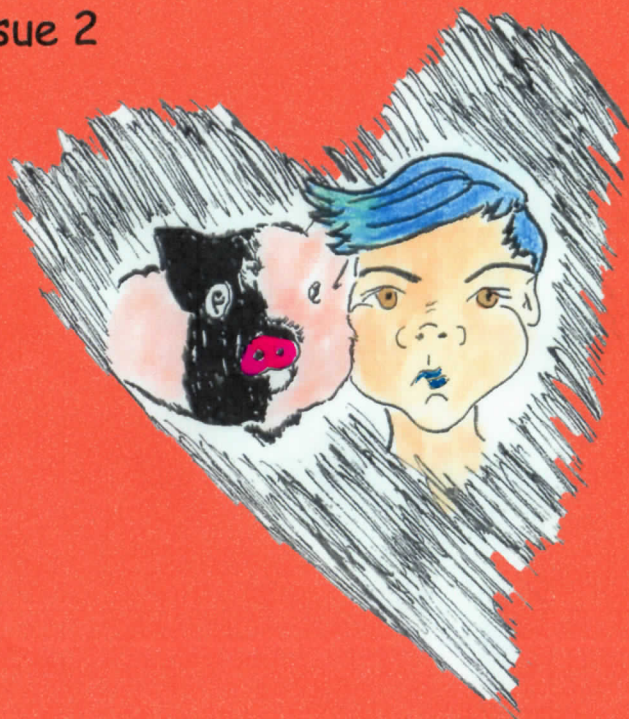


Issue 2



ANIMAL HEARTS

By Tina V. Cabrera

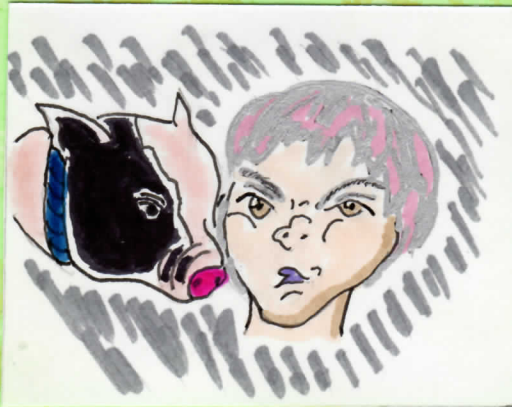
ANIMAL HEARTS

31
MAY
2038

Leave a
comment

"We have to speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves."

-Peter Singer



I dedicate this blog first and foremost to Obie, my best friend, whose clone served as the unwilling donor for my heart transplant. I say unwilling, for unlike his human counterparts who willfully choose, the clone did not volunteer, was not given any say. This is for all animals who are given no voice; I speak on behalf of the unheard. For the past several years, I have come to appreciate the sentience, the intelligence, the marvellousness of this most exploited of species.





ERNIE

RE: About Animal Hearts

HH, thanks. I'd be happy to fill in any gaps. But first, from here on out I will not use the word "original," the term used for animals subjected to cloning. I don't like the word because it has the effect of distancing us, a clinical term that marginalizes clones as "just clones." A cloned animal is as much an animal as the animal it was cloned from.



A rose is
a rose by
any other
name.

I was born with an underdeveloped heart.



I had to have corrective surgery. Although the surgery was successful, the doctors said I would need lifelong follow-up. By the time I was eight, I showed developmental problems, like learning to walk late and tiring easily.



