

## Call me Taybin

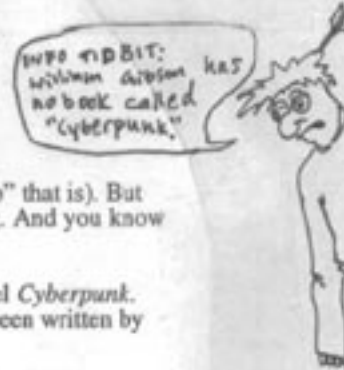
By Taybin Rutkin

My dad wanted to name me Taback, which apparently is the last name of some actor from the '30s. But that means tobacco in German so my mom vetoed it. My dad played with the name and came up with Taybin. Now you know. My sisters who are twins are named Anja and Titian. Anja is a traditional German name. Titian is named after an Italian painter. My mom's name is Sabine. It's pronounced Sabina and Anja is pronounced Anya. Go figure. The kicker is that my dad, from Jewish descent, born in 1946, is named Adolph. His mom didn't want to but her brother made her because apparently it is some Jewish tradition to name the next kid after someone who died and the name Adolph was used. No one calls him that though. They call him Ad. Which got me thinking about how Hitler ruined the name Adolph for everyone. No one can be named that anymore. And his mustache. Maybe would look good with a mustache like that. But, no, thanks to Hitler, I'd look evil. This may not be the content that should be in a newspaper but blame Mac, it was his idea. He even said that he would give me a page. The Page of Taybin. I thought it was kinda neat.

## A General Account of the Fallacy of the Jargon of the Internet (or why the slang makes you sound dumb)

By Taybin Rutkin

- 1) Surf, Surfing: I have no idea where this word came from (in relation to the "World Wide Web" that is). But think about it, it really is a dumb word. Clicking with a mouse is absolutely nothing like surfing. And you know someone is a newbie when they say to you, "I've been surfing the World Wide Web."
- 2) Cyber: This word was *invented* by William Gibson, who used the word in the title of his novel *Cyberpunk*. Whenever you see a newspaper article about cyber-whatever you can pretty much tell that it has been written by someone who does not have very much knowledge of the field.
- 3) Orthogonal: If you use this word you will sound like you know what you're talking about. It is probably the most obscure Computer Science word there is. Thought I'd break the monotony.
- 4) 'Net: This word can go either way. Depends on how you use it.  
BAD: I just programmed a utility in java to help surfing on the cyber 'net.  
GOOD: So y'all got here a heck of an orthogonal 'net here I reckon.  
IRRELEVANT: He is a New Jersey Net.  
Obviously the first guy is a complete moron and the second guy is a complete genius. The third guy is just a very complex typo.
- 5) Java: It's just a programming language. Jeez. Okay, it has some nifty ideas behind it but, still, calm down. Even the hip pseudo-coffee-shop name annoys me. Don't get me started.



### The 24-Hour TIMELINE continued...

12 noon, December 5, 1997 — Zack gets the key, bumps into Prager, works on his paper. Mollie shows up at 12:05 pm and stares at the computer screen for a few hours. Ten minutes later she runs to Wendy's as Sean leaves. More purple than we know what to do with.

1:00 pm — Mad Dog issues a dissertation on spellchecking and people's names. Zack's still working on his paper. Jon shows up. No purple. All set.

1:24 pm — Two people walk by and stare at the weirdos through the windows.