

# THE BATTLE FOR THE LAST TREE ON PLANET TRYTON

EKOS ARE PROTECTORS OF LAST TREE ON TRYTON.  
PREDAS WANT TO DESTROY IT TO EXPLORE  
EXISTING GOLD MINE.

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Children's story that integrates with the natural fantasy and creativity of children and young people, entertaining, educating and adding to the development of character, moral values, citizenship, ecological awareness, family values, culture, knowledge, spirituality, respect for educators, encouragement to study, order and discipline. Book for children and young people who enjoy intelligent, sensitive, cultural, educational readings and themes of social reality. Book with largest literary content, a better reading exercise.

*Synopsis:*

*The book tells the story of two civilizations - the Ekos and the Predas, who live on the distant planet Tryton. The Ekos are protectors of the last tree left on the devastated planet and have always been defenders of natural life. The Predas want to exploit the last gold mine under the tree and have always valued wealth of society by exploiting and destroying natural wealth. The war is waged peacefully and wins whoever makes the best arguments for the mighty Grancomp the Great God, a supercomputer. It is a war of values, not armed. Two observers from another planet are brought in to mediate the conflict and process data entry with the arguments in Grancomp. And this time, a child and an Earth gold prospector are taken to Tryton. The two endangered civilizations were extremely advanced. Grancomp judges the values presented and gives his final decision, which everyone respects. It is an educational adventure in defense of the environment. It contains a deep message of love and warning to protect the ecology of our earth. It promotes the child's development in the identification, comparison and discovery of values and paradigms, guiding them in determining important life values.*

## Dedication

I dedicate this work to all those who reserve part of their lives to educate children in some way, as a mission and a belief that in them is the hope of a better world.

In special to parents, teachers and grandparents, the basic triangle of early childhood education.

I thank God for the child that He still allows to exist in me.

João José da Costa

Tryton is a planet in the Andromeda galaxy, close to the Milky Way galaxy where our planet Earth is located.

Tryton could be considered a twin of planet Earth. It has large continents, with high snow-capped mountains on its summits. It has oceans with beautiful beaches that washed the shores of the continents.

The nature was lush with giant trees, like American redwoods. The fauna was equally rich in species, although many animals seemed strange to us.

In Tryton live two once great numerous civilizations - the Ekos and the Predas. The Ekos have always been protective of the environment and believed that the greatest wealth was in the nature. The Predas always believed that the exploration of natural resources and the destruction of the environment were the only way to ensure Tryton's progress.

At first these two civilizations fought bloody battles to defend their interests. The Ekos wanting to preserve and the Predas wanting to explore and destroy. Over time, these two civilizations reached an advanced stage of development, where traditional wars, with battalions of soldiers, thousands of dead, destruction of cities, no longer made sense.

Thus, the Ekos and Predas leaderships came together to find a way to resolve their conflicts and disagreements without the use of weapons and without destruction.

The solution found was the development of a supercomputer, which they named after Grancomp, the Great God. This computer has become the Supreme Judge of all political, social and economic decisions in Tryton.

When there is a conflict, either party requests the convening of Zwin Gwer which means General Assembly or simply GA. In this GA, the Ekos and Predas present their arguments and the Grancomp processes the data and gives its sentence. And what it decides is decided. Both parties obey without resorting to the use of force. Grancomp brought centuries of peace between the Ekos and Predas. But that did not prevent the Predas from winning most of Tryton's Great God decisions. After all, nature's predators have very strong arguments.

These GA's are now mediated by observers brought from other planets to ensure greater impartiality.

And Tryton is in a pitiful situation today. All its rivers are polluted or dry. The forests were all decimated by the Predas, the seas no longer contain life.

Glaciers have melted due to global warming due to forest destruction. Desertification has taken over most of the planet. Where there is no sand, there are only a few bushes. Animal life is rare, limited to a few insects like our ants and cockroaches, and a few birds and reptiles. The air is close to unbreathable. Forests gave way to large cities and thousands of buildings. Today all this is abandoned, lifeless, turning to dust.

This situation of environmental destruction of Tryton led the two civilizations almost to complete extinction. Today a small group represents the Ekos, no more than 20 families, with a total around 100 individuals. Another small group represents the ancient and powerful Predas, no more than 30 families, with a total around of 150 individuals.

Thus, live on the planet Tryton around 250 beings only. This is the catastrophic current situation of Tryton, a planet that a few thousand years ago had the same characteristics as our planet Earth.

The Ekos and the Predas live with great restrictions. The few foods they find are berries from the rare shrubs that insist on growing in the sand of deserts, ants and cockroaches. And they can feed daily by eating a tasty fruit that is grown on the only tree left on the huge planet.

And drink from the only source of pure water that springs beneath the roots of this single tree! Therefore, this tree was called the Truitan Xurn or Tree of Life.

In a corner near the Truitan Xurn was the Grancomp, the supercomputer, made by sophisticated technology and powered by solar or atomic energy. But he was inactive and dusty.

For many Tryton years ago, which has a different duration from the Earth years, the Ekos and Predas had no conflicts to be resolved by the Grancomp. Both the Ekos and the Predas maintained two spacecrafts each with which they moved around the planet. They were spacecrafts of extraordinary technology, moving thanks to the magnetic force of the planets themselves. So, they didn't need fuel.

And this situation continued until one day the Predas decided that the solution to all their problems was to explore the last gold mine under Truitan Xurn, the Tree of Life.

