



onestar press

matt mullican try and beat this, mars



Matt Mullican

***TRY AND BEAT THIS, MARS***

onestar press

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THE FIRST EFFECT  
WOULD BE SPECTACULAR  
DISPLAYS, AT ALL  
LATITUDES, OF THE  
AURORA LIGHTS, CAUSED  
BY ATOMIC COLLISIONS  
IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

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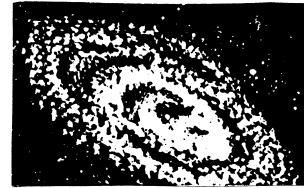
PERHAPS TWO FORMER PLANETS  
IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM, ON ERRATIC,  
INTERSECTING ORBITS, COLLIDED  
WITH SHATTERING EFFECT.



IF BOTH CARS ARE MOVING  
AT THE SAME SPEED, THE  
WRECKAGE REMAINS MOTION-  
LESS, WHILE FOUR TIMES  
AS MUCH KINETIC ENERGY AS  
BEFORE GOES INTO  
COLLISION ENERGY.



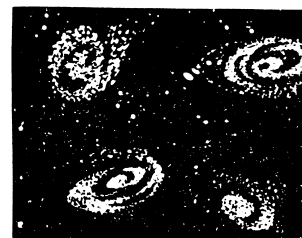
BRACEWELL ARGUES, ON KNOWN  
THEORIES OF THE UNIVERSE,  
THAT WE MAY GET A CHANCE  
TO LEAP CENTURIES IN OUR  
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BY  
CONTACT WITH OTHER WORLDS,  
.. AND THAT WE SHOULD  
PREPARE NOW FOR SUCH  
EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL CONTACT.



THE RATE OF EXPANSION OF  
THE UNIVERSE IS SUCH THAT  
13,000 MILLION YEARS AGO ALL  
GALAXIES WOULD HAVE BEEN  
MIXED TOGETHER AND THE MATTER  
OF THE UNIVERSE HIGHLY CONCENTRAT-  
ED. BY THE BIG BANG THEORY THIS  
IS WHEN THE UNIVERSE WAS  
"BORN" AND WHEN THE "BIG  
BANG" OCCURRED.

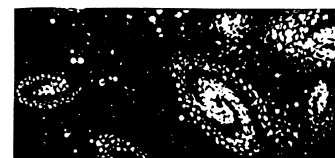


...IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO  
DESCRIBE THE UNIVERSE  
AS APPARENTLY CONSISTING  
OF AN ENORMOUS  
NUMBER OF GALAXIES  
ALL MOVING AWAY  
FROM ONE ANOTHER...





... THEREFORE, SAYS THE  
"STEADY STATE" THEORY, IT  
IS MEANINGLESS TO ASK  
WHEN THE UNIVERSE BEGAN,  
BECAUSE IT HAS ALWAYS  
BEEN THERE.



WHEN A BLOOD VESSEL  
IS DAMAGED, A REMARKABLE  
REACTION BEGINS— BUT  
ONLY IN THE BLOOD WHICH  
ESCAPES FROM THE SYSTEM.



...AND THAT THERE ARE *MILLIONS OF GALAXIES LIKE OURS* IN THE UNIVERSE .

OUT OF THIS STAGGERING VISTA , LET US CONSIDER ONLY OUR OWN GALAXY , THE NUMBER OF WORLDS LIKE THE EARTH THAT IT MAY CONTAIN , AND HOW MANY MIGHT SUPPORT LIFE OF SOME KIND .



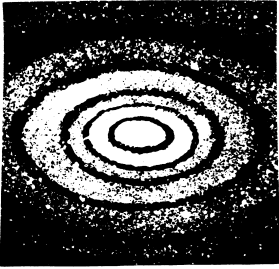
DR. LILLY'S MOST SIGNIFICANT  
DISCOVERY ABOUT DOLPHINS IS  
THAT THEY TALK TO ONE -  
ANOTHER IN A COMPLICATED  
HIGHSPEED LANGUAGE, UTTERED  
THROUGH THEIR BLOW-HOLES.



