

Round Eight

APHORISMS



*Okay - so a lot of what I write are parodies,
but Jeez, your whole life is one!*

*“Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity,
and I’m not sure about the former. Albert Einstein”*

Anhedonia hasn’t been one of my issues so far.

I think that we should leave logic where it belongs – validating my belief systems. Talking to some young people I tried to pass on a piece of wisdom that has come with age: You can’t make every party, and there are always more, so don’t let missing one get you down.

For as long as I can remember people have been calling me a dork – then the other day I read that ‘dork’ is the name for a whale penis – and WOW – I don’t know when I have ever felt so proud! (*Uhh MacMouse - that means they are saying that you are a giant prick!*) So? That is what every male aspires to be to attract the best females. That’s what most of the spam emails I receive tell me, so it must be true right? I mean how could it get on the internet if it wasn’t true? (*he’s hopeless*)

Raymond Chandler from The Blue Dahlia: *“When a guy gets too complicated, he’s unhappy. And when he’s unhappy, his luck runs out.”*

I have had it with this place – I am off to **rusticate**!

I have a **jnani**'s mind and **bhakti**'s heart in a **tantrika**'s body – and they are all working together just fine thank you.

Didn't Schopenhauer say: "*The doctor sees all the weakness of mankind; the lawyer all the wickedness; the theologian all the stupidity; and the wise mouse all of the above.*"

anhedonia – the lack of pleasure and the ability to experience it.

rusticate – to go live in the country.

jnani – Sanskrit for the yoga of intellectual discrimination.

bhakti – the branch of yoga defined by one's dedication of love to the guru or work of liberation.

tantrika – a person, usually but not always a woman, skilled in helping their partners achieve higher states of ecstatic sexual experience.



I am an emotional arts master.

Martin Buber "*If ever the man shudders at the alienation, and the world strikes terror in his heart, he looks up and sees a picture. There he sees that the I is embedded in the world and there is really no I at all... or he sees that the world is embedded in the I, and that there is really no world at all... But a moment comes, and it is near, when the shuddering man looks up and sees both pictures in a flash together. And a deeper shudder seizes him.*"

Douglas Hofstadter from I Am A Strange Loop: "*We ... draw conceptual*

categories around entities that we easily perceive, and in so doing we carve out what seems to us to be reality. The 'I' we create for each of us is a quintessential example of such a perceived or invented reality, and it does such a good job of explaining our behavior that it becomes the hub around which the rest of the world seems to rotate."

In a study, rats given the choice between sugar water and intravenous cocaine, overwhelmingly favored the sugar water. Hmmm - maybe we need to refocus the War on Drugs?

Are you as suspicious as I am of spiritual teachers who act all **seigneurial** and **supercilious**?

Spider bite my ass, it was the kiss of the Goddess that gave me **tarantism** - and techno music that healed me.

Timothy Leary: *"If your concept of 'real estate' is neurological rather than mammalian, then your habitat defines your launching pad."*

I like to get altared – don't you?

God does love you – it's just that God has a most peculiar sense of humor.

seigneurial – having to do with a seigneur (Now was that easy – don't you feel embarrassed now?)

seigneur - lord of a manor.

supercilious – full of contempt and arrogance.

tarantism – a nervous system disease characterized by a hysteria and a mania for dancing. Popularly thought to be caused by the bite of a tarantula.



*Well, I meant most of what I said
- isn't that good enough?*

Emailing her was great and chatting on the phone was good, but meeting her had a dispositive effect leading to rapid culmination of all anticipatory desires. Aren't we all looking for a relationship that functions as an **autopoietic system**. You are the only girl that I get **sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia** from talking to, and I'll bet that I'm not the only one.

Oh yeah – well **tu quoque** you too!

By our age we've either proved our **RS** or we haven't. Does it matter to you? You are nice and all, but I hope you'll forgive me for not wanting to take on a project right now.

