Encyclopedia Alanica

lan: (Irish, "Handsome, Peaceful") 21 August 1987– Present. Of Kimberly, Wisconsin, born and raised. Man of medium height (5'11" at last doctor's visit) and slightly above-average weight (204 pounds, same visit). Married five years to Hailey Mosley, also of Kimberly. Employed by Kimberly Parks and Street Department. Job Title: Street Patch and Repair Crew. Post-high-school, three-and-a-half-semester attendant of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (tenure relatively long in comparison to majority of Kimberly High School graduates) and four weeks attendant of Fox Valley Technical College: no degrees earned. At present (see also Today), eating Roundy's microwaveable breakfast bagel, comprised of egg, sausage, and yellow sauce that must be some sort of hollandaise, contemplating approximate amount of eleven-pound weight gain attributable to switch, made three months previous, from bowl of whole grain cereal, this contemplation being the first of many incidents throughout typical day in which Alan considers, catalogues, and ultimately overanalyzes his own behavior (see Alan's Dominant Behaviors and Traits).

Kimberly, Wisconsin: 1889–Present. Founded by John A. Kimberly, cofounder of paper company Kimberly-Clarke. Located at 44°16′6″N, 88°20′15″W, Wisconsin, United States of America. Small-to-mid village of approximately 15,400 people (2010 Census). Current graduating high school class of 257. Distance from northeast to southwest corner Hailey once claimed to have driven in 1'21″ logistically calling for one of three scenarios:

- 1. multiple instances of posted speed limit and/ or stop sign disobedience,
- 2. extreme exaggeration by Hailey (see *Hailey's Dominant Behaviors and Traits*), or
- 3. both.

Today: 5 July 2017 (see also The Present).

Hailey: (Scandinavian, "Heroine") 29 January 1989– Present. Of Kimberly, Wisconsin, raised, not born. Woman of distinct natural beauty, mainly in curl of blonde hair and fair complexion. Two-time runner-up in local beauty pageants (Miss Teen Appleton 2006, Miss Fox Valley 2009), zero-time winner. At present, in kitchen, standing across from Alan, watching toaster brown and then slightly blacken morning toast, opened jar of bleu cheese-stuffed green olives in right hand, jabbing fork in left, removing and eating olives two-bytwo, to this point fourteen by Alan's estimation.

Yesterday was fun: Words spoken by Hailey in direction of the refrigerator, near but not to Alan, linguistically disguised as a statement but, through inflection on last word, sounding more like a rhetorical question, one of Hailey's common speech patterns which, in theory, would seem to invite response but actually shuts down communication, at least for Alan.

Weak Nod: (see *Non-Verbal Communications*) Alan's goto response.

You bringing back the pontoon today?: Question posed from Hailey to table where Alan sits.

Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals: Retail rental store at 124 North Railroad Avenue, directly across from Excel Auto Parts Store and cattycorner from McDonald's. Owned by George Van Zeeland, father of Darren Van Zeeland. Specialty: rental of watercrafts, in particular Jet Skis and pontoon boats.

Rental of one pontoon boat, 4 July 2017: Reason why Alan Mosley had initial contact with Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals, 129.45 USD rental plus tax paid with debit Mastercard.

Late¹: (See also Not on Time, Post-Haste, and Beyond Desired Temporal Expectancy) Alan's future return of pontoon, subject to 25.00 USD fine, as rental agreement expired at 8:00:00 Central Standard Time, 4 July.

Intoxication, mainly via tequila: Reason why he didn't return it on time.

Inability to drive stick shift, inability to back up with trailer hitched to truck, general distrust in self to not hit anything or anyone with said trailer, general dislike for driving Alan's truck, slight intoxication: Reasons why Hailey didn't return it on time.

Is everything okay with you?: Second question posed from Hailey, this time directly to Alan (see similar entries for 3 and 1 July, 2017, in addition to numerous entries June and May 2017).

The Sound of Silence: Song by folk rock group Simon and Garfunkel, acoustic version first released on album *Wednesday Morning*, *3 AM* on 19 October 1964, occasionally aired on Appleton easy-listening, adult-contemporary radio station 94.3 WROE, the station most frequently played in Mosley household, as it is now, as the song is now, its irony not lost on Alan.

