

WONDERLAND INTRO MUSIC

00:14

Oh! HELLO!! Hello, hello hello... Come in, and make yourself comfortable, because YOU have stumbled across - deliberately, accidentally or otherwise - the 48th episode of *The WonderLand*.

I'm Geoff Healey, musician, singer/songwriter, comedian, amateur barista, fried chicken aficionado, full-time overthinker and lover of all good things, and *The WonderLand* is a trip through the mess I like to call my mind, and the ever-accumulating collection of thoughts therein.

Such as it is.

So normally, at this point in the program we would begin with our usual regular segment, *Theory Time*.

However, considering the nature of what I want to talk about right now, it seems more fitting that we kick off today's proceedings with our other regular segment, the critically derided and hugely unpopular *Geoff's Thought Of The Day*!

THOUGHT OF THE DAY INTRO MUSIC

And welcome to *Thought Of The Day*.

I want to start today's thought by suggesting that life, among other things, is made up of forgetting and remembering. In equal measure.

We're always being told to remember this, or forget about that, and the fact is that most of us tend to forget the things we should remember, and remember things that we should forget.

Fully aware of this, Barry & Maurice Gibb of the BeeGees wrote and recorded a country song in 1969 called *Don't Forget To Remember*, shortly after brother Robin temporarily quit the group in a huff.

No doubt this song was a message to Robin along the lines of: "Don't forget you're a BeeGee and if you come back we'll end up making loads of money in the seventies from a movie about disco".

Of course, Robin *did* remember, rejoined the BeeGees and the brothers Gibb went on to make a gazillion dollars, wrote loads of great songs, often sang by themselves in very high voices possibly because they also wore some very tight trousers, and... well, there you go.

The thing is: If somebody says to you "don't forget such-and-such" or "remember such-and-such", or even "forget such-and-such", you are still extremely likely to do the opposite.

And so now, or at least since the release of that Bee Gees song, humanity as a whole has taken note of the wisdom of the Gibb brothers, to the extent that we now advise our friends to not forget to remember... or even, to remember not to forget.

And then of course there are those times when there's something on our minds which is

just not doing us any good... you know... an unpleasant or hurtful recollection.... Perhaps a heartache; pining over lost love, for example.

And in that case of course, our friends may encourage us to forget about that thing; or if we're busy with something else at that particular time, they may well tell us not to forget to forget.

Later. You know. When we have time.

The big question of course is, what if genuine amnesia kicks in?

Would you forget what you were supposed to remember to forget... Or would you have already forgotten it?

But I think the even bigger question we need to ask ourselves now is - why the hell am I even talking about this?

I'm sorry, I've forgotten.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY OUTRO MUSIC

Yes, that's it for today's slightly exhausting and possibly irritating *Thought Of The Day*.

And given that we could all probably use a nice lie-down-and-chill session right now, we've conveniently arrived at the *Song Of The Day* segment, which - each week - features a preview of one of my original songs OR alternatively, something from one of our Wonderland approved artists... And that's what we're going to have today.

This one is from *The Mergers*, a great band from Germany, and this is *Pie In The Sky*...

SONG PLAYS

Yes, that was *The Mergers* with *Pie In The Sky*... Taken from their album *With A Carrot And A Stick*.

Er, that's the name of the album... I'm not trying to tell you that I took the song from the album using a vegetable and a piece of wood... just to be clear...

That would've been bloody difficult....

Anyway - you can find that song - along with all the rest of *The Mergers* music - on the streaming services, and all three of their albums are also available on vinyl LP.

Now. I have a theory... and my theory is that not only are control freaks exhausting to have to deal with in life, but they're probably also more exhausted than just about anybody.

And so I'd like to extrapolate this theory for you on the most appropriate form *The WonderLand* has to offer... Yes, that's right... It's *Theory Time*!

THEORY TIME INTRO MUSIC

And welcome to *Theory Time*.

Yes, I really do think that controlling everything in your life is not something that you really need to do, and neither is it even entirely possible at the end of the day.

But as we all know, there are many of us who desperately want exactly that, and will stop at almost nothing to get it... regardless of the cost.

So here's an example.

I've recently had occasion to sell a few unwanted items on eBay.

This has been a pretty interesting experience, because as a seller, you sometimes find yourself in a position where somebody will make you an offer for something that you're selling, but the offer will fall short of what you feel the item is worth; and so, you'll make a counter offer, to which they can make a counter offer, and so on and so on.

Given that eBay is very much about auctions and bids and offers, this is very much standard procedure. And I think it can be kind of fun, quite frankly.

But on this occasion, after what I thought was a bit of good-natured haggling over the final price, it became clear that winning this rather expensive item would require this particular punter to accept my offer of 2 euros more than his previous offer: at which point he promptly lost interest and that was that.

This sort of thing has happened a couple of times, and so it does seem that there are people out there for whom being able to dictate the final price is far more important and satisfying than actually obtaining the desired item.

These are the same people, I suspect, who generally want everything to be their idea.

Quite often these are also the same folks who won't delegate responsibility, because they don't feel they can trust anybody else to do things properly.

It's true that we like to control things in our lives, as far as possible... But it must be absolutely exhausting to be wired that way - as some people really seem to be.

Thing is, if you really are hell-bent on control, and you *get* control, you then have to *keep* control... and that's the problem.

It's like getting into a car and driving for a really long time, and at a certain point you're going to get tired... so, wouldn't it be nice to let somebody else drive for a change so you can take a nap?

So, the next time you feel the need to control something, ask yourself if it's really necessary, and try to remember how nice being a passenger can be - unless of course you have to take a long car trip with a control freak - in which case, try to remember to check that your life insurance is paid up...

THEORY TIME OUTRO MUSIC

And that's it for *Theory Time*, and crikey: if that's not also the end of the show I don't know what it is.

Thanks for joining me once again! And if you've enjoyed the show, please hit the subscribe or follow button, and if you'd like to drop me a line, you can do that by going to www.geoffhealey.com.

In the meantime, keep yourselves nice everyone; have a fantastic weekend and a great week and I'll be talking at you again next Friday on the next riveting episode of *The WonderLand*!

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