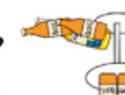
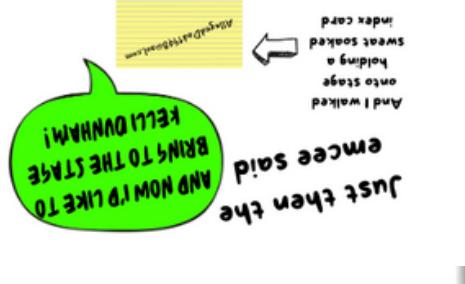


And Mr. Maybedad McSurprisePants came and sat on the front row and drank beer after beer. He did not as much as she should have if he was going to claim a biologically preclusive relationship to me. and he walked out during my class, leaving 7 empires on the table and floor next to his seat. Later, as I pondering my options, my girlfriend asked "Could he be your dad?" like did he look like you?" 



**It was rural Wisconsin.
The gene pool**



isn't deep

EVERYONE looked
like me 



**But really, the more I thought about it...
I mean, my mom had a type:**

EMOTIONALLY STUNTED ALCOHOLIC

Judging by his TIMING
and his consumption



**did it matter which dysfunctional clown
was my biological father?**

I didn't get in touch with him for the same reason you don't send back the food at Red Lobster

**YOU KNOW THERE IS NOTHING
BETTER IN THE KITCHEN**

He have something to tell you would you like to hear it?

Then he said I did NOT say

I have something to tell you I'm your biological father.

I have something to tell you I'm your father.

Because there was a dude who lived in my house when I was a kid, and I thought he was my father because I knew, I called him dad.

Well you know how your mom had all those affairs?

But he had started and he couldnt stop himself.

Nope. Did not know about all those affairs.

He handed me his father.

Sorry. I was one of them, and the teaming we'll think

I learned two things from this encounter. I give one as a piece of advice to you dear reader:

If for some reason you believe you are the surprise biological parent of a stand-up comic whose performance you are attending.

Inform them **AFTER**

rather than

BEFORE

the show

The second thing I learned is this:
I don't care how precious it
makes me



I use the green room now.

I recently returned to rural Wisconsin from a show at a club 20 miles away for a show where I grew up. I was hanging out in the lobby before the show, when a nervous-looking man in a John Deere ball cap paged nearby. He placed back-to-back *forth*s across and when he said enough he said got close have something to tell you.



perhaps because of this Germanic static upbringing, since I'm been performing live never been particularly excited about using the green room it always seems so PRECIOUS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

KELLI DUNHAM

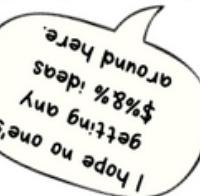
is a hilarious ex-nun
comedian/storyteller/author living in Brooklyn
who you might have seen on
Showtime or the Moth Mainstage.

Kelli is a kind soul who
probably wants to talk with you
about whatever is on your mind.

kelli.dunham.com
text 215.964.1963

A hand-drawn illustration of a speech bubble containing text about a 1972 touchy-feely Germanic farm family album. The text inside the bubble reads:

1972 touchy-feely
Germanic farm family. How stotic! How
germanic? Well, my sister borrowed the
album from our local public library
She somehow
smuggled it into the
concertband into the
house.
My dad walked into the living room just as
Rosey Grier sang, "It's Alright To Cry."
He stopped, looked at his
assembled children, and said
"I hope no one's
getting any
\$%&@% ideas
around here."



The book cover features a retro-style illustration of a city skyline at night with tall buildings and glowing windows. In the foreground, there's a green speech bubble containing the word "OMG!" in large, yellow, outlined letters. The title "MY BIG FAT SURPRISINGLY DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY" is written in large, bold, yellow letters, with "DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY" slightly tilted. Below the title is a red banner with the subtitle "(OR WHY I USE THE GREEN ROOM NOW)" in white, sans-serif font. At the top of the cover, the publisher's name "BAD IDEAS GOOD STORIES PRESS" is printed in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. A small, stylized yellow lightning bolt graphic is positioned in the upper right corner.