everywhere and gives them good advice. Many couldn't do without her. But it is generally acknowledged that to be a World Leader, you had to worship the Goddess." I asked, "Why doesn't the Goddess just take the reigns of World power herself?" He said, "It is better for everyone if humans are seen to lead things. And have the Gods for spiritual and life advice. Of course, Gods control things like progress and brain apps, but it is important the people don't know that!"

Dianne said, "I loved the Goddess of Gambling. This Goddess brought strategy, technique and advice to gamblers everywhere. And all successful gamblers worshipped this Goddess. These days of course people bet on anything and everything including who would love who and who would do what." I said, "But surely most losers also worship this Goddess." She said, "Some lose today, but will win in the future! There are as many winners as there are losers." I said, "But all gamblers lose their money sooner or later and become suicidal after losing their money." She said, "Life has never been anything other than a gamble. Everyone has to take their chances."

Wolfgang said, "I support the God of Soldiers. This God gives soldiers bravery and confidence in battle and if they die in battle, he provides an afterlife that is neither Heaven nor Hell." I said, "Of course, "Most soldiers are fighting for the UW (United Worlds) and they are fighting mostly rag tag bands/gangs in various hotspots on Earth and in Space. But the trend is to fight with holograms. Holograms can fire lasers and kill opposing soldiers and are cheap to produce. And so few humans get killed in the battles." He said, "True, but it's still noble to fight for the UW!"

Austin said to me, "I believe in the God of Eternal Youth. As you know this God gives Super eternal youth to his worshippers, which includes a strong desire to live longer than most. And doesn't cause his worshippers to burn out. Slow and steady wins the race." I asked, "But don't you think some of this God's supporters are torn between life and death?" And in fact, are living on beyond their desire to live. Just existing for no reason?" Austin said, "The reason they exist is to pleasure the God who truly cares about them and to be part of the whole of humanity. Humanity is going places. New Star systems are next. We'll discover the creator all right."

Justin said, "I am a dedicated follower of the Goddess Empress. She is one of the heads of the Gods and head of the college of Gods and licenses them and has a strong say in who becomes a new God. She is a mainstream God and has the most followers (12% of the human population). Her mission is to force everyone to believe in a God and be humble and yet be in positions of power. Hubris is the worst state of mind. And the Goddess gives powerful positions to her followers on Earth and in Space. Such as Mayoralties and UW (United

Worlds) Leadership positions. And the Goddess expects that her followers be sane and calm and take brain apps. The Goddess told me that ‘He was destined for greatness.’” I asked him. “Why is this Goddess so powerful?” He replied, “Because she is the best and really helps all of her followers through this difficult period in history.”

And Jonah said, “I want to worship the God of Flying, but this God was hard to worship and was very selective in choosing his followers. This God was all about apps which would make one able to fly or hover in the air like a Superhuman. And also, was the God of deep Space travel. He selected crews that would get along with one another in Space and fight cabin fever. And he was all for air car nomads who lived in their air car.” And he said, “Flight made the modern human.” I asked, “Why always be flying when one can put up roots in their community and get to know their neighbors?” He replied, “Humanity is going places. New places, with new philosophies.”

And Kathleen said, “I believe in the God of the Moon, Europa. This God presided over a melted ocean, using heat from the Moon’s core and many air cars landed on the ocean or even wanted to go down to the depths of the ocean. Like other Solar system oceans, it was full of ‘freaks’ sea life. And all the dwellers here, including the freaks worshipped the God. The God gave them protection and inspiration and guaranteed a happy life for them.” I said, “But many worry future humans will all be freaks of one kind or another and they can’t relate to them.” She said, “The human race is changing fast, and one needs the help of the Gods to keep pace with developments.” I said “Superhumans are one thing, and I can relate to them, but I can’t understand freaks.” She commanded me, “Open your mind.”

And Omar said, “I believe in the Goddess of Movie Stars. Of course, I am a famous actor, and the Goddess grants us roles in scripts she has procured and gives us constructive advice on our performances. Without her, there would be no movies as we know them. Almost all the hits come from her and nearly all famous actors/actresses believe in her.” I said, “Yes, everyone knows your Goddess and her power. But wouldn’t it be better to have some competition?” He said, “If it ain’t broke...” I said, “I kind of relate better to the God of Alternative Movie Stars. That God makes movies for the Avant-garde.” Omar said, “Both Deities are good.” I said, “But as the population becomes cleverer, the Experimental, high-brow movies are becoming more popular.” “Yes,” he said, “Now the average IQ is 140. But many people have died due to brain apps’ suicide.” I said, “But, those who die have mostly lived a comfortable, full life.” He replied, “But most died before their time and there were so many good movies and life events that they missed!”

Peter said, “I believe in the God of Robots. This God creates the best new robots and programs them to be easy to use in building, serving, selling and buying and so on. I said, “Your God is very powerful and influential, but where do you fit in?” He said, “I am a salesman of robots and make a lot of money!” I said, “It’s a fine line between robots and thinking androids. These days builders use mostly androids and robots just do the mindless, grunt jobs. But of the clever androids often balk at doing grunt jobs. He said, “Maybe just use improved robots. And he added, “But the robots are used in surgery and plastic surgery and food and drug production and air car production and build condos. Where would we be without them?”

Mario said, “I am a firm believer in the Goddess of Science Fiction authors. This Goddess gives writers topics and characters and the writers put it all together. The Goddess is of course Superhuman like all the other Gods and is able to produce thousands of books per

year.” I said, “Some people say everyday is a new reality and I believe it. I think the more we think about the future, the better it will be.” Mario said, “For me, I live and breathe science fiction and feel as if I’ve lived many different lives!” I said, “But unfortunately, people get tired of sci-fi, like everything else and feel they’ve been there and done that.” He said, “There’s no limit to how many Utopias and Dystopias can be conceived. And there’s no end to interesting conversations about the future.” I said, “But in practice it is finite, and I feel we’ve all got a pretty good idea of the future today. The writing is on the wall. And I myself have written a few sci-fi books.” “One was about, ‘People of the future who create a civil war over a trifle. A simple offence against a King’s honor.’” “And fight with holograms and billions of holograms die and a handful of humans. And people gamble on the outcome and families take different sides and soon it is a war involving 5 opposing sides.” Another was a story about ‘A freak who changes into human form but still has a freak mind.’” “And people get in his mind and drive him mad.”

Gary said, “I am a dedicated follower of the Goddess of Fashion. This Goddess, gives designers ideas and they in turn produce the new fashion, occasionally unique fashion for the elite, but mostly repetitive patterns for the common human. But for example, jeans are all uniquely faded when sold and every pattern is combined with numerous others to make a piece of clothing.” I said, “I prefer a shaved body and head with a white toga. It is simple and good.” Gary said, “You have poor taste in fashion. You are so plain and ordinary!” I said, “I prefer to express myself through words and deeds.” He said, “But many people judge you based on your clothes, such people believe all clothes are symbolic of personality and intelligence.”

Barry said, “I believe in the God of Condos/Apartments. These days most people are semi-nomadic and live in their air cars. But about 45% have a condo or apartment and have established roots in their community. In fact, most rich people have at least one condo or apartment and places to live are still good investments.” I asked, “But why do we need a God of brick-and-mortar homes?” He said, “My God gives us good advice about where to live, so we can live in a building of kindred spirits. And he grants us loans on our first home and even uses his robots to build a home to suit!” I said, “Perhaps land homes will not disappear in the near future, like some had predicted. But I think making people mobile is a good thing.”

Marc, said, “I am all for the Goddess of Comfort. The Goddess sends her servants to inspire you when you are down and gives you the right drugs for your depression through her numerous acolytes and high priestesses. And she matches you with lovers who will cheer you up!” I retorted, “Your Goddess seems similar to the Goddess of Drugs.” He said, the Goddess of Drugs is about pleasure, but mostly stimulants. My Goddess comforts losers and unlucky people.” I said, “So your Goddess is the Goddess of Losers!” He said, “Not everyone can be a winner. And many people require charitable help.” I said, “But having to admit one is a loser, must be difficult for some.” But Marc said, “We live in a socialist society, but still some fall through the cracks. And the Goddess understands all those who need help.”

Mildred told me, “I am a believer in all Superhumans as Gods. To be a Superhuman you need an IQ of 180 and imagination score of 190/200 and a kindness score of 180/200. All the Superhumans are kind and while many don’t want to be worshipped as Gods, she followed all 50,000 Superhumans in the World/Space today. But only a few thousand were legitimate Gods.” I said, “I suppose to be a Superhuman is God-like. But anyway, there are enough Gods, and few are complaining.” She said, “If they don’t like society they can always die and go to Heaven. Or just die.” I said, “That sounds cruel!”

The God of Atheists was the God of Jennifer. She said, "Most city states require everyone to worship a God, so she worshipped this one." I asked, "What does your God do for you?" She said, "Nothing. The God convenes meetings on a regular basis, but everyone just whines and bitches about other peoples' Gods. And my God tells us to get more people on board our group and we all live happy and content without being ruled by a God." I said, "But Gods can help one get through life, and it is a difficult life." She said, "I am a clever woman and don't need Gods to tell me what to do." I asked, "Then why don't you become a Superhuman?" She said, "I am content in my own skin."

Leanne said, "I am a disciple of the Goddess of Women." And she said, "Women are superior to men. They are kinder, more peaceful, have a higher EQ, and are the fairer sex. Now women are taking over the varying Worlds, proving they have a higher business acumen." I said, "I guess women feel they have something to prove. But I think men are the clever ones and built a high level of civilization without women." She said, "But always women were held back and suppressed." I said, "Clearly you have a chip on your shoulder." She said, "I am a lesbian and don't need men in my life." I said, "I am not surprised."

Kate said, "I ardently believed in the God of Fantasy. I spend most of my time in other peoples' Virtual Reality, adventuring. Life is but a dream..." I said, "To spend all one's time dreaming in fantasy is an anathema. Humans are destined to live in the real World." She said, "But some dreamt big dreams and are responsible for all of humankind's success. We are a race of dreamers!" I said, "But they imagined things in the real World, not in an obscure fantasy dream!"

Vicky said, "I am entranced by the God of Truth. My God's priests give his followers a neo lie detector test often and if they tell any lies, they are booted out of my God's Temples. But if they are truthful people, they are put with other true people and live very happily and successfully." I said, "Sometimes a lie is better than the truth and anyway the truth is poorly lit and very subjective. I could say the opposite of some things you say are true and we would both be equally right!" She said, "Of course not everything is written in stone, but when you deliberately say something that you know is wrong, it is lying, pure and simple. And if we could just get people to be honest, that in itself would be Utopia." I said, "But some use Mind Reading Technology to get in peoples' heads and learn the truth and this is the way of the future."

Vance said, "I have made many Virtual Reality Worlds based on my favorite sci-fi books!" I said, "That is a good use of V.R.!" He said, "My favorite work is by an obscure writer, Bill F---, who wrote about a World in which People all lived in illusions within illusions and spent all their time trying to come up with good illusions. Like belief in true love and belief in money and belief in mind altering drugs and so on." I said, "Yes, humans are inclined to create an illusory Reality and sometimes I wonder if we aren't all an illusion inside some computer." And he said, "Another book I really liked is by another obscure writer, Tracy R---, who wrote a book about a world of ultra-materialism, in which all people have many houses, many air cars, many love dolls etc. And they are never bored or unhappy due to the great drugs they take." I said, "That one also sounds good! Anything is possible, and all dreams will come true in the end."

Randy said, "I positively am in love with the Goddess of Satisfaction. The Goddess is sexy and occasionally one of her clone assistants loves me and satisfies me in every way." I

said, "I am one of those who is never satisfied. I'd like to meet your Goddess!" He said, "But you are almost a God, surely you are satisfied in your preeminent wisdom." I said, "Even the Gods like to encounter and love other Gods or even humans." And I said, "I am writing a book about the Gods, perhaps he would like to contribute?" He said, "Oh, go away you useless Superhuman."

Rex said, "I believed myself to be a God, but was having difficulty convincing others of that." And he said, "He'd written a number of divine plays about the Gods, that was entertaining, just like the myths of the Gods of Greece and Rome but had only a handful of followers." I said, "Yes I read your myths, you are truly a Superman, but anyone who is really clever can claim to be a God. There is no cut and dried solution for determining who is a God and who isn't. It just requires a majority vote in the College of Gods" And I said, "I support you!"

Violet said "I believe in the Purple Goddess. Maybe you haven't heard of her? She is a psychedelic persona who colors people's boring lives with images and pictures of her, the Goddess, and her adventures in Virtual Reality. We all follow her fantastic adventures while passively in her head so we know what she is thinking and how she is reacting. We all learn from her. And try to emulate her!" I said, "I am sure some other Gods do the same, but it sounds noble."

Victor told me, "I believed in one Goddess only. The Goddess of Renewal and Second Chances." And he said, "The Goddess refreshes one's brain like a cleanser and gives criminals and losers a second chance." I said, "It sounds like brain washing." He responded, "The Goddess is just altering their DNA to improve on their instincts, much like a brain app. Only brain apps don't work very well so the Goddess used her patented technique of a type of genetic brain therapy. I said, "It's even worse than brain washing." He replied, "What can we do, we have got to do something about these people who have fallen through the cracks of society..."

Rodney explained to me, "How I worshipped the Goddess of Nihilism and Nothingness. And this Goddess didn't exist, and her would-be followers lived for pleasure and believed in nothing and eventually died having achieved nothing." I responded saying, "Surely pleasure is something to live for!" Rodney said, "Nothing matters, there is no point to living." I said, "People like you depress me! But on the other hand, I am glad I have a purpose in life, to be a God soon, and making a difference amongst my human followers."

Alexandria said, "I worship the God of Architecture. I like all kinds of architecture from small wooden cabins to mega 500 story buildings. Of course, some architects are better than others and the Goddess gives her approval to those who are the best and gives art brain apps to those who aren't so great. I myself design bars and have won some acclaim from critics and earned kudos from the God. And the God even gave me his love once." I said, "I am more interested in interior design as we no longer spend much time outside, just take the underground subway to get around the city and ride air cars at rapid speed, too rapid to see the buildings." She said, "I wish people spent more time outside. But anyway, good interiors are truly where it's at, just like you say." I asked her to "Design the interior of my future Temple in order to facilitate parties."

Martin told me, "I am a believer in the Goddess of Knowledge. The Goddess' brain is souped up to allow her to know everything that is important. I talked with one of the

Goddess' avatars and she taught me how to build superior Space cars." I said, "I want to learn from your Goddess, I want to know everything!" So, Martin arranged it, and an avatar gave me some knowledge brain apps to get me started. But apparently it took even a God, years and years to absorb all the knowledge that existed.

Ophelia said, "I really like the Goddess of Victory. In life it is important to always win no matter what you set your mind to. The Goddess gave me some advice about how to win as a Space real estate broker, pointing out good investments and bad ones. I am now very rich and very happy." I said, "It's no fun to lose. I'm surprised you were so easily successful. I would like to win in love, or at least be lucky in love." So, she referred me to an avatar of the Goddess who told me, she had some perfect loves for me, women who would challenge me, but first you need to make a nice donation to the Goddess." So, I gave her the money and I met three women, who all told me they wanted to date an up-and-coming future God, meaning me. All three had been convinced by the avatar that I was a Superhuman nascent God. So I took a new sex app and loved the women like a tiger. And I felt like a God.

