

a few stamps for your next mailing. I would guess your final side. Looking forward to a more positive Xenolith 33 or, be

423 Summit Avenue,
Hagerstown, Maryland,
21740. Oct. 11, 1990.

Bill Bowers,
P. O. Box 58174,
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45258-0174.

Dear Bill:

I was shocked and saddened by what I read in Xenolith. Here I'd been, thinking occasionally about how good it would be when the time came for another Bill Bowers fanzine to arrive after the long silence. And when that fanzine came, its contents were distressing; something that had never before been true of anything you've published.

Of course, I wish you all the very best with respect to both the trial (and I'm sure your attorney is correct in telling you that a jail sentence is most unlikely) and the rest of your mundane life.

It can hardly be any consolation to you, but Xenolith had one special benefit for me. This has been a bad day: an overnight down-pour combined with front porch roof problems caused some water to seep into the cellar, I got up with a sick headache which has grown worse as the day progressed, and I got to the local Catholics' rummage sale just too late to buy a bunch of fine records. And I have taken these problems in stride because they seem so insignificant in comparison with what I'd just read about your tribulations.

I don't know quite what else I can say. Obviously, I can't offer the advice that your friends who know of you and your circumstances can properly give you. Since I've never been married, I can't even try to console you with a reminder that I've suffered from that condition, too. All I can do is feel thankful that your trouble with the law wasn't caused by anything you did. This keeps your reputation unchanged in my thoughts, something that isn't true of the fans who have been busted for drug dealing or pornography creativity.

Cincinnati fandom has always seemed to me to be a cut above that in most other cities and the support you've had from fans in that area seems to reinforce that belief, too.

I hope the next few weeks will make it possible for you to forget the whole thing gradually and to publish again one of the Bill Bowers fanzines that are a complete joy to read and remember. You have all my best wishes for future happiness.

Yrs., &c.,
Harry Warner, Jr.
Harry Warner, Jr.

October 18, 1990

Dear Bill,

There may not be a great deal to say about XENOLITH 32 except that it's good to see a Bowers fanzine again no matter what miserable set of circumstances may have inspired it but since the long-awaited re-appearance of ~~one~~ one of my favorite fanzines has finally occurred it seems only fitting that the cycle be completed by the appearance of a Glicksohn loc on a Bowers fanzine. This particular combination has been a source of great pleasure to me for more years than I care to admit and I look forward to enjoying that pleasure for many more years to come. Welcome back, old and dear friend: you were too long gone.

As galling as the injustice of the circumstances must be to you (take solace, if you can, in the knowledge that those of us who know you recognize the absurdity of the charges and the conviction) you are forced to make the most of a lousy situation. You got royally betrayed, mistreated and taken advantage of but it could have been a hell of a lot worse. At least you are free (and free of Linda) and if you must rebuild from almost nothing I think you know you do not have to face that dismal task alone. If I can help, I hope you won't be too stubborn to ask.

The details? Well, let's consign them to history, a history not to be forgotten but not to be dwelled on either. It's over, it's lousy, put it away. As someone is supposed to have recently said about me, "He always did pick the wrong woman." Do we learn? Maybe not. Do we suffer? Assuredly. Does it pass? In time. Do we pick up the pieces and go on? Of course, because that's the way we are.

Stacked against all you have lost is the fact that I have regained a friend. A small thing, compared to what you've suffered perhaps, but multiply that small thing by all those who feel as I do and maybe, just maybe, the balance starts to swing back towards even.

See you soon, my friend. Looking forward to it.

Much love,

Mike

HAMILTON COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO
GENERAL RULES FOR PROBATIONERS



COURT REFERRAL PROGRAM

Probation is a privilege not a right. This privilege may be revoked at any time. Make sure you understand all the conditions of your probation before you sign them. If you have questions, ask your Probation Officer to explain them to you. The Court orders that you sign these rules.

The Probation Officer wants to help you, but the first and most important step is for you to help yourself. When you have a problem, talk to your Probation Officer.

As a probationer, you can be arrested on sight without a warrant by any Probation Officer or any other Police authority, whenever there are reasonable grounds to believe that you have violated the terms of your probation.

Although a strict curfew has not been given to you, it certainly is in your best interest to keep reasonable hours. Should you prove you are not keeping these hours, a curfew will be imposed.

Below is a summary of the General Rules for all probationers which you will follow.

