

May 1st, 2002

Ku1ture Shock

Open Your Eyes

05.01.02

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To submit an article contact [Tanthrix](#). We are looking for anything interesting and pertinent to Kult. We are also looking for funny, entertaining, articles as well as the informative. Enjoy this month's Kulture Shock. Thanks!



Evolution of the Virus

(more Kult Network Theory)

by Zerstoror

Ideological Code

It is obvious to the casual observer that Kult lacks ideological unity - just watch the flame wars rage on our web page. We do not all agree specifically on What-Is-To-Be-Done (or What-Is-Not-To-Be-Done, for that matter). The more-or-less commonly accepted purpose of Kult is as follows:

To support our members through networking, counseling, moral support, and sharing of resources;

To end victimization in society through awareness, information distribution, and group action;

To promote individuality through creation of original artwork, music, literature, and expression; and

To spread and grow our organization through expression, referral, and promotion.

This is vague and general, as opposed to specific - the best way for our current Org to define itself, for when we try to specifically define ourselves, there are those who disagree. We tried to work backwards, that is, to form the Org then figure out the ideology we would follow.

This is doomed to fail unless we stay very vague (and Romulus was, with the above 4 points that he wrote).

The beauty of this can be examined employing set theory: that within the set of Kult there can exist groups with a more clearly and distinctly defined ideology that works within the vague outlines of Kult (every sub-organization is Kult but Kult is not any particular sub-group) A group with clear and distinct ideology is a group with effective foundation upon which to build an Organization.

This requires 2 things to begin with (applying this to the current state of affairs in Kult):

Initiative - members must start their ideological groups, and Numbers - so we can populate these groups with enough people to have some effect. Producing this Initiative is a person issue. Producing the numbers requires more "spreading the virus".

Survival of Viral Strains -

From a purely Darwinian standpoint:

Those ideological sub-groups that are ineffective in any purpose will fail; those that are effective and self-propagating will thrive. Think of it as a virus that mutates in many ways, the effective strains taking root and growing. It isn't that simple, of course, meme viruses are

finicky things, to understand the future, we must examine the past:

From a more dialectic standpoint:

KBM has no chance to survive without the same sort of trouble that KULT went through, because KBM is essentially the old, dogmatic, dictatorial KULT. The undoing of the old KULT was a result of Sean being too despotic, unwilling to accept other ideas, and self-contradictory in his message.

Perhaps you are familiar with the dialectic method?

To advance, there will be conflict of some sort between a concept and its antithesis. Let us use KULT and the Revival movement as an example.

System A: Back in the day, Sean was an autocratic leader and the Org was based around one man - him, thus, it was extremely centralized, even if in a laissez faire manner; it was almost a Kult of personality (heh) to some.

System -A: Around the time of the Revival, there was no dictator; no captain of the KULT battle cruiser, there was effectively no Patient-0. There was no leader; the organization was almost completely de-centralized. Sure, we had the page to base ourselves around, but there was no common direction.

System B: Then we got together, 3 people wrote up organization plans for Kult, in an attempt to solve the problem of the utter turmoil when no organization existed and the problem of the dictatorial organization. We ended up with the 5ministry plan, which is a system that takes advantage of some of the strengths (and to some extent, weaknesses) of both systems - I shall explain.

Within the 5Ministry plan system, the small extent of authority/power over the organization is in two bodies: the Initiation Cell and the Lead Cell. The Initiation Cell's power is available to anyone who volunteers to help out with the cell, and they collectively determine who is allowed in to Kult. The Lead Cell (more accurately the "Arbitration Cell") exists to resolve conflicts and boot people out of the organization, if necessary. Everything in between is open to whoever wants to do whatever they want in our laissez faire tradition of Kult (within the guidelines of Kult set out in part by the VM and various other common agreements).

The 5min plan must be made to allow for change, for change is inevitable. The virus is always growing, mutating, and spreading, and with it our Org will change. Also, the Org allows for ideological difference (and change) within itself to the point where we have a common general direction, but different specific directions. This is a form of directional chaos for we are all pushing the same direction in slightly different ways.

The Virus is Inevitable

SKTFM did not start the meme virus that we are all a part of - he got it from listening to Jello Biafra, reading The Media Monopoly, and watching Fight Club. Our idea is not a new one, merely a strain started by SKTFM that grew out of his ability to control it.

The corporate / political power pyramid is sowing the seeds for its own destruction - just look at us. Its only a matter of time before there is a major change. What exactly that change will be, I'm not sure; It might not even be something I would like to see, but I am damn well going to try to fight for what I believe is right.

by Zerstoror

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The SkipRadio Manifesto #1

By SkipRadio

For all of those who don't know me, I am the <sarcasm> infamous </sarcasm> SkipRadio. I was a big part of Kult's past. I joined Kennedy's KULT back in May of 2000. In August of that same year, I was arrested for Possession of Child Pornography from an incident leading all the way back to December of 1998. I lied to a ton of people, in and out of Kult. I was convicted in October 2000 of one count of Possessing Child Pornography. I served a total of 4 months in jail, and 16 months on probation (spread over 3 years). I also paid fines in excess of \$2000 US. For those who do know me, I need no introduction.

In case anyone is expecting the denial thing, you are wrong. I WAS in possession of child porn, and was found guilty for good reason. The courts got me the help I needed to get over this. It wasn't an overnight thing, I assure you. However, I did my time, realized my faults, and am back to impart some wisdom. I don't care if child porn is just your once in a while, download-from-IRC-whack-off-and-delete-it sort of thing. DON'T FUCKING DO IT. Not just because you could get arrested, and labeled for the rest of your life...but because it is SICK. Child porn exploits kids who don't have a chance to say no. It is a very sensitive issue with me for obvious reasons. If you 'stumble' onto some kiddie porn, get away. Delete it. If you find it by mistake and continue to look at it, get help. Ask a close friend. Don't call some hotline that will immediately label you a pedophile. Talk to friends. Talk to family. Talk to someone you KNOW that you can trust. Hell, maybe even talk to your shrink, if you trust him/her. Just get help. It'll save your loved ones a ton of grief, and yourself a ton of guilt.

Ok. Now that I have gotten that off of my chest...

Don't go asking the admin people why I am back in. Here's why. I am a good person. I have made my share of mistakes, most worse than others, and have come out a better human because of it. I can offer so much if people would just allow me to do so. Apparently, the people in Kult now feel that I can. So here I am.

In future articles, I hope to provide some advice, info, and other things on a wide variety of topics. You can also email me with article ideas you'd like to see from me. I am SkipRadio and this is my manifesto. Any comments can be directed at skipradio@fuckmicrosoft.com

Later.
SkipRadio

B.T.W. No hate mail please. I don't need it. I have enough saved from the last 2 years to last a lifetime. Thanks.

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Religion

by Walpurgis

I have been asked to write about religion and how it is involved with politics. Presumably, this interest is in response to the highly politicized religions of terrorists, and the perceived clashes between cultural beliefs. Instead of looking at this issue in a concrete sense, I'm going to avoid current affairs & deal with the issue in a highly abstract and philosophical way. I am also going to get to the bottom of the issue very quickly, with the help of Roto and Borodin.

The basic problem of religious politics is how to treat others (and to do so in accordance with religious tradition). How to treat others (as a basis of social and legal organization) is of course, the basic problem of all politics (religious or otherwise). Initially, it is pertinent to note that all religions and humanistic philosophies agree with each other on a fundamental point:

Bahá'í World Faith: "Ascribe not to any soul that which thou wouldst not have ascribed to thee, and say not that which thou doest not."

"Blessed is he who preferreth his brother before himself." Baha'u'llah

"And if thine eyes be turned towards justice, choose thou for thy neighbour that which thou choosest for thyself." Epistle to the Son of the Wolf

Brahmanism: "This is the sum of duty: Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you". Mahabharata, 5:1517

Buddhism: "a state that is not pleasing or delightful to me, how could I inflict that upon another?" Samyutta Nikaya v. 353

"Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful." Udana-Varga 5:18

Christianity: "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Matthew 7:12

"...and don't do what you hate...", Gospel of Thomas 6

Confucianism: "Do not do to others what you do not want them to do to you" Analects 15:23
"Tse-kung asked, 'Is there one word that can serve as a principle of conduct for life?' Confucius replied, 'It is the word 'shu' -- reciprocity. Do not impose on others what you yourself do not desire.'" Doctrine of the Mean 13.3

Hinduism: "One should not behave towards others in a way which is disagreeable to oneself"
Mencius VII.A.4

"This is the sum of duty: do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you."
Mahabharata 5:1517

Humanism: "Humanists acknowledge human interdependence, the need for mutual respect and

the kinship of all humanity."

"Humanists affirm that individual and social problems can only be resolved by means of human reason, intelligent effort, critical thinking joined with compassion and a spirit of empathy for all living beings."

Islam: "Not one of you is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself"
Fourth Hadith of an-Nawawi 13

Jainism: "Therefore, neither does he [, a sage,] cause violence to others nor does he make others do so." Acarangasutra 5.101-2.

"In happiness and suffering, in joy and grief, we should regard all creatures as we regard our own self." Lord Mahavira, 24th Tirthankara

"A man should wander about treating all creatures as he himself would be treated."
"Sutrakritanga 1.11.33

Judaism: "...thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.", Leviticus 19:18

"What is hateful to you, do not to your fellow man. This is the law: all the rest is commentary."
Talmud, Shabbat 31a

Native American Spirituality: "Respect for all life is the foundation." The Great Law of Peace

Roman Pagan Religion: "The law imprinted on the hearts of all men is to love the members of society as themselves."

Socrates: "Do not do to others that which would anger you if others did it to you." (Greece; 5th century BCE)

Seneca: "Treat your inferiors as you would be treated by your superiors," Epistle 47:11 (Rome; 1st century CE)

Shinto: "The heart of the person before you is a mirror. See there your own form"

Sikhism: "Compassion-mercy and religion are the support of the entire world". Japji Sahib

"Don't create enmity with anyone as God is within everyone." Guru Arjan Devji 259

"No one is my enemy, none a stranger and everyone is my friend." Guru Arjan Dev : AG 1299

Sufism: "The basis of Sufism is consideration of the hearts and feelings of others. If you haven't the will to gladden someone's heart, then at least beware lest you hurt someone's heart, for on our path, no sin exists but this." Dr. Javad Nurbakhsh, Master of the Nimatullahi Sufi Order.

