

4/28/18

The following pieces were written during the summer of 2016 as a coping mechanism for the election. Because of this, they're a bad reflection of how things shook out. For one thing, I underestimated Trump's intelligence. Secondly, I didn't realize the systemic issues of a Trump presidency. Trump is very much a symptom of cultural and political rifts in the country.

Anyone writing about Trump and his administration, would not write about Trump. He is the least important thing. Like all authoritarian leaders, the real story is the systems and individuals who legitimate him. It is a story of what it means to be a White Straight Man in America, and how Trump's bad behavior reveals the shittiness we allow to exist in our society.

Because of this, as much as these two scripts are politically motivated, it is more fruitful to view them as somewhat out-of-date character studies. When they were created, Trump *the character* was what I was interested in. I feel that remains the strongest aspect going in.

It feels defensive trying to justify a relatively inoffensive couple of screenplays. But it also feels important that, if art is about spreading your ideas, you complicate or clarify those ideas as they have evolved. I trust people to make up their own minds.

All the best,

Taylor