

The Legend of the Primal Plant

A wise man loves mankind and nature. He believes they are completely connected by God. The wise man also believes a unity exists in nature; that it consists of one fundamental pattern repeating continuously. He writes poems and literature about his ideas.

This wise author dreams about a primal plant that illustrates his beliefs; the plant contains the basic plan for all the plants in the world. He describes his plant as follows:

The primal plant is the source of every plant. It possesses a thick central stem which supports robust flowers and their stamens. Leaves sprout from the stem. The wise man does not mention the plant's roots.

Many people try to draw the primal plant. In illustrations by different people, the forms of the roots and leaves of the plant change. The stem is the same in every picture. The wise man thinks the drawings are too definitive. For him, the primal plant is an ideal, without an exact form yet.

Nevertheless, the wise author and his faithful students search for the primal plant when they are in different places. They travel a lot in order to appreciate nature. During these trips, they search the wild areas of different countries. The wise man thinks Italy is the most fertile place he has ever seen. Therefore, he becomes convinced that the primal plant is in this temperate country. But nobody ever discovers such a plant in Italy or elsewhere.

Years pass. The great man grows old and wiser. He says that the primal plant was probably a description of a basic leaf form. Consequently, it can be found in all plants in the world.

One hundred years later, many people revere the wise man. He is the hero of naturalists, scientists, philosophers and authors who follow his writings.

A naturalist, who is a particularly loyal follower of the wise man, believes the primal plant exists. This plant could possibly illustrate his answers for the world riddle. The naturalist also wants to prove that mankind and nature are completely connected because he has experienced a personal tragedy and is searching for solace.

He believes that everything in the world has developed from one source. The source procreated, generating more life-forms similar to itself. The next generations also procreated and this system continued for millions of years. The naturalist believes that the new life-forms grew and changed gradually, improving slightly with each generation, so that the world of today, with all its plants and animals as well as its people, came to exist.

This revolutionary idea originated from an Englishman; a peer of the naturalist who he also reveres. The Englishman expresses his ideas cautiously, whereas the naturalist is bolder and more forceful with his opinions.

If the naturalist's primal plant exists, he would be able to prove that all plants originated from one source. If all plants originated from one source, then he thinks that all people must have also originated from one source. The naturalist's beloved young

Lusag Plana Rigik

Man sapik semik löfom menadi e nati. Klödom das menad e nat pefetanoms löliko fa God. Man sapik klödom i das balug sbinom in nat; das nat kosietom se jablon stäbik bal, kel denuom ömi laiko. Lautom poedotis e literati dö döls omik.

Lautel sapik at dlimom dö plan rigik, kel maegom klödis omik; plan at ninlabom disini städik plo plans valik in vol. Bepenom plani omik atamodo:

Plan rigik binom rig plana alik. Labom stami zenodik e bigik kel lenkipom flolis stenüdik e stamenis omsik. Bleds gelminoms de stam. Man sapik no nömodom vulis plana.

Mens mödik steifoms penatön plani lefulik at. In maegs fa mens difik, foms vulas e bledas plana at cenoms. Stam binom otik in mag alik. Man sapik cedom, das penats at binoms tu dejötik. Ma om, plan lefulik binom dölod, nen ya fom velätik.

Ye, lautel sapik e studels fiedik oma sükoms plani rigik ven binoms in plads difik. Tävoms mödo al divön nati. Du tävs at, ninlogoms pladis foetik in läns difik. Man sapik tikom, das Tal binon plad fetikün, keli älogom evelo. Kludo, vedom pesuadöl, das plan rigik binom in län mafodik at. Ab nek tüvom evelo plani somik in Tal u votöpo.

Yels beigoloms. Man gretik bäledom e vedom sapikum. Sagom das plan lefulik binom-la luvelatiko bepenami foma bleada städik. Kludo, kanon tuvön omi in plans valik.

Pos yels tum, mens mödik lestimoms mani sapik. Binom jamep natavestigelas, nolelas, filosopelas e lautelas, lautelas, kels sukoms penodis omik.

Natavestigel semik, kel binom züpel patiko fiedik mana sapik, klödom das plan rigik sbinom. Plan at maegomöx gesagis omik dö volarät. Natavestigel vilom i blöfön, das menad e nat pefetanoms löliko, bi eplakom lügi pösodik e sükom tloidi.

Klödom das alikos in vol esetenomok de rig bal. Rig epälo befüdölo lifafomis mödikum sümikis öme. Päls suköl epälöms id, e sit at efovom du balions yelas. Natavestigel klödom das lifafoms nulik äglöfoms e äcenoms pianiko, menodölo püliko len päl alik, dat vol tudelik, ko plans e nims äsi mens valik, ävedoms sbinöls.

Döl volutik at kömom de Nelijan semik, leigan natavestigela keli lestimom i. Nelijan at sesagom kauto dölis omik, biye natavestigel binom kinikum e nämikum ko ceds omik.

