

The Norse Code



The Vicious Jesters: Mass Hysteria of Criminal Clowns

By: Maria Marabito

Lately, a wave of mass hysteria has begun with the rise in criminal clown activity. There have been supposed instances of stabbing, child luring, and breaking and entering. What most people do not know is that this is nothing new.

Creepy clown sightings started way back in the 80s. The first reported sighting was in Massachusetts by a group of children who claimed seeing clowns in a black van ("The Great Clown," 2016). This sparked the 'phantom clown' phenomenon, which created scares all across the country. Clowns have always had a bad reputation in history though. "Andrew Stott, professor of English at the University at Buffalo, concurs that "clowns have always been considered socially marginal, always on the edge of society"" ("The Surprising History," 2016). "'It's sort of a misconception to ask, When did clowns turn bad?" argues Benjamin Radford, author of *Bad Clowns* and a member of the American Folklore Society. "The notion of clowns as good is fairly modern"" ("The Surprising History," 2016). So you see, it is normal to be freaked out by clowns! I mean who wouldn't be frightened by a deranged looking circus enthusiast.

There is no doubt though that the

clown hysteria has increased recently. Clown sightings have even been reported in the UK. Recently, a man in Sweden has been stabbed by an attacker wearing a clown mask ("Attacker in Clown," 2016). Also recently, "a group of men in clown outfits surrounded four 10-year-old children and threatened them with what turned out to be fake chainsaws" ("Attacker in Clown," 2016). Those kids definitely won't be asking for a clown at their next birthday party.

With the negative association clowns have currently, McDonald's announced that it would reduce the use of its clown faced mascot, Ronald McDonald ("Attacker in Clown," 2016). Honestly, though, McDonald's should have done this a long time ago. Ronald McDonald, the clown, has always been a little creepy.

Many believe that the clown hysteria will further increase because of Halloween. Even if it is meant as a joke, it is strongly advised (obviously) not risk wearing a clown mask, in fear of being attacked out of a panic defense reaction. If you see someone with a white painted face, a red nose, and a joker smile, RUN!

HALLOWEEN TREATS!

By: Sydney Dickson

HALLOWEEN PEANUT BUTTER SPIDER COOKIES RECIPE

Ingredients

*½ cup shortening
½ cup peanut butter
½ cup brown sugar
½ cup sugar
1 egg
2 tbsp milk
1 tsp vanilla
1¾ cup flour
1 tsp baking soda
½ tsp salt
¼ cup sugar (for rolling)
48 miniature Reese's cups, unwrapped and frozen
96 candy eyes
½ cup chocolate chips*



Directions

Preheat oven to 375.

In a large bowl, beat together shortening, peanut butter, egg, sugar, brown sugar, vanilla and milk.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda and salt.

Gradually add dry mixture to wet mixture and beat until blended.

Form into 1" balls.

Roll in sugar and place a couple of inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 10-12 minutes or until golden. Immediately, gently press an upside down frozen peanut butter cup on top of each cookie and move to wire rack to cool.

After placing and moving all of the cookies on the wire rack, put in place the candy eyes while chocolate is still slightly soft.

Place in refrigerator for 10 minutes to allow cookies to firm.

Place chocolate chips in corner of zippered sandwich bag.

Microwave for 20 seconds, knead and repeat until chocolate is melted. Clip very small piece off of corner of bag to allow for piping and draw 8 legs on each spider cookie.

Place in refrigerator for 10 minutes to allow legs to set.

Recipe from Pinterest

HAUNTED MANSION SCREAMING PRETZELS

Ingredients

Mini twist pretzels

Dark chocolate candy melts

Candy eyeballs



Directions

- 1. Melt the chocolate candy melts according to the directions on the package, adding a small amount of vegetable oil to the mixture for easy dipping.*
- 2. Dip the pretzels into the candy melts, coating both sides. Place the pretzel on waxed paper making sure the bottom section of the pretzel is not filled with chocolate.*
- 3. Insert melted chocolate into the top two sections of the pretzel. Place a candy eyeball into the top two sections. Allow to set until firm.*

SUMMARY OF EAGLES IN OCTOBER

BY: MORGAN MCELROY

Football in autumn is a staple for every Sunday afternoon. It creates a bonding experience and a chance for families to congregate. In this area the Eagles dominate much of the fanatic sports fan's attention and dedication. The team has been off to a good start in the season, but fell to the Washington Redskins on Sunday, this dropped their record to 3-2. Carson Wentz is making a name for himself early in his career, named one of the top QB's in week 6 at only 23 years old. The Eagles have lost two games in a row,

but it's difficult to put all the blame directly on Wentz. They played a nail biting game against Detroit, trailing only a point behind at 24-23 with only 1:30 left. Wentz corked a throw intercepted, both receiver Nelson Agholor and Wentz took a lot of heat for improper position and pass placement. Against Washington down by 27-20 Wentz drove the offense to the Washington 42- yard line before taking two sacks. Many believe these mistakes will serve Wentz and the entire team well in the future and they will be able to learn from failure.

SNL S42 EP2 RECAP

BY: GRACE ZWIERZYNA

Saturday Night Live returned to primetime television at the start of October, and is already receiving outstanding ratings. From the hilarious political satire skits to the performances from well-respected bands such as twenty one pilots, the season is off to a great start.

The second episode's host was Lin-Manuel Miranda, who created and starred in Broadway's current hit musical Hamilton. He started the show with an opening monologue, in which he ended up rapping most of it. References to the presidential election as well as his homage with Hamilton made for an intriguing introduction. Paired with more impressions from the presidential debate, such as Alec Baldwin's Trump, the criticism of the ongoing current events became satirical and hilarious as opposed to the counter view, which is worrying over the troubling state our country is in.

