



The 20th century  
was about  
what belongs to who.

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SKIP INTRO

The 21st century is about  
who belongs to what.



For thousands of years, earth's  
resources have been extracted  
by bodies, most of whom were  
not free.

But now, it's our bodies,  
and our *selves*, being extracted.

And... mostly we offer  
it up for **FREE.**

[Stacy\\_is\\_sad](#) 1min ago  
I like honesty. Feels better

By merely existing you're leaving a huge data smudge in the world, but it's not in the physical world, it's up in the Cloud. Forever.



SEARCH HISTORY  
BIOMETRIC  
MEDICAL DATA  
SHOPPING HISTORY  
SEXTS  
DELETED PASSWORDS  
FAILED CREDIT CHECKS  
VOTING RECORD  
CRIMINAL RECORD  
DRIVING PATTERNS  
ONLINE VIEWING HISTORY  
PORN HITS  
EMAIL CONTENTS  
VACATION DETAILS  
GENEALOGICAL DATA  
DNA  
SPEECH PATTERNS  
LOGIC PATTERNS  
SCHOOL HOMEWORK  
VOLUNTARY SOCIAL MEDIA  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
INVOLUNTARY SOCIAL MEDIA  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
CREDIT RECORDS  
MILITARY RECORDS  
PRISON RECORDS  
GPS TRACKING  
MENSTRUAL AND FERTILITY DATA  
VOICE RECORDS  
MUSIC PREFERENCES  
ENTERTAINMENT PREFERENCES  
CONSCIOUS AND SUBCONSCIOUS  
PREJUDICES  
GEOLINKED CCTV IMAGERY  
WASTE STREAM DATA  
AMBIENT NOISE DATA  
SEXUAL TRAUMA  
DIETARY DISLIKES  
SUBSTANCE ISSUES  
NOSTALGIC TENDENCIES  
SEXUAL PREFERENCES  
SEXUAL FETISHES  
ERGONOMIC DATA  
AD PREFERENCES  
FACIAL AND FINGER RECOGNITION  
VACCINATION RECORDS  
FOOD DELIVERY HISTORY

The Cloud is



10-11

the new infinity

We've never had to think of our data as being a valuable commodity before.

Everyone talks about  
their data, but what does  
data even look like?



And even if you saw it,  
would you know what  
to do with it?

Wait...

Why are we approaching data and  
metadata as negative?

Maybe metadata is good, and maybe  
it somehow leads to... I don't know,  
a more focused existence?

Maybe mega-metadata is going to  
be our new frequent-flyer points  
system. Why not?

Endless linking and embedding can  
be disguised as fun or as practicality.

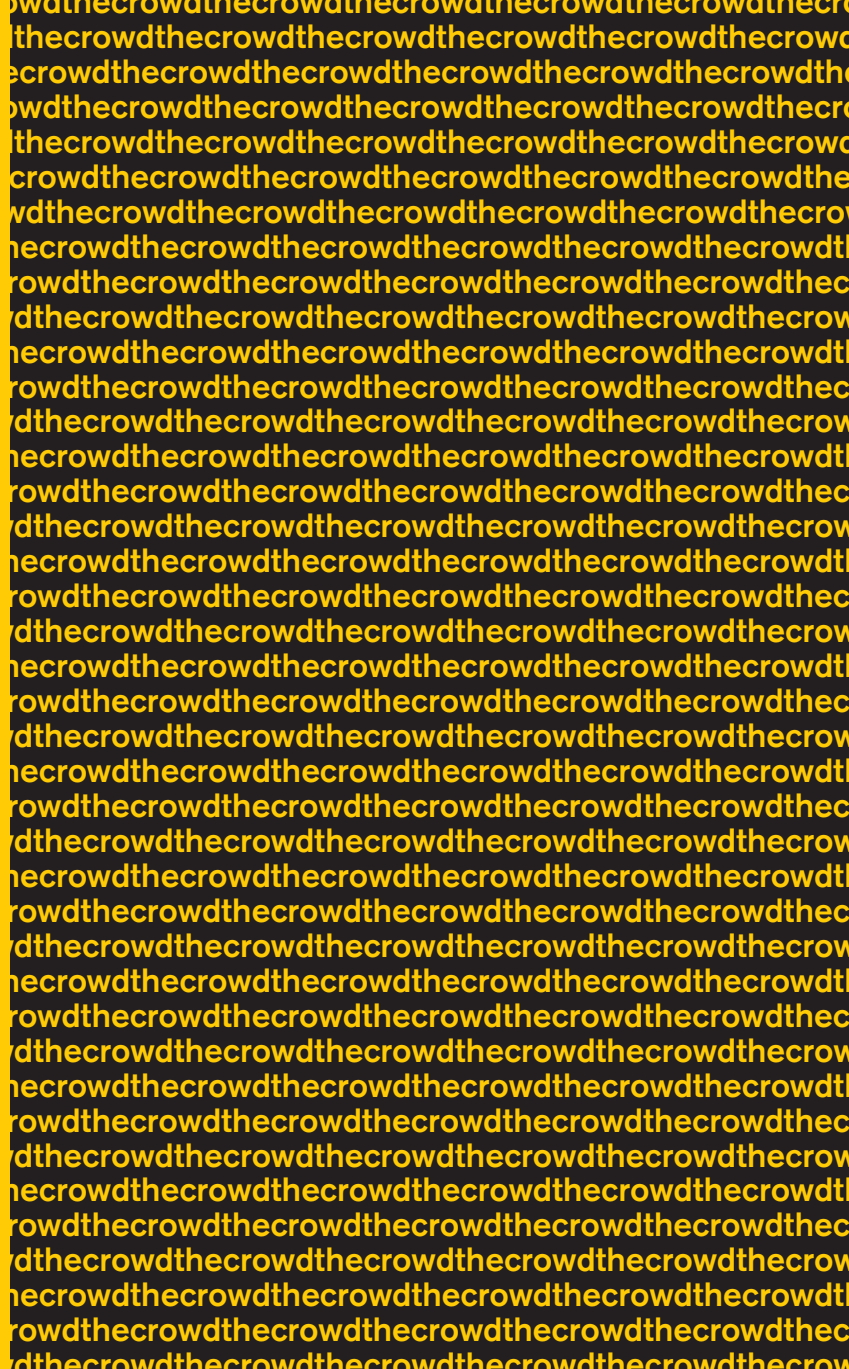
Or as loyalty... or servitude.

Who matters more:

The individual or...

[-srh\\_srh-](#) 5h ago

there is a difference being lonely and feeling lonely







**What is the  
opposite of you?**

...me?

...a crowd?

...a machine?

...a virus?

...some as-yet-unnamed entity?

16

**The opposite  
of the self is  
no longer the  
crowd.**

**The opposite  
of man is no  
longer nature.**

LEFT/RIGHT

PAST/FUTURE

Traditional  
binaries  
keep  
collapsing.

MALE/FEMALE

TRUTH/FALSEHOOD

DEMOCRACY/FASCISM

CAPITALIST/COMMUNIST

Feelings  
have  
obliterated  
facts.

Feelings may be fleeting but the engineering behind them isn't.

Once upon a time, feelings belonged to a person's 'private life.' History's first novels were mostly about characters navigating the storms of each other's feelings.

Today, feelings are now felt in public. Emotions are social, wired by technology. Is it strange we've let 'unemotional' machines govern what and how we feel? Who we feel love or hatred for? Especially now, when feelings are more influential than facts.

While at the same time, emotion has been devalued:

**Compassion fatigue**

**Inspiration fatigue**

**Fear fatigue**

**New normal fatigue**

**Awesome fatigue**

**Self-worth fatigue**

**10,000 steps fatigue**

**Bias fatigue**

**Truth fatigue**

**Hyperbole fatigue**

**Personal best fatigue**

**Weather fatigue**

**Meme fatigue**

**Screen fatigue**

**Swipe-right fatigue**

**Bingeing fatigue**

**Password fatigue**

**No liquids or gels fatigue**

**Victim fatigue**

**Hero fatigue**

**Upgrade fatigue**

**Update fatigue**

**Zero tolerance fatigue**

**Autocorrect fatigue**

**Statistics fatigue**

**Waiting fatigue**

**Future fatigue**

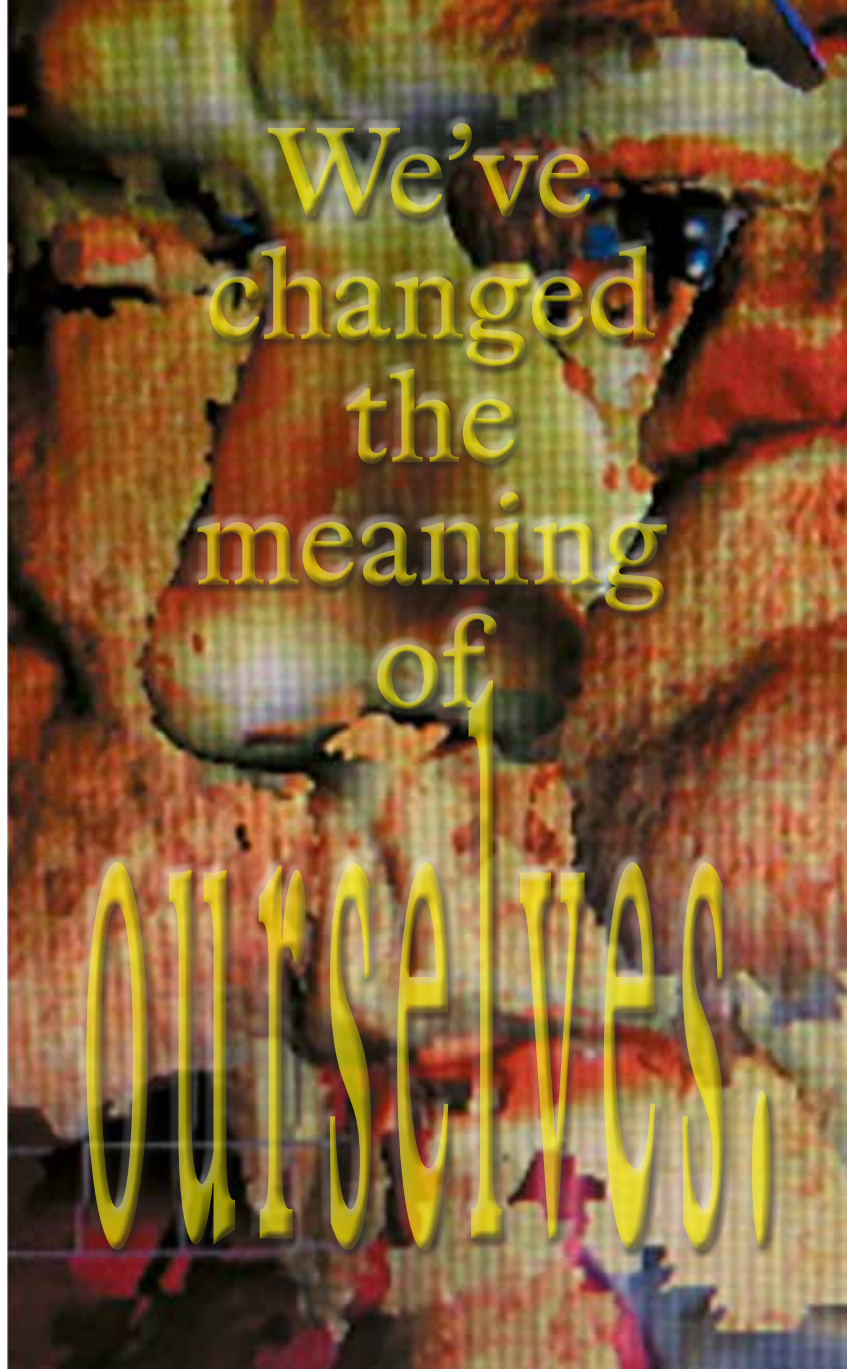
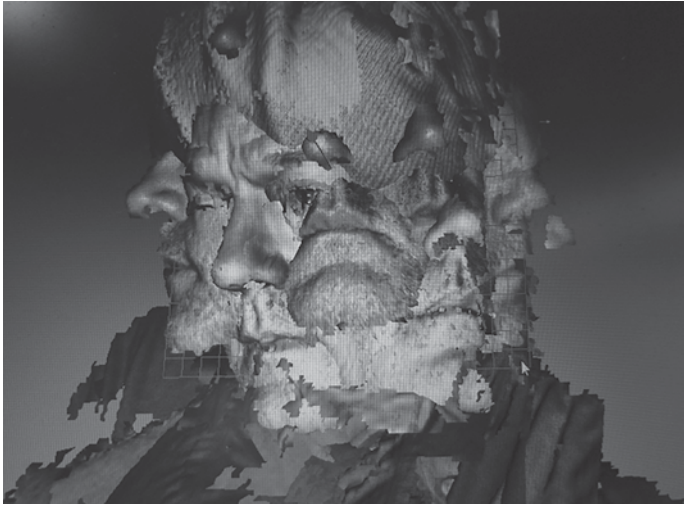
**Fatigue fatigue**

Feelings  
now  
legitimize  
lies



Could the expression of empathy  
be our new Turing Test?

We haven't just changed the structure  
of self-identity over the past few pages.





Welcome to...

...Age of You

# THE EXTREME SELF

## Age of You

Shumon Basar Douglas Coupland Hans Ulrich Obrist

With visual contributions from Agnieszka Kurant, Amalia Ulman, Amnesia Scanner & PWR, Ana Nicolaescu, Ania Soliman, Anna Uddenberg, Anne Imhof, Asad Raza, Barry Doupé, Bogosi Sekhukhuni, Cao Fei, Carsten Höller, Cécile B. Evans, Chen Zhou, Christine Sun Kim, Craig Green, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Emmanuel Iduma, Farah Al Qasimi, Fatima Al Qadiri, GCC, Goshka Macuga, Heman Chong, Ian Cheng, Ingrid Hora, Isabel Lewis, Jarvis Cocker, Jenna Sutela, Johannes Paul Raether, John Menick, Jürgen Klauke, Koo Jeong A, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Liam Gillick, Liam Young, Lorraine O'Grady, Lucy Raven, Lynn Hershman Leeson, Michael Stipe, Miles Gertler, Miranda July, Momus, Pamela Rosenkranz, Pan Daijing, Paul Mpagi Sepuya, Peter Saville & Yoso Mouri, Philippe Parreno, Pierre Huyghe, Precious Okoyomon, Rachel Rose, Raja'a Khalid, Rami Farook, Samuel Fosso, Sara Cwynar, Satoshi Fujiwara, Simon Denny, Sissel Tolaas, Sophia Al-Maria, Stéphanie Saadé, Stephanie Comilang, Suzanne Treister, Tabita Rezaire, Thomas Dozol, Thomas Hirschhorn, Trevor Paglen, Urs Lüthi, Victoria Sin, Wang Haiyang, Yaeji, Yazan Khalili, Yu Honglei, Yuri Pattison

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Oops!  
Something  
went wrong.  
We're working  
on getting it  
fixed as soon  
as we can.



