

Avatar Update

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*Curse of the Interesting Times
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*A subscription newsletter
to bring you bits and pieces
that clarify understanding
as I come to learn more
in my own Rabbit Hole
discoveries*

Curse of the Interesting Times

They say we are living in “interesting times.” Reportedly, this is a Chinese curse (if popular mythology can be believed), and the real wording is: *May you live in an interesting age*. It was a parting shot the Chinese threw out at enemies. And it seems to be striking the world with sledgehammer force. The *Prophetic Observer*, a newsletter from Southwest Radio Ministries (www.swrc.com), titled its October issue “Living in Perilous Times,” listing (1) Nuclear Destruction, (2) Transhumanism, (3) Homosexualization of Society, (4) World Government, and (5) Apostasy as the main dangers threatening us today.

Number (1) explains that some two billion people are likely to be taken out, as predicted in Revelation 6:8. Number (2) says that Paul warned Timothy about false science, alerting the reader to “the latest scientific danger” of transhumanism, which will bring us “the end of the human era with development of new forms of life.” Number (3) notes: “Under the present administration every government department in Washington is run by a homosexual, or someone promoting it. Universities are increasingly promoting LGBT courses and degrees.” (LGBT stands for lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender.) Number (4) says nothing about world government, to my mind, but talks about economic collapse caused by “foreign imports which are made by workers making \$0.50 to \$1.00 an hour,” and Number (5) is about false christs and false prophets abounding in the end times.

Now I’ll skip to a very confusing article in the September 2010 issue of *Harper’s* magazine called “Straight Man’s Burden: The American roots of Uganda’s anti-gay persecutions” by Jeff Sharlett. If anyone can even *begin* to sort out what’s happening and explain it to me, I’ll be more than grateful. Here’s an introduction:

On October 14, 2009, a Ugandan member of parliament named David Bahati introduced

legislation called the Anti-Homosexuality Bill. Among its provisions: up to three years in prison for failure to report a homosexual; seven years for “promotion”; life imprisonment for a single homosexual act; and, for “aggravated homosexuality” (which includes gay sex while HIV-positive, gay sex with a disabled person, or, if you’re a recidivist, gay sex with anyone—marking the criminal as a “serial offender”), death. As of this writing, the bill has yet to pass, despite near-unanimous support in Parliament.

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The Fellowship is the Ugandan Parliament’s branch of an American evangelical movement of the same name, also called the Family. The Family differs from most fundamentalist groups in its preference for those whom it calls “key men,” political and business elites, over the multitude. The bill’s author, MP Bahati, the de facto leader of the Ugandan branch, has become a national star for his crusade against gays. Winston Churchill called Uganda “the pearl of Africa”; the Family agrees. In the past ten years, it has poured millions into “leadership development” there, more than it has invested in any other foreign country, and billions in U.S. foreign aid have flowed into Ugandan coffers since a Family leader turned on the tap 24 years ago for President Yoweri Museveni, a dictator hailed by the West for his democratic rhetoric and by Christian conservatives for the evangelical zeal of his regime.

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For years, American fundamentalists have looked on Uganda as a laboratory for theocracy, though most prefer such terms as “government led by God.” They sent not just money and missionaries but ideas, and if the money disappeared and the missionaries came and went, the ideas took hold. Ugandan evangelicals sing American songs and listen to sermons about American problems, often from American preachers. Ugandan politicians

attend prayer breakfasts in America and cut deals with evangelical American businessmen. American evangelicals, in turn, hold up Ugandan congregations as role models for their own, and point to Ugandan AIDS policy—from which American evangelicals nearly stripped condom distribution altogether—as proof that public-health problems can be solved by moral remedies.

Blessed Rites

Meet Blessed. Blessed is a young Ugandan man who so named himself because of the divine, spiritual ecstasy he feels about everything.

Around the time Blessed became Blessed, he began attending Pentecostal churches, “spirit-filled” places where you sang and danced and maybe experienced the gift of tongues, babbling in languages granted you by God. The songs were American as often as African, the churches sprinkled with handsome *mzungus* [foreigners], and there was a lot of laying on of hands. It felt cosmopolitan, modern. Blessed’s favorite pastor was Martin Ssempe, who appeared in music videos in Uganda and in pulpits in the United States. Every Saturday night Ssempe led a service – a party, really – called Primetime, held at Makerere University’s outdoor pool.

