

The Rodkey Reader

To be taken in the morning with a grain of salt

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Aspiring Filmmaker Admitted to Westmont – Family Concerned.

"I'm happy," he says, and the smile spread across his face proves it. His family, though happy for him, expresses concern. What will Westmont make of Erik, our admitted eccentric, anglophile, lover of longbows, care-free kilt-wearer, film aficionado, humorist and happy-go-lucky historian?

Until that question can be answered, Erik is content with life as usual: singing in choir, fencing and piano lessons punctuate the hours of his



senior year. He spends his free time experimenting shooting and editing films. Despite his eccentricities, his excellent essay, *The Use of Cavalry in WWI*, assures us that Erik is ready for the challenges of college.

Perhaps the real question is whether he is prepared to stand in the shadow of an older sibling of such unparalleled academic, social, aesthetic, and political reputation. Only time will tell. – Krista

Philosophical Journey

Krista ignored her philosophical conviction that chairs don't exist as she took a seat on a plane bound overseas. She invoked all her stoic ideals of calm as she journeyed many hours, enduring post-terrorism Heathrow, Russian airlines and lost luggage in Uzbekistan. After three weeks in Tashkent enjoying her friendship with Shannon Ludington, encountering Uzbek culture and helping teach English, she journeyed back to Oxford, England. There she enjoyed a thoroughly enjoyable semester studying Aristotle, Formal Logic and Old English Literature, biking through the Oxford environs, absorbing the unique beauty of the city's architecture. A side-trip to Scotland to visit her cousin Joel and his new bride, Heather, rounded out her travels. Her observation upon return that the sky in Santa Barbara is much bigger than in Oxford has caused considerable consternation among noted scientists.



Despite cognitive dissonance engendered by her foray into mereological nihilism, she took comfort in her discovery of the existence of space-time worms. Although she vehemently denies that space-time worms can be herded, it is rumored that her space-time worm is crawling toward graduate school. – John



Astonishing Abecedary

After laboring unheralded for the better part of a decade on their archaeology dig in south-central Israel, John's Zeitah team was rocketed to Indiana-Jones-like fame by the discovery of a rock termed "the find of the decade," on the last day of the 2005 excavation season. This rock, an abecedary with the earliest Hebrew alphabet on record carved on it, is a significant and controversial piece of evidence establishing an early timeline for the development of Hebrew.

However, John keeps humble by working in obscurity on his airplane. Thirty years on the flightline had taken its toll, and it was time to completely refurbish it - a task that is likely to take several years. Relegated to the garage, the Aeronca Chief's noble bones vie with Jeanne's MK books for space. – Elissa

Teenagers Becoming Extinct

Christian Celebrity Adopts Millions: an inspirational story

Species expert and well-known Christian celebrity Jeanne Rodkey reports the sobering news that, according to current projections, by the fall the population of Rodkey young residing in their natural Goleta habitat will fall to zero. "It's a desperate situation," says Jeanne "at this moment we only are aware of one male teenager, in an area



that was once rich with life!" However, the celebrity has a plan! In order to replenish the depleted nest, she will scour deepest darkest Santa Barbara in an ongoing attempt to find suitable replacements. The prospective Rodkeys, also known as Cody's friends and relations, establish their credentials by eating PBJ sandwiches in the Rodkey ancestral halls, playing with histor-

ic Rodkey toys and listening to Rodkey-favored literature read aloud. Perhaps the best indicator of their complete brain-



washing was their recent attachment to the Chronicles of Narnia, demonstrated by frequent dramatic renditions of the same. This plan has in fact been so successful that Jeanne plans to extend the plan to the very young: she is motivated to renew her nursing license and work with newborns in order to come in contact with a whole new population of children to adopt! – *Elissa*

Mackerel Skye:

Satisfying All Your Computer Design, Sound and Image Transfer Needs. - see Erik

Life at Wheaton

Music, music, music fills Adelle's mind, time and studies. Continuing to develop her various musical interests in her junior year at the Wheaton Conservatory keeps Adelle moving in a blur: her class schedule reads like the titles in the library's music section. Choir, symphonic band, oboe &

piano lessons, sight-reading, theory, music history, ear training/dictation, conducting, and - most recently - observing and assisting with a local children's choir: Far from being a burden to her, she is energized and motivated by the preparation, practices and performances they entail. Although the Conserv's collection of small white-walled piano rooms with numerous students locked up in them bears a sinister similarity to a psychiatric ward, Adelle delights in belonging to an active musical community. She has formed many close and meaningful friendships, both inside the Conserv and in the See **Oboe Obsession**, Pg. 3

Elissa's Alaskan Escapades

In a drastic move to escape the consequences of her ill-timed advice on Erik's



haircut, Elissa fled to remote Alaska for four weeks. After fulfilling her penance through countless hours of dishwashing,

cleaning and camp setup, she enjoyed two week-long kids-camps. Her softspoken but energetic charges kept her on her toes, and events such as Alaskan swimming, mountain hikes and Spaghetti Utensil Night provided much entertainment. Other highlights included visiting Stony River (a significant village in Jeanne's childhood) and reconnecting with Elissa's grandparents.

On her return, Elissa resumed work at Westmont in her new position of Lab Coordinator in the Psychology department. Among her duties: supervising the care & keeping of rats, and interacting with students. The rats weren't the only ones experimented on as Elissa tried her hand at teaching. The teaching experiment will continue in grad school, which she hopes to attend this coming fall. – *Adelle*



Oboe Obsession

Cont. from Pg. 2

larger college community. She particularly enjoyed traveling on choir tour throughout the southern U.S. and in Europe.

