

Boredom

Alan hat sich eben bei mir über Langeweile wegen dem Lock down beklagt. Ich hab ihm dann etwas Tröstliches geschickt. Komischerweise hat er aber nicht geantwortet. Vielleicht war's doch nicht so gut.

Dear Alan

BOREDOM! A terrible feeling. Nobody is safe from it. Even in the Heavens it exists, as you will find out soon. And it leads to the most disastrous results. What I'm telling you, you must not tell anybody else. Or they might think I am a disbeliever. But the story I am going to tell you, has nothing to do with the Christian God. It's just about a god of the sky and a god of the underworld. Like in the time of the Old Greeks or Romans. They had scores of them.

Anyway, the God of the Underworld went to visit the God of the Sky. They had tea, talked about the world and frowned at the actual situation with the Virus. Of course they couldn't change anything, at least nothing fundamental. And that was it. The God of the Underworld started to yawn. It was pritty boring up here and the God of the Sky did not play cards. After a while the God of the Underworld suggested they could make a new bet. A little bit like on the last visit during the time of the Black Death. Even there they couldn't change anything fundamental. But they tried to influence the spread of the Black Death according to their possibilities. The God of the Sky tried it with celebrations and prayers. And the God of the Underworld resorted to Fire, a means that is a bit more along his line. It is still not quite shure what helped more. At least for the City of London the fire seems to have been quite effective. And for this reason the God of the Underworld claims to have won the bet.

Again they sat at the same table and talked about this horrible Virus and yawned. The rules should be different this time. Each of the contestant should chose a country and is only allowed to influence the respective leader. No celebrations and no fire this time, because this makes it difficult to assess the winner. The God of the Underworld put his claim on the largest country of the planet while the God of the Sky took a tiny island in the Atlantic. It's actually the same island where the God of the Underworld had been so successful with his fire-trick last time.

In a first move the God of the Underworld tried it with the Ignorance-trick. If you don't believe in something, it doesn't exist. But he forgot, that this might work for spiritual things but never for real things and things started to look pretty bleak. Meanwhile the God of the Sky resorted to the shepherds-trick but the results started to be disastrous as well.

In move two the God of the Underworld came up with what we call plagiarisme. He remembered the check list the God of the Sky had invented, the ten items you should or should not do, especially number 8, but got it somehow wrong. Again the result was disastrous. Meanwhile the God of the Sky remembered one of his favourite methods: "Let them suffer!". This almost always helped. But he had - as agreed at the outset of the bet - only power over the leader of the chosen country. And this power or the inflicted suffering had quite a striking influence on the handling of the Virus in the tiny island in the Atlantic.

And this is the reason why one country will open up "real soon" and another country will stay in "Lock down" a bit longer. But who of the two will win the bet is not yet known.

Dear Alan, you see what a terrible effect BOREDOM can have. It even made me write a short story about boredom.

Best wishes

Armin