

When Day Breaks

Aren't summers the greatest?
All of humanity celebrates the warm, dreamy days
once the sun rises over the horizon.
What should we do today?
Wanna head to the beach and swim in the waves?
We could look for sand dollars and sea glass,
visit the boardwalk and check out all the shops.
After all, the weather's perfect!

What would you like to do next?
How about a picnic back at the house?
We could go to the local market
and buy fresh meat, cheese, eggs,
pasta noodles, spices— so many choices!
After that, let's stop by the bakery
and buy some sweet bread and pastries.
Doesn't that sound delicious?

What then? Shall we tend to our garden?
Our flowers look so pretty in the sunlight.
Hear the birds? See the bees and butterflies?
All our strawberries, blueberries,
raspberries, blackberries, tomatoes,
peppers, cucumbers, and herbs
are ripe for the picking.
We could make lemonade too!

While we eat, what should we do?
How about we look at the clouds?
I've always loved watching them.
Such a beautiful, clear blue sky...
Could you imagine it in any other color?
You know, that reminds me of a story;
one about angels and blueberries.
Maybe after lunch, we could read
together. I have lots of old books.

Aren't summers the greatest?
All of humanity revels in the calm, cool nights
after the sun sets in the evening.
What should we do tonight?
S'mores sound great right now, don't you think?

We could set up a bonfire and roast marshmallows.
Maybe we could catch some fireflies too.
Wow, the stars sure are bright...
How long have we been out here?

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

APOLLYON WARNING

This warning is effective immediately and will continue into the foreseeable future. What happens when day... breaks? **Updates will be given at the top of every hour.** When forests burn and flowers wilt, **The following instructions are vital to your safety.** when oceans evaporate into the scarlet sky, **At this time, The Foundation asks citizens to stay indoors and block out all natural lighting.** when fruit withers and meat rots, **Due to a fatal meteorological event of unknown origin,** when human flesh melts like candle wax, **an estimated [REDACTED] billion casualties have taken place within the first thirty minutes of activation.** reduced to subhuman amalgams?

Stay away from all visual light (390 to 700 nm) emitted by the sun. When day breaks, the blood of billions blots out the light **Citizens attempting to travel outdoors must fully cover their bodies in protective clothing; preferably several layers.** and a red sun rises-- a crimson dawn. **Secure and close all entrances and windows to a shelter.** Don't you see? Hell on Earth has come! **Do not look outside. All unusual noises and persons outside should not be investigated.** Embrace the darkness and fear the light. **Refuse all requests from persons trying to come inside, no matter how human they may seem.** Abandon the affected, no matter who they are. **Euthanization is not to be attempted.**

Hey. Are you still there?
It's okay. Nothing's wrong!
We're free and everything is beautiful.

Come on out and see the sun.