

# Wisdom of the Satellites



Kester of Harlan

# Wisdom of the Satellites

by Kester of Harlan

This book is a private publication that exists only for the pleasure of the Chalk Man Satellites. All other uses are null & void.

In the 70's & 80's, a group of fun people created the group pseudonym Kester of Harlan to share words. The name is resurrected here to indicate the contributions and words of many, though curated by a committee of one.

Photos of the Galilean Moons, Titan, & Luna compliments of NASA. Katie served as Beta reader, and contributed the last wisdom. Released Friday 14 May 2021 at the 'Not War Practice' gathering at Cooper's Lake.

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## Dedication:

For **John Kostuch**  
the center of gravity  
around whom  
the satellites orbit.

For **Katie Zukauskas**  
who asked me  
to write the book.

And for **Shawn Ferry**  
because he's  
a fucking delight.

## **Wisdom #1:**

What happens at Pennsic  
stays at Pennsic

## **Into the Pandemic**

The world shuts down  
and two weeks later  
John & Shawn  
open a new world  
where all previous toasts  
are null & void.

MidWinter in Quebec City  
is mourned, while  
a new virtual reality  
is navigated with  
drinks & garb &  
name-calling.  
We're on our own  
for booze & bar games  
but at least we're  
on our own together.

John surveys  
the will of the Satellites.  
Virtual Union Breaks  
will continue for now.  
The sun & the planets are  
aligned. We carry on  
& say "Fuck you"  
to Coronavirus disease  
COVID-19.

## **Wisdom #2:**

All Union Breaks  
are a part of Pennsic

## **Random Snippet #1:**

Shawn's wearing a cocked pentacock

## **Packages in the Mail**

Morien passionately reads  
the instruction book  
for the rechargeable  
pink massager.

Deadpan slays.

Faced with anonymous  
& inappropriate deliveries  
to his house  
he makes funny lemonade.

He is a practical man,  
after all,  
John Stuart Mills  
is his co-pilot.

## **Interlude #1:**

Is he gone yet?  
Can we talk about him now?

## **A Night in the Life...**

Jeff,  
the man with his own  
walkup music,  
takes us along  
at work  
as he roust gamblers  
in pandemic-induced  
withdrawal.

## **Unmentionables Mentioned**

Undergarments visit the conversation  
with disturbing frequency.  
The No fly/No buy rule is in effect.  
Shawn is the boxer/brief fashionista.  
Tonia liberates ta-tas with a broad smile.  
Hornwood goes without...

## **Interlude #2:**

Are they gone yet?  
Can we talk about them now?

## **Zoom Glory Days**

Ta & Mym  
share high school memories.

An 80's soundtrack  
follows long ago adventures  
into a new medium.

In a room comprised  
of boxed heads  
genuine friendship shines  
in the gleam of eyes.

## **Random Snippet #2:**

“Hey man, sorry about your penis”

## **Fleeting Memory #1:**

Cormac's disembodied voice  
persists as his webcam takes  
a slow boat from Hong Kong

## **Two-Handed Salute**

Katie gives John  
a one-finger salute

with both hands  
weaving an intricate message

like a maestro  
instructing an orchestra  
on what to do.

But she really wants to know is:

“Who hurt you John?  
Who did this to you?”

John changes the subject  
smoothly, with gussets  
& Land Rovers  
as go-to's.

## **Interlude #3:**

Suddenly  
a stegosaurus  
appears on the right

## **Random Snippet #3:**

I've got good boobs  
for everything,  
I've got good *boots*  
for this hat

## **Wisdom #3:**

You heard what you wanted to hear

## **Fleeting Memory #2:**

Spontaneous hat nights  
invade zoom  
for no good reason  
except to pretend  
we're outside  
and need hats.

## **Sharing a Passion**

John takes us on the road  
to Singapore  
in 1955  
aboard "the first overland"  
expedition  
in two Land Rovers.

He recounts the recovery  
of the one named 'Oxford'  
from life as a chicken coop  
on Ascension Island  
just south of the equator  
in the middle of the Atlantic.

Restored to make  
the overland trip again  
the car renamed "Old Girl"  
returns to action

reminding us  
we're never  
too old.

