

# ***AN EXPANSION DRAMATURGICAL PACKET***

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## **DRAMATURGY NOTE**

***“What is the meaning of being human? The answer may be embedded in the question.” - George Makari, Author of Soul Machine: The Invention of the Modern Mind***

When considering what it truly means to be alive, the answer typically varies from person to person. For some, the obvious choice is love, be it romantic or platonic in nature, and achieving the happiness that only blossoms from meaningful relationships. For others, what keeps them going is their drive to be successful and accomplish their goals in an attempt to fulfill some sort of purpose. Everyone on this Earth develops their own unique perspective on the meaning of existence, making deciding on a definitive explanation seemingly unfeasible. However, despite the differences we may have as individuals, there is one element of living that applies to every soul across the universe.

A key component of being human is the uncertainty of what comes next. Fearing the unknown is a feeling that everyone shares, and the anxiety of not knowing how or when “the end” will arrive is always present to some degree. This may not be the most positive angle to approach the meaning of life, but at least consider this. One thing that makes the experience of being alive so meaningful, is the mere fact that it has to end. If life was never-ending, there would be no need to cherish any moments because of the guarantee that there would always be time for more. The idea that life is fleeting puts more meaning into all that you do. First days of school. First loves. First kisses. The blindness that we all share when it comes to the unknown end is truly what makes us pay attention to each and every moment of being alive.

*An Expansion* serves as a profound example of how, even when faced head-on with the end of times, humanity still manages to find a glimmer of meaning within the ruin.

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## **TERM DEFINITIONS/REFERENCES**

Most of these terms may seem familiar to you, but each of them plays a significant role in the script and it would be wise to give them some extra thought.

**FERGALICIOUS** – “Fergalicious” is a well-known song recorded by the American singer known as Fergie on her debut studio album. The title is a combination of the artist’s name, “Fergie,” and the word “delicious.”

It has also become a popular slang term used to describe, in the words from Fergie's lyrics, what "makes them boys go loco." [LINK TO MUSIC VIDEO](#)

**FLEETWOOD MAC** – Fleetwood Mac are a British-American rock band that was originally founded in London in 1967 by Peter Green, Mick Fleetwood, and Jeremy Spencer. In 1974, Fleetwood Mac discovered the American folk duo of Stevie Nicks and Lindsey Buckingham and brought them on as new members of the group. Once Stevie Nicks helped to contribute a more pop-sounding style of music, the band produced four top hit singles in 1977 and their album *Rumours* won the Grammy Award for Album of the Year in 1978. [LINK TO FULL RUMOURS ALBUM](#)

**INEVITABLE** – The dictionary definition of inevitable is "certain to happen; unavoidable" when used as an adjective, and "a situation that is unavoidable" when used as a noun. Death is inevitable. Mistakes are inevitable. Change is inevitable.

**JENGA** – Jenga is a board game made up of 54 wooden blocks that players will use to construct a tower. Players then take turns removing one block at a time, creating an unstable structure, making it more difficult to successfully remove blocks without destroying the tower. A player "loses" if they are the one to make the tower topple over.

**MERCURY** – Mercury is the smallest planet in our Solar System and is also the closest planet to the sun. During the day, temperatures on the surface of Mercury can reach up to 800 degrees Fahrenheit (430 degrees Celsius). You can read a lot more in depth about this planet in the following link. [LINK TO MERCURY FACTS](#)

**TINDER** – Tinder is an online dating application where users swipe anonymously on one another's profiles to either like or dislike based on their photos, a small biography, and a list of common interests. When two users both like one another's profiles, they have "matched" and are able to begin exchanging messages. It is the world's most popular dating app. [TINDER WEBSITE](#)

**VENUS** – Venus is a planet that is actually the second brightest natural object in the night sky, following the moon. Venus is also a hotter planet than Mercury, even though it is a further distance from the sun. It is named for the Roman goddess of love and beauty, making it the only planet to be named after a female. Temperatures on the surface reach 880 degrees Fahrenheit (471 degrees Celsius). You can learn more in depth about this planet in the following link. [LINK TO VENUS](#)

## THEORIES ABOUT "THE END OF THE WORLD"

+ "The Sun is about 4.6 billion years old - gauged on the age of other objects in the Solar System that formed around the same time. And, based on observations of other stars, astronomers predict it will reach the end of its life in about another 10 billion years.

There are other things that will happen along the way, of course. In about 5 billion years, it's due to turn into a red giant. The core of the star will shrink, but its outer layers will expand out to the orbit of Mars, engulfing our planet in the process. If it's even still there.

One thing is certain: by that time, we most certainly won't be around. In fact, humanity only has about one billion years left unless we find a way off this rock..”

Source: Science Alert ([LINK](#))

+ “If the sun were to blow up, life on Earth would certainly end. It takes eight minutes and twenty seconds for light to travel from the sun to the earth, so we would not know that the sun had exploded until eight minutes and twenty seconds after the explosion occurred. Most of the energy from such an explosion would be traveling at the speed of light or nearly as fast, so life on Earth would end pretty much as soon as the first of sign of the explosion arrived.”

Source: Science Line UCSB ([LINK](#))

### VIDEO LINKS TO WATCH

- [What if the Sun Exploded Tomorrow?](#)
- [What Will Happen When the Sun Dies?](#)
- [Would We Notice If the Sun Suddenly Exploded?](#)
- [Here's What Will Happen When the Sun Dies](#)

There are so many more resources out there theorizing when and how our universe will end, feel free to do your own digging because there are thousands of opinions and theories worth exploring. To include them all in this document would be impossible, so go exploring!

## LIVING AS A YOUNG BLIND WOMAN

+ [BLOG LINK](#) – Life of a Blind Girl

Life of a Blind Girl is an online blog website created and published by a 24-year-old woman named Holly who has the condition Retinopathy of Prematurity, which only allows an individual to see light and dark. On this website she writes about her experiences living with this condition, from basic socializing to maintaining friends and relationships. It is a real insight into what it is like living with a vision impairment.

+ [ARTICLE LINK](#) – Reflections on the Importance of Socialization for Blind Girls and Women

Listed below is the editor's note that precedes this article:

Barbara Pierce, Editor of the NFB publication, the Braille Monitor, is also a member of the Committee on the Status of Blind Women, North America/Caribbean Region, World Blind Union. Mrs. Pierce developed the following document as a framework for focus group discussions sponsored by this committee, and conducted by Mrs. Pierce, at the 1997 NFB National Convention in July. You will discover that this article complements, and is in turn enriched by, both the article that precedes it ("A Chance to Belong") and the one that follows ("Never Laugh at the Teacher's Jokes"). Here is what Mrs. Pierce has to say on the topic of socialization and women.

+ [HEALTHLINE LINK](#) – What Do Blind People See?

The term “blind” can mean many different things, and this webpage helps to break down different variations of blindness and how each specific type can affect a person. Some examples of the different definitions include total blindness, congenital blindness, and being “legally blind.”

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