



CRAZIEST WAYS FOR THE WORLD TO END SCIENCE



GEO-ENGINEERING

As natural disasters from global warming become more frequent, rogue scientists may attempt to reverse the warming using geo-engineering. Alas, these efforts might in turn unintentionally cause more runaway climatic chaos.



RESOURCE DEPLETION

One day we are going to run out of fossil fuels. If we don't have alternatives in place then we can expect the modern economy to shutdown and it is highly likely that a period of global anarchy will follow.



GREY GOO

This bizarre scenario involves scientists inventing nanotech robots which we then naively program to self replicate. The replicating process gets out of hand and these bots eventually consume all the biomass on the planet.



NUCLEAR ARMAGEDDON

The number of nuclear warheads stands at 15,350. In the event of a nuclear conflict, triggered by accident or deliberately, most major cities will be wiped out and global temperatures will drop by around 8°C.



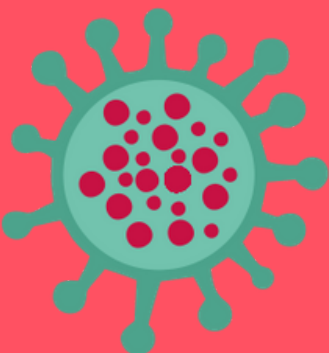
SIMULATION UNPLUGGED

The hypothesis is that our reality is in fact a giant computer simulation created by a higher intelligence. If this is the case then there is very little we can do to stop this higher intelligence from simply pulling the plug.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

On the day humans perfect self-improving artificial general intelligence, we going to be facing either a benign god like entity that solves all our problems or a machine which decides to turn us all into paperclips.



BIO-TERRORISM

A scientist, funded by some rogue group, could engineer the ultimate bio-terrorist weapon. Think of an airborne Ebola virus released in Times Square. The effects would be devastating and modern medicine would struggle to cope.