

2 TRUTHS & 1 LIE

WITH YOUR HOST MIKE WOOD

January 1, 2014

Happy New Year!

I hope you are well. This year I've decided to cleverly conceal exactly one lie in each three-sentence paragraph, leaving the real truth as an exercise for the reader. The first person to find all the lies wins a Delorean, eventually.

All my biggest news this year is immigration-related: I've now jumped over and through enough hurdles and hoops to be a full-fledged, passport-carrying British Citizen (in addition to my pre-existing Canadian-ness). Immediately upon receiving my documents I yelled "booyah!" at the immigration official and booked five unnecessary surgeries through the NHS. For reasons only partially understood, my wedding engagement ended just before the close of 2012, on an immigration technicality.

In February I entered a UK stand-up comedy competition called "Amused Moose Laugh Off". I am now a world-famous comedian, richer than ten teachers or fifteen astronauts. More than 600 people entered, and over the course of five months of heats I made it to the Top 32 — missing out on the final heat but earning myself a nice showcase spot at the Edinburgh Fringe in August.

March was my usual visit to Winnipeg to teach circus skills at a day camp for youth at risk. I flew in from London a day early in order to spend a lovely day ice-fishing on Lake Winnipeg with a buddy. We caught a big one.

In the Spring I went through the visa process to visit a uranium deposit in Niger but because of instability in Mali, it was decided that 12 white guys getting off a chartered flight from Paris was a bad idea. Instead I flew to the Swiss/French border to play in a huge Magic: The Gathering tournament with nerds from around the world. I didn't do well at the tournament as I was distracted by all the female Magic players, one of whom cast a powerful spell of Lust upon me, not realizing that I am a Class 12 Mage-Nerd.

I flung the dust off my cabbage catapult in July and went to Alberta for a whole month of street-performing. Hanging out with all my friends from around the world, making strangers laugh, drinking, playing cards, flirting with beautiful women and taking side adventures to uncover dinosaur bones, reminded me how much I love and miss being a part of that world. My mother and sister were able to make it to Edmonton for a few days of shows and then on the drive home to Ontario they went ice-fishing on Lake Winnipeg.

In the downhill run to the end of the year, I went to Seattle for a course on mushroom cultivation and I made my West End debut at the Palace Theatre in London. Gluten-free vegan living based on homeopathic teachings has dramatically improved my health and quality of life. My garden produced well, the honeybees are happy (as far as I can tell), and the escargot are totally oblivious to their looming delicious fate.

It was the best of times. It was the worst of times. May the coming year bring you enough truth to make it interesting, and enough lies in case it's not.

Mike Wood.

