

**SPECIAL MEETING
OF
THE DIVINE FRATERNITY.**

A Franciscan Play

by

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Location:

A quiet distant corner of the Universe.

Characters:

- Brother Sun
- Sister Moon & the Stars
- Brother Wind
- Sister Water
- Brother Fire
- Sister Mother Earth
- Trees with fruit
- Coloured Flower
- Herb
- A few Franciscans.
- Narrator

Special Meeting of the Divine Fraternity.

WORDS IN RED WITHIN BRACKETS TELL CHARACTERS WHAT THEY MUST DO

PLEASE STRESS/ACCENTUATE UNDERLINED WORDS OF THIS SCRIPT.

Narrator: “In a darkened, distant corner of the Universe, eight shadowy figures hurry to a secret location.”

PLEASE WALK ONSTAGE WITH THE DARK SIDE OF YOUR SIGN FACING THE AUDIENCE

(Brother Sun tries to join the gathering).

Narrator: “Suddenly light appears

TURN YOUR SIGN TO THE AUDIENCE SO THEY SEE THE COLOURED PICTURE.

and the temperature begins to rise dramatically. The members gathered find themselves in full view.”

(Trees, flowers, plants bow their heads - drooping heads)

Coloured Flower: Please Brother Sun, could you not come any closer, you are making it too hot here.

(Brother Sun speaks in a haughty voice but steps back from the group)

Brother Sun: “Ah yes, I forgot some of you guys are simply no match for my brilliance.”

(Sister Mother Earth speaks in a shocked voice)

Sister Mother Earth: “Brother Sun, remember you are called to have compassion for those brothers and sisters who may be weaker than you or struggling! Not everyone has been blessed with your endurance and strength, you know.”

(Brother Sun speaks in a sheepish voice)

Brother Sun: “Apologies to the gathering Mother Earth and I am so sorry Sister Flower. I did not mean to be such a jerk! I will try to be more thoughtful of others.”

Sister Mother Earth: “Ok, since everyone is now here and we are all on a tight schedule, let us immediately begin this meeting with praise.”

(All gathered then lustily sing)

ALL:

Praise God the Father who's the source;

Praise God the Son who is the course;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Amen

Sister Mother Earth: I believe you all know why we needed to convene this special meeting of the Divine Fraternity; and it pains me to have to admit that this is necessary because of the actions of some of my creatures. We need to explore three things today:

- 1) How this situation is affecting us all.
- 2) The initiatives we have taken so far to help matters, and
- 3) What we feel must still be done get our relationships back in Harmony.

We want everyone to have some input. Brother Sun, can we start with you?

Brother Sun: “Well, as you all know, I am furthest away from the situation. My mission is not affected by what they do. I am sorry to note, though, that, often, they are not grateful for my light and my warmth which I give so freely each and every day. So, I think I should leave the floor to those of you closer to the situation. So over to you Sister Moon and the Stars”

Sister Moon: “Thank you. As you all know, what I do is.....

(Sister Moon - erratically move the sign about as if to avoid objects flying at you)

(Mother Earth speaks in a concerned voice)

Sister Mother Earth: Sister Moon, are you ok? What is wrong?

Sister Moon: “I am sorry, I am just a bit jumpy these days. But this stems from my biggest problem with your creatures, Mother Earth! They have left so much junk from their little trips to my neck of the woods and from their so called “satellites” that now I live in constant fear that I might one day get hit. I do not need another crater! After all, I am beautiful enough as is!

And another thing, is all that light pollution they create. My soft, romantic reflections of Brother Sun’s rays are just obliterated; and there is really is not much I can do from where I sit.

(Sister moon, thinking, tilts her head a little to the side then continues)

I suppose I could affect the tides to try to teach them a lesson, but I don't think too many of them will get the connection. I must admit...I am really annoyed and frustrated!"

Mother Earth: "Yes, I am so sorry. And this is affecting many of my other delightful creatures too. My poor little birds get so disoriented. You can see why I find myself crying. So much suffering!

Brother Wind, what about you?"

(Brother wind speaks in a somewhat boastful tone.)

Brother wind: "Well, you all know that I am the sort of guy who feels strongly about doing my work to the best of my ability. I work with what I am given. If they want to help destroy the ozone layer, increase temperatures and make sister water overheated; then I will blow them away! No problem!"