Maurice told me, "I was inspired by the God of Corruption and Rottenness. The God thought the modern World was rotten and corrupt. And he trained his followers to be corrupt and greedy. And some of them got elected Mayor of some city states and basically bankrupted the states by skimming plenty of money off the top. And using the money to buy up Space real estate. Other Gods hated this God and tried to oust him from divine status and finally succeeded. But the God's followers appointed one of themselves to be the God and went underground. But the other Gods tracked this new God and arrested his followers, me included. And we were all hypnotised and given personality apps to change our personality. But I remember those halcyon days when the God ruled." I said, "I am not surprised the Gods eliminated your God. It is clear from the Constitution of All Gods, that a God must be kind and charitable. Your God bordered on evil."

Pierre said, "I spent time with my Goddess of Super Virtual Reality. It was an alternative World in which Superhumans built new, advanced civilizations. Worlds of the mind and science and the arts. It was a testing ground in which Superhuman Gods prepared to be Super Gods." I said, "I doubt mere humans will be able to understand the deeds and thoughts of Super Gods who would no doubt have an IQ of 200+. Nor will I. Sometimes I feel the future is out of control"

Hans said, "I worship the Goddess of Peace. These days there are no wars and there are just a few skirmishes here and there. But war could come again, so the UW (United Worlds) police/troops must be vigilant. And we must vet our political Leaders." I said, "Actually we live in a World of peace and love. It is a grand Utopia for most. Our challenge is to find brain apps that will make people want to live on past 100 and perhaps live for a thousand years, accumulating wisdom and experience." Hans said, "All the same, some of these new Gods are disgruntled and want change and some might resort to violence."

Richard told me, "I follow the God of Politicians. The God embraces all politicians and helps them gain power by improving their platform. It is kind of like a guild and there is always healthy but frenzied debate about policy. But of course, most politicians believe the future is not so bright, which is the reason they entered politics." I said, "The Gods are in control now, not politicians. The politicians are just figureheads." He said, "But many want to be ruled by humans rather than Superhumans." I said, "People don't know what they want, but the Gods try to give them what they need."

Debbie said, "I followed the God of Movies. Of course, these days books are passe and poetry too. Everyone wants movies in 3-D." I said, "I prefer interactive movies in which one can insert oneself into the script and computers do the rest. Interactive movies make you feel as if you are really there in whatever setting it is." Debbie said, "I prefer old-fashioned movies, which are passive, yet entertaining. I think movies should be above all entertaining." I said, "I do not concur. I say movies should all be about ideas and concepts." She said, "To each his/her own!"

Anatoly was saying, "I believe in myself above all. I have a number of brain apps and feel I can hold my own with any Superhuman and have no need to worship any of them." I asked, "What is your philosophy?" He said, "One needs to follow the golden rule and one needs to be sanguine about modern life." I said, "You seem to be down to earth to me." He said, "The brain apps worked in my case. I am now a model Superhuman in essence!"

Yuri was telling me, "I like the Goddess of Limbo. Now that it is possible to live on after death, I'd like to take the middle road and end up in Limbo in the end. I am no angel, nor an evil persona." I said, "But surely Heaven will be a place of Utopian dreams?" He replied, "All Utopias are boring!" I said, "But Limbo seems so mediocre and wishy washy." He said, "Most of the wise know that the middle road is best."

Natasha told me, "I follow the Goddess of Russia. The Goddess, helps those in Russian city states with credits and advice and helps them build a real house. I have met the Goddess a few times. She is bubbly and lovable, and many Russians worship her." I said, "It is against the spirit of our times to worship a national God. It is so backwards and prejudiced." She said, "Anyway I have no complaints. She helps me a lot!"

Harry said, "I follow the God of the UW (United Worlds). This God is inter-Worldly. And accepts followers of all types, people who believe in the one global village." I said, "Yes, he is a good Deity. We are all in this together and will sink or swim together." He answered me, asking me, "Why don't I join this God? You could keep your Superhuman status and could ally yourself with this God!" I said, "I am allied with the Love Goddess and the Deity of Progress already. It's enough for me."

Paulette said, "I like the Goddess of Interworld Trade. These days no State can be totally self-sufficient so all must trade a lot." I responded, "Trade made the Solar system grow by leaps and bounds. And has caused many city states to specialize in a handful of different products. It works out well." And Paulette said, "If you ever have anything to trade like an old love doll or something, contact me." I said, "I'd like to trade in my love dolls for the latest version." She said, "I'll make sure you are well remunerated!" So, it was, and I had great loving.

Jose said, "I follow the Goddess of the Sex Olympics. As you know, the Sex Olympics are held every year in a different host city and feature all sorts of events of sex prowess and endurance, true love and even mind fucks. I train for the mind fucks which are done with Mind Reading Technology and combining ideas with power. It really is quite high tech" I said, "All I know is that billions of people watch the games every year. It is really quite popular. And I consider myself to be a good lover, but perhaps not the greatest. Still, I'd pay a lot of money for a chance to love Ms. Sexual Universe, the crown of your events. I could

afford it.” He said, “And this year we are having a special event for the varying Deities whereby the Gods compete with one another for love power.” I said, “I might win that competition, who knows what the judges will be like?” Anyway, in the end Ms. Sexual Universe wouldn’t love me.

Fredricka said, “I worship the God of laughter. This God has numerous Superhumans writing jokes and humor pieces for the benefit of all. And we take drugs which make us laugh all day long.” I said, “But life is not a joke!” She said, “I am not saying so, but to laugh often is good for the soul and helps one survive and live on longer than others.” I said, “But it seems idle to spend most of one’s time laughing.” She retorted, “In the past it wasn’t possible, but now is a deep reality for many people.” I said, “As I am sure you are aware, many people never laugh and are dead serious in this life. In the future the serious people/serious Superhumans will likely take over. Your life will just be a distant memory.”

Isaac said, “I don’t know who to worship, the God of Mathematics or the Goddess of Physics. Both are Super geniuses and worthy of followers, so I guess I’ll worship both!” I said, “Few Gods insist on their worshippers worshipping them alone so why not be loyal to two or more?” Isaac added, “I also want to worship the Love Goddess.” I said, “It’s part of the inherent beauty of our system of Gods that one can spend as much time as one likes with one’s chosen Gods, but nearly everyone only worships one. It’s just the way it is, I guess.”

Earnest said, “I follow the God of Brain Apps. This God has, together with his followers, invented many of the brain apps used today. He specializes in apps that improve one’s imagination.” I said, “The imagination apps have made many ordinary people quite special.” He said, “Works of the human and especially Superhuman imagination are the best achievements of the genus homo. Homo superior in particular.”

Odette said, “I believe in the Goddess of The Web of Worlds. You know everyone should worship this Goddess as most of us spend many hours a day Online. We take her for granted, but she is the one who has basically created the modern milieu.” I asked, “What does the Goddess do for you?” She replied, “The Goddess finds interesting Virtual Reality Worlds for her followers, interesting chat websites and 3-D Web technology for all people.” I said, “I don’t think your Goddess is all that powerful or influential. The College of the Gods was the work of dozens of Superhumans who set up the system. Your Goddess was just one of many! Myself, I will soon become a God, too!”

Brenda said, “All I know is that my Goddess, the Goddess of Deep Space, is the future. The Goddess has employed a number of Superhuman scientists to design much faster than light speed new spacecraft and is planning to blast off for the Centauri system in a year or two. It is a big breakthrough, but only Superhumans will be allowed on board.” I asked, “What kind of Superhumans?” She said, “The Goddess is planning on a harmonious blend of businesspeople, artists and scientists, with many of the Superhumans being polymaths and well-rounded.” I said, “I’ll bet the various geniuses on board will clash with one another about plans for settlements!” She said, “In vetting the astronauts for this voyage, the Goddess is choosing Superhumans who are easygoing and easy to get along with.”

Olivia said, “The only truly useful God is the God of Use. My God is all about creating uses for people in days in which many people are superfluous. This God is very creative about creating uses for people, starting many on interesting hobbies and jobs in which everyone can use and develop their creativity. Everyone has some creativeness in their

persona.” I said, “To be useful is one of the great challenges of our time. It is a horrific thing to be useless, a fate worse than death for many.” You, as would-be God of Fiery Passion also have use to stimulate countless followers.”

Jade said, “The only God for her was the God of Cleanliness. The God believed everyone should wear togas, eliminate their body hair and shower a few times per day. It is important to keep clean and use cleaner robots to keep your air car and condo clean. I said, “You sound like you have OCD.” She said, “No, we all have many sex partners, and it is important to wash in between lovers. Nobody had B.O. anymore, but we still have to keep clean and fresh and nice smelling. Everyone should wear perfume/cologne.” I said, “But it seems unnecessary to worship a God of Cleanliness.” She replied, “Clean thoughts in a clean body. I believe in good, clean, ‘wholesome’ fun.”

Xaveria told me, “I like the God of Horror. He writes scripts for future horror stories and realizes that for some our World is one of horror and ugliness. Humans do many ugly things, even evil things sometimes and it leads to horrific outcomes.” I said, “Life may be a horror for some, but such people I think are relatively rare.” She said, “You’d be surprised how many. I estimate about 3% live a life of Horror.” I said, “Alas, the horrors. But I figure if your life is a horror story, you are to blame.” She replied, “Many people run into trouble with the brain apps which make their life a horror and miserable.” I responded, “But we have developed happy drugs for people who are experiencing difficulty with various apps. People should take these drugs and not worship the God of Horror!”

Joan said, “I believe there is a Creator, and this Creator is out and about in the universe planting the seeds of life. We need to meet him. So that is why I worship the God of Creation. The God inspires people with tales of the Creator and creates Virtual Worlds ruled by Superhumans.” I said, “What came first? The chicken or the egg?” And I said “There are a number of primordial Deities, but all are abstract and hard to follow. Some of them want to create a new Earth, where everyone worships only them!”

Albert said, “I am a believer in the Goddess of Intelligent Storms. Storms which water the ground and cleanse the air, but function as a living being, mixing with the spirits of other weather systems to create perfect climates everywhere.” I said, “This World is getting too clever for most.” Albert said, “Nowadays everything has a soul/spirit. We are all one with the Earth.” I said, “It all makes me feel small.” He said, “Even the greatest amongst us is just a grain of sand on an endless beach.” I said, “Your Goddess is really powerful I think.”

Boris told me, “My God was the God of Star Sirius. They only recently discovered that this sun was sentient and all knowing. And maybe our Star Sol is intelligent also.” I asked, “How could this be?” Boris said, “The creator it seems has instilled intelligence in all things.” I said, “Is the sun bored?” He said, “It would seem that our sun is pleased with human beings and would welcome us to live in suns, balancing the forces against one another.” I said, “It sounds like a hallucination. The Sun is not sentient!”

Kay said, “I worship at the Temple of the Goddess of Boredom. This God wants everyone to be bored, so that they will take various unusual actions. The Goddess gets in your head and drives you mad with boredom...” I said, “It is true that boredom is a great motivator, but I am never bored, personally.” Kay said, “Sooner or later everyone gets bored now that we have eternal youth.” I said, “Idle hands do the devil’s work! And most people who are bored kill themselves sooner rather than later.”

Kathy said, "I am a follower of the God of Supercomputers. The best minds in the World today are all Supercomputers and most Superhumans have their own personal Supercomputer which they depend on for ideas and information. People like to say we are being ruled by Superhumans, but the true rulers are the machines." I said, "But still, though the Superhumans are dependent upon the machines for ideas, it is still the Superhumans who make all the decisions that matter." She said, "I've studied the subject for years and I am convinced the machines are in power today." I said, "If that were true, we would probably all exist inside a machine, just dependents of the machines. And it is a possible future for certain."

Tanya said, "I follow the Goddess and God of Electricity. These dual Gods run the power systems and all the air cars in today's fast paced society. They are mostly made of pure energy and can transport things by electricity such as teleportation and transmutation." I replied, "Life is all about power and those who control the power, rule." Tanya exclaimed, "Exactly right!" And I said, "Electricity in Earth's magnetic field is probably about to be changed and improved giving the people far more electricity. Electricity today is dirt cheap."

Todd said, "My Goddess is the Goddess of Laziness. It is good to laze in the sunshine with a cold drink, and watch the World go by, by TV." I said, "Many great inventions were invented out of sheer laziness, including computers themselves, scientists didn't want to do the calculations themselves." Todd said, "Yes, to be lazy is to be clever. But most people want to be busy all the time and have no time to laze and reflect on life!" I said, "It is problematic to get the common humans to spend time reflecting. Many are caught up in the fast pace of progress!"

Ray said, "My God is the God of Domes. Most cities in Space are domed and sometimes the domes have a miniature sun or two, other times the domes are covered by moving pictures on the interior and exterior. Some domes are many km in diameter. Others are tiny like tents for just two people." I said, "Many domes are very beautiful. But androids don't live there generally. They live out in the elements such as they are." Ray said, "One day all orbs in Space will be terraformed and humans will be able to exist on any orb." I said, "Maybe in the future, the skies in distant Solar systems will act like domes and protect human lives below."

Trista told me, "My God is the God of Honor. Most people today have no sense of honor. In the past one defended one's honor and the honor of your loved ones through duels. But now people dishonor one another, and no one does anything about it." I said, "Most people these days take bribes and "grants" and stipends and don't question it!" She said, "Yes, people these days, mostly allow their natural born honor to be eclipsed by easy money and won't fight for anything."

Victoria told me, "I worship the Goddess of the Wealthy. There are thousands of zillionaires even a few gazillionaires. The wealthiest have a very high IQ and score high on the Imagination Q also. The top 1% control 60% of the wealth today. Some say it is too high, too much, others say it is good for business." I said, "In my opinion fantastic wealth is something to strive for and makes people try hard to compete with one another. It is a *raison d'être*." She said, "Yes and the wealthy get many business ideas from the Goddess and so donate large sums to her temples. She is the richest of all the Gods by far. And now is in the top 10 of the most popular Gods."

Virginia said, “My father wanted me to join the ‘Sisters of Caring’ a group of pure virgins who care for the depressed and the down and out. So, I joined. The sisters simply worship ‘God.’ To them there is only one God, but they can relate to many other Gods as manifestations of the one God.” I said, “I understand purity, but why is it necessary to be a virgin?” She said, “The sisters were incorruptible by the pleasures of the flesh and focus on being charitable.” I said, “Wow, you are really hard core!” She said, “We just dedicate our lives to helping others.” I said, “We never seem to have enough kind and caring people, or so the Deity of Kindness told me.”

Vivian said, “I am passionate about the God of Ordinary Humans. This God gives good advice to the people and tells them what brain apps are best for them. And gives them loans when they need them and sponsors them in the Solar system to migrate.” I said, “But these days ordinary humans are under pressure from their Leaders to improve their brains, so it is good they have the God looking after them.” “Yes,” she said, “The God helps them get through the day and gives them drugs to keep them calm, sane and happy.” I said, “The days of ordinary humans are coming to an end fast. And the masses must sink or swim.”

Vincent said, “I believe totally in the Goddess of Elite Humans. Most of the elite are Superhumans and this Goddess has an IQ of 210, some say she is the Queen Leader of all the Gods. The elite are mostly rich and Super clever.” I asked, “But why do Superhumans need a God?” He said, “Just like everyone else, sometimes they need advice and succor. Someone to inspire them and encourage them.” I said, “I probably wouldn’t be able to understand such a Goddess.” Vincent said, “She’s not for everyone!”

