THE UNIFIER

RICHARD SHEHARI

The Unifier By Richard Shekari

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Acknowledgments.

Ayiwulu Alaku Peter Barwa

Dedication.

Children of Tomorrow.

Chapter One: The Master.

The war torn world could not withstand the economic upheaval that had befallen it. Another religious faction or thought would surely bring everything to a final end. The world leaders needed to find a solution. A world summit was called and every ruler from president to king was urged to attend.

Arguments arose but each man knew that the only solution was a one world government.

A new world order was formed, and one of its critical task was the abolishment of worship of all entities that cannot be comprehended by the five senses of man. All gods, deities, masters and idols adored by man that could not be seen, heard, smelled, tasted and or felt, the knowledge of their existence must be totally wiped out from the minds and hearts of all men. For it was established and proven with facts, according to the understanding of men that these entities and gods or God which no man had had a sensible evident contact with, were the causes of all man's uncontrolled passion for a world beyond this world. Which many believed, was the root of all the lost humanity had suffered through the crisis, battles and wars that almost ruined mankind and the world at large.

Therefore, all books, scrolls, text, audio and video records, and materials that promoted or propagated the old religions were not only banned but confiscated and destroyed. The men and women who refused to turn away from the old ways were either imprisoned or killed.

It took many years to achieve, but it was accomplished anyway. It was the only absolute solution the government of the day could possible think of. And it worked; peace had come to the world, and all the nations prospered and none a poor person was found among all the inhabitants of the earth, at least those whose beliefs were rooted in the new way of things.

The government of the day, known as The Unifier, headed by the wealthiest of all men; a man whose riches no king or kingdom had ever seen nor acquired, this man, known by all as, The Master, has

achieved what no man thought was possible. This great man's dreams and ideas changed the world.

In order to satisfy the inner desires of man that craved for something greater than he to look up to, a one-eyed giant and magnificent golden statue of The Master that stood 6, 660 feet high was erected in the new capital of the world. Its eye, made from the rarest precious stones excavated from another planet, gazed at the rising sun. With its left foot on land and right foot immersed in the sea, this statue smiled with open arms facing the sea.

Sculptures, posters, and paintings of this great man, The Master, were mass-produced and distributed worldwide to be used in worship places and temples in all the earth.

In order to debar the dangers posed by the secret practitioners of the former religions which was known as the old ways, that brought disunity among men and all the nations at large; the government of the day through REL-POL, an agency created and given all the authority to deal with or bring to justice any individual, group, state or nation that refused to practice the new way, most find one man whom they believed was an imminent threat to the future of the world. On the third annual festival, in a year not far from the present day, the leader of all the peoples; His majesty, Ethnocal Jessy Thuck, also known as The Master, gave a speech to all the nations. It was streamed live and broadcasted in all the radio and TV stations. "Fellow citizens of the world, we have come a long way. In love and great respect for one another. I honour you all as I usher you yet into another year of a new dawn. A new dawn of peace, love and joy. A new dawn of prosperity, progress and unity. I know, many a life we have lost in order to come to this greatness, but I assure you, none of the efforts of these precious souls shall go in vain. Together, we have created not only a new world, but a better and peaceful tomorrow for our children, and our children's children. This temple shall stand as a reminder to us all, of the great men and women who have put in their best to make this day possible, and also to the beautiful souls lost in the battles fought to arrive at where we are today. We shall continue to celebrate the lives of these great men and women who have worked hard for this, and also those who are willing to help us maintain and

improve our current standards. We shall consecrate this place and also a part of our heart to our founders and all those whose lives laid as the foundation of this great temple. As you all know, I, Ethnocal J.

Thuck, your ever loving and concerned leader..."

The people began to cheer, some released doves and balloons into the air.

"Thank you! Thank you...Thank you very much." He said, "As you all know, I, Ethnocal J. Thuck, your ever loving and concerned leader, has one and only one thing in mind; bestowment of peace and prosperity in our time throughout the world. All nations under me shall surely flourish, it's no brag but you've all seen it. Can I get a witness, please?"

