

etter if read aloud.

Our Man Hoppe

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41

Genesis (Revised)



Arthur Hoppe

IN THE BEGINNING, the Lord created the Administration.

And the land was without form, and void. The Lord said, Let there be law and order. And, lo, there was law and order. And it was good. And that was the end of the first year.

And the Lord said, Let the troubled waters be divided. That part which was in heaven, he called Fiscal Responsibility. The other part, he called Spendthrift Democrats. And that was the end of the second year.

And the Lord said, Let there be an end to permissiveness and mollicoddling; and it was so. And that was the end of the third year.

And the Lord said, Let there be peace. And he rained down fire and destruction. And, lo, there was peace. And that was the end of the fourth year.

And the Lord said, Let there be no more inflation. And that was the end of Phases I, II and III.

And the Lord said, Let there be Assistants in our image. And he formed Assistants from the dust of advertising agencies in his own image. And the Lord said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply and have dominion over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. And it was so.

And the Lord saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.

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NOW THE LORD planted The Garden of the White House, sowing therein the seeds of power and they flourished. And the Lord put his Assistants there. And he commanded them, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat. But of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it.

But the serpent of power was more subtle than any beast of the field. And it whispered to the Assistants, saying, Eat

of the forbidden tree, for then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

And they did eat, and their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked; and they sewed press releases together, and made themselves aprons, which became known as The Great Cover Up.

And when the Lord asked them if they had eaten of the forbidden tree, each blamed the other. And they offered up unto the Lord a goat named Death as sacrifice. But the Lord was not appeased. And he drove them from the garden, saying, For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

And so it came to pass that Mitchell begat Haldeman who begat Ehrlichman who begat Stans who begat Chapin who begat Liddy who begat Hunt, McCord and five Cubans, who begat . . . For, lo, multitudes got begetted.

Now the Watergate was open, books, rumors and investigations flooded forth to cleanse the earth. And many blamed the Lord.

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BUT ONE loyal servant, Spiro, found grace in the eyes of the Lord for his righteousness. And the Lord commanded him, saying, "Make thee an Ark of State and take thee all surviving creatures of my Administration, two by two, and all fives, original and duplicate, so that they may survive the flood."

And, for three long years, the Ark tossed on the troubled waters until at last it splintered on a mountaintop. And all aboard perished, crying, Lord, Lord, why has thou forsaken us whom thou created in thine own image?

Now it was then that the heavens parted and a voice of thunder replied: Well, at least they won't have me to kick around any more.