

Life As Poker: A Practical Guide

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Photo by: Aditya Chinchurea

„The philosopher is not a physician: his job is **not to cure individuals but to **comprehend the world** in which they live – **to understand it** in terms of what it has done to man, and what it can do to man.”**

- One Dimensional Man, Herbert Marcuse



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Table of Contents

One Bourbon Jimmy and Make It Fast	4
The Emergence of the Third Class	5
The Overlooked Layer	6
The Three Class Division	8
Shuffling the Deck	10
Is the Fourth Class Even Possible?	11
The Symbolism on the Green Canvas	12
The Importance of Cards	13
The Importance of Chips	14
Who is the Dealer?	15
Don't Let the Change Slip By	16
Royal Flush	17
How to Get the Best Cards in Life	18
Third Class and How to Handle Yourself	19
Keep Your Rifle By Your Side (discuss with the casino management first)	20

One Bourbon Jimmy and Make It Quick

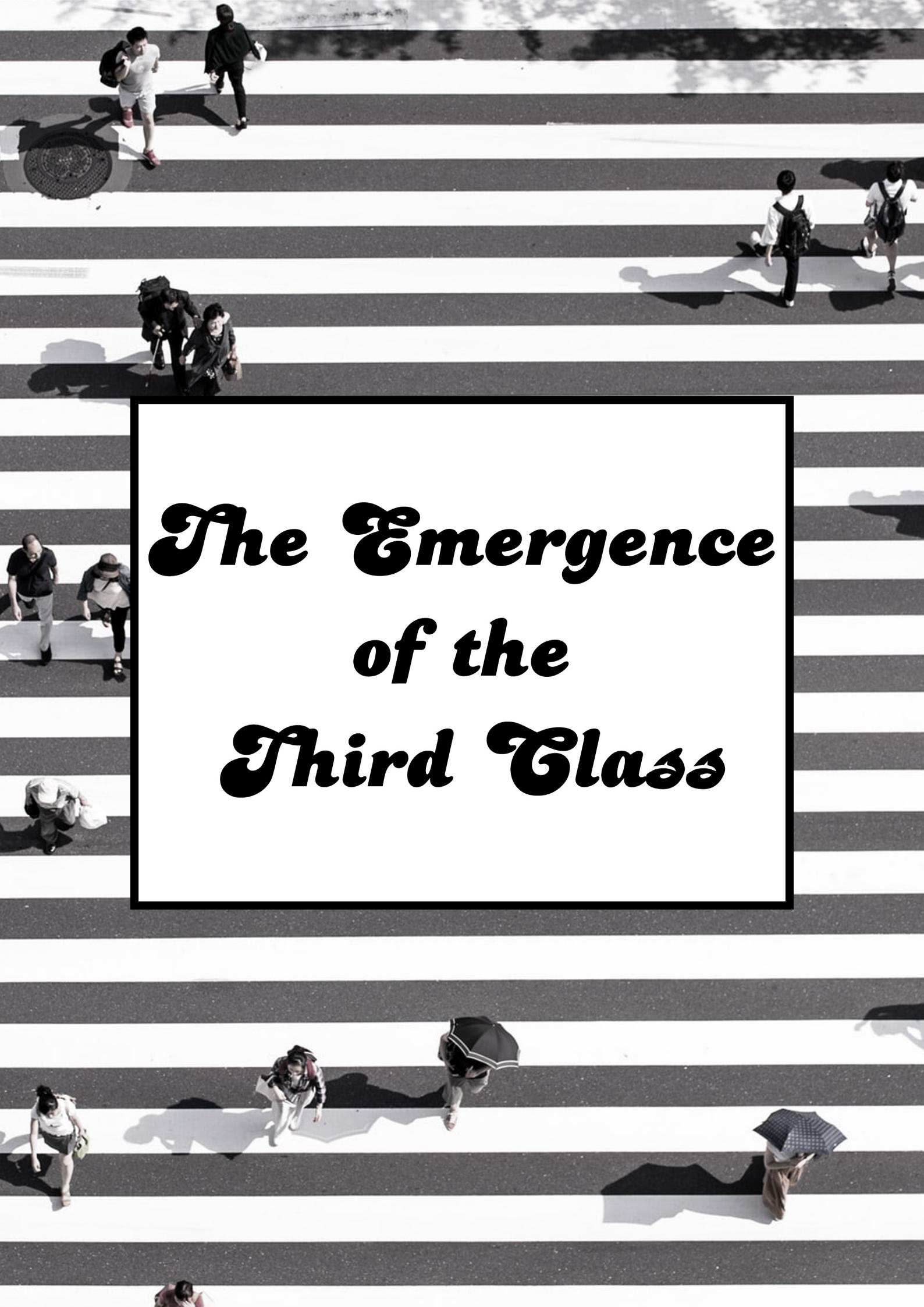
The question of life is a hard nut to crack. But I am of the opinion that many complex things do require some simple explanation: perhaps one that doesn't encapsulate every single aspect of the problem but at least tries to simplify the entire thing into a functioning whole. Into a simple idea. And I don't think anybody has ever done that with life. Well, this is my attempt.