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Ssempe was ... the handsomest man you ever saw, beckoning from the stage across the pool, which glowed in the night. The band thumped and Ssempe called, as if the kids might actually walk on the water. ... There were gay boys, drag kings, and straight kids ...

The service would drive the thousand or more kids into a frenzy of “holy laughter” and jumping up and down as high as they could to the band’s music. It was about staving off sex, which Ssempe told the kids would be awesome when they finally had it. “It was so hot!” said Blessed.

Now meet Victor Juliet Mukasa. Victor-Juliet is a “transman”—born a female, but living as a male and attracted to girls.

Like Blessed, Juliet Mukasa [was] raised Catholic but had joined an American-style Pentecostal church, hoping that in the music and the dancing and the Holy Ghost—the ecstasy—she would find the resolution of her desires. But Juliet Mukasa

was not as skilled as Blessed at leading two lives. ... A pastor determined that she was possessed by a “male spirit” and asked his flock to help him heal her. As women in the pews swayed and sang for Mukasa’s liberation, the exorcism took place at the altar, boys and men from the church laying on hands and speaking in tongues. They took her arms, gently then firmly, and stripped her. ... They slapped her, but it was holy slapping [...] Then they locked her in a room and raped her. For a week. This is considered a corrective; a medical procedure, really; a cure. When it was all over, the pastor declared that the church had freed Mukasa.

Mukasa became a man and an activist, determined to prevent what had happened to him from happening again. In 2003, he cofounded Freedom and Roam Uganda, an organization for lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and intersex human rights.

So now, even in Uganda, there are movements as progressive as you will find in America, representing the “growing diversification” of sexuality that is showing up worldwide. I have heard from more than one person that the Philippines is another place where great numbers of transpeople roam, and great numbers of very effeminate men are seen wheeling baby carriages. Which brings me to experiments in sociobiology, as well as the concept of *island biology*, which some of you may not have heard of.

From the book *Naturalist*, by the famous entomologist E.O. Wilson:

The South Pacific is a galaxy of thousands of islands, spread out in configurations that have served many of the key advances in evolutionary biology. [...] A true, biogeographic island ... is a world that holds most of its organisms tight within its borders. It is the ideal unit for the study of evolution. Enough immigrants fly, swim, or drift ashore to colonize the island, yet not so many in each generation to form the commanding elements of its populations. If the island is large and old and distant enough, the descendants of the immigrants evolve into new races peculiar to the new home. Given enough time the races diverge still further from their sister populations on the continent and on neighboring islands to deserve the taxonomic rank of species. ... By factoring in the age of the island and the origin of the immigrants, biologists can reconstruct the evolution of the plants and animals there more easily than on continents. The

simplicity of islands makes them the best of all natural laboratories.

The experiments are conducted in opposite manner from those in conventional laboratories. They are retroactive rather than anticipatory. Whereas most biologists vary a few factors under controlled conditions and observe the effects of each deviation, the evolutionary biologist observes the results already obtained, as learned from the studies of natural history, and tries to infer the factors that operated in the past. Where the experimental biologist predicts the outcome of experiments, the evolutionary biologist retrodicts the experiment already performed by Nature; he teases science out of history. And because so many factors may have operated in the guidance of evolution and the creation of wild species, the best result of the retrodictive method can be obtained if the ecosystems are relatively small and simple. Hence islands.

It has occurred to me many times that the establishment of American military bases on so many islands (and throughout the South Pacific, please note) might have been to conduct and monitor experiments in the creation of “new species” from which results the science could be “teased,” to use Wilson’s word. The cultures of Africa, similarly, might be serving as experimental seeding grounds. Could it be that missionaries were sent to spread Christianity so the concept of “sin” could be used as a social tool around the world by which to divide people and their communities, thus creating a nice Hegelian platform for the type of gay/anti-gay battle going on in Uganda?

