

Note: You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not tooo risqué (typically in Sections 3, 6 and 9); reviews of shows, movies and books; quotes, etc. ... Please feel free to share it with your friends. ... 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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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I continued to hunker down in Week 59 of the corona pandemic. Fortunately, we were able to get out to Michaels to pick up this framed family tree that Cynthia had done when she was a young teenager. She did a fantastic version on it--and even got a well-deserved "A" grade on it. ... And yes, we were wearing our masks. We only took them off for the picture.



B. On a recent walk down our street, we came across this rooster. He had been injured and was hopping badly. .. What was so nice was that several neighbors had already come to his rescue. They were watching

over him to make sure that he was safe, and they called animal rescue to come out to take care of him. ... All turned out well.



C. THE MAGNETIC THEATRE IS BACK WITH LIVE PERFORMANCES! ... And you're in luck if you get to catch its opening show: IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, a powerful drama by Bret Murphy about a retired art professor who escapes to the Black Mountains of North Carolina. ... Kudos to cast members Alesa Bryant, Ryan Dever, Brandi Andrade, Kay Galvin, Darren Marshall and Christine Caldemeyer for their outstanding performances, as well as to Katie Jones for her spot on direction and Dakota Mann for his work as stage manager. ... The show runs through May 16. For tickets, click: [Here](#).



D. What fun it was to see Parkway Playhouse's streaming production of A SHERLOCK HOMES RADIO MYSTERY! ... All those in cast shined: William Tyler, Ezzell, Nick Ryan, Lara Hollaway, Michelle Geouge, Daniel Moore and Kristen Livengood. ... And Jenny Martin's direction was spot on.



E. Catch this week's BLAINESWORLD show by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: (first half) Jason Scholder, comedian; and (second half): Kyle Samples, sales and marketing, LaZoom Tours.



F. MANY THANKS to all who responded to my mentioning last week that I have something known as Raynaud's disease. ... I'm just grateful that the condition is not painful. ... When I found out that it is not really serious, I was grateful. And I was reminded of my mother's attitude when she found out she had Bell's palsy. ... She would say, "If that's the worst thing that should ever happen to me, that's not so bad." ... The only thing that upset her was the fact that it made applying her makeup a difficult and time-consuming task.

G. CONGRATULATIONS to Brent Russell on being named as one of the Top Beverly-Hanks Agents of the first quarter of 2021.

H. Invites:

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

(2) Come join Cynthia in either or both of the virtual courses she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Meditation on Monday and Move Your Body on Wednesday. To attend this and/or any of the others (that are open to the public), scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).

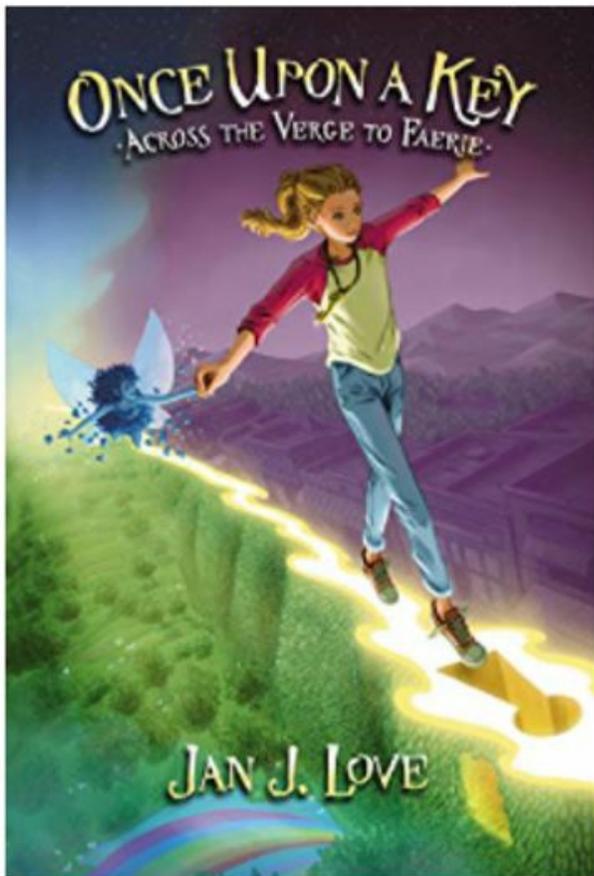
(3) Please vote in the 2021 Best of WNC Readers' Poll that's now open. ... To register, please go to "Start Voting!" at the bottom of the page when you click: [Here](#). ... I'd be honored if you would vote in these Media categories: Local Radio Personality (Blaine Greenfield in drop-down list) and Local Events Information Source (BLAINESWORLD in drop-down list), as well as for Local Radio Station, noncommercial (WPVM in drop-down list). ... I'd also love to vote for you and/or your business. If you want me to do so, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put VOTE in the subject line. ... PS. Unfortunately, voting is not that simple. You MUST vote in at least 30 separate categories or your ballot will not be counted. Send me an email if you need any help.

