
You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not tooo risqué (typically in Sections 4, 7 and 10); contests; reviews of shows, movies and books; quotes, etc. ... Please feel free to share it with 437 of your closest friends and relatives.. ... And In the unlikely event that you or they are not already a subscriber, just click the following link to be added to the free mailing list: [Here](#).

#1376

1.30.2023

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I saw a staged reading of RIVETED at The Magnetic Theatre, along with our friends Tom and Marcy Gallagher.

This brand new folk musical by local playwright Deborah Silverstein was superb--probably the best staged reading we have ever seen. It was part of Magnetic's New Play Development Program, and we're looking forward to it being a full production next season.

All in the large cast shined, and Erin McCarson's direction was spot on.



B. From there, we went to Zen Sushi for a delicious dinner of Japanese food.



C. Recent pictures of our bed room floor ...

Kismet's new toys from Chewy (left): \$49.98. His favorite (right): \$0.



D. Please catch this week's BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Kim Battle, Executive Director, and Debby Burchfield, Volunteer, with Hope Chest for Women ... To view or listen to the podcast, click: [Here](#) and look for the one dated 1.25.2023. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.



E. Condolences to Nathan Himelstein and family on the passing of Isabelle, Nathan's wife. For her obituary, click: [Here](#).

Note: Please also see Section 12 for more information about Isabelle.

F. Congratulations to:

(1) Berta and Tom Ditillo on the birth of Jaxson Thomas Lalanne, their grandson.

(2) Norm Kent for receiving the Lifetime Business Achievement Award from the Wilton Manors Business Association.

(3) Jack Bowen for receiving the 2022 NBA Unsung Hero Award from the Newtown Business Association for his work in drug abuse prevention.

G. Announcing this week's winner of the ...

******* BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD *******

It goes to the fine folks at GoFundMe.

They make it very easy to set up a GoFundMe campaign to raise funds for a wide variety of reasons.

I recently used a campaign to help a friend with unexpected medical bills. It was quite successful.

And I plan to use it again in the near future for another campaign that will be announced shortly.

What's especially appreciated: The excellent help pages that are online.

Even better, when you get stuck on something, you can ask for help, and you'll get a response within hours. Special thanks to one of the representatives, Chris S., who made it possible for me to resize a picture that I really wanted to use.

For more information click: [Here](#).

