



LITTLE VILLAGE

IOWA CITY'S NEWS & CULTURE MAGAZINE

VOL. 18 | ISSUE 172
MARCH 4 - 17, 2015

THE TIME IS RIPE

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DEFINING SUCCESS

In measuring personal success, community contributions should be paramount. • **BY THOMAS DEAN**

I recently came across an article by “writer, entrepreneur, and video game designer” Jonathan Chee called “5 Key Traits Super Successful People Share.”

Chee draws examples from four individuals of extraordinary achievement: a professional bodybuilder, a self-made multimillionaire, an orchestral clarinet player and a polyglot who is developing a new language-learning system.

What struck me about these four “super successful” people is that none of them seemed rooted in a community. In fact, the article seemed to imply that a life of community rootedness is antithetical to being “super successful.” I disagree mightily.

Chee says that the “super successful” “make sacrifices,” specifically of “anything resembling a ‘normal’ life.” By saying “their success has come at the cost of many things that most people value,” Chee has dropped the poison pill into community life at the outset. The bodybuilder sacrifices a social life. The polyglot sacrifices his native home to travel to immerse himself in language learning. The entrepreneur gives up paying attention to anything but the online coupon website business he is creating.

But successful community members make sacrifices, too, often exactly what Chee’s examples embrace—say, for example, a singular focus practiced in solitude or traveling wherever and whenever one wants. A successful community member embraces fully what Chee calls “normal life.” Deep social capital is built



UPSTANDING CITIZEN? | By some definitions, success and community engagement are at odds with one another, but that doesn't have to be the case. Illustration by Jared Jewell

by long-term and frequent interaction with fellow community members. Extensive contributions to the community good—say, service on the city council or a long-term commitment to addressing a challenging community problem such as homelessness or hunger—require time and commitment that won’t allow you to pump iron for hours every day or constantly globetrot to learn languages or play in an orchestra. But why is such community commitment, which can require great sacrifice of the more “exotic” aspects of life, not considered “super successful”?

The second trait of very successful people, according to Chee, is that “they never stop learning.” What successful person—at anything—does? As Scott Russell Sanders says in *Staying Put*, a book of essays on community, “The work of belonging to a place is never finished. There will always be more to know than any mind or lifetime can hold.” For example, we have barely scratched the surface of understanding environmental sustainability, and people could—and many need to—stay home and help the community with their ever-increasing knowledge of fostering local agriculture, cleaning up our water or designing resilient urban infrastructure.

In the same vein, Chee says highly successful people “are not afraid to push their boundaries,” to break out of their comfort zones, such as the orchestral clarinet player learning jazz improvisation. But any community offers endless opportunities to bust that comfort zone



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Jordan Adams, Father America 2012

wide open. If you've spent a lot of years on the library board as I have, maybe the next thing to do is to volunteer at Shelter House. I have spent a lot of time learning about our local and regional literary heritage, but maybe I should invest in researching Iowa City business history. You don't need to just change your weight-training routine to push your boundaries.

WHY IS SUCH COMMUNITY COMMITMENT, WHICH CAN REQUIRE GREAT SACRIFICE OF THE MORE "EXOTIC" ASPECTS OF LIFE, NOT CONSIDERED "SUPER SUCCESSFUL"?

Chee says "super successful" types also "hold off immediate gains for long-term benefit." Ask any member of Iowa City's Environmental Advocates or the Bur Oak Land Trust when nature in Johnson County is going to be finally all cleaned up and preserved.

Highly successful people also "have a unique attitude towards failure." Basically, they pick themselves right up after setbacks and become more determined than ever. "Super successful" entrepreneurs, musicians, linguists and bodybuilders certainly do that. So do many of those who lose local elections, are unable to save a historic structure from demolition or fail to reach the troubled kid who finally runs away from home or worse.

I'm impressed by someone who rises from rags to riches, who builds himself up to physical perfection, who reaches the apotheosis of musical performance or who learns to speak with many more of the world's people than I am able to. But those people are no less amazing than Irving Weber, who lived in Iowa City for 97 years and knew more about this place than anyone and shared that knowledge generously, or the neighbor who has been reading to kids after school and tending to the dying in hospice for decades. All those people got to be "super successful" by following the same principles that create astronauts, presidents, ballerinas and billionaires. **IV**

Thomas Dean is finishing his second term—and twelfth year—on the Board of Trustees of the Iowa City Public Library.

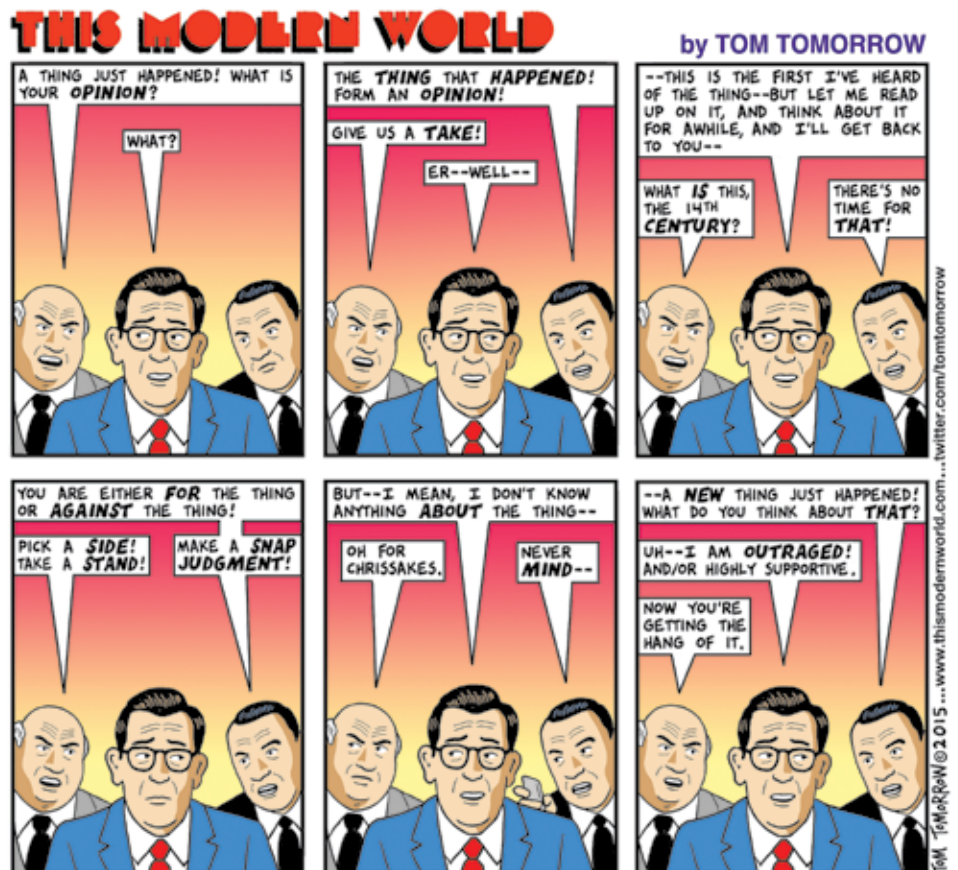


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THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW



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WHAT?

PANEL 2: THE *THING* THAT HAPPENED! FORM AN *OPINION*!
GIVE US A TAKE!
ER--WELL--

PANEL 3: --THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF THE THING--BUT LET ME READ UP ON IT, AND THINK ABOUT IT FOR AWHILE, AND I'LL GET BACK TO YOU--
WHAT IS THIS, THE 14TH CENTURY?
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT!

PANEL 4: YOU ARE EITHER *FOR* THE THING OR *AGAINST* THE THING!
PICK A *SIDE*! TAKE A *STAND*!
MAKE A *SNAP JUDGMENT*!

PANEL 5: BUT--I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING *ABOUT* THE THING--
OH FOR CHRISSAKES.
NEVER *MIND*--

PANEL 6: --A *NEW* THING JUST HAPPENED! WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT *THAT*?
UH--I AM *OUTRAGED*! AND/OR HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE!
NOW YOU'RE GETTING THE HANG OF IT.

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OFF ROAD AND ON A MISSION

Youth Off-Road Riders work to provide opportunities for local youth to get involved with cycling at an early age. • **BY ALISA HRUSTIC**



Indoor training sessions, volunteering, trail work and cycling on everything from rugged terrain to basic bike paths are nothing new to the kids of the Youth Off-Road Riders (YORR), a cycling program offered to local youth through the Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County.

Anthony Branch, director of YORR, said that crossing the finish line comes with a great sense of accomplishment, and wanted to make that opportunity available to any kid willing to give biking a shot.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE RIDE | Kendra Law competes in an off road cycling competition as part of YORR. Photo by Anthony Branch, courtesy of Youth Off-Road Riders

"I'm a cyclist myself and became really passionate about the sport, and then became really curious about the culture of bicycling," said Branch. "I thought it would be a neat program to offer to kids and started from there."

YORR initially served about nine children, but after a successful silent auction last March,

the program received enough funds to accept more than 38 kids, all of whom got a chance to cycle recreationally—and competitively—with the assistance of coaching and peer support.

"FOR ME, IT WAS LIFE CHANGING ..."

—KENDRA LAW

"For me personally, it's about making a connection with kids who have the same passion that I have and giving them an opportunity to be exposed to something they wouldn't ordinarily be able to be exposed to," Branch said.

The organization's second annual benefit auction is set for Friday, March 6 at the Terry Trueblood Recreation Center from 6-9 p.m., and will offer local, bike-related goods and services, including many items from local bike shops. A few "big ticket items" will also be available, Branch said.

"Last year, it was well attended, we had a great turnout and it was very well put together, so we're hoping for that again this year," Branch said.

Attendees will also be able to tour a display of hand-built bikes, created by students from a class at the University of Iowa School of Art and Art History. Everything from vintage bikes to the latest cycling models will be present at the display.

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By James Daab



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All funds raised will go toward the youth cycling program, which is critically important for the program's continuation, Branch said. Before their first auction last year, for instance, the program didn't have enough money to fully support all of its participants.

"We didn't have the capacity to take them, for that many kids, to the competitive part of cycling or even just to ride on the trails," Branch said. "We didn't have the equipment, and we just didn't have the capacity, but with those funds we were able to purchase some new bikes, to build on the bikes that we had previously that were donated."

The \$11,186 raised at last year's auction was used for helmets, clothing, travel expenses and race entry and licensing fees. The group was also able to purchase their first bike trailer, which can now load approximately 18 bikes for races, making travel arrangements much easier.

The kids of YORR have competed in mountain bike and cyclocross races all over Iowa, with the youngest riders starting at nine years old.

Anne Duggan, an active cyclist and volunteer with the program, said that the training, while not a strict program, can be rigorous, fun or both—depending on the level of cycling the kids wish to pursue. All levels are often welcomed with determination and excitement.

"They're not being coddled," Duggan said. "They go into races, real races."

However, the true benefit stems from finding a network of peers that share the same excitement.

"People who are established [cyclists] are really supportive of kids learning to bicycle," Duggan said. "Everyone's always nice, and it's a very inclusive community."

That biking community recently sent a 16-year-old racer to national competitions. Iowa City West High School junior, Kendra

Law, recently finished the USA Cyclocross Junior National in Austin, Texas. Law initially got involved with YORR in eighth grade and says that crossing the finish line at her first big race was "one of the best feelings."

But it's not the competitive aspect that keeps her on two wheels.

"Everyone's extremely supportive in the sport, which is really unique about biking, I think," Law said. "It's not as competitive; it's more about setting your own goals."

Law recently got a job at a local bike shop, where she is expanding her knowledge of bicycle repair and mechanics. As an older member in YORR, she enjoys working with the younger kids and hopes to see the riding continue so they get the chance to benefit from the same opportunities.

"I think it's a really good experience for any kids that do join, and maybe even life changing," Law said. "For me, it was life changing, and I think that it's a really good program to keep around."

Branch said that they hope to raise a similar amount at this year's auction. The impact of cycling is evident in how it affects the kids, he said, and he hopes they have the means to keep pushing themselves through a challenging, yet enjoyable sport.

