THOMAS HARIOT

“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY
Queen Elizabeth restored Protestantism in England. The Irish Parliament acknowledged Elizabeth as head of the Irish Church (the Book of Common Prayer was imposed and Church attendance became compulsory).

At some point during this year Thomas Hariot was born in Oxfordshire.

It was in about this year that John White was born, son of Bishop John White.

It was in about this year that John Ferne was born, a son of William Ferne (died 1592) of Temple Belwood in the Isle of Axholme, Lincolnshire, and Anne, daughter of John Sheffield of Beltoft, Lincolnshire. The lineage of this family was anything but ancient, for the father had acquired the family’s Lincolnshire estates in the 1570s, and the grandfather had been a mere yeoman from Uttoxeter in Staffordshire (the pedigree the upwardly mobile Sir John would later register with the heralds would be such as to artfully conceal this quite humble and recent origin).
1500 Maximilian divides the empire of Germany into six circles, and adds four more in 1512.
1505 Shillings first coined in England.
1509 Gardening introduced into England from the Netherlands, from whence vegetables were imported hitherto.
1513 The battle of Flodden, in which James IV. of Scotland is killed, with the flower of his nobility.
1517 Martin Luther began the reformation.
1518 Egypt is conquered by the Turks.
1518 Magellan, in the service of Spain, first discovers the straits of that name in South America.
1520 Henry VIII. for his writings in favour of popery, receives the title of Defender of the Faith from his Holiness.
1529 The name of Protestant takes its rise from the reformed protesting against the church of Rome, at the Diet of Spires in Germany.
1534 The reformation takes place in England under Henry VIII.
1537 Religious houses dissolved by ditto.
1539 The first English edition of the Bible authorized; the present translation finished 1611.
   About this time cannon began to be used in ships.
1543 Silk stockings first worn by the French king; first worn in England by queen Elizabeth, 1561; the steel frame for weaving invented by the Rev. Mr. Lee, of St. John’s College, Cambridge, 1589.
1544 Pins first used in England, before which time the ladies used skewers.
1545 Good lands let in England at one shilling per acre.
1545 The famous council of Trent begins, and continues 18 years.
1546 First law in England, establishing the interest of money at ten per cent.
1549 Lord Lieutenants of counties instituted in England.
1550 Horse guards instituted in England.
1555 The Russian Company established in England.
1558 Queen Elizabeth begins her reign.
1560 The reformation in Scotland completed by John Knox.
Richard Hakluyt received his MA from Christ Church College at Oxford University.

NO-ONE’S LIFE IS EVER NOT DRIVEN PRIMARILY BY HAPPENSTANCE
By this point Richard Hakluyt had taken holy orders.

Thomas Hariot graduated from St Mary Hall at Oxford. He would become Sir Walter Raleigh's mathematics
tutor and write a treatise on navigation.

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Do I have your attention? Good.
Walter Raleigh became Sir Walter. His fleet of seven vessels under Sir Richard Grenville and Ralph Lane, with 108 men, reached North Carolina’s Roanoke Island on the Virginia coast in June (he had also sent a fleet to South America). With the expedition was Thomas Hariot, who in 1588 would publish an account of Virginia in which he would comment on its many exotic plants and animals (he had assisted in the design of the ships and was serving as Sir Walter’s accountant and provided navigational expertise, while learning the Algonquian language). Neither the North American fleet nor the South American fleet would find any gold whatever, which was a major disappointment. Asked by Sir Walter to find the most efficient way to stack cannon balls on deck, Hariot whipped up a mathematical analysis of the close-packing of spheres that is remarkably prescient in regard not only to atomism but also to modern atomic theory (later he would stand accused of a
belief in atomism, which of course was an unholy materialism and entirely unsafe).

Chronological observations of America

Cautionary Towns and Forts in the low-Countries delivered unto Queen Elizabeth's hands.

Sir Richard Greenville was sent by Sir Walter Rawleigh April the Ninth, with a Fleet of 7 sail to Virginia, and was stiled the General of Virginia. He landed in the Island of St. John de Porto Rico May the Twelfth, and there fortified themselves and built a Pinnasse, &c. In Virginia they left 100 men under the Government of Mr. Ralph Lane, and others.

