October is Information Literacy Month:
OR, Why I'm Going Punk

Information literacy is the ability to know when information is needed and be able to find, evaluate, and effectively and ethically use it. Like, for instance. The other day I was coming into work and a kind gal told me that my sweater was on inside-out. I didn’t know I needed that information. Had I known, I could have accessed it via a mirror, evaluated the weird tags, and turned my sweater around pre-work (Mirror p.101).

Now, let’s talk about Bob Dylan and his Unethical Treatment of PhotographsTM. The New York Times, whose headline today reads: “Life Is Beautiful,”** has this article that talks about his gallery opening—who knew he painted?—and how he clearly straight-up copied photographs. I’m talking overhead-projector-color-by-number paintings that he claims he was inspired to paint from his travels. Marinate on that.**

Then. If you try to find this article the next day because you’d like to share with the masses your hero’s Fall from GraceTM, you’ll see Bob Dylan plagiarism scandals are rampant. So much so that in an LA Times interview, Joni Mitchell— a lady you feel quite close to in college, on the road, after college, last night, e.g.—calls him a “fake,” a Regular Phony Bologna!*** Humdinger!

A plagiarizing folk singer. And now an angry folk singer. The whole thing is enough to make me break out my Descendents tape and return to my punk roots. At least they are honest. **** And at least I know upfront that they may have a wee bit of hostility.

The moral of this story is: the Library is Your Friend in the Information Age. Or: Look in the Mirror Before You Leave the House. Or: Beware the Peaceful Depths of Folk Singers. Boo!

*Not really. I mean, re: headline. Life is, in fact, beautiful. See: Rufus Wainwright song.
**I appropriated the phrase from OutKast, with permission.
***In honor of October 31st, I’m patenting the idea for Halloweenees.
****I mean, who would steal the line, “Fight! Fight! Fight! Fight!”

Cookie Night

Cookie Monster now says that cookies are a “sometimes” snack, which makes him a bit of a flip-flopper, no? But, at any rate, whether your status is “sometimes” or “all the time,” I’m pretty sure we can agree on “always, when freeness is involved.” Cookie night will be Oct.11th, commencing at 7:00. Wear your Free Cookie PantsTM.

Get Your Volunteer Hours with SightLine!

Or! And! Do something nice! WUWF is seeking volunteers for SightLine, an audio reading service for the vision-impaired. Volunteers are needed to read the Pensacola News Journal 1 day a week (Wed.-Sun.) from 8am-11am for the remainder of the semester. Contact Lynne Marshall at lynne@uwf.edu or 473-7428 to sign up.