

# The 86 List

a.k.a.

# Death Row

## Fictional Ideas Observations And Other Literary Gems

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3-26-09 to 5-7-14

this is part of my  
Broken Stories Unfinished Dreams  
series  
(Perhaps the premier part.)

This is a list; and as such, it can be added to, subtracted from, or modified at any time with very little difference to the overall effect. Unlike most everything else in the Broken Stories Unfinished Dreams Series, this list may well be considered finished. For the most, I am through with it. And have stopped updating it.

Feel free to enjoy it as you like or turn the page at your own discretion.

Like what you see?  
Want to adopt an idea?  
Or transform parts of this list into something else?  
Let's work out a deal.  
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**DEATH ROW:** a list containing brief summarizations (in three lines or less) of characters, plots, items, and locales, which I decided not to pursue -- in some cases, for obvious reasons.

## **### Death Row - The 86 List ###**

(000) 000-0000: being the first and foremost, this is God's phone number. So, if you ever get a call from this number -- or God forbid -- miss a call from this number, now you know.

4<sup>th</sup> PERSON: some people like to address themselves in the third person. I like to address myself in the fourth.

17 VIRGINS NOW: how to beat the system and steal a mujahideen's harem without waiting for the happily here after. Counter terrorism never felt so good.

24 IS APROPOS OF NOTHING: a book explaining where the numbers in your life come from, their origin and hidden meaning.

80's (generation of the): freed from the banality of the slide rule, but not yet burdened with the tyranny of the computer.

100 WORDS: is a children's book that only uses a hundred words. But which 100? The object is to come up with unusual combinations. The inspiration was an "airplane wearing stairs."

201-A (A Space Odyssey): having to do with a manager of storage locker's attempt to film a SF epic, using the business as the film's setting. Final scene, he breaks into daylight.

911 CONSPIRACY: the explosion that caused the collapsed the buildings occurred when the fire finally reached the self-destruct mechanism -- ala James Bond 007.

1000: being a high concept life as art book. I will attempt to get laid a thousand times over the course of a year... and fail

miserably in the process each and every time.

1000 WORDS: saying a picture is worth a thousand words just means that a picture, diagram, or a photograph is a 1000x faster and easier to consume.

1000 WORDS: in this day of improbable commentary and assigned emotional intent, pictures tend to lie far less often than the words used to explain what they are supposed to mean.

2222 WORLD'S FAIR: being a guidebook to the future with the typical assortment of inaccurate guesses and naïve predictions... along with food, rides, and diverting amusements.

100,000: being the number of books and hours of film media (including TV shows) being produced a year. A number which means, the talent is getting spread pretty thin at this point.

A IS FOR ARM: it the Fredz -- Fred Leezard's -- alphabet book. A is for Arm. B is for Boy. C is for Chocolate. D is for... der gots to bes someting wit da dee. Oh'd, I'd know'd, da Donuts.

ABIGAIL (Gail): freckled-faced tomboy whose only concession to femininity is a fringed blouse, a candy necklace, and a bubble gum tattoo of a dancing pony located on her hand.

ABODES (can define a character): options include a house, barn, or cemetery; in and old morgue, firehouse, church, or bowling alley; or above a restaurant, bar, or bakery.

ABOUT the AUTHOR: Brett Paufler is a human being, so stop saying he's not. It's hurtful.

ABOUT the AUTHOR: Brett is a Cancer with a Libra rising. His favorite color is green, number 1018, while sexual preference

range all the way from Celaphopodian to Snow Elf.

**ACKNOWLEDGE:** enter the restaurant and the Kibbers “acknowledge” your presence. “Place” you at a table. And, “tally” your bill when you leave.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** the author’s contribution to a book is often not as great as it seems; the reader may well bring more.

**ADHD:** write like your readers have ADHD, because as a whole, the reading public does.

**AGGRESSIVE PILLOWS:** derives from an interior design term, but I’m sure this could be taken literally and made into a horror/comedy piece. Aggressive doesn’t necessarily mean smart.

**AGREEING TO DISAGREE:** the philosophy of investing, market forces at work.

**ALL MY BOOKS** (for lack of a better name): a storyline that revolves around rescuing the author’s lingerie high-heel wearing slut of a girlfriend...

**ALLSPICE INCIDENT** (the): man/woman is so clueless when it comes to cooking that they use “allspice” in a roast or to flavor a chicken, since you know, it’s the spice for all occasions.

**ALIEN AUTOPSY:** extraterrestrial who investigates UFO sightings, debunking them all -- as he searches for the real thing hoping something else is out there... besides humans.

**ALIEN REPORTER:** old 50’s style newspaper reporter is in actuality -- drum roll, please -- a Martian, complete with antennas and green skin, reporting the news to his kinfolk back home.

**ALLOWANCE WITHHOLDING:** for disability (in case can't do the dishes in future), FICA (food, income, school, & allowance), SS (big brother tax, never a popular one), and so on.

**AMERICAN BUDDHIST:** a secluded hand-hewn mountain fortress in the heart of the Rockies, which adheres to the ancient Buddhist traditions of hard work, no sleep, and a bowl of rice.

**AMORPHOUS NATURE OF PLAY:** the rules change over time, to avoid winning, to avoid losing, to avoid growing board, and to test the limits -- to see if this will work.

**ANCESTORS WITHIN (the):** living fragments of one's past as an explanation for the subconscious, Jungian experiences, voices in one's head, and other psychotic behavior.

**ANGEL (with blue hair):** scintillating, like the ocean, strands of silver and blue almost like a Christmas tree, yet less substantial, as if created of wisps of airy light and ethereal delight.

**ANGRY MAN:** seething just below surface, just short of spitting out his words, slow and even, all politically correct, but with the greatest reluctance and distaste (i.e. an employee).

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:** crazy psycho works at animal shelter, picks up hitchhiker, locks him in pen, and when no one comes to claim him in two weeks, puts him to sleep.

**ANIMAL CONVENTION (locale):** setting is a nexus point for ladybugs, locusts, rats, dogs, cats, birds, spiders, etc. Millions and millions of them infest a house, tree, yard, closet, or car.

**ANIMAL PSYCHIC:** a cat that can talk to humans and spends his life doing the talk show circuit, but on his deathbed, the

cat confesses that it was all a lie -- a sham.

ANIMALS (like): trapped in a barn, during a blowing rain, doors banging, squeaky weathervane, branches scraping, and who's outside? The farmer? Or worse, his psychotic daughter?

ANIMALS: live in forested wood, have to pass through sewer under road to get to town and work. Rat collects the toll. Bird plays guitar and sings. Raccoon carries garbage pail. Etc.

ANNA BU: a name from a dream, nothing more.

ANTIDISESTABLISHMENTARIANISM: a word whose fame vastly outstrips its meaning.

ANTI-HONEYMOON (the): thriller, flashbacks of wife's violent death haunts widower as he goes on second honeymoon, retracing steps of the first. In the end, he's the killer... or she.

APPENDIX ITEMS: classified ads, will trade this for that, informational/genealogy requests, lost and found, personal ads, missed paths, pet exchange, and so on.

ARE YOU STILL HERE: rude waitress drives man's date away, hooks up with him, only to subsequently drive him away, as well. It's what you've got to ask yourself: are you still here.

ART: is the expression of a thought or feeling, nothing more. It need not be original or executed with style, grace, or talent. And good art? That's all in the eye of the beholder.

ART: is like a force of nature, like gravity almost; it cannot be ignored nor can it be denied. The artist as one who is overwhelmed by his muse, beaten down, and broken.

ART (erotic): a tight, round, brown bottom, it may not be art, but I know what I like.

ART (modern): is chiefly comprised of artisan projects. Viewing them is akin to watching someone else climb a mountain, sink a putt, or skip a stone seventeen times across a pond.

ART SPIRIT (The, by Robert Henri): a book about painting. But then, no. It's about art. A work I can heartily recommend to all who find themselves interested in pursuing a career in the arts.

ARTSY RESTURANT: instead of a dessert tray, they have paintings that they carry around. "Care to view the spaghetti sauce, sir. This is an original, Patel." Whoever Patel might be.

ASPIRING ADVENTURERS: is a father son organization (like Indian Chiefs or Cub Scouts) designed to foster a love of adventuring, the thrill of the chase, and a desire to kill monsters.

ASSOCIATE (the): crazy mom who thinks she's working at a department store. Doorbell chime goes, "Special assistance required at the front door, please," and so on.

AUNTIE: a kiss that'll give you nightmares. We all have our relatives we could do without. Now's your chance.

AUNTIE'S PASTA: the type of place the Old Crone would run... and then not serve any pasta. "It's the Anti Pasta Place. You want Pasta? Go to Anti Cheeseburgers or something."

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A LIAR: wet dream stuff explaining how I invented the Internet, am a spy, directed the James Bond series, dated Brooke Shields, and so on.

AWAITING THE END (and you will be too): a play about

three guys trapped in a room awaiting the end. Nuclear war? Global warming? Zombies? Who knows? They certainly don't.

**BACKGROUND SOUNDS:** have been identifying markers of certain locales for me: church bells in Walnut Creek, air raid siren in Kamuela, HI, jetfighter flyovers in Arkansas, and so on.

**BAD INFLUENCE (the):** an adult tracks down a childhood chum his parents stopped letting him play with, because he was a "bad influence," only to find him serving a life sentence in prison.

**BAD SIGN (in a relationship):** when your significant other says, "I fear you are in my life to teach me something." Fair enough, I say, lesson learned.

**BAD SMELL (see LOUD ROOM):** looking for a source for bad smells in your story? Try a landfill, crematorium, or an Indian general store and their over the top use of incense and spices.

**BAD START:** divorced, a man goes on a date, which ends in the false accusation of rape. "No one makes a one night stand out me," she hisses as the cops take him away. And thus, it begins.

**BAD TO WORSE (from):** classic plotline: just when you thought things couldn't get any worse, they do. Of course, true love wins in the end, so the out is falling in love.

**BAG BLOWING (in the) BREEZE:** OK, artistically, American Beauty may have a prior claim on this, but that bag circling around in the wind remains intriguing to watch.

**BALONEY:** is a Huckleberry Finn, Dennis the Menace, Archie, Jughead type character of about eight who is messy and likes practical jokes, but has a heart of gold.

**BAREFOOT:** pair of barefoot girls in the marketplace (mall, main street) who are thieving gypsies, which would probably mean children of hippies and bohemians at this point, stealing to survive.

**BARRING THE FANGS:** a vampire impersonator (blood in fridge, into antiques) seduces girls with the promise of thralldom, but the tables are turned when he encounters the real thing.

**BEACH BUMMS:** coffee heir picks up girls on the beach. When he is seen burying the last (she dies of a fever) the cops come to investigate, but he gets off. Coincidence or Biocide?

**BEAST OF BURDER (come on):** I want you to be my beast of burden. Of course, I also want to be your most excellent rider... the jockey of your dreams.

**BEEP-BEEP:** is a dance game the kids at a church play -- everyone dances and shows off their stuff until someone says Beep-Beep and then it's time for the next. Happy. Carefree.

**BEFORE THE PAINT PEELS:** before the annual surf competition, a town paints itself... and the girls put on their make-up. Story of one of those rags to bikinis to riches stories.

**BENIGN VIRUS:** a virus targets the enemies of its host for elimination. Of course once the enemy is infected, the original hosts position in the scheme of things must be reevaluated.

**BEST HOPE:** being the current writing project which offers one the best hope of being published and making a name for oneself. For me right now that would be "Goldest."

**BIBLIOTHECA:** story of girl who grows up in a library and is raised by a robotic librarian. Her world is the books and the protected grounds. Until one day...

**BIG C (the):** nervous system skin cell cancer that evolves into sentient tattoos (or brands), easily portable as virus or a genetically engineered calculator, antenna, or cosmetic upgrade.

**BIRTHDAYS:** none left, I used them all up (ala vacation days). Which is just as well, now I can grow as old as I want and not age a day.

**BLACK:** is the color of the working class (waiters, chefs, and beauticians), for they mourn their fate as workers. And if I had to work for a living, I suppose I'd be in mourning, too.

**BLACK CORN:** a biotech hybrid , which includes all three types of chlorophyll.

**BLACK UMBRELLAS:** funeral parade of black umbrellas in the rain. A surreal scene (from Across the Universe), following the mourners until you get to the place of death and destruction.

**BOARDWALK:** through a tepid swamp, over a raised wooden boardwalk, the path (whatever path we are walking down) continues on crookedly, following the contour of the land.

**BOGUS BOB:** has been rumored to borrow things that aren't his own.

**BONSAI:** these are actually Treants in miniature held in bondage for the day when they will be needed to walk the Earth once again.

**BOWLING:** as a test of magical strength. Two wizards face off, trying to throw strikes, while each uses magic to aid themselves and hinder their opponent. Highest score wins.

**BUDDHIST BIBLE SCHOOL:** presents the opportunity to commit heresy in two religions at the same time.

**BURNING MAN:** I've never been to Burning Man, so is it presumptuous to say, I want to leave it behind?

**BUSHEL BASKET:** is what she used to carry her tax returns and paperwork around in. Sweet old lady, fond of gardening and the like, or so, one would think.

**BIG FISH, LITTLE FISH:** a stoic, intellectually minded vampire decides other vampires are the "ultimate prey" and overcoming his revulsion, hunts his own kind to extinction.

**BIKE BUM:** seemingly crazy dude pulls around a rack of clothes, but if you try them on, the outfits confirm magical powers. Still, it's best to wear thermals and shower afterwards.

**BIKE TOUR:** tour of a college campus from the vantage of a mountain bike. Not much of a plot. More of an experiential segment weaving around students, while evading security.

**BIPOLAR GENERATOR:** works some of the time and others not.

**BIRD RUGBY:** what those birds are doing with that piece of bread you just tossed them at your favorite restaurant.

**BIRDIE-BIRDIE:** precocious pet store bird runs away by hiding in a customer's pocket and thus starting his journey on the Avian Railroad... or the hassles of living with a cat.

**BIRDS (going to the):** it starts simply enough with a pair of birds building a nest in the eve. Then they get possessive, dive bomb passersby, think they own the house, and chirp all night.

BIS-Q: high end type biscuit snacks sold in sardine cans, which come in multiple flavors (raisin rum, date pudding, and the ever popular double chocolate chip).

BLAST IT ALL: struggling writer's ex-girlfriend writes a book on a lark, sends it off, it gets published, and makes the best seller list. Of course, the book is about what a jerk the author is.

BOOK MARKS: choose them carefully for you will see much of them. I clip "great" works of art out of magazines, myself.

BOOKCASE (the): visitor makes host defend the ownership and thesis of every book on their bookshelf.

BOOT CAMP (see SEX THERAPIST): Sub/Dom survivalist extremist camp where instead of having the ground patrolled by snarling dogs, it is patrolled by snarling naked women in chains.

BOOKS (most): are words instead of information, filler instead of content, and worst of all, are one very small idea taking a long boring book to explain. Don't suck. Don't do that.

BRAIN: a brain the size of a planet -- six billion and going strong... or perhaps it is the moss, the mold, and the mildew, which rule the world.

