



DECEMBER 8, 2010

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**Aaron Sorkin**

Playwright, screenwriter and television writer  
Posted: December 8, 2010 02:26 AM



BIO



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# In Her Defense, I'm Sure the Moose Had It Coming

What's Your Reaction:



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- Adorable

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"Unless you've never worn leather shoes, sat upon a leather chair or eaten meat, save your condemnation."

You're right, Sarah, we'll all just go fuck ourselves now.

The snotty quote was posted by Sarah Palin on (like all the great frontier women who've come before her) her Facebook page to respond to the criticism she knew and hoped would be coming after she hunted, killed and carved up a Caribou during a segment of her truly awful reality show, *Sarah Palin's Alaska*, broadcast on

The-Now-Hilariously-Titled Learning Channel.

I eat meat, chicken and fish, have shoes and furniture made of leather, and PETA is not ever going to put me on the cover of their brochure and for these reasons Palin thinks it's hypocritical of me to find what she did heart-stoppingly disgusting. I don't think it is, and here's why.

Like 95% of the people I know, I don't have a visceral (look it up) problem eating meat or wearing a belt. But like absolutely everybody I know, I don't relish the idea of torturing animals. I don't enjoy the fact that they're dead and I certainly don't want to volunteer to be the one to kill them and if I were picked to be the one to kill them in some kind of Lottery-from-Hell, I wouldn't do a little dance of joy while I was slicing the animal apart.

I'm able to make a distinction between you and me without feeling the least bit hypocritical. I don't watch snuff films and you make them. You weren't killing that animal for food or shelter or even fashion, you were killing it for fun. You enjoy killing animals. I can make the distinction between the two of us but I've tried and tried and for the life of me, I can't make a distinction between what you get paid to do and what Michael Vick went to prison for doing. I'm able to make the distinction with no pangs of hypocrisy even though I get happy every time one of you faux-macho shitheads accidentally shoots another one of

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you in the face.

So I don't think I will save my condemnation, you phony pioneer girl. (I'm in film and television, Cruella, and there was an insert close-up of your manicure while you were roughing it in God's country. I know exactly how many feet off camera your hair and make-up trailer was.)

And you didn't just do it for fun and you didn't just do it for money. That was the first moose ever murdered for political gain. You knew there'd be a protest from PETA and you knew that would be an opportunity to hate on some people, you witless bully. What a uniter you'd be -- bringing the right together with the far right.

(Let me be the first to say that I abused cocaine and was arrested for it in April 2001. I want to be the first to say it so that when Palin's Army of Arrogant Assholes, bereft of any reasonable rebuttal, write it all over the internet tomorrow they will at best be the second.)

I eat meat, there are leather chairs in my office, Sarah Palin is deranged and The Learning Channel should be ashamed of itself.

The image shows a Bing search engine interface with the search bar and navigation tabs for Videos, Web, and Images. Below the tabs are three video thumbnails:

- Video 1:** A video player from CNN showing a person in a field. Caption: **CNN**
- Video 2:** A video player from YouTube showing Sarah Palin and Joe Vogler. Caption: **YouTube**  
SARAH PALIN IS ESKIMO-NOT WHITE & HATES AMERICA - JOE VOGLER
- Video 3:** A video player from YouTube showing Sarah Palin and Joe Vogler. Caption: **YouTube**  
SARAH PALIN - JOE VOGLER MENTOR - ALASKA INDEPENDENCE PARTY

The image shows a Twitter feed with two tweets from the user SarahPalin\_News:

- Tweet 1:** PETA Doesn't Like Sarah Palin Killing Caribou - Who Saw That Coming? <http://bit.ly/g7cKuQ>  
6 minutes ago from RuntimeSkeedy
- Tweet 2:** PETA Doesn't Like Sarah Palin Killing Caribou - Who Saw That Coming? <http://bit.ly/i4Q6qF>  
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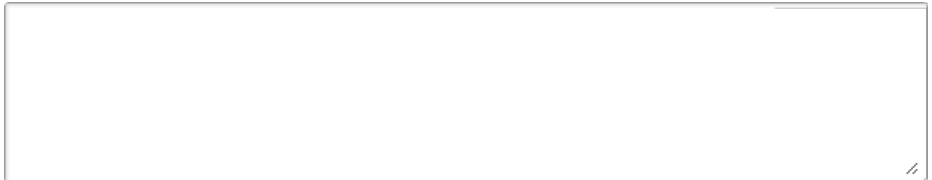
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**HeavenSteven** 9 minutes ago (9:59 PM)  
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I just watched it, and I was floored to see daddy loading the gun for her and cycling the bolt to reload. Little miss Nanook of the north looked like a helpless princess on a guided safari. The only thing missing was the Hummer limo.

