

Journal of the Plague Year: from Pax Americana to the Apocalypse
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Prologue

Since the mapping of the Human Genome Project (HGP) in the end-of-the-millennium decade of the 1990s, the history we know of our species, *Sapiens*, has been extended from the mere half-dozen millennia since the invention of writing, to at least two hundred thousand years, because of collaboration made possible by the HGP between Genetics and Archeology. The pragmatic American objective for the government investment in research at the time, however, was for just such use as chronicled in *The Atlantic* in March 2021:

Some (relatively) good news: Scientists are able to monitor mutations like never before. “We are now living through the first pandemic in human history where scientists can sequence fast and furiously enough to track a novel virus’s evolution in real time—and to act decisively on that information,” Sarah Zhang reports.¹

The pandemic confinement as a first response to stop the exponential viral contagion of SARS CoV-2, has not only stopped the world, but turned it upside down. It has shone the spotlight of social awareness on the least paid as our most essential workers to keep everyone going. Economists have pointed out the discrepancy between pay for people whose work must be limited by real time and place in performance, and the absurdity that “the billionaire class has increased their profits by \$360 billion over the last year.” Our government in this country had to fight over including a minimum wage of fifteen dollars an hour in the first legislation of the new Administration, the \$1.9 trillion Relief Bill. That’s only five times plus a hundred billion more than the *increase* in wealth for the year, for 600 billionaires.

These workers on whom we depend are for the most part renting their homes, since a major mistake was made the last time the executives of the present party were in power and sought to *compromise to unify the country*. They did not demand the revaluation of mortgages at current market prices by the banks that brought on the housing-bubble, and worse, sold the subsequent foreclosures back to “investors” (malapropism!) in lots of a thousand homes at pennies on the dollar, so that 3.5 million homes were lost by Americans, many of whom now live in tents on our city streets.² This is a country that has been broken by an inability to perceive

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- 1 We Now Can See a Virus Mutate Like Never Before: Tracking the coronavirus’s evolution, letter by letter, is revolutionizing pandemic science. Sarah Zhang, *The Atlantic* March 9, 2021
https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/03/massive-global-hunt-variants-under-way/618230/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=atlantic-daily-newsletter&utm_content=20210315&silverid-ref=NjkyMjc3ODIwNzY1S0
 - 2 Aaron Glantz, *Homewreckers: How a Gang of Wall Street Kingpins, Hedge Fund Magnates, Crooked Banks, and Vulture Capitalists Suckered Millions Out of Their Homes and Demolished the American Dream*, NY: Custom House Publishers, 2019.

Truth and the consequent need to compromise between true and false. As if to underline that pain and suffering is caused by greed we have “the Crime of the Century”³ – an opioid crisis engineered by one of our great pharmaceutical corporations.

During this first entire year of the Pandemic, declared by WHO on March 10, 2020, the United States *exceptionally to all other countries*, has chafed under scientifically prescribed restrictions to “*our freedom*” as though a Plague were a negotiating party to deal with.

Politicians curried favor from these “freedom-loving” voters, while others turned to Science to produce a vaccine ASAP. Both were seeking to diminish the impact of confinement and the lingering consequences of the virus upon the grieving and recovering. The economy was the primary political concern. Millions of renters were stressed with eviction when layoffs made unemployment skyrocket. The first Covid-19 relief bill was said to have gone to large businesses with the understanding they would not lay off workers. The stock market also skyrocketed in what seemed like a perverse prosperity with no more promise than a fixed debenture to the plummeting economy.

Less than three months after the onset of the pandemic, just as “ordinary” Americans were thrashing under the loss of their normal world, another new technology, a hand-held video-camera in a phone by a courageous seventeen-year-old woman, enabled the actual nine-minute-twenty-five-second filming of the vicious cruelty of a man—a uniformed police officer who had taken an oath to serve and protect his community, his tribe—kneeling on the neck of a fellow human being until he died, while pleading he could not breathe. The murdered man was considered by our culture (despite contrary scientific evidence) of a different “race” who had the misfortune to have passed a counterfeit twenty-dollar bill—and possibly didn’t even know it, because it happened to me for a hundred-dollar bill! So we were able to watch aghast as our faith in the institution to enforce law and order was broken by four police officers murdering a man who had surrendered to them to settle an accusation that he had knowingly passed a twenty-dollar counterfeit bill.

SARS CoV-2 is the Plague that has stopped our single-minded pursuit of the material world, our rush over the cliff of climate change, and made us stay at home, where only in the last thirty years we have been connected to a World Wide Web. The internet gives us actual films of events as they occur, or soon afterward. We can film them ourselves with a pocket video phone and send them instantly around the world.

This kind of capture of actual moments on video is where Jung’s psychology applied to the zeitgeist reveals Donald Trump to be gifted in his capacity to project his unconscious and create a mass delusion. His accusations aimed at opponents are so clearly what he is doing himself that it is hard to believe he does it unknowingly. They are more like a public confession without the regret required for forgiveness, a taunting impunity betting that we are so bombarded

³ “The Crime of the Century” a two-part documentary by director Alex Gibney, based in part on Washington Post investigation by reporters Scott Higham and Sari Horwitz of the origins, extent, and fallout of one of the most devastating public health tragedies in our country. It examines the role of major drug companies, political operatives and government regulations in enabling the nation’s opioid crisis. Premiere May 10, 2021, on HBO.

with ‘information’ we cannot think, much less remember. Throughout his term in office, his party Courtiers have loyally or fearfully supported his manifestly false claims, demonstrated by news videos documenting the facts and refuting their own blatant denials of what they once said. Trump bullies investigative reporters, openly denying reality and enforcing his fictions according to his will by invoking his status as President and asserting the power of the office is limitless, while violating the honor of the office by ignominiously gaslighting them in front of the camera. When Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin conducted his actual witch-hunt against “Commies” in 1956, the black-and-white newsreel was played on the evening news, and when Senator Fullbright demanded to know: “Have you no shame, Senator?” The spell was broken. We all saw it with our own eyes.

But now, the fiction and the factual have become so permeated with each other that we don’t believe ourselves.

