

**From:** Blainesworld blaine@blainesworld.net  
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## BLAINESWORLD

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You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo 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](#).

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#1483  
2.10.2025

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### 1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and Kismet, our amazing cat, pose for our latest family photo.





B. I love solving all the world's problems over lunch with various friends.

(1) That's me with Pasquale LaCorte at Stoney Knob Cafe in Weaverville.



(2) And me with Cappy Tosetti at East Coast Grille in Asheville.

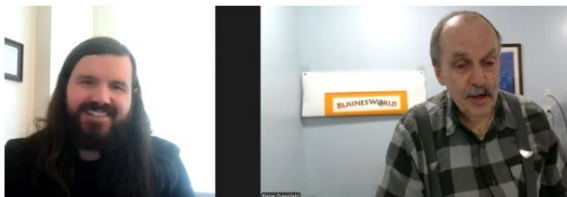


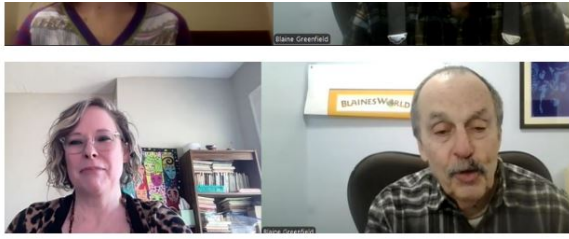
C. I hosted three BLAINESWORLD webcasts this past week. They can be viewed by clicking: [Here](#).

(1) Top: 2.3.2025 - Kevin Rumley, Musician Extraordinaire

(2) Middle: 2.4.2025 - Ofri Hirsch--Owner, Asheville Mountain Kitchen

(3) Bottom: 2.5.2025 - Victoria Lamberth--Managing Artistic Director, Hendersonville Theatre





D. Congratulations to Missy Bell for receiving an Honorable Mention for her short femme noir, "Medication," in the Lois Weber Film Festival. This fest particularly honors women in film.

E. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to the Phonak PartnerMic (pictured below).

This discreet and easy-to-use microphone enables Cynthia to have my speech go directly into her hearing aids. She can now even hear me from another room. It is incredible!

With direct connectivity through Phonak AirStream™ technology, the PartnerMic is:  
Simple and easy to use, just switch it on and enjoy one-on-one conversations.

Always directional, just attach it to the clothing of the person speaking without having to worry about positioning.

And it instantly connects to your hearing aids using AirStream technology.

For more information, click:

[Here.](#)

Note: Cynthia got this fantastic product from the Hearing Center of Asheville:

[Here.](#)

Special kudos to Alicia Rambo, the helpful audiology assistant there, who helped Cynthia not only with the PartnerMic, but also helped her with using her hearing aids with both our TV and her computer.



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## 2. Invites

A. Announcing ...

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

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of Hypnotize Yourself For a Powerful Mindset of Health, Happiness, and Success by my friend Dr. Andy Scarpati ("The Happy Hypnotist").

To quote from one Amazon reviewer:

"A beautiful, practical, insightful book with easy steps to put ourselves in a positive frame of mind. Controlling our thoughts before our thoughts control us. The meditation and breath chapter really helped my anxiety! Thank you D. Scarpati!"

To enter the contest, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #2 in the subject line. Include in the body of the email your name and mailing address, so that if you win, I can send you a copy of this book. Entries must be received on or before deadline of 9 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, 2025.

Note: Anoek van Praag was the winner of Contest #1, a copy of my friend Rodney Richards' Free-spirited Poems. All told, there were three entries.

B. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD webcast? It can now be seen on YouTube or you can listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

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.

If you want to join me, let me know. And for more information about the webcast, click:

[Here.](#)

C. I'm back on Facebook after having been hacked. If we are not currently friends there (or if we lost contact because of the hack), please friend me by looking up: Blaine Greenfield. You'll see a picture of me in a blue shirt with, naturally, my thumb up. This is my Facebook ID:

[Here.](#)

D. Are you interested in shows, 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 course she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Move Your Body on Wednesday via Zoom or in person.

To attend this course and/or any other that is being offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click:

[Here.](#)

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### 3. FYI

A. Can Characters Come Alive Without People?

by Hank Azaria

Mr. Azaria has been an actor for nearly 40 years, appearing onstage and in television and film:

[Here.](#)

B. The battle of the bags

Carry-on luggage is causing big headaches for travelers — and big profits for airlines:

[Here.](#)

C. I've wondered how to find out if my vote is one of the 60 thousand that Republican losing candidate Jefferson Griffin is trying to have thrown out in order to give him the Supreme Court seat that two recounts have proven he's lost.