(4) There's still time to enter

******* CONTEST #9 *******

One lucky reader will win a copy of *Once Upon a Key: Across the Verge to Faerie* by Jan J. Love. This novel is an engaging, upper middle-grade eco-fairy tale with themes of self-empowerment, family and friendship that adults will also enjoy. (Cynthia did!)

To enter this contest. Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #9 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include both your name and email address, as well as your mailing address. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Mon., May 3.



I. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to Tyler Perry--the world-renowned producer, director, actor, screenwriter, playwright, author, songwriter, entrepreneur and philanthropist.

I was particularly impressed by him at the Oscars. He gave a powerful speech when he accepted the Jean

Hersholt Humanitarian Award for his work feeding and helping others during the pandemic. Here it is:
"Thank you. Thank you, that is, that's incredibly kind. Thank you so much. They only gave me a few minutes so I wanna say a very special thanks to Miss Viola Davis, who is nominated tonight and doing this. Thank you, thank you, I really appreciate it. To the Board of Governors, especially to Whoopi Goldberg [and] Ava [DuVernay].

"You know when I set out to help someone, it is my intention to do just that. I'm not trying to do anything other than meet somebody at their humanity. Like a case in point, this one time I remember I was, maybe it was about 17 years ago. I rented this building and we were using it for production and I was walking to my car one day and I see this woman coming up out of the corner of my eye and I say, she's homeless, let me give her some money.

"Judgment. I wish I had time to talk about judgment. Anyway, I reach in my pocket and I'm about to give her the money. She says, 'Excuse me sir. Do you have any shoes?' It stopped me cold because I remember being homeless and having one pair of shoes and they were bent over at the heels. So I was like, 'yeah.' So I took her into the studio. She was hesitant to go in, but we went in. We go to wardrobe and there all these boxes and everything around the walls and fabrics and racks of clothes. So we ended up having to stand in the middle of the floor. So as we're standing there in wardrobe, we find some shoes, we help her put them on. I stand up, I'm waiting for her to look up and all this time she's looking down. She finally looks up. She's got tears in her eyes. She said 'Thank you, Jesus, my feet are off the ground.'

"In that moment I recall her saying to me 'I thought you would hate me for asking.' I'm like, 'how can I hate you when I used to be you?' How can I hate you when I had a mother who grew up in a Jim Crow South in Louisiana, rural Louisiana right across the border from Mississippi, who at 9 or 10 years old was grieving the death of Emmett Till. And she got a little bit older. She was grieving the death of the Civil Rights boys and the little girls who were in the bombing in Alabama. She grieved all this all these years and I remember being a little boy and coming home, and she was at home like, 'what are you doing home? You supposed to be at work.' She was in tears that day. She said there was a bomb threat and she couldn't believe that someone wanted to blow up this place where she worked. Where she took care of all these toddlers. It was the Jewish Community Center.

"My mother taught me to refuse hate. She taught me to refuse blanket judgment, and in this time, and with all of the Internet and social media and algorithms and everything that wants us to think a certain way, the 24-hour news cycle, it is my hope that all of us, we teach our kids and I want to remember, just refuse hate. Don't hate anybody. I refuse to hate someone because they are Mexican or because they are Black or white or LGBTQ. I refuse to hate someone because they are a police officer. I refuse to hate someone because they are Asian.