When asked, in their last debate in 2016, whether Trump could say anything good about Hillary Clinton, he said she had “persistence,” which came off as damning her with faint praise. It has since been revealed as his own major character trait for gaslighting and bullying the world into believing his delusions of grandeur. Six months after the election, he still asserts he won and the party he has hi-jacked goes along with this new way to retain power. The whole edifice, academic and professional, of our mental health system has been made a mockery of by an obviously sociopathic celebrity winning an election rigging the electoral districts for a superannuated electoral college. There is even buried in the chaotic mass of information some evidence that the electoral district maps may have been given the Russian government to use in their sophisticated manipulation of social media in 2016, another historical *first*.

As though to point to this, as fate would have it, the exact same number of electoral votes were tallied by the State legislatures’ system for the election of 2020 of his opponent with seven million *more* votes than Trump, who had won in 2016, with three million *fewer* votes than his opponent. Simply, a difference of ten million votes more was required for Trump’s party to be defeated, because State legislatures with a majority of their party, had re-drawn voting districts to win by small numbers of their registered voters by residence, and large numbers of the opposing party when impossible. Even when the daughter of the statistician who had master-minded this district-by-district “gerrymander-computerized” allocation of electoral college votes, found after his death his actual computer records of the feat, nothing was done to reverse the legislatures’ adoption of the cheat. Ultimately, the number of voters who vote their identification with party no matter what happens is the double-edged sword of culture, the chosen suicidal weapon of democracy. In abandoning the responsibility to think, we get the government we deserve.

This kind of facts – manifestly “*not alternative facts*” – is the way the real world points to *Truth*. *Yes, capitalized*. This whole book is about how and why the Collective Consciousness, (defined as both the conscious and unconscious minds⁴) of our species, Sapiens, has lost the

4 Since this term used by C. G. Jung is the foundational premise of this book, I define it here to use interchangeably the shorter term, *zeitgeist* – *the Spirit of the Time*. In an individual, the conscious and unconscious minds are called the “*psyche*.” Whether *zeitgeist* or *psyche*, the mind is not itself divided, but is

ability to re-cognize *literally and figuratively*, Truth. One of the central principles of C. G. Jung's psychology is *Synchronicity*. I define certain terms in a unique way that derive from the accepted usage at this point, because all of them together are constellating, like a giant jig-saw puzzle suddenly coming together before our view in a way we recognize as having seen before. Synchronicity is a *meaningful* coincidence. By the end of this Plague Year journal, I believe there will be enough of them that the overall picture constellates an intelligence, not just projected from our own minds as a world-view, but as an actual purpose for the time-out from our world called by Covid-confinement. The purpose is the revelation of an Intelligent Cosmos. We must make together this qualitative leap in comprehension to learn to recognize Truth because time is running out for our planet to continue under the present burden of our species.

The title of this book, *Journal of the Plague-Year*, like Defoe's written from painstaking research more than half a century after the great London plague of 1665, is to remind us that our relatively short written history of the anonymous urban society has built into it the irresponsibility of our species to reproduction which calls forth plague, war, conquest, and famine. This irresponsibility to the ethos of our reproduction goes back to the beginning of our migrations across the planet as population exceeded the carrying power of the land. Nomadic tribes developed strong customs to observe family relations, but the settling of agriculture in fertile river valleys produced enough food to permit diversification and the anonymous society of cities, where production of amenities made them vulnerable to invasion by other tribes that had outgrown their environment. The simplicity of stealing by right of might marked a new era from tribalism, a kind of darwinian competition that valued the warrior ethic perhaps imitative of alpha-males in other herd species.

For Sapiens, warriors and imperialism ushered in the ethos that enabled us to migrate across the planet, as the best lands filled up. As with natural selection, the entitlement of strength fostered the warrior ethic of the patriarchy. "On both sides" to quote the man who gives voice to our Collective Shadow, the advance guard for both offense and defense, the young and vigorous males also chose to relieve their excess testosterone with the females of the defeated men whose lands they stole. By this way of increasing 'The Wealth of Nations' actual public space for men only developed and thereby created 'a man's world' into a physical reality.

This long-ago and faraway history has evolved with us into the imperialism of "national interest" and globalization, that defies local production and markets to reap profit from mass returns to scale, and exploit cheap fuel to increase goods at home. Suffice for now that history has told us a strange tale unique to our species that we are divided along gender as though we were two separate species, and whenever we have two of any category, we make superior and inferior. Racism, sexism, capitalism and all the other -isms are natural relations rooted in the Stone Age. With the technological leap of the last two centuries which has changed the power of Sapiens to affect the web of life on our planet, comes the responsibility to "get over it." This in turn sets up opposition to transformation.

unconscious only to the ego or self. To that extent, shining the light of conscious self into the shadow causes it to jump behind us. Life's more miserable lessons is learning about this part of ourselves and Americans are not happy about what we've learned this year.

The subtitle, from *Pax Americana* is the commerce through imperial power that follows. *To the Apocalypse* is the revelation by the four fates – war, conquest, plague, and famine – that each can bring about a break-through of the mind’s imprisonment by the shadow expression of out-moded culture. These archetypal meanings are surprisingly evident in the actual details of the first and second impeachments of the personification of the American Shadow culture in Donald Trump. His cult and its resistance to change are embodied in where we are now. As a nation, as a people, we are choosing to impede our transformation or to accept the future responsibility to the planet the Cosmos requires of US. Some of this is embodied in Native American teachings and European-Americans have a lot to make up for to respect them because Europe had its Civil War in the two World Wars initiated in the area where technology first broke through to revolutionize industry. The United States picked up the fallen torch of imperialism the Double War was instructing our species to extinguish. Americans were the “last men standing” and the same credo of imperialism that drove the Romans for half-a-millennium had a new lease on commercial life, the *Pax Americana*.

