



# Your Attention, Please

A Voyage into Life's Wonderful Complexity

by Stuart Clarke

Picture the globe.

A ball of life.

Something that encompasses everything that has ever mattered in your very own. Something that binds us all, because we're here for the long haul. All our matter, as a matter of fact, and all of our energy. Only the latter beams in from the sun, and our scientific progress for knowledge has only recently sprung.

Take that, and put yourself on the surface of it. A meter or so tall, somewhere with roots beneath your feet, maybe elevated by some structure, and positively alive. Living, breathing, heart-beating. Surely, you can feel it... Take your time.

Can you feel the atmosphere above you? The ambiance around you? The weight of your body, and the posture that alleviates it? Can you sense the vibrations of air? Sound and heat, a rippling fleet of smooth mirages, pitter-pattering like bouncing massages. Muscles rippling along the periosteum of your bones right beneath the skin. Infinite too, is the world within.

You are with it all. This whole world as it spins. Your curiosity as it thins. A web of you ensnaring anything that becomes the object of your desire. So long as there remains courteous energy to respire. Otherwise, it connects to the other webs of life. Imagination is more important than knowledge for this reason. How else are we supposed to find out how everything is connected and what's going on if we don't understand ourselves and what we are capable of?

*Whilst daring to dream, my emotions fall into a stream. And the light; it does beam.*

Our river runs deep, and science is meaningless without humanity.

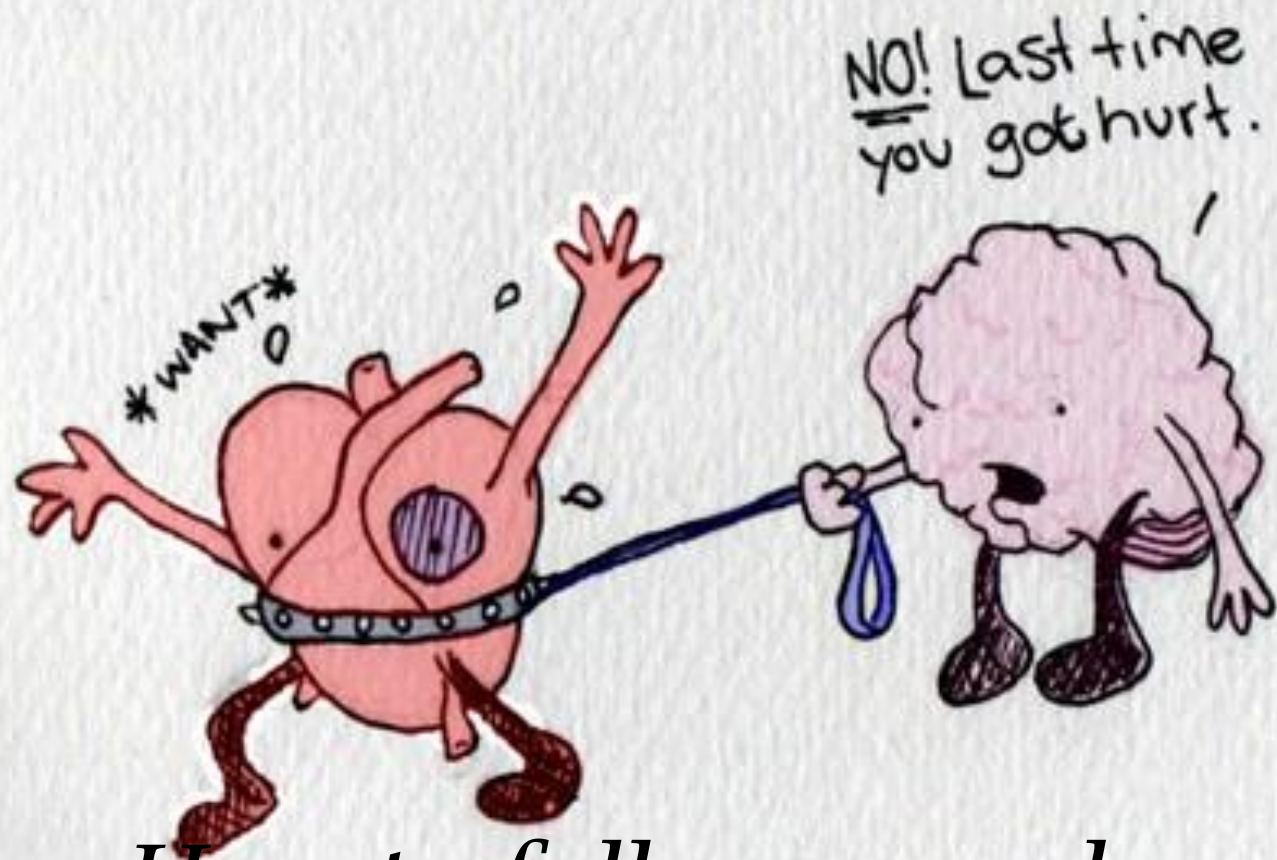
Leading a better future requires us to relate to who we truly are, and how special it is to feel alive! To bring a positive change to the world is to uplift the lives of others. To grow together, round and round, in any way we want, as the Earth spins. Far better it is to be a little extra comfortably close rather than to be pulled apart by the superficial progress of the rest.

