

SAGANA

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STELLAR COLLAPSE

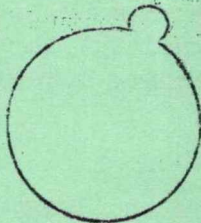
The interest in stellar collapse, manifested recently in APA-L, is quite interesting, and lends support to the thesis advanced last Wednesday evening by Isaac Asimov before some 300 listeners at Columbia University, that there is a thirst for more understanding of science among non-scientists.

Einstein determined in 1916, in the publication of his general theory of relativity, that the presence of mass actually determines the shape of the surrounding space. (More recently, Wheeler has turned this view inside out, and apparently believes that mass is caused to exist by the curvature of the surrounding space.) This concept may be a little hard to grasp, so pay careful attention. Mass actually bends or distorts space, so that nearby particles move in curved lines rather than straight lines. These curved lines are called "orbits".

The greater the density of the matter, the greater the curvature in nearby space. It follows, then, that if a star collapses, and its density becomes very great, the curvature in its vicinity also becomes very great. If the curvature gets high enough, the star will leave "our" space completely.

Imagine a basketball, which has a two-dimensional surface which curves around into a third. Similarly, our space has three dimensions, curving into a fourth. Now suppose that, at one point on the basketball's surface, the curvature begins to increase. The surface here will get more and more distorted, and will finally "pinch off" so that it is no longer in contact with the rest of the ball, but will constitute an entirely separate body.

... This process would take an infinite time, as seen by an external observer.



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IS PUSSY GALORE A NEGRO?

or

WHO GIVES A GOOD GOD DAMN?

Now that Ian Fleming's Goldfinger has become a film, starring a blonde as the unlikely Pussy Galore, the usual questions will arise as to how faithful the movie adaptation is to the book. Upon seeing (courtesy of Chris Steinbrunner) some clips of Goldfinger, I referred back to the Urtext to compare my original impressions of this wench.

Pussy Galore is introduced rather late in the book, as one of a coterie of gang leaders whom Goldfinger recruits to help him loot Fort Knox. What does Fleming say about her?

First, she is from Harlem. The Negrohood of this district is virtually total; with the exception of a few elderly Italians who didn't join the exodus, every Harlemite is black. Even the Puerto Rican influx, which appears in most other parts of the city, has so far had no impression along Lenox Avenue.

Second, she is a criminal leader - not in the same rank as the others at the meeting, but of no mean competence. The crime rate among Negroes is considerably higher than among whites. Right-wingers have a racial explanation for this phenomenon, and left-wingers have a sociological explanation, but the fact is incontrovertible. None of the real aristocracy of American crime is as yet Negro, but there are plenty in the second rank.

Third, she is a boss dyke of a gang of Lesbians. Homosexuality is more likely to occur among criminals, particularly female criminals, as a consequence of sexual segregation in prison. And some female prisoners show a preference for interracial love affairs. This is attributable to a deliberate

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We would see evidences that the curvature of space around the star continually increases. The light emitted by the star would lose an increasing amount of energy in escaping, and give off light of longer and longer wavelength. Conceivably it might become completely invisible optically, and give off only long radio waves. But, as seen from the outside, its emission of energy and its gravitational attraction would never completely cease.

A different time-scale is in effect on the star itself. For the star, this "pinching-off" process takes a finite amount of time. The star then constitutes a separate universe, in which matter has a very high density and temperature. This condition is precisely that which we now believe to have existed at the origin of our universe, some 10,000,000,000 years ago. No great act of imagination is required to hypothesize that the universe is giving off "spores".

This analogy must be approached carefully, however. The mass of a star is much smaller than the total mass of a universe. If this miniature universe starts expanding, it is unlikely to coagulate into whole galaxies. The only way to save the analogy - and this is pure speculation - is to combine the Gamow "big-bang" universe with the Hoyle-Bondi-Gold "continuous creation" theory in such a way that, by the continuous creation of matter, a spore-universe consisting originally of the matter of a single collapsed star, could grow into an entire metagalaxy.

PUSSY GALORE (continued from p. 1)

rejection of the values of conventional society, and is known to motivate a good many heterosexual love affairs also. Goldfinger plans to disguise her "girls" as nurses, and Negro nurses are rare enough in Kentucky so that it may be assumed that many of them are white - probably members of a "harem" accumulated by Pussy in New York City's notorious Women's House of Detention.

Fleming describes Pussy Galore as "pale" (which could mean a tan coloration) with "straight black brows" and black hair. At the end of the book, when Fleming pitches her into bed with Bond, we learn that she came originally from the South. Throughout our brief acquaintance with her, Fleming drops hints like this all over the place. Each one by itself is indeterminate, but a general impression is left that Pussy Galore is quite probably a Negro.

The oblique references to her, which lead to this impression, are in contrast with Fleming's usual assault on the conventions of fiction, particularly British detective fiction. Apparently miscegenation is permissible for the parents of the Jamaican "Chigroes" of Doctor No, but may not be explicitly practiced by the hero.

Pussy's Lesbianism, another such violation of fictional convention, sets up a plot device usually associated with pornography. This device, which panders to the cult of the "he-man", shows a man getting the best of an aggressive Lesbian. Sometimes he does this by taking a girl away from a dyke and converting her to enthusiastic heterosexuality; in other cases, as with Bond and Pussy Galore, the hero's overweening masculinity eventually attracts the dyke herself to his bed.

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SAGANA, the source of whose name you are challenged to find out, is published sometimes by John Boardman, 592 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11218. USPOD volente, this issue will probably find its way into the 25th Distribution of APA-L.

LASFen who want to order back issues of my Diplomacy fanzines GRAUSTARK and FREDONIA should get their orders in soon. At the end of April I'm going to ship off all surplus 1964 issues to the Fanzine Clearing House. Back issues are 5¢ each.

This is
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P Great
E Interval
R This
A Appears
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I Inflamm
O Optic
N Nerves

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