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The Advocate



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

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“SHOULD THE DEATH PENALTY BE ABOLISHED?”

Professors Abraham Abromovsky and Ernest van den Haag debated this timely and controversial issue on March 23rd. Sponsored by the Republican Law Students Association, the lively and informative event was moderated by Professor Joseph Crowley.

Professor van den Haag, a proponent of capital punishment, first outlined the legal, moral and practical aspects involved. He stressed the need for the death penalty as a deterrent; since death is the most feared penalty the threat of execution deters more potential murderers than the threat of any other penalty, including life imprisonment. He noted the symbolic value of the death penalty; rather than evincing a low regard for human life, it symbolizes the very high regard which our society places upon life. “When a person wrongfully takes the life of another, he should be required to forfeit his own.” Van den Haag questioned the validity (and desirability) of the argument that “evolving standards” of the constitution prohibit capital punishment. He concluded that the death penalty does not violate any constitutional principle.

The abolitionist, Professor Abraham Abromovsky argued that the death penalty has not been shown to be any more deterrent than life imprisonment. Indeed, he added, most criminals are hardly calculating individuals who consult the penal code before murdering their victim. Abromovsky stressed that the process leading to execution is subject to extreme caprice and arbitrariness, beginning with the wide prosecutorial discretion as to charging, down to the final jury decision on whether the convicted murderer should live or die. Abromovsky pointed out that overwhelmingly those executed have been ethnic and religious minorities. He noted further that costly mistakes have been made throughout history; executing an innocent man is a mistake that can never be undone. Professor Abromovsky concluded that it is a sad society which executes its own members.

Both van den Haag and Abromovsky presented their positions persuasively. Obviously both have given the matter serious and careful consideration. Indeed, each admitted that his own view was subject to its own pro's and con's. Yet each had decided that the former outweighed the latter. While there was no “winner” in the debate the participants raised many thought-provoking issues heretofore not considered or recognized by many in the audience.

RLSA President Steve Rossettie would like to thank Professors Abromovsky, van den Haag and Crowley and all those who attended. The large turnout and overwhelmingly positive response to the debate indicate that similar events are something the students of Fordham would like to see more of.

Lois A. Aiello

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

The purpose of this article is to make students aware that government provides exciting alternatives to private sector employment in nearly every field of law.

Too often, government is viewed as the employer of last resort, a dumping ground for lawyers unable to get jobs elsewhere or unwilling to devote the time and energy that complicated legal work demands. This is far from the truth. During my years in government—with the City Law Department, the City Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the State Municipal Assistance Corporation—I worked with some of the brightest people I've ever known on matters that were terribly exciting. How many private sector lawyers get to purchase several city blocks in an \$8 million transaction that involves transfers of air rights, satisfaction of mortgages, and negotiation of long-term leases and purchase options? That was the transaction by which the City acquired the property on which the South Street Seaport Museum is rising in lower Manhattan. How many private sector lawyers have the opportunity to participate in the structuring of a \$4.5 billion financing plan to save the City of New York? These are but two examples of the fascinating matters that cross the desks of public sector lawyers.

Following is a list that suggests public sector opportunities for students who have what are generally thought to be private sector interests:

1. *Finance*: City Law Department, Fiscal and Securities Division; City Comptroller's Office; State Financial Control Board; Office of Special Deputy Comptroller; New York City Budget Bureau. Lawyers in these offices are generally concerned with fiscal matters involving the City of New York, including the balancing of its \$14 billion expense budget and the marketing of bonds and notes to fulfill its capital needs.

2. *Real Estate*: City Law Department, Real Estate and Economic Development Divisions; State Urban Development Corporation; State Housing Finance Agency; City Department of Housing Preservation and Development. Matters handled by these entities cover every kind of real estate deal imaginable, from the conversion of the Federal Archives Building in lower Manhattan into luxury condominiums, to keeping the New York Stock Exchange in the City, to the rehabilitation and sale of millions of dollars of abandoned housing in the City of New York.