During their glory days, the Romans were not all hated – merchants and ordinary people were glad to have the pirates and highway robbers policed by their military. But the Romans did not stop there, they imposed puppet governments, often as greedy as they were, if not actually motivated to collaborate with them because of it. Some tribal societies whose ethos survived settling in the historic land where all three continents meet, the first to beckon the emigrant Sapiens from the rift valley of Africa to dreams of Canaan, valued their customs and beliefs more than the goods that ran along their trade routes by land and sea. They had persisted despite being attacked and carried off by Egyptian and Babylonian imperialists, always returning to their contract with the Almighty to reclaim this land. For the Romans to kick them out again, in another Diaspora with the same thorough eliminative techniques they had used on Carthage two centuries earlier, was to start a rift in the very core of Western Civilization – unbelievably, still echoing in the Halls of Congress, the voices of the evangelical and fundamentalist cult of Trump.

As the first plague year was coming to an end, this country witnessed a failed insurrection goaded by the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces (too cowardly himself to keep his promise to go with them – something that might have made the coup succeed), attended by mature American men who had been trained in the military and believed the narrative because of the underlying reality that the physiological differences in appearance from our couple-hundred millennia of migrations across the planet are now miscegenating. Miscegenation is the Fear of Replacement that plagues racism. Racism is simply a distinctive appearance from geographic isolation in different climate conditions over eons; as populations grow stochastically across the environment and meet, their appearances become the explanation for hierarchy and privileged distribution of economic scarce resources in first-come, first-served by *inheritance*.

As I write this introduction after recording the events from my journal, we have passed the *meme* of the one-hundred-day mark of a new governmental administration after the ancient cultural symbol for the resurrection of spring in the Northern hemisphere, following another on the twelfth day after the winter solstice, when the sun can be recognized as returning once again to bring an epiphany. That is the sixth of January. The demise of truth brings about the death of ethics. The death of ethics brings about the decline and fall of society. The remedy is hidden in the illness.

One of the themes recurring during this Plague Year is the resurgence around the world of a political response called “populism” and its distressing fascist characteristics, thought to have been overcome in the great Double World War of the last century. The response to Covid-19 in other countries differed by the kind of autocratic or democratic system in place, which not only affects the contagion by a non-negotiating virus, but reveals a great deal about *national character*. This journal takes the worldview of Swiss psychiatrist C. G. Jung, to understand the extraordinary cultural differences⁵ that are being transformed through the globalization of planetary economies.

Two themes prevail for our understanding this extension of history in our time from the Great Double World War that left us with this planetary initiation to make a qualitative leap in our collective awareness as *Sapiens*:

1. the lesson of the First World War that the culture of Imperialism, which includes slavery at subsistence, is the foundation of our economic system; it began when the tribes of our nomadic ancestors became settled, anonymous, urban societies and built the class divisions into capitalism that have made our own species our most dangerous enemy. The experience of the ‘band of brothers’ in warfare demonstrates repeatedly that competitive hierarchy must go in order for the leap of the two technological revolutions of the last two centuries to lead us to the moneyless society of *Star Trek* where the abundance of production eliminates scarcity.

2. the lesson of the Second World War is that the knowledge we are implementing from Science must be integrated with the meaning of this rare fertile planet in order to generate a culture to our level of consciousness as a species that requires a reciprocal responsibility for our own survival within the planetary web of life. The *Comitatus* social bond and the economic system of Mondragon. Let every geographic center of a group of neighbors represent something they hold in common, if only chosen by Fate, so that most of the real needs of our ‘standard of living’ are drawn in one by one.

The more comprehensive awareness by Gnosis existed in earlier cultures, for example, in the *comitatus bond of loyalty* that reciprocates privilege and duty. The more the awareness, the more we are obliged to act with honor and wisdom; the Greeks called this *qualium*, *Philotimy* (*love of honor*) and *Sophrosieny* (*wisdom of being*). All these ethical concepts are measures of human-Cosmic bonds for something we once understood as *soul*.

The reduction of life to its material components, known as scientific reductionism is a false corollary to the great knowledge given by Science. Since the turmoil of the first half of the Twentieth Century, the premise that the essence of meaning is an illusion of existence has crippled our ability to listen to and believe our inner reception of the holographic Universe. Gnosis is the inner awareness through *mimesis* of the genetic encoding that embodies the Universal consciousness, just as Science is the external awareness through *reason* of the material Universe. *Reason itself is the vast, global language of mathematics*. Both Science and Gnosis must be integrated by the brain to learn, that is, grow in

5 I use ‘culture’ roughly in the Jungian sense of any identifiable collective, or social entity people perceive they ‘belong’ to as “collective consciousness” which takes in both conscious and unconscious awareness. To shorten this usage, *zeitgeist*—*the spirit of the time* may serve unless the culture has become an outmoded set of beliefs.

comprehension. Using one alone limits the synthesis of life's meaning, as Einstein observed, "Science without religion is lame and Religion⁶ without Science is blind."

The integration of body and soul requires the equality of women with men in the potentiation-rate of society to optimize our continuing evolution as a species. It is a level of consciousness that invokes a *meme* – *the appearance of our genome to our consciousness* – that the qualium⁷ of understanding is literally incorporated in the growth of our own physical bodies through evolution from the Intelligent Loving Universe. To understand this requires an expansion of our awareness of history beyond the several millennia recorded in writing, into the two hundred millennia since we achieved the current structural capacity of the human brain, according to the new merging of Genetics with Archeology.

Now, looking back from beyond the first one hundred days of a new administration in U.S. government, the neo-Republicans in Congress have not budged in their support for their sociopath, who attempted a coup but still claims with all evidence to the contrary that the election was stolen from him. They are attempting to purge their members who stood by the Constitution in voting to impeach Trump. Chris Hayes analyses the situation,⁸ "Trump is putting together ... an extremely efficient coalition at exploiting American anti-democratic institutions like the Electoral College and the US Senate so as to make the Republican Party viable and competitive even if it is not a majority party. They think Trump is the skeleton key to unlock the kind of politics that can govern with a minority of the country. They might be right."

