Richard Mansbach CM Essay January 2019 Pet Peeves of the Curmudgeon

Curmudgeon Pet Peeves, how I do love thee:

# Pet Peeve # 1:

Coupons filling my basket, all outdated. Why do I even bother saving them?

### Pet Peeve # 2:

I click on an email promising a free product, and after giving them all my personal information find out it's only free when you buy one. That's not what was suggested in the ad.

### Pet Peeve # 3:

Find a comment of interest on the internet, open it up and I must arrow through <u>numerous</u> other comments to get to the one I want.

#### Pet Peeve # 4:

I'm "retired" yet can't seem to find the time to read spiritual material. Maybe on my death bed.

### Pet Peeve # 5:

When people use 'reply all" in a large group to say they will be at an event. Tell the organizer personally. I don't want to spend time deleting logistical information.

# Pet Peeve # 6:

When people use "reply all" in a large group to share how wonderful 'xyz' was. Share directly with the person responsible. For some reason, it grates on me as one after another adds their short (and repetitive) mushy comments. Again, my valuable time is being taken up deleting.

## Pet Peeve # 7:

Asking if I would rate the service at the end of the call. I like to support those who give good service, but really. My time is too valuable before I go on to the next service call.

### Pet Peeve # 8:

When people come to my door wanting me to find Jesus. I'm polite and thank them for offering, but really. Don't you think a personal conversation between friends will more likely trigger my interest when I ask how come they are so happy, and might be more meaningful and less invasive?

# Pet Peeve # 9:

I order new, shorter shoelaces because I have to tie my current ones three times so I won't trip playing pickleball. I was sure I measured accurately. I still have to tie the new ones three times. What's with that?

#### Pet Peeve # 10:

When my lamp won't come on when I tell Alexa to turn it on. Come on, you don't expect me to walk all the way over there and turn it on manually. Who's in charge here?

#### Pet Peeve # 11:

When someone says hi to me by name and I can't remember theirs. Wouldn't it be considerate to wear a nametag? I'm a senior, for god's sake.

#### Pet Peeve # 12:

So, I made a mistake. Get over it! It won't happen again, unless it does.

# Pet Peeve # 13:

The grocery clerk asking how my day is going. They all ask that. Couldn't they mix up the questions so it wasn't so obvious they had been trained to do that?

# Pet Peeve # 14:

Why are languages so hard to learn? By now shouldn't we be able to embed a chip so I can sound sexy speaking French?

# Pet Peeve # 15:

Surveys at bottom of articles (do you support limiting baloney sandwiches, or, should the coach be fired?) I might wish for world peace, but unless I get off my duff, my wishes and vote are a meaningless exercise and wasted energy. Something analogous to deleting group responses.