The Meaning of Life

by

Simon Wiedemann

A smartly dressed NEWS REPORTER (40) and CO-PRESENTER (30) sit behind their futuristic desk, lit up with a calming blue. Behind them is a rainy city view.

NEWS REPORTER

It is with great sadness I report the death of the world's most well known philosopher, Louis Jenkins, who was 90. He put most of his life into finding out the meaning of life, and as he requested, we will be reading out his final, groundbreaking theory here, in just a few seconds.

CO-PRESENTER

I hope you're excited as I am, world!

NEWS REPORTER

Indeed.

CO-PRESENTER

Do you have any thoughts as to what it could be, buddy?

NEWS REPORTER

Nope.

CO-PRESENTER

Whatever it is, I'm sure it will annoy the Goths.

NEWS REPORTER

Right. Try saying life has no meaning in a few moments time!

A JOURNALIST (25) walks to the NEWS REPORTER and hands him a letter. He then leaves the studio.

NEWS REPORTER

(reading the letter)

Dear world, I am deeply ashamed that whilst I have learnt a great deal about all sorts of random things in my decades of pondering, I have never worked out the meaning of life...

The NEWS REPORTER sighs and continues.

NEWS REPORTER

However, don't be disappointed. Instead I will be revealing my most guarded and treasured secret - my own unique breakfast recipe that I call 'The Mega'.

The NEWS REPORTER sighs louder.

NEWS REPORTER

What you need to do is fill the bottom half of your bowl with Crunchy Nut Cornflakes and the top half with Coco Pops. Pour in the milk and leave the bowl for three minutes - that will soften the cereal and make the milk go nice and chocolatey. Stir for a few seconds and you're done! Remember to eat both cereals simultaneously!

The NEWS REPORTER rubs his chin briefly.

NEWS REPORTER (quietly to himself)
Worth checking out, I suppose.

The NR readjusts his tie.

NEWS REPORTER

(to his audience)

Ok. Well that was obviously disappointing, but let's remember Louis as a wise innovator. Not the let's face it, freak he turned out to be later in life. Some of his achievements include getting a knighthood and winning the only nobel prize for philosophy.

The JOURNALIST re-enters, carrying a bowl of cereal and a spoon. He hands the items to the CO-PRESENTER and leaves again. The CO-PRESENTER tucks in.

NEWS REPORTER

(to the co-presenter)

Good?

CO-PRESENTER

Not bad, actually.

The CP continues to eat.

NEWS REPORTER

Louis was also a man of much generosity and he donated to many charities.

CO-PRESENTER

(to the NR, quietly)

You have to try this, man...

The NR ignores the CP.

NEWS REPORTER

Perhaps his greatest act of kindness was when he...

The NR stops and faces the CP.

NEWS REPORTER

Is it the best thing you've ever eaten? Because it better be!

NEWS REPORTER

No, no... But it IS good. Seriously, have a taste...

The NR takes the CP's spoon and has a mouthful. There is a pause.

NEWS REPORTER

(frustrated)

Mmmm... Very nice.

The CP takes his meal back and continues eating.

NEWS REPORTER

I'm sure all of our viewers are wondering what's going on right now, and I'm sad to say I don't know either.

CO-PRESENTER

(talking whilst

chewing)

Do you think this breakfast could be the meaning of life?

NEWS REPORTER

No I don't.

The JOURNALIST enters for a third time and hands the REPORTER another note.

NEWS REPORTER

(reading)

Lol. You've been trolled.

The NR scrunches up the note and throws it at the CP.