

In the aftermath of a nasty session of stomach/intestinal virus, I have conserved my energy by sitting and reading between chore times. Since Runo also suffered the same illness, neither of us is at full strength. Books help pass the time.

In re-reading some of Wendell Berry's latest book, I was struck by an observation made by one of his Amish friends: "To be satisfied with little is difficult; to be satisfied with much is impossible."

Does that explain the prevarication that has become a staple of White House rhetoric? Is there never enough for the person who has—through a failed electoral system—the highest office in the land?

What other reason could there be for a person to persistently inflate the statistics about the numbers of people who attend his rallies, who were present at his inauguration, who even like him?

And what about going over and over his opponents—whether it be Mrs. Clinton in the campaign, Mr. Comey, Mr. McCabe, Mr. Mueller, Senator Tester and other Democrats in general—denigrating them, impugning their honesty, never acknowledging that there is any other side to an issue than the one he has decided to favor? More money, more approval, more power?

I guess this is an illustration of the story in Berry's book. In this case, it is also a picture of a sociopath, a person without a conscience who can lie without remorse, telling his followers anything—and they believe him. Shame on them! At least the rest of us Americans deserve better than this.