Actions speak louder than words if only they are noticed. So, maybe it's now a good time to notice all those actions and decide upon which to speak highly of.

Philosophy is an art of living. Plus, our intellects can only define the world in so many words, so, there is always a need for more art.

Better start finding the right perspective. Or at least one that's fun and exciting.

We can never get enough of that, eh?



# *How to follow your heart*

*[Even when "I don't know" what that means]*



*fig. 1*

This is your brain.  
Inside are the things worth living by.



*fig. 2*

This is your heart.  
Inside are the things worth dying for.



Here's my advice:

Start by standing up and finding the courage to connect with your emotions. Go wherever your feet take you, and don't stop until you're hungry. Particularly for human connection. That's when you know you've succeeded. Nothing ever stops in this world; a heart knows that best. So, why not find another heart to keep the rhythm up? Artists, musicians, creative geniuses and the soulful one's that let their head be happy see this world, I'm sure of it. A song is only a travelling rhythm, true to our nature, and plucking our sensational experience into tune. Dreamers and fighters and feelers and dilly-dalliers and doctors and motivators and millennials and sound makers and sensationalists and lovers and leaders alike. The cause is never extinguished, so march on! Whatever makes you feel warm inside. Keep at it; else, let it flow.

After all, why don't we keep moving when we've reached the end of our workout, or our day, or our life? It seems that there is always a part of us that does, even though most of us allows the fire to cease. A natural resting point me thinks. Regardless of if we feel it or not, the fire hasn't stopped.

Nature burns at a faster rate, if anything, and it's with the heart that we can challenge fate.

Depends who has control, though.



Anon. "Thomas Fire on Course to Become California's Largest-Ever Wildfire." *CNN.com*, 19 Dec. 2017, 1:27 AM, [www.cnn.com/2017/12/18/us/california-fires/index.html](http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/18/us/california-fires/index.html).



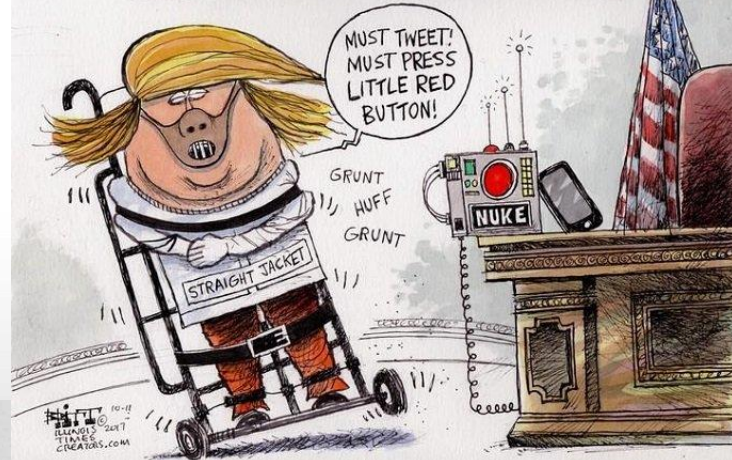
# An Analysis of our Times



THE TRUMP SHOW  
DAY 88100  
DAYS TO GO 1360



MAKING AMERICA SAFE AGAIN



I can't escape the pain  
I can't control the rage  
sometimes I think I'll go insane  
I'm not against what's right  
I'm not for what's wrong  
I'm just making my way and I'm gone  
Here's the weight of the world  
on my shoulders



