

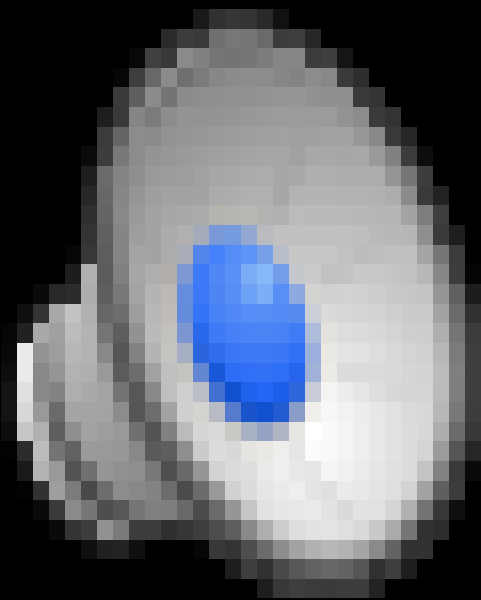
The Penultimate Curiosity

Andrew Briggs

THE
PENULTIMATE
CURIOUSITY

HOW SCIENCE SWIMS IN THE
SLIPSTREAM OF ULTIMATE QUESTIONS

ROGER WAGNER & ANDREW BRIGGS





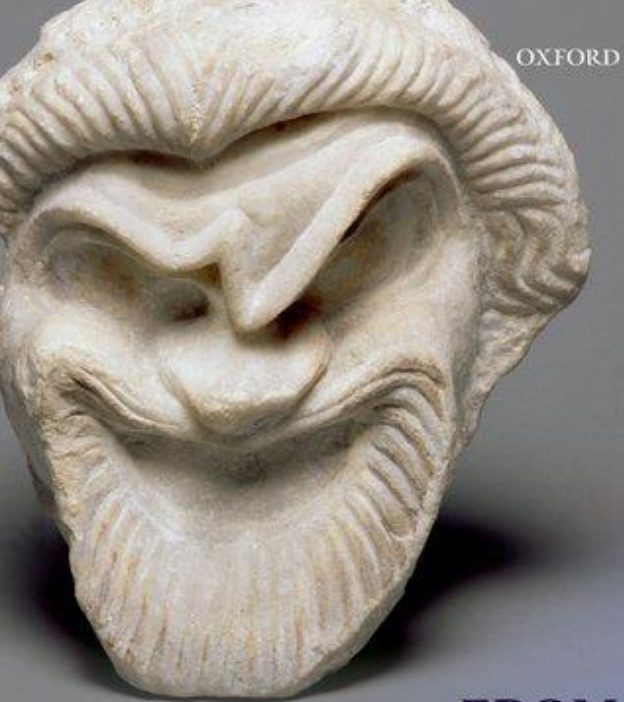


MAIORA OPERA DOMINI EXOTISITA





© David Smith



FROM POLYPRAGMON TO CURIOSUS

Ancient Concepts of Curious and
Meddlesome Behaviour

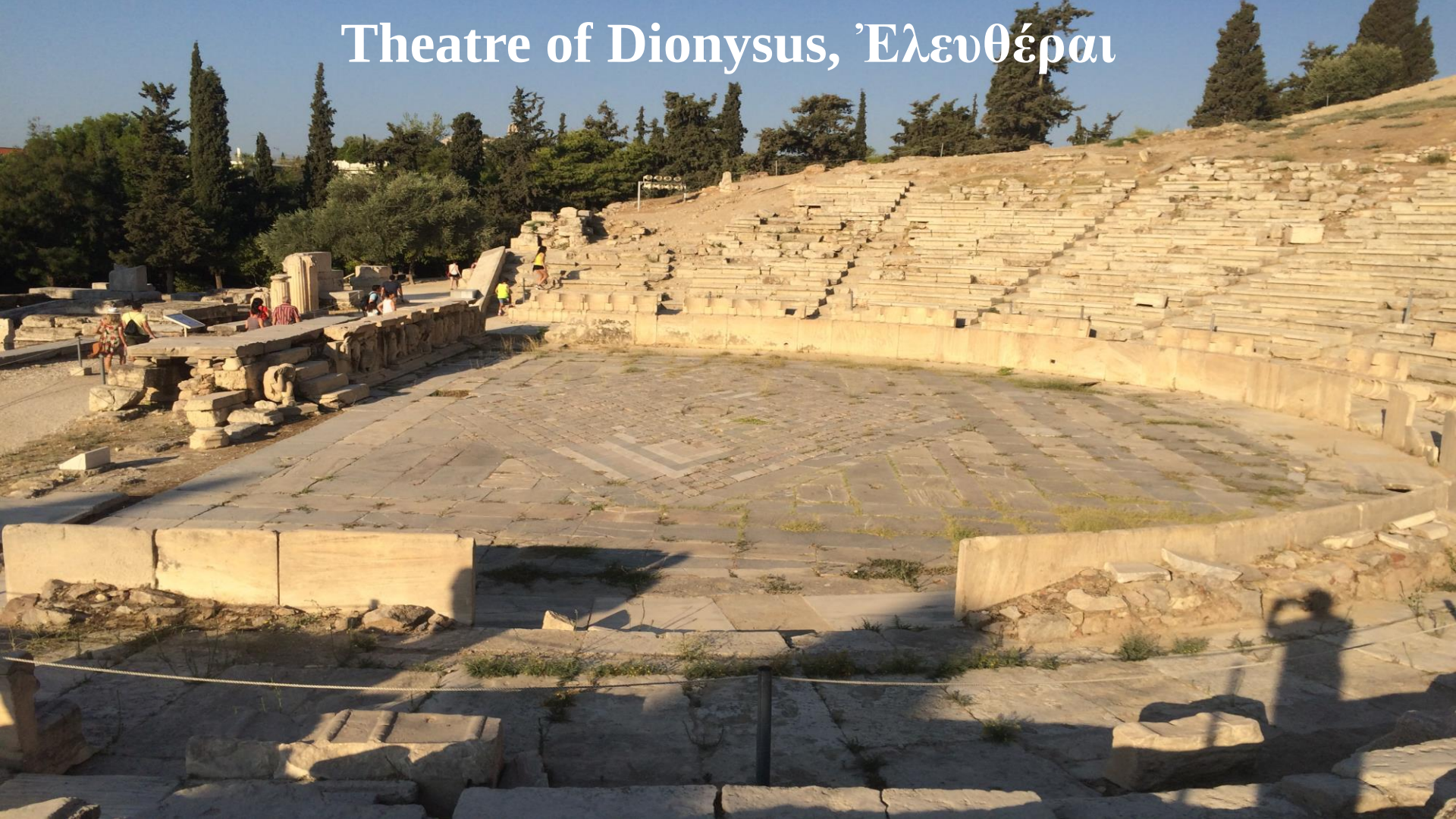
MATTHEW LEIGH

Seneca *De Otio (On Leisure)*

Man has been given a sublime head atop a
