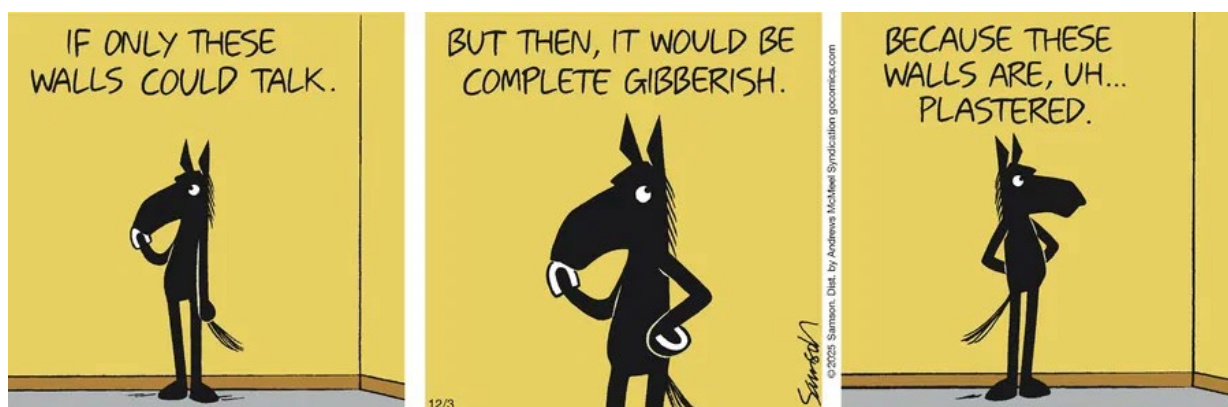




Beyond the Fringefan

[#565]

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN now mostly has walls that aren't plastered but rather wallboarded; perhaps that means that rather than talk, they'll sheetrock and roll. (The workmen have certainly made enough noise during the renovation.) He and his lady are preparing to bid farewell to another...um, interesting...year as they try to find all the stuff that's been packed away very carefully at the N.Y. Cadre (1088 East 40th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210 (☎(718) NY-CADRE; 📧↔️ nycadre [at] acedsl [dot] com; 🌐http://www [dot] nycadre [dot] org)). This is **Beyond the Fringefan** #565, for readers of **APA-NYU** Volume 23, #12 (e-APA-NYU #241) and other wallflowers, published December 2025 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. Cartoon above from *Dark Side of the Horse* by Samson, 3 December 2025. All uncredited material copyright ©2025 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.

The work on our dining room is just about done, finally; I'm typing this in on the 27th and Seymour expects to be back on the 29th for the finishing touches, so we ought to have something to celebrate for New Year's. The skin graft on Donna's hand is now fully healed, so that's something more to celebrate. Unfortunately, Donna's been feeling under the weather for a couple of weeks—hacking cough and gunk in her lungs; after several hours in an emergency room in mid-December, we were told it was RSV. I hope the scratchy throat I woke up with this morning doesn't mean that I caught it from her (I know I got vaccinated against it last year). I've scheduled my pre-operative clearances for the first full week of January, and I suspect if I'm hacking and talking in a croak, the surgery might have to be postponed.

Fringe Reception: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 23, #11 (e-APA-NYU #240)

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN vs. BEYOND THE FRINGE (Chas Below): "Beyond the Fringefan has had 563 episodes to this date, while Beyond the Fringe apparently only had one version." *Beyond the Fringe* was originally produced in Edinburgh, but subsequently had new productions in London, New York, and South

Africa, and there was a touring company as well, plus a revival in Los Angeles around the turn of the millennium, so there were at least six episodes. I regret that I never got to see any of them in person. (There were also a few projects built around Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, half of the original cast.) /*/ Oh, and *The Goon Show*

(1951–1960) predated *Beyond the Fringe* (1960–2001), so was probably not influenced by it. The members of *Beyond the Fringe* never spoke of being influenced by *The Goon Show* either, but I think they must have been. /*/ (¢APA-NEWS) “Never ate at Zabars.” It’s a retail operation, so you probably couldn’t, other than asking for samples at the slicing counter. /*/ (¢Blackman) “¿What was missing from the chicken masala?” The chicken tikka masala was. Owing to a mishap in the kitchen, all but a scant serving of what I’d brought ended up on the kitchen floor or my clothing, neither of which seemed capable of enjoying it. I’ll try another batch once I can unearth the crockpot and trust that no plaster dust or sawdust will add unintended flavors.

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER (Mark L. Blackman):

“my heart was working at only 30-35 or 40%, which sounded terrifying” [but] “The doctor reassured that the heart normally works at 60% (doctors have an idiosyncratic definition of ‘normal’).” Even if 60% is “normal,” 40% is only two-thirds of “normal,” which doesn’t seem very reassuring. /*/ “‘augmented’ (chestnuts) pulled chicken;” Chestnuts? Kathy’s augmentation of the store-bought pulled chicken is usually a mix of vegetables (broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, pickled red cabbage), a few spices, and quinoa. No chestnuts. /*/ (¢APA-NEWS) I was never sure whether Mordechai was formally ordained. His obits in the local papers refer to him as “Reb Mordechai Housman.”

From what I’ve been able to find online, “Reb” doesn’t seem to mean much more than “Mr.” (or perhaps “fellow observant Jew”) in the Chasidic community, but I don’t claim authority on this. /*/ (¢me) Google Maps, like the old Garmin GPS, seems to have an intermittent habit of telling me to turn immediately after I’ve passed the street I’m supposed to turn on. /*/ (¢Belov) “If the world ended, there’s no need or point to make breakfast?” Not so; Arthur Dent hadn’t had breakfast (other than some beer) when the world ended, and he had a headache all day.

ICONOCLAST (Joel Nelson): (¢Belov) I’ve only worn a backpack once, when Donna and I were wandering through Britain just before the 1979 Worldcon. I didn’t like it much. I switched from an attaché case to a messenger bag when I changed careers from computer geek to proofreader; lately I mostly use an old WNYC tote bag. /*/ I dunno what insurance plan is covering your glasses but not your wife’s, but you might want to see if VSP for your wife would be a good deal. We pay \$12.54 a month each, and it fully covers an annual exam and a basic-level pair of glasses (my progressive multifocals are extra).



(*Rabbits Against Magic* by Jonathan Lemon, 26 August 2025)

If we’re feeling up to it, we’ll be celebrating New Year’s Eve in our accustomed fashion, making fun of the fools in Times Square on TV while pigging out on shrimp with cocktail sauce and franks in blankets. (We didn’t do that a year ago because we both had the flu, and I really don’t want that to be the new precedent we follow.) By this time next month, I hope to be writing from the rehab facility with a new right hip. A good New Year to all, and think hopeful thoughts about next November...

>Portions of the preceding have been redacted by the Department of Justice.<