

Notes and Thanks



Will Give Birth is partly an allusive game, inviting readers to play along, fact-check, and make their own discoveries, though I give some sources here. An obvious debt is to the Chandler L.A. Times, whose writers deeply affected me, even writers overlooked. Many headlines could not be made up, as in “Grouch Count Soars.” Notes are incomplete, suggestive only. I could never have rediscovered many articles without the L.A. Public Library’s ProQuest, a search engine that replaces the dizzying microfiche. Many thanks to invisible-inkers who helped make me who I am.

Book 1, Canticle 1

- 2: orange suit: See *Rocket Boys* by Homer H. Hickam Jr., 334; possible cause-effect to Moon shot. Allusions to Homer’s memoir can be found throughout *EB/Falcon*.
- 4: “Vaughn Meader: He Played Kennedy. Then He Became Himself,” Jennifer Finney Boylan, NYT Nov. 21, 2017. See too Mo Rocca’s 2019 podcast, *Mobituaries*.

Canticle 2

- 9: ‘tired witticism.’: See *The War That Killed Achilles*, Caroline Alexander, xv.

Canticle 3

- 14: sixtyseven cents: See *The Rockford Files*, “The Battle of Canoga Park” (1977), 13-minute mark, 65^o per gallon, Epi reviewing in retro-ranging 2022 ...
- 17: “The meaning of my existence” and “insight into dreams”; C.G. Jung’s *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*, 318, 193. Drusilla also mangles other titles (Mailer, Campbell, 14).
- 18: O the joy! For a missed opportunity with a rock, see “The Performative Antiracism of Black Students at the U. of Wisconsin,” John McWhorter, NYT, Aug. 24, 2021.

Canticle 5

- 26: “Falling Afoul of Fallibility,” Jack Smith, Los Angeles Times, July 12, 1979.
- 26: 95-year copyrots: In *Free Culture*, 130, Lawrence Lessig cites Article 1, section 8, clause 8 of the U.S. Constitution: “Congress has the power to promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.” Enforcing copyrots in “Falling Afoul,” two decades after Jack’s death, thirtysix years after the article, benefits only TribWest, no one in the Smith family. Such stifling also constricts Epi’s interplay with Jack’s humor.
- 27: reachable hours, library phone. One day a girl corralled the booth, hung up after one call. The phone rang. She answered. “Wrong number,” she said, and hung up before—

Canticle 6

- 33-34: “little hobo girls,” “Champs Elysees,” “It’s a shock when a man thinks he’s been charming ...”: “An Apple for the Creatures,” by Jack Smith, LAT, Nov 2, 1972, D1.
- 36-37: “Great Falls’ Janis Hansen Is a ‘Going’ Concern,” Pat Petty, Women’s Editor, Great Falls Tribune, spring 1969. Janis died in 2017 before I could meet her.

Canticle 7

- 41: “presume an undeniable identity”: “A Moving Experience,” LAT Sep 2, 1979.
- 42: 89-1799 decision: See “Writers Can’t Recklessly Alter Quotes, High Court Says,” by David Savage, LAT, June 21, 1991, p. 27. Key passage for Epi: “In dissent, Judge Alex Kozinski





called this ruling a ‘right to lie in print.’ Much of the press took the same view. Time magazine labeled the decision ‘The Right to Fake Quotes.’ For a counter view, see “You Can Quote Him,” Larry Bumgardner, LAT, June 23, 1991: “The court took a step in the right direction by overturning the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision in *Masson vs. Malcom* and the *New Yorker*. The lower court had dismissed psychoanalyst Jeffrey Masson’s libel suit, effectively approving the fabrication of quotes so long as they were ‘rational interpretations’ of ambiguous remarks.” Epi’s objection is that paraphrase is paraphrase, and should *not* be put in quote marks. An exception is made for writers who alert readers, as when Nick B. Williams suggested unverifiable detail by admitting, “As I recall ...” See too Mary McCarthy, who gave caveat that she cannot vouch for exact quotes when trying to recall *Memories of a Catholic Girlhood* (p. 4). In that spirit, Epi frequently avoids quotation marks.

(Mr. Williams was chief editor of *The Times* from 1958-1971. On retirement, he began writing occasional essays that delighted readers. When he died in 1992, one LAT headline read: “He shepherded the newspaper from mediocrity to excellence.” *The New York Times* noted: “By the time he retired in 1971, *The Times* had won five Pulitzer Prizes, opened 25 national and foreign bureaus, added and expanded several news and feature sections, doubled its news staff and almost doubled its daily circulation, which now [1992] exceeds 1.1 million.” *The Times* has since declined, a descent Epi most blastingly felt in November 1980, long before Chicago’s *Tribune Co.* invaded. Other lancers surely felt a tremor too, if only hinted by U.S. Post Office ads on the op-ed page instead of a thoughtful essay. *The Times has gone postal! Why pay out when postals pay in!*)

43: “invisible witness”: As Epi recalled the phrase, inspired by Mythic column on Nov. 6, 1972:

**Jax Myth
Pouring Salt
on Old Wound**

In writing here recently of a

Very often, when I have told a simple story such as this, I am asked if it was true, or did I make it up. I am baffled by these doubts, since

* * *

**Lesstra! Lesstra! Laistrygones
Charge too much for Jax Myth Essay!**

TribWestUsurper fees soar when they see Wishy wants to reprint lengthy fragments of “Pouring Salt on Old Wounds,” the classic account of how Jax Myth writes as if an invisible witness was always watching—a principle absolutely essential to any would-be journeer who fancies an honorable career in the news biz. Herein Epi leaves space for restoration of Jax’s ’72 essay when unconstitutional 95-year copyrots wither in the winds.

* * *

Now I have received a letter from [Marion Morgan, of Los Angeles] who was sitting in the cafe, and once again I am thankful that I am above the temptation to embroider the facts.

Thus, my little story is verified.

Canticle 9

- 50: “good-hearted Americans”: The U.S. turned away Jews in the 1930s, and in the 2010s turned away persecuted Rohingyas from Myanmar and Assad-fleeing refugees from Syria.
 51: “borrowed” by a fugitive, *The Revenge of Heaven*, pseudonym Ken Ling; English, Miriam London, Ta-Ling Lee, 301.

Canticle 10

- 55: “the heightened quality of religious ecstasy”: “Super Sunday Runs True to Forum,” Jack Smith, LAT, Jan 27, 1981, F1.
 55: “In Defense of Sinatra and Wayne,” EpiBound, LAT, Jan 20, 1980, G15. “Mulling Over the ‘Right Stuff,’” Bob Greene, LAT, Dec 31, 1979 [re Tom Wolfe’s *The Right Stuff*]. For Jack Smith on the Super Bowl, see “Is That All There Is?” Jan 11, 1977; “Super Sunday Runs True to Forum,” Jan 27, 1981; and “He’s taking his wife to the big game ...,” Jan 22, 1987.
 55: broom in his pachyderm pajamas: See “His Ambience Is Showing,” LAT, Jan 15, 1973; “Writing Is the Cat’s Pajamas,” Jan 18, 1973; “Cutting In on the Butcher,” Feb 21, 1977; “A Thousand Well-Chosen Words,” Mar 24, 1981; “English: A Clear Case of Confusion,” May 27, 1981—a running joke, all by Jack Smith.
 56: burbeling, burbel: Intentional spelling to better hint the sound.
 56: *never!*: Breaking with tradition to underline double italic, rather than use regular font.

Canticle 11

- 61: \$3 plus \$5 court costs: In October 2011 cops in Washington D.C. not only arrest drivers with expired plates, but the courts can punish poverty with a thousand-buck fine. In Maryland, the fine is \$290. See “D.C. Police Arresting Drivers With Expired License Plates; ... at least four people have been jailed in D.C.” Oct 6, 2011, AOL Autos Staff.
 63: Diane Stiles: “Sisters Nurse Family Tree Back to Health,” Jennings Parrott, LAT, Feb 19, 1980.

Canticle 12

- 64: Holy Grail: Gilbert Highet, *The Art of Teaching*, 203 (Mr. Bowen).

Canticle 13

- 67: Bao Ninh: *The Sorrow of War*, a novel translated by Phan Thanh Hao, edited by Frank Palmos; a glimpse of the Vietnamese view, more than a war story.
 67: Nguyen Hong My was a Vietnamese pilot shot down by U.S. pilot Dan Cherry. Both survived to meet and become friends thirtyseven years later. William R. Levesque gives a detailed account of their battle and reunion, St. Petersburg Times, April 19, 2009. I failed to save the article about the “congenial vet,” couldn’t find it later.
 68: “When spider webs unite”: See TED.com, William Ury’s “from no to yes,” a “way to create agreement in even the most difficult situations.”
 73: “Anthony Glas”: “Bias at Club in Illinois Insults Negro Viet War Hero,” Jet, Sept 1, 1966.

**Canticle 14**

- 75: “launched the plan”: See *US Marines in Vietnam: 1968: The Defining Year*, 276, <http://ehistory.osu.edu/vietnam/books/1968/index.cfm>. “Baldwin recommended that the Special Forces troops at FOB-3 conduct a helicopter-supported evacuation of [Green Berets at Lang Vei].” See *Night of the Silver Stars* by William R. Phillips, 174, 176; and *Valley of Decision: The Siege of Khe Sanh* by John Prados and Ray W. Stubbe, 264, 335. Baldwin’s helicopter lost power, and he had to radio instructions to Major George Quamo, who carried out his plan to relieve Lang Vei.
- 75: “pullout”: “U.S. Battalions Pull Back in Vietnam Battle,” AP, LAT, Nov 17, 1965.
- 77: “vague social ... cultural promise”: *Lightningbolt* by Hyemeyohsts Storm, p. 402.
- 78: 500 Miles, Death March: *Street Without Joy*, Bernard Fall, 300.
- 78: For years Epi sensed Dr. Dooley’s books affected his war ambivalence. Dooley is discussed in *Embers of War* by Fredrik Logevall. Years before he read *Embers*, Epi found Dooley critics online, including http://www.culturewars.com/CultureWars/Archives/cw_feb98/Dooley.html. The review also notes Dooley’s “many admirable qualities.”
- 78: CGF Bell Tower: A visit to the Bell Tower in 2022 showed four metal protuberances where ladder steps had been. It’s likely the ’66 CGF president ordered them removed.
- 79: Petri Devolution: My term. See *Age of Ambition* by Evan Osnos, 290-91. Osnos cites Lao She’s “Poets” essay (1941): “Poets are a strange crowd. When everyone else is happy, the poets can say things that are discouraging. When everyone else is sorrowful, the poets can laugh and dance. But when the nation is in danger, they must drown themselves, and let their deaths be a warning in the name of truth.” See too the 2018 Salman-Saudi slaughter of Jamal Khashoggi, and Marjorie Taylor Greene’s 2022 “peach tree dish.”
- 79: “the greatest victory”: See *A Bright Shining Lie* by Neil Sheehan, 38, 81-96.

Canticle 15

- 81: “Lee Marvin, Menacing Gunman of Films, Dies” by Bob Baker and Patt Morrison, LAT, August 30, 1987. “Help, help” cry is by Wojciech Frykowski, *Helter Skelter*, 114. *Scream so loud*: Michael Farrar, earwitness to murder of Kitty Genovese. (The police count of 38 indifferent witnesses, unverified by reporters, is deemed doubtful by later investigators.)
- 83: Rick Rescorla near this same swamp: See *We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young*, by Lt. Gen. Harold G. Moore (Ret.) and Joseph Galloway, 218. Rescorla sang in battle too, keeping his troops’ spirits up at the Battle of Ia Drang. One aspect of Rescorla’s story troubles some observers: “He’d fought against Communist-backed insurgencies in Cyprus from 1957 to 1960, and in Rhodesia from 1960 to 1963. These experiences had made him a fierce anti-Communist.” Communists in Rhodesia? See “The Real Heroes Are Dead” by James B. Stewart, *The New Yorker*, Feb. 11, 2002. Stewart wrote *The Heart of a Soldier*.
- 85: Eugene Debs, cited by multiple sources; “Garry Davis, Man of No Nation Who Saw One World of No War, Dies at 91,” by Margalit Fox, NYT, July 28, 2013.
- 87: hideous and intolerable murder: Epi completely forgot this unforgettable incident until 2004, when his sister rediscovered his original letter and sent it to him. In July 2020 a revelation: For years pigeons had invaded his parking stall to assault his Falcon from overhead nests. He knocked the nests away, and placed boxes in their place. Surely the Bravo boys were similarly enraged by a monkey disturbing their need for rest.

Canticle 16

- 89: Halima hint: *Tears of the Desert* by Halima Bashir with Damien Lewis, 142-43.
- 93: Debi Nicholls, Anne Hjelle: “Initial Exam Links Slain Lion to Fatal Attack; ...” David Reyes. LAT, 11 Jan 2004. “Refusing to yield”: “Cougar’s victim won’t be ‘prisoner of the drama,’” William Lobdell, LAT 15 May 2008, B.1.

Canticle 17

- 96: Laundry: Scanned copy of report on Operation Santa Fe, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/73416196/Operation-SANTA-FE-Phases-I-III-Combat-AAR-25-Apr-1968>, 40. Such outside laundry is likely for officers only.



- 98: Ken Saro-Wiwa, "... Executed Author Urged, 'Suffering Must Stop': LAT, 12 Nov 1995, 15. Shell's Second Quarter report, 2013: <http://s01.static-shell.com/content/dam/shell-new/local/corporate/corporate/downloads/quarterly-results/2013/q2/q2-2013-gra.pdf>
- 103: Frederick Downs, *The Killing Zone*, 45-47.
- 103: Milkshake Man and Fred Downs at the VA, first seen on ABC News, I think.

Canticle 18

- 106: King's sermon: See Tavis Smiley, "MLK: A Call to Conscience," Parts 1-2.
- 107: Japanese helmet: "His, Hers and Showers," Jack Smith, Jul 17, 1979, LAT.
- 109: Pepsi-cyst: In a letter dated Sep 19 Epi tells of a cyst in his left ear lobe. It took the doctor five minutes to drain it. "Do you know how long 5 minutes is?" Saith the medic: "Damn, what is that, Doc?!" Epi tells of drinking 70 ounces of Ginger Ale and not urinating once. In the '70s plastic water bottles took over, reducing military reliance on poisonous sugar, tho' the plastic, wastefully tossed, posed a deadly risk for countless sea creatures.

Canticle 19

- 112: June 4: the date Epi gave when writing his sister on June 23. Since Bobby was shot just after midnight on June 5; and since Epi has long puzzled over dates when crossing the Ingolstadt Dateline, it seems likely, by his late writing, that he got the date wrong. His letter also gives Fromm's "escape" title as "condemned to be free."
- 112: Hamlet hesitation: See *The Unfinished Odyssey of Bobby Kennedy* by David Halberstam. Harmony of angels: Essence of paragraph written decades before President Zelensky addressed the British Parliament on Ukraine's resolve to battle Putin's invasion: "This is the Shakespearean question. For thirteen days, this question could have been asked. But now I can give you a definitive answer. It's definitely yes, to be." From "Zelensky Answers Hamlet," Maureen Dowd, NYT, Mar. 12, 2022. Ukrainians truly find peace in war.
- 113: "Kennedy Spent Quiet Evening Chatting ...," Jun 6, 1968, LAT.
- 114: Centerville contract: Over time, this contract seemed to have appeared by Mr. Teddy magic. Letters to Ktimene, reread in 2020, make clear that Epi began this process at least nine months earlier: asking questions, seeking help, securing his teaching certificate, ever fearful of being a burden to Ktimene and family, seeking self-dependence from the "totally 'misguided'" life since graduation from CGF.
- 116: no such flight: In his July 16 letter to Ktimene, Epi wrote: "I'm actually afraid to think too much ahead to the actual moment when the plane takes off. When you look forward to something for so long there's always something to screw it up."
- 119: Manhattan Beach: See Bruce's Beach, property stolen from the Bruce family in 1924 by fraudulent eminent domain, finally restored to them by California Senate Bill 796 in 2022.
- 120: Colonel Baldwin died in 1994. Beret photos in *Jet*, Sept. 1, 1966.

Canticle 20

- 123: Row 040: Early in his '68 tour, Private Dale Roos was assigned "bagging and tagging" the dead. He tells Ed Flaherty (*Coached for Life*, p. 346) that he came to an unrecognizable corpse, reached for his dogtags, and saw the name of a high school classmate: "Glenn Charles Fish, January 14, 1946 ..." On p. 286 we read that Private Roos was overseas in 1964. The dates are unreconciled.
- 124: undercut by sneaky secrets: See "The Case Against Henry Kissinger," by Christopher Hitchens, Harper's Magazine, Feb. 2001: "In the fall of 1968, Richard Nixon ... set out to sabotage the Paris peace negotiations on Vietnam. ... [Nixon officials] privately assured the South Vietnamese military rulers that an incoming Republican regime would offer them a better deal than would a Democratic one. In this way, they undercut both the talks themselves and the electoral strategy of Vice President Hubert Humphrey. The tactic 'worked,' in that the South Vietnamese junta withdrew from the talks on the eve of the election, thereby destroying the peace initiative on which the Democrats had based their campaign. ... [In the] intervening [four more] years some 20,000 Americans and an uncalculated number of Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians lost their lives. ..."
- 125: "A planet manifest beneath": *Of a Fire on the Moon*, Norman Mailer, 202.



