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Sunday (Opening):

**The Human Test**

*By the Youtuber Ze Frank*

*Slightly edited by Julia Fält-Nardmann*

*[Another IMWe in Rieneck has started. Like so many times before... and at the same time so very long ago! For two years IMWe only happened online. IMWe 2020 and 2021 definitely had some great highlights, and even over the Internet we managed to catch some of the "IMWe spirit". But in the end, most of us were sitting at home, only interacting via a computer screen. Now we sit here, next to other real human beings. Or do we?]*

This is the human test, a test to see if you are a human. Please raise your hand if something applies to you. Are we agreed? Yes? Then let's begin.

Have you ever eaten a booger long past your childhood?

It's OK. It's safe here.

Have you ever made a small, weird sound when you remembered something embarrassing?

Have you ever purposely lowercased the first letter of a text in order to come across as sad or disappointed?

OK. Have you ever ended a text with a period as a sign of aggression?

OK - period.

Have you ever laughed or smiled when someone said something shitty to you and then spent the rest of the day wondering why you reacted that way?

Yes. Have you ever seemed to lose your airplane ticket a thousand times as you walked from the check-in to the gate?

Yes. Have you ever put on a pair of pants and then much later realized that there was a loose sock smushed up against your thigh?

Good. Have you ever tried to guess someone else's password so many times that it locked their account?

Have you ever had a nagging feeling that one day you will be discovered as a fraud? Yes, it's safe here.

Have you ever hoped that there was some ability you hadn't discovered yet that you were just naturally great at?

Have you ever broken something in real life and then found yourself looking for an undo button - in real life?

Have you ever marveled at how someone you thought was so ordinary could suddenly become so beautiful? Have you ever stared at your phone smiling like an idiot while texting with someone?

Have you ever subsequently texted that person the phrase - I'm staring at the phone smiling like an idiot?

Have you ever been tempted to and then gave into the temptation of looking through someone else's phone?

Have you ever had a conversation with yourself and then suddenly realized you're a real asshole to yourself?

Has your phone ever run out of the battery in the middle of an argument and it sort of felt like the phone was breaking up with both of you?

Have you ever thought that working on an issue between you was futile because it should just be easier than this, or this is supposed to happen just naturally?

Have you ever realized that very little in the long run just happens naturally?

Have you ever woken up blissfully and suddenly been flooded by the awful remembrance that someone had left you?

Have you ever lost the ability to imagine a future without a person that no longer was in your life?

Have you ever looked back on that event with the sad smile of autumn and the realization that futures will happen regardless?

Congratulations. You have now completed the test. You are all human.

Monday (Night Game):

**Fuck it!**

*By John C. Parkin*

*This version: COPYRIGHT © John C. Parkin*

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*The italic text is by Jens*

*The following text is from a book that I found back in university.*

*It helped me a lot to deal with my fear of exams,  
stage fright  
and situations where I had to perform well  
but was too tense and blocked  
for fear of doing badly.*

*To this day,  
I routinely use its techniques  
from time to time  
to relax when necessary.*

*Maybe one day they will be useful for you.*

*The title of the book, you ask?  
Well, you might be able to guess it by the end.*

## Say Fuck It to Something Now

When you say Fuck It,  
you let go of your hold on something  
(usually something that's causing you pain.)

When you say Fuck It,  
you give in to the flow of life -

you stop doing what you don't want to do,  
you finally do what you've always wanted to do,  
and  
you stop listening to people and listen to yourself.

When you say Fuck It,  
you carry out a spiritual act  
(the ultimate one, actually)  
because you give up,  
you let go,  
you stop resisting and relax back into the natural flow of life itself

Fuck It is the perfect Western expression  
of the Eastern spiritual ideas of  
letting go,

giving up  
and relaxing our hold on things.

When you say Fuck It to something  
you move from tension to release and freedom.

It also has the added advantage that it doesn't involve any of the following:

- \* Chanting
- \* Meditating
- \* Wearing sandals
- \* Developing a belief that you're right and everyone else is wrong
- \* Killing people
- \* Pretending to be happy when you're not

When you say Fuck It,  
you stop worrying (generally),  
you give up wanting (mainly)  
and end up being darn happy to be yourself in the present moment  
(if you're lucky).

So before we jump arm-in-arm  
into this swimming pool of Fuck It wisdom,  
have a go yourself now:  
Say Fuck It to something.

\*PAUSE\*

It could be something small  
(take a trip to the fridge and gobble down that cheesecake)  
or big  
(take a trip to that lazy pig of a fella you call your partner and tell him to take a walk).

Say Fuck It to something ... anything.  
And feel the freedom and release that it brings.

Multiply that to the power of 10,  
imagine feeling like that most of the time and you have an idea of what you're getting into.

And, last thing before we jump then,  
Take a deep breath  
Hold it in.  
let's SHOUT together on 3

Fuuuuccckkkkkkkk lllllllllllllllllllll!

