



A TV documentary maker, on his way to *self-proclaimed* universal and eternal superstardom, is entirely stuck in a web of humiliating failures (logline)

## Prologue

*Fly Like An Ego* starts with a seemingly stand-alone and futile story, set in the late 18th century, when pirates roamed the great seas.

One of the pirates *accidentally* shoots an apple on a companion's head with his crossbow. Straight-faced he dares to claim "of course" due to him being a descendant of a "world-famous Swiss archer."

*Welcome to the world of egos!*

His partner grabs his trumpet and goes wild, playing a part of the William Tell Overture. Excuse me, a pirate with a trumpet?

*The tone of silliness is set.*

Apparently they seem to forget what they are paid to do and start a happy dance. "Colleagues" from a nearby and soon to be hijacked ship, pick up the music and move their bodies and heads accordingly. (As in a Steely Dan concert.)

For the first, and certainly not for the last time, a jack-in-the-box type, aged, 21st century university lecturer (where does he every time so suddenly come from?) interferes with an "I know it all" attitude.

*A typical example of "those" (often annoying) recurring characters has been defined.*

Pirates need a leader, and they have one in Nostra Damus. Unfortunately, this one cannot be found on Wikipedia (yet?). When did hard-working pirates ever receive honorable mentions? "Ours" is just a pirate, although, obviously, one with great vision. He owns a spyglass.

*An example of how you can be sent into the wrong direction of thoughts.*

During the fierce battle on the other ship, our friends confiscate a treasure chest filled with valuables. The "okay, nice, good job, we have it. Now what?" dilemma forces

them to bury it on the beach and leave it there for future reference; and probably forget about it. *But we won't.*

*Please remember this treasure burying incident for later.*

*Nothing happens without a reason and*

*Fly Like An Ego is full of cross-connections.*

As we have seen another ship in the very beginning by peeking through the rigging, an apparently similar view becomes a visible misconception. Here the rigging is just a 21st century rope jungle gym for kids, where pirates find relief from their stressful job.

We are also privileged to get another quick peek into the pirates' happy playground of life experience as they sing "Row your boat." That is ... with *updated* lyrics.

The pirate story eventually comes to a conclusion when a loner pushes a (dressed) human-shaped stick into the wet sand. He calls it "Doug Hausse." Why?...

*Again. Nothing happens without a reason, and you will find out later.*

*NOTE: Apparently, this sequence is totally pointless, because here is where their story goes into oblivion. But it's all crucial for an event at the very end.*

*Thank you, pirates, for joining the show. Now ASAP, exit stage left.*

## Fly Like An Ego

(the main story)

We are back in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and learn about the "wonderful warm relationship" (NOT) between KRAP-TV's documentary maker Doug Hausse (*pronounce "doghouse"*) and talk show host Linda Faykes (*don't go there, you know very well how to pronounce this*). Linda's obsession with outer appearance gets a big blow as she has apparently gained some extra weight. According to Doug water adds on a lot of calories, so go figure. Much later, selling this nonsense to his nemesis will backfire on him.

On a flight to Scotland, where they go to for special KRAP-TV assignments, Doug has a dream. In what could have been a scene from "Titanic 2" (2 2 2 2), our show's voiceover explains that the ship has been cloned and ready to cross the Atlantic.

Of course, this "being cloned" is a blueprint for disaster. No, not so much regarding the ship, they build better quality nowadays, but it is Doug who plays the main role. *Jack and Rose* are replaced by modern lovers Doug and his dream babe Kate (*the choosing of her name is purely based on coincidence.... Honestly...*).

It also happens to be the first time that the voiceover meddles with current events. To give "The Invisible Chosen One" a sense of having a real life of its own, it sneezes.

Throughout the movie it will become clear, that it doesn't really matter if Doug dreams or not. Even a seemingly happy turn of events eventually becomes a (literally) cold shower anyway.

Since she overheard Doug talking in his dream, Linda's icy cold pronunciation of the word "Kate" opens the way for a quick flashback in which we'll meet the real one. Doug has "a boy's ultimate dream," helping out a beautiful, young woman being stranded on the highway.

