

# Brand New

Ben Huot

August 30, 2011

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>That Feeling Again</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Unhappy Activities . . . . .	4
1.1.1	Downsides to Picnics . . . . .	4
1.1.2	Downsides to Regional Travel . . . . .	4
1.1.3	Downsides to World Travel . . . . .	4
1.1.4	Making Plans . . . . .	4
1.2	Feeling Happy . . . . .	5
1.2.1	Surprised . . . . .	5
1.2.2	High School . . . . .	5
1.2.3	Favorite Things . . . . .	5
1.2.4	Present Situation is Ideal . . . . .	6
<b>2</b>	<b>Chaos Theory and God</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1	The Basic Idea . . . . .	6
2.2	Human Fragility in Violent Cosmos . . . . .	6
2.3	Too Big for Us to even Imagine . . . . .	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Correcting German History</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1	Prussia vs. Germany . . . . .	7
3.2	Higher Education . . . . .	8
3.3	Church Evolution . . . . .	9
<b>4</b>	<b>Progressive and Dynamic Polish</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1	Eastern European History . . . . .	10
4.1.1	Why Study Polish History? . . . . .	10
4.1.2	Historical Hungary and Poland . . . . .	10
4.2	Historic Polish Culture . . . . .	11
4.2.1	Historical Polish Demographics . . . . .	11
4.2.2	Historical Polish Wealth . . . . .	11
4.3	Historic Polish Government . . . . .	12
4.3.1	Balance of Powers . . . . .	12
4.3.2	Happily Isolated . . . . .	12
4.4	Historic Polish Military . . . . .	13
4.4.1	Ahead of their Time . . . . .	13
4.4.2	Cavalry Focused . . . . .	13
4.4.3	Who Pays? . . . . .	13
4.4.4	Enemies . . . . .	13
4.5	Downfall of Poland . . . . .	14
4.5.1	Fundamental Problem . . . . .	14

4.5.2	Division and Isolation . . . . .	14
4.5.3	Infrastructure Collapse . . . . .	14
4.5.4	Money Problems . . . . .	15
<b>5</b>	<b>Australia: God's Joke</b>	<b>15</b>
5.1	General . . . . .	15
5.2	Aborigines . . . . .	15
5.2.1	Only Skills . . . . .	15
5.2.2	No Organization . . . . .	16
5.2.3	Women and Weak . . . . .	16
5.2.4	Hunting Skills . . . . .	17
5.3	Plants and Animals . . . . .	17
5.3.1	Plants and Birds . . . . .	17
5.3.2	Animals . . . . .	17
5.3.3	Biosphere . . . . .	18

# 1 That Feeling Again

## 1.1 Unhappy Activities

### 1.1.1 Downsides to Picnics

When I remember back, I used to think of how fun it was, to go out on a hike, or a picnic, in the summer. But doing those things recently was not fun. At lakes, you either have muddy banks, or cement ones, which are both bad for swimming. There is never any food, that I can eat, and the food attracts nasty bugs and I already have enough trouble with attracting bugs.

### 1.1.2 Downsides to Regional Travel

I think of how I had fun, at staffing ,at summer camps and going to different cities, around Portland, for different clubs and sports. But I am starting, to remember the bad, as well. When I went camping, in Scouts, I was almost always wet and cold. I enjoyed traveling around, while doing different activities, but many of them also stressed me out a lot (like speech) and were not all fun (cross country).

### 1.1.3 Downsides to World Travel

Many of the places, that I would like to travel to are fun to read about, but likely not fun, for me, to visit. Another thing is the safety factor: I wouldn't even consider going overseas anywhere, as I don't feel safe as an American. I also am bad at languages and not good, at remembering names, or navigating places, that I don't know well. I likely would feel isolated and then greatly depressed, after a just a few months. I never enjoyed much going out at night, as I was tired and wanted, to be home, and I felt this way, before being diagnosed, with Schizophrenia.

