

Persuasive acts: People post blogs for a variety of reasons – to inform readers about some fact in the news, to update readers about events in their life, or to complain about something that happened to them, etc. One additional reason is to try to persuade their reader about something.

For purposes of this task, we are interested in identifying whether or not a blog contains a blatant Persuasive act; that is, whether at any point in the blog the author is obviously and directly trying to persuade the reader to believe something, to have a particular opinion about something, or to adopt or refrain from some course of action. As examples, the author might be trying to get the reader to believe American health care is ineffective, to hold a negative opinion about a particular product, or to vote for a particular politician.

We are looking for obvious and blatant Persuasive acts. That means that the poster isn't trying to hide his/her attempt to persuade the audience and that you're very certain that this is poster's goal. In general, make sure that you are not marking as Persuasive acts texts that are either ambiguous or subtle, because these are places where we have found rather major inter-annotator disagreement. Here are five concrete heuristics to follow that we have found to help:

- 1) Retelling of an attempt to persuade someone does not count as a Persuasive act.
- 2) Retelling of how the poster felt in a situation does not count as a Persuasive act.
- 3) If you cannot identify a target of persuasion nor a topic, then there is no Persuasive act. Persuasive acts have an intended audience, and with blogs that audience can be particular readers or general readers; both of these are valid for this task.
- 4) If the poster seems to presuppose that the reader already agrees with him/her, then there is no Persuasive act.
- 5) If you are unsure, then it's not a Persuasive act.

What Persuasion is Not: Persuasion requires some form of **justification** on the part of the poster in order to convince their reader. This means that claims of fact or opinion aren't persuasion unless the poster provides reasoning/evidence/further argumentation. In other words, a statement like "*American health care is the most ineffective in the world.*" isn't a Persuasive act unless the poster provides something else to try to convince a skeptical reader (e.g., "*American health care is the most ineffective in the world. The World Health Organization ranks it as the most expensive, but mortality rates are not significantly lower than other countries.*").

Similarly, rants (where a person simply complains about someone or something) or unjustified suggestions aren't Persuasive acts either. Here's an example of a post with rants and suggestions, but no Persuasive acts:

Ok, some quick suggestions and observations (Can't spend my life on this thing)... Go see Avenue Q. If you like Turkish food and you're in the city, try Sip Sak, but don't order the Lamb & Okra. Get a salad or something grilled. What was I thinking? Okra? Gap clothes fit better than Banana Rep and Express this fall, for all you metros out there. Esquire magazine is amazing. Chuck Klosterman's in it this month, Akron boy done good. August 2nd New Yorker is worth checking out. New terror alert a little unnerving. Islamist extremists want Bush to win election. His idiocy and aggression stir moderate people into action. Ok. No more rant.

Common Justifications Included in Persuasive acts: While it's hard to capture every tactic someone may use in a Persuasive act, here are some common techniques people use when trying to convince someone:

- discuss the **outcome** of an event
 - **good** or **bad** consequences of some event
 - how people will perceive the reader
 - how the reader will perceive themselves
- appeal to the beliefs, statements, or opinions of **experts, important people,** and the **famous, or popular opinion**
- provide arguments phrased in terms of **morals, duties, or generalizations** about how people (or some group of people) behave
- appeal to the reader's sense of **empathy** with another (perhaps the poster)
- tell the reader that time is **short**, or that the situation could **quickly change**
- **redefine, reframe, or analogize** the issue as something else

You won't see all of these (or, perhaps, any of them) in a post you might consider a Persuasive act, but they are examples of the kinds of justifications people will provide in such situations.

Persuasion Coding Manual

0. Introduction

- This annotation system examines how people use language during persuasive discourse.
- We break this language down into sixteen common *language cues* of persuasion activities.
- Your job is to
 - o annotate text spans for these cues, using the definitions below
 - o mark whether each cue is part of a persuasion activity or not, and if so, the nature of the persuasion activity

1. Main target: *persuasion activity*

- Persuasion involves:
 - o two parties, a *persuader* and a *persuadee*
 - o an act on the part of *persuader*
 - o a causal change in the *persuadee's* psychological state (“uptake”)
- Persuasion **activity**: an attempt by a persuader to convince the persuadee about something. This can occur over large stretches in time.
- Three types of persuasion activities:
 - o change/retain their beliefs about the truth of an idea
 - o change/retain a **subjective** judgment about an object (an entity, event, or idea)
 - o change/retain a commitment regarding an event the persuadee would carry out

o Annotation of Persuasion Activity:

Persuasion activity
agent: X
persuadee: Y
state: {belief, judgment, action}
polarity: +/- (corresponds to: true/false, positive/negative,
toward/against)
topic: enter here as free text

- Persuasion activities are distinguished by the persuader and persuadee, the topic, the type of persuasion, and whether the persuasion is pro/contra, etc.

- o Some examples of differences:

Mary's trying to persuade John to jump out of a plane

agent: Mary persuadee: John state: action
polarity: +
topic: John will jump out of a plane

Is different from...

Mary's trying to persuade **Susan** to jump out of a plane

agent: Mary persuadee: **Susan** state: action
polarity: +
topic: Susan will jump out of a plane

Mary's trying to persuade John **that he will jump out of a plane.**

agent: Mary persuadee: John state: **belief**
polarity: +
topic: John will jump out of a plane

Mary's trying to persuade John **that his jumping out of a plane was helpful**

agent: Mary persuadee: John state:
judgment polarity: +
topic: John's jumping out of a plane subjective judgment:
helpful

- Difficult cases
 - o Is trying to persuade John that jumping out of a plane is dangerous/foolish persuasion **action** - or **judgment** -?
 - Typically, **action** -. Often, the use of subjective terms will be used as an argument (Moral/Deontic Appeal, Outcome).
 - However, there may actually be a debate about whether something is actually beneficial or not. If so, mark this as a separate persuasion activity.
 - If the event is in the past, then it's **judgment** - (like the example above).

2. Language Cues

2.1 Overview

- We identify persuasion activities based on 14 common language cues

- o 4 are concerned with the types of outcomes from adopting the agent's request
 - o 6 are concerned with evaluations of the request
 - o 4 are general persuasive tactics
- Discusses outcomes
 - o most general: Outcome
 - o action of agent: Threat/promise
 - o how you'll feel about yourself: Self-feeling
 - o how people will see you: Social esteem
- Characteristic linked with action/belief
 - o opinion of someone important: Important Person/Organization
 - o popular opinion: Popularity
 - o traits of those who subscribe to this action/belief: Good/Bad Traits
 - o connected with previous commitments: Consistency
 - o quid pro quo: Favors/Debts
 - o people in general are like this: Social Generalization
 - o general appeal to permission/obligation: Deontic Appeal
 - o appeal to general notions of right and wrong: Moral Appeal
- General tactic
 - o see another's perspective: Empathy
 - o change spin: Redefinition
 - o rational argumentation: Reason
 - o time pressure: Scarcity
- Easy to confuse (see section 3)
 - o Popularity and Moral Appeal (Social fact)
 - o Trait Association, Self-feeling, and Deontic Appeal (Moral)
 - o Threat/Promise and Reciprocity

2.2. Descriptions of Cues

2.2.1 Outcome

- Does the agent mention outcomes of a particular course of action?
 - o The course of action could be potential or hypothetical
- Two kinds
 - o +: is the outcome something the agent thinks is desirable
 - o -: is the outcome something the agent thinks is undesirable

< luc class="outcome" type="+" >

"We must also work on implementing the Plan of Action adopted at the Hyogo

Conference by strengthening international cooperation to better prevent and reduce risks of natural disasters and to give ourselves an organization and more effective means to make the world a safer place."

<luc class="outcome" type="-">

"The first, which represents a significant minority, is to go backward by dissolving the Palestinian Authority and declaring the failure of the Oslo project under that assumption that this will bring us back to pre-PA days of direct occupation. . . ."

2.2.2. Threat/Promise

- Does the agent make an offer based on some exchange?
 - o This must be an actual offer
 - different from reciprocity: reciprocity is a reminder of some past action
 - different from appeal to an important person for punishment/reward: the agent is the punisher/rewarder in the threat/promise case.
 - o Two kinds
 - threat: non-compliance brings punishment
 - promise: compliance brings reward

<luc class="threat/promise" type="threat">

"We incite our Muslim brothers in Pakistan to deter with all their capabilities the American crusaders from invading Pakistan and Afghanistan for the prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him, who said: He who does not join fighters in battle, fails to support them financially or take care of a fighter's family will be punished by God before the Day of Judgment."

<luc class="threat/promise" type="promise">

"Those who left children behind them, their children are mind. I will be their caretaker, God willing." (Al Qaeda Transcripts)

2.2.3 Self-Feeling

- Does the agent state that the persuadee will feel better emotionally if they do what the agent asks/believes what the agent asks?
 - o has to do with what the person will think of themselves (so, not just "happier")
 - o feeling "less guilty" or "happy with your decision" are examples
- Two types
 - o +: doing/believing something will make them feel better
 - o -: doing/believing will make them feel worse

<luc class="self-feeling" type="-">

If you do this, you'll regret it for the rest of your life.

2.2.4. Social Esteem

- Does the agent indicate that people the persuadee values will like them more/less if they do/believe what the agent asks?
 - o the group can be quite broad ("society"/"people")
- Two types
 - o +: people will like them more
 - o -: people will like them less

<luc class="esteem" type="-">

If you do that, no one will trust you again.

2.2.5 Important Person/Organization

- Does the agent directly name some kind of authority or important person/organization in making a claim?
- There are several kinds of authorities:
 - o punishment/reward: authorities who can punish or reward behavior (e.g., divine entities)
 - o organizational: an organizational authority over the audience (e.g., a boss, a commander, a legal system)?
 - o charisma: a individual who others want to be like (e.g., product endorsers, famous figures, celebrities)
 - o expert: an expert on a subject (e.g., a scientist, an educator, a judge, etc.)?
- Use of authority or important person/organization
 - o +: individual **endorses/requires** the claim
 - o -: individual **rejects/forbids** the claim

<luc class="authority" type="organizational" valence="positive">

"Bilateral negotiations are seen as the main strategy to achieve the legitimate Palestinian objectives of ending the Israeli occupation, achieving statehood and freedom as well as solving the issue of Palestinian refugees in accordance with UNGA Resolution 194."

