



THE THERAPY PAGE

Dear Uncle Mike,

My six year old daughter is an absolute gem, but lately she's become a fussy eater. After years of giving her whatever she wants to eat, within reason of course, she now refuses to eat anything she hasn't seen on television. She's very determined, especially about broccoli which they've found is quite good for us. What should I do?

Perplexed in Netarts

Dear Perplexed,

Uncle Mike assumes you've ruled out having your daughter adopted by an intelligent adult. Give Uncle a freaking break. The 'very determined' human you're dealing with is six years old. You are, if not smarter than she, at least larger and, in the normal scheme of things, in charge. Point this out often to the little tyrant. You should also turn off the television set and stop obsessing about broccoli. When children get hungry, they eat. Even if there's nothing around but good food.

Dear Uncle Mike,

Where do you stand on ET? Is there intelligent life in the universe? Are they friendly? Do they want to ravish our women and eat us?

Bill in Lincoln City

Dear Bill,

If, by ET, you mean lipless, doe-eyed, smooth skinned salamander humanoids from Betelgeuse, Uncle Mike can only say he's never seen one. But then, Uncle Mike has never seen a Tasmanian. He saw someone from Los Angeles once. That was pretty interesting.

You ask if space aliens would be friendly. Uncle Mike would bet it depends. Everyone has off days and there are bad apples in every bushel. It would be alienist to generalize but Uncle Mike has a dispirited hunch their feelings for us would be much like ours for hamsters. It would be foolish to forget that any visitor from another planet would most likely be a rich tourist or the representative of some government agency. This is not a win-win situation.

Would they ravish our womenfolk and turn us into sushi? Lord only knows. There are, after all, people in Newark who've done as much and not lost a minute's sleep. But Uncle Mike, ever the optimist, thinks it's more likely they'd take snapshots and ask penetrating questions about Rush Limbaugh.

Is there intelligent life in the universe? Do bears make poo in the woods? Uncle Mike believes the universe *is* an intelligent lifeform.

(Our constant readers will note that this is a reprise of past questions by our beloved Uncle Mike.. He has promised that he will begin on the stack of letter bombs gathering in his mailbox, the minute they let him out of the home... ed.)

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Aldous Huxley's last words

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How To Write A Poem
(if you have the nerve to forget while doing it that it is nothing anyone will ever care about as much as you it's)

Easy after you take the elastic out of the waistband of your underwear and tie it around your head to keep the hair out of your eyes

After you turn the birds and the radio off and your eye creeps into your ear listening to the clouds preening as they glide up your sleeve to explode in your mouth as they glide up your sleeve to explode in your mouth

As when a hand sliding up your thigh into the hole in your brain where the silence is and stroking until

When if you are words whistling the song of the body and your own metaphor awake that's how

John Buckley

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