

*A universal war is raging. Scientific techno-immortals are fighting against an alien religion worshipping the god Zero who commands them to destroy the universe by polluting every planet and laughing people to death. A young mutant fights back.*

## **THE COSMIC NIGHTMARE**

By lang ramdin as told to carl spann

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THE MUTANT TRILOGY: BOOK THREE

# THE COSMIC NIGHTMARE

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a mutant's face. The skin is dark, textured, and appears cracked or scaly. The eyes are a bright, glowing yellow-green color with a blueish-white ring around the pupils. The mutant has a slight, menacing smile, showing their teeth. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the skin and the intensity of the eyes.

LANG RAMDIN

Intergalactic Reporter as told to C. SPANN

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## **PRAISE FOR 'THE COSMIC NIGHTMARE'**

"The prose flows like a river on fire without a hose to extinguish the horror and humor."

---- Outer Space Gazette

"If ever evil can be funny, this is it."

----- Intergalactic Express

"Tragedy becomes comedy on every page."

-----Supercluster Times

"The author proves nightmares can happen in the daytime."

-----Sagittarius A Post

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## **AUTHOR'S NOTE**

In the first two volumes of the Mutant Trilogy my readers encountered the term 'scientific divinity'. My new readers may question how science can be linked to the concept of divine being. Those who've read my first two volumes became aware that science evolved to make the principles of ancient faith into a scientific reality. Thousands of years before science came into action the ancients believed only gods could fly in the sky. Science created the ability for individuals to fly airplanes in the sky, or fly spaceships to the stars. We don't think of flying to the moon as god-like, but to the ancients it would be a divine act. Knowing that future individuals are capable of sailing through the stars would, to them, be a holy miracle. Science has given to many species in the universe the ability to perform what the ancients thought of as 'divine power'. In the present volume you will see how the god-like power of science can also be used to destroy all of reality.

## INTRODUCTION

There are nights when I am isolated from others but not alone. I'm visited many times by a joke-filled monster seeking to kill all life. He laughs in the shadows trying to scare your intergalactic reporter to death. He spews his hatred for my job as top reporter because, when telling you the news of his dangerous exploits, I never fail to have a look of disgust on my face. I inform him that I will never stop my critical take on his deadly escapades. He swears his revenge each time he appears flying wildly above my head. And then he disappears until the next time I see his glaring eyes staring at me from out of the darkness.

My news audience knows of this sadistic fiend. You are viewing him nightly on my intergalactic news programs. He is Xalagoof, son of Razaraba the late Empress of the Nihilii. In our news reports we refer to him simply as 'X'. The first two volumes of my report on the cosmic mutant point straight to his shadowy figure with the idiotic grin on his face.

You've also followed my news stories on the cosmic mutant. When he was a kid the young genius was quickly writing down unlimited equations, and calculations, one after another. His overactive brain invented untold millions of radical formulas. Our Universal Government used his most important formula to create scientific immortality helping ordinary people, like you and me, to evolve into our hard-working cosmic culture of techno-immortals.

As the mutant's thoughts kept speeding along, inventing more ideas, he tossed many of them away not knowing X would find them. No techno-immortal could ever die until X found one brilliant throwaway formula to do his murderous criminal acts against us. When using this formula it gives him the sub-quantum power to freely end life anywhere at any time across the universe.

Now he uses it to spook me on dark nights when I'm alone. I've told him I am a techno-immortal unafraid of his death threats. Still, one night he tried to terrify me with one of his comical pranks predicting my doom. Laughing madly and whirling around like a giant under my high ceiling he stuck his long, huge tongue out to an inch or so from my eyes. On the tip of his tongue was the dismembered head of a techno-immortal with a goofy smile on its dead face. I hate to admit that it was such a funny sight I had to work hard not to burst out laughing.

After swallowing the dead victim's head X gloated saying:

"That techno-immortal fool died from laughing at my deadly wisecracks. And very soon, Mr. Reporter, you too will die with the same kind of smile on your crooked lips."

The monster haunting me is dedicated to ending all life in the universe.

He will make you laugh while he is killing you.



## CHAPTER ONE: MILLIONS DYING FROM LAUGHTER

I always had a wicked sense of humor. Not anymore. In this troubled time we avoid the risk of laughing at a joke. I'll explain why this change is dangerous for the majority of our universal population. It began when X launched his terrorist attacks as comedy skits.

Before this time our dear Mother Universe was proud to have a growing population of techno-immortals within her stars and galaxies. We technos function as her wise universal brain-cells. We are working hard to encourage individuals to join us in the ongoing evolution of higher universal consciousness. The creation of immortal life in all of the multi-universes has shown that infinite longevity brings infinite wisdom.

My generation was born in fragile organic bodies with limited individual life spans until scientific immortality was developed in a highly advanced laboratory. Our parents downloaded us into strong, long-lived techno bodies manufactured by the giant corporation, Immortality Inc. The well-known exercise routine, called the Power Exercises, keeps our immortal lives dynamic for an infinite future in our eternally young techno-bodies.