Intercostobrachial Nerve: Small space just below underarm where Hailey touches Alan, two fingers directly on skin, two over sleeve of t-shirt.

Similar hand-to-back-of-arm gesture: Exact moment Alan realized his desire to wed Hailey, on a stormy day, May 2011.

Deep, intimate care for Alan's well-being, coupled with slight but desirable pang of dependency: What, to Alan, gesture symbolized.

Rarely: (see also *Seldom*, *Hardly Ever*, and *Once in a Blue Moon*) How often similar exchanges have occurred between Alan and Hailey in previous three years, an approximately long time in relation to average human life span (+/- 81.5 years), approximately short time in relation to the world (+/- 4,500,000,000 years).

The Past: Vast, haphazardly defined portion of history, typically human, commonly understood—though through speculation only—as main predictor of its counterparts The Present and The Future.

Out of kitchen, into front-door foyer area, past sunken living room, up stairs, past one of two spare bedrooms intended as office/workout room but quickly devolved into dumping ground for clutter, through master bedroom and into master bathroom: Hailey's path immediately after breakfast, repeated 2'37" later by Alan.

August 22, 2015: Closing date on property and house, 600 Stone Gate Drive, Kimberly, Wisconsin, purchased from owner-sellers Will and Elizabeth Mosley by Alan after getting over initial aversion to owning and living in house in which he grew up, mowing lawn on which he'd camped out, sleeping in room in which he was conceived, a surprisingly easy accomplishment, considering.

Shower/shave legs (simultaneous); dry hair; brush teeth; apply makeup (generously), deodorant, lotion on elbows and kneecaps, anti-stretchmark crème on inside and back of thighs, perfume (also generously) on neck, wrists, and chest: Hailey's morning routine all steps crucial for a hair stylist, Hailey has assured Alan—buzzing around Alan's relatively short routine of inserting contacts, shaving neck, brushing/flossing/ mouthwashing, getting dressed in khakis and Kimberly Parks and Street Department gray-and-black polo shirt, retrieving Appleton *Post-Crescent* from front porch, rounding up all trashes and dumping into 35-gallon receptacle in garage.

Bedroom Trash, Contents: Three used dryer sheets; empty perfume bottle, impracticably tear-shaped; four dead AAA batteries from television remote; crumpledup paper towel stained orange, used to clean orange juice spill, night of 3 July 2017.

Bathroom Trash, Contents: Empty mouthwash bottle; two bar-soap boxes; fourteen used Q-Tips, some for removal of ear wax (Alan), most for swabbing of eye makeup (Hailey); fingernail clippings; old sports section of Appleton *Post-Crescent*.

Tampon Wrappers: What have been noticeably absent from bathroom trash for at least three months, observed but not commented on by Alan (avoidance of confrontation one of Alan's Dominant Behaviors and Traits, maybe at top of list, if list were ordered and numbered).

Late²: What Hailey possibly is, despite lack of early warning signs (see *Morning Sickness, Hormonal Imbalances* and *Odd Cravings*, among others), despite multiple drinks consumed on pontoon boat 4 July, despite lack of wrappers remaining only tangible evidence for the case, surely not enough to convict.

One American-Flag Bandana¹: Rather tacky yet highly popular 18"x18" head attire noticeably present in

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bathroom trash, brown-stained from rum-and-Diet-Coke spill, rolled and tied the way Hailey wears it.

One American-Flag Bandana²: What Alan found under the sheets at foot of their guest bed four months previous.

In the garage: Where Alan leaves bedroom and bathroom trash cans, after dumping into curbside receptacle, in concordance with desire to not return upstairs.

Own mailbox, neighbor's mailbox, ditch: What, in order, Alan nearly backs 2002 Ford F-150 (see entry for *Cheap Trucks*) with pontoon trailer still hitched into.

Both red lights on Kimberly Avenue and a train crossing the intersection, reversing, and going forward again in order to switch tracks: Hindrances causing Alan's drive to work to take considerably longer (8'55") than usual (3' to 4').

Pain in the padded ass: Way Alan's grandfather Jack would have described attempts to park Ford F-150/ trailer combination in undersized Kimberly Parks and Street Department parking lot.