Toward a New Kind

The “homosexualization of society” warned against by the *Prophetic Observer* may be an artificially induced and accelerated development, rather than a natural one. Estrogenic plastics are having their effects on men in our society, just as chemicals getting into streams have created hermaphrodite frogs. I have a friend who tells me he was “meant to be straight, not gay” but somehow he turned out to be a heterosexual man with homosexual preferences. “I know something was done to me, but I don’t know what,” he says. If we imagine ahead, so to speak, as convention/religion is pitted against the unconventional in sexual preference and enough people are riled up by it, what lies in the middle of the dialectic ...? Protection of certain new subgroups by the state? People may not know what they are in the future as the effects of their environment

(chemicals and such) wreak havoc on their gender, and may need an official diagnosis to figure out which public restroom they can use. And one day there may be *no sexual preference, no gender at all* ... “Neuts,” you see, are one form of post-human anticipated by futurists: those who will be neither male nor female and have no sexuality to speak of. Could *that* be what will result from these mysterious island dabblings and the changes we are already seeing?

Back to David Bahati’s bill in Uganda:

“God uses instruments to make his purpose be fulfilled,” Bahati said [...] To him, homosexuality is only a symptom of what he learned from the Family to be a greater plague: government by people, not by God. [...] There was still hope for Africa. God would use the weak to teach the strong, and Bahati to send a message to America. ... *Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, / Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, / And the houses without man, / And the land be utterly desolate, / And the Lord have removed men far away, / And there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.*

Prophecy isn’t kind, but Bahati was brave. He knew his bill, if passed—and in Uganda, voters wanted it passed—would lead to a great forsaking, indeed: of foreign aid, the lifeblood of what passes for an economy in a country where job seekers outnumber jobs fifty to one. People would starve. ... And it might be worse than that. The dictator was old, his grip was weakening, and war might be coming. It was hard to conceive, after at least 300,000 dead under Amin and as many as half a million lost in the fight that brought Museveni to power, that Uganda would ever return to the slaughter. But they would do what God asked of them, Bahati believed. They would be a God-led nation, a light unto the world. ... Fellowship groups in the governments of countries across the continent—Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Zambia, Congo—had requested copies of his bill ... The message was spreading, with Bahati as its apostle, suddenly the most famous Ugandan since Idi Amin.

Although the bill has been made somewhat milder (the death penalty removed, for example), it remains on the table in Uganda. I would ask you to see a BBC documentary called “America’s Most Hated Family – In Crisis” (four parts, just type the title in YouTube’s search bar). Wow! Say hello to

the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, whose members are just about the most ribald (shall I try to say 'dedicated'?) Christians you will ever meet. The Westboro Baptist Church represents the most extreme end of a spectrum, the other end being tough to describe. Watching this film gives better shape to what's happening in Uganda, and the realization may dawn on some that a very creative puppet master sits behind these strings—from conservative America to the deep heart of Africa.

Myths for a New Culture

If you take a few minutes to watch Jay Leno's interview with the very bizarre Lady Gaga (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4dA8hKemAjI>), you will hear her anticipating and extolling the birth of a new human race, from within the present race, which will have no prejudices. I suspect her new hit song "Born this Way" has to do with being gay, trans, bi- or more, cementing the idea that the population explosion we are seeing in this regard is natural, rather than engineered or modeled for us in any way.

Which brings me to a fascinating related article that came out in *New Dawn* magazine (September 2011) by Richard K. Moore, titled "The Elite Agenda for Social Transformation." The writer explains that, with the birth of the Industrial Age, capitalism and money-as-investment (which is called "capital," of course) became the forces that radically altered our economy, making the banks (lenders of capital) and investors (funders of industrial growth) the movers and shakers, rather than the landholders (aristocrats and nobility), who had been on top of the pyramid for centuries. Capitalism, I learned from this article, is *dynamic*, whereas old-fashioned land or gold ownership is *static*. Quoting Moore's piece:

The business of the capitalist is the management of capital, and this management is generally handled through the mediation of banks and brokerage houses. It should not be surprising that investment bankers came to occupy the top of the hierarchy of capitalist wealth and power. And in fact, there are a handful of banking families, including the Rothschilds and the Rockefellers, who have come to dominate economic and political affairs in the Western world.

Unlike aristocrats, capitalists are not tied to a place, or to the maintenance of a place. Capital is disloyal and mobile: It flows to where the most growth can be found, as it flowed from Holland to Britain, then from Britain to the USA, and most

recently from everywhere to China. Just as a copper mine might be exploited and then abandoned, so under capitalism a whole nation can be exploited and then abandoned, as we see in the rusting industrial areas of America and Britain.

