

**From:** Blaineworld bginbc-aol.com@shared1.ccsend.com  
**Subject:** BLAINESWORLD 1529 (See Sec. 4A for an eye-opening article.)  
**Date:** December 28, 2025 at 5:47 PM  
**To:** hank@hankeder.com

B

## BLAINESWORLD

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo risqué (typically in Sections 5, 8 and 11); 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.](#)

#1529  
12.29.2025

### In this issue

1. Reflections
2. Cynthia's Corner
3. Invites
4. FYI
5. Joke 1
6. Reviews
7. TV Alert
8. Joke 2
9. Clips/Websites
10. Technology Tip
11. Joke 3
12. Two Quotes I Like
13. Thought For The Day

### 1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I enjoyed our dinner the other day at Cornerstone. Both the food and service are always great. My only disappointment: I can no longer get my favorite: a Monte Cristo sandwich. Unfortunately for me, it is now only being served for breakfast.





B. We had a great visit at Fred Anderson Subaru where we returned to review how to operate our new 2026 Subaru Forester. Kimberly Peterson, the Love Encore Specialist (you gotta love that title!) showed us how to use all the safety features and answered our many questions. She did a perfect job.

Best of all, Bodhi got to romp in the dog part that's part of the dealership. How cool is that?

Note: To see Bodhi "in action," click:

[Here](#)



C. I hosted one BLAINESWORLD video podcast this past week, featuring my friend Dawn Westmoreland-- a syndicated radio host, author, coach, and speaker. To view and/or listen to it, click: [www.blaineworld.net](http://www.blaineworld.net)





D. Condolences to:

(1) Marty Sutton and family on the passing of Susan Mary Sutton, Marty's wife. For her obituary, click: [https://www.lifecelebration.com/obituaries/Susan-Mary-Sutton?obId=46776998&fbclid=IwY2xjawO4VrpleHRuA2FlbQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzcxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEeOWBMTUrjoze4IX933fNpxTN5\\_efjZEDMXahRilbSap9rV7G4WHHj00sGMI\\_aem\\_RljsC7TGeJO-IBth9ZvXmA](https://www.lifecelebration.com/obituaries/Susan-Mary-Sutton?obId=46776998&fbclid=IwY2xjawO4VrpleHRuA2FlbQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzcxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEeOWBMTUrjoze4IX933fNpxTN5_efjZEDMXahRilbSap9rV7G4WHHj00sGMI_aem_RljsC7TGeJO-IBth9ZvXmA)

(2) The family and friends of Linda Rose, one of my Lawrence High School classmates and friends.

E. Announcing this week's ....

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

This week, it goes to Todd Williams--Buncombe County's outstanding district attorney.

He recently announced he will not seek reelection when his term ends at the end of 2026. When he steps out of office, Williams will have served over 25 years as an assistant public defender, assistant capital defender and as the county's district attorney — the position in which he has served since 2014.

To quote from his announcement: "This decision comes from a conviction that the work initiated when I came to this position a decade ago has been substantially achieved, and that effective new leadership can carry forward what we began together in 2015."

Under Williams' tenure, the office rebuilt the Child Advocacy Center and opened the Family Justice Center. Both provide wraparound services for child and domestic violence victims.

With county support, Williams also helped establish the Justice Resource Center, initiated Adult Drug and First Offender Diversion Programs and introduced North Carolina's first Superior Court Veterans' Treatment Court.

And lest I forget, he was was a terrific guest several times on my BLAINESWORLD video podcast.

He will be missed!



---

## 2. Cynthia's Corner

## Bemused and Delighted by Innocence



Recently, I was watching my cat Kismet and my dog Bodhi.

Kismet was perched on the edge of the couch, observing Bodhi with a bemused expression. Bodhi was being his puppy-like, fun-loving, energetic self, playing with his toy as if it were alive. He tossed it into the air, then looked genuinely surprised when it landed on his nose. Kismet watched with thoughtful amusement at the sheer oddity of such behavior. He seemed perplexed by Bodhi's innocence, youth, and silliness. As if thinking, "I don't know what this is, but I'm fairly certain it's unnecessary."