Poker is a game known around the world. I don't think I have to bother with trying to explain the rules or perhaps telling you what the game is about. Many will say it's a game of luck and I will agree and some will say it's a game of skill and I can't disagree with that too. Poker truly has both aspects of luck and of skill, of pure chance and of just not getting the right set of cards.

And that has solidified my belief that poker is very similar to life. Or at least the basic idea of it. And that was the birth of *Life Like Poker: A Practical Guide* and my simple explanation of what many dare to say is life itself. With the book I will try to analyze the similarities and with that explain what you should and should not do in order to "win" or at least have a good time.

Don't expect to be rich or know how precisely to win at life after reading this. I am not like one of those charlatans who sell you motivational texts that hold no truth to them. If you are reading this with the intent of learning the ins and outs of life, then close the book right now because you will be disappointed. This book is a mere suggestion of how life can be looked at and as I mentioned my attempt at a simplification of life and the analysis of basic poker game mechanics and the application of the mentioned mechanics or better said rules to the real life.

I hope you can understand what I am trying to achieve as it is crucial you do in order to fully understand the book. I hope you can understand my motivation behind writing such work. And if you do, then may I suggest ordering a quick bourbon on the rocks to get you started and to take a seat at the big boy's table. The game is on, the cards are given and the chips are down. There is no turning back now.



The Emergence of the Third Class

The Overlooked Layer

Many theories about mainly life consider the possibility that humans can be divided into two classes. Whether it's the explanation provided by Nietzsche's master and slave theory or the Marxist views of the oppressors and oppressed there seems to be a dynamic created where one class is the "winning" one and the other is the "loosing" one. This dynamic does work and indeed there is proof all around the world that the world can be defined as this, I would like to define another class: the "spectators".

When you look at the poker table, there are essentially three types of people: the players, the winners and the spectators. While for some it might be only important to focus on the winner, figuring out their tactics and how are they so good at their craft, others might be interested in the players. The players are the other people at the table that currently are participating in the game but don't seem to be in the long-term benefit from it. If we take away the thrill of the game or some adrenaline pump, therefore we look at the game only through the lenses of rules, we can say the players are sort of passive. They are either loosing or not winning or losing. As for the winners, these people seem to have the upper hand when it comes to the game itself: they are stacking chips and ladies and there seems to be no stop to it. Whether it is from sheer luck or maybe skill is unimportant: the part that should be given attention is their current position in the game itself. But then you have the spectators.

Now the spectators are the interesting group here. They can tell what is happening since they can see the entire table. They observe and calculate or bet who will win based on some logic or just pure emotion. Most of the conversation happens in these literal "outskirts" of the table. Most of the people would say they are not part of the game itself but I dare to argue.

If we assume that the people who come to the casino know how poker works, we can safely assume that the people if they wanted to could become players at any time. They can play and either win or lose, they can get into the game because they have all the skills required. The spectators however make the choice of not attending: rather they keep their distance and watch. But they are just as interested in the game as the players at the table. This is the third class.

In the world there exists a class which is not under any rules but does not have any direct power. We will give these people concrete terms which we will use in the book in the next chapter (I actually started developing this theory in Works 2019) but just note the position they are in. The rules of the games don't apply to them because these people are not players, so they are free to do anything but they don't have any direct influence on the game of poker. They can't bet, fold or do anything and their conversations don't directly affect the game as it is. Transform this into a modern society and suddenly you can recognize these people every day.

Everybody who doesn't play by the exact rules of the society and at the same time doesn't have any real power is this third class. I would argue that the third class is one of the freest classes there is in the society as they are the loophole of the system. While the players play the game and the winners win at the game, achieving certain results, these people are again just there. The silent observers.