Taoism: "Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss." T'ai Shang Kan Ying P'ien.

"I am good to the man who is good to me, likewise, I am also good to the bad man." Tao Te Ching

Unitarian: "We affirm and promote respect for the interdependent of all existence of which we

are a part." Unitarian principles.

Wicca: "A'in it harm no one, do what thou wilt" (i.e. do what every you want to, as long as it harms nobody, including yourself). The Wiccan Rede

Yoruba: (Nigeria): "One going to take a pointed stick to pinch a baby bird should first try it on himself to feel how it hurts."

Zoroastrianism: "That nature alone is good which refrains from doing unto another whatsoever is not good for itself". Dadistan-i-dinik 94:5

"Whatever is disagreeable to yourself do not do unto others." Shayast-na-Shayast 13:29

"Every religion emphasizes human improvement, love, respect for others, sharing other people's suffering. On these lines every religion had more or less **the same viewpoint and the same goal.**" The Dalai Lama

This same viewpoint and goal is known as "The Golden Rule", which is usually formulated as "Treat others as you would wish to be treated". It is a synthesis of what seems to lie at the core of all religious beliefs. Herein is our answer to the problems of religion and politics, but this Rule appears to have some ambiguity.

Roto writes: *<i>Having been hanging here and a bit with Pagans of late, I returned to some more research on the Rede - "<http://pagan.drak.net/sheathomas/>", - which is that religion's take on the Golden Rule.*

The Rede: "An' it harm none, do what ye will".

Of course, the Rede is very similar to the Golden Rule, but it strikes me that it has some critical differences.

Of the variations I've perused, there seem to be three different core admonishments:

- 1) treat others how you want to be treated by them.*
- 2) Don't do something to hurt someone else if it would hurt you if done to you.*
- 3) Do no harm. (otherwise, do whatever you want)*

I find the Rede somewhat purer than the GR because it is not saddled with the problem of cultural heterogeneity - i.e., not everyone wants to be treated the same. On the other hand, the Rede suffers from the difficult task of needing to define harm, whereas the Golden Rule puts forth clear criteria. </i>

In summary then:

<i>The Rede does not preclude harm,

while

The Rule does not insure equality.

In reply to these problems, I would suggest that both versions - the Rede and the Golden Rule - ought to be employed so as to qualify each other. Obviously, they are only ethical bases, they are springboards into further ethical considerations. They won't give any answers or policies to complex ethical/political/social/religious dilemmas, but they will offer the direction in which one is to investigate, and suggest the outcome. (Though it is the specifics of complex ethical/political/social dilemmas that result in all problems. More on this below.).

As the Rede/Rule prescribe consent (do no harm to others) & equality (do unto others..), these concepts provide the seed of an ethical structure. Related concepts are involved - freedom, respect and perhaps honesty.

If these rules are born in mind during ethical consideration, they should shape the final outcome to be one where a person's integrity as a free agent is not just tolerated, but perhaps even supported... Is this a matter of allowing people do as they please (within the Rules confines)? Or helping them do as they please? For example, if one has the resources that ensures the safety of an activity people are engaging in (e.g. drug-testing kits, contraception, abortion-surgery etc.), but those very people do not have access to (or quality versions of) these resources, would it be right to just leave them to it, or would that break both rules (do unto others.. & do not harm others)? Is one then obliged to help? (even if one disagrees with the activity?)

Do these rules constitute just rights, or duties too? It seems that the Rede constitutes a right & a duty (the right is not to be harmed, the duty is to do no harm to others) & the Rule a right & duty too (do unto others..). Another example to make this clear: you see a drowning person. To leave them would break the Rule (unless you didn't want people to rescue you) & probably the Rede - though your inaction is not so much causing harm, but allowing it. These rules don't just say "don't punch someone" but they also say "do help someone if they are being punched". But what of the danger to oneself? What is the drowning person is committing suicide, or the punchers are in a boxing ring? Would interfering constitute breaking consent? Obviously if a person is being punched against their wishes, there is no consenting activity taking place in which one would interfere.

After these considerations (& it is obvious the wider context must always be considered in any deliberation, one which is necessarily obscured because one is subject to degrees of ignorance), it seems that the two rules could be summed up by one: "love others" (or at least "be kind & considerate").

Loving others means that one will not inflict harm, will protect from harm and will treat others as they wish.

From these considerations, Borodin has inferred further points.

<I>- We all have identical moral urges: To revere honesty, fairness, equality, etc...

- Because we are different people who's bodies occupy different space, we will see the world and interpret our environments slightly different because of that slight shift in perspective dictated by mere spatial occupancy.

- Because we come from different families and communities, where our environments are relatively consistent, our perspectives will be "trained" by familiarity and repeated exposure, and will thus differ more so than they would because of simple spatial occupancy..

- Because we come from different cultures our frameworks of exposure will be even more diverse than it would because of spatial occupancy or local geography.

- None of these differences in how we see the world change the fact that we have the same moral urges.

Consider the following two opposing moral view-points:

- 1. One ought to kill mass-murderers*
- 2. One ought not kill mass-murderers.*

You can't get much more opposed that this. But upon breaking the respective formulae that led to these divergent attitudes on capital-punishment, we will find that they evolved from identical moral foundation. First, a possible pro-death penalty formula (there are numerous others I'm sure).

Descriptive Understanding: Mass-murderers kill indiscriminately.

Normative Understanding: One ought to kill those who have killed indiscriminately.

Synthesized Normative Understanding: One ought to kill mass-murderers.

How did we come to this NU that "one ought to kill those who kill indiscriminately"?

DU: The best way protect society from indiscriminate killers is to kill them.

NU: One ought to protect society.

SNU: One ought to kill those who have killed indiscriminately.

Why the normative notion that "one ought to protect society"?

DU: Society is made up of innocent people.

NU: One ought to protect people who are innocent.

SNU: One ought to protect society.

Now lets do a possible genealogy for the anti-death penalty position (there are other genealogies to be sure):

DU: Mass-murderers are psychologically damaged human beings.

NU: One ought not kill people who are psychologically damaged.

SNU: One ought not kill mass-murderers.

DU: People who are psychologically damaged are frightened and ignorant.

NU: One ought not kill people who are frightened and ignorant.

SNU: One ought not kill people who are psychologically damaged.

DU: People who are frightened and ignorant are innocent.

NU: One ought to protect people who are innocent.

SNU: One ought not kill people who are frightened and ignorant.

Both moral trajectories start from the same point - a moral urge to protect the innocent - and both arguments claim to do so. Perhaps it is what you learned in school, or what your parents taught you, or what your church taught you, but whatever it is, it never alters the fundamental moral direction.

What causes these identical moral urges to manifest in diametrically opposing behaviors lies in how the individual beheld the facts during the evolution of their normative architecture. You can see how one small instance of misconception/misinformation early in ones normative development can have exponential affects that send one's normative evolution veering off, even while the primary moral urge remains constant.

The moral urge remains consistent, to uphold the virtues of honesty, duty, fairness, equality, etc; these are our morality. Every normative statement uttered throughout culture and history has been formulated to protect these elemental virtues, no matter how bizarre and indirect the prescription might be.

Thus, everyone understands identical moral direction, even though experience shows us diverse, and sometime conflicting paths. </i>

Clearly, these considerations illustrate that humanity has a clear and basic moral imperative. This imperative is seen by the religious as somehow God-given. Atheists attribute the imperative to evolutionary reasons.

People have always cared for each other. Those that did not act of basically good motivations have not survived. Here's why:

In evolutionary terms, a survival strategy which calls for greedy, malicious and individualistic behaviors will spell doom for high order mammals such as humans. Greedy, malicious and individualistic humans would kill each other, or be killed off (as they probably have throughout evolutionary history) and as Darwin stated, "Those communities which included the greatest number of the most sympathetic members would flourish best, and rear the greatest number of offspring." Infighting and fighting between pre-human groups would be the end of them. In our

early history, small hunter-gatherer groups had to care about each other, or else the survival of the group would be in jeopardy. Those humans that didn't care are now dead, the losers in the system. Care and co-operation have become evolutionary habits and were hardwired into the brain; these habits ensure our survival. Not to care, is not to survive.

Greedy, malicious and individualistic behaviors are almost always perverted expressions of basic and benign instincts. Like the people who assassinate abortion doctors, they do not betray their moral sensibilities. They think they are doing good.

The greedy, malicious and individualistic behaviors may actually be expressions of the primal limbic instincts for self-preservation, in which case there will be no fundamental change in human nature as care and co-operation are already imprinted in deeper brain structures. We have but to find the social source of frustration which is eliciting these negative drives.

“As man advances in civilization, and small tribes are united into larger communities, the simplest reason would tell each individual that he ought to extend his social instincts and sympathies to all the members of the same nation, though personally unknown to him. This point being once reached, there is only an artificial barrier to prevent his sympathies extending to the men of all nations and races.” -- Darwin *The Decent of Man*

With this taken into account, it is evident that much "wrongdoing" is not malice and most "wrongdoers" are not evil. They act out of a mistaken understanding of a given situation. Their basic moral urge is confused.

Religions and humanistic philosophies are thus a reflection of basic brain structures which have evolved over a long period of time; a time in which, only the humans that looked out for each other survived.

For a full discussion of these issues see:

<http://gnidus.net/tree.php?baseid=21&select=7518#zoom>

and

<http://gnidus.net/tree.php?baseid=24&select=5918#zoom>

A fable.

Prince Llywelyn once received a greyhound from King John, and the hound soon became his favorite. Faithful as any hound had ever been, and gentle as a lamb, the hound was also a lion at the chase. One day, Llywelyn prepared to leave on the hunt, he gave call to his noble hound with his hunting horn. All his other hounds came at the call, but not his faithful Gelert. Llywelyn could wait no longer, and so left on his hunt.

