

David Brocourt
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I trust you've become accustomed to your new address by now(?) // As for "disillusionment" re professional prospects there. Apart from any vocational incentive that has survived, such ostensibly unrewarding, taxing work, the very nature of the toil itself must be spiritually depressing.

The name Trust culture has devolved in the UK, with freeloading, nepotistic officials living high on public funds, depriving and stealing from all those below and presenting their personal commissions on "savings" as "productivity"! The "savings" being delusional, or statistically manufactured/massaged, and, anyhow, simply swelling the salaries and bellies of the spongers by increase. I've said, for ages, that whatever integrity/vocation the major professions in general once claimed to possess, have long gone. A profession nowadays merely being a stepping stone to more lucrative fields in "service" to corrupt politics, government or corporation — all now infested with "doctors" and lawyers. The US Congress/Senate is similarly a coagulation of lawyers. The Washington snipers wasted their ammunition on nobodies, spoiling a quite original methodology, to loot,* for future more politically motivated sharpshooters, families with the Q & A: "What do you call a shipload of lawyers drowning?" Answer: "A good start." // It's a strange coincidence that those appointed to

* literally

"have" money in any sphere, have more to spend ² on themselves than most others. I recall a US millionaire "troubleshooter", Mc Gregor, being brought to the UK by Thatcher to destroy the coal-mining industry in the UK, paying him £2 million annual salary. The argument for these "fat cats" (Manson) being that you have to pay gigantic salaries to get the right people - apparently all with small brains and an obsession to ruin/reduce whatever they tackle. This generation seems swamped with such! Real jobs are now mostly reserved for immigrant slave labour, now the mainstay of western parasitic economies, living luxuriously on debt and other people's sweat.

Yes, anonymity confers personal freedom - hence the anticipation of a holiday and ^{trip} escape from conditioning. Glad to hear the Bordeaux art galleries compensate to some degree. Ditto the many bars, and observance of the passing throng - always a fascinating activity.

Yes, I knew that my book, "Janus", was recently translated into French. I thought the "Lyonnais" French would've been first rather than behind other translations. You'd be able to judge the quality of the translation (?) Has it the same cover/jacket? Opinion, please.

Yes, the "comic" culture of today - in films especially - indicates an intellectual devolution, and recognition that the only heroes left to admire are fictional/delusional. The PK book has illustrations more suited to the 1940/50s sensationalism of adolescence, which at least had a noir appeal - unlike tabloid trash turgidness.

I see the Netherlands is still able to produce individual activism. Best wishes,