

(WRITTEN MAY 25TH 1986)

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(ONE FINGER TYPED MAY 25TH & 26TH 1986)

(HOW TO CRACK A NUT, LET ME COUNT THE WAY'S.) (SHORT STORY NO. 3)

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT HOW MANY WAY'S THERE ARE TO CRACK THE MANY DIFFERENT TYPE'S OF NUT'S YOU EAT. LIKE BRAZEL NUT'S FROM SOUTH AMERICA, MAC - CA - DAY - MEON NUT'S FROM HAWAII, FILBERT NUT'S FROM OREGON, PECAN, PA - STASH - CIO'S NUT'S, AND ENGLISH, BLACK WALNUT'S FROM CALIFORNIA. PEANUT'S FROM GEORGIA, CASHEW'S FROM SOMEPLACE. AND ALMOND'S OR AMEN'S FROM FROM CALIFORNIA AND ITALY. AND I AM SURE SOME OF THESE NUT'S ARE GROWN IN OTHER STATE'S AND OTHER COUNTRIE'S, BUT I FOR ONE DONOT KNOW WHICH ONE'S.

MOST NUT'S THAT ONE BUY'S IN A STORE ARE PROCESSED THREW BIG NUT COMPANY'S ALL OVER THE WORLD. AND MOST OF THESE COMPANY'S, CRACK THE HARD SHELL VERIETY OF NUT'S, LIKE BRAZEL, BLACK, ENGLISH, FILBERT'S, PECAN, AND PASTICHIO'S, THREW BIG DRUM ROLLER'S. THAT HAVE METAL SPIKE'S OR METAL NUB'S ON THE ROLLER'S THAT TURN AGAINST EACH OTHER. THEY ARE SET FOR EACH SIZE OF NUT. EXTRA LARGE, LARGE, MEDIUM, SMALL, AND PEWEER. SOME HARD SHELL VERITIES OF ALMOND'S OR AMEN'S SUCH AS MISSION, DRAKE, PEERLESS AND SOME CALIFORNIA VERIETY'S, ARE ALSO CRACKED THIS WAY.

THE SOFT SHELL NUT'S SUCH AS, MAC - CA - DAY - MEON'S PEANUT'S, AND A NUMBER OF ALMOND'S LIKE NONPERRIL, CARMEL, NEPLUS, MERCED, TOMSON, AND A NUMBER OF OTHER'S. ARE CRACKED BY A SET OF RUBBER BELT'S AN RUBBER ROLLER'S. WITH THE NUT'S BEING RUN ON THE RUBBER BELT'S, WITH THE RUBBER ROLLER'S ON TOP, THAT YOU AJUST TO THE DIFFERENT SIZE'S OF NUT'S. INTERESTING HUH!?. (SMILE FOLK'S)

THEN THERE ARE THE HOME NUT CRACKER'S, LIKE THE SLING SHOT, HAMMER AN BOARD, HAND HELD METAL OR STEEL SQWEEZER TYPE. OR ONE CAN IF HE OR SHE IS STRONG ENOUGH. THEY CAN CRACK TWO NUT AT A TIME IN THERE HAND'S, OR STOMP ONE AT A TIME UNDER THERE FOOT. OR IF ONE WOULD LIKE TO CRACK A WHOLE BUNCH OF BLACK WALNUT'S AT A TIME. ONE CAN BUILD OR TAKE A WIDE PIECE OF RUBBER BELTING. THEN NAIL BOLT OR POP RIVET SIX TO TEN FLAT ONE BY TWO'S TO THE RUBBER BELT, ABOUT AN INCH AND ONE HALF TOO TWO AND ONE HALF INCHES APART. THEN YOU LAY THE BELT ON THE GROUND, AND PLACE THE BLACK WALNUT'S IN BETWEEN THE WOOD SLAT'S. THEN FILL YOUR SMALL METAL LAWN DRUM ROLLER UP ABOUT HALF WAY WITH WATER. THEN WITH THE HELP OF A FRIEND, YOU CAN ROLL IT ACROSS TH WALNUT'S TO CRACK THEM. THEN THE WHOLE FAMILY CAN PITCH IN TO PICK OR GET THE NUT MEAT'S OUT O THE SHELL'S. ONE CAN CRACK ALL KIND'S OF NUT'S THIS WAY. ALL ONE HAS TO DO IS CHANGE THE HEIGH OF THE WOOD SLAT'S.

ANY OR ALL NUT SHELL'S ARE A GOOD STARTER IN A FIRE PLACE, BECAUSE OF THERE OIL CONTENT. JUST WRAP THEM UP IN NEWSPAPER'S AND LIGHT THE PAPER. ONCE THE NUT'S START BURNING YOU CAN ADD THE BIGGER PIECES OF WOOD TO KEEP THE FIRE GOING GOOD.

