

SCRIPT: ONE PERCENTER #1

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Now, for the final viewing. [Open coffin]

Wait, what is this?!

CONSTITUTION

It's a copy of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. What is this doing in there?!

ONE-PERCENTER #1: Oh yes, that's mine. I asked my secretary to shred all of those copies, but, hey, you just can't find good help these days! I'll take that! [shreds and throws pieces in coffin]

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Wait, there is more. What is this?!

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

It's a foreclosure notice.

ONE-PERCENTER #2: Oh yes, I can take care of that for you. [READS Foreclosure Notice]

Dear Occupants,

Please consider yourself duly notified that the future is now foreclosed upon. The markets were heartened when all options on the future of America were purchased by Shanghai Holding Company, a Chinese venture capital group, a very limited liability corporation. Please note that "Hope" is now a registered trademark of the Shanghai Holding Company. Any person or persons found to be using "hope" without authorization and approval will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, and then some.

Signed, the 1%

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Wait, there is more. What is this?!

REPOSSESSION NOTICE

It's a repossession notice?!

ONE-PERCENTER #2: Oh yes, I can take care of that for you as well. [READS Repossession Notice]

Dear Occupants,

This is your final notice. We have no idea what possessed you in the first place, but we are repossessing the American Dream. We have assigned our best and brightest to analyze the cost effectiveness of the American Dream. Unfortunately, for you anyway, the 99% have been deemed to NOT be cost effective, nor economically viable. The American Dream will now be the sole property of the 1%. We understand what it is like to live with economic pain. We have been over-taxed and under-profited for years. Nonetheless, we will do our best to offer jobs occasionally. However, please note that we will have to send many of these jobs overseas. Plus, we will have to cut your wages and benefits, in the case that we are able to offer you a job. Please understand that this is a necessity, in order to ease our own overwhelming economic pain.

To demonstrate our commitment to civic duty, we will display select portions of the American Dream at the Smithsonian Museums for your viewing pleasure.

Signed, the 1%

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Wait, there is more. What are these?!

IOUs

They seem to be IOUs?! Hmm...

IOU

Jobs with a Living Wage

Signed, the 1%

IOU

Universal Health Care

Signed, the 1%

IOU

Reasonable Credit without an Overwhelming Cycle of Debt

Signed, the 1%

ONE-PERCENTER #1: Hmmm...I see that these have expired...just like Occupy Toledo, heh, heh, heh. These are worthless now, I'll take them off your hands.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Oh, here are a bunch more [getting trash bag full of IOUs from coffin]

ONE-PERCENTER #1: Yes, I can take those off your hands as well.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: You can recycle those, you know...

ONE-PERCENTER #1: That's OK, I *don't* recycle.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Gee, recycling. I guess even recycling is too much to hope for... [lift urn out of casket]

URN

Well, here it is: the remains of Occupy Toledo. [take dust from urn] Dust, just dust, like dust in the wind. Say "goodbye Occupy Toledo." Everyone say "goodbye Occupy Toledo."

Wait a minute...what is this! [remove egg from urn]

PHOENIX EGG

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: What could this possibly be?! Did Occupy Toledo lay its final egg? *Who* could possibly know what this is?!

Look, it's none other than Doctor Knows-a-lot, the Occupy Toledo Memorial Professor, from the University of Toledo's Institute of Inexplicably Cool Stuff.

PROFESSOR: [holding up book] I just happen to have with me a copy of *The Guide to Inexplicably Cool Things*. This could help.

[looking at egg] This is rare! This is VERY, VERY rare! This is a Phoenix egg!

[looking in book]

Let's see...YES, here it is...

The Phoenix is a mythical bird known throughout the world, but rarely seen. The Phoenix appears in the cultures of Arabia, Persia, the Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, Chinese, and Native Americans. According to legend, a Phoenix egg appears only once every 500 to 1,000 years. This must be a VERY special time!

ONE-PERCENTER #1 [stepping up]: Very special indeed! Breakfast time! This egg will make the finest omelet in the world. I must have it. I bid \$5,000!

Other One Percenters [bidding war]: I bid \$10,000! I bid \$20,000! I bid \$50,000! I bid \$100,000! I bid ONE MILLION DOLLARS! I bid TEN MILLION DOLLARS! I bid ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS!

PROFESSOR: STOP IT!! I don't believe this! This is the fulfillment of the prophecy!

[looking in book] Here it is...The Phoenix egg will only appear in rare moments in human history. Prophetically, the phoenix egg is a sign of re-birth of things too precious to be lost. One form of this prophecy occurs when non-humans, non-persons gain control over humanity, real persons. When these mythical non-humans or non-persons appear to be real to many people,

then the danger of losing our own humanity is great. Those few who hide behind these mythical creatures, though only appearing as perhaps one in a hundred, will manipulate the remaining 99 and cheat them out of their birthright. However, do not despair, there are sure signs of the prophecy of the Phoenix bringing re-birth. The surest of these signs will be a crass compulsion by the few to put a price on everything while truly valuing nothing. The few will insist on buying anything and everything, even if that thing is the only hope for humanity, the re-birth of the many to overthrow the rule of the few. When this crass compulsion to buy anything and everything rears its ugly head, you will have your sign, the prophecy will be fulfilled, and the Phoenix will bring re-birth to the many.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Wait! What sign?! How are we to know that the prophecy will be fulfilled? Wait -- what is this? [remove scroll from urn] I didn't see this in here before!
[Hand scroll to professor]

PROFESSOR [Reading Scroll]: Hmm...it says here that before this prophecy can be read publicly, we must make sure that there are no corporate specters here, no non-persons masquerading as real persons. Check the person next to you to make sure they are real.
[tentatively touch those nearby]

[after audience touches each other to confirm real]

Hear this prophecy: The crass compulsion of the few to buy anything and everything is complete. The few dare to *literally* buy and consume the HOPE of the many. Because of this abomination of the few, the Phoenix's prophecy is complete. The many, the 99%, Occupy Toledo, will be re-born one month from today in this same place. HAPPY RE-BIRTHDAY OCCUPY TOLEDO. Join us on May 1, May Day, a world-wide general strike, for the re-occupation of Toledo. Thus speaks the Phoenix, "You, the many, the 99%, shall arise again and be free. Join together with the peoples of this land and from around the world, and the few, the 1%, will be vanquished."

Security! Arrest the 1%, take them away!