

THE BALLAD of the OTTER

BY Peter Sibson

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(A work of fiction about life in the fifty first state, Superior, in the great lakes region

Set in the eighties and the nineties. The work incorporates spirituality and humor as is inspired by shows like St. Elsewhere and Twin Peaks.)

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2/18/20

Peter Sibson

They say Father Karl is over a thousand years old, that he is the high priest second only to... he is a big dude and he looks a little like Rexor and in his leather jacket he can pass for a local drug dealer but he is going out to see the wiccans and go for a drive after having his afternoon nap.

He tells Claud the housekeeper he won't be back till late. It is late for Claud who is finishing up his work and you can hear the Lithuanian Program with the National Anthem on the college

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Station, WUSS (University of Superior State). It is eight p.m.

The Parish Chapter Meeting is going on still and Fr. Krackowitz, the pastor is listening to the Marissa Cortez the parish secretary going over the minutes, shit like bullying and Sr. Roxane is trying to get a few kids to do some volunteer stuff.

The gym is used by the boys and girls, they take turns with it, it is also the auditorium with a stage at one end and a closet for the chairs.

"All right cut the shit and go home, if you ain't got the Little Prince by now you're just wasting your own fuckin time and everybody elses,... as the kids are all in a very chipper mood happy with the prospect of a promising night of fun and excitement ahead of them

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they file pass Fr. Kallian and each say good night to him and he says See ya tomorrow. Be back at this shit ready to go by 4:20 sharp. Father Kallian goes back into the print shop and helps with the Parish news letter. There is a pool table and two kids are playing Ping-Pong. St Adelbert's with its k thru 6 and 7-9 across the parking lot. Adult education, a writing class and a Narc Anon are going on now.

" Shy people are selfish people" to this Sr .Roxanne said "Yeah sit on a grenade ya rancid cunt!" she shuts off Talk Net and puts on a tape she like for her drive. She takes a long drag and hears the voice next to her "so you like the Church?" and she knows it is not Wednesday and the Anger Management 4

she co leads at Spellos

State, part of their evening outpatient thing. It is one of the young introverts and she is taking him and two others in the back to their support and social group there. She puts out her butt and says "As i preach, not as I do, children". She just got her masters in psychiatric social work at 77 and idiots like Sally

Jesse won't fuck her groove.

They drive past the Saints (Saints Avenue Meeting house.) She knows one of the kids in back goes to a bisexual youth support group there, some of the other guys in that group are kind to him but they consider him an idiot, which he is, but he's a good kid but there are a few assholes in his life who give him crap, but

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he has a good family life and counts his blessings between bouts of getting pissed of at God. He once heard an old A.A. Uncle say to him :
" Fire God and get a new one" if he lets you down.

Not far away is the other joint Quaker Unitarian Universalist house, the Old Historic Meeting House. It was part of the express up into Canada from human bondage in the 1840's and later, rested on its laurels in comparison to the Saints that was into the anti war and feminist gay lib thing as early as 1965. Many people left the Old Historic because it did not, as one, want to get into controversy that could cause unwanted tumult in its body collective. They joined the Saints and there was angry unspoken

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feelings with the old liberal aristocracy and these progressive upstarts. She thinks or says, she can't remember which, .. " I think its good you have friends there, Reynar." They pass the Saints when the light changes, and past the triangle that is the Municipal compound, with the Aincutain Library, that is haunted as any kid knows. They are over the river, on one side is the Manahoe Tribal lands, on the other the side road to Spellos State. It is now rural, there is a package store where the people in the old abandoned mills, the Squatters Colony, that is, some of the residents who make their home there, buy their booze and supplies with which they make their own grog.

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The colony is supported by some people and tolerated by many because it draws people who would have no home but the parks from the inconvenience they would be camping and panhandling in public if they had no home, which is what the colony is. Next to the liquor store is a small cottage that is a general store with a

pay phone where you can get travelers checks and rent a mail box.

The squatters colony, they call themselves "The Third Rail Community" is housed in an old brick mill that fronts the River.

There is a rail yard between the mill and the woods. The people from the colony are from many different backgrounds and circumstances,

some take meds some smoke weed some go to

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A.A. and some drink and the whole thing

manages to work. Some come from around the area some come from far away but they all have in common not having

for a while a roof over their head, each and every one. The colony took them all in.

The progressive faction represented them when this was Michigan and later when statehood came, before the supreme court of the "North Province State".

The two big parties in the state are the Social Democratic Party and the Libertarian Party. Tallinberg has an interesting charter. The seven Burroughs are semiautonomous, Three are Libertarian territory, the other four went to the social democrats.

One of these borough entities is totally autonomous but has a voice in the town, the land holdings of the Manahoe Tribe. The old Quaker families of the town made peace with the Manahoe

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and helped to protect

the integrity of their territories, that's the long held account, but in fact it was all done by the Manahoe, when anyone tried to take their lands their powerful

telepaths caused them to hear voices that tormented them till they backed off. The North Province

had an influx of new agers and Libertarians in the seventies. They played a part in the movement

to separate from the lower state and the incompetent administration of governor Rousseau.

Tallin Heights is libertarian and also republican, Tallinberg center and Dawn River Junction have

a lot of libertarians. River falls, Tallin Ave the Manahoe Tribal lands and

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Tallin Falls are

social Democratic leaning Burroughs. Tallin Heights has a John Birch Society chapter and Tallin Ave has a Young Spartacus League. Statehood came in October the third, 1987. The Charter was formed and Tallin and the next town, Lower Falls, incorporated into Tallinberg. The town has a popular assembly with a moderator, Mr. LeClerc. It has a municipal senate with a president of the

senate. The president of the senate is elected by the town and is at present also the Mayor, a middle aged woman who is a socially liberal republican.

The lower assembly gets a little emotional and spirited and Mr. LeClerc is 11

always above emotion and politics and is a very skillful moderator, but when there is a stubborn impasse he

has been known to scold the assembly. The municipal senate has a "No Sleeping During Session" sign on the wall.

The Aincutain Library is housed in a mansion that was donated in the will of an old wealthy bachelor. "Aincutain" is derived from "AnakGutan", or "Child of the Forest", a novel written by a local that was passed on word of mouth by the author's followers over the years.

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Where Avenue of the Saints breaks off from St. Laurence a triangle is formed and here is located the municipal complex.

It is a separate entity from the burroughs and is administered by a special council. In the Aincutain is Penodocas hall, named for a Manaohoe chieftain who repelled encroachment on his people's lands in the 1880's.

Taina Sourmus is a single woman in her forties. Her family is from Massachusetts. She had a job when she moved to Alphabet city. She worked an eighteen hour shift and got on bus to San Francisco. The voices started effecting her when she was making a transfer and she got on the wrong bus

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several times and the bus stopped in Tallin. She was in the Tavern to make a phone call on the highway and the lock to the lav malfunctioned and she was trapped inside with her voices that were getting malevolent. She was stuck there with her belongings and her voices after the manager closed up and went home. She went to sleep after the voices died down for awhile.

The next morning around six she woke up, washed her hands and face, brushed her teeth and peed.

She combed her hair and left the lav by way of an overhead window with her belongings. On the third floor of the lodging house a

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man in his late thirties who didn't shave, having his coffee, looks out

at her. He is chuckling as she struggles out the over head window with her gear. The voices began to harass her and she wound up at the library. She had to use the bathroom again and had no idea what to do next. She was struck with these voices only in the last few days and did not know how to process them or what to do next. She was homeless in a strange city and always self sufficient, did not know how to ask for help.

Mr. Leclerc could hear her voices being another one of the
15 town's telepaths. Marisa Cortez and Sister Roxanne were with him and this was a good thing.

Sister Roxanne started talking with Taina and helped her to find what she needed at the time. A place to live and what should go with it...

She spent three weeks in Spellos in a ward with six other women from different points in their life cycles. She got a room in a half way house and her voices mostly went away. She was lucky, the medication worked and did not make her change her weight or get (akathisia) restless. She was on a very small amount of it but she would say it was the telepaths who drove the voices from her, that were caused by mean,
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evil, shitty telepaths. Her voices eventually went away. She very soon met people from the Third Rail and started living there with them and a part of their whole thing.

During Sunday mass at Adelbert's father Kilian talked about the recent history of the homeless and church goers that invested in properties in the early eighties and dumped the poor people who lived there out and left them on their own. He said something about a malignancy in the body of Christ.

It is Saturday night. Some kids went
17 along with Sister Roxanne and Father Kalian to the Third Rail Community and they are watching, quite a few of them, on a large screen, the kids set up for the TRC (Third Rail Community), it is Saturday and STNG is broadcasting "Haven for the first time.... "I am Lwoxanne, holder of the five rings of Betazed and keeper of the Chalice of Reeks, who are you!?" One of the kids, sixteen going on seventeen, is good looking blond kid who is seated next to Taina. He is one of her favorite kids.

It is about nine pm, behind the stoves in the kitchen of a three star restaurant, "Below the salt" located in the lower levels of the Saltsberg Community Theater. A

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middle aged guy of about 5'7" with hair down to his back and a mustache is telling the story about a man who attached some balloons to his lawn chair and was spotted by a few captains as they piloted their airliners past where he was in the sky. He had some blankets and a bee bee rifle to burst the balloons a few at a time when he wanted to come down. The man's name is Don Quixote and one of his favorite waitrons, to pick on comes into the kitchen. She says "Is Quixote teaching again?", He tells her "Blow it out your ass, Priscilla!", she tells her orders, smiles at him and says "Stick it, Don!"

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Next to Don is Lisa Scoppineri, "The evil lesbian dwarf" putting the orders together. The manager maître d' Wilma Wincook walks into the kitchen. "Goddamit Wilma, not another fuckin order you're screwing up my system as it is!", Lisa tells her. The tall nimble rotund lady with the curly hair tells her "Lisa! relax, this is it till the 9:20 party shows up. Priscilla meanwhile is back again, Long skinny feet, a big ass, short torso and long legs. (Wilma takes a look at the legs of prospect front room flunkies long legs means they can cover ground quickly without having to run and trip over their feet. She can be very savvy that way.) Priscilla is getting nervous, she knows if she stands too close to Quixote he will come out and grab her ass and deliberately leave a bruise so her faggot boyfriend will have to see it when he tries to get some

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pussy from her.

Jim Beacanon, the chef, who was the guy house sitting for a lodger at the rooming house as he looked and saw Taina crawl out the window from the lav, approaches Priscilla from the other side, he is talking about a back-door entrance just to make Priscilla nervous, she feels what it is like to be trapped but knows he won't really do anything cuz his wife will make him sleep in the RV again, like when he loses at the tracks.

Nate Wex, a small slender man, smiles, he is sitting drying glasses with Sister Simone (Katz) brought up both Jewish and Catholic, Priscilla tells Nate "You try anything and I'll cut off your head and use it for a chamber pot!".

He smiles at Simone and says "pussy polyps"... "Hahaha!", Simone laughs. She says to

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Pricilla "Lick me, bitch!". Pricilla says "Dream on, lesbo!" and immediately Don asks Pricilla "You gonna give somebody out there a quickie under the table for twenty bucks?" Pricilla tells Don again "Stick it, Quixote!" and Simone again says "You'll lick me for twenty dollars". Pricilla says "not a chance in hell, lesbo!".

Jim adds "Well we were all forged in Hell, we who work in the kitchen that is, the rest of you are just going there", Simone again says "Yeah, you'll lick me for twenty dollars!", Pricilla escapes from the kitchen with her orders and says "Fuck you Simone!" and Simone says to Pricilla as she leaves the kitchen, "Yeah, you wish it".

It is ten and the line is breaking

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down. Merlyna, a tall curly haired woman comes in to bake the bread. She puts her hands on her hips and tells Jim "Don't fuck with me, I'm doing my best!"

He tells her, Oh! I don't intend to, not tonight, but others will, I'm sure of it".

She tells Lisa "Don't subject me to one of your dykie maneuvers tonight!", then she splits: before she does and what precipitates it

is Lisa smiling and saying to Linda Wasser "dykie maneuver? Linda cuts a length of saran wrap and

covers her face with it. Soon everyone behind the line has saran wrap, with Jim it covers a day of stupples, as Don Quixote looks on and smiles. Lisa gives Merlyna the finger and the bread lady erupts with "I don't have to take this callous type of abuse!" and she storms

out of the pace, cussing audibly on the street above as she does her nocturnal errands. She quit for

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the fifth time that month and to celebrate Jim breaks open a couple of bottles of champagne.

After setting up Merlyna's work for the bread, that she should have been doing, Quixote says "Some people like to say that Merlyna is crazy, but I don't agree, I think she's just insane!"

The next afternoon her bread making works are still there and the dough is uncooked. Jim has Nate haul it all to the dumpster. In two days Merlyna will return to make more bread. Till then

they go to Anne Marie's bakery to buy the bread. One time Merlyna picked a fight with Jim and baked her bread at home and brought it in four loaves at a time on her moped. Jim asked Lisa "How many restaurants

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do you know that bake their bread four loaves at a time on a Saturday night?" Meanwhile in the land of imagination Jim is wringing his hands, "Oh I swear I will never have an unkind word for her, just let her come in with the bread.

Nate is sitting wiping down glassware, Jim tells Nate, This is all your fault, wex! If you could manage a civil word to that poor woman! The roof explodes and she crashes down with the bread on her rocket powered moped, then she is up thru the ceiling again on her powered contraption. Jim still wringing his hands says "what's a lousy roof, anyways, just so long as she comes with the bread! Ain't she terrific!" So ends a little moment of fun and imagination brought on by Jim, Quixote, and the kid. "The resident punk rocker" (drug dealer) to use Jim's words.

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The Pequanatle:

is the river that runs beside the Third Rail. In the Manahoe creation story Awhe, the Great Spirit, created everything. There was a dwarf Named Cherundesin, the grandmother of the dwarves. Her grand children numbered four granddaughters and one grand son. They helped Awhe create the people of the earth, starting with the Manahoe. When they were done a great serpent carved out the river basin and the river was named after the snake, Pequanatle, great serpent. The Cherundesin clan realized their work was done and to not get trampled by people, they left the world to look after it from a high vantage. They shine like stars

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on the back of the great serpent forming the constellation we call "Orion".

There are other little people that remain unnoticed and who help humanity in its course of development.

Jorma Harkonan starts his shift at WXKU the am talk radio station. A very gracious man he steers his path between the right wing nuts and the loony liberals and social democrats as he sees them all. He is a libertarian.

It is ten thirty and Marisa Cortez

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is watching L.A. Law. McKenzie Brachman is hiring Jonathan and the young guy gets the pay raise he wants.

Eve Humana sometimes lives at Spellos, she also lives at the Colony. She will fall asleep anywhere she feels like at the time it is time to go to sleep. She gets pissed off easy. She is at

the Apothecary on Tallin Ave having an argument with Allen, the kid behind the counter. He is the nephew of Jay Parker who is on

the Tallinberg police force. Eve pulls out a hair brush and makes

Alan think it is a gun for a few seconds. She calls him a privileged little cocksucker. He tells her he's

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gonna call the cops and that accelerates things, and 8:30 Sister Roxanne

is there by chance and calms her down, making sure she has a bed for the night and her meds and a meal. Parker showed up and radioed sargent Paxton at dispatch that the situation has been pacified and reaches a favorable conclusion.

Earlier in the break room they were laffing about Merlyna's latest "Term of Endearment for Nate Wex, "Little miss pee pants". Marisa Cortez comes in,

she has been having problems with a new phone she got at the drug store. The Guitier (Alan's family)s and the Cortez families

know each other thru church).

The Town has its share of evil people,

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some are narco assholes and some are assholes in recovery, they put the shit down but they are still assholes. People like Eve and Reynar get

noticed because they are all over town, Eve any way she can get around and Reynar on his bike.

Every so often they put out the word that they killed these two and other people but its just talk but the possibility for them to do something for so evil is always there, so they are

watched. Not only by the police but by

watch groups and good people in general.

Reynar was missing one night and a lot of people were worried till they found he was visiting Taina and a few friends at the Third Rail.

It is later and XKU has Mark Tillotsen as a guest talking about Peer counselling and club houses for people in the mental health system. He talks about the Ballard School.

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The Mannisquah reservoir is a place Nate takes walks, around the whole lake, there are apple trees by the dam and he gathers these

from the old fruit trees, part of an old orchard being for years swallowed up by the woods, and he gives them to the ponies at the Ballard School around evening. ON one side of the lake it is all coniferous, on the other all deciduous, and the tributary of the Pequannock that feeds the reservoir is spanned by the Stivel Street Bridge. Old cabins line the edge of the lake and people can come in here and get out of the rain or spend time here.

There was an old mill near by built by John Amos in 1799. It was supported by a massive tree he cut like a loaf of bread. Its

branch and trunk formed beams for the basement of the cider mill that was this

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building. A conference center being built here in the seventies meant it will have to be torn down, but some Mediaeval reenactors dismantled the whole thing with volunteers in 1979 and brought it to their farm in Holly. It became a medieval town house and the old farm house was moved, cellar and all, to a new site where it is preserved by the Heritage Society of Upsala. The massive stones of the cider mill were also moved to their new home in Holly, it was a brilliant act of engineering, one of the SCA people got the backing for the project from some people with money and an aggregate company donated equipment and people to operate it all. There is an old log cabin near the Mannisquah that was built in the twenties and is still inhabited.

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An old trolley line, the tracks long gone, runs thru the woods to the lake and past it.

The Pagan fellowship at the "Saints" is observing the equinox. They did the egg trick earlier that day, during the passage of a few minutes eggs placed on their bases, all unboiled, will stand up for the duration of these minutes, then they will roll on their sides again, as any egg will do during the rest of the year outside this tiny window of time.

Danny Mueller is a waiter at the Salt.

One night the leftovers were on the cutting board and Barbara Saphirian was eating some rabbit but she thought it was chicken till Danny asked her

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"aren't those bunnies good, Barbara? She almost started to cry and said "Oh Danny, why did you have to say that!?" He says " sorry Barbara".

Another story Lisa told as Wilma, Jim, Priscilla and Barbara listen, about a cartoon Nate's niece drew, Nate is deep sea diving the wreck of the Lusitania looking for Priscilla's mums. He can't find them but recovers the tattered remains of her virginity, and Danny's completely intact and unopened from the original packaging.

Carl and his partner, Joshua

come into the kitchen, Josh for a smoke, Carl to cut some bread for a late party. Danny blushes and

Carl said "Boy I'll blush too if I were you, kid." Two good stories about Joshua Quickbolt.

He is no taller than

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Nate but his ass comes up three inches higher than Nate's, there he is on his first day telling Jim

He is a grotty little man and he had enuf of his shit, Jim standing a good two feet taller than Josh.

Another Josh thing, he was walking out of the lav in the kitchen corner, a huge old fridge eclipsed him from view, he was eating chocolate tort leftover, licking his fingers, as he left from taking a piss. Looked slightly noteworthy, Josh
licking his fingers as he is walking out of the lav with brown stuff on his fingers.

Nate was in the woods

between the Mannisquah and the Pequonatlle.

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He was sitting on a barrel that was clustered with some old crates that were put there forty years before, a small sitting area arranged by kids long ago, he heard voices, it was Eve Humanataalking loudly and her girlfriend who was more than just a friend, they were dating for a month, Pamela was a vocalist in a local B-52's cover band.

Nate could smell the weed. He wanted to avoid them so he

slipped of a side path with Alcesta. Nate calls her Sweetie Pie but the Beagle calls herself Alcesta, she is also known as Cutie Pie, Shit Ass And That Goddam Beagle.

Not far away, where the Pequanatle loops near Cherundesen pond, are these small gingerbread cottages. The State leased them for

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99 years and it has been passed on to the new state that formed in 1987. Nate continues past this cluster of small houses, an old woman is arguing with her daughter. They are actors in a community play, the play house is in the middle of the cluster of cottages. Two dogs, an Alsatian and a husky, bark at him. They are tethered and have been doing this for several years. Nate crosses the east side of the lake to a stone wall and a sheep pasture. The sheep farm is part of an ecumenical conference center. Nearby on the Pequanatle Superior State has a skull facility, a club house and a shed for the boats. Beyond the cluster of cottages is a dirt road that leads to the highway and the village of Tallin Center.

The highway passes under the main street here to the village and the wooded path leads to it. A satellite to Superior

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State is here and some housing.

Elm street runs past the school and joins the main street in the village, In the village is Uncle Cavanaugh's route 93 place, he is long gone and one of his pot washers bought the place. He is in his sixties now and worked there since he was in his thirties. He own's the place now. He mops the floors and makes the sauces and the soups, he is both the chef and the main pot washer.

He doesn't work behind the line, he does

pots and mops the

floors, that is it. His sister manages the place and does the

books with him. They have a joint account and get along good. His sister can put any asshole in his place and

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straighten out any bitch that needs the same.

Back on Elm Street

is a house near houses owned by the school. It is a group home, there is an old guy in his sixties who spent twenty years at Spellos, two gals that are developmentally delayed and the live in staff. There are a few other residents, and the house is connected with the catholic workers hospitality movement. Sister Roxanne is a friend of this household and everyone in it.

Father John Baxter is also involved in this house. He lead an eventful and errant life. He fathered a child out of wedlock and keeps in tuch with him. He was in the service and got a dishonorable discharge for immoral conduct because of a gay relation he had. He was a
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mariner for a while and lived in Seattle and Boston, he had relations with men and women, he was homeless and dried out in a hospitality house in Boston. When he was in his fifties he went on the road and wound up in Tallin. He spent time at Spellos and he found religion in his own kinda way.

He became a priest and has as his congregation "The Parish of the open air", a biweekly shortwave radio broadcast and all kinds of people call in to the talk show he does. About a million people hear his broadcast every Saturday night and rebroadcast Sunday morning.

Nate took the bus back with Alcesta, there was a guy from
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Ontario originally with his pygmy goats, his name is Julian Sutter and he raises goats, did a few spots in movies and soon he will be working at the Salt. Alcesta muzzles one of the goats, another wanders over to a young woman and smells her crotch, Julian taps her in the butt and she returns to him and stops

flirting with the woman but then she asks to pet the goats, they talk about goats and then Julian gets off with his goats on his stop.

Nick Enesceu the Saint's custodian gets on and sits next to Nate. During their conversation they talk about family and Nick tells Nate how his father was in the Iron Guard in prewar and wartime Rumania and fled with his wife and older daughter and mother in law when the profascist state collapsed. Then he started to tell Nate about Alistair Crowley then it was his stop and Nick got off.

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Nate returns with Alcesta and remembers the pot luck at the meeting house. He has supper starts babbling about "All Things Inconsistent" and NPR "Nincompoop radio", he is a regular listener but he likes to make up these terms for a station, WUSS, he listens to regularly. Nate starts talking about twin peaks and talks with the shy people to help them fit in. He listens, sometimes he wishes he was somewhere else but he helps the socially awkward feel at home and fit in at the potluck. Then he cleans up the mess and helps Sheryl put the food away.

There was live Breton harp music towards the end of the evening. Father Kallian and Roxanne were there, so was

Eve and Pamela, Eve resting her head in Pamela's lap as Pam

☞

stroked her hair. Kallian would later say to Roxanne it is a good thing,

Eve went from a distrustful soul who saw a fight in every situation to trusting and loving and being loved by another human being.

Nick Enescu once told Nate a story how a former Saint's Minister, Henderson, in the fifties, wanted to purge the gay guys from the choir. It didn't work out like he wanted and he was

about to be sacked. The bell fell from its mountings on top of the old pipe

☞

organ and destroyed it. He remained at his job for six months and then he had a heart attack from the stress of being pissed off all of the time, he retired and died three years later.

Mr. LeClerc is at the Aincutain, it is late, around 10pm. Nobody else is there among the living and he is locking up. The ghosts wake up and try to communicate with him. The ghost of Lester Lightbulb was murdered over the Saints' Avenue Bridge. He was run over when he crossed the bridge on his bike. The guy at the wheel later died of an overdose. He went to hell. I Sam Johnson died in

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1967, I came from Canada and I ran away from a school. I was in a box car and I froze. The murdered, those who died exposed or disgraced, all seek refuge in this place called Aincutain.

