

## This is Not My Fault

I am not in charge of a nonexistent campus newspaper. I am the co-editor. I could have been the editor, but I did not want the blame. Even so, my job entails more work than being editor-in-chief would. It's easy to be behind a publication that doesn't exist. It's difficult to be partially responsible for one.

Once a day, I must remind the editor that he is in charge of the school paper. He usually responds with "Oops," and sometimes he sighs. He often asks me for article ideas to give to starving writers and I throw him things like "Students Take Trip" or "Club Celebrates Diversity." I do this so he will stop pestering me, but our staff seems happy with these stories. I am required to bitch with him when these writers don't turn their stories in, and I also get to ask for his articles. Judging from his responses, this is not a question editors like to be asked.

The best part of my job would be copy-editing, but without articles, my talent for criticism is wasted. Chances are, if any articles were turned in, half of them wouldn't make it past our sponsor. We have a rule, no stupid stuff. If there is ever something to read in *The Lance*, the editor will take full responsibility in the event that you think a story is stupid. He will then beat me over the head and curse our supervisor for letting it get past us.

Sometimes prospective staff members talk to me like I am in a position to do something. I don't know what they want me to do. Depending on my mood I ignore them, grunt, or tell them they have to talk to the editor. He's very good at hiding, so this lays them low for a few days. There are more people who want to write for *The Lance* than you would think. If they actually did write, well now, that would be something.

Most important, I am in charge of the "Take Back *The Lance*" movement. Even now, angry protestors are descending upon *The Lance* office in LA and discovering it unlocked. This happens a lot. I have to make sure the mess is cleaned up.