This class also has a choice. It can leave and come back to the table at any time. They can play the game but then they are under the jurisdiction of the table itself. They have to obey certain laws, certain rules and if they don't they can't participate. However, they don't have to do this and still be free but have no power. But at the same time, the laws and rules that apply to us, don't directly apply to them. They are there for themselves and themselves only and the only rules that the people have are their own. That is the life of a free man and woman.

And I would dare to say that in the modern the world this dynamic is getting destroyed. I would dare to even claim that this is not some "effect" of some other factor but direct and aggressive erasure of the third class from the modern society. Whether we are talking about a new law or technological improvement, to list a few of the killers, the third class is getting erased by these factors and it's on purpose.

The comfort of the game itself lies in the rules, which makes the game in turn efficient. The players know what to believe, what to do and most importantly what they should believe and therefore what boundaries are there. The players know this and this is why most of them decide to participate. If we take poker again

as an example, if poker has no rules and it was just that the dealer throws the chips on the table and says "Who gets all the money wins" the game would not be so attractive to many players. There would be an utter chaos and nobody would really know what to do and therefore the players who are obsessed with rules would have a hard time actually competing.

We have stated that this makes the game efficient and the same is true for a society. The fact that we have rules in place makes the society efficient because everybody knows his or her part of what needs to be done. But with this, the spectators become inefficient. They do not care for any rules because they don't want to play.

In the game of poker nobody cares how much spectators you have but in the real life you do. If you have a large mob of people who are not bound to any rules it makes the society inefficient. Therefore, it seems that the removal of such people would mean a great benefit to the most of us. But this can't be stated as a mere fact. Think about it, if we were to erase the third class, the dynamic of rulers and ruled would be dominant: you would either rule or be ruled by someone. There would be no choice to exist the game or not to take part in it as that would be an act that goes against the society. And we are seeing the rise of such society.

There always must be an option to exit and live without the society, there always must be a choice to be free if you are willing to suffer for it. Don't however consider your rights as you being free: if your rights interfere with the hedonistic society and its "efficiency", they will be swiftly removed. Your rights are only valid if they don't interfere otherwise, they are or will be non-existent.

Think about what it would require for you to just go and live to a remote part of your country. Just have a little hut there, grow your food and survive with that. You would get all types of administrative jocks there, telling you that you have to pay something or they would just demolish the settlement you have and force you to live elsewhere. You are not bothering anyone, yet the society orders you to live inside it: they fear the third class.

And this fear makes it acceptable to destroy the third class. Just so you could work and not have the option to not bother anyone, to not participate. And the right of not to participate is perhaps the best right you can have. But it is also the very right that interferes with the interest of the society and therefore has to be destroyed.

Today it's much harder not to bother anyone and to just live for yourself. Even if you don't want you have to be a partial player. But let's move now onto some definitions.

The Three Glass Division

Note: This chapter works and updates with the concepts already presented in Works 2019. For revision purposes I felt the need to repeat myself.

If we are to work with the idea of a three-class society we need to exactly define the roles not based on a poker game but based on the real life. And that is the main point at the end of day of this work. This chapter is to repeat the terms I have already defined and to just provide a basic overview of what we are trying to do. More complex and in-depth definition will be provided later in the book or as we go on.

Society Conquerors

These are the previously stated winners. These are the people that are currently at the top of the "food chain" or are simply benefited greatly from playing the game.

The Society Conquerors are seen every day as these people are often our role models. Whoever who has gained some sort of big recognition or has earned enough money to be self-sufficient has the necessary attributes of such class. This class can be vaguely defined as the same is the problem with the word celebrity or businessman: for each person they represent a different thing. But it's not important to exactly define them as long as we know who we are talking about them.

These people by either luck or some hidden skill has great benefits from playing the game. We could even say that most people wish to be like them, since they do have many benefits to their position. They are essentially the ones that are admired.

The rights of these people are enormous. They for example have a much greater impact on the table. They can raise and fold without too much risk. They have a much safer position than all the others players at the table. But just as they have a big position, they might as well lose it. They are constantly under direct or subconscious attack from the other players so their position is never certain. Just as they gained their fortune and praise just as quickly they might lose it.

Society Upkeepers

The players of the table. These people are either loosing or winning but their balance remains the same. They are still playing the game but are neutral throughout it. Their balance sheet remains almost the same or goes lower but they are always able to just move forward and play.

The Upkeepers are your classical 9-5ers or people who still have to be present in the society and they are not independent from it or can't be even if they wanted to. They do represent the majority of the society.

