From Your (wishing my puppy was still here) Editor

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Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

I read with great interest your February issue of ATG, and spent a good deal of time digesting all the articles on the general subject of the death of the book.

As a long time believer in books, lover of same, and even sometime author, I beg to differ with this death sentence.

My reason is quite simple and was found just this past week in the eyes and voice of my four year old granddaughter. On a recent afternoon visit, she was told by her grandmother to “go sit with Grandpa Jack,” which she promptly did. She sat next to me, leaned up to me, and looking up, asked: “Will you read me a book?” I replied “Yes,” and she quickly jumped off the sofa, went to a two-foot pile of kids’ books, picked out the largest of the lot, and returned hugging it to her tiny chest. I remarked, “Well, Alison, this is certainly a big book for such a little girl!” Her only and very quiet reply was: “But it’s MY book, Grandpa Jack.” With that I proceeded to read to her, and each page, while new to me, was well-known to her, to the point of catching me on skipped words and even one whole skipped page, which brought out this rebuke: “Grandpa Jack, you missed a page!”

And so to me, like so many others, including little Alison, the book will never be dead, for there is always true magic in books.

With warm regards,
Jack Walsdorf
<jackjuno@teleport.com>

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