

Chapter 1 : The Fascinating Stories Behind 16 Golden Globes Looks | E! News

A collection of fascinating true stories from history, science, and psychology. In text and podcast form.

Abhash Kumar What does it take to start up? All of those things. But more than anything what it takes, is belief. A belief that there is significance to the problem being addressed, and that the solution is something which the consumer wants. It is really amazing how most large companies have such humble stories of starting up. All of them started with nothing but just plain conviction. Here we have compiled for you four short stories of starting up of now famous companies: As part of the coursework, he wrote an economics paper exploring the process of transportation of goods in the United States. He found that the shippers relied on transporting large packages across the United States by means of truck or passenger airplanes. Smith thought of a more efficient transportation idea. He wrote a last minute paper on how a company carrying small, essential items by plane could be a much better business. He, however, did not go into details about how to actually run such a company. His paper was graded "C". But Smith did not give up on the idea and launched the company in But within three years of the founding of the company, Federal Express was on the verge of bankruptcy. Smith made a final pitch to General Dynamics for more funding. The request was turned down. Most ordinary people would have quit at this point and shut down the company. What he did next is easily the boldest move by the founder of a company. On Monday, the management of the company had a pleasant surprise lined up. Soon after, the company was able to raise significant amounts in funding. Ferruccio Lamborghini Ferruccio was originally a farmer who made tractors. His business was very successful and he was among the most wealthy in Italy. He owned Ferrari among other super cars. The Ferrari used to give him constant trouble. Being a mechanic, he tried to fix the problem and found out that his Ferrari had the same clutch as used in one of his tractors. When you drove normally, everything was fine. The problem with the clutch was never cured, so Ferruccio decided to talk to Enzo Ferrari. He had to wait for him a very long time. Il Commendatore was furious. He was broke, owned a small house and a beat up car. He made a decision that things had to change. His friends used to like his chicken recipe very much. The fact that this was the only novel idea he had, he decided to act upon it. He left Kentucky and started his travels to different US states to sell his idea. He would tell restaurant owners that he had a chicken recipe which people liked and he was ready to give it to them for free, in return for a small percentage on the items sold. He got rejections after rejections, but did not give up. In fact, he got over rejections. Soichiro Honda Honda Motor Co. Soichiro Honda was a mechanic at a garage. His job was to tune cars to prepare them for races. This company won a contract to supply piston rings to an established automobile company - Toyota. But soon after, he lost the contract due to the poor quality of the products. Honda sold the salvageable remains of the company to Toyota and used the proceeds to found the Honda Technical Research Institute in October He worked with a staff of 12 men in a square-foot shack. They built and sold improvised motorized bicycles by building their own copy of Tohatsu engines, and supplying these to customers to attach to their bicycles. But they had an idea and they believed in it and most importantly, they started.

Chapter 2 : 10 Fascinating Stories From The Psych Evaluations Of The Nazis - Listverse

Get the stories behind some of the world's most iconic photos, from the flag-raising on Iwo Jima to the day Elvis met Nixon. In , photographer Dorothea Lange shot this image of a destitute.

Suribachi, the highest point on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. The battle, one of the bloodiest in Marine Corps history, began on February 19, , when the Americans invaded the heavily fortified island; four days later, they seized it and planted a small flag atop Mt. However, later that same day, the flag was ordered replaced with a much larger one that could be seen by troops across the island and on ships offshore. The combat photographer subsequently was accused of staging the dramatic picture, but he denied the charge and eyewitnesses backed him up. The widely reproduced photo became a powerful patriotic symbol and went on to win a Pulitzer Prize and serve as the model for the Marine Corps War Memorial near Arlington National Cemetery. Navy lens man Victor Jorgensen also happened to get a shot of the impromptu kiss, from a different and less famous angle. Neither photographer got a chance to ask the smooching pair their names as Eisenstaedt later said of that day: Albert Einstein, , New Jersey Credit: At the time the photo was taken, Sasse had been attempting to get the Nobel Prize-winning physicist to smile, but instead he stuck out his tongue as he sat in the back seat of a car. As it turned out, Einstein liked the shot so much he had some prints made for himself. The German-born Einstein, who became a U. In , in the midst of Sen. Smith, with the inscription translated from German: A civilian can afford to do what no diplomat would dare. Your loyal and grateful listener, A. Che Guevara, , Cuba Credit: Fidel Castro quickly blamed the U. The picture appeared in various publications in Cuba and Europe in the ensuing years but drew little notice. In , Giangiacomo Feltrinelli, a left-wing Italian publisher who was interested in Guevara, learned about the photo while on a visit to Cuba and was given a free copy by Korda. It has since become one of the most widely reproduced images in history, showing up on everything from murals to beer bottles. Cecil Stoughton, a former Army photographer who had served as the official White House photographer since the first person to hold the post , took the historic photo of Judge Sarah Hughes administering the oath of office to a solemn Johnson, flanked by his wife, a group of staffers and a stunned-looking Jacqueline Kennedy, still clad in the pink Chanel suit she was wearing when her husband was shot. However, he quickly fixed the problem and was able to document the event. After the letter found its way into the hands of a Nixon aide, Presley was ushered in to meet the president that afternoon. Presley, who collected guns and police badges, then asked Nixon if he could get him a federal narcotics agent badge, a request that was granted later that day. In , the music legend, who never ended up working with the White House, died of heart failure, suspected to have been related to his abuse of prescription drugs. Pete Souza Taken on the afternoon of May 1, , this image shows President Barack Obama and his national security team receiving updates about the top-secret Navy SEAL raid on the Pakistani compound of one of the most-wanted men in U. When Obama entered the room, Webb offered the president his chair.

