

# Midnight Fiction !

By

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MIDNIGHT FICTION

(after midnight it's all lies)

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JOEY SCARFONE

## ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

I accept the position of contributing editor for fleasonthedog.com with honour and humility. I promise I will not let the power from this position go to my head.....in fact....I plan to champion more social causes. For instance, I will be boycotting the Calgary stampede if they go along with their plan to introduce bull fighting as a competitive sport. I fully understand that Alberta's oil industry is drying up and they need to pick up the slack but bull burgers are not the way to go.....

I will endeavour to keep my writing up to the same high standards as the rest of the staff, keeping in mind that this ezine is left of centre, south of normal and never more than one word away from being sued. Should my writing offend anyone I apologize in advance. I am only a jaded dinosaur who doesn't know how to spell or punctuate properly.....

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## BREAKING NEWS

According to Midnight Fiction sources, bull fighting will be added to the list of competitive sports at the Calgary stampede this summer. The university of Alberta supports this move and will be offering night classes in how to be a matador. A sword, red cape and of course the matador's hat will be supplied by the university. We are looking to the future says the president of the stampede. Electric cars are killing the oil business and there is a potentially huge market for bull burgers. This would be a good industry to get into on the ground floor.....

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The duke and duchess of Cambridge, William and Kate to their friends, have decided to cut their Caribbean tour short after an unexpected incident in Jamaica. Andrew Michael Holness, prime minister of Jamaica, embarrassed them by saying it was time for Jamaica to “move on” from their stifling image as a colony of England and adopt their own identity. Says William.....granny isn't going to like this. Says Kate.....I told you this trip was a mistake, I want a bigger private jet and more clothes and I want to be a princess not some colonial slumming duchess. Well William you know what they say....happy wife happy life. Chin up old boy.

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Uber billionaires Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos have decided to stop their feuding and join forces in a plan to colonize Mars. Says Elon.....it makes sense from a business point of view. He would never sell Amazon to me and I would never sell Space X to him so it's a no brainer. But I have to say...I will always be better looking than he is. Says Jeff.....Elon isn't such a bad guy and I can live with our differences. He isn't better looking than I am though, that's just his ego talking. Now boys....let's just get along and conquer the galaxy shall we?

## ROCK AND ROLL NEWS

Legendary British rocker Keith Richards will soon be releasing his latest book entitled....HEALTH TIPS FOR A LONG AND SUCCESSFUL CAREER. Says Keith.....it is important to talk to people who have taken the drugs you want to take before you take them. If they survived the trip you probably will too. Also, quit working so hard on the guitar. Take one or two strings off and put it in an open tuning. This enables you to smoke a cigarette with your left hand while your right hand does the strumming. Keith will be donating all profits from the book to the society of aging groupies, a non profit organization that helps retired groupies learn new skills to get them back into the job market. Can't wait for your next album Keifer.....

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77 year old rock guitarist Jimmy Page has been seen around London with his much younger girlfriend Scarlet Sabet. Says Jimmy.....It's been a long time since I rock and rolled. Says 32 year old Scarlet.....I struggled with peoples' perception of our relationship but I really do love Jimmy. He is so kind and I can assure everyone he still has a whole lotta' led in his zeppelin..... And she's buyyyying a stairrrway to heaven.....

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Ferrari has banned teen sensation Justin Bieber from ever buying another Ferrari sports car saying he violated the ownership rules by painting his car blue and then trying to sell it in the first year he owned it. Says Justin.....everyone has a red Ferrari and my wife didn't like the colour. I did it just to please her. Says Justin's wife Hailey.....I thought it was a sweet gesture on Justin's part and he knows my favourite colour. Rebel rocker Justin joins Nicholas Cage, Kim Kardashian and 50 cent on Ferrari's list of stars blacklisted for not obeying their rules. There must be a law suit somewhere in this cluster fuck says Justin's lawyer.....

## WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS

(with Midnight Fiction's American correspondent in Olathe Kansas Tyler McCurry)

Packed stands last week as the Pittsburgh Pirates took on the St. Louis Cardinals in a best-of-3 series. PNC Park set a new record with exactly six seats full out of a maximum capacity of 34,496, and they witnessed a real barn burner as the Cardinals soundly defeated them 18-4. Regrettably all of the Cardinals' pitchers were really tired at the end of it and needed a break so Yadier Molina, who has been the catcher for the Cardinals since the white house was still helmed by the Bushes, got to throw the first ever pitch of his major league career. I guess when you've played over 2,000 games you've got to start sometime. Sadly, his pitch resulted in a home run, which beamed one of the two people left in the crowd at this point, leaving only one person in the stands. PNC Park will never see a crowd like that again.

## FOOD AND DRINK

(with Midnight Fiction's American correspondent and restaurant critic Tyler McCurry)

Good news today as a full armed guard was brought in to escort a top-secret government plane carrying hundred of pounds of baby formula into the states. Mothers can now rejoice as they no longer have to feed their babies Takis and hot wings or those god awful baby burrito bowls that just look like green mush. Considering how disgusting changing a diaper can be, you get out what you put in I guess. For those of us who still don't have access to formula, don't worry. McDonald's is reportedly developing coca-cola flavoured formula that can be dispensed right from drink formula. People call them crazy but Arby's is selling hamburgers now so it could be worse. These are surely trying times.

## UFO: SIGHTINGS, ABDUCTIONS and THE PARANORMAL

Prime minister Justin Trudeau has announced he will be releasing all military documents pertaining to UFO sightings and encounters. Until now this area of concern has been shrouded in secrecy and deception. NO MORE says Justin. We have recovered space ships that crashed in northern British Columbia and have figured out their energy generating systems. Our scientist have done a reverse engineering on their technology and come up with new energy systems that will replace the current ones. Energy will now be free in Canada.

Oil companies are scurrying to find a way to capitalize on the new technology and are criticizing Mr. Trudeau saying he only wants more political power for his Liberal party.

Mr. Trudeau simply laughs at his opponents and has started an adoption agency for alien children. Says Justin.....they are just like any other homeless children who need a stable family eh?

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Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield has just announced plans to perform a "space opera". It will be performed on the international space station and broadcast to the world. Following complaints from his wife and three kids that he is never home Chris will be using his family as his back up band. His performance of David Bowie's Space Oddity shot him into the rock and roll limelight and left his fans screaming for more. Says Chris....how can I refuse? Do you know how hard it is to support a family on an astronaut's salary? Rock stars, comets, rhythm and blues dripping from the milky way.....

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Reported sightings of Leonard Cohen have been pouring into the news room at Midnight Fiction. He has allegedly been seen in New York outside what used to be Studio 54, the Village Vanguard jazz club and other locations. He has also been seen sipping wine in Herman's jazz club in Victoria BC. Contributing editor Joey Scarfone is heading down to Herman's to see if there is truth to these sightings. The following is Joey's report;

I couldn't get downtown fast enough. The thought of Leonard Cohen reincarnated was intoxicating. I walked through the long corridor that leads up to Herman's. Sure enough, there he was, sipping a glass of red wine and listening to the jazz band.

Hello Leonard, I'm Joey Scarfone.

I know who you are Joey....please join me and have a glass of wine.

How do you know who I am, I asked.

I heard that track you did on your CD about me. I must say I was really moved.

(note to reader: check out my CD entitled Shadow Culture, track 10).

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-lGg5t7JnM&list=PLI\\_iCfN\\_x6S1NMwo9vsIro640W9NWjf-4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-lGg5t7JnM&list=PLI_iCfN_x6S1NMwo9vsIro640W9NWjf-4)

I realized that the world really does need a spiritual leader. I have never seen our civilization in such a mess. I think the responsibility to help has fallen on my shoulders so here I am, reincarnated and ready to lead.