# Ghost War Practice

## 23 May 2020

A new webcam is installed on the desktop.  
Garb has been recovered  
from the basement.  
Ghost War Practice slowly creeps in  
dragging rattling chains that pull  
a cart of Extra Gold...

Tigger & Angus look splendid

Will looks rugged

Brandon Zoombombs  
Maggie's tongue gymnastics  
as she outrolls the room.

Katie's slashed ChalkMan shirt  
has a friend.

Melly makes dice

Melina shows off the kitten *du jour*

Mo breaks out the furry hat  
& Alex gives a thumbs up.

A SCAvenger Hunt is held  
from Hawaii to Quebec City to Georgia.

Todd sets up the bar in a new location  
and we share co-ordinates &  
personal swill on his porch.

Vern, Morien, Cormac, Jeff, Jim,  
quiet Will & loud Falco  
stop in for a laugh. No worries.  
There is infinite room at this bar.



# **The Outside World**

## **25 May 2020**

The murder of George Floyd  
fills the ether  
& fills the Union Break!  
with distress.

Three hundred million  
housebound Americans  
cannot escape the knee  
on the back of their neck.

A country can't breathe  
for eleven months  
until the brutally obvious  
is confirmed in court

only to cause the issue  
to fall out of the news cycle  
within 48 hours

because the lack of protest  
at doing the correct thing  
won't garner ratings.

### **Random Snippet #4:**

All legs matter  
but this leg is broken

### **Wisdom #4:**

Getting together to help cope  
with the inescapable awfulness  
has never been more important

## ***Motum Manus***

Mym migrates  
phone still clutched  
as she walks outside  
to take a smoke.  
Hands always in action  
spinning  
sewing.  
The moving camera  
having writ moves on  
but Mym's hands  
keep going.

## **Interlude #4:**

Is she gone yet?  
Can we talk about her now?

## **Fleeting Memory #3:**

Laptops walk:  
Todd & Amanda give a tour  
of the beer cave

## **Wisdom #5:**

You gotta want to come  
[variant]  
You gotta want to do it

## **Random Snippet #5:**

Teledildonics is back in play

# Binding Force

To ChalkMan Satellites  
the moon over E-17  
is a binding force  
pulling us close.

We share moon Zooms  
and Lunar photos  
to acknowledge  
the tidal force  
of our system,  
of our love.

Remember that the ancients  
named the planets  
after their gods.

Then let us recognize  
our own pantheon  
walking among the stars:

ChalkMan  
Lusty Wench  
Al-Karakal  
Rire Sanglier  
Hornwood  
Medieval Beaver  
Vestgard

## **New Perspectives**

The day we discovered  
Zoom boxes  
could be clicked and dragged

Brady-boxing reached new heights  
and for the first time  
we got to see Sean on bottom.

## **Wisdom #6:**

Don't Fuck It Up

## **Interlude #5:**

A hairy stegosaurus  
bobs across the screen  
like an ancient sea serpent  
breaching

## **Socialization**

Society likes the world to be neat,  
and denies messiness.  
It wants to put people in a box.

I am of this society.

I want to put you in a box  
and I expect that you  
want to put me in a box.

Please know  
I am sincere in my request,  
that you ignore my box  
and be yourself.

And know that I will be myself,  
whether you like it or not.

## **Fleeting Memory #4:**

Fandoms are shared  
Katie's Jessica Jones  
Herb's mystery magazines  
& *Xena: Warrior Princess*

## **Wisdom #7:**

"Well bless your heart"  
can mean a lot of different things  
it just depends  
on how you say it

## **Torch Passing**

Ta wins  
Wrong Answers Only  
until Vern shows up

## **Interlude #6:**

Joe stops by  
just to say  
"fuck you"

## **Can't a Man Sleep in Peace?**

Ryan's feet  
on Fans Only  
the legend begins...

## **Fleeting Memory #5:**

It's part of the mango revolution

## **Outer Orbit**

Aloha from Hawaii  
provokes weather report  
and a check on airfare rates  
for a visit  
that in the  
best of all possible worlds  
would already  
have happened

## **Wisdom #8:**

There are no secrets in tent town

## **A Chalk Man Night Cap 24 July 2020**

Tadea Isabetta (Tracey)  
reads *Goodnight Brew*  
by Ann E. Briated

while Angus snoozes  
with alcoholic tremors

and the satellites  
coordinated toasting

proves to be  
not even close  
to synchronized

but all is captured  
for posterity

preserved by John  
& Twitch  
and with reverence  
for silliness.