1. While on probationary status, I shall conduct myself appropriately at all times and answer all questions by probation department personnel truthfully to the best of my ability.
 2. I will obey all laws, this includes city, county, state and federal laws.
 3. I will not own, possess, or carry a firearm or other lethal weapon.
 4. I will not illegally obtain or use controlled substances. I will consent to medical tests to determine if I have violated this rule.
 5. I will support those persons whom I am required by law to maintain and support.
 6. I will enter and complete any education or vocational training as may be ordered by the Court or my Probation Officer or, I will seek a job and work regularly.
 7. I will advise my Probation Officer on leaving any employment.
 8. I will obtain permission from the Probation Department before leaving either Hamilton County or the State of Ohio.
 9. I will report, immediately, any change of my home residence or telephone number to my Probation Officer.
 10. I shall report to my Probation Officer at such time and place and as often as the Adult Probation Department or the Court may require. Failure to do so could be a ground for revocation of probation. My time to report is ~~once a week~~ of each week/month I will report dressed properly. *within the last two week by phone*
 11. I will make restitution in the sum of \$ within months from the date of this Order, and pay Costs of Prosecution, estimated at \$ 232.00 to the Adult Probation Department. I agree to pay \$ 23.20 per week/month If I cannot meet these obligations, I will discuss it with my Probation Officer immediately.
 12. Upon the order of my Probation Officer, I will submit to a search of my person and any purse, bag or package that may be in my possession.
 13. I agree to abide by the above rules and conditions of my probation. These rules may be modified in the future if the circumstances of my life change. I will also abide by the following conditions as stated by Judge Hogan or my Probation Officer.
 14. ATTEND AMEND PROGRAM & PAY COSTS & FINES
- I HAVE READ OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME THE ABOVE WHICH MY PROBATION OFFICER HAS ALSO EXPLAINED TO ME. I UNDERSTAND ALL RULES AND PROMISE TO ABIDE BY THEM. I REALIZE ANY VIOLATION MAY CAUSE MY PROBATION TO BE REVOKED AND THE SENTENCE PUT INTO EFFECT FOR THE OFFENSE I HAVE COMMITTED. I WILL KEEP MY COPY OF THESE RULES.

DATE 10-17-90 PROBATIONER William Brown
PROBATION OFFICER Lloyd Morrow CP-262-89

You have been ordered by the Hamilton County Municipal court to attend an educational program on domestic violence.

You are required to attend an orientation meeting on Thursday evening from 6:30pm to 8:00 pm at which time you will register for group counseling. If you cannot make this appointment call 221-6363 immediately!! Ask for Mitchell Lasco.

Your orientation session is Thursday Oct 25 at 6:30pm.

Orientation will be held at: YWCA BUILDING RM # 3A
898 WALNUT ST.
DOWNTOWN CINCINNATI

You must be at Orientation by 6:30pm.

The fee for the program is \$125.00 (non-refundable). Certified checks or money orders should be made payable to : YWCA/AMEND.

You will be issued a certificate of completion to be given to the court after you have successfully attended your scheduled group sessions.

If you have any questions on payment of the fee or other matters call 221-6363 and ask for Daniel Trujillo. If you are unable to contact AMEND for any reason, come to your scheduled orientation session and your questions will be answered at that time.

Probation Officer Lloyd Morrow

TOTAL AMOUNT OWED: \$ 232.00

FILE NO. (112043)

HAMILTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COURT ORDERED FINES AND COSTS PAYMENTS

Payments are to be made at a rate of \$ 23.20 per month per week for 16 months weeks and one final payment of \$ ---, effective Nov. 90

You have been placed on probation for 1 year months by the Hamilton County Municipal Court. The conditions of your probation are that you make regular payments as shown above. Therefore, payments must be sent to the:

MUNICIPAL COURT PROBATION DEPARTMENT, 4TH FLOOR, 222 E. CENTRAL PARKWAY
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

Only money orders will be accepted if mailed. Payments can be made in person.

4TH FLOOR, CASHIER'S OFFICE, 222 E. CENTRAL PARKWAY
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

Cash and money order payments will be accepted between 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

A complete record of your payments will be kept by, the Probation Department Cashier's Office. If payment is not made as instructed, you must report to your Probation Officer.

NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ANY TIME

If you do not make your payments or report as instructed above, your probation will be revoked and you will be brought back before the Court for contempt. If you have any questions concerning your payments, you must contact your Probation Officer.

10-24-90
DATE

Richard Morrow
PROBATION OFFICER

I hereby acknowledge that I have been given this date a copy of these instructions for Court ordered fines and costs payments.

William L. Bowers
PROBATIONER'S SIGNATURE

NOTE: A VIOLATION OF YOUR PROBATION COULD RESULT IF TWO(2) CONSECUTIVE PAYMENTS ARE MISSED.