3. *Labor*: New York State Labor Department; City Office of Labor Relations; City Office of Collective Bargaining. These offices deal with some of the knottiest issues facing government today, including compensation packages and productivity. These are matters that directly impact on the quality of life in New York.

I could go on and on. Tax, antitrust, constitutional law, franchising, licensing, landlord-tenant law, land use planning

continued on page 3

The Advocate

"THE ADVOCATE" is the official newsletter of Fordham University School of Law, published by the students of the school. Its goals are to enlighten and inform the school community of news and activities concerning the school.

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This is our last issue for the year and the end of my tenure as editor. Some people questioned my decision to take the job, others have thanked me for taking it, and still others have been counting the days until I would no longer have it.

I've no doubt that those who questioned my decision had good cause to do so. There was never enough time to fulfill all my responsibilities in exactly the way I would have liked. As a result I made some mistakes. But I hope that my efforts, imperfect as they were, helped in some small way to improve the quality of life at school.

I would like to thank those people who supported me, worked with me, and let me think for a little while that I was a force to be reckoned with. Without your help I never could have done the job.

Finally, to those who have waited for this day with joyous anticipation, what I have to say to you is best left to the imagination.

Remember, The Advocate will be back next semester with Mark Kosak as the new editor-in-chief. He will need all your help and support. Anyone interested in working on and/or contributing to the paper next year can contact him at (212) 821-2556.

Good luck on exams and have a great summer.

M.A.

The Advocate



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

(The views of the author are his alone and do not necessarily represent those of The Advocate.)

THE SECOND COMING Part 2

by Matt Sansverie

Jerry wasn't sure what to do next. It was the day after all of the extraordinary coincidences that had set the news eyes of the world on him. He could leave the hospital any time now, he had sustained no serious injuries. But getting out of the place, and in one piece, seemed to be a feat that required planning. He closed his eyes and savored the peace of his hospital bed while trying to think of a way out.

Someone entered his room. Jerry didn't open his eyes for fear that it might be another of those reporters he had successfully avoided until now. Jerry smelled some Aramis cologne and a burning cigarette. When the visitor walked toward the window, Jerry opened one eye to get a quick look. The man was tall, and was wearing a black trenchcoat with the collar turned up. Underneath the open coat, Jerry could make out that his caller wore an expensive blue suit and red tie. The visitor put one foot up on a chair by the window and looked out, taking a long drag on the cigarette. He exhaled and walked slowly back toward Jerry, throwing the cigarette on the hospital floor.

"Cohen?" the visitor said to the sleeping form on the bed: "Cohen, I've got something very important to speak to you about and I don't have much time. Do you hear me?"

Jerry figured he could feign sleep no longer. Looking at the man, Jerry was transfixed by the large, coal black eyes of the caller. He had dark, wavy hair and the blue of his beard was visible through his pale skin. "Who, . . . who are you?" Jerry stammered, drawing the sheets up to his nose.

"My name is Damien Flynn, S.J. . . . and I'm not a reporter, Cohen."

"Well, what are you, then? What's this S.J. stand for?"

"That's Society of Jesus," Flynn began, "That makes me a Jesuit. We're an elite group of highly educated, liberal intellectuals who just happen to be Catholic priests. We represent the cutting edge in modern Catholic theology. We also brought you the Spanish Inquisition, remember?"

"What do you want with me?" Jerry asked as he sat up.

"What do we want with you, Cohen? I'll tell you what we want with you." Flynn reached down and grabbed Jerry by the front of his hospital pajamas. "We want you to tell us just what the hell you think you're doing."

"Doing?! Hey, you don't think I have any control over all this, do you?"