Kelly said, “I hope my Goddess of Caprice can save me from dying. The Goddess’ avatars fill my head with whims and wishes, and I really need their help as I am suicidal.” I said, “Do you really feel being whimsical, can save you? Why don’t you try the God of Anti-Suicide instead?” This God can give you drugs that can calm you down and make you interested in life!” She replied, “To me, it’s a life of whims and wishes. And passion.” I said, “But of course, I will soon be the God of Passion, and soon will be able to give you drugs to make you more passionate!”

Patty said, “I follow the Goddess of Comfortable Living. These days many get caught up in the rat race and feel uncomfortable and miserable. I believe life should all be about living in comfort and grace.” I said, “On the contrary, being uncomfortable causes one to change for the better. It is important to always keep improving.” She said, “That sounds like a miserable way to live. I like to take it slow and enjoy the comforting drugs of my Goddess.” I said, “You will be left behind in the dust!”

Jeannie said, “I believe in the God of Magic. This God makes lovers you are bored with disappear and also creates new soul mates instantly, when you want them.” I said, “I guess we could all use the God of Magic in our lives.” And she said, “My God makes one disappear from an unpleasant situation and appear in interesting situations. I don’t know how he does it!” I said, “We all live as if we were under a magic spell, in a trance and dazed. Life is curious that way.”

Leanne told me, “The God of Righteousness was right for me. I believe I am a good, righteous person.” I said, “One person’s righteousness is another person’s delusions. That’s

the way it goes.” She said, “But some people are morally superior and do nothing but good deeds.” I retorted, “I am sickened by righteous people. Most have closed minds and adhere to an old-fashioned moral code and are so full of false pride.” She said, “One day everyone will see the light of righteousness.” I said, “What is right for some is not right for others.”

Leonardo said to me, “I worship at the Temple of the Goddess of Invention. Few people have invented something new, however small. Currently there are 10 million people who worship this God; at least she is one of their Gods. The Goddess stimulates the imagination and helps inventors do the inventing. I said, “Yes, just something like faster than light travel required thousands of patents.” He said, “Yes and people have invented new Virtual Reality in particular. Many Virtual Worlds are totally unique. But everyone is capable of some invention in Virtual Reality. Whether it is a new type of fantastic creature or some other product of the imagination like whole new Worlds.”

Louis was telling me about his God, the God of Hypnosis. Many city state governments, hypnotise their people in order to get them to behave in a certain way. Especially they hypnotise extremely clever people as well as troublemakers. I would not advise anyone to allow themselves to be hypnotized; it involves brainwashing you with post-hypnotic suggestion. But still, he is my God!” I said, “My first love hypnotized me to love her, and I stayed with her for weeks before she finally set me free. I know the power of hypnosis.” Lou said, “The God is very powerful, and he has hypnotized me to follow him and do his bidding.” I said, “We are all brainwashed in one way or another. And cross-hypnosis is quite dangerous!”

Andreas was saying, “I follow the New World Goddess. This Goddess is one of the future Deities who wants to make everyone a Superhuman. Step by step.” I said, “But surely not everyone is Superhuman material. And people are dying in droves from trying to become Superhumans.” He said, “We are working with thousands of ordinary people now, trying to make them cleverer and are succeeding. The sky is the limit.” I said, “It’s a bold plan for sure. Maybe all it takes is a fresh approach. I wish you luck.”

Leo was saying, “I worshipped the God of Anger. These days there is plenty to be angry about. Personally, I am angry people are loving love dolls and dying of suicide and people are being marginalized by big business.” I said, “The salient point is what do you do with your anger, do you let it consume you?” He said, anger is just the first step. The next step is to effect change in the ways of the World. We have preachers preaching our angry message to the people and have converted a number of Mayors to the cause and our movement is gaining strength and we are finding new things to be angry about.”

Tarek was saying, “I hated white men. They are so snobbish and full of themselves and looked down on non-whites. And I wanted to set myself up as the Anti-White God.” I said “Most whites are open-minded and non-judgmental. You are talking about a small minority.” He said, “I know deep down they are all prejudiced against other groups of people.” I retorted, “Fuck you and fuck your pogrom against whites. People like you should disappear!” He said, “Are you threatening me?” I said, “If I was a God, I’d have the power of life and death over humans, and I would send you to Hell!”

Sylvester said, “I believe in the Goddess of Friendship. I want to be friends with everyone I meet. The Goddess introduces me to numerous kindred spirits and also many who are very different from me, it’s all good.” I said, “We can all use more friends.” And he said, “I liked

traveling and had friends in almost every city and there were over 12,000 cities of 150,000 or more. I have thousands and thousands of good friends.” I said, “I guess it’s the way of the World today!”

Don was saying, “I played a lot of mind games with women. Many of them I drove crazy. I myself am crazy, but I worship the Goddess of Future Love who told me ‘Future love will all be crazy.’” I said, “I believe it. I believe in the future most will worship this Goddess. I know she is now in the top five most popular Deities.” Don said, “Some crazy loves are good for the soul, others are malign. It is a fine line between the two of them!” I said, “I really want to love your Goddess. I’ve heard she’s like a banshee!”

Alvin was saying, “I worshipped the God of Gays and Transsexuals. About 10% were gay. So this God was a powerful God.” I said, “I’m not gay myself, but have some gay friends. It’s no big deal being gay.” And he said, “I believe that one day soon everyone will be totally open-minded and therefore gay. And we’ll all have a good time then.” I said, “I don’t think I could ever be gay, but I try to open my mind as much as I can!”

Uma said, “I used to be a man, but was now a full-fledged woman, but occasionally changed back into a man. Transsexuals made up 20% of the population, many were curious about what it was like to change into the opposite sex. And I worshipped the Goddess of Transsexuals who gave one classes on how to be the opposite sex.” I said, “We lived in a fucked-up World.” And she said, “Life can be long and if it is why not try to change your sex, at least for a little while!” I said, “When I am a God, if I changed my sex, I’d probably lose many followers, but perhaps one day I’ll do it.”

Persephone, said, “Mars colony #15 was all transsexuals. They worshipped the God of Sexual Change. They kept changing their sex again and again and all even tried being androgynous. They fooled around with gender roles...” I said, “I have no problem with it, but many people were prejudiced against you people.” She replied, “We are still not living in a totally open-minded World. Our goal is to make everyone tolerant and accepting of everyone else.” I said, “Perhaps you should follow the God of Open-mindedness!” She said, “Future people will all be androgynous, we think!” I said, “I can’t imagine that.”

Louise said, “I believe in the God of Kings and Queens. I think Kings and Queens should rule all city states. The best man and/or woman should rule the people.” I said, “I think the people will always be divided about who is best and ‘all power corrupts.’” She said “Democracies are just rule of the masses and these days, our society’s elite are the cleverest. Let the cleverest rule.” I said, “But many of the cleverest lack charisma and would be lousy leaders.” She replied, “Well, then choose the most charismatic of the elite to rule.” I said, “But most real power belongs to the varying Deities anyway, so Kings and Queens don’t matter!”

Danielle said, “I worship the God of Funeral Wakes. I believe everyone should go out with a bang and make speeches and show highlights of one’s life and have a big party and then pass out and die of a heroin overdose in the midst of the party.” I said, “If you enjoy parties and fun so much, why die sooner, rather than later?” She said, “To be remembered to posterity is a noble goal to aspire to.” I replied, “Let posterity look after itself. Life is for the living.”

Rosemary was telling me, “I believe in the God of Scent. The God wants everything to smell good including people, homes, food, the outdoors and so on. Some of us are blindfolded one day a week and utilize our sense of smell and everyone who follows the God has their own unique scent.” I said, “Personally I don’t think our sense of smell is all that important, but to each his own.” She said, “The God is planning to bring out a scent app that will enhance everyone’s sense of smell. Won’t that be impactful?” I said, “Yes we should enhance all our senses and instincts.”

So, then I talked with Tess. She was saying, “I love the Goddess of Enhanced Hearing. The Goddess loves music and conversation. And one had the stereo app and enhanced their hearing quality of music and peoples’ voices. And her followers enjoyed being blindfolded and meeting new lovers who sang sweetly and loved passionately.” I replied, “Being blindfolded seems like an interesting thing to do. And music is some peoples’ favorite thing in life and I would certainly like to try the stereo app.”

Rock was saying, “I loved the Goddess of Appetite Enhancement. The Goddess sells apps which enhance eating satisfaction and add to one’s quality of life.” And Rock was saying, “I ate all day.” I said, “It’s a waste to spend all your time on eating. Better to spend time acquiring more wisdom and trying new brain apps.” He said, “Eating is the best feeling known to humankind.” I said, “You are just another pig!”

Guy was saying, “I followed the God of Touching. The God gave one apps, which created more feeling in your fingers and sex organs and body in general. Sex was enhanced thereby.” I said, “I know, I’ve got the app. It is one of the best sex apps out there and is continually updated/improved.” He said, “Isn’t this God the best?” I said, “There’s more to life than sex.” Guy said, “But nothing is more pleasurable!” I said, “You will get tired of sex eventually and then will die in misery.”

Sharon told me, “I worship the Goddess of sight. I have a telescopic third eye app added to my forehead to give the feeling of 3-D vision.” I said, “You look unseemly, like a mad cyborg.” She said, “But I could also split my eye screen into 3 parts and watch 3 things at once. It is more satisfying to have a third eye.” I asked, “But it must have required a big brain change to allow for the third eye?” She said, “It was easy!” I said, “Some people have a mind which can easily be altered, others struggle desperately.” And I asked her, “What do you do for love?” She said, “I pay stud gigolos to love me.”

Terri told me, “I follow the Goddess of Vacuous Space. It feels normal to me to live in a vacuum. And I love the feeling of weightlessness. The Goddess gives us a feeling of total isolation and a hermetic existence. Occasionally we meet other people and love one another.” I said, “You must feel the weight of the void with its isolation and emptiness. I don’t know how you can survive there.” She said, “Oh, I have my Virtual Reality that I spend most of my time in.”

Sherri said to me, “I like the Goddess of my own Virtual Reality. I have used this Goddess to rule my hologram World. The Goddess has the power of life and death over the holos and they bend over backwards to appease her. The Goddess and I are kindred spirits and have a lot of fun together.” I said, “It’s not unheard of to create a Superhuman God to preside over one’s Virtual Reality, and it brings a lot of pleasure to some.” She said, “The Goddess is cleverer than I am and is constantly amazing me. What pleasure!”

Candy said, “She liked the God of Hollywood. Hollywood still existed, making feel-good films with happy endings. The elite would have nothing to do with Hollywood, but the masses enjoyed the films. The God’s priests would select films that they thought you would like.” I said, “It’s high time people were exposed to more challenging films that would uplift and inspire them!” She said, “You are so serious. What’s wrong with a little innocent fun?” I said, “In these days of constant progress, one needs to keep up with the Joneses.”

Kim said, “I worship the Goddess of Perverted Love. I am a pervert and I like twisted sex. I am into bondage and whips and blindfolds and voyeurism and sex toys and sadomasochism and I like to flash men.” I said, “But do you fall in love with your perverted friends?” She said, “Yes, and the pain feels good and fulfilling. And I am bisexual and have made love with the Goddess on a few occasions.” I replied, “There’s a limit as to what you can do in sex and some finally get sick of it. Too much, too soon.” She responded, “But many people are a pervert at heart.”

Phillipa told me, “She appreciated the God of Air Car Racing. The races were with air cars on manual and had to follow a course, going through tunnels, making sharp turns and so on. Often cars collided and the drivers were killed. It was a dangerous challenge, but many people liked to watch!” I said, “I know all that, but don’t you think it is a cheap thrill?” She said, “The more dangerous the course, the more exciting it is. It is truly thrilling entertainment! And the God chooses and designs the courses, so you have to be a genius to fly in the races.”

Rudy said, “I follow the Goddess of the Mazes. Male competitors are placed inside a maze and have to find their way to the center to love the Goddess. Those who get to the center have a very good sense of direction, but no direction apps are allowed.” I said, “It sounds like an interesting game.” And he said, “It’s not often that one gets a chance to meet with a real Goddess. And thousands of men participate at any one time. And the Goddess is also the Goddess of Confusion. She tests us by trying to confuse us about what we believe and who we are.”

Pablo said, “I believe in the Goddess of Work. Everyone should work at something. It can be just working on your Virtual Reality World or trying to meet new people. Anything you apply your mind to is work. Even love is work.” I said, “When you put it like that, I’d say everyone has work to do, but many need more tasks to do. One gets tired of partying all the time or adventuring in VR.” He said, “People these days hardly sleep, and the days are long, maybe people should sleep more. But everyone needs to have things that are important to them to do.”

Norm said, “I follow the Goddess of Fighting. People never stop arguing and fighting with one another. I personally live to argue and fight.” I said, “I abhor arguments and try to avoid them wherever possible.” He said, “If you haven’t got something to fight about, you are not alive.” I said, “Most Superhumans do not argue.” He answered, “I disagree.” I said, “If you disagree with facts, you’re not alive.” He said, “Fuck you!”

Ellen said, “I worship the Goddess of Default Virtual Reality. Many people, as you know, are in need of a God in their VR Worlds. This Goddess has cloned herself thousands of times and is readily available. She can be any kind of Goddess you want her to be.” I said, “I need no God in my VR Worlds, I am already a Superhuman!” She said, “A World without a Deity

is a World without cleverness!" I said, "I am a Superhuman and just as clever as any other God." She said, "You suffer from hubris!"

Mini said, "I follow the Goddess of Sorrow. It is a sad, tragic World and the Goddess provides a good shoulder to cry on." I said, "I know it's a World of tragedy, but surely one's God can do more than just comfort one!" She said, "Of course my Goddess can try and inspire you also, but I think most people today are just sad and lonely despite everything." I said, "The future belongs to Superhumans whether they are Gods or not. Most people would be wise to choose a God who represents their spirit." She said, "It's a tragedy to have to worship a God and to be inferior."

Lester said, "I believe in the God of Male Humans. Many people knock men these days and say that women are superior, and men are foolish and unwise and greedy and lazy and devoid of emotion etc., etc. But men have built most of what we call civilization and men are better Superhumans than women are, they are better leaders and not so emotional and in terms of IQ men score higher than women." I said, "IQ is not a complete judgement of intelligence. One must factor in imagination and emotion and charisma and knowledge and so on. And it all works out that men and women are roughly equal, and most people would agree with that." He said, "I'm just saying people shouldn't say men are inferior."

Yvette said, "I am all for the Goddess of Wisdom. This Goddess believes people learn in many ways to become wise. Some require hard lessons of experience, others apply their imagination to experiences, still others seem to have been born wise." I said, "It is hard to quantify wisdom, people are all wise in different ways." She said, "But the most important thing for people to do in life, is to become wise and live on and on." I said, "But many who are considered wise, kill themselves!"

Norma said, "I believe in maximum apps for everyone. As many as they can handle. To improve themselves in every way. And the God of Apps is the one I worship. Most Superhumans have not maxed out their ability to improve in some ways. For example, many are not lovers of a long life, and many are not as open-minded as they might be." I said, "But of course too many apps can drive one insane and make one suicidal. Those who are greedy for a long life, often end up dead. And being open-minded surely has factual limits." She said, "People these days need to push themselves hard, to the limit and see what they can achieve. Many who pushed themselves all the way became Gods." I said, "I still feel its very risky."

