

On Heading UP

by MJ Stephens

One planet, one people, one pickle. The planet is earth, the people are us, the pickle is our universe. It is a constant blooming surprise. We are fast passing sparkles in its never ending fireworks. No thing is sustainable, every thing is subject to change without notice. Every thing is subject to annihilation without notice. Making Sustainability a cultural value would only put us at the front of the line for early extinction. Our perpetual situation is: Adapt or Die. Do you think we could ask the universe to stand still for a few millennium while we get our act together? Bye-Bye Homo Stupidus.

One planet, one people, one parachute. Our best course for survival is to adopt attitudes and values that promote adaptability, that promote change. Doubt and Uncertainty must be our cultural virtues. The dangerous, blinding, deadly delusion of Unquestioning Certainty must become a major vice. Only skeptical attitudes will promote the open mindedness and flexibility that make us adaptable. Moreover, a skeptical attitude would allow us to examine and revise cultural assumptions that impede our progress towards happiness, towards a free and fair society. Adaptability through skepticism is our only realistic goal, the universe will never stand still for any thing less. Or again, it's Bye-Bye Homo Stupidus.

One planet, one people, one passport. Who is making the rules for us? Those who play on our fears, failings and ignorance? Current political groups are arbitrary abstractions, imagined parts defined by the chaos, selfishness, power mongers and accidents of human history. We have now seen the reality of where we all live, the real planet we live on. We don't live in abstractions; we live on one, indivisible planet. We are all citizens of the same real Earth. Our first loyalty is to the concrete whole rather than any abstract, self-serving part. I don't want to wait for some judgment day at the end of time for Freedom and Fairness to prevail. THAT judgment day is Extinction. Make TODAY the day after judgment day. Use Doubt and Uncertainty, use Adaptability, to build a Just Society with Freedom and Fairness for all Now. Or Bye-Bye Homo Stupidus.

One planet, one people, one pie. I want to live in a society that is fair and

free for all people. I want to live in a society where all newborn children have an equal right to the love in a mother's eyes, the warmth in a mother's arms, the nourishment at a mother's breast. Maybe you think some children are expendable like excess cattle? I think each child is unique, every child of equal value. I want a Just Society, a Free and Fair Society, for all of the Earth, a society that strives for fulfillment in every heart. What do you choose? Do you choose self satisfaction for the few and suffering for the other? I chose a democratically elected government for the United Peoples of the Earth with Freedom and Fairness for all?

I pledge allegiance to the United Peoples of Earth and to our Planet, for which we are stewards in one cosmos, indivisible and chaotic, always striving towards FREEDOM and FAIRNESS FOR ALL.

Now you choose. I say: Create an UP Roar, turn UP for your life. Bye-Bye Homo Stupidus. Hello Gens Ludens.*

*I know all you Latin scholars will give me the correct translation for the Playful People.