The Rise and Fall of Mellow Moonbeam

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Abstract

And so it came to pass that all was in the past and young Uhric Zetel experienced a profound, prophetic urge to leave his father’s trade the Triple X Flesh Emporium and cleanse himself of the dregs of earthly sin and vice to search for a humble way to serve mankind and reveal the cosmic secrets of the mysterious Etc. which he had mystically discovered to eager seekers everywhere...
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to serve mankind
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of the mysterious Etc.
which he had mystically discovered
to eager seekers everywhere.

So he left his sunshine home
    in Savior, Iowa
his smiling mother
  Melody
the willowy witch of erotica
and his business-minded father
  Cudgel
and at 20 years of age began
a spiritual Western search for
the ideal means to unfold
his knowledge of the infinite Etc.

As he rode into the setting sun
he decided to write songs
about the great Etc.
and become a wandering missionary minstrel
uplifting the sinful seekers as
he journeyed from boom town to cow town.
But he was harassed andbooed
and laughed out of spiteful saloons
and chased out of town after town
so he sorrowfully reined off
deep and deeper into the
sun- and wind-raped desert
of solitude and sadness
where only stiletto-tongued lizards glisten
and sand bakes into crust.

Days passed on and Uhric's horse
did too and he stumbled through
thermal walls like parchment
until he climbed a crystal mesa
and entered a dark cave
for sheltering respite.
Inside he found some fleeting
glory of the Etc.
and a golden goddess named
Sacred Kandle
of the mammoth mammaries and thrilling thighs
who gave young Uhric
a sexual, spiritual experience
that opened his parched eyes
to the scope of the Etc.

Time passed as he absorbed
the knowledge in cosmic encounters
until he knew at last
that he must leave her
and save the seekers.

Reaching society, he became a
balladeer of a new philosophy
both strange and inspiring
and his fame spread
as admiring guitarists
and group-less musicians
trailed his prophetic path.
One day Uhric proclaimed
"I am reborn Mellow Moonbeam
and you 12 are my Celestial
Mutation Cyrcus—we shall
sing the word of the mystic Etc.
to all who wish to know it."
And it was so; Mellow Moonbeam
and the Celestial Mutation Cyrcus
became the no. 1 rock group
in the world.
Mellow mingled with Dylan, Lennon,
Presley and all of the other
Beautiful Rockers and was pictured
in *Time*, the *Rolling Stone*
and the *Christian Science Monitor*.
Albums became gold
at their release and
concerts were orgies of worship
as Mellow Moonbeam was
the name on everyone's lips
and even former scoffers
became frantic fans.

Cudgel and Melody back
in Savior, Iowa
watched in awe
the fiery progress
of their young superstar
and his rocketing ascension.
"Our son's reaching for the
heights of success," said Cudgel
"I hope he doesn't reach
too high," worried Melody.

Success was a satin glove
that gently stroked his
genius brow for
Mellow was a super-giant
revered by everyone
as he made tour after tour.
There was the Phoenix Concert
where he sang without
the Celestial Mutation Cyrcus'
equipment arriving
and still held them
in absolute thrall
or the Las Vegas Concert
where he reputedly rode the
waves of amplified electronic sound
astounding the absorbed audience
or the San Diego Concert
where he raised a lethargic crowd
to savage screaming slaves.

But success bored him and
Mellow searched for something
beyond the mindless devotion
of captivated fans
and money without limit
and luxury past reason.
And his boredom turned
to melancholy then disgust
and the golden god stopped
his tours and writing
to find the answer to his doubts.

His inspiration was gone
he realized—the infinite Etc.
had grow distant when
the tide of fortune had buoyed
him along to spectacular success.
He knew he must leave
the Celestial Mutation Cyrcus
for a time as he
hungered desperately for her
Sacred Kandle
of the mammoth mammaries and thrilling thighs
who could again direct his
talent towards the revelation
of the mystical Etc.
From endless luxury to scorching suffering
Mellow staggered back through
the searing desert vainly searching
for the crystal mesa.