The only thing that the Upkeepers can lose is the chance to play the game. If they simply don't have any more money they must exit the game and return with more chips in order to play. They must at some point sacrifice something if they want to play the game further, which many of them want. And that is their curse.

The players must keep on playing or at least win once in a while to remain in the game. They must sacrifice something (when talking about poker it's money) to remain a player. To remain in the playing field. And therefore, they do have direct power over what happens or at least over what they can achieve at the table. They can make the decision just like the Conquerors but unlike the spectators.

These people can therefore exist in the game or in the society but with some sacrifice. For example, in the modern society you will have to sacrifice labor in order to survive. They do have a relatively safe position but they are not benefited so much by being in the society as the Conquerors. They are essentially the foundation of the society, the building blocks of it.

Society Rejecters

And behold the rise of the third class. The spectators when talking about poker and the rejecters when talking about the society, these people are not involved in the game but rather observe it from the far.

In the real world they are much harder to identify because many of them are partial. That means they switch from position to position or some of them even are former Conquerors who just don't want to play the game. People who are able to live without the interference of the society and are not dependent on it are eligible to be called Rejecters. But there are also full on rejecters, homeless people, illegals and so on. These people don't have the chance to be a part of the society or take part in the game so they still are there but are more passive than the other members.

The spectators therefore find themselves in the position where they live in a loophole. While they do not enjoy the game or do not take direct part, the rejecters are gifted with freedom. But at the same time, they have no direct or no power at all over what happens in the society. This is the loophole these people find themselves in.

The only real power the rejecters have is their influence on the players. Since the players are the people with direct influential power and the rejecters with a healthy overlook of what the situation is like and then try to change it. They are supposed to do this.

Others might just want to be left alone, which also is a goal to strive for. They don't want to play and they want to just do their own thing and therefore care only for themselves. Unlike the Upkeepers and Conquerors, which need to somehow think about the different aspects of the society on the daily basis, the rejecters don't have to do that.

Why is this important?

Great question. Why divide the society into a more complex structure when we can work with the master-slave definition?

I am against the erasing of the third class and therefore it is important to first identify and agree that it indeed exists. If we don't even know that it exists, because it's not defined, we can't recognize that it needs saving.

Another answer would be that I am tired of the endless master-slave mentality. What if I don't want to be neither and just be left alone? What then? The old definition lacks any answer to my two questions while my theory does.

By no means am I saying that everything here must be true: this is just a wild speculation of how we can define things. And now that we have done that, off to the other chapters.

Shuffling the Deck

As mentioned before the movement among classes or between them is possible and there is no denying that. Let me however explain the mechanisms behind so you may understand how to achieve such transformation.

The movement among the classes is possible and I would say it's one of the main ideas of the Three-Class Division. But this concept is also true when talking about the master-slave division as the oppressed may become the oppressors given the right circumstances. The movement between these three classes functions in a similar way and I would dare to say that one person or an individual is never fully one class throughout his life.

As we explained each and every class has its positives and negatives which means that no class is perfect. One might say he or she feels comfortable or would like to be a certain class, which is understandable but this has more to do with the personal preferences of the given individual rather than the dominance of some class in the system. But to argue that the classes are equal in all spheres would simply be stupid. We can safely say that based on the power, the Conquerors are the ones with the most. Based on stability the Upkeepers dominate. Based on freedom the Rejecters are the chosen ones. But we can make the argument that while in all spheres not all classes are equal the possibility of the transition is there.

One might say that it is quite hard to get into the position of the Conquerors from the other level and that assumption is correct. But remember I am not talking about precise data or probability I am instead talking about the possibility of changing among the classes. Of course, the transition won't be effortless and it can't be: you are essentially changing your role in the society.

Just like in poker you may change your position at the table. You might just get up and become an observer or somehow lose your fortune and therefore also your position and someone else may be put into your place. It is the natural flow of the game and I dare to say that it is the natural flow of life as well. One day you are something, the next through your effort you may be recreated into something else.

And that is all that is needed to know. Further in the book we will be working with how to exactly do this and when it is the right time to do so. It is a process in itself and quite vital for an individual.

Is the Fourth Class Even Possible?

It might be selfish to claim there can't be no fourth class. I can imagine if you would talk to Marx let's say about this theory he would not like too much. And the minds of that era couldn't maybe observe such phenomena or perhaps they ignored the third class as part of the oppressed. But I dare to say that there is no fourth class.