Kimberly Parks and Street Department: Established 1927 by Owen Baker (deceased 1958, survived by various grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of Kimberly). Located at 515 W. Kimberly Avenue. Current employer of eight full-time workers, Alan included, six over 50 years of age (see *Lifers*), Alan not included, and four seasonal summer employees of collegiate age, two competent, two not.

Kimberly Parks and Street Department Garage,

Contents: Six small-sized orange street cones; seventeen medium-sized orange street cones; sixteen large orange street barrels; one 1993 Bolens 12.5-Horsepower Manual 38-inch Cut Lawn Tractor; one 2016 John Deere 18.5-Horsepower Hydrostatic 42-inch Cut Zero Turn Radius Mower; one John Deere self-propelling push mower; three metal rakes, two rusted; one industrial-sized broom; two red 5-gallon gasoline cans, one half-full, one empty; rubber skid marks on concrete in the form of letters Y and O; one Maxim magazine 2017 "Girls of Maxim" calendar, posted on wall, flipped to July; torn-out and Scotch-taped pictures from Maxim calendar, months January-June, April a blonde in blue swimsuit with semiopen mouth and crotch area circled in permanent marker; analog punch clock; wooden timecard holder mounted on wall; fourteen timecards, varying amounts of dirt fingerprints; Gary Warner (see also Big Werny); Alan.

You're late again, Mosley: Words spoken from Big Werny to Alan, punch-in clock noting 3'13" difference in time required and time actual.

Big Werny: (No known origin) 29 February 1963– Present. Of Kimberly, Wisconsin, neither born nor raised. Street Crew boss named ironically for small stature (5'3" on a good day). Mustache too big for face, often catching food, like the crumbs of what must now be a Captain Crunch Crunchberry. Married 23 years, without children, to Stella Warner, nature of relationship never shown to be more than platonic excepting public occasions involving intoxication (see *Kimberly Parks and Street Department Christmas Bash 2014, Werny's 25-Years-* With-The-Company Anniversary Party, and That One Awkward Time in the Break Room).

<Burp>: Onomatopoeic word for the expelling of extraneous stomach gasses through the mouth Alan does in response to both Big Werny's comment and breakfast bagel settling in stomach.

We shouldn't have to come in the day after the Fourth anyway: What burp may have intended to say or wished to say (see also related entries: *Things Alan should have* said, wanted to say, nearly said, would have said if it weren't for some unforeseen circumstance or bad timing, didn't have the balls to say).

Keep it up, Mosley. Objurgate yourself right outta town: Werny's linguistically unclear but intentionally clear words to Alan.

Objurgate: To criticize; to berate harshly; to express extreme disapproval of actions (see also *Dictionary.com Word of the Day, 5 July 2017*).

Because he's a Leap Baby: Reason why many Street Crew workers, particularly Lifers, characterize Big Werny's oddities and swings in mood as eccentrically endearing.

Sexual Frustration: Complex mixture of disappointment, sadness and seething rage, generally manifested in headaches, tightness of the chest and unsettled groin, that Alan believes causes Werny to be Werny.

Big Werny's Dominant Behaviors and Traits: Listening to Carly Simon; smoking exactly one-half of Montecristo cigar daily; getting food lodged into mustache; finger-gunning camera in photographs; theatrically commencing useless speeches; calling people into office to seem important; wearing Hawaiian shirts when off-duty; online shopping.

Alan Mosley's Work List, 5 July 2017:

CREW: Alan, Danny, Luke

- 1. Replace pothole on southside Kimberly Avenue
- 2. Trim and woodchip branches close to power lines on Third and Oak
- 3. Mow lawn of foreclosed homes:
 - a. Looper house on Stone Gate
 - b. Van Lieshout house on Second
- 4. Start mowing and painting lines on Sunset Park diamonds for upcoming fastpitch tourney

Danny driving, Alan shotgun, Luke bitch: How, after loading bed, crew members fall into truck, quite naturally and without need of verbal communication.