Prof. Robert Pape, Director of the Chicago Project on Security and Threats, studied 400 arrested of the over 800 who actually broke into the Capitol on Jan 6th and found: average age over 40, business owners, CEOs, married with children. They fear their "Great Replacement by non-Whites" – that the *rights* of the minorities are *out-pacing rights* of Whites.⁹ Hispanics and Blacks are fed up and want equal rights, so "outpacing" means "catch-up" to them. Four percent of Americans are active supporters of the violent movement and of these, one-third were trained by their service in the U. S. Military in the wars since the invasion of Iraq in 1991. Millions more are passive supporters who believe the election was stolen because the leaders by the party they have identified with for generations tell them so. **Political culture has become a substitute for the atrophied myth of our religion, subverted to celebrations of consumerism in its liturgical year.**

What does this Big Fear mean? It's Mendel's first principles on the inheritance of traits that he discovered by painstaking detail growing peas, and published in 1865. They are taught to schoolchildren. These Americans fear they are no longer the norm – starting with the misnomers "White" for European descendants – and "Black" for the people who have been Americans from

6 Here, Einstein is evidently not distinguishing the function of the brain from its institutionalization by culture.

7 I am indebted for this term to Gerald M. Edelman, *Bright Air, Brilliant Fire: The Neuroscience of Consciousness*, NY: Harper-Collins, 1992.

8 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v90FVc0orgM>, Lindsey Graham Bets on Trump-led GOP—No Matter the Cost to America: All In with Chris Hayes, May 7, 2021 [7m 06s—7m 28s]

9 Christian Amanpour & Co: Michel Martin interviews Prof Robert Pape, Dir Chicago Project on Security and Threats, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dskVval50AE>

Africa just as long as Europeans, because they were brought here against their will to work to change the country to prosper in Europe, from the state of Nature stewarded by the natives for fifteen thousand years and more. Imperialism and slavery define our recorded history because it began when human population out-grew the familial social relations of tribes and became the kind of anonymous public relations of cities, which brought about hierarchical exploitation.

After the last two generations, as African-Americans began finally to make the first progress toward equal rights since the Civil War a century-and-a-half ago, these European Americans are confusing the major problem of income polarization during these same two generations with *their rights being threatened by "others" getting theirs*. The important thing to understand is the effect on pricing and wages of the two major technological revolutions: the Industrial Revolution in the last two centuries, and the Information Computation and Communications Technological Revolution of the last two generations. That is what has made the kind of imperialism of the Nineteenth Century with polarized income repeat in our time. This will be the other major theme of this journal, as revealed by the Plague-Year 2020.

This Plague is different than the series of plagues we still remember from historical record; from the fourteenth to seventeenth centuries, when a third to one-half the people died. They displayed the same extremes of behavior, from heroism to despair, dancing and copulating in the streets, killing the dogs and cats that were eating the rats that carried the fleas that carried the virus. Even the last century's worldwide plague did not afford running water to the majority of humankind, to complain about having to wash hands all the time. Where would we be without the internet and indoor plumbing, like all our ancestors?

Perhaps a synchronicity even more chilling is that these were the three centuries in Europe of an actual genocide of women, which village church registers show were at least six hundred thousand put to death as witches. The word in English comes from *wicca* meaning "wisewoman" and referred to herbalists and mid-wives, who often tended also to wounded men in any battles near-by. In French, *sourcière* is the current word for witch, but referred to the matriarchal culture of pre-Christian European tribes which held that the river sources were the emanating abode of life; whereas *sage-femme*, the French for wisewoman, is the current word for midwife.

Two things contributed, however, to this extraordinary turning upon itself along the line of our own reproduction by our species. Firstly, the Inquisition was an actual inquiry conducted by the Christian Church as the abuse of spiritual and physical rulership descended into the corruption that provoked the Protestant Reformation. This in turn allowed the second, the rise of a "burger" (bourgeoisie) class in towns where surrounding agriculture allowed a proliferation of productive enterprise, along with the three professions of the clergy (which included higher education or academe), the law, and medicine. Men dominated these three vocations professing the good of society. Women had to release their hold on childbirth and nursing. The point is this genocidal history is unique among species, as though we were divided actually along the line of our own reproduction. No direct causation can ever be established between the recurring plagues throughout these centuries, other than that hygiene and over-population may be causing *Sapiens* to kill itself with the proverbial self-inflicted sting of the scorpion. Darwin be damned.

The plague that occurred exactly a century ago killed as many people around the world as the war itself,¹⁰ in part because it occurred right at the end of the very First *World War*, when all the able-bodied men remaining from the first automated artillery use in warfare were weakened by living year-round in rat-infested, mud-filled trenches. Ironically, the H1N1 virus was traced to a leap from pigs to humans in the farming State of Kansas, where the raw recruits, Doughboys, were perfunctorily trained when the U.S. entered the war in April 1917, before being sent to France, where they were welcomed as saviors. Stunningly, some Americans today have turned against other Americans because of their origin in Asia – no matter whether their ancestors might even have immigrated before their own – where this virus seems to have first leapt into human contagion in December 2019.

Despite these lessons from history, the relentless, exponentiating numbers of confirmed cases and the toll of deaths rolled on through the year 2020, while our leaders either catered to the wide spectrum of ignorance or stood by helplessly as the Chief Executive spun a mass production of fiction to counteract the threat to his re-election, and the Senate Leader tabled all bills submitted by the opposition-led House rather than do anything for the good of the country that might give credit to the enemy party. At one time, our condemnation of totalitarian governments was because they offered only one party to choose from – how could policy be debated? The answer is – not by two parties, either. It becomes a game of winner-take-all.

Our Plague happened only two decades after the internet became nearly as ubiquitous as television in our homes. We were watching. We saw film clips of it all, which were often repeated, along with commentary by a group of educated Americans who stepped forward to witness the Truth. The Chief Executive kept on fabricating his own truth; but Covid did not make a deal with it.

As we were to discover with the publication of a book by Watergate reporter, Bob Woodward, six months after the first Covid-related death in America on February 7, on that very day, Trump was recorded admitting he knew this virus was spread in the air we breathe. Nonetheless, anyone who opposed his public deception was vengefully removed. While this was going on, he was carefully preparing his supporters for the claim he would make that if he did not win re-election, it was because of cheating, which is not only his personal expertise, but in his making the accusation first, pre-empts the very victim's denial from deflecting onto himself.

