



No Vampire - a series of disturbing interviews
Graham Parke

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Visit me on the web at:

www.grahamparke.com

My debut novel, **No Hope for Gomez!** can now be found on Amazon:

It's the age-old tale:

Boy meets girl.

Boy stalks girl.

Girl already has a stalker.

Boy becomes her stalker-stalker.

We've seen it all before, many times, but this time it's different. If only slightly...

Interview #1

Today we have with us Graham Parke, author of 'No Hope for Gomez!' Mr. Parke, my editor tells me that you've written a book that doesn't feature a single vampire. Surely this is a miscommunication?

No, that's entirely correct.

So, what you're actually saying is, you've written a self-help book.

No, it's fiction. It just doesn't have any vampires.

I'm not sure I understand. Are you telling us it doesn't actually have a story?

There is a story, it's just a story about people who are, each and every one of them, not vampires.

So, there are no action scenes, then, and no semi-erotic entanglements?

There are. Just not with vampires.

I have to say, that's extraordinary. How did you come up with such an original concept?

It just came to me one day. I wrote it down and it worked. Readers have been very supportive so far.

Did you write the story first, and then take out all the vampires?

No. There were no vampires. Ever. Right from the first draft, it was entirely vampire-less.

Amazing. Now, while I applaud your originality on some level, I have to ask; who on earth do you intend to sell this to? Don't you know that readers want vampires?

There's nothing wrong with the occasional vampire, but I think there are still readers out there who enjoy a good tale, even if it doesn't have

any. Also, readers who enjoy vampire stories might not want to read All vampires, All the time. Sometimes, I suspect, they'll take a break. That's where 'No Hope for Gomez!' comes in.

Could you tell us something more about the book? For example, how many wizards are there and are they still in high school?

Look, I can't stress this enough: No Hope for Gomez! has no wizards, no vampires, no world-weary wise cracking detectives, and no nihilistic characters complaining lengthily about subjects they supposedly don't care about.

You are not making a lot of sense right now. Please tell me, weren't you tempted to put in just one vampire? A little one? Somewhere at the end maybe?

No. The story really didn't need any.

I'm so sorry, Graham, I have to cut this interview short. You are obviously delusional and I'm going to make sure you get proper medical attention. Don't worry, though, we'll help you get through this!

Interview #2

Welcome back, Mr. Parke. I hope you're feeling a little better today?

I feel drowsy...

That's probably for the best. It means the medication is working. Do you feel we can continue the interview now?

I really don't feel well.

That's entirely natural. The last time we spoke, you were going to tell us more about your novel. I for one, would like to know about dwarves and elves. How well are they represented in your novel and what do they signify to you?

Why am I tied down?

It's for your own protection. Now, if you could just try to concentrate. Most authors see dwarves as minor characters, with one obvious exception of course. How do you view this? Are dwarves doomed to play substandard roles in literature from now on?

Who are you?

Mr. Parke, please! Let's just get through this, okay? I have a life to get back to. Stop playing dumb and stop drooling all over my pad! Now, let's examine some quotes from your novel 'No Hope for Gomez!' Maybe you can talk us through them.

"Mathematicians finally developed a financial model to accurately compare apples and oranges. Any two kinds of fruit can be compared, although guavas still cause minor rounding errors. Further investigation is ongoing."

"Instead of heading for the big mental breakdown, I decided to have a little one, every Tuesday evening."

"It felt weird visiting Dr. Hargrove at the clinic. A bit like French kissing an old lady; all the right moves, but in totally the wrong places."

A very obvious lack of dwarves here, which some might say is a sure sign of substandard writing. Do you have any comments?

I just... the room... it's spinning so fast...

Maybe a few more quotes will help rouse your brain;

"The stalker, meanwhile, stepped into the road. Didn't even check for traffic. There wasn't any, but something told me this was lucky for traffic rather than the stalker."

"I shouted the perfect words to scare him off. It was just the delivery (and only the delivery) that made me sound like a twelve-year-old girl with pee running down her leg.

