

A novella written in poems. Mostly rhyming metered poetry. Second half is political. Environmentalist views expressed. There's a science fiction aspect to parts of it.

Bedtime For Entropy: Book Of Shadows

By Maniacal Mel

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BEDTIME

FOR
ENTROPY



BOOK OF SHADOWS

A Novellem by Maniacal Mel

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Soliloquy

Alone I am
Alone I'll stay
It seems as if
Till my dying day
Till I've no dues
Still left to pay
Alone I am
Alone I'll stay

Better Off

No one talkin' on the phone
No one cluttering my home
No one takin' up the space
No one getting in my face
Everything that's here is mine
No one takin' up my time

Damned if I would have her back
Aggravation's all I lack...

A Lesser Magellanic Odyssey

Part 1 - Interstellar Fool's Gold

Reaching for a moonbeam
I fall into the void
Slipping into vacuum of the mind
Casting my impressions
Of purity destroyed
Upon the galaxies I leave behind

Still as I wander in space
Always to take and not replace
All of the wonder I unfold
Is only interstellar fool's gold

Trip the light fantastic
Way past the speed of sound
Faster than my soul can comprehend
Spewing degradation
That wants to be profound
Across the universe as I transcend

Still as I wander in time
Always obtuse and yet sublime
All of the treasure I have sold
Is only interstellar fool's gold

Part 2 - The Currents of Space

The currents of space
Have carried you away from me
Much further than the human eye can see
You've gone so far away
The light from yesterday
Will take a million years to touch my face
Here in this place

The currents of space
Don't care about the likes of me
They will not bend to follow my decree
With a mind of their own
They've left me all alone
To stagnate in an empty, timeless space
Here in this place

Why, tell me why
Could you not be content with one sky
How, tell me how
Could you send me up and space me
And place me where no viewing is allowed
Please tell me how

The currents of space
Were just what you were waiting for
You didn't want to see me anymore
So you left me behind
Beyond the reach of time
A burned-out star that smolders in disgrace
Here in this place

Part 3 - Collapsar Jump

The small cloud calls to me
Its' lure won't leave me be
Thanks to those who know more than we can see
The sky will soon open up for me
I'm off on a collapsed odyssey...

Collapsar
Is imploding upon the scene
Collapsar
Far beyond man's wildest dream
Collapsar
Hear the fabric of time scream
Collapsar
Could be the damming of this stream

The burning of a standard candle
Lights my way into the night
A parallax is hard to handle
If the angles are not right

Voyage past Cassini skies
Out to where our future lies
Worm-holed dive
Through quasar sky
As the universe divides

Eating the void up
Gobble the light
Swallow the future
Forever's in sight
Gravity's tamed

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Singularities flame
Rounding the corner of night

Up towards the endless sky
And outward through the void
Purge on until my ego is destroyed

At odds with the ecliptic
And all things men can see
A Magellanic odyssey will lead me soon to thee

Collapsar
Now completes the final race
Collapsar
Has the cosmos to deface
Collapsar
Seems that matter has been displaced
Collapsar
Could be the end of time and space

Thanks to those who know more than we
The sky now folds in half for me
I'm off on a brief entropic flight

They offer without apology the
Use of their advanced technology so
Soon everything is gonna be alright

**Part 4 - The Stars, Like Dust
(Instrumental)**

Part 5 - Intergalactic Interlude

The stars swim in an endless sea
That lingers out of view
In constellations without any name
I've searched a couple galaxies
Found no one quite like you
As a million stars all start to look the same

Part 6 - Pebble in the Sky

The stars like dust sprinkle the sky around me
I know by now I must have searched them all
As another galaxy forms to surround me
The gravity of love my clarion call

You're somewhere in the lesser cloud around me
So sure your star is naked to my eye
The reason for your leaving still confounds me
And now you're just a pebble in the sky

As many worlds acquire rings
From moons that are destroyed
By comets passing closer than they should
The solar wind still gently sings
Upon it we are buoyed
But it will serve my quest no bit of good

Now wrapped inside my starry shroud
I'm fading out of view
I guess there's not much more for me to do
I've searched the Magellanic Cloud
The lesser of the two
And I'm not one single light-year closer to you

How can there be a shadow in space
What could it be cast upon
Soon it disappears without a trace
Like a dewdrop in the dawn