At last he found the mystic mesa
and sought refuge within
where again the spiritual glory of
the Etc. showered him, restored him
and Sacred Kandle listened
to his tale of lost contentment.
In sexual dialogue she told him
the answers he painfully needed
how as his super-success snowballed
he grew more distant from the Etc.
He could now with his
millions of minions impart
the true message of the cosmic Etc.
using his fame and power
to reach the seekers of solace
through a new style of
performance and song.

In a final stellar linking session
Sacred revealed the total meaning of the Etc.
and instructed Mellow that soon
she would send a messenger of peace
to help him and give him
the final instructions of the Etc.

Enraptured Mellow left her
and returned to slick society
where after many months’ absence
a new freak rock group
    Gold Viper
    and the
    Earthling Reptile Choir
had taken preeminence with the crowd
implanting their liquid lies
to a softly swayed audience.
The battle of the bands
was locked in deadly contest
as neither could assume
the no. 1 position of popularity
until Mellow announced that
money was unimportant to the Etc.
and all concerts and records would
hereafter be genially given free
to allow everyone to know
the purpose of the great Etc.

At this Gold Viper was both
astounded and angry
and baffled about how to
combat this god-like generosity.
So he summoned his manager
who was also a U.S. marshal
Simon Sinbad
to talk some sense into Mellow.
So Simon stormed in
and said, "Now look Moonbeam
or whoever you are
what you're doing ain't
legal I suspect and I
want ya to stop this
giveaway crap, ya hear?"

But Mellow in a spiritual repose
was deaf to his horned pleas
and Simon soon saw it was useless
and told Gold he was bested.
But Gold in a slit-eyed grin
plotted secret sinister plans.

Mellow's concerts grew in size
and his freak rock performances
impressed the seekers with
the glowing grandeur of the Etc.
and Mellow again became
the rolling rex of rock
although some thought he approached
the exotic Etc. too personally.

It was at the Tuscon Concert
that a sweet young groupie named
Dove Angell
a sensual sixteen-year-old seductress
found him and Mellow knew
she was Sacred's messenger
a bird of peace and love.

As she began cosmic congress
with saintly Mellow she
instructed him to stage
a super-concert at Santa Fe
the biggest most brilliant yet.
Sadly he acknowledged
her sage suggestion and
prepared for the performance
of his bizarre career.

The night was magic cool
the crowd beyond colossal and
even Cudgel and Melody were
in attendance with rumors that
Sacred Kandle might come.
The Celestial Mutation Cyrcus
was soaring to acid heights
in the midnight-air arena
and the crows swayed softly
like a single collective slave.
Offstage Dove cooed confidence
to Mellow as he waited
for the highlight of the ceremony
while darkly unknown to all
Gold and the Earthling Reptile Choir
changed roles with six of
the Cyrcus who would appear
during the fantastic finale.
Slit-eyes gleaming Gold prepared
to stop his sunshine rival
in the rock atrocity of the century
and seize the title rex back.

Guitars screaming, drums pulsating
sweat glistening in ebony ebullience
Mellow sprang onstage heralded
by a titanic thunderclap of applause
and immediately launched into
a medley of his blockbusters.
As he exploded into the finale
a no. 1 for 12 weeks
the Nazi-uniformed Choir
disguised as the Cyrcus
began their deadly part
in the performance and
drawing their purloined pistols
fired laser beam after beam into
the now nearly cosmic Mellow
who taking each searing, scorching shot
continued with the show as he
dropped disillusioned and dying.

The crowd cheered and clapped
confused but conned, fascinated
while Cudgel and Melody wept
and Sacred Kandle
caped in cosmic rays
angrily summoned her silver helicopter.

The Celestial Mutation Cyrcus
broken apart like nuclear fission
as some ran off in despair
others milled around confused
and a few sought
to join the Earthling Reptile Choir.
Only Dove who cradled the
matyred Mellow knew the answer
as she laid him on the
lowering stretcher that sadly ascended to
the cosmic copter overhead.

In high tragedy the spiritual steed
soared solemnly off while
its tail guard of twin jet fighters
fired rockets at the spiteful stage
sending the slit-eyed crowd screaming
into the necromanic night.

In the somber copter Dove
smiled starrily at long last
gleaning hope from ashes
for the closing words of Mellow’s
final number left his fate open, intact
and they echoed in her mind:
"'I'm gonna love ya all
till the universe totals out.'"