

Family Infiltrated by Alien Observer

The Calgaro family was surprised to learn that it had been infiltrated by an alien during the second part of 2010. The young female alien, sent in August to observe and adapt to local behavior, assimilated so well that the Calgaros completely accepted her as one of their own.

Soon she was saying such phrases as "That's awesome!" and acknowledging that "shenanigans" is an actual word. The alien, who goes by the name Giulia Albertin, originated in a place called Brazil and apparently has been equipped with powerful techniques to influence human behavior. Peter Calgaro, a junior at Memorial High School, willingly drives Giulia back and forth with him daily so she can obtain data on a wide variety of topics: primarily our language system, but also math, physics, history, art and social dance. In addition, in a case of possible mind control, Peter attended his first-ever homecom-



She even looks like she could be a Calgaro. (Giulia is in the middle, in case you're having trouble.)

ing dance. (Giulia and another alien female took several hours to perfect their looks for the event, while Peter was ready in less than 3 minutes.)

The Calgaros have been so charmed by Giulia that they were

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back issues online!

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Inside:

Female Empowerment!

Incredibly Cool Cars!

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Other Car Even More Embarrassing

Peter Calgare, 16, obtained his driver's license in late spring. His parents, realizing that their '94 Buick would be going to college with Rachel in the fall, decided to seek a suitable means of transportation for their son.

Craigslist revealed a '92 Mazda available for the bargain price of \$999. Sold! However, the Mazda began protesting loudly whenever anyone touched its accelerator. Upon visiting the mechanic, Pete and Aine were forced to admit that Peter had nicknamed the Mazda appropriately. ("Death Trap.")

Aine ventured once again onto Craiglist, but this time found a '98 VW Beetle with only 78K total miles. She immediately fell for it, even before seeing the fake wind-up key a previous owner had installed in back.

Peter was not sold on the coolness of the automobile, even after Aine pointed out that Beetles are cute and come with a bud vase.



ABOVE: Possibly the cutest dorkiest car in the entire world.

"In other words, it's the dorkiest car in the world," Peter pointed out. "I am NOT going to drive that thing."

Aine handed over a set of keys to the family's primary vehicle, a 2002 Prius. Although the Prius is a rather plain car and doesn't stand out as being particularly memorable, Peter doesn't seem to mind.

Camping with the Calgare Kids

Pete and Aine's failure to ever take their kids camping was highlighted this year when both Rachel and Peter were given separate opportunities to experience the thrill of outdoor living.

In July, Peter slept in a tent for two nights in a clearing next to Lake Superior. He and the other 50-plus members of Camp Randall Rowing Club enjoyed a refreshing rainstorm and subsequent tornado warning. Two generous Duluth residents each allowed nearly 30 damp, fragrant teenagers to crowd into their homes as they waited out the tornado.

Rachel and her boyfriend, Wes, were well-prepared for their camping trip later that month to a state park near the Mississippi River. However, their plans were nearly thwarted when Rachel securely closed the trunk of the family's '94 Buick before realizing she had dropped her keys inside.

Rachel called her mother for assistance — a wise move, as Aine was in possession of secret information about how to avert a lockout in that particular vehicle.

For some weird reason, Rachel greatly enjoyed camping and is very likely to do it again in the future.

Student Transfers to UW-Stout School's Name Not in Reference to Beer

Diligent Overachiever Chooses it Anyway

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities has a stellar reputation and a squirrel-like mascot. As Rachel Calgaro discovered last year, it also has a huge campus with far-flung classes. Sub-zero temperatures are even more bitter when facing a half-hour hike to an 8 AM class.

Rachel has begun her college career as an undecided liberal arts student, but soon gravitated towards computer programming and mathematics. A smaller university just an hour east of the Cities—and in Wisconsin!—began to look like an attractive option for the fall of 2010.

Although most state universities are named for the cities where they are located, UW-Stout is in Menomoneie, Wisconsin. Contrary to popular belief, the school is not named for malt beverages nor students' waistlines after the "freshman 15." (Apparently it has something to do with a guy names James Huff Stout.)

