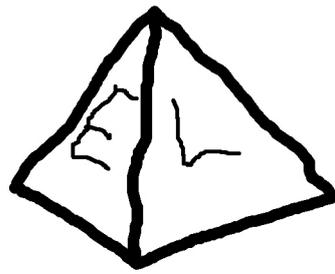


Elo
and the
pyramid



A FABLE

BY

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There was once a man, well I say a man, but to tell the truth he didn't know who he was, or even if he was a *he* or a *she* at all. So let's just call him Eeee.

Now, the only thing that Eeee was sure about was that Eeee was moving... constantly moving.

One day, Eeee came across a pyramid. There it was, right there, looking dusty and dirty. So, Eeee picked it up and dusted it off, immediately feeling much better - which was a strange feeling for Eeee because, up until that moment, Eeee was not aware of *feeling* anything before at all!

Looking closely at the pyramid, Eeee found that it had some marks on its sides. Eeee gave it a rub and there, on the three sides, were the letters, E, L and O.

E, L, and O, thought Eeee, I wonder what that means?

Now, this also was strange thing, because up until that point Eeee couldn't ever recall *thinking* anything before either!

Nevertheless, moving further on, Eeee suddenly had a good idea. *I know, I'll use these three letters to give myself a proper name. I shall call myself Elo.*

So, the newly named Elo moved on, and on, and on again, still feeling wonderful with the newly found Pyramid. Then, one day, he came across a man with a beard.

Recognising Elo, the man introduced himself and then said; "May I ask what you have there?"

Elo passed him the pyramid and, as soon as he took it in his grasp, he immediately began to feel better.

"Wow," said the man with the beard, "I feel great with this."

Really? thought Elo, *Well in that case he should have it,* and he let the bearded man keep it.

"What a wonderful present," said the bearded man gratefully, and proceeded to put it into his pocket.

As he dropped it into his pocket he heard a *clunk!*

"What was that?" he said, delving down and bringing out *two* pyramids.

"Wow, look at that, I've got two!" he exclaimed "Here, have one back," and he passed Elo back his pyramid.

The bearded man then said he was going to see what happens when he gives his pyramid to someone else and, saying his goodbyes, went tottering off.

Elo, thinking that was a great idea, happily moved on, and on, and on.

Then, one day Elo came across a nurse. She was very sad because some of her patients were feeling rather ill. As she recognised Elo she said; “May I ask what you have there?”

Elo passed her the pyramid and as soon as the nurse had it in her hands, she immediately began to feel better.

“Wow,” said the nurse, “I feel great with this.”

Really? Well in that case she should have it, thought Elo, and gave the nurse the pyramid.

“What a wonderful present,” she said, and proceeded to put it into her pocket.

As she dropped it into her pocket she heard a *clunk!*

“What was that?” she said, delving down and bringing out *two* pyramids.

“Wow, look at that, I’ve got two!” she exclaimed “Here, have one back.” And she passed Elo back his pyramid. “I wonder if this will work on my patients,” she said, rushing off into the hospital with excitement.

Elo, thought that was a great idea too and, feeling even more happy having been given back his Pyramid, moved happily on, and on, and on.

Then, one day, Elo came across a scientist. On seeing the Pyramid, the scientist was inquisitive. “May I ask what you have there?” he asked. So Elo explained what had happened with the bearded man and the nurse.

“That’s impossible,” he said. “There is nothing I know of that works like that! Let me explain something about science to you,” he continued. “Giving something to someone else leaves you with nothing. Things don’t miraculously double when you share them. It’s just not physically possible!”

Elo, deciding not to argue with him, gave the scientist his Pyramid. The scientist took it and, immediately feeling much better, placed it into his pocket.

Sure enough, as it landed in his pocket he heard a *clunk!*

The scientist delved down and brought out *two* pyramids.

“That’s astounding,” he said. “In all my years, I’ve never experienced anything as amazing as that.”

Feeling doubly happy, he gave one of the Pyramids back to Elo.

“Here, take this. I feel so good with this one; I must try this out with all the other scientists I know. Truly amazing!” he added, waving joyfully to Elo as Elo moved happily on, and on, and on.

Then, one day, Elo happened across the bearded man again.

“Elo, Elo,” the bearded man exclaimed, “the most wonderful news!”

Elo stopped to listen to what the bearded man had to say.

“Elo, as I said I would, I gave my Pyramid to everyone I met and *all* of them gave it back to me. Not only that, but each time I received it back, I felt better and better!”

Seeing the joy on the bearded man’s face made Elo feel even more wonderful.

“But there’s something else...” the Bearded man continued.

Inquisitive, Elo watched closely as the bearded man held out his hand. Taking Elo’s Pyramid from him, he turned it over so that the bottom of the Pyramid was facing upwards.

“Look, Elo, look!”

Elo watched with interest as the bearded man scratched the dirt off the bottom of the Pyramid - something Elo didn’t think to do himself - and slowly revealed a letter ‘V’.

The bearded man then tottered off happily to share his Pyramid with everyone he met, leaving Elo in thought.

So, my real name isn’t Elo at all, he realised, shuffling around the letters to find the best combination for his new name.

It came to him in a flash. My name’s not Elo at all, it’s L-O-V-E... Love!