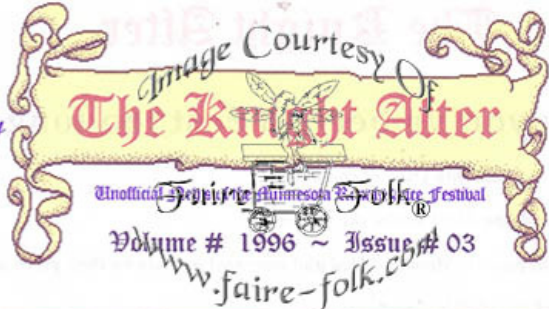


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The End of Raven-- by Edgar Allen Poe's Cat

On a night quite unenchanted, when the rain was downward slanting,
I awakened to the ranting of the man I catch mice for.
Tippy and a bit unshaven, in a tone I found quite craven.
Poe was talking to a Raven perched above the chamber door.
"Raven's very tasty," thought I, as I tiptoed o'er the floor,
"There is nothing I like more."

Soft upon the rug I treaded, calm and careful as I headed
Towards his roost atop that dreaded bust of Pallas I deplore.
While the bard and birdie chattered, I made sure that nothing clattered,
Creaked, or snapped, or fell, or shattered, as I crossed the corridor;
For his house is crammed with trinkets, curios and weird decor -
Bric-a-brac and junk galore.

Still the Raven never fluttered, standing stock-still as he uttered,
In a voice that shrieked and sputtered, his two cents' worth -
"Nevermore."

While this dirge the birdbrain kept up, oh, so silently I crept up,
Then I crouched and quickly leapt up, pouncing on the feather bore.
Soon he was a heap of plumage, and a little blood and gore -
Only this and not much more.

"Oooo!" my pickled poet cried out, "Pussycat, it's time I dried out!
Never sat I in my hideout talking to a bird before;
How I've wallowed in self-pity, while my gallant, valiant kitty
Put an end to that damned ditty" - then I heard him start to snore.
Back atop the door I clambered, eyed that statue I abhor,
Jumped - and smashed it on the floor.

Dear Abbey,

Mother Superior needs questions that she can answer for you. Surely some of you must have questions that need her expertise. Not every person is a saint. Let her knowledge and wisdom be your guidance! You can submit in writing your queries directly to her or get them to me at the above places. (Locations are left of the newsletter title at top of this page.) Thanks, Sherry

Save Money, Great Discounts!

If you are one to imbibe in spirits to quench your thirst, then I suggest that you make your purchases at Chaser's Liquor Store in Chaska. They will give participants of the Minnesota Renaissance Festival a very generous discount when you show them your picture ID and ask for it. They have a good variety of beverages to choose from and they are very courteous to boot!

How to tell when it's going to be A Bad Day

1. You wake up face down on the pavement.
2. You put your bra on backwards and it fits better.
3. You see a TV news team waiting in your office.
4. Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.
5. You want to put on the clothes you wore home from the party and there aren't any.
6. You turn on the news and they're showing emergency routes out of the city.
7. Your twin sister forgot your birthday.
8. You wake up and discover your waterbed broke and then realize that you don't own a waterbed.
9. Your car horn goes off accidentally and remains stuck as you follow a group of Hell's Angels on the freeway.
10. Your boss tells you not to bother to take off your coat.
11. The bird singing outside your window is a vulture.
12. You walk to work and find your dress is stuck in the back of your pantyhose.
13. You call your answering service and they tell you it's none of your business.
14. Your blind date turns out to be your ex-wife.
15. Your income tax check bounces.
16. You put both contact lenses in the same eye.
17. Your pet rock snaps at you.
18. Your wife says, "Good morning, Bill," and your name is George.

Author Unknown But Troubled!

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You know you've been at Fest too long when. .

41. Your parents don't recognize you OUT of costume.
42. You're in the privy and you don't notice the stench.
43. You call your Festival parents Mom and Dad and your real parents by their given names.
44. You can use the word "verily" in a sentence.
45. You cough up enough dust to fill a sandbox.
46. You can discuss the pros and cons of nylon vs. cotton lycra leggings and you're a guy.
47. You bring bells, sticks, and hankies to aerobics. (Morris Dancers)
48. You look at a new vest and wonder where the sleeve ties are.
49. You can name the sheep your shirt came from.
50. You can't wait till the end of summer so Festival can start.
51. It's snowing and all you can think is, "At least the weather is period."
52. You describe your religion as "bodice worshiper".
53. You bring a wooden bowl with you . . . to work.
54. You're surprised when somebody *isn't* pagan.
55. You have more leather working tools than wood working tools . . . and you're a carpenter.
56. You miss having sex in a tent.
57. You name your tent.
58. You bow to your boss.
59. You name your hamster "Percival the Avenger".
60. Someone says they make computers and you ask, "What kind of computer is that?"

Still more to come!

If you have any more to add to this list, please submit them!

