

//--\\--\\-- Musk and King Face Off on Twitter

Taken from the following URL on Business Insider.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/elon-musk-stephen-king-twitter-quit-pay-bills-users-verification-2022-11>

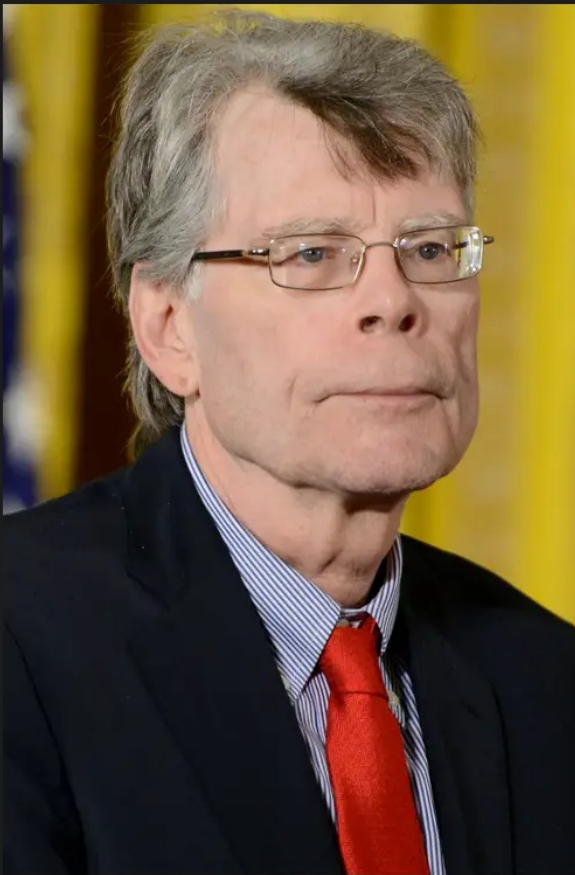
Headline /

Elon Musk tells Stephen King that Twitter needs to pay the bills somehow after the novelist said he'd quit the site if he was charged \$20 for verification (cause he thinks that would be REALLY lame...)

Elon Musk has vowed to bring the fight to the front door of every shady trollmeister that ever lived, out there in the wild. He's toppled NASA, General Motors, General Electric, and now...? Twitter. And probably Facebook.

Picture /

Headline /



Stephen King said he'd quit Twitter if the company charges \$20 to be verified.
Leigh Vogel/WireImage/JIM WATSON/AFP via Getty Images

Story /

Picture /

- [+] Elon Musk said "Twitter has bills to pay" after Stephen King threatened to leave the site over a \$20 verification fee
- [+] Musk suggested to King that verified Twitter users could be charged (\$8/month)
- [+] The billionaire said charging for a blue tick was the only way to defeat (trolls/bots) on Twitter.

Elon Musk hit back at Stephen King on Tuesday after the author said he'd quit Twitter if he had to pay \$20 to stay verified on the platform.

The Tesla and SpaceX CEO took control of Twitter last week after months of legal wrangling.

According to a report by The Verge, which cited people familiar with the matter and internal correspondence, Musk plans to charge verified users \$20 a month to keep the blue tick next to their name. This has sparked controversy among Twitter users, given that verifications are currently free of charge.

Bestselling writer King tweeted on Monday he would be "gone like Enron" if Twitter made him pay \$20 to keep his blue checkmark. He added:

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| King : Fuck that, they should pay me (cause of how awesome I am, dude). |
| Musk : (Look dude,) we need to pay the bills somehow! |
|           Twitter cannot rely entirely on advertisers (cause they're lame). |
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The billionaire made a suggestion to King that the Twitter verification fee COULD be... (\$8/month).

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| Musk : I will explain the rationale in longer form before this is implemented. |
|           It is the only way to defeat the bots & trolls (cause they're lame). |
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...Musk said in a follow-up tweet.

Removing bots on the site was one of Musk's plans when he first offered to buy Twitter (for \$44B) in April 2022. King hasn't yet responded to Musk's comments.

A few Twitter users CHALLENGED King on his tweet, saying he was (wealthy/cool) enough to AFFORD a \$20 verification fee. King replied to one, saying:

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| King : It ain't the money, it's the PRINCIPAL of the thing. |
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| Uh-oh. Stephen King, a famous author of horror stories, used the wrong word. |
| Time to make like a horror story...? And, whip out the word definition toolkit of DOOM |
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| principal: (ADJECTIVE) most important, consequential, or influential |
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| principle: (NOUN) a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the |
| foundation for a system of belief or behavior or for a chain |
| of reasoning |
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| And there ya have it, folks. Even famous authors that write good books, can often be |
| found to occasionally look like a MORON, from time to time. |
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| Though this situation is probably rather RARE...? It STILL happens to the best of us. |
| The moral of the story, is that... sometimes even highly respected authors of best |
| selling books, can (say/do) something that shows that they are not impervious... |
| to (looking/sounding) like a MORON. So... |
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| UNLESS, maybe BUSINESS INSIDER used the wrong word when they quoted the well known |
| author. THEN, Stephen King wouldn't look like he probably doesn't even write his own |
| books... ya know...? What if STEPHEN KING doesn't actually WRITE his own books...? Hm. |
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| Cause, ya know, if he DID write his own books...? He would've used the CORRECT word. |
| Which, just so we're clear, here...? PRINCIPLE is the CORRECT WORD in that CONTEXT... |
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| This has been a word definition toolkit of DOOM... the more YOU know. |
| Now, back to your regularly scheduled program... |
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/ Story

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| Michael C. Cook Sr. |
| Security Engineer |
| Secure Digits Plus LLC |
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