

The Challenger

A Publication of the Harper College Honors Society

Spring 2004, Issue 1

Reverse, Remove, Regret

By: Rachel Natale

A problem that I believe is becoming widespread and is growing in negative effects is that of role reversal or rather role *removal*. This is a complicated and even controversial issue, but I want to address a few points and hopefully provoke some thoughts (and conversations) on the subject.

I'll start with the simple example that inspired me to write this article: the song "Independent Women" by Destiny's Child. One day I realized that what seems like an empowering song for girls is actually just another contribution to the backwards thinking that we've adopted as a society. For those of you not familiar with the song, here's a taste of the lyrics: "Tell me what you think about me/I buy my own diamonds, and I buy my own rings...The shoes on my feet, I've bought it/The clothes I'm wearing, I've bought it...The house I live in, I've bought it/ The car I'm driving, I've bought it/I depend on me. All the women who are independent, Throw your hands up at me/All the honeys who makin' money, Throw your hands up at me...Depend on no one else to give you what you want."

Girls, at first glance, it makes you want to say, "Right on sista!" and indeed throw your hands up at Beyonce, right? And for girls/women

who are single, working, and taking care of themselves, it is an uplifting song. But think about this attitude in a larger context than just a harmless pop song. What if, in years to come, all women choose to adopt this independent attitude? In what position would that put men? They obviously wouldn't be needed as providers anymore or even as pursuers. After all, what does a diamond mean from a man when you can buy it yourself? Will there come a day when male and female roles are completely reversed or even gone altogether? I sincerely hope not, but I'm here to say that I don't like where we're headed.

While I am an extremely independent person, I'm not necessarily an "Independent Woman." Looking at the song lyrics, I can honestly say that I do not want to buy my own diamonds and rings. I would much rather have a man buy them for me. I pay for my own shoes, clothes and car right now, but I do not plan for it to be like that forever. I do not want a career. I want to get married. I want to be taken care of, and I want to be able to depend on my husband.

Are you surprised? If you are or if what I desire sounds foreign to you, I

don't blame you. We don't often hear women saying such things, but I do not think that I'm alone in my desires. And I do not think that I'm wrong in my desiring. I believe that men and women were created by God to be distinctly different, and that it's not a bad thing.

**BUT I DON'T WANT
TO WORK AT A
COMPUTER--
I'D RATHER STAY
AT HOME!**



Where, then, did the breakdown happen? I'm not exactly sure, but I would say that the feminist movement had a lot to do with it. Sure, I'm

all for equal rights. Yes, women should be able to vote and hold property. Obviously. Yes, women should be able to work if they want. Why shouldn't they? This is not the problem. The problem comes when women want to be so equal and so independent that a man's role gets lost in the shuffle. Equality should mean equality for all, not just suppressing men's rights so that women feel like

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From the Editor

Dear Readers,

Whew! I'm happy to say that the first issue of this semester's *Challenger* is finally finished. A lot of time and work went into this issue from all sides, and I'm very happy with how it turned out. My fellow staffers turned in three great articles: a commentary about immigration from Saba, a fun winter to-do list from Amy, and an interesting book review from Gina. It's hard to be objective about my own article, but I will say that I wrote a lot of drafts (something I don't normally do) and had many people read it before I thought it was finally fit to print.

I was a last minute add to this semester's *Challenger* staff, but I was volunteered to be the first editor, a daunting task. Luckily, I had past issues to look to for guidance. I would especially like to thank the Spring 2002 staff for layout ideas, without which I would have been lost. I also looked to last semester's issues for ideas, and that is what's so great about an independent study class like this one. *The Challenger* is a progressive work, never the same thing twice. We get ideas from past issues, change them, make them our own, and, in turn, provide ideas for future issues.

I hope you enjoy this issue, and we welcome your comments, questions, ideas, etc. Just email me at racheln5@yahoo.com. Thanks for reading!

