

THE CONVERSATION

with President Donald J. Trump

*Respectfully submitted to President Trump's staff on the occasion of his loss to Joe Biden, November 6, 2020.
Seems like you might need a little assist on this one.*

Donald, I need to talk with you and I really want you to listen carefully. Please, sir. May I sit here?

[DT speaks]

Thank you. Okay – the only people who have committed illegal acts associated with this election are people on our side.

[DT speaks]

No, no, sir, I need you to just listen right now.

[DT speaks]

I know, I know, but for just the next couple of minutes, please listen.

[DT speaks]

As I was saying, the only people who have committed illegal acts associated with this election are people working on behalf of your campaign. There has been no voter fraud committed by the Democratic Party, no voter fraud committed by Joe Biden's campaign. No, please, let me continue. That stuff about all the extra votes that "just showed up" – we made that up. Those were actually legitimate ballots, real votes, that successfully made it through the mail in spite of our efforts to interfere with them.

[DT speaks]

No, sir, THAT IS the truth. And if you will just stick with me here, you may even remember this. Much of this, you have pretty much made up on the spot. We've just been trying to back you up. But we need you to understand that there is no Democratic voter fraud, so we need you to drop that as a talking point immediately. All that is going to do is redirect attention back to what we have been doing that really is questionable with voter suppression and disseminating false information about our election system. No, no, please wait. Bottom line Donald, Mr. President, we are already staring down the barrel of a shit load of legal problems. I am asking you to drop this one – for a couple of good reasons: one is that we have no evidence to produce to make these legal claims stick and, this one you won't like either but it is real, you are going to be laughed at about this. People, lots of people, many people, are going to make fun of you.

[DT speaks]

Well, maybe so, sir, but the facts remain the facts...

[DT speaks]

Yes, sir, I do know that you don't like that one. But please let me continue okay?

[DT speaks]

Thank you, sir. Thank you very much. Now stick with me here, my brother from another mother...

[DT speaks]

Yeah, I agree, it is kind of cool. This part is going to be even harder to stomach than what I have said so far. Please look right here. I want to look you right in the eyes for this. Excellent. Good for you.

[DT speaks]

Maybe, maybe, but not now. I really need you to stick with me here, more than ever before. Maybe take a deep breath. Okay, sure, that breath was okay. *Donald, we lost the election.* They didn't cheat but they did win. I know that seems impossible for you to believe but it is the truth. We lost. This election is over. Joe Biden won. And you... well... you... didn't. You didn't win. And we have to start making plans to deal with what comes next.

Because there is A LOT of SHIT coming at us next.

[DT speaks]

Well, maybe. I guess. But not really. Actually, none of that is true. But there is a lot of shit coming next. Real, not made up. And not so much AT US, now that I think about it, but more AT YOU. I have got to get to another meeting, and I want to leave this with you.

[DT speaks]

What is it? Well, that's my letter of resignation. But I do wish you all the best, Mr. President.

AND SCENE

Thom Rutledge is a psychotherapist and author of several books, including *Embracing Fear*, *The Greater Possibilities* and *The Self-Forgiveness Handbook*. In addition to his self-help writing, his political commentaries have appeared in The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Indianapolis Star, The Nashville Tennessean, The Chicago Tribune and online with CounterPunch.org. For more information about Rutledge's work, visit <http://www.thomrutledge.com/>.



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