

Evangelism to the Apathetic and Disinterested

Andy Bannister
Solas



www.solas-cpc.org

“I don’t really care
about God”

UK 2021 Census

22,162,062 people (25%) ticked
“No Religion”, but of that, only ...

- Agnostic (32,000)
- Atheist (14,000)
- Humanist (10,000)

“spiritual but
not religious”



What do you mean by that?

What do you mean by that?

Why do you think that?

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Why do you think that?

Have you ever wondered?

What do you mean by that?

Why do you think that?

Have you ever wondered?

Unbelievable?



Susan Blackmore:

In recent years I have been in the habit of waking up in the morning (even if it's raining in January in England), looking out, and going "Wow!", and it's a feeling of gratitude. Not gratitude towards god, or anybody, or anything, just free-floating gratitude.

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...

This morning, for example, I looked out and it was so green, we've had frost and it's been white the last few days, but it was green this morning. And [I felt] gratitude to the universe, if you like. It's not really "god" because it's not a creator, it's not anything I can pray to though.

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Jordan Peterson:

So why feel gratitude towards it then?

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Jordan Peterson:

So why feel gratitude towards it then?

Susan Blackmore:

I don't know.

The greatest problem for many people is not that they have nothing to be thankful for, but that they have no one to be thankful to









Susan Blackmore and Gratitude



Susan Blackmore and Gratitude

- **Look at** the experience (*“Isn’t it lovely!”*)



Susan Blackmore and Gratitude

- **Look at** the experience (*“Isn’t it lovely!”*)
- **Look along** the experience ... ?



What do you mean by that?

Why do you think that?

Have you ever wondered?



Examples of “Wondering” Questions

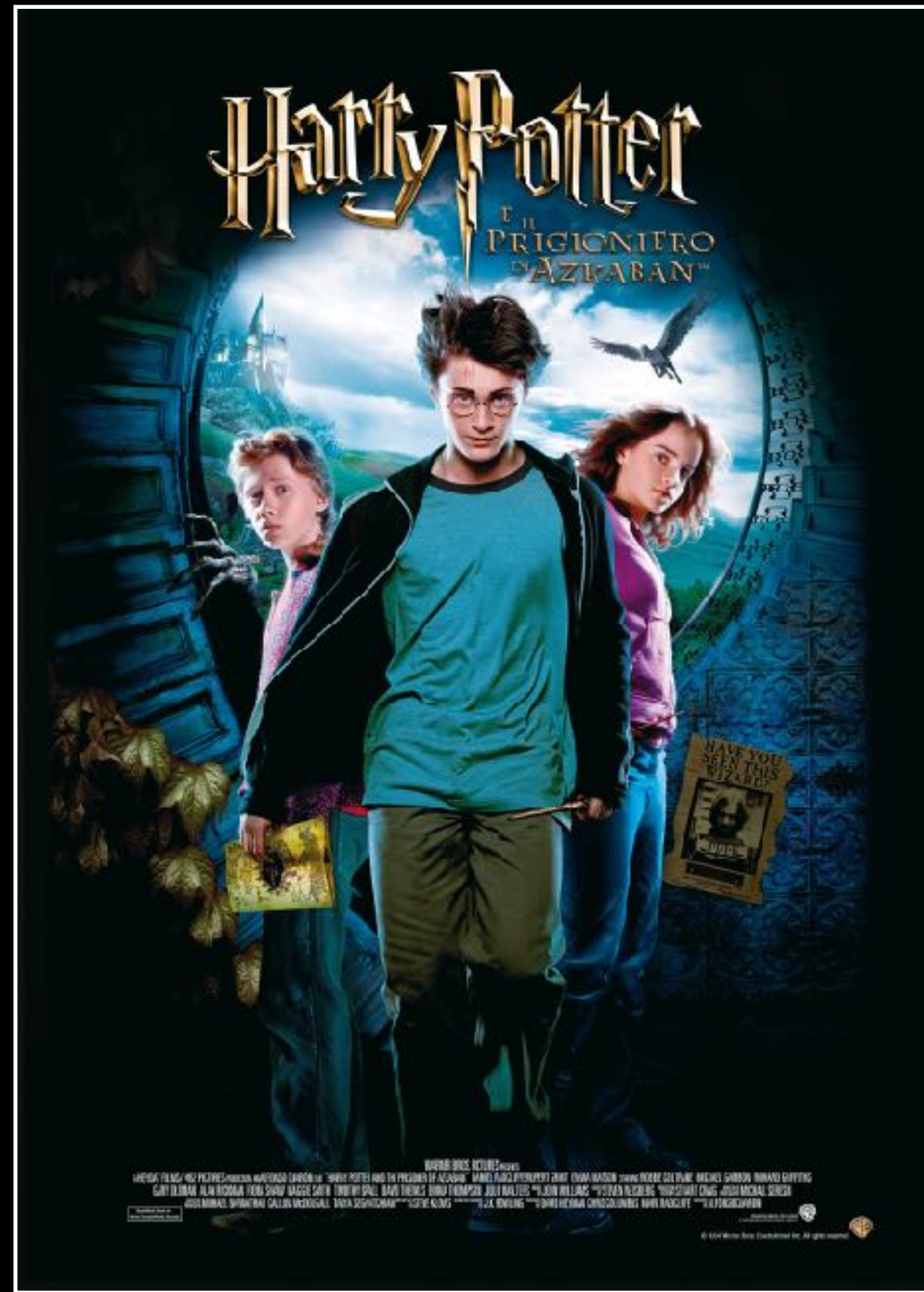
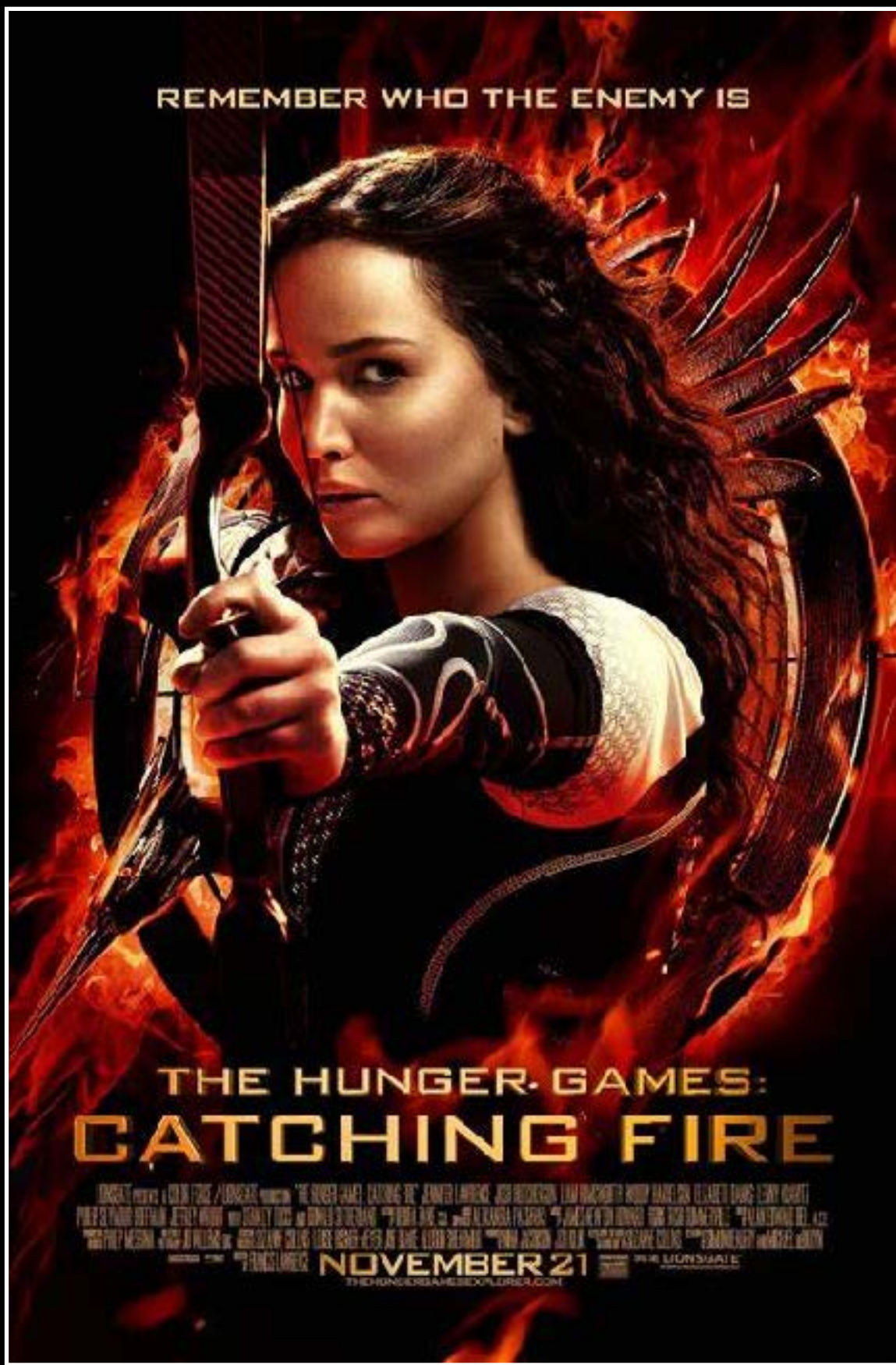
What is love?



