





Lieve auch & leste Haus.

December 2009

Suterkloos hebben we overleeft. It zelf hoefte Miet Mee in de 2ak Maar Spanje. Mu koult Kerst eraan. De Cadeausje, die We Vergeten zijn of opzetkelijk uner op 5 december bilden gebenjoudst er weer lea gedieht dan beg Maest, kunden fod onder de Kerst boom leggen. Einstelijk Ten lange leste op suign, parlifes geschrei In Vollegebed V. d. Milien aganisaties hebben we Olit faar elen kunstkerst loom gekocht. Bed voor 1 milie In delluber Abrelit de Christelijke Maastenligsee viele met but tot Kerst bousen. Met veel breugste worden 22 in huis gehaald en me een week of twee storen 20 Maasi de Vullislak. Der Hohr hat slin abeit gestan, der Mohr kann selien! De Murance is det bij de lue boom spreek je over gebruiken en leg de spar met keest over Verbruiken. Tax zover over her Miserabele leven van de Keestboom. De kerstgelvelans Spreken vok over brede op harde, husar dat is een illusie. Lolang illusies mag met getransformerd Zin indecepties, duoeten we Ze koesteren. Verrek, ik had theologie Motten steveren i.p.v. het hotariaat. bedenk id mig, mi it deze stellingname overlees.

## Season the season

## Meanwhile

## GARRISON KEILLOR

I was not ready to see Bruce Springsteen bemedalled at the Kennedy Center Honors last week and I still am not ready.

It was less than a year ago the Boss did that fantastic slide across the stage on his knees at the Super Bowl halftime show, thrusting his crotch at 90 million Americans on live TV, and here he was, listening to various nobodies tell him how great he is, with a medal around his neck, and his neck looked a little jowly.

The Kennedy Honors is for the Extinguished: it's America's way of saying, "Sit down and take a load off, time's up, old-timer." Does this mean Bruce won't sing his angry lost-soul-on-the-highway songs anymore? Will he come out with a Christmas album and sing "Little Drummer Boy"?

Christmas is a joyful time, or so we're told, but a person gets tired of enforced joyfulness, especially when it's Wal-Mart and Amazon doing the prompting, and you sort of appreciate a little anger to season the season. One more good reason to be in New York. Christmas has some opposition there. And people don't stifle themselves just because the Messiah is on the way.

Saturday night in New York, a skinny lady in a stylish coat walked toward me saying, "You did a terrible, terrible thing and I can never forgive you. I'm

done with you. You hear me?" She was furious. Then I noticed the cell phone in her hand. So she wasn't angry with me. Not this time. Other women may be but not her, thank goodness.

In New York people can express anger in a frank and open way, Christmas or no Christmas, and surely this is a good thing. A man in a big gray S.U.V. was outraged that I stepped off the curb on West 43rd Street and walked in front of his vehicle and he went to the trouble of rolling his window down and shouting the name of a bodily orifice. "Use the sidewalk!" he said. I pointed out

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that his behemoth was blocking the sidewalk. "So? What's wrong with waiting, Orifice?"

He was probably in a hurry to visit his ailing mother and was torn up with anxiety about the old lady, so I didn't point out that the street he

was trying to enter, was jammed tight with cars idling, waiting for the green light, so I wasn't exactly detaining him from the swift completion of his appointed rounds. I just said, "Merry Christmas." This irked him. He told me to go molest myself.

Well, that's just how it is. You can't go through life without making some people angry. Keep that in mind and you'll save yourself a lot of misery. Even though you practice the Golden Rule with a vengeance, you cannot be so kind and gentle as to avoid giving offense. So when people hiss at you, nod

and smile and wish them a good day.

Somewhere, someone is furious at the Dalai Lama. Probably there were people in Calcutta who thought Mother Teresa was a showboat. Back in 000 A.D., some people looked at the Infant Jesus and said, "What's with the ring of light around his head? Why should we capitalize his pronouns? The little bugger loads his pants same as any other kid."

When I was II, I asked my elders if Our Lord did defecate and was there such a thing as holy excrement, and that upset them and there was anguished discussion about whether I was perhaps unsaved and bound for perdition, and then they decided to ignore the whole thing and put supper on the table.

Food was how we solved a lot of problems. Supper was grilled cheese sandwiches and Hormel chili from a can. A wonderful meal, and it took the edge off their anger.

In New York the night I was yelled at, I polished off six Malpeque oysters, a bowl of pumpkin bisque, a mound of mushroom risotto and a chocolate sundae with walnuts, and felt charitably toward all mankind, until the maitre d' said, "You're looking good." People only say that when you're old and saggy and it just irritates the bejesus out of me.

I'm a few years older than Bruce but I'm not ready to be beloved quite yet. I gave the little weasel a knee to the groin and he fell face first onto the stinky end of the cheese cart. No honors for me, sweetheart. I'm not done yet.

Haly Shir

Ju det konde pure printerseizoen wordt de Natuur waar weinig te beleven valt. De lingerie seetor spult op deze sevollens in, setuige de velèclingerie seetor spult op deze sevollens in, setuige de velèclingerie seklede dames assebeeld in abri's en aamplok worden met de implicière bandschap. Thingerie verhoogs en aanteekkelijk heid van de vroum ( mè de Matuur binnen shuis is!) In dat wil ih met onvermeld laten was het handis van benne som en onvermeld laten was het handis van brung e of Michiel! ( seel veel het; O'a lerst strettige kerstelsteet of len felichie zo10, Dat ral me hot past spe len sone in 2010!"

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Franchement dir, ill, Gardie Duhtanger beahr buler waarde aanbee ewlusio Heorie dan



aan het seheppingsverhael!