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# 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](#).

#1492  
4.14.2025

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**1. Reflections**

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I were delighted with two surprise gifts we received from her friend Karen Winters in Illinois. They both can be seen in the top left photo: a lovely balloon bouquet and Mr. Comfy, the latest addition to the Greenfield family. In the top right photo, you can see Kismet's reaction to this mechanical toy. And for a video of them playing together, click: [Here](#).





B. Please excuse the following interruption to today's blog for this special contribution from Cynthia:

How are you? It is a question you must hear or say numerous times a day. "Fine" is usually the answer. But would that be the truth?

Lately, I have disliked being asked that question. I respond, "Ask me another question." Maybe this one: "What is present for you lately?"

I could answer that latter one if someone really wanted to hear my response. A world of adjectives to respond with. And hopefully, a listening ear that is not judgmental. Don't fix me. Just be there for me.

"How are you?" has two answers, fine and not fine. That said, I am not fine.

Neither answer is set in stone. thank God. I go from fine, to not fine, to discouraged, to delighted and also to grateful in every moment.

To tell you the truth, I have not been fine. I have been discouraged, disheartened with myself, with the world, with my body, with doctors with no answers and with aging.

Will you not judge me for feeling this in this moment?

So if you do not see me out in the world with the best husband in the world, Blaine, it is not because I do not want to be wandering about seeing plays and going out for dinner and out for in the world with my bubs. It is because this body of mine is hurting, and I am not wanting to wander about with it in this moment.

Specifics are unimportant. Methinks many of you know what it is like to have your body not behave as you wish. Or maybe it is your child or friend or husband or pet who does not behave as you wish. And what must be faced are the challenges and choices of how to go about it all.

I wish you all good feelings, as well as gratitude, happiness, joy, love and ease.

If you are not feeling that way right now, please be compassionate with yourself.

I have a plaque that shows people walking together ... some alone ... some with others, and it says. "We are all walking each other home."

And I leave you with this poem:

The Guest House  
by Jalaluddin Rumi

Translated by Coleman Barks

This being human is a guest house.  
Every morning a new arrival.

A joy, a depression, a meanness,  
some momentary awareness comes  
as an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!  
Even if they're a crowd of sorrows,  
who violently sweep your house  
empty of its furniture,  
still, treat each guest honorably.  
He may be clearing you out  
for some new delight.

The dark thought, the shame, the malice,

meet them at the door laughing,  
and invite them in.

Be grateful for whoever comes,  
because each has been sent  
as a guide from beyond.

PS. I would welcome any reaction to this poem and/or to anything I have written. Personally, I'd love to hear from you and what your personal struggles or triumphs might be. It is good to know we are not alone. My email address is: [cgreenfield1001@aol.com](mailto:cgreenfield1001@aol.com).

C. We recently had a lovely lunch outside at the Auction House Food Hall in Fletcher. My cheeseburger and fries were terrific, and Cynthia liked her Maine lobster roll. The menu is eclectic, providing many choices to choose from. To view it, click: [Here](#).

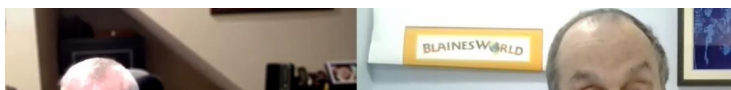


D. I hosted three BLAINESWORLD webcasts this past week. They can all be viewed: [Here](#).

(1) 4.8.2025 - Ruth Anne Wood--owner of Scripting for Success & communication/leadership/innovation coach



(2) 4.7.2025 - Don Scully--life coach and motivational speaker





(3) 4.4.2025 - Patricia Sands--Director, Doubt; April 12 & 13 at Hendersonville Theatre



E. Congratulations to:

(1) Mark Lew on the publication of ETCHED IN STONE, his book. it is available in paperback or on Kindle and can be ordered by clicking:

[Here.](#)

(2) La Bourgeois for being chosen to participate in Ithaca's Spring Writes 2025 Literary Festival. Good news: .You can register to see La read on May 15 by clicking:

[Here.](#)

F. Correction

Thanks, Francie Sabell, for picking up this mistake in last week's issue. In the BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD section, I recognized NuGo Nutrition bars. I said that they were high in protein and low in fact. I meant to say they are low in fat. Sorry 'bout that.

By the way, they're also delicious!

G. Announcing this week's ...

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

It goes to Hendersonville Theatre.

I recently had the pleasure of going there to see Doubt by John Patrick Shanley. and it was outstanding. The ensemble cast—Skyler Goff, Joan Rinchisen, Marcy Weisgerber, and Ana-Alicia Carroll—delivered spot-on performances that brought this powerful drama to life. Under the excellent direction of Patricia Sands and seamless stage management from Anne Garren, this Reader's Theatre production felt like a full-scale show.

There was thoughtful blocking, costumes and scenery. You'd never guess the actors were working from scripts. There were 16 rehearsals since February 18, and the end result was a polished, compelling afternoon of entertainment.