...

In pre-capitalist days warfare was like chess, each side trying to win. Under capitalism, warfare is more like a casino, where the players battle it out as long as they can get credit for more chips, and the real winner always turns out to be the house – the bankers who finance the war and decide who will be the last man standing. Not only are wars the most profitable of all capitalist ventures, but by choosing the winners, and managing the reconstruction, the elite banking families are able, over time, to tune the geopolitical configuration to suit their own interests.

Nations and populations are but pawns in their games. Millions die in wars, infrastructures are destroyed, and while the world mourns, the bankers are counting their winnings and making plans for their post-war reconstruction investments. From their position of power, as the financiers of governments, the banking elite have over time perfected their methods of control. Staying always behind the scenes, they pull the strings controlling the media, the political parties, the intelligence agencies, the stock markets, and the offices of government. And perhaps their greatest lever of power is their control over currencies. By means of their central-bank scam they engineer boom and bust cycles, and the print money from nothing and loan it at interest to governments. The power of the elite banking gang (the "banksters") is both absolute and subtle.

...

Capitalism is a vehicle that helped bring the banksters to absolute power, but they have no more loyalty to that system than they have to place, or to anything or anyone. As mentioned earlier, they think on a global scale, with nations and populations as pawns. They define what money is and they issue it ... They can also make up a new game with a new kind of money. They have long outgrown any need to rely on any particular economic system in order to maintain their power. ...

[C]apitalism was not allowed to die a natural death. Instead it was brought down by a controlled

demolition. First it was put on a life-support system...with globalization, privatization, currency markets, etc. Then it was injected with a euthanasia death-drug in the form of real-estate bubbles and toxic derivatives. Finally, the Bank of International Settlements in Basel – the central bank of central banks – pulled the plug on the life-support system: they declared the “mark-to-market rule,” which made all the risk-holding banks instantly insolvent, although it took a while for this to become apparent. Every step in this process was carefully planned and managed by the central-banking clique.

(Note: The “mark to market rule” imposes the fair-market value of an asset, meaning the current market price rather than the original price. So if real estate is falling like a stone from the sky (let’s say because everyone decides to sell their homes), then the mark-to-market rule brings the value of houses way down and those holding the mortgages quickly find themselves upside down.)

The End of Sovereign Nations

Moore explains so many things so incredibly well! Please Google this piece, print it out, read it, study it. Read on:

Just as the financial collapse was carefully managed, so was the post-collapse scenario with its suicidal bailout programs. National budgets were already stretched; they certainly did not have reserves available to salvage the insolvent banks. Thus the bailout commitments amounted to nothing more than the taking on of astronomical new debts by governments. In order to service the bailout commitments, the money would need to be borrowed from the same financial system that was being bailed out! It’s not that the banks were too big to fail, rather the banksters were too powerful to fail: they made politicians an offer they couldn’t refuse. In the USA, Congress was told that without bailouts there would be martial law the next morning. In Ireland [where the writer lives], the ministers were told there would be financial chaos and rioting in the streets. In fact, as Iceland demonstrated, the sensible way to deal with insolvent banks was with an orderly process of receivership.

The effect of the coerced bailouts was to transfer insolvency from the banks to the national treasuries. Banking debts were transformed into

sovereign debts and budget deficits. Now, quite predictably, it is the nations that are seeking bailouts, and those bailouts come with conditions attached. Instead of the banks going into receivership, the nations are going into receivership.

...

When a nation succumbs to debt bondage, it ceases to be a sovereign nation, governed by [its own] internal political process. Instead it comes under the control of IMF diktats. As we have seen in the third world, and is now happening in Europe, these diktats are about austerity and privatization. Government functions are eliminated or privatized, and national assets are sold off. Little by little—again a controlled demolition—the nation state is dismantled. In the end, the primary functions left to government are police suppression of its own population, and the collection of taxes to be handed over to the banksters.

