

Could there be a badger Jesus?

by [Brian Doyle](#) in the [August 17, 2016](#) issue

You want to hear a resurrection story? I'll tell you  
A resurrection story. I saw a squirrel get squished  
In the street. This was on Ash Street, near where a  
Family named Penance lives. Things like this rivet  
Me. Religions don't live in churches. Religions are  
Not about religion, in the end; they're vocabularies.  
This squirrel got *hammered*. I mean, a car ran right  
Over it, and the car sped down the hill, and I recall  
Thinking that some dog would soon be delighted to  
Be rolling ecstatically in squirrel oil, but then, even  
As I watched, the animal resumed its original shape  
And staggered off into the laurel thicket, inarguably  
Alive and mobile, if somewhat rattled and unkempt.  
Jesus and Lazarus must have known that feeling, of  
Being sore in every joint, and utterly totally fixated  
On a shower and coffee and a sandwich. Or walnuts,  
Depending, I suppose, on species. Our current form  
Is a nebulous idea, is what I am trying to say. Could  
It be that resurrections are normal and the one we're  
Always going on about in the Christian mythologies  
Is only One a long time ago, when there are millions  
Per day? Could there be an insect Jesus and a badger  
Jesus and a salmon Jesus? Could there be impossible  
Zillions of Jesuses? Isn't that really the whole point?