*Have a good night and  
sleep tight now,*

*ooooooooooooooooor, Stay in the basement.*

Tuesday (International Evening):

### **Charity and Compassion**

*From the series of paintings and writings, "Stories My Father Told Me", by Helen Zughaib, a Lebanese artist (<http://hzuqhaib.com/charity.html>)*

Once there was an Emir [~a prince] who owned a horse so strong and beautiful that it was known all over the land. Other Emirs were envious and tried to buy the horse but the owner always refused. Selling the horse, he said, would be like selling a member of his family. One day a crook came to one of the envious Emirs and offered to steal the horse for a price. The bargain was made.

The crook waited by the side of the road where the Emir and the wonderful horse passed each day. When the Emir approached, the crook began to cry and wail. The Emir stopped to inquire why, and the crook replied he was very sick and needed a doctor but that he was too sick to climb up on the horse. The Emir dismounted to help him and as soon as the crook was well seated in the saddle, he kicked the horse and started off at a fast gallop. The Emir called loudly, "Stop and the horse is yours." The man stopped and returned, knowing that the Emir would never go back on his word. "Do not say you stole this horse," the Emir said. "Say that I gave it to you. Do this so that charity and compassion will not disappear from our community."

Wednesday (Be Prepared):

### **True Friendship**

True friendship isn't seen with the eyes, it is felt with the heart.  
When there is trust, understanding, loyalty, and sharing.  
True friendship is a rare feeling, but when it is found  
It has profound impact on our well-being, strength, and character.  
True friendship does not need elaborate gifts  
Or spectacular events in order to be valuable or valued.  
To ensure long-lasting quality and satisfaction,  
True friendship only needs a few key ingredients:  
Undying loyalty, unmatched understanding, unsurpassed trust,  
Deep and soulful secrets, and endless sharing.  
These ingredients, mixed with personality and a sense of humor,  
Can make a friendship last a lifetime!  
This is just a thank you, my friend, for all the wonderful and colorful  
Special ingredients You've brought to my life!  
Pass this on to such a friend!

## Thursday (Creative Evening):

### Hor(r)o(r)scopes

*Transcript from the Podcast "Welcome to Nightvale". Compiled from several episodes, with small changes/abbreviations.*

Aquarius: the white ball will be under the middle shell. Trust the stars. Invest all your money in this lucrative street game.

Pisces: Everyone knows your terrible secret, and they think it's really boring.

Aries: This just says "spiders" in increasingly large fonts for about seven pages. Aww, that's cute!

Taurus: Things fall apart; the center cannot hold; mere anarchy is loosed upon the world. The blood-dimmed tide is loosed upon the world and everywhere. So, your workshop project will not go well this week. There's just too much blood.

Gemini: You will meet someone today who will have no effect on your life, and who you will immediately forget. Retain hope for a possible future.

Cancer: you have much in common with a tree. A sadness that no one can see, or understand. Communication only through silence and wind. Skin made of wood. The way you collect sustenance through roots buried in soil. You are very, *very* much like a tree. Almost impossible to tell the difference.

Leo: Lend someone a hand, Leo. You have a whole trunk full of hands, don't be greedy.

Virgo: I hope you are not too attached to your left hand. Either way, you won't be soon.

Libra: All your dreams will come true today. Or...I mean, one of them will. You know that recurring dream where you're chased through a house that seems like your own, but it isn't quite, by a swarm of bees that you can't see even though you totally know that they're there? Well, it's not that recurring dream, it's the other one. And I am so, so sorry.

Scorpio: Mars is intersecting with Mercury, which means your head is weirdly big for your body, and no one wants to tell you because they don't want you to have the grace of self awareness.

Sagittarius: Now, wait. There are still some of you left? How did you survive the great culling of Sagittariuses that swept through – oh! You know what? I'm sorry, that's not 'til *next* week. Sorry, I got confused there. Oh, yeah, today looks very good for you, Sagittarius! Maybe use this lovely day to get all your affairs in order. Just a thought.

Capricorn: You have spent your life searching for your soul mate. Finally, having given up on love, you have volunteered to board a starship destined to never return to our world. You will live out decades on that vast arc, developing close but platonic relationships with the few fellow humans that are with you. Finally, in your 83rd year, you will land on a planet that's surface will appear to be made entirely of silver. You will step out onto that foreign terrain, and waiting for you will be an alien being made entirely of vapor, a wisp of a creature whose droplets will curl around you, and you will smile and realize that you have finally found your soul mate.

Saturday (Concert):

**Little blue dot**

By Maren Hasenjäger

<https://www.magellanverlag.de/titel/ein-kleiner-blauer-punkt/536>

Please note, that the slideshow based on the original book is available in the password protected area of the IMWe 2022-archives!

*Italic text by Jens*

*I am a dad and*

*much of the literature*

*I am currently reading is actually children's books.*

*I know, big surprise*

*And I wanted to read one of them to you*

*because it really touched me*

*and it still does when I read it to my daughters.*

*Unfortunately, the book is only available in German,*

*so I had to translate it with deepL*

*and correct the text to the best of my knowledge.*

*I hope the text is not too weird because of that.*

**A Little blue dot**

Somewhere in the vast universe, so small that one almost overlooks it, floats a small blue dot. If you look more carefully, you see that this little blue dot is a planet.

