

Ben gets letters

By John Stanton

(5:00)

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Cast

Ben Bother

Producer (off stage, voice only)

Ben Bother (entering, wearing teleprompter in front if we have one.)

You're sure we have to do this on tape?

Producer

The top floor is insisting. You know the problems we had last time.

B

All right. But do we have to do this letter bit? I am accustomed to reading the news.

P

What news do you want to read?

B

How about this Associated press headline?

Bush speech to have few new ideas

P

Uh – You don't want to read that. People will think we're doing a comedy show.

B

How about this one?

Breaking news!

Residents of a South Carolina home were startled out of their beds last night when a huge chunk of ice came crashing through the roof and slammed into the ventilation system. Investigation established that the ice came from a leaking toilet in an airliner.

The Federal Aviation Administration advised that the ice was harmless unless ingested. But the home owner pointed out that the ice from the leaking toilet damaged the heating and ventilation system.

P

Did it hit the fan?

B

No

P

Then we can't use it.

Now let's go on to the letters. Tape rolling. Here's your intro

Ladies and Gentlemen, Former Famous News Anchor Ben Bother responds to the flood of letters he got from his opening broadcast.

B (obvious attempt at friendly tone, still pompous)

Friends.

During last week's newscast, I read a promotion for a product from our newest sponsor, Xcite, makers of the the Xcite X3 sculpted cock.

We received a number of calls and emails from people who seemed to feel that I was uncomfortable with the sexually explicit material presented in the promotional spot. So today, I am here to say:

I am not a prude!

P

Try not to be so pompous

B

Was trying to sound like Richard Nixon.

You know, "I am not a crook"

P

Probably not the best thing to remind people of. Try to sound more friendly.

B

My dear friends, I am not a prude.

P (With resignation)

Maybe you just better be yourself.

B

I am not a prude!

And my stage posture is due to years of diligent practice. Not, as one viewer put it, because of a broomstick up my butt!

There were questions about my masculinity. So I want to take this opportunity to say that Ben Bother is all male! In fact, in my younger days I was quite the ladies man. I once dated Greta Garbo.

I also wish to deny the rumor about my undergarments. Underneath this smart professional sport jacket ensemble, I am wearing the standard newscaster's white briefs with nothing frilly about them.

I need to address one viewer specifically who emailed me under the name of 'ManBear 69' No sir! I will not meet you at the Rainbow Tiger for a fun slide down the man hole!"

I do acknowledge that I have not, as yet, purchased male genitalia from Xcite. This oversight is due to the fact that I have only recently arrived in Second Life. In my previous experience, genitalia were provided by God.

P

God doesn't pay your salary

B

But I am quite prepared to accept a set of male genitalia from our new advertiser, Xcite

P (urgently)

Buy! That's buy. Remember, they're our biggest advertisers.

B

I am quite prepared to **buy** a set of male genitalia from our new advertiser, Xcite

P

Ok! Cut! I'll edit that into something we can use.

B (Sadly)

Some of those people did not like me.

P

Don't worry, Ben. You aren't paid to get liked. You are paid to get listeners.