

New Testament - Book One

AND it came to pass that in the reign of Trickius Dickus a proclamation was issued throughout the land, commanding that all men of youthful years be registered into a great Lottery so as to determine which among them would march with the Legion; and a great nervousness came upon them, for as it is written, "many were called but few were wild about the idea". But some were not called, amongst them the lame, the decrepit, and the college students. And so it was that certain of the Children of Inyokern, seekers of knowledge and deferment, did migrate from their tribal homeland in the High Desert toward the sea and came to dwell in the Land of the Lemon. NOW in those days the world had become an hectic and unhappy place, for men had strayed from the Way of the Bird and no longer performed the ancient Rituals and Lawn Sports; and Badminton had all but vanished from the land. And yet these Students were light of heart, for graduation was but a cloud in the distance; and they were full of the Love of Life, and of Lucky Lager. And the Bird looked down upon them, and saw within them the ancient Spirit of Badminton, as well as a startling variety of euphoric substances; and the Bird was greatly pleased, and said unto Himself (after quickly looking around to see if anyone was watching), "Upon this Flock I shall build my Church."

AND, Lo!, the Bird did appear unto them in the form of a Badminton set, well-worn so as not to be recognized; but they grew confused and knew not what they saw, which was not all that unusual for some of them. And so the Bird withdrew from their presence, but He left the set. And on a certain day their eyes became opened to them, and they took up rackets into their hands; and such was their zeal that they did not put them down for many days, and they became as madmen. And they built there a great Arena, which men would call Amphetamine, for it was a place of great acceleration. And they were joined there by certain others, and a great vollying came upon the land. THUS came the First Tourney.

And on that day the skies did open and rain fell upon the Land of the Lemon, yet their spirits were not diminished; for it was a Sign from the Holy Bird that they had the right idea if perhaps the wrong date. And the Bird looked upon it and saw that it was good; and Badminton became thick in the land.