Good news for me, it's not. If Republicans are able to overturn this result by getting legitimate ballots thrown out, there won't be a safe election left in the nation. You can check your vote and those of people who you know on this tool, and you can also forward it to others.

To do so, click: [TheGriffinList.com](http://TheGriffinList.com).

(Thanks, Nancy Clark, for sharing.)

D. 6 Hobbies Psychologists Say Boost Dopamine (and Happiness)

The actions we take every day—whether dopamine-boosting or energy-depleting—have a direct impact on

our mental health:  
[Here.](#)

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#### 4. Joke 1

How to know it's that time of year.



"THE GROUNDHOG SAW HIS SHADOW... THAT MEANS SIX MORE WEEKS BEFORE YOU TAKE DOWN THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS."

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#### 5. Reviews

A. Lucca's World, now streaming on Netflix, is a touching and beautifully crafted drama that Cynthia and I both appreciated. The film follows the parents of young Lucca as they navigate the challenges and triumphs of raising a child with cerebral palsy. The storytelling is heartfelt and authentic, with strong performances that bring both the struggles and joys of their journey to life. It's an emotional but ultimately uplifting watch that offers a genuine look at resilience, love, and family. Common Sense Media rating: age 13+.

B. You're Cordially Invited on Amazon Prime was a disappointing watch. The humor felt forced, the plot was predictable, and the characters lacked depth. Cynthia could only tolerate about 15 minutes before giving up, and I can't say I blame her. It seemed like a wasted opportunity given the talent involved (including Will Ferrell and Reese Witherspoon. MPA Rating: R.

C. Book review:

Rogue Lawyer by John Grisham starts off with a gripping and fast-paced narrative that immediately pulls you in. The main character, Sebastian Rudd, is intriguing—a gritty, unconventional lawyer who takes on impossible cases. However, as the book progresses, it begins to lose momentum, bogged down by too many subplots that make the story feel disjointed. By the end, the initial excitement fades, leaving a sense that it could have been more focused. Still, Grisham's sharp writing and legal insights make it an OK read, even if it doesn't rank among his best.

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#### 6. TV alert

A. Super Bowl LIX: on Sunday, Feb. 9, on Fox at 6:30 p.m.  
Go Eagles! But if you're not into game, you can always catch the entertaining TV commercials or rapper Kendrick Lamar's halftime show.

B. Younger: on Netflix

After her married life falls apart, an NYC woman in her 40s decides to restart her career and life--by pretending to be 26. Cynthia and I have seen the first few episodes of this comedy, and we are enjoying them.

C. Ellen DeGeneres: For Your Approval: on Netflix

In the final comedy special of her historic career, Ellen gets candid about fame, parallel parking and life since getting kicked out of show business. This is one very funny special that had us laughing throughout the hour.

D. Apple Cider Vinegar: on Netflix

This thriller stars Kaitlyn Dever (Booksmart) as a young Australian influencer who goes online to chronicle her battle with terminal brain cancer and her miraculous cure — attracting both sympathy and followers in

Her battle with terminal brain cancer and her miraculous cure — attracting both sympathy and reverence in the process. But it turns out the whole thing is just a sick hoax.

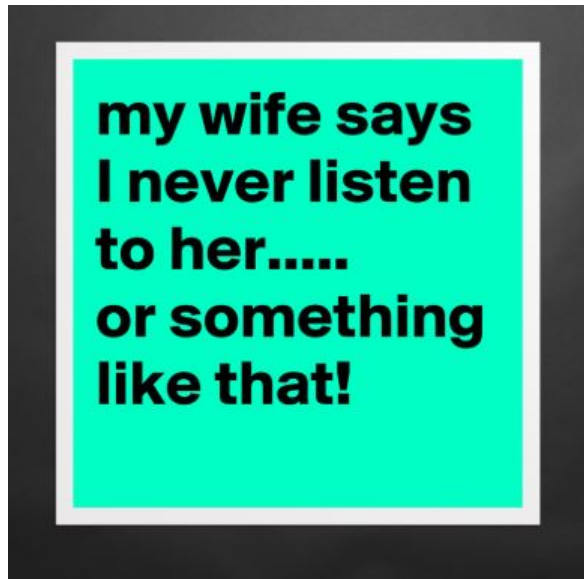
#### E. Clean Slate, Season 1: On Prime Video

This new comedy series from the late Norman Lear feels like classic Lear while also being very 2025. Comedian George Wallace, 72, stars as an Alabama car wash owner whose only child returns home after two decades in New York City. That child is now a proudly transgender woman (played by Emmy winner Laverne Cox, 52), whose homecoming promises to nudge both of them toward reconciliation.

