

Baby Tabitha

Humorous monologue by Samuel Stokes

When I was in middle school, my band director would show us an episode from *Bewitched* every single year. Not a series of episodes, no, just one very specific episode – the one where baby Tabitha was born. Why? Because baby Tabitha was my band director’s daughter.

Of course, every year, the sixth graders would ask “was she baby Tabitha for the whole series?” and “why not?” He would explain that he lived next door to the producer, who asked if his daughter could play baby Tabitha on the birth episode. They wanted her to continue, but he and his wife would have had to sign a waiver that said that the studio would not be liable if the lights damaged her eyes, so they decided against it.

I also learned that Dick York was a very nice guy. Also, Elizabeth Montgomery, who played the witch Samantha, was very concerned about her appearance and fussed about her hair a lot.

I remember my sixth grade year when I went home excitedly and told my family that the original baby Tabitha was my band director’s daughter. They laughed and said, “we know.” My older brothers and sister told me they had to sit through that episode every year in school also and basically had the episode memorized.

After seeing it all three years in school, multiple times, as I was in band as well as general music class, since I was really into music, I started to wonder why he had to play the thing over and over again.

Thirty years later, as a father of 4 myself, I totally get it.