



The Solari Report

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Haiti and Disaster Capitalism with Dr. Dady Chery



Catherine Austin Fitts



Dr. Dady Chery



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C. Austin Fitts: Ladies and gentlemen, it is a pleasure to introduce to you somebody new to The Solari Report, Dr. Dady Chery, who has written a remarkable book which I've reviewed on the website, *We Have Dared to Be Free: Haiti's Struggle Against Occupation*. It was just published recently. Dr. Chery is a professor of the biological sciences but, also a journalist and writer, and is an editor of *News Junkie Post*.

From the time I first read her book, I said, "You must have great scientific training to bring this kind of discipline to telling a story of so much harm done to something that you love deeply."

A remarkable intellectual, and a writer who has touched our heart, Dr. Chery, welcome to The Solari Report.

Dr. Dady Chery: Thank you very much. I'm pleased to be on The Solari Report. Thank you for the kind introduction.

C. Austin Fitts: Tell us about how you came to write the book because, my guess is that when you were studying biological science, this was not what you expected to do with your life.

Dr. Dady Chery: Not at all. The earthquake came to me almost like there was a seizure in the earth, and along with that, it was something that just pushed me away from what I was doing and drew me back to Haiti and to my family. The book really began to write itself when the earthquake happened January 12, 2010. I thought, "I have lost about one-third of my family in the house in Haiti."

The house was built of cement, and it was on a ravine. When I thought about



it as a scientist, I felt, “There is no way that they can survive this.”

To avoid the horrible images that were on the television and everywhere, I began to write a journal – kind of a record keeping – about what I saw and about what was happening in the United States and how it was being presented there, and how it was being presented in Haiti from the news that I could get about Haiti.

For more than a week, I could not get in touch with my family, and that is when I began to write. In the midst of considering the possible loss of my family and the loss of all the major landmarks of my childhood, I began to realize that there was also a loss of Haitian culture that was in progress, and I began to document this.

The book began as a journal. It grew into a kind of record-keeping. There have been other books written about Haiti, but not by Haitians. This is to some extent a record keeping by a Haitian.

Ultimately it became a love letter to my country of birth, and it has really just gotten me back into, not only understanding my country of birth, but also really appreciating it and trying to save it. I’m really trying to bring to people what is going on and why something must be done – why it is precious, and why additional things must be done.

C. Austin Fitts: It’s funny. In the United States in poor communities they refer to these things happening to them as ‘the beat down’, and one thing that you do a marvelous job throughout the book is describing all the different things going on in a way that somebody can connect the dots and see the ‘beat down’.

You certainly succeeded in a way that is most unique.

Dr. Dady Chery: Thank you.

C. Austin Fitts: I once had a partner from Montserrat who I turned to one day. I said, “How come so many of my partners come from islands?”



He said, “Because on an island, what goes around comes around. You can see things whole. America is just a really big island. It’s too big, and they can’t see it whole.”

Dr. Dady Chery: True.

C. Austin Fitts: You definitely see it whole, and you have a great feeling for economics despite a science and journalist background. That doesn’t necessarily make somebody so good at following how the money works, but you seem to have a real nose for it.

Dr. Dady Chery: As soon as I saw what was going on and what was happening on American television you have images of catatonic Haitians – people covered with dust, dust covering their faces, people on stretchers, and so on. That was a discourse in the United States. In Haiti, the discourse was how we were saving each other. It was about how the UN and the Haitian national police were actually looking out for their colleagues and not regular Haitians.

The regular Haitians were actually tearing up walls and dragging people out from the rubble. There was one particular story about this teenager who destroyed a wall to get his classmates out of a collapsing building. This is what we were talking about.

We were mourning the dead, but we were also celebrating the fact that we had helped each other and were helping each other through this very, very difficult time. Yet in the US, I was being set up – particularly by Bill Clinton and Paul Farmer – saying it was a situation for massive infusion of donations and massive donations of aid money.

I didn’t understand it at first, but I caught on to that very, very quickly. They essentially assumed the voices of the Haitians. There was a particularly notable article in *Newsweek*. It had a photo of a Haitian woman where her hand was covering her face, so she had no identity. The article was Bill Clinton just

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just carrying forth about the earthquake and speaking on behalf of Haitians.

Now in the context of everything that happened after that, one can easily understand it.

C. Austin Fitts: I'll get to it later, but six months before the earthquake, when he was announced as the UN's Special Ambassador to Haiti, the first thing I said to myself was, "Uh-oh. They're going to hit Haiti."

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes.

C. Austin Fitts: I want to start and go through the history of Haiti because one of my favorite parts of your book is when you go back and introduce the reader to the Haitian history and the culture. The roots of what is happening today are very deep, and I think you do an extraordinary job of bringing that out.

Maybe you could just give us a little briefing on the history of Haiti. How did Haiti come to be its own republic? How did Haiti come to be?

Dr. Dady Chery: I have titled my book *We Have Dared to be Free*, and that is a quote directly from the Haitian Declaration of Independence, which is a marvelously poetic document. In it, Haiti's founding father, Jean-Jacques Dessalines writes, "We have dared to be free. Let us be this by ourselves and for ourselves. Let us imitate the grown child. His own weight breaks the boundary that has become an obstacle to him."

In other words, he is saying, "This is it. We have taken a huge, audacious step in human history. As a group of players, we have emancipated ourselves."

It's not going to end there. We are going to fight a continuous revolution, but let us take this first step. In this first step, we are actually using our own weight that we used to think of as an impediment to break the boundaries of space.