"When they're out there cycling, they're learning about themselves, in a different way that's maybe not academic, but when they do have really significant challenges in their life, or are struggling academically, they can then tie [cycling] into it," Branch said. "I can show them, 'Yes, you can overcome a challenge and that you have the ability and skills to set a goal, and meet a goal, and to overcome the challenges associated to achieving that goal.'" **lv**

Alisa Hrusic is a journalism student at the UI and an intern at Little Village.



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Sandra Steinbrecher, Roman Crockett, social sciences teacher, with his students at Fenger High School, Chicago, Illinois, 2011. Photography © Sandra Steinbrecher 2015

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Photos by Frankie Schneckloth



Decorate your dinner table or patio garden with these easy concrete projects. To make a planter, you'll use dowels to create a negative space for your tiny plant and drainage holes. To make candleholders, you'll use the aluminum holders from tealights.

STEP 1 | If you're making planters, cut your dowels down to appropriate lengths by measuring the depth of your silicon ice cube trays, which will act as your mold. Use a saw to cut your 1 1/2-inch diameter dowel into pieces that measure three quarters the depth of the mold. For example, my mold is two inches

deep, so I cut my 1 1/2-inch diameter dowel into 1 1/2-inch lengths.

STEP 2 | Sand down any rough edges on the dowels. Cut the 1/4-inch diameter dowel into sections measuring half the length of the 1 1/2-inch diameter dowel and sand the edges. I cut 1 1/2-inch diameter dowel into 1 1/2-inch lengths, so that means my 1/4-inch diameter dowel will be cut into 3/4-inch pieces.

STEP 3 | Glue the flat edges of a small dowel and large dowel together. Wipe away any excess glue and let dry completely.

STEP 4 | Coat the the sides and bottom of the aluminum holders and dowels thoroughly with petroleum jelly. Spread some newspaper onto a flat surface and place your silicon tray on top. Arrange your dowels and aluminum holders in the bottom of the silicon tray mold. When placing dowels into the mold, put the large dowel end down and center in the mold. For the candleholder version, flip the aluminum holder over so the bottom is facing up, and center in the mold.

STEP 5 | Place roughly eight cups of concrete mix into a bucket. Thoroughly wet a sponge under the faucet and squeeze into the mix. Continue this process until all dry ingredients are incorporated, being sure not to overwater. If you accidentally overwater, just add a bit more mix. Using your trowel or spoon, mix for three minutes until the mixture is relatively smooth with no large chunks.

STEP 6 | Using a trowel or spoon, scoop concrete into the mold, taking care not to move dowels or holders. Fill completely with concrete. Gently tap the tray a few times on the countertop to get rid of air bubbles. The concrete will start to settle and expand a bit. You can use your trowel or spoon to skim excess concrete off the top.



STEP 7 | Allow concrete to dry at least 18 hours. Invert the silicon mold, and turn planters and candle holders out. Snip out aluminum holders and remove dowels. Fill with tealights or tiny succulents. **lv**

Frankie Schneckloth is a photographer for Little Village's new food and drink publication, Bread and Butter, out this month.

BREW OF THE MONTH: MARCH AAAH BOCK

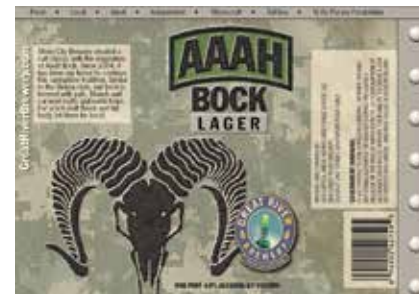
Great River Brewery | Davenport, Iowa

Great River's Aaah Bock is blessed. Every February, Old Capitol Brew Works (which recently closed) has been hosting a celebration called Blessing of the Bock to commemorate the tasty, seasonal dunkler bock. At this fun and slightly ridiculous celebration, beer enthusiasts give speeches, say the brewer's prayer—"our lager, which art in kegs, hallowed be thy drink"—and some even dress up as religious or magical figures as they gather around a chalice of beer and bless it.

According to Great River brewer Paul Krutzfeldt, Aaah Bock took its name from an episode of *M*A*S*H*. The beer was originally brewed by Jeff Allen at the former Stone City brewery in Solon. Krutzfeldt said Allen has been working with Great River Brewery in Davenport to brew the beer since 2004.

Pour Aaah Bock into a favorite pint glass. With a color that leans toward mahogany, Aaah Bock is a dark and sinister-looking lager. A finger of lightly tanned head will dissipate slowly and leave a skim and thin collar of foam. The smell is fruity and sweet like a maibock with scents of apple, raisin, prune, strawberry licorice, sweet caramel and barnyard grassiness reminiscent of German helles.

Aaah Bock has a pleasant, medium-bodied mouthfeel. The flavor is sweet at first, but toasted malt slowly emerges to provide balance. Tastes of apple, raisin, prune, strawberry licorice, caramel and helles grassiness are also noticeable.



SERVING TEMPERATURE: 45–50 °F

ALCOHOL CONTENT: 6 percent ABV

FOOD PAIRINGS: Randy Mosher's *Tasting Beer* recommends pairing the style with rich food, like cheesecake and apple strudel, or spicy cuisine, like Thai.

WHERE TO BUY: The beer is available at most area beer retailers, especially local Hy-Vee stores. It is also on tap at area bars.

PRICE: Around \$9 per four-pack. **lv**

Casey Wagner writes about beer for Little Village. Find out the latest brewing news at LittleVillageMag.com.

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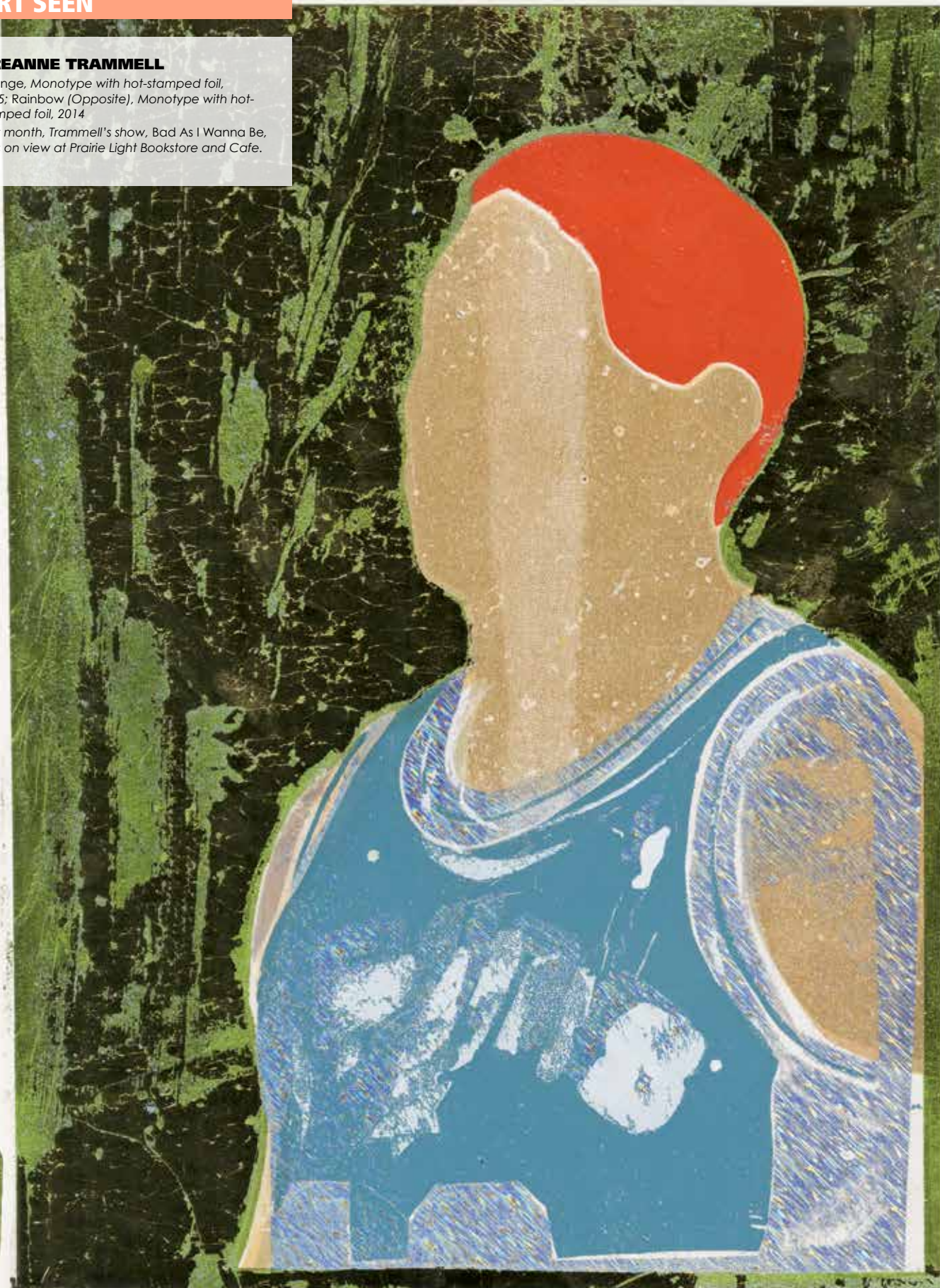
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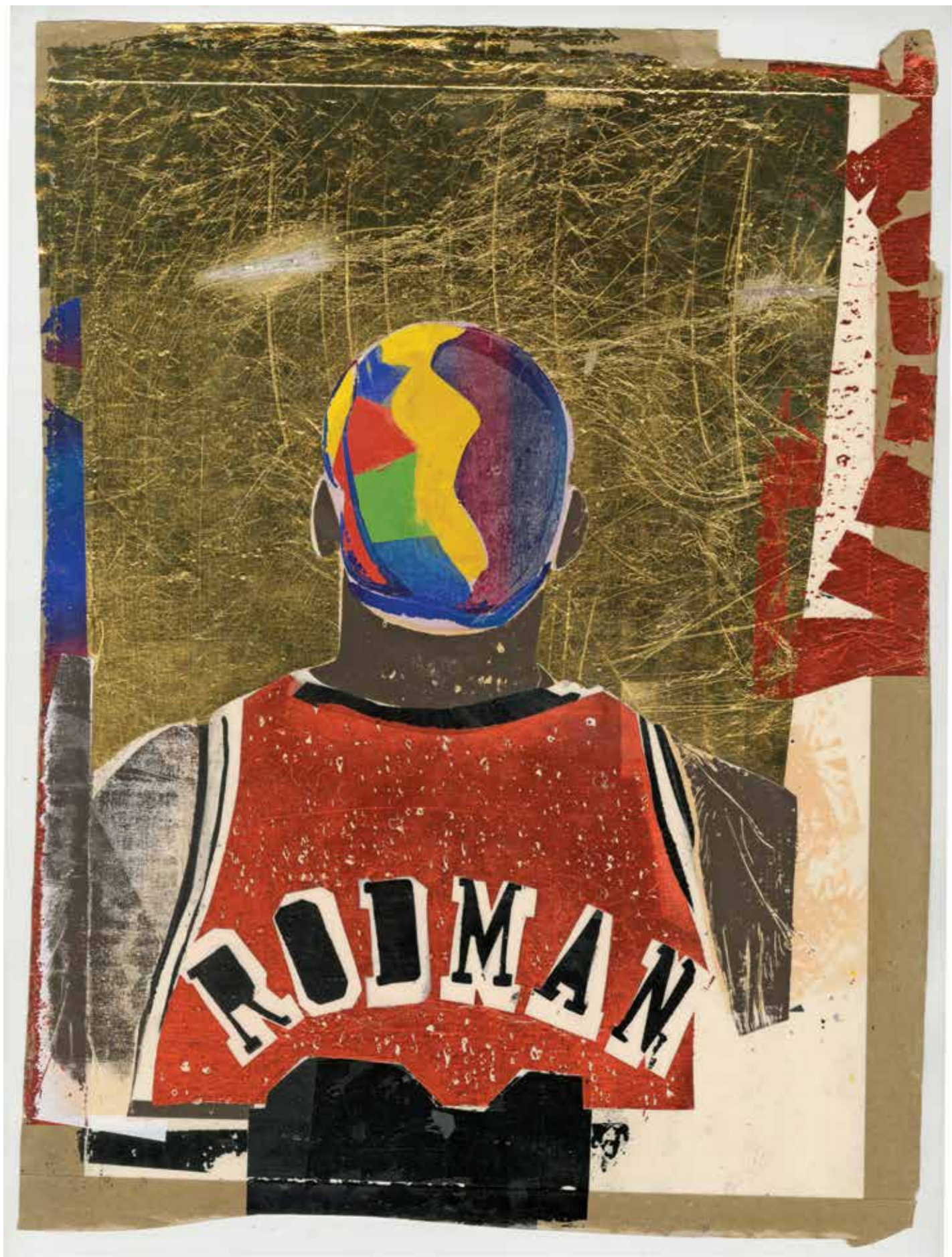
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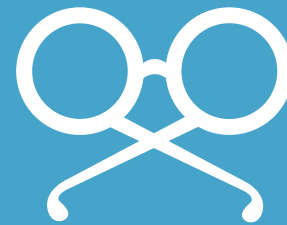
BREANNE TRAMMELL

Orange, Monotype with hot-stamped foil, 2015; *Rainbow (Opposite)*, Monotype with hot-stamped foil, 2014

Last month, Trammell's show, *Bad As I Wanna Be*, was on view at *Prairie Light Bookstore and Cafe*.