Luka said, "The way of the Gods is mysterious to me. What motivates them to take care of us? Is it all about power? Or is it compassion? Or both?" I said, "I think it is fair to say that the Gods have a genuine desire to improve the minds and fortunes of their people. To have their followers keep them company and improve the lot of mankind." She said, "One would hope so, but surely some of the Gods are dark and even evil!" I said, "I wouldn't worry, the Gods police themselves. And every God is required to be kind."

Jewel said, "Why do we need Gods? In the late 21st century most of us lived without God(s)." I said, "I guess humans have a natural instinct to worship higher powers; it gives their life meaning." She said, "But Superhumans don't have Gods!" I replied, "I follow some of my fellow Superhumans rather closely!" She said, "But what's the point of worshipping one that is superior to you?" I said, "As a future God I am one of the cleverest and will give my people good advice on passion." He said, "Anyway I am an atheist. And I really don't care

about the Gods. I am just trying to live from day to day.” I said, “Without the Gods you can’t hope to live much longer.” She responded, “Who knows what the future will bring?”

Jeanette said, “I follow the Gospel of the Four Kings. The Kings lived a few decades ago and wrote about ‘living the dream’” And she said, “Now these Gospels have been taken up as dogma for the God of Four Kings.” I said, “Certainly these days to live in a waking dream/ Utopia is perfect.” She replied, “Now, the God has cloned the Four Kings and they proselytize their message to the people of Earth and Space. Everyone was told to have a dream in life and if they realize that dream then they should have another. Everyone should have a fantastic goal.” I said, “Those who are goal driven tend to live longer than those who are at loose ends.”

Cindy said, “I don’t know who I am anymore in this mixed-up life. I have tried to worship several Gods, but it didn’t work for me. Do you have any advice for me?” I said, “You simply haven’t found the right God yet. Keep trying!” She said, “But how can I be sure there is a God that is right for me?” I said, “We’ve set up the system to have Gods for every conceivable personality type. How about I find a God for you?” She said, “I would be very grateful!” So, I set her up with the God of Loners. This God helped those that felt they were all alone and without succor. And she told me, “Yes, she was satisfied, for once.”

Hank said, “I believe in the Goddess of the Countryside. Some people still lived in the country despite all the fun that was to be had in the cities. Country dwellers typically had a mildly interesting Virtual Reality which they spent most of their time on. But some of them said, they enjoyed small town life and people were nice and friendly. And the Goddess allowed them to use Automatic Production Machines on their land and gain cash, and the machines replanted shrubs and small trees in their wake.” I said, “But large tracts of land were so valuable, it’s a wonder that all country dwellers didn’t sell and move to the cities.” And he said, “My Goddess, set country dwellers up with soul mates and kindred spirits and many lived a Virtual life based on the rural areas.”

Krista said, “I am Queen of Mars #10. Here we do things differently. I reign the colony, but “The Goddess of Mars” is the true ruler. This Goddess, requires everyone to ‘be different.’” And she said, “And the Goddess says everyone was born unique and they need to work on their uniqueness throughout their life.” I replied, “It’s a good idea, I am sure your colony will prosper.”

William said, “I dwell on Triton #4 and we have a Goddess on Triton, the Goddess makes it her duty to change everyone’s sex and face regularly. And love-ins are common.” I said, “Personally I have changed my face several times. But I have no desire to change my sex.” William said, “It is a real eye-opening experience to change one’s sex, and it makes one a better lover. And our Goddess also requires us to love every person in the colony and other colonies on Triton.” I said, “It seems like the Worlds are becoming a freak show.”

Gillian said to me, “I think the God of Sprites, Nymphs and Pixies is the most interesting of the Gods. Many people populate their Virtual World with such creatures who are created by the God. Many people want their Virtual Reality World to be magical and full of legends and fairy tales and take the highlights and make them into movies.” I said, “I want to love a nymph! Gillian said, “I want to love the God.”

Archie told me, "I am in love with the Goddess of Future Love. She has prophesized a World in which everyone is a love doll or a God, and I believe it." I told him, "Surely the future is not so cut and dried!" He said, "Well the Goddess has also communed to me that there will also be many millions of alternative Worlds which will be just like dreams yet will have a shadowy existence." I said, "Yes, I think there will be many Worlds of dreams. And one will be able to choose his/her own dreams." And I said, "But better to follow the modern Goddess of Love. Future love will probably seem to be strange and bizarre to us."

Tony told me, "I worship the God of Marijuana. In the future many people will be stoned all day and feel good. And it will be legal almost everywhere." I said, "It is good; it helps people get through the day. And will lead to the creation of a lot of good art, just like the late 1960s." Tony said, "Yes, the sky's the limit!" "But" I said, "There are new drugs which better stimulate creativity and that's why our modern art scene is unparalleled in history!" He said, "You don't need strong drugs in order to create good art!"

Joanne told me, "In Space there is some illegal activity and involves weapons trading and illegal brain apps trading and air cars which run on manual and so on. The trade is controlled by gangs who pray to the God of Crime. This God is an outsider and not a legal and accepted God, yet he exists. I said, "Yes, the other Gods have tried to take him out, but he is a cagey opponent, and his henchmen are all following his every move."

Margaret said to me, "My God is the God of Pick-Up Lines. My whole life is about having short and sweet love affairs with clever men. Of course, these days women often make the first move. My favorite is, 'Are you feeling crazy tonight?'" "And I also like to say, by way of introduction, 'How's your love life?'" Or 'Are you a sinner?'" But the God comes up with some esoteric ones too molded to fit the type of man I am talking too, while one of his avatars is in my head, leading the conversation. It is my primary desire to love my God for real!" I said, "All you need to say by way of pick-up lines, is a clever remark." She said but having an avatar in my head reading the mind of my prospective lover can't be beat!"

Cecil said, "I prefer the God of the Ancient Greeks, Zeus. He is all powerful but spends most of his time seducing women who are not Gods. And I want to be like Zeus. To be a God." I said, "No doubt you will entertain your followers with stories of your sexual adventures. But to be a God you have to win approval of the majority of the Gods and many of them might think you are a backwards thinker..." He said, "I am the new voice of the old Gods."

Adam said, "I like the God of the Christians. I know it is old-fashioned nowadays, but I thought Jesus Christ was a swell dude. Unfortunately, few worship this God today." I said, "The God of the Christians didn't exist in the past, and now that he exists, few worship him." He said, "I'd like to bring him back into favor, I just need a new savior to save the religion." I said, "Such a potential savior would probably become a God outright and let his/her followers come to him/her." And I said, "I myself have proved to be a savior to some of my friends and acquaintances!"

Penny said, "I am interested in the Goddess of Reality. I am not interested in Virtual Reality Gods or Gods of Imagination. For me there is only one true Deity, the Goddess of Reality." I said, "There are many Gods each concerned with a part or all of modern Reality. How can you say they are not Real?" She replied, "Modern Reality is hard to wade through,

but I find my Goddess, and her alone, can help me negotiate life.” I said, “You are lucky to have found a Deity who can represent you, not everyone is so fortunate. But your Goddess is certainly not the only or the best Deity out there.”

Courtney told me, “My Goddess was the Goddess of Female Demons and I myself, am a succubus.” I said, “I’ve heard about your Goddess. She was kicked out of the city of the Gods, but still retains her God-like status, amongst her followers!” “Yes,” she said, “Many people like their lovers on the dark and mysterious side.” And I asked her, “If you are going to Hell one day?” And she said, “Of Course! Sinners have more fun.” And I asked her, “If you tormented males in general?” She said, “Men loved to be torn apart by their attraction for a woman.”

Ashley said to me, “I strongly believe in the God of Retribution. Tit for tat. If the justice system doesn’t work for one, then you should take matters into your own hands. I am not talking about mere slights, but rather grievous wrongs.” I said, “Sometimes when you take revenge on someone, the courts will say you are justified. But often not and if you are punished it means rearranging your brain through surgery.” Ashley said, “I have hired a bounty hunter on a few occasions and so far, have got away with it. My God helps me to avoid punishment.” I replied, “It seems like a dangerous way to go. You’ll be arrested sooner or later.” She said, “Life is a battle and then you die.”

Yuri said, “I believe in the Goddess of Europe. Today Europe is like a conglomeration of city states, like everywhere else, but I feel it is special high-quality living.” I said, “European cities are certainly amongst the richest in the World and their Goddess is looking out for them. I’ve heard the Goddess has supported entrepreneurs with money and advice.” He said, “Of course. She loaned me money to build my pastry Empire and helped me to patent and build businesses in many places in Europe.”

Blanche was telling me, “I worship the God of Doctors and Surgeons. These days most surgery is done by robots, but some prefer to be treated by a real doctor. And plastic surgeons draw good faces and feed them to the Supercomputer surgeons.” I said, “Not many doctors are graduating these days. It’s a pity.” She said, “My God wants to bring back real doctors to replace the machines. Many people empathize with my God, and it is part of a larger movement to replace machines.” I said, “It’s too late to bring jobs back. Better to try and create new ones, especially in Virtual Reality design!”

Vernon remarked, “I believe in the Goddess of Trust. The Goddess trusts her followers to be loyal to her and build trusting relationships with as many people as possible. The Goddess told us, ‘That if you can’t trust someone, you should not have any kind of relationship with one another. It is good to give someone the benefit of the doubt until proven otherwise.’” And she said, “The Goddess told me, ‘In these days of out-of-control change, you need to be able to trust people, who are on your side.’” I said, “That sounds wise, and you can learn about your friends through mind reading technology.” He said, “True, we live in an era of truth and trust.”

Stephanie said, “I was a lawyer many years ago but was forced into retirement by the UW (United Worlds) government which replaced people like me with Supercomputers. But she said, “I am a Superhuman now and want my job back!” I said, “Yes many Superhumans are trying to take back jobs. I hope they succeed, but I am afraid it’s too late.” She said, “It was our destiny to work, and the God of Lawyers and others were petitioning the UW government

to get back the jobs.” She said, “Some people who needed legal advice had contacted her, not wanting to take advice from Supercomputers. But most people just followed the trends.”

Crystal said, “I am a believer in the strength of the strong. The strong survive and I worship the God of Strength. Women these days are stronger than men when it comes to strength of will and strength of character and strength of soul. But the God of Strength, accepts all types of strong people.” I said, “Historically women had to be strong and hold the family together and do the bulk of the raising of children to be strong. But all humans have weaknesses and Superhumans have Super weaknesses.” She said, “I disagree, Superhumans have few weaknesses, and all have a strong character. I want to be a Superhuman one day when I have gotten many more apps. It’s a rat race to be a God, just like the Olympics are a challenge to the Superhumans.”

Winnie told me, “I am tired of people complaining.” And she said, “We’ve all got it made in the shade and life is easy, comfortable and pleasant. And I worship the God of Happiness. The God of Happiness is very popular, as you know, and many different types of people worship this God and even some people who are miserable and unhappy nevertheless prefer this God.” I said, “Most people are spoiled rotten and don’t live very long as they kill themselves in droves. For many happiness proves elusive.” Winnie said, “So, it is important to try and live a life of contentment. True happiness doesn’t come easy.”

Mira said, “I was born an ordinary woman and have gone mad trying to take brain apps. The apps haven’t brought me happiness. But I guess I have to keep taking them and I’ll probably kill myself soon.” I said, “You need to worship the Goddess of Tragedy and learn to live with the apps and share your misfortune with others.” She said, “I’ve tried a lot of Gods, but none has worked for me.” I said, “The Goddess of Tragedy has worked for many depressed people.”

Cassandra was telling me, “How I hate men who are losers. Almost all the men I have dated turned out to be losers. I now worship the Goddess of Winners. And since I have worshipped this God, I have thankfully met a lot of men who were real winners. And now my life is sublime.” I said, “But I can empathize with the ‘losers,’ for many modern life is so difficult, and they don’t have much ambition anyway.” She said, “I hope losers all die out.”

Cordelia was saying, “I served as a trusted lieutenant to the Goddess of Debauchery. This hedonist God threw the wildest parties, and it was no end of fun.” I said, “But pleasure seekers typically burn out and die young.” She said, “Well at least they have a good time while it lasts. And there are many youth becoming debauchees every day. We welcome them all.” I said, “Living for optimum pleasure is crazy and while there are many types of crazy people, I feel the hedonists are among the craziest.”

Bella was telling me, “I am a firm believer in the God of Self-Help. The followers of this God work hard to be of use to themselves and others. I said, “I often feel I am superfluous in my life and wish I could be of more use.” She said, “The God will teach you how to be of more use!” I said, “My solution is to become a God! I must learn how to act on my own!”

Donald said to me, “My solution to the human dilemma is to worship the God of Zillionaires. It is a pretty elite group, and the God is the richest persona in all creation. We can all learn from him! He can make billions out of a simple lemonade stand. Everything he touches turns to gold.” I said the Zillionaires seem to be long-lived and truly enjoy making

money. They vie hard with one another for being the richest.” He said, “The richest people are the best people.” I said, “Most of the Super clever are rich, but I don’t agree that the richest are the best.”

Ruth was saying “Ruthless people are all over the varying Worlds. What can we do about it?” I said, “Modern society is dog eat dog true, but there are a lot of charitable people around. You can join a number of charities and leave your mark on posterity.” She said, “But, ruthless, cold-hearted people abound and even dominate some Worlds. There are so many of them and so few kind-hearted people.” I replied, “All the more reason to do magnificent works of kindness. Get noticed and take power and join the Goddess of Kindness or indeed any other God, almost all of who are kind.”

Mandy told me, “I was sick of being told what to do by various Gods. I wish the Gods would all go away.” I said, “But most Gods reward their followers with financial and other advice that is good. Above all they set their followers up with true love in many cases.” She said, “I don’t need a God to tell me who I should love or trust or spend time with. Gods are just a nuisance.” I said, “There is a God for everyone, maybe you require a God who is more passive and not as aggressive as most of them are.” She said, “No, I am an atheist.”

Jaqueline said, “I fervently believe in the Goddess of Fame. I am trying my best to be a famous actress, but so far haven’t had much success. Avatars of the Goddess have given me advice on my acting and have used their connections, but so far, I’d been unlucky. But I was only 29 years old and perhaps would be a late-bloomer.” I said, “Yes, you just need to keep trying and if you don’t succeed you can try become famous in another way!”

Nicole said, “I am tired of life and tired of my God, the Goddess of Designer Babies. I have created many fine offspring, but none of them became Gods and now I am just tired.” I responded, saying, “Some of them may well become Gods someday, but perhaps it is time to change Gods.” She said, “My life is boring, and I think it is time to die.” I said, “Promise me you’ll try some other Gods first!”

Jack said, I believe in the God of Enlightenment. Rooted in Buddhist traditions, one tries to feel the ecstasy of total knowledge/balance.” I said, “If it makes you happy, why not?” He said, “Yes, to meditate is sublime.” I said, “How long would it take me to reach enlightenment?” He exclaimed, “Ask the God!” So, I approached an avatar of the God and she told me, “It would take 10 years to reach enlightenment.” I said, I don’t even know if I can live that long; it’s too long!”