Sir Francis Drake’s voyage to the West-Indies, wherein were taken the Cities of St. Jago, St. Domingo Cartagena, and the Town of St. Augustine in Florida.

Now (say some) Tobacco was first brought into England by Mr. Ralph Lane out of Virginia.

BY John Josselyn Gent.
Ralph Lane, 1st governor of Virginia, introduced Sir Walter Raleigh to a device apparently of his own devising, a long-stemmed clay pipe for the smoking of tobacco. In Germany, De Plantis Epitome Utilissima offered one of the 1st cautions against indiscriminate use of this “violent herb.”

Upon Thomas Hariot’s return to England from the Virginia coast, his patron having fallen into disfavor at the court, he entered the service of Henry Percy, 9th Earl of Northumberland. At Syon House, which was run by the earl’s 2d cousin Thomas Percy, he would become a prolific mathematician and astronomer. He has credit for the theory of refraction.

Gunung Api (4.525°S, 129.871°E; summit elevation 640 meters), the volcano on the island of Banda Api that towers over the spice island of Neira in the Banda Sea, erupted. Gunung Api is the most northeasterly volcano in the Sunda-Banda arc, now part of Indonesia. The island of Banda Api is part of a 6-mile-wide caldera, mostly submerged, that is the northernmost of a chain of volcanoes. Gunung Api forms a conical peak at the center of this island. At least two episodes of caldera formation are thought to have occurred, with the arcuate islands of Lonthor and Neira considered to be remnants of the pre-caldera volcanoes. (Historical eruptions have mostly consisted of Strombolian eruptions from the summit crater, but larger explosive eruptions have also occurred and, occasionally, lava flows have reached the coast.)
Sir Francis Drake, on landing at Roanoke off the coast of what is now North Carolina, heard tales of colonists who had survived on soup made from *Sassafras albidum*. When he returned to England he took with him what may have been the 1st shipment of this plant. (In 1602 Bartholomew Gosnold would bring more material from the plant to England, and by 1607 it would be in great demand both in English coffeehouses and on the street. The tea was said to cure a wide range of diseases, while the wood was thought to repel insect attack. Today we know that oil of sassafras (once used to flavor root beer but out of use since the early 1960s) is substantially the chemical safrole, now regarded as a definite carcinogen. The most significant commercial use for sassafras today is the manufacture of *filé*, a powder made from young, dried leaves (they do not contain any safrole) used in the making of gumbo.

**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?**
— No, that’s giving too much to the historian’s stories. **LIFE ISN’T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**

**THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT**
July 22, Wednesday (Old Style): John White (1540-1606), sent by Sir Walter Raleigh with 150 men, women, and children to create the Cittie of Raleigh, landed on one of the islands of the barrier chain off present-day North Carolina, named Hatorask Island. Sir Walter and Captain Bartholomew Gosnold had wanted him to settle these colonists at the mouth of the James River in present-day Virginia, but he chose to settle them on nearby Roanoke Island just inside this barrier chain.

Probably during this year in England, Thomas Hariot was writing up his account of his 1585/1586 visit to Roanoke Island on the Virginia coast.
The Reverend Richard Hakluyt returned from his intelligence duties in Paris, to England.

Giles Fletcher the Elder served as an envoy to Russia to reestablish a treaty with tsar Feodor I that was primarily concerning the English trade. Before he departed Queen Elizabeth made him a Master of Requests. The product of this trip would be a treatise, Of the Russe Common Wealth, in 1591.