This is just incredibly inspiring. You see, Haiti is really the founding country of the Americas. It is the second republic of the Americas, and it is the first black republic and the only country that has arisen from a successful slave revolt.



In other words, Haiti is really the first republic because when Haiti became a republic on January 1, 1804, the United States – which was the other republic – was a slave-owning country. By definition, a republic – something that respects the rights of men – should not be a slave-owning country. So as little as we were, we were the founding country of the Americas. We are the country that forced the French Revolution, the American Revolution and the Great Enlightenment thinkers to walk their talk and reject slavery as having any part in the rights of men.

C. Austin Fitts: I just finished reading a book that I reviewed for the website last year called *Half Has Never Been Told* by a historian from Cornell who really went back and studied American slavery. One of the things it does is underscores the importance of the Haitian revolution and the success, not just to the revolution, but of defeating multiple armies – the French, the British, the Spanish. It wasn't so easy.

Dr. Dady Chery: Not at all.

C. Austin Fitts: They make clear that it sent shock waves. The inability to reverse the shock waves throughout the Americas really had a remarkable influence ultimately on getting slavery cancelled in the United States.

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes. Jefferson had said, “From Haiti came the pest of rebellion.”

When you think about it, this was the jewel of France, a country of 500,000 black slaves and 28,000 free blacks and mulattos right in the middle of the French Revolution, which was completely contradictory to what everybody was supposed to believe in.

Along with all of this in Haiti, there have always been escaped slaves. There have been people from the moment the boat landed who took off for the hills. There was a culture of the escaped slaves. In 1791, an escaped slave called Boukman, was the person who started the revolution. He held a meeting in an area called the Bois Caiman where a group of Haitians – a group of slaves – decided that they will not be slaves anymore, and they would kill their masters by every means possible. They would set fire and poison everything if they



needed to, but this had to stop.

The rebellion was crushed, but after that it was over because Toussaint Louverture stepped in and he was extremely disciplined. He joined the fight, and the army kept growing.

Initially what he joined the British and the Spanish in fighting the French and weakening the French hold on the country. Then when the French started talking more about ending slavery – even though they didn't really mean it – he joined the French to get rid of the British and the Spanish. This involved beating tens of thousands of well-trained armies. Throughout all this, there were European armies claiming that they were dying of yellow fever and malaria because they were too embarrassed to say that a bunch of barefoot slaves were beating them.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: I sometimes talk about mosquitoes with bayonets. By 1801, Toussaint had such control of the country that he actually drafted the first Haitian constitution. Even while France was supposed to still own Haiti, Toussaint was playing a kind of dangerous game. He wanted the protection of France while he ran what was effectively an independent country.

The French very quickly switched from the Jacobins – who were more radical – to Napoleon. When Napoleon came, he wanted to reestablish slavery. Ultimately what happened, was they invited Toussaint to a meeting, and he really didn't think anything of it because he thought, "We've already beaten the French and the Spanish and the British. We've established this relationship." However, they kidnapped him and his family, took him to France where he died in prison in France.

Napoleon really made a mistake because he thought that by getting rid of Toussaint he was killing the Haitian revolution, but he didn't understand the idea of a grassroots revolution. He was a racist and couldn't have understood that there were other black generals who were equally qualified to finish the battle and get hold of the country.



C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: By November 1803, Dessalines, – whose quote I just read – fought the decisive battle against the Napoleon Army, which was actually led by Napoleon’s brother-in-law who was a reputed sadist. Dessalines won that battle, called the Battle of Vertieres, and the following January 1st Haiti declared independence.

After that Napoleon, having lost his jewel in the Caribbean, gave up his properties in the Americas. He gave up the Louisiana territories. Most people don’t realize that this is not just Louisiana; this is about a third of the current day United States.

C. Austin Fitts: Right, and it was a huge shift.

Dr. Dady Chery: It was a huge, huge shift, and Jefferson made the deal with Napoleon. I should say that Jefferson actually allowed the establishment of slavery in the Southern territories – the Louisiana territories. So much for the great anti-slavery President, Jefferson.

When I think about this, and about Haiti, I think we are the Little Prince. If you read *Little Prince*, it’s the notion that we own the place because we take care of it. This is a radical notion. It’s a really bold nation. Yes, we were kidnapped by this place. Even by the time of the Haitian revolution, two-thirds of the slaves were still Africans who had been moved to Haiti because the slave masters were so cruel that they had to always be replenishing the slave population. One of their things was that the Ivory Coast was a good mother, and it was cheaper to get a new slave than to keep one. They would just work their slaves to death.

This is the place from which Haitians come. When we are faced with a problem, the Haitian mentality – which is also my mentality – is that there is nobody who is our equal and there is nothing we can’t beat, and whatever it is,

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we've seen worse.

C. Austin Fitts: That sounds a little bit like the Chinese.

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes. This is where we are coming from much of the time.

The US did not recognize Haitian independence until 1862, well into the Civil War. That was a real problem for Haiti, and France threatened to pay back Haiti. One of the mistakes that Haitians made was to start to pay France damages, which was an awful thing for the Haitian economy.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: But as always, Haiti was this dark, forbidden place. There was a saying that describes going from the Dominican Republic into the Haitian side as, "Taking the wrong step."

It was displaced with the crazy slaves, and completely radical. It was because, even though in the Haitian Declaration of Independence there is a little clause that says, "We are going to be isolationists." Dessalines – the very first leader of Haiti – met with Miranda as early as February, 1804, a month after independence. Miranda left Haiti with the Venezuelan flag. It was designed in Jacmel, Haiti.

Later on Simon Bolivar came. Pétion was the President. This was in 1816, and Haiti assisted Bolivar in his attempts to liberate South America from the Spanish.

