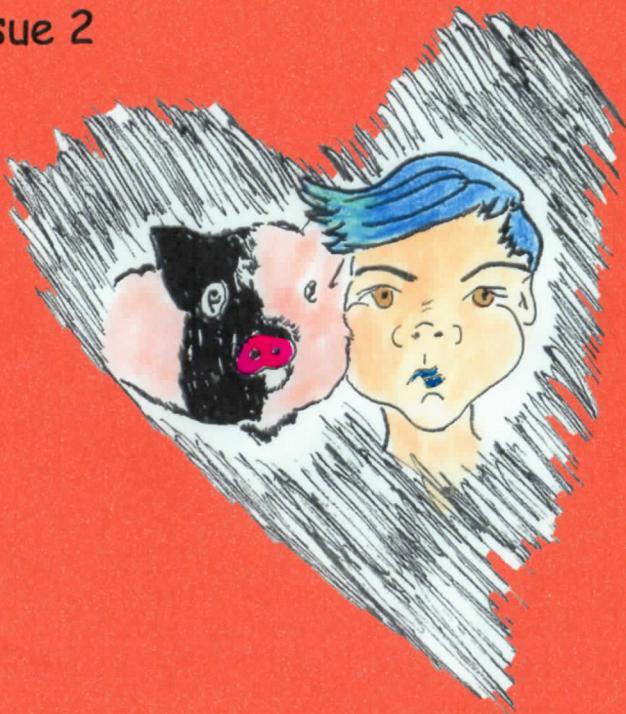


Issue 2



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 marvelousness of this most exploited of species.





When people act like slobs, what are they called? Pigs. When they act greedily, what are they? Pigs. And yet pigs have quite the sophisticated cognitive ability, more so than dogs and even than three-year-old humans. My first priority then, is to enlighten my readers to the intelligence, the playfulness, the wonder of this creature. For those of you with similar opinions, I know I am preaching to the choir; on the other hand, some will say—I can hear you already—“your opinions are far too extreme. Who are you to judge?” I may be young, but I believe my peculiar journey lends credence to my convictions.

I have an animal heart. At core restless and divided. My goal is to do my part to end any and all suffering of my kindred — originals and clones alike. Please do share your story. All opinions are welcome, but be forewarned. Willful ignorance will be met with the strongest of resistance.



You like this.

COMMENT?

Related

Rebecca
Pigs as source of organs?
Animals are people too.



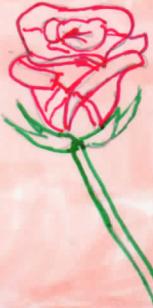
HH (Hole in the Heart)
June 1, 2038
RE: About Animal Hearts

Hello Ernie. I have my own story to share. You can probably already tell from my nickname what mine will be about "Hole in the Heart" which I've taken on because my son was born with a hole in his, but then my nickname could be "Whole in the Heart" because my heart is truly whole, that's why it aches so. But before I share my story, Ernie, can you tell us more? Do you mind me asking what sort of heart disease you had so that you needed a heart transplant in the first place? I'd also very much like to hear more about your pig. Short for Obi Wan Kenobi? Sorry. You said you have the heart of his clone? How did Obie become your best friend?



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**

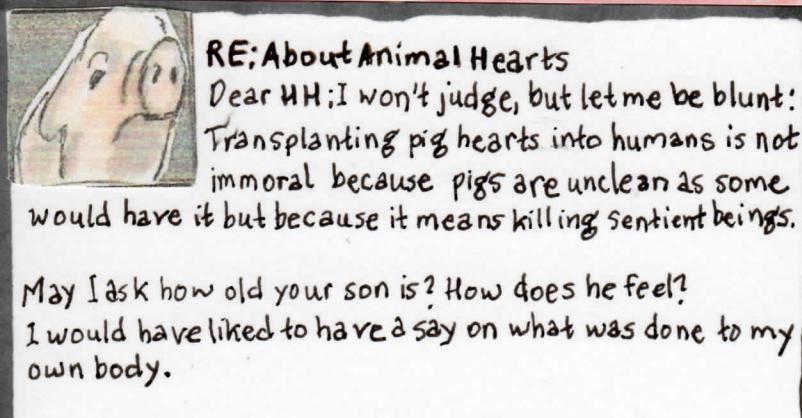
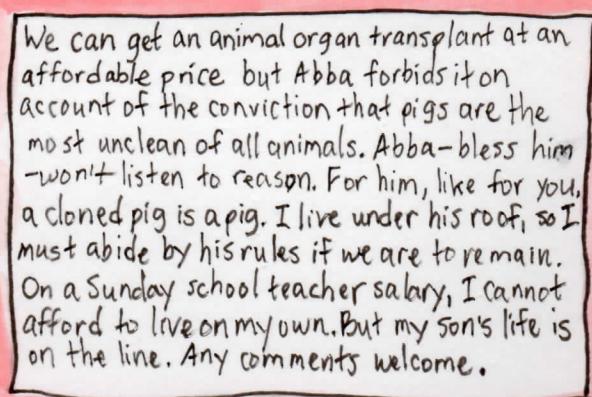
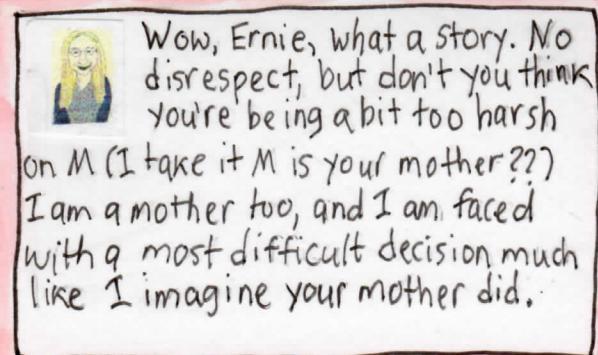
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**UNITED
WE
THRIVE**

