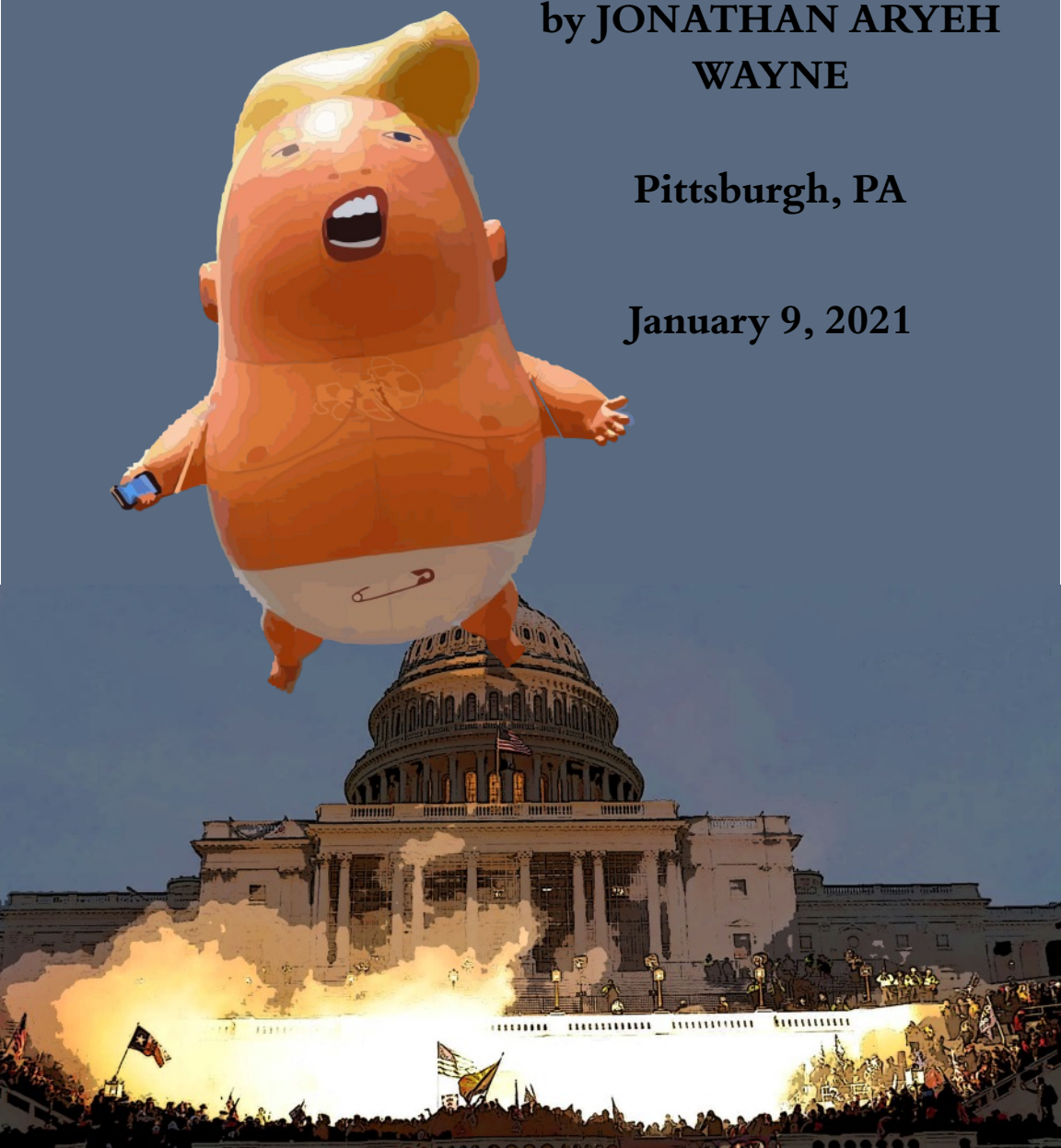


DISGRACE WITH A CAPITOL D

by JONATHAN ARYEH
WAYNE

Pittsburgh, PA

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THOUGH THE ATTEMPTED takeover of the United States government by the violent mob of Donald Trump supporters this past Wednesday failed, could we be on the precipice of the 2021 American Civil War, coming nearly exactly 150 years after the 1861 American Civil War? The thugs, roughnecks, ruffians, marauders, pirates, hooligans, traitors, low lifes, deplorables, anarchists, white privileged trash, conspiracy nuts, anti-semites, white supremacists, terrorists, rednecks, dimwits, cretins, peasants, philistines, and other scum who invaded the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday were not just mere supporters of Donald Trump, but a new radicalized American army, thanks to five years of institutionalized brainwashing by Donald Trump. This siege of the Capitol was an armed insurrection, the first occupation of the Capitol since British troops set fire to the building in the War of 1812, and the people who took part in this coup were traitors of the United States of America. Sedition and insurrection are not patriotism. Fascism is not patriotism. Five people are dead because of these American traitors.

Are you surprised? You shouldn't be. President Trump incited these people, spreading his lies that their rights were being taken away from them, their freedoms destroyed, and on top of that, repeatedly stated it was a completely rigged election full of fraudulent Dominion voting machines. President Trump, a sitting president, in his attempt to overturn the election, encouraged this insurrection for the last several months, and many of his enablers did too. Here are just a few of their names, never forget them: Rudy Giuliani, Sidney Powell, Ted Cruz, Josh Hawley, Kevin McCarthy, Tim Murphy, Lindsey Graham, Louie Gohmert, Mo Brooks, James Lankford, Kenny Marchant, Michael Guest, Rick Scott, John Kennedy, William Barr, Mick Mulvaney, Kellyanne Conway, Betsy DeVos, Marco Rubio, Greg Gianforte, Nikki Haley, Mitch McConnell, Kayleigh McEnany, Ron Johnson, John Thune, Jim Lyons, Jim Jordan, Dan Crenshaw, Sean Spicer, Corey Lewandowski, Ari Fleischer, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Mark Meadows, Michael Flynn, Steve Bannon, Roger Stone, Paul Manafort, Rush Limbaugh, Mark Zuckerberg, Sean Hannity, Tucker Carlson, Mark Levin, Jeanine Pirro, Lauren Ingraham, Jared Kushner, Kimberly Guilfoyle, and the entire Trump family.