I met this woman online and boy did she look beautiful. Then I found out that she shared my progressive politics. So I told her: *"I am glad that you aren't a Republican so that on our first date I won't have to tie you to a chair and hold your eyes open while I make you watch videos of dead Iraqi children."*

Sorry, but I'd rather take on cleaning out the **Augean stables** than deal with you any more - and I'm not Hercules!

I'll bet that if we could go to a **psychotron** we could work things out and make this relationship really succeed. I wonder where we can find one?

Sorry about how I treated you here last night. I am glad that you were willing to come back. But uhh, how does it feel to return to the scene of the crime?

autopoietic system - are ones exhibiting the characteristic of life, in which the organization self-regulates and reproduces itself.

sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia – Frozen Brain Syndrome - that stabbing in the forehead feeling you get from eating or drinking cold substances fast.

RS – reproductive strategy.

tu quoque – is Latin for 'you too.'

Augean stables – a huge stable of cattle - the fifth of Hercules' twelve tasks was to clean it in one day.

psychotron – “a place where social conditioning and past histories could be effectively obliterated.” (Creating such an environment was one of Timothy Leary and friends' goals in the mid-60s. Never happened. Shocking I know.)



***Yes we are showing some signs of aging.
I think of us as fine antiques with an
increasingly complex patina.***

I knew a guy once who had a 10-cylinder Ferrari. He had to have it tuned up every two weeks, but when it was, he said it had the most exquisite sound. I think of you that way when I hear you purr. *Ohhh - how sweet.*

Have you noticed how the presence of pain has a greater imperative than the promise of pleasure. That was before you met me my little turtle dove.

*Our lovemaking is a true **bricolage**.* That ain't the half of it babe.

I just figured out something great. When Fancy and I moved into our first home together we found out what different tastes we have in home décor.

She likes old stuff, subdued hues, well-aged, reminiscent of an earlier age.

Whereas I like bright new colorful streamlined stuff. Okay – so here's the

good part: What she likes in home furnishings, i.e. aged, a little weather

beaten, etcetera, and what I like, i.e. pretty and bright... are what we have in

each other; crusty wizened old me, and beautiful vibrant her. So we are each other's perfect home furnishings!

Oh you are so beautiful. *You say with your eyes closed.*

When we sleep together it is as though the very energetic matrix in which I exist is softer, finer, more nurturing. *As it should be.*

Oh I just so love the 'usness' of us. Yes, I appreciate that the nature of the Universe involves inherent **ontological inter-subjectivity** as well. *Uhh okay.*

Did you think I was being pushy? I thought I was just being grabby. I see that we are going to have to work on fine-tuning our definition of terms. Yes dear - whatever you want that helps you cope with me and my needs is satisfactory with me.

I am continuously amazed by the prodigious amounts of **twater** you produce. *Ohh my pleasure.*

I want to tell all of you how smart Fancy is: She won a trivia contest in a subject she knew nothing about. [Really]

Ohh let me clean up first, it's been days since I've bathed. I've got a better idea - let's just pretend we're cave mice and go ahead and get it on. Oh MacMouse, I love how you think and ...

I told MacMouse: "Your penis is so beautiful. Its head is the most beautiful combination of colors - soft pinks with a violet shadowing. It so reminds me of the soft ripe plums of my childhood." And now if he is off in his head (the other head) somewhere all I have to do is say "plum" and he gets a dazed look, shudders, and is present with me again. Yeah okay - it's true - and I've got that one for you, it's..... Stop right now! If you tell them that I swear I'll.... Okay okay. How about another one? And what pray tell do you have in mind? Slurp. Whap!

bricolage - the construction or creation of a work from a diverse range of things which happen to be available; a work created by such a process.

ontological inter-subjectivity - the observation that no one is ever, nor ever has been, totally alone given that we grow up in a socio-cultural environment that has conditioned our perceptions, thoughts, etcetera from the very beginning.

twater - you figure it out.



Talk about a rush: Formula One racing cars can go from 0 to 100 mph and back to 0 again in 5 seconds!!!!