Chapter 3 : Popular Interesting Story Books

Fascinating Facts. Who invented the light bulb? Predictions that missed the mark. Did you know? - fascinating facts and interesting stories about people.

Getty Images What really goes into a Golden Globes dress? Intention, a whole lot of work and even, sometimes, first-time luck! While the typical process goes something like this: Photos Best Golden Globes Looks Ever Of course, there are more hilarious stories, like how Naomi Harris had to lay down in a car for over an hour to not wrinkle her dress or how Meryl Streep wore her wedding dress to accept her first Golden Globe, only to have it soaked with breast milk in the end. But to read more about the most interesting stories behind some of the most famous Golden Globes looks of all time, keep scrolling. It was a perfectly nice white silk dress. The actress posted about her award show prep, including a photo where she was reclined all the way down in a car, arms stuck by her sides. They were sewn by this lovely guy called Leonardo from Armani. He just had so much love and care for this dress, like it was a baby or something, that I just felt awful about the idea of wrinkling it. I was taking a risk for my reputation as well as for hers," Cardona said in the article. How else are we going to know about the chaos that ensues just to get a dress delivered on time? Back in , Eva looked flawless in a strapless, modern white Dior gownâ€”but just days before, said gown went missing We wonder who broke the news to designer Karl Lagerfeld! The pink gown may have walked down the runway with a shoulder sleeve, but The Other Woman star would eventually go without it. This is just totally Cameron. Was it intentional or an accident? I was just having fun. For me, fashion is all about fantasy and putting unlikely things together. I genuinely love dressing up," she later explained to People. Or put the shoes on my head! Instead of borrowing a dress from a designer or brand like many celebs do, the actress bought a blue Jenny Packham dress with lace detailing from the luxury retailer. Of course, we all know the pro outfitted the actress in a stunning sequins Mugler dress, but did you know they settled on their choice less than 24 hours before the award show? Leave it to SJP to always create meaning with her clothes. At her first-ever Golden Globes in , she revealed to E! News that she helped design her custom black-and-white Armani gown.

Chapter 4 : Eventarc Â» Blog Archive 22 fascinating stories behind everyday inventions - Eventarc

2 Narrative Essay Examples That Tell Fascinating Stories To help you see what a well-written narrative essay looks like, here are two examples. I've added comments throughout each narrative essay example to point out key features of the narrative and to illustrate what the writer does well.

