

# **APOLOGIES**

**Phil Lewis**

## ***Comedy Narration***

*A light, humorous and slightly irreverent, look at modern life.*

Earth as seen by an alien, whose ancestors take full responsibility for everything that is wrong with it.

**Approximately 10 minutes duration.**

[publications@phil-lewis.net](mailto:publications@phil-lewis.net)

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# Apologies

## NARRATOR:

Behind a far off planet, lies a hidden world. Until quite recently, it had remained unseen, even by Voyager, or any of the man made satellites. Every few thousand years or so, the occupants have poked their sensors around the corner and had a peek at Earth. Particularly if the Earth's more technically developed countries were on the far side of the planet.

Every now and then, the occupants of the hidden planet would pay a clandestine visit to Earth, blend in briefly with the population, and scoot off again. It has been many years since I was last here. I have to admit, things have changed a great deal. I would never have believed it.....geez!

The name of this planet is unpronounceable to you. Not even if I spelt it out loudly and slowly, so please think of me as Liza - my favourite Earth name - and the world as my 'Home'.

I'm addressing you all here today for a very special reason. I want to apologise - on behalf of my species. Over the last few thousand years, we've visited your planet and have treated it like a....well.....playground, I suppose. You must understand, however, that this is not a sign of disrespect. On the contrary, you should be flattered that we spend so much time here, when there are hundreds of other planets. You must not let yourselves get upset, because it's more a.....sense of humour difference.

For instance..... a little while ago, we devised and introduced the concept of American Wrestling. It gained popularity much quicker than we anticipated and really caught us out. We force-bred the first two wrestlers and gave them a single brain cell. The idea was that they should share the cell equally. One talks, while the other appears to be listening. We humbly apologise for any offence this experiment may have caused.

We had hoped that you would have appreciated our concept of modern packaging. It is suppose to add hours of fun of trying to open new goods.

We found your world's beaches wonderful. White sands, waving palms, cool breezes, peace and tranquillity all around. Far too good for humans. So we invented the transistor radio and beach volleyball. And Frisbees. And footballs. And teenagers.

One of my relations, Jon, was reading a dictionary out loud in the bath one day. Our natural voices are quite lilting....well rhythmic anyway. Some human must have overheard it and Rap was born. I m sorry. It was a huge mistake.

Another of our more recent concepts was Minis in car parks. We love to observe human faces when they think they've spotted a space on the hundredth floor, pull in and find a tiny car hidden there. Terrific fun.

Walkman speakers. What a concept! We began to understand too late that other humans could hear the sounds from these speakers, even when the user wore them properly. You see ..... the original idea was for us to wear them. We had three speakers and with our earflaps down, it held them in and the sound in also. We apologise for the inconvenience that this has caused.

We are very apologetic over Concord. Sorry. On one of his many trips to Earth, Bert accidentally left a sketch on the back of an envelope. He'd designed a small family car concept for back home. It was actually quite detailed. When he returned to Earth on his next rip he was amazed to see HIS car flying through the air. It seems that his writing was poor and whoever read the sketch, misread the size of the engine specifications. There's a difference in noughts in our two languages. We add a few more than you do. Bert's never recovered from the shock.

Now ..... female body hair was a one off. I assure you. We do apologise. Reg's wife, Norma, didn't like the cold. Fair dos, she was forced to live up North for a long time, while he was experimenting with Yetis. She never liked the human form and hated animal skins. That was the main reason Reg was there in the first place. So, she grew her own body hair for a while. Now...Reg could never prove anything, but there was this seal fisherman that used to deliver once a week....and Reg was never sure who Tobias and Nanook really looked like! Once, when Norma was bored, she cross-bred parents who habitually drove their offspring to school. She trained the bred pair to drive very badly, to ignore all road laws, to double and triple park, park on yellow lines and to never use indicators. Norma still creases up when she sees the congestion at school times.

My spouse invented the French. He thought it to be a good wheeze at the time. I mean you don't think they naturally developed, do you? A complete nation who are difficult, objectionable and argumentative. How could any race like that bred and survive naturally? He even introduced garlic to taint