

# HORSEFEATHERS

September 2018

## HOW TO HUMAN 101

Our new article series on how to be normal.

Yes, it's the exact same cover as the first one

## TOP 10 FASHION TRENDS FOR FALL 2018

## HOW TO WRITE A 15 PAGE PAPER IN 5 DAYS

## FIND LOVE FROM HOME

Miss Understanding shows you how to set up the perfect online dating profile

[www.horsefeathersmag.com](http://www.horsefeathersmag.com)



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# Editorial

by Editor-in-Chief, Seymour Typus

Fall is upon us. Nature is turning brown, the days are getting shorter, and everyone is getting ready for that sweet, sweet, pumpkin-spiced seasonal affective disorder.

After we crashed and burned with the first issue of Horsefeathers Magazine, we're hoping the third time's the charm, and we'll rise from the ashes less like a horse and more like a majestic phoenix – until then, you'll have to suffer through this second attempt. Bear with us as we're trying to find our literary voice – if you've seen it, please call

1-800-NOT-RASPY-JUST-A-LITTLE-HORSE.

Also we're trying to find our target audience (don't fret, we have terrible aim) – if that's not you, feel free to show this magazine to your archnemesis; they'd probably love it (if they hate it, you're one step closer to defeating them – it's a win-win situation).

We had to realize that we were very wrong to assume (in our delusional naiveté) that people would care about our personal stories. That kind of thing apparently only happens to celebrities – oddly enough, *they* seem to hate it; maybe except for the Kardashians.

Perhaps we should have done some beta-testing before going live – but beta readers don't pay very well (like not at all), and we really had to do something about that office rent. Hopefully, we won't stay in early access for more than two or three decades – we also need to eat.

So for this issue we're trying out a different concept. We've been told we're living in "the information age", so we figured we better bring you some information (did you know, if you subtract your age from the current date, you'll end up at your birthday?); in this issue you'll find articles like: "8 Simple Steps to Writing a 15 Page

Paper in 5 Days" (a special exposé we had a special guest-writer come write for us), "How to Set Up the Perfect Online Dating Profile" and "How to Human 101".

A new semester just started, so we got you covered for getting that assignment written. As the leaves are falling from the trees, it's time to fall in love – Miss Understanding will be teaching you how to improve your chances of finding that special someone (or blowjobs) on the World Wide Internet. Starting with this issue, we'll be bringing you a new series of helpful advice on how to be normal – we've researched this one thoroughly and were utterly surprised by some of the things we found: for example, it's considered normal to get up before ten in the morning; none of us knew.

Also we're bringing you the top ten new fashion crazes for the 2018 fall season, so you can stay trendy and feel accepted.

Although we're straying away from personal stories, we will still be running Dr. Isaac Zigar's "Case 324" as featured articles – primarily because we already paid him.

Lacey Dunottin went completely rogue for this one and wrote whatever the fuck she wanted – although even that didn't amount to much.

Guru Vantufak did not contribute with anything this month. He said something about having to go to the "spirit plane". Luckily, he just vanished, because we sure as hell weren't going to pay his plane-tickets. We figured it meant he wouldn't be at the office, so maybe the coffee machine would finally stop levitating.

Reverend I.B. Leev didn't have time to write anything either. He told us he would be busy the

whole month grooming the altar boys. I guess kids nowadays grow some extreme facial hair.

Unfortunately, due to what the doctors are calling "a medical miracle", my great-grandmother is still alive (I didn't think they'd have a miracle cure for being pushed down the stairs) – which means we had to get a slave (or to be politically correct: "hire an intern") to do the illustrations for this issue for free. Obviously the results reflect that – he didn't even take the time to color them in. He kept saying: "We need to restock colors." I don't know what he was thinking; we don't have those kinds of funds. "Make due with what you got," didn't seem to work as motivation – interns these days. Back in my day, slaves were expected to shed blood. We're also pretty sure he stole some of the illustrations from the internet. At least he agreed to accept full responsibility for any copyright issues when he signed the contract – although he's from the "I have read the terms and conditions"-generation, so he's not even aware.

Furthermore, word got out that neither Jema nor Archibald made a single sale from advertising with us, so it was virtually impossible to find advertisers for this issue. Nonetheless we hope you'll find delight in reading this issue of Horsefeathers Magazine.

Enjoy!

# New Study Suggests That New Studies Could Be Inconclusive

A new study by the National Office of Studies, Hypotheses, Investigations and Theories (NOSHIT for short) has led researchers to speculate that maybe new studies might be inconclusive. The study looked into 3821 recent studies from a range of different fields including bioethics, psychology, and plastic surgery (that last one primarily for the viewing pleasure of the scientists), but the researchers agree that the sample size was too small to draw any meaningful conclusions. The study also found that most people do not care about statements such as: "The sample size was too small to draw any meaningful conclusions" and will happily quote an inconclusive study, if the study suggests they might be right in their assumptions and misguided world view.

"We believe it's impossible to explain to the common person of modern society that science does not in fact hold all the answers, and that scientists are testing hypotheses in an attempt to falsify rather than to confirm their speculations," says the lead researcher of the study. The study found that such an attitude towards common folk severely impedes the collective progress of society towards understanding and truth – and perpetuates the steady rise of self-proclaimed "science"-blogs.

Furthermore, the study found that researchers will publish just about anything as long as it gets some kind of recognition – even if it's just a short mention in a barely known magazine. This tendency also clutters up the landscape of scientific research and was most likely a deciding factor in this study.

So there you have it, kids: Not even the scientists know what the fuck is going on.



Special Exposé:

# 8 Simple Steps to Writing a 15 Page Paper in 5 Days

by A Special Guest-Writer

Let me just start off by saying: If you're coming to "Horsefeathers Magazine" to save your academic career (or for anything in life, really), we can all agree you're fucked – but let's see if we can save your ass anyways.

Now... any self-proclaimed hard-working, goody two-shoes, facebook-posting student would never find themselves in a situation where they'd need to write a paper in five days – but judging from the fact that you are currently reading an article on how to write a fifteen page paper in five days, your biggest concern probably isn't the dos or don'ts of good students. Most likely your biggest concern is the paper you should be working on this very instant.