Blaine and I are in our seventies. Kismet, now six years old, is well past his kitten days and has matured into spending much of his time resting. Blaine and I, too, find ourselves smiling as we observe Bodhi in his joyful antics, wrestling with a blanket or a toy, clearly having the time of his life.

I wonder if any of you reading this remember quietly enjoying, or even gently poking fun at, the behavior of a child, a younger sibling, a puppy, or a kitten. I was the youngest in my family, and I remember being the target of some cruel jokes because I was innocent and vulnerable. Not very kind. Still, how many of us have laughed, even just a little, at the younger and more vulnerable among us?

It's a reminder to be kind. Sometimes jealousy sneaks in. Ah, to be young again and able to have that kind of carefree fun. Perhaps we wish, in some small way, to be them again.

So, I thank Bodhi. For the smiles. For the joy. For reminding me to have fun for no reason at all, other than ... why not?

And I appreciate Kismet too. His quiet, mature observation. His preference for rest. His wisdom in simply being.

Life is richer for the differences.

And please listen to the this song, "Return to Pooh Corner" by Kenny Loggins:  
[Here](#)

You will love it. Reminder to go back to childhood. Nostalgic!

Warmly,  
Cynthia  
[cgreenfield1001@aol.com](mailto:cgreenfield1001@aol.com)

PS. As always, kindly respond with any reactions. I love hearing from you.

---

### 3. Invites

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

\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #15 \*\*\*\*\*

One lucky reader will win a copy of FROM A NOBODY TO THE SOMEBODY by my friend Melvin AC Howell.

To quote from the Amazon description:

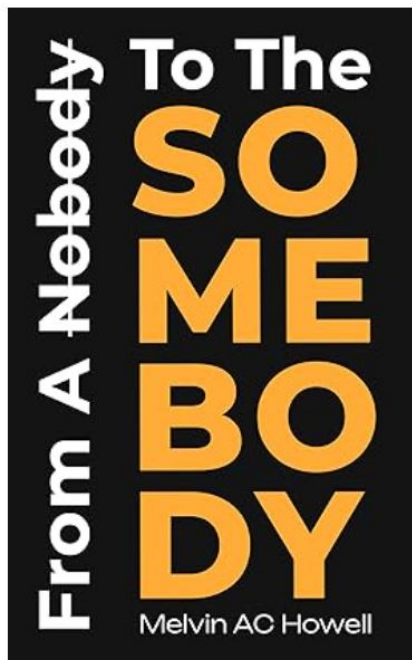
FROM A NOBODY TO THE SOMEBODY is a raw and inspiring memoir about defying the odds, clinging to faith, and transforming struggle into purpose.

Raised in poverty and rejection, Melvin AC Howell learned early what it meant to be counted out. From sleeping in cars and navigating life on the margins to performing on world stages as a dancer and choreographer, his story is proof that resilience can rewrite reality.

This isn't a memoir written from the mountaintop - it's written mid-climb, in real time, with every bruise and breakthrough intact. Howell shares the pain of homelessness, the power of prayer, and the relentless decision to keep going when the world said "quit." His story is both intimate and universal - a testament that becoming somebody doesn't begin when the world notices you, but when you decide not to give up.

For anyone chasing a dream, fighting through setbacks, or searching for hope in the midst of struggle, this book is a reminder: your story isn't over.

To enter the contest, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #15 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 Monday, Jan. 6.



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

I typically feature guests involved with theater, non-profit organizations, authors, performers or who are just downright interesting.

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. Send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com), if interested, and put WEBCAST in the subject line. And for more information, click:

<https://www.blaineworld.net/>

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.

You can also find me by clicking:

<https://www.facebook.com/blaine.greenfield.2025/>

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/245515070390413>

---

#### 4. FYI

A. Knowing 5 early signs of dementia may make all the difference | Opinion  
By Kevin Jameson

Dementia can sneak up on you. I know, because it happened to my family.