"I suppose it just happens, right? No way, Cohen or whatever your real name is. When you get out of here, you go tell whoever it is you work for, Krishna or Moon or Falwell, that play time is over. You guys will do anything for a tax exemption. You tell them that if they want to compete with us, we're not going to let them do it by updating *our* gimmick! So, that means no more water-walks at shopping malls. And if we ever hear of you guys having an 'all you can eat' night at Arthur Treacher's, you're finished! You got that?" Flynn released Jerry. He straightened his tie and ran his fingers through his hair. "Remember Cohen, we're watching you." With that warning, Flynn left.

continued on page 4

SUMMER CLINICAL PROGRAM

A Summer Clinical Program has been developed to provide all students with the opportunity to obtain both two academic credits on a pass/fail basis and practical lawyering experience in a variety of non-paying public interest positions. The administration has waived the payment of tuition for all students wishing to participate in the program. Professor Georgene M. Vairo is the coordinator of the program and all inquiries and responses should be directed to her in Room 048.

In order to receive academic credit from the program each student must: 1) personally secure a public interest job; 2) volunteer a minimum of 25 hours per week for a period of at least 8 weeks; 3) attend a weekly seminar commencing the second week in June, and; 4) maintain weekly work records. Any student who is interested in such a Clinical must submit to Professor Vairo by April 15, 1983, a memorandum containing: 1) the student's name; 2) class section; 3) title or position; 4) the number of hours per week and number of weeks the student intends to work; 5) the student's supervisor, and; 6) how the student obtained the position.

The following agencies have expressed a particular interest in Fordham students. Anyone wishing to apply for one of these positions must submit directly to Professor Vairo by April 8, 1983 a copy of his/her resume and a cover letter addressed to Professor Vairo specifying his/her interest in the requested job.

1. Surrogate's Court of the County of New York, 31 Chambers Street, New York, NY;

Students acting under the supervision of the Law Assistants to the Surrogate will deal with various legal issues such as trust and estate matters before the court.

2. Association of New York State Savings Bank;

Students will work under the direct supervision of the General Counsel, being exposed to federal and state laws and regulations which affect commercial banks as well as thrifts.

3. Appellate Division, First Department;

Internship in Family Court Advocacy—Students will be placed with practicing attorneys, Legal Aid lawyers, or Corporation Counsel attorneys and assist them in all aspects of Family Court practice including cases under the Uniform Support & Dependence Law, support cases, abused child cases and other family law offenses.

4. Housing Part of the Civil Court of New York City;

Students will assist judges; study legal issues in urban housing; participate, under supervision in the mediation and settlement of landlord-tenant disputes.

5. State of New York, Division of Human Rights;

Students will assist the Division of Human Rights attorney in all aspects of discrimination litigation.

More extensive listings of positions which students may alternatively pursue independently are available on the bulletin board in front of Professor Vairo's office and in the Placement Office.

Mark S. Kosak



FORDHAM LAW WOMEN

Due to the overwhelming generosity of the local business community and the enthusiastic support of those who purchased raffle tickets, Fordham Law Women will be sending twelve students to the 14th National Conference on Women and the Law. The theme of this year's conference will be "Unity and Empowerment" and it is being held in Washington, D.C. Seven law schools in the Washington area are sponsoring the conference.

Each year FLW raises money to fund those wishing to attend by raffling off prizes donated by business in the Fordham area. The drawing was held March 10 and Dean Feerick picked the lucky winners:

- Tickets to see Maurizio Pollini at Avery Fisher Hall plus dinner for two at the Allegro Cafe — Barbara DeMayo, 2E
- Dinner for two at Monks Inn — Helen Matthews, 2E
- Lunch for two at Tovarisch — Joe Cook, 3A
- Dinner for two at the Ginger Man — Virginia Zock, 3B
- Dinner for two at the Saloon — Claudia Smith, 1E
- Brunch for four at Los Ponchos — Mitch Berkey, 3A
- Dinner for two at Genghis Khan's Bicycle — Mark Irish, 1E
- Dinner for two at O'Neal's — Mary Kaczmarek
- Dinner for two at O'Neal's — Maura O'Sullivan
- Dinner for two at Fiorello's — Stephanie Lazar
- Tee shirt and duffle from the Athlete's Foot — Sarah Murphy

FLW wishes to extend its sincere thanks to all those who made this year's raffle the best ever and urges winners to call 768-2460 about claiming their prizes.