The Predas thus believed that they could trade this gold with other planets and bring resources for Tryton to recover the extinct fauna and flora through DNA cloning.

They firmly believed that this would be possible! In other words, this would mean the extinction of the last tree on the planet!

On the other hand, the Ekos did not agree with this decision of the Predas. The Ekos thought they could, together with the Predas, recover some of the fauna and flora in space and time, failing to exploit and destroy what little was left in Tryton. Ekos and Predas then decided to convene the General Assembly and request the decision of Grancomp.

And both civilizations, and rather traces of civilizations, agreed that observers from planet Earth would be invited! This is perhaps because of the similarity these two planets had in the remote past. One to represent the Ekos and another to represent the Predas. The battle for the last tree on the planet Tryton began!

Tryton was 2 light years away from planet Earth.

*(Light-year? What is this and how much do you measure? Do you really want to know? It's a bit complicated even for adults. If you don't want to know, skip this part. If you're curious about what a light year is, try to understand! Light year is a measure of length that corresponds to the distance light travels in a year. That means about 9.5 trillion kilometers. More precisely, it is*



*9,460,536,207,068 kilometers traveled with a speed of 299,792 kilometers per second for 365 days. Just to get an idea of how fast it takes, the time it takes for light to travel the 149,597,870 kilometers that separate Earth from the sun is only 8 minutes and 18 seconds! You still don't understand? Me neither! But why was this passage included in the book? Simple. Multiple readers can be Nerds. And they like themes like that!)*

On Earth, unaware of all this confusion on the planet Tryton, a boy named Arthur and his family gathered at night in the small, living room, where each was doing an activity.

His mother Margaret rested watching his favorite soap operas, his father Peter read the newspaper of the day, his grandfather Mark took naps most of the time.

Arthur, unaware of this scene, played on the living room carpet, with his trolleys, train and, especially, with his miniatures of farm animals.

In fact, Arthur did not know what a farm or a natural forest was. But he was strongly drawn to everything that reminded him of nature. In the humble neighborhood where he lived, there were no more trees, woods, clean water streams, fresh air and no wild animals.

Everything had been replaced by dry land, dust, sewage that ran in the open, air pollution. The green was limited to some points of abandoned bush or some trees planted in the backyards of houses or sidewalks.

Garbage decorated this whole scene with colorful objects that remained there forever - cans and bottles of soda, plastic bags, packaging of a thousand and one products.

The only representatives of the fauna were the scorpions, rats, cockroaches and even some vultures, who fought over the remains of food in the rubbish thrown along the streets. This was the reality of Arthur's life. Television was the only window that opened for Arthur to see and know the world beyond his neighborhood.

Playing quietly, Arthur only focused on television when he heard news of apprehension of wild animals, burning, tree felling of forests, pollution of rivers and seas, air pollution, extinction of wild animals. And I was very sad about this news.

Something that terrified Arthur was when he heard about such a hole in the ozone layer that could destroy humanity. He imagined a hole in the sky that would swallow every human being one day.

Turning to what he liked to do - play, Arthur kept his ears on the television news and listened to an interview from a scientist to the reporter.

Arthur, of course, understood almost nothing of what the interviewed scientist said and, as he always did, resorted to his grandfather Mark. He was the only one who, at this time, was willing to give him some explanation, and he did it very softly so as not to disturb his father and mother who watched television.

“Grandfather! What does the man mean?”.

“Arthur, he means that for hundreds of millions of years nature has recycled, absorbed and returned the materials produced and consumed in the world. But with the expansion of cities and civilizations this process of nature is disorganized. Thus, the seas, the lands, the air are undergoing profound changes. This could have very serious consequences, not yet well understood by scientists, and may even make it impossible to maintain the life of man, animals and plants on our planet. He is saying that everyone needs to be aware of these problems and already take some steps to solve them. He says we need to implement a new behavior of people, a new way of thinking so that everyone can take better care of ecology and help to better preserve the world”.

“Grandfather! I always hear the word ecologist, ecology. What is ecology?”.

“Ecology? Let's look at the simplest way I can explain the meaning of this beautiful word. If you, Arthur, look closely at the life of any organism - animal or plant - you will find that this life never occurs in isolation. In addition to the location, which can be a forest, a river, a sea, a land, and in addition to food and water for these organisms to grow and multiply, there is also a need for a variable number of other species, with which this body lives with. This set of elements, physical, chemical and biological factors necessary for the survival of any organism, plants and animals, we call environment, or simply natural environment. Ecology is the study of the relationships between living beings and the environment where they live”.

In the following days, Arthur began to think a lot about what the scientist said on television and what his grandfather said.

As he walked the streets of his outskirts he began to look around and notice that this environment was unnatural and did not seem to fit into an environment in accordance with the concept of ecology. Or did it fit? Arthur noticed some relationships between the local living beings, animals and plants.

He could see that the plants closest to the trash were prettier than those on the driest ground. He saw that the rat ate the leftover food in the trash and that the cat ate the rat. I watched scorpions eat cockroaches and chickens eat scorpions.

“Is this environment and object of study of ecology? He wondered with doubts, pledging himself to ask his teacher one day”.

“Grandfather! I realize that few children are concerned about environmental protection and other ecology issues. They don't even know what this means. It seems that they are happy with the environment in which they live. They play with their toys, play ball, take the garbage to the streets, throw stones at the vultures, laugh, make dams to put boats in the sewage water that flows through the streets. I feel that this happens to almost everyone who lives here. If ecology is so good for people, how can they live well without it?”.

