This Facebook post was repeatedly subject to censorship as deleted by “The Free Thought Project” without reasonable cause and who as a misnomered and supremacist organisation exercise prejudiced hedonism against life by their indolent manner as the intolerance which is the American Dream of vacuity.

EXCERPTS FROM "VERTREK CHAPTER 23: THE SHED—DE SCHUUR"

Piet had told me that every man needs a solitary place to daydream and be himself. He felt that daydreaming is a definite key to self-discovery, finding one’s place in the world. I often wondered if the majority of Dutch people ever daydreamed.

What did Ernest Hemingway, Mark Twain, Gustav Mahler, Henry David Thoreau, Thomas Jefferson, and Virginia Woolf have in common with my dad Piet? All these great artistic men and woman had their schuur (shed) either on a mountain or in their backyard. Piet had his in the backyard. Not that Piet would have equated himself with these great men; his cultural influence was too Calvinist for that, leaving him sober and self-deprecating. Yet he made some of the most beautiful models of vintage ships that I had ever seen. Of course I am biased; he was my dad. We called the shed de schuur. Whenever we would ask Bets where Piet was, she would answer, ‘Why do you ask? You know he is in his schuur.’ Wherever we lived, Piet had his schuur, although it was by any measure not conventional.

The schuur centre was where beautiful things were made and happened.

From day one in Australia, Piet maintained his craft of building wooden model ships, specializing in vintage ships. He would spend hours carving, bowing, and sawing chiselling, bending, nailing, and measuring. Friends or strangers would just sit in the schuur near him and watch, often silently, sometimes quietly talking in the background. There would frequently be quiet music, street organs, light classical, Vera Lynne, Glen Miller, Duke Ellington, Corrie Brokken, Annie De Reuver, Toon Hermans—the singers and musicians of his youth.

People wondered why Piet would make these beautiful ships. Was he homesick for the Dutch waters, the river barges, the open North Sea, or did he want to relive his memories through making models? Ships and crafts were used as teaching aids by our parents for us kids; there was a story attached to everything they made. Bets would make and teach crafts for the Leopold Uniting Church, where young women would come and learn. At times, the financial situation would be bad, and some of the ships would be sold to the antique shops in Toorak, helping the family out of difficult situations. He made ships of his youth, and the ones he had worked on, such as the Koningin Emma (Queen Emma), a ferry ship crossing to and fro on the River Scheld.
Piet worked on this ferry after he and his mates returned from police action in Indonesia and it had a lot of meaning for him. He often said that the shapes of ships were like beautiful women, symmetric curves, well-balanced and designed to move swiftly through the fluids of life.

He built several models of James Cook’s ship, the Endeavour. Piet realized that Captain Cook was a revered personage in Australia and the building of the Endeavour would show that we Dutch were not only eager to assimilate, but also eager to create a common element which we could talk about with Australians, when we exhibited the splendid models. After the Endeavour, models of other famous English ships followed, such as Francis Drake’s Golden Hind, the first ship to circumnavigate the world, then Captain Bligh’s Bounty, of Mutiny on the Bounty fame. Local models were not forgotten. After a visit to Loch Arch Gorge near the Victorian coastal town of Warrnambool, he was impressed. He made a visit to the wreck site of the clipper Loch Arch, and wrote away to Scotland for plans of the Loch Arch; it took him almost two years’ time to build this magnificent and historically relevant sailing clipper.

One of his crown ships he made, besides the infamous but beautiful Batavia, was the crown jewel of all of Piet’s models: De Zeven Provincien (Seven Provinces), named after original provinces of the Dutch Republic when it declared independence from Spain. De Zeven Provincien was the flagship of the famous Dutch national hero Admiral Michiel De Ruyter, a fellow Zeelander, who sailed up the River Thames, causing the city of London to be evacuated. There were always exciting stories, and he would entrance me with them as he was building his creations.
He would tell me about the Battle of Solebay, which had a combined French/English fleet of seventy-four major warships against a (victorious!) Dutch fleet of sixty-two. Of course history has forgotten this; Piet was convinced that the English made sure it would be forgotten. The Solebay battle pitted eighty-five Dutch warships against an English fleet that eventually numbered at least seventy-four major warships over a period of four days! Yet the English still credit Trafalgar as the ‘greatest’ of sea battles! As kids, we all loved to hear the stories of when De Ruyter and his fleet not only sailed up the Thames and the Medway, destroying and carrying off a major portion of the English fleet, but actually continued there for over a month, blockading the Thames, terrorizing London, and raiding up and down the river at will! Yet so little is written about this by the English. The captured trophies of the Dutch invasion of England are still on display, such as the stern carving of the biggest English warship, the Royal Charles, captured by the Netherlanders still hangs with pride in the Rijksmuseum at Amsterdam.

Of the many stories told in the schuur was this one, still my favourite: The Zeven Provincien was ordered to search for forty captured Hungarian Protestant ministers. They had been sold to the Spanish fleet to serve as galley slaves. De Ruyter had an inkling that they were kept in a Naples prison by the Catholic forces. The Neapolitans denied it, but De Ruyter persisted, and anchored in the dead silence of the night, the Dutch fleet blockaded Naples. In
the middle of the first blockading night, every sailor heard the prisoners sing Psalm 116. Admiral De Ruyter immediately gave the Neapolitans an ultimatum: release the Protestant ministers or face a bombardment aimed at annihilating Naples. The twenty-six survivors sang Psalms 46, 114, and 125 as they were being transferred to the Zeven Provincien on February 11, 1676. When the transfer was complete, they knelt on the deck in their rags and emaciated condition and sang Psalm 116. The Dutch seamen, who seldom shed tears, wept openly. How did the Dutch know that the Hungarians (who spoke no Dutch) were singing Psalms 46, 114, 125, and 116? Because they were singing them in Hungarian on the Geneva tunes the same as Dutch tunes.