County of Hamilton

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
MUNICIPAL COURT
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

TELEPHONE: 632-8449

LLOYD MORROW

222 E. CENTRAL PARKWAY
ROOM 400-B
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

PROBATION OFFICER #112043



AMEND

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This letter is to certify that William L. Bowers has completed a twenty hour education and discussion program conducted by **PWCA/AMEND**.

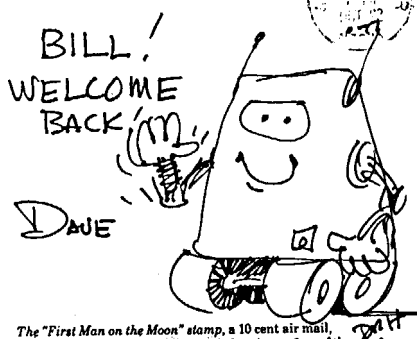
This program was ordered by the Hamilton County Municipal Court as a condition of dismissal, bond or probation.

November 17, 1990

Date

Mark Freshley
Mark Freshley
AMEND Counselor

David Haugh
556 N. 3rd St.
Woodburn, OR 97071



To:
BILL BOWERS
P.O. Box 58174
CINCINNATI, OH
45258-0174



The "First Man on the Moon" stamp, a 10 cent air mail, was printed from a master die carried to the surface of the moon and back by the Apollo 11 crew in July, 1969. Designed by Paul Calle, the stamp is 50 per cent larger than usual, and is the largest U.S. commemorative issue. National Museum of American History Smithsonian Institution, 1981 348821

...and, yes, I do have more Papers from the Trial & Tribulations; maybe, later, a more comprehensive scrapbook. After all, I've certainly "paid" for the material in question!

...and if I've handed this to you, or if you've received it in The Mail with a return address stamped corner, left, upper, You Know Who I Am -- and already approach this Page with Anticipation -- but For the Record, today is December 3rd, 1990, I am BILL BOWERS, this is the latest issue of this particular fanzine of mine [the Very First Issue of which was dated 10/17/77...], subtitled My Publication #168. It is being first-drafted out (a perilous undertaking, that) against the impending FLAP #67 Deadline (the 6th), for Friends and friends. The Editorial Address appears several time on This Page Alone; the Editorial Phone doesn't, but, For You, it answers to 513-251-0806....

P.O. Box 905, Euless, TX 76039
October 9, 1990

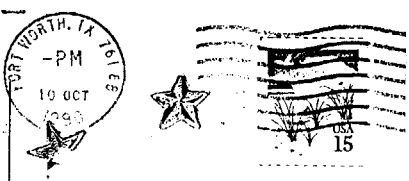
Dear Bill--
H.P. Lovecraft never wrote a tale more horrific than yours.

My mom, an avid cat fancier, once had a cat with different colored eyes, a physical trait she said that commonly meant that the animal was mentally retarded. Since I think that all cats are dumb, I could not tell.

To enhance my chances of find^{ing} a new love, I bought a 1991 red Beretta sports car (more romantic means of transportation than the white 1975 Buick), bought a new French Quarter style bed (more romantic than sleeping on a mattress on the floor), and had my hair cut *short* (more romantic than the mad scientist look.)

Beast wishes,

David



Bill Bowers
PO Box 58174
Cincinnati, OH
45258-0174

MY WORLD I sit here, typing these words on a typewriter lent to me at Ditto 3 by Leah & Dick Smith, listening to Led Zepp on my late Father's stereo, given to me by my Mother when I journeyed "Home" over Thanksgiving. In a while I will migrate to the living room to watch The Almost Perfect Monday Nite Football Game on a tv borrowed from Bill Cavin, sitting on a recliner lent by Dave Locke & Jackie Causgrove. Eventually I will wander upstairs to My Room (not "ours"; not the "kids'") and a box-springs/mattress-sans-frame bed transported here, on the top of the Buick, from Don & Tanya Carter's garage.

Alternately morose and angry because although one-third is "settled", the Other Two (the bankruptcy; the divorce...) aren't, and, even though I know that, in Time... in the meantime I'm left hanging.... But, me & 'Sponse, well, we're maintaining and, all in all, things could be a lot worse....

Sorry you couldnt make it - Ruth + Ron Bushyager
KLM's Airbus A-310
For reservations and information call KLM in The Netherlands: (0)20-747 747, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

LUCHTPOST
POSTCODE
Gebruik uw adres.