You

are

disintegrating

We were wondering...



Do you still feel  
like an individual?

Twenty years ago this question would have made no sense.

**Now everybody knows what it means.**

We all know that we're changing inside our heads.

Quickly.

Too quickly.

Up until recently people were simply people.

Now we're turning into something else.

We all feel it.

We all know it.

Anyone over 40 knows  
what classic individuality  
felt like.



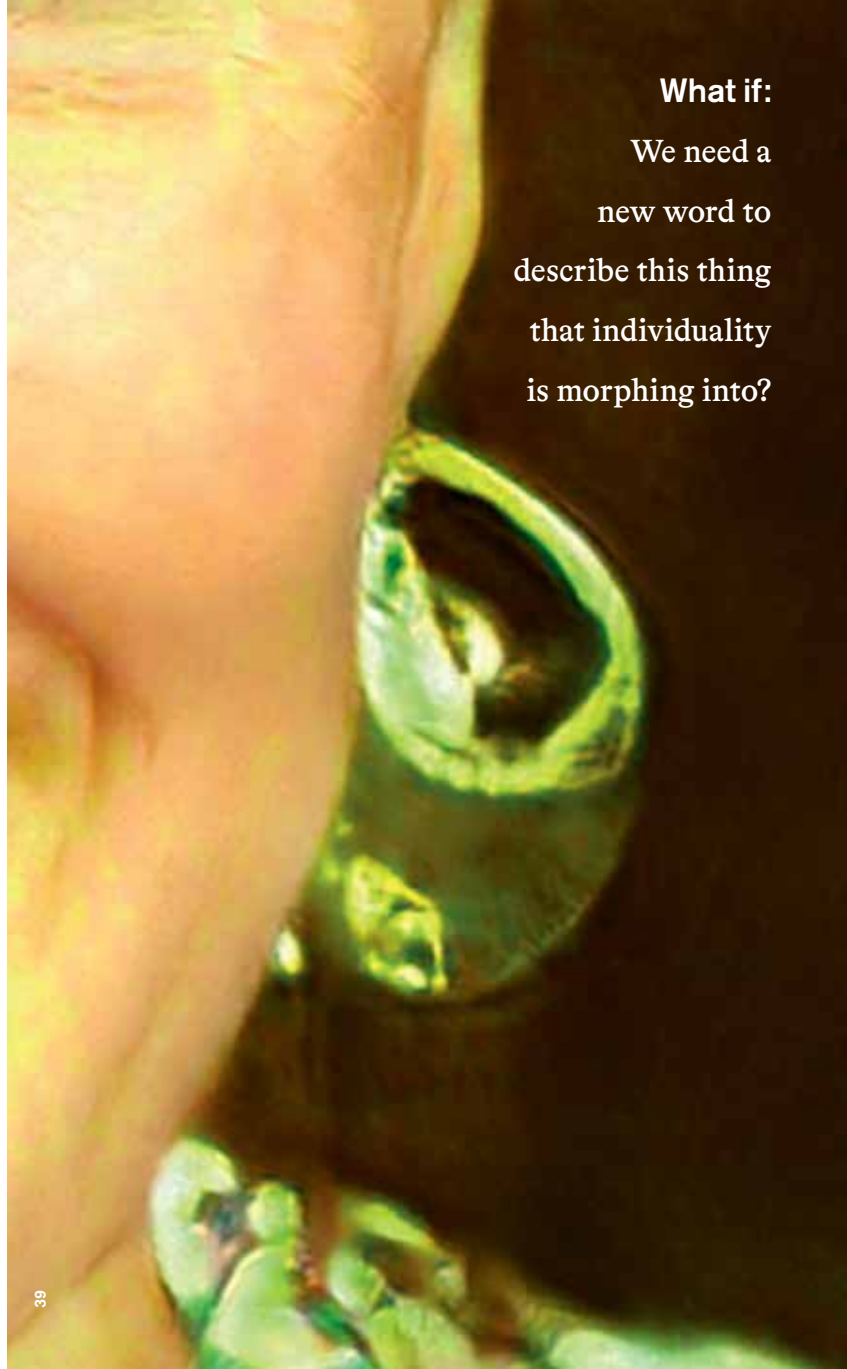
Now it's almost a  
handicap.

### **Autophobia**

The fear of being an individual

**It's all  
happening  
faster than  
we thought**

**What if:**  
We need a  
new word to  
describe this thing  
that individuality  
is morphing into?

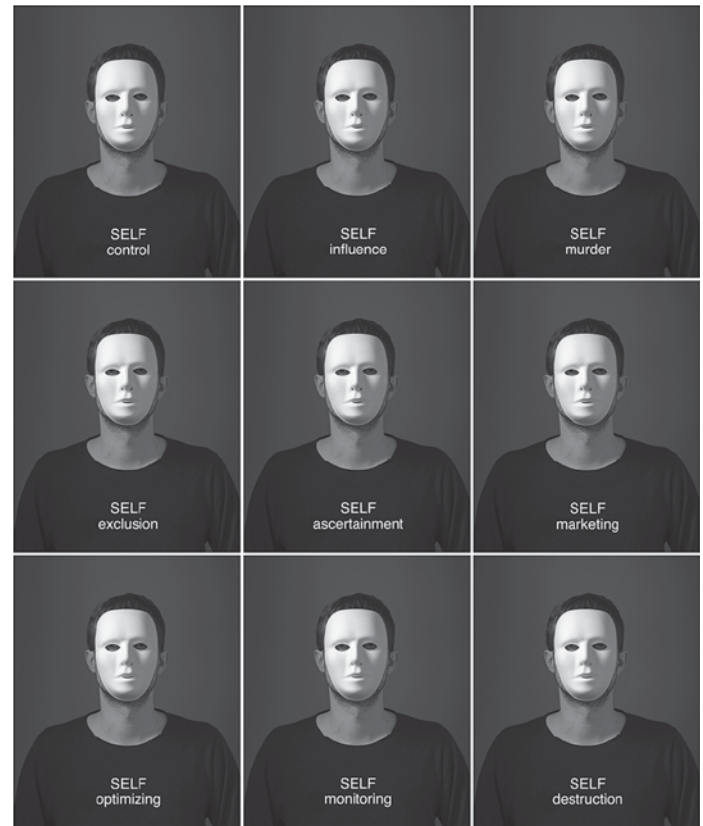


...you're now becoming your

# Extreme Self

...and it's happening to you  
as you read these words.

'Who,



Yes, you.

A large part of you has been extracted from you.

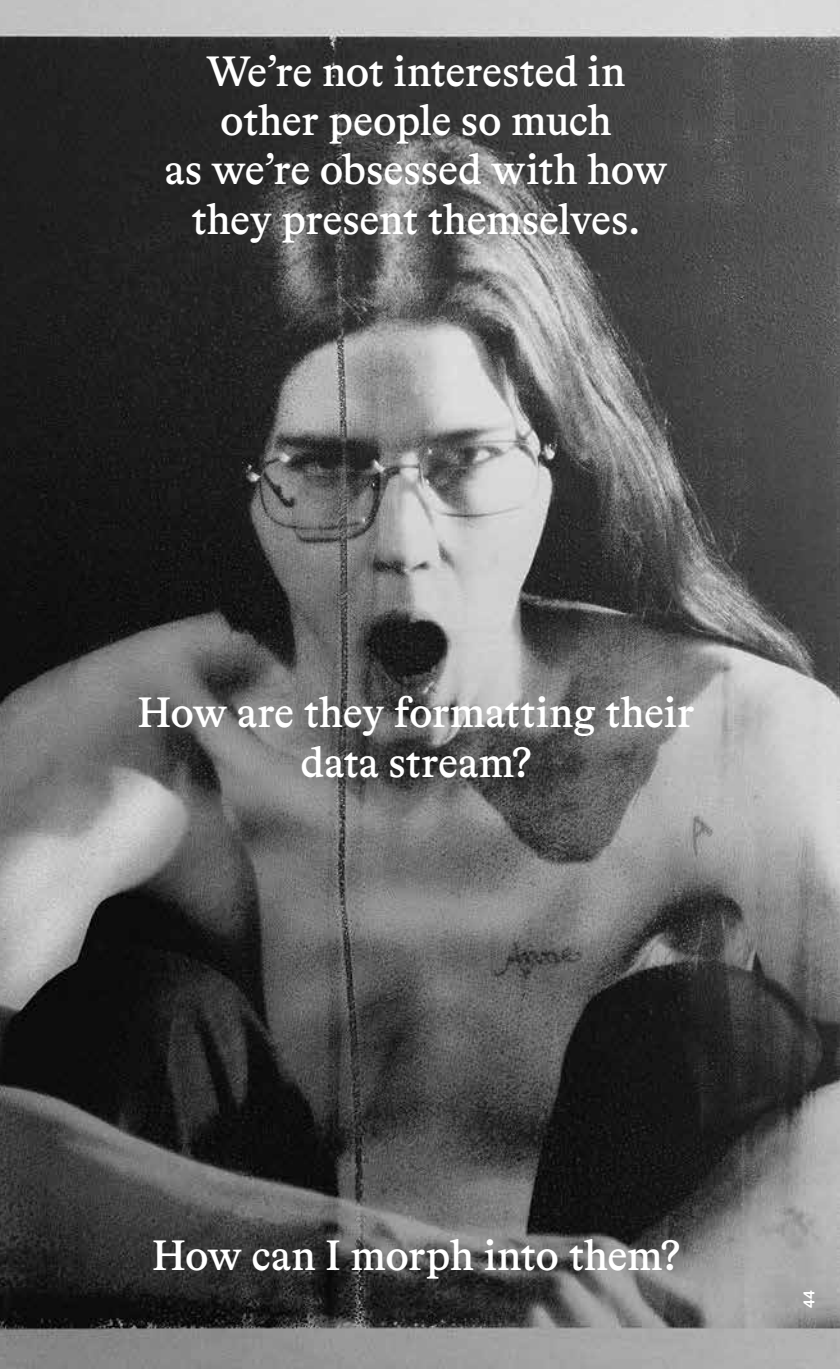
An ever-larger part of you now exists everywhere and nowhere.

It's both voluntary and involuntary.

It exists independently of your five senses.

There's never been anything like this before.

And it will continue, even after you die.



We're not interested in  
other people so much  
as we're obsessed with how  
they present themselves.

How are they formatting their  
data stream?

How can I morph into them?

# History no longer applies to you

'The only completely certain generalization about  
history is that, so as long as there is a human race, it will go on.'  
*Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Extremes:  
The Short Twentieth Century 1914–1991*



Whereas 20th century history tends to be characterized through geopolitics – the two World Wars, the Cold War, the War on Terror, even – could the battleground of 21st century history be decreasingly geopolitical and increasingly about *geoselves*.

# The Age of You is the new Age of Extremes.



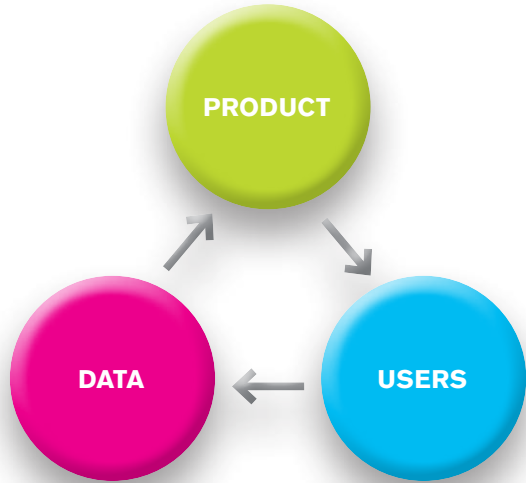


Figure: 'The virtuous circle of AI'

## Sorry, but what's virtuous about this?

At the moment Artificial Intuition is just you and the Cloud doing a little dance with relatively simple algorithms. But shortly everyone's dance with the Cloud will be happening together in a cosmic cyber ballroom, and everyone's data stream will be communicating with everyone else's and these data streams will all be talking about you: what did you buy today? What did you drink, ingest, excrete, inhale, view, unfriend, read, lean towards, reject, talk to, smile at, get nostalgic about, get angry about, link to, like or get off on?



Tie these quotidian data hits together with corporate, government data banks and hits begin to see you as something that's humbly easy to predict, please, anticipate, model, forecast, and replicate. Then tie this new machine intelligence realm in with some smart 3D graphics that have captured your body metrics and likeness, and a few years down the road you will become sort of beside the point.



A dematerialized parallel you already exists out there in the Cloud, but instead of being good or evil, it's mostly just machines telling other machines that you recently purchased a piqué-knit polo shirt in tones flattering to your skin at Abercrombie & Fitch.



**At what point do you stop becoming a person and become an object?**




**Why is being an object always portrayed as a bad thing?**



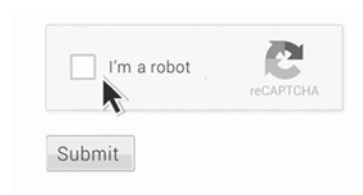
**Is there a situation where being an object is good?**






**Can our data  
be given  
the legal rights  
enjoyed by  
natural persons?**

**Will people  
crave the future  
legal rights  
enjoyed by data?**



I'm a robot  reCAPTCHA

Submit

# One in ten Icelanders will write a novel in their lifetime.

This is impressive, but I suppose  
the down side of this is that each novel  
only gets nine readers.

Our world is turning into a world  
of Icelandic novelists.

[Chikha\\_elf 30s ago](#)  
Do I like this?

Never before has being  
an individual been so  
easily broadcast.



Yet never before has  
individuality felt so ever-  
increasingly far away.

