

Email to Book email group (16 members) 8-30-2021

A charm offensive (of sorts), fraught with dangers

Hi,

It being well-known that desperate times call for desperate measures, I am making a last-ditch attempt at persuading my mail carrier to pickup outgoing mail I paid for (\$3.12 USD, Confirmation #: WEC399699126) and requested pickup of, last Friday. Today being Monday night.

I bought the requisite postage through the eBay shipping site, scheduling a pickup. When this did not happen on Saturday morning, I called my local post office and was assured it would be taken care of later that day. With the item still in my mailbox, I am anxiously wondering if there will be a so-called "prepayment penalty." A matter of some concern as funds are regrettably running low and, as illustrated in the next paragraph, these organizations can be quite strict in such matters.

Decades ago, I overheard a conversation in which someone in a senior position at a savings and loan located in a well-known, free-world country, speaking of an unpaid loan previously made to a certain Mike Bilandic, had tacked on to the amount due an additional fee, referred to as a "prepayment penalty." I have ever since, lived in dread of this mighty "prepayment penalty," and wonder with some trepidation, if not outright alarm, whether this low, extortionate, un-american practice might not at some point be applied to me.

I have therefore taken the risk of being driven from the *Charybdis* of this "prepayment penalty" contraption to the *Scylla* of a possible Federal charge of attempted bribery of a Government employee by offering my mail carrier a (small, \$1.00 USD) inducement to pickup my mail soon, thus forestalling any potential penalties. See attached pictures.

May God have mercy on my soul.

P.S. Ignore the chamber pot-like device hanging from the red bungee cord. It is assuredly *not* a chamber pot, your eyes are clearly deceiving you if you think it is. This is merely a funds collection device, left outdoors, momentarily, to deodorize. In my opinion, Emperor Vespasian was quite wrong when he claimed: "*Non olet pecu.*"

(signed)

el Descamisado (del Norte)