Kimberly Avenue Shops, North to South End: Createch Printing Services; Joe's Power Shack, parking lot filled with boat parts and cars on cinderblocks; Bill the Barber barbershop, two red-and-blue neck-high barbershop poles flanking doorway; Milly's Market Foods; Kimberly Pharmacy, home of the soda fountain, chocolate-strawberry-banana milkshake, penny arcade and five-tier magazine rack with pornography pharmacy store owners constantly shoo adolescent boys away from. **Stirring pothole gravel mixture and pouring:** Not a difficult job but hot, particularly in July, particularly with Luke spending approximately 45 minutes on cellphone texting girlfriend, hometown friends, friends from college, cousins, or anyone who will respond.

Brown 2012 Chevrolet Silverado Extended Cab, orange-and-green Kimberly Parks and Street Department sticker on side: What Werny pulls up in, radio playing Carly Simon's "Nobody Does it Better."

Big Werny out of the office, on site, before lunch: Never a good sign.

See you for a sec, Mosley: Big Werny's address, more statement than question.

Thinly shaved turkey with dash of brown mustard: Food now lodged in Big Werny's mustache, remnant of daily meal between breakfast and lunch (not to be confused with brunch, which may imply Werny skips either breakfast or lunch).

Overly familiar arm on Alan's shoulder; sneaky peek to right and left; conspiratorial head-tilt; fatherly clearing-of-the-throat: Big Werny's theatrical commencement to words (see *Werny's Dominant Behaviors and Traits*) indicating to Alan that out of Werny's mouth will come nothing worthwhile.

I been thinking about how I come down on you. But you know, I get it. It's a job, right? Hey, no kid sits in front of class and says *When I get older, I'm gonna* *paint lines on the goddamn street*: Werny's opening, not as inarticulate as expected.

You think I wanted to run this place? Be a Lifer? Shit. I wanted to be Humphrey Bogart. With this mug, can you imagine?: Werny's surprisingly candid admission, one hand pointing at walrus-like jowls on face.

Lifers: Danny, Jer-Ball (nicknamed after first name Jerry and tendency to always carry around brown, weathered baseball in back pocket), Tonnage (or One-Ton, nicknamed after stout, bowling-ball-esque body type), Susan, James, Crazy (nickname self-explanatory) and Big Werny.

But Mosley, I just hope you don't tackle everything the way you tackle a pothole. You know what I'm getting at: Werny's getting-to-the-point, also surprisingly sensible.

Contemplative glance onto Kimberly Avenue: Alan's response.

Alan's Dominant Behaviors and Traits: Avoiding confrontation; considering, cataloging, and ultimately overanalyzing own behavior; drinking Pabst Blue Ribbon from can or Miller Genuine Draft from bottle; stopping speech mid-sentence as though someone has cut him off; house maintenance and upkeep; watching and reading all things Green Bay Packers; wishing he were somewhere else; masturbating to thoughts of own wife; building wooden household contraptions, some useful (see *Bookshelf, Rack for Pots and Pans* and *Basement Pull-Up* Bar), some not (see Flower Window Box, Floating Kitchen Island Bar and Broken Stepping Stool); reading historical fiction.

White 2010 Dodge Caravan, triple-blue Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rental logo on side: Vehicle that, in concordance with Alan's shitty luck and/or inability to remain complacent for more than mere moments, drives past as Werny walks away.

Darren: (Irish, "Great") August 15, 1989–Present. Of Kimberly, Wisconsin, born and raised. Man in White 2010 Dodge Caravan (see entry for *Cheap Mini-Vans and SUVs*). Member of Kimberly High School class of 2007; part of group with stitched patches of local bands, horror movies and pot leaves on backpacks, who participated in fringe sports like cross country and tennis disinterestedly, who skipped class to stand on railroad tracks, throw stones at power lines and smoke cheap cigarettes. At present, looking directly forward, singing R. Kelly's "Trapped in the Closet" along with radio and tapping hand on side of van.

One American-Flag Bandana³: What Darren wears, triangle-folded over forehead, stars showing more than stripes.