2. Invites

A. There's still time to enter ...

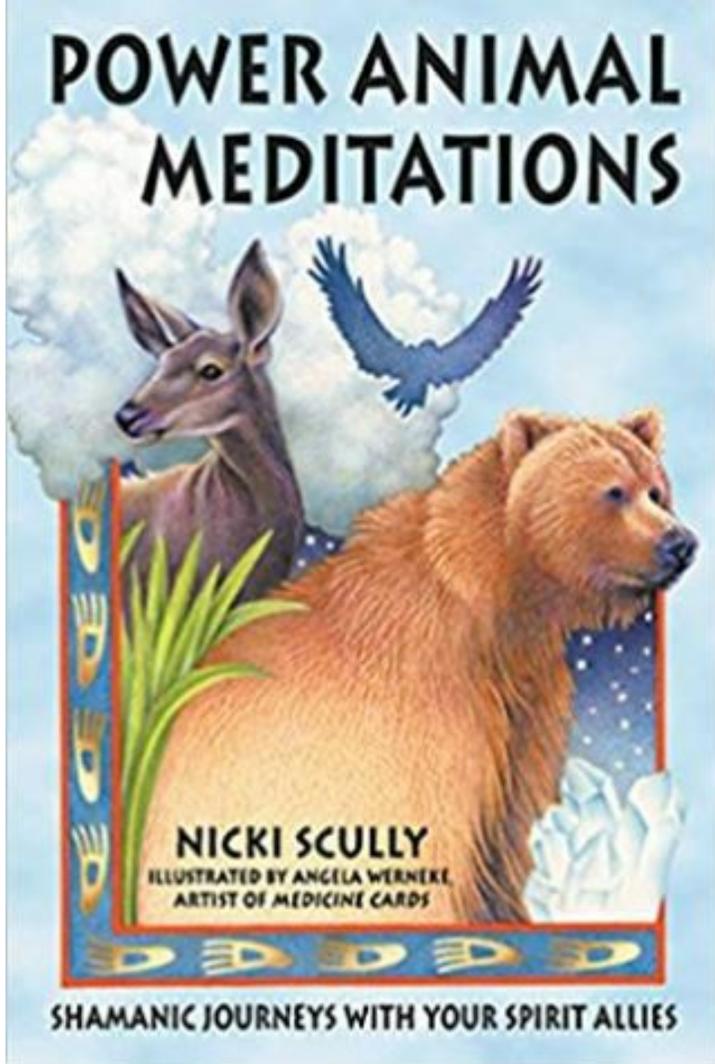
******* CONTEST #2 *******

One lucky reader will win a copy of POWER ANIMAL MEDITATIONS by Nicki Scully.

To quote one reviewer:

"Nicki Scully's magical journeys are truly inspired. Not only do they heal and transform, but they are without doubt the most vividly beautiful meditations to be found. Nicki's work is superb." — Carol Kramer, editor of Body, Mind & Spirit magazine

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #2 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 30.



B. Please LIKE and SHARE the Facebook page for At the Café, the new musical written by Marcy Gallagher with music by Sarah Kohrs that will have its world premiere at The Tina McGuire Theater at The Wortham Center for the Performing Arts on August 18-20 and 25-27. Here's the link: [Here](#).



C. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD podcast, now seen on YouTube or you can listen to it on your favorite podcast player? If you have news you'd like to share and/or a story to tell, send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put GUEST in the subject line. In the body of the email, include both your name and phone number.

Even if you've been a guest before, I'd welcome the opportunity to speak with you again. I now tape via Zoom, usually in the early evening.

For more information about the show, click: [Here](#).

D. Are you interested in shows, concerts, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a group I've formed on Facebook that's called Entertainment. To do so, all you need to do is follow the instructions when you click: [Here](#).

E. Come join Cynthia for the two courses she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Meditation on Monday via Zoom and Move Your Body on Wednesday via Zoom or in person. To attend this and/or any of the other courses that are offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).

F. If we're not yet friends on Facebook, click to send me a friend request: [Here](#).

3. FYI

As always, I had a fantastic breakfast with my friend Brian Biro at Cracker Barrel on Tunnel Road in Asheville.

What's cool, as he pointed out, is that we never have any set agenda for what we're going to talk about, but our conversations often take us in many different directions.

On this particular day, we discussed the concept of giving advice, and we both concluded that it is best when somebody seeks it--as opposed to just giving our opinion when not asked.

I shared what I tend to do when interested in getting or giving advice; i.e, ask the following question: What is ONE THING that could be done better? I find it is much better than just asking "What do you think?" That latter question typically just gets a very general "it's nice" or "looks good" response, and that is not what I am seeking.

Brian then shared what he does when asked to give advice on improving speaking skills. He asks the person what he or she is doing right and then asks what does the person think he or could do better. That is when the person is open to suggestions.

Note: The not-so cool part to our breakfast was that it might be one of the last times we will get together--at least on a regular basis. Brian is moving with his wife Carole to Ruckersville, VA, next month. They will be missed!



4. Joke 1

Frankly, I don't give a shitake. (Thanks, Jean Dolan, for posting.)



5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I saw *MISSING*, a thriller about a woman (Nia Long) who disappears while on vacation with her new boyfriend and the attempts by her daughter (Storm Reid) to find out what happened. There are many twists and turns, and though we found some of them convoluted, we liked the film and found it interesting. Rated PG-13.

Note: The ending, however, left us confused as to exactly what happened; i.e, until I read this explanation that you should NOT read until you've seen the film: <https://screenrant.com/missing-movie-ending-explained/>.

B. Cynthia loved *MISSION: JOY (FINDING HAPPINESS IN TROUBLED TIMES)*, a documentary that looks at the friendship between Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama--and their efforts to live with joy in the face of adversity. So upon her recommendation, I then saw it and am glad that I did.

Note: The good news is that the above is now available on Netflix.

C. Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for the following review:
TO LESLIE *** 1/2

There is always an Oscar Nomination that you think WTF did that come from and what was the Academy thinking. Well, this is one dark horse that clearly is a winner out of the gate.

Andrea Riseborough surprise nomination is no surprise if you see the amazing performance she gives as Leslie.

