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He lives with his wife, Madlene, with whom he has three children, two grandchildren, and two golden retrievers, who, disappointingly, have yet to retrieve any gold.

God is a Fact: Proof of the Creator Without Recourse to Faith or the Bible

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To prove God's existence requires no recourse to faith. All one needs is logic. The proof revolves around the origin of the universe, as follows. Of the universe, only four predicates can be true: (1) the universe does not really exist. It is an illusion (Hinduism and Buddhism); (2) the universe has always existed from eternity past (pantheism and atheism); (3) the universe created itself (mythology); (4) the universe was created (theism). I invite you to add another possibility to this list. So far, no one has been able to do so.

Here are the problems with these tenets. If the universe is an illusion, since you are part of the universe, you must not exist. But if you are thinking that you do not exist, you are nevertheless thinking. Since to think you must exist, you exist, and since you do, even if you are the only thing in the universe, the universe also exists. As René Descartes wrote, "*I think, therefore I am.*"

Clausius, Kelvin, Carnot, Maxwell, and Boltzmann all deserve credit in contributing to the definition of the Second Law of Thermodynamics and all scientific observations prove that the universe is "winding down." Its kinetic energy is being converted constantly and irretrievably to potential energy. If the universe has existed since eternity past, it would have run down and ceased to exist an eternity ago.

To create itself, the universe would have to exist before it existed to bring itself into existence. This is impossible. As the Greek philosopher Parmenides wrote, "*Nothing comes from nothing.*"

One possibility remains, and, as Sherlock Holmes said, "Eliminate the impossible. Whatever is left, however improbable, must be the truth."¹ Since the universe was created, it had a creator.

To try to understand this creator, it is worth asking the same questions. Can the creator be an illusion? No, because reality can create an illusion, but an illusion cannot create a reality. If the universe is real, its creator must be real.

Can the creator be self-created? No, for the same reason the universe cannot be so. The creator would have had to exist before existing in order to bring the creator into existence. Can the creator have been created by another creator? No, because then the creator's creator would need a creator, and so on backwards to infinity. This does not answer the question; it just pushes it further and further back until it is lost from view.

Conclusion: The creator must always have existed. This is logically possible because all effects have causes, but not all causes have causes. God is the First Cause. The First Cause has no cause; nothing caused God. God is not an effect because all effects emanate from God. Thomas Aquinas called God the "Necessary Being" because, logically, if anything exists, God must exist. God is the eternally self-existent, uncreated Creator, the unmoved Prime Mover. God is greater than all that God created, so God is subject to none of nature's laws or even time; they all emanate from and are subject to God.

Footnote:

1. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Sign of the Four*, 1890.