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Giant Orange Head

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Giant Orange Head Joke

Informant: Zach Hamp is a 22-year-old student at Utah State University from Hyde Park, Utah. We went to Sky View High School in Smithfield, Utah together and attended the same congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He enjoys movies, certain video games, and having fun with friends.

Context: Zach and I were talking in my living room in Hyde Park when I recorded this conversation. My parents were in the other room so there was quite a bit of background conversation, but Zach knows my family, so he was comfortable. We have been friends for at least nine years and so during the whole talk we were laughing and reminiscing about funny high school stories. I had originally told this joke when Zach and I were at scout camp during middle school.

Text: There’s two friends in high school and they’re really close but after graduation they go their separate ways. And then they meet up again and he see this one friend driving in this beautiful sports car and then he’s got this giant orange head and he’s like, ‘Woah, dude! What’s changed since I’ve seen you last? What’s going on with your life?’ and he’s like, ‘Well, you’re not going to believe this but I found a magical lamp with genie in it and he gave me three wishes. So, the first thing I wished for was a beautiful wife, and I got it. The second thing I wished for was this awesome sports car, and I got it. But it all went down hill when I wish for a big orange head.

Texture: Zach knew that I knew this joke, so it wasn’t as detailed as some renditions I’ve heard. We both still laughed at the ridiculousness of the joke because we have a similar sense of humor. Normally the joke is a little more drawn out, with the wishes being fulfilled the day after they were wished for. Sometimes the first wish is a million dollars and the second wish is a hot girlfriend. This joke is intended to be a sort of “anti-joke” – a joke that is usually funnier to the teller than the listener because the teller gets to see the confused reaction of the listener trying to understand the ridiculousness of the somewhat anticlimactic punch line.