THEN THERE ARE OTHER WAY'S TO CRACK NUT'S. ONE COULD TRAIN THERE PET HOUSE CAT, OR CHIP MONK, MONKEY, RACCOON, GREY SQUIRREL, OR BIRD'S LIKE BLUE JAY'S, ROBIN'S, BLACK BIRD'S, OR CROW'S TO SET OR STAND ON AN OPEN TREE LIMB, AND DROP OR THROW THE NUT'S DOWN ON A FLAT ROCK ON THE GROUND. THEN YOU COULD GATHER THEM UP AND PUT THEM IN A BOX. THEN TAKE THEM IN YOUR HOUSE. THEN WHILE YOU ARE WATCHING YOUR FAVOTE SOAP OPERA, OR MOVIE ON TELEVISION. YOU COULD SPEND HOUR'S AND HOUR'S PICKING OR SEPERATING THE NUT MEAT'S FROM THE SHELL'S. (SOUND'S LIKE FUN HUH!?.)

WELL I FOR ONE, HAVE A LOT OF DIFFERENT ANIMAL FRIEND'S AN PET'S. AND I THOUGHT I WOULD BUILD A BETTER WAY TO CRACK NUT'S. THEN I COULD PUT ALL MY ANIMAL'S TO WORK TO MORE OR LESS EARN THERE KEEP. (SMILE FOLK'S)

FIRST I TRYED MANY DIFFERENT IDEA'S. BUT NONE OF THEM EVER WORKED OUT. THEN I HIT ON AN IDEA, THAT I WAS SURE IT WOULD NOT FAIL.

FIRST I POURED A CONCRETE SLAB TEN FEET WIDE BY 30 FEET LONG. THEN RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDI OF THIS, I BUILT ANOTHER FORM, IN ORDER TO POUR A TWO FOOT WIDE, 6 INCH HIGH CONCRETE RUNWAY. THEN I SCREWED INTO THE GROUND ON ONE END OF THE RUNWAY, A BIG METAL OR STEEL SCREW WITH A BIG (YOU SHAPED) HEAD ON THE TOP END THAT HAD TWO HOLE'S IN IT TO HOLD A BIG STEEL PIN. THEN I WENT TO A LOCAL P.G. & E. YARD AND BOUGHT A 28 FOOT TELEPHONE POLE, AND HAD THEM DELIVER IT TO MY HOUSE. AFTER THE POLE ARRIVED, I TOOK A BIG WOOD DRILL AND DRILLED A HOLE THREW ONE END OF THE POLE ABOUT 1 FOOT FROM THE BOTTOM. THEN I TOOK MY CHAIN SAW, AND CUT A 3 INCH HIGH BY ONE FOOT WIDE SLAB OFF ONE SIDE OF THE POLE. SO IT WOULD HAVE A FLAT SURFACE THE FULL LENGTH ON ON SIDE OF THE POLE. THEN I INSERTED ONE 4 INCH ROUND PIPE IN THE HOLE IN THE BOTTOM OF THE POLE. THEN ABOUT 6 FEET UP ON THE BACK SIDE OF THE POLE AND ALSO ON THE TOP FRONT OF THE POLE, I INSERTED OR SCREWED 1 LARGE EYE SCREW HOOK ON EACH END. THEN WITH THE HELP OF "GORGO" MY GORRILLA, AND "RALPH" MY ORANGATANG, WE PLACED THE BOTTOM END ON THE BIG (YOU) SHAPED SCREW AND INSERTED A BIG STEEL PIN IN ONE SIDE OF THE (YOU) SHAPED JOINT AND THREW THE HOLE IN TH

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(PLEASE TURN PAGE OVER)

(WOW I AM MOVING RIGHT ALONG ON THIS ONE) (PAGE 2) (NOT BAD FOR ONE FINGER, HUH!?.)

BOTTOM OF THE POLE TO THE OTHER SIDE. THEN I INSERTED TWO BIG KOTTER PIN'S, OR KEY'S IN THE STEEL PIN TO HOLD IT IN PLACE. THEN I TOOK A 6 FOOT LONG GIANT STEEL EYE SCREW, AND PUT IT OR SCREWED IT IN THE GROUND AT A 45 DEGREE ANGLE, ABOUT 8 FEET BACK FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE POLE. THEN I GOT AND PLACED A GIANT STEEL SPRING ON THE EYE HOOK IN THE GROUND, AND ATTACHED THE OTHER END TO THE EYE HOOK ON THE BACKSIDE OF THE POLE. BY DOING THIS, IT PULLED THE POLE, SO IT WAS STANDING STRAIGHT UP IN THE AIR. THEN I HAD MY PET GREY SQUIRREL CLIMB UP TO THE TOP OF THE POLE, AND ATTACH A 35 FOOT NILON ROPE WITH A SAFETY CATCH ON THE END TO THE EYE HOOK ON THE TOP FRONT OF THE POLE. THEN OUT AT THE END OF THE CONCRETE RUNWAY, I HAD AN AJUSTABLE HARD RUBBER PAD PLACED 3 FEET IN FROM THE END, FOR THE POLE TO LAND ON , AND NOT SMASH ALL THE NUT'S TO BIT'S.

