

Ask Dr. Dan, Ph.D.
Ad Hoc Professor of Science
University of Upper Saddle Leather, New Jersey

Daniel Wolf Savin
Cambridge, MA

Dear Dr. Dan,

My toaster oven has been doing strange things recently. I keep putting bread in but then the toaster disappears. It fades out and comes back a few minutes later with a toasted roast beef sandwich (on white bread with mayonnaise yet). What should I do? Could it be that my toaster is at one end of an opening into another dimension and that a non-kosher deli is at the other end? I tried to return the toaster but the store was not there when I went back.

Confused in 4-D

Dear 4-D,

The problem with your toaster is interesting but can be fully explained through a unification of Quantum Gravitational Field Theory and Statistical Thermodynamics. When you turn the toaster on it gets hot. Now heat is energy and as Einstein told us energy and mass are equivalent by $E = mc^2$. Hence when you turn the toaster on, it gets heavier. Of course what had happened usually requires the mass of a million stars the size of the sun, but in certain statistically determinable cases a toaster oven will do. This is what has happened to you.



THE GAY PHILOSOPHER — WHY WORRY by Henry Major

I suggest you keep trying to return the toaster. Eventually the store should return (though probably not in your lifetime). There is not much else you can do. Non-kosher delis just never use rye bread and mustard for roast beef sandwiches. Try buying your own. 🍞



LEARNED LUNATICS

British Medical Journal, March 8, 1865.

At a trial last month before the City Court of Brooklyn, New York, in which the plaintiff claimed a verdict and damages against her brother and nephew for taking her to Bloomingdale Lunatic Asylum, though she was (she alleged) really of sound mind, Dr. Brown, the principal physician of the asylum, was asked whether it was not possible that a person of insane mind could write such poems as this lady had written, one of which had become very popular. The doctor's answer was: "Certainly, I suppose the best reply I can give to that question is to state that *Adler's German and English Dictionary*, which is used as a standard text book in the principal colleges in the country, was written in the Bloomingdale Asylum by a person of insane mind. I might also mention a number of standard text text books which were written in that institution; and I will state as a conclusive fact that one of the leading newspapers in New York is principally edited in the Bloomingdale Lunatic Asylum, and the leading editorial is written three or four times a week by a person of unsound mind confined in that institution.—