



Yawny's Digest

SPECIAL LONG-WINDED ISSUE



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"It is through tricks that you will learn." —Philip K. Dick

July 2022

Elites Intensify Efforts As Implosion Continues

I pretty much believe every conspiracy theory out there, except for the flat earth bullshit. When you think about all the stuff that we know with relatively high probability to be true, like, say, MK-Ultra, or Bolton bragging about all the coups he's engineered, it's hard not to believe that the 95% of the shit you *don't* see or know about is probably pretty fucked up.

Just consider recent times: after inflating history's all-time greatest stock bubble, power elite pedos siphoned off billions more from the pandemic trough, gave themselves giant raises, worked the crypto Ponzis, then converted their winnings to precious metals. Now they're kicking back and enjoying the view of the inflationary squeeze from up in their ivory-and-glass towers.

These fuckers do seem to get a perverse pleasure from pushing the culture war buttons. Between abortion, guns, identity politics, and Covid, people's eyes are indeed well off the prize. Shout out to you think tanks! It must be pretty awesome to play 4D chess with billions of faceless pawns, make piles of money from genocide, and still find time on the weekends to fondle teenagers on your private yacht.

Here are some of my favorite conspiracy theories, in no particular order:

- * Epstein didn't kill himself
- * Ghislaine Maxwell was a Reddit powermod
- * COVID lab leak
- * Identity politics are an intelligence psyop
- * CIA killed JFK, Oswald, and maybe MLK
- * Green, Libertarian Parties always infiltrated by DNC/RNC plants keeping them unviable
- * The flat earth conspiracy theory is itself a psyop to make other "conspiracy theories" look dumb
- * Anything WEF/Illuminati/Klaus-related

When a Davos chode like Yuval Noah Harari speculates that men were happiest as foragers, i.e. in a state of constant austerity; and you realize that "Yuval" means "Reset"; and that "Noah" was the first great resetter; then, when Davos simps proclaim that in the future *people will be happy with less*, you can't unsee that shit.

All-Time Gigachad Douche Nozzle Award: Max Boot

"For democracy to survive, we need more content moderation, not less."

Another First World Whine

Sometimes taking a plane ride feels like you're in prison in Hungary or something. You shuffle through all these slow-moving lines with a bunch of other surly mutes. Huge amounts of time are spent waiting for some hostile security officer to check your papers. Then you repeat that whole process all over again in a different place.



At various stages, you might get blasted by streams of hot or cold air. Irritating, high-decibel announcements periodically drone over a shitty speaker, followed by some shitty canned music. If you ever manage to fall asleep sitting up, slumped over in an uncomfortable position, you'll soon be awakened by service carts banging your elbow, or running over your foot. Or by uniformed personnel demanding that you complete some poorly-designed form. Or by a sudden shaking of the cabin, or by some super-loud synth tone.

I guess all of that is why God invented Xanax. I bet the prisoners in Guantanamo didn't get any Xanax, but at least they got to hear a lot of Slayer and Megadeth.

Internet Rabbit Holes



America's 5-cent coin was originally made out of silver, not nickel!

NOW IT'S A COPPER ALLOY / FAKE AF

Carol Kaye played bass on the theme songs for The Brady Bunch, Hawaii 5-O, and Mission Impossible!

NOT TO MENTION GUITAR ON LA BAMBA

I never knew there was an actual berry called a "marionberry"!

D.C. GANGSTAS KNOW WHAT'S UP

Only 1 person dies from bungee jumping every year, on average!

DAMN GOOD ODDS SON

Grifter Alert: DermaScam

I don't really have a strong opinion on my face. I don't particularly like or dislike it, and try to spend as little time looking at it as possible. It's not like I wake up every morning actively striving to look like a Dutch architect or whatever. However I do have this giant splotch on my cheek that looks like ringworm, and a couple of cancer-y red patches, so I thought I'd go see what \$18,000 in annual healthcare premiums had to say about it all.

Things got off to a bad start when the very nice "specialist" lady in the lab coat disclosed that she was "not a doctor" within the first 30 seconds. She then wrinkled her nose at the mention of laser treatments, steering me instead towards a basket of ointments: facial cleanser, retinol, vitamin C serum, skin bleaching cream, and physician-approved sunscreen at \$42 per bottle. At that point I realized I was basically sitting at a Sephora counter inside a Kaiser Permanente hospital.