THE DRY LAND THEORY  
SUGGESTS THAT PRECISELY  
THESE CONDITIONS COULD  
HAVE OCCURRED BY THE  
CONCENTRATION OF INORGANIC  
MATTER IN ROCK CREVICES,  
AND SUBJECTED TO ALTERNATE  
WETTING AND DEHYDRATION.



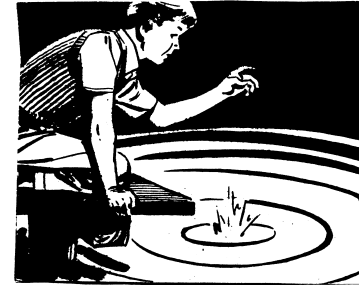
AS THIS GAS CLOUD GRADUALLY COOLED, LAPLACE ARGUED, IT WOULD NOT CONTRACT UNIFORMLY TOWARDS THE CENTER, BUT RINGS WOULD FORM.



HOW WILL MAN EVOLVE FROM  
HERE? MEDICAL SCIENCE, BY  
REPLACING NATURAL ORGANS  
SUCH AS THE HEART WITH  
INDESTRUCTIBLE ARTIFICIAL  
INSTRUMENTS, MIGHT EXTEND  
THE LIFE-SPAN DRAMATICALLY.

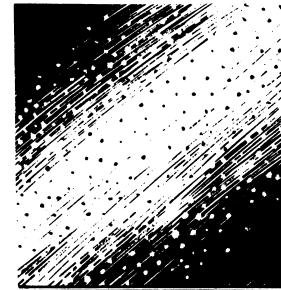


BUT HOW DOES A SERIES OF FINE LINES DIVIDE LIGHT INTO 100,000 COLORS? IT IS BECAUSE LIGHT BEHAVES LIKE WAVES IN WATER.





NEWTON SAID THAT  
LIGHT WAS A STREAM  
OF PARTICLES — AND  
PRODUCED EXPERIMENTS  
TO PROVE IT.



WITH THE FOOD WE  
EAT COMING UNDER  
INCREASING SUSPICION  
IN HEART DISEASE, IT  
SEEMS THAT HEART  
DAMAGE MAY IN FACT  
BE ALMOST INEVITABLE  
IN A GROWING NUMBER  
OF PEOPLE.



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**T**Hese lumps of rock and metal range from very small, which burn up in our atmosphere as "shooting stars," to million-ton monsters, like the one which devastated 5,000 square miles of Siberia in 1908.

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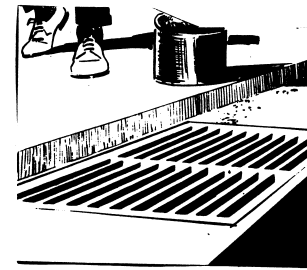


LAPLACE'S "HOT" THEORY  
IMAGINED THE SOLAR SYSTEM  
AS ONCE CONSISTING OF A  
HUGE CLOUD OF GAS ROTATING  
SLOWLY IN SPACE.

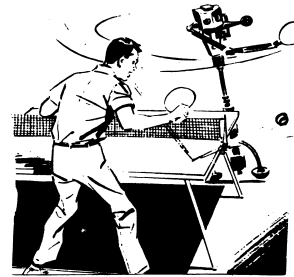
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IN THE EXAMINATION OF  
MINUTE THINGS, THE FINEST  
TOOL AVAILABLE TO SCIENCE  
IS NOT THE MICROSCOPE,  
BUT SOMETHING RATHER,  
LIKE A GRATING IN THE  
PAVEMENT.

