

# Beyond the Fringefan [#431]

**BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN** spent an unexpectedly large amount of time in January fixing up nonsense, or at least erroneous grammar and spelling, in exchange for a not unreasonable amount of money, but he still hasn't gotten himself back on schedule as February approaches its halfway mark. New Stuff still needs to be organized and the old year's Stuff filed away at the N.Y. Cadre (1088 East 40th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210 (☎(718) NY-CADRE; ☐↔☐ nycadre [at] alum [dot] rpi [dot] edu; 🌐http://www [dot] nycadre [dot] org)), so if you don't see him out much, you'll know not to ask silly questions about what he's been spending his time on. This is **Beyond the Fringefan** #431, for readers of **APA-NYU** Volume 11, #2 (e-APA-NYU #106) and other involuntary time travelers, published February 2013 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. Cartoon above from *Frazz* by Jef Mallett, 22 April 2012. All uncredited material copyright ©2013 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.

**THIS MAY HURT A LITTLE BIT:** I'm still recovering from a heavy January. It was as busy at work as I'd expected, but it was further complicated by not one but two side projects. One was the latest issue of the Holocaust-related newsletter which I've now been proofreading for nearly four years. The other was a journal that my dentist of 30-some years, Dr. G., invited me to work on.

This is the brand-new journal of the American Academy of Cosmetic Orthodontics (AACO), which is dedicated to the promotion of a fairly new technique called Clear Aligner Therapy. Dr. G.'s son, also a dentist, performs this technique and now trains other practitioners to perform it, and both Drs. G. are active in the AACO. They decided last year to start publishing a journal to spread the word; the senior Dr. G. showed me the first issue in December, and asked me if I'd care to assist with the next, at my going rate. I said sure.

So in mid-January, I received a large PDF file constituting a publisher's proof of issue #2, containing 44 two-column pages, and I printed it out and started marking it up. I soon sent Dr. G. an e-mail asking just what style manual he and the publisher were following, and was a little surprised when

he replied that there wasn't one, and they were more or less making it up as they went along. So I noted that the style looked more to me like the *AMA Manual of Style* than the *Chicago*—only appropriate in a publication seeking respect as a medical journal—marked it up accordingly, and sent Dr. G. a list of corrections, page by page. Dr. G. was surprised and a little dismayed by the length of the list, especially since at that stage of the process the publisher was charging him per correction. He approved the corrections for the most glaring errors and stetted some of the purely stylistic glitches, and after a couple more rounds of proofs were sent back and forth, the issue was put to bed.

For future issues, Dr. G (having learned his lesson) will be involving me much earlier in the process, which is to say that I'll be copyediting the way it's supposed to be done. As with the first two issues, he'll get the articles from the practitioners who write them, and rewrite them to his own standards (because many dentists aren't very good writers); at that point he'll send them to me, and I can catch the typos and inconsistencies before he sends the work to the publisher to be laid out. Not only should this make the proofreading of the actual proofs easier and the final fixing-up cheaper, but it will also smooth out the workload so that I don't get it all dumped on me the same weeks that I'm working overtime at Alliance.

As a side effect of doing all that markup, I found myself with a song in my head at the end of the month. If the tune isn't obvious, ask me.

## WE WILL MARK YOU

lyrics: Beyond the Fringefan a/k/a Marc S. Glasser

Buddy, you got run-ons, dangles,  
Sentences that start with a singular and end with "they"!  
You don't say what you mean,  
Mean what you say;  
Somebody's got to make it make sense someday.

We will, we will mark you!  
We will, we will mark you!

Buddy got possessives, should'a' been plurals:  
Don't know where to put your apostrophes!  
It don't mean dreck;  
You used spell check,  
But the words are wrong 'cause of auto-correct.

We will, we will mark you!  
We will, we will mark you!

Buddy you got asterisks, got no footnotes  
Don't know what "comprise" and "fulsome" mean!  
You wrote "i.e."—you meant "e.g."  
Can't get your verbs and your nouns to agree.

We will, we will mark you!  
We will, we will mark you! (Stet?!)  
We will, we will mark you! (You can't do that!)  
We will, we will mark you! (Oh, I guess you can...)



