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ARCH

Draft Abstract/Summary

Religion has always been interesting to me, mostly because of my lack of religion and my desire to understand how so many people can be brought together through a set of beliefs. Religion can usually be traced back to some sort of text but not usually to one person who decided to create the religion. Through my observation of various beliefs and the components that make up a religion, I had the idea of creating my own religion (which soon turned into a handful of variants of one religion) in order to play out the development of religion itself within my Secondary World. In order to come to this result, I have decided to study various elements of religion through reading religious texts, as well as looking at several religious studies books that in a way provide a blueprint for the phenomenon of religion. Through studying the Primary World I hope to construct a believable and relatable world (despite the very mythical components found in fantasy).

In order to construct religion within the Secondary World, I will also pay careful attention to other fantasy authors who have themselves developed mythologies and belief systems. This will help me come up with various races and personalities that will interpret the religion and world I create in a way that can mimic how diverse human societies interpret each other's religions. This project may lean towards a religious studies perspective, but it will be very much a fantasy novel in itself. I can imagine it will be very different than most ARCH projects since my work will not be within a specific field *per se*, nor will I be reporting particular findings. Rather, this project will very much be a *creative* project. I hope to have an impact on the literary world in fusing closely aspects of religion and fantasy, bringing a modern view to mythology. I hope other researches will one day be able to read my novel much like I'm reading others in order to help form their own hypothesis on religion today.