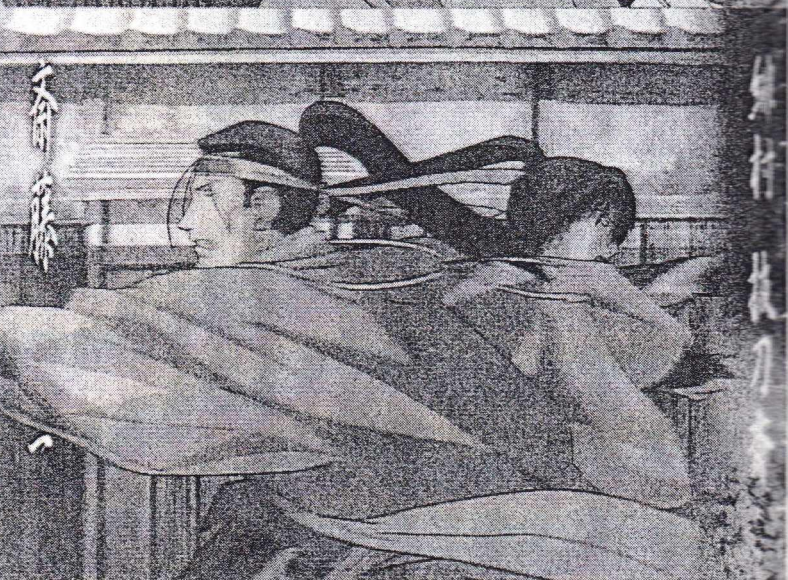


DEWACHEN

Off The Deep End Of The Universe



Stills from "Rurouni Kenshin"
(AKA: Samurai X)

I can't believe I have a crush on
an animated Hero!

<we much prefer subtitled to dubbed versions>

The Deep End of the Universe:

Well, my zine missed last mailing, I've been busy X10, my Uncle had been having mini strokes, and ended up in the hospital for tests due to having lost weight. He'd lost the weight due to having difficulty swallowing, he is doing much better but it's been a bit rough trying to catch up on life for me.

Not like I have much of a life anyway. Generally we have made time to go to Lytheria for Friday games night. (Lytheria is a faanish household in town.).

BIZARRO



MUTTS



(This is from a few months ago—)

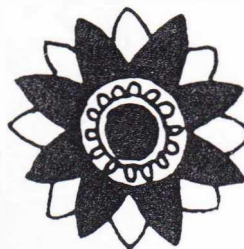
My daughter and her friend are watching Rurouni Kenshin on video, so I guess it's a good time to start on my Apa responses. Using Kenshin-san, and adolescent girls at my diving platform, I'll start with

Me and My Monkey (and such a cute baby Yeti too!) Your report of the 12 yr old suicide hit me, (oohh that coulda been ME!) and it seems like the anguish from bullies are all too common with young folks,... and maybe not too uncommon with us older ones either. Oddly enough, I think I got my fortitude to get through adolescence alive by reading and absorbing stories grounded in a "warrior society archetype", I managed somehow by using that to not only survive the jungle of adolescence but at the same time it helped me to avoid indulging in homicide. While I'm not sure EXACTLY how absorbing the archetype from such things as Kurosawa flicks helped, I'm pretty sure that in part it was:

- 1) The level of humiliation/dishonor via ones own actions was never high enough to merit suicide—was Way WAY higher than the disasters of my geek-freak life.
- 2) My disasters & humiliations never QUITE got up to the parameters for revenge either....
- 3) The archetype requires appropriate courtesy to everyone, and left respect, in both directions, as something to be earned. (No way to dis' someone if there hasn't been any opportunity to establish a reputation.)

Somewhere along the line I accepted my "weirdo nature". Discovered that I had VALUE inherent in my personhood, and if I relied on ~~my~~ peers for values and validation I would have somehow been diminished and somehow in some cases this became "Cool"....

If y'all put that in a cake & bake it, you'll have a cake...



Now! How do we go about giving this sense of confident-self, but also not-separate-from-the-universe self to our kids? Y'got me there, but I think that acknowledging the pain of others is a start on compassion, ... and heck, I could use some creative-assertiveness training myself. IMHO we also have to be careful not to sterilize all the traditional values, and archetypes out of whatever the lore of the day is. I don't think the "gumption" I've needed to take care of my elderly uncle came from anything directly told or taught, but rather from stories communicated though various means.

