

# Ish

Volume 1, Number 2  
October 2006



**Indishia** [Masthead]

*Ish*, Volume 1, Number 2  
October 2006

For comments, trades, suggestions,  
and/or submissions, write to: *Ish*, c/o  
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**Art Credits**

Cover, Pages 4, 8...Ray Larabie  
Page 5...Lord of Mobeus  
Page 12...Robin Bougie

**Call Me 'Ish' Mail** [LOC]

[*Editor's remarks in square brackets*]

*Jan Stinson*  
*PO Box 248*  
*Eastlake, MI 49626-0248 USA*  
*4/20/06*

You can blame (or praise) Garth Spencer  
for sending me a copy of *Ish* V1 N1; I  
was happy to receive it.

[*Thank you.* ☺]

Indeed, it is difficult to stop  
fiddling with a fanzine file and just pub  
the dratted thing. Since I started pubbing  
my genzine *Peregrine Nations* five years  
ago, I've learned that not thinking a lot is

much better when editing and designing the layout.

*[I would be interested in reading Peregrine Nations. Is it “the usual”?]*

It frees the creative areas of my brain to do their work and makes my internal editor shut up. I’ve had my own battles with *MS Word* and flying graphics; *OpenOffice* is a lot better about graphic insertion, I’ve found. And it’s free.

*[I tried OpenOffice, but still prefer Word.]*

As far as wrapping text around graphics goes, I’d suggest using a test page or two to just play around with, before attempting this again in your fanzine. Making sure to add or subtract

lines/spaces when moving graphics around is key in getting things to stay put; consider inserting the graphics first and then the text. I should take my own advice. <g> Without the stress of using the actual fanzine pages/file, you might find it easier to achieve the effects you want.

*[I might leave an entire 4.25×5.5-inch half-page blank to hand-paste each illustration in, the way I do my mini-comics, This Is What Happens When You Don’t Eat Your Vegetables and Drawings of the Vancouver Goth Scene.]*

Dr. Geronimo™? Never heard of him. Hope it stays that way.

Re. “Fannish Conversations”—  
Would Ryan Hawe care to have a chat  
with like-minded folk concerning the  
movie *Sin City*?

I did enjoy this article/discussion,  
although the *Mortal Kombat* game and  
film were the only topics familiar to me.  
I shall have to Google this *Jem* of which  
they spoke...

[*Jem is out on DVD now, though  
it's expensive.*]

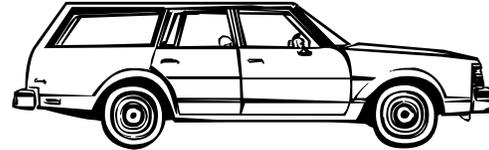
“Why Ray Hates the CBC (Part  
1)” might make an interesting radio play  
at a con. I found it very amusing, as was  
“The Secret Life of Garth Spencer.”

Congratulations on a nicely presented  
and very readable first ish; I hope to see  
more.

[*Thank you.*]

Regards,

Jan Stinson



## The Question of the Month

June 2006

What's your favourite flavour of towel?

*Adrian:* Piña colada.

*Ashton:* Probably chocolate.

*Cameron:* I have never eaten towel.

*Felicity:* Captain Kirk.

*Fruvous:* Saffron and mint.

*Garth:* A suffusion of yellow.

*Jacqueline:* Terry-cloth.

*Ray:* Cinnamon?

*Ryan:* Strawberry.

*Paul:* Hot buttery popcorn.

*Margaret:* Cheese & onion!

*Stu:* Sunlight.



## **The Prophet Speaks**

*By Michael Bertrand*

“A fanatic is one who can’t change his mind and won’t change the subject.”— *Winston Churchill*

...which goes well with...

“A fanatic is someone who redoubles their efforts while losing sight of their goals.”—*George Santayana*

“Oh great Prophet! Lead us! Tell us which way to go to reach the Promised Land!” cried the people, gnashing their teeth in anguish.

The Prophet looked at the anxious faces of his tortured peoples, and said “To Get to the Promised Land... We Must Go...NORTH!”

“North!” cried the Followers.

“North!” wept the women.

“North!” roared the men.

“North!” sang the children.

And so the word went out...the Prophet had declared that North was the Way to the Promised Land!

So it was North that they went. Finally, their lives had a direction! Truly, the Prophet was a holy man, to provide such guidance!

So it was that the People headed North! North! North, the Holy! North,

the Sacred! North, the One True Direction! So Sayeth the Prophet!

Valiantly Northward headed the People. They vied amongst themselves as to who was the most North, goading all the People to go faster...faster!

And lo, even then, even amongst the People, there were wicked vipers of doubt, destruction, and evil!

There were the evil Southists, who proclaimed the Prophet a liar and South the true direction. Their evil lies even extended to such an outrage as proclaiming that, because the World was a Sphere, so to North was to go South and vice versa!