INDEBTED TO THE TRUTH

Writers Workshop alum Karen Bender discusses her recent work and how writers can be politically active simply by trying to be honest.

BY MALLORY HELLMAN



Aclaimed fiction writer Karen Bender's recent work *Refund* features scam artists, starving artists, subleases, lockdowns and cons in a series of stories that engage money and its ramifications in tender and powerful ways. These are subtle tales of human gain and loss, set in a society that evermore compulsively pins its citizens to their capital value.

Bender graduated from the Iowa Writers' Workshop in 1991 and has since published two novels, *Like Normal People* (2000) and *A Town of Empty Rooms* (2012). She also co-edited *Choice* (2010), an anthology of essays about reproductive rights.

Bender will read from *Refund* on Wednesday, March 4 at 7 p.m. at Prairie Lights.

Little Village: Your story collection, *Refund*, is over a decade in the making—

Karen Bender: Yes, at least. Actually, “A

Chick From My Dream Life” was the first story I turned in to my workshop with Meg Wolitzer, when I was a student at Iowa, so it goes farther back than that. But most of them have been from the last 10 years, yes.

In the interim, you’ve published two novels and a book of nonfiction. Why is now the moment to put out a collection of stories?

I always wanted to write stories—they were my first love as a writer. And when I was in the Workshop, I started with what I thought was going to be a novella and turned into my first novel, *Like Normal People*.

After I finished *Like Normal People*, I really did want to write stories, so I started some of the ones in this collection, but it seemed like the market wasn't great. This was around 2007. So I started the novel *A Town of Empty Rooms* then. And when I sold that novel, I told my editor, Dan Smetanka at Counterpoint,

MONEY MATTERS | On March 4 at 7 p.m. at Prairie Lights, Karen Bender will read from *Refund*, a new collection of stories that speak to our economically anxious times. Illustration by Cheryl Graham

that I had these stories, and he said “Oh! Send them along.” And when he took them, it was a relief, because it's not easy to sell a story collection.

What do you think are the particular American anxieties that have emerged from this financial era, and how did they work their way into the book?

Last year, my husband had a Fulbright to teach creative writing in Taiwan, and so we were there for a year, which was incredible. And there they have national health insurance. So I went to the doctor with our daughter, who had a cough—and this was actually before the

health insurance kicked in—and he gave her some medicine right there. We didn't fill out any paperwork, really. They put the medicine on the counter and told us it would cost 15 U.S. dollars, which is far less than it would have been in North Carolina.

People in Taiwan would go to the emergency room with a cold. There was not the same stress about health insurance, which informs so many decisions over here—where you live, what you do—I think it informs the lives of Americans in so many ways we're not aware of. But that's just an example. We also have the worst maternity leave policy of all industrialized countries. There are all kinds of things that affect the middle class—expensive college as well. In other developed countries, college is free. These affect your stress level on a daily basis, and that, maybe, is what I was trying to convey in the stories.

MY THOUGHT IS THAT LITERATURE CAN SAVE THE WORLD BY SHOWING INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE.

I'm curious about *Choice* because it's the single book of nonfiction in your oeuvre. What moved you to work on that project.

Actually, it was linked to my story "The Third Child" that was in *Granta* and was about abortion. I looked at that and thought, "What would it be like to have an anthology that focused on abortion?" And then I thought, "Well, what if it's not just abortion? What if it's all these other issues—giving up a child for adoption, etc."

My thought is that literature can save the world by showing individual experience. People can become small-minded or biased or come up with philosophies that are limited because they don't know the whole story. You can say, "Oh, no one should have an abortion," but then you hear all these incredible stories of why people need to have that option and why some people don't want to have it—the individual experience of it should make choice essential. Through looking at subtlety, looking at nuance of a person's life and feeling, hopefully, people can come up with a less black-and-white view of the issue.

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What a refreshing outlook.

Well, so many books really can help change the world. I do feel like, in this culture, writing an honest sentence is a political act. Because we have so much that's false, right? So much we're told that's just cliché—that's part of what Americans are told to think and want and be. Writing something that's actually honest clears away the fog, and that is deeply political to me.

Do you think another project like *Choice* lies in your future, or are you focused predominantly on fiction for now?

In March of 2014, when we were living in Taiwan, a treaty was going to go through the Taiwanese legislature that would allow them to open up trade to China. Many of the Taiwanese thought China would take over then, and naturally, they were very worried about freedom of speech.

Students and other people in Taiwan organized when they thought this treaty was going to be railroaded through without any discussion, and they climbed into the legislative building and occupied it for three weeks. It was incredible—it was like seeing people in the United States just climb into the Capitol Building and live in it. The whole nation was riveted.

One of the most amazing experiences I've ever had as a writer was taking these people's stories down. So it was similar [to *Choice*]. I thought learning these people's individual stories really shows why they believe Taiwan should be independent from China. And the experience of living in that building was just so odd and interesting. I thought that would be another way of using story to change people's minds. Or just to educate people. I don't know about a whole book of nonfiction in the future, but there will certainly be more projects like that. **lv**

A recent graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Mallory Hellman teaches Writing With Purpose, a literary service-learning course at the University of Iowa. Her nonfiction has appeared on the Forbes Booked Blog and in the Indiana Review, and her short story "October, Forest River" was a finalist for the Room Of Her Own Foundation's Orlando Prize. She's currently at work on a novel.

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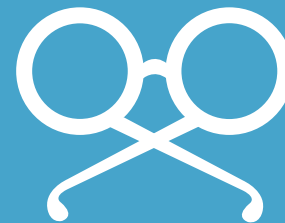
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EYE OF THE TIGER

Through the perspective of animals in the wild, *Love Volume 1: The Tiger* delves into themes of sex and violence. • **BY ROB CLINE**



The epigraph at the beginning of *Love Volume 1: The Tiger* offers enigmatic insight into the wordless graphic novel that follows:

“In the animal kingdom, animals neither love nor hate each other. Love and hate are parts of a natural whole, a supreme balance many consider to be universal or even divine. An elemental love. A love that mankind could never experience.”

What follows is an exquisitely rendered day in the life of a tiger. Writer Frédéric Brrémaud and illustrator Federico Bertolucci take us to the jungle to bear witness to the strivings of a host of animals with which the tiger crosses paths. The 2011 French graphic novel is as suspenseful as it is lovely, and it will arrive in the U.S. on March 10.

We see the tiger pursue a tapir, tangle with a crocodile, rumble with some monkeys and much more. There is quite a bit of violence and a smattering of sex (rendered less explicitly than the violence). There is also humor—a male peacock makes his play for a mate, the tiger scurries away from an anthill, an elephant dislodges an avian hitchhiker—to balance the scenes featuring the baring of tooth and claw.

Brrémaud carefully constructed the arc of his plot so that our feelings for the tiger shift from scene to scene. As it chases the awkward and fearful tapir, we root for the latter to make an escape. When the tiger encounters the crocodile or a pair of slinky, ferocious panthers, our allegiance switches to the tiger.



LOVE WITHOUT WORDS | Despite a lack of speaking roles, writer Frédéric Brrémaud and illustrator Federico Bertolucci's comic is a pleasure to experience.

This deftly crafted narrative demonstrates the ways in which we anthropomorphize animals and generally cheer for the underdog, or the outnumbered, and, though we might be embarrassed to admit it, the attractive. By calling our attention to this, Brrémaud reflects the truth of the epigraph while also setting up his stunner of a surprise ending.

Bertolucci's art for this book is gorgeous.

Each animal—whether on land, in the water, or in the trees and the air—is infused with a palpable kinetic energy. These creatures creep and scurry and fly and swim and slither so convincingly that it is easy to forget we are following them panel by panel and page by page rather than watching them in continuous motion.

The jungle through which they move is equally astonishing. Bertolucci uses light and shadow to great effect while also providing the essential details in every panel to highlight the action and set it in a realistic space.

Bertolucci employs the extreme close-up, the sweeping wide shot, and everything in between to vary our experience of the world he's portraying. He also takes us up high to look down on a scene, or lowers us into the water to look up at the animals.

As the title suggests, *Love Volume 1: The Tiger* is the first of three such books from these gifted graphic storytellers. The other two—one of which features a fox and the other a lion—are currently only available in European editions. Of course, this is hardly a hindrance if they, like this volume, are largely wordless. Still, one hopes this new American edition is the first of many for the series, such that a wider audience in this country will encounter Brrémaud and Bertolucci's beautiful work. **IV**

Rob Cline seeks out the good and bad across the comics landscape as the Colorblind Comics Critic.

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FRUITS OF LABOR

On April 1, Silver Apples will visit Gabe's to perform as part of Mission Creek. Here's the story of the how the world finally caught up to the sound of this '60s experimental electronic act. • **BY KEMBREW MCLEOD**



Sometimes rock and roll is stranger than fiction, and when you add experimental electronics to the equation, life can get downright hallucinogenic.

That's certainly the case with Simeon Coxé, better known simply as Simeon—the synth-playing half of the influential late-1960s group Silver Apples (who will be performing on Wednesday, April 1 at Gabe's as part of the Mission Creek Festival lineup).

In the early 1960s, he left home hoping to become a famous artist and settled in New York City's Lower East Side neighborhood. It was a magnet for painters, poets, actors, writers and musicians—where the rents were cheap and the part-time jobs were odd (Simeon proofread dog tags alongside Pop Art-painter Robert Rauschenberg and two future members of The Velvet Underground).

As a singer and guitarist, he gigged around

Greenwich Village in nondescript rock groups like The Overland Stage Band, but Simeon's bandmates lost interest when he began fooling around with oscillators and other electronic devices. The only member who remained was drummer Danny Taylor, who formed Silver Apples with Simeon in 1967.

Silver Apples were pretty far out for their time. Taylor's hypnotic, looping rhythms and Simeon's use of electronics was unprecedented in American rock music, but they still somehow got signed to a major label (KAPP, a subsidiary of Decca). Unfortunately, that company had no idea how to market Silver Apples, so they were booked on the most random of live bills.

"They hooked us up with Jethro Tull, MC5, Procol Harum, Blue Cheer, 1910 Fruitgum Company, T. Rex, Tiny Tim," Simeon said, "The whole spectrum."

Silver Apples felt more at home serving

THE SILVER YEARS | *Despite the passing of his bandmate Danny Taymor, Simeon Coxé carries on as Silver Apples. Photo courtesy of Silver Apples*

as the house band at Max's Kansas City, a restaurant-bar frequented by various musicians, scenesters and artists. It was at Max's where underground theater provocateur John Vaccaro caught their act with his Play-House of the Ridiculous troupe in 1968.

"After a while, he asked if we would be interested in doing an insane musical," Simeon said. "Right up our alley! What a beautiful but bizarre bunch of folks."

The musical, *Cockstrong*, featured glitter-slathered drag queens singing filthy, hilarious lyrics in a Broadway-type style while Silver Apples supplied their unique sonics. This outrageous musical also broke the fourth wall in a novel way: with a giant water-spraying penis.

"On the end, facing the audience on the

head,” said Michael Arian, a Theater of the Ridiculous cast member, “there was a big eyeball where the pee slit was.”

