

**The weatherman,**

Dallas Rains, tells me the forecast on the TV in my recovery room. He seems very concerned that the morning fog will be around an hour longer before burning off and that the temperature will go down one chilly degree this Thursday. It's basically the same temperature and conditions in LA everyday this time of year, but if a radio station is one degree different you get Sebastian Bach instead of Mozart. If the ocean is one degree warmer then the ice caps melt. If a building is constructed one degree off center it topples. If the alignment of the solar system was changed by one degree there may have been different life on Earth. So, I guess Dallas has a point—I realize that thinking about everyone else's degrees of separation is quite comforting after having my head drilled open, my facsimile ear sewn back in place, and learning to walk again on Sunset Blvd.