-rachel natale
Senior Editor

Get to Know *The Challenger* Staff

In order for you to get to know a little bit about us, we've answered the following probing questions:

- 1-What has been your favorite class at Harper so far and why?
- 2-Name a CD, book or movie that you'd recommend to the readers.
- 3-If you had to get a tattoo of something, what would it be and where?



Rachel Natale

- 1-My favorite class at Harper was General Botany with Sandy Kreiling. The class was always interesting and fun, and Sandy is a great teacher. I would recommend it to anyone needing a lab science credit.
- 2-I've been listening to Frou Frou-*Details* nonstop in my car for about a month, and Interpol's *Turn on the Bright Lights* is worth checking out.
- 3-I would definitely get a tattoo of a star, but because I wouldn't be able to decide where to get it, I would probably just get a tattoo around my finger (like a ring) instead.

Saba Mahmud



- 1- Almost all of my classes at Harper have been very good experiences, but I think the one that I will remember the most is The Religions Of The World taught by Rabbi Peskind. It was not only a good learning experience but also a very good interactive experience. The text and the instructor were great.
- 2- The book that I would recommend is *1984* by George Orwell.
- 3- Tattooing's not something new for me. I have been henna tattooing my hands as long as I can remember, at least twice a year, and I think it is something I will keep on doing.



Amy Paxson

- 1-My favorite class at Harper was Great Ideas of World Civilizations because of the wide variety of readings and the open discussion type class. I also highly recommend any English or Literature class taught by Dr. Elizabeth Turner.
- 2-The movie *Lost In Translation*. It is a lot more subtle than many films, which is refreshing. It is also more realistic than most films today, humorous and visually stunning. And Bill Murray is hilarious- also check him out in *Rushmore* and *The Royal Tenenbaums*, two of my very favorite films.
- 3-I would get a drawing of an ellipse because it reminds me that even though it is an "imperfect" circle that planets (and people) travel in, beauty and order still exist. It would probably be on my shoulder blade, so it would not get all stretchy and gross as I aged and expanded.

Gina Mulroy



- 1-My favorite class was American Sign Language Literature. ASL lends itself to the performing arts. I am completely fascinated and "obsessed" with ASL poetry and storytelling.
- 2-Recommended books: Anything written by Thich Nhat Hanh or Mother Teresa, including her autobiography.
- 3-I would never have a tattoo, but if I had to choose one, it would be an angel over my heart.

دور کای دھول سوانہی

"Doour kay dhouL souhaney."

"The drum beats sound enchanting and compelling from a distance."

By: Saba Mahmud

This common aphorism in Urdu is analogous to the American saying "the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence." In my opinion, the issue of immigration to America is comparable to this saying. People from less developed countries dream of living in America and are ready to do anything to accomplish this goal. Sometimes immigration to America is the best option, but at other times it's not. An example of this is the story of my friend who, I think, made a rational decision to settle here in America.

"A war in Yugoslavia made my parents and me move to this country in 1992. At the time I was only 10 years old. We came here on a visitor visa with the hope that the situation in my country would get better and that we would move back. But things never got better, and we had to apply for a green card before our visas expired. Getting a green card took a long time, and I spent all those years over here going to school. I grew up as an American. At that point it was impossible for me to move back to my homeland because I had forgotten about my culture, language and lifestyle over there. I was fortunate that I did get a green card, but you can imagine the thousands of other people who came to this country hoping for a better future for their children but end up stranded in a situation where it's hard for their children to go back to their home country after settling in a strange place. Those children see America as their homeland although they are not legally residing in this country."

These are the views of just one of the many Harper students who is current-

ly living in this country and does not hold the privileges of a permanent resident or those of a US citizen. Many individuals in Harper's diverse student body are irritated with the problems concerning immigration laws and how they apply to themselves or their friends and relatives. No doubt that the conditions for illegal immigrants in this country are very poor, and the illegal immigrants are living here with a lot of fears in their minds. The biggest fear is the possibility of arrest by the Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS) and the fear of deportation followed by that arrest. All these fears drive the illegal immigrants to find some way to survive or get legal resident status, such as marrying a citizen to get a green card or participating in criminal activity to earn money that they cannot get legally. This has resulted in various problems for our society.

