

The Circus has Come to Town

These clowns are doing everything but making us smile

by Blake Borgardt; Zach Donahue

As Halloween approaches, students prepare for Trick or Treating, hoodies, warm beverages, and...crazed Clowns? Recently, these clowns have taken the U.S. by storm. They are terrorizing people by hiding in the woods and lunging at their cars.

If you haven't heard about these multiple clown sightings, then this is what's happening. All across the globe there have been sightings of creepy clowns terrorizing innocent bystanders. When asked what she would do if she saw a clown, Linda, an assistant at DHS, said "I would be scared and probably call the police."

This whole craze started around the beginning of October with people dressed as clowns trying to lure children into the woods on their walks home after school. When other people saw this on the news, they thought it would be a good idea to try it. This explains the current clown obsession sweeping the nation.

When asked how long this clown craze will last, an anonymous student said "Until it gets boring. Whenever I'm



Look out for creepy clowns! Courtesy of Creative Commons.

bored or not out chasing people I can do this, and it's much fun."

Whenever something big like this makes the news, it's normal for people to try and copy. It usually dies down in a matter of days or a few weeks. As time goes on, this clown craze appears to be gaining in popularity.

This craze is giving clowns a bad reputation, even the good ones. McDonald's is shying away from putting their mascot, 'Ronald McDonald, in the restaurants anymore for fear that it would turn

away its customers with small children. Other clowns have begun to stop taking requests to go to children's birthday parties for fear that someone will wish to harm them. Another clown that is deeply saddened by these recent events is Puddles the Clown. Puddles has a Youtube parody video of him singing Lorde's "Royals." It has racked up an impressive seventeen million hits, and it has earned him a lot of publicity and led to him becoming a very well known clown.

Puddles recently made his mark on Chicago's very own WGN. He sang "Dancing Queen", and invited everyone to come to his "pity party."

All over the internet, videos have been popping up with clown sightings. Doug Vanderlaan, a man in Springfield, Florida, caught a clown on camera coming into his yard! The clown comes into Vander-



Puddles the Sad Clown. Courtesy of Creative Commons.

laan's yard by opening up his front fence gate. He walks slowly forward with his head tilted staring at Vanderlaan's camera. He does this for some time and then leaves. Vanderlaan hopes that it's just some of his neighbors playing a prank on him before Halloween. There are many people who would not take this as a prank knowing about all the clowns trying to harm people. However, if it's a prank, it's a pretty bad one as a matter of fact.

A couple of celebrities have gotten in on the clown craze, too. UFC fighter Connor McGregor was asked what he would do if he saw a clown. He replied with "If you're a clown I'll slap the head off you." Needless to say he's not a fan of the recent trend.

With these clowns roaming around, be sure to stay alert and avoid walking or jogging in the woods alone at night because you'll never know where the next clown might be hiding. Stay safe and have a happy Halloween!