“At the end of the show,” Arian continued, “we did an arousing song called ‘Get It Up, Get It Up,’ where we’re all parading around the penis and carrying on. That ends with all of us on the floor, on our knees, hands stretched towards the penis chanting, ‘Come, come, come, come!’ And of course, it did. It sprayed the audience.”

“After the first show, people came with umbrellas,” Simeon added. “And you can see—when that cock started to come out of the stage and go out over the audience—everybody would pop their umbrellas.”

Implausibly, Silver Apples found a fan in New York Mayor John Lindsay—who labeled them “The New York Sound”—and his parks department regularly booked the duo at free outdoor shows. Mayor Lindsay even commissioned them to perform a composition called “Mune Toon” in Central Park next to giant television screens that showed a live broadcast of the historic 1969 moon landing. (Take that, Mayors Giuliani and Bloomberg!)

The group’s star was rising, but Silver Apples soon tripped and fell back to Earth. The trouble started when Simeon and Danny Taylor shot the cover photo of their second album, *Contact*, in the cockpit of a Pan Am airplane.

“They thought they were getting a lot of free publicity, so they put their logos all over the place,” Simeon says; however, company officials didn’t realize that the back cover would feature the two musicians amidst the wreckage of a plane crash.

What could go wrong? A career-killing lawsuit filed by an angry multinational corporation—that’s what went wrong.

“They got an injunction, and they managed to get all of the records pulled off of all the shelves nationwide,” Simeon says. “And they forbade us from performing any of the songs live.”

Pan Am’s henchmen repossessed Danny Taylor’s drums and were coming back for the synths and oscillators, but Simeon and Taylor hid the equipment at a friend’s loft and “laid low.”

SILVER APPLES WERE PRETTY FAR OUT FOR THEIR TIME. TAYLOR’S HYPNOTIC, LOOPING RHYTHMS AND SIMEON’S USE OF ELECTRONICS WAS UNPRECEDENTED IN AMERICAN ROCK MUSIC.

When Silver Apples called it quits later in 1970, Simeon made an unexpected transition into television news reporting—landing a string of jobs in cities around the South.

“I was just a standard news reporter standing out in the middle of the street saying, ‘Simeon Coxe, Action News.’”

“Then I got fired for telling the truth about Santa Claus,” Simeon deadpanned.

Apparently, his exposé of a local mall Santa was a little too hard-hitting for the viewing audience.

“When that came out on television,” he said, “mothers started calling that station, said their children were on the floor screaming that I had ruined Christmas.”

Simeon kept his music career on hold until the mid 1990s, when he discovered that Silver Apples’ music was undergoing a revival. “I figured I’d better get back in the game or it would get away again,” he said. Simeon initially couldn’t locate Danny Taylor, so he began playing with another drummer, but it didn’t quite feel right.

Meanwhile, Taylor had been going about his business as a Bell Atlantic telephone repairman until, one day in 1996 during a lunch break, Silver Apples came on the radio. He was miles away from his office phone, so he hopped on the closest telephone pole and patched in a call to the eclectic New Jersey radio station WFMU. Perched above the ground, he was surprised to learn from the station’s DJ that Simeon had been looking for him and—bam!—they started playing again as Silver Apples.

Sadly, this reunion was cut short when Taylor died in 2005, though the drummer lives on in Simeon’s live performances (he now plays as a solo act).

“Basically,” he said, “I sample his drumming that I have on a reel-to-reel tape of him, about an hour of him practicing in my studio.”

Taylor’s drum patterns also appear throughout a new Silver Apples album that has already been recorded.

“It’s in London now for final mixing and production and will be out early summer if all goes to plan. It’s called *The Alabama Sessions*.” **LV**

Please join Kembrew McLeod and several of Iowa City’s most talented musicians, young and old, for a free concert release party at the Englert—celebrating the release of the free CD For Kids and By Kids—at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 28. Admission is free!

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ONE BOOK, TWO BOOK

SHERATON IOWA CITY HOTEL | MARCH 6-8 | PAGE 22

JUSTIN TOWNES EARLE

ENGLERT THEATRE | MARCH 13 | PAGE 28

MOODIE BLACK

YACHT CLUB | MARCH 15 | PAGE 29

LIT FOR ALL AGES

UNESCO's fourth annual One Book, Two Book children's literature festival features readings and activities for all. • BY SHAUNA MCKNIGHT

A new generation of readers get their due when the UNESCO City of Literature's fourth annual children's literature festival, "One Book, Two Book," comes to the Sheraton Hotel March 6-8. The event is sponsored by the Sheraton, Johnson County Community Foundation, area libraries and the Iowa Youth Writing Program.

The festival kicks off with the "Once Upon a Time" dinner on Friday night, featuring well-known children's author and illustrator, David LaRochelle, who will give a preview of his keynote speech. The highlight of the night, however, is when selected participants from 21 area schools will read from their works. For many of these students, it will be their first time reading to an audience, much less an audience of over 300 people.

LaRochelle is the author of well-known children's stories like *Moo!* and *It's a Tiger!*.

He worked as an elementary school teacher before making a career out of his writing and illustrating talents. He's published over 25 books, and has recently begun dabbling in young adult literature.

Saturday's schedule contains a day of events for both children and adults, including a performance by Girls Rock!, a music education and empowerment group. This is the first time the festival will feature music, with instruments available for purchase from vendors who will be in attendance. Items like toys and puzzles will also be available for purchase.

Rachel Carlson, Director of Operations at Iowa City's UNESCO chapter, said there will be more sellers present at this event than at any of the previous festivals.

Carlson adds that this year's children's book festival is unique because of its adult programming. Adults can sit in on workshops like "Toybox Tools for Reading," which will

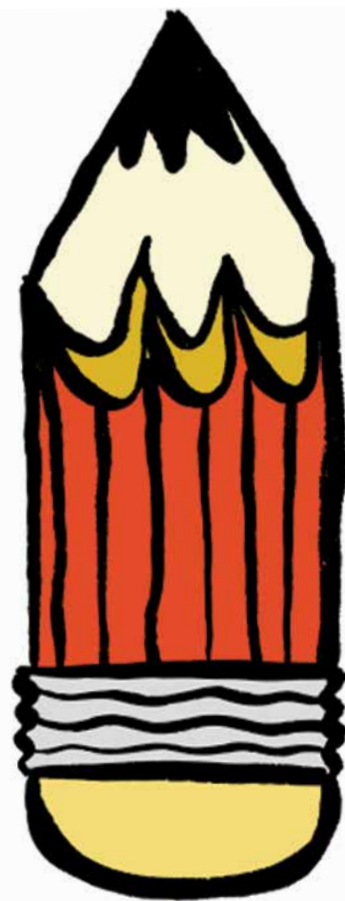
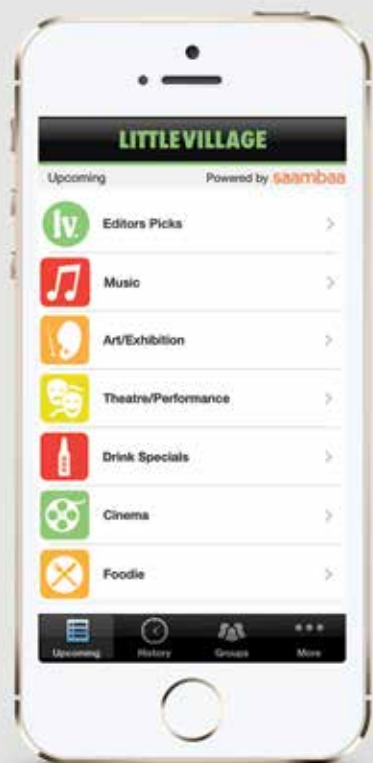


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feature The Haunted Bookshop's toy buyer, Marie Raven. She will give information on toys that build reading skills for children before they've begun reading.

Adults should also check out "Storytime Skills: How to Read Aloud to Children," on Saturday at 1 p.m. The workshop is led by

CHILDREN CAN LEARN FROM LOCAL EXPERTS HOW TO CREATE THEIR OWN COMIC BOOK, OR PARTICIPATE IN AN ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP.

Director of Undergraduate Studies for the American Sign Language program at the University of Iowa, AmyRuth McGraw. Carlson said this workshop might be of

particular interest to teachers and caregivers, with the lecture counting toward continuing education credit at the university.

Although there is plenty of programming for older generations, the event's focus is still on children, of course. This year, the festival will offer free children's workshops on comic book writing and illustration. Children can learn from local experts how to create their own comic book, or participate in an illustration workshop from LaRochelle. There is also a writing workshop for middle school-aged kids.

The festival will culminate on Sunday with an awards ceremony and reading at the McBride Auditorium, recognizing excellent work from two students in each grade level. All events in conjunction with One Book, Two Book are free and open to the public, although Carlson suggests registering for workshops on their website, onebooktwobook.org. **lv**

Shauna McKnight enjoys working, writing and living in Iowa City.

WED., MARCH 4

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Art Bites: Jeni Reeves Artist Discussion, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Free, 12:15 pm | Artist discusses her exhibition, Drawing on History.

/LITERATURE: Karen Bender, *Prairie Lights*, Free, 7 pm | Writer will read her new book of short stories.

Spoken Word, Uptown Bill's, Free, 7 pm | Ten-minute poetry and writing readings.

THURS., MARCH 5

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Travel and Remembrance: Experiencing the Grand Tour and Bringing it Back Home, Art Building West at UI, Free, 7 pm | Learn the history of Alden Lowell Doud's travels and mementos. Painted Selfie class with Melissa Collins, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, \$20, 5:30 pm | Paint self portraits with artist Melissa Collins.

BYOBeamers, Public Space One, Free, 7 pm | Artists bring their own projectors for a one-night, multimedia art showcase.



Photo by Charles Black

/MUSIC: Fullset, CSPA Hall, \$16 - \$19, 7 pm | Youthful Irish music.

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THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: *Luck of the Irish*, Theatre Building at UI, \$10 - \$18, See Website | UI Playwrights Workshop

alumna Kirsten Greenidge wrote this 2013 drama about race relations in Boston. In the 1950s, a black family moves into a white neighborhood with the help of an Irish family who "ghost buys" their house. After 50 years, the Irish family returns with a major request. (Through March 14) —Jorie Slodki

Last Comic Standing, Public Space One, Price TBD, 9 pm | Local comedians perform at PS1.



/CINEMA: *Still Alice*, FilmScene, \$6.50 - \$9, See Website | Julianne Moore, Krisitin Stewart and Alec Baldwin star in this Academy Award-winning drama about Alzheimer's Disease. (Through March 5)

Leviathon, FilmScene, \$6.50 - \$9, See Website | Golden Globe-winning Russian film.

/FOODIE: Dinner at Downton Abbey with Valérie Martin, New Pioneer Food Co-op Coralville, \$20, 6 pm

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FRI., MARCH 6

/MUSIC: Hancher Presents: Pacifica Quartet, Riverside Recital Hall at UI, \$10 - \$35, 7:30 pm | Hancher brings this group in partnership with the University's String Quartet Residency program.

The Fab Four, Englert Theatre, \$35 - \$55, 8 pm | Nostalgia bites when this Beatles tribute band takes the stage.

Chicago Afrobeat Project, Yacht Club, \$7, 10 pm | Groove-pumping Afrobeat band makes a stop in IC.

KICK & The Modern Era, Gabe's, \$5, 10 pm | This young, modern rock group takes the stage with Crystal City and The Missing Letters.



Photo by James Caldwell



/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: *Walking the Wire*, Riverside Theatre, \$18 - \$30, See Website | Riverside Theatre's annual

monologue festival is back. This year's theme is "classified." Playwrights from as nearby as Iowa City and as far away as New Zealand write about the secrets that lurk within us all. Stick around for a talkback with director on March 8 at 2 pm (Through March 14) —JS

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EDITORS' PICKS

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Iowa City Community Theatre, \$10 - \$18, see website | Come see this Tony award-winning musical about a group of children—and their parents—who vie to become the local spelling bee champion. (Through March 8)

The Marriage of Figaro, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, \$25, 7:30 pm | A cast of Iowa opera singers perform Mozart's greatest opera.

Paperback Rhino, Public Space One, \$2, 10:30 pm | Get a late-night improv comedy fix.

