



# Johnny's Message

Original Story from aUI The Language of Space

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*Illustrations by Matthew Zumberge*

## Johnny's Message

1) Dear Space-Friend!

Like you I am a boy at school.

And after school I like to play and fish.

Sometimes at night I look up to the stars.

Sometimes at day I climb up a high mountain.

ᄒᄒᄒ ᄒ ᄒᄒᄒᄒ

1) ᄒᄒ ᄒᄒᄒ!

ᄒ ᄒ, ᄒᄒᄒ ᄒᄒᄒ ᄒ ᄒᄒᄒ.

ᄒ ᄒᄒ ᄒᄒᄒ, ᄒ ᄒᄒᄒᄒ ᄒᄒᄒᄒ ᄒ ᄒᄒᄒᄒᄒᄒ.

ᄒᄒ ᄒ ᄒᄒ, ᄒ ᄒᄒᄒ ᄒᄒ ᄒ ᄒ ᄒᄒ.

ᄒᄒ ᄒ ᄒᄒ, ᄒ ᄒᄒᄒ ᄒᄒ ᄒᄒ.





4) Something was talking.  
It sounded like a flute.  
From where could it come?  
Did it arise from the water?

4) ᑕᑦ ᐃᑦ ᐱᑦᓴᑦ.  
ᐃᑦ ᓴᑦᐃᑦ ᑕᑦ ᐱᑦᐃᑦ.  
ᐃᑦ ᑕᑦᓴᑦ ᑕᑦᓴᑦ?  
ᐃᑦ ᓴᑦᐃᑦ ᑕᑦ ᑕᑦ?

5) A strange plant was sitting on its bank,  
stretching its roots into the creek.  
But its green leaves outside seemed to move.  
Now they spread as big wings of a butterfly.  
And now it seemed as if the plant,  
having sucked enough water into its body,  
spread its wings – and it flew.

5) ᑕᑦ ᑕᑦ ᐃᑦ ᐱᑦᓴᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐃᑦ ᑕᑦᓴᑦ,  
ᓴᑦᐃᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦᐃᑦ ᑕᑦ ᑕᑦ.  
ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ ᑕᑦ ᓴᑦ ᐃᑦ ᐃᑦᐃᑦ ᑕᑦ.  
ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ ᑕᑦᓴᑦ ᐱᑦ ᑕᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ.  
ᑕᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐃᑦ ᐃᑦ ᐱᑦ ᑕᑦ ᐱᑦ,  
ᑕᑦᓴᑦ ᑕᑦ ᑕᑦ ᑕᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ,  
ᑕᑦᓴᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ ᑕᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ ᐱᑦ.



6) It fluttered up to me....  
its gold eyes gleaming, as if it knew—  
it circled and sat down on my knee.

The sounds it made were piped through  
its flute-like body  
and yet they wafted from far away.  
And then I knew  
that this thing must have come  
from somewhere else.

6) ሆ ቅጠላሮታን ሾ ማ ዓ ሌ...  
ሆ ጸባተፍ ጸጠ ተጽኔ, ል ፍፀ ሆ ፀላታን —  
ሆ ሾሮታን ጸ ቸሮታን ሆ ሌ ሆሮተፕፈ.

ከ ~, ሆ ሩባታን ጸፍ, ሀብላሮታን ዐ  
ሆ ፀሀብላቸው ሆ  
ጸ ሆ ጸ ተጽኔ ሆሮታን = ጸፍ = ፍ.  
ጸ ሆ ሌ ፀላታን  
ላ ሆ ሆ ጸ ጸ ጸ ጸ  
= ሆ ሆ.







8) The Being said:  
 "Thank you, dear Earth-man,  
 for letting me breathe your air  
 and drink your water.  
 And that is all I need.

8) ལྷ་ཤྱིལ་ལྷ་ལྷ་ལྷ་  
 "ལྷ་ལྷ་, ལྷ་ལྷ་  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ (ལྷ་ལྷ་).

9) I have come from far,  
 from a distant star,  
 which you can see sparkle in the night.  
 I cannot stay here for long,  
 so I ask you to listen to my song.