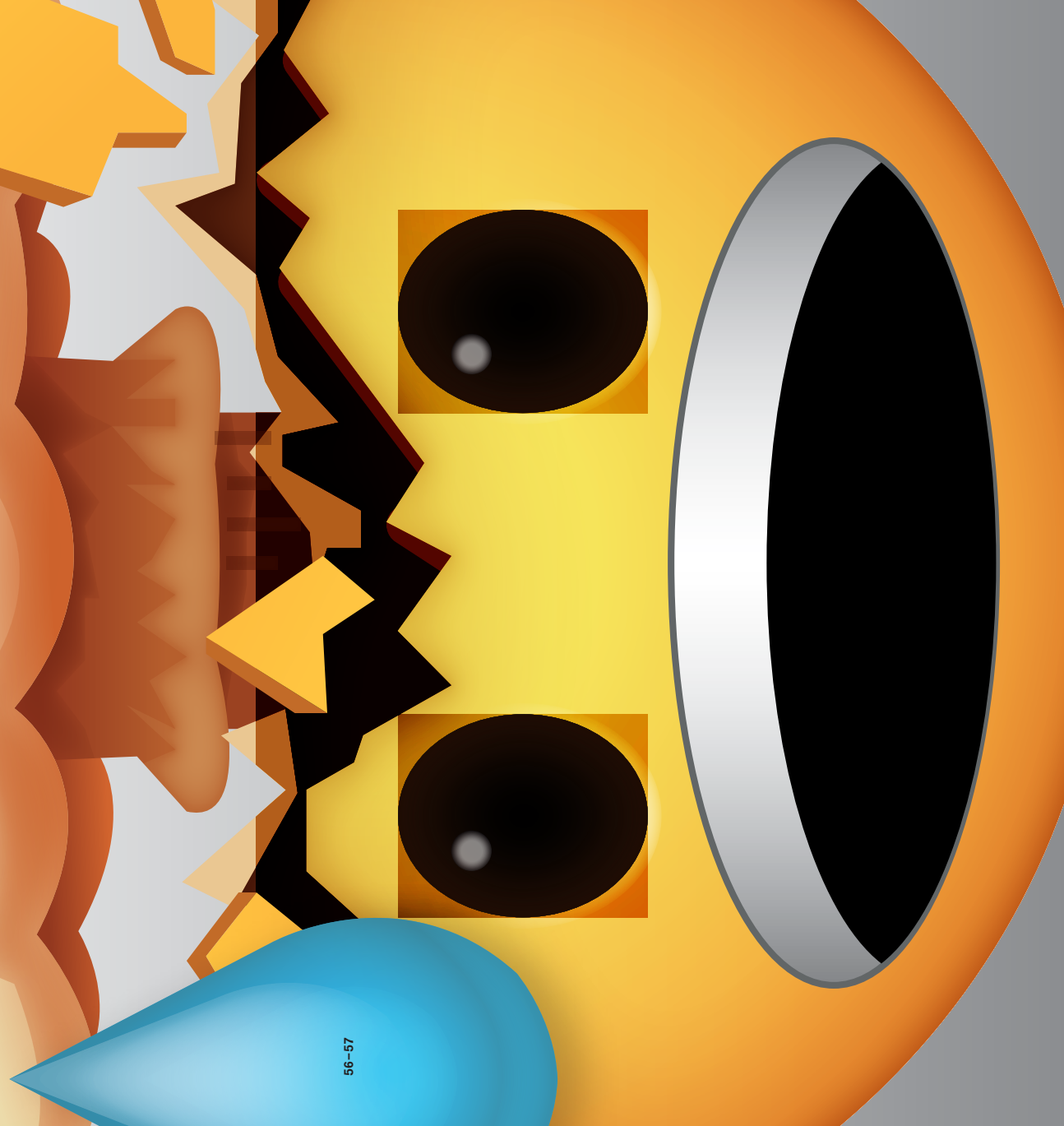
Question:

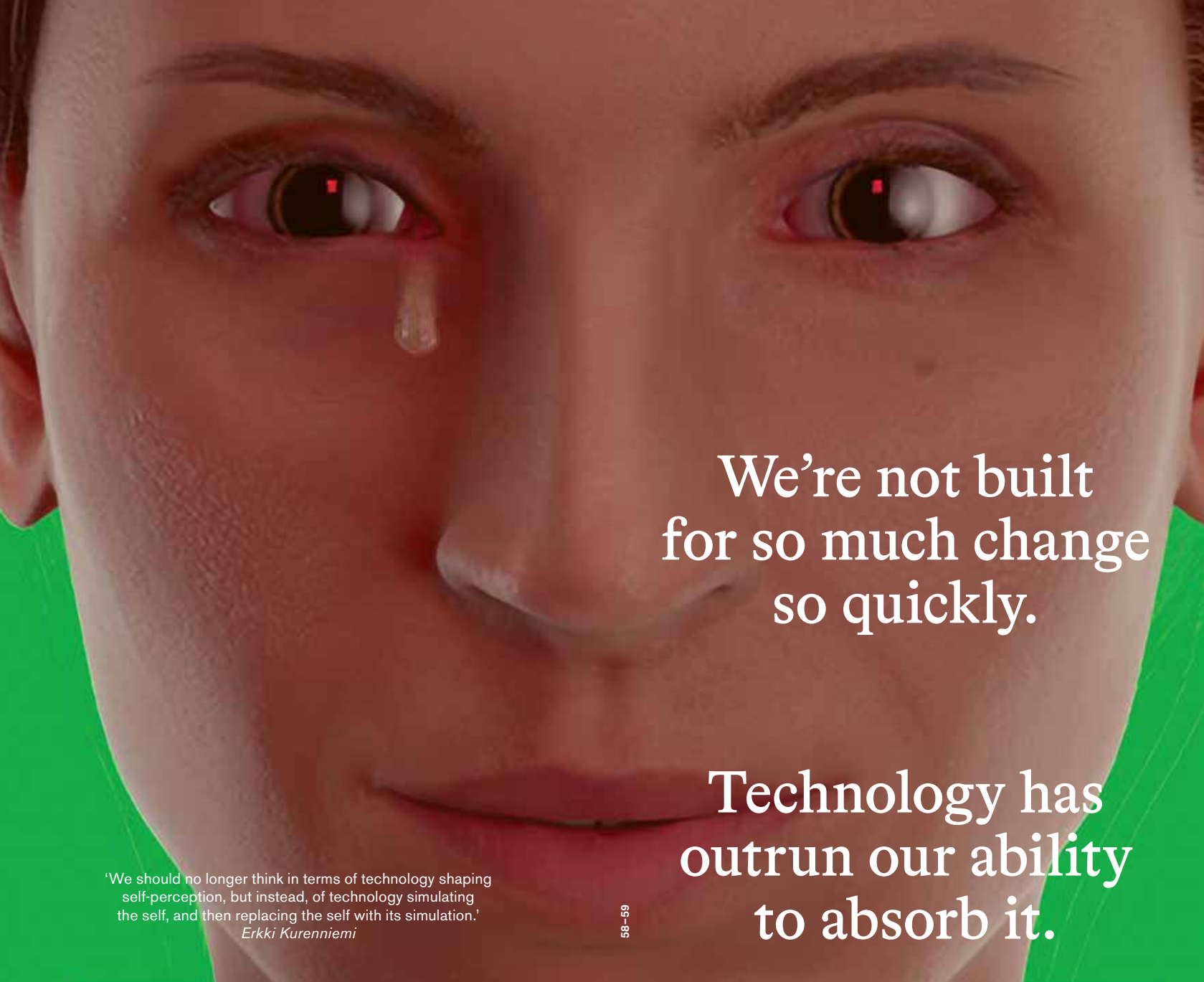
⌋ Have you ever wanted a clone?

⌋ If so, would your clone come first in your will?

⌋ What if you didn't like your clone? Would you have to get divorced from it?

⌋ Would you be angry if your clone made a clone of itself? Or would it feel like you were conquering the world? Broadening your footprint?





We're not built  
for so much change  
so quickly.

Technology has  
outrun our ability  
to absorb it.

'We should no longer think in terms of technology shaping self-perception, but instead, of technology simulating the self, and then replacing the self with its simulation.'

*Erkki Kurenniemi*

You

are

really

somebody







# Does my skin look too real?

She said her followers drive her to post more pictures of herself.

She deletes the ones that don't instantly please.

She wants the crowd to curate her image.

She doesn't know them but she trusts them.

She's molded by their unfiltered preferences.

She knows exactly how to make the algorithm love her.

The perfect eyes

the perfect lips the

perfect butt the perfect

kiss the perfect nose the

perfect lips the perfect butt the

kiss the perfect nose the perfect

eyes the perfect lips the perfect butt the

perfect kiss the perfect nose the perfect eyes

the perfect lips the perfect butt the perfect kiss the perfect

nose the perfect eyes the perfect lips the perfect butt the perfect kiss

Eye brow	35
Upper lip / Lower lip	25
Chin / side / neck side	25
Eyebrow and upper lip	50
Half face down	60
Half face up	30
Full face w/o eyebrows	80
Full face w/ eyebrows	100
Under arm	40
Half arm	45
Full arms	75
Half leg	60
Full leg	100
Half stomach	45
Full stomach	80
Half back	50
Full back	85
Bikini line	50
Half bikini	75
Full bikini	85
Half Brazilian	95
Brazilian	110
Back side	30
Full body	230

All prices in United Arab Emirates dirhams



**But does it have to hurt to be popular?**

Human brains are not naturally wired to interact with hundreds or thousands of other people every minute of every day. Handling that scale of empathy, sympathy and often aggression has, historically, been the preserve of religious prophets. Not a teenager from Chongqing's suburbs. No wonder there's so much burnout from so many stratospherically successful online stars.

*Am Abdullah*  
709746580290

# Dysmorphia of the soul

The opposite of fame  
is no longer anonymity.



The opposite of nobody  
is no longer somebody.

[Thefairy\\_\\_direct](#) 4d ago

YOU ARE THE EXACT DEFINITION OF PERFECTION



The right to  
be invisible is  
a fundamental  
human right.

Will we invent  
new ways  
to disappear?

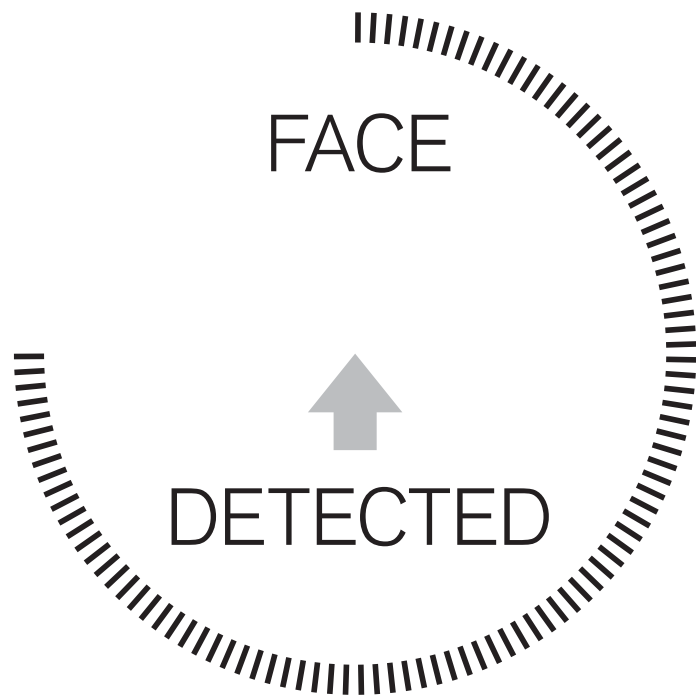


Every new technology allows us to unexpectedly give license to parts of our humanity previously considered taboo.

Bragging has never been so easy.  
Defaming has never been so easy.  
Libeling has never been so easy.  
Stalking has never been so easy.  
Attacking has never been so easy.



It's a golden age of psychosis.

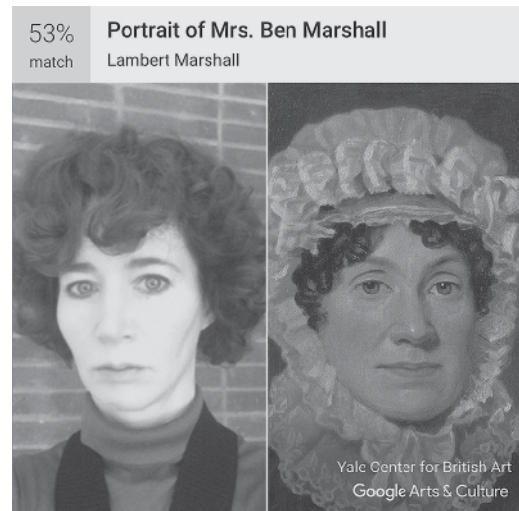


Face recognition technology has been trained to detect much more than what your name is. It can distinguish if you're gay or straight, whether you're likely to commit a crime or if you vote liberal or conservative.

But haven't we been here before?

The 18th century Swiss pastor Johann Kaspar Lavater introduced the idea that 'physiognomy' related to the specific character traits of individuals, in his book, *Physiognomische Fragmente*. He believed that the mind and the soul were connected with an individual's external appearance. In the following century, a U.S. physician called James W. Redfield published *Comparative Physiognomy*, illustrated with 330 engravings of 'resemblances between Men and Animals.' Needless to say, Germans and Americans were flattered with positive comparisons to 'lions' and 'bears,' while 'Negroes,' 'Chinamen' and 'Jews' were malignly aligned with elephants, hogs and goats. This popular pseudoscience became the backbone of Nazi aesthetics in the 1930s: Aryans, good faces. Everyone else, grotesque.

The face is where first, and often final, judgements are made about others.



There's a shitload of money to be made in identifying every face that's ever been uploaded.





There's no escaping your face.

You are your face.  
You become your face.  
You *became* your face.  
Or you end up with the face you deserve.

'The face is the most exposed, most vulnerable, and most expressive aspect of the other's presence. What we call the face is precisely this exceptional presentation of self by self.'

*Emmanuel Levinas*

You're

nothing

like

your

profile

pic

What is  
the right  
distance  
between us?

Dating sounds as old fashioned as courting.

Chaste, consequence-free messaging, communal lapping, asexual cuddling and body contact negotiated through legalistic consent dialogs, all followed by ghosting.