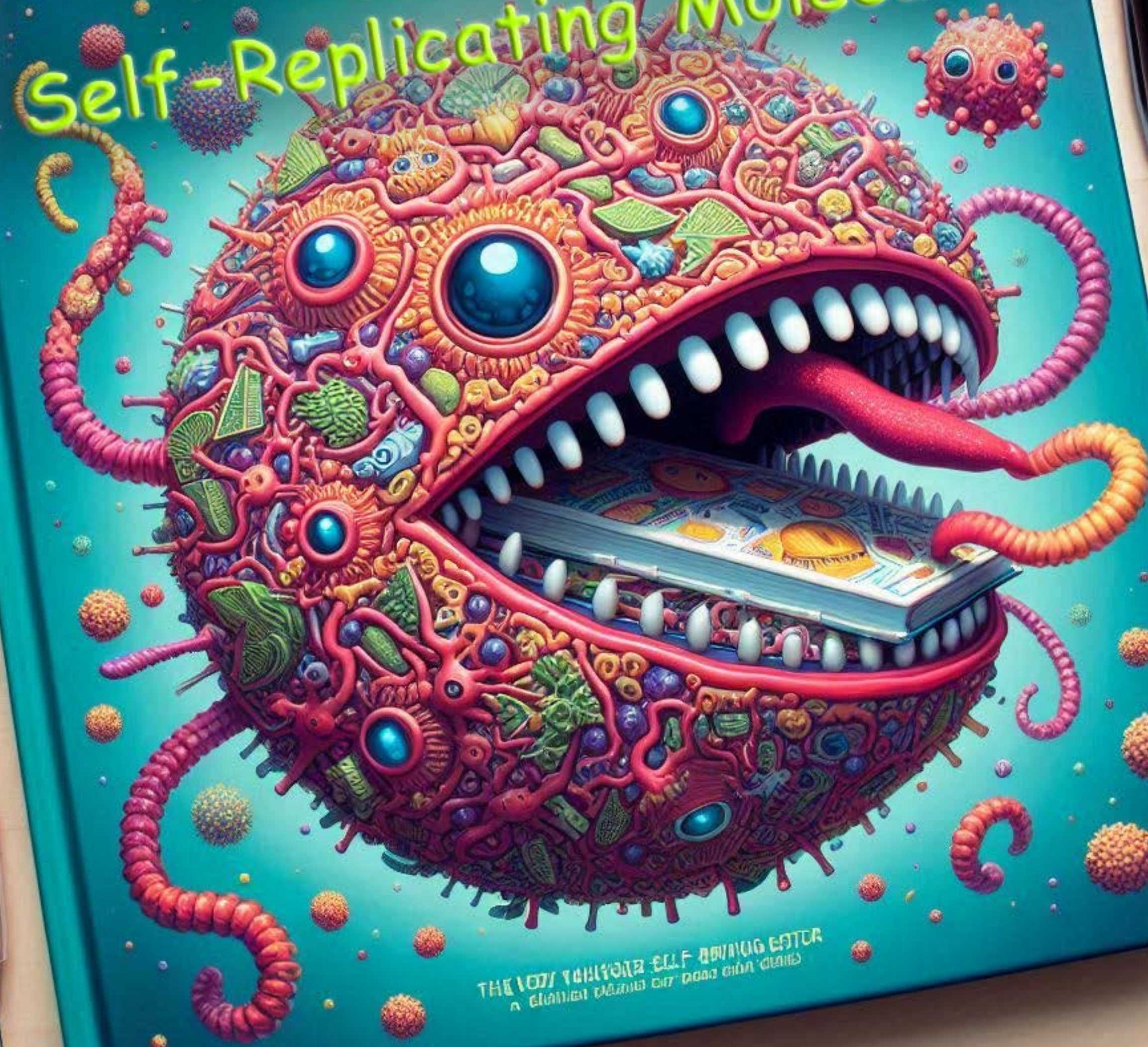
Why are the greatest stories
about good and evil?