<luc class="authority" type="organizational" valence="negative">

"Second, the prolonged process has enabled Israel to expand its control over most of the occupied territories through the illegal settling of Jewish populations in those territories contrary to international law."

2.2.6. Popularity

- Does the agent argue for a persuasive target based on popular support?

<luc class="popularity">

"I can only endorse the often expressed sentiment that it is the international communities' duty to act to protect people in danger" (UN)

2.2.7. Good/Bad Traits

- Does the agent associate the belief or action with what a person with "good qualities" would believe or do?
 - o "good qualities" can mean: moral, reasonable, rational, etc. Any quality that the agent thinks is good to have.
- Two types:
 - o +: a good person would do/believe this
 - o -: a bad person would do/believe this

<luc class="association" type="-">

But only a crazy person could believe that.

2.2.8 Consistency

- Does the agent discuss behaving consistently with beliefs or promises?
 - o this can apply to the agent, the audience, or a third party
- Use of consistency
 - o +: the individual is consistent with beliefs/promises
 - o -: the individual is inconsistent with beliefs/promises

<luc class="consistency" type="+">

"Palestinian officials have always and consistently reiterated their commitment to the peace process."

"I reaffirm the commitment of my country to the millennium development goals."

<luc class="consistency" type="-">

"First, both Israeli public opinion and Israel's political elite have been moving away from the basic assumption underpinning the peace process, namely the end of occupation."

2.2.9. Reciprocity

- Does the agent make reference to past help/injury by another party that requires a response?
 - o This is based on our preference for returning favors or responding to injuries.
- Four ways of discussing reciprocity
 - o past favors: favors have been done for some individual
 - o past injuries: injuries have been done to some individual
 - o response: what someone deserves for a favor/injury
 - o debt: a reminder of an obligation owed
- An agent might talk about only one of these at a time, leaving the rest unsaid

<luc class="reciprocity" type="favor">

HOSTAGE TAKER: What is happening with, uh, Mr. <Prisoner Last Name>?

POLICE: Uh, let's get the food order squared away here.

<luc class="reciprocity" type="response">

POLICE: Wait a minute now, what are you gonna give this--what are you gonna give me? All I've been do'n is givin you -

HOSTAGE TAKER : Well I'm gonna, I'm gonna give you I'll give you your hostages and everything and at three o'clock . I'll let <HOSTAGE name> out. I just want something to smoke.

<luc class="reciprocity" type="debt">

POLICE: Wait a minute now, what are you gonna give this--what are you gonna give me? All I've been do'n is givin you -

HOSTAGE TAKER : Well I'm gonna, I'm gonna give you I'll give you your hostages and everything and at three o'clock . I'll let <HOSTAGE name> out. I just want something to smoke.

2.2.10. Deontic Appeal / Moral Appeal

- Does the agent appeal to **general principles** in support?
 - o we see many of these with general statements like "People tend to", "typically", "usually", "rarely", etc.
- General principles can take three forms
 - o **moral**: Is this type of activity in question **right, good, moral, just**?
 - o **social fact**: Is this type activity one people tend to do (normal)?
 - we tend to see this with general statements like "In general, men don't like these kinds of films."
 - o **duties/permissions**: Does the agent make reference to what is permitted, required, or forbidden?

- see this with words like “must”, “have to”, “ought to”, “can” and imperatives “Don’t do that!”
- also includes what must be done to get something accomplished (also uses “must”, “have to”, etc.)

<luc class="principles" type="moral">

To resort to crime in a difficult situation, is weak. Even evil.

<luc class="principles" type="duties">

"Rather it has to be used as a tool to achieve complete independence."

<luc class="principles" type="duties">

"We need mechanisms which, without violating the right to privacy of legal bank accounts, will nonetheless allow these ill-gotten gains to be confiscated for the benefit of poor countries."

<luc class="principles" type="duties">

There could be an appeal for "Reality Journalism" but you'd have to market it

2.2.11. Empathy

- Is the agent attempting to get the persuadee to view things from the emotional perspective of another?
 - o that perspective could be that of the agent or a third party

<luc class="empathy">

"Listen, you don't want to cause this kind of heartache on you parents, do you? They care about you." (Hostage Transcript training sample)

"I have heard with great sorrow that some of our brethren Muslims in Karachi were killed while expressing their opposition to the aggression of the forces of the crusader America and its allies against the Muslims' territories in Pakistan and Afghanistan." (Al Qaeda Transcripts)

2.2.12 Redefinition

- Does the agent describe some entity differently to give a positive/negative spin?
- Two types
 - o analogy: saying something is like something else
 - see this with terms like “like”, “similar to”, “related to”
 - o defining: saying something is something else.

- see this with parenthetical comments or “is a” forms (like below)

o These cues are used to link things together. In the Analogy example below, the agent associates Pakistan with Afghanistan, linking modern fighting in Pakistan to defense in a previous period.

<luc class="redefinition" type="predication">

How is an administration which gave us the Patriot Act, a war without the full support of the people, going to promote a "ownership society"?

<luc class="redefinition" type="predication">

"Pakistan is the first line of defense of Islam in this region, as Afghanistan was on the front line of defending itself and Pakistan against the Russian invasion more than 20 years ago."

<luc class="redefinition" type="analogy">

"Pakistan is the first line of defense of Islam in this region, as Afghanistan was on the front line of defending itself and Pakistan against the Russian invasion more than 20 years ago."

2.2.13. Reason

- General purpose tag for justification.
- Important identifiers:
 - o Lists,
 - o itemization
 - o cause-and-effect language: *because, so that*
 - o example: this is true; here is an example
 - o absurd conclusion: this logic leads to something absurd

<luc class="reason" type="cause">

We ought to send a signal in no uncertain terms that the clash of civilizations will simply not take place, because we all share a universal civilization, which is based on a belief in mankind, as encapsulated in the United Nations Charter.

<luc class="reason" type="example">

Case in point: [urlLink](#) The Phillipines , where a long-dormant Islamic terrorist outfit, revitalised by the Phillipines' government's cowing to to terrorist demands and pulling troops out of Iraq to free a single hostage, has probably doomed hundreds, if not thousands, to death.

<luc class="reason" type="absurd">

by that logic, 'only 500' would be quite acceptable as an argument too. Ridiculous.

2.2.14. Scarcity

- Does the agent mentioning how rare something is ("supplies are limited") or how brief something will last?
- Three kinds of scarcity
 - o Scarcity: The object is rare, "Supplies Limited".
 - o Urgency: The deal won't last very long, "Act now"
 - o Opportunity: It's never been this good/needed (and things may get worse), "Never been a better time"
 - lots of Opportunity cases use superlatives (the best, the worst, the highest); the superlative has to emphasize that things could change

<luc class="scarcity" type="urgency">

We swear to Allah that we have started preparing ... to capture him and his allies or kill them and present them as gift to our people. the man said. This is the last warning.

<luc class="scarcity" type="opportunity">

"There are some indications that such a dynamic is in place. Israel has never been criticized as it is being criticized now, and support for Palestinian statehood was never as strong as it is now."

<luc class="scarcity" type="opportunity">

"Global imbalances are growing and are now at their highest level in the history of humanity."

3. Differentiating Types of Cues

3.1 Popularity vs. Appeal to Principles (Social fact)

- Popularity is a type a **reason** to act/believe in a certain way.
- Social norms discusses what is commonly done/believed. This may be part of an argument against doing what is commonly done.
- Key difference: Popularity uses public sentiment as direct evidence, Social norms does not.

3.2 Trait Association vs. Self-feeling vs. Appeal to Principles (Moral)

- All three of these discuss "good and bad", but they mean different things
 - o Self-feeling: how the persuadee will feel; emotional and personal

- o Self-feeling: how the persuadee will feel; emotional and personal
- o Moral Appeal: Talks about actions or beliefs as good/evil/bad/(im)moral. Does not talk about **individuals.**
- o Good/Bad Traits: Talks about people who do/believe certain kinds of things, not about the actions abstractly. In addition, good and bad might not be moral at all here (e.g., crazy)!
- Key differences:
 - o Talking about how the persuadee will feel? Self-feeling
 - o Associating the activity/belief with a personal characteristic?
 - > Good/Bad Traits
 - o Abstract moral judgment? Appeal to Principles Moral

3.4. Threat/Promise vs. Reciprocity

- Threat/Promise is an actual offer: do this or else
- Reciprocity deals with quid pro quo: since they did this to me, I'll do that to them.
- Key differences:
 - o Is there an offer being made? threat/promise
 - o Is there a notion of quid pro quo for something done? reciprocity

Example Non persuasive acts

Remarks: Even though the poster is recounting a series of episodes that validate his/her position, it isn't obvious that the purpose of that section of the post is to convince the reader, or that the reader is skeptical. Rather, it almost appears that this is an aside in the middle of a complaint/appeal for empathy.

So much for Texas. I almost made it to Dallas tonight, but unfortunately weather and air traffic conspired against my trip. I read most of a novel (Nobody's Fool by Richard Russo if you're keeping tabs) and ate the worst food ever. The lettuce on my club sandwich from TGIFridays was so rotten I had to WIPE it off my nasty meats. I couldn't pick it off. It was that far gone. Once more proving valid my long time stance against A) Chain Restaurants and B) Airport food in general. Combining the two proved too horrible for consumption. I will boycott Fridays on principle for the rest of my days. If I would have waited longer at the gate I could have flown to Atlanta, gotten drunk there, and flown home in the morning, but the merits of such a trip would be negligible compared to the amount of explaining and make up work that would result.

Remarks: The only possibly persuasive move in the post below is in bold. However, it is not clear that the poster is attempting to convince a skeptical reader. Rather, he/she seems to be describing his/her frustration, which prevented sleep (the substance of the post).

Seriously. I'm not sure what's wrong with me. For the past 2 or 3 weeks I have been wholly unable to fall asleep at a normal time. Despite forcing myself to wake up at a normal early (by my standards) time, I have not been able to get on a regular sleep schedule. It's quite frustrating. I'm tired. I want to go to sleep. But I can't. I've tried reducing my caffeine, tried doing a PM stretch routine, tried all sorts of stuff and nothing seems to work. Perhaps I am stressed. I don't feel particularly stressed. I mean I do have a master's thesis that I am supposed to finish by August. And I am working on 4 other projects for my research assistantship. I'm not quite sure what my summer deal is yet or how much money I will make. I have class presentation due this week. I am single and I hate it. I'm going to buy a new car. I want to lose 5 pounds but I can't seem to get myself motivated enough to diet. My current car sucks and I am afraid it will break soon. But seriously, I'm not stressed. Maybe I am. I don't know. Tonight I was convinced that I was going to fall asleep. **I was almost there and then I thought about how Jennifer Hudson TOTALLY should not have been voted off American Idol since she clearly was the best singer in the whole competition and then I was bothered and couldn't sleep.** If stupid American Idol is all I have to keep me awake at night then I should be doing alright. But I'm not.

