

## Assorted Reader Responses

**Collected from 1999 to present. References are to all writings and apply to GRACK!, Horse Fly columns, Farr Site, previously published ebooks, and BUFFALO LIGHTS: Maryland to New Mexico. All quotations verbatim and unsolicited; updated frequently, in no particular order.**

I really like your photos and your writing, but it's the simple honesty that emanates from the combination that talks to me.

Thank you. This Grack was very personal, and that made it extra-special. I'm glad I took a break to read it. Made me want to tune up the ol' 12-string, but I've got people counting on me. Back to work now

You might have skipped a week....but the wait was worth it....you got me with that one.....the pics tugged at my heart too. (I love that place)

Beautiful words, sir. I've not felt so good for you lately, as you (quite understandably) have been railing at the current state of things in this fair land (our land, dammit!), but this Grack! was lyrical.

I choked up, too, during that song you sang....when you said YOU had choked up. I KNEW you were going to say that. Beautiful...

Perhaps the most beautiful piece you've posted in a year or more - I floated away on the images. Thanks for brightening my evening with your inspired view of the World!

In a moment, I was out of my sterile office in rainy Belgium and walking around in New Mexico. It was, in a word, wonderful ... I guess what I'm trying to say is thank you. Thank you for reminding me of the wonderful things, great and small, that make life worth living.

I sometimes wish I knew more of the history of the places you hike to, visit and live but in the end the experiences you share in your writings are complete and wonderful ... Your writing has been a gift to me and I just wanted to tell you so after enjoying your work for so many months. Thanks for writing and please know there are many more of folks like me out there who wait every week for a new pieces and then reread them over and over soaking in the words and sharing in your lessons.

A wonderful GRACK!, this one. Made my day. You're a treasure, you are.

Thank you for writing about things that matter ...

Compelling reading (two of them read for the second or maybe third time ... and they lost nothing in the rereading. "'Easter in the Wilderness' is particularly powerful."

You've touched my heart again....without turmoil our souls do not have a chance to grow. And we all must grow in our own time at our own speed...beautifully written, beautifully expressed!

I find your candor and emotion quite refreshing...

Beautifully written Mr. Farr.

Your 'Gift of Memory' was quite exquisite.

...really enjoy your style.

... your stories are warm, thought provoking, honest, not to mention well written (not one it's instead of its, not one you're instead of your). I devour them, they inspire me and give me hope, and remind me of things past and future. Your stories are so much more than your words on the page, the telling of the story. Your stories take me off into mindscapes of my own which relate. Dear and sweet cherished memories, and times of humiliation and self-flagellation which I should forget, but which keep me humble.

Never told you that I finished your book or that I loved it. Or that I've been raving about it to anyone who'll listen! Well, I have.I'm sending a check for 2 more copies since I've printed up one to give away and I expect to do another.

BTW, thank you for your many articles. While I don't always agree, rightly or wrongly, they always make me think which is always a great pleasure.

Just some appreciation for your trailblazing blogging/writing/photography efforts. Thanks!

Just wanted to express my appreciation for and enjoyment of your Grack columns.

This was prompted by "Sagebrush Saga", an absolute delight. I'm a refugee from the Silicon Valley now living in the wilds of southwestern Montana and appreciate your love for where you are... Thanks for the great writing.

Yes! Well said. Clear, lucid, gets the point across so well. I wish I'd written that. I'll steal it.

So I guess what I'm trying to tell you rather long-windedly is "thanks for showing me that there still IS critical journalism in the States."

Just wanted to tell you how much I enjoy your writings and photos.

I admire your Nov. 30 posting very much and thank you for the efforts you put forth in getting your thoughts up and available...Good luck and you have created an admirer of your writings.

Just read your latest and have only 1 word: a-fucking-men.

While I normally don't give a rat's ass about political messages in a Mac or technical forum, I have to say "nicely said".

Just started reading your column and really like it.

Wow, what a column! I know the feeling well! I feel your pain...BRAVO!

