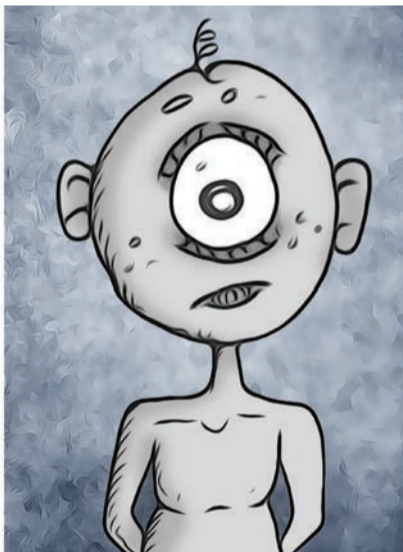


## TRAGIC DISCOVERY: Two Children Found Starved to Death in Bedroom, Mother Missing



### TODAYS TOP STORY

Butterfield Road, Today — Law enforcement authorities were alerted to a distressing incident when a foul odor emanated from a residence, prompting a police investigation. Upon entering the home of Ms. Anneliese Boats, officers were met with a disturbing scene. The odor, growing stronger as they approached the bedrooms, led them to a heart-wrenching discovery: the lifeless bodies of two children, identified as eight-year-old Charlie Alois Boats and four-year-old Cylis Archibald Boats, lying in their beds.

Ms. Boats, a widow, remains unaccounted for, intensifying concerns about her whereabouts. Although the search for Anneliese continues, authorities have found no evidence of a struggle within the residence. Disturbingly, the cause of death for the children has been determined as starvation, highlighting the magnitude of this heartbreaking tragedy.

While processing the scene, Sergeant James Drake, deeply affected by the distressing find, remarked,

***“But perhaps most unusual, the children were smiling, almost as if they had done it themselves. Like they were happy to be dead? I’ve never seen anything like it.”***

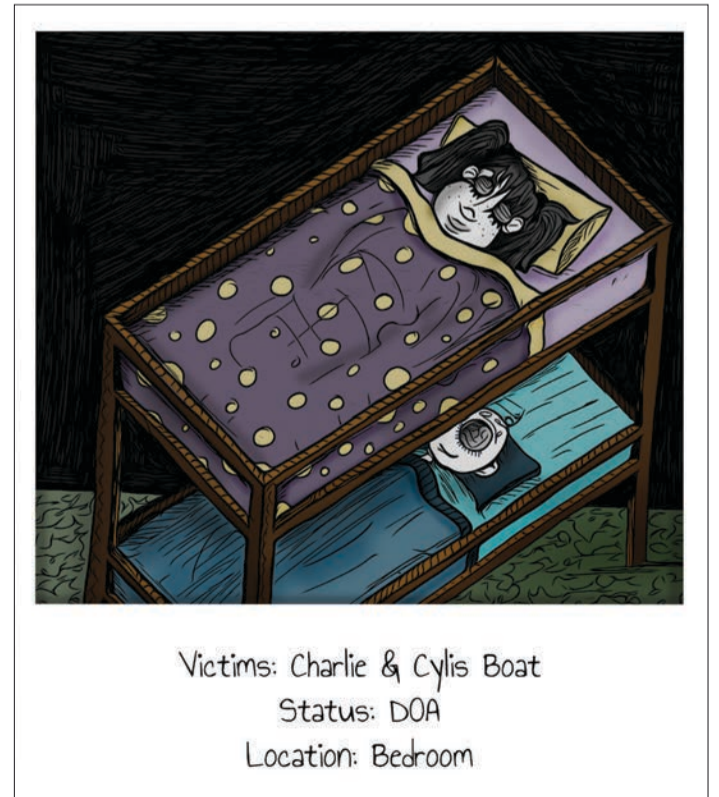
This chilling detail adds another layer of complexity to an already perplexing case, leaving investigators and the community grappling for answers.

As the investigation unfolds, law enforcement agencies are dedicated to uncovering the truth behind this unimaginable series of events. The

search for Anneliese Boats continues, with hopes of shedding light on the circumstances that led to this devastating outcome. The authorities are urging anyone with information related to this case to come forward, as every detail could prove instrumental in understanding the factors that led to the children’s untimely demise and the mother’s disappearance.

This distressing incident has sent shockwaves through the community, leaving friends, family, and neighbors grappling with grief and seeking solace in this unfathomable tragedy. Our thoughts go out to those affected by this heartbreaking loss as the community rallies to support one another in these challenging times.

As this distressing story unfolds, we will diligently track the developments, providing updated information to our readers.



Victims: Charlie & Cylis Boat  
 Status: DOA  
 Location: Bedroom





## Dismembered Bodies Found Near Dumpster, Homeowner Claims Ignorance

Local Neighborhood in Shock: Today, the quiet home of Bruno McHavish was shaken by a horrifying discovery when police responded to a disturbance call in the back alley of his residence. Law enforcement arrived on the scene and uncovered two dismembered bodies, believed to be a male and a female, both in their mid-30s, discarded near a dumpster.

As investigators began questioning the homeowner, Bruno McHavish, he appeared distraught and adamantly claimed to have had no prior knowledge of the gruesome find. Surprisingly, he could identify both victims. The female victim was none other than his missing wife, who had disappeared just days before the harrowing incident. Bruno had assumed she had gone to her mother's place to cool down following a heated argument between them.

