



## THE END OF A CIVILIZATION

Adapted from a Catalan composition

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by Alfred Carol

I had always thought that an old civilization like Atlantis could have existed thousands and thousands years ago.

The events I am going to explain happened when I was in Istanbul carrying out an investigation of old Greek languages. They may reinforce the belief of the existence of Atlantis among skeptical readers.

I was this day in an open-air carriage, heading for the Topkapi Sarayi where my research was presently taking

place. As we arrived within sight of St. Sophie Camii, my attention was drawn to a mob moving in a very tumultuous way at my right, beside the Sultan Ahmed Camii. Ahead of the confused crowd, a man was running as a drunken devil towards my carriage, which he reached with an ultimate effort of his will. His face was dead white as he put a parcel wrapped in black paper into the carriage; then he slipped slowly down to the ground. There he died quickly, whispering only one word: "ATLANTIS".

A big knife was stabbed in his back. There was nothing I could do for him but to take the parcel he died for.

Once in the hotel I unwrapped the parcel with nervous fingers. It contained an old manuscript written in what I recognized as Proto-Classic-Greek. This early Greek language is a very difficult writing to decipher; further-more, the manuscript was so badly damaged - as if it had been drown in sea water for quite a while- that whole paragraphs were unintelligible and had to be reconstructed guessing from the general context.

It took me two full years to come out with a consistent version of the manuscript, which I am glad to display to you:

"One day in the old world of Atlantis a scientist -who's name was ANTON- worked on a new experiment in his sophisticated laboratory. Suddenly he jumped up exclaiming: -God dam it! I have discovered a new unit of matter smaller than anything so far discovered. I will call it an ATOM and it will be defined as the smallest unit of matter-. This discovery will cover me of glory for ever-he thought.

ANTON asked for an immediate meeting of Scientist in order to announce his revolutionary discovery. He rode his ultrasonic motor-bike -for the Scientist Meeting Hall was 10.000 km away from his laboratory- and went hurriedly into the place. When he entered the Hall, however, all the Scientist of Atlantis were already there anxiously expecting his news. He thought they would be glad, but as he went on with the explanation the Assembly got increasingly angry; the postulates underlying the new discovery were too revolutionary and they could make the official Science to blow-up -they thought-; they finally feared that the very foundations of their Society would be destroyed if the new theories were accepted. So Anton was stopped before the end of the speech and summoned to give-up his theories about matter, otherwise he would be killed.

Back again in his laboratory, Anton felt bitterly deceived but not defeated. He endeavored to overcome a great challenge. Thus he worked for two years in the practical aspects of his discovery; At the end -when everybody had forgotten about him- he came up with an LSAD (Large Scale Atomic Desintegrator). He installed the device in his aircraft and took off on a sunny morning, flying up until he reached the very center of Atlantis.

There he released the Atomic rays at full power all over the continent. First of all the towns were pulverized, woods and fields burned in a sudden consuming flash; afterwards the waste lands themselves sunk into the waters amid an enormous whirl-pool. Little by little a new ocean appeared in the place of Atlantis.

Once the destruction of his old continent achieved, Anton fled over the waters until he found another land, and there -close to the border- he sank the flying machine with the terrific weapon (in the sea, full phatom five it lays, and probably its shape is covered of coral, and even pearls may grow into the cabin). Then he hid himself into a cave and went to sleep by drinking a beverage that would keep him from awakening for many centuries.

He woke up in the early Greek era, when the Mycenes civilization was flourishing, and he wrote a legend about a superadvanced world that he called "ATLANTIS".

The document ended with these enigmatic verses that seemed added to the original in more recent times:

"Through the dark cold and empty desolation,  
the wave cry, the wind cry, the vast waters  
of the petrel and the porpoise. In my end is my  
beginning".

Sarrià, 8 de desembre del 1985