

THE FIBRE OF BEING

A Comic by

John Staats

THE FIBRE OF BEING

BY JOHN STAATS (C) 2018

PAGE 1

PANEL 1: INT. UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HALL - THE ROOM IS PACKED WITH DELEGATES AND DIGNITARIES - STANDING AT THE PODIUM IS THE POPE - SEATED BEHIND THE POPE ARE THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM MULTIPLE SECTS DRESSED IN THE REGALIA OF THEIR BELIEFS.

CAPTION 1:

World religious leaders meet before the United Nations Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee.

CAPTION 2:

A child is to be borne by man.

CAPTION 3:

The first human clone.

CAPTION 4:

The time has come to draw a line in the sand.

PANEL 2: SAME - CLOSE ON POPE - HE IS ANGRY WITH A FIST RAISED.

POPE:

You know not what you do! Man is not God, nor should we emulate God!

PANEL 3: SAME - THE FIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE SEATED ALONG ONE SIDE OF A LONG DESK - A MAN WITH MIDDLE EASTERN ATTRIBUTES LEANS FORWARD TO HIS DESK MOUNTED MICROPHONE - HE LOOKS BORED AND DISINTERESTED.

COMMITTEE LEADER:

Your Holiness, please. We are in the mid twenty-first century. Man's advance in science cannot be stalled by two thousand year old quips and quotes.

PANEL 4: SAME - CLOSE ON POPE - HE IS WIDE-EYED AND SHOCKED.

POPE:

Quips and quotes?! Revelation 13:18 'Here is wisdom. Let him hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of man: and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.'

PANEL 4: SAME - THE COMMITTEE LEADER LEANS BACK IN HIS CHAIR WITH HANDS IN THE AIR AND A SMUG EXPRESSION.

COMMITTEE LEADER:

What does that even mean? When you figure that out...when you can tell us how 666 is relevant to this argument...we'll talk. Until then, happy hunting.

PANEL 5: INT. VATICAN - THE POPE SIGNS DECREES AND COMMUNIQUES - MESSENGERS RUN IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

CAPTION 1:

And so it came to be that the Vatican called forth the greatest minds of chemistry, mathematics, philosophy, and physics to join forces with his staff of theologians.

PAGE 2

PANEL 1: INT. ACADEMIC ARENA - MATHEMATICIANS ARGUE AT THE BASE OF A MASSIVE CHALKBOARD (OR WHITE BOARD) THAT IS COVERED IN ELABORATE MATHEMATICAL EQUATIONS OVER EVERY SQUARE INCH.

CAPTION 1:

Winners of the Fields Medal fail to solve their calculations.

PANEL 2: INT. PHYSICS LABORATORY - LASERS REFLECT AND REFRACT AMIDST THE LAB - PAPERS AND CLIPBOARDS ARE THROWN AT EACH OTHER.

CAPTION 1:

Physicists cannot make heads or tails of the problem.

PANEL 3: INT. LIBRARY - PHILOSOPHERS IN TWEED COATS AND SWEATER VESTS COME TO FISTICUFFS.

CAPTION 1:

The most sensible men in the world break under the pressure.

PANEL 4: INT. LABORATORY - PERIODIC CHART ON THE FAR WALL - TEST TUBES, BEAKERS, AND BURNERS AKIN TO A MAD SCIENTISTS LAB - CHEMISTS IN WHITE LAB COATS SHOW SIGNS OF EXPLOSIONS AND FIRE.

CAPTION 1:

Nobel laureate chemists come to no resolve.

PANEL 5: SAME - ALL BUT ONE CHEMIST HAVE VACATED THE LAB - THE CHEMIST HAS HIS ELBOWS ON HIS DESK AND FACE BURIED IN HIS HANDS - A JANITOR WITH BUCKET AND MOP STANDS IN THE OPEN

DOOR TO THE LAB.

JANITOR:

Beggin' your pardon. Mind if I clean up?

CHEMIST:

Sure, sure. Lock up when you're done.

PANEL 6: SAME - THE JANITOR HAS STOPPED MOPPING AND STARES AT THE CHART ON THE WALL WITH A HAND ON HIS HIP - THE CHEMIST HAS ONE FOOT OUT THE DOOR WITH AN EXCLAMATION POINT OVER HIS HEAD.

JANITOR:

Now, don't that beat all...666.

PAGE 3

PANEL 1: SAME - THE CHEMIST STANDS WIDE-EYED AND WITH A HAND TO HIS HEAD NEXT TO A POINTING JANITOR.

JANITOR:

It's on your chart. C is for Carbon, right?

CHEMIST:

Yes, but what are you getting at?

JANITOR:

Well, humans are carbon based lifeforms, right?

CAPTION 1:

Of course! It's been there all along!

PANEL 2: INT. UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HALL - THE POPE STANDS AT THE PODIUM ONCE MORE IN FRONT OF THE SAME COMMITTEE - HANDS RAISED AND LOOKING TO THE HEAVENS - BEHIND THE POPE IS THE VISION OF MICHELANGELO'S PAINTING OF GOD TOUCHING FINGERS WITH ADAM (JUST THE TWO ARMS AND HANDS).

POPE:

Genesis 2:7 'And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.'

PANEL 3: SAME - CLOSE ON POPE - HE HOLDS A 12"X12" SQUARE POSTER WITH THE CARBON SYMBOL WITH ONE HAND AND POINTS WITH THE OTHER.

POPE:

This is the woe of Man. For we are made of this earth, it's carbon base, and the evil that comes with it.

COMMITTEE LEADER:
That means nothing.

POPE:
Carbon, my dear committee. Six protons, six electrons,
and six neutrons. 666.

COMMITTEE LEADER:
Okay. And where are you going with this?

PANEL 4: CLOSE ON POPE - POINTING AT THE COMMITTEE WITH A
STERN EXPRESSION - A VISION OF DANTE'S INFERNO IN THE
BACKGROUND.

POPE:
We may create a life in our likeness, but it is God
that provides the soul.

POPE:
And if Man is inherently evil, without a soul, spirit
or conscience, how are we to know what abomination we
create?

PANEL 5: THE COMMITTEE IS UP FROM THEIR SEATS AND ARE
WALKING TOWARDS OPEN DOUBLE-DOORS TO THE REAR.

COMMITTEE LEADER:
We need to deliberate.

PANEL 6: CLOSE-UP ON CLOSED DOUBLE-DOORS - AN ASSORTMENT OF
RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS SURROUND THE DOORS (E.G. YIN/YANG,
HALO/PITCHFORK, CROSS/PENTAGRAM, STAR OF DAVID/SWASTIKA).

CAPTION 1:
The dichotomy of existence.

CAPTION 2:
Black and white. Night and day. Yin and Yang. Good and
evil. Heaven and Hell.

CAPTION 3:
Heart and Soul.

CAPTION 4:
End