"I would hope that we would refuse hate and I want to take this Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award and dedicate it to anyone who wants to stand in the middle, no matter what's around the wall. Stand in the middle 'cause that's where healing happens. That's where conversation happens. That's where change happens. It happens in the middle. So anyone who wants to meet me in the middle, to refuse hate, to refuse blanket judgment, and to help lift someone's feet off the ground, this one is for you too. God bless you and thank you Academy. I appreciate it. Thank you."

For more information about his amazing life, please click: [Here](#).



Viola Davis listens as Tyler Perry accepts the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award. AMPAS/ABC

2. FYI

The best question to ask in a job interview and get hired
by Rob Cancilla, executive recruiter and job coach

There is one single question I always recommend asking [in a job interview]:
"What is the biggest challenge for anyone coming into this role?" ...

This is an excellent question for three reasons:

1. You will stand out.
2. You highlight that you are ready to take on a challenge.
3. You are starting to envision yourself in the role. ...

Bonus tip:

After you ask the question, be sure and listen very carefully to the answer and, if possible, provide an example of how you were able to overcome or solve a similar challenge in your previous role(s).

Source: [Here](#).

FYI, part 2

To read the following articles, please click: [Here](#).

Note: If you see an ad requiring you to first subscribe to a publication before reading an article, see if you can click an "X" on the ad to see if that makes it go away. If not, consider signing-up for the publication on a trial basis (that usually gets you five free articles per month). If those two methods fail and you really want the article, send an email to me at: bginbc@aol.com and put the name of the article in the subject line. I'll then get it to you if I am able to do so.

A. Brie Larson Pivoted to Video. B. How to Beat Burnout--Without Quitting Your Job. C. Radical Acceptance Can Keep Emotional Pain From Turning Into Suffering. D. How to Deal With the Rental Car Crunch.

3. Joke 1

You run into your Crush at the store ... that moment you've always dreamed about comes true!



4. Reviews

A. Saw THE STAND IN on Netflix. It is a dramedy about a stand-in who takes over an actor's career and identity. Drew Barrymore stars and works hard in the dual leading role. The film had an interesting premise and was interesting in parts, but overall, it fell somewhat flat. Don't rush out to see it. Rated R.

B. A much better recommendation is ALMOST FAMOUS, A 2000 film that chronicles the coming of age of a 15-year old who lands an assignment from ROLLING STONE magazine to interview and up-and-coming band. The ensemble cast is outstanding: Billy Crudup, Francis McDormand, Kate Hudson, Jason Lee, Patrick Fuguit and Anna Paquin. Cameron Crowe both wrote and directed this thinly fictionalized autobiography. Rated R.

5. TV alert

A. If you have Amazon Prime, I strongly recommend you watch THE DURRELLS IN CORFU. This dramedy series is based on Gerald Durrell's classic trilogy. It follows an English family in the 1930s who move to Corfu to improve their lives. ... Cynthia and I are loving it. We are currently in the third of four years. Each episode is both funny and touching, and the writing is brilliant. THE DURRELS is as good as anything you'll find on TV.

Note: Amazon Prime members should also consider getting an Amazon credit card. It is free. Best of all, you get 5% back on all Amazon purchases. You'll get a kick out of paying for something and then get the option to use your Amazon points. It's like getting stuff for free.

B. If you have HBO, you also get HBO Max at no additional charge. Check it out, if for no other reason than to see Q: INTO THE STORM. This six-part series takes you behind the scenes to unmask the mastermind behind QAnon. There's scary stuff here!

