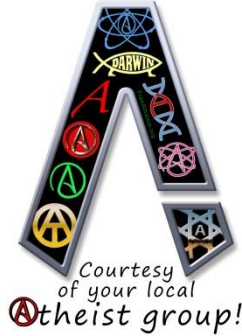




It is perfectly acceptable and even virtuous to think critically about any faith based ideas which are silly, harmful and oppressive.

It is wise (and not disobedient) to refuse to be told what to think. Be your own person and care about what is actually true. Test it. Scrutinize it. Believe what turns out to be reality.

Celebrating This Amazing Life!



Anyone believing this life to be a test of faith or trial run for another life, is sorely missing the wonders of reality. Aligning one's mind to the minuscule chance **that we even exist** is awe inspiring enough, but the idea that we're made from the atoms of massive exploded stars, connects us to the entire cosmos. We are an extension of the universe and share its origins! Amazing!

When we curiously investigate cosmic mysteries, natural processes and the laws of nature, **we are the universe learning about itself.** When we embrace insights and discoveries with awe and wonder, **that is the universe feeling amazed.** When we love, respect, laugh and imagine, **the universe is enjoying its existence, embracing**

it and becoming enlightened!

When people choose to believe that divine magic has created all things, they might easily ignore the elegant beauty of cosmic chance & change, somehow finding its way to us. Divine presupposition derails the godly from grasping such natural rarities, while the atheist **can** appreciate the brief and precious moment we have emerged into. Only in rejecting a divine origin can we see a reality where all conscious life **is** an awakened embodiment of the universe, looking back upon itself.

I for one won't be missing the chance to embrace a cosmically rare opportunity to appreciate this life with all the love, compassion and reason I can muster.



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