

Hope Jacobs
MWP 2004

Who Says Reality Show Knowledge Can't Help You In Real Life?

The Mole-

Always be prepared for the unexpected, because there is usually one person in a group that is sneaky.

When I walked into our normal meeting room, the bumble bee table cloths added a nice touch. Amy and I complimented Gresham on his idea, but he denied bringing the homey addition while giving us a suspicious smile. As I glanced around the room, I realized he was the only one there. I was a little baffled. Who else would decide to decorate our room? Who would have had the opportunity? Later when Kelly declared how much she loved the table cloths, I heard him admit they were his idea. So which is it, table cloth boy?

Next, Tim walked in with a newspaper in his hand. That's strange! I've never seem him do that before. He looked at Martha and said loudly, "I didn't know my editorial on gardening was published in the paper." Then he started looking around the room alternating the words Mary and published. He said it over and over. I find his actions a little suspicious. If he didn't know the article was in there, why did he have *just* that section of the paper? And what did Mary and publishing have to do with a garden?

Then, Lyuda started sharing the morning log. I knew she would save us because she has been so dependable throughout the summer. I was thrown for a loop when I heard her speaking a language I had never heard before and saw writing I didn't understand.... **Top Secret Code** She claimed she translated the writing, but how do I know what it really said? Why is she being so upfront with her sneaky behavior? What did the log *really* say?

From what I have seen on the shows, the mole is never who the produces want you to think it is. I wish the produces were here to help us decipher all of this strange behavior. Who is "The One" in this group?

For Better or Worse-

Even when things seem out of control, your family and friends will be there to pull you through.

Angie Sandy read a portion of What's Happening to Grandpa? by Maria Shriver. In the book, the little girl tries to show her support to her grandfather by coming up with the idea to create a photo album to jog his memory once he starts to forget things. The grandpa ends up reassuring the little girl that he will always remember the love he has for his family, even when his memory fades.

Sonya's Grandma was there for her during her difficult teenage years. Not only did she have comforting words for Sonya, but for Sonya's mother too.

Tim has had many people and memories to pull him through life. The memory of his mother's voice, his students' faces give him hope, the truths of Christ. All of these memories have helped him build the strong character who he is today.

Gresham's memories of watching his kids smile while they sleep pull him through the tough days.

It's time for a TV time out-

Mary: Now we have a long block of time for choice- reading, writing, and lots of eating! (There is always lots of eating during breaks.) Remember you will have about 7 minutes to share your writing when you are in the author's chair.

And now, back to our program-

The Bachelor-

Having a variety of choices is a good thing.

We have 30 minutes to share in our writing response groups, so everybody quickly disperses to a place of their *choice*. Remember: one theme of your *choice* with at least three different genres of your *choice*. As I listen, I hear a wide variety of topics and styles, but they all have something unique that appeals to us. Too bad we can't give a rose to all of them!

Trading Spaces-

Sometimes you just need to make some changes.

Gresham decided it was time to make some changes in his writing workshop after his professional reading this summer. "But Mr. Brown, I don't have anything to write about..." helped us focus on selecting writing ideas. He felt he had given his students limited supplies to decorate their education. He still wants his students' inspiration to come from the audience, but also from their own passion, purpose, and pull of a style (genre). Designers always have many places from which they pull ideas to get started on a project.

Cops-

Always pay attention to your surroundings.

Lead a wide awake life!

Writers find inspiration by:

- Listening to what is going on around them or eavesdropping on conversations.
- Observing their surroundings. (I don't know if a cop would care about the wedding section of the newspaper, but s/he would try to figure out the life behind what is actually in front of them.)
- experience life.
- think about what you see.
- remember things

Gresham's students were observant when selecting their notebooks.

They noticed texture, color, and symbols.

When it is important to them, they will use it more.

Fear Factor-

You should try everything at least once!

Have you tried something new this week? New food, new genre, new ideas.... Anything new?

American Chopper-

Always try to see past what is directly in front of you- see the possibilities.

You never know who is around you. Kim goes to church with Carol Williams, the author of The Pongee Bird. Some would look at her and see an old lady, but in reality, she is a wealth of knowledge that lives in my hometown and taught where I attended high school.

Her main character, Betty Sue, taught us to experience the truth beyond what we can see and touch.

While You Were Out-

You can complete any task in two days.

Well, I hope this is true, because we now have two more days to complete all of our items for our celebration on Thursday.

Bridezilla-

There is more than one person inside all of us.

During Becky's workshop she revealed to us that she has many professional authors arguing inside her head. She decided her voice was the strongest voice of all. She no longer has to make the rule "You can't write I love my Mom!"

You know they say students become like their teachers. Well, Becky's students call the voices-mentor authors. The different voices are leaving their heads and starting to spill into their writing. I guess Becky knows all of their voices by name, because she was saying them left and write while looking at her student samples.

Forensic Files-

If you don't clean up loose ends, it can cause you problems later.

Housekeeping with Mary-

Workshop Reflections are due by Thursday if you have already presented or present today. If you present Wednesday or Thursday, your reflection needs to be in Word on an attachment or copy it into the body part of the email

Return all borrowed books by Thursday.

Author's celebration Thursday and lunch together- each person will bring one dish or all give cash and order out.

Room location Tuesday- uncertain!

All double entry journals should be turned back in Thursday.