Remarks: The poster begins by recounting an argument with a friend. Even if that conversation involved persuasive arguments, that is not reason to think the purpose of the post is to convince the reader. In addition, the poster's acknowledgement suggests that he/she does not subscribe to the position he/she espoused previously.

The other night a friend of mine commented that people often misuse the terms "dork" "nerd" and "geek." I called him a dork, and he said that officially that must make him socially inept. I think he is a dork because he knows when every Harry Potter movie for the next 5 years is coming out and re-reads the Lord of the Rings trilogy every year. Though, I wouldn't say he is at all inept. But he's right, officially those words mean some form of social or intellectual ineptness. In any case, last night we all went bowling. By "we all" I mean my dorky friend mentioned above and another dorky, but not as dorky, friend. I mean in grad school we are all kind of dorky really. "Super cool" and "grad student" don't mix very well. After a couple of games of bowling (where I of course lost but continually improved my own game) an undergraduate couple showed up. (They were clearly undergrads and I think clearly freshman. If we weren't at the Cornell Lanes, I might have even suspected they were Sr's in high school). In any case, these kids were nerds, and I mean that in the proper sense. At first I found them amusing. The girl with her colorful print shorts, that sort of looked like she sewed them in Home Ec class, the guy with his thick glasses and pants a little too high, the girl's attempt at a "sexy dance" as she came back from bowling a frame to the music on the juke box, the things they would say to each other after the got a strike or a spare. The whole shebang was amusing to me. Which I know makes me a bad person. I never claimed to be a particularly good person. I'm a nice person, whose nice to people, but I'm also the kind of person who enjoys gossiping and pointing out the foibles of others be they friend or foe. And yes, I know glass house and all that.

A record store. The only place on earth that retail might just be OK, hopefully. Screw you Barnes and Noble. I knew books, I loved books, but music is much higher on my list. Number 2 to be exact. My list of top five all time places to work (made at age 16) 1. Movie Theatre. (new movies, free movies...film = cool) 2. A record store. (Access to music, etc. very important) 3. Book Store. (new books, cheap books, magazines, etc.) 4. Movie Rental place. (new movies, free rentals) 5. Art supply store. (cheap painting supplies, etc.) If I worked at Championship Vinyl, Rob would say the same thing about me... "I can't fire them. I hired these guys for three days a week and they just started showing up every day. That was four years ago." So, I'm destined to sell bad music while wearing Cosby sweaters and listening to sad bastard music. And I'm OK with that. For now.

Remarks: This one is quite tough, and so by our rubric, it should be labeled as not blatantly persuasive. In general, "do whatever you want" comments aren't necessarily meant to persuade (they could be just expressions of frustration); indeed, if they are, it involves a passive-aggressive tactic that one can only determine based upon a model of the person in question. In this case, we don't have

enough information to make an intelligent guess. Hence, it is not blatantly persuasive.

Just for the record... Rosie nor I said anything to Leigh Anne or whoever was on the phone. We just said hello and they kinda took it from there because they asked where you were and I said you were in the bathroom. I don't know where they got everything else. All thirteen year olds are drama queens cuz they want their lives to be interesting and its not. Sorry if she cried; she brought it upon herself. And you don't help it much by tolerating her controlling you're life. But I'll stay out of it. No more advice, etc. Bye, Josh. See You Monday. If you want to get mad, fine. If you want to sink to their level, that's cool. Just don't bring it out on the DI team. Oh, and we're about as happy with you as you are with us.

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1. Examples of Persuasive acts

1.1 Attempts to Persuade to Believe

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to believe that stories are good things that can help people solve their problems. What are stories anyway? Just a jumble of experiences made into something worth telling, or an adventure that takes the listeners or readers into a world where you can escape your reality. Stories are not just some means of escaping reality. Lessons can also be learned from them. They are not just some random experiences worth telling but they also help other people better themselves and make them feel good. Stories that come alive in one's imagination offer that person a chance to become who he wants to be and gives him a chance to escape the problems that he has...or better yet, it also helps him fix his problems. Stories are not just for children.

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to believe that war is not entertaining, but violent and destructive. War isn't entertaining! It's disgusting to think that there are people who see war as a form of entertainment. There are innocent people who die because of these wars. There are parents who leave their children and are just caught in the middle of it all. There are children who go off to war to 'defend' their country. And some people actually see this as a form of entertainment. How could it be entertaining to someone when people die because of a war that shouldn't have happened? How can anyone even think that it's exciting to watch soldiers kill other soldiers? Buildings get bombed and destroyed. Children lose their parents because of panic. Parents screaming the names of their children who they thought was just right behind them while they run for safety. And people who are far away from it all are just watching from their TV screens and think that this is entertaining. Honestly this I ask. What's entertaining about seeing people kill other people? What's so exciting about soldiers bombing bases where there are also people there just doing their job?

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to believe that Labour Government in Britain is to be regarded with increased positivity. In the meantime, it's heartening to see the Labour government putting forward a truly radical, revolutionary proposal - the concept of providing universal childcare is

a staggering one, and the government intends to open schools from 8am to 6pm and charge a top-up fee for the service. If the government can make adequate provision we'd actually be witnessing that rarest of things - a labour government acting like a labour government. Gosh, I really feel good about putting my trust in this people...

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to believe that bees are dangerous creatures.

Bees. Small but scary little insects they are. I was doing my job, minding my own business when suddenly this bee appeared. I just ignored it for the first few minutes thinking that it will be gone very soon but it kept going around my table and chair I think checking my things if they can get nectar from it. It kept doing that for a full 30 minutes and then left only to return and do it again for another 30 minutes. Finally, it really left. I wouldn't actually have a problem if it were a butterfly. Butterflies tend to like my monitor very much and decorate it for an hour or so before leaving in search of flowers. But bees are a different story all together. They sting. And it really hurts not to mention that the sting will be throbbing for weeks.

1.2 Attempt to Persuade to Act

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to act according to their desires and not to fear society's judgment.

Afraid the society will judge you? Think about it. Everyone, everybody goes by the society around them and doesn't allow themselves to act and appear in certain ways because of the people around them. My advice to you. We're in a society that demands profecction of race, sexuality (ok that should be straight), religion, weight, height, dress, and more. Think what you want, dress what you want, do what you want.

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to act by supporting a soldier in the armed forces.

Because we're in the early battles of World War IV, and they could use some back-up from home, adopt a soldier.

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade "XXX" to not act by not attacking the poster, his girlfriend, or their relationship.

Y'hear that XXX (if you're reading this)? You deserve it. Seriously dude. It annoys me when you attack me behind my back. It INFURIATES me when you attack my girl. Like the kind that actually hurts me until I catharthasize it. And contrary to popular belief, it feels GREAT when I do it. So if ever again I hear this misinformation being leaked, or that you've been saying some un-nice things about my relationship with YYY, or her, especially her, consider yourself a house in the wake of a California forest fire. Kablam goes the last minutes of your feeble and feckless life.

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to act by taking phone calls from their parents in school.

This true story made me mad at the mean teachers. Don't listen to everything your teacher tells you. Keep your phone on vibrate and when it rings and it's your mom or dad or relative, answer it. Screw what the teacher says. And if they try to take it from you. Throw a pen at their eye...here it is. "Last Friday in English class, this kid's cell phone rang. My school's strict about cell phones so my English teacher went over to him right away. My English teacher told the kid to take it out, so he did, but he answered it too. All he said was "Hello?" because my English teacher grabbed it out of his hand. So whoever was calling kept doing it for a while until my teacher turned the phone off. So on Monday when everyone went back to school, we found out the kid's dad died and it was him who called him during class asking his son where his heart pills were."

1.3 Examples Distinguishing the Two

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to act by seeing the movie "Phone Booth."

Why this is about action: While the poster gives justification for believing that "Phone Booth" is a good film, the post ends with a specific action for the reader based on the preceding justification.

Kurt and I were both off today, so we went and saw "Phone Booth" a truly excellent film that works well as a morality play. There is little movement, the entire thing was shot in ten days on a particular sidewalk in NYC, and the impact of the movie on my senses was astounding. I like movies that are mostly dialogue, but this one stands apart as being nearly an action film using solely dialogue. See it, especially if you're questioning your priorities.

Overview: The poster is attempting to persuade the reader to act by being monogamous.

Why this is about action: While the poster gives justification for believing that multiple sexual partners is "wrong" (a belief or attitude), the conclusion of the post provides mention of a specific action the reader should undertake.

My beef is the promiscuity issue. Promiscuity is wrong, and it's going to hurt people. There isn't a thing called safe sex, you're putting a piece of latex or sheepskin or whatever between yourself and a disease that will not only kill you, but probably make a lot of other people sick before you even realise you have it, and you're spreading it around. We're all sinners, right? It's the choices one makes that make it evil, or not. Be gay, be straight, be whatever your little heart desires, but be monogamous.

2. Examples of What isn't a Persuasive act

Overview: The poster is describing his love of cable internet.

Why this is not a Persuasive act: There is no clear belief or action the poster is attempting to persuade the reader about.

It's been two days since I have had cable internet, and I feel as if I have seen it all, and now I want more. The only problem is that I have reached the end of the internet. Yes, as sad and disturbing as it sounds it is true. I have visited almost every single blog, laughed at every single stupid web-comic, well... That I'll leave up to your imagination. I would spend my time online playing games with all the other geeks, but they aren't that friendly plus they hack (damn hackers). I feel as if my computer is sucking my life force out of me. About two minutes ago I updated a sketchy part of the blog template, and discovered since I hadn't used any blog titles, the tag shows up, hmm.... Gotta fix that crap. I think this whole thing would be better if I was wasted. Yesss... Design a website while I am wasted...The good O'l American way. I think I'll try that, peace out (I am going to call my friend up and arrange for the wastage).

Overview: The poster is summarizing a story.

Why this is not a Persuasive act: There is no clear belief or action the poster is attempting to persuade the reader about.