(Frazz by Jef Mallett, 8 October 2005)



(Reality Check by Dave Whamond, 6 December 2012)

## Fringe Reception: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 11, #1 (e-APA-NYU #105)

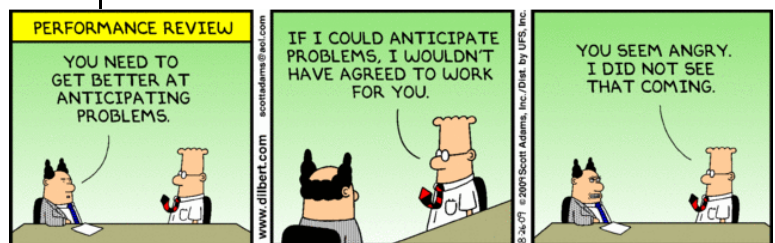
DANCE\* WITH SARTINE PHONEMES (Ariel Cin̄):

“Everything seems to be electronic transfer these days, but between the novellas and the D'al Thyann CD, I made about \$65 so far.”  
 Congratulations! Pity you can't keep and frame the first electronic dollar you made, though. /\*/  
 “My biggest objection: Who the Apple decided all of a sudden that DVD drives are now not worth including with the computer?” Someone who noticed that omitting them reduces the weight and manufacturing cost of computers when low price and low weight are selling points. Lots of buyers who are seduced into making their choices on the basis of these selling points realize their mistakes when it's too late, and, like you, have to buy add-on technology (adding cost and weight) to make up the lack. A tiny, fortunate minority find that they really are able to use the much-vaunted Cloud for everything they used to use CDs and DVDs for. /\*/  
 “My old version of MS Word, indeed, my old versions of mostly everything I'd bothered to safely archive on CD-ROM, have been designated historical artifacts by the Computer Industry.” The newer versions of Windows reject some older Windows programs with “The version of this file is not compatible with the version of Windows you're running. Check your computer's system information to see whether you need an x86 (32-bit) or x64 (64-bit) version of the program, and then contact the software publisher.” So much for backward compatibility. Damn, now there's no functioning version of TriPeaks that does the scoring properly. /\*/  
 “Honourative noun, different from a regular or Lesser noun because it was created by grafting on a suffix or other additive.” Is the distinction in meaning or usage between Honourative and Lesser nouns similar to that in English between proper and common ones?

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER (Mark L. Blackman):

“I haven't mentioned that because my kitchen floor slants things in my ~**REFRIGERATOR**~ tend to slide forward, particularly bottles on the top shelf, so, when I open it, there's a good chance one or more will fall out.” There are simple, cheap, reliable, low-tech workarounds to this problem. Got a couple of old books you don't need? /\*/ (¢Nelson) “I was elected to KCDC (Kings County Democratic Committee) in

1972 on ‘the McGovern Slate.’” What do committee members actually do? Did you try for reelection? /\*/ (¢me) “And if [the Mayans] were so good at seeing the future, why couldn't they foresee & avert the end of their vast empire?” Well, if you accept that their calendar was a masterpiece of astronomy and math, you could say that the arrival of the *conquistadores* was a random factor they couldn't have included in their calculations—much the way Hari Seldon's psychohistory couldn't have allowed for the appearance of the Mule. Or you could just say they weren't as smart as they thought they were.



(Dilbert by Scott Adams, 26 August 2009)

/\*/ (¢self) “The largest number [of write-ins] were for Obama, the 2nd-largest for Romney (who were on the Ballot, which says that people don't understand the concept).” One might still cast a write-in vote for a candidate who's already on the ballot in order to support the candidate but not the party or parties on which heesh is running—reasons similar to your own “vot[ing] for Democrats on another line (Working Families) in order to move conservative other parties (appropriately) further rightward on the ballot.” /\*/ “And a Maine coon came in 3rd in Virginia's Senate race.” Wouldn't that candidacy have violated residency requirements?

ICONOCLAST (Joel Nelson): (¢APA-NEWS)

“David Warren Brubeck (enabled digital cameras to capture color images)...” Um, no, that was Bryce Edward Bayer, four entries higher in the In Memoriam. /\*/ “I have been [producing .mobi and .epub files] by converting the WordPad file into HTML by pasting it into Word, adding the jumps I want to the HTML, and then using Calibre, a program I got for free off the internet...” I tried using Mobipocket Creator for that a few times, but it was clunky; I'll have to try Calibre and see if it's friendlier. What do you mean by “jumps”? Chapter breaks? Links within the text?



(*Rubes* by Leigh Rubin, 9 March 2009)

I saw Dr. T., the cardiologist, one more time last week, and he's now as convinced as possible that I'm recovered from October's relapse of August's pericarditis. He's discontinued two of the three medications he put me on, and told me I can resume bicycling to work when the weather warms up. I will do this wholeheartedly.

Those still digging out after last weekend's blizzard will no doubt be comforted that both Punxsutawney Phil and Staten Island Chuck predicted an early spring this year. See you all next month, just in time for Daylight Saving Time!

>Portions of the preceding may inspire readers to say "God save the Queen."<