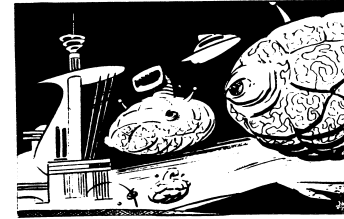


**SCIENTISTS HAVE ALREADY  
DESIGNED TINY BRAINS FOR GADGETS-  
INCLUDING AN ELECTRONIC TABLE  
TENNIS "PLAYER" ON A POGO STICK  
WHICH WOULD BE UNBEATABLE...**

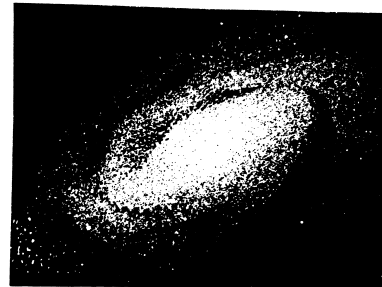


... AND SO, UNLESS SOME  
NATURAL CATASTROPHE INTER-  
VENES, THE FINEST PRODUCT OF  
EVOLUTION, THE HUMAN MIND,  
MIGHT EVENTUALLY FIND ITSELF  
ABLE TO DO WITHOUT A  
BIOLOGICAL FRAME ALTOGETHER,  
AND EXIST WITHIN A PURELY  
TECHNOLOGICAL CREATION!

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2. AMONG THE 100,000 MILLION SUNS  
IN OUR GALAXY, THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT  
PERHAPS ONE HALF HAVE THEIR OWN  
PLANETS ON WHICH LIFE COULD  
HAVE EVOLVED;





U.S. SCIENTISTS BELIEVE  
THAT WITHIN 10 YEARS A  
COMPUTER WILL BE CHESS  
CHAMPION OF THE WORLD,  
BY CALCULATING  
EVERY POSSIBLE



**B**y 10,000,000  
YEARS AGO THERE WAS  
OREOPITHECUS —  
LESS MONKEYLIKE, LESS  
HAIRY, BUT STILL NOT MAN,  
ALTHOUGH THIS IS MAN'S  
*EARLIEST KNOWN*  
*RELATIVE.*



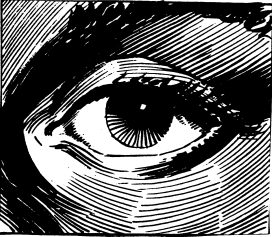
**OF ALL QUESTIONS MAN HAS  
ASKED HIMSELF, ONE ABOVE ALL  
CATCHES THE IMAGINATION:  
HOW DID THE WORLD BEGIN?**



THEREFORE WE SHOULD  
LISTEN WITH ALL OUR  
RESOURCES FOR SOME KIND  
OF CODED SIGNALS FROM  
NEARBY SOLAR SYSTEMS.



AS **SIGHT** IS PERHAPS  
THE MOST IMPORTANT  
SOURCE OF OUR KNOW-  
LEDGE OF THE UNIVERSE  
AROUND US, AND AS  
THIS SENSE DEPENDS  
UPON LIGHT ...



MAN'S EARLIEST LEGENDS ABOUT HIS PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE VISUALIZED THE EARTH AS FLOATING IN THE SEA, THE SUN AS A FIERY CHARIOT.



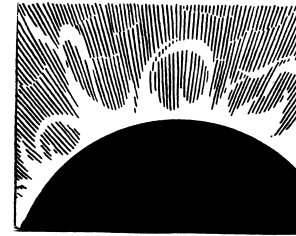
MEANWHILE THE AGE OF REPTILES PRODUCED TWO HUGE BUT DIFFERENT KINDS OF CREATURES — THE VEGETATION EATERS AND THE FLESH EATERS — AND ANOTHER STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL. THE ALMOST BRAINLESS DINOSAURS WERE NO MATCH FOR THE FIERCE CARNIVOROUS TYRANNOSAURUS, THE MOST POWERFUL FLESH-EATER THAT EVER LIVED. . .



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...AND THAT AS NEW  
GALAXIES COME INTO  
EXISTENCE THEY SPREAD  
THROUGH SPACE, MOVING  
AWAY FROM EACH OTHER...

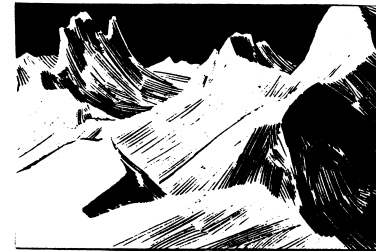
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THE SUN WOULD HAVE BEEN EITHER  
HOTTER OR COOLER, AND THE  
EARTH AT THAT TIME WOULD HAVE  
BEEN EITHER FRIED OR FROZEN,  
BUT CERTAINLY NOT IN THE  
NARROW TEMPERATURE BAND  
CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING LIFE.