I felt dirty and stupid."

"Women are attracted to men who play hard to get. That can't be right, can it? Looking back over my life, I've played hard to get almost continuously. I'd ignored women intensely (to the point of being a danger to them in traffic). I've ignored them because I assumed I didn't stand a chance."

Some very good places here for a vampire or two. Yet, you chose to leave these scenes curiously vampire-less. Were you just building up tension? Making the readers wait for the vampires?

Please... just *kill* me..

I can see we're not going to get anywhere today, Mr. Parke. I'll have the nurse come by and increase your medication. I'll be back tomorrow.

To better understand how this author became so riddled with abnormalities, we have obtained one of his old blog posts. Study it at your peril.

[April 2010 — www.grahamparke.com]

I may not like a lot about myself, but I do happen to believe I have great toes. They are extremely shapely; not too long, not too fat, and with good, solid joints. In fact, I'm seriously considering leaving them to science.

I can almost envision enthused scientists, decades from now, marveling over my generosity and my shapeliness of toes:

Scientist #1: "This just came in... "

Scientist #2: "What's that? It looks like a... bag of toes?"

Scientist #1: "It is. Apparently Graham thought you might, eh, want to take a look."

Scientist #2: "And then?"

Scientist #1: "Well, he didn't really specify."

Scientist #2: "Are you serious?"

Scientist #1: "Yes..."

Scientist #2: "You're bringing me a jiffy bag full of toes?"

Scientist #1: "That's how they came in."

Scientist #2: "Are they even sterilized? There's blood all over the place! And what are those, are those candy wrappers?"

Scientist #1: "The toes are individually wrapped, yes."

Scientist #2: "Oh man... what's going on here?"

Scientist #1: "Apparently, he cut them off himself. Just before he passed away. Had a courier rush them over. Asked for you specifically."

Scientist #2: "He cut off his toes *himself*?"

Scientist #1: "Wouldn't trust anyone else to do it. Said you'd understand."

Scientist #2: "What?"

Scientist #1: "As soon as you'd take a look, you'd understand. Look, I don't like this any more than you do, but, well, the guy did cut off his *toes* for you. Least you can do is take a look, right?"

Scientist #2: "I'm not touching those candy wrappers. In fact, I don't think I'll ever eat candy again!"

Scientist #1: "I can unwrap them, I suppose, but you'll owe me lunch."

Scientist #2: "Fine..."

Scientist #1: "For a month."

Scientist #2: "Okay, okay. Let's just get this over with!"

Scientist #1: "Here we go. Here's the first one."

Scientist #2: "Don't hand that thing to me, just put it down over there somewhere. No! Damnit, man! Wash the blood off first!"

Scientist #1: "Fine! Here you go, all nice and clean. And here comes the second one..."

Scientist #2: "Say..."

Scientist #1: "Here's the third. What? Why are you looking at me like that?"

Scientist #2: "Who else saw these toes come in?"

Scientist #1: "What do you mean? No one. Just me."

Scientist #2: "You sure?"

Scientist #1: "Sure I'm sure. For some reason, no-one was interested in a bag of bloody toes, believe me. And stop looking at me like that..."

Scientist #2: "These here are some very, very nice toes."

Scientist #1: "Well, now I've cleaned them off, they don't look half bad, no."

Scientist #2: "Are there any tests we can perform? I mean, anything we specifically need toes for instead of, say, fingers?"

Scientist #1: "No, not really. Don't really need toes. Usually we just throw them out."

Scientist #2: "Any amputees on the waiting list, people who need toes?"

Scientist #1: "Nope, already checked."

Scientist #2: "I won't say anything if you won't..."

Scientist #1: "About what? What are you doing? What's that saw for?"

Scientist #2: "I'm keeping these toes, man. They're so much better than mine. Here, take this syringe, put me under, then swap my toes. We can be done before lunch!"

Scientist #1: "You're crazy if you think I'm even going to consider doing that!"

Scientist #2: "Come on!"

