

— **Richard Dawkins, River Out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life**

The total amount of suffering per year in the natural world is beyond all decent contemplation.

During the minute that it takes me to compose this sentence, thousands of animals are being eaten alive, many others are running for their lives, whimpering with fear, others are slowly being devoured from within by rasping parasites, thousands of all kinds are dying of starvation, thirst, and disease.

It must be so. If there ever is a time of plenty, this very fact will automatically lead to an increase in the population until the natural state of starvation and misery is restored.

In a universe of electrons and selfish genes, blind physical forces and genetic replication, some people are going to get hurt, other people are going to get lucky, and you won't find any rhyme or reason in it, nor any justice.

The universe that we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil, no good, nothing but pitiless indifference.

---**And More: Professor Didier Queloz**

“We believed we were the center of the universe. We believed everything was orbiting around us. We believed the solar system was this... then we realized the universe is expanding and so on. I'd expect that our next breakthrough will be one where we find life plenty in the universe, where we realize how boring and insignificant we are.”

