BLAINESWORLD

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.

#1378
2.13.2023

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had to postpone our New Year's Eve party last month because of a water outage in Asheville. So we finally got a bunch of friends together to belatedly welcome in 2023, at which time we also got to show them our refurbished kitchen. ... Pictured: (bottom left) Lisa Stendig, Ellane Chandler, Cynthia and Bonnie Sibner--some of those who jointed us; and (bottom right) the delicious spread we got from Dickey's Barbecue Pit in Asheville.

B. Thanks, Scott Treadway, for your moving, funny performance in EVERY BRILLIANT THING--now at NC Stage Company through Feb. 25. ... This solo performance, told with the help of audience members, will knock your socks off as you think about things in life worth living for. ... Number One on the play's list was ice cream. But on the way out, we were given the chance to put down things that we thought were important, and we wrote down, "The chance to see Scott Treadway in this play or any other." ... Kudos, also, to Charles Flynn-Mciver for your spot on direction. .. For tickets, click: Here.

C. NATIVE GARDENS (now playing at Asheville Community Theatre) is a contemporary play about racial, ethnic and social conflict. ... But it's also a comedy that will both amuse and touch you. ... All in the cast shine: David Mycoff, Kathy O'Connor, Meghan Marcelo and Kelvin Bonilla, and the latter deserves special recognition in that this was his very first stage appearance. ... Candace Taylor's direction is spot on, as is the set design from Jill Summers, production manager, and Niki LaRue, production coordinator. ... NATIVE GARDENS runs through Feb. 26. For tickets, click: Here.

D. See below for information about this week's BLAINESWORLD podcasts ...

(1) Please catch the BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Zach Knox and Brayden Dickerson, both with the band Smooth Goose. ... They discuss their rock opera HAPPYLAND. It runs at The Magnetic Theatre from Feb. 10-25. Tickets can be obtained at: Here. ... To view or listen to the podcast, click: Here and look for the one dated 2.6.2023. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

(2) Please catch the BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Lelia Duncan, President & CEO at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western North Carolina ... To view or listen to the podcast, click: Here and look for the one dated 2.7.2023. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

(3) Please catch the BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Hank Eder, PR Marketing specialist, and Tyler Lewis, author of WORD TO SELF, who talk about their upcoming discussion: "Bridging the Generational Divide: From Boomers to Gen Z." It will take place on Tuesday, Feb., 21, at 5:30 p.m. at Focal Point Coworking in Asheville. ... To view or listen to the podcast, click: Here and look for the one dated 2.9.2023. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Leah Craig Fieser on her appearance on WLOS. To view it, click: Here.

(2) Keynon Lake on having Feb. 10 named as Keynon Lake Day by the City of Asheville.

F. GOOD NEWS DEPARTMENT

In the past few weeks, I've had two MRI scans. The first was of my brain because of a brief balance issue I had. The second was of my prostate because of a rising PSA level.

Fortunately, both scans came out fine, and I don't need to see any more doctors in the near future.

G. Thanks Cappy Tosetti, for nominating this week's nomination for the:

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

Cataract surgery is an amazing procedure nowadays--changing the way we see the world with new vision and gratitude.

So many people to thank: Dr. Benjamin Wilson with Woolfson Eye Institute, a caring and talented surgeon, along with a wonderful and helpful staff.

Everyone at Outpatient Surgery Center of Asheville ... such kindness and efficiency .... everyone there was so attentive and reassuring.

A big thank you to Sona Pharmacy for sharing a coupon that reduced my bill for prescription eye drops ... a huge saving of over $200. Such a warm and friendly atmosphere.

And, a big thank you to my dear friends, Ellen Pappas and Marcy Gallagher ... volunteering to be my

chauffeurs on the days I had surgery. (Two surgeries, two weeks apart.). They were each such a comfort, especially seeing their happy smiles greeting me in recovery and getting me home safe and sound.

Thanks to everyone for making this experience an adventure!