Hi Bill - Greetings from the land of wooden shoes - Jacobus
Sorry you cant do help - Edie Steen
Greetings from New Jersey - Tony Perdue
Wish you were here! Love, Jay Waldman

Bill Bowers
P.O. Box 58174
Cincinnati OH 45258

Hi Bill - waiting for the next o'wirds - Stu
Long time, Bill! Miss you! Dave Lytle
SEE ABOVE... Rusty
Come back to fandom, you shoulda been here! Love, Miroche
KENTUCKY FRIENDS SAM - J & S DENNIS
wish you were here -

The Reliable Airline KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

Dear Bill - Even me wishes you the best
and much love. See you at the first
take care. Love you all!
U.S.A.

...strangely, I floated--not in a daze (for a change) -- but as if I existed something like 5 or 10 seconds out of kilter with everyone else--flashing into synch/reality occasionally, then phasing out again. I have never experienced anything quite like it before--but whatever it was, it worked. Perhaps I have a built-in safety-valve for those times when the sensory influx overloads any capacity for dealing with reality.

Michael W. Waite
105 West Ainsworth
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

...that aside from a "speech" at MARCON XIV [3/16/79]...published in these pages later that same month. I dunno: Larry Tucker has offered me a 1/2-hour Friday nite at Confusion...for the Nth Post-Iguanacon Practice Speech...
If I thought I could possibly go...?

October 17, 1990

10/17/90 "...it could have been worse; at least you don't have to go to jail!"

That's what Sandy said; she was there. That's what my mother said, when I called her. That's what Jackie said. That's what Mike said, when he called that night. That's what everybody says...

I guess.

180 days. Suspended. One year probation. \$250. + costs (I just got an "oohs, sorry" note from Morrow; the total is \$282.--plus the \$65. I "lost" on the bail refund). Complete the AMEND Program.... [\$125. cheap!] ...it could have been worse.

I'm still guessing.

I was going to appeal. I felt I HAD to. But my lawyer pointed out that in 90+% of the cases the appeals Judge/court upheld the original verdict unless there was overwhelming evidence to the contrary...and since the only "evidence" here was words.... Secondly, it would cost well over a grand.... Still, I wanted to; so bad I could taste it.

In the end, I rationalized. (~~It may not be alone in this exercise~~) I debated. For the same money I can go to both Corflu and Ditto -- it's not "justice", but at least I have my priorities straight.

"She" wasn't at the sentencing. Too bad. I'm sure that (once she saw who my "support" was) the judge would have enjoyed the unsolicited rendition of the torrid "affair" Sandy and I had when I was out of work. The demonstrable fact that Sandy was in the hospital recovering from a near-fatal auto accident --and that Greg was spending the nights on a cot in the same room would only have made it kinky. And the presence of "I'm three..." Michelle with Sandy would only have confirmed that I am the father of every pre-adolescent fannish child "she" was aware of. It is to wonder that, given how "busy" I was, I had the time to go into debt as deeply as I did. Or had any "need" to marry "her"....

And the AMEND guys wanted me to "deal" with my jealousy. *sigh*

And Isn't that AMEND logo simply "precious"? Mitchell Lasco is... And the location, the YWCA -- perfect!

Bill Bowers
Box 58174
Cincinnati, Ohio 45258-0174

Dear Bill,

If you traced your family tree back to biblical times, I suspect you would find you are related to Job -- talk about "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune!" You should sell Hollywood the movie and TV rights to Xenolith 32.

"My mother (now deceased) was a three time loser. Perhaps that is why I never married. Although I have cohabitated, over the years, with a number of lovely damsels -- one relationship lasted 10 years. Termination of relationships has always been amiable and I suspect I still love them all -- in my own perverted way.

After reading your cathartic Xenolith 32, I couldn't help but wonder what effect all this disruption is having on her children.

I am enclosing a few stamps for your next mailing. I would guess your finances are a bit on the lean side. Looking forward to a more positive Xenolith 33 or, better yet, Outworlds 60.

Pax,

Michael

P.S. I hope you are reading this letter in the comfort of your home and not in a jail cell. I believe it was Oscar Wilde who said, "Marriage is like a fine meal, except you are served dessert first."

October 10, 1990

Dear Bill,

We'd already heard, through Mike Glicksman and Bill Cavin, of the distressing events in your recent life. But I appreciate your sending us your own account, and I wish you the best.

I don't believe you hit her.

I don't believe you would; I don't believe you could resort to physical violence, no matter how far provoked.

Sincerely,

Maria

They meant well. And they admitted that the program was designed for guys who a) had abused their wife/girlfriend, and, b) had (or wanted to...) gone back to the woman in question. We're talking of major blatant non-relevance here...but I did my "time" (four Saturday mornings), paid my money, and received my certificate --so I guess that, at least, is a closed (if still galling) chapter of his-story.