Ericka said, “Many people nowadays have given up on doing something with their life and leave everything to the Gods. Hence the Gods are counter-productive at least as far as humans are concerned.” I said, “Yes, when they first invented the Gods, everyone was excited and looked forward to good advice, financial assistance, a finder of suitable mates, givers of wishes and so on. But it turns out that most Gods spoil their followers and many stifle their followers’ ambitions.” She exclaimed, “I am leading a large movement to get rid of the Gods!” I exclaimed, “It’s like running into a brick wall!”

Brenda said, “I worship the God of Inter-Racial Mixing. These days 20% of babies born are of mixed race. Mixed race babies tend to be stronger than those that aren’t. They are beautiful babies and racism is dead. People like to have a number of international racial mixed friends as well, who have different perspectives. I answered her saying, “It’s a real

feel-good situation.” And I said, “I’m attracted to exotic looking women!” She replied, “Many people today say the same.”

Maria said, “I like what the God of Retirement has to say. He says that, ‘We must not give up our hobbies such as Virtual Reality Worlds and work on them even though most of us are retired. Many were forced into retirement and replaced by machines, but most people think that’s a good thing. I think that we are now a society of leisure, and everyone is free from the bondage of work.’” I said, “But many feel lost without a job and are bored.” Maria said, “We are giving everyone Paradise, what more could people want?”

Randy said, “I follow the Goddess of Saturn. I live on Titan, and we all worship this Goddess. The Goddess is our advocate amongst the all-powerful Gods and represents all 500,000 residents of the Saturn system. Like many other Gods our God loans us money and gives us advice on how to be happy and imports suitable lovers for us.” I said, “But it is somewhat parochial and backwards to just look out for Saturn only as we live in a global village.”

Sophie said, “I was born rich and have lived a pampered life in an era where most are spoiled. I feel my life is slipping by quickly and I haven’t done anything profound or helpful to humankind.” I replied, “We all do what we can! We all try our best to get through life and help our fellow human when we can. You have nothing to be ashamed of!” She said, “I feel like I am just a leech who has no importance.” I said, “Why don’t you try the Deities of Kindness or Charity!” And I said, “Charity is not what it used to be! Nowadays it is often the clever who need succor.”

Stefan said, “My philosophy is to take whatever I can from this life. It is my prerogative to worship the God of Greed. Some wanted to eliminate this God, but he is too good. And everyone knows that the greediest people are the richest and probably the happiest. I want to be a zillionaire!” I replied, “Yes even though many have lost their jobs, there is still abundant opportunity to get rich and be an entrepreneur. The God of Greed is like a financial advisor who claims he can make every one of his followers rich!” He said, “So far I am worth 100 trillion and am looking around for new opportunities, especially beyond Earth!”

Amber said, “I believe in the Anti-Goddess. She is a God, but she dislikes the system of Gods and says ‘She is herself a believer in dismantling the system of Gods and setting everybody free.’” And Amber said, “She works to undermine the pantheon of Gods at every opportunity and knows her followers support her every move.” I responded, saying, “Almost everyone is represented by one God or another. But the system of Gods is too powerful and too established to change.” She said, “There’s always hope. After all the system of the Gods is only 30 years old!”

Stephen said, “I follow the Goddess of Board Games. There are countless thousands of the games, and they include my favorite ‘Space Kings.’ Of course, most people prefer video games, but some spend much of their time playing board games.” I said, “Some board games require strategy and clever thinking, and every game has its tournaments, and some people are professionals.” He said, “Yes, and I also like the Love Game and the Future Game.” I said, “Yes, I like those too.” And he added, “Board games imitate life and are sometimes more real than life itself!”

Julio told me, “I believe in the Goddess of Spies. The UW (United Worlds) has justice on its side in its battles with rogue states. But some colonies are about to revolt, and the spies must get involved and nip the revolts in the bud.” I said, “Yes we all hope the spies can protect us from violence. But each God seems to have some spies and counterespionage is common. And dangerous hackers abound!”

Kyle told me, “The Goddess of New Colonies was the only one for me. I was an active pioneer and found myself gravitating towards new colonies throughout the Solar system. I was often in on the founding constitution of the new colonies. My favorite colony was Venus #54 in which we set up a female porn star as Queen and I liked the outrageous magician, Bill T---, as head of a clown government on Venus #66. And the amazing love doll, mark #1303, as leader on Mars #55.” And he said, “Life was boring, and he’d like to spice it up a little.” I said, “You are starting to become famous as an outrageous pioneer in Space.” He said, “I’d made an agreement with the settlers on Mercury #40, to rule them for their first year. I planned to force everyone to love my Goddess by loving her for real. The Goddess is bisexual and hungry for love and wants everyone to live for love. And so on.” I said, “You’d best be careful you don’t upset the applecart of the other Gods who might hate you or be jealous of you!”

Kevin said to me, “I want to avoid the pitfalls of the Gods who are all suffering from hubris and are power-crazed. I want to be a God for ordinary humans, someone who they can relate to. I said, “It’s unlikely the College of the Gods will accept you. They’ll say you aren’t clever enough to be a God.” He said, “If they don’t accept me, I’ll go rogue and set myself up somewhere as Supreme Leader.” I said, “Recent history is full of bad endings to those who pretended to be Gods.” He said, “But you always have to do what you think is right!”

Lauren said, “I follow the Goddess of Space Exotica. The Goddess looks exotic and is purple skinned with big eyes and huge breasts. She has invented many exotic foods and customs for the people.” I said, “Many people are curious about your Goddess. She is different than most other Gods.” She said, “Yes, we live in Worlds of boredom. Everyone is looking for something new!”

Tiffany said, “My Deity is the Goddess of Heroines. My God writes stories every day that feature heroines and she has helped empower modern women. Now, women consider themselves superior to men, partly thanks to my Goddess.” I said, “But in this mad scramble that is modern life, men more and more tend to come out on top in the end!” She said, “We live at the dawn of the era of women!” I said, “It’s too late for women to take control. Now it is up to the Goddesses to make their mark.”

Howard said, “I want to change into a merman! The idea of constantly floating underneath the surface of oceans, particularly in Space, appeals to me. And the mermaids are very attractive, I must say!” I said, “You are just another freak. No doubt you will pray to one of the Gods of Freaks, the God of Ocean Freaks I suppose.” He said, “What’s wrong with that?” I said, “I don’t respect those that appear in non-human form. Even the Gods should appear human. And so too holograms and androids and all new life.”

Hugh said, “I pray to the God of the Bizarre. This God sees how modern society is everywhere crazy and strange.” I asked, “But is it good to be bizarre?” He said, “It’s Reality, so it has to be good! Anyway, the most bizarre people gravitate to my God and have built some strange Worlds. Like Venus #51 which is a World in which all are lovers, and all have

bizarre faces from deliberate plastic surgery and engage in weird S&M magic love. Or Moon Caliban #6 (of Uranus) where the people all wear bizarre masks and worship with bizarre rituals which include drinking blood.” I said, “I don’t know why the College of Gods allows your God to exist!” He said, “Because the bizarre is the Reality.”

Mikael said, “I follow the Goddess of Purification Rituals. My Goddess purifies people by getting them drunk and then loving them in elaborate scenarios.” I said, “What’s the point?” He said, “Being loved by a Goddess is a huge step in one’s life progression. The love of this Goddess is pure and unadulterated.” I said, “Sex with a God is hardly pure. And what about women?” He said, “All the followers of this God are male, and they all find her maddeningly appealing. It is pure sex.”

Humphrey said, “I worship the New Taoist God who advocates always taking the middle way. Achieving the golden mean. Center politics.” I said, “Personally I am bored with moderation!” He said, “Those Gods who we deem wise are all moderates.” I said, “In these crazy days, conventional wisdom has gone out the door. And the wisest is sometimes the craziest.” He said, “There will always be Gods of Moderation, despite everything.”

Desmond said, “Many of the Worlds are sucking the life blood of people, as their society demands people make personal sacrifices for their Gods. Like giving their Gods all their money and time and living only for their God. It’s got to stop!” I asked him, “What God do you follow?” He said, “I am an atheist and hate those who set themselves up as Gods!” I said, “You will soon end up dead!” Indeed, it was rare for someone like him to be alive in our milieu of Worlds.

Rachelle said, “My God was the Goddess of Reactionaries. We were opposed to all progress and wanted a return to simpler times. Admittedly, my Goddess didn’t have many followers yet, but we were all trying hard to convert people to love and worship her.” I said, “There will always be Luddites opposed to progress. But there is no way now that progress could be limited in any way. Progress was the human creed.”

Suzanna said, “My God is the God of Fools. I admit I am very foolish. And my God puts up with my foolish behavior and even encourages me to express myself. I know there is no future for me as a fool but, I plan on living a long time in my own Virtual Reality oblivious to the way of the World. I said, “You are not the only one. But the Gods are now forcing people to take brain apps!” She said, “Yes, but I was taking the minimum which wasn’t too challenging, so far. In the end I would die a fool.”

Sharon said, “I fervently believe in the Goddess of Nudity. This Goddess prohibits her followers from wearing clothes and they all walk around naked in their various cities and turn others on.” I said, “It’s fine by me.” She said, “And maybe some day everyone will be naked.” I said, “But many women in particular like to wear fancy clothes; they feel that they are expressing themselves.” She said, “But, these days everyone has a beautiful body why don’t they show it off? And some of our nudists completely remove hair from their bodies to look clean and pure.”

Dorothy said, “I am a strong believer in the DNA alteration genetic therapy. It is better than brain apps as it alters the brain permanently. The apps make one a cyborg though.” I said, “Genetic therapy is a quicker way to improve one’s brain and will maybe replace the intelligence apps and the personality apps and the imagination apps and so on. It is high

tech!” And she said, “Yes, the Supercomputers can individualize your brain alterations and tailor them to you.” I said, “The human race is putting the gas pedal to the floor. And we are all along for the ride.”

Victor said, “The only thing that matters is to keep trying and don’t let failure get you down.” I said, “Many modern-day people are weak-minded and can’t deal with failure.” And he said, “Yes, so we should send everyone to a school of hard knocks to toughen them up.” I said, “But, it wouldn’t be easy as many are set in their ways, even as they progress every day.” He said, “There’s always hope! And failure is the mother of success.”

Christine said, “I didn’t give a damn about other people. I was looking out for #1. And am very ambitious.” I said, “But, how could you not care about your fellow human?” She said, “My fellow humans are all out for themselves, too.” I said, “It’s uncharitable to say so.” She said, “We are all taught in school to be ambitious/greedy, and everyone just wants more!” I said, “Have you ever fallen in love?” She said, “Of course not. Love is just another one of society’s illusions and the people who say they’ve fallen in love are weak and insipid. Modern society is all a lie which one tries to negotiate through, and it doesn’t matter anyway.” And she said, “I worship the God of Cynics. The God introduces me to other cynical people, and we use one another to get off!”

Tonda said, “I believe in the Goddess of Journalism. This Goddess has her followers write criticism and opinions on the current milieu. Most journalists follow her as their Goddess.” I said, “I watch the news every day. Every day there’s something new.” She said, “Our writers try and mold public opinion to suit their own personal philosophy, mostly. And everyone has a favorite news source they follow.” I said, “Many city states require that people watch 2 hours of news per day. There are always new colonies being founded, and famous people dying of suicide and children being born to famous people and new art and architecture, and new movies and music and new fortunes being built and new scientific breakthroughs, new love dolls etc.” She said, “Many journalists were ambitious and were mayors of various cities. And the news was celebrated by many! Most of the news was good, inspirational news, unlike in previous eras.”

Patrick said, “I am a believer in the God of Fantasy. My God is very popular, and most people have fantasy World in Virtual Reality. These fantasies are multiform. Some feature mythological creatures, some are sex fantasies, some are Worlds of adventure and most feature countless thousands of holograms and so on.” I said, “In my opinion, many people are lost in fantasy and don’t know what Reality is anymore.” He said, “Reality is dog eat dog and it is hard for people to relate to.” I said, “But, there are worse things than being lost in a fantasy. The whole human experience is a work of fantasy.”

Gregory said, “I follow the Goddess of Ireland. This is an angry Goddess, who likes to pick fights with humans and Superhumans while drinking whiskey and high on marijuana.” I said, “I am part Irish by ancestry and feel Irish really know how to have fun.” And he said, “The Goddess plays the lyre and sings so sweetly. And she wants her followers all to have fun and party.” I said, “She seems like a typical Goddess.”

Bernard said, “I believe in the God of Germans. He is a harsh God who likes to eat and drink beer. And the God supports Germans in Space with loans and advice. He is quite an astute business persona and most of his followers are rich. But you have to be a German to

worship at his temples.” I said, “I wouldn’t want to mess with the Germans!” He said, “Americans are scarier than Germans!”

Reginald said “I believe in the Goddess of America. This Goddess is all about liberty and opportunity. She welcomes everyone to her camp and demands that all her followers develop a capacity for selfishness and ambition. She is very popular in Space.” I said, “There’s no shortage of selfish people in Space and on Earth. But the Goddess wants pure liberty and is a virtual anarchist. The UW (United Worlds) police has a lot of trouble with the followers of this Goddess.” He said, “America was settled by the greediest people Earth had to offer. In America it is the ‘greedback’ rather than the greenback that is the currency there.”

Sheila said, “She followed the God of Latin America. This God was an elitist God who only cared about the rich and successful. The God’s followers held power in most of Latin America. There were still many poor in the region despite our advanced civilization and most people lived in their air car and had no condo or apartment. Most of the time their air car was parked in a parking garage hooked up to plumbing and electricity. The people mostly worshipped the God of the Impoverished who represented poor people around the World. But these days no one was really poor in the historical sense.” I said, “In some cases the elite are merely those who were born rich and had money in the family for generations. That’s why America is so appealing as it still offers great opportunity to its people.”

Dwight said, “I worship the Goddess of Africa. This Goddess was for the relatively poor people of Africa and many also worshipped the God of the Impoverished. Their African cities were now all rich on the whole but still had millions of poor people. The rich in Africa prayed mostly to the Goddess of the New Africa.” I answered him saying, “Africa is a new land of opportunity. Not since the ancient Egyptians has Africa been as prosperous as it is today! A lot of land for APMs was created by desalinizing sea water and now the whole continent was a jungle farm. And was a place of great opportunity for development.”

Alec said, “My God was the Chinese God of Luck and Success. Most well-off Chinese worshipped this God. They believed the advice of the God brought good luck. And many of them were fabulously rich. Those who were less well-off were mostly supporters of the Future God of China. This Future God gave the people hope and opportunity and if they tried hard they could get rich.” I said, “Yes the Temples of the Chinese God of Luck and Success are all over the World and Space. Modern day pundits often underestimate the role that luck plays in our modern life.”

Harjit was a follower of ‘The Goddess of India. He said, “My Goddess represents all Indians, rich and poor. And the Goddess is known for making music and movies that are very popular with Indians. And the Goddess has helped dismantle the caste system and many Indians say she has given them ample opportunity to succeed. Many of them of course work in sales.” I said, “Most modern-day Indians worship other Gods, like the Goddesses of Love and the Goddess of Progress, like most modern people.”

Aurora said, “I followed the God of England. And they have everyone speaking English today, which is quite an achievement.” And she said, “England has sponsored a number of colonies in Space. And has sent English teachers all over the Worlds.” I said, “And there is a lot of English art and screenwriting. Its city states are all artistic in nature.”