Raistlin was about to die that time but the dark queen stopped, all because of the bond Raistlin shared with his brother. That bond, whether it was love or something else hindered the dark queen in punishing and hurting the young mage who sought after her throne as a god. Knowing that Caramon will never leave his side wherever life takes him, Raistlin was saved. The queen can no longer torment him. He was untouched from her powers. Without that bond, Raistlin would surely be experiencing eternal damnation.

Overview: The poster is providing a stream of information about her life and current events.

Why this is not a Persuasive act: While the poster describes what ought to be regarding XXX's popularity, she does not justify the assertion (note that she simply moves on).

Well, the surprise party was indeed a surprise, as I was far too tired to be anything more than mildly suspicious when I got dragged to a comic book store for half an hour. *shrugs* Who knew? But I got ice cream cake and presents, so I was pleased. In other news, XXX is still winning the Tour de France! This, of course, is of international importance - well, it ought to be. And a hurricane is going through Texas - I think its name is Claudette. I'm still somewhat befuddled as to why we *name* our hurricanes, so if someone would care to explain it?

Overview: The poster provides his attitude towards his brother's song.

Why this is not a Persuasive act: While the poster provides a clear attitude about the song, there is no justification about why the song is "cool", just the assertion that it is.

This song was composed by my older brother but they never get to air it on the radio. This is such a cool song.

Overview: The poster is conveying suggestions and opinions about a variety of topics.

Why this is not a Persuasive act: As the poster says, this is a rant – a random assortment of opinions and statements. There is no justification for assertions and opinions made.

Ok, some quick suggestions and observations (Can't spend my life on this thing)... Go see Avenue Q. If you like Turkish food and you're in the city, try Sip Sak, but don't order the Lamb & Okra. Get a salad or something grilled. What was I thinking? Okra? Gap clothes fit better than Banana Rep and Express this fall, for all you metros out there. Esquire magazine is amazing. XXX's in it this month, Akron boy done good. August 2nd New Yorker is worth checking out. New terror alert a little unnerving. Islamist extremists want Bush to win election. His idiocy and aggression stir moderate people into action. Ok. No more rant.

Legend: **Tag Type** *Relevant Tag*
Non-relevant Persuasive Act

Consistency

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_46"

Well, here I sit again. "Uh oh" you say, you go and grab a drink because you know this is going to be one of those . You sit back and stare blankly at the screen, letting a bit of spit fall from your open jaws as you sort through this post and get the message: "I wanna bitch". It's the same one tenfold, but for some reason there's something new to get out of it every time. I'm not intending for this one to be long. Which means it probably will be. *I want you all to know, especially Lindsey, that you all did not screw up my life.* Let me see if I can retell this plainly. Leigh Anne called back shortly after Rosie to ask for Brittany's phone number. After a while she handed the phone to Lily. Lily's mom picked up and told her to get off because she needed to use it, whereafter she didn't use it. But anyway, Lily put down the phone and forgot about it. Meanwhile, I set up this BLog and posted that one at the bottom in Kenzie's, where, shortly after, I deleted it, for reasons that will become apparent in a few lines here. I had a silent line for 93 minutes before Lily noticed the phone off the hook and picked it up, whereupon she said "Hello?" and I said, "Umm...hi,"...there was a round of laughs, then Leigh Anne was inspired to talk to me and say that she was upset with me and didn't hate me anymore. After a minute, she told me they were setting up a tent and that she was going to go and help them. She was trying to get away from them for a second by locking herself in a closet or something, and I didn't think it worked, because she eventually gave in and just said, "I love you," and hung up. So that was ULTRA cool for me. I went and played darts with my sister's friend who was staying over, I won. They called back shortly after. There were a few more Iluvu's in there, there was some sappiness, which Leigh Anne alleged would happen, and then she hung up at about 1:30, whereafter, Lily tells me, they went to sleep. So the next day I guess Leigh Anne was still like that for a while. Things went bad at about 5 that evening. They got worse at 6:30. Then I went to my dad's house feeling generally pissed at my dying fortune. And then that night she just asked me to forget about it again. That she wasn't interested in a relationship with anyone, that she needed a friend. There are some other things that were more personal when we were together that came up, but they eventually were also rescinded until there was nothing left but a big fuckin' gap of silence, whereafter I put down the phone and read your posts. I had said no arguing, I felt like there was some here, so I just decided to call the other people off. Plus Rosie's ultimately childish post of "Joah...God I hate you." As if I needed anymore of that stuff. I posted it to see whom of you would stick by me no matter what. It really seems though, now that I look at it, that Rosie was reallllllllyyyyyy eager to give up on me...some friend :), well we've got things straightened out for the most part. Then I woke up the next morning and felt stupid because I really enjoy the outside input at times, so I went back on it but it was a little too late for that. So today in fourth I answered Lily's post for the most part(there's more answers for her and Lindsey after this one, by the way), and *I resent an invitation to join the BLog since Lindsey had backed out and was mad at me.* So that is the story. Last night things were pretty good for a while. But I really don't care. Actually, at one point, Leigh Anne had this horoscope thing on her cell and was telling me to think of a question and tell her...at one of them I just said, "Can I just keep it in my head?" and she said ok, and the real question was, "Will things ever work out with me and her?", and the VERY astonishing answer was a bunch of star alignment bullshit followed by the interpretation, "Give it time and it will work in the near future,". I was like, WHOA. She asked what the question was and I was too stunned to think for a second. Then I said something about if I was going out to eat or not that day. She always thinks of something bad when I'm making her laugh, and she bring it up, after which it'll be a thorn in my side and I really can't be humorous anymore and she'll start

talking about all these guys...I swear to god, this girl has no female friends, and the ones that could be considered so, she can't connect with them, or they're lesbians and they're after her. So that's about it for now, that's the story so far. Fucking story.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_47"

Sorry, Josh. I think I'm gonna take a backseat with this one for a while. Screwing up your life was not intentional. I promised myself I would never do what Paul did to me and I haven't yet; I just want to make sure I don't. *So if I start giving you advice or anything just tell me to shut up.* But there is something pretty important that I need to tell you. Call me when you get a chance. It's not urgent or anything.

Deontic Appeal

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_41"

okay. The little note of goodbye was what I did to xi. Deal with it. I didn't want to go in circles and I really seemed that you hated me and wanted me gone. I didn't want to "defy" you so I left, for now. You know the Xi story. Anyway. Yeah about Gunter I get what you're saying. Gunter is out of the picture now forever. *He's out of it too so don't take anything to heart.*

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_50"

You're reading way too deep into this. I didn't say that I never wanted you as friends, I just didn't want to be criticized for the things I've been doing, and I was getting that. Especially from Rosie, unfortunately. I hope you remember your reaction at Lindsey's house on Friday. Because I sure as hell do. I've decided not to remove anyone, that was Leigh Anne's wish that there be no one but myself on here, and it would be foolish to adhere to it, considering she'll never find it. I really don't know what to find out of anyone anymore...I really want to see what's left after all that's happened so far. Perhaps last night's post was to test my real friends from the ones who really do use me and this plight as entertainment, and seeing as how I wasn't attacked directly, and in fact the matter at hand wasn't attacked, I really have found the ones that will stay. Not that that was my preliminary intention; I know this probably did cause a lot of damage, but I cannot apologize, I had to know. To understand me, you have to know that my world is made up of definites, and anything that goes against that will not work. My fear of commitment and God, all because they are not definite. And the real me is a screaming little boy. He's locked away and huddled over and screaming his lungs out, he's cold and alone and he loves it that way, even though he hates it, because I could let that boy out but I am afraid to, because I don't know if he'll be the one to change from it. Plus the fact that the things he wants to show all of you and tell you that he's seen. No one would like what he sees, he envisions the world as innately evil, and truly, he is right, but he knows the depth of it. It scares me because the boy is cunning. He's something else...I could call him wicked but that's not what he is, he's been twisted by his thoughts. He only comes out at my worst, he came out on the last post and did something that probably destabilized the people it was aimed at. But it's something he wants you to hear so that it will stop bothering him, it's bothering him that he could ever think that he was being blamed for something that isn't his fault. Don't expect an apology, that post wasn't pure malice. That was the reality in my head. To understand me, find me at my worst and learn. But never judge.

Empathy

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_314"

OK, well considering all that i've heard from you is that I've been an awful friend because I bailed on you....that's how I took it. You know I'm so sick of feeling guilty over what I did and then having you go on about how cruel it was doesn't help. Either we forget the past and move on to be friends or we can keep on fighting and not be friends and driving everyone crazy. *so I vote that we be friends if at all possible. I promise never to think of what happened if you do, don't even mention it.* love yall rosie

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_615"

Wow. If it looked like "ass" behavior to me, that's exactly what's going to come of it. I'm fucking not kidding, Rosie, "Why does your girlfriend hate me?" I'm sick of telling you *she doesn't hate you!!* What in the fuck is it going to take to convince you otherwise? *And if you're going to act like a little kid and say, "too bad it offended ya" and shit like that, don't expect me to be all nice and civil...if not anyone else, I can just feel the poison behind what you said. No one was attacking you, but again, and by God as my witness, you will stop this "you hate me so i hate you" shit or I won't have anything to do with you.* I mean, honestly, has she actually come out and said, "I hate you you dumb bitch,"??? I want you to give me tangible, real, solid proof that this actually happened, or I want you to drop it. *I can't believe you would sink so low as to judge someone on what you think they said.* And also...*you stick a knife in my girlfriend's back and you stick a knife in mine.* It sickens me to see the rampant level of unfounded hate and immaturity flowing through this situation. Immaturity is the best word for it. You said to me the other day, "C'mon, you can't seriously side with her?" or something to that effect? I just about blew my top when I heard that, Rosie. *Denying all other factors, i.e.: being my girlfriend, and trusting her beyond most everyone...that's just crossing the line.* There is NO PROOF that anyone pointed the finger at you!! Absolutely none, whatsoever! I don't care what you assume, *I don't care what you've heard from Scott,* I don't care what the fucking President of Finland told you, unless I can hold and feel and taste the fact that Abby actually fully loathes you, then I could see that you were founded in your opinion...I wouldn't agree with it, but I wouldn't be calling you an ass for it. *It's time to stop being so damned bigoted and so highly placed above everyone else and grow up. It hurts me more than you know when you say the things you do about Abby.* *It hurts to watch you lash at her because of what you THINK.* IT DOESN'T ALL WORK ON INTUITION; SOMETHINGS ARE REAL AND FOUNDED AND HAVE REAL CAUSES. This is all about what you don't know. *So stop it before we dig this any deeper.* And all of you know: *I've only attacked back because I was struck first.*