BRETT PAUFLER (author bio): a name most fortuitously devoid of any prior publishing credits (as of 5-11-09 anyway). If I wasn't so cool, I'd intimidate myself.

BRETT PAUFLER (author bio): a delightful combination of haughty ignorance and unmitigated arrogance.

**BROKEN AVATAR:** comedy. An avatar is the human vessel that a god or demon inhabits while on Earth. This is the story about an avatar that is highly unsuited for the god it hosts.

**BROKEN SOCIETY (the):** perhaps being the opposite of family values. I believe this is a catch phrase in the UK denoting the failure of modern society... to be both civilized and modern.

**BROKEN VICES (true):** first I found the glass hash pipe (broken), then the glass of whiskey (full of flies and a moth), then came the boy asking to be friends (let's just assume he had AIDS).

**BRONTE:** after saying "the world of literature would be far better place if the works of the Bronte sisters were blotted from existence," a professor is haunted by the sisters spiteful spirits.

**BRUISE:** it the nickname of a degenerative disease in which the person's body becomes easily bruised and ends up looking like "spoiled fruit."

**BUTTERFLY WINGS:** if the wings of butterfly's can do so much, imagine what you could do with a well-aimed ceiling fan, a kitchen blender, or a jet engine.

**BUZZ (all the):** a website and so much more. It's All the Buzz. 1-800-Buz-zzzz. At [www.Buzz.buz](http://www.Buzz.buz). And so on. Why get the news when you can get the buzz?

**BY THIS POST (may all men know):** malicious ex-girlfriend destroys an artist's body of work by tossing drawings and belongings into rain. Artist retaliates by posting account to web.

**CAA:** the Conman Association of America, where our motto is suck the suckers dry. Why steal when you may simply defraud? Setting the bar low since 1866: morals, ethics, etc.

CALENDAR: niece receives an outdated calendar for Christmas. As she makes entries, the past reconfigures to conform with her instructions, leading to a magical duel with uncle.

CAPITALISM: the degree to which a society is capitalistic can be measured by the number of different goods and services in all their manifestations available to meet the citizen's needs.

CAPTURE THE FLAG: HS seniors playing one last game in the downtown area, Main Street the dividing line (maybe add GP tracking units), fond farewell, last blast, ala American Graffiti.

CARAMEL ICE CREAM: now with fewer chicken beaks.

CARMEL POPS (director): instead of hiring actors, he just kills student volunteers, that is, until the local student film group starts filming a movie of their own, offing his crew in retaliation.

CARAMEL POPS: "Peanuts, popcorn, butter, sugar, and salt... and a free prize in every package." Prize is whatever a character needs at the moment {clue, key to jail cell, etc.}.

CARDBOARD BUSINESS CARDS: ala bag lady. Will Work For Food Industries, Inc. Torn grocery bag as paper, marker style writing.

CARNY STORY: relating how two friends worked as skills for the traveling carnival, carrying around a huge stuffed rabbit, only to be stiffed in the end.

CARPENTER ANTS: genetic engineered insects are trained to build houses and manufacture goods. Spiders work as welders. Bees fly in supplies as needed. Ants do the heavy lifting, etc..

CARPET GRASS: no doubt a play on words. I dreamt of my old living room carpeted in grass and woke up thinking: this is the house of the future.

CASH ONLY: the credit card machine breaks down, so the store will only take cash for the day, setting up the robbery that night and making sure the till will be full.

CAST IRON ROBOT: may be the name of an existing comic book; should be, if it's not. A robot made of cast iron components, who's out of touch and doesn't trust transistors, etc.

CATATONIC YOGA: she sits in a window (eye of the mind) and holds the same position for eons... until someone comes along and moves her, changing what is seen through the window.

CATCH PHRASES: some believe it is useful to list in advance the catchphrases different characters will use. As in, Hey, Howza, Howdy, Know what I mean, and so on.

CAT DREAMS: sleeping next to a cat, I have followed him down the Rabbit Hole, and now dream his dreams, and tell his stories.

CAT FACTS: every year, six million cats starve to death while their owners look at paint samples and fabric swatches, waiting to get fed... boyfriends, too.

CAT MURDERER: instead of being a detective, the cat is a murderer.

CAT NAP: a cat sleeps next to its owner and feeds the man his dreams... of another time and another place. Acting as its conduit, the man writes the cat's stories, symphonies, and songs.

CAT WITH AMNESIA: just seems silly to me. No doubt, it's owner is convinced the cat has amnesia -- can't remember who he or his owner is... and hence, all the scratching.

CAT YO-YO (invention): sponge rubber, yarn covered yo-yo for use with cats as a clawing toy.

CATNIP: is like perfume, cats roll around in it covering themselves in it -- like a young tween getting ready for their first date.

CAULDRONS (ten): blazing hot, blue fires jet towards the heavens like searchlights. Arranged in a triangle on tilting spigots, when aligned together, their light shines through the planes.

CELEBRITY: lottery prize where the winner receives great notoriety: goes on the talk show circuit, the paparazzi follow them about, while members of the opposite sex are happy to oblige...

CELLI: with his magical, almost otherworldly, arrogance, he leaves other writers far behind, eating his dust.

CELLI (Letters From): a collection of short musings and rants on stories that might have been and other observations twisted to the Dragon Bound universe, ala Celli.

CHANNELING THE WORDS: become nothing but the story. Through you, let the words flow. And if that's not helpful advice for how to write quality stories, I don't know what is.

CHAOS BRIDGE: is the Bridge Over Troubled Waters, is the green iron bridge over the delta near Walnut Grove, CA. Remember how the sun danced like diamonds through the grating?

CHARISE WILDFLOWER: loyal assistant to a blind wizard.

She helps him see the magical lines of force and he tells her what to do with them.

CHARITY: I hate it when they try to hit you up for a donation at the check out. It's sort of like the clerk saying, "And would you like to buy my lunch for me today?" The answer is no.

CHARMED: a church altar/nave is decorated with charms and necklaces. Pulling back, a member of the congregation puts a charm in the collection basket, leading to a flashback, the story.

CHAUVINIST (the): a man who desires the company of other men because they are less problematic -- owing to the lack of sexual desire, which cause his emotions to tumble uneasily.

CHEATER: a person falsely accused of cheating, is victim of cheating but cannot (or will not) divulge this fact, or more simply, the tally is struck incorrectly, but once marked cannot be changed.

CHEATING (It was almost like): a man's wife goes on vacation. He stays home and lives it up by eating a giant pot of Spagetti-Os, drinking beer, blasting music, and watching sitcoms.

CHESS: real name Jess, is a punk (emo/goth) girl who is into Chess (hence the name), and focuses on the board with great intensity like a dog intent on the ball.

CHEZ PRETENSE: a generic restaurant review written by Eddie Takosori isn't about the restaurant at all, but rather concerns his date for the evening and his prognosis for success.

CHIQUITA: Brazilian dancer who moved up to the states and got a degree in law. Basically, it's just a sexy sounding name to me at this point.

CHOCOLATE: there's a metaphor for life hidden inside a smooth, creamy cup of hot chocolate. Down to the last little dregs, spooning it out, rich and thick, savoring every last drop.

CHOCOLATE BAR (poker chips): the real way to get girls interested in playing strip poker... and assuring your win to boot (as the girls will, undoubtedly, start nibbling on their booty).

CHOCOLATE MARTINI: a jigger of vodka, a shot of cocoa, and a dash of sugar. Have no idea what it tastes like, but I'm willing to guess it's the only way to fly.

CHURCH (the): told from the point of view of an angel or true believer. Preacher falls -- succumbing to the will of evil -- but all is not lost. In his decline, countless others are saved.

CHURCH GROUP (stuff): letters to God, trust falls, circle of chairs (sit on next person's lap), group hug, singing Shalom, promises to self, burnt offerings, wine chalice communion, etc.

CINDERELLA SALAD (recipe): make three egg salad sandwiches, cut off crusts and serve to step sisters. Take left over egg goop, serve on lettuce and garnish with bread crusts. Enjoy.

CIRCLING CIRCLES (of Circling Circles): a SpiroGraph application for the computer. I may make this yet.

CIRCUS TENT'S: true purpose is to keep-out the ogling eyes of non-paying spectators. The parade through town may be free, but the rest is going to cost you.

CLARENCE INKWELL: I do believe he will write something one day. Perhaps this is Clarence the Boogeyman's pen name from the Dragon Bound series.

CLASS WAR (explained): the upper uses the power of the lower (the mob) to squeeze the most out of the middle.

CLASSROOM of the WORLD: as a writer, the world is my classroom. As a writer of fantastical fiction, it should be noted that I play hooky most of the time.

CLEANING UP: trio of door to door vacuum cleaner salesmen invade a house and do a “cat in the hat” number on the place -- party, make a mess, and steal jewels (as payment).

CLOTHING STORE: as the setting for a play. Day in the life of a clerk, seeing a transaction from various view points: window shopping, buying, returning, stocking, and reselling.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER: discussion with a street person grew unpleasant as he talked about violence and material inequality. Walking away, he called after me, “Trust your instincts.”

COAT RACK (creature): lives in and about coat rack full of half eaten, moth and lice infected clothing... but happy to share a bit of his food if you're cold. Nice enough fellow. Shy.

COAT RACK: is inhabited by a pet-like gremlin -- kind of heart, but murder on clothes.

COCKROACH STORY: of roaches invading house; dropping in hair, books, and pockets; getting in appliances; vacuuming behind refrigerator; and finally eradicating.

COCKTAIL PARTY with a GRECIAN URN (art installation): urn at center surrounded by comfy chairs, Keats “Ode to a Grecian Urn,” and (why not?) a coffee-urn for refreshment.

CODEPENDENCE (a reflection upon): I am codependent

upon my kitty-cat. I am a kitty-cat enabler.

COFFEE TABLE BONSAI: sort of a terrarium, forest grove scene, set low as a coffee table. "Just set your coffee down on the rock. If you need a toothpick, use the spruce."

COLOR CODED: paint by numbers mystery, for the kindergarten crowd.

COLORIZING OLD STORIES: you know how those old action stories lack a certain emotional content; just go back and write it in -- colorize it... and add a few adverbs while you're at it.

COIN MACHINE (shoveling pennies into for redemption): another one of those "copper" type treasures (high bulk and low value).

COMMENTARY: at end of movie, book, etc.. "What we just saw here... movie making history." A grandiose recap.

COMMENTARY (end of movie): "What we just saw was movie making history. I'd like to take you back to the pivotal scene... This will change the way movies are made forever."

COMMENTARIAT (the): aka, all those talking heads.

COMMON DENOMINATOR (the): third marriage over, working on her fourth, she'd wasted the best years of her life, without considering that she was the common denominator.

COMMUNAL MIND: when a cold like virus has infected enough hosts, the beings involved come together telepathically -- with the whole being more than the sum of the parts.

COMMUNIST MANIFESTO (stock advice, video): weekly

stock advice based on an unclear understanding of capitalism and an even more distorted interpretation of Marxism.

CONCEPT ART: must always fall short of the ideal, for the physical world is a poor conduit of the ethereal. The products of the imagination easily outstrip those of the greatest craftsman.

CONDESCENDING NARRATOR: not just talking down to the audience, but talking way down... like way, way down... like really way, way down. Understand? No, you probably still don't.

CONNECT THE DOTS (advanced): with different size, style, and color lines, more of a paint by number, really.

CONSCIENTIOUS: a wizard's spells work wonderfully unless he thinks about what might go wrong, because then they do. His negative new apprentice isn't helping matters any.

CONVERSATIONAL NARRATIVE: as in a movie voiceover wherein two (or more) people are having a discussion to explain the situation. As contrasted to a simple narrative.

COOLNESS (the essence): under pressure, the cool look for the excitement and action; they look for the party. The un-cool run and hide. "I don't want to leave without find what's up?"

COPY KAT: girl who mimics another character by copying what they say, stealing their catchphrase, wearing the clothes and outfits, and in general mimicking another character in a storybook.

COPYRIGHT (solution): in many cases, referencing a specific work may be just as good as including the work. The Litany Against Fear is a searchable term, as are paintings, etc.

CORPORATE GAME (the): over the top game of dart gun

“Assassin” played from hire to fire, a hired gun (golden haired trigger boy) is brought in to take out the guys in marketing.

COSTCO: with its oversized containers and forced buying by the case, Costco has done more to reduce the risk of famine in this country in the last ten years than anything else I know of.

COUNTRY ROAD: open only on the weekends, Saturday dawn to Sunday sunset, caught otherwise and you get a ticket. Right of way is where you stand, and not a step further.

CREW (the): behind every honorable and working computer program, there is a bevy of slackers and malingering subroutines whose only desire is to muck up the works -- this is their story.

CRITICAL ERROR: 90% in school is an A. If 1% of 1% of 1% of what we know is wrong, that means every one of us believes in countless fallacies, which we know to be true, but which aren't.

CROSS ROADS: is a key city on the caravan trade route. Don't know much more about it than this. Originally for Dragon Bound, but never used. No doubt, it predates the K'fr Highway.

CRUEL WORLD (Goodbye): a portrait falls off the wall, committing suicide. Or more elaborately, once broken the frame is sent to the repair shop where it acts as a sort of voodoo doll.

CRYING WOLF (better half, the): wife leaves on a long vacation, so to spice things up around the home front, husband behaves in such a way as to convince the neighbors he killed her.

CUBISM: narrative tone is established by envisioning cubist paintings and then describing the characters, actions, and scenes as such. Some stories are comic, this one is cubist... or abstract.

CULT (the): a freewheeling religious society with a storefront on Venice Beach, whose resident philosophers are expected to give open air sermons to tourists on the hour.

CULT OF BONDAGE (the): designer bracelets, sold high end by the pair. My interpretation of a dream: as a way of signaling a desired or shared relationship or situation.

CULT OF ONE: a man is on an endless road trip wherein he stops at every church he sees and gives a sermon. Typically this happens Wednesday around 3pm and no one takes notice.

CULTURAL COMMUNISM: each according to their ability and each according to their need holds true in science, art, culture, and all other social expressions and intellectual pursuits.

C-SCOUTS: a highbrow concept retooling scouting from an adult fetish perspective. One gets merit badges of appropriate type for appropriate accomplishments (ala pearl necklace).

CUMIN: it's what goes on fajita meat.

CURE (the): a man moves into an underground apartment that turns out to be the headquarters for the swarm. Of course, he only sees the place for what it really is when he drinks heavily

CUSTOMER SERVICE: "Thank you for using our automated phone service. If you have been... highly dissatisfied press #5. Why did you press #5? Do you want me to be fired?"

COMICS: are inefficiency incubators for the youth, channel their energies and tames their minds. Or so, Brad Pitt, playing the role of a cultural saboteur in a dream I once had, told me.

DADDY: all a hard working, industrious man wants is to

father children. He travels around the country siring hundreds. Eventually he winds up in Heaven -- King of the Trailer Park.

DARLING (being cute): 'silently' singing in pantomime silence when I told her to shut up and stop with the noise, already.

DARLING'S BOOK: self-tilted, The Cute Little Girl That I Was: As related by My Darling. Or if not that, then: Chipping Away the Parts that Aren't the Girl by the Girl.