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 'bull shirt.' They promoted United Remne and their "exciting breakthroughs in genetic engineering and cloning." Might be old news now, but here's a breakdown: First, they successfully inactivated 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 2 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 Remne 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.



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."

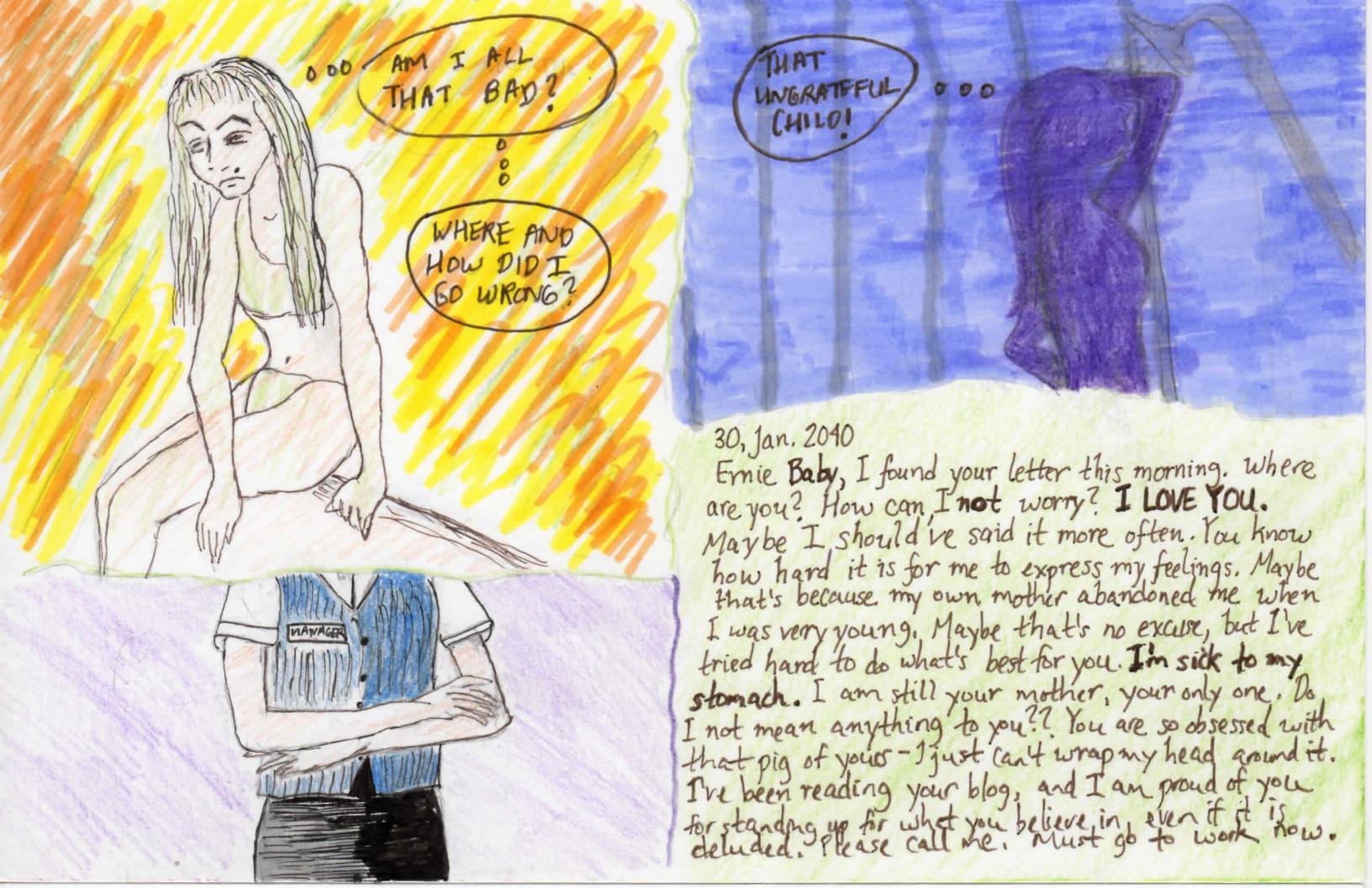


Bridging the Gap 1 77

Only two months after the death of Baby Valentine, 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, 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. 2010

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.



A 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 AAAR (Alternatives to Animal Research Foundation). AS has been in the forefront of the animal liberation movement