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@zakbos

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RHYMES

*five antebellum
doodles*

#trumpigram

I was originally going to call it the *trumpku* but that seems to already be used for Trump statements translated into the Japanese poetic form. So, borrowing from 'epigram' I proudly present the **trumpigram**. The form is simple, 140 characters following the formula:

Factual statement -> brief exclamation -> exclamation mark

Let the fun begin! Examples:

Niall O'Sullivan @poetniall 8:47 AM - 10 Jan 2017

The problem with frogs is that they're always interfering with the surface of the pond. Loud splashing sound! #trumpigram

8:48 AM - 10 Jan 2017 Niall O'Sullivan @poetniall

My name is Ozymandias king of kings, look upon my works ye mighty and despair. Overrated statue! #trumpigram

8:49 AM - 10 Jan 2017 Niall O'Sullivan @poetniall

Tyger Tyger burning bright in the forests of the night. Great hair colour! #trumpigram

from: <http://niallosullivan.co.uk/index/trumpigram-the-poetic-form-for-the-post-truth-era>

BURIAL OF THE LEDE



However you feel
about him, you can't
argue with the fact
that Donald Trump is
**inarguably, peerlessly
great at making deals**

which endanger democracy and enrich his cronies while at the same time insulting the dignity of Americans of every class and creed, including those people economically insecure enough or atavistically bigoted enough or ignorantly reckless enough to have voted for him. He is also great at not reading a text beyond the first phrase his minimally literate and distressingly linear brain encounters and is able to misconstrue as praise. This cognitive bias blinds him to instances where the ostensible praise is in actuality innocuous, or even insulting, as when the author is not praising at all but in actuality calling him out as craven, corrupt, bereft of the values useful in a moral man let alone a national leader, and most rectifiable and therefore most indictable of all, boring. He could put on Oscar Wilde's stockings and still be the least interesting thing in the room. Lords and leptons is he boring. Setting aside my own anti-anti-intellectual bias, I should say that I am ready to believe that a person who doesn't read can indeed be good company, and a good person to boot, but the case of Trump is not persuasive evidence that this principle is widely true. He is the gaseous exception that tries the rule.

Adages (sonnet)



Gallant: “The wise know that sacrifice
is what makes a sick world well.”

Goofus: “No one knew that avarice
would be so hard to spell.”

Gallant: “Those who come together
in affection, grow in strength.”

Goofus: “By sheer exaggeration
I have grown in girth and length.”

Gallant: “Normalization is a civic crime.”
Goofus: “Having awesome hair is not a crime.”

Gallant: “Those who give more, have more.”
Goofus: “Getting more is what life is for.”

Gallant: “Preference defers to truth.”
Goofus: “Korea manly hands fake news.”

A note to the reader: In the preceding lines, the figure of Goofus is a thinly-disguised depiction of the American plutocrat Donald Trump.

Love Poem



roses are red
violets are blueish
when they're done
with the muslims
they'll come for the
jewish



Thornpoints grow
on rosey bushes—
dank Mosses—grow
in clumps—Creation
is—an urging Voice
—that whispers—
impeach Trump.

The Roach Party



Crawling through the ruins
of a city strewn with
the bodies of the unnamed dead

a little roach stopped a moment
to address his friend
and here is what he said:

Let me tell you, brother,
one social parasite to another:
I'm beginning to think

that even for us social parasites
things in the White House seem
not altogether right.

“Rule #1: Believe the autocrat. He means what he says. Whenever you find yourself thinking, or hear others claiming, that he is exaggerating, that is our innate tendency to reach for a rationalization.” // **MASHA GESSEN, THE NYRB**

cover: an illustration of Shift the Ape, a villain (alas, a boring one) from *The Last Battle* by C. S. Lewis. “You think freedom means doing what you like. Well, you’re wrong. That isn’t true freedom. True freedom means doing what I tell you.”

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