

**Here
Everything
Remains**



Optional

**An
Original
A.H. Scott**

Here Everything Remains Optional

By

A.H. Scott

Maybe I'm naïve in believing that which unites us is stronger than that which divides.

The message might not be what is paramount in this moment in American history. It might be the messenger that embodies an arrow which can create a pinpointed sear through a skeptical cacophony to a targeted audience.

In this case, if any Democrat, from New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin had raised their voices in denouncement of the actions of President Donald J. Trump, they would be given a snap of dismissal and ignored for being politically motivated by his opposition.

Now, when that same apt critique comes from a dyed in the wool conservative, who has voted in support of the Trump agenda in the 115th Congress (January 5th, 2017 to December 20th, 2018) and 116th Congress (January 3rd, 2019 to December 28th, 2020), with an average voting record [1] in Trump's favor of 95.8% in the 115th and 92.8% in the 116th; then it would seem logical that whomever this Republican member of Congress was would be given a respectful listening to.

The arrow is Elizabeth Cheney, known by everyone as Liz Cheney [2]. She is a woman who has the Republican credentials and the gravitas that in most times like this would have had her words heeded to.

With a motto on her website, which states the following – “Proudly Working for Wyoming”, Rep. Liz Cheney follows an adage from a politician who was diametrically opposite from her ideological views. His name was Thomas P. O'Neill [3]. Known as Tip, Mr. O'Neill was a Democrat from Boston, who was also Speaker of the House from 1977 to 1987.

“All politics is local”- Tip O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives

In Wyoming, where energy, economy, and various regulations are the biggest issues, Rep. Liz Cheney does not hold her tongue in disagreeing with proposed policies [4] of the current Biden Administration.

“If you look at the impact for the people of Wyoming, banning oil and gas leases on public lands is really dangerous, it's really heartless.” – Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming

I go back to Tip O'Neill's quote about all politics being local to make the point that Liz Cheney is as the motto says: 'Proudly Working for Wyoming'. The people of her district in Wyoming are her constituents and she has the duty to advocate for them as any other politician from any district would.

That being said, I want to be fair as I write this article about someone whom I politically disagree. But, that does not mean I will close my eyes, my ears or my mind in avoiding one aspect of Liz Cheney's public stance and duty which all that have taken the oath in defending the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

I will be straight up and admit that I am a liberal who may not agree with Rep. Liz Cheney's political stances. Okay, so she's not a darling of the left or even trying to be. Clearly without rose colored glasses on, I know this is the reality. She makes no apologies about her ideology and I respect that.

So, why am I as a liberal giving a few words of respect or even a moment of applause for Rep. Liz Cheney? She doesn't need an atty' girl or pat on the back from anyone on the Democrat side of the ledger to make her feel some sense of being whole. This is not why I am writing this article. This is about how a person is treated by their own ilk, or those who are of the same commiserating kind when they decided to speak their conscience and take a position completely opposite to the grain.

Give props where props are due. I don't need to go overboard in a wishy-washy Valentine for a conservative, but only to give a thumbs-up for another American citizen who has spoken truth to power.

Why Liz Cheney? She went along with Trump's agenda up and down the line. Some may crow that she doesn't deserve any form of praise from somebody in the liberal camp.

Yet, she may be one of the few voices that could pierce that clap-trap of dirty trickster, pillow hawkin', hair-dye dripping down the side of your face, ignorance wallowing, residents from the carnival of conspiracy.

Pity that we are not living in ordinary times.

So unordinary are these times, some on the right might start labeling Congresswoman Cheney as a 'lib' or 'socialist'.

And, from whom or where could this unexpected ode of reverence that I have right now for a Wyoming Republican Representative come from?

Hearing two words constantly rolling from a certain former President's lips – 'I WON!', makes me have of another pair in retort to him – 'YOU LOST!'

Sadly to say it, but it seems as if the person who lost the election is in a tiny way – a victor. Oh, no, don't get me wrong; this person is not victorious of electoral votes or even the popular vote; but more in a lane of a narrative navigator of how Americans are dealing with one another.

