

## **Mad Cow Disease**

To find out if you have the "Mad Cow" disease,

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## **Forest Fire Pilot**

A photographer for a national magazine was assigned to take pictures of a great forest fire. He was advised that a small plane would be waiting to fly him over the fire.

The photographer arrived at the airstrip just an hour before sundown. Sure enough, a small Cessna airplane was waiting. He jumped in with his equipment and shouted, "Let's go!" The tense man sitting in the pilot's seat swung the plane into the wind and soon they were in the air, though flying erratically.

"Fly over the north side of the fire," said the photographer, "and make several low-level passes." "Why?" asked the nervous pilot.

"Because I'm going to take pictures!" yelled the photographer. "I'm a photographer, and photographers take pictures."

The pilot replied, "You mean you're not the flight instructor?"

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## **Tax Deductions**

Dear Sirs:

I am responding to your letter denying the deduction for two of the three dependents I claimed on my 1994 Federal Tax return. Thank you. I have questioned whether these are my children or not for years. They are evil and expensive.

It's only fair, since they are minors and not my responsibility, that the government (who evidently is taxing me more to care for these waifs) knows something about them and what to expect over the next year. You may apply next year to reassign them to me and reinstate the deduction. This year they are yours!

The oldest, Kirsten, is now 17. She is brilliant. Ask her! I suggest you put her to work in your office where she can answer people's questions about their returns. While she has no formal training, it has not seemed to hamper her knowledge of any

other subject you can name. Taxes should be a breeze. Next year she is going to college. I think it's wonderful that you will now be responsible for that little expense. While you mull that over, keep in mind that she has a truck. It doesn't run at the moment so you have the immediate decision of appropriating some Department of Defense funds to fix the vehicle or getting up early to drive her to school. Kirsten also has a boyfriend. Oh joy. While she possesses all of the wisdom of the universe, her alleged mother and I have felt it best to occasionally remind her of the virtues of abstinence. This is always uncomfortable and I am quite relieved you will be handling this in the future.

Patrick is 14. I've had my suspicions about this one. His eyes are a little close together for normal people. He may be a tax examiner himself one day if you do not incarcerate him first. In February, I was awakened at three in the morning by a police officer who was bringing Pat home. He and his friends were TP'ing houses. In the future would you like him delivered to the local IRS office or to Ogden, UT? Kids at 14 will do almost anything on a dare. His hair is purple. Permanent dye, temporary dye, what's the big deal? Learn to deal with it. You'll have plenty of time as he is sitting out a few days of school after instigating a food fight. I'll take care of filing your phone number with the vice principal. Oh yes, he and all of his friends have raging hormones. This is the house of testosterone and it will be much more peaceful when he lives in your home. DO NOT leave any of them unsupervised with girls, explosives, inflammables, inflatables, vehicles, or telephones. (I'm sure that you will find telephones a source of unimaginable amusement, and be sure to lock out the 900 and 976 numbers!)

Heather is an alien. She slid through a time warp and appeared quite by magic one year. I'm sure this one is yours. She is 10 going on 21. She came from a bad trip in the sixties. She wears tie-dyed clothes, beads, sandals, and hair that looks like Tiny Tim's. Fortunately you will be raising my taxes to help offset the pinch of her remedial reading courses. Hooked On Phonics is expensive so the schools dropped it. Good news! You can buy it yourself for half the amount of the deduction that you are denying! It's quite obvious that we were terrible parents (ask the other two) so they have helped raise this one to a new level of terror. She cannot speak English. Most people under twenty understand the curious patois she fashioned out of valley girls/boys in the hood/reggae/yuppie/ political doublespeak. I don't. The school sends her to a speech pathologist who has her roll her R's. It added a refreshing Mexican/Irish touch to her voice. She wears hats backwards, pants baggy and wants one of her ears pierced four more times. There is a fascination with tattoos that worries me but I am sure that you can handle it. Bring a truck when you come to get her, she sort of "nests" in her room and I think that it would be easier to move the entire thing than find out what it is really made of.

You denied two of the three exemptions so it is only fair you get to pick which two you will take. I prefer that you take the youngest, I still go bankrupt with Kristen's college but then I am free! If you take the two oldest then I still have time for counseling before Heather becomes a teenager. If you take the two girls then I won't feel so bad about putting Patrick in a military academy. Please let me know of your

decision as soon as possible as I have already increased the withholding on my W-4 to cover the \$395 in additional tax and make a down payment on an airplane.

Yours Truly, Bob

Note: The taxpayer in question added this caveat at a later date. "Rats, they sent me the refund and allowed the deductions."

