

Actor: Not Believable as a Human Being.

If you've seen friends you might remember the episode when Joey, a often unemployed and ridiculously bad actor, gets a review that reads "Not believable as a human being."... Well, today I am the received such acclaim.

I am in a local production of the Nerd and play the title character or Rick Steadman; the Nerd.

With such choice phrases used as "over the top" and "upstages the others" and "hard to believe he is a real person" it is indeed time to ask myself the question... Am I as bad as Joey?

The good news is the show itself got a good review and so did some of my VERY WELL DESERVING castmates!! ☐ ☐

Oh well. I can only learn for next time. I have always found myself a little better at dramatic roles; not a character actor am I. For now I will have to live with "not being believable as a human being" – or at least "hard to believe he is a real person".

If You Were A Box What Kind Would YOU Be?

Tonight was the first night that I have ever been the stage manager for any show. There are times when I really find it to be fun; but the idea of not being able to be part of either the on-stage activity or in the audience makes it difficult. I do enjoy the comradery you feel by being able to assist in

getting the performers props, cues, etc or the challenge of making sure an 8-year old knows when to say his lines backstage or that he is not (unintentionally, of course) making a nuisance of himself; but in all honesty, I really think Alex is doing a fine job both with his character and learning what to do and (more importantly) what not to do when he is off-stage. A year ago he and two of my nieces were in School House Rock with me. The main difference was that the children's chorus was on-stage the entire time. I can't imagine dealing with 30 kids (some of whom were no older than 7) backstage.

The actress playing Titsy (or is it Tansy... so many names) payed me a huge compliment tonight by saying what a great backstage manager I am. Maybe with more experience I will come to enjoy it as much as I do being on-stage. But, I don't see that happening anytime soon. I am REAAAAALLLLLLLLLLYYYYYYYYY antsy and NEEDED to be on-stage. It has been almost 3 months. But this cast is such a ball to work with. One of my best friends plays the title role. Another good friend is producing. Yet another frequent party goer is assisting backstage. Of course, visiting with our resident groupie and whichever child happens to be with her at the time is cool, too. Our first time director is doing an awesome job. All the cast and crew has made the first of 7 performances highly enjoyable.

Following tonight's opening, a bunch of frequent game nighters converged along with an infrequent groupie. While the guys were handily humbling our female counterparts, the telephone rang. I just had the strangest feeling that I knew whom it would be. I suppose I should have been a little bit more thoughtful by phoning ahead and telling Alex's parents that we would be late, but there is next time... (shame on me).

I Am SpongeBob, Married To A SpongeBob

Yet another email forward struck my fancy... this one's a personality test to determine which cartoon character you're most like. With 29 points, I am SpongeBob SquarePants, and my husband got 31 points, so he is also SpongeBob. Not sure how truthful this is, but fun to take the little quiz. I know, I should get a life... but what about the person who sat and mapped out this whole personality test?

This is fun.

Everyone has a personality of a cartoon character. Have you ever asked yourself what cartoon character you most resemble? A group of investigators got together and analyze the personalities of well known and modern cartoon characters. The information that was gathered was made into this test.

Answer all the questions (only 10) with what describes you best, add up all your points (which are next to the answer that you choose) at the end and look for your results.

Do not cheat by looking at the end of the e-mail before you are done .

Then forward this to all your friends (including the person who sent it to you) and change the subject of this message to what character is you.

1. Which one of the following describes the perfect date?

- a) Candlelight dinner (4 pts.)
- b) Fun/Theme Park (2 pts.)
- c) Painting in the park (5 pts)
- d) Rock concert (1 pt.)
- e) Going to the movies (3 pts.)

2. What is your favorite type of music?

- a) Rock and Roll (2 pts.)
- b) Alternative (1 pt.)
- c) Soft Rock (4 pts.)
- d) Country (5 pts)
- e)Pop (3 pts.)

3. What type of movies do you prefer?

- a) Comedy (2 pts.)
- b) Horror (1 pt.)
- c) Musical (3 pts.)
- d) Romance (4 pts.)
- e) Documentary (5 pts.)

4. Which of these occupations would you choose if you only could pick one?

- a) Waiter (4 pts.)
- b) Professional Sports Player (5 pts.)
- c) Teacher (3 pts.)
- d) Police (2 pts.)
- e) Cashier (1 pt.)

5. What do you do with your spare time?

- a) Exercise (5 pts.)
- b) Read (4 pts.)
- c) Watch television (2 pts.)
- d) Listen to music (1 pt.)
- e) Sleep (3 pts.)

6. Which one of the following colors do you like best?

- a) Yellow (1 pt.)
- b) White (5 pts.)
- c) Sky Blue (3 pts)
- d) Dark Blue(2 pts.)
- e) Red (4 pts.)

