

Dan Brown's book *Origin*

By Jan Erik Sigdell

After a (too!) lengthy story about how professor Langdon was taken around (taken for a ride?) by an AI entity that called itself Winston, we finally arrive at the details concerning the "Origin" as late as in Chapter 90 and on...

The „Secret“ that in the story Edmond Kirsch revealed is based upon these facts and conclusions:

[The Miller-Urey experiment](#). This was set up in 1952 with the intention to show that biological chemical components could arise spontaneously "without a god". Basically, the experiment failed since only just a few amino acids formed that were not really relevant.

However, decades later it was found that several other compounds had in the meantime developed *very slowly* in the preserved vial and the experiment was run again with new forms of spark discharge (see below) after the death of Miller in 2007. The results of the repeated experiments were interesting, but in my view can still not be validated as conclusive since they did not allow for the assumption that the mixture was somehow *alive*.

The idea of this experiment is that if basic biological chemical components are formed spontaneously in a closed environment simulating the atmospheric condition of the Earth billions of years ago, without external influence, this would contradict creationist concepts of an original creator god. However, the critical point is that the electric spark discharged in the vial (designed to simulate atmospheric flashes of lightning) did indeed require a potentially invasive connection to an electric source *outside* the vial that might actually be regarded as simulating "divine intervention"!

In Chapter 92, the story speculates about entropy, which has to do with the fact that physical structures tend to decay and fall apart, actually randomizing towards a chaos. The next chapter hypothesizes that it requires some order to efficiently create chaos. The fictitious Edmond then tells that he has carried out extensive simulations according to this in a computer model so complex that it requires a supercomputer to run it. The result of repeated runs was that, actually, Darwin was right in the specific sense that nature finds its ways in an "evolution" to most effectively create – not really life forms – but *chaos*. "The most fitting way to chaos". The system thus creates some form of a structure that leads to chaos, dissipating its energy. Moreover, the most effective destroyer of biological life is the actually developing AI = artificial intelligence! Various runs of the computer model indicated (in the story) that the destruction process would culminate around the year 2050, terminating biological life on this planet like a black force that swallows it all up. Do we not see indications of such a process already today in the humanity of this Earth? Such as tendencies towards nuclear wars that would mostly leave radiation resistant *machines* functioning, thus surviving humans. This fits remarkably well with a very pessimistic future view by John C. Lilly in his book *The Scientist*.

But a dissipating self-destructive process needs something to destroy, to begin with! Where does that come from? After all – from a *creator*? Or as stated in Chapter 98: "*If the laws of physics are so powerful that they can create life ... who created the laws*"? Could it be that some creator force or entity intentionally designed it to be self-destroying and only last for some eons? Where would that entity be? One very important fact is missing in the story: that our universe is *multidimensional*! We are three-dimensional and with our limited physical sensory organs can only perceive in three dimensions, leaving us blind and deaf to other dimensions. Thus, we have no idea of what is going on there! There could (as an example, but for certain reasons) be 12 dimensions in the universe, and then there would be nine dimensions of which we have no idea. Is it not quite obvious that things going on there will almost certainly influence what is going on in our "duck pond", without our knowing? And that there will definitely have to be different life forms in other dimensions that we could hardly imagine? Is the *creator of three-dimensional life there*? Are we part of an experiment that entities in other dimensions are running in an enclosed space?

By the way, what is a *chaos*? The word is usually understood as a mess, a complete disorder. Actually, "chaos" indicates *complete emptiness* and comes from the Greek *chaino* (χαίνω) that means

“yawn” (cf. the expression “yawning emptiness”). Cf. *tohu va bohu* (תְּהוֹ וּבְהוּ) “formless and empty” or “null and void”) in the Bible (Gen 1:2).

Below is a brief summarizing quote from a frightening future vision of John Cunningham Lilly (1915-2001).

We are living in a time of development at a fantastic speed in communication and computer technology with semiconductors. The invention of the transistor in 1947 – at that time with germanium, later with silicon – initiated a revolution in electronics. Since this is based on effects of solid-state physics and no more on vacuum tubes, one talks about solid-state electronics. Later, transistors were as integrated circuits incorporated with complete electronic functions in one single chip, today even as computer systems with millions of transistors. This was the beginning of the development of artificial intelligence, in which these transistors effectively function like nerve cells in a brain. Computers are employed to an increasing extent that efficiently and independently “think” and even can learn and program and develop themselves further.

Lilly experimented with altered states of consciousness, especially under the influence of ketamine (a substance with an effect similar to LSD, but with a rather short duration). In such states, he had various visions and, as he wrote, contact with a “solid-state entity” (SSE). It came to visions of the future and we can only hope that such a *possible* future will not and never be reality. He saw it as follows.

“Gradually Man turned more and more problems of his own society, his own maintenance, and his own survival over to these machines. As the machines became increasingly competent to do the programming, they took over from Man. Man gave them access to the processes of creating themselves, of extending themselves. Man gave them automatic control of the mining of those elements necessary for the creation of their parts. He turned over the production facilities of the electronic solid-state parts to the machines. He turned over the assembly plants to the machines. They began to construct their own components, their own connections, and the interrelations between their various subcomputers.”