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## Chicken Dinner

After a community worship service, a farmer invited the local pastors, reverend, and priest back to the farm for dinner. At the meal, each clergy was served a whole young chicken. As the three returned to their cars, a rooster was seen strutting about, chest puffed out and held high. "He sure seems full of himself," commented the pastor. "He has good cause to be proud," answered the farmer. "He just had three of his children go into the ministry."

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## Fun Puns

There was a man who entered a local paper's pun contest. He sent in ten different puns, in the hope that at least one of the puns would win. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, but when they lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

Two boll weevils grew up in South Carolina. One went to Hollywood and became a famous actor. The other stayed behind in the cotton fields and ever amounted to much. The second one, naturally, became known as the lesser of two weevils.

Two atoms are walking down the street and they run into each other. One says to the other, "Are you all right?" "No, I lost an electron!" "Are you sure?" "Yeah, I'm positive!"

Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused his dentist's Novocain during root canal work? He wanted to transcend dental medication.

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager

came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer."

A hungry lion was roaming through the jungle looking for something to eat. He came across two men. One was sitting under a tree and reading a book; the other was typing away on his typewriter. The lion quickly pounced on the man reading the book and devoured him. Even the king of the jungle knows that readers digest and writers cramp.

A guy goes to a psychiatrist. "Doc, I keep having these alternating recurring dreams. First I'm a teepee, then I'm a wigwam, then I'm a teepee, then I'm a wigwam. It's driving me crazy. What's wrong with me?" The doctor replies: "It's very simple. You're two tents."

A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Amal." The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him "Juan." Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mom. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Amal. Her husband responds, "But they're twins - if you've see Juan, you've seen Amal."

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## **"Discouraged?"**

As I was driving home from work one day, I stopped to watch a local Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-baseline, I asked one of the boys what the score was.

"We're behind 14 to nothing," he answered with a smile.

"Really," I said. "I have to say you don't look very discouraged."

"Discouraged?" the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face. "Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet."

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## **Adam and Eve**

One day, Adam sat outside the Garden of Eden shortly after eating the apple, and

wondered about men and women.

So looking up to the Heavens he says, "Excuse me GOD, can I ask you a few questions?" GOD replied, "Go on Adam but be quick. I have a world to create."

So Adam says, "When you created Eve, why did You make her body so curved and tender unlike mine?"

"I did that, Adam, so that you could love her."

"Oh, well then, why did You give her long, shiney, beautiful hair, and not me?"

"I did that Adam so that you could love her."

"Oh, well then, why did You make her act so stupid? Certainly not so that I could love her?"

"Well Adam, No. I did that so that she could love you."

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## **PLENTY OF FISH**

A young man, fresh out of seminary, became the pastor of a small rural church. On his first Sunday he announced his sermon by saying, "This morning I want to speak to you from the passage of Scripture where Jesus, with 5,000 loaves and 2,000 fishes fed 5 people. Everyone tried hard to not to laugh at the blunder, but one man, right down on the front row could not contain it, and laughed out loud. So the next week the young pastor decided to redeem himself self by preaching from the same passage. "Today", he said, "I want to preach to you from the story where Jesus, with 5 loaves and 2 fishes fed 5,000." Then he confidently looked down at the man who had laughed the week before and said, "Now sir, could you have done that?" "Why sure", the gentleman answered, "if I had was left over from last week."

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## **SUBSTITUTE PREACHER**

A supply speaker was invited to fill in while the pastor was on vacation. He began his sermon by saying, "Today I'm just substituting for your Pastor, I kind of feel like the cardboard you temporarily place in the window while the glass is being repaired." Then he went on with his sermon. At the end of the service, while shaking

hands with parishioners, one said, "Remember what you said about feeling like a cardboard replacement? Well you shouldn't feel that way at all. Today you were a real pain."

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## **SURPRISE PUNISHMENT**

A man appeared before St. Peter to receive news of his eternal fate. Peter said, "I have good news and bad. The good news is that you get to choose where you will spend eternity, the bad news is, it won't be heaven. Come, let me show you your choices." So Peter took the man down a long corridor. After walking a bit, Peter opened a door so the man could look in. Inside was a huge room with a cement floor, filled with hundreds of people standing on their heads. The man said he wanted to see a couple of more rooms before deciding, so Peter took him to another room where hundreds of people were standing on their heads on a hard wood floor. In the next room they were on their heads in a carpeted area, so the man silently reasoned that each situation was a little more bearable. Then Peter said, "I'll show you one more room, and then you must make your decision." In this room were hundreds of people floating in sitting up position, drinking coffee. But there was a terrible stench, for what they were sitting in was a combination of garbage and sewage. But reasoning that he probably could soon become accustomed to the smell, the man made his decision to be consigned for eternity in this room. As he settled down into the slop, a cup of coffee was handed to him. However, it wasn't more than 10 minutes later when a small side door opened and out came a demon who yelled, "O.K. Coffee break's over. Everyone back on your heads!"