In addition to holding the raffle, FLW, in conjunction with the New York Women's Bar, will be presenting a panel discussion on "Choices" Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 in the Moot Court Room. Among the panelists will be Justice Hortense Gabel speaking on the Judiciary, Audrey Sager on small practice, Diane Abeloff on government positions and Professor Vairo on academia. Wine and cheese will be served immediately following and all are invited to attend.

Preceding the panel discussion, women's lay groups from all over the city have been invited to attend an organizing session to plan a one day mini-conference on substantive areas of the law. The date of this conference will be sometime next fall and it promises to be exciting. Watch for the announcement.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES continued from page 1

are all dealt with in one or more government offices.

It is true that public sector salaries are not nearly at Wall Street levels. However, benefits are generally very good, as are opportunities for advancement, both within and outside government. Of the young lawyers I worked with when I started at the Law Department in 1969, two are Federal Magistrates, at least one is a partner at a large law firm, one is counsel to a major museum, several are counsels or assistant counsels to major city and state agencies, one is Chief Assistant Corporation Counsel and several are in middle or top level management positions in the public and private sectors.

I hope I've convinced you to think about working for government. Naturally jobs are not always available in all of these offices, but Maureen Provost and I will be happy to help you to focus your interests and to plan a job search strategy to pursue openings. Make sure to attend spring career panels sponsored by the Placement Office on government opportunities. If you are interested in practical experience, investigate the clinical program offerings by speaking to myself or Professor Hadjiyannakis.

Professor Marilyn Friedman

REPUBLICAN LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Republican Law Students Association had its first lecture of the semester on February 8, 1983. Thomas R. Stevens, the founder of R.L.S.A. and currently the president of the New York Young Republican Club, Inc., spoke to students about a future in politics and also his experience as a first year associate.

R.L.S.A. and the Young Republicans co-sponsored a trip to the Tropicana hotel and casino in Atlantic City on March 12, 1983.

The major event of the semester was held on March 23, 1983. A "Debate on the Death Penalty" with Professor Abramovsky and Professor van den Haag was a huge success. Room 203 was completely filled with over 200 people before the debate even began. Everyone enjoyed the debate which was moderated by Assistant Dean Crowley. Food and mixed drinks were served following the event. R.L.S.A. is very pleased with the attendance of so many students and faculty members. Special thanks goes out to those members of the faculty who participated in the debate. Hopefully, other such debates can be arranged with other topics and faculty members.

R.L.S.A. plans to show the movie "Paper Chase" on April 6 at the Lowenstein Center, room 504. There will be a showing at 3:00 and another at 6:00. The club is also trying to set up a Board of Advisors from alumni and faculty members.

Stephen V. Rossettie
R.L.S.A. President

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

In my first week of this task I have become painfully aware of one thing: to run an efficient and effective SBA the help of the entire student body will be needed. I am very confident that the Executive Committee is more than capable of meeting any problem which may confront them. However, it will take the entire student body to bring these problems into the open. Please do not be coy with any constructive ideas, solutions and suggestions that you might have concerning the improvement of FLS. The new administration, headed by Dean Feerick, has created an atmosphere which allows the students to have an impact on the present and future affairs of FLS. Please consider the opportunity presented to us and then help me make the most of it.

In the next few weeks the committee system of the SBA will be changed. Membership on each committee will be open to all students. If you have a concern in a particular area or simply wish to get involved and you are willing to work hard, by all means submit your name. In addition, students are asked to volunteer for graduation and orientation. (Sign-up sheets will be passed around). Programs we will be working on during the summer will include a legal career seminar series for upperclassmen and a study workshop for first year students.

Finally, I thank you for giving me the chance to serve you as SBA President. Now I ask you to help me serve effectively. Good luck on exams and enjoy the summer.

Timothy J. Brosnon
S.B.A. President

MOOT COURT NEWS

The Law School's Moot Court Board had cause for celebration last month as members of three of Fordham's interschool moot court teams won awards in the Jessup, Kaufman and Wagner competitions.

In the Jessup International Moot Court Competition, organized by the American Society of International Law, the team of Cathy Ansari, Silvia Eiriz, Greg Franklin and Bill McCoy received an award for best brief in the eastern region. In addition, Eiriz and Franklin were designated best and third best speakers, respectively.

