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Actor and film producer Alec Baldwin

A cinematographer on the set of a movie set is dead and Alec

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Baldwin is at a loss for how he might be responsible after the prop gun he was holding discharged and killed Halyna Hutchins.

How the actor is choosing to respond in public interviews is what is confusing and disturbing to many, including Hutchins' husband.

Ms. Hutchins was killed on Oct. 21 on the set of the movie *Rust*. Baldwin has claimed he did not pull the trigger. Regardless of what exactly happened, Hutchins died. The investigation continues.

Baldwin expressed in December that *he did not feel guilt*. Baldwin explained that in the scene where Hutchins was killed, he was to draw and raise his gun, "and start to cock the pistol — cut."

He added that he was being directed by Hutchins and pulled the hammer back as far as he could without cocking it.

"I'm just showing her, I go, 'How about that? Does that work? Do you see that?' ... She said, 'yeah, that's good, and I let go of the hammer — bang, the gun goes off."

Baldwin showed pain in a television interview yet and later communicated he is not at fault for Hutchins' death.

"I feel that someone is responsible for what happened, and I can't say who that is," Baldwin said. "But I know it's not me."

Hutchins' husband, Matt, understandably feels differently and is upset with how Baldwin is communicating and portraying himself. He says it's "absurd" that the actor and producer doesn't feel responsible.

"He said essentially he felt grief but no guilt. Almost sounds like he was the victim," Mr. Hutchins said. "And hearing him blame Halyna in the interview and shift responsibility to others and seeing him cry about it, I just feel like – are we really supposed to feel bad about you, Mr. Baldwin?"

"Watching him, I just felt so angry... to see him talk about her death so publicly, in such a detailed way and then not accept any responsibility after having just described killing her," Hutchins told Hoda Kotb.

"The idea that the person holding the gun and causing it to discharge is not responsible is absurd to me. But gun safety was

not the only problem on that set. There were a number of industry standards that were not practiced and there's multiple responsible parties."

The late Halyna Hutchins, killed on the set of Rust, and actor Alec Baldwin

It's natural to wonder if Baldwin has communicated in the most noble, wise and effective manner after this loss of life to someone on the set of his movie. Maybe he feels no guilt and no responsibility. Or maybe because of the wrongful death lawsuit filed, Baldwin feels he can't be entirely honest with his feelings, or his attorneys have told him he can't communicate in an entirely forthright manner.

Whichever the reason, he has not come across to media and Mr. Hutchins as compassionate and that is certainly problematic.

This shouldn't come as a surprise, according to Dr. Kelly McBride, a public relations professional.

"If you look back at Baldwin's past, he has a history of narcissistic abuse-style tendencies, even with his own child with Kim Basinger. He mocked his then 11-year-old daughter Ireland via phone by calling her a 'thoughtless little pig' because she wasn't responding to him, and he demanded that she drop everything to do his bidding. His temper is legendary," she says.

"He's had countless incidents and abuse charges with the paparazzi - punching and even breaking one gentleman's nose, shouting and tussling with them - and while the paparazzi can be

intrusive, other celebrities manage to live their daily lives without getting into abusive incidents with them. And it's not just the paparazzi. He assaulted a man over what he deemed was a stolen public parking space. I don't believe that Baldwin is healthy enough mentally to express compassion. He doesn't feel guilt."

She reasserts the connection to narcissism.

"While I'm not a psychologist, if you look at the <u>Mayo Clinic</u>'s list of symptoms for someone with narcissistic personality disorder, Baldwin definitely comes to mind.

- Exaggerated sense of self-importance, demonstrated by his constant nattering on social media about politics and other powerful topics. It's his word as gold, and if you don't agree, he bullies individuals on social media before finally blocking them.
- Sense of entitlement, and require constant, excessive admiration.
- Expects to be recognized as superior even without achievements that warrant it.
- Believes they are superior and can only associate with equally special people.
- Monopolizes conversations and belittles or looks down on people they perceive as inferior.
- Behaves in an arrogant or haughty manner, coming across as conceited, boastful and pretentious, and especially...
- Have an inability or unwillingness to recognize the needs and feelings of others.

McBride tells a story that might be alarming to some, if not many, from just last month, that seems poor judgment while the investigation goes on about Hutchins' death.

"In January of this year, Baldwin's wife, Hilaria, posted a very strange and chilling Instagram post of him in the couple's private elevator in their apartment building in New York City. The hand drawn picture shows a man lying down saying, 'Oh God. Please help me. I'm dying,' The other character in the drawing is a woman with long hair and pronounced breasts saying 'Do I know you?' Hilaria stated in her post that it was a drawing made by Mr. Baldwin of 'him and me.' The post also featured a video emoji of her clapping. Clapping!"