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2. Invites

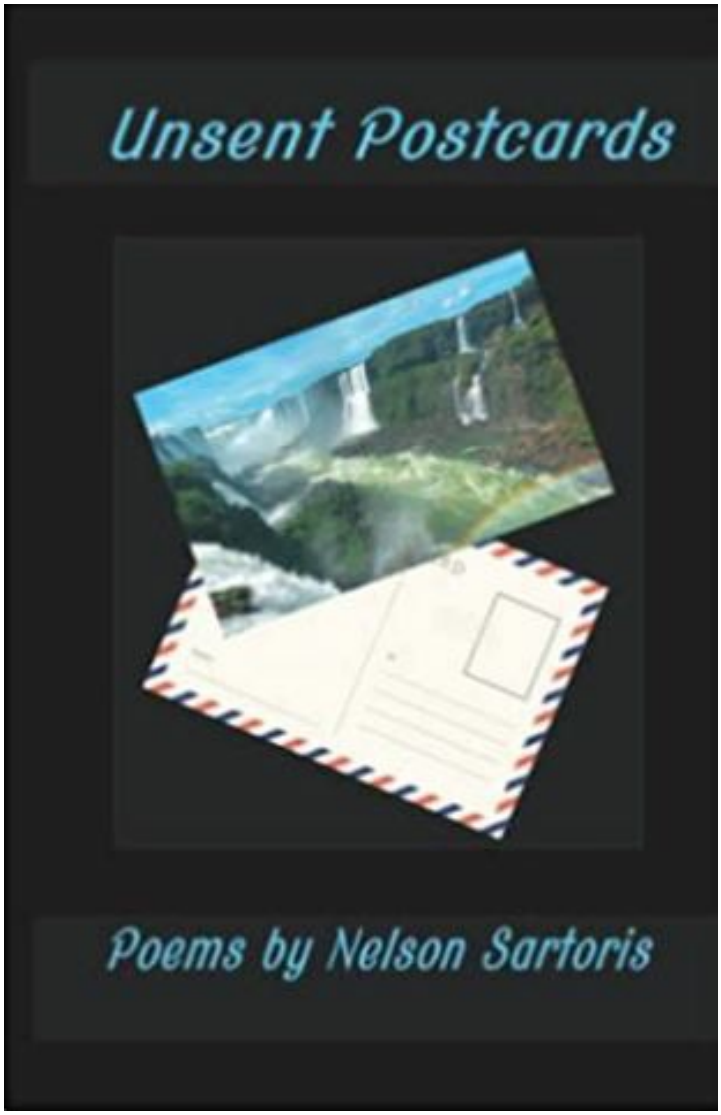
A. There's still time to enter ....

******* CONTEST #3 *******

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of UNSENT POSTCARDS, a collection of poems by my friend Nelson Sartoris.

To quote one reviewer: "The poems in this book resonate with me as someone who is also approaching the twilight of my years. They made me think and evaluate my role in life and in the world. Very thought provoking."

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #3 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, Feb. 13.



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. For more information, click: 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: bginbc@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.

Note: For others, see Sect.13 (at the bottom of this issue).

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3. FYI

An 81-year-old brain doctor's 7 'hard rules' for keeping your memory 'sharp as a whip'
by Richard Restak

Like any other part of your body, your brain needs daily exercise. Neglecting your brain health can make you vulnerable to degenerative brain diseases like Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

As a neuroscientist, I've spent decades guiding patients with memory problems through brain-enhancing habits and exercises--many of which I practice, too.

To read the seven hard rules that the author follows to keep his brain and memory sharp as a whip at 81 years old, click: Here.

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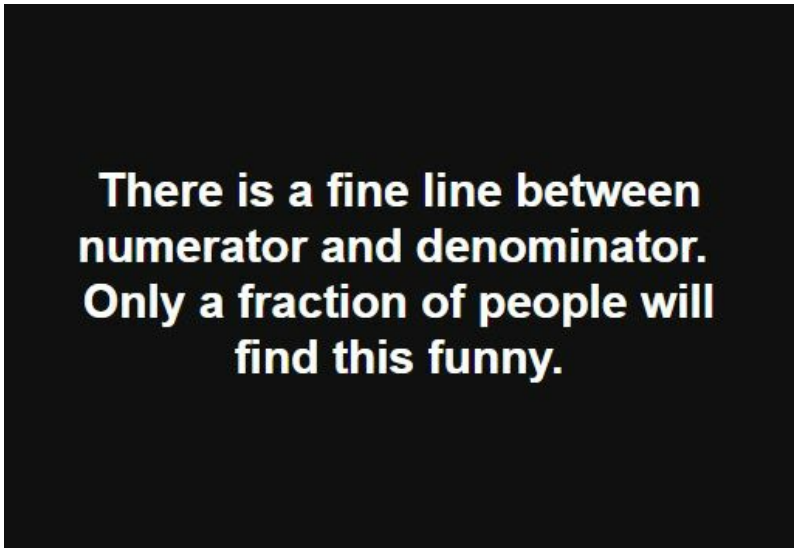
4. Joke 1

If you don't get it, you are among 5/4 of the population who are bad at fractions. (Thanks, Howard Debs, for sharing.)



