Twitter Thread by Joshua Cypess



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1/ A thread of comments & observations about the death of the cackling vampire Rush Limbaugh.

My first observations in the main thread are here, but this offshoot is needed because there's been so many wise & witty things I've

> 37.90/ Limbaugh was a cruel hate-machine who made a fortune off hurting people. To say "don't speak ill of the dead" is the attitude of abuse enablers.
>
> If you can't condemn a ghoul who dedicated his life to destroying society, you're part of the problem! https://t.co/ijvG2zDACH
>
> — Joshua Cypess (@JoshuaCypess) February 18, 2021

2/ First, re: those who in their wayward moral obtuseness feel we "can't speak ill of the dead." I've said that this is what abuse enablers say, but I hear that some religious traditions preach this. Oy.
So there's this: https://t.co/7Ky4RA3nkZ & receipts:
https://t.co/ScpDZ4wEPf

> This is how Rush's death should be honored. Let's not speak ill of the dead, let's quote Rush speaking ill of the dead.
>
> — Sane English (@SaneEnglish) February 17, 2021

3/ Drucker is another great wit, and this carries the proper mood
https://t.co/kexrXMcotl

> It's easy to make fun of Rush Limbaugh right now, but it's important to remember that he also brought a lot of people a lot of joy by dying
>
> — Mike Drucker (@MikeDrucker) February 17, 2021

4/ There's definitely a Jewish Tradition angle for how to treat evil people who die: the only respect is to justice, right & wrong, and above all compassion's existence necessitates condemning cruelty
https://t.co/c5nNjJkSip

> It\u2019s ok\u2014essential, even\u2014to speak the truth about people who caused great harm.
>
> Even after their death.
>
> — Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg (@TheRaDR) February 17, 2021

5/ We're coming up on #Purim, and that's all about how to remember evil. There may be a reason, then, that I share the attitude of many other people committed to righting wrongs:
https://t.co/BtM3xCBrpU
&
https://t.co/bOYbGjpbBQ

> today i said Jewish culture requires dancing on the graves of those who have wronged us and i picked up like 300 followers LMAO
>
> people love Jewish vengeance \U0001f923\U0001f923
>
> wait till they hear about Purim
>
> — Erin Biba (@erinbiba) February 18, 2021

6/ Well crafted Purim callout:
https://t.co/IOzySYGTyc

> Breaking News: Right-wing leaders are mourning the death of 70-year-old talk radio bigot and peddler of cruelty and lies, Rus \u2014\u2014 pic.twitter.com/lvqb4jvc9P
>
> — Rabbi Mike Rothbaum (@Rav_Mike) February 17, 2021

7/ More witty responses:
a) https://t.co/k1q6tClH72
b) https://t.co/k4pRzpuZPe
c) https://t.co/X8elhOzApf

> the question people need to be asking themselves when talking about rush limbaugh is "am i being too nice" and the answer is usually always "yes"
>
> — neurotypicals aren't valid (@RealEvilkitten3) February 17, 2021

8/ A key point: liking Rush condemns you as a person. He embodied cruelty. That is supposed to repel you.
https://t.co/dYi1eMTNsS
& https://t.co/JmlhvZvdiw

> The fact that Rush Limbaugh had a career at all shows you how broken this country is, he made 85 million a year because he made racist white losers feel a little less alone.

— NoelCaslerComedy (@CaslerNoel) February 18, 2021

9/ That's personally why I can't understand "he was funny" - that's the bleat of people who laugh along with the bully when he crushes vulnerable people.

Really, examine yourself if you laughed along with him. It's not 'humor'

https://t.co/SbbSLhZ3sD
&
https://t.co/FO2yTBpZwV

> Oh, we completely understand that his appeal was that his listeners found him funny.
>
> That says a lot more about his listeners than it does liberals. https://t.co/CzKheS5wR5
>
> — Matthew Chapman (@fawfulfan) February 18, 2021

10/ Instead of 'funny' the key descriptor is 'entertaining' and that is a through-line from Limbaugh to Trump (ym'sh)
https://t.co/sETuC5Qt93
and the connection between the two monsters is important to highlight
https://t.co/k83TxEmhvp
& https://t.co/EaxN91mjTe

> The thing Trump and Limbaugh understood is that Republican voters want to be entertained. The grievance mill of Hawley/Cruz/Carlson may rile, but what the beating MAGA hat middle class heart of the GOP wants is permission to be petty assholes for the sake of their own amusement.
>
> — Zeddy (@Zeddary) February 18, 2021

11/ I actually didn't know how horrible he was - my parents are liberal and if my friends listened to him, they probably knew not to play it near me.

So here he is mocking AIDS patients. WHAT?!?
https://t.co/9RI0tmrCNi
& https://t.co/fFAqdJ0aLZ
& https://t.co/a0l88y0qHm

> \u2705 Yes, Rush Limbaugh had an "AIDS Update" segment that mocked the deaths of gay people.
> https://t.co/DfAydpft32 pic.twitter.com/tGhz8ApkhI
>
> — snopes.com (@snopes) February 17, 2021

12/ Or truly loathsome comments about African-Americans:
https://t.co/i0TNFoFBe6

and here about abortion

https://t.co/LVwsnxIZKv

Seriously, how can someone say they listened to him with fondness? This is inexcusable immoral poison.

> \u201cLook, let me put it to you this way: the NFL all too often looks like a game between the Bloods and the Crips without any weapons. There, I said it.\u201d
>
> -- Rush Limbaugh
>
> — Charlotte Clymer \U0001f3f3\ufe0f\u200d\U0001f308 (@cmclymer) February 17, 2021

13/ And, like Trump (ym'sh) he mocked people with disabilities. In the clip below, he's gesticulating his arms around in order to mock Michael J. Fox's Parkinson's.

Do people understand that anyone who does that is the worst sort of person?
https://t.co/ZTGpm7hHMo

> That time Rush Limbaugh made fun of Michael J Fox and his Parkinson\u2019s disease. pic.twitter.com/7CuHlE5Lpy
>
> — Sage Rosenfels (@SageRosenfels18) February 5, 2020

14/ So who actually defends silence, and implicitly projects they defend all of the above cruelty? People like this guy who I was told to read during the election because of polling knowledge

https://t.co/YiTQEFAw7e

> there's something deeply perverse about how Twitter lets its 'trending' bar get turned into a smug Death Jubilee every time a right-wing person dies (or even might die!), and goes to the heart of what is fundamentally unhealthy about this medium and what it does to people.
>
> — Jeff B., who on earth is this guy?? (@EsotericCD) February 17, 2021

15/ The kicker is this guy from the National Review:
https://t.co/ITh28xuVKX

This is one witty response to that: https://t.co/wqCDE7sqAf
but this is a correct response: https://t.co/3zdhFe6dnV

> Liberals who didn\u2019t listen to Rush, and just read the Media Matters accounts, never understood how *funny* he was. What set him off from his many imitators was how wildly entertaining he was, and the absolutely unbreakable bond he formed with his listeners.
>
> — Rich Lowry (@RichLowry) February 17, 2021

16/ This will be it for now. We're at a moment when RedHats and other cruel fascists are trying to scurry under the garbage pits to avoid social stigma that they avoided when Trump (ym'sh) commanded the culture. Defending Rush is a sign of

grotesque rot.

17/ If needed, I'll add more. But there's just so much filth I can stare at, even if the goal is justice. How much evil do you need to see before concluding it's unacceptable? My limit is very low.

@threadreaderapp please unroll.

@threader_app please compile.