THE FRIDAY BURRITO Vol. XXVI #6 February 17, 2023 If it Looks Like a Duck ...

"Decide what you want, decide what you are willing to exchange for it. Establish your priorities and go to work."

H. L. Hunt

"Exercise is important, but exercise in a gym is not important. Go and take a walk outside. Skip the umpteenth coffee date and go for a hike instead. Take the stairs. Walk your errands."

Daphne Oz



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When Angelenos say, "Have a nice day," it's conditional upon on daytime temperatures hovering in the 70s, plus or minus, but never below 50 degrees. This week, people in Southern California have been cranky because, and you won't believe this, the thermometer went below 40 degrees at night, almost freezing, and never went above 55 degrees. A spot of rain here and there added to the fun. Well, of course, we need the hard

Western States Playbook

CAISO YTD Renewables Curtailment: As of 12/31/22: 2,449,248 MWh

% of solar and wind output curtailed: YTD as of December 2022 3.97% YTD as of December 2021 2.68%

WPTF Winter General Meeting: Thursday and Friday, March 2 and 3. Rancho Las Palmas in Palm Springs. Confirmed keynote speakers are EIX President and CEO Pedro Pizarro plus International Journalist John Dizard . Registration can be found by clicking here.

Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP): Public webinar on FERC-approved tariff to be held on Friday, February 24 at 12 noon Pacific Time. For more information click here.

WPTF on LinkedIn: Follow the group on LinkedIn by clicking here.

freeze to keep the snowpack intact. The <u>LA Times</u> already made the alarming finding that the California snowpack is melting too fast! Thus, the drought remains. Apparently, their reporters don't venture outside of the building.

Where were we?

Last week, I addressed the meaning of "Act of God," in reference to the earthquake disaster in Turkey and Syria. Of course, that was the topic that received the most feedback from readers. When offered an outlet for religious dialogue it always garners more interest than earthly items such as transmission planning, or the decline of power imports into California. I had godly responses from all sides, some of which you can read in the Shout Outs section, below. In my discourse, I mentioned an earlier 2005 Burrito dialogue on the same topic asking if an Act of God was part of a natural disaster or the human response to the tragedy to help those in need ... averring that it couldn't be both. One person said it could be both, one person said it was neither, and one person said who cares?

Well, I wasn't the only writer to broach the topic. The <u>WSJ ran an essay last Friday</u> written by Mark Molesky, a professor of history at Seton Hall University, entitled, "What the Great Lisbon Earthquake of 1755 Tells Us About [the] Disaster." I could not resist sharing the article's content with y'all. That historical event took 40,000 lives without any warning as much due to fires as well as collapsing edifices. The piece lead with, "The Great Lisbon Earthquake, as it became known, was one of the most consequential quakes in modern history, and its story can shed light on the challenges survivors face today—practical, political and even philosophical." Do tell.

The aftermath witnessed a change in Portugal's political structure, adherence to earthquake-resistant building regulations in Lisbon, and an enormous debate among the leading European philosophers associated with the

Enlightenment era ... e.g., Voltaire, Rousseau, Kant, and the clergy across different Christian denominations. You can imagine the fray. Was God sending a message, or did the international response in the form of food, clothing, and money from Great Britain, Germany, and Spain (to name a few) constitute a reawakening of spirit and a moral high ground? "Christian clergy of the day were pleased by the earthquake debate, noting gleefully that scientists had failed to find agreement on the physical causes of earthquakes. Most contemporary theories involved underground caverns filled with water, fire or combustible chemicals. For priests and pastors, the true cause of earthquakes had always been clear: God used them to send direct messages to humanity." Molesky asks, "Will environmentalists who see nature as a benevolent force confront the moral problem of natural disasters, so well understood in the 18th century?" Yeah, that question was on my mind, and still is.

Can Green Supply be Accurately Matched to Demand?

