

# LOST TOYS 8

**Lost Toys 8 and Last.** Call it November first. Although I began writing before the end of October, it is already a week after the current mailing of *TePe* was due ... and that, in fact, has direct bearing on why this is the final issue of **Taral Wayne's** apazine. But first, for the record, I live at 245 Dunn Ave., Apt. 2111, Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1S6 Canada, and this is Kiddelidivee Books & Art 290.

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According to the official matter in the last *TePe*, this mailing was due to be distributed on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is now after midnight and technically the 29<sup>th</sup>, so the mailing is a week late in spite of Arnie's most solemn promises. All seven mailings have been late. Worse, the members are left completely in the dark, being given no explanation for the delay until after the mailing is distributed. There *are* alternatives. Ross Chamberlain lives close to Arnie, as I think do some other members. The entire membership roster is quite small – anyone could mail Arnie's message to the others if Arnie is unable to ... *if* Arnie asked them to. Why hasn't he?

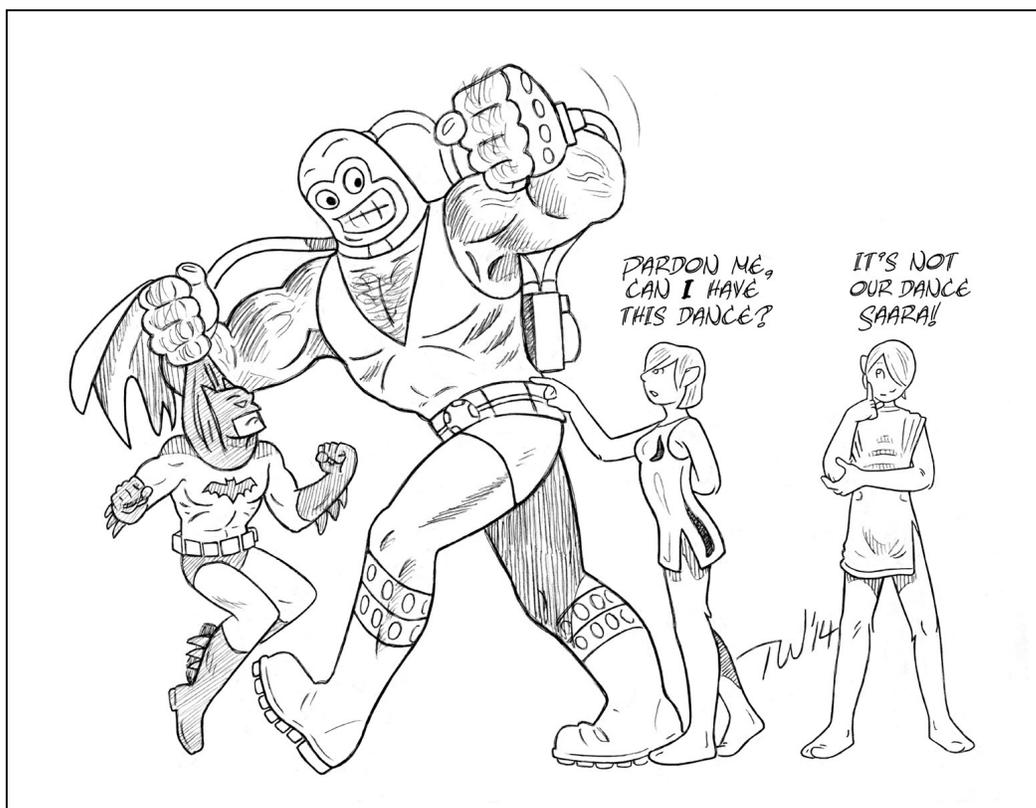
I won't even speculate. We have been told in the past that Arnie and Joyce have had problems with their health, and with their computer system. Indeed, one wonders whether Arnie should not have at least discussed whether the burden of *TePe* shouldn't be transferred to broader shoulders. Arnie must badly want to run this apa. So be it ... but it is time to admit that his determination has not met with much success.

In my last issue, I made a suggestion as to how *TePe* might work around its tardy tendencies. I had hoped the suggestion would appear in time to work a change on the apa. But now that the seventh mailing is late, I realize that there is really no chance of any kind of change this year. Some of the members with whom I keep in touch have also revealed their dissatisfaction with the way things are, and I don't know if they will remain patient for another couple of mailings. I do know that *my own* enthusiasm for *TePe* has been fatally sapped. Due to the delays, and uncertainty that the next mailing will ever come out at all, I no longer find any desire in myself to continue making an effort to contribute to this apa. No promises of better management are going to be enough to make me change my mind.

The other members may well carry on, but I will be surprised if this apa survives the new year.

Perhaps I've been a little too blunt about all this. I want to make it clear that I hope that my friendship with Arnie won't be affected by the kerfuffle over *TePe*. Arnie has shown me much kindness and consideration since we re-connected seven or eight years ago, and I very much want to remain on good terms with him and Joyce. Sometimes though, friends do have fallings-out over one thing or another, and the test is to see whether they can erect a firewall between their falling-out and the rest of their relationship.

I confess, too, that I have been mulling over other reasons to leave *TePe* ... not *just* because of its chronic lateness. While producing *Lost Toys* is not difficult, it has added yet another monthly demand on my time and energy at a time when both are diminishing. Lately, I have unpredictable losses of strength in one of my hands, which interferes with my ability to type. I have to make the best use of those times when I *can* write, and I suspect that an apazine is not a "best use." The membership of *TePe* is so small, also, that it's easy for me to just add the members to my distribution list for *Broken Toys*, and reach all them that way. Apart from the lack of mailing comments, they will be able to follow anything of worth that I might have to say in my personal zine. Instead of making mailing comments to me in *TePe*, they can write a letter of comment for the zine.



Mailing comments? Probably not ...

... Euff! Euff, already!!