The only real downside to the method I'm about to present is that it won't help you bullshit your lecturer into believing you're a good student; check my other article for that: "5 Ways to Convince Your Teacher You Deserve Better Grades" – guaranteed to work at least once (if not, you'll probably be expelled anyways, so don't worry). Except for that, the only way to convince your lecturer you're a good student is to actually spend more time on your papers (but, let's be honest, six instead of five hours was never going to save your paper).

Even if you are in fact a "good" student, this article may still come in handy if you ever happen to write a paper the same month six of your best friends are having nervous breakdowns, because they all started writing too late, and you're the only one emotionally stable enough to help. If that's the case, refer them to this article as well. If it doesn't help them, it will at least help *you* by keeping them

off your back for a while. Almost like giving an Ipad to a twenty-first century toddler.

Who am I to give advice on writing papers? Well, I recently finished a master's degree in philosophy, so when it comes to writing papers, I have a diploma that proves absolutely nothing. But when it comes to writing barely passable papers last minute, I'm an expert.

It's definitely possible to write a paper in five days. Chances are, if you put your mind to it and work intensively, your paper might just end up becoming utter garbage and leave you with crippling self-doubt.

## Step 1: Prepare

The very first thing to do before you start on this taxing five-day pilgrimage is to get mentally prepared.

You messed up: You've once again procrastinated all the way to Mordor and back and now have none of the time in the world to write this paper. You should be beating yourself up about doing this, but chances are you're just beating your meat instead – and there's no time for either of those.

Right now you should focus on getting ready to work hard for five days straight. I know you've most likely been "preparing to start working" for the last two months, but now it's really time to get ready – right after you've read this. You may be able to find comfort in the fact that working hard for five days still beats working hard the whole semester.

Tell yourself you're able to do this. You're a

relatively clever, slightly above average human being; you've written plenty of last-minute papers before, and you'll be able to do it again now. Tell yourself everything will be fine, if you just apply yourself the next five days. If you were able to convince your entire family things are going well at school, you should easily be able to believe those lies.

Most importantly, you need to come to terms with this becoming a lousy paper. Explain to yourself that you're just trying to pass and that your parents will still love you even if you get a bad grade – although slightly less unconditionally.

Consider fasting. Many people claim to be more focused and clear-headed when fasting. Although, if you're not used to it, it will probably just leave you lethargic and even less capable of writing this goddamn paper.

### **Step 2: Find your sources**

You will spend the first two days doing "research" – which basically just boils down to googling the topic of your paper. That should give you enough time to find an amount of sources that'll make your bibliography look passable – it just needs to *look* like you did a reasonable amount of work.

If you've managed to pay attention in class at least about half the time, this step is pretty easy – you will have some kind of idea of what you're looking for and where to look for it. If you are not in this lucky position of having done what you were supposed to (and no, doodling doesn't count), you will have a harder time. It's not impossible, though: Start off by reading any seemingly relevant Wikipedia articles. Just keep in mind that although Wikipedia articles these days get reviewed thoroughly, you probably shouldn't use them for your paper, because most lecturers are still stuck with the "you won't have a calculator everywhere you go"-mentality.

When you have a rough idea of what you're writing about, look through the curriculum (pray to whatever you believe in (if you're an atheist or satanist, consider Darwin or Nicholas Cage) that your lecturer has made this available online, because most likely the pamphlet they handed out during the first lesson mysteriously disappeared into the void – or turned into filter tips). What you're looking for on the curriculum are all the books and articles you somehow could afford to buy for the course – and then you pray they're relevant. If they are not relevant, consider your options for either changing the subject of the paper or dropping out.

### **Step 3: Read**

When you've found the literature, start reading – or rather: skimming. You can find the most relevant chapters by looking at the table of contents and making random guesses; most likely you'll find the information you needed about the socio-economic development of welfare states in the chapter titled: "A Closer Look at Manufacturing Cucumbers" – so it's hard to tell.

While reading, keep a marker ready and underline any definitions (academics love those for some reason), anything that seems nonsensical (this will be the basis for your discussion section) and anything that sounds clever (it doesn't have to *be* clever).

Don't be discouraged if you don't make it through all the material – just don't write in big, fat, screaming letters what you haven't read and the examiner will be none the wiser. You can even make it seem like you read a whole book by citing something from the beginning of it and something from slightly after the middle of it.

### **Step 4: Sleep on it**

Go to bed early at the end of day two and get a good

night's sleep – after two days of intensive "reading", you will need the rest, and your brain does magical things while you're asleep. There's a good chance you'll unwittingly have an epiphany while dreaming about kittens and rainbows.

### Step 5: Make (a lot of) coffee

The next three days you'll write five pages a day. To be able to do this you'll need coffee – lots of it. If you're having an exceptionally hard time, I hear kids nowadays enjoy a blend of Red Bull and crushed Adderall.

### Step 6: Write

This is where it gets serious. This is also where you realize you don't really understand the subject matter and ponder whether you could be perfectly happy cleaning toilets for the rest of your life.

When you get to this part, you'll no longer be praying but desperately screaming for help at a volume that even your pillow won't dampen.

Make sure to write a lengthy introduction where you present nothing at all. Make up a reason for writing the paper. "Since the South African meerkat in recent years has become an increasingly important player in the world of evolutionary economics, I consider it to be a relevant subject to tackle in an academic investigation of biopolitical developments in modern civilization" goes a much longer way than: "I wrote this paper because I need to pass the course" – which is what it sounds like if you don't come up with a fictitious justification for writing a fifteen page paper on meerkats.

Next, move on to paraphrasing all your literature. A nice way to get the word count up is to use quotes (go for the stuff that you marked as sounding clever) and explain the quotes by saying the exact same thing as the quote just with different

wording. You should also spend time presenting any relevant definitions, but don't go overboard with this and explain words that are considered common knowledge in your field – that'll just make the examiner catch on to what you're doing.

For your discussion section start out by discussing anything you found odd while paraphrasing – a good indicator for what to discuss is if you had a hard time writing it any other way than the literature put it. Also discuss the things you marked as nonsensical while reading:



Make sure to fill up the whole paper with gratuitous and redundant meta-text saying what you just wrote and what you are about to write.

