

Pobiz Stock Index Update, 20 July 2016

Shares in VHS Concept Industries rose slightly on news that Kenneth Goldmine and Vanessa Plot filed a \$100,000,000 lawsuit against Donald and Melania Trump. The suit alleges that on July 19th Melania Trump appropriated without legal authorization Goldmine and Plot's trademarked concept of replicating material related to African-American topics, texts, autopsies, and First Ladies which constitutes a serious infringement of Authorial property and a violation of copyright unlike anything since Metallica had its hit songs played for free and without consent on the World Wide Web.

Though neither Melania Trump, nor her husband, Donald, could be located for comment, Goldmine and Plot were available lickety-split. This reporter met them, at their request, at a secret location on the Lower East Side. Goldmine (with large, dark circles under his eyes) was fashionably decked out in a canary yellow Zoot Suit, his trademark Brooklyn Bandholz now shorn; Plot was in Blackface goth.

When asked if the amounts sought in the suit (the lawsuit, that is) were not perhaps a bit over the top for an issue related to poetry, Goldmine, thumbing his lapels, was unequivocal: "The amount was chosen because it is a symbolically important number to the community of U.S. avant-garde poetry today." He paused, choking-up a bit, and then continued: "We want to stand with them in solidarity, they who once gave us so much, even as they have not exactly of late stood with us... It is the amount that created the Poetry Foundation, given by the great heiress of Eli Lilly & Company, the originator of Prozac and one of the largest and most admired corporations of the pharmaceutical community today. It's not so much the *money* that is important in this case, as it is the *principle* of the thing. And anyway," continued Goldmine, "we plan to donate a small percentage of any award we receive to both the new 'Blue Lives Matter' movement and to the 'Marjorie Perloff Agency for Retired Mexican Gardeners'. Oh, yes, and also to the 'Poetry Foundation's Outsourced Security-Guard Retirement Fund.'"

Plot (former CEO of Vanessa Plot Industries, now a shell-holding company of the newly public Ben Lerner Lyric Petroleum Inc.) sat beside him on a 19th century medical table, cradling an antique sewing-machine and an umbrella. She nodded slowly, drawling in a white southern accent that Prozac was especially symbolically important to her, and that without it who knows what she would do "with these old weapons I am holding, my dear." She then said something in half-heard, broken French about Araki Yasusada, by all appearances trying to blame it on "him."

When the two were asked how they planned to argue their case in court, given that on July 19th Melania Trump appeared to do what Goldmine and Plot were infamous for doing before a famous reading at Brown University that lasted exactly fifteen minutes, as irony would have it, a fifteen minutes that brought the infamy of Conceptual Poetry to a sudden, famey implosion, Goldmine responded emotionally: "Melania Trump is *not* a poet. She is a *fashion model* from Ljubljana, and she hasn't a clue of what I meant when I said that plagiarism is necessary! That it is implied in the idea

of progress. That it clasps the author's sentence tight, uses his expressions, eliminates a false idea, replaces it with the right idea! No, Melania Trump is a fake plagiarizer, a fraudulent fraud!" As Goldmine pronounced "Ljubljana," he theatrically mumbled the word, shaking out his hands and arms as if mocking someone with a motor-function disability.

"That's right," drawled the heavy-lidded Plot, raising her voice, now, as the sewing-machine unaccountably began to whirl. "As if that Stepford mannequin even honestly plagiarized what she read! She had someone else plagiarize it for her. And she just plagiarized that. That's plagiarism twice . . .no, wait, three times? Anyway, it's not real plagiarism—which is an art."

"Plus," interjected Goldmine, "do you really think it was an accident that all this happened on July 19th, such an important and historic day for the international Left."

When asked what the significance of the seemingly normal date was, Plot jumped in, with a shout and fist-in-air: "The 37th Anniversary of the glorious Sandinista Revolution, you dang cotton-pickin' fool!"

In other news related to the Poetry Markets, RonSill & Sons has filed for bankruptcy. "Yes, so that's right," said Ron Sillibant. "But at least it's only our first. Donald Trump, who just yesterday conceptually ripped off my fellow Author Vanessa Plot, has filed, like, *fifteen* times . . . Long live Daniel Ortega!"