C. THE NEVERS: Sundays at 9 p.m. on HBO

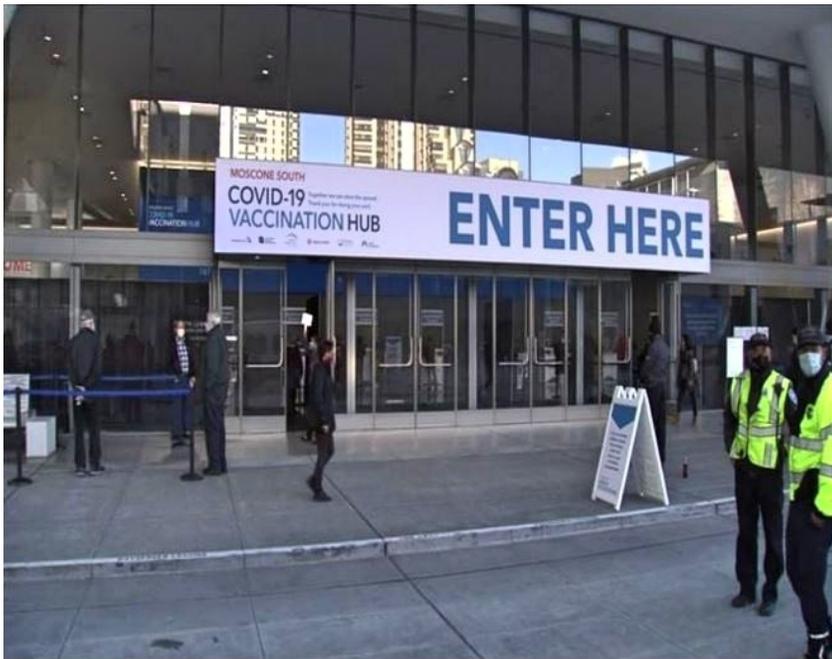
TV GUIDE calls this Victorian dark fantasy "fetchingly original." ... It views "how 1890s society warily regards the woman--and a few men--who gained special mysterious powers after being exposed to an inexplicable cosmic version of acid rain."

D. TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL: Thursday-Sunday, May 6-9, on both TCM and HBO Max

The four-day event opens May 6 at 8 p.m. with a reunion chat featuring stars of WEST SIDE STORY. There will also be tributes to popular actors Danny Glover and Ali McGraw, a table read of Ed Wood's classic 1959 clunker PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE (on May 7 at 8 p.m.) and plenty of great movies.

6. Joke 2

My friend Craig had his second COVID vaccine at the vaccination hub and shortly thereafter, he began to have blurred vision. ... As soon as he arrived home, Craig called the hub to see if he should go to the doctor or be hospitalized. ... He was told, "Don't do either of those things. Just return here to pick up your glasses."



7. 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 this guitar version version of them appearing on The Ed Sullivan Show: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

Thanks, Brad Owen, for sharing this clip that he is featured in.

There's Hummus Amongus

Truly legitimate Lebanese hummus tahini; no cumin, no pepper, but more tahini, lemon, and fun with powered appliances than most other YouTube Middle Eastern food instructional videos. I warn you, like a good story, I show rather than tell each ingredient's volume, measurement, and atomic weight, but it should give you a great start to make tons of wonderful hummus tahini at home...and yes, you can freeze it! Enjoy.

To view it, please click: [Here](#).

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

(1) Dusty Springfield, "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

Note: The above is also included in this list of her greatest songs that you can play (and listen to) by clicking: [Here](#).

(2) Neil Ratner Rock Doc about Pink Floyd: [Here](#).

(3) Howard Smith: Sunday hymns (on piano): [Here](#).

(4) Jonathan Berg: Levis 501 Jeans Commercial 1986: [Here](#).

(5) Richard Shulman: Musical meditation prayer: [Here](#).

(6) Aaron Ybarra: Digital church: [Here](#).

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

Not Always Right is filled with the best anecdotes of those on the shopping front lines. To view it, please click: [Here](#).

Here's an example of what you'll find:

Do As I Shout, Not As I Do

Supervisor: "Well, it says here that you have five books that are overdue. Would you like to renew them?"

Patron: "What do you mean, overdue?"

(The supervisor shows the patron the overdue titles on the monitor.)

Patron: "We returned those books! I can't believe this kind of stuff happens! What kind of library is this anyway?"

Patron's Young Child: "But, Papa, I saw one of the books at home, remember? In the—"

Patron: "Shut UP!"

(Ironically, one of the books he claimed to have returned was, "Teaching Your Child Good Manners.")

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](#).

