

THE PHILOSOPHY OF TIME TRAVEL

By Roberta Sparrow

FOREWARD

I would like to thank the Sisters of the Saint John Chapter in Alexandria, Virginia for their support in my decision.

By the grace of God, they are:

Sister Eleanor Lewis
Sister Francesca Godard
Sister Helen Davis
Sister Catherine Arnold
Sister Mary Lee Pond
Sister Virginia Wessex

The intent of this book is for it to be used as a simple and direct guide in a time of great danger.

I pray that this is purely a work of fiction.

If it is not, then I pray for you, the reader of this book.

If I am still alive when the events foretold in these pages occur, then I hope that you will find me before it is too late.

Roberta Ann Sparrow
October, 1944

CHAPTER ONE – THE TANGENT UNIVERSE

The Primary Universe is fraught with great peril. War, plague, famine and natural disaster are common. Death comes to us all.

The Fourth Dimension of Time is a stable construct, though it is not impenetrable.

Incidents when the fabric of the Fourth Dimension becomes corrupted are incredibly rare.

If a Tangent Universe occurs, it will be highly unstable, sustaining itself for no longer than several weeks.

Eventually it will collapse upon itself, forming a black hole within the Primary Universe capable of destroying all existence.

THE ARTIFACT AND THE LIVING

When a Tangent Universe occurs, those living nearest to the Vortex will find themselves at the epicenter of a dangerous new world.

Artifacts provide the first sign that a Tangent Universe has occurred.

If an Artifact occurs, the Living will retrieve it with great interest and curiosity. Artifacts are formed from metal, such as an Arrowhead from an ancient Mayan civilization, or a Metal Sword from Medieval Europe.

Artifacts returned to the Primary Universe are often linked in religious iconography, as their appearance on Earth seems to defy logical explanation.

Divine Intervention is deemed to be the only logical conclusion for the appearance of the artifact.

WATER AND METAL

Water and Metal are the key elements of Time Travel.

Water is the barrier element for the construction of Time Portals used as gateways between universes at the Tangent Vortex.

Metal is the transitional element for the construction of Artefact Vessels.

DREAMS

When the Manipulated awaken from their Journey into the Tangent Universe, they are often haunted by the experience in their dreams.

Many of them will not remember.

Those who do remember the journey are often overcome with profound remorse for the regretful actions buried within their dreams, the only physical evidence buried within the artifact itself; all that remains from the lost world.

Ancient myth tells us of the Mayan Warrior killed by an arrowhead that had fallen from a cliff, where there was no army, no enemy to be found.

We are told of the Medieval Knight mysteriously impaled by the sword he had not yet built.

We are told that these things occur for a reason.

THE LIVING RECEIVER

The Living Receiver is chosen to guide the Artifact into position for its journey back to the Primary Universe.

No one knows how or why a receiver will be chosen.

The Living Receiver is often blessed with Fourth Dimensional Powers. These include increased strength, telekinesis, mind control, and the ability to conjure fire and water.

The Living Receiver is often tormented by terrifying dreams, visions and auditory hallucinations during his time within the Tangent Universe.

Those surrounding the Living Receiver, known as the Manipulated, will fear him and try to destroy him.

THE MANIPULATED DEAD

The Manipulated Dead are more powerful than the Living Receiver. If a person dies within the Tangent Universe, they are able to contact the Living Receiver through the Fourth Dimensional Construct.

The Fourth Dimensional Construct is made of Water.

The Manipulated Dead will manipulate the Living Receiver using the Fourth Dimensional Construct (see Appendix A and B).

The Manipulated Dead will often set an Ensurance Trap for the Living Receiver to ensure that the Artifact is returned safely to the Primary Universe.

If the Ensurance Trap is successful, the Living Receiver is left with no choice but to use his Fourth Dimensional Power to send the Artifact back in time into the Primary Universe before the Black Hole collapses upon itself.

