

My Dear Grandchild,

I heard today from Bo-Bo that Mr Bill Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States of America, earned about \$HK70 million, last year, as a private citizen. And he was able to earn this kind of money just by talking. God! That is about \$HK192,000 per day! Bo-Bo was, absolutely, livid on reading the secret report, circulated in Beijing to select members of the National People's Congress. Upon studying the report, Bo-Bo stated that, considering all that he has done for China (he, still, claims to be something of a politician, you know), he is entitled to more than some little piece of paper, awarded to him by a university, or some almost worthless piece of tin, signifying that he has been honoured by China for services rendered. As he was angrily telling me all this, he remarked, stentoriously: 'Do you think that anything that I have obtained from my government could be taken to the bank in order to obtain even the smallest overdraft? And I have never been unfaithful to you, also! This is where the Americans have it all over us, Chinese.' He is right, you know. For what reason should not Bo-Bo be rewarded, monetarily, when he gives a speech – which is not very often, these days, actually, because very few people are interested to hear what he has to say ... about anything? In case you do not know, Bo-Bo's statement about having never been unfaithful to me is in reference to the Monica Lewinsky Case in the 1990s when President Bill Clinton indulged in cunnilingus and fellatio with this former, comely White House Intern. As far as the Arkansas Supreme Court's Committee on Professional Conduct is concerned, President Bill Clinton uttered falsehoods under oath when asked about his relationship with Ms Monica Lewinsky. In a January 1998 Deposition in a sexual harassment suit, brought by Ms Paula Jones, a former Arkansas State Employee, it was noted that he attempted to conceal his affair with Ms Monica Lewinsky. In September 1998, US District Judge Susan Webber Wright found President Bill Clinton in Contempt of Court for giving false information under oath (which is another term for perjury, you know). She fined him \$US90,000. Judge Susan Webber Wright referred the case to the Arkansas Supreme Court's Professional Conduct Panel. And, to cut a long story short, Mr Bill Clinton, eventually, was disbarred from practicing law, again. But, do you think that Mr Bill Clinton cares? Not on your nelly! He is making much more money, today, than he ever could, practising law. Life can, sometimes, be so unfair, My Dear Grandchild. If only Bo-Bo could earn \$HK70 million a year (legally, I mean, not the other way), I could do so much with that kind of money. Let me fantasize with you on the basis of Bo-Bo, earning that kind of money: I could buy many more lovely dresses from Paris, France; I could buy another home in Switzerland where I could learn to ski; I could improve on my Latin dancing skills by taking private lessons in London, England (and it would not cost me \$HK62 million); I could have a facial, daily, instead of once per week; and, I could have a private personal trainer to come to the house, daily, in order to make my body return to its youthfulness of yesteryear. Yes, if I had that kind of money, I could do a great deal with it. In fact, My Dear Grandchild, it occurs to me that men do not, really, understand the art of spending money. Earning lots and lots of money is difficult, I understand that, but spending it, wisely, is even more difficult because that is a real art. Only women know about such things; men don't have the foggiest notion about it. I look in the mirror, from time to time (but I am not narcissistic, you understand) and realise that the God who made us, all, made a terrible mistake: Only men should age; women should remain as they are when they reach sexual maturity. Having said that, do you realise that Mr Bill Clinton's wife, Hillary, is, now, running in the Presidential Race, wanting to become the first female president of the most-powerful country of the world after President George W. Bush, leaves the White House? In my opinion, this could be a terrible mistake on womanhood because, as President of The United States of America, she would be unable to spend much money on the important things in life. Where could she go for a facial and how much money would be allotted from the National Budget for this important facet in the life of every self-respecting woman? She would not have the time to go to boutiques in order to obtain

the latest fashionable dresses and fur coats and, even if she were able to go to a swank boutique, her spending habits would be monitored by the US Congress; and, the Yellow Press would be waiting to pounce on her for over-spending. Unlike her erstwhile husband, who had it off in the Oval Office of The White House with Ms Monica Lewinsky, years ago, President Hillary Clinton would not be able even to look at another man for fear that she would be censured by the electorate as well as her political enemies for having wandering eyes. What would happen to the US economy if all the women of the country determined not to shop, or even curtail their shopping habits, somewhat? It would result in deflation! As Chief Lady of Hongkong, I was thinking of taking a trip to the United States in order to talk to Hillary, as I used to call her when we took tea in the Rose Garden of the White House, some time ago, and explain to her what being President of the United States would mean to her private life. When I spoke to the Pope's wife some years ago at The Vatican, we commiserated at the lot of powerful women of the world. Ah! What a cross we have to bear!

Yes, life can be difficult.

Talk to you, next week.

Chief Lady

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