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WHILE THE STRUGGLE ON LAND BETWEEN AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE RAGED, IN THE OCEANS 150,000,000 YEARS AGO A FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL DEVELOPED BETWEEN GIGANTIC REPTILES AND A NEW EVOLUTIONARY FORM — THE SHARKS. THE SHARKS WON THE BATTLE, AND ESTABLISHED A DOMINATION OF THE SEAS WHICH THEY STILL HOLD TODAY...



... LEADS TO A GRAVE  
MEDICAL EMERGENCY:  
LOSS OF BLOOD.



ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN OF SUNS  
IN THE UNIVERSE, HEAVIER AND HEAVIER  
ELEMENTS WILL GRADUALLY BE CREATED  
BY FUSION— UNTIL EVENTUALLY THE SUN  
WILL BECOME UNSTABLE — **AND**  
**EXPLODE** . . . . BUT BY PRESENT CAL-  
CULATIONS THIS WILL NOT  
HAPPEN FOR **ANOTHER**  
1,000,000,000 YEARS..

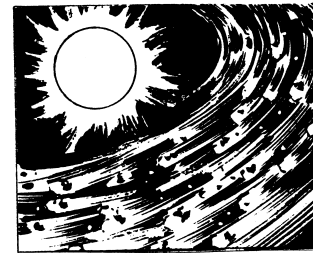


CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL  
POWER WOULD ENABLE EVERY  
HOUSE TO DISPOSE OF ALL  
ITS WASTE THROUGH THE  
SEWAGE SYSTEM, AFTER  
CHEMICAL TREATMENT OR  
GRINDING.

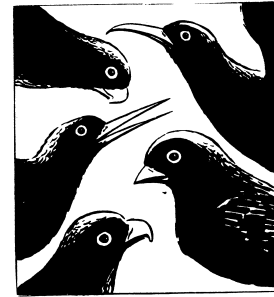


IN THE FORMATIVE STAGES OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM, COLLISIONS WOULD OCCUR BETWEEN NEARBY CLUMPS OF MATERIAL, ATTRACTED BY GRAVITY — AND THE RESULT WOULD BE FEWER, BUT **LARGER** MASSES CIRCLING THE SUN

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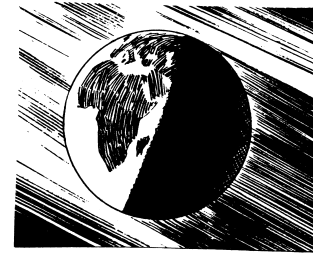


HIS MOST SIGNIFICANT DISCOVERY WAS A FINCH THAT HAD DEVELOPED DIFFERENT BEAKS ON DIFFERENT ISLANDS.



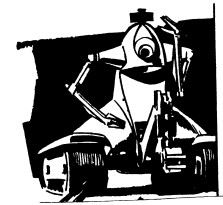
**D**URING A MAGNETIC  
FIELD "FLIP", THERE  
COULD BE A PERIOD  
OF "ZERO FIELD  
STRENGTH", LEAVING  
THE EARTH EXPOSED  
TO RADIATION.

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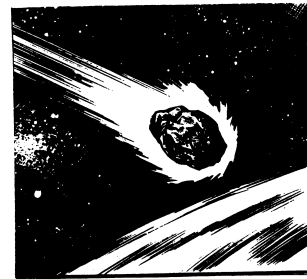




**THUS, MANKIND WOULD HAVE  
EVOLVED RIGHT THROUGH AND  
PAST THE BIOLOGICAL PROCESS  
INTO SELF-RENEWING, ETERNAL  
ROBOTS!**