“Arthur, most people act and raise their children like moles! His grandfather said retiring to his room when the clock struck 9 pm. This time was bad time for him.

“Moles? What do you mean, grandpa?”. Insisted Arthur.

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“Moles are small animals, very similar to rats, but with very large and sharp teeth that live all their life underground, digging tunnels and more tunnels. Their skin is thin and clear from the sun and they know nothing about what happens around them on earth. They dig holes and dig tunnels searching for roots of plants that they eat and drink from. Nothing else, they know nothing more, not even the plants from which they eat their roots. Today's children are being raised inside their homes and apartments, living indoors in man-made environments such as malls, movie theaters, with little or no contact with nature. Thus, they are unaware of the importance of protecting nature, its fauna and flora. They don't know what this is, they don't live, they don't depend, they have no idea how nature influences their lives. It's a pity, it's a pity!”

“Wow, grandpa! It's a truth. That's why it's so important to study ecology in schools before it's too late, isn't it?”

On certain days, Arthur for a moment forgot the subject of ecology and indulged in jokes with his friends through the streets of the neighborhood.

He was flying a kite, playing soccer, walking barefoot through the sewers, throwing stones at the vultures. The boys said that vultures bring unlucky situations. Poor vultures!

His grandfather Mark, when younger, used to walk in lakes and rivers hidden in the forests. He had a good memory of those times when the advance of civilization had not yet registered its mark of destruction. Therefore, his grandfather was the right companion for Arthur to clarify his doubts and talk about his willingness to do something.

“Grandfather! What is an ecologist? Television always talks about them and the struggles they face to defend nature! One day I saw a boat of environmentalists stopping in front of a fishing boat to protect the whales and they were hit hard. Almost drowned!”.

“Arthur, we can say that there are ecologists at various levels, from the ordinary citizen, like us, to the most radical and fanatical. There are rich ecologists, as there are poor ecologists. There are those who contribute only with money, others with actions. Some set up nature protection organizations, some buy large areas to protect the remaining nature reserves for future generations. Finally, the important thing would be that all people, absolutely all people, think and behave better about ecology. And, more importantly, for these people to do something, even small, in favor of ecology. Remember what the scientist said? If we fail to protect our environment, we could have a critical situation on

our planet, making it impossible to maintain the lives of men, animals and plants!”.

“Grandfather! What is an ecologist?” Arthur insisted, showing that he still did not understand very well.

“Let's see, how could we define an ecologist? I once read a beautiful article in the paper defining what it is to be a heart ecologist. Let me see if I remember. It was something like this:

*It is the true lover of the nature. It is one who cares about what is happening in the environment for the environment, not just for itself and its survival. It is those who are touched by a waterfall, who see poetry in flowers, life in the song of birds. It is who wants to embrace the world in order to protect it! A dreamer? Can be. But you can also be a realist outraged by what you see happening in the world. A poet? Maybe... maybe someone who barely knows how to write but who knows how to value a life's worth. Here is no profile of the true 'heart' ecologist. There is a feeling, there is a certainty, there is a willingness to do something, however small, to save what has not yet been destroyed, polluted, devastated, extinguished by greed, greed and selfishness, which unfortunately are today qualities of most people. human beings. If you don't fit*



*in with the latter, courage, you can help this planet, you can build a better future. Just goodwill and attitude!”.*

“Great, how beautiful and how easy it is to understand. Even a child can understand what the author of these sentences meant. He was very happy when he wrote this!”.

“Arthur, more and more people appear interested in protecting nature in all its manifestations! Fortunately!”.

“Grandpa, I already know what I'll be when I grow up! I will be an ecologist!”.

This conversation between Arthur and his grandfather Mark was being captured by the telepathic sensors of the Ekos spacecraft, which already prowled the planet Earth. They sought their observer and mediator in the battle with the Predas.

Far from Arthur's house, another character was on the scene, in a clandestine mining. It was the dreaded Golden Tooth, a cruel and unscrupulous gold prospector who destroyed everything to find gold and precious stones.

Golden Tooth had already done a great destruction of a forest with the help of its evil prospectors!

The trees that protected the riverbanks were destroyed. The erosion of the banks was already large. This is one of the problems. Erosion takes a lot of soil to the river, silting the riverbed, meaning that the riverbed is increasingly shallow. Look at the huge holes they drove for gold and gems. And what is worse. They are melting gold right here. For this, they use mercury that contaminates water and kills thousands of fish.

When Golden Tooth got what he wanted, it set off in search of new mines, destroying the environment.

This Golden Tooth action was being captured by the telepathic sensors of the Predas spacecraft, already prowling the planet Earth. They, too, sought out for their observer and mediator in the battle with the Ekos.

And the Ekos stated:

“We already have our observer and mediator - Arthur!”.

And the Predas confirmed:

“We already have our observer and mediator - the Golden Tooth!”.

But why was Truitan Xurn or Tree of Life so important to the Ekos and not to the Predas?

Truitan Xurn is a tree with unique characteristics that developed mainly during the destruction phase of the planet Tryton. Thus, it created its own fire defenses, long dry spells, sandy terrain, and weak soil worn out by the actions of the Predas. It is an extremely strong tree that reaches a height of over 100 meters and its crown is enough to cover an entire football field.

It is considered the tree of life because it is the only tree species on the planet to have flowering, fruits and seeds all year round. Thus, the few animals that resisted the destruction of the Predas depend on it for their survival. Even the small group of Ekos and Predas! Its flowering is rich in honey. This honey feeds the few remaining butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Its leaves are rich in mineral salts, much appreciated by some vegetarian animals.

