As the lead pilot of Air Force One, I had several encounters with the most wealthy and prominent people in the world. Most people, I'm sure, get the impression that the president of the USA is a snooty, hostile person. I had the same impression until I met and engaged with several of them in person. In particular, Trump. When I first learned that Trump had won the election, I began to caricature him. I could see that he wasn't your average president. He was a wealthy and ambitious politician and the incoming president of the United States. He had it all, including fortune and celebrity. There was a lot of it. This was the mental image I had created.

We met for the first time when we were transporting him to Afghanistan. As was customary, I was a bit anxious when I met my new passenger president. As I was preparing for the trip in the cockpit, I saw the beast coming. This is it; the orange dude is sprinting up those stairs as if he's twenty. He flips around and offers a wave as he gets onto the airplane. Nothing is going to happen.

I get this sensation of relief as I exit the cockpit to welcome my newest contentious, politically incorrect customer. He grins and extends a solid handshake to meet me. We begin conversing, and he explains that he never intended to run for the presidency; it was more for fun, but Mrs. Clinton did not visit Wisconsin, and therefore he will have to stay until he gets better employment. We all began to laugh. This gentleman is amusing. We discuss our family and our hometown of New York. He is a devoted family man.

Wow! I think to myself.He is not quite as arrogant as I imagined. Even so, he matches the description to a tee. He sat up and listened to what I had to say. This is not at all what I anticipated. I'm rather taken with him. I'm also a bit disappointed in myself for leaping to judgment without visiting him first. I'm rather taken with my new companion, and then I accelerate to full speed, and we're on our way to Afghanistan to show them who's boss.