

Excerpt from *Pass the Damn Salt, Please!* by Dan McLaughlin © 2009

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Chapter 38

Crazy Lady on the bus, part 4

“Oh hello.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Oh hello.” Riley.

“Do you mind if I sit here?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“No not at all, please do.” Riley.

“Do you know what I have found out?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“No.” Riley.

“I have found there is a little box that is under every computer that is an Internet computer that monitors everything that is going on. Don’t you find that very interesting?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“A little box?” Riley.

“It is like a little black box on an airplane, but it’s bigger.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“A little bigger black box.” Riley.

“Way bigger, but small enough not to be seen small.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“So it’s small?” Riley.

“And black. There is also one under the entire Internet.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Oh really?” Riley.

“Only it’s bigger. Isn’t that very interesting?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“A bigger little bigger black box.” Riley.

“Yes. Except it is gray.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff. (Phone rings from inside her bag. She pulls out one phone.) “No, not that one. Can you hold this?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff. (Phone rings again.)

“Sure.” Riley. (Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff pulls out another phone.)

“No not that one either. (Phone rings. Again.) Can you

hold this one?" Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

"OK." Riley. (Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff pulls out another phone.)

"No, not that one. (Phone rings.) Here hold this." Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

"Thank you." Riley. (Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff pulls out another phone.)

"Not that one either. (Phone stops ringing.) You see there, they were able to hack into my phone and stop me from getting my calls." Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

"Um. How many phones do you actually have? Oh, here are your phones back." Riley.

"Five. One is for calling the FBI, one is for calling the local police, and one is for calling Google. This one is for calling the media. And then there is my special phone." Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

"Special phone? How big is it?" Riley

"Regular phone size. Here it is. I went to the phone company and explained that all my calls were getting hacked so they sold me a special phone that absolutely could not be hacked." Crazy Lady with a bunch of

stuff.

“Is this it?” Riley.

“Yes.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“The special unhackable phone. From Toshiba.” Riley.

“The salesman who sold it to me was very nice and he said it was virtually unhackable. It cost more than \$100. What do you think about that?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“I think someone from Toshiba sales needs a reminder on the fine line between exaggeration and exploitation.” Riley.

“So I use it to call my son. But you saw what happened there. My phone rang and before I could answer it, they got into the phone lines and blocked my call. They are phishing I tell you phishing.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Ummm, you know most people don’t have five phones.” Riley.

“I know. It is just that when no one returns my calls it is because I am being phished. It all started with my mother’s ashes.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Your mother’s ashes?” Riley.

“Yes they stole them right from my apartment when they were first phishing. My mother’s ashes. Can you imagine that?” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Why would anyone...I mean...No. Well at least you don’t have to carry her ashes with you everywhere.. Riley.

Oh yes the phishers steal ashes all the time. And they don’t let you put ashes into storage facilities any more. Even when they are sealed up in an urn very very tightly.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“A little urn or a big urn?” Riley

“It was a big urn with a little lid.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Black?” Riley.

“No, silver.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“As always it has been fascinating, but I think your stop is coming up.” Riley.

“Oh yes there it is, yes, thank you.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

“Do you have all your phones?” Riley.

“Yes I do, thank you. Have a good night and driver I need to get off the bus now. Driver, you hoo. Driver! Driver! This is my stop, driver, stop.” Crazy Lady with a bunch of stuff.

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