The question arises: Who is responsible for all of these problems? Is it the INS officials who are very keen and enthusiastic to arrest the illegal immigrants and put them in jail where they are ill-treated? Or is it the people who move here knowing that they will be living here illegally? I feel that at least part of the responsibility lies with the illegal immigrants, so we need to look at the issues that motivate these people to come to America and the circumstances from which they are escaping. Those in less developed countries do not only perceive America as the land of opportunities but also as a great escape from the sorrows of life. The image of America, especially in the less developed countries, is that of a place totally different and separate from the rest of the world. People in those countries believe that reaching America is per-

haps the only solution to the difficulties and hardships in their lives. They think that they will no longer have to work as hard as they did in their home countries and that they will get all the necessities of life and the same rights as anyone else. But upon their arrival here, they realize that America is just another part of the same world. There are problems over here, too, not only for them but also for Americans. The American economy has been built up by the sacrifices of individuals. It didn't just happen overnight. It took dedication over many years for America to become what it is today, and the smooth pathways that seem so attractive to those in other countries are only here because of the hard work of American people. It's when people start to immigrate here that they realize that life demands hardships from every person, and everyone has to make sacrifices. Sometimes it is materialistic. At other times it is emotional, and there are even occasions when people have to make ethical compromises in order to reach their goals. They realize that, although they have finally been able to earn money, they have to make more compromises than they made in their home countries.

What is the solution to these problems? As I consider the problems, I think that perhaps there is no single solution. The recent steps by the President to allow illegal immigrants to work in this country for three years is a positive approach, but perhaps it will need additional participation from the American government as well as collaboration with the countries that have a large number of their inhabitants illegally immigrating or living over here. Also the government should encourage those immigrants to move back into their countries after earning

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they are equal. Using the lyrics as an example, it's fine for women to work and buy themselves things, but that shouldn't mean that men can't do things for women or retain their roles as men.

While women who want to have careers are considered independent and liberated, men who would like their wives to stay home and take care of the house and kids are considered chauvinistic, sexist, and/or controlling. Just because a man would like those things (as long as his wife agrees) doesn't mean he's a caveman. Opening doors for women and that kind of thing used to be viewed as chivalrous, but now men who do that run the risk of offending the independent "I can hold doors open for myself, thank you" women. I would like to believe that there are still men out there who want to work and take care of their wives instead of having it the other way around, but when women are adamant about becoming more independent, what choice to men have but to back down, even if it means going against their nature? Feminism and equal rights shouldn't mean that men can't be men.

Another problem with the "Independent Women" mentality is that not every woman feels that way. I don't, and as I said before, I don't think I'm the only one. In fact, I know I'm not. Why, then, is it so rare to hear a female say that she wants to get married and have children, period? Probably because, like women in the sixties and earlier admitting to wanting careers, it's not the norm. It's expected now for women to want careers.

I'M NOT A
CHAUVINIST!



I have been asked variations on the "What are you going to do when you grow up?" question about a hundred times since high school, and I never knew the answer. I used to get so frustrated and upset because I felt that it was wrong to not know. Then it dawned on me one day. The reason I never had an answer is because I don't want to pursue a career. I know there are women who do, and that's wonderful for them. But just as I admit and accept that there are women who want a career, they should admit and accept that there are women who don't. After all, as Amy (my fellow *Challenger* writer) pointed out to me, isn't that what feminism is all about? Doing what you want as a woman? To each her own.

I know there are people who will disagree with this article, but I also know that there are people who will agree. To those people I say that you are not alone. Girls, don't worry if you don't know "what you want to do" with your life or if your desire is to be a stay-at-home mom. The bottom line is that we should all base our choices on who we are, not on what is popular. And guys (whether you agree with me or not), I challenge you to revive your natural instincts to show respect to women, whether they are independent or not.

