

## Old Testament - Book One

*IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE BIRD, and the Bird was alone, and sate in solitary splendor amidst the Void. And the Bird looked into the dark emptiness and was not pleased, for the only thing more boring than sating in a Void is Civil Engineering, which had not yet been invented. And the Bird rent its displeasure upon the Void, and chastised it and called it dickhead; but the Void cleaved him to him and would not go away, since as yet there was nowhere to go and even if there was he didn't have bus fare. Thus the Bird remained, sated and cleaved, until its rent was raised and, giving voice to its frustration and spake unto the Void. saying, "What a bummer."*

*AND so it was. And the Void retreated at the Sound of the Bird, and withdrew to the Midwest; and in its place the Universe was revealed. And the Bird, to prevent the Void from returning, filling the Universe with Stupidity; for it is truthfully said that in the Universe Stupidity is nearly impossible to a Void.*

*BUT the Bird was not satisfied, for the Universe was empty except for Stupidity and humans, which had arrive at the same time to give Stupidity a means of getting around; so it created the the beasts of the land and the fish of the sea. Tuna and salmon and cod created he them, and the great Halibut and Trout; and he created the Shark to instill the fear of God into the others, And he filled the skies with winged birds and beneath the ground he placed a multitude of icky bugs, but still the Bird was not satisfied, for though the Universe was full there was no direction, no purpose; all of creation merely wandered about, often bumping against one another or trodding upon feet which were not their own.*

*THUS did the Bird ponder and deliberate for a very long but timeless period, seeking at once a Purpose for its creation and itself; for the Bird preferred to be a participant rather that a spectator but had a touch of rheumatism. And at last the*

*Bird reached the end of his pondering, though he had to bend way over; and looking out across the Universe, he spake, and commanded, "Let There Be Badminton!"*

*AND there was Badminton. And there was in addition all of those things necessary to Badminton: racquets and beer and courts and string to line the courts and civil engineers to measure and cut the string to line the courts. And the Bird looked upon it and saw that it was good; and the days of Badminton were long in the land.*