

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

I have been to visit Convention Co-chairmen Tom Dewart and Larry Wakeman in Eugene four times, and I am impressed with their extensive preparations for the July convention. The main room at the Valley River Inn is large and well suited to our purposes. Eugene is a friendly city and supports a substantial community of jugglers. Tom, Larry, and friends are to be commended for their work and attention to detail.

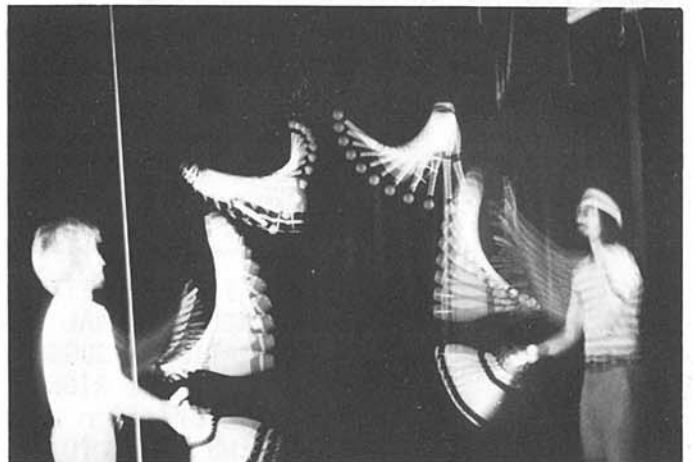
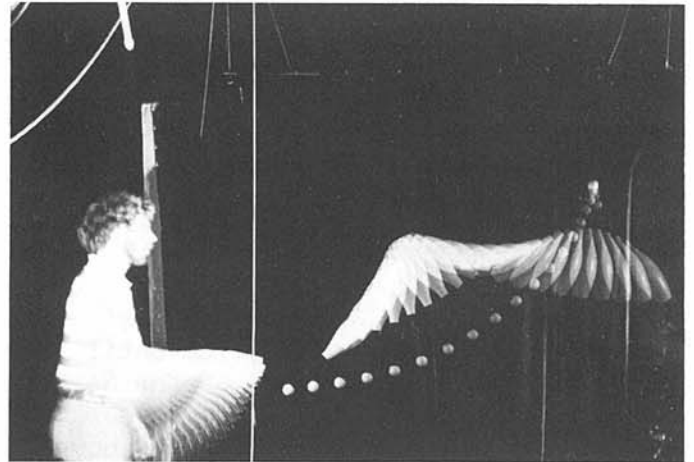
A respectable number of talented people are performing as groups or solo acts in the San Francisco Bay Area, including: The Pickle Family Circus Jugglers, with Peggy Snider, Cecil MacKinnon, and Larry Pisoni; The Bay City Reds, with Merle Goldstone, Wendy Parkman, Bill Kessler, and Jeff Rza; The Flying Karamazov Brothers; The Fly-by-Night Jugglers; The Juggling Mizmos, with Fred Anderson and Kit Trueblood; The Juggling Merlitz Brothers; The Portland Family Circus, on tour from Oregon; Caught in the Act, with Hillary Carlip; Jolly Wolly Wonder Follies; Ray Jason; The Amazing Kristavo; Michael Davis; Whitney Brown, Lee Grodsky; Zu Zu Ha Ha; Bill Garvin; and Bill Barr.

My Berkeley class is alive and thriving. Karl-Heinz Ziethen should be visiting in May. We were recently video taped successfully doing a sixteen person feed (48 clubs) in two positions: a straight forward feed with one leader, and two jugglers back-to-back feeding fourteen others arranged in a circle. Imagine our elation as sixteen clubs went up in unison for our finish. Several carloads of us are hoping to go to Eugene, and we are looking forward to a fine convention.

-- Bill Barr

PHOTOS IN RIGHT COLUMN

Top and bottom photos by John Flynn, taken in "Doc" Edgerton's strobe lab at MIT, Rawd Holbrook (top) and (bottom) Skip King and Arthur Lewbel. Middle photo by Roger Dollarhide, of the attendees of the March 1978 juggling get-together at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.



CALENDAR OF JUGGLING EVENTS

[Editor's note: Well in advance of the actual event, please notify me of all juggling events of possible interest to the IJA membership for inclusion in this regular column. While this column is not meant to advertise individual juggler's acts, jugglers like to see other jugglers perform, so please send the time and dates of public appearances.]

