

The Fnord of Eris

or

Babylon the Great

being

The Collection of Sacred Texts

Considered Holy Canon

in the Worship Practiced by

the Prophet Saint Matty

And His Disciples



¡Sjæfts södewaus ñu P'me Léu!

Say not, "I have found the truth,"
but rather, "I have found a truth."

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I. Genesis

In the beginning were Peter Gabriel, Anthony Phillips, Tony Banks, Mike Rutherford, and Chris Stewart. But during the early sessions Chris Stewart left; and then there was John Silver. But John Silver was replaced by John Mayhew. And they were stable until after the release of *Trespass*, whereupon Anthony Phillips took ill and developed stage fright; and left. And in the aftermath of his departure, John Mayhew was given the sack; and then there was Phil Collins.

Mick Barnard stood in for Anthony Phillips, but the others did not think him up to their calibre. Steve Hackett, from *Quiet World*, joined them. And for five years they were happy.

And after five years came *The Lamb Lies Down On Broadway*. And Peter Gabriel left the others; and he walked thence alone. And Phil Collins took his place at the front. And Roger Taylor, who was the Queen's man, was offered the place of Phil Collins; but he refused. And Bill Bruford agreed to take the place of Phil Collins, while he took the place of Peter Gabriel. And then Chester Thompson replaced Bill Bruford.

And it came to pass that Steve Hackett became disenchanted; and he left. And he walked thence alone. And Mike Rutherford took his place at the left. And Daryl Stuermer aided Mike Rutherford, sometimes taking his place at the left, sometimes taking his place at the right. And for twenty years they were happy.

And after twenty years Phil Collins left. And he walked thence alone. And thereafter was much misery and chaos; and Daryl Stuermer and Chester Thompson were lost upon the way; and others came and went, and they were: Nir Zidkyahu and Nick D'Virgilio, and Anthony Drennan, and Ray Wilson; and others approached but did not come all the way, and they were: Paul Carrack, and Fish, and Peter Gabriel, and Kevin Gilbert who died before his audition. And David Langdon, who sucked, and hence Ray Wilson got the job. But it was the end.

II. Matty

1. Chaos

In his youth that Saint Matty who is most wise and mighty and wonderful and sexy took for himself a wife. And his wife's name is Shell; and she is most soft and warm and spunky and cute. The youth of Saint Matty was most misguided and unholy; and he did silly things, and said silly stuff, and was generally a bit of a prat. And taking for his wife Shell, Saint Matty unknowingly set himself on the path of utmost Holy Glory. For within her burned the Holy Light of Chao, whether she knew it or not.

The parents of Shell were rowdy and rough, and their household was damaging to the fibre. And Shell had heard of Saint Matty, who was at that time wild and unholy. And Shell contrived that Saint Matty should come to her parents' household. And at the contrivance of Shell, Saint Matty came to lodge at the household of her parents. And Saint Matty witnessed first-hand the rowdiness and roughness of that household; and he beheld the softness and warmth and spunk and cuteness of Shell. And Saint Matty resolved to rescue her from that rowdy and rough household.

Upon a time Saint Matty took up Shell in his mighty arms, and covering her with his cloak did carry her forth thus hidden from the household of her parents. And he made for himself a dwelling, and took Shell to live with him in utter debaucherous sin; although she still visited her parents' household from time to time.

For the turning of a year that twain lived together in utter debaucherous sin in the dwelling of Saint Matty. And after the year had turned, it came to Saint Matty that he would take Shell for his wife. So he did. And her parents' blessing was upon their union and their dwelling. And another year turned, and Saint Matty and his wife outgrew their dwelling; and they moved from place to place. And Shell fell pregnant; but the germ of a child within her did not take hold, and it was lost. And Saint Matty was distraught, and his energies were devoted to comforting his wife; and so began the gentling of the wildness of Saint Matty.

And Summer gave way to Winter, and again Shell fell pregnant. And the child grew within her, and was born. And the first born child of Saint Matty and Shell was a girl; and they named their daughter Bridget. And the second born child of Saint Matty and Shell was a girl; and they named her Meredith.

The maintaining of a dwelling, and the caring for a wife before and during her pregnancies, and the raising of children, did settle Saint Matty. And his thoughts turned from wild unholiness to Wisdom and Sacred Contemplation. And through the dependence and love of Shell was that one who was known as Matty created anew as Saint Matty; and the world is so blessed because of Shell. All Praise Her!

2. Discovernation

Saint Matty discovered the Chao through his wife Shell, though he did not know its form or name; but he knew its nature. And the Sacred Chao that burned within her was the first of several that Saint Matty discovered. And it became his most Sacred Mission to discover the form and the name of these Chaos.

The First Chao of Saint Matty burned within the heart of his wife who is Shell; and this is its rightful place, for who can profess to understand the Chaotic inner workings of a woman?

The Second Chao of Saint Matty dwelled in the skies above him, and he recognised it at once having seen that Chao within his wife; for who can profess to understand the Chaotic ways of the winds and the weather?

The Third Chao of Saint Matty existed in the very earth beneath his feet, though it took much meditation for him to recognise it; for it is very slow to act, but unstoppable in its power. And the earth is the rightful place of the Third Chao, for who can profess to understand the Chaotic movements of the earth and the mountains and the islands and the lands?

The Fourth Chao of Saint Matty was found in the ripples and waves of water. And it would have been the Second or Third Chao, but Saint Matty thought it was a bit too obvious; for who can profess to understand the Chaotic ebb and flow of water?

The Fifth Chao of Saint Matty resides with the stars in heaven; for though they seem constant and eternally unchanging, there are forces amongst the stars more slow and utterly powerful than even the lands and mountains of the earth. And who can profess to understand the Chaotic, stupendous dance of the stars?

And Saint Matty recognised the Chaos for what they were, but he did not know their form or name.

And it came to pass that Saint Matty meditated on the Five Chaos he had discovered. And in his mediation Saint Matty had an

epiphany. And the epiphany of Saint Matty was that the nature of the Chaos was female, and that the Chaos permeated all things; and therefore all things are female. And that One that is all must be female in nature, for its nature is of the Chaos. And men are alone in a world which they cannot hope to understand; for man is simple, and the world is Chaotic. And there is no Truth, as men seek it, for men are not of the same nature as the world. So while one may seek ever greater understanding, one should not seek the Truth; for there is no Truth fnowd.

3. Divisination

In the time of Saint Matty people were stupid; and the stupid people were ignorant of their own minds. Through their very silence, the masses cried out to Saint Matty, saying: Lo! Saint Matty! We are stupid; show us the way, that we may seem as wise and as mighty and as wonderful and as sexy as your most wise and mighty and wonderful and sexy self!