Favors/Debts

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_11"

Posted in Kenzie's BLog about five minutes prior: Hiya Kenzie, guess what fucking happened.... First, this is the new secret urlLink BLog . Tin Haven got deleted by Leigh Anne, and you'll see why in the rest of this post. Second of all, some shit happened. My friends had my cell at that DI meeting, Leigh Anne called and kept calling. At one point, I went to the bathroom, they said something really horrible to her, she started crying. I

think she hates me now...after everything, after I ALMOST fucking had it. "I love you" she said last night. I was able to make her laugh for hours, I was able to do it all. I was perfect. And now this shit, and Leigh Anne's taking it out on me for shit they said. It amazes me how pathetic my luck is. I just really want to take everyone I've met this year, all my friends and everything, and scream at them til I lose my voice, sleep it off, and do it all over again until I choke on blood and die. I really cannot believe how much my friends want me to die, thinking they're doing the "good deed" for me by ruining things with Leigh Anne. She's hurt me a lot, but these things are in the past, gone forever, I can forget about that weakness I had, I can forget the depression, but somehow the scars it created seem to come back and haunt me, the scars surface and they never forget how I treated people when I was in darkness. Somehow it's fine for Leigh Anne to take everything out on me, when I have a bad day. If something bad happens to her, like she said, "If you knew what happened to me today you'd know that *I really don't need this* (being cussed out/whatever happened by Lindsey and Rosie at the meeting)", then NOTHING ELSE bad can happen. Even if it's not me but my friends. *I'm supposed to take responsibility for my actions, like it's all my goddammed fault*. Why is that, Kenzie? Why is it that she can only see the bad in me when we're not together, and she only sees the good when she's at her worst, and I'm at my best. At some point, her and Lily put down the phone. I've been sitting here, waiting, listening to the silence, for the past hour and fifteen minutes for someone to pick up, because I want to sort this out and get on with it. I FUCKING CANNOT BELIEVE MY LUCK. I CANNOT. GODDAMN. Will something please turn out right and stay that way, please? Give me just one grant God, universe, nature, any-fucking-one, listen to my soul screaming and give me this. The time for sadness is over. And anger is in season.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_616"

First of all, NEVER INSULT ABBY. Ever. Secondly, if we're going to stay friends, we should probably quit damning each other, especially when that person is my best friend's boyfriend. You can get me upset really easily by insulting someone/something that is important to Abby. Third, Rosie, you're right, you haven't antagonized me lately and I 'm grateful. Abby also knows about that if that's what this whole thing is about. But Josh was there last year when I was with Michael, and was really good about supporting me then, through the whole breakup, and is he isn't insulting me now (Thanks, Josh, that's really meant a lot.) Will too, though he doesn't know all the drawn out details, cause I don't get to talk to him much, and when I do it's about math most of the time. Fourth, Rosie, you don't know Abby either, and I can recall you saying some stuff about her before, whether good or bad. Yall just need to stop all contact, it seems. Fifth, no, Abby's not a big fan of yours Rosie, and I've told you for a while to watch your step. But the way to fix it is not to insult her and not apologize for previously insulting her. *Please don't try to fix anything when it comes to Abby.* Leave that to me (and Josh) and let it go. When Abby gets mad, I advise you to run, especially if she's mad on the behalf of me (or Josh), which she is. She will not forgive you as easily for what you said to me about Michael than if you had said something to Josh about her, *because you're insulting me not her.* Some holds true for me. And as for you and Josh, *just stop cussing each other out NOW and talk it out, cause it's only going to go down hill from here,* if history is about to repeat itself. *Josh probably shouldn't have called you an ass,* true, but you're going a bit too far.

Good/Bad Traits

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_1"

Lindsey, We're 14, not thirteen. We're actually more mature then most girls our age. We're NOT drama Queens. YOU did say something and the quote, 'Hello?! She's ruining one of my bestfriend's life and you expect me to stand here and do nothing?!' Yea, who ever said this, Yea, YOU said this, and Yea, *I* nor Leigh-Anne made it up. Yea, I'm the other girl on the phone, I'm sorry, but *are we a level to be stooped upon just because of our age and grade level? That's pretty shallow.* Leigh Anne's not mad at Rosie, nor at anyone, but *i'm angry because of this, I did NOTHING.* I was protecting my friend. I have dislike for you already Lindsey, but im not about to go off being a bitch about it all because *I can't do that in here.* Anywho I'm out of here. Lily The Psycho Powered Goddess

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_20"

Jeezus, everyone's got mono these days. Umm well, what's new... The future that was full of potential is now full of uncertainty, for a lot of reasons. I'm worried that Kenzie is turning in to me, she sounds just like I have the past few weeks. I had a thought, you may think someone's tortures are pathetic and stupid, but *be a human and help them.* That was very philanthropic, but it seems like everyone who has a pathetic problem is casted off as such, and *were we to do this, we would be no better than animals*...I think it's time to change the focus a little. Happy Chinese New Year's Eve. I just got finished burning POOR BASTARD VOLUME ONE (AUGUST 2002-JANUARY 2003). And it is GREAT and REALLY different from the first intended, this actually encompasses a much broader scope than the end of August, it stretches into the really bad part of the beginning of August, lots of weird stuff happening, parental conflicts, et cetera, mega depressed, which is why the stuff at the end of August started happening. There's a lot I haven't talked about yet. Ask me sometime. AND NOW, THE FINAL TRACKLIST, lyrics when I feel like it, there's 17 songs. POOR BASTARD VOLUME ONE (AUGUST 2002-JANUARY 2003) -----

----- I. Blood Brothers - Papa Roach II. Hey Jealousy - Gin Blossoms III. Sorrowful Farewell - Rotting Christ IV. For Whom The Bell Tolls - Metallica V. All I Want - Toad the Wet Sprocket VI. Hold Me Down VII. Poem - Taproot VIII. Died - Alice in Chains IX. Lost Horizons - Gin Blossoms X. Until I Fall Away - Gin Blossoms XI. Chemical Tribe - Jerry Cantrell XII. Dam That River - Alice in Chains XIII. Mrs. Rita - Gin Blossoms XIV. I'm With You - Avril Lavigne XV. Got Me Wrong - Alice in Chains XVI. Happy Happy Joy Joy - Wax XVII. My Solution - Stranglebox (our current band name) Vanilla Coke makes me depressed now. I'll post a short description of the pertinence of each post with the lyrics. And let's see if this thing posts, because my dad's computer sux today.

Important Person/Organization

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_615"

Wow. If it looked like "ass" behavior to me, that's exactly what's going to come of it. I'm fucking not kidding, Rosie, "Why does your girlfriend hate me?" I'm sick of telling you *she doesn't hate you!!* What in the fuck is it going to take to convince you otherwise? *And if you're going to act like a little kid and say, "too bad it offended ya" and shit like that, don't expect me to be all nice and civil...*if not anyone else, I can just feel the poison behind what you said. No one was attacking you, but again, and by God as my witness, *you will stop this "you hate me so i hate you" shit or I won't have anything to do with you.* I mean, honestly, has she actually come out and said, "I hate you you

dumb bitch,"??? I want you to give me tangible, real, solid proof that this actually happened, or I want you to drop it. *I can't believe you would sink so low as to judge someone on what you think they said.* And also...*you stick a knife in my girlfriend's back and you stick a knife in mine.* It sickens me to see the rampant level of unfounded hate and immaturity flowing through this situation. Immaturity is the best word for it. You said to me the other day, "C'mon, you can't seriously side with her?" or something to that effect? I just about blew my top when I heard that, Rosie. *Denying all other factors, i.e.: being my girlfriend, and trusting her beyond most everyone...that's just crossing the line.* There is NO PROOF that anyone pointed the finger at you!! Absolutely none, whatsoever! I don't care what you assume, *I don't care what you've heard from Scott,* I don't care what the fucking President of Finland told you, unless I can hold and feel and taste the fact that Abby actually fully loathes you, then I could see that you were founded in your opinion...I wouldn't agree with it, but I wouldn't be calling you an ass for it. *It's time to stop being so damned bigoted and so highly placed above everyone else and grow up. It hurts me more than you know when you say the things you do about Abby. It hurts to watch you lash at her because of what you THINK.* IT DOESN'T ALL WORK ON INTUITION; SOMETHINGS ARE REAL AND FOUNDED AND HAVE REAL CAUSES. This is all about what you don't know. *So stop it before we dig this any deeper.* And all of you know: *I've only attacked back because I was struck first.*

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_652"

Not a problem at all, Josh. I just figured I knew what I was talking about more than he did. But Josh, *you've got to tell your mom or someone about what Calhoun did. She hasn't got the right. She has to have tangible proof before she can accuse you of plagerism.* You know you wrote that paper, and so do I, and I'll be damned if you get a C for a paper as good as that one. Fuck her feelings, Josh, *this is not only about your grade, but also about your integrity and dignity, and if nothing else, those are the things you have got to stand up for. Be assertive, Josh, tell her what you feel. Tell her you're insulted, that you're pissed, that you demand a better grade.* If she doesn't give you one, take it to the administration. *I'll go with you. Abby will go with you. We'll both go with you. But you absolutely have to talk to her about it. Abby backs me up on this one Josh.* Everyone knows your right but her, and she's the only one who doesn't believe it. *Stand up for yourself, Josh. She'll just keep running over you if you don't.* I don't give a shit what she thinks; you're an awesome writer, and I won't have her discouraging that anymore. Josh, this is a very important issue. *This kind of stuff goes on your record that goes to your next english teacher.* I'm serious, Josh. *You've got to take control of this situation. Now get your ass into that classroom tomorrow, and tell her exactly what you want from, and be forceful. Not disrespectful, but assertive enough to get what you want.* Josh, you're one of the most gifted writers I've ever seen, and I won't let her think otherwise, and neither should you. *Please Josh, if not for yourself, then for mine and Abby's sake, please talk to Ms. Calhoun tomorrow. The longer you wait the harder it will be.* Call me on my cell if you need me. I should be up to all hours of the night. See you tomorrow.