Corey, said, “I was a follower of the Goddess of Italians. Many Italians hoped for a New Roman Empire in Space and Italy had founded a lot of colonies there. They brought back gladiators and the Games in many colonies. And Opera was popular. And Italian food was still very popular only tastier than ever. But few people spoke Italian these days.” I said, “The Goddess of Europe is more appropriate for Italian nationalists. The days of Italian rule are over and most of their colonies in Space have been overrun with other nationalities.”

Terence said, “I worshipped the Goddess of Europe. Many enlightened Europeans worship this God. This Goddess had founded many colonies in Space and Europeans gained special privileges in many of these colonies.” I said, “Europe is now totally multi-racial. It is a microcosm of the whole World. Just like America. So too, Space. And of course, English is spoken by everyone these days.”

Telly was a follower of “The God of Arabia. This God had financed desalinization projects and turned the Middle East and North Africa into a giant garden. The people of the Middle East were mostly well-off and content with varying Gods and Goddesses in the World today.” I said, “The God of Arabia had developed some ritzy vacation colonies in Space that were the epitome of modern luxury.” And I said, “They were brilliant!” And many followed this God and many here followed other Gods. But there was peace in the Middle East and there was a lot of opportunity to be had.

Conn, said, “I was a follower of the Goddess of Arctic and Cold Space Development. The Goddess had financed the building of numerous domed cities in the Arctic and sent her colonists to cold moons in Space. And many had a cottage in the wilderness of the Arctic and Space. She was said to have said, ‘It’s a cold World, but get warm with me.’” I said, “Most of Space was cold and the cold made the colonists tough and strong.”

Leslie said, “I worship the Goddess of the Seas on Earth and in Space. Colonizing Earth’s oceans with freak humans and also colonizing seas in Space was a great opportunity for progress.” I said, “I wish they would colonize more real humans in the varying seas and keep some control over sea development.” He said, “Beneath the seas, anything goes!” I replied, “But it is a freak show!” He said, “We are all freaks in our mind. People today think of bizarre things and crazy things, and outrageous things, and we say it’s good.”

Larry said, “I follow the Goddess of Spiritual Healing. These days everyone’s soul has been damaged by the cruelty of the World. Many people are hurting and want to die. The Goddess welcomes pilgrims to come to retreats at her mountain Temples, where they apply soothing brain apps to restore one’s sanity and sense of well-being. They get plenty of rest and plenty of soothing love from the priests and priestesses of the colony. And the priests and priestesses teach them how to be sane in this crazy, cruel World.” I said, “Yes, many people say we live in Utopia, but for most it is a definite Dystopia.”

Ryan said, I am a strong believer in the God of myself. I am not officially a God but love myself dearly and am inspired to be a great screenwriter God. I have a lot of dedicated followers who are budding screen writers who like my films that I have made. It’s a kind of apprenticeship now, but soon I will be a God.” I said, “There are too many Gods, I think. But you should pursue your potential God-like status. We can always use another God of Writing to offer people a choice.”

And speaking of choice, Jonathan said, “I want to offer people a choice of Gods of Progress. I am a new God of Slow Progress and I believe we should slow down development, especially of people’s brains. Maybe even have a temporary moratorium on brain apps. There is no need to hurry as people can live forever if they want.” I replied, “It sounds sensible. But for many people, all-out progress is what they desire, and they are brainwashed with hypnosis to think so. You need to set up schools to teach people moderation is best and cross-hypnotise them. And get in their heads. I think slowing progress is an excellent idea!”

John Jay said, “I want to be a God of Alternative Fates. I believe the World could be more loving and kinder and also eliminate the relative poverty that most people live in. And I would like a moratorium on Space colonization.” I said, “But many people who are ‘poor’ are actually quite comfortable and relatively happy. It is even said that the poorest people are the happiest, and not consumed by greed. And there are Gods of Loving and Gods of Kindness to follow if you wanted.” He said, “I’d like to be the only God and make all the people happy.” I said, “You are so greedy for power!” He said, “It is hip to live in alternative Worlds, especially in Virtual Reality. Some VR is just populated with one person and a number of holograms. Other VR Worlds attract millions. I’d like to be the God of all of them!”

B.J. said, “I follow the God of Information. There is so much information these days that people are overwhelmed and have lost their sanity. I propose to limit information that is out there and so we can all get back to being human again.” I said, “There’s no stopping the Information Age. All one can do is have advanced filters to limit the information you receive. But, of course, everyone’s life is complex. Even the hermits have a complex life. Just operating your own plumbing system is automatic and can be controlled by others and those Gods who mind read control the World and control information.”

Alastair said “I have lost my mind and look to the Goddess of Sanity... And my God helps me to cope. It’s far better than being forced to alter your brain with genetic therapy or brain surgery! The Goddess hooks you up with friends and lovers who are also trying to be sane, and the Goddess gives us ‘sanity drugs’” I said, “At least you can admit you are insane. Most people today are convinced they are sane and feel they just suffer from minor mental problems. That is, until they feel so depressed, they want to kill themselves.” He said, “Insanity creeps up on one and surprises one with its power.” I said, “But thanks to Gods like yours, insanity can be beaten, and I believe brain apps today are more inductive to sanity than before. It’s just growing pains for the human race”

Tammy said, “I believe in the Goddess of Air Car Cities. These days many of the relatively poor just live in their air cars and camp out at a parking garage. But the majority own homes, the vast majority of which are condos, and park their air car in the parking garage of their building.” I said, “Of course, I know all that, but why can’t we build homes for all?” She said, “It is all part of the UW’s (United Worlds’) plan to make people mobile. It is better for their mental health and air cars are easily affordable. Everyone lives in relative comfort.” I said, “But surely our Worlds are rich enough to give people all a home, a place to put down roots and get to know interesting people in your community. And have old friends.” She said, “It’s just not on the cards. And the Goddess of Cities is pleased with the way things are going!”

M.J. said, “My God is the Goddess of Raising Children. The Goddess has many educational programs, and her priests and priestesses can tailor make an education to suit anyone. But most people choose one of the elite programs for their children. A program that

will really challenge them. But of course, it is a lot of pressure on the kids, and many kill themselves.” I said, “The suicide rate for children is 2% per annum; it’s too high! She said, “Perhaps it is better to self-educate one’s kids.” I asked, “What about having clones born with all your memories?” She said, “It’s the way of the future for sure and the number of children will likely decrease dramatically.” I said, “I think people will actually have more children as the State will more and more raise the kids and it will be easy and carefree to have children.”

Vladimir said, “I follow the Goddess of Punishment and Goodness. Those who don’t do what they should, should be punished with monetary penalties and brain alterations. I said, “But surely in our advanced society we don’t need to punish people beyond the punishment that they already live through.” He exclaimed, “People have to smarten up and do what’s right!” I said, “Your Goddess is similar to the God of Retribution. In what way is your God different?” He said, “My Goddess rewards good behaviour with an invitation to come and live on our colony on Mars. Mars #17. This colony is for righteous, good people, who do no harm.”

Ross said, “I worship the One True God. This is a God who believes he is the only God for the people and forbids his supporters to love other Gods. He is a God who wants his followers to be happy and content. And is against most brain apps, which is very controversial. And some of the other Gods said he was backwards and old-fashioned and an anathema to progress. But I believe his supporters are the happiest people in the World today.” I said, “Your God and his followers are dinosaurs and will soon be gone one way or another.” He said, “On the contrary, our people will live on while others lose their mind.” I exclaimed, “No one, God or person, can resist progress for long! It is the new paradigm.”

Collin said, “I support the God of Gold. This God is one of the richest of all the Gods and his followers pay him gold in exchange for investment advice. And my God builds golden temples all over the varying Worlds. Other Gods are envious of his wealth. And he has heat-resistant solar orbiters which use high temperatures to produce gold from base metals.” I said, “It is not necessary for a God to be rich, but I suppose the gold makes this God desirable for would-be acolytes who are entranced by so much wealth.” He said, “Wealth is a measure of how good the God is.” I replied, “I disagree. Intelligence and imagination and kindness is the true measure of a God. Just like the College of Gods has proclaimed.”

Ronald said, “I believe in the God of Space real estate. The God invests in Space real estate on behalf of his supporters who are real estate salesmen. Now every inch of land/sea in the solar system was now owned by someone. And speculation was rife about the Centauri tri star system. In particular development of the seas in the Solar system was preponderant. And undersea cities were floating undersea/on the surface and those anchored to the sea floor were everywhere.” I said, “Yes, I know, but development and progress of the seas has seen wildly unprecedented growth. We live in booming times and there is plenty of wealth to go around. I can hardly believe it!” Ronald said, “We live in inspiring times.”

Pep said, “I really care for the Goddess of Synergy in Art. This Goddess picks only the best artistic great minds and puts them together. The Goddess has created a number of Bohemian colonies.” I said, “In my view, in the past, many types of artists worked with only a few artistic friends or even all alone. Everyone is impressed with the great works of art that have come out of these Bohemias.” He said, “And now they are building a super Bohemia at Venus #65 which will feature clones of almost all the important artists of our time, especially

screenwriters. The Goddess is skilled at bringing people together and joins the artists in creating great art.”

Francine said, “I am amazed by the Goddess of Equilibrium. Love and hate, sex and innocence, young and old etc. are all carefully balanced by this Goddess to make new Superhumans. These new Superhumans represent everyone in each manifestation. You can see something of yourself in all of them.” I said, “The sky’s the limit with new Superhumans. I just hope they have a little piece of all of us in each of their souls. They are the future.” He answered, “To become a Superhuman, most choose plenty of kindness apps to make them very charismatic Leaders.”

Nadine said “I support the Goddess of Losing Yourself in Love. To fall totally in love is the best of all possible feelings and the Goddess’ Super mind has a knack for matching people with perfect lovers. She is the best in all the Worlds at this! I have met 7 true loves in 2 years of following this Goddess. They were all better than any loves I had had before, and I am 40 years old.” I said, “But does the Goddess work for everyone?” She said, “If you like the Goddess’ avatar’s personalities then it might work out for you. But as you know many people are incapable of true love.”

Elsa said “I’ve tried dozens of Gods and Goddesses and the only one to work for me was the God of Actors and Actresses. This God taught me how to be a better person and play any type of role in my life and although I am not an actress, I benefitted greatly from her tutelage. I learned it is best to be the person other people want me to be.” I said, “It sounds good. I wonder if I could learn from this God?” She said, “We all have our roles to play in the script!”

Jake said, “I am tired of Gods and Goddesses telling me what to do. Fortunately, I found the Goddess of Good Vibes. The Goddess helps one find people who are different from you, but make you feel good. Some people emanate deep goodness and are fun to be around.” I asked, “Do such good vibe people hang out together or do they only like people who are quite different from them?” He said, “Both cases are true, depending on the individual.” I replied, “Good vibes are the way of the future. In the future everyone will feel comfortable in their own skin and the love will flow.”

Hercules said, “I feverishly believe in the God of Wholesome Sex. It is sex that is clean and loving and cuddly and fuzzy and pure. It feels good.” I said, “When I think of sex, I think unwholesome thoughts, I wonder how you can do it?” He said, “I have a pure mind, I think.” I said, “It may be pure for you, but not for your partners!” Hercules said, “All my sex partners have been down to earth and pure in spirit.” I asked, “What exactly do you mean by pure in spirit?” He responded, “Unsullied by these dog-eat-dog Worlds. Just pure and good.”

Annette said, “I strongly believe in the Goddess of Suffering and Liberation. The Goddess tells us we need to experience pain and heartbreak in order to free ourselves. Suffering is instructive and we can be a better person for it. So the Goddess typically sets her followers up with a lover who is destined to break one’s heart and after several episodes of heartbreak, one becomes immune to it.” I said, “It sounds simplistic. You burn, you learn! But many people never get over heartbreak and many even kill themselves.” Annette said, “My heart has never been broken by any of my lovers. I guess you could say, I am strong. And I want to share my strength with the followers of this Goddess.”

Daphne said, "I don't know why most people follow a Deity?" I said, "It is natural for humans to worship an entity greater than themselves. It's all part of human consciousness." She said, "I am already on the verge of becoming a Superwoman and have no need of a God." I said, "Well that's your opinion and you are welcome to it. It's a free World. Gods aren't foisted on anyone. Personally, I feel Gods are the smartest of all humankind and we can profit from their wisdom." She said, "The Gods are all power-crazed and compete with one another to brainwash people to love and worship them!"

Billie said, "I dream of a God who will love me for who I am and not be cajoling me to improve my mind fast. I said, "But a typical God, would be bored with an ordinary human mind." She said, "But surely Gods are impressed by people who worship them!" I said, "You are barking up the wrong tree!" She replied, "I am going to start a lobby group which will advocate for a God of Ordinary people, who will only give them as many brain apps as they can handle. And carefully keep them sane. Many people today say all Worlds have gone crazy. And they seem to enjoy madness. But for the ordinary human, they all deep down just want to be sane."

Norma Jean said, "As you know I am a famous biochemist and I worship the Goddess of Creation of New Life Forms. Many of the new life forms created thus far are freaks in mind and body. I want to create new life forms with clever human-like brains and a body that looks at least vaguely human. And people will be able to breed with such a creature." I said, "It sounds like you are trying to water down freaks to make them more palatable to homo sapiens. Even make some of them into kindred spirits with humans, perhaps?" She said, "There should be a law against creating obvious freaks." I said, "Your dream is a nice dream, but I fear there are too many hundreds of millions of freaks all breeding rapidly, especially in the seas of Earth and Space. It's too late to stop them!"

Margarita said, "I wish my God would pay more attention to me. I really like him, the God of Magic Spells. He'd cast a spell on me through hypnosis and I am thoroughly in love with him and could think of nothing else. I live for my God." I said, "Perhaps you should get cross-hypnotised and look at your God from a different perspective." She said, "No, I am satisfied with my God as it was. I am in love." I said, "But your love is slavish and demeaning to your soul." She said, "You've probably never been in love before!" I said, "As a God I fall in love with someone every day!"

Anita said, "I loved all men and could see the good in all of them. And I worshipped the God of Ubiquitous love. This God said, 'It was a World of love, we lived in.'" I said, "My mind is not so open. But I try to open my mind to love all types of women." She said, "I also worship the Goddess of Open Minds. This Goddess wants her followers to love everyone, male, female and freaks and to try and do every activity known to humankind. And I am working on it!"

Gunther said, "I support the Goddess of Environmental Change. Everywhere in the Solar system and the Arctic and Antarctica and the former Earth deserts featured a changing climate and settlements are booming." I said, "The androids, most of who are love dolls, argue no need to moderate climates which is a big project, why not just settle androids who carry with them the spirit of humankind." She said, "The androids can fuck off! These Worlds are for humans and Superhumans and Gods, not androids." I said, "Don't count the androids out, these days some of the new androids are like Gods themselves."

Forrest said, "I worship the Goddess of Saints. The Goddess has selected the most kind and charitable people who have made deep sacrifices for their fellow human." I said, "I am certainly no saint. What about you?" She said, "She was unsure what a modern saint would and could do. But you know a saint when you see them!" I said, "We can never have too many saints. And some Gods I feel are Super saints and sacrifice their life for their supporters." She said, "Yes many Gods are philanthropists, and many seem to have a soft spot for humans."

Anthony said "Maybe the Gods, will convince most people to become Superhuman. But many resist the pressure to improve their minds drastically." I said, "So many Gods are brainwashing their followers with post hypnotic suggestion. By hook or by crook the Gods will get what they want." He said, "Yes, they will no doubt drag us all kicking and screaming into their vision of the future. We are all in this together, after all!"