[Howalysa 1 day ago](#)

Please take over my Tinder I hate it

85

The relationship's never over, because it never really started.

Millions of Chinese men who thought they were conversing with real Chinese women, were, in fact, merely interfacing with clever chatbots. In the process, various companies made hundreds of millions of dollars. Duplicitous as this may seem, one could also say that all these chatbots had passed the famous Turing Test: 'a test of a machine's ability to exhibit intelligent behavior equivalent to, or indistinguishable from, that of a human.' Zheng Jiajia, who grew tired of pressure to get married, decided to wed a robot he had created, called Yingying. Because, there are 113.5 men for every 100 women in China, meaning, many men will never find wives. Could the gap be filled by androids or apps? And will a responsive feedback system ever truly love you back the way you love it?



More than a quarter of regular voice technology users say they have had a sexual fantasy about their voice assistant.

**However...  
be informed that it is  
100% legal to  
skullfuck your robot.**



Somewhere between courting and robot skullfucking lies the reality.



Is celibacy good for capitalism?

Lonely isolated people consume more.

Does monogamy favor the market?

Monogamy stabilizes the economy.

Is polyamory best for business?

Polyamory means more partners means all partners need one of everything which boosts industrial production.

The opposite  
of vulnerability  
is no longer  
strength.

The opposite  
of invisibility  
is no longer  
being seen.

Hobbies include:

doomscrolling, doomscreaming, doomshopping,  
doomsitting, doomeating, doomtexting,  
doomsearching, doomcooking, doomsleeping

You could  
earn between  
**\$1,499 and \$7,495**  
per month\*

\*Based on estimate of between 1% and 5%  
of your followers subscribing.



Why would so many people want to post on a forum where others are waiting to tell them they're hopelessly ugly and beyond hope?

# Because...

...Science has determined being lonely is worse for your health than smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

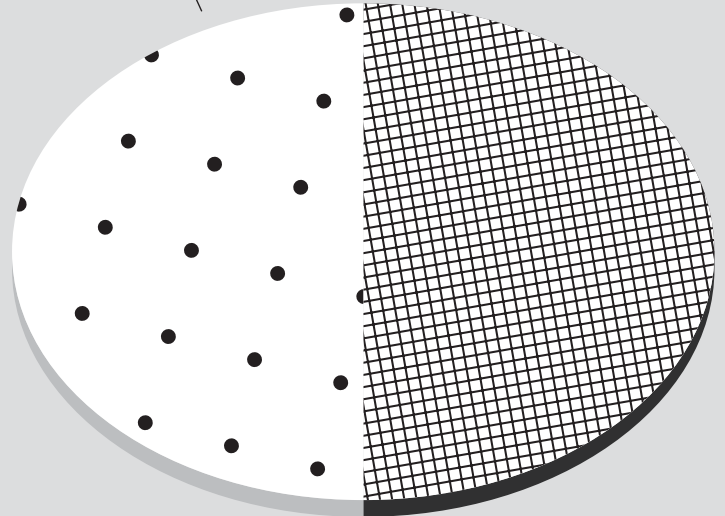


### Consent

From the Latin, *consentire*, meaning 'to feel together'

## A visualization of my daily mood

INTIMACY EMPTY



INTIMACY OVERWHELMED

[Antoni0eliz 4 years ago](#)

I tell myself I'm shadow banned just so I dont feel the crushing weight of being unwanted on any level by anyone



You

are

dispensable

## IT'S YOUR JOB INTERVIEW TOMORROW. WHAT COULD THEY ASK?

- 1 What are your strengths?
- 2 What are your weaknesses?
- 3 Why are you interested in working for [insert company name here]?
- 4 Where do you see yourself in five years? Ten years?
- 5 Why do you want to leave your current company?
- 6 Why was there a gap in your employment between [insert date] and [insert date]?
- 7 What can you offer us that someone else can not?
- 8 What are three things your former manager would like you to improve on?
- 9 Are you willing to relocate?
- 10 Are you willing to travel?
- 11 Tell me about an accomplishment you are most proud of.
- 12 Tell me about a time you made a mistake.
- 13 What is your dream job?
- 14 How did you hear about this position?
- 15 What would you look to accomplish in the first 30 days / 60 days / 90 days on the job?
- 16 Discuss your resume.
- 17 Discuss your educational background.
- 18 Describe yourself.
- 19 Tell me how you handled a difficult situation.
- 20 Why should we hire you?
- 21 Why are you looking for a new job?
- 22 Would you work holidays / weekends?
- 23 How would you deal with an angry or irate customer?
- 24 What are your salary requirements?
- 25 Give a time when you went above and beyond the requirements for a project.
- 26 Who are our competitors?
- 27 What was your biggest failure?
- 28 What motivates you?
- 29 What's your availability?
- 30 Who's your mentor?
- 31 Tell me about a time when you disagreed with your boss.
- 32 How do you handle pressure?
- 33 What is the name of our CEO?
- 34 What are your career goals?
- 35 What gets you up in the morning?
- 36 What would your direct reports say about you?
- 37 What were your bosses' strengths / weaknesses?
- 38 If I called your boss right now and asked him/her what is an area that you could improve on, what would he / she say?
- 39 Are you a leader or a follower?
- 40 What was the last book you've read for fun?
- 41 What are your co-worker pet peeves?
- 42 What are your hobbies?
- 43 What is your favorite website?
- 44 What makes you uncomfortable?
- 45 What are some of your leadership experiences?
- 46 How would you fire someone?
- 47 What do you like the most and least about working in this world?
- 48 Would you work 100+ hours a week?
- 49 What questions haven't I asked you? Why didn't I ask them?
- 50 Do you really, *really* want this job?



At any social event, one of the first questions a stranger asks you is, **'What do you do?'** Cue awkward hesitation: should you act modest, but run the risk of seeming boring? Or, do you hard sell, like a QVC presenter or TED speakers.

This cocktail party mainstay may soon be a thing of the past. Full automation will be here very soon. What will you do when you don't need to work anymore? What will be your measure of worth? And how will strangers break the ice with you then?

Day	Time	Teacher	Location	Payment Method	Class Type	Status	Web	Payment Ref #
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03/02/2018	Sunday	8:00 PM	Maggie	City Walk	DontDropTheBall 20	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 205067
02/02/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	DontDropTheBall 20	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
30/01/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
29/01/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 205067
26/01/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	DontDropTheBall 20	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
23/01/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
21/01/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 205067
18/01/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	DontDropTheBall 20	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
16/01/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
14/01/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 205067
13/01/2018	Saturday	12:00 PM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
08/01/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
05/01/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 205067
05/01/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	DontDropTheBall 20	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
03/01/2018	Thursday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	DontDropTheBall 20	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 205067
02/01/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
27/10/2018	Thursday	10:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
24/10/2018	Monday	11:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
22/10/2018	Saturday	12:00 AM	Jaila	City Walk	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
20/10/2018	Thursday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
17/10/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 192896
15/10/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
12/10/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
10/10/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	F.I.T.Ladies Only	Signed in	Yes 192896
08/10/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
05/10/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
03/10/2018	Monday	6:00 PM	Maggie	City Walk	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
01/10/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Maggie	City Walk	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
28/11/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
26/11/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	THANGOVING 15 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192896
24/11/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	10 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
21/11/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	10 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
19/11/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	10 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
17/11/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	10 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
14/11/2018	Wednesday	6:30 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	10 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
12/11/2018	Monday	6:30 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	10 Class Package	Amperd Upl (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
09/11/2018	Thursday	6:00 PM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	10 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
05/11/2018	Monday	6:00 PM	Jaila	City Walk	10 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
03/11/2018	Saturday	10:30 AM	Jaila	City Walk	10 Class Package	Signature (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
02/11/2018	Friday	12:00 PM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	10 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 192817
28/10/2018	Monday	6:00 PM	Jaila	City Walk	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
25/10/2018	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
21/10/2018	Sunday	7:30 PM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
19/10/2018	Friday	10:00 AM	Jaila	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
09/10/2018	Friday	10:00 AM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
26/09/2018	Friday	12:00 PM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
14/09/2018	Friday	12:00 PM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
07/09/2018	Friday	12:00 PM	Anal	At Thanya Mall	NC 8 Class Package	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 187402
21/08/2018	Friday	12:00 PM	Karlee	At Thanya Mall	Free INTRODUCTORY Class	Beginner (Ladies Only)	Signed in	Yes 188841

Workers inside the Extreme Self economy only feel comfortable if their labor in some way feels a part of a personal story board.

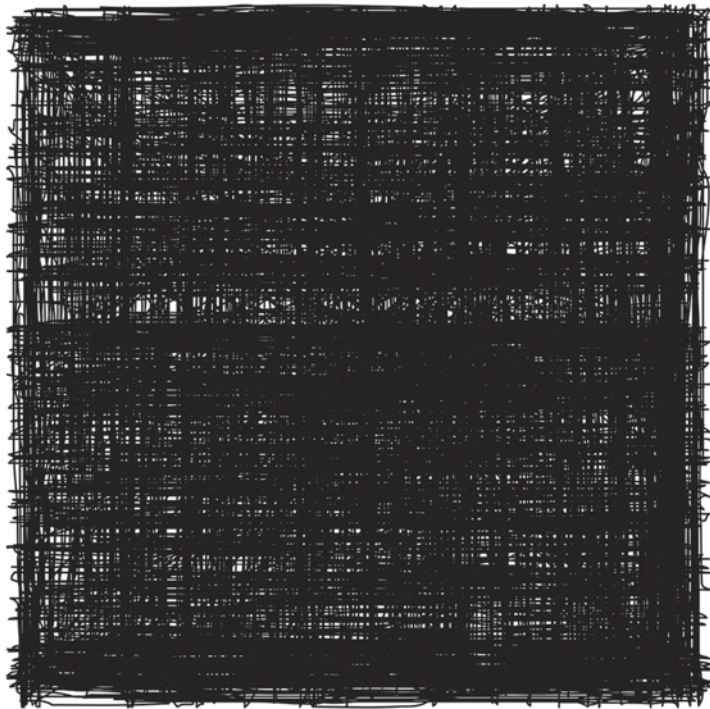
If a job or task doesn't feel dramatic enough, they're gone.

Unless it's narrating itself, the Extreme Self ceases to exist.

I want my time back

marx\_lux\_1917 15 mins ago  
pay your loyal employees more!

# Intelligence no longer confers security



## 100ocracy

For a few centuries, smart people – who, being smart – more or less ran the world. The flattening effect of the internet has allowed the world to be run by people with an IQ of 100. It is the revenge of the bell curve.

102

‘I harvest  
likes for a  
Siberian  
troll  
syndicate.’

103

How would you possibly explain the above sentence to someone from ten years ago?

# Is there any job that's 100% future-proof?

Machines will quite soon be outsourcing their work  
to humans because it'll be the cheaper option.



Ouch.

Seriously: make sure you have at least one indispensable skill.

If we all get sick then

shopping's really in trouble

萤火岛  
Firefly Island



雪松林  
Cedar Grove



## 5 The Comments Section is the Real World

You

are

a

deleted

comment

Sort Newest to Oldest



Wow. I mean, talk about a real live living meat crayon.

Dress for the slide not the ride.

He's not dead yet – his shoes are still on.

I love how happy they were to say 'look ma no hands' right before getting fucked.

He should have tried turning it off and on again.

So. Much. Damage.

But wait – we can repair the damage with new Internal Flextape™

The dude's ghost is rising from his body.

His dick was writing checks his brain couldn't cash.

What the actual?

It's good for our species that they did die.

Only if they haven't yet reproduced.

Is that the same kid who pissed on the elevator buttons?

I love the big guy. He doesn't even flinch, just puts his hands in his pockets like, 'Well... fuck this.'

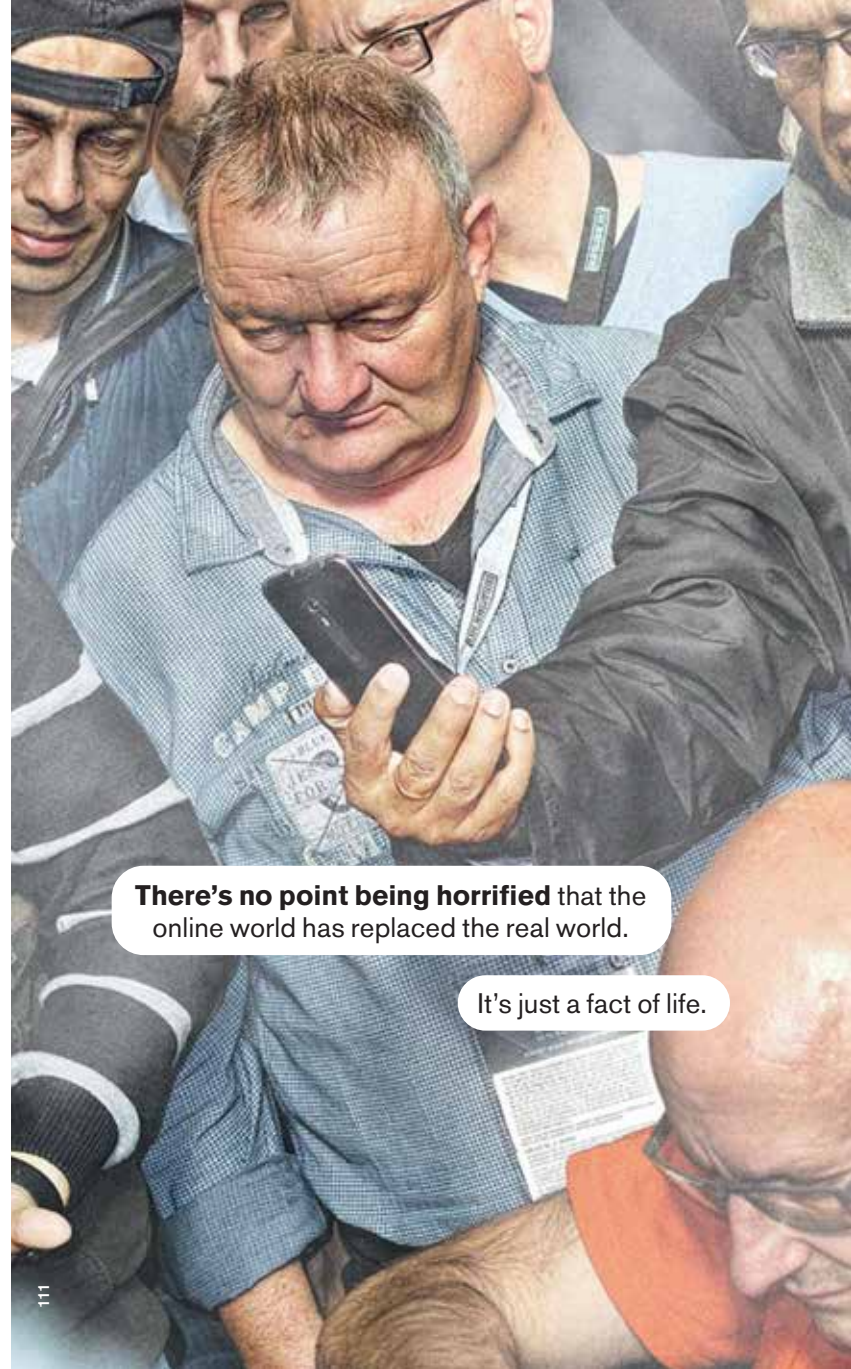
They're not real kids, they're robots, so if you throw rocks at them nobody cares.