## 2. Invites

A. Get a FREE guide to the Top 10 Must-See Blues Landmarks: Your Essential Guide to the Heartbeat of the Blues!

Unlock Your Gateway to the Soul of the Blues! Immerse yourself in the rich, vibrant legacy of blues music and culture with our exclusive guide—"Top 10 Must-See Blues Landmarks."

Experience legendary sites that defined the rhythms and shaped the stories of the blues. Celebrate Juneteenth by embracing Black history through the authentic lens of music, culture, and resilience.

Grab your FREE copy now and begin your unforgettable journey into the heart of America's musical heritage!

Click here to get both the guide and information about an exiting tour of these sites:

[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Chuck Beatie, for sharing.)



B. Introducing ...

\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #5 \*\*\*\*\*

Two lucky readers will win autographed copies of Etched in Stone by my friend Mark Lew.

To quote from the book's description:  
What if God made a mistake?

Or what if we've living a misinterpretation of his words?

Mark Lew's wildly controversial and thought-provoking first novel asks these very questions. Beginning in the Kalahari Desert in Africa, Etched In Stone tells the story of Jodie, a biochemist whose life is turned upside down by a rock with radiant properties unearthed in a scientifically inexplicable biochemical dead zone in the desert. Defvina the local workers' vehement and terrified pleas not to touch it. Jodie is

transported, for a moment, to the Garden of Eden – later discovering the rock is the one Cain used to kill Abel as described in the Bible.

With the help of two men, Jodie must decide: Should she keep the powerful stone buried, or should she follow the dangerous path upon which it appears to be taking her? As the world descends deeper and more violently into chaos, it becomes clear that Jodie has been chosen to fight for the actual survival of humanity. The explosive climax between good and evil; truth and lies; order and chaos is astonishing, an ending that leaves readers to contemplate not only the basis for their beliefs, but their morality, as well.

To enter the contest, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #5 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 the 9 p.m. on Mon., April 28, 2025.

Note: Karen Winters was the winner of Contest #4, a copy of WHILE YOU ARE WAITING: HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF WHERE YOU ARE by Melody Barker. All told, there were six entries.

C. 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](#).

D. 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](#).

E. 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](#).

Note: Please also use the above to promote any shows you're involved in.

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### 3. FYI

A. Study strengthens link between shingles vaccine and lower dementia risk: [Here](#)

B. Science Says the Happiest People Choose All 3 of These Things: [Here](#)

C. Don't over-improve your home: 6 things to consider and what projects add the best value: [Here](#)

D. The Number One Way Americans are Becoming Millionaires: [Here](#)

E. Bracing for Trump's tariffs? Here are 3 money tips from a personal finance columnist: [Here](#)

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### 4. Joke 1

Cats say the darndest things.





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## 5. Reviews

### A. The Twister: Caught in the Storm: Netflix

It is graduation day in Joplin, Missouri. As the Class of 2011 collect their diplomas, their hometown is hit by a rare EF-5 tornado. Believing it could be the end of the world, a group of teenagers finds themselves in the eye of the storm. There were 158 deaths. It is a frightening documentary, but one that is worth watching. Rated age 15+ by Common Sense Media.

### B. Before and After: Prime Video

The lives of Carolyn Ryan (Meryl Streep), a small-town doctor, and her artist husband, Ben (Liam Neeson), are shaken up when their son, Jacob (Edward Furlong), becomes the prime suspect in the death of a local teen girl. While Carolyn is intent on learning the truth about her son's involvement, Ben is willing to protect him at any cost, regardless of his guilt or innocence. When Jacob finally tells his parents what happened, events take a surprising series of turns. We found it both engaging and well-acted. PB-13.

### C. Book review:

Michael Seth Starr's *Don Rickles: The Merchant of Venom* is a lively and affectionate biography of one of comedy's most fearless and iconic performers. Starr traces Rickles' path from his early days in New York to his legendary run in Las Vegas and Hollywood, highlighting the comic's sharp wit, unique insult style, and surprisingly tender off-stage persona. The book offers an engaging mix of career milestones, personal anecdotes, and insights from Rickles' friends, family and fellow entertainers.

Starr captures the cultural impact Rickles had as a pioneer of insult comedy, showing how he walked the line between offensive and affectionate in a way few others could. Readers are treated to stories of Rickles roasting everyone from Frank Sinatra to presidents—all with a wink and a smile. It's both a tribute to a bygone era of showbiz and a deep dive into the man behind the barbs.

Of course, no Don Rickles book would be complete without some of his trademark insults. Among the gems featured:

"You're a nice man. You're a credit to your race—the human race."

"When you were born, your mother ran around the hospital saying, 'What have I done, what have I done?!'"

"You look like a guy who got hit in the face with a bag of nickels."

"If you're so smart, how come I'm talking and you're listening?"

"Make yourself at home—clean my garage."

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## 6. TV alert

### A. Younger: Netflix

At 40, Liza hits discrimination in every job interview — so she remakes herself as a rookie of 26 and starts all over again in the publishing world. Cynthia watched and enjoyed all seven seasons.

**B. White Lotus: Netflix**

The series follows the lives of the staff and wealthy guests at a wellness resort in Thailand. We found it watchable but a bit strange.

