

Five Failed Ideas for Today's Five

We love writing [The Five](#). We do it every week. Most of the time, putting one of these together is just a pure joy. A blessing, some might say. But if we are being completely honest, which we always are, there have been a few times when we really struggled to come up with something worthwhile. We have even published a few less-than-optimal Fives in our time. (I'm looking at you [Sick Five](#).) In the spirit of complete transparency, today is not one of our finest moments. We agonized over this one. We suggested idea after idea and nothing seemed to stick. Nothing got our creative juices flowing. So, instead of beating our heads against this bit of writer's block, we have decided to share Five of the ideas we had that never really got off the ground. We hope you enjoy this little peek behind the curtain even though we realize you probably won't. It's not good.

1. National Pumpkin Day by Benjamin Plunkett



Today is ***National Pumpkin Day***. We says to ourselves, “Mayhap we can get a Five out of this.” A few ideas were bandied about: Carved pumpkins, roasted pumpkins seeds, *Linus and the Great Pumpkin*, *The Smashing Pumpkins*, pumpkin catapulting, pumpkin pie, pumpkin spice...everything. Although we love some of this (pumpkin pie certainly had my eye), the idea itself did not really float our boat, shiver our timbers, no, nor bake our cake. So alas, my friends, twas not to be...for we had seen the empty jack-o-lantern of our souls!

2. Five Non-Scary movies to watch for Halloween if you are not a horror movie fan by Phill Lytle



So, it's almost Halloween and everyone you know is watching as many [scary movies](#) as they can. But you feel left out because you don't like scary movies. They scare you and you don't like being scared. It makes you uncomfortable. Well boo freaking hoo! Grow a spine, you whiny baby! In recent years, Halloween has been characterized by a few things: Candy, women losing all inhibition and dressing like two-bit prostitutes, and scary movies. Since we are Christians here, we hopefully will have nothing to do with the second one so that leaves us with candy and horror films. If you are too big of a wuss for horror films then you are left with only candy and that clearly makes you a child. If you are in fact a child, then don't worry about anything I've written here and enjoy the veritable feast of candy that awaits you in a few days. But if you are not a child, but a grown adult person, then crying and whimpering about all the scary movies is just pitiful. For the love! Find your courage man!

3. Five random things by Benjamin Plunkett



The debate over this one was incredibly fierce. Two factions emerged from the growing ferocity of this controversy. One side was adamant that it be “things” while the other fought long and hard for “objects.” In the end, discussions devolved into madness and the idea eventually discarded. Pity too because we had come up with five perfectly random subjects: Spotify, Monarch butterflies, crushed soda cans, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and fat Val Kilmer. It would have been of a masterpiece, this Five Random Things (or Objects).

4. Five Favorite *Andy Griffith* characters by Gowdy Cannon



To my shame, my knowledge of *The Andy Griffith Show* is woefully lacking considering how I was raised and who my group of friends are. *Andy Griffith* was on in syndication in the background of my house a bunch I would guess. And two of the pastors at my church quote the show to each other about the same way I quote *Seinfeld* with my friends.

Yet it's never been a show I've sat down and watched significantly. I could tell you a moment here or there, like when Barney knew how to sing "A Capella" or when oregano was the secret ingredient in everyone's spaghetti. But to write a blurb about it? I would struggle. To my shame.

This show is lauded so highly for good reasons. Somehow those reasons have not translated to my TV viewing. To my shame.

5. Five Types of Boulders by Phill Lytle



Who doesn't love a good boulder? I know I do! In my 40 years of living there have been few things in life that have brought more happiness than boulders. They are big...obviously. They are hard...sure. They are bouldery?

Nope. I can't do this. Who cares about boulders? They are giant rocks. That's it. That's all they have going for them. Some are really big and some are just sort of big.



I just don't see the big deal about boulders...pun fully intended.

That said, there is the park in Missouri called [Elephant Rocks State Park](#)[1. Go visit a State Park in your area!] and it

contains these massive boulder-like rocks. I guess they are boulders. I've never really done research on the distinction between giant rocks and boulders. Are they the same thing? Aaaaah! This is so boring to talk about! [Elephant Rocks State Park](#) is pretty cool but other than that, boulders are a big waste of time. They hardly qualify as a topic of conversation. Get it? HARDly! Because they are hard?

I'll see myself out.

See. We weren't overselling the complete dumpster fire that is this article. No humble, self-deprecation on our part. We are straight shooters who call it like it is.

But here's the rub: We won't apologize for this train wreck. In fact, we are oddly proud of it. It became such a hideous and unwieldy thing that it developed a sort of haunting beauty. A pulchritude, if you will. And we will. Oh, believe you me, we will.

If you were wondering about the clown picture, we figured that since this was our pre-Halloween Five, it needed to have some creepy factor to it. And a creepy and sad clown doll seemed to fit the bill perfectly.