DAILY DOSE: Mighty Mite & The Green Gene are possible names for a food supplement made out of concentrated mitochondria or purified DNA.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS: is a (not so) secret government tax enabling the Feds to steal an hour of daylight from every citizen for use in covert operations and to horde for the coming blackout.

DAYS OF MY LIFE: just a simple rip utilizing the characters from my life in suburbia. As to the plot, perhaps an argument with the homeowners association gets way out of hand.

DEATH STAR (Personal): stolen movie line from Fan Boys? Your life's great accomplishment, "Luke destroyed the Death Star, what's my Death Star?" an oddly suitable name in the context.

DECORATING WITH DIGNITY: is the name of Darling's future interior design company... or at least, in theory. Later, when I mentioned the name, she had no idea what I was talking about.

DESERT: hawks juxtaposed with airplanes against the desert sky. The bristle of stunted leaves. An almost total silence... except for the rumble from the distant highway. (now with more poems)

DIALOGUE: "I loathe dialogue in novels." "Then I guess

that makes it the perfect way to start a story." "Very artsy." "Very ironic." "Very... pedestrian." "Exactly."

DIAPER WEARING ROCK GODS: and their one big hit, Nap Time's Over. Other songs include, Nursery School Blues, ABC's (is) for Fools, & LMNOP's My Favorite Letter.

DINNER (concept art): as meal is eaten, it is recorded, while in the background a movie of the previous meal plays, ad infinitum. He's eaten with Kings, and now, so have you.

DIRTY THERAPIST: traces immoral and unethical steps a drug rehab counselor takes to seduce a young girl in recovery. He does this serially? She breaks his heart? He winds up relapsing?

DISCO SUCKS: for a long time now, I've wanted to own the Disco brand name and rejuvenate it along the lines of this salacious innuendo. Disco Sucks... what more could you ask for?

DIVINE PATH, the (Golden Book, the): the ultimate book that takes into account the reader and the writer, both sides of the equation. Probably would be a philosophical treatise, as well.

DOG TOWN BEACH: local werewolf hangout, everyone jumps gate to get in... except for the skinny girls who squeeze through... and I just might have a boat anchored offshore.

DOLLAR: how much I have thought about charging for my first book if I publish it myself. Sell it cheap. Get the exposure. And treat it as a loss leader. (Turns out a buck was too high...)

DON'T KILL (I shall not): in thought, word, or deed. The odds of ever being in a situation where this would be appropriate are slim at best. The rest of the time, it's a waste of mental effort.

DON'T KILL (I shall not -- definitive): existence is a test and this is the hardest part to pass. Once you are unwilling to kill for any reason, you transcend to a higher plane of consciousness.

DON'T JUDGE (I shall not): these rules are for myself and myself alone. Comparing my life with another's can only cause me to lose sight of my own salvation -- their path is not my own.

DON'T STEAL (I shall not): over time the risks outweigh the rewards. And the long shot occurrences (like finding a million dollars) that skew the results will likely never happen.

DON'T STEAL (I shall not -- definitive): prevents one from becoming an outside competitive threat, revolutionary, or rabble-rouser. It is an affirmation to play the game by the rules.

DOWSER (the): a dowser should be able to find anything: missing dog, lost money, and treasure along with the more intangibles like a girlfriend, a good job, and a nice place to live.

DOORBELL: mounted on inside of house so no one can ring.

DOORMAN: doesn't just hail cabs and hold the door open, also cleans the lobby, coordinates traffic, and rules his domain, ala The Tyrant at the Front Door.

DRAGON DUCKS: ducks lived down in the canals of Walnut Creek. They made the perfect study for a race of miniature dragons, with the canal serving as a dungeon... or endless road.

DREAM APARTMENT: there is an apartment my Darling owns in her dreams; but when she is awake, she cannot remember where it is. This is where I go to do my writing.

DREAM SMUGGLER: what I'm going to tell people I do for

a living once I win the lottery. “No dream too small. No fee too large.”

DREAM SMUGGLER (business card): No dream to small, No fee to big. Professional dream smuggler, clairvoyant, and conman: the best of all worlds. (known to repeat himself...)

DREAMS: in days of old, did Kings communicate to their followers via dreams? Or did the peasants only think so? “But you said...” “Yes, well. Next time, don’t wake up in the middle.”

DRIP: is a drug, which causes one to sweat profusely as the Water of Life flows through one’s body. Made by drying a bit of bog peat over a fire and removing the solids. What remains is drip.

DRIP LORD of the: skeletal warlord is awakened when drippers use his catacomb to get high. Because he feels most alive when lying next to someone in withdrawal, he becomes a pusher.

DRIP SLIME: green ooze that appears on one’s body from habitual use of Drip. Dripping gelatinous globs like melting wax, thin threads intermeshed, and the smell of noxious, fetid water.

DR POOP: a Who parody, who utilizes a Port-a-Potty to travel around the universe... or at least, from state fair to state fair.

DRUNK GOLF: love the scene where the fraternity brothers haze the newcomer by having him hold a golf tee in his mouth and then drive a golf from it... through the dean’s window, of course.

DUCK (Charlie): after watching a late night movie, Charlie decides to migrate to Alaska like they used to do in the old days, but nobody wants to join him, so he goes it alone, and on the way...

DUELING SECURITY GUARDS: compete for control of

their shopping center and the story. "From the Shoe Shack to the Thai Garden is my turf. Don't be crossing the line."

DUST: by dust the interdependence of space, time, and matter is proved. As in, dust (matter) accumulates on nearly everything (space) if it is given enough... time.

EASTER WINE: ditzy broad colors Easter eggs with her husband's expensive wine collection. He would have gotten mad, but he tried one, and they were pretty darn good... tasty, that is.

EATING YOUR TEARS: this is just a bit of symbolism I've been noticing -- folks who cry tears into their food. It can't be a good omen -- eating your unhappiness, consumed by your grief.

ECHO PHRASE: is a writing technique utilized to end a story or article. Rather than circling a story around to the beginning, one merely goes back to a phrase and echoes it.

EDINBURGH: derided by its superior neighbors, a crime-ridden cesspool hangs its future on universal education and quickly becomes the regional hub of all of the arts and sciences.

EDUCATION OF FRAN STEIN (the): cut and paste of the old Frankenstein mythology, reset in the modern age. Of course, my mind turns to an ugly girl and her electronic companion...

EGOTISTICAL INTERVIEWER: rather than ask questions, the interviewer talks about himself and how the interviewee relates to the interviewer. "That reminds me of a time I..."

ELEGANCE CONSULTANT: is Darling... or quality control, good at either. While I'm at it, I might as well mention the concept of a Philosophical Agnostic well -- being unable to decide.

**ELF-CENTRIC:** a complaint most goblins, orcs, and other hordlings have whilst reading fantasy fiction. “How come you never hear about hot orcin babes? That’s all I’m saying.”

**ELSIE** (as in Love Child, i.e. LC): her mother was a show winner, her father a tom. Kidnapped at birth, the cat Elsie is heir to a litter-box fortune if only her true identity can be discovered.

**ELVES & ART:** Dwarves work in foundries because they have to. Whereas, Elves write poems, sing, dance, paint, and so on, because they can... because they want to.

**EMBRACE THE STARS:** a poetry book written by a lonely short haul, intra-stellar, shuttle pilot during his off hours.

**EMOTIONAL SUPPORT CAT** (an): has a nasty disposition because if they had to work for a living, they’d much rather be a search and rescue dog.

**ENERGY DIFFERENTIAL:** the space-time continuum flows from the null of space (the void) into matter and energy. The flow, matter, and energy are all the same, intertwined, and identical.

**ENGLISH:** Harry Potter and Jane Austin both benefit by having England as a secondary story underwriting the first. It adds a dimension of the exotic for American readers.

**ERRATA:** in my previous book, the boy was a girl, the father a son, and instead of a dead body, what Tim (now Tina) actually found was a puppy. Sorry for any confusion this may have caused.

**EVIL STEP AUNT:** Evil Step Mother brings in the reinforcements, her sister. Together they shop, gossip, drink a little wine, and foil the forces of good, “Like your boyfriend.”

**EXERCISE IN EXISTENTIALISM:** like wearing green for a year, only having 1018 belongings, walking the Pacific Coast Trail, or any other affectation or meaning seeking activity.

**FABULOUS PRIZES:** kids who play games (sack race, hide and seek, kick the can) for fabulous trips and prizes (cars, TVs, refrigerators, & stereos). “I don't want to play for nothing.”

**FACE TO FACE** (an exercise): facing each other, two people must say that which they don't wish to. “I hate you.” “Ah, but that is something you really wanted to say.”

**FAGGOT BOY:** scarecrow made out of bundles of sticks or a robot assembled from 2x4's, bolts, and the like. Perhaps these are two different characters. Perhaps they are enemies.

**FAILURE OF MONEY** (the): is that it fails to differentiate between good and evil. Unlike wampum in which every string of beads has a history and it is the history that determines its value.

**FALL** into the **WORDS:** insecure young man stares longingly at girls in the library, but hides inside a story whenever they come near. Eventually, one goes into the story after him.

**FAMILY:** a movie should have a family's worth of “interactives” in it.

**FAMILY HEARTH** (the): slice of life saga which concerns itself with the sounds that can be heard around the fire over the holidays.

**FAIRY TALE** (the movie): enter the world of bad actors, hackneyed scripts, and forced emotional dramatic crescendo as we retell the same stories you've heard a million times before.

FANTASY DETECTIVE STORY (first line): I knew she was a courtesan from the Courts of Chaos the minute she walked through the door.

FAT MAN: guests mysteriously disappear at a dinner party. The cause: a fat man has been sitting down without looking behind him and the missing guests are to be found in the folds of his fat.

FATHER'S LABOR (a lament): I was stuck in that waiting room for 16 hours, couldn't smoke, couldn't sleep, and all they had left in the vending machine was unsalted peanuts... I hate peanuts.

FERRET BOY: a man keeps a ferret in his army jacket or maybe it's a girl who has one living in her purse (that's actually better). Ferret acts as an icebreaker and occasionally steals things.

FETID SWAMP: backyard pool overlaid as a fetid swamp full of cultural decay and so forth... perhaps during a holiday picnic.

FEUD (the): two alpha males duke it out by regressing to their childhood and engaging in purple nurples, ding dong ditch, phone calls at night, and so on, to the amusement of their wives.

FEUDING DUET (a): open competing bars in the same town where they "crone it out" every night of the week, singing variations of the same song, only different.

FLASHBACK: for a farce (F+ ?) wouldn't it be great for the villain to escape into a flashback at the end of the story?

FLEA MARKET RULES: 1) Everything shows up eventually. 2) The first price is not the best price. 3) Buyer beware. 4) And it's probably stolen, broken, or a forgery.

FLEX VOGEL: a Free Booter and/or Storm Trooper. Mythic German fighter from WWI who killed for the sheer love of it, who saw war as as the ultimate test of courage, valor, and strength.

FLEX VOGEL: sounded so real to me that upon editing this list for posting, I had to do a web search. I guess he's my creation. I love it when I get lost in my own stuff.

FLUFFIES: a race of creatures descended from stuffed animals.

FIGHT: remember that fight you or someone else had in elementary school. Change the names, alter a few key facts, add the perspective of time, and you've got yourself a story.

FIGHT, KILL, DIE: these guys are scary. The Anarchists Manifesto. Death to the oppressor... and whether we live to tell the tale or not is totally unimportant and beside the point.

FIGHTING the URGE: Right then and there on that first morning, I resolved not to hit her, no matter what she did. I know, your probably thinking I'm a nice guy, an angel, but I'm not.

FINANCIAL INTERVENTION: like a drug intervention, only for money. "And what's this? A \$6.50 latte? I can't believe you came here with a \$6.50 latte in your hand!"

FIREMAN: is the ultimate Halloween costume. You stay warm, are waterproof, wear a reflective outfit, and everyone defers to you because they think you're a real fireman. How cool is that?

FIVE MINUTE FLU: a writer gets sick and loses his ability to write. Perhaps a metaphor for growing old and senile. The concept easily transfers to work skills, sports, or hobby interests.

**FLESH GOLEM:** Frankenstein was ugly and dumb but he had a soul. How about a smart, sexy gal immortalized at her prime, whose got everything but that special spark?

**FOG PHOTO (The One that Got Away):** magazine article about a photograph I wish I had taken of two skateboarders in the fog. The worst part is, I was holding my camera at the time.

**FOOD BANK COUPONS:** good for a free meal at the local soup kitchen. Just what every bum needs.

**FOUND MONEY:** an essay or character which answers the age old question: If you found a penny lying on the ground every few feet, would you, could you, find enough to live on?

**FOUND MONEY II:** using the found money example above to discuss how difficult it is to communicate with another due to the different assumptions we bring to the most trivial of problems.

**FOUR HUMORS (characters):** sanguine, choleric, melancholic, and phlegmatic. Perhaps at a table playing cards or lazing on the shore, having a picnic, and fishing. Think Seurat.

**FREE UPGRADE:** a certificate entitling bearer to one free upgrade from a good day to great, great to excellent, and so on. Why have an ordinary day, when you can have a magistical day?

**FRESHLY ORGANIZED CLUTTER:** what it means to move a mess from one side of the room to the other, from bed to floor, garage to shed, etc.

**FRIENDSHIP:** be a friend to your characters, the likes of which they have never known. This goes for your audience as well. They are not to be tricked, lied to, or deceived.

FUCK (the fucking scene): in every fucking fucked-up flick in which the fucking fuck who doesn't have a fucking real role says, "Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!" so as get a fucking R rating. WTF!

FUGLY: a girl so ugly she has to hide her face behind a veil. Conveniently, this means it never need be seen or described. Does she save the day? Find true love? Or wind up with a quirky job?

FU MAN CHU: player, self styled ladies man, dances to the Muzak as he flirts with the ladies in his jewelry store and racks up the... "sales." Half Chinese, Fu Man Chu, loads of silver rings.

GABBY (concept): read the book through from Gabby's point of view, flip it over and then read it from Ken's. Circular never ending story. Hopefully humorous, romantic, and a bit dark.

GABBY (plot): young bride who likes to dress up like other people has a psychotic break and starts to see her made up selves as separate beings. Must save her unborn child from The Duke.

GABBY (character list): Gabby plays herself, Dee, & Nicole. Ken plays himself, Dazzler, and The Duke. The star-dog is named Cosmo and light-cat is Aurora.

GABBY - GABBY: lucky young girl married well to a man who loves her. Spends her days going to college for personal enrichment and walking around town pretending to be others.

GABBY - NICOLE: The Dukes wife. Gabby in the future (she fears). Materialistic, petty, and mean: she tries to oust Gabby and get Ken for herself (only Ken has been got by The Duke).

GABBY - DEE: younger version of Gabby that is into art, jewelry and pretending to be a rebel. Into drugs, tattoos, and piercings (all fake), she is Gabby's wild side unleashed.

GABBY - KEN: Gabby's straight laced husband who is an engineer, has no imagination, and lives in the now. He loves Gabby completely, but struggles to keep all the characters straight.