- 125: troubling localism: “The Courthouse Ring: Atticus Finch and the limits of Southern liberalism,” by Malcolm Gladwell, *The New Yorker*, August 10, 2009.
- 126: the Honorable J.W. Speer: For years Epi thought the merciful judge was R.J. Nelson, who treated the twins kindly when they were in family court. Thank you, Judge Speer.
- 127: wanting-wanting-wanting: *Catfish and Mandala*, Andrew X. Pham, 202.
- 127: Piggy, conchophone, *The Revenge of Heaven*, 74. Foochow is Fuzhou today.
- 127: Nuku’alofa boys: In 1968 Epi knew nothing of the 1966 rescue of six schoolboys stranded on a remote island, where, for more than fifteen months, they lived in harmony “most of the time.” See Rutger Bregman’s *Humankind: A Hopeful History*, and *60 Minutes*, “A real life *Lord of the Flies*,” April 4, 2021.

Canticle 21

- 136: Crater Dionysos: Epi sees what he wants to see, the Resurrection God, not Dionysius the Areopagite, whom he’s never heard of, tho’ mythseekers might find him interesting (Acts 17:32-34).
- 137: “No More Dark Continents,” Robert A Jones, LAT, Jun 17, 1974, A1.
- 140: “circling the Moon ... 375 million years after the first brave Tiktaalik crawled up from the deeps”: *Your Inner Fish* by Neil Shubin. “You get what you get,” 203.
- 141: Various newsclips from Great Falls Tribune, spring 1969.
- 144: “chain-reaction theory”: *Embers of War*, Logevall, 367. See too “Senator Mansfield pronounces American aid to South Vietnam wasted” on history.com, Dec. 2, 1962. Headline improvised; in ’69 Epi had no idea of Mansfield views. Leone Tice headline is an improv from a 2000 Nightline-Ted Koppel report on Steve Tice at Hamburger Hill

Canticle 22

- 148: “Bad Vibrations from Woodstock,” Barry Farrell, Life, Sep 5, 1969 (ever-echoing paragraphs), 4; “swamp” is from “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d,” Walt Whitman.

Canticle 23

- 158: Ishmael Beah: See *A Long Way Gone*, boys kidnapped, forced to kill or be killed.
- 158: *Seabiscuit*, by Laura Hillenbrand, the story of an unlikely champion racehorse.
- 162: soul-consuming jaws: See *Johnny Cash: The Life* by Robert Hilburn, 57. After his military stint, J.R. resolved to be realistic about supporting himself and his planned family, i.e., take any job, a possibly fatal resolve that oddly led him back to his Reality.
- 163: “Nixon’s Forthcoming Speech---Will He Seize the Opportunity?” by Flora Lewis, LAT, Oct 28, 1969, A7. “Here I watched the birds for augury,” Joyce, *Ulysses*.
- 166: “Bacharach, David Find Lost Chord” by Leonard Feather, LAT, Jul 20, 1970.
- 167: “ROCK NEARLY HITS NIXON AT SAN JOSE,” by William Endicott and Stuart H Loory, LAT, Oct 30, 1970. On Nov 3, this headline: “Attack on Nixon Only Verbal, San Jose Police Chief Explains.” Chief Blackmore: “There was a verbal attack on the President,” but no physical attack, no bombardment with rocks: “that didn’t exist ... although some rocks and bottles had been thrown earlier.”
- 168: “Turtles Come Out of Shell, Soar in Space,” LAT, Maggie Savoy, Nov 16, 1969—one phrase ever-echoing: “and Deke cracked up.”
- 169: “A sharp-featured man with dark, intent eyes, he raised his handcuffed hands in a clenched fist.” Peter Kihss, NYT, describing Oswald as he was arrested. See too *Paradise Lost*, Satan looking for ways to hide from the “flaming ministers,” angels sent to guard man from the fallen one, who is now resolved to “find / The Serpent sleeping, in whose mazy folds / To hide me, and the dark intent I bring” (Book 9, vv. 160-162).

Canticle 24

- 171: “Homeless Couple Live in Auto,” AP, LAT, Jun 4, 1971, 5. Epi feared it was his mistake, but Mrs. Konarsky’s first name was not in the published report.
- 172: “Women, Blacks, Students: Unquenchable Fires: 3 Groups and Their Fights for Freedom” by Page Smith, LAT, Nov 23, 1969, J3. Epi alters “Pandora’s box” to “Epimethean box,” accepting blame for his failing to guard the box carefully.

Canticle 25

177: Vergil's stern warning: Canto XX, Inferno.

178: *into her eyes*: See p. 309 of *Helter Skelter*, the book's most striking detail. It could not have happened if DA Bugliosi had left the investigation solely to cops.

178: "if it be your joy": *The Aeneid*, John Conington prose translation, edited by John Addington Symonds, 104. Whenever "Easy is the going down to Avernus" appears here, this passage, as remembered by Epi, is the source.

179: "Westlake Park": "Crusade on Name Dropping," Jack Smith, LAT, Mar 14, 1978

... it is easier to replace old names in the service of new masters than it is to restore old names in the service of nostalgia. I know. I have tried for years to undo the political chicanery by which historic Westlake Park, the prettiest place in the central city, was renamed during World War II to promote the presidential ambitions of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

See too *The Revenge of Heaven*, 133, where the West Lake in Foochow (Fuzhou) is renamed Red Lake during the Petri Devolution.

180: AP Headline 1970: "Nixons Relax to Music of Country Singer Cash"—another story Epi missed at the time. In 2018 the documentary *Tricky Dick and the Man in Black* tipped Epi to "What is truth?" Johnny sings of "a Dove with claws." Was the relaxed AP writer listening?

181: tended to forget: "We Must Not Forget The Jackson State Massacre," Robert Luckett, NYT, May 14, 2020. Note the photo of bullet holes at Alexander Hall, a women's dorm.

Canticle 26

185: The growth to sanity is slow: as Epi recalls a quote from "Space Efforts Could Take Giant Leap Through International Cooperation," DJR Bruckner, LAT, Oct 16, 1970, C6. Bruckner's actual phrase, in context: "The development of technology has been so fast and the growth of sanity so slow." The International Space Station began construction in 1998, a mere 28 years after Bruckner's suggestion. On the day in 2011 I sought the sanity quote, NASA sent an email announcing liftoff of Expedition 30. The TMA-03M rocket carried Soyuz Commander Oleg Kononenko, NASA astronaut Don Pettit, and European astronaut Andre Kuipers to the International Space Station. On the day I reviewed this note in August 2022, Russia had recently announced its withdrawal from the space station, effective 2024. Was the withdrawal affected by Putiny's mad invasion of Ukraine?

186: "can't be trusted": See the kids' "Okay Boomer" sarcasm in 2019, and *The Revenge of Heaven*, p. 208: A Red Shard spurns notion he's too young to handle duties: "The Petri Devolution cannot be handled by old sophisticates over twenty!"

187: Mount of Mythic Song: "Do Journalists Write With Vanishing Ink?" by Nick B Williams, LAT, Mar 23, 1972, D7:

There's that horrid saying that nothing is as dead as yesterday's newspaper,
and there is something to it.

Yet I happen to believe that a Jack Smith column of 1971, or 1969, sings
of life as tenderly today as it did when its ink was still smearable.

187: turban snail, *God and Mr. Gomez*, Ch. 6, 60-62 (paperback); awkward and uncertain, sometimes in peril, Ch. 13, 144, paperback; "You will have a mansion," Ch. 3, p. 34.

189: beauty springs to insult: "Stuck in Folsom Prison," by Edward Bunker A20284, LAT Apr 30, 1972. "Beauty in this place is an insult."

189: Infinity of Chains: Here the notion is of an authentic link to Melville; link to his humor and laughter. The chain image came to mind in about 2002, from a forgotten source to suggest the link of epic writers through the centuries. It was a pleasant surprise to see Sue Monk Kidd act on her chain impulse in *Traveling with Pomegranates* (194-202), a book not read till late December 2011. Kidd's chain, however, is negative: "the part of me that dares too little and fears too much" (as sensed too in Epi's familial heritage: "It can't happen to me"). See also Epi's meditation on Dante: "I am not Aeneas, I am not Paul" (Book 2, Canticle 24).

- 189: wombmate: Ktimene's minting (Epi not so smart—except to steal it).
 190: conveying pity: See “The Castaway” in *Moby-Dick*, and “Story of a dying whale,” now locked out by Paramount+ at <http://www.cbsnews.com/videos/story-of-a-dying-whale/>. For those who can't afford multi-costly streamers, see “Scientists flip out over sperm whale,” <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/scientists-flip-out-over-sperm-whale/>

Canticle 27

- 193: trickster spiders ... *carseloi* threads: Ishmael Beah, *A Long Way Gone*, 71.
 193: *And then ... the night*: See *Baptism* by Larry Gwin, 247-248.
 195: the Lowellian light: See “Since 1939” in Robert Lowell's *Collected Poems*, 741: “If we see a light at the end of the tunnel, / it's the light of the oncoming train.” Epi's copy was published in 1977, but he first heard Lowell's tunnel-train line years earlier. It's become a commonplace whose original is mostly forgotten.
 196: “3 Southland GIs Who Died in Action Win Medals of Honor,” Apr 8, 1970.
 196: fantastic coincidence, *God and Mr. Gomez*, Ch. 11, 124.
 198: Killing Time: “The Mobile Home Dweller's Lament,” Keith S Felton, LAT, Sep 17, 1972. Concerning “a pervasive rootlessness.” For Epi, the headline always recalls Thoreau's admonition: Who can kill time without injuring eternity?
 199: “Ultimately, nothing matters”: Napoleon Hill, *Grow Rich With Peace of Mind*, 153.
 199: “The idea of jumping to the American ship”: *For Those Still at Sea: The Defection of a Lithuanian Sailor*, by Simas Kudirka and Larry Eichel, 5.
 199-200: Kudirka defiance: “Lithuanian Sailor U.S. Rejected Defied Russians at His Trial,” by Anatole Shub (Exclusive to Times from Washington Post), Aug 7, 1971, 1.
 201: “Vince Lombardi, 1913-1970: A Legend in His Own Time,” by Bob Oates, Sep 4, 1970 [typed from original newspaper, not found by LAT's ProQuest].
 201: “Eugene Meyer Buys Washington Post”: See Katharine Graham's *Personal History*. Meyer, her father, bought the Post in 1933 though it was “mentally, morally, physically and in every other way bankrupt.” He was resolved that “The Capital of this great nation deserves a good paper” (61, 60). In 2013 Amazonian Jeff Bezos bought the Post.

Canticle 28

- 202: *Tunnels*: Epi sent Ktimene a 9th Division newspaper on a major tunnel system discovered by B Co., 2/47th Mechanized (The Old Reliable, Oct. 25, 1967).
 203: Li Bing's water channel: See *Age of Ambition* by Evan Osnos, 15. The Chengdu system was built 2000 years earlier, <http://www.chinanetinfos.com/tag/irrigation>.
 203: “Guard Cleared, 25 Civilians Indicted by Kent State Jury,” by Richard T. Cooper, Oct 17, 1970, 1. See “Ones They Missed With Bullets” in *Kent State* (1982, 1988), anthology edited by Scott L. Bills, Bill Arthrell's essay of fire and rain.
 203: Gandhi toasts Empire: *Gandhi's Truth*, Erik H. Erikson [with wife Joan], 279.
 204: “Serenity in the Whirlwind,” Jack Smith, LAT, July 16, 1972.
 204: “out of the war so fragmented”: Katharine Graham's *Personal History*, 397.
 204: “Among those flinging down medals last week”: “Vivid Spectacle of Conscience,” by DJR Bruckner, LAT, Apr 28, 1971, B6.
 206: “Opting for the 20th Century,” Jack Smith, LAT, Nov 17, 1971, F1.
 208: “Oh shuddering!” An ever-present meditation on “They will be done,” hauntingly instilled by AP religion writer George W. Cornell: “What Will Happen Judgment Day? Theologians See Moment of Truth.” LAT, Mar 31, 1972. Belief in afterlife is irrelevant to the soul's truth; on our deathbed, all our wishes will be, or will have been, granted: “They will be done.” Even the negative, the disastrous, as in Dorothy Sayers' assessment of Dante's *Commedia*, “the drama of the soul's choice.” See too Cornell's “Divine Revelation Follows Many Paths, LAT, Dec 25, 1971, another heaven-hounding phrase, “God's search for man.”
 208: “Society's Ills,” William F. Buckley Jr., LAT, Jul 2, 1971, A9.
 208: “What's Eating Gilbert Highet?” See *The Art of Teaching*, 125.
 209: “A Model-Tee Ford Didn't Build,” Jack Smith, LAT, Jan 11, 1973, 24A.
 209: “Fonda Recalls Robert Frost--and a Path Well Chosen,” Mary Blume, LAT, Dec 25, 1972.

Canticle 29

- 210: "Jonkonnu: The holiday when Black revelers could mock their enslavers," Gillian Brockell, *WaPo*, Dec. 26, 2021.
- 212: Perry Smith's recurring dream, *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote, 109-110.
- 212: Kiva time: *Lightningbolt* by Hyemeyohsts Storm, p. 56, a vision quest by a half-breed. Perry's loss of his maternal Cherokee heritage may have been more fatal to his fragmented identity than rage at his father and ignorance of the epic tradition..
- 212-213: "Please, Bobo. Please listen." *ICB*, 211; "kind of holy," 146; "walk off," 271-2 (dissociative theories, complementary pages 335-337).
- 213: "And on the other hand," Joseph Campbell, *Hero*, 37.
- 214: "A Harvest of High Ideals," by Jack Smith, *LAT*, Dec 1, 1971, G1.
- 214: Not Spanish *Adios*, but Greek *Aidos*, shame of one's arrogance before the poor.
- 215: "Coed Disappears: Made Emergency Call From Freeway: Police Fear She's Victim of Foul Play," by Howard Hertel, Nov 17, 1970, 1. Robin Graham was never found.
- 216: Salazar headlines from 1995; "Journalist's Death Still Clouded by Questions. Ruben Salazar, whose stories often criticized police ... believed he was in danger. His 1970 slaying left a lasting wound," *LAT*, by Robert Lopez, 26 Aug 1995, 1. See too his 50th anniversary report, "Why did Ruben Salazar die? A reporter's years-long quest," Aug 23, 2020.

Canticle 30

- 218: Janet Lynn Triple-ska-whumps: John Dominis's photo of her fall in Winter Olympics, *Life* magazine, Feb 4 or 11, 1972—her smile more winning than the Gold Medal. Who remembers who won today? Who then alive can forget Janet Lynn's smile?
- 219: euphelia: "Byrningish the Bon Mot," Jack Smith, *LAT*, Jul 3, 1974; p. 69 in *Mrs. Byrne's Dictionary*.
- 220: Safe for Belly Dancers: See "America's Dr. Strangelove---by the Numbers," Mike McGrady, *LAT* from *Newsday*, Nov 26, 1972. Traits include "8—Love Life":
 Watching Kissing pose with the current starlet-of-the-month, one is inevitably reminded of gamblers who show up at the casino with well-endowed, vacant-eyed blondes on their arms. Window dressing.
 ... the starlets serve a purpose; they take people's minds off other things.
 ... They are what scriptwriters call "humanizing devices."
 Kissing is not unaware of the humor in the media emphasis on this.
 So it is he will seat Nadia Para, an Iranian belly dancer, on his lap, and tell newsmen, "I want to make the world safe for Nadias."
- 220: Jack Benny, e'er polishing: "Jack Benny: He Never Quit Polishing the Act," Dan Sullivan, *LAT*, Dec 30, 1974, B8. A favorite article, always fun to reread ...
- 222: "To rejoice in life ... not victims of depression": *The Greek Way*, Edith Hamilton, Ch. II, *Mind and Spirit*, 23, Norton 1964. Definition of happiness, 24.

Canticle 31

- 224: ghosted by committee: See Book 3, Canticle 1: In "Bugging the Question," Jack recalls Robert Kirsch testifying to reading "some 30 books a week"
- 224: "not having class as usual": "James Kirkwood, Student, Makes Good," Digby Diehl, *LAT*, Dec 31, 1972, J41.
- 226: "ecstasis": C.G. Jung's *Modern Man In Search of a Soul*, 15.

Canticle 32

- 229: truer history: See *60 Minutes*, "A real life *Lord of the Flies*," April 4, 2021, and Rutger Bregman's *Humankind: A Hopeful History*.
- 229: "Diana Oughton's Story: Making of a Terrorist," Lucinda Franks and Thomas Powers, *UPI Writers*, Nov 26, 1970, *LAT*, Q1.
- 231: "monstrous indignity": *Yes I Can*, Sammy Davis, 463.

Canticle 33

- 241-2: "You don't have to do this": "Why Mass Shooters Do the Evil They Do," David Brooks,



- NYT July 7, 2022. See too “How to Stop Mass Shooting,” by Tom Junod, *Esquire*, Oct 2014.
 242: Ken Ling’s teacher, *The Revenge of Heaven*, pp. 16-18, 276.
 244: “thithering nobodies”: See *Middlemarch* by George Eliot, not yet read in 1971 by Epi.
 Her Dorothea had epic hopes but lived a nobody life that was “incalculably diffusive.”
 244: “The Cedarn Beauty: In Memory of Roy Teddy,” by Christian D. Stevens:

Not all trees grow in groves,
 And the dark pine of Lebanon,
 Shedding its bark before the final fall
 Amid the cypress and the rising dust,
 Comes crashing down alone.
 But if a tree falls in the forest
 There is sound,
 Even though the audience is a heaven away.
 Majesty lives with dignity—simple, sure—
 For that is how it is among the hills
 Where wise men still carry scribbled parables
 In leathern parcels ’round their necks,
 And the forest dust still settles
 Over the footsteps of the Master.