Outcome

58176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_653"

Sigh. It's raining, how stoic. I don't really care this time, about Calhoun. Hell, I knew that was coming judging by the other marks and comments she's made on my papers. But, say we get that Poe essay back and I get a big goose-egg... See, that's a problem. *If I do get a zippo I'm probably going to go off on her,* and they's just ain't no gray area in that respect. Actually, I'll probably puss out and sit there and whine about it

and get red faced and have Julian sitting there going, "Well it doesn't sound like you, blah blah blah, let me talk out of my ass cuz I think I know what you write like." That little fucking fuck. That pissed me off more than anything. Thanks for the coverage, Linds. I was so pissed off I forgot to come up with that reasonable and obvious defense that would have made me feel a little better despite Julian's chiding. Damn it. Two deep breaths, c'mon you assclown hypnosis tape, do your magic.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_146"

Self-help books. I never thought I would read one. And here I am doing as such. *The book is called Rapid Relief from Emotional Distress , and I must say, this book is golden.* I would suggest this to anyone, even those not under any mental duress: their technique in making you feel better is almost instantly effective. *I've only read about thirty pages and I already feel so much different about everything.* It works on you all the time, as well. *For instance, I took a nap today after reading a bit of the book, and when I woke up, I had forgotten that anything was ever wrong. It was as if all the emotional disquietude I've been through in the past few months just evaporated.* This book has taught me an important concept: *you are both directly and indirectly responsible for everything that you feel, and that you must accept reality before anything else.* Experience the emotion, remember it, let it go. It sounds like a lot of psychological horseshit, I know, but I know they can't be wrong. How is this? They tell stories in there about failed relationships and insecurities, and guess whose they described? To a tee, my entire relationship problem in three pages, why I feel the way I do, how I react to it, what I should do against it. The main problem I have, and the thing that it described that made me believe it, was its illustration of the want of the depressed subject to want others to change, or to want themselves to change, or their situation. Whatever the case, they want changes which they cannot have, and thus are more depressed against it. It was then they went into accepting reality and such as being the first step, and then making choices and acting on them, creating a vision of a goal and then making the necessary steps to get there. And if you ever get depressed again, they have a ton of thing to do to get yourself out of it and back on track. I can't believe I could ever even consider the subject material within as relevant, ever. I would usually think of it as brain discoloring shrink jargon, but for some reason, this book makes things so easy to understand. And since I have about three people in line to read it already, you can tell how much I've been talking about it elsewhere. Strangely, the best book I've read in years.

Popularity

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_323"

Damned be, guys. Blogger's all different now... I dunno yet, but I'm pretty sure they're all this way, since most of the people whom this post is important to made their BLogs at the same time. I hope this doesn't screw anything else up, or I'm going to cry. Well kids...Alex coming for another session today, I'm getting Harry P. tomorrow and I'm stoked, and I just might get my cords and stands! So I finally get to put down the new demos, which will sound really awesome, also since I now have a recording crew...one of which pushes the buttons and turns the knobs, the other of which moves the faders...and of course, neither of them know how to work this damned thing yet...hell, with all this new gear I have to learn to use advanced functions on the recorder...like "track bouncing", where you take several tracks and put them together...not so bad in theory, but we'll see when the time comes. There's also the question of whether the

cable can extend long enough to accomodate all the mics (since all of its extensions, which number eight, are bundled into one snake), but I'm pretty confident that it can...it wouldn't have sold so well as it already has otherwise. And look at me, rambling about shit that no one understands anyway. The past few nights...um...I'm getting old, I think. I can't sleep anymore. I try...but I wake up, and then I stay awake for a long time, and try to go back to sleep, and when I do I wake up five minutes later. Something about this house? This only started happening since I came back home. A few more songs to add to the list... She Hates Me by Puddle of Mudd, One Step Closer by Linkin Park...most of the more famous Good Charlotte songs (Bloody Valentine , The Anthem , Wondering , namely), Angel Eyes by JERRY!, Happy Happy Joy Joy by Wax...now that one is going to be awesome...and the acoustic segment, which is in the works as we speak...can't talk too much about that, for reasons... Whilst I am going nuckin' futz here at the house...no sleep, need to wash some clothes, feeling hungry, and other things which, at present, since I have no vechicle, I am powerless to control...I hope everyone else's lives are going accordingly...that is to say, as you make them. By the way...fresh cotton always smells the same artificially, did you know? No one has any differing visions on the smell of fresh cotton. My ma just bought some girly Ban deoderant...feeling nostalgia whacking me in the back of the head, and pointing me to A-2 of Brentwood High, where a fanatic young teacher took a bottle of air freshener bearing the same name and proceeded to douse the room with it. Nevertheless, I picked up the bottle, and there was the smell! It's nice, I don't see what unpleasantness Rosie/ whoever else didn't like it, derived from it. It's time to shut up. BONUS

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_652"

Not a problem at all, Josh. I just figured I knew what I was talking about more than he did. But Josh, *you've got to tell your mom or someone about what Calhoun did. She hasn't got the right. She has to have tangible proof before she can accuse you of plagerism.* You know you wrote that paper, and so do I, and I'll be damned if you get a C for a paper as good as that one. Fuck her feelings, Josh, *this is not only about your grade, but also about your integrity and dignity, and if nothing else, those are the things you have got to stand up for. Be assertive, Josh, tell her what you feel. Tell her you're insulted, that you're pissed, that you demand a better grade.* If she doesn't give you one, take it to the administration. *I'll go with you. Abby will go with you. We'll both go with you. But you absolutely have to talk to her about it. Abby backs me up on this one Josh. Everyone knows your right but her, and she's the only one who doesn't believe it. Stand up for yourself, Josh. She'll just keep running over you if you don't.* I don't give a shit what she thinks; you're an awesome writer, and I won't have her discouraging that anymore. Josh, this is a very important issue. *This kind of stuff goes on your record that goes to your next english teacher.* I'm serious, Josh. *You've got to take control of this situation. Now get your ass into that classroom tomorrow, and tell her exactly what you want from, and be forceful. Not disrespectful, but assertive enough to get what you want.* Josh, you're one of the most gifted writers I've ever seen, and I won't let her think otherwise, and neither should you. *Please Josh, if not for yourself, then for mine and Abby's sake, please talk to Ms. Calhoun tomorrow. The longer you wait the harder it will be.* Call me on my cell if you need me. I should be up to all hours of the night. See you tomorrow.

Reason

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_1"

Lindsey, We're 14, not thirteen. We're actually more mature then most girls our age. We're NOT drama Queens. YOU did say something and the quote, 'Hello?! She's ruining one of my bestfriend's life and you expect me to stand here and do nothing?!' Yea, who ever said this, Yea, YOU said this, and Yea, *I* nor Leigh-Anne made it up. Yea, I'm the other girl on the phone, I'm sorry, but are we a level to be stooped upon just because of our age and grade level? That's pretty shallow. Leigh Anne's not mad at Rosie, nor at anyone, but i'm angry because of this, I did NOTHING. I was protecting my friend. I have dislike for you already Lindsey, but im not about to go off being a bitch about it all because *I can't do that in here*. Anywho I'm out of here. Lily
The Psycho Powered Goddess

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_143"

An ineffible hunger. I didn't eat today, and when I began as such, it was as if I was a starved prisoner of war for some years, I could not be filled to capacity. Later, of course, my stomach will discourse upon that matter, but as for now, my appetite is only more whetted with each passing bite. Today is March the second, and outside lurks a cold, dark abyssia, grinning its orai grin on a mass of powerless souls, such a puissant species, with so little power nonetheless. We are devoured by our insolence, have we no idea that this bitter and unending frost is of our creation? Two-hundred years ago, at this very spot, did the frostbitten winter months ever last this long? *Nay, this cold is birthed by the womb of industrialization, a sadly necessary function of the new age of man, the man that does not think and has his machines think for him, the man that has forsaken love and home for his love of the world, to the embrace of nothingness, to that which shall never transcend the bonds of time, he gives himself to wasted causes, to countries, he serves the greater good, which is, of course, no good at all, because it is an idea, because society and government are ideas, and as such are powerless to the quaking gods of existence and time, of space and energy, the creations of man are illusion, and we are dust and shadows.* It is a strange fate to have hold of such power and to be so powerless, in the end. What is after death? Judgment? And what, then, happened to your worldly concerns? Is it not, that they vanished in a puff of smoke? Is that not the glory of death, the end of life, the end of the painful and trying realm of mortality? The darkness of these endless nights with their lopsided, hellish grins are beginning to consume all of us by the night, as during the day the clouds enveloped not only sky but spirit, it saw so many upon the verge of personal destruction, it saw us a glum and powerless race, a mighty fire cut short in a great rain, only the rain took substance, and still the fire died. And all of this, just a reflection of the morosity I have seen around me, the sorrow self-imposed by the seasons that have left us to be eaten by carrion death and dismay. I watch it and see the sins of the fathers and mothers imposed on their young, simply by the fact that sin is let to exist in the world, and there is no greater pain than watching that which is ourselves to writhe in torments so much greater than ours. The sins take such wonderful guises and times to take us, but they have. Sin, the black blooded vein that flows staight down our family trees and branches into all of us. For this to go on much longer, as I have seen it. God help us all.