Every Sunday. The Seattle Jugglers' Association meets from 11:30 am until 1:30 pm in the Food Circus Court of the Seattle Center. At 1:30 pm they often move outside for a couple of additional hours of juggling. Contact Ray Fryson, 1120 17th Ave., Apt. 203, Seattle, Washington 98122, for further information.

Every Sunday. Boston area jugglers meet from 12 noon until 3 pm or later in front of the M.I.T. Student Center in Cambridge, weather permitting. Until the end of April, while the weather is bad, the meetings will be held inside the Student Center on the fourth floor in room 491, and will end at 3 pm or a little later. For further information, phone Arthur Lewbel (617-354-5152). If visitors can't find the get-together in room 491, look in rooms 407 and 473 and check for notices on the doors of any of these rooms; ditto for finding the Thursday meeting of the following announcement.

Every Thursday. The M.I.T. Juggling Club will meet from 7:30 pm until 11 pm. These Thursday meetings are in addition to the club's regular Sunday meeting (see immediately preceding announcement) and will be in room 407 in the Student Center, and visitors are welcome.

Every Thursday. Jugglers in the Marblehead, Massachusetts, area get together at the old fire house on School Street. Check with Eric Persson at 617-468-3214 for further information.

Every Thursday. A free juggling workshop is held from 12 noon to 2 pm in the Choir Room of Trinity Church at Broadway and Rector Streets in downtown New York City. John Grimaldi is workshop leader.

Every Saturday. In Berkeley, California, a juggling class meets from 10:30 am until 5:30 pm in Willard Park on Hillegass near Derby in front of the flagpole. Everyone is welcome. Joining members pay \$20 for perpetual membership. Jugglers passing through the Bay Area are encouraged to attend free of charge. Phone Bill Barr at 221-5191 in San Francisco for further information.

Second Sunday of each month. The Buffalo Juggling Club of Buffalo, New York, meets from 1 pm until 3 pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 96 Jewett Parkway, Buffalo. Phone Rich Chamberlin at 716-881-3325 for further information.

June 17. There will be an all day juggling get-together at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts. For detailed information see the announcement elsewhere in this issue.

June 24. There will be a juggling get-together from 10 am on at Salem Willows in Salem, Massachusetts. Call Eric Perrson at 617-468-3214 for more information.

July 12-16. IJA annual convention in Eugene, Oregon. Contact Tom Dewart or Larry Wakeman (P.O. Box 3705, Eugene, Oregon 97403, phone 485-0984) for further information.

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FROM THE EDITOR

I had a number of problems with the last issue. Besides misspelling Bela Kremo's name and Dieter Tasso's name, I forgot to sign my name to the article entitled "A Visit with Kris Kremo"; in the article, "A Written Notation for Describing Ball Juggling Tricks", the first line of the second paragraph after the figure should read, "The 3/8 means 3 balls, 8 beats before ..."; and I forgot my plan for the layout of pages 15 and 16 and fixed things so that sending in the questionnaire required cutting into the article continuing from page 14. No doubt there are also lots of other errors. It looks as if my retirement is coming just in time.

Speaking of errors, in the October-November 1977 issue of the Newsletter on page 10, I had a typo in Joey Jordan's address at the bottom of his ad for props. His correct address I believe is Joey Jordan, 331 Jefferson Ct., Brick Township, NJ 08723. If anyone has been having trouble getting in touch with Joey, perhaps this has been the reason.

I also did not make myself clear about the procedure for the old newsletter sale discussed on page 5 of the last Newsletter. The self addressed stamped envelope is for me to use to acknowledge your order and if necessary to refund part of your payment; a standard letter size envelope is sufficient. The envelope and postage to mail the newsletters is covered by the \$1 per newsletter charge. There are no more copies of the April 1975, October-November 1975, and October-November 1976 issues, but all the rest of the old issues listed in last newsletter are still available on the same terms.

For those of you who ride the unicycle as well as juggle, Carol Birchford (24460 Lyndon, Redford, MI 48239), the new editor of the newletter of the Unicycling Society of America, is looking for unicycle related material for that newsletter.