Other things
 Writhe with shrivelling plaint against the sun.
 Flowers flash and droop,
 Shepherds curse the barren slope,
 And glaciers trickle to a dying sea from unscaled heights.
 But the Cedar of Lebanon,
 Friendly symbol of the cross—
 Burdened by time and ephemeral Nature’s touch—
 Awaits the noble hour,
 Like the reign of God,
 And sinks into the gentle earth at last,
 A giant in our midst
 Now down.

So are our spirits, yet they will revive;
 For all things natural die—
 Even that touch of violet from a place
 Where the rainbow ends—
 While spirit lives on.
 And Nobility’s cedarn beauty
 Flows through the branches of memory
 Like an Aramaic argument
 And calls up from the roots of the soul
 The meaning of life well lived.
 And if the forest is stricken with its loss,
 Then all the more the value of that tree
 That stood within the woody scheme of things,
 That cast its shadow over ridge and shore,
 That bowed in dignity to God’s great will—
 And then came home.

- 245: “San Gabriel Mountains Move Four Feet”: Faulty memory; headline reads: “Areas in San Fernando, Sylmar Raised 5 Feet,” Ken Lubas, Feb 20, 1971, SF10. Opening sentence:
The San Gabriel Mountains aren’t the only land masses higher now than before the Feb. 9 earthquake.

Until confirming this shift, I always thought the mountains’ movement was horizontal.

- 245: “thy loss”: The phrase from *Lycidas* recalls “A Plaque Is Not Important When a Person Remembers,” TRB, LAT, Jun 30, 1971, B7. TRB is Richard Strout, who remembers his parents, “George” and “Susie.” TRB also drove a Falcon, as I recall.

Here and there were plaques to the society but no special reference to an inconspicuous high school teacher ...

I continued my pilgrimage ...

As I turned back south, I wondered what it all meant: George with his forgotten deeds at school, Susie with her aid to a closed church. They hadn’t accomplished much, had they? Nothing, I guess, save that all the way back to Boston I kept wondering what I had written lately that might please them.

Book 2, Canticle 1

- 248: Sanford Clark: *The Road Out of Hell* by Anthony Flacco with Jerry Clark, 190.
249: “Sands Dies in 66th Day of Fast;,” William Tuohy, LAT, May 5, 1981.
250: Bismarck, who lay awake nights hating: “The Bedroom Is the Living Room, the Supine Man Is Prone to Living,” D J R Bruckner, LAT, Mar 1, 1971, B6.
250: invocation: “Willy Brandt Plays Quixote in World Where Russia Is the Windmill Maker,” Robert S. Elegant, LAT, Jan 7, 1971, B6; and “Perhaps the Solution to Turmoil in Northern Ireland Is ‘Begin Life Anew;,” LAT, Dec 9, 1971, C6.
250: “HANOI TROOPS HIT GI BASE, KILL 33,” AP, Mar 29, 1971, 1.
250: Vu Bao: See “The Man Who Stained His Soul,” LAT, April 23, 2000, printed with this note: “Vu Bao is a highly decorated North Vietnamese veteran of the American-Vietnam War and the French War. He is the author of six novels and is editor in chief of the Vietnam Cinema Committee. ‘The Man Who Stained His Soul’ first appeared in ‘Van Nghe,’ a journal of literature and art, in 1992. It has been translated by Ho Anh Thai and Wayne Karlin for the anthology *The Other Side of Heaven*” and was reprinted in the LAT with permission of the translator.
251: “‘Fragging’ Case Brings Out Underlying Factors: Racial Tension, Nature of Vietnam War Itself Cited,” by Philip Hager, LAT, Nov 21, 1971, I4
251: “Calley Will Testify He Killed, His Lawyers Say: Defense Cites Orders to Destroy, Claims Calley Did Not Feel He Was Slaying ‘Humans;,” by Warren Rogers, LAT, Feb 18, 1971, A14.
251: “For a Marine, There’s Also a Duty to Disobey;,” by William J. Coughlin, LAT, Jul 5, 1970, F1.
251: “A Different Kind of Hell,” Bill Libby, LAT, Jul 18, 1971, LAT.
251: Wink Martindale: Thursday, Oct. 2, 1993, radio, as scribbled on generic post-it note.
252: error-free: One example: “He Shot an Error Into the Air,” Jan 6, 1988. From Epi’s earliest ’70s awareness, Jax reviewed his mistakes annually. Now a rising tradition? See “What I Was Wrong About This Year” by David Leonhardt, NYT Dec 24, 2017, and “My Worst Columns” by Nicholas Kristof, NYT Dec 21, 2017.
252: thrice-insulted: See *The Life and Times of Los Angeles: A Newspaper, a Family and a City* by Marshall Berges, 259-261.
252: never to feel a death-wish: Can’t find where Jack expressly voiced this freedom; here settle for a frequent equivalency: Jax always wanted to see what happens next.

Canticle 2

- 254: “who can fathom”: “Two Stories of Human Shame,” Max Lerner, Jun 6, 1971.
254: nature’s voiceless: Can’t recall the first source who used the phrase in the early ’70s, echoing endlessly for years. “Disinherited” phrase is from Thomas Wolfe.
255: “Quest for Meaning Leads to Yuba City Grave: Wayward Path of Victim’s Life Foretold Death,” Jerry Cohen, LAT, Jul 6, 1971, A1.

**Canticle 3**

257: "An Actor's Art: Rage Beneath The Surface," George C. Scott cover, *Time*, Mar 22, '71.

Canticle 4

264: "A little later, Falcon will give birth to the Rover.": "They'll Go A-Roving on Moon," Nicholas C. Chriss, *LAT*, Jul 30, 1971, 1.

265: Kevin: "Boy Hiding in Wilds Ignores Mother's Pleas," *LAT*, Jul 23, 1971, 1.

Canticle 5

268: 'It's Later Than You Think' Finds Sympathetic Response," Walter Alvarez, *LAT*, Oct 31, 1971, D1. A woman writing from China: "she had seen a statement advising the reader that it is best not to put off doing what he really wants to do because, 'It may be later than you think.'"

268: "Armstrong Eulogized as a 'Musical Giant': Notables Join Simple Rites for Armstrong," by Richard Dougherty, *LAT* Jul 10, 1971, 1 and 3.

268: "No human contact": As Epi recalls a line from a Robert Kirsch novel.

269: Turn an artist loose: "Should State Support Arts?" Mary Murphy, *LAT*, Jul 18, 1974. Gordon Apollo is Gordon Davidson, who died on Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016, two days before revisiting this passage.

270: in love there is no wrong: See "Manson 'Family'--It's Scattered and in Prison," John Kendall and Bill Farr, *LAT*, Sep 6, 1975, 1.

"Most of the people at the ranch that you call the family were just people that were alongside the road, that their parents had kicked them out or they did not want to go to Juvenile Hall," Manson [said].

"So I did the best I could and I took them up on my garbage dump and I told them this, that in love there is no wrong."

In *Helter Skelter* by Vince Bugliosi with Curt Gentry, Susan Atkins says of the stabbings: "You have to have a real love in your heart to do this for people" (99, 115). Contrarily, the exasperated narrator in "Bartleby the Scrivener" wrestles down homicidal feelings by meditating the new commandment to love one another: "Aside from higher considerations, charity often operates as a vastly wise and prudent principle—a great safeguard to its possessor. Men have committed murder for jealousy's sake, and anger's sake, and hatred's sake, and selfishness' sake, and spiritual pride's sake; but no man that ever I heard of ever committed a diabolical murder for sweet charity's sake" [Melville writing in 1853; from *Tales, Poems, and Other Writings: Herman Melville*, edited by John Bryant, 89].

Canticle 6

272: "Still Living in the Stone Age": "'Stone Age' Tasadays Meet 20th Century" by Jack Foisie, *LAT*, Jul 19, 1971, 14. A year later Foisie followed with "Steel Swords Replace Rocks: Tasadays No Longer Stone-Agers," *LAT*, Sep 17, 1972, A1. The claim that the Tasaday were ever "Stone Agers" was disputed by some observers — no matter to Epi, who seized the notion as reflecting true human evolution.

274: "Sparrow's Fall Essential to Survival of Species": Chance discovery of Jack Smith report; printed a year before Epi's arrival, discovery impossible to resist; *LAT*, Aug 14, 1968, B6.

275: No power anywhere: "Dark Side of Power Failure" Jack Smith, *LAT*, Jan 5, 1971. When his wife arrived from Baja, Jack planned to tell her about his adventure in the darkness, "but she got started first. The road had been muddy and treacherous. The wind had come down the chimney and filled the house with smoke. The sea was stormy and she saw some whales. ¶ I felt like Ulysses' wife." Here noting the date: tenth anniversary of Dad's suicide. Jax Myth essay: The light side of power failure.

275: dead in this thought: "I Accept---Judgment,' Manson Tells Court," John Kendall, *LAT*, Apr 20, 1971, 3.

275: "negative dynamism": "Saddled With Dead Horsepower," Jack Smith, *LAT*, Aug 30, 1971.

275: a chance at Boys Town: *Helter Skelter*, 186.

- 275: “depressed attitude meant to intimidate”: “Some Frightening Thoughts About the Fascinations of the Young,” by DJR Bruckner, LAT, Jul 18, 1972, C7.
- 276: “Gun Hidden in Jackson’s Hair,” Philip Hager, LAT; Aug 24, 1971. The killing of George Jackson in an alleged escaped attempt from San Quentin raises doubts. These concerns are not answered by Howard Zinn in *A People’s History of the United States*. It may be a government conspiracy, as Zinn and others allege (and a palpable spark to the Attica uprising), but by failing to mention the three guards and two inmates killed before Jackson was shot, and by referring the reader to a book available only at exorbitant cost—*Comrade George* by Eric Mann, \$100 used—Zinn leaves too many questions unanswered.
- 277: “Insights From Outside City” and “Life in the City Is Looking Up,” Jack Smith, LAT Aug 12 and Aug 5, 1971: The opening sentences had great impact on Epi.
- 277: “37 Die, 125 Hurt as [State] Riot Ends in N.Y.”: The Attica massacre occurred a month after Jack’s columns on escaping the blasting heat, on Sept. 13, 1971. See too “Real Tragedy of the Attica Incident,” a book review by John Weisman, LAT Oct 15, 1972. Weisman cites Herman Badillo and Milton Haynes, who conclude in *A Bill of No Rights*: “The facts of Attica are extreme enough on their own: law enforcement officials deliberately chose to shoot to kill. Attica brought the tradition of Kent State and My Lai [and Detroit 1967] one step further.” See too Heather Ann Thompson’s account published 45 years after the massacre: *Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy*.
- 277: “We have to assume they were men of conscience”: See “No One Else Was Convicted ---or Exonerated” by Ernest B. Furgurson, LAT, Apr 4, 1971, K7.
- 278: Attica Reckoning: “A Prison, Infamous for Bloodshed, Faces a Reckoning as Guards Go on Trial,” by Tom Robbins, Feb. 28, 2015, NYT.
- 278: Oswald’s assassins. Teach Melville to illuminate the glooms: For Epi, an irony of names: Russell G. Oswald was the Correctional Services Commissioner, and one leader of the Attica uprising was Sam Melville.

Canticle 7

- 279: “An Opus to L.A. With Pen in Hand” by Jack Smith, Jul 16, 1974 (fifth anniversary of the launch of Apollo 11), LAT, p.E1. Kenneth W. Barry, “a resident of Kansas now,” sent some writing to The Times, whose editors passed them on to Jack. “I have the space here only for a few excerpts from Barry’s ode. No writer likes to see his work fragmented; but I share his feelings for our much maligned downtown, and hope he will forgive me for offering only these few quotations.” Epi soon forgot the context, but can imagine Barry’s joy on seeing his words in print.
- 280: *Eumenides*: Rollo May, *Love and Will*, 176 hardbound, 175 softbound.
- 280: *Prince Bobo’s education: “When Lee Harvey Oswald Shot the President, His Mother Tried to Take Center Stage,” by Steven Beschloss, *Smithsonian Magazine*, Nov. 20, 2014.
- 282: *Báza!* The Congolese word for twins in *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver. Natives are alarmed by *báza* birth, and rush them to the forest and leave them there. “Wanderer in the wood” comes from a forgotten etymology source.

Canticle 8

- 288: “descending step by step ... into the reign of the kingdom of death itself”: *Of a Fire On the Moon* by Norman Mailer, 114. “Festive Change” invites reader search and discovery.
- 288: “choice of nightmares”: *Heart of Darkness*, Joseph Conrad, from *The Art of Fiction*, R.F. Dietrich and Roger H. Sundell, editors, 267.

Canticle 9

- 293: “not necessarily a rational act”: *The Best and the Brightest* by David Halberstam, 233 and 236; “his beloved Falcon ... psychological feelings,” 233-34.
- 294: Maggie Savoy: “Turtles,” op. cit., Book 1, Canticle 23.
- 294: bee visitation: See *Traveling With Pomegranates* by Sue Monk Kidd and Ann Kidd Taylor, pp. 100-102. The Demeter-Persephone myth takes a surprising turn.
- 294: “our essential loneliness”: Widely quoted remarks to the Washington Press Club’s annual dinner; in *Time*, February 7, 1972, Kissinger cover, 19.



- 294-5: so lonely I could die. Or kill: Loneliness pathological, as distinct from normal loneliness, and more distinct from lonesomeness for a particular person, as in "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," lyrics by Hank Williams, so memorably sung by an uncredited background female singer on *Columbo*, S9 E4, "Rest in Peace, Mrs. Columbo" (1990).
- 295: "Odyssey Motif in 'Akran'" by Kevin Thomas, LAT, May 31, 1972, H10.
- 296: "The Psychology of Men ...," by Georgie Anne Geyer, LAT, Nov 12, 1975.
- 297: "Nude Dancing Pays Law School Costs," Pat Bryant, LAT, May 4, 1972.
- 297: Sex-starved born loser who doesn't know it: Reversal from a Charles Champlin review, "Play It Again, Sam' a Comedy of Character," LAT, May 21, 1972: "The character of course, is Woody Allen, the born loser too bright to pretend he is anything else, a failure ... to win the heart ... of a beautiful woman." Champlin estimates *Play It Again* raises 235 laughs. O Croesus! How many hashmark survive later headlines?
- 297: *Pilgrim Hawk* by Glenway Wescott, © 1940 Harper & Brothers, from *Six Great Modern Short Novels*, © 1954 Dell Publishing, 264 (preferred edition).
- 297: Snakes: "2 Victims Climbed Into Rattlesnake Nest, Coroner Says," LAT, May 5, 1972.
- 298: "Street Poetry a Good Sign," by Jack Smith, LAT, Apr 28, 1971, F1.
- 298: Royal Stigile, "Bird Story" letter to editor, LAT, Oct 6, 1975, B6.
- 299: "Suddenly Bright Lights": Lest some subtleties be woefully missed, see "Support Your Local Principal" by Jack Smith, LAT, Feb 22, 1973, G1.
- 299: "Mystery Voice": See "'ALLO, ALLO, ALLO, ALLO': Mystery Voice in Spanish Jolts Apollo Control Team," by Nicholas C. Chriss, LAT, Apr 19, 1972, A1. Epi found in Chriss's work details and humor missing from other Apollo reports. John Noble's excellent reports on Apollo, reprinted from the New York Times in the Great Falls Tribune (probably abridged), were lost to Epi after he moved to the Land of the 'Gones.

Canticle 10

- 300: fragment way, "Winter-Worship," Charles Wright, *The Writer's Almanac*, Dec. 20, 2010,.
- 300: *Luctor et emergo*: "Padre of the Prairies'---He's Canadian Legend: 81-Year-Old Priest Runs a 'Different' Kind of College," Charles Hillinger, LAT, Apr 29, 1972.
- 303: *Toe Story*: "Fourth Annual Scariest Story Ever Told Contest; Be Very Afraid; 'Toe Story'" by Erin Briana O'Brien (then age 11), LAT, 31 Oct 1996, E1.
- 305: "his countenance transformed": See Flannery O'Connor, "Enoch and the Gorilla," *The Complete Stories*, p. 113 (first published in 1952). Enoch was reading the comics at a lunch counter: "he read and felt himself surge with kindness and courage and strength. ... If anyone watched Enoch read this, he would have seen a certain transformation in his countenance. It still shone with the inspiration he had absorbed from the comic strips, but something else had come over it: a look of awakening." This passage, not noted until late 2013, accurately describes Epi's experience on following Snoopy's adventures.
- 305: artist's role: See TED talk by Stephen Cave, "The 4 stories we tell ourselves about death." Cave closes with: "And you needn't worry how long the book is, or whether it's a comic strip or an epic. The only thing that matters is that you make it a good story."
- 308: *gift of desire*: See *Crossing the Unknown Sea* by David Whyte, p. 78: desire, from the Latin *de sider*, of the stars. (Epi not discovering *Crossing* until April 2019.)
- 308: KGIL's Sweet Dick: See too *U.S.A.: The 42nd Parallel*, John Dos Passos, p. 240.
- 309: "A Cat Rescue: Hoists, Copter, Ambulance, 200 Volunteers," Martha Willman, Jun 29, 1972, LAT, SF1. This happy rescue ignores the question, "Ever find cat bones in a tree?" Two months later came David Shaw's Column One report, "'DRIVE-TIME': Morning Radio: Fierce Battle Among Jockeys," LAT, Sep 4, 1972, A1. Epi turned to KGIL to hear Paul Compton's "Primarily in the PM" show, and so woke up to Sweet Dick, who soon helped laugh-start his Falcon day. Shaw's report implicitly crowned Sweet Dick as the funniest of the funny. Shaw noted that after Nixon announced the mining of North Vietnamese ports, Sweet Dick invaded the Republic of Catalina to give America a winnable war; second, after the U.S. government dumped nerve gas into the ocean, Sweet Dick flew a "mercy mission to Miami" to give the Atlantic "relief from the discomforts of nervous gas." All done in high-flying style, raising great joy: the laughs were vital, yet borne on

air, unlike the vanishing newsprint that has a longer afterlife. Yet Epi oft recalls Sweet Dick interrupting his monologue to put on Neil Diamond's "Morningside," e'er hoping what was light might become him ...

