



**Gracies
Dinnertime
Theatre™**

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North-American Man-Boy Love Association; the majority of newspaper editors and journalists; the majority of television's elite; the American Medical Association (AMA); an army of university deans and professors (educated way beyond their intelligence); the major networks; the Ted Kennedy crowd; the friends of Hillary Crowd; the faceless crowd of bureaucrats that have infested our nation; the messianic social-engineers that skulk around in small communities across the nation promoting "tolerance"; Planned Parenthood (curriculum and condoms); the Madonna crowd; the Green Peace crowd; the Al Gore eco-freak crowd; Earth First; People United for the Separation of Church and State; various social service agencies; the Children's Defense League;

**Gracies Dinnertime Theatre
welcomes comments.**

Send submissions, hate/fan mail, or suggestions to diablo@csh.rit.edu or Gracies Dinnertime Theatre c/o 472 French Rd, Rochester, New York, 14618

Letters from Readers:

Gracies Dinnertime Theatre Page 2

Date: Tue, 15 Oct 1996

From: Adam Giangreco <uhura.cc.rochester.edu>

To: Gracies Dinnertime Theatre

...As of right now, I've been able to get my hands on Hell's Kitchen from time to time as its dropped here and there around UR...but I probably will send you a letter with a check or something for a subscription to it at some point in the future...i must say that i liked your little editorial about the religion station on the radio...I totally agreed with some of the points you touched on...I hope more vengeful stabs at verious organizations and hegemomies at RIT/UR are to follow, because, well, if you're going to have an underground newspaper (if its accurate to call it that), you might as well try to piss as many groups off as you can...

Oh well, its now 2:00am, and I must return to my "Beowulf" paper...

Adam Giangreco

The Religious Wrong

The, um...religious readers of Hell's Kitchen have no doubt noticed the reoccurrence of "They™." Well, it all started with a question sent to "Ask BFG" inquiring as to who "They" were. Our barefooted one answered the question as only she could, but here at GDT, the research never ends. We raided shadowy corners of libraries, searched through mildewed tomes (aka PTA newsletters), and misused the mighty resources of Hell Inc. Nearly a year later, we have more information for you. With it, we start this new column dedicated to the agenda of the Religious Right:

"When They™ [Editors' note: capitalization and addition of the trademark symbol added by the editors] teach children in public schools about history, They™ knowingly omit all references to God and Christ, including those that are foundational to our country's beginning. Then They™ tell us uneducated masses that the founding fathers struggled to keep church and biblical influences out of politics. These are bold-faced lies. (Violates Ninth Commandment)... "They™" are (in random order): the National Organization of Women (NOW); the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU); the National Educational Association (NEA); pagan judges of federal state and local benches; the Hollywood elite; Act-Up; Queer Nation; the child-killers and spineless career politicians who allow these lunatics to terrorize them into promoting iniquity; and the innumerable cadres of bureaucratic, statist thugs who are on a mission to rid the earth of Christian influence and biblical morality. That's who "They™" are, just to name a few."

-Randal Terry, *Why Does a Nice Guy Like Me Keep Getting Thrown in Jail?*, pp 138-139, (Huntington House Publishers/Resistance Press, 1993).



Good day, and welcome to the last bit of holy ground this side of the Vatican (although I did hear that the Christian Coalition has some, but it's going fast at a mere \$9.95 a square meter--operators are standing by...). I dislike doing this, but on occasion there just aren't any really *good* martyrs. This weeks **Martyr of the Week (October 27-November 2)** is just a token martyr. He was killed for his beliefs, but he's just not funny or gross or even cut up and shared by multiple churches. The Martyr of the Week is (pathetic pencil tapping, poor excuse for a drum roll please) St Saturninus (October 30). Saturninus was martyred in Sardinia (look on the map, this isn't a geography lesson) under the Diocletian Persecution™. He was beheaded during a pagan festival honoring Jupiter, most likely due to his refusal to pay tribute to the deity in question (or maybe he was a very poor dancer).

On a more interesting note, this week also gives us feast days for St Jude (Oct 28 (beaten to death with a club)), St Marcel of Paris (Nov 1 (While bishop of Paris our Saint confronted a devilish serpent that was troubling a local cemetery. He beat it with his staff, wrapped it in his robe, and expelled it from the grounds. For this deed he is invoked against Vampires--something to remember for Thursday.)), and All Souls Day (Nov 2 (The day set aside to remember those souls trapped in Purgatory, between Heaven and Hell, the unfortunates waiting out eternity in Limbo (the state of being, not the dance).

Live and Learn and Pass It On:

A critical review

I've learned that receiving homemade ~~Valentines~~ ^{Vaccines} is much better than receiving ~~store bought ones.~~

~~syphilis from a French waitress working at a second rate Talent agency.~~

-Age 26

I've learned that, frequently, those who need love the most are the ~~least lovable~~ ^{ones filming kiddy porn.}

-Age 58

I've learned that I should not let ~~opportunities~~ ^{opportunities} pass me by, always thinking there will be a ~~next time.~~ ^{another one..}

-Age 20

Random Facts:

- The candiru, a tiny fish native to the Amazon and Orinoco Rivers, enters the bodies of swimmers through their anus, works its way to the bladder and lodges there. If it is not surgically removed before reaching its destination, the host dies.

