Blonde Ambition

In all my time on this ‘dying’ planet of ours I can’t remember a more inept, incompetent, out of their depth, selfish, irresponsible and obsessed-with-staying-in-power government. I can’t remember a more inept, incompetent...... *you get the idea.*...opposition party, totally unwilling, if not incapable, if taking the government to task over ....well just about everything really.

The whole country seems to be sinking fast in a ‘swamp’ of indecision, bad decisions, erratic decisions, U-turns, false claims, alternative facts and of course ‘fake news’. Meanwhile, our politicians play power games, chase cabinet posts, keep a low profile in case they harm their re-election prospects, and wait for a genuine leader to materialise. Looking at the motley crew currently inhabiting the Westminster parliament that ain’t going to happen anytime soon.

We appear to be in dire straits and it’s a situation of our own politicians making. Whether or not you agree that leaving the EU is right or wrong move for the UK as a nation (Scottish independence is looming surely) in hindsight it was a bad idea to ask the nation if they would support leaving the EU, a bad idea to evoke article ...whatever one it was...,a bad idea to start the ball rolling, when there was no credible plan, no agreement even between the politicians themselves, no clear path to follow in order to find the nearest exit.

When they got the ‘ok’ from the electorate what was the almighty hurry. Shouldn’t someone have checked how things would go with the EU first?  If they did check, then the government certainly never fully explained to the people who elected them that maybe this wasn’t in fact doable after all without severe damage to the country, the economy, our faith in politicians (never been high anyway) and without a huge financial costs just to discuss and debate it. Cue all the fake news, alternative facts, unsupportable claims and meaningless debates that bore no fruit because there was none there in the first place.

No matter though, the government had other more pressing issues to deal with like who was going to replace David Cameron, who gave up in despair and left to let them get on with it. Some have criticised him for holding the referendum and then deserting a sinking ship. The truth is that the Conservative party agreed for a EU referendum to be in its manifesto so it wasn’t really his decision alone. The fact that the nation decided to go for it seemed to come as a surprise and that was when it became apparent to them that they hadn’t actually thought this through.

So, here we are up the Niagara Falls of Brexit without a paddle, with no idea of how to land and not sink without a trace, as the rest of the EU look on and continue their trading with one another without us.

We are now awaiting the appointment of our second prime minister since that fateful day of evoking that article. All polls suggest that the blond bombshell himself, the king of the zip wire, Boris Johnston will soon be king of the hill. What joy, as we await to find out as we surely will, that his plans for how we get out of the EU, and more importantly get out of this mess, are no more than his usual ramblings. The ramblings of a man, whose skill in achieving his personal ambition to be prime minister is about the extent of his talents.

I hate to make comparisons, and maybe it’s the hair, but like Trump Boris promises to make our country great again (maybe not his exact words) and like Trump you suspect someone else is really pulling the strings.

It’s taken three long years to get to this point and you can’t help but wonder why Boris and his band of obsessives didn’t take up the challenge the first time around when Theresa May, for all her faults, accepted the job. One suspects they knew, as did David Cameron, as we the electorate now know, that there was no credible plan in place and if someone else was given a chance to make a complete hash of it, helped of course by a cabinet and a conservative party in complete disarray, then king Boris could ride in and save the day.

God help us! Nicola get the ballot boxes ready. Life outside the union surely can’t be any worse than this.

Tom Kelly

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