On Wednesday night, March 23, the team of Marc Farley, John Schneider and Colleen Lyons beat a team from William and Mary to win the final round of the Fordham-sponsored Irving R. Kaufman Moot Court Competition. Five Federal Court judges comprised the final bench and praised the oral advocacy skills of both teams in dealing with the complex securities law issues raised in the problem. Fordham's Marion Kaplan, Denis McInerney and Tom Souther also placed in the competition and the Fordham team was also the recipient of the award for Best Brief.

The same week also saw the team of Deborah Doty, Kim Koupersmith and Lydia Kwasny advance to the final round of the New York Law School-sponsored Wagner Competition, dealing with labor law issues. Fordham's team was also the recipient of the award for Best Brief.

Betty Atlas

THE SECOND COMING

continued from page 2

"I've got to get out of here before somebody kills me," Jerry thought to himself. Thinking quickly, Jerry went to the door of his room. He peeked out to make sure the coast was clear. Jerry bolted from his room in his sneakers and pajamas, down the hall and into a supply closet. Inside he found a green scrub shirt and matching pants. Putting on the white jacket he found nearby, Jerry's only wish was that his mother could see him. She had always wanted him to be a doctor. Thus attired, Jerry ran to the nearest exit. By early afternoon he had made his way to Ralph's Malibu beach house. Once inside, Jerry fixed himself a pitcher of margaritas and sat on the deck overlooking the beach. The pounding surf and hot sun lulled Jerry into a well-deserved sleep.

That night Jerry found Ralph's personal computer and his extensive library of cartridges and assorted software. He spent some time playing all of his latest games. It was later that evening that the idea for the video game to end all video games was born.

The game would be called Faith, and the concept was something like this: Jerry would program all of the basic tenets of one of the major organized religions into a video game cartridge. (There would be a cartridge for each of the more popular religions.) The software would also be capable of creating an endlessly variable series of "life-encounter" scenarios. The player would be given points or penalized depending on how he responded to a given situation. The more closely he followed the teachings of his religion, the more points he would amass.

One of the more interesting scenarios was the cocktail party. The screen displays several paragraphs of information.

continued on page 6

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George Duran
Ray Giusto



ENROLL NOW AND SAVE!

THE SECOND COMING

continued from page 4

It will tell you the location of the party, the host or hostess, the occasion and briefly describe the guests that have been invited. You are then asked if you understand the biographical data. Using the keyboard to the computer you type in "yes" and the machine then asks you for some biographical facts. You then type in your name, age, occupation, gender, economic and marital status so that the machine can properly evaluate your responses for your religious grouping.

When these preliminaries are concluded, the screen displays a front door and it is up to you to make your first move. Assuming you knock or ring the bell, the door will open and someone will greet you through the voice modulator unit of the computer. From here on in, everything you do or say is evaluated against the rules of your religion. You can maneuver through these three-dimensional scenarios by using a standard video-game joystick, and you can communicate with anyone at the cocktail party by typing the conversation into the machine. You can go anywhere throughout the house, but there may be penalty points assessed if you are just snooping.

Here's an example of how the game is played. You have maneuvered toward an attractive member of the opposite sex that you spot at the other end of the video screen. You joystick right up to her and introduce yourself by typing on the keyboard, "Hi. I'm from the E.P.A. and I'd like to test the Dioxin level on your skin. Mind if I nibble on your neck?" The screen flashes red and proclaims, "Minus 20, Thou shalt not commit adultery." You may ask, "Why was that wrong?" This illustrates two important points about the game. First, pay attention to the opening biographical information. There it was revealed that the woman being addressed above was the wife of the host. Second, it makes a great deal of difference which cartridge you are playing on. In the example above, the Catholic cartridge was being used. As almost anyone knows, the sin was committed when the act was contemplated. No further action was necessary.

From there the conversation continues until either you or she decides to end it, and then you would move on. You would be free to drink too much, but could be in danger of losing points for it.