30
Once Upon A Time...



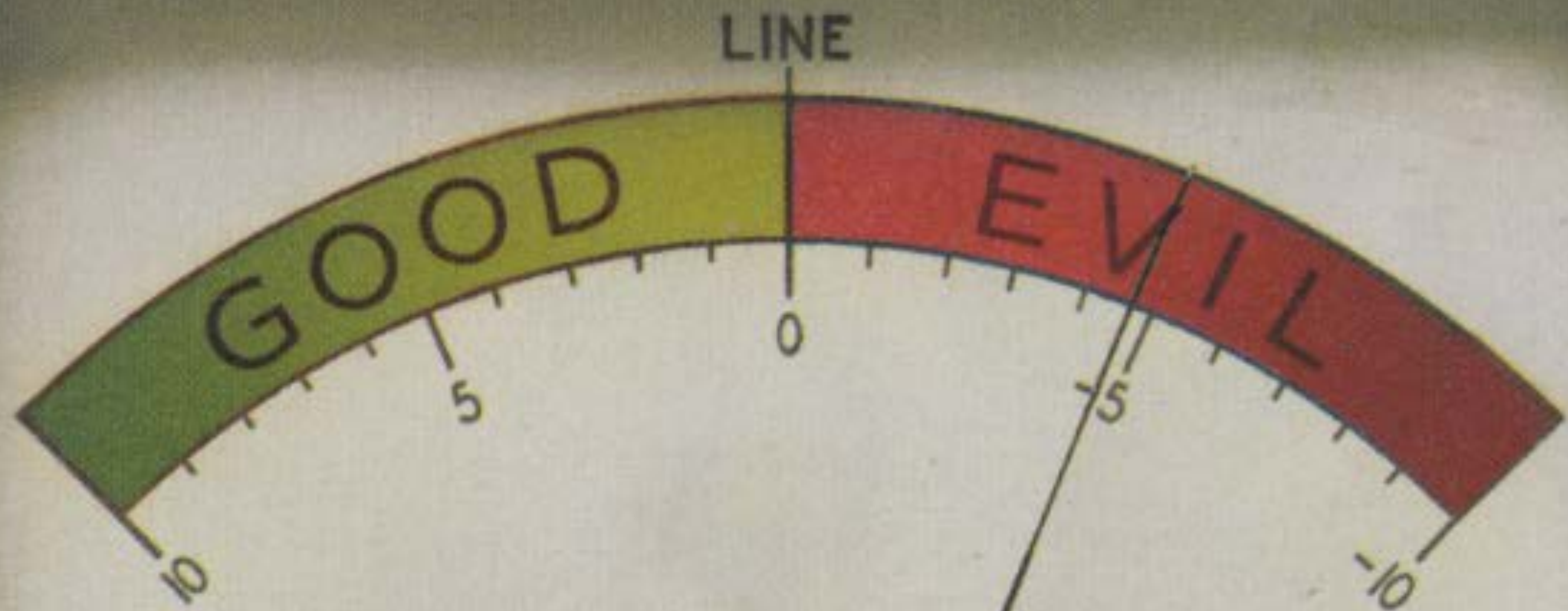


The Very Hungry Self-Replicating Molecule

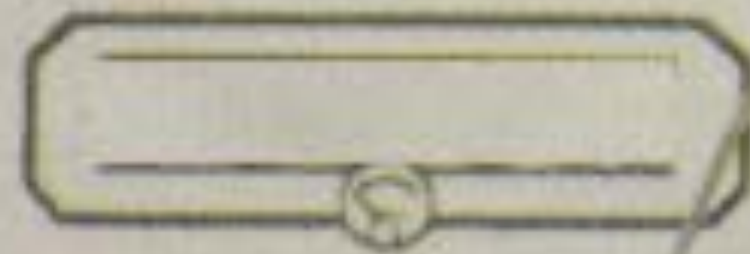


THE VERY HUNGRY SELF-REPLICATING MOLECULE
A SCIENTIFIC STORY FOR CHILDREN



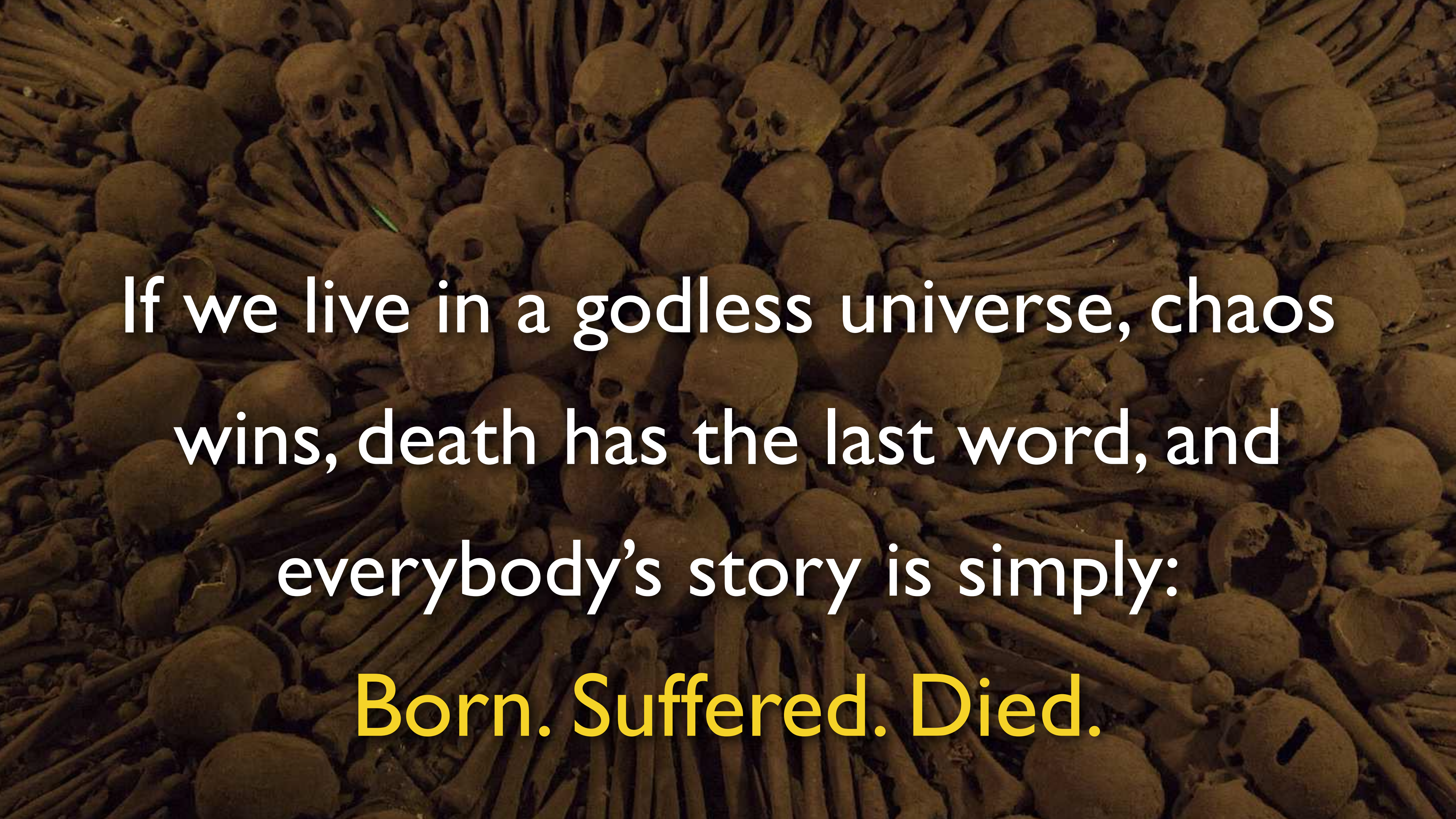


EVIL METER



MODEL NO. 648

ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENT COMPANY,
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA U.S.A.



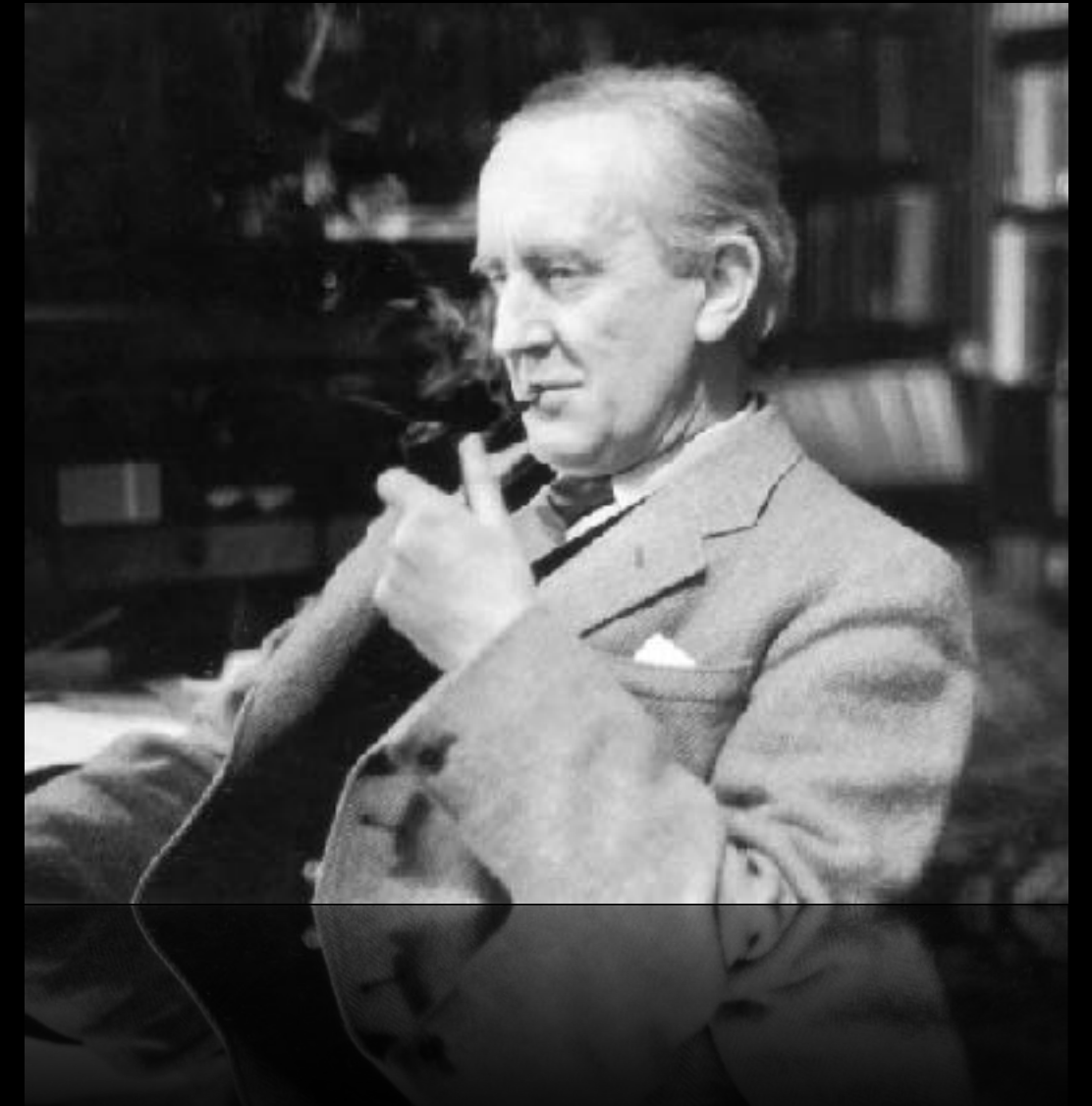
If we live in a godless universe, chaos
wins, death has the last word, and
everybody's story is simply:

Born. Suffered. Died.