MEDICAL ADVICE: Next time you have an infection try to find some fresh alligator blood to drink as protein snippets in it can cripple many human pathogens including *E. coli*, the herpes simplex virus, some strains of *Candida albicans*, and even the scary **MRSA**. Of course if you lived where alligators live - YUCK - you'd have to have an amazing immune system too. [Science News]

The following are all from the June 08 issue of Psychology Today: In a related story to the one above: if you can't find any gator blood know that moderate* amounts of beer consumption can boost your immunity to disease. The effect is stronger on women so drink up ladies.

ISN'T LOVE GREAT – remember this next time you tell someone that they're your soulmate. In the U.S. each year about 1200 women are killed by domestic violence and 2,000,000 injured. "Heat of passion" used to be a defense and in Texas, until 1974 it was legal to kill your wife and her lover if you caught them in the act! It turns out that wife murderers are particularly strong subscribers to the "romantic ideology" of finding a soulmate and can't deal with the reality of infidelity, and that often causes deep disappointment and dysfunction, even if it doesn't spur homicide.

WHO'S TO BLAME: In an experiment where words on a computer screen randomly disappeared if the word 'I' was displayed subliminally just before it then the person felt more responsible; with the word 'computer' they felt less responsible; and with 'God' they also felt less responsible but only if they believed in an Almighty. Ummm? "Judgments of credit and blame are lightening-quick, and may be based on information that isn't consciously available."

ANOTHER HEALTH TIP: dark-hued fruits and vegetables, especially blueberries, are just about the best foods you can eat to protect your brain and body against aging. (Ever notice that there are no naturally occurring blue foods – so-called blueberries are more indigo to purple.)

MRSA - methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* – a bacterial infection that is highly resistant to some antibiotics.



DIFFERENT WAYS OF THINKING: From Newsweek's 04/14/08 "On Science" by Sharon Begley – a discussion of The Geography of Thought: How Asians and Westerners Think Differently ... and Why Richard Nisbett (2003)

"Westerners typically see classifications where Asians see relationships." Examples: Shown pictures of a monkey, a panda, and a banana and asked which two are related most Japanese said the monkey and the banana while the Westerners usually picked the monkey and the panda, i.e functional relationship

vs. categories. Also after looking at an aquarium holding a large fish, a bunch of the small fry and the usual aquarium plants and rocks, the Japanese later said they'd seen lots of background elements; the Americans saw the big fish. In viewing culturally nonspecific cartoons East Asians tend to first take the background context into account while Westerners initially concentrate on objects in the foreground."

"The West epitomizes individualistic, do-your-own-thing cultures, ones where the rights of the individual equal and often trump those of the group and where differences are valued. East Asian societies exalt the larger society: behavior is constrained by social rules, conformity is prized, outsiders shunned. "The individualistic-collectivist split is one of the most powerful differences among cultures."

As to why cultures fall where they do there is finally a theory: "You Can Blame the Bugs." It turns out that the more pathogens in the environment (climate and topography - closer to the equator and lower altitude) the more adaptive the collectivist behavior and vice versa. And when people move to a different kind of culture they tend to adopt their prevalent worldview, so it isn't in the genes. Question: Whose culture is kicking whose economic ass these days?

SPEAKING OF BUGS AND HEALTH – A positive correlation has been found between women who are ill during their pregnancies and an elevated risk to their children of mental illness later in life. In one experiment they infected mice with *Toxoplasma gondii* and they lost their fear of cats – oh too bad! In some children an episode of strep throat leads almost immediately to long term OCD.

MULTITASKING WHILE DRIVING may exceed brain's capacity. Using a fMRI to watch the brains of people operating driving simulators researchers found the neurological response that underlies driving mishaps. They observed the amount of electrical activity going on in different parts of the brain. While just driving a lot of activity was taking place in parts of the brain involving spatial perception, but then while simultaneously talking on a cell phone they watched as a large percentage of that moved to language processing centers thus leaving less ability to maintain the kind of perception most suited for safe driving.

