

"My Analyst Told Me"
This Week At Judson Sunday School
(10/1/10)

*They say as a child
I appeared a little bit wild
With all my crazy ideas
But I knew what was happening
I knew I was a genius...
What's so strange when you know
That you're a wizard at three
I knew that this was meant to be*
- Lambert, Hendricks & Ross

Well, another year has come and gone and, if you are like me, you are B-U-M-M-E-D, BUMMED! to find out that all the smarty-pants over at the MacArthur Foundation have left us off their *Genius List* yet again. This year's list was announced in Tuesday's *New York Times* - "MacArthur Foundation Honors 23 'Geniuses'" - and though I scoured that article with a fine tooth comb, I couldn't find my name anywhere! I really thought this was going to be my year. After all:

- I scored a perfect 15 for 15 in the U.S. Religious Knowledge Quiz sponsored by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. (<http://features.pewforum.org/quiz/us-religious-knowledge/>) I even got the Mormon question right, and quite honestly, the only two things I know about Mormonism are: (1) you can't drink diet Coke, with or without lime; and (2) Jeanne Tripplehorn is *hot!*
- From the moment I saw Hugh Grant wearing a cowboy hat in the trailer for "Did You Hear About The Morgans," I predicted it would be a bigger turkey than that giant bird marching down Central Park West next month.
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“Endzhe Akhmatshina; Rafay Farooqui

Endzhe Akhmatshina and Rafay Farooqui were married Friday. Imam Ghazi Y. Khankan officiated at the Angel Orensanz Foundation in Manhattan.”

I was responsible for writing this wedding announcement which appeared in this past Sunday's *Times*.* Do you think spell check could handle that?

- This past spring, I formulated the Baseball Theorem of Maximum Propulsion, a mathematical proposition which states that if the New York Yankees were to board a train traveling west at 200 miles per hour, and the Los Angeles Dodgers were to board a plane traveling east at 400 miles per hour, the New York Mets still aren't going anywhere. I believe the last six months have proven my theory to be correct.

What more do those MacArthur people want?! According to the *Times*, since 1981, there have been 828 honorees. You would think with that many winners, the odds would be in my favor. It's enough to make me think perhaps my mother might have been wrong about me.

And this year's winners? Pleeeeeeease.

- Emmanuel Saez calculated the worth of outstanding teachers. Helloooo! It's like, more than the bad teachers?!
- David Cromer, actor and theater director, responsible for a production of *Our Town*. No offense, but do you realize how many productions of *Our Town* are up and running this weekend? Why, there must be one for every middle school in America. God bless Mr. Cromer, but unless he's using actual talking corpses in his Act 3, I don't see what all the fuss is about.
- Matthew Carter, a type designer, responsible for the typeface used in *The New York Times*. Watch this: **MATTHEW CARTER IS A TYPE DESIGNER.** I hit the font key on my computer. Hey, I'm a genius. Please give me \$100,000 a year for the next five years.
- John Dabiri, a biophysicist who "explores the hydrodynamics of jellyfish propulsion." Listen up, future oceanographers. Here's all you need to know

about jellyfish propulsion. Unless you want a stranger peeing on your leg, your propulsion needs to be faster than the jellyfish.

With winners like these four Einsteins, it kind of makes you wonder who exactly is giving out the awards: The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, or those MacArthurs who left that cake out in the rain.

Now some of you might be asking, what does any of this have to do with Sunday School? Well, now we know why you didn't receive your genius grant. Nothing, of course! Don't you know me by now? But hey, the good news is it doesn't take a genius to realize that this Sunday is the first Sunday of the month, what we at Judson refer to as Agape Sunday, which means we will begin the Sunday School hour in the Meeting Room (where all you old folks like to play), gnoshing on bagels, bananas, what have you, until being blessed and dismissed (in that order!) to our classes.

Better luck next year, my fellow dullards.

Andy
Genius Poobah

* Not even remotely true. The Grand Poobah, indeed, all of Judson Sunday School wishes Endzhe Akhmatshina and Rafay Farooqui a long and wonderful life together!