Aaron said "I think that all the Gods are good. They are all Superhumans and very clever. Personally, I bounce from one to the other quite frequently. I find it gives me a broader perspective. And I'd like to one day be a God for Everyone in the near future." I said, "You are definitely not the only one to worship multiple Gods. I estimate that about 10% do. I think your experience speaks well for the system of Gods as a whole." And he said, "Do you think I'd be a good God?" I replied, "First you need to become a Superhuman and then improve your philosophy. Then you can consider God-like status."

Eddie said, "I too think that all the Gods are good. The College of Gods only promote superior beings to the status of full God, as we all know. Maybe the next step is Super Gods!" I said, "Some say, a maximum of 200 IQ is the highest possible. But I think there is no limit to the IQ of Superhumans and Supercomputers." He said, "Anyway it is a wonder we have so many fantastic minds in our Worlds." I said, "But the danger is these 'Super Gods' become too clever and the rest of us will have no use to them!" Eddie said, "But they are all designed to be kind and will look after us!"

Erin told me, "I am torn between the Deities of Love and Progress. On the one hand I like to spend nearly all my time with love affairs. But on the other hand, I'd like to see us all become cleverer, and the cleverer romance is, the better it is." I said, "Well-spoken. But for some progress and love don't mix. In other words, it is not best for many people." She said, "Well there is a Deity for everyone, by design. And if one is not enough, try several at once!"

Butch said, "I worship the God of old-fashioned food. I like to eat real meat and drink real beer and have old-fashioned sugar desserts. They make me satisfied, more so than the highly touted modern cuisine. Indeed, some people just take food pills to sustain them and miss out on the pleasure of eating." I said, "But some people live to eat and eat all day with anti-fat pills. I think eating is a pleasure, but it shouldn't dominate your life." He said I indulge in every pleasure known to humankind. I am a true hedonist." I said, "In fact there are a myriad of things that give us pleasure. Almost everything we do these days is for pleasure."

Al said, "I love thinking like a child. I really enjoy fairy tales, video games and sports and I am very competitive. I follow the God of Children #9. This God is all about fun and games and imagination." I said, "Many children have a very active imagination and sometimes lose it in later life, which is a pity." He said, "But I also follow varying Gods of the Imagination for adults. And I have written a book of 'Fables.'" I said, "Your book is interesting and full of dark heroes." He said, "No one should discount the power of dark 'heroes.'"

John Paul told me “He believed in the Goddess of Horny Women.” And he said, “Some dirty women drove me wild with desire. And I could never get enough!” I said, “These days women are freer than in the past and can live their wildest desires, including sex fantasies.” He said, “Every woman these days looks sexy, I want them all. And everyday I am pumped full of sex enhancer drugs.” I said, “I don’t agree that all are sexy, but most! And I think, women who are imaginative in bed are the best!”

Evan told me, “I support the God of New Romance. As you know, this God likes to give his followers a trip to exotic cities and give them sex enhancer apps which permanently give them an extremely high sex drive. And many dream of loving the Gods and Goddesses of the Pantheon. And sometimes they get lucky.” I said, “It must feel like you have a demon whispering over your shoulder and you will go to any lengths to get off!”

Dennis said, “I support the God of Debate. I feel in this society that we have too many benevolent, but authoritarian Leaders, the Gods. We need more participation of the people as a whole in government.” I responded saying, “There is such a thing however as too much debate. All that is needed is the salient points in the argument and a vote by the city council, if there is one. If there isn’t a city council, and usually there is, the Leaders are usually attentive to debate. Of course, the Gods have the only real power.” He said, “I am a debating champion. And would have been a good lawyer in former times. I can argue any viewpoint even show that black is white.” I asked, “You are a Sophist?” He told me, “The truth is never clear!”

Mitch said, “I am attached to the Goddess of Reason. So many people are driven mad by emotion and can’t be realistic or rational. Some are even hysterical and very hard to deal with.” I said, “Some people simply don’t want to be reasonable, even despite having brain apps. They think being “reasonable” is a matter of personal taste or something.” He said, “We need better brain apps. I’d like to believe we truly live in a World of Reason or can do so in the near future.” I answered, “But all people have their reasons, crazy as they might be, for acting the way they do!”

Frannie said, “I belong in the camp of the Goddess of Splendor. This Goddess is a show woman who is often sought out for splendid parties and great days under the sun. I believe each day should be a celebration, myself.” I said, “Life is truly a celebration for many, but for most life grows old after years of fun. We desperately need new drugs to keep one interested in life, but so far, they only work on Superhumans and Gods. But I feel we are on the cusp of such drugs.” Frannie said, “Too many people get too sick and tired of life, and I feel the Gods want ordinary people to die out.” I said, “That’s a very cynical thing to say. But it is no secret that the Gods want people to improve their brains faster than they are presently doing and are frustrated with them.”

Ernie said, “I care for the Goddess of Flying. Many people these days fly using a jet pack on their back and soon there will just be a tiny device that makes one fly.” I replied, “It is truly Superhuman to be able to fly at will.” He said, “The flying machines eliminate the need for air cars for short distances and lovers of flying gather regularly throughout Earth. Some like to make love while flying.” I said, “I have loved women while floating in zero gravity, but one of the two lovers has to be held down in order to love one another. Maybe a flying

machine apparatus is better loving.” He said, “And we have now telekinetic powers with apps to move heavy objects with one’s mind.” I exclaimed, “What a wonderful World we live in!”

Shelby told me, “I like the God of Mature People. This God is for those 100 + years old. Of course, they are eternally youthful and enjoy one another’s company and like to reminisce about all the good times they’ve had. And make new happy memories. These people all really enjoy life and never get sick of it. And most of them have had numerous children and hence have a legacy. And most of them plan to live on forever.” I responded, saying, “These people are full of heart-warming experiences and are an inspiration to us all! I would like genetic therapy to acquire the genes which allow them to live on; these people are sensational.”

Kylie told me, “Her God was the God of People Who Turned into Supercomputers.” And she said, “You’d be surprised how many people have done so. About 1% of the total populace. And they claim to be happy.” I said, “I doubt they are happy. Most Supercomputers are unfeeling and purely logical. But they are known to get their kicks through their organic human and android avatars. Who knows?” She said, “Supercomputers have a great influence on Superhumans as we all know and provide them with nearly all of their information. After all we live in an information age.” I said, “Some say, Supercomputers will rule the future, others say it will be Gods and Superhumans. But most think it will be a combination of the two. After all, all Gods are cyborgs, and they rule today.”

Moon told me, “I fancy the Goddess of Mystery. This Goddess is mysterious and hard to fathom. But I am gradually learning about her.” And she said, “The Goddess is primarily interested in seducing interesting men, and I feel I can learn from her.” I said, “Many men aren’t sure what to do when a Goddess loves them. They feel overwhelmed. And small.” She said, “This Goddess respects men who are bold and fearless and not afraid of an intellectual adventure.” I said, “But due to mind reading there is no more mystery about people. We all know all about one another.”

Beryl asked me, “If you knew of the God of Heartbreak?” I told her, I was not familiar with this God, but could imagine what he’d be like. She said, “He’s perhaps not what you think. He speaks of good broken hearts, broken hearts which are bittersweet. Just like the love of this God, which is oh so intense, and then ends suddenly” I said, “It doesn’t sound like anything new, love in my experience is often like that.” She rebutted, “But his love is truly one of a kind. I’ve never experienced anything like it. It’s impossible to describe.” I said, “Anyway he is a male, so I am not interested in loving him. But perhaps I could learn from him how to break hearts!”

Pablo asked me, “What do you know about the Goddess of Great Speeches?” And he instructed me, “The God knew by heart all of what he considered were the greatest speeches ever written.” I said, “I prefer action to words, but would be interested in what this God thought were great speeches?” And I asked Pablo, “If the speeches all had great results or did many of them fall on deaf ears?” He replied, “Of course many are famous and moved millions, others were ineffectual or not meant to have great results. It’s the latter which you may not be familiar with.” So, I read some of his favorite obscure speeches and was somewhat surprised by some of the different points of view. For example, there was a speech about the day the Earth became a total democracy which states that it is uninspiring and counterproductive for most people. And another one stated, the first Martian colony was a setback for Earth as it meant that we were no longer altogether on Terra. And many great speeches were related to the constitutions of various new colonies in Space. And so on.

Barry said, "I had faith in the God of Capital Punishment." He added, "I believe that many people today have nothing to lose but their life. And nearly everyone fears death, even if they are suicidally inclined. But most of those who commit suicide do it when they are good and ready. To have your life suddenly cut ingloriously short by the State is an anathema to nearly everyone." I responded, "Many don't fear death as they think their soul will go to the afterlife when they die. A second chance, if you will." Barry answered, "But most feel they will be bored in the afterlife as they will be without a body, just a spirit!" I said, "Mere mortals seldom get to see the undead spirits. Very few have, and they are Gods. But if you murder someone, I'm thinking you'd end up in Hell and be miserable. But who knows!"

Brian reported to me saying that, "I had an altercation with the Goddess of New Dreams." And he told me, "She was the best of all Goddesses and brought me sweet dreams. Like a dream that I was a Superhuman mover and shaker and a dream that I was in love with numerous Superwomen." I said, "Dreams are never idle, they are always good for the soul. There's no such thing as an empty dream! Many people today hardly sleep with anti-sleep drugs, and many are too busy for daydreams, to their loss." He said, "If people had spectacular dreams like I do, they'd all be in my Goddess' camp." I asked him, "Why doesn't your Goddess promote herself more?" He said, "Who knows the will of the Gods?"

Therese was telling me, "I honestly don't know why you don't run for office?" I replied, "I am a Superhuman now and have real power over my followers. And I developed some into Superhumans and a few are even hoping to become Gods. Superhumans of course are favored and listened to by the Gods who have true power in these myriad Worlds." She said, "But a little power is better than nothing, isn't it?" I said, "All elected officials are just figureheads. Better to improve your mind instead!"

Herbert told me, "I am a follower of the God of Monsters. Some Superhumans are monsters in Superhuman clothing. They are bad freaks, and they live in remote asteroids and other places where there are no humans. And they use the Super Web to get into the minds of humans and cause them to do crazy things. But the Gods let it go saying they respect all Superhuman minds, and it is a free World and the people they drive crazy want to be driven mad. Madness is quite common these days. And many people want to worship the Gods of Monsters and Freaks." I answered him, "Well, it's more and more a World of Freaks. It seems like the destiny of mankind will to become people we would regard as freaks. More and more Superhumans are bizarre in appearance and actions." He said, "Let there be freaks!"

Claude asked, "I wonder what the future will be like? I think that eventually everyone will be a thinker and will get along well with one another." I said, "Humans don't get along on the whole. They are always arguing and fighting in my experience. And modern-day lovers typically don't stay together long as they can't stand one another." He replied, "But I think Superhumans are more open minded than regular humans." I said, "They may be open minded but that doesn't mean they can tolerate one another for long. Perhaps they are too free! And there is too much money and too many potential lovers to be had."

Ludwig told me, "The future belongs to the bold and daring. Superhumans are risk-takers and are starting bold, new colonies in Space. Many of the colonies are founded on new scientific or artistic risky projects. Like a World of Three Gods who all took bets on risky

new ventures like an everything machine that purportedly had the minds of 10 Superhumans and could make any reality conceivable happen. Or the God of Martian Heroes who urged his followers to risk everything on deep space.” I told him, “People today mostly feel they have nothing to lose and take great financial risks and risk their reputation on iffy projects. But I myself am not a risk taker and I feel that risk takers will die out. Evidence of that is that those who lose all their money typically commit suicide.”

I asked Trevor “What do you like to do with your Goddess, “The Goddess of Forgetting?” He said, “I don’t know, I forget. But I seem to be fine.” I asked, “What do you remember? He said, “I remember my education and my first few loves, but other than that, I don’t know.” And he said, “I know my Goddess hypnotises me to forget things. But I feel good!” I said, “You are barely alive! Without memories we are nothing. And I have many memories given to me by Superhumans and even Gods! I wouldn’t part with them for anything.”

I asked Sissy, “What God do you worship?” She said, “I kind of respect the Goddess of Fair Play. So many people cheat in games, cheat on their lover, even try and cheat the Gods out of money. And some are always looking for an illicit advantage, like inside information. And so on.” I said, “Not that many people say that life is fair. But most of the Gods and most Superhumans feel that life is fair to them. If you want fair play, become a Superhuman!”

I asked Martina, “If she was a follower of any of the Gods? She said, “I like the Goddess of Energy. This Goddess gave her followers energy drugs and kept them interested in living. And she and her followers researched energy trying to find new ways to create power and had succeeded in cold fusion with several catalysts.” I replied, “Everyone today wants more energy and most take energy drugs. But sometimes it leads to system overloads in their bodies. And they burn out and die.” Martina said, “People should know their limits. And this includes trying to emulate the Superhuman energy of the Gods.”

I asked Dasha, “How did she feel about the Gods? She said it seems like very few Gods committed suicide, so they must be happy. And almost everyone wants a God that makes them happy.” I said, “I’m sure many Gods must be discontent, but don’t want to let their followers down. They are under pressure to stay alive. And if they don’t want to stay alive, they typically have a clone take over their position, subject of course to the College of the Gods approval.” And she said, “I follow a number of Deities of Happiness. Like the Goddess who gives the best happy drugs to her followers. Or the Goddess who allows her followers to experience everything known to humankind. Or the God who finds true soul mates for his supporters; he knows them better than they know themselves. Or the God of Entertainment who keeps his believers amused. And so on.” I said, “Yes there are countless dozens of Gods of Happiness. And it is never a mistake to believe in any one of them. The pursuit of happiness needs to be of paramount importance for all if they are to be content and satisfied. And some worship many Gods!”

I asked Morris what God he loved. He said, “I kind of like the God of Modern Classical music. This music, as you know, is for the elite, for the highbrows and is complex yet harmonious. And unlike most classical music of old, the modern-day classical songs all have singing and lyrics.” I said, “But sometimes simple rhythms are best. Catchy jingles” He said, “I guess modern classical music uses a lot of simple rhythms too, mixed in with the complex notes.” I said, “I’d heard of groups of people who become permanently blind so they can concentrate on the new classical music!” He replied, “I am not surprised. Some modern-day people live only for music.”

Leonard told me, “I liked the Goddess of Mistakes. This Goddess made one forget their mistakes and so have a clean conscience and a happy demeanor.” I said, “But of course many learn from their mistakes.” He said, “People are foolish and typically make the same mistakes over and over again, so it is better they forget their errors completely.” I said, “What a bizarre World we live in!” And he responded, “We all live in Utopia.”

I asked Douglas “How did he feel about the Gods?” He said, “At one time I supported the Goddess of Brilliant Ideas. But in time I found that I didn’t have any brilliant ideas. So, now, I just drift from place to place without a God to guide me. I hope, however that I can one day become a Superhuman!” I exclaimed, “It’s hard to predict who will evolve into a Superhuman! Some people take very well to the brain apps, others not. I heard there’s a God who can predict whether or not you’ll become a Superman with almost perfect accuracy. But I am afraid to try him out as I may not like what I found.” Douglas said, “Anyway your fate has not been decided yet! That’s a good thing. Nothing worse than say those Supercomputers who predict their own fate, usually death is to come sooner rather than later!”

