

Gator's Blog

Staring Into The Sun

Sactogator



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Location

Sacramento, California,

Birthday

February 01

Bio

Father of ultra cool daughter; husband of beautiful, infinitely patient wife; walker of goofy, good-natured dog; aspiring writer and journalist; advocate; traveler; proud Lefty; movie lover; average age-group triathlete; tinkerer; woodworker; knowledgeable in useless trivia; amateur historian; appreciative listener of seventies rock; admirer of Cheever, Boyle, McCarthy, Scorsese, Alexie, Coen Brothers, Styron, Ripley and many others great and lesser known. If you have the time or inclination please click on the "writerMann" link below to check out my website. Thanks

MY RECENT POSTS

[Leaving Seattle With No Excuses](#)
 August 29, 2009 07:28PM

[Reunion Finale](#)
 August 20, 2009 01:56AM

[Reunion, Round One, Ding-Ding](#)
 August 15, 2009 04:23PM

[You Can Go Home Again. For Awhile.](#)
 August 14, 2009 01:03PM

[Crazy From The Heat](#)
 July 04, 2009 10:33PM

MY RECENT COMMENTS

"To quote a character from one of my daughter's favorite movies, *Finding Nemo*--Dor..."
 June 06, 2011 06:44PM

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JUNE 19, 2009 7:49PM

EDITOR'S PICK

Jon & Kate's Big Announcement

RATE: 17 1

People magazine, through inside sources, has obtained scripted documentation concerning the Big Announcement forthcoming from TLC's hit show, *Jon & Kate plus 8*. The following exclusive sneak peek is provided unedited from said sources.

INT. JON & KATE INTERVIEW SET - MORNING

Kate and Jon are seated together in the big green chair. Both are smiling and giggling, playful.

Producer (V.O.)

So what's going on you two? You seem very energetic. What's the big announcement?

KATE

Oh god, where to start? I don't know. Eric, ah, I mean Jon, you want to help me out here?

JON

Sure Laura, I mean Kate, ha ha. Okay, here's the big news. Ready America? The show is scripted.

Producer (V.O.)

Come on guys, I think everyone pretty much knew that.

JON

No, like, I mean it's *really* scripted, like a regular show. We're reading off a script right now. *You're* reading off a script.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

I know.

KATE

Yeah, everything you see, and I mean everything, is scripted. Kid pukes? Scripted. My type A personality? Scripted. All of it. We've got some awesome writers by the way.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

So that would mean you guys are...Actors?

LAURA

Bingo! You got it. The secret's out. By the way, my real name is Laura Crenshaw. If anyone's interested you can find me on IMDB. Oh, and I'm repped by Dan Foley at I.C.M. Eric?

MY FAVORITES



Bob Calhoun



Reflecting On History



Iorianne



Tricia Weight



Unbreakab



jay leffew

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UPDATES



[3 Books For What Little Time We Have Left \(Part I\)](#)

posted by: old new lefty



[Round Trip Meal Ticket - Tr ig's Wide Open Call](#)

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posted by: Chicago Guy



[OS is Open Again! Hells Bells Open Call](#)

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[The Oscars Identity Crisis](#)

posted by: Nick Leshi



[Would You Cruise on Carnival?](#)

posted by: Lea Lane



[Benedict's Resignation A Ploy](#)

posted by: Mick Arran



[Carmen](#)

posted by: Kathy Riordan

"I think I've solved the mystery. Palin went to school at Faber College with John..."
June 06, 2011 06:37PM

"An excellent eulogy. I am so bummed. I grew up a Cubs fan in LaGrange during th..."
December 03, 2010 04:02PM

"Great story Ann. We (me, wife, 4 year old daughter-yay) go to East Lansing every..."
December 01, 2010 08:03PM

"And yet those morons on "Jersey Shore" remain at large. Interesting."
March 03, 2010 12:51PM

MY LINKS

MY LINKS

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ERIC

Thanks *Laura*. God it feels good to say that. Yeah, ahm, all you directors out there, you can contact me through Walter Cox with C.A.A.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

Would people have seen you guys in anything else?