The Big Lie has thrived on division, suspicion and all out derision. Even when the largest promulgator of this tissue of fallacy is miles from the scene of the crime, reclining in a hammock on a Florida veranda in-between holes of golf; that sulfuric scent of every syllable spewed and side-eyed smirk hovers over this nation from the mountains to the prairies and across the amber waves of grain.

Based on The Big Lie of an election being stolen and the rigging of ballots from Pennsylvania, Georgia, Michigan and Arizona; that conveyor belt of overturning an election that was fair and square accelerated with a cast of characters falling over themselves in trying to kiss the ring of a dethroned, political king.

Adherence to the 12th Amendment [5] to the United States Constitution was almost eviscerated in the cold light of one of the darkest days in American history, as the scheduled January 6th certification of electoral results didn't reach full completion until 3:44 am on January 7th, 2021 [6].

Representative Liz Cheney didn't back down from her statements about the former President and the chaos which he stoked on January 6th.

And, for telling the truth to what we all saw on January 6th and heard on those days before and up until this date as I write this article did Liz Cheney get for having a backbone?

On Wednesday morning of May 12th, 2021 during a closed door meeting, the House Republican Conference of the United States House of Representatives gave voice to The Big Lie once more as they voted (by voice vote) to oust Wyoming Representative Liz Cheney from her third ranking position in House Republican Leadership.

Before she was ousted, Rep. Cheney said the following to her colleagues:

"We cannot let the former President drag us backward and make us complicit in his efforts to unravel our democracy. Down that path lies our destruction, and potentially the destruction of our country." – Rep. Liz Cheney [7]

As Liz Cheney was ousted from this position in the Republican Leadership, after this 16 minute event, she walked alone up the aisle of the conference room past the other members (mostly male) of the Republican Conference with her head held high and remained principled in her rejection of The Big Lie.

Rep. Cheney could have remained in the catbird seat of leadership by biting her tongue and just coasting with a nod of agreeing to peddling the foundation of a fallacy that has been built brick by brick with claims of non-existent voter fraud and a putrid tide of legislative attempts at suppressing voting rights under the edifice of The Big Lie. Yet, in stating the truth, has been cast out of the cult of complicity.

Some on the former President's side may see Rep. Cheney as a loser for being stripped of her position.

One day after being ousted from Republican Leadership, a steadfast Liz Cheney made her feelings clear [4] on her fellow members of the Republican Party:

“So, the issue isn't whether or not we stand against the Biden policies. The issue is, are we going to be a party that sits by silently while the former president continues to perpetuate lies about the election? It is the case that there are too many people in the leadership of the Republican Party today who've been willing not only to sit by silently, but to help enable that, to help embolden those claims, and that's dangerous for the country.” – Rep. Liz Cheney, May 13th, 2021

By the way, this was an interview given to Fox News Channel, which in ordinary times the words of a conservative such as the Congresswoman from Wyoming would be listened to by their viewers as a warning siren of the catastrophic implications of what is taking shape in the era of The Big Lie.

I think she is a hero. Not with a big S emblazed on a caped costume, or flying in an invisible plane with the golden lasso of truth. But, nonetheless a H.E.R.O.

Let me break down the concept of what I'm getting at when I say that single word – hero.

Sometimes you have to take a hero from exactly where they are in the moment. And, not couch the level of praise based upon having a long mental or verbal windup of saying the person in question is not truly worthy of being given a transparent kudo, without a lengthy explanation to others who may be of my regular political bent.

Meaning that you accept them for foibles and whatever other disagreements you may have with them because of ideology, or other reasons and give them due applause for standing up in the moment. They ain't perfect, but they stood the fuck up when that line of lawlessness was on the verge of being legitimized. And, bluntly for me, that is the mark of a true hero. Imperfect and Perfect all in the single moment of right now is what I'm talking about.

Being a bit more specific, let me go through it one letter at a time:

Here Everything Remains Optional (H.E.R.O.)

Here – Right now, not yesterday or tomorrow

Everything – All which we know as the experiment in democracy is on the line of continuance or termination

Remains – Foundation of facts has to be set in stone

Optional – Choice of the future can be of coming together or we will be ripped asunder

This is not just an off-the-cuff blind allegiance of giving a pom-pom and rah-rah of just tossing the word unity into the mix, as some kind of verbal anesthesia. It should be the core of our citizenry in having a common mission of keeping the flame of democracy alive in the United States of America.

