

Bioluminescence

Life is a symbiotic concentration of mass and energy that can briefly withstand the flow of entropy. Life on earth started quite simply, but as time goes by, it has steadily become more complex so it can concentrate more and more energy. When the human species learned to harness the energy of fire, we became exponentially more alive. When we figured out how to harness the energy of fire in an engine, our life gained another level of intensity. When we figured out how to harness the gravitational energy of falling water to produce the electricity for the electric lighting that extended the day, life expanded in time as well as space. When we figured out how to drill a hole in the ground to extract and burn the concentrated hydrocarbon remains of previous life, we flourished and spread out over the planet.

As we look at the earth from space at night, we glow in the dark, and it's easy to see most of the human footprint on the face of the earth. As a species, we look and act very much like mycelia. Just like mycelia, we spread out tentacles from hubs, we drill tubes down to feed on decay, and we're bioluminescent.