# **A Little Piece of Pennsic**

Spontaneous Pennsic  
breaks out at *chez* Todd.

Amanda & Eve  
share a good drunk with us.  
“Boobies!”

The physical bar on the porch  
joins the virtual party.  
We are together outside.  
Sort of.

## **Wisdom #9:**

Don't stick your dick in crazy

## **Wisdom #10:**

No surprise butt sex

## **Pennsic 2020 Open AETHER (Camp) Events...**

by Hennessy MacAdder

Friday July 24 @ 10:30 pm – Chalk Man Night Cap  
– twitch

Saturday July 25 @ 8:00-11:00 pm – Union Break!  
– zoom

Tuesday July 28 @ 12 pm – Sangria Tuesday – zoom

Friday July 21 @ 9 pm – Music Competition – twitch

Saturday August 1 @ 8:00-11:00 pm – Union Break!  
– zoom

Sunday August 2 @ 7 pm – Beer Tasting – zoom

Tuesday August 4 @ 6 pm – Sangria Tuesday – zoom

Friday August 7 @ 8:00-11:00 pm Union Break!  
– zoom

Saturday August 8 @ 8:00-11:00 pm – Union Break!  
-- zoom

## **AEther Tasting**

In any normal context

virtual  
means having the appearance & sound  
of the real thing,  
but without any actual substance  
texture, taste, smell, feel.

Todd makes the virtual beer tasting  
literally intoxicating.

And adds comics.

These are the ways of a man  
with such a prestigious beer cave.

## **Fleeting Memory #6:**

Satellites sing "Happy Birthday"  
to Amelie. The pain lingers.

## **Wisdom #11:**

Do NOT dip  
peanut butter sandwiches  
in chili (Effing WP)

## **Interlude #7:**

Stegosaurus finger puppet  
joins the conversation.

He would NEVER dip  
peanut butter sandwiches  
in chili



## **Wisdom #12:**

Don't forget  
your  
emotional support  
Canadians

## **Other Programming**

Shawn's cooking show  
zooms kimchee  
fresh bread  
"My meat is done."

Gordon Ramsey  
can eat his heart out.

## **Fleeting Memory #7:**

Jackie takes over  
Ryan's camera

flirts the room

offers all  
a contact high

## **Wisdom #13:**

If you bring along  
your own velvet ropes,  
anywhere you go  
can be the VIP section.

## **Random Snippet #6:**

Speaking of fucking...

# **The Spirit of Youth**

Ryan the purveyor  
of tall tales  
& shaggy dog stories  
makes his California King  
bigger with each telling.

His real experiences  
French kiss Paul Bunyan.

A titty bar in Florida  
holds the Fountain of Youth.

Air plane fuel  
launches adventures

and everyone  
he mentions meeting  
goes drinking with him.

Well,  
who wouldn't?

## **Interlude #8:**

Is he asleep yet?  
Can we talk about him?

## **Random Snippet #7:**

Steel Reserve: worst beer ever

## **Collected References**

Steve Bannon's  
multiply layered  
collared shirts.

Frostburn

Upper Macedonia

Letterkenny:  
"it was a sick ostrich"  
"To be fair..."  
"I regret nothing"  
& so much more

Malört horrifies  
all but Shawn

Bernard's Lego collection

"I'm out"

Girl cat & boy cat

John's baklava

## **Random Snippet #8:**

Hopefully he meant that  
in the sexual way  
rather than the cannibalistic

## **Interlude #9:**

Is he gone yet?  
Can we talk about him now?

## **Shared Expertise**

Talk of craft beer  
& mixed drinks  
reaches the level  
of high-class sommeliers.

You'd think  
we were in a bar  
or something.

## **Wisdom #14:**

Lusty wenches  
do what they do

## **Fleeting Memory #8:**

Pennsic medallion wind chime

## **Ether MidWinter 24 October 2020**

Union Breaks continue  
not just for now,  
but indefinitely.

The unknown  
is battered down  
by friends  
hurling insults  
and fond memories.