SAT., MARCH 7

/MUSIC: Music for Meals Benefit Concert, Brown Deer Golf Club, \$25 - \$500, 6:30 pm | IC Blues man Kevin "BF" Burt plays, with proceeds benefiting the Coralville Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Beethoven and the Bard, Paramount Theatre, \$19 - \$49, 7:30 pm | Orchestra Iowa presents this musical tribute to Shakespeare's works.

Roman Alexander, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Free-\$10, 8 pm | Get down with live country tunes.

Flannel Season, Blue Moose Tap House, \$6, 9 pm | Iowa City's finest "plaid clad headbangers."

Freekbass, Gabe's, \$10, 10 pm | Musician from Cincinnati.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: Hancher Presents: The Joffrey Ballet, \$10 - \$65, 7:30 pm | The Joffrey Ballet presents intimate, chamber works.

The Spy Who Killed Me, Clarion Hotel Cedar Rapids, \$50, 6:30 pm | Amana's Old Creamery Theatre presents this family-friendly dinner murder mystery. (Through March 28)

/LITERATURE: One Book, Two Book, Sheraton Hotel, Free, 6 pm | Two-day children's literature festival featuring activities and workshops for children and adults.

/CINEMA: Song of the Sea, FilmScene, \$6.50 - \$7, 10 am | Beautifully animated tale based on Irish legends.

/COMMUNITY: Nearly Naked Mile, University of Iowa Gibson Square, One Item of Clothing for Admission, 10 am | Strip down and get your blood pumping to benefit local United Action for Youth.

/EDUCATIONAL: Energy Cultures in the Age of the Anthropocene, Englert Theatre, Free, 8 pm | Author Sandra Steingraber discusses climate change.

/KIDS: Painted Selfie Kids Class, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, \$20, 1 pm | Kids learn to paint a self-portrait.

SUN., MARCH 8

/MUSIC: Exotic Voice of South India, Englert Theatre, \$5 - \$18, 5 pm | Learn more about the music of Southern India.

Jones, Gabe's, Free, 9 pm | Three-piece delta blues band. Also featuring The Men From...Beyond and Condor and Jaybird.

Simply Sinatra, The Paramount Theater, Free, 2:30 pm | A night to remember these classic songs.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: The Marriage of Figaro, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, \$25, 2 pm | A cast of Iowa opera singers perform Mozart's greatest opera.

/CINEMA: She's Beautiful When She's Angry, FilmScene, Suggested \$10 Donation, 11 am | This film recounts the stories of women involved in the women's liberation movement from 1966 until 1971. Donations benefit Planned Parenthood of the Heartland.

MON., MARCH 9

/MUSIC: Chelsea Grin, Blue Moose Tap House, \$15 - \$18, 5:30 pm | Screaming heavy metal from Salt Lake City.

Ewan Dobson, Gabe's \$10, 8 pm | One of Canada's best guitarists.

/FOODIE: Wine Class, Devotay, Free, 6:30 pm | Learn more about food and wine pairings.



Spring Calendar 2015

AN EVENING WITH DAN GABLE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
Free Event

THE FAB FOUR

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

ENERGY CULTURES IN THE AGE OF THE ANTHROPOCENE

SATURDAY, MARCH 7
Free Event

EXOTIC VOICE OF SOUTH INDIA

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

DR. VANDANA SHIVA

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

THE NILE PROJECT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

JUSTIN TOWNES EARLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

THE WEIGHT

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

RUSSIAN GUITAR FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

ROMEO & JULIET

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
HD Broadcast: Bolshoi Ballet

WAS THE WORD

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
Intimate at the Englert Series

TREASURE ISLAND

FRIDAY, MARCH 27
HD Broadcast: National Theatre Live

TWEEDY

MONDAY, MARCH 30

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TUES., MARCH 10



/MUSIC: Reverend Horton Heat, Gabe's, \$18 - \$20, 9 pm | Veteran performers, this psychobilly musician always brings a high energy show.



/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: Book Wings South Africa, Theatre Building at UI, Free, 12 pm | This free performance of six short plays will debut simultaneously in two cities—Iowa City and Cape Town, South Africa—using video conferencing technology to bring together actors, directors and playwrights from across the world. — SM

/LITERATURE: Beer & Books, The Mill, Free, 5 pm | Meet up with other Iowa City literaries for drinks and discussion.

/COMMUNITY: Dr. Vandana Shiva, Englert Theatre, Free, 7:30 pm | The University Lecture Committee presents a lecture from this expert in science, technology and environmental policy.

/FOODIE: Middle Eastern Favorites, New Pioneer Co-Op Coralville, \$20, 6 pm | Learn to make falafel with sweet pea puree, homemade hummus and other delicious dishes.

WED., MARCH 11

/MUSIC: Burlington Street Bluegrass Band, The Mill, \$5, 7 pm | Iowa City's bluegrass mainstays. Solas, CSPA Hall, \$20 - \$25, 7 pm | Irish musicians take the stage.

Hancher Presents: The Nile Project, Englert Theatre, \$10 - \$30, 7:30 pm | Musicians from along the Nile River collaborate to inspire cultural curiosity and collaboration.

/COMMUNITY: Panel Discussion on Affordable Housing, Coralville Public Library, Free, 5:30 pm | People who benefit from affordable housing tell their stories.

/EDUCATIONAL: Bobbin Lace-making Demonstration, National Czech and Slovak Museum, Free, 11 am | The Doris Southard Lace Guild will demonstrate the bobbin lace-making process.

THURS., MARCH 12

/MUSIC: Fred Eaglesmith, CSPA Hall, \$16-\$19, 7 pm | Canadian alt-country singer songwriter.

Turbo Suit, Gabe's, \$5, 10 pm | Formerly known as Cosby Sweater, they still specialize in live electronic music.

Suspect w. Make Belief, Alex Body, Yacht Club, \$5, 10 pm | Suspect combines their love of funk and soul with bluesy rock.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Creative Artists Exhibition, Cedar Rapids Ladd Library, Free, 5:30 pm | Exhibition by local artist collective, Creative Artists, whose mission is to foster interest and growth in the art community.



/COMMUNITY: Voices of the Generations: Stories from the Holocaust, National Czech and Slovak Museum, Free, 7 pm |

- Jewish educator Julie Kohner heard stories of the Holocaust from her mother, who survived.
- She brings a personal approach to Holocaust education by telling the story of the turbulent time through her mother's eyes. —SM

/FOODIE: Pizza From Scratch, New Pioneer Co-Op Coralville, \$15, 6 pm | Learn to make your own pizza dough, choose the perfect mix of cheese and season the sauce to please any crowd.

FRI., MARCH 13

/MUSIC: Fossil Youth & Wickerwolves, Gabe's, \$5-\$8, 6 pm | Emo indie rock.



Skizzy Mars, Blue Moose Tap House, \$15, 7 pm | Skizzy Mars, a rising alternative rapper, sets out on his first tour with Penthouse Music label. This young MC is still finding his footing, but his debut has promise. Mars exerts an infectious feeling of fun though his flows and chill lyrics, while the production reeks of pop appeal that you can't help but bop to. —Ben Kasl

THE NILE PROJECT

Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30 pm

The Englert Theatre

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BEST OF IC



Photo by Derek Key

/MUSIC: Justin Townes Earle w. Gill Landry, The Englert Theatre, \$22-\$25, 8 pm | Earle sets off on a tour to mark the release of his latest album, *Absent Fathers*. Bigfoot Park, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Free-\$10, 8 pm | Get down to boot-stomping country music.

New Reb w. Mike Daum, John Dungey, Nimo the Hooligan, Gabe's, \$7, 9 pm | An evening of new reggae and dub.

The Jumbies, Iowa City Yacht Club, \$5, 10 pm | High-energy reggae music.



/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: Dreamwell Presents *Bob: A Life in Five Acts*, Unitarian Universalist Society, \$10 - \$13, 7:30 pm

| The eponymous Bob was born in a bathroom at White Castle, but he believes that he will be a great man one day. In Peter Sinn Nachtrieb's comedy, a man spends his life on an epic road trip across America in an effort to make his dreams come true. —JS

/COMMUNITY: Pinnacle Combat, US Cellular Center, \$36 - \$55, 7 pm | Live MMA fighting.

SAT., MARCH 14



/MUSIC: Moodie Black, Iowa City Yacht Club, \$5, 10 pm | Gaining momentum after their 2014 release, *Nausea*, the post-noise

rap group Moodie Black will be performing at the Yacht Club on their way to the music and arts festival SXSW. With *Nausea* being their most well-received album in their 10-year career, Moodie Black may be on the way to reaching a broader fan base. —BK

The Pericycles, Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity ReStore, \$10, 7 pm | Cedar Rapids' singer songwriters. Miranda Lambert, US Cellular Center, \$52.75, 7 pm | Country music superstar with the hit single "Over You."

ONGOING EVENTS

The Weight, The Englert Theatre, \$22-\$25, 8 pm | *Members of The Band carry on their musical legacy.*
Wildcard, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Free-\$10, 8 pm | *Live country music.*
Spring Break Birthday Bash, Gabe's, \$5, 9 pm | *Showcase of Iowa City hip hop.*

/EDUCATIONAL: Thermal Heating Class, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Free, 12 pm | *Learn more about thermal heating and the environment.*

/FOODIE: Pasta and Wine Cooking Class, Becky's Mindful Kitchen, \$60, 1 pm | *Hand roll ravioli and tortellini, and bring your own wine to enjoy while you learn to make your own ricotta cheese! —SM*

/COMMUNITY: Sewing 101: Pillowcase, Home Ec. Workshop, \$35, 1 pm | *Sew a basic pillowcase, materials included.*

/KIDS: Superheroes of History Day, National Czech and Slovak Museum, Free, 1 pm | *Learn to draw and make comics by local artist Jonathan Simms.*

SUN., MARCH 15

/MUSIC: The Russian Guitar Festival, The Englert Theatre, \$14-\$17, 7 pm | *Musicians play Russian seven-string guitars to commemorate the music of the Ukraine.*

The Youngest, Gabe's, Free, 9 pm | *Folk-rock Americana from Texas.*

Veil of Maya, Blue Moose Tap House, \$15, 5 pm | *Melodic metal from Chicago.*

/LITERATURE: Free Generative Writing Workshop, Public Space One, Free, 5:30 pm | *Each month, one local writer presents a writing prompt.*

MON., MARCH 16

/MUSIC: Grandchamp, Gabe's, Free, 9 pm | *See this eclectic two-piece for free!*

TUES., MARCH 17

/MUSIC: Socks in the Frying Pan, Legion Arts CSPS Hall, \$25-\$30, 7 pm | *FIXME*

/KIDS: Art Mini Camp, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, \$35 - \$50, 10 am | *Children ages 7-12 can join CRMA for art activities. (Through March 18)*

Writing and Illustrating Workshop, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, \$35 - \$50, 1 pm | *Children ages 13+ can join CRMA for illustrating and writing activities. (Through March 18)*

MONDAYS:

Dance Fitness Classes Jazzercise Fitness Center, \$15, 7 am, 3:15 pm **Toddler Storytime** Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10:30 am **Starlight Story Time** Cedar Rapids Downtown Library Free, 6:30 pm **Open Mic** The Mill, Free, 8 pm **Catacombs of Comedy** Yacht Club, \$5, 10 pm

TUESDAYS:

Toddler Storytime Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10:30 am **Scott Barnum Trio** Motley Cow Cafe, Free, 5:30 pm **Play & Learn** Cedar Rapids Downtown Library, Free, 6 pm **Blues Jam** Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Free, 7 pm **Line Dancing Lessons** Robert E. Lee Recreation Center, \$5, 7 pm **Upper Deck Dance Party** Yacht Club, Free, 10 pm **Comedy and Open Mic** Studio 13, Free, 10pm

WEDNESDAYS:

New Dance Fitness Classes Jazzercise Fitness Center, \$15, 7 am, 3:15 pm **Story Time** Cedar Rapids Downtown Library, Free, 9:30 am **Preschool Storytime** Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10:30 am **Theology Brewed Journey** Church, Free, 7 pm **Open Jam and Mug Night** Yacht Club, \$5, 10 pm **Open State Wednesday** Studio 13, Free, 10 pm

THURSDAYS:

