

Mirrors

In the beginning there was Something all alone by itself.

(These words cannot portray the picture – the words *Something* and *itself* are not applicable – the English language cannot serve such a purpose, neither any other language – my apologies)

It didn't know who it was because there was no one to tell it.

But Something became anxious to know who is it, how it looks, whether it wears a tie, or shorts, shoes or sandals? Blonde or dark? Maybe it doesn't wear anything at all!?

It simply didn't know; how could it without a Mirror?

So Something was thinking and thinking a long time, till one day it got this wonderful idea: "I'll create a Mirror, and when I'll look into this Mirror, most likely I'll see myself, and thus I'll know how I look, how I am being dressed, the color of My eyes, etc. etc."

Well, thinking those days was nothing like our thinking. First we have a language with which we think, or so we imagine. We have feelings which influence our thinking. So, how to think when there was no language, no feelings, nothing at all? It was all dark and void. But amidst all this darkness and void, there was something, some kind of sensation of discomfort that something was missing.

But there was not one single Mirror available, there was actually nothing in existence. So Something said: "Let there be a Mirror!", and lo and behold – a Mirror was created for the first time – out of Nothing. Just like this.

And now Something became conscious for the first time that He is God – all powerful – He discovered that He can create – because in order to create something out of nothing, you must be God. Finally He could see Himself for the first time, and God was very pleased, because He saw a very beautiful reflection of Himself.

(This is the expression in English – God – I apologize if you are used to other Names – you may change this expression to the one which pleases you. But there is no fitting word in any language to express this).

But He had nothing to compare at what He saw – in spite of the Mirror, He was still alone by Himself, and in order to know that you are beautiful you need to compare it against something which is not beautiful. But how can Beauty create non-beauty?!

So God kept on thinking: "What I see looks most wonderful, but I see only Myself. Maybe I'll create another Mirror, and then I'll see Myself from both sides. Maybe there is more than what I see. So God created another Mirror, and one day He gazed at the Mirror on His right,

and the next day the Mirror on His left. And certainly it was simply amazing – so beautiful, so radiant, so clever, after all, God must to be God.

(Now, clever people – I know you – you most probably question - how come there is a day while Day was not created yet?! Well, I am telling stories, I am not a scientist. Go to the knowledgeable scientists and ask them)

But God being God always keeps on creating, so one day God said to Himself (There was no audience to hear, yet): "Let place the two Mirrors so they will face-each-other."

So God placed the two Mirrors this way, and being naturally curious (This is the reason why He keeps on creating, being infinitely curious to see what will happen) – so He stood between the two-facing-Mirrors, wondering what will happen now. But as soon as He stood between the two-facing-Mirrors, He at once saw infinite images of Himself reflecting endlessly. God was extremely fascinated of His new clever toy.

But what happened at that moment, when God stood there between the two-facing-Mirrors, Infinitude and Manyness sprang into existence, for the first time.

Just like this – remember – God is God, He creates whatsoever He wishes.

But God discovered now a new quality of Himself - (remember, God creates in order to know Himself) - Infinitude and Manyness remain in existence even when He was not standing between the two-facing-Mirrors.

That was the very first miracle God performed, and most likely – the only one.

This creation Game made God very pleased – He discovered first, that He can do anything He wishes, just like this. Well, that is why God is God, after all. By creating Infinitude and Manyness, He also discovered that He is everywhere, and in everything.

And God was even more curious and anxious – "What will happen if I'll create another Mirror, and place it together with the other two?"

So He did, and now God was playing with three Mirrors – but one day he came up with a wonderful idea – He placed the three Mirrors in such a way that a triangle was formed – for the first time of course. And now the Game became real fun. When He stood in the middle of the triangle, endless new images were formed, which couldn't happen in the two-facing-Mirrors. And thus, the first three-dimensional-world was created.

Then God created another Mirror, so now He had a four-dimensional world, and He kept on creating more and more Mirrors, since this Game was extremely fascinating, and God fell in love with His endless Creative Imagination, which, as He discovered, had no limits.