## **Wisdom #15:**

There's a lot of ways to say  
fuck you

# **Master of Ceremonies**

John leads  
armed with a Lego Land Rover  
and a hockey scoring light  
he sets off  
when the Penguins score.

He has such a big screen  
he can watch the hockey game  
from the end of the room  
while running Jackbox games  
at his desk.

Not that he's compensating  
for anything  
with the size of his television.  
That would be his Blue Yeti  
Microphone.

## **Interlude #10:**

Is he gone yet?  
Can we talk about him now?

## **Random Snippet #9:**

It's a little squeezer for Little Caesar's

## **Fleeting Memory #9:**

Suction cup butt plugs

## **Fleeting Memory #10:**

Piss off, we're closed!

# How to Tell a True Chalk Man Story

Pennsic backgrounds  
provoke homesickness.

The Chalk Man website  
hosts a nostalgia tour  
of decades of events.

Finally screenshots  
of Union Break!s  
are added.

The pictures don't lie  
but they don't tell  
the whole story.

Theorists call it transmedia.  
when a narrative  
spreads across platforms  
such as

Twitch, Zoom, this book,  
Cooper's Lake &  
Mid-Winter Festivals.

We call it fun.

Now we need to add  
the sound recordings  
of Jeff telling  
classic stories.

A true chalk story  
is not easily erased

and outlasts  
consumption of pallets  
of beer

but nothing is ever written  
in stone except epitaphs

and war stories  
merit drunken discussion  
as life on the hill evolves  
beer by beer.

# **Her Time in the Spotlight 25 January 2021**

Office Kitty  
gets her own  
following,  
truly a diva  
playing hard to get  
yet posing  
for the camera  
like a movie star  
of the classic era.

If ever there were  
a glamour cat  
to own the screen  
and please  
the masses, it is she.

Her fans are crushed  
when she leaves  
the stage  
a final time.

## **Interlude #11**

A plushie stegosaurus  
weeps over the death  
of Office Kitty

# **A Question of Animal Rights**

The possum story,

the goat story,

education in  
bird sex  
& learning about cloaca,

(Why do we need  
to know this?  
Oh, yeah. Inquiring minds  
and all that.)

the death of  
Office Kitty.

We're a prime target  
for the SPCA.

## **Random Snippet #10:**

I got laid to  
Tori Amos'  
*Little Earthquakes*  
I'll own that

## **Random Snippet #11:**

Alex Jones  
says the government  
is making the frogs gay

## **Wisdom #16:**

The Cake is a lie



## **Interlude #12:**

Is he gone yet?  
Can we talk about him now?

## **Off the Clock**

Union Break: After Hours  
moves microphones  
to breathy distance,  
embraces the night  
with intimate talk  
by turns private  
& profane. Things  
are spoken that should not  
see the light of day.

## **Random Snippet #12:**

“Automagically”

## **Counting the Toll**

The longer  
the pandemic endures  
the more John & Sean look  
like faculty at Hogwarts.

Maybe we all do.

We could cosplay this fucker  
and monetize.

Chalk Man University  
*Fans Only* for drinking  
instead of kinking.

## **Wisdom #17:**

Ya'll can go fuck yourselves

## **Wisdom #18:**

Fuck all ya all

## **Random Snippet #13:**

So what does a dinosaur cock look like?

## **Jackbox Nights**

*Trivia Murder Party:*

Ta wins

*Guesspionage:*

Ta wins. Ryan, too.

*You Don't Know Jack:*

Ta wins.

*Drawful:*

the art world loses  
with a laugh.

## **Wisdom #19:**

You can't write this book  
without using the word nipples

## **Interlude #13:**

We've spent a lot  
of Saturday nights  
in this room

## **Shipping Permitted**

In steps and stages  
the virtual world  
moves to a physical economy.

Chalk Man shirts  
are worn and bartered.

Katie makes  
Lusty Wench merch  
available on demand.

Pennsic Plague medallions  
commemorate a lost war.

## **Random Snippet #14:**

Dave claims that  
moving to Hawaii with  
a pregnant cat is  
“the crazy lady starter kit”

## **Fleeting Memory #11:**

Beard balms are critiqued

## **The Outside World Again 6 January 2021**

A room full of monarchists  
is aghast at the assault  
on democracy.