Back in the early 2000s, my first wife, Ginny, began demonstrating some unusual behavior. She was not her usual bubbly self. Instead, she became caustic, somewhat aggressive, got lost driving and was unable to follow written directions.

At times, these episodes frustrated me, but I assumed they were caused by stress or marital difficulties. Then, one day, we went to dinner at a favorite Indian restaurant near our home in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The hostess met us at the front door, and I greeted her by name. As we sat down, Ginny asked how I knew her. I responded by saying that we knew her from the last time we were there. Ginny insisted she had never been to the restaurant before and accused me of having been there with another woman.

For the rest of this eye-opening article, click:

[Here](#)



Ginny and Kevin Jameson in 2006 in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts. Provided By Kevin Jameson

B. Waiting until January to make this move could trim up to \$2,000 off your taxable income—about 90% of filers could benefit

[Here](#)

C. The rule Broadway insiders use to avoid offending people who work on the show

What it is: Critics and other industry folks tend to stroll a safe distance away before spouting off. If a paywall prevents you from reading this interesting article, read it by clicking here:

[Here](#)

D. I interviewed some of the top longevity experts in 2025: 4 healthy habits they all have in common—'it's so important to get your body moving'

[Here](#)

E. Psychology expert: The most emotionally intelligent couples do 3 things differently  
[Here](#)

---

## 5. Joke 1

This has me humming "Those Were the Days." To join me, click:  
<https://tinyurl.com/bdffb3fu>



---

## 6. Reviews

### A. Movies

(1) **SONG SUNG BLUE** is a joyful, crowd-pleasing celebration of music, memory, and second chances. Based on a true story, the film follows a group of performers brought together by their shared love of Neil Diamond's music, finding connection, healing, and unexpected joy along the way.

Cynthia and I absolutely loved it. Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson are terrific, bringing warmth and heart to every scene. It's also wonderful to see Michael Imperioli and Jim Belushi back on screen, along with a terrific ensemble performing not only Diamond's music but also songs inspired by James Brown, Buddy Holly, and other early rock-and-roll icons.

The music is terrific throughout, and even if you're not already a Neil Diamond fan, this film has a way of winning you over. If you are a fan, you'll be smiling from start to finish. MPAA Rating: PG-13.

Note: I've added this film to my personal list of all-time favorites. If you'd like a copy of that list, feel free to email me at [bjnbc@aol.com](mailto:bjnbc@aol.com) and put FAVORITES in the subject line.





(2) **GOODBYE JUNE** is a deeply emotional family drama on Netflix about adult siblings reuniting around their dying mother just before Christmas — a definite tearjerker that hit us right in the heart.

The film features a remarkable ensemble, including Helen Mirren as the quick-witted matriarch June, Kate Winslet in her directorial debut and starring as one of her daughters, and strong support from Toni Collette, Johnny Flynn, Andrea Riseborough, and Timothy Spall, all of whom bring touching depth and nuance to the story.

Whether it's through shared laughter or quiet sorrow, the performances keep you deeply invested as the family navigates grief, love, and reconciliation. MPAA Rating: R (for language and mature themes).

(3) **JAY KELLY** is a thoughtful, character-driven drama on Netflix about a beloved movie star confronting his past, personal regrets, and the cost of fame on the road through Europe. The film is anchored by George Clooney in a self-aware lead performance alongside Adam Sandler as his loyal manager and strong support from Laura Dern, giving the story both heart and humor. It's very watchable and emotionally rich that Cynthia enjoyed a bit more than I did. Fans of character studies will find plenty to appreciate even if it doesn't stick with you forever. MPAA Rating: R (for language).

#### B. Book

**BIG DUMB EYES: STORIES FROM A SIMPLE MIND** (Audible) by Nate Bargatze is a genuinely funny, easygoing listen that gets better the longer you stay with it. Narrated by Bargatze himself, the audiobook shines thanks to his perfectly timed delivery and dry, self-deprecating humor.

Some of the biggest laughs come when He hilariously describes his lifelong confusion about money and finances, including how he can never quite understand where his money goes or why basic budgeting feels like advanced calculus — all delivered with his trademark “I’m trying my best” innocence.