8. Technology tip

How to check your iPhone's battery health
by Sasha Lekach

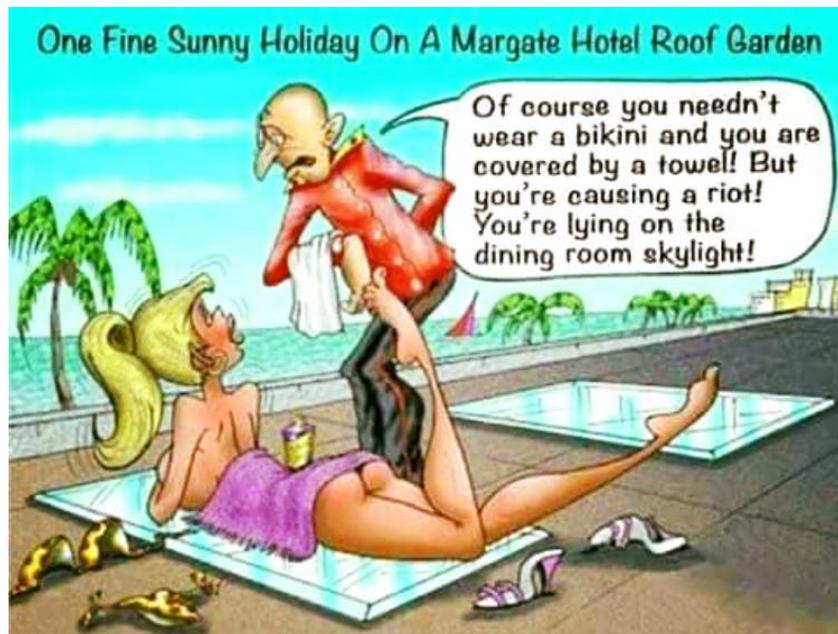
If it feels like you're constantly charging your iPhone or are always on the lookout for an outlet to plug in, your phone's battery health may be deteriorating.

Thankfully, Apple has some built-in tools (with more coming in iOS 14.5) to let you know for sure if you're imagining a quickly draining battery or if your phone really is about to die.

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

9. Joke 3

Dinner with a view! (Thanks, Jan Weinstein-Sparta, for posting.)



10. A quote I like

Thanks, Olympia Dukakis (1931-2021), for your career as an actor that saw you win an Academy Award for your performance in MOONSTRUCK and an Obie Award for your work in MAN EQUALS MAN. ... I'll also remember you for having always stood out in such other films as STEEL MAGNOLIAS and MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS, as well as in many TV productions. ... For more information about her life, please click: [Here](#).



Well, you know what they say: if you don't have anything nice to say about anybody, come sit by me!

— Olympia Dukakis —

AZ QUOTES

11. Thought for the day

My worst hire*

by Dawn Westmoreland

Speaker, radio talk host, podcaster, author and HR consultant

"But he/she has lots of college degrees or experience does not always mean that an employee is going to be a team player or have leadership skills in a job. They can be the negative "disrupter" who creates so much drama in the workplace that it makes everyone (including) the boss, miserable.

This has happened with some of my clients who dealt with employees who kept them tied up with behavioral problems, for months. This leads to the production and mission of the work slowing down--not good!

Once you find out that an employee is not a team player--what do you do? I will tell you:

- make sure (supervisor) is documenting all counseling sessions and keeping them in a safe location
- evaluations that are S.M.A.R.T (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound)
- You can evaluate customer service/teamwork and other key roles in the job. It can also determine if someone is meeting established work goals.
- mediation can work if all parties are willing to find "common ground." It can also serve as documentation when it does not work.
- when all else fails--the employee may need to be released. Keep in mind that every state has employment laws--hire an employment attorney if you need legal guidance.
- consider a severance (money/benefits) package for the employee.

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Dawn Westmoreland. For more information about her, please click: [Here](#).



12. Advance planning department

For more news about these events, please click: [Here](#).

A. Jeanie Linders: Coffee with the Mayor. B. Ellen Pappas: Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. C. Pasquale LaCorte: SAY GOODNIGHT GRACIE. D. Theater to Stream. E. Jessica Whitehill: Truly Trivial.

PS. Make it a great week!
