

Author of "The Guy In The Glass"



Sebastian Sun Week of September 28, 1988 Pg. 9-A

Dale Wimbrow A bear of a Man

By Wanda Hamilton

He was a bear of a man; red-haired, with a hint of gray. He used to come to the soda fountain where I worked after school and weekends. Over the mingled whine of milkshake machines, croon of the jukebox and the buzz of friendly chatter, he made his presence known.

Dale Wimbrow, after a short stopover in Miami, brought his family here in the 40's. He had tasted success; Columbia Records vocal artist, songwriter, nationally-known radio personality, writer-philosopher. But the effects of his exposure to chemical gases in France during WWI eventually reduced his voice to a hoarse croak. Added to a shattered broadcasting and singing career, doctors gave him only six months to live. But did he come to Florida to give up?

Not him. Before you could turn around the longtime camera hobbyist had snapped up a job as a photographer at the Naval Air Station in Vero Beach.

Later he opened Wimbrow's Photography. His studio sat catty-cornered across Main Street from the drugstore. Between portrait appointments he would bluster his way over to the soda fountain, grab a cup of coffee, exchange small talk with patrons and fountain employees and entertain them with his good natured humor.

Sometimes, he brought his family in. The soda fountain was a gathering place for the Saturday night, after-the-movie crowd. They came in for ice cream sodas, sundaes or rootbeer floats and to enjoy small town comradery.

So there I got to know Dale Wimbrow's son, daughter, and wife Dorothy. He and his wife were a study in contrasts; she demure, smiling and he backslapping, chortling, enjoying the moment with gusto. They complemented each other. And you sensed their shared strength.

A strength shared when, earlier, the Wimbrows bought land in a hammock setting south of Sebastian, cleared a space and built a log style house of thick railroad timbers. A sturdy house where their daughter now operates a real estate office.

And there in '47, utilizing talents from his days as the "Mississippi Minstrel" on a New York based radio program this writer, philosopher and master of the common touch launched a newspaper business.

As editor-publisher of Indian River News, his hard hitting editorials soon garnered the paper several first-place awards from the Florida Press Association. Competing with all other Florida newspapers, it grabbed the Association's first ever "Oscar" for a piece called "Bloody Highways" in 1949.

Both his editorials and poems have been widely reprinted. Two of his poems were read into the Congressional Record in Washington. One, "The Guy in the Glass", reflects the Wimbrow philosophy. First published in the American Magazine in 1934, it has since appeared countless times in the print media. Often anonymously.

Dale Wimbrow exemplified the indomitable spirit. He cared about people, community betterment and doing things that count. He busied himself until his death in 1954 with proving it.

We paid tribute with the naming of Dale Wimbrow Park.. It's a good place to go, to reflect...and to remember this man who passed our way.

Editor's note: Wanda Hamilton is a local writer whose experience and sensitivity will make for interesting insights into the history of our area.

Wanda Hamilton 48/6 pages: Death Story

The American Magazine

274728

25 Cents; \$2.50 a Year



VOLUME CXVII

January, 1934, through June, 1934

THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY

250 Park Avenue

NEW YORK

What the readers say

From Jackson Heights, N.Y., comes this reply to J.W.'s query about the value of being honest:

The Guy in the Glass

When you get what you want in your struggle for pelf,
And the world makes you King for a day,
Then go to the mirror and look at yourself,
And see what that guy has to say.

For it isn't your Father, or Mother, or Wife,
Who judgement upon you must pass.
The feller whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the guy staring back from the glass.

He's the feller to please, never mind all the rest,
For he's with you clear up to the end,
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
If the guy in the glass is your friend.

You may be like Jack Horner and "chisel" a plum,
And think you're a wonderful guy,
But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
If you can't look him straight in the eye.

You can fool the whole world down the pathway of years,
And get pats on the back as you pass,
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears
If you've cheated the guy in the glass.

DALE WIMBROW

(C) 1934 By Dale Wimbrow

Why be honest?

An eighteen-year-old boy recently wrote a letter to the Editor of The American Magazine. "One good reason, please," he asked, "why an ambitious young man should be honest." In publishing that letter in the February issue we invited readers to answer him. His challenge aroused immense interest. Replies by the thousands poured in, are still pouring in as we go to press. They come from all walks of life, from oldsters and youngsters alike. The replies are now being considered by the judges, whose decision as to the prize-winners will be announced in an early issue.