### 1.1.4 Making Plans

Now, I have plenty of things to do, but doing things, out in the community usually requires you commit, to a schedule, or schedule ahead of time, both of which stress me

out considerably. Now I get very tired, frequently, due to my medicine and if I try to stay awake then, I am in a lot of pain (both physical and mental). Another thing that often stressed me out was planning on doing something very different, than what I am doing now, that is more social, but, because the change is too fast and dramatic, as I would be giving up, what makes me happy and helps form a considerable part, of my identity.

## **1.2 Feeling Happy**

### **1.2.1 Surprised**

These last few weeks, I have been sleeping much more, than usual and have felt happy most, of the time. Feeling happy may be normal, for most people, but it is not for me, so I started to speculate why. One of the things ,that really bothered me, up until recently was that I don't get out much and travel, or go out to things like conferences or meetings.

### **1.2.2 High School**

When I look back, in my life, to a time, when I was happy, I think of high school. In high school, I was involved, in several sports, as well as many clubs (I even founded one). At one time, I was actively involved in 12 major groups (including sports, clubs, and Boy Scouting).

### **1.2.3 Favorite Things**

But, recently, I have remembered, that my favorite activities were learning about other cultures, like in Model United Nations and that one of my favorite things to do, on Saturday morning was to read part of our encyclopedia or a National Geographic map. I used, to be able to, travel to other cities, like Washington D.C. (in high school) or Honolulu (in the military), but I now found it stressful, even when I just went to Seattle, a few years ago.

### **1.2.4 Present Situation is Ideal**

Thinking back, on what I enjoyed, in high school, I am actually living a fairly ideal situation (other than having Schizophrenia). I think this issue was finally resolved emotionally, for me and so I am under less stress and so feel more positive. Recently, I have found, that reading peoples' nasty comments, about Apple, on blogs and other news sites causes me, to feel greatly depressed, very quickly, but that even a short walk improves my mood tremendously and right away. My town may seem small and unknown, but we have some neat cultural venues, due to the fact, that we have one large state university and 4 small colleges (a community college, a Christian liberal arts college, a Bible college, and a technical school).

## **2 Chaos Theory and God**

### **2.1 The Basic Idea**

I was watching a science fiction TV show recently, where one person had special powers, that allowed them, to understand how and measure the inputs, to start a chain of events, with a small innocuous movement, that would result, in a exponentially greater event, occurring, as a result, of the cascading causality. I also saw a movie about the Chaos Theory, used to explain how a series of unrelated events can cause something unexpected, to happen, but were the intent of the human actor (no pun intended), while the true cause would be untraceable. When I think about how God might cause things, to happen spiritually, I think that it is highly likely, that God, often, when directly intervening does so, in just as subtle and gentle a method, as God has to be very careful what He and how much He changes even small things, because we are very fragile.

### **2.2 Human Fragility in Violent Cosmos**

We see this at work in the physical universe, where our continued existence is constantly threatened, like balls on

a pool table get knocked around, when another one passes by and we have basically no power, or enough time, to affect our self preservation. Given that there is a lot of space between things in space, things were set up very well, for us, as well as it being very quiet cosmically, in our direct area, for a considerable amount, of human history. Not only is this not a coincidence, but God understood very well how fragile we are, even before He created us, not just by His omniscience, but, by the very methods He used, to structure the reality, that we currently are aware of living in.

### **2.3 Too Big for Us to even Imagine**

While using Chaos Theory would require so many measurements, as to make it unwieldy, to plan out and vastly too complex, to manage, so that it would not only be impractical, with current technology, it would even be hard, to imagine how to begin designing the level of superhuman engineering, to affect this kind of process. To really do this right and also allow, for someone else, using the same kind of approach, on a much more powerful level, to not be able, to change the effect, we would need almost perfect information (which only God has privy to). Also, operating spiritually would allow many more options, to approach the situation with, as the material world is one small subset, of a greater and more real spiritual world.

