

Old Testament - Book Two

THUS FOR MANY GENERATIONS didst the population of the earth romp and play, each with the other; Human and Hedgehog, Tuna and Trout, Sea Urchin and Civil Engineer played they them, and the Bird smiled upon them, for Badminton was thick in the land. And the whole world was like unto a Paradise, for the happy Grasses greweth and the feathered Birdies fleweth, and all creatures great and small were happy, for no Score was kepeth.

BUT, LO! as the generations passed, one unto the next with an occasional punt on fourth and long, certain Humans did become dissatisfied, for they were proud and boastful but had nothing to be proud and boastful about. Therefore they grumbled amongst themselves, each saying to his brother, Hark! I am greater than thee; but no one of them had any idea how to prove it, for no Score was kepeth. And there came that day when He Whose Name Cannot Be Mentioned, since names had not yet been invented, looked up from his grumbling, which was much bigger than any other's, and spoke unto them, saying:

Let us keepeth Score, and let it be written, It's whether you win or lose, not how you play the game. And the Proud Humans praised this revelation greatly though it helpeth them not, for they could not counteth.

AND SO the Prideful Ones went away to Evolve, leaving the other creatures volleying happily in the late summer sun, for is it not written that Pride goeth just before the Fall. And the others were sore disturbed but would not interfere, because they did not want to get evolved. But the Proud Humans evolved, the frontal lobes of their neocortex swelling even as to a hedgehog in heat, and they became erect; and their voice was unanimous with thumbs opposed. And when they returned they brought with them new beliefs and rituals, for they had domesticated the wild Rules; and they constructed upon the countryside a huge stone Scoreboard which they

worshipped above all else, and enticed others to do likewise, saying unto them Neener Neener or calling them weinies.

AND many of the others followed and did likewise, though the smaller creatures generally got lost or stepped upon, and many of these did likewise go off and Evolve; but others became Extinct. And arguments abounded, and every creature did chastise each the other, and call him dickhead; and the Humans declared themselves Referees and Line Judges so as to rule over the others, and so did strife and discord grew thick in the land.

BUT the Bird was displeased and filled with wrath, for the racket was keeping him awake; therefore he afflicted the Prideful Humans with Goal Directed Behavior, that they should no longer be satisfied just to play in the sun but would instead toil and fight and beat each other even unto the end of time, with occasional truces while they ganged up on someone else.

AND so it was; and the days of Civilization were long in the land.