

A Factually Inaccurate Conversation

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Scene

{The scene takes place at a workplace waiting room. The gender of the roles as well as pronouns used may be changed to fit the cast make up. The stage is set with 4 chairs. Jaime is in a chair waiting to be called for his interview. Joe enters from offstage. They greet each other with nods of hello and Joe takes a seat. Joe sits in the seat furthest from Jaime. Joe is not one to chat with strangers.}

JAIME

{Scrolls through his phone and makes remarks out loud to himself in hopes of striking up a conversation. Joe tries to ignore him} Unreal! You've got to be kidding me. What is the world coming to?

JOE

{Looks at Jaime and shrugs his shoulders and immediately goes back to his own phone}

JAIME

This world is doomed. I just don't understand how they think they can get away with it.

{When he sees Joe is not taking the bait, he moves to the chair right next to Jaime}
You've gotta see this or have you seen this already?

JOE

(Reluctantly) What's that?

JAIME

They are trying to take all the photos of the first moon landing off the internet and burning any book that has the photos. They know how close we are to showing everyone that it was all faked.

JOE

None of that is true and who are "they"?

JAIME

The government and their puppets.

JOE

Why would they do that?

JAIME

They don't want us to know the truth about it all.

JOE

The truth?

JAIME

That it was all faked and nothing about it was real. They just fed it to all the sheep. There was no way the US was going to let the Soviets win the space race. People will believe anything. Real idiots ya know?

JOE

What website did you get that off of?

JAIME

Unclassified Truth Nuggets for Leaders of the Apocalypse.....dot com.

JOE

Definitely never heard of it.

JAIME

Not many people have. You kind of have to know someone to get in.

JOE

To get in what?

JAIME

It's a somewhat secret group of people. I'd say it's like the Freemasons or Skull and Bones society. Anyway, you pay 50 bucks a month to get in and that gets you special access to all this classified stuff that they don't want you to know about. It's info you need to know. I can get you in.

JOE

No thanks. I'm good right now.

JAIME

Well if you change your mind let me know because if I bring someone into the club I get like 5 bucks off dues for two months. I'm Jaime by the way.

JOE

Joe. If you don't mind Jaime I'd like to just try and focus and prepare for the job interview.

JAIME

Gotcha. I should probably do the same. Seems like a good gig. The pay and the benefits are really solid.

{Jaime stays in the seat next to Joe and starts scrolling through his phone again for a moment and then begins to talk aloud again}

JAIME

Geez! I figured.

JOE

Jaime, you mind?

JAIME

Oh sorry Joe.

{Joe looks at the seat where Jaime was first at and looks back at him. Jaime takes the hint and moves back to his old seat. After about 5 seconds of silence, Jaime feels he has some more important information. He begins to sigh, huff, and become restless. After awhile, Joe gives in}

JOE

{Annoyed} OK, what is it now?

{Jaime quickly returns to the chair next to Joe}

JAIME

{Looks around to make sure no one is around}

JOE

What?

JAIME

Just making sure. You know?

JOE

What?

JAIME

Three words. Walt. Disney. Frozen.

JOE

Oh boy. That's an old one. You are just getting that now? Some website. He was never frozen.

JAIME

That's what they want you to think.

JOE

Who's "they" this time?

JAIME

Disney big wigs. And the makers of the movie Frozen.

JOE

Frozen? The kids movie? No, the myth is that Walt said when he died he wanted to be frozen in case technology improved over the years and he could be brought back to life. But in reality his family had him cremated after his death from cancer. The guy smoked like a chimney. So no, he isn't frozen under Cinderella's Castle or The Pirates of the Caribbean ride at Disneyland.

JAIME

Believe what you want. You just don't have the classified information I have.

JOE

That you pay for?

JAIME

Freedom isn't free. But I know why people like you don't know. The Disney company came up with the movie Frozen to hack the Google search engine algorithm.

JOE

What?

JAIME

That way if you google "Walt Disney frozen" all you will see is information about the movie and nothing about old Popsicle Walt. Makes sense, doesn't it?

JOE

Well actually...no it doesn't! What job are you exactly interviewing for?

JAIME

There's only one. I know we are friends now but between my resume and knowledge of the unknown...you might need some luck today buddy.

JOE

Right. Where did you get your Bachelors degree?

JAIME

I don't talk about Bachelors degrees.

JOE

Because you never went to college, right?

JAIME

No, because once I got my Masters that's all I put on the resume.

JOE

Masters? In what?

JAIME

History.

JOE

You studied history? Like information in books? Isn't that how "they" try to feed you "their" lies?

JAIME

Not all history is made up. When something seemed a little fishy in any class, I made a note of it and would do more research after class on my own.

JOE

Research on some weird fringe website? How reliable.

JAIME

I'm guessing you watch all the local newscast, right?

JOE

Right.

JAIME

Have you ever seen them retract a story or update it with new information?

JOE

Not often but yes.

JAIME

So they aren't 100 percent right. The information they give is just the best they have at that moment. These websites have topics that have been analyzed and discussed by people all across the world. I put my trust in "we the people" over some cheesy local newscaster any day.

JOE

I get what you are saying to a point but listen, I'm not going down the rabbit hole with you right now. Best of luck to you in the interview process and with your flat-earth-Elvis living world of make

believe.

JAIME

Enough said. Sorry to be a bother.

{Jaime returns to his seat once again. After a moment or two of silence, it is broken again by Jaime}

JAIME

John...F... Kennedy

JOE

You know what?! I'll give you that one. It had to be an inside job with the CIA and mob. The parade route and connections to Jack Ruby, it just doesn't make sense.

JAIME

Nah. It was just Oswald. I don't believe all that noise about the government being involved.

JOE

You are kidding me right? You believe that Walt Disney is frozen, the moon photos are fake but the Kennedy assassination was just some lucky shots by a guy who couldn't hit broadside of a barn if he had to?

JAIME

No doubt in my mind.

JOE

Wow. Just wow.

{Another break of silence between the two is broken by Jaime}

JAIME

Now airplane exhaust trails. Those suckers are full of chemicals the government wants us to breath in and..

{Not being able to take any more, Joe boils over with emotions and stands up.}

JOE

Stop! Just stop it! Airplane exhaust trails?! Chemicals?! Are you kidding me?! It's science. It is basic science. That can actually be proven! Like facts?! Remember when we had things called facts?!

The trail is from hot humid air from the jet mixing with the lower temperature of the high atmosphere. It's like when you see your breath on a cold winter day! Are those chemicals from the government?! Must have been from the chip they implanted in my head when I was a baby! Why would the government want to control any of us? I can't take anymore of you and people like you! Enough is enough! You are making the rest of us with actual brains insane! Insane! *(Starts laughing maniacally)* I'm out of here! I better get home before dark or the aliens might get me...and probe me! Of course, why wouldn't they?! *{Gets up to walk out of the office offstage as he is walking off he talks to himself.}* Paul is dead, Paul is dead...and Bigfoot, that guy never wants a selfie....

{Once Joe is offstage, there is a beat and then Jaime stands up to address the boss as if he has entered the room to call the next applicant.}

JAIME

Sir, I believe it was Joe that just left. My name is Jaime. Yes, I'm ready. *{As he is walking into the office for his interview he talks to the boss that is offstage.}* Not sure what happened with him. He just started throwing out a bunch of conspiracy theories and went off the rails. Kind of scary. Better to find out about people like that before you hire them you know?

END