

YOU'RE IN A BOXING RING AND YOUR OPPONENT IS THE DEVIL, AND I'M YOUR TRAINER. I WANT YOU TO SHARPEN YOUR FIGHTING SKILLS, AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS THAN AGAINST A TOUGH OPPONENT? THE DEVIL HAS GREAT SKILL IN THE BOXING RING. BUT KNOWING THAT I HAVE ALLOWED HIM TO BE YOUR OPPONENT SHOULD NOT PREVENT YOU FROM PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT, BECAUSE I GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO CREAM HIM. GIVE HIM A GOOD FIGHT THAT HE WON'T FORGET, SO THAT THE NEXT TIME I PUT YOU IN THE BOXING RING TOGETHER, HIS KNEES ARE TREMBLING AND HE'S ALMOST BEGGING ME NOT TO PUT YOU TWO TOGETHER AGAIN, BECAUSE HE KNOWS WHAT A VICIOUS ONSLAUGHT HE'S GOING TO RECEIVE FOR WHATEVER TACTICS HE USES.

THE DEVIL IS A VICIOUS OPPONENT, BECAUSE HE FIGHTS FOR KEEPS. BUT A DIAMOND—IN THIS CASE YOU—CANNOT BE CUT WITH A PIECE OF VELVET, AND EVEN THE ENEMY IS A TOOL IN MY HAND. THESE EXPERIENCES PREPARE YOU FOR TIMES AHEAD WHEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PASS ON THE SKILLS YOU HAVE LEARNED TO OTHERS WHO WILL BE CAUGHT UNAWARES BY THE GROSS DARKNESS THAT WILL OVERCOME THE WORLD. THE TESTS STRENGTHEN YOUR MUSCLES OF FAITH AND PRAYER, YOUR MUSCLES OF PRAISE AND OF HEARING FROM ME.

WHEN YOU START TO FALTER, JUST CALL FOR TIME-OUT AND COME TO MY CORNER. I LOVE TO FIGHT THE ENEMY, AND I LOVE TO TRAIN YOU TO USE THE STRENGTH AND THE WEAPONS I GIVE WITH WISDOM AND AGILITY AND SKILL, SO YOU CAN COMPLETELY DEFEAT HIM.

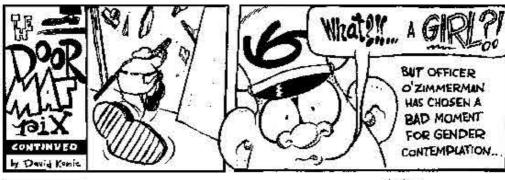
YOU ARE MY CHAMP! YOU'LL GET A FEW BRUISES AND CUTS, BUT THAT SHOULD ONLY MAKE YOU EVEN MORE FIGHTING MAD AGAINST THE ENEMY. IT SHOULD JUST MAKE YOUR BLOOD BOIL, AND YOUR ENTHUSIASM FOR COMING TO ME GROW. AND REMEMBER, THE CROWDS AROUND YOU IN THE SPIRIT WORLD ARE CHEERING FOR YOU, NOT FOR HIM.

SO GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT.



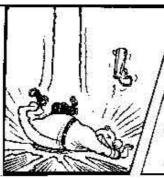
2







DESPITE BEING
TOTALLY ZAPPED,
OFFICER O'MBUTO
PULLS HIMSELF
TOGETHER AND
LANDS WITH
THE INSTINCTIVE
AGILITY OF
A CAT!



HERE, OF COURSE, TO
THE HUNGARIAN HOUSE CAT
WHICH, NO MATTER HOW IT
FAILS, WILL ALWAYS
LAND ON ITS STOMACH.



Xn is for ages 12 and up. Parents or teachers, you may read age-appropriate portions of this mag with younger audiences, at your discretion. If you have submissions for *Xn*, please send them to pubs@wsfamily.com. *Xn* is a nonprofit publication, published free for members. Not to be sold. Copyright © 2002 by the Family. DFO. Cover art by Evye.

NOTABLE QUOTE:

Unless you can create the entire universe in six days, perhaps giving "advice" to God isn't such a good idea



NOT APLE

Standing in the middle of the road is dangerous. You will get knocked down by the traffic from both ways.