7. What do you prefer to eat?

- a) Snow (3 pts.)
- b) Pizza (2 pts.)
- c) Sushi (1 pt.)
- d) Pasta (4 pts.)
- e) Salad (5 pts.)

8. What is your favorite holiday ?

- a) Halloween (1 pt.)
- b) Christmas (3 pts.)
- c) New Year's (2 pts.)
- d) Valentine's Day(4 pts.)
- e) Thanksgiving (5 pts.)

9. If you could go to one of these places, which would it be?

- a) Paris (4 pts.)
- b) Spain (5 pts.)
- c) Las Vegas (1 pt.)
- d) Hawaii (4 pts.)
- e) Hollywood (3 pts)

10. Which of the following people would you prefer to spend time with?

- a) Someone smart (5 pts.)
- b) Someone attractive (2 pts.)
- c) Someone who likes to Party (1 pt.)
- d) Someone who always has fun (3 pts.)
- e) Someone very sentimental (4 pts.)

Now add up your points and find the answer you have been waiting for! Put your cartoon character's name in the subject line and forward it to your friends and back to the person that sent this to you.

(10-16 points) You are Garfield:

You are very comfortable, easy going , and you definitely know how to have fun but sometimes you take it to an extreme. You always know what you are doing and you are always in control of your life. Others may not see things as you do, but that doesn't mean that you always have to do what is right. Try to remember, your happy spirit may hurt you or others.

(17-23 points) You are Snoopy:

You are fun; you are very cool and popular. You always know what's in and you're never out of style, you are good at knowing how to satisfy everyone else. You have probably disappeared for a few days more than once, but you always come home with the family values that you learned. Being married and having children are important to you, but only after you have had your share of fun times.

(24-28 points) You are Elmo:

You have lots of friends and are popular, always willing to give advice and help out a person in need. You are very optimistic and always see the bright side of things. Some good advice: try not to be too much of a dreamer. Dreaming too big could cause many conflicts in your life.

(29-35 points) You are Sponge Bob Square Pants. You are the classic person everyone loves. You are the best friend that anyone could ever have and never wants to lose. You never cause harm to anyone and they would never not understand your feelings. Life is a journey, it's funny and calm for the most part. Stay away from traitors and jealous people and you will be stress free.

(36-43 points) You are Charlie Brown:

You are tender, you fall in love quickly but you are also very serious about all relationships. You are a family person. You call your Mom every Sunday. You have many friends and may occasionally forget a few birthdays. Don't let your passion confuse you with reality.

(44-50 points) You are Dexter:

You are smart and definitely a thinker. Every situation is fronted with a plan. You have a brilliant mind. You demonstrate very strong family principles. You maintain a

stable routine but never ignore a bad situation when it comes. Try to do less over thinking every once in a while to spice things up a bit with spontaneity.

Now don't spoil it! Have some fun! Change the subject of the e-mail to the name of your cartoon character and send it on.

Unforseen Side Effect Of Hurricanes

With all the storm activity in the Atlantic Ocean lately, I've been especially interested in hurricanes. I've lived a lot of places, but since I've only resided in the midwest, I've never witnessed a hurricane firsthand. Well, that's not entirely true. There was a hurricane a couple of years ago (I forgot its name unfortunately) that ventured up to our corner of Ohio. By the time it got here, it had been over land for quite some time which had reduced it to nothing but rain, lots of rain. It was really no different than any other rain we've gotten, except that I had been watching the radar, and I knew that it had been a hurricane in a past life – that made it special to me; I really enjoyed it.

Anyway, last night, the baby decided to wake up right as we were going to bed, so I was stuck watching tv while I fed him. And it's strange, because I really used to enjoy tv, but that's changed for me recently. Maybe it's because we are so busy all the time so I got used to not watching tv... I don't know what it is. All I know is that I used to be the kind of person who could be happy watching anything on tv – I could find something that would entertain me at any time of the day or night. Not so much anymore. I still like tv, and I love

watching my favorite shows (like The Office – almost time for new episodes!!!), but “junk tv” as I call it (reality shows, documentaries, etc.) isn’t so appealing anymore. My point in detailing all of this is to explain how interesting I found some random documentary I caught last night on the History Channel while I was feeding my son.

