



op/ed

by arthur hancock

**Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the King's horses, and all the King's men
Couldn't put Humpty together again!**

Have you ever wondered why Humpty Dumpty had his great fall, and why he could never be put back together again, even by all the Kings' horses and all the Kings' men? What happened?

Humpty Dumpty started using drugs; in fact, drugs permeated his entire realm, the Sport of Kings. Humpty Dumpty also began a long and cozy association with shady characters and thugs...all types, like rogue gamblers, race fixers, and trainers who used Cobra venom or who had multiple drug convictions and yet still continued to ply their trade. In fact, Humpty Dumpty allowed horses to be saturated with drugs by both scheming and well-meaning veterinarians. This broke the spirit and the backs of his once loyal and enthusiastic owners and fans. Humpty could stand anything because he stood for nothing. Humpty seemed to lose his backbone, his spine and his nerve. He even turned his head as his own once valiant steeds were sent to a cruel and merciless slaughter.

The people slowly turned away from Humpty and his sordid practices and he crumbled and fell off the wall. When that happened, it was too late. Humpty Dumpty was doomed, never to sit on the wall again.

Ahh, but at the Round Table every year, all the King's men met and spun tales of grandeur, but to no avail. They spoke of great deeds and a return to the days of glory, but alas, after the gathering they seemed to be possessed of amnesia, and an entire year would pass until they returned again to sing praises of the glorious deeds they would perform.

And so it is in the Kingdom of Horsedom in the 21st century, in America.

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