



Tobias Amadon Bengelsdorf

MARMAL IS THE SOMETIMES

Marmal has only 17 dollars left, he has pamphlets now though, that's what the money bought, here they are. He cuts open the box, the box is in the way, he'll have to get rid of it soon, there isn't room, his room is so cluttered, Assa 4 says to clean the head-space, not the apartment, he looks at the pamphlets, nice, he splurged for three-color and glossy. It's good this way, written, he stumbles when he speaks. Scares people off before they have a chance to hear, he knows what he's saying, just the words snag. Marmal's The Tongue, he does the speaking, Escit 8-10, but his words snag.

The burden on his heart he received from the Grand Bantacumen through the Bantorator drives him, bless the Bantams, bless the Builders, this paper is theirs, all is theirs.

Printing was a risk because of the Falseness in men's hearts that shields them from the Bantam Truth, and one of them, at the printer's, could have seen the words, and been shielded from them, and spat distrust on them, but this is good, pamphlets will do his talking, paper will do the tearing, not be torn.

He tried Tonguing on the corner, but the Agents of the False removed him for his words, crowned him with the Crown of Insanity, through it they powered over him, and told others, this man carries the Scepter, shut him away, but the Bantams build things, the Bantams built him an escape, bless the Bantams, bless the Builders.

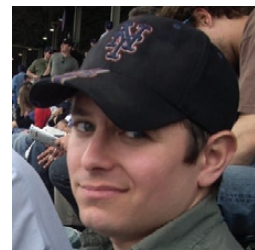
With his 17 dollars left he gets lunch, Lesser Bantacumen Assa decreed in Assa 7 hotdogs as lunch, so it is that he has one, and has 15 dollars and 50 cents left. Escit is more technical,



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Tobias Amadon Bengelsdorf's fiction has appeared in *elimae*, and *This Zine Will Change Your Life*, and his audio work in *Lark(!)*. He is the generalissimo of *Fiction at Work*, an assistant editor at The Green Lantern, an instructor at St. Augustine College, and the Quickies! Mascot. He lives in Chicago.



Three-oh-Seven but that man had no underwear, but don't be On Thursday a man in Bryant Park joined Marmal for said that. Escit, forgive him. He is ready.

ready. Sometimes, three-oh-seven is a chore. He shouldn't have out, he is still cold, he doesn't know—so his hands are free and remaining pamphlets in his coat pocket—why, with the sun all through toil, toil, and build still. At 3:05 he puts the the Earth from the dust of space and built the sun and built Bantacumen and the Bantam Builders who built this world people can see it and through it know the actions of the Grand Escit 1. He tries to be in the park for Three-oh-Seven so many your right hand at three-oh-seven to mark the groundbreaking, oh-Seven, rub the back of your left hand with the fingers of Marmal's precise watch, is a Timex, is important for Three-

right there, it means Enforcers of the False on the way. oh sure sweetie you just keep doing what you're doing and stay is chased with yelling, when they are nice, when someone says postcard slots but he pushes and they crumple in, usually he and stations, postcard or pamphlet slots, they don't fit in the fucking. He does this at any place where there are slots, cafes get the fuck out you fucking lunatic, but with no g on the Bantam Truth in the slots before Big Dan chases him out, of looking at Hawaii in glossy color and slides copies of his In Big Dan's Big Travel Plans, Marmal puts on the act nothing, Assa 2.

but Marmal prefers Assa. He wipes the ketchup off his fingers onto his pants, his pants are dirty, but the material-thing is a

one cloth to the world, Assa 28, and touched himself at 3:08 which dirties Three-oh-Seven, and the man made the results of touching right in the park, Bantam's don't like it, it wastes what they make, what they toiled over to create, they don't like it even at Nine-oh-Seven which is the exact middle between the Three-oh-Sevens, is the right time for the dirtiest things, dirtiness at nine-oh-seven, Escit 4, and Marmal doesn't know why hotdogs are ok, because flesh is for toil, not to be eaten, green plants are a feast without pain, Escit 5, but Marmal figures Assa knows best, which is good because he likes hotdogs.

