

Salt vs. Pepper
By Benjamin Steigmann

Pt. 1 - How did Salt and Pepper come to be together?

Did you ever wonder how salt and pepper came to be together? Two wondrous substances, coming together beautifully. I tell you child, it was a sad time. The world was a big mess! But if we are to ever understand the present, we must look to our past. And so, it is with this and mind that I tell this story.

Master is searching across the field, looking for the perfect spice. He wonders here and there, ever so desperate. He cannot bear another boring meal!



A D V E N T U R E

**Look upon yonder ancient wonders of the world and marvel!
Now lets go kill the inhabitants and take their stuff!**

After weeks of endless searching, he came across the strangest of things. The pepper-berry, with such a distinct smell. He found it! No longer would he ever taste a bland meal!



Months pass, and master is content - for a while. Soon, his adventurous spirit takes over, and he must find a new spice. He asks around, and eventually his wife provides a challenge.

“Strange men speak of a substance of the seas,” she said. “This ‘salt’ has many odd properties, and is supposed to taste of heaven itself.”

So master sends agents out to collect this ‘salt’.

Behold! Young pepper stands, black as night, but with light showing it clearly. It admires it’s beauty. It has served it’s master well But what is this? Standing before him is a pure white monster. How can this be? Has the master gone crazy?



Pepper eyes the whiteness suspiciously.

“Who are you?” he asks.

“Salt”, it replied, in a feminine voice.

“Why are you here?”

“To serve master.”

“That’s my job! You’re taking away my job!”

“So. Master is bored with you.”

“How dare you!”

“What. He doesn’t want you.”

“How could he not want me. I have served him so well.”

“Sorry. He just doesn’t want you.”

“Shut up!”

“You’re ridiculous.”

“Shut up! ... Shut up! Shut up! Shut up!”

Pepper was very angry at salt. How could she take his place? So at once he emptied his container of his contents. But all that happened was that salt was offended.

So she similarly emptied her container. But this was to no effect and just created a mess everywhere.

Master and his family soon sat down for dinner. Pepper, as usual, felt the delicious grace of masters hand upon him. But he still shook in horror when the same treatment was applied to the salt. What a disgrace!

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But what is this. Master seems to be enjoying his meal far more than usual this time. Just look at his happiness, his great trembling swirling fun. Surely, there must be something about this salt then. For she can leave master in such an good state. Pepper glances again and notices the most wonderful thing. Colors are becoming brighter, and giddy feelings are rushing all over. And the salt...

The salt is shining like the sun. Oh how wonderful. It's loveliness keeps growing...



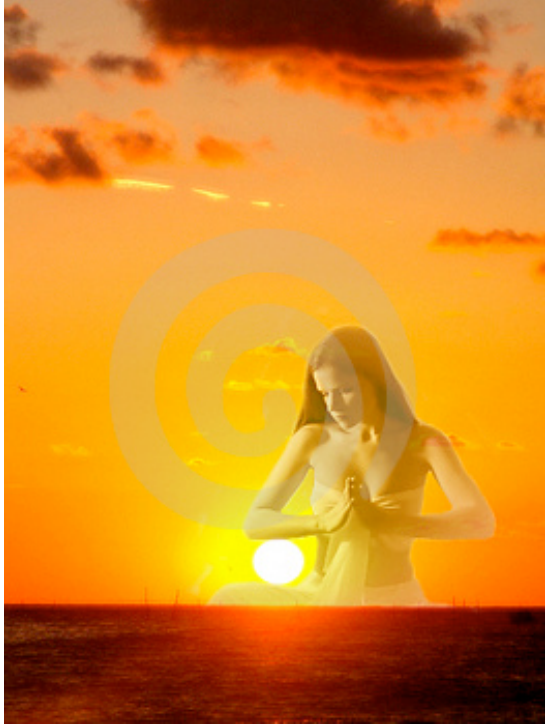
So pepper, once master had let go of him, immediately rushed forward to embrace salt. Their wonderful union mirrored the joy master experienced when eating, and they were about to live happily ever after.

Or so they thought...

Pt. 2 - How pepper developed his spiciness

Let us introduce some of the other family members:

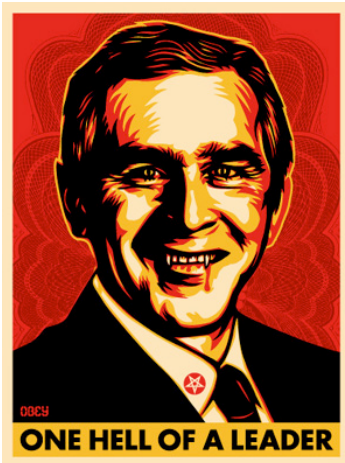
There was mistress, of course. Her moods directly matched the time of day. She would emerge every morning a fresh young maiden, bursting forth with the energies of life. When the sun was at it's highest height, she was a lively adult, draped in the fiery energies of life. By dusk, she was an old woman of the fall seson, wise and weathered. And at night, she was an icy skeleton, the very embodiment of death!



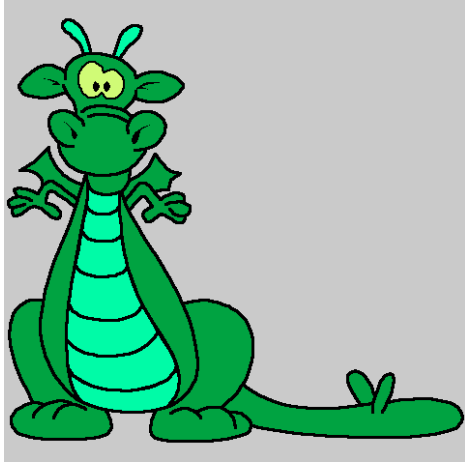
The daughter was a very strange case. She was very calm and very spiritual, but also very secretive and very manipulative. She had a longing for her father, and tried, with every ounce of her energy, to turn him against her mother.



The son was like Aires, the fiery war god. He was half man and half goat and in a sense, the bringer of rage. He had a baby pet dragon named Pindar who was the love of his life, and who was sitting on his lap, eating scraps. He was in one of his tempers as dinner ended. He pounded his fists on the table, and knocked poor pepper to the ground.



The son then screamed and rushed out from the room. Pepper was left facing that terrible beast. He had the feet of a rhinoceros, showing his love for the earth. He had the scales of a fish, showing his love of the water. He had the wings of an eagle, showing his airiness. And he had the breath of a volcano, proving his fiery nature. As the combination of all these, he assumed the further form of spirit.



Pepper was beside himself. How could one container of spice ever defeat such a terrible foe? Here it stood with its fierce gleaming eyes, scarier than anything you ever encountered before.

Pepper then realized his only option. He stood back, and with all his power, forced himself out of his container. The dragon mistakenly inhaled.

The terror! The spice destroys the dragons insides, and just as the dragon is shaking uncontrollably, it sneezes.