Publication of Thomas Hariot’s account of his visit to Roanoke Island along the Virginia coast, A BRIEFE AND TRUE REPORT OF THE NEW FOUND LAND OF VIRGINIA: OF THE COMMODITIES THERE FOUND AND TO BE RAIFED, AS WELL MARCHANTABLE, AS OTHERS FOR VICTUALL, BUILDING AND OTHER NECEESARIES UÆRFOR THOÆ THAT ARE AND ÆHALBE THE PLANTERS THERE; AND OF THE NATURE AND MANNERS OF THE NATURALL INHABITANTS: DISCOVERED BY THE ENGLISH COLONY THERE EÆATED BY SIR RICHARD GREINUILE Knight in the yeere 1585, which remained under the gouerenment of Rafe Lane EÆquier, one of her Maiesties Equeries, during the space of twelve monethes: as the Speciell charge and direction of the Honourable Sir Walter Ralfe Knight, Lord Warden of the tanneries; who therein hath beene fauoured and authoriæed by her Maiestie and her letters patents. Directed to the Aduenturers, Fauourers, and Welwillers of the action, for the inhabiting and planting there: By Thomas Hariot, ÆRANT TO THE ABOUENAMED Sir Walter, a member of the Colony, and there imployed in discovering. (Imprinted at London, 1588.) He provides an early account of the native North Carolina population encountered by the expedition: “Whereby it may be hoped, if means of good government be used, that they may in short time be brought to civility and the embracing of true religion.”

In about 1858, Henry Thoreau would make notes on this volume in his Indian Notebook #10.
THE MAINE WOODS: It was rather windy, and therefore Joe concluded to hunt after midnight, if the wind went down, which the other Indians thought it would not do, because it was from the south. The two mixed-bloods, however, went off up the river for moose at dark, before we arrived at their camp. This Indian camp was a slight, patched-up affair, which had stood there several weeks, built shed-fashion, open to the fire on the west. If the wind changed, they could turn it round. It was formed by two forked stakes and a cross-bar, with rafters slanted from this to the ground. The covering was partly an old sail, partly birch-bark, quite imperfect, but securely tied on, and coming down to the ground on the sides. A large log was rolled up at the back side for a head-board, and two or three moose-hides were spread on the ground with the hair up. Various articles of their wardrobe were tucked around the sides and corners, or under the roof. They were smoking moose-meat on just such a crate as is represented by Wither, in De Bry’s “Collectio Peregrinationum,” published in 1588, and which the natives of Brazil called boucan, (whence buccaneer,) on which were frequently shown pieces of human flesh drying along with the rest. It was erected in front of the camp over the usual large fire, in the form of an oblong square. Two stout forked stakes, four or five feet apart and five feet high, were driven into the ground at each end, and then two poles ten feet long were stretched across over the fire, and smaller ones laid transversely on these a foot apart. On the last hung large, thin slices of moose-meat smoking and drying, a space being left open over the centre of the fire. There was the whole heart, black as a thirty-two pound ball, hanging at one corner. They said, that it took three or four days to cure this meat, and it would keep a year or more. Refuse pieces lay about on the ground in different stages of decay, and some pieces also in the fire, half buried and sizzling in the ashes, as black and dirty as an old shoe. These last I at first thought were thrown away, but afterwards found that they were being cooked. Also a tremendous rib-piece was roasting before the fire, being impaled on an upright stake forced in and out between the ribs. There was a moose-hide stretched and curing on poles like ours, and quite a pile of cured skins close by. They had killed twenty-two moose within two months, but, as they could use but very little of the meat, they left the carcasses on the ground. Altogether it was about as savage a sight as was ever witnessed, and I was carried back at once three hundred years. There were many torches of birch-bark, shaped like straight tin horns, lying ready for use on a stump outside.
From this year until 1634, the firm of Theodorus de Bry in Frankfurt-am-Main would be presenting *Collectiones Peregrinatiorum in Indiam Orientalem et Indiam Occidentalem, XIII partibus comperhenso a Theodoro, Joan-Theodoro de Bry, et a Matheo Merian publicatae*. Parts VII to IX would be prepared by his sons Johann-Theodor de Bry (1561-1623) and Johann-Israel de Bry (1565-1609), parts X to XII by Johann-Theodor de Bry alone, and part XIII by M. Merian. There would be 30 volumes in all, for the edition would be expanded by the sons to include European voyages to Asia.

**THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT**
November 5, Tuesday (Old Style): Guy Fawkes had been recruited with a band of Roman Catholics, perhaps on the basis of his familiarity with explosives and with sapping, to tunnel under the House of Parliament. There is no doubt that, though his name has been fixed to the conspiracy for English Catholics to take over the government, Fawkes had been a mere functionary. It was an advantage that, having for some time been abroad, he was not known in London. Coming to London, he had used the alias Johnson. There is no doubt as to his courage, and the 36 ninety-pound barrels of black powder that they had purchased from a London fireworks maker named Charles Pain were discovered while Fawkes was outside the building else he surely would have fired them.¹

Thomas Shepard was born at the very hour on which the British Parliament was scheduled to be blown up, with the monarch and a princely son.

¹. In England (and inter alia, some former colonies), November the 5th is still celebrated as Guy Fawkes Night, when bonfires and fireworks are ignited to celebrate the successful detection of this Roman Catholic plot to detonate King and Parliament. At Lewes in County Sussex, the celebration still suggests something of an anti-Catholic animus. In colonial Boston, Pope’s Day would be a continuation on this anti-Catholic day of rioting, and the jingoistic parades would continue until one year a small boy would be crushed by one of the “Pope” effigies being wheeled through the streets by firemen (the volunteer fire brigades of athletic, drunken young men were principal leaders in such rioting).
November 8, Friday (Old Style): Upon the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot against King and Parliament, Robert Catesby, Thomas Percy, Kit Wright, and John Wright were shot dead at Holbeach House. (The recoverable bodies would later be dug up, to be decapitated.) The conspirators taken alive would be interrogated in the Queens House of the Tower of London. This was the 3rd imprisonment in the Tower for Thomas Abington, who would be released (the letter of warning that led to the unraveling of the scheme is said to have been written by his wife). Hugh Owen would live until his old age in Rome. Guy Fawkes was a 36-year-old Catholic convert who had served in the Spanish army before becoming involved in the Gunpowder Plot. He would be racked, probably in the basement of Wakefield Tower.

This is his signature, “Guido,” on his confession immediately after the rack:

And here is his signature, “Guido Fawkes,” on a supplemental confession made eight days afterward:

Upon the discovery of this plot against King and Parliament, various trusted Protestants were sent out into the nation, to round up the usual suspects. For instance, Sir John Ferne, newly minted knight, got dispatched to York to coordinate the arrest of suspects there. Sir John’s manner of suppressing this conspiracy would be not merely to persecute English Catholics but also, tarring with a wider brush, to attack the ecclesiastical establishment — for having been insufficiently diligent in their previous persecutions of these disloyal ones.

Thomas Hariot’s patron Henry Percy, 9th Earl of Northumberland, was one of those imprisoned in connection with the Gunpowder Plot, on account of his being a 2d cousin of one of the conspirators, Thomas Percy (Hariot himself would be briefly imprisoned under interrogation, but would soon obtain a release).
September 25, Friday night (Old Style): After witnessing a Prague fireworks display, Johannes Kepler noticed that there was a natural fireworks display higher in the heavens: Halley’s Comet. During this visit the comet would be assigned responsibility for, among other things, a plague that would strike in Saxony and Thuringia, seven years of famine that would follow, plus the general aggressiveness of the Turks.

This apparition would turn Thomas Hariot’s attention toward Astronomy.
Early in the year, Thomas Hariot purchased a “Dutch trunke” (telescope, invented in the previous year), and turned it toward the skies. This was one of the first uses of the new instrument for astronomy. He is now credited as having made himself the very 1st astronomer to draw an astronomical object as viewed through this new device.

As Johannes Kepler was publishing his *Commentaries on the Motions of Mars*, made up entirely out of naked-eye observations of positions in the sky, the first telescopes were being turned skyward in efforts to determine more about these strange wanderers among the fixed stars than their relative positions and movements. Galileo Galilei of the Republic of Venice was hearing rumors out of Holland of a new device by which “visible objects, though very distant from the eye of the observer, were seen distinctly as if nearby.” He constructed his own version of Hans Lippershey’s telescope of 1608, with a converging objective lens and a diverging eye lens, and began to point it generally upward.

