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Horrible bosses parents guide

Picture: UnsplashAttention, Lifehacker readers: we want to hear from your worst boss. You know who told you at every meeting, unhinged lunatic who waited for you to answer the emergency texts at 03:00; A so-called genius who couldn't help but yell at everyone because he was just so passionate. Or maybe one who would lick his fingers constantly and then use his wet fingers to plaster his bangs down onto his forehead, all the while not breaking eye contact. (Oh, wait, that's my story.) We can use your worst-boss story for next week's episode of Upgrade, so please, give us your best (and best, I mean your worst). If you want, you can leave us a voicemail at (347) 687-8109 (we may use your voice in the episode). Brought to you Portfolio.com George Steinbrenner's management style has completely summed up the line of headlines from the Onion: After New York failed to win the 2002 World Series: Yankees Ensure 2003 Pennant by signing every player in Baseball. After signing the hero of the 2004 World Series, the Yanks center fielder: Steinbrenner Names Johnny Damon as the New Yankee Scapegoat. After the team's first-round playoff elimination in Detroit in 2006: George Steinbrenner fires the Tigers. The boss, as the Yankees' main owner often calls himself, is widely regarded as an intrusive, manipulative bully with a spirit but not a soul. Indeed, in the late 80s and early 90s, he enjoyed the nickname Attila the Hun. Steinbrenner is a confessed admirer of this god's self-de state. For those who don't have a scorecard, the fifth-grade barbarism of the fifth was murdered by his brother to impose an uncontested rule over the Huns. Not surprisingly, his preferred guide to success has long been Leadership Mysteries of Attila The Hun, a 1985 collection of management metaphors built by author Wess Roberts. For years, Steinbrenner kept a dog-eared copy on his office table at Yankee Stadium. Among his favorite letters: If people speak badly of you, falsely attribute wrongdoing to you and serve no greater purpose, you must make these opponents or behave in a way that encourages them to change their decisions. Never appoint celebrities. Put the most capable Hun in charge and give him both responsibility and authority. Then hold him accountable. And perhaps most eloquently: You must admit and accept that your greatness can be made possible through extremes of personality-very extremes, which sometimes make a bonfire of satire and legendary stories. Nowadays, where the 78-year-old Yankees leverage physical health and mental capacity in decline, his eldest son Hank has become a mouthpiece for the empire. Hank, 51, had earned a short apprenticeship in the front office in 1986. At the time, shy, mild,Boy George consciously your own old man. He supported the stability of the driver's chair, the consistency of the list and favored a strong farm system over the free agent route his father took. He said he wanted to emulate Colonel Jacob Ruppert, the benevolent beer baron who paid for the House that Ruth Built. After the 1986 European Year of World No Real Time, the Commission has been in a state of When he came out again last year, he sounded like his father. In his two decades in the wilderness, he picked up many of George's hallmarks and mannerisms: a good old boy backslapping and a crisp, confident military walk taught in institutes like the Culver Military Academy in Indiana, where both he and his father attended. The new Hank is as bombassing and quotable as his father was. Red Sox Nation? he snapped during spring training. What a mess this is. It was the creation of the Red Sox and ESPN, which is full of Red Sox fans. Go somewhere in America and you won't see Red Sox caps and jackets, you'll see Yankee hats and jackets. It's a Yankee state. We're going to put the Yankees back on top and rebuild the universe in order. Hank sounds less like hunt's attila than Hun-hun-handle, which matches the gas-caller sports radio. He's tough, says a prominent baseball agent. But unlike his father, he's an ineffective shot. When Alex Rodriguez decided to give up his \$252 million contract last October, Hank crowed that he would not be re-negotiated with A-Rod because of the decision to eliminate the \$21.3 million grant the Yankees were getting from Texas from 2006 to 2010. There's no way, hank said. If you don't want to be a yank and pay what you're paid, we don't want you. That's the bottom line. Exactly two weeks after taking that vessel, Hank cleverly stepped away and welcomed A-Rod back. At this point, it seems he's willing to make sacrifices to be a Yankee, Hank more or less explained. Basically, it's brief. A month later, Hank signed a record\$275 million deal for the third baseman. Some kind of sacrifice! As happened to his father, Hank's ideas are sometimes met with resistance. Last winter, he demanded that the Yanks trade 23-year-old center fielder Melky Cabrera and two of the team's most promising prospects-one of them, 21-year-old Phil Hughes-to minnesota twins 30-year-old ace Johan Santana. Although general manager Brian Cashman was against the exchange, Hank told reporters in early January that