When Llywelyn returned to his castle, who should be waiting to greet him but Gelert! As the hound bounded closer to greet him, Llywelyn was startled to notice that Gelert's lips and fangs were covered with blood. Now Prince Llywelyn had a son, barely a year old, and as Llywelyn recalled how Gelert and his young son used to play together, a terrible thought came to his mind. He rushed to his son's nursery, only to find the cradle overturned and the sheets covered in blood. Llywelyn looked frantically for his son, but couldn't find him anywhere, only the evidence of much blood and a struggle within the nursery. Turning to Gelert, whose muzzle was still wet with blood, Llywelyn came into a great rage and cried, "Thou hast killed my only son!", and drew his sword and drove it into the side of the hound. Gelert yelped once and with a sorrowful look into Llywelyn's eyes, died at his master's feet.

At the sound of Gelert's last yelp, there was a small cry from beneath the overturned cradle. When Llywelyn righted it, who should he find beneath it but his small son, safe and unharmed, and as well the torn and bloodied body of a huge wolf. Too late Llywelyn discovered what had really happened while he was away. Gelert had stayed behind to guard the child, and had fought and slain the wolf that had crept into the nursery.

By Walpurgis

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Veganism

by Halfelf

Morality

"The animals of the world exist for their own reasons. They were not made for humans any more than black people were made for white, or women created for men." - Alice Walker

Eating animals is unnecessary. People don't need to eat animals nor animal products to survive. The mass killing of animals, then, occurs because we like the taste of meat and we don't question the tradition. How do you feel about people that are caught abusing, starving or killing their pets? There is a contradiction between the disgust we feel when we hear about the mutilation of a house pet, and the utter disregard for the millions of animals that die for our consumption.

Some of the torture animals have to endure on factory farms are as follows:

- Chickens have their beaks sliced off with a hot blade.
- Pigs have their tails chopped off and their teeth removed with pliers.
- Male cows and pigs are castrated without anesthesia.
- Animals are dosed with hormones and antibiotics to make them grow so quickly that their hearts and limbs often cannot keep up, causing crippling and heart attacks.
- They are hung upside down and bled to death, often while fully conscious.

People support all of these things every time they eat meat. Someone isn't innocent just because they didn't commit the crimes themselves.

Health

"Recognize meat for what it really is: the antibiotic- and pesticide-laden corpse of a tortured animal." - Ingrid Newkirk

Fat

There are two main types of fats: saturated fats and unsaturated fats. Eating too much saturated fat is one of the major risk factors for heart disease because it causes cholesterol to build up in the arteries. Saturated fats are in all animal products and some tropical plants (eg. coconut, palm). Saturated fats are not necessary in any diet, although unsaturated fats are.

Cholesterol

A vegan diet has -no- cholesterol in it. Our cells have cholesterol in them because it is important in some cell functions, but we do not need to consume any in our diet. Our liver produces all we need. As was mentioned before, one of the main risks of developing heart disease is high cholesterol. If you don't eat animal products, you don't have to worry.

Hormones and Poisons

In the states, cows are injected with rBGH (Recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone) to produce more milk than they naturally would. Its presence in cow's blood stimulates another hormone, IGF-1 (Insulin-Like Growth Factor 1). The FDA considers rBGH safe, but IGF-1 occurs naturally in humans. It's still not fully known what effects this actually has, but putting extra hormones into your body is bound to have negative side effects.

The higher up you go in the food chain, the more contaminants the food you eat has. A lot of fish have been shown to have high levels of heavy metals if they come from polluted lakes. These heavy metals will build up in our bodies until they become toxic. Plants treated with pesticides are fed to the animals we eat, and the levels build up in their bodies. Eating animals increases the amount of toxins you consume.

Milk

"The myth that osteoporosis is caused by calcium deficiency was created to sell dairy products and calcium supplements. There's no truth to it. American women are among the biggest consumers of calcium in the world, and they still have one of the highest levels of osteoporosis in the world. And eating even more dairy products and calcium supplements is not going to change that fact." - Dr. John McDougall, The McDougall Program for Women (2000)

The dairy industry would have you believe that drinking cow's milk is the -only- way to get enough calcium in your diet. They say that drinking milk is essential to having strong bones and good health. Strange then, how no other mammals drink milk after infancy, and no other mammals drink a different species' milk. How do these animals survive? Their bones must break constantly! Obviously that isn't the case. Cow's milk is made for baby cows, goat's milk is made for baby goats, and human milk is made for baby humans. If you get plenty of exercise and take care not to consume too much protein (which leeches calcium from the bones, along with other things like caffeine), your bones will be fine. You can get all the calcium you need from dark green leafy vegetables, soy products, and fortified orange juice or soy/rice/nut milks.

Our optimal diet

If we were truly meant to eat meat, especially to the extent most people do today, would it

really cause as many health problems as it does? For a very in-depth analysis of our anatomy compared with that of carnivorous, omnivorous and herbivorous mammals, go [here](#).

Environment

"[T]he easiest way to reduce grain consumption is to lower the intake of meat and milk, grain-intensive foods. Roughly 2 of every 5 tons of grain produced in the world are fed to livestock, poultry, or fish; decreasing consumption of these products, especially of beef, could free up massive quantities of grain and reduce pressure on land." - The Worldwatch Institute

Meat eating has serious effects on the environment. A well-known fact about the food chain is that the lower down you eat, the more efficient it is. A day's food for a meat eater requires approximately 15,000 litres of water, compared with 5,000 for a vegetarian and 1,500 for a vegan. The same goes for food; eating meat ultimately uses up more plants than just straight eating plants. The environment is obviously in rough shape, what with pollution, deforestation and everything else; why not lesson your impact.

Myths

"One farmer says to me, "You cannot live on vegetable food solely, for it furnishes nothing to make the bones with;" and so he religiously devotes a part of his day to supplying himself with the raw material of bones; walking all the while he talks behind his oxen, which, with vegetable-made bones, jerk him and his lumbering plow along in spite of every obstacle." - Henry David Thoreau

Here are a few myths about veganism that I feel need to be dispelled:

1. Vegan diets don't have enough protein

Americans consume way more protein than is necessary, and in reality, protein deficiency in vegans is unheard of. There is lots of protein in vegetables, legumes, grains and nuts. Also, the myth about combining proteins was refuted a long time ago, although a lot of people still think it's true. As long as you eat a varied diet, you don't have to combine proteins in one meal.

2. Vegans are deficient in many nutrients

Meat eaters can be deficient in nutrients too; it just depends on how you eat. A varied vegan diet has all the nutrients you need.

3. Vegan diets are bland and boring

Becoming vegan can open you up to a new world of choice. There are thousands of different foods that are vegetable based. It really lets you be creative with your food because your meal isn't based around a slab of meat.

Counter-culture

"I have no doubt that it is a part of the destiny of the human race, in its gradual improvement, to leave off eating animals, as surely as the savage tribes have left off eating each other." - Henry David Thoreau

We claim to be a counter-culture organization. We don't shop at Gap, we don't watch MTV, we don't listen to corporations' bullshit. Most of us still listen to the dairy and meat industries, though. They are just as bad as any corporation; they perpetuate lies for their own benefit. We have been brainwashed to believe that milk is necessary by celebrity endorsement ("Got Milk?") and endless advertisements pushing the healthy benefits of milk. Do you really think they care about our health? It's the same with meat. It's everywhere; it's the main staple of the American diet, but it's obviously not doing much good. Heart disease is the number one killer of men and women alike, but it can be greatly avoided by simply avoiding animal products. Most people don't even know what veganism means because the idea is so shunned by everyone. Why is a compassionate way of life viewed so negatively? Think for yourself instead of letting society think for you and see where your conclusions take you!

by Halfelf

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Fun with SMTP

by Labrat

SMTP can be very helpful if asked nicely. Remembering the help command (often just ?) can be useful in unfamiliar territory. SMTP can get complicated, so most writers include some sort of documentation. An average session with a help command would read something like:

```
Connected to (domain)
Escape character is "^]".
220-(domain) Sendmail (version)
ready at Mon, 15April 2002 03:56:21
GMT
220 ESMTP spoken here
>help

214- Commands:
214- HELO EHLO MAIL RCPT DATA
214- RSET NOOP QUIT HELP VRFY
214- EXPN VERB
214- For more info use "Help <topic>".
214- To report bugs in the implementation send email to
214- (mail)
214- For local information send email to Postmaster at your site
214- END of Help info
```

Even without a help command, the server on the other end of this session gives out information that could be used for a potential attack. The most important is the version it's running as SMTP is notorious for exploitable holes. Due to the idiocy of the people running them, even the most ancient bugs are left unpatched in many systems.

The commands in found by typing help to the following:

```
Helo/Ehlo - Greet the host
Rcpt - specifies the recipient
Mail - specifies the sender
Data - denotes the body of the message
Verb - turns on Verbose
Expn - Expand to full list of recipients
Vrfy - verify username
Help - help
```

Quit - exit the smtp service

Noop - lets the server know to keep your connection alive while you do nothing

Faking Mail

Well just about anyone who can telnet to port 25 and type a few commands can send some fake mail. Here's an example.

```
220 ESMTP spoken here
```

```
>Helo
```

```
250 hotmail.com(<- you) Hello smtp.server.net(<- Them), pleased to meet you!
```

```
>Mail from: BGates@Microsoft.com (<- fake)
```

```
250 bgates@microsoft.com... Sender OK
```

```
>Rcpt to: some@guy.com
```

```
250 some@guy.com... Recipient OK
```

```
>Data
```

```
354 Enter mail with "." on a line by itself.
```

```
>Hello, this is bill gates.
```

```
I have lots of money.
```

```
Sincerely,
```

```
Bill.
```

```
.  
250 OOA020DA33B Message accepted for delivery
```

```
>quit
```

```
221 smtp.server.net closing connection
```

```
Connection closed by remote host.
```

Yeah, it's not the hardest feat to conquer. When some@guy.com goes to check his mail, he'll see something like:

```
From: BGates@microsoft.com Mon Apr 15 4:02:34 2002
```

```
Date: Mon 15 Apr 2002 4:02:30
```

```
Hello, this is bill gates.
```

```
I have lots of money.
```

```
Sincerely,
```

```
Bill.
```

However, in the header one will see that although this mail was from bgates@microsoft.com, the Recieved header will show:

Recieved from: root@smtp.server.net

Although most spammers take much more precautian than this, it's still relatively easy to find the sender.