Maybe, but not cost effectively. <u>RTO Insider</u> columnist <u>Steve Huntoon dug into the topic in his latest entry</u> and found the enthusiasm for hourly matching of eco-supply and power demand as overstated because the issue is very complex and according to the most recent simulation models cost prohibitive. Steve used the <u>presentation</u> material from a research paper presented at a New England Restructuring Conference held last December and

authored by Prof. Jesse D. Jenkins. Steve notes in his article, "If you look at ... annual matching versus hourly matching, you'll see that annual matching for the sample participation rate in California modeling yields 2.4 million tons/year, compared with 5.7 million tons/year for hourly matching, a ratio of 2.4 to 1.6

"And now if you look at the cost premium ... for annual matching versus hourly matching, you'll see that annual matching has a cost premium of \$1.60/MWh, compared with a \$19.90/MWh cost premium for hourly matching, a ratio of 12.4 to 1.7." Let's make sure we use other people's money. Even if such matching were theoretically possible, there are three components ignored by the academics: 1) within-hour uncertainty in electricity demand, 2) within-hour uncertainty of variable renewable energy supply, and 3) transmission constraints. Steve wraps up his Herculean effort with the following: "Whether hourly matching

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- 4. Private sector investment results in lower average prices without risking consumers' money.

always causes zero emissions (putting aside the arbitrary hour and transmission constraint issues ...) is somewhat of a metaphysical question. Hourly matching is wasteful, and the premises for it are wrong. The climate challenge is tough enough without wasting money." Good work, pal.

Media Source that Captured the Moment

Bloomberg did an outstanding job when it released an article last week entitled, "California's Surging Energy Bills Are Its Own Fault." The authors, Gerson Freitas Jr. and Mark Chediak, pegged the critical issues unlike many other journalists who have little appreciation for the mechanics for establishing wholesale prices and government policies that misshape the picture like a Carnival House of Mirrors. The authors verified the facts we already know and I won't repeat the details here ... that is, California has aggressive climate policies and renewable procurement orders that lack attention to energy deliveries via natural gas pipelines or power transmission circuits. That alone deserves multiple bravos.

More to the point, "The incentives in California to expand and update [gas pipeline] systems are low, given demand is expected to fall as the energy transition accelerates, and opposition from environmental groups can be fierce. Many pipelines are decades old and vulnerable to damage from extreme weather." It was impressive

that the report identified similar regressive behaviors elsewhere: "Other places including New York, New England and countries in Europe have had similar constraints, especially since Russia's war in Ukraine disrupted international supply chains. While some regions have been spared predicted blackouts after a milder-than-expected winter, California is an example of what can happen when the opposite transpires, a

Oba's Low

Catch Some Z's

Click here to learn more about Ziad Alaywan

Reflecting on the 25th anniversary of the CAISO

Soon will be the silver anniversary of the California ISO. It was 25 years ago, on March 31, 1998, that the ISO ushered in a new era as one of the first fully competitive wholesale energy markets in North America.

There was an air of excitement within the major utilities in California, and many of us including me took a hard look at our careers, gauging the risks and benefits of joining what would be called the historic ISO Start-up Team. We knew there was no guarantee that competition in the wholesale electricity market would work. It was a new frontier. Some called it the Wild West.

I believed in markets and, for me, it was not a tough decision to leave PG&E. In October 1996, I left my position as a real time manager and signed a two-year contract with the Governor's Office to help get the ISO running. My utility colleagues thought I had lost my mind. However, I accepted the challenge because I believed a well-designed ISO would be beneficial to ratepayers, suppliers, and utilities.

My first assignment was to find a location for the control center within 18 months. Former ISO Communications Director Stephanie McCorkle, also part of the start-up team, told people the term "Ziad" became synonymous with excruciatingly long troubleshooting sessions where the prerequisite was a Teflon bladder because there were no bathroom breaks allowed.

The first Chair of the ISO Board of Governors, Jan Smutny-Jones, said in press release, "Few organizations have been built from scratch in the time frame that the Cal-ISO was completed. It went from ink on paper to a dynamic, multifaceted operation less than a year after incorporation. All Californians should be justly proud of this achievement."; Little did we know that would be the easy part.

One thing that most people forget is the primary mission of the ISO was not reliability, as local utilities did a good job keeping the lights on. The objective was to open the market and allow competition.

Continued on page 4

phenomenon that's likely to repeat itself as climate change makes weather patterns more unpredictable." The last comment about climate change was an unnecessary bone thrown in to protect the accepted conventional wisdom. That is, the phenomenon will repeat itself no matter what one believes about the climate.

That aside, damn good job.

Speaking of Energy Journalism ...

Speaking of energy reports in the media, here was an odd juxtaposition in last Tuesday's edition of the <u>WSI</u>. One article claimed that world oil demand is growing, and the other a new law in the European Union (EU) mandating the exclusive sales of EVs.