9) ལྷ་ལྷ་ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་,  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་,  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་,  
 ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་ ལྷ་ལྷ་.





10) We watched your planet for thousands of years,  
and still we avoided a visit.

It is a good planet,  
blessed with wonders of beauty,  
but there is something to it which never occurs  
in the whole universe.

10) ኢሉ ዐጻግተዎና ስጌ ጭፍ ተፈገፈ 10፡3 ሰዓዓ፣  
 ጸጌ ፖሎ ኢሉ ፕረደተዎና ጅቶለና።

ከዚህ በፊት ተጨማሪ ጥያቄ፣  
 ለተጨማሪ ደንብ ማውጣት ለማድረግ፣  
 ለዚህ ደንብ ማውጣት ለማድረግ፣  
 ለዚህ ደንብ ማውጣት ለማድረግ፣

11) When you saw me drink water and flutter around, you knew that I live.

But you see that I use  
only what is here in abundance,  
open to all.

11) ነገሩ ለሕዝቡና ለሀገሩ ምን ዓይነት ጥቅም ሲያሳድር ይታወቃል፡፡  
ነገሩ ለሕዝቡና ለሀገሩ ጥቅም ሲያሳድር ይታወቃል፡፡

ᐃᓂ ᐱ ᐸᓄ, ᐃᑦ ᑭ ᐅᓄ  
ᑭ, ᐱ'ᑭ ᑭᓂ ᓂᓂ ᐱᑭ,  
ᓂᓂᓂ ᓂ ᑭᓂ.

12) A part of your living things here do as I.  
You call them plants.  
But they hardly move.  
So they can do no harm.  
But the other part of your beings here  
live by destroying other life.  
They have their life from other beings' death.  
You call them animals,  
and even you, earthman,  
you live partly by killing other beasts."

13) Here I put in: "What do you want us to do?  
Starve or eat grass?  
I like to bite into a juicy steak."

14) The Spaceman said:  
 "Yes, you could not live  
 without what you call eating.  
 But the animals you eat  
 like also to live.  
 And other animals want to eat them.  
 So they all struggle against you,  
 and you must fight.

12)  $\Delta \triangleq \hat{\Delta} \in \mathcal{P} \bullet \square \triangleq \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\wedge \mathcal{L} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\Delta \in \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \Delta \triangleq \hat{\Delta} \in \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\mathcal{P} \Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .  
 $\wedge \mathcal{L} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ ,  
 $\approx \Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ ,  
 $\wedge \Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$ .”

[illegible]

14)  $\mathbb{Z}$  OP  $\mathbb{A}^1$ :

„ $\Delta$ “,  $\mathbb{A}^1$  T PZ  $\mathbb{A}^1$

$\mathbb{Z}$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$ .

$\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$ ,  $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$  ( $\mathbb{A}^1$ )

$\mathbb{Z}$   $\mathbb{A}^1$  PZ.

$\mathbb{Z}$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$ .

$\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$ ,  
 $\mathbb{Z}$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$   $\mathbb{A}^1$ .





15) In olden times you earthmen had to fight  
against the mighty saurians,  
the dragons of your sagas.  
Against the beasts of the wild  
you had to become  
as cruel as they.

15) ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ  
ᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ,  
ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ.  
ᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ  
ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ  
ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅ.

16) But now when nature lies  
conquered at your feet,  
you seem to keep on fighting  
in accustomed aggression -  
now against yourselves.

You commit crazy crimes, murders and wars,  
and you drift toward death and destruction.

17) We beings from Space never troubled you  
and never will thwart you.

We all have avoided your planet  
for millions of years.

Look up into the starry sky,  
you see beauty and harmony.

In your prayers you look up to heaven,  
where you feel the spirit of love.

16) ᐃᐅ ᐱᑳ, ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ  
ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ,  
ᐱ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅ  
ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ, ~  
ᐱᑳ ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅ.

ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ, ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ, ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅ  
ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ.

17) ᐱᐅ ᐱᐅᐅ = ᐅ -ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ  
ᐅ -ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ.

ᐱᐅ ᐱᑳ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ  
ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ.

ᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ,  
ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅ.

ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ,  
ᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅᐅ ᐅ ᐅ ᐅᐅᐅ.



