


((A TITANIC DISASTER))
BY PAT/SALTY

MOST EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT THE S.S. TITANIC THAT STRUCK AN ICEBERG AND SUNK IN THE ATLANTIC IN 1912 ON HER MAIDEN VOYAGE, OF OVER 2,000 PEOPLE ON IT, TWO THIRDS PERISHED AND ONE THIRD SURVIVED, AT THIS WRITING - IN MID MARCH OF 2010 - THE LAST SURVIVER JUST RECENTLY - IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS - DIED (A WOMAN WHO WAS ~~OVER~~ CLOSE TO 100 WHO WAS ONLY A BABY AT THE TIME OF ITS SINKING). WHAT IS SO ENDURINGLY FACINATING TO PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD ABOUT THE TITANIC IS ALL THE "WHAT IF'S" INVOLVED, OR ALL THE "IF ONLY'S" INVOLVED;
IF ONLY SHE HAD ENOUGH LIFE BOATS,
IF ONLY CAPTAIN SMITH HAD BEEN GOING SLOWER,
IF ONLY THE SHIP CLOSEST TO IT HAD HAD A RADIO OPERATER,
IF ONLY ONE LESS OF ITS WATERTIGHT COMPARTMENTS ~~WAS~~ ^{HAD NOT} BEEN SLASHED OPEN,
IF ONLY IT HAD HIT THE ICEBERG HEAD ON (YES, HEAD ON) RATHER THEN ALMOST ~~BE~~ AVOIDING IT JUST ENOUGH TO STRIKE IT A GLANCING SIDE IMPACT THAT ACTUALLY



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SLICED THE SHIP OPEN - LIKE A GIANT
CAN OPENER - BELOW DECKS.
IF ONLY, IF ONLY, IF ONLY.
IT COULD JUST AS ACCURATELY BE CALLED
THE "S.S. IF ONLY," RATHER THAN "S.S. TITANIC."
BECAUSE, WITH ALL THE NUMEROUS "IF ONLYS"
(AND A LOT MORE THAN JUST LISTED, TOO)
IT SEEMS (THAT IS, SEEMS) TO PEOPLE
AS IF THAT PARTICULAR DISASTER WAS
MEANT OR FATED TO HAPPEN, OR SOMETHING.
IT MAY SEEM LIKE THAT TO PEOPLE BUT
~~IT~~ THAT IS ONLY AN ILLUSION CREATED WITH
~~BY~~ HISTORICAL HINDSIGHT ONLY.

ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN; IF THE TITANIC
HAD NOT HIT THAT ICEBERG AND SUNK -
IF IT HAD NEVER ACTUALLY SUNK - NOBODY
WOULD EVER HAVE KNOWN - NOT AFTER IT'S
MAIDEN VOYAGE AND NOT TODAY - ABOUT
ANY OF THE "WHAT IF'S", MUCH LESS ABOUT
ALL OF THE WHAT IF'S (GOING TOO FAST, NOT
ENOUGH LIFEBOATS, ETC.)

QUICK EXAMPLE TO ~~DISPROVE~~ MAKE MY
POINT; NAME ONE OF THE OTHER SHIPS
THAT CROSSED CARRYING LESS LIFEBOATS
THEN THEY HAD PASSENGERS.

YOU CAN'T. WHY? BECAUSE THEY



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JAST DIDN'T HAPPEN TO HIT ICEBERGS AND SINK, THATS WHY YOU CANT NAME THEM.

NO OTHER REASON THEN THAT.

THEY ALL HAD TONS OF "IF ONLYS" ALSO; "GOING TOO FAST" - ON OCCASION, AT LEAST. "NOT CARRYING ENOUGH LIFEBOATS", COMMON PRACTICE.

AND SO ON; IT WAS THE NORM AT THE TIME, YET ALL THE COMMON "WHATIFS" ~~ARE~~ GET ATTACHED ONLY TO THE STORY OF THE TITANIC. WHY? DUHH; BECAUSE IT SUNK, WITH TREMENDOUS LOSS OF LIFE.