While awaiting the final verdict, we want to share with you some of the high lights from the letters received. Here are a few random excerpts:

The original poem by Dale Wimbrow titled "The Guy in the Glass" was first published in the American Magazine in 1934. The magazine had asked their readers to offer an answer to a young man's question to the Editor of the magazine as to "Why he should be honest". The magazine offered a \$100 prize for the best response. The poem, "The Guy in the Glass" was the response by Dale Wimbrow.



*Indian River
News*

POST OFFICE BOX 372
SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA 32958



TEL. SEBASTIAN 688-1331
TOLL FREE FROM MIAMI
AND VERO BEACH

"Founded by the late Peter Dale Wimbro, Sr., 1947 - Mrs. Dale Wimbro, Editor-Owner-Publisher"

First Place Editorial Oscar, 1949 and 1952, Florida Press Association
First Place Community Service Award, 1950, Florida Press Association
National Freedom's Foundation Award, 1954, George Washington Honor Medal,
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania
National First Place Americanism Plaque, 1952, John P. Herrick Award,
National Editorial Association
Second Honorable Mention Community Service, 1950,
School of Journalism, University of Miami
Third Place Journalistic Excellence Typography, 1951, School of Journalism,
University of Florida
Second Place General Excellence, 1951, Florida Press Association
Second Place Journalistic Excellence - Community Service, 1952,
School of Journalism, University of Florida
American Legion Pro Merito Medal, 1952
Quill and Scroll Journalist and Benefactor Award, 1954
First Place News Story, 1956, Florida Press Association
Second Place Editorial Award, 1956, Florida Safety Council
First Place Safety Editorial Award, 1957, Florida Press Association
Recognition Certificate for Outstanding Service, 1958, National Wildlife Federation
Mrs. Dale Wimbro cited in First Edition, Who's Who of American Women,
1958; and 1960, 1962, 1964 editions;
and cited in Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1964,
and World's Who's Who in Commerce and Industry, 1964,
Published by A.N. Marquis.
Veterans Administration Award for outstanding newspaper service
to U.S. Veterans, 1963

"Winner of major State and National newspaper awards annually since established as based on review only"

DIAMONDS AND GLASS

By Dale Wimbro

Oh, many a little chunk of glass a-lyin' on the groun'
Has thought itself a diamond while the sun was shinin' down;
But when the sun had gone to rest and night had cast its shade,
The flashing colors vanished and the light began to fade.
And many a mortal hunk of clay has thought himself sublime
When luck had turned her fickle smile upon him for a time,
But when she wearied of the mood and backed him to the wall,
He found his hunk of clay was only mortal after all.
For it isn't how we glitter and it isn't how we gleam,
The thing that counts, of course, is what we ARE, not what
we seem.
Good fortune never made a heart of gold from shiny brass,
And dancing sunbeams never made a diamond out of glass.

SWAMP CABBAGES AND ANGEL WINGS

A Collection of Editorials by
DALE WIMBROW

THE EDITORIALS AND POEMS in this book were written by Dale Wimbro, with the exception of "Fifteen sez to Fifty" written by his son Pete Jr. and "Father, Dear Father" written by his daughter Sallydale.

Dale Wimbro, editor-publisher and owner of "The Indian River News," a weekly newspaper in Florida, wrote the poem "The Guy in the Glass" for a contest held by The American Magazine in answer to a seventeen year old boy's question whether it paid to be honest.

It states the Wimbro philosophy. St. Joseph's Retreat at Malvern, Pennsylvania gave it as a parting souvenir to each visitor. It has been read twice into the Congressional Records.

The editorial "Bloody Highways" was awarded the first Florida Press Association Editorial "Oscar" (1949) in competition with all Florida newspapers.

The editorial "Motor (R)age" was awarded the 1952 Florida Press Association Editorial "Oscar" in competition with all weekly, bi-weekly, tri-weekly and small daily newspapers.

The Indian River News was presented with the bronze plaque by the Florida Press Association for the year 1951 as first place award in the State of Florida for "Community Service".

"Our Song of Shame" was read into the Congressional Records in Washington by Florida's Representative Dwight Rogers, and a copy of the poem was presented to each of the Legislators in the Florida Legislature by State Representative Alex MacWilliam.

Dale's editorials and poems have been reprinted and broadcast in many parts of the United States including The Christian Science Sentinel, The Mill Valley (California) newspaper, The Florida Suntime magazine, and Radio Stations KFI, Los Angeles, WCAU Philadelphia, and WJZ New York.