GABBY - DAZZLER: in the army Ken's nickname was Dozer. Dazzler is a play on this and is Gabby's projection of Ken as a young man assuming he came from the stars and was an angel.

GABBY - THE DUKE: what Gabby fears Ken Dooker will become -- materialistic, greedy, and power hungry. Through a bit of black magic, The Duke tries to take over his younger self.

GABBY - COSMO: a gift from Dazzler to Gabby, Cosmo provides comic relief in the form of anthropomorphic dog composed of stars, who is armed with a switchblade comb.

GABBY - AURORA: The Duke's pet. Seems as though eventually Ken learns how to play the game and decides to turn the tables on Gabby and that meddling mutt of hers.

GALLERY: photographs lining walls act as launching point for stories/chapters. Or maybe they are video screens in some astral world, controlled by some plot-jockey in a high-tech chair.

GAME KNIGHT: every Tuesday, they play games in the dorm (Risk, Monopoly, etc.). Two, three, and four people to a team, alternating turns, sharing responsibilities, having fun.

GAME START (intro to a story): checkers is just a game, not a model, not a theory, it is just a game -- just an idea. Sometimes that's all a story is -- an idea -- nothing more... and nothing less.

GAMMA-GOBELIN: misspelling of goblin that I find amusing. Perhaps more of a cat like, cobaltish familiar than

anything else. So call him a playful imp and be done with it.

GAMMA GOBELIN: as a cat like companion. I sort of like the name, don't you?

GAMMA GOBELIN: because thrice be the charm. Love it. I command you.

GANG CHIC: everyone wants to be in a gang these days. World full of gun carrying, smack talking posers, flashing signs, and so on, while the real gangerbangers wear business suits.

GARDENING: writing a novel is like tending a garden. First you plant a few good seeds, water them, and let them grow. And then you spend the next six months pulling out the weeds.

GHOST OF RHINELANDER LANE: is a benign sort of real life ghost content to manifest itself as chance occurrence. It's the door that slams in the wind or the picture that falls to the floor.

GIFT (the): child buys a cigar clipper for Santa, so he can use it to clip off the end of his candy cane wrappers. Or what do you get for the man who has everything and insists on giving it away.

GIGGLES-WORTH (business card, embezzlement coach): For the man who has everything, someone to get rid of it. You think contacting me is difficult now, wait until I have your money.

GLASSES: after corrective surgery, character still wears non-prescription eyeglasses. I still think of myself as a glass wearer, been wearing them all my life, no time to change now.

GNOME, ILLUSIONIST: in Phoenix airport, studying for magic exam, wearing a dock hat, deeply into a book, everything about him screamed Gnome Illusionist... except for his appearance.

**GOBLIN PEACE CORPS:** someone joins the Peace Corps and gets assigned to a goblin horde. Their biggest problem is staying alive (i.e. not eaten) until their replacement arrives.

**GOD BLESS:** how the new age Angry Man says, "Fuck You."

**GOOD BOOK (the):** throughout the alternate planes and realities, which we call existence, there is only one constant, and that constant is the Good Book -- the book we know as the Bible.

**GOOD vs. EVIL:** wherein the good guys smile, laugh, and have a good time, while the bad guys smirk, frown, and suffer from terminal grumpiness.

**GOOD VIRUS (the):** by shaking the hands of the prosperous (as well as hugging and kissing) one is exposed to a virus that expands the human mind and confers heightened intelligence.

**GOOGLE:** as folks look things up in the middle of conversations, utilizing it as a portable dictionary/encyclopedia, Google is killing the art of bullshitting.

**GRAFFITI COVERED AIRPLANES:** are something you never see.

**GRA'GL SONG:** Chosen to be a priestess when she picks up a sliver of stone in his ruins: a young girl's life turns to crap. Eventually she commits ritual suicide by drinking fetid water.

**GRAM'S RECIPE:** age old tale of newlywed asking her mother in law for the recipe to her son's favorite childhood dish only to learn that it came out of a package or a jar.

**GRANTS:** a writer bragging about getting a grant is like a gigolo bragging about having to pay for a woman. If you can't sell it, there's nothing to brag about. (said the man giving it away...)

**GRATEFULLY DEDICATED:** a group of stories told from the Grateful Dead's point of view. Whatever that means. Probably from the viewpoint of a dancer or two, as well.

**GREAT CALAMARI DESERT (the):** squids live in a desert oasis, the final remnants of a once vast ocean. Undoubtedly a trading post town... with a hidden secret.

**GREAT CIRCLE (the):** here's the thing, invest a necklace with power, believe in it, and its power will work (subject to some limitations, benevolent enchantments being more potent, etc.)

**GREAT ESCAPE (the):** you know you hear them, your cats digging for gold in the litter box. Well, what they are really trying to do is dig an escape tunnel.

**GREAT WALL OF TEXT:** a quote stolen from a forum site to describe too many words.

**GREATER THAN:** at 47  $\frac{3}{4}$  (or 3-9-13 if you want to do the math) I officially (in my own mind) surpassed my parents in will, ability, and desire. I am the greater, and therefore owe deference.

**GREATER FOOL THEORY:** would be name for my future advice web-blog.

**GROWING UP WILD:** coming of age when disco was dead and America was in decline. 70's & 80's personal revisionist history with the kind of changes that make writing fun.

**GRT'S GUIDE TO EATING PEAS:** children's story starring

Grt. He shows how to hide, destroy, and otherwise avoid that most horrendous of fates: eating peas.

GUIDE (the): advice for fictional characters on how to land that first role. Common mistakes to avoid during pre-production. And how to insure a role in any sequels or other future projects.

HAIR RAISING: the hair on the back of your neck stands on end. You've seen this before. The last time it happened the book you were holding shot to the top of the best seller list...

HAND LOTION MOGUL (product): for the discerning Pud-Wack!

HANDWRITTEN (style): amendments to a set of instructions, contract, story, report, or thank you note with cross outs, over-corrections, deletions, explanations and so forth.

HANDY (romance): professional woman (Helen/Pod) falls for a handyman type guy (Dozer/Ken). Can she win his heart before the bathroom remodel is finished?

HAOLE CANT (for movies): actors speak a sort of pidgin, street slang in lieu of a foreign language. "Hey, go store, yeah? For good kine?" Audience understands, key characters do not.

HAPPY FACE SPIDER: these things are real, sort of surreal, a great ghastly clown-faced ghoul. You just know their bite packs a wallop and that they're callous, cavalier, and conceited.

HARD TIME: son of a local merchant returns from college, but tells everyone he was in jail, delights in pretend to rob stores, and reconnects with his childhood love -- white trash with child.

HARDEST LESSON (writing advice): learning what not to

waste your time writing (perhaps lists like this, for instance) is just as important as honing your other writing skills.

HAWAII: a nice day in Hawaii is about as nice as nice gets.

HAWAIIAN TRAVEL ADVISOR: \$100 buys two hours of my time and all the knowledge I have gleaned from living in Hawaii for the last four years. Cash in advance.

HEDONISTIC SPLENDOR: should I win the lottery, that's my game plan -- at least for the first few years.

HEMORRHAGE CARD (the): is a credit card that takes its pound of flesh whenever one uses it (i.e. one spurts blood). Of use for those trying to curtail their spending... or with no other options.

HER STORY (the first line from someone else's work): "I always knew I was destined for greatness, I was wrong..."

HILLSIDE SHANTY TOWN: I saw this picturesque slum in National Geographic. What a great setting for a story... or make a diorama; and then, make the diorama the setting.

HOBBLING TENANTS: sales pitch or advert for Hobbling tenant farmers acting as stewards of the land. The only real problem is the periodic visits from the Nas-Ghouls. (See cbu files)

HODAG: is a Rhinelander, WI area myth/hoax. With the body of a wolverine, claws of a bear: it can out-swim a motor boat and shrugs off shotgun shells. The monster has its own museum.

HOPE (Lutheran): Sunday school teacher uses the phrase "some people believe" to describe a Bible story. Since some believe, some do not, and from there, the child's fall is certain.

HORIZONTAL CITY: when committing suicide by jumping off a building, you are transported to an alternate world where sidewalks and cafes are set on the sides of skyscrapers.

HOTEL BIRDS: check into hotel room. Birds right outside are making a racket. "How are we going to sleep." Turn off light and birds quiet down. They were complaining about the light.

HOUSE (deconstructed tornado, for Rainbow's End): window, table, and furniture piled on stage. "Everything you need is right here. Well, the front door's over there, but otherwise..."

HOUSE ARREST: Tug like book where man sits in his suburban living room, watches the world go by, and imagines his house is a spaceship and different rooms are different planets.

HOUSE (of the) RISING SUN: song as told from the younger sister's point of view.

HOUSEWORK by COMMITTEE: it died in filibuster. OK, sure. It sounds witty, but what does it mean? I guess we disagreed, got locked in a standstill, and vetoed each other.

HAPUNA IWA: a day in the life of a beach complete with sand castle contest, beauty pageant, surfing, picnicking, shark attacks, and so on. As told by lifeguard on his last day.

HEDONISTS MANIFESTO (the): if it gives you no pleasure, give it no time.

HIGHWAY MEN: on a dirt road in the middle of nowhere, where the path narrows, men sit in the saddle, blocking the road. Moving aside only after payment of gold.

HUSH-HUSH: boyfriend says he works for army

intelligence, “It’s all hush-hush,” but he really is a hit man for the mob.

**HUSKY DOGS:** make happy followers. Perhaps a story or character that lives in the city and has a whole team of husky dogs living with him.

**HYPER-TEXT MANIA:** what kids have these days, a sign of the times.

**I’M ALL ASTONISHMENT:** a Pride & Prejudice remake also known as Mary Redeemed, wherein Mary gets Mr. Collins. Or, maybe they’re all simply witches and warlocks... Darcy too.

**I DREAM IN BLACK AND WHITE (story intro):** I understand people who compulsively count everything. I reduce everything to narrative, flow, plotline, and resolution.

**I SOLD THIS(?):** and you actually paid for it? What a joke? What a laugh? The world is a strange place indeed.

**I WAS IN A WAR BUT I DON’T REMEMBER:** well, maybe not a war, like I said I don’t remember, but it was something. CIDC, UFO, paranormal investigator, covert ops, etc.

**IGNORANCE:** knowing what a word means and what a group of them strung together means are two different things.

**IMAGINING:** an unfinished idea living in the back corners of my head. A rant, character sketch, or unfinished idea, which shall never see the light of day because it never came into focus.

**IMMOLATION SAUCE (personal):** olive oil and hot peppers in a jar with fancy label packed in an old box with straw as a gift item. Not fit for human consumption.

INHERITANCE (the): you know it's not good: troublesome girlfriend, nonexistent treasure an adventure away, debt, money pit of a house, or maybe it's just his crazy dream... creating life.

IN LINE: patrons file past a painting in a museum and the thread of conversation weaves with them as they glide by, each with their own interpretations, thoughts, and concerns.

IN THE HIVE (there is no long view): thus starts the book in which Nellie stars as cut-throat, wasp-like pixie -- a pure romantic lost in a warrior clan (or perhaps, vice a versa).

IN THE HOUSE: a man is shot in a theater when those fateful words are cried out, "Is there a writer in the house?" It's an emergency and the plot needs to be rewritten... Stat!

INDEED, SIR: a mini-game for the QuazyTronic project; giving them the ability to answer questions: Yes/No; Maybe; Very Well, Sir; Indeed, Sir; and so on.

INDIAN GAMBLING: undermines the notion of equality under the law. Scholars in future generations will, no doubt, note how policies of this sort contributed to the dilution of our ideals.

INHERITANCE (the): woman moves into dead uncle's apartment and discovers his dark secrets [printer, time machine, memoir, gun]. Perhaps there is an Austin Martin in the garage.

INSIDE THE BEEHIVE: alien/cult of women organized as an insect hive enslave and/or impregnate men. Proto-erotica horror. Men are food for lava, carry eggs, or simply donate sperm.

INSIDE the SLAVE TRADE: an embedded reporter covering the slave trade is imprisoned for snooping around and sold as a

slave. Happily, he is still able to post his reports.

INSURRECTION (the): trapped in a horrible (and predictable) story, the character revolt and anarchy results as each character goes their own way regardless of the needs of the plot.

INTERLUDINAL ART THINGIE: what every good book should have at least one of.

IRONIC: "Sometimes less is more," so said the fat girl.

IS IT WRONG?: that I am reminded of a woman's vagina whenever I see a snail or mollusk, the folds of flesh quivering, inviting. Is it wrong? I ask. Is it wrong?

IS THIS THE DAY I FIND HIM DEAD?: just seems like a good way to start a story. Someday my father will die. I always wonder if it is to be this day when I walk the stairs to his room.

ISLAM: Christianity brought the first Dark Age. If we are not careful, Islam will bring the second.

ISLAND RAFT: bamboo covered island acts as a floating raft with which to explore the world. "Like a houseboat, only better. You take the backyard, too." Rock on rope acts as ballast.

IT TAKES ALL KINDS: couple buys a rundown rainbow (faded colors, empty pot of gold). But with the help of their new friends, they'll restore its glory... and find happiness on the way.

IT'S A MYSTERY: 200 pages of notebook paper. No plot. No story. No characters. The entire thing is a mystery for each and every reader to figure out on their own.

IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME: a telecommuting loan shark

collections agent of the future harasses clients with viruses and worms while recalling the good old days of broken kneecaps.

IT'S FEEDING TIME (horror): the neighbor comes home and his dogs bark and squeal for joy. It's feeding time. Trust me, you don't want to know what they are being fed.

JACK SLADE: belligerent drunken gunfighter and real life personality of the old west. Because he has a cool name, he just might be turned into a character one of these days.

JAM (strawberry, and ice cream): a decadent dessert.

JANITOR: first day of school overview lecture by a college professor to an unseen class. It turns out he is the janitor, reading scraps from the trashcan -- quite insane... if opinionated.

JEALOUS VIRUS: clears its host of all other illnesses, the better to carry The One. Even makes the infected appear healthier and more energetic (at first), the better to infect others.

JEFF (character): tattooed baker, who reeks of nicotine, cigarette smoke, and whiskey. Is the baker from whom another buys his morning fix... double-glazed strawberry donuts.

JIMMY & HIS LEG (The Case of): a children's book as a psuedo-explanation.

JOKE (practical); student lines chalkboard with safety glasses; then when the teacher lifts the board to get to the one underneath, all the glasses flip out and fall to the ground. Ha! Ha!

JOKE a DAY: want to be a comedy writer? Writing (or rewriting) a joke or skit a day wouldn't be such a bad place to start.

JUDGE (the): the judge for a ticket, fine, or similar offense is the same man who judges the pies at the county fair. Clearly, he will be more interested in the pies than anything else.

JUDGING (a written work or any other communication): comes down to two important criteria. Do I care about what the writer is trying to say? Do I like how they are saying it?

JUMPING: off bridges (or tall buildings) as a metaphor for doing drugs -- fun as a kid, but then you get older start breaking your legs and missing work.

JURY DUTY: a captive audience, if there's ever a cause, I shall read my novels into the court record... one by one. "No more! No more! Just go! Go!"

