

## Death of Light

“The historic event we are about to witness will not affect our lives in a meaningful way. Human race is technologically far more advanced to be concerned with such insignificant alteration. Life will go on as usual.” A prominent NASA scientist explained the upcoming cosmetic change on a major news network. His belief was shared by religious and civic leaders on the panel.

Although politicians’ scandals, Hollywood movies and latest version of I-phone remained the center of attention for television commentators, media pundits, newspapers and popular social networking sites, the public was kept updated on the aesthetic modification in sky. Millions were anxiously waiting to watch the celestial spectacle for months. What was going to happen in sky was nothing more than a free show to masses, a memorable event they were lucky to witness in their lifetime.

Finally the long awaited night arrived. People walked out to their backyards with their favorite drinks in their hands and sat on their folding chairs to watch. Some drove to parks and open areas as they would for the Independence Day fireworks with their cameras ready to record the event. The weather forecast was the only gloomy aspect of the night. “The clouds may obstruct the view in some areas,” the weatherman predicted.

When the night fell, sky was tarnished by thick clouds. The chatter hovered over the disappointed spectators. Some decided to go back home and watch the event on television. Others chose to stay put and not to let the unfortunate haze ruin their pleasant evening.

Then a calm breeze gently swept the massive clouds away before the dazzled eyes of anxious audience like a silk curtain in theaters. The infinite stage was set on a backdrop of shimmering darkness. The cheerful spectators licking on their ice creams and sipping on their beers ranted in stupor when the shiny crescent finally sparkled like a timid virgin given to an intoxicated brute on her wedding night.

The slim lady seemed aloof on spotlight. The impatient audience applauded to get the main attraction started. The shiny crescent was silent on stage under intense gaze of millions and then she performed as captivating as expected. She quietly wept in solitude and its glittering tears fell from sky like the shattered pieces of a chandelier. Crystals of lights rained above the enchanted audience. Her wisp of hair depleted into strands of glistening silver and trickled down. She mourned and with every drop of her tears, the world plunged deeper into darkness. Her fragile torso shrunk thinner by the minute, she disintegrated into radiant particles and her glowing pieces faded in universe. The audience gave a standing ovation for the grand finale.

When the show ended and beauty died, people morphed into long shadows stretched to eternity. The mumbling specters schlepped through the dark allies back to their homes with a pale reminiscence of the perished light.