

Re: You cain't cheat an honest man

# Re: You cain't cheat an honest man

---

*Source:* <http://newsgroups.derkeiler.com/Archive/Misc/misc.writing/2007-09/msg01075.html>

---

- *From:* "Jackson Pillock" <jackson@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 18 Sep 2007 21:08:31 +0100
- 

"Funday's Child" <fun@xxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:4sPHi.4098\\$Yb2.2419@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:4sPHi.4098$Yb2.2419@xxxxxxxxxxxx)

Inspired by Jackson Pollack, I've decided try writing a screenplay, a courtroom drama. In this pivotal scene, a third rate attorney cross examines  
an alleged expert witness.

Feedback is appreciated. However, I should warn the wags in the audience that I don't have a day job, so I wouldn't be able to quit it anyway.

\*\*\*

JUDGE LANCE ITO: Is the defense leady to ploceed?

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : Yes your honor. At this time we'd like to recall  
Bub Slone to the stand.

BAILIFF1: Call Bub Slone to the stand.

[...]

BAILIFF1: Mister Slone, will you raise your right hand . . . . No, Mister Slone, your other right hand.

Now, do you solemnly swear to jibber jabber about subjects about which you know fuck all in a dopey cornpone accent while wearing a stupid hat and suspenders, so help you god?

BS: Ah reckon.

BAILIFF1: Be seated.

JUDGE LANCE ITO: Ploceed counserol.

Re: You cain't cheat an honest man

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : Thank you your honor. Now Jethro, you've claimed military expertise based upon your alleged service in the US Navy, is that so?

BS: Ah yup.

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : In your capacity as a self proclaimed naval expert do you recall participating in an important usenet gangfuck where you stated the following:

"You went to GQ because of fire? How remarkable [...] I took part in fire drills on three classes of ships ... and one real fire .... and don't recall anyone ever going to GQ over a fire [...] I have a first cousin who was aboard the Kennedy, another aircraft carrier, for three years . . . . I sent him an email asking if, in his recollection, anybody ever went to GQ ahead of a fire drill or emergency. His response was "No. Why would they do that?"

Do you recall saying that?

BS: Ah reckon so.

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : Do you stand by those statements?

BS: Ah shur duz. "I know a \_lot\_ about naval procedures."

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : Yes, so you say.

[Hands witless a sheaf of papers]

Now Gomer, can you identify this document?

BS: No suh, ah shure caint.

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : I'm not surprised. It's a US Navy study manual for individuals wishing to become Damage Controlman, NAVEDTRA 14057. Would you please read the highlighted material on page 133?

[witless begins reading]

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : I meant read it aloud Gomer.

BS: Oh. "During general quarters (GQ), the ship has its maximum capability to withstand and recover from damage. Many ships routinely set GQ upon notification of a fire; others wait until after an initial estimation of the fire size and severity —"

Re: You cain't cheat an honest man

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE: I'm sorry, Jethro, could you read that last bit again, in a loud clear voice.

BS: Many ships routinely set GQ upon notification of a fire ----

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE: That's far enough, thank you.

Now Jethro: didn't you previously testify in your capacity as an alleged military expert that you had served in the US Navy for five years and that your cousin had served on an aircraft carrier for three years and that in your combined eight years of naval experience neither one of you had never ever not even once ever heard of a ship going to general quarters in case of a fire? And didn't you ridicule the idea of crewmen going to GQ in the event of a fire as "just goofy"? Whereas this official US Navy document describes that procedure as routine?

JUDGE LANCE ITO: Is thele a question counserol?

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : I'll rephrase. Gomer: other than that you were talking completely out your ass, is there any possible reason why your alleged experience is so at odds with official US Navy training materials dealing with shipboard fires?

BS: Ah reckon not, no suh.

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : Thank you for telling the truth for once in your miserable life.

Now, Junior Sample, you previously testified that the accused could not have been a CACO because in your experience those persons were almost always chaplains, and that turned out to be complete and utter rubbish, didn't it.

BS: Ah spose.

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : And you also previously testified that the accused could not have been a CACO because in your experience petty officers were never ever ever trained to serve in that capacity and that turned out to be ridiculous fucking claptrap, did it not?

BS: Ah refuses ta anser on the grouwns ah maht incinerate masef.

JOHNNY "GUITAR" COCHRANE : Well if you do I trust you won't do anything as goofy as going to general quarters.

Re: You cain't cheat an honest man



Re: You cain't cheat an honest man

herr out of my coultloom!

Coult is adjourned. Lecess tirr tomollow 10 ay em .

[Ito repeatedly bangs gavel on Goober's head as the scene fades to brack.  
Er black.]

Great, great. I love it. Love. It. But what's it about? What's it saying?  
The lawyer guy is a bit of a loser, isn't he?

And I wonder about the whole courtroom thing. Have you thought of trying the  
same story, but with singing cooks?

Thanks, great meeting.