

CASSIDY, Jack - Winning at Pocker and Games of Chance, West Coast Poetry Review, 1335 Dartmouth Drive, Reno, Nevada 89509, 1977.

It's the modern consumer mind - compete to eat, save to the grave, throw to the wind to win! Never the game that's important - it's the beer, the fag. . . and if you're broke it's just the "odds" to turn you on. "Socrates didn't play dice games. He drank a lot. And when he was drunk he would go watch the game and give advice. It was because of bad advice that he was eventually sentenced to death. . . Back then it was more fun. Nobody knew anything about odds. It was just put down your money, you toss the dice, you laugh, you take another drink." - to Cassidy, it's knowing the odds that's put everybody on pot.

Kack Cassidy's Winning at Pocker and Games of Chance lampoons the illogic logic of modern "instructed" man. It is a disturbingly funny caricature of a nonsensical consumer's mind trying to rationalize the game of life, and what comes out is "hash" - not meat and potatoes. The book is high philosophical slapstick comedy à la Charlie Chaplin on paper in today's scene. To Cassidy, consumer thinking has made intellectual nitwits of us. We're always explaining in detail about what we don't have the slightest real understanding of, but we go on and on like automats spitting out words and words which in the long run make no sense to ourselves and much less to the other poor broken down human calculating machines - especially when we try to give logic to our illogical vices and fears.

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