

HOMAGE TO A WORD



dave boles

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*When I come for you
your transgressions
will illuminate
for all eternity.*



HOMAGE TO A WORD

in the 60s one word
became symbolic
of American frustration
with government greed
the corporate
fat cats
were seen as true evil
and the word was pure
one word
four syllables
defined a country
torn
in two
the word had beauty
as it rolled through
the air waves
of large cities
and colleges
where
bright minds
analyzed
deciphered
our mysteries
so began

the cry
that would define
a sad era
so began
the death
of the word

revolution

in the 70s the man
who was not
a crook
by his own admission
who became
our president
who had
a vision
to free the stranglehold
that was
transportation
spoke the words
in earnest
for the very
first time
though they would be
sidelined

by all his
corrupt sickness
but the words
were officially
spoken
in earnest
by our leaders
in congress
one word
five syllables
would define
a generation
and the word
was pure
as it rolled
off the
tongues
of the leaders
of a nation
though the word
was alien
to the people
the workers
but to bankers
and lawyers
it became their new

mantra
one word
five syllables
as they introduced
to all
a brand new word
it was

deregulation

the successor
to the president
who reeked
of evil
the one who
remains
forgotten
in time
who stumbled
and caused
much political
amusement
whose claim to fame
is not much at all
he quietly
softly

secured the passage
of the first real change
that would cripple
a nation
through the media
the bankers
the corporate greed monsters
would begin to tell
a confused
senseless people
that the word was useful
it would increase
their money
as the media
concealed
the true nature
and intentions
of a political body
who chanted the mantra
one word
five syllables
of a land set free
by a new rising body
forged of media
who chose politicians
that would heed

their decrees
and the word was
pure
as it rolled
off the tongue
and the word
caught on
by enlightened
peoples
as they shared in the
mantra
of

deregulation

more leaders
would follow
both political
parties
presidents striving
for necessary freedom
to allow our country
to soar
as bright eagle
unencumbered by government
unrestricted by laws

unfettered free trade
especially transportation
how could an eagle
soar
with so many restraints
this became the question
that became the argument
of a media bought off
by their rich
corporate masters
the answer
was simple
a battle cry
it became
one word
five syllables
the word was so easy
the people adapted
they began to believe
and the word it
rolled
off of all
peoples tongues
as the word
was pure
as a nation

believed
while bankers
sat smiling
all the while nodding
as a nation began
chanting
for

deregulation

they rocked through the 80s
overturning decades
of financial progress
in return
for promises
of theories
abhorrent
their simplistic
childish
promises absurd
the media
now green lighted
all carried the message
regulation was terrible
horrible we say
how can there be

a burgeoning economy
with such restraints
plotted against it
with evil regulations
and government control
and the people
all bought it
their color tv's
delivered them all
to a land filled with promises
while all around them crumbled
but the media
now bought
run by corporate masters
would not show the crumbling
decay
of a nation
and they heightened the cry
for a nationwide
mantra
and the nation
it shouted
for

deregulation

1976 - Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust
Improvements Act

1977 - Emergency Natural Gas Act

1978 - Airline Deregulation Act

1978 - National Gas Policy Act

1980 - Depository Institutions
Deregulation and
Monetary Control Act

1980 - Motor Carrier Act

1980 - Regulatory Flexibility Act

1980 - Staggers Rail Act

1982 - Garn–St. Germain
Depository Institutions Act

1982 - Bus Regulatory Reform Act

1989 - Natural Gas Wellhead
Decontrol Act

1992 - National Energy Policy Act

1996 - Telecommunications Act

and the mother of them all
nearly three decades to achieve

1999 - Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act

the Financial Services
Modernization Act

baby
America had
finally
finally
been set free
and people rejoiced
at their incredible
good fortune
for their cries
had been answered
there had been

deregulation

academics rejoiced
bankers sat smiling
politicians counted money
people waved the flag
Americans in total
danced oblivious
joyous dances
money was flowing
streets were paved
business was booming
our leaders were hero's
with all the money flowing
even buses on time running
there was only
one word
for this glorious
miracle
only
one word

deregulation

then big Ken Lay
and his henchman, Skilling

took all Americans
for a Mr. Toads wild ride
they looted and destroyed
while California lay burning
they brought a once
sound economy
down to its knees
their traders made millions
on an energy shortage
of corporate fabrication
poor Gray Davis
removed by irate peoples
replaced by Ahnold
by Lay, Skilling and Fastow
though J. Clifford Baxter
did the honorable thing
he ate a bullet
to clear his conscious
leaving his blood
as witness
to the corporate greed
of a new generation
that bellowed the words
of a sickness
that run rampant
throughout our great

nation
and the sickness
had a name
it was

deregulation

world leaders smirked
powerful men chuckled
all major bankers
money people drivers
sat on sideline
without a blink
of one saddened eye
they moved to the next
greed fest crisis
immune from a conscious
Stanley Milgram was right
they plundered as Vikings
our rich
capitalist
nation
till no more money
was left in their coffers
the banks had run dry

by their own foul submissions
to a culture enraptured
with greed and corruption
all the while shouting
much beating of drums
the evil amongst us
can be cured don't you see
and politicians shuffled
the media ran snippets
of a utopian world
where all could own housing
and politicians
and bankers
still cried through the media
to a debt weary public
for

deregulation

one word
five syllables
it simply rolls
off the tongue
mass people are yelling
brothers turn on themselves
republicans are evil

democrats are dupes
with pointing of fingers
much crisis has risen
and all those rich bankers
with their back pocket politicians
look on from the side line
all the while nodding
much praise do they have
for the fine work evolved
over four long
decades
forty years did it take
an economy they crippled
with the ridiculous
notion
of deregulation
now peoples in ruin
no pension
no money
no jobs
no health care
no food for
their babies
no education
for the masses
unless you have money

you are screwed
as a human
in this
once
great
land
but then out of
the chaos
comes a word
worth repeating
of all oppressed
peoples
throughout
all of time
it's a word
of a people
pushed to the brink
of extinction
with nothing to lose
they chant

revolution.