What would we all do without gravity?

I am the biggest loser in the world.

Natlaxyz 20h ago

I dont like ur posts I like ur captions ok ok ok



**There's no point being horrified** that the online world has replaced the real world.

It's just a fact of life.



### What If

This means physical bodies are now only one piece of your human existence. What makes up the rest?

### What If

‘The global village is populated with “discarnate” human beings who no longer exist as physical presences; instead the electronic or discarnate person is simply an image or an information pattern, nothing more’ — *Marshall McLuhan*

### What If

This version of you is the only one that matters anymore.

**Do you prefer distraction to attention?**

**Do you prefer disinformation to information?**

[blow me 7 months ago](#) (edited)

seeing what the adults think about this

I exist within an endless, short-term,  
dopamine-driven feedback loop.

This  
is my  
entire  
day.



[Cindyphamz](#) 19h ago

[@tevin2021](#) do u feel attacked

People think they're political, but all they want is the dopamine hit they get from the way politics now works on our brains. It's like opioid addicts saying the opioids themselves are unimportant – they 'only want the rush.'

Where did last year go?

## Why do increased dopamine hits make time's passage feel shorter instead of longer?

Everything feels either ten minutes ago or ten years ago.  
What happened to the middle?

Constant online existence is making your perceived biological existence, in a very real sense, much shorter.

We all know it, but is it worth the price?

J.feds 6 days ago

@monica12345 this may find its way into a conversation one day

116-117

This shattering of time perception doesn't just affect your private, inner-space.

It's one of the root causes of why public space has turned into what it is today: an infinite mess of irreconcilable differences.

**Everyone  
is ready  
to go fight  
anyone,  
anywhere.**

Except face to face.

Admit it:

**You read the comments section first.**

In fact:

**You only read the comments section.**



The\_comment\_kurator 4d ago  
You dunn played yourself

Sort Newest to Oldest



How the fuck does she come out of the harness like that?

The second time he's just like, 'Ugh, not again.'

Uninstall life.

I love when he come back at the end to ram the car a second time after I thought it was over.

Beautiful, so graceful, 10/10 for dismount.

Lucky that was his stomach and not his teeth.

And that's how Kevin ended up with his forever helmet.

Nine out of ten. I'm only withholding one point because nothing is on fire.

Beep beep motherfucker.

Play dead. The chainsaw will lose interest and return to her cubs.

It's all fun and games until someone eats one of them.

Whatever... just don't press the red button.

You must immediately knock her out with your shoe or kill her with a trident.

Oh, man, look at all of those dead clowns.

Honestly, what was the objective here?

Ho. Ly. Shit

Gasoline is the solution to everything.

She went full tinfoil hat.

Those have to be the most identifiable pants of all time.

He went from a motorcycle rider to being lost in the woods having to drink his own pee to survive in a matter of seconds.

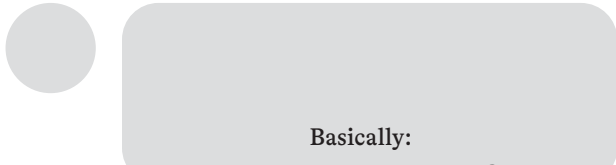
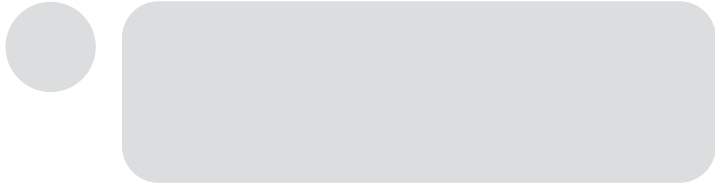
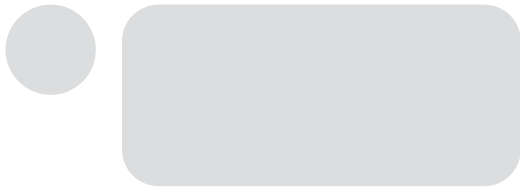
I have never seen an escalator actually eat someone.

That was the cartooniest knockout I have ever seen.

Fluff my nip

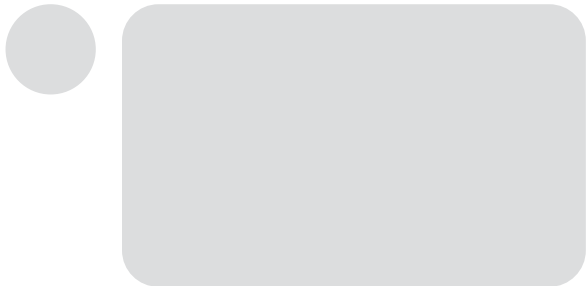
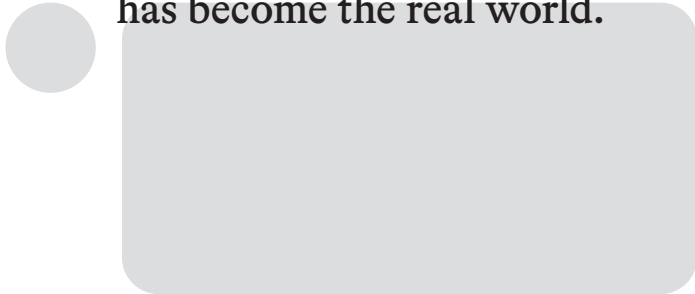
Wait... those were clowns?





Basically:

**The comment section of YouTube  
has become the real world.**



The end result is a collective state of intellectual isolation.

[Deedle.nick\\_fuzz 53s ago](#)

Somewhere someone is turned on by this and im ok with that tbf

You

are

multiplying

# What about crowds?

Do you **still** feel safe in a crowd?

**Or, do** you feel **new** in danger in a crowd?

Do you feel alone in a crowd?

**Did** you form bonds in a crowd?

When does a crowd become a mob?

Is a social movement a global crowd?

Is it hard to be an individual when being part of a crowd has never been **more complicated** easier?

**Do you miss crowds?**



**‘Only together  
can people free  
themselves from  
their burdens of  
distance; and this,  
precisely, is what  
happens in a crowd.’**

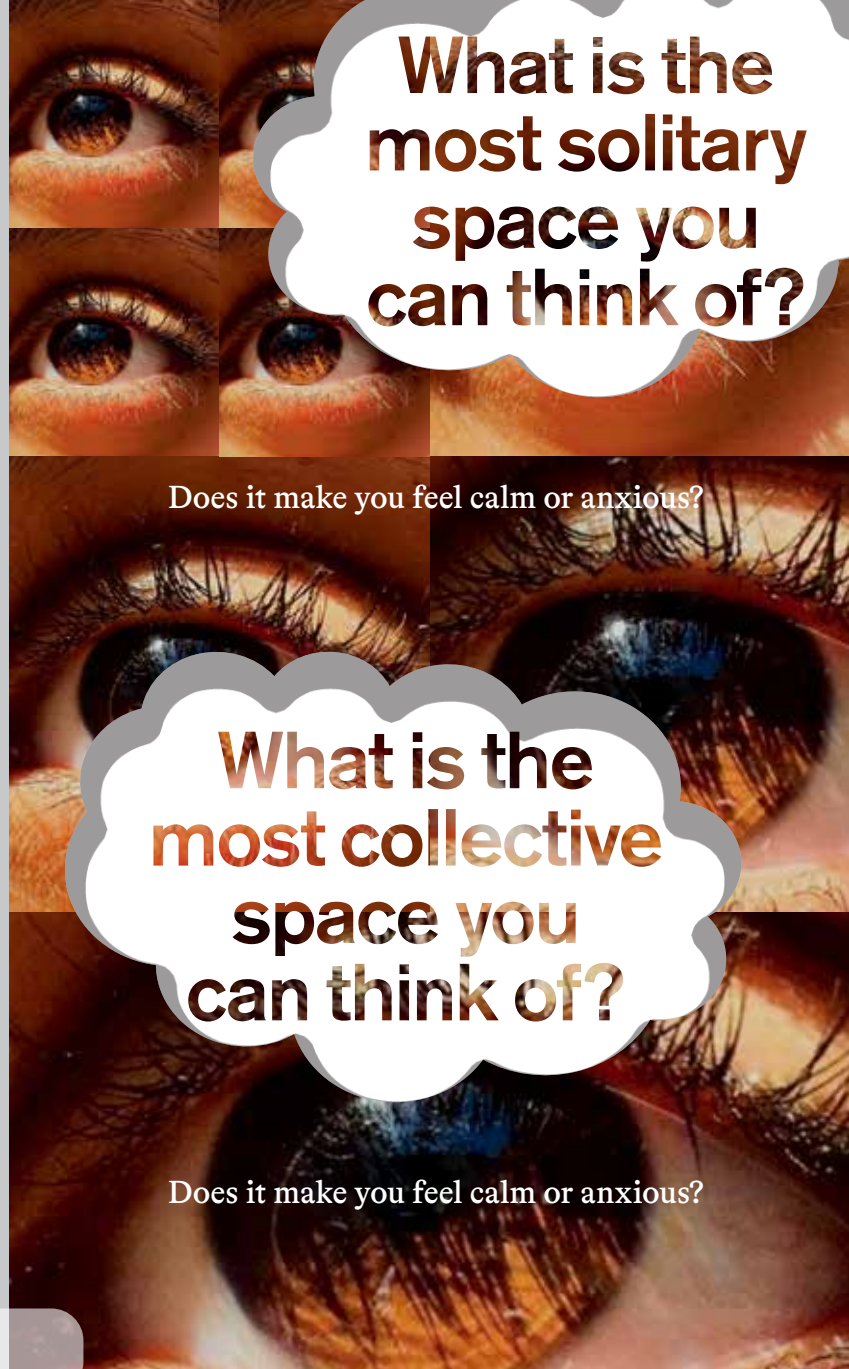


In the 19th century, with the rise of industrialized cities, writers like Baudelaire characterized the new urban crowd as a defining hallmark of modernity.

So too was the ability to lose oneself in the crowd.

In today's decentralized crowds, amassing somewhere in the Cloud, the Extreme Self doesn't just hide.

The anonymity of the new crowd is where the Extreme Self discovers a new, powerful infamy.



**What is the most solitary space you can think of?**

Does it make you feel calm or anxious?

**What is the most collective space you can think of?**

Does it make you feel calm or anxious?

Two thousand three hundred and forty-one people are in a hotel conference room in downtown Adelaide. They are all wearing VR headsets. Each headset contains a completely unique world, set in a different time.



Two thousand three hundred and forty-one people are in an out-of-town-mall outside Adelaide. They are all wearing Augmented Reality contact lenses. Each lens overlays a completely different world, set in the same time.



What kind of crowd is this?

130-131

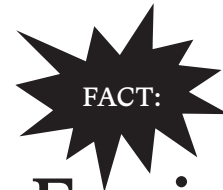
What kind of crowd is this?

'Madness is the exception in individuals.  
But the rule in groups.'  
*Brad Pitt*

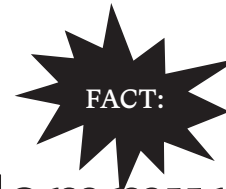
'Madness is the exception in individuals.  
But the rule in groups.'  
*Marilyn Monroe*

'Madness is the exception in individuals.  
But the rule in groups.'  
*Albert Einstein*

'Madness is the exception in individuals.  
But the rule in groups.'  
*Friedrich Nietzsche*



...Fascism  
starts with  
the harmonization  
of a zealous crowd.




...Communism  
starts with  
the forced  
harmonization  
of a zealous crowd.

FACT:

...All -isms  
start with  
some harmonization  
of a zealous crowd.

Alex\_\_\_\_\_ won 12h ago  
that's too much weird brah

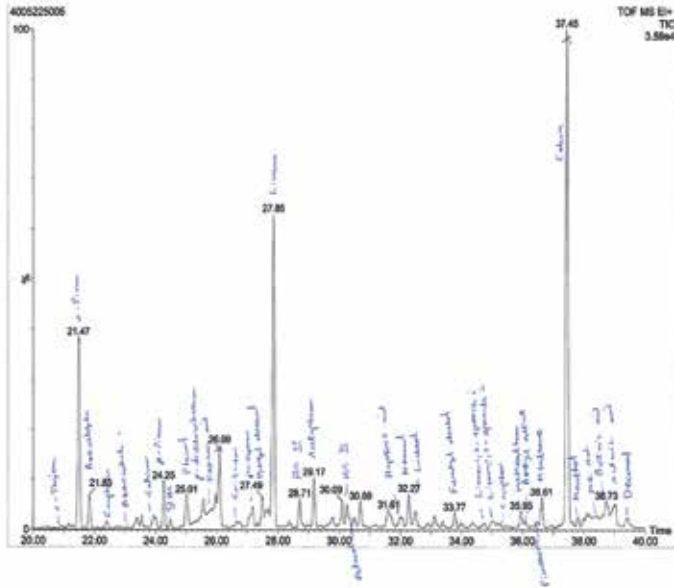
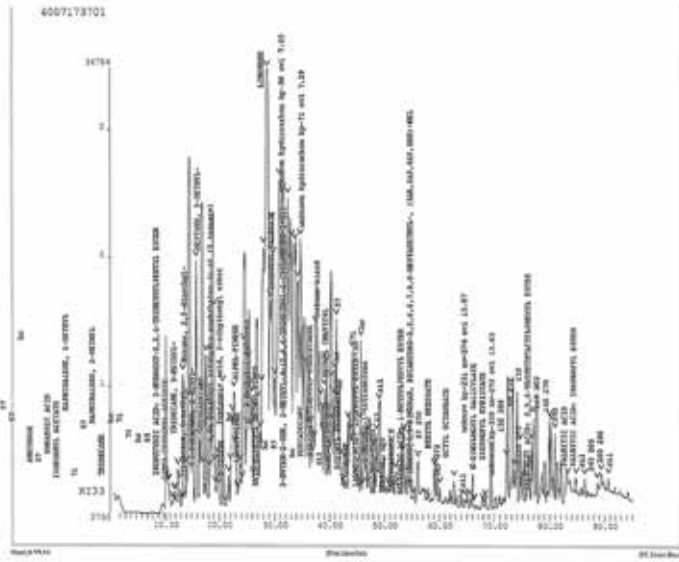


If it's bigger than religion  
it probably is religion.