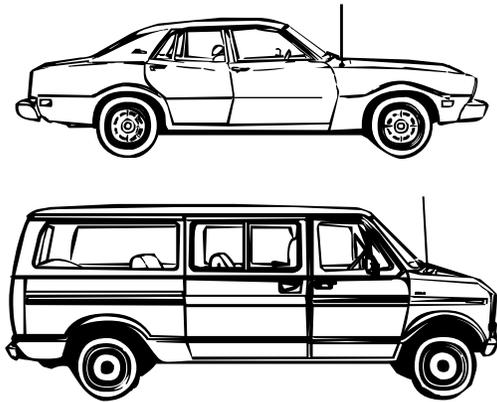
Such heretics earned their violent deaths, crushed under the wheels of the

increasingly heavy vehicles of the people going in the *right* direction.

Faster and faster went the People, and sang of their Glory, becoming more North every day. Their leaders declared themselves the Northmost, and thus, only they were fit to guide the People on the Narrow Northest Path, according to the will of the Prophet.

The Prophet, however, was hundreds of miles behind them in the Promised Land. It was true that he had been tossed from a Great Vehicle a long time ago as a heretic when he had suggested that they were at the Promised Land and it was time to stop going North. But still, he loved his People, and wondered what had become of them.

“Perhaps...” said the Prophet to his Wife, “I Should Have Been More Specific.”



**Julian Castle’s Submissions  
to the ‘Ish’ YAHOO! Group**  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ish/>)

*Common Folks’ Compelling Insights*  
“The popular culture movement was founded on the principle that the perspectives and experiences of common folk offer compelling insights into the social world.” [The sites below] are about the Popular Culture Association and its journal, *The Journal of Popular Culture*.

—<http://www.msu.edu/~tjpc/>  
—<http://www.h-net.org/~pcaaca/>

### *Comix Library*

“Over 150,000 comic books published in the United States since 1935 are included in this collection, which is the largest catalogued library collection of comic books. [...] The filming [?] of several hundred of the rarest superhero comic books from the early 1940s, and these microfiche, in color, are available for use in the Special Collections reading room.”

—<http://www.lib.msu.edu/comics/>

### *Yaoi Con*

A *yaoi* convention!

—<http://www.yaoicon.com/>

### *‘Fortune Magazine’ Coins ‘Yiffies’ Term*

“An alternative etymology exists; around the time that *yiff* came to exist in the furry community, a 27 August 1990 cover story in *Fortune Magazine* coined the term ‘yiffies,’ describing a new breed of worker, the ‘young, independent, freedom-minded few’ (a naming convention somewhat akin to that used with the yuppies.”

—<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yiff>

### *Army Kangaroos*

Earlier this week I visited Imperial Hobbies’ website and a recent release had a title that made me think it was about kangaroos in the military.

The book I saw listed was *The Kangaroo in Canadian Service* (<http://www.imperialhobbies.ca/products/detail.php?prodID=40801>).

“Although armoured half-tracks were used in some numbers for troop transport in WW2, there were only a relatively small number of fully tracked armoured personnel carriers in use. These were generally called Kangaroos. The best known of these were the Canadian Ram tanks used in NW Europe.”

And I was hoping there'd be army kangaroos bouncing around.

*Documentary About Revolutionary Comics (with Animation Mixed In) Unauthorized and Proud of It: Todd Loren's Rock 'n' Roll Comics*. Directed by Ilko Davidov; A BulletProof Film Production; TRT 80 mins.

“[The film is about] Todd Loren, the controversial publisher of unauthorized comic book biographies of rock stars. The new documentary mixes animation and eerie home video with numerous interviews. [...] [Loren] founded his comic book company in 1989. [...] An enigmatic figure, he was a brilliant businessman and a First Amendment crusader, but he was also known for creating legions of enemies through his insufferable behavior. [...]

“Rock ’n’ Roll Comics was largely derided by others in the comic book industry and hated by the music business [...] yet it was Loren who fought the good fight and won a landmark court case that established First Amendment protections for comics and graphic novels.

“At the height of his success, however, Loren was fatally stabbed. His murder remains unsolved 13 years later, though clues point to Andrew Cunanan, the reported serial killer who has been linked to the 1997 slaying of fashion designer Gianni Versace. [...]

“The film stands as a celebration of youthful exuberance and imagination.”

—<http://www.bulletprooffilm.com/catalogue/loren.html>

#### *ORCA Promotes Comix with Freebies*

“Organized Readers of Comics Associated, or ORCA, is an international comic book association” and their mission is “to promote the reading of comic books.”

“ORCA gives away thousands of comics each year, to inspire readership and support of our hobby and the business of comic books. We are the only such group of our kind, recognized throughout the comic book

entertainment industry, and other affiliate industries comprising the wider interest in imagination mediums.”

I wonder if they are really “the only such group of our kind.”

