

# The EQs



Hippity Hop Clown School in downtown Bung Hole, West Virginia was long regarded as the premier institution in all of clowndom devoted to the jestering arts. Its graduates included the world's greatest circus buffoons, such as Nails, Velvetina, Joey Noses, The Clown of Knives (a.k.a. Shiv), and Facewhippet. From Day One, clown fundamentals were emphasized again and again until they became an organic part of the nascent funsters, which is why the school's alumni were always in demand. Unfortunately, it only takes a few bad apples to damage a school's credibility. In the case of HHCS, those apples took the form of Brad, Joel, Stuart, Herb and Candycane, otherwise known as the Evil Quints. Although initially willing and able to follow instruction like everyone else, the "EQs" soon grew bored with the regimentation and gravitated to a more rascally interaction with their peers. Tasers took the place of hand razzers, grenades superseded whoopie cushions, and cream pies were set aside in favor of novichok nerve agents. Eventually, the EQs quit school to pursue a life of crime – zany crime, to be sure – which sullied the reputation of clowns for years. In time, HHCS cultivated its own line of evil clowns. True, they terrorized circus goers for more than two decades, but one day they brought the EQs to justice. All right, they killed them. A harsh punishment, perhaps, but the school took its good name seriously!