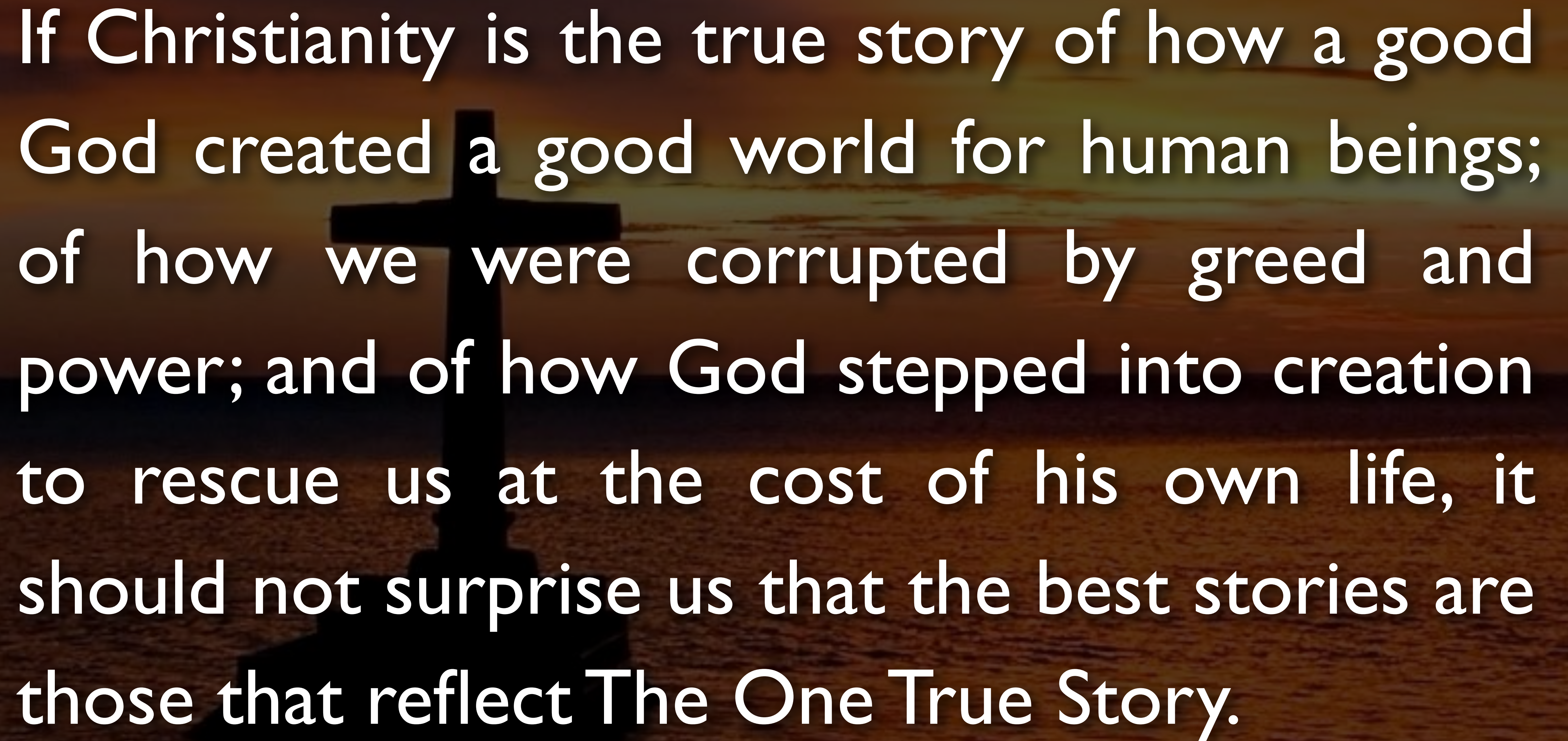


“The Lord of the Rings is of course a fundamentally religious and Catholic work; unconsciously so at first, but consciously in the revision.”

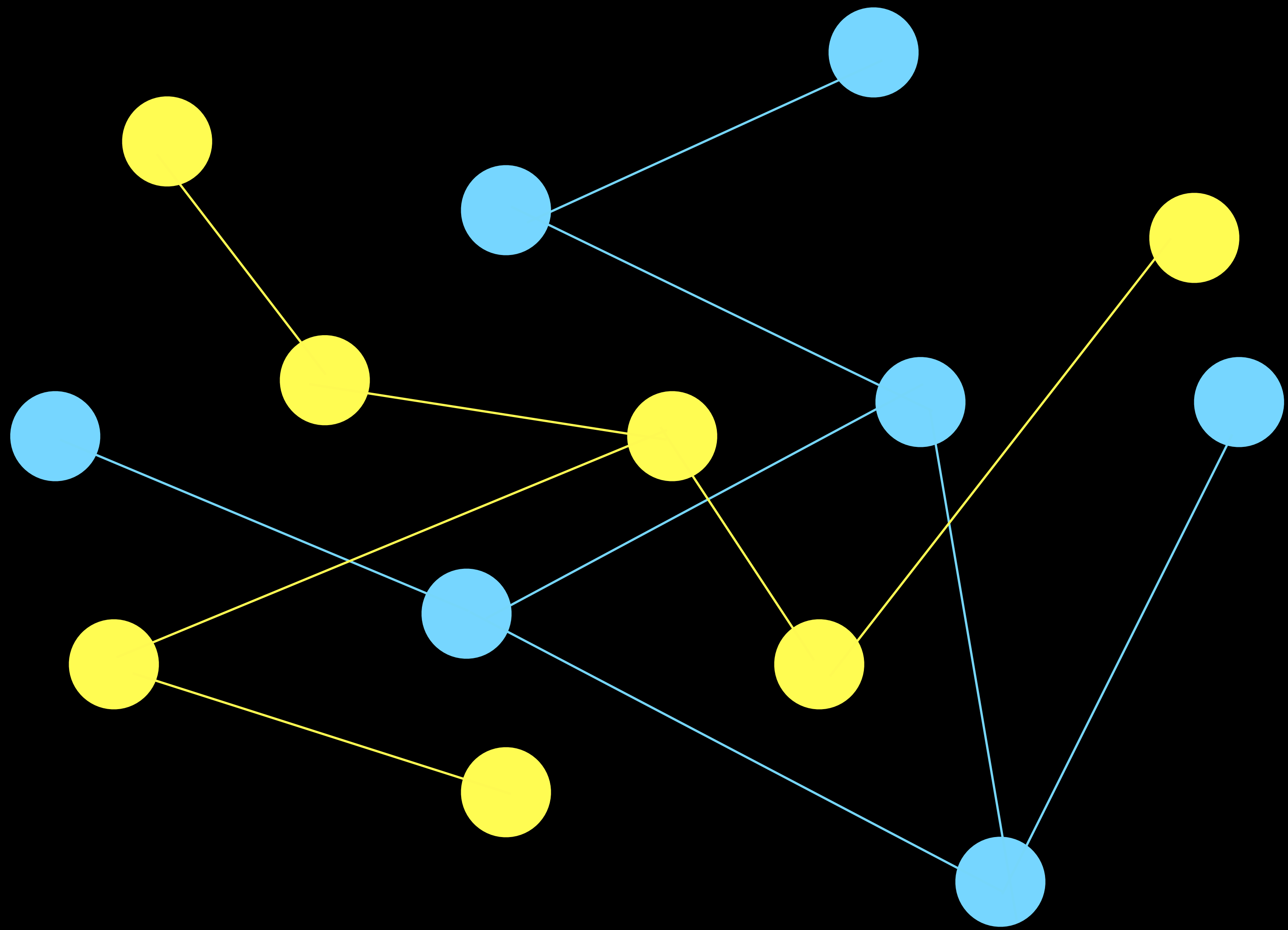
J. R. R. Tolkien





A silhouette of a cross is centered in the background against a sunset sky with a horizon line. The text is overlaid on this image.