If plan rigik natavestigela sbinom, okanom blöfön das plans valik kömoms de rig bal. If plans valik kömoms de rig bal, täno cedom das mens valik mutoms kömön i de rig bal. Jimatel löfik yunik natavestigela ädeilof ätimo. If fom stäbik semik patuvom

wife has recently died. If a basic form is found within all living things, he can be consoled with the knowledge that her life continues in the infinite variety of nature's patterns.

The naturalist's idea of the primal plant is different from that of the wise man. Consequently, he describes it as follows:

The primal plant is an animal-plant from the sea. This animal-plant consists of different porous parts with many buds and branches. It looks like a group of soft vegetables and bulbs. Big and small holes cover all areas of the animal-plant. These are the plant's mouths. The primal plant is the ancient mother of all animal-plants.

The naturalist and his loyal students search fervently for his primal plant in many parts of the sea. They search the wild coasts of different countries. But they do not ever discover such a plant.

The naturalist continues to believe that the primal plant exists and proceeds to draw it. He states that his drawings illustrate an existing animal-plant. The naturalist presents many lectures about the plant, as well as his theories which correlate with the ideas of the wise man and the Englishman. He creates many drawings to accompany his lectures. These are very beautiful with a lot of ornamentation. The naturalist's drawings and theories are published in popular books.

At first, many people love the naturalist's books. The general public believe the books contain information which is usually only seen by scientists and naturalists. The naturalist becomes famous. His illustrations provide inspiration for artists who admire the organic details as well as the naturalist's excellent observational skills.

But many esteemed scientists and naturalists say that his primal plant does not exist, therefore, the illustrations in the naturalist's books are a lie. They maintain that the drawings prove the naturalist is a fraud. Some of the naturalist's students confirm that nobody has ever found the primal plant.

The naturalist is convinced that he is right and his critics are merely envious of his success. Many vicious disputes ensue.

The Englishman supports the naturalist but cautions that he has expressed his opinions too forcefully.

The naturalist continues to search for his primal plant. During these searches, he discovers a large quantity of very small sea-plants and animal-forms which were not known previously. The naturalist classifies his new discoveries with names in honour of his dead wife. He continues to publish his books with illustrations of plants and animal-forms. These beautiful pictures illustrate his theories very well, but are not always precise copies of real life. Consequently, many people interpret his drawings as fraudulent. The curse of controversy follows the naturalist throughout his life.

Years pass. The naturalist becomes old. His primal plant is never found. The naturalist's enemies still use his drawings as targets for their verbal assaults. To this day, the naturalist is remembered for supposedly fraudulent drawings instead of his valuable contributions towards the study of nature. ■

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Plan nimik at kosietom se dils hogilik difik ko gelmins e tuigs mödiks. Logodom äs glup glünedas müedik e flobebas. Hogs gletik e smalik tegoms pleni lölik plana nimik. Ats binoms muds plana. Plan lefulik binom mot vönik planas nimik valik.

Natavestigel e studels fiedik oma sukoms ziliko plani rigik oma in dils mödik in mel. Ninlogoms jolas foetik länas difik, ab tívoms nevelo plani somik.

Natavestigel fovom al klödön das plan rigik sibinom, e fovom al penatön plani. Lesagom das penats omik maegoms plani nimik sibinöl. Natavestigel plösenom bililädis mödik dö plan, äsi teoris omik kels kotefoms ko döls mana sapik e Nelijana. Jafom penatis mödik al kopanön bililädis omik. Ats binoms vemo jönik, ko dekams mödik. Penats e teors natavestigela papüboms in buks popik.

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Ab nolels e natavestigels palestimöls mödiks sagoms das plan rigik oma no sibinom, kludo, maegs in buks natavestigela binoms neveladik. Lesagoms das penats blöföms das natavestigel binom cütel. Studels anik natavestigela fimoms das nek ätívom evelo plani rigik.

Natavestigel pesuadom das nepödom, e **krüts*** ta om binoms tö glötiks dö plöp omik. Disputs badik mödik sekoms. * krütels

Nelijan yüfom natavestigeli, ab kaütom, das natavestigel elesagom cedis omik tu nämiko.

Natavestigel fovom al sukön plani rigik oma. Du suks at, tívom mödi gletik planas melik e fomas nimik vemo smaliks kelis no änonlon büo. Natavestigel kladom tívotis nulik oma medü nems stimü jimatel edeilöl omik. Fovom al pübön bukis omik ko maegs planas e fomas nimik. Mags jönik at maegoms legudiko teoris omik, ab no binoms koips fümik lifa jenik. Sikodo, mens mödik seplänoms das penats omik binoms cütik. Neläbäd dikoda lusukom natavestigeli daü lif omik.

Yels beigoloms. Natavestigel vedom bäledik. Plan rigik oma no petívom evelo. Neflens natavestigela geboms nog maegis omik äs zeilapüns plo legleips vödik omsa. Jünü, memon natavestigeli demü maegs niludiko cütiks, plas demü läpols völadik oma plo natastud. ■ (Tradutod ini Volapük rigik fa Jean-Claude Caraco.)