

Indigenous Futurism: The 8th Fire

R.Freese (2025)

Reconciliation fails: Resistance begins

In a near future, policymakers have chosen their destruction over seeking peace, friendship or reconciliation with the people, they have continued against all recommendations to cease extractive industries.

Land for farming has dried up, and air quality is bad, especially in Urban centers. Water resources have been overused and what remains is destroyed by pollution and other contaminants.

At their wit's end, rebellion and resistance breakout, the global majority has taken to the streets, Indigenous people have run out of options and many decide to leave cities and head into the bush, now a wild wasteland.

Many have seen this as what is known as the "Eighth Fire." Colonial systems and Western society have faltered and failed sending economies into disarray.

Cities and governments burning, and mass panic has hit the streets, meanwhile, Indigenous people have left urban centers and returned to the land both to escape, but also because they know what awaits them as society crumbles.



Society collapses: Cities burn, left to ruin

Indigenous people return to the land and make attempts to reconnect to the land, singing, prayers and drumming alone don't seem to be enough. The youth seem to have some idea that technology could help. The infrastructure remains, but everything is now unmonitored after regulation agencies no longer exist. Not many venture there anymore, most cities lay in ruin at this point.



The Aftermath of the rebellion has left little in terms of resources to scavenge for in the urban centers.

A group of youth approaches the healers and tells them of a way to generate power, not just electricity, but spiritual power that would allow us to access things beyond our comprehension in this time.

There is a vision from the future sent through one of the few remaining devices connected.

Indigenous Traditional Practices Incorporate Technology

Dance, prayer, and Drum creates a cosmic energy

A Dreamer has made themselves known to the people. They call for the council and the healers to begin a sacred Fire. “The Fire will reveal a way,” they tell the people.

“We need our Dancers and our Drummers more than ever before,” they tell the people. They begin to send messages to gather everybody so they can participate.

The Singers start to chant and wail along with the Big Drum, Mistikwaskig.


An Elder rises to speak to the people, “Astum Ota Kakiyo,” he repeats a few times, “Come closer everyone, listen... Feel the heartbeat of the Big Drum.”

Moments later, A firekeeper notices the eyes of the dreamer have gone very wide, and he can see a reflection, he turns to look, as do many of the people nearby, they can all see the vision through the flames.

They look on, in awe... “What does it mean?” some ask.

“Sh-sh, just wait,” an older woman says, “I can hear something.”



PLAINS CRÉE  POW
POW WOW DRAMSCAPE

FUTURISTIC CRÉE POW WOW WILL SEEN OFF LUNCH AND ILLNESS

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A sacred Fire combined with the energy

“The young ones were on the right track.” The dreamer begins to explain what the message in the vision was trying to tell them.

“We need to push on, keep trying, and practice this ceremony, it will give us courage and humility to persevere. It will also begin to work for us in other ways too, they sent us a song and motions to their dance, this will generate energy strong enough to open a portal in space-time.” They continue to explain, “But now, we need to feast this message, and rest up for the next attempt, and soon”

The people looked around at one another, and eventually agreed they had to try something. Resources and food were becoming scarce, even traditional landways were not sustaining the people because the earth had been so damaged for so long.

A Portal Emerges

Over the coming days and weeks, the healers, Drummers, singers, and dancers sang and prayed together amongst the sacred fire that continued to burn. The people feasted on the message and prayed on it often.

The council discussed interpretations and possibilities of what the people need, where it would be coming from and just how long it would take to arrive.

One night in the dead of night when the sky was very dark. We can no longer see the stars due to the air quality and pollution clouds, a new portal emerges beside the dancers this time, in the shape of an arched doorway, a Big Giant man peering through.

“You have been praying well, and dancing hard children, you call me creator, but I am just like you, I was one of the First people to walk your earth.” Big Creator began,

“I am here to help, I have heard you. We have heard you,” He continued,

“Much needs to be done, Mother Earth is not well, she needs the Medicine Giants. You must call upon them, be aware please, that they will require sustenance, you will understand soon, my children ”

This emergence and message only lasted a few minutes, but it brought more than the people had ever imagined.

Before they could call on the Medicine Giants, however, they needed resources, food, and medicines for the sick, as sacred medicines for the ceremony.

The last portion of the message was met with confusion by some of the older people, the youth understood and got to work immediately. They needed to generate more energy and created attachments for the dancers' regalia and the Big Drum itself.



Syd Mead

With the new accessories, Dancers and Drummers were able to create portals almost on demand, as the community needed them.

Once they came to understand the techniques, they could even begin to focus their energies on making the portals sustainable for longer and longer.

They began to understand its relation to the Medicine wheel and could focus on even a destination now.