*Did we already mention that nothing is what it seems?...*

In Scotland, Doug begins working on his documentary about the culture in the local area. This, however, is merely a cover for his real story. Doug wants to follow his gut feeling and explore the possibility of alien life in the region. In order to do this, he follows leads and gathers information from people in the local pubs, asking them questions pertaining to their life and culture, all the while keeping his ears open for information on his real story.

Doug gathers what seems to be useless information about their culture, lifestyle and sport rivalry. Intertwined in the information is talk of aliens and warnings. His ears are wide open for what is mentioned about aliens, but the warnings somehow don't reach him. Unfortunately for him...

After the events in the second pub, Doug's press card falls off his suit. A car leaves a zig-zag mark over it; a sure sign that all things are not going that well. He didn't notice....

No doubt Doug has a blinding ego without limits, but ironically (*is it?*) he does get where he was looking for.

Due to his perseverance and blinding ego, Doug pushes all boundaries and eventually finds the information that he is after. Further more, his cameraman, Jim, manages to record alien life; starting with them descending from a space ship and making crop circles. Dressed as human beings and using "stalk stompers" they create a masterpiece.

*Now here is a serious question: Will the viewer be aware that this is actually a spoof about mixing up the controversy regarding this subject?*

Doug is obsessed with fortune and fame. A wise bird (this is the first appearance of a talking animal) warns him to rein in his ego. Doug does not abide by these warnings as his sights are set on his own stardom.

It appears that aliens have cloned human behaviour. We witness this in the spaceship's city life with bored, beer drinking youngsters on the corners of the streets, scenes from the supermarket, a movie about Celtic warriors (a hint to the Scottish pubs) and a life talk show named "Can earthlings think?". This is related to a later scene of Linda's talk show's main topic "Can animals think?"

*Another nice example of cross-connections...*

On departure from planet earth the aliens display a ticker message on the spaceship's side that Doug reads with a big smile. His ultimate goal seems to be achieved. To Doug's horror, the aliens erase all of his recordings, and it becomes clear that he didn't quite understand the "Earthlings are able to think, but don't do it!" message. He realizes he has absolutely nothing to show to the world and breaks down.

The realisation that Linda will be thrilled by his failure, adds to his miserable experience.

The first appearance of a poor-vision mole should make him become aware that nobody really cares who he is. But Doug is blinder than the grumpy animal herself.

*With big consequences for later...*

The VOICEOVER (who often *says* what we could probably figure out ourselves) and the SUPER (which often *prints* what we could probably figure out ourselves) are having their own "survival of the fittest ego" discussion.

Doug records a documentary about the beautiful Scottish country side. However, in the background animals-on-the-run suddenly interrupt him. Here are some premature credits rolling: "In order of appearance: a giraffe in a suit and tie, a street cat from Brylland (where the heck is that?) and a dinosaur carrying an exhausted hippo."

Where they are running to? Wait until it's time for "Linda's Late Talk Show."

Further on in the story, this peaceful location becomes the area where a rugby battle between rival pub patrons takes place. Doug finds himself caught up in the scrum. Surprise, surprise...

Linda tries to make the best out of her talk show "Can animals think?" She hates this assignment, because she finds talking animals "nonsense" (that word is used a few times in this very show), as well as humiliating.

To add to her humiliation, her guests also take over her show. The dinosaur on one side and the cat and giraffe on the other side defend controversial points of view. The hippo is too tired and too slow to say anything, but the others go into a fierce debate without clear winners. The only real loser is (of course) Linda.

In the second part of her talk show, our troubled celebrity hosts a goldfish and an elephant. The discussion about short-term memory leads to a blackout by the hostess and the undisputed master of long-term memory, the elephant. By then the goldfish had already forgotten why he was there in the first place.

After the flight home, we are ready to enter the world of silly documentaries. Doug made "The art of dying." *Hitchcock's "Psycho"* violins help create an ominous atmosphere in the program, but it might as well be explained as another "killer" production by Doug.

*Play it safe. Stick to the first assumption.*

The documentary begins in 44 BC during Caesar's the last year as ruler of the Roman Empire. A slightly overweight woman entering a "Caesar Salad Bar" franchise, and a hamburger stand and black market ticket seller near the arena are testimonies of Rome's history as we *didn't* know it...