It seems to me that the coming of love is like the coming of spring - the date is not to be reckoned by the calendar.

- Edward George Bulwer-Lytton

I had a few of my guy friends comment on the Destiny's Child lyrics and got their thoughts on "Independent Women."

Tell me your first impression of the lyrics.

Chris: I wouldn't date her. She seems to glorify her independence like there is no room for a guy in her life. Not that she should be dependent, but she seems to be too proud of it.

Nick: Equal rights to the extreme. It represents an ideal of women who no longer want to be treasured but want to be in control.

Justin: You can't do everything by yourself and you need/will depend on others.

So a girl that's that independent is not an attractive thing to a guy?

Justin: No. Because I think guys like being able to do stuff for their girl. If she's that independent, what can be done?

Nick: The unattractiveness comes from the control aspect. Guys are supposed to be the leaders in relationships.

Chris: For me at least, independence is ok. But she seems militantly independent, and that's kind of intimidating. How is there room for me in her life then?

What if the majority of women were like that? Would guys get frustrated? Or be ok with it?

Justin: Frustrated.

Chris: Probably get frustrated with it. Most guys want a girl they can take care of but who isn't needy/clingy. Because women are striving for independence and equality, it sends out the message that they don't want to be taken care of. They are kind of overcorrecting the problem.

Nick: I think guys would step up and take back what had been taken from them—their manhood.

Get Out of Your House!

By: Amy Passon

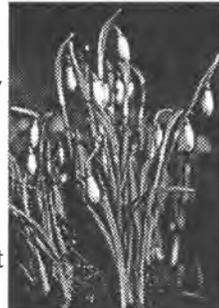
Did you know that in crowded quarters pigs, usually affable and gregarious animals, become aggressive—gnawing on other pigs' tails and sometimes even resorting to cannibalism? In addition to turning my stomach and making me even more disgusted with modern agricultural practices than I already am, this fact reminds me of how I start to feel this time of year—cranky, cooped up and inhumane. Unlike those poor pigs, we can go somewhere. It's just that, usually, in late winter, we do not. I have compiled a little guide to some things that may motivate you to leave your house. They will at least motivate me and, if I am feeling at all like a factory-farm pig, that is all I really care about at this point. Who knows? Perhaps my to-do list can become yours as well, and we can both brush up on things more humanistic during the inhumane dregs of winter.

First on my list is the Chicago Botanic Gardens in Glencoe. I know it may sound strange to recommend a garden in winter, but even people who are not into plants will be surprised at the austere and nearly crowd-free beauty of the garden's 385 acres of woods, wetlands and prairies in winter. My favorite area during winter is the stunning Shanso-En or Garden of Three Islands. This Japanese-style garden works to create harmony not just between the specific plants within it but also with the entire landscape, including stones and backdrops, so



that no matter where you look, you have a stunning, framed view.

If you happen to visit the garden on one of those common winter days, when more than four seconds outside rips the skin off of your face, then head inside to one of the three types of greenhouses—semitropical, tropical or arid. They are warm, some hot even, have actual green things and may actually have flowers as well. I believe that it is just about bloom time for many of the orchids in the semitropical greenhouse. If you have never looked at an orchid flower, do so now. I will not waste time trying to verbally describe its delicate sensuality. It is something that must be seen. Overall, the greenhouses provide a totally different climate without plane fare, hotel costs, etc., which is something I suspect many people could use this time of year. Depending on when you go, you may actually be able to see one of our climate's first spring flowers outside, the diminutive snow-drop. This little guy would be lost in summer's cacophony, but in late winter this tiny white flower with a bright green stem pushes its way up through snow and is a hopeful sign that winter will indeed end.



