CAMPAIGN 2016

ABSURDITY -- A POLITICAL SATIRE

By Raymond K. Bates

WARNING -- DANGER! WILL ROBINSON and others faint of heart.

Do Not continue reading if you are easily upset, if you have I.B.S.

(Irritable Bowel Syndrome, or is it I've Been Swindled--Again), if you require tummy rubs and head pats; if you don't understand political satire and that the first amendment is for EVERYONE; if you like Jane Fonda; SCREW JANE FONDA. Oh, what the hell, read this DC (Damn Crap) at your own RISK!

One word seems to sum up my impression of what the 2016 campaign season was all about on either side. Politics has always been an odd duck to me. But this past season seemed a bit more cockeyed than ever before.

Have you ever watched how younger school children interact when at play? Even when scrapping and bickering, with minimal adult intervention, unless physical altercations are involved, they resolve their differences and leave the day as it started. Friends. Only when entrenched adults, parents, politicians, and media become involved does the whole scale get knocked out of balance. Couldn't we all learn

something *NEW* from that young child within each of us? OR will we stand our entrenched ground come Hell or high water? Thinking --YCBS (You Can/Can't Be Stupid). It seems thumb-talking is only how many know how to communicate, by code, through texting and e-mails. Perhaps YCBS (You Can Be Biased) is their ABSURDITY as they chide their fellows in response. When e-mails come up deleted or missing, well, what can you say but YCFS (You Can't Fix Stupid).

At times, this campaign season was like watching old reruns on Cartoon Network--Tom chasing Jerry, Wiley Coyote being outsmarted by Road Runner. The Stooges and Marx brothers didn't entertain the masses any better. If this was live theater, you could have easily have staged the antics we observed in the campaign on SNL (Saturday Night Live) taking place in a frat or sorority house. Oh wait, I think they DID that. Well, for certain, it was not dull and it was an entertaining campaign season.

In days gone by, you would have gone to your comic book or magazine store to get and read the latest episodes of your villains and s/heroes. In this campaign, we had Men vs. Women on the Right and the Left. This was more than a one-on-one fight, this was down-and-dirty tag teaming, in-your-face fighting. One set of players was the Siamese Twins, like Punch and Judy characters of old, we had Hill & Bill. Also, head-to-head, Dr. Jill vs. Dr. Carson. And, who can forget candidate Mr.

Johnson, "Aleppo -- what?" vs. Carlye, "The Face," or Donald, "the Hands" vs. "Little Marco," but grandma got run over by a reindeer, BERNIE, got steamrolled over by the DNC and the Twins. Some anointed Villain or Foes proved that a Bush can be consumed in the middle of a campaign. The delusional Mr. J K (J Kasich) still clings to his illusion, insisting only HE is the true Messiah come to be the next president. Only one Snowflake, T.C., (Tom Cat? Top Cat? Totally Crazy?), I forget what the initials stand for, I wonder if he remembers after this season. Only Snowflake had a chance of catching "Hands," the leader, but in the end it was not meant to be. By then, all the other shooting stars had flamed out.

Still, the public and media waited for more of this new political blood sport. Especially with revelations coming in from "Licky Peaks" (Wiki-leaks). I personally would have liked to have had a final debate put on by O.W.B.N. (Other World Broadcasting Network), sponsors being the Alt Left and the Alt Right. They could have had renowned moderators like DC 180 (Anderson Cooper 360) of CNN (Clown Nothing New Network) and Hahn Insanity of FOX (Faux or X-rated Network) and Radical Madcow (R. Maddow) of MSNBC (Mad Sarcastic Nonsense Bullshit Crap Network). But alas, it was not meant to be. In the end, Villain and Foe would face each other. OMG. Hands won the nomination! That wasn't supposed to happen. But there is no way he

can win against the anointed "Hill-Billy" Twins. All the media and pollster pundits are predicting America will elect its first woman president.

*Note to readers and pollsters: VOTERS, not POLLS elect a candidate.

NOT the plurality, but the electoral count is the FINALITY. That's the constitutional way!

Sometimes, as history has shown (and been repeated many times)--"The IMPOSSIBLE can become POSSIBLE!"

Never was that so true as it was in 2016, not only in elections cycles around the globe, but also in the sports world. Check it out for yourself how many unlikely, improbable s, impossibles actually become possible. Was it aliens or ZOMBIES intervening? Or is absurdity behind the mystery? I like to believe that in each of us we can discover the word "opportunity" embedded in that word "absurdity."

Ecclesiastes 3:1: " To everything there is a season."