Preschool Storytime Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10:30 am **Children's Meditation** Quaker's Friends Meeting House, \$30, 5:45 pm **Buddhist Meditation** Quaker's Friends Meeting House, \$5 - \$10, 6:30 pm **Open Mic** Uptown Bill's, Free, 7 pm **Karaoke** The Vault Penguin's Comedy Club, Free, 10 pm **Locally Owned, Gabe's, Free, 9 pm** **Mixology** Gabe's, \$2, 10 pm **Karaoke** Thursday Studio 13, Free, 10 pm

FRIDAYS:

New Dance Fitness Classes Jazzercise Fitness Center, \$15, 7 am, 3:15 pm **Kirkwood English Conversation Club** Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10 am **Weekend Comedy Showcase** Penguin's Comedy Club, Price TBD, 7:30 pm **Drag & Dance Friday** Studio 13, Cover, 10 pm **SOULSHAKE** Gabe's, Free, 10 pm

SATURDAYS:

***Community Folk Sing** Uptown Bill's, Free, 3 pm (*Once a month) ***Ukulele Social Club** Uptown Bill's, Free, 4 pm (*Every third Saturday) **Saturday Night Music** Uptown Bill's, Free, 7 pm **Weekend Comedy Showcase** Penguin's Comedy Club, Price TBD, 7:30 pm

SUNDAYS:

***Winter Farmer's Market** Johnson County Fairgrounds, Free, 11 am (every other Sunday) **Open Lab** Beadology, Free, 12 pm **Community Worktime** Public Space One, Free, 1 pm **GLBTQ Community Pot Luck and Bingo** Studio 13, Free, 6 pm **Pub Quiz** The Mill, \$1, 9 pm

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION:

Guardians of Grain: Bamana and Dogon Door Locks Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, \$0-\$5. see website, All Day
The ABCs of Children's Book Illustration Selections from the Zerkane Collection Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, \$0-\$5 **Drawing on History: Jeni Reeves' Illustrations for Voice of Freedom** Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, \$0-\$5 **Drawn to Illustration: Selections from the Collection** Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, \$0-\$5 **Faces of Freedom** The Czech and Slovak Journey National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library, \$0-\$10 **Celebration! Rituals and Revelry of Life** National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library, \$0-\$10 **The Signature of Baseball** Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, \$0-\$10 **Rising Above** Kosek Building in Czech Village, Free **Thad Kellstadt** Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Free **Tom Christison** Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Free **From the Grand Tour to American Pop** Learning with the Alden Lowell Doud Collection Iowa Memorial Union at UI, Free

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE:

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee Iowa City Community Theatre, \$10 - \$18 (Through Mar. 8) **Luck of the Irish** Theatre Building at UI, \$10 - \$18 (Through Mar. 14) **Walking the Wire** Riverside Theatre \$18 - \$30 (Through Mar. 14) **The Spy Who Killed Me** Clarion Hotel Cedar Rapids, \$50 (Through Mar. 28)



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IC AREA VENUE GUIDE



FACES OF INTENSITY | Feb. 20 reception for Benjamin Button's show at Chait Gallery. Photo by JoJo Baccam



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First Avenue Club, 1550 S 1st Ave, (319) 337-5527, firstavenueclub.com

Gabe's 330 E Washington St, (319) 351-9175, icgabes.com

Iowa Artisans' Gallery 207 E. Washington St, (319) 351-8686, iowa-artisans-gallery.com

Iowa City Community Theatre 4261 Oak Crest Hill Rd SE, (319) 338-0443, iowacitycommunitytheatre.com

Iowa Memorial Union 125 N Madison St, (319) 335-3041, imu.uiowa.edu

Lasansky Corporation Gallery 216 E Washington St, (319) 337-9336, lasanskyart.com

M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art 110 E Washington St, (319) 351-1700, mcginsberg.com

Old Capitol Museum 21 N Clinton St, (319) 335-0548, uiowa.edu/oldcap

Prairie Lights Bookstore 15 S Dubuque St, (319) 337-2681, prairielights.com

Public Space One 120 N Dubuque St, (319) 331-8893, publicspaceone.com

Riverside Theatre 213 N. Gilbert Street, Iowa City riverside-theatre.org

Steven Vail Fine Arts 118 E College St, (319) 248-9443, stevenvail.com

The Mill 120 E Burlington St, (319) 351-9529, icmill.com

Trumpet Blossom Cafe 310 E Prentiss St, (319) 248-0077, trumpetblossom.com

University of Iowa Museum of Art 1375 Iowa 1, (319) 335-1727, uima.uiowa.edu

University of Iowa Museum of Natural History 17 N Clinton

St, (319) 335-0480, uiowa.edu/mnh

Uptown Bill's 730 S Dubuque St, (319) 339-0804, uptownbills.org

Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon 4919 Dolphin Dr SE, (319) 338-2211, wildwoodsaloon.com

Yacht Club 13 S Linn St, (319) 337-6464, iowacityyachtclub.com

CEDAR RAPIDS

African American Museum of Iowa, 55 12th Ave SE, (319) 862-2101, blackiowa.org

Brucemore Mansion 2160 Linden Dr SE, (319) 362-7375, brucemore.org

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, 410 Third Avenue SE, (319) 366-7503, crma.org

Cocktails and Company, 1625 Blairs Ferry Rd, Marion, IA, (319) 377-1140,

cocktails-company.com

Daniel Arthur's 821 3rd Ave SE, (319) 362-9340, danielarthurs.net

Giving Tree Theatre, 752 10th St, Marion, IA, (319) 213-7956, givingtreetheatre.com

Hawkeye Downs Speedway and Fairgrounds 4400 6th St SW, (319) 365-8656, hawkeyedownsspeedway.com

JM O'Malley's 1502 H Ave NE, (319) 369-9433

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Mahoney's 1602 E Ave NE, (319) 364-5754

McGrath Amphitheatre 475 1st St SW, (319) 286-5760, mcgrathamphitheatre.com

National Czech and Slovak Museum 1400 Inspiration Place SW, ncsml.org

Opus Concert Cafe 119 Third Ave SE, (319) 366-8203, orchestraiowa.org

Paramount Theatre 123 3rd Ave SE, (319) 398-5211, paramounttheatre.org

Parlor City Pub & Eatery 1125 3rd St SE, (319) 247-0000, parlorcitypub.com

Penguin's Comedy Club 208 2nd Ave SE, (319) 362-8133, penguinscomedyclub.com

Q Dogs BBQ, 895 Blairs Ferry Rd, Marion, IA, (319) 826-6667, qdogsbbqcompany.com

Shores Event Center 700 16th St NE, (319) 775-5367, shoreseventcenter.com

Sip N Stir 1119 1st Ave SE, Cedar Rapids., (319) 364-3163, sipnstir.com

Tailgators 3969 Center Point Rd NE, (319) 393-6621, tailgatorslive.com

US Cellular Center 370 1st Avenue NE | (319) 398-5211, uscellularcenter.com

Veterans Memorial Stadium 950 Rockford Rd SW, (319) 363-3887

Theatre Cedar Rapids 102 3rd St SE, (319) 366-8591, theatre.org

CORALVILLE

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Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 1900 Country Club Dr, (319) 248-9370, coralvillearts.org

Coralville Recreation Center 1506 8th St , (319) 248-1750, coralville.org

Iowa Children's Museum 1451 Coral Ridge Ave, (319) 625-6255, theicm.org

Mendoza Wine Bar 1301 5th St, (319) 333-1291, mendozawinebar.com

NORTH LIBERTY

Bobber's Grill 1850 Scales Bend Rd NE, (319) 665-3474, bobbessgrill.com

Amana

Iowa Theatre Artists Company, 4709 220th Trail, Amana, (319) 622-3222, iowatheatreartists.org

Old Creamery Theatre, 38th Ave, Amana, (319) 622-6262, oldcreamery.com

Old Creamery Theatre Studio Stage, 3023 220th Trail, Middle Amana, (319) 622-6262, oldcreamery.com

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Riverside Casino & Golf Resort 3184 Highway 22, (319) 648-1234, riversidecasinoandresort.com

FAIRFIELD

Cafe Paradiso 101 N Main St, (641) 472-0856, cafeaparadiso.net

Orpheum Theater Fairfield, 121 W Broadway Ave (641) 209-5008, orpheumtheatrefairfield.com

GRINNELL

The Gardener Lounge 1221 6th Ave, (641) 269-3317, grinnellconcerts.com

The Faulconer Gallery 1108 Park St, (641) 269-4660, grinnell.edu/faulconergallery

QUAD CITIES

Adler Theatre 136 E 3rd St, Davenport, (563) 326-8500, adlertheatre.com

Circa 21 Dinner Playhouse 1828 3rd Ave, Rock Island, (309) 786-7733, circa21.com

Figge Art Museum 225 W 2nd St, Davenport, (563) 326-7804, figgeartmuseum.org

Isle of Capri Casino 1777 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, (563) 359-7280, isleofcapricasinos.com

River Music Experience 129 Main St, Davenport, (563) 326-1333, rivermusicexperience.com

iWireless Center 1201 River Dr, Moline, (309) 764-2001, iwirelesscenter.com

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MAQUOKETA

Ohnward Fine Arts Center 1215 E Platt St, (563) 652-9815, ohnwardfineartscenter.com

Codfish Hollow Barnstormers 5013 288th Ave, codfishhollowbarnstormers.com

DUBUQUE

The Bell Tower Theater 2728 Asbury Rd Ste 242, (563) 588-3377, belltowertheater.net

Diamond Jo Casino 301 Bell St, (563) 690-4800, diamondjodubuque.com

Eronel 285 Main St, eronelbq.com

Five Flags Center 405 Main St, (563) 589-4254, fiveflagscenter.com

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Matter Creative Center 140 E 9th St, (563) 556-0017, mattercreative.org

Monks 373 Bluff St, (563) 585-0919, facebook.com/MonksKaffeePub

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CLINTON

Wild Rose Casino 777 Wild Rose Dr, (563) 243-9000, wildroresorts.com/clinton

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FIN & FEATHER (5)

GEOFF'S BIKE & SKI (7)

HANCHER AUDITORIUM (20, 27)

IC COLAB (24)

IOWA PUBLIC RADIO (36)

KIM SCHILLIG (29)

THE KONNEXION (26)

LIQUOR HOUSE (9)

LOCAL BURRITO (37)

THE MILL (23)

MISSION CREEK FESTIVAL (17)

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CURSES, FOILED AGAIN

• Police thought Luis Moreno Jr., 26, was driving solo in a carpool lane in Fort Lee, N.J., but when they stopped him, he showed he was legal by pointing out two men in the back of the SUV. The men said they were kidnap victims. Moreno tried to flee, but rush-hour traffic stalled his getaway, and he was arrested. (New York Daily News)

• Two thieves broke into a closed casino in Calgary, Alberta, and made off with an ATM. Security footage shows the two masked crooks loading the machine onto a dolly and wheeling it to their vehicle. On the way, it toppled onto one of the thieves, but they loaded it and made their escape. "There's no money in the machine," Staff Sgt. Travis Baker said, explaining that ATMs are unloaded several times daily and at the end of the business day. Noting that stealing ATMs requires heavy lifting and then "tools like grinders, axes and chisels" to break through to the cash box, Baker called it "a very ineffective way to make a living." (Canada's *National Post*)

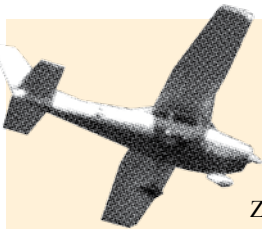
STAND-YOUR-GROUND STATE

When Joseph Carannante, 21, built a gun range in his yard in a St. Petersburg, Fla., community, neighbors complained that he was putting everyone, especially children, in danger. Police said it's legal. "I don't want to hurt anybody," Carannante explained. "I just want to use this as my enjoyment. I don't want to have to go to a gun range, when I can just go outside my door." He promised to alert neighbors whenever he intends firing his 9 mm pistol. (Tampa's WFLA-TV)

LOOK OUT BELOW

• Investigators concluded that the crash of a single-engine aircraft near Watkins, Colo.,

was caused by the pilot photographing himself and his passenger and becoming disoriented by the camera flash. "It is likely that cellphone use during the accident flight distracted the pilot and contributed to the development of spatial disorientation and subsequent loss of control," the National Transportation Safety Board report said. Explaining the NTSB is seeing "more and more" distractions from personal devices in all forms of transportation, board official Keith Holloway said, "But the self-photographs in an airplane, that's something new for us." (*The New York Times*)