The first article, "OPEC Expects Stronger Economies to Boost Oil Demand," addresses robust near-term demand for oil which surprises me a bit. The article notes, "In Europe, concerns that soaring natural-gas prices would hammer economies over the winter have abated, as milder weather and sizable stockpileshave seen gas prices fall back." Maybe relatively favorable economic conditions are driving the demand. In addition, China's emergence from its COVID lockdown could increase demand.

The second article, "EU Lawmakers Vote to Ban Sale of New Gasoline-Powered Cars From 2035," describes a recent law passed by the European Parliament that would essentially ban new light vehicles that use gasoline or diesel by 2035. Presumably, this will depress the demand for oil in the long-term. My word, a page out of Governor Newsroom's book. The article observes, "The law is set to require new cars and vans to have significantly lower carbon emissions by 2030 and zero emissions by 2035, a requirement that industry groups say is expected to result in an end to the sale of new vehicles that

use traditional combustion engines, and accelerate the shift to EVs."

The law includes two offramps: "The deal reached by lawmakers left the door open for the possibility that vehicles that run exclusively on carbon-neutral fuels could be sold after 2035. It also included a review clause

that requires the European Commission, the EU's executive body, to assess progress toward the zero-emission targets in 2026." There's enough wiggle room in those exceptions through which to drive a muscle car. The European Commission addressed busses and heavy trucks in a separate regulation as follows: "The European Commission on Tuesday proposed new, less-stringent targets for reducing emissions from heavy-duty vehicles such as trucks ... emissions from most new trucks and long-haul buses should decline over the coming years and reach a 90% reduction compared with 2019 levels by 2040. The proposal dealing with heavy-duty vehicle emissions will need approval from the EU's 27 member states and the European Parliament to become law."

In the case of California's proposed banning of gasoline cars by 2035, I have more than reasonable doubts. It just doesn't fit the mold of its constituents and I believe it will be either delayed or repealed. However, I am

less comfortable predicting the outcome in Europe. The use of autos is very different than in California ... and mass transit is more available and enjoys greater utilization, petrol is very expensive, and car ownership is a privilege not a right. So, I reached out to my Paris-based friend John Dizard who will be one of the two keynote speakers at the upcoming WPTF meeting in Palm Springs. I asked John if the EU has enough clout to enforce the ban? He said in so many words that the law is unrealistic and will be repealed or delayed. In my opinion, the infrastructure needed to achieve the feat is more than a dozen years away. But, you know, the tenor of the WSI article struck me as more rah-rah than a "big" news story. If the law has more bite than I am imagining, then it should be Front Page stuff. But it's not. It's kind of a big yawn. There's something here that doesn't quite add up.

There's a New Kid on the Block

Well, he's neither a kid nor new, but on YouTube there's a video podcast called <u>Public Power Underground</u> that has been produced and distributed for three years. It was a creative outlet by Paul Dockery when he was working at Clatskanie PUD. He has since changed jobs but remains in public power working at Seattle City Light as Senior Manager of Energy Resource Strategy & Planning. During the pandemic some

Catch Some Z's

Continued

It is a good thing we celebrated our successes along the way because there were many more painfully long meetings ahead. Soon after the ISO was incorporated, I was one of the first employees. We hired hundreds of mostly ex-utility staff just as eager as the start-up team to make sure the ISO remained a solid industry leader.

As I look back on the accomplishments, the risk was worth it as we were able to obtain state, federal and utility certification and completed the implementation in record time. I think I speak for the entire start-up team when I say this was the most memorable time in our careers. It was a true honor to be part of this incredible group of committed tireless advocates for competitive markets. Sacrifices were made and our families deserve a lot of credit for supporting us through this remarkable period.

The ISO proved to be mostly what I dreamed and hoped it would become. I say "mostly" because it seems that the ISO is still struggling with its identity and trying to establish what and who they are. Are they a state agency? Are they independent or are they a fully regulated federal entity, destined to be a regional organization?

Despite the identity question, this objective was accomplished. So, congratulations to the ISO on a job well done!

colleagues and he combined their talents to highlight news items and topics of mutual interest. The videos are considered suitable for work and therefore viewers cannot be labeled as slackers or something like that if they are on the clock while enjoying the show.

I watched a few clips and loved the look and feel of the content. Sometimes a guest host has been featured in an episode and other times there were interviews conducted by various individuals. The approach was slightly breezy and informal, which I liked. It's both entertaining and informative ... sound familiar?