Welcome to January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

We've got coverage folks. Fake news is still running rampant, but a new trend is picking up: the joke is over, we're living in a disrupted world. Not just political, with religious extremism, and even with smartphones that tell us what to know based on what we like to hear. Global energy consumption is jumping like a jellybean. Wriggling away are the hearts of so many, because, honestly, something about our collective ego has gone too far down the abyssal plane. Rescue is now a fighting game. Knowing right from wrong doesn't cut it anymore, and all too many aren't courageous enough to find the answers in themselves.

The key to Trump's success is that he took advantage of a simple truth: people don't know what's coming next, unless they make it certain. How do we make it certain? Well, we don't follow heart, that's a creative voyage. No, we plan and take action, and in a world that fears uncertainty, action has been impeded.

See, from an optimistic viewpoint, Trump is making the world (particularly Americans) deal with uncertainty. From the pessimistic one, he's showing everyone who cares to watch and listen what absolute power looks like when it goes to an entrepreneurial gambler.

I was a Mad Scientist, edutaining kids in after school programs, special events and birthday parties for a while. By being the best of myself, I had to be loose. The kids just needed some time to lose themselves in the activities and enjoy every moment, not listen to someone telling them what to do, or what was *really* going on. That's what science is about, getting the most accurate perspective on what's *really* going on in this wacky, observable universe.

What's *really* going on in this post-Truth Trump era of human development and American civil turmoil? Not enough people know the way forward; or, essentially, how to act rather than react, other than business leaders, intellectuals, artists, and technologists. The people on the ground are stuck in a loop of solemnity I've never seen before. The objective world isn't too sad about what's going on, but the subjective one is totally washed out of play.

We've all got our own objectives and ways of having fun, and that's a key motivation for anyone to compete in the world today. After all...

*"What separates the winners from the losers is how a person reacts to each new twist of fate." - Donald J. Trump*

But the times are twisting, and that's unfortunate. People like Trump coming to power means that the most authoritative power in the world is more concerned with winning a battle of political ego than creating a world the next generation of human beings will want to live in.



We are all of us dreamers, if not hopeless, chillin', or overworked, because only people like Elon Musk are courageous enough to keep building on top of the abundantly, overflowing pot. And who's reaping the winner's rewards?

In my opinion, too many capable individuals are getting sucked away by trying to find security for themselves without building it, more happily, with others.

It's as if people have forgotten how to live and started to wonder about how to prove that we are alive without experiencing it.

Not everyone, but the power players. The one's who are at the top level of control. In every league?

Well, maybe just the one's we've been paying too much attention to 😊



*What is Love?*





Common Misconceptions:

- #1: "It's all love."
- #2: "Love is all around us."
- #3: "Logic rules everything."
- #4: "There is no right way"

Why do I think these phrases aren't true? Well, because the real world is full of lackluster attempts to really create mutual understanding and harmony amongst people. Plus, our tendency to take more than we need from the Earth while worrying about silly goals is a recipe for [catastrophe](#).

Emotions are a fundamental aspect to our existence. If the 110+ neurotransmitters constantly running through our entire body aren't felt in some way, we're probably not having the full experience.

No problems with that, but the world really does need more love. So, why don't we collectively pool ideas together on how to get everyone to believe in it and act with it? Maybe because TED does a good enough job, and universities have always succeeded in the past? I mean, it just takes a broadminded analysis of the globe to see where our troubles are greatest and then we can try to figure out what's the easiest way to go about alleviating them. It's the passion to drive such societal change that I see we lack, and it's the mutual understanding on how to create peace in foreign relations and amongst vastly different cultures that I believe we can leverage to start working together in a more productive way. Beginning to live as if meaning is everywhere, but particularly in positive feelings, and that everyday has the most value of any gives me my idea of happiness.

And that's my tipping point for making the world great again.

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Love is meaning in its most essential form... given to where it's needed most. If only everyone was to open their minds, we'd have a bonfire of it on every block.

Love is the good in the world that gets sucked up by the selfish, added by the selfless, cut up by the analyst, and divvied up by the realness.