Redefinition

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_146"

Self-help books. I never thought I would read one. And here I am doing as such. *The book is called Rapid Relief from Emotional Distress , and I must say, this book is golden.* I would suggest this to anyone, even those not under any mental duress: their technique in making you feel better is almost instantly effective. *I've only read about thirty pages and I already feel so much different about everything.* It works on you all the time, as well. *For instance, I took a nap today after reading a bit of the book, and when I woke up, I had forgotten that anything was ever wrong. It was as if all the emotional disquietude I've been through in the past few months just evaporated.* This book has taught me an important concept: *you are both directly and indirectly responsible for everything that you feel, and that you must accept reality before anything else.* Experience the emotion, remember it, let it go. It sounds like a lot of psychological horseshit, I know, but I know they can't be wrong. How is this? They tell stories in there about failed relationships and insecurities, and guess whose they described? To a tee, my entire relationship problem in three pages, why I feel the way I do, how I react to it, what I should do against it. The main problem I have, and the thing that it described that made me believe it, was its illustration of the want of the depressed subject to want others to change, or to want themselves to change, or their situation. Whatever the case, they want changes which they cannot have, and thus are more depressed against it. It was then they went into accepting reality and such as being the first step, and then making choices and acting on them, creating a vision of a goal and then making the necessary steps to get there. And if you ever get depressed again, they have a ton of thing to do to get yourself out of it and back on track. I can't believe I could ever even consider the subject material within as relevant, ever. I would usually think of it as brain discoloring shrink jargon, but for some reason, this book makes things so easy to understand. And since I have about three people in line to read it already, you can tell how much I've been talking about it elsewhere. Strangely, the best book I've read in years.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_15"

I remember that time I had mono, it was in seventh grade. I remember I was at my dad's and one day there was a storm. My mom and sister came over and sat with me. I was running a berserk fever, 106 or something, she was putting a rag on my head and I was screaming at the top of my lungs. I started hallucinating at the storm, it scared the shit out of me, I threw off the blanket, I got cold, I put it back on, it was making me sweat, over and over again. I stepped outside for a while and felt good, and then it started to rain and they were afraid of me getting pneumonia so I got dragged back inside. Plus I was cold again. I shook like I'd never thought possible, trembling from head to toe, and painfully, no less. And when it was over, it was over. I woke up one day and it was completely gone. But I was really weak for a long time, and I lost a lot of weight, like 20 or so pounds. POOR BASTARD is the CD based off of songs that have influenced my thought over the past six months, some of which have been posted in Tin Haven or Bad Vision. *And I just burned the CD so copies for everyone.* I dunno where she is, gone I guess. And with that, the beginning lines of a new, and soon to be famous post. There was the "dark marks" one, there was the "thank you for being there" one, there was the very cryptic one at the end of November, "I'm not at liberty to say what happened, but just know that I am really confused right now,". I sounded like a child there. And now, this... Is anyone out there? Is there anything good at all? Because lately it seems that even the best made tapestries have to unwind, all the metals will rust, everything is going to die even as it lives and lives after its death. It seems like some big cosmic trick, that somethings never last..."somethings never last they tell me, sometimes lies are what we are" I wrote for no reason once, and now it's beginning to take shape. Everything I've ever written, no matter how inconsequential at the time, has

come to being, has become reality, the feeling from the song takes substance and becomes my life, not just because I am hearing the song, but that the world is affecting it all, making it all spring to being, and the subject matter in the song becomes true. My Solution was the start of it, the feeling of cagedness, I tried to off myself once, I left it to fate. It was just after I wrote the song, I had my dad's pistol, I put it to my temple, I pulled the trigger. And fate said, "CLICK", and no more. And since *I have never thought of suicide as an alternative to ANY situation, because that is NOT the end of the road.* Things didn't work out with Leigh Anne and me, and they really aren't right now, but that's no reason to make myself dead, *because if I am, what can I do about the situation? What is the point in creating my death? To end pain?* And then what, when the immortal soul carries on, *I still live with that pain, but then, it multiplies because there is nothing that can be done for me, I am dead, and the living care not for the haunts of the dead.* So the points so far...somehow, I have known what was going to happen to me through my songs, and that suicide is no longer my option. I remember where I was going before this now... The other songs have really come to be after that, Bitter was rewritten using the term "sunshine"; Leigh Anne referred to herself as "an undiluted ray of sunshine" thereafter, and the first lines of Bitter : "Where did my sunshine go, I think it's ever-fade". I wasn't taken aback. *The others songs have come true, why shouldn't this one take substance in some manner or another? Red Flowers came true, Shut Up came true. Veil came true, and still is.* All the songs have come to life to haunt me. *It's like harnessing a demon, the demon takes his toll eventually.* And unfortunately, all the songs have no semblance of hope, they only portend anger and fear, sorrow and the end of a dream, of a life, of a history. The only hope I have is in the earliest version of the song Oh Morose , because in that I was finally standing with myself, not trying to pick up the pieces of myself. And in the new one, it's about being beaten down by my devils...and it's already happened. What the hell am I trying to say... Is there any semblance of good, of change, of things taking a good discourse from the norm? Because the worst is reaching a brand new low for me now, and at the same time I am numb. Why? What happened to me, *shouldn't I be sad that I can feel misery?* But I answer, there is no misery left for myself, *that is not the way to go.* In a way things are better, in myself they are better, and outside they are getting worse. The winds of change are blowing again. *And my book grows thin of these pages.*

Social Generalization

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_22"

Hey people, SO Joah...why is it so important that you hate Gunter. Can you do me a fave and let it just be. Have you realized how *fake our society is*. I mean think about it.....*the whole world believes that everyone has there place and if they leave it.....here comes the tidal waves. Crossing social barriers in BHS is next to impossible without whispers and stares.* Is this what they call America, the most welcome country? *Everyone plays to the role untill that role is all they have, so they stick to that role through life then pass it to there children.* Ugg why can't people be themselves. *Why can't people NOT fit the mold for once?* Smile all, life's great. oh and the interview went well

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_143"

An ineffible hunger. I didn't eat today, and when I began as such, it was as if I was a starved prisoner of war for some years, I could not be filled to capacity. Later, of course, my stomach will discourse upon that matter, but as for now, my appetite is only more

whetted with each passing bite. Today is March the second, and outside lurks a cold, dark abyssia, grinning its orai grin on a mass of powerless souls, such a puissant species, with so little power nonetheless. We are devoured by our insolence, have we no idea that this bitter and unending frost is of our creation? Two-hundred years ago, at this very spot, did the frostbitten winter months ever last this long? *Nay, this cold is birthed by the womb of industrialization, a sadly necessary function of the new age of man, the man that does not think and has his machines think for him, the man that has forsaken love and home for his love of the world, to the embrace of nothingness, to that which shall never transcend the bonds of time, he gives himself to wasted causes, to countries, he serves the greater good*, which is, of course, no good at all, *because it is an idea, because society and government are ideas, and as such are powerless to the quaking gods of existence and time, of space and energy, the creations of man are illusion, and we are dust and shadows*. It is a strange fate to have hold of such power and to be so powerless, in the end. What is after death? Judgment? And what, then, happened to your worldly concerns? Is it not, that they vanished in a puff of smoke? Is that not the glory of death, the end of life, the end of the painful and trying realm of mortality? The darkness of these endless nights with their lopsided, hellish grins are beginning to consume all of us by the night, as during the day the clouds enveloped not only sky but spirit, it saw so many upon the verge of personal destruction, it saw us a glum and powerless race, a mighty fire cut short in a great rain, only the rain took substance, and still the fire died. And all of this, just a reflection of the morosity I have seen around me, the sorrow self-imposed by the seasons that have left us to be eaten by carrion death and dismay. I watch it and see the sins of the fathers and mothers imposed on their young, simply by the fact that sin is let to exist in the world, and there is no greater pain than watching that which is ourselves to writhe in torments so much greater than ours. The sins take such wonderful guises and times to take us, but they have. Sin, the black blooded vein that flows staight down our family trees and branches into all of us. For this to go on much longer, as I have seen it. God help us all.

Scarcity

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_613"

Josh is right, Rosie. *Abby does not hate you*. I blame the majority of this on Scott, who slightly misconstrues all situations because HE HAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST CLUE WHAT THE HELL HE'S TALKING ABOUT. He never sees Abby, yet is constantly downing her, and taking you to his level of thinking. Abby is epitomy of nice and just and fair and anything else that you could ever compliment her with. *Scott is jealous because Josh got Abby and he didn't*. I'm with Josh in that you're really reading a LOT into the situation. If you'll notice, Abby never got mad. She barely even showed annoyance. I'm viewing this as your taking advantage of a minor infraction so that you can blow up at her, *which you do not have the right to do*. Josh is most definitely justified in siding with her. He loves her, she loves him. *Their relationship is not something you see every day*. That in itself justifies him siding with her, and I fully support that. Abby has nothing on which to base a hate of you, and frankly I think that you're being a bit paranoid and slightly arrogant to think that she hates you. She's met you for maybe five minutes? Talked directly to you on the blog maybe thrice? I know Abby than almost anyone else on this planet, and let me assure you that I know exactly who she does and does not hate. Does she hate you? No. Does she like you? No. She has no information. She has no need to like or dislike you. The only thing she knows about you is that you have insulted me, and that will be held against you until she dies, most likely. Other than that, she is, for the most part, completely apathetic about your entire existence. You really don't have a great impact on her life, like it or not. And continuing on what Josh said, *you stick a knife in his back, you stick a knife in Abby's, and by doing so stick a knife in mine*. And

it's me that's going to be pissed in the end, because *Abby freakin' saved my life in 9th grade. I owe her everything in my possession and more, and I will pay that debt if it's the last thing I do, by protecting her happiness and well-being, and that of everyone she loves. And if you [that being a general you, not directed at you specifically] get in the way of that happiness, then by God if I don't absolutely rip you to shreds.* Josh, I apologize for saying to tone it down. Perhaps you should stay at your own level. I forgot for a second that this was Abby we're talking about. You were provoked and you are justified in your comment. This should be my last post on this topic. I hope. Cause I hate being angry.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_616"

First of all, NEVER INSULT ABBY. Ever. Secondly, if we're going to stay friends, we should probably quit damning each other, especially when that person is my best friend's boyfriend. You can get me upset really easily by insulting someone/something that is important to Abby. *Third, Rosie, you're right, you haven't antagonized me lately and I 'm grateful.* Abby also knows about that if that's what this whole thing is about. *But Josh was there last year when I was with Michael, and was really good about supporting me then, through the whole breakup, and is he isn't insulting me now (Thanks, Josh, that's really meant a lot.)* Will too, though he doesn't know all the drawn out details, cause I don't get to talk to him much, and when I do it's about math most of the time. Fourth, Rosie, you don't know Abby either, and I can recall you saying some stuff about her before, whether good or bad. Yall just need to stop all contact, it seems. Fifth, no, Abby's not a big fan of yours Rosie, and I've told you for a while to watch your step. But the way to fix it is not to insult her and not apologize for previously insulting her. *Please don't try to fix anything when it comes to Abby.* Leave that to me (and Josh) and let it go. When Abby gets mad, I advise you to run, especially if she's mad on the behalf of me (or Josh), which she is. She will not forgive you as easily for what you said to me about Michael than if you had said something to Josh about her, *because you're insulting me not her.* Some holds true for me. And as for you and Josh, just stop cussing each other out NOW and talk it out, *cause it's only going to go down hill from here,* if history is about to repeat itself. *Josh probably shouldn't have called you an ass, true, but you're going a bit too far.*

Threat/Promise

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_314"

OK, well considering all that i've heard from you is that I've been an awful friend because I bailed on you....that's how I took it. *You know I'm so sick of feeling guilty over what I did and then having you go on about how cruel it was doesn't help.* Either we forget the past and move on to be friends or we can keep on fighting and not be friends and driving everyone crazy. *so I vote that we be friends if at all possible. I promise never to think of what happened if you do,* don't even mention it. love yall rosie

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_3"

Just for the record... *Rosie nor I said anything to Leigh Anne or whoever was on the phone.* We just said hello and *they kinda took it from there because they asked where you were and I said you were in the bathroom.* I don't know where they got everything

else. *All thirteen year olds are drama queens cuz they want their lives to be interesting and its not.* Sorry if she cried; *she brought it upon herself.* And you don't help it much by tolerating her controlling you're life. *But I'll stay out of it. No more advice, etc.* Bye, Josh. See You Monday. If you want to get mad, fine. If you want to sink to their level, that's cool. *Just don't bring it out on the DI team.* Oh, and we're about as happy with you as you are with us.