Another place on my list is Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art. It is one of my favorite museums just for its building alone. It is open, light-filled, and airy—perfect for admiring artwork. There are also some really great works and, lucky us, a traveling exhibit of the artist Lee Bontecou runs from February 14 until May 30. She is a sculptor/artist whose work was highly regarded during the 1960s, but

while she has not shown her work publicly since the 1970s, Bontecou kept creating. One of the main themes of her work is man's degradation and destruction of nature, particularly relevant to our modern society. In the permanent collection, look for Cindy



Cindy Sherman's
Untitled Film Still #14

Sherman's photographic self-portraits that demonstrate contemporary peoples' self imposed changes to their physical identities. Also check out Alexander Calder's mobiles. Sure, they hang above babies' cribs, but after seeing his, you'll want one above your bed as well. For the art-curious, the MCA gives free daily tours.

Another great place to go would be the Art Institute Museum. Yes, I know, it's huge and to look at everything there in one outing would be a little mind numbing, so I'll just tell you about some of my favorites. One fabulous, overlooked permanent exhibit is the photography exhibit. Some of my personal favorites are Alfred Stieglitz, Andre Kertesz and the graceful, sensual works of Edward Weston. One of my favorite things to do at this museum is to find the Asian Art exhibit and stand at the end of it—it moves

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mostly chronologically. From this viewpoint you can see, at the far end, Warhol's portrait of Mao Tse Tung. In your peripheral vision is ancient Chinese pottery, bronze and jade artwork, some of it thousands of years old. This view is a little microcosm of Chinese history. It is art placement at its best and can lead you to contemplation of the fascinating movement of ideology and art in any culture.

Some other great things to look at are in the Modern Art exhibit. My favorites are Georgia O'Keeffe, Eva Hesse and Joseph Cornell. If you are not familiar with Cornell's collage-type work (and even if you are), go have a look. His intricate little boxes are windows into his own personal world, little microcosmic secrets. Also look for the bookbinding exhibit, which I am sure will give you a new perspective of this undervalued art. Have a look at Matisse's open and joyous painting "Bathers by a River." Lastly, sit in front of the Chagall stained glass window and bathe in its blue light. It will cheer you, I guarantee.

Another great place to visit is the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. Here you can walk, year round, through a greenhouse full of butterflies from around the world. Check out the "Extreme Green House" and become inspired to be a better recycler and Earth-friendly person. Look at photographs of the life that inspired Darwin in the Galapagos. Finally, check out the exhibit "When Crocodiles Ruled." Those 40 footers will make you thankful that it's winter 2004 in the Midwest, not 60 million years ago when you'd really have no chance of survival.

Some smaller, lesser known places to visit include: The Smith Museum of Stained Glass on Navy Pier—free and pretty; International Museum of Surgical Science—grotesque, fascinating, and always empty; Intuit: the Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, which will make you question the common, frequently assessed boundaries of who can be an artist, and the Museum of Holography.

These are just a few of the many things available to get you out of your house. Unlike those poor frustrated pigs, you aren't destined to become bacon or pork chops, and you can leave your pen anytime, so do! And if you'd like to help the pigs, check out www.peta.org and do that too. Just put on your hat, coat, and bundlings, and do something that enriches your humanity before winter sucks it out of you. Spring will come.

Websites To Investigate More

The Museum of Contemporary Art
www.mcachicago.org

The Museum at the Art Institute
www.artic.edu/aic

The Chicago Botanic Garden
www.chicago-botanic.org

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
www.chias.org

International Museum of Surgical Science
www.imss.org

Intuit: Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art
www.outsider.art.org

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money here. The American government can allow them to work here and tell them to go back to their countries and to find work over there. If they are not able to settle down in their home countries, the American government should allow them to come back to America periodically but put certain conditions on their stay regarding the duration. Also the American government can ask these people to report to the American consulate in their home countries so that the American government will have an idea of the living conditions of those people in their own countries and can decide how beneficial can they be for America.

I hope that steps like this will help people seeking immigration and all people in general to understand that everyone has to work their part in order to earn what they expect from life.

*Spring is come home with her world-wandering feet. And all
the things are made young with young desires.*

- Francis Thompson

The Da Vinci Code - Fact or Fiction?