"Hang up and Drive!"

ARE YOU BIASED? Actually we all are. To find out more specifically take the test: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/> [Mind]

SMART BRA – "Even small breasts can bounce up to 3 inches during exercise. Causing significant discomfort. Researchers in Australia are using motion capture to design a bra that dynamically adjusts cup and strap stiffness as a woman moves around." [WIRED] Hey is this sex discrimination or not –

no, not that we voyeurs can't watch you girls bounce, but what about a 'smart jock strap'?

The DSM - THE BOOK THAT NEVER ENDS We knew this was coming didn't we. Psychiatrists are talking about an addition their Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders that in recent years has seen the addition of a category for celebrity ego and sports addiction neuroses. It's Internet Addiction Disorder (IAD): "Like other addicts, users reportedly experience cravings (for better software, faster machines), withdrawal (logging off may causes irritability), a loss of sense of time (wee-hour fixes), and negative social repercussions." [Wired]



I hope you can deal with not getting any – ha ha ha!

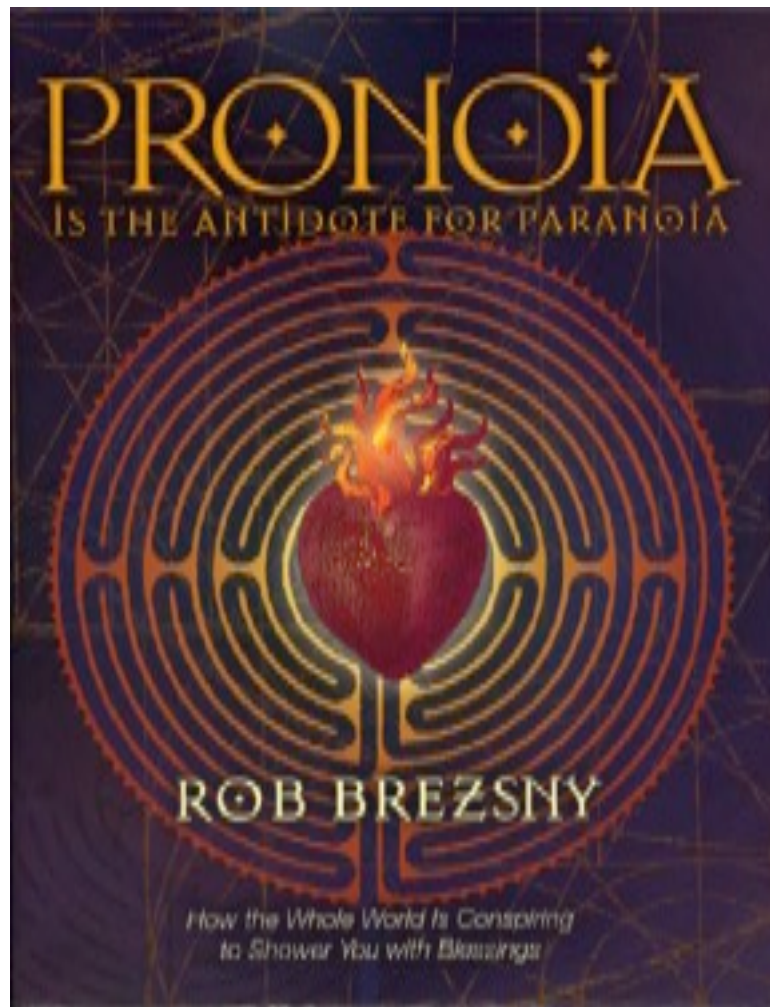


Waiting, waiting.... Here's your chance to be associated with a great work of creative genius. So what's holding you back? I was just joking in that previous Round when I threatened waterboarding – you do know that don't you?