THE MANIPULATED LIVING

The Manipulated Living are often the close friends and neighbours of the Living Receiver.

They are prone to irrational, bazaar, and often violent behaviour. This is the unfortunate result of their task, which is to assist the Living Receiver in returning the Artifact to the Primary Universe.

The Manipulated Living will do anything to save themselves from Oblivion.

NOTES

LIVING RECEIVER

Donnie Darko

MANIPULATED DEAD

Frank Anderson

Gretchen Ross (not her real name)

MANIPULATED LIVING

Edmund Darko

Rose Darko

Elizabeth Darko

Samantha Darko

Katherine Farmer

Elisabeth Farmer

Jim Cunningham (died October, 1988)

Kenneth Monnitoff

Karen Pomeroy

Garry Cole

Cherita Chen

Seth Devlin

Ricky Danforth

Joanie James

Susan Bates

Sean Smith

Leroy Jones

Michael Carrier

Linda Connie

Roberta Sparrow

THE END

REFLEXIONS ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF TIME TRAVEL APLLIED TO *DONNIE DARKO*

OK. Now you've read the *Philosophy of Time Travel*, if you're interested, you can read my analysis of the film, using the *PoTT* as a guide. If you have not seen the movie (and I seriously doubt anyone reading this hasn't) then stop now or it will ruin the whole experience.

Every chain of events unfolding in Donnie Darko leads up to Frank's "grand plan" which Donnie struggles to discover. It is not until the party (with 6 hours to go) that he realises what it is and sets it in motion.

The Manipulated Dead (MD) are Gretchen & Frank. They are the only CONSCIOUS contributors to the "grand plan", unless you take into consideration Divine Intervention from God, but that's another issue.

From here on in I'll paste segments of the PoTT and relate them to the relevant parts of DD.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF TIME TRAVEL By Roberta Sparrow

The intent of this book is for it to be used as a simple and direct guide in a time of great danger. If I am still alive when the events foretold in these pages occur, then I hope that you will find me before it is too late.

Roberta Ann Sparrow
October, 1944

THE TANGENT UNIVERSE

'If a Tangent Universe occurs, it will be highly unstable, sustaining itself for no longer than several weeks'

Frank: "In 28 days... the world will end"

Donnie: "Why?"

'Eventually it (the Tangent Universe) will collapse upon itself, forming a black hole within the Primary Universe capable of destroying all existence'.

THE ARTIFACT AND THE LIVING

'When a Tangent Universe occurs, those living nearest to the Vortex **the residents of Middlesex** will find themselves at the epicenter of a dangerous new world.' **This being the Tangent Universe**

'Artifacts provide the first sign that a Tangent Universe has occured. If an Artifact occurs, the Living will retrieve it with great interest and curiosity... Artifacts are formed from metal'. **Such as a jet engine**

'Artifacts returned to the Primary Universe are often linked in religious iconography **possible explanation of spiral symbol, not too sure on this one** as their appearance on Earth seems to defy logical explanation. Divine Intervention is deemed to be the only logical conclusion for the appearance of the artifact'. **and for many other occurrences throughout DD**

THE LIVING RECEIVER

'The Living Receiver (Donnie) is chosen to guide the Artifact into position for its journey back to the Primary Universe. The Living Receiver is often blessed with Fourth Dimensional Powers. These include increased strength (axe in statue), telekinesis, mind control, and the ability to conjure fire and water (school and cunnigham's house).'

'The Living Receiver is often tormented by terrifying dreams, visions and auditory hallucinations during his time within the Tangent Universe'. **Donnie sees Frank, amongst other things**

‘Those surrounding the Living Receiver, known as the Manipulated, will fear him and try to destroy him’.
 Katherine Farmer, Jim Cunningham, principle etc.

THE MANIPULATED LIVING

‘The Manipulated Living are often the close friends and neighbours of the Living Receiver. They are prone to irrational, bazaar, and often violent behaviour. This is the unfortunate result of their task, which is to assist the Living Receiver in returning the Artifact to the Primary Universe. They will do anything to avoid oblivion’.