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### 7. Joke 2

Truer words were never heard.



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### 8. Clips/Websites

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

(1) Their recording of "Happy Together" proves it

(2) As you may know, I welcome clips of them and/or others singing this classic song. For example, this week, you can see my friend Hank Eder singing it by clicking:

[Here](#)

Note: Feel free to submit your other choices for greatest recording artists, music, etc. I'll try to run what you send me in in section 8C (below).

B. Video of the week

In this short mockumentary, Eddie Murphy masquerades as a white man around New York City to explore existing racial inequalities:

[Here](#).

The above was from Episode 9 of Saturday Night Live's Season 10.

It featured other terrific clips, including:

Mr. Robinson's Neighborhood Christmas

[Here](#).

Gumbo: Broadway Gumbo Rose

[Here](#).

Billy Crystal Stairs:

[Here](#).

One critic even called this episode the best Saturday Night Live ever. To read his opinion, click:

[.....](#)

[here.](#)

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

(1) The Supremes, "Where Did Our Love Go," one of my favorites:

[Here.](#)

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (2.9.2025):

[Here.](#)

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Fleetwood Mac's Rumors:

[Here.](#)

(4) Neil mentioned "The Chain." If you're a Fleetwood Mac fan, you can see that song performed by clicking:

[Here.](#)

(5) Behold the King of One-Liners, Andy Huggins:

[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Steven Shulman, for sharing.)

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

Play Puzzle Game 2028

To do so, click:

[Here.](#)

Use your arrow keys to move the tiles. When two tiles with the same number touch, they merge into one. Try to beat your high score.

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

[Here.](#)

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## 9. Technology tip

How To Use Google Translate  
by Jason Shuffield

This week we are going to get back to teaching you something useful. We all use Google, well a lot of people use it, so I wanted to show you how to use the Google Translate features in the Google Chrome browser. You might be saying 'I already know how to use it', but you would be surprised that it can do more than translate words in Google search, much more. I have to admit I didn't know it could translate documents, websites, text, and images. Since I have learned this it is time to teach all of you.

To read this informative article, click:

[Here.](#)

Or if you would prefer, you can view it on YouTube by clicking:

[Here.](#)

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## 10. Joke 3

OH-SO-TOUCHING STORY (to get you in the mood for the game tonight)

After many years of trying, a die-hard fan finally gets one ticket to the Super Bowl--but his seat is in the nosebleed section.

So after just a few plays, he wants to see if he can find a seat closer to where he can see better. He treks all the way down from Row 179 to the very front of the stadium where he finds one empty seat. He asks, "Is anybody sitting there?"

The guy next to it answers, "No, because my wife just died."

"Sorry to hear," says the first fan. "How come you didn't bring a friend or relative with you?"

The guy replies, "Oh, they're all at the funeral."



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## 11. Three quotes I like

A. Thanks, Tony Roberts (1939-2025), for your career as an American actor. He was known for his roles in six Woody Allen movies—most notably *Annie Hall*—often playing Allen's best friend. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).

"The desire to hold the center of the stage or command the room shows up in people when they're 8 or 9 because people are either not paying enough attention to you or too much attention to you."--Tony Roberts



B. Thanks, Fay Vicent (1938-2025), for your career as an American entertainment lawyer, securities regulator, and sports executive who served as the eighth commissioner of baseball from 1989 to 1992. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).

"It was a terrible day for baseball, it was a worse day for Congress."--Fay Vicent on the House reform committee's attempt to make the sport answer for its weak steroid policy



C. Thanks, Karen Pryor (1932-2025), for your career as an American author who specialized in behavioral psychology and marine mammal biology. She was considered a pioneer in positive reinforcement training. For more information about her life, click:



[Here.](#)

Note: Even if you never heard about this woman, you'll want to read the above article to find out how she used her experience as a dolphin trainer to show how positive reinforcement could be used to train just about any animal, including horses, dogs and cats--and people too.

She wrote of how nagging only reinforces the nagger's tendency to nag more; rarely does it elicit any positive reaction in the naggee. This tendency, she noted, becomes more pronounced in more extreme behavior modifications, like beating a child or whipping a horse. Fear will modify the behavior in both creatures. The child or horse will be cowed to obedience, and the punisher will be emboldened to continue his or her corrosive ways.

"It takes me four years to get graduate students to think like that."--Karen Pryor  
on the fact that an otter she trained began to improvise before a group of visiting  
psychologists



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## 12. Thought for the day

See below for something to keep in mind before posting on social media and/or speaking with others. For more information about this test, click:

[Here.](#)



# The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

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**PS. Make it a great week!**

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