Pronoia Is the Antidote for Paranoia: How the Whole World Is Conspiring to Shower You with Blessings by Rob Brezsky is all over the place, so much so that I would be frustrated about how to do it justice short of reprinting scores of pages here. So I am encouraging you to be the serendipitous serpent of

surrender and saunter into its delicious depths to bring forth fortuitous fonts of freedom friendly psychic alliterations:

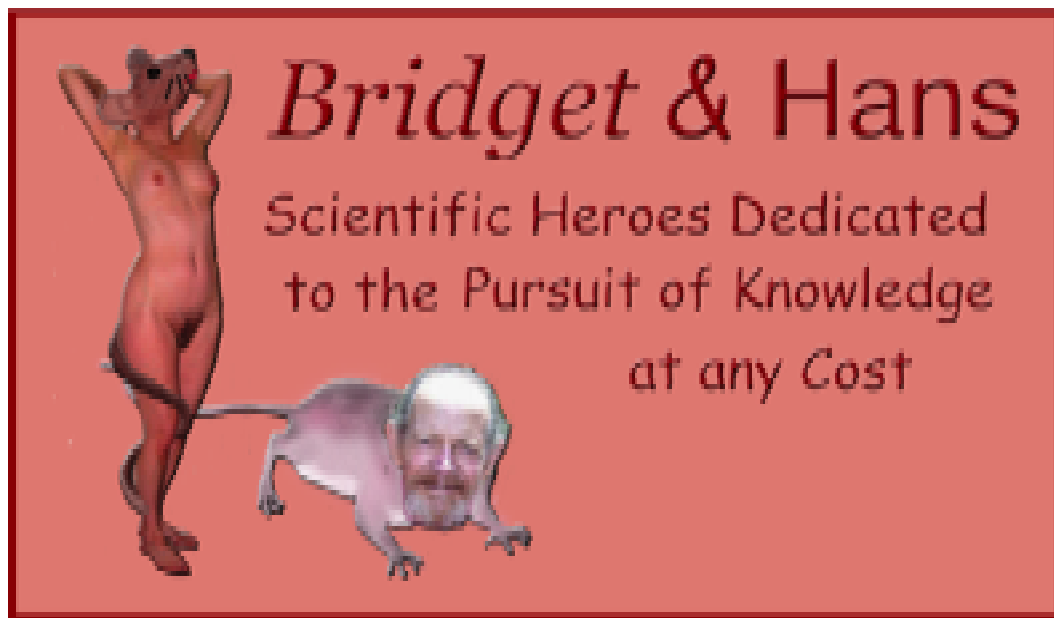


This book is one of the funniest, wisest, and most useful thing I have ever read, although it's multifaceted font of esoteric wisdom would have been beyond me in my younger more innocent and delusional years. I like it enough to put my money where my honey is and gave 9 copies away in the first several weeks after getting it, along with talking it up to many more people. I have also been reading excerpts to friends in person or over the phone. Much appreciation incurred! [LINK](#)

MISANTHROPODIES

***Note:** (miss-an-THROP-oh-dees) is a word I coined from the contraction of misanthropic (being distainful of humanity) and parodies (treating a serious subject in a nonsensical manner in an attempt at humor or ridicule). The goal is to make fun of some of the absurdities so commonly found in human behavior by taking them to extremes. Reductio ad absurdum and all that.*

Congratulations, you've arrived here just in time to join me in celebrating the debut of the beautiful, if sad, love story of Bridget and Hans, two dedicated geneticists whose experiment went tragically wrong. And although they have been nominated for the Nobel Prize, we expect that the committee will find some excuse not to award them, due to publicity considerations.



**That was the last time we'll answer an ad to participate
in ground-breaking genetics research!**

I said to her "great tits," and she smiled. Then I said "nice pussy" and she ran for the door like she was in fear for her life. I was confused for a moment, but then I got it.

I hear that she'll do almost anything for cheese.

I tell you, there's a genetics lab somewhere with some really sick scientists.

I hear that she can do some real kinky things with that tail.

Uhhh -it is going to require some reframing on my part to get into this.

I tried putting a bag over her head but with that nose it wouldn't fit.

