

"Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell."

~ Edward Albee

Mark Time

or a small amount of perspective at this moment, imagine you were born in 1900. On your 14th birthday, World War I starts and ends on your 18th birthday after 22 million people perish. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million.

On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins.

Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy.

When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet., and don't try to catch your breath, because on your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, another 75 million people perish.

At 50, the Korean War starts and a5 million perish. At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years, taking 4 million people in that conflict. On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, could have ended. Great leaders prevented that from happening, (but you probably got laid). When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

When you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your 85-year-old grandparent understood how hard school was and how mean the bully in your class. Yet they survived through everything listed above.

Perspective is an amazing art. Refined as time goes on and enlightening like you wouldn't believe. Let's try and keep things in perspective.

"Philosophy teaches a man that he can't take it with him; taxes teach him that he can't leave it behind either."

~ Mignon McLaughlin



Candid canine

LITTLE GIRL ASKED HER MOM, "MOM, MAY I take the dog for a walk around the block?" Mom replies, "No, because she is in heat."

"What's that mean?" asked the child. "Go ask your father. I think he's in the garage."

The little girl goes to the garage and says, "Dad, may I take Belle for a walk around the block? I asked Mom, but she said the dog was in heat, and to come to you." Dad said, "Bring Belle over here."

Being old school he took a rag, soaked it with a little gasoline, and dabbed the dog's backside with it to disguise the scent, and said, "OK, you can go now, but keep Belle on the leash and only go once around the block." So, the little girl left and returned a few minutes later with no dog on the leash. Surprised, her Dad asked, "Where's Belle?"

"She ran out of gas about halfway down the block" the little girl said, "so another dog is pushing her home."

"The wages of sin are death, but by the time taxes are taken out, it's just sort of a tired feeling."

~ Paula Poundstone

Cheese it, the cops!

HERE ARE A LOT OF WACKY LAWS ON THE books in the United States, especially in individual states and municipalities. But Illinois takes the cake (or ... cheese?) because. The Sanitary Food Preparation Act specifies:

It shall be unlawful for any person to sleep, or to allow or permit any person to sleep in any workroom of a bake shop, kitchen, dining room, confectionery, creamery, cheese factory, or any place where food

is prepared for sale, served or sold.

The law doesn't just cover the workers who handle the food, it's "any person," and it specifically mentions "dining rooms" and any other area with unsealed food. That means falling asleep in any place where cheese is made or sold is illegal. In fact, the law even outlaws allowing others to sleep. So if you spy someone sneaking a snooze in an Illinois cheese shop, be sure to shake them

awake, lest you be charged as an accomplice.

"The easiest way for your children to learn about money is for you to not have any." ~ Katharine Hepburn

Knock knock

N OLD LADY PUTS AN AD IN THE paper, looking for a husband...She decides honesty is the best policy, and sets three rules that applicants must meet: They must not run around on her. They must not hit her. They must be good in bed.

A few days go by after she placed her ad, when the doorbell rings. She opens the door to find an old guy sitting there in a wheelchair. He has no arms and no legs. The old lady asks if she can help him and he says he's there about her ad. "But you don't have any legs," she says.

"Just means I can't run around on ya," the old guy replies.

"But...you don't have any arms..."

"Just means I won't hit ya." The old lady nods and says, "Okay, but are you good in bed?" The old guy just smiles. "I rang the doorbell, didn't I?"

'YOU CAN RING MY BELL' Harry Melling as the Coen Brothers' 'Meal Ticket' in 'Buster Scruggs.'

"You're on Earth. There's no cure for that. The tears of the world are a constant quantity."

~ Samuel Beckett

Rush hour

HERE'S ALL THIS BRUHAHA
about *The Simpsons* being the
first show to predict the pandemic,
while as of yet, no major outlets have
talked about "Beat the Reaper" from
our first Columbia album, Waiting for
the Electrician or Someone like Him,

where people in our skit actually try to TOUCH THE CARRIER to get the plague. Sound familiar?

Then, 25 years ago, as

LOAFIN'

Illinois law seeks to prevent any baker's dozin' (as in Lagos, above) or a baby cheese loaf (right)

CONTINUED

David Ossman and I were driving

to the airport to kick off our 25th Anniversary tour in Seattle,

Rush Limbaugh dedicated a portion of his show

to performing an excerpt, calling us "geniuses"; and now, just last week, he referred to the "reaper" once again in a call with a female listener who said she knew **Firesign Theatre**.

So why no contemporary acknowledgment of our prophetic powers in 1968?

"You can't con people; at least not for long." ~ Donald J. Trump



Oh Canada!

han five. If you*re a family of six you*re about to find out who's the least favorite! Remember when we were little and our underwear had the days of the week on them? Yeah, they would be very helpful right now. The longer this goes on, the harder it will be to return to a society where pants and bras are required! Today*s Weather? Room temperature...

This is stupid. I just tried to make my own hand sanitizer and it came out as a rum & coke! Never in my whole life would I imagine my hands would consume more alcohol than my mouth, and happy hour is starting earlier and

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

earlier. If this keeps up, I*II be pouring wine in my cereal!

30 Days Hath September, April, June and November. All the rest have 31 .. except March which had 8000! It's looking like Vegas in my house: We're losing money

by the minute, cocktails are acceptable at any hour, and nobody knows what time it is.

