

## What Would Jeebus Do?

a novel by Steve Gillard I'm no missionary, I don't even believe in Jeebus! ... Save me, Jeebus!

- HOMER SIMPSON

(The Simpsons - Episode 15, Season 11 - "Missionary: Impossible")

Jeebus - Variation of "Jesus" first invented by Duke Ellington so as not to be beaten by nuns. Borrowed by Frank Zappa and, from there, by Matt Groening.

(UrbanDictionary.com - Comment by "mavi", August 30, 2007)

Yes, I did remember trashing Rev. Nielsen's suit. I also remember that Rev. Nielsen struck back. Obviously he missed class the day they taught "turn the other cheek" in Seminary. Rev. Nielsen was also a reserve police officer. Somehow, in retrospect, that seems like a conflict of interest. Jesus is all about forgiveness and second chances. I *didn't* miss class the day Mrs. Allenby, our aforementioned Sunday School teacher, told how Jesus' disciples were having a snit storm over the idea that we should just forgive our brother who has screwed us over.

They march over to where Jesus is doing a Q & A after one of his one-man shows and grab a mic.

"Okay, Teacher, how many times do I have to forgive my brother? I mean, my brother is a real asshole. If I just keep giving him another chance, he'll just keep screwing me. In his case he'd probably screw my wife, too. Let's make this really generous and say I forgive him seven times. On the eighth screwover, isn't it time for a little justice to balance all this mercy? How is this dickwad ever going to learn?"

When Mrs. Allenby told a story, she really got into it. She did community theatre, and was pretty proud of her acting chops. She went a little over the top sometimes, and this was one of those times.

She heaves a big sigh, as Jesus, as if he was really tired of answering dumbass questions.

"Listen, Peter, Andrew, John, and the rest of you mooks. Seven is for sissies. I want you to forgive your brother *seventy-times-seven* times. You do the math. And I don't care if your brother screwed both of your sisters, too."

Then she upped the ante with that story where a bunch of scribes and pharisees, the religious rightwingers of their day, hunt down a hooker and drag her in front of Jesus. I think maybe she was caught blowing a married guy. This was adultery times two. If he wasn't married the charge might be reduced to misdemeanor fornication. The penalty for doing the deed with a married man was death by stoning.

These religious douche buckets, who later arranged for Jesus to be crucified, can't wait to get him on the record.

"So, Mr. Messiah, given all this liberal socialist oatmeally-mouthed hoohaw, what do you say we should do with this whore?"

At this point in Mrs. Allenby's line reading, Jeebus is starting to giggle. This is what makes Sunday School worth getting up early for. Mrs. Allenby pauses for effect. We are spellbound, trying to ignore Jeebus, now snorting like a little piglet. Then she sticks her hand out, fingers splayed and quivering.

"Listen, you brood of vipers, I'm all over this. I'm with you. Let's stone her till her skull caves in. One condition: In my courtroom whoever is going to throw rocks has to have a clean rap sheet their own selves. Which one of you snakes qualifies to throw the first rock? Hey, where you going? Yeah, get your sorry asses out of here, you freaking hypocrites."

Then, Jesus turns to the whore.

"Where are your accusers, madam? (*Madam*. Mrs. Allenby liked a good pun.) You know what, I do not condemn you in the slightest. Not a whisper of accusation. Just go find a better way to live, okay? You're better than you believe you are. Just don't do it anymore."

By this time Jeebus is silent. There are tears and snot, but probably from laughing himself into a lather.

Okay, long story to say this: When Rev. Nielsen used his reserve police officer powers to force us to clean all the graffiti off our school building, or face juvenile court prosecution, he was acting like a damn pharisee. You shouldn't be able to stand up there blathering on about Jesus this, and Jesus that, when you're a cop on the side. I still maintain, to this day, it's a conflict of interest.

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