Writing songs can take a lot of work, and sometimes inspiration strikes at the most random times. And all you have on hand is a wedding invitation and a pen to write your thoughts down. The song was written by polio-stricken Doc, who scribbled them down at his own wedding after watching a line of able-bodied men dance with his bride, a Broadway dancer. In , as Johnny Cash later recalled it, he and June Carter Cash were at their Nashville-area home, when a helicopter landed on their lawn. Speaking of mid-slumber song inspiration, on May 9th, , Keith Richards woke up in the middle of the night with a riff in his head. Instead of going back to sleep, Richards dragged himself out of his bed, picked up his trusty acoustic, and recorded about 60 seconds of the guitar part. A white boy writing a song like that? The judge asked the man if he had learned anything, and the man replied: He also won a Grammy for writing a country song in , making him the only NFL player to do so, ever. In , respected newsman Dan Rather was walking down Park Avenue on his way home, when two well-dressed men randomly attacked him, repeatedly demanding to know the answer to the question: Once assailant William Tager was arrested and identified by Rather, the disturbed man admitted that he mistook the news anchor for the vice president of the futureâ€”I have made that same mistakeâ€”a politician apparently named Kenneth Burroughs. Someone in the audience shot a Roman candle into the ceiling mid-show, causing a massive fire. There were no injuries, but the building burned down to the ground. As the members of Deep Purple sat in the nearby hotel room while firefighters tried to thwart the flames, they noticed Lake Geneva was completely engulfed in a haze. Even The Who liked to impress critics sometimes. He stayed on the line and used the signal tone while writing, and that tone became the opening notes of the song. He was described by his co-workers as a very hard worker, which may be why he slept through the Oscar ceremony. But who was his unrequited love for? After she divorced George Harrison and married Eric Clapton, they got divorced too. Eric Clapton and George Harrison made up and went on tour together. He claimed that his car lit on fire while driving on the highway because he was so enamored with the song as he was writing it. A motorcycle luckily drove past Jackson and alerted him to the car trouble. Eventually, inspiration struck and the group was convinced that the song would work, after deciding to slow the tempo down a bit. Thanks for joining us for another Mental Floss on YouTube, which was made with the help of all these kind people. If this video made you hungry for more songs, come check out our channel here and after you, like, really, really like it, you can subscribe over here. Every week we endeavor to answer one of your mind-blowing questions. Like their blue could be my yellow?

Chapter 5 : 13 Fascinating Stories About The Michigan Dogman

Including stories about Armie Hammer's wife, Armie Hammer's great-grandfather, and Armie Hammer's sex life.

Unfortunately, nobody thought to tell the pilot, Flight Lt. As the Spitfire accelerated down the runway, Horton had the good sense to quickly flop across the tail cone, where she was held in place by the vertical fin, her legs to the right and her torso to the left. She was later fined for losing her uniform beret during the short trip around the pattern. Crusader Fail On June 21, , Marine Lieutenant Cliff Judkins was tanking from an Air Force Boeing KC over the Pacific, on his way from California to Hawaii, when the automatic shut-off valve of his F-8 Crusader failed and the internal fuel bladder burst from the pressure of the still-flowing fuel from the tanker. With flames streaming from the big Vought fighter, Judkins tucked in his legs and jerked the canvas face curtain to eject. He quickly pulled the alternate firing handle between his knees, but stillâ€”nothing. Nobody had ever tried stepping out of a Crusader, with its vertical stabilizer a tall machete aft of the cockpit, but Judkins trimmed the ship to skid, manually jettisoned the canopy and at knots and 15, feet was quickly sucked out of the cockpit. The little pilot chute deployed and the shroud lines pulled out normally, but the main canopy remained an unopened bundle, wrapped like a moth in a spiderweb by the shrouds. Judkins fell nearly three miles into the Pacific, the streamer slowing his terminal-velocity plunge by perhaps 10 percentâ€”likely still a good mph straight down. He survived the fall with two severely broken ankles, a fractured pelvis and vertebra, a partially collapsed lung and various lesser injuries. Four years earlier, after Judkins had been in a bad automobile accident, he had had his spleen removed during surgery. Steward Nigel Ogden, who had just entered the cockpit, grabbed Lancaster by the legs while the first officer got the airplane under control. By this time, Lancaster had slipped sideways from the roof of the cockpit, and his bloodied head was flailing against the left side window. The crew assumed that he was already dead. A second steward eventually had to relieve Ogden, who was frostbitten and losing his grip, and by the time the airplane landed at Southampton, England, Lancaster was being held only by his ankles. A lightning strike ignited a fuel tank, and the fire caused the right wing spar to fail. The four-engine turboprop had been cruising at FL, and the flaming pieces fell unseen into a square-kilometer area of the tropical void below. There had been 86 passengers and a crew of six. All but one were killed. That sole survivor was a year-old high school senior, Juliane Koepcke, the daughter of a German zoologist and his wife, a Peruvian ornithologist. Two things were remarkable about the crash: Koepcke had her seat belt fastened, and when the airplane came apart, she fell, still strapped into the window seat, while her mother and the aisle-seat occupant fell free. Like a maple-seed pod at the end of its winglet, Juliane and the three-seat row helicoptered all the way down and landed in an area of jungle trees interlaced with vines that cushioned her fall. The teenager had broken a collarbone, suffered deep cuts and all but lost her vision, her eyes were so bloodshot and bruised in the fall. Koepcke had spent a good part of her young life with her parents in the backcountry of Peru, and they had taught her survival skills. One lesson was that every rivulet of water flows into a brook, then into a stream, a tributary and eventually into a river. Dressed in a miniskirt and wearing just one sandal, barely able to see, Juliane followed the water. Twelve days later, it led her to Pucallpa. The crew leveled the Liberator Express at 9, feet, but the pilot was barely able to maintain altitude. Worse, the elevator and rudders began to vibrate violently through the control column and rudder pedals. With the airplane only about 90 miles east of Florida, the pilot initiated a return, and the crew lightened their load by tossing out baggage and cargo. By the time they were inbound and descending just 10 miles east of Miami, the C had become so uncontrollable that the pilot ordered the crew and passengers to jump, then followed after turning on the autopilot. The Coast Guard and several civilian boats pulled six of the eight jumpers from the water, but two were never seen again. For two hours the Liberator Express carved lazy orbits over the Mexican town and finally crashed into a nearby mountain. Hedley, out of his seat. Hedley fell several hundred feet, but so did the F. Gunner and airplane somehow came together, and Hedley found himself clinging to the flat-topped aft fuselage of the fighter. He managed to crawl back to his pit and went on, apparently nonplussed, to score 11 victories before being shot down and imprisoned two months later. Makepeace himself had 17 victories scored with his forward-firing gun, so they were literally a deadly duo.