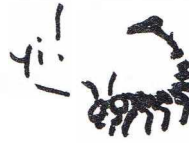
If we sterilize the faerie tales we take away their power, if we replace them with mindless violence and machoism, we leave ourselves without creative effective skills for problem solving. If we let the stories of the day fossilize....

So many families are glued to the TV and don't even know each other anymore, let alone "it's 10pm do you know where your children are?" (10:30-11pm I see middle schoolers wandering the 'burb in packs...) Isolation is deadly, how do we remember what a family means if the kids

are a pain, and the old-folks a burden? How do we remember to care about each other if we don't KNOW each other anymore?

On Computers: My dad has a Model A Ford that runs OK and that he's often tinkering with. Indeed, thank-you for the reminder that our computers are still a very new technology, and that it's by usage that we find ways to improve the technology. I sure do love mine though and wonder how I got anything done without them.

Tickled by the scorpion report.



Screaming scorpion

“Why does the member of the municipal squadron....”

“To keep his hose up!”

YVGN! “Tournaments Illuminated” maybe 14-15 years ago had a very nice article about William Marshall based, I believe, in the same source material— and apparently with a much more sympathetic view for the values of the time.

I'm left with the impression that Bush, the Younger, is trying very hard to Do The Right Thing for the benefit of the nation. Unfortunately, I fear his world view is too narrow, and completely clueless about the lives of the working class, and the deeply impoverished. Has he ever had a REAL job? A boss from Hell? Has he ever had to worry about where his next meal was coming from? Whether his family could pay the rent or pay hospitals bills for a sick child?

I don't want my address up on ANY website, I get enough spam (spam, snail spam...) Already.

Art students often wear black to hide the charcoal smears.

Wedding venues: been to a few weddings in public parks (schedule via city or state parks dept) that were lovely. One was schedule as a “family picnic/reunion” & the bride wore turquoise blue silk.

Sitting on my IRA like a dragon on a GOLDEN egg... it's not even a big one,

Before digging in my purse for something to fend off a mugger I think I'd hit him/her WITH the purse first. (I carry too much in there anyway ;)

My main POV on self defense is that anything I can lift can be used as a weapon...even better if I can THROW it. =)

Tydallite: Surely before public accusations of stuffing the fax are made, there has been some official tracing back to the source? Junk faxes MAY be illegal, particularly if there has been a

request for the harassment to stop, AND if the particular FAX machine is being used for business purposes the injured parties MIGHT be able to sue.

IMHO it'd be proper to say "We've traced these faxes to your home number, and if they don't stop NOW we'll be forced to take legal action." before anyone is saying "so & so is doing this terrible thing to me" in a public forum. It's kinda ugly to say something in such a forum IF it's not already a verified fact... and probably best not to mention it till after it's been cleared up in the courts if they're involved at all. (Don't know any of the parties involved, but know from experience that one can easily be mistaken.)

So, Essentially, NOTHING is Science Fiction?(how Zen =) Or is that "hardly anything is Science Fiction"?

True story: Friend went to Mega-biggie bookstore, where he noticed the books on Zen were all over the place, some were under "religion" some were under "psychology", some were under "new age" and so forth.... when he asked the clerk, he was told "Because Zen has nothing to do with itself."

As We May Think Ohhhh still a good fun article, some of that stuff is pretty much what we see everyday, san's the punch cards =). Every new technology stands on the shoulders of so much that came before. (Anyone remember the PBS show "The Day the Universe Changed"?)

Newport News: "faith based" aid seems ripe for con-men to enter into- and of the honest there's still the problem of where do the minority or non-faithed poor go for assistance & avoid the forced feeding of mainstream religion to themselves and their children? Government Aid is likely to be cut because "faith based" are presumed to have taken over- and if those fail or vanish the needy will be left in free fall. But who cares, poor don't make campaign donations... (In the case of a faanish adoption discussed in a lettercol elsewhere, a social worker disqualified prospective parents based on her personal bias against the "overweight".... Now imagine the trouble if the agency was faith-based and the prospective parents not faithful enough, let alone whether they're the right flavor...)

I'm all for the separation of church & state, who needs the government messing with the church either!

Hey Ned! Turns out we are both friends of Henry Welch! He & Letha were like

"How do you know Ned?!"

"Zines!"

9-12 pt type, depending on the font, can be hard to read, particularly as one hits middle age. (I find that I have to take off my glasses and pull the text in close to read the directions on the medication labels.) 13-15 pt reasonable 18-20+ (again depending on the particular font) could look like "Cheating" (I think I'm at page 4 or 5 now, so not really worried...)

