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The Daily ^{-ish} Bull

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How to Fake a British Accent

By: Wendell J. Starkiller

Whether you're a fan of Peaky Blinders, Harry Potter, or the latest funny speaking boytoy to pop into the twink zeitgeist, all of us Yanks have probably tried to do a fake British accent at one point or another. In this article, I'd like to give you a few tips and tricks to bring your accent to the next level.

Tip #1: Lose the R. The British accent tends to drop the R at the end of words and replace it with an open vowel sound. "Butter" turns to "buttah", "car" turns to "cah", and so on. Man, those kooky Brits sure are strange!

Tip #2: The American accent uses a lot of a more nasly "a" noise, like the a in "accent", while the British tend to use a more "aw" sounding a, like in awful. Opening up those "a" sounds will really add to making your British accent more fancy!

Tip #3: Immerse yourself in the culture. Whether it's from watching T.V, reading books, or watching movies, consuming a lot of British culture will help you understand common British slang. And if you can actually go there yourself, all the better! I once took a trip there in the summer of 1940, and it was fantastic. I was delivering Allied relief during the blitz, when I saw him for the first time. I had never seen such desperation, such ruin, oh how green I was then, watching the people race into the bunkers at all hours of the night, pulling half-sleeping children by the arm. But among this desert of human depravity grew the most beautiful wasteland flower, the blue stem of his officers uniform leading to a divinely



sculpted chin, his face rugged and war-worn yet still keeping that refinement native to his countrymen. I often told him I would hold off the entire Luftwaffe if their engines threatened to mess up his hair. He always loved my jokes. We would sit together in one of the few remaining pub(lic restroom)s in London, laughing, drinking one of their foul native (root)beers. "It's better warm!" he always attested, but I could never agree. But on those nights, under the lights of the dingy pub(lic restroom), he would touch my hand, so softly, yet with emotion so intense as to burn London to the ground. And in that split-second we locked eyes, and in our souls we yearned to touch, nay not just touch, to hold, deeply and tightly, to forget the blitz, the Germans, the English, the Americans, forget it all and only remember each other's names. I was so happy then.

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Tip #4: But of course no light could stand to shine in such a miserable place. May 11, 1941, the blitz ended, the Allies needed more ground troops in France, and he was being deployed into north Germany with the RAF. When our orders came in we were silent. He wouldn't even look at me. I tried to bargain with him, maybe we would see each other after we were finished with our tours, but we both knew that was an empty plea. There was no telling if either of us would be back at all, and if we were, I would surely be sent back stateside. I wanted him to grab my hand, squeeze it tight, beg me to run away, become deserters, show that he loved me as desperately as I did him. But he did no such thing. He was a magnificent soldier, honor bound to protect his country. Love had weakened my resolve, and the fact that it hadn't weakened him broke my heart. But he was always stronger than me. He was the best part of my life, and of me, and then I had to let him go.

Tip #5: Utilizing some fun props like a cup of tea, a handlebar mustache, and a bowler hat will add some excellent realism to your fake British accent, and can be bought at any costume store!

If you use these tips, you'll be sure to have an enviable British accent at dinner parties, at work, or with your friends! Yippee!*

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