SAVE
A
LIFE

212

UNITED
WE
THRIVE



The doctors convinced M that it was best that I have a heart-transplant, "to prevent life-threatening complications. If I could go back, I'd call bullshit. They promoted United Revive and their 'exciting breakthroughs in genetic engineering and cloning.' Might be old news now, but here's a breakdown: First, they successfully inoculated potential viruses in pig genes, then they edited the genes that trigger the human immune response. They then bred and cloned these genetically edited pigs. For what? For the slaughter. Before trying on humans, of course they victimized others. They transplanted cloned pig organs into monkeys and baboons. Encouraged by the results (the monkeys survived), they got FDA approval to try on a human with the caveat that the patient be a volunteer adult rather than an infant or child. The volunteer felt he had nothing to lose. His successful case was all the rage all over the media. Of course United Revive got the green light to conduct free clinical trials on qualifying patients. They offered to fund the surgeries on one condition: that they be permitted to follow their patients' indefinitely.

You see, I fit their profile to a T. I had my whole life ahead of me. They preferred young and thereby vulnerable, with a congenital condition and in financial need. M needed this more than me. More on that later.

Obie was one of the special breed genetically manipulated. They cloned 5 from him but only one clone survived. Guess who got that poor clone's beating heart? For the company, Obie was a disappointment, a one-trick pony and of no more use. That's how we got him. M said, "We'll take him." He has been with us for seven years now.



Wow, Ernie, what a story. No disrespect, but don't you think you're being a bit too harsh on M (I take it M is your mother??) I am a mother too, and I am faced with a most difficult decision much like I imagine your mother did.

I am a single mother and—didn't I say this before? My poor baby boy has a hole in his heart.



We live with my parents, a strict Orthodox Jewish home.



We can get an animal organ transplant at an affordable price but Abba forbids it on account of the conviction that pigs are the most unclean of all animals. Abba—bless him—won't listen to reason. For him, like for you, a cloned pig is a pig. I live under his roof, so I must abide by his rules if we are to remain. On a Sunday school teacher salary, I cannot afford to live on my own. But my son's life is on the line. Any comments welcome.

RE: About Animal Hearts

Dear WH: I won't judge, but let me be blunt: Transplanting pig hearts into humans is not immoral because pigs are unclean as some would have it but because it means killing sentient beings.

May I ask how old your son is? How does he feel? I would have liked to have a say on what was done to my own body.

You see—while this heart beats strong, it **BEATS** not just for human **ME** but for the **SPECIES** to which it belongs. No matter how much scientists claim that it resembles a human heart, I assure you, it is still a pig heart.

SENTIENCE:

"The capacity to experience suffering and/or enjoyment."



"A PIG IS A PIG IS A PIG"



"Some are large, some are big and then there are the baby pigs..."



Bridging the Gap | 77

Only two months after the death of Baby Valentina, in Pittsburgh, Dr. Thomas Starzl, a transplant surgeon, removed the liver from a healthy baboon and transplanted it into the heart of a man who was dying from a liver disease. The baboon, a healthy, sentient, intelligent, responsive animal, was killed immediately after the liver was taken; the patient died about two months later. No court stepped in to prevent the use of the baboon's liver. Although some animal rights groups protested against the use of a baboon in this way, most of the discussion at the time brushed over the fact that the transplant had involved the death of a baboon, and focused instead on whether this procedure could offer new hope for a large number of people needing organ transplants.

The traditional sanctity-of-life ethic forbids us to kill and take the organs of a human being who is not, and never can be, even minimally conscious; and it maintains this refusal even when the parents of the infant favor the donation of the organs. At the same time, this ethic accepts without question that we may rear baboons and chimpanzees in order to kill them and use their organs. Why does our ethic draw so sharp a distinction between human beings and all other animals? Why does species membership make such a difference to the ethics of how we may treat a being?





30, Jan. 2040

Ernie Baby, I found your letter this morning. Where are you? How can I **not** worry? **I LOVE YOU.** Maybe I should've said it more often. You know how hard it is for me to express my feelings. Maybe that's because my own mother abandoned me when I was very young. Maybe that's no excuse, but I've tried hard to do what's best for you. **I'm sick to my stomach.** I am still your mother, your only one. Do I not mean anything to you?? You are so obsessed with that pig of yours - I just can't wrap my head around it. I've been reading your blog, and I am proud of you for standing up for what you believe in, even if it is deluded. Please call me. Must go to work now.



