

# **Welcome to the Idiocene**

Max Cafard

Fall / Winter 2014

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It has been proposed that the present era of life on earth should be called the Anthropocene to reflect the human domination of our planet.

However, an elegant, scientific-sounding term like anthropocene seems like a cop-out, a handy euphemism to hide exactly what kind of domination this is and what it's doing to the planet.

I propose that instead we call it the Idiocene, signifying the New Era of Idiots. Idiot comes from the Greek word "idiutns" meaning both an incompetent person and a private citizen. Idiocene is the one precisely appropriate name for an era that is suicidally stupid and ecocidally privatizing.

Would you like a simple definition of the Idiocene? You might remember the old joke about a robber who comes up to somebody on the street, pulls out a gun and says: "Your money or your life!" The victim pauses and then says, "Can I have a moment to think it over?"

That moment is the Idiocene.

## Welcome to the Idiocene

Welcome to the Idiocene  
It's the Obliviocene  
It's the Distractocene  
It's the DontWorryBeHappyocene  
It's the ADHDocene  
It's the SpacedOutocene  
It's the Narcissocene  
It's the WhichWayIsUpocene  
It's the Amneseocene  
It's the NoThereWhenYouGetThereocene  
It's the BlahBlahBlahocene  
It's the Idiocene

Welcome to the Idiocene  
It's the Comatosocene  
It's the DruggedOutocene  
It's the Wastedocene  
It's the FiddleWithYourIphoneWhileTheWorldBurnsocene  
It's the Shopoholocene  
It's the SoUpI'mDownocene  
It's the Dopocene  
It's the Undeadoocene  
It's the Zonkedocene  
It's the Crunkocene  
It's the Idiocene

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It's the Assbackwardocene  
It's the FoxToldMeIt'sNotTrueocene  
It's the Moronocene

It's the Stupidocene  
It's the DumbAssocene  
It's the SingleDigitIQocene  
It's the Imbecilocene  
It's the OutToLunchocene  
It's the Nincompoopocene  
It's the Schlemielocene  
It's the Idiocene

Welcome to the Idiocene  
It's the EndOfTheLineocene  
It's the HotelTerminusocene  
It's the Nightmareocene  
It's the ChickensComeHomeToRoostocene  
It's the Saw15ocene  
It's the UpShitCreekoscene  
It's the OMGocene  
It's the DeadEndocene  
It's the Suicidocene  
It's the Collapsocene  
It's the Idiocene

Welcome to the Idiocene  
It's the HumptyDumptocene  
It's the Jonestownocene  
It's the WalkingOffACliffocene  
It's the SpringBreaksOverY'allocene  
It's the BuiltOnAnIndianBurialGroundocene  
It's the ThatsAllFolksocene  
It's the EndOfSmileyFaceocene  
It's the Extinctocene  
It's the ItStinksocene  
It's the DeadMeatocene  
It's the Idiocene

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It's the KickTheBucketocene  
It's the Croakocene  
It's the SwanSongocene  
It's the KillItIfItMovesocene  
It's the LastGaspocene  
It's the GooseIsCookedocene  
It's the ZombiesInTheMallocene  
It's the NightOfTheLivingDeadocene  
It's the EndOfTheRopeocene

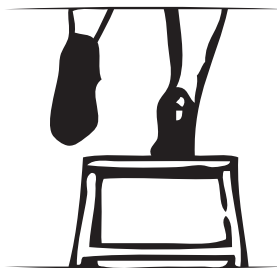
It's the BiteTheDustocene  
It's the Idiocene

Welcome to the Idiocene  
It's the NoExitocene  
It's the DeadEndocene  
It's the Wastelandocene  
It's the InTheToiletocene  
It's the Screwedocene  
It's the FuckedUpocene  
It's the Trashedocene  
It's the ShotToHellocene  
It's the DeadDuckocene  
It's the Kaputocene  
It's the Idiocene

Welcome to the Idiocene  
It's the CheckOutocene  
It's the ManBearPigWinsocene  
It's the EverythingMageddonocene  
It's the Apocalyptocene  
It's the MadMaxocene  
It's the ShitHitsTheFanocene  
It's the Y2KForRealThisTimeocene  
It's the WeAllGetDarwinAwardsocene  
It's the MoneyTalksNatureWalksocene  
It's the VeryBadSceneocene  
It's the Idiocene

Yes, folks. It's the Idiocene  
Welcome to the Idiocene

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Fifth Estate # 392, Fall/Winter 2014. Max Cafard, a lifelong inhabitant of the Island of New Orleans, is a surrealist writer and pre-Ancientist philosopher. He is the author of *The Surrealist Manifesto and Other Writings*, *FLOOD BOOK*, *Surreal Explorations*, and the forthcoming *Lightning Storm Mind: PreAncientist Meditations*. He edits the cyberjournal *Psychic Swamp* and is a member of *Surrealists for Social Responsibility* and the *Deconstruction Workers Union of the IWW*.

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