The people cheered one more time.

"All nations under my umbrella shall surely enjoy and rejoice in a better tomorrow than the best of today." He added, "So I urge each and every one of you to join me and let's diligently and desperately thirst for peace."

He turned and looked at his beautiful wife, who was standing behind him. He heaved a heavy sigh of relief and smiled, she smiled back at him.

"For those who believed that the streets in heaven are made of gold," he added as he turned to the microphone. "I wish they'd see what we have accomplished right here, right now! We don't need a heaven painted in the clouds by men who thought the earth was flat. We have created our own paradise down here on earth and now; peace knows us by name! All that belongs to me I give to you all, all which is within my reach in this word and our galaxy I share with you all. But this woman, Mariah, you must leave for me!"

The entire people cheered and whistled.

"For she stood by me from the start, and so must be acknowledged and appreciated." He said, "Thank you for trusting me with this great task. Thank you for your encouragement. Put your trust in the new and only way! Peace in our time!" He threw a peace sign into the air. "Peace in our time!" The people said in unison as they continued to cheer.

Mariah walked to him and hugged him. Two men approached the couple and led them to the inner part of the temple which was between the feet of the golden statue. The temple was blanketed by the shadow cast upon it by the mighty statue, made from The Master's image.

A lamb was brought forth and laid on a golden altar, The Master picked a golden knife and slayed the little lamb. A sacrifice was made, its blood ran down and touched the ground. The Master was offered the blood of the lamb in a golden cup, after drinking it he gave a sign for the six day of feast to begun and to be observed. The footage broadcasted around the world in all the channels brought cheer and joy in the hearts of all the people. During the festival, people who had come to witness the ceremony came from all nations; scattered in the sea on boats, ships and canoes, and also on land. There was celebration both on land and on the sea. A large portion of the land was carved for the temple, ornamented for the festival with exotic trees, plants and flowers. A tremendous wonder of the world, the garden stood and blossomed. The surroundings gleamed in awe and beauty. The walls that surrounded the temple reflected the wealth of the new world; coated in gold, with a large piece of gem placed on top of each pillar that held the seven gates. These golden gates were placed to denote the seven continents of the world and its walkways were made of gold. After the sacrifice was made, The Master and his wife made their way out of the temple. Representatives from all the nations and bodyguards walked alongside The Master and his wife. Before getting into his white limousine, he turned to one of the men and said, "Have they found him?"

"Not yet, your majesty." The man replied, "I was on the phone with the chief of Rel-Pol, just minutes before you gave your beautiful speech and he said, 'In three weeks,' and that if he does ..." "Three weeks?" The Master yelled, "Is this some kind of a joke? If I had waited for three weeks when asked to choose between how we live in lavish today and how things were and could've been, do you think any of you would relish and basked in the glory I've provided?" He stared at them with his right eye. "When those fools came for my

life years back, I might have lost an organ of sight but don't take me for a jester," he paused. "Know that I see all!" Some of the representative cringed.

"I don't want his resignation on my table if he fails, I want his head on a platter!" He yelled, "Get the message across to the chief. With all the modern technology in our possession, how long does it take to locate one man? One man!"

"Your majesty," said Jeremy, "The chief has been..."

"You said my speech was beautiful?" The Master interjected in a calm voice, "Do you mean that?"

"Yes, your majesty!" Jeremy replied, a bit puzzled, "Your popularity has gone up more than double, according to the PWG!"

"The People's Word Gazette?" He asked as he smiled, "Let me see." Jeremy pulled out a device, browsed to a page and showed it to him. "Mmm!" He responded, "I want more. I want more. Maybe next time I'll write the speech myself, she did a good job though. I've got to give her that, but next time, I'll write it myself. You understand? These things have to come from the heart." He tapped his chest with his right hand.