'We've all been engaged for most of the 20th century in a sort of war of religions. If you believe you are living in a world that is crashing about around you, you're left with a choice of future or no-future.'

*Eric Hobsbawm*

When does an individual become a crowd,



and when does a crowd become a threat?

# Nationalism weaponizes anything it touches

Sharing is ownership for losers

# Streets, Roads, Avenues, Blvds...



# Do you have multiple citizenships?

Populist movements are exposing a fault line in modern Western societies. The division is between, as David Goodhart describes: those who live ‘anywhere’ and those who live ‘somewhere.’

Segments of urban and university-educated professionals have become genuinely globally oriented in their careers and personal lives. The globalization of the past quarter-century has transformed an element of the world’s population.

Imagine yourself as someone who works for an international consulting firm or in a globally focused academic career. You can wake up in New York, London, or Singapore and feel at home. You may rent or even own regular accommodation in all of these places. Your work is not subjected to import competition or threat of technological dislocation.

You may attend (or aspire to attend) the Davos conference. You probably read *The Economist* and, like Thomas Friedman, believe that the world really is flat. Your spouse or partner has a similar professional background, although they are from somewhere else in the world. You are motivated by climate change and suspicious of religion. You are unequivocally pro-free trade and support high levels of immigration. Your values can broadly be described as ‘cosmopolitan.’

Such cosmopolitans, or ‘Anywheres,’ or just plain ‘globalists’ have an increasingly weak attachment to the nation-state. Their professional, personal, and even familial relationships are increasingly with people like themselves from a range of countries. The examples given may be rooted in stereotypes, but there are many less extreme cases among people who work, study, or join online communities that cross boundaries.

Hi! I'm a citizen of wherever. I live there, vote there and pay taxes there – and if I'm kidnapped by malignant forces in some far away land, my government will come running to my rescue.

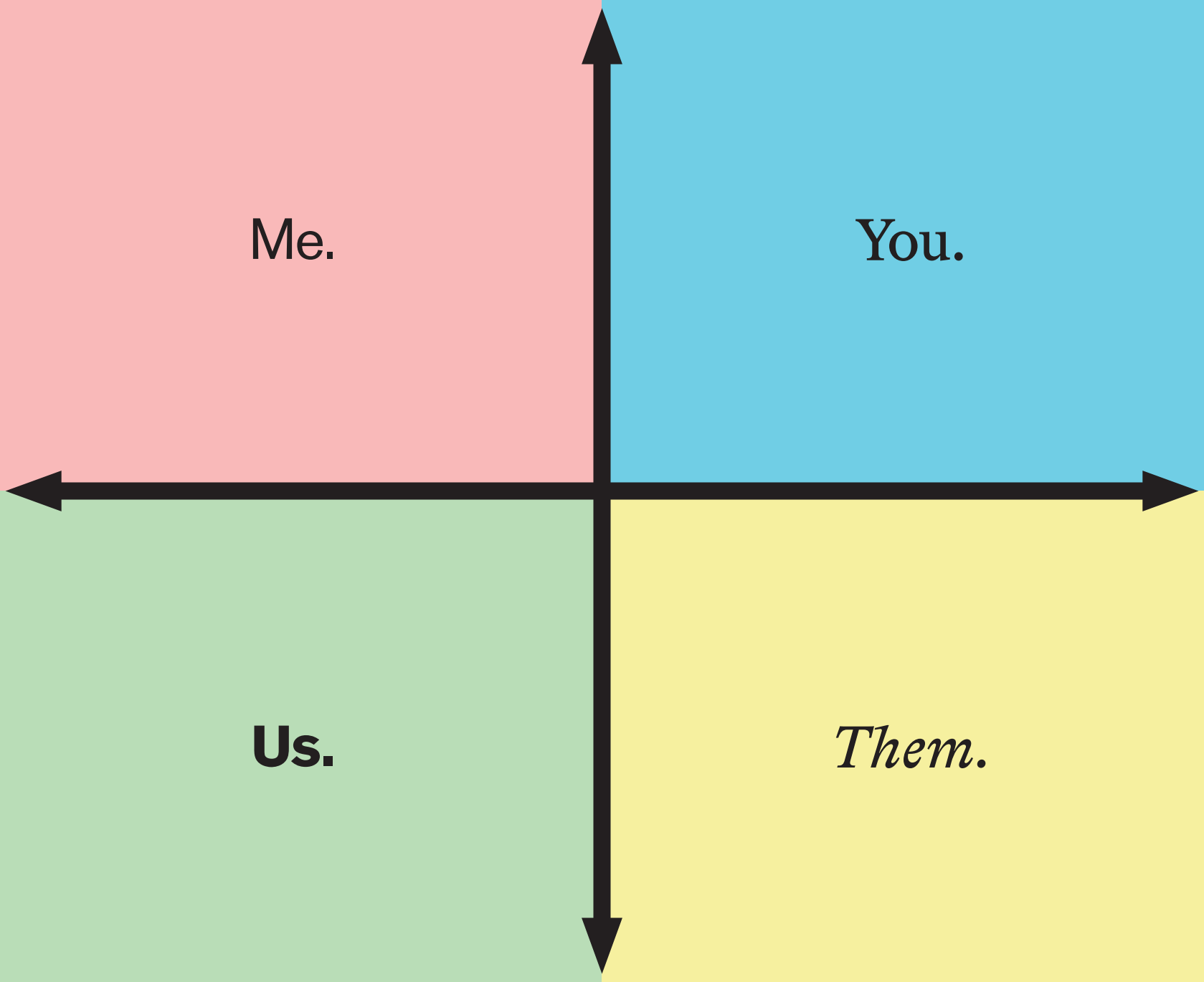
This seems fair enough, but if you’ve got multiple passports, say four, can you reasonably expect one of your four countries to come to your rescue if you’re in a fix? You’re basically a citizen of nowhere, or, at the very most, you’ve got citizenship-lite.

Hi, I know, I haven't been voting or paying taxes or anything for a few decades, but I'm in a bit of a bind... can you ask one of your consul chaps to maybe trade me for a spy or something?

A way of rethinking this global web of overlapping citizenships would be wonder what might happen if Earth instituted a planet-wide citizenship flush. Whoever you are, you now have to choose just one passport – so, which is it going to be? The answer would probably boil down to multiple factors, the largest including personal identity, ease of crossing borders, consular access while abroad and, of course, taxes. Sure, a low tax rate is great, but if I break my arm do I really want to spend \$75,000 in a Houston or Miami hospital? Yes, popping in and out of Europe is terrific, but would I want to forfeit getting a lump in my throat if I hear my ex-national anthem playing? The fact that every country on Earth makes it very difficult to become a citizen means that citizenship has to mean something.

Polycitizenry is a creation of the 20th century, and a creation whose days are numbered. As the world gets ever more pay-per-use, the luxury of low-commitment semi-disposable allegiance seems too expensive.





Me.

You.

Us.

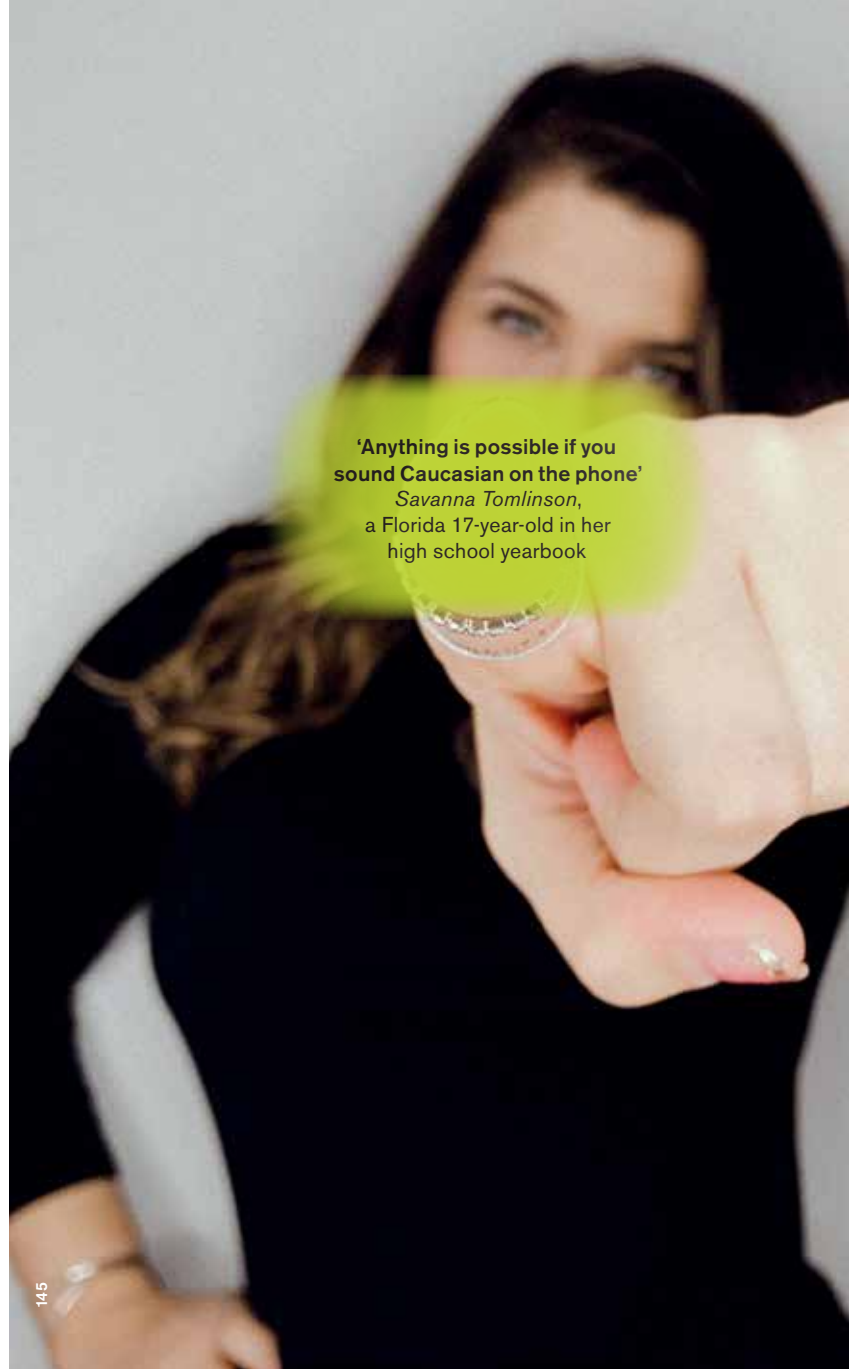
*Them.*





'This is an atlas of the TOP most labeled people in the "Labeled Faces in the Wild" database, one of the very first used in early image recognition processes (circa 2007). These are the first faces the machine brain saw, and learnt about. The Pioneers. It now feels like a cemetery too – all these people are kind of over today. But to many machines to this day, they are still VIPs.'

*Ana Nicolaescu*



'Anything is possible if you sound Caucasian on the phone'  
*Savanna Tomlinson,*  
 a Florida 17-year-old in her high school yearbook

You

are

triggered



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Please provide any additional details (Optional)

**Q:**  
**What is micro-othering?**

**A:**  
**Micro-othering is the use of ever thinner slices of identity to define, deplatform and limit the agency of others.**

Micro-othering has turned the Left into a circular firing squad – to the glee of the Right.

'Call-out culture' feels like the loudest form of culture today.

Calling for nuance has become the same as admitting guilt and complicity.

**Q:**  
What is microfascism?

**A:**  
Microfascism is when online aggression spills into real world aggression – tiny or large acts of aggression and confrontation used to define, deplatform and limit the agency of others.

Microfascism has turned the Right into a circus act – to the disgust of the Left.

‘Outrage culture’ feels like the loudest form of culture today.

It’s actually astonishing how much the Left and Right have in common.

# Outrage is good for business.

How much news do you digest in a day?  
How much did you use to digest?

# Outrage is fun.

You appear virtuous for doing pretty much nothing. It’s like the Diet Coke of politics.



When technology changes too quickly, people  
tend to make really bad decisions.

People who feel as if they're in too much chaos  
can be tricked into doing almost anything.

The  
opposite  
of  
empathy  
used  
to  
be  
indifference.

Now, it's shaming someone else.

he really does make  
██████████ for self-  
identified 'woke'  
██████████ ppl who  
desperately seek the  
continuation of ██████████  
██████████ :/ I find  
him REALLY  
██████████ I think  
he's amazing at being  
a ██████████ for  
the newest kind of  
██████████ that  
history has  
necessitated :/ he's

got the clothes rich  
██████████  
and look ██████████ than  
they actually are :/  
\*gets\* ██████████ and  
nonbinary ██████████  
:/ but guess what  
he's ultimately there  
to ██████████ with  
POWER and the  
██████████  
upper ██████████  
white :/ ██████████'s probably  
■ PSYOP lololol

Impunity is as addictive and  
*mind-altering* as a drug.



Ghosting is the extreme opposite of empathy. Calling something toxic and then running away is a cowardly means of avoiding work and responsibilities.

[00sena00\\_9 minutes ago](#)

now that's a very first-world sentiment

It's also what makes me feel invisible and utterly invincible.