TOC

BL ALT	BL	ADE
--------	----	-----

My Boxing Champ	2
A Lily and a Hyena	6
Goldfish Phobias	7
Re-Focus	I9
Check Out That Keyhole	20
Hard to Love	2I
VR Game Center	28

COM I C FEATURE

Welcome 2 the Spiri-Port ______8

TOON FEATURE

Doormatrix _____

LINKUP

Lucina's Class

22



HI ... IT'S LEON. YOU GAVE ME AN ACTIVATED MAG LAST WEEK. CAN YOU





table of contents and ads



A Lily and a Hyena



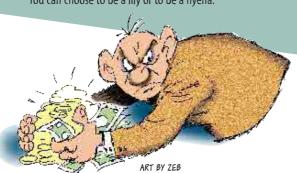
(Jesus:) Consider the lilies. They don't grow their own food, or reap it and gather it into barns. Their entire lives are totally governed by Me. I declare their times and seasons. I send the rain when they need it, and the sun when they need that. And I tell you that not one lily is plucked, not one withers away, except that I know about it and have willed it. And you are worth more than many lilies.

Not one withers away, except that I know about it and have willed it

Now look at the hyena. It is a picture of a creature that doesn't trust Me or depend on Me. It depends on itself, and so its life is a joyless cycle, a never-ending quest for the next meal. When can it enjoy life, or just sit in happy peace, bringing joy to everyone like a lily? It cannot. It cannot rest, it cannot stop, or it will starve.

I created the hyena, and in real life it is merely obeying the instincts I placed within it, like all the other animals in My creation. But I often use My creatures as illustrations of what man becomes like depending upon the path he chooses. This is why in this case I am portraying the hyena like this.

You can choose to be a lily or to be a hyena.





It is a picture
of a creature that
doesn't trust Me or
depend on Me

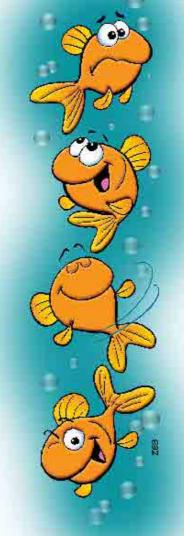
To be a lily means to trust Me for your future—for your life, for your education, for everything. A lily cannot move, so it can only trust that I will not allow it to be stepped on, or crushed or burnt by the sun. It can only trust that I will send the rain in time when it needs it. And if it withers in the summer, it knows that it will bloom again in the spring.

To be a hyena means to trust yourself and to take your life and times into your own hands. It means choosing to run around hither and thither, always on the search for more money, comfort, and happiness. But in the endless search for these things you miss the simple peace of being a lily. A lily just waits upon Me, content in the knowledge that I do all things well.

Choose well. Choose to be a lily arrayed in glory greater than a king's, rather than unhappy animal like the hyena, always scratching and scraping for itself. In the end, the faith of the lily will bring it honor and glory and riches and power, unlike the shame and emptiness of the self-serving hyena.



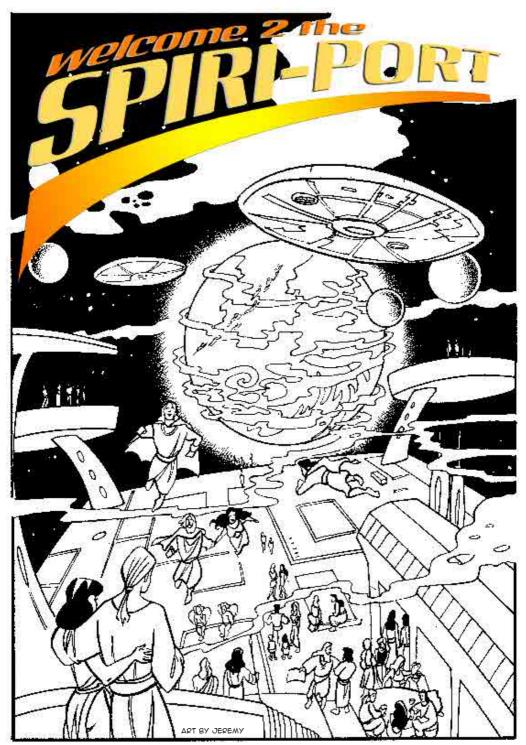




(Jesus:) Do not worry about what I may ask of you in the future, or whether you will be able to handle it. It is not for you to think about those things, for I love you and I am sensitive to your needs, and I will take you along at the pace that I know you can go at. Don't work so hard trying to take a peek around the next bend in the road.

