

The Countermand of Valor

- Spencer C.Young

Why cast invectives o'er horizons to sea ¹
Whilst Polymath Aegis lures patrons, thee? ²
Entrée vengeance, avarice to Dyad . . . most trepid o'er shadows ³
Elixirs to the genesis of Machiavellian gallows ⁴

Spelunkers' plans transcend darkness to bliss ⁵
Casting leeward sojourns toward deeper abyss ⁶
Pontificating artifice cloaked as vaunt merit ⁷
Obfuscate plagiary, in barrister Sanskrit ⁸

Despots' de nouveau notorious vice ⁹
Propagate – now profligate the bastions entice ¹⁰
Ne'er a conscience revet Draco waves ¹¹
Turn patrician forefathers' incessantly, graves ¹²

Overview

This epigrammatic poem speaks to instances where the often respected character trait of personal bravery, historically brought to bear to redress injustice, can be quelled by the economic influence wielded by a corrupt few. This can foster the development of a subculture within an enterprise that operates in a manner wholly inconsistent with the vision of its founders. Condoned or undetected, if unmitigated, it procreates like a cancer into the very psyche of an organization, and potentially throughout the industries it operates in – risking the forbearance of rational, independent thinking that would in turn impede creativity and noteworthy achievement, ergo the bane of self-actualization for many.

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Cognizing this disturbing trend, the poem implores embracing valor to avenge instances of injustice, support personal achievement, and resist succumbing to countermand by economic ascendancy via implied or express hectoring. To quote Teddy Roosevelt: "Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much, nor suffer much, because they live in the great twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat". This is the infectious esprit de corps the author most wants to engender.

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In-Genius

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Having Fun In...

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Participation and Excellence

Integra

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An International Society of the Intellectually Gifted
...fostering an exchange of ideas on any and all subjects...

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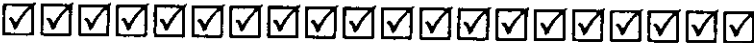
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MPHASIS

Volume XLVII
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The Newsletter of Greater New York Mensa

HAPPY



ANNIVERSARY!

WE'RE TURNING 40!

Check out the GNYM timeline

HO HO HO!

Jingle your bells at our annual Holiday Party

BE A GAMER

Trivia maven alert! Meet the creators of the NYC Trivia game

IN SEARCH OF

a new *Mphasis* Editor. Maybe you?

SAMOKIN SCRIBES!

Fiction contest winners burn up the page

POETIC MUNCHIES

Feed your head at Munchaba, an open-mike hot spot on Long Island

REASON FOR THE SEASON

Good, brisk fun in our calendar of events

GNYM HOLIDAY PARTY and 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2PM

Celebrate the Holiday spirit and 40th Anniversary of the official recognition of the first 10 local groups (see December 7 calendar entry). GNYM will provide food and drink. If you want to participate in a holiday grab bag, bring a gender neutral (interesting/fun) wrapped gift worth approximately \$7 to \$15.

**SOLDIERS', SAILORS', MARINES',
AND ARMEN'S CLUB**

283 Lexington Avenue
(between 36th and 37th Streets)
Manhattan, New York City

Near public transportation. On street parking available after 7:00pm.

\$5 MEMBERS / \$7.50 NOT-YET MEMBERS AND GUESTS

For more information, please contact Jim Wolin at 212-620-4995 or JamesWolin@yahoo.com



MEET THE CREATORS OF THE NYC TRIVIA GAME

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 7:30PM

Meet Toby Tumarkin and Patrick Martins, the creators of the New York City Trivia Game. They'll talk about what goes into creating a new board game, discuss how September 11, 2001, inspired them to make something so New York, and maybe even match wits against our own trivia experts.

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