309: Camera Eye (18), *U.S.A., op. cit.*, 240. (And a gift from the past: a crisp one dollar bill—Series 1969 D—on p. 58. From one Epi to another: Thank you!)

Canticle 11

315: *light flashes*: "ALLO, ALLO, ALLO, ALLO," Chriss, *op cit*, 281 Notes.

315: "The Marfa Lights," W.S. Merwin: Poetry Month, Webmaster Random House, April 30, 2002; from *The Pupil*, Copyright © 2001 by W. S. Merwin.

315: "amiable compromise": As Epi recalls the phrase from before 1980; yet the closest phrasing is in "Faithful to a Higher Truth," LAT, Aug 27, 1987. Jack was taken gently to task for calling a hotel by its former name, not its changed name, after which exchange, in the spirit of fair-use discussion, his conclusion merits note:

Come to think of it—why MacArthur Park? What good did that change do the park or the general? It was a mistake, made in a fit of chauvinism. I always admired my late colleague, Matt Weinstock, who never surrendered to MacArthur. Matt was stubborn, but given to amiable compromise, and to the end he called it MacWestlake Park. That's good enough for me. So be it.

As Shakespeare said:

*"He that filches from me my good name
"Robs me of that which not enriches him,
"And makes me poor indeed."*

"As Shakespeare said": Possibly Jack was pressed by need for succinct close, unable to give the true speaker, as he did when citing the rebel in Henry VI, 2: "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers." (See "Lawyers, judges and clients—they all have reputations as court jesters," LAT, Dec 10, 1985, followed by "In the matter of Smith vs. lawyers ...," Jan 14, 1986.) Considering Jack's delight in civil discussion, I need to distinguish between Shakespeare and his characters—especially since I tend to forget Iago is the dissembler in the "good name" passage:

Good name in man and woman, dear my lord,
Is the immediate jewel of their souls:
Who steals my purse steals trash; 'tis something, nothing;
'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands:
But he that filches from me my good name ... (III.iii.155-161)

317: "The Girl in the Photograph," by Judith Coburn, LAT, 20 Aug 1989.

317: "It is, after all ...": "All Those Excuses for Vietnam Have Long Since Grown Old," by DJR Bruckner, LAT, Apr 21, 1972, C7.

317: "Corona's Family Prays as Case Goes to Jury: Deliberations Begin in Slaying of 25; Panel Sequestered," by Jerry Cohen, LAT, Jan 12, 1973, A3.

318: "Wait a Second--Time Will Stand Still Today," by David Larsen, LAT, Jun 30, 1972, C1.

318: "Suspect in Bugging of Democrat Office Found to Be GOP Worker," LAT, Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, Exclusive from WPost, Jun 19, 1972, A1.

319: two-bit fee per m.o.: On September 12, 2020 Epi went to a Chase bank to inquire about fees: \$5 for a money order, \$8 for a bank check. "Geez, forget it."

320: "Lee Iacocca Has Lots of Better Ideas," Robert J Donovan, LAT, Dec 19, 1971.

320: Rex Reed rain: Renewing rain, as in "Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall--Even Maggie's," Rex Reed, LAT, Nov 28, 1971. Reed places the bank-clerk question apart, as superb punchline.

321: Carol Feraci: "Peace Plea Disrupts White House Dinner," UPI, LAT, Jan 29, 1972, A1

321: "The Watergate Capers," TRB, LAT, Aug 24, 1972, p. E7.

321: TRB's greatest teachers: See Book 1, C33 note. By coincidence, on the day of confirming notes, an op-ed in the NYT called for greater emphasis on hiring the right principal for high school. See "Want Reform? Principals Matter, Too" by Will Miller, April 17, 2015.

**Canticle 12**

- 323: silent sundering: The Lord opened an envelope addressed to Epi; left no note to explain. Epi left without a note. They later talked it out. He was used to all mail being his.
- 325: "Publish or Perish" Policy of UC Rapped," William Trombley, 'Gone Education Writer, LAT, Sep 7, 1972, A28. Epi latched on to the writer's "obscure hunger" as seed to cultivate.
- 325: decrees of peyne: *Troilus and Criseyde*, Book 4, vv. 1255-57: Cited because classic passages always strike an inner chord.
- 326: futureless Gabriel: Series of articles in the LA Times by Garrett Therolf in May and June 2013. And "Why Did No One Save Gabriel?" by Garrett Therolf," the *Atlantic*, Oct. 2, 2018.

Canticle 13

- 328: "boyish rhapsode": "Boy Takes a Look at the World," Gregg Rickman (age 14), LAT, May 6, 1970, A7.
- 330: "Exuberant Crowd Welcomes Nixon at Miami Airport," by Robert C. Toth, LAT, Aug 23, 1972, p. A1.
- 330-331: "plumbing fixture": "Nixon May Not Be Loved," by Joseph Alsop, LAT, Aug 24, 1972, E7. Harry Cimring's letter salutes "Alsop's Perception" on Aug 31, 1972: "There you have it. On election day, John Q. Public enters the polling booth, draws the curtain shut, pulls the lever, and the nation goes down the drain." Art Buchwald, a jovial satirist whose propunditries parody the pronouncements of Mr. Alsop, invented Wallstop.
- 331: "Mysterious Tale of a Lost Dog by Jack Smith," LAT, Aug 10, 1972, I1.
- 334: Endorsement, LAT, Nov 1, 1972
- 335: "George Aiken Dies at 92; Was Dean of Senate," by a Staff Writer, LAT, Nov 20, 1984 (fragment clip available at LAT ProQuest website; my original clipping misplaced).
- 336: "Besides his world": *Memories, Dreams, Reflections* by C.G. Jung, 45; free-fall upward delirium in 1944, "Visions" chapter, 289-90.

Canticle 14

- 339: "Flip Side," LAT, Nov 29, 1972. Hal's chance success no longer possible in digital age.
- 339: "Fly Me...I'm Sue'---Click, Click, Click," Jean Sharley Taylor, LAT, Jan 5, 1972.
- 339: "Turbulent Air Jolts 141 Jet; 25 of 331 on Board Injured," by Al Martinez, LAT, Jan 5, 1972.
- 340: The Immense Journey: "The Judgment of the Birds" by Loren Eiseley, in *The Baker's Dozen: 13 Modern Essays of Excellence*, Second Edition, edited by Richard H. Haswell and John W. Ehrstine, Washington State University, 49-55.
- 341: "lost in stature": *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, R.L. Stevenson, Norton 2003, 50.
- 341: Cahill Sr.: "Maryland Judge Declares Open-Season on Women" by Beth Corbin, <http://www.now.org/nnt/01-95/cahill.html>. Nineteen months later, a "Judicial panel finds that Robert Cahill had acted properly," reports Elaine Tassy in the Baltimore Sun. "Two female members of the seven-member judicial commission dissented." After a three-year struggle, lawmakers erased the Colonial era loophole that allowed Marylanders to execute spouses on "the mere suspicion of infidelity." See too "After A 3-year Fight, Murder Is Finally Murder In Maryland" by Kimberly Wilmot-Weidman, Chicago Tribune. When Cahill Sr. died in 2009, the Baltimore Sun ran a glowing obit under the headline, "Baltimore County Circuit Court judge ran a no-nonsense courtroom ..." Somehow the Peacock case was overlooked, and the editor didn't notice. See too "Heat of Passion," Bill Hewitt, People Magazine, where one lawyer suggests, "The real villain here is alcohol." If true, is Kenneth Peacock still out seething with the Roaring God, or has he found remorse and renewal through the God of Serenity and Joy?
- 343: Tock... tock... tock: "One Man's Walk in a Museum" by Jack Smith, LAT, Apr 6, 1971. Epi overlooked a subtlety that recalls Jack Smith's last column, Dec. 25, 1995, two weeks before his death on Jan. 9. Jack expressed chagrin that someone changed "a young couple have been working" to "a young couple has been working." His 1971 museum walk confirms his long-held conviction that "couple," by referring to two people, merits a plural verb:
A young couple were looking at the clock, the boy with his arm around
the girl.

“That’s a nice sound,” the boy said to me, as if he had never heard a sound so quiet.

“Yes,” I said. “If time made a sound, that’s what time would sound like.”

They looked at me; a bit surprised. They smiled. I moved on. Now and then I like to let the young know there’s still a line or two of poetry left in a man when he’s over 30.

See too “Mr. Williams, You Done Superb,” published Aug. 22, 1971, just four-and-a-half months after the museum walk. When Editor Nick B. Williams retired, Jack detailed highlights of their entwined careers, made more fun under Mr. Williams’ leadership. To reduce the perils of flattery, Jack concluded:

I don’t think Mr. Williams will like me saying all this. But I am absolutely confident he will not change a word. He never has.

I’m guessing Jack avoided writing “my saying all this” just to see who was paying attention. The closing is also a great way to tell the copy editor: “Bug off!”

343: *O Chi!* See *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe: “A man could not rise above the destiny of his *chi*,” or personal god (p. 131, Anchor Books 1994 Edition). Or could he? “The saying of the elders was not true—that if a man said yea his *chi* also affirmed. Here was a man whose *chi* said nay despite his own affirmation.” Recall the resistant Golden Bough: If the Seeker has no call from fate, it will not come freely. Epi discovered Achebe’s 1959 novel via a chance meeting in 2004 with a student named Justin, who read it (and Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* and Studs Terkel’s *Working*) for his high school class. Epi was again bogged in the malaise of rejection, now reaffirming: If not made for great things, I can still rejoice in serendipity, the synchronicity of this great moment with Justin, who helped me, in that particular year, rise above the legacy of my family’s self-destructive *chi*.

343: stupid faith: “Dick Benjamin Started as Scrooge,” Mary Blume, LAT, Dec 22, 1972, D1.

345: penis brain: *Rocket Boys*, 141.

Canticle 15

346: Cry of the Vine, by Charles Hillinger, LAT, Jul 11, 1988. Among Epi’s favorite headlines, especially for a resistant Dionysiac. It was a surprise to rediscover the writer as Hillinger, a much-admired and overlooked writer in *Epi Bound*. Hillinger’s name always recalls *Luctor et emergo*. See Note on Book 2, Canticle 10.

349: “Beyond All Reason,” LAT, Dec 28, 1972, B6. See too Letters, “The Massive Bombing in North Vietnam,” Firman, Gregory J, et al, LAT, Jan 5, 1973, C6.

349: Kissinger struggled: See *The Revenge of Heaven*, 12. See too “The Case Against Henry Kissinger,” by Christopher Hitchens, first in Harper’s Magazine, February 2001.

349: Max Lerner on isolate souls: “Shock, Sadness and the Sense of Betrayal Over the Bombing,” LAT, Dec 25, 1972, A7. “We all get angry at times. But there is a difference between the rest of us and President Nixon. When I get really angry I carry my anger around with me, like a burning city in the heart. When Mr. Nixon gets angry he can give the order to bomb.”

349: another essay: Can’t find; theme also inferred from “Apathy to U.S. Space Effort May Turn to a New Sense of National Purpose” by Max Lerner, LAT, Aug 4, 1971, re Apollo 15.

350: “On the God Within Us ...” by Jeffrey St. John, LAT, Dec 10, 1972; E1.

351: Captain Starbuck: Company brochure in the ’90s says: “‘Starbuck’ was the coffee-loving first mate in Herman Melville’s classic adventure tale, *Moby Dick*.” Stubb ever had one of his circle of pipes, but Starbuck is never seen with coffee. Somewhere in a coffee brochure I’m sure I also saw him called Captain.

352: Patrick Melrose Novels, Bad News, 183.

353: “An Actcent on Life,” Jack Smith, LAT, Aug 19, 1979.

354: *Sunday Morning*, July 24, 2022: “‘Peter Pan’ star Sandy Duncan still has a lot to ‘crow’ about.” I thought Mo Rocca would overlook the commercials but the kid did his homework.

Canticle 16

356: Epi wondered about Lem’s name (phonetic spelling), but never asked. It was later—much later—striking to recall LEM, the early acronym for the lunar excursion module.



- 357: Ray Thompson: “Unhappy Face His Fortune,” LAT Aug 15, 1972, F3.
 358: Marien Keyes: “Turned In on a Legend of a Song” by Jack Smith, LAT, Dec 28, 1981. See too “Remembering Maid Marien,” Jun 7, 1976. (Note Marien with an *e*.)
 360: Scowl Button © Ray Thompson: Thank you, Sir! Naught could have hap’d without you! And I sure wish I hadn’t turned my button in: I miss it as a life itself.

Canticle 17

- 364: “If you live in isolation”: “The Subject Was Gilroy,” Charles Champlin, LAT, Jul 19, 1973. Interview with Frank D. Gilroy, who wrote *The Subject Was Roses*, among others. (Jax Myth was on vacation.)
 366: “Looking back on my life”: Slight variations are reported. An AP staffer wrote that Bremer was responding to the prosecutor, who said the world must be protected from the likes of Bremer (LAT, Aug 5, 1972, “Bremer Held Guilty of Wallace Attack, Gets 63-Year Term”). “But in my defense,” Bremer responded, “I surely would have liked it if society had protected me from myself.” Time records: “I would sure like it if society had protected me from myself” (August 14, 1972). See too “Bremer: Assassin as Society’s Child,” The Book Report by Robert Kirsch, LAT May 4, 1973.
 366: Fish Under the Psyche: See “Assassins: Brothers Under the Psyche,” Robert J Donovan, LAT, Sep 1, 1972, LAT. Epi’s sulky response to a well-researched op-ed.
 367: lots of fright cars: Bremer’s *Diary*, 51.
 368: *War & Peace*, 102.
 369: “It is not society ...”: Campbell’s *Hero With a Thousand Faces*, 391.
 369: REBELLION: Bremer’s *Diary*, 75; I remmember I said, 63.
 369: OG cartoon: Steve Casaus, for a student newspaper that Epi [otherwise badly] edited ...

Canticle 18

- 370: ninth wave: “Kennedy Spent Quiet Evening Chatting in His Hotel Room,” Jack Smith, LAT, Jun 6, 1968. See Shackleton, *South*, “Byron’s ninth wave,” 182, probably a mistaken memory of Longfellow’s “Milton” (HTH, “I think Byron is a mistake”); see too Wiki, “Ninth Wave.”
 371: splashed with greens: “Making the Scene” editorial, LAT, Feb 8, 1973.
 371: “Give me enough and”: Isak Dinesen, *Out of Africa*, 275.
 373: Mannerful Judith: Judith Martin (later Miss Manners), “Tricia Takes Viewers on White House Tour,” exclusive to LAT from WaPost, May 28, 1970. “She might have seemed rather refreshing if she hadn’t overplayed it by looking a bit like a waxen Debbie Reynolds doll, all wrapped up for Mother’s Day in a white lace dress with pastel ribbon sashes. A 24-year-old woman dressed like an ice cream cone can given even neatness and cleanliness a bad name.”
 374: “showing off ... consequence”: *How to Live—Or—A Life of Montaigne*, Sarah Bakewell, 250.
 374: “My name is Betty Ong,” she said. “A Calm Voice as Disaster Unfolded in the Sky,” by Philip Shenon, NYT, January 28, 2004:
 “My name is Betty Ong,” she said ..., speaking quickly but in a tone that was remarkably calm and lucid. “I’m on Flight 11.” ... hijacked ... The plane later crashed into the World Trade Center.

She described the stabbing of her co-workers and ...

Canticle 19

- 376: “Defictionizing Virginia Woolf,” Robert Kirsch, May 8, 1974, LAT. May 8 is the birthday of Epi’s dad, Julian. Epi always thinks of him on May 8 (especially with the reminder of Woolf’s suicide), but here he most remembers “I could not write, & all the devils came out ...”
 376: just intonation: “How a Pro Skateboarder Became an Apostle of Ancient Tuning,” Grayson Haver Currin, NYT, Dec. 28, 2021.
 376: “I knew in my gut”: William Peter Blatty quote in “Rendering Unto the Author What Is His,” Dan Knapp, LAT, Jan 15, 1972, K12.
 377: “Pearl clouds floated”: See “Wine Country Communion,” Jack Smith, LAT, Aug 27, 1972, D1; “A Wine Time in the Napa Valley,” Aug 28, 1972, F1.
 378: Mark Spitz: Not forgotten mentally, but for this book, reminded of his epic feats by Jeré Longman, NYT, Sep. 4, 2022, “For Mark Spitz, Olympic Greatness Came Amid Tragedy.”