Aluminum foil is quite useful- usually in the kitchen sometimes to enhance antennas, sometimes for shielding from rays =) ... do NOT microwave =]

A booksafe at Ned's would be nearly undetectable wouldn't it?!

Our household is nearly beef-free anyway, no pork either. Chicken & turkey to where my uncle claims he's about to sprout feathers.

Spiritus: What, pray tell, is a "Satanic Fountain"?... (PHOTO! PHOTO!)

The ring sounds lovely,... Sorry about the loss of your wallet, what a hassle! What Stress! Last Summer my car was broken into, nothing of real value gone, but they opened an amulet (but put it back) and it STILL bothers me.

Some staplers are highly designed:



... so I'm not surprised to see them as Collectibles. My uncle regularly uses one from the 30's or 40's which is suitably Art Deco.

Did Reagan's survival of the shooting break the 0-year curse? (Presidents elected in 0 ended years dying in office and isn't this a better survival rate than the global average?)

Twygdrasil: so is the girl on the cover green? Several bits of your zine were read aloud to KT and her pal. Your Britney illo had them laughing hysterically. Here's another Britney joke:

KT and I were watching "The Black Mask" (Jet Li) and the comic bookesque hero was using CDs and mini CDs as shuriken (throwing stars)

"Must be Britney Spears" she quipped.

I find that I'm relieved to be reminded that this IS the Model T age of Computers. The hop-out and recrank the starter isn't quite so annoying with that in mind. When I'm working on something important (like a LOC) I have an established habit of saving the document to floppy regularly while in progress. It SEEMS to prevent the freezeup/Shutdown stuff, and even if it does glitch up, I've only lost a few minutes of work.

I'd gotten a cell phone "for emergencies only" a few years ago, and find it gets used quite a bit more than that. Main reason for the purchase was my status as Mono-parent, but mostly it's my elderly-ill uncle who calls, mostly when I'm out running his errands.

Lazio, - well gee, who'd vote for a guy who's just plain MEAN? (Which is how he looked after going after Hillary using Bill's infidelity...)

If 2 lovers are waking up together- chances are- the preceding night was one of passion, with the possible exception of parents.

KT, (previously mentioned daughter) loved the idea of a "sit trag" her comment: "That'd be SO COOL.." She'd watch it too, agreeing that villains tend to be Sooooo interesting, because of their flaws and inner conflicts. (In some literature though the heros have flaws that lead to their downfall & can also give them interesting conflicts.)

"Daniel Boone" at least in the 60's 70's era shows (or maybe I'm thinking "Davy Crockett"?) At least as far as I recall, was placed well Eastward of where one would likely run into Apaches. I vaguely remember Leonard Nimoy cast as an Indian on one of those shows.

The TV bit I saw about the Lemba said they'd become Christians when the White Missionaries came. What was their culture like BEFORE that first contact?

I think the fat, thin, & strong intermarry/breed at such a regular rate that racial division seems unlikely. Until my Appendix Event, I tended to take after my Mom's side of the family (taller and slim) but despite my slim bone structure, and non-varied height, I'm more stocky like my Dad's side of the family now.

>> I'm not plump, I'm Voluptuous<<

OK so 3 pairs of pants WON'T stop a bullet, (at least not one intended for the wearer at a decent range), but it's apparently urban legend, so EVERYONE knows it's true.

Joe Mayhew had "Mad Cow"?! Ail D'ya know if he ate venison? There seems to be a version of "Mad cow" affecting deer and elk in the US- as well as some of the people that eat them. (Would it be so surprising to see it jump from deer to domestic bovines?)

If you were losing your will to live (provided that you are male) mightn't the regular viewing of boobs help? Perhaps this explains the generally healthier-longer lives of married men? And it's certainly an explanation for "Baywatch".

Isn't a rocket ship basically a bullet with people inside? So rather than run someone over with one, wouldn't y' shoot someone with one?

Time travel- semi regularly clients jokingly request delivery "yesterday" or "45 minutes ago" they'd probably not like the charges for that service if we COULD do it.