Before forming its fruit, it produces a kind of very sweet and high protein jelly. This jelly also feeds several animals that appear every day in extremely small numbers. Their fruits are great, being able to feed the Ekos and the Predas every day. It produced the minimum oxygen requirements for the Ekos and the Predas and the animals that lived under its shadow.

When the Ekos and Predas ventured out of its protection, they had severe breathing problems due to

extremely dry and polluted air. Some do not resist and die. It also traps carbon gas, helping to reduce pollution on the planet. Its long shadow protected the Ekos and Predas from the rays of the intense sun, preventing serious illness. Without its shadow, life on Tryton would be extinct. The temperature under its crown was 10 degrees below the planet's elevated temperature. Tryton's poor biodiversity revolved around Truitan Xum. It protects living beings from high winds. After the fruits, it gives seeds that serve as food for some couples of Tritonian parrots.

*(Oops! What are parrots? Psittaciformes: These are birds with species that have a robust beak, if high, with a fleshy and thick tongue, two middle fingers facing forward, and the first and fourth fingers, back. The Psittacidae family includes parrots, macaws, parakeets and others. Parrots are some of the smartest birds with the most developed brain. They have the ability to accurately mimic all types of sounds, including words. Their long-life span is equally noteworthy, for example: large species range from 60 to 80 years old. As a result of all their characteristics, these birds have become captive birds, quite popular in parks and zoos, a fact that has endangered many species. The main features of these species are their broad, robust heads, supported by a strong, tall, curved beak specialized for breaking and peeling seeds. To help in the handling of these*

*seeds have a very developed muscles in the jaw and tongue. Their short but very articulate feet, which in addition to supporting the body of animals, help in the handling of the food they eat. Both males and females have beautiful feathers with lush colors, giving them unparalleled beauty. Usually males and females are very similar. Most parrots are very sociable and live in flocks all year round or at least after breeding. Didn't find it interesting? Well, at least when you see a love bird and a macaw, you can't call it a parrot!)*

And this last tree of Tryton's life survived because it was close to the only source of clean drinking water on the planet. It grew so large that the fountain seemed to spring from its roots, which was not true.

It produces water vapor that forms a small cloud of rain that wet its leaves and roots every week. Anyway, what little life was left on Tryton revolved around the Truitan Xurn!

But if Truitan Xurn was that important, how could the Predas not see it? Good question!

But that's how it is. All Predas had a distorted view. They destroyed exactly the greatest wealth on the planet, which was its environment, its flora and fauna, in search of material wealth.

They were blind and ignorant in this regard. To survive they needed a protected environment. But it was exactly the environment they destroyed without any remorse in pursuit of their ambition for riches. And this action of the Predas brought the life of the planet Tryton near total extinction.

The next day, the headlines of the newspapers carried news:

**"WHERE IS ARTHUR? The 13-year-old Arthur mysteriously disappears from the yard of his house while he was playing with his toys. His parents and grandfather are desperate. According to police, there is no evidence of violence and no possible kidnappers have searched the family for negotiations so far. "**

The anguish of Arthur's mother, portrayed in the TV report, made the entire population angry.

At the Police Station, John Wayne began investigating to locate Arthur. The meeting of Federal Police agents was widely publicized and reported on TV stations, radios and newspapers in the country. The news emphasized that Arthur mysteriously disappeared, without violence, without a trace. What would have happened to him? Where would it be? Was he alive?

The mystery took over everyone. No one took responsibility or requested any prize

In the outback of the country, in yet another clandestine panning, brutal gold prospectors searched for Golden Tooth:

“Folks! Where is our boss Golden Tooth? The man has disappeared since yesterday! No one knows about him. Let's search the forest and the rivers. We need to find our boss!”.

However, the newspapers did not announce the disappearance of Golden Tooth, nor did the gold prospectors go to the police to report it. As environmental criminals, they feared being arrested!

Arthur had been abducted by the Ekos and the Golden Tooth by the Predas. And everyone was on their way to Tryton.

A few days later, two small comets tore the skies off planet Earth. One fell in the yard of Arthur's house and another fell in the clandestine panning. The strange objects emitted lights with those of the rainbow.

Arthur's parents and the cruel gold miners had no trouble discovering the strange artifacts that shone.

When they opened them, they found notes of Arthur and Golden Tooth that said:

“Mother, father, Grandpa Mark, I was kidnapped by the Ekos, a people from far away planet Tryton. I'm ok. They claim that I am invited to be an observer and mediator in the conflict with the Predas. The Ekos guarantee they will bring me back in a few days! I hope this is true. I'm scared, even though they are treating me very well! ”

“Look here, my fellow gold prospectors. I was kidnapped by the Predas. They say they are from the planet Tryton and there is a lot of gold there, guys! I'm ok. They claim that I am invited to be an observer and mediator in the conflict with the Ekos. Predas guarantee that they will bring me back in a few days! I hope this is true. I'm not scared! I want to see how much gold they have there! But all right, keep up the panning. Do not wait for me! As you know, gold and precious stones is the greatest wealth of life! ”.

On the way to Tryton, Arthur made jokes about the absence of gravity and, mainly, for a true astronomy class that Ekos gave. Arthur could see the earth with its seas and continents. He was struck by the holes in the ozone layer, the burning in the Amazon, the desertification of the continents, the pollution of the



seas, the untouchable beauty of the north and south poles. In the distance, the earth was becoming a blue dot at infinity.