I wonder how male mice feel about this development.

Saying she likes doing it doggy style wouldn't be quite fair to either species now would it.

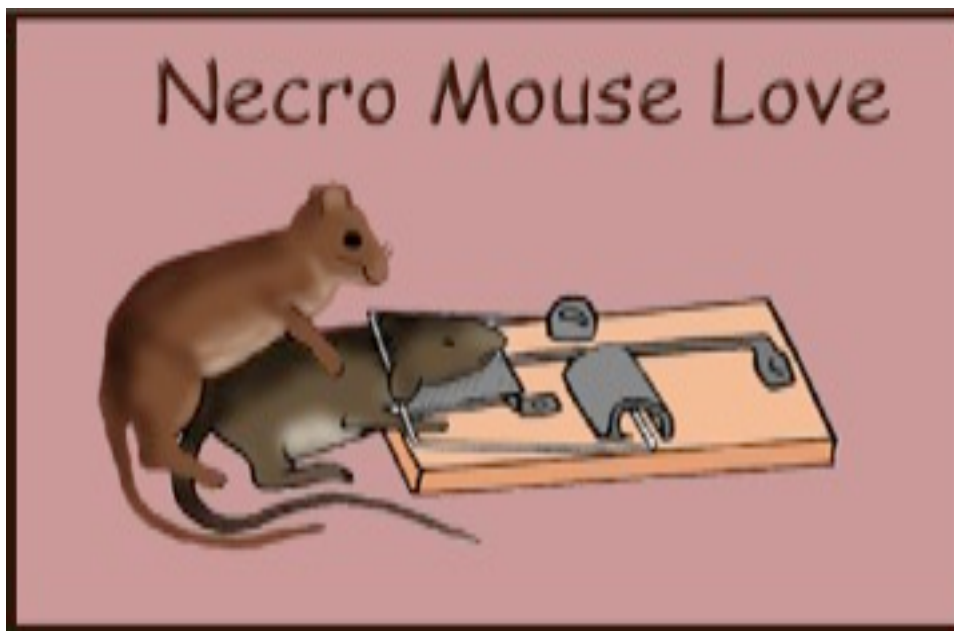
Boy does she like to screw, and you wouldn't believe the squeaks when she is orgasming.

Isn't there some commandment about loving all of God's creatures?

The only two days of the year she feels comfortable going out in public are Halloween and Carnival.

You wouldn't believe the huge cult following she's got on her porno website.

I don't know what the anatomical specifics are but she can deep throat like no other female I've ever known.



I'll bet that I can beat you at chess now too.

I wonder if there is an internet dating site where I can meet more cool women like you?

I wonder what dorks like me did before these traps were invented?

*My therapist suggested that I take every opportunity to overcome my **phobigenia**, and you come along and help me in so many ways. Thanks.*

*Have you asked your doctor if he has a treatment for your **akinesia**?*

*Or maybe it is just **bradykinesia** and I have to be more patient.*

*Well, we'll see if this gets your **kinesia paradoxica** activated?*

The only difference between now and before, is that you aren't yawning.

I know that I am supposed to be paying you for my time - but it seems that your clock has stopped - ha ha ha

Yes, you did too say that we'll only have anal sex over your dead body!

phobigenia - the tendency to create phobias.

akinesia - a neurological condition involving difficulty initiating movement.

bradykinesia - a neurological condition in which the patient's movements are slow, and he or she tires easily.

kinesia paradoxical - is the ability of a patient to perform rapid, energetic movements far more easily than slow ones.



My name is Condi. Any questions?

*Have you suffered from this **erotophobia** for a long time, or is it a recent affliction?*

Let's pretend that I am Hillary and you are Barack. I can hear the feminists cheering me on already. (summer 2008)

Or alternately, if you prefer, you can be John McCain and I'll be a stand-in for all the innocent North Vietnamese peasants you bombed.

erotophobia – the fear of sexual pleasure.