KALA'KU (a.k.a. Kalala'ku): is my Hawaiian name given to me in a dream by, "Oh, you'd just mess up my name, anyhow." O'iou? An arm slicing scarring ritual was later described.

KATE: Kevin Stillwater of Hometown fame and his dream reality is court-ordered to play the role of a girl for a month due to his misogynistic ways... and an open feed, he should have closed.

KELLY, DAISY, & STAR: a trio of teenage girls out on the make. I couldn't tell you more.

KEPT: semi-autobiographical? Story of a man's growing resentment towards the woman who supports him financially starring Helen (POD) and Dozer (ABBEY).

KETCHUP packet GUN: not sure how this works, but you put in a ketchup packet and shoot it like a squirt gun. Hours of fun. Story arcs from getting to supplies to fielding a machine gun.

**KEY GRIP:** movie credit world record goes to Sam Bunion who worked on the Universal movie lot 1933-1967 and had his name listed on the end credits of over 2,437 movies.

**K'FR SCARVES:** woven of K'fr, silk, and perhaps infused with drip. More of a religious/ceremonial headpiece than anything else. Perhaps a much prized turban material (for Yogesh).

**KILLING THE GOOSE:** the deconstruction of post-modern art and the rejection of art by the artist has led to the wholesale dismissal of both art and the artist by the populace at large.

**KINDEL CHEST:** Darling bought a dresser chest made by Kindel & Co. A Doctor used to own it and it had his will and a ring in it. Ergo, sum, etc. Dr Kindel haunts my apartment.

**KING OF THE HILL:** when Satan offered Christ the world, the Devil was only offering Him the glory of being King for a Day. In this world, all things must perish -- hence the seven-year thing.

**KING'S BOOTS (the):** a magical item. Wear them and you get to walk in the king's shoes for a day. Not bad at first, but you know there's been unrest in the kingdom as of late...

**KISSES:** are like potato chips, tasty and highly addictive.

**KITCHENWARE MONSTER:** scarecrow type creature assembled from pots and pans with egg beaters for eyes and forks for fingers: tastefully clothed in chef's hat and apron.

**KNOCKING (the, on the dungeon door):** sounds like a battering ram, but it's really a child throwing a ball against the wall.

**KRISHNA ROCK STAR:** you know him. You love him.

Well, you damn well better love him. And best not to forget to waive your incense about during the ballad, either.

LACE SAILS (embroidered): the lusty lass of a captain on a pirate ship trimmed with satin and lace sails has taken a one Hung the Barbarian hostage. It's not your typical pleasure cruise...

LAZY DAY BAKERY: "If you want yesterday's cookies, then you have to come back then, don't you?" I think that says it all.

LEADING QUESTIONS (story format): a statement followed by a question with the next section starting with a statement that answers the previous section's question.

LEAVING the FUTURE BEHIND: on a hovercraft ride (through melting glacial fields) from the starport to a Neolithic preserve, a Luddite refuge considers the life she is leaving behind.

LEEZARDS: if the LeeZards be with you, who dare be against you?

LEEZARD (antics): after taking a shower, they show up on platforms in window washer regalia and squeegee down the shower stall. "We helping!"

LEEZARD SIZE BOOK (1.25"x3"): full of all the important information a Leezard visiting from Realms of Imagination might desire to know.

LEITO: being a dynamic macho character I watched smoking a cigarette and spitting on the sidewalk. Nothing more than an over-aged juvenile delinquent, but he had a presence.

LENA: female werewolf gets hired as an escort by a rock 'n

roll star to improve his image. They fall in love, of course, but complications ensue when Griffin, the pack leader, grows jealous.

**LESSON LEARNED:** if it's hard to write, it's probably going to be hard to read, so you might as well make it easy on both the reader and yourself. Easy stories are simply... well, easier.

**LETTER to the EDITOR:** probably more important than the notion of community, letters unobtrusively let all the non-subscribers know what they missed in last month's issue.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (life advice):** collect, save, and savor letters of recommendation from teachers, employers, roommates, landlords, and so on whenever possible.

**LIBRARY BOOKS:** are put on shelf spine in. "Job security." "It's a very private library, keeps to itself." "Oh, right. I knew something was wrong, but I couldn't put my finger on it."

**LIBRARY CAPER:** books in a library all have writing in the margins, comments, notations, hints leading to the resolution of a mystery. But of what?

**LIBRARY GHOST:** youngish girl is in a car crash, falls into a coma, and dies. Boyfriend responsible goes back every year on the anniversary of event to meet her ghost at the library for a week.

**LIBRARY (the):** as metaphor for young girl's relationship with rich man, surrounded by all these books (opportunity & experience) the question is what to let in, what to let take hold.

**LIFE DEVOTED TO PRINT (a):** single recluse hits the bookstores to find romance, but ends up hiding his face in a book whenever true love approaches. Collection of short stories.

LIFE'S WORK: what's the subject of the how to book you'd like to write when your life is over? Whatever it is, that's what you should study in the interim.

LION'S CHAIR: as placed in park by the "Lion's Club," but only Lions, Heroes, and similar champions can rest in it.

LIPS & NIPS: a girl dresses up as a Martian painting both green.

LITTLE KID: a young boy struggling to be more macho than he is. Afraid of simple things (furry objects, birds, the dark), practices lying to see what others will believe, likes guns, etc.

LIVE (how to) WITHOUT ANY MONEY: a guide book. I like to think the title says it all.

LIVING ON THE EDGE: futuristic bio-engineered pets that have poisonous claws and fangs. Pet them the wrong way and you die.

LOA (Lo'a) Industries: I had a dream once, this name came to me. A Lo'a is a Voodoo Spirit (uses a human as a proxy), but I believe the inspiration was Hawaiian. I know not the product.

LONG HAUL (the): its too dangerous to pick up hitchhikers in the depths of space, so pilot buys a sex program instead -- unfortunately the program he chooses includes a hijack subroutine.

LOST ANGELS (Recovery Service): demonic agent introduces a fallen angel to the real world, each falling in love with another (angel to father with kids, demon to ex-wife from hell).

LOST GENERATION (WWI): nothing sours a nation on war quite like loosing all of its sons in battle. The ghosts of the fallen

will haunt the survivors until the day they die.

LOUD ROOM (the): tired of the hotel, apartment, or house next to the train tracks? Try an airport, construction yard, primary school, or fireworks factory incessantly testing their wares.

LOVE: Is there a difference between being in love and being unable to stop thinking about a person, i.e. being obsessed?

LOVE (I don't love you anymore): a husband or wife says to the other, to which the reply is "of course you do", "I know that", "don't be silly", and so on. Calm, reasoned, and non-reactive.

LOVE (true, literally): jumping out of an upstairs window to elope, she broke both her legs. Took six months for her legs to heal. He didn't wait for her. Took another six years for her heart.

LUCKY: the hundredth visitor to a lava tube is sacrificed to appease the gods. Lucky them.

LUCKY FEW (the): gods only need so many worshippers to believe in them and perform their rituals. These lucky few the gods smile on... and ignore the rest.

LURE (the): sex club full of single, available women on account of the fact all of their boyfriends have been killed; and soon, you will join them. Club is bait for the hunt.

MAD MANUEL: does whatever he wants to do without thought to the consequences. A true madman.

MAGAZINE: books and stories really need more pictures in them. One day folks are going to realize, a novel should read more like a magazine than anything else... complete with advertising.

**MAGAZINES:** broaden your mind, page through a different (never before seen) magazine every week. And while you're at it, thumb through a different book every day.

**MAGIC CARPET RIDE:** a girl, a boy, a few candles, a throw carpet, and a house to themselves. Let the fun and games begin! A little K'fr couldn't hurt, either.

**MAGISTICAL:** a word deriving from the combination of magical and mystical. As in, have yourself a magistical day. Not so much a story idea as blessing from me to you.

**MAKING of a SLASHER (the):** everyone (director, writer, cameraman, etc.) involved in a slasher movie starts killing for real. The only question left is, who will be the last one standing?

**MAMMAS EVERYWHERE (a plea to):** Mammas, don't let your children grow up to be psychos. They'll kill all your dreams, right before they kill all of mine.

**MAMMON'S COMING TO TOWN:** one wonders what measurable changes in behavior (purchases, use rates, etc.) occur in a ghetto prior to a riot. Do they purchase gloves? Boots? Etc?

**MANNA from HEAVEN:** in backyard, child plays with toys as they blow over the fence, wondering where they come from, and as they leave down the next yard, where they go.

**MANNEQUINS:** as an art exhibit. By the entrance, two wear leather and gas masks, while in the trunk at their feet is a third unassembled companion. Inside, the rest wear slutty outfits.

**MAILBOX FEUD:** two neighbors feud over stupid, inane, suburban concerns -- the trees on the property line, the fence, staring through windows, and placement of the mailbox.

**MAKE A WISH:** sick tween girl wants to fall in love before she dies. “And, it would be nice if she loved me back. Maybe we could die in each other’s arms; or at least, I, in hers.”

**MANSION:** so large you need mountaineering equipment to scale stairs, spelunking gear for the basement, a backpack and compass for the backyard, scuba gear for the bathroom, etc.

**MARGINALIZED:** an app for writing in the margins of an e-book utility (i.e. a sort of wrap around for book reader).

**MASTER PLAN (the):** atmospheric CO2 is part of the alien’s plan to transform Earth. Don’t worry, they’ve done this before... not successfully, but there’s a first time for everything.

**MECHANICAL ADDING MACHINES:** for a retro film this would be a good scene: a room full of accountants working their mechanical calculators in tempo as cacophony morphs into song.

**MEDS (going off the):** know that scene where X dumps their pills into the toilet. Well, let’s amp it up. First one pill bottle, then the medicine cabinet, then the 55-gallon drum in the closet.

**MENEHUNE’S GUIDE to BEATING those MONEY GRUBBING HAOLEs at their OWN GAME:** the title pretty much says it all. Menehune sized, of course.

**MENSTRUAL / VAMPIRE (connection):** a dirty little secret. Why do chicks dig vampires? It’s that time of month, and who loves them? Dracy does, baby. Dracy does.

**MESSENGER:** cult targets old people on their death bed, caters to their every desire, so they’ll carry a message to the other side... and leave everything to the church before they go.

MESSY OFFICE (on a): strewn about the floor making a thick plush carpet were countless papers, bills, and long forgotten memos.

META: small squiggly bright wiggles in your eyes that you can see while looking at the sky are good guy bactrobes. The nicer you are, the more you have, and the better things get.

METEORITE GIRL: the meteorite around her neck is really the fuselage from a UFO. Maybe she's an alien. The dog following her around was put in her car by an unknown stranger.

MID-LIFE CRISIS: Broke & Alone, a present tense revisionistic history (so revisionistic reality), built up from the simple premise: no money, no contacts, and nothing to lose.

MIDNIGHT CHILL: at night, after the evening has cooled off, a breeze blows down off the mountain carrying a spirit from the past as it returns to all its old haunts.

MIDTERM: for the self-taught enrollees of the Invisible University, what constitutes a suitable exam? And how does one grade it? Please answer in the manner of your own choosing.

MILES: classic disorganized know-it-all who is always in a hurry. Utilized as a knowledge base, you can always find him by following the endless paper trail the billows behind him.

MILLENNIAL: is the art of the next century... whatever that may be.

MINIATURE ID TAGS: key ring size driver's license as a detail for a science fiction world. Everything else is getting miniaturized these days, why not IDs.

MOBILIZATION: I am in the process of mobilizing for a War on Death.

MOLDY BOOKS: it's not just the words. The mold in old books transforms the mind as one reads, while the sickness that follows is the result of the mind reorganizing itself.

MOPPING THE STREET: what to do with an employee you hate? Send them out front to mop the street.

MORNING SHOW: a bird wakes up to the newest hits playing on the radio: Cardinal's (Sunny Day), Blue Jay's (Morning Glory), and the Robin's (Early Bird Worm Gets the Worm.)

MOSAIC(title): a story composed of bits and pieces (here and there), which when taken together, make a cohesive whole. Structured minimalism.

MOTHER'S DAY: mom is given the day off and instead all the children treat Uncle as if he was the mother: breakfast in bed, macaroni picture gifts, and endless games of Hide & Seek.

MOTORCYCLE KNIGHTS: standard bike gang stuff wherein the members -- or at least, the president of the club -- are on a quest to save damsels in distress, slay dragons, and so on.

MOUNTAINEERING RATS: rats climbing across ceiling, using crampons, ropes, and rigging, as safety devices. Got me as to the use story-wise, but it was part of a memorable dream.

MOUTH (the): drug runner whose most interesting feature is his tremendous oral capacity and the odd assortment of things he keeps there: key, razor, pencil, paper clips, grocery receipts, etc.

**MOVIE BLUES:** being a sad story retrospective. Acclaimed author (guess who) finally gets to turn a story into a movie, but it is long after his sweetheart (his muse) is dead and gone.

**MOVIE MAGIC:** landing a role as a millionaire, a down and out actor has his on screen persona take action to benefit him in real life... but the magic only works while the camera is rolling.

**MOVIE PREVIEW:** after viewing a two-minute movie trailer, all you have to do is ask yourself whether you want to watch the full two-hour version of the same story (now in 90min).

**MOVIE PROBLEM (the):** prior to devoting the time and effort required to write a good story, it may be helpful to consider whether the piece would make a good movie.

**MUSAK KILLERS (product):** earphones that are capable of zeroing out the background music in restaurants, etc., all the better to eavesdrop on your neighbors with, my dear.

**MUSEUM:** a book is like a museum, the best contain carefully crafted exhibits -- abstract representations of life and archetypical scenes frozen in time.

**MUSHROOM CIRCLE:** grows ever larger and its hallucinatory powers more potent until it harvests a soul and goes mobile, to sprout again where last the apparition falls.

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (most annoying):** PE whistle, bowman's whistle, broken violin, the chalkboard, Styrofoam serenade, dead cricket crunch, kitty cat howl, and so on.

**MY HAWAII -- 37:** female pilot who services the island by seaplane. Plane is number 37 and being superstitious she rips that page out of every book on the island. Romantic interest?

MY HAWAII -- CHARACTER LIST: eccentric widow, airplane pilot, narrator (peace corps, geological survey, marine), Lihi, other children, hotel staff, locals, and visiting tourists.

MY HAWAII - ECCENTRIC WIDOW: keeps vegetarian mongooses as pets. Nice old lady -- if utterly insane. Came here on honeymoon, and since that's where they were the happiest...

MY HAWAII -- LIHI: young girl who eventually becomes narrator's wife by inserting herself as his secretary. Or possibly, story only spans the length of time Lihi (Lee-he) is a child.

MY HAWAII -- PLOT: South Pacific type grouping of tales, harmless, Gilligan's Islandish, parallel universe wholesome 50s fun. Marine? gets stationed as lone US presence on remote island.

MY SWEET CANARY: a super-sensor girl (Cassandra) who saves the day by noticing small changes in the world about her.

MY WEDNESDAY EVENING: would be prostitute starts with her dad's business partner every wed evening on his day off. She's hot. He's an eccentric, aging. They fall in love.