Viewership has not been overwhelming. The number of hits on the video podcasts typically have been between 90 and 130. A shame, because the material merits attention and broaches topics that go well beyond public power issues.

Potluck with **Laura Manz** ...

"A few warm evenings in San Diego have launched impromptu backyard get-togethers. A fast and fun portable appetizer such as Cheese Bites can stand its ground among other delicious treats and snacks. Add your favorite beverage and let the party begin."

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Bring a sheet of puff pastry to room temperature; flatten on a floured working surface. Using a small cookie cutter or shot glass, cut shapes from half of the pastry dough. Place shapes on a parchment-lined baking sheet and sprinkle with 1/3 cup of shredded parmesan cheese. Cut equal amounts of dough shapes and layer on top of the cheese. Brush with 1 beaten egg. Add 2 more Tbsp. of parmesan that can be seasoned with minced herbs, such as chives. Top with a sprinkle of sea salt. Bake at 350° for 10-12 minutes until browned and puffy.

Thanks, Laura. As always, you make it sound so easy. I get nervous when it comes to baking anything and more so when puff pastry is involved. Many years ago, I used to prepare a baked salmon and sliced truffle dish covered in pastry dough. It was a lot of work but the guests loved it.

Here is your puffery for this week:

>>> Things in the West
@@@ FERC Approves a Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP)

>>> Odds & Ends (_!_)

>>> Things in the West
@@@ FERC Approves a Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP)

In stunning fashion, last Friday FERC approved the Western Power Pool's (WPP) Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP) tariff filing. FERC underscored the importance and potential benefits of a regional program and the enhanced reliability and resource adequacy that WRAP would bring. Per the order, "Through increased coordination, we find that the WRAP has the potential to enhance resource adequacy planning, provide for the benchmarking of resource adequacy standards, and more effectively encourage the use of western regional resource diversity compared to the status quo."

In December and January, WPP received formal commitments from 20 entities anxious to move forward with the WRAP.

I contacted WPP CEO and President, Sarah Edmunds, to discuss the implications of the order and how things will progress going forward for WRAP. The summary of our chat, below, is my recollection of her comments in my words, not hers. There are no quotes per se, and any errors or omissions are mine. However, let me say at the outset that in my opinion WRAP does two things: First, on the clearly positive side, it establishes regional resource adequacy requirements and counting rules, specifies resource adequacy responsibilities in

the operating time frame, and provides a mechanism to true-up and settle resource adequacy obligations bilaterally. Secondly, it may introduce some complexities with the clearing of day-ahead markets being developed by the CAISO, SPP, and with participants in WRAP that do not transact in any organized wholesale market. In addition, the proposal's firm transmission requirements to ensure that resources are deliverable to loads may be difficult for some participants to satisfy. Presumably, these issues will be addressed as regional energy and other markets evolve and implementation proceeds.

Sarah shared her team's enthusiastic reception to FERC's clean order. Unbeknownst to the WPP staff, the new tariff provides program funding from participants retroactive as of January 1, 2023. There are several important steps that need to be undertaken. For example, the governance format now approved must be filled by the board members identified and vetted last year. Also, the first "binding season" for participants can occur anytime between now and 2028. Sarah thought that it would be unlikely that startup would happen this year, and 2024 is a possibility, but much must be done before then. So, a reasonable expectation would be 2025.

In terms of the FERC directive regarding bi-lateral party settlements and whether individual participants have blanket market-based rate authority, it was affirmed that FERC will determine on a case-by-case basis for each

party whether market-based rates are deemed just and reasonable. Being a WRAP participant does not mean automatically that the prices are within that realm. The settlement process will use a formula for determining the energy prices that result from the capacity exchanges. Here is the language directly from the Order: "We recognize the concerns that existing restrictions on a Participant's market-based rate authority have the potential to interfere with its ability to transact at the WRAP Tariff-specified rates, but stress that any such Participant may submit a filing under FPA section 205 to seek new market-based rate authorization with appropriate mitigation or propose to amend its current market-based rate tariff to include tailored mitigation for the Commission to consider. Such Participantproposed mitigation could include making Energy

`... and, what we should do:

- 1. Believe in ourselves.
- 2. Encourage creation of independent, multi-state regional transmission organizations that coordinate policies with respective state utility commissions.
- Support rules for resource adequacy that applies uniformly among all loadserving entities.
- 4. Enforce competitive solicitations by utilities for purchasing either thermal or renewable power.