Dont go playing around with things you haven't seen from the SysOp's point of view.

In the case above, there's fingerprints littered over the log.

Apr 14 4:02:30 Slack Sendmail [176]: MAA00176:

from=bgates@microsoft.com, size=90, class=0, pri=30090, nrcpts=1,
msgid=, proto=smtp, relay=root@smtp.server.net

Apr 14 4:02:34 Slack Sendmail [177]: MAA00176: to=some@guy.com,
delay=00:00:04, mailer=local, stat=sent

As said earlier, there are holes in every sendmail service, and it's safe to assume that the older the version, the more vulnerable it is. The backdoor method is much more fruitless today than it was many moons ago. In fact, it's rare to find a sendmail server that will accept wiz or debug commands and is still in operation. The backdoors were usually purposefully made so SysOps could upload and run arbitrary code during the testing phase.

However, buffer overflows are the most common exploitation of sendmail. It's allowed by buggy code that doesn't balance the buffer size in a command with the actual allotted buffer.

Unfortunately, because of the amounts of past holes and exploits in sendmail, it's a favorite protocol for every script kiddie out there and royal pain in the ass for SysOps. Although most of the kiddies don't realize thier every move is reported to the log, and in the case of buffer overflow it appears something like:

Apr 4 3:21:12 Slack Sendmail[594]: WAA00594: SYSERR(root): prescan: token too long.

By Labrat

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Booting 101

by Labrat

Warning: This article is biased against non-windows operating systems. If your dick is too big to accept 98se as a functioning OS, please go read something more suited to your tastes.

Yeah, that's right. What happens when you boot your PC?

Well, the first thing it does is POST. Contrary to the popular beliefs, POST isn't bios advertising itself. Underneath all that your computer is going through a Power On Self Test.

POST is, essentially, a diagnostic check for essential components such as RAM, HDD, Keyboard, and other hardware. If they're working properly it continues to boot. If POST detects a malfunction it will normally display the error message on screen. However, since POST is run before the video card is activated, that isn't always possible. In that case, your computer will emit a series of beeps, usually one sequence consisting of a number that corresponds to the problem, but sometimes it sounds like morse code (and in very special cases, it will play music. Yes, musical Bios beeps. Google it). This depends highly on your version of Bios. The following is a list of the generic IBM beep codes which many systems adhere to today, but as always, check to find out the specifics for your version.

- 1 - RAM refresh fail.
- 2 - Parity Circuit fail.
- 3 - Base 64k RAM fail.
- 4 - System Time fail.
- 5 - Processor fail.
- 6 - Key gate A20 error.
- 7 - Virtual Mode Exception error.
- 8 - Display Memory R/W error.
- 9 - ROM/Bios checksum failure.

Need more information on bios beeps? Google it. And again, make sure you're getting the correct POST beep code for your Bios.

What if your system doesn't beep and prints to screen a numbered code? Don't worry, that's covered now.

- 101 - Mobo interrupt fail.
- 102 - System Timer fail.
- 103 - System Timer interrupt fail.
- 108 - System Timer Bus test.

109 - DMA test error
110 - PS/2 Mobo error / Parity error.
161 - CMOS / Battery error.
162 - System Option unset
163 - Time / Date unset.
164 - Memory Size error.
201 - Memory Test error.
202 - Memory Address error.
203 - Memory Address error.
301 - Keyboard error.
302 - Keyboard error on user-end / Keylock.
303 - Keyboard error.
304 - Keyboard error.
432 - Parellel Port fail.
501 - Color Memory fail / Frequency fail / Horizontal Ssync. fail

Let us assume that POST works. The next sequence is pulling up the bootstrap!Whats a bootstrap? It's that little tag on the back of your Doc Martens! In computer terms, loading the bootstrap is loading a smaller initial program to open your Operating System. Bootstrap load retrieves the system files from the boot sector of your harddrive.

Next in the lineup is your IO.Sys, one of the core components to a windows based system. What IO.Sys does is load drivers for various things. The VIP's (Very Important Pieces) in IO.Sys are device drivers for communication with I/O, your harddrive(s), the keyboard, floppy drives, CD drives, and things along those lines. Io.Sys is an executable binary file, in essence, a program. It basically tells the computer how the system is set up. In older machines running anything less than or equal to Windows 95, Io.Sys comes paired with MSDos.sys. However, the newer IO.sys contains all the information needed to boot your machine, including Config.sys and Autoexec.bat. Most don't notice the change because copies of Config.sys and Autoexec.bat are left on the machine as to promote compatibility with programs and drivers written for older operating systems which depend on the independency of them. Io.sys is written in a sequence of executable code, not a text-like file, so editing it is fruitless, and even dangerous. Instead, edit Config.sys or Autoexec.bat as you normally would, the system will pick up the changes and add them to io.sys automatically on reboot.

Then comes Config.sys. Most of us are familiar with this file, but assuming you're not, the Config.sys file loads the operating system's kernal into memory. The kernal on your machine is something like MSDos.sys. You can change the way DOS loads onto your system, or increase buffer size, among other features. At a C-prompt, type "Edit Config.sys" and have a look. You'll see Buffers=and a number. Changing this number can increase your computers speed dramatically. (HALT: I recommend backing up this file before playing around. Continue.)

Increasing the buffer size will make opening programs and navigating the windows environment quicker.

A line like `DEVICE=C:\DOS\EMM386.EXE` loads the expanded memory in a computer running 80386 or 80486 (rare exceptions). This allows programs that need expanded memory to run using extended memory. It also helps DOS to manage extended memory in the upper memory area. That is, memory about 640k. There's most likely a host of other lines in there like `himem`, `files`, and `stacks`. These are things you generally don't want to change without being 100% clear on what you're doing to them.

`Command.com` comes next. Those who weren't familiar with the `Config.sys` most likely know the basics on running things in DOS. `Command.com` is the program that lets us communicate with our system, it's shell or command interpreter. If you're booting into DOS, then with the loading of `command.com` you'll be taken to a prompt at the root directory of your boot drive. This is usually `c\>`, also referred to as a C-prompt. Most of us are using windows, so we'll assume you don't see much of DOS. DOS first came about from IBM by Bill Gates who retained the rights to that first version (PC-DOS) and later updated it and named it MS-DOS. The earliest versions were a stand-alone operating system. The first versions of Windows were really only an application running off DOS. Now, the DOS you see included with Windows packages isn't really DOS at all, but an emulation. (Note: this is unrelated to IBM's 70's Business Disk Operating System, DOS, which later transformed into VSE.)

The next file to run is `Autoexec.bat`. `Command.com` runs `Autoexec.bat`. It initializes this program before you ever see a prompt or Windows. `Autoexec.bat` sets Dos's environmental parameters. The commands in this program tell the operating system which application programs are to be automatically started, how memory is to be managed, and initialize other settings. The `.bat` stands for Batch. Batch means that the file contains a sequence of commands entered by another program, not the user. You rarely see a batch program, as most of them run in the background with a lower priority than user-interactive ones. The most common time a batch program is seen is when sending a file to be printed.

When `Autoexec` finishes, your computer will either display a C-prompt, or it will automatically run `Win.exe` and start the Windows program.

`Win.exe`, is Windows. That's where the boot ends and the fun begins. This process usually takes about 30 seconds.

By Labrat

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Fighting Back: Killing the Ads and Spyware

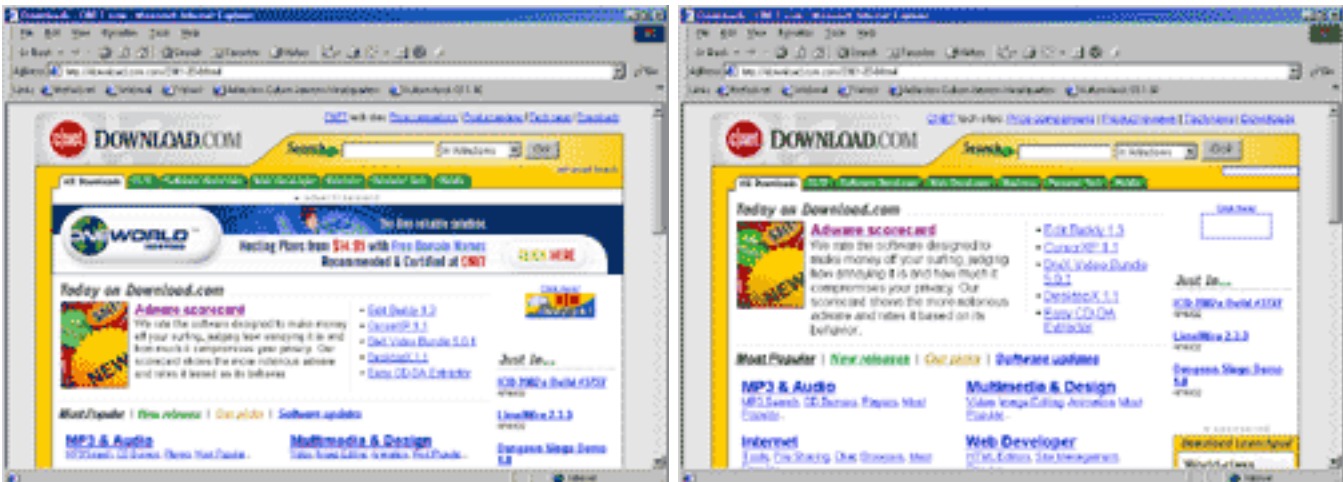
by Tanthrix

Ad-free Internet

So, you are browsing a website looking for a link to download some software. You click the link next to the banner ad, to the right of an ad layer, right next to the Geocities ad-bar. You soon realize this was a mistake as 27 javascript prompted pop-up windows take over your screen. Does this sound familiar? Unfortunately the internet today seems like it is being taken over by ads. Luckily there is a few ways to fight back. A number of ad-blocking programs have been released recently but I am going to speak about my personal favorite, Proximitron.