"But your majesty, she took note of what you've wanted to convey." Jeremy added, "And I think she did a great job, and with the way you presented it to the people it was magnificent, some people were in tears, your majesty. Unless if we'd hire another speechwriter and fire her, like that young professor from the institute of..."

"Are you saying I cannot write a greater speech than the one I recited today?" He said.

The representatives and all the bodyguards went mute.

"I may not have gone to the best schools." He added, "But look at what I've accomplished; not only did I bring prosperity to the entire world, I brought peace! Peace!" He paused, "Do you know the price of peace, Jeremy? Does any of you thickoes have any idea what it cost to usher this world into this epoch?"

They all remained silent.

"I thought so!" He remarked.

"Honey, why don't you get in the vehicle?" Mariah said, "You'll need to have a little rest before the investiture!"

"If I want," he said, "I can decide to withdraw all that belongs to me at this point in time, and there's nothing you can do about it! And none of you will have a place to hide when the mottles come crashing down!"

"Baby?" She called again, "I want my man in the car, right now!"
"Give me a minute, darling!" He responded in a calm tone. "When
this ceremony is over. Go back to your nations and sieve out this man,
Palm Carlos, or whatever name he goes by these days. And if you
don't, not only is the Chief of Rel-Pol going down, I'll make sure
you're all replaced or imprisoned along with the enemies of our one
and beautiful world. When the sweet juicy-fruits of my own labour
stopped flushing down your gut, and you lose all those shiny attires
and beautiful mansions I've offered to you for free, then you might
show me some respect out of fear, and maybe then, you might want to
help me fetch out this traitor and threat to peace!"

He entered the limousine and sat next to his wife, Mariah.

The representatives of all the nations entered their own vehicles, in a convoy, they escorted The Master to his mansion.

"What have I not given them?" He lamented, "I have made men of all races love one another, I brought peace. I got rid of that eyesore of a disease they call religion; an invincible barrier that separated them and made them hate each other. They feed on the peace I have solely provided. I even made men from other nations govern other nations in perfect peace, who is like me? And the world economy has gone up far more greater than anticipated. I united all the nations and equally share the resources for the benefit of all. The people are healthier now. Not even God could do a quarter of what I've done so far, Mariah."

"Don't let their incompetence splatter anger on the big ocean of your beautiful heart, my darling!" She said in a soft voice as she smiled, "You have achieved far greater than all the kings of the earth. Maybe we need to be a little patient with them, that's all. To err is human, they say. Man's five senses form the walls of the prison that holds him; if he cannot see it, hear it, smell it, taste it or feel it, then he won't believe it exists. And that has been given to them through you, my love. They have no choice but to love and obey you."

The Master's heart was pleased, and he smiled back.

"But they don't appreciate my effort." He said, "They never did."
"They will, my love!" She gazed into his eyes, her big green eyes blazed like a thousand gemstones. She wrapped her right hand behind his neck and gently pulled him to herself, then kissed him. "Don't get irate over their incompetence. The idea of the creation of man itself was the only flaw in the days of creation, but you're the perfect one. The world is yours now, always remember that, my darling."
The tone of her voice sweetened his heart, his eyes were shut. She gently ran her fingers through his hair.

"The world is already yours, there's none an attainment as great as this." She added.

He laid his head on her lap.

"What can I do without you, Mariah?" He said as he heaved a heavy sigh.

She bent and kissed him.

Chapter Two: Dead or Alive.

In a cave up the mountains, Palm, watched on a tab an interview on a television station that featured the two assassins who made an attempt on The Master's life years back.

"I learned that today is your birthday, which also happens to be the day chosen to observe the annual festival throughout the world, which is meant to celebrate the peace we all savour in all the nations?" Said the TV host, she smiled, "Tell me, how does it feels like to be forgiven by the very most powerful man you've tried to kill? One who has the authority to have your life snapped out of you in a second?"