My oma had paintings done for our rooms about Michiel De Ruyter climbing the church tower in Vlissingen (Flushing) to look out for the English fleet and so save Zeeland from the naughty English.

It is worth noting that Piet made all things by hand from second-hand materials; everything that was recyclable was used. He never purchased anything ready-made from hobby shops; for him, every little thing had to be authentic and handmade as it was originally done. He was fastidious in detail and quality; everything had to be authentic. The Zeven Provincien took Piet nearly three years to build with painstaking patience. If a cannon was not perfect, he would make it over and over again until it was perfect. The whole family became involved in the history of the Zeven Provincien. According to Piet, the Dutch would have lost against the English fleet if they did not have this ship and they would not have had supremacy of the seas for nearly a hundred years.

For more than fifty years, Piet worked on his models, but never at the expense of his family. We were proud of our dad and he transferred many of his skills and personal attributes to his offspring.

In all our lives, there are aspects that define a person’s life signature. For Piet’s, it is love for all things maritime, especially the building of model boats and vintage ships. He had made many VOC ships of the Dutch golden century; this gave us a sense of love for history and the contribution our Dutch forefathers, such as parliamentary democracy, discovery of new lands, banking and stock markets, being good world citizens. Piet’s ship told these stories because they were part of the Dutch global economy, begun in 1602 with the founding of Batavia, now Jakarta. As a truly talented craftsman, he loved books and reading, albeit nearly all maritime books. What happened to the schuur? It is still standing; as I am looking at it right now, it needs to be painted. The books are packed in crates; maybe they need to be unpacked. The flags are folded; maybe they need to be unfolded. The poetry on the wall is fading; maybe they need to be refreshed. The roof is leaking in tiny spots; maybe it needs patching. The ships? Some of them are in museums, and most of them are displayed in the living rooms all over the world. The schuur remains a man’s shed; even when I enter it today and friends come and visit,
it reverberates hope, consistency, nostalgia of a quieter, more stable time, a time when men used their hands and brains and built things of worth. The schuur continues.

I EXCHANGED THIS DIALOG WITH THE AUTHOR TODAY

— SOLITUDE IS VERY DANGEROUS —

“It’s very addictive. It becomes a habit. After you realise. How peaceful. And calm it is. It’s like you don’t. Want to deal with people. Anymore because they Drain your energy.” [Jim Carrie epitaph, The Free Thought Project, 2 December 2017]

<http://www.grapple369.com/images/Jim%20Carrey%2020171202.jpeg>

[IMAGE: James Eugene Carrey (17 January, 1962) is a Canadian-American actor, comedian, impressionist, screenwriter, and producer. He is known for his highly energetic slapstick performances]

WIKIPEDIA PROFILE: "Carrey met model and actress Jenny McCarthy in 2005 and made their relationship public in June 2006. In April 2010, the two ended their near five-year relationship. Despite the split and media circulations, McCarthy stated in October 2010 that, 'Jim and I are still good friends'. 
On September 28, 2015, Carrey's former girlfriend, Cathriona White, a native of County Tipperary, Ireland, was found dead from a prescription drug overdose. The couple first met in 2012. Carrey was a pallbearer at her funeral in Tipperary.

On September 19, 2016, Mark Burton, White’s husband from 2013 until her death, filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Carrey, claiming that Carrey used his "immense wealth and celebrity status" to illegally obtain and distribute prescription drugs involved in her death. Carrey released a statement the following day:

What a terrible shame. It would be easy for me to get in a back room with this man’s lawyer and make this go away, but there are some moments in life when you have to stand up and defend your honour against the evil in this world. I will not tolerate this heartless attempt to exploit me or the woman I loved. Cat’s troubles were born long before I met her and sadly her tragic end was beyond anyone’s control. I really hope that some day soon people will stop trying to profit from this and let her rest in peace.

In October 2016, White’s mother Brigid Sweetman also filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Carrey.

In this lawsuit, Sweetman’s attorney states that Carrey had undergone a test for sexually transmitted infections, and "purposely hid the results from Ms. White, whom he was intimately involved with, and failed to inform her that he had tested positive for Hepatitis A, HSV (Herpes) I and II, and Chlamydia. To make matters worse, Carrey then proceeded to have unprotected sex with Ms. White with full knowledge that he was STD positive."

Sweetman herself later issued a statement: "These documents show that Jim Carrey has lied to the media, the public and the court. Carrey has now been shown for what he is — a dishonest Hollywood celebrity who thinks he can say anything and fool people just because he is famous." [<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Carrey>]

What pessimistic psycho-babbling diatribe:

#1 - Singularity as ensuring viability to any formula of autonomy has precedence;
#2 - Reciprocity as anchorage / centrality with others is a delimitation of the former;
#3 - How you mutually and agreeably choose to enjoy your opportunities with others ought to be negotiable;
#4 - Avoid circumstances where the integrity of persons is compromised by the intentions of others;
#5 - Acknowledge the cause for any disharmony and peaceably strive for resolution;
#6 - Always make a better choice as the principle for self actualisation (you need to happily live with an opportunity);

#7 - Understand that everything you do, say, want or refuse comes with constraints and means.

That’s just a quick 5 minute hypothetical sketch which doubtlessly may be improved upon.

Have you got something other than a glib statement Jim?

It’s life Jim but not as we know it ...

YOUTUBE: “It’s Life Jim”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCARADb9asE>

- dolf

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