

AN INTERVIEW WITH JOHN MILLER

By: The Myth Master

Greetings to all you that thirst for the blood of those un-lucky enough to find their way into my dungeon! As always I invite you all to join me, Kevin 'Myth Master' Adams as I delve into the very core of human torture. All for the sake of a good interview, after all what is one person's drama if not another person's entertainment?

Today we shall go all out with something that has never been done in the history of the world.

Dueling electric chairs!

I will give my victim, author and Book Review columnist John Miller, my custom leather-backed chair, while I will cuddle up with 'Ol' Sparky.' I mean, after all, this is 'my' dungeon. Here is how it will work, when I ask a question I get a shock and when John answers, he will get one too. Our chair voltage will increase until one of us ends up as a smoking husk of burned flesh.

Oh how I love the promise of certain death! Let us begin!

Myth Master: Tell us what you do for a living.

John Miller: I work in a factory, operating hoists which lift 2-3 ton engines. I lift them from a conveyer and set them on skids. It is by far the most enjoyable job I've had. They call me Hit Man for two reasons: I resemble the main character in the video game of the same name (ouch, these questions are starting to hurt); and 2) I never miss. I used to work in retail management, but my hours kept increasing because I was salary and they cut the employees' hours, so I ended up working 70-80 hrs per wk. When I no longer saw my kids, I knew it was time for a career change.

MM: Spirituality?

JM: That is a private matter for me usually... Ouch!

MM: Whaddya mean ouch? We're only up to 5,000 volts... woo hoo! gimme moooooore!

JM: I believe in God. I used to preach in churches, Mennonite and Assembly of God. I lost my way, got involved in other spiritual practices, dated a witch, had a powerful dose of Nietzsche philosophy (which still influences me), and came to the conclusion that people who pray to God are the happiest people on the face of the Earth. I pray nightly with my children but haven't made it back to church on a regular basis.

MM: What originally inspired you to create (writing/art...etc)?

JM: I have always been creative. I used to LOVE to draw. When I was little I had comic book action figures and enacted stories with them. When I became older I played roleplaying games, my favorite *Mage: the Ascension* by White Wolf, sometimes crossing over into *Vampire: the Masquerade*. The emphasis of the game was the *story*, and it influences me today, crafting my ability to tell a story. I became good at simple rudimentary tales and started writing at a web community (www.xanga.com). I wrote about everything for years, from philosophy to spiritual pieces to stories and poems. No matter what happened, I just kept writing until this day. I know I'll be writing until the day I die.

MM: Coolest thing that has ever happened to you? (You get bonus points if it is creepy)

JM: Well, since it HAS to be creepy... hmmm. When I was little I had nightmares while awake. I was about 2 or 3 yrs old. I talked about this particular nightmare for years, and my older brother teased me about it. The Evil Eye. It was about a foot tall and two feet wide, floated around following me wherever I went. I remember it to this day hovering in the doorway of my bedroom, blocking the exit, just looking at me, and me screaming, "It's the Evil Eye and it's gonna' get me!"

Ouch. This is starting to hurt. But, wait? Wasn't that answer cool? Not so much? Uh, Myth Master, you're smoking literally.

MM: Woo-hoo! Three questions in a row! I think you may have shorted out the chairs! Do go on!

JM: The coolest thing for me by far (other than my kids) is getting published and helping others to publish their work. We're all in this together: writers, readers, editors, and artists. It's a heck of a small world and I think we should keep it that way. Besides, when you help someone else you're helping yourself and bettering the world.

MM: That's odd, all the electricity from your chair has been cut off while mine spirals wildly out of control. Yesss!! What a wonderful way to go baby!! See you all on the other side – woohooooo!!!

JM: Uh, Myth Master, are you all right? Can someone get me out of this chair? Heeeeellpp!!!

* Note to all The World of Myth readers: Due to the untimely demise of our resident Myth Master we are un-able to further continue this interview. However, it seems as if we have just had a spot open up in our lovely state-of-the-art torture room facility. We regret the loss of one of our own and are currently accepting applications for the position of this interview column. Even though his charred body has been fused to the electric chair, we know that the Myth Master will always be with us in spirit.*