

Development Notes On God's Pitch For Everything That Ever Was  
Or Shall Be  
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2018 Royal Nonesuch Humor Writing Contest  
Adult Author Category - First Prize

Hey, God, thanks for making the time to meet with us today. We absolutely love Your work, and we're really excited to be developing another project with You. What You did with the All-Encompassing Vacuum Of Space? Aaaaaazing! I shared Your new pitch for Everything That Ever Was Or Shall Be with my network executives. Spoiler alert: They loved it! But, hey, You're omniscient, so You probably already knew that. Haha.

Anyway, we just have a few quick notes:

- Great job thinking of all those plants and animals! Seriously, the platypus?? Really showcases Your creativity. I guess that's why they call You YHWH, Lord of Lords, Thou Whose Divine Name Is Too Sacred To Be Uttered!
- Just to ask the question, though, what exactly *is* the platypus? Is it a bird? Is it a beaver? Hey, *I* get what it is, but we want to think of the audience. What would You think about calling it the superduck instead? People like superheroes, so the superduck could be our answer to Marvel. No pressure. Just mull it over and let me know if You change Your infallible mind.
- I see you named the most evil demon in history "Larry." That feels like a bit of a miss. Maybe take a pass at some creepier names. How about something like Lucifer, The Devil, or Elmo?
- So, we like Your idea for "life," but what's the goal here? What is everyone working toward? Could be more clear.
- Shared universes are all the rage right now, so setting everything in "the universe" is a great start. But how can we push our universe to be more of a *universe*? Why don't you think that one over and pitch us back a couple hundred ideas that we shoot down? How's that sound?

- General question: The cosmic miracle of consciousness is amazing and all. But is it lit? We really want this to target Millennials.
- “People” are a nice narrative device. Lots of good stories there, especially the part where they’re inserting one body part inside of another body part for pleasure. What’d You call that? “Sex”? There’s something about that we really like, although it might be a little awkward in execution. We’re going to want to focus-test it. Extensively.
- How can we get to the action faster? It looks like You plan to create the world – strong inciting incident, by the way – but then it takes a few hundred million years for anything else to happen. That’s a snoozer of a second act! You really want something big to happen every five minutes or so, or else You’ll lose the audience. You kind of tinker around with dinosaurs for a few seasons and then kill them off, so it’s hard to care about them. Let’s face it, they’re not exactly Ned Stark. Personally, I’d recommend scrapping everything before 1962 and skipping straight to the good stuff. But, if You don’t want to nix dinosaurs altogether, could You at least give us one or two we can relate to? What if You made Mister Rogers a velociraptor? Or how about a Tyranno-Martin Luther King Jr. Rex? He could give his famous “I Have A [Jurassic Park roar]” speech. Sorry to be difficult. I’m just playing Larry’s advocate.
- We’re going to want to clear this “Donald Trump” concept with our Legal team. Lotta red flags.
- Overall, whom are we rooting for? The closest I can see to a hero is the Jesus fellow, but heroes should be likable. He comes off a little holier than thou. Plus, it looks like he dies a few thousand years before the Big Bads show up (Hitler, Zuckerberg, KillTron20XX, etc.). How about doing a treatment where they go head to head? If that’s something You don’t want to blow in Season 1, can we at least get something close, like Abraham Lincoln versus Ronald McDonald?
- Have You gotten brand approval on the world population? Most of it looks good, but Andy Dick feels a little off-model. We should clean this up before greenlight.
- Your first draft proposes an economic system where everybody shares common goods in perfect harmony. Here’s a thought: What if, instead,

everyone perpetually fought and undermined each other for every scrap of personal property they could amass in an endless cycle of violence? Would be great for sweeps.

- Standards might have an issue with Jared Leto. We're already asking them to approve several world wars, torture, plagues, genocide, bestiality, country pop, crack cocaine, Baby Boomers, nuking Hiroshima, lacrosse, bird flu, tanning salons, the Holocaust, people who say "May the 4<sup>th</sup> be with you," diarrhea, 9/11, and Florida. Jared Leto is really pushing it.
- Let's talk religion. I see why You're doing it, but having people worship the creator (aka You)? Feels a little "meta." Would You settle for an executive producer credit?
- Your Louis CK story arc was pretty anti-climactic. We get that endings are difficult, but, after a lot of build up, it feels like You kinda gave up and just wrote, "Shows everyone his dick. The end." Were You trying to get out of the office early that day or something?
- Heaven feels like a bit of a MacGuffin. We're supposed to buy that people give up bacon and polygamy so they can spend eternity with their family members? I'm not sure how far the audience will suspend its disbelief for this one. While You're jumping sharks, why don't You just say they all live on a cloud and everything's made of solid gold?
- As long as we're on the subject, what exactly is Hell? Is that like Mordor or something? All the fire and torture seems scary, but it could get confusing if the sinner is a pyromaniac or into BDSM (no judgments; that's Your department ☺). For now, I think we're OK to keep the afterlife as a void of eternal nothingness that's utterly crippling to think about.
- Diversity is a hot topic right now, and we might get some resistance to an old white guy being in charge of everyone. That's not to take away from You being the omnipotent father of all things. We think You're absolutely right for this. But a white deity controlling all the world's non-white civilizations and using that power to subjugate them, steal their resources, and perpetually dehumanize them for the unfair advancement of other white people throughout history? Not the best

optics. Have You seen *Black Panther* or *Wonder Woman*? They're inclusive, aspirational, and, most importantly, raked in money by the fuck-ton. Look, between You and me, I'd love to see what a white male version of *Hamilton* looks like. But it's just not where the industry is right now. Let's talk about bringing in some token co-gods to make this production just representative enough to be defensible on Twitter. Don't worry: white people will still get most of the good roles.

- Look, I understand why You have humanity doomed in an apocalypse brought on by the invention of hybrid Roomba Fleshlights™. It makes sense. But it kills the franchise potential.
- In general, “existence” is great and all, but feels a little incomplete. Can You make it pop? Here's a few thought-starters to get Your creative juices flowing: maker culture, STEM curriculum for baby goats, the Willennium, *Star Wars* with phat skateboards, penile vaping, Pokémon as the story of a Jamaican guy who's really into Japanese poké salad, woke leprechauns, a razor scooter for kids who aren't jerks, if 2Pac did a study abroad semester in England then came back with a strained British accent and referring to America as “The States,” courteous zombies, a scientist who discovers time travel when he places a trampoline above his other trampoline and bounces in an infinite ricochet loop faster than the speed of light, Q-tips for the 18-34 male demographic, a POG version of Russian roulette, a ruthless international hitman with the catchphrase “Well, goob my boob,” leveraging cross-promotional partnership opportunities to maximize brand synergies, a future where all electricity is generated by the perverts who masturbate on the subway, an upstart liberal politician whose campaign runs into trouble when he falls in love with the floating trash island in the Pacific and has to hide his forbidden tryst from environmentalist donors, a thinking man's Gallagher, rewarded video ads, pivoting
- Love the twist ending with having Scientology be right all along.
- Good news: The focus groups came back and sex has tested through the roof! We've got a hit on our hands. And something on our lips ...

OK, for next steps, we're thinking we'll put You through 28 or 29 more rounds of notes over the next several months until You've agreed to fully distort Your

vision into a cynical, amorphous chimera with a logline of something like “*Fortnite* meets Snapchat meets crypto-currency for Generation Next in a semi-serialized true-crime miniseries based on a notorious ‘90s scandal. With superducks.” Then, we’ll develop that concept with someone else for half the pay and never contact You again.

Does that make sense?