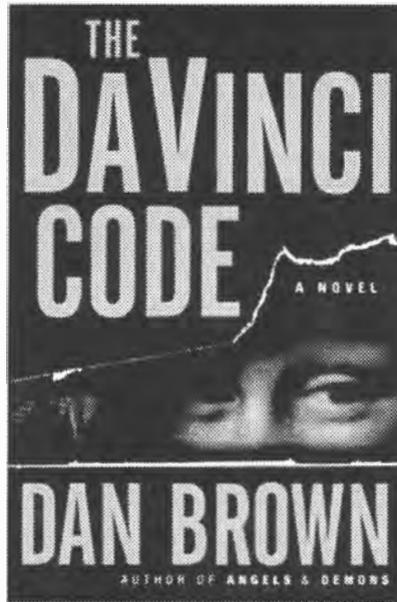
By: Gina Mulroy

I was shocked when my "June Cleaver" mother-in-law expressed such feminist sentiments: "If those things in the book are true, then why has the church always been so insistent about that nonsense of how men are the only ones who can be priests?" In the 25 years I have known her, she was never one to become involved in political or religious discussions. Her reasoning was always the same: "you can't fight city hall."

I am strictly a nonfiction reader. However, my mother-in-law's new-found "voice" prompted me to pick up a copy of *The Da Vinci Code*, the source of her unrest. *The Da Vinci Code* has been ranked number one on the *New York Times* best-seller list for forty-four weeks, selling more than six million copies. Plans are even underway to transform this novel into a movie. Under normal circumstances, I would wait for the movie rather than use my precious reading time on a fictional account. But in this case, I found myself venturing into the "foreign land" of the fiction section at the local bookstore.

The synopsis on the book jacket revealed the "who-done-it" genre of the contents. The elderly head curator at the Louvre is murdered. An American professor from Harvard named Langdon, who happens to be in Paris lecturing on ancient religious symbols, is asked to aid in the investigation. The heroine Sophie Neveu, a police cryptologist, informs the innocent American that he is the chief suspect in the murder case. Several plot twists later, and the duo has embarked on a 24-hour odyssey to clear Langdon's name. In decrypting the code, Langdon uncovers the key to one of the greatest mysteries of all time, and he becomes a hunted man.

Just after the acknowledgments the author, Dan Brown, reveals the true identity of the characters in his story. The protagonist represents the super-secret, thousand year old Priory of Sion, a society devoted to protecting the Holy Grail and the truths it is destined to reveal. It is a group whose membership has included some of history's most creative thinkers such as Leonardo da Vinci, Sir Isaac Newton, Botticelli and Victor Hugo.



Directly opposed to the purposes of the Priory is the antagonist, Opus Dei, a not-so-secret, ultra-conservative society that believes it is their spiritual mandate to protect, at all costs, the established traditions of the Roman Catholic Church. The author emphasizes the fact that both of these groups are actual organizations that still exist.

By chapter 6 of the 105 chapters in the book, I knew who had murdered the head curator and also a few more individuals along the way. Conversely, the reason behind the killings was doled out, coded piece by coded piece, in a most sparing

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What are People Saying About *The Da Vinci Code*?

"The blockbuster thriller has millions talking theology, art and history. Yet many are unsure what's fact and what's fiction." -Patrick T. Reardon, *Chicago Tribune*

"Just about everything [Dan Brown] says about Leonardo da Vinci is wrong. The writer, I think, gives the impression that he's also a historian - which he is not. I don't think he's so much interested in the truth as in drama and mystery." -Jack Wasserman, retired art history professor at Temple University, Philadelphia and noted expert on the artist.

"This [novel] is not a threat. This is an opportunity. We are called to creatively engage the culture, and this is what I want to do. I think Dan Brown has done me a favor. He's letting me talk about things that matter." -Father John Sewell, St. John's Episcopal Church, Memphis

"A dazzling performance by Brown... a delightful display of erudition. Brown delivers a crackling, intricate mystery, complete with breathtaking escapes and several stunning surprises. It's challenging, exciting, and a whole lot more. The race across France and the United Kingdom leads us on a fascinating journey through a covert, enigmatic world revealed through a seemingly endless collection of codes, puzzles, anagrams, cryptograms, and messages hidden not only in da Vinci's art but in things we think we know well."

