

Is Trump a Modern-Day Caligula?

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GUALFIN, ARGENTINA – Yesterday, stocks fell.

And volatility shot up.

Reports Bloomberg:

The Dow Jones Industrial Average tumbled more than 370 points, Treasuries rallied the most since July and volatility spiked higher as the turmoil surrounding the Trump administration roiled financial markets around the globe.

Major U.S. stock indexes tumbled the most in eight months, while the CBOE Volatility Index [which measures investors' expectations of price swings on the S&P 500] jumped the most since the U.K. voted to leave the European Union in June, shattering the calm that gripped markets in the past month as the crisis threatened to derail the policy agenda and helped push equities to records as recently as Monday.

The few speculators who took [our suggestion last Friday to buy the VIX](#) – a bet that volatility would go up – should have done well. (More on that below in today's Market Insight.)

Recommended Link



[Forget the Financial News: Watch This Instead](#)

Chris Mayer has reverse-engineered a blueprint for finding stocks with the potential to return 100-to-1 – to prove it, he'll give away the names of 6 stocks to watch so you can see how effective the formula is with your own eyes. [Register for next Thursday's FREE event now.](#)

On the Warpath

Yesterday, news broke that President Trump's deputy attorney general, Rod Rosenstein, has appointed former FBI chief James Comey to lead an investigation into possible ties between the Trump campaign and the Russians.

And with it, the risk of internecine warfare within the Deep State has increased.

Some factions – the ones that wear Armani suits from Manhattan or gold braid from Northern Virginia – back the commander in chief.

Other insiders – notably the fake-news media, the universities, and the D.C. establishment – have left the reservation and are on the warpath against the Great White Father in Washington.

How will it turn out?

It's too bad Mr. Trump does not read history. He might get some good ideas. Or some bad ones.

About what to expect at this stage of the empire's decline. At least, he might brighten up his conversation with historical references and wink when he pulls our leg, just to let us in on the joke.

The president is charged with chatting with the former FBI director about ongoing investigations. Maybe he even suggests

sotto voce, that it might be good for Mr. Comey's career if he eased up on the investigation of Trump's former national security adviser, Mike Flynn.

These things hardly seem newsworthy, let alone impeachment worthy. Most people yawn and turn the channel to WWE wrestling.

It's more entertaining. And more authentic.

Lunacy... and Pizzazz

At this late, degenerate period of an empire's development, we need more pizzazz... more lunacy... and more sex.

The president might better turn the Capitol into a brothel, for example. He might declare his horse a priest. Or our favorite might put on that mischievous smile of his and tell us he is to be worshiped... not kicked around like an empty can.

"Neos Helios" (the new sun), he should call himself; at least Latin scholars and Roman-era history buffs would get a good laugh.

Roman Emperor Caligula was accused of all these things.

And as his story shows, as an empire matures and degrades, you need more colorful... and more grotesque... crimes and misdemeanors to keep up with it.

The old rules and virtues that made it so successful are forgotten.

Elbows come out... then knives. More and more power ends up in the hands of the chief executive... who often ends up with a knife in his back.

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America's "Shadow President"—and how he's getting rich(er) [not who you might think]

Billionaire Peter Thiel has been spotted in Trump's "NY White House" and has even been called the "Shadow President" for the influence he wields. He is a heavy backer of [a new type of currency](#) that's already making some people very rich. This is an opportunity for the average guy to generate "small fortunes," writes *The Economist*.

\$24,955,415,087 have left traditional currencies and gone into this new type of currency. We've spoken with dozens of people about this phenomenon... including the world's top investor in this space and members of the "Fed." Click [here](#) for the full story.

Poor Caligula

Poor Caligula.

Rome had been a republic with democratic traditions that stretched back hundreds of years. But after Julius Caesar and a 20-year civil war, the old system was gone.

Caligula rose to the purple after his granduncle Tiberius died... and after most of his own family had been murdered.

At first, he seemed like a good man for the job. Young, attractive... with an easy familiarity with the army. But then, the emperor fell ill. He recovered. But he started acting funny. Erratic. Strange. Unreliable.

Dangerous.

He began having members of his own family exiled or executed. He spent lavishly, running through the fortune left to him by his father Tiberius in just a few years. Then he took vanity to a whole new level by appearing in public dressed as Hercules or Apollo.

Roman historian Suetonius tells us that Caligula quarreled with the senate, started wars that made no sense, and slept with his sisters.

Finally, the insiders had had enough. After he announced he intended to move to Egypt and be worshiped as a living god, members of the Praetorian Guard – an elite unit of the Imperial Roman Army – stabbed Caligula to death.

They killed the First Lady and the First Daughter, too, for good measure.

Then they found their Mike Pence – Caligula's uncle Claudius – hiding behind a curtain.

And they made him emperor.

Tomorrow... how the *originarios* intend to steal our ranch... and how your editor intends to stop them...

Regards,