NADIA: a book of fairy sayings. Not really coming up with any at the moment, so I guess that's why this is in the kill list.

NAIL GUNS: New and improved! Cruelty free! No longer tested on animals!

NAME (what a): Notorious Felonious Self-Righteous Jackson. I think he must be a pimp.

NAME DROPPER QUARTERLY: it's a postmodern proto-nihilist non-stop thrill ride, or so I am told.

NAME ECHOER: Brett? What a coincidence! My name is Brett. And your friend is Bob? Of all the wild things, my middle name is Bob. Character who never uses his real name.

NAPKINS: a series of used napkins and other rejected Art Grant Proposals.

NATURE (on): as a cat seeks warmth, so a dragon seeks gold, magic, and women.

NAUSEA WORMS ARE EATING MY SOUL: not really sure if this is a story idea or just an ill-disguised plea for help. I guess, I'll let you decide for yourself. (Hint: Help Me!)

NERVE (the): barrels of nerve gas spill into ocean, where they infect an octopus. He gets smart, then nervy, then nervous, until finally the predictability of it all just gets on my nerves.

NEVER FORGIVE: in times of old, man lived peacefully with the beasts of the world -- as equals. But then a virus came, killed his companions, and man grew sour, felt betrayed.

NEW PLACE (the): in dream, excited to get a job looking after kids, because it came with a place to stay, where Unicorns were known to congregate. Alas, only in my dreams.

NEW AND IMPROVED: now less horrible.

NEW JOURNALISM (the): the trend is to replace hard news with the reporter's personal experience and the limited case studies they are made aware of during their investigations.

NEW RULE: I have no desire to participate in any activity for which the leading advertisers or sponsors are helmet, knee pad,

or abrasion suit manufacturers

NEW RULE (another): nor any sport or pursuit of leisure in which insurance companies, hospitals, or manufacturers of first aid kits and/or trauma avoidance gizmos take an active interest.

NEW YEAR, NEW MAN: new clothes for the bum and where do they take him? To high society? Or low? I suppose that is for the author, which in this case is Kevin, to decide.

NEWS RELEASE: the general is concerned about a decided lack of opposition forces and what this is doing to the moral of the troops -- not to mention their readiness, skill level, and training.

NEXUS (of the) FAMILY: one lone survivor of a collapsing family tree inherits all the family wealth. It's not much per, but it adds up quickly. Murder Mystery?

NIAGARA FALLS: family visits relative on vacation, but everyone does their best to avoid the relation. Autobiographical voice over? You may wish to substitute your own locale.

NICKEL: Nicole prefers to go by her nickname Nickel. She keeps one in her pocket as: a lucky charm, decision maker (by flipping), and/or a keepsake. It just might be worth a fortune.

NIGHTMAZE: what a cool name for a certain type of nightmare. From Coney Island of the Mind.

NIHLI: probably just a repeat of LIPS & NIPS with the addition pipe-cleaner antenna. Cute girl from "Mars" who talks by way of Beep-Beep, and Bzzt-Bz-zrt! And, nothing else.

NI'YAT: like this name. Originally, it was to be an alias for Nadia. But somewhere along the line, Ni'yat has taken on a life of

her own as a dancer.

**NOBODY NOTICED:** that's the thing you've got to realize, nobody noticed. Alternate start for IF/THEN: kid ditches school, hangs with imaginary friends and nobody notices his absence.

**NON ART** (thesis of the movement): once the idea behind a piece of concept art is understood there is little aesthetic reason to make, buy, experience, view, or fund such a work.

**NON-PRACTICING TROLL:** aren't they all.

**NON-WRITTEN** (book modifications): ripped pages, bookworm trails eating through pages, passages pre-underlined in red and green, margin pictures, extraneous comments & notes, etc.

**NORTH KOREAN YANKEES** (the): they sold the country, moved to NY, and bought the Yankees. By all accounts, they got a good deal. And what they did to the major league...

**NOVEL as DISPATCH:** as letters to the readers. I imagine the hardest part is falling into a persona you can keep up for 400pg... well, that, deciding on your audience, and a plot.

**NRA** (the): after reading the NRA national publication, I have an odd desire to write a story in which something dies a violent death, to kill something viscerally, just saying.

**NURTURE:** every time I read/watch Jane Eyre, I want to recreate that refuge feeling, that child living on the edge, and bring her to life in a story, raising her to be my own...

**OLD SOLDIERS:** having served in the military and my mind wiped on discharge, would explain my dreams, girlfriend, where I live, and even my cushy job. Not that I can prove it, of course.

OLDEST PROFESSION (the): older than prostitution, gambling predates and inspires this institution... as illustrated by Garg losing a bet to Grog for the services of his wife for an hour.

ON BECOMING A NOVELIST (by John Gardner): a wonderful book, to be recommended to all aspiring writers, and novelists especially.

ON THE ROAD: "You're doing that On the Road thing." Hitchhiking short centering on the relationship between Kerouac's tale and my experience: not much, outside of others mentioning it.

ONE FINAL SEASON IN PARADISE: you know, that book I didn't write during my last year in Hawaii.

ONE MAN POETRY SLAM: the true calling of every schizophrenic on every street corner the world round. "It's called free verse, bunch munch. Munch a bunch, your rhymes I crunch."

ONE WILD SEASON AT THE LAMP LIGHT CAFÉ: Marla the Moth a café singer who wants to be a Butterfly falls in love with Buddy the Bee -- a degenerate who sells pollen.

OPERATIC ASPERATIONS (the): of the middle class. I think the tagline speaks for itself.

ORACLE (of the disease): some plants give fruit, some viruses confer a benefit; this one aids intelligence to the point of granting prescience.

OSTRACIZED: protagonist is unable to watch TV or movies, listen to radio, or read books. His phone doesn't work. He gets no mail and no one will acknowledge his presence.

OTHER SIDE (the): boy falls in love with a girl sight unseen, based on the sound of her voice carrying on the wind (singing over the fence, whispering through the window, etc.).

OUT EVOLVE: progression of bio-engineering will go: double efficient of chlorophyll synthesis, double of efficiency of sugar metabolism, displacement of organism not so gifted.

OVER A MILLION DIE!!! (during the Black Death of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century): would be a study in the misuse of headlines, or a story written around a misleading premise or false outrage.

OVERHEAD (as stated by a young'in): "These are old people books."

OZONE HOLE (a theory): instead of a Utopian society at the center of the Earth, there resides an industrial Dystopia spewing waste that destroys the ozone. Hence, the holes at the poles.

P3 (Puss Paint Protectors): eye protection for cats who are engaging in paintball matches.

PAINTED CHURCH (the): has the words "Hele oe Pela I Satana" painted on an interior column. Pele's child should go there someday, meet up with Kala'ku, and have some fun.

PAINTERS: have it made. They stop a painting when it's finished; whereas for a writer their job has just begun, what with proofreading, rewrites, and editing.

PAINTING (a): is discussed by an unseen line of observers as they walk by in a gallery. The plot is the painting. The voice is the multitude of unidentified & undifferentiated observers talking.

PANTIES: so few girls wear their underthings well, hence the

need for a Panty Specialist: a war vet, who promised himself on the front he'd pursue his bliss if he ever got home.

PANTIES IN A BIND: she, whoever she is, meticulously arranges her panties in her closet, totally anal. As an anthropology project... or because she's simply just plain weird.

PAPER OVER PEOPLE: a theatrical production tracing my muse: near sightedness leading to social ineptitude, being drawn in by books, and finally no longer needing them, writing my own.

PARTY IN A BOX: a society revolves around its Saturday night parties. Everyone buys a kit at the store which includes everything you need: hat, pills, music, witty sayings, etc.

PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: a short skit in which police are called in to mediate a domestic complaint. "He won't pick up his clothes." "She won't do the laundry." Etc.

PATTERNS & PORTALS (puddles & puzzles): don't even know why I'm making this entry, just a way of turning the path of adventure down the Brick: Road: Red.

PAUL'S PEOPLE: in the year apple-apple-orange the great-great-grandson of a rich patriarch is doomed to care for his numerous idiotic cousins: one of them being Peter Knopfthead.

PAUPER KING: which asks the question: if you were king of it all, where would you live? Answer: in a moss covered log cabin by a babbling brook in a shady little grove of the forest.

PEAK MOMENT: in interior design, the best moment is when the project is halfway done -- the walls painted, but the room only sparsely furnished. It is then light, airy, and full of potential.

PEAKS & PARAPETS: being another location on the Road: Brick: Red. Tops of mountains, castle walls, the great wall, raised sidewalks, National Park walkways, etc.

PE'LA: takes her sacrifice right up front, out of the minds of all who live on her island. The SO2 in VOG mutes the effectiveness of the prefrontal cortex; and what is missing, is hers.

PENNIES a DAY (for): man adopts a kid in Africa for three cents a day, only to find the child at his door years later with a note pinned to his shirt. I've had him for ten years, now it's your turn.

PERFECT CRIME: scare someone to death. It'll look like a heart attack. And the evidence left behind? A strand of hair from a gorilla suit. "She always did have a morbid fear of hairy apes."

PERMISSION: a man goes for a job interview, but his girlfriend keeps him on such a short lease that before he can respond to a question, he has to call his girlfriend for permission.

PET VOLUNTEERS: some animals volunteer to be animal companions and anxiously await the experience, others are sold into it, like slavery.

PETER PAN (she was): never felt that way about a boy before, good thing she was a girl. From behind, I couldn't tell. But when she turned around... Tinkerbell tattoo, short elfin hair...

PETER'S PEOPLE (or Paul's): father bequeaths his fortune to his responsible son on the caveat he provides for his idiotic (and prolific) brother. Centuries later the fortune strains under the load.

PHOTO ESSAY: pond, house, style, character sketches. As a project, take a bunch of pictures of something and write a story linking them together. *{Sounds sort of familiar...}*

**PHRENOLOGY** (saying): he had a head that was made for phrenology.

**PICNIC**: at a family get together with loads of food, rather than getting closer to his family, as a game, dad just wants to see how much food he can give away to strangers.

**PICTURES**: when a story or an article references a thing that could be photographed (painting, sculpture, etc.), I want to see the picture. If I can't see the picture, don't tell me the story.

**PILLOW GNOME**: sex and pillow talk are the same. A pillow fight in a movie is "disgusting." And, for Valentines Day she desires a wedding's leftover ring pillow.

**PIZZA GUY**: renegade prep chef who makes a mean pizza dough, travelling from town to town righting wrongs with his secret recipe Southern-Fried Chicken-Grease Shoofly Pie.

**PLAGIARISM**: he's the type of guy who plagiarizes his own diary. Or that is to say, what's in his diary, ain't autobiographical, not by a long shot.

**PLAY (a)**: a play for seven mediocre actors in three easy parts. No doubt, I've said this before, but there is a Broadway smash-hit in there somewhere.

**PLAY FOR FOUR MEDIOCRE ACTORS (a)**: in two parts with no set, props, or musical accompaniment required, intended for the community theatre circuit... and preferably humorous

**PLOT** (regarding): for a story that claims to have no plot, there's an awful lot of plot points..

POD (character): Helen -- a vampy, high heel, hip hugger jean wearing airhead -- overcomes her mental shortcomings by staying plugged into the web via her phone -- like a wire head.

POLLEN: and its resulting hay fever is actually a premeditated attack by plants against the animal monstrosities, which plague the Earth. Sooner or later they'll get it right.

POMPOUSICIAN (clever phrase): being a pompous musician, or more likely, simply a pompous politician.

POOLS & PONDS: never mind the surf of the ocean, primordial life likely evolved in a quiet marshy pool under a waterfall, mixing it up, an endless frothing brook.

POSH (the life): at retirement home, daughter fixes after dinner snack of cheese and wine for her wheelchair bound father on patio, while they watch the sunset and reminisce.

PNB DROPS: peanut butter and jelly candies. Hard shelled, jelly filled candies with gooey center; and soft milk chocolate covered teaspoon sized drops of peanut butter all mixed together.

PPP (A Protective Place for Prodigies): a university being a cover, a place of safety and refuge, for extremely gifted children, so they'd have a place to grow up... as they should.

PRALINE ALMONDS: the crack of the candy world.

PREDECESSORS: some artists refer to those who they admire as influences, but this is inaccurate; they are our predecessors, those who time of greatness has come... and gone.

PRIME: crazy girl, or simple a prescient one, tears prime numbered pages (or the first seven, or only the 37<sup>th</sup> page) out of

books. If she doesn't something bad will happen, and guess what...

**PRIMITIVE LITERATURE:** written by many (by us) and told to the many (to they) in a non-linguistic styled poetry in which the whole takes the place of the parts (see MOSAIC).

**PRINT MEDIA:** high quality print media has a profound impact on me. I call it the randomizer effect. I encounter these publication at random and they change my life (re: ACM).

**PRO FORMA:** a writer (perhaps me) marries a Pixie so that she can get her green card. From there it goes into an Odd Couple type thing, but you know they're going to work it out in the end.

**PROLETARIAT FOOD:** spicy stew of soft texture with all the tastes and flavors flowing together as one -- a.k.a Brett Food.

**PROMISE BREAKER:** what the kid said to his mom to torment her. "You're a promise breaker... promise breaker... promise breaker."

**PSYCHIC BUTTERFLIES:** pot plant grown on the dining room table, but not for the herb, or the worm-like caterpillars that feed on it, but for the dreams the full-grown butterflies provide.

**PTERODACTYL (in the fridge):** guest comes over, cooks dinner, opens fridge to put away leftovers, and what does she see? Her response: I've got a pterodactyl in my fridge, too. True Story.

**PTSD:** since combat forces one to focus on the here and now (in Zen like trance of awareness) killing any inner dialogue; a voice over story narrated by a Vet would be an oxymoron.

**PUNCH DRUNK:** factors that contribute to the giggles include: having a washed out mind, mental & physical exhaustion,

done with writing for the day, and relief from spinal abuse.

PUNCHLINE: life is a punch line, I am the joke.

PUNCTUATION: that which drives writers to drink.

PUNCTUATION (writing advice): take a few minutes every day to study and review punctuation. Poor punctuation is the number one reason why manuscripts are rejected.

PURGATORY: is like waiting for your girlfriend to get ready... just one more minute... have you seen my shoes... I need to go to the bathroom... where's my purse, have you seen my purse?

PURPOSE (in life, my): someday, someone will do a report on me. My goal is to make it a good one. "Though prescient, his ideas were not greeted with much enthusiasm in his own time."

PUSSY, LETTER FROM: a cat writes a letter to its owner, which principal message is: FEED ME! FEED ME NOW! FEED ME! And so on.

PUSSY, STORY OF (the): chapters include: Feed Me, Feed Me Now, Pet Me, Don't Pet Me, I'm Cleaning Myself, and Just Leave Me Alone. Includes a glossary of purrs.

PUZZLE: rainy day in the country, grandmother tells child a story while they complete a jigsaw puzzle. Perhaps, they can pass through the picture at end and travel to another time, like a portal.

PUZZLE: similar to PAINTING & TEACHER, a couple has a conversation while assembling a jigsaw puzzle. The puzzle itself serves as a metaphor for some "issue," which they are discussing.

