

THE RESTRUCTURING OF AMERICA : A Futurist Projection - William Merwin

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(1991, Clarity)

I'd like to begin by making it clear that I'm not a member or supporter of Third Way. I am, however, an enthusiastic reader of alternate worlds and alternate futures science-fiction - and I believe that this book~~xxxx~~ features an interesting scenario, explained in its title.

Imagine an America in the year 2016-an oil crisis has led to a 20% cut in oil supplies and another depression. This makes conditions in the black ghettos even worse-and sees a big rise in crime, rioting, and terrorism, with whites being driven from their homes by organised black mobs. Charismatic Black politician King Dillon calls for all Blacks to move into the Deep South and establish Black majority Governments in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina.

At the same time, a white backlash leads to the election as President of a charismatic ex-football player, the conservative Senator Andrew Camp a man who's deeply concerned about the threats to the American way of life from~~xxxx~~ both the Black underclass in the ghetto, communities distinguished by crime, illegitimate births, and welfare, and immigration- especially illegal- by Hispanics who can't and in some cases won't speak English.

Interestingly, demographic and ghetto considerations have led to America's

Conservatives supporting abortion; and, predictably, efforts to control immigration haven't worked. Camp favours cracking down on immigration, expelling illegal immigrants, making English the sole official language,

and taking drastic action to restore law and order.

At the same time, a Hispanic separatist movement in the South West led by another charismatic politician, Manuel Rivera, rises to prominence,

Camp's election is followed by martial law in America's terror-torn cities and blacks moving down South en masse; the eventual result is near-Civil War and an independent New Africa consisting of the five Deep South states - a state with a tough policy on law and order (e.g. the death penalty for drug dealing), a ban on private gun ownership, high taxation, and Israeli-style kibbutzim called "communes" - near-Socialism, in fact. This follows

on the North's backing off from invading the South after being faced with the prospect of a Civil War against organised black militai . As similar movement on a lesser scale sees a separate autonomous Quebec-style regime being established in Hispanic areas of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas - with equal language status for Spanish, liberal economic policies, and, intriguingly, strict control over immigration into this Hispanic Autonomous Region - and, indeed, tough immigration barriers between the USA and the both the HAR and New Africa. By 2023, after the proverbial dust has cleared, New Africa's only 28% White and the USA only 7% Black - and falling in each case. New Africa has high morale and low living standards, to put it crudely. The USA has less welfare recipients and less crime - things are still uncertain in the HAR and Florida, but everybody's happy, so to speak, in the first two''

Richard Lamm, ex-Governor of California, said of this book "Like 1984... does not predict, but it ~~warns~~ warns....integrate or Nalkanize". Mr. Lamm is probably one of those totalitarian-minded so-called liberals who favours forced integration; as a Right-wing libertarian, I believe that integration should be left to the free market. Leaving this aside - is Merwin's scenario either possible or desirable? There are certainly separatist movements among Blacks and Hispanics in America - for instance, the Black Muslims - and, on the Right, fanatic racist terrorist Bob Matthews called on all whites of his persuasion to move to the North West and eventually found a breakaway white state (hardly anyone did) and there does exist the minor Southern National Party, which campaigns for the restoration of the Confederacy. Furthermore, voting patterns, especially in the South, show the majority of whites voting for conservatives and blacks voting for liberals;.

Personally, I find this scenario highly improbable - but, with the rise of multi-culturalism and the totalitarian doctrine of Political Correctness, who knows? Perhaps a backlash against these things might fuel the fires of the separatists. Either way, I recommend this book and believe that somebody should "flesh it out" into a full-fledged novel.