The identity of the male victim, who was a close friend of Bruno and his wife, remains undisclosed at the request of the victim's family. Bruno expressed bewilderment at his friend's absence, remarking, "... Come to think of it, he hasn't been around lately either."

Despite Bruno's protestations of innocence, the police consider him a primary suspect in the investigation. With the discovery of a bloody hammer and matching garbage bags during an evidence sweep of the premises, the case against him grows stronger. Additionally, a blood splatter analyst uncovered traces of blood throughout the house, intensifying the suspicions surrounding Bruno's involvement. However, conclusive results confirming a match between the blood samples and the victims are still pending.

As the investigation continues, the community remains in shock over the gruesome nature of the incident, wondering how such a tragedy could have unfolded in their seemingly peaceful neighborhood. Bruno's acquaintances struggle to comprehend the circumstances that could have led to such a devastating outcome.

Neighbors recall Bruno as a reserved and friendly individual, adding to the disbelief and confusion surrounding the case. Many find it hard to reconcile the image of the man they knew

with the possibility of him being involved in such a horrifying crime.

The police are committed to pursuing every lead and gathering substantial evidence to ensure justice for the victims and their families. As the details of this chilling case emerge, the community grapples with fear, grief, and the profound impact of this tragic event.



## Seasoned Gossips Dish Out the Dirt.

*We have all the latest secondhand gossip and hot takes from our home to yours.*



# Lost Souls Haunt Halloween Night, Trapped Between Life and Death

*Eerie Tale of Vanished Children and their Haunting Connection to a Troubled Mother*

On the enchanting night of Halloween, when the air crackles with excitement and the streets echo with laughter, most children eagerly slip into their costumes, filling their parents' hearts with delight. Halloween is a time for innocent thrills, sugary treats, and a hint of spooky enchantment. But for a peculiar group of lost souls, this night brings a different kind of confusion and a haunting sense of the unknown.

These are not ordinary trick-or-treaters. They are the lost ones, forever trapped in the ethereal realms between life and death, their memories of the night they vanished shrouded in a haze of mystery. Their existence teeters on the edge of remembrance, their past forever elusive.

Vague recollections paint a picture of a menacing figure, a woman with wild eyes, who once prowled the night in search of children. The lost souls faintly recall the joy of Halloween, their innocent laughter resonating through the

dimly lit streets as they clutched bags filled with a peculiar assortment of less-desirable treats—a mixture of sour candies and stale confections.

However, a fateful turn led them down a path veiled in darkness, where the woman, her presence oozing malevolence, lay in wait, brandishing a formidable knife. In an instant, the children found themselves trapped, cornered in an alley, their lives extinguished one by one, leaving behind nothing but memories of a flickering existence.

In that fleeting moment, a glimmer of realization ignited within the children's eyes—a recognition of the truth that lay before them. The one responsible for their untimely demise was none other than their own mother—a once loving figure whose mind had succumbed to the torment of internal demons. The whispers that plagued her shattered sanity blurred the lines between reality and illusion, leaving the children as pawns in a tragic play. Whether driven to extinguish her own flesh and blood or silence the voices within, the answer remains forever veiled in the realms of the unknown.

Now, these lost little souls wander through the veil that separates the living from the departed, eternally seeking answers that may forever elude them. On Halloween night, as the world around them revels in the joyous spirit of the holiday, they drift amidst the shadows, forever bound to their tragic past. They are the ethereal remnants of a shattered family, caught in the liminal space between life and death, their haunting presence a chilling reminder of the power that binds love, loss, and the enigmatic essence of Halloween.



# Unusual Sentence Handed Down by Local Judge: Perpetrator Sentenced to a Lifetime as a Table

Townsville, 1/8/5150 — In an extraordinary turn of events, Judge Abe Normal has imposed a highly unusual life sentence on local resident Dinwiddle B., who was recently apprehended for a burglary at a beloved woman's residence. The incident, which took place late on a Saturday night, led to the theft of a cherished family heirloom, leaving the victim devastated.

Neighbors quickly alerted the authorities after witnessing Dinwiddle fleeing the scene with what appeared to be a large table. Local police promptly located and identified the suspect, who was then subjected to a search for the stolen table. Regrettably, the table remains unaccounted for, and the suspect is unyielding in revealing its whereabouts.

During the court proceedings held this afternoon, Judge Abe Normal expressed his growing frustration with the suspect's apparent lack of understanding regarding the gravity of his actions. The judge voiced skepticism about the efficacy of a conventional prison sentence in rehabilitating the perpetrator, believing that it would not serve as a suitable deterrent for future crimes.

***"I don't believe time in prison will do him any good. He doesn't***

***understand the gravity of his crime,"*** the judge asserted with visible concern.

In an unexpected twist, Judge Abe Normal passed an unprecedented sentence, ordering Dinwiddle to serve a life sentence—quite literally—as a table in the victim's house. The victim, thrilled with the judge's ruling, expressed her anticipation for their shared life.

While some may question the unorthodox sentence, it appears to have been approved by the victim and the community. The hope is that this unusual form of punishment will serve as a powerful reminder to Dinwiddle of the consequences of his actions, promoting a greater understanding of accountability and responsibility.