The planet is called Earth - and it is not alone. Together with seven other planets, it revolves around a huge bright ball of fire: the sun.

As the Earth once again gazes upon one of its neighbors passing by, it sighs deeply "All the other planets are so special," she says sadly. "I wish I could be like you."

"Mercury, for example, is closest to the sun among all of us. The two must be great friends! Since they are so close, the sun appears three times as big. But you couldn't stand on Mercury without burning your feet mightily. At day it can get over 400 degrees hot and at night, it gets as cold as -170 degrees. Pretty uncomfortable."

"From where I stand, Venus shines the brightest, so even the people who live on me can spot her with the naked eye. She sparkles so beautifully that many poets have written poems about her and called 'evening' or 'morning' star. What a beautiful name. But one could not walk on Venus. She is the hottest of us all! The air is toxic, and there are many violent thunderstorms."

"Mars is my next-door neighbor, and he's really popular! People are constantly sending spacecraft up to explore him. There are many mountains on Mars. One is over 20 kilometers high - that's an absolute planetary record! Wow.... Mars may soon even become the first planet that humans will be able to fly up to visit."

Jupiter is the largest of all the planets. Damn, he is so huge that I would fit inside him more than 1000 times. Since he's so huge, he attracts a lot of comets and asteroids like a gigantic dustsucker. A storm has been raging on Jupiter for over 300 years. It is called the >Great Red Spot - and even it, is bigger than me!"

" Among all of us, Saturn is the most famous. He has beautiful rings that he wears around his belly like a hula hoop. I really envy him for that. He also has 82 moons, that have been discovered so far. For example, Titan, which is even bigger than Mercury."

"Uranus is probably the funniest of us, because he does not rotate like we other planets 'standing upright'. He is rather 'rotating lying on its side.' That's why the seasons on Uranus are pretty nuts. If you stood at one of Uranus' poles, you would have summer for 42 years, and the sun would never set! Followed by 42 years of winter with endless night..."

"Then there's Neptune. He's deep blue, which makes him pretty dope and mysterious. Neptune is the farthest away from the sun - so remote that you can't even see him with your naked eye. Although he needs the longest time to rotate once around the sun, 165 years, Neptune rotates galactically fast around himself - a Neptune day is only 16 hours!"

And then there is me. Not terribly big, not terribly warm or cold, no giant storms or eternal summers, no pretty rings. Actually, I'm kind of boori....

„Shut up!" yells Mars. "I think you're talking bullshit! For example, you have such gorgeously large oceans! Ever since my water evaporated, it's been dry as dust on me."

"And it's awfully lonely and cold here on the edge of the solar system. I'd much rather be as close to the sun as you are, sighs Neptune.

"Do you actually know how exhausting it is when you have 82 moons constantly jabbering at each other? Must be so nice and quiet with only one lunar dude" Saturn interjects.

Then a voice clears its throat. Astonished, Earth looks around.

„Oi, Look closely, I am here, very close!", the voice calls.

Then the earth discovers a child. It stands in the very midst of her and waves to her.

"Finally, you listen to me!" it says. "Well, I think you've forgotten something really important:

You're the only planet I can live on! Here it is not too hot and not too cold, there is water and food and air to breathe. Only on you there is grass and crocodiles. And bees and sunflowers. And snow leopards and swimming lakes and daisies and calamari and snowball fights and cactuses and blue whales and

spaghetti and giant redwoods and children and pizza and bumblebees and ants and coral reefs and Ice cream with whipped cream and cherry pit spitting and much, much more!"

The child stops in its list. Then it smiles " For me you are perfect! "

There the earth is a little bit embarrassed

Somewhere in the vast universe, so small that one almost overlooks it, floats a small blue dot.

A very special dot.

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*There is an actual picture of the dot. The picture is called a Pale blue dot.*

*[[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pale\\_Blue\\_Dot](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pale_Blue_Dot)]*

*You can see it here. Do you see the earth? It's here!*

*This picture was taken on February 14, in 1990, by the Voyager 1 space probe from a record distance of about 6 billion kilometers. That's further out than Neptune and yet within our solar system. It is the most distant photo ever taken from the earth.*

*As an astronomer I have seen this picture a thousand times, yet I am still astonished how remote, tiny and insignificant our planet or home is from this perspective. There is nothing near by. Imagine how far away another earth-like planet must be. Even if you look closer...it is still so small and so remote and so fragile, so insignificant and yet so beautiful. This is home, our home.*

*Remember, this is the only place where we can live...the only place where we can survive. I often tend to forget that... And I fear that way too many people do the same...*

*But believe me, and not what some crazy entrepreneur may say, there is no alternative. The closest thing realistically achievable that doesn't even come close to an alternative is an uninhabitable desert.*

*I'm sure you know that. But we have to make sure that everyone else knows and grasps it.*

*As scouts, we all know BPs last words and I genuinely believe they guide most of us. When I was a young scout these words meant hope and duty to me. Today, I believe that it is our duty that not only we but all mankind understand this simple formula as their duty. Because it is not just a simple service for humble people. It is simply a God-damned necessity for us, human beings, to survive.*

*So that there can be hope for us and Earth! Because she is the only one!*