



Honk

For

Support

Robert Prins

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by Robert Prinz

In the democratic United States of America, fifty Canadian geese stood nervously on the edge of a lake. They honked to one another as they prepared to take the long flight back to Canada for the summer. As their noise rose to its peak, the geese spread their wings and took off, moving into a perfect vee formation in the sky. A single goose took the lead and the rest of the geese honked their approval. After a period of time and more honking, the leader dropped out and a new goose took its place at the front, the old leader relegated to a lower position in the vee.

To the casual observer, it would seem that geese honk only for the sake of making noise. Some suggest they honk to encourage the front geese during their long migratory flights. But recent research has revealed that these birds are doing much more than making noise.

On the 20th March 2034, Dr Emmerson Aviary placed a translating device on a Canadian goose to research their call and migration. The results were surprising. Dr Aviary saw something in these geese that has never before been recorded in any other animal besides humans. Every honk of a Canadian goose carries weight and meaning.

Before the geese set out on their long, perilous journey, an intense debate develops. The human ear hears an intense amount of honking, but what is really happening is best described by the transcript of Dr Aviary's findings:

“My name is Gerald Goose. If you choose me, I promise to lead you the most direct way to the Canadian lakes. You can fly by me. No detours.”

“Gerald is not the golden goose. I am Gandalf. I have been around since Gerald was just an egg. If you elect me as your leader, we will fly where the air currents are right. It will be further but the flight will be easier.”

“Do you want to be there by spring or autumn? Don’t cook your goose. Vote Gerald!”

“Gandalf has more gander than Gerald. By the laws of economics, if we invest a little, we will gain more with Gandalf as leader.”

“Vote! Vote! Vote!” chorused the rest of the geese.

With a honk each, Gandalf was elected as leader by a nine-vote majority, and the flock of geese took off. But soon there was murmuring in the ranks that followed.

“Geriatric Gandalf is flying much too slowly and it’s cold. I’m getting goose bumps.”

“This is easy flying but our direction looks like we are on a wild goose chase. We need a new leader.”

“Choose that Gerald chick. He’ll get us there.”

“Vote, vote, vote!”

Honks sounded from the flock. Gerald was elected in 27 to 21 with two abstaining, and took his place of leadership, picking up the pace and changing direction.

Dr Emmerson Aviary’s discovery of the democratic election system of geese finally explains their honking and zig-zagging as they migrate across the continent. Geese don’t just wing it, they elect the leaders they follow.

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A large flock of geese is flying in a V-formation across a sky with a warm, orange-to-red sunset gradient. The geese are silhouetted against the bright background. Some geese are in the foreground, while others are further back, creating a sense of depth. The overall mood is inspiring and hopeful.

There is no ducking for cover when it comes to geese. This is the golden egg of information.

Have you ever wondered what all the honking is about as Canadian geese fly from America to Canada in a vee formation each year? There is more to a honk than a goose call. Take a gander and prepare for goosebumps as you wing your way into new research that will cook the goose of older theories. This extraordinary story will knock you down with a feather.

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