## **3 Correcting German History**

### **3.1 Prussia vs. Germany**

When most people think of German history, they think of the Prussia, of the 19th century, but there is much more to Germany, than that. In fact, Prussia was only partially German racially and the area was occupied by Poland, up until a few centuries ago. Prussia originated, from the Poles inviting in the Teutonic Knights (which were very similar to the infamous Knights Templar), to help pacify the resistance, to Poland, in this area (much as and with

the same consequences, as the British Celts inviting the Anglos, Saxons, and Jutes, into what is now called England). Much of what we think of as Prussian evolves, from this, like the black eagle and iron cross.

German history was central, to Medieval European history, where the Holy Roman Empire (a loose confederacy of independent states) occupied the same basic area as modern West Germany, south, to the middle of Italy. The Germanic peoples include the French, English, and Scandinavians, as well as the Germans. The German people spread westward, across Europe, at the end of the Roman Empire, and, in the process, kept pushing the Celts, to the fringes, of Western Europe.

The Medieval culture was formed, by merging Roman and German paganism, with Roman Catholic Christianity. The ancient legal practices, of the Germanic people, like the basis of power on individual and direct relationships between the king and the local chiefs (loyalty to a specific person) formed the basis, of what later became the feudal system.

### **3.2 Higher Education**

Germany was also one of the great centers of learning, for a thousand years, with the Emperor encouraging, especially, education, in the humanities. Later on, some of the greatest and most influential thinkers of all time were German. Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud are just a couple, of the most well known, of the German thinkers.

This great tradition of education came from the Middle East, but not from the Arabs. It has been widely circulated that Muslim scholars were essential to the survival of classic Greek philosophy and literature, but this is far from true. Arab scholars only were able to preserve and emulate these Greek classics by first being taught them by the Syriac Christians.

Another myth is that the interest in scholarship was related to Islam, which couldn't be further from the truth. The only reason why the intellectuals were tolerated, in the Islamic empires, was because of their protection, by the royal court (secular leaders). Islam has never been

friendly, to education and scholarship, outside of Islamic religious law.

I don't see this lack of interest, in the Sciences, by Muslims, in the Middle East a thousand years ago a bad thing. My favorite thing about Islam is Sufism (which was heavily inspired by Syriac Christians) and I believe that it would benefit our society, to be more focused on morality and less on material things. I rate cultures, on how moral they are, and, in my eyes, I believe, that in this area, we can learn immensely about moral progress from Islam. Wisdom is superior to knowledge, belief is superior to wealth, passion is superior to strength, and self-control is greater than fame.

### **3.3 Church Evolution**

The rituals involving praying, to the saints, and the veneration, of holy relics, have pagan origins. A similar situation was responsible, for the creation of the Bodhisattva, in Chinese Buddhism, where the previous indigenous beliefs, of East Asia, were merged with Buddhism, so that the gods and goddesses of the previous belief system were re-imagined, as enlightened beings.

Many of the things, which the Roman Catholic Church currently claims about itself, have not always been made, even by them. The situation between the Holy Roman Emperor and the Roman Catholic pope evolved, over a very long period of time. The Latin church became the state church, over a period of time, so that both the Emperor and the pope could bolster each other's credibility.

It wasn't until later, on that the Roman Catholic pope (Leo the 1st) claimed that the the leader of the Latin Church was the successor, to Peter, and that they were then one true church. It was long after the creation of the position of the Latin pope, that the pope claimed that the Latin church had the divine and exclusive mission, of evangelizing the world, beyond Western Europe. Very early on, it was popularly believed that either the Emperor or the Latin pope was the anti-Christ (and with good and specific scriptural support).

## **4 Progressive and Dynamic Polish**

### **4.1 Eastern European History**

#### **4.1.1 Why Study Polish History?**

The history of Poland is fascinating and unexpected, because it was, in many ways, ahead of its time and shares much in common, with the United States and other contemporary democracies. For hundreds of years, the situation in Poland was a utopia and this is highly encouraging. This is in stark contrast, to what the popular opinion, of Poland has been, for the last couple hundred years.