flexible neck the better to follow the stars

... scientific research will move from the realm of
the visible to that of the intelligible

Theatre of Dionysus, Ἐλευθέραι





IOANNES GRAM-
MATICVS PHILOPO-

NVS ALEXANDRINVS
IN PROCLI DIADOCHI
DVODEVIGINTI
ARGVMENTA

DE MVNDI AETERNITATE.

*Opus rerum multiplicique Philosophia
cognitione refertum.*

IOANNE MAHOTIO
ARGENTINAO
interprete.



LVGDVNI,

1557.

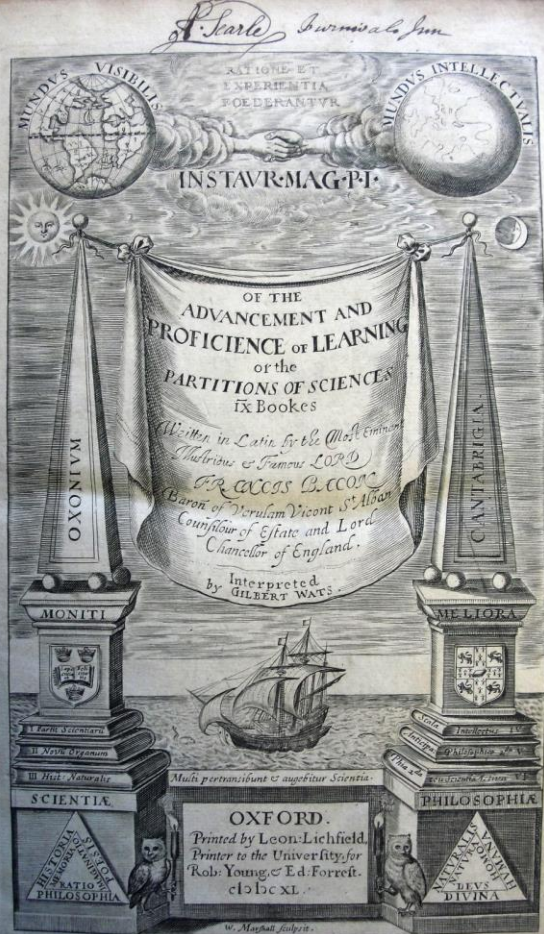
Cum Privilegio Regii.





