



THE CARTOON LOUNGE

THE LISTENERS

Posted by Drew Dernavich

You never hear anybody ever talk about the seedy underbelly of oratory, probably because there isn't one. But you also never hear about the flipside of oratory: listening. It's because of good listeners that good orators even exist. It's time to honor those people whose contributions to great speechmaking have been overlooked:

Fabian Telstar (Telly) Prompter

Not the inventor of the teleprompter, but the person who inspired it. He had such an understanding and empathetic personality that he seemed like he was mirroring your very thoughts. Also, he would stand to both the right and left of you when you were talking to him.



Anna Ling

Had a thorough preparation schedule for every speech she attended.

- *Forty-eight hours before speech:* Get plenty of sleep. Take extra dose of vitamin C, zinc, and ginkgo biloba.
- *Twelve hours before speech:* Stay hydrated. Buy at least twenty pieces of "flair" with either the speaker's name or messages like "What You Said," "Now is the Time," and "Screw the *Times* for Panning Whatever It Is That You Did." Call venue and check location of entrance and exit doors.
- *One hour before speech:* Stretch. Take cough drops. Inhale nasal spray. Meditate on word "Huzzah."
- *Fifteen minutes before speech:* Visit lavatory. Turn off cell phone. Immerse self in Snuggie so as not to distract speaker with exposed ankle or shoulder.



Nadine Kitt

Never asked what her country could do for her. Not a single time.