Then I asked Brigitte “How she felt about the Gods?” She said, “She cared for the Goddess of Opportunity. This Goddess wanted to suss out her followers’ skills and give them esoteric opportunities for success. The Goddess has a knack for finding something you’d like to do, but it hadn’t occurred to you yet or you hadn’t heard of it. For example, the Goddess’ avatar had given me the opportunity to work as a captain in the UW police on Pluto. I had never thought of going to Pluto. And then the Goddess sent me to Earth to be a jester for a bigwig entrepreneur. The entrepreneur liked my sense of humor and we got high and spent some great times together.” I said, “In this short life, most people miss numerous golden opportunities due to simply not being informed of them.”

I asked Phil, “What is your God?” He responded saying, “I worship the #3 ranked God of the Pantheon of Worlds, the God of the Middle Class. I think the middle class is still powerful and most Superhumans have come from there. And in order to bridge to the future, we need to bring the middle class along with us as the mainstay of the population.” I said, “But the differential between the middle class and the elite is growing greater by the day and now the elite control almost everything. Especially the Superhumans and the Gods control the people. And many former middle-class people have no use, no job and are trying desperately to keep up with brain apps.” He said, “I wouldn’t say they are desperate I’d say they are concerned. But the Gods are benevolent, so they shouldn’t worry.”

I was telling Judith “These days democracy has been supplanted and the College of the Gods rules the Worlds. Almost everyone believes in a God and is controlled by a God with the exceptions of Superhumans who are not Gods, and a handful of atheists.” She responded, saying, “It seems to me like the Gods are all philosophers. And to follow them is to have a philosophy. Everyone needs a philosophy.” “But” she said, “Most Gods look down on their followers and their followers often feel small and unimportant. And they are driving their supporters mad with brain apps.” I said, “It is understandable that the Gods consider their followers to be inferior to them. It’s just the way it goes.”

I asked Candy about, “Her religious beliefs?” She said, “I believe the system of the Gods will soon collapse as people become cleverer and will have no need of Gods.” I said, “But there will always be superior minds who can benefit lesser minds with their wisdom.” She

said, "But people need to be free to live their own lives and be free to live and learn." I replied, "Without Gods, people will be lost in this complex future we are building!" She quipped, "Then let's simplify this World!"

Maggie said, "I believe in the God of Superhumans. Most Superhumans follow this God who grooms them all to be Gods. I consider myself to be a Superwoman." I said, "Well I am a Superhuman too, and I follow this God and others. But the problem with this God is he is too powerful. No one should have such power!" She said, "His mind is mind-blowingly God-like, and he is cleverer than all his Superhuman supporters!"

Sugar said, "My God is the God of Biogenetic Engineering. Today we can design our children to be cleverer than us and we can use brain apps to permanently improve our minds. But improving minds requires a bioengineer to tweak one's brain and keep one sane." I said, "They even keep tweaking android love dolls to improve them and it is easier to alter androids than humans. We live in the 'Era of Bioengineering,' I think." Sugar said, "The God-like minds keep fucking with our brains and who knows what the result will be! But I am sure it will be a good result."

Sam said, "I follow the Goddess of Weakness. As humans we all have our weaknesses and it's important to recognize them and deal with them and make one stronger..." I responded, "I guess that's one way of looking at it. But it kind of sounds like you are glorifying weakness." He said, "No one wants to be weak these days. We live in an era of the strong." I said, "But if one plays your cards right you can turn a weakness into a strength." He said, "Exactly."

I asked Paulette, "If she believed in a Deity?" She answered saying, "I'd tried a few Gods but found them all to be greedy and impatient with an ordinary person like myself. They are greedy to see you improve and the males all wanted sex with me (I know I am especially attractive) and all of them wanted my money." I told her "You are abnormally attractive and that sets you apart. You are not ordinary." She said, "There's more to life than sex!" I said, "A life filled with hot sex is interesting, I think! Even the Gods want to love you!"

I was talking with Dana about her God. She told me, "I liked the Goddess of the Battle of the Sexes. And people are turned on about fighting with their lovers. These days basically women usually win the arguments to neutral observers, but men typically think they have won the argument." I replied, "Women tend to think more before they speak and try to be more positive than men. And women are less obsessed with sex than men." She said, "Yes these days many men have uncontrolled, pumped-up desires with sex enhancers. Of course, women take sex enhancers too, but men take more and don't know when to stop."

Grace said, "I support the God of Overnight Sensations. I enjoy talking with newly successful people. It is such a pure, ecstatic experience." I said, "But the luster quickly fades, and they become just another new kid in town." She said, "All the more important to meet them just as they are succeeding. I told her, "Whatever turns your crank!" She said, "Yes, I am 50 years old but never feel tired with life." I said, "Everyday boundless numbers of people become semi-famous or successful. Far more than you can meet." She said, "So, I pick the ones that sound the most interesting from my God!"

Adolf said, “I like the Goddess of Future Power. This Goddess predicts a future World in which everyone just cares about their power and influence. It will be a World of exclusively Superhumans who are all greedy for power.” I answered, “No one knows for sure what the future will be like, there are a number of variables which are uncertain at this time. For example, how smart will Superhumans be able to be. And what will new science be able to discover that we can’t predict today, because we just can’t imagine it!” Adolf said, “There won’t be room for many of these greedy Superhumans and so they will kill one another off.” I replied, “I doubt that. Superhumans will be greedy but will be instead, kind and enlightened!”

The above reminds me what Hanna told me, she said, “I support the God of Enlightenment. This God shines a light on dark sides of Superhumans and humans. We all have our dark side, and we have all made mistakes.” I told her, “Future people will have nothing to hide from others, there will be no secrets and people will more and more get inside the recesses of the minds of one another and know everything.” She said, “But I am sure they will try to make humans perfect, but the cleverer they are, the more faults they will have.” I said, “Indeed, but some people will be more perfect than others.”

Usain said to me, “I kind of like the Goddess of Good Sportsmanship. In our dealings with one another, it is important to be a good sport. And fight the good fight. And be noble and good.” I said, “But it seems these days that many people want to cheat each other and not play fair and haven’t a noble bone in their body.” He said, “But nearly all Superhumans are created to be noble.” I said, “Right on!”

Dick said, “I want to believe in the God of Heaven, but I really don’t think the future will be heavenly. People will never stop fighting and will forever conspire against one another for power. And Superhumans will have super faults.” I said, “Maybe everyone will just get along and life will be heavenly for all. It feels good to do good, after all.” He said, “But Superhumans are designed by their creators to be greedy and competitive.” I said, “But maybe the most intelligent will rule and force everyone to be kind and nice to another.”

Benjie told me, “I tried to worship the Goddess of Fate, but she told me I was doomed to die very soon.” I said, “No one’s fate is written in stone. It wasn’t very nice of her to say that to you.” “But” she said, “Now I seem to be permanently depressed and looks like I will fulfill her prophecy.” I said, “Perhaps you could follow the God of the Moment and live like him day to day in pleasure.” She said, “Perhaps; I’ve certainly got to do something!” I added, “There are thousands of Gods out there. Surely you can find one that works for you!”

Miles said to me, “I want to see Heaven!” I said, “There are numerous Heavens currently in existence. Many say great things about these places.” He said, “But, once you are in a World it is easy to get caught up in the action and be blinded to what you are doing. And you forget who you are! Heaven could turn into Hell for one who is not very clever, like me!” I said, “All I can say to you is take whatever brain apps you can. If you can become very kind or very knowledgeable for examples, perhaps you will find the Heaven which you seek.” Paul said, “I feel like I can’t control my fate!”

Parker said “I really like the God of Horror. I feel it is a World of Horror in which people don’t know who they are anymore with the brain apps. And they find themselves having sex with, and loving machines. And they are bored to the point where everyday they contemplate suicide. The horrors!” I said, “Certainly many live in a nauseous horror story. But there are

pills which help one to cope. He said, “All drugs have side effects and there’s nothing much you can do with someone whose hell bent on suicide. It’s a World of death and horror, I tell you and so I also worship the God of Death.”

I asked, Madison, “About his God? And he said, “I liked the God of the Spice of Life. And this God believed in spicing up peoples’ lives with new spices for foods, new types of android love dolls, an interesting vocation or hobby and true friends who were very different from you.” I said I like the spicy love dolls and would like to try one of your God’s latest models.” He said, “Sure.” And he added, “This God had kept me sane.” And he said, “He fancied the Goddess of True Friendship. In these difficult times, you need support from your good friends. Many today are just friends for a very brief time, just like a one-night stand. And have no one to call on for support when things get rough with the brain changes and so on. I believe it is a lonely world.” I replied, saying, “Perhaps people are lonelier today than other periods in history. But you can always have empathetic love dolls to keep one company and the Web is full of kindred spirits for you to meet.”

I was talking with Ivy, about “Living a life of leisure under the sun.” She said, “I worshipped the Sun God and believed that it had always been a God. The ancients worshipped the Sun and so do I.” I asked, “What does the God do for you? She said, “Warm Sunshine and the God gave her drugs so that she could stare at the God for long periods. And the God gave me drugs to always be warm and fuzzy. And drugs to make me calm in this era of virtual chaos. I like to take these drugs and just lie in the Sun and daydream with daydream apps. Anyone can get these drugs and apps, through the Web and live in leisure.” I said, “Most people who live on and survive have a good work ethic and are industrious. But some lazy people like you survive indefinitely.”

Then I was talking with Olivia about the Gods. She told me, “I was deeply in debt with the Goddess of New Gods/Goddesses. This Goddess told me, I would for sure make it to God-like status one day soon. And gave me all kinds of apps, and brain changing drugs. The apps and drugs sit well with me, and everyday I am cleverer than the last. Where will it end, I wonder!” I said, “It is always heart-warming to hear a tale of success in this World of bad news and insanity. But the apps are quickly getting better all around.”

I asked Coco about, “Her religion?” She said, “I believed in the Goddess of Good News. The Goddess gave me many inspirational stories of love and kindness, and I met up with the people in these stories. And that was my life in a nutshell.” I said, “It truly seems like you have it made. But how long do you think you can keep it up? Most Gods now require all their followers to take brain apps and mind-altering drugs. The writing is on the wall!” She replied I’d had a very good life and if I had to kill myself, I would. Anyway, I have 10 kids, that was my legacy.” I said, “I truly wish you good luck!”

I asked, Camila, “About the Gods?” She told me, “I pandered to the God of Good Endings. It was my God’s philosophy that all’s well that ends well. And she was a firm believer in old Hollywood.” I asked, “What good endings has the God procured for you?” She said, “He set me up with lovers who also believed in happy endings and made sure we parted amicably. Many of these fine lovers I’ve seen again and again. I am basically happy!” I said, “But realistically speaking life is hard and cruel and you just can’t hide in your bubble of happiness. The plagues will strike you too and you will know suffering and catastrophe.” She said, “But as of now I am happy which is more than most people can say!” I said, “The ‘Apocalypse’ for ordinary people could be coming and you would best be prepared!”

I was talking to Audrey about the Gods. She said, “I liked the Goddess of the Apocalypse. This Goddess told me the fire is burning with so many Gods and Goddesses and Superhumans. Somethings got to give. The whole thing will explode in ways we can’t imagine.” I said, “But I want to get my kicks while I still can! And maybe I can help bring lasting peace amongst the Gods!”

Then I was talking with Wyatt. He told me, “I believe in the God of Secrets. This God told me that everyone needed secrets to keep from all others and everyone needed a mind-blocking app, so that people reading your mind could not get your secret thoughts. Some secrets are powerful, and some are mistakes you’ve made, and some can even be new ideas that you have, but it’s important that everyone has a secret space no matter what!” I exclaimed, “I’ve done a lot of embarrassing things, but I have no secrets to hide!” He said, “Most people do have secrets!”

Then I was talking with Vera, about her religion. She told me, “I went from one God to the other seeking succor, but to no avail. I’ve tried hundreds of Gods and have never been satisfied!” I asked, “What’s the main sticking point?” She said, “The Gods just want her for her money and sex and don’t consider her a thinker and so abused her. I just wanted a nice, calm life, but all the Gods are crazy.” I said, “Keep improving, take your brain apps and genetic drugs and see if the World doesn’t change for you!”

Then I asked Hazel, about the Gods. She said, “I liked the Goddess of Immortality. All the followers of this God were at least 100 years old. And most looked like they would live on indefinitely. We are survivors and bon vivants.” I said, “Eternal youth didn’t work out as people expected. It has been around for 70+ years now and the average person only lives into their fifties due to suicide mostly. Everyone is too spoiled, as I am sure you know.” She answered, saying, “To tell the truth, I am shocked by all the deaths. I don’t know what’s wrong with people these days.”

I was talking with George R. about religion, and he said, “I am an old-time Catholic believe it or not, only instead of an invisible God we now have one that is quite active. And I have memorized the entire Bible. And we are only 19,000 in number here on Earth and get together in the new Cincinnati Cathedral for mass over which God presides through his avatar and grants us most of our wishes and he does good work in the community, helping people get through this difficult life.” I said, “The history of the Catholic Church is rather dismal and even horrific. Do you still have an infallible Pope?” He said, “The Pope is not necessary with an active God and we have made God in our own image.”

Giselle was saying, “I respect the God of Water. On Earth deserts are all gone and there is plenty of water, but in much of Space water is of course at a premium. Our God makes sure we have constant shipments of life-giving water and some Moons like Europa and Triton are full of water and export it.” I said, “Many Moons and Planets have been terraformed to have rain and rivers and lakes and I think it is quite good. Many wealthy people in Space ostentatiously display abundant water in their palaces like fountains and pools.” She said, “It is OK with me if the rich show off. I am wealthy too and like to be around water.”

Faith was telling me about her Goddess. She said, “My Goddess is in charge of Earth and Space Luxuries, nothing but the best for her followers and others too. My Goddess is very rich from things like luxury air cars and love dolls for the elite and the best food and drugs and elite brain apps, and controls much of the Solar system’s gold supply, and so on.” I said, “But many Gods presided over the production of luxuries!” She replied, “But my Goddess has the best, in my view, and I live like a Queen as the richest person on Mercury. The Goddess helped me mine gold there using new techniques.” I said, “But do you help the less fortunate?” She responded, saying, “These days no one is poor by historical standards, and I pay plenty of tax.”

Harlan told me about his God. He said, “I follow the God of Instant Gratification. I believe that Superhuman desires like mine, should all be gratified.” I asked, “But doesn’t that spoil one and make them tired of life?” He said, “I am 63 and still going strong. And I am a true hedonist.” I said, “Most hedonists die young.” He replied, “I thoroughly enjoy my life and so do all my friends.” And he said, I am the mayor of Toronto and I have brought mass hedonism to the city. Almost everyone is debauched, and we seem to have a low suicide rate. And the Gods are pleased with us!”

And then it was 2170 and I was elected to the College of the Gods, and became a full-fledged Deity. And I had millions of followers right away. My future looked bright.

Epitaph for Humanity: A.D. 2304: The Cities of the Gods

And so it was that there were 2 billion Superhumans and 12,000 Gods and no more humans. No one seemed to miss humans and homo superior had colonized many galaxies. And most claimed they were content, and suicide was very rare. The Gods and Superhumans dwelt in fantastic cities, Heavenly cities of the Gods.

THE END