—[http://www.orcafresh.net/  
PagesHome/about.html](http://www.orcafresh.net/PagesHome/about.html)

### *Comix Decode*

“Comix Decode is a series of readings and discussions with contemporary cartoonists. Our goal is to enlighten fans, fellow artists, and new readers alike by offering a forum for in-depth discussion of the comix medium. Our main modus operandi is to get a few outstanding cartoonists together in a room, project their work on a screen while they read it,

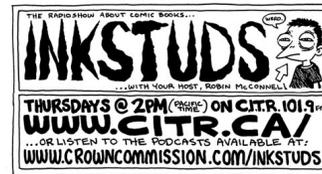
and then have an active and open discussion about it, with the cartoonists themselves acting as the panel of experts.”

—<http://www.artbabe.com/comixdecode/>

### *New Comix Radio in Vancouver*

*Ink Studs* (comix radio show), Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on CITR (101.9 FM or <http://citr.ca/live.rm>).

—<http://inkstuds.livejournal.com/>



*Longest Rejection Letter in History?*

“[...] In the summer of 1956, Russian poet Boris Pasternak [...] delivered his epic *Doctor Zhivago* manuscript to a Soviet publishing house, hoping for a warm reception [...]. Instead, Pasternak received one of the all-time classic rejection letters: a 10,000-word missive that stopped just short of accusing him of treason. [...]”

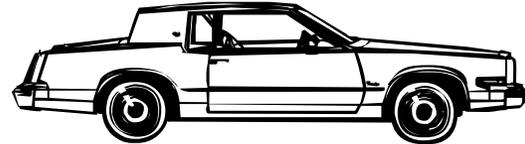
I’m not sure if I’ve ever written *anything* close to 10,000 words (I’ve forgotten what my longest school essay was).

—[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/nationworld/2002112639\\_diss08.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/nationworld/2002112639_diss08.html)

*Musicals: ‘Evil Dead’  
and ‘BOOMSTICK!’*

“[Devil’s Due mainly publishes comics, but they] have also produced some plays for the stage, including [...] stage adaptations of the films *Evil Dead* (*Evil Dead! The Musical*) and *Army of Darkness* (*BOOMSTICK! A Musical Parody of Darkness*).”

—[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devil%27s\\_Due\\_Productions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devil%27s_Due_Productions)

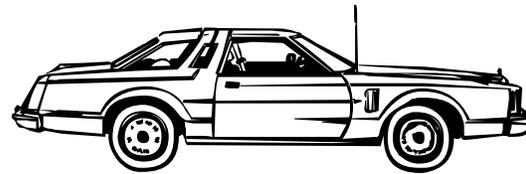


**‘Batman: The Animated Series’:  
‘I’ve Got Batman in My Basement’**

*Felicity Walker*

I like the episode of *Batman: The Animated Series* “I’ve Got Batman in My Basement.” It’s one of the many episodes of the series with flat, choppy, non-Japanese animation, but it has enough quality in other ways to make it surprisingly likeable: good voice acting and music; good characters; nice atmosphere (Batman lying on a sofa in a boy named Sherman’s basement “crime lab”; colouring and shadows that convey afternoon; the Batmobile hidden under a pile of empty cardboard boxes). This

episode makes me remember why I keep trying to tape this series. I remember that when the episode first aired in 1992, Adam Charlesworth also found it charming.



# MOXY Ts

<http://www.cafepress.com/moxyts>

Commissions by Design



Felicity's RHPS Button

Big and Proud



The Next Big Thing

Social and Political



I Am Not a Product



I'm Your Pupper!  
Eddie Guerrero Doggie T-Shirt

Random Zen Strangeness



Me.

If you'd like to talk about the products on the site, make suggestions, or just hang out and chat, join the Moxy Ts YAHOO! Group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/moxyts>

## Zines Received

*Why You Got This Zine #4.* From Kathleen Moore-Freeman/Polyhedral Mice Press, 7064 No. 1 Road, Richmond, BC (Canada) V7C 1T6.

*Put It This Way.* From Michael Layne Heath/Feudal Gesture Press, [mylayne@hotmail.com](mailto:mylayne@hotmail.com).

*BCSFazine #401.* From Garth Spencer/BCSFA, Box 15335, VMPO, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6B 5B1, [garthspencer@shaw.ca](mailto:garthspencer@shaw.ca).

## Just Four Easy Payments

*Felicity Walker*

I had originally planned for *Ish* to come out quarterly. That seemed like a more achievable goal than monthly. Instead, however, the *Ish* you're reading is a full year later. *Ish* #1 was completed just in time for VCON 30, and *Ish* #2 is being completed (as I type this) just in time for VCON 31.

If I rewrote the more fannish entries in my LiveJournal into article form and included the news items (ideally, paraphrased, with opinion) I post to the BCSFA YAHOO! Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcsfa/>),

I could probably produce an *Ish* a month, especially if there were no minimum length. I'm sure I also have enough of my own drawings (see *This Is What Happens When You Don't Eat Your Vegetables*) and enough photos to make up the illustrations. (This issue, I've made heavy use of a clip art font, because its graphics were the right size to fill the spaces I had. In future I'll try to do more of what I talked about in my response to Jan Stinson in page three.)

If that doesn't work, look for *Ish* #3 to be distributed at VCON 32.

—*Felicity*