The documentary was about giant snakes, specifically pythons, and how they are starting to become a threat to people in Florida. What I found most fascinating about this is the fact that these snakes are not indigenous to the United States, but in 1992, when Hurricane Andrew hit Florida, many pet stores and homes that had kept these animals as pets were destroyed. Baby pythons were released into the wild and because of Florida’s tropical climate, especially in the Everglades, these animals now have a wild population that is thriving. On the show, they had pictures of one snake that had swallowed an adult human whole. They weren’t sure if the pictures were real or a hoax, and unfortunately I never found out because my son let me go to bed before the show was over. They also had pictures of a snake that had swallowed a 6-foot-long alligator whole, but it had ruptured the snake, causing his death. In the words of a snake expert on the show, “snakes can digest anything” – it’s just that the alligator probably clawed the snake open. But you could see the outline of the alligator in the snake – it looked like an alligator colored like a snake – it was bizarre.

I may have to find this documentary again so I can watch it when I’m not half asleep. But it’s really interesting to me that because of a hurricane, Florida now has another fearsome reptile lurking in the Everglades. I’m sure that was the last thing on people’s minds after Hurricane Andrew wreaked its havoc 16 years ago – I bet this scenario didn’t cross anyone’s mind. Who knows what unforeseen side effects we’ll see from Hurricane Katrina in a couple of decades? One can only imagine...

RELIEF

For anyone out there who has been following our plight through my husband's medical issues, we have good news! Here is a copy of the email I sent to our friends and family:

Hi everyone,

Chris had his medical tests today and they went well. They didn't find anything horrible – just some inflammation in the stomach and esophagus. The dr prescribed some medication that will hopefully take his pain away soon. They did take a sample to send for biopsy looking for any cell abnormality, but we won't find anything out from that for about 2 weeks; they don't expect that they will find anything abnormal. Thank you so much for all your thoughts and prayers and support while we were going through this – we really appreciate it and love all of you. We can't ask for better friends or family! Thank you so much!

Love,

Lisa

Who Ya Gonna Call?... Again

Yes, yes, yes... anyone who remembers the tagline from one of the top box office draws of 1984 knows the answer to that question. The announcement that a Ghostbusters III is being planned made me scratch my head wondering when enough is enough and how old actors need to be before a franchise that was created in their prime needs to be shelved. Although successful back in the day, the original films (the sequel

especially) were nowhere near as iconic as say... Indiana Jones. However, two writers (Lee Eisenberg and Gene Stupnitsky) from the wickedly entertaining series [The Office](#) (season 5 begins September 25) have been assigned to develop the story that will pick up 20 years after [Ghostbusters II](#). It also promises to reunite the four leads: Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis, Ernie Hudson, and Of Course Bill Murray. At this early date, it is uncertain whether or not Rick Moranis (who has all but retired from movie making) or Sigourney Weaver would be included. But I suppose that if the story was worthy enough, I might consider going out to see it or renting the DVD.

[Try Blockbuster Free for Two Weeks](#)

painting with brown paint

I'm not exactly sure how I did it, but I volunteered to put up some new ceiling tiles for the theater. That isn't much of a problem, but I do remember telling someone I would put them up if someone else painted them. Well, earlier this evening I was using some brown paint to paint all the new tiles before they go on the ceiling.

It wasn't fun at all. The tiles were like sponges and just kept absorbing the paint. I couldn't put it on too thick, because the tiles would have fallen apart under the paint load. Then all the little crevices and crannies in these tiles didn't want to take any paint. So this took about twice as much paint as I guessed and twice as much time. I certainly hope they go up smoother than the paint job did.

Next week, ceiling tiles will be put in their place. Wish me luck.


Gumption... Who Has It and What Is It?

WOW... tonight was the final dress rehearsal for [The Nerd](#) and to quote our director, "We have a show." I do however, have a few questions about it beginning with the title of this blog... what exactly is gumption... Let's find out together, shall we? Merriam-Webster's on-line dictionary lists two definitions:

- common sense/horse sense
- enterprise/initiative (*he lacks the gumption to try*)

Ok... now that that has been settled, the last person whom Axel believes to have said quality was Marjorie Main. Once again, I haven't the foggiest idea who he is speaking about so, I will consult the trusty wikipedia website and low-and-behold we get:

Marjorie Main ([February 24, 1890](#) – [April 10, 1975](#)) was an [Oscar](#)-nominated [American character actress](#), perhaps best known for her role as *Ma Kettle* in a series of ten [Ma and Pa Kettle](#) movies.

I KNEW I had seen her name somewhere before. I vaguely remember watching the old Ma and Pa Kettle series after church on Sunday mornings. She was nominated for an Academy Award for the 1947 Ma and Pa Kettle film [The Egg and I](#) .

So now that I have found answers to my two burning questions concerning the play, I can tell the cast of *The Nerd* to BREAK A LEG. IT IS GOING TO BE A SMASH.

Finally back online.

