
0¹⁹ by Dan Alderson January 26, 1966

RYN #55

Spurred by certain pun-like materials which have appeared recently in APA L, I hereby reproduce one of the Ferdinand Feghoot style puns which were generated by various members of the group of Cal Tech then-undergraduate students known as FAULT [Four (later Five) Arguing Uselessly in Lower Throop] or CHEATS [the Chandler Hall Eating And Talking Society]. This particular example is distinguished by the fact that a person sufficiently versed in Mundane Literature can identify the "punch line". It also helps if one is a member of Frog and Toad Fandom.

-Y

November 5, 1962

THROUGH (SPACE, TIME) WITH XOUYCONBLE Y. ZNACHONGIS
Part I

It seems that around midterms week of the Fall term of 1962, some students began to disappear from the campus [of the California Institute of Technology] for no apparent reason. Further research indicated that these students had been turned into trolls and had disappeared into the depths of the steam tunnels. At first it was naturally thought that this was simply a result of midterms, but the trollification rate continued to increase after midterm week and began to alarm the administration ("Where will next year's funds come from?").

At this time X.Y.Z., who was conveniently on campus at the time, began his investigation. After a little exploring, and extensive studying of back issues of D.C. comic journals, he found the source of the problem. The trolls had gotten control of some transmission cables in one of the buildings [the W. M. Keck Engineering Laboratories building], formerly used to transmit signals from steam detection apparatus in the steam tunnel to an oscilloscope on the roof. The cables were now no longer used for this ("Who cares to sit on the roof observing the steam in the tunnel, anyhow?"), so the trolls had connected their own machines to the lower end of the cable, and an antenna to the upper end. Turning on the machine† caused a powerful troll-ray to be propagated about the campus, gradually causing students to be turned into trolls (or to "troll out", using the technical term). Once turned into a troll, a person naturally had to run for the nearest tunnel.

The time had come for action, so X.Y.Z. called on his friend George P. Egroeg, a freshman. After X.Y.Z. explained the situation, Egroeg cried out "shchaczam" and was turned by a bolt of magic lightning into a tead superhero, Superaxe (pronounced "SOOP-eraxe"). "Shall I chop down the whole building, or shall I just go in and clean out all the trolls (i.e. troll out the tunnels)?" asked the Axe of Steel.

X.Y.Z. rejected both of these plans, the first being unnecessarily destructive and the second being harmful to trolls which might be changeable back into students. Cutting one of the cables would be sufficient to not only stop the troll-ray but also cause the machine below to explode and temporarily stun the trolls until the police came. So X.Y.Z. gave Superaxe the following order:

"Break a Keck ex-coax. Go, Axe!"

† A detailed circuit diagram of this machine will be supplied on request, for anyone daring enough to go down into the steam tunnels and ask the Troll King for one.

-Roger C. Hill

RKY #55

018 by Dan Alderson January 20, 1968

Sourced by certain pun-like materials which have appeared recently in AFA's
I hereby reproduce one of the Ferdinand Leghoo style puns which were generated
by various members of the group of Cal Tech then-undergraduate students known as
TAVU (later living in the house known as "The House of the Future" or "The
Hall of Fame and Learning Society"). This particular example is distinguished by the
fact that a person sufficiently versed in Mandarin literature can identify the "punch
line". It also helps if one is a member of Frog and Toad "band".

November 2, 1967
THROUGH (SPACE, TIME) WITH KUYOSUKE Y. SHIBASAMA
Part I

It seems that around midweek of the Fall term of 1967, some students
began to disappear from the campus (of the California Institute of Technology)
for no apparent reason. Further research indicated that these students had been
rushed into troils and had disappeared into the depths of the steam tunnels. At
first it was naturally thought that this was simply a result of midterms, but
the troilization rate continued to increase after midweek and began to
alarm the administration ("where will next year's funds come from?").

At this time Y.S. who was conveniently on campus at the time, began his
investigation. After a little exploring, and extensive studying of back issues
of D.C. Combs journals, he found the source of the problem. The troils had
gotten control of some transmission cables in one of the buildings (the W. M. Keck
Engineering Laboratory building), formerly used to transmit signals from steam
detection apparatus in the steam tunnel to an oscilloscope on the roof. The cables
were now being used for this ("who cares to sit on the roof observing the
steam in the tunnel anyway?"), so the troils had connected their own machines
to the lower end of the cables, and an antenna to the upper end. Turning on the
machines caused the troil-ray to be propagated about the campus, gradually
causing students to be turned into troils (or to "troil out", using the technical
term). Once turned into a troil, a person naturally had to run for the nearest
tunnel.

The time had come for action, so X.Y.Z. called on his friend George F. Groves,
a freshman. After X.Y.Z. explained the situation, Groves cried out "shockman"
and was turned by a bolt of magic lightning into a head supervisor, supervisor (pro-
nounced "SOOP-ex-ax"), "Shall I chop down the whole building, or shall I just go
in and clean out all the troils (i.e. troil out the tunnels)?" asked the Axe of Steel.
X.Y.Z. rejected both of these plans, the first being unnecessarily destructive
and the second being harmful to troils which might be changeable back into students.
Getting one of the cables would be sufficient to not only stop the troil-ray but
also cause the machine below to explode and temporarily stun the troils until the
police came. So X.Y.Z. gave supervisor the following order:
"Break a Keck ex-coax (to, Axe)"

A detailed circuit diagram of this machine will be supplied on request, for
anyone daring enough to go down into the steam tunnels and ask the Troil King for one.

Roger C. Hill