

## ***The Cheese Dynasty (1977-?)***

*The Charles Edward Cheese dynasty was established in 1977 A.D., and continued to rule over the young and young-minded well on into the mid-2000's amidst growing protest from budget-concerned parents. It gained power through a series of well-positioned hubs placed at various points throughout the United States of America.*

### **The Growth of an Empire**

#### **I. The Token Trap**

Much to the dismay of hard-working middle class mothers and fathers, the Charles Edward Cheese dynasty remained resolute in its imposition of token usage. **Tokens** were imitation gold coins designed to devalue the standard American dollar. Children were targeted in what came to be known as the **Token Trap**.

In a Skinner-inspired land of bright lights and theme songs, children would spend hours putting tokens into Cheese-standard machines, thereby allowing them to take part in **arcade games**, activities insulting to the human intelligence, in exchange for paper tickets. At any given time, these wide-eyed, innocent Americans could trade their tickets with members of the ruling class in exchange for cheap plastic commodities that rarely survived a trip outside the kingdom. Therefore, the more tokens one collected, the more items they could receive, and the lesser their chances of breaking an item before dinnertime. The Token Trap was said to have a hypnotic effect on the children, who soon became willing to live and die for the opportunity to stay and feed the beast that was the Cheese Dynasty.

It was due to the unfair and sketchy practices of the Cheese Dynasty that one tired (and nearly broke) mother incited a revolution – one that would lead her and her three young children to freedom, and inspire those still caught in the commercial confines of the Cheese Dynasty.

## Exodus from Cheese Hill

### **I. Internal Issues – Not a Gouda Thing**

After tense five-minute negotiations between mother and children, [Christina Columbus](#), a stay-at-home mother from Southern New Jersey, coerced her daughters, Nina, Patricia, and Sara Maria, into an agreement that called for immediate exodus from within the Cheese Dynasty borders to their native territory via Route 38. Internal conflict was great, at first, the children still hexed by the allure of the Token Trap. However, the [Disney Princess Video Treaty](#) was quickly drafted. It contained three conditions for the return home; First, no crying or complaining would be tolerated with the exception of illness or injury. Second, all bladders must be emptied prior to crossing the border, to reduce the need for superfluous stops along the way. Third, if the group approached the home driveway well before the agreed upon dinnertime without major incident, the girls would be allowed to view their choice from a library of made-for-television movies. The treaty's conditions were approved, and all unconvinced parties now believed that the journey ahead would lead them to a land of opportunity.

## **II. Cutting From The Cheese**

The first step of this grassroots effort involved passing through the routine Cheese checkpoint. Upon entering the kingdom, each parent and child was quickly tattooed with matching “invisible ink” designs on the back of the hand. Before exiting Cheese boundaries for any reason, they were required to show them to the designated [doorperson](#). The doorperson was typically a member of the ruling class, outfitted with an ultraviolet device in order to detect the ink. These efforts were originally established to prevent child smuggling. This is the most noble recorded effort towards the common good made by the Cheese Dynasty, to date.

Safely through the checkpoint, Christina Columbus carefully led Nina, Patricia and Sara Maria down the narrow land bridge, referred to as “The Aisle” by locals, towards the [exit](#). Exits typically consisted of a complex system of unreasonably heavy doors that fool the eye into thinking they should be pushed when, really, they should be pulled to open. Many before Christina Columbus had become exasperated at the exit doors and returned to the ruling class for assistance, putting their children at risk of stimulus satiation once again.

## **III. Breaking Free**

Christina Columbus knew that to return to the ruling class would weaken the resolve set forth by the Princess Treaty. Not wanting to run the risk, she single-handedly took on the enemy in the fierce [Battle of Humility](#), which began October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 1:55:50 pm. As onlookers watched, she engaged the exit doors, pushing forward repeatedly with all her might, until finally pulling backwards and freeing the door on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at 1:55:55pm. Victory was celebrated, as Christina Columbus led Nina,

Patricia and Sara Maria outside the confines of the Cheese Dynasty and into the sunshine.  
They had reached the free world.

### ***Key Terms***

1. \_\_\_\_\_ were gold coins designed to devalue the standard American dollar.
  - a. quarters
  - b. tokens
  - c. runes
  - c. nettles
  
2. **Exits** typically consisted of a complex system of:
  - a. many distracting machines buzzing with light and sound.
  - b. rows of armed guards.
  - c. unreasonably heavy doors that fool the eye into thinking they should be pushed when they should be pulled.
  
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ was outfitted with an ultraviolet light to help prevent child smuggling.
  - a. king
  - b. doorman
  - c. parent
  - d. thief

### ***Discussion Questions***

1. Name three disadvantages of the Token Trap system established by the Cheese Dynasty.
  
2. What were the conditions of the Disney Princess Video Treaty? What made them so effective?