## $N = R^* \times f_p \times n_e \times f_l \times f_i \times f_c \times L$

The Drake equation states that:

where:

N = the number of civilizations in our galaxy with which communication might be possible;

and

 $R^*$  = the average rate of star formation per year in our galaxy

 $f_p$  = the fraction of those stars that have planets

 $n_e$  = the average number of planets that can potentially support life per star that has planets

 $f_{l}$  = the fraction of the above that actually go on to develop life at some point

 $f_i$  = the fraction of the above that actually go on to develop intelligent life

 $f_c$  = the fraction of civilizations that develop a technology that releases detectable signs of their existence into space

L = the length of time such civilizations release detectable signals into space.

CH-POP: IN PRAISE OF: IRONY, HUMOR, T, EXAGGERATION, READY-MADES, ETC.

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