On the day of the invasion, Donald Trump promised his people: "We're going to walk down Pennsylvania Avenue and I'll be there with you". His son Eric Trump announced: "We will never ever ever stop fighting." His wife Lara Trump announced: "We are in this fight 'til the bitter end." Trump's other brother Don Jr. stated: "This is Donald Trump's Republic and Party!" Rudy Giuliani yelled: "Let's have trial by combat!" — a term from ancient Germanic law in which people settle disputes through armed duels.

Just a few hours later, a thousand or more American right-wing extremists descended upon the Capitol, ascending its steps, breaking windows, scaling walls, climbing the scaffolding, breaking down doors, tracking feces on the floor, crushing Capitol police officers as they screamed for help, all while taking selfies with them. Gunshots went off inside the Speaker's Lobby of the House, killing a female protester in the chest. Hundreds of raging mobsters screamed at the top of their lungs as they barreled down the hallways with their Confederate flags, Gadsden flags, and pro-Trump banners, forcing their way into every room they could. The House chamber was barricaded and multiple security agents had their guns pointed at the chamber doors ready to shoot the intruders in the head if they broke through. Meanwhile, senators, house members, and other lawmakers were quickly evacuated in the middle of validating the electoral college votes to affirm the outcome of the presidential election in Joe Biden's favor. Not long afterwards, rioters infiltrated the Senate floor, dangling from the balconies, posing for pictures on the Dais, while clutching plastic zip-tie handcuffs, snagging Speaker Nancy Pelosi's lectern. Congressional offices were raided including Jim Clyburn's unmarked office, that was trashed along with Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi's offices.

The terrorists who stormed the Capitol were American citizens, but make no mistake, they didn't want to just teach our American lawmakers a lesson, but they wanted to murder them in cold blood. All of these American citizens had become radicalized by Donald Trump's rhetoric.