Imagine a room with eight panes of mirrors, and within it another room, but on its outer walls seven panes of mirrors, facing the eight panes, and now they can rotate at the opposite directions, and from time to time you can throw between them a ball made of ninety nine panes, flying across them – just imagine the fun!

So God kept on playing this Game, creating worlds within worlds, reflecting each other, like a rotating kaleidoscope, which constantly creates endless shapes and forms – endless reflections of His pristine-image. The worlds continued to produce automatically endless shapes and forms, independently on their own – supposedly – the reflections from each other

kept on bouncing and reverberating against each other, without any limit and without any end. It became self-sustained, a living mirage.

But something was missing. Indeed, wonderful universes kept on emanating from God, because the habit of creating became spontaneous and almost automatic. He still felt very lonely – all this creation was a play of imagination, and He had no one to share – He had no one to play Games with. It was quite boring playing chess with Himself – one time He was playing with the soldiers of the white army, then He would run quickly to the other side of the field, and move the soldiers of the black army. God being God – He would change positions around the field so fast, that he was almost in both sides at once. But who is the winner?!?! Where is the fun of battling minds?

Chess is one thing, but to play shesh-besh (backgammon) all by Oneself, is even not boring. It is quite silly. The whole point of this game is cheating and lying. How God can cheat and lie?! God even doesn't know the meaning of such words – they don't exist in His Dictionary.

But God, being Infinitely clever, (of course), kept on thinking. But now, it was not easy, He couldn't find an easy solution, as has been the case till now. For the first time, God was at a complete loss. In order to create the possibility of cheating and lying, God had to create something completely new, which didn't exist even within the Infinitude of His Endless Imagination.

How to create within the Illusion something that will be real like Himself, and at the same time, NOT Himself?!

That was a very serious problem, which even God couldn't find a simple answer for. So He kept on thinking for seven long Days.

(Sigh. Alright folks, if you cannot stop pestering - a Day is a period that God thinks till He comes up with a solution. But I have to warn you – it is very little to do with what you call *thinking*).

God kept on gazing at the imaginary world He created – all these wonderful games of illusion – and He thought – how can I create Reality amidst this Illusion?!

At last He came up with this brilliant idea – (just think, that all this trouble was due to the shesh-besh game!) – "I'll add a little spark of Myself to every illusory image which was created when I stood originally between the Mirrors".

So God said – "Let it be". And lo and behold – all this Game of illusion became endowed with life of its own. This was quite incredible – all these sparklets started to feel, and from these feelings, first independent thoughts were formed. Thus a grain of reality was formed amidst this Game of Illusion.

But what actually really happened? Just imagine that God looked now into the Mirror. Before that step, He would see a serene, beautiful Face of Himself; but now, when He looked into the Mirror – the reflection was making *faces* to Him. Imagine this – you stand in the morning before the mirror in the bathroom (conditioned you have a bathroom, of course, some of us live in tents in the deserts, or in ice-houses, or in caves, where the word *bath* never heard of), but we have one, so we wash our faces and view the mirror, in order to make sure, that this face of ours is at least acceptable for the world, but – just imagine – that the face in the mirror does something of its own – you look sad - your reflection seems to be

happy. You look up, it looks down, etc., etc - making its own faces. You see your own reflection, but the reflection doesn't reflect your movements – it has life of its own. Thus God was very startled when he looked at the Mirror after He gave the reflections life of their own – but He couldn't go backwards – He created an illusion, a mirage – but the mirage gained an independent life of its own. But God, being God, of course, is infinitely clever – so He discovered. He was extremely careful while playing His Games - the animate reflections didn't have the power to create as God can. They cannot create something out of nothing.