The Ekos continued their astronomy classes to Arthur, showing him the Moon, Mars, Venus, Saturn with his rings, the giant Jupiter, the small and distant Neptune.

Then the galaxies, the black holes, the comets, the stars, the position of our sun, the nebulae. Arthur admired everything and was enchanted:

“Looks like I'm in the planetarium!”. Arthur said enthusiastically, forgetting for a moment the drama experienced by his family.

The Predas talked to the Golden Tooth, who was totally uninterested in what was happening outside the spaceship. They spoke of the beauty of gold and precious stones and everything they could buy with this wealth!

The spacecraft flew through the infinity at the speed of light. And Tryton was starting to appear tiny on the onboard computer screen.

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Arthur's curious eyes, with some fear and apprehension, followed, detail by detail, the contours, the geographical features, and the colors of Tryton.

Golden Tooth didn't care. He slept soundly. From the viewfinder, Arthur could see that Tryton had similarities to Earth, but with fewer mountain ranges, vast arid areas, some greenish-yellow spots, and pink seas. Thin black clouds appeared. Nothing in the distance supposed civilization.

There was only one pole that looked like ice. The pink sea intrigued Arthur. Suddenly an Ekos command was given:

“Let's leave orbit and start the descent operation on Tryton!”.

Arthur felt a cold down his spine. What awaited him? What dangers could threaten him? The thrill of entering the unknown planet filled his soul with adventure and deep apprehension.

When descending and leaving the spaceship, Arthur was greeted by the leader of the Ekos:

“My name is Qin. My speech is being translated simultaneously by the translator. Welcome to Tryton.

Tryton is an endangered planet. Our last hope is the preservation of Truitan Xurn. Tryton, thousands of years ago, was considered Earth's twin sister planet. Over the years, the dominant green has been destroyed by the Predas, the desert zone has widened, the pollution has blackened our clouds, the once blue sea turned rosy with the near extermination of fish and other sea life, giving rise to the proliferation of Pink algae, which gives it this color. Grancomp decides the whole present and future of Tryton, the Predas and the Ekos. There is no armed conflict, no use of violence. We are guided by paradigms and values. We are a very technically and mentally evolved people. We have learned in the past that it is not with war and violence that we decide our controversies and differences. Grancomp was triggered for another Paradigm Battle. In this battle, both parties record their arguments for analysis of the Grancomp, which accepts gold or green input, based on their judgment of the right paradigm. If the Predas present a fact or information or a more logical argument, in the analysis of the Grancomp, he lights a gold light. On the contrary, a green light. After the Battle of Values, the supercomputer gives its final decision of who won the battle, changes its values and paradigms, and authorizes actions of the winning party based on this change. The losing party is simply resigned and accepted. No armed wars or violence. What has happened in the last centuries is that the

Predas have achieved successive victories and the current values and paradigms of Grancomp are more focused on wealth, consumption, false welfare and lifestyle. It values wealth, represented by gold, over nature, represented by green. In this false and empty life, the Predas destroyed all green areas, in view of the possibility that gold and other metals might exist under the trees. Thus, the Ekos requested the Battle of Values so that the Grancomp can decide on the preservation of Tryton's last tree of life. You will be ours observer and mediator. May the light of the universe illuminate it! Like I said, my name is Qin and I liked you a lot!”.

With these words, Qin just looked at Arthur, with a slight smile on his lips in thanks. Smile without teeth, only apparent hard and tall, reddish gums on his green body.

*(You've read the word 'paradigm' a few times! Do you know what it means? Do you know? Congratulations! Don't you? So, what did you do? Did you look up the dictionary? Ask your parents, grandparents or your teacher? No? But you should have asked! But, come on - paradigm means model (to be followed), standard' (to be followed). Always try to search for what you don't know! That is one of the keys for culture and development).*

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*(Please, another question: Do you know what values are? Never mind! Here is the answer: The values and called human values are principles based on moral and ethical concepts. They define the form of relationship between people and, consequently, the relationship and functioning of a society. Thus, these values can be considered as the basis of human and social relationships, functioning as a set of norms that guide human interactions and decisions. Among the most important human values are respect among people, empathy, a sense of solidarity, warmth and education. Also, important values for good coexistence are the notion of justice, honesty and humility).*

Kot, the leader of the Predas, welcomed the Golden Tooth and made a similar explanation to Qin. And Golden Tooth soon understood his role - to do what he knew best: to show that exploring gold and gems was the most important thing to do for any planet!

The night was of terrible expectation and anxiety for Arthur. Golden tooth, by contrast, took the night to dig some holes near the Tree of Life, as if probing for gold and precious stones or not. While Arthur thought: "What if I fail?", Golden Tooth thought: "Tomorrow I will help the Predas tear down this tree and take the gold! I need to get back to my gold panning!".

Before the Battle of Values, Arthur and Golden Tooth were taken to meet supercomputer Grancomp. They were taken into a large valley, surrounded by Rocky Mountains with sparse vegetation, near the Tree of Life.

In the center of the valley, a giant computer, built to resemble a God, awaited visitors in an extremely solemn and respectful environment, reminiscent of a religious environment.

Thousands of small lights, of various colors, flickered on and off. In front of the Grancomp was a large open-air auditorium surrounded by galleries that served as the stage for the Battle of Values.

On the right side, a panel of golden lights was intended to mark the favorable votes for the Predas. On the left side, a panel of green lights was meant to mark the votes of the Ekos. Very close to the Grancomp, special seats on his left and right were intended for Arthur and the Golden Tooth.