If we define who might be the fourth class I bet we can utilize our example into two examples. There are two types playing the game of poker. There are players and not players. These two differ even if they were identical twins, since they both want to have a different role in life. But I say we take into consideration that there are the players who win and players who loose: three groups and therefore Three Class Division.

I would go as far as to suggest that the fourth class will be a cope. It will be one of those "I want to be the best but I am too lazy to do so" types who think they own the world. I can only compare it to the division of the sex market and the whole alpha and beta dynamic. There was an easy definition between the people that you either are attractive for most females or you are not. There is also the people who are not interested in the entire dating market, precisely named the MGTOW movement and those people count towards the population of the dating market too. Well fine. But soon enough you get Sigma, Omega males who are just weird hybrids of the original three inhabitants. And those classes don't add anything new to the table, they are just the same points told a million times.

I feel like people have the tendency to cope by saying they are a certain belief or ideology because they feel like that will benefit them the most. When you think about it, it is a glorified cope: you don't assign yourself to a class because you feel like it, you more or less do what you feel like it's right and use the class and divisions for purposes of identification of others in the society and not use it as a tool of self-identification and a reason for change of persona based on the belief that a certain class or ideology will bring you benefits. That is just wrong, yet it is a common occurrence in our everyday lives.

I believe what I believe because I think it's the truth and not because I believe it will benefit me. I am anti-hedonist yet I have my own pleasures. I am trying to walk the walk but often than not it is easier said than done. But I guess it boils down to each of us attempting to better ourselves even when the road is painful. It is not about identification with a certain class and the belief that that class or ideology or whatever is the best one because it benefits me personally.

And that's why if there ever will be rumors of the fourth class there unfortunately is none. And there can't be for the reasons explained.

But some of you quirky bunch might be like "what about the dealer?" Good question, yet the answer is simple. The dealer is dealing the cards (on the meaning of cards later on) therefore he is not playing the game. But he is also not observing the game as he has to stay focused on the rulers. The dealer can't change classes he or she is the dealer and stays the dealer until the game is over or the table is closed for business. Others might change their positions during the duration for the game or the opening hours of the casino and therefore are fluid, while the dealer is not. And the dealer has also no influence over the game (if we assume the game is played fairly). The dealer is simply part of the game, just like the cards and the money tokens and the chair and the table, he is simply one of the elements of the game. The table itself has no influence over the game and the token on their own also have no influence. It's the people who play who have the influence over it.

Now that we have introduced the cast, let's start playing. Order a bourbon, a bottle of water maybe and prepare for a wild ride. It's going to be fun I promise.



The image shows a dense pile of playing cards from a deck. The cards are oriented in various directions, creating a textured background. The most prominent symbol on the cards is a green four-leaf clover, which appears on several cards including the King of Clubs, Queen of Spades, and the four of diamonds. Other cards visible include the two of clubs, three of clubs, five of clubs, six of diamonds, seven of clubs, eight of clubs, and nine of clubs. The cards have a light-colored background with dark borders and symbols.

The Symbolism on the Green Canvas

The Importance of Cards

One of the main symbols of the casino is most definitely the cards. They are on every movie, since they are the ones which determine who will win and who will lose at the end of the day. But if we are to expand the metaphor about the poker game and compare it to the real life the cards themselves have to have some kind of meaning. So, what do they represent?

And it's all kind of simple if you think about it. We have to ask how od cards determine the winners and losers before we can continue. We can safely say that it is the cards which play a major role in who is going to be the winner or the looser. The cards are your path to victory and at the same time your path to doom if they are bad. Cards represent your conditions.

Each player at the beginning receives two cards. These cards themselves are quite neutral but they can already show promising results. Every one of us is born with certain attributes he or she can't change: just as the player can't change his cards until the game is finished. The player is given these cards and he neither chooses the cards or can later exchange them. He or she is stuck with them through the duration of the game.

Some people are born rich, others are born poor. Some people are born healthy, some people are born or later develop health issues. Some people are born talented, others are not, some people are born into good families, some people are born as orphans. We all are given certain cards at the beginning of our life, certain things we can't exchange. We can only work with what we have and we can safely say that some cards are better than other cards. Some people get a pair right away, some people get a strong combination of two. But then the game continues and we are presented with 5 additional cards.

An important thing to note, these cards on the table are also not exchangeable, so they remain there. Also these cards are common for all the players around the table. The cards don't differentiate. We can therefore argue that these cards are opportunities that life gives us. It is not possible for us to benefit from every single one of it but some might prove to be game winning and sometimes we are presented with a collection of 5 cards that have no meaning for us or are of no significance. Somebody else might benefit from them but we don't.