Sometimes one takes human form again in this town. The guy that died from bad weed, bad shit put in the weed, in this way a friend who did not know him in life avenged the murder of Lester Lightbulb, this entity threatens the dead and the living in the Aincutain but he is as powerless as he is malevolent, and Mr.

LeClerc puts the dead asshole in his place. That is his hell, to be stuck there, tormented by other assholes among the dead. This place is also a place of refuge to innocent souls harmed by

life.

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Here are the penitent, the damned and the blessed. Here there is the damned who got Lester Lightbulb fired from his crappy jobs, shitty workplaces with petty politics, restaurants, warehouses, packing plants, a community theater where some ass whore dude got him blackballed from that place, the ass whore got in good with the directors, one was a man, one was a woman, he was also a party stripper, he got aids and died, and those he infected and who died are herewith him, in their purgatory of the lives they led and the actions they committed.

There was a local production of the elephant man, Lester identified with the role but ass whore got the job because he could act, but he had no soul and no feel of the pathetic. Lester settled for a job as the "faggot janitor",

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that was the night he was hit by a car in 1979. Sam Johnson has looked into the windows of many homes, and chose to be reborn to a Manahoe woman. That will happen in a few years. So sais Elkbear, prophet ghost of the Manahoe tribe.

Sheryl was playing some Chopin on the piano, She chases Nate out of the house so she can concentrate on "Heroic Polonaise". It is Four thirty and the sun is setting behind Nate's head over Rocky Ridge. He is looking at Elm Hollow, it divides the rocky old sheep pasture ridge, now all overtaken for many years by woodland. In this town forest that is mostly elm and maple, an occasional oak or cedar stands. Alcesta notices a skunk, about

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a year old, doing a hand stand.

He changes fate by a few seconds evading the skunk before it could be provoked to spray them. That would have made people around town talk about that kind of thing.

An owl hoots three times and Nate glides towards an old dump site. Nate is lead by some kind of invisible radar to a special thing in the old pile of refuse that has been sitting there long before he was born. He finds an old octagonal milk bottle, it says "Hill's Brothers Dairy, 1929.". Nate takes it home and will add it to his collection of old beer cans and other things he found in his walks in the woodlands of the area. He passes an old graveyard, here are the souls of virtuous Quakers who no longer that often advise the living. Here

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too are those who died with whiskey on their breaths. He goes to bed after much of Tallinberg. It is the month of Ramadan.

It is may and a freak snow fell. Sheryl woke up got ready for her appointment and opened the door. She said "shit!". The door was blocked and the driveway snowed in with six inches of snow. She has a dentist appointment in an hour. She wakes Nate who is sleeping in this early in the morning, they both hoof away and shovel it clear of snow, then she tucks him back into bed where he will sleep till 10:45.

Two hours earlier it was six am. Both Nate and Sheryl were sleeping. Mr. LeClerc initiated them into the realm of the dead

49

and the dreaming because Elkbear said it was time for this. Mr. LeClerc had a cranberry tweed suit, this was the color of the living, the color for the dead was white. Mr. LeClerc was at the door and he let Nate and Cheryl in the room. Mr' LeClerc's tie had the Chinese character, "shan" (mountain) set into it. Nate had red khakis and a red t shirt with the "SingBeast Sing" cartoon on it. Sheryl has a red skirt and jacket with a cranberry shirt and cravat.

Nate feels the cold grip of the presence of the dead in the dream and Sheryl is getting pissed off. She is seated answering the phone, talking with the dead and the dreaming. She has a shackle retaining her to the desk she is trying to leave the dream and wake. There is a chair, Nate asks who the chair is for

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and Mr. LeClerc sais "That is where Elkbear sits. Nate is put to work setting out food and drink for the dead.

Mr. LeClerc is supervising him as he works. Nate is both flustered because he does not know how to do this strange job, or fast enuf for the crush of the dead who rush him to get their food and their drink, with this he is face to face with the dead and it gives him a cold chill. Sheryl is getting pissed off at somebody on the phone, Mr. LaClerc has a broom, and he bars a disruptive entity from the hall. Nate can sense this evil and he is getting shaken up over it.

LaClerc tells Nate to keep up the good

51

work he is doing, and that He will take care of the situation.

Lester Lightbulb comes up to Nate, Nate pours him a glass of red liquid, he gives it to a paraplegic in his chair, both these men are dressed in white. LaClerc is speaking in language Nate does not understand, to white shadows that must be dead entities, veiled from being distinguished. At the front of the room Nate can see the stars, dimmed by a bright moon, it is the lake at the Elmwood's. Here Mr. LaClerc explains to him the baffling and cunning hold of evil on the human psyche. He spoke to Nate of the subtlety of all things, like the passing of a newt from one log to another, what must be mastered, between the quality of faith, of insight, of daring and courage, reticence, caution that stays

foolish actions and speech, of the play

52

between rationality and the fact based mind and of faith, and the craft of sifting from authority what is of deceit.

Nate took the Supertran, the statewide transit system to Holly where the Country Club is set on a hill surrounded by greens and woods. Jack Casey is the bartender. One day Jack was late and a member, Judge Ruykeiser, took it on to set the bar up for the afternoon. This was back in '82 when Nate was a dishwasher in the kitchen.

The judge sent Nate out to get a mixology book a five minute walk away at the local liquor store houses in an old grey farm house on the highway. Jack pulled up just as Nate walked back with the book. He drove to work with Nate and he was in time to start his shift.

53

The Social Libertarian Party

was formed in 1977. It draws from two ideas, that government should enact all laws necessary and proper, and the government that rules least rules best. Sometimes social democratic measures need to happen because economic plutocracy and democracy don't mix. The other second thought is all about personal freedoms, being free to sell loose cigarettes and weed on the street, freedom of speech even if it isn't what most people want to hear, personal liberty and an level playing field with a community's resources. This party supports the Third Rail Community. Ten percent of the voters of the fifty first are Social Libertarians.

54

The Drone:

There was a community meeting at the Historic meeting house. A woman tapped a girl next top her, she tapped Sheryl who was facilitating the meeting and she says "Nate, everyone, shut up!" Nobody knows who sent the drone but it was large and had a mike. This could be seen from the window. People saw blue thunder and were primed to be a little distrustful and to apprehensions of this incursion. Jorma Harkonan talked about the incident on his show, he said how he is distrustful of the "right wing nuts and the big government liberals." Rakvere gardens, owned by Stella and Stanley Guegenhiem, is a tall venetian structure. There is a block party spilling out onto Rakvere street and the host apartment has beer, wine and soft drinks, the freegans provided the food.

54

Temple Beth Ruah Emet

was formed in the twenties. It is both conservative and reformed. It is a brick building with a round window in the perch holding a star of David with a shofur and the word Emet (Truth). In this house of worship are right wing Jews and Jewish lefties and others in between the spectrum of politics, and they all make it work as they take their place in the microcosm of this part of the fifty-first state.

Nate has a dream the Jews were pelting him with potatoes as he walked past the synagogue. Linda Wasser and Brian Katch would like to do this in real waking time at the Salt.

55

Nate is standing on sheep ridge, Alcesta is snooping the fauna not far from him. They passed thru a gap in the wall that once was a gate before the sylvine reclamation of this land. He likes to sit on the wall as the sun sets and pheasant, skunk and squirrels scamper and thrash within hearings distance, and where sheep once passed. There is a dump site and he finds an old whiskey bottle dating back to the eighteen forties and pisses out the last of his after noon coffee. Two guys in an ore carrier that delivered it payload return to the quarry near the Mannisquah on Crescent Ridge Road. There are two small cabins in the woods a few hundred feet away. One is

empty and used by a musicologist from Upsaala. One has a family living in it. The father is doing work on his computer, the oldest child is

56

doing

her homework and two kids are watching the Simpsons. The youngest is playing with the dog. The Mother is out with her sister. Nate's act of taking a piss can be heard in the radius of the quiet night air of early April.

"Stop pissing on my property, you sleazy little faggot!" is heard as locally as the father's voice passes thru the hollow. Two guys pass in a car and they laff cuz it's funny, Nate didn't hear it because he had his mind on other thoughts. Nate heads back home with Alcesta.

The Daoist

There was a guy who lived north of Holly who took in people. He was a Daoist and his community was all about that way of life. He

57

would have as many as twelve young men and women living with him.

In 1967 a

large community spread from some of those who went thru his place. It developed into a cult with a strongman running the whole thing. There was a rock band, the "human family", that left and did not want to be part of this utopia gone bad. The Daoist guy, nobody knows what became of him or where he went. The cult commune got sold and the leader made some money, the people who lived there got on with their lives, some joined the third rail community and washed their hands of the cult they were once stuck in.

The Spinners

meet at the Aincutain, they are Unitarian universalists meeting in

58

a Quaker format. There are no ministers, no elders. Some quotes were spoken, "Genius is the ability to see something that nobody

else can see that has been waiting a long time to be seen", and another quote by the same man

"There's a sucker born every minute". Somebody quoted Lenin... "It is the curse of the young to be stupid". Somebody talked about the "Mental Health industry"

and going with the flow, democracy requires character, it can't happen when society is full of asslickers.

Lower Falls Community Farm

The green house and shed was built in 1928 and was where they parked the trolley cars for the local route. There is land around it with garden plots

59

and when Nate first came to this part of the world he had a plot here. He was picking thru the dumpsters at an old rooming house on Beaudoin Street in Boston and found some ears of Indian corn, when he moved here he brought them with him and planted them. They grew about eighteen feet tall. He packaged and sold the seeds from the ears of corn he picked in October. He still has ties to this community gardens farm, he sells his handicrafts here on consignment.

Theresa Ibururi

60

worked at Cavanaugh's diner as a day and sometimes night manager. The place changes from the day crowd to the night crowd. It goes from a nice little family diner to a hell hole and a rowdy dive at night. Between two and four the drug and booze people come in then they crawl away into their beds and it is quiet, then the morning people come in, a few at first, and the place is full by six thirty.

Winter passed with the Cistercian brothers working indoors and on the roof, removing snow and working in the greenhouses. The Augustinians who are part of this monastery, Beth Carmel, pray and meditate and work on luminaries. In the winter Taina was working on her associates degree

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all winter. She got a Pell grant, and she is about half way to her full college degree. She has been writing for the newsletter the Third Rail puts out, she does a few hours at the Pamplona working in the pantry, and she washes plates at Below the Salt, with Nate and Sister Simone. Don Quixote's niece taught her how to do her job, she was taught by a

twelve year old kid. The state doesn't really enforce child labor laws in small businesses so long as the work isn't too hard or dangerous and does not interfere with school. Twenty five percent of Taina's wages go to the Colony.

Ormbrook passes between Sheep ridge and Mammoth Ridge and divides Lower Falls from Tallin Falls.
62

A Car was delivered to the Histroic Meeting House because of a computer error. It slid off of the truck and crashed falling from the second tier onto the street. The driver called the guy unloading the delivery, a fat head "Ah, you fat head!", The guy said "who are you calling a fat head!". Nate saw the whole thing, chuckled and thought it would be funny as an old silent film with the Maple Leaf Rag as a sound track.

Covendale is the small unincorporated village where St. Mark's academy is, there are nice little craftsman houses from the turn of the century it was an idealized planned housing settlement in the early nineteen hundreds. In an old mill that has
63

been refitted in Pantilex, "Solutions for the twenty first century", inside is a super computer, it watches all, so the local urban legend goes. under the river is the Pantasy program. "I, the great secret, and the spark that delivered it from my corpse with the last spark from my synoptics, and the first electrons, the very first, gave life to the entity, and into it I entered" I travel thru wire, I am in every cathode tube, I see and hear all.

Sheryl went into Nate's sylvine garden where he was working with his head phones on so he didn't hear her, she pinches him he says ow! and lowers his headphones, She asks "Nate, have you been messing with my computer? well has anyone else been? Nate tells her he knows nothing and he didn't

64

touch it. Confidential matters

from people she didn't even know from a group called The Citizens Investigation Bureau were taking over her computer and being spit out the printer. Confidential private things, dossiers about personal information, fantasies, sexual and other wise, fantasies of what people entertained when they were children, .Then the dream ends. Sheryl wakes up and forgets it, Nate is elsewhere, on the bed of an old railway going thru the woods that since sylvine reclamation has replaced farmland and fields and the tracks long time ago removed leaving the path. It was a ramp running off the main road, a gradial spur that brought the street cars from the Pequannock basin to Holly up in the 65 Hills. There is an old milk truck abandoned, its engine removed and the body crushed like a beer can by the side of the path. Cutting thru the ramp are passage ways for farmers to cross from one side of the ramp to another with their livestock. Granite ; pillars and walls retain the earth on each side of these gaps and wooden bridges span the passage ways.

The Municipal Flag of Tallinberg

Orange, Purple and Green, symbolic colors that stand for community, creativity and sharing the earth's resources, set in this is the great Orion serpent. The flag was

66

designed by a nine year old Manahoe girl in 1987. In the town hall is a mural of Manahoe and Quaker elders signing the treaty that recognized the Manahoe lands and set up the Municipal charter of the town then called Tallin, from the Manahoe word for Riparian.

The Calvary Victory Methodist Church

was formed in the fifties from the great migrational diaspora up north. It is predominantly African American, from the Shiloh Temple, the Grenada Congregational Evangelical Chapel, and the Ashland Temple of the Vigilant Disciple,

but there are white parishioners. Pete Rousseau called them refugees from the white race and fuck ups in general. Reverend

Marcus Jonas brought the founding families

67

up from

Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas. They came up on a caravan of busses camping by the side of the road or in the home of friends along the way up to Tallin. Reverend Jonas bought land near the Pequonatlé and it was unknown to the seller he was black, but the seller got his money and the fact when found out wasn't something

he sweated over. The cannery wanted cheap labor. These newcomers joined the union and came to fit in to their new world okay enuf for the better part.

They built houses and their house of worship on this land he bought thru a straw buyer. The Medallion bus lines brought them up here, Marcus' father and uncle owned the business and with their sibling ties they managed to make the company profitable and viable. It still is

68

in operation years after the

two owners died, most of the shareholders are employees or church members.

The shooting at b11

Saints Court Inn, a rooming house on Saints court between Saints avenue and Tallin, would become inundated every fall with the late summer deluges and run into the basement. One week after this flood in 1977 Barney Miller was on, somebody was watching it in his room and drinking. Weed could be smelled in the hallway of

the basement rooms. The door crashed in from out in the asphalt court that traps all the water that flows down the stairs into

the basement. Three drug dealers were after somebody who moved out but they did not know this.

There was the old guy in b11 who went out into the hallway saw them and got

69

his shotgun. They drew

on him and he blasted one guy in the right kidney and another guy

with hair down to his ass, slim, with a mustache who looked like Vlad the Impaler got it in the face, it disintegrated.

The third guy was muscular and stocky got in in the bladder, it was a low shot.

The other two guys were killed instantly or bled out in a

minute tops. The old guy had cancer, he smokes three packs a day, and

he was a WWII vet a Marine and seen action in the Pacific.

He knew he was

70

gonna die soon and these guys were scaring people and doing evil shit in the area so he was happy he shot them. The guy that survived the shooting and the old man's wrath got put back together, did a few years for someother shit and was a parolee for a few years. He found God in prison and became a monk at Beth Camel, and Augustinian brother. He got a degree and continues his studies.

He took on the name Brother Jonas.

One chilly April night he sat at the Historic Meeting house with Nate and Sheryl. They were the only ones at this evening meeting and each of these three sat alone on a bench in the front row, arranged in three sections. Sheryl sat in the middle bench, Nate was on one side and Jonas on

the other side of Sheryl. They sat in silence and not a word was spoken for an hour. The three have supper and then The

71

Brothers picked up Jonas and took him home.

Brother Jonas still has intense drug dreams. He also dreams of the spinning chair, and the lodge of the dead and the dreaming, and Elkbear speaks to him. The daemons of his old associations and the good spirits of his salvation.

Jamaima Wex,

Nates maiden great aunt, was born in Grantby, Tennessee, in 1897. She was delivered by a midwife in the kitchen of her childhood home. There was an artist colony in the twenties when she was young and she was a free spirit who got to know kindred souls in this collection of people. When she was in her late eighties or about 90 she visited Nate and Sheryl liked her as soon as she

made her acquaintance. After an 11 years

72

stretch of time since Nate saw her, Sheryl could see the ties of family and familiar traits, and the familiarity of Nephew and aunt in this return of an old soul and in the reunion.

Nate remembered the day he left Boston, stopped off at a pal's house in Framingham bringing some booze with him and chowing down with the big bearded guy. He checked out some of the comics on the kitchen table, Fat Freddy's Cat, The Freak Brothers and Cosmic history of the Universe. He left the next day for his job in Tallin doing live-in Janitor stuff at the Historic Meeting House. He heard about the job from the Unitarian Universalist World. The bus brought him to his new place to live in work after an expanse of four days.

73

He got off the bus at Cavanaugh's and it was a young waitresses birthday. She was working and had a few glasses of champagne. She was dropping food and silverware so Theresa helped her out on a very busy night. The place was full of the youngwoman's friends to help her celebrate her 22nd birthday. Nate noticed the poster on the wall with Fat Freddy's Cat and he sat down to wait for his ride to his new place. The two hundredth customer walked thru the door and got a free meal and the kitchen broke out some beer, had a beer break and started putting out the orders again. This happens on New Years Eve and every time somebody who works there has a birthday, with the two hundredth customer or 10:00pm rolls around, what ever comes first.

74

In one night in April there was a shed fire and the responders pulled some rabbit hutches away from the burning vinyl sided building. Don Quixote disappeared, scouting "down south some where" for the semi pro baseball team he is putting together, some fans want to call them the warriors, some the islanders or the mountain men, but Quixote likes the sound of the North Province Pirates. There is one prospect Quixote likes but Jim thinks he'll wash out, Quixote tells him "Yeah, yeah, yeah, time will tell, just you wait and see". Meanwhile there is a fuck tape out with Raynar and Taina fuckin in barge by the river. He was maybe going on seventeen but the consent age is 16 and a half, so she just dodged that bullet. Taina is going to have twinns. She is 41. Elkbear shall contact the children

75

in the dream lodge when the time shall come.

Another fuck tape:

Nate was sick one night and Lisa filled in for him closing up. She locked up and headed back down from the liquor hut and saw two guys about to have ass sex, both pretty boys one had long blond hair and was some sort of a Nordic nymph with his legs in the air, she caught them red handed and told them get the fuck out of the building cuz it was closed. The young guy who was playing the stud shielded the sight of his partner's bare ass from being seen she said "I'm gonna be back inten

76

minutes

and you better be the fuck outa here!" She saw them leave as she locked the lower door and she said "And don't you let me see you pulling that crap in here again". Two months earlier the Kid caught a guy and his girlfriend fucking by the upper entrance to the theater and told them to get the fuck out, and the place has video surveillance that multiple unknown parties tap into to capture all the coupling that goes on when the theater and the three star restaurant is closed.

The Tattoo Club is a Polynesian Cocktail lounge and a hangout for the Mounted warriors, the North Province Biker Club. Their logo is a full moon with a coyote howling in front of it.

77

Pine Hill Farm

from 1831 to 1937 a community of Shakers. The last three residents, two old women and an old man, placed it in trust by a board of Quaker trustees. They were looked after, the "Elder" sister, her "sister" and Brother", for the rest of their lives.

In time the place fell into disrepair, after they were dead and gone, It became a historical landmark and is now being taken care of. The old house is now a Vedantic Society, Ashram Ananda Jero. The Ashram kept the original appearance of the house, there are a couple of holy statues and a prayer banner, a yogic hall on the second floor, the ground level has a reception hall and a book shop. Washrooms and a kitchen are set in the back. The Swami lives with a few people in an apartment on the second floor.

78

There is a garage and a greenhouse to the side of the Ashram.

Don Quixote returns:

and there is a charter meeting for the ball club and organization to be at the St. Laurence Tap. His tab here is always good, unlike the one he has at the Salt which seems to be a secondary priority, and which he could always work off working "slave Labor" for Jim. Officers are nominated. Kaliian is general

manager, Mel Klien the coach. Jim is a silent partner but everybody knows he is an owner because he won't shut up about it. It's all he talks about three days straight at home and Betty and their kids tell him to "shut the fuck up" more than

79

once. Right now Jim with his low tolerance for alcohol is gassed and under a table mumbling baseball statistics. Linda Wasser has had a few beers and she is picking a fight with Merlyna which is not a hard thing to do. Quixote humors Merlyna to keep an actual fight from breaking out and when it does Wilma pulls the two bitches apart from each other. People are coming in and buying shares, some with i.o.u.'s and cash is exchanged, personal checks, even weed is used as currency, fifty bucks a share.

Wilma's boyfriend is acting as the corporate attorney. Some of these folk have shit stored at Quixote's house being in between places to live. The first game will be May 1st 1991, they will be playing the Pawsox.

In an altered past;

80

along the river, between the university and the river, I am seated in the fellowship of the circle, I signal to them, I tell them how much I resent my exile. Four weeks before, it is the eternal day of my birth, the overcast is thick and blots out the sun, nine, noon, three, indistinguishable, she juggles glasses with the tip of her fingers, with her force of being. We have wasted too much time she said, she saw the disciple on the third floor, in the back, facing the river boulevard. The child was possessed by Khali. They want to know what I mean by that, as paralyzing terror of cold touches above my hips. She summons Peter, she cannot finish, he does not know where to begin, he sends for Faith, she is drained. Peter begins he is dazed, so is the child, every entity takes into the birth of Eve. Thru her, faith, Peter is to meet the confluence of the Heathen, his

81

corpse,
he left it on the Ripariant Boulevard, the road to the college town, spirit of supernatural, confectus est. Anonymous writing on the community bulletin board at The Saints.

The typewriter:

Nate remembers a typewriter, in a small house in the woods, back in Grantby, in his childhood. The cottage was built in the twenties and has dc current powered by a generator in a dam spanning a small river. It powered a few lights, a refrigerator and a freezer, a few fans and a radio. A coal stove was the only source of heat. The stove also used wood, and had a coat of enamel and was made for a parlor, but it was set in the kitchen of this little cottage. The kitchen was large and

82

occupied much of the first floor, and had a large table in it. It had an ironing board and an electric iron and a fan and it lead to the cellar with rows of preserves and vegetables sealed in mason jars. It also had a washing machine. It had a sink and a water hand pump and there was a bathroom upstairs with a pump for the sink. The water came from a well and he heated his water on the stove in a kettle. Next to the kitchen was a parlor with a large stuffed chair, a foot pedal sewing machine, and the radio and some other furniture. Upstairs was a bedroom with study in it and a guest room. The cottage was a gambrel structure no more than twelve feet wide and about forty feet long. There was an old outhouse outside and a garage with a 1937 Packard deteriorating. The chrome was corroding, the fenders and body

83

rusting away.

There were feral cats living in the attic above the second floor. The place was inundated with manuscripts and musical scores and a piano and a violin on top of it left there for many years before Nate saw it. There were toys laying everywhere thru out the house. The man played in an orchestra and was seeing a shrink. He was prescribed an hour a day of regression into his childhood.

The local story goes one day he left it all behind and left for the west coast. Nobody knows what became of the man. Not far from his house deeper in the woods was a farm, all in ruins since Nate was a child. It had a decaying model t in land reclaimed by the forest, and the place was a distillery and old bottles and barrel rungs littered the area where the barn once stood.

84

The Hobson creature died, reviled in public, a walking decomposing corpse, his skull protruding from his face, his nose, he falls and maggots spill out of his torso cavity, his death like a dying pigeon snatched up by an alley cat, to eat and be infected, some assholes let their Rottweiler run loose, he

saw the Hobson creature and fled off into the woods. somebody is leaving their weird half-baked prose on the bulletin board at the saints. They left something else good too, a picture of an old woman, "Our lady of the bums", she comes to gather the souls of those who die exposed to the elements victims of addiction or mental illness or landlords or property redevelopment, gentrification and

85

its evils....