"Well, you're right, Margie!" One among the young men said, "My brother and I were blinded by well, this whole idea injected into our heads about a coming saviour that will fall from the sky; whom they said would come down and take us all into heaven, you know; lies propagated by those who perverted the truth for thousands of years. So we thought it was our duty to kill The Supreme One, whom we thought was a tool in the hands of the devil. We took it upon ourselves to take him out, but when we failed and were captured, we couldn't believe our ears when The Master ordered that we be set free! Little did humanity know that we need not look into the skies for a helper but down here on earth?"

"I know, right?" Said the host. She giggled, "I love the way you put it. If only those that are still blind and in hiding could hear what you just said!"

"Yeah!" He responded, "I mean, my brother and I could not even comprehend such mercy exercised upon us by The Master, a man we just attempted to kill. The world is blessed to have this great leader. We are beings of high and great intelligence; we have explored and have travelled worlds and planets beyond our realm, time travel, you name it...and none a God or gods were sighted. Not only has science proven so but it exposed the mythos that caged man's way of thinking which in the long run limits and affects man's way of life. This is a new age, a new era of noesis that will thrust mankind into what was

thought to be impossible or only attained by gods or God, or whatever the practitioners of the old ways believed in."

"I read from page 17 of your new book, the Light within the Tunnel, where you said and I quote, 'Man is God, for God is man!' can you shed more light on that?" Said the host.

"The truth is, man has been looking up to and for some super being whom he thought lived in the skies, you know, seated on a throne made of gold and all that," he said as he giggled, "but man of the old ways have failed to understand that he was actually looking for himself, and because he sought himself he never found himself. It takes the spirit of the new man to see that which the old sought for. It's like a dog chasing its own tail, you know, no matter how many times it goes round and round, it can never catch up."

The spectators laughed and applauded.

"Anyways, I don't want to say much," he added, "Wouldn't want to spoil the fun for the truth seekers. Just get a copy of our book, The Light within the Tunnel, it's more than an eye opener."

"I know, right?" She said, "What about you, Larry?" The host turned to the other young man, "What do you have to say about this?" "Well, just like what Harry said; little did humanity know that we need not look into the skies for a helper but down here on earth," he cleared his throat, "I urge all the people in all the nations to show support to our great leader, The Master, who has ushered in peace and prosperity never experienced by the inhabitants of the earth. None a

man we have seen that made so much sacrifice to us all like this man, our supreme leader, The Master."

"Hmm! A small but heavy statement there, you're not much of a talker, are you?" The host said. She then turned and faced the camera, "Anyway, you've just heard from the twin brothers; Larry and Harry Norchell, whom, years ago made an attempt to assassinate our great supreme leader, The Master, Ethnocal Jessy Thuck. However, his mercy made a believer of world peace out of them. Now they travel throughout the nations to preach, educate and orient converts on the new way of things. You can buy their debut novel, The Light within the Tunnel, at bookshops near you or just order online. We've come

to the end of our show for today, I am your host, Margie Cantell, for UNG; the Unifier News Guardian. Peace in our time!"

The TV station switched to commercial. Palm Carlos switched off the tab, then plugged it to a small solar device kept at the edge of the cave.

"Would you need some water to shower, Palm?" A lady said to him. "No, Tamara, I am okay!" He said.

"It's been two days now, Palm," she added. "Just because we sleep in a cage don't mean we should live like cage dwellers!"

"But that is what we are, Tamara!" He said as he turned, "Cage dwellers, for now!"

Palm took a few steps and stood at the edge of the cave, overlooking the vales. The mighty statue on the shores of the world's capital could be sighted from the mountains. The golden image of The Master stood still in its aura. Helicopters hovered around it as fireworks took the skies hostage, many ships and boats could be sighted with multitude of crowd celebrating in the city.

"If only they knew!" Palm said.

"Maybe you shouldn't worry much about those who chose not to be saved." Tamara said as she walked to him.

"I wish it is that easy!" He said, "He has placed a weight upon my heart; to never find peace until His people are set free from this thrall!"