Montandon Magic and several books are kind enough to direct their readers to the IJA. The books include the revised edition of Hovey Burgess' Circus Techniques, Ken Benges' The Art of Juggling, and Juggle Bug Inc.'s The Joy of Juggling. Directing individuals to the IJA in this manner helps the IJA flourish.

JUGGLING IN SEATTLE

The Seattle Jugglers' Association has recently been formed in order to legitimize the weekly juggling get-togethers held in Seattle. On a typical Sunday from 200 to 300 jugglers and juggling students get together at the Seattle Center in the Food Circus Court. The building is reserved for our use from 11:30 am through 1:30 pm, but we often go outside afterward for a couple of extra hours of fun and fellowship. We have a name list of over 1,000 people who have shown up at this gathering at one time or another. We will soon start a membership drive and hope that we can get some of these 1000+ jugglers to join our association for \$4 per year dues.

We are co-sponsoring a Juggling Extravaganza at the Seattle Center on April 22nd and hope to get between 500 and 1000 jugglers out for it. One of the activities will be a Jugglathon for charity, at which participants will be sponsored for every minute they can juggle, up to sixty minutes.

-- Ray Fryson
President, Pro-tem
Seattle Jugglers' Association

[Editor's note: we look forward to further reports on the apparently massive juggling activity going on in Seattle and to meeting some of the numerous Seattle jugglers at the convention in Eugene.]

GYMNASTIC JUGGLING

If you are interested in gymnastics and juggling, here are a few juggling tricks that involve gymnastic stunts. These tricks can be done with balls or clubs, but I prefer to use clubs as they look much better and seem a little better suited to this type of trick.

In the forward roll you juggle three clubs, throw a quadruple (some people do it with a triple) ahead of you, do a forward roll, and continue juggling as the quadruple comes down.

For the backward roll throw one club very high (five or six spins) as you lean down to do the backward roll. Keep your eye on the club as long as possible. continue juggling as the club comes down. It is very important to throw the club at a slight backward angle so that it ends up where you will be as you finish the backward roll.

Front headspring. Place two clubs shoulder width apart on the ground in front of you with the handles pointed toward your feet. Throw the club you have in your hand high and slightly in front of you. Grab the two clubs on the floor as you do the headspring, and as your body comes back to the standing position, look for the club you threw coming down, and continue juggling. You must keep a very careful lookout for the thrown club or else it may hit you in the head (an especially painful occurrence with fiberglass clubs).

Back handspring or flip flop. This trick was shown to me by a young circus juggler who was part of a two man act which included doing a front flip over his partner while his partner was on one knee juggling three clubs (at the same circus a twelve year old boy juggled five clubs). I have not been able to do it as yet and hope one of you will have better luck. Place two clubs on the ground in the area where your hands would land if you were to do a back handspring. Place the third club in between your ankles so that the fat part of the club is being held by your ankles and the handle is pointing forward (the two clubs on the ground should be in

opposition to the one between the ankles). Do the back handspring throwing the one club straight up with your feet. Grab the two clubs from the ground right after you land on your feet, and as the club thrown with the feet comes down, continue juggling. If you could grab the two clubs off the ground as your hands hit the ground in the hand spring, that would give you more time, besides giving the trick style and beauty; but I believe it is much harder to do it that way. The most difficult part of the trick is being able to throw the one club straight up with your feet.

Running front flip. Run while juggling three clubs. Throw one club high (four or five spins) straight up as you are about to do the front flip. While you are landing, look for the thrown club and continue juggling as it comes down. When you throw the club straight up, it might feel as though you are throwing it backwards; however, it is actually moving forward at the same speed you are. The most difficult part of the trick is getting the timing between the throw and the flip. The two should be executed as close together as possible. Also, if you put too much concentration into the throw, your flip might come out terrible, and vice versa. Try to be conscious of both the flip and the throw.

Back flip. I have only been successful with this trick three times. To do it you should be able to do a standing back flip without tucking. Practice juggling three clubs throwing one super high until you can do it with the handle landing in your hand. When you feel you are ready, throw one club high and do a back flip, and as the club comes down continue juggling. You may want to practice the back flip holding two clubs alone first. If you find that the club is hitting the ground before you have time to catch it, try throwing the club higher and with a slower turning speed.

