

TARGET

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LOVE, LIFE AND, THEN, DEATH

Arm in arm, they entered the ballroom to the lilting, melodic strains of The Merry Widow Waltz.

It was the occasion of their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

Arm in arm, gracefully did they danced to the music of Franz Lehar's famous operetta, smiling as they manoeuvred round the dance floor, her head, resting on the chest of her 55 year-old partner.

For 25 years, they had loved; they had had the immense joy of fashioning their lives together, one phase, complementing the other; they had witnessed the birth of their two sons; they had had the unique pleasure of viewing the various stages of their offspring's discoveries of the world, from the flowers that grew in their garden, at different times of the year, to the romps through the woods, to noting how birds built their nests in the branches of trees and, as children are so often prone to want to witness, their children learned how new life is created in the wild.

The elegant dancers had come to understand that their two children, as they matured into manhood, became their teachers and, in the words of William Wordsworth, they were forced, humbly, to accept that, in truth: *'The child is father of the man.'*

But that waltz at the soirée to commemorate their Silver Wedding Anniversary was to be their last: They never danced together again: She passed away in the quietude of one night.

Such is love, life ... and, then, death: It comes to us, all.

There is no antidote for death.

And, even if such an antidote were to be found, who would care to ingest it?

Between Ancient and Modern Times

Between ancient and modern times, while circumstances must vary from one generation to another due to societal and or financial demands; from one country to another, due, in large part, to cultural diversity; from one class of society to another, due to a great extent to

upbringing, education and environment or, conversely, the lack of adequate, sensitive nurture; and, certain eccentricities and similarities between a man and a woman remain constant: The physiological and gregarious needs of the most-developed life form on earth – that of man.

The most-formidable distinction between ancient and modern times and, especially, the thinking of men and women of note must be, however, its effects upon the progress and prospects of society.

Everything else shrinks to insignificance by comparison.

The balance of power in a country might well shift and or be materially altered in consequence of the prodigious additions thus made to the power of importance of that which might be given the nomenclature as the lower forms of society.

But, even in the most-humble stations of life, in which one might find oneself due to no direct fault of one's own, one might, also, discover that wellspring of activity and extraordinary vigour that is off-times lacking in most other of those persons, born into other stations of life.

Such is the power, arising from those individuals, born into the most-humble stations of life, that they could be likened to a vaccine, leading to a prophylactic for many a nation, as well as being the new bulwarks of necessity in order to maintain the equilibrium of societies against excesses.

Without some advantageous counteragent, embodied in superior energy, coupled with more-industrious habits, it is quite likely – and history has proved this to be true – that the so-called higher ranks, in a prosperous, opulent, and advancing state, are quite likely to fall prey to their own ambitions.

The indolence, brought about by wealth, the selfishness of luxury, the pride of birth, be it of presumed nobility or wealth inherited, have proved as being but feeble antagonists to the pressure that can be exerted upon such a person by the influence, generated by poverty, the self-denial, emanated by necessity, as well as the ambition of talent.

The successive elevation of the more-fortunate, or more able, of those who rose from the lower orders of society to higher ranks is no sufficient antidote to the danger; for it is rare that energy survives the necessity that gave it birth; and, nowhere does the enervating influence of wealth appear more strongly than in the immediate descendants of those who have raised themselves by their own exertions.

The incessant development of vigour, derived from relenting efforts of persons of the lower orders of society, indeed, if kept within due bounds, and directed in its objects by the influence of habits, deeply embedded in virtue, will always bring a sufficiency of talent and industry in order to uphold the fortunes of the state, but not to maintain the ascendancy of one class within its bosom.

And, in the strife of domestic ambition, the aristocracy will find but a feeble support from the descendants of those whom new-born wealth has enriched ... or recent services ennobled.

The Last Dance

Music enriches all those who desire to achieve the strength and energy to be experienced in obtaining mental orgasms.

In music, there is harmony; there is strength; there is energy; and, there is an abundance of unsurmountable, seemingly mountainous beauty.

Music, simply put, is the creation of a wide variety of sounds, meant especially to be discerned by the human ear, but music is not just sounds, alone, for when mentally analysed by the listener, they produce, by their very essence, beauty; and, from thence, comes mental expressions of emotion.

As with that ageing husband and wife, who celebrated their 25th Anniversary with their final waltz, knowing not that it would be their last waltz, together, her head, resting upon his chest, warmth permeating throughout their two bodies, yet experience it needs must overshadow all else.

Even with predestinatory knowledge, they would still want to experience their last dance as a testament to their love.

Man is blessed with physiological functions, making it possible for the creation of new life via the passing of haploid gametes, capable of sexual reproduction.

All mammals that roam the earth have the similar propensities, but the principle difference between man and all other animals of the lower mental classes of intellect, is his ability to demonstrate love, not just for the sake of procreation, but due to his innate desire to become one with another of the opposite gender.

In order to live in harmony with his fellows, it is required that rules must be observed for the welfare of all: For, without rules, there is only chaos.

Social developments and reforms are required, from time to time, and from one part of the earth to another, because life is not static: It is organic.

Today, the world is beset with matters of social injustice whereby varying classes of despots reign supreme as they sit on thrones that, in truth, are constructed of the thinnest of pieces of brittle glass.

The lower classes, when roused so to do, have the characteristic desire to try to unseat the despots.

Thus, it is inevitable that the lower classes shall, ultimately, have the last dance.

History has recorded this ineluctability; it, always, has been so ... and, it shall, always, be so.

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