

PANIC! AT THE DISCO'S NEW CONSTITUTION

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Foreword

It is the year 2300 as I write this tale. My name is of no importance inasmuch as it suffices to say that these events I am about to relate are true, and I have firsthand knowledge of the geography and history of the land mentioned hereafter: the story of Lucitania.

The nation came about during a war that pitted vices against virtues: the seven deadly sins versus the seven holy virtues. Virtues ultimately won, but how, you ask? At this point in time the year was 2011 when alternative-pop boy band Panic! At the Disco released the album entitled *Vices and Virtues* to settle the quarrel before an all-out war erupted. Those lyrics formed the new Constitution. In Luci-slang it's referred to as simply: V&V.

Panic!'s V&V caused much dispute among soon-to-be Lucitanians and the rest of the world. I will pause here in my retelling of history to explain that Lucitania is an island in the tropics of the Caribbean and off the coast of what used to be called Florida before World War Epic took place in 2010. The first three World Wars combined (including the much debated World War Z) were nothing compared to this final, lasting war that devastated the Americas and laid waste to both Europe and Asia. Antarctica and Australia also did not hold a chance against impending annihilation. It was up to Africa, now, to salvage what was left. However, since Africa was too busy trying to maintain its citizens' well-being to provide financial aid, let alone resources to reimburse those suffering – that's where Panic! stepped in. Together, the men composed an album that served as the basis of the new laws of the land. Each song symbolizes one of the facets of their Constitution. I will devote some time to each song and, therefore, each tenet of their beliefs on which the political system of *Capita* operates. It is neither capitalism, socialism, communism, fascism, nor Marxism, nor is the form of government a totalitarian, republic, or democracy. Rather it is a new entity altogether, previously undefined until the year 2011. And the most important facet: it is completely devoid of currency.

The Constitution

(line numbers correspond to lyrics, so it may be helpful to have them in hand as you read)

Chapter 1: "The Ballad of Mona Lisa": Greed vs. Charity

Article 1, Section 1, Line 6 suggests that the vice of greed has been eradicated through the demolition of currency. With no monetary value to assign to arbitrary items, citizens are content with what they have. Trade occurs only when items are necessary, and since all necessities are available to all who need them, there is no need for envy of others' possessions.

Chapter 2: "Let's Kill Tonight": Pride vs. Humility

In Article 1, Section 2, Lines 5 and 10, we see that the virtue of humility has replaced pride. This is because the inhabitants of Lucitania see no reason to regard themselves as superior or inferior to others, for they believe that every human life is worthy of respect.

Chapter 3: "Hurricane": Lust vs. Chastity

In Article 1, Section 3, Lines 5-8, it is proven that all forms of promiscuity have been abandoned. Contrary to what this portion of the Constitution appears to be advocating, its later lines demonstrate the repercussions of such lascivious acts in lines 15, 16, and 18: emotional distance through exploitation brought about by casual romantic encounters.

Chapter 4: "Trade Mistakes": Envy vs. Kindness

Much like Greek mythology used fictitious anecdotes and symbolism to portray humanity's reality versus the ideal in order to prove a moral, so do these lyrics-turned-Constitution-lines. In Article 1, Section 4, Lines 6-11, it is clear that the man in the story is aware of his wrongs, but in order to correct them, he needs to accept others as well as himself. He needs to forgive the woman for whom he feels jealousy.



Chapter 5: "Ready to Go (Get Me Out of My Mind)": Sloth vs. Diligence

Article 1, Section 5, Lines 5-11 demonstrate repentance. The protagonist is aware of his slovenly ways and is now ready to make something of his life. He repeats throughout the chapter that he is "ready to go," or ready to act and take full responsibility for his actions. He will no longer, as the ancient phrase goes, be a "lazy couch potato."

Chapter 6: "Sarah Smiles": Wrath vs. Patience

In Article 1, Section 6, anger is a sign of weakness. The man is impatient at the fact that the woman he loves, Sarah, will not return his feelings. This negative emotion manifests itself in fits of anger and a sarcastic frame of mind as shown in phrases like, "I don't mind; take your time" because Sarah is "killing me." This cowardly, destructive vice could be better mitigated through careful patience.

Chapter 7: "Nearly Witches (Ever Since We Met...)": Gluttony vs. Temperance

Article 1, Section 7 is a direct drug reference. Not only is it an outlawed artificial means to euphoria, but also a means to gluttonous acts. Among these are alcohol abuse, binge eating, and any situation where one feels that he must engage in overindulgence. Temperance is the natural enemy and remedy to these deadly sins, and all these acts are known only as mere mythological practices of the past.

Closing Remarks

The paradisiac nation of Lucitania is truly a utopia. It is, to the best of my knowledge, the only genuine one that exists or has ever existed. Through a delicate balance of vice and virtue, always striving for the upholding of morality at all costs amidst the Capita workforce system, and with a revolutionary integration of "smart" robotics, citizens experience a full and blossoming lifestyle that is unparalleled to any seen before the year 2010.

May Lucitania live long and prosper!

Onalizabeth Jules, International Relations Ambassador

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The Nation of Lucitania