And Saint Matty took pity upon the silent stupid masses, for he saw that they were not wise nor mighty nor wonderful nor sexy like himself.

And Saint Matty climbed upon a high place, and that high place is called Teh Intarweb, and he shouted his message so that all who would could hear it; and in hearing, maybe become almost as wise and mighty and wonderful and sexy as Saint Matty.

And Saint Matty spake unto the masses, saying: Whosoever questions what is told to him, I will show you who he is like: He is like a man who planted his crops in the shifting soil: and the roots of the crops penetrated the soil deeply, and bound it together so that it was stable to walk upon, but it was still loose enough that the man could plough up the crops when they were harvested, and plant new seeds: for they were planted in the soil. But he that hears, and does not question, is like a man that scattered his seeds on bare rock; where the seeds did not shoot, and the crops did not grow; and the man was starved.

And the masses cried out in their silence, shouting praises and thanks for the wisdom of Saint Matty. And the young women who had not yet known a man offered themselves to him. And the young women who had known a man also offered themselves to him. And some of the old women who had known a man offered themselves to him; as did some of the men who had also known a man. And the poor showered Saint Matty with gold; and the rich begged him for scraps in the street. Such was the obvious meaning of their clamorous silence. And Saint Matty was well pleased.

And it came to pass in that time that day wheeled into night, and night wheeled into another day that was a lot like the first day, except not. And a voice spoke unto Saint Matty from Teh Intarweb. And it was the voice of a chick; and the voice said: "Thought I would pop in and say hello. Found you through your banner and am enjoying the read."

And lo! Saint Matty was startled to hear a voice in that realm of silence. And Saint Matty meditated.

During the meditation of Saint Matty many forces assailed him; trying to break his concentration. And the sound of a babbling baby entered his mind. And the noise as of heavy feet clomping on a sheet iron roof. But Saint Matty was steadfast, and turned his thoughts to the silence of Teh Intarweb. And he was comforted. And that Bard who is most Holy after Saint Matty spake unto Saint Matty. And Bard told Saint Matty of his visions; and Saint Matty was inspired. And then a great voice shattered the silence of Teh Intarweb; and the voice called out to Saint Matty, saying: Stop! Hammertime!

And Saint Matty looked with confusion on the words out of the abyss. And Saint Matty went from that place to another place. And then to another place. And then he went back to the second place, because the third place wasn't as nice, and he was still a little worried by the first place. And darkness came to Saint Matty; and he slept.

Saint Matty slept for forty years; and in the Sleep of Saint Matty a year passed as it were nine minutes; and so while he slept for forty years, six hours passed. And in the Sleep of Saint Matty, that was forty years long, visions appeared to him; and there was a vision as of a large clock with a red face with eight sides, and a claw hammer for the hour hand and a ball-pein hammer for the minute hand; and there was a vision as of a thing that was sort of like a giant carrot except it was walking around but it didn't have any legs; and there was a vision as of a young woman whose face was veiled in shadow, and whose body glistened in the darkness as though covered with a gossamer coat of salty water; and many visions were visited upon Saint Matty during his sleep.

Upon waking from his forty year sleep, Saint Matty remembered the first word from the abyss, and he spake it aloud. And activity ceased in his vicinity for a passing of time. And he knew it was a word of true power.

And Saint Matty recalled the vision during his forty year sleep that was as of a large clock with a red face with eight sides, and a claw

hammer for the hour hand and a ball-peine hammer for the minute hand; and Saint Matty was brought to mind of the second word from the abyss. And he knew it was a word of true power.

And Saint Matty recalled the visions that were as of young women with veiled faces; and Saint Matty went and had a cold shower.

4. Liliput

Upon a time there was a Lady from a Noble house. And that Noble Lady's name was Lili. And that Noble Lady Lili did profess the knowledge of true wisdom and faith.

Saint Matty did converse with that Noble Lili; debating truth and wisdom and faith. That Noble Lady did proffer her wisdom. And this is the profession of that Noble Lady Lili: "I believe that *there* is something out there that guides people. But you must believe in yourself. Not something else that is bigger and stronger that is going to get you if you do something 'wrong'. I believe that as long as *you* believe in yourself you will have the courage to be able to do anything. And that doesn't mean just getting what you want. 'Cause not all the time everyone knows exactly what it is they want. The right thing always happens."

And then she made him write it down, and ran away before he could ask her anything else.

And Saint Matty mulled over the words of Lady Lili. And in his contemplation Saint Matty climbed to the pinnacle of Teh Intarweb. And he saw that one had been there before him, and had graven a message in the living stone of the mountain peak. And that message was carven of letters forty centimetres tall; and it said:

КРАСИВЫЙ РУССКИЙ НЕВЕСТЫ! КОЛОРИТНЫЙ МАНДЫ!

ГОЛЬИЙ ПЕЗДА!! ДЕВОЧКЬ!!!

And Saint Matty sought comfort in the words; but what comfort he found there was false comfort.

And Lo! Saint Matty called out from the pinnacle of Teh Intarweb; and his voice rang out over the lands.

Saint Matty cried out a first time, saying: Stop! And all fell silent.

Saint Matty cried out a second time, saying: Believe in yourself and you will have the courage to do anything! And there was a quiet murmur.

Saint Matty cried out a third time, saying: Hammertime! And with that Word there came a deep rumbling from the earth, as of many

elephants who have ingested too much ex-lax, and Teh Intarweb quaked to its very foundation, and the skies boiled, and Seven winds blew, and dust got absolutely everywhere.

And Saint Matty reached out with his hand and touched the graven message; and Lo! the message crumbled, and the words of false comfort were destroyed utterly, and ground into fine powder. And in their place was a symbol etched into the living stone. And the symbol was as a circle divided in twain by a twice-arc'd wiggle; and on one side of the wiggle was a pentagon; and on the other side of the wiggle was an apple. And Saint Matty dropped to his knees and cried out: "Holy cow!" And a gentle voice emanated from the symbol, and it said: "Yes, kneel before me, for I am the Holy Chao." And Saint Matty wept for joy, and he was Enlightened.

5. Provenience

Saint Matty was that one who first discovered the nature of the Chaos. And he first understood the nature of the Chaos. And it was revealed to Saint Matty the form of the Chaos, that they were as a circle divided in twain by a twice-arc'd wiggle; and on one side of the wiggle was a pentagon, and on the other side of the wiggle was an apple. And it was revealed to him the name of the Chaos, that each was called a Chao, and that they were all called the Chaos. And in the time after these revelations, Saint Matty did wander about like a Nimbenite; seeing all things with wonder and amazement. And he did say: "Wow" a lot. And after wandering for days, Saint Matty slept.