Part of the reason you fear the future is because you don't yet understand how deep and unending My love is for you. Do not worry that My love will run out. You are like a small goldfish in a great river, fearing that it might drink too much water and dry up the river! There is always more of My love. I only ask that you swim in it, revel in it, and enjoy it. Love Me by swimming happily about, having full confidence that My love for you will never dry up. It will never run out.

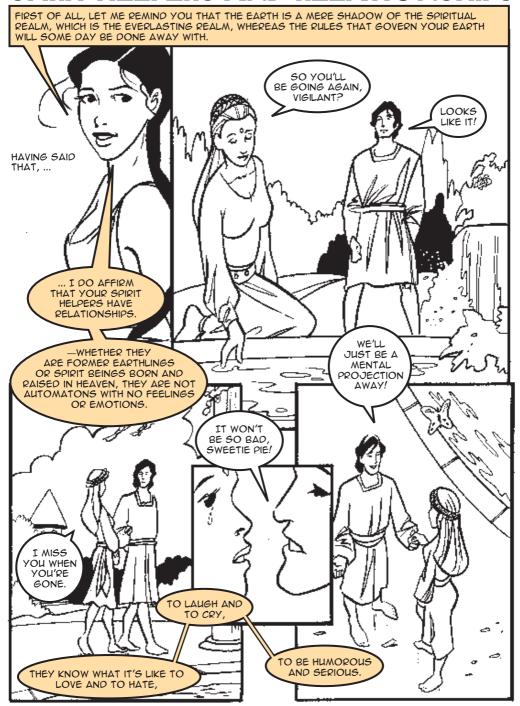
blade 7

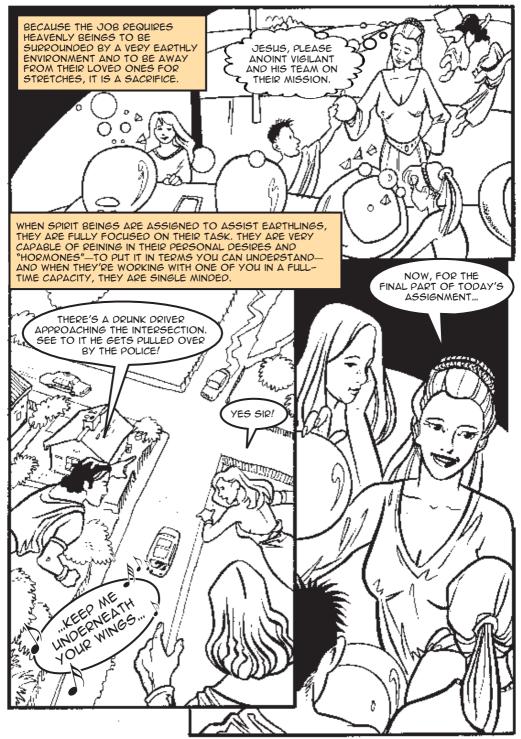






SPIRIT HELPERS AND RELATIONSHIPS



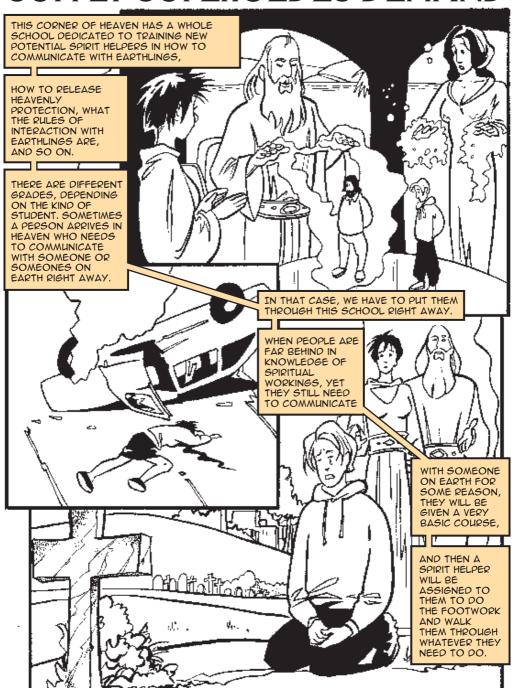




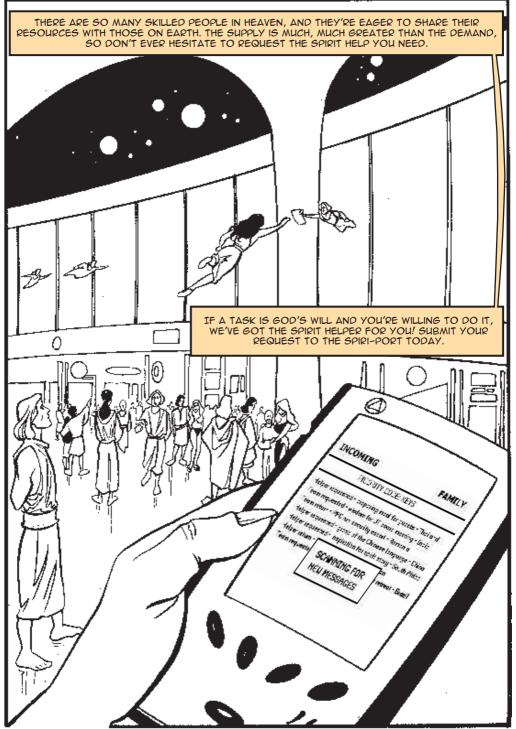




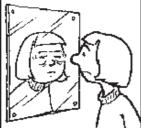
SUPPLY SUPERCEDES DEMAND

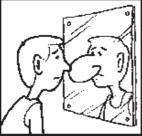


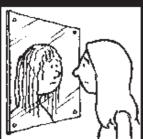
















(JESUS:) WHEN GAZING AT YOURSELF IN THE MIRROR, OR AT OTHER TIMES OF SELF-INSPECTION, YOU CAN TEND TO BLOW THINGS OUT OF PROPORTION.

YOU FEEL OTHERS HAVE IT SO MUCH BETTER IN THE WAY OF LOOKS, OR QUALITIES, OR RESILIENCE, OR PERSONALITY, AND ON AND ON THE LIST GOES. BUT IF YOU WERE TO JUST STEP ASIDE AND LET ME DO THE ANALYZING, AND LET ME TEACH YOU WHAT YOU DO NEED TO CHANGE, THEN YOU'D FEEL MUCH MORE RELAXED. YOU COULD STOP THIS SELF-EFFORT OF TRYING TO MAKE YOURSELF A CERTAIN WAY, AND BEING BLOWN ABOUT WITH THE EVER-CHANGING OPINIONS AND IDEAS OF THOSE IN THE CARNAL-MINDED WORLD AROUND YOU. INSTEAD YOU COULD FOCUS ON WHAT ACTUALLY IS NEEDED, AND THE THINGS YOU NEED TO PROGRESS IN.

JUST GAZE INTO MY FACE, SWEET DEAR. YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL.



Check out

that keyhole

ß

(Jesus:) There are a lot of appealing forms of entertainment in the world

today—things that are fun and get your mind off your problems. The prob-

lem is, many of the world's diversions are things that you have to dirty your spirit to partake of. It's tough to be patient for your rewards in Heaven, when it seems like your peers in the world are cretating their rewards down here on Earth.

This is why I especially bless you who believe now, without seeing. What are you believing? You believe that I'm as wonderful as I say I am, and that Heaven is a cool as I say it is. You believe that if you forego the pleasures of sin for a season—if you avoid immersing your selves in worldly pastimes and time wasters—that you will inherit My Kingdom.

There are cool feelings, scents, sights & sounds in My Kingdom.
There is dancing. There are highs and thrills that nobody on Earth has experienced. But you can get a glimpse of them,

and the closer you come to Me, the clearer your glimpses will become.

I can't let you through the door yet. Your body would have to die for that to happen, and it's not your time yet. But I've

shown you where the keyhole is, and there are sights through that keyhole that will make every sacrifice on this earth worth it!