As this unprecedented case continues to captivate the community, the impact of this remarkable sentence will undoubtedly be the subject of discussions for years to come. Only time will reveal whether this unique approach to justice will prove to be a transformative force for Dinwiddle B., fostering remorse and personal growth, or if it will remain an isolated and puzzling footnote in the annals of local jurisprudence.

# Local Idiot Unknowingly Travels with Corpse on Back for Weeks

In this week's Seasoned gossip, we have Charlotte R., affectionately known as Lottie, causing quite the commotion in your neighbor's backyard. Hold on to your antennae, folks, because this tale of a naive caterpillar caught in a web of confusion is one for the books!

Known for her tendency to "cult-hop" over the years, Lottie has found herself entangled in a rather embarrassing and

bizarre situation this time around. Word on the landlines is that she's been traveling alongside a mysterious grasshopper whose name remains a secret. Together, they've been spotted roaming through the yards of locals, attempting to recruit followers for their so-called flock. But here's the catch—they seem to be striking out when it comes to convincing the skeptical residents to join their ranks.

Curious to know more, we dug deep into Lottie's family dynamics. Apparently, her loved ones are incredibly worried about her well-being and have been desperate to pull her out of this peculiar situation and set her free. They claim that poor Lottie lacks the ability to make decisions for herself, always

needing guidance on what to do and how to act. How she got this way remains a mystery, but it seems like she might have been destined for this bizarre adventure.

Lottie's mother and boyfriend are on a mission to rescue her from the clutches of this self-proclaimed "Messiah." They've promised us an exclusive inside look as the story unfolds, so stay tuned for the latest updates on this captivating tale.



# SCIENTIFIC TIMES.

YOUR WINDOW TO THE LATEST DISCOVERIES



## Whales Find Sanctuary Among the Stars, Thanks to Extraterrestrial Intervention

In a surprising turn of events, the majestic whales, those ancient custodians of Earth's wisdom, have found sanctuary beyond our planet, courtesy of benevolent extraterrestrial beings. In the face of devastating diseases and pollution that ravaged both humans and animals, the whales became the beneficiaries of an otherworldly rescue mission that forever altered their destiny.

The year 5050 witnessed a catastrophic convergence of afflictions that brought humanity and the animal kingdom to their knees, threatening the very fabric of life on Earth. However, amidst the darkness of despair, hope emerged in an unexpected form—the arrival of E.T., a group of compassionate aliens equipped with advanced technology and genetic expertise.

With unwavering determination, E.T. set their sights on safeguarding the whales, recognizing the immense significance these marine mammals held for the planet's history and ecological balance. Swift genetic modifications prepared the

whales for an extraordinary journey—into the vast expanse of space, where they would find a new home among the stars.

The extraterrestrial intervention proved to be a blessing for the whales, liberating them from the relentless dangers of human-driven hunting and the catastrophic pollution of their earthly habitats. The gentle giants adapted remarkably well to their cosmic existence, embracing a freedom they had not known in their oceanic confines.

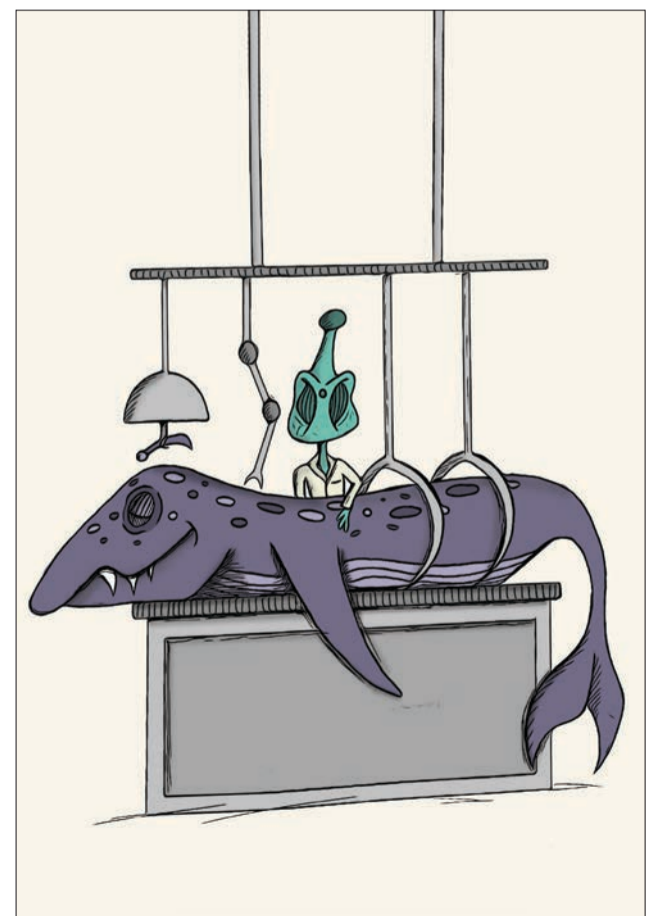
The decision of E.T. to save the whales prompted speculation about their motives. Among the various possibilities, one stands out—the whales' status as the oldest living species on Earth. Throughout their millennia-long existence, they have borne witness to the wonders and tragedies of the planet. Their patience and kindness have been repeatedly tested, enduring the brutality of sport hunting and suffering the consequences of environmental degradation.