The editorials "Don't Have Children-Unless" and "Letter To A Son" were broadcast over KFI by Burritt Wheeler, who received over 600 requests for copies.

Over 11,000 reprints of recent editorials have been sent throughout the country. This collection was printed to supply the steadily increasing requests for additional copies of the editorials and poems.

ASSIGNMENT OF COPYRIGHT

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

July, 1943-5,000

VOL. 559 PAGE 19

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that for a valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, does hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey to Dale Wimbro all its right, title and interest in the copyright secured by it on the work entitled "The Guy in the Glass" by Dale Wimbro and published in the hereinafter mentioned issue of THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE, as follows:

Date of Publication	Date of Copyright	Entry No.
May, 1934	April 20, 1934	B No. 223578

excepting and reserving, however (other than in the United Kingdom), first serial publication rights in the English language, and in all renewals and extensions of said copyright that may be secured under the laws, now, or hereafter in force and effect in the United States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate name by DENIS O'SULLIVAN, its SECRETARY, and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed, this 10th day of January 1945

THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY

By



STATE OF NEW YORK)

SS:

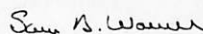
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

COPYRIGHT OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS—WASHINGTON

A

The foregoing assignment of copyright, dated January 10, 1945,
and received for record in the Copyright Office on January 26, 1945,
has been recorded in the Copyright Office, book 559, page 19,
in conformity with the laws of the United States respecting copyrights.

In Witness Whereof, the seal of this Office has been hereto
affixed this sixteenth day
of February, 1945.



Register of Copyrights.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WIMBROW, Peter Dale, Sr., editor, pub. artist; b. Whaleyville, MD., June 6, 1895; s. Nutter Jerome and Sallie Mary (Dale) W.; student Western Md. Coll., 1913; m. Dorothy Comley Livezey, May 30, 1925; children—Sallydale, Peter Dale. Sales mgr. Black & Decker Balt., Southwestern br., 1921-23; dir., writer, composer, singer, actor, announcer, mgr. comm. program WJZ, WEA, NBC, CBS, WXYZ, Mich. Network, 1925-36; free lance writer, photographer for newspaper, mag., 1936-38; editor, pub., owner Indian River News, Sebastian, Fla., 1945—Exhbs: Water Colors, Fred Weber & Co., Phila., 1937; portrait Baptist Ch., Miami, 1940. Designer, originals six stringed instrument Wimbro, 1929, wood carving, hand carved ivory batons for leading orchestra leaders N.Y.C. Men. adv. bd. A.P. Cooke meml. Fund for Cancer Research, Recipient oscar, First Fla. Press Assn. Editorial, 1949, 52; first place community service Fla. Press Assn. award, 1951, John P. Herrick Nat. Editorial Assn., 1953; citation, Fla. So. Coll., 1953; U. Fla., 1951. Served as Pvt. 115 Inf., A. U.S. 1917-19. Mem. Fla. Press Assn., Nat. Editorial Assn., Fla. Outdoor Writers Assn., Vets. Fgn. Wars, Am. Legion (medal 1953), Disabled Am. Vets. Mem. Baptist Ch. Lion. Author: Sardine and a Cracker, 1930; Swamp Cabbage & Angel Wings, 1953. Address: R. 1, Indian River County, Fla.; Drawer 232, Sebastian, Fla.

WIMBROW, Mrs. Peter Dale, Sr. (Dorothy L. Wimbro), newspaperwoman; b. Phila., Jan. 28, 1901; d. Frank William and Nellie (McGloughman) Livezey; student Pearses' Bus. Coll., 1919-21; m. Peter Dale Wimbro, May 30, 1925 (dec. Jan. 1954); children—Sallydale, Peter Dale. Radio writer, singer, actress, Mich. network, NBC and CBS, N.Y.C., 1925-36. also free-lance writer, producer's asso. editor Indian River News, Sebastian, Fla., 1948-54. owner, editor, pub. 1954—; editor Pelican Post, Sebastian Highlands. Chairman of home service com. Indian River County Chpt. A.R.C., 1946—; mem. Indian River County Fire Com. Bd. dirs. Indian River Blood Bank, Inc., Indian River County Health and Tb Assn., Indian River County Mental Health Assn.; bd. govs. U. Melbourne, Fla., 1955—. Recipient Quill and Scroll Journalism and Benefactor award Vero Beach, Fla., 1954; bronze plaque for best safety editorial Fla. Press Assn., 1957. Hortense K. Wells Legislative trophy Bus. and Prof. Women's Club, 1959; named Woman of Yr., Bus. and Prof. Women's Club, Indian River County, 1961. Mem. Nat. Fedn. Bus. Prof. Women's Club (hon.; v.p. Vero Beach legislative chmn. 1957-60). Fla., Vero Beach-Indian River County (mem. congl. action com. 1957-58), Sebastian River Area (mem. bd. dirs. 1957-60) chambers commerce, Fla. Outdoor Writer Assn., Fla. Press Assn., Fla. Women of Press, Vero Beach Little Theater Guild (v.p.), Nat. League Am. Pen Women, Ladies Auxiliary Vets. Fgn. Wars Fla. legislative chmn. 1953-59, nat. legislative chmn. 1959-60), Inst. Am. Genealogy, Livezey Assn. Episcopalian. Club: Pilot (hon.; pres. Indian River County). Home: Rambling Acres, U.S. Route 1, Indian River County, Fla. Office: Indian River News, Sebastian, Fla.