✂ HISTORY OF ADVOCACY

Since its founding in 2020, Animal Sanctuary has advocated for non-human species rights in league with other animal rights groups such as AAPT (Animals Are People Too) and AARF (Alternatives to Animal Research Foundation). AS has been in the forefront of the animal liberation movement since the early days of xenotransplantation, taxing on the for-profit rackets that benefit at the expense of sentient beings, all in the name of science. We count on the generosity of those who live the compassionate life more than ever as our animal friends continue to be exploited in the most nefarious ways.

ANIMAL LIVES MATTER
protest: www.alm.org



When researchers at United Reivie sought to open pig clone farms, we formed our own team of researchers in opposition. The FDA approved the proposal so that these farms proliferate. But we haven't given up the fight. Our greatest challenge now is the treatment of clones as second-class animals. Here is a list of our two most promising campaigns:

◆ **Campaign for Organ Donor Awareness:** Focus on finding cures to heart disease and promote healthier living through veganism and exercise. Can we justify xenotransplants of animals when we haven't exhausted all other options including promoting and encouraging human donations?

◆ **Campaign for Bill of Animal Rights:** We are working with a member of Congress on legislation for an Animal Bill of Rights that would reflect the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. The Declaration was created to break from a government of tyranny, and the Constitution and Bill of Rights to establish proper government. What could be more tyrannical than taking away a sentient being's vital organs, thereby snuffing out its life? At our three locations (Portland, California and New York), rescued animals roam free on hundreds of acres. We need your generous support to continue our mission of saving lives.

Luca Sans, Co-Founder & Chairman of the Board



As a wildlife biologist and having focused my research on animal cloning, I can say without reservation that clones have exactly the same capacity for pleasure and suffering as their natural-born counterparts. The selective breeding of genetically edited pigs in particular and the subsequent cloning pushes these sensitive creatures to their physical limit.

There is nothing natural about cloning. It leads to increased suffering for both originals and clones.

We need to remember that animals are not ours to do with as we please! They're not ours to consume as food or to use as machines!

We must fight to close all animal cloning factory farms with as much vigor as with their precursors!

I am living testimony to the fact that a human with congenital heart disease has options that are far more compassionate and with less risk.

I have had an artificial heart for 7 years, and during that time won a Gold Medal in swimming!

Dr. Schultz, Wildlife Biologist

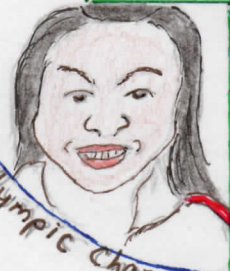


S. Silverstone, Actress + Activist

TESTIMONIALS

NIH

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

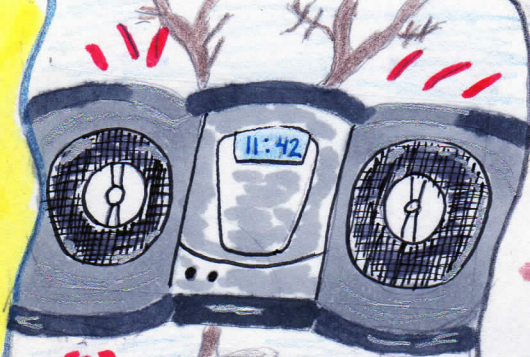


Anne Chen, Olympic Champion

Clone farms violate the "U.S. Government Principles for the utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research and Training": "III. The animals selected for a procedure should be of an appropriate species and quality and the minimum number required to obtain valid results." They claim they clone the same few animals again and again, but the clones who are killed for organs are animals too! And therefore, their entire clone species is used for xenotransplantation. **NOT A MINIMUM! (AS)**

1 PLAYLIST 2

"Meat is Murder" - The Smiths
"Free Me" - Gold Finger
"Be Healthy" - Dead Prez
"Ready to Fall" - Rise Against



CLONES
-A-
ANIMALS
TOO!