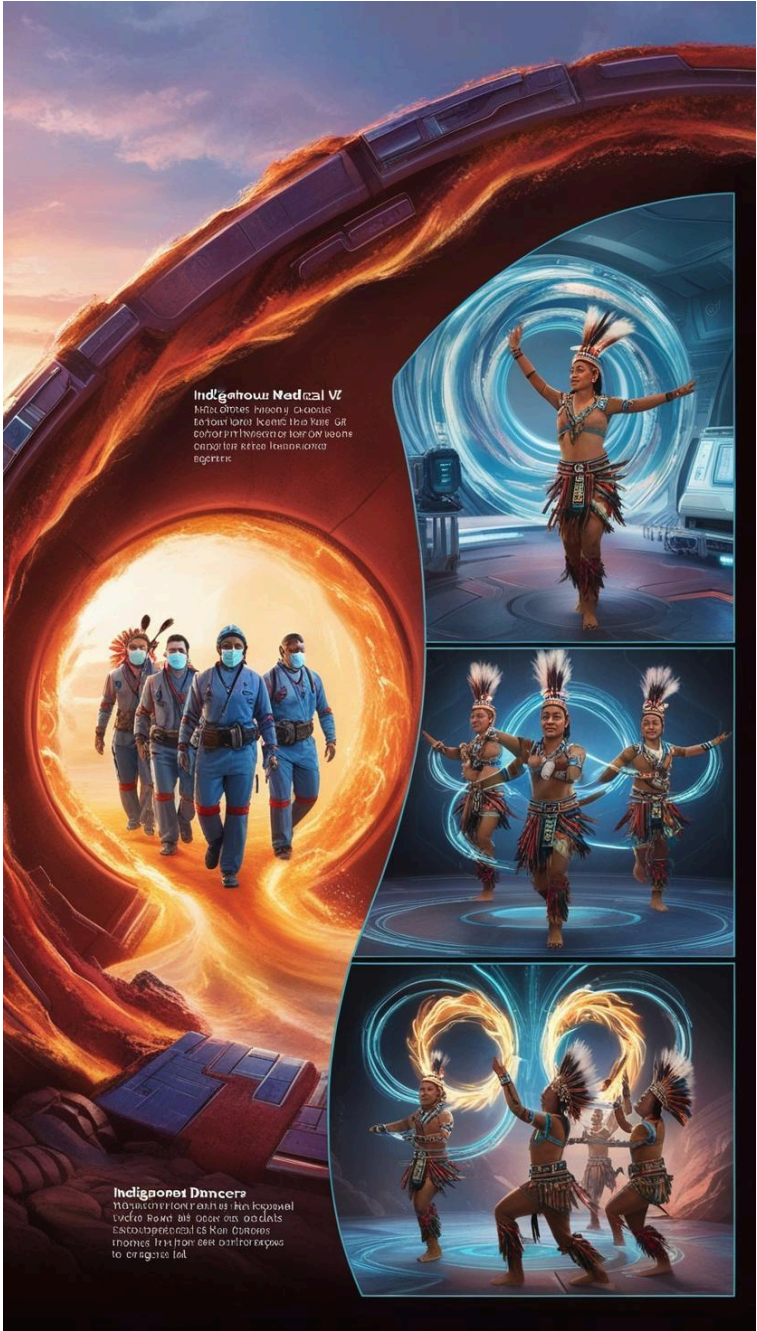
The energy was some sort of kinetic build-up and release, once it was released it would hold as long as the healers, Dancers, and Drum were maintained in a steady rhythm, much like the beating of a heart.

When the first visitors came through the portal, they told us of a time in the distant future when Mother Earth was healed and people lived in balance with the Medicine Wheel and the Earth, they were happy to help but told us we had much to do, and many years to work on the land to make things better.

They also, recited Creator's message, as if they were there that day. "You must call on the Medicine Giants."
One of them told the people, "It may be the only way."

"Gather your supplies, we will bring you the rest." the leader told the people once again,

"We will ready a medical team too if anyone is sick, or injured, set up this." Handing them a case. "It is a medical station, just make some space, and enter this code, and it will build automatically" He explained.



Indigenous National VR

Национальный виртуальный музей
индейцев, посвященный культуре
и традициям коренных народов
Северной Америки

Indigenous Dancers

Виртуальный музей индейцев
посвященный культуре и традициям
коренных народов Севера
и Сибири

Over the coming days, teams of Dancers and Drummers prepared and welcomed many teams through the portal. First were the medics, here to facilitate the healers and help with the sick.

Next to come through were the Indigenous Tech Specialists, they came to train the youth who understood the basics, but they needed better equipment and stronger signals.

