



## Running Hot and Cold

By George Cunningham

I like women, and I support their efforts to be treated equally and with respect in both the marketplace and society in general. They should receive the same level of pay for the same work done by men. They shouldn't be subject to unwanted sexual advances or pressure. They should be judged by their actions and skills, not just by their looks or their perky ways.

But, if I were king, I would immediately pass a law mandating that all women and girls stay at least five feet away from any and all thermostats. If there were extreme circumstances and no men were immediately available, they could get an emergency waiver.

Otherwise, it's hands off.

That may sound unfair, but every married man and most single ones as well, know that women can't be trusted with temperature. They all run hot and cold. I don't mean just emotionally. We all know how that works.

It works kind of the same way with temperature. Women are relentless when it comes to whether they feel warm or cool. A thermostat to a woman is like bacon to a dog. She can't resist thinking about it as long as she has access to it.

Here's an example of something that happened to a friend of mine recently. Let's call him me.

This friend is driving through heavy, fast-moving traffic in a rain storm and he notices that his view outside the car is rapidly getting fogged over. He is desperately trying to figure out what is happening before he crashes into the car in front of him. And then he notices that somebody has turned off the defroster because she wanted a little more air on her face or her feet or some other part of her body. So while he was driving, trying to get the woman and himself to their destination in one piece, she is taking the opportunity to play with the thermostat and redirect the air flow.

Any male person who has ever worked in a mixed-sex office is familiar with this other example. Everybody is working, completing his or her assigned tasks, when one of the women decides that she is too cold and that everybody else must be as well, so she heads for the thermostat.

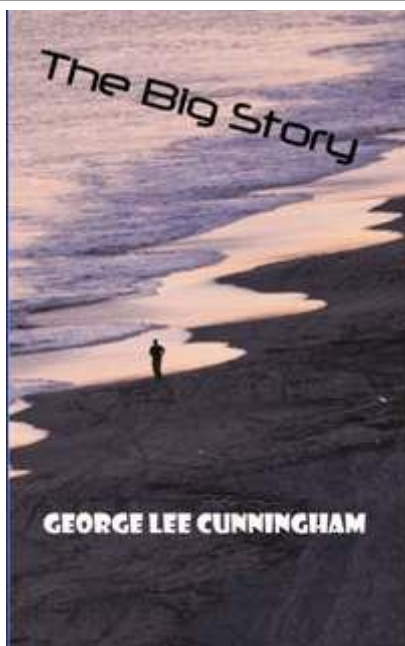
Does she discuss it with anybody else before adjusting the air? Why would she do that? Then an hour or so goes by and she decides it is too hot and that everybody else must be just as hot as she is. Back to the thermostat she goes.

Put a couple of women in close proximity to the thermostat and pretty soon you have a temperature cat fight going on in the office. Temperature cat fights are not good for anybody.

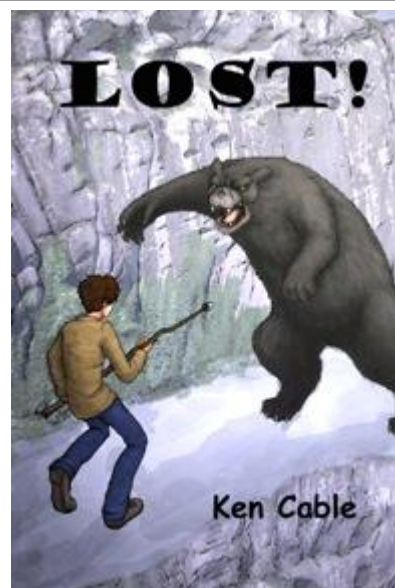
Men, on the other hand, set the thermostat once and they are good for the whole day. That's because men have more important things on their minds than whether the temperature is a few degrees up or down. If it's hot or it's cold, men will take charge and set the thermostat once and be done with it.

It's not that men are smarter or better than women. They're just not quite so temperature-challenged.

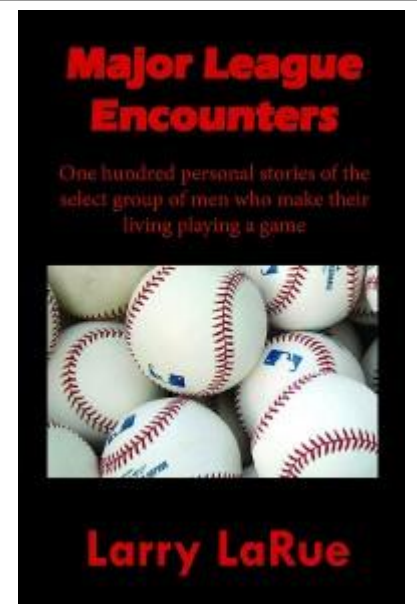
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A hard drinking reporter has to decide whether to keep chasing his big story or to make his bosses happy, rekindle the flame with his ex-wife, and be a responsible adult. Guess what he chooses. Mobsters, corrupt police, sissy editors, and the body of a nude girl on the beach. What more could you ask for?



Three boys – trapped in an early summer snow storm – struggle to survive in California's Sierra Nevada mountains. This story by author Ken Cable marks a return to the traditional youth story – with the focus on adventure rather than social or political issue. The book – set in 1970 – follows the boys as they learn to deal with cold, hunger and a rogue bear in order to stay alive.



Author Larry LaRue gives an inside look at the world of Major League Baseball as he relates 100 personal encounters with the men who make their living playing a game. LaRue, who spent more than 30 years writing about a sport that he loves, tells tales that are sometimes inspiring, sometimes heartbreaking, and often very funny. This book is both easy to read and hard to put down.