If Christianity is the true story of how a good God created a good world for human beings; of how we were corrupted by greed and power; and of how God stepped into creation to rescue us at the cost of his own life, it should not surprise us that the best stories are those that reflect The One True Story.



Joining the Dots in Evangelism

Connecting the *Little Story* to the *Big Story*

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE COMEDY AGENCY



THREE WEEKS MAGAZINE



SORTED MAGAZINE

ANDY KIND

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

5 CLUES THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED IN THE SEARCH FOR MEANING

'One of the best Gospel communicators I know, and certainly the funniest'

DR ANDY BANNISTER
HEAD OF SOLAS, CENTRE FOR
PUBLIC CHRISTIANITY

'Tosses out comic gems in an almost profligate manner'

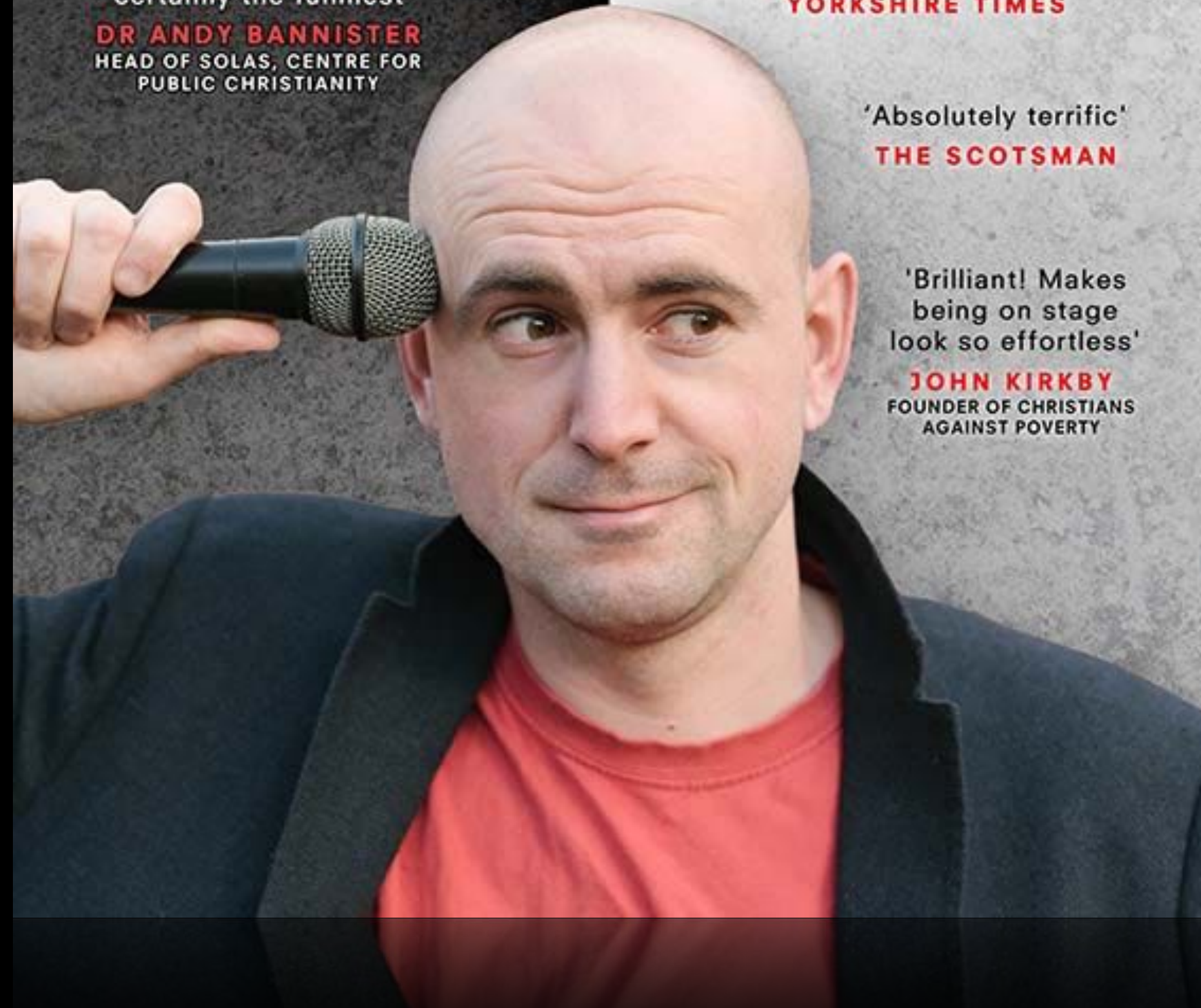
YORKSHIRE TIMES

'Absolutely terrific'

THE SCOTSMAN

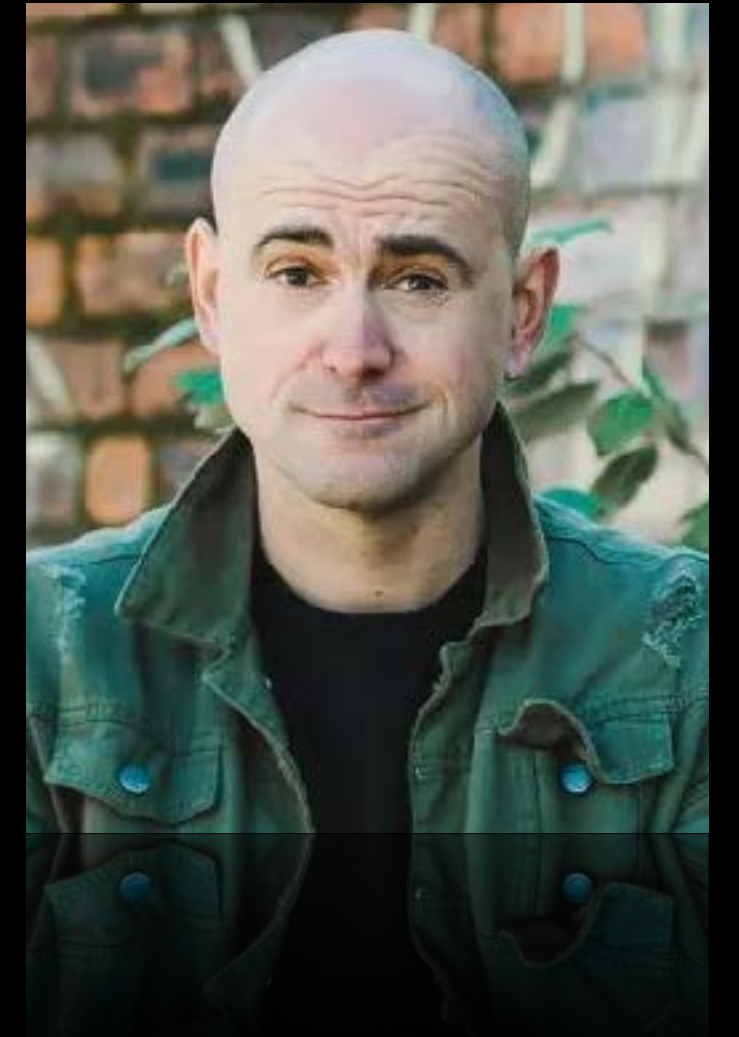
'Brilliant! Makes being on stage look so effortless'