Otto Berla, who on May 24, 1944, had been the observer aboard an Albatros C. He and the airplane briefly formed until a second updraft forced the tail up again just in time to meet the rapidly descending Berla, who punched feet first through the plywood-skinned turtledeck just aft of his cockpit. Very happy to be back aboard, Berla rode back to base in his new temporary office. Pardo had lost not one but two airplanes and was rebuked for his poor sense of economy. Like Pardo, Risner found himself with a wingman losing fuel through a tank holed by groundfire. Both were flying F Sabres, so Risner told 1st Lt. Logan bailed out but drowned. Byrd, 26, never made it to California. A farmer picking tomatoes near Kratzerville, Pa. Had Byrd been a suicide jumper? Had he been pushed? Fallen unnoticed through an unlocked door or hatch? The Kratzerville farmer later found a yard-long piece of metal in his tomato field that may or may not have been part of an aircraft antenna. Was Byrd gripping it when it broke off? The crew considered their chances—bail out over German-held ground or try to make it back to base—and decided to stay with the ship, knowing that if the tail did come off, their chances of getting out of a gyrating bomber were probably nil. Lieutenant Kendrick Bragg, the pilot, slowed down the Flying Fortress to knots to keep the tail from literally wagging itself off and flew as gently as possible back to Biskra, Algeria. After circling for some minutes while the rest of his formation landed, Bragg made a careful approach and touched down normally, though without a tail wheel. An ambulance wheeled up to collect injured crewmen, but Bragg waved it off; not a single person was hurt. Internet accounts of the All American incident are filled with imaginary details. The airplane is described as continuing on its bombing run after the collision—returning to its base in England a 1-mile trip over occupied France, with P escorts joining it over the Channel—the tail gunner heroically remaining at his station because his weight is the only thing stabilizing the tail section—crewmen sacrificing their parachute harnesses to strap the empennage to the fuselage—two engines are out and a third is failing—the turn back toward base has to be made so gently that it takes 70 miles to accomplish—Bragg flies a final approach 40 miles long—and, poignantly, the tail sags to the ground just after the crew debarks. None of that is true, but the truth remains stranger than fiction. The assistant remembers the pilot reaching back to turn on the oxygen tank valve; she felt the flow of cool air into her mask and noted that the indicator in the oxygen line had flipped from red to green, indicating a positive flow. As the Cessna climbed through 20, feet, however, she felt dizzy and disoriented, and she closed her eyes—the last thing she remembers about the flight. Air Traffic Control was unable to contact the pilot, though its radar painted the airplane climbing through its assigned altitude—FL—and reaching 27, feet, then descending rapidly to 26, before disappearing from the scope about 15 miles west of Pittsburgh, Pa. The Cessna had come apart because of the extreme stresses of an uncontrolled high-speed spiral dive, with a pilot dead of hypoxia at the controls. Shedding its left outboard wing, tail booms and empennage, the four-seat cabin, a pod about the size of a subcompact car, fell nearly five miles and ended up in a tree on a golf resort. With the right wing remaining and the cabin and two engines at one end of it, again a maple-seed spiral almost certainly slowed the descent. The woman in the right seat survived with minor cuts and bruises, apparently having been better acclimated than the pilot to flying at Everest altitudes while breathing what was essentially ambient air.

