

A painting of an Irish countryside scene. In the foreground, a dirt path leads towards a small, rustic house with a red roof and a chimney. The house is partially obscured by a large, dark, leafy tree on the right. To the left, another large tree stands near a body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river. The background shows a hazy, overcast sky with soft, diffused light. The overall style is impressionistic, with visible brushstrokes and a rich, somewhat muted color palette.

FRIDAY FOLLIES

March 18, 2005

Irish Countryside, JG 2003

Hey!

March 18, 2005



OK, I know you are all curious.....

AS you know, I have been very discreet in these Follies and have not talked at all about my leaving JP back in September. Actually, maybe I have been too discreet since some of you did not know, even as recently as last week. I have just been mentioning it to folks one-on-one as it was brought up and really on a need-to-know basis. No sense airing dirty laundry, right?

Well...so much for that! Ha!

Those of you who live in this area saw the newspaper article this week that not only declared JP and me “Separated”, but “*ECSTATICALLY SEPARATED!*” So I guess it is OK for me to go ahead and talk openly about it now! Actually, it is fine because the divorce should be final very soon now! Good, that is out of the way now, so ONWARD!

Oh, but before I leave this subject and for those of you who DID see the article and called and emailed to complain, I thought I would also let you know that---after Letterman became ill and cancelled the appearance on his show--- he called *me* back privately a week later and I ended up going on his show by myself--- what? Five - six times? Yeah, that’s it---Six times! That’s not all! I am now dating Jay Leno - have been for six months, and these Friday Follies have been picked up as a nationally syndicated column for which I am being paid big bucks!!

There! All of you guys who were so upset by the article, feel better now? (Smile)

Simply Amazing!



This is a photo from last year of a local DJ goofing around in my green robe.

What a week! What a week! Man! It has been a good one, just has been filled with unexpected little pleasures and surprises.

Example - I went on a date with a very dear friend into Norfolk Friday night to see the symphony. We were both excited because there was to be a Sinatra Suite and an Irish segment among others. We talked about doing the “Greening of Ghent” first, but it was just too rainy and cold to even consider it. A real shame because that is usually so much fun!

There is an old section of Norfolk – a VERY old section of Norfolk, called Ghent. There are brown stone houses and cobblestone streets (in some places) and great restaurants and antique shops. It is just VERY eclectic. Every year the City of Norfolk puts on the “Greening of Ghent” and it is a true BLAST! Every one is in green and wearing beads and hats – a lot like Bourbon street in New Orleans with all of the Crews parading around. There are bag pipe bands and stage bands, and well, it is a HOOT! But when it is raining – FORGET IT! No fun at all.

Anyway, Friday night I even brought along my camera to the symphony so I could get a photo of my violin teacher after the performance. I envisioned going up on stage and both of us sitting side by side with violins perched on our shoulders and having the conductor pretending to conduct us. You would have been very impressed! Ha! The best made plans...

Well, we were a bit late getting there and parking because of the rain. But once inside the Roper Theatre (which is beautiful as well as convenient, by the way) (Al is that named after you?) we rounded the corner to



This is a photo from last year of Jessica and Harmony and friends visiting over Spring Break.

head down the aisle to our seats and there were Ummmmm -- probably twenty ballet dancers on the stage! I thought, “Hmmm, that is odd, but rather cool. I guess the chairs and stage will be set up for the symphony during the intermission.”

DUH!!!

Our seats were like none I can remember. We were so close that even “I” could hear the thumping of the toe shoes on the beautiful, wooden stage floor. When the men would do their spins, you could see the perspiration spin off of their faces in all directions. Really cool seats. At one point while watching the prima ballerina, I punched my friend and said, “Is she counting ...or talking to him?” She was smiling, but we were so close that I could see her lips moving while she gripped her teeth together. - - Comes with lip-reading, ya know. It didn't take long to figure out that she was counting every move they made. That is how close we were.



Well, intermission came and I opened my program to see what was next, and we both just looked at each other and giggled. There was no symphony! We had been in such a rush, we had not noticed that this entire program was the Virginia Ballet – not the symphony! We laughed and then both agreed that it was a refreshing change, though, since neither of us had been to the ballet in FOREVER and both of us love it so. We both admitted that if we had known it had been the ballet, we might not have made it...we were very glad that we did. It was delightful!

Hey, by the way, have you every seen the movie “Billy Elliott?” One of my all time favorites. Men usually love it too, so if you have not seen it, go rent it or better yet, go buy it!

After having coffee with a late night dinner...I was WIRED! At two I sat down at my computer to work a bit on something I have been writing and suddenly my nephew from Indianapolis started IM-ing me. At 3:30 a.m. we were still shooting messages back and forth. Funny! I told him I had to quite and finished what I set out to do. I think my head hit the pillow at 5:30. Whew!



Saturday was another one of those wonderful impromptu days and evening. One friend after another got in touch and instead of going out to dinner and then meeting up with a few couples after they had an awards dinner, suddenly, there was a dinner party at my house! I was glad, though. It is always so nice to sit and talk at home. You end up discussing things you would never get "into" at a restaurant. We sat down at the table for dinner at 8:30 and at 2:30 – well – let's just say, we were still there. We never even moved into the other room by the fire! I finally ran everyone out at 2:30 because I seriously was about to drop! It was fun, though.



I slept until 11:00 on Sunday! Something I never ever do! Then, you will be proud of me! I finally went to the hardware store and bought a fence! I am actually installed it by myself! It is just a little wire mesh fence about three feet high with U-poles, BUT, since I am not permanently here and since "Gandalf the White" is so old that he would never be able to push it over, I thought...why not. It is so "meshy" that you really cannot see it from the street, and I figured in a few weeks when the weather gets better I will plant some fast growing vines on it, anyway. I even have enough left over to put around a garden to keep my rabbits and possums, and foxes out. The Hawks, I am not so sure about...



OK. Gotta go! Have a great week and a safe St. Patty's Day, ya'll!



To all of you on my Friday Follies List, whether you are in Manila, Singapore, Kuwait, Bermuda, Virginia Beach, Mississippi, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Costa Rica, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Chattanooga, New York, Oregon, Maine, Australia, Europe, or Yuma, have a wonderful, wonderful week!

God bless.
Remember, life is short...we need to make it a good one.
Grow in peace and wisdom.

Your Friday Friend,

Judi Godsey

Hee Hee! I was in a dance company throughout college!



PS. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent emails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our joke list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if the jokes that accompany these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday Follies Joke List. PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. One tends to go through huge numbers of jokes that way. Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). Obviously I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day!