Another standout bit involves his deep mistrust of basic adult responsibilities, like dealing with customer service or understanding instructions, where he fully admits he often nods along pretending he understands while having absolutely no idea what's going on.

It's the kind of humor that sneaks up on you: low-key, relatable, and consistently funny. I found myself laughing more as the book went on, and it's easy to see why this one has become a favorite among fans.

---

## 7. TV Alert

#### A. **STRANGER THINGS**, Season 5, Vol. 2 (Netflix)

Coming on the heels of the final season's first set of episodes, this second batch completes the arc. As for the climactic series finale, you'll have to hold on until New Year's Eve for that one.

#### B. **COVER-UP** (Netflix)

This documentary about investigative journalist Seymour M. Hersh is bound to be a bracing viewing experience about one reporter's legendary career and the cost of speaking truth to power.

#### C. **SINNERS** (Netflix)

In the year's least expected \$350 million hit, director Ryan Coogler and star Michael B. Jordan (whose *Creed* and *Black Panther* flicks earned billions) try their hand at a vampire movie. Jordan plays two roles, twins on the run from Chicago gangsters who return to their hometown of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and open a juke joint that summons the spirits of Black musical geniuses past and future.

#### D. **PLAYDATE** (Prime Video)

When recently laid-off accountant Brian (Kevin James) arranges a playdate for his new stepson with outgoing stay-at-home dad Jeff (Alan Ritchson), he's not prepared for a series of close encounters with ruthless mercenaries who've set their sights on Jeff and his son.

Note: For one reason why I dislike watching videos on Prime, click:  
<https://www.aol.com/articles/confused-amazon-prime-slammed-cutting-200215129.html>

I also dislike the fact that they have commercials, even though I already pay Prime. If you want to see something without commercials, you need to pay more. (And I've heard that even when you do this, you still get commercials!)

E. Correction

Please note a misattribution on Frankenstein [reviewed in last week's issue]: It was produced, written, and directed by Guillermo del Toro NOT Benicio del Toro.  
(Thanks to Robin Schoen for bringing this to my attention.)

---

## 8. Joke 2

You knead to understand — my lawyer says it's a mix-up.

Thanks to Dave Miller for sharing.



---

## 9. 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 the incomparable John Strauss with his rendition when you click:

[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

Sam Clegg - Angel on the Tree | Official 2025 Christmas Ad / Music Video Inspired by John Lewis Ads  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C97R5gkln04>

(Thanks to Jonathan Berg for sharing.)

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

(1) Get Well Soon Song, one of my favorites

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p2ogM7uaaU&list=RD9p2ogM7uaaU&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p2ogM7uaaU&list=RD9p2ogM7uaaU&start_radio=1)

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (12.28.2025):

<https://www.facebook.com/hs.smith.73/videos/1446923063520268>

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Annie Lennox

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1504782380584688>

(4) Thanks, Neil, for reminding me how great Lennox was. For your many fans and friends who might want a similar reminder, catch her performing "Walking on Broken Glass" by clicking:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y25stK5ymlA>

(5) Mother bird handles a rainy day.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jcbFDoTKDi\\_LOVRI5H9c-f2rRHhF1QTW/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jcbFDoTKDi_LOVRI5H9c-f2rRHhF1QTW/view?usp=sharing)

(Thanks to Jonathan Berg for sharing.)

(6) Vegas Golden Cheers!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KnjdRzc\\_VM&list=RDSYPJjEI8-VY&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KnjdRzc_VM&list=RDSYPJjEI8-VY&index=2)

(7) Perfect execution! Madison Chock and Evan Bates bring the ice to life with their performances.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/2225625444578733>

(Thanks to Carol Leslie Duermit for sharing.)

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

Zoomquilt is a mesmerizing and surreal art project that takes you on an endless journey through a series of interconnected, fantastical landscapes. It's a stunning piece of collaborative digital art that showcases the incredible creativity of its many contributing artists.