Chapter 6 : 8 Amazing History Stories

A Fascinating Story! A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly without an appointment into the president of Harvard's outer office.

You may not know much about their origins, though.

Computer mouse The trackball used in a computer mouse was developed as a secret government project more than ten years before the mouse was invented. The inventor, Douglas Englebart, also created a prototype that tracked head movements before deciding the mouse was more convenient to use. Some of his first inventions included lighted stick pins and an illuminated flowerpot.

Escalator Several escalator patents were filed, but the first working model was based on a patent filed in by Jesse W. It was first installed as a novelty ride at Coney Island in New York in . Although the basic operation has changed very little since then, the original design was shaped like a loaf of bread on a pole.

Revolving door The inventor of the revolving door, Theophilus van Kannel, was awarded the John Scott Medal for the usefulness of his invention to society.

Camera The inventor of the camera and creator of the Eastman Kodak Company, George Eastman, gave away half his fortune in to beneficiaries including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Rochester. The customer was delighted, and the new dish became a regular menu item.

Coca-Cola Prohibition laws in Atlanta led physician and chemist Dr. John Stith Pemberton to adjust the formula of his nerve tonic, stimulant and headache remedy.

Cash register

Image credit: Blue jeans Although the first blue jeans were patented by Levi Strauss, the original design was created by a tailor named Jacob Davis. When the war ended and the tape became a household staple item, it was often used on air conditioning ducts. The standard colour was changed to silver to match the ducts and thus it became known as duct tape.

Fadell was hired by Apple to bring his idea to life. In an interview with the Daily Mail , Berners-Lee admitted that in hindsight, the double slash at the beginning of every URL is essentially useless, and could have been omitted.

Lucky for us, most browsers add the http:

Ballpoint pen

Image credit: The fierce competition to develop a high-quality, low-cost pen gave rise to some interesting marketing tactics. When the ink did wash out, the buyers were impressed and sales shot up. When the ice-cream seller next to Hamwi ran out of paper cups, Hamwi rolled his pastries into cone-shapes and the idea took off.

Sunglasses In the s and early s, Chinese judges wore smoke-tinted quartz lenses to conceal their expressions in court. When vision-correcting glasses were introduced into China , they were also smoke-tinted, though mostly for the same reasons.

Can opener Opening cans was not a simple process until long after canned food was introduced in . Originally, cans had to be opened with a hammer and chisel until the first can opener was created by Ezra Warner in . The contraption used a bayonet to hold the can still while a sickle cut around the edge. The process was so intimidating for shoppers that grocers had to open the cans in-store.

Sliced bread Introduced in , sliced bread was created by a baker, Otto Frederick Rohwedder. After unsuccessfully attempting to hold the sliced loaf together with hatpins, Rohwedder developed a slicing machine that wrapped the bread.

Chapter 7 : Amazing But True Stories | HistoryNet

15 of the Most Fascinating True Crime Stories Ever Told. Ten episodes, released in December , detail the story of Steven Avery, a Wisconsin man exonerated by DNA evidence after 18 years in.