Finish up the paper with a conclusion that unnecessarily explains everything you did throughout the paper thus adding even more garbage to your word count.

Remember: You're not trying to get a publishing contract – you're trying to pass. In the end, at most two people will ever read your paper – and there's a good chance they've read 341,232 papers just like it. Make it seem like you wrote a lot, and most examiners will feel strangely compelled to let you pass. "If you can't play on their minds, play on their hearts," I always say.

At the end of each day – or if necessary, in the middle – refer back to step 4.



### **Step 7: Hand it in**

As you're finishing up your paper, make sure your bibliography is done correctly and that you spelled your teacher's name right.

Hand in the paper two minutes before the deadline – because up until that point you've been frantically trying to fix all your typos.

After you've handed in your monstrosity of a paper (although you may by now have developed a Frankenstein kind of relationship to it and sort of love it), refer back to step 4 for a "well-deserved" two or three days.

### **Step 8: Be done with it**

While you're waiting for the paper to get graded, the last, most crucial step is to worry your ass off. Now is also a good time to beat yourself up about having delayed this project until the very last moment – and celebratorily beat your meat.

Seriously though, be done with it. It's just a paper; it's just an exam. No one in the world beyond educational institutions is going to give too much of a rodent's keister about that one paper you messed up. And remind yourself many really successful people never even managed to get a full degree. While you read this, Jeff Bezos made more money than you ever will.

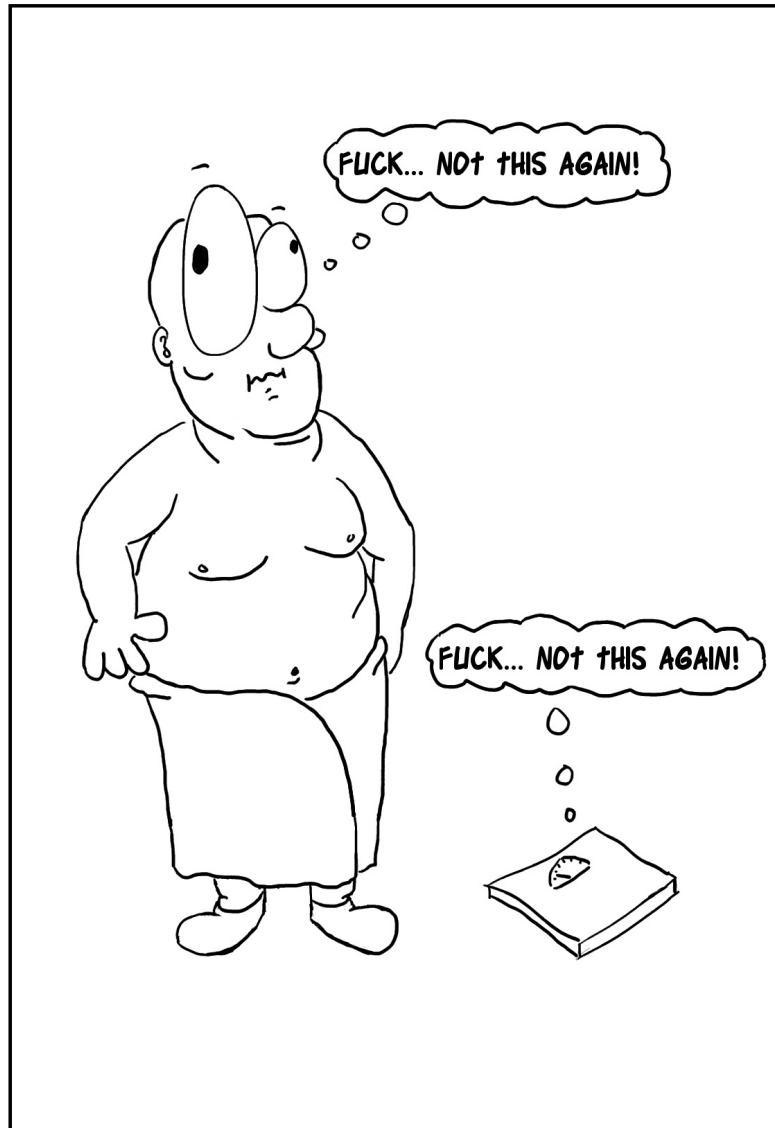
### **Bonus step: Receive your grade**

Miraculously somehow get a B, swear to never repeat this hellish adventure ever again and proceed to repeat this hellish adventure for your next paper.

If you're having trouble figuring out whether this was actually good advice or not, my parting words for you are: "It wasn't."



# Comic Relief



# The News You Want to Read

**Global warming is on a decline** as a result of a worldwide agreement to make public transportation free and run solely on renewable energy. "We should have done this ages ago," an expert said in an exclusive interview.

**Every nation on the planet signed a peace treaty** yesterday agreeing to nuclear disarmament – if everything goes according to plan, the world will be rid of weapons of mass destruction by 2022. Now we just need to get rid of trigger-happy world leaders.

**Bees are no longer an endangered species** after the discovery of a small, hidden island in the Bermuda Triangle. The island houses a myriad of colonies of different kinds of bees which are currently being transported to the rest of the world. The import of the bees has not caused any harm to local ecosystems – on the contrary, many areas on the brink of desolation are now in full bloom.

**World hunger has been combated** as farmers are now – instead of throwing it out – exporting food that doesn't live up to the unrealistic standards of western society. The food goes to countries in need where they don't give a shit about the aesthetics of a cauliflower as long as it's edible. Additionally, 97% of the food that shops couldn't sell is now successfully being donated to local people in need.

**Overpopulation issues have been solved** as the billionaires of the world came together and funded an incredible project building massive islands – under the expert supervision of the UAE – just off the coasts of the mainlands of the world. The islands are built using materials obtained primarily by recycling waste from junkyards.

"Why do the rich have to pay for this sort of thing?" one of the billionaires said and added: "Well, we're all in this together, and everyone helps to the best of their ability."

