



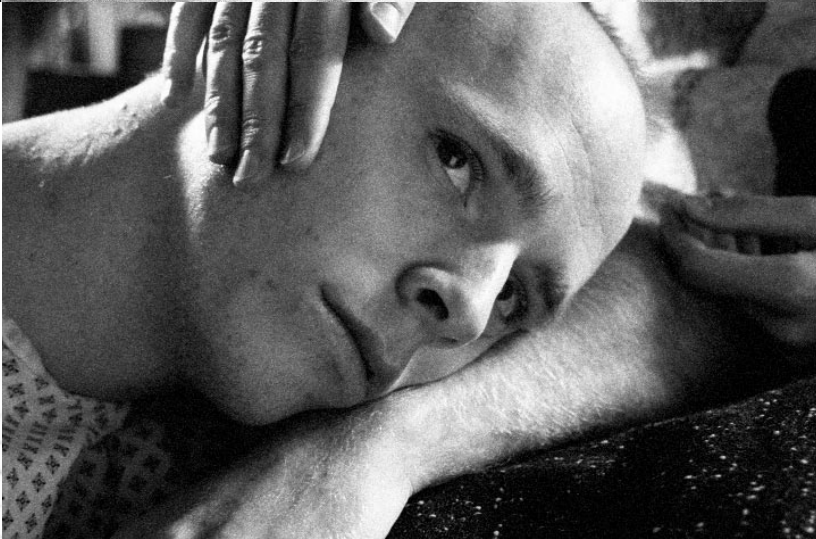
A Reasonable Hypothesis

A Film by
Jack Ferry



A dark
satire
about
human
cloning

www.areasonablehypothesis.com



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY AND TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
MAURICE KANBAR INSTITUTE OF FILM & TELEVISION PRESENTS A JACK FERRY FILM

A Reasonable Hypothesis

BRIAN TOM O'CONNOR CHERYL MORRIER

JAMES E. O'DONNELL, JR. JO BARRICK AND JOE McCLEAN AS MICHAEL

COSTUMES ALLYSON LAPIDUS SOUND DESIGN ANTHONY LITTON STILL PHOTOGRAPHY ANANDA KUFNER

VISUAL EFFECTS LAURENT BARTHELEMY MUSIC KAI GROSS EDITOR ERIC LASBY

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOSHIRO YAMAGUCHI CO-PRODUCERS JOE TIPTON AND MELISSA SCHNEIDER

SUPERVISING PROFESSOR MO OGRODNIK

PRODUCED, WRITTEN, AND DIRECTED BY JACK FERRY

20 Minutes /Not Rated

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 (Letterboxed 4:3)

Sound Format: Dolby Digital Surround (Dolby E 5.1 & LT/RT non-SR)

Shooting Format: Super 16mm Color/B&W

Projection Format: Digital Betacam

Completion Date: April 2004

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Trailer available online at www.areasonablehypothesis.com



DOCTOR

Imagine having a second body on hold for your entire life until that time comes when you, Bltt!, kick the ol' bucket, and it picks up right where you left off!

Michael has just woken into his nightmare.

For

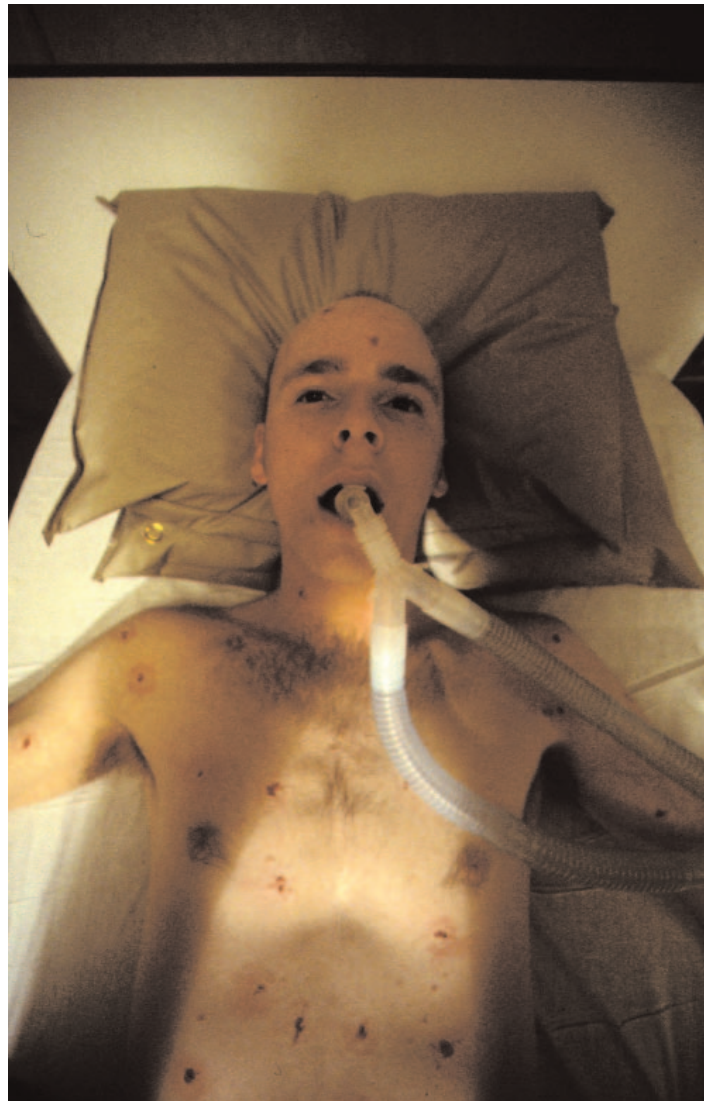
eighteen years, Michael has been plagued with psychotic visions of unthinkable medical experiments being performed on him. As his only escape, Michael attempts suicide. Revived, he finds himself trapped in the medical institute of his nightmares, drugged, on a respirator, and tied to a bed with wires, which seem to be charging his muscles like batteries.