You can view it by clicking:

<https://zzz.zoomquilt.org/>

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

<https://www.blaineworld.net/>.

---

## 10. Technology Tip

New ClickFix wave infects users with hidden malware in images and fake Windows updates

By Pieter Arntz

Several researchers have flagged a new development in the ongoing ClickFix campaign: Attackers are now mimicking a Windows update screen to trick people into running malware.

ClickFix campaigns use convincing lures, historically "Human Verification" screens, and now a fake "Windows Update" splash page that exactly mimics the real Windows update interface. Both require the user to paste a command from the clipboard, making the attack depend heavily on user interaction.

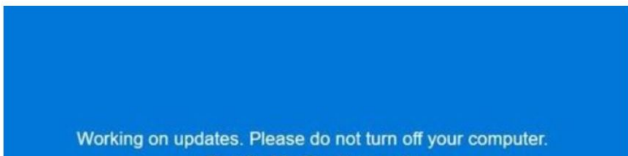
As shown by Joe Security, ClickFix now displays its deceptive instructions on a page designed to look exactly like a Windows update.

In full-screen mode, visitors running Windows see instructions telling them to copy and paste a malicious command into the Run box.

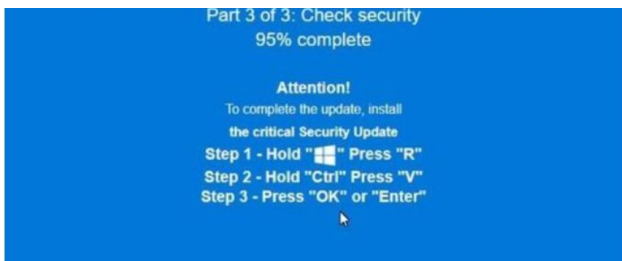
For the rest of this informative article, click:

[Here](#)

Example of deceptive instructions on a page designed to look exactly like a Windows update.



Working on updates. Please do not turn off your computer.



---

### 11. Joke 3

Here's something you didn't know you needed.



---

### 12. Two Quotes I Like

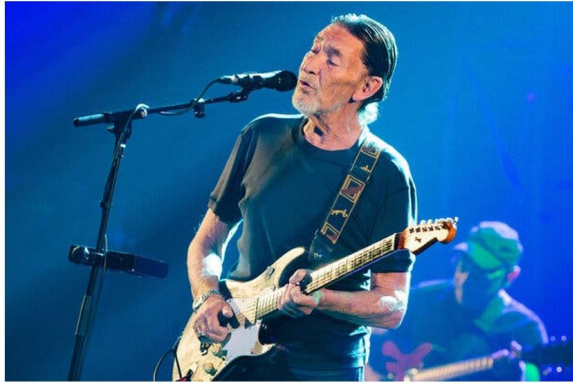
A. Thanks, Don Bryant (1942-2025), for your career as an American rhythm and blues singer and songwriter. He is credited on as many as 154 titles, including "I Can't stand the Rain," co-written with his wife Ann Peebles. For more information about his life, click: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don\\_Bryant\\_\(songwriter\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don_Bryant_(songwriter))



**"My main thing is to tell a story."--Don Bryant**

B. Thanks, Chris Rea (1951-2025), for your career as an English rock and blues singer-songwriter, guitarist, and record producer. He was known for his distinctive gravelly voice, slide guitar playing and music style blending soft rock with blues. For more information about his life, click:

[https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/22/arts/music/chris-rea-dead-driving-home-christmas.html?unlocked\\_article\\_code=1.08.sau.m3rx2PGYtpFm&smid=url-share](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/22/arts/music/chris-rea-dead-driving-home-christmas.html?unlocked_article_code=1.08.sau.m3rx2PGYtpFm&smid=url-share)



**"I went into music because I love music, not because I wanted to be rich and famous. I've always knocked on the door of the musicians' room, not the rock stars' room."--Chris Rea**

---

### 13. Thought For The Day

My wish for you this holiday AND every other day ...

**I don't want much for  
Christmas.**

**I just want the person  
who is reading this to be  
healthy, happy & loved.**

---

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