18) Your planet fell off from this heavenly life  
and became the planet of strife.  
Prophets and sages have tried to save you.  
You burnt and crucified the saints.  
But now their predictions' dreams have come true.  
You suddenly entered your "Atomic Age of Space."

18) ነገሩ ለዚህ የሰማይ ግዜ ለወጣ ሲሆን  
እኛም ለዚህ የሰማይ ግዜ ለወጣናል።  
እኛም ለዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል። ለዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል።  
ከዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል። ለዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል።  
እኛም ለዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል። ለዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል።  
ከዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል። ለዚህ ግዜ ለወጣናል።





19) Now war would be total annihilation.  
 Now you could be one of us, as fellow-spacemen,  
 but you don't know the way of life of the skies.  
 You are excluded from cosmic wisdom, the spirit of peace."

19) ነፃ ቸቸል ፍጻሜ ነፃ ቸቸል.  
 ነፃ ኃላ ገረገሪ 1 ለ ነፃ, ለ ነፃ ሀያ,  
 ለፀ ኃላ ገ ፀልፍ ለፀ ለ ሀ ለ ነፃ ነፃ.  
 ኃላ ፍጻሜ = ቸቸል + ለፀ, ለ ለ ቸቸል."



20) I said: "If you are so smart, then tell us your tricks.  
 Tell us a few of your super-weapons,  
 which we can use on all the guys whom we don't like,  
 and with whom we differ, as they are different from us.  
 ...But if you don't want to help us,  
 get going, I have not much time.  
 I have to go down and play cards with the boys."

20) ነጻ ልብዐታ: “ፍፁም የሆነ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ  
 የሆነውን ይናገረኛል። ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣  
 ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣  
 ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣  
 ...ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣  
 ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣ ነጻ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣  
 ነጻ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣ ልብ ወለድ ሆኖ፣

21) He answered: "I too have little time.  
What calls me away is a play of cards - with Death.  
We cannot live in the vibration of restless tension.  
I knew I risked my life, when I came here.  
Why should you believe me, a single being?  
But if you could listen to the billions of beings  
on millions of planets...their ways would persuade you."

22) I suggested: "Tell the billions of your space-fellows  
to learn our language and talk to us.  
Maybe mankind will listen  
if we see that you fellows  
can live in peace."

23) The Spaceman smiled: "If all hosts of the universe  
were to take the trouble of trying  
to learn the language of this tiny globe,  
what language should they learn to communicate with you?  
What is the language of Earth?"

21) ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇᄇ: "ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ.  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ.  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ.  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ, ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ.  
ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ, ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ?  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ.  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ...ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ."

22) ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇᄇ: "ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ  
ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ.  
ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ  
ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ."

23) ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇᄇᄇ: "ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ  
ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ  
ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ,  
ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ?  
ᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ?"





25) So if I gave you the gold of my knowledge wrapped in the burlap bags of your words, you would use it to club each other to death. We will not teach crazy criminals the tricks of destruction. We can impart the spirit of wisdom only to those who trust in its grace and prove this by learning the Language of Space.

26) In this tongue one star sends its rays to a friend  
radiating creation of insight sublime;  
Wisdom and love over light-years blend,  
and the spirits bridge space and knowledge spans time.  
The Eternal blesses the cosmos in grace.  
The angels sing truth in the Language of Space."

[illegible][illegible]

26) ୦୦ ୧୦ ୬୦୦୦, ୧ ୧୪ ୪୦୪ ୦୦ ୧୦୪ ୨ ୩୧,  
 ୪୧୦୪୪୦ ୪୦୪୪ ୬ ୦୪୦ ୧୦୦;  
 ୪୦୦ ୪ ୦୦୦୦ ୦୧ ୪୧୦୦ ୩୧୪,  
 ୪ ୦୦ ୬ ୦୦୦୦ ୦ ୪ ୦୦ ୦୦୦୦୦୦ ୦.  
 ୩ ୧୦୦ ୪୦୦୦ ୩୦୦୦ ୬୦ ୧୦୦୦.  
 ୦୦ ୧୦୦ ୩୦୦ ୬୦୦ ୬୦ ୦୦.”