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Comedian Keith Alberstadt on Hilton Head Island through Sunday

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Unlike the stereotype, comedian Keith Alberstadt said he was never the class clown in school. He was actually quite the bookworm.

Despite his serious side, he said he's always been sarcastic and loves making people laugh.

Alberstadt is performing at Hilton Head Comedy Club at The Kingfisher on Hilton Head Island through May 20. He took a few moments away from the mic to chat with us:

Question. How did you get into stand-up comedy?

Answer. I really didn't want to do anything else. ... It sounds like a clichè, kind of a cookie-cutter story, but it's just the way it happened. I co-hosted a talent show in high school and was doing jokes between acts and got a huge buzz from it. I thought about pursuing it, which I kind of did in college. And then ... went after it when I was about 25. But yeah, it came down to I really didn't want to do anything else. I wasn't happy in a corporate setting, and I'm a creative guy, and I'm a very sarcastic guy by nature so it just made sense for me to do this.

Q. Do you ever mess up in the middle of a joke?

A. Oh, yeah. Well, that's the beauty of this job. It can be a tightrope walk. We're out there exposing ourselves, and that's the glory of it. That's what makes it so fun. If it was just nothing but rote

IF YOU GO

Keith Alberstadt will perform at 9 p.m. daily through May 20 at the Hilton Head Comedy Club at The Kingfisher on Hilton Head Island. Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.

Details: www.hiltonheadcomedyclub.com, 843-681-7757

memorization and the same old song and dance every night, it would get so boring. And a lot of times it is that way for some comedians out there who have been working the road for a long time. Once it gets stale, once it gets to that boring point, I would imagine it's got to cease being fun. ... I know what I'm going to say when I'm

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going on stage, but there are certainly ad lib moments.

Q. You were recently on "The Late Show with David Letterman." What was it like?

A. It was exciting. It was fun, a lot of fun. We're actually talking about possibly doing a third one because that was my second appearance. So hopefully within another year I'll do another one. ... The live show is a lot longer and a lot funnier.

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