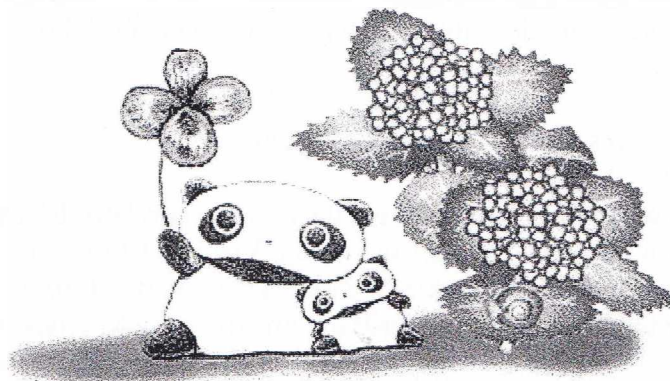
Don't worry about Asparteme, the article going around quotes non-existent people, & the author does NOT represent the MS Society... which is really P.O. ed that she claims to.... I suspect the original was written as part of a scam- and got into the net and email at some point as "news". Years on the net have given me a pretty keen BS detector. Though it's not infallible.

Windoze 98 should be OK on your SuperDeskTop, it'll probably be able to utilize the power of the new machine, without having any more glitches than the software had to begin with.

4/22/01 Spent my birthday with some friends over on the East Side. Reason for the gathering was not originally my birthday, but rather that a friend was in town from Maryland. Because of Tina visiting from Maryland, Dar & Dianne came up from Iowa.

How soon d'ya think it'll be till people report that their entire "social security" investment got snatched in some scam. Not all of us can 1) do it ourselves or 2) afford adequate/appropriate advise... Most people I know could probably do OK, but not nearly as well as the people who can afford planners and advisors and stock brokers... People who are just-getting-by-now could very well end up with no hope of retirement. My own nest egg was started with the idea of OH-My-GHOD what do I do if I find myself too old or too sick to work? I don't expect to have much of a break in my golden years- though maybe I could retire to somewhere, where my US\$ will look like serious money.

I would NEVER laugh at your water heater disaster. It can be a terrible thing. When my building's basement flooded a couple of years ago (the creek decided to come in.) I lost a lot of stuff that meant something to me. Books and fabric mostly. Fortunately, things from my grandma, were OK, and I hadn't stored my quilt in progress down there.



Frequent flyer: Cried! I lost my maternal grandmother about 4 years ago, & the paternal one about 10 years ago, and I still miss them terribly. "A library burns down when an old person dies."

Hole-in-the-wall, is great fun, even if it's not actually period. I think that the flavor is period and it's FUN. I think it really contributes to the SCA experience, in part because newbies and day-trippers can pick it up very quickly.

....I'm looking forward to little girls trick-or-treating as Lady Galadriel! Mine did that many years ago, having read The Hobbit and parts of LOTR in about 3rd grade.

"ooohhhh what a LOVELY little princess..."

"I am NOT a 'princess', I am *lady galadriel, queen of the elves*" she declared....

Snow & Shmoozing: Nifty cover graphic, despite car troubles a good fun report. By the way SOMETIMES AAA does have better tools than the cops.

It seems bluntly obvious that Harry is required to live with the Dursleys because 1) they are his only living family. & 2) they have legal custody. Rules regarding spending breaks "at home" are with the presumption that the family has some values... I DO hope that all us faanish parental units have appropriate "god parents" for our faanish offspring.

At the same time I saw the Moses & the EPA cartoon The 10 Commandments were on T.V. ... Charleston Heston's OK, but Yul Brenner makes me drool.

IMHO, the virus-warning-chains are a kind of net virus too, they're deathless as long as someone is likely to be startled/scared and forward it to their entire address book. (IMHO this is sometimes a similar phenomenon as certain Urban Legends.)

Marching Through: Lovely landscape! Toni & Hank look terribly familiar to me, but I have NO IDEA from where... As for the rocket launch KT's science class back in 6th grade built their own rockets and set them off in the field behind the school.

Comments #10: stamps.com... I can see them being very usefull for home based companies, and possibly, "Gee my zine is FINALLY done but *&^% I'm out of postage!" Nifty graphics, are they from a CD? I like the 'bot pushing his own buttons & the "friendly" alien on the next page "How-about-a-hug?" he says...

Aristotle Meets Gernsback: I liked the "modern" lil pigs, but aren't Guinea Pigs actually rodents or in the Rabbit family? <Insert: Green Jello's Three Little Pigs as a sound track here>

Condolences on the loss of a Great Cat.

It took me about 3 weeks to get the hang of Graffiti, It helps a great deal to write big. I use Eudora on both my desk top and on the Visor and I Love it. The modem is waay useful (on the visor) for an email junkie like me. There's lots of fun free software too.

I have to admit I love the thrill of something IN MY HAND, that I know from SF!

I liked your Pythonizing of Gladiator though IMHO "Commodius" is a funny enough name as is, though I kinda wonder if "Maximus" is a nick name for "Biggus Dickus"....

