CHAPTER 2:

INTRODUCTION

"I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

Isaac Newton

This is a short examination from my own personal research and understanding, taken by direct and indirect communication with people who clearly are, who claim to be, who identify as, and who claim they do not wear the title of it but understand MAGA and support aspects of it. It is also from my research, understanding, and perception based on actual events and actions in my life, and events, actions and political stances from those openly identifying as MAGA and those in public service who identify as, or at least support, MAGA.

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In fact, one area in which conspiracy is sometimes stated, is when the citizens of a nation speak of "death by a thousand cuts"; in this, liberties and freedoms are eroded slowly over a long, long period of time, and this is often

done with intent. Really, we all do this to some extent in our own lives, weakening ourselves and diluting the truth of our life. Sometimes we are made aware of it and course correct and sometimes we don't and can change our destiny from life to death.

But when it comes to liberty and freedom, I have heard many different ways of defining liberty and freedom; I have even defined liberty in one of my books as "the responsible use of freedom," but I like this version that I have also heard: Freedom is not just being able to act a certain way but also being able to own your attitude, your mindset, your thinking, your beliefs—how you think and approach your circumstances. And liberty as being free to choose your way of life, your behavior, your values, your political views within a society (a nation), and being free to do so from an oppressive restriction from authority (the government). One example would be if a governing authority would impose undue and oppressive restrictions and you could no longer speak your mind (in written or verbal form) on your chosen way of life, values, belief, or political views or opinions on subject matters, then you would have lost some freedom and liberty and it probably would have occurred over time, without much notice—"death by a thousand cuts."

As I heard one person state it: there is the thesis, antithesis, and the synthesis. The thesis is, as they called it, 'what/how it is now'; the antithesis is 'what they (someone or something else) want it to be'; and the synthesis is 'the change'. In other words, there is a small, seemingly inconsequential or very minor compromise between what/how it is (the thesis) and what they want it to be (the antithesis) which then becomes the synthesis—the change, the soon to be accepted as "new normal." Then the process begins again: the "new normal" is now the thesis, there is another small compromise with the antithesis, which is now another synthesis, and, again, the soon to be accepted as "new normal." Then the process repeats, again. Soon, people do not even remember or know what the established thesis was nor do they seem to care, so long as they are conformable with the "new normal." Do these enough times (thesis compromising with antithesis producing synthesis) through enough generations and the antithesis is now fully the thesis and what was once the thesis is buried six-feet under. This is not a conspiracy, as some would say, this is a proven method. It can be a slow erosion. I think this helps some in explaining the fall of Rome—through the generations it synthesized from a flourishing economy and somewhat liberty embracing and freedom-loving Republican form of government to a Democracy where the majority ruled and individual freedoms and liberties were truly eroding without notice to so many of its citizens to an Oligarchy where freedom and liberty were outright restricted by oppressive and tyrannical Caesars (the government was now controlling the people's very lives).

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Without due diligence and independent research, you only know and you can only parrot what you were told to know and what the teller wants you to parrot.

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In this short writing, you will read what I have discovered MAGA is and based on from what I, personally, have learned—through others, my own experiences, my involvement in politics, and independent research. As many know, "To answer before listening—that is folly and shame."³

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Remember, most of what we know, we were told to know; not what we should know, not what we think we, personally, discovered to know, not what we truly believe we know, and not the truth we should know, but what one said they know and told us to know and, therefore, we now claim we truly know.