

# Failed State

1. The latest attempt involved the creation of 439 ibex-goat hybrid cloned embryos made by inserting the cell nuclei of the ibex's skin cells into the egg cells of domestic goats which had their own cell nuclei removed. Of these cloned embryos, 57 were transferred into surrogate mothers and seven resulted in pregnancies, but only one goat gave birth and the newborn clone died after seven minutes as a result of lung deformities.

2. Proud of his success, the foolish Icarus forsook his guide, and, bold in vanity, began to soar, rising upon his wings to touch the skies; but as he neared the scorching sun, its heat softened the fragrant wax that held his plumes; and heat increasing melted the soft wax—he waved his naked arms instead of wings, with no more feathers to sustain his flight. And as he called upon his father's name his voice was smothered in the dark blue sea, now called Icarian from the dead boy's name.

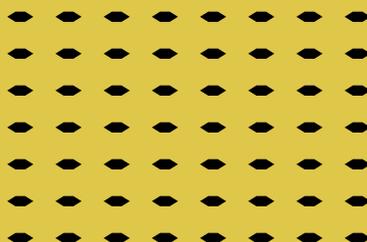
3. But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

4. In the year 1994, as I was walking down the road in my old hometown in Guadalajara, Mexico, I was amazed at the beautiful sight of a city after a heavy rain. I used to joke with my brother saying that rain was "god's piss", and like us, he had to do it once in a while. Rain does clean and bring new life through transformation and cycles. After having had those philosophical thoughts, I grabbed the nearest electrical cable gracefully to cross the road, but to my surprise I could not let it go. I was electrocuted at the age of 6.

5. The United States' first attempt to launch a satellite into orbit was also its first failure. Two seconds after leaving the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, this rocket lost thrust and sank back down, rupturing and exploding its fuel tanks. It had reached a height of about four feet. Though the rocket was destroyed, the Vanguard satellite it was carrying was thrown clear, its transmitters still signaling. It is now on display at the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum.

6. In November 2003 Prime Minister John Howard announced that he planned that Australia will spend \$50 billion on weapons over about the next ten years.



7. The Liberals under Tony Abbott cannot be considered as an alternative government because of their lack of any will to seriously reduce Australia's greenhouse gas production rates. Abbott himself cannot seem to decide whether he believes climate change is caused by humanity or not.

8. Green Lantern (2011)



Warner Bro. Pictures

Source: The DC Comics superhero comic book series

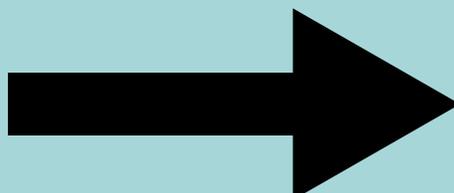
Budget: \$200 million

Domestic Gross: \$117 million

Post-Mortem: Except for Superman and Batman, DC has had a lot of difficulty translating its comic book heroes to the big screen. This one, featuring a curiously drab Ryan Reynolds and a monster that looked like an intergalactic cow pie, was no exception.

9. When we play video games, our facial expressions are rarely those of happiness or bliss. Instead we frown, grimace, and shout in frustration as we lose, or die, or fail to advance to the next level.

10. Abramović told Spike that she allowed Jay Z to adapt "The Artist Is Present" under the condition that he would help the Marina Abramović Institute, but he didn't. "The day before, he came to my office and I gave him an entire power point presentation and said: okay, you can help me, because I really need help to build this thing," she said. "Then he just completely used me. And that wasn't fair."



11. The whole world gasped in February 2013 when a Romanian hacker leaked, not any shocking top secret US intelligence, but a cluster of paintings that President George W. Bush had crafted since leaving office, including several self-portraits in the bathtub and shower.

12. I used to hang out in my uncle's bedroom when I was little, he did not live there anymore at the time, but several artefacts and belongings of his had stayed behind. An old fashioned Victorian bed lamp, those ones with different patters; a closet full of old moistened jackets, an old gun and several erotic literature books. I was no more than 12 years old when I was caught reading one of those books. After that I needed to wait a few more years to have a different, new approach to eroticism, this time under the name of "pornography".

13. Since the end of World War I, Roth had developed an intense drinking habit. He mostly wrote at cafés and bars, always a glass in front of him. In 1925, he wrote to a friend, "I'm sick. Drinker's liver. It's going to the heart."

14. There is no means of proving it is preferable to be than not to be.

— Emile M. Cioran

15. My drinking habits worsened when I became aware of a perpetual feeling of incompleteness, no matter what I did: Cooking classes, 100 meter runner, cacti collector, professional marimba player; nothing satisfied me. The days have passed but the feeling still persists, although now I don't think I am precisely looking out for something or anything, but rather I believe that the feeling is nothing else but that of being human. Now I just drink every Friday night.

17. In March of 2012, a tsunami, which was triggered by an earthquake, was sent hurdling through the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. The tsunami caused three of the plant's reactors to meltdown, resulting in terrible casualties. Because the company did not follow the proper guidelines from Japan's nuclear regulatory commission, many lives were lost.

18. By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.

—Benjamin Franklin