Once he regains his strength, he attempts an escape only to find another patient in the hospital, brain dead and on life support. To his horror, the other boy appears to be his identical copy, down to the last bodily scar. Michael's escape is thwarted by the doctor and nurse from his dreams.

In a drug induced sleep, Michael recalls his childhood interaction with a Catholic priest. His religious beliefs find themselves in conflict with his unnatural conception in a fertility clinic. If his hallucinations were the visions of a damned soul, then he must have awakened in Hell.

When he wakes, the doctor explains that he is in the body of a clone who has been implanted with a radio wire, designed to stream his memories into him – Michael's back-up body. The doctor offers Michael a chance to leave, but only if he signs a document giving him the permission to terminate life support of his original body – the mysterious patient – thus making the experiment legal.

Fearing the loss of the connection to his original self, the connection to the closest thing he believes to be his soul, Michael must now choose: A new life, but a soulless existence. Or... brain death. Michael holds out hope that he may just awaken from this terrible dream...





PRIEST

The human soul - something science cannot create. Man must be born of a mother and a father

"If every idea has its time, this one's surely is now," says writer/ director Jack Ferry.

In February of 2001, during the final days of production on *A Reasonable Hypothesis*, Time Magazine ran a cover page article on Human Cloning, proclaiming that it may be "closer than you think."

"My own fear of death and the rapid development of cloning technologies and its potential for human experimentation were the driving forces in the creation of this narrative," says Jack. "However, as time went by science caught up to what I already decided was a questionable procedure. Scientists weren't just cloning sheep anymore."

Already, labs around the world have begun experimenting with cloning human embryos. As post-production on the film commenced, cloning continued to be a hot topic in the news, and the advancements in this area were occurring at an alarming rate.

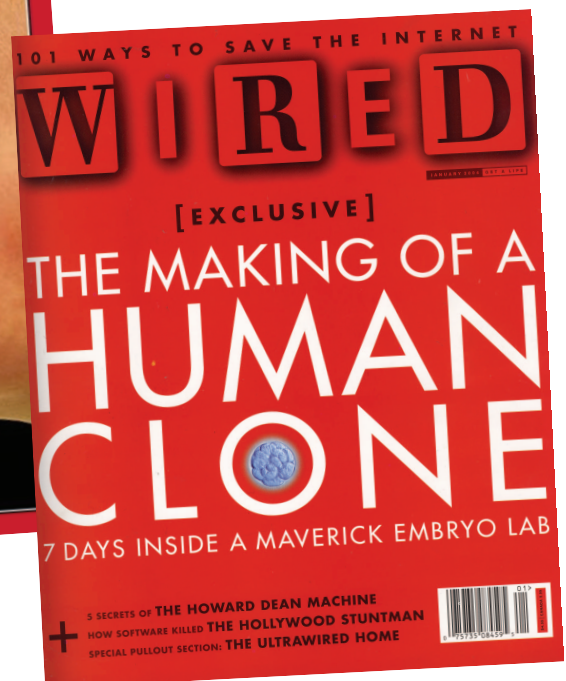
But as humanity continues its race down this ethically questionable path, questions of human identity signpost the way...

Could it be possible to one day use cloning technology as a way of achieving immortality?

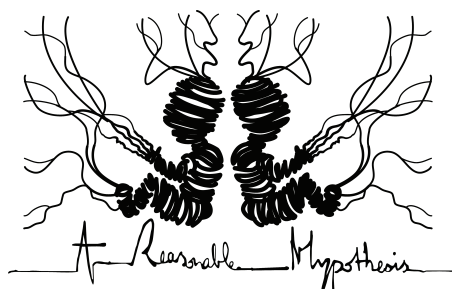
Does this "second body," with the identical mind and genetic makeup, effectively share the donor's soul?

Does the clone of a man have the soul of a man?

Well, that would be "A Reasonable Hypothesis."



Designed by Janine Stromberg
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