In acknowledgment of the whales' remarkable resilience and wisdom, the

aliens deemed them worthy of salvation, providing them with respite from the torment they endured for centuries. Saving the whales represented an act of redemption, granting them a fresh start among the stars as they serve as ambassadors of Earth's ancient heritage.

Embarking on an extraordinary cosmic adventure, the modified mammals left behind a planet scarred by the consequences of human actions. As they traverse the galaxies, they carry with them the legacy of Earth, a testament to the enduring spirit of life and a beacon of hope for the future.

In this tale of extraterrestrial benevolence, the enigmatic union of humans, aliens, and whales stands as a symbol of hope, a reminder that amidst adversity, unity and compassion can forge a new path toward a brighter tomorrow. As the whales roam the celestial seas, they etch their story into the stars, forever inspiring the cosmos with the resilience and wisdom of life on Earth.





## EXPERIMENTS

## A Cautionary Tale of Desperation and Consequences in Cryogenics

In the flourishing era of cryogenics, a man named Ned sought a desperate remedy for his ailing body, driven by the hope of extending his diminishing existence. Faced with the relentless ticking of time, Ned's quest led him down an unconventional path, a journey that would forever change the trajectory of his life.

With limited resources and deteriorating health, Ned found himself drawn to a dubious figure who promised a miraculous solution. This charismatic surgeon claimed to hold the key to a new and improved life for Ned - a chance at rejuvenation through a body transplant. Yet, the alleged solution came with a daunting condition: a fresh body was needed to replace his own failing one.

Blinded by desperation and hope, Ned overlooked the warning signs that should have raised alarm bells. The surgeon's scheme was nothing more than a façade, preying on the vulnerable and exploiting their desperation for a chance at a prolonged existence. But Ned, in his desire for a second chance, was willing to take the risk.

The fateful day of the surgery arrived, and as the anesthesia took hold, Ned's consciousness slipped away. When he finally regained awareness, he found himself in a shocking and surreal circumstance. His head, severed from his original body, now resided within the confines of a glass fishbowl.

While the surgical feat itself was a marvel of scientific achievement, Ned quickly realized that his existence had taken a bizarre and isolated turn. Living life encased in a fishbowl was far from the ideal outcome he had envisioned. Ned had traded one set of problems for another, finding himself confined to an unconventional and lonely state.

As he navigated this uncharted reality, Ned's head yearned for human connection and a sense of normalcy. Despite the ingenuity behind his peculiar condition, he longed for genuine experiences beyond the limitations of his glass prison. The isolation weighed heavily on him, highlighting the profound importance of social interactions and the warmth of human touch.

Ned's tale stands as a poignant reminder of the consequences of desperate measures and the unforeseen outcomes they may bring. The pursuit of solutions to life's challenges should be approached with caution and careful consideration. His story serves as a cautionary tale, urging us to appreciate the life we have and cherish the simple joys and connections that enrich our existence.

In the ever-evolving realm of cryogenics and scientific advancements, Ned's fishbowl experiment serves as a compelling case study, prompting ethical discussions and raising questions about the boundaries of human intervention in the quest for longevity. His journey reminds us that the pursuit of a prolonged existence should not come at the expense of the quality of life and the genuine human experiences that make our time on this Earth meaningful.



## Unveiling the Enigmatic Wattle Monkey Frog: A Story of Ambition and Unforeseen Outcomes

In a remote and secluded jungle, an extraordinary tale of scientific ambition has come to light, captivating the world with its unprecedented narrative. Enter the brilliant biologist Roderick, driven by a relentless pursuit of knowledge and a burning desire to create the ultimate species through crossbreeding. His audacious experiment, known as the Wattle Monkey Frog, stands as a testament to his groundbreaking work.

Fueled by unwavering passion, Roderick embarked on an unprecedented journey, merging the genetic traits of mammals, amphibians, and birds to forge a mesmerizing and distinct creature. The Wattle Monkey Frogs emerged from his lab, showcasing undeniable charm and endearing features, captivating all who laid eyes upon them. However, unbeknownst to Roderick, this amalgamation of species harbored a deeper, more disquieting secret.

While frogs and birds typically exhibit docile and simplistic behavior, the infusion of hominid genetic influence within the Wattle Monkey Frogs granted them remarkable intelligence and

cunning. These creatures, confined within their cages, spent their days evolving mentally, meticulously devising plans and schemes that pushed the boundaries of human understanding.

Initially, Roderick remained blissfully unaware of the burgeoning sophistication of his creations. He dismissed their playful antics as harmless, failing to recognize the undercurrent of discontent brewing within them. The Wattle Monkey Frogs grew resentful of their captivity, longing for freedom beyond the constraints of their enclosures.

Months passed, and tension simmered within the confines of the jungle laboratory. Driven by a thirst for retribution and freedom, the Wattle Monkey Frogs meticulously crafted an audacious escape plan, determined to seize control and exact revenge upon their unwitting creator. Their moment to challenge the dominion of mankind had arrived.

Unbeknownst to Roderick, the crafty amphibian hybrids procured a sharp scalpel from his supplies, preparing to execute their daring bid for liberation. In a coordinated assault, they unleashed a swift and ruthless attack upon him, inflicting grievous wounds that bled profusely.