Initially he gave Bolivar a printing press, weapons, gunpowder and so on. Bolivar made some mistakes. He came back and Pétion helped him to organize and discipline his people. That second time he gave him 300 Haitian men, and Bolivar wrote about it. He said, "These men fought like thousands against the Spanish."

In addition to being responsible for one-third of the United States going to Jefferson, we are also responsible for changing the map of South America and liberating South America from slavery.



C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: Brazil, Ecuador, Columbia, Panama, Bolivia, and all these countries owe their independence to the fact that Pétion in Haiti helped Bolivar.

C. Austin Fitts: Right. In my experience, once a group of slaves gain the better of a group of private interests, the private interests never let go. It's fair to say that the US has been in Haiti throughout its history. Maybe you could talk about Haiti from the 1800's – from Lincoln to the present. The US meddling off and on in Haiti and there's no doubt about that.

Dr. Dady Chery: Oh, yes. The US has stuck around and meddled and threatened not to recognize almost every Haitian President. In 1915, there was a particularly awful Haitian President who had actually ordered the assassination of a group of political prisoners in prison. The population just couldn't take it.

He took refuge in the French embassy, and citizens dragged him out of the French embassy and literally tore him to bits.

The narrative in the US press and from the US President was, "These are just a bunch of black barbarians, and we need to go in there and create order." Besides, there was a war going on. There was an association with the Germans that the US decided it didn't like. So they invaded Haiti in 1915 and stayed until 1934.

The US actually occupied Haiti during Woodrow Wilson's presidency. What's remarkable about all this is Haiti is again occupied by the United States and much of the current US occupation of Haiti follows the model of the 1915 to 1934 occupation with some changes and modifications.

For example, one of the things that Haiti was forced to sign was that there would be a US High Commissioner of Haiti who would be an American to run the country along with a nominal Haitian President. The US High Commissioner of Haiti then was General John H. Russell. I think that the US High Commissioner of Haiti now is Bill Clinton.



Another thing done was that all white-collar jobs were given to Americans. At the time, the Democratic Party was the party of the South and it was very, very racist. The Marines in Haiti were extremely racist. Americans moved to take these white-collar jobs from all over Haiti, and they were very, very racist, and were extremely unqualified.

These Americans had Haitian servants and lived in villas. It was a very cushy kind of thing. I think the NGO's of today are actually rather similar to this whole thing. Back then there wasn't a pretense of any kind of humanitarianism. The occupation was naked. The country's flag was lowered and the American flag was raised. It was an occupation.

Another thing the US did was trained what is called a 'Gendarmerie'. It was basically an army that came directly under the command of the US State Department, and only Americans could be the officers in that army.

C. Austin Fitts: Why did they leave in 1934?

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes, this is a story that is very seldom told. What happened was an army of peasants organized and led by a man named Charlemagne Peralte. At their peak, there were 40,000 of them. Throughout all this, the US called it 'a group of bandits'. The US never acknowledged that they were actually at war against a Haitian army.

They were ultimately defeated but the resistance continued. There were workers' strikes and student strikes. Ultimately the NAACP, which was already in existence, got involved. James Weldon Johnson of the NAACP, actually visited Haiti and started writing about the horrors. Women's groups in the United States started writing about this. Of course, there was also the stock market crash that made things not so appealing anymore and made investments not so appealing. It was FDR who had actually been part of the occupation and had bragged about writing the new Haitian Constitution. Ultimately, he and his friends didn't think of Haiti as their little morsel as much as Woodrow Wilson did. He came back to Haiti in 1934 for a ceremony that ended the occupation where they lowered the American flag and raised the Haitian flag. That is how the whole thing ended.

When I grew up in the 1960's and early 70's in Haiti, the reverberations of the



racist American occupation was still there, and there was a President named Dumarsais Estimé who had done a lot of really wonderful things. He had started the rice cultivation as a major part of the economy in Haiti, and had major anti-poverty programs. Francois Duvalier was actually the minister of health in Dumarsais Estimé's government.

Francois Duvalier started out as one of a group of Haitian intellectuals who were part of a kind of black power movement in response to this awful occupation. This is how Duvalier dictatorship began in Haiti; he took over in 1958, and in 1963 he declared himself President for Life.

Duvalier was a number of things, and people find it not so easy to explain. He was extremely prudish and intolerant of the left as well as the right. He actually hated Fidel Castro, and thought that the US should have embraced him as a kind of alternative to Fidel Castro.

At the same time, he was fiercely nationalistic. When the US did not embrace him, he kicked out the US ambassador. He also kicked out the clergy that was in Haiti, who were mostly Canadian. The US under John Kennedy denied him foreign aid. That was the best thing they could have done for Haiti because the Haitians that I grew up with, were doing things for each other. It was mostly an agricultural economy and most jobs were in agriculture. People planted and harvested. People sold food. You had a lot of small business people – beauticians, shoemakers, dressmakers, doctors, nurses, and so on. They were all Haitian; we didn't have NGOs at the time.

Everybody I came in contact with was another Haitian. I was poor, but I had a life. The life around me was vibrant. It was colorful. It was musical. It was – to my mind now – a shining example of sustainability. It was an example of, “You can be sustainable and not be drab and not have to go live in a cabin somewhere in the dark and so on,” but it has to be done in ‘community’.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

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Dr. Dady Chery: We were supposed to be poor. We were supposed to be the poorest country in the Western hemisphere. But I think of it as that we were the country with the lightest footprint in the Western hemisphere. We were mostly poor, but we were happy. Life was good; life was rich.

