

Easter: A Non-Fiction.

by stephen hastings-king

A long day of conviviality, my Easter ended with:

- a) A desire to go rowing in the evening air at slack high tide.
- b) The arrival of my friend Dr. Dave in a pathologically rustic rowboat.
- c) An offer was proffered that was to make desire and actuality one.
- d) When I got to the dock the boat had been leaking. Again, apparently.
- e) While Dr. Dave pumped out the boat, I held it close to the dock.
- f) I did this with one leg whilst the other remained on the aforementioned dock
- g) That is until some unfortunate concatenation of attention lapse, muscular activity, beverage effect, body weight and bad luck caused the boat to begin moving away from the dock
- h) Rather more rapidly than was anticipated, or would have been had there been any anticipation
- i) Which of course there wasn't.
- j) Then I found myself in the water.
- k) The water was cold but fortunately I was wearing a sweater.
- l) Then another kind gentleman in the restaurant in front of which this happened
- m) Did I mention that the restaurant was full? O yes it was.
- n) And that it has giant windows that look out over the dock? O yes it does.
- o) Then another kind gentleman was able to stop laughing long enough to come down and fish me out of the water because
- p) There's no ladder because it is not customary for people to swim off that dock because, well, there's no ladder.

q) Then I decided that since I had already gone to all that trouble for a ride in that boat, then, goddamn it, I was going for a ride in that boat.

r) So I was rowed away to destinations unknown.

s) On the way, I was handed an accordion and commanded to play something.

t) But because I was very wet I did not acquit myself as I otherwise might have.