Kaillain said "Mother of God" and crossed himself, Sr. Simone told him Eve choked to death on a piece of lamb while she was putting the kitchen back together, it was a Tuesday night and she was the only dishwasher on that night. It was around 12pm, she was eating some lamb left on the cutting board. She was angry and had a fight with Jim, Lisa and Quixote helped her out for a while to put the kitchen back together, she told them Fine, you can go home, I can finish this in half an hour. She was in a good mood when they left, but then she started to think of Jim and she got pissed off again. She ate some lamb quickly and in anger and she choked, nobody was there to help her and she died from a fatal piece

86

of lamb. Jim came in the next day early and saw the kitchen still unmopped and the trash still there, he was about to call Wilma who got up around ten and it was seven fifteen. He just decided to come in early and he saw Eve laying on the floor and knew she choked on something.

He chuckled to himself, approached her carefully and poked her with a broom, poked her again and said, "You don't look so bad, have another!" The place was closed for the day because fowl play had to be ruled out and until then it was a crime scene. The next day the kitchen was put into order and the place open for business. People felt bad about her demise but they got over it quick and were talking baseball.

87

Mother and Father of adultery, children of murder, spouses of faith and innocence fallen, three junctions of three, six, six, six, the triangles meeting, pyramid, empire, divorced of providence, in a trap, pyramid sacred symbol defiled by ambition of pharaoh, in a trap, she had waited, she has convoked the entities from within and without, in possession, the medicine man, custodian of Penodocas hall, ancient circle, Eve emerges, the glass spinner.

wilma was hoping to attract a nice sophisticated crowd. She idolizes the rich that Jim is just out to angle and its another hustle to him. Taina was cleaning the front of the theater, the butts, the condoms, the puke... she

88

follows the debris of the party goes from Saturday night. Jim passes her and says "They have to let it all hang out, they'll all grow up to be stock brokers". Nate shows up to get his paycheck and stops in the kitchen. "I hear there was a bit of blood shed at the mill winds tea room" and Quixote tells him how wilma had to eject some business school people the night before. Simone told Kallian about the incident and he said "well, it takes all types".

Taina worked over at the Pamplona doing prep work earlier and now will work at the Salt till closing, around twelve pm.

Nate wex and the Society of Friends

89

Nate was the last of five kids, his immediate sister ten years his senior. His parents were good quiet folk of sturdy character. He left home when he was 25 and would work in the restaurants in Boston and then move to Tallin when he was 26 going on 27. He came back every Christmas to visit his folk in Grantby.

Christmases past, each taking a parent with it. Nate met some people thru dignity and thru integrity, two gay church groups, one for episcopal, one for Catholics. He had a gay relation that

didn't last over a year because he liked to drink and his partner was afraid of booze because he had a bad drinking problem. He was also very emotional and Nate did not want the drama. It was one of the reasons Nate sought a change in

90

places to live, and it turned out to be the right decision. He had a friend at Dignity who had trouble accepting his bisexuality and he left him behind and that was the end of the ties that he had with Boston.

Nate was drawn to a church type setting, a little church queer, as Lisa would put it; for one thing as a

place to make friends, the Unitarian universalists he thought were "a bunch of neurotic nincompoops". (he found dealing with them a "splintery" type a thing.)

When Nate got his job in Tallin he attended his first Quaker meeting. It was at the Historic Meeting

House. There was an old guy there with his wife, his son and his daughter in law and

91

three grandchildren. The old guy said "May God bless each of us in his own Garden, her own Garden, each in our own way". Nate liked what he heard and what he saw in these people. Quixote had this little imaginary scenario, Nate is vacuuming the office, Sheryl is looking at his ass, she says "Show

me what you can do, you little faggot hottie" or in fact did Sheryl seduce Nate, I was not paying attention so I can't tell you, but in fact she will come to carry two children that shall be his and shall be hers.

In an old fortress a man watches the moon, a new moon, and he sets off a cannon. Ramadan has started. around the world, in Tallinberg, in a brick row house, is the Haj al Hadika masque.

92

Imam Yatalani and a few friends watch this moon from the roof of the masque, and the young seedlings from the greenhouse shall soon be planted in their community garden.

On the ground floor is

the evening clinic, the offices of their ministries to Spellos

and the correctional facility at Point Chaux Island, the sanctuary is on the second floor.

Beans,

in the Hadika community garden, the ones Taina planted at the third rail, and beans Nate has transplanted from his greenhouse, the first warm night in may, they are growing, twisting upward climbing up

93

poles, swerving and twisting, seeking a place to

anchor themselves, on a sweet-smelling night the stars can be seen as the overcast passes.

On the State Line,

people from Michigan buy cheap booze from the State-owned package stores in Superior State. It is illegal. Michigan State troopers undercover record the licenses of people coming up from Michigan Proper to buy their booze, and arrest them at the Stateline when they return. This time the undercover officers were identified and arrested on vagrancy charges.

94

In the spring night there is an unused graveyard, here is buried a family, the mother and father died in their twenties, and their

children, one, Ethan James died in 1793 and he was born in 1787.

He died before his twin sister. Indanesquinn hill frames this small burial ground.

Like a great cloud the Hobson creature is

looking over this place. There are pumpkin pine and hickory under a windy crepuscular sky.

There are manahoe buried here also because nearby and all around they buried their dead here centuries before. Things that cannot be seen spin around the disgraced being, the Hobson Creature. Woven blankets with

rosette patterns and moccasins, top hats and bonnets, cradles, an

old saw used long ago and now decomposed, ghost images of these things share space

95

with Hobson. Sheryl's clock stopped ticking two years ago but it started up again so she could have the twins, the children of Sheryl and Nate. Children she did not think she could have, a fun fuck becoming procreation. He was the only man, such as he was, in ten years she slept with. Nate went over to Sheryl's desk where she keeps messages including messages for him.

He reads a message, "Harv called, he has your stuff and will drop it off at five." The big thing on his mind was his booze delivery because his supply was getting low and it was time for him to stock up on the stuff. Then he made the connection, the message was on the back of a statement from the prenatal clinic. The act of mutual seduction was out of the ordinary and was like something that just happened once, and the thought of wiping

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babies asses and feeding and comforting crying babies did not play on his mind yet. Like the silly little sot he is thought the whole thing was funny, like a joke on Sheryl who thought she was too old to conceive. He vacuums her office, she comes in, and he asks "So are you gonna keep it?" He is oblivious to how pissed this got her because she is carrying the Burdon and he is not yet

ready to share his part. He is done with the house work and he puts his coat on and sets out for a walk by the abandoned village at Indanesquinn hill. He steps out of the door and pauses, then takes a step and a trash barrel falls behind his

head, Sheryl looks out the window above the door and he laughs and

she says "You forgot a liner, you little prick!". The very grave he shall look at is that of Ethan and his family, he and

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his sister shall be reborn as the twins Sheryl shall be mother to, Nate and as unready father to.

Their parents shall be born to Taina and Reynar, young yet older in ways than Nate, the circle of life shall run its course, and Elkbear shall be there to guide these families to be formed.

The thought of bringing up children takes hold of Nate's mind, it takes hold in Sheryl's thoughts too. Both of these adults like being single, having their own living quarters, the collected shit that furnishes the personal abodes of each parent to be does not mix in the world of the other that surrounds its occupant. These are two people used to living on their own, they are not sure if

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a life together is what they want but each of these two souls wants to do their best in the collective task of the care of two children they caused into being, or rather, have reintroduced onto the wheel of life. They will have a small civil ceremony, but Patty Longfellow wants to have a joint Unitarian Universalist Friends and Manahoe traditional ceremony in the summer, she is the Manahoe woman who told them who the children were in former lives, and that the child Ethan had Manahoe blood in him and did his family, one eighth, and that their souls were originally full blooded Manahoe. She did not threaten, she did not

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bully, she did not lay guilt, no, she enchanted, this woman, a Manahoe storyteller, did just that, she

enchanted Sheryl and Nate and they became ready to share the lives they had as coworkers and friends into that of married people and parents.

A black cat

allowed Eve to carry her soul with his own, while she was in the realm of the living, as she gradually got used to life in the lodge of the sleeping and the dead, passing from ghost to spirit, and back again, with Elkbear's supervision. It is a time when creatures enter the world, good and evil.

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The Hobson creature, the creature of resentment, dissolved in front of Eve into a white liquid, it could be milk, it could be glue rendered from old bones, and he is gone. Eve again for a while thinks she is alive. She is dressed in dirty clothes, she feels the grime of her neatherworldly state and she knows she is in Tallinberg but things are indistinguishable. She feels like she has been given a second chance and that things and places and people will not piss her off.

It is August or maybe early September, the sun is setting. The living are like shadows. Then she sees the feral black cat and she feels a cold touch, like the living feel in the presence of the dead. She is dead but

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still fears the dead. Nate feels this cold touch and so does Sheryl, each in their own rooms tonight, they are sleeping and they are, Nate, Eve, and Sheryl, called into the lodge of dreamers and of the dead.

Sheryl is showing into the second trimester, she is dressed in red and so is Nate, but Eve sees she is dressed in white and she knows she is dead and no longer feels the cold chill that the living souls there, Nate and Sheryl, feel. The fear of the dead on the part of the living. These two living Eve recognizes, but the dead are all those she has yet to know. Elkbear spoke, the chair was spinning, then it stood still and he was sitting in it, a skinny

little old Manahoe man who dies a hundred years before dressed in

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a white suit with a rosette bolo tie.

"I was put to the

test,

made a creature of the supernatural, and I battled a great enemy, getting so entangled in his web till I became untangled from it.

Now, on my own volition, I return among you. Everyone was focused

on Eve, even the living if only because they could see the dead were so focused on her. Mr.

LeClerc entered in a red Tweed suit, and Sheryl and Nate looked at him, Eve looked at him too.

She no longer feared the dead. She had on one hand the thought of missing life and on the other the wondrous fellowship of the blessed dead and of the dreaming.

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The Tlinkat

are the shadow people, they watch over the earth and do good things in secret, they communicate with their chosen people, the Manahoe. They are witnesses against the evil and the despots of the world. They are protectors of the earth and its children.

The Hobson Creature

was before the spirits of departed popes, he wanted to get justice and would go anywhere to try and find it. The dreaming living soul of John Paul II told him to forget about it. He told him he could have been an abbot if he taken the right path.

He was still resentful of a city that ran him out on a rail and ostracized him.

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Another pope said he had no choice, the world he was in, that circulated around him, was so wicked it could have turned out in no other way. Now is now, get over it, you are no longer alive and subject to the fickleties of the world, this world is your oyster, make the most of it. It was a very short play and it ended with those words.

The Salt

this community theater does local original works. It has people who work in local kitchens, waiting on tables, washing plates, bussing tables, it has people who are unemployed and who are in school. There are people that make good money and people with money problems. There is a symbiosis with the restaurant below the whole thing in the basement. There are parties where

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the theater people and the business school crowd mix and let it all hang out and get drunk and fuck in the bathrooms. Wilma has to get them dressed banging on the stall doors and drag them out of the stalls so paying customers can take a piss or a shit. None of this craziness fazes Taina, it's all very funny to the kitchen, Quixote asks "workin the crowds, right, Pricilla?", with a wry smile what does she say, "Up yours, Quixote!"

Ethiopian Jews

have moved into Tallinberg, Upsaala and Holly. An Ethiopian boy is standing on the Pequanatle bridge, in the bike lane, in the middle of the bridge, one foot in Tallinberge, one foot in Upsaala. He

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thinks, if I was back home, I would have one foot in Tigray, one foot in Gondar.

Below is the rail yard along the ripariant park, a terminus for lost souls, where winos were jumped and hoboed clubbed by yard dicks, or other hoboed, or local assholes, those who got drunk or stoned and died from overdose or froze to death. One by one they enter into the lodge of the dreaming and of the spirit. Some shall reenter the wheel of life and rebirth.

The Beverly Hillbillies!

Nate got his first check from his invention, and there is a party in Sheryl's apartment. Nate is sitting on a couch and next to him is a gal from Ghana. They are both fans of the show that has been dubbed into Ashanti.

"Well we don't rightly now how

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many generations granny goes back into the family tree, though they say Ol' Man Death came a callin on her and she sent him back to Ohio faster than a jack rabbit with his tail on fire". Mr.

Drysdale has a nightmare his wife has become a mendicant monk and gave all of his money away to the order and its charitable works. The gal from Ghana and Nate do an improvised routine, she is granny, he is Jethro..." and if I catch you dipping into my possum drippings there's gonna be someone a spennin most of his time down at the cement pond-granny, can I help it if I'm a growin' fellah". The gal from Ghana gets up and three very out gay women gather around the set near Nate and one sits on the couch. Nate sais C'mon Sheryl, have a seat! She is a little pissed at

Nate putting her on the spot, one of the lesbians says "There's room", Nate moves

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over and Sheryl is surrounded by Gay woman, Sheryl is with gay women but in her thoughts think "these bitches are on the make and Nate knows that, the little prick!".

Meanwhile Granny is about to kick the crap out of Mrs. Drysdale. The three gay woman by the way were from Iceland and spoke very little English, or so they made like they did. They looked at

Sheryl, spoke in Icelandic and laffed, cuz Little Miss Pee Pants was her husband and they were having kids together.

Sheryl gave Nate a crack on the back of the head and said "later, bitches". As she left the three Icelandic woman started to laff some more.

The twins in Sheryl kicked.

On the grounds of the Aincutain they had the big wedding. It was a Manahoe ceremony, Patty Longfellow performed it. It was simple, They two were seated and she sat with them. She asked each of them "Do you take this living soul for who he or she is, with all

of their short comings, and to serve the wellbeing of the village and to abide in its peaceful congress and to bring up any

children you may have in the best way you are able?" They smoked a pipe and Sheryl coughed, Patty smiled. She spoke for a while,

five minutes, ending with "Be watchful for the subtle works of evil that hide where you may least expect them, if you fall into it, ask for help in getting out of it". The party began, Barbeque, vegan, beer, lemon aid, and coffee was brewing

III

up.

Nate fell asleep and during that time Sheryl had a few beers and got into a fight with one of the Icelandic biker chicks, her pals piled in and almost beat the crap out of Sheryl but

everybody around them cooled the shit down, Patty said "Let them stay, or they'll come back with guns, she gently inobtrusivly and effectivly focused on the bitches

telepathically and they remained more peaceable. Sheryl came back to where Nate just woke up from his nap, she had ice in a dew rag on her swollen cheek. Thru all of this the orchestra

played, not stopping once during the fight. Later the three tough chicks made

peace with Sheryl. The work of the Tlinkat was in play. Even these ruff bitches will have a role to play in their good work.

Mr. LeClerc was sleeping in a chair, next to him his grand daughter Emetia was napping. In this sleep they were very active with the Tlinkat and the psychic incantation of Patty Longfellow in making peace out of conflict. The LeClercs are in the lodge of the dreamers and of the dead. They are having a parallel celebration, on a plane that is six inches off from the plane of the celebration of the living. Emetia plays with souls of Quaker children who died of small pox and other childhood

sicknesses. She is the first black child these children have seen, they play with home made toys, in their innocence, they know Emetia is benevolent, but also a very powerful entity.

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An Ohio Songbird in a tree,
about to render his song cycle. I have returned, after my long absence, you are such a
delightful audience, and you shall, no doubt, be enchanted by my latest cycle, for it is rife
with the subtleties of existence, I, Tanurn, son of Renarun son of Nataran, son of the valley
since the time of the Tlinkat, from time descended, I shall sing, "The Song of Night".

Pickweed, pickweed

pickajoodoodoodoo, pickajoodoodoodoodoo weanie weanie peterwaterwaterwaterwater,
peterwaterwaterwaterwaterwater

peyoo, peyoo

pervert pervertpervertpervert japjapjapjapjap kittykittykittykittykitty dykedykedykedyke

In this way Tanurn would set himself up near a chosen person's window for a few

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weeks, then move on to somebody else's window, They may be entertained, they may loose
sleep, but he has his song to sing
and nothing will stop him.

Sheryl was reading in bed, Nate was rubbing the middle of his left thigh, Sheryl asked "Your
leg hurt... want me to rub it" Nate lays on his stomach and she gives his legs a rub, he
stretches and moans, then he fall to sleep. She is still reading,

Nate

farts, Sheryl says "Godamit Nate" but he is sleeping. She nudges him with her foot and he falls
out of bed with the ac humming in the back ground as he falls and bumps his head in the fall.
He gets up rubbing his head, says nothing,

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gets back into bed and falls asleep. A wicked smile takes her face and she kicks him out of
bed for the second time. He lands and bumps his head falling in the paralysis of sleep. Nate
wises up quick and takes a comforter and a sheet and lays down on the floor next to the air
conditioner.

Pine Hill,

in one of her last lives Eve was in her forties, disowned by her
upper middle classed family because she would not marry a man she knew was rotten.
She wastaken to PineHill wherelived out

the last days of her life in

that incarnation.

Ivan Petrovitch

lived on Bowdoin Street on Beacon Hill on the edge of Scollay Square. He was a refugee from the revolution. He lived in South Boston for a while and then moved to Bowdoin Street when he was middle-aged, into a rent control flat. He played the 1812 Overture every July 4th, when the Boston Pops started playing it every fourth of July he

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would have parties up on the roof in the evening where his neighbors and friends would watch thru a telescope the concert at the Hatch Shell. Nate saw Ivan Petrovitch as he stumbled out of the Agora a little drunk, he got out of the old man's way and Ivan resumed his footing and walked with his medicine and provisions back to his place. Nate left for Tallin late that summer.

Nate was in Rem, Sheryl got up to take a piss. He is back in Grantby, he is a child, with his aunt, Jamima Wex, they are in the summer screen house, it is getting towards evening and after supper. Two gentle eccentric from a family tree, sitting in silence and being together.

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Bob 'n' Ray

The two guys were getting ready for the HDH broadcast, Ray was listening to an old janitor tell him "Nylon treading, that's what they're putting on those firestones, You know why that is? Ray says back "No I don't, would you care to enlighten me? I say they're putting on nylon treading, because of those people in the downtown areas and all of them shopping, then stopping in the coffee and sandwich shops, all of them housewives are gonna spend their time dillydallying and those ties sitting for four or five hours on all that hot top, you see the nylon keeps the tires from getting stuck on the asphalt.... Ray a few minutes later is

sitting at the mike with Bob, he is about to say Hi to Bob who thinks its the old janitor and Bob says "Oh shut up you old

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jackass! I'm tired of hearing the sound of your voice!"..

Supposedly this actually happened and it went on the air, but it is a story Kallian likes to tell.

Some horses

were being ridden thru the sand paths and left hoof prints. Nate was going thru the paths of the tree farm and he had a few drinks and was feeling silly. He had his walking staff and drew in the sand the biddies of eels the hoofprints being their heads and faces. He drew mouths and eyes into the imprints left by the horse shoes, He wrote in the sand, "Nice big catholic family"...

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waekes, wakes, weccassas, old forms of the name "wex", they were a sub clan of the southern Saxons. Nates family came to America a long time ago on the Persis Beaumontier, a ship owned by Hugenoughts who settles in England after the edict of Nates was revoked and some of these people along with some of Nate's ancestors settled in Virginia.

Nate was making relish,

eviscerating pickled cucumbers and he threw some refuse out of the cellar door where he has his work shop and root canning and wine cellar towards the compost bucket.

"Rep!" is the sound that comes instead of a bark or as some sort of one. He winds up throwing the stuff into the local Alsatian's left ear, the dog told him to watch it and he said, being slightly

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soused, "Serves you right, Sheila, you no good rotten bitch for poking your nose around where it is not wanted!" she

goes home and barks at Nate as she leaves. When she gets home she says to one of her human family members " Kid, just shut up and get this crap outa my ear!" She watches the home shopping network and thinks about buying something, has a night cap and goes to bed.

Alcesta picked a fight with a skunk near a pond in the tree farm, Nate almost gets sprayed and they get out of there fast. Lylith the Skunk continues her nocturnal rounds.

Jamaima Wex had a cousin

who lived in a small cabin, a log cabin he

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made himself, in the woods of Grantby. He had a few tools and kitchen utensils and a pocket knife. He helped out a few farmers and would leave with some potatoes, cornmeal, eggs, milk or vegetables, sometimes he might get a little bacon. He was happy

with what he had though he was known as "The Savage of Grantby".

He died in his cabin when he was 88. He liked coffee but never got into the habit of drinking, unlike his second cousin twice removed, Nate.

Gamungeeee!

So a story goes that gets bandies around the kitchen at the salt, when Jean Peron is not there.

He gathers severed heads from the

dumpster behind the medical school. He sets

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them up on a tombstone in his kitchen in his priestly garments. He has the head of a roadie from a metal band, the head of an old cat hag and a serial killer, he placates them with rum and summons their spirits with an incantation and there is heavy metal music blasting.

His two cousins both women around his age, dressed like matadors but wearing skirts, help perform the ritual. He

says the magic word, "Gamungeee!" and they animate and hover, passing past the capes of the two women and they are ready to do Jean's errands. Nate is on a late-night walk with his plump beagle companion and the severed heads swoop down, kissing and licking his neck, he tries fending them off and to run away,

The old cat hag tells Nate "I'm gonna suck your cock till your asshole explodes!" Alcesta barks and nips as they harass her, and Nate and Alcesta run home, bogging down

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in a swamp, by the time they come home Nate is covered in twigs and mud. Sheryl hoses the two down and tells Nate "You are without a doubt the most helpless man I ever

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In the lodge

of the dreamers and of the dead Mr. LaClerc spoke of how the horse and the wolf came before man, but the draft horse and the carriage pony and the spaniel and the terrier were all created by man. In this way the manahoe came before all other people. Then came the great "reconfiguration", the anarganut, now we have animals like Sheila who think and act human, and people like Nate Wex who are feral, creatures of the forest. Then he said "The otter is coming, for whom, I know not or why".

Sold! A short story by Nate Wex.

There was an old chicken farmer who lived on land going back to colonial times. Back

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then the king evoked the land grant but it never reached the colony of Virginia until well after the forming of the united states. There was a court battle and the sheriff had the unhappy task of evicting the old man. He took his chickens into his ford pickup truck and sought gainful employment in the city. He sold his truck to feed his chickens and he was walking in the alley when an old feller stood outside in the alley saying to himself "I have all of these vegetables from the gardeners association and enuf milk and cream but that old fool of an egg man never shown up and I have to make twenty quiches for the luncheon the raft of libertarians that will be attending and I have no eggs to make the pies!" The only thing they ever eat is quiche! " He was in despair. It was then the old farmer and his chickens showed up in the nick of time

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and a very

happy and prosperous partnership between the two old fellers who should have made each other's acquaintance at this divinely appointed moment? The old shop keep, the old chicken farmer, the waiter, the waitress, and everybody who worked at the shop, not to mention the chickens, and a lot of hungry people, lived happily ever after.

He'l froze over

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and Valhalla washed away in a flood that carried the gods and goddesses to earth. Loki and his niece, Olki floated on the back of an otter, flooding out from hell. The otters rioted in Valhalla's flooding away. The otters took Olki and Loki to the lodge of the sleeping and of the dead. Trees uprooted by the waters float in the great broad raging stream, the gods and goddesses hanging from them with the dead from hell killed in their wars of revenge. They are no longer divine but only of the dead, and the dwellers of Valhalla had to be confronted by the dead they once ruled over. Nate and Sheryl stood in front of a bog, and adders stood on their heads.

Sheryl tells Nate not to walk in the quick sand. Taina's dream ends and one of the twins kicks she carries.

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Sheryl

saw her old Uncle Nick, in his old place in Natick. It was in fact the lodge of the dreaming and of the dead. Loke and Olki sat at the bar. Nate was with her. Loki snapped his finger and there was fire floating above his hand. Olki smiled at Nate and said "The otter is coming, little boy!" Nate woke from his sleep but he was still in the dream and Sheryl was still sleeping and having the dream. A great serpent of flood water washed out of Hell and up into Valhalla and Midgard. The gods and the goddesses were trying to save their apple trees in the great wash. Fria noticed Olki and Odin told her to worry about her grandniece later. Loki was set in the watery serpent but he was not chilled, it was like a blanket to him. Loki became the great uncle of all otters, and

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Olki the great mother of them all. The Hobson creature and Tanurn passed with the otters into Midgard and taken flesh. For three days they were in the city of the living. All of the gods have lost their strength and could not try and get even with Loki, who did not cause the flood, but they thought he did. The great watery snake flowed under the sewers of Tallin, and into the great northern lake (Superior). Then came a rainy morning and the twilight of the gods.