**In other news:** Pharmacologists have manufactured a pill which can treat cancer as easy as if it was the common cold.



# Case 324

## "The Poet Who Doesn't Know It"

It had been a week since my first session with the patient. During this time, I had been in contact with numerous high ranking people in the music industry. I had been certain that the words of "The First Poem" would have had them fighting tooth and nail for the rights to the lyrics. In particular, I had hoped for Tupac to perform them on his next album released from beyond the grave. You can hate it or love it, but that would have been the true meaning of a ghost writer. No matter the artist or genre, though, I had been certain the words would make me rich.

While the producers did acknowledge the sheer genius of "The First Poem", there was a minor obstacle in my path to riches and glory: four lines simply wasn't enough material for a hit song, they complained. They wanted more words.

I had had this fear myself, but after listening to the lyrics of "Gucci Gang" by recording artist Lil Pump, which my son had informed me was quite *lit* with today's youth, I had been certain I would soon be riding the gravy train smoothly. How wrong I had been.

Mumble rap, the producers informed me, was on its way out. Beneficial as its popularity had been to the global economy, especially the sale of dextromethorphan based cough syrup and cheap DIY hair dye, the Elders of Zion had decided that while they were all in favour of dumbing down the population, there had to be a limit. What was needed now were lyrics that were deep and intellectual enough to awaken the minds of the youth to the harsh realities of post-post-factual society, but preferably with just the right mixture of nihilistic despair and drug fueled hedonism to make them accept these realities without too much of a fight, perhaps even with an ironic chuckle.

When it comes to making money, I've always made a point to not let politics get in the way, so I called

the patient and had him schedule another appointment the same afternoon.

As I waited, I started thinking. I didn't know if "The First Poem" had been a one-time phenomenon – a "First and Last Poem", so to speak. In my interaction with the patient before the session, there had been no indication that he was a man of lyrical genius, and perhaps it had simply been a chance occurrence never to be reproduced. Infinite monkeys with infinite typewriters and all that jazz. And even if he really did possess a raw source of poetry, hidden somewhere deep in his subconscious, it seemed due to sheer luck that I had stumbled upon it the first time. I had to make my way back in there and look for it, but how?

My notes weren't of much help. As I mentioned in the previous entry, I had fallen for the temptation to ingest a medical dose of LSD myself to escape the boredom of the futile session. This practice is generally frowned upon in the psychiatric community, but let's face it, it happens to the best of us, and it does sometimes help to make more sense of the psychotic ramblings of the patients – sometimes a bit too much sense perhaps. After a session with a particularly convincing gentleman and under the influence of some particularly convincing psychotropics, I once spent 11 months wearing only purple clothing, as he had told me this would help the aliens recognize me as a pure soul when the Mothership arrived to cleanse the Earth with a cosmic death ray.

Anyway, without my notes I had to work from memory alone. Memory is a tricky concept, though, and it has been so since the sixties. When I think back to the first session with the patient, everything gets kind of hazy. I remember laughing. And I remember being naked and very afraid at

some point. I remember dancing and banging an ancient chinese gong – though I don't remember where I got the gong, or what happened to it after the session. Most of all, I remember the patient laying calmly on the couch, watching me through all of this with puzzled amusement before falling asleep.

My thoughts were interrupted by my secretary on the intercom, announcing the arrival of the patient. I welcomed him into my office and asked him to lay down on the couch, which he happily did. When I asked him, he didn't remember anything from our last session except being left with a feeling of general sadness for the days after, which my professional pride instantly attributed to the rather grey and gloomy weather we had been having and not my own psychiatric handywork.

My notes from the session read as follows:

03:34 p.m. – Like last time I offer the patient a healthy dose of LSD disguised as Tic Tacs, but to my befuddlement he declines, stating that he's trying to lose weight, and even though they write on the package that this particular breathmint contains 0 calories pr. serving, that's really more of a technicality, since they actually *do* contain a microscopic amount of calories, which just so happens to be under a certain threshold that the FDA has permitted to be marketed as 0 calories, and it might not seem like this matters in the bigger picture, but the patient has always been a firm believer that "many a mickle makes a muckle" which is a rather outdated expression, but his grandmother always used to say it, and he misses her dearly, and besides, it doesn't really make any sense since both "mickle" and "muckle" used to be terms for a large quantity of something, but he supposes it just has a good ring to it, and everybody understands what you mean anyway, and isn't that the whole point of language, to get your point across? Speaking of which, well, speaking of speaking, I guess you could say, isn't it strange

how...

03:36 p.m. – Already fidgeting with the Tic Tac container, fighting the urge to indulge, I interrupt the patient and sharply inform him that he's rambling incoherently. This sudden talkativeness is a change of pace from our last session where he seemed more quiet and reserved, but I don't know what to make of it. Besides, I'm faced with a bigger problem – if he won't ingest the pills, how do I get in his psyche deep enough to dig out some more poetry?

03:37 p.m. – The patient launches into a moving vocal performance of "Ramble On" by Led Zeppelin which he smoothly transitions into a kind of slowed down, ambient version of "Ramblin' Man" by the Allman Brothers. I can't help but to speculate that this particular choice of songs stems from my own use of the word "rambling". This type of behaviour, where a person's actions seem to be dictated by association rather than logic, is most often seen in either small children or psychotic adults. As the patient is a middle aged man, the latter explanation seems more likely, though he so far has displayed no other symptoms of psychosis.

03:50 p.m. – The patient has stopped singing and seems back to his old self, watching me peacefully from the couch as I pace back and forth in my office, trying to think of my next move.

04:17 p.m. – Suddenly it hits me! I'm not used to talking to members of the proletariat outside of my role as a mental health professional, and I'm not too familiar with their lingo, but I have to befriend the patient a bit in order for this to work: It's this fucked up society, I tell him – making sure to pronounce the word *society* with as much contempt as possible – that tells you you need to lose weight. Really, you look good, bro, I mean, no homo, of course, but you look *good*. Got a kind of dad-bod going, you know. The chicks dig it, man, I'm telling you! Hell, if anything, you could stand to

gain a couple of pounds, really fill out that sweatshirt, you know, more cushion for the pushing! And besides, speaking from a purely evolutionary point of view, dieting is just crazy, I mean, when winter's approaching, would you bet your money on the fat or the skinny squirrel? No, I'm telling you, man, you've got to load up on carbs every chance you get – conserve that energy, man, especially in this political climate, speaking of which, look at Trump, man, do you think he ever went on a diet? I mean, he looks good, man, no homo of course, but he looks *good*. Like, *good good*! And you know...