**Canticle 20**

- 380: police escort: See Jelani Cobb, Frontline, “Race, Police & the Pandemic.” In some cities Epi might have been hauled away. LAPD now works with social workers when “troubled” cases arise. The cops in this case knocked politely, and one told Epi with friendly, even amused eyes that he and his partner were going to step aside so these people could talk to him.
- 381: quicksand glooms now lie buried: Epi followed the story in the LAT, but can’t find articles via LAPL ProQuest, even when he types names found on <http://www.topix.com/forum/san-diego/T7N83D5N9R8RSEMO1/> and <http://www.topix.com/forum/san-diego/T7N83D5N9R8RSEMO1/p2>. “Sandy” notes no suicide.
- 382: “I wanted to ACT”: Bremer’s Diary, p. 29.
- 383: steals Lincoln’s: See Ralph Keyes: <http://quoteinvestigator.com/2012/10/20/happy-minds/>

Canticle 21

- 385: In a letter to Ktimene dated September 15, 1973, Epi writes that he passed the 44,000-mile mark outside Vegas, and the 44,444 mark not long after return to Burbank.

Canticle 22

- 390-391: Auggghury swoon, stitching in lines from multitudinous sources. After learning details of the unspeakable rape of Jyoti Singh, I considered deleting this phantasy but kept it as a hint of the primal madness in the male psyche. See *Delhi Crime* for a seven-part series based on the investigation and quest for justice in Jyoti’s murder.
- 391: *Ashrab min Damhun*, I will drink their blood; *Alhamndu lillah*, Praise be to God; *Shakti*, power, “primordial cosmic energy.”
- 391: “Don’t hate me because I’m beautiful”: Headlines in 2012 obscure this playful shampoo commercial from the ’80s. When Samantha Brick published an essay on the travails of being beautiful, Hadley Freeman responded in The Guardian, U.K.: “The Mail simply threw Samantha Brick to the wolves” (4 April 2012). Freeman’s view is that Britain’s Daily Mail treats all female writers like dirt, often by changing or adding words to distort intentions and meaning. Many male writers can surely voice their own pains of betrayal.

Canticle 23

- 392: lukewarm welcome: See “Dear POW: The Warm Welcome Shouldn’t Surprise You,” Max Lerner, LAT, Mar 1, 1973, D7. For a prisoner who came to terms with his more than seven years at the Hanoi Hilton, see Rod Knutson’s vivid recall at http://billingsgazette.com/special-section/news/vets/vietnam-voices-rod-knutson-i-got-to-figure-out-a/article_7e025b53-7102-52ae-a3e7-e3103aaee2ab.html (\$1 paywall).
- 393: “Health ... Justice ... Light”: See “Neons Light of His Life” by Jack Smith, LAT, Jan 9, 1972, E1.

Canticle 24

- 400 “push off the cliff”: “Birds of a Different Feather Nest Under Bradbury Wing.” S L Stebel, LAT, Jun 24, 1973, M1. And David Whyte, *Crossing the Unknown Sea*, “Setting the Scene: The Albatross,” 98-101.
- 401: My debt to Dorothy Sayers is immense. I name her and all translators because not to name them is acedic sloth: If readers want to compare translations, they need to know my exact source. Various other oversights in these notes may also invite the acedic indictment.
- 402: Comanche Moon: S.C. Gwynne’s *Empire of the Summer Moon*, 65.
- 403: “And I, staring with eyes intent”: *Hell*, Part I of the *Commedia*, translated by Dorothy Sayers, Canto VII, lines 109-127, p. 113.
- 403: I am not Aeneas: This sense of Dante humility was fortified decades later by Robert Hollander in a note to *Paradiso* II.4-6, p. 49: “It is perhaps necessary to remind ourselves that the voice we hear belongs to an unsuccessful, exiled Florentine with one completed work longer than a single *canzone* (*Vita nuova*, some twenty years behind him), who has banked all that he is and has on this text that he will barely manage to finish before his death.”

Canticle 25

- 405: “From Russia With Nerve: L.A. Man Escaped the Daring Way—Hundreds of Perilous Miles on Foot,” by Patt Morrison, LAT, Mar 10, 1986, A1A. A wonderfully succinct account of Vladas Sakalys, whose icy-wet walk to freedom makes the Pilgrim’s venture through the



- Slough of Despond seem a springtime stroll. He escaped from Lithuania, not Russia.
- 405: "Lithuanian Sailor": This article was mistakenly headlined "*Soviet Sailor Marvels at Life in U.S.*" (Nov 7, 1974, p. A11, emphasis added). If Kudirka's life teaches anything, it's to affirm his identity as Lithuanian. Since his leap from the Soviet ship, of course, he has become a citizen of the world.
- 407: How light their bodies: *Of a Fire on the Moon*, Norman Mailer, 347.
- 408: "This Family's Getting Out of Grocery Work," by Ronald White, LAT, 02 Mar 2004, A1.
- 408: supermarket stint: "I Spent A Pandemic Behind A Grocery Store Cash Register," Ray Suarez, Oct. 25, 2021, by The Nation and Economic Hardship Reporting Project.

Canticle 26

- 414: "Marlowe's Muse Undonne," LAT, Feb 4, 1974.
- 416: "Not knowing day from night": *Orlando Furioso*, Intro by A. Bartlett Giamatti, William Stewart Rose trans., eds. Stewart A. Baker and A. Bartlett Giamatti, xliv.

Canticle 27

- 417: "Nixon Says, 'I'm Not a Crook,' Vows to Restore Confidence: Pledges to Issue Statement on Financial Status," by Don Irwin, LAT, Nov 18, 1973, 1.
- 419: invent a purpose: "The Freeways of His Mind," Jack Smith, Nov 11, 1971, LAT.
- 420: "maybe the ivory ascent means": Since these speculations were mused, Epi has discovered Shadi Bartsch's translation of the *Aeneid*. Her Introduction is a priceless contribution to Vergilian studies. All future scholarship will have to take her work into account. Epi values all translations, but hers is now highly preferred.
- 421: Sir Thomas More: For a remarkably balanced view of Sir Thomas, see "It's Possible to Learn the Right Thing From the Wrong Person," Margaret Renkl, March 14, 2022.
- 422: "the celestial tribunal": A Blue-Collar Sabbatical, LAT, May 24, 1974. The Friday Shelf: Among five books, Kirsch looks at *Blue-Collar Journal: A College President's Sabbatical* by John R. Coleman, who concludes: "When I shall face the celestial tribunal, I shall not be asked why I am not Abraham, Jacob, or Moses. I shall be asked why I was not Zusia."
- 423: NIXON: Public to Hear Rest of Tapes: See "Rest of Nixon White House Tapes to Be Made Public," by Robert Jackson, LAT 13 Apr 1996, starts on 1.

Canticle 28

- 425: "Turn an artist loose": Gordon Davidson, as cited by Mary Murphy in "Should State Support Arts? Debate on Support of Arts," LAT, Jul 18, 1974, G1.
- 426: "feelings excited by improper art": *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce, Viking, 205, April 1965. One critic dismissed Stephen's meditation as echoes of an adolescent steeped in Jesuit tradition, views Joyce "outgrew." Epi's glad to be a kid.
- 427: "Foundation for Sanity": See "My B.A. Degree Is My Foundation for Sanity," May 17, 1975. Such a letter—or postcard—would never be printed today: editors today want glib sound bytes. I was responding to "a girl who says her B.A. degree in English was all for nought." Editors indulged my wordiness, but changed my "girl" to "woman." Age is irrelevant to maturity, including my then-boyish 30. They also gave me a timeless headline. (See too "Illusory [and Perilous] Pursuit of Youth" by Nick B. Williams, LAT Feb 6, 1975: "all males less than 40 years of age should be addressed as Master.")

Canticle 29

- 429: Maxine Del Gallo on "jawbs": a reply to "Buckley's Assumption About Jobs and Work," LAT Letters, Oct 18, 1975, B4. Her letter recalls a curiosity: For years Times' editors spelled "employee" with one *e* on the end (hence "employee's" and "employees" in Del Gallo's letter, and in the monolith letter in Canticle 46). As for who gets it right in first editions, see "His First Novel Was a Critical Hit. Two Decades Later, He Rewrote It" (*An Obedient Father* by Akhil Sharma), NYT profile by Wyatt Mason, July 12, 2022.
- 431: "Arman: Trap for a Rat-Pack Society," Henry J. Seldis, LAT, Sep 29, 1974.
- 431: Fitzgerald under water: Writer's Almanac for December 21, 2010. I owe much to this daily email—which suddenly stopped arriving in spring 2015 when excess of emails obscured its absence. In 2017 the Almanac became a brief casualty of sex scandals.



- 431: mischief: See “Loser in the Rat Race” by Jack Smith, LAT, Dec 3, 1975, when adventure becomes a matter of maintenance: “Oh, well. It kept me out of mischief.”
- 435: “Critics Should Look” (LAT Aug 21, 1995): Chanced on headline in 2020 after Carl Reiner died. I was seeking the 1979 Times’ review of *The Jerk* (“Steve Martin is ‘The Jerk’”).
- 435: ambiguities: Travesty: “I really wanta ... I really ... I got some bad ideas in my head ...” Wizard: “A man takes a job. That becomes what he is. ... You become the job. You got no choice. We’re all fucked. More or less.” Travesty laughs: “That’s about the dumbest thing I ever heard.” Wizard: “It’s not Bertrand Russell, but what do you want, I’m a cabbie. What do I know. I mean, I don’t know what the fuck you’re talkin about.” The Wizard: “Don’t worry so much” [tapping his skull]. “Relax, kid, you’re gonna be all right.” *Don’t pick up the first think.*

Canticle 30

- 439: new dimension: This concept inspired by a Robert Krulwich chat with Neil de Grasse Tyson.
- 439: Look how blessed I am: Recalls Tom Brokaw’s greatest moment as 11 p.m. anchor of LA news at KNBC. An elderly woman had been through an ordeal, but people came to her aid. “Look how blessed I am,” she said. And, seemingly by design, the news closed not with the usual trumpeting hoopla, but in silence, allowing viewers to absorb her blessing.
- 441: “soul-reviving place”: See Brooks Barnes, NYT, Nov. 25, 2017, claiming “Great Falls ... can be a soul-deadening place” in “Welcome to the Campiest Place on Earth.” So can New York City be a soul-deadening place to the whirlily who feign cosmo airs.
- 444: “Possessed by the Hollywood Dream,” Jack Slater, LAT, Jun 20, 1976, p. E1. About aging actors who still dream, longing for the big break, that one great role. Over time, Epi thought the report was from 1969 or ’70. Is it a harbinger of my fate? he wondered on first reading. He often recalls the spirit of stifled director Kenneth Rose: “Hollywood has always seemed to be 20 miles away, just beyond reach.”
- 444: “Gone, but Not Forgotten”: Two months after my departure, with Jax’s “Gone” headline ringing in my head, the letter below appeared, dated September 26, 1976. By grace of a computer miracle, I discovered it on December 10, 2011:

The Care and Feting of Jack Smith

This might be a good time to express my appreciation to The Times for making available one of my happiest day-brighteners, Jack Smith’s column.

He really deserves a well-documented letter, replete with carefully chosen phrases and even a few bon mots from Bartlett. But in the interest of brevity, I’ll just say thank you. Keep him happy!

-June Smiley, Calimesa

Canticle 31

- 445: “realism is in the work,” Bergson: *Comedy*, edited by Wylie Sypher, 162 (includes “An Essay on Comedy” by George Meredith [1877], “Laughter” by Henri Bergson [1900], and “The Meanings of Comedy” by Sypher [1956]). See C28, p. 497.
- 447: *Middlemarch*: Most allusions throughout are from my readings, including the guess of 1200 book pages (not ms. pages, as noted in *My Life in Middlemarch* by Rebecca Mead).
- 448: planted sunflower seeds upside down: Maybe not just a wild story. See Nova’s “Secret Mind of Slime,” which explores the possibility of plant intelligence, its mind in the roots—a brain first hypothesized by Darwin. “Plants are like upside down humans,” says Stefano Mancuso, who holds a flower pot with a female doll stuck headfirst in the soil, her genitals glossed.
- 449: weeding 2.0 Epigones: See The Telegraph, “The Covid-induced demise of our third-rate institutions is no loss to higher education” by Douglas Murray (15 Aug 2020). It is a loss. Whatever its ranking, CGF fired Epi as no other school could have.

Canticle 32

- 452: Little’s Classic: In 2015 I was granted space in the Tribune to note Stan’s contributions. One respondent claimed Stan’s Classic was a month-long tournament, a claim printed without consulting me, a six-year employee of Little’s. The month-long tournament was a handicap event in the spring. Stan’s Classic was a weekend event held before Thanksgiving.



453: Dennis winced at the Tribune headline: “Dennis Murphy, taking break from tour, wins classic here” (Nov. 25, 1976)—as if Tribune editors were saying his attempt to turn pro gave him an unfair advantage. Not so. Bob Aleksinski, another pro threat, tied for fourth. Many Montana bowlers could have topped 1657, but not this weekend.

Canticle 33

454: “A Day in the Poet’s Corner,” Jack Smith, LAT, Apr 2, 1972. The column’s sense of poetry is reminiscent of Dante’s closing lines to *Hell* (Mark Musa translation):

We climbed, he first and I behind, until,
through a small round opening ahead of us
I saw the lovely things the heavens hold,
and we came out to see once more the stars.

457: thrown from the train: For a racist reversal, see “What did Mahatma Gandhi think of black people?” in WaPost, by Rama Lakshmi Sept. 3, 2015.

458: no known dreamer: The movie *Dreamer* was released in April 1979, when Epi was in graduate school. He discovered it in late 2020. It has a few ludicrous scenes, but treats bowling with great respect. Tim Matheson often bowls like a pro.

462: Bobo legend, guitar as substitute for rifle: See *Elvis and Gladys* by Elaine Dundy, 111. Some say Elvis wanted a bicycle, but accepted a guitar.

462: mournful joy: In *Careless Love*, Guralnick suggests that fan squeals might have been stirred by “the dramatic unfurling of the American flag,” 528.

463: See *A Saint on Death Row: The Story of Dominique Green* by Thomas Cahill, and Bill Moyer’s summary: <http://www.pbs.org/moyers/journal/11092007/profile2.html>.

463: fortifying ideal: from a Chris Stevens review in the G.F. Tribune, July ’77.

463: Bring out your dream: *Lightningbolt* by Hyemeyohsts Storm, 40.

Book 3, Canticle 1

466: Delbanco, Andrew: *Death of Satan*.

466: arduous goodness: Says the vampire: “People who cease to believe in God or goodness altogether still believe in the devil. I don’t know why. No, I do indeed know why. Evil is always possible. And goodness is eternally difficult.” *Interview With the Vampire*, p. 12.

Canticle 2

468: “deep-sea fish”: *The Education of Henry Adams*, 239. Google helped pinpoint page.

469: letter to Jax from Henry Miller: “Bugging the Question,” Apr 28, 1976, F1, “... and Don’t Let the Bedbugs Bite,” Jack Smith, LAT, Apr 29, 1976, E1.

471: chills (assassination): What Epi was trying to say in 1978 is hinted in a Rilke letter, read in 2020: life’s “most painful event was also the greatest” (*The Dark Interval*, 52).

471: *Eros and Civilization*, by Herbert Marcuse, Boston, 1966, p. 168. “Freud describes the ‘ideational content’ of the surviving primary ego-feeling as ‘limitless extension and oneness with the universe.’” This “oceanic feeling” is not egotistic withdrawal from reality but is connected with oneness with the universe: “beyond all immature autoeroticism, narcissism denotes a fundamental relatedness to reality” As at Delphi, “Know thyself.” (It also reminds Epi of the mystery of Hera’s connection to Okeanos in the *Iliad*, and the wonder of Achilles’ shield unified by the encircling ocean.)

473: invade social privacy: See “Bare to the Beach,” Art Seidenbaum, LAT, Sep 7, 1973. Seidenbaum describes being uncomfortable seeing some skinny dippers at Big Sur a few years earlier: “Uncomfortable because they had disturbed my peace.”

473: Shakespeare relevancy: “Macbeth at My Lai: A Study of the Value Structure of Shakespeare’s Macbeth.” *Soundings*, 58 (1975), 54–68. In 1978 two cursory readings made no sense; in 2017 a close reading raised My Lai to informed imagination.

474: cuspidoric Cosmo: Thirteen years later Shari Roan declared Cosmo “the most popular magazine on college campuses for 14 of the last 15 years” (“Negative Images: Twentysomethings Say Women’s Magazines Can Erode Self-Esteem,” Aug. 18, 1992, LAT). The horror no one cared to watch was profiled by Elizabeth Vargas on ABC’s 20/20, April 23, 2001. On Jan. 9, 2004 Booth Moore hailed Francesco Scavullo as “the legendary photographer ... who made the Cosmo girl.”



474: “true but inaccurate”: In *Careless Love*, Peter Guralnick writes of a report on Tom Parker and Elvis, that they “have reportedly ‘not spoken’ in two years,” a claim that had “more truth than factual accuracy” (632). In *Who Said*, poet Jennifer Michael Hecht writes: “no way around it: Truth is not the same as honesty. / It is not the same as accuracy” (39).

Canticle 3

479: *Nobody Knows*: A rhapsodic paragraph, stitching in passages from several sources.

