

## Cliches, Quotations, Words of Wisdom, & Old Chestnuts

By Dr. Allen Waldman

All of the above have the same genesis, man's attempt to provide wisdom and insight into the human experience. It seems to me that the intelligentsia in cahoots with the powers to be, have systematically maligned, devalued, and denigrated all of the historical CQW&O's that provide stability and depth to society. I believe this a calculated subversion to replace the "Tried and true" with new CQW&O's that they concoct and copyright for personal gain.

They insinuate that were not as clever as they are because we use others' words to express ourselves. I ask you what could be more astute than "Buy Low, Sell High" or more obvious than "It takes two to tango".

Now I'll be the first to admit these phrases are not always accurate or infallible. The meanings may not always be clear and of course, there is always "Two sides to every CQW&O's".

Yogi said, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." Confusing—okay, but meaningful—Yes. Had I taken his advice, who knows, "I could have been a contender".

Marie Antoinette uttered the phrase "Let them eat cake", when she was informed that the people of France were starving because there was no bread. Those words made her sound like an old shrew, but maybe, "There is more to this story than meets the eye."

Is it possible that the bakers, "In the heat of the moment", used all the flour to make goodies instead of bread? You know how those French are—and Marie Antoinette was really a survivalist whose words were misunderstood. I know that I have personally looked to Sara Lee for sustenance when all else has failed.

One of my favorite sayings is "Youth is wasted on the young". As I have gotten older, I've come to the realization that I'd gladly swap this old wise body for a young dumb one, "In a heart beat" or "A New York minute."

Anyway, I'm going to continue to use CQW&O's to express myself. I will—on occasion—"Give credit where credit is due", but more often than not I will claim them as my own. Remember, "God helps those who help themselves."