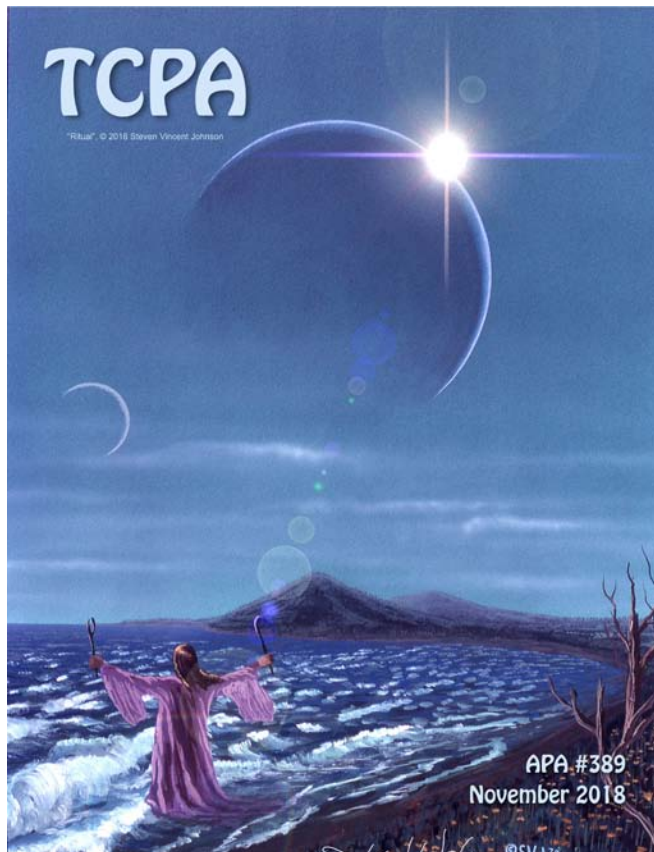


OrionWorks Sonova Quark

Brought to you by Steven Vincent Johnson and Darlene P. Coltrain, mailing address: 6666 Odana Road, #213, Madison, WI 53719. Email Steve: orionworks@charter.net. Email Darlene: dpcoltrain@gmail.com Web: <http://OrionWorks.com>. All material is Copyrighted © by Steven Vincent Johnson and Darlene P. Coltrain unless otherwise specified. Quark is brought to you by *OrionWorks* with occasional help from **Grasshopper Press** when I feel an inspirational mood overtake me. Final layout is assembled in InDesign CS5. Printing done on a HP Color Laserjet Pro MFP M277dw. Some might be asking how do you pronounce "Sonova Quark"? There isn't one.

This edition was created for *Turbo Charged Party Animal*, #389.
Completed somewhere around November 21, 2018

This Month's Front Cover



Ritual, © 2018 Steven Vincent Johnson

"Ritual" was a 15"x20" acrylic painting I churned out in 1979. It was sold at the X-Con art show a few months later. If memory serves me, selling the painting covered most of my hotel and con expenses. It was a working vacation of sorts. The turbo cover has been digitally re-mastered. Most notably, it includes a lens sun flare not in the original work.

Or

This Months Back Cover



Dr. Arthur Jampolsky

TCPA

STEVE JOHNSON PRODUCTIONS, #389

An Eastern concept known as karma occasionally brings about ethically ambiguous life-lessons. There exists an eastern belief which implies that someone's disabilities and hardships are due to karmic debts acquired in some past life. They suffer now in order to "pay off" a karmic debt accrued in a past-life. The point being, don't get entangled in another person's karmic "debt." You could end up accruing unwanted karmic debt of your own doing by interfering with another person's karmic debt.

I was born with a genetic disability known as strabismus, what is prosaically known as cross-eyes. By the age of three both of my eyes were turning inwards, noticeably so. Not only do cross-eyed people look they are constantly staring at their nose, they tend to look perpetually stupid.

My parents were part of America's affluent mid 20th century middle class. There was no question that they would seek the miracle of modern medicine to avert a genetic hardship I was on track to endure for the rest of my life. I was born into a society where I had access to a famous eye surgeon, Dr. Arthur Jampolsky, a world-renown surgeon and scientist known for his contributions to ophthalmology, specifically strabismus and binocular vision. Dr. Jampolsky performed two eye operations on me. The first operation was done at the age of four. The second, around the age of eight. After the second operation was completed the good doctor had me perform a bunch of boring eye exercises which helped coordinate my ocular muscles, forcing them to work together. Now that I'm in my 60s I still occasionally see double, particularly when I'm fatigued. But as far as my strabismus goes, I never had to endure that particular karma. I was never in a position to tell my parents to please leave my inherited strabismus karma alone. I was never in a position to say that if had been born with strabismus there must have been some karmic reason for it.

On second thought, screw my inherited karmic strabismus debt! Thank you, mommy and daddy. Thank you, Dr. Jampolsky, for performing your world renowned skills on me. I prefer to ponder what kind of karmic debt I would accrue if I don't make an effort to help those who are in no position to help themselves.

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Producing the back-cover was more challenging than the front. For some strange reason, the "A", in the reversed-imaged TCPA logo refused to print. I converted the recalcitrant text into vectored curves. That got the "A" back. But when I applied the shadow drop there was a light grey background when printed. The light gray didn't show up on my monitor screen. I converted everything into a raw 300 dpi bit map object. That did the trick. In my experience, printing documents is not always a straight forward process. One learns to live with these idiosyncrasies.

Or

Mail Bag

Comments are a tad brief due to life and pending holiday activities. I just want to say thank-you to many of you for all your complements to prior contributions submitted over the past year.

REDACTED

Or

Final Comment

I hope everyone had a pleasant Thanksgiving. We must now prepare ourselves for holiday cheer and a thankful ending to 2018. It's on to 2019, a brave new year where a majority of democrats are once again in control of the House. Why, Mr. Trump, is that a brand new one-piece orange suit I see pressed carefully and gift-wrapped, winking at you under the White House tree? I bet they got your size conversing with one of your former lawyers.

- steve & darlene

Or

John Dowd, former Trump lawyer flipping the bird to pesky reporters

