

memo

Tuesday, March 16, 2004

To: The International Karaoke World Championship

From: Last Place

Re: “And some certain significance lurks in all things, else all things are little worth, and the round world itself but an empty cipher, except to sell by the cartload, as they do hills about Boston, to fill up some morass in the Milky Way.”

—Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick*

SOME CERTAIN SIGNIFICANCE:

“‘What do I get for this?’ I said, and the angel gave me a catalog

ALL THINGS ARE LITTLE WORTH:

filled with toasters and clock radios and

BUT AN EMPTY CIPHER:

a basketball signed by Michael Jordan

SOME CERTAIN SIGNIFICANCE:

and I said, ‘But this is just stuff’

ALL THINGS ARE LITTLE WORTH:

and the angel smiled

BUT AN EMPTY CIPHER:

and swallowed me in her arms.

SOME CERTAIN SIGNIFICANCE:

I’m so glad you said that,

ALL THINGS ARE LITTLE WORTH:

she whispered to me.

BUT AN EMPTY CIPHER:

I knew you still had a chance.”

ALL OF THE ABOVE:

—Brian Andreas, *Hearing Voices*¹

¹ Brian Andreas quotation provided by MZ—mad props