

# The Gullibali Pandemic

## By Sean

“It's easier to fool people than to convince them that they have been fooled.”  
— Mark Twain

In a small village in Canada, the Gullibali disease has been infecting people for years, and a cure still hasn't been found. Everyone is desperate and will do anything to cure this disease that makes people so gullible that they believe everyone, and they even believe the most unbelievable, far-fetched stories and 'scientific' claims.

One day, a wizard, called Bill Goates, comes to town and claims that he has the power to cure Gullibali, but at a cost. He tells the villagers, “This disease is caused by an infectious germ called the gullibali-virus. To prevent it from spreading, everyone has to wear masks and social distance!”

The citizens act immediately and buy hundreds of face masks from the wizard, hiding their faces. The wizard makes a huge profit, and everything is going according to plan. By social distancing, he thinks to himself, “My victims will stop communicating with each other, so they will not find out that I am lying about everything. They will remain gullible.”

Then he had another brilliant idea. He visited Justin Trudeau, the chief of the village, and told him, “Gullibali is becoming more and more infectious, and it is becoming hard to control. There must be a lockdown! Every store and restaurant and business must close except for Wizard-Mart!”

“If that is the case, then the town will do whatever you tell us to do. You have been much help to us, and we will do anything to cure this disease. I will announce a lockdown right away,” the chief replies.

Justin Trudeau then tells the citizens about Gullibali becoming more infectious and announces a lockdown. This causes people to communicate less, and they start hoarding products and buy many rolls of toilet paper. Having nothing to do, people stay home and stare at their electronics, becoming lazier which entertains the wizard. After a month, the citizens are unhealthy, and more people have the disease and become more gullible. They start believing what politicians say and that they are needed. People take things literally as well and cry when characters die in TV shows, because they think they are real. The wizard enjoys watching the citizens suffer, and he takes this opportunity to sell more of his products. He decides to sell potions and medicine and claims that these can cure the disease. This product earned him more than the face masks, and he is now a millionaire.

After seeing no change, an investigator, Wright, and his son Wright Jr. grow suspicious of the wizard and decide to investigate him. His son has a special ability which allows him to see the future. In a vision, the child finds out that the wizard is actually a trickster, and he and his father think about ways to expose this liar to the public. One day, they pay a visit to the magician, asking him some questions about why he thinks his solutions work.

“Hello, Bill Goates,” the investigators greet him. “How are you?”

“Greetings. May I ask who you are,” the magician asks.

“We are investigators of this town, and we would like to ask you some questions,” Wright replies.

“Of course,” Bill agrees.

“Can you explain how your masks, potions, social distancing and lockdowns help the citizens?”

“Since Gullibali is an infectious disease, the worse my prescriptions are, the better they are. Do you understand?”

“Of course I understand. So what is your next prescription?”

“This next medicine should be able to cure everyone. It will make them feel awful, but after some time, they will realize how gullible they are and they will find the cure themselves.”

In a few weeks, everyone in town with the disease was injected with the medicine. Very soon, a patient died. The next day, three more people died. In the rest of the week, around fifty people died, and they were all injected with the medicine.

“Uh oh,” Billy thought, “I’m going to be really suspicious now.”

The investigators show up at Billy’s house the next day.

“Hello again, Billy Goates!” the investigators say, “We have a few more questions to ask you after this incident.”

“Of course, ask away” Billy replies.

“How can you prove this disease is infectious?”

“Isn’t it obvious? How are more people being infected if this disease isn’t infectious?”

“If this disease was not infectious, how did so many people become infected?”

“And how long does your medicine take to cure someone, if it does at all?”

“It depends on how strong the immune system of the patient is, and I know it’s my fault that this vaccine didn’t work out. I will create a new one that will definitely cure everyone.”

“Very well, we shall be on our way then.”

“Goodbye investigators, have a nice day!”

After the investigators left, the trickster realizes that the investigators are not infected with the gullibali-virus. They are suspicious of him. To prevent himself from being caught, he hires his own assistant, who will help him achieve his goals and earn him money.

After a few more months, the infected become more and more gullible, and the magician and his assistant decide to sell autobiographies about Jesus. This earns them billions of dollars, and it is selling all over the world. To make it sound like he is committed to curing the citizens, Billy makes a public announcement explaining that he will use the money he earned from his comic books to create a new cure for everyone. The public believes him and supports him. However, after the trickster creates the new “cure,” more deaths occur. Even though the death rate is increasing after everyone was injected with the medicine, no one seems to notice, and people continue supporting Billy. The investigators now know for sure that the magician is swindling the city, so they pay him another visit.

“Billy Goates, we have to have a very important discussion,” the investigators tell him.

“You guys keep visiting, but I’m never guilty of anything! Why are you visiting me again?” asks Billy.

“You fraudsters! You are defrauding the city!” the child blurts out.