QUESTION/ANSWER: what speech pattern do I hate?

People asking and answering their own questions. Why do I hate it? Because it's thoughtless... presupposes they know what I'd ask.

**RAILROAD TRACKS:** starting location for a linear tale wherein character(s) bounce from set scene to set scene -- like a desert highway only more so. Trains never pick up hitchhikers.

**RAINBOW'S END:** leprechaun's pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is filled with lilikoi lemonade. Two children find the leprechaun and go into business with him selling bottled lemonade.

**REACTION FORMATION:** hardened capitalist is drawn to write stories of communist daring do (or a similar dyadic) only to discover that he is a closet communist and his life a total lie.

**READ A BOOK** (how to, a rant): for a reader to mirror the writer as closely as possible, it is best to pause at each section break and to stop for the day at the end of every chapter.

**REALITY ISSUES** (he has): as apposed to Anger Issues.

**REALITY MATRIXING:** everybody gets an A, so no need to meet again. But one kid wants to learn, turns the class into what it should be, and the 40 become 400, with only 40 to get an A.

**REBOUND DATE:** date from Hell, and all the rest. Why did you do it? One must plead temporary insanity as it's the only reasonable explanation.

**RECEPTIONIST** (second): the second receptionist, the one you see after you wrangle your way past the first.

**RECORDS** (life advice): keep copies of all your own records: medical, dental, job history, where you have lived, contacts, and so on. Someday you will need this information.

RECYCLED BEACH GLASS: how I made my fortune.

RECYCLED BOTTLES: in RPG games, treasure comes in various forms with copper being of the lowest value and highest bulk. A hermit's trove of aluminum cans being a prime example.

RED BRICK ROAD: there are obvious similarities with the famed Yellow Brick Road, but this has more to do with a dream vision and walking down a brick lined tunnel than anything else.

RED MOLEY: is a Rhinelander, WI area ghost story. A communist agitator tries to organize a logging camp only to end up being pushed into an acid bath and looking like road kill.

REFLECTIONS (of being a writer, quarterly): just an idea to chronicle my development. 1-5-11: just coming off a 3-6 month hiatus. So, I guess I'll see you in three months... maybe.

REINCARNATION TRAP (the): keeping prisoners in jail as long as possible (even on life support) makes sense if one believes in reincarnation, karma, and that some souls are basically evil.

REJECTED BEGINNINGS: he was about to take a shower, but he couldn't remember where he put the soap. It would be a shower unlike any he had taken ever before!!!

REJECTION (letter): editor arrives in person to explain how truly bad an author's manuscript is and to berate him. "Couldn't you have simply mailed me one of those stock rejection letters?"

RESURRECTION (see REINCARNATION TRAP): the corollary to keeping bad guys alive is offing good guys early so they come around again -- scientists, inventors, geniuses, etc.

RIVER WALK (locale): futuristic garden encased in riveted stainless steel -- a place to meditate, meet, or give one's defining soliloquy. Perhaps it is symbolic in that there is no horizon.

ROAD (Brick, Red, The): no story, no character, no plot, no idea where it was going or why, it's no wonder it never went anywhere. This is me, mourning it's loss.

ROLEPLAYING (on): it is by choosing our roles that we discover who we are... or rather, who it is that we wish to be.

ROUND (in the, by Sunrise Seagull): originated as two songs sung by two separate bands (Sunrise & Seagull). They faced off at a Battle of the Bands, the fans loved it, and the rest is history.

RUBBER BANDS (free): perhaps the most compelling reason to have a newspaper subscription these days... unless you happen to own a bird.

RUMOR (the): old man starts rumor that {snails, leaves, spider's silk} is worth money so the neighborhood kids will get the blasted things out of his yard.

RUN AROUND (the): circular. Husband sends wife away. She gives herself a complete makeover (new clothes, hair, etc.). They meet (at a preplanned spot?), and hit it off. Rinse and repeat.

SAD CLOWN: on Halloween a distraught clown hands out free candy on a street corner, while saying, "Better collect all that you can now. When you grow up, it'll be your turn."

SAFARI (on): rough and tumble girl, gets herself all prettified when she learns a documentary crew is coming to town, leading to treks through the jungle in high heels and a party dress.

SAFARI (out on): wild girl (Safari Lady, Cowgirl) gets all girly and sissified when a reporter comes to document her adventures... the dress and high heels getting in the way.

SALESMAN'S TAG LINE: do you want to see the show or Joe?

SANDBOX (in the): utopian/dystopian crossover novel giving a behind the scenes look at an Open University style preparatory academy with its hands-on paramilitary focus.

SAUREN'S EYE: has always reminded me of the fovea, the part of one's own eye that is seen at night in one's dreams. A light pillar caused by smoke and dust would, also, look the similar.

SCARF (made of silken leaves): as an accessory for an Elvin lady or the Goddess of Autumn.

SCHOOLGIRL PHOTO SHOOT: maybe it's a thing, maybe it's a thing I imagined. Japanese tourists shooting pictures of a girl, eating ice cream cone -- kinky.

SCOTT FREE: girlfriend gets rid of her boyfriend Scott...

SCREAMING YELLOW: tragic tale of a gifted interior designer (some say a genius) who is hobbled in her career by an irrational(?) fear of the color yellow -- in all of its permutations.

SCREENWRITING: is the crack of the literary world. One small hit is all it takes and you'll be hooked.

SCRUB: is puke. At the sports bar, you have to clean up your own scrub if you puke in the bathroom.

SEAGULLS: hovering, begging for food. A bag lady's

decision to play rather than eat leads to the comment, “There are always others who are more in need... always, my dear.”

SECRETARIAL GREMLIN: sorts paper by type, not project. “And over there are the manila folders stacked neatly together, next to them are the ripped pages, and pages with coffee stains.”

SECRET SECRET: a character has a secret that even the author doesn’t know about... so he hounds her. The secret turns out to be an anniversary party for when the author started to write.

SENSEI: my cat is my teacher, I call her Sensei.

SEQUEL (book blurb): “He’s not the type of author who’s content to let his characters live happily ever after.”

SEQUENTIALLY ADVANCING STORY: in which the plot makes sense scene-to-scene, but the characters and background change: as a person grows up or a key prop changes hands.

SERIAL (number tracker): a computer app that tracks the global movement of dollar bills.

SERIAL ROMANCE: girl is in love with the idea of being in love. The romance of the romance, as it were, with no other constant in her life save for the books that she reads.

SESAME STREET (rant): no plot, no resolution. As if saying, "has been brought to you by the No. 6 and letter A" has any meaning. Did they fall in love? Live happily ever after? What?

SETTLEMENT (the): sick of kicking the human’s butt’s every time they’re attacked, the elves finally capitulate and give in to the human’s desires: an elf in every home, a harlot in every bed.

**SEX THERAPIST:** parody. Male therapist trains assertive individualistic women to be more submissive and docile so they can get a mate in these modern times.

**SEXY SNAIL:** snails and mollusks are sexy things, rumored to be natural aphrodisiacs. This here snail is woman sized and born to flirt. “That oyster sauce in your pocket, big boy...” etc.

**SHAME:** faster than light travel is not possible for physical bodies, but the mind can accomplish this by focusing on a painful memory and than rocketing away from it as fast as possible.

**SHE’D DONE THE MATH:** character wakes up after throwing themselves a 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday party only to realize they just turned 49. An extra year? The greatest gift of all?

**SHE’D DONE THE MATH (the sequel):** after telling this story to friends for years, the character finally realizes that instead of 49, they had only turned 48. Even in the telling, they were off!

**SHIP TO STERN:** a WWII submariner walks from one end of the boat to the other every morning for his coffee. One day, he doesn’t make it back...

**SHIPS on the HORIZON:** raising flags as declaration of their allegiance. It is in this moment, before declaration, that a whole world of possibilities exists... afterwards, only the one.

**SHOE for a HAT (wearing):** the wee-people (pixies, etc.) do this on occasion, though general it is considered tacky, uncouth, and a sign of poor breeding.

**SHOE LACE:** want a little random luxury? Go into a high priced luxury shoe store and buy a new pair of shoelaces. They'll put them on while you wait. Sublime decadence.

SHOE TREE: just take a guess? That's right, a tree that grows shoes, sells shoes, collects shoes, and so on. Some folks even donate their used shoes to the tree for his charity projects.

SHOPLIFTING SCAM: suddenly remembering her child, shopper runs out of store, sets off alarm, apologizes, grabs purse filled with de-tagged merchandise by accomplice and departs.

SHORT CUT (a): that is anything but. "It would have been easier to take the long route," are ominous last words.

SHORT CUT (the): being the story of a shortcut that turns out to be anything but. "I know a short cut," being ominous last words.

SHOULD OF, COULD OF, WOULD OF: if the audience can see how the story should have gone and it doesn't go that way, then the story is being told incorrectly and in an amateurish way.

SHRIEK OWL (true): in Arkansas when my neighbors shot their guns, I would answer with mine. And when they screamed at sunset, I yelled back. This last neighbor turned out to be an owl.

SIGNING (the): author (Celli?) goes to a book signing with one of his fictional characters as an escort (Jeannette), who mouths, Help me! "Is she pretending I kidnapped her again?"

SILENT CITY (the): is the cemetery.

SIR'RACCO: a magical angular prismatic turtle. But is he one of a kind or part of a herd?

SISTERS OF MERCY: a monastic order that monitors the Internet (the Server) and provides assistance (repair, amnesty, etc.)

to computer proxies (AI, subprograms, and what not).

**SISTERHOOD OF DECAY:** after the war, all that remains is the need to bury the dead. Nun like widows who run the world from the behind the tombs of their husbands and sons.

**SITTING the SITTER :** babysitter is sent to sit older boy, who has other plans in mind...

**SKULL** (character, see *Bones*): skeletal, or tight skinned man, into tossing the bones (gambling), sells Drip (a drug), while the treasures surrounding him grow old, covered in mold.

**SLEEPING WIFE'S** (ode to my, dreams): being a compendium of the things she says shortly before awakening in the morning and wee hours of the night. "Mind the Crocs, dear."

**SLUMBER LINES** (*Tunnel Vision*): as a writer, the book you keep thinking about while falling asleep (editing and correcting) that has no basis outside of the world of dreams

**SLUMBER PARTY** (children's book): younger sister tells the tale of her older brother's birthday party / camping trip to the mountains. Dad is either a hero or a zero.

**SMALL SEX:** I like my Small Talk like I like my Sex, anonymous and over the Internet.

**SNAKES:** guy goes into business with his friend selling snakes. But the minute he signs up, his friend opts out and he's left with a million snakes to take care of. (Monkeys. Alligators.)

**SOCIETY OF POACHERS:** is the less conspicuous and more secretive branch of the International Games Keepers Association. It's all interconnected.

SODA SYRUP MLM: I'm sure there's a fortune to be made in there somewhere.

SOMEDAY (a poem): Someday; Someday; Someday; Someday's going to come someday.

SOUP BURNS: there are worse wounds to have to lick.

SOUP CAN OPUS: discusses the evil tyranny of the Campbell Soup Dynasty and the oppressiveness of their undersized labels. To be written on the labels of soup can... of course.

SOUP LABEL OPUS: bum writes his stories on the back of food labels using chimney soot and spit for ink. Perhaps done as a bit of performance art piece... but not by me.

SOVEREIGN ENTITY: sideshow carnival psychic who is continually hampered by his "honest" assistant who just so happens to have the gift. "What my assistant meant to say was..."

SPAGHETTI SALESMAN: street vendor who sells paper cones filled with spaghetti. Not a bad roll for Jeff... maybe what he sells changes from world to world as Itchy travels along.

SPCA (it's fun to stay at the): animals get out of their cages and sing the chorus line, during the adoption segment of a greater children's musical.

SPEED OF GENIUS: genius transcends time -- its moment last forever... that is it's genius.

SPEED OF LIGHT: at the speed of light, time stands still and becomes all -- past, present, and future.

**SPEED READING:** notes, highlighted sections, markings and other means of enabling readers to speed through a book faster, skipping sections and so forth, might increase its appeal.

**SPELUNKERS (the):** based on a dream. Beneath a city, natural caverns have been urbanized by the young and split into rival territories. Some wear pointy bird like avian helmets.

**SPLITTING THE DIFFERENCE (location):** a house located on the divide of a weather system -- one side is always wet and rainy while the other is always dry and sunny. Think Hawaii.

**SPRING BREAK:** ever wonder about the relationship between Student Loans (\$ owed) and Spring Break (decadence thereof)? I bet there's a research grant in there somewhere.

**SPUN:** little old lady can't sleep, so she starts listening to late night radio and believes all the wacky conspiracy theories she hears. Soon she looking for UFOs and building a bomb shelter.

**STACKED:** I grew up in the library -- the musty, dusty stacks -- cool gardens -- long lonely nights with only the light of the electronic reader for company...

**STANDARD BOILERPLATE:** it is essential to understand that any ambiguity or contradiction in the manuscript is due to the ignorance of the reader and in no way reflects on me, the writer.

**STAR DATE:** one line synopsis of Star Trek, episode by episode. Sorry, but I won't be doing. There are those who are Trekkies, and those who are not. I am the latter.

**STEREOTYPES:** if you can tell the role a character will play in a movie at 32x speed with the sound off just by seeing them, there's something wrong with the film's script.

**STILETTO BLUE EYES** (based on my cat): is a feisty (and angry) elvin maiden. She hooks up with an equally enraged ogre, and together they worship the gods of old by torturing trees.

**STILL**: in the future they have built so many wind farms that there is no longer a breeze to be found anywhere... that is until a little girl finds a small wisp of a breeze hiding out in a cave.

**STILL LIFE**: photographer captures a Djinn's essence while photographing a dancing pillar of smoke. Now, all our heroes must do is set it free... but how? And why? And to what end?

**STITCH IN TIME** (sewing kit): something that every fantastical traveler needs. Does it sew up time? Or reinvent the past, providing one with the proverbial 'Stitch in Time?'

**STONE AGE STRIP CLUB**: the first, the original, girls dancing to stay warm, men tossing another log on the fire, tipping a jug of spoiled grain to their lips... back when men were men.

**STOPPERS** (public service announcement): drain plugs aren't there to keep water in, but to keep something far worse out.

**STORAGE LOCKER LABYRINTH**: inside of a storage locker rental place would make a good set for a movie.

**STRANGE**: a man wakes up and everything seems strange -- his wife, dog, job, boss, the way to work, and everything. Turns out he woke up in he wrong body. Hope it doesn't happen again.

**STRANGE MORALITY**: the entire purpose of good-guy bad-guy movies is to give the bad guys the wrong idea (i.e. to model the worst possible strategy and tactics imaginable).

STRIP SHOW: sex sells, so basically the idea is to put words into the mouths of professional strippers (perhaps explaining their craft) while they go to work. It may not be art, but...

STROBE LIGHT: as an indicator of PK (psionic) ability.

STRUCTURALISM (this list): a type of writing where the dominant -- primary, initial -- force is how the words look on the page -- their pattern and structure -- rather than plot or character.