5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I both got a kick out of 80 FOR BRADY, a comedy inspired by the true story of four best friends living life to the fullest when they take a wild trip to the 2017 Super Bowl LI to see their hero Tom Brady play. Sally Field, Rita Moreno, Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda all shine in their respective roles, and Brady was also quite good as the subject of their affection. This is a film that has a sports theme that will be enjoyed by all. Rated PG-13. (Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for the recommendation.)

B. We also enjoyed LIVING, a drama about an ordinary man, reduced by years of oppressive office routine to a shadow existence, who at the eleventh hour makes a supreme effort to turn his dull life into something wonderful. It started a bit slowly, but picks up when Aimee Lou Wood comes on the scene. Bill Nighy is superb in the leading role. Rated PG-13.

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6. TV alert

A. TED LASSO: First two seasons now on Apple TV+
The series follows Ted Lasso, an American college football coach who is hired to coach an English soccer team with the secret intention that his inexperience will lead it to failure, but whose folksy, optimistic leadership proves unexpectedly successful. Cynthia and I are currently watching this and loving it. (Thanks, Brian Biro, for the recommendation.)

Note: A third season is slated to premiere in early-mid 2023.

B. BILL RUSSELL: LEGEND: Now on Netflix
This excellent documentary is about the pioneering NBA star of the 1950s and ’60s who led the Boston Celtics to 11 championships over his 13 years in the league.

C. SOMEBODY I USED TO KNOW: Now on Amazon Prime
Dave Franco directed and cowrote this brand-new rom-com, starring Alison Brie as a workaholic who returns to her hometown for a visit and gets swept up in what-coulda-been feelings after bumping into her soon-to-be-married ex (Jay Ellis). According to critic Mike McGranaghan, "It's beyond refreshing to see a smart rom-com like Somebody I Used to Know - a movie about people who feel real, in situations that seem (mostly) credible."

D. DEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS: Now on Amazon Prime
Denzel Washington plays Easy Rawlins, a down-on-his-luck World War II veteran in 1948 Los Angeles who’s hired to find a missing woman--and then becomes the chief suspect when the woman’s best friend is murdered. While Washington is solid, Don Cheadle steals nearly every scene as Easy’s trigger-happy sidekick Mouse. Methinks it is time for me to revisit this 1995 film, which I recall liking when it first came out.

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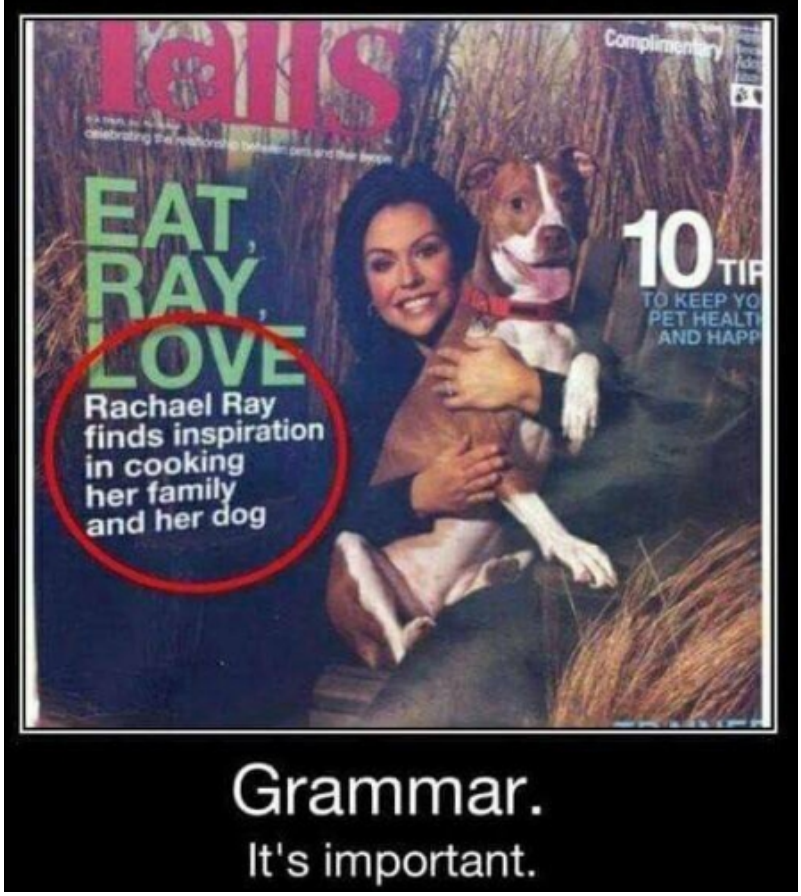
7. Joke 2

Soooo true! (Thanks, Linda Williams, for sharing.)



