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QUOTE FOR THE DAY

"Imagine you come upon a home painted brown. What color would you say the house was? 'Why brown, of course.' But what if I came upon it from the other side and found it to be white?

'That would be absurd. Who would paint a house two colors?'

He ignored my question. You say it's brown and I say it's white. Who's right? We're both right.

'Non', he said, 'we're both wrong the house isn't brown or white, it's both. You and I see only one side. But that doesn't mean the other side doesn't exist. To not see the whole is to not see the truth.'" Megan Chance, "The Spiritualist" SOUNDS LIKE US

The political scene in America seems like an ever-deepening spiral. The Republicans won't listen to the Democrats and vice versa. That isn't to imply the Republicans started it. Both sides have had their night- shades and ear plugs in place for quite some time.

So certain theirs' is the correct path, that to have anything to do with, "the enemy camp" is anathema to many.

The Democrats appear to have the more hardened views as 38% of them say they could never have a friendship with a Republican, whereas only 5% of Republicans say that about Democrats.

As reported in an earlier issue last December, no matter how charming, intelligent, handsome/beautiful, 71% of Democrats would never date a Republican, and 38% of Republicans would never date a Democrat. "Houston, er, America, we have a problem." While appearing to embrace hatred for the other side, both Democrats and Republicans seem to have lost track of who it is that they really want to date and have as friends – the Independents of course!!

The March, 2022 Gallup poll reflects voters in America are: 28%, Republicans; 30% Democrats and 40% Independents.

Coming up to the midterms, next November, Democrats are understandably concerned with the Afghanistan exit debacle, crisis at the border, pandemic response and forty year high level of inflation weighing on voters' minds – all resulting is very low approval ratings for the president. Elizabeth Warren specifically notes that inflation presents the gravest threat at election time.

My readings add another category sure to syphon off Democrat votes – wokeness and the culture wars. Many Americans, not just Republicans and Independents, but many Democrats, as well, are just fed up with the pronouncements of these multifaceted programs. A careful review reveals that these endeavors are not part of every Democrat's DNA, but are viewed as such by a large portion of the electorate.

Who better to comment on this issue than arch Democrat/liberal, James Carville, who, as reported last fall said the woke folk had better lighten up on their rhetoric coming into the midterms. To quote:

"What went wrong is stupid wokeness. Don't just look at Virginia and New Jersey, look at Long Island Buffalo; look at Minneapolis, even look at Seattle. I mean this defund the police lunacy, this take Abraham Lincoln's name off of schools, people see that and it really has a suppressive effect all across the country on Democrats. Some of these people need to go to a woke detox center or something."

Giving a known conservative the opportunity to weigh in, Pulitizer prize winning Bret Stephens opines, "In the long run, Americans have always gotten behind protest movements that make the country more open, more decent, less divided. What today is called woke does none of those things. It has no future in the home of the free."

NY Times columnist, Jamelle Bouie, will neither hear nor agree with any of the above. His view is more like, "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead" In an April 24th opinion piece he states, "The theory seems to be that Democrats can only lose if they engage this culture war, and that they'll be on safer ground if they can deliver in Washington and run on their policy achievements without getting into the muck with Republicans.." He goes on to assail those who would, "stigmatize vulnerable children and teachers" in their quest to discredit the culture war.

Mr. Bouie concludes, "These are not distractions to ignore; they are battles to be won. The culture war is here, whether Democrats like it or not. The only alternative to fighting it is losing it."

Would love to sit in on a discussion between Mr. Bouie and Mr. Carville. One sees a brown house the other a white.

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

So on it goes with those who would prefer to see Messrs Biden and Trump in jail, rather than in the white house.

In the instance of Mr. Trump, he appears to be like former Israeli PM Netanyahu who had more law suits than Carter has little liver pills (a reference that requires research by our younger readers, or, more simply, just ignore it) Anyway, just a bunch of prosecutors trying to indict Trump over real estate valuations, taxes, January 6th attack on the Capitol, former contacts with women, etc. Veracity of your scribe's crystal ball is in doubt, but I don't think anything will ever stick, and Mr. Trump may once again appear on the presidential ballot in 2024.

For Mr. Biden, I see a more difficult path, but am guessing that he too will escape the long arm of the law. Incidentally, Rasmussen announced on 3/25/22 that 66% of voters think the Hunter Biden lap-top story is "important" and 48% think it is "very important". This Hunter Biden lap top thing is just too amazing. Recall that news of its discovery came out only about a month before the election. Top former intelligence officials **Brennan and Clapper immediately twisted** arms of 48 other former intelligence officials and put out a letter calling the lap top Russian disinformation, which we now know was written, not with any knowledge of the facts, but by buffoons who viewed Mr. Trump as an existential threat to the United States, and by their very action became existential threats to the United States themselves. Then there was the NY Times, Washington Post and almost all of social media who totally buried this story that went right to Joe Biden's front door. Isn't it interesting that only 18 months later the NY Times and WAPO admit the veracity of the Hunter Biden lap-top.

So what does that all mean? What it means is that Media Research Center reports that 16% of Biden voters would have voted differently if they had had access to this media suppressed information. So forget Trump supporters' allegations that the election was stolen at the ballot box, many would contend it was stolen by print and social media.

It is apparent to those most closely following this investigation that Joe Biden is the "big guy" who was to get a 10% cut of the action; that Joe Biden was totally compromised with China, Russia and Ukraine. So now what happens? Oh, a whole bunch of stuff if the Republican's take over next November. Are we hearing the big I word? I don't think so. As Joe's brother, Jim, is quoted as saying, "No problem, we have plausible deniability." Looks like a, "get out of jail free" card. Catch me if you can.

POT POURI: NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Millennials: 56% of millennials report they would rather not work than be unhappy in their jobs. Poor babies- what do they do when the unemployment checks run out and they can't go out with friends for pizza and beer? Now that's unhappiness!

Baby names: Shocked to read that large numbers of couples expecting babies are so

short on imagination, creativity, intellect – call it what you will, that they are paying "professionals" up to \$10,000 to help pick a baby name.

Russia-Ukraine: We are no fans of Russia invading Ukraine, but consider that Secretaries of State, Warren Christopher and James Baker promised (never reduced to a written agreement, but publically verified) that NATO was never to expand beyond 12 members. NATO, now 30 members. Does Putin have a valid objection?

Johnny Depp- Angela Heard: Does anyone really care? These people are sucking all the oxygen out of the room in a "he said, she said" trial between two vapid people.

Your faithful scribe,

PB