As I listened through the year to this carefully laid series of accusations, I feared what Mueller had warned us of in his testimony before Congress on his report – that the high-tech Russian secret service was “interfering as we speak.” In addition, when a Supreme Court Justice died on the very day designated by Judaism for the death of righteous souls, Trump boldly declared he needed a full nine-member Supreme Court five weeks before the election, as he covered every possibility to remain in office, such as the precedent of 2000, when the Court had stopped the count of ballots. He repeatedly demanded mail-in ballots not be counted after election day (nor before, for that matter!) fully expecting his three appointees to express loyalty to him in a legal battle.

10 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HEfpxiUIZPs> March 11, 2014 Stephen Petranek, speaks 1918 flu 3–5 mins.

N1H1 Spanish flu 1918, came in two waves, and second wave who caught recombinant flu virus mostly died.

Finally, the election. As we watched, we saw that 74 million of our compatriots voted for this classic neo-fascist autocrat and ultra-modern, fictional-reality-show con-man. Although our anxiety was relieved three-and-a-half days later, so that those, who had not lost their minds to his grand delusion, were dancing in the streets, it was the first time we ever had seen such a response to an election. After the results were final, we were still not immune from an autocratic coup attempt. Perhaps we should have known we were then even more vulnerable and may still be.

What has possessed our compatriots who attempted to defend and install this Autocrat by erecting a gallows on the front steps of the Capitol? Even though they broke in and searched for the Vice-President and Speaker of the House, they wanted to hang, a Senator from Wisconsin has since described them as law-abiding, police-supporting lovers of America, who were no threat to him. Yet, during the year, peaceful protesters were gassed, and when any violence occurred, beaten and shot at with rubber bullets. In asking this kind of questions, we find ourselves reaching for language that expresses another worldview, that of the ancestors of our civilization.

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The Ancients (as we call the predecessors of our European or “western” civilization from only a couple of millennia ago) had more than just a suspicion that when a land was struck by the extremities of social Fate, that are Plague or Famine, or even by Conquest and War, it was due to the blight of rulers corrupted beyond salvation. We now know what we have thought to be the bulk of our history is only about one percent of the time since our species reached a critical mass to spread the present human brain across our genome, so we may infer that, in the preceding two hundred thousand years, they were no less intelligent than we are. Fate drove societies to break through their customary non-thinking; their escape from freedom; their conformity to absurdity; their refusal to see the Truth. The Apocalypse in Ancient Greece was the moment of graduation, when the initiates into the mysteries of the secret teachings, heard them and raised the veil they wore over their eyes to symbolize their newly acquired clarity of vision had released them from the self-indulgence of denial by cultural belief short-circuiting thought. They were able to see the Truth. This alone can redeem the land from blight.

Science and technology were beginning in our civilization in the millennium before our Common Era, but marvels in architecture had already been achieved, although the labor of the “ordinary people” that went into our legacy as a civilization, was recognized by their contemporaneous society across the vast spectrum from slavery to riches, in a way not so much different than today. The US is lifting the ancient veil at the moment of the *apo-kalypsos*.

Higher Education in the United States has become the business application of Science, *STEM*. Gnosis is relegated to Ancient History and applied to an obscure and irrelevant sect of early Christianity. Christianity was then rooted in the cultural repository of the Mystery Religion into which people were initiated only when the Masters recognized (from their actions for a decade or so, since reaching full-growth) the initiates’ ethical responsibility to society—after they reached the age of thirty. Science now recognizes this age when adolescence becomes maturity, as the completion of myelination in the intracortical neurons of the brain.

The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse is today what our young people recognize as a *meme*. They have grown up with the internet, and they are now entering the world-stage of social contribution and exchange, an actual public place the Greeks referred to as the Agora. In this space, they gathered to hear debate over policy and vote for leaders, actual and potential. The rest of the time, it was the marketplace, acknowledging the natural union between commerce and politics. In a culture that has exalted STEM education and pulled support from Humanities and Social Sciences, our young people now entering the world-stage have not been educated to synthesize facts and meaning. This generation seeks it by what Nietzsche described as mirrors facing and reflecting their emptiness to infinity. Social Media has become the new hall of mirrors for American public relations and opinion.

Dostoevsky and Nietzsche both lamented, as I do most of the time, the desire of ordinary people to escape from the freedom to think in the way the bicameral brain operates. The ordinary use by people of social media to-be-liked is a conformity to emptiness; a refusal to see the truth. It is a grave danger to democracy because ignorance shuns responsibility, the kind in which we remind ourselves daily to respect, support, sustain, and intend toward truth and to live up to the privilege of being human.

A *meme* is an image that conveys its meaning; a symbol like a clay pot, on the other hand, conveys its function by its shape or form. The animal brain necessarily has two *modes operandi*, that is, two cognitive operations, to know the external world at the same time as the subject animal knows how it responds to the outside in its inner state for physical well-being. To know in both ways is integral cognition; in English we use to *know* generally in both inner and outer ways, along with to *recognize*. This last word has acquired a connotation beyond re-*recognize*, that is, to know something anew. In most European languages, inner knowing and outer knowing are two different words, which makes bicameral brain cognition more readily recognizable! The central idea here is that Gnosis is the actual complementary cognitive mode to Science in the brain. Our modern Science has left behind this cognition of meaning. Gnosis has become the name of an obscure religious sect in the early history of Christianity because it was taught only to people judged worthy of ethical understanding by the Masters who knew the power of meaning over the human mind. For the recent initiates to divulge the “Mystery Teachings” was anathema. Unfortunately, this is why they died out and the Western Yoga (the Eastern word is the same as “religion”) died out with them, so that Christian symbolism later atrophied and has since become discontinuous.

