

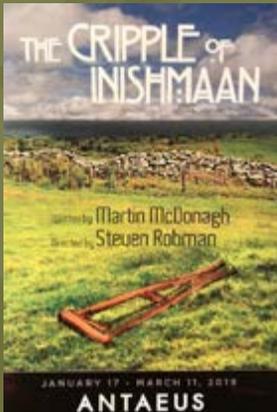
# Planet X-Mess

PLANET PROCTOR

DECEMBER 2018

## Happy Holidayze

**D**ear Planeteers, in spite of the Orange Grinch in the White House, my darling wife Melinda and I wish you the happiest of whatever you celebrate or choose not to celebrate this season, and we can only hope that the New Year brings the nation some closure and clarity.



And in 2019 you will also be able to celebrate my on-stage participation in *The Cripple of Inishmaan* by Martin McDonagh (author of *Six Billboards...*) at Antaeus, and the release of the audiobook, *Where's my Fortune Cookie?* by SueMedia. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this year-end, laugh-

and-fact-packed Planet! Love to all.

### BABY, IT'S HOT INSIDE

Larry Poulin in *'The Ottawa Sun'* reacted to the banning of Frank Loesser's song, "Baby, it's Cold Outside," by suggesting the ban be extended to these other offensive Holiday classics:

- 1 "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" ... *subjecting minors to softcore porn*
- 2 "The Christmas Song" ... *Open fire? Pollution. Folks dressed up like Eskimos? Cultural appropriation*

■ CONTINUED

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING **BOLD, DARK RED TYPE** OPENS A RELATED INTERNET LINK.



**TRIED TO TELL YOU**  
 Jack faces the 'Cold Outside'  
 lyrics issue head on.

- 3 "Holly Jolly Christmas" ... *Kiss her once for me? Unwanted advances*
- 4 I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas? ... *Racist*
- 5 "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" ... *Sees you when you're sleeping? Knows when you're awake? Peeping Tom stalker*
- 6 "Most Wonderful Time of the Year" ... *Everyone telling you be of good cheer? Forced to hide depression*
- 7 "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" ... *Bullying*
- 8 "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" ... *Dolls for Janice and Jen and boots and pistols for Barney and Ben - Forced gender-specific gifts*
- 9 "Santa Baby" ... *Gold digger, blackmail*
- 10 "Frosty the Snowman" ... *No snow woman? Sexist*
- 11 "Do You Hear What I Hear?" ... *blatant disregard for the hearing impaired*
- 12 "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" ... *Make the yuletide GAY? Wow, just wow*
- 13 "Jingle Bell Rock" ... *Giddy up jingle horse, pick up your feet: animal abuse*
- 14 "Mistletoe and Holly" ... *Overeating, folks stealing a kiss or two? How did this song ever see the light of day?*
- 15 "Winter Wonderland" ... *Parson Brown demands they get married? forced partnership*

- 16 "I'll Be Home for Christmas" ... *How insensitive – if you are homeless!*
- 17 "Grandma got ran over by a reindeer" ... *Extremely violent and promotes alcoholism.*

And finally, watch **THIS**.

"Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines." ~ **Steven Wright**

**GOD/DOG SAME THING**

**A** DOG LOOKS AT HIS HUMAN AND THINKS:  
 Wow – my human feeds me when I'm hungry, gives me a roof to sleep under when I'm tired, and brings me to the doctor when I'm sick... *He must be my God.*

Meanwhile, a cat looks at his human and thinks: Wow – my human feeds me when I'm hungry, gives me a roof to sleep under when I'm tired, and brings me to the doctor when I'm sick... *I must be his God.*

Remember, dogs have owners – cats have servants.

"Animals are such agreeable friends; they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms."  
 ~ **George Elliot**



■ **CONTINUED**

## NO NEED TO KNOW

**A** CAT HAS 32 MUSCLES IN EACH EAR. AN ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain and while a shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes, the giant squid has the largest eyes in the world. Women blink nearly twice as much as men. Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur and a polar bear's skin is black and its fur is not white, but actually clear. If you keep a goldfish in a dark room, it will eventually turn white, and a goldfish has a memory span of three seconds. Also, a dragonfly has a life span of one to six months, and while a cockroach can live nine days without its head before it starves to death, a common snail can sleep for three years.

**T**he average person falls asleep in seven minutes, and while the average chocolate bar has eight insect legs in it, humans on average eat eight spiders in their lifetime – at night. There are more chickens than people in the world, and more people are killed by donkeys annually than are killed in plane crashes.

Right-handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people, while the average person's left hand does 56% of the typing and *stewardesses* is the longest word typed with only the left hand and *typewriter* is the longest word that can be made using the letters on only one row of the keyboard.

