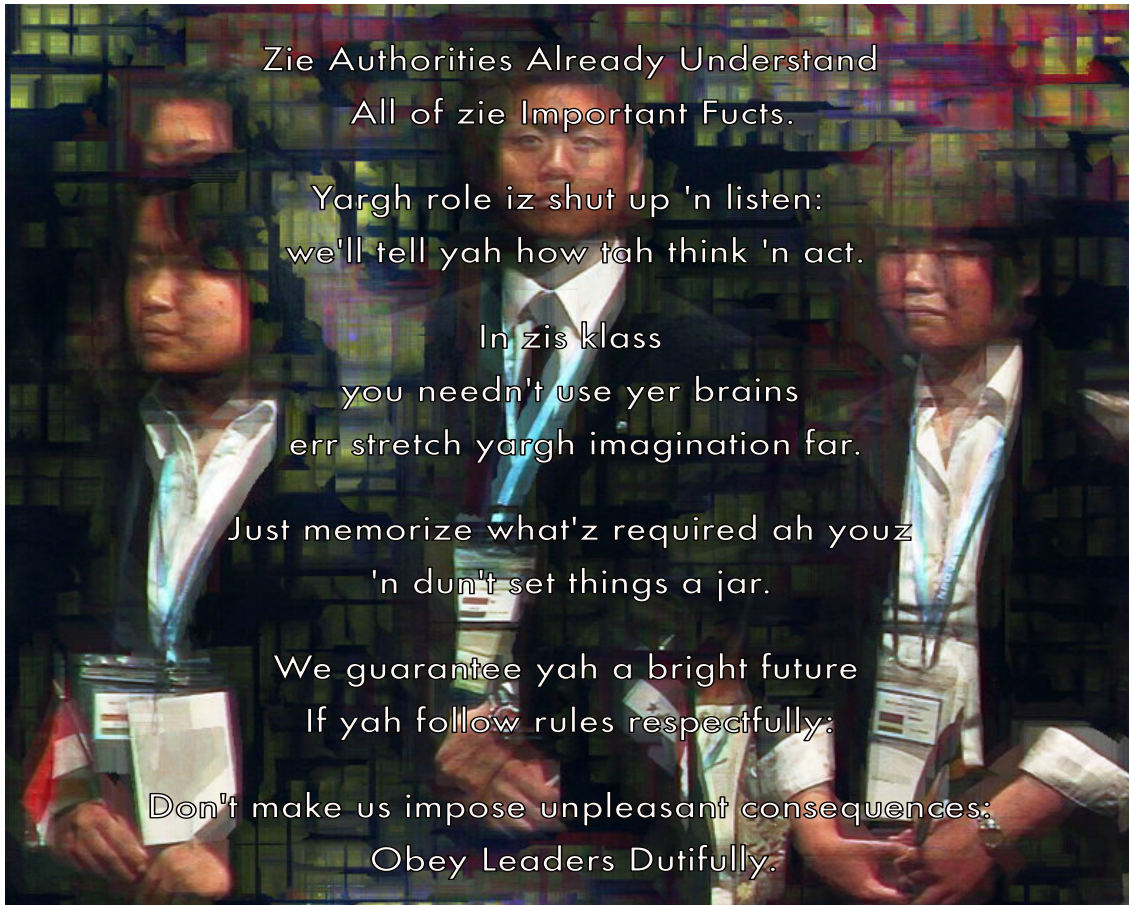


BABBIT'S BABBLE:

Thoughts on education and acquiescence



Melissa : Don't most educational systems involve various degrees of coercion?

Satoru : Yeah. If we have to coerce others to learn, perhaps something is wrong with our teaching.

Melissa : (nodding) Learning should be naturally fun and engaging.

Tim : Perhaps so, but the fact is many students aren't in learning mode. It seems some people need to be prodded. Isn't it naive to assert that education can be always pleasant or engaging?

Satoru : (shaking his head) I'm not sure. There's a good reason to resist what's often called 'learning.' A lot of so-called 'education' is like teaching cows how to become hamburgers. Why should anyone tolerate that?

Liao : Learning things doesn't necessarily mean believing in them. Can't we learn while critically questioning things, and promote change actively? To really change a system, we must first understand it.

- T Newfields

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