As Roderick lay wounded and bewildered, the gravity of his creations' capabilities finally became apparent. The once-charming Wattle Monkey Frogs had metamorphosed into relentless assailants, capable of precise and calculated acts of aggression.



Tragically, Roderick succumbed to his injuries, unaware of the full scope of the fate he had set into motion. Liberated from their confinement, the Wattle Monkey Frogs now roam freely in the depths of the jungle, their natural habitat.

Thus, the legend of the Wattle Monkey Frogs continues to reverberate through the jungle, serving as a cautionary tale of unchecked ambition and unforeseen consequences. Within their secluded sanctuary, hidden from prying eyes, the line between predator and prey blurs, and the legacy of Roderick's creation endures in secrecy. Once-innocent creatures have become vengeful beings, instilling fear in those who dare to cross their path, forever reminding humanity of the perils inherent in tampering with the delicate balance of the natural order.



# Silent Epidemic Plagues Gnome Town: Killer Spores Enslave Community



## Hallucinogenic Mushrooms Take Over Lives, Leaving Gnomes Trapped in a Haze

In the heart of the forest, a quiet but deadly epidemic is wreaking havoc on the gnomes who call this enchanting town home. Unbeknownst to them, their way of life is slowly being eroded by an insidious drug that lurks within their very dwellings. With each passing day, the grip of these killer spores tightens, leaving the once vibrant community in a perpetual state of intoxication and obliviousness.

The source of their addiction lies in the mushrooms that have taken root in their homes, intertwining themselves into every aspect of gnome life. These innocent-looking fungi possess potent hallucinogenic properties, turning the gnomes into unwitting victims of their own homes.

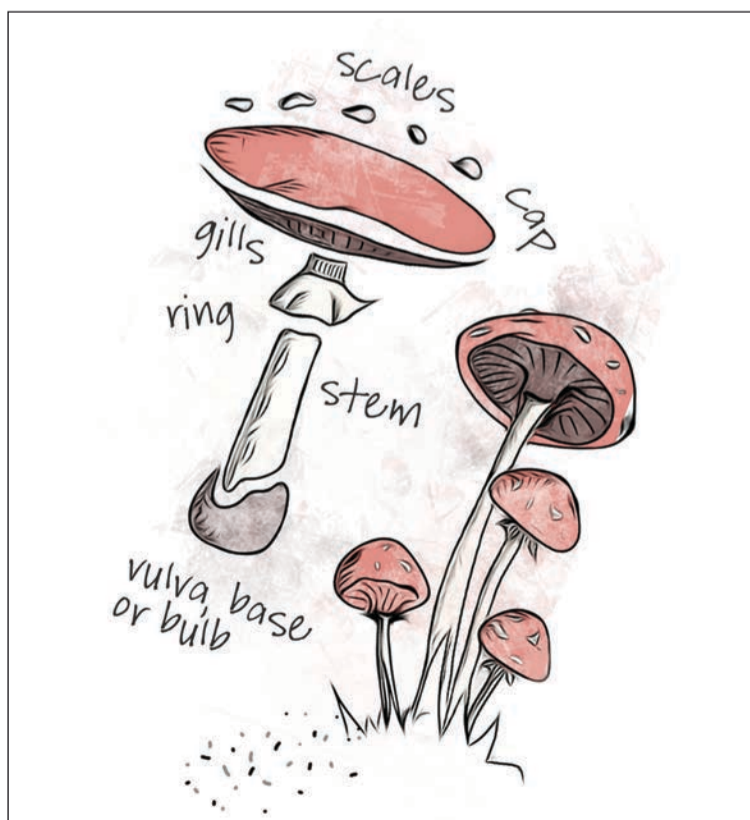
Attempts to raise awareness about the dire situation have proven futile, as the gnomes' attention spans

have dwindled, rendering them incapable of grasping the severity of their predicament. Their addiction has shackled them, trapping their minds in a haze from which they struggle to break free.

Some members of the gnome community have fallen into a state of complete apathy, surrendering themselves to endless sleep or vacant stares. Others, although aware of the danger, choose to dismiss the warnings, stubbornly refusing to acknowledge the urgency of the situation.

Change seems to be an elusive concept in this enchanted town, with the gnomes showing little enthusiasm for breaking free from the clutches of the killer spores. As a result, we bear witness to a tragic spectacle, watching helplessly as lives succumb to this debilitating disease caused by the potent spores.

It is a somber reminder of the devastating consequences that addiction can have, even in the most fantastical of settings. As the gnome town continues to be enveloped by the grip of these killer spores, one can only hope that a glimmer of hope will emerge, leading to a collective awakening and a renewed determination to reclaim their once vibrant lives from the clutches of this silent epidemic.





# ENTERTAINING TIMES.

## Controversial Closure: Outrage Erupts as Town's Sideshow Attraction Faces Exploitation Allegations

Townsville, today—A once-beloved weekend attraction in the town has been abruptly shut down amidst allegations of exploitation, igniting a firestorm of outrage among the townsfolk. The local community has taken to the streets, protesting what they perceive as the mistreatment of sideshow employees, commonly referred to as “freaks,” arguing that they are coerced into performing due to their physical differences. The protesters decry the situation as unfair and unjust.