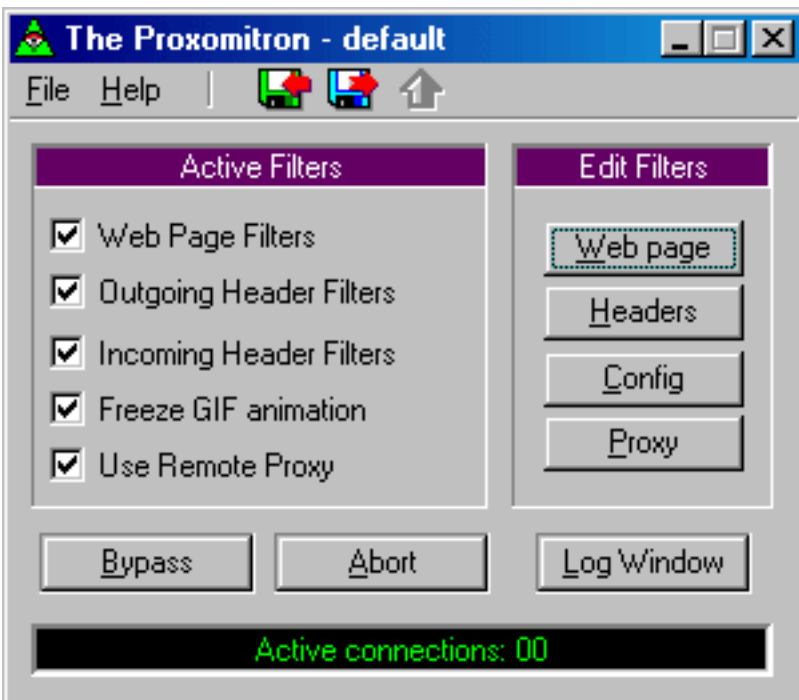
Promixitron is a relatively small freeware piece of software designed with a very simple, straight forward, means of blocking ads. This program acts as a filter for your internet. Instead of your web browser accessing the web directly off the internet, it connects through Proximitron to receive its web pages. Proximitron goes through the code of a website before you even see it and looks for code that matches its blocking filters. It comes with a fairly large amount filters that block everything from Pop-up windows to those annoying embedded midi songs. If you know what you are doing, you can make custom filters to block just about anything you want. Everything is completely configurable and customizable to your needs.

Proximitron also has a variety of other features. It has the ability to connect to a proxy if you are on a network. It also has a "block file" which is a simple text file with a list of sites that should not be filtered. Filtering can sometimes make a site load wrong if it depends on certain code that is being blocked. If you come across a site, all you have to do is right click the Proximitron icon in your task bar and add the web page to the block file.





These "before and after" screen shots show how effective Proximitron is at blocking ads.



This is the actual Proximitron program window. From here you can completely configure all of

your filters, proxy settings, and even back-up your config file. This feature allows you to have certain config files for certain things whether it be casual web browsing or while browsing web sites of a particular "theme." :-) Proximitron is a great program and I will not surf the web without it. Remember, on the internet YOU control the media and what you see. Instead of being spoon-fed ads, fight back, and enjoy your ad-free internet!

Requirements:

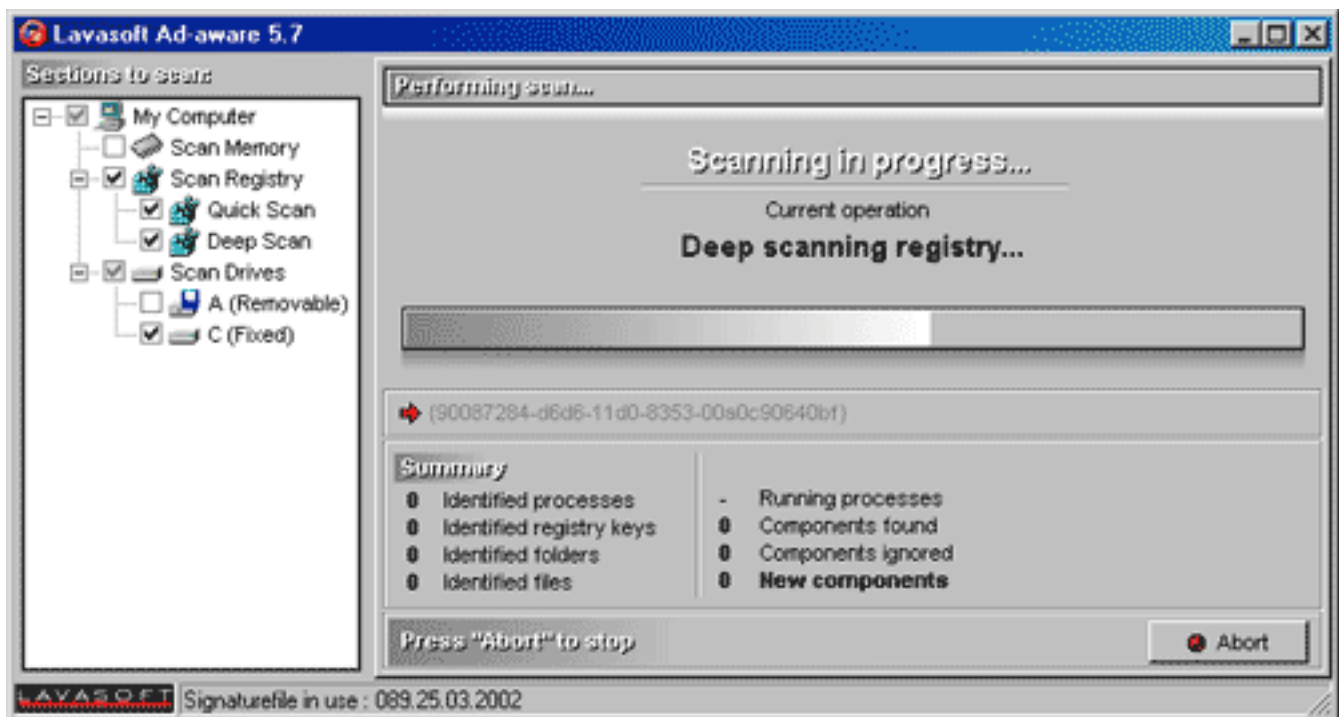
Windows 98, ME, 2000, or XP

Any Web Browser with Proxy Settings (Netscape and Internet Explorer both do)

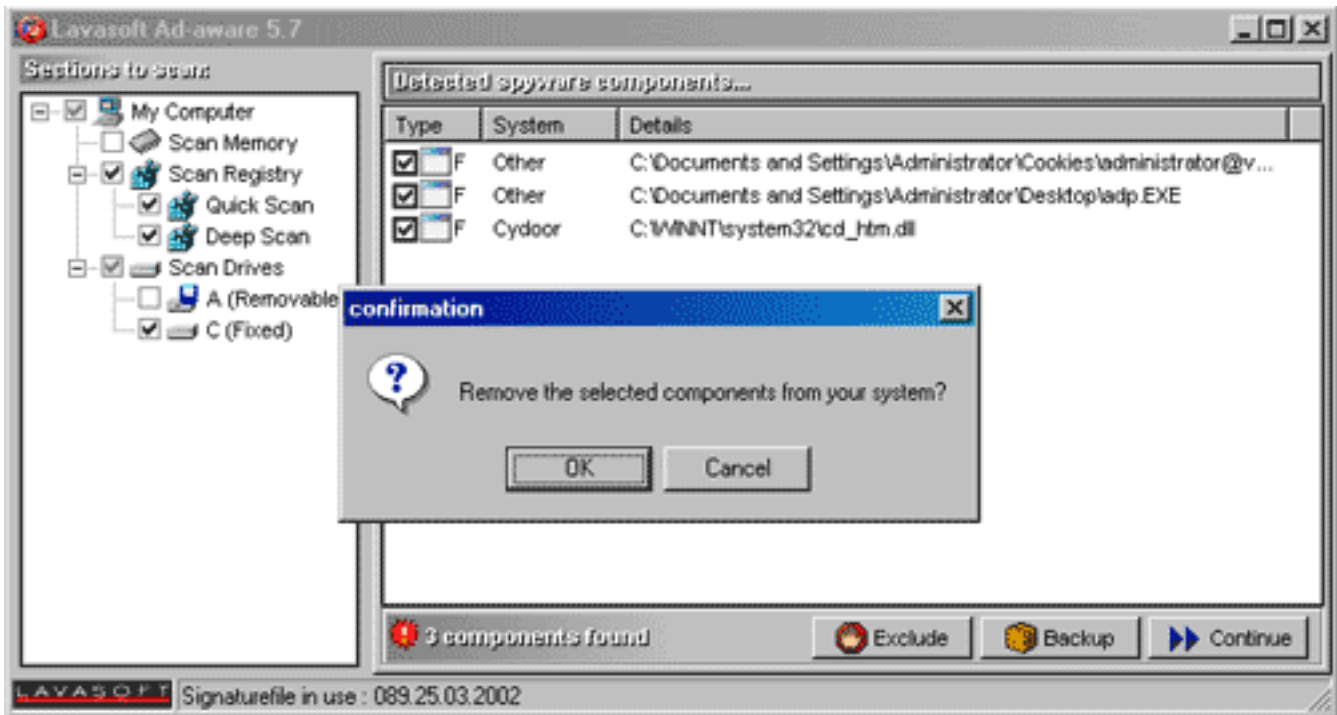
Get Proximitron [here](#).

Killing the Spyware

Spyware is actual software that typically runs in the background of a computer or along side another application. Spyware does a variety of bad things. Different spyware programs do different things but tend to usually monitor what you do on your computer and report it back to a large company or corporation. Spyware wastes memory and processor cycles which can be especially problematic on slower computers. Some spyware programs even pop up ads periodically which are extremely annoying. There are a few programs designed to remove spyware but the best by far is Ad-Aware by Lava Soft. This 800k freeware program does a complete check of spyware on your system and will remove it on your command.



