

**Contact: Jason Lassen**  
14830 Covello Street  
Van Nuys CA. 91405  
Phone: (818)359-0773  
thehollywoodclown@yahoo.com



# PRESS RELEASE

## **HOLLYWOOD CLOWN:**

### ***An Inside Look Into The Competitive and Political World of Children's Birthday Parties of Hollywood's Rich and Famous***

Play peek-a-boo with Robert De Niro. Check. Get held up at gunpoint while dressed as Winnie the Pooh. Check. Have sex with a Hollywood producer while being paid to be Santa Claus at her Christmas party...Ho, Ho, Ho! And check.

Every year, thousands of people from all over the world move to Hollywood, with nothing more than their hopes and an irrational sense of romanticism and fairness, to pursue their dreams of fame and fortune. Rather than wait tables, Jason Lassen opted to perform at children's birthday parties and quickly found out how competitive and political they are. During his wildly event-filled journey, he discovered it doesn't matter how much money or fame you have, true happiness comes from within.

Since it's self-published release at the end of 2013 Jason has been interviewed on the KTLA 5 News and the KROQ-FM 106.7 Kevin and Bean show (both in Los Angeles), won 17 Book Awards, including the Grand Prize Award at the 2014 Hollywood Book Festival, Southern California Book Festival and 2015 DIY Convention, participated in an Oscar Gift Bag Event, was named one of the best acting related books of 2013 by the website Actors Hub.

Jason has been a guest on several podcast and his home town newspaper, The Valley News, in New Hampshire, featured an interview with him in their Close-Up section to celebrate the books release date announcement.

Currently, Jason has a major motion picture company interested in doing a shopping agreement to turn his book into a TV show and possibly a Film (at this time the rights are still up for grabs), he's been asked to participate in a more Hollywood Gift Bag Events and is booking more TV, radio and podcast interviews.

More information on Jason Lassen or his *HOLLYWOOD CLOWN: An Inside Look Into The Competitive and Political World of Children's Birthday Parties of Hollywood's Rich and Famous* can be found at <http://thehollywoodclown.com/>. Including links to Jason's interviews and book trailers on YouTube.

Paperback, Kindle and other e-book versions available upon request.

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## Here's the list of interviews and their links

KTLA Ch5 Los Angeles interview - <http://ktla.com/2014/07/31/how-to-become-a-pro-at-self-publishing/>

KROQ 106.7FM Los Angeles Interview - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ufqj3ax6qU>

Valley News New Hampshire- <http://www.vnews.com/home/8077530-95/hollywood-clown-seeing-the-lifestyles-of-the-rich-and-famous-from-inside-a-barney>

Marc Germain Talk Radio One Podcast - <http://files.talkradioone.com/mp3/TRO82808.mp3>

Michael Dresser Show Podcast- <http://michaeldressershow.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Jason-Lassen-6-26-2014.mp3>

Sharpo Says Podcast - [http://www.sharpo.com/Sharpo\\_Says.html](http://www.sharpo.com/Sharpo_Says.html)

Dadsaster Podcast- <http://www.dadsaster.com/sahd-vs-mad/>

Ms. Reason Podcast - <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/themsreasonshow/2014/02/20/hollywood-clown-by-author-jason-lassen>

Binge Watchers Podcast - site - [BW 41: Reality of Make Believe - Binge Watchers Episode 41 - Jason Lassen - The Hollywood Clown - Author - Binge Watchers](#)

## **Awards**

Grand Prize Winner – DIY Convention Book Festival 2015  
Grand Prize Winner – Hollywood Book Festival 2014  
Grand Prize Winner – Southern California Book Festival 2014  
Winner – Best General Non-Fiction – London Book Festival 2014  
Winner – Best General Non-Fiction – Pacific Rim Book Festival 2015  
Winner – Best General Non-Fiction – Florida Book Festival 2015  
Winner – Best General Non-Fiction – Amsterdam Book Festival 2015  
Winner – Best General Non-Fiction – San Francisco Book Festival 2015  
Finalist – New Non-Fiction – The National Indie Excellence Book Awards 2015  
Silver Medal Winner – Adult Non-Fiction – The Wishing Shelf Book Awards 2014  
Runner-Up – General Non-Fiction – The Great Northwest Book Festival 2015  
Runner-Up – General Non-Fiction – New York Book Festival 2015  
Runner-Up – General Non-Fiction – The Holiday Book Festival 2015  
Honorable Mention – General Non-Fiction – New England Book Festival 2014  
Honorable Mention – General Non-Fiction – Paris Book Festival 2015  
The Best Theatre and Acting Books of 2013 – Top 10 – Actors Hub

## **Hollywood Clown Book Trailers Link**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLotnlbgi-sfH7qAfICDu1ZP1yO8ZPD9CM>

# BIO

“Dad, I want to write a book.”