The Hobson was the first creature to emerge from the water, The Hobson asked Nate, do you know me? Nate responded, no fuck off!" He was raking the ;last of winter leaves from the stone wall when a bolt of lightning shattered the great oak and it split in two. Then Officer Parker sleeping from a third shift had the dream the Hobson overturned a bus and jumped up on the hood

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of his cruiser as he took a sip of coffee. Mr. LeClerc was sleeping behind the Ministry at St. Mark's, he incanted and summoned the spirit of Lester lightbulb to reign in the three, Tanurn, Loki, and the Hobson creature, and the third day in this dream was over in one morning and they returned to the lodge of the sleeping and of the spirits.

Whitefish Harbor

about fifteen miles from this place is a small village with a hotel, a garage, a consolidated school, K-12. There is the cannery, the bank, and behind this a private club set in a hillside. Potato farms, turkey farms, line the high way out of the village. Beyond this is the Na'e Quanda settlement, an artistic retreat and colony.

Little cottages for the residents

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threat into the woods surrounding the main hall where people have evening meal and fellowship.

The other artist colony,

the one in Grantby, went on thru the depression. The colony is now a town park. The residents grew old, they left for other parts of the country, some lived on in Grantby and a few had families. Nate knew some of these people and he was introduced to many of these people who spent time at the colony by his aunt, Jamaima Wex. She was very young she first spent time with the colony people and many of them grew old with her. Like Nate she was seen as very much part of the local fauna, creatures of the forest and of the earth, skilled with their hands, with their gardens and their home-made

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crafts. Nate still writes and keeps

up with the old people who were once young and who were connected to the local world of Grantby thru the person of Jamaima Wex.

A little talk at the package store

Tallin liquors, vodka, beer and whiskey passing under his eyes being sold to a procession of customers until there is some quiet time, no customers, just time to themselves. Spike is telling Butch how the local birders group was seen in the riparian park. She asks "any good lookers" but she is just fooling around and not being on the level. Spike responds "Oh sure, if you like funny looking people". They were both thinking about the same collection of persons, Nate Wex, Taina Sourmus and other people that could be seen with these two local

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oddballs.

Nate woke up a little groggy because the full moon kept him from falling to sleep until two am, he was up at eight. Fellow ship

will be at ten and he had to set up the coffee for after. After the meeting he brought the urn into its place and the small

Sandersen child bumped into him as he was carrying the urn. The child hit him unintentionally in the crotch and Sheryl immobilized the small child by putting her hand on his head. She lead him back to her parents. The cups and mugs are of different colors and sizes, all picked up at flea markets Myra Carson and Nate went to over the past few years, and before

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that during the meeting Nate fell asleep and spoke in his sleep "Oh some fool left it in the corn crib"...Sheryl reached across

Eunice Gardner and pinched Nate, he woke up and got a few laughs. For a small stretch of time he was in his childhood Grantby. Then he was back in Tallinberg, He was a grown man such as he was, in the

North Province State, married to Sheryl and soon to be a parent.

Loki threw the sands of time over Nate and Sheryl as they slept, they have transitioned from single people to parents soon to be. He and Oli traveled with Eve and Lester Lightbulb to the elms, At the elms Loki said as the Clan of Odin driven out the Tivians

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from Valhalla, so did Alfuder drive them out with the great watery serpent that flooded Valhalla. They were washed into the world, the realm of human beings and became ghosts, and sometimes they acted as spirits. Eve and Lester fell in love and he became the messenger between the lodge and the living. Tanurn in his sleep sits on the Hobson Creatures right shoulder.

Reverend Emitia Jackson emerges from her coma. These spirits retrieved her from the lodge and brought her up into the realm of the living, back into her body. She awakes from the coma. She is in the hands of the great mother, Urda, the great gardener.

Urda calls into being cloud, rock, bush, moon, man, boy, girl, woman, Hag and codger, with the sands of time as one matures or ages, she calls mare and fowl, ~~12~~

buck and doe, fawn, pup, bitch, cur, the great whale and the coveted salmon, shoals of herring, Urda sustains the cosmic directives of nature, and the gods and goddesses look after her creation and intervene in it, so my uncle

was washed from Valhala into Hel and made his weary to Midgard, as a ghost, and two boys and girls shall be born to two woman

with two fathers, they shall join and be a new people unto themselves.: Olki

At the last trimester the fetus gets ready for the life he or she will lead. A produce clerk, a Pacific islander, and elk calf

at Yellowstone, before that they are emerged in the dream state of things, the child goes through every stage of evolution,

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it resembles a bird, an otter, a whale, the image of the cow and the bull and the calf, the wheel of life, played in the mind of the Hobson Creature.

When Nate was in the womb Mr. LeClerc was driving in the oak ridge mountains. A man sold him a sleeping bag, a tent and a mess

kit. His telepathic abilities were fully formed and he knew these things belonged to the man and he was going to die soon. He was selling all he had and using the money for his final expenses.

He knew the soul of the man who would die would find his sleeping bag and transmigrate with him 144

back to Tallin. This soul is still

a ghost and knocks on peoples doors looking for the right place to have his next life in the choice of his next mother.

This man was an Odinst, and he had a book of runes that was with his things he sold to LeClerc, dreams the man had since he converted when he was young to this old religion. In a dream LeClerc, when he was in his thirties, was told, by Olki, to hold on to the Rune book until someone will claim them, or until he

found the person who should have them.

And Fria communicated with the spirit of the earth, Urda, she would help lost souls find their way. Odin and Thor were consumed

with anger because they were flooded out of Valhalla. She could do nothing for them

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in the state they are in.

Reverned Emitia

Jackson woke from her coma, later she would remember where she was in the dreamtime of her long sleep.

There was a rail station where the tracks have been torn up. Ghosts lived here, lost souls, but they were all reincarnated into people who would become young urban gentry. All but a few who stayed behind and kept faith to what they all once held on to. Young writers and poets communicate with these spirits and ghosts and there is a self-styled bon po shaman who visits this place in the woods behind the riparian park.

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Marisa Cortez bought a mail order flag that was flown over the state capitol in Upsaala for five Three rows of nine stars and three rows of eight stars, 51 stars, the fifty first state that became into its own when Reagan was president.

The Cherundesen

One of the three river crafts that give tours along the Pequannock, Nate, Sheryl and their friends are on this boat, her nephew Peter and Nate's niece Corynthe are standing at the prow of the boat. The radio on board is playing a WUSA Broadcast, the classical program, Ovation. They Pass the Statehouse that was completed in 1989. It's rose marble siding over the Granite and its silver dome blend into the sunset and the silver blue

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darkening sky.

Not far away the guide points out an archeological dig that the Manahoe spokesperson told NPR is the sacred lodge of an ancient pre-Columbian dwarf and serpent cult. There was on that airing an interview with three prodigious children who were part of

the building of the Statehouse, there were some people from the Third rail and St. Adelbert's, they were schooled for a year and learned quickly how to build this structure. These chosen for this work by a commission

did mason work, carpentry and wood working, even electrical work.

One of the progeric kids was trained in

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silversmithing and was part of the making of the capitol dome.

Kallian was talking with his twin brother at Cavanaugh's. He said he heard noises outside the rectory where he was staying as a guest. It was Nate a few blocks down and his brother said how he saw an unusual looking little man with a beagle putting a rope around some mats and a stove pipe, he tied the objects up and dragged them down the street. Kallian told his brother he was making a cabin and the matting was roofing and he was building a stove in it. Alcesta followed Nate and wagged her tail when he went back into his work shop. He had some chicken in a special spot by the door and gave her a piece, lead her into the mudroom where she sleeps and he put his stuff away and went to bed.

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All in a full day of work:

Mr. LeClerc fitted the pipe from the stove thru the roof and sealed over the hole with Nate up on the roof. Nate had a bottle of single malt he gave to Mr. LaClerc as a token of his appreciation and he was happy to be given the stuff. Meanwhile Maryanne Pace payed for some research in her correspondence with "The Gene Box" on a maiden aunt of hers who lived with her sister

in law and their two kids after her brother died of heart attack when he was fifty. There was a picture of a block party with all the kids and the two women who lived together. Quixote said "It looks like they were good friends, in more ways than one, and I'm

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sure you can appreciate the significance of that, right,

Maryanne? She starts singing "Down on the range (she's is behind the stove) with the gay wads". Lisa asked "So where's Nate today?" Beaucanon says "He's doing some lifting... in more ways than one, if you get my drift..."

Nate was at the Barn at the Historic Meeting house, he supervised the construction of an arm and a pulley system to bring a chestnut sideboard into the barn loft.

Once that was clear to the conversation at the range, in the kitchen at the Salt, the kid talked about how neat it would be if Nate was tied to one end of the rope, the chest descends and Nate is pulled up, smashed his head against the pulley support and then it all comes crashing

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down, first Nate, then all the pulley mechanism comes down and buries him..."That would be wicked cool!"

Pink for boys, blue for girls:

women bear the blood of childbirth and men the blood of soldiering. Modern mankind lives a life as a wage slave and in the past he was a serf, she the wife or daughter of a serf.

All living things die and pass on to the womb and back into childhood. Loki told Eve she must be born to the right parents so

her life won't be voided of potential. So it can flourish. Loki tells Eve

the hag of death is reborn as a boy, and the old man as

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a girl, to bring balance between the sexes. But now she must spend time among the dead in finding the fellowship she was unable to reap in her past life.

The old oak, where Olki and Loki were blooded and murdered

in sacrifice, they remained spirit and Alfuder saw what was done to them, and flooded the Gods and Goddesses from Valhalla.

Mannisquah Farms

was a dairy farm started by the Scopineri family, distant relatives of Lisa Scopineri. Giamino Scopineri came to this country after he fought in the first world war and so he would not have to fight in

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the next one. He was a skilled millwright and

he built the cinderblock barn and put up the laminated roof. He had a contract with the government during the second world war after a marginal existence during the depression. It became a performing arts and a crafts consignment flea market in 1974 when

one of the daughter came into her own and inherited the place. She took on seven partners and then it became a collective. They still have puppet shows and on the grounds in a recreation of a bronze aged village beyond the orchard with its ancient heirloom trees the bronze aged village folk look after along with the beekeeping.

So Alcesta sent three squirrel tails to

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ruby pink slacks, etc. and

gets her outfit complete with a cap that said "Howbout those squirrels and baby rabbits?" She is all dolled up and Nate makes

some Tennessee stew for his beagle girlfriend and her guests, two owls and a badger.

Jason the Rottweiler

a pup of eighteen months, is out for a walk after sneaking out of the kitchen of his home in Holly. He crosses town and jumps on to

a john deer into a yard and is confronted by Suzy, Anita and Debby, three Samoyeds, each 90 pounds of serious female trouble.

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He cowers on to the table, fends on off and the other two would menace him, in the corner chained is old Pete, the

Pyrynean sheep dog, at two hundred and fifty pounds and defending his bitches. Pete

was having a c

he was hiding behind a snow bank, three wolf coyote cubs came along and he bellowed and chased them off. All of the noise woke him from his sweet dream.

He joined the commotion immediately. Jason's family reported him missing and activated his pet find collar, a drone was drawn to the signal and located him and the animal control officers had Pete and the girls' keepers pull

them off, hose them down and Jason was brought back to his family. Minutes before the arrival of rescue Pete grabbed the drone and shook it until it exploded

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in a little fireball and

Pete backed off of it quick. Old Pete had his excitement for the day, but he will never forget "That fiery prairie chicken".

Nate was in the Salt in the men's room on the second floor.

Three New Zealanders come in and occupies the other stalls, one is fresh out of toilet paper and asks one of his compatriots if he could borrow his role, "James, I'm fresh out". As it is Meryina took the roles home with her for the satisfaction she got in depriving others of something of which its absence would be missed and for the pleasure of depriving people of something that is needed. She was pissed off at Nate and

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it put her into a man hating frame of mind. Nate anticipated this and brought a role with him and passed it around to the guys. "Thanks, mate, you're a life saver". As the guys wipe their asses Barbara Saphirian announces "Barmaid in the men's room" and does her makeup, there's a real bitch of a customer in the lady's room on the third floor and she wants to avoid her. Nate had a wet wad of T.P. cuz he likes to clean his asshole real good. Barbara goes off and tends bar with Bruno.

Taina and Reynar spent a day in Cedar Grove, Tallinberg's most northern village.

She will pop in a couple of months and she is

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very much showing and yet the two are unaware that the whole world knows they are a couple. His parents are happy to be grandparents but not about the disparity of a good twenty years between the two and that they are both very much still children despite Taina being early middle aged and they are about to become parents. Taina's parents are far away and Reynar's are financially secure enough to take on two children and ready for the knowing that they will be bringing up the grandchildren to an extent while bringing up still their son and daughter in law, and to that, she is schizophrenic, it is controlled by medication but it can also be passed on. These thoughts are on their minds but not in the realm of Reynar or Taina's worries.

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The Cherundesen docked and they got off on the ripariant park entering the village, the large triangle of land that makes up the extent of the village is marked by St. Mark's chapel, on the northwest, south of that is St. John's academy, where Reynar is finishing his schooling until he goes to college, if that will happen,to the east is the stadium and in the middle of this land is the village, the Oriental Carpet Emporium, the Pro shop, the library, a small bistro. South is a large hill Taina and Reynar walked up to the school with the small cottages where the faculty and students live. At the foot of the hill is an Inn

with a dining hall for visiting family and on the top of the
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hill is St. John's main hall made of Granite and brick with all the ivy.

Reynar has an appointment and is directed to one of the small houses on the hill. It takes half an hour and they head back down into the village. They walk past Cedar Grove wine and Spirits but neither of them drink and they go into Pequanatle Motors because Taina wants to look at a moped. It is three pm and they make their final stop at the Mehelia clinic, to meet Patty Longfellow it is a social call type a thing but also a prenatal counseling thing too, the children they carry were Manahoe in their past life, and on Longfellow's mind is that two good but

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stupid white

people will bring two powerful manahoe entities into this world and that the tribe had better be a part of their lives, and to guide this couple.

Nate was telling Kallian how he lived on a house boat, the Antikithera, with three woman when he lived in Boston when all the rents were starting to skyrocket. He lived in this place for six months then he moved to Tallin.

Rabbi katche, laffed and thought to himself what he remembered that somebody told him, as he was lighting the first night of

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Khanukah candles, "Nate Wex is running on the insincere charlatan's ticket, his campaign promise, to take the country to the cleaners". He thought of something else funny about Nate Wex, He was in St. Laurence Hardware at the gun counter. A Young guy was about to buy a shot gun on sale. Nate told him at that price a single barrel would be a bargain but the double barrel was probably junk, a double barrel needs Nate continued, extra support to support the stress of two barrels, he looked at the gun and said "No, you are not getting a bargain". "Better go for the single barrel at this price range". This pissed off the young guy behind the counter who was not brought with guns or an uncle, Old Nate, who taught him about guns and hunting.

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Something sad in the key of C

Nate was in a planning meeting, he nodded off, somebody was playing something in the key of C on the pump organ. It set off something in his hillbilly conscious as he slept. He saw a story of a man who was killed in the woods, his skull crushed in with a nearby rock by his brother after years of being pushed around. He panics and leaves his body in the woods. In time the body rots into the forest floor that covers it over. Nate is sleeping

in his room in Grantby, the ghost of the younger brother knocks on his door, Nate opens it, he is younger in the dream, the man is holding flowers, Nate touches them but the man pulls them away. The man drops the flowers to the floor, then Nate is in the woods and sees the elder brother rise from

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his grave in a stuporific state. Somebody is talking about a few visitors from Amnesty International that will be at the next community events meeting. Nate has woken from his dream.

Tallin County Cable Access

Had a show about the poacher wars of the twenties, when Manahoe trackers and the A.F.T. stemmed the trafficking of alcohol thru tribal trust lands from Canada by way of the great lake.

The Manahoe tribal authority continued the poacher wars protecting their game from illegal poachers from the outside, in the fifties, hence it was all called "The Poacher Wars".

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Marlene

meet Nate in the lodge of dreaming and of the dead. She was a young woman who lived in Spellos, she wandered off and died in the woods. Her body decomposed and a fox took her skull and carried it away. A house was built by the edge of the woods and the skull was dug up. In the lodge she has made friends. When she died she wandered as a ghost for twenty years before she became a spirit. She visited Reynar when he was a small child and he remembers her but put the experience into the back of his mind. She gave Nate as he slept and dreamed a pair of pink one piece pajamas. She told him he will transition from life to spirit in ten years. Nate woke up, pissed, thought not too much of the dream and went back to bed next to Sheryl. In the lodge Loki sits in a rocker by a window holding a ball of

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red yarn, Olki by another window, spinning the yarn from the ball Loki holds.

The Terminus

There is a great silo, that is a laundry, an orphanage, a rest home. The dead scamper toddle and hobble. An old woman rocks in her bed. Loki told Nate she was that way for forty years. In transit from the terminus of death, on the way to Alfuder, Loki told Nate not to be distressed at the length of time it takes for her to make the transition, time doesn't count here, "She has all the time in the world" Loki told Nate. Cynthia Chase was a spoiled child in her life, but angry at the termination of her comfortable life of privilege. She shall return to the world soon. Looking at the 167 charts Loki says she will of course be born a boy and maybe become a priest, maybe a criminal. Codgers and old ladies toddle and Nate is careful not to bump into them as Loki leads him thru the silo. He has a vacuum cleaner and he uses it careful not to bump into any of the dead. He passes beds with those in sound repose on their way to Alfuder and then on to the world and back to Urda, the earth, in their next incarnations. Past the laundry at the top of the silo oven doors open to the blue sky and souls rise up to Alfuder.

"It is Urda who receives the backward going but the Great Father who receives the onward going, and, Nate, shut the door

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on your way out, see you soon". Loki said these words to Nate and then the dream ended and Nate got up to take a piss and thought no more of the dream.

Peelings

a food plant on a hill looking the Manisquah. Started in 1927 as a bakery. The Peeling family started making pies and other food for institutions and the local supermarkets. Nate worked here for a week when he was with a temp agency for a summer. Nate beat offed to a couple of guys he worked with thinking of their assholes and they had dreams about it and were blabbing and

oking about it to the girls in the company cantina but Nate was not really aware that they were aware of his sexual fantasies 169

about them. Nate also went in the trucks on the Spellos and Guitiere's supermarket rout. The company moto, "Peeling's, you can count on us"... and you can count on Nate wex to beat off to your assholes".

On the wall of the Penacock Club is written a few lines... "Do you know if your tap water comes from the Mannisquah reservoir you are to some extent drinking Nate wex's bathwater?". Basically this is true, as Quixote wrote this he knew the Historic Meeting

House's septic system (not connected to the Municipal Sewage)

overflows into a tributary of Elm Brook that flows into the Pequonatlle and on into the Mannisquah. So bottled water sales went up big time!

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Meanwhile

Janos Pinkorash told all of the children of the old Lithuanian legend about how on Christmas Eve for a brief while you can hear the animals talk. "But don't go out of your way to listen to what

they are saying, or you may be turned into little beasts yourselves, and get only carrots and apples for Christmas". Nate in fact give the old ponies and horses apples and carrots, sometimes fancier stuff like oatmeal cookies and apple pie, down at the stables down the road from him. One night he was late and the creatures could be heard saying " Now where do you suppose that little fuckin faggot Nate wex is!?" said the old male

horse, an old grey nag says "Probably sleeping off a hang over, I get half a mind to rip his face off!" A little pony said

"You know I can't sleep till I get my treats for the night!"

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So nice guy! Quixote is just funnin, "Stood up the poor ponies on Christmas Eve".

Veronica

Reynar and Taina slept in her room. They were carried by a wind to Loki and Olki into the silo of souls. In the hallways, toddlers walk and codgers, old ladies, on either side of the hall, in their beds, they sleep, in fetal positions, Olki tells Taina from here came the children you carry". Reynar is lead by Loki to the sky room. Oven doors open, Reynar asks the god "Pizza ovens?" but the doors open to the sky and they are carried to a place Reynar seen 172

many times when he was little, but not from this vantage, from the air. A gentle summer evening wooded hills and winding roads, the sun is pink. There is a hotel that was that before it was the house Reynar remembered it as. Older people mill around the lawn party on the hotel green. Younger people, his age, are in classrooms.

Here he meets Veronica. She was as tall as Reynar, with red curly hair and broad face and brown eyes, a little chubby with a white shirt and white jeans and her feet are bare. She tells him she hears he has a green thumb and she would like him to work in her friends garden with her. Reynar remembers it was long ago, when he was little and his grandfather was still

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alive, since he had a garden, with his teenage years he lost interest in this pastime. His grandfather died when he was little and the place sold. Veronica wanted to be friends with Reynar but she senses something so typical among the living, the fear of the dead and of the unknown. Just like that Reynar was alone at the Hotel, he tried to get into the kitchen but was barred in the dining room by an old man mopping the floor. He tells Reynar "of course I'm doing the floor on the other side, that is why I have the door barred, don't people these days have any goddam etiquette!".

Reynar is a little pissed at the grumpy old man and asks "Can I go in another way?". The old man says "well yes! Let's 174 do that!" Then Reynar realized this was a dead person and he was walking towards the youngster to let him in, Reynar froze and the dream ended.

Another dream began. Loki was sitting on a crate, Reynar on one across from him. Loki told him Veronica has a thing for you, you may yet see her in the world of the living, as ghost or reincarnated soul, so be ready, boy!"

Hel and the kult of murder

when the gods lived in Hel Olki and Loki were murdered at the oak

and Loki was maligned as the trickster and the lie maintained when they stormed Valhala. Olki became known as "The maid from Hel" and the murder cult continued in the world.

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Ailgthur

Reynar met an ancient German Shepheard, Ailgthur, who can talk, and who is Loki's companion. She told him he was strangled by piano wire in a previous life, "But for the wear and tear you seem to be doing okay nowadays". This is the part of the lodge, the realm of Hel, that is also known as purgatory. The dream will end soon and you will have breakfast...her attention went immediately to a large crocodile that was moving towards Reynar..."Farmus walker you big tub of shit! get back in your pond if you expect to eat tonight!" Farmus waddled back into the pond muttering "bitch!" Reynar will eat in the dream, Ailgthur

lead him past Joanna the glass juggler to a large granite hall, the refectory. It

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had high windows and wood paneling. "Care

to

meet some new faces, dear?" Ailgthur asked Reynar. Joanna noticed tension between Eve and Loki. Eve shoots Loki with a shotgun blast but he is reconstituted and the shotgun disappears. Eve will not be allowed firearms for the time being.

Ailgthur tells Reynar Urda and Alfuder run this place, like a complicity, the ghosts and reincarnates are three direct responsibility of Urda, and the spirits, until and if they choose to return, are in the hands of Alfuder.

Ailgthur repeated something Nate learned, women return as boys and Men as girls, so bitches and bastards can get a taste of their own medicines" Ailgthur told Reynar. There are exceptions, childlessness, dying before the onset of

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puberty, where a girl continues in her sex

and a boy like wise. In life merit and

demerit are made evident. So Loki is sort of a Casemanager of these women in transition as Olki is of Men in this whole thing. Those who have passed on. Joanna

asked Ailgthur "and you must be?" Ailgthur answered "a totemic spirit, that's what I am,

I hold a special trust for spirits and mortals, but ghosts are generally on their own, until they get with the program." I am the combination of animal and deity, a totemic spirit!"

Loki looked at the sky charts and rolled the runes, Eve wants to be reincarnated as a girl and to live as a woman again, but boy or girl in her next turn on the wheel, the world is not yet ready for her.

