





He didn't have a brain. X-rays showed there was a donut where his most critical of organs should've lied. They didn't know what flavor or variety of donut it was. Just that there was a hole in the middle. It wasn't jelly or cream-filled.

This was a classic donut mind and they didn't think it warranted cracking open the skull to poke around because the boy — Derwin, age nine — was otherwise fine. They had only discovered the donut after a routine MRI following a concussion suffered playing in a peewee football game.

His mother thought he could be cured by a steady diet of mayonnaise sandwiches sprinkled with a dust she made by grinding up the flakes of onion skin. His father wondered why she thought that and considered maybe she had a donut mind too and that this condition was genetic.

Both the mother and the father wished
their child did not have a donut mind
but they decided it was best to love him
just the same. Maybe regular brains
were overrated.

The father had been secretly scraping off the mayonnaise and onion from Derwin's sandwiches and replacing it with a lemur marmalade his own father had preserved during his days as President of Madagascar. He was certain this would do the trick.

But the years passed and even though Derwin excelled at pretty much everything he did — his memoir *If I Only Had a Brain* was a *New York Times* bestseller and he was the QB of the Antananarivo Egrets, Madagascar’s most popular football team, where he had been named MFL MVP a record seven times — he was still looked down upon by many as, simply, “the boy with a donut mind.”

So on his 177th birthday, he set out to change things. He decided to do brain surgery (or donut mind surgery) on himself on live television. He was going to get to the bottom of the pastry inside his head once and for all.

What he discovered was striking and changed the way the world thought about people with donut minds forever.

It wasn't a donut at all inside his skull. No, Derwin found a hardened circle with a hole in it. The difference, he stated during the telecast, was that a donut was something you could eat. This was simply "donut-like" and completely inedible.

Immediately, a horde of angry viewers stormed the hospital from which he had been broadcasting the material. They chanted “semantics equal antics!” and “that’s a donut!” before being gunned down by the Madagascanian military in a storm of automatic rifle bullets.

His father, who — as was the custom at the time — took over the country’s presidency on his 200th birthday, tried to quell the growing insurgency over what was being called the “donut mind massacre.” He got on his own television station and tried to tell everyone that it was actually his own fault because he had been feeding his son lemur marmalade sandwiches for over a century and they were probably making him crazy since lemur marmalade had been declared a narcotic long ago.

When the mother heard about this, she immediately filed for a divorce and made three dozen mayonnaise and onion skin flake sandwiches. She rushed to the hospital where Derwin was recovering from the procedure.

He told her he wasn't hungry because he only had to lick the circle with a hole in it which he'd extracted from his head for sustenance. He said as soon as he saw it he knew he was done with food forever.

The mother was suspicious of this claim as she was certain that the only thing which allowed humans to live forever now was the fact that they ate food. She didn't think you could simply lick the foreign object you found in your own skull to survive.

As they bickered over this, a civil war started outside the hospital. The father made a lot of money by starting a new television station called The Civil War Channel but he was still sad that so many people were killing each other when they could have just been living forever like everybody else.

A lot of people who abstained from fighting in the war were still mad at Derwin for starting it but they felt better about him when he scored eleven touchdowns in the championship against the Toamasina Sifakas later that year.

Secretly, after the game, Derwin killed the Sifakas' mascot (a type of lemur) because he was addicted to the lemur marmalade sandwiches his father had been serving him for so long and even though he didn't need to eat anything anymore to survive he was physically dependent on the lemur extract because his addiction was that severe.

He went to lemur marmalade rehab
where he met his wife Rebecca who was
a rival football player for the Ihosy Bats.

Rebecca told him that a lot of his problems were because of his parents and the fact that they made him get that MRI to begin with since that was the first year it was discovered humans had evolved to live forever and there really wasn't any point in making sure his brain was alright.

Derwin wondered if perhaps all humans had evolved to have a circle with a hole in it instead of a brain and that was the reason why they could live forever now. But Rebecca told him that it didn't matter one way or another. It didn't matter why humans could live forever, just that they did.

Many years went by and eventually Derwin and Rebecca were forced to retire from playing football after a big scandal wherein they fixed all the games played between the Antananarivo Egrets and the Ihosy Bats so that they always ended in a tie.

The civil war still raged and The Civil War Channel was still the most popular station. It was so popular that his father quit being president so he could focus on maximizing profits as a TV executive.

His mother was now a famous cookbook author even though every one of her 1,000+ page cookbooks only featured the same recipe for the mayonnaise sandwiches she was so famous for. Nobody could perfect the concoction so they kept buying the new books whenever they came out. All the recipes were the same except for the exact count and size of the onion skin flakes.

Derwin still got blamed for much of the societal turmoil and many people tried to assassinate him but he realized that the circle with a hole in it which he'd extracted from his head worked well as a shield in addition to a lickable, life-sustaining object. But it was pure luck that none of the assassins' bullets didn't go through the middle of the hole and always ricocheted off the exterior.

On the eve of their 500th wedding anniversary, Rebecca and Derwin decided to have a baby even though having babies had been made illegal by the world police all the way back in the year 2437.

Their baby, whom they named Jeremy, was born in a cave and much to their surprise it wasn't a baby at all but rather an angel lemur. Its halo looked suspiciously like the thing Derwin had taken out of his skull.

Instinctively, both of the new parents decided to lick the halo, as Rebecca had joined Derwin in the practice of doing so and never eating food, but the angel lemur's halo was poisoned and they immediately died.

All of this was God's plan. As the angel lemur birth was just the next step in evolution on the planet. A race of angel lemurs took over the world and killed all of the other animals, including humans. They filled in every body of water with mayonnaise and sang songs as they waited for the sun to become a red giant and engulf the earth.

But that never happened. Instead the sun became a large glowing object with a hole in the center and stopped giving off as much as heat and light. An ice age occurred as a result.

Even though football had been the most popular sport by a longshot, the ice age made conditions difficult so all the angel lemurs learned how to play hockey instead.

They became so obsessed with hockey that they forgot that they were angels who had been sent to the planet by God and created a new religion based around the sport they so loved.

They built a time machine and brought Wayne Gretzky back to the present day. He was confused because all of the water was mayo and all of the people had been replaced by lemurs with strange red halos floating magically over their heads and the sun looked like a giant donut, but he accepted his role as the new God because he felt the same way about hockey as they did.

THE END