The Act of March 4, 1909, sec. 44, provides: "That every assignment of copyright shall be recorded in the Copyright Office within three calendar months after its execution in the United States or at any consular or diplomatic office of the United States, and if not so recorded, the same shall be void as against any subsequent assignee for a valuable consideration whose assignment has been so recorded."

My Religion

MY CHURCH, AND MY CREED

You ask me "what is my religion"?
Now what if I say I have *None*?
You'll be wrongly impressed,
And unduly distressed
So wait - I have only begun.

My *creed* in the sense that you mean it,
Has no *single* symbol, or sign.
Big, impressive, or small,
There is good in them all,
So perhaps *Your* religion is mine.

My *doctrine* is any that stands for
The honor and virtue of men.
For whatever we preach,
We're all striving to reach
A mutual goal in the end.

My *church* is the one that is nearest
Wherever I happen to be.
The place where men go
Their devotion to show,
Is *good* - and sufficient for me.

What matters the *Name* on the mile posts
That stand by the path you have trod?
If the pathway leads UP
Then at last you shall sup
With the infinite army of God.



A feller named Tosti from Frye
Went to see a man's wife on the slye
But her husband gosh dern!
Come home outa tern
An' that was *that* Tosti's "Good-bye."



In passing thru a field where grows a bit of
everything,
Where weed, and sweetest bloom together
blows,
Suppose that in the mingled growth, a nettle
plant should sting,
Should I forget the fragrance of the rose?

An' I can't keep from thinkin' how much Man is like
a boat -

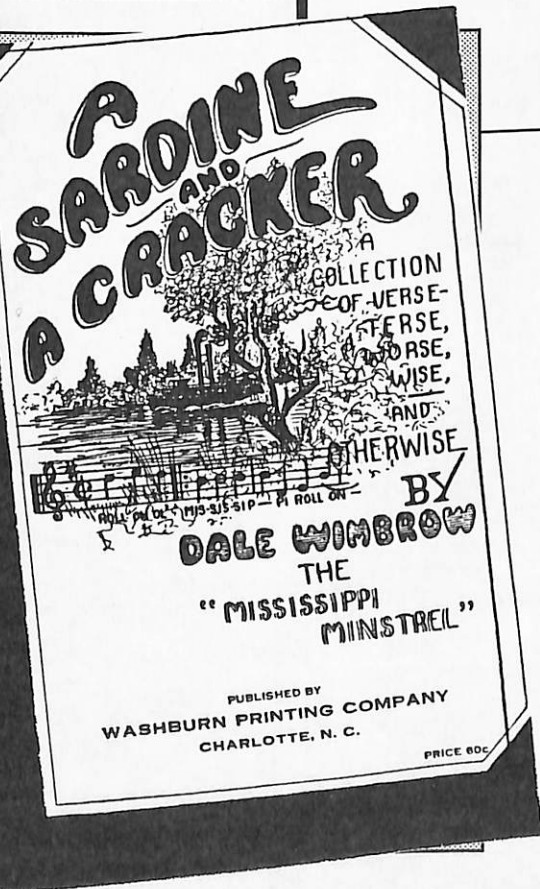
'Mending'

He said his heart was busted, in a thousand Mil-
lion parts.
His eyes were big with unfamiliar paid.
And I could not convince him, that these things
we call our hearts.
Are pretty tough, and always mend again.

He thot his life was ruined, and his future was in
doubt.
"SHE" was the only one he'd ever found.
And I could not convince him, he was merely find
ing out
The force that makes the universe go round.

