



THE EVIL VACCINE: KEEP THE DARKNESS AT BAY

GET VACCINATED TODAY!

BY CHRISTINE RICCIO

Evil is a plague upon our society. We must work together to snuff it out with the help of my vaccine. Do you need it? Refer to the serious symptomatic flags I've listed below. Paying attention to these early signs and actively following preventative measures will drive away encroaching darkness. Prevention is key! And the key to prevention is constant vigilance! My name's Christine Riccio, actual, professional, almost life coach, and I'm here to vaccinate your life.

Below are the telltale signs that darkness is poisoning your soul. If you're consistently experiencing one or more of these symptoms, please seek guidance and a vaccine from myself or your nearest Dumbledore figure as soon as possible.

- **YOU SEE RED WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY.**

You should never actually be seeing red unless you're standing in a room that's covered in red paint, or blood, or looking at an apple. If you're just seeing red, something's wrong. Don't panic, but you might be evil.

Riccio, Christine. "The Evil Vaccine: Keep the Darkness at Bay." *Because You Love to Hate*

Me: 13 Tales of Villainy. Ed. Ameriie. New York: Bloomsbury, 2017, pp. 19–22. Print.

Home remedy to try (prevaccine-level symptoms): Go see an eye doctor.

- **YOU FIND YOURSELF HARPING ON INSIGNIFICANT GRUDGES.**

If someone blows out your birthday candles, you shouldn't be mad at them for more than ten minutes. If someone punches you, you're allowed ten days. If your grandson murders your only granddaughter because she beat him in chess, the acceptable anger period is ten years, but after that maybe schedule an appointment to meet and see if you two can work things out.

Home remedy to try: Watch the film *Frozen*: laugh, enjoy, and listen to Elsa's advice.

- **YOU ENJOY STROKING CATS WHILE YOU THINK.**

Cats are evil and stroking them encourages their evil thoughts to climb up into your brain. Be wary of combining cat-stroking and thinking, for the result can be catastrophic.

Home remedy to try: If animal-stroking is essential to your thinking process, switch to puppies. If you're allergic, try rubbing the head of a friend who cares about your health.

- **YOU LIE COMPULSIVELY.**

Tiny lies are generally okay: *No, I didn't accidentally break your super-cool Anthropology mug. Yes, I did watch that documentary about snails you recommended.* But it's a slippery slope and lying can quickly get out of hand: *No, I didn't accidentally destroy your original copy of Deathly Hallows. No, I didn't secretly murder your cousin. Yes, I floss every day.* Too far.

Home remedy to try: Never speak.

- **YOUR LAUGH IS SCARILY LOUD.**

Loud laughter is a clear sign of treachery.

Home remedy to try: Laugh silently or seek help from a life coach.

- **YOU'VE ADDED LORD TO YOUR NAME.**

The fact of the matter is you're not allowed to make yourself a lord unless you're the queen of England. And I don't know why you would do that because you're already the queen. Know that if you make yourself a lord, I will be suspicious and I will call a life coach to save you.

Home remedy to try: Community service.

- **YOU HAVE URGES TO KILL PEOPLE.**

You're never supposed to kill people. Maybe you're unaware, but it's actually against the law. Don't do it. Instead, get a life coach. Do not kill said life coach.

Home remedy to try: Channel these urges into something productive, like basket-weaving. Why get jail time when you can get a basket!

- **YOU USE PENNIES TO PAY FOR THINGS.**

Pennies are irrelevant and they should die. Smother this habit now before you become a threat to humanity.

Home remedy to try: Hot tea with honey.

- **YOU'D REALLY LIKE TO ATTAIN TOTAL WORLD DOMINATION.**

Really, what are you going to do with that? Why? Whatever you said in response is wrong.

Home remedy to try: Work toward acquiring total leadership over your local zumba classes, a real challenge for your mind and body, without all the hassle of war and politics.

- **YOU DON'T LIKE THE BEATLES.**

Why don't you like the Beatles? You're wrong. Try listening again. Listen until you like them.

Home remedy to try: Why don't you like them? You like them. If you still disagree, refer to bullet four.



Happy not being evil! You're welcome! Be vigilant and get vaccinated!
Please note the evil vaccine is 53 percent effective and may cause loss
of your nose and/or the ability to frown.

Love,
Real, Almost Life Coach Christine Riccio,
aka PolandbananasBOOKS