

We live in such an interesting time; a time when technology and science tempt us with promises of a changing world. We may see a day of never-ending energy. We may see a time when computers and machines will do all mundane tasks, freeing us for higher pursuits.

Some even promise us freedom from pain and possibly death one day. Although these promises may be far in the future, science is giving us passes on pain and inconvenience today. The average work a human does no longer involves back breaking labor for the most part. We also have medications that take away aches and pains with a quick pill.

I had a strange thought as this was turning around in my brain one day. Would the world actually be better without pain and suffering?

The initial reaction might be that could be the dumbest question of all time. Yes, of course the world would be better without pain, anxiety and suffering! What kind of a morbid weirdo would ask something like that?

The eucatastrophe

In our effort to make a perfect world, science may one day create a life without pain and suffering. As crazy as it sounds, this may not be a good thing. A life of ever present comfort sounds wonderful, but there are benefits to discomfort and pain we are suffering now because it creates room for us to improve our current state.