

Dammit, I'm Mad

Crazy people don't know they're crazy. I know I'm crazy, therefore I'm not crazy. Isn't that crazy? – Captain Jack Sparrow

I'm sure we've all had those moments where we were asked a question and without realising it, we don't really reply. We reply in our heads. Well, that tends to happen to me way too often and then all I can think is: Dammit, I'm Mad.

Well the truth is, we're all mad here. Or so we think. So, what is madness? Well it's identical to craziness and that's just another word for insanity. What's all this talk of crazy then? The oxford dictionary defines it as "seriously mentally ill", but if you were to ask a doctor, they would say it's "abnormal brain activity". So, no, you are not insane if you speak to yourself while you stand in front of the fridge, trying to decide what you want to eat. Your Brain is probably just on strike from all the junk you feed your body. Insanity is something completely different.

A perfect example of or, as we were recently taught, the epitome of insanity would have to be the Mad Hatter. His insanity is charming and well portrayed in the Tim Burton version of Alice in Wonderland. His Eccentric personality and pale white skin make is near impossible for Tim Burton fans to not love him. Although his insanity does not come naturally to him, it still counts. He was turned mad after the extensive use of poisonous chemicals such as glue and bleach. He inhaled these chemicals for extended periods of time which in turn cause the discolouration of his skin and his insanity.

Another one of my favourite characters is also insane. Although he appears to be more psychotic than anything else. This infamous, ever adored, Batman supervillain; The Joker. His green hair and wicked smile make him rather hard to miss on Halloween and in the Batman Movies. Not to mention is new appearance in DC comics' Suicide Squad and his absurdly dysfunctional relationship with Harley Quinn. He turned insane after a rather unfortunate incident with acid and although it seemed highly unlikely that he would have survived, he did and he is now locked up in Arkham Asylum. No, I'm not rambling on about crazy characters just to make my speech longer, I'm actually trying to make a point. The point is that madness is all around us; in movies, prisons and even in the mall. Whether it's as bad as the Joker's or as hidden as mine, it's there.

It takes a crazy person to know a crazy person though. So of my friends musty be completely bonkers. Yes, I'm certified, or so they say. But that's a mere formality. I already knew I was mad. That's beside the point though. This world is filled with insane people who do insane things, and believe me, the list is endless.

For example, did you know that towards the end of the 1940's and experiment took place in the Soviet Union. It was called "the Russian sleep experiment". I'll spare you the gory details of this experiment but I will add that it does in fact highlight what we as humans are capable of and also the different levels of psychotic within human insanity. There are those who are psychotic enough to perform such nauseating experiments on other people and then there are those who turned psychotic from being a victim of such an experiment. In this case, the insanity was caused by sleep deprivation for 30 consecutive days. The victims turned to self mutilation and cannibalism by the 15th day and many of them ended up dead anyway. Yes, this sounds like something that Hitler or even Hannibal Lector would have done. But let's be real, this is just a legend and no such experiments have ever been documented to have taken place.

So when you wake up in the morning and say to yourself "Dammit, I'm Mad", just accept it, own it and as the Joker says "welcome to the madhouse."