Deployment transactions under the WRAP using the WRAP Total Settlement Price as a non-cost-based mitigation. In addition, sellers whose ability to make sales pursuant to the WRAP Tariff that might be affected by the Commission's affiliate restrictions rules may request waiver of those restrictions for the Commission's consideration."

The first post-order public webinar will be held on Friday, February 24. The information has been posted on WPP's website.

I did one more thing following my call with Sarah. I contact WPTF's Wider West Committee consultant Caitlin Liotiris to find out what she's heard from folks outside of California about the FERC Order on WRAP. She told me it was all positive reactions because the region needs more RA coordination and transparency. Caitlin expected some pushback from individual state commissions not wanting to cede authority for utility procurement of RA but that hasn't happened. Possibly the regional states recognize that the issue of resource adequacy is larger than any one jurisdiction. Some states even appear interested in accelerating implementation. The need for a framework to rationalize reliability-related procurement is compelling.

The first letter is from Bob Anderson and a long one at that on the theme of Acts of God: "The movement of tectonic plates not only created a physical outcome it also reverberated into humanity's rhythm of 7 billion people going about their individual lives. It will offer all of us the opportunity to react whether it is the father on the front page of the <u>WSI</u>, a Syrian immigrant to the United States who just lost a loved one, or a nobody like me teaching my third grader's Sunday school class in the coming weeks.

"These moments of tragedy are the less nuanced shifts our God introduces into our lives daily to offer us ways to lift our mortal activities and enrich our souls such that we can understand his deeper movements through this broken world. As I sat stunned looking at the detail of that Syrian father's anguish in holding his daughter's dead hand looking off into who knows what I did recall growing up near the shores of Lake Superior. We grew up hearing the stories from the docks of the dangers of Lake Superior and then Gordon Lightfoot wrote his "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" with his famous line 'Where does the love of God go when'.

"We believe that even in cases such as these 21,000 + deaths we are being given an opportunity to break the desensitized trap of daily life and reengage in a deeper more meaningful way with the magnificent gift of life each of us has been given. If we can do that even 5% better in the years to come, then it would enable us to compound that interest in a stunning way before we are called home.

"So yes it can be both."

Thanks, Bob. I was very touched by your reference to Gordon Lightfoot. That song resonates in my memory.

Phil Muller had his gastric juices running rampant after reading last week's Burrito. Here are a few of his thoughts: "Let's start with your God question. While it couldn't be both, it could certainly be neither. I don't understand why it is necessary to invent some supreme being to be in charge of everything, particularly if it's a supreme being that is so insecure and banal that it encourages its followers to punish or kill people who have a different description of its identity than provided to the followers. How about this: the earth's crust moves the way it does because that's the way the earth is structured and explained by science, no divine intervention required. And perhaps people come to the aid of others and provide support because they are fellow humans and empathy is a reasonable and appropriate result of evolution.

"I also must take exception to your characterization of GIDAP and interconnection costs. As I understand it, interconnecting generators are responsible only for the interconnection facilities needed to connect to the grid. Any network upgrades, up to some reasonable limit for reliability network upgrades, are financed by the applicant and repaid by the transmission owner over several (I think 5) years once the facilities are in service. Considering that about 10% of all generator interconnection applications actually come to fruition, there are a lot of factors that impact project viability. If interconnection costs make the project uneconomic, that's a design problem and does not justify further subsidies of the projects. One interesting exception to this mechanism is the CAISO's new Subscriber PTO proposal, which would allow transmission projects to deliver renewable generation from new out of state resources to CA without increasing the TAC and without selecting a specific project through TPP. The cost of the transmission is paid by subscribers instead and only subject to 'reimbursement' from the parties that buy the transmitted energy. This is the business model of the proposed TransWest Express project to deliver wind generation from Wyoming.

"Then there's a clarification of the natural gas decommissioning issue. The decommissioning framework if focused on shutting down portions of the gas <u>distribution</u> system, primarily fairly small-scale areas that might be able to be electrified and decarbonized at a cost competitive to the cost of upgrading the system. There are currently at least two specific areas where this is under consideration, Santa Nella and CSU Monterey. It

appears that full electrification, including replacement of BTM gas appliances, is comparable in cost to upgrading the gas distribution in the area.