I believe the Greeks were approaching the qualium leap the human brain has been turning on for two hundred millennia, and failed because of their inability to accept that all *souls* are created equal, and so to give up the ethos of imperialism, to potentiate the life-purpose of all individuals. The Masters of the Mysteries were right that an individual with narcissist socio-pathology like Trump, would apply the teachings to arrogate and usurp power beyond his authority, as he applied those of his mentor, Roy Cohn, the legal tutor of the witch-hunter Senator Joseph McCarthy of “Commies” in the 1950s: to lie about facts; invent fiction as alternative; persist, and accuse first, to gain power over all the credulous vulnerabilities of people who do not think for themselves, nor retain their focus of memory. The emotion of identity is the

most primitive survival attribute of tribalism. It is a cultural trait that serves survival when you can't stop to think. Nevertheless, in the first Masters' closely guarding the Mystery Teachings, they died with them, and our civilization paid the price by enabling the misapplication of the apocalyptic meme to Judaism by the Romans to distinguish the ethos they needed so much to resurrect from their decadence.¹¹ However, the Romans could not submit their cultural identity to the Judeans whose covenant with God had received the ethos the Romans needed, along with specific customs and traditions they rejected.

At this point in introducing my word usage throughout the journal section, I should reiterate that I discern in history that there is esoteric and exoteric meaning in words like, *spirit, myth, religion, gnosis, yoga, alchemy*, and of course, *apocalypse*. C. G. Jung knew, even at the end of his life after his vast contribution to the collective consciousness of not only our Western European culture, but a good deal to the archetypal global culture, that Christianity had been cut off at the roots by the persecutions of its institutionalization in the Church as a means to preserve Roman culture. People who came to awaken to the new brain qualium level have had to guard themselves and most of all their families from dispossession, disavowal and forced conversion, even torture and death. My journal entries concerning the events of this Plague Year identify the esoteric usage of this kind of words, particularly in contrast to the exoteric usage. Much of the confusing symbolic alchemical texts was written to be understood *only by those who were awakening*. As we know, the discontinuity in Western Civilization by the eclipse of a Dark Age owed a great deal to the burning of the papyrus on which the accumulated centuries of knowledge was written. Richard Ovenden's *Burning the Books: A History of the Deliberate Destruction of Knowledge*,¹² also unveiled history to us during this Plague Year of Apocalypse.

The Latin verb "to tie together" *religio, [relictare, reliqui, relictum]*, demonstrates how the path religion has taken in the West came through Ancient Rome to our time. The process of tying together the apparent opposites of the inner and outer world generates human growth across our developmental lifespan. The lifespan in itself is physiologically determined by a complex interaction between the endocrine system and the master gland in the brain, the pituitary, and is thought in both Eastern and Western traditions to unfold in seven stages representing the seven principal endocrine glands which come to their mature function, one-by-one with growth through characteristic developmental stages.

As each hormonal complex comes on-line, the human being matures to a new level of existence defined by the life stage. The whole life process is learning to know oneself by mission and purpose as an identity unfolds from within a genetic pattern to meet the world. The developmental lifespan in consciousness integrates opposites in qualitative levels within oneself in relation to the world outside because the Pineal integrates *opposites on a spiral path* of consciousness for expansion and learning, or for contraction and regression. This is described by Good Buffalo Eagle of the American Native Anasazi Tribe, as the choice we make knowingly to move toward the light or toward darkness:

11 The work of historian Bart Ehrman has gained recognition throughout this plague year and will shed light on this theme of "apocalypticist" rebellion in Israel against the "Sons of Darkness" of which Jesus of Nazareth was a great leader. Another timely work is Thomas Ricks, *First Principles: What America's Founders Learned from the Greeks and Romans and How That Shaped Our Country*, NY: Harper-Collins, 2020.

12 <https://time.com/5912689/library-of-alexandria-burning/> Richard Ovenden, *Burning the Books: A History of the Deliberate Destruction of Knowledge*, NY: Belknap Press, 2020.

I am Good Buffalo Eagle, Hear my words:

The Creator gave all two-legged beings a sacred gift; we call this the gift of choice. Regardless of where we are born, all come to Earth with this sacred gift of choice.

Along with this gift of choice, all two-legged beings have the sense of knowing right from wrong from the One Who Stands Within. Therefore, the Gift of Choice allows us to choose knowingly. My Pauline, the woman of my heart, states that in her Navajo language, Life is a walking, a journey.

So, if life upon Mother Earth is a journey, there are two ways to walk. By applying the Gift of Choice, we can choose to walk forward or we can choose to walk backward.

Because we choose knowingly, with every step we take forward or backward, we are accountable. Because we are accountable, there are consequences. Consequences, however, are not chosen. They might be delayed, but by and by, they will come.

Forward-walking choices are rewarded with consequences that light the way to peace, happiness, joy, comfort, knowledge, and wisdom.

Backward-walking choices bring the two-legged beings consequences of misery, despair, and darkness.

At the end of our lives, when our bodies are about to be laid in Mother Earth, we will know for ourselves whether we are a two-legged being full of light or a two-legged being full of darkness. At that time, we cannot turn around and point a finger accusingly in the air. We will know because we are the ones who chose to walk forward toward the Light or backward toward darkness.

Hear my words: Don't believe the dark whisperings that invite you to walk backward. At any time in your life, you have the power to turn forward.

We extend an invitation to all to utilize the power of the Gift of Choice, which will teach us the Forward Walkings that will bring peace. Let's look at the present and with anticipation into the future at what we can become—a two-legged being full of light.¹³

13 The Anasazi Foundation, "Life is a Walking" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQYPIEoU9ko>
Copied verbatim by author of this book.

Gnosis is used in this book for the brain's subjectively recognizable mode¹⁴, and *Science* for the objectively knowable *modus operandi*. The brain integrates both *Gnosis* and *Science* to make the qualitative leap of learning, producing comprehension and an expanded awareness. "The lesser never comprehends the greater," is more than a law of spatial area, it is a quantum mechanics of Consciousness. The integration of opposites between the outside actual environment and our inner reasoning and emotional responsiveness is basic to our existence, still the subject of brain research, and may be turned toward the *corpus callosum* — more than 200 million axonal projections organized topographically to join the two hemispheres of the "bicameral brain." The energy of activation, released when two haploid cells, egg and sperm, come together, reaches its maximum at mid-life and starts its downhill run to death, is genetically encoded (barring illness or injury). This appears to the individual as a kind of turning inside-out, an involuting sometimes described as being born again, a virgin birth, or as a mid-life "crisis."