Ashli Babbitt, the 35-year-old Air Force veteran who was shot to death by a Capitol police officer while breaking through a window, was a powerful Trump supporter and willing and ready to die for her cause. Her final tweet read: "Nothing will stop us . . . they can try and try and try but the storm is here and it is descending upon DC in less than 24 hours . . . dark to light!"

Larry Rendall Brock, Jr., a retired Air Force officer from Dallas, Texas, wearing his combat helmet, broke into Congress in order to stop or intimidate or interfere with the counting of the Electoral College certification, a fundamental feature of the peaceful transition of power in the United States.

The seditious circus of demented souls who broke into the Capitol also included a shirtless, face-painted, furry-headed, and horned man named the "Qanon Shaman" whose real name was Jake Angeli, leading the deranged charge into the Senate Chamber.

An unidentified man parading around with a Confederate flag achieved what not a single Confederate soldier ever pulled off during the Civil War: Waving the flag inside the U.S. Capitol.

Tim Gionet, as "Baked Alaska," was a neo-Nazi and white supremacist, and was able to live-stream himself inside a lawmaker's office in the Capitol during the siege.

A Republican Delegate for West Virginia, Derrick Evans, filmed himself amongst his mobsters shouting: "We're in . . . Keep it moving, baby!" before he told his mobster comrades: "No vandalizing!"

Adam Christian Johnson, a stay-at-home furniture builder, whose wife is a doctor, was identified as the man stealing Pelosi's lectern. As a psychology graduate

from the University of South Florida in Tampa, he was looking to turn a profit for his furniture business.

Aaron Mostofsky, an Orthodox Jew and the son of a Brooklyn Supreme Court judge, was dressed in a fur costume holding a police riot shield, and broke into the Capitol, stating his intention was to protest the “stolen election”.

Then there was the man wearing the “Camp Auschwitz: Work brings Freedom” hoodie, who was part of the mob that infiltrated the Capitol.

Also identified was the Proud Boys’ own Nick Ochs, a failed Hawaii state legislature candidate, who represented his Oahu, Hawaii Proud Boys chapter along with his members who wore their “6MWE” (6 million Jews weren’t enough) t-shirts.

Richard ‘Bigo’ Barnett, a 60-year-old Arkansas man, broke into Nancy Pelosi’s office, kicked his boots up on her desk and wrote a handwritten threat on one of her manilla folders that read in capital letters: “WE WILL NOT BACK DOWN” along with a charming personalized message: “Nancy, Bigo was here, you bitch.” Prior to Pelosi’s office getting broken into, several mobsters were heard yelling the following: “Tell Pelosi we’re coming for that bitch! Tell fucking Pelosi we’re coming for her! Fucking traitor cunt! We’re coming for her!”

Outside, Alabama’s Lonnie Coffman, drove his red pickup truck to the nation’s capital, and brought along with him eleven homemade Molotov cocktail-style bombs in a cooler, an assault rifle, and a handgun. Coffman allegedly told police the explosive devices contained “melted styrofoam and gasoline.” Several pipe bombs were also placed at the RNC and DNC headquarters by unidentified criminals.

IT IS LUDICROUS to disregard online threats even though they’re just mere words. On the extremist free speech website 8kun, where Qanon supporters often hang out, a user stated one day before the siege: “You can go to Washington on Jan 6 and help storm the Capital. As many Patriots as can be. We will storm the government buildings, kill cops, kill security guards, kill federal employees and agents, and demand a recount... Trump or war. Today. That simple.”

As I write this today on January 9, there are plans to attack Washington DC again on January 20 as a user on TheDonaldwin website stated: “This time no mercy. I don’t even care about keeping Trump in power. I care about war. These people are laughing in our faces. More 1st amendment protests.” Another user lamented the end of the United States stating: “Please take urgent action to save our country — Born July 4, 1776 — Died January 20, 2021 — It’s our last chance.”

January 6, 2021 was a national security disaster of unparalleled proportions, unbelievably inspired by a sitting president of the United States who declared in a pre-taped video while the siege was underway: “This was a fraudulent election, but we can’t play into the hands of these people. We have to have peace. So go home. We love you, you’re very special.” In stark contrast, just prior to Trump’s hypocritical and nauseating words, president-elect Joe Biden on live television correctly stated: “This is not dissent. It’s disorder. It’s chaos. It’s bordering on sedition. And it must end. Now. I call on this mob to pull back and allow the work of democracy to go forward. You’ve heard me say before in a different context, the words of a president matter. No matter how good or bad that president is. At their

best, the words of a president can inspire. At their worst, they can incite. Therefore, I call on President Trump to go on national television now, to fulfill his oath, to defend the constitution, and demand an end to this siege.”