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Joanna the glass juggler was murdered in her past life, and the man who murdered her was torched by women who avenged her death. He is a troubling evil spirit. When he acts up he is set on fire again by Alfuder and by Urda. She is at the edge of the pond in white scrubs. Loki is seated in his chair by the pond with his hands at his sides and his legs crossed. She had a dream the dead have of a cottage and a garden and some apple trees by a hill, she was playing

Ⓚ

with a Tom girl and she was a child again, she woke standing by the pond. Farmus Walker hauled himself to the pond's edge, looked at Joanna, Ailgthur galloped up to him and looked at him, Keep it up, asshole, she said to Farmus and he went back into the pond up onto an island in the middle of it. Ailgthur told Joanna "No crocks allowed on the green unless supervised by a superintendent, feeding is at five she told the crocks, and do not molest the residents or menace them! Or else!"

Just to cap it all off:

One night around two Nate had a drink in his room, then he went out for a walk. The winter night produced ice that was elevated above the small ponds below it forming a plate of ice three

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inches above and separated from the frozen puddle below it. He poked it with his

walking pole hoping to break off some ice to suck on, but he only succeeded in poking holes in it, producing a staccato "Cap! Cap! cap!" sound. It carried thru the still chilled night air and woke up a man who was sleeping in a house near the tree farm on the other side of the wooded swamp. In another house nearby some people who came back from work are drinking and know who it is at that house, they start laughing. Nate continued his walk, Alcesta at his heels.

The twins:
are eight months
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old and the wheelers are looking after

them. Sheryl joins Nate for a walk and it is two A.M. She couldn't sleep and she wants to see what the big deal is that Nate sees in these late night strolls. The big dipper is over head and there is a light in the sky, she asks Nate what it is Nate says " a space ship" she thinks he means "air bus" as he usually misnomerizes compound words by calling jetliners air buses and train stations way stations and cement mixers compound mixers. Alcesta is wading thru the reeds of the
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semi frozen ditch. The moon is minimal but Nate's night vision is good and Sheryl's, though basically she is diurnal, is excellent. She wears

sunglasses when the snow glares in the sunlight. Who does she see coming but Mr. LeClerc and his granddaughter, Emetia. Nate smiles and says "back from Burlington, how was it?" Mr. LeClerc nods and Emetia smiles and Mr. LeClerc says "Splendid night for a walk, Nathaniel...Hello Sheryl, how are the twins?"

It is then that the space ship zigzags across the sky throbbing its powerful multicolored lights. A column of light descended from the craft to the ground. Enti, Nemi and Landa are introduced to Sheryl by Mr. LeClerc as Emetia and Nate watch Sheryl's expression, she is surprised and frozen with fear. They speak
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n Lynxian and Emetia translates to Sheryl. In life's relations, the aliens are Daughter, Midwife, and Mother-in-law, they are also marsupial and Kimi pops her head out

her mother's pouch and then back again. Alcesta starts talking in Lynxian and tells Sheryl how the Lynxians broke off from the pleiadean council and formed their own confederation with the geminides because they did not like all the probing and poking the Plaeiadeans do to emerging species.

Alcest tells Sheryl "Our friends are here to party, so break out the booze and horsdoervres. The dream ends and Sheryl wakes and glares at Nate, sound asleep, and gives him a poke, he wakes up suddenly and says "what, why did you poke me?" and she says "Go in and check the kids before I pound ya". Nate pouted and teabagged Sheryl as he got out of bed, she said "Keep it up, Nate!" and Nate went to attend Agape and Aaron.

The shell game

In the lodge by the bog a spirit is playing an ancient harp, Olki strikes the rib bone of a sheep with the femur of a Shepherd, and spirits emerge from the water and from their boggy murder. In his chair Loki convulses and shakes the runes in his hands, the runes of fate. The runes that have fated thru the mechanizations of Alfuder that Manahoe souls be born to Taina and Reynar, and to Sheryl and Nate. The runes that said Nate would move from Boston to Tallin, that Taina would not stay in Massachusetts but move to Tallin. Here they are in the constellation of their fellow people who will help make them what they will become. the children of Reynar and Taina, Jorma and Zeena; and Agape and Aaron, the children of Sheryl and Nate.

The house of Julian Sutter

Julian and his Husband live in Holly with their wives and kids. They are hosting a party for people from the Salt, this includes the restaurant below. Sheryl went in the back den with Julian to get a box of wine. There sitting on a couch was a large great dane and a smaller

sleepy eyes spaniel mix named Pete, Pete let one rip and Ceto, the great dane growled and left the room. The 187

sleepy eyes spaniel reminded her of Nate, big snout, same sleepy expression, and he can really let one rip like Nate when he clears an entire room.

There is a young woman who died recently, she had aids. She got it from a needle, an infected man stabbed her with a needle, he died and went to hell, her body is in the morgue but her soul is on a great ship of sails, open to the stars, in the lodge of the dead and the dreaming. At the prow is the star charts and Loki. There are many people on this ship, the dead innocent, It is a large boat, in it is a large gallery she passes thru there are plants hanging from the railings and the rafters and the beams, there is a piano, a bar, a sofa and a

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fountain in her path, Olki offers her a drink, from a glass horn, she tells her, and she tells her in devoh, the language of the dead, yet she understands, she, Suzanne wyler, and knows Olki is telling her about three options she has, blue spinning over head come back as

a boy, or as a ghost to haunt those who still live and who conspired sending the disturbed man with the deadly needle, or to remain as a spirit and enjoy the ride, enjoy the view," for the first time in her life she feels belonging and the presence of good company. She chooses to stay, as a spirit, in the lodge of the dead and of the dreaming.

Standish and Blackwood

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two small villages that sit at the either ends of the swampy source of the Pequanatle.

Jim died

he downed a fifth of scotch on a bet then in a black out he broke into the kitchen at the salt passed out and died of alcohol poisoning passed out on the

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floor. Quixote found him and won the bet Jim wouldn't see his fiftieth birthday. He was in the lodge of the dead and the sleeping. Olki was sitting at her chair by the edge of the pond. Farmus crawled out of the pond opened his huge jaws and gaped at Beaucanon. Jim looked at Olki and asked "what's his problem?" Farmus signaled to Lydia and she swiped her tail, she was unnoticed by Jim, he fell into the pond and swam back to the shore very quickly and he was on the lawn again. Jim was smoking a 190 cigar and tried to put out the match after he lighted up but the flame would not go out so he threw it into the pond. He asked Olki "where's the kitchen, I'm taking over!" Olki laughed and Jim had a pissed look for the Goddess. "Don't start with me, kid!" he snapped at her. She said "You are dead, you know, killed by a fifth of scotch".. Jim

rubbed his stuppel and knew he was hung over, "Dead, Huh?" She smiled and winked.."welcome to the club".

In the underworld the moon passed over and Jim saw who the crocodiles were in life, the mean the wicked and the crazed, he shook Tye Cobb's hand and talked with him a while, Calamity Jane walked passed him spit and cussed.

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Place your bets

Jean Peron was on the phone placing bets on the time Wilma will threaten Jim with a revolver. They were having an argument because some rich young plutocratic children wanted to come in for deserts, they reeked of weed and were up from a cocaine binge. He wanted people who liked his food even if he hoped they would "choke and croak on it" and he did not want to attract any rich spoiled druggies. The drunks he thought were funny but the potheads he wanted no part of. Wilma had words with Jim and he had words with her that night, Peron was taking bets on the phone and Jim told him five or six times "Peron, for the last time, get off the goddam phone!"

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Cal

Massive as he is short and built like a brick shit house, shoves Nate out of the way when he was clearing plates and sending them thru the machine. He wants to grab half a stuffed goose sausage for his pit bull, Lisa says to him from behind the range,

"Goddamit, Cal, save some for my dog too!". One time he tried to put Nate in the dish washer, or threatened to anyway. There was a lawn party hosted by the Thespians and it was being put together by the Salt. Quixote, Lisa, Nate, Taina and Simone were up outside the Theater balconies on the fire escape, they could see Cal hovering over the buffet where the good 193 food was. Jim came out with the Kid with some more food for the steam tables, Jim said to Cal "On time for once?"

Jim cooked some piglets once and changed his mind about the whole thing and put them away, the

next day he had Nate throw them out.

Some animal lovers saw him with the little roasted piggies and he ran back into back door, he got a few death threats but they never killed him, but by some people Nate had become a baby animal killer till he was cornered by three of these people and he was ready on the spot to rat Jim out as the guy who cooked them, he was just the 194 dish washer. Jim's car was vandalized three times.

Moshedula from old parts:

Nate took an old rake and used the half broken tines in the making of three small imbiras (african thumb pianos) he put together. He sent two to a couple in the next state and one he kept for himself. He made a few more and each one was given a name by a woman who

speaks Shona, one was Moshedula " don't shove me around".

Kallian foresaw the sex abuse shit in the church, he predicted the leadership would drag its feet and outsiders, non-Catholics and Catholics who did not follow the party line would take a

leadership role, and the church leadership would follow, but not lead. He said to Mrs. Cortez that we need the outsiders to be let in the church because they will save us from our

s
elves.

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The Sacred Heart Club

is an out of the ordinary aa typa a group. People speak, people sit in silence, if someone gets to blue or starts talking too

long they all break out in sacred heart singing, and as they say in their preamble, the offending parties are invited to join in

on the singing. Sometimes someone from the step down shows up, like one of their prime movers, and they might not like all the silence or get pissed off when they

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get cut off from singing.

But the sacred harp club is an unusual meeting, not promoting any cause or candidate, their orthodoxy is called into question by

some, but they been going since 1964. They got good sobriety, their secret, anyone 198 of them would tell you, is not being an asshole.

The sciaticants

Nate in his lifetime wrote a letter to Bishop LaGrange about a need for an order that takes care of people with back aches and sciatica to help them around the house, Lagrange told him he knows of no order with that as its apostolic mission. Also, that there are nurses that the state can pay for that do that. Nate had in mind

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somebody to do this when you don't have those services in place, if you are in your fifties, and don't have disability. You need this right away.

In time after Nate died there was such an order, not recognised By Rome and not bothering with all that and

they take care of people who need this kind of help.

In an elevator Lisa was in white, multiple sclerosis lead to death and death lead to the afterlife. A fat man walked in and he was among the dreaming and then he was in white. Lisa made conversation and

tried joking with the man who died in his bed from a heart attack after beating off and falling asleep. She asked him, knowing he was dead, " so how many Jews did you kill?" The man still had a head from a belly full of booze and he 200 smiled. Lisa turned away and the man was gone and Mr. LeClerk was there in his cranberry suit, Lisa said " Jesus man, how old are you, aren't you ever going to die?". He said "give it a while". Eve entered the elevator and Lisa said " Hey sugar tits, what's shaking?" Eve puked then she slumped to the floor, booze poured out of every pore, she had a fight with Loki and Mr. LeClerc turned to her and said "I am good and mad at the Loki for letting you drink from the horn while I was away. I'll fix his wagon!" He waved his hand and Eve was gone for a while somewhere else in the land of the dead and the dreaming.

The puke turned into a pile of black and of white marbles and Mr. LeClerk opened the door and Lisa and he stepped out and Taina stepped in dressed in a red set 201 of scrubs and smock and swept them up. Lisa turned to greet her but suddenly she was somewhere else, Mr. LeClerk told her " we will be seeing more of each other but first you have to meet Olki and her uncle, the degenerate old prick!" They were in a green house where she was left by herself. She realized then she was no longer wheelchair bound and started watching a television surrounded by viney plants. Shows that never were shown in the real world, from ideas that were aborted before anything ever happened to them. She lost interest and kept walking till she got into a kitchen and then Olki walked in, Lisa said to her " Bitch, where have I seen you before?".

The jolly old masturbating drunk was in a class room of second graders, all in white, the teacher was a young blond

haired woman and she sat in the back of the class room and let the old booze

hound do his presentation. He started singing "Hallen toe, jolly hallen toe" and he raised his hands and spread his fingers out as if he was a mighty oak reaching for the clouds.

More Lore of the Salt:

Under the pear tree in Lydia Turner's field Don Quixote stood with Lisa and Sister Simone smoking some weed. Wilma came over with Pricilla and took a hit which surprised the three because it was the first time anyone ever saw Wilma smoke dope. As Wilma walked away Lisa saw Nate walk into the outhouse and to see as

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well some third grade kids lasso the thing and tip it over. Wilma raised a hand in the air into a fist and said "yes!" and Nate crawled out of the thing covered in chamber pot refuse. A few minutes later Patty Longfellow was hosing him down. After that all passed and progressed to something else Don Quixote was telling more lore of the salt. There was the time Jim left some plates on the warmer and it overheated the plates. Quixote told him three times the plates were very hot and Jim said " Yeah, okay great...fine!" as responses to the three warnings. Then Quixote heard a sizzling sound and Jim rushed past him to the hand crank sink and ran water over his hand, glaring at Quixote, who was smiling and saying " what did I tell you?" Jim snapped back " I suppose you think that was funny!"

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Judith Kahn was tending bar one night and she sang "stolen moments" as she walked into the kitchen. Don Quixote said " well just remember, it ain't over till the scrawny barmaid sings!"

Maryanne Pace enters the shade of the pear tree with her latest girlfriend looking for some weed and Don Quixote told the story of when ... well, here it goes... It was a busy Friday night,

Pierre Brassouille wanted to cause some trouble so he whispered something into Nate's ear, Merlyna was dropping off some bread and Nate under the influence of weed and it makes him very foolish, makes eye contact with Merlyna making her ready for a fight. She looked at him with angry eyes ready to take in every offense to fuel her

205

vengeance on the little fool. He pulls some saran wrap and puts it on his face and putting a hand over his

heart said to the bread lady... "May I have this dance?" so she grabs a copper sauce pan and slugs him with it knocking him out cold.

Quixote pulled out some smelling salts and revived the little idiot, and Bruno saw the whole thing happen telling Nate as he

came to "An Especially bone headed maneuver, wouldn't you say, Wex? Bruno thought it was funny and he got a laugh out of it. Nate was taken to the hospital in an hour by Quixote when he got off for a mild concussion.

Wilma told Merlyna to go home.

There was the time Keith the little ninety pound faggot touched Merlyna's shoulder after she started crying cuz Jim yelled at

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her because she would not follow instructions on how to set up a few plates. The tears come pouring out and she washed her face in the sink. When Keith tried to comfort her she slugged him. Nate then shows up second day on the job and wonders why Keith and Merlyna are hugging and making nice again.

ON a slow Tuesday night in March the Kid was telling a story he made

up about Merlyna writing to dear Abby, "Dear Abby, I have a problem, there is a kid at work who is telling everybody I have herpes, which I

do but I don't want anybody to know, what should I do, Merlyna DeCollibus, St. Laurence Court, Tallinberg, Superior State..."

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Four eyed stuck up little shit!

When he was alive, that was the impression the Kid had of Nate Wex. On the "Katch Pad" (job roster) has a little four eyes TopoGiggio with big feet and knobby knees the drawing made Bruno chuckle. Linda Wasser passed it on to Taina and

Sheryl, they thought it was funny.

We're not leaving

Nate and Quixote are selling raffles to the Friends of the Aincutain Library, "five bucks gets you a shot at five days in Puerto Rico, all expenses payed, fifteen gets you Christmas in Finland and a one year membership to Upsaala spa and raquette, and for twenty five you get a

shot at your choice, the rv or the yaught", Lisa switches her loyalty between Beaucanon and Quixote, depending on who is being less of a pill at the time, involving the Kid, Linda Wasser, Katch, Nate, Taina, Saphirian...

Quixote says " and me and Natie ain't leaving till you buy a raffle", Scopineri leads the entire kitchen, except Beaucanon, busy cutting up squirrels and chipmunks he's passing off as veal, he's been out with his beebie gun, hit a few on his way to the golf course, passing them off as pygmy stags from Borneo. Even Taina and Wasser had enuf of the two, Linda Saphirian zips out into the dining room, shoots back with the entire dining crew, even Wilma and a few guests, Nate looks at Beacanon with his goofy face, squints, smiles, and Quixote says "C'mon Beacanon, you know you could use the rv next time Betty locks you out of the house"! With 209

this Beaucanon lumbers over, says " You drive a hard bargain" Nate and Quixote leave to drop the money off, to where it is going...

Irwin died, the aids got him, he saw friends who got the bug or who were murdered some who killed themselves, quickly or over a longer stretch of time, the ghosts of childhood taunt him as they did when they were the living, then all is darkness and silence, then a light like a candle, illuminating the face of Olki, Irwin asks who are you?

Lisa

was helping Nate, Taina is late, Taina shows up, Lisa looks at Taina, Taina and

20

Nate finish up, Lisa goes home.

Where is Moutu Bazir?

In a straight line between Diego Saures and Goa, at .25 within the backdrop of the Brittish Amerantes, you have the atoll proper and the possession atoll islands that form the kingdom of Moutu Bazir, one atoll covers the area of about Nantucket, the other about the area, in water and land and reef, of the fore arm of the Cape (Cod), from Chatham to P Town, . At his pleasure, King Atzi summons his royal double, Jean Peron, with him, his retainers, Nate Wex, Don Quixote, and Pierre Brassouille, Jim Beacanon is in the underworld writing a screenplay with the crocodiles.

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Madam tells it all!

Madam and her good footman road manager are at the Brandenburg gate, in Cedar Grove, a book signing party, "Madam tells all", Nate has his turn, she says to him, "ah, this handsome young rascal I heard so much about, she turns to Zha Zha, " the next thing you know he'll be whispering sweet nothings in my ear!" sure enuf, Zhazha nods in agreement, Madam said "knock knock", Nate asks "who's there?" Madam says "Ice Cream" Nate asks "Ice Cream who?", Madam said, "Ice cream, ice cream, I scream at the top of my lungs!" Nate gets pelted with sandwiches and pastries and a cup of cappuccino bounces off of his head. Madam looks at Sheryl, she says "Ladies and Gents, It's not a question of when, it is a question of how, so break out the piano wire, girls,".

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Take Three Eggs

Three eggs lay in a nest. From one, Shithead emerged, the other two, were the incubae of his sisters Suraran, the schpolar, and Raurbasin, the mystic. Tanurn (Shithead) the brother, was the poet....

The Ohio bird, The Ohio valley whippoorwill, Caprimungus

Vociferous, a dull beige coat, longer wing tips and tail feathers than

th

the eastern whippoorwill, yet a slightly smaller

bird, with a dramatic orange maw with stripes that run from the top of the bill near the eyes, across the nostrils, to the tip

of the upper beak, black stripes, the

214

males have large striking black hackles, the female as well, but red. They nest in marshes, in deep woven reed nests, near pine by preference, are nocturnal in summer, feeding by perching on the tops of evergreens and diving on mosquitoes and flies and gnats, and when tilled, they can be seen feeding on grubs and beetles. Cats are often belled and as many as five of these bold little birds have been seen putting many a farm cat to flight. Among their vices is a penchant for mischief, for they have been seen taking sport in upsetting watchdogs, so they bark at the early hours of the morning. They also like to startle

horses and frighten lambs or

cocker spaniels. Their name, Vociferous, is well merited. They indeed are an even greater chatterbox than their eastern cousin, and their song is entirely

25

nocturnal. For this, the trend of keeping these birds as pets proven during the nineteenth century unsuccessful. They migrate to Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana in the fall, returning to the Ohio Valley and Southern Ontario in the late spring, across Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky...The males seem more involved, rehearsed, and repetitive, slowly adding and discarding verses from their cycle, while the song of the females of the species seems more spontaneous, as if to mock those who protest their constant

chatter. They are remarkable observant birds with a great sense of curiosity. From "The Book of the birds of the Ohio valley" by Willard Pace, Henry Hold and Company Publishers 1917....

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On the Cedar

Suraran stood on the cedar, both Nate and Alcesta sensed her intense observation, they looked up at her. Alcesta asked "what is the matter, Miss?" She did not reply. Nate was irritated and spooked. They crossed the back yard to the garden, and she circled, landing on the Douglas fir next to Nate's garden. He went to rake the other side of the tree, looking up, he saw her turning her head to follow her scan. Then she hopped up and around... When he was taking his evening walk that June day with Alcesta in the tree farm, she followed, strafing them, meanwhile the mystic sister made her pilgrimage to the east, to tell her vociferous cousins, "The day of the Tlinkat is at hand".

217

Runes by the Bedside

In life, Loki slept in a little bed by the alcove in the sewing room. Olki was in her bed, asleep, by the door, she must have woke in the night, it was now near morning. Her quill and ink, her writing chalk, and slate, she was writing in ancient pictographs and hieroglyphs. There was no standard form of this writing, they were all of her own making. There was the symbol for "Allen" barn, house; "Khund" dog; "drougha" horse; "wasseh" water; it was about a hundred-letter script she used with accuracy which was pretty good for a child of a largely illiterate people, loading it on parchment and keeping it in a chest. In it, all her dreams since a girl, . In the morning two men are ready for the otter hunt, two of Ailgthur's pups, half elkhound, a sire and

218

a bitch, . The men had their arrows, an otter was stealing ducklings in a pond. One man asked the other what that sound was he was hearing. "OH, that's just the grand chieftain's grandson Loki. He has arthritis, like an old codger, he oils his joints and rings out his muscles like that every morning, he sleeps in the same room as his niece, but different beds. Olki! The other man asks, is that wise? Fria frowns on... The other man said, no their relation is like that of an old aunt, she could out run and out wrestle him since she was fourteen, real tom girl (torflikka)...At the pond, is the duck warden's lodge, he is a quiet old man. When Olki was a toddler she would charge the swans recklessly and Loki would tell her to watch it. "They can give you a snipe like an old codger and his walking stick!"

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Arnold

Olki saw his chart, a complicated man who died and split into two entities. One died and reincarnated into a woman and then a man, Nate Wex. The other entity is between ghost and spirit, in league with the crocodiles, . He was once a bog person. For the petty theft of an idol, his arms and legs bound, throat slashed, ear to ear.

Ailgthur added Laclerc nodding, he escaped from the chain gang in 1927, made a rampage across Alabama and west Virginia, where he was killed in

a shootout lead by sheriff Ira Jarvis, His favorite trip was to bait an enemy into a fight faking like he was afraid of him, as his would-be victim advanced, he would take

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a boiler wrench out of concealment and crush his rival's skull, He was wrongly accused of statutory rape, he worked as a boiler man. He was a mill right, servicing naval wrestles in the ship yards in mobile.

Burleigh and Mandrake

When their spirits rise from the sleep of the dead, Olki makes an offering of barley mandrake, Loki one of wine. This to the feminine and masculine aspects of the water spirit, Shang Shui and Shang Sai, their two pets were Jamaala and his mate, Imaraalam. They can assume their natural forms as water spirit, the form of a Caucasian or injun or, ... of the otter, for the northern European once held sacred its totem as well but long

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ago. After the white man had driven the First Americans from the plains, he had a brief taste of what he long knew deep in his heart but

cut himself off from. That over three thousand years ago. At that night, Alan Jarvis was the first to emerge from a cosmic horror of a cereal murder, is at the bridge, he sees Farmus, before he can speak Ailgthur has him scurrying.

Alan knows he's in an after

life of enchantment, soon he is with the spirits of the LaClerc's, who are the living but in sleep. Grandfather and

granddaughter,. Emitia the grand daughter is quick to learn some ancient tricks from Olki. "She is a clever girl, she could figure out the tricks

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my silly old uncle (Loki) could never figure out".

Alan and Tai Shui and Shang Shui thought the story was funny about what Don Quixote wrote on the wall (if your drinking water comes from the manisquah reservoir then to some extent you are drinking Nate Wex's bath water) Penacook club's mensroom wall. Loki walked past them.

Loki pulled Jamaala by his fur at his rump and neck

flinging him from his arm chair, batting his butt but releasing

him from the grasp of his throw. when he landed on the ground he taken his early middle-aged Caucasian form very

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pissed. Beaucanon was down with the crocodiles drinking liquor from brown paper bags, and he thinks its funny. Quixote indream time shows up, he takes the bottle from Jim Beacanon and gives him a sour look and wipes the mouth of the bottle with a rag, There is a full moon. The crocodiles have assumed human form.