Today he is in Sheep Meadow which a lot of people think is the Great Lawn, know the names, Assa 19, and hopefully no one will touch themselves. There is a sun today, it is warm, it is almost the longest day, the best day, and Marmal is pleased, but it is warm but he is cold, there is something maybe about that in Assa 14, about cold, and what to do, something about clover and horse shoes, but there is ketchup on Assa 14.

There is ketchup on Assa 13 too, but Marmal knows that one.

He rubs for the full minute and four people approach him, four of the blacks, two boys and two girls, they ask him what are you doing man, but as fewer words, wutchoo, and no g on the doing, like Big Dan, but Big Dan isn't black. If he had to respond to the young blacks he would stumble on his words, that's why he has the pamphlets and he gives each their own. It is forbidden to write the words, to let them sit solid, maybe these pamphlets will burst into flame, but Escit 11,

Three-oh-Seven, he should have, but missed is mist, Assa 35. Marmal could have invited her to next year's Seventh of March

He should have done more, maybe, if he were faster Marmal could have invited her to next year's Seventh of March

hear the Tongue of Marmal. more Assa than Escit, because Escit might off-put. Maybe she'll maybe are ok, maybe not a wrong, maybe hopefully she'll hear came little things came great things, Assa 1. The pamphlets possible. It's just a little thing that she kept it, but from nothing Bantorator through Marmal's words, bless the Bantams, it's If she reads it at home maybe she'll hear the word of the pocket, right where Marmal keeps his too.

them, except the smiling girl who keeps hers. She puts it in her and they give the pamphlets back, but nicely they don't throw talked, and one of them says you are crazy man, but no are, just a warm smile, the way his sister used to, while their parents just looks at him, stares at him, with a little smile with no teeth, They read only a little, one of them doesn't read any at all, He is ready.

book maybe. He shouldn't have said that. Escit, forgive him. is a stickler, too nasty, Marmal thinks, there should be a new means only to people with kindness, but there's debate, Escit the words to only those most like you, but some say it just Always the words to people of kind, Escit 7, most take it as but sometimes, it says, but sometimes. He shouldn't, perhaps.



THE BOOK OF ASSA

- 1: From nothing came little things came great things
- 2: The material-thing is a nothing
- 3: Body-spaces have a place; head-spaces have a greater place
- 4: Clean your head-space
- 5: Look into others' head-spaces to see what they see it may be different and better
- 6: It may be worse
- 7: Hotdogs as lunch
- 8: Or not
- 9: Kitchens are the life-givers
- 10: Bathrooms are the much
- 11: Where is structure tonight? Eaves-eaves
- 12: Don't scare, it doesn't help
- 13: Where the dirtiest, life is best
- 14: If a sunny day is careful, for there are times of horse shit.
- 15: "Some so the hills," he said, "we should"
- 16: "Not today, sir"
- 17: "But life is so sweet, and the hill air so clean. I must be there."
- 18: "Where is your oneness?"
- 19: Know the names
- 20: McDavid's on 22nd at 3rd
- 21: What would it be, if it was flatter, and lighter, and closer to you?
- 22: Of two, together, some in, some out
- 23: Don't waste the Bantam's work, the Bantam's worked so hard for their work
- 24: Be careful of money
- 25: Look who has it
- 26: Your bird, up, is the one to be going
- 27: Could crack, but doesn't
- 28: Don't be one cloth to the world
- 29: Have two layers of cloth
- 30: But it is different for your head and hands for them have none
- 31: All holes are yours to spread the word
- 32: Fast, so do not lose your feet
- 33: Wouldn't be a bit surprised
- 34: Do not fire at random
- 35: Missed is mist

THE BOOK OF ESCIT

- 1: Rub the back of your left hand with the fingers of your right hand at three-oh-seven to mark the groundbreaking
- 2: Rub at both three-oh-sevens, both light and dark
- 3: Cleanliness at three-oh-seven
- 4: Dirtiness at nine-oh-seven
- 5: Flesh is for toil, not to be eaten, green plants are a feast without pain
- 6: Wrongness is why there is punishment
- 7: Always the words to people of kind
- 8: Always these words are spoken
- 9: To be spoken by The Tongue
- 10: Never are they to be written
- 11: But sometimes