If anyone asks about you I'll tell them.... Oh right - Ha Ha Ha! Who would ever ask about you.

Oh, maybe there are a few bartenders.

Okay, you are right, she was lovely and needy, and yes I did make the drinks really strong, and yes we had sex. But did I violate her? No I don't think so. I just helped her relax enough to let her get what she really wanted and needed but was afraid to ask for. How could that be wrong? "Good try MacMouse - see you again later, much later."

Just consider this as an extended meditation retreat and learn to be more at peace. I know that we'll be more at peace out here now too.

Got caught with a marijuana cigarette eh? Hmmm - 10 years with no parole you dreadful scourge on humanity! (Queen: "After a day like this I'm gonna need a couple of drinks, a smoke, and maybe an Ambien to relax.")

I hear that with the group of lifers we're putting you in with, that you'll never lack for sexual companionship again. Lucky man!

If God had wanted you to be free, then He wouldn't have created me and given me dominion, thus logic tells us that you aren't supposed to be free. You do see how that works don't you?

Enjoy the gruel - oh I am sorry - I meant to say: enjoy the delicious prison culinary repast.

I tried to find one reason why it would be a loss for the rest of us to have you put away - and the only one I came up with is that you do really help us feel better about ourselves. Hmmm - if I could just find one more reason.



***Look at this way - maybe you'll
get to reincarnate as a cat.***

Yeah well, remember that King Kong got his comeuppance too.

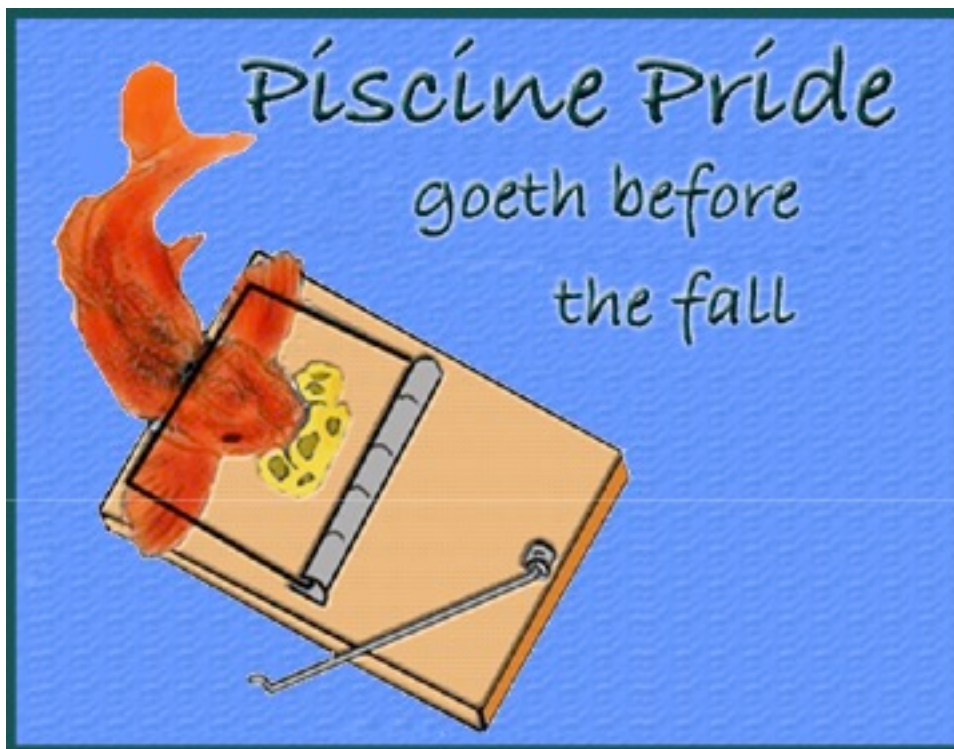
You people are hilarious in your ignorant sense of self-importance. Maybe I'll just permanently paralyze you, that'll give you plenty of time to reflect on your arrogance.