My dad and I both had the impression that we'd seen the movie before, he thought it was a remake of some earlier movie... I think it's made up of pieces of every Roman Era flick, and PBS ep, that I've ever seen... =) I am vastly grateful for the lake of a fast food tie in.

I'd seen Wild Things with my ex SO, the plot is plenty tangled... Could have done just as well w/o all the skin shots?

KT and her peers note that dubbed Animae are often bowderdized and culturally edited, much to their dismay. "it hurts the stories" they rightly observe. They also much prefer the subtitled as they are trying to learn Japanese by watching them. Recurring "courtesy phrases" and levels of address seem to be rather easily picked up that way. However we don't have much opportunity to field test their manners and vocabulary.... Though Toshu may be their guinea pig at some point this summer. (Toshu is a friend who recently returned

from a year's study at Zuigoji where he completed his ordination.) I guess there's another reason to save up for a Worldcon in Japan in 2007 or 8.

Weekly World News sells T's with their favored covers.

Passages#9: Nice photo cover! Cute buncha kids. Gifted kids are expected to carry the usual workload AND their special stuff. Some are opting out of the special program in order to have a life. Some teachers clearly HATE the smart kids, and or the kids who ask questions & find easy sensible solutions to the assignments. My smarty pants young un' spent a day of her spring break shadowing Prof Welch (Knarley Knews) at MSOE. She had a great time, and was particularly impressed with the radio station.

Confessions: My spell checker has learnt many words (mostly names, & other proper nouns) in Gaelic, Tibetan, Sanskrit, Chinese, & Japanese... as well as abbreviations and slang. It recognizes A'ina (a Milwaukeeism) and Y'all as words. (A'ina serves much the same purpose as the Japanese "neh" and the Yiddish "nu")

"Chads belonging to the Emperor!" =)

Armadillo: Great Quilt! By the way have you seen the e-list "Quilter's Coven"?

George Wells: My daughter, Buffy literate, enjoyed the Vampire/Werewolf gags.

Chocolate doesn't seem to have the same effect on Males as Females... Perhaps explaining the gender divide regarding the movie Chocolat.

Avatar Press: Would your nephew, Jeremy, possibly benefit from some kind of family counseling? Possibly some serious attention from a Psyc. Professional? I'm guessing that he lives w/Granma & was seriously troubled before that.... I'm left with the impression he's living w/Grandma because he got thrown out at home. Adolescence has always been a minefield & I think it's even more so nowa-days. Any idea if anything is capable of inspiring him?

If your Blast-from-the-past's divorce is fairly recent, she may be starving for some validation as a person... It doesn't need to be (& and ought not if the divorce is fresh) to be a physical/sexual validation... but she may need to hear that she is loveable and worthy of being loved.

The world certainly can be a big hostile place even without being "Mom on her own". Old friends sometimes feel very safe when nothing else does, and this may explain for here appearing out of the blue 17 yrs later.

GET FUZZY



—Weekend update—

since the last time you heard from me:

We went to WISCON, looks like EB Frohvet didn't make it, but I did meet up with Lyn McConchie.

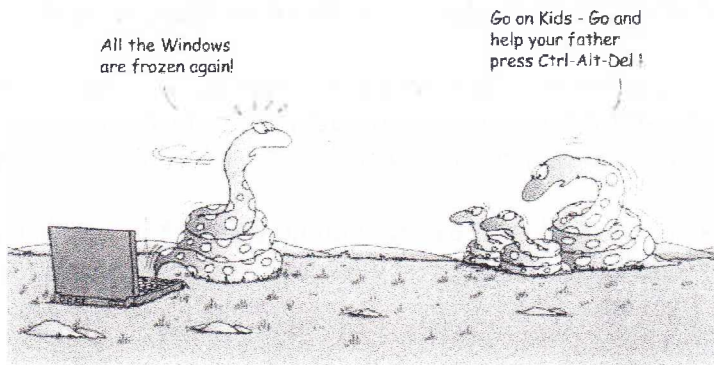
I also enjoyed several panels including one on Buffy, another on Warrior Women and one on The Dark side of the Fey. Had a great time, I aquired a canary yellow linen duster, and from a shop on state street, a Hemp & silk blend Kimono for \$10!

This weekend, we went to Asian Moon festival, over in Milwaukee. We had a great time, and bought a bunch of Animae stuff, a pair of geta (to go w/ the Kimono from Madison) a glow in the dark Kwan Yin statue etc. We also ate and enjoyed several demos and performances. I especially enjoy the Taiko drummers. Every year a Taiko team comes from Chicago to perform, and one piece is thanking and requesting blessing from the dragons... and every year the wind off the lake picks up during that piece.