Since I'm already at the keyboard let me just tell you that I very much appreciate what you are doing! It's because of your Farr Site articles (remember "Mary's Mac"?) that I became a regular reader of Applelinks and that's not bound to change soon. You have given me and certainly a lot of other people a lot to smile about and on other occasions a lot to think about. Thanks for that!

Great use of this medium. Thanks for including me.

Just wanted to let you know how much I have enjoyed your "new" Farr Site. I think you are really hitting your stride there. I'm looking forward to your new column (love the name), but I for one have really enjoyed your New Mexico pieces and your spectacular photos (including the cat). You certainly live in an awesome place. I especially appreciate your welcome reminders that real life does not revolve around computers, however much we may love our Macs. Keep up the great work -- I think you're the best Mac writer on the net.

Say it ain't so. My beloved Farr Site soon to be dumped? Where else can I go to find that I'm not the only one who sees things, feels things, and also works on the internet. Damn, John, I'm going to get lonely again.

Just a line to let you know I have read you column for some time and look forward to each new one. I especially enjoy the wonderful pictures marvelously spaced among the text.

Love your stuff.

Keep'em comin, I like your writin.

I very much enjoy reading your columns. I quite often print out your column before I read it.

As a writer, I hope you know how much your writing can uplift and even inspire your readers. It certainly does for me. And I think you also have a real gift with your photography - I guess it's much the same as your writing skills, that is, the ability to observe... So, thanks! And keep it up, please!

I just finished reading your column "What it is" and, I deeply appreciated what you wrote. I've been following your articles for a long time and I'd really miss it if ever you should decide to stop... If ever you should move your Farr Column anywhere else, or even decide to stop talking about computers in order to start writing about the growth of alfalfa plants, please leave your address behind, your affectionate readers will follow, at least I will ... I know it's not important, but that's all - I - can do or say.

Please keep letting your readers, including me, know when we're wrong. Most of us can take it. And those who can't, so be it.

Another funny as hell article from the Farr man! Kudos for your continued good work.

You are a wonderful person. Thank you for the contrast and perspective you provide, and the life you share. I'm not exaggerating when I say your columns (rather, the worldview you express through them) regularly restore my faith in humanity and the universe. It's good to know I'm not alone in thought.

Just wanted to let you know how much I enjoy your writing, both the Farr Site and your news articles on Applelinks. You are a true original. I've loved reading about your new life in the West. I almost always find myself agreeing with your opinions, and your heart always seems to be in the right place. Besides, no other writer I read every day makes me smile the way you do. Keep up the good work and thanks for being you.

Great writing and thinking. Stay with it! Hey who needs to eat?

Long live the iconoclast, curmudgeon, hypercritic!

Love your column! I been checking in every few days for the past few months and have really enjoyed your writing and your beautiful photographs. Keep up the great work on the column as I'm sure there are many people like myself that totally enjoy what you do and write about.

Just gotta tell you, I *\*always\** enjoy the heck outta your columns on Applelinks and MacAddict! Your own voice comes through sooo well in your stuff. That's what I tell my students to strive for in their writing.

I enjoy your columns and your take on the "news" of the day. I hope you keep it coming for a long time.

Just wanted to let you know how much I enjoy your writing about both Macs and especially the New Mexico flavor you add to your pieces.

My prayers are answered! Here is one who makes an entertaining column that transcends those that have gone before! I check the MacAddict web site every day. Every other Friday, I am rewarded with a fine literary work by one person who has a finger on the pulse of the Mac community. I know that when I return home from work, my trusty G3 will be waiting for me, and that it will always be this way, because of the intellectual passion of people like Mr. John Farr. I thoroughly enjoy your column. I hope that you will continue to write for MacAddict for a long time to come.

The rattlesnake column...what can I say?It seems the more emotionally coiled you get, the better you write... just like all the 'greats'...Seriously: sometimes you're spellbinding.

Every time I come across a column of yours, I know I will have less lines across

my face.

You & I have been conversing off and on since I first found the Farr Site a couple years ago, and we've had a certain commonality of thought about Life, The Universe, and Everything, but I just had to tell you you've really outdone yourself this time! Your newest WebFaust absolutely blew me away! I got a lump in my throat reading that last paragraph about the unmarked grave. I reread those two paragraphs three times over. I'm keeping this one in the archives!

