Egyptian Creation

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Nu was the name of the dark, swirling chaos before the beginning of time. Out of these swirling waters rose Atum; he created himself using his thoughts and the sheer force of his will.

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He created a hill, for there was nowhere he could stand. Atum was alone in the world. He was neither male nor female, and he had one all-seeing eye that could roam the universe. He joined with his shadow to produce a son and a daughter.

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Atum gave birth to his son by spitting him out. He named him Shu and made him God of the air. Atum then vomited up his daughter. He named her Tefnut and made the Goddess of mist and moisture.

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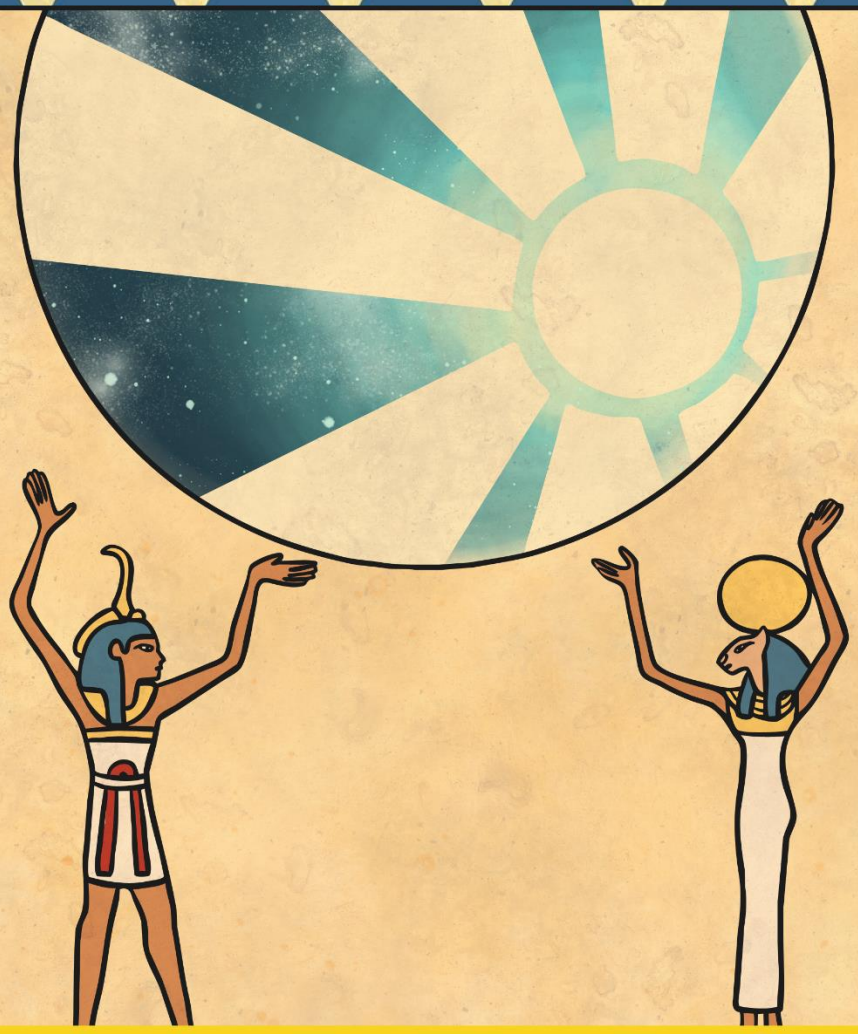

Shu and Tefnut were given the task of separating the chaos into principles of law, order and stability. The chaos was divided into light and dark and set into place.

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This order was called Maat, which formed the principles of all time. Maat was a feather; it was light and pure. Shu and Tefnut produced Geb, the Earth and Nut the sky. At first these two were tangled together as one.

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Shu, God of the air, pushed Nut up into the heavens. There she would remain arched out over Geb, her mate. They longed to be together, but in the name of Maat they had to be apart, to fulfil their functions.

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Nut produced rain for Geb, and the rain fell onto the Earth. Everything on the Earth began to grow.

