DHAKA SATURDAY JUNE 4, 2022 JAISHTHA 21, 1429 BS The Daily Star

How to beat abuse allegations: A book by Johnny Depp

The most important aspect of any of this is to have an accuser who is a bit of an idiot. Who kind of overplays her hand and stupidly assumes that just being a female. she can garner the jury's sympathy by saying "A powerful man abused me".

MANSPLAIN CORRESPONDENT

The following is the contents page from actor Johnny Depp's upcoming book "How to beat abuse allegations". He wrote the entire book while sitting at the plaintiff's desk during the sixweek defamation trial involving his ex-wife Amber Heard. The occasional smirks on Depp's face, seen and adored by millions during the livestreamed trial, was because he was amused by what he was writing. Satireday got an advance copy of the book, and has tapped into Depp's Hunter-esque Thompson-esque mind to include a short description for each chapter.

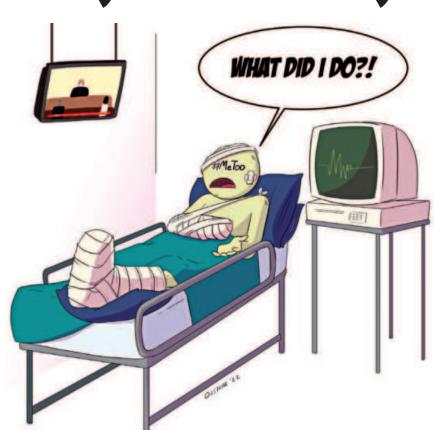
BE A MOVIE STAR LOVED BY MILLIONS

Fame has its perks. I have been famous for a long time. I had scissors for hands, then I went undercover to bust Al Pacino, who told me a joke about a skeleton going into a bar, ordering a

drink and a mop. I went to Las Vegas and covered some sporting event while hopped up on drugs. I sailed the seas as a drunken sailor. An octopus rose from the depths to kill me but I made it to the sequel. After all that,

a defamation trial isn't much, is it? Not when people want to see you slay more gigantic octopuses and drink more rum in forgotten islands. Not when men are tired of #Metoo allegations that give women too much power. Sure, Amber is famous too. But come on. I mean, really. Come on.

BE A DELICATE GENIUS



Ever heard of Hunter S Thompson? Ever seen Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas? I have. He is my favourite author. His subjective storytelling and reporting are basically my life. Style is more important than substance. Life is stream of consciousness.

So, when I sent my friends texts about doing violent things to Amber, it is important to remember that I was conveying a feeling, and not my attitude towards her, or things I would like to do if I had the chance. I am a delicate genius, and my emotions are my currency. I am a fan of Hunter S Thompson. Ever heard of him?

SLAPP AIN'T A DIRTY WORD Fame and fortune don't happen accidentally. I am famous, fortunate and fortune-rich because I am better. Strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPP) may seem like a dirty word, or five words that combine to make a dirty meaning, but it's not if you are rich and famous. We deserve better.

So, filing the case in Virginia, which has less wide-ranging anti-SLAPP laws as opposed to California, where we live, was a no-brainer. People need to know that going after the rich, famous and innocent is a fool's game, and the past six weeks have shown that Amber is quite the fool. Writing that op-ed in 2018 was not smart, and deserves a SLAPP.

SMIRK THROUGHOUT THE TRIAL One of my most famous roles was as a rascal pirate who got away with dastardly things, and he smirked a lot. While I was being accused of abuse during this trial, I was writing this book. I made myself laugh because, of course, I am so funny. But then I saw that people were lapping it up. YouTube was overflowing with montages of me smirking during trial proceedings, thinking that I was laughing at lawyers' questions and witness testimonies. You know why people loved it? Because I am Captain Jack Sparrow and I am innocent. So, I kept smirking throughout.

HAVE THE PERFECT IMPERFECT ACCUSER

And now we come to Amber. She is no angel; far from it. She is the devil. And that is why I am lucky. This book would not have been written without Amber. The most important aspect of any of this is to have an accuser who is a bit of an idiot. Who kind of overplays her hand and stupidly assumes that just being a female, she can garner the jury's sympathy by saying "A powerful man abused me". I knew how much of an idiot she is because I was married to her. I have endless stories to discredit her such as how she performed bodily functions in inappropriate settings.