Hailey naked except for spring-yellow skirt pulled up to waist, on all fours, hair seductively tousled with sweat beading on her hairline, face wincing in that pleasure/pain combination felt only during sex; Darren behind her, cupping a breast in one hand and clasping her waist with the other, groping and

penetrating Hailey on not their guest bed but Alan's bed, the bed he and Hailey sleep in every night, on the sheets they received from Hailey's distant Aunt Catherine at their wedding, knocking against the headboard Alan purchased wholesale from Good Brother's Furniture; this asshole going at his wife, it's his wife for Christ's sake, but on they go, even though they know he's watching, maybe even because he's watching, Alan a staid, pathetic figure in the corner of the room shrinking fast, down to the size of a stump, a gnome, an insect: Alan's dream on night of 4 July 2017, replaying itself with uncanny clarity upon seeing Darren drive by in van (see similar entries, with slight variations in place, lighting, Alan being/not being physically present, and sexual position for various nights beginning four months previous).

The Present: Series of never-ending moments, played out from one instant to another, in which humanity both perpetually exists and perpetually abandons, evidenced by ambiguous desire to either prolong an un-prolongable moment (see *Sexual Intercourse*) or flee and never return (see current example).

Finally punching out at end of the day: What should be one of Alan's favorite parts of the day but sadly isn't.

Cheap Trucks: 2002 Ford F-150, 2006 Ford Ranger XL, all models Nissan, 2004 Chevy Colorado LS, 1999 Chevy S10, 2000 GMC Sonoma SLS.

Quick dollar-menu dinner, or maybe a stop to check out pricing on new brake pads at Excel: Alan's avoidance-driven contemplations while approaching Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals (see *Alan's Dominant Behaviors and Traits*).

Blue Blue: Three colors, of various shades and tones, of Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals logo, dolphin jumping over wave encircled in blue floatation device, appearing in no less than seventeen places in Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals parking lot, including bar-style light above door flashing with word "Open."

Rockin' Robin: Song originally recorded by Bobby Day, 1958, covered by numerous artists including Paul Anka, U.K. singer Lolly, and Michael Jackson, playing now as jingle of Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals door chime, a song Alan loved as a child but, by association, suddenly grows distaste for.

Hailey's Dominant Behaviors and Traits: Humming childhood tunes, consciously or unconsciously; watching and rewatching syndicated 1990s sitcoms; exaggerating; overapplying makeup; recumbent biking and/or treadmill jogging at local Y; hugging; scratching inappropriate places on body at inappropriate times; raising of inflection on last word of sentence to make statements sound like rhetorical questions; eating cottage cheese and/or pickles straight from container after sex; laughing.

Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals, Contents: Overhead halogen lighting, bright as a supermarket; one large wood veneer brochure holder, housing pamphlets for various local attractions including Lakes of the Valley tour, Sprangers Apple Orchard, Paperfest 2017, Fox Cities Stadium, Marcus I-Max Cineplex, and Downs Minnow Racing; two moss-green low-back chairs, intended use uncertain; various items for sale, relation to pontoon and Jet Ski rental apparent, including fishing poles, lures, life jackets and can koozies; various items for sale, relation to pontoon and Jet Ski rental less apparent, including pool cleaning nets and wildlife taxidermy; one service counter; one desktop computer connected to cash drawer and credit card scanner; one stool; Darren Van Zeeland.

One American-Flag Bandana⁴: What Darren still wears.

Glance over magazine, forced chuckle, exhalation from nostrils audible even from where Alan is standing, shake of the head, glance back to magazine: Darren's non-verbal response to Alan's entry.

Late³: Darren's verbal response to Alan's entry, before Alan even gets a word in edgewise.

Darren: Alan's word, hardly edgewise.

Before you start Chuck: Darren's response to computer screen, example of Darren's aggravating and denigrating habit (see *Darren's Dominant Behaviors and Traits*) of calling all men Chuck and all women Honey.

This Shit: What Alan is not prepared for.

I'll have you know you can't objurgate your way out of a fee just because we know each other: Darren's continuation, still to computer screen. **Dictionary.com Word of the Day, 5 July 2017:** Objurgate; previous reference second time word has been misused in Alan's presence, leading him to ponder frequency of use and misuse of Dictionary.com words of the day, leading him to ponder how goddamn ridiculous it is to ponder frequency of use and misuse of Dictionary.com words of the day at that moment.

