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CON

by Ambrose Fierce

FOOTAGEDDON UNNATURAL ACT
SCULPTOR: When the apocalegs cometh
MAN: Hey! Get your filthy mutt off my shoe!
WOMAN: Calling Blanche a filthy mutt? (enraged; strikes him with purse)
(Instantly there converge on the trio swarms of unprepossessing adolescent male humans: Official University of Alberta Vigilantes, Opponents of Evil, Knights of Chivalry, General Nicers, Weirdfellows, Friends of the South Sea Bubble, Scruts, Amiable Fraternity of Young Men Similarly Warted, Big Sweethearts (Marxist/Leninist), Locofocoists, Fighting Philatelists, Sons of the Righteous Elect, Anti-Levitists & Earnest Folk for the Suppression of Excess Humor, Flat-Earthers, Neo-Crypto-Luddites, Backers of Christ-o-Rama, Grand Flashing Astonishers, Sturdos, Avenging Angels, Devil's Disciples, and numerous subgroups, all screaming "Assault! Assault!"; the woman quails back a step and awkwardly tries to hide her purse behind her back; the mob seizes the man and divests him of his trousers, spread-eagling him on the stage; the leader, a twelve-star Grand Imperial Kleagle Vigilante, Grade Three, with multitudinous oak-leaf clusters, numerous citations for gallantry in the face of an enemy, and several hard-won Personal Hygiene and Good Conduct medals, whips out his Official University of Alberta Anti-Vice Vise-Grip Pliers top of the line Simpson Sears, case-hardened, high-tungsten, Rockwell .58, sure-grip handles, handsome rhodium plating and, after some strenuous tugging, manages to divest the man of his virilia; the crowd cheers hysterically; the Kleagle Vigilante wipes the Official Pliers on one of his subordinates and replaces them in their special hand-tooled Official Holster, then dashes off stage left, bearing his spoils aloft, followed by all the others, who are quite obviously in a high state of sexual excitement, a sort of Canadian Gothic/Bacchic frenzy, and as they pelt off shriek "ketchup!" "pickalili!" "mustard!" and so forth, slavering sufficiently.)

SCULPTOR: When the apocalegs cometh
"MAN": Listen, do either of you have a Band-Aid?...Styptic pencil?
SCULPTOR: the mountains of the earth shall be flattened
WOMAN: The deserts are already flat. Ho.
"MAN": Q-Tip?
SCULPTOR: The deserts will be spared.
WOMAN: Ho.
SCULPTOR: They will. That is the place to which the pure will have fled.
WOMAN: *I'M* PURE!
"MAN": Me too. (emits a laugh devoid of genuine humor)
SCULPTOR: No.
"MAN" & WOMAN: Yes!
SCULPTOR:NO. Wicked and doomed.
"MAN" & WOMAN: Yes!
SCULPTOR: (clinking stops; he sighs, pauses) Do you believe in Tramplism?
"MAN" & WOMAN: (after a long pause, hesitantly) No-o-o-o.

(clinking resumes and continues; sculptor says nothing; there is nothing he can say; "man" and woman talk softly together, but sculptor ignores them and continues a regular clinking which becomes louder as his irritation grows)
WOMAN: Crush a mountain.
"MAN": Sure. I bet.
WOMAN: Ho.
"MAN": We'll make a huge tack.
WOMAN: (giggling softly) That's right. Every cityevery city will have a great big pointy building. Like a tack. Like the sky needle.
"MAN": Only sharper. (they laugh together)
SCULPTOR: (feigning boredom to hide his irritation) Lady, I would consider it a personal favor if you would keep your dog off my statue.
WOMAN: Blanche! Bad dog! (giggles) And everybody could save their gum, and make these colossal wads of gum, see, and put 'em all around the city. (clinking gets louder)
"MAN": Like booby traps.
WOMAN: Like booby traps, all around the cityevery city(they laugh together; woman continues excitedly) And people with dogs . . . (gross laughter; clinking *stops*; silence)

To Be Discontinued. . .

U of A forensics

The Citizens Commission on Human Rights has submitted a brief to Dr. James Earp, associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Alberta and head of government investigation into the Alberta Hospital Edmonton forensic unit.

The brief, containing recommendations for handling the violent and dangerous individual, arises partly as a result of the recent murder of a Calgary cab driver and the subsequent arrest of Christian Kjeldse, a mental patient from Oliver, a commission spokesman says.

The brief suggests that psychiatry cannot predict, detect, or handle "dangerousness" and that it should be removed from the courtroom so that people convicted of fiolent acts can be handled through the established judicial channels.

Leah Knowler, the commission spokesman, says the case of Kjeldsen "is unfortunatley not an isolated incident.

"During the past two years there have been two other murders committed by released mental patients in Calgary alone.

"In January 1975, Detective Boyd Davidson was murdered by Phillipe Gagnon, a twice committed and twice released mental

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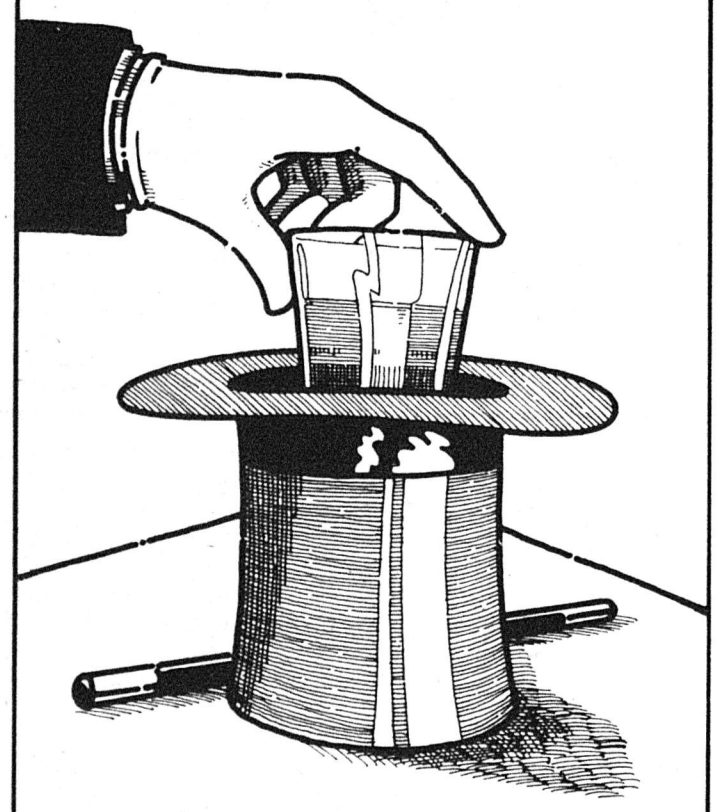
A trick shot



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