Sorry Mother Earth, I know they are your children and you cry for them; but I am just doing my job.”

(He sighs and continues wistfully)

“I am tired, though; and could use a rest. These days it seems that I rarely get the chance to play gently with the flowers or rustle through the tree tops listening to the birds sing.”

Tree: “I believe I speak for all trees and plants when I say: we do miss your gentler side. These days you are always roaring around uprooting our lives, shredding our beautiful clothing and frightening all the poor little creatures who seek refuge in our arms. I wish you would calm down.”

(Sister Water speaks next in a sorrowful manner)

Sister Water: “I do hope this meeting can bring about some change and restore our beautiful relationships. I feel that I am personally suffering most from this situation. Mother Earth, it is sad to say but your children

seem to have forgotten their divine purpose. They must return to living in harmony with us all.

My main problem is that my purity is under attack. How can I continue when my body is constantly being defiled? Mother, your creatures that depend on me in rivers and seas are suffering. Their very life depends on what we do to restore the intended balance.

They have indiscriminately altered my courses with no thought of my plans. They have clogged my paths with their garbage. I have been retaliating by flooding their homes and lands; but still, they do not alter their behaviour. Oh, and I have even tried pelting them with severe rain and hail; but little seems to get their attention. They just worry about where they will get insurance for their puny shelters! I am at my wits end.”

(After a brief silence, Sister Mother Earth speaks)

Sister Mother Earth: “Have courage Sister water. Together we will find a way.

Brother Fire, I know you have been super busy as you are swamped with work these days. But what are your thoughts on this matter?”

Brother Fire: I am exhausted. I need a vacation! I feel that I am always the one called to work overtime. It does not seem fair to me. The rest of this Fraternity needs to rise to the challenge and do more. Everyone will have to pull their weight to get through to these people. We must make them understand that they are part of a team here. They cannot simply continue to do as they please! They need to understand that there are consequences to their actions and that we are all interconnected. Quite frankly, I think that they can easily do a lot to lighten my burden.”

Coloured Flowers: “Believe me, Brother Fire, we can’t wait for you to go on vacation. I am sure many of us will be much happier if you are not around!”

Herb: Yes, we already have a short life span and Brother Fire’s aggressive, scorching behaviour, as of late, has been making life downright miserable!”

Sister Mother Earth: “Look, I understand everyone’s frustrations. However, we can’t be too hard on Brother Fire. This is not solely his fault. Remember that he too has a path set for him. He has to do what the Creator asks of him. If conditions warrant this action, Brother Fire has the responsibility to respond accordingly.”

Herb: Well soon all creatures will suffer. We in ourselves not only provide food for so many, we also join together to make their food so much more palatable. When we can no longer flourish, we will be sorely missed. You know their saying, Sister Water: “You never miss the water till the well runs dry!” They will miss us soon, just mark my words.”

Sister Mother Earth: “You are right. They will miss us soon. Challenging times are indeed ahead.

This weighs heavy on my heart and I feel that I must speak loud enough to make myself be heard. I have started working with a small pilot group to remind them of the divine plan; to show them just how we are all

connected and how our very existence gives praise to the “Most High”. I have been coaching them to join in with us.

I have asked a few of them here today to show you what they have learned.

Franciscans, can you join us now?”

(Small group of Franciscans join the members on stage and sing)

(Characters can gently sway their signs from side to side while they are singing)

Franciscans:

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light.
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them His glory also show.
O praise Him! O praise Him!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Tree: Wonderful Mother Earth! Now all we need is for them to get this message to go viral! Perhaps those satellites will come in handy after all, eh Sister Moon?

(All laugh)

Mother Earth: Let us all keep that hope alive! Listening to our wonderful brothers and sisters sing of forgiveness and dying to self, it reminds me: Sister Death sends her apologies for not being able to join us today. As you can guess, she has had an abundance of work forwarded to her by Brother Fire and Sister Water. However, she is

here with us in Spirit today and we must remember that she has a very demanding job to do for God's beloved Humanity. She gets to usher them through the portal that leads to their salvation. A crucial role indeed!

(Turning to the Franciscans, Mother Earth continues)

"My Franciscan friends, thank you so much!

Members, we will meet at our next scheduled regular meeting. Thank you all and let us end with praise."

(All sing including the Franciscans):

Praise God the Father who's the source;

Praise God the Son who is the course;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Amen

The End.