Other scenarios would place you behind the wheel of a car and subject you to traffic jams, careless motorists and backseat drivers. Another scenario places you in the home of your in-laws for someone's birthday or a holiday.

When Jerry's friend Ralph got home to the beach house that night, Jerry explained the idea to him. Ralph loved it and agreed to help Jerry find investors for the game. Eventually, enough capital was raised to buy an old private airport and convert it into a video cartridge factory. Within twelve months of market introduction, Jerry's game had outsold Asteroids, Pac Man and Donkey Kong combined. The investors were getting rich and Jerry was becoming something of a cult figure; Jerry and his game were on the covers of both Time and Newsweek. Yet, Jerry remained an enigma to the public because of the way he had first attracted attention, those still unexplained events that culminated in his bringing the old man back to life.

Marketing surveys revealed that one out of every four households in America had at least one of the cartridges. Ninety-seven per cent of all Americans had played the game at least once, and sixty-five per cent play at least once a week. Naturally, Saturdays and Sundays were the most popular playing days. The National Football League divulged that its

attendance figures and T.V. ratings were down so markedly that it was considering moving all of its games to Monday night.

Attendance at religious services was down also. People felt that they were learning more about their faith and getting more satisfaction from the video game than from going to formal services. The game was very sympathetic to human foibles yet demanded that the players strive for the perfect score. The game of Faith had become such a pervasive influence that it was not uncommon to hear people discussing invigorating and enlightening rounds they had played. They compared notes, but it was rare that anyone bragged about a score. A recurring scenario involved someone at the cocktail party who was talking incessantly about their golf scores. The player who joined in with the video braggart lost twenty points. The player who changed the subject saw on the screen, "Plus twenty, Keep up the Good Work."

In the second year that Jerry's game was on the market, some interesting social trends became apparent. Besides a drop in N.F.L. and Church attendance, the crime and divorce rates also fell off. No one at Faith Incorporated, Jerry's Company, would take credit for this development. However it was difficult to see what else could so suddenly cause such an unexpected change in the fabric of American life. The lowered crime rate meant that organized crime was going bankrupt. People were just being too good to get involved any longer. That, in turn, caused the F.B.I. to lay off hundreds of domestic agents. State and local governments also laid off many of their police. Small time crime was down because most states allowed their prisoners to play the game while serving a sentence or awaiting trial. Internationally, the U.S. was finally able to agree with the Soviet Union on a nuclear disarmament schedule. This was made possible by the increased feeling of peace and trust currently sweeping America.

Reverend Jerry Falwell and reverend Moon declared bankruptcy. It seems that the money that used to be sent for contributions to the T.V. evangelists was now going toward buying Jerry's cartridges. Organized religion was hurting too. If it hadn't been for their extensive real estate holdings, the Catholic Church would have gone under months ago.

So it went for Faith Incorporated. Sales and profits were up and sin in general was down. Jerry Cohen, former computer hardware salesman, had transformed most of America from a greedy and selfish nation into a generous and selfless community in just under three years.

One Thursday night, almost three years to the day that Jerry had developed his game, a dinner was to be held for Jerry and his board of directors and advisors. Windows on the World at the World Trade Center had become the company cafeteria when Jerry's corporation bought the twin towers on lower Manhattan. This was to be the scene of the three year anniversary dinner for the corporation. When everyone was seated, Jerry announced formally a decision that had been reached months before. With all of glittering Manhattan as a backdrop, Jerry stood and raised his glass and said, "Tomorrow is the day we've all worked very hard for. At twelve noon, I will witness the finalization of our acquisition of Warner Communications, a move that will ensure our ability to reach everyone, everywhere with our game. Ladies and gentlemen, this is a feat that would not have been possible without the selfless

continued on page 7

THE SECOND COMING

continued from page 6

dedication of all twelve of you. For all of your past efforts and all of your future help, I say thank you, and keep up the good work."

Applause went up from those assembled as they realized they were hours away from corporate history. One of the directors approached Jerry and said, "Jerry, after tonight, whenever I raise a glass, I'll do it in your memory." Jerry smiled and shook his hand. Another well-wisher was Jerry's right hand man, J. Biff Iscariot.