479: Joyce McGreevy, “Southland Teen-ager Lost Her Heart to Emerald Isle,” *Christy Fox*, LAT Sep 13, 1970.

482: “A Return to the Launching Pad,” by Cecil Smith, LAT, Mar 8, 1972, F1. His column echoes an invocation of Isaiah: “Awake and sing, ye that dwell in the dust!” Cecil’s opening paragraph: “‘Awake and Sing!’ [by Clifford Odets] was the launching pad for a generation of American plays which Arthur Miller once described as the ‘year-by-year documentation of the frustration of man.’”

Canticle 4

484: Colonel David H. Hackworth with Eilhys England, *Steel My Soldiers’ Hearts: The Hopeless to Hardcore Transformation of U.S. Army, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry, Vietnam*. Especially notable is the “puff piece” LTC Hackworth refused to sign, an after-battle report that falsified events, 343-350.

484: Chief Curry: *We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young*, Moore, Galloway, 80.

484: Mezentius, linking dead to the living: Edith Hamilton, *Mythology*, 232. See the *Aeneid*, p. 206, Mandelbaum translation, VIII, ll. 630-634:

For he would even link the living with
dead bodies, fitting hand to hand ...

486: “An Anthem to Arthurian England,” by Sheila Benson, LAT Apr 5, 1981, p. L28. Again I play with a writer’s style to try to capture the poetry; easily among life’s most memorable essays for me (the movie too, when I finally saw it). Sheila died as I was reviewing my notes.

Canticle 5

488: DMV labyrinth: No escape from DMV, forewarned in “Atoning for His Car’s Sins of Emission: Odyssey Through Smog Control,” Paul Dean, LAT, Oct 14, 1979.

489: “Still Gagging on the Bitterness of Vietnam,” by Gustav Hasford, LAT, Apr 30, 1980, C7. Stanley Kubrick’s *Full Metal Jacket* was inspired by Hasford’s *The Short-Timers*. Hasford survived the war but died young, an untallied casualty.

489: *Look Back in Anger*, John Osborne, II, 1; *Plays of Our Time*, ed. Bennett Cerf. Random House 1967. *Anger* © 1957. Osborne dedicates *Anger* to his father; its first performance was May 8, 1956, my dad’s fortyfourth birthday.

489: “More in Sorrow Than Anger,” by Jack Smith, Aug 24, 1971, LAT, E1.

490: “The ‘Demanding’ Generation --- It’s the World at Fault,” by Steve Emmons, LAT, Apr 29, 1971, C1. Headline haunting Epi for decayeds, including April 1980.

493: killercops: See “Victims Often Are at Both Ends of Gun: Shootings Scar Police, Too,” Roxane Arnold, LAT, Feb 11, 1980, 1.

Canticle 6

495: mediocrity the norm: Mediocrity can sound reasonable. DA Gary Norton, charged with “epic” indictment failures, told Peter Van Sant: “As district attorney I only know what police tell me” (*48 Hours*, “Murder victim’s friends say PA woman made good on her vow to kill,” June 20, 2020). Bugliosi would have lost his *Helter Skelter* epic if he had left the investigation solely to cops.

501: “Between You and I, He’s Kidding!” by Jack Smith, LAT, Jun 27, 1972, F1. This essay comes to mind every time I hears someone use “hopefully,” that is, almost every day. It also recalls T.S. Eliot’s “East Coker,” Part II of *Four Quartets*:

I said to my soul, be still, and wait without hope
For hope would be hope for the wrong thing ...

Lines to resent and console, Epi sensing real hope requires right actions.

**Canticle 7**

- 505: "Blessed With \$20.20 Vision," Jack Smith, Apr 28, 1980, LAT, F1.
- 506: Mrs. Mountstuart: *The Egoist* by George Meredith, Chapter XXXIV.
- 508: You learn the judges: *Working*, cop interviewed by Studs Terkel, 194.
- 509: Lessig before the Sapscream Court: In October 2002, before the same judges who ignored uncounted votes in 2000 so they could dictate the election. See Lessig's *Free Culture*, a scholarly study of abuses of copyright law that come from extending ownership from 56 to 95 years; abuses that betray the spirit of the Constitution's Article 1, section 8, clause 8 ("The Congress shall have power ... To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for *limited times to authors and inventors* [not heirs to the fourth generation] the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries"); abuses that cripple writers from freer dialogue with predecessors; abuses that affect everyone, and make all citizens less free.
- 509: copshop's public relations manual, LAT, Paul Dean: 1) "Another Night at the Precinct," Apr 11, 1980; 2) "A Tale of Two Men," etc., Apr 28, 1980; 3) The Thin Blue Line--LAPD Reserves, Jun 3, 1980; 4) The Helicopter Patrol: The Lofty Mission ..., Oct 10, 1980.
- 511: "All the News That Fits the Gullibility Gap," Jack Smith, LAT Sep 13, 1988.
- 511: "Prison Riots Easily Forgotten," William H Rentschler, LAT, May 18, 1980. What's striking about Rentschler's essay is that, until I rediscovered it while writing an early draft of *Epi Bound*, I had completely forgotten the riot. I was so shaken by the 33 deaths at Attica in 1971 but by 1980 the New Mexico massacre—also 33 dead—was just a routine horror. The February 2-3 dates give another clue: all recall obliterated by my rage at Jailer on the morning of February 6, 1980. My unmerited grace becomes clearer when rereading Rentschler's excerpt from *Why Justice Fails* by Whitney North Seymour:

"There is ... no such classification as the 'criminal mind.' ... Most of those we classify as 'criminals' are ordinary people ... All of us have a little larceny in our hearts. As Mark Twain once observed, 'Every one is a moon, and has a dark side which he never shows to anybody.' ... How can we conceivably justify the proposition that because a man has been convicted of a crime, he has a 'criminal' personality and is irresistibly prone to vices unknown to the rest of us?"

With a few altered circumstances, I could have been among the prison dead.

- 511: Easily Forgotten: While revising I chanced upon an outrage essay: "For Riot Site in New Mexico, a Gift Shop but No Ghost Stories" by Fernanda Santos, NYT, November 9, 2013.
- 513: drown out that sound: *Just Above My Head*, James Baldwin, pp. 96-97.

Canticle 8

- 516: "newbie ... but months to study": The Dean got his job at LAT in part because of Jack Smith. See "Every Bloke for 'Imself" by Jack Smith, LAT, Dec 6, 1977, almost two years before the Dean was hired. Jack added a note in "Bricks and stones may break your bones, but a laugh will never hurt you," Aug 18, 1983.
- 516: ease the onus: See "Objections to the Term [Daimonic]" in *Love and Will*, p. 128 paperback: applause to LBJ for resolving to get "crime and violence off the streets" but silence when he proposes legislation for "new and fair housing and improvement of race relations."
- 519: Who's dumber: *The Girl Who Played With Fire*, Stieg Larsson, p. 503. The Lisbeth Salander novels explore the duality of media absurdities and European sophistication in tragic-comic style. His subtle brilliance must find some mention in *EB/Falcon*.
- 519: Dame Evelyn Glennie: <http://tribalvillages.org/deaf/essays/Evelyn-Glennie.html>. See too TED talk dated February 2003, "Evelyn Glennie: How to truly listen."
- 520: Clarke and Pace: See *Slavery by Another Name*, D. A. Blackmon, 152, 278.
- 520: Pnaci, LAT letter Oct. 20, 1991 by Wolfhawk Martinez, who responds to "A Case of Mistaken Identity" by Jan Breslau on Oct. 6. By labeling Pnaci nations as Los Indios (Indians), Columbus launched a mistake that Martinez calls "identity genocide."

- 521: some reason to call them Indians: In *Custer's Trials* T.J. Stiles writes: "Any common name would have been foreign, imposed from the outside" (269). And: "Just as the indigenous nations were mistakenly grouped together as 'Indians,' so too have the people of the United States been oversimplified as 'whites'" (271).
- 522: "Two Deputies Kill Man After Graveyard Attack," Tim Waters, LAT, Apr 5, 1981.
- 522: the widow and children: "Family of Man Slain by Deputies Sues County," LAT, Jan 7, 1982.
- 522: "theoretically ... criminal act": Shooting of Suspect Called 'Theoretical' Crime," Cathleen Decker, LAT, Feb 16, 1983, C1.

Canticle 9

- 524: You have to have this stupid faith: "Dick Benjamin Started as Scrooge," Mary Blume, LAT, Dec 22, 1972, D1. The quote became a mantra, though over time Epi imagined Jeff Goldblum as speaker, not Dick Benjamin.
- 524: "Hug Therapist": "Hug Therapy: 'You Just Can't Beat It,'" Joe Saltzman, LAT, May 5, 1980.
- 526: in mid-laugh: *Assassination Vacation*, Sarah Vowell, 46; spur catching, p. 52.
- 526: "State Vagrancy Law Voided ...," by Jim Mann, LAT, May 3, 1983. The law was rewritten so cops can still torment pedestrians.

Canticle 10

- 533: outcast Ken Ling, Ch. 22, *The March Black Wind*, *The Revenge of Heaven*.

Canticle 11

- 539: "Robert Kirsch, Literary Editor of The Times, Dies," Ted Thackrey, LAT, Aug 17, 1980, B1. Epi found the obit in the Burbank Library on Verdugo, memories revived by revisiting the obit via LAPL and ProQuest. One quibble: Epi studied Kirsch's essays as provocative, never as "mini," especially the full-length Sunday review that filled a Calendar page—Calendar then a massive section devoted to advertising, movies, theater, music, and book reviews.
- 539: "scribbling, underlining," "certain disorderlies": *Working*, cop interview, Studs Terkel, 194.
- 541: "writer who works as a waitress": "The Fever's Got Her, and So Has the Time Clock," by Stephanie Hundley-Paul, LAT, Apr 14, 1981—her seventh essay since Sep 15, 1977, the writer surviving as a waitress was by then a regular. Her first two essays were under Hundley. Curious, liking her style, I cast a note to her via the Winds. We met a few times, though her beach-city address made visits difficult, and we lost contact.
- 542: glorify the predator: Chinua Achebe revised from *Writer's Almanac*, Nov. 16, 2011.
- 543: No more talk: *Lightningbolt* by Hyemeyohsts Storm, 40.

Canticle 12

- 547: "I want to be crazy": assassin as quoted by legal counsel to James R. Gaines in *People* magazine, Part One of a three-part series beginning February 23, 1987. Also online, <http://www.people.com/people/archive/article/0,,20095701,00.html>.

Canticle 14

- 553: letter to Ballard: "It was Hell": <http://people.reed.edu/~reyn/TomFaheyLetter.html>
- 555: "pretty normal," Nemo: from Part One, Gaines, *People*.
- 556: Prison Ashkelon: See *Revenge* by Laura Blumenfeld. Amazing story of reconciliation with her father's killer, including details few novelists would dare imagine, much less witness and describe.
- 556: more popular than Jesus: The killer "refused to play Beatles songs on his guitar anymore because of what John Lennon had once said," intended as irony on the absurd popularity of the Beatles. Part One, Gaines, *People*.
- 556: Hickock panting: 277, *In Cold Blood*; one-man symphony, 62; "You Are My Sunshine," 357; hated to tote and carry, 211.
- 557: Moehringer Artistry: See J.R. Moehringer's "Crossing Over," LAT, 22 Aug 1999. A hint of his mastery must be stitched in somewhere.
- 557-558: numinous: MDR, 154.
- 558: shattering the cathedral: MDR, 39.
- 558: "I didn't know I was having a baby," *Revenge*, 138.
- 558: "My children are my revenge," *Revenge*, 120; "revenge on our parents," 104.



- 559: "So they gave up looking," Gaines quoting *Catcher in the Rye*, Part Three, March 9, 1987, <http://www.people.com/people/archive/article/0,,20095787,00.html>
- 559: *The Dream and The Task: Literature and Morals in the Culture of Today*, Graham Hough, London 1963, 91. Based on talks aired on the BBC in 1962.
- 561: "Son a Suicide--but Book Wouldn't Die," AP, Apr 14, 1981, A2.
- 562: "Late Bloomers," Malcolm Gladwell, *The New Yorker*, October 20, 2008.
- 563: "antecedent literatures"; Carlos Baker, *Hemingway: The Writer as Artist*, 87. Book bought by accident; online order, intending to get biography. Resisted reading for years, repelled by Hemingway's suicide; no surrogate father, not one to guide Epi from the deep pits. Amazing quote discovered in 2009: "All bad writers are in love with the epic" (p. 247). And will anything in *Falcon Birth* qualify for entry into a Hemingway Bad Epic Contest?

Canticle 15

- 569: Come then, dear father: Mandelbaum *Aeneid*, Bk II., p. 52.
- 570: John Bjornstad: "Death on Space Shuttle: 'All Clear' Preceded Tragedy Announcement Made Just Moments Before Accident," LAT, Mar 20, 1981, 1. Another worker, Forrest Cole, died two weeks later from nitrogen fumes. Four others survived. Epi forgot news of Cole's death, a report that got a small headline on p. B2: "2nd Spacecraft Accident Victim Dies," LAT, Apr 3, 1981. These days news was focused on Reagan, who was shot on March 30.

Canticle 16

- 572: Mark's Heart: "About New York; For One 9/11 Family, Five Waves of Grief," Dan Barry, NYT, Sep 10, 2003. Over two years and five discoveries, multiple fragments were found of Mark Petrocelli, "including his heart."
- 573: "Dr. King's Mother Killed by Assassin: Death List of 10 Rights Leaders Found by Police," report by Francis B Kent, LAT, Jul 1, 1974, A1. "My name is Servant Jacob ..." is added from later testimony not in Kent's first report. Included for irony: the Biblical Jacob, whose story of wrestling with an unnamed spirit (called daimonic by Rollo May), is often used to inspire endurance in crisis: people who make it through the long night of the soul. For Chenault to invoke Jacob in this murder is laughable, yet sadly blasphemous. See the Sibyl citing Jung on the numinous in Book 3, Canticle 14.
- 575: "Gordon Parks: The Making of an Argument," *The New Yorker*, Oct. 29, 2013, posted by Genevieve Fussell.

Canticle 17

- 577: Kill Fee: "Throwing the Book at All Those Authors," Diane White, LAT, Dec 26, 1980, E7.
- 577: "OK, Marty, You Win--but You Lose, Too," Ellen Goodman, LAT, Dec 22, 1980, C7.
- 577: Everyone has there own standardered: student writing, probably spring 1978.
- 578: "Walter Mitty Leads the Philharmonic," by Martin Bernheimer, LAT, Feb 5, 1973, G1. A review that lives forever: the mere thought of Danny Kaye or Bernheimer brings a smile.
- 578: Van Gogh of Violinists: "The Seriousness of Comedy: The Benefit Concerts of Jack Benny and Danny Kaye," by Kenneth H. Marcus, *American Music*, Summer 2007, © Board of Trustees, U of Illinois.
- 581: "I want to die running." See "Over 80, It's Anyone's Race," Matthew Futterman, WSJ, link now blocked by WSJ greedsters), "Oldest Female In NYC Marathon Dies Just A Day After Race."
- 582: posed a glance: "Breaches Seen: Press Takes Inward Look at Its Ethics," by David Shaw, LAT, Sep 23, 1981, B1.
- 585: "Friendly: Media's Role Is One for the Book," Barbara Isenberg, LAT, Jun 8, '81.
- 586: 'Gones weren't good to me—or thee: Beatty renounced \$6.5 million rather than show the cut film: 'Very often the public can recognize the presence of, forgive me, art but they cannot recognize the absence of it,' the director said." See 'Reds' Director Warren Beatty Criticizes Networks for 'Slaughtering Films . . .'," LAT, April 18, 1985, David T. Friendly. The film aired in 1992 on ABC, Epi missing any comment or fanfare.

Canticle 18

- 589: Begone to Pacifica: "Why Not an American Devil's Island?: A Civilized Version Could Isolate the Criminals," Ernest Conine, LAT, Dec 22, 1980, C7. After two U.S. postal days



the Times published on Christmas morn four letters, all favoring the proposal. “Letters to The Times: ‘Why Not a U.S. Devil’s Island?’” Dec 25, 1980, C6. Capped by Diana Fleetwood: “I thoroughly enjoyed Conine’s column. The only thing I have to add is, why the Hawaiian Islands? Why not the Aleutians?”

- 591: Jennifer Figge, who at age 56 swam about 2,160 miles across the Atlantic: Stats are from Wikipedia, an increasingly reliable source.
- 593: As a boy of maybe six, Epi had recurring dreams of a boulder hounding him, rather like the boulder crashing after Indiana Jones in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Is the dream archetypal? Did Spielberg have similar dreams? Or were Epi’s dreams hallucinatory, in a feverish illness, as might have happened to Mary McCarthy while battling the flu in the Pandemic of 1918, when she heard her flu-stricken dad tell tales of Rocky Mountain boulders bounding? (*Memories of a Catholic Girlhood*, p. 12.)
- 594: “More Papers Admitting Their Errors” by David Shaw, Aug 18, 1983, 1.
- 594: “Ira Gershwin, Giant Among Lyricists, Dies at 86: ‘He Had a Million Ways of Saying I Love You,’” by Jerry Cohen, LAT, Aug 18, 1983, 3. So glad Cohen had a chance to write about happier lyrics! (See Canticle 14.)
- 595: Footnote, Malaprop “fleeing Cynthia”: I’ve long puzzled over the emergence of “went missing” and its substandard variants, so I was glad, in my early-century viewing of *The Fourth Protocol*, to see a hint of puzzlement when Gen. Karpov asks a spy mate, “Did you know that Philby has already gone missing?” “What do you mean, gone missing?” “Disappeared,” Karpov replies. The exchange—with its hint of the absurd—suggests earliest incredulity at a phrase that is now wincingly common. Why not just, “He’s missing.” The 1987 movie and scene are based on a script that combines passages from the 1984 novel, pages 84 and 275. The phrase really took off in 1996 after the *Fargo* film appeared.
- 597: “A Century Seen by The Times,” by Jack Smith, Nov 8, 1981, 11. “There it is—take it.” See “A Site for Assorted Eyes,” LAT, Jun 28, 1979, H1.

