

# **LUST & LUNACY** **IN THE HOUSE OF GOD**

*By*

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## ***PREQUEL***

It was cold. A grey, sombre day – 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1953. A brisk southerly swirled around the country area near the Waihue Settlers Hall, some 15 minutes travelling time north of Dargaville

15 minutes walking time west of the hall on the gravel road that led through the ‘cutting’ to Kai Iwi Lakes and beyond, my mother roamed through the native bush she loved so much in an advanced stage of pregnancy

The rambling did a world of good – just what we both needed. Later on that evening in the Te Kopuru Maternity Hospital my arrival was heralded by much joy; as newborn infants are welcomed the world over

Alas, it was not a normal world or a normal family that I had been born into – my parents were members of that religious cult known as The Exclusive Brethren – a lifetime of pressure, stress, family division and religious conflict was to follow

Statistically, a greater percentage of sufferers of mental disorders are born in the winter months – ‘We give several examples of diseases that are modulated by light and present evidence for an effect of intensity and variation in sunlight, primarily ultraviolet radiation (UVR), on the human genome’ – Davis GE, Lowell WE ‘Solar Cycles and their relationship to human disease and adaptability’ – Med Hypotheses.2006:67(3):447-61

So, there I was – at a complete disadvantage right from the start! And on a collision course with some of religions worst tyrants – ‘We uncover manic-depressive disorder as a hidden cause of dictatorship, mass killing and war, and show how the psychopathology of the disorder can be a key factor in the political pathology of tyranny.’ Lieb J, ‘Two manic-depressives, two tyrants, two world wars’. Med Hypotheses. 2008:70(4):888-92

But, do not despair – all literary gift must pay the price for its genius – It has been known for a long time that people with outstanding creativity suffer more frequently from mental illness – so, indulge me – let me join the ranks of Dickens, Darwin, Woolf, Van Gogh, Schumann and many others – the Exclusive Brethren will be quick to dismiss my writings as madness – the reality is: the pen is mightier than the sword – I will achieve much if they are but a little discomfited – you be the judge!