Figures, to use a word Jamiahsh did on my last post. Why do I use it? Well, because the tech never showed up! That's right, no call, no nothing. And get this- I called Comcast and they said the appointment was canceled! What?? Actually, that was the second time I called. The first time I called the representative was helpful and even gave me a \$25 credit on the spot for their tardiness. She then got in contact with the local dispatch and I was informed they would call me with an updated ETA. As I said, they never did. Now I need to wait until Friday. Sigh. I am actually at my church right now using their wireless to write this. I wish the local office was as customer friendly as the 888 number...

The above post was actually written two days ago, but for some reason I must have hit the save button instead of the publish button. So, now that I am online again I thought I might as well post it. Today the tech came (according to him he wasn't the right tech- the one who had this job was tied up at another job- but who cares, I'm back up!) and I showed him the bad spot. Ten minutes later, after a couple snips off the bad section and a couple of connectors put in place to join the ends, I am back in business. Well, I am going to catch up on some news now. I'll post again later. And thanks Taylhis on the update on C. I did get the email, and read your comment on the last post. I am glad the problem has finally been identified and is being treated. Prayers that the biopsy tests come back negative.

It's only a dream...

Boy did I have a strange dream last night. Normally, I don't remember them, but this one was long, involved and memorable.

***** Dream cloud surrounding the following narrative.
Comments are in italics *****

I was sitting on the porch of my house and a mid-sized red car comes up the drive. A lady I knew stepped out of the car and asked if I wanted to go someplace with her. She was very sorry for coming out to the house without calling, but really wanted make a companionship for this outing. I was more than willing to go, since I was thinking of asking this lady out for some time. I hadn't been asked out much during my life, and I liked the feeling...

In reality, I have no idea who this woman was and the house porch I was sitting on was my parents' house, and it was sold to my new neighbor almost 5 years ago. Yes, I do like the feeling of being asked out.

Before I could even step into the house to get my wallet and keys, a LifeFlight helicopter was landing in the front yard. Now I had no idea why they were coming here, and the life flight nurse was sure that this was the place to pick up the an emergency patient. I tried to explain that the only two people there were the two they saw now. Then a school bus comes barreling through the woods, not on the road, but right through the woods, and over the swamp. This is when I told the LifeFlight crew that this must be the person/people they were waiting for. While talking to the crew, the school bus turned into a tanker truck. Helping the people out of the tanker and onto the copter took so much time that my date and I were too late to go to her function. So we made plans to get together at a later date.

Ok, this just happened very quickly in the dream. The lady in question (I sure wish I would have had a name associated with

this dream.) The next section of the dream occurred in the blink of an eye.

I was sitting at a table of a park lodge with the lady of my dreams (*I like the way that sounds!*) and someone fell off a speed boat on the lake in view from the lodge. Leaving my date behind I run and swim out to rescue the person. Coming back into the lodge, I ran into my father-in-law. He was giving me a thumbs up sign on my date. I then went into a restroom (straight out of a Harry Potter Movie) to change my wet clothes. My brother-in-law came into the restroom to make sure I put on the suit he brought me. He wanted to make sure I was ready for the wedding. What wedding, I was here on a date?? Anyway, I get dressed and step out of the restroom to tell my date about the wedding. Instead of finding my date, I find my late wife. She said "Hurry up, we can't miss this wedding." I'm going, "Wait, you aren't supposed to be here, you died years ago." She said, "I know that silly, I just couldn't miss this wedding. Come on, let's go." I said I had to explain it to my date. My wife said that this was already taken care of. Me, I'm wondering how she took that.

The gorilla ushers took my bag (*where did that come from?*) and we took our seats. The wedding was over before it even began. *Yes, this was surreal. Even in the dream it had a feeling of weirdness. I'm not sure who the wedding was for, but all but 1 daughter was in the dream.*

After the wedding, my dear wife said she had to be going. I wanted her to wait, but her time was at an end. Then I went looking for my bag. (*Why not the date?*) I couldn't find the gorilla who took it. In fact I couldn't find any of the gorillas. The girl at the lobby desk told me she would go through the security tapes to find the gorilla that took my bag. I was watching it with her and saw the part where I came out of the restroom. I saw me talking, but I was talking to nobody. My wife was not in the video. Then I remember my date. Did she know why I was gone, did I ruin another date? I find

my date, and she was still waiting for me. I told I was sorry for being gone so long, and she said it was no problem. She had a nice talk with some lady who told me I had to be at a wedding at the lodge. She was told I was surprised and didn't know about the wedding. Hmm, how did that work out. She then said a gorilla gave her my bag.

***** Here the dream ends.... *****

I'm not what was going on in this dream, but after telling it to my youngest, she reminded me of a dream I had a bit ago. In that dream I had a date with a raven haired psychic. This lady in my dreams, also had raven hair, but I don't recall the face of either lady. Hmm... But then again, I've always liked dark haired women. Just a weird dream I remembered today.