– Jeanne



Musical Dissonance:
The Spice of Life.
Exclusive Dealer, Adelle



Super Boarder?



The Rodkey core wel- would make Frozone
comed a new member to the jealous. Perhaps his
household this fall. With mild- late hours and unexplained
mannered Eric Mbanda's ar- scrapes hint at his secret iden-
rival we were all introduced to tity: *Super-Boarder?!?*
Superman and Smallville. Eric, Eric and Erik share another ob-
session: fascin-
ation with
films. Eric is
studying at
Santa Barbara
City College in
preparation
for transfer-
ring into USC,
where he
hopes to ma-
jor in film-mak-
ing. – Jeanne



Wanted:

Large, clean, dry enclosed area
suitable for rebuilding small
airplane. Must be free, near
Goleta, CA. See John.

Wanted:

Large, clean, dry enclosed area
suitable for storing and sorting large
quantities of books. Must be free,
near Goleta, CA. Contact Jeanne.

Rodkey Family Travels

Disappointed in their van's reliability (no break-
downs on their vacation trips to the Pacific Northw-
est in two years), the Rodkey family sought
adventure by back- packing in the Los Padres
Forest near Ojai. Choosing the hot-
test day in the height of sum-
mer, and selecting the
steepest possible trail
for our three-day trek
may not have been
wise, but the beauty of
the red- wood grove
and spring at the top
com- pensate
d for their blister
s and sun- burn
. They were som
ewhat chag- rined
to later learn of the exist-
ence of a road to the top: the
hike down is easily done in a day -
even the forest rangers take the down-
hill route!



Not to be outdone, Erik hiked 35 miles with friends
in the wilderness north of Santa Ynez during the
rainiest week in years, and survived flooding rivers,
several day delays and poison oak. Erik does not
have fond feelings for the Sheriff's search and
rescue helicopter crew, called up to find the delayed
hikers, which, after locating them, proceeded to de-
part without providing desperately needed sup-
plies. Three days on half-rations while fording
raging rivers does wonders for one's appetite. – John

Rodkeys Recommend Watching ...

Hoodwinked
Les Choristes
Bleak House (2005)
Young and Innocent
Triplettes of Belleville*
Remains of the Day

Whale Rider
Brick*
Monk
Foyle's War
Dear Frankie
*Not for the faint of heart

Removing the propeller from
the denuded Chief.



Jeanne's Books' Travel the World

At the time of publication, Jeanne has shipped
at least 2918 books to over 100 missionary fam-
ilies in more than 24 countries.

Want more info? Contact Jeanne

The Sage

Q. To my chagrin, I was not invited to a Philos
Adelphos event. What would be the most
appropriate response to this oversight? - slighted in
Santa Barbara

A. Weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth come to
mind. Have you any sackcloth and ashes near to
hand?

Q. My father has grossly misrepresented my
philosophical views. Shall I speak to him in private,
or, as the article was published, would it be
appropriate to write a formal response? Anonymous
Aristotelian.

A. You have every right to be heard in your own
voice in the same venue, so to correct the
misrepresentation, pick up a pen and ...

Oh wait! You don't believe in the existence of pens.

Arts & Letters



Philos Adelphos

A Tea was held 'midst the lush gardens of the Rodkey estate during the summer of 2005. Choice desserts and steaming hot tea were interspersed with readings from favorite authors in varied accents and jollity.

Of a darker design was the Dickensian Dinner, held in the late days of winter, 2005, displaying a delectable spread complete with Figgy Pudding and Wassail to appropriately dressed dinner-guests who filled the evening with interest and intrigue. These and other events (including the world finals of toga badminton) were sponsored by the prestigious and exclusive society 'Philos Adlephos', which, rumor has it, is planning the next dinner upon yet another scheme, which has not at the time of this publication been disclosed. – Erik



On a Literary Tea

Sing heigh-ho for a literary tea,
for a literary tea so jolly...

My mother dear,
I greatly fear,
insists that such is folly,

But I think not:
such thought is rot,
and I'll have mine, by golly!



Rodkeys Recommend Reading

Once on a time (Milne)
Godel, Escher, Bach (Hofstadter)
The man who was Thursday (G.K.C.)



Movie Review: Les Choristes

Les Choristes has won this year's distinguished "Elwood" award for best film at the Rodkey Film Festival. This charming foreign film (French, with subtitles) follows a teacher who forms a chorus at an abusive post-WWII boarding school for troubled boys. While it follows the typical arc of the "virtuous music teacher" story line, the school's harsh brutality keeps Les Choristes from the genre's most predictable pitfalls.

The film's joys, when they come, are surprising and delicate. Although it is rumored that the "Elwood" judges were biased in their choice by their notorious weakness for music, and children's chorus music in particular, one can see why: the mostly original music is breathtaking. – Elissa



Related Resources ...

<http://www.zeitah.net>
<http://derry.westmont.edu/zeitah>
<http://zeitahdata.blogspot.com>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mereological_nihilism
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aritotelianism>
<http://mygrowlery.blogspot.com>
<http://kristicity.blogspot.com>

Letters to the Editor

We haven't received the 2005 edition of Rodkey Reader!

What happened?

– Devastated in Dallas

The Rodkey household was hit by a minor outbreak of the plague over Christmas break, when the Rodkey Reader is traditionally written.

I want to emulate your excellent publication, but have had difficulty installing Linux and Scribus. What can I do?

– Bill in Redmond

Fear not! Scribus is now available for Mac and Windows as well as Linux!

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