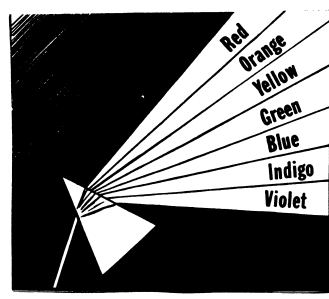
IN THE SEARCH FOR  
IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE OF  
LIFE, HOWEVER, SCIENTISTS  
ARE ONCE AGAIN TURNING  
TO THOSE MESSENGERS  
FROM SPACE: **METEORITES.**



**G**UIDED BY HIS SUPERIOR  
BRAIN POWER, EARLY MAN  
RAPIDLY LEARNED TO LIVE IN  
CAVES, TO HUNT WANDERING  
ANIMALS FOR FOOD — AND  
EVENTUALLY TO PAINT SUCH  
EVENTS, IN OUTLINES WHICH  
STILL EXIST.



NEWTON'S EXPLANATION  
WAS THAT THE RED "PARTICLES"  
OF LIGHT WERE BENT LESS  
BY THE PRISM THAN THE  
BLUE.

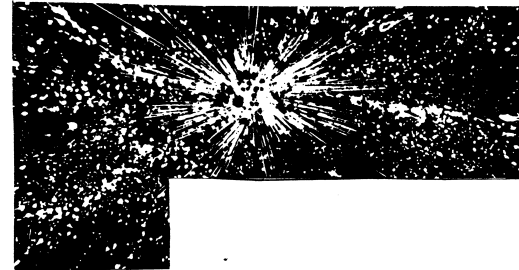


THE EARTH'S FIRST  
ATMOSPHERE, IT IS GENERALLY  
AGREED, CONSISTED OF  
WATER VAPOR AND  
HYDROGEN-RICH GASES  
FROM VOLCANOES.



THEN A CATAclySMIC EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE, HURLING MATTER IN ALL DIRECTIONS, WHICH EVENTUALLY FORMED INTO THE GALAXIES AS WE KNOW THEM, SPEEDING APART FROM EACH OTHER...

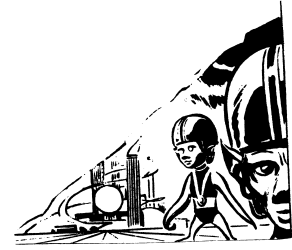
...THUS WAS BORN THE "BIG BANG" THEORY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE.



SCIENTISTS ARE THUS  
CONVINCED THAT BIOMOLE-  
CULES—THE PRIMARY MATTER  
OF LIFE — ARE WIDELY  
DISPERSED THROUGHOUT  
THE UNIVERSE . . .



...BUT ON SOME IT WOULD  
BE AHEAD OF US . . .





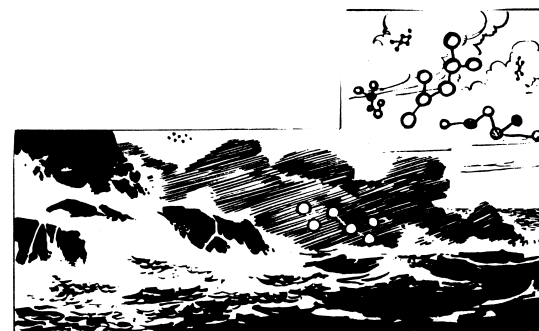
THE PROCESS HAS  
FASCINATED DOCTORS  
SINCE THE DAWN OF  
MEDICINE.



FROM OBSERVATIONS MADE  
SINCE GALILEO TURNED  
HIS TELESCOPE ON  
THE HEAVENS...



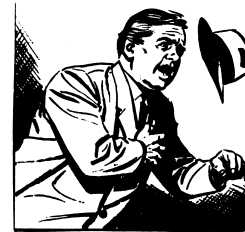
... FROM THIS BREW THE MYSTERIOUS WORKINGS  
OF THE FORCE WE CALL "NATURE" WERE NOW  
READY TO ORGANISE THE MIRACLE OF LIVING CELLS .



**B**UT THE SUN, WHICH HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO THE EARTH, WAS THEN ABLE TO CREATE CONDITIONS IN WHICH THE **FIRST LIVING CELL** COULD BE FORMED...