LAURA

Mr. Modest over here won't tell you, but you ever hear of a little movie called *Titanic*? He was the lead.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

But I thought...

ERIC

Laura, you don't have to...

LAURA

No Eric, people should know. It wasn't Leo, he bailed at the last minute. Couple of phone calls, a little makeup and some innovative lighting, and presto. But I'll give the devil his due, Leo's got some crazy good agents and kept his name above the title. Cameron knew what Eric could do from working with him on *The Abyss*. Two words: Ed Harris. Look closely. I'll leave it at that.

ERIC

Thanks Laura. But don't sell yourself short. You probably couldn't have gone to a Broadway show in the '97 season without seeing this little lady, she was all over the place. People don't know this, but she can sing and dance like there's no tomorrow.

LAURA

Aw Eric, that's so sweet.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

But the kids, what about the kids?

ERIC

Laura? You're up.

LAURA

Well, this is probably going to surprise some people, but here goes. *Animatronics*. That and some cutting edge CGI. And let me throw a shout out to our wonderful special effects guys, Tommy, Jason, Billy and Kenny. I don't think a one of them is over twenty-five. They can do stuff with computers that would blow you away. I can barely do email. *Amazing* work, just amazing.

ERIC

And speaking of amazing work, in my opinion it was really Laura here who sold it. You wouldn't believe how prickly the electronics are in those things, the littlest glitch can really screw up a moment, especially for someone like Laura who is an absolute Method *genius*.

LAURA

Don't sell yourself short Eric. This guy can work a blue screen like nobody's business, and that's what we mostly had to use for those outdoor shots, which was pretty much Eric's domain. It's pretty tough to pick up a kid who isn't there, but Eric made it real.

ERIC

And isn't it mind-boggling how real those kids seemed? *Maddie*? Come on! Talk about emotional range. Next to Laura's performance, and I know this is going to sound weird because she's a computer generated half-robot--Maddie, not Laura--I mean Kate! See how confusing it is? But seriously, I think Maddie, or Zoldar as she was known on the set, was simply perfection. I mean, there were times there she got *so* under my skin that I had to leave the set to refocus and find my chakra.

Robot can *act*.

LAURA

I couldn't have said it better myself Eric. Zoldar equals *Perfection*.

ERIC

But I'll tell ya, Laura had to put up with a lot as an actor. You know the intro, where she rolls over and her belly looks like the second coming of Jabba the Hut? That sequence, on screen for all of about three seconds, probably took, what, thirty hours to put together?

LAURA

Closer to fifty-five.

ERIC

Fifty-five! Incredible! Does that include the stuntwoman?

LAURA

No, that was another fifteen hours. That belly was a bitch to swing around, all coated in that greasy oily crap. I couldn't get ahold of it, so they brought in the pro. Gotta give her props, my homegirl Annie Fulton. Got my workout from her.

ERIC

Yeah, you know those paparazzi beach photos of Laura, well Kate, looking all slim and hot and cougarish? That's from Annie's workout. Lot's of pilates, right Laura?

LAURA

Ohmigod, pilates, the bane of my existence. At least now I can get back to the Hagen Dazs, ha ha. Speaking of paparazzi, normally I hate those bottom-feeding little twits. But let me tell you, we couldn't have sold that last chapter, you know, all the marriage drama, the Virginia Woolf vibe we had going on, without those worthless slugs trailing us. And the best part? They were unwitting accomplices, didn't have a clue they were helping us to get the best ratings ever.

PRODUCER (V.O)

Eric, who was the girl in the car, in the tabloids?

ERIC

Little lady we found through an open audition, Sara Weller's her name.

LAURA

Eric?...you have something to add?

ERIC

What? Oh yeah, okay. Sara and I have been going out for awhile.

LAURA

This is so funny. After the shoot where they left that bar and got in Eric's car and the paparazzi did their thing, Eric and Sara started dating. It was only supposed to be the one scene in the car, but the producers decided, brilliantly I might add, that it should be permanently written into the show, a very strange melding of reality-acting-reality, or is it acting-reality-acting? Anyway, really cutting edge, out of the box thinking.