[I must admit – don't tell anyone – this will be a little secret between us – I also heard that we are all Gods, mini gods, microcosm, sparks of God, whatever; so once I took my chances, I decided that I am clever enough so I declared: "Let there be a car!" Nothing, even not a sad ass. "Let there be a mirror!" I had to go to the market and buy one for one dollar. "Let there be 100 dollars!" I had to go and sweat my blood for it. Not much of a god]

But since the Game started, and there was no turning back – those animated reflections of God, kept on looking for answers for their own little problems – in a way, they started to play their own games.

(Remember all this Game commenced because God was looking for a partner to play Shesh-Besh!) I suspect all, or most Games can be played alone, but not this one. Even God couldn't.

(Yes, my dear scientists, what is now? It is all nonsense? Of course, I am writing stories, I am not a scientist; and I write for children – those who still ask questions. For those who already know, I cannot tell anything. Anyway my dear friends – you are all parts of this animated game, we are all Muppets in a show – and your brilliant minds will never comprehend this Game.)

Now the game took a turning point. The independent, limited beings were playing their own independent games with each other. It was an illusion within illusion within illusion, but there was a grain of reality in it. The thoughts and feelings were real, and thus, due to intense playing of these games, endless beings endowed with limited intelligence and capabilities of doing things, kept on evolving, with the possibility of ignoring God's thoughts and will. As feelings and thoughts were advancing, the independent beings could invent more sophisticated games, and after a very long process, various beings, who reached a certain stage of intelligence, invented various games -, board games, card games - bridge, poker, rummy, dice games, domino and tile games, pencil and paper games, guessing games, dexterity and coordination games, sports like football, soccer, basketball, tennis; war games. Later on they invented chess, and finally the Shesh-Besh game. When the Shesh-Besh game was created, the first being that we call human appeared, because he was the first being who could cheat and lie, and thus, at last, God found a partner to play Shesh-Besh with. What an ordeal!

(My dear scientists, you complain again that all this is foolishness – and it is true. Those of you, who believe that God, or some kind of supreme intelligence created this universe, will not find any sense that it was all created for playing games of reflecting mirrors. Why not?

What do you really know? Nothing – isn't it? Can you create something out of nothing? Can you create something at all?)

When the Game comes to an end? It comes to an end when the Mirror breaks.

And only the One who created the Mirror can break it.

This might sound like a hopeless case – we are caught in the game, and we don't know why and where it goes. There is only one way for each of us – to defeat God while playing the Shesh Besh game against Him. We can win this game because we can lie and cheat God. Then your own personal imaginary reflection will be shuttered, and you will know what God IS.

From rumours that I heard behind the *veil* God is anxious to find gamers to play against Him, and He likes to lose to the right person. Thus He wins. Better study this game in earnest and win. Thus you will lose.

(Well, it seems that one plus one equals zero. Is there any sense to it? Sorry, I don't know much about math)

Etzion Becker, January, 2013

This is the story of [Narcissus and Echo](#). There was a day when Narcissus was walking in the woods. [Echo](#), an [Oread](#) (mountain nymph) saw him and fell deeply in love with him. She commenced to follow him. Narcissus sensed that someone was following him and shouted "Who's there?". Echo repeated "Who's there?". She eventually revealed her identity. She made an attempt to embrace the boy. He stepped away from her and told her to leave him alone. She was heartbroken and spent the rest of her life in lonely glens until nothing but an echo sound remained of her. [Nemesis](#), the goddess of revenge, learned of this story and decided to punish Narcissus. She lured him to a pool where he saw his own reflection. He was amazed at the beauty of his reflection. He didn't realize his reflection was only an image and fell in love with it. He eventually figured out that his love could not be addressed and died.



Glass coated mirrors were discovered in Roman excavations. They were coated with tin or gold.



Ancient Egyptian mirror

"And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the looking-glasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation."

- Exodus 38:8



Modern Shesh-Besh (backgammon) board



14th century





Backgammon board from Ur

http://joseph_berrigan.tripod.com/ancientbabylon/id13.html
<http://www.allabouthistory.org/ancient-mesopotamia.htm>

<http://www.bkgm.com/variants/SheshBesh.html>

