

The National Expirer

News of 2011 from George & Julie Halitzka

Couple's disgusting "cuteness" blamed for citywide pandemic

"They bring new meaning to *ad nauseum*," says retching friend

For five years, Kentucky health officials have been unable to explain the severe bouts of nausea afflicting hundreds of Louisvillians. But on Monday, researchers finally identified the cause: an overly-affectionate couple with no sense of shame.

"If you've had any contact with George and Julie Halitzka, you are at risk," warned Dr. Daniel Charlatan, PDA Prevention Director for the Louisville Health Department. "If they've used pet names in your presence, obtain antiemetic drugs as a precaution. If they've cuddled, put down this newsletter now and go to your nearest emergency room."

George and Julie were identified as the pandemic's source when acquaintances began checking into area hospitals. Former friend Joe Singull, 28, was treated for gouging his own eyes out after seeing the couple rub noses.

"George calls Julie his 'Honeybee,'" moaned Singull. "And he's her 'Bear.' They actually make buzzing and growling noises to each other." Singull retched violently. "Can you hand me my white cane so I can find the bathroom?" he asked. "And hurry?"

Charlatan explained that the Halitzkas' illness, caused by the *Poindexterus Delectio* [Nerd Love] virus, is not easily transmissible.



"Don't worry, you won't catch what they've got," he said. "Thank goodness! I don't know about you, but I'd hate to be so sick that I *wanted* to kiss my wife."

Nonetheless, Charlatan emphasized that the Halitzkas remain a menace to society. "Just *looking* at their disgusting behavior triggers projectile vomiting," he said. "They're extremely dangerous—like Typhoid Mary, only worse."

At deadline, George and Julie remained confined in their home by court order. A bitter 70-year-old divorced security guard, believed to be immune to romantic nausea, was posted at the door.

George and Julie protested their innocence from a window while staring longingly into each other's eyes. "We're not sick," George insisted,

in a phone interview with the *National Expirer*. "Tell him, Honeybee. Awen't we just in wuv?" The conversation lapsed into affectionate baby-talk until George's phone turned itself off to prevent damage.

When asked if a cure was possible, Charlatan shook his head sadly. "We caught it too late," he said. "The Halitzkas are still holding hands after almost five years—a time when healthy couples are lawyer-shopping. The only solution is a quarantine."

Unfortunately, the quarantine came too late for Joe Singull. "Look, I admit that George and Julie are right for each other," said Singull, continuing his interview with the *Expirer* from beside the porcelain throne. "They're just wrong for everybody else. I'm a goner, but save yourself! Stay away while you still can." ■

George returns to stage after absence

Remarkably few tomatoes thrown by audience

For several years, George has wanted to do more to impact the lives of the students he works with. He's also missed the energy of a live audience, since he hasn't performed much lately. That's how his new dramatic program, *What a Character*, was born.

George wrote some short scripts on the topics of Bullying and Achievement during the spring. He asked his friend Zach Nord to perform with him, and they began rehearsing. The duo marketed their character education assemblies to Louisville schools in the fall, and *What a Character* got off to a promising start! George and Zach have presented assemblies for 11 schools and organizations, reaching an audience of 2500 kids.

George and Zach already have shows on their calendar for spring, and they hope the program will continue to grow in 2012. George is especially passionate about the bullying program, since he was bullied himself as a kid. Please pray that *What a Character* will help students develop stronger values for a lifetime of positive choices! (Watch a short video at www.dramabygeorge.com/character.) ■

Julie accepts new ministry position

Julie originally thought when she finished seminary, she would find a worship-related position in a local church. However, locating a full-time music gig would have meant moving out of Louisville. She and George both knew that restarting his drama business in a new town would be tough.

So Julie has taken a different sort of ministry position. She's a youth counselor—a hands-on mentor and caregiver—for girls at Maryhurst, a residential treatment facility for teens that have been sexually, physically, and/or emotionally abused. Many have been bounced around between 20 or more "placements" in the social services system.

Julie works with the girls in her dorm from the time they get out of school until they go to bed. She's also a one-on-one mentor for two of the girls. Please pray that Julie will have wisdom and physical safety as she works to make a lasting impact in the lives of her teens. To learn more about her work, visit www.maryhurst.org. ■

2011: Last Year Before the End of the World!

All the crackpot Mayan historians think the world is going to end in 350 days or so. Just in case they're right, the Halitzkas tried to make 2011 an extra-good year. (George is also selling Apocalypse Insurance at very reasonable prices.)



January

The Happy Couple celebrates a new year that doesn't involve George recovering from major surgery! They toast 2011 with pure, delicious sparkling water (straight from the Ohio River to their faucet).

February

George and Julie spend their date nights this spring watching DVDs of *The West Wing* while wishing that real politicians were honest, idealistic, and good-looking.

March

The Halitzkas celebrate four years of marriage! George doesn't wash dishes often enough and Julie rarely cleans the bathroom. But somehow, they're still in love.

April

One month to go! Julie works hard to finish her final seminary class, Greek Exegesis (wherein she learns to read the New Testament in its original language). George tries to be supportive, but becomes disillusioned when he learns that π is not edible.

May ▲

After four years, Julie knows everything about God! (Well, they call her seminary degree a "Master of Divinity.") George and Julie's parents both visit Louisville for graduation. Julie appears to be happy, so Dad Bates lets George live—for now.

June/ July

Julie takes on a new hobby of Extreme Couponing and catches up on four years' worth of sleep. George offers his usual assortment of youth drama programs.

August

Julie begins her new job as a Youth Counselor at Maryhurst, a residential facility for foster kids. The position brings new challenges, but also rewarding relationships with the teen girls in her care. (See article at lower left.)

September/ October ►

Drama by George launches a dramatic program for schools called *What a Character*. George, together with his friend Zach Nord, performs Bullying- and Achievement-themed assemblies in area schools. (See article at upper left.)



November

George's article about the apprentice program at Actors Theatre of Louisville appears in *Louisville Magazine*. He reminisces about his own time as a theatre apprentice, and feels grateful that he no longer eats microwave pizza rolls to survive.

◀ December

Some old friends give the Halitzkas an amazing Christmas gift: a car! Sure, it has a few miles on it, but it runs great. George and Julie thank God that they don't have to arrange their schedules around one vehicle anymore.