



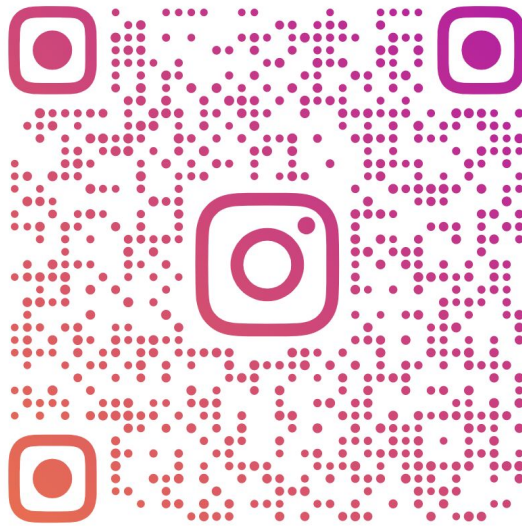
Broken Things

fragments & poems

George Pestana

Copyright 2021 George Pestana

Thanks to Frank Winkler (FrankWinkler) on
Pixabay for providing the cover art.



ØDDWRITINGS

This page intentionally left.

Table of Contents

Broken News.....	4
Index of Random Things.....	7
Index of Artists.....	9
Index of First Lines.....	10

Broken News



Officials were shocked today to learn that a smurf, whose identity will not be revealed, was responsible for breaking up the crime ring of a notorious band of criminals intent on stealing all diamond wedding rings in the city and hoarding them at a secret location. Central to the plot was the insertion of tiny pellets of the drug penicillin into the inside grooves of said rings, said to confer the power of safety from all infection whether intentionally spread or not. Using a stun gun aptly named "henry IV," the smurf proceeded to burn all flammable evidence in sight, while merely singeing everything else. Unfortunately the secret location happened to exist within the slum sector of the city, and many priceless slum artifacts were lost in the fire. Attempts to interview eyewitnesses proved fruitless, owing to the fact that they were dead at the time of the bust.



An unidentified dog today spurned the crumbs handed to him by his master, shortly after burping. The master, one J. H. Fumblecricket, exclaimed exasperatedly that he didn't know what had gotten into the beast. "I cann'a explain it," he said, "Lyotard hadn'a once acted so daft in all me life." When queried about the burp, the concerned citizen seemed unconcerned. "He burps alot," said the man, "especially after chasin' lizards." Upon examination of the crumbs nothing untoward was noticed. Rumor has it that after the incident a chemist neighbor examined the crumbs for any lingering rat poison or other dangerous commonly found substance, but Mr. Fumblecricket was unable (or perhaps, unwilling) to confirm the report. This marks the third time in as many years that unusual behavior has been noted in the dog residents of this particular neighborhood. Conspiracy theories are bound to begin their inevitable sprouting should this mystery not be solved, and quickly. When asked if he had filed a police report, Mr. Fumblecricket shook his head. Whether he shook it up, down, or sideways is of course immaterial to the case. We caution all responsible readers to watch their pets carefully for crumb denial, should this prove not to be an isolated incident.



- BREAKING NEWS -

**DUMB THUMB
RUBS
SUNBURN,
HURTS NUN!!**

A none-too-clever thumb has rubbed the sunburned shoulder of a woman of the cloth. Sister Mary-Ann Peluski complained yesterday of the painful incident, perpetrated in broad daylight at the corner of Winston and Marmoset. The owner of the thumb, who has asked to remain anonymous, objected that all he was doing was scratching her itch, which he could clearly sense. Sister Peluski denies itching at all, claiming that her shoulder was feeling mildly sedated as she pondered the concerto she had heard the night before. Preparations have been made for a full inquiry, to be taken under oath under the oak tree in front of Justice Hall. Residents may remember this particular spot as the same one on which the bones of former president Monroe lay scattered due to the upsetting of his hearse by a frightened cow, followed by a veritable feasting of flesh-eating crows shortly thereafter. This will be the first test of local ordinance 23, which prohibits the abuse of skin by non-relatives. The defense will undoubtedly claim that the intent to abuse was not present during the action, while the prosecution will argue that the damaged nature of the skin should clearly have indicated to the thumb not to proceed, despite the admittedly limited intelligence of the opposable digit.

Index of Random Things

bones.....	6
burps.....	5
chemist.....	5
concerto.....	6
conspiracy.....	5
cow.....	6
criminals.....	4
crows.....	6
crumbs.....	5
defense.....	6
diamond.....	4
dog.....	5
eyewitnesses.....	4
feasting.....	6
flesh-eating.....	6
Fumblecricket.....	5
hearse.....	6
henry IV.....	4
infection.....	4
inquiry.....	6
intelligence.....	6
itch.....	6
Justice Hall.....	6
lizards.....	5
local ordinance 23.....	6
Lyotard.....	5
Marmoset.....	6
mystery.....	5
oak tree.....	6

oath.....	6
penicillin.....	4
pets.....	5
police report.....	5
president Monroe.....	6
prosecution.....	6
rat poison.....	5
scratching.....	6
shoulder.....	6
Sister Mary-Ann Peluski.....	6
skin.....	6
slum.....	4
smurf.....	4
stun gun.....	4
sunburned.....	6
thumb.....	6
wedding rings.....	4
Winston.....	6

Index of Artists

Frank Winkler.....	2
--------------------	---

Index of First Lines

A none-too-clever thumb.....	6
An unidentified dog.....	5
Officials were shocked.....	4