I love the way the Taiko resonate in my bones.

Several requests for background info and questions regarding the ferret:

Yes, Elric is a sweetie, & is, indeed, an albino. He eats kitten chow (the crunchy kind) and occasional bits of Human Chow.



I lived for about 2 years in N.Carolina but did nothing Faanish there. I grew up in Indiana, and now I live in a village in Wisconsin, near Milwaukee where I commute to work with a courier company.

I have one daughter, K. Thapkey, (aka KT) she's 14 and who I've raised pretty much on my own.

By the way vegetarianism is not a requirement of Buddhism. There is the realization that it just isn't sensible for everyone. There is a strong leaning towards it, and in some flavors, a rather strong endorsement for vegetarianism. Compassion for all the sentient beings does make it difficult to EAT them. ;)

Editor etc: email address is trin@dias.net

Tyndalite: There is a fragment of a fable I've heard, wherein, Buddha forbids Mara to take a vacation/retirement, unless he can find a replacement. Reason being that Humanity NEEDS Satan to motivate us to practice virtue. (though I know a few people who'd do it just cause it needs doing.)

I haven't seen either book, though they may eventually turn up at Half Price Books, I believe that HHtDL doesn't have much time for recreational reading, and when he does it tends to be Psychology stuff which he has an interest in. (In the case of Buddhism there is some overlap between Theology and Psychology.)

Hlavaty: I'd heard the KKK lost their sponsorship of their piece of Hwy because they neglected their associated duties.

What #? (hmm a AC Clarke ref...) IMHO the number would be one, because as soon as y' start counting members there is an idea of self separate from other. ;)

In anycase it IS turtles all the way down.

Spiritus Mundi: nice to see "Living Buddha" being incorporated into the Lingua Franca of Faandom...=)

Please refrain from referring to politicians as "Sleazy little rats" the rats feel defamed... and from my friendship w/ MuShu, WuShu, Tika, and Shan Yu, I am aware that rats would NOT behave like human politicians....

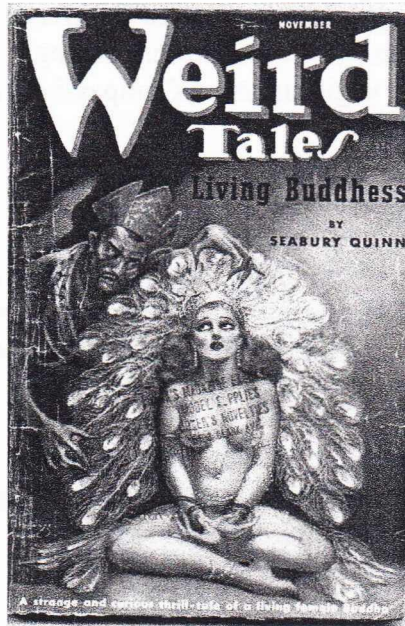
Newport News: re:fandom as a lost civ. "SSSShhhhhhhhhhh! The Mundanes will HEAR you..."

Crouching Tiger:Hidden Dragon- Of COURSE they can "fly", they're Martial Artists™. (the BEST kungfu flicks have the historical setting and fantasy effects IMHO.)

I think beer predates the biblical era, and is the oldest intentionally fermented beverage.

Isn't beer what Noah got drunk on after landing the Ark?

The Naga was the result of a 12 yr old being assigned to write a "scarey story".



Variations on a theme #6: My interest (while focused on smaller specific areas) extends to Asia and the cultures of Asia as a whole. Nepal was the focus this time around because friends had taken trips there. I particularly enjoyed seeing Nepal from a Nepalese POV. I may have a report from a friend who recently returned from a year in a Soto-Zen monastery in Japan.

CTHD-there is talk of a prequel in the works.

Offline Reader1.22 As for Afghanistan- yes, blowing up Buddha statues stinks, & is pretty rude to boot... but please note that there are no Buddhist "jihad" occurring as a result. (I've got a copy of a letter to the editor of a newsmag that I'll include in this zine. It outlines what the response within the community was... and it certainly wasn't "Oh well, here we are being pushed around again." Having Compassion does NOT mean being a doormat...)

Life is a Oneshot: Nifty nifty PHOTOS... wow thankyou!

Derogatory Ref: I'm kinda amazed that something SPORTS ORIENTED could tank!

