

Elsewhere

Once upon a time, there was a young man named Jack Slacker. He lived in the country and walked to the town of Elsewhere one day to the Farmer's Market downtown on the banks of the Lazy River. Jack went from booth to booth, looking for something he could afford. As it was fall, he looked at the turnips and a few other seasonal vegetables. But Jack wasn't interested in spending all he had on turnips. Jack came to a booth run by a man named Mr. Rabble. The man offered Jack some Juju beans. He told Jack they were magic beans that he could grow a money tree and, in doing so, become filthy rich. Jack was excited and hurried home to tell his wife, Jilt or Jil' Slacker. Irritated by Jack's gullible nature, Jil' told him he was swindled. "Just throw those stupid beans in the ditch," Jil' told him. Jack did so as he returned to the Farmer's Market, where he knew he had found a winner, which he also got from Mr. Rabble. It was a bottle of Dr. Nostrum's Elixir, which was "known to cure all ills and ailments, more or less." Mr. Rabble told him.

"And it most certainly helps with sleep." Mr. Rabble told him. "And it is only a dollar."

Jack bought a bottle. He was so excited he drank the whole bottle on the way home. Intoxicated, he looked for the Juju beans in the ditch but fell into a deep sleep.

There had been the Covert-20 Virus that had plagued the land. It was called a virus, but it was a plague of old, a pestilence like in Biblical days. This was happening worldwide, and in Elsewhere, Amerika, where Jack Slacker now slept, a presidential election was approaching. The contest was between the current President Rump and his rival, former Vice-President Schmoe. Rump was not favored to win in the polls and was feeling a bit facetious, so he took to Chatterbox and posted that he was going out to play a round of golf. He was feeling better, knowing that when he was first elected, he was also losing in the polls. Rump was riding in his golf cart, and he told the caddy to "step on it" as he hurried back to the Office.

But as Rump rode back to the clubhouse, he and his caddy rounded the corner of a retainer Wall and flipped. Rump was sent flying, crashed, and ended up in an entire body cast. Rump, upon waking from the crash at the hospital, was told it took all the doctors to put him in the cast, in which he would have to remain indefinitely... "a useless soul, a cripple." That's how he thought of himself now.

Most voters had heard about Rump and the wall and knew that he could not be resurrected.

Concerning his re-election and his term in Office, it was now time to end it....

Schmoe was ahead by a margin enough for victory on election day and several days following election day. A group of resistors and radicals stormed into where former Vice-President Schmoe was about to give his victory speech and tried to behead him with a crudely fashioned guillotine. Insurrection ensued. President Rump took to Chatterbox, a social media site he was famous for using as a mouthpiece for his agendas while in Office...

Rump took to Chatterbox and posted a Chat that he would humbly accept a continued stay in Office due to the new status quo, the "new normal."

At about this time, Jack Slacker awakened from his sleep. As I mentioned, the election had gone on for several days unexpectedly. Jack had missed the bulk of the fiasco. But Jack Slacker was caught up to date by his wife, Jil, as usual. Jack went home and stayed there, where he felt safe from the insurrection. President Rump, who had a great fall off his golf cart, had been reinstated to the Office but put in a body cast for the rest of his life, where he now reigns as "Boss" online from a secret location on the website Chatterbox. Jack Slacker also woke to find out Evangelical Extremists had taken to forming protests for Stand by Rump. And I don't know if they thought that formula through. Regardless, if Rump had been allowed to stay in the Office, it would have been thanks to nepotism. Rump called for the military to arrest Schmoie, who the military stated couldn't be arrested because he was such an average fellow that he would just blend right into the melting pot of our government (and because the Constitution didn't allow for it).

And Jack Slacker, thinking he was unlucky to have missed much of the shenanigans, decided it best not to buy any more of the elixir. He went back to find the Juju beans that he had tossed in the ditch. When he got there, he saw a giant bamboo pole. He began to climb it, and at the top, there was no cash or gold.

There was a tiny booth like the ones at the Farmer's Market below, with a sign that said: "an 'End-ItAll' Vaccine." Jack had once considered taking a dose of End-It-All to amuse himself at Jil's expense... but who knew that Jack was stricken with borderline intellectual functioning? End-It-All was a euthanasia drug brought into the world by the evil and merciless medical corporation known as Merciful Medications, Inc., which was an Evangelical group, no doubt.

Jack Slacker woke from his apocalyptic dream. It was election day early morning, just before the polls were to open. Jack Slacker reached in his pocket, but no vaccine... and then he thought:

"I better go to the Farmer's Market and see if Mr. Rabble has something more potent."