There are few drinks that have the mystery, allure, and controversy of absinthe. Commugny is a rural town in Switzerland. In , absinthe was riding a wave of popularity among the masses in spite of a lot of hype that was already in full swing. The continued popularity was in part because of its properties, but also because of its rather affordable price. Until, that is, a peasant named Jean Lanfray drank a little too much—“not only of absinthe, but of his usual daily allotment of wine and at least three other types of alcohol. He returned home after his binge , got into an argument with his pregnant wife, and killed her along with their two children. He then shot himself in the head, and when police made it to the scene, they found that he had not only survived, but was conscious. It was banned in Switzerland in , and the United States and France soon followed suit. Ultimately, Lanfray succeeded in his bid to commit suicide: He hanged himself in jail three days after his trial ended. It shows a woman staring vacantly over her glass of absinthe, a look of overwhelming depression written clearly on her face. When the painting debuted, it was called repulsive, a portrait of degraded souls capable only of vice. When he submitted the piece to the French Salon, it was wholeheartedly rejected, and he was faced with the same criticisms that his friends and mentor had given him. Throughout the s, the Old Absinthe House was the place to go, famous for their absinthe-and-sugar-water cocktail, called the absinthe frappe or, alternately, the green monster. On January 8, , British troops marched on the city. They were ultimately thwarted by an unlikely pair—“general and future president Andrew Jackson and the privateer Jean Lafitte. The legend goes that the talks which ultimately cemented the partnership and led to the American victory were held in a secret meeting room in the Old Absinthe House. Lafitte, sometimes called a privateer and sometimes called a pirate, had the ships but no men, while Jackson had men but few ships. In exchange for a full pardon for Lafitte and all his men, the pirate agreed to let the general man his ships with soldiers. They claimed that they were, in fact, the actual meeting place for the exchange, and if anyone was going to be putting up a plaque, it was going to be them. The district judge dismissed the case with an epic ruling. He was the one who gave the claims scientific credibility, and suddenly the pitfalls of absinthe were very, very real. Magnan ended up being one of the groundbreaking pioneers in the field of mental pathology. Only 32 years old when he took up residence at Saint-Anne, he was among the leaders in practical laboratory work not only when it came to absinthe, but in other addictive substances like cocaine as well, often using animals to test the effects of various substances and drugs. Even greater than his interest in addictive drugs was his interest in epilepsy; Magnan was key in developing theories on the degradation of nerves and nervous tissues, along with theories on how hereditary and environmental factors act on an individual. He also spoke out in opposition of some of the theories of criminology put forth by Cesare Lombroso. He based his work on the numbers of alcoholics admitted to the insane asylum at Saint-Anne, determining that the number of cases had been on the rise. He also found that there was an increased likelihood of alcoholics to have another in their family. On top of all that, he also pronounced another diagnosis—the steady decline of French culture. He blamed this largely on what he saw around him—the alcoholics and the increasing popularity of absinthe. There were more alcoholics, more people diagnosed as insane, and a greater strain on the population at large. He claimed that this was all due in no small part to absinthe, and he set out to prove it. In , he published the damning results of an experiment in which he exposed different animals to a solution of either alcohol or wormwood oil one of the ingredients in absinthe. The animals who received the alcohol got drunk, while those who got the straight wormwood oil developed seizures. Clearly, absinthe was to blame. Magnan described absinthism as being characterized by restlessness, confusion, seizures, delirium, and the presence of auditory and visual hallucinations, meaning that the person had consumed so much absinthe that it had resulted in a complete altering of their natural mental state. He also said that the sufferer of absinthism was more prone to irrational, uncontrolled violence and rage, fits of anger, and terrifying episodes of delirium—“something that Lanfray would seem to confirm years later. The definition of the supposed illness was also published in the Boston

Medical and Surgical Journal, the forerunner to the New England Journal of Medicine. Between and , 16, patients were admitted to the asylum, and about 1 percent of those were diagnosed with absinthism. Wormwood had been used for medicinal purposes as far back as ancient Egypt, and there are even mentions of it in ancient papyrus documents. In ancient Greece, wormwood was supposed to be used to help ease labor pains, but the connection between absinthe and wormwood is an odd one. When the end of the world comes, seven trumpets will sound and bring seven horrors onto the world. The image is a pretty clear one, and even throughout the Middle Ages, medicinal uses of wormwood included purging the system and discouraging babies from the teat when it was time for them to stop breastfeeding. Addicts are addicts, after all, and absinthe addicts were rumored to be among the worst. The answer was taking gin and mixing it with a little something special. Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane—more conveniently known as DDT. And if you look at what we now know the effects of DDT to be—confusion, tremors, nausea, and vomiting—it might seem likely that it could, possibly, pass for an absinthe buzz. The problem comes in trying to find some actual references to it from the mid-th century. That was about the time we thought DDT was completely harmless, and we were even using it to kill lice. But just how widespread were Mickey Slims? Even though the legend says that it was hugely popular, there are few books that actually reference anything about it besides its existence. One is *The Dedalus Book of Absinthe*, but the trail of sources ends there. Just what was wrong with him has been debated for a long time, with a rumored possibilities as to just what illnesses he was suffering from. Citing a study on the effects of thujone, he suggests that an addiction to absinthe and thujone which is classified as a terpene explains at least in part why van Gogh began looking for his fix elsewhere—namely, drinking kerosine and turpentine, along with snacking on his paints. Francisco Nicolas Tomagno Absinthe was banned in France in , and by that time it had been blamed for a lot—including the deterioration of the quality of France and its people as a whole. By , France was consuming about 36.7 liters per person per year. That was up from only about 1.5 liters per person per year, 35 years prior. According to supporters of the temperance movement and the absinthe ban, absinthe was single-handedly destroying French culture and society. Birthrates were at a low, and illnesses like tuberculosis were at a high. So were admissions into mental institutions and insane asylums, instances of extreme violence, and suicides. While in retrospect it might seem like these are the problems of any country in the middle of a transition into a highly industrialized society, in France, it was all blamed on the absinthe. It was the outbreak of World War I that gave finally the French temperance movement what it needed. When men began enlisting in the French army, they began failing physicals and medical exams at an outstanding rate. If the country was going to have any chance in the war, the drink needed to be banned. France was one of the later countries to ban absinthe, as it had already been outlawed in many places from the United States to Italy. The wording of the law, though, says that products containing anything from the *Artemisia* plant must be thujone-free. The legal threshold for thujone was 10 parts per million. As long as it was below that level, it was completely legal—most of the legal battles have been over getting manufactures and distillers to understand the guidelines , not actually change them. Absinthe connoisseur and amateur microbiologist Ted Breaux finally managed to solve the long-standing mystery of just how much thujone was present in the old-school, pre-ban bottles of absinthe, and he debunked a lot of the misinformation out there—including the previously mentioned calculations of Wilfred Arnold. Arnold had stated that, based on the ingredients that went into a bottle of absinthe, the thujone content would have been somewhere around parts per million. Enough to be dangerous, sure, but that was also before the distillation process.