ERIC

Then it when it really blew up and the ratings went through the roof it was decided that it would make a great way to end the show. Will they or won't they stay together? What about the kids? Will Kate kill one of the dogs? Will Zoldar, er, Maddie, have a nervous breakdown? But now the producers feel the drama, as interesting and profitable as it has been, has run its course. Don't feel bad for us though, Laura has just been signed to a talk show deal on ABC, and I'm finally able to get back to my muse, the theatre.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

Anything else?

LAURA

Yes. Thanks America, we love you!

ERIC

Definitely. Thanks America, it's been real, ha ha.

AUTHOR TAGS: [jon and kate](#), [open call](#)

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Very funny! I needed a laugh - thanks!



[aim](#)

JUNE 19, 2009 07:53 PM

Ahhhh, Zoldar! That explains "Maddie" not appearing freshly bruised and battered in every episode.

Eric's right, robot can act!



[vonnia](#)

JUNE 19, 2009 08:10 PM

Ha! Excellent imagination and so well-written I can see it all now.



[Kellylark](#)

JUNE 19, 2009 08:33 PM

I heard they weren't even married and rented the kids from Hollywood Picture

Animals, Inc.

Now if we're really lucky, they'll announce that they're going away. For good.



Boomer Bob

JUNE 19, 2009 11:36 PM

Thanks aim!

vonnaia: I don't know what I'd do if my kid acted like Maddie, but then again I'm not parading her in front of the world, warts and all.

Kellylark: Thanks, that was what I was going for with the script form.

Boomer: Amen to that brother.



Sactogator

JUNE 20, 2009 01:21 PM

brilliant!



Elizabeth Priddy

JUNE 22, 2009 10:20 AM

Very imaginative!



DeliaBlack

JUNE 22, 2009 12:13 PM

Nice piece PM! I must stay tuned to your posts! -WH



Rock Water

JUNE 22, 2009 12:40 PM

Great flow! What fun.



babysoft

JUNE 22, 2009 12:53 PM

Favorite line: "Robot can act." Works on so many levels.



sactoterp

JUNE 22, 2009 01:00 PM

(applauding) Nicely done. It all makes sense now! Congrats on the win!



JustJuli

JUNE 22, 2009 04:29 PM

Thanks everyone, and thanks JustJuli for informing me of the outcome of the contest. I enjoyed the posts from the other contestants as well. Peace out.



Sactogator

JUNE 22, 2009 05:15 PM

seriously inspired!



Nikki Stern

JUNE 22, 2009 05:30 PM

Congrates on winning the contest!



Deborah Young

JUNE 22, 2009 06:53 PM

Yours is the only one I read because you wrote it and you won and YOU deserved it my friend.

F'ing pukes. Probably are F-List actors. Look too uptight to have ever had sex anyway.

RATED!!!!



Kind of Blue

JUNE 22, 2009 07:05 PM

1womans: practically wrote itself with those two twits providing comic inspiration

deborah: thanks, enjoyed your's also

KOB: So glad to hear that man. Actually I viewed this as more of a commentary on egotistical actors and their pretentious attitudes, the parents just provided a jumping off point. Thanks!



Sactogator

JUNE 22, 2009 07:13 PM

So do tell, what was the prize :-o?



Kellylark

JUNE 22, 2009 07:52 PM

Kelly: So far as I can tell, the pride of a job well done, and a link on the OS box on the Salon.com homepage. Pretty nice. P.S. Kerry, If there is a cash prize I need to claim let me know :)



Sactogator

JUNE 22, 2009 09:15 PM

Great to see a creative take.



marcelleqb

JUNE 22, 2009 09:16 PM

Loved the very last line... and the rest of it too, but the last line was perfection.



Debra Victoroff

JUNE 22, 2009 11:33 PM

I wish I knew who Jon and Kate were...well, actually I don't but this is clever nonetheless! My life is scripted too. (I'm ready to fire the writer, though...shhh.)



Beth Mann

JUNE 23, 2009 09:14 AM