This process is known to be the Holy Grail of the new Consciousness transformation seekers, defined in the West by C. G. Jung as "individuation" a process he said begins in the second half of life. It is also described by Abraham Maslow as "self-actualization" through an inner recognition of "B-values" he writes extensively about as an ethos for meaning and purpose of life. The change in academic higher education to apprenticeship has an interesting application in "Human Resources" despite the misnomer for a potentiation-rate of any purposeful economy, and that is, Jung's *Psychological Types* (1921) has been rudimentarily adjusted to determine capabilities by the Myers-Briggs. And Maslow's B-Values, notably, *Toward a Psychology of Being* (1962) and *The Farther Reaches of Human Nature* demonstrate his practical advice: "If you plan on being anything less than you are capable of being, you will probably be unhappy all the days of your life." Adjust our social purpose, our intention to arrive at the destination, (not so) strangely self-edited by Thomas Jefferson from "the pursuit of commerce" to "the pursuit of happiness," and the United States shall have made a course-adjustment to cure addiction and banish the extravagant waste, spiritual and physical, mental, and emotional, of the prison system.

Twenty-five hundred years ago, the Buddha taught the process of meditation through disciplined breathing as the way to integrate (*Yoga*) the meaning of life. These teachings were brought over the Silk Road to Greece to inform the Mystery Religion, to be taught only to people whom the Masters knew would use them responsibly for the good of the commonwealth.

Ultimately, this book defines the Pandemic confinement as another opportunity to raise the veil of culture and correct our bearings toward our evolutionary path. The danger, which the Master Teachers knew could happen if the teachings were used for personal power and advantage over the social system, was embodied then and since in the narcissistic privilege wielded by the double-edged sword of culture in human evolution.

Two-hundred thousand years ago, as Genetics tells us, the human brain achieved a series of mutations to spread throughout our species' genome. This is the concept of a "critical mass" to define heredity of the brain structure and capacity by darwinian advantage. As we are learning

14 The name "gnosis" has been used in early Christian history, undoubtedly to teach this form of inner knowing to members of a religious community, it has become associated with a historical doctrine that has since been identified as "Gnosticism" and long-since out-dated by the sciences.

now from only one of the many lessons of this pandemic, the mathematics of “herd immunity” can stop the spread of the virus when a critical mass of the population no longer serves as host to this particular SARS CoV-2 virus. It has become a vague understanding generally, that “going viral” means exponential reproduction of any effect. The idea itself is crucial to understanding also why money has suddenly polarized the privilege and poverty of our economic distribution of the commonwealth. In fact, the old word “common-wealth” is an apt description that drives home the runaway complexity of the modern word, “economy” which once referred to the “rules of the home” where most survival goods were made.

One of the major problems of this cultural transformation is translating the old language of our ancestors that defined their understanding of life due to the circumstances now rapidly changing because of the limiting effect by the old principles of culture. As if the Collective Unconscious is trying to reveal our crucial lack of understanding between adding and multiplying by this lapse in language, Americans have in the last forty years, since the rapid polarization of income began, substituted the word “multiple” for “many.” The actual timing of two generations points to the use of calculators to teach our children *arithmetic*. As the brain is growing throughout childhood, its manual, auditory, and visual skills must be laid down with the neuronal patterns — even the distinction is not made between *counting* and “doing the math.”

Since the U.S. Economy was called to a halt in mid-March 2020, till a year later, the increase of 360 billion dollars for six hundred of the “richest Americans” means six hundred million dollars for each one. Another way of seeing it, is that each billionaire has had an *increase* matching ten thousand people earning sixty-thousand dollars in the year. That’s \$60,000 income for the Plague Year to $600 \times 10,000$ people = six million people and the billionaires would not have lost a dime. *Brother, can you spare ...?* At the same time, the sudden loss of income by half the population has ripped through the economic theory that governs the country in the same way that the mass delusion promulgated by the capture of one of our only two political parties of viable power has gutted our comprehension of sociopathy and mental health.

These two effects alone of the pandemic stopping this world have presented us with the opportunity to re-haul the wrong economic application of the technological revolutions in the last two centuries. They are wrong because they have led to our literal acculturation to degenerative disease; constant warfare, domestic (criminal) and international; environmental depredation; and socio-political divisiveness or regression through rank ignorance.

Starting with the Nineteenth-Century application of class rules of ownership in European societies to the new industrial technology and the redefinition of work to piece-by-piece (“jobs” in Cockney slang) production and its assembly line, the theory of capitalism as economics has to be reinvented because of the exponentiation of money itself. The ascent of money is divorced from productivity and meritocracy to reproduce exponentially within itself *in the same way as does a virus*. Pricing, profit, and market manipulation disguise the reality that *investment* is no longer related to saving for increased future production. The usage of this malapropism for investment hides the fact that the imperialist hierarchy in an anonymous mega-society is built upon hoarding money in its foundation of theoretical economics. This in turn, treats housing as an economic competition for return on “savings” that leaves millions actually outside, homeless.

The profit of share-owners is measured in opposition to the profit of people working to produce the enterprise or undertaking. So the new communications technology is used to produce by ‘surplus’ population across the globe and carry it all back for consumers who have the money, squandering cheap fuel. The blocking of the Suez Canal for less than a week during this pandemic brought into focus just this one short-sighted exploitation of subsistence labor and the cost to the planet to retain fossil fuel at the foundation of our production.

The Apocalypse was confused with catastrophe because of the turmoil in the First Century, when Jesus of Nazareth led a rebellion against the corruption of the Roman invaders of Israel, which ended thirty years later in the Diaspora of the Israelites in 70 C.E. Again, we find our Western Civilization got off onto the wrong track by forgetting what the Ancient Greeks meant by both Gnosis as a method of cognition, as well as by the Greek *apo-calyptos* — the raising of the veil of cultural thinking that prevents us from seeing the simple truth: be here now. This is the essential attentiveness to the process of our own inner response, genetically encoded by our evolution through and from the planet, to steward with our expanded awareness and cultivate in harmony with the web of life.

