

<p>It is very hard to realize that this present universe has evolved from an unspeakably unfamiliar early condition, and faces a future extinction of endless cold or intolerable heat. The more the universe seems comprehensible, the more it also seems pointless. - <i>Steven Weinberg</i></p>	<p>Human purposes are pursued within an immense circling universe which does not seem to me to have purpose, in our sense, at all. Nature is much more playful than purposeful, and the probability that it has no special goals for the future need not strike one as a defect. - <i>Alan Watts</i></p>
<p>The universe is not hostile, nor yet is it friendly. It is simply indifferent. - <i>John Haynes Holmes</i></p>	<p>The universe is change ... - <i>Marcus Aurelius</i></p>
<p>Man is the only significant link between the physical order and the spiritual one. Without man the universe is a howling wasteland contemplated by an unseen Deity. - <i>Morris West</i></p>	<p>The chess board is the world, the pieces are the phenomena of the universe, the rules of the game are what we call the laws of Nature. The player on the other side is hidden from us. - <i>Thomas H. Huxley</i></p>
<p>The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. - <i>Albert Einstein</i></p>	<p>Our principle must make the universe a single complex living creature, one from all. - <i>Plotinus</i></p>
<p>The universe is made of stories—not atoms. - <i>Muriel Ruykeyser</i></p>	<p>The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness. - <i>John Muir</i></p>
<p>Now, my suspicion is that the universe is not only queerer than we suppose, but queerer than we <i>can</i> suppose ... I suspect that there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of, in any philosophy. - <i>John Burdon Sanderson Haldane</i></p>	<p>To see a World in a Grain of Sand And a Heaven in a Wild Flower, Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand And Eternity in an hour. - <i>William Blake</i></p>

Energy in the form of light is trapped in gross matter. Sparks of holiness are imprisoned in the stuff of creation. They yearn to be set free, reunited with their Source through human action. When we return something to its proper place, where it belongs, where it was meant to be; when we use something in a sacred way or for a holy purpose; when we treat another human being as a human being, the captive sparks are released and the cosmos is healed.

- *Lawrence Kushner*

If we do discover a complete unified theory of the universe, it should in time be understandable in broad principle by everyone, not just a few scientists. Then we shall all, philosophers, scientists, and just ordinary people, be able to take part in the discussion of the question of why it is that we and the universe exist. If we find the answer to that, it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason—for then we should know the mind of God.

- *Stephen Hawking*