WITH THE HELP OF GORGO AND RALPH. ALL THREE OF US PULLED DOWN HARD ON THE ROPE, AND THE BIG POLE CAME DOWN AND HIT THE RUBBER PAD. IT WAS A TRUE BLUE AND A STRAIGHT SHOT. IT WORKED GREAT. WE LET GO OF THE ROPE, AND THE BIG SPRING PULLED THE POLE UPRIGHT AGAIN.

AFTER PLACING A WHOLE BUNCH OF BLACK WALNUT'S, 4 TO 6 INCHES WIDE ON THE CONCRETE SLAB AND ALL THE ANIMAL'S WERE IN PLACE TO DO THERE PACIFIC JOB'S. WE WERE READY FOR OUR FIRST TEST. GORGO, RALPH AND I PULLED THE POLE DOWN AND IT CAME DOWN AND CRACKED EVERYONE OF THOSE WALNUT'S ALMOST PERFECT. THEN MY ANIMAL FRIEND'S WENT TOO WORK.

MY HUMMING BIRD'S WITH THERE SHARP LITTLE BEAK'S, PICKED OUT THE LARGE, MEDIUM, AND SMALL MEAT'S AND PLACED THEM IN THE PROPER BOX'ES. THEN BASCO AN BEVA WHO WERE BORN WITH THERE TAIL'S VERTICAL, INSTEAD OF FLAT LIKE OTHER BEAVER'S. SWEEPED THE REMAINING SHELL'S TO ONE SIDE AND INTO SMALL PILE'S. THEN MR. PLATTER PUSS, SCOOPED UP THE SHELL'S WITH HIS DUST PAN OR SHOVEL LIKE BILL, AND PUT THE SHELL'S IN OTHER BOXES OR CONTAINER'S. THEN FLUFFY MY GREY SQU - IRREL, CHIPPER MY CHIPMONK, HOOPER MY HOOPING CRANE, HOMER THE HOMEING PEGION, RACEY MY RACING PIGEON, CARRIE MY CARRIER PIGEON, YELLOW TAIL MY CANARY, AND HUMMY MY OVERSIZED HUMMING BIRD, WITH A GLAND PROBLEM, PLACED MORE BLACK WALNUT'S ON THE SLAB TO REPEAT THE PROCESS ALL OVER AGAIN.

AFTER DOING ALL THE BLACK WALNUT'S. WE WOULD GET FRESH BOXES AND START ON THE DIFFERENT VERIETIE'S OF ENGLISH WALNUT'S. WE WOULD CRACK MAYETTES, HARTLEY, CHICO'S, SEAR'S, & FRANK - ETTES. KEEPING ALL THE DIFFERENT ONE'S SEPERATE. BECAUSE SOME LIKE, HARTLEY, MAYETTES AND FRANKETTES HAVE WHITER KERNEL'S OR MEAT'S, AND THEY SOLD BETTER. THEN WE WOULD DO, BRAZEL NUT'S FILBERT'S PECAN'S, AND FINALLY ALL TYPE'S OF AMEN'S OR ALMOND'S. THE ALMOND'S WE HAD TO BE VERY CAREFUL WITH. AND NOT SMASH THEM TO HARD. OR ALL WE WOULD HAVE, IS A MESS OF PULPY OR MUSHY NUT'S. (SMILE)

WE HAD A NUT STAND OUT IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE. AND WE ALWAY'S DID VERY GOOD AT SELLING ALL THAT WE WANTED TO SELL. OF COURSE WE KEPT A LOT OF THESE NUT'S FOR OUR OWN USE. BECAUSE ALL OF MY PET'S AND ANIMAL FRIEND'S LOVED NUT'S, JUST LIKE I DO. AND I ROASTED AND SALTED A LOT OF THEM MYSELF. LIKE ALMOND'S, PECAN, BRAZEL AND FILBERT'S. AND I MADE CANDY WALNUT'S, AND HOME MADE NUT BREAD, AND FRUIT CAKE'S ON MOST OF THE HOLIDAY'S.

THIS WAY OF CRACKING NUT'S WORKED OUT BEST FOR US. AND GAVE THE OTHER ANIMAL'S SOME - THING TO DO IN ORDER TOO WORK OFF THERE NERVIOUS ENERGY. AND WE HAD A LOT OF FUN DOING IT TO - GETHER AS A GROUP. THIS PROJECT HAS BECOME AN ANUALL THING FOR 4 MONTH'S OUT OF THE YEAR. AND PEOPLE COME FROM ALL OVER TO BUY OUR PACKAGED NUT'S. SO MAYBE SOME DAY WE WILL SEE YOU HERE.

THIS IS THE END OF ANOTHER VERY SHORT STORY. HOPE YOU ALL INJOYED READING IT AS MUCH AS I HAD FUN WRITTING AND TYPING IT.

(YA! ALL! KEEP SMILEING YA! HEAR!..)

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OR

(ALWAY'S LOOKING AT NOTHING)