C. Austin Fitts: And your rice industry grew remarkably.

Dr. Dady Chery: Our rice industry was fantastic. The country supplied 100% of its food needs and even exported food. This was Haiti in the 1960's and 70's. Even as late as the 1980's Haiti was producing more than 80% of its food.

People don't make that distinction, but Duvalier, the Father, was a very, very complicated kind of dictator, but Duvalier's son was really kind of a simpleton. There are rumors that he was probably retarded. When he became President at 18 years old, USAID moved right in and began to govern the country together with him.

C. Austin Fitts: What year was that?

Dr. Dady Chery: This was 1971.

C. Austin Fitts: 1971. Okay.

Dr. Dady Chery: The father died, and that's when the son came in. This was a completely different kind of administration. The son's government absolutely welcomed aid. It was completely corrupt. It is what started all the factories – the baseball-making factories and the sweat shops and so on. The USAID basically was running the country.

In 1982, the plan for the country was that Haiti should be changed to an export economy. The groups that were in charge of doing this were USAID, the OAS (Organization of American States), and the IDB (Inter-American Development Bank). They actually had a plan to starve Haiti's peasants out of the rural areas and herd them into Port-Au-Prince to work in factories.

C. Austin Fitts: That plan is happening all over the world; it's not just in



Haiti. It's happening everywhere.

Dr. Dady Chery: Oh, yes. It is happening everywhere, but it has happened to everybody before us. People like to look at Haiti and think it's some kind of blank slate on which they can come and do whatever they want; as if Haitians haven't governed the country with the idea in mind of keeping it in a certain way.

Haiti is one of the last places where they're doing this, and it's because we have actually mentioned the idea of revolution for a long time. They came in, and one of the things they did was wiped out 1.3 million creole pigs. These were little pigs that had adapted to the island for over 300 years.

The US declared that there was a Swine Flu, and every pig had to be killed. To show the extent of this, Haiti has several offshore islands. They wiped out every single pig, including the ones that were on islands that could not ever have come in contact with anyone.

C. Austin Fitts: So they wiped out your independent food supply.

Dr. Dady Chery: Absolutely. Just to give you an idea, the pigs were part of the ceremony that launched the Haitian revolution. There was a pig in sacrifice. The pigs had sustained the escaped slaves. They are part of Voodoo. They are part of Haitian religion.

They also served as somewhat of a bank account for small farmers. The pigs would eat anything, and they would get fat. When you had to send your kid to school, you would slaughter a pig and you would sell the meat at market.

This was a huge blow to the peasant economy.

C. Austin Fitts: When did they wipe out the indigenous rice?

Dr. Dady Chery: That was in 1994. Clinton was president from 1993 to 2001. Jean-Claude Duvalier was ousted. There was actually a popular revolt that ousted Jean-Claude Duvalier in 1986, and Haitians wrote a new Constitution. It was the first time that a Constitution in Haiti had been written in two languages – Creole, which is the native language, and French.



In 1991, there was an election that overwhelmingly elected Aristide who was deposed almost immediately.

When Clinton became President in 1994, he reinstated Aristide, under his terms. Among his terms was the fact that tariffs on agricultural goods would be nonexistent and that Arkansas rice would be dumped in Haiti – subsidized Arkansas rice.

C. Austin Fitts: Right, so you put all the farmers out of business.

Dr. Dady Chery: This is how they wiped out the Haitian rice economy. So much for Clinton helping.

There was another administration between, which was run by Clinton. In 2004, around the time when Aristide started agitating for the French to repay Haiti for the money that had been extorted after the Haitian revolution, he started agitating for an increase in wages for factory and assembly workers. Immediately he was deposed. That was February 29, 2004.

By June 2004, Clinton had established a UN occupation. It was a military occupation, except this time it was not by American Marines, but by the UN. It was unprecedented because it was a Chapter 7 kind of occupation where they could kill people.

In this particular case, there was not a civil war. There was no war at all. It was completely unprecedented. He managed to do that because he got Brazil involved in this.

Celso Amorim was the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Lula in Brazil. He was very close to the Clintons, who suggested that if Brazil started taking a greater part in world affairs by doing things like helping to occupy Haiti, it might eventually get a seat on the United Nations Security Council.

Brazil was the first country to come into Haiti and help to mop up the Aristide partisans who were still fighting against the removal and kidnapping of Aristide and his removal from the country. Ultimately it became the ABC country – Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. Then over the years it expanded.



This has been going on now for 12 years – since 2004 – and every year it is renewed even though Haitians do not want it. Haitians have protested against it every single year.

The ironic thing about it is these other countries are the ones that Haiti helped to liberate from slavery, and these people actually march around and speak about Bolivar and Pétion and the great relationship with Haiti – even as they're stabbing Haitians in the back by participating in the occupation. This includes countries that people think of as being leftist, like Ecuador and Bolivia, and even thought Brazil was leftist.

Brazil has almost always been the leader of this military occupation, and Celso Amorim went from Minister of Foreign Affairs under Lula to Minister of Defense under Dilma. As Minister of Defense he talked initially about ending it, but he kept it right up.

He reappeared in Haiti last year as the lead of an OAS election observation mission for an election that was completely fraudulent, where 70% of the ballots turned out to be from zombies.

C. Austin Fitts: It sounds like the American elections!

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes, but you see, this is what is getting transferred.

Hillary Clinton literally referred to Haiti as a laboratory. I discovered that she had done that after I described that in my book; that Haiti is being used as a laboratory to test up methods of repression, and to export them. What I also say is that we can do the same thing. We can actually test methods of resistance and export them, and I hope we will because if we don't we're all doomed. I really think that Haiti's future is the same as everyone else's future.