"Finally, regarding the plant developed by Net Power, the La Porte project is a 50 MW prototype. The 300 MW utility-scale project has a projected in service date of 2026. It will be located in the Permian basin and the CO2 will be used to support enhanced oil recovery. Hence the participation of Baker Hughes, Oxy and Constellation. Those participants suggest that it may be a viable way to build new gas-fired generation that would be more cost-effective than adding carbon capture to existing CCGT plants, which would have the same CO2 storage problems. The technology appears to have a heat rate in the 8 range, which ain't bad."

I agree, Phil, with all your points and complaints except for human evolution injecting a greater sense of empathy and pathos. If anything, then it seems like the opposite is happening day to day. At my alma mater this week several students were murdered by a random killer who then took his own life. Tell me where evolution stands on that and the many other murderous rampages that take place? As for the GIDAP recompense, I'd like to hear from some project developers as to whether they would agree that those GIDAP costs are not a financial burden as Phil suggests. Some clarity would be helpful.

>>> Odds & Ends (_!_)

The next WPTF General Meeting will be in Palm Springs on March 2-3, 2023. The place will be the Omni Rancho Las Palmas, and registration is available by clicking here. The two keynote speakers will be Pedro Pizarro, President and CEO of Edison International, and international energy journalist John Dizard.

The hotel is located about 15-20 minutes from the Palm Springs Airport in Rancho Mirage, California. Our resort near Palm Springs offers an ideal escape in the Coachella Valley. Rooms are \$269/night, plus taxes, fees, and assessments (approx. 13.45%). There is also a \$35/night resort charge.

The hotel charges an early departure fee to ensure you have your correct arrival and departure dates. If you need to cancel your hotel reservation, do so 72 hours prior to the arrival date or one night's room and tax will be charged.

Thursday, March 2

WPTF Golf Tournament (8:00 AM shotgun start)

- Separate registration required (\$175 total fee includes golf, cart, and luncheon. Rental shoes and clubs are an additional fee)
- Sponsored by Gregory Klatt, Partner, Douglass, Liddell & Klatt

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.: Hosted Reception

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

- Dinner and Keynote Presentation by Pedro Pizarro, President and CEO of Edison International
- Presentation of the Jackalyne Pfannenstiel Award to Nora Brownell

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.: Dessert Reception

Friday, March 3

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.: Buffet Breakfast

9:15 a.m. – 10 a.m.: Keynote Presentation by John Dizard, Energy Journalist

10:00 a.m. - Noon: Consultants' Roundtable

Noon: Luncheon

1:00 p.m.: Program Concludes



There's a grapefruit margarita with my name on it and I'm ready to imbibe. So, here are your stories:



A young man goes into a hotel bar for a drink and chances upon an attractive woman also at the bar. They share a few drinks and get to know each other.

He learns that she's 57, but says to himself, "I think I'd like to spend the evening with this woman, regardless of her age.

A drink or so later, the woman mischievously asks him if he's ever had a mother-daughter threesome. He gulps and says no. After one more drink, she says, "It's your lucky night. Let's go to my house.

Thinking about the daughter being in her early 30s, the man Is beside himself with excitement. They reach her home, and she opens the front door.

They enter the hallway, and the woman shouts upstairs, "Ma, are you still awake?"

Another Man Walks Into a Bar Story

A man walks into a bar and orders a drink. The bartender gives the man his drink and the man asks "If I show you something crazy, would you let me have free drinks for the rest of the night?"

The bartender thinks for a minute and then says

"It would have to be something spectacular to take that offer."

The man leans down and picks up a box and sets it on the bar.

He opens the box and inside is a small piano man, who is only 1 foot tall, and a little piano. The piano man starts playing classical music like Beethoven and Chopin.

Once he finishes, the bartender is in utter disbelief. He tells the man "You can have free drinks for the rest of the night, but only if you tell where you got this."

The man says "In the alleyway behind your bar, there is a Genie who is granting free wishes to everyone who wants them." Elated, the bartender heads behind his bar to see if it was true.

A few minutes pass and out of the alleyway erupts a cacophony of quacking.

The bartender rushes back into the bar and shuts his door against a wave of thousands of ducks.

He manages to secure the door and says to the man "I think that the Genie is hard of hearing because after I asked for a million bucks, these ducks appeared by the thousands."

The man chuckles and says "Did you really think I wished for a 12-inch pianist?"

That's a wrap and a WRAP and a rap. We'll do it again next week. Have a great weekend.

gba

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