There's few of us, if any, who have lived upon this
earth,
Who love but once, and never love again.
The only way of finding out just what our love is
worth,
Is by spending it on someone else - in vain.

For first - you've got to BREAK a heart, to find
out what's inside.
To value pride, of pride you must be shorn
Then midst the wreck of shattered dreams, and
hopes and wounded pride
A better - Finer - Stronger love is born.



The flowers we gave
When the feller was dead
Neither sweetened the grave
Nor softened the bed.

Keeping Posted

The Guy in the Glass

In the May 11, 1957, Post an article by Hal Lebovitz about Cleveland's baseball pitcher Herb Score said that Score carried in his wallet a clipping of a reprinted poem by an anonymous author, called "The Guy in the Glass." Later a note by Miss Sallydale Wimble in the Post's Letters column explained that the poem, first printed in the American Magazine in 1934, was by her father, the late Dale Wimble, founder of the Indian River News of Sebastian, Fla., which is now published and edited by Mrs. Wimble.



Sallydale Wimble

daughter, who writes the New's editorials, quoted the poem's opening stanza in her letter: "When you get what you want in your struggle for pelf and the world makes you king for a day, go to the mirror and look at yourself and see what that guy has to say." For years the poem has had constant circulation, mostly anonymous reprint circulation, but that Post letter brought a torrent of requests for copies from the U.S. and abroad. So Miss Wimble had wallet-sized cards printed with a by-line. She has now distributed thousands of them, including allotments to service clubs, church congregations, conventions, etc., and to this day the requests are still coming! "It is so heart warming to Mother and me," she says. "We only wish that Daddy were here to enjoy it too."

4C The Miami Herald / Monday, Dec. 5, 1983

Glass poem had at least 10 authors

Dear Readers: William K. Farrell Sr. of Upper Darby, Pa., has produced evidence that the author of "The man in the Glass" is Dale Wimble. Will Mr. Wimble please stand up — and the hundreds of others who claimed to be the author, please get lost.

Ann Landers



FLORIDA TODAY, Thursday, September 26, 1985

Poem gives valuable lesson

Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren



DEAR ABBY: You recently printed the poem "The Man in the Glass" with "Author Unknown." Abby, that poem has been on display in our real estate office for 15 years, and the author is Dale Wimble.

Jim Picci of Novato, Calif., who taught a real estate course in Clearwater, Fla., gave everyone in his class a copy of that poem, and at graduation time he recited it from memory. It was an inspiration to all.—RAY ESTES, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

DEAR RAY: Thanks for enabling me to give credit where credit is due. This letter just surfaced concerning that inspirational poem.

DEAR ABBY: This concerns the poem "The Man in the Glass." The actual title is "The Guy in the Glass." It was written by Dale Wimble and copyrighted in 1934. It was sent to me by Sallydale Wimble, the author's daughter. Dale Wimble died in Sebastian, Fla., in 1954. I hope this sets the record straight. — PHYLLIS CLARKE, NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

DALE WIMBROW

There is a creature on a planet of a star who runs filling stations, crawls to the aid of a buddy on Heartbreak Ridge in Korea, lambasts Mayors and Presidents, attends P.T.A. meetings, dishes out for the Jaycees and the Boy Scouts, aspires to a divinity little lower than the angels and makes a darned fool of himself with amazing regularity. He is Mr. and Mrs. U.S.A. and Junior.

Millions of words are written about him every day by thousands of men, but few have the awareness and insight, the deep feeling for America and humanity at large, to write from the human heart with sympathy and understanding. Dale Wimble, in one edition of his celebrated Indian River News, lets us share the pride of the hamburger chef at Joe & May's stand on the arrival of a son and heir and in a column alongside reminds our souls that the Lord God Almighty is weighing us in the balance, considerably disappointed, but still on our side.

Though it be humor to charm, poetic insight to awaken our spirits, or a crusading challenge to right a wrong, his is the gift to make the reader say: "That's how I feel, too." Honored by his fellow newspapermen as the master craftsman of them all in editorial expression, winner of the first and last Florida Press Association's Oscars, he is honored more by those friends who know his courage, integrity, capacity for friendship and ability to laugh. We are all richer that he has compiled this collection of editorials — and for knowing him.

— Ernest Lyons,
Editor Stuart News

For More Information
Contact

Sallydale Wimble
10600 U.S. 1
Sebastian, Florida 32958
(407) 589-4561