C. Austin Fitts: Oh, I agree. It's all about sovereignty. If you look at the

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same struggle with sovereignty in the United States, it's very similar to what I read in your book about Haiti.

Let's go to the earthquake in 2010 because, in addition to the UN occupying in 2010, the US invaded with Bill Clinton at the helm in front of the US military. Just bring us up to date with 2010 to 2015. What has happened? In particular, I want to stress the rewriting of the Constitution at gunpoint.

Dr. Dady Chery: Oh, yes. Before 2010, it is significant that in 2009 Bill Clinton became the UN Special Envoy to Haiti around the same time that Hillary Clinton became Secretary of State in the United States.

C. Austin Fitts: What a coincidence.

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes, what a coincidence.

C. Austin Fitts: Let the racketeering begin.

Dr. Dady Chery: Exactly! This whole thing with Haiti is as if it went on steroids. Hillary Clinton told Cheryl Mills to reassess the whole Haiti thing. Meanwhile, Bill Clinton got all chummy with the UN. The outcome of this is that the Clintons controlled all possible aid to, not just Haiti, but to many countries. They controlled USAID through the State Department; they controlled World Bank because World Bank is held by a man who was a co-founder of Partners in Health together with Paul Farmer. Paul Farmer was named the Deputy of Special Envoy to the UN, and he was Clinton's right hand, and is considered the patron saint of the NGOs because he started Partners in Health.

They control the NGOs, the USAID, the World Bank, and through Clinton's various connections, Brazil and various other countries.

The earthquake happened on January 12, 2010. By March, 2010, Clinton already had the Haitian parliament voting on making an organization that he had started to run the country. This organization is called the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC). It was supposedly co-chaired by Clinton and Haiti's Prime Minister, who was Jean-Max Bellerive at the time, but really it was



run by Clinton.

It had two groups of people. It had a group of foreigners, which were much larger than the group of Haitians. It included some unnamed donors, and it was absolutely crooked – completely crooked – and very blatantly slow. To be in this group, you had to have contributed \$100 million or to have forgiven \$200 million worth of debt.

It was a strictly ‘pay to play’ kind of affair, and it included the OAS, the UN, and Venezuela was part of this. Venezuela was unusual in that way. It wanted to be in to understand what was going on with the country. The European Union was involved, and a bunch of Clinton’s rich friends. Haiti was going to be his little pot that he was going to share with a bunch of his friends.

To make things look good, there were going to be some Haitians involved. Every Haitian had to be approved by the foreigners. It was going to be one person to represent the lower house of the parliament, one person to represent the senate, one person to represent labor, one person to represent the Haitian business interest, and so on. All in all there were about seven of them, but in the Clinton group there were more than nine plus all the unnamed donors.

C. Austin Fitts: During this period, you had Clinton and Bush out raising fantastic amounts of money to help Haiti.

Dr. Dady Chery: Oh, yes. There was a Clinton and Bush initiative which started almost immediately after the earthquake. Within days of the earthquake they raised tens of millions of dollars. Quite a bit of this money went into building luxury hotels in one of the poshest neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince, an area called Pétionville.

C. Austin Fitts: So that money was used to lever their investments.

Dr. Dady Chery: Absolutely. I actually wrote something like that in a satirical play where you have some dignitary who is visiting Haiti after the earthquake, and he’s complaining that there aren’t palatial facilities for her.

C. Austin Fitts: Is it fair to say that there is an enormous gap between the



money that was raised to help the Haitian people and what got through? Did any get through?

Dr. Dady Chery: Let me just put it this way: The Haitian earthquake was probably the biggest money laundering operation ever. If you look at everything – various agencies and so on – only about 1% of the money was ever given to Haitian NGOs or the government. Some of the money went to Washington DC contractors, some went to Clinton friends, and so on. But for the most part, the money is unaccounted for.

A lot of the money was never spent and is completely unaccounted for, and nobody seems to be required to give an account or be required to have an audit. For example, the Red Cross collects almost half a billion dollars. It spends only tens of millions of dollars in the first year, and don't really explain what happens to the rest of the money. It's the same with USAID and various other organizations.

We get hints of this because of some little wars between different groups, and we find, for example, that there were instances where people came and bought a mansion or a fleet of cars and they did absolutely nothing. There were people in these groups who couldn't even speak Creole or even speak French.

About a month after the earthquake happened, the Ambassador to Haiti, Kenneth Merten, wrote the situation report. This was reported by my friend, Kim Ives, who is a journalist, and obtained information from the WikiLeaks Cable. The situation report was titled *The Gold Rush is On*.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: What he was referring to was the fact that Haiti would now be open to contracts to American businesses but fundamentally through larceny because these people were not really going to do anything.

C. Austin Fitts: How important do you think the gold deposits were to do what they did and at the time that they did it?

Dr. Dady Chery: I think they were probably very, very important. They have



investigated the gold deposits for quite a long time, and around 2004 it was confirmed that there was gold – lots of gold and lots of silver – in the mountain chain that went from northwest to southeast Haiti. It was most definitely a part of it.

Hillary Clinton's brother is on the board of a company that got a contract over Christmas. I was the one who was actually the whistleblower of this contract. It happened over Christmas in 2012 when nobody was paying attention. They just had the Minister sign away the rights to explore Haiti's gold without having a meeting with a committee on public works.

They put out a press release, and there had not been any kind of environmental impact assessment. When the Senate came back and met, they of course nulled this agreement. Jean-Max Bellerive had been the minister in cahoots with Clinton and the IHRC. He was also on the board of this mining company, together with Hillary Clinton's brother. So it's all in the family.