Chapter 8 : Weird news: Bizarre & funny stories

He was immediately sold on the quality of the screenplays and the fascinating story. Charles Dance on Tywin Lannister's S5 Return, A 'Game of Thrones' Movie,' and Sexy Peter Dinklage Marlow Stern.

Share1 Shares 5K Before the 22 Nazi officers were put on trial in Nuremberg, prosecutors needed to know that they were legally able to stand trial for the atrocities committed throughout the war years. Psychiatrists were brought in to assess their mental states, and chief among these was Dr. Douglas Kelley. Along with his colleagues, Kelley administered a barrage of tests and uncovered some pretty amazing stuff when it came to determining whether or not the war criminals were legally sane. He was also looking for a sort of Nazi personality in the hopes that whatever had driven them to torture and kill so many people could somehow be isolated, and people with Nazi-like tendencies could be identified and, in the future, stopped. German Federal Archives Douglas Kelley wrote that one of the things that surprised him most about former Deputy Fuhrer Rudolf Hess was his absolute naivete. By the time the psychiatrist examined him, he had been in custody for about four years following his attempt to get the British to join the Germans in fighting the Soviet Union. He seemed earnestly shocked that he was taken prisoner and revealed that he was absolutely convinced that he was slowly being poisoned. So Hess began saving food, medicine. When first taken captive, he refused all food. After holding out for a whole day, though, he gave in and accepted some milk. Already suspicious, he would only eat with those who were holding him, but when he got a massive headache afterward, he wrote that it was then that he knew he was being poisoned. He also wrote that his captors were apparently disappointed when he answered their questions, so he started pretending simply not to remember. He thought that there were bones and splinters in his food and powders in his laundry to cause rashes. He claimed that the skin on the inside of his mouth was being worn away and claimed that his stomach pains were so bad that he needed to scrape and eat lime from the walls of his cell relieve the pain. Brain poison was destroying his memory more and more, and kept on believing it even though a Swiss messenger tested his food and told him that there was nothing wrong with it. United States Army Signal Corps Part of the evaluation program included showing the subjects pictures and asking them to tell a story about them. Developed in the 1940s, the idea is that underlying personality issues will come through in the telling. She was leaving him, bound for the city and a life of her own. Other Nazis told some pretty revealing stories, too. Alfred Rosenberg pictured above, whose writings were often lofty and pontificated on philosophy and racism, was determined to be pretty lazy when it came to imagination. Rudolf Hess, in the meantime, refused to play. All together, there were 22 men whom Kelley examined, but Robert Ley was perhaps the oddest of the lot. Results of his tests made the doctor suspect that he had suffered some kind of frontal lobe damage in spite of a clean bill of health. When Ley committed suicide in this cell in 1945, Kelley wrote that the man had done him a favor by giving him access to his brain. Off the record, Kelley had a colleague prepare the slides, which he then smuggled out of the country and back to the US. A few years later, he got around to asking for a second opinion. This scientist said that while there might be something there, there might not be, either. By that time, though, Kelley was well beyond doing anything about it, and the slides were buried in the rest of the documentation from his work. Along with potassium cyanide capsules sewn into his clothes and stashed in a can of coffee, there was also a suitcase filled with enough paracetamol for a small country. The painkiller, related to morphine and opium, was found to work along the same lines as codeine, but with a stronger sedative action. They started weaning him off the pills immediately, dropping his daily dose to first 38 pills, then to 10. He was still going through withdrawals by the time Kelley took over his treatment. Moore Part of establishing whether or not the Nazis were capable of standing trial was the administration of an IQ test. The Wechsler-Bellevue Intelligence Test was adapted from English and given in German, and at the time, it was one of the most widely used IQ tests available. Some of the questions were altered to get rid of any kind of cultural bias, and the test measured things like memory, mental calculations, picking out objects or details deleted from a picture, and even hand speed. The average for the 21 Nazis tested was 100. Ley was already dead by this time. Their reaction to IQ testing was even more fascinating, with many of them actually looking forward to the testing and most being pleased with the results. Even those like Franz

