ROARSHOCK PAGE

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Supplemental Number 1 | San Francisco | February 2, 2022

One hundred years ago on February 2, 1922, the book ULYSSES by James Joyce was first published by Sylvia Beach of Shakespeare and Company, Paris. The publication date was, not coincidentally, Joyce's 40th birthday. The novel is generally considered by critics one of the most important works of "modernist literature." A century later, whatever the literature we write today might be called, the occasion seems like an auspicious one for the surprise return of ROARSHOCK PAGE in a new supplemental edition. It must also be said that at the conclusion of regular publication in December 2020, that was also the end of year one of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Two years into this plague and the end still not in sight (approaching, if not already over, 6 million people dead around the world from the disease), but 2022 brings much more hope based on acquired knowledge and practical wisdom. Stay safe and pay attention to scientific consensus, practice good hygiene and general common sense. The more people do that, the fewer problems this troubled world will know. Fingers crossed. Knock wood. So. Greetings and thank you for being here, Readers. Gung Hay Fat Choy as we also celebrate the Lunar New Year on February 1. This is the Year of the Water Tiger.

The Year of the Tiger associates with Earthly Branch symbol 寅.

Water associates with color black, Venus and the moon, with night or the north, with winter and cold weather.

"Never marry a Cork man. Your mother did." ~ John Joyce (advice to his daughters)

JOHN JAMESON & SON

John Jameson & Son
Irish waters of the Liffey
As I stumbled drunk
Down the hill
From the tower
To cross the streets
Of Dublin
A place I've never been
And never pass a pub
There I saw my brother lover
All alone and with no other
I told an old joke
Of whiskey and mirth
And he quite nearly fell
Off of his bar stool
Sawdust on the floor
Of course
The river and the whiskey
Flowed to all the town
And throughout the land
Like a star dew drop woman
Shimmering with countless gems
We rolled with her
In the meadow
New morning grass
My friend had a smoke
And I turned to writing books
Fathers and sons
Drinking together
And every single
And blended
Grandfather
Distilled in Ireland
Like some of my favorite ancestors
The keen things
Seen in the woods
Stones marking the road
Of course

(continues…)

Playing checkers
Happy laughter
Red cheeks every evening
My friends
The old boys
Keep telling each other
The same story
From their childhoods
And always standing by
Their own saintly
And drunken mother
I am telling you
It was enough
To drive me to solitude
Exile and cunning
Even though
I always turn up
Again at the pub.

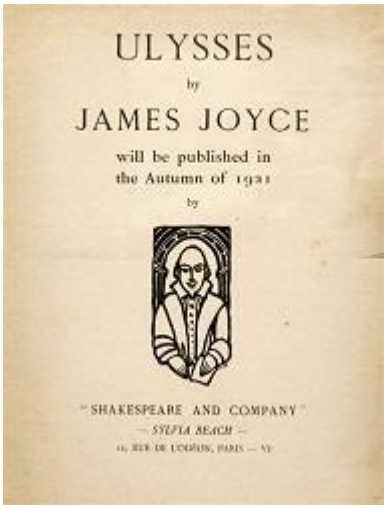
— D. A. Wilson

[Bow Street Distillery, Dublin, Established 1780]

"God made whiskey to prevent the Irish from ruling the earth." (Graffiti in the light booth @ Gill Theater, University of San Francisco, circa 1985.)

"God is perfect. Man is not. Man made whiskey. God made pot." (Graffiti on Haight Street, San Francisco, circa 1987)

"The pun is the highest form of humor." — James Joyce (attributed)



YOUNG DESIRE

The very young lady
Fires me up.
Such a relationship
Could be hard.
But I can't get beyond
The desire.

— D. A. Wilson

ALMANAC 2021

01/06	The United States Capitol was attacked by supporters of President Donald Trump.
01/15	Global death toll from the COVID-19 pandemic passed at least 2 million.
01/20	Joe Biden inaugurated 46th US President.
01/28	Bernie Sanders' inauguration mittens raised $1.8 million for Vermont charities.
02/01	Myanmar military coup d'état resulted in countrywide demonstrations.
02/19	The United States officially rejoined the Paris Climate Accords.
03/02	Six books by Dr. Seuss were canceled.
04/19	Raúl Castro resigned as First Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party.
07/09	Death Valley, CA temperature reached 130 degrees F (54.4 C).
07/11	Richard Branson travelled to the edge of space onboard Virgin Galactic Unity 22, first suborbital flight as private enterprise.
07/15	Roarshock featured at Point Arena, CA Virtual Third Thursday reading.
09/20	First edition of FRANKENSTEIN (1818) by Mary Shelley sold for $1.17 million.
10/03	Pandora Papers investigation revealed the secret wealth of 30 world leaders.
10/12	Roarshock's second featured reading at Spoken World Online.
10/13	William Shatner flew to sub-orbital space on Blue Origin NS-18.
11/01	Global death toll from the COVID-19 pandemic passed at least 5 million.
11/18	Longest partial lunar eclipse since 1440, for 3 hours, 28 minutes and 23 seconds.
11/30	Josephine Baker placed in honor at Paris' Panthéon.
12/07	Roarshock read live with 1429 Poets group on Haight Street, San Francisco.
12/25	James Webb Space Telescope launched.

http://roarshock.net/almanac.html

ROARSHOCK PAGE, Supplemental Number 2 will be almost sure to arrive on February 22, 2022.

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