Robert Grosseteste (1175 – 1253)

[illegible]



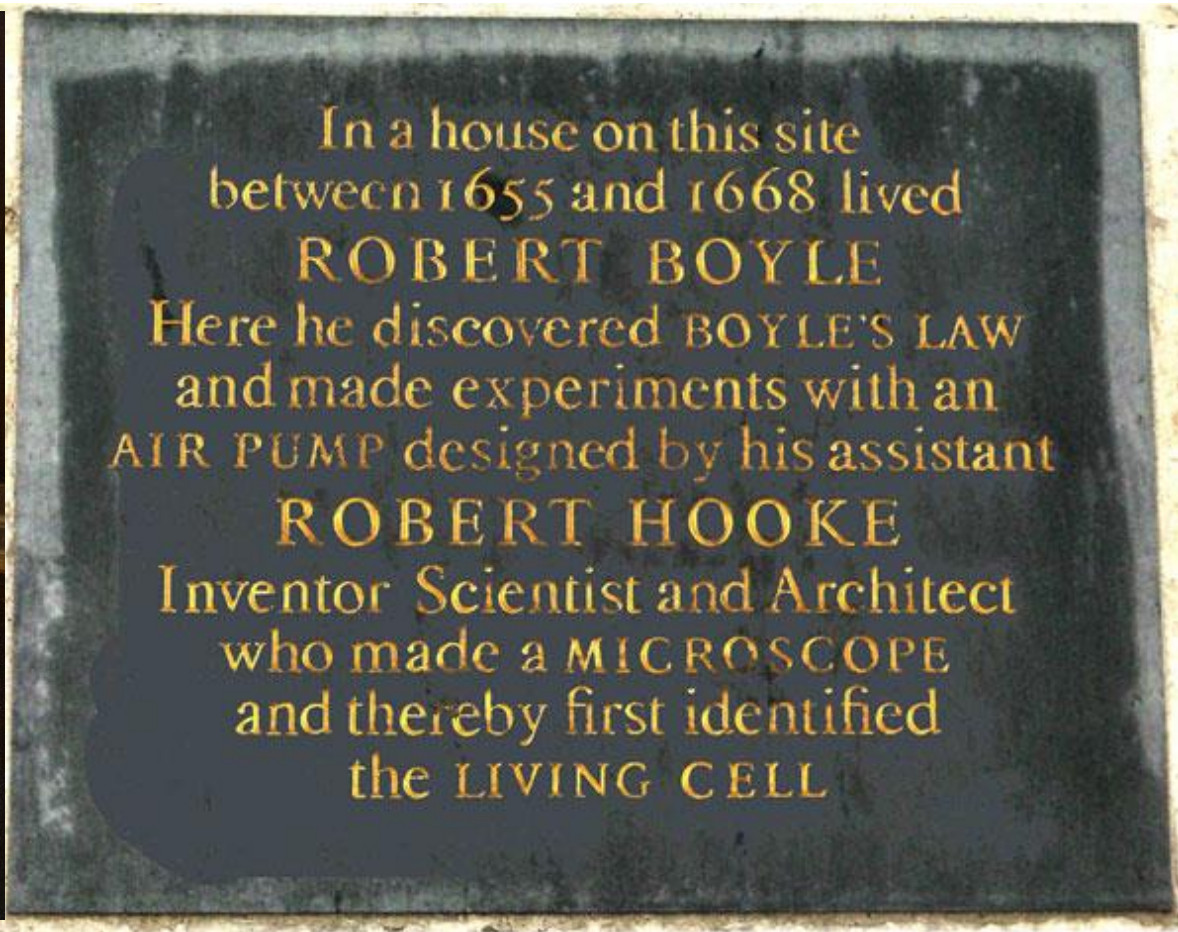
Wadham College Library



Francis Bacon (1561 – 1626)







Robert Boyle (1627 – 1691)

A D E F E N C E

Of the Doctrine touching the

Spring and Weight

Of the A I R,

Propos'd by Mr. R. BOYLE in his New
Physico-Mechanical Experiments;

Against the Objections of
FRANCISCUS LINUS.

Wherewith the Objector's FUNICULAR HYPOTHESIS
is also examin'd.

By the Author of those Experiments.

