

blondes HAVE MORE FUN

If you believe, you become.

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Ever since I transformed into a blonde, I keep getting asked “Do blondes have more fun?”.

Looking back on my month of golden hair, I definitely feel that it has been more enjoyable. My happiness could have been affected for a plethora of reasons, but I believe my fair hair had its share. My fellow golden hairs seem to agree.

“I don’t think it always applies to me, but kinda generally [Blondes have more fun],” blonde junior Josie Finlason said.

The reason for this is curious. Is it because having light-colored hair is accompanied by a gene that produces more serotonin, or is there something more subtle at play?

A self-fulfilling prophecy is the concept that a false belief may encourage one to act in a way that makes said false belief come true. Imagine your friend introduces you to someone you have never met before. If they say that the person you are meeting is bland and uninteresting, you are less likely to ask questions about them, and you will not care about what they say. So upon leaving the conversation you will think they are uninteresting, because you never really got to know them—because you did not ask good questions.

This seems to be why “Blondes have more fun”. When our culture echoes this message you eventually, consciously or unconsciously, start to believe it. A blonde may go to a party with the belief that he will have more fun, so he will focus on the most exciting parts of the party. Consequently, he’ll experience the party as more fun, because his brain

is acknowledging the fun parts over the poor parts.

Furthermore, his brain chemistry could be in on it. When he convinces his brain that he will have more fun, the placebo effect says his brain will produce whatever chemicals will cause him to have more fun.

The fun that results from being blonde can also be applied to everyday life. “It Was A Good Day” by Ice Cube, is a great way to harness this effect. In the song Ice Cube talks explicitly about how great of a day he had, so when you sing along, you are also singing about the great day that you are going to have. These affirmations

“Choose your beliefs wisely, for they will become your reality.”

and an attitude of truly believing that today will be of quality make any day, in my opinion, significantly better. Through just the will of your mind, you can change a lot.

The power of the self-fulfilling prophecy, for better or worse, can have a great effect on you. In February of 2012, Knicks guard Jeremy Lin dominated Kobe Bryant’s league-dominating Lakers; Lin put up a cataclysmic 38 point performance despite being assisted by a team full of 6’8 trash cans (Melo was injured). Afterwards, fans and analysts alike praised his performance.

“Just the confidence [Lin] plays with,

the pace, the understanding of the game,” retired all-star Tyson Chandler said.

“You can tell when a guy isn’t really that skilled but is just having a good stretch. This guy is skilled.”

When Lin heard these quotes from accomplished stars and media headlines like “Lincredible” and “May the best man Lin”, it is hard not to feel more confident, and along with confidence comes better focus and the ability to shake off bad plays. But after one breakout game and the thought that he could really play, Lin was able to keep performing at a superstar level, because of the prophecy that he was truly skilled.

This power can also work in the reverse. In the series Harry Potter, Lord Voldemort is told a prophecy that someone born on July 31st, Harry Potter’s birthday, will eventually kill him. To prevent this from happening Voldemort attempts to kill Harry as a baby. Harry survives Voldemort’s attack through the power that eventually allows Harry to kill Voldemort.

Anyone could fall into a negative prophecy. A single lapse in judgment or bad grade could cause someone to start believing the incorrect notion that they are worthless or stupid. This could lead to a

spiral of making more bad decisions and performing worse academically because that is who they are defining themselves to be. The ability to rid yourself of these negative thoughts is essential to preventing yourself from falling victim to a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Like everything, there are positives and negatives to self-fulfilling prophecies, but it is up to you to use them to your advantage. There is very little concrete evidence suggesting that what I have said is infallible. But if you believe what I have said is true and act as if this knowledge is a key to success, you might just fulfill your own prophecy.