Based on a true story of a Texas woman who won the lottery and loses everything due to alcoholism is so heartfelt.

I still have to see *Tar and Blonde (UGH)*, but honestly, if I was an Academy voter, I would not think twice about voting for Andrea. Unfortunately this is a great year for lead actress performances and unless there is a major upset, the Oscar will go to someone else.

This is a B movie that got limited release, but if your are willing to spend \$6.99, I highly recommend renting it.

Streaming on Amazon Prime.

6. TV alert

A. PAMELA, A LOVE STORY: Now on Netflix

get Pamela Anderson's own side of her tumultuous life story in a documentary by double Emmy-nominee Ryan White.

B. YOU PEOPLE: Now on Netflix

Who wants Jonah Hill as a son-in-law? Not Eddie Murphy and Nia Long in this Netflix original movie from Black-ish creator Kenya Barris.

C. SHOTGUN WEDDING: Now on Amazon Prime

This promises to be a destination wedding rom-com that never loses sight of how ridiculous such nuptials are at the best of times. The killer cast includes Jennifer Lopez, Josh Duhamel, Jennifer Coolidge, Cheech Martin, Sonia Braga and Lenny Kravitz.

D. EAST OF EDEN: Monday, Jan. 30, at 3:45 p.m. on TCM

In this film based on John Steinbeck's epic novel, Cal Trask (James Dean), the son of a California farmer (Raymond Massey), feels that his father cares only about his brother, Aron (Richard Davalos). It was Dean's first significant role and arguably his best performance.

7. Joke 2

YOU CAN'T FIX STUPID ... A man was driving when he saw the flash of a traffic camera. He figured that his picture had been taken for exceeding the speed limit even though he knew that he wasn't speeding. Just to be sure, he went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly. The camera flashed a second time. Now he began to think that this was quite funny, so he drove even slower as he passed the area again and the camera flashed for a third time. He tried a fourth time with the same result. He did this a fifth time and was now laughing when the camera flashed as he rolled past at a snail's pace....Two weeks later, he got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat belt. (Thanks, Helene Peyton, for sharing.)



8. Clips/Sites

A. The Turtles are arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

(1) As mentioned previously, this section will feature music by The Turtles--either their recordings and/or covers of their music by others.

I'd especially love to see any recording you may have done of "Happy Together."

Send it to: bjinbc@aol.com and put THE TURTLES in the subject line.

Note: Even if you did not do a recording, I welcome anything done by others--not only of "Happy Together," but any other Turtles' song.

(2) For this week, please view this cover from a group called VERA: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

Zane Grey documentary: [Here](#).

He was an interesting guy, and methinks you'll enjoy the above. But what I especially liked when watching it

was the excellent voiceover work done by my friend Tom Gallagher.

C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Neil Diamond: America (Live At The Greek Theatre), one of my all-time favorite clips: [Here](#).

(2) Howard Smith: Hymns (1.29.2023): [Here](#).

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: David Crosby: [Here](#).

(4) To revisit Crosby, click "Wooden Ships": [Here](#).

(5) Bohemian Rhapsody: [Here](#). (Thanks, Dee Etta Rowe Ferraro, for sharing.)

(6) Origin of the elbow bump: [Here](#). (Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

D. Here's a website that you might want to check out:

Looking for a unique gift? Then check out This Is Why I'm Broke by clicking: [Here](#).

You'll find possibilities ranging from \$5 to \$500 with some cool products in such categories as:

35 Relaxing Gifts to People With Anxiety

55 Thoughtful Gifts for Your In-Laws

55 Valentine's Day Gifts for Him

24 Genuinely Romantic Gifts for Her

And if you're in the mood for popcorn with such flavors as pickle, cheddar bacon, honey mustard, buffalo ranch and many others, you'll find the link to Gourmet Flavored Popcorn.

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click: [Here](#).

F. Are you on Facebook? In the unlikely event we have not yet connected as friends there, please feel free to send me an invite by clicking: [Here](#).

9. Technology tip

Thanks, Dana Kagan, for sharing this valuable information:
Thought this was good advice (unless you can prove it false).

Keep this in mind!! Especially those of you who order online.
This is how hackers get your information.