Donald Trump lost the 2020 presidential election. There was no widespread voter fraud in every village, town, municipality, county, city, and state, despite the lies that Donald Trump circulated. Joseph Goebbels, minister of propaganda for the Nazi German government of the Third Reich, understood the power of repeating falsehoods. “If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it,” he asserted, “people will eventually come to believe it.” This human phenomenon, ubiquitous in contemporary politics, advertising, and social media, is known in cognitive psychology as the “illusory truth effect.” Donald Trump took a page from Goebbels, whether he realized it or not. Much like what the Nazis did, those in Donald Trump’s cult, were brainwashed by his repeated lies, and not just believed in them, but acted on them.

I OFTEN WONDER WHY these people would “fight for hell” in the name of a lie, all part of a grift concocted by a confidence artist, pathological liar, and narcissist who easily manipulated them. Donald Trump never cared to govern the country; only his own finances and family members. As an impeached president (and soon to possibly be impeached for the second time), he disregarded his oath of office and severely abused his power of authority for over four years, making him the most dangerous president in the history of the nation. These misguided followers of Trump claim they fight for their freedoms and the First Amendment of the Constitution, fearing a totalitarian 1984 style regime, but do they even realize that websites such as Reddit, SnapChat, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr, and Youtube are not part of the U.S. government, but are actually private companies, and can censor what people post on their websites as they see fit? Do they realize that the First Amendment free speech guarantee, along with all constitutional rights, only protects American citizens against the government? Have these people ever heard of antitrust laws? Donald Trump is a clear and present danger to the health, well-being, and state of the country. Facebook and Twitter have every right to censor and permanently suspend his “accounts,” because they are private companies. Trump goes down as the first person in world history as a “leader” to have his online accounts banned. It’s not something you want to be known for.

The people fighting for Donald Trump worship him. The people fighting for Donald Trump also unwittingly align themselves with racists and hate mongers, and those who pray for the return of Jim Crow laws, who dream of hanging blacks on nooses again, and are still pissed off the south lost the Civil War. On January 8, 2021, American historian Jon Meacham stated: “This flight from fact, this flight from evidence, a flight from truth however inconvenient to a self-serving vision of reality, where power is more important than principle, and the mob which was figurative until Wednesday, has become the literal guiding force in the Republic. It was particularly heartbreaking because there seemed to be so little resistance. They felt entitled to do what they did, they felt empowered to do what they did. Soldiers had died, protestors have bled, in search of a more perfect union, in search

of a Democratic world, where the values of faith, hope and charity would have at least a fighting chance against our appetites and our ambitions.”

As thousands upon thousands of Americans die each day from COVID-19, as small businesses and industries are shut down, as people live in terror of not having a livelihood to pay their monthly expenses and feed themselves and their families, we have to ask this question: Do we want to be so over-consumed by politics, so divided by each other's opinions, so depleted of science and reason, that it distracts us from defeating a deadly virus, while we sit back in our comfortable sofas at home and watch as privileged violent criminals break into one of the most revered institutions of democracy, disrupting our already frayed Republic, as lawmakers desperately try to make resolutions for the lives of hundreds of millions of people?

Trump supporters often wonder why people hate Donald Trump so much. It's not just the fact that we just witnessed the most despicable and treasonous act that's ever been incited by any president in its nearly 250-year history, it's also the fact that countless families and friends were permanently torn apart because of what Donald Trump said to them. Because of one man who radicalized tens of millions of people, and destroyed my relationships with others over his politics, I will most likely never forgive him for that. And if that's not enough, these tens of millions of people want a new Civil War, and with that, large scale attacks, bombings, assassinations, and the destruction of American democracy — all fueled and inspired by one selfish, delusional, and demented 75-year-old man. No, these people don't love America, they're ready to commit mass suicide, and take everyone else out with them in the process.

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