ON ITS (MUCH PUBLICIZED) FIRST OCEAN CROSSING. SO THE ILLUSION THAT ALL THE "WHATIFS" AND ALL THE "IF ONLYS" MEANT THAT THE TITANIC WAS MEANT OR FATED TO SINK ARE ONLY ALL JAST THAT; AN HISTORIC ILLUSION!

ITS LIKE ALL THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COMMONLY GO WRONG - AS A MATTER OF COURSE - EVERY DAY + NIGHT OF THE WEEK ON COMMERCIAL AIR FLIGHTS SOMEWHERE - EVERY DAY - BUT YOU NEVER HEAR ABOUT THEM OR KNOW ABOUT THEM SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY DO NOT END IN ANY ACTUAL AIR CRASHES, WHEN THEY OCCASIONALLY DO, THEN

- AFTERWORDS - YOU HEAR AND READ ABOUT



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This or That or The other thing That Went Wrong - or a Series of Things - That CAUSED THAT PARTICULAR DISASTER, ITS THE SAME EXACT PRINCIPLE - BUT UNLESS ONE UNDERSTANDS THIS PRINCIPLE (AND MANY OBVIOUSLY DO NOT) THEN IGNORANCE OF REALITY, OR FALLING PREY TO NONSENSE ILLUSIONS, IS THE RESULT.

NOT A VERY GOOD RESULT OR STATE OF PERCEPTION IN WHICH TO JUDGE RATIONALLY. THE ANSWER TO WHY THE TITANIC SUNK, TO WHY IT HAD TO SINK, IS SIMPLICITY ITSELF (INDEED, IT SOUNDS LIKE A TYPICAL "YOGI-ISIM"); THE TITANIC SUNK NOT BECAUSE GOD SUNK IT OR FATE SUNK IT - IT SUNK BECAUSE IT HAPPENED TO HIT AN ICEBERG AT THE WORST POSSIBLE ANGLE ^{AND} AT THE WORST POSSIBLE SPEED, PERIOD.

AND THE LOSS OF LIFE HAPPENED AFTER IT DID SO ONLY BECAUSE OF A WHOLE SERIES OF ~~BEFORE~~ RULES THEN IN PLACE THAT - AFTER THAT DISASTER CAME ABOUT - GOT CHANGED AND UPDATED;

① THAT SHIPS AFTER THAT WERE FORCED TO CARRY ENOUGH LIFEBOATS;



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- 2) THAT SHIPS AFTER THAT WERE FORCED TO HAVE 24-7 MONITORING OF ALL SHIPS RADIOS
- 3) THAT ALL ICEBERGS ENTERING SHIPPING LANES WOULD - AFTER TITANIC - BE TRACKED + NUMBERED + MONITORED.

CYNICS MIGHT CALL IT; "LOCKING THE BARN DOORS AFTER THE HORSES HAVE ESCAPED." THE CYNICS HAVE A POINT, AS THEY OFTEN DO. BECAUSE COSTLY CHANGES - BIG CHANGES - ONLY GET FORCED THRU - IMPLEMENTED - AFTER PEOPLE DIE (AS A RULE) AND A FURTHER UNDERSTANDING OF THIS RULE (UNWRITTEN THOUGH IT BE) LEADS ME - PAT/SALTY - TO CLARIFY THEIR RULE EVEN FURTHER; THAT THE MORE PEOPLE KILLED IN A DISASTER = THE GREATER PUBLICITY THE DISASTER RECEIVES = THE FASTER THE COSTLY CHANGES GET PUT IN PLACE. ~~THE~~ THAT X MANY LIVES = X AMOUNT OF DOLLARS THE AUTHORITIES ARE WILLING TO SPEND (TO BETTER PREVENT IT FROM HAPPENING AGAIN, IF POSSIBLE).

A "TITANIC TYPE" CALCULATION THAT IS - SADLY IF UNDERSTANDABLY - FAR MORE COMMON THEN PEOPLE LIKE TO THINK. XXXXX