"Jerry, can I speak to you a moment?" asked Biff as he placed his hand on Jerry's arm.

"Sure, Biff, what's up?" asked Jerry.

"Well, Jerry, I'm sorry, but I just can't stay. Something came up and I have to get home earlier than I had planned."

"It isn't anything serious, I hope," said Jerry.

"No, no. It's just a long story. Why don't I fill you in tomorrow. You're leaving at noon?"

"Yeah," replied Jerry "That should be right, you know, fashionably late."

"O.K. then. I'll catch you before noon tomorrow?" asked Biff.

"Before noon, or when I get back, it doesn't matter to me, Biff."

"O.K., I've got to run. See you tomorrow." With that, Biff left the restaurant and entered the elevator. Outside the lobby a limousine was waiting. Biff got in and it sped up the Westside of Manhattan to a pre-arranged spot on an abandoned pier. Biff walked inside the abandoned building that had once been a station for thousands of trans-Atlantic passengers. It was dark, so Biff lit a match and peered around. He heard footsteps to his left and spun quickly around, putting out the match. Suddenly, a bright flashlight beam hit Biff in the eyes. He squinted and could see a group of several men behind the light.

"Are you Iscariot?" asked a voice.

"Yes. Who are you?" replied Biff with his arms up shading his eyes.

"We are the ones you spoke with on the phone last week. Come closer, Mr. Iscariot, so we don't need to shout so."

Biff moved slowly closer to the group, and as he did he could hear his footsteps echoing in the abandoned terminal. The distinctive smell of the Hudson River filled his nostrils as he began to breathe a little faster. He stopped, as he was now in front of the group. Someone directed the light out of Biff's eyes, and the man who had spoken earlier moved forward to shake hands with Biff.

"So, Mr. Iscariot. Do you have the Information?"

"Yes. Do you have my money?" asked Biff.

"Certainly," replied the man in the black trenchcoat. "It's all there," he said as he handed Biff a briefcase. "No, that's O.K. I trust you." Biff's eyes were becoming more accustomed to the dark, and he could see that the speaker had dark, wavy hair. "Cohen will be leaving his office at noon tomorrow. Here's a security pass for the parking lot," Biff said as he handed over the small, plastic card. The speaker took the card.

"Thank you Mr. Iscariot. You've been most helpful. Good Night," said the leader.

"Wait," Biff called out as the group turned to leave. "Why is this card and that information worth so much money to you?"

The leader turned back to Biff and cut out the light. "We represent God, Mr. Iscariot. We are His Church on Earth. We are not some hustler-entrepreneur who bastardizes the sa-

cred teachings of the Lord. We must fight this most serious threat posed by Mr. Cohen. Call it a crusade, if you like. We aim to spread the Good News into the dark corners of the Earth now controlled by Mr. Cohen. It is possible to have a Just War, Mr. Iscariot, and that is what we propose. It should also be very brief, for, if my calculations are correct, only one person need die. That is Mr. Cohen."

"Wait a minute. You guys are serious. Listen, you can't kill Jerry, . . . the cops will get you. You'll never get away with it," said Biff.

"Do not be so sure, Mr. Iscariot. Part of our alliance is made up of all of the law enforcement officials that Mr. Cohen helped destroy by putting them out of work. Even more interesting is the fact that organized crime is against Mr. Cohen for reasons of its own. We have agreed to join forces with them against Mr. Cohen to stop him before he takes over the world."

"But . . . but Jerry doesn't want to take over the world, he just wants to make it a better place to live . . ."

"Silence! Can't you see his plan?" shouted the leader. "First he destroys the power of the police to keep us safe domestically by weakening their number. Next, he encourages the reduction in our national defense arsenal that makes us vulnerable to attack. Finally, Mr. Cohen has destroyed the Church economically so that it is unable to bring the Word of God to the people. It is obvious even to the blind! Jerry Cohen is the antichrist! He must be destroyed!"