I'm tempted to have a t-shirt made-up with the front stating: CONVICTED OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WITHOUT STRIKING A BLOW / IT MUST BE ~~AMERICA~~ / CINCINNATI -- and the back: I HAVE AMENDED MY WAYS / (CERTIFICATION AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST).

On a note of some seriousness: To Michael. (Waite, that is).

I will endure, and "she" will ~~find another~~ survive, but the ones who "lose" in all of this are the kids. Scott turned 13 in October; Susan will be 12 in January. Their father left right after Susan was born. There was an interveaning step-father whose method of "handling" Scott (a handful yes; malicious, no way) was to lock him in a windowless bedroom. "She" always wondered why the oldest boy (from "her" first marriage) left at fifteen. And "she" will wonder, and not understand, when Scott does likewise. And "she" will gnash "her" teeth when "her" "innocent" daughter goes through an endless succession of men...because that's the way Mommy got all the jewelry and cosmetics.... Fatherhood was never my primary goal in life; but if there was any legal way I could gain custody of those kids...I would.

Fatherhood. For forty-some years I thought my Dad wasn't much good at it, and maybe he was or wasn't, but over the past few years (my "maturity"? his?; more likely, a combination) I came to know that not only had he meant well...he had done the best he could. That is not damning with faint praise; it is a statement that I believe it's all one can ask of anyone you care about.

I'd only seen my Mother twice since Dad's funeral in February: she came thru Cincy with my sister (& family) in early July, and spent an evening here; and on Labor Day (pre-Trial) they drove down to...and I drove up to...Columbus (approximately the half-way point between us) and we spent several hours in a small park on the outskirts. My sister-the-travel-agent had made arrangements for Mom to spend a month around Christmas with my brother, in Florida, so I knew my only chance to see her for a while would be Thanksgiving. Asking a car with 167,000 miles served to "do it one more time" was risky, but it made it. And I spent a day and a half going through my Father's clothes, books; Mom wanted me to have anything I could use. And I spent two nights in "his" bed, in "his" room ...a room that had been mine during my high school years. ...

Mom is the most indomitable person I've ever known, but she is eighty, and a four-bedroom ranch is a bit too much for one, so she's put an application in at a couple of retirement-complexes, and will be selling the house. She's slowed down a bit; she now gets up at 7 rather than six, but she's been going through "stuff" since Dad died...and there's a lot to go through: we moved into 3271 Shellhart Rd, onto the sub-flooring, on October 1, 1954. And, even though I haven't "lived" there since late 1961, and though there've been stretches when I didn't go "home" very frequently...I always knew it was there and it was that: Home. I remember the pines towering above the house when they were Christmas trees in the living room; there are remnants of the treehouse my brother and I built in the oak that towers to the sky, I still have a key to the door, and there are more memories than three-quarters of an acre could reasonably be expected to encompass.

For the past fourteen years, every time I journeyed North, I always nostalgized by my first apartment (hard by Lake Anna) and the house-on-Straford I owned briefly in the early '70s. Now I'll have a new "stop" on my occasional Tour. I'm not quite sure I'm ready for this one!

And, right now (complete with it's own unique set of memories) 4651 Glenway is My Home. It makes absolutely no economic sense for a "single" person to occupy a house this large... But, damnit, all these neat built-in shelves, the ceiling fans, the location... And, until the economics of the remaining two-thirds shake out, I'm not even sure I can afford it.... [But Tanya's being remarkably patient; and I do appreciate that!]

DITTO 3 was fine, made special by Dick & Leah's hospitality, and made wonderful by the fact that two friends who will always mean the world to me told me the reason they'd journeyed from afar to be there...was because ~~they~~ they knew I would be there. I doubt I deserve such treatment...but I enjoyed it!

Octocon was fine, too, despite having to get up Saturday morn after three hours sleep in the con's smoking room/poker-parlor, to totter off to my first AMEND session. Old friends, again, too long unseen...

Speaking of old friends...: Sheryl, Wm., Roger Weddall, Gay & Joe, Alan Hunter...the (never slightly) Incredible Jeanne--: all your responses are fully as appreciated as those reproduced herein. All deserve direct response...but I am, Michael (the Original) trying to "put it away"! (if only the lawyers let me...)

I can't say exactly when, but the next fanzine most of you will see from me will be OUTWORLDS 60. It is time. [Besides, I have all these Rotsler "Harry Warner, Jr. Letter of the Month" headings to use up!]

The football game wasn't "perfect"; neither is this. Both will have to do! ---BILL BOWERS [12/5/90]