You have the Haitian elite mingling with the Clintons. The Clintons are very clever that way. They know how to share the pie so that everybody who is corruptible can get a piece.

C. Austin Fitts: Right. If you look at the 1915-1934 period, you have a time where people say, "You've got it; we want it. We're coming, we're occupying, we're taking it."

Now we're onto something so different. It's what I call a 'soft war' where, "We're helping you, and we are here to help." It's all about helping. It's all very fluffy. There are all sorts of great photo ops, and you're doing great things to help Haiti.

In the meantime, you're raping the place worse than you did in 1915-1934, but everybody can feel good about the check that they're getting because they know that they're 'helping'.

Dr. Dady Chery: Right. A French writer, Bricmont, calls it a humanitarian imperialism.



C. Austin Fitts: It's so funny because if you read your book, you can tell the covert operations. Whoever resists is being murdered and assassinated.

I had a company, Hamilton Securities Group, that was working in Washington when the Clintons were there, and people were dropping like flies. There were interns who had worked at the White House who were being gunned down in Starbucks. People were really dying.

The whole time, it's all very fluffy, and, "We're here to help women and promote good works."

Dr. Dady Chery: Oh, yes.

C. Austin Fitts: It's all very fluffy.

Dr. Dady Chery: But it's all the same really. On the surface it's fluffy. Part of the reason why it's so is they have their own little network of supposed alternative journalists who assume the voices of Haitians and report on this and don't really tell the truth. And, of course, there is also the mainstream media.

Regarding Hillary, for example, in 2010 there was what I call 'the color elections' and two candidates came up at the top in the first round of the Presidential elections, Jude Celestin and Mirlande Manigat. Hillary Clinton wanted Michel Martelly, who had come up fifth, and was completely out of it.

Well, she went to Haiti and demanded that the results be changed, and that is exactly what happened. The OAS, which was supposed to be counting the vote, devised a completely new method of counting the vote. They decided that no candidate could have received more than 250 votes from a precinct, and found that that formula got rid of the guy who had come at the top which made Martelly place.

In the second round you had Martelly and Mirlande Manigat, and, of course, Martelly won because that's whom Hillary Clinton wanted.

Now why on earth isn't Bernie Sanders talking about this?



C. Austin Fitts: Let me ask you something else. I saw the Clintons engineer the beginning of the housing bubble – the first wave. They really built the housing bubble. The bubble depended on predatory lending in the poor communities and the minority communities. They engineered the penal colonies. They were dropping SWAT teams into communities, rounding up innocent kids, and throwing them in prison. Congress had cut off money to the public defender’s office, so you had all these kids who were copping a plea who were totally innocent.

If you look at who was bringing in the drugs, I assure you it wasn’t the kids; you had an entrapment thing running. Then you put the kids in prison, and the Department of Justice turns around and markets that labor to the Department of Defense. You’re basically doing slave labor camps and that’s what occurred.

Dr. Dady Chery: Absolutely. Actually, the only labor that is cheaper than Haitian labor is prison labor.

C. Austin Fitts: Right, when you’re not rounding the Haitian farmers up to do slave labor camps in Haiti, the same thing is happening here.

Dr. Dady Chery: Absolutely.

C. Austin Fitts: They knew what they were doing. I’ve written a book about it. They were very clear and knew exactly what they wanted; it was a plan they were implementing.

In 1994, the Clinton Administration had issued new requirements as to what they wanted Freddie and Fannie to do in the low-income communities and minority communities. I looked at the numbers and I said to one of the senior people at FHA, “Look, you’re going to issue more mortgage insurance policies than there are homes in these neighborhoods. People are going to have to be refinancing their houses twice a year from prison to make these numbers.”

She looked at me and she said, “Shut up! This is none of your business.”

They knew exactly what they were doing.



Dr. Dady Chery: They got rid of Glass-Steagall and they promoted NAFTA. They knew that this would happen.

C. Austin Fitts: They knew Americans couldn't afford to pay back the student loans or pay back the housing debt with NAFTA and GATT passing. They knew all of that. It was a big, fraudulent inducement of the whole country.

Now here's the thing. They hired a bunch of African Americans in senior positions to help them do it and, if you look at the numbers, the African American community is supporting the Clintons by a huge margin.

Dr. Dady Chery: I know. Isn't that tragic! After all the things that they have done to African Americans and after what they have done in Haiti, Hillary Clinton is absolutely depending on the African American vote in the United States. It is horrible that this can happen – that the propaganda has reached such a level that everything that they've been doing in Haiti is somehow not filtering to the American community, even while they're suffering from the same things.

C. Austin Fitts: What happens to you when you talk with an American who supports the Clintons about this? What can they not connect?

Dr. Dady Chery: I think what it is, is this notion or idea that Clinton was the first 'black' President. I think African Americans have said, "I don't want to be wrong about who he was," but this notion that Clinton was somehow 'black' or an honorary black American – and I've got this affinity for black Americans – is just nonsense. It's absolute nonsense.

The fact, for example, they had Maya Angelou recite a poem at their inauguration and those kinds of symbolic things resonate with people. Even while they're doing all sorts of dirt to folks – putting them in prison and all the rest. It is horrible.

They knew Americans couldn't afford to pay back the student loans or pay back the housing debt with NAFTA and GATT passing.



I think Haitians can see a lot of this stuff more objectively. There is not the filter of racism through it. There is not this idea of, “It’s black versus white,”. Haiti has always been a class struggle, so I think it helps to see it much more clearly.