On the first night Saint Matty slept, One came to him in a vision, as it were a woman with colourless hair and pale skin and green eyes; And in Her left hand was a pentagon of pure obsidian, and in Her right hand was an apple of pure gold. And on the apple was graven the word *καλλιστη*. And She spoke, and Her voice was as the snow-topped mountains. And She said: "Hey dude. What's up?" And Saint Matty was startled by Her presence, and he replied: "Hey. Not much, really. You?" And She said unto him: "Cool, yeah same here." And She smiled, and Saint Matty felt at ease.

And Saint Matty in his vision asked the One who stood before him: "So, like, what's going on?" And that One replied: "I am here to show you." And Saint Matty said: "Oh. Cool."

And the One who appeared as a woman spake unto Saint Matty. And She said: "Behold, for I am She who embodies the Chaos. They are my nature; and they are the nature of all things. For I am all things." And Saint Matty looked at her for a moment, and said: "So

does that mean I'm part of you?" And She nodded. And Saint Matty said: "Oh."

Saint Matty asked the Avatar of the Chaos: "So, like, what should I call you?" And She replied: "I don't care, call me whatever you want. I'll know who you mean. Oh but don't ever say the word that starts with L and ends like truck. I hate that word, it's stupid." And Saint Matty said: "Then I shall call you The Lady, whom the Greeks called Eris and the Romans called Discordia." And She replied: "Fine, that'll do."

And the Lady Eris spake unto Saint Matty. And She said: "Behold! I am All, and I am more than All; because everything is part of my thought." And the Lady Eris said: "Yes, really." And Saint Matty's eyebrow twitched. And the Lady Eris said: "Yes, I can." And Saint Matty's mouth moved. And the Lady Eris said: "Because you are a part of everything, and everything is a part of my thought. I know all of you, what you have done, and what you are doing, and to an extent what you will do. Nothing is hidden from me, for I am All." And Saint Matty was nervous.

The Lady Eris spake unto Saint Matty in his vision. And She said: "Despond not, little one. It's a word. Because I said so. Thank you. Anyway as I was saying; despond not, little one; for while you fear that your thoughts are my thoughts, and not your own, know this: you are a part of me, and your thoughts are that part of my thoughts that belong to the part of me that is you. So your thoughts remain your thoughts, as your deeds remain your deeds and your will remains your will. And while I am All, and All is me, no part of me that is a part of All may know any other part, except that which I choose to reveal. So as your thoughts and deeds and will are your own, so do the thoughts and deeds and will of all others likewise belong exclusively to them. And nothing that is part of All, not even the whole sum of All Things, may understand Me. For I am more than All." And Saint Matty was still nervous, but not despondent.

And in the vision of Saint Matty on the first night, the Lady Eris spoke much to Saint Matty; and She described how Her thought was the world, and how She came up with the general idea of Everything, and how She began implementing parts of it. And the Lady Eris showed Saint Matty how She created an empty field that was Everything; and it was boring. And She said: "Let's make this more interesting. How about we make some of it light, and other parts dark." And it was. And the Lady Eris saw Everything, that some of it was light and some of it was dark, and it was good, but still quite boring. And the Lady Eris divided the light bits from the dark bits. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his vision. And the rising of the sun was the first day.

On the second night Saint Matty was joined again by a vision of the Lady Eris. And on the second night She described how She poked little dimples in Everything; and the little dimples were stuff. And some dimples went down, and some dimples went up. And when stuff made from down dimples collided with stuff made from up dimples, the dimples flattened out and there was no more stuff; but the energy of the stuff remained, and it became light. And the nature of stuff was that it was attracted to all other stuff; and the more stuff gathered in one place, the greater the dimple in Everything at that place, and the more other stuff was attracted to it.

And the Lady Eris created rules for stuff; and there were three types of stuff. And the stuff of two types were attracted to each other, but repulsed by themselves. And the stuff of the third type ignored all that sort of thing and just went about its usual activities. And the Lady Eris created other rules, that were more subtle, that affected how stuff interacted with other stuff. And stuff started to happen. And up-stuff cancelled down-stuff, and the two types of stuff were drawn together, and the third type of stuff wandered about pretty aimlessly, and all stuff was drawn together according to the nature of stuff. And the stuff formed structures; and the structures were more complex than the stuff that made them up. And the Lady Eris was well pleased. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his vision. And the rising of the sun was the second day.

On the third night Saint Matty was joined again by a vision of the Lady Eris. And on the third night She described how the stuff had come together to form blobs of stuff; and the blobs of stuff came together to form great big blobs of stuff. And the great big blobs of stuff resolved themselves into the stars and planets and meteorites and dust clouds and moons and nebulae and free radicals of space. And while it seems pretty lame, it was much more interesting the way She said it; and it took all night. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his vision. And the rising of the sun was the third day.

On the fourth night Saint Matty was joined again by a vision of the Lady Eris. And on the fourth night She described how the stuff existed according to its nature, and according to the rules She had set for it in the Beginning. And She explained that blobs of stuff that were very cold were solid, and blobs of stuff that were a bit warmer flowed as liquid, and blobs of stuff that was pretty hot flew as gas, and blobs of stuff that were really hot broke apart despite the rules of attraction, and were individual particles of stuff. And the Lady Eris described how the stuff that was rock considered itself cold enough to be solid at temperatures that water

considered too hot to be liquid; so where rock and water touched, there was a great noise and the water took the heat from the rock and became gas. And the Lady Eris described how the stuff that was wind considered itself hot enough to be gas at temperatures that water considered cold enough to be liquid; so when gas-water rose into the cool air, the water gave its heat to the air and became liquid again. And so the heat from the rocks was given to the air, until everything settled down and balanced out. And the cycle of the water from liquid to gas to liquid again, rising into the air and falling to the ground, is called rain. And in the beginning of the earth there was much heat in the rocks; so it rained for a really long time. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his vision. And the rising of the sun was the fourth day.

On the fifth night Saint Matty was joined again by a vision of the Lady Eris. And on the fifth night She described how the stuff within the giant puddles left over after all the rain behaved according to its nature, and according to the rules She had set forth in the Beginning. And combinations of stuff drawn into the water from the rocks by the pounding rain, and stuff drawn into the water from the air by the rising clouds, and the sunlight from the sun, came to form strange structures that were more complex than any other yet formed. And the complexity of these new structures was greater than the sum of the complexity of all the parts and rules that made them up; but the structures worked well, and once one structure got it right, it was easy to copy itself into another structure. And the structures in the seas of the young earth are called life. And as the structures grew, the Lady Eris took it upon herself to nudge them from time to time, just to see what happened. And Her nudges were not in accordance with the Rules, but did not go against the Rules; for they were very small nudges. So structures copied themselves into new structures, but sometimes they were not exactly alike because of the nudging of the Lady. And some distorted structures didn't work, and they collapsed. And some distorted structures worked as well as the originals, and the twain thrived side by side. And some distorted structures worked better than the originals, and copied themselves faster and more accurately, and the originals were replaced. And so did different types of life emerge from the primal goo. And some were plants that lived in the water, and some were plants that survived after being washed up on the land. And some were animals that moved about the water, and some were animals that survived after being washed up on the land. And some were really weird things that don't really count as plants or animals; but there aren't many of them, so they don't matter. And Saint Matty beheld that life blossomed on the earth, and with the constant nudges of the Lady Eris life became abundant and varied. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his vision. And the rising of the sun was the fifth day.

