

FAKE NEWS UPDATE

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"Week19 - Wednesday"

August 7, 2019 - "It's Hard to Have Faith"

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PERENNIAL

The Fake News Update is brought to you in part by... well, I guess by paperwork. Listen when I shipped off to Brother Hank's End Time Circus - and clown college - I thought I was gonna be head over feet in juggling, balloonery, and scarves up m'sleeves, but now that I have been folded into the center ring of Brother Hank's End Time Circus, I find myself buried in paperwork! I thought being the Right Hand to the Right Clown would grant me audience with Moroth, The Clown God, himself - and with children all over the world -

Oh, uhhh hang on a second - Brother Hank needs another check - uh, it looks like this is once more a job for Brother Pennies, the Elder Check-writing Clown.

Oh, Paperwork!

ANAHITA

A Pennies "saved" is a Pennies BURNED. How new-age religion is bleeding boy-anchors dry. With all the news you never knew you needed and all the news you needed to know, I'm Anahita Ardashi -

PERENNIAL

And I'm Brother Pe - wait! Was that about me? -

Hang on, Brother Hank needs another check. Another job for ole Pen Pen -

ANAHITA

Perennial, how is this sustainable?

PERENNIAL

Anahita, how many times do I have to explain this to you? The Clown God Moroth looks down upon us with his bright shiny yellow eyes and protects us from the forces that would do us harm. Now, for infinite payments of \$19.95 we can earn our salvation when the end times come and we can sit beside Moroth in the great big big top circus in the sky -

Hang on - Oh, I gotta take this. Hello? Hi, Brother Hank... No - no, the - the ham sandwiches are on their way... I - I told you, I have a day job. I don't - ...Well, what do you think pays for the checks that Brother Pennies writes?! No, I - I know money is a construct but Moroth is so hungry for the stuff! Ok, just tell the gang we got some Sunny D's and some Sunny Teas - my homemade brand of backwash Sunny D's with herbs - it's in the unplugged frigidaire. Yes, I know... I know, electricity is evil. Ok. Praise to Moroth. You too. Love you. Forget I said that. Okay. Bye-bye.

Ya know, Anahita, it's hard to have faith. I go through this world and I get stuck in my ruts and I just want to believe that there's more to it, you know. I want to believe that all of this has a point. When the people we love leave us behind, I want to know that I'll get to see them again. Otherwise, how cruel it is to taste this brief existence with all its joy and splendor - its pain even - what a gift it is to be alive - to have true friends like you, Anahita.

ANAHITA

I feel the same, Perennial.

PERENNIAL

You know, at the end of the day I think we're all just chasing certainty. And maybe certainty is impossible because of our own human failings. But I think, for me, the risk of believing fully in something and being wrong is much more worthwhile than smugly going through life believing in nothing and falling into a pattern of apathy.

ANAHITA

But what of *this* life. If we're only living for a potential what's-after then are we spitting this gift existence in the face? Should we not be living fully *now*? For me, I am lucky enough to travel the world and meet so many different kinds of people - so many systems of belief. And that, to me, is divine. *That* is my god. My belief. I envy your ability to trust in the unseen. Sometimes I feel myself unlucky to not have that ability. I am so tied to this life of mine. I wish I could just summon faith such as yours -

PERENNIAL

Anahita, we've never talked about God before. In all our years.

ANAHITA

Do you need to get that?

PERENNIAL

No. I'd rather be here. With you.

Do you wanna go get lunch? Or maybe go to a museum and a movie?

ANAHITA

I would like that.

JOHN IN THE BOOTH

Uh, Fake News Update is brought to you by KLMNOP and Spoke Media. Thank you for listening. And until next time, we'll be FNU.

PERENNIAL'S VOICEMAIL

Hi there - it's P-Dawg Perennial Eschner's Phone Memo Service - just kidding, it's a voicemail - but who pays for the voice stamps - hahaha - just kidding - leave your message after the beep - BEEP - just kidding!

BROTHER HANK

Hi Brother Pennies, you haven't been answering my calls. The family is concerned and we wanted to make sure you're okay. So I think I'll swing by the studio tomorrow to check in on ya. I hope you're well. Praise Moroth.