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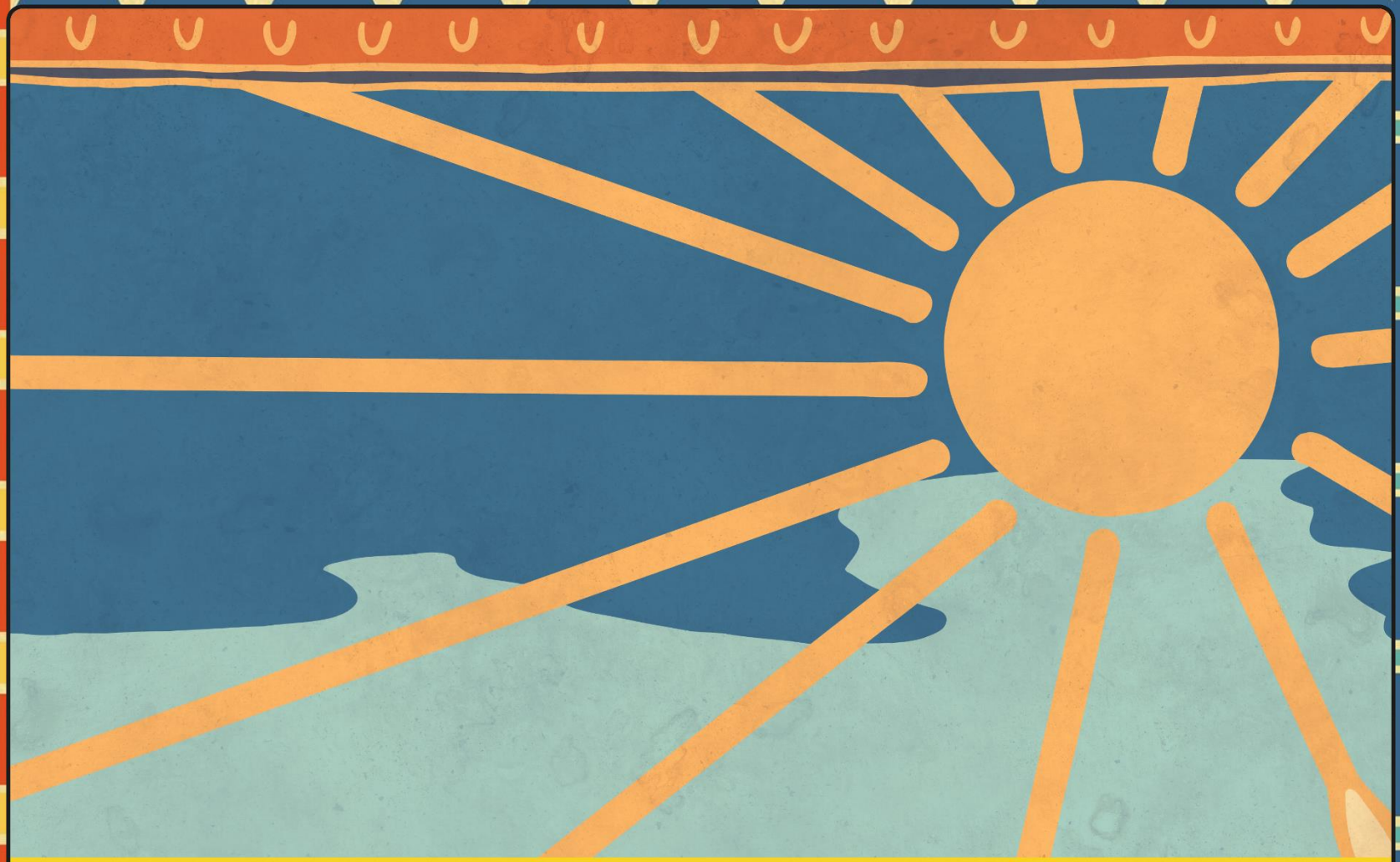

As the sky, Nut gave birth to the sun every night before dawn, and by day it would follow its course over the Earth and then die at sunset.

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Shu and Tefnut created the other Gods. Isis, the queen of the Gods, Hathor, the Godess of love and beauty, Osiris, the God of wisdom and justice, Seth, the God of evil, Thoth, the God of wisdom and Nephthys the protectress of the dead.

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But the chaos was still vast and not yet fully separated into the order of Maat. Shu and Tefnut once got lost in the dark swirling waters of Nu.

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Atum was desperate to find his children. He sent his all-seeing eye throughout the heavens and the Earth to search for them.

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In time, Shu and Tefnut returned with the eye. When Atum saw them again he was so delighted that he began to weep tears of joy.

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As these tears hit the Earth, they became the first men. As the men populated the Earth they had to uphold the truth and balance of Maat. They had the task of tending the Earth and worshipping the Gods. The Gods, in turn, protected and loved their creations.

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THE END

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