-Boston Globe

fashion. As carefully woven as it was subtly engaging, the plot of *The Da Vinci Code* moved crisply along to a finale that quite clearly, and intentionally, remained inconclusive. But such an ending was not a disappointment. After all, what could be more elusive to pin down than a story line dealing with the quest for the Holy Grail?

Most people, like the police cryptologist Sophie, assume the Grail to be the cup that Jesus of Nazareth used at the last supper with his disciples. A common misconception that, as Professor Langdon points out, has been purposefully purporting since the time of the Crusades to protect the secret of the Grail. He goes on to explain that the Grail is actually a sarcophagus containing the remains of Mary Magdalene as well as irrefutable proof that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were lovers, married, had children and that their lineage continues to this day. The professor then bolsters this assertion by stating that there does in fact exist a document known as the Gospel of Mary of Magdela that scholars today recognize as belonging to the "Lost Gospels" of the first century. This gospel is radically different from the versions of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

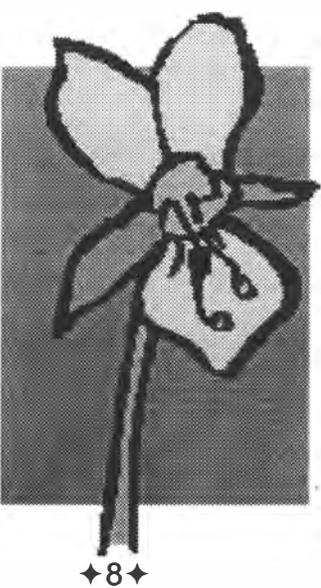
"Much of the positive response I get from within organized religion comes from nuns (who write to thank me for pointing out that they have sacrificed their entire lives to the Church and are still considered "unfit" to serve behind the altar). I have also heard from hundreds of enthusiastic priests. While many of them disagree with some of the ideas in the novel, they are thrilled that their parishioners are eager to discuss religion." —author, Dan Brown

Though some of the conjectures in the novel are purely the product of Dan Brown's imagination, it is not difficult to see why controversy rages regarding the implications that those suppositions raise. Despite the fact that the book is well-researched and informative, religious leaders and biblical scholars assert that Brown's blending of fact and fiction is a dangerous incursion into the belief system of the average reader and has the potential to create more harm than good. Therefore, they are quick to remind readers, and emphasize the fact, that this book is found in the fiction section of bookstores.

The Da Vinci Code has prompted some readers to delve further by inquiring into what academia has researched and written about the Gnostic Gospels, or "Lost Gospels," a more commonly accepted reference. However, one must be judicious in their choice of book, as it is difficult to discern who is actually an authority on the subject. The controversy surrounding this book led me to question how the phrase "Gospel Truth" was coined. In the next two issues, I will examine the works of two well-respected scholars on the subject of the Gnostic Gospels. Stay tuned.

For more information on *The Da Vinci Code* or its author, visit <http://www.danbrown.com>. Also, Margaret M. Mitchell, chairwoman of the Department of New Testament and Early Christian Literature at the University of Chicago, fielded a couple dozen questions about *The Da Vinci Code* when, in September, she decided to write a short analysis of its failings. The full response can be found at http://marty-center.uchicago.edu/sightings/archive_2003/0924.shtml.

"Come, gentle Spring! ethereal Mildness! come."
—James Thomson, (1834-1882) Scottish poet, essayist



Picture Credits:
"Reverse, Remove, Regret"
Ideas for comics based on the works of Roy Lichtenstein

"Get Out of Your House"
<http://www.chicago-botanic.org>
<http://www.masters-of-photography.com>

"The Da Vinci Code - Fact or Fiction?"
<http://www.amazon.com>

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