Ad-aware, shown here, scans your hard drive, registry, and memory for spyware programs.



Three pieces of spyware were detected on my system and were removed. Ad-Adware is a great program that I highly recommend downloading. It is another must have if you care about your privacy at all.

Requirements:

Windows 95, 98, ME, NT4 and Win2k (Will Run on XP if you make daily human sacrifices to the internet gods)

Get Ad-ware 5 [here](#).

by [Tanthrix](#)

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beige boxes

by decker tgrey

disclaimer:

this info is for the U.S. systems by experience... i've been told that canadian equipment operates similar enough to ours for this gadget to work.

niether i nor kult advocate, advise, or recommend that you actually do this. this is purely for educational and entertainment purposes ONLY. i am not responsible if you do this... and if you do this and get caught, i don't even know you.

all pictures taken were done so in accordance with the laws currently reflecting the use of privately rented telephone lines.

using this equipment on your own lines for fun is ok, using this on someone elses line's is a serious crime. ok?

safety notes:

using this equipment involves working with electricity. if you have a pace maker or anything serious like that, it might be a bad idea. but i'm not your babby sitter.

the highest the voltage goes is roughly 50 volts. this is when the phone is "on hook", or not in use. don't cross the streams! you get shocked when you touch both terminals at the same time, so watch your hands.

keep in mind, if your clipped on, touching both clips on the metal part is same as touching both terminals. work one at a time.

should you accidentally get shocked, don't worry, the shock is very mild, and will feel almost like an itch or a bug bite. if you're soldering or using heat shrink tubing, know how first. i don't mean my instructions here to teach you.

intro



can you guess which one is me?

ok, shoot me, the title doesn't grab ya. i hate picking titles.

i recently went to a covention, and somehow ended up partially giving a panel entitled hacking 101. one thing we were discussing was which "boxes" of the fabled .box text files from "ye good olde b.b.s. systems" still work. well, while talking i started praising the usefulness of a beige box, especially to someone on the run. really, it's the most simple of all the boxes. it's cheap, it's easy, it's small, it still works, and most likely will for a LONG time, so here's something great for those awol bags.

what is a beige box?

a beige box is basically a poor man's version of the linemen's handset from the phone company. those sets, while much more functional, cost upwards of 300\$, and if you're in the U.S., you'll prolly need a license to buy a fully functioning one. you might get lucky and "find" a set, if so, don't brag about it. these devices allow you to "clip" onto peoples phone lines at specific points. for instance, standing outside someone's house, you'd be able to clip on and use their line like you were in their house.

the actual device is very simple, and you can find instructions for them all over the net, so why did i write one? cause i felt like it. honestly i've read some beige box plans were flat out silly. they'd call for you to ruin a phone to make it. even the nicer plans had you ruin an inline coupler. it may be a cheap part, but phone cord is cheaper. and those couplers come in handy :)

not only does it leave you with a more versatile tool, it's every bit as easy to make as cutting a phone. so for anyone interested in making a very easy modular beige box, read on...



an old school beige box...

what you'll need:

- a phone (*this won't get damaged*)
- an in-line coupler (*this won't get damaged*)
- phone cord (*this will get damaged*)
- 2 alligator clips
- wire strippers
- crimpers (*optional*)
- "modular" rj-11 plugs (*optional*)
- electrical tape (*optional*)
- soldering iron & solder (*optional*)
- heat shrink plastic tubing (*optional*)
- metal helping hands (*optional*)

picking equipment tips:



my choice in phones...

phone: the phone will get plugged into your finished beige box, so it'll have to go everywhere you do. i recommend a belt phone with a headset mic. you can find decent ones for 10\$ or so.



a couple couplers

in-line coupler: this simple device can usually be purchased for under 2\$. it is essentially two phone "jacks" that you would plug between two cables to make a longer cable. it should match the connector type of your phone, this is rj-11 commonly.



i should have taken a pic before i cut it...

phone cord: this doesn't matter TOO much. try to pick one out that's not too cheap, as some of the cheap ones use sheilding that's unbelievably difficult to strip. if you can crimp a cable, don't buy this, make your own.



some gator clips...

alligator clips: you'll only need two, but they're normally sold in bags of more than that. sizes vary, i like a medium size so it can be used on smaller contacts and larger contacts alike. these should also only cost you a couple bucks. if you don't want to solder, i would strongly recommend the kind with the plastic tabs like i'm using. it slides over the wire and helps hold it still. if you're soldering, you might have problems fitting the tabs over the solder if you make your joints too big.



wire cutters and pliers... ya.

wire strippers: basically like pliers, with sharp edges. you use these to cut the shield on the wire and "strip" it off. i don't know how much these cost, i use the ones from a computer tool-kit.



my crimpers...

crimpers: these are optional. if you don't already have crimpers, you prolly don't wanna buy them for this.



cable and ends.

modular rj-11 plugs: these are also optional... you only need these if you have crimpers and are going to crimp your own cable. yes, you need the cable too.



this stuff is so fun.

electrical tape: this can be used as a "protection" over your contact of the wire to the alligator clip. it's not necessary, but it can help.



my iron and my solder.

soldering iron & solder: don't know what this is? don't worry about it. you're prolly done with equipment now. otherwise, soldering the wires onto the alligator clips can really make them more stable and long lasting. much better than tape.



a great final touch

heat shrink tubing: don't know what this is? skip it. if you do, this can also be protective of your contacts. i like to use tubing over soldered connections.



meet your new best friend.

metal helping hands: you really don't need these, but they are a godsend if you're soldering. you use them to hold the peices you're soldering while you solder them. most electronics supply stores should have them.

construction



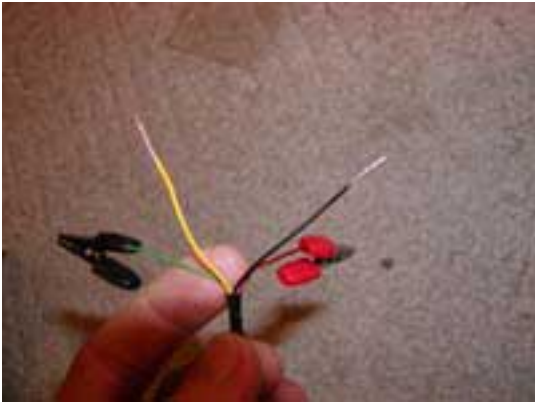
you don't need much...

start by cutting your phone cord. you'll want some slack, tho how much varies. i just like an inch or two. which side might matter especially if you're making attachments, so pay attention. with the little plastic tab facing the floor, the color order should be yellow, green, reb, black. if it only has two colors, green and red, make sure they're in that order.if it isn't, check the other side. if you are crimping your own wire, do so now in that order. if you ever make a backwards one, it's ok, just clip on backwards.

you should now have a phone plug with some cord coming off it. strip the cord to expose the 4 wires inside, but be careful not to cut their shielding. this can be difficult, so if you do things like this often, i'd recommend a set of crimpers. they usually have strippers designed to only cut the outer cover.



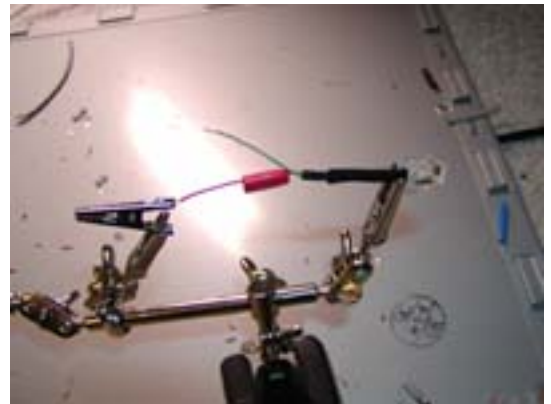
it's so cute!



you prolly won't need the yellow and black, so if they're there, clip em. if you want to make a version has capabilities to clip onto a second line, keep them. i made both a single and double line version.

i left these on to make the two line version...

attach alligator clips to the ends of the red and green wires. if you'd like to secure them, do so. i like to solder my alligator clips (if your gator clips have plastic tabs, remember to feed the wire through the tab so it can slide on). if you don't wanna solder, you can get away with twisting the wire around the end of the alligator clip. this will work, but sometimes might cause a little extra line noise, or not work till you jiggle it. depends on how good you twist. you now have a phone plug that goes to two wires that turn into alligator clips.



solder it good...



and here it is.

plug this into the inline coupler (or directly into your phone if you can) and you're done! i also like to have a few splitters handy to make that one phone plug into two, or three, or four...

and here's the two line version.



that's two, for almost the price of one...

using it

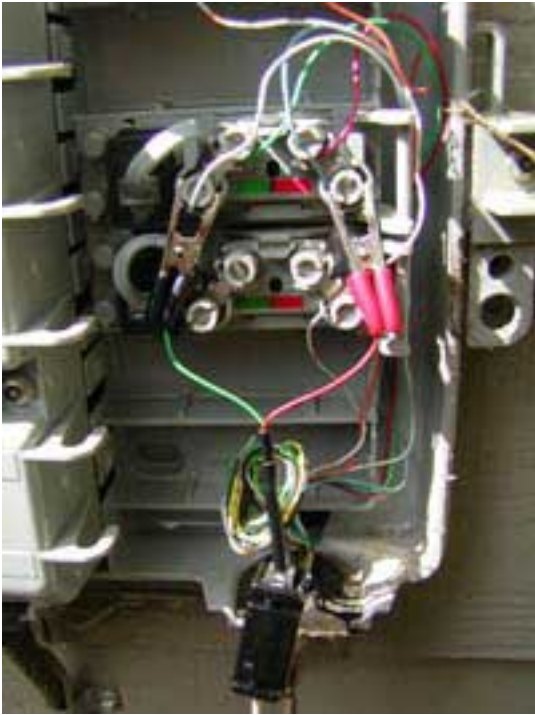


this is my box...

basically this "beige box" lets you clip onto the phone line where a plug isn't handy. one common point is outside everyones house. i've yet to notice or hear about a house without one. there is usually a box, white or grey. it's common for this box to have a bell symbol of some sort, or at least be labelled by a telephone company. inside this box is where the phone lines connect to the house. these boxes can be locked, but almost never are. it'd be too hard to supply employees with keys, and you know a copy would get out anyway. now should you ever need to make a phone or modem (laptop) call you can just walk up to the house, open the box up, and "clip" onto the house's phone line.



just unscrew and open...



you'll want to clip the red wire to the red side, green to the green side. you might not be able to see it, but whoever installed this box put a coating of paint over the terminals. it doesn't cover them completely, and looks more like a safety precaution than a security measure. it's still a pain in the ass. if your box has more than one set of terminals, which is most likely, the right ones are the top if there's two, middle if there's 3. it's easy to tell, just look. only one set of terminals should have red and green wires coming from it.

