

1. **WHY ARE THERE TWO VOLUMES?**
2. **CAN ONE PURCHASE EITHER OF THEM SEPARATELY?**

1. While I was outlining GALACTIC EXODUS the project was mushrooming into super-Wagnerian proportions. (Or, in context with *Apology & Proem* [to read it, [click on the second button from the top next to Counterdance cover thumbnail](#)], the telepathic mental download from the Antiquarian Psyconglomerate was overwhelming.) Just to test my own mettle, I began writing a few isolated chapters from near the beginning—concerning the demise of Earth and the struggle to preserve life and some memory, at least, of Pre-Contamination civilization. At once I realized, before I could commence seriously with such a forward looking work, I would need a great deal more background in science, in astrophysics and astronomy, in cosmology—and, well, in everything! Having had an abiding interest in philosophy and history, I delved rather deeply into that of science and mathematics. The more I read of the development of physics and the radical shift that took place from what is now called classical physics (but more accurately ought to be called something like Newtonian physics—or ‘mechanical’ physics) to modern (or ‘post-modern,’ whatever that might mean) or sub-atomic and quantum physics, the more it was pounded into me that we actually know less about the workings of the Universe and what constitutes reality than we thought—less than we thought Newton knew—less even that we thought Aristotle knew, and Archimedes and Pythagoras, all of whom have elicited many a chuckle from those who have investigated their ideas concerning physics, as well as their limited conceptions of the Universe. Oh sure, we know a great deal more, now, about how to make predictions concerning the elements: what works for flying airplanes, or for growing and preserving and distributing food, or building the skyscrapers that are the monuments of our culture and harnessing the forces of nature in bombs that will destroy them—but literally nothing about how these things can be. Why are stones hard (considering that we believe, atomically speaking, that they are mostly space); and why are they heavy (i.e., what is gravity?); and how is it that we can visually perceive them (e.g., how does light work, given the paradox of complementarity) and, ultimately: what is the Universe and where did it come from? So we have libraries of formulas and recipes and directions for making products and obtaining the expected results, but only guesses as to why these things work, and some cryptic mumbo-jumbo from the bio- and mind-sciences about how such organisms as we can exist, let alone think sufficiently deeply to frame such questions.

I present this futuristic confab, the POLYLOGUE WITH MYTHOKRATES, partly in the interest of dethroning Science, discrediting her godlike pretensions, and undermining her priesthood of sciencism that has captured the faith of modern literate civilizations. I want to help spread the notion that the latter-day messiah, ‘Physics,’ is dead (in the sense that chemistry is dead—and

other sub-sciences as well—meaning that they are closed; finished theoretically, not that they are useless or non-productive).

With the entry of physics into the crypt, it is fair to say (with John Horgan: *The End of Science*; Helix Books, 1996—though I was saying it myself long before I read that volume) that ‘Science is dead.’

To make that point, I began work on this conference of future scientists. Like everything I touch, it grew to enormous proportions. Intertwined with GALACTIC EXODUS, in that this video transcript is set within the larger framework of COUNTERDANCE OF THE CYBERGODS, it stretched that already extensive story to well over a thousand pages. I could only trim it sparingly (there is undoubtedly more that could be cut by a ruthless editor, but the writer himself has a difficult time deleting important portions of his own work, especially when *everything* seems so important). Even with optimization of the font & page sizes, the whole piece was just too voluminous to bind as one book. Although ‘Counterdance’ has its divisions and subdivisions, there is no proper semi-ending where the volume could be split approximately in half and sold as two books that might each have their own legs.

Practically in despair of ever seeing it in print, I was given the idea of separating only ‘Polylogue’ from the rest of ‘Counterdance.’ Though I have no illusions about it becoming wildly popular, it can stand on its own (though it is doubtful it will run very far), and might even be utilized effectively as a teaching tool in introducing the concept of cosmology or philosophy of science. It does have an unusual charm of its own. Its characters (due to the nature of the work and the fact it is now forced to stand by itself), may seem less developed than is to be expected of a novel. But then, **this is not a novel**, and they do exhibit distinct personalities through the presentation of their conflicting notions—and there is an element of drama as well as comedy in the sparring between disciplines and the attacks on poor old Mythokrates and his unwelcome ideas (disparagement from which he rises brilliantly and forcefully, despite his 700 years). While those who already have some grounding in one or another of the academic sciences may find it entertaining, it is unlikely ever to be encountered in supermarkets or to become the basis of a mini-series on TV, and I do not expect to be selling the movie rights so I can retire. In fact, I would be pleased to give this book away to each purchaser of ‘Counterdance,’ if only I could. But the publisher needs compensation. So, the best I can do is to offer it at no profit to myself when purchased along with its parent volume.

2. Should someone be interested only in ‘Counterdance’ and wish to purchase that volume, **each book is offered separately** ([click above either book’s cover thumbnail](#)). In ‘Counterdance,’ the place of ‘Polylogue’ (which is still Tableau [chapter] IX in ‘Counterdance’), has been taken by a synopsis of that document sufficient to the continuity of the ‘Counterdance’ story, including some excerpts directly from ‘Polylogue.’ Also I have included most of the introductory material from ‘Counterdance’ in the now severed chapter

in order to explain the situation of the Exodus and the context of the polylogue, in case some few readers may wish to purchase only ‘Polylogue’—or should someone in the future come across this book without foreknowledge of its parent.

I hope I have not sold POLYLOGUE WITH MYTHOKRATES short in the above explanation. Special people will find it highly interesting and enjoyable. It is certainly unique. It may not work for everybody—but then, you are here visiting my website to check out a concept as farfetched as GALACTIC EXODUS, so surely you are not just anybody. I therefore heartily recommend ‘Polylogue’ to you, and even risk inviting your comments.

Thanks for your interest in my work.

—MS