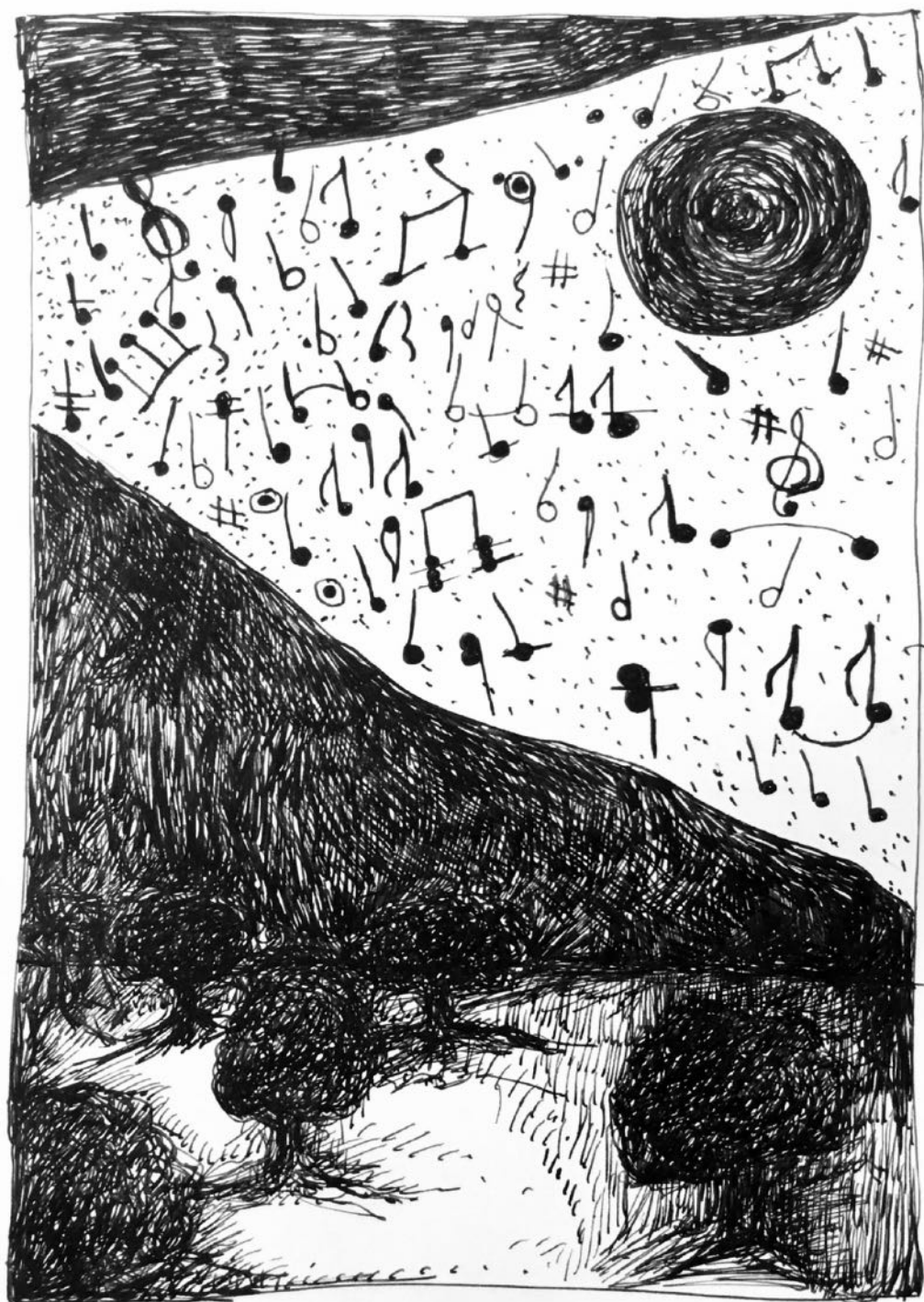


ACT III THE FINAL CURTAIN

A Zine Story
By Randall Colley c 2023



Shade Goodnight and the Zine

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ACT III THE FINAL CURTAIN

Shade Goodnight's morning talk with the Zine.

ACT I; is from birth to 30, ACT II; is from 30 to 60 and ACT III, is from 60 until death.

I don't want to lament about life anymore.
Let's see where this Zine wants to go today.

I am in the last Act of life. I am in Act III the final curtain.

So... just as I had to adjust and prepare to retire from my job. I am now getting ready to retire from life as well. Hopefully it will be a long, long while, but just like the job the day will come ready or not.

I must start preparing to let go of this part of life as well. I will move on, to somewhere?

I don't know where, my guess is, I will go to the same place that I was before I was born and just for the record, I don't think I want to be born again.

So... I am really sick and tired of trying to control, people, places and situations.

I don't want to use another minute of the time I have left to anymore, fear, worry and impending doom. The lamenting stops today.

God, I must say, if humans are your grand creation, they have been a complete failure or at best a poor design. Sorry if the truth hurts.

Now, it is very possible that there may not even be a god and that all my disappointment and anger at you, is also a waste of time and energy, because no sane intelligent, caring god would have created such flawed humans.

In that case there is no one to blame, but human beings themselves. Human beings have created this pathetic situation that we are in.

Human beings are to blame for the world as it is. We were given heaven and we created hell.

What I must come to terms with is, that I can not change the world or the people in it. I can not make them act and do better.

They are too mean spirited, short sighted or just too stupid to do the next right thing.

I can no longer give my energy to unconscious people, who can not or will not change.

I will be leaving this planet in the not so distant future and I just don't have the time or energy to waste.

I must make a conscious effort to break from the world and its problems and focus on enjoying the time that I have left.

This is not an easy thing to do, considering I have been playing the Hero role since childhood. My ego is my biggest obstacle.