EVENTUALLY

SATIREDAY

As powerful men, we know one thing: They are out to get us. Who are they? Everyone, especially women we knew. They know our secrets, and like we have seen recently, the world is eager to learn our secrets, because they're all jealous. So, knowing this, and because I am better than all of you, I recorded everything. I recorded every conversation, I got her to admit that she hit me. ME! Not the other way round. Does she have anything even close? No. You know why? Because she's not as smart. Oh, and because I am innocent.

DON'T AIM TO WIN; AIM TO PLEASE

Truth be told, I never aimed to win this case. I only aimed to please. That blasted op-ed ruined my career. At just 54 years old, my roles had dried up. Is that a coincidence? Am I a woman that I don't deserve roles past 35 years of age? No, she did this, and she must pay. She was begging for a global humiliation and she got it.

Look, I am an entertainer, and this trial entertained. It basically was bigger news than a war. I wanted to entertain my fans during tough times. And that's



But all this comes to now without evidence, which leads me to my next chapter.

ASSUME YOU WILL BE ACCUSED

what I did. I wanted Depp to become a household name again. **BE RICH. BE A MAN** That's obvious, isn't it?



US state makes bulletproof vests mandatory in schools

FPS CORRESPONDENT

The US state of Texas has made it mandatory for schoolchildren to wear bulletproof vests to school to stop deaths from school shootings, while saying guns are part of the solution and not the problem.

Greg Abbott, Texas governor and a Republican, announced the new measures yesterday.

"Each student will have to come to school wearing a bulletproof vest from Monday, June 6. It will be henceforth considered a part of the school uniform in Texas," he said during a press briefing.

The governor said there will be a grace period of one week for all students and their parents to come on board. mandatory for each classroom to have at least one assault rifle. Additionally, schools in Texas now must have just one door open for entry and exit, so that shooters have only one way of entering and exiting the school.

It is now also

"Students will gain extra credit for showing up to school from Monday wearing the vests. If they have trouble getting their hands on a vest, they can still get the extra credit by bringing a gun to school. We know they will not have any trouble getting hold of the guns, because this is America," Abbott said with a big smile on his face.

Abbott further said the vests will be sold by the National Rifles Association (NRA) and that any vests bought from other outlets will not be considered valid.

These measures come amid a series of school shootings in the country, including one in Uvalde, Texas, last month that killed 21 people. Nineteen of them were children.

It is now also mandatory for each classroom to have at least one assault rifle. Additionally, schools in Texas now must have just one door open for entry and exit, so that shooters have only one way of entering and exiting the school. "There were concerns about fire exits, but that's what guns are for. Any patriotic kid can pick up the rifle and shoot a hole through the window," Texas Senator Ted Cruz said.

"This is not about guns. This is about the disintegration of American culture. Violent games give guns a bad name. Guns protect us from shooters. Also, prayer. Faith has gone down in America, that's why every classroom will have a pulpit, so that even if a shooter enters, he or she will see the pulpit and walk back out the lone exit, where law enforcement will be waiting to shoot him or her."

In other news, manufacturers are working on stepping up production of rounds that can penetrate bulletproof vests.



Cricket board to make decisions based on online polls

UNSPORTING CORRESPONDENT

High officials of Chapasthan's cricket governing body have said that from now on, they will make decisions about the national team based on online polls.

For this, the Board, Cricket Board (B,CB) will establish a new department, Fingering the Pulse, to monitor online polls and also to create polls of their own on the B,CB website.

"We believe this is the way forward in the 21st century," said B,CB President Kamrul Hassan Phapa. "We are a democratic country, right? So, it is only right that our board and the country's cricket will be run democratically."

When asked whether the board is run democratically, he said, "Of course it is. We have regular elections and I am so popular that I usually get elected unopposed."

According to Phapa, from now on the selection of the playing eleven, the squad selection, will all be done based on results of online polls. The current captain was already chosen in this manner, he said.

When asked whether this means the selectors will no longer be required, Phapa's eyes widened.

"Of course not. They are needed. Who do you think will hold press conferences to announce teams?"

Some reporters wondered if this will mean that the national selection will just become a popularity contest.

"What isn't a popularity contest? You guys need to grow up. Do you think Virat Kohli would have been captain if he wasn't popular. And why is he no longer captain? Because he's not as popular anymore. You need to trust the public."

But what would be the function of the board if decisions like organising tours, appointing coaches and other staff are left to the public?

"You guys are making too much of this," Phapa said in exasperation. "This has been happening for a long time now, we are just formalising it, making it official. We have other work, like awarding sponsorship contracts and all that serious stuff the public aren't interested in. If you don't know the value of board officials, then I can't help you."