When I questioned whether it was really necessary to apply expensive sunscreen three times a day—even when staying indoors—she doubled down, claiming that blue light from a screen, or infrared light (like from a microwave oven), or indirect sunlight, could all have a cumulative "damaging" effect on our skin.

Me: So you're telling me that any light source is a problem.

Her:

Me: That's the craziest thing I've ever heard. Are there studies that back this stuff up?

Her: Well it's tricky to measure—

Me: Look, I just don't see myself buying all these ointments and spending all this time putting them on, in some specific order, every single day of my life. I mean I don't even wash my face at night.

Her:

Me: I'm thinking maybe it would be easier to just go with the skin cancer option?

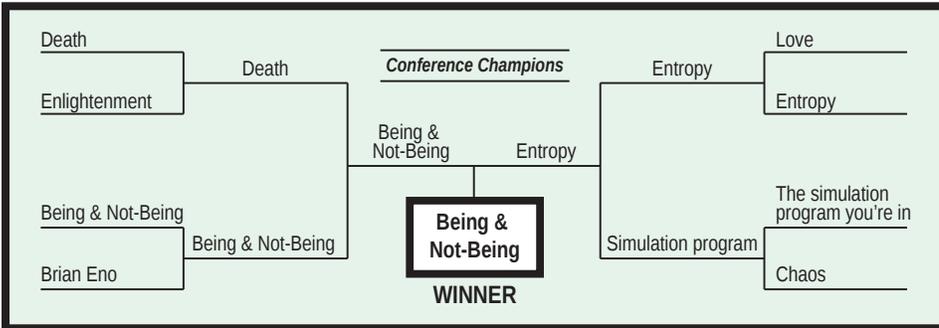
Dear The Squad: Great job on the trillion dollar defense appropriations bill! Keep funneling those tax \$ to warlord donors, u guys rock!





BATTLE FOR THE GODHEAD 2022 - FINAL RESULTS

Top seed Death suffered an upset semifinal loss as Being & Non-Being streamrolled its way to victory in the premier Essence of God competition. Newcomer Simulation Program also put in a strong performance after revealing itself to be recursively defined in the quarterfinals.



App Developers Wanted

Hey I'm making this app called AggreGo and I need a developer. Because if there's one thing more annoying than developing web apps, it's :: developing for mobile devices ::

My app would be like Pokemon Go, but instead of hunting phantom Pokemon, you'd go out and hunt for microaggressions and other instances of phantom violence—namely, aggressive language or scary ideas. Any time you were on Twitter or Reddit, or even IRL, if you encountered one of these threatening phantoms, you'd "capture" them and put them in your pokeball, and get points for each one.

So yeah. We're gonna need an algorithm to go through all the pokeballs and score everyone's phantoms. A machine learning model would be the way to go here. Rather than having to write and maintain a set of cumbersome rules, we could just get a bunch of desperate college students to label a shit ton of example tweets, then feed that data set to the model. For example, any mention of "JK Rowling" or "Joe Rogan" in a positive way is clearly threatening, so that gets a decent score. Or, say, anyone demanding "studies" or "data" to support a post or comment is obviously being an aggressive bully, so those would be legit points too.

Fortunately there's no need to build in any irony or sarcasm detection, because there isn't really a market for that anymore. So this would have the beneficial side effect of working to eliminate satire. And in the end, the user would have a nice little AggreGo score they could put into their Twitter profile along with all their flag emojis!



Philip K. Dick Fanboy Here

True, P. K. Dick's exposition can be a bit clumsy, and he definitely has some kind of a boob fixation. But it's all worth it—for the Matrix-y mindbending narratives, the prescient visions of a dark techno future, the wryly sarcastic characters, and the bizarre, schizoid Gnosticism. Can't get enough Dick!

Yawny's Guide to Modern Rhetoric

"Mansplaining": when a person born with a penis *who identifies as someone born with a penis and accepts many of the cultural trappings that come with that penis*, discusses something calmly and rationally to somebody *without the penis and/or all the trappings*

"Platforming": the act of listening to a dissenting voice, a/k/a betrayal

"Whataboutism": counter attack to anyone attempting to provide context. Example: "Trump is a fascist." "Maybe. But Biden wrote the crime bill that locked up a generation of poor people, and Obama deported record numbers of immigrants." "You know what, I am getting so tired of all this whataboutism."

