

The Gospel according to Harold.

By Harry Dunn. Received 28 Sep 2015

And it came to pass that the Inverlites were sorely in need of match - practice to harden them for the trials and tribulations which lay ahead.

And so did they accept an invitation from their northern brethren in a far-off land, the Glens of Yarra, home-land of Graeme The Physician and didst take with them their weapons, and didst gird their loins for combat

The Glens of Yarra heldeth in store many a surprise for the Inverlites, all those who could raise the fare, some twenty shekels down, with more to follow.

And then did the Chosen People repair unto the field of grass, upon which they didst acquit themselves with distinction, but the common folk assigned to the Valley of Death didst suffer much mortification at the hands of their hosts, and didst use the power of their arms to excess, and sendeth down many bowls at great speed, and findeth the ditch all too often, and the day belongeth to the Yarras, who were generous in victory and thereafter selleth their visitors Kosher Dim Sims and Chips, forsaking all payment except three shekels per bag, to cover costs.

Whereupon the Inverlites didst return to the mighty Chariot of Burge, bringing with them not one but two firkins of ale to slake their thirst, which rageth much .

And one firkin of ale didst drop from the hands of Laurence, and fall to the ground in a shower of ice and consternation, but the Lord had mercy on his beloved people and not a single flask didst shatter, and not a single drop spilleth on the ground, and Laurence was spared the wrath of his brethren, and the soul of Laurence was leavened by the Holy Spirit, Johnny Walker by name.

Along the road to Damascus, much ale was turned into water and The Fisherman delivered unto the multitude a sermon - The Sermon From the Aisle - and The Fisherman spake unto the masses mostly in Tongues, and the multitude understood every word he uttereth for they listened in Tongues, as the day was well advanced and they were well into firkin number two. A person of no consequence sayeth unto himself that some were two - firkin drunk, and they needed to pass water.

There were no barley - loaves on hand and no fishes to feed the multitude, and some were in painful need of cess-pits, without delay. Charioteer Ronald drew his mighty wagon to a halt at a wayside inn, whereat the multitude disembarked with indecent haste and scattereth about in all directions. And one amongst them, Peter by name, was thrice tempted to violate the wheel of a stranger's chariot, so urgent was his need, but showeth admirable restraint and respondeth manfully to his brethren's cries of anguish and Peter held his piece.

And they didst return without haste from the cess-pits, bearing sustenance for the

remainder of their journey, in sesame-seed buns, and birds of the air in batter, and tiny slivers of potato - the Devil's food, and consumeth these delicacies with relish, but without haste and the Chariot of Burge awaited their pleasure with great patience.

And soon again did the mighty chariot draw to a halt to afford comfort to the multitude for their bladders were mostly stricken by age and the intake of two firkins of ale. And only when the hour struck eight did the chariot arrive at the place from whence it came, and the departing faithful rushed again like lemmings to the cliff, whence they pisseth much and sweareth unto themselves that never again would they be tempted to consume two firkins of ale after only one and twenty ends of bowling.

This is the word of Harold . Go in peace and drink no more.

*The ale and beer firkin of biblical times contained nine imperial gallons .
This is the word of Webster and Oxford*