On the sixth night Saint Matty was joined again by a vision of the Lady Eris. And on the sixth night She continued describing how life spread over the earth; and through her nudges some life was better suited to its environment and it thrived, and some life was less suited, and it faded. And the sea was filled with kelp and seaweed, and crabs and fish. And the land was covered with grass and trees, and lizards and beasts. And often times things happened to the world; and great blobs of stuff collided with the world, and killed off much life; and the world was warmed more or less by the sun and became dry or frozen, and much life died out; and the terrible things befell that seemed to be aimed at destroying life, but they were merely the result of stuff acting according to its nature, and according to the rules the Lady Eris had set forth in the Beginning. And life was an effective system; and whenever something bad happened to it, it was able to keep going; for nothing managed to destroy all life, and life leads to life.

And Saint Matty beheld that one type of animal that thrived on the land had, through the Lady's nudges, developed a means by which to analyse the world around it. And that animal beheld other animals, and worked out which were good to eat, and which were bad to be eaten by. And that animal beheld fire, and worked out how to use it to make meat more tasty and less yuck. And that animal beheld the stars, and wondered what they were. And that animal beheld itself, and wondered who it was. And that animal was man. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his vision. And the rising of the sun was the sixth day.

On the seventh night Saint Matty was not joined by any visions; and his sleep was deep, and he was well rested. And Saint Matty understood much of the nature of his world, but he still did not understand the whole nature of the Lady, or the Chaos. And the sun came up, and Saint Matty woke from his sleep. And the rising of the sun was the seventh day.

6. Prophecy

Upon a time the Prophet was standing in a place that was as a temple to the fourth Chao; and he was bared to its majesty; and he breathed the heady fumes that were the mingling of the second Chao and the fourth; and he washed his hair. And the spirit of the goddess came unto the Prophet in that place, and he prophesied, thus:

Arbitrary rules are the foundation of religion. While the Nine Rules are Holy and Righteous and True fnord, this cannot be a religion without other, arbitrary rules that are a covenant

between the people and their goddess. One there will be who is responsible for the rules, and that one will be the Arbiter. And the Arbiter's judgement will be final in all matters that are not addressed by the Nine Rules. And the Arbiter will be known by the signs of the Chaos over him.

And the Prophet was reminded of that ancient prophecy:

Two will come, both born under the sign of the Chaos; and they will share a birthday, separated by a leap. And those two shall meet by happenstance, and they shall come together, but they shall not stay together. And the one shall bear the other a son; and that son shall be born between the signs of imbalance and of silent passion. And that son shall be touched by the Chaos. And He shall know the Chaos. For He is My son, as he is the son of those born under My sign; sent into this world as My Will made manifest. And the Word of My Son is My Word; and the Will of My Son is My Will; and the Way of My Son is My Way.

And so it was that the Prophet heard the will of the goddess, and he knew the one who was the Arbiter. And the Arbiter declared the Prophet to be a Saint.

And the Prophet Saint Matty, Arbiter of the Other Rules, Will of the Goddess made Manifest, stood forth that all could know Him and rejoice.

III. Instructions

1. The Nine Rules

1. The word “luck” is taboo, and should never be spoken. There is no luck; there is only the Chaos.
2. When you can’t decide between two things, toss a coin. The decision of the coin is the decision you must obey, otherwise why consult it at all?
3. When you can’t decide between more than two things, find some way to divide them in two, and follow the second rule.
4. Always bow to the full moon and vocalise a greeting to it.
5. Every Friday, you must eat a hot dog in its bun. This Devotive Ceremony serves to Remonstrate against the popular Paganisms of the Day: of Catholic Christendom (no meat on Friday), of Judaism and Islam (no meat of Pork), of Hindic Peoples (no meat of Beef), of Buddhists (no meat of animal), and of Discordians (no Hot Dog Buns).
6. Eat no hot dog buns, be they empty or filled with wiener frank or sausage or onion or antelope or carrot or any other foodstuff, under any circumstances, at any time. Hot dog buns are sacrosanct.
7. There is no cold, no dark, no silence, no stillness, and no order.
8. Do not believe what you read.

So is it written! Hail Discordia!

Apprentice: Master, what is the ninth rule?

Master: The purple crayon.

2. Hair

In the morning there appears one before the prophet; and the one spoke, and the prophet heard. And the one said that shampoo and conditioner are absurd; for shampoo taketh away, and conditioner giveth back, and the difference at the end is none but that shampoo and conditioner both cost money. And the one said that water alone is sufficient to wash hair; and the one showed his hair that had been washed in water alone, and it was clean. So the prophet forsook both shampoo and conditioner, and his hair healed from the shampoo and conditioner, and after it was healed his hair was clean by water alone; and so long as the prophet washed his hair every day in water alone his hair was clean.

3. Weights and Measures

The official unit of distance in the Catechism of St. Matty is the *nubit* (n), which is two light nanoseconds. That is, the distance light travels in an absolute vacuum in two nanoseconds. In the vernacular, this equates to exactly 59.9584916cm.

The official unit of mass is the *elwit* (l). One elwit is defined as the mass of 16^{25} electrons. In the vernacular, this equates to approximately 1.15356205kg.

The base unit of time is the *tic* (t). One tic is $1/16^{\text{th}}$ of an *ad* (a), which is $1/16^{\text{th}}$ of an *egg* (e), which is $1/16^{\text{th}}$ of a *match* (m), which is $1/16^{\text{th}}$ of a *day* (d). That is, one tic is 16^{-4} days, or in the vernacular, approximately 1.31835938 seconds.

Units in the Catechism of St. Matty use either decimal or binary prefix notation, where appropriate, for larger or smaller values. For example, one thousand and twenty-four nubits is a kibinubit (1kin), but one thousand nubits is a kilonubit (1kn).

4. Calendar

The Fibonacci Sequence:

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144

The 12th digit is 12×12 . The sum of the first five digits is 12. The sum of the first 12 digits, less the sum of the first five digits, is 364. Therefore a year has 364 days. The SOAHC year starts the day after the Prophet's Birthday, and ends the day before the Prophet's Birthday. The day after St. Matty was born was the 1st day of the year 0. (St. Matty's Birthday is counted as Day 0.)

