

Am I going extinct?

The headline just says it all. That is the description for cute animals like koalas that everyone loves to save. They're so cute and the world just adores them. The term came up in my Environmental Studies class and I just like the sound of it. I can't tell when first hearing the expression if it's a compliment, a vituperative comment, or a terse description. I do know that I am definitely not charismatic enough for anybody to make a fuss about saving. Throw me to the wolves and save some miniature horse that farts Jell-O shots.

Charismatic megafauna are large animal species that have widespread popular appeal; they are the animals that most people can recognize and may even know a few facts about off the top of their heads.

That description is what really attracts me to it. Can I modify this expression to include such topics as quantum physics, the Great Wall of China, and the "homeless problem". What I mean is that these are all large and easily identifiable aspects of our world. Just like panda bears people can recite some facts or statistics to impress their friends, but without any real understanding.



But seriously - who doesn't love seeing these little buddies? (I believe that they are a baby kangaroo and a wombat.) Maybe if my roommates were as cute and cuddly as these two I might not find them so execrable - look at the claws on the scary hairless piggy looking thing.

The Finish Line

There are only four classroom sessions left for each class, three for Chemistry because that just meets once a week. The greatest challenge that remains is to finish the ten page research paper for my much maligned Western Civ class. *When I say finish, that might seem to imply that I have actually started it which would be misleading.*

My thoughts rarely, if ever, follow a straight line - they tend to be nonlinear which means, in math terms, that the output is not proportional to the input. So, if I hear a song about pirates and begin a discussion of why a panther chameleon would make a good pet that would be nonlinear thinking. In math such terms are quantifiable, if $f(x)=c$, then..., as are logical arguments, but when dealing with human consciousness there is so much that is undefinable.

A Slight Return

The farthest galaxies have been turned on.
Oh no, there's no question, this must be the premiere.
And whatever I do
will become forever what I've done.

If I was as lovable as a panda nobody would have any problem finding the money so that I can go to college and live indoors. That is a blanket statement born out of frustration that the process of securing adequate financial assistance is taking forever and often seems very unlikely to yield satisfactory results. Instead of myself I need a mascot that people will recognize immediately and absolutely need to save from extinction.



It works for the insurance company with their talking English lizard, why not NASA? But, I think that would “charismatic minifauna”.

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I was going to try and finish this post, and a lot of other things. Browse my picture galleries for a while because typing is tough with just my left hand. I really cut my finger good and deep. Good thing it's not the middle finger on my right hand so I can still type and take handwritten notes ... oh wait! It is and I can't! And it hurts. I hope I don't need stitches. All donations will now be directed over to my Prosthetic Finger campaign.



Author: [earthboundmisfit75](#)

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