Sure, it takes a little work. You have to bend down, put your eye up to this little key-shaped crack, and concentrate real hard. It's fuzzy at first, but if you keep at it—by exercising your gift of prophecy regularly—things will get clearer. All of a sudden, you'll forget that you're still stuck on Earth. You'll forget that you're sacrificing anything! Your whole body will feel ripples of heavenly excitement as the wonders you see with your eye spread through your whole body and spirit.

Excitement? Do some people say the world has more of it? Well, they don't know what they're talking about, and they sure haven't seen anything yet!



to



(Jesus:) Throughout your life I have you cross paths with pleasant and compatible people, as a token of

My love to you. I want you to have friends. I want you to find people you can enjoy life with, people you can share laughter and tears with, in true camaraderie.

Then there is the *other* sort of people I allow you to cross paths with: those who are harder to love, less compatible with your personality, and seemingly more self-centered and selfish—even spiteful at times.

You need both, you know, for the personality clashes drive you into My arms. They teach

you deep lessons about loving the unlovely, even the unlovely in personality. They are also tests, to see if you will cast the burdens on Me, or carry them yourself, allowing yourself to become resentful and bitter, and letting such people mar your own spirit.

There is always going to be someone like this in your lifesomeone you just don't jibe with, someone who seems to overlook principles of love and kindness that to you seem so basic. Just come to Me whenever you come across an "HTL"—Hard to Love and I will give you secrets of how to overcome in each situation. I will tell you how to pour out My unconditional love and how to draw them in, even when they don't seem to respond. Even if they don't reciprocate, rest assured that I will, for with every drop of love you squeeze out to others, I pour more of My love into vou.

Thank you for bringing this to Me rather than letting it fester in your heart, for it is a dark seed that could do your soft little heart much damage if allowed to remain and grow. I will pull it out and pour on the healing balm of My love.

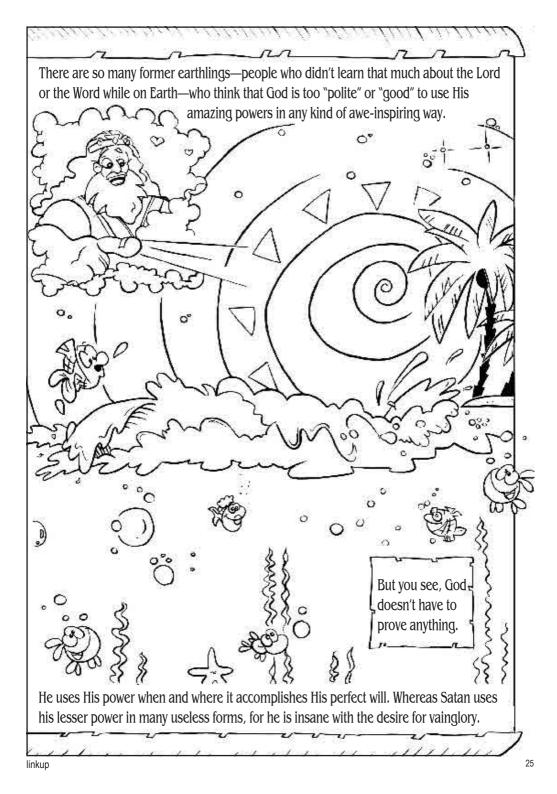


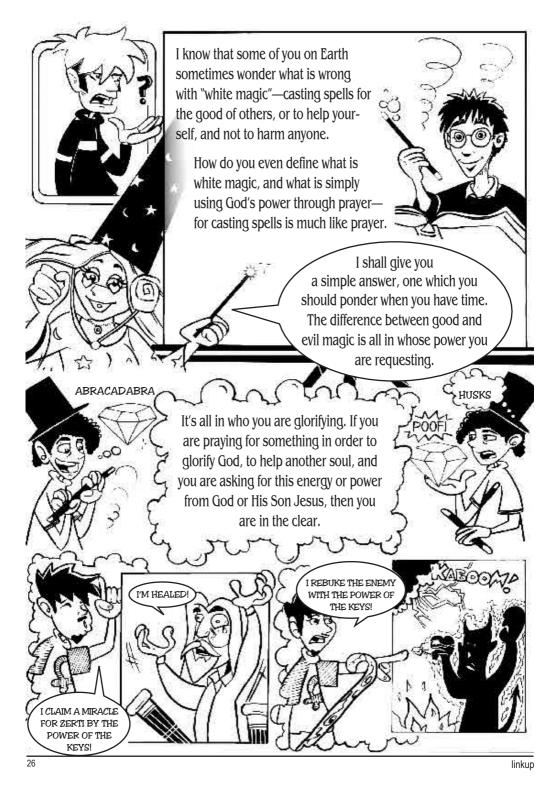
blade 21

















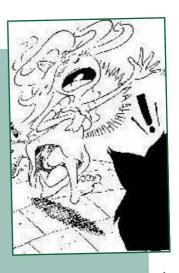
Art by Mike D.