"Over my dead body," said Biff as he swung the briefcase with the money in it at the leader. Biff struck him in the head, knocking him to the ground, but two men from the group grabbed Biff and restrained him. The leader rose slowly with a bloody wound on the left side of his head. Feeling the wound, the spokesman said to the two men, "Hold him here until noon tomorrow. When you get word that the job is done, you may release him."

The two men handcuffed Biff and gagged him. The rest left to carry out their plot. Biff was in a state of despair. At worst he had assumed that the people he spoke on the phone with were competitors of Jerry's; someone who wanted to destroy the Warner's deal. If he had known that they were murderous crackpots, he never would have agreed to help, he told himself.

Watching the sun come up on the morning he knew Jerry was to die proved to be Biff's breaking point. He broke from his captors and dashed toward the river. Just as he reached the end of the pier, one of the unemployed policemen took a shot at Biff and hit him in the head. He fell into the water, and would not be found alive.

Several hours later, at 11:50 A.M., Jerry left his office at the World Trade Center and told his secretary he would be back around 5:00 P.M. to sign some papers. He rode the elevator down to the private parking level and walked toward his car. This level was desolate, and as he put his key in the door, Jerry was surprised to hear footsteps. He turned.

"Can I help you?" Jerry asked of the approaching man. "Wait a minute. We've met before. Yes, in the Hospital in California. You're Father Flynn. What brings you to New York . . ."

At that moment, Flynn pulled out his revolver and fired six shots at Jerry, hitting him in the throat twice, once in the shoulder and three times in the back as Jerry lay spread eagle on the hood of his car. Before the smoke could clear, a police car

continued on page 8

THE SECOND COMING

continued from page 7

pulled up. Flynn got into the back seat and the vehicle drove away.

By three o'clock that afternoon, the news of Jerry's death had made its way up the block to Wall Street. The stock of Faith Inc. was worthless with the news that its boy genius was dead. Needless to say, the Warner deal fell through.

That Sunday, Jerry's handpicked successor, Janet Collins, met Ralph Giordano at the Malibu beach house where it all began three years ago. Ralph was devastated by Jerry's murder, but had agreed to talk with Janet about Jerry and his ideas for the future of Faith Incorporated. It had fallen to Janet to save the company from financial ruin.

Ralph had made dinner and was setting the table in the dining room. Janet was sitting in the kitchen, looking over some paper work she had brought with her from New York. The rest of the house was dark and it was drizzling outside. Ralph was finished with the table and was ready to serve the meal.

"Janet, would you get a bottle of wine from the refrigerator?" asked Ralph.

"Sure, Ralph," she replied as she opened the door. "Ralph, there's no wine in here."

"Oh, damnit. O.K., Well . . . how about I go next door and see if they have a spare bottle? Just sit tight. Too bad Jerry's not here, there'd be plenty of wine then, no?"

"Ralph," said Janet as she stared into the unlit living room. "Did you leave your computer on? It's flashing."

"What? I didn't leave it on . . ."

"Ralph? I think you should come over here a minute," said Janet. "Look," she said as she stood in front of the video screen.

On the screen was a three dimensional image of Jerry and it seemed to be pointing to the bottom of the screen.

"What in the name of God is this?" exclaimed Ralph.

The video figure just started pointing more rapidly to the bottom of the screen.

"What do you suppose he wants," asked Janet.

"Why don't you try turning up the voice modulator," suggested Ralph.

"Why the hell didn't you think of that sooner, you dope?" yelled the voice on the modulator. Ralph fainted. Janet moved in closer to the unit and cautiously typed in, "Jerry, is that you?"

The figure on the screen put his hands on his hips and said, "Who the hell do you think it is, Jesus Christ?"

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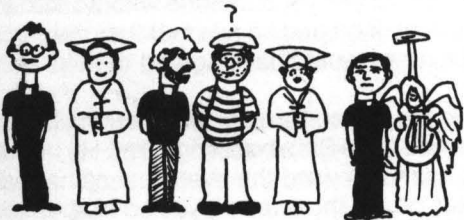
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