**The Abyss of Natural Narcissism and Its Attendant Mandatories**

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Human perception, cognition, and experience belong to the individual, centered and limited by the nexus of the individual. We are not hive-minds. The limited horizons imposed by individual physical, social, historical, and cultural “thrownness” guide the interpretations and nuances of what each individual experiences. While all experience is located at the individual level, this in no way negates the ability to influence or mold the horizons of the individual. While not a new insight, it is the fundamental fount of what to me is the mother of all abysses.

The purpose of this paper is to reflect upon this abyss and its attendants, from how they challenge what is considered truth in the philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas to what many people continue to overlook in the widespread dismay regarding the current political and social situation in the country and world. The paper will be punctuated with references to and creations of science fiction, one genre that has extensively explored this and other abysses.

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