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Approx 1,775 words

## WHALE WATCH CHAPERONE APPLICATION 17.B

By Kaitlyn Andrews-Rice

I, Sally Hammond's MOTHER/FATHER/GUARDIAN, Karin Hammond, wish to chaperone the  
Child Name  
Birch Lane Elementary whale watch. By submitting this application, I agree to the following terms  
School  
and conditions:

WHEREAS, Mammalease, Inc. certifies that, per the Ocean Act of 2051, all WhaleSynths™ seen on a federally-mandated whale watch are meant to keep the mystery alive and to preserve the sanctity, magic et al. of childhood.

WHEREAS, MOTHER agrees to refrain from unnecessary, unauthorized and/or negligent handling of the facts, TRUTH, as defined by Department of Education (“DoE”) Childhood Innocence Directive 7046.1.

WHEREAS, MOTHER agrees that disclosure of the TRUTH could cause irreparable damage to children and/or MOTHER. MOTHER must refrain from disclosing TRUTH to other people's children unless there is an unavoidable emergency<sup>1</sup>. In the case of an emergency, MOTHER agrees to generate ALTERED-TRUTHs as appropriate.

WHEREAS, MOTHER agrees that Mammalease, Inc. will not be held responsible in the event of TRUTH disclosure related to the extinction of fully aquatic placental marine mammals, TRUE WHALEs. Children may become distraught when informed of the TRUTH after being told an ALTERED-TRUTH (e.g., WhaleSynths™, Tooth Fairy, Santa, Easter Bunny, Caucasian Jesus etc.).

#### **APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE:**

1. Did MOTHER see a TRUE WHALE prior to the Ocean Act of 2051? y/n

If yes, please explain:

If the only thing MOTHER can remember about TRUE WHALEs is her 5<sup>th</sup> grade whale watch, which occurred the day after Genny, BEST FRIEND, confessed to being in love with Son of God, JESUS, that's fine.

Start with BEST FRIEND.

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix for list of approved emergencies.

Start with JESUS.

BEST FRIEND, who had fallen for JESUS, sat on a shell-shaped bench rocking back and forth in a dramatic exaggeration of the boat's sway in the tipsy Atlantic.

BEST FRIEND said: God knows every drop of H<sub>2</sub>O in this ocean!

MOTHER said: OK!

Perhaps it was OK with a question mark? Or congrats with an exclamation point? Or good for him? Good for capital-H-him? We note that responsible party, MOTHER, cannot commit to a verbatim of account of what happened when she was twelve. Therefore, the transcript above and below may include inaccuracies and further investigation may be required.

On the day of MOTHER's whale watch, BEST FRIEND, recent lover of JESUS, "said":

I am asking for safe passage on this whale watch. I am asking that we see at least one of God's amazing creatures. God will show us because I am asking. Don't take it for granted!

MOTHER nodded but for what? For why?

Prior to this field trip, BEST FRIEND had begun acting strange, obsessive even, what with the faux diamond cross around her neck, which she gazed at longingly during Advanced Placement lessons

about the Battle of Fort Sumter<sup>2</sup>. At the same time, MOTHER OF BEST FRIEND, became obsessed with hand washing, hand soap, and general cleanliness. MOTHER OF BEST FRIEND pinched pennies for overpriced bottles of soap, one Strawberry Kiwi Burst™ and one Tahitian Vanilla Sunset™, both with microbeads (ban on such microbeads having gone into effect on September 22, 2016 through Article 23: Impact on Rivers, Ponds, Oceans, Streams and Other Waterbodies Irreversible and Permanent). When the expensive soap ran dry, MOTHER OF BEST FRIEND refilled the hourglass-shaped bottles with the type of industrial pink soap found in schools, libraries, and other government institutions.

1A. Does MOTHER really think this detail re: the soap is relevant? y/n

If yes, please explain:

MOTHER feels, noting the strong discouragement of feelings related to WhaleSynths™, symbolism is pertinent. Symbolism herein defined as: nothing is what it seems, for generic soap in a fancy bottle is still generic soap, for WhaleSynths™ designed to mimic TRUE WHALEs are still WhaleSynths™. Does an organism become un-extinct simply because a conglomerate—using funds from the guy who invented Quip™ and unquestionably questionable Middle Eastern benefactors—finally creates the once-impossible, morally circumspect simulated organism?

2. Can MOTHER function as a responsible chaperone? y/n

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<sup>2</sup> After the Storm Vulcan in 2022, Fort Sumter was placed in the Civil War Protection Trust. In 2038, Environment Holdings acquired the Civil War Protection Trust. Environment Holdings owns a controlling interest in Mammalease, Inc. and the intellectual property covering WhaleSynths™.

If no, please explain:

Is it possible that MOTHER, who waited until the acceptable age of thirty-two<sup>3</sup> to be with child, remains largely scared? Scared of her daughter? Of herself? Of other mothers? Of protecting too much or not protecting enough?

If MOTHER is indeed scared, she may feel that explaining TRUE WHALES to her child(ren) is too difficult. We encourage parents, especially MOTHER, to avoid bringing too much baggage (of the figurative and/or literal variety) to a whale watch featuring WhaleSynths™. The fact that WhaleSynths™ are scientifically-engineered, meticulously-constructed replicas of TRUE WHALES should have no impact on a child's educational experience. Furthermore, all 7-Seas ships are equipped with WhaleSynths™ Vocalization Pods™, a whole-body immersion therapy inspired by a TRUE WHALE's lyrical language.