This goal is the Holy Grail, the union of Spirit (our ancient word for consciousness) and matter, revealed by the Crown Chakra, the pineal gland in the center of the brain, which is directly affected by the Earth’s magnetic field and the circadian rhythm of light in seasonal, and in gravitational, interaction with the sun and moon. It governs ovulation in synchrony among women with these physical forces, which occurred in tribal community as they worked together in an *economy*. The light also requires love for conception to begin incarnating a *human* soul. At the very beginning, life at the level of consciousness that our species reached two hundred millennia ago, required a new understanding for the insight of Charles Darwin to be complete into the *qualitative humaneness of humanity*. Survival of the fittest in Nature “red in tooth and claw” was what Tennyson captured in the air of Victorian England, the cruel implementation described by Dickens of the new technology, which actually initiated legal reform from the understanding that *government, by definition, is socialist*—required to potentiate its citizens.

When the present structural capacity of the brain spread throughout our species genome, the new level of consciousness began to turn on. The new addition to history (about a hundred-ninety millennia compared to the five-or-so of our written records), by Genetics and Archeology is now casting its light on the story line of our history as though we came into a movie a few minutes before the ending. Covid confinement has delayed our ending to see what we’ve learned.

The medieval historian, Noah Yuval Harari, attributes the success of our species, in his book, *Sapiens*, to our culture-making, as a love of story-telling, particularly to imagine fiction, that makes our sense of group identity and empathy possible for the kind of collaboration needed to take ourselves out of the middle of the food-chain where our size and speed placed us among carnivores. Science now considers the expansion of the brain to be due to the expansion of our diet to include meat-eating as a varied source of protein and enzymatic energy production.

As language extended its reach from things to ideas, somewhere in evolution, there occurred the expansion of new levels of love and altruism for group survival. **What was needed**

to make this elimination of predators from other species possible was a self-regulation of population to correspond with reproduction through love. Otherwise, the predators come from within our own species. As the familial relationships of tribes became the anonymous relationships of cities, exploitation, narcissistic power, and deception defined the new enemy within our own kind. The disruption of the familial social bond by anonymity not only made our natural order of migrations a competitive warrior culture for land, but as population grew exponentially, this new *imperialism* required more and more sacrifice of adolescent men and to endure pain became part of the masculine identity by taking boys from their mother at age six, to begin athletic training. These too are the products of story-telling, our ability to imagine fiction, and to make “culture.” The “social contract” became the rules of governing imposed by power.

The important thing now (if we are going to live so long as to die peacefully in our sleep, like the numinous ending of the film, *Titanic*), is for elders to resume their place of respect in society for having made it so long, by *re-cognizing the meaning of life is in our genetic encoding of the Intelligent Loving Universe we grew out of materially.*

These are the lessons we perceive in the world around us during the pandemic conditions of SARS-CoV-2. The myth our Western ancestors left us with is that The Four Horsemen, representing humanity riding War, Famine, Conquest, and of course, Plague, snap us out of our addiction to everyday life. *The forgotten truth* offered by this meme from our ancestors is that the appearance of these Four Fates taking over our world leads to an unveiling of a culture that has outworn its survival usefulness for society in the changed environment we ourselves have made with this unique cultural content of our archetypal genetic form.

Four extremities of Fate—War, Plague, Conquest, and Famine—have always driven societies to break through their customary non-thinking. Most people are by definition ordinary people. We as the species *Sapiens* have only the potential for its meaningful name, *Wisdom*. A couple hundred millennia ago, when a critical mass of our ancestors achieved the gene mutations for the present structural capacity of our human brain, a new level of consciousness constellated. Like the stars in the sky, the pictures that carry across our myths are projections of how we understand our own inner being. The stories we tell ourselves can grow or regress our world because we reap what we sow in our action. If we lie to ourselves and make others suffer, the world falls back giving off excess energy in qualitative awareness. As in quantum mechanics, an electron must have a discrete amount of energy to leap from the nucleus to a more energetic quantum level. If consciousness makes the leap and fails to maintain the requisite quantum level of energy, it falls back giving off the excess energy as light. It is how civilizations rise and fall.

Economics is the new homecoming Queen of Social Sciences in the United States, it is also the Fundamental Creed of American religion. We as a species are like a giant living organism, growing from individual cells, reproducing generation after generation, being drawn to our pre-programmed function as organs that perform special processes within the social body. We were not given an owner’s manual to implement our brain upgrade. We must live within our designated organ in the body and be accepted for our special contribution, sustained and supported in reciprocity, until the natural apoptosis encoded in the telomeres of our chromosomes relinquishes us, to be filtered and eliminated by the great body—the incarnation on

this rare fertile planet of the surrounding consciousness of the Cosmos, the Intelligent, Loving Universe. This is really a simple ethic which Quakers adhere to as the support drawn forth¹⁵ from society by respecting *friendship*.

Society is only a meritocracy if the system merits the fulfillment of its purpose to rule by realizing the potential of its citizens. Culture is a *process of coherence* of consciousness; the frequencies of energy must harmonize, or will be disruptive to the health of the organism. We have come to re-*cognize* that we have fallen into the trap our Western ancestors warned about, *hubris*. We are not an exception to Cosmic rule. We have merely burdened the wisdom, sifted by generations from the chaff of dogma and political covetousness for power, status, and riches that rightfully belong to the commonwealth (what today we call our “economy”).

When a critical mass of us comprehend this world-mind and view life and death as both parts of the same thing, like two sides of a coin—the transformation we are going through now—humankind will snap back from the pressures exerted by our technological capability having exceeded our wisdom to use it. The two tectonic plates that have stretched so far apart are Science and Gnosis. The scientific method is what STEM teach in our educational system. **We don’t teach—or even remember the meaning from our long civilization as a repository—Gnosis, the *method for synthesizing meaning* as truth, because our genes appear to our consciousness as a mimetic *language*. Artists may see truth in symbols and imagery. Scientists may see it in mathematics and physics. But both must be integrated for the qualitative leap to the next spiral comprehension toward cosmic consciousness.**

15 The word ‘educate’ is literally to lead or draw from, in Latin, *e-duco*, *ducare*.