The Venetian senate examined Galileo’s device. It would prove useful for early longitude observations, by observing occultation and emergence of the moons of Jupiter.
Astronomia nova
AitioLOGHtOs,
sev
Physica coelestis,
tradita commentariis
De Motibus stellæ
Martis,
Ex observationibus C. V.
Tychonis Brahe:
Jussu & sumptibus
Rudolphi II.
Romanorum
imperatoris &c:
Plurium annorum pertinaci studio
elaborata Praga,
A S. C. M. S. Mathematico
Joanne Keplerō.
Cum ejusdem C. M. privilegio speciali
The anecdotes of modern astronomy affect me in the same way as do those faint revelations of the Real which are vouchsafed to men from time to time, or rather from eternity to eternity. When I remember the history of that faint light in our firmament, which we call Venus, which ancient men regarded, and which most modern men still regard, as a bright spark attached to a hollow sphere revolving about our earth, but which we have discovered to be another world, in itself, — how Copernicus, reasoning long and patiently about the matter, predicted confidently concerning it, before yet the telescope had been invented, that if ever men came to see it more clearly than they did then, they would discover that it had phases like our moon, and that within a century after his death the telescope was invented, and that prediction verified, by Galileo, — I am not without hope that we may, even here and now obtain some accurate information concerning that OTHER WORLD which the instinct of mankind has so long predicted. Indeed, all that we call science, as well as all that we call poetry, is a particle of such information, accurate as far as it goes, though it be but to the confines of the truth. If we can reason so accurately, and with such wonderful confirmation of our reasoning, respecting so-called material objects and events infinitely removed beyond the range of our natural vision, so that the mind hesitates to trust its calculations even when they are confirmed by observation, why may not our speculations penetrate as far into the immaterial starry system, of which the former is but the outward and visible type? Surely, we are provided with senses as well fitted to penetrate the spaces of the real, the substantial, the eternal, as these outward are to penetrate the material universe. Veias, Menu, Zoroaster, Socrates, Christ, Shakespeare, Swedenborg, — these are some of our astronomers.
June 26, Monday (Old Style): Preceding Galileo Galilei by several months, Thomas Hariot drew a picture of the moon as seen through his telescope.
Galileo Galilei reported several astronomical discoveries, including the fact that Jupiter has four moons. Here is Thomas Hariot’s map of the full moon:

Late in the year, sunspots were observed telescopically by two Frisian astronomers, Johannes and David Fabricius (in December, through his telescope, Thomas Hariot also observed these sunspots). Although sunspots had been seen by humans long before (by Chinese astronomers in 28 BCE), this Western observation would be the one that would produce large consequences in the debate over the nature of the solar system — by means of the observation of such imperfections it would be noted that the sun is a rotating object, and the comings and goings of such imperfections would indicate very clearly that, contrary to the received interpretation of Aristotle, the sun does change. No-one would be able to think of a way to cope with the details of their apparent motion within the cosmological scheme of Ptolemy, which would be one of the reasons for
adoption of the heliocentric system of Copernicus.
During this year or the following one Thomas Hariot wrote to an unknown friend with medical expertise, describing a cancerous ulcer on his lip.

At about this point Christopher Wirtzung relayed a recipe for relief of bladder stones: buck blood, hare and scorpion ashes, and *lapis judaicus* (fossil sea urchin spines).
June 29, Friday (Old Style): Thomas Hariot was living with a friend, Thomas Buckner, on Threadneedle Street in London. His condition might be described as a cancer, on the nose. On this day he wrote and signed a will.
John Smith died in London. Chapter 8 of his ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE UNEXPERIENCED PLANTERS OF NEW-ENGLAND, published in this year in London, offered an updated description of New Plymouth:

...at the first landing at Cape Cod, being an hundred passengers, besides twenty they had left behind at Plimoth [England] for want of good take heed, thinking to finde all things better than I advised them, spent six or seven weekes in wandering up and downe in frost and snow, wind and raine, among the woods, cricks, and swamps, forty of them died, and three score were left in most miserable estate at New-Plimoth, where their Ship left them, and but nine leagues by Sea from where they landed, whose misery and variable opinions, for want of experience, occasioned much faction until necessity agreed them.