MAN'S BIGGEST  
SINGLE KILLER — HEART  
DISEASE — HAS IN  
THIS MODERN AGE  
INCREASED ITS TOLL  
ON HUMAN LIFE TO  
ALMOST EPIDEMIC  
PROPORTIONS.



ONE SIDE POINTS OUT THAT  
THE BODY ITSELF MANU-  
FACTURES CHOLESTEROL —  
FAR MORE OF IT THAN  
IS CONSUMED IN FOODS  
CONTAINING ANIMAL FATS .



**A** SLOW CHANGE CAME OVER THE CLIMATE OF THE EARTH — THE TROPICAL FORESTS RECEDED — TEMPERATE AND THEN COLD REGIONS BEGAN TO SPREAD — AND THE GIANT REPTILES, WHOSE BLOOD FOLLOWED THE TEMPERATURE OF THE SURROUNDING AIR, DIED BY THE MILLION, AND VANISHED.



SCIENCE THEREFORE ASSUMES TODAY THAT  
THERE ARE *50,000,000.000 PLANETS* IN OUR  
GALAXY ALONE ON WHICH *SOME* FORM OF LIFE  
COULD EXIST.

THE GREAT MYSTERY YET  
TO BE SOLVED IS, OF COURSE,  
*WHAT FORM IS THIS  
LIFE TAKING?*





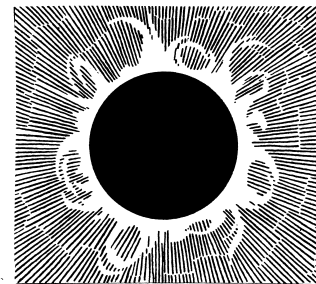
AUSTRALOPITHECUS LIVED ABOUT 500,000 YEARS AGO, AS DID THE FIRST TRUE MEN. BUT AFTER HAVING, LIKE MAN, BRANCHED OFF FROM THE EVOLUTIONARY TREE, HE DIED OUT, LEAVING ONLY HIS BONES AND PRIMITIVE TOOLS TO BE UNEARTHED.



**THIS PRESENT BALANCE OF  
FORCES IS DRAMATICALLY  
DEMONSTRATED IN AN  
OBJECT FAMILIAR TO  
EVERYONE — THE SUN.**

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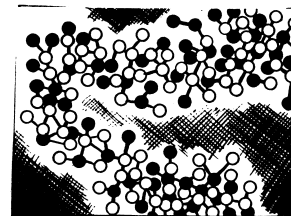


. . . AND THAT LIFE ITSELF  
COULD EVOLVE ANYWHERE,  
DEPENDING UPON THE LOCAL  
CONDITIONS ON UNTOLD NUMBERS  
OF PLANETS . . .



... ALTHOUGH THE MOST  
ELEMENTARY FORM OF  
LIFE — THE PHI - BETA  
VIRUS — CONSISTS OF  
ONE SINGLE MOLECULE  
OF RIBONUCLEIC ACID  
— RNA. THIS IS A  
SINGLE-STRAND MOLE-  
CULE WITH ABOUT A  
MILLION ATOMS.

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WHEN THE FIRST WANDERING  
TRIBES DECIDED TO SETTLE  
IN ONE PLACE, AND DISCOVERED  
HOW TO CULTIVATE FOOD CROPS,  
MAN WAS ALREADY MASTER  
OF HIS SURROUNDINGS.

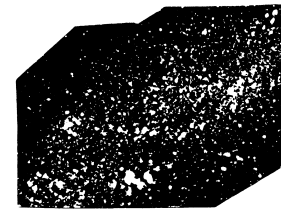


AT SOME POINT IN TIME, STILL UNDETERMINED, **TRUE MAN** APPEARED, AND BEGAN TO EVOLVE, SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE HIGHER APES. THE COMMON ANCESTOR OR "MISSING LINK" IS YET TO BE FOUND — BUT VERY CLOSE TO IT IS AUSTRALOPITHECUS, AN AFRICAN "APE MAN" WHO FIRST USED WEAPONS.