But how did you know the world would accept you?

Not everyone will. I am billing myself as the Messiah so that should get a pretty decent audience. I'm putting the band together and planning a world tour. I'm not going to preach though. I'm just going to sing my songs that I have written in the last few years that I have been dead. Now it's about peace and love.

Well that's terrific Lenny.....um.....can I call you Lenny?

Sure. I don't mind.

So what do you plan on doing about this Putin character? He's really making a mess in Ukraine.

Ya. Putin. Don't worry. I'll take care of him. He is going to be consumed by his own poison. He has cancer and won't last another year.

So tell me Lenny, what's it like being dead?

It's very peaceful. There are no physical restraints. The spirit is eternal but you don't realize that until you die.

Well it's been great talking with you Lenny. I have to get back to the office and finish my column. I'll

catch up to you on your tour.

That's cool Joey. Keep that column going.

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## Lover's Lane with Dr. Linda Loveless Phd.

Dear Dr. Loveless

My husband used to give me these little love bites during our lovemaking. I must admit I liked them and how oral he could be. Then he got a dog. Now the only bites I get are from the fleas that live on this mangy mutt. I think he loves that dog more than me. What should I do?

Dear orally frustrated

Men and their dogs! Sheesh! You can forget about your husband ever giving you the oral pleasure you so desire. My advice is to kick them both out and start dating oral hygienists. They tend to have a talent for all things oral.

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Dear Dr. Loveless

I am caught in a dilemma. When I meet someone and we have spontaneous sex it is great but the relationship doesn't last. Then, when I try to have a lasting relationship with someone the sex tapers off and I end up watching a baseball game with a boyfriend who doesn't even notice me. I'm coming apart at the seams and don't know what to do.

Dear coming.....apart

Sounds like you are still getting laid more than the average female human. The truth is that there is no balance to be found here. My advice is to go for the long term relationship and just get on base.... try to steal second... and don't be surprised if you find yourself alone in bed hitting it out of the park and scoring every time you step up to bat.

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Dear Dr. Loveless

For the last 18 months I have been dating a guitar player. It has been fun but I just couldn't keep up with his rock and roll life style. If he wasn't gigging he was practising or partying. When he came home at 2 or 3 in the morning and wanted to have sex I couldn't because I needed my sleep for the next work day. Now he's touring with his band and I never see him. I feel like a tornado has blown through my life and I am very confused.

Dear confused

This sounds like a classic case of “guitar player's girlfriend syndrome” (GPGS). It is more common than you might think. However, there is hope. Anyone who has dated a guitar player for 12 months or more may be entitled to compensation in the form of free psychological counselling from a certified psychologist. Contact the local musician's union in your area for details.

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## PHILOSOPHER'S CORNER

If you have made it this far in the column you will have realized that Midnight Fiction views the world through a very cynical lens. However, when it comes to serious matters I turn to other writers who are somewhat more subjective in their approach. I have always been perplexed by the “human condition”. Why do we do the things we do? I have called upon another contributor to this magazine to write a few words about this. His name is Gerry Wilson. He is a retired English professor and president of the Jaded Dinosaur's club. That is another story for another time but just for now here are his words on “why we do the things we do”.

Is it nature (biology, genetics, heredity) or nurture (cultural conditioning).

Studies show nature has the biggest influence. People who are adopted tend to be more similar to their biological relatives than their adopted ones. Scientists estimate at least half the explanation why we are unique is due to our differences in genetics. Tendencies either considered “good” or “bad” we show during our lifetime suggest they are due to biology.

On the other hand, psychologists suggest nurture is more powerful. This may be because it is easier to observe the effects of conditioning on our lives. Parents, relatives, educators and the media have the biggest influence. Born in a different culture from our own shows us how different we would be but also how universally similar we are.