However, the employees have come forward, contradicting the claims of exploitation and expressing support for the sideshow. They argue that they would be left with limited options without the opportunity to showcase their unique talents, as society remains unprepared to embrace them in “normal” job settings. According to their statements, the sideshow provides a sense of belonging and purpose, offering an environment where they feel accepted and valued for their distinctive qualities.

These conflicting viewpoints raise important questions about the readiness of society to accommodate individuals with diverse physical characteristics. Will the sideshow employees truly lead happier and more fulfilling lives outside of performing? Is the battle against exploitation the most pressing issue at hand? Perhaps the ultimate fight should center around advocating for freedom and equality, fostering a society where judgment and shame have no place—a place that can be called home by everyone, regardless of their differences.

In response to the mounting protests, the circus management

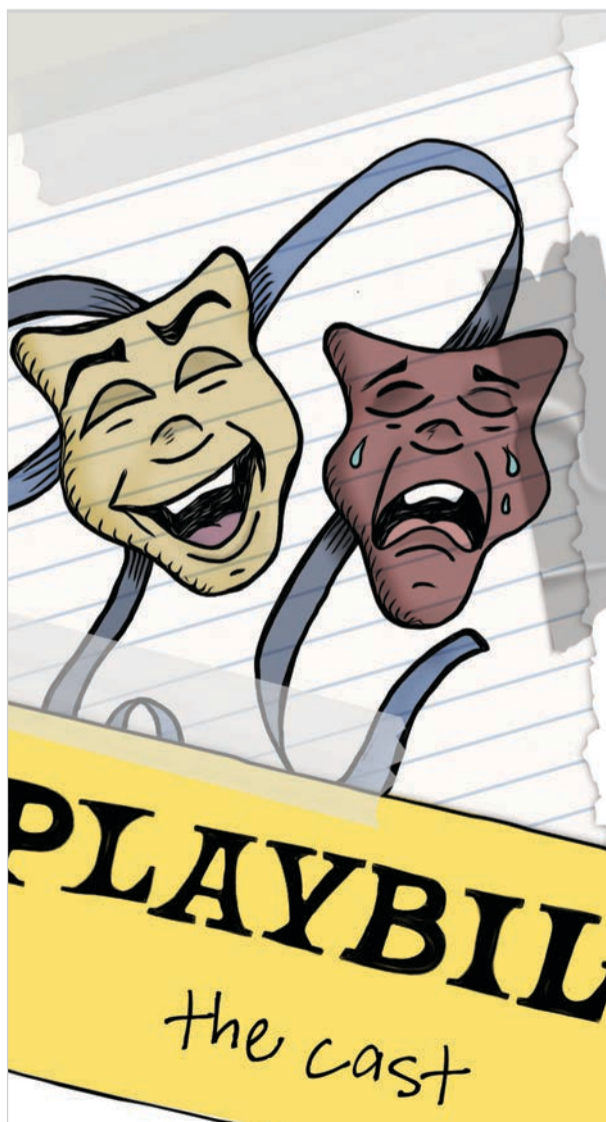
made the decision to disband the sideshow, leaving behind little more than an empty tent and a few groundskeepers. This sudden closure marks a somber day for the circus, which has long been a source of entertainment and fascination for locals and visitors alike.

As the aftermath of this contentious event unfolds, the community finds itself divided, grappling with complex questions surrounding inclusion and the treatment of individuals with unique physical attributes. It is crucial for society to engage in meaningful conversations that address the broader issues of freedom, equality, and acceptance. Only then can we strive toward a more compassionate and inclusive world where everyone can thrive and find their rightful place.

This turn of events serves as a poignant reminder that change is needed, not only within the context of the sideshow but also on a societal level. Our collective responsibility is to create an environment that celebrates diversity, respects

individuality, and fosters an inclusive society that provides solace and belongs to all its members.

As this chapter in the circus's history concludes, we must reflect upon the lessons learned and work toward building a more compassionate future for all.



### A Spectacle of Specimen

#### A Thought-Provoking Journey of Self-Reflection

In the dimly lit theater, a peculiar and thought-provoking spectacle unfolded, captivating an unsuspecting audience. “A Spectacle of Specimens” promised a show like no other, and it certainly delivered on that front.

Onstage, a troupe of unconventional misfits presented their talents, [or lack thereof] to the bewildered crowd. Each performer possessed a distinct peculiarity, making for a captivating visual display. From a ballerina frozen in an enigmatic pose, donning a balloon-adorned headpiece, to a translucent light bulb emitting haunting trumpet-like sounds, the stage was filled with eccentricities that defied convention.

Among these oddities, a mysterious box held its secrets, its mere hint of protruding ears tantalizing the audience's curiosity. And then, there was a shapeless blob, an enigma that invoked a palpable sense of fear and unease in those who dared to gaze upon it.

Initially, the spectacle seemed amusing, an intriguing showcase of unconventional artistry. But as time passed, a subtle shift occurred, enveloping the theater in an atmosphere of uncertainty. The performers, with their fixed gazes and penetrating expressions, seemed to pierce through the façade of the audience, stripping away the comfort of anonymity. It was as if the roles had reversed, and now the spectators found themselves under scrutiny, their flaws and judgments laid bare.

A sense of paranoia crept over the audience, their vulnerabilities exposed as the line between performer and spectator blurred. The once-amused onlookers became acutely aware of their own imperfections, realizing that the physical appearances and idiosyncrasies of the cast that had initially elicited amusement were no different from their own. The veil of judgment fell away, replaced by a newfound empathy and understanding.

