

Hazards Of The Trade

Back in 1999, when I was expecting our first child, I remember having the WGN Chicago news at noon on the tv in our teeny-tiny downtown (Rockford Illinois) apartment. I was in the (hallway of a) kitchen making lunch, when I heard a long screech of tires coming from the tv. The fact that I was able to get from the kitchen into the living room to see the tv even in my expanded pregnant state should tell you how small that apartment really was... So I made it back in front of the tv to see the reporter **get hit by a car** – scary! Luckily she was ok, but the news anchors at the studio were a bit shook up and forced to forge ahead in the newscast, not knowing the fate of their co-worker. Every now and then, I remember this incident, and I've looked for a clip of it on the internet to no avail – until the other day when I finally found it. And just because it took me so long to find it, I will post it – perhaps others are looking for it also, who knows. Remember, the reporter was not seriously hurt in the accident – she hurt her leg and has since recovered from her injuries. Unfortunately, she was laid off last year, but the lay-off had nothing to do with the accident that had happened almost a decade earlier and everything to do with the station's budget cutbacks because of the terrible economy.

When searching for the above clip, I came across the following video of a Dutch weatherman getting nailed by a car, but don't worry – this is not as graphic as it seems because it is a fake clip; it's actually a commercial for tires.

A Totally Different Look At A Classic

My Easter Sunday began this morning about 5 hours after Saturday night ended. I COULD NOT sleep for the life of me.

I was sooooo excited that we were going to redeem the Christmas presents Jeff and I got the parents and I got for Megan and Carol. The anticipation was staggering (I swear I'm worse than a kid at Christmas... imagine if I were the one going to be in the company of a professional cast... no sleep at all).

Around 1AM, I finally fell asleep. Around 6, I woke up and flipped the channels and came across the Pope's mass from St. Peter's in Rome. By 7, I was wide awake. Breakfast was at 8 with the family, so I went down, showered, and put on some leisurely clothes so I did not ruin my good clothes before mass.

We went to 10:30 service instead of sitting through the 2.5 hour Easter Vigil mass the night before. I did get to sing in the choir and was told by another member how jealous she was and that she was going to see the show before its run in Toledo was finished.

What to say about *WICKED*? I have to say that the hype and praise is definitely well deserved. I have to admit that I was a bit apprehensive at first by the audacity of changing a classic movie I have had fond memories of for my entire life. I was tempted to reread the novel by Gregory Maguire but am glad that I decided not to.

Starting with the novel *Wicked*, Maguire has turned several fairy tale legends upside down and told familiar stories most people know from the eyes of the antagonist. He has also

penned two sequel novels set in the Land of Oz.

Wicked begins seconds after the liquidation (eh) of Elphaba (aka... The Wicked Witch of the West). From there, Galinda/Glinda takes the story back through the life of her "friend" the green one. We go from birth to school at Dear Old Shiz University to the life changing appearance of a flying farm house which falls from the sky. Traditional concepts such as acceptance, popularity, and the effect of rumors are put on great display.

Along the way, we meet several new characters created in the novel:

- Doctor Dillamond (the last remaining animal teacher at the university)
- Boq (a Munchkin who has eyes for Galinda... incidentally, he was played by a Northwest Ohio native)
- Fiyero (a student who is the love interest of Galinda and Dances Through Life)
- Madame Morrible (a teacher who if you change the first letter of her name describes her character perfectly. Rue McClanahan played the role on Broadway)
- Nessarose (aka The Wicked Witch of the East... wheelchair bound... cared for by Elphaba)

I just wish that I could go on forever about how great this show is! It really did challenge everything and provided insight into one of the most sinister characters ever created. The performances, sets, and music were all spectacular. Elphaba herself herself definitely was the star... WHAT A VOICE and she was an understudy!

I must admit that I splurged just a bit on the souvenirs but I did get a nice jacket to do my walking in and a colorful program!

Then we went to NICKS for dinner! Always a filling delight... but I did bring some cherry cheesecake HOME! It was already

in a take home container which makes sense because none of us ate everything. But once again the ribeye/shrimp combo was worth every penny of the \$14.00.

And the YANKS are... winning 2-1 in the top of the 4th in Boston!

Here is a shot of the Wizard, himself who has a very interesting role in the show:



Every Easter

We color the eggs, hide the eggs, find the eggs and then eat dinner. The children in our family are growing up now, and the next generation of egg finders are in a place too far. How long will we be able to keep the tradition. We will see.

The dinner was far from traditional. There was ham, but that was in a soup. The meal was wonderful and the company of family was greatly desired.

Another time to cherish and remember everything we hold dear in our lives. Something that is needed at all times of the year.

No matter what your faith, this time of year hold the promise of new beginnings. A time to remember what was and what can be. A time to look in your own heart and think of everything life can be, not just what it was.

Happy Easter.

The Greatest Day in History!

With Friday we honored the blackest time in history- God's Son, put to death in the worst possible way, and [the front page of this site went black in remembrance](#). Peter, one of His closest friends denied ever knowing Him. "Now what?" People wondered. Wasn't this man Jesus supposed to save the world? And for two days the Adversary laughed and people mourned. Then came the third day, and the tomb was found open and empty, and soon the people's grief turned to joy...