Good luck, and remember that you should be able to do the gymnastic stunt alone before you attempt to do it while juggling.

-- Jim Ridgley
Los Angeles, California

MIT CONVENTION IN JUNE

On Saturday, June 17, 1978, the MIT Juggling Club in conjunction with the MIT Center for Theoretical Juggling is sponsoring a one-day juggling convention. This get-together will take place from 9 am to 11 pm in the Sala de Puerto Rico, a huge room on the second floor of the MIT Student Center, just across the street from the main entrance to MIT at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts. A large lawn outside will also be available if the weather cooperates. For further information, call David LeDoux at 617-253-7322. Come on out and warm up for the Oregon convention!

FROM DAN JEFFERY

For those interested in literary references to juggling, here is a passage from chapter VII of Mark Twain's story The Mysterious Stranger:

"When the astrologer went to the market square he went straight to a juggler, fantastically dressed, who was keeping three brass balls in the air, and took them from him and faced around upon the approaching crowd and said: "This poor clown is ignorant of his art. Come forward and see an expert perform.

"So saying, he tossed the balls up one after another and set them whirling in a slender bright oval in the air, and added another, then another and another, and soon -- no one seeing whence he got them -- adding, adding, adding, the oval lengthening all the time, his hands moving so swiftly that they were just a web or a blur and not distinguishable as hands; and such as counted said there were now a hundred balls in the air. The spinning great oval reached up twenty feet in the air and was a shining and glinting and wonderful sight. Then he folded his arms and told the balls to go on spinning without his help -- and they did it. After a couple of minutes he said, 'There, that will do,' and the oval broke and came crashing down, and the balls scattered abroad and rolled every whither."

POEM

Juggling isn't what it seems
It isn't thoughts or words or dreams
It isn't magic though it screams
Of sleight of hand and mystic scenes
Juggling is the wary art
Of tearing the whole house apart!
-- Robert Nelson

REVIEW

Readers of the IJA Newsletter may be interested in a booklet and a set of small bean bags which I ran across in a bookstore on a recent trip to the West Coast.

The booklet is called "Juggling for the Complete Klutz" and has some 30 pages. Authors are John Cassidy and B.C. Rimbeaux, with cartoons by Diane Waller. In an easy, funny way it teaches the basics of juggling three objects in a regular and a reverse cascade, and simple ball passing. There are a lot of useful hints.

It comes complete with a plastic net bag containing three bean bags of corduroy and printed fabric, each about 1-7/8 inches across. The bags are a bit on the small and light side, especially if you've been juggling with lacrosse balls. But they seem ideal for kids and for a person with small hands. Also, it would be better if they were not all identical so one could do some asymmetrical variations.

The set may not interest you personally if you're even a novice juggler already, but it does make a very nice present for friends you want to turn on to juggling. It has a friendly, non-frightening personality to it.

The set is available for \$5 plus 50 cents for shipping from Klutz Enterprises, P.O. Box 222, Vallecito, California 95251. Mine came two weeks after I mailed a check.

The authors also mention an upcoming book, "Juggling for the Exceptionally Gifted", which I haven't seen yet.

-- George Novotny
New York City

BRIEF NOTES

Peter Nicolaus (Box 245, Utica, Nebraska 68456, 402-534-3792) is looking for a ride to the convention. Utica is about five miles off Interstate 80 and about ninety miles west of Omaha.

Jan Cornish (517 Buena Vista Ave., Santa Cruz, California 95062, 408-426-2436) is interested in getting together with other jugglers in the Santa Cruz area weekly or bi-weekly.

Adrian Sullivan has given Historian Dennis Soldati a collection of correspondence with various jugglers and historical juggling material. Dennis Soldati also reports that John McPeak and Dick Francis are both in Europe, each with a unit of the Globetrotters. Incidentally, Dennis notes that Dick Francis now prefers to go by the name of Dick Franco (or simply Franco). Speaking of names, Dennis points out that Bela Kremo's was misspelled in the last issue of the Newsletter, and that Bela Kremo was known as Trenton at the beginning of his career. Finally, Dennis says that the juggler called Diato in the last issue is actually named Dieter Tasso.