Twygdrasil & Treehouse: I figure the record remained on the jukebox since it was a favorite of either the owner or a regular customer.

I figure that the vamp can be any denomination, so long as the prospective victim has confidence that the symbol will protect him. It's FAITH that is the weapon, not the symbol.

Yuuuummmmm. MOON PIES!

Bush is a heartbeat from the presidency... ooooh!

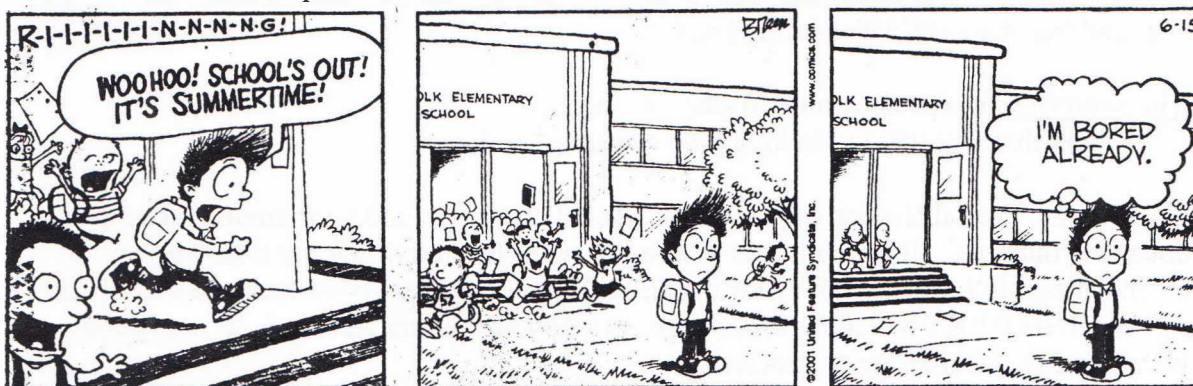
I figure Dan Quayle is pretty mad these days. Dan Quayle, a man before his time?

IMHO the prayer doesn't have to be exotic to be "magickal" (as opposed to Magic, which is either a card game, or what David Copperfield does...) As long as it is moving and an inspiration to the person praying. IMHO prayer doesn't necessarily affect any reality beyond the mind of the worshipper... but that right there is no small thing.

My back is generally (knock on wood) OK, but I have extra vertebrae. I do have a tendency to get a stiff neck, particularly since the car accident in February.

Peter Pan & Merry: So why does the former Paternal Aunt have the shame about her Jewishness?

And how catastrophic WOULD it be for the grand-kids to find out?



GRAND AVENUE

Revenant: Clay is uncooked rock don'cha know. ;)

In defense of the ex-S.O... this was my first real relationship since my divorce over 12 years ago... It was wonderful while it lasted: and despite the dumping, I learned that I am worthy of being loved and treasured. (no small thing that!) I also realize that someday I may have that again on a more reliable basis. I do have periods of time when I feel terribly alone.

Throughout the relationship, I was generally On-Call 24-7-365 for my uncle (ill & frail). Even though the relationship was good, that's a bit too much to ask most guys to put up with....

The SO was also our source of the They Might Be Giants tickets a couple of years ago, when I took KT.

You've got Mars: great cover art!

Douglas Adams has been well mourned in many forums, including the funny pages, and the Buddhist list.... He made a happy impression on a great many people, with a wide range of interests.

"Pneumatic Breasts"!!!!

Is it possible to be a card carrying Dadaist?

At one point Jesus (Gee-zuz not Hey-zeus) was a regular at the Sangha... Yep his real name...

Now that I'm ready for it not one of the missionaries approaching me in public space has asked me if I know Jesus. Darn!

"Why yes I do, he drives a VW...."

I don't know how old JJ is- but no matter how intense the story line I don't think it's be inappropriate for the teen audience. IMHO the difficulties and intensity of the decisions that Buffy and the Scoobies have to face make it REQUIRED viewing—resulting in further discussion.

