

The Poetry Of Gravity

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As high schoolers, we have all hated Newton.
He gave us an entire concept.. just because an apple fell on his head.
But in reality,
gravity might just be the strongest force in the world.
It's what keeps us grounded.
It never asks, it only holds.
It never repels, only attracts
The only constant in a life of variables.
And maybe that's why walking away from things that feel defining is overwhelming.
Newton stated,
*"The Force of attraction between any two masses is directly proportional to the product of the two masses."*₁
But this doesn't only stand true in physics,
In the freefall of life, the word *mass* can mean something else.
The first mass will always be you.
The second mass is everything would slowly fall into your field of gravitation.
A book that changes you,
A friend who saves you,
A hobby that slowly restores you,
Or a career that will lead to happiness
And maybe that's why some paths become '*your calling*'.
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But here's the twist:

“The Force of Attraction is also inversely proportional to the distance between them squared.”

The further you move from these callings, the weaker the force becomes.

Until all that remains is a tug, a faint pull.

Not strong enough to commit again,
but not weak enough to actually let go.

The masses are still there, the constant in place, *trying* to pull you back

But now there's also distance between you,
and that too, squared...

And it does change things.

You can go back, but would it feel the same?

What if, once lost, they never enter your orbit again?

And then you're left standing closer to the beginning, waiting.

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At some point, we learned something new- Critical Velocity₂
and Escape Velocity₃.

And once again this seems to reflect life.

Critical velocity is the speed we need to keep to not get
consumed by a mass.

Escape Velocity is the speed we need to leave it...
completely.

And maybe this is what we call *balance*.

Get too close to something, and it engulfs you, becoming your
entire personality.

Slow down too much and create some distance, and you drift
away for good.

People who seem settled, at peace are often right between these velocities - staying in motion, at the right distance. Never too close and yet not too far away.

In the end, we are nothing but this gravity.
And maybe, that's the poetry of it all:
The universe is governed by gravity.
Constantly teaching us what to lean toward,
What to carry with us
And what to let go of.

Footnotes

1

Newton's law of universal gravitation describes gravity as a force by stating that every particle attracts every other particle in the universe with a force that is proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between their centers of mass.

2

Orbital velocity, velocity sufficient to cause a natural or artificial satellite to remain in orbit.

3

In celestial mechanics, **escape velocity** or **escape speed** is the minimum speed needed for an object to escape from contact with or orbit of a primary body