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**LowDensityPoly** 10 minutes ago (9:58 PM)  
1 Fans

Hmmm.

I have to think my level of "enjoyment" in killing in animal for food would be directly proportionate to my hunger.

Though maybe my respect for the food it provided would as well.

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**tuffymama** 10 minutes ago (9:58 PM)  
7 Fans

Not much of a fair fight, is it? The animal doesn't have a high-tech, expensive weapon, and indeed lacks the mental capacity to understand that it is being hunted and needs to kill the human first. It's sort of the equivalent of an adult beating up a little baby.

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**SeriousBlack** 11 minutes ago (9:58 PM)  
167 Fans



Perfectly put, Aaron.

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**HitGirl** 11 minutes ago (9:57 PM)  
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I know, Mr. Sorkin. I've seen the Sports Night where Jeremy went on the hunting trip many, many times. Whatever happened to Joshua Malina?

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**ghost geezer** 11 minutes ago (9:57 PM)

336 Fans

GOOD. Thank you.

It may have been Gary Snyder who said, "The universe is a banquet. You are the main course."

It was ever so, and I would be satisfied if Palin were either the aperitif or the fast food. Thanks to HPOST and others, however, her shelf life is eternal.

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**waltzacrosstexas** 12 minutes ago (9:56 PM)

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No! We got it all wrong... Ms. Sarah she was showing all of those that are unemployed that they should just drive on up to Alaska and git themselves a "mosse" to put in their fridge!

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**sadwolf1** 13 minutes ago (9:55 PM)

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There is "hunting" and then there is target practice. She is no hunter!

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**MagicMallorca** 15 minutes ago (9:53 PM)

0 Fans

Would love to see a Sorkin West Wing type parody featuring this incident, and so many others. That is about the only useful purpose I can see for giving Sarah Palin so much media exposure. Please put your rapier writing talents to good use Aaron, give us some real reality entertainment!

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**Naughton** 16 minutes ago (9:52 PM)

11 Fans

Mr Sorkin,

GREAT article! PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE consider another political TV series based on a very conservative politician who is based on a certain woman with a giddy ignorance from that infamous Northwest state.

You could have SUCH fun with it (the family, the aides, the enemies, the press....) & the TV viewers could tune in each week wondering if your art was going to imitate life! You could have it up & running by 2012 to coincide with the real election & I could decide which reality to be in for an hour each week?

Of course it goes without saying Ms Fey would HAVE to play THE lead in the show!

What would you call it?

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**HUFFPOST COMMUNITY MODERATOR**

**MrClean** 20 minutes ago (9:48 PM)

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Ooh baby! "Let Bartlett be Bartlett!"

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**mmeeksie** 21 minutes ago (9:47 PM)

5 Fans

my new hero

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**lynninny** 21 minutes ago (9:47 PM)

4 Fans

Well said, Mr. Sorkin.

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**cdouglas** 23 minutes ago (9:45 PM)

141 Fans



The part about the manicure is the best...

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**Leah Franqui** 24 minutes ago (9:44 PM)

11 Fans

This is brilliant and well written and a joy to read. Sarah Palin is an active reductionist who insults all women with her "Mama Grizzly" attitude and all hard working Americans with her fake hypocritic al made-for-the-camera blue collar imitation. I refuse to accept her ill-thought out totally selfish bids for self promotion and attention as anything but lunacy, and I'm so glad to hear others feel the same way. Accepting the realities of eating and wearing animal products is so far from actively and publicly torturing animals that they don't even exist in the same galaxy. But, hey, the woman has never really had a good sense of geography, has she?

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