Quixote calls Beaucanon a liar. Baseball! Gimme that Goddam book!

You Liar! Beaucanon recites facts he makes up as if they are from the book to see how much Don Quixote knows. Your credit's no good again! with these words Beacanon woke Quixote at six in the morning. He heard his words as he told his wife "Look, I don't have the time

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to discuss the time of day with you! Get him right now or you'll never eat here again! He tells him to be at the Salt at 9am sharp. He'll be working it offdouble shifts all week. At the end of a shift Jim grabs Quixote by the collar as he was talking to some customers. "Right in front of my wife! His only word to me, All right your credit's fine for a few weeks, so get lost!".

Don Quixote has money, a few patent royalties, but he is always springing for somebody's rent, a tab at the tap, somebodys bail, cosigning something, a good man: Lester Lightbulb

225

Asshole!

Then there is the time Nate called Beaucanon an asshole! Right behind his back Something somebody who knows better would never try. So in his mastery of treachery, just before he died, got ripped on a fifth of cheap bourbon, a bet two old drunk assholes at the tap suckered him into. He fakes like he is apologizing to Nate, tells him he wants to talk it over up on the balcony. He said "I need some air" Nate said "Look asshole, I don't have time..."

Beaucanon said "Look, see the dumpster down there? Nate looks and Jim grabs him by the ankle and dangles him over the balcony. "Okay, who's a punk? - I'm a punk- who's an asshole- I'm an asshole, Nate is no complete fool, he knows Jim would have dropped him 40 feet down on to the alley! It

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doesn't matter about the gathering crowd or the two cruisers, they could have had a SWAT team complete with dogs, he still would have dropped him, but we made up the money we lost, that's right, me and Peron, when Saphirian was running the bets, you remember, when Wilma had the argument with Jim, she threatened to get a handgun and shoot him.

Heavy Date?

Don Quixote was the first to hear the eye witness account. It was evening, he was picking up orange juice, olive oil, olives, onions, cheese, pasta, scallops, and ice cream and some hose for his wife. The guy

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at the counter told the gal behind the counter, Quixote was the first to hear, and readily spread the word around, at the tap and so all over town, Nate was in the Nurseries, with Alcesta, with his walking stick, the tree farm workers were unloading seedlings from the green houses to plant them, so there was rope all over the place. They would just have to send a crew to pick it all up, so Nate provides them with free

labor by gathering the rope, he had his arms loaded with the stuff! He washes it and dries it out, he makes hammocks and sells

them. A car pulls up you know? young girls, spoiled young brats from Mark and John's, a BMW probably borrowed from one of the kid's dad or he gave the car to her as a bribe. Well the kid driving slows down! The girls in the back do a few wolf howls! Then Nate looking in

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the middle of the road, stupefied. He looks at the car. Alcesta is wagging her tail and snooping around. The kid driving asks "Heavy date tonight?"

Peron is on the phone with his bookie, betting on the USS Bruins and North Province Thunder, college hockey. Quixote said "Nate get off the phone" because it is usually Nate wex at that

time of night placing an ad to the Grove Marketeer, selling his handicrafts. Peron is pissed being called "Nate."

In the 13 days between Nate's birthday and Siddhartha Shakyamuni's birthday if that of Claud Lovinkas, may 13, Sheryl Baxter,

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May

11th, Sluggy the head, may 14th, big bad Pete the Pyrenean dog which is may 15th, Linda Saphirian may 24th, Julian Sutter may the 23rd, and his goat Mirabel has a birthday of the 25th. In Upsaala some people are flying kits during these thirteen days.

The dead

and the murdered torment a serial killer, Eve wants to be reincarnated again, but she is not allowed, "Mondesiti neho" it is not in the cards yet. So Loki said to Eve, she set three hyena sisters on him and he had them eating out of his hands, rubbing their throats as they purred. Olki calls her uncle a dum

ass hole, he is a little pissed, Ailgthur

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sat next to Olki, and a

lost soul carries a palm frond on his head. Jim asks who the weirdo is with the skunk cabbage on his head. Olki says "Protection against daemons, they follow the skin heads ghost, he died from an overdose, bad reaction to the meth. Jim chuckles and smokes his stogey.

Appelacian Alibi

Every Thursday night on WUSS,

Platch!

Remember when Nate Wex shit his pants!? Someone, the black smith was in early,

B

three in the morning, saw him running to the

stable, he enters, platch! Goddamit! Alcesta thought he was running a race with her, her tail wagging as she happily pranced along his side,. He had to take a

whore's bath in the sink,

scrub his skivvies in the toilet, like my old grandma did with

the diapers,. He carried them home in a plastic bag he dug out of

the trash. Sheryl had him do them in a separate wash from her stuff, then to run the machine on a second cycle just to rinse the shit residue from the washer. So Don Quixote told this story

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We can Jazz

The main stream jazz show, on WUSS, with Eva Harrounian, the only

job Nate quit the day he started it. Eva made the acquaintance of Duke Ellington, she dined with Bobby Short, she talked to Ella Fitzgerald at a party. Nate said she's short and stout with an Armenian snout. Some say she is 6'6, 450 pounds of unbridled feminine lust. She was making plans to rape Nate but he slipped out

the back door. Well Don Quixote tends to embellish the facts when he is on a role with Nick Enesceu and has an audience. Actually

she is a cute and petite little lady with silver hair both gifted and charming.: Olki

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One afternoon in October Jim was about to drop the old ice box from the balcony down into the dumpster. It was kept in the hallway next to the entrance to the theater's balcony seats because there was not enuf room down in the kitchen. The dean of student housing was putting pressure on Wilma not to throw shit down into the dumpster but Jim is doing it any way. Wilma catches

him doing it and says "Jim, there's going to be words if you do that!"

Jim said nothing but didn't take the thing back in. He had the kid drop it down when she was busy on the floor.

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That was in 1986, Linda Saphirian's first day on the job. In time the two people to learn "Up your ass!" from would be Linda or Nate, in Albanian it would be Sheryl, or Nate.

Wainnemainen and Mr. LaClerc, in the realm of dreams and the dead, on horse back, stood by the edge of the lake talking.

Ailgthur and Shangshui and Shangttai offered the crocks gifts of chewing tobacco to keep them quiet. That and a jug of wine for the lot. Beucanon, one of the dead, had two glasses of wine and was under a table mumbling baseball statistics. LaClerc says he will have to find the riddle's answer with Olki and Loki that was

posed towards the end of their short mortal lives. The age may come to pass premature, in

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1992, instead of 2098.

Don Quixote asked Barbara Saphirian if she had his keys, no body knew where they were. They were attached to a set of bar and liquor hut keys he had a copy of and his family was out so he could not get back into his house. Linda said " well Merlyna was here" and Quixote snapped back " don't even joke about that!" He calls Brian Katch and the call went something like this: Katch! You got my keys!? No, I don't have your fuckin keys!

A few minutes later Tess comes in the kitchen with his keys, a little embarrassed. She hands her keys to Quixote and he very much relieved said " Thanks, Tess" at the same time Lisa says "Fuckin A Hole!" and Tess turns red with embarrassment. Beucannon says " You got my keys" Quixote says Linda, you almost gave

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me a heart attack. Beucannon quotes some more Quixote: "That ain't funny!" Yeah, just what I need, coming home to an empty house and finding Merlyna inside baking bread!

Quixote had a dream of his death. He was in a white suite and he told Nate and Jim he was in the salt, Wilma shut it down because of a dispute with her liquor supplier who cut her off for three months, so she was going to shut the place down cuz hey no booze no customers that she would want anyways. Quakers and aa people, there would be disputes over smoking. They did open after three weeks because Wilma and the liquor queen patched things up. Beaucaanon was in the main foyer carting things down the stairs, produce and meat,

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to the kitchen, He was in culinary whites, a white t shirt and genes that dropped to the middle of his ass.

He was in white and among the dead too. The kid was stuck in traffic on his moped he bought from Merlyna. It broke down cuz he flooded the engine by misusing the choke. Nate was picking up booze bottles by the crate the previous night's debauchery with the theater crowd. Then everyone was in the kitchen and Nate was hauling down more liquor bottles and putting pennies into the box that dispensed electricity, the cash meter for the juice in other words. Quixote comes in pissed, I better still have my job or so help me Lucifer I am going up on that fuckin roof and I am going to start picking people off with my hunting rifle, looking at Heidi the coat girl he adds " and that included a

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motorist or three", she gives him the finger and goes to her car with the alarm making a racket after some skinheads started jumping up and down on the roof.

Quixote got killed because some jackoff with another rifle on another roof top picked him off so he couldn't hog in on his glory, or her glory, whatever, a skilled sniper. In another dimension of the dream he and Bruno stold the portrait of the old benefactor to the theater, Mrs. Grace Barnes, he was going to use it to model a nude he would do of the old bat and leave in its place or next to it. Nate was up in the third floor area collecting some gin bottles from the lav and said to himself

"so help me God if you keep this shit up Beaucaanon (who was down in the kitchen) I am going to tell Bette about your secret account." The acoustics were good and

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Betty looked at Beaucaanon at the Sautee station, she was in the cold station area. "Jim!? What secret account!?"... Jim says to her "Bette, you know me, you're taking the words of an alcoholic schizophrenic with all of his delusions and all". For the second-time Lisa and Linda wasser start laffing along with Maryanne Pace, what Nate said in the upstairs landing and what Jim said was both funny for them. The dream that foretells The Day of Quixote's death in twenty seven years is fortolditive.

Loki was leading a group of new arrivals, the dead, Nate and Sheryl, still among the living, were called in and into the dream state. He showed the new arrivals his

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grandfather's kingdom's seat, his large estate with the fortified town all around it. The main house with its common hall and the king's private study with his scribes and wives, the small apartment he shared with his niece Olki. He showed them the barns and the animals with the king's prize livestock, the small houses of the people of the village, the workshops and smithies, the old sacred oak where the people gathered and partied. You are of the blessed dead, Olki told Nate and Sheryl. The wicked go to hell to get their attitude changed something fast and radical. Hell by that is meant hell, perdition, Tartarus. When they smarten up they go like all of you to what has been called purgatory to work off their sins and to the reward of the

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afterlife or reincarnation back into the midst of the world.

Nate goes to prison

He was walking on old Mrs. Ames property, took a leak. She saw him with her military issue binoculars. Made in Czechoslovakia. She had him arrested for lewd conduct. The law is still on the books, grandfathered into the new states constitution back in '87. She had influence and could have Nate arrested. He was taking a nap when the cops came. They told Sheryl they were sorry but would have to cuff Nate. She couldn't make bail in time. One bondsman was on vacation, the other having a prostate operation. The men's unit was full because of the soccer game, all foreigners. Italians and Australians. Football hooligans. So they

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put him in a cell in the women's wing at the facility in Pembroke. They were all howling and asking when he takes his showers. The female guard told them, "C'mon, lighten up, ladies".

Nate's response cognition

has its drawbacks. a former boss, in The French Quarter in Quincy Market, Boston, when Nate was there a few years earlier in his life, Vito Andionetti, said to him, "wex, what's with you, do you got a built in walk man"?

Jim asked him to empty a barrel, three times. No response after three attempts. So Jim gets his pet, Cleo, an irascible

African Cobra. Nate is suddenly aware of

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five feet of very unfriendly reptile puffing out her menacing chest. He steps back and Jim trips him and Nate falls striking his head on the serving

line. As he clutches his head and rubs the lump, Beaucanon, Cleo in his arms, stroking the other living entity, other than himself,

he has any kind feelings for. Finally Nate realized Jim wants him to

empty the barrel. He starts lugging the thing, that weighs

more than he does, and Jim said "Oh, great Nate, fine". In the alley the littlewiz had a pulley rigged up to haul the trash

into the dumpster. Meanwhile Jim chuckled to himself "I got that runt real good! "Jim always liked rattlers

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and cobras and other nasty little critters, never had time for fluffy little bunnies

and puppy dogs, he liked scaring the kids at summer camp with these mean little creatures. So

Don Quixote told this story to Linda Wasser, Linda Saphirian and Taina.

There was the time the little gay boy Keith had wilma cash a check for 150dollars.

It bounced and he was in the wind. The kid

said it was the only cool thing Keith ever done.

Nate

went to work one day wearing his custom T shirt with the Hubble cartoon character, Dr.

Zuckerendle.

247

There's a little old bull no larger than a calf name Nadino.

He had arthritis and he sleeps a lot. They don't use pinceroes on him, they just tie cans to his ankles. He is quite the tourist attraction. He eats bananas and peanuts. They feed him twice the

food he needs to eat because it falls out the front of his mouth into a little mound. The

chickens and crows stop and feed on the spillage.

The first night

Nate took a sleeping bag on his nocturnal walk into the tree farm. When he gets tired he takes a nap. It has a little tent

top to keep the rain out. He got it for five bucks at the Hadassah thrift shop in Tallin Falls. As

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he slept Alcesta rested on his lap, and they both dreamed. The pond was a misty lake. Brun Hilda

and Wainemainen stood on their horses in the middle of the

lake. She was on her jet black stallion, he on his white mare. The songs of

forgotten people were sung. Nate shall be the father of

children who will be the saving of the earth and the human species in the twilight of the world.

Jean Peron

has his hi tek gadgets. One is an electronic field disruptor. He aims it at

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Jim's station wagon. It disrupts the ignition system. Jim can't figure out what is going on and he is getting pissed off. He looks up at Peron who is giving the impression intentionally of just being out for a breath of crisp autumn night air. Quixote knows Peron has this gadget but he doesn't tell Jim, he tells some kids in the kitchen but not Jim.

Ohgoddamit!

There was the time Nate had too much time on his hands, Beaucanon asks him if he seen " A length of two by four, about four feet long yellow paint on one side, been saving it for some shelves I'm putting up".

Nate was whittling these toys, horsies, houses, wagons, furniture, little miniatures, and Nate says

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"Oh Oh" Beaucanon said

"Ohgoddamit!" He wanted Wilma to fire him over it. So I told him "You're the one to blame," The big meatball was foolish enuf to

leave the thing where Nate would get at it not knowing Jim had plans for it. I tell him "He made an understandable mistake, he (Nate) knows better that to leave a valuable piece of

lumber laying around, you on the other hand". Jim was pissed but he didn't say anything directly, he was taking it out on the front room help.

Gone fishing!

Beaucanon sunk five hundred bucks into his hi tek fishing lure. Quixote told him "Those things work about as well as those electronic drive 'em outs Nate mail orders for nine bucks, then throws away. They

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don't do a dam thing. He's still setting traps and laying out d-con." Beaucanon countered "well if your content

to pass your life in the paleolistecene that's your loss".

Quixote countered "paleolistecene, that's good, Beaucanon, just like you"... well it seems he caught no fish! He did lure the attention of a stray mutt. till its owner whistled it back, a moon struck moose cow, and three ducks. He lured in also a swamp of sparrows, a pole cat he chased off, by the time three bear cubs shown up he had enuf and split.

know one hillbilly...

Nate worked one day with his cousin, Barbara, Nate left, "quitting for the eleventh time since he started here" Jim

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chuckled. Nate's parting words were "I can't abide that big fuckin cretin". Jim pissed him off with a remark "You know one goddam hillbilly you know them all" Peron was working that night and Jim tried to get him on his side with "The little runt can't stand the heat in the kitchen, why doesn't he get a job stuffing envelopes!" Peron smiled and gets a laff but he also cusses Jim behind his back in Haitian creole. Then Peron said I have to go to the store and get batteries for my walk man"... He's gone two hours and Jim puts

Barbara wheeler on dishes. He scares Barbara with Cleo and she steps back and he trips her, she thinks she just tripped but when Jim trips a waiter she realized she almost fell cuz Jim tripped her. Again Jim said "You know one goddam hillbilly you know them all"... She is pissed and gives Jim a visibly pissed look.

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Quixote sais "You got a lot to be proud of yourself for, Jim, you big fuckin bully, saying this as he saw the humor in the

incident. He helps out Barbara as he is doing assorted undefined tasks to work off his credit. Carlo Linda Wasser and the Kid are behind the line cooking, Jim is cutting salmon when he threatens to dangle Quixote off the balcony above like he did with Nate. "How's forty feet from the pavement sound?"

Earlier that evening when Nate left in a pissed frame of mind, he walked past the balcony, Jim climbed up the fire escape to the balcony, climbed into a window above the theater at the landing where he had a huge refrigeration condenser that was burnt out, He dropped it down and just missed Nate. Nate looked up and gave him the finger and then he split real quick. If Jim wanted to kill him he could

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have, but he wanted him to live, a little shaken up, so he could torment him whenever it would suit him.

Jim is not book learning learned, he has no interest in it, but he has a creature savvy, like the Kid. He's clever the way a troll or a gremlin would be. The instant Nate looked up immediately after the condenser came crashing down, denting the dumpster, Jim snaps his finger, "Aw shucks, I just missed ya, runt!".

The kid was talking about lemurs, how it is really cool the way they bound and don't

255

walk, but what they do with their arms the way they flap is so spastic and uncool, like Nate wex prancing off to the liquor store. Jim said on his way to get the crap kicked out of him by some of your buddies from Madagascar, right Kid?

The kid does not register, but he accelerates into the scenario, Lemurs with baseball bats! No pool cues! No Golf clubs, three of them. Two Gorillas are stupid enuf to pick a fight with them, they beat the crap out of them! Then the kid is on about Nate and

256

his family, a troop of Lemurs in a tree, The kid scares them off, hurdling towards a huge mahogany tree, splits it in two, as Quixote hijacks the scenario narrative. The kid hurdles down from the forest canopy, scaring off some pygmy deer. Beucanon joins in, how about the way they go probing around old branches for grubs? The kid said "wicked cool! the next time that stuck up little shit tries giving me some lip, I'll start tapping the walls, grab the biggest rat I can find, put it on the back of his

neck! Three feet long, I'll say Here Nate, a secret admirer of yours. Jim chuckles and says "One of those grey Norwegian butt fuckers, right, kid?" The next time he gives me any shit I'll

slug him with the heaviest sauce pan I can find!" Jim adds "And I'll sell the
257

carcass to the medical school for 17.50 a pound.

Kiteh!

Sprikeh! babes suckle and bark back at the noise they hear, going on all fours, and any calf, and cub, kit or pup or foal. What they make of their sex is still unknown. Then they take on speech, They walk. Their temperament and likes and habits and talents and foibles become known. The things that transcend or define gender. Tom girl or Nancy boy, warrior and pioneer matron, Plutocrat and pleib, artist and practical, the traits that sometimes transcend gender and confound assumptions. By Alfuder's will, in the worlde, we tend to Urda, then one becomes man or woman, we see the traits of
258

gender in a dance with those of character and attribute to compliment, to contradict. Why am I so much like my uncle, and my uncle like his aunt, when one is killed, or grows old, codger and hag, no longer young man or young woman, but still who they are and who they were, like spring, the force of gender passes but one's very nature remains: Olki

on a crisp October night

Nate was doing pots and puttering about when the wall separating the kitchen from the fuse room explodes in a shrapnel of two by threes, sheet rock and all the slipshod attempts at a partition Beaucanon put up over ten years ago. Pots fly all over the place, bouncing off of Nate's head, disrupting Quixote's work, and the kid enters, passing thru where the wall and a row of shelves

were. He has returned because he forgot his

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skate board. Beaucanon goes over to him and said "Kid, next time, do use the door".

One bet

is that the kid won't make it to his twentieth birthday. The other that Pricilla Buck will pay Carlo to grind Nate up and feed him

to the trout in the Paquanatle river.

A regular piece of work

at the county fair, in Uppsala, Sheryl noticed her little husband rise slowly, two feet above her head, then noticed the rock he was walking on inches from the three foot drop at the other end.

she slapped him on his chest and told him to watch where he was going. He said nothing.

People saw this, including the black smith's son, and they got a chuckle

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out of it. He is among the living but will be on the other side of things in ten years: Olki

Nate's taste in music

is eclectic. He listens to a station that is also very eclectic,

Radio Station WUSS. He listens to Healin feelin, the blues show, the bluegrass show Apachean

Alibi, the college rock show Meridian Asylum, we can Jazz with Eva Harrounian, the morning

classical show, ... Sheryl likes the soft jazz show WGEM station out of Holly,...

Maryanne Pace

in her helium induced voice sings on my way to the liquor store

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flapping her arms and prancing. She is doing a characterizations of Nate

wex

on his way to Tallin wine and Spirits. Quixote is cackling and

Jim sais "I thought those chickens were supposed to be dead, they're still cackling". When Nate

is there she sings on my way to the candy store, but she means liquor and she is referring to

Nate making a jug run.

Nate and Sheryl walked into Tallin wine and Spirits and he realized candystore meant liquor store and he realized what Pace was driving at when she did the routine. So he tries it out.

Sheryl cracks him in the back of the head and he lets up on it.

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The white race went astray when it

went to farming and agriculture and forsake its ancient hunter gathering roots. It leads to kings and bon fires and inquisitions and war. The sword of Damocles hangs over the world, but a descendant of Nate Wex and Sheryl Baxter shall redeem this people and the world. Nate, who is favored by the woods man. This Elk Bear said to wainemionen.

Sheryl's recurrent dream

she sees Nate, a perennial weed, rising from the earth. He is dressed in green. Vilhaus, an Estonian Gnome is next to him. He smiles and nods. He is singing. The weed is flowering. It is taller than Nate from where it was at his knees. He is in white, but the gnome in red. She forgets the dream, every time she

263

has it, till after his death. The dream consoles her. She and her children and those of Raynar and Taina shall go to Bachensaller, at the end of the world. : Sam Johnson...

Lust in the wilderness

An ongoing novel Quixote, Nate and Linda Wasser are putting together. It involves Jean Luc Lemontier (a new bus boy) and Pricilla Buck,

" Santé Fe, around quarter to two in the morning, about eighty-five in the shade all day, I was running the fan, listening to the radio, on my hammock, taking a tequila and lone star chaser, and saw her across the alley, on the third-floor fire escape balcony, oiling her sausage grinder, and I knew she was the real thing"...

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Cafe Apulia

Nate's favorite Italian restaurant. A little family place on Tallin and St. Laurence. Franco Barri's mother in law, owing to her mother's side, there's a pronounced Greek flavor to this southern Italian regional place, but it serves a Northern Italian dish every Saturday night. Pizza and subs along with the main dishes. Nate has pasta, eel, linguini, mushrooms, a country chicken stew, with mushrooms, a salad, with mushrooms, and oyster

dish, with mushrooms, appetizers, all with mushrooms, finally chocolate tort shaped like a mushroom, he gets the joke, good spirited humor. He likes mushrooms, that's

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the point to t his story.

Baseball

Don Quixote:

His folks are from Barcelona, one eccentric in the family is a Marxist, one is a phalangist. she said "The republic was the creation of monstrous mountain dwelling Basques and malodorous Andalusian Jews! But Don Quixote believes in one thing singularly, Baseball!.

A recent site

The Manahoe decided to show the world, had three ceremonial spears, the remains of a horse, a sloth, a sabre tooth puma and a cave bear. The horse had a hoof with

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prehensile toe on either side, andmezohippic traits like a short neck, it was small but a true horse and not a pony.: Leclerc

Lisa Pomeranian

is the host to wuss Zakarga, the Armenian hour. She does a public announcement giving her condolences to Mikal and Anna Pedrosian. On the passing of their great grandmother. Nate says "Oh thank God, now we can take the pad lock off of the liquor cabinet!"

Linda Saphirian who was bussing tables that night pokes her head in the kitchen and sais "But you are still alive". Beucanon rolls up to her and sais "well it can be easily arranged"...

