16. Consciousness in the Universe

by

Christian Hermenau

We were children and we are children, even if we try very hard to cover up our fears, our mistakes, our ignorance or our inability. There is something that is larger, much larger and we have no control over it. We repress it, but deep down we feel our helplessness in the face of a life that is more powerful and meaningful, but to which we have only vague access.

We behave us as adults like adults, but it is only as if children play a game. Except that it is with machines and a power structure that gives so much reality to the game and makes us believe to know everything, to be able to do everything, not to have to give account to anyone. It is sometimes a dangerous game played by a few people or a single person that makes many people bear the consequences. But we are mistaken when we think that someone or something can control this game.

The space is large incredibly large, there is almost nothing but emptiness. And then suddenly there are these huge mass concentrations at the smallest volume. Suddenly the density increases by many orders of magnitude, as if the elementary particles could not be numerous and close enough. Suddenly a lot happens in these endless space deserts at very specific places. Matter reacts, transforms, builds itself up, becomes more complex, then disappears again in oversized masses; perhaps even disappears completely from the world in black holes. If there were black holes, they would slowly empty space over time, leaving more and more space without matter. Wide space and banal standstill: is this what our distant future looks like?

1

There are the general formulas of relativity for space and time with matter in it and the standard model of particles. But one theory only applies to large matter bodies and the other only to individual elementary particles. One might think that since the large masses are made up of elementary particles, there must be a continuous connection, but this is not the case. The theory of relativity is smooth and infinite, sublime above the whole, but according to quantum theory everything moves by leaps and bounds, everything is out of focus and there are no reasons why the world is as it is.

Stars or bodies do not jump, but particles are unpredictable and do not move uniformly through an infinitely smooth space.

In our approach, we have again given much greater importance to the network of particles, but have deprived space of its great importance. Quantum mechanics describes basic building blocks as free and without control as long as they are not observed. We, on the other hand, believe that networking is so indescribably high that there could be much more behind it, but that it actually lies in an area that is no longer accessible to us.

Alone because there is complex life on earth, we believe that this speaks for a high-grade connection of matter. The particles cannot be independent and free; on the contrary, they must not only be in manifold exchange with other particles, but they must even be structured in such a way that all information is stored in the particle. Not only living structures are highly complex, but also the particles themselves. And even then, matter would not continue to develop in an automatism all the way to the human being. Even with complex, highly cross-linked, knowing particles as building blocks, external order structures are still needed so that the network does not end in confusion and chaos, but results in versatile, division-of-labor, living beings. Whatever takes over this order structure, there seems to have been something there, because it has succeeded in creating humans, animals and plants.

If one wanted to leave the creation of a complex plant to statistical chance alone, we could not count so many zeros behind the one, how great the number of possibilities would be. Even the idea of Multiverses does not provide a solution. The chance to let even hemoglobin develop a second time here on earth is one to 10^{190} .

2

If, on the other hand, one gets involved to the networking of all matter, the high communication and the storage, as we favor it in our approach, then it would be presumptuous to believe the other way round that we are the only ones who can think. Then again consciousness and thinking will be normal and widespread within the networks. If simple life originated relatively quickly on Earth, then there is no reason to assume that this should not happen elsewhere if the conditions are favorable.

But one must not ask oneself the question this way, because it is clear that if life on earth develops so easily, it can also happen somewhere else. The secret is and remains how life can arise from dead matter, here and everywhere else. Beyond that the question arises in general, how could the elements of the period system arise by themselves, why do they exist? And actually we can also ask ourselves with all complex processes, how can that be, where does it come from, who or what is behind it?

As diverse and interesting as our universe is designed, not everything can be explained by chance. But if we start from large networked systems and bring consciousness or thinking into play, then we not only have stupid free particles that do what they want, but then there is an interaction of the many who move through space as large mass bodies according to physical laws, but who can also think within gravitational and electrical networks. Then the electrical connections in the micro range bring the cohesion, but the knowledge, the communication and the understanding run over the inertia and the gravitational current. Through gravity we know something about the others and learn how it works, how to create life, how to forge elements, how to make a world beautiful.

If matter is quantum-mechanically constructed, you can put it into generalized equations and calculate them, then the objects are free, individual, but lonely and dead.

If we are dealing with highly networked matter that stores and permanently exchanges information, then only a ordering element is missing and we have living matter, with consciousness and abstract thought processes. Then life would not be so miraculous, but also consciousness in everything and thus much more widespread: Consciousness in the most diverse forms, not only in large carbon beings with a central brain. It is thinkingly and mostly much more abstract, therefore

3

difficult for us to grasp, but versatile on the different levels of comprehension. Then suddenly much can be understood. Then the filigree order of living structures is the implementation of abstract, only imaginary realities, not only of one thinking, but of many differently thinking, networked systems. The only question that remains is the superordinate order structure, which causes the many island-like bodies of the consciousness work together to form matter: Everything within the physical world so familiar to us.