You and I have enormous power stored within our body's atoms and molecules. When you feel life isn't worth living you can do the exercises to power up your love of life. They energize your down day into an up day. We all enjoyed watching their famous online advertising seen around the clock on the outernet.

My wife, famous actress Frus Vannava, was dancing in the commercial. She looked great with the curves of her female techno-body even more voluptuous than when she was still a wild young pre-immortal knockout. Dancing in front her troupe of sexy techno-immortals she got viewers excited about paying for and doing the vigorous Power Exercises to help release the tremendous amount of energy dormant inside our physiques. Releasing this powerful source of physical energy makes us want to live forever in our strong techno-bodies. Smiling and shaking her luscious hips she sang:

"Don't think of dying, please never, never  
Do the Power Exercises you'll want to live forever  
Work up your energy to overcome your strife  
Do these exercises you'll enjoy eternal life  
Feeling happy exercising I will tell you true  
The joy of life is knowing you have cosmic work to do

You won't see this ad online anymore. Immortality, Inc. has gone out of business. The joy of life has been blunted by X and his death-loving followers. He is at war with our widespread cosmic culture of infinite longevity. His goal is to erase all of life into a permanent state of pure nothingness. Howling with laughter he leads his followers trying to make you and me laugh ourselves to death.

Once he led his fanatic followers to cut off all of Immortality Inc.'s intergalactic computer networking. His comic starship, famous for emitting loud farts, sailed across the stars to disable Immortality Inc.'s communication, data storage, and security infrastructure. It left the company bankrupt.

With a smile on his lips he is also a religious fanatic who worships Nothingness as a holy state. Life is chaotic and miserable to those who follow him. His devotion to the Empty Void is a sacred act for his life-hating culture. He rages that our techno-immortality negates his Nihilii religion glorifying non-existence.

Zero is their holy symbol. His goal is to erase reality.

# O

Bowing down to the Holy Zero are untold numbers of worshippers seen on my nightly news program. They praise X's vow to erase all life in the universe, including his primary target, us, the techno-immortal population. He cynically calls his movement: 'erasureism'. The best way to hook millions loyal to his erasureist cause is to use his sick sense of humor as a weapon.

He was attracting millions of dissatisfied youth all over the universe with his sick jokes. Failing to attain success in life they were a disillusioned, cynical generation seeking revenge against normal existence. Erasing life at the command of X was becoming ever more popular for them. One night on my news report I scheduled X to appear. My viewers needed to learn more about his Nihilii species preaching that higher evolution is a deadly sin.

I questioned him on this sensitive subject,

"Mr. X, you say evolutionary progress in life is evil."

"Ours is a revolution against higher evolution," X spewed. "We need help attacking and killing you damned techno-immortals with our death-dealing humor. More disillusioned young species are joining me to make this possible. Hear me, my angry young followers. When you're erasing life with my deadly humor you won't be called 'serial killers'. Joining up with me, all of you become my loyal 'serial jokers', killing others by joking them to death. Hah hah."

Winning support for his erasureist crusade X was grimly turning tragedy into comedy. Our news audience needed to know the scientific evidence of why X was a threat to all life on all worlds. I showed my viewers the first example of violent laughter tearing a techno-immortal's body to pieces.

Onscreen came the stately figure of the Director of Cosmic Evolution, Dr. Werdna Nedarb. His wise reputation made our viewers listen closely.

"Welcome, Dr. Nedarb. You solemnly warn our viewers about the danger of laughing at X's antics. Explain to us why X is achieving his nightmarish goals."

"Reporter Ramdin, to put it bluntly once an individual starts laughing at X's jokes they cannot stop. The non-stop vibration of laughter causes their body to suffer a violent internal explosion. Science has proven that the latent energy within the atomic structure of our bodies is equal to the force of a nuclear weapon. Every small atomic particle inside your physical structure contains a huge amount of this untapped energy. When the unending vibrations of an individual's laughter become too loud and violent it unleashes a small nuclear blast within their body and they die."

"Sir, you say that each one of us has a potential nuclear bomb nestled within the atoms of our body. Techno-immortals cannot die from an explosion."

"That was true only in the past. Before this, techno-immortals could never die. Advanced technology made us indestructible. But laughing at X's stupid antics is unstoppable. It kills even those with an immortal techno-body because non-stop laughter ignites a self-imposed nuclear detonation that destroys the ability of a techno-body to recode itself. Look at this vid to see what violent laughter did to one techno-male's immortal body. You will know how dangerous laughing at a joke can be.

"Over there stands a tall orange techno-immortal rocking back and forth unable to stop his convulsive snickering after seeing one of X's ridiculous jokes showing his spaceship farting loudly as it sails through the stars."

I nodded my head when he said this.

"My news audience sees his spaceship farting every night on my news report. It's funny his technicians made this happen but it's also very deadly when my viewers are reported to suffer from unshakable laughter seeing it happen."

"The farting spaceship was shown to the laughing victim on a transcell-vid held in the hands of a young serial joker. When the victim started shaking horribly people kept telling him to please calm down and act serious. Onscreen your viewers will see what happens next. At first he was saying he had no problem laughing because he is an invulnerable techno-immortal. Watch his body twisting and turning in agony with each laugh from his contorted lips.