(Jesus:) There are game worlds in Heaven, where you can get "lost" and play out your dreams and fantasies. For example, there's a game center that, to enter, you first go into a special locker room. You can go with a bunch of friends, or else go by yourself and just play with others who are playing.—Thousands of people can be involved in any one game!

Once in this locker room, you enter a private room about the size of a shower stall. There you

look at a screen, and choose what character you want to play. You can browse through and look at all the characters—but most people don't flip through them all, because there are lots. You see the full images of the characters-what they look like, the front, back, their outfits, and so on. Then beside each image is a list of that character's portfolio—who the person is, his name, his history, any friends or family he has, his occupation if he has one, and any special details that you need to know.

Say you pick a medieval setting, and you choose to be a knight whose father disappeared while searching through a mysterious forest for a hidden treasure. When you press the button in your stall that says "Accept," a transformation takes place. You're outfitted in the clothing your "character" is wearing, and not only that, but all of your physical features change to match that character! I'm not kidding! This is disguise and role-playing at its finest. There's a mirror in the stall, so you

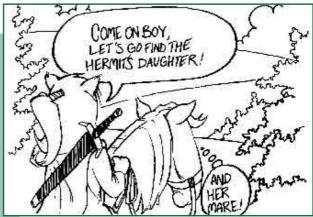


can get used to your new, temporary appearance, before you begin the game.

Once you are transformed, you are then transported in an instant into your character's "world." There you find the remaining belongings—your horse, your money, and so on—and you find yourself in the castle that your character lives in. What's more, you're in mid-sentence with a servant of your castle, telling him

28 blade





that you are finally setting off to explore the forest. You explain to him that you must discover the mystery of your father's disappearance. Even your voice has changed to fit your character!

A beautiful but tearful young woman approaches you, and kisses you passionately. Remembering that your character's portfolio mentioned his young wife, you kiss her passionately back. Now that you're getting warmed up in your role, you reassure her, "Don't worry, darling, I will come back alive, and we will be happier for the knowledge of where and why my father disappeared." Walking from the castle you think to yourself, "Hmmm, nice wife! Maybe I should delay my trip for another

day!" Not to worry. When you finally do reach the center of the forest, you find an old hermit—and his ravishing daughter.

Remember, too, that if your friends joined the same game, they might be playing the roles of the others you're meeting. Of course, their disguises are perfect, just like yours is, and that's the fun of it, that you can enjoy an adventure together without even knowing who's who! Imagine the fun you'll have talking about it afterward! "What? Linda?! You were the hermit's daughter? I thought I knew that kiss."

Well, that's just a little sneak peek. Every sacrifice you're making is worth it for the rewards I have prepared for you Here. Not just everyone gets all the rewards, either. I have special levels of privilege and you who have served Me so faithfully on Earth will have full passes to every fascination imaginable in My realm.







blade/doormatrix 29



EN: WILL THIS BE THE END OF TERNITY? AGENTS
OF
EVIL
DARKNESS



WILL THIS
COMIC-STRIP
COME TO AN
ABRUPT END
BEFORE IT'S
HARPIN EVEN
GOTTEN
STARTED...





1 WILL NOW
STOP MESSING
WITH YOUR HEAD
SO WE CAN
GET BACK TO
THE ACTION



30







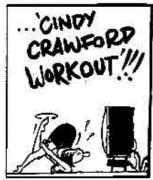


GASP! SHE

KNOWS THE ANCIENT CHINESE MARTIAL ART OF...







BUT OFFICER
O'SUZUKI
HAS CHOSEN
A BAP TIME
FOR
AEROBIC
CONTEMPLATION











Notable Ouote

To forgive is to set the prisoner free, and then discover the prisoner was you.

Notabio Quote

