

Thus, it came to pass that Ma'ara'ushu grew restless in the void which was. Ma'ara'ushu therefore created that which is. He did not separate the Void from what is, nor did he separate that which is from that which is not. He thought to himself, "I have created that which is and that which is not from the Void."

Perceiving his mastery over the Void he said to that which was, and is, and is to come, "Surely I, Ma'ara'ushu, am worthy of praise everlasting. For I alone perceived what could be, and made it thus. For evermore shall my name be worshipped among all things." Therefore, Ma'ara'ushu created the green calm below and the blue quietness above. "And it shall be habitation for a multitude of hosts, worshipping and crying out, 'Ma'ara'ushu, great is thy strength, and awesome is thy mastery of what is and what is not.'"

All these were his actions on the first days of the earth.

Seeing the green orb before him and its separation from the heavens about it, he rent the orb, and filled it with vast seas. Therefore it was blue and green, and it's separation from the heavens was less so. "Thus the earth is not so separate from the heavens, just as what is remains ensnared in what is not."

All these were his actions on the second day of the earth.

Observing the terraqueous globe before him, he thought unto himself, "Though it be the green of the ground and the blue of the heavens, it does not vary." Therefore, he created mountains to soar into the sky, and vast gulfs did rent the earth, and they filled not with water. "Thus the earth is not so separate from the heavens, just as what is remains ensnared in what is not."

All these were his actions on the third day of the earth.

Perceiving his creation and its splendor, he spoke to that which was. "Behold, I have created a great earth. Now my glory is complete. Behold, upon the earth I place Man. He shall worship me and honor me, all the days of his life. He shall desire to honor me, and I will rule over him, as I ruled over the void. And I give unto him this One Gift."

Unto that which is, he spoke thus. "Behold what is. Thou cometh from my mind and from the void which I subdued. Thus I also subdueth thee, that thou shall worship me for ever and ever. And this gift I give unto thee. Whatsoever thou wantest or needeth for three days, thou shalt have."

He spoke now unto that which is to come. "Behold what I allowed to be. But beware also of what is not. For what is and is not shall not remain thus forever. I gave a gift, but at a cost. Eternal servitude."

Thus man came into being on the third day. On the first day, man created senses, that he too might perceive as Ma'ara'ushu perceived. Ma'ara'ushu warned man, "Do not strive above thyself, but be content in worshipping me." Failing to heed his advice, on the second day man created a True Companion, and she spoke. "I shall be named woman, and we shall live together for ever."

Ma'ara'ushu, seeing what man had done, was outraged. "Foolish man, whom I created. Thou reached into what was not, and brought it to be. Instead of worshipping me, you have created another to worship. Therefore, your punishment: First, you shall not have a third day. Also, I, Ma'ara'ushu, demand you toil from this day forth, never

receiving the rest which thou wouldst have had. And woman, whom you created, shall be imperfect, much as you who created are imperfect.”

Thus ended the creation of earth.

After Ma'ara'ushu cast man down, he went away, to see where he erred. Alone, he perceived another force, much like himself, yet different. And Ma'ara'ushu was sore afraid, for he now had an enemy, Alamek.

Alamek spoke, “Ma'ara'ushu, you alone created from the void. But thou turned thy creation to thine own ends, and did not let it Be. Therefore, what thou hast created shall evermore be evil, much as thou art evil. Yet, I have pity on thy creation. Therefore, I shall add perfection to you evil.” Alamek then created the birds of the sky, the beasts of the field, and the fish of the sea. He also created the plants, which stretch into the sky much as man now stretches towards the goodness of Alamek.

Ma'ara'ushu cried, “What I have done is not evil, but simply is.”

“No, you allowed what is and is not to be joined, and it is therefore evil,” replied Alamek. Ma'ara'ushu rose up against Alamek, and struck at him. But Alamek, using the pure power of what is, struck at Ma'ara'ushu, and crushed him. Ma'ara'ushu was sorely wounded, and fled before Alamek. But Alamek did not kill Ma'ara'ushu, but only wounded him. And even to this day, Ma'ara'ushu strives for the worship of man, his creation.

Alamek, however, let what is, be. And some men, recognizing the purity of Nature, find redemption therein.