3. Has MOTHER ever generated ALTERED-TRUTHs to protect loved ones? y/n

If no, please explain in great detail:

The following is the recorded recollections of MOTHER, duly recorded in DiRee<sup>4</sup>. Therefore, its accuracy can neither be confirmed nor denied:

*Genny's extremely clean mom kidnapped me. Instead of taking us to that movie Drought she announced a pit-stop. In my house, pit-stops mean drive-thru for*

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<sup>3</sup> Thirty-two is on the cusp of Advanced Maternal Age (common name: older woman of child-bearing years, may have child with *issues* because MOTHER is selfish/wanted career).

<sup>4</sup> An obsolete diary app since replaced by Memchips, a brain add recently approved by the FDA.

Diet Cokes. In Genny's house, pit-stops apparently mean Jesus, which means a strip mall off 95. "We're going to church, girls. Buckle up," Genny's mom said and pushed us into their minivan which always smells like English muffins, which I hate and which made me throw up the one time Genny's mom got us Egg McMuffins. Now Genny's mom despises, avoids, detests etc. fast food chains, calls them places quote unquote where you can get buckets of sinner's soda and other awful crud, home cooks everything, proudly refers to herself as a homemaker, and cries from joy about the home cooking and homemaking. Apparently when you find Jesus, you find all kinds passions for ironing and pie baking. Anyway, Genny's mom, who promised us a blockbuster with my future hubby Ryan Rain, took us to a strip mall instead. Between Paula's Pawn Shop and Karla's Gifts and More Store is where Genny's whole family apparently found salvation.

I don't get it. At all. Last week Genny and I performed a lyrical dance in sequined unitards to a song with the lyrics, "Bounce, Bounce on that Flounce, Flounce, hey, hey Straye<sup>5</sup>!" This week Genny's fam kidnaps me in the name of Jesus. Would anyone find me? Would my Christmas-celebrating, Jewish dad and my kinda Catholic, Unitarian Universalist-flirting mom even know where to look? Had Genny's mom asked their permission for this insane-in-the-membrane field trip?

Inside the strip mall church, which was basically a tiny basement with a super disturbing bleeding Jesus thingie, a big woman with limp hair and an actual limp began to sway. Her cylindrical body jiggled as she moved between folding chair pews. Raising her floppy arms, she sang "saved in the breath of Jesus" over and over until the entire room, with the exception of moi, joined. Then the big woman with limp hair and a limp, with the floppy arm fat mom doesn't want to get, fell to the ground squirming and moaning, her legs bucking around, her body like a beached whale.

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<sup>5</sup> According to historical documentation and musical recordings kept by the Musical Registrar of America, "Straye" was a slang term meaning "your boyfriend's/girlfriend's ex who is now your BFF." In context, one might use "Straye" like this: "We talked about his weird tongue and now she's, like, my Straye for life."

Was she having a seizure? No, no, nope! She was “slain in the spirit!” That’s actually what Genny’s mom said after. Like it was totally normal for a grown woman to have a Jesus-seizure. Then she handed us post-spirit slaying refreshments: kiddie-sized cups of Hi-C (ew) and stale popcorn from a convenience store across the parking lot. I guess men and women flip-flopping around on a nasty carpet, speaking in rhythmic nonsense only, like, a scientist can decode, are a good and an inspirational thing. But then, as I wished for buttered popcorn, for a jug of Diet Coke, for the ability to be anywhere but here, I realized three Very Important Things: 1. Genny’s family scares me. A fuckton. 2. Jesus is a total fraud: he can turn water into wine but can’t turn Hi-C into Diet Coke? 3. Someday Genny’ll find out this Jesus stuff is way wrong and be so upset. Or someday I’ll find out she’s right and I’ll drown in a massive bucket of sinner’s soda. UGH. Genny’s my BFF, but her family? Creepcity. I dunno if I’ll even go to her sleepover party next week<sup>6</sup>.

As illustrated above, MOTHER, perhaps hysterical with recollection of BEST FRIEND, is not in the right state of mind to fully disclose her prior experience with TRUE WHALES and/or ALTERED-TRUTHs.

4. Is MOTHER hysterical? y/n

If yes, we remind MOTHER that she may have been one of the last generations to witness a TRUE WHALE as nature (common name: God) intended. Therefore, MOTHER is most unique, having seen the world both as it was meant to be and as the government, corporations, and wealthy benefactors have spent unprecedented resources to recreate.

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<sup>6</sup> After MOTHER OF BEST FRIEND forced pre-sleeping bag prayers and gave out GirlBibles™ as party favors, MOTHER left sleepover party early and never spoke to BEST FRIEND again.

5. Did MOTHER see a TRUE WHALE on aforementioned field trip? y/n

If yes, would MOTHER please explain herself?

Post-prayer BEST FRIEND ran yelping to the rusty boat's bow, followed by giddy classmates high on fried fish and whale-shaped creamsicles. BEST FRIEND jumped up and down, pointing to what BEST FRIEND swore was a tail lobbing in the ocean.

6. Was it a TRUE WHALE, MOTHER? y/n
7. MOTHER, was it? y/n
8. Or was it simply a rock, endlessly covered and uncovered by ocean froth, unmoved and unchanged? y/n
9. Does MOTHER really think this has anything do with whales? y/n

Yes.



## APPENDIX

### Approved TRUTH-TELLING emergencies

- Malfunctioning WhaleSynths™, including but not limited to BlubberPanel™ rupture, extreme oily discharge, excessive rusting, mechanical failure and/or loss of buoyancy
- Loss of photo opportunity
- Loss of child and/or chaperone
- Photograph documentation of WhaleSynths™ malfunction and/or loss of child and/or chaperone