TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY LITERACIES GAZETTE

Pictured at right: Litty Gazer, Editor-in-Chief of Twenty-First Century Literacies Gazette (TFCLG)

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Personal Challenges
in a Changing Web 2.O Climate

LG (Litty Gazer): On behalf of the entire staff, I want to say thanks for agreeing to this interview.

Me: It's my pleasure!

LG:We here at TFCLG realize the beauty of the Web 2.0, but know there can be some, shall we say, sticky aspects to using it all. What's your take?

Me: Challenges exist in any part of life. Overcoming them becomes part of the learning experience.

LG: How wise.

Me: Well, what can I say?

LG: So, what do you need to overcome?

Me: For starters, while my school welcomes twenty-first century literacies, not all websites are open for students and teachers.

LG: You're kidding!

Me: No, I'm not. For example, YouTube is blocked when using the school server.

LG: So you can't show the witty wiki tutorial that Troy Hicks shared with us at Fordham's 2009 Literacy Institute?

Me: Right, but I'm sure there is some way around it. My district is nuts about technology, they just want to protect themselves.

LG: Oh, the value of learning to become a critical reader!?

Me: I think I'll talk to my sixth graders about YouTube: the glory and the perils.

LG: So, what other challenges can you share with our devoted readers?

Me: Well, most recently I tried to post a podcast on Gcast, and after sifting through some technical mumbo jumbo, I discovered that my audio recording was too short.

LG: And, what did you do?

Me: I maintained the integrity of the content, and kept the podcasts short. I published on iWeb using my Mobile Me account.

LG: Macs rule.

Me: I know.

LG: Do you only use Macs in your teaching?

Me: No, I have four PCs in my classroom. I can, however, sign my students up for Macs in the library.

LG: Did you operate on Macs with students in the library for your summer school stint this July?

Me: Why, yes.

LG: Any challenges with the summer school lesson?

Me: Looking back, I could have used fewer new tools and applications. Less is more, you know?

LG: Oh, I know.