Smoking pot and skipping school had me in trouble constantly. Now weed's legal and school's closed ... damn kids are livin' the dream! And by the way, if you get an email with the subject "Knock Knock," don*t open it. It's a **Jehovah Witness** working from home...

"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood." ~ Marie Curie

DUCK FULL OF YEAST EXPLODES: MAN LOSES EYE

DES MOINES, Jan. 31.—Rhadamanthus, a prize-winning duck at the recent poultry show, is no more, having
exploded into several hundred bits, one
of which struck Silas Perkins in the
eye, destroying the sight. The cause
of the explosion was the eating of
yeast, which was placed in a pan upon
the back porch, and tempted his duckship, which was taking a morning
stroil.

Upon returning from church Mr. Perkins discovered his prize duck in a somewhat loggy condition. Telltale marks around the pan of yeast gave him his clew.

He was about to pick up the bird when the latter quacked and exploded with a loud report and Mr. Perkins ran into the house holding both hands over one eye. A surgeon was called, who found that the eyeball had been penetrated by a fragment of flying duck and gave no hope of saving the optic.

"Making a man President cannot change him."

~ Chester A. Arthur

The difference

N OLD JEWISH MAN WALKS INTO A BAR AND sits down. He has a few drinks, looks around him and suddenly freezes when he sees

a Chinese man.

He gets up and punches him in the face. "Ouch!" the Chinese man cries, holding his nose. "What was that for?"

"That was for Pearl Harbor!" the Jewish man says. "But I'm Chinese!"

"Chinese, Japanese, what's the difference?" growls the old man as he turns and sits back down.

A few seconds later, the Chinese man walks up to the Jewish man and punches *him* in the face. "Ouch!" the Jewish man cries, holding his nose. "What was that for?"

"That was for the Titanic!" the Chinese man says. "But that was an iceberg!"

"Iceberg, Goldberg, what's the difference?"

"A Happy Home is one in which each spouse grants the possibility that the other might be right, though neither believes it." ~ Don Fraser

Body parts!

Where can a man buy a cap for his knee, Or the key to a lock of his hair? Can his eyes be called an academy? Because there are pupils there? In the crown of your head can jewels be found? Who crosses the bridge of your nose? If you wanted to shingle the roof of your mouth, Would you use the nails from your toes? Can you sit in the shade of the palm of your hand, Or beat on the drum of your ear? Can the calf in your leg eat the corn off your toe? Then why not grow corn on the ear? Can the crook in your elbow be sent to jail? If so, just what did he do? How can you sharpen your shoulder blades? I'll be darned if I know. Do you?

100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.

~ Phil's PhunnyPhacts



Drive, she said!

NCE THERE WERE THREE MEN, CHARLIE, Mason and Buck, who were involved in a tragic car accident in which all three died. As they stood at the gates of Heaven, St. Peter came up to them and said, "You will all be given a method of transportation for your eternal use around Heaven. You will be judged on your past deeds and will have your transport chosen accordingly."

St. Peter looked at Charlie and said, "You, Charlie, were a bad man. You cheated on your wife four times! So for this you will drive around Heaven in an old beat-up Dodge." Next, St. Peter looked at Mason and said, "You were not so evil, but you still cheated on your wife two times. For this, you will forever travel around heaven in a Toyota station wagon."

St. Peter finally looked at Buck, and said, "You, Buck, have set a fine example. You did not have sex until after marriage, and you never cheated on your wife! For this, you will forever travel through heaven in a Ferrari."

A short time later, Mason and Charlie pulled up in their cars next to Buck's Ferrari, and there he is, sitting on the hood, head in hands, crying. "What's wrong, Buck?" they asked. "You got a Ferrari! You're set forever! Why so down?" Buck looked up, ever so slowly opened his mouth and cried, "I just saw my wife go by on a skateboard."

"The ceiling isn't glass; it's a very dense layer of men." ~ Anne Jardin



MATTY SIMMONS

Second from left, with Animal House Screenwriter Doug Kenney, co-producer Ivan Reitman and screenwriter Chris Miller

LITTLE RICHARD

Right in 'The Girl Can't Help It'

JERRY STILLER

Below right, with Jason Alexander, as Frank Costanza in 'Seinfeld'



Im-portant!

ance Rucker, Victor
Kopcewich, Andrew Hollis,
Nick Oliva, Joan Allemand,
Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Thom Hartmann,
Rich Demaio, Newsthump, Travel Trivia,
The 365 Stupidest Things Ever Said
calendar by Ross and Kathryn Petras...

And a fond farewell to *National Lampoon*'s **Matty Simmons**, with whom I worked on the album *Sex, Drugs, Rock'n'Roll and the End of the World*, the great Little **Richard**, and the big-hearted **Jerry Stiller**, whom I had the pleasure to work with both off-screen and on, in **Steve Kessler's** *The Independent* with my dear wife, **Melinda Peterson**.

And coming soon to platform near you...

PLANETCLICK

Ex-portant

HEP CAT
RAISE ME
BEDTIME
ASSHOLE
ABNORMAL
FIDDLIN'
MURDER
BABY

You're "old" when you've outlived our friends. You're "old" & "healthy" when you've outlived your doctors.

~ from Paul Ross





Phil and Ted's Sexy Boomer Show

BUNKER TO BUNKER

"A difference of taste in jokes is a great strain on the affections." ~ French King Louis XV

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