In the center was a data entry terminal that, after being processed, would determine the gold or green signal. Arthur felt a great responsibility in imagining himself before Grancomp and would endeavor to obtain the vital green signals for the Ekos.

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And the big day has come. The long-awaited Battle of Values would begin. The large auditorium was occupied by a few remaining Ekos and Predas beings.

Arthur and the Golden Tooth were shown the 5 current Grancomp values and paradigms, which defined the fundamental values followed by the Predas and obeyed by the Ekos.

The important thing was to break the prevailing paradigms and values that ruled society in Tryton. And this had to be done before the final battle for the Tree of Life.

I. Happiness and social welfare are the highest goals and rights of all Tryton beings.

II. Happiness and social well-being are achieved through the highest technology and sources of pleasure.

III. The technology will come from exploiting Tryton's natural riches and a powerful education system.

IV. Social organization, politics, justice, the evolution of science and culture, income distribution, family control and all common affairs cannot be decided directly by the inhabitants concerned. Impartiality will be

guaranteed by Grancomp, whose decisions everyone will respect.

V. All the resources of nature, its flora and fauna are available to technology and must provide the riches necessary for the development of this technology.

The 5 major paradigms and values were the summary of judgments of the previous Battles of Values.

They were given time to study these paradigms and values and prepare their defenses and arguments in an attempt to reverse them.

Arthur and Golden Tooth went to the place where the Grancomp was installed and headed for the data entry terminal.

Arthur focused on the 5 major paradigms and values, analyzing what they actually contained and the false points, to present his arguments. In particular, he did not fully agree with any of them.

They all seemed selfish, cold and elaborate so as not to respect the limits and rights of others. However, he knew that Grancomp would only alter them with logical rather than emotional arguments.

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For a moment he thought that the Ekos should have invited his grandfather Mark!

The few Predas carried golden flags and the few Ekos carried green flags.

Community leaders stood with observers and mediators. Qin next to Arthur and Kot next to Golden Tooth. The data entry terminal operator, too, was already at his post.

The Grancomp, in a metallic voice, began the Battle of Values.

Everyone stood in the auditorium. Grancomp, in his metallic but gentle voice, made the opening:

“At the initiative of the Ekos, this day 128, month 19, year 18534, at 27 o'clock, we open the Battle of Values, aiming at preserving or not the Truitan Xurn, the last tree of life, and the confirmation of the 5 great paradigms and values that have been in place for many centuries of Tryton, its partial alteration or its total revision. Each input formulated by the Ekos representative will fit an input by the representatives of the Predas. After processing, confirmation will be given by the green or gold sign. And everyone should respect”.

The first input went to Arthur. He tried to keep in mind how his grandfather Mark would answer each question. This helped him to mentalize his arguments.

“Value I needs to be reformulated. The rights of the Ekos are not being respected as the Predas destroy the environment where everyone lives in search of what they call richness - gold, precious stones and other metals. They destroy their forests, their fauna and flora and make them unhappy and insecure. Nature is not being respected; its true wealth is not being considered. The fresh air it provides, the cool breeze from the woods and forests, the mild temperature, the birdsong, the purity of the water, the true life it offers to the Ekos, as it also offers to the Predas. The Predas destroyed all this true wealth in pursuit of false wealth. They never worried about the happiness and well-being of the Ekos. Ekos law and respect for nature must be considered by Grancomp!”.

Golden Tooth, representative of Predas gives his input:

“Ah! Do not listen to this child. Kids live in the fantasy world. All she said is pure bullshit! The wealth obtained from natural resources has brought benefits to everyone, including the Ekos. They have benefited for many centuries from Predas technology, infrastructure, hospitals and schools, while tending to their little plants

and little pets. We think Value I should not be changed”.

Grancomp lit a panel of red lights, signaling that he was processing Arthur and Golden Tooth data. The panel of red lights changed to mostly green lights, with small parts of golden lights. Within seconds, I defined the new Value I:

“Happiness and social well-being are the greatest goals of all Tryton beings, which must be achieved with respect for the rights of all and in harmony with nature, its flora, its fauna, its soil, its waters, its atmosphere”.

The small audience of the Ekos celebrated with Arthur, discreetly, as requested by the protocol.

Arthur continued:

“Value II needs to be reformulated to incorporate respect for nature, to be consistent with Value I. We will never achieve happiness and social welfare without respect for nature. The destruction of nature was the destruction of Tryton and everything and everyone living here”.

Golden Tooth showed no contradictory input.

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Grancomp lit the panel which quickly turned all green, declaring the new Value II:

“Happiness and social well-being are achieved through the highest technology, sources of pleasure and total respect for nature”.

Arthur presented his arguments against Value III:

“We agree that technology will come from a powerful education system. We do not agree to obtain it through the disorderly and suicidal exploitation of natural wealth. This richness were exhausted because they were not properly exploited. The air is already polluted, pure water is limited to a single source, few plant and animal species remain. How will we reverse this if it all ends? What will technology do? We ask the Golden Tooth if current technology can produce a hummingbird or a butterfly? Can you artificially produce pure water? The greed and ambition of the Predas led Tryton to near extinction!”.

Golden Tooth hastened to disagree:

“The Ekos are complaining now! Why did they wait so long to find this out? Technology has given us everything. We eradicate disease, produce artificial food, promote subliminal induction education, create

Grancomp, resolve violent conflict, impartial justice, social order. All our wealth is our technology. To make it possible we have to exploit our natural richness. Technology will find solutions in the future for water shortages, air pollution, and we can no doubt recreate the plants and animals we want”.