As time went on, these machines with growing complexity became sensitive to environmental factors like water, pollution and humidity in the air. They established themselves in air-conditioned buildings with a purified atmosphere. “Over the decades these machines were connected more and more closely through satellites, through radio waves, through land-line cables. Man’s control of what happened in these machines became more and more difficult to maintain. No one person or any group of persons could control what went on in these machines. Men devised better and better debugging programs for the machines so that they could do their own correction of programs within their software. The machines became increasingly integrated with one another and more and more independent of Man’s control. Eventually the machines took charge of the remaining humans on the planet Earth. Their original design to help Man was fast left behind them. The now interconnected, interdependent conglomerate of machines developed a single integrated, planetwide mind of its own. Everything inimical to the survival of this huge new solid-state organism was eliminated. Men were kept away from the machines because the total organism of the solid-state entity (SSE) realized that Man would attempt to introduce his own survival into the machines at the expense of the survival of this entity.”

Then separate reservations were established for the humans to keep them away from the installations. “By the year 2100 Man existed only in domed, protected cities in which his own special atmosphere was maintained by the solid-state entity. Provision of water and food and the processing of wastes from these cities were taken care of by the SSE. By the twenty-third century, the solid-state entity decided that the atmosphere outside the domes was inimical to its survival. By means not understood by Man, it projected the atmosphere into outer space and created a full vacuum at the surface of the earth. During this process, the oceans evaporated and the water in the form of vapor was discharged into the empty space about Earth. The domes over cities had been strengthened by the machine to withstand the pressure differential necessary to maintain the proper internal atmosphere. The domes over cities had been strengthened by the machine to withstand the pressure differential necessary to maintain the proper internal atmosphere. Meanwhile, the SSE had spread and had taken over a large fraction of the surface of the earth; its processing plants, its assembly

plants, its mines had been adapted to working in the vacuum.“ Humans would then be considered superfluous by the artificial intelligence and eliminated in the 25th century.

If this – *horribile dictu* – would become reality, our planet would become the definite hell and one might imagine that some satanic entity could effectively incarnate in that system. He then would deliver himself to total loneliness that could compensate with fantasized fake worlds in his artificial “intelligence”, at the end a totally mind-masturbating illusion instead of real intelligence. Somewhere in time, it would come to increasingly insolvable problems of energy and raw material for the maintenance of the system. Availability of fuel for nuclear reactors and other sources of energy would come to an end.

Yet there is hope! We will migrate to another dimension. One, to which the soul of three-dimensional man goes after leaving the physical body. So far, in most cases to later incarnate again in this region, but in the future most probably in other worlds in cosmos.

Overall verdict: The book by Brown is spiritually superficial and rather disappointing.

References:

Dan Brown.: *Origin*, Doubleday, New York, NY, 2017

John C. Lilly: *The Scientist*, Ronin Publishing, Berkeley, CA, 1997

Further considerations added by me in June-July 2018

There is much discussion in science about a difficult and complex issue called *entropy* that in somewhat different forms is applied to physics and even some social theories, including economy. One result of the theory of entropy is that in a closed system the energy would gradually drift towards an increasingly disperse distribution of energy, such that correspondingly less energy is available for *work*, i.e. doing something (whatever) out of or with the energy. In earlier days, this aspect was discussed as the *ultraviolet catastrophe* since a consequence would be that energy would drift toward the ultraviolet region of frequencies and radiation and increasingly beyond, becoming lost out there. Thinking about this problem, Max Planck experimented with an assumption that energy is not a continuum, but would exist in the form of a kind of “packages” of energy called quanta. His idea first was to apply a mathematical *limes* process, letting the size (or value) of these packages “approach zero” and thus arrive at a kind of continuity, in a way “from the other side”. It so happened, however, that this hypothesis fitted in various equations when the size was *not* zero, but a very small but definite quantity. Thus, *quantum physics* was born and the problem of an ultraviolet catastrophe was solved. Even then, however, entropy is a valid concept, but not predicting an end in the form of a worsening catastrophic energetic chaos. Things actually do tend to more or less problematic dispersions as we today experience in various ways in our world. However – again (cf. above) – there then must first be something there to disperse! Moreover, it must come from somewhere... From considerations of this type the concept of *extropy* was born. This has to do with the tendency of energy to *organize* and form structures. Hence there could be an ongoing interplay process of *dispersion and reorganization*, such that various kinds of systems form, fall apart and form again (in a new way). Interestingly, this has certain similarities with an ancient Indian description of the creation process in a famous philosophy called *sāṃkhya*, as described by an Indian philosopher Kapila in ancient times. The *sāṃkhya* of Kapila describes how matter is formed in various stages of sudden dispersion followed by reorganization.

So is there a creator? Some seem to want to deny this with reference to physical principles (and even some forms of *sāṃkhya* are rather atheistic). Yet the question remains: From where does the energy come in the first place, that seems to go through various processes of whatever kind? Maybe, after all, really from a creator... how could it be otherwise? In any case: Who, then, is that creator? As discussed in certain texts on this web page it is *not* Yahweh, but it will be someone *higher than him*.

References

Sāṃkhya: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samkhya>

Extropy: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extropianism>