Vice-President Bill Barr sent a newspaper clipping for the Oakland Tribune edition of March 22, 1978 (page 15), which includes an article on The Open Education Exchange of the San Francisco Bay Area and a nice photo of Bill juggling five balls. Bill shares his juggling skills with other individuals through the exchange.

Mary Wilkins sent a newspaper clipping from The Daily Report, page 16, March 10, 1978, which describes Mary's efforts in teaching juggling to the students in a special class for deaf and hard-of-hearing students at Margarita Elementary School in Montclair, California. The article mentions the IJA and includes nice photos of two of Mary's students, David Smith and Heidi Martins, juggling.

The March 19, 1978, edition of the Boston Globe New England magazine includes a story on IJA members Suzy and Red Lynde, their Victorian house, and their New England heritage. The article includes nice photos of Suzy and Red.

Matt Stock has written to say that he is scheduled to perform in the Bentonville High School production of the musical Carnival. Naturally, Matt will be juggling as well as playing two smaller parts in the chorus. The show is April 27 and 28. Matt also reports that he recently performed as a street juggler at the Siloam Springs Dogwood Festivile.

Alan Howard has written to say that he has formed a juggling act with Anthony Allen and Doug Broome. They learned to juggle from IJA member Fred Mills, their teacher at Cleveland Heights High School in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and they perform under the name "Nobody's Perfect."

In the "Brief Notes" column on page 12 of the January-February 1978 issue of the Newsletter, mention is made of the movie "Telethon" which briefly showed a juggler. The supposition was made that this juggler was Picaso. Ivor Price has written to say that the juggler was in fact one of the Fercos of the Dunes' "Casino de Paris" show. Ivor points out that Picaso works solo.

Russ Campbell sent a newspaper clipping from the University of South Florida's Oracle from March 1, 1978. The clipping includes a picture of some USF jugglers and an article about their weekly meeting.

On Saturday, April 8th, about seventy-five jugglers gathered on the Columbia University Quadrangle for a successful juggling get-together. Jugglers from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey travelled to the city to join a larger number of New York City area enthusiasts

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for a wonderful (though chilly) afternoon. Meeting organizer Dave Thomson was pleased by the turnout and the large number of spectators. Crews from two New York City television stations filmed stories for their evening news programs. Two couples attempted a two-high club passing pattern for the cameras, but Eric Roberts stole the show by teaching the news woman to juggle.

Various new partnerships are forming out of the MIT juggling club. Skip King and John Rogers are now beginning to perform together, and Rawd Holbrook has begun performing with Don and Lana Reed in the Fantasy Jugglers.

Mike Marlin writes that he will be touring with Doug Henning from May 2 until June 25, playing the central upper U.S. and finishing off in Washington D.C. Mike says that anyone who sees the show advertised in his area should drop by and say "hi."

Don and Lana Reed report talking to Bert Hanley on Boston Common at one of their recent performances. Bert, I believe, is the author of the very valuable articles on formation club juggling which appeared in the 1951 and 1952 Jugglers' Bulletin Annuals. While performing around and about Boston, Don and Lana report they also occasionally run into one of the Tierney family. The Tierney family was active in the IJA during its earliest years.

The March/April 1978 double issue of Calliope, the journal of the Clowns of America, is all about the history of the Clowns organization, in honor of the organization's tenth anniversary. The role two early IJA members, Vin Carey and Lou Meyer, played in the formation of the Clowns of America is discussed at one point in the issue. In addition to a variety of other IJA activities, Vin and Lou served jointly and separately as editors of the IJA Newsletter in the IJA's early years.

Craig Barnes sent a newspaper clipping from the March 29, 1978, issue of the San

Pablo News which included two front page photographers of Craig juggling. Craig also notes that at the Berkeley juggling class they are keeping busy inventing multi-person passing patterns (e.g., interlocking drop-back lines, left- and both-handed passing) which they hope to pass on at the Eugene convention.

Stewart Bryan writes to say that the University of North Carolina jugglers have been more or less organized since last April. They get some assistance from the University (for instance, the University loaned them a van to go to the Delaware convention last July). They meet every Thursday and Sunday afternoon by the Old Well on campus in Chapel Hill.