Canticle 19

- 600: ‘The Power to Suffocate’ editorial, Jan 14, 1973. Epi remembered this ’73 editorial as one denouncing Russian control of the press. In fact, it denounces the [Sapscream Court] for denying three newsmen “the right to protect their sources of confidential information from the inquiry of a grand jury.”
- 600: “ripped envelopes” leaves room for Gentle Readers to imagine a missing letter, but Epi is sure “suggests” refers to the “previous correspondence” received in Pullman.
- 601: “The free-lance life,” Melissa Ludtke Lincoln, Columbia Journalism Review; Sep/Oct 1981, Vol. 20 Issue 3, 51. “Earlier this year I wrote a profile of Reggie Jackson for *Cosmopolitan*. In the editing of that story, quotes were reworded in ways that changed their meaning. Descriptions of Jackson’s mood during the interview were manufactured. ... That and a number of other changes in the tone, angle, and accuracy of the article were all termed ‘trivial’ by the editor, who told me I had a lot to learn about journalism if I thought that a writer had the right to rework an editor’s version. ... I insisted that it be published in *Cosmo* under a fake by-line.” Melissa Ludtke helped break barriers for women in sports reporting. Denied access to players in the locker room in the 1977 World Series, she and her employer filed suit. Judgment: male and female reporters should have equal access.
- 601: a painful Postal blunder: “Now Seriously Folks,” Carly Simon, LAT, Jan 15, 1984. After her sarcastic comments were misrepresented, Simon wrote the Washington Post, whose editors printed a retraction. Two months later Patrick Goldstein of the Times reprinted excerpts that missed the retraction. Simon wrote a second letter:

“Unfortunately, my attempt at humor—and the reporter’s sincere attempt to put it across—failed with some help from the editor. The problem is, you can’t make certain kinds of jokes in print. What we say as a joke, with inflection, accents or physical gestures as accompaniment, doesn’t read the same. The sarcasm is lost. It’s taken as truth.

“... I want to set the record straight. I want to publicly state that there is zero truth in my ‘off-the-wall’ comments, and in the future I shall have



much more respect for 'the joke' with all its far-reaching possibilities for misrepresentation, even in the so-called best of journals."

- 602: Charley Pride letting things go: Observation by Charlie Worsham ("Other Side of the Lens") on American Masters, PBS: "Charley Pride: I'm Just Me."
 602: Uncles Eddie and Frank: Eddie Berg, brother of Evy; Frank Kouba, husband of Helen Berg, Evy's sister. Both uncles and wives came to the funerals of Epi's parents.
 604: "part the curtain": A really good writer once wrote, "Don't try to illuminate the whole subject for all time. Just part the curtain." From "The Manson Family: Through A Glass Darkly" by Dave Smith, LAT, Jun 20, 1971, R20. (No relation to Jack, Dave Smith always brightened Epi's meditations on violence. He died a sad and lonely death, and merits more acclaim than can be given here.)

Canticle 20

- 615: gift of desperation: For a super shallow glance at AA, see "The Sober Truth," 48-hours, Nov. 29, 2014. In strong meetings, newcomers are warned of "Thirteen Stepping," that "Looking for a date in AA is like looking for a date in Camarillo [Mental Hospital]." The truly desperate "Stick with the winners." And learn: "There are no victims, only volunteers."

Canticle 21

- 616: *Out of Africa* by Isak Dinesen, Vintage Books Edition, April 1972, 274.
 618: "choric truth" footnote: Original source mislaid, but two confirming sources: "Habitat for Humanity Homes in Hurricane's Path Tough as Nails," Edith Stanley, LAT, Sep 9, 1992; and "Habitat For Humanity Homes In Florida Are Structurally Sound After Hurricane," Nancy L. Ross, WaPost, Sep 13, 1992.
 620: "threshold": "The Threshold of Discovery," Jack Smith, LAT Mar 26, 1972.
 623: "The Peach," JAMA, April 15, 1992. "My patient awakened feelings I thought I'd forgotten." As a woman hemorrhages, the author struggles to insert an esophageal tube—and is overcome by memories," Medical Economics, Dec 7, 1992, both articles by Karen (Gregoire) Fahey, M.D. (Editor's lazy title: Reading "The Peach" shows that memories are ever close: Karen had attained some detachment, but she could never forget the details.)

Canticle 22

- 625: Love that deep-blued C: The phrase ever recalls Leonard Feather's review of Sinatra's *Trilogy*: 'Trilogy'--The Voice in Command," Apr 20, 1980—though Epi takes poetic license with the deep C. Feather: "The work calls for a Sinatra in total charge, in confident command, believing in the stories he spins and making us credulous in turn. He pulls it off without a hitch. In the Mercury passage he hits a perfect low E on the last note of the phrase 'Deep blue sea.' Oh, yes, he's still got it."
 625: sublimely stroking ... to Antarctica: Scott Pelley, *60 Minutes*, Feb 12, 2003.
 625: Jennifer Figge prefers Hawaiian: "Aspen's Jennifer Figge almost across the Pacific," Jason Blevins, Feb 3, 2011, Denver Post. Epi's idea of swimming to Poseidon's South Sea Condo, so fantastical when first conceived, is stunningly more plausible in light of Figge's heroics at age 58. (She swam the Atlantic at age 56.) Epi's helped by dolphins, she by floating on catamarans. It also recalls—to shift elements—Thoreau's aphorism: "If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them." (*Walden*, Conclusion.)
 627: "Isaac Bashevis Singer: Elusive Butterfly Speaks Out," Dave Smith, LAT, Jun 15, 1981. Printshop gophers got in the game, inserting details from another article, throwing Epi into shrieks and dervish swirls, pulling at hair strands, exclaiming: "They'll blame me, say I'm bad as Malaprop!" Anon, a Goddess descended, bringing serenity into the whirllybytes by typing a key phrase, wherefrom another miracle: the Gentle Reader is called to check "Intruder Drops In on Gopher for Long Night" by Bob Pool, LAT, Jan 22, 1985.
 627: "Nick B. Williams ... mediocrity to excellence," David Shaw, LAT July 2, '92.
 628: "Mr. Williams, You Done Superb," Jack Smith, LAT, Aug 22, 1971, D1.
 628: Brilliant: not a misspelling, but Sr. Lawrence's birth name.

Canticle 23

634: WIMPs: Weakly Interactive Massive Particles, a theoretic glue holding all dark matter together—if Epi translates correctly.

Canticle 24

637: “NASA Workers Honor Crew,” by Peter H. King, LAT, Feb 2, 1986, A24.

637: Dallas One-Eye: See Bill Moyers Journal, “Buying the War,” Apr 25, 2007: re the “compliant press” that relayed propaganda as news, including a White House press conference where only pre-selected reporters were called. Dan Rather on his Letterman statement: “I didn’t mean it in a journalistic sense; I know it may have come across that way. I meant it in a sense as an individual citizen. Mr. President if you need me, if you need me to go to hell and back for my country, I will do it.” *To fight for the right but to question and pause.* In this Age of Apollo, with the image of the world as one beautiful blue ball whirling in fragile space, patriotism is secondary: We can survive only as citizens of the world.

639: Rhodes Gardner: From LAT’s daily newsletter, reader memories at close of letter; forgot to note date, my notes dated March 8, 2017.

Canticle 25

642: “Could we pick a pomegranate from your tree?” From the ever-echoing “Harvest of High Ideals,” Canticle 11, 201; LAT, Dec 1, 1971, G1.

642: hidden elite: subtle dominance by longtime members, oft called “steering committee,” whereby major decisions are made without group awareness or discussion.

645: Caver Bill Stone: “I’m going to the Moon. Who’s with me?” TED Talk

Canticle 26

649: Style is forever: I thought a critic used this phrase, but can’t find it. Perhaps I transformed it from Fredric Milstein’s rapturous “Bassey in Debut at Pavilion [with Brian Fahey],” LAT, Apr 4, 1972, E7.

Canticle 27

652: “An Incurable Slob Comes Clean,” Jeannine Stein, LAT, 21 June 1993, 1.

656: uglifying: See Roy Cohn’s boast: “I bring out the worst in my enemies. That’s how I get them to defeat themselves.” As cited in Joe Klein’s review of Maggie Haberman’s biography of DT Riot, *Confidence Man: The Making of Donald Trump and the Breaking of America*, NYT, Sept. 28, 2022.

660: “He Wants to Be With Bumblebees,” Charles Hillinger, LAT, Jan 15, 1971. O Gentle Reader, a bee a-lights on Epi’s left shoulder! Synchronicity, coincidence, happenstance: Epi rediscovered this article by such a chance: looking for something else.

660: inner struggle versus “struggled”: attempt to coerce “confessions” from opponents: *The Revenge of Heaven*, Ken Ling; English text, London-Lee, 12.

Canticle 28

661: greatest continuing war games: Neil Sheehan, *A Bright Shining Lie*, p. 58.

663: spanglings galactical: LAT, Jul 19, 1971, D1. Excerpt:

Jax Myth
 Catch a Falling
 Star and Bach

Lesstra! Lesstra! Laistrygones
Charge too much for Jax Myth Essay!

TribWestUsurper fees soar when they see Wisly wants to reprint lengthy fragments of “Catch a Falling Star and Bach”; herein Epi leaves space for restoration of Jax’s ’72 essay when unconstitutional 95-year copyrots wither in the winds.

* * *

It was a few moments later, in the last movement, that the shooting star fell. ...

“Do you think Bach arranged that?” I asked.
She nodded solemnly. “I *know* it,” she said.

663: Mason Williams, Pace, Aestes, the arrow ignites and flares: See “He Shot an Error Into the Air,” Jack Smith, LAT, Jan 6, 1988. Jack’s quest for Mythic perfection, or at least no more than two errors per year. By chance, a guy named Mason is among Jack’s critics ...

Canticle 29

670: “One wished for a cry, a sob, a wail ...,” Theodore H White, Life, Dec 20, 1963.

671: “Researchers Trace Earth’s Stability to Moon’s Influence,” by Mark Stein, LAT, Feb 18, 1993.

Canticle 30

672: speeding ticket in the land of Goshen: See “Speeding in Finland Can Cost a Fortune, if You Already Have One,” NYT, Suzanne Daley, April 25, 2015. Fines are based on income; a millionaire was fined about \$58,000 for going 64 in a 50 zone.

673: Tuttle note: “Up to \$4 Million a Year in Traffic Citations Missing ... The controller says the money may have been stolen ...,” Eric Malnic, LAT, 08 June 1993: 1.

674: Robin’s Telemachaia: Bob Simon on CBS, “Eye to Eye,” July 6, 1995; Speicher by Bob Simon, on CBS in May 2000 and on Jan. 16, 2001, Speicher’s remains finally found August 2, 2009. Meeting of Lan Hue and Rich Luttrell, Keith Morrison, NBC, May 1, 2000.

674: Ani Hovannisian: “I wanted to tell the Armenian story not just as an Armenian story, but as part of the human odyssey ...”

675: Monica, who ne’er ... told him to shorten it: Or did she? In late December 2011 Epi discovered scribbles for a possible essay, likely date 1986. Under it he scribbled: “‘Keep it short,’ said Moni.” This note to Self was most likely composed after his first draft of *Epi Bound* ...

- 675: details lost: While reading the poorly typeset paperback second edition of *Childhood*, Epi noted on p. 117 that Steve Garvey was 3 for 3, and Ron Cey knocked him in to cut the Yankee lead to 4-3. Epi made no significant notes on Trust versus Mistrust.
- 675: "Say, whatever happened to that crazy artist ...?" by Henry Seldis, LAT, Dec 26, 1971. This brief excerpt falls under fair use, even if its poetic expansion looks long.
- 677: "literal tourist traps": St. George's drainage ditches were unprotected by metal guards. As motorists surely before him, sleepy Epi backed into a ditch. A generous tow trucker, part of an ingenious local industry, lifted Epi's beloved Falcon from the gutter after several minutes' maneuvering, charging a mere \$45.
- 677: "Shuttle Touches Down After Extra Loop: Space: Endeavour lands with jackpot of ... scientific data for U.S. and Japan," by Rudy Abramson, LAT, Sep 21, 1992.
- 678: shooting a petty-theft teen in the back: For a hint of many voices, see Anna Deavere Smith's "Twilight: Los Angeles," if available as PBS video.
- 679: I read with glee: 'Moby-Dick,' LAT, Luanne Pfeifer, 20 May 1996, 4. Responding to "Call These 'Moby-Dick' Readers Determined," Matea Gold, LAT, 11 May 1996, 3.
- 682: overpriced: The '92 radiator lasted over a decade, until July 2003, when, after safe return from another Oregon Shakespeare Festival to see Centerville grad John Pribyl, the Falcon's rebuilt radiator leakily gave out.

Canticle 31

- 684: "Let him die!" "Ron Paul's Ex-Campaign Manager's Death Backdrop For Health Insurance Position," Sam Stein, Huffington Post, First Posted: 9/14/11 9:33 AM ET.
- 684: Epic and Rival: "Leaving Their Mark Youths Risk Everything to Tag Walls, Buses and Traffic Signs With Graffiti," John M. Glionna, LAT, 10 Mar 1993: 1.
- 685: probably ... illiterate: Jack Smith, essay untitled by ProQuest but headlined "More hissing at the notion that some cities once were Paradise; even Eden had its snake," LAT, Aug 27, 1987.
- 685: "space program": "County's Yearly Gang Death Toll ... 800," Jesse Katz, LAT Jan 19, 1993.
- 685: "an *Other*": "Trying to Dodge the Cross-Fire: In the Pico-Aliso projects, residents struggle to stay clear of gangs ...," by Nora Zamichow, LAT, Sept 17, 1995.
- 687: singing not of heroes, but of good ideas: First read in *The Writer's Almanac* for Dec 7, 2010. From "Interview with Noam Chomsky" by David Cogswell, Sep 14, 1993.
- 687: *The Water of Life: The Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales*, Intro by Padraic Colum, Commentary by Joseph Campbell, 1972, p. 10.
- 688: Marvin Miles' felicity, Pioneer, still singing: "Pioneer Safely Crosses Jupiter Radiation Belts: Heads for Eternal Flight in Milky Way," Marvin Miles, LAT, Dec 4, 1973, 3.
- 689: Billie Holiday: With thanks to Judy Rosen: "Frank Sinatra and Billie Holiday: They Did It Their Way," NYT, October 19, 2015: "A century after their births, Holiday and Sinatra are still talking to each other. What a privilege it is to listen in."
- 689: The fine line: See "Her Pipeline to Paranoia," Dan Knapp, LAT, Nov 10, 1971, F17. Another most memorable movie review for Epi—except for one thing: He recalled Kevin Thomas as the author. Knapp discusses Jessica Walter's gripping portrayal of a crazed woman lusting for a disc jockey played by Clint Eastwood, a performance that manages to "traverse the fine line between lonely neurosis and homicidal insanity." In an entirely separate review, someone used the phrase "self-illusion alone sustains us." Epi again recalled the author as Kevin Thomas, and sent a belated thank-you. In time Kevin sent a congenial thanks in a card of pleasing design. Some years later Epi rediscovered the self-illusion review and saw a different author's name, thereby grasping the congenial jest in Kevin's reply: a sublimely understated joy that recalls Robert Nathan's "ecstatic sob" in celebrating Jack Smith's "gloriously happy mangle" in "A Thousand Well-Chosen Words," LAT, Mar 24, 1981.
- 690: Marco Lokar: "Is This a Great Country, or What?" by Mike Downey, LAT Feb 15, 1991; "Downey Flagged for Lokar Column," LAT Feb 23, 1991.
- 690: ethnic flensing: Surprising to Epi, the profanation of "cleansing" is not new. See *Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War*, p. 95. Before the terrorist invasion of Lawrence, Kansas, William Clark Quantrill rallies his troops: "Kill! Kill and you will make no mistake! Lawrence should be thoroughly cleansed, and the only way to cleanse is to kill! Kill!"