You've outdone yourself. Nothing like some minimally abstracted satire to get a point across, and your piece on the Eat-em-Good Cookie company was brilliant. Thanks for a wonderfully enlightening farce.

I sure like your work.

I read your latest 'gusher' with intense remembrance of things past. My ex-wife is from Council Bluffs and I recall the Intensity of Growing Things pushing upwards and outwards through the still, fecund air. The earth engorging the corn and the cabbages, the spinning clouds of mosquitos whirling in every patch of shade told me I was standing on Terre Incognita and I married into a family and a culture I did not understand as they could not grasp mine... There's just something about those Iowa girls...

I have been an avid Mac user for many years but sadly did not discover your columns until earlier this year (through a link from Macaddict). I have pretty much read every column I can get my browser on since then. Your columns are always so honest and look at life the way I wish everyone did. Simplicity, with a sense of humour and wonder, is sorely lacking in society/culture today. Thank you for writing in such a manner that is so inspirational. Thank you for pointing out and pondering the great mysteries of the world around us. The sense of childlike wonder that you have shown in many columns, as well as the recent column in the responsibility to support and participate even in those things that you personally do not believe in, are only two instances that I find you amazingly phenomenal in expressing. I have a tendency to look for your columns much like a new present that can offer a new perspective on the world. I'm going to stop here before this letter starts sounding psychotic. :) But, I guess more than anything, I would like to thank you for your sense of honesty and responsibility that you bring to the opinionated Web. Thank you for letting me affirm that many of my personal feelings of respect, responsibility, and wonder are not alone in the world. I hope that you will be able to continue to produce these columns for a

long while.

You must know that you are the only writer on the Web currently working this vein of Gonzo-Reality and honest Wonder...the artist who is urging us to see - through the powdery perforations on the Cheeto's outer surface to the gazillions of identical powdery perforations within (If you Meet a Cheeto® on the road...Kill It!) (Presumably, if you meet a CheeTAH on the road, other precepts will apply). You are lucky people - your wife and yourself - to be making this journey/pilgrimage, To find things you did not know were gone. It is an heroic journey and somewhere along the way, your true humility will reappear and you will find yourself weeping at the sheer wonder of El Hacedor's handiwork, vibrant and true which you can see even with eyes closed.

Great column on your inner child. It's a wonder your creativity survived your father, but it did. Enjoy it. You are one of the best columnists around, print or Web.

I think the Farr site is the best web column ever. I really enjoyed reading about your life, John! As an avid reader of great writers and thinkers, it helps to understand a little bit of what went into the life of that writer whose work you cherish. Relevant or not, we love the details. Thanks for sharing this with us!

Your article was thoughtful and enlightening, and it had the glint of real journalism that has been lost by the sensationalists from 60 minutes to our own local news. Keep up the good work.

I really appreciated your column in MacAddict (couldn't find an email address there...). Thanks for making sense and translating into words something that I've dreaded for many years. I've sensed this as a pediatrician but couldn't quite articulate the ugliness of what's happening like you so clearly have.

I love your column. You add a dimension to Mac writing that is so different and enjoyable. You are fantastic.

I hope you're taking names, cuz you just kicked some ass with your latest Farr Site. You're inimitable, m'man.

I literally laughed out loud so hard when I read this page that a coworker 2 cubes over came to see what was up. Brilliant! Keep it up!

Thanks for The Farr Site today. You said more than a mouthful.

John, I enjoyed the article. It was inspiring and thoughtful, with a view to a spirituality that integrates place, things, animals and people. Well done.

I also wanted to let you know that I'm very appreciative of your good writing. It's a great pleasure to be notified that a new column has appeared.

You are now required reading for my INTRO TO COMPUTING and ETHICS OF COMPUTING classes at the new university this coming spring. Waiting for the various students to 'get it' might take a while, but that is OK.

Thank you John! For this wonderfully piquant, honest peek into moving DAZE at the the Farris. We moved a year ago from a 25-year abode and it's clear you speak nothing but truth. How rare, how refreshing, how delightful. I'll take your pieces any day of the week over rhapsodic fandangos among the pies in the skies. No b.s. from you John. I suspect that's why you have so many friends.