JUGGLING LITERATURE AND THIS AND THAT WHICH MIGHT INTEREST JUGGLERS Compiled by Mary Wilkins

Donald D. Brown. The Mastery of Juggling (14 page pamphlet), six juggling lessons 1974 Donald D. Brown, P.O. Box 1294, Allentown, PA 18105 (it came in a boxed set of juggling equipment for kids).

R.O. Bleckman. The Juggler of Our Lady, an adapted medieval legend in pictures and captions. Henry Holt & Co., Inc., N.Y. \$2.50, 1953.

Dr. Henry R. Evans. "Jugglers and Juggling" in The Linking Ring Magicians Journal, February, 1938, Vol XVII, No. 12.

Charles R. Meyer. How to be a Juggler, A Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Book, David McKay Co., Inc., N.Y. \$5.95, 1977. Describes how to become a juggler and instructs the novice in the manipulation of all kinds of objects (contains good juggling photographs from R.B.B.&B. Circus and Circus World Museum).

Marcello Truzzi with Massimiliano Truzzi. "Notes Toward a History of Juggling" in Bandwagon, The Journal of the Circus Historical Society, Vo. 18, No. 2, March-April, 1974.

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J.B. Findley. "Old Malabar - Juggling Through Four Reigns - Being a short memoir of 'Old Malabar' - one of Glasgow's best known worthies," 1945 pamphlet about Scotland street juggler Patrick Feeney.

"Try juggling", article in Instructor, April, 1978.

"Gee ... A Juggler!" in Children's Playcraft, March, 1978.

Hammatt & Sons, 1441 N. Red Gum, Bldg. E, Anaheim, CA 92806, makes a diablo for \$7 plus tax.

The Drama Review, Vol. 18, No. 1, March, 1974, New York University School of the Arts, has an article by Hovey Burgess entitled "The Classification of Circus Techniques" and other articles on popular entertainments.

Propinquite, 8915 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90069 sells an unusual room thermometer by Tempagraphics. Different juggled balls are filled with a heat sensing unit that changes color as the temperature goes up or down. Between \$16 and \$18.

Great American Circus Directory, June 1977, has photographs of jugglers in ads, e.g., Kristavo, The Sikorsky's.

New West magazine, November 21, 1977, has a photograph in an ad of a man juggling three balls next to the Golden Gate Bridge at night.

The Great Learning Book, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., page 94, juggling.

Reprinted in the Newsletter of the Unicycling Society of America, July 1977, photo of John McPeak juggling.

Happy Birthday juggling card, 35C-25, from Nutcrackers by Nutmeg Papers Inc., West Hartford, Conn.

Acrobats papercuts (6), various colors, \$2, PC-568; also book Chinese Acrobatics; from China Books & Periodicals, Inc., 2929 Twenty-Fourth St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

Wenatchee Youth Circus official program -- 1977, Wenatchee, Washington, at least six pictures of jugglers.

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

JUGGLE BUG Juggling Equipment: On hand for immediate delivery! Clubs -- European style, 18 inch, one piece, plastic in red, blue, or yellow, \$3.50 each (order C001 -- state color). Rings -- colorful two-tone molded plastic rings, 12 inch diameter, \$3.00 each (order R001). Balls -- high natural rubber content, smooth, "lacrosse-type", 2 1/4 inch balls in red, yellow, green, or blue, perfect for 5 or 7 ball tricks, \$1.35 each (order B001 -- state colors). Balls -- JUGGLE BUG'S own heavy and colorful 2 1/4 inch ribbed sponge balls, non-slip surface ideal for parades, wet weather, or for beginners, in sets of 4 in mixed colors, \$4.50 per set (order B002). Shirt -- JUGGLE BUG'S own 4 color tee shirt with our mascot, JUG BUG, and the message "I've got the bug -- the Juggle Bug!", \$5.00 each (order S001 -- state size S, M, or L). Add 10% for postage. For these special rates, mention the IJA in your order. Pay by check or money order to:

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SOFTLY IN THE QUIET PLACES
(c) Robert Nelson 1978

Ages ago beyond dim mortal recollection, a small, fragile creature blinked once and was born. He was perfectly normal, seemingly like his fellow creatures, except for the inordinate size of his heart. So big was it in fact, that it would not fit safely inside his ribs.