L O N D O N :

Printed by J. G. for Thomas Robinson Bookseller in Oxon,
1 6 6 2.

Robert Boyle (1627 – 1691)

(60)

divisions in the shorter Tube, the several Observations that were thus successively made, and as they were made set down, afforded us the ensuing Table.

A Table of the Condensation of the Air.

	A	B	C	D	E
48	12	00		$29\frac{2}{3}$	$29\frac{2}{3}$
46	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$01\frac{1}{2}$		$30\frac{2}{3}$	$30\frac{2}{3}$
44	11	$02\frac{1}{2}$		$31\frac{1}{3}$	$31\frac{1}{3}$
42	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$04\frac{1}{2}$		$33\frac{1}{3}$	$33\frac{1}{3}$
40	10	$06\frac{1}{2}$		$35\frac{1}{3}$	$35\frac{1}{3}$
38	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$07\frac{1}{2}$		$37\frac{1}{3}$	$36\frac{1}{3}$
36	9	$10\frac{1}{2}$		$39\frac{1}{3}$	$38\frac{1}{3}$
34	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{2}$		$41\frac{1}{3}$	$41\frac{1}{3}$
32	8	$15\frac{1}{2}$		$44\frac{1}{3}$	$43\frac{1}{3}$
30	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$17\frac{1}{2}$		$47\frac{1}{3}$	$46\frac{1}{3}$
28	7	$21\frac{1}{2}$		$50\frac{1}{3}$	$50\frac{1}{3}$
26	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$25\frac{1}{2}$		$54\frac{1}{3}$	$53\frac{1}{3}$
24	6	$29\frac{1}{2}$		$58\frac{1}{3}$	$58\frac{1}{3}$
23	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$32\frac{1}{2}$		$61\frac{1}{3}$	$60\frac{1}{3}$
22	$5\frac{1}{4}$	$34\frac{1}{2}$		$64\frac{1}{3}$	$63\frac{1}{3}$
21	$5\frac{1}{4}$	$37\frac{1}{2}$		$67\frac{1}{3}$	$66\frac{1}{3}$
20	5	$41\frac{1}{2}$		$70\frac{1}{3}$	$70\frac{1}{3}$
19	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$45\frac{1}{2}$		$74\frac{1}{3}$	$73\frac{1}{3}$
18	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$48\frac{1}{2}$		$77\frac{1}{3}$	$77\frac{1}{3}$
17	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$52\frac{1}{2}$		$82\frac{1}{3}$	$82\frac{1}{3}$
16	4	$58\frac{1}{2}$		$87\frac{1}{3}$	$87\frac{1}{3}$
15	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$63\frac{1}{2}$		$93\frac{1}{3}$	$93\frac{1}{3}$
14	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$71\frac{1}{2}$		$100\frac{1}{3}$	$99\frac{1}{3}$
13	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$78\frac{1}{2}$		$107\frac{1}{3}$	$107\frac{1}{3}$
12	3	$88\frac{1}{2}$		$117\frac{1}{3}$	$116\frac{1}{3}$

Added to 208 makes

- AA. The number of equal spaces in the shorter leg, that contained the same parcel of Air diversly extended.
- B. The height of the Mercurial Cylinder in the longer leg, that compress'd the Air into those dimensions.
- C. The height of a Mercurial Cylinder that counterbalanc'd the pressure of the Atmosphere.
- D. The Aggregate of the two last Columns B and C, exhibiting the pressure sustained by the included Air.
- E. What that pressure should be according to the Hypothesis, that supposes the pressures and expansions to be in reciprocal proportion.

For the better understanding of this Experiment it may not be amiss to take notice of the following particulars:

1. That the Tube being so tall that we could not conveniently make use of it in a Chamber, we were fain to use it on a pair of Stairs, which yet were very lightsom, the Tube being for prefer-

vations

HSS A.3

THE
Christian Virtuoso:

SHEWING,

That by being addicted to *Experimental Philosophy*, a Man is rather Assisted,
than Indisposed, to be a *Good Christian*.

The First Part.

By T. H. R. B. Fellow of the
ROYAL SOCIETY.

To which are Subjoin'd,

- I. A Discourse about the Distinction,
that represents some Things as *Above Reason*, but not *Contrary to Reason*.
- II. The first Chapters of a Discourse,
Entituled, *Greatness of Mind promoted by Christianity*.

By the same AUTHOR.

In the SAVOY:

Printed by *Edw. Jones*, for *John Taylor* at
the Ship, and *John Wyat* at the Golden-
Lion, in *St. Paul's Church-yard*, 1690.