Katherine Farmer is the best example of this, she is absolutely obsessed with Sparkle Motion because if they do not win the Talent Quest they will not fulfill their place in the “grand plan” and restore the Primary Universe. She is almost distraught when she has to ask Donnie’s mother to go. Also explains why everyone is a little “kooky” throughout the whole film. In their own way they are terrified because the world is coming to an end. Human instinct is to ALWAYS try to survive, even if they don’t know they are going to die.

THE MANIPULATED DEAD

‘The Manipulated Dead are more powerful than the Living Receiver. If a person dies within the Tangent Universe, they are able to contact the Living Receiver through the Fourth Dimensional Construct’.

Frank is able to travel through time to help Donnie, Gretchen helps him less obviously by being responsible for a series of coincidences that leads up to the scene at Grandma Death’s and inevitably the restoration of the Primary Universe.

‘The Fourth Dimensional Construct is made of Water’. **The time-spear things and the mirror/portal Donnie sees Frank in in his bedroom**

‘The Manipulated Dead will often set an Ensurance Trap for the Living Receiver to ensure that the Artifact is returned safely to the Primary Universe’

Frank’s whole reason for appearing to Donnie; he is setting up the restoration of the Primary Universe. The chain of events leading up to the restoration of the PU is a series of these ‘ensurance traps’ (not in perfect order, I’m trying to get this finished quickly):

1. Donnie floods school and starts going out with Gretchen (“I’m glad school was cancelled... or we would never have had this conversation”).
2. Donnie finds wallet (“Now you know where he lives”) and burns down house.
3. Cunningham’s child-porn is exposed, which later keeps Karen at home for campaign, thus Donnie’s Mum has to go away with the girls.
4. Frank shows D the “water spears” which he follows to the gun he later shoots him in the eye with.
5. Monitoff gives Donnie “Philosophy of Time Travel”.
6. Sparkle Motion win contest and go away.
7. Gretchen’s Mum leaves so that Gretchen will go to Donnie’s house, and then to her death.
8. Donnie sends a letter to Roberta Sparrow, she is reading it when the red car comes speeding up the road, causing it to swerve to miss her, and to run Gretchen over.

These are just some of the coincidences that Frank, Gretchen and others set in motion to restore the Primary Universe.

‘If the Ensurance Trap is successful, the Living Receiver is left with no choice but to use his Fourth Dimensional Power to send the Artifact back in time into the Primary Universe before the Black Hole collapses upon itself.’

DREAMS

‘When the Manipulated awaken from their Journey into the Tangent Universe, they are often haunted by the experience in their dreams. Many of them will not remember.’

** Karen Pomeroy, Ken Monnitoff (the only 2 teachers sympathetic to Donnie) and Cherita (a harmless lost soul who Donnie promises “everything will be better for someday” and her smile tells us it is) all awake happy and content**. While:

‘Those who do remember the journey are often overcome with profound remorse for the regretful actions buried within their dreams.’

**Jim Cunningham wakes up from TU crying, knowing he is a pedophile and a fake (according to the notes in PoTT and obituary on website he commits suicide not long after.)
K Farmer knows she is not traveling her “righteous path” and is traveling the “path of fear” also, possibly that the man she has been in adoration of (JC) is a pedophile.
Therapist – possibly for giving D placebos and not helping him better through therapy, (another one I’m not too sure on.)**

‘We are told that these things occur for a reason.’

To show us the error of our ways, punishing those who live a bad life and making them awaken to a more righteous path, and rewarding those that have already ie. Cherita and the teachers.

~~~~~

The only one that won’t wake up from the Tangent Universe is Donnie. But he has fulfilled his destiny. He uses his Fourth Dimensional Power, restores the Primary Universe and becomes a martyr and a superhero, even if no one knows. He can go out smiling knowing he has saved the world and is no longer afraid of dying alone.