

ROARSHOCK PAGE

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Two two two thousand. The Western calendar — the modern world standard in measuring time — has successfully rolled over from the ones to the twos, and universal doom and destruction and the crashing of all computers did not come to pass as anticipated and feared. Meanwhile, in the far older measurement of Chinese and other Far Eastern cultures, it is nearly the Eve of the Lunar New Year, 4698, Year of the Dragon. So for this issue of the **ROARSHOCK PAGE**: *Gung Hay Fat Choy*.

“Does the search for truth necessarily lead to failure or self-delusion?”

— Stan Cardinet

LOST IN THE FUTURE

The poem that does not come
The life that splinters
Into chaos
And loneliness —
Everything is crumbling
Changing, going, ending.
What am I going to do?
I'm scared of loneliness.
What happened to clarity?

Martinez, February 13, 1978

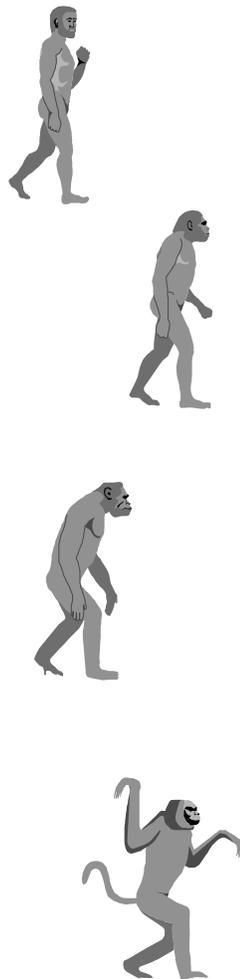
IN YOUR EYES

In your eyes
meaning
more potent than words
but we need words
for understanding
for truth.

Berkeley, February 23, 1978

THE HEAD BEFORE NOON

O go on.
Christ, but the head before
noon
all alone a sun
in a red flaming void



CYBERNAUT'S COMPANION

The future “multicorder” that will be in use both spaceside and dirtside probably sooner than we expect (hopefully). The Cybernaut's Companion is the evolved form of the computer-telephone-television-radio-receiver/transmitter-storage units we now use and enjoy. This synthesized futique component is the Cybernaut's — and terrestrial human's — chief tool of *information* sending and receiving. The Companion can be programed with any information desired; movies, music, libraries, scientific and technical information, computer information. It will display a holographic image and audio sounds, probably filling the end of a room in home or theatre models, creating an image in open air in the small portable version. This typolator will be accessed by means of a keyboard, voice, or by other means.

Doubtlessly, technology will continue to improve the quality of the images and sounds and eventually add simulations of other sensory experience — smell, taste and touch. The Cybernaut's sensibilities will continue to grow through symbiosis with the machine. The depth of the Companion's memory will increase as more and more information is assimilated. All human recorded achievements, history, speculation and theory will eventually be included.

The brain will further evolve, until it can perform all functions of the Companion, without need of a mechanical device. By this time we will be very experienced at time travel — as witnesses at least — and will have physical immortality just about figured out. We will be the Unseen Visitors we sometimes feel compassionately watching us in the here and now.

Of course, it all depends on our being able to increase our intelligence/technology fast enough to solve the problems created by previous inventions, before those problems devour us. Before these terrestrial difficulties are resolved, the first Cybernauts will have migrated into space — provided they have time to create their escape technology. I hope that I live to experience it.

1987

WRAPT IN HIS GUITAR

The smoke rolled in clouds
up, over and above the rows
of dark wood tables.
They sat over their drinks
and some glowed with a hidden glow
with an ununderstood knowledge.
They tried to put it into words
and failed miserably.
Each put his weaknesses on trial
and hid behind them.
Each frowned
behind the lines in his forehead.
The man with the guitar
got up on the stage
and tuned them in.
Blue lights flickered all about him.
They did not need to speak
or meet each other's eyes
wrapt in the blanket of his guitar.

— *After seeing Jorma Kaukonen play a solo show at
The Old Waldorf, San Francisco, February 15, 1980*

IT BEGINS

and to think it all started in Seattle
pretty gnarly shit going on up here
gassing people in the streets
state of emergency
calling out National Guard
rubber bullets
and live coverage
beamed conveniently
into your living room
man I'm on the front lines
drinkin'
having a great old time
only in America
peace and love.

— *Daniel Patrick Wilson
Port Townsend, WA
Nov. 30, 1999*

“The year 2000. All those zeros in a row seem to
exercise an irresistible attraction – 2000 A.D., the end of
a century – the end of a millennium. What will life be
like then? What changes will occur between now and
this most interesting date? Is there any way for us to lift
the curtain of time just a trifle and take a peek to see
what sort of future is lurking up ahead?”

— *Harry Harrison, The Year 2000 (1970)*



FEBRUARY ALMANAC

- 2/2 CANDLEMAS
GROUNDHOG DAY
1882 James Joyce born in Dublin.
1951 Vince Welnick was born.
- 2/5 LUNAR NEW YEAR 4698
Year of the Dragon
JTEL'S DAY
1914 William S. Burroughs was born.
- 2/6 1911 Ronald Reagan was born in Tampico, IL.
- 2/7 1812 Charles Dickens was born in England.
- 2/11 1990 In South Africa, Nelson Mandela was
released from prison after 27 years.
- 2/13 1635 Boston Latin School, the first public school in
America was established in Boston, MA.
- 2/14 VALENTINE'S DAY
1819 Joshua "Emperor" Norton born in London.
- 2/17 1909 Apache Chief Geronimo died while in
captivity at Fort Sill, OK.
- 2/21 1965 Malcolm X was shot and killed while
delivering a speech in New York City.
- 2/23 1868 W.E.B. Du Bois was born in Massachusetts.
- 2/24 1582 Pope Gregory XIII corrected mistakes on
the Julian calendar by dropping 10 days and
directing that the day after October 4, 1582
would be October 15, inaugurating the
Gregorian calendar.
- 2/26 1848 *The Communist Manifesto* was published
by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

ROARSHOCK PAGE, Volume 2, Number 3 will be
available March 17.

D. A. Wilson's chapbook, *First Hours of a Rainy Day
and Other Poems*, is available from Golden Land, \$10.00.

ROARSHOCK PAGE, the complete Volume 1 is now
available in a special edition from Golden Land, \$10.00.

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