Appeasement is put  
back in the cupboard  
in the face of something  
so undeniably wrong.

## **Another Hat Moment**

In solidarity (or mockery)  
of Miya Ponsetto  
“Daddy” hats are purchased  
& Brandon memories recalled.  
Shawn,  
ever the outlier  
goes with Papi  
just to give everyone  
the finger,  
with love.

## ***Cucumis Sativus Vaccinus***

Talk of a COVID cucumber  
inspires Ta to share  
a green monster  
that she denies  
any involvement  
of buying. Nor does she  
explain why Danny  
bought it for her...

## **Fleeting Memory #12:**

Inauguration Day:  
all toasts become  
valid & appropriate

## **Young Blood**

Ryan's 40's collection  
is memorialized  
movie poster style  
for a Union Break  
because  
we're all actors living  
in Ryan's world.

## **Fleeting Memory #13:**

Brandon checks in  
while prepping for  
The Appalachian Trail

## **Interlude #14:**

Is he gone yet?  
Can we talk about him now?

## **Wisdom #20:**

The ways to say fuck you multiply

## **Random Snippet #15:**

Cod Piece = Stunt Junk

## **Fleeting Memory #14:**

Handlebar mustaches were a thing. Briefly.

# **This Poem Is a Selection of Union Break Names**

by Hennessy MacAdder

3/28/20 MidWinter Pandemic Session  
4/4/21-7/11/20 Union Break!  
7/18/21 Project Night Cap  
8/1/20 AEther Pennsic  
8/8/20 "All my dreams are dead, and what's the point o..."  
8/7/20 Final Friday Special  
8/15/20 Post Pennsic P(B)lues  
8/22/20 Union Break!! w/your other friends  
8/25/20 last of August  
9/5/20 Steel Reserve  
9/12/20 Union Break!! ...Rolls On  
9/19/20 Natty Light Peanuts  
9/26/20 First Fall  
10/10/20 Miller Donuts  
10/17 Folded Worries  
10/24/20 Ether MidWinter  
11/7/20 Union Break!! Why Not?  
11/11/20 Midweek Union Break  
11/14/20 The Dark Poutine of the Soul  
11/26/20 Thanksgiving (US) Style  
12/5/20 Wrong Answers  
12/12/20 Burrito Blanket  
12/19/20 Iron Crotch KungFu  
12/26/20 Xmas2020  
1/2/21 Forklift Sinkhole  
1/6/21 Inauguration Day  
1/9/21 Union Break!! 09JAN21  
1/16/21 Heated Tent  
1/23/21 Put A Bernie In It  
1/30/21 You Don't Know Jack  
2/6/21 MidWinter in the Ether  
2/13/21 Jack'd 2  
2/20/20 Cake Bed  
2/27/21 Asshole Rising  
3/6/21 ZombieStateofMind  
3/13/21 Orange Peels  
3/20/21 March 358  
3/27/21 Midwinter Pandemic Session II  
3/28/21 Sangria Sunday [one-year anniversary]

## **Pub Fusion**

Plans emerge  
to introduce  
virtual fun  
to physical Pennsic.

Frames  
for a Zoom Union Break  
escalate, with yellow LED's.

Finally, we'll have  
no mute button.

I bet we still can't sing  
in unison.

## **The Moon Calls Us Back**

Sangria Sunday  
is the one year anniversary  
of Union Break!

and ends with reservations  
at Cooper's Lake  
for an alignment of the satellites.

Anticipation & relief  
batter emotional systems.

Block D-30 will be ours...

## Wisdom of the Satellites

when you've travelled  
a million night skies  
in the same moving circle

drunk a thousand intoxications

kissed two lips a thousand times  
or kissed two thousand lips

loved, married, divorced

procreated, raised children  
seen them fly the nest

mended broken hearts  
with laughter excusing tears

said hello not enough  
said goodbye too often  
even though you've  
sometimes been cheated  
out of that pain

when you've done all of that  
turning the dirt on a hill  
into the center of a universe

then wisdom  
grows on moonbeams  
piercing through the dark

leading satellites to gather  
in the ether  
standing against the forces  
that tear down every age

raging against entropy  
with love



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