Apart from the critiques of politicians, the program provided the country with something that it desperately needed: a good laugh at the insanity that we have all been pulled into. In making light of our downward spiral into an election where neither candidate is ideal nor both are horrible examples of human beings, SNL has reminded the nation that we are capable of laughing in the face of such adversity. The reason that SNL is off to such a great start this season is their satires of subjects that worry the public the most. Just as Hamilton reminds us that our history is never as closed a system that we assume it to be, SNL reminds us that our current events are never beyond a good laugh at.

The musical performance of the night included the well-established and respected twenty one pilots. The duo first performed their newest hit "Heathens", the lead single from the soundtrack to Suicide Squad. In this live performance, Joseph and Dun were joined by a string orchestra in the background to give the song a catchier feel. Joseph also experimented with some vocal changes throughout the song, and did the same for their later performance of "Ride". Overall, Joseph and Dun had great performances which wrapped up a great night of hilarious skits and riveting live music.

MORE FUN WITH HALLOWEEN!

DID YOU KNOW . . .

1. THE WORD CLOWN IS BELIEVED TO COME FROM THE ICELANDIC WORD KLUNNI, MEANING A CLUMSY PERSON.
2. THE DECLARATION OF INTERNATIONAL CLOWN WEEK WAS PASSED INTO US LAW BY PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON ON AUGUST 2, 1971.
3. COULROPHOBIA IS THE FEAR OF CLOWNS.
4. THE FIRST KILLER CLOWN IN FICTION APPEARED IN THE 1892 ITALIAN OPERA PAGLIACCI.
5. THE WORLD'S OLDEST CLOWN SOCIETY, CLOWNS INTERNATIONAL, WAS FOUNDED IN 1947.
6. IN THE GERMAN LANGUAGE THE WORD CLOWN MEANS 'DON'T LEAVE THE KIDS ALONE WITH THAT ONE'!
7. CLOWNS HAVE THEIR OWN SET OF RULES TO FOLLOW- NAMELY, THE CLOWN CODE OF ETHICS.

What Your Favorite Candy Says About You

By: Maria Marabito

GUMMY BEARS: YOU ARE A LITTLE KID AT HEART. YOU ARE FUNNY, LIGHT HEARTED AND CAN NOT RESIST EATING A BAG OF GUMMY BEARS LIKE YOU DID WHEN YOU WERE 8 YEARS OLD. YOU ARE A GOOF BALL AND YOU CRACK A JOKE ANY CHANCE YOU GET.

A CHOCOLATE BAR- IF THIS CLASSIC CANDY IS YOUR FAVORITE, THEN YOU ARE SIMPLE AND HAVE A MINIMALISTIC ATTITUDE. YOU ARE RELATABLE, APPROACHABLE, AND ARE ALWAYS THERE FOR OTHERS.

BUTTERFINGER- YOU HAVE AN OLD SOUL AND A MATURE TASTE FOR THINGS. YOU FIND SUPERFICIAL THINGS PETTY AND A WASTE OF TIME AND YOU DO NOT GET CAUGHT UP WITH DRAMA.

REESE'S : IF THIS CANDY IS YOUR FAVORITE, THEN YOU ARE A LITTLE INDECISIVE. CHOOSING BETWEEN TWO THINGS IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT WITH YOU BUT WITH REESE'S, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN CHOCOLATE AND PEANUT BUTTER. YOU GET THE BEST OF BOTH.

SKITTLES- YOU ARE HAPPY GO LUCKY AND VERY OPTIMISTIC. A GLASS HALF FULL KIND OF PERSON, YOU ARE KNOWN TO SMILE A LOT AND RARELY BE DOWN. THAT IS WHY THE TASTE THE RAINBOW FEEL THE RAINBOW CANDY IS YOUR GO TO.

CANDY CORN- IF THIS CLASSIC HALLOWEEN TREAT IS YOUR FAVORITE, THEN YOU ARE THE KIND OF PERSON WHERE YOUR FRIENDS LOVE YOU BUT THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW YOU MAY FIND YOU HARD TO APPROACH. YOU HAVE A STRONG PERSONALITY THAT CAN BE REALLY APPRECIATED BY A FEW CLOSE FRIENDS.

KIT KAT- YOU ARE VERY SOCIAL AND ALWAYS ARE SEEN TALKING TO SOMEONE. SINCE YOU ARE ALWAYS BUSY WITH PLANS TO GO OUT WITH FRIENDS, YOU NEED A LITTLE YOU TIME, WHICH YOU ALWAYS MAKE SURE TO CARVE OUT, EVEN IF IT IS JUST A 15 MINUTE BREAK.

YORK- YOU ARE A BIT OF A NEAT FREAK AND ARE SUPER ORGANIZED IN EVERY ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE. YOU HAVE MODERN, SIMPLISTIC TASTE AND LIKE THIS REFRESHING TREAT TO REENERGIZE YOUR SENSES.

SMARTIES- YOU ARE A BIT OF AN OVERACHIEVER: PRESIDENT OF A COUPLE CLUBS, HONORS STUDENT, STAR ATHLETE. GOOD FOR YOU! WITH ALL THAT KEEPING YOU BUSY, YOU DESERVE THIS SWEET TREAT WITH ITS MOTIVATING NAME.

Advisor:

Mr.Niedziejko

Editor: Maria Marabito

Satff: Morgan McElroy, Alissa Roach, Sydney Dickson, Grace Zwiersyna

If you would like to write for the Norse Code, please contact Maria Marabito at 17marabito@student.wcasd.net.