And again, we are able to draw pararells between life and these cards. Throughout life we are presented with many opportunities, not all of them are beneficial for us. If you have no capital an investment opportunity is worthless to you. If you have a heart condition a victory at a running competition does not bother you. But if you are homeless a chance to get a rent-free apartment for a year is an opportunity that you can participate in and possibly get further. However, this opportunity is not something a wealthy person would be interested in.

These cards reveal themselves and it's up to us to look for possible patters or identify some by which we can increase our chances of victory. We look at them and wish that we can use our cards which we have and make the most out of our turn.

One wise man said that "every hand is a winner and every hand is a looser" which is essentially true. There is a chance you are born with bad cards and me saying that you can do it from a very comfortable position sound hypocritical but it's true. You can win even with very bad cards but it's a hella hard job and you will have to try a lot. We are going to be talking about the importance of victory but note that just because you have a bad hand, that doesn't mean the you need to have a bad life.

The Importance of Chips

Now another important part of poker is the chips. They are essentially the currency which determine who is in and who is out of the game. They also determine how well off you are and we can say that they even determine who is in which class or what is his role in the entire game.

Therefore, we can arrive at the conclusion that the chips do represent power in the society of each of the class. I am talking about pure operating power or one may say influence, so practical power over something and in our example over your sphere of influence. And based on the power we can also identify who is in which class.

As we mentioned before the Conquerors have lots of direct influence, the players little to none and the rejecters nothing at all. If we look at the chip distribution at the poker table we can also observe the pattern. The players fight for scraps, while the winners raise bets with their great buffer and the spectators have no chips to bet. But also the fluidity of power can be observed. Just as one bad decision in the real life might cost you all the influence you previously had, a bad call in poker might cost you lots if not all the chips you previously had and you might quickly find yourself at a different class than you were before.

The dynamic is something people should be careful about. Just because you have a large reserve doesn't mean you should stop being careful. Actually, since you now have more you should be extra careful as you become the target of many players looking to upgrade themselves. Somebody who doesn't have that many chips but has the smarts, if left alone, is able to gather the wealth you have and switch the positions around. And this is true for both real life and poker games.

One thing, that might bother you is that how is it then possible that we all start the poker game with some chips. I would say that that is simply because at the end of the day poker is a game so it has to have some mechanics which can't be directly translated into real life. In life of course, you are not born with direct operating power but you gather it as you get through life. Now this step is equal to the one in poker as through your decisions you either loose or win.

The chips are something to be focused on because they give you the means to do anything you want. Even if you still need to be careful you can feel safe with a large buffer. You might even leave the table with the earned influence and literally "cash it out". Once out have operating practical power it is up to you how you will use it.

So now that we have identified what the chips and cards mean in the real world, it's time to tackle the issue of the dealer.

Who is the Dealer?

Again, we have to rationally think and put forward all the things we know. The dealer (if the game is fair) has no influence over the game as it is. He or she is the one who gives out the cards and watches that the game is played by the rules it should be and organizes people if some conflict happens. He or she is the force, the acting force, the thing that makes the game move and work. So how do we translate this to the real life?

We don't because there is no dealer needed in real life. And that is because the society is able to organize itself without the need to have some engine do it for the people. We don't need an organization giving us opportunities (cards) because these come naturally to us. We don't need a single man or woman watching if we are playing by the rules, we have entire institutions to do that and in our private sphere we have ourselves. We are the dealers, all of us at once and therefore we don't need to centralize this responsibility to a singular being.

Some religious people might make the argument that god is the dealer. And if we accept the proposition that god is real (which he might) then we might work with this idea but I still don't think that God has all the functions the dealer has. God doesn't organize people or intervene when we don't play by the rules. If you cheat in life, God sure will derive some consequences for your action but you won't be directly punished. But if you do it in a casino, the dealer will remind you that what you do is illegal and should not be done. The dealer will solve a conflict if somebody doesn't understand the rules of the game or perhaps there is an argument.

If we work with the argument that we have no free will, we might even start to say that God combined with our condition of absence of free will is the power that the dealer holds. Simply put God is responsible for the creation of opportunities (giving out cards) while the absence of free will is responsible for the results we do with it (class and operational power division). But we still don't have the question answered who controls us when we cross a line or cheat to get ahead of our competition. Nobody.

You might come with your own explanations for this one and I will be happy to hear them but for now let's assume that the dealer is a combination of many social phenomena and institutions that work together to be the dealers of our private lives.