“Sounds good to me, son.”

I was 8 years old at the time and I remember the moment well. My parents were recently divorced, I was living with my father on a farm (that became my home for the next 14 years) and I was watching him shave. I’m a creative type and I believe the confused and angry 8-year-old me was dying to express himself. Unfortunately, I was not blessed with legible, pleasant-to-look-at handwriting, and was often told, “You have bad handwriting.” All I heard was, “Bad” and “Writing.” So as far as other people knew, I stopped writing. I would still write stories, songs and the occasional love note to girls I deemed special to me. After they were written, I would go into the woods, read them one last time, get angry that my handwriting was so incredibly terrible and burn them.

Publicly, I found something I did excel at: making people laugh. I wanted to get as far away from Jason Lassen as I could, and acting allowed me to do just that while making others laugh.

Without ever literally putting a pen to paper, I found myself often “writing” skits to perform and film. This continued for years and at the age of 17 I found myself working for our local news station, WNNE 31, filming and writing sports stories. Ironic because I’m not a big sports guy. My handwriting was not an issue because they had a machine I could type my stories on. But really, how difficult is it to recycle color commentating such as, “Player X takes the ball coast to coast for 2!”

My first week in college I started a class called “Freshman Seminar.” Our first assignment was to make a log and keep track of all our activities for the entire quarter. This way we could see where and how we spent our time so that we could learn to manage it properly. Most of the other students didn’t even do the project correctly; they would just fill in what they thought the professor would want to see. Not me, though. If I was taking a shit, getting drunk, or having sex it was going in my chart, damn it.

“Mr. Lassen seems to only be spending a third of one of the fifteen-minute brackets on foreplay. He should try spending at least a whole bracket or more on this task. But I see you’re spending less time in the dining room. Excellent application of the assignment, Jason. Who else has a success story?”

After the class ended, I found myself still keeping a notebook of my daily activities. My journals started off very vague and eventually became full-fledged, very descriptive novels that included my feelings on what was going on in my life. In one year I can fill a five-subject notebook or more.

My entire life since moving to Los Angeles is chronicled; all the jobs I’ve had, all the people I’ve met and all the adventures along the way. This includes all 845 of the kids’ parties I performed at in one way or another. I would usually come home from a day of work, eat Del Taco, have a six-pack and write down what happened at the party.

For years I found myself retelling stories of my experiences and always got the same response: “You should write a book.” The 8-year-old voice inside my head still heard the two words, “Bad” and “Writing.” That was, until May 4th 2004.

After a 4 year silence, I reconnected with an old friend, Ward Grant. Ward was Bob Hope’s publicist, and served as Director of Media and Public Relations for Hope Enterprises Inc. since 1973, coordinating the comedian’s public appearances, TV work, and accompanying him on hundreds of appearances every year. He also helped write and edit Hope’s books, so when he said, “Jason, I think it’s time for you to write that book now,” I took the task seriously for the first time.

For the next 3 years I would write and Ward would mentor me. He also had me write a family friendly sitcom based on my stories, and had me outline the show’s entire first season. Personally, I think a dark and racy version for cable would kick ass, but I never questioned Ward and just did as he instructed. Sadly, Ward passed away from congestive heart failure on January 11th 2007. I was out one mentor, fan and most importantly, a friend.

I was a lost soul in a sea of uncharted waters. To everyone in L.A. I was “Jason, Out-of-Work Struggling Actor” not “Jason, Aspiring Writer.” For the first time since I was 8, I let friends know that I was working on writing and silenced the voice that heard the two words, “Bad” and “Writing.”

I started to pick the brains of all my writer friends I’ve made along the way here in Los Angeles, and asked for help, guidance and advice. Because of all the celebrity stories, I have been told by some that when my book gets published I’ll never work as an actor in this town again. To that I say, “I’m not really working that much as an actor now anyway, so fuck it. And being poor sucks.”

At times the whole publishing world seems like a private, snooty club that doesn’t really want me as a member. I’ve already had one agent I queried tell me, “This book is written for people who don’t read books.” I grew up on a farm in a middle class family. I am the average American. I am you, and that’s how my book is written.