"I am shaking, shaking violently. I cannot stop laughing."

"Now you can hear him crying out just before his body is about to explode!"

"Omigawd, I am shaking so violently with roaring laughter my immortal body is ripping itself apart! Aieeee!!!"

"We see his immortal body exploding into shards of techno-flesh, his techno-teeth flying in all directions. Watch, as those other techno-immortals standing nearby become victims of X's vicious humor when they are hit with bits of the victim's techno-brain, techno-stomach and other body parts. Your news audience can see they are severely injured by the effects of his post-explosive radiation! He is dying because he couldn't stop his self-destructing merriment."

My news audience was shocked to see the techno-immortal die from unstoppable laughter. The unlocked energy from his physical body was truly equal to a small nuclear bomb. Even more shocking was the sight of the victim's techno-wife kneeling over his dead techno body, crying a flood of techno-tears. She was asking how her husband, a techno-immortal, could be dead.

"We were told our immortal techno-bodies are totally indestructible," she cried out. "How did laughter become a deadly weapon to end my techno-darling's life?"

Dr. Nedarb continued showing us vid after vid of torturous laughing episodes. We saw dozens of unstoppable deaths from X's jokes ripping the techno-bodies of his victims to pieces as they screamed for help before their mirth-filled end.

I kept going on with my report asking my next question.

"Dr. Nedarb, we are seeing that techno-immortals can be X's victims. You have proven that humor is now a threatening experience for us all. When techno-immortals die laughing it means we no longer exist post-explosion. But that goes against our techno-immortal belief in the joy of evolving our individual lives to exist forever and helping the ongoing growth of new universes."

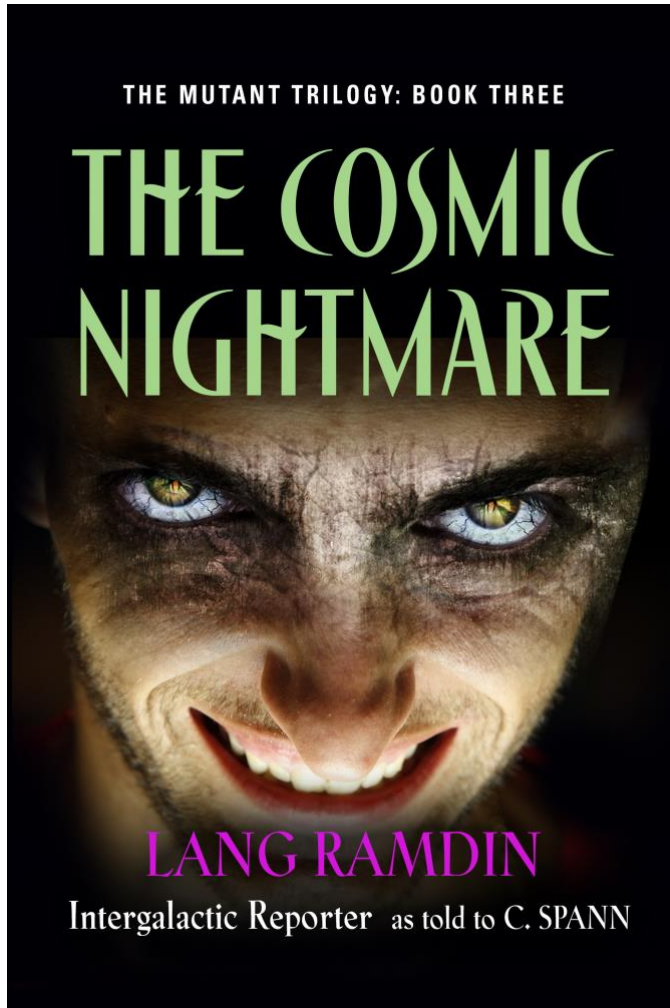
"Yes, our Universal Government guarantees us the freedom to evolve ourselves to become divine immortals. It's not just a selfish desire to exist forever. We are always working to bring higher consciousness into every newborn universe. But, X was born as a child of the death-loving Nihilii species. They taught him his unbending religious duty is to hate all that exists!"

"Yes, sir. I remember long ago interviewing his mother, the late Empress of the Nihilii. She said X was the perfect child for her because he hated everything. Every time she'd say 'oh my goodness' he'd say 'oh my badness'. That made her happy."

Dr. Nedarb agreed.

"As Director of Cosmic Evolution I know well that X and his people totally hate all life, especially our goal of infinite life. The dark Nihilii religion worships the Void of Nothingness into which the God of Entropy is forever leading us. Their goal is to help entropy erase life into a state of total non-existence. X has persuaded several hundred thousand galaxies to turn against the Universal Government. They are working with him to commit terrorist attacks against loyalist solar systems. If we cannot stop laughing at his maniacal monkeyshines it is now possible that all immortals will become victims of the Nihilii quest for total non-existence."

At that time the population of living beings in the universe was far greater than the number of X's victims. Things would be changing soon.



*A universal war is raging. Scientific techno-immortals are fighting against an alien religion worshipping the god Zero who commands them to destroy the universe by polluting every planet and laughing people to death. A young mutant fights back.*

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