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## **PARACHUTES**

It happened in the seventies when four men were flying across America in a private jet. There were President Nixon, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Evangelist Billy Graham, and a young hippie. Suddenly the voice of the pilot came through the loud speaker, "Our engine is on fire, you will have to parachute to safety." However, when they looked for parachutes, only three could be found. Richard Nixon was the first to grab one saying, "I'm the most powerful man on earth, the world needs me, and he fastened on the parachute and jumped. Then Henry Kissinger grabbed the second parachute saying, "I'm the smartest man in the world, the world needs me, and he parachuted to safety. So Billy Graham, turning to the

hippie, said, "Son, I'm ready to meet my maker, why don't you go ahead and take the last parachute." "Thank you for your offer," the young hippie replied, "but that won't be necessary. The smartest man in the world just took my back pack."

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## **SLEEPING IN CHURCH**

Perturbed that a man had fallen asleep during his sermon, the pastor called on an usher to wake the man. The usher retorted, "Why should I do that, Pastor? You should wake him up yourself, after all, you put him to sleep."

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## **THE CROP DUSTER**

Dusty was his nick name because Dusty was a Crop Duster. Looking to fill in some time on his radio show, the local DJ decided to interview Dusty:

DJ - "I'm sure your job must be quite dangerous."

DUSTY - "Well, yes at times it is"

DJ - "What was your most dangerous ride"

DUSTY - "It was the time my engine failed when I was circling back to pass over the field I was spraying."

DJ - "That's bad!"

DUSTY - "But I had my parachute and jumped before I crashed."

DJ - "That's good."

DUSTY - "Well, the parachute didn't open."

DJ - "That's bad!"

DUSTY - "But there was a hay stack just below me."

DJ - "That's good."

DUSTY - "There was a pitch fork in the hay stack."op

**DJ - "That's bad!"**

**DUSTY - "But I missed the pitch fork."**

**DJ - "That's good."**

**DUSTY - "No, that's bad. I missed the hay stack too."**

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## **RESCUE**

**A traveling preacher finds himself in a tremendous rainstorm. Withing a few hours the hotel he is staying in becomes flooded. As the water rises, the preacher climbs to the roof and starts praying.**

**"Lord, save me so I can continue on my mission of preaching your gospel."**

**Just then, a coast guard rescue party floats by in a rowboat. "Let's go mister. Into the boat."**

**"I'll stay here," says the preacher, "The Lord will save me."**

**An hour later a second boat reaches the scene and the water is close to the roof of the hotel. "Sir, you better get in. the water is still rising."**

**"No thanks. The Lord will be my salvation."**

**Toward evening, the hotel is almost completely under water and the preacher is clinging to the satellite dish on the roof.**

**A helicopter is spotted and on a loudspeaker is heard "Sir, grab on to the line and we will pull you up. This is your last chance.**

**"I'm all right," says the preacher, "I know the Lord will provide sanctuary." as he looks heavenward.**

**As the boat departs, the satellite dish is hit by lightning and the preacher is killed.**

**When he arrived at the Pearly Gates he was furious. "What happened, " he shouts. "I thought the Lord would provide!"**

**Moments later a thunderous voice is heard. "Gimmie a break pal. I sent you 2 boats and a chopper"**

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## **Vain Boasting**

A lion met a tiger as they drew beside a pool.

Said the tiger, "Tell me why you're always roaring like a fool."

"That's not foolish" said the Lion with a twinkle in his eyes,

"They call me King of Beasts because I advertise."

A rabbit heard them talking and ran home like a streak,

He thought he'd try the Lion's plan, but his roar was just a squeak!

A fox came to investigate, had luncheon in the woods;

So when you advertise, my friend, be sure you've got the goods!

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## **Dangerous Forgetfulness**

A seasoned preacher was telling a young preacher that he had to have a story that would instantly "grab" his audience.

"Like what?" the younger preacher asked.

"You know, like, 'some of the greatest times I remember spending were in the arms of a woman who is not my wife - - my mother.'"

The younger preacher was impressed with this approach, so he tried it in his first sermon, although he was much more nervous than he thought he would be.

He began, "You know, some of the greatest times I ever remember were in the arms of a woman who is not my wife. Yes, a woman who is not my wife. Did you hear? I've spent so many great times in the arms of another woman other than my wife; but for the life of me I can't remember who she was!"

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## **Late for the Train**

**There was this guy in the middle of Wyoming who pulled up to the train station, surprised that the train was already departing. He took off on a dead run just barely able to jump aboard.**

**"I can't believe you were going to take off without me," he says to the conductor.  
"Do you realize you're 8 minutes early?"**

**"Not quite" says the conductor, "This is yesterdays train!"**