

Change Happens

Have a great day,
find your way

The Alien Life



Mikey was beginning to think that binging 'Shark Week' last night was a mistake.

Hi

Does a baby fear the sea?

I loved to play
in the ocean,
until I stepped
on something
that moved.

Thus was I moved,
to leave the water,
much faster than
my ancestors.

This was surely
a momentary setback.
So I returned one day,
to see a fin moving
slowly, like a hunter.

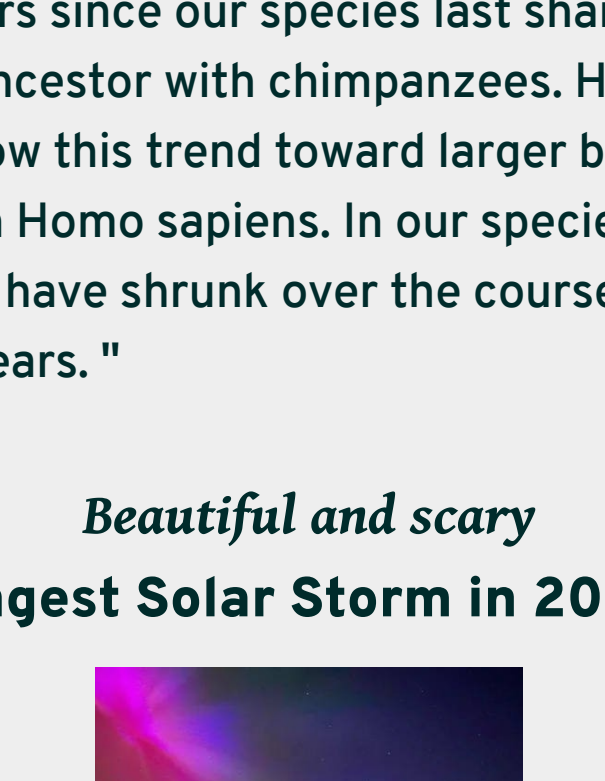
This was no small matter.
Faster still I hastened
to the shore.

Many times
I have returned,
always feeling for the bottom
and watching carefully
the horizon.

Probably not a problem

The human brain has been shrinking –

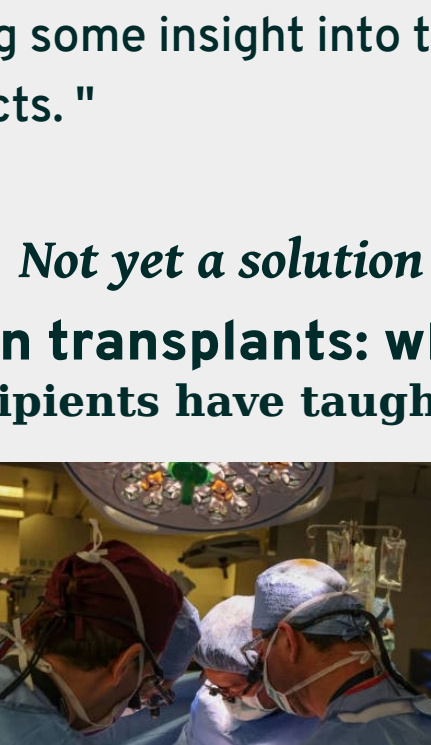
and no-one quite knows why



" Certainly, when compared with other animals of a similar size, our brains are gigantic. The human brain has nearly quadrupled in size in the six million years since our species last shared a common ancestor with chimpanzees. However, studies show this trend toward larger brains has reversed in Homo sapiens. In our species, average brain sizes have shrunk over the course of the last 100,000 years. "