The world then was a great bright-dark swirl of air and water filled with still places and dangerous currents. The God in charge of this world looked at it and at the little creature and whispered, "You have three choices little one. You may let go of your imperfect physical home and return with me to wait for one which is normal. You may give back this unusual heart and go forward into physical life free of pain and feeling. Or you may choose to keep your strange heart and learn to carry it with you."

The fragile creature closed his eyes. Like all tiny ones he carried pale memories of a time gone by when he had walked this same earth. His soul was very old and he knew much of life. So he sighed, opened his eyes and embraced his heart. The God nodded, fashioned a fine silver chain, and fastened the lovely heart to the little being's ankle. Then the God touched it and the chain and the heart became invisible to all but the tiny creature. The God said, "Now you look like all the rest. It will not be easy." The creature nodded and fell asleep.

In time, the currents of the earth swept the creature into earth events and he was duly named Caphir, after a star in the constellation of Virgo.

Caphir grew and played about in the streams and eddies of earth life where all small creatures learned to negotiate before stepping full into the tumult of living. But he was not exactly "right." Many times his mother would trip over his invisible silver chain and turn on him for

being so clumsy. Other little creatures ran into his heart which bumped along after him, and bouncing off onto the ground, they would deride him for his strangeness. Caphir was alone most of the time.

Because his heart was so large, when it was light it would go up and up like a bright balloon pulling Caphir along. It would soar so high that Caphir could see all the earth and could look down at the swirly patterns, dark and light, and understand why people were so confused. And he would shout down, "I love you all anyway." But no one could hear him because he was so far above them.

Too, when his heart was heavy it would sink to the bottom of one of the dark still places and Caphir would be dragged down and down into the cold. There the heart would sit like an anchor with poor Caphir drifting helplessly around it. He would pull and tug at his chain trying to dislodge his heart from the bottom and look up and shout, "I love you. Please help me." But no one could hear him because he was so far below them.

Most of the time, however, his heart just tumbled along behind him. It got scrapes and nicks and bumps and once or twice a little crack. To Caphir it looked as though it would never last a lifetime. He was sure that one more good bump and it would crumble into a million pieces.

Once when he was a young man, Caphir walked all night thinking about his situation. Finally he decided that he no longer wanted to be bothered with dragging his burdensome feelings around outside himself for all the world to batter. He was determined to be like all the rest. So he set to work with a hammer and chisel to break the silver chain. He stayed alone for days, working feverishly, pounding and grinding and filing. Finally, weak and exhausted, he sat back and cried, for he had not put one dent in the smooth silver. (continued on page 10)

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Between his sobs he heard a voice calling him. He sat up and listened as a firm voice said, "Caphir, I gave you the choice when your ancient memory was still intact. You chose this path and the choices are not easily unmade."

So Caphir wiped his eyes and sniffled once and pushed at the chipped up heart with his toe. He was lonely and unhappy, but he resigned himself to his lot. As he mused over his fate, he kept pushing the heart against the wall and it would roll back to him. Soon he began to notice different ways to bounce it off the wall, then from one hand to the other, then back off the wall. Why had he never tried this before, he wondered. Look at all the wonderful tricks he could do!

Caphir became very excited. So excited, in fact, that he forgot to be sad. All night he practiced making his beautiful heart do color cartwheels in the air. The next morning he felt he must show someone else his great discovery. He rushed outside, then stopped short. A great weight descended upon him. How could he show anyone? His heart was invisible.

After much thought Caphir decided that somehow people must see this wonderful thing. He tried tossing a colored ball into the air so that it made patterns with his heart. But people only said, "Look at that strange man throwing a ball in the air." So he learned to throw his heart into the air with two colored balls. This took great skill, but still no one noticed. "Anyone can do a trick with two colored balls," they said. Caphir became obsessed. They will see," he would cry. And he learned to throw three colored balls into the air spinning around with his heart.

One day, as he practiced this feat, a child came by with his mother. The child cried, "Mother, look at the juggler. He can make magic colors in the air."

"Juggler?", thought Caphir. "Is that what I am? I only wanted someone to see ... but no mind, that is what I shall be until someone really sees."

So Caphir traveled the earth doing his tricks and learning many more. All the time his heart dragged along behind him and he was safe only when he was making beautiful patterns with it and the brightly colored balls.