Another well written and succinct article and right on target.....I hope that you have the strength and perseverance to continue.

Just between us, I also think that John Farr is the best writer on the Mac Web, and maybe even the entire Internet. He has a unique talent for craft and visualizations, and he has a special ability to write about his personal crusades in an affectionate and appealing .

Keep on preaching! We need what you write.

You probably don't need to hear this from me, but I'll say it anyway. You are doing an absolutely stunning job of covering the iBook. I am blown away. Really. Sincerely.

You, sir, are by Damn, a WRITER. Your work stands out from the scribbling churned out each MacSurfer day by illiterate technogeek children like a 747 sitting on the ramp among Pipers and Cessnas.

I like the way you write, brother.

Man, what a great piece! I LOVED it! NICE work!

John, I do love how you think!

I enjoy your work tremendously.

I have been a fan of your work for the last year or so & your Johnny Internet stories are most intriguing. In fact, your overall style and approach are most engaging.

No deep analysis here: Just my thanks for your soapboxing. It feels great to know there are others out there who share my views, and who can express them so well.

I just wanted to let you know how much I like reading your articles, and I wanted to thank you for writing them...Thanks again, and keep on writing! You're serving a greater good by doing so.

Zippy. Sharp. Entertaining.

Thank you for giving my frantic, electronica-filled Silicon Valley life much-needed moments of tranquility and perspective.

Just a thank you for the straight shooting and the humor. I find your column an absolute gas.

I want to tell you how much your column moved me. If you are strange, then hooray for strangeness.

Never have I heard a more stirring discourse concerning what some people want to do with OUR world! (Yes dammit, OURS. I tend to speak for Nature, arrogant SOB ain't I?) We all need to be spoken to by our world, and it SHOULD scare the shit out of us! <grin> The anguish and pain I hear scar my soul. I can't seem to find the appropriate way to thank you for speaking to the very core of my being. We seem to be of the same mind, soul, path, whatever....

Please, don't ever stop writing. Thank you.

Your new Gonzo masthead is even Gonzier than the last Gonzo masthead. I see The Farr Site as a low-fathead The Real World. All the enjoyment of looking in on a life well-lived, without the pretentious wanker calories.

Thanks so much for bringing warmth and life back to macdom!

The Farr Site.....WOW!!!

Hang in there! To me, you seem to be on the right path. We could all use some of what you've acquired. In the short time I've been reading your weekly writings, I find the absence of the usual techno-babble very refreshing.

Nice essay on the FarrSite. Very spiritual...

Your latest Farr Side was a very fine read indeed. Very much enjoyed it. Thank you for five minutes of joy!

Your latest essay on the modern human condition was superb. All the metaphors and conclusions were right on target.

What a wonderful piece of writing.

John Farr, over at Applelinks, admits he loves his Mac. His analysis of this phenomenon borders on the poetic.

Thanks for so eloquently putting in words just why we are and always will be Mac users.

This one is the best yet. I have read it three times and it keeps getting better.

I have followed your online columns for quite some time now, and I have to say that in all my web travels, I have yet to come across a column as informative and genuinely entertaining as your own.

I read today your 'Redmond Requiem' article, and I was so taken with its eloquence and validity that I thought that I should just drop a brief line to express my appreciation for a sound and well-written, and rather applicable, piece of work.

Just read your article. Yes! YES! YES!! I'm going to keep reading your stuff to remind me there is some truth and beauty left in the world.

I couldn't help but send you a short note relaying my sheer happiness upon reading your column... great work, you've out done yourself

My God Man! What a wonderful array of images. I want to go out and sing joyously among the trees and buy a cartfull of Wall Streets to toss to my disbelieving fellows!

Wow. That was simply the best on-line commentary I have ever read.

Thank you for bring tears to my eyes. I bet the stories from the other side can't say the same -- at least not tears of joy...

What a sweet story you told! Thanks for sharing it. You must be an awful nice guy, too...

Your comments slowly wrap their arms around me...They are perspicacious but deeply emotional without being sappy. I like that.