Mark Smith

2nd Year Non-Resident Head

DENNIS: We're an anarchosyndicalist commune. We take it in turns to act as a sort of executive officer for the week.  
ARTHUR: Yes.  
DENNIS: But all the decision of that officer have to be ratified at a special biweekly meeting.  
ARTHUR: Yes, I see.  
DENNIS: By a simple majority in the case of purely internal affairs--  
ARTHUR: Be quiet!  
DENNIS: --but by a two-thirds majority in the case of more--  
ARTHUR: Be quiet! I order you to be quiet!  
WOMAN: Order, eh -- who does he think he is?  
ARTHUR: I am your king!  
WOMAN: Well, I didn't vote for you.  
ARTHUR: You don't vote for kings.  
WOMAN: Well, 'ow did you become king then?  
ARTHUR: The Lady of the Lake, her arm clad in the purest shimmering samite, held aloft Excalibur from the bosom of the water signifying by Divine Providence that I, Arthur was to carry Excalibur.   
That is why I am your king!  
DENNIS: Listen -- strange women lying in ponds distributing swords is no basis for a system of government. Supreme executive power derives from a mandate from the masses, not from some farcical aquatic ceremony.  
…  
DENNIS: Well you can't expect to wield supreme executive power just 'cause some watery tart threw a sword at you!  
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DENNIS: I mean, if I went around sayin' I was an empereror just because some moistened bint had lobbed a scimitar at me they'd put me away![[1]](#footnote-1)

1. 1. Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, Adventure, Comedy, Fantasy, (1975).

   [↑](#footnote-ref-1)