

The Peale, Baltimore

Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the Out of the Blocks website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>



April Newton ([00:02](#)):

April Newton.

Jason Newton ([00:03](#)):

Jason Newton.

April Newton ([00:03](#)):

600 block of Deep Dean Road. I teach media ethics.

Jason Newton ([00:08](#)):

I'm a TV news anchor and reporter at WBAN.

Aaron Henkin ([00:12](#)):

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Tell me your love story. How'd you guys meet?

Jason Newton ([00:16](#)):

Newsroom love, man. It's newsroom love.

April Newton ([00:19](#)):

Actually one of the ethical lessons I always tell my students is what a bizarre industry this is and how you really have to be careful because in those first jobs, it's the worst hours, and you're going to share cheap takeout with the people that you work with, and you're going to go to the happy hour with the people that you were... Your whole life is just these other people on these weird schedules who also make \$2 an hour.

Speaker 3 ([00:42](#)):

A recipe for romance.

April Newton ([00:44](#)):

And I always pause, I always pause and say, but of course I ended up marrying my anchor. So take that with a grain of salt.

Jason Newton ([00:53](#)):

I just needed more time on TV. So you married the producer. No-

Speaker 3 ([00:56](#)):

Tell me what it's like from your perspective and your kid's perspective to get to turn on the TV in the morning and have husband, dad, the kid's dad, like there, kind of in the room with you. Do you guys do that?

April Newton ([01:09](#)):

For me? For me, we always like to watch it. And to me, we laugh when he does things that he does at home because I forget that he's famous and I always make the joke. It's not even a joke. This is a true thing that's happened. We're out and I think why are those people staring? You have no right to stare at our little interracial family. It's just fine. You stop staring at us and then I'll think, oh wait, they're not staring. They're not offended by us. They know who he is, because all of a sudden we'll see a Tweet, like sat next to Jason Newton in a restaurant tonight and I'll think, oh, that's why you're staring. Right. I just ask him to take out the garbage. We talk pretty openly in our family about what color everybody is and what that might mean. But our kids are pretty little still, but I think we try and be pretty open. I don't, I

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think everybody should have those conversations openly, but particularly a family like ours needs to not pretend like we're not different.

Jason Newton ([02:07](#)):

I was asked this question in a school talk once. Somehow, I guess they may have seen a picture of us together. So, you know, I was born black. I'm going to die black too. So I mean, regardless of who I married, like it's the same life.

Jason Newton ([02:20](#)):

You know, you marry someone because you love them. And because you know, you've entered this partnership together, it's a project and you're going to finish this project together. And some people are going to love the project and some people are going to hate it. I don't have, you know, I just don't have time to that. I got two kids to raise a job that starts at three o'clock in the morning. But yeah, I think that we're very upfront and honest with each other and even the boys, I think they're starting to notice, but there's no socioeconomic or political background to what they see. But yeah, it'll be a discussion.

Jonas Newton ([02:49](#)):

My name is Jonas Newton. I'm nine. We're trying to build a Fort.

Speaker 3 ([02:56](#)):

What are you using to build the Fort?

Jonas Newton ([02:58](#)):

Sheets, blankets and some chairs.

Speaker 3 ([03:02](#)):

What else needs to happen on the fort? Oh, who's under there?

August ([03:05](#)):

August!

Speaker 3 ([03:06](#)):

How old are you?

August ([03:07](#)):

Six.

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Speaker 3 ([03:08](#)):

For full disclosure let me have you describe the extent of the friendship between my boy and your boys and the amount of time that my son spends over at this, at this house.

Jason Newton ([03:19](#)):

We have shared some meals with your son occasionally.

April Newton ([03:24](#)):

Sometimes on the same day.

Jason Newton ([03:27](#)):

I jokingly will call him my third son. And then the day I heard him say that to you I was like, oh no, listen, man, I didn't, that's not what I meant, but it's that kind of atmosphere. I would trust you with hours without a doubt.

April Newton ([03:38](#)):

Right.

Jason Newton ([03:38](#)):

If I had to rush out for an emergency and you were available, then I wouldn't hesitate and I'm guessing that for all the other parents, it's the same way-

April Newton ([03:45](#)):

Right.

Jason Newton ([03:45](#)):

In reverse.

Jason's son ([03:46](#)):

We're in my backyard playing on the good tire swing. And this is pretty much what we do all day. One of my dreams is, is that someday that Jonas would be my brother-in-law, and August too.

Jason Newton ([04:06](#)):

Well they're kind of like your brothers because you come over here every day.

Jason's son ([04:11](#)):

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Well, maybe it's not official, but I think us, and I hope Jonas and August would agree that we're brothers in law, but it's not official. It's not official.

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