

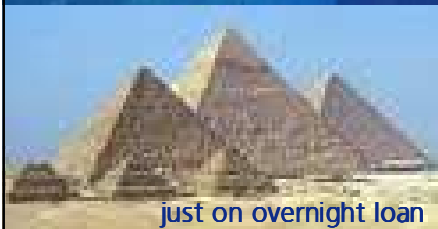
The Overachievers' Birthday Party and Quarterly Planning Session



today's
marriage
proposals
8 - 8:15 a.m.



this is from charles and
camilla. i think it's
bimini



just on overnight loan

So how do you like the cake? Nothing's as tasty, is it, as baked goods made with fresh grain from one's own personal backyard wheat field and flour mill.

Great news! I "tweaked" my schedule just a bit so that I can start working with you full time. No, I didn't mind, much, giving up my U.N. ambassadorship and my seat on the President's Commission to Rewrite the U.S. Tax Code in Just Six Days. I'd already planned to bow out of the title role in *Carmen* on Broadway. Really, someone else should get a chance at the Tony. *Time* magazine has a team flying in for the Woman of the Year photo shoot so I don't have to travel to Egypt. Yeah, they're going to reconstruct the actual pyramid out by the gazebo. No, honey, we don't get to KEEP it. You'll just have to build your own.

Dilby Floogle Hither & Yon wants you to start tomorrow... Did you find out if they'd come up with a job title for you? EMPEROR? Hmm. Well, Heather Hither and I agree you should have more college experience before you take the... um... crown, so I made a few phone calls today and nailed down full professorships at Brown, Stanford, and M.I.T., though I couldn't get you Department Head at Brown because you have to be fluent in Mandarin, and I didn't — oh, you are? You did? Well, good, then. Brown will be quite pleased.

Looking ahead to fall, you're booked for the World Series. You can either (A) perform the national anthem or (B) play third base. Or (C) both. The trouble with (B) and (C) is, hey, there goes your summer. Oh, of course I didn't cancel Joe's urgent consult with you! I just had to reschedule. No, I didn't book your room at the Vatican; His Holiness is coming to you. Quite under the radar, you understand.

Now, since you'll be playing the whole season, I ran the odds on probable World Series contenders. The Royals are a shoo-in if YOU pitch AND play third base. Yes, simultaneously. Bud's fine with that and he's BEGGED you to pretty-please do Murphy's knee surgery this week and work with him on his speed; then the Mets can use him at shortstop.

Oh, we're running a bit low on GOLD so I've had seven tons of LEAD delivered to the Alchemy Lab. By Saturday? Great! Thanks for coordinating with Fort Knox. Sure, you can pay for a cup of coffee with a gold brick, but it's hell getting change.

Here's next week's schedule: You'll be on *Oprah*, *Leno*, *Ellen*, *Letterman*, and the *Today* show with the President, the First Lady, and the family of nine you rescued from the flaming Toyota. The *Today* show people still want you desperately for the anchor job.

I said, look, if he [meaning you] had been tied down like that last year, who would have arranged for all the weapons in Afghanistan to be melted down for the huge "Angel of Peace" sculpture? (By the way, did you know it has your face?) I admit I was skeptical about your Terrorist-to-Hair-Stylist scheme, but it honestly seems as though every woman from Kabul to Nob Hill is sporting a Talibun (and freshening her breath with your patented Haliban), and the Muslim women are simply refusing to hide their lovely locks and

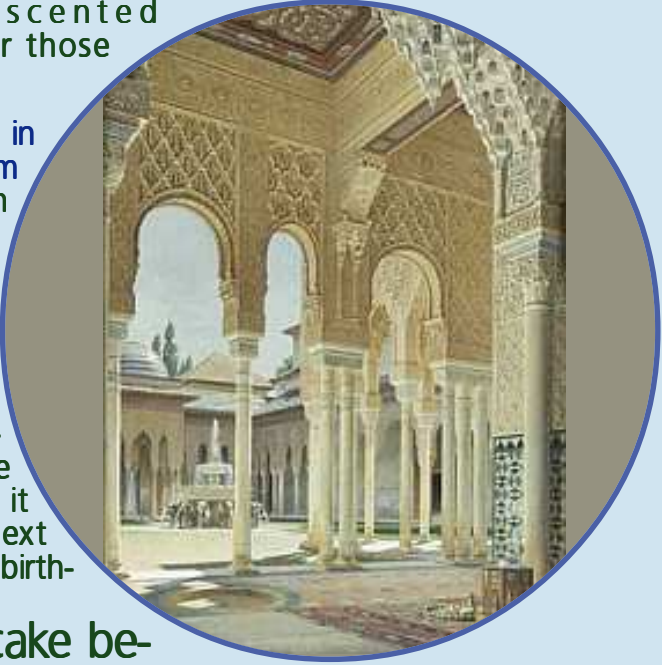
continued...



...plenty of space for a little birthday soirée

cinnamon-scented mouths under those veils.

There's a note in your folder from King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia. The royal family and the



people of Spain and Granada are so grateful to you for your complete restoration of the Alhambra over the weekend using only a Swiss Army knife that it (the palace) is yours as a lifetime gift, along with a staff of five hundred. In the unlikely event that you should ever die, it reverts to the United Nations. The presentation is next week, and the king and queen are hosting a belated-birthday soirée for you.

So... got time for another piece of cake before the Crips-Bloods Family Choir and Orchestra rehearsal? This is the last one, isn't it, before you leave with them for the International Nursing-Home Tour?

CONCERTGOERS, below and center column

TOP RIGHT: King Juan Carlos I (second from right) and Queen Sophia (left) with President and Mrs. Reagan at the White House, 1981. BOTTOM: Pope Benedict XVI