he was inclined to do so. I've always told Brian I'm going to make final decisions, because if you're the owner, you should. Ten days later Cashman and Hank's brother (and co-chairman) Hal persuaded him to pull the offer off the table. Hank was lucky he didn't listen to his inner chief. Although Hughes struggled mightily with four losses and a 9.00 earned average, his 6 starts before going on the disabled list cabrera is essential. He is batting .299 and is tied for first-team homers (five), ranks second in runs (14), and has a better on-base percentage than A-Rod. He's also the team's only decent center fielder. Hank's latest animated trade came late last month. In just 20 games into the campaign, he announced that young phenomenon Joba Chamberlain was the wrong staging man. The 22-year-old Chamberlain, he proclaimed, should be directed to the bull's pen for the start-up turn immediately. It doesn't matter that Chamberlain has started only 15 games in his entire career, all in the minors. Never mind that in the last two months of the 2007 season Chamberlain was 2-0 with a .38 E.R.A. in 24 innings. And it doesn't matter that Chamberlain almost single-alone led the Yankees to the playoffs. Hank said he'd only use a quarterback with 100 miles an hour in that role. A bull's pen is important, but starting pitching is 70 percent of it, he said. Your pen can't do you any good if you're down every night with five runs. It makes sense. But so is Cashman, who has put the youngster on a tight pitch and innings of boundaries-something that has come to be known as Joba's rules. Under this year's rules, Chamberlain is limited to 140 rounds. Cashman reasons to stick to Chamberlain's pen in the first months of the season not only to protect the pitcher's hand, but also give the team enough time to find his successor as a setup man. I don't think Hank wants Joba's rotation yesterday. Cashman says, hopefully, I think he wants what we all want. Chairman Hank's outbursts make a big bonfire of satire, and they have prompted another Onion headline: Steinbrenner tells Sons of Mellow Out. Visit your Portfolio.com latest business news and opinions, executive profiles and careers. Portfolio.com© 2007 Condé Nast Inc. All rights reserved. At some point in your career - maybe at several points - you're probably going to be a bad boss. You're not alone. Look for a bad boss on Amazon.com, and you'll find a long list of books dedicated to the topic. It turns out that there are a lot of bad bosses out there and a lot of people who need help dealing with them! Fugitive: the perfect boss. If only we could fix all the bad bosses, our job would be great. Better? Our newly refurbished bosses would be reasonable, accessible, friendly, intelligent, open-minded, encouraging and good at giving feedback. They'd know when to help and when to take it back. They would be sympathetic to our emotional states and consider them in our performance ratings. And they'd be pleasant. Be honest. Do you expect someone to fix your boss like that? Do you expect the perfect boss before you start digging your job and What results do you get paid to produce? That's never going to happen. The reality is that there are bad bosses. We have to accept this fact and succeed anyway. Otherwise, the bad boss will become yet another excuse for our own shortcomings. Ignore it. If your boss is, that's one thing. This could be your reality. But as soon as you start thinking your boss shouldn't be, your problems actually start. This simple judgment creates a story in your head - a story that is not based on facts. And the worst thing you can do is figure it out, believe it and stress about it. Change your mindset - not your boss. You don't think you can work for a bad boss? You might be lucky. The fact is, we're all probably going to meet more bad bosses than good ones in our careers. If you expect a good boss to magically appear before you donate a gift to your productivity, you will be sidelined very quickly. So work with what you have. First of all, we decide to accept reality. You can have a terrible boss, or you can have a boss who messed up, made a bad decision or lacks key skills. But that's life. It's human nature. Avoid turning this reality into a bigger story about how your boss is, who is trying to undermine your career. Secondly, focus on achieving your best, regardless of the circumstances. Bosses come from all the varieties that people do. You have good bosses. You have bad bosses. And in fact, the bad ones give you a chance to become stronger and more competent. An indifferent boss will show you how to manage yourself, solve problems and independently and step into roles with greater responsibility. An emotionally volatile boss will help you practice your poker face - a great skill if you're a seller of negotiation or customer service! An incompetent boss allows you to let your talents shine while polishing your diplomacy skills. See? Instead of roadblocks, your boss offers you opportunities. In conclusion, no one can change your situation. The only way out is over, so change your mindset. Learn more about how to succeed with a terrible boss in Cy's best-selling book - reality-based workplace rules. Workplace.