Scientist #1: "No way!"

Scientist #2: "I'll finally be able to wear sandals in public, get all the girls I want, look down admiringly in the shower! Don't take that away from me. Not when I'm so close. Here, take the damn syringe!"

Scientist #1: “No freaking way! First off all, the toes haven’t even been tested yet. Secondly, according to my estimations, at least half of them toes are mine!”

Scientist #2: “What?”

Scientist #1: “You heard me!”

Scientist #2: “They were given to me specifically, didn’t you just say that a minute ago? Graham asked for me specifically?”

Scientist #1: “Yeah, well, all I’m saying is, if you want to keep these toes out of the system, you’d better give me half.”

Scientist #2: “Fine. Have it your way. Half a set of magnificent toes is better than none, I suppose. But how are we going to do this?”

Scientist #1: “I’ll do you, then you do me. We can be done before dinner.”

Scientist #2: “No, I mean, who gets what?”

Scientist #1: “I’ll take the left toes, you take the right toes. My left foot has always been my favorite anyway. Hell of a soccer kick. We have to separate the toes carefully, though. Don’t want to muck up my balance.”

Scientist #2: “Really? That’s your plan? You’re such a moron! I was thinking more along the lines of alternating the toes. You know, every other toe. Three on one foot, two on the other?”

Scientist #1: “Why make it so complicated?”

Scientist #2: “Just think, man! We could end up with two beautiful feet, each! These toes are so fine, they’ll easily overshadow our own toes. No one will ever notice them again! They’ll just see Graham’s toes and go; Aahh...”

Scientist #1: “That’s insane!”

Scientist #2: “And...?”

Scientist #1: “And it might just work! Okay, lay back, here we go!”

Please check back here as more interviews will be added regularly. We'll rouse Mr. Parke from time to time in order to gain insight into his disturbed mind. What moves a man, in a world so wrought with vampires and wizards, to shun natural convention? To distance himself from society and its rules?

No Hope for Gomez!

(available from Amazon)

It's the age-old tale:

Boy meets girl.

Boy stalks girl.

Girl already has a stalker.

Boy becomes her stalker-stalker.

We've seen it all before, many times, but this time it's different. If only slightly.

When Gomez Porter becomes a test subject in an experimental drug trial, he is asked to keep track of any strange experiences through a blog. What Gomez isn't ready for, is so many of his experiences suddenly seeming strange; the antiques dealer trying to buy his old tax papers, the phone-sex salesman who hounds him day and night, the super sexy research assistant who falls for him but is unable to express herself in terms outside the realm of science.

But when one of the trial participants turns up dead and another goes missing, Gomez begins to fear for his life. No longer sure who he can trust and which of his experiences are real and which merely drug induced delusions, he decides it's time to go underground and work out a devious plan.

Now, years later, his blogs have been recovered from a defunct server. For the first time we can find out firsthand what happened to Gomez as he takes us on a wild ride of discovery.

Oh yeah, and there's also a nurse with big boobs!

Reviews:

“Extremely witty and clever writing that contains keen insights into human nature.” — California Chronicle

“A quick and unputdownable read that flies in the face of reason, and smashes against the wall of detective novels. It's a Coens Brothers' film formatted in book form.” — Book Review

“The antics in this book will leave the reader laughing. Graham Parke is a genius.” — Readers Favorite

“A very funny book; a veritable page turner of nonstop laughs. Buy a copy and find out for yourself!” — Reader Views

From the same author on Feedbacks

No Hope for Gomez - Chapter One (2010)

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Unspent Time - Omnibus [p] (2012)

Warning: reading this eBook may make you more attractive and elevate your random luck by 9%

(These statements have not been evaluated by anyone of consequence)

From the award winning author of 'No Hope for Gomez!' comes a collection of 20 impossible tales. Permeating the cracks between the past and the present is the realm of Unspent Time. Pockets of 'should have been's and 'might have happened's. Time that was allotted but never spent. In this realm we find the stories that could have been true.



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Food for the mind