5. Alcohol

Alcohol is the devil's own drink, and is therefore heartily endorsed by the SOAHC; but know this: while alcohol reduces inhibitions and impairs judgement, one's actions are always one's own, and the consequences of one's actions must always be borne by one's self. The choice to drink is one's own, and therefore any choices that stem from or are influenced by that decision are the result of one's own choices.

When under the influence of alcohol one's judgement and responses are impaired, so restrictions should be placed on what one can and can't decide to do in such a state. One must never put one's self in a situation of responsibility for others' health and well-

being while under the influence of alcohol. This includes driving a motor vehicle, either with or without passengers—every pedestrian's safety and well-being is automatically to some degree the responsibility of the driver, in any situation.

Any injury caused to one's self where one's alcohol consumption is deemed to be a contributing factor is considered to be self-inflicted; likewise any injury cause to anyone else is deemed to be intentional. One must always be aware of and responsible for one's own actions.

IV. bard

1. Origins

bard was born near the coast of the Great Southern Land, near the Bay of Mooretun. As a child, he was spoiled and raised to enjoy the best of things. Many were impressed by the wisdom shown by one so young, yet others called him a smart-ass.. and so he became wise, and also a smart ass, having been so named. This pleased him, for he enjoyed laughing at the stupid and the dull. He was though, cursed with poor constitution and fell easily to sickness. Much of his time was spent reading the scriptures and learning the ways of the hidden worlds, unseen by others. In his dreams, he saw events and places far away. Sometimes he saw them again when awake, mostly not. He had not the gift of prophecy, but a very active and sometimes disturbingly accurate imagination.

2. Real Ultimate Power

When still young, he began the study of the martial ways. Though of poor fitness, he learned the ways of the Eastern masters and of the Tao. Real Ultimate Power became his and he was Kick Ass. None know how awesome he was exactly as none were brave enough to test him, and so bard learned the first lesson of Power.

The first lesson was this:

Power unused is impotence.

Naysayers questioned bard, "What was the point if you don't use it?" they said. bard held up his hand and silenced them. "Do you think I don't use my power? He among you who thinks my power is unused may cast the first stone!" And no one threw a stone, for they feared his power to kick their ass 'till their noses bled poo. "See?" bard said, "I am using my power to make you fear an ass-kicking." And the naysayers were ashamed. They turned and ran. bard kicked their asses anyway just to drive the point home. "Goddamn commies!"

GOINK!

3. Two Sages

bard met the prophet Matty when he was learning the ways of particularly clever arrangement and manipulation of tiny electromagnetic fields. He saw that Matty had the gift of prophecy or at least creative bullshitting and the two scholars became fast friends. Both sages were versed in the scriptures of the Cult of the Python and had walked many of the same worlds, unknown to many others. Many times, did they recite the Python scriptures together and they fought battles amongst the stars on distant worlds. Many good times did they have and this pleased bard.

4. Job

In the time of the Prophet Matty, the people did not produce food to eat. Nor did they produce their dwellings or possessions. All things came from the Temples raised to their religion. Different Temples were raised to different gods who provided the things that the people needed and also the things they were made to want. These temples gave nothing for charity, yet only for tithes. Many stole from the temples, and were sent to the dungeons. For these temples were holy above all other gods and guards with red and blue braziers were quick to strike against harmless rogues.

To earn these tithes, people of the time laboured as serfs for the temples. Many people hated this labour and there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth.

bard saw that this was evil, and it tainted his soul... for he desired decadence and the immoral things money could buy.

"I must obtain some of this 'money' so I can feed and clothe myself." bard said. "For, though I have nothing against nudism in principle, it could be hazardous."

And so, he rented his soul to a maker of peoples' homes. For the deal was agreeable and he had the opportunity to arrange many electromagnetic fields in pleasing ways.

In time, he came to reside on the plains above the mountains in the northern parts of the Great Southern Land. His was only a small village, though he was close to ports where the vile foreigners (and nice foreigners also) came to spend their money, living for a time in sin and decadence.

bard visited this port and looked upon the young women and he saw that it was good. The local markets sold good food and wine, which he took into himself. He walked the city with pilgrim's feet

and returned when the year was new that he may view the fire in the sky and taste of the brews.

5. bard Learns the Way of the Waters

And yea, bard did looketh upon the words that Matty did write and among them he found many nice ones. The writings pleased him and he felt bad that he had not contributed much so far. The skies above him opened and the rain fell upon the land. The land became wet with time, and the water didst flow into the gutters and streams 'till they were choked.

A great philosopher once wrote "Be like water." and bard had read his words. "Thank ye, Bruce!", he called to the heavens. "Thank ye, Bruce!", he also called to hell, just to cover all the bases.

bard rose into the heavens and into the land of clouds. The could was thick and dark, and he could see bugger all. bard ascended again and he was above the clouds at the blue roof of the world. He settled his feat upon a cloud and walked a short way. The dragons and sylphs whispered to him the secrets of the sky, but he did not hear these. For in his ears were only the voices of the Floyd that is Pink. The dragons saw that he could not hear, so they spoke to him without words. And he learned the wisdom of the sky.

The sky is empty as it happens, and has little wisdom. This was very easy to express with no words. The sylphs and dragons left to attend a game of badminton, imparting to him some knowledge of the Chao. bard became one with the cloud and he fell down on the land, as does the rain. He learned the way to flow into the rivers and pools and eventually found the hydroelectric plant. Thus bard learned to create the Power that is Green.

bard stepped from the waters with haste. "I am not yet ready to learn the way of sewers and water treatment. Maybe later." He returned to his place above the mountains where the rain still fell.

In this way, bard became somewhat acquainted with the second Chao and the fourth.

V. The Four Gods of Kayos

In the year that occurred 11,887 years before the current year, according to empirical measure of tropical years and not taking into account the Earth's precession or nutation, that corresponds with the year that was 9,872 years before the birth of that one whose revolution failed and was raised to the status of a god, which is the year referred to in the vulgar as 9,879 B.C., there lived a man. The name of the man is not recorded, nor is his image known, but the message he brought to the world will live on forever. For in the waning year that is the year of this tale, when the leaves of the trees burst aflame and fell to the ground as sparks from a fire, the man was visited by the Goddess. Now that man whose name is not recorded, we shall call him "Bob." And "Bob" was a simple man. In fact, some would say he was stupid. The most mentally deficient, inept, dim-witted, cretinous buffoon that ever deigned to sully the face of the earth. And well is it that the Goddess chose "Bob" to visit, for such was Her will. And "Bob," being the most stupid and irreconcilably daft individual that he was, misunderstood all that was told to him by the Goddess. And misinterpreting Her words, he did cause much confusion upon the lands, and stirred up much strife in the hearts of men, and so was the Goddess' will made manifest, in spite of his idiocy. For the will of the Goddess is inevitable.