You

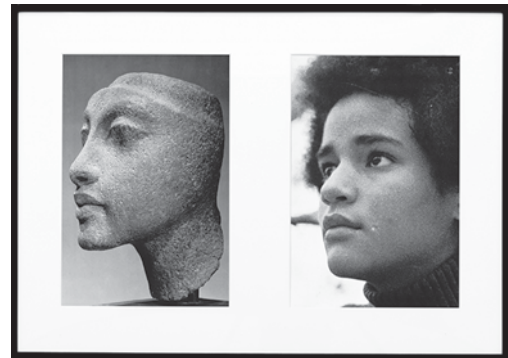
are

righteous





...but at what point  
are you,  
  
or aren't you,



entitled to feel  
someone else's pain?

# How does power work today?

Better than ever?

For a smaller elite?

Are the most powerful philosophers the ones quoted by political leaders?

Or the ones with the best memes about them?

Is it annoying that online influencers are so powerful?

Is it more annoying that you're not as powerful as them?

In other words, is power more or less centralized?

Did we get the 'democratically elected authoritarian leaders' we deserved?

Do powerful people ever voluntarily give up their power to transfer power to the powerless, and become less powerful themselves?

Who is the most powerful person where you work?

Should there be one boss, or, many bosses, or no bosses?

Is a revolution without a leader pointless in the long run?

'Can you believe there are still parts of the world where patriarchy is intact? Hahahahahahahahaha!'

Is power taken away faster than it is awarded?

Is privilege a synonym for power?

Does power provide you with the shield of privilege?

Does power seek more or less visibility than before?

Time for a power nap?

Are you in a power couple?

No? Would you like to be?

Who sang 'The Power of Love?'

[pumpamentals](#) 1 min ago

am i a joke to you?

PLAN "S"

S = SAVOIR METTRE  
L'ART AU-DESSUS DE  
TOUT

S = SÉNIOR

S = SEXE

S = SANTÉ

S = SE PRÉCISER

S = SE CLARIFIER

S = SE REFUSER D'ABANDONNER  
QUOI QU'IL SOIT

S = SE RENFORCER TOUT EN  
RESTANT VULNÉRABLE

S = S'AIMER SOI-MÊME

S = SE TROUVER BEAU

S = SE RAPPELLER QUE L'ART  
EST PARCE QUE C'EST DE  
L'ART - RÉSISTANCE

S = SOLDAT

S = SAVOIR COMPTER SUR  
LA GRÂCE

# The Extreme Self has a low trigger threshold



'I'm not extreme...  
I'm the real victim here!'

'No, I am!'

'Wait... I'm not a victim  
...I'm a hero!'

'I'm the hero!'

'No, I am!'

'Er, I am!'

It's not enough to have virtue anymore.

You need to *signal* it to show you have it.



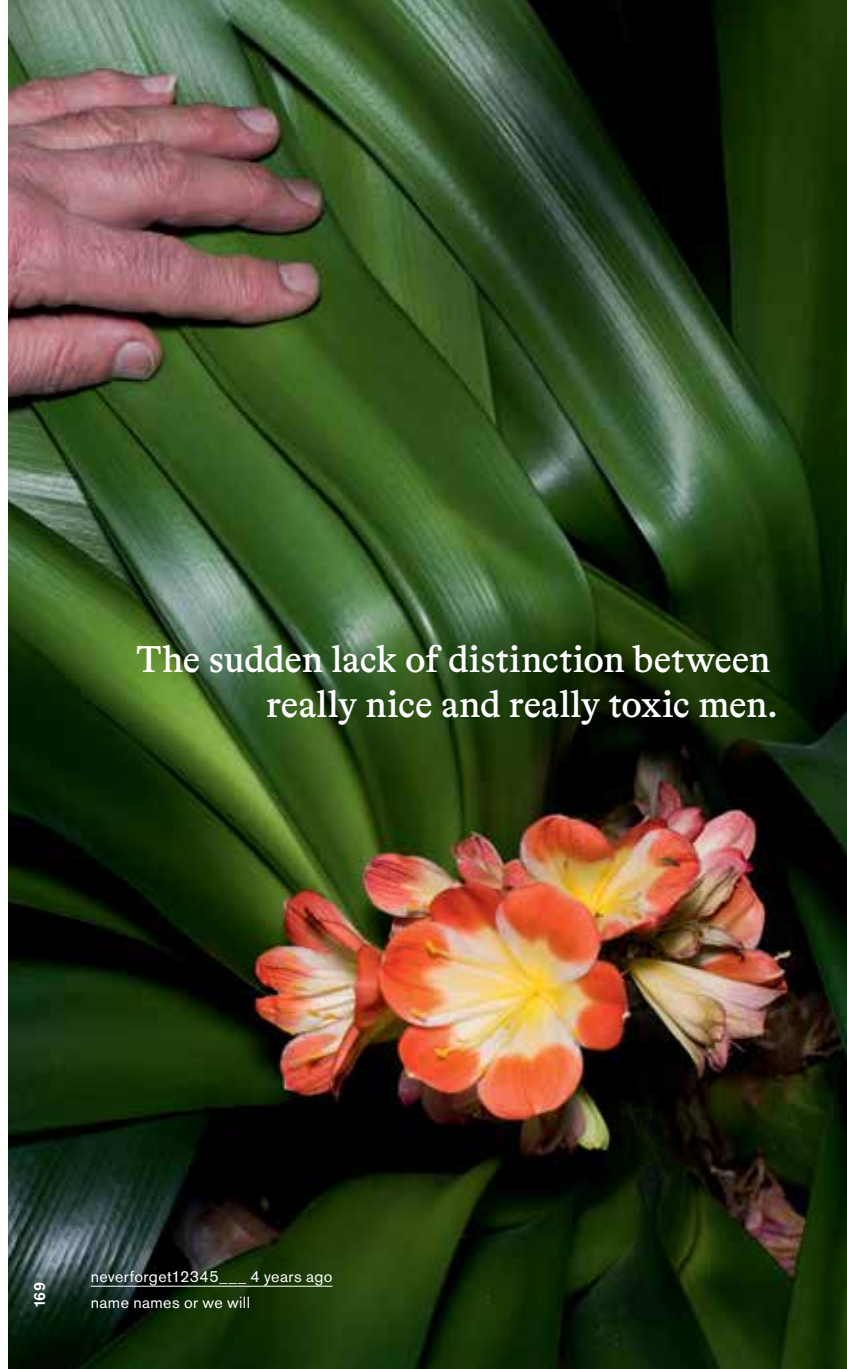
The opposite of substance is no longer superficiality.

166-167

The opposite of action is no longer appearance.

...if I do say so myself #humblebrag

I TAKE  
GREAT  
PRIDE IN  
MY VAST  
HUMILITY



The sudden lack of distinction between  
really nice and really toxic men.



Skeletons in closets  
now haunt only the  
left, not the right.

170-171



Public penance is  
getting more and  
more impatient.

But public  
redemption is  
no longer a  
guaranteed route to  
greater success.

# Today I am...

Bi-Gendered  
Cross-Dresser  
Drag-King  
Drag-Queen  
Femme Queen  
Female-to-Male  
FTM  
Gender Bender  
Genderqueer  
Male-To-Female  
MTF  
Non-Op  
Hijra  
Pangender  
Transexual/Transsexual  
Trans Person  
Woman  
Man  
Butch  
Two-Spirit  
Trans  
Agender  
Third Sex  
Gender Fluid  
Non-Binary Transgender  
Androgyne  
Gender-Gifted  
Gender Bender  
Femme  
Person of Transgender Experience  
Androgynous

This is the New York City Commission on Human Rights list of thirty-one genders.



**My grandfather  
knows what  
heteronormativity is.**

He's 84.



**My niece  
knows what  
intersectional means.**

She's seven.





As we become less powerful do we become



You

are

on

a

journey



## Beliefs are as present now as at any time in human history.

Neither the 18th century ‘Age of Reason,’ nor the advances of subsequent scientific and technological modernity, fully vanquished previous ‘superstitions’ – such as religion, esoterism, magic and animism. They survived. They even emboldened.

So too Francis Fukuyama’s prediction, made after the fall of the Soviet Empire, that the world would reach a terminal plateau of free market liberalism: a universal economic system as system of belief. A decade later, and 9-11 spectacularized the role of the martyr as media sensation, invoking Don DeLillo’s assertion that the terrorist has replaced the novelist at the center of culture. The continued ‘clash of civilizations’ – between religious fundamentalism and secular democracy – is also a war of supposedly incompatible beliefs.

As the world furthers its decentralization – away from the West, towards new centers, and the return of old empires – the beliefs of the ‘rest’ of the 85% of the earth’s population exert greater impact, economically, ecologically, politically, and on the global imagination.

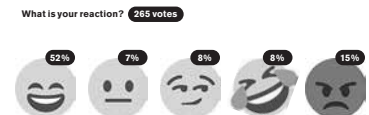
One effect of planetary communication is the formation of globalized communities of belief. Countless people – millions or even billions – still argue the world is flat. Or that dinosaurs didn’t die out. They live peacefully on a undiscovered island with Elvis Presley and Mahatma Gandhi. Nothing is too niche nor eccentric. Everyone can find their kin today.

As technology brings its own evangelism (e.g. Silicon Valley libertarianism and transhumanism), there are rising anti-technology movements. For some disaffected urbanites, the only way forwards is backwards to a prelapsarian, pre-technological time.

I’ve a friend who, in a fit of existential rage, smashed his smartphone with a roadside rock. He said he wanted the outside world to feel like the outside world again, and not just an appendage to the screen.

Maybe in the din of ubiquitous information and disinformation, belief is a distinguishing act of authenticity. Perhaps belief protects you against the chaos of endless relativism.

...Even if that belief is strictly limited to a belief in yourself.





The Extreme Self  
fantasizes about  
sitting beneath a tree  
contemplating the universe.

Unconnected with no dopamine.



'Although we tend to agree with Egyptian mythology that the Creator makes us in two corresponding forms, one as shadow and the other substance, it is still unclear what happens to the face of our phantom self, if it ever ages, or if it even has a face.'

*Emmanuel Iduma*

# Microdosing:

The 1960s got the chemicals right. It just had the dosages wrong.



[zoo1528aaa](#) 1 week ago

Wow so beautiful. Maybe our ancestors knew more that what we give them credit.

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FIASP	UPTRAVI
TIGLUTIK	QVAR
JULUCA	VIIBRID
PREZCOBIX	KHEDEZLA
CASSIPA	ORKAMBI
INVANZ	MOBIC
CADUET	ZERBAXA
XELPROS	INCLUSIG
LUMOXITI	RAVICTI
AJOVY	TANZEUM
ZOVIA	OPVIDO
MYLOTARG	BIVALIRUDIN
OPVIDO	REYATAZ
AMELUZ	DUOPA
ACTIQ	XIAFLEX
LAZANDA	EPANED
INVANZ	ZYDELIG
ZUBSOLV	TYSABRI
GEMFIBROZIL	REXULTI
GEMZAR	BENDEKA
ZELBORAF	REBIF
COREQ	ZOFRAN
BRIVIACT	ORKAMBI
ALIQOPA	AKTIPAK
MVASI	KADIAN
ADZENYS	ZOHYDRO
XHANCE	HYSINGLA
RABIVAB	XTAMPZA
GENVOYA	XCOPRI
CEFOBID	SUTAB
LIPTRUZET	VERQUVO

Right now, anxiety is to Generation Y  
what depression was to Generation X.

What will come next?



186

A few months ago someone online was discussing various religions including Scientology. In the comments section at the article's end, a woman wrote back, 'I don't like Scientology because it's a made-up religion,' to which another reader replied, 'As opposed to...?' He had a point. More recent religions entered the game late, and thus have yet to generate the market share that can only accrue with millennia. Having said that, *Star Wars* already is a religion.

**Q: What's the difference  
between a cult and a religion?**

**A: About a hundred years**

According to Sigmund Freud, your true self was a secret unto yourself. To find out who you really were meant decoding clues to dislodge demons buried within you. It became a recognized way to 'free' the real you.

Quaint?

These days, our true selves are on the surface, for everyone to see. Our genuine (untrue) selves are locked away, behind a firewall even we can't access. To get to it, we need the opposite of psychoanalysis.

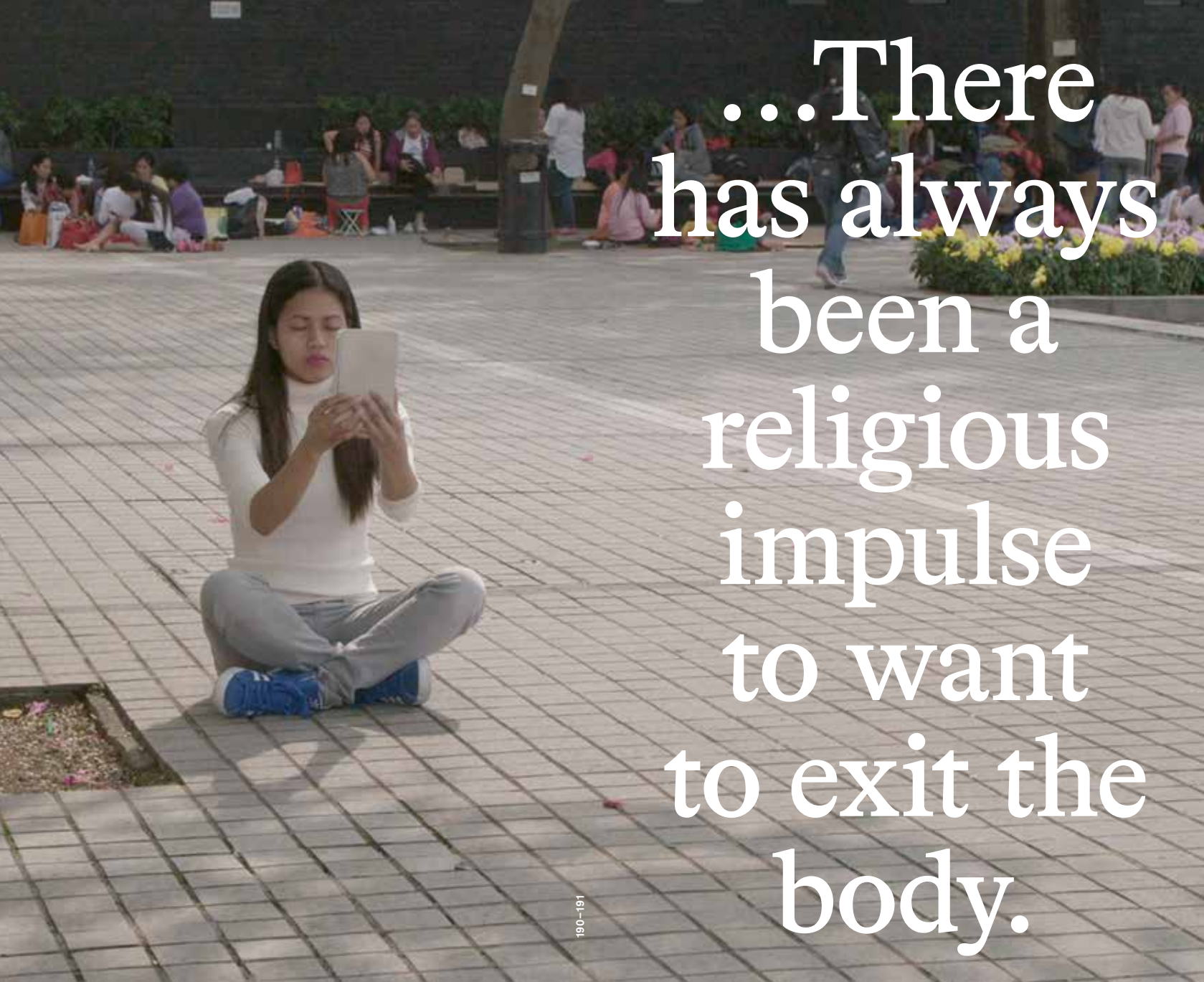
And then why is it so insanely hard to 'know' yourself? I mean, you live inside your body, and you're talking with yourself all waking hours. You'd think it would be simple. But no. Trying to know yourself is like visiting Antarctica: it's difficult, boring, time consuming and expensive – and even then, once you get there you may not even find something that changes you.