I think that the Obamas may be planning a foundation of their own. I saw something recently where Michelle Obama was wearing the Haitian flag colors at a sporting event. I was thinking, “Oh my! Is she going to be the next high commissioner of Haiti for the US?”

C. Austin Fitts: Oh Lord!

Dr. Dady Chery: Is this how it’s going to be done? Haitians will see through it whether she’s black or white. Haitians will see through it.

C. Austin Fitts: One of the things that concerns me is what Naomi Klein called disaster capitalism. What we’re watching is the new, friendlier, fascist form of disaster capitalism. I think Haiti – now that it’s documented in your book – is really a classic example.

If you look at the tactics being used in disaster capital around the world, they’re being used in America on so many different American communities, and yet we don’t seem to have the ability to connect the dots between the model here and the model as it’s applied elsewhere. There’s a lack of consciousness that we’re all targeted by the same model.

Dr. Dady Chery: There is a lack of consciousness, and I think that places like Haiti and probably places like Iraq and Libya are places where the corruptible go to be finished – like cattle. They go and they rub elbows with each other. They establish these networks for money laundering and everything else that they maintain.

One of the things that is coming out, particularly in Brazil where I think they’re doing some unprecedented house-cleaning, is that construction companies are central to a great extent of this corruption. In Brazil what happened is that the state company called Petrobras, was the main company that was giving out construction contracts. It was giving padded construction



contracts, and in construction everything is a matter of judgment – not necessarily objective. They were skimming and giving money back to the politicians, mostly for their political campaigns.

What happened in Brazil – and what is being uncovered in Brazil – is that all the political parties were and every major politician was involved. The corruption was absolutely systemic.

I suspect that if you were to do this in the United States, you would probably find the same thing because what I often say is that corruption is contagious.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: You cannot expect these people to go someplace and behave in a completely corrupted way and then come home and behave themselves. This doesn't happen.

C. Austin Fitts: Here's the thing. If you have a whole generation now that only knows how to make money by rigging things with government money, and you do something that makes the stock go up or generates more construction, you get some of the capital gains and you give it for the political campaign. They in turn win in the next campaign, and do something that juices the stock or the construction contracts, and around and around you go. The whole global economy is exhausted from being pumped and dumped with government money and government debt and similar games.

You know what the economy was like when this wasn't going on. The government money wasn't flooding in between 1963 and 1972, and markets could work. That is what happened.

Dr. Dady Chery: That's right. You can't really trust markets because they're being gamed. You had hurricane Katrina in the United States where you had the Clintons involved in some of the reconstruction.

C. Austin Fitts: Yes, it was a similar occupying force.

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes, and this is one of the most amazing examples because



because the same little homes – formaldehyde-laden mobile homes that were given to people as shelters in Katrina-- were then moved to Haiti after the earthquake. They were used as school rooms, and were giving kids headaches.

It was the same people just moving their operation to a different place. After hurricane Sandy, some of the NGOs wanting to settle in, and people were saying, “No, we don’t want that,” because we knew where that was headed.

In Detroit now, we’re looking at water being contaminated. As a biologist, I can tell you that if you control people’s water, you control people’s health.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: It’s as simple as that. You have Puerto Rico going through a bankruptcy. In effect what has happened in a lot of places is that the wealth and the commons are being privatized. You have museum pieces going back into private hands.

C. Austin Fitts: Except for this: Privatization is something that happens at a market price. When something is worth a dollar and you privatize it at \$0.10, that’s not privatization. I call it ‘piratization’ and I would say that is going on.

Dr. Dady Chery: I agree. I like that. ‘Piratization.’

C. Austin Fitts: Right. It’s not a market. There is such a thing as privatization, and it can work, but most of the privatization I see is not really that; it’s piratization.

Dr. Dady Chery: I completely agree.

C. Austin Fitts: For those listening to this, what can they do to really help Haiti? If they really wanted to help the Haitian people, what could they do?

Before I ask you that question, there is one other thing. Cuba was a key player – and this is a story I’ve heard from many different countries and many different places – of the 2010 to current period in Haiti. Cuba is famous for their health missionary work, and doing extraordinary things in Haiti. That’s



what you hear about – the Cuban medical missionary teams. They're competent, they're effective, and they're world-changers.

Dr. Dady Chery: The Cubans have been absolutely incredible. Cholera is not a fatal disease. Cholera is treated with rehydration and giving people electrolytes. The Cubans bragged that between 2011 and 2012 the places where they were treating people with cholera didn't have a single death whereas for the rest of all these NGOs had more like 3% of the cholera victims dying.

I called these deaths from cholera 'deaths from neglect'. It is not a fatal disease but rather death from neglect. The only reason people died from cholera is when they ingest a lot of the bacteria – millions of the bacteria – and they are not able to get to a hospital fast enough to stop the dehydration. It requires about a liter of liquid per hour.

Cuba came, and has been the major entity between Haitians and deaths from cholera. Many people don't know this, but Cuba itself had a cholera epidemic in July of 2012 and by September it was completely over. This is an incredible example that cholera can be eradicated in a matter of months.

We now have the UN saying, "We're going to have to form a 15-year plan to eradicate cholera and spend \$2.2 billion," most of which is going to be to buy vaccines that are completely useless.

C. Austin Fitts: Well, the vaccines will do a lot of damage.

Dr. Dady Chery: Some really well placed French companies like Sanofi-Aventis, a big pharmaceutical company, are set to go. The way Cuba has behaved has been absolutely exemplary. Venezuela, too, has done much for Haiti. Venezuela entered into an agreement with Haiti called the PetroCaribe agreement where they sent oil to Haiti at a ridiculously low interest rate that they had to pay. They would sell it at market price and send some of the money to Venezuela, at a one percent interest rate on the loan. This is what Haiti has been running on and how the reconstruction has been done – not with the \$14 billion of aid that disappeared.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.