Very few people study Eastern European history, so they often think, that the current political situation, in Eastern Europe reflects the historical powers, in the region. This couldn't be more wrong. Just as well know and respected countries, in modern Europe, considered vital, to understanding Europe and forming a large part, of its great tradition, like Italy and Germany, did not exist, as we now know them, until the 19th century, so Eastern Europe was divided up much different prior to World War I, then as we no see it on modern maps.

#### **4.1.2 Historical Hungary and Poland**

Both the Polish and the Hungarians were the major groups, who fought off Muslim takeover, of Europe, caused, by the major rising power, of the Ottoman Empire (consisting of what is now Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia, Albania, Macedonia, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, and Iraq.). This was the second time Muslims invaded Europe and the third time they conquered predominantly Christian lands. Basically, Poland controlled most of North Eastern Europe while Hungary controlled most of South Eastern Europe, for a long period, from about 1000-1500 AD.

Just like Hungary, the Polish nations had very low population density, so that it allowed many other outside groups to settle there. Both these countries were major European powers, but were unable, to become World Powers, on the scale of France or England, due to their lack of

good ports, on the open ocean and powerful navies, as well as being internally divided, by many different ethnic, political, and linguistic groups. They also developed very differently, from Western Europe, in that they did not take part, in the Industrial Revolution, or become totalitarian, at a key time, in the major transition, of the political and economic direction, of France and England.

## **4.2 Historic Polish Culture**

### **4.2.1 Historical Polish Demographics**

Poland, at one time, occupied 1/3, of the land area, of Europe. Most of the area occupied presently by Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Belorus, Ukraine, Moldava, and Eastern Germany was all controlled, by the Polish government (the word Ukraine means frontier). Warsaw was originally a small town and was chosen, for the capitol, based on its location (half way between historical Lithuania and Poland).

Poland was, at one time, the bread basket of Europe, due to a favorable weather change and good farmland. Poland didn't have much stone, so its used brick to build cathedrals instead. Poland had a wide range of different terrain and climates, in its different regions including, in additions to good farmland, dense forest in historical Lithuania, and swamps in Belorus.

The population of Poland, at one time, equalled that of Italy, Spain, and Portugal and was twice that of England and 2/3s that of France. 40% of the Poles lived in 20% of the area. Poland consisted many groups of ethnic groups, religions, and languages. Recognized languages included Polish, Latin, Ruthene, German, and Armenian. The Polish move, from Latin, to German, as the main language contributed, to the isolation, of Poland.

### **4.2.2 Historical Polish Wealth**

Food prices rose dramatically, during the time, when the major Western European powers were flooding European markets, with precious stones and minerals, found, in the

new world. This made the Polish nation very wealthy. The Polish liked to wear their wealth in the form of precious stones, metals, furs, silk, and feathers (especially in combat). The Polish taste in art and literature was eclectic. The Polish also painted their horses.

There was a major connection with Italy, especially in the arts, as many famous Poles visited and came back from Italy, with an advanced degree and a library of books. The Poles liked the Turkish style of dress. The food, of Poland, was heavily influenced, by the food, of Iran and North India. Poland brought Western culture to Russia, as Germany brought Western culture to Poland.

### **4.3 Historic Polish Government**

#### **4.3.1 Balance of Powers**

Poland was unique for having many personal freedoms and an early parliament that only existed in Western Europe in the last few hundred years like freedom of religion. The king's power was quickly diminished in medieval Poland and there developed what we would call today, a balance of powers within the national government.

#### **4.3.2 Happily Isolated**

Poland never had any serfs, during the Middle Ages and Christianity only came to Poland, after the country was fully developed. Poland also escaped the violence of the Protestant Reformation and Catholic Counter-Reformation and the Black Plague. Although officially Catholic, Poland had large minorities of Eastern Orthodox, Jewish, pagan (mainly from historical Lithuania) and later Arians, Executionists, and Protestants (especially Lutheranism and Calvinism). And many different groups persecuted, in other parts of Europe, came to Poland because of this. The Jewish community had its own complete parallel government.