04:22 p.m. – I start to fear I'm rambling incoherently myself, but it seems to work. I don't know if I've convinced the patient or if he's simply doing it to shut me up, but he accepts the box of Tic Tacs and eats three in rapid succession. I lean back and observe the results.

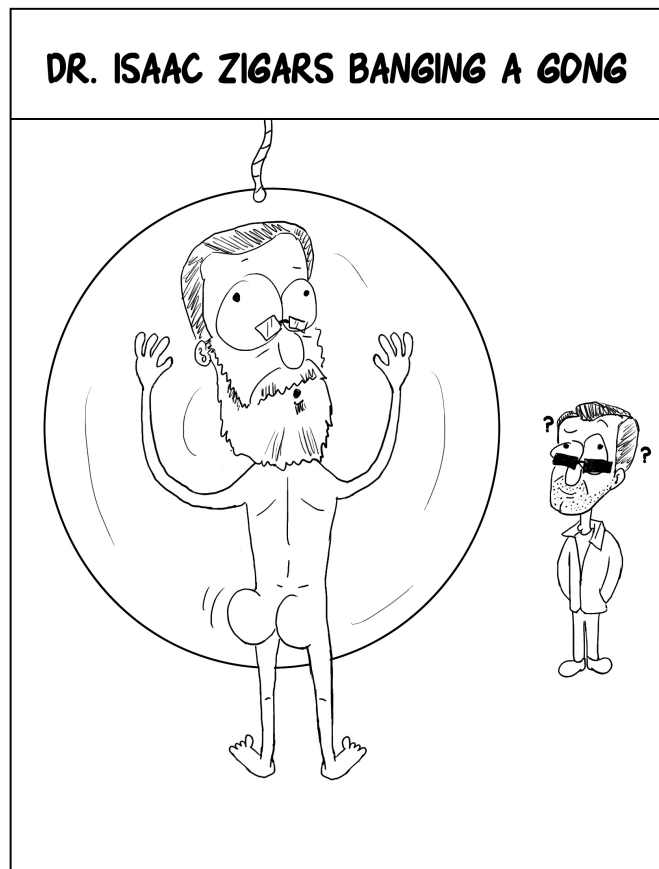
04:28 p.m. – My rambling seems to have tired the

patient tremendously. He's already fast asleep on the couch, without me having to do any naked dancing or gong-banging. I notice a bit of remorse on my part – banging that gong had felt good – but it doesn't matter now, nothing does, besides getting out those golden, godly words.

04:29 p.m. – I simply ask the patient to tell me a bit about himself, and to my delight, he instantly starts chanting, as if he had been preparing for this question for ages:

*I stay true to my mood swings  
And you think this dude drinks  
A bit much, but the truth is I should sue shrinks...*

At this point, the patient stops talking as abruptly as he had begun. He grimaces and appears to be in pain. I ask him once again to tell me about himself, and he repeats the three previous lines before stopping. He shakes his head "no", and I notice a single tear running down his cheek.



# Top 10 Fashion Trends for Fall 2018

To help you stay stylish, up-to-date and trendy, here are the 10 hottest new fashion crazes for the 2018 fall season!

## 10. Reverse Prints

The newest trend to come out of the fashion giant "Generic" is T-shirts with reverse prints. These days there's a shirt with a phrase for any occasion, so to stand out, wear a shirt with reverse writing. This will draw attention, as it catches people off-guard when they try to read it.

## 9. Mojari

Here's a great, little, culturally appropriated fashion gem for the upcoming fall season: mojari. Somehow Disney's "Aladdin" has made a huge comeback and as a result, these shoes have become amazingly popular. Go for ones with an overly emphasized tip to really draw attention to your appropriation-sense.

## 8. Pink Accentuations

For the bleak times ahead, pimp up your wardrobe with a few, bright neon-pink items. It has to be screaming pink, though. The pig-colored salmon off-pink is way too 2014. Men can go for a pink tie matched with pink socks to spice up their boring, black suits. Just don't go overboard with it or you'll look like a Valentine's Day decoration.

Since heteronormativity is alive and kicking, women can opt for a more full-on pink dress or a pink jacket with pink trousers contrasted with a blue or turquoise shirt.

## 7. The Inverse Monk

This is the trendiest haircut to come out of the fabulous salon "Babu" – actually called "The Balding Buddhist" – for nearly a decade. The small but expensive salon has been struggling to put itself on the trend-map for the past eight years – the last hairstyle craze they came through with was their unique twist on the classic "Business in the Front; Party in the Back" mullet hairstyle, which they called: "Party Everywhere" sporting the classic mullet at the back, three separate mullets on either side of the head and a giant fountain of an upside-down mullet in the front. But now it's once again time for "Babu" to shine! The absolute genius of "Babu's" head barber is written all over his new creation: "The Inverse Monk". The hair is cut to about four centimeters everywhere. Then a ring of also four centimeters width is shaved off. Absolutely brilliant! We have never seen anything like it (and there's a good chance no one ever will), and it's catching on like gonorrhoea at a frat party!

This is primarily a male haircut, but we have seen some brave, female trend front-runners sporting it, too.

## 6. The Plastic Bottle Life Vest for Everyday Formal Events

To raise awareness of the world's issues with plastic, the designers from "GP/GP" – "The Great Pacific Garbage Patch" – have designed a trendy new life vest made entirely of recycled plastic bottles. Wear this stupendous piece at dinner parties and get-togethers to make a strong statement showing your immense dedication to saving the environment.

A word of warning: This apparel does not function as a flotation device – we had to learn that the hard

way; rest in peace, Bobby.

### 5. The Dumb-Phone

Smartphones are out! The size of smartphones has been steadily increasing which is a huge fashion faux pas. Walking around with a small TV in your front pocket just doesn't look attractive. Thus, the Nokia 3310 is back. Hard to come by (and impossible to destroy), this phone is a real collector's item. The dumb-phone is the retro item of the year and goes well with a Walkman, a mullet by "Babu" and a pornstache.