• When a small plane's engine failed over Lake Taupo on New Zealand's North Island, all 13 people

on board were able to escape before the aircraft crashed into the lake because they were skydivers intending a tandem jump. Six crewmembers jumped with the six passengers strapped to them as planned, followed by the pilot. All landed safely. (BBC News)

• Air traffic control officials received reports of 193 incidents of "drone misbehavior" in 2014, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. Several were close calls involving aircraft with people on board, including one pilot who had to take evasive action above Oklahoma City when a 2-foot-wide drone came within 10 feet of his plane at 4,800 feet. Some incidents involved drones flying as high as 15,000 feet. (*Mother Jones*)

HOLY COW

Cleaning crews at Indian government buildings in New Delhi are switching to a new cleaning liquid derived from cow urine, which is in abundant supply and whose anti-microbial and antifungal properties make it possible to avoid using synthetic products. The product, named Gaunyle, also contains neem and pine scent and costs about the same as conventional cleaners. "It is a win-win situation for us," said Minister of Women and Child Development Maneka Gandhi, who came up with the idea. "No harm to janitors by way of daily exposure to chemicals, and cows will be valued more." Buoyed by the product's acceptance, Anuradha Modi, who heads the Holy Cow Foundation, which supplies Gaunyle, said her organization is looking for other ways to market the "piles of cow dung and cow urine" that go to waste in India. (India's *The Economic Times*)

THWARTED DETERMINATION

Dwayne Jackson, 48, forced his way into a home in Ewing, N.J., found a spatula in a kitchen drawer and tried to slit his throat with it. When that failed, police Capt. Rocco Maruca said, Jackson used a butcher's knife to stab himself in the stomach. At that point, the 76-year-old homeowner appeared with a loaded .357 handgun, which Jackson wrestled away from him and shot himself in the face. Jackson survived and was hospitalized in stable condition. (*The Times of Trenton*)

NATIONAL INSECURITY

• The British government proposed a supplement to the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill that would require nursery school staffers and registered daycare providers to report youngsters at risk of becoming terrorists.

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“Senior management and governors should make sure that staff have training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimize terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups,” the document states. A Home Office official said teachers and nursery workers should take action when they notice “behavior of concern,” adding, “It is important that children are taught fundamental British values in an age-appropriate way.” (Britain’s *The Express*)

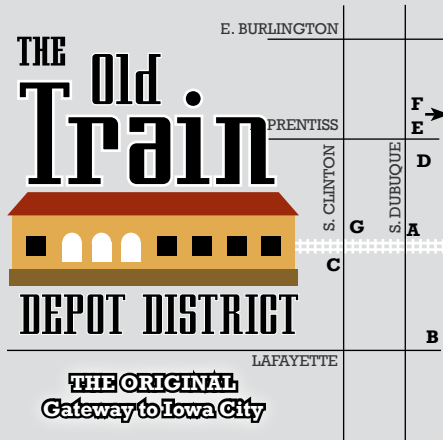
• Ottawa firefighters responding to an alarm at the construction site of one of the Canadian government’s most secret installations discovered an “extreme vulnerability” that allowed them to enter the \$800 million building: a back gate secured only by a simple padlock. The small fire, caused by cans of tar and a heater left by construction workers, was quickly extinguished. Afterwards, the Toronto Star requested documents pertaining to the incident, only to be told by Communications Security Establishment Canada officials that the information would make the spy agency vulnerable to “attack from a hostile entity” if it were revealed “that there is nothing but a padlock protecting our gates.” The agency then mistakenly provided all the information to the paper, including security patrol schedules, names of CSEC employees, the number of broken surveillance cameras and other top-secret details. (*The Toronto Star*) **lv**

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ARE SMART PEOPLE MORE LIKELY TO BE DEPRESSED?

I consider myself a smart person, but why are smart people so negative? We constantly ask, "What's the point? Why are we here?"—questions with pretty depressing answers, if you ask me. The average joe doesn't feel bad about much—he just thinks, "Thank god it's Friday! And thank god for bacon!" Can intelligence cause depression? Nietzsche was obviously a brilliant but bitter person, and we can also include Mozart, Newton, Tesla, etc., as guys who didn't lead very pleasant lives despite their intelligence. Surely this isn't all a coincidence? —Marcos San Juan, Madrid

You're being too negative, Marcos. Much as the dim might prefer to believe otherwise, research has generally suggested that intelligence correlates, if only mildly, with greater happiness—the tortured-genius meme is without statistical foundation.

Almost.

Historically, evidence for this alleged phenomenon has been overwhelmingly anecdotal, cemented in the popular consciousness by a steady stream of Oscar-bait biopics. Thanks to *A Beautiful Mind* it's easy to picture the schizophrenic John Nash arguing with his non-existent roommate; if *The Imitation Game* is anything to go by, Alan Turing was depressed well before he had extremely good reason to be (read: involuntary chemical castration).

With these outsize examples on display, it's perhaps understandable that many people wondering why they're so unhappy will conclude: Because I'm so goddamn *smart*, that's why. The most brilliant among us, it's regularly suggested, are uniquely doomed to comprehend the limitless expanse of the universe, and, as a result, to confront our own inconsequential place within it. This has loosely been termed existential depression, and is supposed to be especially bad among bright kids, whose advocates may propose they need a regimen of "prescribed hugs."

I'm certainly not cranky enough to come out against hugging children. Empirically speaking, though, there isn't much here. Research over the last 50 years has demonstrated no positive link between intelligence and being depressed or schizophrenic, and has often suggested the reverse. A 1998 collection of surveys from 11 countries found educational attainment and intelligence correlated with marginally happier populations. A 1956 study of former U.S. soldiers found no relationship between scores on intelligence tests

at induction and later psychiatric health.

Danish research from 2011 found that both depressed and bipolar patients had, before the onset of their illness, slightly lower average IQ scores than the healthy control population. A 2004 survey of data for 50,000 Swedish subjects reported that low IQ was associated with greater risk of severe depression and schizophrenia; subjects with average IQ scores were more likely to later become schizophrenic than those with high scores.

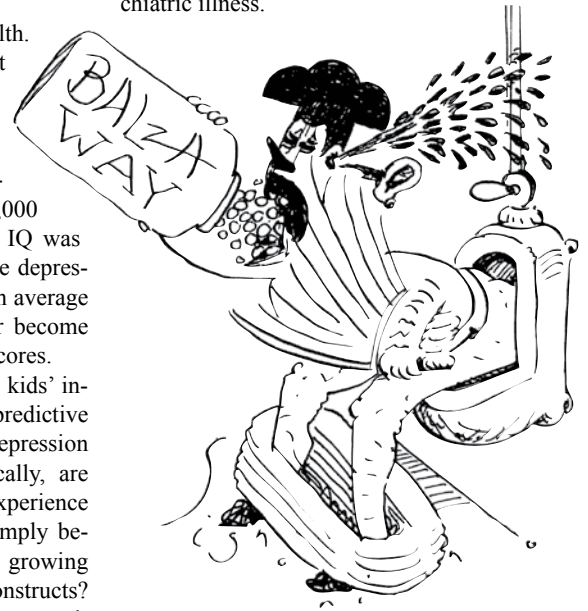
Other research has suggested that kids' intelligence isn't a particularly strong predictive factor when it comes to adolescent depression at least: more meaningful, statistically, are family history of affective illness, experience of parental loss, and, worryingly, simply being a girl. (Does this result from a growing awareness of oppressive social constructs? Despondence over the inability to pee standing up? More research is clearly needed.)

If there's a blip on the radar, it's bipolar disorder. Shrinks have suspected a connection between IQ and bipolarity for some time, but the data hasn't really been there. In 2005, though, a Finnish study reported that high math scores on IQ tests in early adulthood correlated with later diagnosis as bipolar, and a recent large-scale study of Swedish records found that kids with excellent high school grades were much more likely to be diagnosed as bipolar in adulthood.

There's also the supposed link between creativity and craziness. Intuitively this one seems believable: the story of Van Gogh cutting off his ear to give to a prostitute was my own teenage standard for the ultimate tortured-artist response to girl trouble. Evidence has since surfaced, though, suggesting Van Gogh might actually have lost the ear in a fight with his sword-wielding pal Paul Gauguin, whom he may have been a little too into. Romance or

bromance, love's a bitch.

Studies of creativity and mental health haven't been terribly consistent, which is possibly unsurprising given how inherently difficult the trait is to define. In 2011, for instance, a group of Swedish researchers reported that patients with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder (as well as their healthy siblings) were over-represented among people with creative jobs. But a later study by the same group, using a much larger data set, found that those in creative professions, with one exception, *weren't* particularly likely to suffer from psychiatric illness.



The exception? Writers. The Swedish group found that being an author was associated with increased likelihood of depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, bipolarity, substance abuse, and suicide. Earlier studies had drawn similar conclusions, but relied on very small sample sizes and lots of self-reporting. Then again, in that study connecting good grades with bipolar disorder, the two subjects that showed a particularly strong link were Swedish and music, which to the researchers supported ongoing suspicions about bipolarity and creativity. To my fellow writers, and I suppose to all those creative-minded Swedes out there, all I can say is: keep it together as best you can, and we'll hold out for further data. **lv**

—CECIL ADAMS

Send questions to Cecil via straightdope.com or write him c/o Chicago Reader, 350 N. Orleans, Chicago 60654.

BRIEF OF HEARTS

This week, mates wonder if their lack of intimacy means that they are mismatched. • BY DAN SAVAGE

wife issues. lack of intimacy. cuckold, etc. need help

While I typically encourage people to keep their questions brief, it is possible to be too brief, NH. But I've gotten so many questions from wannabe cuckolds with wife issues over the years that I'm going to hazard a series of guesses and take a shot at advising you...

I'm guessing you're a straight guy and you're interested in cuckolding—the kink where the wife sleeps with other men, and either she tells the husband about her adventures or she “forces” him to watch her with other men. Cuckolding can involve elements of humiliation and/or degradation, and in some cases includes “forced bi” interactions between the cuckolded husband and the men his wife “cheats” on him with. And I'm also guessing you told the wife about your interest in cuckolding and she wasn't interested and you wound up arguing about it, NH, and now your sex life is in the toilet, aka “lack of intimacy.”

So what do you do now? You drop it, NH, as cuckolding—which is a big ask for the wife (the sexual and emotional risks fall on her)—is a kink that both partners have to be equally excited about exploring. If she doesn't want to go there, NH, then you're not going there. Not getting to explore cuckolding—and dropping the subject—is the price of admission you'll have to pay to revive your sex life.

And if restoring your sex life isn't incentive enough to drop the subject, NH, this Savage Love reader's experience might inspire you to drop it: “My husband, almost exactly 10 years older than me, confessed a cuckold fetish to me shortly before our fifth anniversary,” a happily married straight lady wrote (her letter appeared in “Meet the Monogamish,” January 4, 2012). “I said no, but a seed was planted: Whenever I would develop a crush on another man, it would occur to me that I could sleep with him if I wanted to.” She eventually met someone she wanted to sleep with and went

back to her husband—five years later—to ask if he was still interested in cuckolding. He was—and guess what? He's a cuckold now. I had to run an edited version of her letter, so this bit didn't make it into the column, but the only reason this woman wound up exploring cuckolding was because her husband respected her initial “no” and wasn't pressuring her to reconsider. Because she didn't feel like he was miserably unhappy with the status quo—a strictly monogamous status quo—and because she didn't feel like he would blow up if she got cold feet, she felt secure enough to go there.

So shut the fuck up, NH, and you may eventually get what you want.

My boyfriend and I have been together three years. We plan to start a family, we are very happy together, we go on many adventures together—all that good stuff. For the past year or so, I feel like I've been losing my sex drive. Not just toward him but in general. I should



mention that I'm 30 and he's 25, but our age gap has always been a nonissue. I have a stressful job and am often too tired to have sex on weeknights, so we've pretty much gone down to having sex once a week. He has said this devastates him. He feels like I'm not attracted to him because he always initiates, and he is worried about our future sex life. I used to deny there was a problem and assure him,

“No, we're fine, I'm just tired,” etc. But I admit it's a problem. I've had more than a few uncomfortable “maintenance sex”

sessions wherein I sex him to make him happy, and then I wind up mad at myself for being a faker and feel resentful toward him for being so horny.

