

# THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**FURTHER PRIMARY PHENOMENA**  
**MORE NOTES FROM THE LONG SLOG TO ELECTION DAY**  
**WHICH IS STILL VERY FAR AWAY**

**REFLEXIVE EVASION**  
 I'D BE HAPPY TO RELEASE THE TRANSCRIPTS OF MY WALL STREET SPEECHES--  
 --JUST AS SOON AS EVERY HUMAN BEING ON THE PLANET RELEASES TRANSCRIPTS OF ANY SPEECHES THEY MAY HAVE GIVEN!  
 I MEAN, FAIR'S FAIR!

**THE AUDACITY OF PRAGMATISM**  
 FREE TUITION AND SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE ARE NAIVE, IDEALISTIC FANTASIES!  
 YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY MOTIVATES VOTERS? CAUTIOUS INCREMENTALISM!

**CONFIRMATION BIAS**  
 DID YOU SEE THE WAY SANDERS WAGGED HIS FINGER AND LOOKED VAGUELY ANNOYED DURING THE LAST DEBATE?  
 I CERTAINLY DID! IS THERE NO END TO HIS CONTEMPTUOUS MISOGYNY?

**MANIFEST DESTINY**  
 IT'S TIME FOR SANDERS TO DROP OUT--AND BACK THE REAL NOMINEE!  
 WHY HIS CAMPAIGN WOULD BE OVER ALREADY--  
 --IF PEOPLE WOULD JUST STOP VOTING FOR HIM!

**MEANWHILE AT THE GATES OF HELL**  
 I'M A UNIFIER! THE GREATEST! PEOPLE LOVE ME--OR ELSE THEY SHOULD BE PUNCHED IN THE FACE!  
 ALL HAIL TRUMP!!

## AN EYE FOR NEGATIVES

What were you looking for in your one-time “trek” east to Springfield March 10? Did you choose to visit the Willamalane Adult Center when it is hosting any of a multitude of age-range programs for the community? Did you choose to visit Springfield on a Second Friday Art Walk when the downtown is full of a bustling crowd of art aficionados and shoppers? Did you choose to visit Springfield to notice that the city library programs and services are reaching a cross section of multi-cultural and educational offerings all year long? Did you choose to visit Springfield to notice that the city library programs and services are reaching a cross section of multi-cultural and educational offerings all year long? Did you choose to visit Springfield and its thriving Sprout! Farmers Market? Did you choose to visit Plank Town Brewing Company, a cornerstone restaurant, one of the best in the region? Did you choose to visit Springfield when the community hosts a block party to celebrate the additions to its downtown art program? I could go on and on.

You have brought to mind an adage I was taught a long time ago — if you seek with a positive outlook, you will find the positives; if you seek the negatives, you will find them, too.

And just who considered your one night escapade newsworthy? What were you really looking for? Instead, look what I found when I moved here 19 years ago: “a community of people who can work and live and play together and enjoy being neighbors — a community that is striving together for the best Springfield can be.” It’s all in how you seek and what you seek.

Marilee Woodrow  
 Springfield

## TALK ABOUT REVOLUTION

Poor Mindy Stone in the March 10 letters had a bad case of discourse interruptus at the recent Ani DiFranco concert and was tossed from the venue, ostensibly, for her shouting little “somethings” related to voting and calling for “revolution.”

Now, I don’t attend paid concerts, as I consider them a waste of hard-earned cash,

but if I did and someone started yelling political outbursts at the performer, I might be a tad annoyed. Be that as it may, the idea that a likely economically comfortable “liberal” who can casually plunk down \$30 for a couple of hours of entertainment feels she’s accomplishing something profound by calling for revolution is amusing, if pathetic. The fact that she was upset, not at missing out on the concert (and forfeiting her 30 bucks), but at being unable to exercise her “right” to interrupt the concert, shows how privileged some of us believe we are.

Here’s an idea, Mindy: Get one of Ani’s CDs, drop it into your home player and shout to your hearts content; it will have as much positive impact as your concert outburst did, and nobody will eject you from your living room.

And for Ms. Stone’s edification, revolutions quite often entail a whole lot of blood-letting and other bad gotchas, quite often giving rise to dictatorships to quell them. Be careful what you wish for.

Karl Stout  
 Eugene

## WHY DIVEST

\$3.4 trillion — more than 500 institutions have already collectively divested this amount from fossil fuel extraction companies. Why? The math is pretty simple: We know that if fossil fuel companies are allowed to extract and burn the remaining carbon stored in their reserves, we will put too much carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and exceed global warming past the scientifically agreed upon “safe” level of 2 degrees Celsius. Warming past this point will result in irreversible changes to Earth’s climate and ecosystems, not to mention suffering across the globe.

We must not allow these fossil fuels to be extracted and burned, and in order to do that, we must weaken the corporations that intend to profit from every last drop of oil. By divesting from these companies, we can effectively delegitimize them.

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