How can there be a shadow in space
Without substance, shape or form

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Like an exile living in disgrace
Or a lover who's been scorned

How can there be a shadow in space
Don't ask me I don't know
I'm a jester with a frowning face
In a sad space-opera show

How can there be a shadow in space
Following a trail that's cold
I'm forever in this timeless place
As my fortune now is told-

And now I feel the universe expanding
I realize you're in the greater cloud
My sorrow passes human understanding
The dark of space has now become my shroud

You used to be the sky that's all around me
The vision that was filling up my eye
But the vastness of the universe astounds me
And now you're just a pebble in the sky

Part 7 - Crash Landing

Tired of life on the ground
And to the earth being bound
Thoughts of freedom resound
Drawn by wing-flapping sound

Through the ether you're bound
Never back to the ground
Find the Oort Cloud around
In the cosmos you've found

Somehow along the way I got lost
Never stopping to count the cost
Of feathers counted lost
Along the way

Spinning as if to die
Never wondering why
As your mind starts to fly
Towards the infinite sky

Spinning as if to die
Never wondering why
Mind is passing you by
Through the infinite sky

Somehow along the way I got lost
Never stopping to count the cost
Of feathers counted lost
Along the way

Farewell spiraling down
Find the trees back around

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To the graveyard you're bound
Reacquaint with the ground

Somehow along the way I got lost
Never stopping to count the cost
Of feathers counted lost
Along the way

Fool's Vigil

I kept waiting and waiting
Till I'd waited too long

I kept trying and trying
Till I had tried too hard

I kept losing and losing
Till I had lost it all

I kept stalling and stalling
Till I could stall no more

I kept thinking and thinking
Without moving at all

I kept wasting and wasting
All the gifts in my life

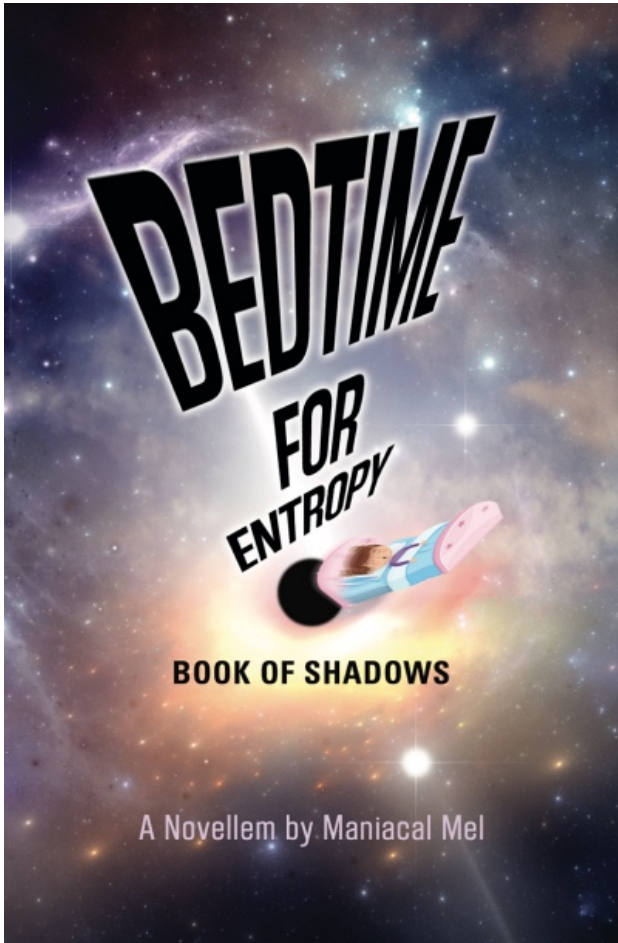
I kept hoping and hoping
That it would be alright

I kept longing and longing
For a way to be free
Free from this thing that's me-
But it was not meant to be

About the Author

The entity known as Maniacal Mel is from somewhere in the western spiral arm and is of unknown stature or status. We can neither confirm nor deny rumors that Maniacal Mel is actually an alien. We can neither confirm nor deny stories that Maniacal Mel is a serial killer on death row. We can neither confirm nor deny tales being whispered that Maniacal Mel is an A.I. and that's why it sounds so smooth. We can neither confirm nor deny conspiracy theories that Maniacal Mel is actually a member of a prominent political family for whom English is a second language and that's why it sounds so quirky.

But of course speculation cannot be avoided...



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