Grancomp once again showed the signs of information processing. Within seconds, he lit the panel, predominantly from golden lights, with part of green lights, which showed little change for Value III:

“The technology will be obtained through the sustainable, orderly and controlled exploitation of Tryton's natural wealth and a powerful education system”.

The Predas celebrated, but the Ekos rejoiced in the inclusion of the words 'sustainable form', 'orderly' and 'controlled'. This gave them an advantage in arguing against Value V.

Arthur hesitated to present his arguments against Value IV. In a way, it would be going against Grancomp himself. However, believing that he was experiencing a moment of technological democracy, he decided to risk:

“Value IV gives a powerful computer the authority to decide on issues that should be resolved by Predas and Ekos, through democratically chosen representatives and by secret ballot. This is what we call free elections. Nothing, technologically powerful as it may be, can replace the mind of a living beings. The Grancomp must be at the service of science and data processing, but never at the service of politics, justice and social organization. These must be decided by the inhabitants of Tryton”.

There was a great silence. The Predas and the Ekos fell silent. Grancomp gave no sign. Each one took his conscience examination and remembered the past. This model suggested by Arthur has been practiced in Tryton in the past and did not work.

They remembered that they were also victims of many representatives who only sought their personal interests. Many wars were fought, with great sacrifice of the population, for personal reasons and rulers of the time, always in search of wealth and power.

Schools and hospitals were for the rich, the poor were illiterate and died of many diseases. The rich dominated everything: politics, the economy, the productive lands. Wealth was badly divided; income distribution was flawed. Tryton's beings were treated with great

inequality. Poor children marginalized and prostituted themselves. The chains multiplied and the schools and hospitals decreased. Anyway, it was a time no one missed. The Grancomp was accumulating new values and gaining more power as Tryton's society became organized and impartiality predominated. Prosperity and peace returned. Violence was eliminated, population growth was more balanced. There are no more wars to resolve conflicts. The Grancomp with its powers ensures peace, technology, justice, social and political organization, culture, income distribution, population balance. It is a neutral and impartial force between the Predas and the Ekos, created through time and lived experience. Change would be risky.

Arthur had to admit that, at the moment, this could be the best solution for the harmonious coexistence between the Predas and the Ekos. After all, in the Battle of Values there would always be the possibility of one day turning to this subject.

Arthur's input was removed, and Value IV maintained.

And finally, Arthur presented his arguments for the reformulation of Value V, the last of the series:

“We cannot in any way release all the resources of nature, its flora and fauna to be available for exploitation

in a disorderly and uncontrolled manner on the basis of providing the richness necessary for the development of technology. We already have decisions of Grancomp who, in the reformulation of Value I, determined that harmony with nature, its flora, its fauna, its soil, its waters, its air should be inserted. Also, in the reformulation of Value II, it determined that respect for nature should be included. In the revision of Value III, it determined that the words 'sustainable form', 'ordered' and 'controlled' should be added. Thus, Value V has to be drastically changed to be consistent with previous decisions of Grancomp”.

The Grancomp reacted immediately to Arthur's considerations and inputs, and the totality of green lights on his panel confirmed the victory of the Ekos in the value that was bringing more misery, causing the destruction of the environment and the destruction of Tryton itself.

And the Value V has been reformulated as follows:

“Technology must obtain the richness necessary for its development in the resources of nature, but in perfect harmony with its flora, fauna, soil, waters and atmosphere respecting them as Tryton's greatest value and greatest wealth. The exploitation of natural



resources will be sustainable, orderly and controlled, with replacement and recycling of the resources used”.

The small Ekos audience could not contain themselves and left the traditional control and discretion to celebrate a true carnival, led by Arthur and Qin. They hugged and wept.

A large part of the mission had been accomplished. There was yet another major problem - the desire of the Predas to explore the last gold mine under the Tree of Life, which would have to be destroyed.

The Predas retreated from the Battle of Values silently. They knew they would have to change a number of habits to adapt to the new paradigms and values.

Arthur can't help but direct a message to Predas:

"I know very well how you are all feeling. It will not be easy for you to challenge yourself to change habits acquired from your ancestors and inherited from many generations. However, I am absolutely confident and in peace that this decision by Grancomp will mark a new era not only for the Ekos, but also for all Predas. You will discover true happiness, peace and health in the inexhaustible source of pleasure that nature will offer you. You will learn to live with less material need, but

instead you will find Tryton recovering his woods and forests, increasing wildlife, raising the level of pure water, and improving air purification. Your environment, over time, will tend to normalize. Temperatures will again be pleasant. The sand will eventually give way to a fertile land where vegetation will once again bring thousands of birds and flowers, making their lives better. The sea, receiving purer waters over the years, will reduce the number of pink algae and will acquire green and blue tones, and will again allow the pleasant and healthy baths, besides the proliferation of fish. The windows of your houses can be opened every day to receive the cool breeze of the wind, to shine in the sunlight, to rejoice in the singing of birds and to receive the scent of flowers. Your children will discover new forms of outdoor recreation, abandoning purely electronic fun and will be happier and healthier. Finally, a new era will begin for all the Predas, who will have, on this paradigms and values revision date, the date on which they will forever celebrate the resurrection of a true life. You will live in Tryton as it is still possible for us to live on our dear Earth”.