### 4. The Plastic Bag Scarf

The second item by "GP/GP" to make it on this list, the plastic bag scarf is another great fall trend for the environmentally concerned. With a wide variety of designs ranging from "Walmart" to "Costco", there's plenty of opportunity for individual expression. Try wearing two contrasting scarfs like "Bed, Bath and Beyond" with "Fjällräven" for an even greater impact.

### 3. Homemade Jewelry

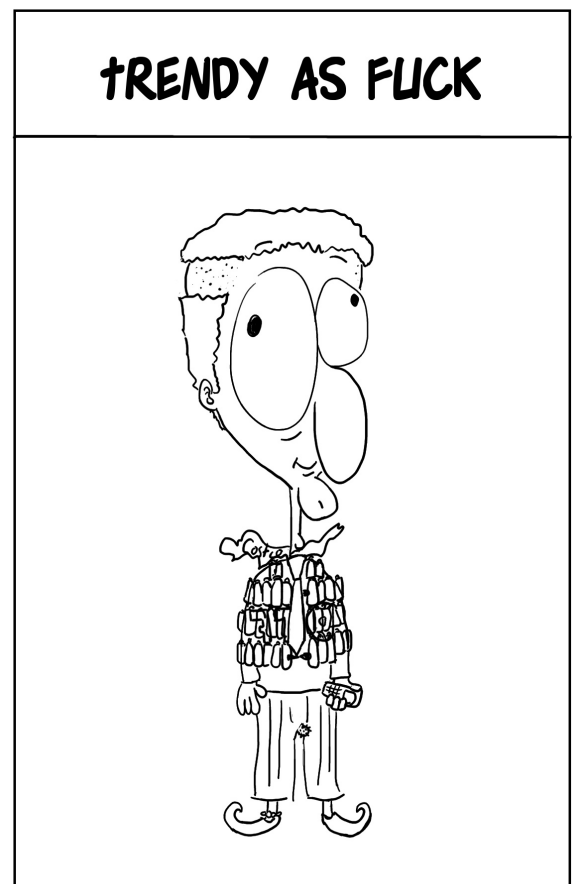
This one's for all the crafty people out there: You'll be delighted to find that homemade, pastel-colored plastic-jewelry is no longer considered dorky and ugly but is on the rise in the fashion world. A subtle ankle-bracelet of round, baby blue beads goes very well with your pink socks. "GP/GP" is currently having a sale on left-over plastic – so be sure to check that out.

### 2. The All Day Every Day Pajama Party

Pajamas are the new casual wear this fall. With leggings doubling as jeans, sweat pants and yoga pants, the only logical next step is to wear pajamas to work. This also saves you a truckload of time in the morning, as you can roll out of bed and instantly be ready – especially because pajamas go nicely with a bed-head hairdo.

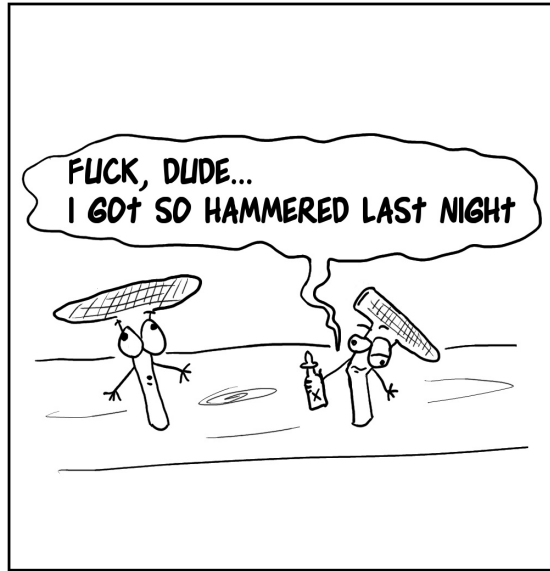
### 1. "Accidental" Nudity

To be a trend-setter, you need to be daring and edgy – taking after "The Emperor's New Clothes", our number one and favorite new brave trend is: "accidental" nudity. Rip your clothes strategically to expose your nipples, ass and/or testicles. This will draw massive attention, making you one of the most spoken-about and looked-at personalities in your local area. Just be sure not to cross the line between covert and overt – it needs to look like an accident, or you'll face indecent exposure charges.





# Comic Relief



# Words of Wisdom

by Lacey Dunottin

What do you do if you get stuck in limbo?  
– You raise the bar.

After the surgery, the patient asks his wife: "Babe, do you still find me attractive even with these scars?"

To which she replies: "Oh, honey... as long as your wallet is intact."

I saw a stork nervously walking back and forth on a roof-top going: "Fuck! How am I gonna tell these people I dropped the baby?"

I got tricked by a cunning salesman when I bought my first car. He told me it would be cheaper, what with taxes and all, if he – "just for the books" – billed me for each part separately. What he failed to mention about doing it this way was that I would have to assemble it myself.

I'm lefthanded. I never learned to write with the right hand – now, everything I write comes out wrong.

I consider my shrink to be my "brain-mechanic"; he often goes: "Sorry, you'll have to come back next week – I'm waiting for spare parts."

I remember twenty years ago as a little kid, I was standing all alone at a bus stop in the middle of nowhere freezing my ass off for an hour and a half just to realize the bus wasn't driving on Sundays. I wish my parents had at least had the decency to abandon me on a workday. Or in the sun – maybe Mallorca. In a nice hotel. Presidential luxury suite. All-you-can-eat ice-cream, please. But no, they were all like: "This is exactly why we're leaving you behind – you're such a spoiled and demanding brat."

I see my friends on a regular basis: once every two years.

I have my own little writing routine: I turn on the computer, do a bit of light stretching and then give up on life.

The great thing about being a fairy is that everything you say is a fairytale.

I went to a public restroom and was greeted by the most repulsive of smells – in the corner some hippie was lighting incense.

I have a very clear plan for my future: The first step is to figure out if I even want to live.

My date wined and dined me. Or well... I say "wined and dined" – we got drunk and had oral sex.

