

Lesson 9

READ THIS STORY #2, Advanced

The Candidates

Dave listened carefully to the dialogue between the candidates and the moderator, but he was dissatisfied with the discussion. Everything was so carefully scripted that the debate was stilted and boring. The demeanor and appearance of both men was so unblemished that neither one seemed to be genuine. So Dave turned off the TV.

Dave would have asked different questions if he had been in charge. He didn't feel the candidates were rogues in disguise, but he hadn't been able to get a handle on the personalities of the candidates.

Perhaps they were just out of his league. Or perhaps Dave was suffering from voter fatigue. After all, the campaign had been going on for months. Billions of dollars had been spent to bombard the electorate with advertisements about the positions of the candidates.

Dave was interested in the issues, but he knew that the new president couldn't dictate the solutions. So Dave would rather probe each man's leadership and integrity. Would that man be able to persuade others to follow his lead? Could he be trusted to select competent advisors? Was he more interested in the trappings of the office than in serving the people of the country?

This was what mattered to Dave, but the moderator on the televised debate had not asked these types of questions.