Beautiful and scary

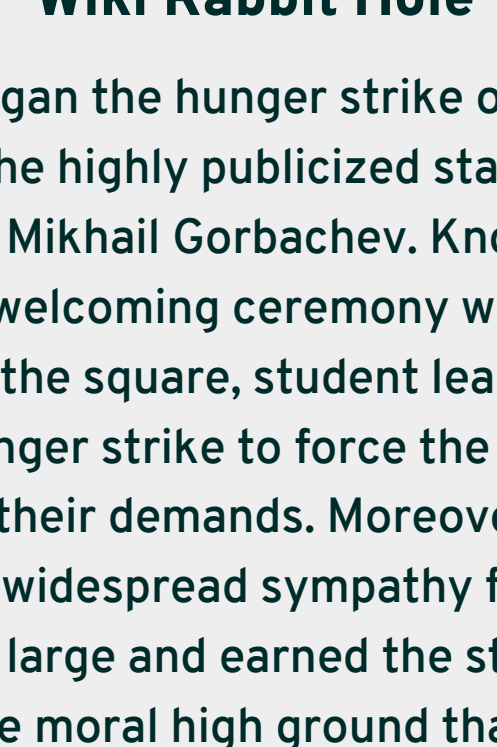
Strongest Solar Storm in 20 Years



" At present, it's difficult to say just how close we came to catastrophe because many companies—from grid controllers to satellite operators—do not like to reveal information on how a geomagnetic storm affected them, says Daniel Welling, a climate and space scientist at the University of Michigan. "They don't want to look like they're vulnerable," he says. "Satellite operators have to insure their spacecraft, and that can be very expensive." Yet various scattered reports are already offering some insight into the storm's disruptive effects. "

Not yet a solution

Pig-organ transplants: what three human recipients have taught scientists



" The use of organs from other species in humans, called xenotransplantation, has long been a dream of surgeons because of the chronic shortage of suitable human organs. Researchers have homed in on pigs as a donor species, in part because their organs' size and anatomy resemble those of humans. "

May 13, 1989

Tiananmen Square

Protests and massacre

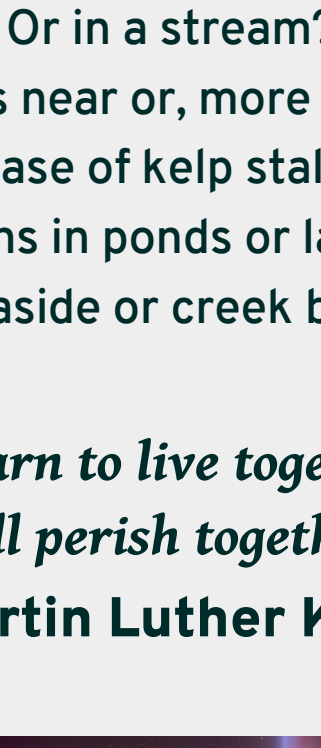


Wiki Rabbit Hole

" Students began the hunger strike on 13 May, two days before the highly publicized state visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Knowing that Gorbachev's welcoming ceremony was scheduled to be held on the square, student leaders wanted to use the hunger strike to force the government into meeting their demands. Moreover, the hunger strike gained widespread sympathy from the population at large and earned the student movement the moral high ground that it sought. By the afternoon of 13 May, some 300,000 were gathered at the square. "

Worse than you thought

The Sinister History of the Word "Moron"



" The term is attributed to psychologist and eugenicist Henry H. Goddard, who used it to describe 'feeble-minded' individuals. It is closely tied to the United States's involvement in eugenics, a scientific term, meaning 'well-born,' that describes the belief that the human population can be controlled by breeding to increase the occurrence of desirable heritable characteristics. "

It's a job

Behind-the-Scenes Secrets of Airline Pilots



" Another pilot pet peeve: the idea they climb into a cabin and watch a computer do their job for them. 'A plane no more flies itself than a high-tech operating room performs an organ transplant by itself,' Smith says. 'There are routing changes, communications issues, navigational issues, monitoring fuel burn. There is always some task going on. We might not have our hands on the wheel as often as we did years ago, but we're still flying it.' "

A little something for the arachnophobes

They swim and they spin:

Meet the aquatic spiders

" Shrubbery, toolsheds, basements – these are places one might expect to find spiders. But what about the beach? Or in a stream? Some spiders make their homes near or, more rarely, in water: tucking into the base of kelp stalks, spinning watertight cocoons in ponds or lakes, hiding under pebbles at the seaside or creek bank. "

"We must all learn to live together as brothers

or we will all perish together as fools."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

it's your life
you understand

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