Learning in any culture involves believing in a set of cultural beliefs and traditions, some of which may be outdated or inaccurate. They don't align with our experience of reality or they cause us unnecessary suffering. It is useful to question these codes of behaviour and thought such as statements that use the word “should”. Truth should prevail.

Both nature and nurture interact in complex ways on our behaviour, thought and self-perception.

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## WEST COAST POETRY

**WARNING:** Some of the following poems may contain edgy content. DO NOT and I repeat DO NOT let your dog, cat or children read this material. It may alter their eating and sleeping habits and could turn them into lethargic, dope smoking hippies....and we don't want that, do we.

THE CRUCIFIXION (joey scarfone)

fresh as blood from a broken heart  
it'll take some time to get over this one  
the Romans had balcony seats for the first three acts  
front row centre for the crucifixion

this was the plan from the very start  
but only god knew it  
I was sent to earth to die for the sins of man  
dear father, I think I blew it

Jesus looked down at his mother....this is how it goes mom when you're ahead of your time. I gave them miracles but that wasn't enough. I almost had them convinced when I did the sermon on the mount gig. It seemed like they were ready for a change but those damn Romans just didn't go for the peace and love thing. Maybe some day they will but right now they're more into conquering and pillaging.

The thief on the right looked over his shoulder.....not a very good way to go for someone of your stature Jesus. I mean....I'm just a thief but you could have afforded a better lawyer.

Well, believe it or not this was all planned.....no sense wasting money on a lawyer when the outcome would be the same. My father thought it would be better to have a life of poverty and humility. Just goes to show you.....even God makes mistakes. I'll see you on the other side brother.

Jesus raised his head to the sky.....forgive them father, they know not how to make a cappuccino.... and perished.

Mary wept for Jesus as she took her only son down from the cross.....my boy, my boy. The other Mary, Mary Magdalen was also at the funeral. She consoled Jesus' mother. He was a good man and never mistreated me. We had fun before he decided to try and save the world.....that was a big mistake. I wanted to get married and have kids but he said he couldn't, he had a different destiny. Now he's gone.

Jesus' human father, Joseph, never even came to the funeral. He had deserted Mary many years ago. The immaculate conception was one thing but he couldn't live in a marriage with no physical intimacy. History didn't judge him, it just wrote him out of the script.

The legend lives on in so many ways  
it's hard to know the truth  
Jesus had 33 years  
and a pretty decent youth  
some day Jesus is gonna' come back  
and give it another try  
I hope he does 'cause I think he was cool  
and I'd like to meet the guy

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THE RAIN

(joey scarfone)

cold winter day  
crows are pair bonding in the naked birch tree  
history repeats itself again and again  
while I'm lying with my lover  
and listening to the rain

time moves slow  
like the cactus plant  
clouds colliding 'cause they have nothing else to do  
emotions stand silent waiting to be named  
while I'm lying with my lover  
and listening to the rain

it will end soon  
when winter seduces spring  
when young crows are born  
when leaves reappear  
when history repeats itself again and again  
I'll be lying with my lover  
and listening to the rain

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FROM MY HOME (by Stuart Culbertson)

saltwater moon and a blue water tide  
through green phosphorescence we silently glide  
over the ocean and under the stars  
how did you get this far  
from my home?

I left Toronto no tears in my eyes  
and no fascination for skyscraper skies  
my skies are scraped now by mountains and pine  
how did this road unwind  
from my home?

I've laid down roots here on Vancouver Isle  
I'm mile after mile after mile  
from my home

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

(Stuart Culbertson is a singer/songwriter and OpEd writer. He hails from Toronto but escaped to the west coast a few decades ago where he now lives in Victoria on an island in the Pacific).

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Midnight Fiction is always looking for the next big scoop. Dr. Linda Loveless is also receiving questions from her readers via telepathic communication or email. Email is preferred because it's easier to attach files. Contact Joey Scarfone..... [jscar@shaw.ca](mailto:jscar@shaw.ca)

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THER ARE NO ENDS.....ONLY BEGINNINGS