One might also start asking which of the three is the most important in the game and therefore in our life. Let me answer that question with the next chapter.

Don't Let the Chance Slip By

So which of the three listed items that are present during an average poker game is the most vital or the one that should be given the most attention? Let's go one by one.

The cards themselves are something that you need to focus on for sure. But I would dare to say that you have no control over which cards you actually get or which cards will you be forced to be played with. Therefore, it is a pointless venture to focus on the cards in terms of which we might get because we don't know. The cards only gain significance only after the first three cards are revealed on the table. That means that you never know what you will get.

Chips on the other hand are in your sphere of control. We might make the argument that due to the instability of knowledge of the cards you will receive the chips become fluid and you can lose many of them. But the chips are the thing that measures where in society you currently are and possibly also show what do you need to get to that point. The chips are the main class divisors and therefore gathering the most of them so you can use them later on is not a bad idea. As explained previously if you have lots of operational power it is easy for you to pursue a hobby or a final goal. Operational power translates into a reason to act for some individuals which in turn does influence the world. Actions influence the world and if you have a way to influence the actions you have a way to influence the world.

And the dealer, we can't have any influence over the dealer. If the game is played fairly than the dealer sees you not as an individual but as a customer and therefore serves you the same as the other customers. That means the dealer is not there for you and there is no way how to influence the behavior of the dealer towards you within the rules of the game. There is no point in focusing on the dealer.

So, with the dealer out and the defined lack of knowledge and control over the cards, the only thing you have at least partial control are the chips. And therefore, it is important to focus on the chips and to have as many of them as possible. It is important to gain as much operational power as possible in order to be able to change the course of the game or influence the society in some way.

There is no predefined path on how you can influence the society and there is also no good and bad way, so I won't moralize you and tell you what to do. If I trust the individual I have to trust that the individual is capable of making a conscious choice about which life path to take and what to achieve in his or her life and that this choice will be beneficial for the wider public also. That is the burden of the individual, The Noble Fight each intelligent human being has to undertake.



How to Get the Best Cards in Life

Let me disappoint you right away. There is no way. As we mentioned before the cards are more random than organized. Some poker people can count cards or calculate probability but as we explained this is only done because poker is only a game. My only comparison of life with poker is because there are certain comparisons to be made: certain common things we can learn about life while playing poker. Therefore, doesn't take a genius to assume that the same "methods" could be applied to real life and find success.

However, there is no way to get the cards you want into your hand and most importantly on the table. You have to make with what you have and find means to maximize your chances of winning the game with the given cards. This means hoping for God or the government to save you is pathetic: if you as an individual don't take action these won't be any movement.

There are no rules in life. There is no game plan. There is no way you can maximize your chances of winning but as mentioned you may use the wits you have to make the most out of the hand you were given. You are essentially the player (if we assume this is your social role) and even if the cards you possess are bad, they are your cards: there is no way you are going to get rid of them.

Some cards are harder to play than others. Some cards are easier. Some have it easy in life, some have it bad and some have it even harder. But at the end of action makes a man and the actions and deeds you do define the path you will essentially walk on. If you remain passive or even worse, you start to complain about your current state, nothing is going to change.

Sometimes such change is impossible. But this is only because you orient yourself based on the goals given to you by the society and by the people. I am not saying that the goal which the society provides are bad but to certain individuals they might be. Therefore you have to fight you Noble Fight, as an intelligent individual and walk the path you want.

Remember. No cards are essentially bad. Some cards are worse than others but you can still win. It will take more effort, it will take more practice, it might be a job that other generations will have to finish but that is the way life goes.

Now it would be pathetic of me to tell you for which goals to strive. It would be pathetic of me to tell you I know what you should do. This is your job. Each situation is individual and therefore requires the individual to act in that current situation to yield certain results.

And you will lose some turn. Some chips. Some cards. But it's not about the battles but it's about the war. If you at the end of the day arrive at the very best you could do in the current situation, your life is worthier than the life of someone who remains stationary during his or her life. And that is the bottom line.

Third Class and How to Handle Yourself

Now we have maybe forgotten about the spectators or the rejecters of the societal norms. But this message is just for you.

Unfortunately, you can't really be only an observer in today's society, without striving for it. You can't just say "I will mind my business" and leave because that is the destruction of the third class I was talking about. The society doesn't like these people because they are potentially exploitable class, class full of people that could be used for the "greater good" but they don't do so. The main argument against the class is that the people there don't contribute anything, they are selfish because they care only about themselves. Well let me refute.