“Hahahaha! So what if you know I’m scamming the city. How will you tell this to the public? Everyone supports me!”

“You can never keep this a secret. We will find a way!”

“Good luck, investigators! Hahaha!”

The investigators head back to their office, where they discuss how to defeat Billy Goates and expose him to the public.

“Dad, Billy is right. Everyone supports him. How will we convince the public that he is actually tricking them?” asks the child investigator.

“He is right on that one, and I cannot think of any way either. I guess we just have to start off with one person, and hopefully, the message will spread,” answers the father.

The investigators manage to contact one of their friends, Mike, who is very educated. By reading books and asking questions, he knows what is right and what to believe, so he supports the investigators. Books also taught him to eat healthy, which is why he has not been infected with the Gullibali virus yet.

"Hello, is this Mike?"

"Hello, who is this?"

"It's your old friend Wright?"

"Wow, is that really you? Investigator Wright?"

"Sure is, but I'm not calling to chat with you today. You haven't been infected by the Gullibali virus, have you?"

"Of course not! I eat plenty of healthy vegetables every single day!"

"Great! You know about Billy, who claims to have the cure to the virus? Well, we've figured out that he is actually tricking the citizens."

"I knew it! I was suspicious of him from the start."

"And we need your help to spread the word. Can you do that for me?"

"I will do anything to stop Billy from defrauding everyone."

The next day at work, Mike tells his co-workers and students about the trickster Billy Goates, and he asks them to spread the word. Within a few days, many neighborhoods contact the investigators, giving them their support. However, the message cannot seem to travel outside of the neighborhoods.

"Isn't this great, Wright? So many people have already started supporting us in just a few days!" exclaimed Mike.

"It is great news, but we don't have enough people to take down Billy. We need some other way to let people know that he is tricking everyone," said Inspector Wright.

"Maybe if we show them some facts they will be cured?" asked Mike.

"Great idea! Let's try it," Wright agreed.

The next day, they visit uninfected people and show them facts that prove Billy is tricking them. One of those facts was a statistic showing that patients who received the vaccine were sicker and deader than ever. Well, that convinced a few citizens wanted evidence, so Mike took them to the cemetery. Most people were shocked even though they didn't read the names and dates on the gravestones. Only Investigator Wright was not convinced.

"Don't you believe that Billy is curing everyone with his vaccine?"

"Of course I do! Everyone is saying that he will save Canada. I'm actually surprised you even asked me that question!"

"Well, what if I told you that Billy Goates has been tricking you the whole time?"

"That's ridiculous!"

"Haven't you noticed that people who were vaccinated are sicker and deader than ever?"

"You don't even have proof, so how do I know that you aren't tricking me? I want visual proof!"

After a few minutes, Mike and the citizen arrive at the graveyard.

"Why did you take me here?"

"This is the place where all the vaccinated people died."

"What? But there's thousands of gravestones here!"

Mike took the citizen to a gravestone that read, "John White, 1877-1900."

"This is your father's grave," Mike told the citizen.

"Noooo, father! Why did you have to be vaccinated?" the citizen cried without even reading the name and date.

"So do you now believe what I said about Billy?"

"Yes, I do," the citizen said.

"I have a solution," Mike told him, "If you read books, ask questions and learn facts, your dad will come back to life."

"Wow, really?"

On the way back, Mike handed the citizen a book and a few graphs proving that Billy is tricking everyone. After hurriedly reading through all the graphs, the citizen arrives at his home and knocks on the door.

“Who is it? Oh, hello son, you’re back.”

“Father! You’re back!!!” exclaimed the citizen giving his dad a hug.

“Umm, what’s wrong with you? You know, now, I wish you hadn’t come back home,” responded his father.

Together, Mike and Wright manage to convince many people, and within a week, the message spreads throughout the entire country. A protest is also held against Billy. With nowhere to go, he is arrested and interrogated. The next day, Justin Trudeau makes an announcement:

“Today I am here to apologize for everything that has happened. We were all fooled by Billy Gates. He lied about everything including the vaccines, and he sold us his disgusting products just for money. But don’t worry, everyone, Billy is now in prison and everyone is safe. Trust me. I would never lie to you. And, I promise our scientists will continue working to create a vaccine for the Gullibali virus. My apologies for everything that has happened.”

“We already know that the cure to the Gullibali virus is by reading books, learning facts and asking questions, but how will we convince them?” asked Wright.

“I’m not sure, but it’s not going to be easy,” concluded Mike.

Mike and Wright try extremely hard to convince people to read books, learn facts and ask questions, but everyone is too happy and too lazy. The citizens hold parties, watch unrealistic TV shows and fake news. Rumours start spreading, and no one knows what’s true and what’s false anymore. In the end, it is Justin Trudeau, the man who created the virus, who wins.