

Cafe Society Feb.27

Anthony was hungry and did not feel like being in his kitchen so he bundled up and trekked over to the cafe.

He ordered pancakes and fruit salad with home fries. The home fries were actually crisp and the fruit salad passable. No rancid pineapple today.

He recognized two senior artists in the booth in front of his. This was a woman and a man who the staff considered to be a couple. But when overhearing their conversation one morning Anthony picked up that the man was gay. He was not sure one way or the other about the woman.

He realized he had never overheard these two people addressing one another by name. They probably had generic boomer names like Steve and Karen. Anthony laughed as 'Karening' by now was likely an OED approved word.

Often the man and the women engaged in meaningless gossip but today they were quite animated about the Truckers Convoy in Ottawa.

Well, this is serious camping.

What exactly do we mean by that?

Bonfires, cooking, pets, dancing.

Not live music surely?

Oh I'm sure there are probably hootenannies. It's like sixties counterculture has been appropriated by anarchic-capitalism or something.

Ha ha. Boomer counterculture already was anarcho-capitalism. I mean, what could be more of a celebratory brand name than The Grateful Dead? What on earth might be the point of music with all those fucking honking trucks?

All to true, all too true.

The Occupy Ottawa convoy is generally younger. There's a disconnected rave element here.

Probably with the wrong drugs.

Probably. What a waste of good drugs.....freezing convoys in February.

Anthony's order came to his table and he requested more water from the server.

There's always been an overlap between anti-vaxxers and new age alternative medicine types. This is hardly new

Or news. The anti-vaxxers and the new age alt-medicine types are all for the individual. It's all too Ayn Rand for me, I'm afraid.

Yes. Ayn Rand can be blamed for many atrocities. Anti-vaxxers, Rush, so many more

And the media is all aghast that it's now the right associating themselves with 'freedom' and consequently the left with authoritarianism.

Well, this is hardly a new development. Free speech. Free market. Freedom from government et cetera.

And then Young Trudeau invokes the Emergency Act in an echo of Old Trudeau and the War Measures Act.

The latter lets the military get out of control, But does the former? I'm not optimistic. I'm not optimistic at all.

The server turned up the music on the House PA before delivering Anthony's water. Anthony was wondering where his table neighbours might go after deconstructing or reconfiguring the emergency and war measures acts. But he didn't feel that he could ask a minimum-waged waiter to turn down the volume. Anthony himself had barely survived the service industry.

He finished his brunch and decided not to order tea. He registered the man and woman at the table in front of his trying to converse over the generic music...probably Smashing Pumpkins or Screaming Trees or one of those generic nineties bands. He had noticed on social media that the singer for Screaming Trees had died the other day.

He was going to go home and have a nap as his sleep the previous night had been erratic. This was happening more and more frequently.

He wondered if the man and woman from the cafe were intending to perhaps take in a few art exhibitions but then he remembered that this day was a Tuesday.