Sometimes he would become despondent and think that no one would ever see how lovely his feelings really were. Other times someone would say there seemed there were more balls in the air than he was juggling. Caphir would become very excited and filled with hope. But then they would count the balls and say he must be a very good juggler to fool their eyes so. Caphir would sigh and go back to juggling and think how people really should look more with their hearts and less with their eyes.

Time was passing and Caphir was growing though he scarcely realized it. He still tried to make up for his being different. When he was not juggling he tried on many faces and many beliefs. He let different philosophies echo around in his brain and when it was too painful for his poor scarred heart he let some of them out as words to protect him.

In the end he would drag his heart up from the dust, polish it on his sleeve, and tell it, "You are only good for doing tricks and then few can see you ever for a second. But, that second is worth it." And he would go back to practicing.

Many years passed. Caphir became well loved for his gift of making others smile and for his gentleness but never for his being Caphir with the incredible heart. Caphir knew that his life was nearly half over and he felt sad but resigned. His wisdom was such now that he felt he could still love the earth and its beings without their truly loving all of him.

One day after many hours of practicing, Caphir sat in one of the quiet, light places the earth provided so all its creatures could rest. All around him were balls and rings and clubs of many lovely colors. As usual, his heart lay there among them. As he was wondering what new

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trick might finally make his heart visible, a lovely lady walked by. Caphir looked up to find her watching him.

"Would you care to stop and share my quiet place?", he asked, "There are not so many of them left these days."

The lady sat down beside Caphir and looked at all the balls and rings. "What are these things?", she asked. "The tools of a juggler's trade," answered Caphir.

"This one is so beautiful, it must be very special," she said and she picked up Caphir's heart and held it in her two hands.

Caphir looked at her for a long time and at his heart cradled in her hands. He had not looked at his heart for many years. Now he saw how the rough treatment had gradually polished it like a stone from a stream bed. It had a deep patina, had grown rich and shown like a jewel.

"You can see it?" whispered Caphir. "Of course," she answered with wonder in her eyes. "How could one not see a thing so completely lovely?"

"You should have it then," said Caphir, "But there is this silver chain and ..."
"I know," she said, "But that makes it all the more wonderful."

Caphir was astounded. It had been a very long time since he had dared to dream that such a thing could happen. He remembered that once there was a dark-eyed lady who could read the stars and read eyes. She had said she knew his heart was there, tumbling along in the dust, but that like the rest of the world, she could not see it. She saw only its reflection in his eyes. There were some few others who could see its shadow, but nothing and no one like this.

Caphir looked back at the lady beside him. Gently she placed his heart in his hands. "Here," she said, "You will need this when you juggle, for others should still try to see. Besides, all of us have a kind of chain, so we cannot give our hearts completely to anyone. But I will stay

with you because I have looked for a very long time for a man who had this special thing."

Caphir touched her hair and smiled, "But why have I not found you sooner?" he asked. "Because," she replied, "You did not come often enough to the quiet places, nor did you look closely enough at the quiet people. Some of us live very ordinary lives. We can do nothing unusual. Our only talent lies in our ability to love those who have exceptional hearts and exceptional love."

Caphir stretched out his hand and let the sun glisten off his heart as he held it. For all he had suffered, he was deeply happy that he had chosen to keep this unusual gift. He knew that there would be more pain in his life, that his heart would take a few more bumps and jolts. But now they would not be taken alone. There was someone who could share and understand his capacity for joy and sorrow, his compassion and love.

The light moved softly in the quiet place and Caphir stood up. He gathered together the balls and the rings and clubs and he reached out his hand to the lady. Together they slowly walked away with Caphir's heart bumping along behind them.

MORE BRIEF NEWS ITEMS

Lindsay Leslie has prepared a comprehensive proposal for rating jugglers and juggling tricks, e.g., a "black belt" juggler should be able to perform certain difficult juggling tricks. Lindsay has asked that his proposal be considered at the upcoming convention.

Rumor has it that the recent European mini-convention held in the U.K. was a great success; we hope to have a complete report for the next issue.

Stewart Bryan (15-D Estes Park, Carrboro, North Carolina 27510, 919-929-9001) reports that he is trying to organize a no frills charter flight to the Eugene convention using a non-commercial airplane.



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