## **4.4 Historic Polish Military**

### **4.4.1 Ahead of their Time**

The Polish were unique and ahead, of their time, in their military concepts, as well. The Polish military favored mobility, adaptability, and self-sufficiency. They operated in divisions, instead of a one large mass and lived off the land. They could fight long hours, without being exhausted.

The army had little, to no armor, and the cavalry outnumbered the infantry 3:1. Their sabre was the best blade in Europe. They had advance artillery, that were lighter and favored accuracy, over volume and mobility, rather than quantity. The Polish learned about explosives and rockets, from the Turks and had a greater firepower, on a man to man basis, than other contemporary armies.

### **4.4.2 Cavalry Focused**

Tactics included forming a giant square, for defense, when surrounded; using deep cavalry raids, ahead of the army; probing charges, with cavalry and artillery support; forming checkerboard pattern, of horses, so one line falling didn't impact the others. They breed European with Turkish horses, for speed and endurance. They used the eastern saddle, which could ease horse strain. They could cover 120 km/day, for several days, without killing their horses.

### **4.4.3 Who Pays?**

The Polish hated paying, for a standing army, especially because they feared dictatorship (as that was commonplace, in Europe, at the time). Poland didn't have a large navy, because they were on good terms, with the British and the Dutch, and because a navy was thought, to be a wasteful luxury.

### **4.4.4 Enemies**

Ironically, the major powers of the day, that were powerful enough, to threaten Poland's military were the Swedish

and the Ottoman Turks. Prussia was controlled by the Polish and the Russians were little threat. This all changed a few hundred years later.

## **4.5 Downfall of Poland**

### **4.5.1 Fundamental Problem**

The people became lazy: tenure for public officials became life long; individual freedom resulted, in immoral behavior; life in the country was seen as close to God, and that God would bail them out.

### **4.5.2 Division and Isolation**

The country became more divided: the king had little control over the country; there was no administration, to create continuity of government between kings; the government became more and more decentralized, the country became more renationalized, in its priorities; the gap between rich and poor increased; and powerful Lithuanian families ran the show, in their part of the country.

The country became more isolated: foreign travel became less common and resulted in returning, with STDs and pictures, instead of an education and a library of books; the people became afraid of foreigners; there was no state department; and foreign policy was inconsistent.

### **4.5.3 Infrastructure Collapse**

Wars weakened the country: Swedish troops destroyed the Polish infrastructure; war and famine forced common people, to relocate; and the state was bankrupt, from 20 years of war.

The country's investment in its future was falling to pieces: food production fell dramatically (majority of farming land unused); the country didn't embrace the industrial revolution; and religious superstition grew and Jesuit teaching declined dramatically.

#### **4.5.4 Money Problems**

The economy had more competition: other European countries got better, at growing their own food; food came in from Western Europe's colonies; and Russia began exporting the same goods, as the Polish did.

The tax situation was unworkable: there was no central treasury; the wealthiest centers were hardly taxed at all; taxes were outdated, unproductive, and collection was complicated, parliament had to vote, on every tax; and revenue was 10% that of France (and was slightly above the small region of Bavaria).

## **5 Australia: God's Joke**

### **5.1 General**

I am starting to read a book about Australia that seemed really serious because of its focus on Australia being first colonized with felons. The more I read about Australia, the funnier it sounds.

### **5.2 Aborigines**

#### **5.2.1 Only Skills**

It starts with the indigenous people. The aborigines were only skilled in one thing. They aborigines were considered successful, because they figured out how, to avoid doing, most things we consider necessary, for a society, to exist, beyond the stone age.

The aborigines were not very environmental or clean. They left their waste out in the open; they burned huge areas of land, just to catch and kill one animal; and they never bathed. They used fish oil, to keep away the mosquitos. They were so hard on the land, that the land could only support an average, of one person, every 10 miles. Their teeth were very healthy, though, as they had very little sugar or starch, in their diet.

