

House Minutes #Whatever + 1

The members of Hitchcock hall during the 2000-2001 season gathered for a reunion. "One hundred years of Hitchcock glory," the banner in the green room began "and another 25 or so since you all left." Gennie Snow, the Max Palevsky Dean of Alumni Affairs, called the meeting to order. "Welcome back! We have quite a day set up for you. You and your significant others are welcome to wander the dorm, see your old rooms and enjoy cocktails and refreshments in the green room!" Before she was finished Mike Tessel was already pouring people gin and tonics.

The other members of Hitchcock caught up on years of lost time. Senator Balter (D-Massachusetts) talked of how difficult it is to live up to the standard set by Ted Kennedy. "He accomplished quite a bit in the senate," Sam Friedman pointed out.

Dan thought for a moment. "Yes, I guess I have to live up to the standard he set in the senate, too."

Adam Schiffenbauer and Catherine Berjohn talked about the plan they put into effect at a house meeting 25 years beforehand. They got a set of rules for outside groups using the green room approved. Visiting groups were required to have at least member in Hitchcock, sign up two house meetings in advance, fill out an application and deposit \$50, which they get back if they do not mess up the green room and attended that Sunday's movie night, which featured Jaws and Moby Dick.

The Crewcuts were there. Despite Minnesota's request, his beautiful blushing bride had kept her maiden name of Layered. Minnesota proudly showed her the bathroom stalls where minutes about him were posted each week.

Jeremy and Will Green told James and Tammy Faye Seward about their trip to Vermont. "You know what the best part of it was? Neither of us had to change our last name!" The Swards looked a bit uneasy and tiptoed over to replace the alcoholic punch with fruit juice. Somewhere Aja could be heard muttering "Now they all believe me."

Two girls from Section 1 were chatting in the single that one of them stayed in. The door was closed for old times' sake. "You know, they say that you will spend the rest of your life trying to re-live all of the fun you had during your college years."

"That is really true, I know that is what I have been doing."

"Really, what have you been up to?"

"I joined a Buddhist monastery."

"I think everyone found the right job. Take that girl over there who is trying to intimidate Will Connors' wife."

"Oh, with the brown hair? She doesn't look too familiar, but I think I have heard her voice before."

"It's Laura Schechter. She has a hit radio show, so her voice is very famous but few people know her face."

"Really? I thought I didn't recognize her face because my only human contact that school year were the voices that came through my closed door."

“Well, if you ever listen to morning radio, her show is called ‘The Other Dr. Laura.’ It is really a great show. I think her frank sex talk with a white, upper class ghetto voice really speaks to our generation.”

There was commotion in the stairwell of Section 5. “Oh my god! I think Mike Spence is dying!”

Spence did not look bothered. “Nah, it’s just another coronary.”

Will Lin rushed into the Green room. “Is there a doctor in the house?” A stampede ensued.

The Swards went back to Will and Jeremy. Beneath the many layers of make-up there was a very confused look on Tammy Faye’s face. “Aren’t you both doctors?”

“No. How did you get that impression?”

“Well you both talked of so much about how you help people with glaucoma.”

The evening ended with a series of speeches. Robin Orlansky spoke of how nice it was to return to the dorm after spending 25 years, and most of the 2000-2001 school year away. Tom and Tracy Hafen gave a speech on their experiences, including the time in 2001 when they convinced the University to let them stay on for another 25 years (and 16 children) as Resident Heads. A memorial service was held for those members of Section 4 killed in a well televised standoff with federal agents at their compound in Montana. Many commented on how ironic it was that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms of all organizations brought an end to Section 4’s dominance of house events.

And so the evening drew to a close. A few last jokes were told. A petition was signed to get George Singer out of prison. Hugs and addresses for Christmas cards were exchanged. Everyone said their last goodbyes. Then the former members of Hitchcock walked back in ones or twos to their SUV’s, brushed aside the Starbucks cups strewn all over their seat and retreated to their hotel rooms. All the while they were whispering quietly to themselves “How did I turn into a yuppie so gradually that I did not even notice?”