Pete and Szerezade:

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Back in 1985 Barbara Saphirian the bar maid was washing plates and Nate came in to bail her out. Beaucanon was being a pain, he told her "for chrissakes, you can barely mix a decent drink leave alone send over a clean plate..." So Don Quixote told one of his favorite stories. It was a tuesday night, after a busy day of food prepping, with all of the produce for the week coming in on that day, the place was understaffed. Wilma hired a dish washer who showed up half in the bag who took a look at all of the produce he had to deal with and he just took off and left. He quit five minutes in on the job. Lisa added that he was fresh out of detox and Wilma thought he would work out. Jim gives Wilma a hard time and she's like Jim, read my lips, don't start with me. Poor Barbara got strong

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armed into doing plates for the night, luckily Nate showed up. That's right, Lisa Old Dexter the unpredictable, Wilma was going over the rolodex till she got Dexter three sheets to the wind! That's right, Lisa, till Wilma could find some unsuspecting fool willing to work in this shit hole. So who does she get first day on the job, Nate wex! The kid shucked over half a dozen cases of lettuce, Beaucanons idea, he wanted to make kimchee out of the lettuce husks and just throw most of the lettuce away, it took all day, that's right, Lisa, just cuz the Kid wanted to bust Beacanon's balls!

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One of them had a slug in it, two inches long, the lettuce was from Moutu Bazir, a little scamjob Peron was doing for king Atzi, of course nothing can grow on those Goddam islands, they buy it from Mexico and Vietnam, they sell it for ten times what it's worth, he was playing Jim like a violin, Peron! Of course!

So Nate comes in around six, I'm working off some bad credit, slave labor, that's what Jim calls it. So I make Nate's acquaintance, a quiet little man who didn't have an idea what he was getting into... I told Nate he comes all the way from Moutu Bazir, in a crate of lettuce, he was at that end of the sink when

Linda first saw him, in the last three hours he made it to the middle of the top of the sink (old cast iron relic) the sink was originally a watering trough with a gargoyle spout. Back when the Salt was a

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livery stable. Later it was a bordello and gambling house. Jim was giving Barbara a hard time so she was glad when Nate showed up and he introduced himself to her. Quixote told Nate "Thank God you're here." Quixote continues the story.

Beaucanon brushes past us, me, Nate, Lisa, Linda Wasser, his first words to Nate were, "Get to work or get lost, runt!". He deliberately steps on Barbara's left foot, oh yeah, it hurt, she responds, "will you fuckin watch where you're going!" dam right,

Lisa! his response, just like him, "Oh not today, I don't think so, no thank you"..... Well Nate cleaned out the old mustard jar, put some lettuce inside, a place to take Pete home in, so He's studying the fauna of Moutu Bazir for a terrarium, for Pete, so Peron unloads "A perfect Mate" for Pete, turns out to be a cross breed from
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Madagascar and Malaysia. Nate gets a fourteen by twelve terrarium, and he gets a letter of commendation from the king of Moutu Bazir, he mounts it proudly on the dish washer, all Pete needed was a lady, for this he introduced him to Szerezade, the thing from Malaysia. Peron got her from one of his Singaporean contacts doing business in the Philippines, .

Later Nate comes in and said "Pete's still playing hard to get, maybe she's just too big and horny." One day Linda Saphirian saw a show on Discovery, called in, Sheryl got a call, she asked Linda "Which one is she?" Linda said "The big one chasing the little one".

Sheryl scooped Szerezade up with a spoon, she placed her in a jar from Nate's canning room, with
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moist lettuce, lid, airholes, and plenty of hamburger, and a note on Pete's terrarium, saying "Linda Saphirian called me, said under no circumstances is Szerezade to share the same habitat with Pete, read up on it, Nate, the Pilipino Ungutzu Slug, used by vintners all over the Pacific basin". So Nate put Szerezade in her own habitat and terrarium, . He also got Pete three girlfriends from his own species, or at least one that wouldn't try and eat him. He gave up on Szerezade after she ate three suitors he got for her. So Beucanon says " Oh I hear Sheryl's been married three times before too". Nate gives Jim a sour look, takes him half a minute to get the gist of what he was getting at. So Jim said to Nate: "Oh, just a pleasant thought I would like to share for the day". So I say to Jim "You're a
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real bastard, you know that" and Jim said "Of course, I wouldn't have it any other way".

The day the kid died

September the tenth, his birthday, Jim was dead for several months, it was a suspected suicide, in an intoxicated state, possibly auto erotic asphyxiation came into play, but Quixote knew the truth of the matter and shed some light on it. A registered nurse, he seen such cases, how winos would walk along the rail road tracks, and since the ties of the track are so spaced to not

be in sink with a walking gait, the drunk would hop along so his

feet would meet the ties, and it would induce a hypnotic state. In this state an intoxicated vagrant could go twenty miles down the tracks not knowing how far he's

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gone. In this case it was the New York transit system from Manhattan to an outer borough.

Quixote told Linda Saphirian he was probably hopping in a trance state from some mosh pit where he spent the night, to another he was on his way to or some place to crash or trying to walk all

the way back to here, so he stops to take a leak, and just like him to take a piss on the third rail, all that beer and tequila. Urine is highly saline, yeah, a great conductive medium, that's right, Lisa, even somebody as roughnecked as he is, six hundred volts will kill an elephant! It was three o'clock in the

afternoon, Nate just walked in to start his shift, joined by

Taina who was working dishes with him that night. So Quixote says

to Nate: "You know the proverb, right, Nate, just survive them". Nate smiled, her

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heard the news and was glad the kid wasn't there

to shove him around anymore, and the way he died was kinda funny anyways.

Bets were placed

On the day the kid would die since the kid was twelve, Quixote lost every bet but you can't keep down an Oriol Man. The last bet

he placed was nine months before Beaucanon died. He also had a premonition that Jim was going to die soon. Jim countered with "Dito, shit head!" The stakes were big, Quixote placed his house in Esquero, Beaucanon wagered his shares in Marquet Travel Agency, basically a post office box in Harvey!" as Quixote put it. So what do I get out of this bet, a few decapitated

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cabin cruisers that

were his sole assets". Now there's another boat in the water, the Pirate.

All in a week

"And you may well ask, as did Pierre, how could this delicate wall of glass support the weight of its massive vaulted ceilings? well the answer is, it couldn't" with this and within a week, at

the leClerc compound, little Emetia with her grandad and mom, saw

the BBC rendition of Dave McCauley's "Cathedral" on channel 42, on WUSS (PBS) television. It ran from 7:30 to 8:30 followed by "Castle". Around one in the morning Nate was out on a walk with Alcesta,. Nate saw it on his set in his

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apartment with a few

pops, then a little work in his work shop, then he went to bed with Sheryl, treating her to a night cap but she wouldn't let him

have his usual one after another cuz he'll piss the bed.

Friday Father Kallian headed a freshman religious class and they

saw "Cathedral". He spoke about a priest who did his job and one who let things slide. He

said it holds the same for any bishop

or

deacon or any one of you. However you choose to live your lives. "They were also portrayed as

human, caring and sensitive" "She was also the vestal in which God chose to become human"...

With these words, the person of Carolyn Berge eclipsed, slowly, the image of the virgin.

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She was one of the host narrators in McCauley's "Cathedral".

It lead to Kallian talking about the

Polish pogrom after the second world war, and the Catholic Martyr

Edith Stein.

Lisa

was helping Nate finish up, Taina finally shows up, Lisa looks at

Taina, then goes home. Nate and Taina put the kitchen back together and clean it up. Then they go home.

Where is Moutu Bazir

In a straight line between Diego Saures and Goa, a fourth of the way from the British

Amerantes, you have an atoll holding the possessions of Moutu Bazir. One atoll covers an area the size of Nantucket, the

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other atoll part of this kingdom is about the

area of the Cape from Chatham to Ptown, at his pleasure, the king summons his double, Jean

Peron....

Lisa

was helping Nate during the rush, Taina showed up a little late. Lisa told her, relax, have a some pasta first"... She had the carbenara, "The one with the sea food in it" as Taina put it.

One afternoon

Linda Wasser, Lisa and Maryanne Pace were on the balcony above the kitchen and the theater. Bruno came down from the roof bringing down some booze from the liquor hut. He joined them for some air. Nate came into the alley on his way to the rear

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entrance of the building into the kitchen. Lisa said "It never fails to amuse me, the sight of Nate Wex dragging his tired sorry as to work"... Bruno sais "Not to mention his sired Torrey ass!"

The gals are working on some potatoes, Jim thinks they're from MoutuBazir but they are really from somewhere else. Imported into Moutu Bazir and then sold abroad to anyone suckered into buying them owing to their bogus pedigree. A centipede, that is

281

itself from Moutu Bazir, crawls out of a potatoes and on to Maryanne's leg. It is heading to her crotch. She squeals and seeks under her kakhi shorts for the intruding insect. Linda Wasser tried to help her find it but she slaps her hand, she was brought up with "All Jewish girls are bi" .The caterpillar descended to the ground on a string, and Nate drops his pants, the thing stings him and he is at UGH (Upsaala General Hospital) for the antidote. Symptom, a good stiff dick on hard.

Fools' matches

The kid was trying to light one match after

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another on a brick. Beacanon tellshim "C'man Kid, can't you light a friggin match!" without looking at him the Kid says " I ain't the big dummy who ordered these cheap Korean matches with no strike pad" After seething a few moments Jim tells the kid " well figure it out,

here go to the convenient store and get a few books of matches to light them with, and get some soda too". Quixote starts to chuckle and Jim glares at him eyes red with rage. "That's good, Jim, buy some matches to light the matches you spent fifteen bucks on". Jim snaps at him "Don't start with me". It is quiet when Nate breaks the silence, "It's like needing a bomb to set off a nuke". Lisa wishes she was somewhere else as Quixote says "Yeah right! you need conventional matches to set off the ones he bought to light the stoves". Nate says "The stove is

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likesome kind of hydrogen nuke!". With that Jim rushes over to the sink with its gargoyle head for a faucet where Nate is doing some pots and where Quixote is working and the pasta station next to it.

Jim grabs them by the collars. He drags them out of the kitchen and across the dining room floor. It was a busy Saturday night. Wilma tells Jim to take it easy. He is making a scene in front of the diners. He snaps back at her "Stay out of this, Wilma!". He tosses them out on St. Mark's Street and as he forcibly releases them he says "Come back when you're ready to get some work done and stop fuckin around!" In a bad mood he was dishing it out to the kitchen and the front room staff. It wouldn't work on Bruno, who had the night off, he would tell Jim "blow it out his ear. dickhead!"

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Bruno is the only one in the place who could talk to him like that.

Semba

The black gnome, is a learned garden and house gnome. He and his family live under Mr. LeClerk's desk. and Mr. LeClerk was familiar with him as a friend for many years and was the first in his household to know of his existence. He is older than LeClerk and lived under his house long before he was born, and back when the Aincutain was being constructed. The designer of the library who was part Lithuanian and part manahoe was Semba's friend too. He designed the Library around Semba's abode and never

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fucked with it. Vilhause is a friend of Semba and they have the same king, an old black Gnome who is 475 years old and a very astute soul he is.

white man sleeps

Sheryl has a gals night out with the woman's elder fellowship,
Nate is in dream time, the moles are sing ing to him, "shirshir
shiree thcheiaaah mururwa mawarra maooo" and Vilhause passes and sais "Slietzweitz to Semba
with his son in law as they gather elderberries and greet vilhaus too. They have a little
windlass
on wheels that is very large to their scale, it lowers the berries to the cart and it is all
drawn by racoons.

An Udras is
there to defend them from any mischief,
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like a loose Rottweiler or
a pole cat or malevolent human. They take them back to great vats and carboys to ferment where
they have their press in their basement. As Semba passes with his son in law Nate's window
he smiles, he shall take his share of peas and small potatoes as histake for the work he does
for Nate's garden, pest and weed control and influencing squirrels and rabbits not to pester
the garden. When the corn is ready Nate leaves a few ears for them
and they make fabric out of the husk, the women folk, and the men folk
make bourbon and corn whiskey from the corn squeezing.

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O Sole mio
Judith Kahn, Jean Peron, and Maryanne Pace sing in the kitchen, each unaware of the other two,
off key and sour notes but they love to sing,

shocking!

Back when he was alive, Jim went over to Nate, he had a place warmer in his hands. He handed
it to Nate. He told him "If you can spare fifteen minutes, could you scrub this thing up".. Jim
plugs the thing in as Nate starts in with a scrub pad and Nate takes 200 volts up the arm. He
convulses. The Jim unplugs it and in a contrived contrite voice sais "Oh I'm sorry, I forgot
to

have it grounded. Quixote tells him

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"You're a sadistic prick, you know that?" Jim says "Yeah, what are you gonna do about it?"

Gone to pot!

some potheads wanted to blow on their rent so they decided to liquidate their assets. Garage sale. Nate walked away with a spice cabinet and when he took it home he found their stash with the spices. up. The potheads show up passing them selves off as narcs and scaring the shit out of Sheryl. Nate gives them the stuff in a few oregano canisters and when they leave

He put it as

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Sheryl asks Nate "who the fuck were they!", Nate decides to be a ball buster, "Just a coupla narcs".

Peron missed the liquidation deal of a life time. Maryanne Pace got dumped by her boyfriend for another guy. Nate got strongarmed by wilma into doing a double shift three days in a row. He was too tied to talkback to her. Lisa got pissed and quit for the third time that month. She told wilma off, "Blow it out your ass, bitch! make that cunt! no, better, moose flaps!...

290

Tamijan was a Manahoe woman and Camp Tamijan was named after her. The camp is on tribal land and they pay rent to it and abide by the values of the tribe. In 1892 she was out west and a sequoia fell at her feet. She gathered the seeds and nurtured the seedlings. She did this on the advice of a Yaqui sameness. She nurtured the trees for about a hundred years and she died at the age of 102. Many years after she died, in 1972, it was a Quaker youth camp. As "the Sequoia Princess" put it, it was a place where the next generation and their posterity can learn, in recognition of the first Americans and the Great Spirit.

Tribers

are nomadic, and an established church.

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Formerly, "The Human Tribe". They are some five thousand strong, all over the US and Canada. They are subdivided into bands of about one hundred or so man and woman, children and pets. This band is some one hundred and twenty souls. It is with the founding patriarch and his common law wife for some forty years and a son in law and daughter and a grand son who is fifteen with his girlfriend and his boy friend, from the same band, and these young members court young people from other bands of the tribe as well. The band is divided into ten households. If you join, what ever arrangement you do, make it work". So said the Patriarch in 1970, when he started the thing in Holly. The patriarch's grandson his boy friend and girl friend and two other young women shall leave to live with a
292
band in Alaska for a period of time as part of their "Growing up".

Grimy guts of hel

"Perversions, as the bog victims attest screaming in rage of their murders to these times, from the grimy guts of Hel, before the Tlinkat arrive and the twilight of the Gods, before it all happens and Alfuder forsakes the world for the wrath of Urda and these "Tlinkat" this "Elkbear" told me of" : wainemoinen

The Step Down

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Society was once the Buckaneer Tavern on O'Carlin Drive which runs as a small side street then continues on beyond the village out into the countryside of downtown Tallinberg. It was owned by one of seven brothers who had a lodging house and built the shed and tavern at the foot of the building. Thursday was a promotional Buck-an-ear special. For a dollar you got an ear of corn, some mashed potatoes and a pork chop with a complimentary beer. For three bucks you get it all in triplicate except maybe the beer if

Pete demacy thought you had enuf already, he didn't want anyone puking up his good food. He had six brothers, all recovering alcoholics but Pete drank till the day he died. Had a beer or two on the job but didn't really tie one on till he got to his lake

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side cabin where he spent Tuesdays and Mondays away from his family. Never got in the way of his ability to make a living but it ruined his liver and he was dead by 75. His brothers died before him or outlived him, he was the third to youngest.

When he died he left it to his lodgers and they all died off in a few years and his younger brother Cal chartered the Step Down Society and AA meetings of various varieties were started here. Cal died in 2001. Step Down still goes on. There are the Loony Noonies here, a lot of the people are total fuckups and there is a

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strong you are in or you are out mentality, "No moussing around the edges". If you don't get a sponsor and you are a guy they start calling you a diddler till you get a sponsor. If they see you in a package store and you are a guy they call you a prostitute. There is a strong KUSS presence here and some of them outwardly say that their higher power is Satan. God couldn't cut the mustard for these guys.

Another group is "Fuck You I'm Sober" and they do more than meet, they beat the shit out of the gang members that try to sell smack to the meeting goers when they stand outside for a smoke. Some gang members approached them armed with guns but the FY's had snipers, they control the roofs at all time on O'Carlin, and one of the punkos took a round in the shoulder.

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As a few of the step downers say, "We are a cult at worst and a faith at best".

As for the women members, when they fuck up and start speaking and say "maybe I talk too much" one of the step elders will add "Yes you do" and it is the sisters who take care of stray female members in their own effective way, but I don't know more about it, cuz I'm a guy. Somebody wrote on the old buckaneer shed "AA, state religion for the world state, 666". They were trying insult

AA but it was pretty cool to look at for the Kuss Satanists. There are also Christians, a few Buddhists and some wiccans. "A Cult at worst and a faith at best, what ever it takes, and for us who addiction wasn't working benefits in comparison to the detriments it brought, cult or faith, it sure beats addiction.": Hal S.

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Visits from ghosts and spirits

Don Quixote saw the napkins jiggle, one by one, and move, across the counter, past where Lisa was working to the old work area nobody uses anymore. I was where Jim used to work. Quixote says to Lisa "Oh, great he's back!" Lisa without looking says "who's back?!" Don Quixote told her "Just look at your napkins" Sure enuf, they began to wiggle and move across the counter

to where Jim used to work. She looked at them and said "Oh great, he's back to torment the living!"

Monacedes Delta

Nate looked into the late November sky, in the small hours of a Thursday morning. He
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focused on a star all by itself left of Orion. He took his flashlight, blinked it on and off at the star, continuing on his walk. He forgot about what he did. Half an hour later a flying saucer with little green men pull up to him.

One of the little guys says to Nate "sir, can I be of assistance?" No response from Nate who is absorbed in his own goofy little head.

"Sir, you sent a distress signal within the last..." still no response. one last attempt. He leans over to Nate's ear, "Hello! Nate is startled. Later the spacemen head back to their star. His superior greets the spaceman who spoke to Nate "hello marshal".

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The space marshal greets his superior "Hello inspector" He tells him "it was just some earthling making small talk". The inspector asks "was it Cher, Joan Collins? " The little man said "No, just some strange funny little guy"... "Denny DeVito?"... No I'll give you a hint, homemade urinals made from plastic gallon milk jugs" the inspector says Oh so how is Nate doing? how is Sheryl? How is Alcesta doing?"

A gift from Pretaunga

You know that Emet wallace, Quixote said to Wilma. That old guy with the column in the White Fish Cove Almanac? People send him snap shots of things they need to be identified because they

don't know what they are. He tells them what it is. If it takes him over three

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weeks he says in the column "still working on it".

He never has been stumped yet. The Archeology department over at the college never questioned his decisions. Oh! He's a crusty old bastard, self opinionated, no nonsense. Great friends with Nate, like a favorite nephew to him. Right! So naturally Jim can't stand the old bastard and wants to get even with him for being so chummy with Nate. So he decides to stump wallace. He spends the afternoon putting together this monstrosity, with the idea of claiming he found it or it was a gift. Jim tells Nate "Hey puke!

I'm gonna make a monkey's uncle out of your buddy, old buzzards

beak". So he sends the thing to Emet, saying he is a professor of

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polyanthraxology, said a friend from Pretaunga over in Africa sent it to him as a gift.

What is it? a plunger cup, a handle

from a hatchet, he carved and grooved the edge so the cup would fit perfectly onto the handle, he drilled a hole in the top,

took an old chain, cuts a link open with a hack saw and with his super human strength pushes it back together so the chain forms a loop set into the hole he drilled into the handle, he slipped a ball bearing inside the chain loop, so wallace responds with a letter.

Dear Sir,

You will find that "Paleoanthropology" there is no such an academic discipline as "Polyanthraxology" and there is no such a place as "Pretaunga" except perhaps in

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your imagination. As for this monstrosity obviously the efforts of an afternoon that could have been more constructively spent. Do not waste my time! You are nothing but an oversized nincompoop! I know who you are and consider it an act of kindness I choose not to disclose your identity. Do not pester me again, or I shall turn you into a toadstool! ... Emet wallace

Ladies and Wine

Remember that godam sheep dog, Peter the eater. The Disney channel was filming a special on the grounds of U.S.S. He stole a Vienna

loaf from the caterers table and made a pass at one of the sea otters. She tells him "Fuck off mister and die, and I mean

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it.

I'll rip your face off!" Peter moves on and takes a huge dump. Finally his trainer finds him. Linda Wasser and Tess the waitron were walking on the grounds all dolled up when Linda steps in one of Peter's land mines. Tess starts laughing, the two gals have been smoking weed.

Linda wipes her shoe on Tess's shawl and she starts in "You hook nosed cunt!" Linda says to her "So anti-Semitism rears its ugly head". Tess tells her "Dam right if you wipe dog shit on me!" Bruno broke the fight up and hosed down the shawl and hung it to dry.

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Take the A Train

Quixote likes to call Eva Harrounian on we can jazz disguising his voice about a certain version of A Train. He says I am familiar with your collection but I want to hear some Franky Lane! He uses his real voice and she knows who he is. She says This is a main stream Jazz station and we don't play Franky Lane, Augh! you horrible people, leave me alone forever!

Live Long and Prosper

Quixote tells another story: Oh! two weeks ago, the last thing Nate did to get Wilma to can him, Her last words to him were

"Nate, Have a stroke! "The campus police

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thought Nate was in there

to clean up the place. The place was closed. He took all the china, all the silverware and the Chrystal ware and locked them in a safe near where the fusebox is. Peron sold Nate a large quantity of Star trek memorabilia, plates, glasses, cutlery.

Nate sets them in the dining room and the kitchen. When Wilma came in the next day she went right into her office. The front room staff started to set up the floor when Pricilla Buck goes into the office, "Wilma " "Some body took all the china and gave us these". It was a Spok commemorative plate and that's what Wilma had to serve supper with till Peron could contact a safe cracker.

Voices from the pantries and cupboards

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Only Merlina and Nate heard the voices from the pantries and cupboards. They start around two and slow down and stop around five in the morning. Merlina knew they were spirits breaking into the realm of ghosts and would have arguments with them, and they would enjoy teasing and taunting her. With Nate the voices went in one ear and out the other. He just accepted the place was haunted, baked off the dough Merlina or Taina put together, into the luncheons bread, then cleaned the kitchen and went home. All the years he worked there, until Wilma canned him and barred him from the place years later for the Star Trek dinnerware episode.

He mentioned the voices to Quixote who said "Oh, of course, the place is completely haunted!" Lisa thought Nate was just

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hearing things, "one of the natural or alcohol induced defects in his cerebral cortex". But they are real spirits, returning in numbers to the world of the living, as ghosts, if you listen very carefully, towards sundown, they begin as whispers. The next time you take a hand full of coffee cups and saucers, or a few platters from across the old stoves that were salvaged from the old steamer Keewenaw, that made its rounds over the great lakes, ferrying cars and rail cars, passengers and contraband liquor, night progresses into the small hours of morning, they call Nate or Merlina by name, for all the times Merlina told them to fuck off and die, and they return the taunt with "That can not be, for we are already dead, with their laughter, to the only thing Nate ever said to them: Hello in there". Nate was a

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little tipsied from half open Frexenet bottles from a dinner for the U.S.S. economics department. This sparked Jim to comment "oh great, just what this country needs, a bunch of half stewed punch drunks running the economy". In any case the ghostly spirits in the pantries and cupboards stirring from the sleep of spirits and slowly, one by one, ten by ten, waking up to pester the living., ...

On a chilly night in the end of August, Wilma was all alone in the office, a split level drop into the kitchen on the first

ground floor. She could hear the voices..." wilma, wilma, wilma,
wilma, we can see you see you see you ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!" wilma never stays after eleven
thirty on those nights unless

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Pricilla and a few front room help are there with her. The spirits love to taunt her, and they
do not call out to anyone else when they are in the office, only when she is alone there. They
begin their relentless taunting when she is there all alone.