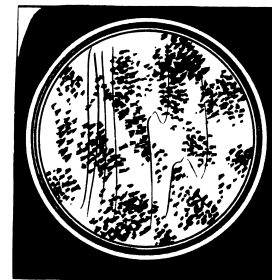


OUR GALAXY, WHICH WE SEE  
IN THE NIGHT SKY AS THE MILKY  
WAY, IS ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN  
**100,000 MILLION SUNS  
LIKE OURS.**

THE PROBLEM IS THAT  
ALL OTHER SUNS ARE TOO  
FAR AWAY FOR US TO SEE  
WHETHER THEY HAVE ANY  
PLANETS .



EACH INDIVIDUAL'S BLOOD  
BELONGS TO ONE OF THESE  
MAIN GROUPS, AND MOST  
CANNOT BE MIXED WITH  
ANOTHER, WITHOUT THE  
RISK OF SEVERE REACTION.





THE GREAT FORESTS OF THE  
CARBONIFEROUS PERIOD PRODUCED SO  
MUCH OXYGEN BY PHOTOSYNTHESIS  
THAT THE AIR WAS PERHAPS **TEN**  
**TIMES RICHER** THAN TODAY, AND  
CARBON DIOXIDE ALMOST DISAPPEARED.





onestar press

matt mullican try and beat this, mars



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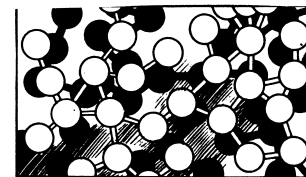
**T**HIS RICH SEA-LIFE  
PRODUCED ENOUGH OXYGEN  
TO MAKE LAND HABITABLE,  
AND THUS THE **SECOND**  
GREAT EXPLOSION (WHEN  
BREATHING CREATURES  
APPEARED) TOOK PLACE SOME  
400 MILLION YEARS AGO. . .

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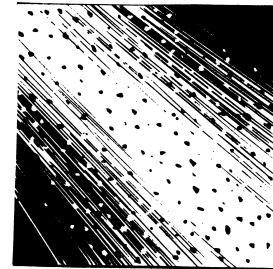


EVEN THE ARRANGEMENT  
OF ELECTRONS ORBITING  
THE NUCLEUS OF THE  
ATOM CAN BE DEDUCED  
— AND DIFFRACTION  
GRATINGS HAVE ENABLED  
SCIENTISTS TO BUILD UP  
PICTURES OF COMPLICATED  
MOLECULES TOO SMALL  
TO SEE UNDER ANY  
MICROSCOPE .

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EARLY IN THE 20TH CENTURY, HOWEVER, DISCOVERIES WERE MADE THAT COULD ONLY BE EXPLAINED IF LIGHT BEHAVED LIKE TINY PACKETS OF ENERGY.



BUT UNFORTUNATELY  
FOR MAN, MANY VIRUSES  
(PARTICULARLY FLU)  
MUTATE INTO NEW  
STRAINS, AGAINST WHICH  
THE ANTIBODIES ARE  
INEFFECTIVE . . .



HOWEVER, EVOLUTIONARY  
HISTORY SUGGESTS THAT  
THE GROWTH OF THE  
MAMMALS WAS A **RESULT**  
RATHER THAN A **CAUSE** OF  
THE REPTILES' DOOM.



THESE FALL INTO TWO BROAD CLASSES: FERROUS METEORITES, COMPOSED MAINLY OF IRON AND NICKEL, AND STONY METEORITES, SOME OF WHICH CONTAIN ORGANIC MOLECULES.