It thinks it knows what is good and what is bad and what should happen in the world.

Maybe the Hindu goddess Kali had a better idea and sometimes the destruction of the world and old ideas is the best way to save the earth from the stupid people.

What do I know?

That is the point, you do not know what is best for this planet, hell, you don't know what is best for you and your little life.

Ok, it's back to me now, please... I need to find a good healthy attitude, that will help me finish out my time left on this planet.

Then don't waste any more of your energy or your time worrying about the future.

So... what if from this day forward, you could find a way to stop believing that the future that is created by your mind is real and focus on the present moment, that is real.

Practice being conscious of what you are doing right now and how it might impact the future.

Accept, every moment as it is because, it is. This moment is the only true reality.

Predicting the future is just mind constructed fear or hope and at best only a guess.

Fate can catch both the careful as well as the careless.

We simply do not know what fate will bring into our lives, not the good or the bad.

Is it wrong to want the future to be different than it is?

No.

Is it wrong to let go and let the future be what it will be?

No.

Think about what you just said... are you really letting the future be what it will be? Are you god? The future will be what it will be, with or without your approval.

I guess the right question for me to ask is, what future are we talking about? The future of the world that is beyond my control.

The future of my own life which is as much beyond my control as it is under my control.

This moment right here and right now, is the only thing that I can really be conscious of, but still not control. I can only control the next key stroke that I hit...on the keypad. Unless the cat jumps up and walks across my iPad.

I could trip and fall on my way to get a cup of coffee, hit my head and change my life forever.... Ok I got the cup of coffee and I did not fall, the cat didn't walk on my key pad, I dodged a bullet.

My mind has always looked into the future, it has done that since I was a child. Maybe now is the time for that to change. Let me look into the future and see if I can stop looking into the future.

Yeah.... Like that is going to happen.

Hey, we have to start somewhere.

Ok, I am looking into the future right now.

What are you seeing?

I am happy, joyous and free.

Free from what?

Free from looking into the future.

I am living each moment as it comes to me.

And what happened to the world?

The world appears to be going hell in a handbag, but that is the way the people want it to be.

It still makes my stomach hurt when I think about it and yes I know that I must accept that I am not able to control it.

You mean, that you are not able to save them.

Yes, that I am not able to save them. It does not have to be this way.

Oh, but yes it does, it had to be this way, it is human nature to want to keep power at all cost.

Remember when the people voted to pardon Barabbas and to kill Jesus.

They voted to keep their religious power and they will kill and destroy anyone that tries to take it from them.

Wait,... are we back in the future again... trying to be the Hero again... with doom and gloom projections.

Yes... you are right, I took you back to the fear, worry and impending doom.

Who the hell are you anyway?

I am your...other-Self.

Are you a demon?

Lord no, I am the other-Self that was formed from your DNA when you were born.

I am the part of you that warns you and tells you to... "LOOK OUT, DANGER AHEAD".

Like the robot from Lost in Space "DANGER... DANGER".

The problem is, that I have too much power in your life and I am using up too much of our remaining time and energy.

Remember time is RUNNING OUT... sorry, just doing my job.

So you are an other-Self, are you the one that causes all of this mental suffering and grief in my life?

Hey... don't get mad at me because you don't have the strength to control me. It's not my fault that you let me have power over you. And you let me make your life miserable.

That is not... my fault, so don't blame me for your weakness.

Stand up for your life . Ok... I can see that you don't understand, so here's the deal.

While you let me spend all of our time and energy looking at the political future of the world on TV and in your mind. Your Hero-Self, which is also another one of your hardwired defected characters, is telling you, that you it's your job to save the world.

Sorry but this all stated in your childhood.

In the mean time, your real life is passing you by, slipping through your fingers like sand through an hour glass. Heard that before right?

So, what I am hearing you say is that you are part of us and not going away, and that it is not my fault, that I am, the way I am.

That you are a the other-Self that is hardwired by our DNA to look into the future and that you will continue to do that.

Correct, so don't waste anymore of our real life time. Remember time is a wasting, it's going down the drain.

Oh, god... so now I need to worry about wasting what time I have left?

Yes... you really do.

Ok, now you are starting to get it, now you see how this works.

Since you can not stop me from looking into the future and making you feel all full of fear and depressed.

Here's the plan, Shade, why don't you try to yoke my focus away from thinking about a future that may or may not happen, back to the here and now, the real world that is happening right now.

You mean like yoga, where you yoke the mind back to the breath each time the "mind" goes off on a tangent.

Yes... So, if every time, I am doing my job, and don't forget, I am hardwired to do that. When, I look to the future and see doom and gloom, you must yoke me back to the real productive present moment.

Let's face it I am not going away, so let's work around the problem. I can look into any future that you direct me to.

The problem is that when you leave me mindless and unattended, I will always go to doom and gloom, "danger... danger."

The doom and gloom future of the world will always be here for us, I can always take you there.

But, my powers can also be used to focus and see a positive future. Let's say you want to be healthy.

I can show you a future where you enjoy, eating the right kinds of food, walking, going to the gym, riding your bicycle and basically having real fun in life. I can do that for you as well.

I can show you a future where you are playing music with your friends and a future where you are drawing pictures, writing stories and making Zines, that people want to read.

I can show you a future where you and your wife are madly in love with each other and your life is filled with joy no matter what is going on in the world.

I can show you how to live your best life, before the Final Curtain , and enjoy the greatest play of your life .

Not withstanding, fate and luck may have different plans for you, sorry nothing I can do about that.

Or, we can keep watching the news and politics and see nothing but a zombie, apocalypse in the world's future. Your choice.

Ok, I get it.
The End

MAKE A POEM
WRITE A STORY
MAKE A DRAWING
MAKE A ZINE
EVERYDAY