One night after he became spirit, Jim joined these voices. He mastered poltergeist powers
that come easy to some entities. Bruno was on the roof in the liquor hut. He was grumbling
placing the Barbera wines into a gin box he would take down to the guests after they "guzzle
it down in characteristic form". He removed a napkin from one of the bottles after they have
been drunk down. One is a cooking sherry, one is a

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marsala. When he had his back turned a ghostly entity replaced the Barberas with something
that would go terrible with the business school faculties dinner but they were too stewed to
know the difference. "They couldn't tell the difference if you were to stuff a bottle
at a time up their asses, for crying out loud, cretins!" Bruno said to himself.

Resurgence of the Gnomes

When the rubble closed Lascaux, not to be unearthed to sunlight for seventeen millennia, a
curse was placed on all gnomes by a malicious udras, but the powers of the world and the
rhythms of the earth are reconverging, and at this time Sheryl was entertaining Rolande and
Perdida, Maryanne Pace's aunt and uncle,

when she saw Semba's granddaughter,

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Miandawa, with her pram, strolling across the solarium, the Paces eyes were fixed in disbelief,
but Sheryl said very happily "eight babies, my
goodness, Mimi, I'm so happy for you!" Then Pugas, the proud father stepped out from a geranium,
bowed gallantly to the Paces, and the gnome family continued their stroll....

The prince of the world was born today

from a great island in the middle of a great sea, Turtle island under his rule called north America, his terrible rule shall last a while but the creature of middle earth shall pass unseen until the end of his power and the end of the world and the return of the earth: Olki

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Rilferwa

riririwelpwerera, riririwiririrurda, werumferida...

with these words Alcesta tried to communicate with Nate. In a matter of three intensive weeks, the two devised "Kiniodeskopis"

the universal language of communication between human and canine species. Alceste had dreams of the antichrist pestering her in

her sleep. A babe of intelligence and malevolence in abundance. Nate was working with the old horses and ponies, and on a language for human and equines. Some of it goes like this:

Urhahahahaha, koth! ureyah urehehehehe...nehehe. They have been talking to the gnomes, on how Nate must make a pilgrimage to

Lascaux, deep in the earth, and Alcesta, to the mountain of all high mountains, before their ten years on earth are up.

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The song of the spirits

Linda Wasser and Lisa come up with a little fantasy, the spirits are taunting Wilma, she is all alone in the office, the front room staff has gone home, so has the

kitchen, even the dish washers and baker. Wilma is hiding under her desk on a dark chilly night. She thinks of leaving everything behind for a dash

to her car on the street. Suddenly the power goes out and she is in darkness with the spirits.

The ghosts knew this and caused the

power outage! The spirits continue their cycle "Oh we are terrible, terrible spooks"

Bruno comes in with Peron at nine in

the morning an hour before the kitchen comes in. They find Wilma

asleep under her desk. The ghosts

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quieted down around five in the morning. Wilma woke up around ten. She

got up and bumped her head on the bottom of the desk..."Where am I, ouch!"

On the ball

Frankie Lane indeed! Aren't they just awful those people who call in with those kind of requests. I mean, calling in with crank calls like that, there's just no reason for it! Well good after noon, I'm Eve Harrounian and welcome to another edition of "We can Jazz" and if you
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are not among the good people out there, and you know who you are!... Quixote cackled as Linda Wasser and Lisa did a few more Eve Harrounian impersonations. Eve hangs out at the Club Tunisia. The waitrons there always fuck up Nate's orders on purpose and he calls it "The Club Amnesia"...

John and Andrew's

Mr. LeClerc's parish, where he is a deacon. He told but a few people that the Antichrist shall be born a son of prodigy and shall rule five to five hundred years
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while the Tlinkat and gnomes and other entities of the earth move unseen and untensed by him. He shall the antichrist use addiction to indulge and to deprive, he shall use war and famine, he shall experiment with the human psyche, and stretch them into new and horrible shapes.

Nate's attention span

Lisa is trying to get Nate's attention cuz Sheryl is on the phone. He doesn't hear her because of his "built in walkman". So Quixote gets his attention "oh not another evening with the music of Aaron Copeland, what a crashing bore,
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highly overrated, like the infantile gaga of Lauri Anderson. Nate says "The hell with Lauri Anderson, just don't knock my Copeland". Lisa has his attention and tells him "Nate, telephone! it's Sheryl.

One night

Nate was out with a few people, before he got banned from the Salt, Don Quixote, his wife and daughter, Lisa and Sister Simone and an anarchist lawyer, Armond Kelper.

Odina Cabot says "I'll be back with your drinks". Nate looks at her ass and Wilma comes over and points a finger at Nate and says "You start barking and you won't get a drop of alcohol!". So Nate behaved himself that night.

The Third Rail

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squatters colony. Three rails leading from the north bound track for backing up and forming trains. The rail was covered with two feet of gravel behind some old cars that haven't moved in forty years, to keep the track with its rotted rails from being used. This is the rail yard behind the woods where the colony sprang up in some abandoned buildings, and the area is referred to as the third rail, hence the colony got its name from it. Some cars abandoned were used by squatters even though the town in the past tried to keep them out. They would assume scrap the cars than move them a hundred feet, because the tracks are in such bad shape the cars are sort of stuck where they are. After Father Kallian said this Quixote added of course! small groups

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of squatters would camp down and get chased out by the railyard dicks over the years.

In the eighties some squatters would disappear one by one and the medical school would have a steady supply of stiffs. The squatters took the town to court the corpse stealing stopped and the squatters were no longer harassed as much.

and the community germinated from these first encampments. The railroad tried to extend the rail and do repairs as a pretext to

get rid of the squatters but that didn't happen because of public support for the colony. It has over three hundred

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residents now.

There actually is an

Assholes anonymous, it meets in a room above a foreign auto parts garage and bike shop "wheels of every kind and foreign motors". The auto shops owner leaves after everybody else, after doing the accounts, with his three legged Rottweiler Luigi. The first assholes anonymous was in Framingham, then Boston at the Arlington Street Church, and there is a chapter in San Francisco and Dallas.

Pink

Sheryl had a little nightmare that Nate painted the Parish Mercedes pink and she had to take it to the synod. She woke up rolled over and gave Nate a sharp crack to the back of his head.

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He woke up immediately "ow! what was that for?" She tells him "Just in case you ever think of it!"

When Nate used to go to the cemetery in Cedar Grove Jim told people "Oh, anybody can see ghosts there, he likes to visit his little friends, the little wood nymphs and hobgoblins, at least their shorter than him or Lisa or the other little people in the kitchen. Peron gives him a sour look as he put some dishes away. Now Jim is a ghost part of the time, and otherwise he is a spirit. All of the ghosts in the place hide from him because he keeps borrowing things and never returning them. Ghosts refract dimension so their stones hold entire households full of belongings and they lock

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up their houses as the abodes of the living. Some of the crocodiles are skilled burglars and he learns the trade from them.

The Mother Goose Ballad

will in his last years play on Nate, he will listen to it before his afternoon or evening naps. The creatures and fauna he seen in a day turning into nursery rhymes, taking on mythical proportions. At the end of his nap Alcesta is waiting for him to wake up from his sleep and join her on nocturnal walks. She is also waiting for her vittles. All of this she awaits as she naps under

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the cedar. Alcesta will pass two years after Nate.

The Odinist Shrine

was a joint Unitarian universalist congregationalist church. In the seventies the Odinists swelled into the membership of the parish. They took it over and broketies with the UUA and the UCC. They auctioned off all of the stain glass and other Christian artifacts in 1981. They installed stained glass and articles of their pagan faith. The lower knave is a shrine to Fria the Goddess of the hearth. In the communal hall offerings of food are blessed and redistributed according to the needs of other pagans and the common meals are held here. The tower holds a shrine to Odin. The shrine is a point of pilgrimage for pagans

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all over

North America and it has some one hundred families in its membership.

Nate was talking to some middle-aged gnomes. They were talking about Albrecht and his avarice for the ring. It will bring the twilights of the Gods. Then the dream ended.

Five large ponds

surround the north and eastern edge of Tallin Ave. and Tallin Falls. These were glacial depressions that became wetland in the rainy months and during snowmelt off. They were deepened into ponds during the end of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. The Pequanatle also feeds into them by way of canals that were dug when the ponds were

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deepened. The ponds are separated by a series of little hills with small cottage clusters that were originally summer homes but are now permanent residences. Brook Pond, Cherundesin Pond, Ames Pond, Mill Pond, and Beaver Pond. Mill Pond is the largest of these ponds. It is about the area of a small lake. The ponds drop along with the feeder canals in the summer but fill up in the rainy season.

On this late night walk Nate saw near the clearing between the willows the water spirits converging on Cherundesin pond and spanning it the road bridge built in 1924. Three girders supported the cement work and under it the old wooden beam bridge built a century before it. Parts of it were rotted and parts of it still solid.

Songs and Legends of old abandoned Tables

Tables are the converging point of the spirits of the trees from which they were made. At Cherundesin Pond in the pines three old tables that were built when Sheryl was a small child and before Nate was born stand around a great old pine. The tables remember the people who sat at them and who carved their initials into them. One table has a plank on its surface that has been rotted around the edges and elevated six inches from the frame of the table by a pine as its trunk expanded. The three tables hold their special fellowship at twilight.

The Ballard School

In Holly on Oak Vale Road, near the state park and the country club, is the Ballard School. On a farm of some 140 acres, is home

to 85 residents. Some are middle aged, some are younger or older. There is a Day treatment Center. Some people are short term, some have been there for a while. Many have jobs here or outside in the wider community. The school teaches agrarian arts and job and life skills. Sheryl tells Nate she's gonna enroll him for his next birthday. There is a large farm house that is a long care facility to an extent, and smaller cottages, fields, gardens, woods, work sheds, horses ponies and small animals. There are Vicunas and Llamas and deer that come close to the compound that are very tame.

McLewan Park

is on Oakvale, has a large forest with labyrinthine paths but they never get Nate lost in them. He always bears to the left the way he got out of a corn maze once (when in a maze just keep turning in one direction and the maze will lead you out again). Nate always finds his way back to Juniper pond and the entrance on Oakvale.

The Ballard School's central philosophy

is "Home and agrarian Industry" as a basis for the emotionally and socially disadvantaged The agrarian environment and group living situation where the simple ideals of the last century are used with what is best from the

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twentieth century to help those the mental health system can't help. The home environment is recreated for those who could not get well in other settings, in this society divorced from the day to day rhythms of life, Residents live here long term, with placements out to smaller working farms and group living situations. Substance abuse is seen as a manifestation of underlying causes and the

redevelopment of the home environment the treatment. In another time line the wex child would have endured a life of suffering.

He is very much a creature of the earth and favored by the woodsman. He shows in his life the natural symbiosis that the school has found in its own way: LeClerk

Two tenants

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the two tenant organizations in the Old Historic Meeting House are the society of friends and the universalist friends

fellowship. The Sunday services encompass both denominations in the Quaker format. About half the parish are members of the UUA,

the rest society of friends. Sometimes there is a dinner at the

Salt and there is sherry or bourbon served at them for the non Quakers. It is served in the little Libby Glasses Nate calls

"The schlocky little wine glasses", like the ones Wilma pulls out

when she runs out of the Chrystal ware. Nate said this loud enuf when Wilma told him to get the Libby glasses from on top of the walk in that she told him to not say something like that so loudly because people outside can hear him. Quixote thought it

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was kinda funny, "Your right, Nate, they are kinda schlocky". The Quakers drank saucer from some old tumblers that came from the old steamer the Keewenau. The ones that "Go back to the days of the dinosaurs, as Jim put it.

wheels

Nate and Sheryl have ten-speeds and each has a moped too. Nate also rides a pink girl's ten speed to embarrass Sheryl when they are out.

sheryl

could tell Nate was asleep, he was motionless, around the warmth of his still body and his shaggy hair. He was drooling in the late hours of his sleep. An hour later she was up and she could here he was

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laying in bed awake, crackling and oiling his joints and stretching his muscles getting ready slowly to get out of bed and warm up his metabolism and start the day.

The Isthmus

separating Beaver and Cherundesin Pond is hilly, wooded with hickory and elm and oak with a path running a little over a quarter of a mile. It runs along the end of Cherundesin and up against Beaver. The path runs into a dirt road, along houses, past a collapsing play house built seventy years ago and it runs across past a house, a garage and on the other side of the hill are several cars and a lodging house, one of the lodgers parks on the street and not in the car coral because he works graveyard shift and wants to avoid having the car blocked. Nate passes a gnome as the sun sets, they greet each other

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"Slietzwietze!, Slietzwietz!"

WKAL

Channel thirteen, a small independent station that is described as very home grown. All of the programming is local and reminiscent of a local PBS station way back when that was a new kinda thing. There is a remake of "The Gentle Giant" with a tall old quiet guy who spent time in Spellos. He takes his meds but the voices still bother him.

Nate's brain

with all of the holes in it, He walking down All Saints Street, looking for something but he is not sure what it is, but if he saw it he would recognize it.

where he wanted to go next, and

what to do for the next two hours of his day, was now all a matter of retracing his

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steps. In doing this he saw the object he was looking for and it all came back to him. It was a small upholsterer hammer his aunt Jamima wex left him. He took an hour to walk back home. When he got back he worked on his bird house.

There are apple trees along his rout home and he gathers a bag full as he walks. Many are old heirloom varieties and he gives some of them to the old horses and the ponies at the

riding school. He saves seeds from these apples and catalogs and mail orders them according to their variety and where he found them, example: "white cape on St. George", " first apple tree on the

way to the Mannisquah dam", "Mack at the well" etc. When he was walking on St.

George he got lost on a side street. He forgot

what town he was in till he walked a

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wider quadrant of blocks till he got on to the main street and could

recognize where he was and

in what town.

Back on St. George's he was able to find his way home again. He drinks less now that he is married. She didn't make him quit but if he lived a long enough life he would have had to cross that bridge. Nate has a couple of drinks in his workshop but he never operates power tools when he is drinking. Sheryl has an occasional glass of wine when she is watching a movie. He still takes his late night walks at two and is back by four. They both get up around eight, she more around seven he more about nine. Nate likes to listen to "All things Inconsistent" on WUSS, there was a show with a Russian scientist who discovered that all the worlds apple varieties, all of

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the worlds apples, originated in Kazakhstan. Nate wondered if apples came before horses or vice versa. Did the horse species carry the

seed depositing it in its manure? "So apples owe their existence to a dollop of horse manure", Nate said, Lisa said "You're a

dollop of horse manure". Then Nate saw Tess walk into the kitchen

and said "You stupid little dollop of horse manure". He got the line from the comic book

personage "Spotty Dick". Tess, the only person shorter than Nate told him "Stick it, Nate!".

More on WKAL

The Odinists have a show on this station "The Twilight Hour". It is a family show shown at six and at eight in the summer.

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There is film footage, someone is walking from along beaver brook and beaver pond, to a small stable. It shows people putting ponies in for the night on an October evening. The ponies are getting their hay and supper.

The footage follows the dirt road along the isthmus into the forest, where mythical forest dwellers appear. It is all animation and costume. A story is told

and dramatized with its values centering on nature and magic and imagination as the wellsprings of life. Some of the Odinists know

of and draw from the Book of the Gnomes.

Mannadinawe drive

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curls up the crescent along the lower pond, up Mill Pond Hill. Here the little cottages are shaded over by taller elm and oak. Maple trees touch the top of these little homes. The lawn with their hearty varieties of grass are shaded by the many trees and now they are being raked. The lane loops forming a common green with its community hall. There is a large shed opened at one end for concerts in the warmer weather. It is a chilly October night and the moon is full. The earth below is illuminated by it.

The exchange

Nate thought of something, in his mind, "under his breath" he sang a tune he made up on the spot, "big fat jiggerboo lady, with two big tits and a big fat

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belly"...but the woman he was looking at was a telepath and she said to him, verbally, "who let you out

of your cage, huh?". Nate realized the woman was a mind reader and looked away quick, cloaking his thoughts or so he tried. Sheryl returned and told Nate "I hope you were behaving. The telepath knew immediately that the man in this couple was the child to an extent in the relationship, and in a way like a little old man before his time, and that he was always like that. The telepath

was always a telepath, and she did something she did twenty years

before in the eighth grade then, to another white boy. She flicked his ear as she got up to pay her bill and administered a static charge to Nate. The shock causes Nate to crap his pants.

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Schweinhund!

Jim and Quixote were at a Nordsee in the food court at the cedar grove mall. Not far from them was a table with three generations of Germans having soup.

Jim said "pffft! looks like Nate wex's bath water with God knows what floating around in it!" . Jim didn't like Germans because he thought it was a trip to be tripping the waitress and when she dropped the was thrown out of a bier Haus in '71 for

a waitress. She dropped alleight beer steins and lead the cops right to the table he was sitting in and she was both angry and crying at the same time. As Quixote told the story, he said to Jim: "Yeah, that's real good, Beaucanon, you really know how to act in a public

place!" When the Germans were leaving, the manager confronted Jim

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at the food court and he blew a big cheap cigar into the man's face. But as they were leaving the grandmother looked Jim in the face and said "Schweinhund!" It had no effect on him other than a sense of satisfaction that he upset her and her family.

Judith Kahn came into the kitchen singing back in '86. She was singing and Quixote said "well just remember, it's not over till the scrawny barmaid sings".

Another bit of lore:

There was the time in '83, when Nate started working here, when Merlina slugged Keith, a little 90 pound faggot. She was

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putting plates together but not the way Jim envisioned them, after instructing her a few times he blew up at her, she starts crying and Keith touched her tenderly on the shoulder, and she slugged him out cold.

As Keith came to, Merlina reframed the situation and they hugged, he had a hard on so she slugged him again. Eventually they were lobby doobby again.

Nate shows up for work after

missing all of the excitement and drama. Later on Merlina started

in on Quixote, his wife having an affair, so Jim says "He has been happily married twenty years and they have a child to show for it who turned out pretty good, unlike some people we won't mention!" Merlina said "I don't have to take this kind of abuse!"

and she quit! She left very pissed and Jim broke out some expensive champagne and every body had a glass. In time Merlyna

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would come back nights to do the bread. Nate would ask "Is good old sugar tits coming in tonight to bake the bread?" and then he

would say "She's behind me, right?". Merlina just came out of the bathroom in the corner. What happened next, well that's another story!

Nate woke up and saw Sheryl standing over him in a cranberry suite. His bed was next to the dishwasher and his left ankle was

chained to one of its aluminum legs. Sheryl told Nate "you're going to the day program at the Ballard School and I'm not going to argue with you about it!"

Then she exploded into a fiery blast and Nate chuckled. Then Jim Beaucanon rolled up to him and said "her alarm just went

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off. "After that he pulled up large kitchen cart with a large screen t.v. with a v.c.r. built into it. He told Nate "have a

look at what happened to you, kid." He replayed Nate in a field by the edge of the forest listening to "Songs of forgotten People" on his "Built in walk man", as Vito Aldionetti put it.

In

the video Nate Wex pulls out his sleeping bag and Alcesta curls up into a ball of brown and black and white fur at his feet. He slept for an hour then got up, no longer sleepy, at about 2 a.m..

A deer ran past him and a bullet crashed into his skull as the deer fled off into the woods and the two hunters left.

"They didn't mean to kill you Nate, They were after the deer and it got off without a scratch. You, on the other hand were laying

there for about a week, last October. Some

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varmit opened up your

belly and started chewing on your innards, but left your face alone. It was open casket, the cold weather preserved your looks."

The little man looked down and saw he was wearing a white top and

genes...white, the color of the dead, and so was Jim. Beacannon then said "By the way, runt, your ass is mine." It was the beginning of Nate Wex's after life in the Insane Forest.

This day in the life is remembered, when the dead were living, it is the day Glenn Carver the food columnist came to town to check out the Salt;

The night Glenn Carver came to town:

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An overcast night early in April, 1984. Glenn Carver the food critic was coming to town and he wanted to try out a new restaurant housed in the cellar of the Saltsberg Community theater called "Below the Salt".

It was an uneventful night except that Glenn was coming to town with his wife and a few friends. He was told by his daughter that Jim was cutting the medallions of venison very self assured of his efforts as he said to himself "oh Glenn is going to love these". Jim was very satisfied with the quality of the meat that arrived that day.

On the far end of the range opposite Jim Don Quixote taunted him, saying "I bet you fifty bucks Priscilla fucks up his order and costs you a couple of stars in the rating he's gonna give this place". Your dreaming of a four star rating but you can just kiss that off,

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Wilma was seating some early people she let in and her bladder was full. The kid, still wearing his leather jacket, was walking out of the lavette in the corner of the kitchen. He just took a huge dump. The nasty air followed him out of the toilet into that end of the kitchen and the stench was worse than fetid, it would actually throttle anyone who breathed in contact with it. Wilma

turned around and went to the washroom behind the club bar on the second floor. The only other facility in the building was behind the janitor's closet and the town sewers overflowed into it with the last rain and it wasn't cleaned up yet.

The roly polly, nimble and energetic woman went up the central stairs onto the level where the theatrical associations club bar was. The janitor was sleeping off a hangover so Jean Peron, the day dishwasher was doing

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his job, mopping the floor. He was bent over wringing out the mop when she kicked the little man in his ass and he knocked the bucket over. As she walked up the stairs he muttered "Marsissi you boyfriend". As she walked away she laid into him with some words... "That's what you get for fucking me out of that 200 bucks with that lousy horse, Rogaine for Judy a sure bet my ass!"

Meanwhile in the kitchen the other dish washer, Nate was doing a few pots, Lisa was the pasta cook that night and she was looking over the sink for the Barclays Jim was hiding up there. She wasn't crazy about his taste in cigarettes, she preferred Old Golds, but she would settle for swiping a couple of his Barclays when he wasn't looking, or whether he was, regardless.

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She decided to tell Nate "Hey pisspot, be a sport and check the shelf for some cigarettes". A loud snap sounded and Nate was pulling a rat trap off his fingers and whining about the painful predicament he stepped into, Lisa turns to Jim, his eyes on his work but fully ware of his brand of comedy that just transpired. Lisa said to the chef "You ratbastard, if I reached for those cigarettes I could have wound up with some broken fingers!"

To this Jim replied "and the beauty is Nate took it for you, well worth a few lousy smokes. A couple of Nate's fingers were sore but he was back to normal in a week.

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Priscilla would have her big fuck up that evening. Meanwhile the two Bar keeps, Bruno and Barbara were having an argument in he walk in, Lisa opened the door and told them "out, take it somewhere else, this is a working kitchen". They said nothing and went up to the roof to get some liquor out of the tin house and continued their fight for a few minutes then went back to work. Wilma was making a few drinks and getting stressed, doing that and seating people and it was getting busy. They took over and Wilma knew better than to chastise them for their absence cuz they would tell her off.

Wilma came in the kitchen and the Carver parties suppers were up,

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she took everything but the venison, Glenn's supper. He was in the men's room pissing out a drink or two so she decided she would bring out his wife and friends suppers then go back for his, his was just one too extra to carry in one go.

Before Wilma could go back for his supper she had to break up a fight, physically. Priscilla entered the kitchen and saw the venison. Since it was notwith the other suppers she thought it was some guy at the bars supper up in the club. She ran up two flights of stairs and the guy said, "about time, fat ass!", and she told him "Fine, why don't you stick it up your ass!", then left. When Priscilla returned to the kitchen to get some bread, because the bus girls were on a work slowdown, she found Wilma, Bruno and Jim talking about the venison that never gotten to Glenn. Priscilla suddenly knew

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she fucked up and got into the discussion to try and justify and shift the blame to save her ass.

Wilma plied Glenn with drinks and Jim had Don Quixote scramble out some capon. The drinks got Glenn a little drunk and in no way into a jolly disposition. He was pissed in the British and American usage of the word.

Glenn was in a nasty mood, he envisioned an opening line to his review "an upstart eatery with pretensions not even living up to a basic level of competence". He was ready to dole out half a

star, but his wife humored him and the capon was pretty good, and

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his appetite fueled by the booze. He relented and gave Below the Salt a tree star rating. Wilma and Jim were dreaming of that four

star rating, but the proles all knew Priscilla would fuck it all up, and that is the story of how Priscilla Buck got the place a

three-star rating, and how she fucked Jim and Wilma out of that four star they were hoping for.