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8. Clips/Websites

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: bginbc@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 Fallon and Adam singing the song from a DYNASTY episode: Here.

B. Video of the week

BEWARE OF THE DOGHOUSE! ... This clip is just in time for Valentine's Day. It is a reminder of what will happen if you get your beloved the wrong gift this year. ... To view it, click: Here.

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

(1) Cilla Black, "You're My World," one of my all-time favorites: Here.

(2) Howard Smith, Sunday hymns (2.12.2023): Here.

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Alice Cooper and Groucho Marx: Here.
(4) Mentioned in the above clip was the time when Cooper and Marx sang "Lydia the Tattooed Lady." I wasn't able to find that, but I did come across Groucho singing it: Here.

(5) "Weird Al" Yankovic - Sports Song: Here. (Thanks, Jean Dolan, for sharing.)

(6) Donovan Marcelle performing with his idol, Tina Turner: Here.

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

Offbeat attractions in the United States include strange roadside attractions and wonderfully weird museums. To find out more, click The Coolest Offbeat Attraction in Each U.S. State: Here.

For example, you'll learn about both the Lucky Cat Museum in Cincinnati and The Museum of Bad Art in Boston.

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

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9. Technology tip

Save Facebook Posts for Later

Facebook makes it next to impossible to go back and find something that you whizzed past during a recent scroll.

Don't lose that tasty-looking recipe or interesting article; save it for later.

Tap the ellipsis menu in the top right of any post and select Save link or Save to watch later from the drop-down menu. This will send the link to your Saved folder.

Where's your Saved folder? You actually won't see it until you save something. Then a little purple Saved ribbon appears in your left-hand favorites bar on the desktop; tap the hamburger menu on mobile.

Saved Posts don't expire but they might disappear if the original poster deletes it. If you're a prolific saver, you can group your saved items into Collections to keep them organized.

Source: https://www.pcmag.com/how-to/hidden-facebook-features-only-power-users-know (#8)

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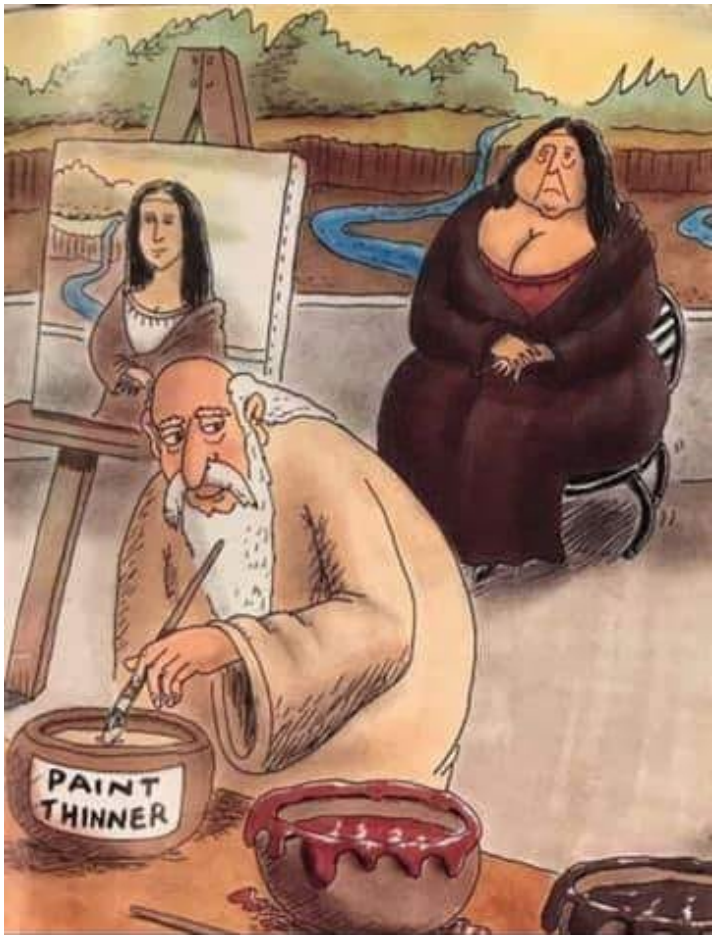
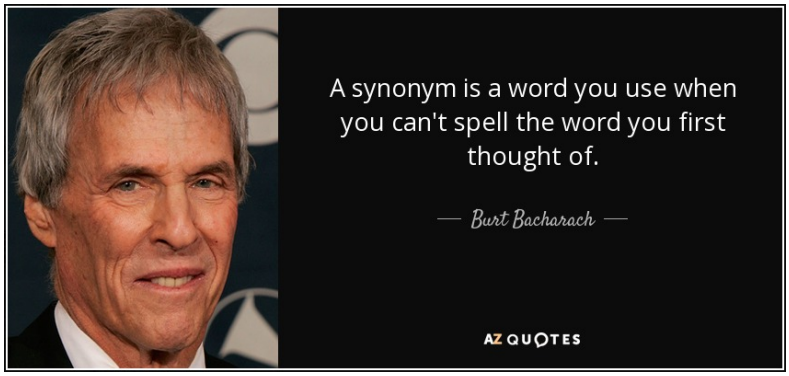
10. Joke 3

