

THE BOSS RULES

By Carol Bergeron



This past Saturday night I had the unexpected pleasure of going to the Bruce Springsteen concert at Gillette Stadium. Bruce and the E Street Band were fantastic as always! After all these years they still rock and had us all **“Dancing in the Dark”**.

Do you remember Saturday night? In **“My Hometown”** of Boston the sky was gray, the forecast dismal and the expected ride down? **“Thunder Road”**. The outlook was enough to get you **“Waitin’ on a Sunny Day”**. But we were not easily deterred since anticipation of a fabulous show gave us **“Reason to Believe”**. We inhaled burgers on the road as we headed out. Thank goodness the transportation & highway department suspended **“Working on the Highway”** so as not to add to the congestion along Routes 128 and 1.

We arrived just in time for the opening act. This was not your ordinary opening act. It started with **“Darkness on the Edge of Town”** in the not so **“Empty Sky”**. As we were **“Blinded by the Light”**ening the crack of thunder was quick to follow. It sounded like fireworks on **“Independence Day”**. There was no retreat and **“No Surrender”**. Most fans fled for cover preferring the squished like sardines effect, while a minority of us resorted to our trustee ponchos for the **“Cover Me”** effect.

As the storm persisted, about 45 minutes, we wondered **“Who’ll Stop the Rain”** and were **“Counting on a Miracle”**. Finally, the rain stopped, the **“Light of Day”** took hold and we all had visions of **“The Promised Land”** dancing in our heads. **“On the Dark Side”** the roadies teased us for over an hour as they pranced onto the stage from time to time for pointless prepping. But once they tore the covers off band’s instruments we knew it wouldn’t be long. Bruce ventured onto the stage and **“Into the Fire”** and he **“Don’t Look Back”**. He was **“Born to Run”** and gave us his all like no one else can. The man is unstoppable and that’s why he always fills the house.

While the fans were **“Worlds Apart”**, ranging in age from young teens through upper 60s, they were impassioned by the **“Spirit in the Night”**. How many entertainers do you know appeal to such a wide range of fans? **“Growin’ Up”** with Bruce, who was **“Born in the USA”**, explains part of his following. But how did he tap into **“Youngstown”**? Fans of all ages were **“Dancing in the Streets”** and singing their hearts out. Once Bruce took the stage, most folks never sat down. It took two days for my hands to recover from the non-stop clapping along.

Alas the concert did end and everyone went **“Racing in the Street”** hoping to beat the traffic **“All the Way Home”**. No such luck. After a **“Drive All Night”** I got in just after 2 and it was worth it.

“All I’m Thinkin About” now is did how did this icon come to be? Did Bruce ever have a **“Lonesome Day”** or worry that he’d **“Fade Away”**? Was there ever doubt or did his **“Book of Dreams”** have no room for doubt? Did he always have his **“Eyes on the Prize”**? If so, how did he define the prize? Did he set out as a **“Gypsy Biker”** to become

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a performing singer and musician? Or did he set out to become a larger than life rock star? Did **“The Rising”** of his following prompt him to write songs with increasingly more profound messages? Or was that always part of the master game plan? Bruce, if you’re listening my readers want to know since the principles of leadership have no bounds. Let me know what you think is the recipe for Bruce Springsteen’s success and how do you apply it to your own?

Nevertheless Boston is a **“Lucky Town”** to be on your roster each tour. Looking forward to the next one.

Trivia question: Can you name which two songs bolded above were not Springsteen hits? The first person with the right answer gets not only a free subscription to my newsletter but a brief mention as the Rock Trivia Czar in my next edition (when the answer is revealed).

About Bergeron Associates™

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Upcoming Events

Four Models for Conflict Resolution *from Mass Bay OD Learning Group*

Carol Bergeron to speak on “Practical Approaches to Conflict Resolution”

August, 21, 2008, 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM (first 30 minutes registration and networking)

Framingham State College

Cost: Members Free; \$30 Nonmembers, \$20 for BACAPT, CCC, ICFNE, IMCNE, PCC, SPC members

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