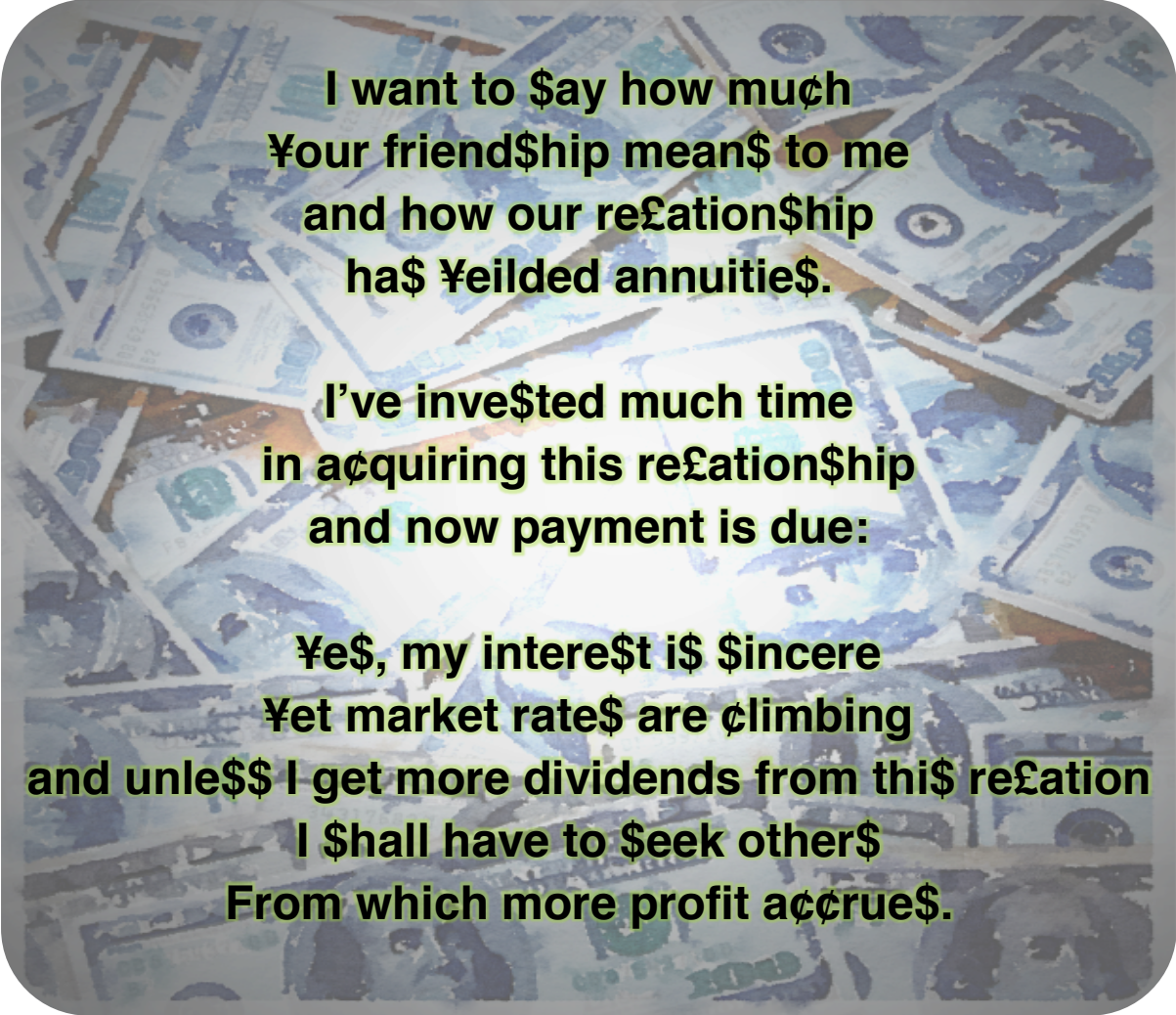


FRIENDSHIP :

A Satire about Calculated Social Transactions



I want to \$ay how much
Your friend\$hip mean\$ to me
and how our re£ation\$hip
ha\$ Yeilded annuitie\$.

I've inve\$t\$ed much time
in acq\$iring this re£ation\$hip
and now payment is due:

Ye\$, my intere\$t i\$ \$incere
Yet market rate\$ are c\$imbing
and unle\$\$ I get more dividends from thi\$ re£ation
I \$hall have to \$eek other\$
From which more profit accrue\$.

Gus: If friendship is regarded as a calculated exchange or as a commercial commodity, can it actually be called 'friendship'?

Liao: (sipping some tea slowly) My guess is that each person answers that question differently . . .

- T Newfields

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