They were here to help build a signal-boosting facility as well as an energy protection zone for the people to live within while conducting ceremonies and to have a little safety, as the earth was getting a little more wild and unpredictable by the day.

With all the damage done to Mother Earth, the world was no longer stable, the call to the Medicine Giants had to happen soon, but the people also needed to be healthy and strong to survive the next ordeal.

Finally, the Warriors came to dance, as they were told there was a security force coming through the portal. They were coming to train the Warrior Society with new technologies from their time and provide security as the gathering time approached.

On the last day, all the dancers, all the singers, and all the Drummers gathered with the Healers and the Dreamer once again. This time, they conducted the Sacred Fire closer to the water, as they were instructed. To receive this message, more elements were needed.









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This portal was much bigger than any they had produced yet. The Fire burned so hot the water boiled until it was clean and clear enough to see the bottom.

There were still fish far below, the people hadn't seen fish in what seemed like years now.

The Message came through loud and clear, "It is time, you need to call upon the Medicine Giants, do so for the next four days, the Dancers on the other side of the portal said they would help from their side,"

The message gave details on how to conduct the ceremony and how to sustain everyone during the time.

"This ceremony transcends time and space, remember, we were star people, the Medicine Giants know this, they will emerge and find you. Be prepared."

Ceremonies began on both sides of the portal the following Sunrise and continued for the next four days without rest or breaks.

The Elders and the Dreamer Fasted during this time, as did many of the Dancer and Singers, only allowing for some fluids to hydrate them and maintain muscle strength.

The Big Drums thundered through the air, louder and heavier than ever, the Earth was speaking through them and the Giants could hear. The Heartbeat was like a reawakening for the entire planet felt and heard through time and space as both sides of the portal conducted the simultaneous ceremony to call upon the Medicine Giants.

Giants begin returning to our realm intending to help



As the Giants began to arrive, many had been asleep or in hibernation for thousands of years, some of them came from off-planet, able to jump great distances and propel themselves through the vastness of space.

This may have been the reason the people were told the Medicine Giants require vast amounts of food and resources to conduct energy and healing ceremonies.

The Medicine Giants only spoke in a cosmic language, but somehow the people understood what they were saying to them. Some speculated it may be telepathy, and some of the Elders said it might be our Blood Memory awakening to them, welcoming them back to their home and ancient domain.

“Giants walked this land thousands of years ago,

One of the Elders whispered to the children standing tall, staring wide-eyed at these cosmic beings arriving one by one and in small groups or pairs.



Medicine Giants use cosmic energy to try to heal the earth

Over the next few months, The Medicine Giants prepared themselves and conducted many ceremonies and sweats. Although it may have been months for the people, many thought that it may have been only days, or even hours for the Medicine Giants.

“What are they going to do, Grandfather?” Asked a small child.

“I’m not yet sure, little one. I understand they are here to help, but it may be a difficult task. Just look at this earth, The Mother is in a great deal of pain” the Old man said.



These ceremonies took days to prepare for and lasted for weeks at a time, hence the time displacement theory many suggested.

Each time they conducted a Ceremony there were Four Medicine Giants, each representing its own element, they needed to work together in balance. The people could only see the ceremonies that occurred on land.

There was an air ceremony that was done somewhere up high, in the atmosphere, even the Giants looked small.

The Medicine Giants used all their power and strength to conduct these ceremonies, and when each was finished, they spent days cleansing their spiritual energy. It all seemed to have taken a big toll on the Medicine Giants.

There was still more to do, They explained to the people, “This world has been devastated for so long, that I fear we may even fail at our tasks.” the lead Giant mentioned.

Medicine Giants crack open the earth

The Final Ceremony After months and months of work, the day finally came, the Medicine Giants needed to do this one from an outer orbit off-planet.

This one was the most challenging all, they prepared well, rested for a short time, and feasted to refuel their energies.

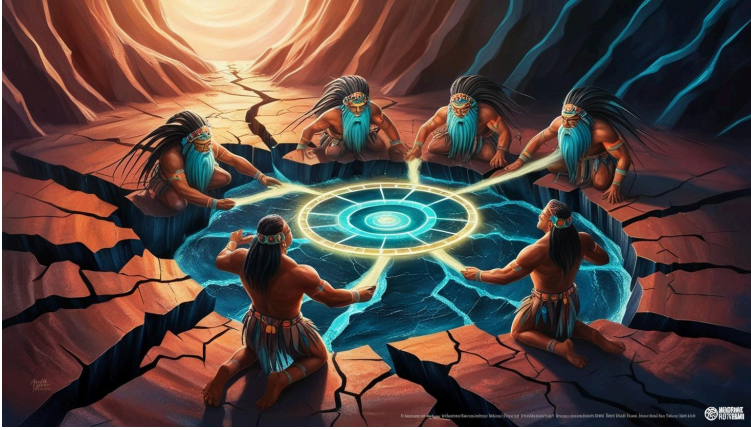
As the Day approached, they all fasted once again, for four days prior, and for the four days it took to complete the ceremony....



