

From Here to Reality

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I reflect on fakeness which has somewhat taken over our lives.

In a world that says I can be what I want to be, or at least present myself that way, I define a reality of my own. Reality is what I want it to mean and that's none of your business.

Two years ago fake news was not a phrase in our vocabulary. However last year it was apparently added to the Oxford English Dictionary because of its widespread usage. I've not checked that. Maybe it is fake news!

I remember when fakes were real. I could potentially see and touch a forged banknote, artwork, passport or Rolex. These fakes I understood.

I regard Virtual Reality as real too because it seeks to model the character and behaviour of real things. We can

learn, test ideas and play helpful what-ifs.

My problem is with Virtual Unreality, the modelling of the fake and its peddling as "the real thing".

Mr. Trump coined the phrase 'alternative facts' which seems to define again a personal reality.

I stumbled on a slogan online which summed matters up for me.

'Real is so rare these days'.

That's real in my reality!

I also noticed another saying. It was about a subject close to my heart, people.

Moreover, messy people who don't fit neatly into a filing system. They are in the miscellaneous category.

Messy people, of whom I am one, appear not to follow rules though in fact they usually do. It's just that the rules kick in later as checks to thinking, not as early constraints to thought. Messy people need to dream a bit first!

I LIKE MESSY PEOPLE; PEOPLE WHO DON'T FIT IN A BOX OR STAY BETWEEN THE LINES, BUT WHO'S INTEGRITY IS GREATER THAN ANY RULE BOOK AND WHO'S LOYALTY IS STRONGER THAN BLOOD.

What rang with me was the second part of the statement concerning integrity and loyalty. These characteristics encourage me to put myself in the hands of others and take well intentioned risks.

It's reciprocal. Others do the same. Mutual trust builds as a very tangible resource to living.

Messy people are not disorganised. They often navigate differently, catching hazy visions not notions of can't do.

In a fake world of let's pretend, these trust creating, encouraging, honest, motivated messy people are refreshing oases.

Can these people be picked out in the street? Are they up front people? Are they saints? No.

They are usually found through working relationships when their traits are revealed. Not people of position, but of character.

A high proportion of the messy people in my life have problems that they contend with day to day. However integrity and loyalty shine through in often unexpected sunbeams!

Community, important when we begin to lose independence, depends on an investment in real relationships when we don't necessarily see the need.

Virtual reality and robotic assistance will play a part in our future lives, but real people, including messy ones, must be the backbone.

Get real. Don't fake it.

REAL IS SO RARE THESE DAYS.
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