Thus, as Moore says, the system is both made and allowed to destroy itself so a new system can be installed in its place. Empires have been systematically built, exploited and undone, to be replaced with new empires in new parts of the world that swell, become gluttonously saturated and are then gutted and left to decay. (Very conveniently, it is these empires that are blamed for the raping and destroying engineered by their funders, the banksters.) As modern communication has “united” the world and apprised everyone of who the current bad guys are (not the bankers, of course!), a global culture is already taking shape: It eats at McDonalds, wears blue jeans, worships Hollywood, rocks to discordant music; it reveres the planet and all things green; it shops at chain stores, pays with credit cards, drinks Coke, gets vaccinated, and uses every spare moment to connect with its friends on Facebook and Twitter. For now, while the knitting of The Hive is taking place, a middle class with money to spend on the above-listed musts is permitted to express and enjoy itself. But the fun will not last:

For the past four decades, since about 1970, we’ve been experiencing a regime-change process, from an old global system to a new global system. In the old system, First World nations were relatively democratic and prosperous, while the Third World suffered under police-state tyranny, mass poverty and imperialism (exploitation by external powers). ... [T]he transition process has been characterized by “crossing the Rubicon”—the introduction of policies and practices into the First World that

were formerly limited, for the most part, to the Third World.

Thus debt bondage to the IMF crossed the Rubicon, enabled by the collapse-bailout scam. In turn, mass poverty is crossing that same Rubicon, due to austerity measures imposed by the IMF, with its new bond-holding powers. Imperialism is also crossing the Rubicon: the imposition of Third-World poverty requires Third-World methods of repression.

The Best for Everybody

“Crossing the Rubicon” means to pass a point of no return, the phrase originating from Julius Caesar’s army crossing the Rubicon river in 49 BC. Moore is stark about the emerging global police state: a measure necessary to keep the future starving masses in line. It was acted out for us at the WTO protest in Seattle: heavy-handed cops brutalizing peaceniks who just wanted to let the world know that globalization isn’t what we think it is. Says Moore:

The excessive and arbitrary violence of that [police] response – including such things as holding people’s eyes open and spraying pepper into them—was unprecedented against non-violent demonstrators in a First-World nation. Ironically that police response, particularly as it was so well publicized, actually strengthened the anti-globalist movement.

Problem, reaction, solution. Moore goes on to explain the demonizing of each successive economy, predicting that in the soon-to-come post-capitalist world, *having money and possessions will be shunned*. “This will be very important in getting people to accept poverty and regimentation,” he writes. Which gives me the shudders. One can actually see this happening. The “Occupy Wall Street” protests in so many cities are not the result of cosmic consciousness; they represent the clever formation of *anti-capitalism*, which has been created to occupy (there’s that word) the seat that Communism once claimed opposite capitalism on the Hegelian spectrum. Communism was dismantled so that a parade of successive Hegelian concepts could take its place to shape the proper future outcome. The Wall Street occupation’s anti-big-banks/anti-money-ness is not a *political* philosophy; it is a *class philosophy* that has been hatched to prepare us all for the widespread impoverishment about to be played as the banksters’ next card.

In those terrible dark days, before the blessed

unification of humanity, anarchy reigned in the world. One nation would attack another, no better than predators in the wild. Nations had no long-term coherence; voters would swing from one party to another, keeping governments always in transition and confusion. How did anyone ever think that masses of semi-educated people could govern themselves and run a complex society? Democracy was an ill-conceived experiment that led only to corruption and chaotic governance. How lucky we are to be in this well-ordered world, where humanity has finally grown up and those with the best expertise make decisions for the whole globe. (Moore)

This is a voice from the future. The hand of Hegelian dialectic will have given us a Planet Earth that seeks the best for everybody, producing only what is necessary and using it in a “sustainable” way. Corporations will be subdivisions of global government, supplying us with teeny trickles of what we absolutely need, regulated by a surveillance state that keeps track of all that it counts and sees on its ever-ticking global data-computation-base. And the Hive will be its obedient member-servants, nodding in accord with the stringencies, *for we were almost at the brink of extinction before we used our brains to save ourselves*.

Thank the Goddess! *How scary were the old days!* How much better off we are now that population is in strict control, there is no more “sex,” reproduction is in the hands of the state, food and nutrition have been chemically tailored to meet our exact internal requirements with no over-consumption or excess (remember the *fat people?* What a sight they were and how dangerous was their condition!) And the workplace—so orderly, so smooth and productive it is now ... with no competition for jobs or careers as we are carefully trained from childhood to be suited for what we do, in service to our interconnected humanity.

Yours as we contemplate this,