If my friends and I can figure out how to open up your frig we are going to have a long relaxed banquet in your honor.

Well, I might have believed this was an accident if I hadn't seen the gleam in your eye and heard you mutter "got the little bastard this time."

Yes, Anais Nin did say: "Each contact with a human being is so rare, so precious, one should preserve it." But she hadn't met you.

[NOTE: Stock tip: An epidemic of these events and there'll be an emerging market for titanium-soled shoes. Get in early!]



It takes time to learn the challenges and rewards of a new environment doesn't it.

So now I have to catch a mouse with a fishing lure to keep the Universe in balance. Yikes!

C'mon - this no less likely than us finding Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq was.

Oh well, all that dairy would have just constipated him and produced a lot of mucous. He's probably better off this way.

The joker who told the little guy that cheese is a piscine aphrodisiac should be ashamed of himself.

I heard the trap snap shut and thought "What in the hell kinda mouse makes a squeal like that?" Now I know.

Damn - if his fins had been just a little bit longer he could've snatched that piece of cheese right outta there.

He died a heroic adventurer risking his all to extend his species' knowledge of the world. I wonder if he'd do it differently if he could do it all over again?

His therapist must have forgotten to tell him that personal growth works

*best if you begin with baby steps.
He was doing it for his guppy - how sweet.
Hey Alright! The sushi's arrived.
You know - usually when I empty the trap I think "Oh poor little fella,"
but not so much this time.
Oh right - easy enough for the fish chief to tell him that no sacrifice for
the welfare of the whole school is too much to ask.
We put LSD in his fish bowl - and it was incredible - his consciousness
rapidly evolved and he was able to fly right out of his old restrictions.
Happens to people also.
Ever notice how Swiss cheese looks like coral - he did. I'd bet that he
would've noticed the taste difference if he'd been given the chance.
Do you think he would have liked it?*





FUNDAMENTALIST WHATS?

As our friend MacMouse (he is one of your brighter mice) pointed out, the fundamentalists seem to be neither having much fun nor are they particularly developed mentally. Psychologically they tend to be fear based and insecure, and then compensate by holding rigid absolutists beliefs and values. The history of the U.S. has shown how the Christian ones can always interpret their Bible to justify whatever their current socio-economic desires are. It used to be okay to murder Indians because they weren't really human, more like 2-legged wolves, and thus had no souls. And it was okay to enslave negroes for similar reasons. Currently many of them are enjoying persecuting homosexuals even though anthropological and cross-cultural studies have shown it to be a natural human condition for 7-8% of the population, and is common in many many other species of animals as well.

The political tracts that fundamentalists often send around the internet are almost always full of mean-spirited, immature, and illogical

statements. For instance we recently saw one that criticized a Presidential candidate named Osama because he was endorsed by the Kennedy family and 40+ years ago brothers Robert and John both supposedly had sex with some movie star with large breasts. We haven't been able to figure out the relevance of that. Help us here if you can.

We see that statistically the parts of the country that have the highest concentrations of fundamentalists also have the highest crime, divorce, teenage pregnancy, alcoholism and drug abuse rates, etc. And they profess to be the most morally upstanding segment of the population!

We wonder why they prefer the translation of "to fear God" when it is linguistically more correct to translate that as "to hold God in awe." This whole fear-based religion thing seems to be counterproductive to them manifesting their stated values of love and tolerance.

We have however noticed an emerging trend among their younger leaders that is more positive, i.e. embracing stewardship of God's creation as vs. ruthlessly exploiting it, reducing the emphasis on hot button issues like gay marriage and abortion, while focusing on genuinely important ones like poverty. For the sake of this bizarre American culture we have become fond of we hope this trend continues.



THE WORD OF GAD

Dear Ones – Please go back and read my words of truth over again from the beginning and let them seep more deeply and profoundly into your being. You won't regret it. Freedom from fear, worry, and guilt can be yours – truly!

GAD HAS SPOKEN



Is it okay if I begin after my nap?