I wanted to make some food, but then I realized I know nothing about agriculture.

My friend recently jump-started his career and made a lot of money. Now he's going to jail for counterfeit.

I felt motivated to ride my bike to work this morning. Someone had stolen my car.

# How to Human 101

## 10 Tips on How to Be Normal

From now on, every month we'll bring you ten tips on how to fit in with civil society. You're welcome.

### **Shower daily**

Do something about the fact that you're filthy and you stink. Don't let your smell precede your reputation.

### **Don't invade people's personal space**

Although it is incredibly tempting to plant your nose inside the nice, big perm of some random old lady, try to refrain from doing so.

### **Don't stare**

This is just considered rude. You might like eye contact, but don't stare – no matter how much you crave human contact. While we're at it: Don't look at children – even you should know why.

### **Have a Tic Tac**

Especially after drinking coffee. No one wants to smell your lunch on top of having to look at you.

### **Don't say "you're welcome" after someone thanks you for wishing them a good day**

Don't do it after they thank you for a compliment you paid them either. Doing this makes you seem like a self-absorbed asshole who thinks they're doing charity.

### **Floss twice a day**

We don't know why either, but seven out of five dentists recommend it, so you should probably have blind faith in authority – at this point, flossing has become the eleventh commandment.

### **Use forks with your left hand**

Because why the hell would you use your dominant hand to navigate a dangerously pointy object in close vicinity of your face? This is the one thing where society favors the left-handed freaks.

### **Don't rape**

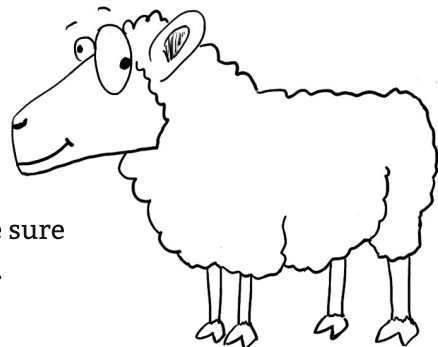
This is considered extremely rude.

### **Walk at a brisk pace**

No one has time to walk slowly these days. Don't slow people down by walking at an unacceptably sluggish pace in front of them. Make sure to be aware of your surroundings and move the fuck out of the way.

### **Don't read articles on how to be normal**

You shouldn't be in need of this advice. Who raised you? My dad?



Sweep Them off Their Feet Faster Than They Can Say "Catfish"

# How to Set up the Perfect Online Dating Profile

by Miss Understanding

Hello, my dears! Welcome to my show! I'm Miss Understanding and I *know all* about love. Now, the editor told me to not talk about myself this time. So instead I'll be teaching *you* how to bring your lovelife alive in this dark season where everything else – including nature, hopes, dreams and homeless people – goes to die. Today I will show you how to set up the *perfect* online dating profile.

First off, here's an often overlooked statistic to consider: The one personality trait that will determine just about ninety-eight percent of your success in the dating world is your ability to get a date. After that comes a sense of humor – closely followed by a big, throbbing wallet. In this technologically advanced day and age, getting dates is easier than ever thanks to the miracle of online dating. So if you've been jack out of luck when it comes to getting dates due to your genetics, character and/or personal hygiene, you still have a chance. Nowadays, one in three people find love online – and their significant others know nothing about it.

All right, let's begin: Go to the online dating site of your choice (or, if you're really desperate, all of them) and sign up. Choose a fitting username – especially if it's displayed on your profile. Choose something that describes you well; I went with *model\_girl1980*. Choose a strong, unhackable password; I went with *vickysecret1980*. The last thing you want is for some online troll to set you up with a real-life troll.

Now, your profile picture is the most important thing about your profile, because everyone's a shallow asshole – people *can* be beautiful at every size, Jim! It's harder to fix a bad first impression than it is to... than it is to do something really hard. Even harder than losing weight.

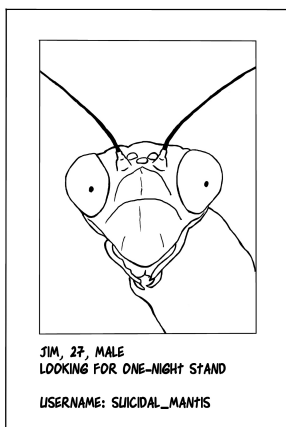
In your profile picture make sure to sport the so-called "duck-face" (yes, this is now considered attractive regardless of gender – although, to be perfectly honest, I find it hideous regardless of species. Even for ducks – but that's not their fault; at least *they* are born like that). The idea is to look more like a pretty bird than a filthy monkey. Don't overdo it though, or your mouth is gonna look like a baboon's anus.

Don't choose pictures of you with your more attractive friends – this is just gonna show your potential suitors what they'll be missing out on, if they end up going for you. And you definitely don't want them showing up at the first date just to realize they fell for the old switcharoo.

Don't choose the most flattering pictures you have – instead go out and shoot your own album, where you can control the angles, lighting and most importantly photoshop. Create your own reality.

Show that you can cook. The way to anyone's heart is through their stomach – we're evolutionarily conditioned to like anything we associate with food and nurture; that's why most of us have an Oedipus complex.

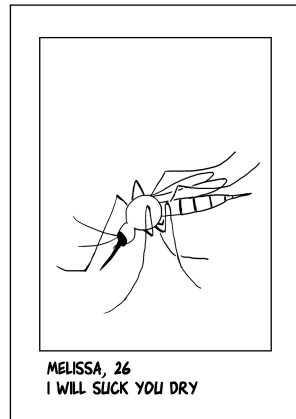
If you really want to ramp up the mystery, you could choose not to use any profile



picture, just put your initials and let your age do the talking. Some people find this very titillating. Most likely you'll just attract a bunch of weirdos, though (but let's be honest, this is online dating – what did you expect?). On the other hand, that might be your thing – I don't judge.

Good. With the most important part of your profile done, let's move on to the description.

Usually, the best advice for dating is to just be yourself – but judging from the fact that you're currently setting up an online dating profile, that strategy probably hasn't been working for you.



The trick to a good description is to seem dark and mysterious without being creepy, fun and mischievous without being nasty, and deep and aquarius without being fishy.