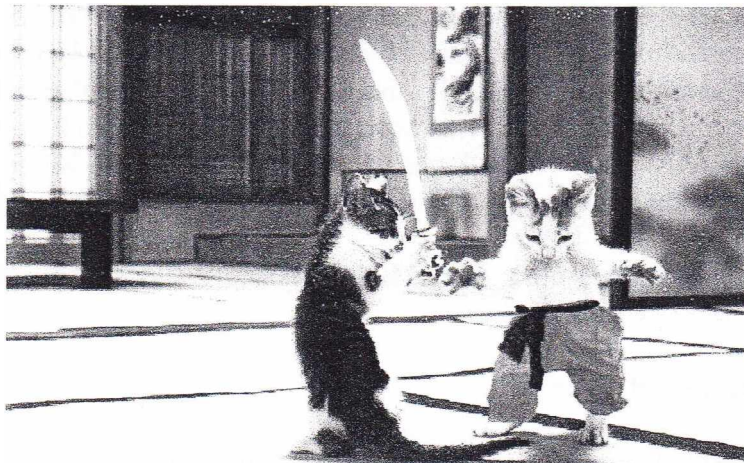
There very well can be a gap between being able to read and understand the words, and having the ability to comprehend the IDEAS in a particular tome. I know that I've personally found myself reading something that is certainly not beyond me linguistically, but realizing as I read that it was WAY over my head.

The Sphere : Toonpedia sounds Waaayy Cooool...

I think that you will fall in love with grandpa-hood.

By the way, even if she drives you crazy, Rachel needs you and your emotional support, as does the young un'. It certainly has been a life saver (literally) that my folks and my extended family have been there for me and KT emotionally. My ex-husband doesn't do ANYTHING for KT including financially... (really sick interstate loophole...apparently we're always the other guy's problem.)

I manage to get by financially, but a great deal of being able to do that is because I have my family backing me, with the mental & emotional support.



trinlay khadro
p.o.Bx 240934
Brown Deer, Wi
53224 USA
trin@dias.net

Subject: Huh?

Date: Thu, 7 Jan 1999 11:10:22 +1128

From: Trinlay Khadro <trin@dias.net>

To: letter@time.com, stiles@milwaukee.qec.com

CC: trin@dias, Ned Ludd <nedludd@ix.netcom.com>

(letter to the editors of _Time_)

This letter is not intended for publication -

I would very much like to get a response to my question regarding editing of letters.

Reading the 4/2 issue in the letters section and find myself puzzled by D.J.Khyetse's letter... While the name is very familiar I am 100% certain this is NOT the person I'm reminded of... And the Buddhist view one expects in a letter signed by a "Rinpoche" (it's a religious title) is glaringly missing... I'm left feeling puzzled.

How much was the letter edited?

What is your usual verification process when a letter writer signs w/a title & or organization?

In the several discussions within the segments of the Buddhist community that I have contact with, the discussion was much more in the direction of;

1) If the Taliban would have chosen to SELL the statues the funds would have been a great benefit (food, medical etc) to the people of Afghanistan.

2) What a fantastic reminder that all "worldly phenomenon" (including religions and artifacts) are impermanent. Even in the best conditions these objects have a limited lifespan -natural erosion, air pollution take a toll as well. It's just happening faster with people actively destroying them.

3) What a fantastic reminder that attachments (to stuff-and people) are a sure source of grief. (see item 2),

4) A reminder that actions motivated by anger & pride are likely to cause grief...

5) An artwork representing Buddha is not to be mistaken for BEING Buddha- our faith functions just fine even when the iconography isn't in sight.

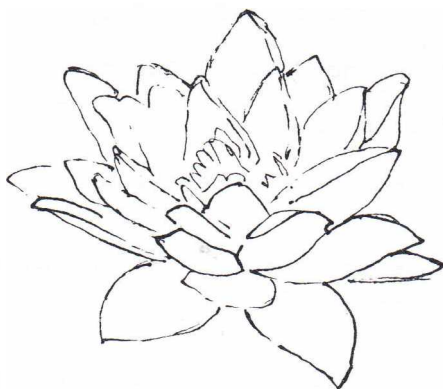
6) By the time the story hit the mainstream news the destruction was already underway and people were caught by surprise ("There are gigantic Buddha statues in AFGANSTAN?!")... Now that we've all had a heads-up, how can this sort of thing be made into win-win situation in the future?

7) Thank heavens it's stuff & not people...-on the downside, when iconoclasts (of any sort) run out of things to smash they easily start on people.

(Items 2,3,4,&5 had individuals and their communities using the event to support their practice & faith.)

Something motivated by anger & pride ended up enriching the faith of many people. (and Not the "target audience"!)

Buddhism is not about statues, it's not about collecting, preserving or making artifacts...
It IS about living from the heart with compassion and caring... Not "giving in to Bullies yet again"...
(Compassion doesn't mean being a doormat!)...
It IS about wanting to find freedom from suffering for all the sentient beings, INCLUDING those aforementioned bullies...including ourselves.



GET FUZZY

