

TABOO OPINIONS #92

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2--27-07 Got a physical problem?

Have I got a drug for you! All you have to do is tune in to a popular network TV show at night and the commercial breaks will be filled with ads for drugs which are supposed to cure prostate problems, lack of hard-ons, lack of sleep, lack of digestion, too much stomach acid, lack of easy breathing, too much bad cholesterol, high blood pressure, pain ... all of which drugs require a doctor's prescription.

I forget some others. But in an hour-long show you'll be assaulted with at least 6-7 drug ads, and I wondered why the influx of these drug ads?

Then I realized! The success of TV-advertised Viagra probably started it. And in the past year all them money-hungry drug companies have piled into the TV-cable world to reap the whirlwind of money from an ever-increasing hypochondriac population.

And the MDs love it, too, as they happily write prescriptions after collecting patient-visit fees.

Got a physical complaint? They've got a \$70-a-week drug for you! And more to come.

The networks and cable channel owners love it, too, since the "big three" car-making corporations are cutting back on advertising cars nobody much wants to buy.

Is this it? Is today's 415-point stock market drop the beginning of the end?

Is The Crash here? Is Depression City just around the corner?

I hope so!

I've been predicting the Second Great Depression since ... 1957, I think, and the damned Catastrophe won't come!

But maybe this time, with everyone in debt to their eyeballs, with a negative 1% savings rate, with the housing market in a slow collapse, with personal bankruptcies and mortgage defaults at new

highs, and with the stock markets at all-time (unsustainable) highs, with retail sales slowing, with oil going back up past \$ 60 per barrel, with unemployment claims going up week after week

How long, I wonder, can optimism and greed withstand these forces?

We'll find out soon enough.

No word yet on that sex story I send out

But I'm writing another --- I can't help myself! --- about a woman who is wearing a strange, ancient amulet when she has sex and is transported by the amulet to a bizarre alternate Earth when she has an orgasm ... and she discovers she must have an orgasm in the new Earth in order to return.

But I enjoy the inventing, characterization and dialog more than anything.

END TABOO OPINIONS #92