Thom. Tanner

(1)

THE
Christian Virtuoso:

SHEWING,

That by being addicted to
Experimental Philosophy, a Man
is rather assisted, than indispo-
sed, to be a *Good Christian*.

The First Part.

SIR,

I Perceive by what you intimate,
that your Friends, Dr. W. and
Mr. N. think it very strange, that
I, whom they are pleas'd to look
upon as a diligent Cultivator of *Ex-
perimental Philosophy*, should be a con-
cern'd

Robert Boyle (1627 – 1691)







It Keeps Me Seeking



Andrew Briggs, Hans Halvorson, Andrew Steane, OUP 2018

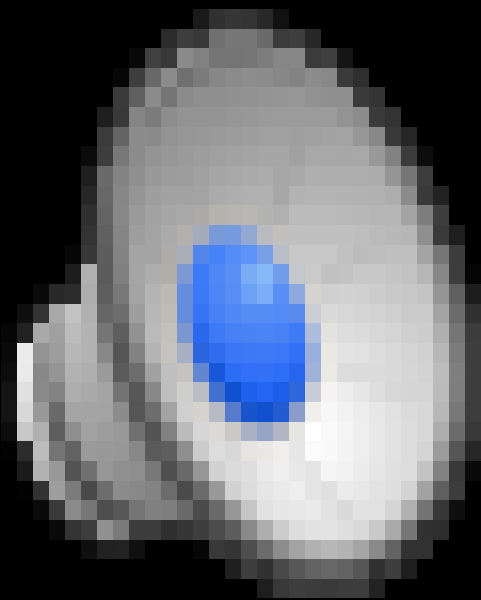
It Keeps Me Seeking

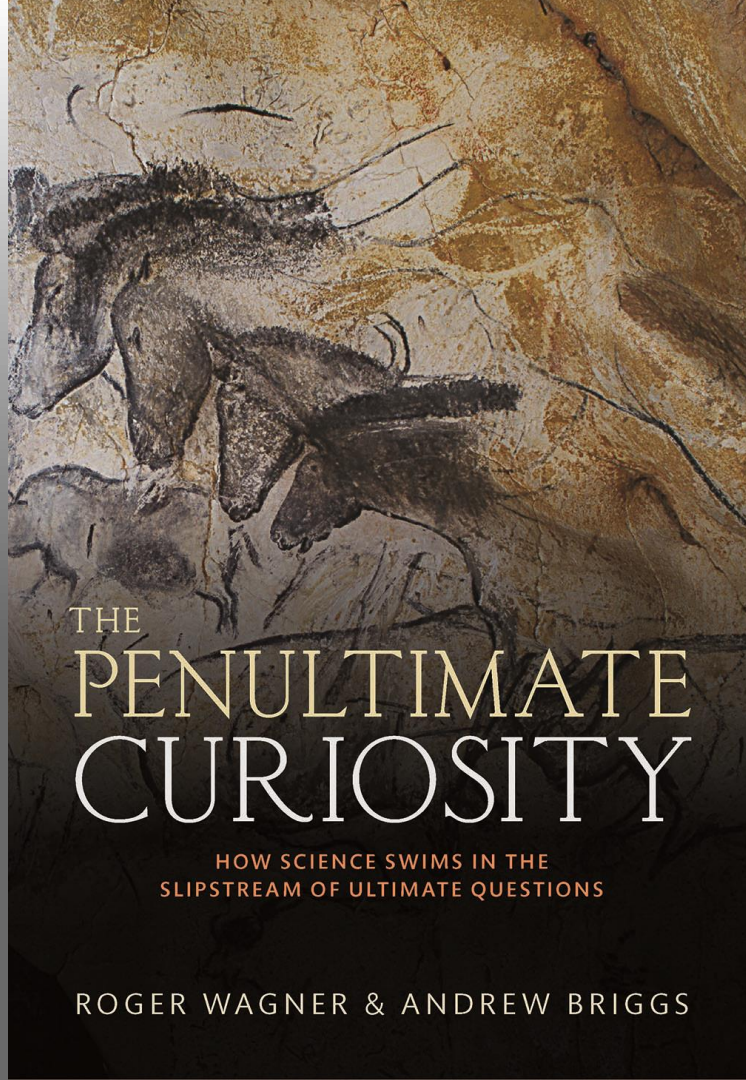
1. God is a being to be known, not a hypothesis to be tested.
2. We set a high bar on what constitutes a good argument.
3. Uncertainty is OK.
4. We are allowed to open up the window that the natural world offers us.











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