

## The Slave Ship

Slavery Is (Is Slavery?)

(Inner dialogue, musings, observations, experiences and questions shared by Jennifer  
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The slave ship is a luxury resort in Mexico (and many other places) where local workers are bussed to the resort from dilapidated neighborhoods, to serve vacationers on the most pristine, picturesque, and sacred pieces of real estate in their own country. An abundance of relentless peddlers of handmade jewelry, street cuisine, “illegal” taxis, and other wares make it clear the local economy stands in stark contrast to the luxury offered at the resorts.

An airplane with a red carpet, fine leather seats, and a back row next to the toilet. It is where champagne and coca cola are served.

100,000 Euro – Private jet

1000 euro – “First Class”

500 euro – “Business”

250 euro – “Economy”

100 euro – bumpy spot in the back by the toilets

(Back row passengers work for front or business row passengers)

No passport – no fly.

A familiar, widely accepted “economic” and “legal” organization of modern society.

The slave ship is an international movement blandly labeled a “refugee crisis;” from which thrives trades in human trafficking, human organs, exploited workers, sex slaves, and probably other atrocities I’m not aware of or privy too. Many drown or die in the forest, un-named and unaccounted for.

It is the irony of wholesome nourishment – our plates abundant with the seed-sewing and harvesting of **exploited workers**; chemical sickened crops. It is chemical sickened families with or without “health benefits.”

It is city streets where humans are resting exposed outside empty buildings with the heat left on.

It is city streets littered with tired bodies by night and swept clean by morning.

It is perverted notions of “justice.”

It is an infinite, unrelenting stream of commodified, coercive and convoluted digital content consumed compulsively, and the disintegrating backbones of children living in virtual reality.

It is the numbing and nostalgia-izing of sensibilities; Obsessing about history in digital conversation while atrocity unfolds at our doorstep.

It is enemy consciousness. It is an unconscious pendulum slapping wildly between harsh extremities.

It is indoctrination, self deprecation, and exile from sensibility. It is a product of fear and self-righteous survival instinct.

It is estrangement from humanness, aliveness, vibration. It causes amnesia, frigidity and rage.

It lives among the pages of history books in what is written and unwritten.

It gives birth to uncommon resilience. It slaughters dreams.

It is medical school, reductionistic science on a soap box, and guns in the hands of boy soldiers. It is commodified bodies, exploited bodies, beaten and imprisoned bodies.

It is the tragedy of an imagination not allowed to run wild; not watered. It is a body, mind and spirit beaten into submission.

It is bloody backs, hanging from trees. It is black breasts nourishing white babies.

It is alienation and amnesia.

It is uniforms, batons, and blood on streets.

A legal document written by one party. Coercive policy. Complicity.

It is a farm worker's knee on the neck of a calf.

Illusions of hierarchy of power and intent.

It is inability to speak, a voice muffled. Internal frigidity.

Whiteness = sanitized reality. Abuse of power. A state of mind. Mind control. Coercion. Separation from sensitivity, sensibilities, and personal power. Untold/mistold history. Outright lies. Manipulations → If you do this, I won't beat you. If you do this, you will get a tax break. You will make more money. You will be adored and celebrated.....

Africans on ships, working on plantations, beaten, burnt...

Nazi Germany

Indigenous genocides

Yazidi genocide

Refugees quarantined in camps, floating at sea, lost in wintery forests

Terrorism

Digital addiction  
Fashion  
Militarization of nations  
Prison  
Blind compliance

The opposite of slavery is sovereignty.  
The opposite of slavery is sovereignty?

The opposite of slavery is freedom.  
The opposite of slavery is freedom?

What does being a slave look, feel, smell, taste, sound like?  
What does sovereignty look, feel, smell, taste, sound like?  
What does freedom look, feel, smell, taste, sound like?  
What does corrupt sovereignty look, feel, smell, taste, sound like?  
What does slaves enslaving slaves look, feel, smell, taste, sound like?

How do we embody slavery?  
How do we consent to slavery?  
How do we embody sovereignty?  
How do we consent to sovereignty?

How do we become “entitled” to the products and services of slave (exploited) labor?  
Where have we witnessed slavery and kept walking?  
What is our role on the slave ship? On what deck(s) do I participate?

What if the root of whiteness is (logical or illogical, rational or irrational) FEAR?

What if blackness is the divine embodiment of beauty, and whiteness is the most exquisite motive force?

How do the thoughts and behavior of one person (one cell) affect the collective? A sovereign?  
A free human? A slave?

Do we need to rebuild the slave ship if we are presently on the slave ship?  
What thoughts, actions and collaborations would compel the dismantling of a system of slavery?  
What if the slave ship were transformed into a garden? (Would this require rose-colored glasses?)  
Where did we get the idea that building a hearth and planting a garden where all are welcome and abundance and love flow for all is not possible, or even rational?  
If we imagine the garden and sow the first seeds.... What might be the next steps? What might begin to unfold?

What happens among humans when we hold hands and dance?

### Slave

- *n.*  
One who is owned as the property of someone else, especially in involuntary servitude.
- *n.*  
One who is subservient to or controlled by another.
- *n.*  
One who is subject to or controlled by a specified influence.

### Sovereign

- noun One that exercises supreme, permanent authority, especially in a nation or other governmental unit, as.
- noun A king, queen, or other noble person who serves as chief of state; a ruler or monarch.
- noun A national governing council or committee.
- noun A nation that governs territory outside its borders.
- noun A gold coin formerly used in Great Britain.
- adjective Self-governing; independent.
- adjective Having supreme rank or power.
- adjective Paramount; supreme.
- adjective Of superlative strength or efficacy.
- adjective Unmitigated.

### Freedom

- noun The condition of not being in prison or captivity.
- noun The condition of being free of restraints, especially the ability to act without control or interference by another or by circumstance.
- noun The condition of not being controlled by another nation or political power; political independence.
- noun The condition of not being subject to a despotic or oppressive power; civil liberty.
- noun The condition of not being constrained or restricted in a specific aspect of life by a government or other power.
- noun The condition of not being a slave.
- noun The condition of not being affected or restricted by a given circumstance or condition.
- noun The condition of not being bound by established conventions or rules.
- noun The capacity to act by choice rather than by determination, as from fate or a deity; free will.
- noun The right to unrestricted use; full access.
- noun Ease or facility of movement.

- noun *Archaic* Boldness in behavior; lack of modesty or reserve.

Slavery is a violation of Natural Law.