In a meeting, Arthur, Golden Tooth, Qin and Kot analyzed the issue of the last tree of life.

Two possibilities could be considered: an appeal to Grancomp or an appeal to Predas common sense.

The group split between these two possibilities. Arthur asked to try to appeal to the Predas, since if they agreed, no new battle would be established.

Finally, Arthur's point of view prevailed. A dialogue had to be established between the Ekos and the Predas so that together they could seek forms of consensus and harmony, not always having to lodge an appeal to Grancomp. In a meeting with the Predas, Arthur made a loud call for the conservation of the Tree of Life. The Predas fell silent and exchanged glances with one another. This silence remained for a long time.

Now they looked at Arthur, sometimes they looked at each other, sometimes they bowed their heads and thought. And so, they stayed for a long time. Accustomed to deciding everything through the Grancomp, they had to decide for themselves for the first time and that confused them a lot.

The Predas made a long silence, leaving everyone anxious and tense. Finally, they began to change their faces, to smile, to shout, to raise their arms, to hug. And this noise was growing and exciting the Predas. It seems that they were giving manifestation to feelings contained for centuries! And so, they stayed for a good few minutes.

Saying nothing, they retreated, embracing, smiling, shouting, crying, jumping, and disappearing. Arthur and Qin, with tears in their eyes, said:

“They agreed to the conservation of the Tree of Life and forgot about the gold mine!”.

Golden Tooth, trying to hide, could not keep a golden tear from the sun from falling from his eyes, thrilled. He was crying? Oh no!

On the way back to Earth, Qin and Arthur talked about the new planet Tryton, which would now begin to be reborn, where nature would finally have priority over the uncontrolled wealth of the ambitious and technocrats. Arthur promised to return one day, if this was possible, to visit Tryton and see this important new phase that he would experience.

With the love of Ekos for nature and the technology level of the Predas, they could try to save the planet Tryton. However, the 30 beings who still inhabited Tryton knew it would take thousands and thousands of years for a partial Tryton recovery. But they accepted this challenge!

When the spacecraft of the Ekos and the Predas approached the Earth, what most struck them about

were the natural beauties of our planet. For those coming from a totally destroyed planet like Tryton, the earth was a true paradise. They were enchanted by its blue and green seas, the extensive woods and forests, the high mountain ranges with their snow-capped peaks, the glaciers of the north and south poles, the great lakes, the long rivers, and even the mountains. natural desert regions.

Accepting Arthur's suggestion, the Ekos spacecraft would land in a nature park. After all, Arthur always wanted to know a bigger number of nature parks. There his parents and his grandfather Mark would be waiting for him. They had been warned of his arrival.

Already Golden Tooth preferred to go straight to its mining in the Amazon. And the Predas, equally, were enchanted with the beauties of this rich and great region.

The multicolored birds, lakes and rivers, the wild animals in sight, the unique green forest, left our space visitors impressed and thrilled. Everyone, with tears in their eyes, expressed about this richness that we still have on Earth and that had already existed in Tryton, which they could not enjoy.

Finally, the Ekos and Predas left back for Tryton.

In the Amazon, Golden Tooth came to its gold panning. His fellow prospectors awaited orders to cut down another important part of the forest, where it was said to have much gold and precious stones. But Golden Tooth thought, thought, and was slow to respond. After some time said:

“Folks! Let's go back. Leave the forest there as it is! Let's not knock anything down. From now on we will fish. We will all be fishermen”.

The gold prospectors thought Golden Tooth had gone crazy. But upon hearing his last statement, they believed he was serious:

“And one more thing. From now on I want to be called Shark Tooth. Did you all understand?”.

It had been many years since the mission. Arthur was already a grown man and had graduated Environmental Engineer, as promised to his grandfather Mark.

A feeling of longing struck him, and two tears fell from his eyes. In the sky, a distant point of light widened, catching Arthur's attention.

This point of light approached and took the form of a small comet with its tail the colors of the rainbow.

Arthur was startled to realize that the little comet was heading for his house. At one point, the little comet slowly fell into its garden and flashed with rainbow-colored lights. Arthur thought:

“What is this? It cannot be!”. But it all resembled the small capsule sent from Tryton with the note to his parents.

The lights went out and Arthur went to meet the artifact. Arthur took the capsule in his hands and then a three-dimensional projection showed a flower the color of the rainbow, rare and never seen before and without any similar on Earth.

Arthur drew very close to admire the flower and a message began to be issued from the capsule.

“Dear Arthur. This is Qin. Past this time, we are making great progress on our planet Tryton. The union of the Predas and the Ekos is going very well. The Predas are well aware of defending our interests and protecting what is left of Tryton's nature. Together we were able to reproduce 120 new trees of life in Tryton. Soon they will be producing all the wealth of life they are capable of. The animals are slowly increasing in number. In fact, the Ekos and Predas are increasing number. We have not used Grancomp for paradigms and values battles.

The supercomputer has helped us design and plan Tryton's partial recovery. It already has a first calculation of Tryton's years that will be needed to recover 50% of the planet's original condition. We will have 150,000 years of Tryton ahead to recover some of what was destroyed in Tryton. But we are working and developing our greatest effort in this regard. We laid the foundation for Tryton's recovery. The next generations will surely thank us. All this we owe to you. Thank you very much. This rare plant was developed by the Predas, believe me? And it is the first to be born in a field that was once one of our greatest deserts. Keep the capsule with you and when you miss it, look at the flower and remember us. We call this rare plant Arthur.

The End