**T**here are 293 ways to make change for a dollar and on a Canadian two-dollar bill, the flag flying over the parliament building is American.

American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in first class. All of the clocks in the movie *Pulp Fiction* are stuck on 4:20, and in most advertisements, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10. Vatican City is the smallest country in the world with a population of 1,000 and a size of 108.7 acres. There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.

*"An open mind, like an open mouth,  
should close on something"*  
~ G. K. Chesterton

## FOREPLAY

**J**OHAN DECIDED TO GO GOLFING IN SCOTLAND with his buddy Shawn, but after driving for a few hours, they got caught in a terrible downpour, so they pulled into a nearby farm and asked the attractive lady who answered the door if they could spend the night.

"I realize it's terrible weather out there and I have this huge house all to myself, but I'm recently widowed," she explained, "and I'm afraid the neighbors will talk if I let you stay in my house."

"Don't worry." John said. "We'll be happy to sleep in the barn and if the weather breaks, we'll be gone at first light." The lady agreed, and the two men found their way to the barn and settled in for the night. Come morning, the weather had cleared so they got on their way and enjoyed a great weekend of golf.

But some time later, John got an unexpected letter from that attractive woman's attorney, and he immediately called his friend and asked, "Shawn, do you remember that good-looking widow on the farm we stayed at on our golf holiday about nine months ago?"

"Yes, I do." said Shawn.

"Did you, er, happen to get up in the middle of the night, go up to the house and pay her a visit?"

"Well, um, yes." Shawn said, a little embarrassed about being found out. "I have to admit that I did."

"And did you happen to give her my name and address instead of telling her your name?" Shawn was silent for a while but then blurted out, "Yeah, look, I'm sorry, buddy I'm afraid I did. Why do you ask?"

"She just died and left me everything."

*What's the difference between a garbanzo bean and a chickpea? Nobody ever garbanzoed on Donald Trump."*  
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

## 'PITY THE NATION'

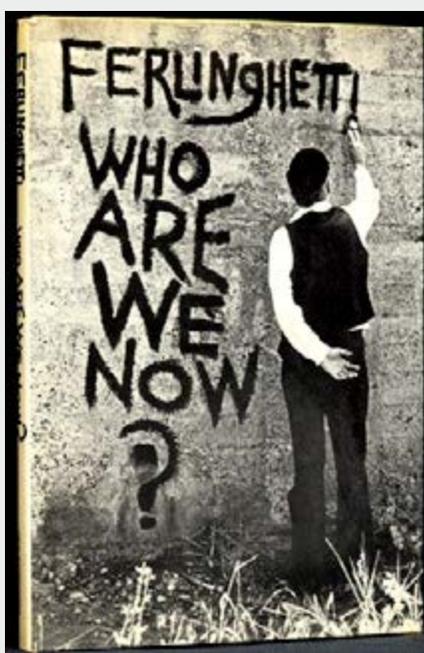
*Pity the nation whose people are sheep  
And whose shepherds mislead them.  
Pity the nation whose leaders are liars  
Whose sages are silenced  
And whose bigots haunt the airwaves.  
Pity the nation that raises not its voice  
Except to praise conquerors  
And acclaim the bully as hero  
And aims to rule the world*

■ CONTINUED



*By force and by torture.  
Pity the nation that knows  
No other language but its own  
And no other culture but its own.  
Pity the nation whose breath is money  
And sleeps the sleep of the too well fed.  
Pity the nation oh pity the people  
who allow their rights to erode  
and their freedoms to be washed  
away...  
My country, tears of thee  
Sweet land of liberty!*

Lawrence Ferlinghetti, 2007  
(After Khalil Gibran)  
**WATCH IT READ**



never wear just to annoy her – and I also donated those boots you bought at that expensive boutique and don't use because someone at work has the same pair.

"She was so grateful for my understanding and help," he concluded, "that as I walked her to the door, she turned to me with tears in her eyes and said, 'Please, do you have anything else that your wife doesn't use?'"

*"Bigamy is having one wife too many.  
Monogamy is the same."  
~ Oscar Wilde*

*"Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."  
~ Civil Rights icon Rep. John Lewis*

## CASH ME OUT

**S**WEDEN IS QUICKLY MOVING TOWARD BEING completely cashless. The central bank is testing digital currency, and more than 4,000 Swedes have implanted microchips in their hands, allowing them to pay for rail travel and food with a wave.

## LAST WORDS

**T**HE WIFE CAME HOME EARLY AND found her husband in their bedroom making love to a very attractive young woman. She was understandably upset. "You are a disrespectful pig!" she cried. "How dare you do this to me – a faithful wife, the mother of your children! I want a divorce!" And the husband replied, "Hang on just a minute, love, so I can at least tell you what happened."

"Fine, go ahead," she sobbed, "But they'll be the last words you'll ever say to me!"