Persuasion

Action

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_20"

Jeezus, everyone's got mono these days. Umm well, what's new... The future that was full of potential is now full of uncertainty, for a lot of reasons. I'm worried that Kenzie is turning in to me, she sounds just like I have the past few weeks. I had a thought, you may think someone's tortures are pathetic and stupid, but *be a human and help them.* That was very philanthropic, but it seems like everyone who has a pathetic problem is casted off as such, and *were we to do this, we would be no better than animals...*I think it's time to change the focus a little. Happy Chinese New Year's Eve. I just got finished burning POOR BASTARD VOLUME ONE (AUGUST 2002-JANUARY 2003). And it is GREAT and REALLY different from the first intended, this actually encompasses a much broader scope than the end of August, it stretches into the really bad part of the beginning of August, lots of weird stuff happening, parental conflicts, et cetera, mega depressed, which is why the stuff at the end of August started happening. There's a lot I haven't talked about yet. Ask me sometime. AND NOW, THE FINAL TRACKLIST, lyrics when I feel like it, there's 17 songs. POOR BASTARD VOLUME ONE (AUGUST 2002-JANUARY 2003) -----

----- I. Blood Brothers - Papa Roach II. Hey Jealousy - Gin Blossoms III. Sorrowful Farewell - Rotting Christ IV. For Whom The Bell Tolls - Metallica V. All I Want - Toad the Wet Sprocket VI. Hold Me Down VII. Poem - Taproot VIII. Died - Alice in Chains IX. Lost Horizons - Gin Blossoms X. Until I Fall Away - Gin Blossoms XI. Chemical Tribe - Jerry Cantrell XII. Dam That River - Alice in Chains XIII. Mrs. Rita - Gin Blossoms XIV. I'm With You - Avril Lavigne XV. Got Me Wrong - Alice in Chains XVI. Happy Happy Joy Joy - Wax XVII. My Solution - Stranglebox (our current band name) Vanilla Coke makes me depressed now. I'll post a short description of the pertinence of each post with the lyrics. And let's see if this thing posts, because my dad's computer sux today.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_314"

OK, well considering all that i've heard from you is that I've been an awful friend because I bailed on you....that's how I took it. *You know I'm so sick of feeling guilty* over what I did and then having you go on about how cruel it was doesn't help. Either we forget the past and move on to be friends or we can keep on fighting and not be friends and driving everyone crazy. *so I vote that we be friends if at all possible.* *I promise never to think of what happened if you do, don't even mention it.* love yall rosie

Attitude

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_102"

God, Between Times is sukh a great song. It reminds me of rain, and I view rain as quite sakred. I would post the lyriks if they could convey the intensity of this song, but I don't think I kould do anything to give it justice. Just go download, I'll pay you to download it...ok not really. But you just have to hear it, at least the intro. This song is starting to skare me. Yet again, I'm going to go upstairs and listen to it and try to memorize the lyriks. They're really hard on this one. I mean, I got A Dead Poem about the first day I listened to it, and Sorrowful Farewell the first time I read the lyriks. The rest of the songs are pretty unimportant lyrikally...well, ok, Glory of Sadness ...and there's also the opening lines to Khronos whikh sound only too terribly kool: "Origin of time / The fak(c)e of old flesh / Devours the earth / My feet and brain"...what does it mean, NOTHING, why is it kool, BECAUSE IT IS. the word "flesh" is awesome as is, they should replake the word "skin" with "flesh" permanately and for all uses. The guitars and drums in Rotting Khrist are actually pretty amazing work. The drummer is just inkredible. He's primarily a "machine gun drummer (of course, first heard in reference to Rotting Khrist)", but just to hear that level of ability...inkredible. And the fact that guitarist/singer Sakis sings and plays with songs like Glory of Sadness , Lex Talionis , Coronation of the Serpent , Exiled Ark(c)hangels ...they're all really pretty fast. The bassist pretty mukh does what the guitars do, which is nonetheless outstanding. And then there's the lead, whikh is both melodikal and fast. What a kombo...now sometimes it's more melodikal, but what's the differenke ? How kould I ever kome to love this band with its demon shrieking singer and mishmash musik? Heh, "mishmash" is a kool word, too.

958176.male.17.Non-Profit.Gemini.xml_2,June,2004_146"

Self-help books. I never thought I would read one. And here I am doing as such. The book is called Rapid Relief from Emotional Distress , and I must say, this book is golden. I would suggest this to anyone, even those not under any mental duress: their technique in making you feel better is almost instantly effective. *I've only read about thirty pages and I already feel so much different about everything.* It works on you all the time, as well. *For instance, I took a nap today after reading a bit of the book, and when I woke up, I had forgotten that anything was ever wrong. It was as if all the emotional disquietude I've been through in the past few months just evaporated.* This book has taught me an important concept: *you are both directly and indirectly responsible for everything that you feel, and that you must accept reality before anything else.* Experience the emotion, remember it, let it go. It sounds like a lot of psychological horseshit, I know, but I know they can't be wrong. How is this? They tell stories in there about failed relationships and insecurities, and guess whose they described? To a tee, my entire relationship problem in three pages, why I feel the way I do, how I react to it, what I should do against it. The main problem I have, and the thing that it described that made me believe it, was its illustration of the want of the depressed subject to want others to change, or to want themselves to change, or their situation. Whatever the case, they want changes which they cannot have, and thus are more depressed against it. It was then they went into accepting reality and such as being the first step, and then making choices and acting on them, creating a vision of a goal and then making the necessary steps to get there. And if you ever get depressed again, they have a ton of thing to do to get yourself out of it and back on track. I can't believe I could ever even consider the subject material within as relevant, ever. I would usually think of it as brain discoloring shrink jargon, but for some reason, this book makes things so easy to understand. And since I have about three people in line to read

it already, you can tell how much I've been talking about it elsewhere. Strangely, the best book I've read in years.

Belief

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God, Between Times is sukh a great song. It reminds me of rain, and I view rain as quite sakred. I would post the lyriks if they could convey the intensity of this song, but I don't think I kould do anything to give it justice. Just go download, I'll pay you to download it...ok not really. But you just have to hear it, at least the intro. This song is starting to skare me. Yet again, I'm going to go upstairs and listen to it and try to memorize the lyriks. They're really hard on this one. I mean, I got A Dead Poem about the first day I listened to it, and Sorrowful Farewell the first time I read the lyriks. The rest of the songs are pretty unimportant lyrikally...well, ok, Glory of Sadness ...and there's also the opening lines to Khronos whikh sound only too terribly kool: "Origin of time / The fak(c)e of old flesh / Devours the earth / My feet and brain"...what does it mean, NOTHING, why is it kool, BECAUSE IT IS. the word "flesh" is awesome as is, they should replake the word "skin" with "flesh" permanately and for all uses. The guitars and drums in Rotting Khrist are actually pretty amazing work. The drummer is just inkredible. He's primarily a "machine gun drummer (of course, first heard in reference to Rotting Khrist)", but just to hear that level of ability...inkredible. And the fact that guitarist/singer Sakis sings and plays with songs like Glory of Sadness , Lex Talionis , Coronation of the Serpent , Exiled Ark(c)hangels ...they're all really pretty fast. The bassist pretty mukh does what the guitars do, which is nonetheless outstanding. And then there's the lead, whikh is both melodikal and fast. What a kombo...now sometimes it's more melodikal, but what's the differenke ? How kould I ever kome to love this band with its demon shrieking singer and mishmash musik? Heh, "mishmash" is a kool word, too.

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An ineffible hunger. I didn't eat today, and when I began as such, it was as if I was a starved prisoner of war for some years, I could not be filled to capacity. Later, of course, my stomach will discourse upon that matter, but as for now, my appetite is only more whetted with each passing bite. Today is March the second, and outside lurks a cold, dark abyssia, grinning its orai grin on a mass of powerless souls, such a puissant species, with so little power nonetheless. We are devoured by our insolence, have we no idea that this bitter and unending frost is of our creation? Two-hundred years ago, at this very spot, did the frostbitten winter months ever last this long? Nay, this cold is birthed by the womb of industrialization, a sadly necessary function of the new age of man, the man that does not think and has his machines think for him, the man that has forsaken love and home for his love of the world, to the embrace of nothingness, to that which shall never transcend the bonds of time, he gives himself to wasted causes, to countries, he serves the greater good, which is, of course, no good at all, because it is an idea, because society and government are ideas, and as such are powerless to the quaking gods of existence and time, of space and energy, the creations of man are illusion, and we are dust and shadows. It is a strange fate to have hold of such power and to be so powerless, in the end. What is after death? Judgment? And what, then, happened to your worldly concerns? Is it not, that they vanished in a puff of smoke? Is that not the glory of death, the end of life, the end of the painful and trying realm of mortality? The darkness of these endless nights with their lopsided, hellish grins

are beginning to consume all of us by the night, as during the day the clouds enveloped not only sky but spirit, it saw so many upon the verge of personal destruction, it saw us a glum and powerless race, a mighty fire cut short in a great rain, only the rain took substance, and still the fire died. And all of this, just a reflection of the morosity I have seen around me, the sorrow self-imposed by the seasons that have left us to be eaten by carrion death and dismay. I watch it and see the sins of the fathers and mothers imposed on their young, simply by the fact that sin is let to exist in the world, and there is no greater pain than watching that which is ourselves to writhe in torments so much greater than ours. The sins take such wonderful guises and times to take us, but they have. Sin, the black blooded vein that flows straight down our family trees and branches into all of us. For this to go on much longer, as I have seen it. God help us all.