since the early days of xenotransplantation, taking 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 Revive 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

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.

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!



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!

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)

PLAYLIST

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



END OPPRESSION



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 stinging. 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.

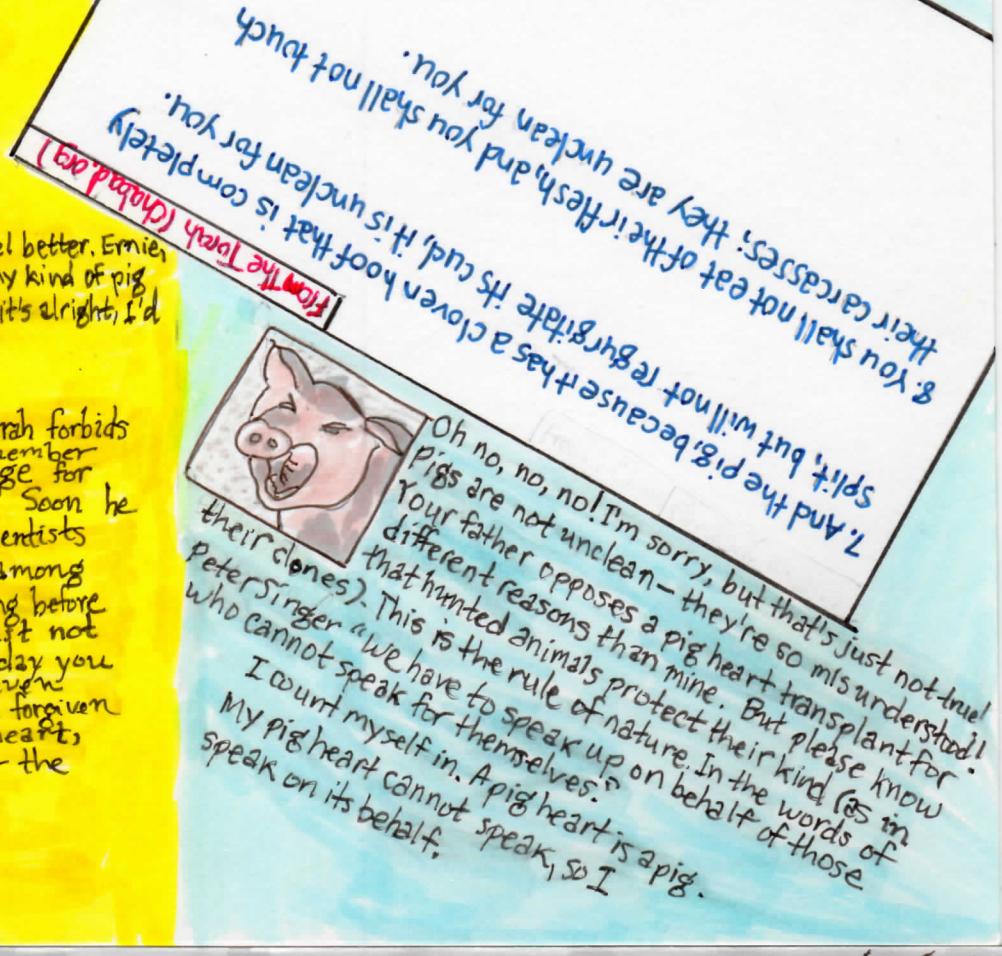
Have a blessed day,
Your Abba.



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.



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

Abraham!

'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.

Here I am!

Now I know you fear God.

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

