

I was in China.

(for short work engagements in last December)

I got sick with a disabling flu.

But worse, I got scared. Terrified...horrified...

By seeing Beijing, Xiamen and Guangzhou.

Horrified by:

Consumerism so rampant.

Hordes of young men in military gear

looking at all and beyond with such callousness, such contempt, such bright-eye-fanatical “we-are-the-Chinese-army”; regardless of the fact that they probably had no real common language besides rudimentary commands-and-fuck han-chinese. Peoples Republic of China rules over so many ethnic groups that several hundreds of languages are spoken within that “nation”.

When China goes hungry as it will, none of you will want to face that.

I write this in mid-March. I am still shell-shocked.

After a mind-boggling two months stay as Artist-in-Residence in Paris, France, I am back in my safe haven by Lake Puula, Finland. In the wilderness.

Back to the somewhat sustainable life that I sought for when I moved here years ago.

It was a nice dream.

It was.

I auto-wrote that. "It was", not "it is, and forever will be, God willing".

This is not a requiem. Not for Lake Puula, nor for me. Somebody else will compose those when the time comes.

This winter the ice on Lake Puula is hardly strong enough for traditional winter dagnet-fishing. Never before...

Last winter was the worst ever, but this winter is a no-winter.

And that translates to no fishing. NO FOOD.

Last autumn the whitefish and vendace were as confused as were we the fishermen by the lake not getting cold enough for them to spawn. Maybe the fish spawned somewhere. But we have reason to believe that most never did. So few were the fish we caught in the bays and shallows where the heritage tells to set our nets in the spawning times.

No spawning means no next generation.

For us to catch. And to survive.

this earth is capable of sustaining - - - - - ,

Tell me. TELL ME. You might know better than I. So TELL ME:

this earth is capable of sustaining xxxxxxxx humans.

The Chinese economy is booming thanks to the totalitarianism and a huge Western demand for consumer goods.

But simultaneously: 70% of that huge population still lives outside the cities. Increasingly they are flocking into the cities. In search of even a meager livelihood because the land can no longer sustain their number.

SLUMS. And street-corner beggars. In a totalitarian society! Not as in Paris or New York. More like in Johannesburg or Rio de Janeiro. These slums though will grow much bigger.

I saw it. I was terrified.

TERRIFIED.

While attempts to improve the productivity of all land – land owned and governed by the Peoples Republic of China – shall certainly be “successful”, I see no way to nourish the appetites of the Chinese millions aspiring to Western consumerism. Fly over China as I did and you will see the Chinese landscape: 85% to 100% of all land adaptable to cultivation is in use. Or was. When there was enough water.

“Carry-this-globe-on-Your-shoulders”. And then throw it.

And live on! You certainly have less than 100 years to live.

And then. And... then...and then => Great-great-grand....-.....-children, who cherish the picture they have of you, and who even look like you.

I bet they will never see our printed, or digital, whatever, pictures. Because most of such happy future generations shall never be born.

Our children, our grandchildren at the latest, shall have to face the facts.

The

(sorry, from the proofreader: that world, no word, I am too nervous with such copy, is not only beyond printing, it is unthinkable.....)

I might be wrong. In various guises I have been climbing up the universal tree of life...and falling down on my head too many times 2, power of twofold 2 and you... and finding out what lies beyond the now.

That may not be enough.

Even the most brilliant contemporary scientists do not really know. They only predict with a circa 80% probability. I have studied most of that 80% – and I feel no need to search their missing 20%.

Because I know.

The presumption of eventually seeing-all and solving-all by a science based on the superiority of the animal called “homo sapiens” is doomed to failure. Older peoples of the Earth – like mountains – know this with foolproof certainty.

Humans have tried to enclose the chaos of existence by inventing religions. A Heaven and an Underworld. A Hell and a Paradise.

Maybe.

But we are here now. On the surface of this Earth.

I wish my four children could show their children this Earth I have grown on,
this Earth of beauty and plenty.

If I die it is because the skies fell on me – that is the only thing I ever had any fear
for.

But

I got scared

in China.

Lauri