Do you know what is the difference between http:// and https:// ?

I don't know how many of you are aware of the difference, but it is worth sending to anyone who does not.
The main difference between http:// and https :// is it's all about keeping you secure.
HTTP stands for Hyper Text Transfer Protocol.

The "S" stands for "secure".

If you visit a website or web page and look at the address in the web browser, it will likely begin with the following: http://.

This means that the website is talking to your browser using the regular "unsecured" language.
In other words, it is possible for someone to "eavesdrop" on your computer's conversation with the website.
If you fill out a form on the website, someone might see the information you send to that site.

This is why you never ever enter your credit card number in an http:// website!
But if the web address begins with https://, that basically means your computer is talking to the website in a secure code that no one can eavesdrop.

If a website ever asks you to enter your credit card information, you should automatically look to see if the web address begins with https://.

If it doesn't, you should NEVER enter sensitive information such as a credit card number, SS #, etc.

PASS IT ON You May Save Someone a Lot of Grief!

Note: I did check out the above and found that the advice was spot on. For more information, click: [Here](#).

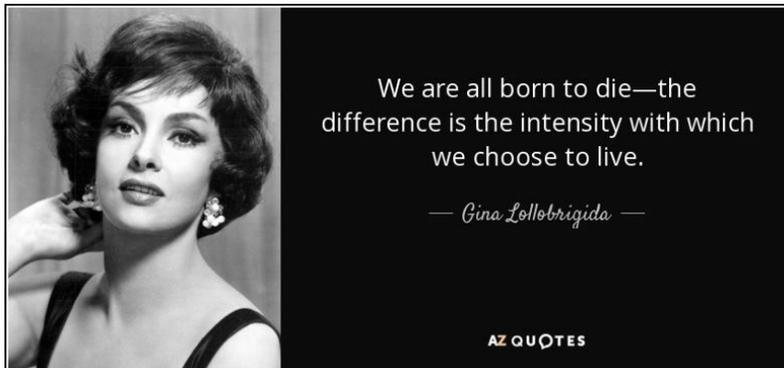
10. Joke 3

To learn more about the subject of irony, please view Bo Burnam's rendition of his song with the same title: [Here](#).



11. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Gina Lollobrigida (1927-2023), for your career as an Italian actress, photojournalist and politician. I first recall seeing her in BUONA SERA, MRS. CAMPBELL, a comedy that I enjoyed (that later became the basis of MAMMA MIA!). For more information about her life, click: [Here](#).



B. Thanks, Jerry Blavat (1940-2023), for your career as an American disc jockey and performer who had been a major influence in promoting oldies music on both the radio and in live concerts. I'll best remember you as "The Geator with the Heater." For more information about his life, click: <https://why.org/articles/jerry-blavat-philadelphia-disc-jockey-death-obituary/>.

**"My life has been about wonderful people. And if it ends tomorrow,
I'll have no regrets because I made people happy,
and by making people happy, it fulfilled my life."--Jerry Blavat**



12. Thought for the day

At the funeral of Isabelle Himelstein, my friend Nathan Himelstein's wife, her daughter Shari Rynar shared this oh-so-profound advice

As you may know, our mom was a teacher. Although we were never students in her classroom setting, she was our teacher in life.

She taught us many things:

Like never go to bed mad.

Treat the custodian as you would the CEO.

Answer your cellphone when your mother's calling.

Go the bathroom before you go on a car ride.

Make sure you count the silverware before you throw out the garbage.

Send postcards.

Hand write thank you notes.

Mail birthday cards

Spend money on good shoes.

Make photo albums

Put out clean guest towels.

Don't jump the waves alone, figuratively and literally.

Call when you arrive at your destination.

Donate your time.

Set the table the night before.

Steal extra straws.

Throw barbecue and Super Bowl parties.

Pick a wicked bridge partner.

Note: Please also see Section 1E for more information about Isabelle.

13. Advance planning department

For more information about the following events, please click: [Here](#).

A. Hannah Williams: Radium Girls. B. Jimmy Ferraro: Murder Mystery Dinner. C. Connie Hurst: THE REVOLUTIONISTS. D. Connie Regan-Blake: I am going to be interviewed. E. Connie Regan-Blake: Do you have some story seeds?

PS. Make it a great week!

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