May these
images haunt
you!
pig head cheese
Animal "research"

buse
glect

Animal
Lives
Matter

stop killing
factories

this
pig had
a life!

END OPPRESSI



HH

June 20, 2038

RE: About Animal Hearts

My son is 11. How does he feel? He just wants to feel better. Ernie, it's because a pig is a pig that my father opposes any kind of pig organ transplant, whether natural born or clone. If it's alright, I'd like to share a letter he wrote:

Dear***,

You teach Sunday School, so you know the Torah forbids eating pigs, the foulest of animals. Remember Babel - how God confused their language for building a tower up to the heavens? Soon he will punish all idolaters like these scientists who play god. You do not want to be among them, do you? I get up early every morning before sunrise and pray for you and ***. We must not question our Lord. I am hoping one day you will finally show faith in Elohim even after sinning. Your mother and I have forgiven you. If my grandson needs a new heart, I have faith he will grant him one - the right one.

Have a blessed day,
Your Abba.

8. You shall not eat of the flesh, and you shall not touch their carcasses; they are unclean for you.
7. And the pig, because it has a cloven hoof that is completely split, but will not regurgitate its cud, it is unclean for you.
From the Torah (Chabad.org)



Oh no, no, no! I'm sorry, but that's just not true! Pigs are not unclean - they're so misunderstood! Your father opposes a pig heart transplant for different reasons than mine. But please know that hunted animals protect their kind (as in Peter Singer). This is the rule of nature. In the words of who cannot speak for themselves.
I count myself in. A pig heart is a pig. My pig heart cannot speak, so I speak on its behalf.



HH

July 5, 2038

RE: About Animal Hearts

Sorry for taking so long to respond, but I've been under so much stress since early summer. My son's symptoms have worsened: His skin and fingernails have turned bluish and he is tired all the time.

Father just shakes his head and says Don't worry, God will step in.

I roused my courage to speak back to him, I say Papa, it's not that I don't have faith, but we cannot just sit back and hope, wait for a miracle.



Abraham!



Abba thinks of himself like Abraham, asked to sacrifice his only son Isaac. (In this case, * is his only grandson.)

There he stood, the old man with his only hope. But he did not doubt, nor did he look right or left, or challenge Heaven.

The most difficult and perplexing of God's demands; yet no sacrifice was too hard when God required it. He drew the knife.

Behold, God provided a ram. Abraham sacrificed it instead of his Son. Believe, and God will provide.

- BUT -

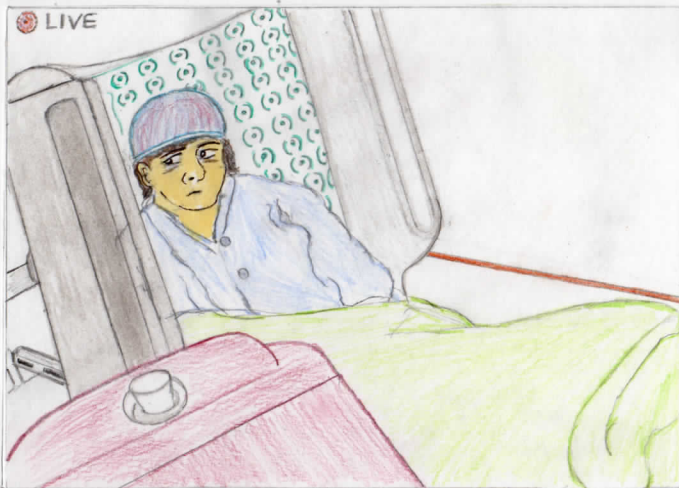
He's my son. Not Abba's. *** is not his to sacrifice. I will do anything to save his life, even if that means forcing God's hand.

22 Aug. 2038

LIVE



LIVE



LIVE

