

Bio

Listen.

There is a story my people tell of a boy, Ira of the clan Nayman, no older than eight turnings of the sun, who decided to devote his life to writing comedy. So, he did. Over fifty years passed like water through a snake, and what did the boy, now a man (ostensibly; I mean, chronologically if in no other way; why don't we give him the benefit of the doubt?), see when he looked over his life?

Ira of the clan Nayman had had seven humorous science fiction novels published by Elsewhen Press, the most recent being *Bad Actors: The Multiverse Refugees Trilogy: Second Pi in the Face*. His eighth novel, the final work in the trilogy, was at his publisher and expected to be released the following year. The novels told of the adventures of people who worked at the Transdimensional Authority, the organization that monitored and policed travel between dimensions, as well as people who worked at the Time Agency, which served the same function for time travel.

Casting his gaze towards the east of his bookshelf, Ira of the clan Nayman could see the fourteen self-published books of his Alternate Reality News Service series. The Alternate Reality News Service sends reporters into other dimensions and has them report on what they find there; it had been described by one reader as “a science fiction version of *The Onion*.” Five of the books were collections of news, reviews, interviews and anything else you might expect to find in your daily newspaper, including obituaries (because people in alternate universes die, too). Two of the books were collections of humorous science fiction advice columns. Five of the books contained reports from a universe where the United States of Vesampucceri was the world's leading idiotocracy, which, as you might guess, was rule by the stupidest people. The final two books, *Idiotocracy for Dummies* and *Advanced Idiotocracy for Dummies*, were omnibus volumes containing the complete text of the five Vesampucceri books with original introductory material.

The bookshelf to the east was made up of some of the anthologies to which Ira of the clan Nayman had sold short stories, some twenty in total. Two spaces were reserved for forthcoming publications: “Message Found in a Variable Temporality Appliance” (in *Shapers of Worlds II*) and “Goddess Given Advice” (in *Dreaming the Goddess*).

In recent memory, Ira of the Clan Nayman was also the editor of *Amazing Stories* magazine, the publication that arguably began the science fiction genre. In the geography of his bookshelf, copies of the magazine and special books put out by the same company which he edited are central.

Ira of the Clan Nayman was the winner of the 2010 Jonathan Swift Satire Writing contest.

In the first week of September, 2022, *Les Pages aux Folles*, Ira of clan Nayman's web site of social and political satire, will be twenty years old. At that point, it will have been updated for 1,040 consecutive weeks; it will be made up of thirty-eight books, approximately 3,500 individual pieces of writing, over two million words, including the complete texts of the twelve Alternate Reality news Service books. (It also features nine books of cartoons.) It may be the longest running satirical web site run by a single person on the internet.

He likes to point out that before he was a prose geek, Ira of clan Nayman was a script geek. A short film based on one of his original TV series, *The Love Box*, about a family that lives over and runs the

biggest porn store in the world, was produced in 2007. During this period, he was a regular contributor of non-fiction articles to *Creative Screenwriting* magazine.

In what feels like another life, Ira of clan Nayman has a BFA from York University, an MFA from the New School for Social Research and a PhD from McGill University. His area of research was how new technologies affected the telling of stories. He taught part-time for five years in the New Media program of X University.

One or two days a week, Ira of clan Nayman acts as a legal observer at social justice protests around Toronto, where he lives. In his spare time, Ira of clan Nayman enjoys imagining what he would do if he had any spare time. Perhaps he would have the time to look back over the accomplishments of his life. Those who tell this story have differing interpretations of how it ends...