## Origin of Insanity

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3. Photo Story (parent or grandparent before becoming parents)

## **Origin of Insanity**

"Suffering and despair builds character. It is these experiences that help build our past. And the past helps build its future, our present. It helps explain, if not define, who we are, WHY we are."

-Some dude in the future.

The carnival. A place where friends, couples and family come to have a good time and create some wonderful memories. However, those are not the most valuable aspect of a carnival, it is the obscene amount of people it can conveniently gather and roam in a specific area, especially during the weekends, on a spooky Halloween night. All under the watchful eye of something unknown to them.

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"No."
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"No."

"Nope."

"Too kind."

"Too carefree."

"No, too damn responsible."

"Pffft too passionate."

"...Oh? This guy has a pretty big ego! Let's see... Tch. He just has a strong conviction and determination... in doing the right thing... Boring."

"Come on! Why aren't there any-"

"Eh? What do you two want? A picture? Who do think I am? Some kind of attraction?"

"Oh... right... I'm in a carnival. Whatever, do as you like. You both are probably just another happy coup-"

The female casually approaches the unknown being.

The unknown being gasps in astonishment.

"WHAT?! Such idiocy!!! The stupidity levels are off the roof! Who is this woman?"

The unknown being squints harder, as if to better understand the intriguing worm before its very eyes.

"Wow. You're not just dumb, but you're also sometimes very unreasonable. Not to mention you're very bad at reading social ques, and just constantly makes the wrong decisions. They might be subtle mistakes like her choice of words or not ending a conversation that should have ended two sentences ago, but it COULD be detrimental to a child's mental health. Plus, your tendency to make unreasonable judgements can create some juicy trauma..."

The unknown being darts its eyeballs around in excitement.

"But it takes two hands to clap. Let's see who's going to be the fathe-"

Its eyeballs halt to a standstill, for good few seconds.

Was it fear? Or was it exhilaration? Only it knows.

"Holy mother of all things despicable... He's PERFECT!"

It was 100% undiluted exhilaration.

"Humongous ego. Doesn't listen to anyone easily. Thinks he's the best and looks down on others who don't agree with him. Runs a nasty mouth with utter disregard for decency, even

though he's sometimes truly right. He will make sure others are belittled for doubting him. And even if he's wrong, he would still think that he is right and either won't rest until others do things his way, or he just quits the group. Not only that, but he also always focuses on the negatives on all things. Not a single sentence, where he's supposed to praise someone, will he not add the word 'but' at the very end and go on to decimate the joy out of everyone. A walking killjoy who brings frustration and despair to all those around him. That's why he doesn't have any friends. And the cherry on top? He's also a victim of shitty parenting, and harbours delectable hatred."

The unknown being raises its hands in exaltation, with its palm around its head like when an excited child receives a puppy for their birthday gift.

"Oh these two are perfect! For me at least. These two are terrible for each other. There will be arguments and harmful things will be said. I'm surprised this woman even agreed to be with this walking ball of negativity. I almost feel bad for her. But who cares about that when these two can help plant the seed of insanity and give birth to something spectacular! A high quality, personalized, sustainable vat of madness for me to partake of whenever I please."

The unknown being grins menacingly while imagining what kind of terrible parents they can be.

"Just imagine! The father's stubbornness, nasty temper, his ability to frustrate anyone within the general vicinity, plus his demoralising way of speaking, he can really starve the child of affection and approval and bathe them in a cesspool of self-doubt and unappreciation!"

"And the mother, with her terrible decision making and irrationality, she can break so many promises and potentially yell at her child for no apparent reason, or even get irritated when they should be patient. She might even physically hurt them if they did something wrong, or even break their favourite toy. Who knows? So many choices. So many wrong decisions to make..."

The unknown being widens its eyes and grin and displays a manic stare.

"Oh, however would you two physically and emotionally traumatize your child? The visceral hatred, the irreversible broken mind, the insanity that will be distilled from your offspring... shall be exquisite! A walking source of negative energy for me to possess and gorge upon...

"I can't wait!"

Snap!

As the man takes the picture of his girlfriend standing next to a stone statue of a very excited looking devil.