"I've known you for years, Palm." She added, "When we first met in high school, I told you from the start that your compassion would plunge you into a gulf you won't be able to be rescued from. Now, look at what have become of us; we can't even live a normal life. You're being hunted like an animal. You've lost your dignity in the eyes of friends and relatives; wasting your time and energy trying to what...set them free? When the people are happy with their current situation?"

"You'll not understand, Tam." he said. "And I don't expect you to." "Trust me, Palm." She added, "I do understand, and I also know that He has not answered any of your prayers ever since this whole mess started. I'm your wife, I know you deeper than you think. Maybe God wanted you to invest your time in us, for now, than trying to rid the

world of what you believe has consumed or blinded it." She paused, "We should try and be happy, baby. Enjoy the moment." She sighed, "Even though our two boys were taken along with all the children of the world when that horrible sound shook the earth..." She wrapped her arms round him from behind, "When He's ready and willing to use you, He would come down or visit you...in your dreams as He used to, to give you His instructions, maybe."

"He's not coming back," Palm said. "Not down to this world, for now. All the children are safe with Him. Nothing delights His heart when He looks down here anymore." He sighed, "At least, that's what I think."

Palm turned and held her firm in his arms then kissed her.

"I know there's a prophesy upon you to bring an end to the reign of this thing the world believes it needs but look around and about, baby; these people are happy!" Tamara added, "You saw it over the news and even from here you can see and hear the sound of their jubilation! If I was Him, I'd let them all rot. I mean, if someone says they don't want you even though you know after you walk away they'd suffer more than they had ever imagined, you walk the hell away and care less when they cry out for help!"

"You always forget that there are so many others in hiding just like us, who have refused to bow to this graven image, Tam." Palm said, "It is our duty to let the light shine in the darkest phase the world faces. It won't be easy but...it is our duty as children of God to let His will be done, here on earth!"

Tamara sighed.

The refreshing breeze whistled through the cave's lips, they stood silent in each other's arms to its anthem.

"I miss the taste of the good old wine, the smell of our home." She said, "The laundry. Ooh...my beautiful blue dress. Baby, you remember that one you got me from Europe?"

"Of course I remember," he replied. "When I sent you the picture you just couldn't wait for me to come home. I was a bit jealous! How can I ever forget?"

"It's only a dress, baby?" Tamara said, "Come on!"

"Don't come-on me, honey!" He said, "I was away for about a month and you wanted to get your hands on that dress more than you wanted to get your hands on me!" He giggled.

"Get out of here!" Tamara responded as she gently sank her teeth on his chest, "Grrrr!"

"I miss the boys!" He said.

"I really missed them too!" She remarked, "They all had your great smile."

"They had your face!" He countered.

"Well, they had your eyes!" She protested, "They had your body and your voice?"

"Yeah, right. And how's my voice like?" He asked as he gazed into her eyes.

"Like a Puma growling in the dark," she said, "Trying to whisper my name! Your voice made me fall for you the more back in high school!" She smiled.

"I should've known..." Palm added, "Imagine how many girls I could've toyed with!"

"Mmm hmm?" She responded, "Imagine how many would've been annihilated by my stare!" She stared into his eyes, "Grrrr! Tigress!"

"Your stare can only trap a man's heart," he said as he lifted her in his arms, "Not scary at all!" He kissed her.

"I love you!" Tamara said as she kissed him back.

"I love you too!" Palm responded, "You've gained too much weight, honey." He teased, "Don't you think we should do something about it?"

"Shut up!" She replied.

They both laughed as he took her deep into the cave.

They made love and later chatted a bit. Tamara couldn't stop talking about their two children. Palm didn't want to say much about it but he had to engage in the conversation. When she realised he wasn't comfortable with it, she left him and headed to the edge of the cave. Palm ignored her and decided to take a rest. He closed his eyes and sailed through the oceans of his thoughts, then her voice shook him off.

"Palm!" She cried out.

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