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Kent

Parlor Tricks Issue
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*** a publication by and about Kent Roberts, and for the global community ***

Promised & undelivered Kentbook may come to fruition

By Kent Roberts

In December 2018, I announced the upcoming release of *Kentbook*, a compilation of *Kent* issues stretching back to 1999. I planned to release a bare-bones e-book "Lite" edition at the moment the New Year arrived, followed by a deluxe e-book and print edition on February 2.

I proceeded to release the initial Lite edition at the New Year, then pull it down after deciding I didn't

like some of the content. "We decided to basically reverse course,"

Justice for George Floyd

said Kent Publishing Navigator Kent Roberts, "since some of the issues in

Kentbook Lite were written when Kent cared more about booze and parlor tricks than he did about journalistic integrity."

A new version of *Kentbook*, which is a best-of rather than a comprehensive compilation, is currently being assessed by a few Kent Friends and Kent Associates. *Kentbook* will likely be published in 2020, but given my track record, really, who the hell knows.

Opinion: Kent prioritizing mindlessness over mindfulness

By Kent Roberts

There are rumors around Kent HQ that self-publisher Roberts is preferencing a mindless over a mindful perspective. The gossip started as Kent drifted away from his meditation practice. However, this take on his situation is

more convenient than it is accurate. He is not truly mindless, since his point-of-view is filled with worry and disillusionment.

Roberts is trying. He increasingly recognizes the importance of optimistic meditation. Kent participated in an online webinar on "manifesting" – creating

positive results by clarifying what you want and asking the universe for it. He's even started to watch *The Secret* – claiming it's the quantum physics aspect that interests him, rather than the cultish, soulfulness-for-sale tone.

Despite Kent's desire to meditate himself into

manifested greatness, his head, again, is too filled with anxiety to be mindless – so he may have to settle for mindfulness.

Wait... maybe mindfulness is mindlessness.

Roberts just blew his mind, and now it's empty.

avant-Kente

By Kent Roberts

Sun and wind seem so much more necessary in a time of crisis.

What drives us apart
Drives us together.
Everything perfection
Gratitude for consciousness

Meteors aflame
Lighting up
a sky
of possibility.

Fact & Fiction About Kent Roberts

Fact: Kent constantly questions Kentself and often finds his answers unacceptable.

Fiction: Kent will no longer speak to Kentself due to Kentself's history of berating him.

Kentphorism:

“Try very hard. But also, try at the right thing (industrial compliance).”

bacKent

Kentphorism:

“Rather than envy others’ positions in life, ask them for handouts.”

** the only Kentlication backside that grants three wishes, provided all three are for more Kent Roberts news **

Kenterview: the essentiality of parlor tricks

By Kent Roberts

Kent: How lucky are you?

Kent: Very.

Kent: Then why do you complain?

Kent: There’s something called the negativity bias. I think mine has run rampant.

Kent: It’s weird, though, because you’re very optimistic in some ways.

Kent: My emotions are a conundrum. They’re a Rubik’s Cube where some of the sides are grey.

Kent: That would be an easier Rubik’s Cube – if multiple sides are interchangeable.

Kent: Different shades of gray.

Kent: Huh. 50 shades? Sexy.

Kent: No, just three... And they are just barely different – so it’s even harder than a typical Rubik’s Cube

“My emotions are a Rubik’s Cube where some of the sides are grey.” – Kent Roberts

because you can barely tell how to align it.

Kent: Sounds difficult.

Kent: Ain’t that the truth. I am my own therapist, constantly trying to shift all the squares –

Kent: But what’s the function of solving the puzzle? Seems like it just organizes your emotions rather than healing you.

Kent: Fuck. Yeah, you’re right.

Kent: What does doing a Rubik’s Cube solve anyway? It’s a parlor trick.

Kent: Well, it makes me feel a better sense of structure in the parlor.

Kent: And parlor tricks, in this pandemic, seem –

Kent: Essential to survival.

Kent: Weirdly, you have a point.

Let’s face it 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊

By Kent Roberts

A painful area developed inside my nose, accompanied by a sensitive red spot on its

exterior. I had to investigate – looking in the mirror with my head tilted back and my fingers pulling the nostril higher to expose the target site.

It was a large, angry pimple. The path forward was unclear: pimples do not offer custom roadmaps for remediation. I took the clippers and punctured it.

This tactic worked. The pimple is no more. By passing through the center of the disgusting, I found fair skies on the other side.

Groundskeeper going after everything

By Kent Roberts

Sometimes I watch Kent Girlfriend Whatsherface (KGW)¹ work on a patch of land in which she is growing native plants. The patch of land she is using is on the adjacent building’s land, but the landlord of that building has said she can plant there.

One day I saw the groundskeeper from next door mowing the yard. He mowed over some of KGW’s native plants.

I went outside and approached him. He stopped his mower. I said, “We’re trying to grow some native plants over there.” He snapped back, “I know.”

It seemed the conversation was over. I went back inside and watched him mow over some more plants.

Update: Apparently the groundskeeper thought some of the plants were weeds. He will not be mowing through KGW’s plants again.

¹ Whatsherface is an assumed name approved by KGW. Copyright © 2020 Kent Roberts Believes That Success in Life Hinges on Getting Up Every Day by 9:30, No Exceptions.