"Groomer": weak but common ad hominem. Applicable vs. left, right, or center opponents

"Do Better": annoying, condescending conclusion to a woke mini-lecture. Easily counterable with "Grow up."

Nirvana Pathway Revealed

Here's a recipe for the most Berkeley thing I regularly ingest. I claim it helps with mental clarity and focus, though at the same time I kind of doubt it really does anything. But let's be honest, if you are looking to *Yawny's Digest* for enlightenment tips, you're one desperate motherfucker, so you might as well try it.

Into 1 cup gently simmering nondairy milk, vigorously whisk ½ tsp. gotu kola powder and ¼ tsp. ashwagandha. Add ¼ tsp. maple syrup and ½ tsp. tamarind to taste. Sip with lighted incense and Sun Ra.

Revenge of the Nerds, Vol. 420

Last issue I thought it would be fun to figure out how to create crossword puzzles for *Yawny's Digest*. So I took a couple of weeks and figured out how to do it, more or less. See yawnydigest.com/puzzles for some examples.

Then I thought, hey I wonder if I could get one of these published, that would be funny, 'cause I've only been doing this for like 2 or 3 weeks. Well, as it turns out, there's a little community of awkward incel gatekeepers running this shit. They all know each other, worship a man named Will Shortz, and have highly particular rules about crossword puzzle etiquette: "no Woody Allen references"... "no Johnny Depp references"... "your theme is too dark"... "your theme is too on the nose"... "your theme is a little loose." After that last bit of feedback from the *LA Times*, I immediately went online to do their daily puzzle, and discovered that it had a very "loose" theme indeed. Can I make a joke about "loose" buttholes here? I guess I just did.

Another time, someone told me they didn't want to run my puzzle with a David Lynch theme, because he'd been accused of sexual misconduct. What? News to me. I wrote back and asked for evidence. So we figured out that she was thinking of someone else who had a name *like* David Lynch. No matter, the damage was done. See how the world works now?

Most of the time, the editors are actually pretty nice, but I just feel like you need some kind of secret handshake to get in their club. And they only pay like \$100 per puzzle, so it's not like this is some kind of gold mine. It's much easier for me to pretend that some 10-year-old's shitty Python code is good for an hour.

AMAZING	The Divine Invasion, A Scanner Darkly
SUPERB	Ubik, VALIS, The Three Stigmata of Palmer Eldritch
AWESOME	Flow My Tears, the Policeman Said, Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?



Yawny's Digest



"I've been to Stonehinge." —Father-in-law

Spare the Rod, Spoil Deez Nuts.

Old people constantly sound off about how coddled kids are today. I mean, suffering breeds character, right? You need to build anti-fragility skills today for the curveballs of tomorrow.

On the other hand, you probably can go too far with the "tough love" thing. As a kid, I went to a monthlong summer camp where they randomly picked kids out of the audience and made them box each other in front of the whole camp. Then there was the time we had a relay race and I dropped the baton handoff, and some kid named Fico slapped me in the face. At best, the adults simply shrugged, but more often they were the ones setting up these conflicts, like jaded and corrupt jailers. No surprise that my favorite activity at that camp was riflery. If all this had happened 20 years later, I probably could have gone full Columbine; I had my Sharpshooter medal when I was like nine years old.

Nowadays, everyone's shielded from harm. But the game plan used to be deliberate attempts to frighten and scar the child. Take, for instance, "Sing a Song of Sixpence," a particularly gruesome nursery rhyme that I apparently know by heart. In this merry ditty, a cook throws a shit ton of live birds into a pie and puts it in the oven. Well, I guess she undercooks the dish, because the birds fucking FLY OUT OF THE PIE when dinner is served. Talk about twisted. Then as the king and queen are off high-fiving each other over their white privilege, a poor servant girl gets attacked by one of the half-baked magpies for no reason at all. She didn't even cook the food!