von Papen, who were initially irritated with the idea that they needed to subject themselves to a test that was so far beneath them, admitted that it was one of the more enjoyable moments of their captivity. Perhaps most bizarre was the reaction of Wilhelm Keitel pictured above to the test. The tests were given by Dr. Among the most notable are the test results for, again, Hermann Goering. Even to those going back through the results today, they stand out as being imaginative, the results of a natural storyteller. But as exceptionally imaginative as his responses might have been, there was little to no difference between the responses of the men of the Third Reich and ordinary American citizens. When Kelley and Gilbert released their findings, a psychologist named Molly Harrower tried to have the Nazi Rorschach results reviewed by a panel of independent experts. Everyone she contacted refused. In a double-blind study, she took the results from the Nazi officers, a group of clergy members, and a group of hospital patients. After all the groups were analyzed, it was concluded that there was no difference in the responses. In , another comparison was done between eight of the war criminals those who had received a death sentence and a random group of other subjects. This comparison had a slightly different verdict, showing a likelihood of schizophrenia in Hess and the presence of what was deemed a distorted reality in others. National Archives Kelley and Gilbert interviewed Nazi war criminals again and again, looking at their responses through the lens of mental health. But there was another man there, too—Howard Triest, who was tasked with reading and censoring German mail and assisting with interviews and translations when necessary. His point of view was radically different. When things started going sideways, he had been sent to America ahead of his family. Miraculously, Margot received it. Triest ended up making it to safety in America, where he lived with an uncle until returning to fight on the side of the Allies. Recruited as a translator, he had been on the verge of being sent back to the US when he was assigned to Nuremberg and suddenly found himself sitting in on interviews with the men who had ordered the deaths of his family. Streicher professed that while he could smell a Jew from a mile away, Triest obviously was of good Nordic stock. He remembers Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Hoess, too, for being so proud that he had killed three million people instead of the required two million. At the same time, he said that de-Nazification was pointless, because nobody could find any more Nazis anyway. In the end, they were all deemed to be legally sane and fit for trial, but just what drove them to do what they did. In the end, no one—even today—has been able to interpret any of their findings or data in such a way that isolates the so-called Nazi personality. Hans Frank asked for God to be merciful and was grateful that he had been treated so well in prison. Ribbentrop asked for German unity and peace. Writer and philosopher Alfred Rosenberg simply denied the chance to speak. Even at their executions, there was no common thread. Stanislaw Dabrowiecki The findings that there was no Nazi personality and the discovery of just how normal these men were was a terrifying one. The results of the IQ tests that showed they all had above-average intelligence was so seemingly unthinkable that at first, the Americans refused to release the information. Kelley was hoping to find a certain set of red flags in mental health, personality, and psychology that would alert others to the potential for committing atrocities in the future and would allow someone to put an end to them before they happened. Not being able to find any such personality markers was understandably devastating, and the consequences were pretty bleak. Eventually, he would give up on psychology altogether and shift the focus of his professional work to criminology. His note indicated that he was fine with being shot, but he did not approve of his sentence to be hanged. Kelley, now 45, was cooking dinner for his wife, father, and three kids. Kelley burned himself, and according to his son, Doug, the next thing he remembered was shouting. Moments later, Kelley was on the stairs, foaming at the mouth, the remnants of a vial of white powder in his hand. Until that moment, everything had seemed normal. But the darkness was there, too, and Doug remembered a man who was secretly alcoholic, who had contemplated suicide before, and who was regularly angry. The incident left scars on the family, too. It was only recently that the contents of his boxes, taken home from Nuremberg and stored all these years, were given to Jack El-Hai to go through in order to make some sort of sense out of them and to hopefully compile a book.

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Part of the evaluation program included showing the subjects pictures and asking them to tell a story about them. Officially, this is called the Thematic Apperception Test, or TAT, but it's also known as the picture interpretation technique.