And so, the husband began, "Well, I was getting into the car to drive home and this young lady here asked me for a lift. She looked so down-and-out, thin and defenseless that in my compassion, I brought her home and warmed up the enchiladas I made for you last night – the ones you wouldn't eat because you're afraid you'll put on weight. The poor thing devoured them in moments.

"Since she needed a good clean up, I suggested a shower, and because her clothes were dirty and full of holes, I threw them away and gave her the designer jeans that you've had for a few years but don't wear because you say they're too tight. I also gave her the underwear that was your anniversary present, which you don't use because you said they're in bad taste. I also went and found the sexy blouse my sister gave you for Christmas – the one you



**ALL IN THE WRIST**  
A Swede uses his implanted chip to unlock his office.

But financial authorities are trying to slow the trend as the government grapples with what it means for society, and consumer groups warn that going cashless will hurt older people, immigrants and the disabled, who rely on banks for customer service. Can you buy that?

*"I am not occasionally insubordinate, I am usually insubordinate. I don't take orders that I know are stupid or illegal."  
~ Benjamin Forencz, Nuremberg prosecutor*

## UNITED WE STAND

**T**HE STAFF AT A LOCAL UNITED WAY OFFICE realized that it had never received a donation from the town's most successful lawyer, so they called him and said, "Our research shows that out of a yearly income of at least \$500,000, you give not a penny to charity. Wouldn't you like to give back to the community in some way?"

■ **CONTINUED**

The lawyer mulled this over for a moment and replied, "First, did your research also show that my mother is dying after a long illness, and has medical bills that are several times her annual income?" Embarrassed, the United Way representative mumbled, "Um... No." "Or," the lawyer continued, "that my brother, a disabled veteran, is blind and confined to a wheelchair?"

The representative began to stammer out an apology but was interrupted by the lawyer, his voice rising in indignation: "Or that my sister's husband died in a traffic accident, leaving her penniless with three children?"

The humiliated United Way caller, completely beaten, said simply, "I had no idea..." but the lawyer cut him off once again, declaring, "So if I don't give them any money, why should I give any to you?"

*I don't care what religion anyone is as long as they use their turn signal. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts*

## DON'T DRINK AND RIDE

**W**ITH THE HOLIDAYS upon us I would like to share a personal experience with you about drinking and driving. As you may know some of us have been known to have brushes with the authorities from time to time on the way home after a "social session" out with friends.

Well two days ago I was out for an evening with friends and had several cocktails followed by some rather nice red wine.

Feeling jolly I still had the sense to know that I may be slightly over the limit, and that's when I did something that I've never done before - I took a cab home. Sure enough, on the way home there was a police roadblock, but since it was a cab, they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident.

This was a real surprise as I had never driven a cab before, I don't know where I got it; and now that it's in my garage I don't know what to do with it! Suggestions, anyone?

*"When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane." ~ Steven Wright*

## DON'T ASK

**T**HE ELECTRIC CHAIR WAS INVENTED BY A DENTIST.  
Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.  
Almonds are a member of the peach family. Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated. The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket. In England, the speaker of the house is not allowed to speak. No president of the United States was an only child. It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

## THANK ME ...

Luke Peterson, Julia Kvach, Oona Austin, Dan Crist, Kent McCaman, Bruce Laks, Allison Barenbrug, Joan Allemand, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Richard Laible, Allen Newcomb, Jamie Alcroft, Taylor Jessen, Roving Genius Andrew Michael Hollis and Steve Gaydos, for his fun *Variety* ARTICLE on my early years in the Biz.

And a special nod to my darling daughter, **Kristin Campbell**, for giving the **Firesign Theatre WEBSITE**, so well maintained for all these years by our dear friend, **Tom O'Neill**, a refreshing new look for 2019...

*"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves."  
~ Helen Keller*

## ... AND I'M WELCOME

**SPIN  
FLATHEADS  
ROCK IT  
SAD**

**THE SHINING  
WAR  
TRUMPERY  
SPITTING IMAGE**

The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English language. The names of the continents all end with the same letter with which they start. The word "racecar" and "kayak" are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left. No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple. "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "MT." There are only four words in the English language that end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

Shakespeare invented the words "assassination" and "bump." The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screeched" and the shortest complete sentence in the English language is "I am."

The characters Bert and Ernie on "Sesame Street" were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life." Elvis had a twin brother named Aaron who died at birth, which is why Elvis' middle name was spelled Aron, in honor of his brother (which is misspelled on his tombstone). Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

*"The opposite of love is not hate - it is indifference."  
~ Elie Wiesel*

*"Live long and die late." ~ Shell Ray Garnes*

**VISIT THE NEW FIRESITE AND THE OLD BOOMERS**

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