The intended executor of the will of Thomas Hariot had been Nathaniel Torporley, but it was Walter Warner who pulled together (from about 400 sheets of annotated manuscript) and published his Latin treatise on algebra, ARTIS ANALYTICAE PRAXIS (it has turned out in comparison with the manuscript, which still exists, that this initial arrangement of the material left something to be desired, entirely omitting for instance his work on the negative and complex roots of equations; Hariot had studied optics and refraction, and apparently discovered Snell’s law 20 years before Snellius did, although this had previously been discovered by Ibn Sahl; Hariot is also now credited with having discovered Girard’s theorem, although Giraud was the first to publish it; these defects would not be removed until a full annotated English translation of the PRAXIS would become available, as of 2007).
A Chronological Table

Of the most remarkable passages in that part of America, known to us by the name of NEW-ENGLAND.

Anno Dom.


1631. Mr. Mavericke Minister at Dorchester in New-England.²

1631. John Winthorpe Esq; chosen the first time Governour, he was eleven times Governour; some say Nine-teen times; eleven Years together; the other Years by intermission.

1631. John Wilson Pastor of Charles Town.²

1631. Sir R. Saltingbaill at Water Town came into New-England.²

1631. Mr. Rog. Harlackinden was a Majestrate, and a Leader of their Military Forces.¹

Dr. Wilson gave 1000 l. to New-England, with which they stored themselves with great Guns.¹


² The date set right in Prince, N. E. Chronol., p. 367.
According to John Aubrey’s *Brief Lives Chiefly of Contemporaries Set Down John Aubrey Between the Years 1669 and 1696*, published for the 1st time in this year:

Sir Robert Moray (from Francis Stuart) declared at the Royal Society ‘twas when the comet appeared before the Dutch war—that Sir Francis had heard Mr Harriot say that he had seen nine comets, and had predicted seven of them, but did not tell them how. ‘Tis very strange; let the astronomers work it out. Mr Harriot went with Sir Walter Raleigh into Virginia, and has written the Description of Virginia which is since printed in Mr Purchas’s Pilgrims.

Dr Pell tells me that he finds among his papers (which are now, 1684, in Dr Busby’s hands) an alphabet he had contrived for the American language, like devils.

When Henry Percy, ninth earl of Northumberland and Sir Walter Raleigh were both prisoners in the Tower, they grew acquainted, and Sir Walter Raleigh recommended Mr Harriot to him, and the earl settled an annuity of two hundred pounds a year on him for life, which he enjoyed. But to Hues (who wrote *On the Use of Globes*) and to Mr Warner, he gave an annuity of but sixty pounds per annum. These three were usually called “the earl of Northumberland’s three Magi.” They had a table at the earl’s expense, and the earl himself had them to converse with, singly or together.

He was a great acquaintance of Master Ailesbury, to whom Dr Corbet sent a letter in verse, December 9, 1618, when the great blazing star appeared:

> Now for the peace of Gods and men advise,  
> (Thou that hast wherewithal to make us wise),  
> Thine own rich studies, and deep Harriot’s mine,  
> In which there is no dross, but all refine.

The bishop of Salisbury (Seth Ward) told me that one Mr Haggar (a fellow-countryman of his), a gentleman and a good mathematician, was well acquainted with Mr Thomas Harriot, and was wont to say, that he did not like (or valued not) the old story of the Creation of the World: He could not believe the old position he would say “Nothing is made out of nothing.” But, said Mr Haggar, a nothing killed him at last; for in the top of his nose came a little red speck (exceeding small) which grew bigger and bigger, and at last killed him. I suppose it was that which surgeons call *noli me tangere*.

He made a philosophical theology, wherein he cast off the Old Testament, and then the New one would (consequently) have no foundation. He was a Deist. His doctrine he taught to Sir Walter Raleigh, Henry, earl of Northumberland, and some others. The divines of those times looked on his manner of death as a judgement upon him for valuing the Scripture at nothing.
“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY

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“It’s all now you see. Yesterday won’t be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago.”
- Remark by character “Garin Stevens” in William Faulkner’s INTRUDER IN THE DUST

Prepared: February 20, 2015
This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot “Laura” (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in
the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology—but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary "writerly" process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.