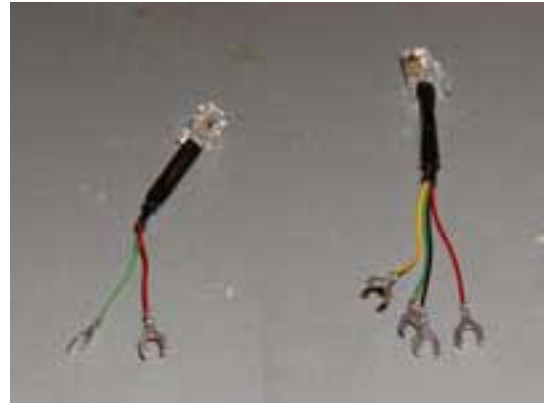
clipped on, with a coupler and a cable running to my phone...

areas with houses and building near each other also often have boxes that contain contact points for all the buildings in the immediate area. heh. how convenient. near me these boxes are green, and clearly marked as property of telco. also not locked. in more urban areas these junctions are underground under manholes. you'll notice manholes marked with telco markings. these not only often contain contact points, but lots of other door prizes too...

sorry, forgot to take a pic of this...

plug and play compatible...

you can make more than one type of "adapter" for yours too. i made both 1 and 2 line versions with spade terminals. these are harder to attach, but much more secure. these are a good idea for laptops, since you won't have them "popping off" if the clips ever slip. basically you unscrew the terminal slightly and slide the clip around the screw, then screw it back in.



one line spade clips...



you can really tell the difference...

this handy plug shows you if someone's on the line. when the line's ok, it glows bright. ff someone is on the line, it glows, but VERY dim. i could get into why, but it's useful. i use this to know that the "polarity" (which side is red and green) might not be backwards. if it doesn't glow at all, it's either backwards or dead.

this one is very similar to the indicator, except it "trips a dial tone". in other words, when you plug this in, it's like taking a phone off the hook. in about fifteen seconds your line goes dead. the line will stay dead until you unplug it.



sorry for the fuzzy pics...

i hope you found it educational and interesting. if not, that's kool too...peace -decker tgrey
[<<Back](#)

The 50 Best Uses for Gun Tape

by VTM

Okay - here they are - as promised - in no particular order...

Hold on tight...

50 - taping up a hostage

49 - taping someone to the wall could make for a great amount of fun

48 - taping someone's mouth shut

47 - taping your own mouth shut - if you like that sort of thing

46 - making articles of clothing - such as tube tops, or miniskirts

45 - if you lack hair - make a wig out of gun tape - it comes in a variety of vibrant colors - including - grey.

44 - making necklaces, bracelets - and other forms of accessories. A nice set of pasties is relatively easy to make - it's also inexpensive - and it looks wonderful if you add a few sequins and a feather or two - a tassel would look marvellous

43 - create a nice set of underwear out of gun tape - make sure you shave first - don't want removal to hurt that badly.

42 - a nice brazier for the ladies could be very becoming. Careful of those nipples though - I suggest a nice layer of saran wrap on the sticky side of the tape - unless you're into *that* sort of thing... "nudge" - another nice way to deal with the nipple stick problem would be to simply cut holes into the bra where the nipples would be - or make that part of the brazier double sided - and make it fold - so you have nipple latches. Now wouldn't that be grand!?

41 - dread your hair. It may hurt a little upon removal - in which case - you just might want to shave your head - you won't have much hair left anyway

40 - wax your legs! Make sure you let the hair grow for at least 3 months first - you want those suckers nice and long - or you'll miss some strands...

39 - make a nice mask! It'll really give you that grey look. Make sure you cut holes for the eyes

and mouth - and make sure there's two little holes poked into the nose so you can breathe!
Unless you don't want to breathe - that's cool too - *if* you like that sort of thing...

38 - patch up a used or broken condom - then you won't have to spend any money if you want to have a good time. It *is* recycling after all - and we all know how much everyone encourages recycling..

37 - create your own condom - it can't be that hard. Follow the same procedure for creating a pasty - and then wrap the rest of mr. happy in a strip of tape. Make sure you seal the end though - because if you don't - problems may arise!

36 - if the tail pipe of your automobile happens to crack, or break - all you need is some gun tape to fix that. Simply take a few strips of tape - and place it over the crack in the tailpipe - and it should be smooth sailing from there on in...

35 - gun tape can make a very nice restraining device for your glasses if they tend to slip off your nose from time to time. Just take a strip of tape - attach it to one of the arms of your specs - wrap it around your head - and attach the other end of the tape to the other arm of your specs - and voilà. Your glasses will shift no more.

34 - in my experience - gun tape has been a useful tool in removing old nail polish that's all chipped up and unattractive. Simply place a strip of tape over your fingernails - and pull it off - there you have it - nice clean nails - ready to be painted all over again.

33 - fix your shoes. If you trip and fall - and one of your shoes breaks [it's happened - it sucks, trust me] - rather than walking around without shoes - repair them. Do it to both shoes - so it looks more like a fashion statement than something you had to do to remedy a clumsy act.

32 - create your own shoes! If you don't want to go out and look at the new trendy styles of shoes they have in all those lame shoe stores - make your own! Make sure you use lots of layers - and waterproof them properly - or you could wind up with soaking feet. That's never good.

31 - ladies - if you take a small piece of gun tape - and place it onto your nose - wait a few minutes - and pull it off rapidly - you can remove those unsightly blackheads. Make sure you wash your face first - or it won't work. If you have a nose ring - cut a small hole so you don't snag the ring and hurt yourself!!

30 - if some of your computer hardware won't fit right into its slot - simply force it in - and take some gun tape to hold it there. Simply place it along the seam of where the piece of hardware goes into its slot. That'll teach it. It worked with my soundcard - shame my mp3s won't play though - I can't test out how the soundcard works - I wonder what the hell's causing that to happen... ¤thinks¤...

29 - do you have a tattoo you'd like to hide from the family? Or the boss at work? Or perhaps you got this tattoo on a drunken whim one night when you were in college. Damned if I know. If you take a small square of gun tape - you can easily cover it! Just stick the tape overtop - and no one's the wiser - oh - except that damn grey square on your arm - or back - or wherever the location may be.

28 - if you have an unsightly scar on your face - use the same method as you would for covering a tattoo. I find it quite effective. It also works for nasty moles, pimples, and cuts! If you're going to do this on a cut though, make sure you clean it very well and let it dry before applying the tape. If you don't clean it - you could get infected. If you don't let it dry - the tape may not stick. A small amount of bleeding upon removal of the tape is normal. Do not fret.

27 - did you break some of your mom's fine china and are afraid she'll find out about it? Solution? Gun tape. All you need to do is put a strip of it over the crack - and a few more strips across that strip - and no one will be able to tell the difference!

26 - create your own dishes! They're cheap, and as an added bonus - there's no cleanup! However, make sure you don't put them in the dishwasher. That isn't a good plan. Don't do it - trust me. I've made that mistake. It cost me a dishwasher... tape everywhere... ¤bites her lip¤ - oh god - the stickiness!!! ¤rolls into a foetal position and rocks back and forth¤ - it's only money - I'll just be in debt for the rest of my life - it's okay... no big deal... where's my gun again??

25 - tape can be useful when you have long hair that hangs in your face. Ever notice how annoying that is? Yeah. Take some tape - and hold your hair back - take a strip of tape and wrap it around your hair - like a hair tie. I guarantee - that hair won't ever give you problems again.

24 - if one of your CDs breaks - take some tape and stick it back together. The CD will still work. I guarantee it. I tried it - but my damn CD player is a piece of shit and it won't play it. I don't understand why...

23 - make a guitar string. You know how annoying that is when you're playing a song - and one of your strings breaks - make a new one by folding a piece of gun tape in half - then thread it through like a normal string. Make sure you tune it right - or it'll sound bad. I can't seem to get the tuning right.. I'm not sure why.. maybe I just have a bad ear..? yeah - that's it.

22 - who needs a toothbrush when you have a nice roll of gun tape? All you need to do is take a piece - stick it to your teeth - and rip it off. All that nasty stuff will come off with the tape! Make sure you blow-dry your teeth first. The tape won't stick if your mouth is all wet and gross. ^_^

21 - cover your car steering wheel. If your steering wheel gets all dirty and icky from driving while eating or drinking a DP or something - cover it in gun tape - it saves you the time and effort of cleaning it off. In addition, as an added bonus - every time you add a layer - the wheel gets thicker. More to hang onto!! I'm not seeing a downside here..

20 - tired of leaving fingerprints everywhere..? Take pieces of gun tape and wrap them around your fingers. That way - no one will catch you in that mass murder you're planning... err - I mean - that one you're not planning cause you're not planning anything... looks around all dodgy like

19 - I personally hate being woken up at 6 30 in the spring time because the sun comes up early. I find the best thing to do - is to tape up your windows. That way - you never have to touch any drapes or anything to block the light. The only thing is - if you have plants in your room by the window - move them. Mine died for some reason. I think it's allergic to gnu tape fumes or something...