This time, however, they were not able to finish. Something had gone wrong as they feared. The Earth began to quake and rumble until it cracked into millions of pieces, like a piece of glass, still stuck together, but shattered.

Concerned, the Medicine Giants, returned to the people to tell them to take shelter underground.

Spirals of darkness swallow the last of the light



The Medicine Giants worked for the next several years, trying in futility to repair the shattered earth, to no avail.

They needed to rest but feared if they stopped, the Earth could fall apart and split. It was only a few moments, as they were rotating. They took turns holding the cracks together. The Medicine Giants came to realize they were draining themselves and it was only a matter of time.



A Spiral of Darkness seeped through the cracks and rose, and began to swallow all the light. The world was now left in darkness.

One more last-ditch effort, came to mind, the Medicine Giants made a giant net from the stars and wrapped it around the Earth Mother to keep the Darkness at bay and hold the earth together preventing more shattering.

Giants grow dark themselves, thinking they failed

The Medicine Giants



began to feel drained and saddened as they felt as though they had failed Mother Earth.

Over time, they withered and became quite frail. The Medicine Giants had depleted all their power.



The Earth had dried up, and so had the light, only occasional rays of sunlight peered through the star net.

The Earth never shattered, but there was no more they could do to heal Mother Earth, they were completely spent.

Seeing such destruction they begin to fade away

In their weakened state, the Medicine Giants felt tired, and slowly began to fade away. They wandered the Earth for some years, this took time, as they were giants.

One day, a light appeared in the distance, a Door opened, and out walked a woman to greet them.

They knew immediately who it was, and and fell to their knees to ask forgiveness.



Mother Earth, in all her grace, spoke to them softly, “My dear Medicine Giants, you did not fail. I am here to offer my thanks, and guide you home.”

Mother Earth appears: Gives thanks to the Medicine Giants and leads them to the Western Doorway.

“If you’re strong enough to follow me, I will take you to rest, your work here is now complete,” The Earth Mother said gently.

“You have done a great service to your ancient home, I am forever grateful. My offering to you is to take your rest.” She repeated.

The Medicine Giants agreed, and slowly began walking again, they stopped fading too. They could see a setting sun in the distance, and their colour began to come back.

“The Western Doorway?” One of the Medicine Giants asked.

Mother Earth only nodded and smiled, she added,

“You will always be welcome. The People will remember you forever.” She allowed them to pass her, as they continued into the doorway.



Mother Earth begins to heal after Giants create renewal

As the Western Door closed and things went quiet, Mother Earth began calling all the elements to return, renew and clean, Water, light, and air.

As she sat she once more became the Earth Mother, she pulled in the planet from the star net still in place and began to mend the cracks, at least some of them. She felt some of them gave her more character and would be

seen as a reminder of the damage that was caused for so long.



Traditional homes get high-tech upgrade

As the people reemerged from the sheltered fortress beneath the earth, they saw sunlight for the first time in what may have been hundreds of years.

Mother Earth spoke to them often now, and guided them in new ways to live. They also had contact with the people through the portal, and had learned much more about living in balance and sustainably with the Mother.

First, they built new homes, much like traditional homes from their ancestors, but with a high-tech and yet, green, sustainable way about them.



Their new energy sources allowed them to live without extractive industry and the land would now grow food again.

“This is the real future, we were all waiting for,” said one of the now grown-up children to his small son.

Live Sustainably working and living with the land, in balance

“We will live in balance, live our medicine wheel properly.” The young boy replied to his father.

Over the next seven generations, lives improved and the people were healthy and happy.

Cities grew, but people lived in balance and kept that way of life for the generations, always planning ahead, looking back to honour those who came before, and the promise

they made to Mother Earth: To always remember the Medicine Giants.



Over time, some people thought the story of the Medicine Giants was just a story, but there were a few older people... That maintained it was real.

“I was only a small child when they first arrived, but they were real, I will never forget the day I first saw them.” a little old man would tell stories to the small children. And

the kids would laugh and use their imaginations to exaggerate, or so they thought.

Then the old man would pull out an ancient device, he called it a “Smartphone,” but all it did anymore was take pictures.

“My dad, took a picture of the Medicine Giants, who wants to see?” the Old Man asked curiously.