- 690: ethical side: *The Story of English*, Robert McCrum, William Cran, Robert MacNeil, 346.
- 690: See documentary, “Nathan East: For The Record (2014).”
- 690: Leighton artistry: Robert Leighton, *The New Yorker*, Oct 22, 2007, 89.
- 691: “bookends”: From Oliver Stone’s *Nixon*.
- 691: “couple have”: See “Enough to Threaten a Couple of Holidays,” *LAT*, Dec 25, 1995. I almost missed this column, Jack’s last, needing rescue by the librarian at SmithKline Beecham, who sent me a photocopy. This brief excerpt offers a fitting valedictory:
- My wife and I have lived on Mt. Washington for 45 years ...
- ... At the top of the hill stands the former Mt. Washington Hotel, now headquarters of the Self-Realization Fellowship. We couldn’t ask for better neighbors. ...
- The hill has many species of birds, including the common grackle, which is indeed rare in these parts. However, one individual grackle has been sighted on the hill by none other than yours truly.
- Its like has not been seen here again. ...
- 692: “Daddy Wags”: “Bitter Ending: ‘Daddy Wags’ never forgave the Angels for trading him and he died alone on the streets,” by Bill Plaschke, *LAT*, January 25, 2004.
- 693: “Night of Poetic Influence”: “Word of Mouth: NoHo bookstore offers ... scribes a place to share their love of verse,” *LAT*, May 8, 1997.
- 693: “biased distortion”: See “Cartoon Called Anti-Semitic,” *KNBC*, March 26, 2009. The night before, *ABC News* reported on atrocities that sparked Oliphant’s cartoon. Such biased slants, of course, are routine propaganda in war.
- 695: corona virus: phrase inspired by “invisible suns” (DJR Bruckner); see p. 666 of the first edition of *Epimetheus Bound* (early 2016); also in ms. long before the pandemic of 2020.
- 695: “Our country, right or wrong!”: Carl Schurz (1829-1906, U.S. general and senator) to the U.S. Senate, Jan. 17, 1872: “Our country right or wrong. When right, to be kept right; when wrong, to be put right.” *The Columbia World of Quotations*. 1996, Number 15947.

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- 699: Jason Searle, Kihansi Spray Toads: *Sunday Morning*, CBS, April 8, 2001.
- 700: home team on rival killing fields: Jack Smith wrote periodically on work as play, most memorably “An Actcent on Life,” Aug 19, 1979, noting lawyers, surgeons, and generals whose work is game-like. This sense of play imbued all editions of *EB/Falcon* before reading *Matterhorn* by Karl Marlantes. Late in *Matterhorn*, the remnants of a bloodied company are cheered by commanders for taking a meaningless hill; cheered from the safety of Helicopter Hill, six hundred meters distant. “The stupid cheering—as if combat were a Friday night football game.” Big John Six: “Magnificent. I wish I’d had a movie camera ...”
- 700: “What would I have done?” See too *60 Minutes*, “Investigating who betrayed Anne Frank and her family to the Nazis,” Jan. 16, 2022. The chief suspect is a Jew who may have been trying to save himself and his family. Other reports give him the benefit of the doubt.
- 701: Cui bono? See *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet’s Nest* by Stieg Larsson, pp. 188-192. Why would Faste want to leak this information? Brilliant pages on manipulating the press.
- 701: Annick Hollister: “Unraveling a Cruel Mystery of the Mind,” Renee Tawa, *LAT*, 29 Apr 1996 As a child, Meggin Hollister saw schizophrenia ravage her sister. She resolved to find out why. Her long search produced landmark results.
- 701: dying Morrie: *Tuesdays With Morrie* by Mitch Albom. A sports reporter chats with Morrie Schwartz, his former teacher. In the Nightline interview with Ted Koppel, about the 9.15-minute mark: A masculine wave is dismayed as he is being swept toward shore. A female wave is thrilled. “You don’t understand!” he cries. “You’re going to crash into that shore and you’ll be nothing!” “You don’t understand,” she says. “You’re not a wave. You’re part of the ocean.” Epi, before Kepler: “I’m not a wave. I’m a drop in the wave that is part of the Multiverse.” More, could death be but “a little bridge across a small river?”
- 701: Soloist Nathaniel Ayers: a series of *LAT* columns culminating in *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez, movie of same name with Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey, Jr.



- 702: one small step: In a rare video chat with Armstrong, Alex Malley asks if he ever allowed himself to think about being first on the Moon: “No,” says Neil. “I can’t say that I did. We were focused on progress, and making those incremental steps—thousands of little incremental steps that got you closer. And we’re looking for success in those steps, and not focusing on that end-goal too much.”
- 702: leaning on his left neck: Cynthia event happened long before Epi read *Traveling With Pomegranates*, where the bee lights on Sue Monk Kidd’s left shoulder (94-102).
- 702: Strengthen the Hope: *Paradiso* XXV.44-45, Hollander translation. This note supplied because verses 46-47 insist I tell where the idea came to me.
- 705: assassin rationales: Nine-year-old Hazel, granddaughter of a friend, gave this review of *Julius Caesar* the play: “It’s hard to tell the good guys from the bad guys.”
- 705: Uncle Oris: Brother of Epi’s mom. Amy and Paul Burton befriended Oris. After he died, Amy showed Epi a letter from James Lovell to Oris for his work on the “Saturn Hydrostatic Test Program” for Apollo 10. Amy framed the letter for Epi. The letter included a “Silver Snoopy” pin, now attached to Epi’s suit.
- 706: doubts ... dynamite of freedom, *Life and Fate*, Vasily Grossman, 399.
- 706: “Helen Gurley Brown, Who Gave ‘Single Girl’ a Life in Full, Dies at 90,” by Margalit Fox, NYT, Aug. 13, 2012.
- 708: Who aint a slave? See Frederick Douglass letter to Thomas Auld, wondering where his dear sisters are: “Have you sold them? or are they still in your possession? What has become of them? are they living or dead? And my dear old grandmother, whom you turned out like an old horse to die in the woods — is she still alive? Write and let me know all about them.” From “The painful, cutting and brilliant letters Black people wrote to their former enslavers,” by Gillian Brockell, WaPo, Mar. 13, 2022.
- 709: firefighter Regina Wilson, survivor: “60 Minutes Remembers,” Scott Pelley, Sep 11, 2022.
- 710: quote wrenched: “Out of Context,” Caroline Alexander, NYT, April 6, 2011, essay published five months before the new Tower’s tenth anniversary dedication, thus giving designers a chance to find a better quote. Designers stayed with Vergil’s aside on the night-raiders killed together, their severed heads now on spears: “No day shall erase you from the memory of time.” Informed readers can’t erase this final memory.
- 712: ‘a long 12-year odyssey’: “Scientist at Work: Carolyn Porco: An Odyssey From the Bronx to Saturn’s Rings,” by Dennis Overbye, NYT, September 21, 2009. Of her mostly kalypsoed work, Dr. Porco concludes:

“To my mind, most people go through life recoiling from its best parts. They miss the enrichment that just a basic knowledge of the physical world can bring to the most ordinary experiences. It’s like there’s a pulsating, hidden world, governed by ancient laws and principles, underlying everything around us — from the movements of electrical charges to the motions of the planets — and most people are completely unaware of it.

“To me, that’s a shame.”

- 713: “What Happened to Sandra Bland?” by Debbie Nathan, *The Nation*, April 21, 2016.

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- 717: “Our Long National Nightmare . . . More than 500 Cubs fans gather downtown to toast the obliteration of the Bartman Ball,” by Lucio Guerrero, *Chicago Sun-Times*, Feb. 27, 2004.
- 717: Darrel Vandeveld: See “Acts of Courage Against Torture,” <https://www.aclu.org/national-security/acts-courage-against-torture>

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- 719: Headline Stress Disorder: See “I stopped reading the news. Is the problem me — or the product?” by Amanda Ripley, WaPo, July 8, 2022. Ripley stopped reading two decades earlier, no doubt inspired by a rerun of Rockford episode S6 E4, “Only Rock ‘n’ Roll Will Never Die, Pt. 1, original air date October 18, 1979. At the 4:50-mark Rocky is increasingly distressed by TV news: the murder of a family of four, an arson fire that killed seven,



complaining until Jimmy chastises him: “Dad, I’m telling you, it’s getting to be the same old ritual. Every night you’re plugged into this litany of misery. (Jimmy turns the TV off.) Nobody’s telling you to watch. You’re just making yourself unhappy.” (Epi review in the early morning of Friday, July 15, 2022.)

- 719: Margaret Mitchell, “L.A. to Pay \$975,000 ...,” Nicholas Riccardi, LAT 16 Dec 2000, B1
- 719: Defying the White House, Punch Sulzberger, CJR, Jill Abramson, “on putting the public interest first.”
- 719: “Life With Boko Haram,” by Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani, NYT, Oct. 23, 2013. Headline and text revised to force-fit Sarah Cooper’s indispensable lip-syncing.
- 721: Rouzan al-Najjar: “A Day, a Life: When a Medic Was Killed in Gaza, Was It an Accident?” by David M. Halbfinger, NYT, Dec. 29th, 2018
- 724: African American voters: See “#MitchPlease, Black Americans are Americans” by Jonathan Capehart, WaPo, Jan. 21, 2022.
- 726: *Dharma, Karmabhumī, Adharma*: See *The Bhagavadgīta*, translation by S. Radhakrishnan.
- 726: invent a purpose: “Freeways of His Mind,” Jack Smith, Nov 11, 1971, LAT
- 728: fairy tale: Ukraine: Life Under Russia’s Attack, Frontline Season 2022: Episode 2, August 2, 2022, about the 50-minute mark. The girl’s plaintive plea seemed almost playful.
- 729: Cynthia, you who have helped me love poetry: With an assist from the PBS series, *Poetry In America*, each discussion about twentyfive minutes, helping Epi see ideas he’d not found on his own—not least the games of childbirth and mending walls.

Epi Log Two: “Why We Can’t Wait”

- 741: Singer-activist John Legend is asked if whites need to be worried about changing minorities. “[E]quality doesn’t have to take from anybody ...,” Legend said. “We can live in a society where we all respect each other’s human dignity, build a community that’s stronger for everybody, safer for everybody, healthier for everybody. We don’t need to believe that just because there’s more of one group or another, that somebody else has to lose because of that.” *Sunday Morning*. “Musician-social activist John Legend on the continuing struggle for justice, Ted Koppel, October 16, 2022
- 743: “we don’t wait for change”: For how much justice is still denied, see “Rights Movement Is Nudged From Current Events to History,” DJR Bruckner, LAT, Dec 31, 1971. He concludes:

Despite the cheerful analyses of the Census Bureau, black income has not notably increased in relation to the income of whites except in families where both husband and wife work. ...

There are issues enough. What is gone is popular passion for them. Possibly, hope is gone. The failure of hope would be a terrible event; the blacks have never been cynical about this country. ... In the light of what government is doing, you might well expect young blacks to lose hope in the power elites, but this is something different—a cold personal indifference, a separation of man from man. What you hear and see is not rage, but injury, a withering of expectations.

The rage over the murder of George Floyd, by members of the evolving human race, shows a possible resurrection of hope.

Bruckner was a thrilling columnist. When he went to Chicago in 1972, he left a huge void. On his death in 2013, the NYT published an obit, but I can’t find one in LAT archives.

Forethought, or the Last Word

Epi discovered Jax Myth upon arrival in Laistrygonia in 1969, when he made his home in his '68 Ford Falcon, where all glooms were brightened by reading Jax for a dime a day. The most recalled affirmation dates to early Pago Pago days, January 11, 1973:

Jax Myth
**A Model-Tee
 Ford Didn't Build**

I have long had an idea, generally scoffed at, that man's purpose is to create a world in which he can play. It's an idea that seems well borne out by

the movie *Hud* with its key line: "Lonnie, little by little the look of the country changes because of the men we admire."

That Homeric line heartened Epi to endure, as in the column that raised Jack to mythic status: the "Accomplished Name Dropper" of November 21, 1972, when Jack wrote about the annoyances inflicted on people named Smith, or on anyone with a seemingly common name. He closed with:

I am provoked, however, to make a confession that I have never made before. Many years ago ... my first editor considered my name too common for any kind of public acceptance, and he gave me another. He called me Jax Myth, and maybe he was right.

Because Jax closed with his trademark humor, and because, to Epimethean note, he never mentioned "Myth" again, Epi believed "maybe he was right" gave him license to play with the name in *Epi Bound (Falcon Will Give Birth)*.

This impression endured until December 2011 when Epi found "Jax Myth" in a column dated July 28, 1986. Jack writes about personalized or vanity phone numbers, e.g., therapists who use "some word like HELP" as hint of their number:

Why do I need a phone number that has three digits and ends in JACK? How many other Jacks are there? I might use a byline my editor gave me when I started out as a sports writer—Jax Myth. But I never liked that name; it was one reason I quit the job.

The column sounded familiar, but Epi was in Wisconsin in the summer of '86, watching the house and cat of a former schoolmate while he and his family were in England; had just completed the first draft of his ready-to-be-published epic, and—
 Never liked that name?

Epi can only hope that Jack's enduring spirit and family—and extended family of readers—will see his Mythic use for its affection and respect, even if at times he feels pierced by ambivalence, as when Jax wrote somewhere that he was never afflicted by a desire to die.

Not to be overlooked is Jack's role in lightening Epi's Hemingway bias, as in the summons to Harry's Bar, this one dated April 14, 1987:



Jax Myth
At Harry's Bar
the beer was cold ...

We drove out to Harry's Bar the other night ...
 the 10th annual International Hemingway Contest
 ... to enter the contest, read one book of Hemingway ... Then try
 to be funny, in his style, on one typewritten page.
 It's trying to be funny that ruins many

Yet, while it hurts to fragment any Mythic column, the thought recalls this snippet from July 16, 1974, the fifth anniversary of the launch of Apollo 11:

Jax Myth
An Opus to L.A.
With Pen in Hand

... I have the space here only for a few excerpts ...
 No writer likes to see his work fragmented; but I share his feelings
 ... and hope he will forgive me for offering only these few quotations.

The opus apologia recalls hints of the Mythic effect; how, on July 16, 1972, the third anniversary of the Apollo 11 launch, Jack paid homage to Arthur Millier:

Jax Myth
Serenity in
the Whirlwind

Millier was art critic for The Times for 30 years, and though he was washed by all the tides of that tumultuous era ... He found serenity in the whirlwinds.

Epi knew at once that the words would someday gladly redound on Jack, who previews Millier's work, a retrospective exhibition that evoked humility. Millier was surprised: his work was better than he remembered.

He looked round at me. "Do you think if you met yourself, say 30 years from now, you'd recognize yourself?"

I don't know. I don't expect to have the chance. But if I should, I wish I could like what I had done as much as Arthur Millier likes what he as done, and be so right.

Jack fell short of that thirty-year retrospective, dying on January 9, 1996. Yes, he wrote essays for nearly forty years, but he was too busy living the Now to consider such a back-glancing project. And so, mingled among hundreds of Epi pages, this fragmented retrospective: dating from discovering Jack in 1969, when Wishy first moved to the Laistrygone Wilderness after Apollo landed on the Moon on July 20. Epimetheus still likes what Jack has done, and oft recalls essays that buoyed him o'er his own Ocean of Storms; there, even amid swampings, he resolved to endure, if only to honor the Mythic Style, the one constant that still inspires him to embrace his own random chances for daily joy.



Concluding with “The Threshold of Discovery,” LAT Mar 26, 1972:

Jax Myth
**The Threshold
of Discovery**

In remodeling, we have learned, the threshold comes last.

* * *

* * *

Lesstra! Lesstra! Laistrygones
Charge too much for Jax Myth Essay!

TribWestUsurper fees soar when they see Wisly wants full reprint of “The Threshold of Discovery”; herein Epi leaves space for restoration of Jax’s ’72 essay ...

* * *

“It is probably my all-time favorite Jack Smith essay,” Epi says. “Jax pays subtle but clear homage to his contractor, Ed Sylvis. It hints how Jax’s ‘Threshold’ essay sustained me in my own quest for renewal. The mere word “threshold” sustains hope of Apolline discovery; that all travails are nought when considering the life-affirming goal. It also gives Jack the last word.”

It is better than a sea voyage; better than a tour of Europe. We have created our own renaissance. And, above all, we have given ourselves new thresholds.

From threshold to threshold:



For a brief, shining moment, Times Mirror Square was L.A.'s Camelot

By Thomas Curwen, Staff Writer

July 20, 2018 3 AM

“People look at the Times Mirror era as Camelot,” Stephen Meier ... said recently.

Memory often adds luster to prosperous times. Still, Camelot in 1973 ... seemed poised for national regard.

Fittingly it had its Round Table ...

Dominating the boardroom was a rosewood ring table, shaped like a doughnut, 19 feet in diameter. ...

Tronc and its chairman, Michael Ferro ...

the boardroom table disappeared

Dismantled and removed from Times Mirror Square, it now resides on the 41st floor of Prudential Plaza in Chicago ...

Camelot had fallen. Ferro had claimed the Round Table for his boardroom.

Thursday, August 15, 2019

Hi Thomas Curwen:

Your articles on the homeless prompted me to look at some of your other work, and that led me to your obit for Times Mirror. You touch on many highlights: I can't imagine anyone writing a finer homage, unless we could resurrect Jack Smith to pay his mournful respects.

I'm a little surprised at Shelby Coffey's statement: “We didn't realize how good those days were at the time.”

He's speaking of '89 to '97, when I felt the Times was in decline. The best years, for me, were from 1969 to 1980, after which I lost trust. But in the best years, the LA Times was surely equal to or better than the NY Times, a confidence unshakeable if only because we had Jack Smith and they didn't.

Jack would have liked your tribute to Times Mirror. I couldn't believe it when I heard they were leaving, but understood when I saw the million dollar escalation of rent.

Rent?

The notion of renting was bewildering until I absorbed the shock that Tribune heretics had sold the building. Those arrogant buffoons never had the slightest clue of what the Times was all about.

An element of tragedy in all that, quite neatly crystalized in the theft of the round table ...

Keith Fahey, Tarzana