Try writing something interesting that could be a conversation starter: "Do you prefer Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough, Strawberry Cheesecake, Chunky Monkey or Phish Food ice-cream?", "Who would win in a fight between Aquaman and Spongebob?", "I'm a proud flat-earth-believer – change my mind". Try to make them laugh. With you – not at you. Most people don't wanna fuck a clown. Although, you know what they say about people with big feet: They wear big shoes. And have huge wallets.

You will find that honesty is the way to go. If you're a serial killer, do state so in your description – you don't want mismatched expectations on the first date. Also, many serial killers have found love in prison because of their dangerous vibe. Remember: dark and mysterious but not creepy. Put it in your profile and in no time you'll have a date... with the feds.

The more personality traits and passions you reveal, the more people will be interested in your profile. Just make sure you keep that weird-ass 50 Shades of Nose Hair fetish to yourself.

You want to make sure you come across as available for love. Don't say that you're a gamer, book-addict and introverted painter who values your "me-time" more than anything in the world – even if that's the truth; it'll just make your potential partner feel there's no room for them in your life. Instead, lie and say that you love long hikes, being around people and travelling. Not only will that signal that you're fun and ready to let someone into your life – it will also make you look like part of the herd, because this is what *everyone* is saying. And you want people to believe you're normal, don't you? You don't have to keep the lie up for all that long either; once you've found love, you probably only have to act as if you enjoy going out to dinner with them for the first like two or three years – or however long it takes to get dumped.

You should always, always, always be positive about yourself. You don't want to sound like a sourpuss with self-esteem issues. Unless of course you're looking for the kind of assholes who love manipulating insecure people. Fuck you, Jim! You knew I was vulnerable. You should consider yourself lucky my mom found me before the pills kicked in... But again, this is not about me.

In the end, it's all about selling yourself. But don't go overboard with it – you don't wanna risk people mistaking your profile for a pop-up ad. Although, you do want to draw the same attention.

Be businesslike about it. But not so businesslike that you get in trouble with your local laws on prostitution.

If you have any, consider getting a friend to help you create your profile. Ask someone who claims to know you very well and – more importantly – swear they won't judge you for being desperate enough to

make an online dating profile.

You should update your profile on a regular basis – nothing is more embarrassing than having your date ask about your hemorrhoids, just because you forgot you put that in there.

Don't forget to spell check! Many people consider poor spelling and grammar an turn of. Run your profile text through the spell checker in Word to make sure there are no squiggly, red lines anywhere. Be careful though: You can't rely on Word alone to check your description for errors. For instance, Word completely accepts the following sentence: "I'm a thirsty-five year old grill who lives in the county side and love riding my whores in the after noun."

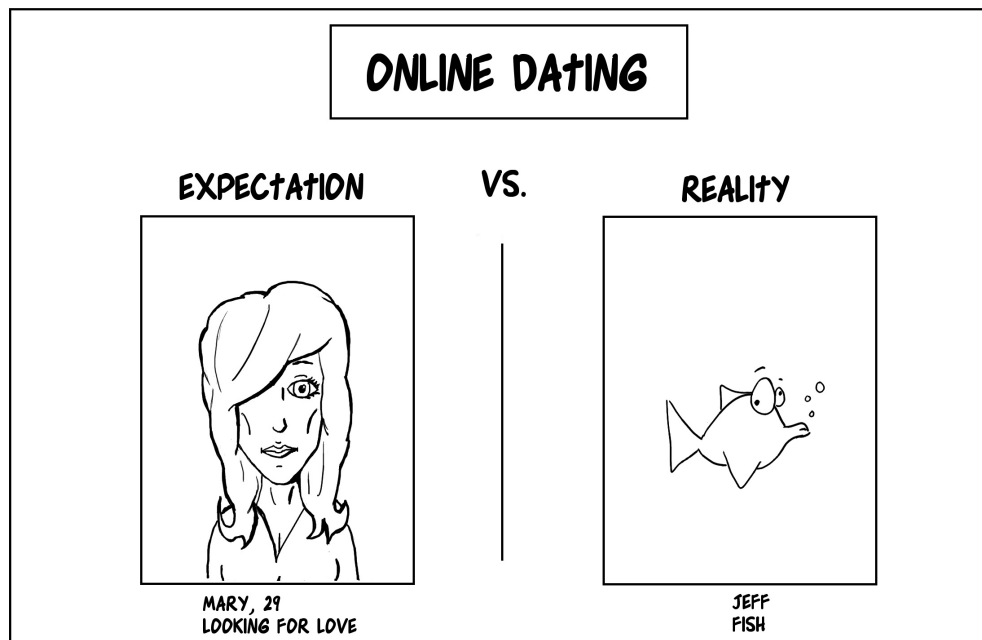
All right. Now that your profile is done, here are some tips for thriving in the world of online dating:

- Be careful of viruses. You don't want to catch some kind of malware – or HPV.
- Think twice before you go for one-night stands. Don't just say yes to casual sex – you're worth more than that. Find someone who's willing to try hard at sex.

- Online dating is like online marketing: It's all about exposure (no, I'm not talking about dick-pics). Remember: Be like an ad – be everywhere and slowly start influencing their subconscious. Get your profile out there, and sooner or later someone is probably going to find you attractive – or at least be desperate enough to settle for you.
- That Nigerian prince does not actually exist. Believe me.

All right, now you just sit back and let the internet work its magic. If you followed the steps in this article, I guarantee it won't be long before you find yourself on a date with someone you know nothing about, because they twisted their profile to match the demands of the online dating world just as much as you did. Good luck!

If this doesn't work for you, you can always try arranged marriage. Or a mail order spouse.





## **... And That's a Wrap!**

Thank you so much for reading Horsefeathers Magazine!

The next issue will be published October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

"???"



The Weekly Regional

**"Close, But No Guacamole"**



My Mom

**"Three Thumbs Down"**



International Geothermal

**"I Take Back What I Said  
Last Month"**



Ynot Saijes from 22B

**"We Agree With Mom"**



The Neptune

**"Guaranteed to Make You Wonder Why You're Wasting  
Your Life Reading This Garbage"**



The Nightly Text Message



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