Assimilation

Mount: Multiculturalism

Friends: Dr. Brenner

Foes: Individuality

Agility: It's like walking on eggshells with yourself.

Dexterity: Student of everything, master of none.

Favorite Quote: "So close to homemade, but no lumps!"

Description: Assimilation is the original side show freak. He's got the colors of every race grafted onto his skin as well as superfluous limbs and other miscellaneous body parts. Like the contents of any great melting pot, some of the ingredients have higher melting points, and some have lower. So in the end the contents of the pot remain such that some of the cultures involved become just burnt residues of their former glory, while other societies barely thaw at all. There is no perfect convection; even the sky has clouds.



Dear concerned observer,

Regardless of the myth of Greenwich Standard time, here it is. All of the various time zones meet at the north pole (They don't meet at the south pole, because there are none but international scientists who can enjoy it down there, and nobody wants to think about what international scientists find fun.).

Imagine, if you will, that you live in a house built upon the cross-section of all the time zones (this is a very basic precept for our modern-day understanding of time travel). There, time not only flies when you're having fun, but also when you go to retrieve the mail. The possibilities are endless, as well as proving Einstein's Theory of Relativity both correct and incorrect. You see, if you were suddenly to leave your significant other sitting in the living room and go outside and walk around the

- A CONCERNED OBSERVER

house three times, you would return to the S.O.'s location exactly three days in either the future or their past, and because time is relative to the observer, the significant one would still be in the living room waiting (at this point you would have an exceedingly good case to plea jet lag). So, dependent strictly on the direction you travel, clockwise or widdershins, you can either travel into the future or the past. Incidentally, this happens to be one of Santa's trade secrets.

The next time someone tells you that you'll never get anywhere running in circles, just tell them that that depends entirely on where you are and how large those circles are.

-BFG

Any questions, queries, or comments for BFG may be e-mailed to: diablo@csh.rit.edu



-Sean T. Hammond

Each year around this time, various iron-reinforced Christians distribute pamphlets expounding on the inherent evil of Samhain (Halloween to all you's lack'n in ed-u-ka-shun). Well, this week's installment is dedicated to the holiday of Samhain and helping to debunk some of the Church propaganda.

Common knowledge is that Halloween began as a pagan Celtic (pronounced "kel-tik") celebration honoring the Lord of the Dead, i.e., Lucifer. Unfortunately, this has no basis in fact. The first reference to the Lord of the Dead in relation to Samhain was made in "Collectanea de Rebus Habernicis" (circa 1770's) by Col. Vallency. Where he got his information is a mystery....

The long and short of it is that Samhain (pronounced "sa-wain") was the Celtic new year. Starting at sundown on October 31st, the pagan feast lasted until nightfall of November 1st and marked the beginning of winter. Any crops left in the fields after the 31st of October were claimed by marauding groups of faeries called Phookas. Attempting to harvest anything after Samhain invokes the wrath of these spiteful faeries, who have been known to kill cattle. Cows found mysteriously dead in rural parts of Ireland are said to have been "pooked."

Within in our own culture, revelers make a large amount of noise as the new year approaches in an attempt to scare evil spirits and trap them in the old year. For the Celts of the British Isles, the new year marked a dangerous time. On the long night of Samhain, the Sidh (the border between our world and that of Faerie) dissolves, allowing faeries, spirits of the dead, and divinity to enter our realm. Alternately, many unwary mortals have crossed into Faerie and been trapped when the Sidh reformed. My advice is that if you go out on the 31st, be kind to traveling strangers.

When the Romans invaded and conquered England in 43 n.z.d., they introduced the celebration of Feralia. In honor of Pomona, the Goddess of fruit trees, it was held on November 1st. Eventually Feralia and Samhain intertwined. The party game of bobbing for apples comes from the celebration of Feralia.

Later, when Christianity became the dominant force in Northern Europe, Pope Boniface IV created All Saint's Day to replace the pagan celebration of Beltain. Celebrated on May 13th, Hallowmas, as it was called, was meant to honor all saints known and unknown. Later, in 835 n.d.z., Pope Gregory moved Hallowmas to November 1st to replace both Samhain and Feralia. The night of October 31st was called "Hallow's Even" ("Holy Evening"), and was eventually shortened to Hallow e'en.

As for jack o' lanterns, the story is all in the name: Jack of the Lantern. According to an Irish folk story, a cruel miser named Jack tricked Lucifer into climbing an appletree. While treed, Jack carved a cross in the trunk, trapping the Fallen Angel. After Lucifer promised not to claim Jack's soul at his death, Jack helped Him down.

Upon Jack's death, he was turned away from Heaven because of his cruelty in life. When Jack attempted to enter Hell, Lucifer, a being of His word, refused to claim his soul. When Jack asked where he was to go, Lucifer replied, "Return from where you came," throwing an ember from Hell to Jack. Jack took a turnip, carved it out, and placed the eternally burning ember into it to light his way. Now, he is cursed to eternally wander the earth.

Enjoy the new year, fellow faeriephiles. Be safe in your nocturnal journeys.