

## Pale Blue Dot (Interlude)

Story of the Year

The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena.  
On it, everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever  
heard of,  
Every human being who ever was, lived out their lives.  
Thousands of confident religions, ideologies, and economic doct  
rines,  
Every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every hero a  
nd coward,  
Every creator and destroyer of civilization,  
Every saint and sinner in the history of our species,  
Think of the rivers of blood spilled by all those generals and  
emperors so that,  
In glory and triumph, they could become the momentary masters o  
f a fraction of a dot.  
Our posturings, our imagined self-importance,  
The delusion that we have some privileged position in the Unive  
rse,  
Are challenged by this point of pale light,  
It underscores our responsibility to preserve and cherish the p  
ale blue dot.