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It drew the attention of Emily Miller, a well-known journalist and author, McBride says. Miller questioned the couple on her Twitter account, she says, "asking if people felt that Baldwin was actually taunting the sheriff investigating the *Rust* shooting."

"The post no matter who posted it – Baldwin or his wife," says McBride, "reflects so many of the list of symptoms for narcissism, especially behaving in an arrogant or haughty manner. Guns don't shoot by themselves, it's people that shoot them, and while Baldwin is innocent until proven guilty, his lack of remorse is telling."

Baldwin's responses within the interview where he was questioned about Hutchins' death left many confused as to why the actor would want to so readily focus on absolving himself of wrongdoing in place of exhibiting respect towards Hutchins' family.

"Baldwin needed significant media relations training and coaching prior to his interview, but he won't take it, in the same way that he refused to attend the gun-handling training on the set of *Rust*," McBride says. "His arrogance and feelings of superiority supersedes recognition of frailties and that he may actually need to learn rather than pontificate. Both he and his wife have an extraordinary ability to not be able to read the room. As for the tears (in the videotaped interview)?He's an actor: it's part of his job, not his person."

McBride provides background she finds important, even if not directly connected to the death of Mrs. Hutchins.

"An interesting backstory that needs to be considered within the overall conversation is the 10-year grit by his wife Hilaria. Born Hillary Hayward Thomas in Boston, she was able to maintain a narrative for 10 years that she was a native Spaniard. It's interesting to watch videos of her conversations — fluctuating accents, incorrect use of the language, past and present tense confusion, dyed black hair with darkly tanned skin. Alec constantly stated, 'My wife is from Spain' in interviews, most famously on the David Letterman Show in 2013 when he impersonated her accent and made that statement," she begins.

"Hilaria was exposed in December 2021 when she responded to a tweet by Amy Schumer that brought attention from people who knew her that eventually exposed her. As a result of her fake, both

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she and Baldwin were able to secure awards, magazine covers, recognition as when Hilaria represented herself as 'half Spanish' at a United Nations conference, and free products and cash through her social media influencer status.

"Neither Hilaria or Alec have ever apologized. In fact, when Hilaria was exposed, Alec defended her claiming she was 'misrepresented (as to) the extent of her Spanish heritage.' He also called the controversy 'just a lot of s---,' deflecting the true heinous nature of their complicity.

"Hilaria has since claimed in her Instagram posts, resuming her accent after noticeably dropping it for several months after being exposed, that she is culturally fluid with no label perfectly defining her. The entire saga reinforces the fact that both Baldwins like to shift responsibility to others."

Baldwin can still additionally communicate, either with approval from his lawyers or without approval, to show himself to the Hutchins' family specifically, as well as to the media, as someone who sees the harm and loss suffered and is less focused with himself. As to the question of whether Baldwin will do so or 'go dark,' and no longer communicate about the death, is an uncertainty.

"In Baldwin's mind he did nothing wrong. Had the normal, every-day person shot someone in this scenario they may have been arrested. Certainly not permitted to leave the country to film a new movie in England as Baldwin's recent posts show," McBride says.

She points to Baldwin's possible poor judgment, leaving much open to interpretation by the media and public.

"On the very day that Mr. Hutchins has his interview with the 'Today Show,' Alec has the gall to post 'In Buddhism, being truthful goes beyond simply not telling lies. It means speaking truthfully and honestly, yes. But it also means using speech to benefit others, and not to use it to benefit only ourselves.' Was he insinuating that Mr. Hutchins was not telling the truth, or is he gaslighting by covering his own lies?

"Alec criticizes and challenges many individuals with these veiled threats. As FewCauliflowero says on the r/HilariaBaldwin Reddit forum, 'There is nothing Alec and HIlary (sic) will not

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appropriate...he lied about his knowledge of shooting a woman from four feet away. He lied about the discord on the set. He lied about Hilary's (sic) background. He lied about the assaults on the paps (paparazzi). He lied about not knowing Nikki Reed's age. There is a vault of hidden lies... .it is malicious and in no sense representative of Buddhism."

What is known and unflattering about Baldwin is out there in the public domain. How he is communicating publicly, admittedly in a challenging situation, about the death of Hutchins, to which he contributed, is not as high in character and exemplary as it could be and an error.

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Communication Intelligence www.ci-magazine.com Established July 22, 2021