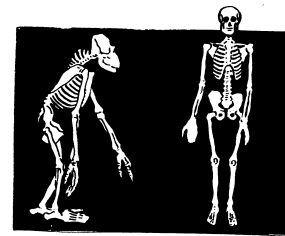




**FROM THE FIRST,  
SCIENTISTS WERE  
PUZZLED BY THE  
WAY LIGHT  
TRAVELLED.**

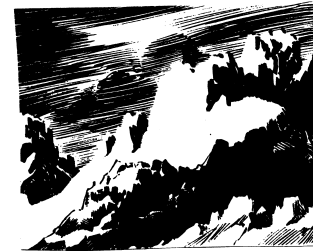


**AFTER A MILLION YEARS,  
MAN IS STILL EVOLVING —  
WHILE STILL RETAINING  
TRACES OF HIS ANIMAL  
ANCESTRY, INCLUDING  
FINE HAIRS ON THE SKIN,  
AND, IN THE EMBRYO STAGE,  
A TAIL AND GILL SLITS  
LIKE A FISH.**

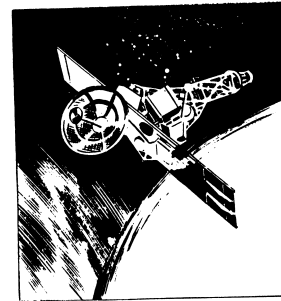


NOW TWO BRITISH  
SCIENTISTS HAVE  
ADVANCED A NEW THEORY  
— THAT LIFE MIGHT HAVE  
BEGUN ON **DRY LAND**,  
BY CONCENTRATIONS OF  
MATTER IN ROCK CREVICES.

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IN RECENT YEARS,  
ASTRONOMY AND SPACE  
PROBES HAVE PROVIDED  
MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT  
CONDITIONS ON OTHER  
BODIES IN THE UNIVERSE.



**MAN IS CERTAINLY GROWING  
BIGGER. THE AVERAGE 20TH  
CENTURY MAN COULD NOT  
GET INTO THE SUITS OF  
ARMOR WORN BY THE  
AVERAGE MEDIEVAL KNIGHT.**



IT IS KNOWN THAT ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS CAN COMBINE GAS MOLECULES INTO AMINO-ACIDS, THE "BUILDING BLOCKS" OF PROTEINS .

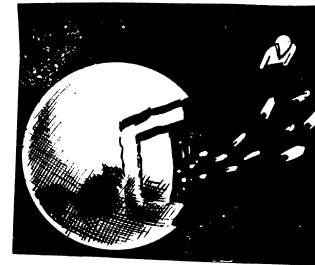
MILLIONS OF CHANCE COMBINATIONS COULD THUS PRODUCE LIVING CELLS—EVEN THOUGH IT MIGHT TAKE A THOUSAND MILLION YEARS.



TODAY ONE OF THE GREATEST  
QUESTIONS LEFT UNSOLVED IN  
SCIENCE IS THE ORIGIN AND  
EXTENT OF THE UNIVERSE, A  
MYSTERY THAT HAS BEEN  
PONDERED SINCE LONG  
BEFORE PLATO FIRST  
PICTURED THE EARTH  
AS THE CENTER OF  
THE SUN AND  
STARS.

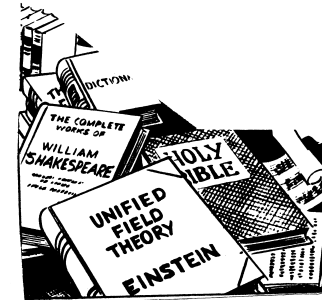


INSTEAD OF TRYING TO LIVE  
ON A SMALL **SURFACE**, WITH  
USEFUL MATERIAL MAINLY  
BOTTLED UP IN THE INTERIOR  
OF PLANETS, IT SEEMS INEVITABLE  
THAT MAN WILL EVENTUALLY  
TAKE THE PLANETS APART . . .





IN A YEAR WE COULD TRANSMIT ALL MANKIND'S STORE OF KNOWLEDGE — AND AN APPEAL FOR HELP TO OUR NEIGHBORS WITH THEIR SUPERIOR DEVELOPMENT, THEY COULD EASILY GRASP OUR CULTURE AND LEVEL OF EVOLUTION.



Matt Mullican

## ***TRY AND BEAT THIS, MARS***

First edition limited to 250 numbered copies.  
20 copies deluxe limited edition of this book,  
accompanied by a signed and numbered multiple by the artist,  
is available from onestar press.

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Cover: from - Untitled (Try and Beat This, Mars) -, 1974  
Interior: from - Untitled (Science in the Picture) -, 1974

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