18 - do you hate to swallow pills..? Coat them in gun tape! That way - they won't taste so bitter and nasty. Make sure you drink a lot of tea afterwards though - or you could feel a tad sick from those pills.. ^_^

17 - men - do you have someone you'd like to marry? But you don't have enough money to buy her a ring? Solution - gun tape. Take a piece of gun tape - fold it in half - sticky sides together - and slip it onto her finger. She'll be ecstatic! Nothing beats a gun tape ring for a marriage proposal.

16 - have you been in an accident in your car lately? Can you not afford a tow truck? Well - as long as you have gun tape - you don't need a damn tow truck. Just attach a piece of tape to the bumper of the car - make sure you fasten it underneath so that it hangs on better - and make the strip long so you won't need to put so much force into it. Grab the piece of tape - and start walking. If you need to change the tape - just repeat the instructions! It's easy! Although - expect to get funny looks. I sure did.

15 - women with wrinkly skin have tried using oil of olay creams and other "age defying" systems to get rid of those wrinkles. Fools. All of them. All you need to fix that is to make a gun tape ring around your face. Right on your hairline - and under your chin. Stick the tape on your skin, and pull. The wrinkles will be gone!! But - you have to choose the mood you're in before you do this - because your face will stick in the position it's in when you tape it down. Happy is usually the best emotion to pick - you'll be perma-grinning.

14 - picture-hanging hardware can be the biggest pain in the ass. Take some gnu tape - and stick it to the frame, and then tape it to the wall. It looks stylish. Make sure you're careful when you

take the tape off though. It's best to have a can of paint handy. Preferably the same color as the wall. You'll need to touch it up a bit.

13 - ever wanted to redecorate your home? Here's an idea.. create a nice little chandelier - just put a strip of tape on the ceiling - and work from it. You'd make one hell of a statement when the neighbors come over for tea and cupcakes, won't you?

12 - do you get annoyed when the sheets on your bed come off during the night? Take some tape and tape those annoying corners down. They'll never move again.

11 - if you break an arm and you don't have medical insurance - just push the bone back together - and tape it in place. Make sure you make a sling too - don't want that arm to move too much - or it'll heal with an extra joint! Oh no!

10 - if you can't afford to buy some nice fake flowers for your home - and you don't want to deal with the hassle of growing real ones - plant gun tape flowers. Create them by using an x-acto knife, and cutting out the petals and such. It could look interesting if you give it a shot. Shame they don't grow. Maybe if someone tries some genetic engineering..

09 - do you have a pet? Do they constantly shit on your rugs? I can solve that. Take some tape and stick it over top. No one will tell. Make sure you clean the mess up first and cover the stain. I don't want to be held responsible for any unwanted lumps in the rug...

08 - mowing the lawn can be a pain in the ass, can't it? Well - just tape it down and rip the tape up. It's like waxing your legs with tape - but you're waxing the lawn. Much more fun. Much fun would be had by all. You might want to replant after that though - some low-density patches might occur.

07 - I wear glasses, and I get annoyed when the sun shines in my eyes. If you take tape - and cut it to the shape of your lenses - you can have instant sunglasses. I suggest you don't drive or operate anything that involves your eyes while you have the tape over your glasses though. It could pose a problem.

06 - when you blow your nose - the tissue can make your nose all raw and uncomfortable. If you make a tissue out of gun tape - that doesn't happen. The tape is smooth and doesn't make your nose dry. Just - make sure you blow your nose with the smooth side - and not the sticky side - don't hurt yourself and then say I gave you the idea.

05 - you know how it is - you go to roll a joint - and you realise - wait - I have no zig zag paper! What will I ever do! If you take a piece of tape [yes - a piece of tape] - and you put your weed into it - then you roll it - it works just as well - if not better - than zig zag paper. See - the key is - to put the weed on the sticky side. Then you roll it and the stickiness sticks the joint together -

no licking required! But - be careful of that nasty smell and taste you get from it.. The high was never as good... ¤thinks¤ - maybe the tape had something to do with it...

04 - is your ass a tad saggy? Take some tape and use it as a push-up bra for your ass! Your backside will look a lot perkier! It will also hide those unsightly chunks that you may or may not admit to having...

03 - need a portfolio? Make one out of tape! That one's self-explanatory

02 - gun tape works well to pull back those sickening love handles that you may or may not admit to having... god knows sucking in your gut won't help - so use tape. It fixes the problem quite well.

01 - is your pet shedding too much? Here's the deal. Take some gun tape - and run it over the surface of the animal's fur. It'll pick up the extra fur - and you don't even have to brush its coat!!! Best of all - the animal won't hate you forever either. You won't have to shave it - you won't have to do anything. All you do need to do is catch it and tie it down so you can do this. Hey!! You can use gun tape for THAT too!!!! Wow - I'm GOOD!

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This Month's Poetry

"Take The Power Back"

we are the people who sit in front of a screen

typing,

reading

learning

talking

at all hours of the day

noon

dusk

night

dawn

We are the kids that were bullied through school

hit

kicked

tripped

shoved

because we were different

nerd

freaks

geeks

losers

You had the power, and control the mainstream

jocks

preppies

cheerleaders

wannabes

we became your nightmare

goths

hackers

punks

poets

We've come to take the mainstream back

By Krayz_Fuk

"What We're Told"

You've become everything

Through your lying

Cheating
And stealing

You're every where we look
In the newspaper,
Magazines
And billboards
You tell us what we want

You tell us what music to listen too
By bombarding us
On the radio
In our heads

The bands you promote are like you
They lie,
Cheat,
And steal.
Doing what you say

You are the mainstream,
You think you know it all
You think you can control us.
But you cant

We do our own thing
We have our own likes
Dislikes,
And thoughts

We buy what is better,
Not what were told is.
Whether Coke,
Pepsi,
Or Mountain Dew

We know our rights
Freedom,
Truth
Knowledge
They're fighting for

We are watching you
And you're trying to stop us
Trying,
succeeding.
ultimately failing

We are the underground
You cant get rid of us
We are everywhere
We are here to stay

By Krayz_Fuk

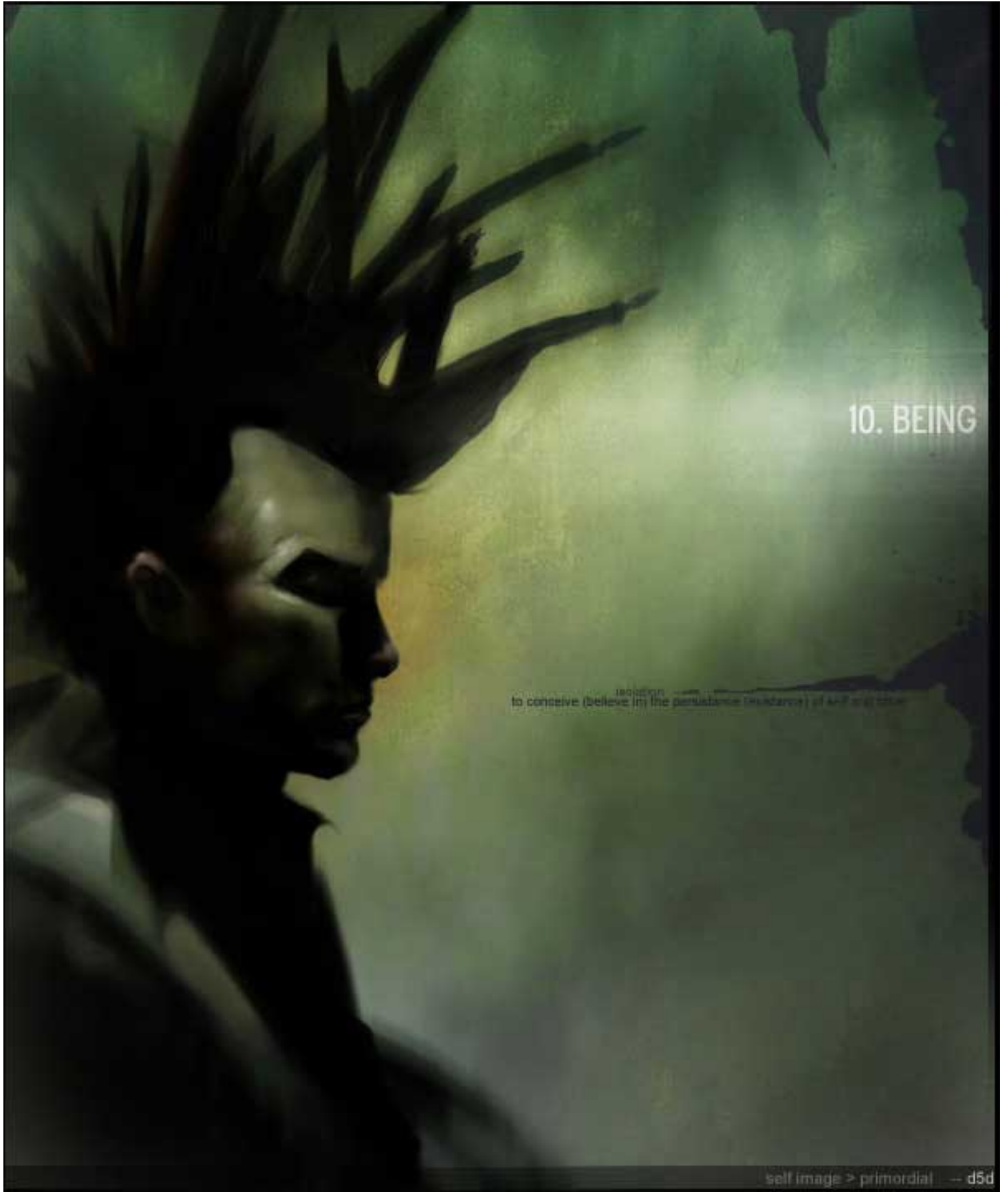
"Immortal Misery in the Blackened Abode of my Heart"

I am but a jet black rose floating down an endless stream into the night
A night pierced only by the lonely flickering flame of a single candle
A candle burning by my open grave, peppered with crimson tears of a love
A love long lost in the eternal mist filled night through which runs a stream
A stream in which I float, a single blood red rose bleeding away my sorrow.

By Zerstorere

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This Month's Art



By Dasid