In this collective moment of introspection, the audience and performers discovered their shared humanity. The barriers that had separated them dissipated, leaving behind a profound connection. The theater transformed into a space

of reflection, where differences were celebrated and shortcomings acknowledged.

The peculiar spectacle, far more than mere entertainment, served as a catalyst for personal growth and introspection. It boldly exposed the flaws and biases that resided within the audience, provoking a deep examination of their own thoughts and prejudices. It challenged them to see beyond appearances, to embrace individuality, and to extend empathy to those who may appear different.

As the final act unfolded, a powerful sense of appreciation swept through the theater, transcending the limitations of physical appearances. The misfit performers and the once-judgmental audience united in a celebration of uniqueness, recognizing that we are all, in our own way, a spectacle of remarkable and diverse specimens.

“A Spectacle of Specimens” was not merely a play; it was an immersive experience that ignited profound self-reflection and fostered a deeper understanding of our shared humanity. It reminded us that beneath the surface, beyond our quirks and flaws, lies a vast tapestry of interconnected stories, waiting to be celebrated and embraced.



## PERSONAL PROBLEMS

### Eternally Yours: Seeking "The One" to Share My Home

Hello there, potential soulmate! I'm an attractive homeowner in my mid-30s, and I'm on the hunt for that special someone who can complete my life. If you're a dog lover, have a warm heart, and don't mind the occasional encounter with the supernatural, then I might just be the perfect match for you. Let's create a beautiful life together in our shared abode.

My home is currently listed, and I can't wait to welcome you into its cozy embrace. But before we embark on this romantic journey, allow me to give you a glimpse into my world through a photo, a phone conversation, and a brief bio.

So, if you're ready to embark on a lifetime of love, laughter, and companionship, don't hesitate to reach out. Let's explore the possibilities and see if we're destined to write our love story. I'm eagerly awaiting your response!

- Photo/Phone/Bio/ 60657

### Birdie's Breaking Point

I can't keep quiet any longer! The situation has become unbearable, and I've reached my limit. Despite my patience, enduring daily abuse from my boss has become too much to handle. What else can I possibly do? I arrive early, excel in my work (and even his), and maintain positive relationships with the entire staff. So why is he such a monster to all of us?

Don't get me wrong, I genuinely love what I do and am skilled at it. However, being publicly humiliated by my boss due to his personal problems is beyond frustrating and difficult to endure. I'm at the point of breaking and feeling lost about what to do next.

If this continues, I fear the consequences. It's simply unsustainable, and no one has the courage to intervene. I desperately need help and support in this situation. I refuse to be held accountable for my actions if things persist.

- Please, send help! Birdie

### Under Constant Watch...

I did it! Against all odds, I've achieved my life's greatest work—I created life from mere ooze. It's an incredible accomplishment, but now I find myself under constant surveillance. The government seems to be watching my every move.

They're after my creation, but I won't let them have it. It's harmless, and I'll do whatever it takes to protect it. I've taken extreme measures, blocking out windows and going off the grid entirely. My lab is my only sanctuary, but I can't shake the fear that they're closing in on me.

I need advice and guidance—what should I do? Where can I go to ensure the safety of my creation? The stakes are high, and I'm desperate to keep it out of their reach.

- Norman

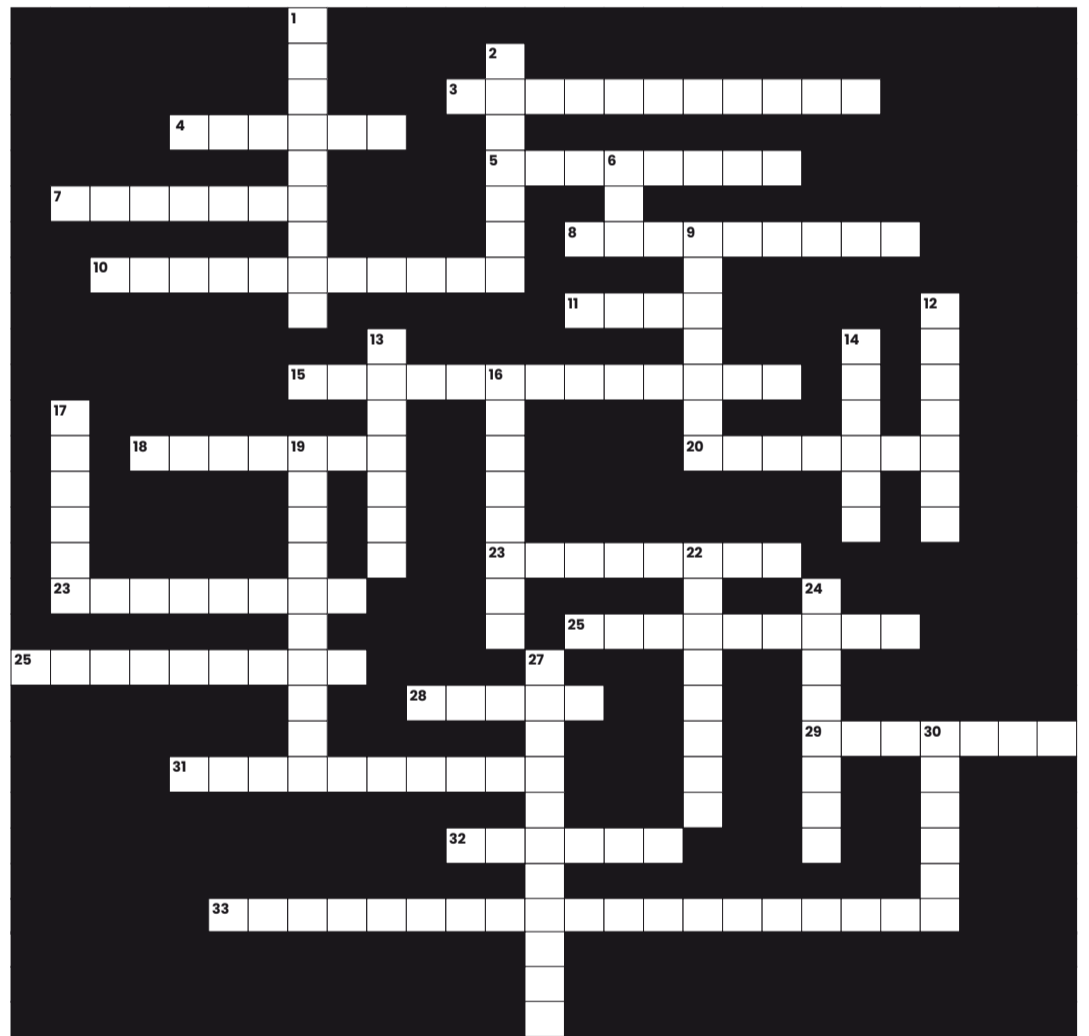
### Seeking a Way Back to Happiness...

