

“Spit into the wind”

by *Gheart*

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He that brings trouble upon himself and his family, by carelessness, or by wickedness, shall be unable to keep and enjoy what he gets, **as a man is unable to hold the wind in his fist**, or to satisfy himself with it¹...Expos of Proverbs 11:29 – Benson Commentary.

Shall inherit the wind—Will get nothing for his pains.

This is my erstwhile existential parody of Don Stott’s letter he sent out on my 86th birthday on Sunday the 31st of March..this note is my “pastiche” (*parodie*).

My copy of “When China Attacks” by Newsham had just arrived and I was eager to find out why Don was so excited about the book but instead have spent the last three evenings watching these three movies:

1. “Inherit the Wind” – 1988 (TV Remake) with Jason Robards as Henry Drummond.
2. “Inherit the Wind” – 1960 with Spencer Tracy as Drummond.
3. “Inherit the Wind” – 1999 (TV Remake) with Jack Lemmon as Drummond.

This all started on Sunday evening as I normally sit in my red chair and watch WWII movies while sipping JTS Brown; for sure, I didn’t know “Inherit the Wind” so I started with Alexa in a ~~pissing~~ yelling contest (“*No U-Boats tonight Alexa – this is serious - so pay attention to my orders!*”) to get me the movie with no cost and no f’ing commercials. So far, she has done good: paid for one - and no commercials! I get to see the last half of the 1999 remake tonight.

My logic of seeing all three stems, for example, of seeing/watching “The Caine Mutiny” with Humphrey Bogart (1954) and comparing it to the (2023) version with Kiefer Sutherland playing Captain Queeg (there are more versions) but the ending in the last movie with Jason Clarke playing the defense attorney was academy award winning...

I asked my AI Copilot to do the dirty work of comparing and contrasting these three and was impressed with its comments on role, artistic merit, Scopes Trial Depiction, and comments on Tracy, Robards, and Lemmon; of course, like Don, “Tracy’s Drummond remains the benchmark for this role.”

As my left coast attorney used to say “Yeah, butt...”. I do have some of my own comments – as we all do – and first is: If I had seen the 1960 version first I may not

¹ This reads in the Message version:
*Exploit or abuse your family, and end up with a fistful of air;
common sense tells you it’s a stupid way to live.*

have gone to the other two; however, I was so impressed with Robards I had to see the others. Yes, in the 1960 Tracy is supreme. I have a problem with the skin head wrap (with sweating drops) on Matthew Brady as from certain angles it just looks like a poor fit - and it is a distraction.

The '99 just jumped out with enlightening color – a real breath of fresh air after all the made to look like 1925 court room, hot days, overdo of fanning fans, and sweat marks..just me. Am looking forward to the color and especially looking to see if Lemmon performs any better than Tracy or Robards. Am rooting for him because, like all the other old men in these films Lemmon looks a lot like my grandfather did – on my Dad's side of the family.

pause

The real reason for this is to talk about what is after these three movies.

One, is to discuss and compare to see who wins with the best rendering given with the question "How old is this rock?" Each one pivots on how they handle this..this is the show time.

Two, speaking of AI, maybe they can accommodate my request for doing two things:

- a. Making a short AI created clip of mixing up the actors in three chosen scenes to see which ones show from the three movies to make a mixed actor presentation. I think seeing Robards interrogating Scott in the 6,000 year answer would be worth the attendance fee!
- b. Lastly, I would like to see AI go back to 1925 and pick out this same scene from history and play it back with the fans, sweat marks, language, and verdict..that would be really be worth my time...

Maybe tomorrow evening the AI folks could be ready for Alexa to call this up for me – I'll sit in my red chair and pour me another swig of Kentucky 80 proof straight whiskey.

That is all,

(**Fade to black**..with a fist full of air!)