And lo! did that "Bob," being such a stupid git, mistake the words of the Goddess. But he did take great heed of the words, although he took them to mean other than what they actually were supposed to. And did "Bob" then slay his neighbour, thinking that to be the instruction of the Goddess; and he took his neighbour's head upon a staff, and carried it hence as a standard raised to the honour of the Goddess. And his neighbour's neighbours did rally against "Bob," crying out that he was wrong to take the head of his neighbour. And "Bob" slew the neighbours, and spilled all of their blood on the soil before his home. And the rocks were stained red as of fresh blood, and the soil was churned ruddy brown. And their skulls he cleaned and set in a heap about the base of the standard, upon which still stood the desiccated head of his neighbour.

And so did others come, decrying "Bob" and his actions. But "Bob" was steadfast, believing his deeds to be the will of the Goddess. And for that do we honour him. And with time, the mound of skulls grew higher than a man — even a man with his head still attached, and the soil around the mound became more blood than soil. And the head of the neighbour atop the standard rotted and decayed, until it was little more than a skull with hair. And "Bob" built an emblem atop the standard about the skull, and that emblem was like unto the symbol of the Goddess; but where the symbol of the

Goddess is like two arrows that meet at the middle, the arrows of the symbol atop the standard of "Bob" diverged in eight directions. For "Bob" was too stupid to understand the simple description of Her symbol told to him by the Goddess.

And many, seeing the bastard symbol atop the standard atop the mound of skulls amidst the mire of blood, were frightened. But some few, upon seeing the sight, were enamoured, and they dropped to their knees before "Bob," crying: Teach us, oh "Bob," that we may serve the same Purpose that caused you to raise this standard atop the mound of skulls amidst the mire of blood! And those few who kept their heads were taken as disciples of "Bob" and taught the Stupid Way.

And "Bob," in his visitations, did ken the sacred name of the holy Chaos, but being so mind-bogglingly stupid he did misinterpret it. And the name he gave the Sacred Chaos was "kayos." And his disciples, who had not seen the Goddess but through the descriptions of "Bob," took up the word as their mantra. And through the utter imbecility of "Bob" did they come to believe the Goddess to be male of form; despite the obvious fallacy in the assumption that a Man could comprehend, let alone embody, the Chaos. And the name of their God was Kharn, who was the first god of Kayos. And under "Bob"'s asinine instruction the legend of Kharn grew; and Kharn became the Blood God, who sat atop the mound of skulls amidst the mire of blood.

And some disciples, who were less stupid than "Bob," realised the daftness of the idea that a single Man could possible embody the whole of their Kayos. And they inferred that Kharn could not be the only God of Kayos. And those disciples conferred amongst themselves, and they determined that there must be Four Gods of Kayos, each embodying some aspect of the Kayos; and in that way alone could the Kayos be embodied in the form of Man. Because people were chauvinistic in those days, and didn't want to even consider the idea that a god might be a woman. Or maybe they were gay.

Upon hearing of these discussions of other gods, "Bob," being quite daft, did not slay the dissonants instantly. No! He, in his inanity, sent them forth among the world, to discover the nature of the other three Gods of Kayos. And one disciple became infected, and his skin lesioned and pus boiled forth from his face and arms, and his belly burst forth and his innards spilled upon the ground. And at the moment of his death that disciple uttered the word, "nuurgh..." And so the Second God of Kayos was named Nurgh, and He was the God of Sickness and Pus.

And one disciple studied the world, but he was too daft to understand the true nature of the Chaos, and his mind was astounded by the constant and unpredictable change in the world. And in his madness he screamed the words, "Tarz NITCH!" before collapsing dead of a massive aneurysm. And so the Third God of Kayos was named Tarz-Nitch, and He was the God of Change.

And several disciples got together and drank a lot of wine, and knew many strange women, and became enamoured of their own selves. And those disciples grew so fat that they were disgusted by each other; but their narcissism was so great that they were utterly smitten with themselves; and the immense hypocrisy tipped their wine-addled brains over the precipice of madness. And some died of cirrhosis of the liver. And some died of myocardial infarction. And some died of stroke. And some died of venereal diseases. And the last disciple, on his death bed surrounded by anonymous lovers and exotic fruits and amphorae of wine, uttered the word "Shlaansh" before succumbing to his excesses. And so the Fourth God of Kayos was named Shlaansh, and He was the God of Decadence and Self-Indulgence.

And "Bob," who was known as the High Priest of Kayos, took up the standard with its bastardised symbol about the skull of his neighbour, and spread the senseless word of Kayos about the land. And some worshipped Kharn, spilling blood in violence and sacrifice. And some worshipped Nurch, promoting filth and illness. And some worshipped Tarz-Nitch, and meddled in alchemy and magic. And some worshipped Shlaansh, and had a really good time before their early deaths. And some worshipped the Four Gods of Kayos in equal measure, dedicating their devotion to Kayos Undivided. And all of these followers worshipped the Goddess in ignorance, for all their Gods were but aspects of that one Goddess who is All. And the Goddess was vindicated by the stupidity of "Bob," and Her worship spread throughout the lands, though none knew Her true name or form. And She was well pleased.

VI. Stuff

1. On Angels

Saint Matty had discourse with a gathering. And those gathered there believed to know the nature of the Angels. And Saint Matty did give them true knowledge. And he said unto the masses: Hey, remember one thing: Satan is an angel. It's the Saints who are all holy and pious and *stuff*. Angels can be whatever they want.

2. The Parable of the Dishwasher

He who expects a dishwasher to clean all his dishes without rinsing them is like a guy who expects a car to take him across oceans. Except one just ends up getting food poisoning, whereas the other drowns. But you get the idea. A dishwasher, like a car, does what it's meant to do, not what you think it ought to.

3. Isiah

And Isiah went into the desert, and climbed the same hill as the Prophet. There he found a giant stone monolith. It stood in shadow, though there was nothing giving it shade. Isiah approached the monolith and was blasted with the freezing cold of Seven winds. The monolith spake unto him: "You must obey the Dance Commander, giving out the order for fun. You must obey the Dance Commander, don't you know that he's the only one... Who gives the orders here.... Alright! Who gives the orders here.. aaaaaallright!"

Isiah took fright and ran all the way back to the village. He carved the Holy words into a loaf of bread. He returned to the hill to see if he had forgotten anything, but the monolith was gone. This is the Word of Bob, and the word is GOINK. Or maybe fleh. I can never remember.

4. The True Koan

Master: Do not try and find the Truth. That's impossible. Instead... only try to realize the truth.