### **5.2.2 No Organization**

There were approximately 500 tribes, continent wide. They had no leaders, permanent soldiers, nor any other social ranking. They had no private property, but they were very tied to their tribe's land area socially and spiritually (which contained a large area of land, which they roamed nomadically). They were bound by a common language and religion, but (although very spiritual and speaking many different languages) they made no religious centers nor did they have a written language (but transmitted complex myths orally).

The different tribes traded and could speak each other's language. They traded flint axes, shells ornaments, and ochre for body painting, but they had no concept of money. They didn't have any clothes, nor any pottery or metal. They didn't make any kind of shelter, because they could live, in caves, and the boats and fishing equipment they made barely held together (of those living along the ocean). They slept so close to their fires, that they often got burned. But, they were the first to use cremation and the first in the Southern Hemisphere to make art.

### **5.2.3 Women and Weak**

Women and the weak were treated extremely poor. Women were treated worse, than in the most extreme forms, of Islamic law. Women were considered the property, of their family, and had no choices and no rights. Women were only allowed, to gather plants, but the none of the aborigines did any farming or ranching (herding).

Wives of one tribe were shared, with neighboring tribes, to seal military deals and women could be beaten, to death, for talking back or refusing to do anything their husbands wanted them to do. Children were routinely killed and the elderly abandoned, if they held up how fast the tribe could move, or were unwanted, or undesirable, in any other way.

### **5.2.4 Hunting Skills**

Their one claim to fame is that they could stand very still, so that they could catch birds, lured into their hands, by holding a piece of food, although that hardly compares, to the abilities, of traditional Kung Fu artists of China, or Yoga practitioners of India. They were very good at tracking, even by the most subtle cues. They knew all the migratory patterns, feeding habits, nesting, shelter, and mating of all the animals, that lived in their area.

They could throw a spear 90-120 feet, very precisely (but they didn't have a bow or arrow). Warriors had to be able to pick up and kill a snake barehanded; be able to climb trees, for honey; or knock a possum down; with an axe. Boomerangs were only used; in open spaces. They ate better than the Europeans, in Australia, and they had a half-wild dog, now called the dingo.

## **5.3 Plants and Animals**

### **5.3.1 Plants and Birds**

The eucalyptus trees seemed very strange, to Europeans. Their skin was constantly peeling off, the branches were smooth and wrinkled, and they were evergrey (instead of evergreen). The trees were so far apart, that they resembled a public park, in England, because the aborigines burned the land, to encourage the growth, of grass. The Europeans found a huge variety, of brightly colored birds. They flew in such dense groups, that they formed bright colored clouds, that cast shadows, on the ground.

### **5.3.2 Animals**

All the animals looked very strange. The kangaroos must have looked, like giant rabbits, that acted a lot like deer. The koalas were bad tempered, and slow, and ate large amounts (2 lbs) of leaves, every day. If you tried to pick up, one of these teddy bears, from hell, they peed on you and scratched up your arms.

The duck billed platypus and anteater, that came from Australia, not only looked part reptile, bird, and

mammal, but they exhibited other odd traits as well. Both of them used the same opening for excretion, egg laying, and fertilization.

The ant eater looked vaguely like the English hedgehog, and laid eggs, but carried them in a belly pouch, like a kangaroo. It could not see very well, but could smell ants, from a large distance away. It had a beak and a long, sticky pink tongue. When afraid, it curled up in a ball, like a hedgehog, but then proceeded, to dig itself, into the ground, very rapidly.

The platypus lived in both the water and on land. It was a cross between a duck and a beaver. The platypus laid leathery eggs, in a hole, in the muddy side, of a river, and were nursed, by pores, scratched open, by the mother. The platypuses ate their own body weight, in insects and worms each day and had a very high metabolism. They also had poison, in their heels.

### **5.3.3 Biosphere**

At night, the trees were bustling with loud and active furry animals, including those nasty possums, that are very prolific where I live. The animals sounds were not consistent, with their size, and you couldn't see depth very well, because of the tree's transparency, so it was hard to locate animals by sound. The ground was covered with dry brush, so that hunters could be heard from far away. Most animals in Australia were not a threat to people, but the snakes and insects definitely were.