When it comes to The Big Lie, there are not two sides of truth. Or, as a man devoid of his social media accounts so churlishly once said, ‘fine people on both sides’. Yet, birds of a conspiracy feather shall always flock together.

Even as the days go deeper into this year of 2021, the gas-lighting and avoidance of the reality of what happened during the insurrection on January 6th is still going strong from the venomous tongues of cringe-worthy politicians on the right.

“There are but two parties now, traitors and patriots, and I want hereafter to be ranked with the latter.” – Ulysses S. Grant [8]

I guess by next year at January 6th, 2022, the majority of the GOP members of Congress who voted not to certify the electors and their allies in the lunacy hub shall keep on pushing that narcotic of the myth of a day that never-was.

Liz Cheney is a hero, whether the left or right want to bestow her that benefit.

Here Everything Remains Optional.

“Here Everything Remains Optional”

By

A.H. Scott

2021



****Here Everything Remains Optional – The Footnotes****

1 – “Congress Trump Score: Liz Cheney”

<https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/congress-trump-score/liz-cheney/>

2 – “Representative Liz Cheney”

<https://cheney.house.gov/>

3 – “Thomas O’Neill, Boston College Archives”

<https://library.bc.edu/past/libraries/about/exhibits/burnsvirtual/oneill/4.html>

4 – “Fox Special Report”

<https://cheney.house.gov/2021/05/13/cheney-on-special-report-we-cannot-defeat-president-bidens-dangerous-policies-if-we-enable-a-lie/>

5 – “12th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution”

<https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution/amendment/amendment-xii>

6 – “Electoral College Results: National Archives”

<https://www.archives.gov/electoral-college/2020>

7 – “Vote on Liz Cheney: What Happened”

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/12/politics/vote-on-liz-cheney-what-happened/index.html>

8 – “Common Bonds: The Duty and Honor of Lee & Grant”

<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2007/julyaugust/feature/common-bonds-the-duty-and-honor-lee-and-grant>

Thank you for reading.

About The Author

A.H. Scott is an author of fiction of varied styles. From contemporary to historical; she brings characters into stark view. Romances ever so sweet and tender to adventures of legends from far-away lands, her writing can take a readers' imagination to places of courage, passion, pride, and sojourn of enlightenment. Yet, don't be fooled, A.H. Scott does not let her pen rest on a single note of simplicity. She delves into desires within the heart with characters of sensuality and decadent lust. Women of abandon and men of lascivious intent intermingle in plots of hedonistic havens. Beyond the stars or right next door, her fiction soars and swirls with touches of light and excursions into shadow.

A.H. Scott @AMAZON – <https://www.amazon.com/A.H.-Scott/e/B006H5SAG8>

BLOGGER -

As a blogger, her articles and analysis touch on subjects of current events as woven through the lens of the past. Featured on the blog of master photographer, Tony Ward; her spark of wit, sass and charm is on display. In their collaboration, lion of the lens Tony Ward and the peppered pen of A.H. Scott have combined the percolation of image and prose into an invigorating elixir of provocative temptation.

A.H. Scott @TonyWardStudio - <https://www.tonywardstudio.com/>

ARTIST -

Finally, as a digital designer, A.H. Scott's art combines photography, painting, and freestyle sketching. Monochrome to rainbow, her glints of creativity shimmer from vintage to vanguard, contemporary to casual, and sizzle from funky to futuristic. Many of her designs have been incorporated and taken shape within product merchandising.

A.H. Scott @Zazzle - <https://www.zazzle.com/mbr/238025737034934783>

Keep F.I.T. with A.H. Scott at Facebook – Instagram – Twitter:

Facebook (Author) - <https://www.facebook.com/talestotellwithauthorahscott/>

Facebook (Graphic Design) - <https://www.facebook.com/theartistryofahscott/>

Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/ahscottladywriter>

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/ahscottnyc>

“Art isn’t for the meek; it’s for the renegade within.” – A.H. Scott



“Here Everything Remains Optional”

An Original A.H. Scott

2021