**C. Love on the Spectrum, Season 3: Netflix**

This American reality television show is based on the Australian version by the same name. It follows people on the autism spectrum as they explore the dating world. We both liked the first two seasons, and are feeling the same about the new episodes we have already seen.

**D. Your Friends and Neighbors: AppleTV+**

Mad Men star Jon Hamm, 53, plays a divorced hedge fund manager who gets fired and resorts to stealing from his neighbors in ritzy Westmont Village — but stumbles onto some secrets he might be safer not knowing.

**E. Black Mirror, Season 7: Netflix**

When it comes to tricky and twisty TV anthologies, Black Mirror may be the one true heir to The Twilight Zone. The satirical, brainteasing British sci-fi series is consistently clever, well-acted, and packed with deliciously thorny ideas.

**F. G20: Prime Video**

When terrorists attack the meeting of the Group of 20 (the globe's most powerful nations), only one woman is smart enough to save America, world leaders, and her own family: U.S. President Taylor Sutton (Tony, Oscar and Emmy winner Viola Davis).

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## 7. Joke 2

### GIGANTIC RARE FISH CAUGHT

Folks in Atlanta had a treat several years ago when Jacob "Jew Fish" Fishman caught a 40- pound gefilte and then quickly placed it in a tub full of jellied broth. After shaping it into balls and topping each one with a carrot slice, he fed more than 150 people at various Seders around town.

For more information, click:

[Here.](#)

And if you're like me, and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY PASSOVER!





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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 it used in a Showcase Performance by clicking: [Here](#).

Note: Feel free to submit your 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

On SNL's Cinema Classics, host Reese De'What (Kenan Thompson) presents the never-before-seen alternate ending of The Wizard of Oz. You can view it by clicking: [Here](#).

C. Also, check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Andrew Gold - Thank You For Being A Friend, one of my favorites:

[Here](#)

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (4.13.2025):

[Here](#)

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Led Zeppelin:

[Here](#)

(4) Here's the live clip of the group performing "Achilles Last Stand." Bonzo's drumming might well be the best you'll ever see!

[Here](#)

(5) Pat Burtscher on Comedy Central:

[Here](#)

(Thanks, JP Reavely, for sharing.)

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

Kitchen Crafty Fun is a collection of the BEST Recipes, Crafts, DIY and Fun Food ideas!

To view, click:

[Here](#).

If you're on Facebook, you'll also see some funny memes when you like this page when you do. Just click:

[Here](#).

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](#).

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## 9. Technology tip

One setting you'll use all the time  
by Kim Komando

Ever stumble across a setting and think, "Wait, why didn't I set this up sooner?"

Turn your phone into a shortcut machine with this hidden feature. Let me introduce you to Back Tap.

This Android and iPhone feature lets you double- or triple-tap the back of your phone to trigger actions like turning on the flashlight, taking a screenshot or launching your favorite app.

It's tucked away under Accessibility settings (of all places), but once you set it up, it feels like a secret power move.

For the rest of this informative article, click:  
[Here.](#)



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### 10. Joke 3

No one has ever tried to rob my armoire truck. I'm glad that I finally got that off my chest!

(Thanks, Bill Lewis, for sharing.)



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### 11. Three quotes I like

A. Top: Thanks, Jay North (1951-2025), for your career as an American actor, best known for his role as the good-natured but mischievous Dennis Mitchell on the CBS situation comedy *Dennis the Menace* that

the good-natured but mischievous Dennis Mitchell on the CBS situation comedy Dennis the Menace that ran from 1959-1963. For more information about his life, click:

[Here.](#)

B. Middle: Thanks, Clem Burke (1954-2025), for your career as an American musician best known as the drummer for the band Blondie. Burke joined the band shortly after its formation in 1975 and remained with Blondie throughout the band's entire career until his death. He was also a member of the Romantics from 1990 until 2004, as well as for numerous other groups. For more information about his life, click:

[Here.](#)

C. Bottom: Thanks, Tracy Schwarz (1938-2025), for your career as an American folk singer known for performing traditional bluegrass and gospel music. He was perhaps best remembered as a member of the New Lost City Ramblers. For more information about his life, click:

[Here.](#)

**"If it took me more than one or two takes, I would be threatened and then whacked."--Jay North (discussing that he was abused by his aunt and uncle who acted as his caretakers on the set because his single mother was working full time)**



**"Everybody around me seemed to think that becoming 'a rock star' was unobtainable, but I never felt that way. I felt that this was how I was going to be able to escape my working-class existence. I was on a quest to find the perfect lead singer. I always say that when I met Debbie, I sort of found my Mick Jagger."--Clem Burke**



**"The music was just so beautiful the way it was. Our inspiration was just to play it exactly that same way."--Tracy Schwarz, discussing his commitment to the sounds of the past**



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## 12. Thought for the day

My kind of philosophy--and one that I also try to follow in every week's BLAINESWORLD blog, with my Facebook posts, etc.

(Thanks, Diana Moore, for sharing.)



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

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