I honestly can't tell if this song is a critique of the status quo or a humorous celebration of it. I could probably say the exact same thing about every single opinion ever given in 2022. *Are you reinforcing hegemony, or speaking out against it?* Who the hell can tell anymore?

Struggle Still So Real

Yawny: How come you don't like grapes?
Wife: I don't know. Just...no.
Yawny: But you like wine, right?
Wife: Well, yeah.
Yawny: So why don't you like grapes?
Wife: Can we not do this right now?

More C.S. Lewis Nonsense

Apparently, religious nut C.S. Lewis was once a respected man of letters. I'm kind of amazed that the woke shock troops haven't gotten him banned yet. Maybe it's because he's not on Twitter, since he's dead. Anyway I just reread his entire *Narnia* series, hoping to jar loose some long-obscured memories that might help explain my life failures. You see, I read these as a child when I still had potential. I had no luck unblocking, but it was still fun!

The Narnia cosmos is actually a pretty interesting mashup of ancient mythology, Rapture prophecy, and furry cosplay, with an occasional Midcentury Modern "get off my lawn" interjection from the narrator. On the surface, there are some imaginative tableaux and satisfyingly resolved conflicts. But as we all know, Words Are Not What They Seem.®



The Biblical allegories are the most obvious cases of hidden meaning. First, you have that overweening and annoying Christ lion figure. Then there's a Genesis book, and a *Revelations For Dummies* book. And the good old "temptress Eve" motif is recapped on multiple occasions. E.g. *The Silver Chair* features a female enchantress responsible for all the world's disarray. It's true that she casts a spell on the lumpenproletariat, but really her main offense is that she's grounded some young boy to his room. Paging Dr. Freud! Dr. Freud, cleanup on aisle 12, we have a mommy issue here!

Meanwhile *A Horse and His Boy* is textbook Islamophobia, with an orphaned white princeling cast into slavery by a cruel, ignorant Arab. The Arab tries to sell him to an even nastier Arab, so the boy escapes to the North (Narnia, aka Britain, aka Westeros), where people are free and everything is beautiful. I'm not making this up, go see for yourself. BTW the Arabs are also into animal abuse, child brides, and rape.

Finally, in *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, Lewis stans not only flat earthers, but Atlantis nerds. It's common knowledge that the island of Atlantis sank to the bottom of the ocean due to hubris. The people didn't continue to live in underwater splendor like a kingdom of fucking sea monkeys.

As an aside, every book contains an awful lot of drinking and "merriment," usually involving minors, all of which gives off some fairly strong NAMBLA pedo groomer vibes. 

** Alex Jones Fun Facts **

- ✘ Owns around 50 guns
- ✘ Claims the government is trying to make people gay with chemicals
- ✘ Claims Michelle Obama is trans
- ✘ Makes most of his money selling products like multivitamins, post-apocalyptic survivalist gear, and a sharpened "tactical pen" for stabbing attackers
- ✘ Ex-wife Kelly Jones now spends most of her time publicly combating Alex Jones
- ✘ Characterized as a "performance artist" by his lawyer in court
- ✘ Played the role of Preacher in Richard Linklater's *A Scanner Darkly*

ReLiGiOn Roundup!

Country	Religious	Not Religious
USA	70%	30%
China	25%	75%

All Decades Are Cringe

Everyone loves to wax nostalgic about the decades they managed to survive. But let's face it, they've all been pretty bad. Anyone who simps for a decade is likely watching too much YouTube or TikTok.

- 1960s: snobby hipsters, dirty hippies
- 1970s: Jackson Browne
- 1980s: dumb haircuts
- 1990s: baggy jeans, grunge, depression
- 2000s: Adderall-fueled remixes
- 2010s: cunty social media takeover

It's not that good stuff never happens in any decade; it's that each one's overall zeitgeist is cringey af. So far, the current decade looks like all-out culture war, with the main distinguishing hallmark being face masks. In Mexico, face coverings are called *cubrecaras* , which sounds so much like *chupacabras* that I like to think of them as synonyms. "Excuse me, do I need a Satanic goatsucker to enter this store?"

Shoutouts

Say hello to this issue's sponsors Jon G, Mok, and JRA. Thanks boiz! If you'd like to sponsor an issue, crowdfund your way on over to:

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