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2008 NHN&WR letter #13

**Beautiful / Wonderful**

Lucile & Ken watch precious little TV together. Bailey ignores it completely. No doubt a sign of superior intellect. Lucile knows ‘nuthin bout’ football and Ken would laugh at the wrong times if present for *"Days of Our Lives".* Two programs (apart from their ‘Specials’) are watched, ... Jeopardy & Wheel of Fortune.

Watched and enjoyed, save for contestant introduction What a lot of baloney. Was tempted to use another "B" word but in keeping with our squeaky clean image refrained. Not only that, but the minute they appear on screen we have already made up our minds about them. As in, *"Don’t confuse me with facts, ... my mind is made up".*

As for ‘Specials’, Good Grief, spare us, ... Kindergarten Jeopardy! Best Friends Wheel!

Back to introductions, should we happen not to mute at this point we can join the speaker in unison save for a few key words. For a female, *"I am married to a wonderful husband for X number of years. He is just a joy to live with and we have X number of children (usually these little angels are named) all doing well in school."* Can’t you just visualize these angels huddled by the TV with G’ma watching dear old Mom/Pop on national TV. For a male substitute: *"beautiful wife, she".* Come on, who is kidding who here? The only intros we paid much attention to were the Jennings ones. Curious to see how poor Alex, would handle interviewing the same guy week after week.

Well, ...Lucile & Ken have made a secret pact. In the dim, dim likelihood that either is ever on a quiz show, they are going to ‘tell it like it is’. Their interviews would go something like this, Lucile is first.

*"Hi Lucile, how are things with you?"*

*"Well, OK Alex."*

*"Are you married?"*

*"I guess you’d call it that."*

*"You guess?"*

*"Right, my mate is a silent, grouchy recluse whose clock is on a completely different schedule than mine. Like, up at 5, bed by 8. At least he doesn’t play loud Sousa marches in the morning like he did when the kids were little."*

*"You’ve kids?"*

*"Yes, nine."*

*"NINE!"*

*"Yup. Don’t have the faintest idea where a few of them are at the moment, somewhere, in or between; Texas, India, Philippines, China, & Kenya. As far as we know they’re all out of jail, ... but then who knows."*

*‘Well, what can I say, ... good luck Lucile"*

*"Thanks, I could use some."*

Now Ken.

*"Hi Ken."*

*"Hello Pat."*

*"Tell us something about yourself."*

*"Do I have to?"*

*"It would be nice."*

*(dramatic pause)*

*"I’m not nice. There, I told you something."*

*"Well, like, ... are you married?"*

*"Can’t remember when I haven’t been."*

*"What does your wife do?"*

*"Reads in bed in the morning till it’s time to make my martini around 11:00. She does get up at 8 A.M. for a couple minutes though to feed Bailey our dog. I’m #3, the dog is #2. If I started drinking earlier, don’t think she’d get up."*

*"Do you have children?"*

*"Yes"*

*"Well, tell us something about them."*

*(pensive pause)*

*"They’re all alive."*

*(embarrassing pause)*

*"Well gosh, thanks for all this wonderful information Ken."*

*"Your welcome."*

Well, there you have it kids & folks. Should an above scenario ever come to fruition, don’t be concerned and call. #1, #2, & #3 are all co-existing in perfect harmony. Maybe it is because we ‘tell it like it is’.

We will be leaving North Hero, Vermont for Ottawa, Ontario on or shortly after November 10th. Our computer and internet connection, vintage 1996 \*, (no updates applied) and which handle almost nothing will be taken out of service. If any of you ask what’s wrong with our North Hero email, we will know they never read this whole letter.

Lucile, Bailey & Ken.

\* VTL, ... circa Lansing, Michigan. Hey Vaughn, got our moneys worth out of this Magitronic/Syncmaster 17GLs setup!