*Who said that mankind has changed and evolved over time?*

We learn the truth (*oh, come on!*) about Caesar's death, including a whole series of factual errors. But first the famous emperor has to fix the year "zero K" administration glitch. (As if this visionary could know in advance that there would be a year zero.)

After Caesar is killed, we are invited to the arena where a piano player opens the show by playing "Für Elise," while demanding respect for Ludwig Von Beethoven. No-one listens, no-one cares. The old lecturer once again appears, assuring us that LvB has not yet been born and that pianos have not yet been invented. Indeed, who cares? As long as it makes *absolutely no sense* (at all), it's fun.

Caesar's body may be cold for some time by now, but he is kept "alive" for the crowd by his assassins who depict him as a marionette. "Caesar, the puppet?" Hm, sounds interesting. Let's make a note of that.

A video screen and an orchestra playing Julius Fucik's "Entry Of The Gladiators" complete this walk through "Future Lane."

The dialogues are partly subtitled, though slightly free style. More animals appear. This time a pride of hungry lions, born and raised to devour gladiators. Although they are all unionized (not working together in a pack, but all members of the Union), they complain about how their "at least one gladiator per lion" job description has been violated.

The program continues with some undefined "Animal Planet" material (probably *deleted scenes*), but the show is definitely stolen by a heart-warming story of an intelligent, young seagull that is about to have a fish family for supper.

Somehow Jonathan Livingston is similar to Linda, as he also gets easily confused by uncontrollable events. At a certain point he turns to the viewer for advice, since he is about to lose it in his quest to grow up.

Besides reaching superstardom, Doug's other dream is to dispose of Linda and be free of (financial) obligations to her. He dreams (a parody) of the "Texas Chainsaw Massacre," chasing Linda through the woods and eventually sawing her to pieces.

He almost gets what he wants. Almost, because his dream takes an unexpected turn as a not so friendly bear wants some fun as well.

*And we want fun too!*

Life is too much for him to handle and Doug seeks help from a psychiatrist. The "wonderful healing treatment" he receives from Joe Brixton can hardly be taken seriously. Doug can't see inside the psychiatrist's twisted brain and takes his advice. Unfortunately for him Doug is not aware that Joe's brain no longer works properly.

Joe suggests to Doug that he should serenade Kate and win her heart. He hopes this will help him overcome his fear of failure. The plan was meant to be fool proof (aka fool proof).

His late night performance under her window indeed draws enough attention, but not the kind he was looking for. First a rat shows up, followed by angry neighbors. To make matters worse, Kate, a world-famous light-sleeper, doesn't wake up. Why is that? Poor Doug!

Doug's next documentary is about entertainment. There are some weird shows with illusionists and a circus act with clowns and lions. Bronze, the low self-esteem "*King of the animal world*" has failures that can compete with Doug's.

Eventually Doug slips into another dream and becomes part of the show where he copies the great Houdini. Remember that he bullied Linda for being overweight a while ago? He is now going to pay the price for that. He learns that drinking a lot of water can indeed add a lot of calories. Sumo-wrestler size Linda hits the stage and takes revenge.

*Hey, in Fly Like An Ego all is possible, let alone in Doug's dreams!*

Linda's next talk show is with ventriloquist John Hoax (..). And such a guest (and with such a name) must be interesting, especially as Caesar, the puppet (aha!) seems to have a life of its own. Eventually master and slave battle each other, leaving Linda with another damaged imago.

She will be fired shortly after.

If *James Bond* was ever to be taken seriously, Doug will unravel his good name in yet another "great adventure."

As the famous secret agent James Mund (the name is a derivation from Doug's visit to the psychiatrist) and Russian babe Natasha Virginski (what's in a name?) by his side, he chases Blowfish who had the guts to steal his beloved Aston Martin DB5. That's asking for trouble, mister! Big, big trouble.

In his hunt Doug "borrows" some techniques from Tarzan. Yet not before being seduced by Natasha and her (not his!) randiest puns....

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*Obviously, there is still much more to come.*

*Want the rest of the story? Get it at [flylikeanego.com/contact](http://flylikeanego.com/contact)*