To quote Paul Harvey, "Now you know the rest of the story." (Thanks, John Worthington, for sharing.)

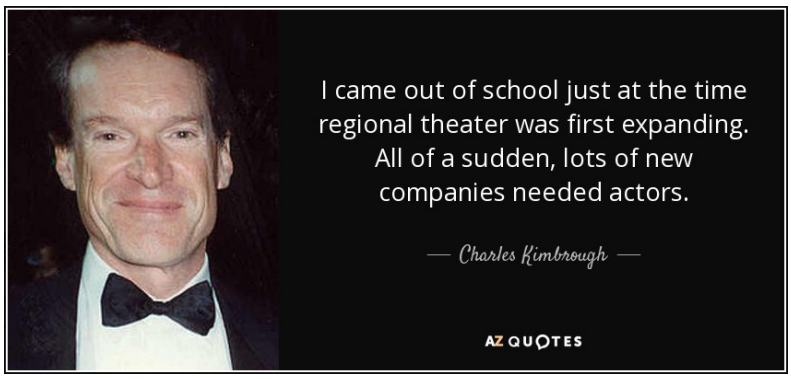


11. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Burt Bacharach (1928-2023), for your career as an American composer, songwriter, record producer and pianist who composed hundreds of pop songs from the late 1950s through the 1980s, many in collaboration with lyricist Hal David. A six-time Grammy Award winner and three-time Academy Award winner, Bacharach's songs have been recorded by more than 1,000 different artists. For more information about his life, click: Here.



B. Thanks, Charles Kimbrough (1936-2023). for your career as an American actor, best known as the straight-faced anchorman Jim Dial on Murphy Brown. He was nominated for an Emmy Award for this role, and he also received a Tony Award nomination for best featured actor in a musical for playing Harry in the original production of Stephen Sondheim's Company. For more information about his life, click: Here.



12. Thought for the day

Sweet Dreams

The Story:

A young boy and girl were enjoying a pleasant afternoon playing outside in their neighborhood together.

The boy showed the girl his collection of beautiful, unique marbles. In turn, the girl showed the boy the handful of candy that she had just gotten for her birthday.

The boy proposed that the two of them switch–he would give her all of his marbles if she handed over all of her candy.

The girl agreed, as she found the marbles to be beautiful as well.

The boy handed over all of his marbles, but kept one–the most exquisite one of them all–in his pocket.

The girl kept her promise and gave the boy all of her candy.

That night, the girl was happy with the exchange and peacefully went to sleep.

The boy, however, couldn't sleep, as he was up wondering if the girl had secretly kept some of her candy, just like he did with the marble.

The Moral:

If you don’t give 100% in your relationships, you will always assume your partner isn’t giving 100% either.

If you want your relationships to be built on trust, you have to be a participating factor in that.

Honesty grows your character.

By being honest in relationships, you’re holding your partner accountable to do the same. It allows both you and your partner to continuously think about your choices and how you can help (or hurt) your partner and your relationship.

Source: Here (#11)

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13. Advance planning department

For more information about the following events, please click: Here.

A. Sharon Lewis: Deep River at White Horse Black Mountain. B. Todd Leaven: A DOLL'S HOUSE. C. Janice Vertucci Schreiber: LOVE LETTERS. D. Connie Hurst: THE REVOLUTIONIST. E. Jimmy Ferraro: FUNDERAL FOR A GANGSTER. F. Anthony Mikolojeski: My next Online Membership Demonstration. G. Victoria Lamberth: Tuatha Dea.

PS. Make it a great week!

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