I've recently been coming to the conclusion that he's right: It will be bad for our future if our sexual needs are so different. Yet I don't want to let him go because of this. I love him madly.

I'm also a CUDDLE ADDICT. In my fantasy world, we cuddle all the time, we have amazing sex only when we're worked up, and my vibrator takes care of me more often than his cock (this is already the case generally). But I don't view this lack of sex as a negative thing.

I just don't make sex as much of a priority as he does. I could see looking the other way if he needs to get his sexual needs met by someone else or with a professional, but it makes me nervous, mostly because I'd be devastated if he fell in love with someone else. I'm not polyamorous, as so many Seattleites are, but I'm open-minded.

Sexual Needs Undermining Good Girl's Loving Expectations

Barring a medical issue or a common-sense issue—get your hormone levels checked, try to incorporate your vibrator into the sex you're having with your boyfriend, ponder the possibility that you fall somewhere on the asexual spectrum and perhaps marrying a sexual isn't the greatest idea (particularly if you can't see yourself opening up the relationship)—this sounds like just another average, ordinary case of mismatched libidos. My advice: Break up now, before you have children, before his feelings of rejection (already at devastating levels) and your feelings of resentment (at having to go through the motions) metastasize into an explosive case of mutual loathing.

Contact Dan Savage: mail@savagelove.net, @fakedansavage on Twitter



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1. Love baby
6. *SNL* character with questionable gender
9. Soft, semi-liquid ball of something
13. A taxicab love story, "_____ to Remember"?
14. State of the art lithograph tech.
15. Selfish statement while taking away your basketball hoop
17. He played coach to these women during WWII*
20. Jamaican movie?
21. James Byron Huggins historical fiction book
22. He speaks, you shrink*
26. His international day is March 28 and a clue this month's themed clues*
28. Measles' former disease status
30. Country's Maddie and _____
31. Current U.S. campaign in Afghanistan, to the USMC
32. Pulp novelist James _____
33. Three short, three long, three short
35. Key _____, Montego, baby why don't we go?
37. His role in this outer space thriller*
39. Southern California's Sierra _____ Mountains
42. Start to many a rapper's name

45. Architectural detail of cathedrals
49. Works for we and you, but not I
50. A tide's is controlled by the moon
53. His murderous suburban neighbors*
55. Genghis Khan left the largest one?
58. Relating to verse
59. Often a young woman's key chain accessory
60. Iowa City's Devonian _____ Gorge
62. An adventurous man was told that life is like this*
68. Jim Harbaugh gave up being this to become a Wolverine
69. Objectivist Rand
70. Place for affairs, _____ motel
71. _____ Buco
72. Spray paint
73. Big fan of the singing high school TV comedy

DOWN

1. Electric or hybrid or standard
2. ET's ride home
3. The man of arcade games?
4. Annoy
5. Jay-Z and Russell Simmons' label
6. Slang for something immaculate
7. IRS action
8. High school chemistry teacher becomes meth

- kingpin, e.g.
 9. ABC's morning show
 10. Spandex
 11. Someone can make an oath this way
 12. College party supply
 16. People in San Francisco that check your luggage, in acronym
 18. Someone with a principled stance on the best canoe accessories
 19. Watson or Stone
 22. "_____'s dead, baby."
 23. She broke up Lennon, Starr, Harrison and McCartney
 24. Born again church, for short
 25. Awakened series author, Jason
 27. Redskins running back Roy
 29. Latin root for heart
 34. Spanish word for sun
 36. Murderous vector in *The Ring* (two words)
 38. Ooze
 39. Daredevil Wallenda
 40. Selfie with everyone?
 41. Don Draper
 42. The story of an opera soloist?
 43. Agent of the Christian Church
 46. Cat or rat, e.g.
 47. It's better with more powder
 48. Top left computer key
 51. A quickie
 52. Feline in a frat?
 54. Chinese tea
 56. Battle of the ____
 57. King whose medical treatment ended in an international manhunt
 61. "This is the ____ that never ends. It goes on and on my friend"
 63. Spanish gold
 64. Hilarious in text
 65. Consumed
 66. Little ball stand
 67. Largest species of deer

JANUARY ANSWERS

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LOCAL ALBUMS



MILK DUCT TAPE

Styrofoam Tombstone

milkducttape.bandcamp.com

KFMH (99 Plus!) out of Muscatine was the default radio station for a lot of Iowa blue-collar rockers back in the day; it was hippy-dippy enough for Deadheads, hard enough for

headbangers and eclectic to a fault. Milk Duct Tape creates the kind of music that would have been in heavy rotation on KFMH—straight up rawk. Now that KFMH is streaming on the Internet, maybe they'll get their chance.

...MILK DUCT TAPE IS KEEPING THE DREAM OF HARD ROCK MUSIC ALIVE. EVEN IF IT ISN'T YOUR THING, IT'S TOO GOOD (AND TOO LOUD) TO IGNORE.

Lead songwriter Dan Bobek's roots are a bit more recent than pre-punk 'classic' rock; he wears his love for bands like Nirvana and the Screaming Trees on his flannel sleeve. But there's always a place for every style of music if it's well made and vital on it's own terms. The grungy riffing on the opener "Black Stained Heart" from their new album

Styrofoam Tombstone may be old enough to have a kid in college, but it's not 1992 anymore. In the present context, it's fresh. It isn't sampled and it isn't ironic. It just rocks.

They can really play too. Adam Clayton drums like he has anger issues and poor impulse control, and Bobek is a connoisseur of guitar fuzz tones. There's even a multitracked star turn for Clayton on cowbell in "Land Locked Beach." In a musical environment saturated with irony, quotations of imitations and over-compressed machine beats, Milk Duct Tape is keeping the dream of hard rock music alive. Even if it isn't your thing, it's too good (and too loud) to ignore.

Milk Duct Tape will have an album release party for *Styrofoam Tombstone* at the Blue Moose on March 7 at 9 p.m.

—Kent Williams

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): To depict what lay beyond the limits of the known world, medieval mapmakers sometimes drew pictures of dragons and sea serpents. Their images conveyed the sense that these territories were uncharted and perhaps risky to explore. There were no actual beasts out there, of course. I think it's possible you're facing a comparable situation. The frontier realm you are wandering through may seem to harbor real dragons, but I'm guessing they are all of the imaginary variety. That's not to say you should entirely let down your guard. Mix some craftiness in with your courage. Beware of your mind playing tricks.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Whenever I close my eyes and seek psychic visions of your near future, I see heroic Biblical scenes. Moses is parting the Red Sea. Joseph is interpreting Pharaoh's dream. Jesus is feeding 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish. What's the meaning of my reveries? Well, this psychic stuff is tricky, and I hesitate to draw definitive conclusions. But if I had to guess, I'd speculate that you are ripe to provide a major blessing or perform an unprecedented service for people you care about.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In a *New Yorker* cartoon, Tom Gauld outlines "The Four Undramatic Plot Structures": 1. "The hero is confronted by an antagonistic force and ignores it until it goes away." 2. "The protagonist is accused of wrongdoing, but it's not a big thing and soon gets sorted out." 3. "The heroine is faced with a problem but it's really difficult so she gives up." 4. "A man wants something. Later, he's not so sure. By suppertime he's forgotten all about it." In my astrological opinion, Gemini, you should dynamically avoid all four of those fates. Now is a time for you to take brave, forceful action as you create dramatic plot twists that serve your big dreams.



CANCER (June 21-July 22): "To be happy is to be able to become aware of oneself without fright," said heavyweight German philosopher Walter Benjamin, a fellow Cancerian. I am happy to report that there's a good chance you will soon be blessed with an extraordinary measure of this worry-free self-awareness. And when you do -- when you are basking in an expanded self-knowledge infused with self-love and self-appreciation -- some of your chronic fear will drop away, and you will have at your disposal a very useful variety of happiness.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "As you get older, the heart sheds its leaves like a tree," said French novelist Gustave Flaubert. "You cannot hold out against certain winds. Each day tears away a few more leaves; and then there are the storms

that break off several branches at one go. And while nature's greenery grows back again in the spring, that of the heart never grows back." Do you agree with Flaubert, Leo? I don't. I say that you can live with such resilient innocence that your heart's leaves grow back after a big wind, and become ever-more lush and hardy as you age. You can send down such deep, strong roots and stretch your branches toward the sun with such vigor that your heart always has access to the replenishment it needs to flourish. The coming weeks will provide evidence that what I say is true.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "I will not wait to love as best as I can," says writer Dave Eggers. "We thought we were young and that there would be time to love well sometime in the future. This is a terrible way to think. It is no way to live, to wait to love." That's your keynote for the coming weeks, Virgo. That's your wake-up call and the rose-scented note under your pillow and the message scrawled in lipstick on your bathroom mirror. If there is any part of you that believes love will be better or fuller or more perfect in the future, tell that part of you to shut up and embrace this tender command: Now is the time to love with all of your heart and all of your soul and all of your mind.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I love the song "Shine On You Crazy Diamond," by Pink Floyd. Other favorites are Tool's "Third Eye" and Yo La Tengo's "Pass the Hatchet, I Think I'm Goodkind." But all of these tunes have a similar problem. They're more than ten minutes long. Even before my attention span got shrunk by the Internet, listening to them tested my patience. Now I have to forcefully induce a state of preternatural relaxation if I want to hear them all the way through. In the coming days, Libra, don't be like a too-much-of-a-good-thing song. Be willing to edit yourself. Observe concise boundaries. Get to the point quickly. (You'll be rewarded for it.)



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Sneaking around isn't necessary, Scorpio. There's no useful power to be gained by hiding information or pursuing secret agendas. This is not a time when it's essential for you to be a master of manipulation who's ten steps ahead of everyone else. For now, you are likely to achieve maximum success and enjoy your life the most if you are curious, excitable, and transparent. I invite you to embody the mindset of a creative, precocious child who has a loving mommy and daddy.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay became the first humans to reach the summit of Mount Everest. It took them seven weeks to climb the 29,029-foot peak. In 1960, Jacques Piccard and Don

Walsh got into a bathyscaphe and sailed to the lowest point on the planet, the Mariana Trench at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean. It took them four hours and 47 minutes to go down 36,070 feet. Based on my analysis of your astrological omens, I think the operative metaphor for you in the coming weeks should be the deep descent, not the steep ascent. It's time to explore and hang out in the depths rather than the heights.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The African country of Ivory Coast has two different capital cities. Yamoussoukro is the official capital, while Abidjan is the actual capital, where the main governmental action takes place. I suspect there's a comparable split in your personal realm, Capricorn: a case of mixed dominance. Maybe that's a good thing; maybe it allows for a balance of power between competing interests. Or perhaps it's a bit confusing, causing a split in your attention that hampers you from expressing a unified purpose. Now would be a favorable time to think about how well the division is working for you, and to tinker with it if necessary.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I've gone on three book tours and done my spoken-word show in scores of bookstores. But one of my favorite author events took place at the Avenue C Laundromat in New York City's East Village. There I performed with two other writers as part of the "Dirty Laundry: Loads of Prose" reading series. It was a boisterous event. All of us authors were extra loose and goofy, and the audience offered a lot of funny, good-nature heckling. The unusual location freed everyone up to have maximum amusement. I see the coming weeks as a time when you, too, might thrive by doing what you do best in seemingly out-of-context situations. If you're not outright invited to do so, I suggest you invite yourself.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): When Arnold Schwarzenegger became Governor of California in 2003, the state had the eighth largest economy in the world, right behind Italy and just ahead of Brazil. Schwarzenegger had never before held political office. When Cambodian doctor Haing Nor performed in the film *The Killing Fields*, for which he ultimately won an Oscar, he had no training as an actor. He was a novice. Will you try to follow in their footsteps, Pisces? Is it possible you could take on a role for which you have no preparation or seasoning? According to my divinations, the answer is yes. But is it a good idea? That's a more complex issue. Trust your gut.

Homework: Devise a plan not to get back to where you once belonged, but rather to where you must some day belong. Testify at FreeWillAstrology.com.

—Rob Breznsky



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