Student: What truth?

Master: There is no truth.

Student: There is no truth?

Master: Then you'll see, that it is not the truth that matters, it is only yourself.

5. Monkey

In the Worlds before Monkey, primal Chaos reigned. Heaven sought order, but the Phoenix can fly only when its feathers are grown. The four worlds formed again and yet again, as endless aeons wheeled and passed. Time and the pure essences of Heaven, the moistures of the Earth, and the powers of the Sun and the Moon all worked upon a certain rock – old as Creation, and it magically became fertile. That first egg was named Thought. Tathagata Buddha, the Father Buddha, said, 'With our thoughts we make the world.' Elemental forces caused the egg to hatch: from it there came a stone Monkey. The nature of Monkey was irrepressible!

6. The Kerwinian Mantra

All Cotton
Wash Before Use
Warm Machine Wash
With Similar Colours
Do Not Bleach Or Soak
May Be Tumble Dried Warm
Line Dry Without Delay
Warm Iron If Required
Do Not Dry Clean (X)
Made in China

7. The Bard's Recant

04 PE-LD

THIS IS NOT A TOY
WARNING: To avoid danger of suffocation,
keep this bag away
from babies and children.
DO NOT use in cribs, beds,
carriages, or play pens.
THIS IS NOT A TOY!

Knot before recycling.

8. St. Matty on Bread

When a woman gives a man bread, that is her way of showing her respect for the man. If she gives the bread without expecting anything in return, she is demonstrating her unconditional love. If she apologizes that she has nothing more to offer him, she is showing how she devotes her whole self to him.

9. St. Matty on Numbers

Why is 5 powerful, and 7 sacred? What's so important about prime numbers? Why does having many factors make 360 significant? Why is the irrationality of π legendary? All numbers are numbers, and no two are alike, and none of them exist in the world outside. Either all numbers are special, or none are. Personally, I like $e^{12} + 27i$.

10. St. Matty on Walking

I was feeling down, so I went for a walk. I wasn't sure about walking the bush path in the dark, so I walked along the streets. When I arrived to where I was walking, I got a drink; the radio was playing Let It Be. I heard in that my Goddess talking to me, telling me she's still there. Then I took a chance and walked back along the bush path. The grass was low, the moon was bright, and the way was clear, and it was a good walk. I arrived home feeling well.

The Goddess lights the day with a trillion trillions of random flashes. She lights the night with trillions of those.

I was feeling down, so I went for a walk. I wasn't sure about walking the bush path in the dark, so I walked along the streets. When I arrived to where I was walking, I got a drink; the radio was playing a song of forsakenness and wandering. I heard in that the Chaos of the soul. Then I took a chance and walked back along the bush path. Clouds shuttered the stars, the moon was veiled, and the grass was long about me. The world echoed my mood, and in those shadows I knew that I was the Goddess. And with that knowledge, my path became clear. I arrived home shrouded in darkness.

VII. Excerpts from the Book of Kul

1. Kul

After the third reformation of the Trichosteres and the elefenment of Prince Baal, the people of Illian — known then as Glystanes — settled between the rivers.

Their leaders called a great meating to debate the future of the people. Gerard said the Glystanes should raise armies to conquer their neighbours. This plan was met with great joy by the soldiers and fishermen, who coveted their neighbours daughters and trout. Elias, the elder said “We have no food to feed an army, and our neighbours are stricken by famine. Your plan is foolish and we have naught to gain.” And Gerard was rebuked. Tobias, the Madman proposed that they raise a new god.. for they had been counted among the godless since Great Hakk had perished in the burning of the granary 40 years ago. Elias and Gerard argued that Tobias was Mad, but they were silenced when he took their heads, shouting: “Blood for the Blood God!!”

In Tobias, the people saw strength and resolve. The followers of Elias and Gerard were caught and burned for heresy.

Children sung the praise of Kul the Blood God and consumed the vital organs of heretics. Children sung the praise of Kul the Blood God and consumed the vital organs of heretics.^[sic]

10 years passed. The followers of Kul spent the summers raiding, pilfering and sewing their seed in the surrounding lands. The winter, they spent feasting on the spoils of war. For the famine had long passed and there was plenty for all (until the Kulites took it).

Tobias grew weary of the lavish parties and games of head-golf. He summoned his chief eunuch and asked of him “I have everything I have ever desired. I have taken what I want from the neighbours of our land, as I take my neighbours daughter or ox when I am in the mood. I have pillaged and burned at will. The bodies of my enemies hang low from the pikes atop these walls, yet the elephants dance on the moon.. do you see them? They asked me to join them. Elephants and daisies and rainbows follow me to the faire. Can’t you even hear your earlobes sing joyous songs of card games and roast beef? Why do the spiders crawl up my legs at bath-time, taunting me with obscene suggestions of lemming drama?”

The eunuch answered, “Because you’re mad, Toby.”

“Oh yes, that’s right. Mad as tits on a ziggurat as I recall.” Tobias ordered his chief eunuch beheaded, and the head was bound to a column on a chariot. Toby mounted this chariot and rode out of the city with orders that he not be followed. There was much rejoicing.

The Kulites raised armies and made war on the Thessians and the Buttoxis. Kul grew strong and lay waste to all before them. In the 4th year of war, the great Temple of Kul was razed to the ground by fire and stone from Heaven. Ten thousand Kulites turned to dust and the city was made smoking ruin.

2. The Parable of the Gutless Fisherman

A fisherman lived by a river in the land of Kolse. Every day, he would fish at the river and go home at night to sleep. A man with two heads appeared at the river one day, and approached the fisherman. The fisherman was frightened and turned to flee but the two headed man called out, “Flee not, I beg ye! I am hungry from a long journey, will ye not sell me one of your fish?”

The fisherman did not trust the man with two heads, but he said, “Here, you can have this one for three fengytz.” and offered a small fish.

“This small fish is not enough for my two mouths! Don’t you have some more?”, Two-head complained.

The fisherman was put off by the whole two heads thing and countered, “You might have two heads and two mouths, but you’ve only one stomach that I can see. If both of those brains work, you’ll take this one fish and get out of here before I get nasty freak!”

Two-head was furious, and disembowelled the fisherman messily. “Now I have two stomachs too, smartass.” he said.

He took fisherman’s entrails, all of his fish and left.

3. Mugcrunch

And Tobias didst try the muggles, as the spirit told him to. They were crunchy, and delicious. One, he burned with incense and leaves of Olive upon the altar. He placed the other in an urn with spices and wrapped it in fine linen. Slaves took it to a cave and left it there to ferment.

“Let the people know what was done here, this day. That they may do the same and teach their children this also.”

