# Attention!!

# **Reflections At Night**

A city at night is shining. A few miles to the west, a car is parked along the side of the road. The radio is playing "A Day In The Life" as a couple of teenagers sit motionless in each others arms, staring up at the night sky.

The sky is still, apart from a single airplane slowly crossing the stars. Aboard is a businessman coming back to town the day after his daughter's seventh birthday. At the airport he stops to pick up a last-minute gift. On his way out he gives a beggar five dollars to ease his guilt as he climbs into his new BMW.

The beggar takes the money and purchases alcohol. Weak and wheezing, he staggers through the inner-city slum district. No one stops

## Judgment

How could I dare to judge another person when my own limited experience allows me to see beyond that person's "front" and see what that that large margin for error which is person must have gone through to present throughout all stages. make them act like this; yet my experience is not possibly enough to show tem is one of the best I have found, I me if I would react the same way under the same circumstances.

victim of another's burden to the point must therefore attempt to live a paswhich I can no longer help either of us. It is therefore logical that I should equal treatment and forgive the find some way to tell the difference wrongs they may inflict on me, for I between a person who is "good" but haven't the right to tell them they are feels as if he were being forced to do "right" or "wrong" or to say that I something "wrong" and a person who would not have done the same thing has given up all trusting faith in other had I been in their position. people and therefore also given up on

Such a person would be viewed by Memories the world's standards as corrupt, and at this point in my life I feel that such a person would be able to overpower me and destroy what faith I have. So then, as I perceive the situation, the only logical means to tell the difference is to control yourself to the point of being able to accurately see what has influenced this person and then simulate this experience in your own mind. This situation much affect you as much as reality would.

As this process is being completed, you must compare your own reactions to those of the other person. Only after this process has been completed can you begin to draw theories about this person's innermost being, keeping in mind that this has in no way been an absolute experiment.

This method has a great many problems; the first being that you must widen your understanding to the point of losing your own innocence. Such a process causes the user to mature and gain experience at an accelerated rate with little actual harm to himself, excludig the burdens he lays on his own

to think he was ever anybody's child. Cold, tired and hungry, he finally passes out in a pile of garbage as voices of anger escape a window somewhere above.

The voices tearing at each other continue well into the night. And like every night before, the children huddle in the other room, trembling and crying. The neighbors close their windows and their minds, then turn

But down below the noise has awoken a baby, who begins to cry. The mother goes to comfort the child. She holds her, rocking back and forth. A child rocking a child. Alone, this seventeen-year-old can not even tell the child who her father is, either of theirs. She begins to cry and dream

Another problem is the large amount of time and the effort it takes 'to know" each person. Invariably there will be some people whom you will simply not have the time or energy to "get to know." Another problem is

Because this often inaccurate susfeel it preposterous to believe that I could judge another person to the de-And yet I must not let myself fall gree of forcing my will upon them. I sive life where I try to give everyone

When I was a child I dreamed of this time. thought it so grand. I thought it so fine. I had great hopes. had great dreams. Now everything ends, Or so it seems These are the memories of futures past. But they cannot stay. And they will not last. Where is the mystery The sweet unknowing Are times forever lost, Or still in the going? Is this why I waited. Or does something lie ahead? try to think. But only babble instead If these are the times That are the best in my life,

Then why should I live With such agony and strife? These Attention!! submissions

were written by Rick Watson, a freshman business major

about a better family, somewhere, away from the streets

In the suburbs the son of the other family attempts to explain He is standing in his bedroom with his girlfriend as his parents fail to believe his story about a "late night study session

His mind is racing back to his childhood. Things were so much easier when he was his little sister's age. His sister is asleep in her room. dreaming of a princess in a far off land who lived happily ever after.

A princess far away cries as she reads the latest headlines about her failing marriage. The storybook wedding turned into a gossip column marriage. John Lennon sang, "I read the news today ... " but did anybody

-924

control room at a full run, pistol

drawn. He was greeted only by the

rainbow of blinking lights. The steady

hum of the ship's engines vibrated the

Damn! he cringed. No wonder this

He disposed of the canister in one

Everything was ready. The sound of

approaching footsteps reached him.

Hiding himself behind a control panel,

he had a nearly unobstructed view of

Zemansky, entered the engine room,

the doors shutting behind behind him.

two grey olfaction sensors standing

straight up. Detecting no odor other

than cleaning fluid, he withdrew his

antennas, and padded over to the

Mixture." He inserted his identicard

switches and turn dials. The panel lit

up; buzzers and bells sounded. The

ship's vibrations grew stronger as the

Zemansky didn't seem to notice the

Thyrobian fired his pistol as he turned,

the broad red beam making a hellish

and began to push buttons, flip

ship's engines gathered power.

panel moving behind him. The

crack as it made contact. A body

"So, the mighty Lieutenant

Fletcher is dead!" he said, laughing

The commander removed the

body's identicard and pistol. Still

the high pitched laugh characteristic of

slammed to the floor.

his type.

He scanned the room, pistol ready, his

engineer's control panel marked "Fuel

clicking of instrumentation and a

floor. He overturned a canister of

cleaning fluid, the smell hitting him

place is always spotless!

the entire compartment.

A Thyrobian, Commander

cabinet and checked another.

swoosh

nstantlu

The pneumatic doors opened with

Lt. Jack Fletcher entered the engine

else? The same mistakes were made today as yesterday.

In a home in the country, a scientist stands in a doorway watching his two children as they sleep. They dream quietly, safe in the warm glow of their nightlight. He, himself, is troubled by his dreams. He wonders if somewhere in Russia another scientist is afraid. like he is.

The sun is coming up over a city. A few miles to the west a car is parked along the side of the road. In the back a couple of teenagers are asleep in each other's arms.

### This Attention!! column was written by R. Sean Dunham, a freshman theater arts major.

smiling, he placed both pistols on an instrument rack, turned, and removed his identicard fro the computer. He placed the stolen card into the slot, and continued his work.

Fletcher stood silently. He brought up his pistol. When he clicked off the safety, Zemansky turned, a stunned look in his optical scanners. He reached for the throwing blade attached to his belt, but his superior reflexes weren't enough

Fletcher fired, the thin, yellowgreen beam emitting a piercing whine above the pulsation of the engines. The beam hit the Thyrobian full in the chest, knocking him backward. His orange lubricant and synthetic bone. spattered the floor and the control panel that he had been working on. The sickening smell of singed flesh reached Fletcher's nostrils as the would-be saboteur slid to the floor. He gazed at Fletcher from the floor, the unbelieving expression still held in his

Fletcher leaned heavily on a control panel. He let out a deep breath, and wiped the sweat from his brow.

Another officer entered the room. She hardly looked at Zemansky's remains. She reached around Fletcher's waist and pulled him close. Fletcher closed his eyes...

A young man laughed. He removed an imaging projector from from his head and grinned at his adversary

"So much for the mighty LL-924, he said, imitating the Thyrobian's voice.

His opponent sighed.

"An automation double in the maintenance panel, huh? Neat trick, very imaginative. Another game?' "You're on. Gotta quarter?"

This Attention!! column was written by Andrew M. Fischbach, a junior bioengineering major

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