STUDY OF AN ARTIST AS A YOUNG BABY: holding up his diaper with one hand; reaching in with the other to spread the works; pleased, a toddler steps back to admire his creation.

STUPIDISM: a backformation philosophical outlook which gathers together all the “greater” aspects of solipsism, nihilism, existentialism (whatever that means), spiritualism, and so on.

STUPIDITY: the rate of incidence of adult onset stupidity in the population at large is staggering.

SUB DOM: a survivalist camp which utilizes naked women as guard dogs. They run around on all fours, snarl, wear collars, and can only be calmed by the soothing touch of their handlers.

SUBORDINATION: the underling of your underling is my underling... and don't you forget it.

SUFFURAGE: One must suffer for their art... or anything meaningful, really. If that doesn't sound too masochistic, then are you also willing to suffer for your master's pleasure?

SUITS (the): an interoffice gang that identifies themselves by punching the initials of their nicknames through the back of their suit coats in a pinhole design.

SUNGLASSES: and the like are the equivalent to horns for the modern American male. They signal disposable wealth, social acumen, and dominance... provided they are selected properly.

SUPERMAN'S TREAT: rather than giving away candy at Halloween, some superhero type guy is throwing rocks into the air where they explode like meteors in reverse.

SUPER NATURAL: in a screenplay, actors get every magical/wondrous powers they ever had in any movie they ever starred (Batman, Bond, Bellboy etc.).

SUPERSTITIOUS COOKBOOK (the): pinch of salt over the shoulder and into the bowl, mix on the night of the new moon stirring counter clockwise, add ¼ cup of spring dew, and so on.

SURPRISE: is not an adequate basis for a story. I don't really want to read a story just to get to the surprise ending or figure out the mystery. I want to be entertained on the way.

TAG LINE: "In real life, I do all my own stunts," Brett Paufler.

TALENT: is meaningless is you don't use it. Write as much as possible... without burning yourself out.

TAROT DECK: made from postcards, different tarot decks, playing cards, baseball cards, concert tickets, and the like. This is what a real tarot deck is supposed to look and feel like.

TATTOOS: are jewelry you can wear in jail.

TATTOOS over SUBSTANCE: in photography, it is often the case that when dealing with girls who have tattoos, the tattoo,

themselves, take the place of any other meaningful concerns.

**TEACHER:** a one sided transcription of an elementary school teacher at work. This would be the “voice.” Whatever the lesson was about would be the actual story.

**TELL ME YOUR PLANS** (if you want to make this god laugh): story written from the perspective of an Olympian god... perhaps of my childhood in the Fields of Olympia...

**TEN BY TEN (10x10):** ordered chaos. Ten line in a story per day with the next day’s work continuing the action only differently: different character, locale, plot, foil, etc..

**TERROR PSYCHOSIS:** a catchy phrase to explain the appeal of zombie flicks and the weirding effect of ghost stories.

**TEST (the):** “It’s a simple maze test, you’ve got a minute to find the exit,” the Sarge had said, but that wasn’t it; the real test was seeing what you would do after an hour... or even a year.

**TESTOSTERONE POISONING:** an accurate diagnosis for most males, ages 13-33.

**TEXT WARS (Text Warriors):** shoot ‘em up computer game in which avatars are simple letters from the alphabet. Perhaps they shoot commas, periods, and semicolons.

**THANK GOD** (a comedy): a heterosexual man is relieved to discover that his son is actually gay. “I always wondered if I’d done something wrong, you know, that I’d made you... straight.”

**THESPIAN SURVIVAL:** a play in which actors are voted off the stage by the audience -- perhaps with whoever is voted off coming back to play the role as the next character.

THIRD MAN: is death gone soft, the force that takes you by the hand and leads you to safety when all seems lost, and/or the guardian angel who leads you from darkness, into the light.

THOMAS MANN: didn't he say "all artists aspire towards death"? Obviously, for some this rings more true than for others. Still living and breathing, are you? And you call yourself an artist?

THREE SIDED JAIL: Problem with illegal aliens? Set up a three sided jail on the border of the offending country. Refugees are free to stay or leave, but not emigrate any further.

THREE STEPS (to writing): daydreaming (originates the idea), then writing for oneself (honing the craft), and finally writing for publication (bringing to market).

THROWBACK: character is not as enlightened and advanced as the rest of mankind, but they understand animals and nature, and sense things which others do not (is a super-sensor).

TOENAILS: I'm a Neo Post Modern Abstract Toenail Sculptor, working in a mixed media of horn, gristle, and partially decomposed flesh (a.k.a. toe jam).

TOMBSTONE: a storyline I return to time and again is that of a ghost returning to the tomb of her boyfriend where she makes love to a new victim or some such variation on that theme.

TOO BEAUTIFUL (romance): man thinks a woman is too good looking and so has never learned to compromise or negotiate. But it's nice that she's intelligence and can carry her own weight.

TOTALLY GAY: Butch Girl, "I'm gay." Straight Man, "Me too." BG, "I mean, I only like girls." SM, "That's what I'm

saying.” And from there, they go on to have a sordid sex-affair.

TRACKING: Google has a record of every search ever made; so does the US Treasury, of who they gave every dollar bill to and who gave it back. And that security stripe, it’s a tracking device.

TRADING (the) GAME: “little boy, what would you do for this trading card?” Pedophilic fun. Under-aged boys and the disillusionment of youth: two great tastes that taste great together.

TRAIN STATION : a Cathedral to Time and Technology masquerading as a modern day castle done in red brick.

TRANSCENDING TECH: I walk through town, seeking reassurance that I’m not missing anything, alone, unplugged, surrounded by tweets & texters, the only one still alive.

TRENDSDAY: would be Tuesday at the mythical school I’m starting.

TRIO (of bards): travel from town to town telling the same story (as a metaphor for themselves). The old man is the dragon. His wife, the princess. And the apprentice, the bumbling hero.

TRIP (the): graduate level college field trip is superimposed against professor’s theories, interaction of the group, sights seen, and a journey of inner discovery. A project easier said than done.

TRIVIA (definition): is that which fits neatly into a database.

TROGLODYTE: done as a coloring, activity book (connect the dots, word find etc.) that comes together to tell a story. In this case, of a boy who dreams of one day being a troglodyte.

TROGLODYTE (when I grow up, I want to be a): father

“helps” his son to become a troglodyte by messing up his room, keeping him up all night, and feeding him scraps of garbage.

TUG (character): son of a starship captain, he sold his shares in his father’s luxury liner and bought a tugboat, but his real adventures begin when he stumbles upon the Mystery Drive.

TUG (a.k.a. Suzy Kamasutri): tells the story of a repressed seeker of Truth who pilots an interplanetary tug boat along with his harlot side kick who is into sex, dancing, sex, shopping, and sex.

TURKEY FEATHER INCIDENT: a kid who is scared of birds is walking through the forest with his sister. She tickles him behind ear while going “Gobble. Gobble. Gobble.” Scares him.

TWEET (overheard): "Oh, I already tweeted about that."

TWEET (sub-text): So I can be with you and still carry on an intelligent exchange of ideas.

TWELFTH CENTURY (the): flashback to senior year of high school with bits of medieval-ness and Slaughter Quest mixed in. The Jock is a Knight; smart kid, Wizard, etc.

UBI (Universal Broadcast Initiative): cell phone to cell phone distributed underground style communication system -- like the Internet only more so. (a.k.a. Pirate Radio.)

ULTIMATE CONSPIRACY THEORY (the): holds they THEY get their ideas from all the nut-cases spouting conspiracy theories. One theory to rule them all and in the insanity bind them.

UNCLE BRETT’S GROCERY STORE (THE): group of stories using an ice cream shop / bakery as the focal point. I’ve got a place down Akaka Falls way in mind. One - two page blips.

**UNDER CONSTRUCTION:** an incompleting fictional land whose inhabitants want it to be made whole. "I think we lost funding or something." "Geez, that's not it. The author got bored."

**UNRESPONSIVE:** person who talks but doesn't listen. Goes on with current conversational track despite listener's remarks, comments, or suggestions. Listener might as well not be there.

**UNQUALIFIED SECOND OPINION (an):** Life Navigation Guidance, Dream Interpretation, & Advice. If you don't know the answer, I just might be right. Brought to you by Kalala'ku

**URBAN DESIGN:** is all about achieving more from less.

**USED BOOKS:** they just give them away at the library for \$3 a bag at the end of the sale. How anyone could possibly think that they could make money as a writer is beyond me.

**USELESS:** a philosophical movement of my own creation that is anti-utility and pro-waste. If a thing or an idea has any use, it is to be rejected and apposed. Life is too short to have meaning.

**VAMPIRES ANONYMOUS:** recovering brethren meet in a supportive atmosphere in an effort to overcome their bloodlust through the implementation of the 12 Nefarious Steps.

**VAMPIRES ANONYMOUS -** the twelve evil steps. Started writing this story and then found out the name was already used for a movie. Perhaps not critical, but obviously not original.

**VECTOR:** material objects, works of arts, and certain arrangements of words act as viral vectors. Go to the museum, stare at the Picasso, and you'll never be the same. It's a carrier.

VEGETARIAN VAMPIRE: drinks V-8 and tomato juice, nibbles on carrots. That sort of thing.

VICKY: vivacious, full of life, hip hugger wearing, satchel purse carrying, short-haired hippy who bounced past me one day in Costco listening to her music and oblivious to the looks she drew.

VIRTUAL ABACUS: if you do something long enough it gets under you skin and inside your soul -- like human computers who start by counting on their fingers and go from there.

VITAMIN D: is dessert. Just thought you should know.

VORTEX ENGINE (the): CG type wizard sucks a ne'er do well pixie through magical swirling vortex engine and now he can't get rid of her.

WAITING FOR DR. FISHBURN: a psychiatrist who cures his patients in the waiting room (all group therapy like) while they (ostensibly) wait for their turn to speak with him in private.

WAR: when the girls are dancing with each other in the NCO club, it's a sure sign that we're going to war... if we aren't already.

WASP KING: eating freeze-dried larva. Not really sure why. Maybe just to make it clear, he's not a nice guy.

WATERFALL GREMLIN: take-off on Gollum, lives in cave behind waterfall, guarding his treasure.

WAVE: a child buys a tiny little ripple to liven up their aquarium and before long it has turned into an unruly bully. They must find a way to dissipate it before it turns into a tsunami.

WAY (the, is clear), and/or (the world is a) CRAZY PLACE:

linear track story based on the fish ponds at the Mani Lani. Go down, meditate, and let the plot evolve... however.

WENDY: revised story of Peter Pan. Wendy takes Pan's hand, jumps out the window, goes to Never-Never Land, decides to go home, takes up where she left off, and hits the ground. Splat!

WENDY MENEHUNE: Hawaiian "little person" befriends a haole child and they go on wild adventures: exploring the artillery range, sneaking into movies, and finding a seemingly deserted zoo.

WESTERN DOM: a romance (if that's what you want to call it) between a large smelly Ogre and a Human runaway girl in a crossover western setting. The Dom is the town's sheriff.

WHEN I HIT IT BIG (a picture book for adults): relating what they are going to have when they become millionaires -- cool den, garage filled with cars, mansion, battle armor, private jet, etc.

WHICH WITCH: a Saturday morning cartoon character, who is always getting into trouble. Goofy, good natured, and trying to help. "Which witch ruined my party, police officer? That witch!"

WHITE SPACE (the): a newspaper column. "This is my space. And if I don't have anything worth saying, it'll stay white. That's my promise to you."

WHORES (saying): I like to get my kicks third hand.

WILCOX/JENNINGS: Wilcox uses Jennings library, school, police and fire departments and considers itself part of Jennings, but Jennings desperately wants to end the parasitic relationship.

WILL: a boy named Will borrows a pencil from a girl, and writes I Love You with it a thousand times before returning said

pencil to said girl in hopes she will unconsciously do the same.

WIN-WIN: two strangers come together over the playing of the lottery. In the end, the one ends up giving all his money to the other so that she might live her dream -- whatever that may be.

WIND SINGS TO ME (the): in his dotage, Zephyr, a retired God of Old, rattles the windows on houses and whistles through the leaves telling stories of old to whoever will listen.

WIND, THE MOON, & THE CAT (the): being a catchy sort of title and all three being things that wake me up in the night,

WIND (event): wind blowing through the trees like waves in the ocean. Standing in a forest, while birds chirp in the background. Being of the trees... of the moment.

WINDJINN: demonic cousin/sister to the sky goddess who freaked me out in a dream, but all she wanted was for me to say her name three times: Windjinn, Windjinn, Windjinn.

WINDJINN: lesser deity, plays on the wind, black, leather harness, short squirrelly hair, violent, dangerous, sexy in a black widow type way. Probably no power, but she still wants your soul.

WINDOWS: there are no windows in a theatre, just saying.

WINE (GMO): the vintner of the future will need a degree in pharmacology to practice his trade. "A glassful of vino helps the medicine go down," and all that, "in a most delightful way."

WINE RECOMMENDATIONS: at beginning of a book as a bit of ostentation pretension, wine and cheese recommendations are made. Enjoy this book with a fine Merlot and a hearty Stilton.

**WINE STORY:** I typically drink a mug of hot chocolate while writing in the morning. One wonders how my writing might change if I did it at night while sipping on a glass of sweet wine.

**WITCH:** she works as a waitress during the day and worships the Goddess at night. Slight her service or fail to leave a sizable tip and she'll curse your ass and you'll spend your evening puking.

**WITCHES STEW** (character group): three witches making a stew, too many cooks spoil the broth, and all that.

**WITTICISMS:** are the American version of haiku. They are short, sweet, and to the point; and with any luck have a twist mixed in there somewhere.

**WORK IN PROGRESS** (a): painter refuses to finish his "masterpiece," because of all the great artists who died suddenly after finishing their masterpieces... only to learn some died before.

**WORSE THAN THE BITE:** incessant barking of the neighbor's dogs causes housewife to fear what she might discover should she investigate the source of their squeals.

**WRITER** (a): is not someone who is compelled to find time to write. Rather, it is for other things which one feels compelled to find the time, lest one's life pass them by unnoticed, pen in hand.

**WRITER** (the, a character): I've got a great idea! How about a story where the protagonist is a writer! Don't like that, how about one where the writer is hated, by one and all?

**WRITER'S BLOCK:** can be redefined as a fear of mediocrity and not meeting one's personal potential. It has more to do with quality and finding the right words, rather than any old words.

YOU CAN NEVER GO HOME (poem): explores my reluctance to return to my old hunting grounds in order to preserve their memory story wise.

YVONNE: who knows how many stories are rejected by publishers, based solely on the characters' names? But I have a hunch it's more than either you or I could possibly believe.

ZEN GARDEN (ashtray): a monastery for fingerling sized fairies... preaching to the smokers of the world. Or in a world where no one smokes, this is what all the public ashtrays are for.

ZOMBIES (the time of): the zombies have arisen and an aspiring film crew realizes it's in the unprecedented position of making the ultimate zombie flick... all they need are a few victims.

5-14-14

*Brett Paufler*

*It seems unlikely that I shall never wish to continue this list. But if I do, I shall start afresh... maybe list them in the order they come rather than alphabetical next time.*