

Opening extract from

The Comic Strip History of the World

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HOW IT ALL STARTED (PROBABLY)

Several billion years ago in space there was a whopping

BIG BANG!!!

I'm out of here!

whoosh

distant galaxies

whoosh

LATER...

stinky gases

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

the EARTH was formed.

First there was a sort of simple cell soup...

blip

blorp

then things got more complicated

250 million years ago

I fancy a walk!

LAND

Later still...

nrgh!

65 million years ago there was a sudden CATASTROPHE

extinct

Then MAMMALS took over.

hi there

They were ~~scary~~ and they were ~~scary~~ - yes it was **EARLY MAN**

About 3 million years ago, human-like creatures evolved...

And about time too...

ugh?

Plop Plop

could someone please hurry up and discover FIRE?

brrr!

brrr

stop it!

By around one and a half million years ago...

Yum! Now we won't get poisoned by raw meat! (...much)

STONE AGE TOOL KIT

- big stone
- medium sized stone
- small stone
- very small stone
- er... stick

About 100,000 years ago, our ancestors appeared in AFRICA. The other types of humans gradually died out... (well, most of them did)

The new HUMANS didn't stay in one place...

People spent their time hunting...

Uh?

HAAAARGH!

HAAAARGH!

gathering...

Lunch!

Lunch!

(oh... and along the way someone, somewhere, invented this)

Newfangled nonsense!

mutter mutter

and generally roaming about...

until...

Whew!

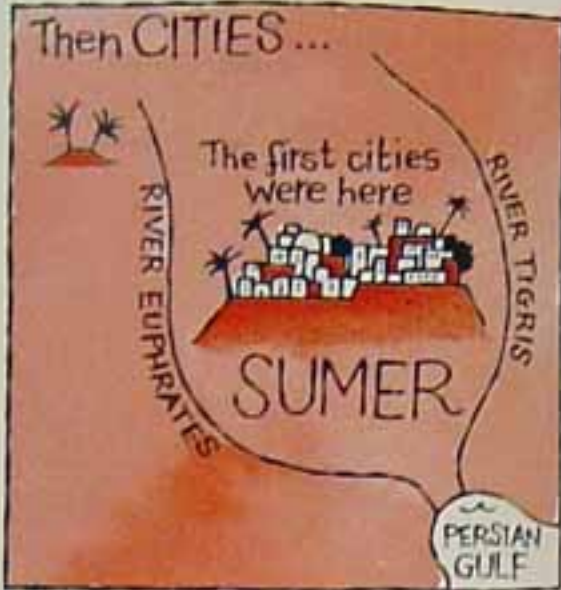
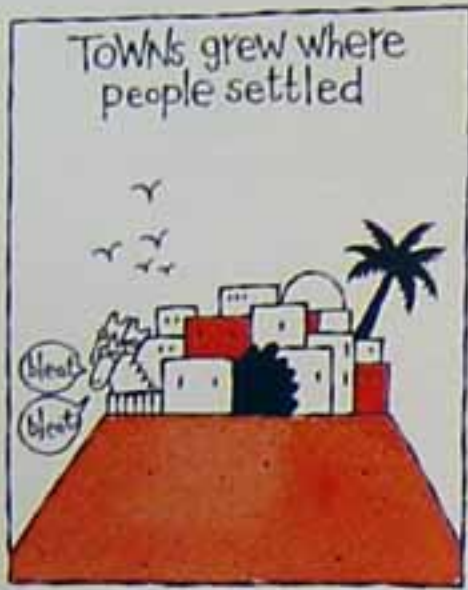
I could do with a nice rest

I know... let's settle down here!

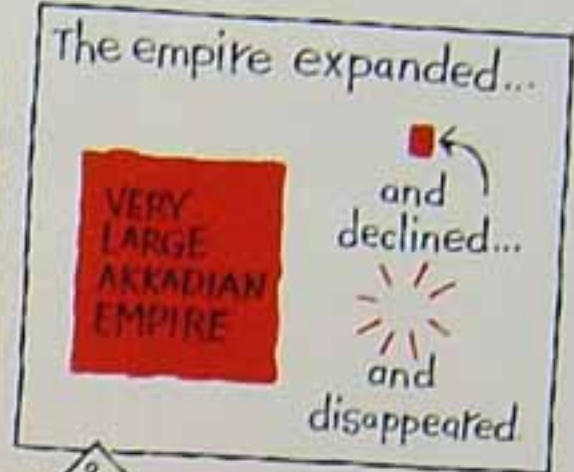
Ooh! You talking commitment?

and so...

CIVILISATION IS BORN!



Then a whole EMPIRE ...



Meanwhile, other civilisations were now popping up all over the place ...