



Volume 10, Issue 4
Dec 2022

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The Party Animal News

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The Shadow

I bought the orange painting shown below because of my insight on insects. The grasshopper is casting a shadow. To me it is significant because this economic pest (even though they are a small percentage of the insect population) casts a large shadow on the world. Think of crop destruction, disease in human and animal populations and just a nuisance to every day life. After we brought the painting home, a grasshopper was casting a morning shadow the next day and that is above the painting. Life imitating art.



Since the holidays are around the corner, I am reminded of the movie “Christmas Vacation” and how I easily relate to Clark “Sparky” Griswold. His wife, Ellen, states, “I know how you build things up in your mind Sparky. You set standards up that no family can live up to – parties, weddings, anniversaries, funerals, holidays...” That line pretty much represents my experiences during lifes’ celebrations. The Lampoon writers knew what we all experience.

While many don’t consider the movie “Die Hard” a Christmas movie, it was ranked 20th on Empire’s list of greatest movies of all times. In 2016, 1.3 million Americans watched it on Christmas Eve, topping the other movies being shown that evening. A writer wrote about this movie “it is a furiously anti-bureaucratic, anti- governmental film. The movie displays thorough skepticism toward authority, toward officialdom toward those in power at all levels”. Lead character John McClane’s dialog in one clip: Drop it #####head it’s the police. Tony(a badguy): You wont hurt me. McClane: Oh yeah? Why not? Tony: Because you’re a policeman. There are rules for policeman. McClane: Yeah. That’s what my captain keeps telling me. The movie was made in 1988. The 80’s saw some of the highest crime in New York City. In 1989 Rudy Giuliani ran for mayor and lost, crime continued to worsen and when he ran again in 1993 he won. Policies he implemented saw crime levels drop. In turn, the economy and city changed. My NYC friend convinced me to visit about eight years ago. I filmed rats in the alleys and parks at night by myself. There is no way I would do it in today’s New York City. Maybe it will take four more yours for New Yorkers to wake up. (To see the videos, check out my YouTube channel “BravoFincannon” and look at the Bobby Corrigan episodes.)

The public likes heroes. I encourage you to look up the multitude of Christmas themes throughout the Die Hard movie that have been analyzed by other writers. John McClane is a typical flawed American patriot. That is why so many people like Die Hard. Mayor Rudy did good and was considered America’s mayor. If John McClane was not fictional, he would have enjoyed working for the guy.

And being an American is something special. I encourage you to read the book, “Voices of D-Day” by Ronald J Drez. The later part of his Introduction which exemplifies this nature is, “They(americans) descended on southern England and lived in English quarters, and dated English girls, aggravated British boys, and elicited the criticism from much of the population that “Americans were over-paid, over-sexed, and over-here,” to which they (americans) glibly replied that the trouble with the British lads was that they were “under-sexed, under-paid, and under Eisenhower.””. (My italics added for clarity.)

The rest of the book is the bravery displayed by the Allied forces and the errors, miscalculations and the basic John McClane courage and creativity to keep going. D-Day was intense with trained troops prepared for a certain situation dropped off at the wrong location and encountering unexpected circumstances. (vehicles flooding and so forth). We prevailed thanks to raw bravery and troops following instincts to overcome these unforeseen obstacles. I have written before that America has suffered much in the past. An election does not mean the end of the world. Remember, John McClane returned to save us five more times from villains before his movie run was over. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – David

Pest of the Quarter: Roof Rats



- Enter holes size of a quarter
- Active at night
- Life cycle is one month
- Outside control requires monthly service because 8 young are mature in 30 days and ready to reproduce!
- typical North Texas rat is the Tree or Roof Rat

****PLEASE NOTE we will be closed from Dec 22 thru Jan 2 for the holidays. We will return Tues, Jan 3, 2023****

We VALUE our customers!

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Charlie Brown and the football

In 2016 the sitcom “The Good Place” was on NBC for four seasons. It was about where you go after you die. There are a lot of philosophical discussions in this comedy. This time of year many want to see the Charlie Brown Christmas special. Ann had a lot of Schulz books from her youth but the one I find fascinating is “The Parables of Peanuts” by Robert L Short. You would not believe the number of bible lesson that Charles Schulz was teaching in his comic strip. The author of the book brings in many of the great thinkers of our time to analyze the lesson’s Charles Schulz was conveying in 3-6 panels. Short’s first book in 1965 was titled “The Gospel According to Peanuts”.

In the book “Britt-Marie Was Here” by Fredrik Backman, a character said this priceless statement, “(to)Tottenham (insert your team here) you always give more love than you get back. Tottenham is the worst kind of bad team, because they’re almost good. They always promise that they’re going to be fantastic. They make you hope. So you go on loving them and they carry on finding more and more innovative ways of disappointing you.” One thing about Charlie Brown, he always had hope when it came to kicking the football. Schulz, however, never allowed it to happen. Schulz said it would be out of character and it would not be funny.



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