VIII. Conversations

1. bard

And Bard spake unto Saint Matty, and he said: "Hmm.. the n^{th} Chao dwells under the sun, upon the fields and in the cold, dark places. Also, it dwells in the fire and searing heat. From time to time, it even dwells within men and other beasts that walk the earth. It is bound with the sacred word Mu." And Saint Matty did giggle. And Saint Matty sayeth: "the Mu Chao."

And Bard spake a second time, saying: "The wise men of the Ganges venerate this Chao and know its Holy nature." And Saint Matty replied: "Although they're slightly misguided in their worship of the Chao."

And Bard spoke a third time, and he said: "The bodies of men cannot contain this Chao, but over their lives they may know many parts of it." And again Saint Matty responded: "What man could possibly take the whole of a Chao inside himself?"

And Bard spoke a fourth time, and he said: "Pies may absorb parts of the Chao which men usually avoid." And Saint Matty was silent.

2. Gritchie

And Gritchie said unto the Oracle: "I went to the shop and got a hammer to hit my friend with." And the Oracle spake thusly: "Me it goes to commerce, me the hammer and the methodological friend of order it is attacked violently." And Gritchie said: "So I went to get a hammer to hit someone with and I ended up getting hit myself?" And Saint Matty said to Gritchie: "No, you are the hammer, and the methodological friend of order, **it** is attacked violently."

3. Evolution of the Emo

bard: Observing natural processes always makes me want to study more science.. I wonder if I can specialize in being a jack-of-all-trades?

St. Matty: That's what humanity is good at.

bard: Truth.. and yet our society has in many ways collectively yelled "FUCK THAT!" and tried to assemble itself around the idea that people are only good at a few things, and should learn to live

with that and spend their lives getting really good at a very small subset of things. Which has reaped many rewards, as well as caused some pain. Without being judgemental, it's definitely interesting. But people can run in a fucking circle much faster than they could 100 years ago! That's for sure. Well, some people. Problem is we're spreading the outliers.. not improving the average. I mean, there exist humans who are much smarter than their predecessors... but there's also Wal★Mart, and white trash to bring us back down to size in that respect. Sorry, I'm overly talkative today.. I'll go do some work.

St. Matty: Was out of the room chatting with Marianne, sorry. I agree, by the way. Well, sort of. There probably were genii in the past as well. But they were busy trying to not get eaten by lions, rather than contemplating the square root of the ratio of a circle's diameter to its circumference. Society has created the "genius" in the same way that it's created the "white trash."

bard: The genii were figuring out better and more reliable ways not to get eaten by the lion than just running away.

St. Matty: ... which was a process that eventually ended up in lions being mostly irrelevant, so that brainpower could be applied to quantum mechanics.

bard: One of the less ethical probably figured out that he should encourage his friends to eat more gazelle so he could outrun 'em in an emergency.

St. Matty: Or that.

bard: Which resulted in one lean, fit, smart guy, and a bunch of not-as-smart fat guys who are scared of lions. Which is sounding closer to modern society actually.

St. Matty: Except now the lean, fit, smart guy pretends he's the lion, and the fat idiots believe him.

bard: Someone figured out, hey.. lions wanna hurt me with their sharp bits! Maybe if I had some sharp bits of my own....

St. Matty: Then I could hurt myself! Or maybe other people! Oh, and lions.

bard: All three.

St. Matty: At once. In a massive orgy of lustful violence and bloodletting.

bard: Some people got depressed with being chased by lions and outrun by the fit guy, so they used the sharp things to hurt or kill themselves.

St. Matty: The evolution of the emo.

bard: *lol*. I sense bible content.

4. Gritchie II

Saint Matty said unto Gritchie: "That banana is so distracting!"

And Gritchie asked the prophet: "What banana?"

And Saint Matty said: "The dancing banana."

5. The Spoon Koan

St. Matty: There is no spoon!

Gritchie: Can there be dessert spoons?

St. Matty: No! No spoon!

Gritchie: How about ladles?

6. Cool

Bard asked Saint Matty: "How come Ice Cold is cooler than cool, but 'frigid' is not really popular at all?"

And Saint Matty said unto him: "Frigid is too cold. Cooler than cool is cool, but cooler than cooler than cool is uncool. Although you can never be too hot."

IX. P'slams

Fides Ploratus

I regard you all; there you see the love, which sleeps.
I regard the floor and I see that he has necessity to sweep.
I do not know why nobody said to you how one uncovers your love.
I do not know that someone controlled you;
 they bought to you and sold.
I regard the world and I note that she turns.
With each error we must learn surely.
I do not know that you were rerouted; It perverted also.
I do not know that you were removed; nobody alarmed you.

Clementia pro Diabolus

Please allow me to introduce myself;
 I'm a man of wealth and taste.
I've been around for a long, long year;
 stole many a man's soul and faith.
And I was round when Jesus Christ
 had his moment of doubt and pain;
made damn sure that Pilate
 washed his hands and sealed his fate.
Pleased to meet you, hope you guess my name.
But what's puzzling you is the nature of my game.
I stuck around St. Petersburg
 when I saw it was a time for a change.
Killed the czar and his ministers;
 Anastasia screamed in vain.
I rode a tank, held a general's rank,
 when the blitzkrieg raged and the bodies stank.
I watched with glee while your kings and queens
 fought for ten decades for the gods they made.
I shouted out, Who killed the Kennedys?
 When after all it was you and me.
Let me please introduce myself;
 I'm a man of wealth and taste.
And I laid traps for troubadours
 who get killed before they reached Bombay.
Just as every cop is a criminal,
 and all the sinners saints;
As heads is tails, just call me Lucifer
 'cause I'm in need of some restraint.
So if you meet me have some courtesy,
 have some sympathy, and some taste;
use all your well-learned politesse
 or I'll lay your soul to waste.
Pleased to meet you, hope you guessed my name.
But what's puzzling you is the nature of my game.

Sto Praeter Templum Infractus cum Pecunia in Manus Meus

Jan lays down and wrestles in her sleep.
Moonlight spills on comic books
 And superstars in magazines.
An old friend calls and tells us where to meet;
Her plane takes off from Baltimore
 And touches down on Bourbon street.

We sit outside and argue all night long
About a god we've never seen
 But never fails to side with me.
Sunday comes and all the papers say
Ma Teresa's joined the mob
 And happy with her full time job.

Am I alive or thoughts that drift away?
Does summer come for everyone?
 Can humans do what prophets say?
If I die before I learn to speak
Can money pay for all the days I lived awake
 But half asleep?

A life is time, they teach you growing up;
The seconds ticking killed us all
 A million years before the fall.
You ride the waves and don't ask where they go;
You swim like lions through the crest
 And bathe yourself in zebra flesh.

I've been downhearted baby;
Ever since the day we met.