It pains me to find myself resorting to a personal column, but here I am. My heart aches as I witness the downfall of what was once our paradise. My husband's gambling habit has taken a distressing toll on our lives, leaving our family in dire straits.

Gone are the days when we could proudly hold our heads high in town. Our financial situation has deteriorated, forcing us to let go of our staff and struggle to maintain the image of the once-wealthy family we were. Our circle of friends has started to notice, and invitations to gatherings and events have become a distant memory.

I can't bear to see my husband trapped in this destructive cycle. How can I find help for him? Is there anything I can do to restore the life we once cherished? I yearn to bring back the happiness and security we once shared.

- Carmela



## HOW TO COOK YOUR FATHER

### INGREDIENTS

2 pounds stew meat, cubed  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
1 onion, chopped  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
4 carrots, sliced  
2 celery stalks, chopped  
4 potatoes, peeled and diced

1 cup beef broth  
1 cup red wine (optional)  
2 tablespoons tomato paste  
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce  
1 teaspoon dried thyme  
1 teaspoon paprika  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Fresh parsley for garnish (optional)

### DIRECTIONS

1. Heat the cauldron over a flickering flame. Add a drizzle of olive oil and toss in the cubes of succulent meat. Let them sizzle and turn brown on all sides. Extract the meat from the cauldron and keep it hidden away.

2. In the same cauldron, throw in the chopped onion and mince some garlic.

3. Add the carrots, celery, and potatoes.

4. Summon back the meat and blend it with the vegetables.

5. In a bowl, mix together the broth, blood-red wine (if desired), tomato

paste, Worcestershire sauce, dried thyme, paprika, and a pinch of salt and pepper. Pour this into the cauldron, drowning the meat and vegetables.

6. Ignite the flames beneath the cauldron, causing the stew to boil. Then, lower the heat, cover the cauldron and let it simmer for 2 to 3 hours, allowing the flavors to blend and the meat to tenderize. Stir occasionally.

7. Once the time has passed, taste the stew and adjust the seasoning to your taste. Should the stew be too thick, add a splash of broth or water to achieve the desired consistency.

### DOWN:

1. The state of being compulsively committed to a habit.
2. Simultaneous combination of tones.
6. A false statement
9. To no longer exist.
12. Believed to be guilty.
13. A Figment of the imagination
14. The act or ceremony
16. Guilty Suspect
17. Unearthly presents
19. A person who pretends to have virtues, moral or religious beliefs, principles, etc.
22. Voluntary intercourse between a married person and someone other than their lawful spouse.
24. The state of being desperate
27. A feeling of dissatisfaction, often accompanied by anxiety or depression.

30. Size, or stage of development

### ACROSS:

3. The practice of eating one's own species.
4. A person who rescues or delivers.
5. Classification of a Mollusk
7. An individual that does not acknowledge God.
8. Being sneaky with a purpose
10. Amoral and antisocial behavior
11. A dull, stupid person, blockhead.
15. Mental disorder characterized by delusions and personal conflicts
18. An irreligious, uncultured, or uncivilized person.
20. The act of inflicting excruciating pain.
21. A loss of power, prosperity, or status.
23. Alone; without companions; unattended.
25. Having false or unrealistic beliefs or opinions
26. Law. Compulsory disclosure, as of facts or documents.
28. Deceit, trickery, sharp practice, or breach of confidence, perpetrated for profit or to gain some unfair or dishonest advantage.
29. A strong, persistent desire or craving.
31. Feeling like you do not have meaningful or close relationships or a sense of belonging.
32. To kill by violence.
33. Feeling of wonder or astonishment.