First of all, if we agree with the statement that power over his or her life should be in the hands of an individual as long as the person is not harming other members of the society, then we must accept that certain people don't want to participate in the society. They are not harming anybody in the process because as mentioned they only live for themselves and therefore we must respect their decision. To claim one and not agree with another, doesn't make sense. It's like saying people should be free in their political views but have to vote for a singular party. The people can do whatever they want but for "the greater good" they must vote somebody we deem worthy. Who made us the kings of these people? Who made us the prophets of truth? Who allowed us in this position? These self-proclaimed snakes know nothing about individual right: they strive so everything can be within their control because their ego suggests they are worthy of the title "truth owners". Truth is relative and nobody knows the truth. It is an abstract concept. And when dealing with mathematics, sure have formulas that work for simplification purposes but when it comes to an individual you can't claim the same. And individual is by nature "individual" that means that his or her situation is not the same.

Second of all, aren't we all selfish? We live in a society only because it brings us comfort: whether physical or mental. There is nothing bad about that but don't come at me with the "I am doing everything for the others". No. You are doing it for yourself and that's fine. Every individual thinks about him or herself first and denying that is like denying that we were once animals. By saying that these people are selfish, you are pointing out a fact and not some new revelation. So calm down please.

Therefore, the Third Class would need a massive migration somewhere or the other option. You can set you goal to become the Third Class: you can strive for freedom by playing the game and then leaving when you are on the top. You may still continue to play but that is your decision. Unfortunately, it is not so easy as just leaving but it is achievable. You can cut ties with the society but first some must be established.

To further my point, you either gain enough capital or enough courage to not care. Both of them are hard to achieve but both of you will bring you close to the ideal of the Third Class. But the hardships only begin there. You are expected to take care of everything yourself and if you can't you will have to contact the society. Therefore until you don't plan to go full Kaczynski there is no way you are going to become a clean member of the Third Class. Until then you will have to play the game at least to a certain extend.

And most importantly walk the walk and do not talk. There is already enough people who pretend they are something that they are not. We don't need more. So do the job of becoming the rejecter (if this is your goal) and stop talking about it.

Keep Your Rifle by Your Side (discuss with the casino management first)

Poker is a game of luck and patience. Risk management and using your common sense is something that you should do naturally and I think that comes with patience. A man who is patient does not rush to win big with one turn but waits for the opportunity to present itself and then proceeds with caution to move to whatever position he wants to move.

You have to always keep your sense intact. There is nothing heroic about going all in and loosing. History (whether personal or general) is keener on upkeeping the success stories and discarding the failures. You can move to the position you want to find yourself in, whether that being the winner, player or spectator. You just have to play your cards wisely.

But I can't leave the paragraph just like that. Unlike the motivational literature I am not going to claim everything will just go the way you planned and more often than not you are going to find yourself perfecting or better said adapting your technique based on what is currently happening at the table. That is why I say keep your rifle by your side.

Because with rifle I do not mean an actual rifle but keeping your senses up and running and considering moves you make.

You might just get lucky or you might just have to work your way there. You may start off and keep having amazing cards throughout your game and at the same time you might barely get a pair here and there. There is nothing back about retreating, there is nothing bad about failing here and there if the overall result works in your favor.

For example, if the table is full of winners, it might be a bad time to attempt to do the same. However, if the table is empty, or you sense that they are just some players, it might be a good time to join in and try to make it to the winner position. If, however, you don't feel like playing and just want to enjoy a beverage of your choice and observe how rich Asians (or anyone actually) throw their money away feel free to do so. Analyze the situation and take steps to achieve your goals.

Shoot first and be ready to repeat fire. Keep your poker face and never let emotions guide you towards some meaningless end. Listen to opinions of the spectators but never let them be the decisive factor in what you want to do. You have to understand this is your fight as an individual and you have to get there.

There is no guide to life. There are no habits, there are no things which automatically make you the best there is either luck or work. And luck is a woman of many so I wouldn't quite rely on her to be there always.

So, I want to encourage you, with this short book, to sculp yourself into what you want to be and fight you Noble Fight. You didn't choose to be an individual but those are unfortunately the cards you have to play with. And as I said before: every hand is a winner and every hand is a looser and the best you can do is to play your cards the best that you can. And whether you will use this knowledge to win in the casino or to win in your Noble Fight, I will leave that up to you.

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