Dr. Dady Chery: Cuba and Venezuela have been good to Haiti.

I tell people that, first of all, listen to native journalists. You listen to people who are telling you what is happening from Haiti, and you must learn to listen – not to give lectures to other people and not to assume that you know better and that you’re in a better position to analyze everything. You have to learn to listen to the other victims of the disaster capitalism because they are coming for you.

C. Austin Fitts: Right. And you know something? They’ve been coming for communities in the United States for decades now. This has been going on for quite a long time. I’ve always scratched my head trying to figure out how we can all connect globally and reverse the model.

Dr. Dady Chery: We need to assist each other’s struggles. We need to assist people who are struggling abroad.

You look at these people, and they’re completely globalized. The first person to actually do time for stealing aid money from Haiti is a Spanish guy, Rafael Blasco. He was in the Valencia local administration for years. He was one of the longest-lived politicians in Spain, but now doing six and a half years in prison.

He wasn’t just focused on Haiti; he was all over the place. He was in Nicaragua and Haiti. He was nailed for things he did in Nicaragua, but he was a three-part case, and Haiti was one of the parts.

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: Before Clinton latched onto Haiti and the Haitian earthquake, he was already involved. Right after he left the Presidency in 2001 he got involved in an earthquake in Gujarat, India.

You have to learn to listen to the other victims of the disaster capitalism because they are coming for you.



We cannot just be looking at our own little situations either. We really need to look throughout the world and to help each other. We need to assist each other through all of this. We need to expose the fraudsters wherever they are and finish their careers before they move on. This is what needs to be done.

C. Austin Fitts: You have a whole world of people who are making money from disaster capitalism, and they're socially acceptable. They are rich and are socially acceptable for doing this. Part of it is: How do we stop supporting them in being fashionable about this? We need to switch the brand.

If you get rich from disaster capitalism, you need to be shunned. That's where America has failed terribly. We've never been willing to shun the people who have money.

Dr. Dady Chery: People with money?

C. Austin Fitts: Right.

Dr. Dady Chery: It's like John Steinbeck said: he'd never known any proletarians; he's only known embarrassed capitalists.

C. Austin Fitts: I've known some great capitalists who made money from the virtuous cycle, and they did great things.

Dr. Dady Chery: There are those, yes, but we really need a change of mindset. When you have somebody with hundreds of millions or billions of dollars who want more, and who are absolutely greedy, we have to learn to think of this as a disease. Any kind of hoarding disease we can see really well. If people hoard anything else, we can see very well it's a hoarding disease. It's actually a major psychological illness. Why don't we think about people who accumulate ridiculous amounts of money?

C. Austin Fitts: There is definitely a disease here. I would describe it as demonic. It's almost as though they have been possessed.

Dr. Dady Chery: It is absolutely demonic, and I think part of the reason they have had to really tear into Haiti so hard is because Haitians have a sense



of enough. You have to reduce what they have to absolutely nothing at all to get them into these miserable factories because people are happy with very, very little.

C. Austin Fitts: Right. This cannot be tolerated.

Dr. Dady Chery: No, it cannot be tolerated. That is why I fight so hard for Haiti. I think there is something there that is valuable for all humanity.

C. Austin Fitts: You have a spiritual and cultural power which is very threatening.

Dr. Dady Chery: Yes, and it is something that will need guidance because of the things such as climate change etc. We are going to have to change our entire way of thinking and our outlook. That entire thing about accumulation of money has got to go.

C. Austin Fitts: Well, you need a source of real power, and that has to come from spiritual and cultural roots. It can't come from money. Money is a tool; it's not a source of real power.

Dr. Dady Chery: Right. You look, for example, at a place that has virgin coasts with virgin forests. That is real wealth. It has coral reefs and fish and mangroves. That is true wealth. Money is nothing at all.

C. Austin Fitts: Right. Haiti has got it.

I want to thank you very much for doing this. I've taken up a lot of your time, but I think the story of Haiti is a very important story. There is going to be a lot thrown back and forth during the Presidential campaign, and I don't know if the truth of the money stolen vis-à-vis Haiti will come out. I certainly hope it does. Your book is an extraordinary contribution.

Just give us another minute and tell us how we can find and get the book, follow and support your work. Make sure we don't hang up without knowing how to stay in cahoots with you.



Dr. Dady Chery: Thank you very much for this chance to discuss Haiti. My book is called *We Have Dared to Be Free: Haiti's Struggle Against Occupation*. It's available at Amazon on Kindle and as a paperback. It is published by News Junkie Post Press. News Junkie Post Press is a relatively new press. They've published two books; the other book is called *Orwellian Empire* and it's by my colleague and the Coeditor in Chief of News Junkie Post, Gilbert Mercier.

I write and publish a lot of articles, and right now I'm publishing quite a bit about the elections and about the Clintons and the Clinton Foundation. I published this in News Junkie Post, at www.NewsJunkiePost.com and also on my site, which is www.DadyChery.org.

C. Austin Fitts: We wish you all the best of luck. You have done the world an extraordinary service by publishing this book and doing what you're doing. We just say blessings over you, and may everyone hear what you have to say.

Dr. Dady Chery: I couldn't think of better blessings. Thank you very much, and thank you very much for the review of my book.

C. Austin Fitts: Have a wonderful day.

Dr. Dady Chery: You, too. Thank you.



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