JOHN KIRKBY
FOUNDER OF CHRISTIANS
AGAINST POVERTY



“In my early twenties I didn’t really know what I thought of the Big Story that the universe is telling ... There seemed to be an infinite number of religions, philosophies and conspiracy theories which sought to account for how and why the universe is as it is, and I wasn’t sure which of those Big Stories out there was the real deal. But I did know something about my ‘Little Story’. I knew that I believed in Love. Not just love, but unconditional Love. I wanted to be loved without fear of rejection; loved for who I was and not based on what I did ... I believed in Justice ... I believed in Purpose ... I believed in Freedom ... I believed in Beauty ... I believed that death felt unnatural to observe, no matter how many times I observed it.”

Andy Kind



Four Steps ...

Find out what your friend is passionate about

Take an interest in it

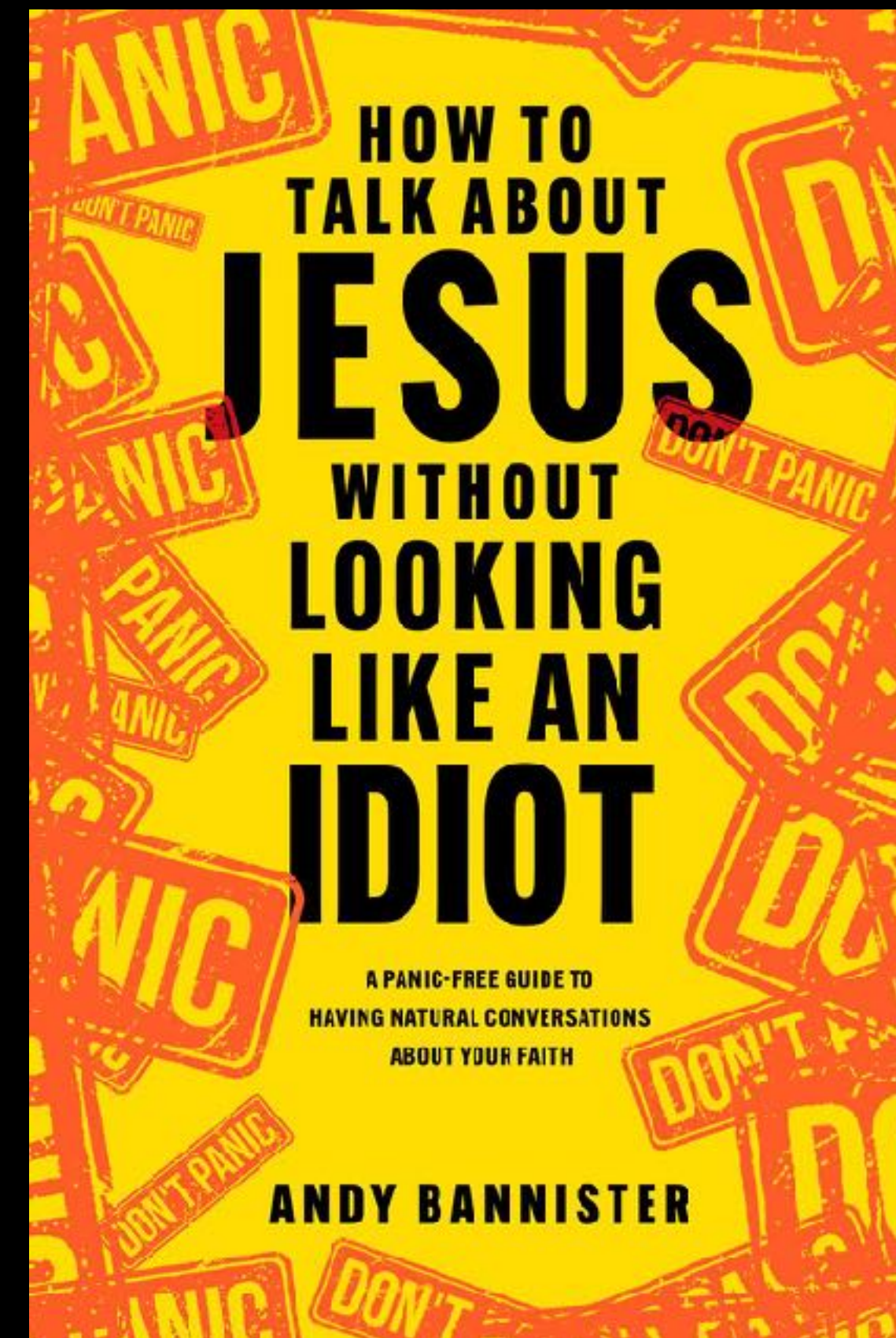
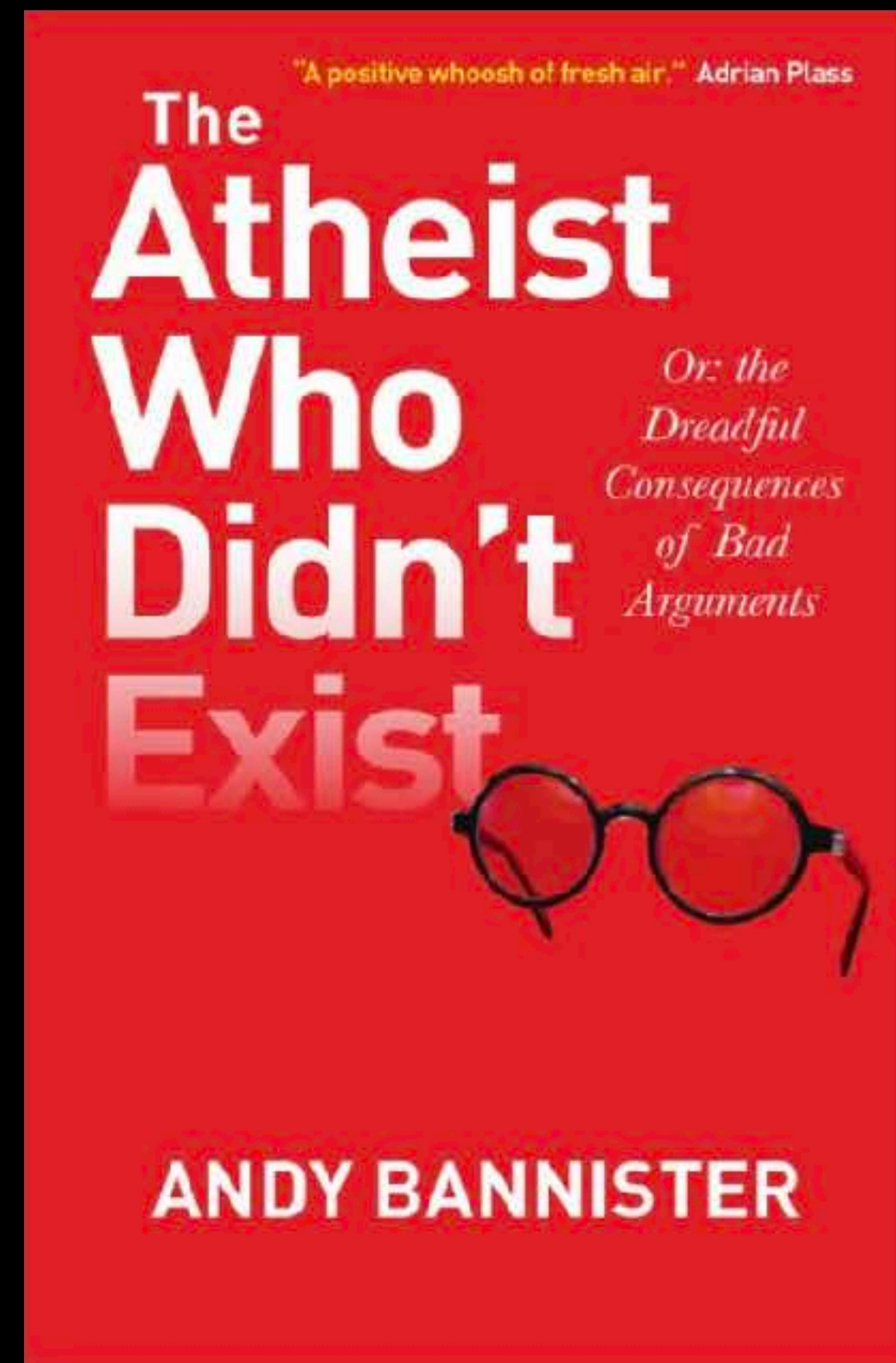
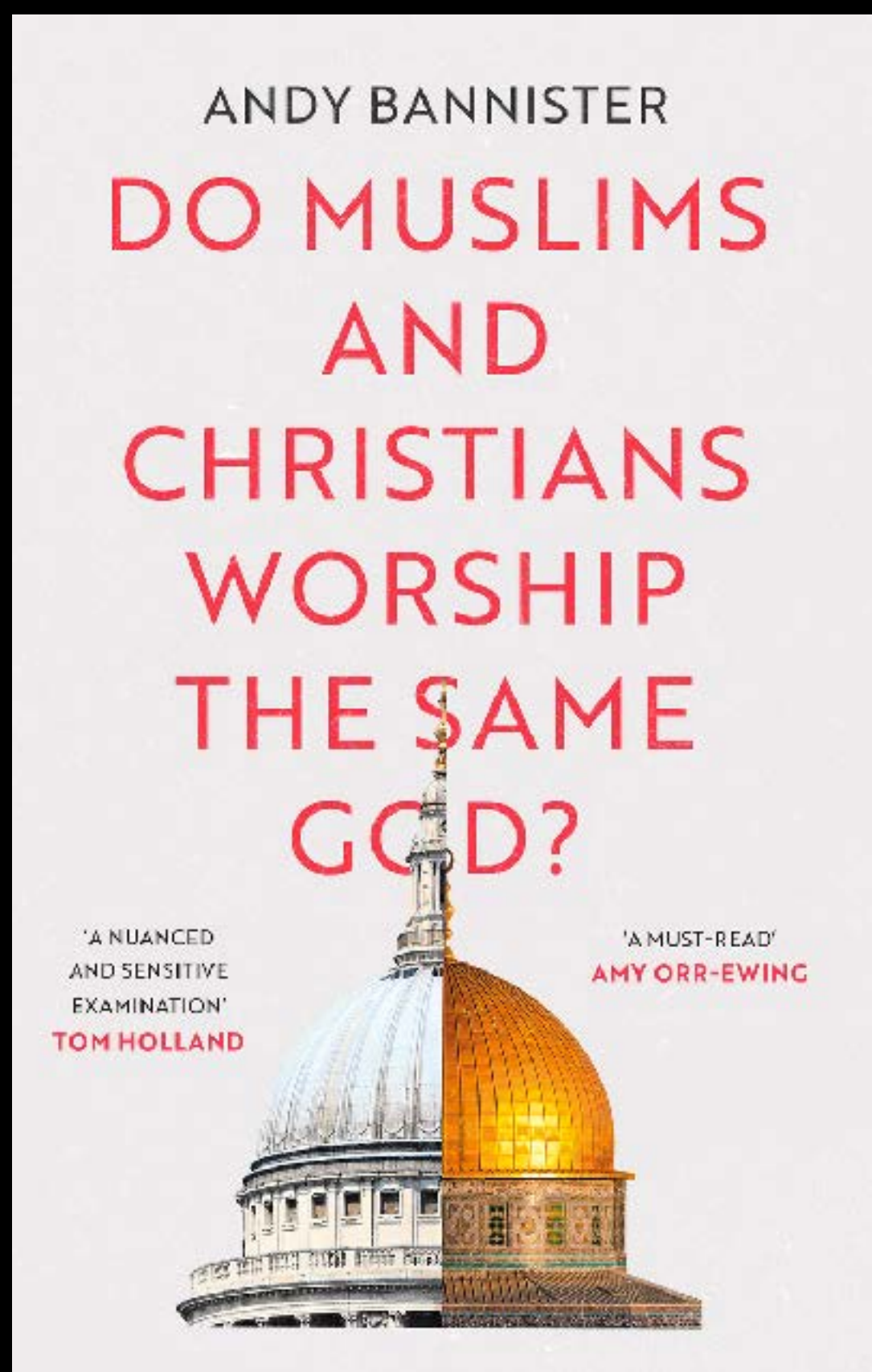
Use a “wondering question” to show how
it doesn't fit in a godless world

Show how Christianity makes best sense of it



“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it but because by it, I see everything else.”

C. S. Lewis



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