I wasn't trying to: Rejoinder spoken softly, pathetically half-hearted in nature, by Alan to Darren, a textbook example of Alan's common speech pattern (see *Alan's Dominant Behaviors and Traits*) whereas his ideas mudslide mid-sentence as though someone has interjected or cut him off but in reality has not, leading Alan to wish someone had, what with the painful, resultant pauses in conversation that inevitably follow, though in that regard current example is not textbook (insofar as Alan does not wish to hear Darren speak at all).

Listen Chuck, I'd love to cut you some slack here: Sarcastic response by Darren to Alan (for more sarcastic Darren-to-Alan responses, see entries for 14 March, 5 April, 24 April, 3 May, 7 May, 15 May, 22 May, essentially the entire month of June, 3 July).

But I start making one exception, next thing you know I gotta knock off late fees for every Tom, Dick and Harry that moseys in here. People start thinking, Oh, well, Darren doesn't charge you if it's late anyway, so let's keep it a few more days. No returns, no machines for new rentals. Would that be fair?: Harangue, spouted with exaggerated arm movements, by Darren directly to Alan. **Did you sleep with my wife?:** Thing Alan should have said, wanted to say, didn't have the balls to say.

I just hope you don't tackle everything the way you tackle a pothole: Words that flash into Alan's mind, though he can't immediately place their origin until picturing Werny's turkey-shaving-and-mustard-laden mustache.

No, it wouldn't be fair: Alan's first full sentence of 5 July 2017, surprising him, causing him to question how many days previous he's gone this long without really speaking to anyone.

You're right, no it wouldn't. In fact, it'd be pretty damn unfair: Shorter but no less exaggerated remark by Darren, delivered with unnecessarily hostile and animalistic stepping-closer and puffing-up-of-the-chest, enticing in Alan response such threats typically elicit in recipient, a curious concoction of anger and fear.

Darren's Dominant Behaviors and Traits: Smoking Camel Menthol Lights; waterskiing; spending +/- 75% of front desk work time on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter; ordering brandy old fashioneds despite general distaste for brandy, sugar water, cherries and cloves; gun and bow hunting; playing right-centerfield on multiple beer-league softball teams; playing the victim; referring to all men as Chuck and all women Honey; sleeping in; counting the weeks until his father's business becomes his own; bench pressing and bicep curling; dancing.

I get it, I'll pay. Just chill out: Alan's response, coupled with half-hearted reach-for-the-wallet motion.

Oh Christ, you're gonna guilt me now? Forget it, just forget it: Darren's new overly dramatic and childish I'mthe-victim tactic (see *Darren's Dominant Behaviors and Traits*), leading Alan to consider the fact that if, after five years of marriage, he knows his wife at all, she must be smarter than this.

All right, if you say so: Alan's now emboldened response.

Victory: Achievement of a goal typically, but not always, dependent upon a defeated combatant (see *Loser*) that Alan feels, on levels psychological, financial (25.00 USD), moral and physical (if only slightly).

Ain't a favor for you, Chuck. Consider this one a freebie for Hailey. Tell Honey I said hello: Darren's final power grab.

There: Where that prick had to go.

Yell, "Stay away from my wife, you asshole!"; pull 25.00 USD out of wallet, crumple and throw bills in Darren's direction; storm out: An appropriate response were Alan that sort of person, but he is not, at least not on most days.

Leave quietly, refusing or not refusing to pay; drive truck home where Hailey sits drinking decaf gone cold; silently, without acknowledging her presence, go into bedroom, pack largest suitcase full of any wanted clothes and necessary toiletry items, leaving unnecessary belongings as a biting remark on her betrayal; exit house; reenter truck and drive off somewhere, anywhere other than here: Alan's desire born four months previous, slightly modified for current situation, growing both further from and closer to actualization multiple times daily.

Pay bill in order to avoid further conflict; never rent from Van Zeeland Aquamarine Rentals again; go home begrudgingly but necessarily; consider opening dialogue with wife about potential affair but instead decide to share reruns of *Friends* and *Frasier* with four cans Pabst Blue Ribbon; sleep: Response most typical of Alan's nature, most likely to be executed on all days preceding 5 July 2017.

The Future: Uncertain.