After she was accepted as a stu-

dent, Rachel received her university-issued laptop and took her first UW-Stout classes online over the summer. In September, after relinquishing her bedroom to Giulia (see cover story), Rachel moved to campus to begin her studies as an applied Math and Computer Science major.

She soon realized that her gender is somewhat of an oddity in the majority of her classes. Fortunately, she enjoys video games, sarcasm, Taco Bell, and crude manly humor. Plus, she grew up with a brother who shares many characteristics with her new friends/rivals. Rachel is thriving in the new environment despite a lack of sleep and an excess of Calculus 3 assignments.

Her student job in campus food service is definitely a step up from her summer stint working for a mom-and-pop BBQ restaurant (which has since closed). She gets paid on schedule, and there are no angry diatribes between the cooks.

Pete Performs First-Ever Concert

Because his full-time job at NBC15, part-time music director job, yoga practice, drum circle leadership, and habit of running 4 miles a day didn't already give him enough to do, Pete Calgaro decided to perform a solo concert on Dec. 16.

After all, it's not as if anything else is going on in mid-December.

Pete prepared approximately two hours of music for the event, which was billed as an evening of relaxation before the holidays.

As he nervously worked to coordinate the set list, instrumentation and electronic setup, Aine reminded

him that it was not supposed to be "Freak Out Along with Pete: A Holiday Experience."

The concert drew approximately 80 attendees and raised funds for two local charities. See (a few) photos at: <http://bit.ly/peteconcert>

In conjunction with the concert, Pete released his 8th CD, *Shine*, which will soon be available on iTunes and CD Baby: <http://www.cdbaby.com/Artist/PeteCalgaro>

Pete recently created a Facebook page for his music. Aine will help him hone his online presence, because that's the kind of thing she does.

Calgaros Learn Alien's Ways

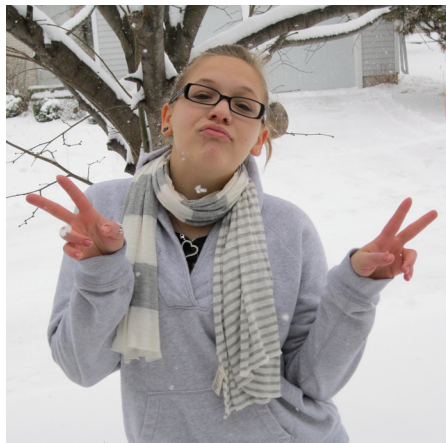
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completely unalarmed by the discovery that she came from an alien culture. (One tip-off was her eagerness to rake leaves with Pete. Another was her surprise when first encountering snow.) In fact, they even encouraged her to join other aliens in a 5-day entertainment-seeking mission to New York City.

Furthermore, Pete and Aine continually pester Giulia to teach them alien (or "Portuguese" words and popular card games. "Oi! Bom dia! Boa noite! Legal! Saude!" says Pete regularly. Giulia often humors them by allowing them to participate in video communications to her home base, although Pete had to be told that making a circle with one's thumb and index finger does not mean "okay!" in the alien culture.

The Calgaros are eager to visit

Brazil in the future so they can be the aliens. Which ought to be an easy role for them to fill, since enough people who know them already think they probably come from another planet.



Giulia demonstrates her favorite facial expression, with bonus hand signals.



A Word from Ludwig

"See? I'm a pirate. Arrr. Bottle of rum. Yo ho ho. So give it a rest now, people."

Leadership in Fashion Recognized

Aine Calgaro began 2010 with a fashion resolution: to wear skirts and dresses every day of the year.

In other words, this was the Year of No Pants.

Aine began collecting hand-made skirts, including one especially cool piece made from recycled t-shirts.

It was part of an outfit she threw together for a family excursion to Mall of America in November. Her combination of the Three-Keyboard-Cat-Moon skirt, multi-colored handknit socks and reflective prism Danskos drew the attention of a Minneapolis web site, where Aine was featured in a video segment called "What the %\$#@ are You Wearing?!"