A black silhouette of a person is shown climbing a tree. The tree has dense green foliage. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, reaching up towards the top of the tree. The background is a light, hazy green.

Wait... isn't virtual reality  
going to be our next collective  
dream destination?

Probably.

Just keep in mind...



...There  
has always  
been a  
religious  
impulse  
to want  
to exit the  
body.



You

deserve

*it*

*all!*

**THE ATTENTION ECONOMY**

**THE YOU ECONOMY**

**THE DISTRACTION ECONOMY**

**THE ME ECONOMY**

**THE NARRATIVE ECONOMY**

**THE VIRTUE ECONOMY**

**THE EMOTION ECONOMY**

**THE GUILT ECONOMY**

**THE CONTENT ECONOMY**


**THE CRISIS ECONOMY**

**THE CLOUD ECONOMY**

**THE PRECARIETY ECONOMY**

**THE ANTI-ECONOMY ECONOMY**


**THE END OF THE WORLD ECONOMY**



The ultra-rich have  
always had a  
quasi-religious impulse  
to exit mortality.

The Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt put their faith in pyramid building as the best way to ensure immortality, and still be surrounded by their earthly possessions.

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Today's 0.001%  
not only have that same  
impulse for immortality.  
They also want to  
exit the reality they  
share with the rest of us.

It's why Silicon Valley billionaires are buying up land in New Zealand – the furthest place away from the coming apocalypse. Or why they're first on the waitlist to colonize Mars. It's why they've adopted extreme cosmetic procedures, invested in cloning technologies, and signed themselves up for cryogenic facilities in Kazakhstan.

Call it 'survival of the richest.'

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**Plutonomies**

Economies powered by the wealthy

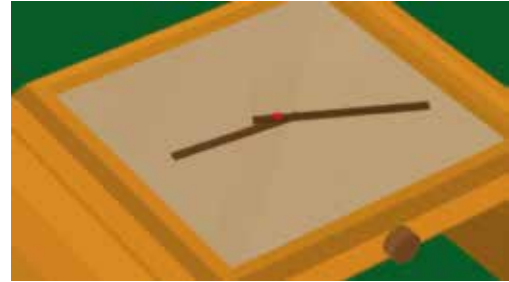
**‘Plutonomies  
have ever more  
dominant and sterile  
cities, spiralling  
property prices,  
worsening social  
segregation and  
increasingly polluted  
environments.’**

*Andy Beckett*

Send  
them  
all  
on  
a  
one-way  
trip  
to  
Mars

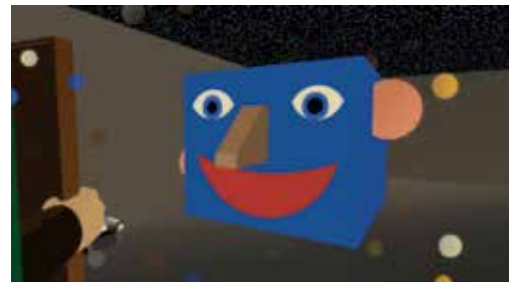
texhancer · 6 minutes ago  
I don't get this :/

M e a n w h i l e ...



The middle class leisure goal of doing nothing is quickly being replaced by its darker version:

...having nothing to do.



An invisible conveyor belt relentlessly converts formerly middle class workers, taking us all into a world of perpetual clicking, linking, embedding and liking.

**Speaking of money...**

**How would money allow you to be a more amplified version of yourself?**

**Would money somehow unmask a previously hidden self?**

**What would you buy with money that would be 100% distinctly you as opposed to being just another person with money?**

**What if you had to pay money to vote?**

**Would you vote?**

**Would one vote have more clout than others?**

**What if you got air mileage points for voting?**

**Would you buy the election in advance?**



Sorry, gotta go!

2014-2015



My  
private  
jet  
is  
about  
to  
leave  
without  
me

\_(ツ)\_/

You

are

over-empowered





Majority rule no longer means anything when nobody trusts anybody.

Doing something just because 51% of those who voted said so is starting to feel really stupid.

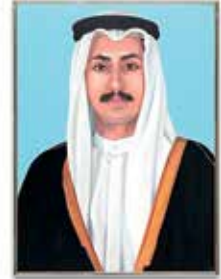
No idea is now...

# Too stupid to fail

# The center is for losers



Is it the job of politics to protect you from yourself?



Is it the job of politics to protect us from ourselves?



**Q: Is a benevolent dictator better than a bad democracy?**

**A: Is that the only choice I've got?**

We're now deep into the terminal phase of democracy.

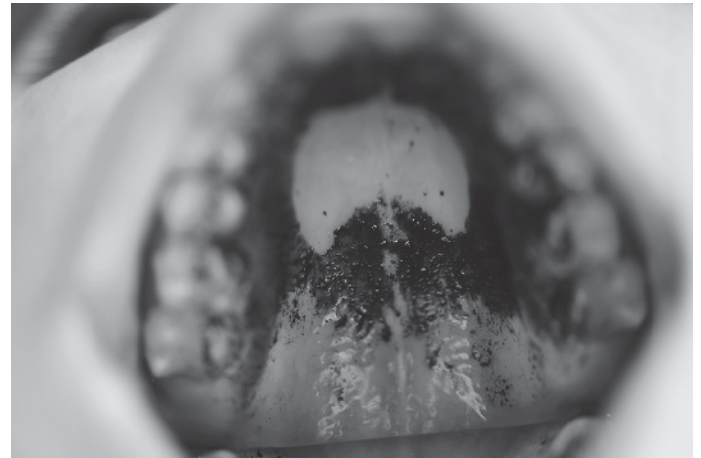
This phase involves voting in leaders whose primary goal is to dismantle democracy.





Groups  
of  
people  
usually  
make  
dreadful  
decisions

# The majority



# can no longer be trusted

[Nath11\\_ 11 days ago](#)

The only minority in this world is an intelligent person

Democracy  
needs  
morning after  
pills.

Indifferent  
power  
is  
the  
cruellest

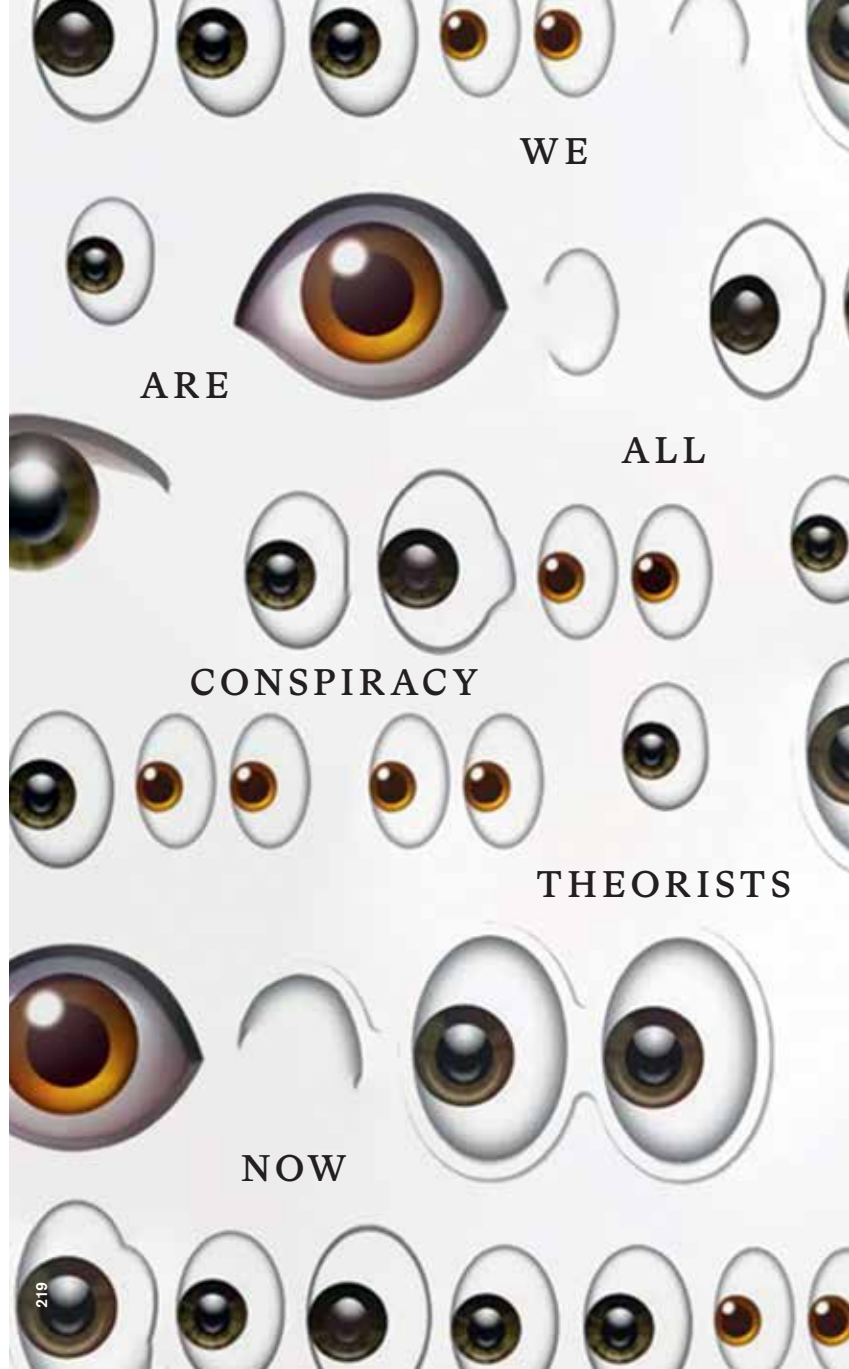
Historically speaking, even during the most divisive times, people agreed on certain basic common truths. Such as, 'the sun is in the sky.' Or, 'fish swim in the sea.'

Our senses shaped this kind of consensus.

There are people today who think school shootings are hoaxes. There are people who refuse vaccinations.

The breakdown of consensus-based reality is perhaps one of the most dangerous threats there has ever been to shared human experience.

Is there any turning back?



'Democracy means that "my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge."' *Isaac Asimov*

Am I free?  Y  N

Are you free?  Y  N

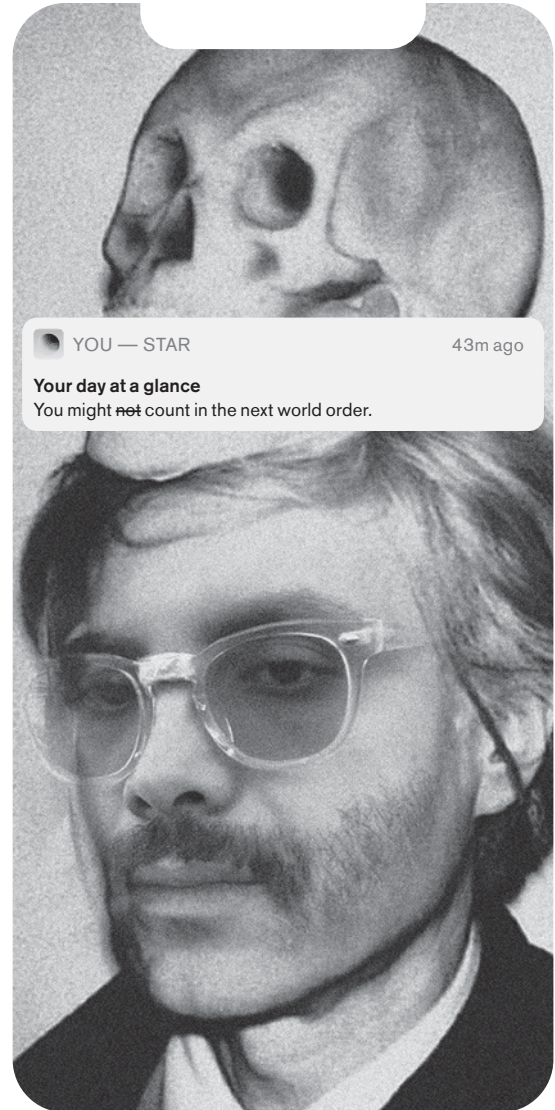
Are we free?  Y  N

Are we too free?  Y  N

Would I offset  
my freedom  
somewhere else  
for someone else?  Y  N

What would having even more freedom feel like?

What would less freedom feel like?



You

are

godlike



Some people say that experts have let us down too many times.

Who should we trust to tell us the truth anymore?



Me!



Me!

Me!

Me!

'Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.'  
*Arthur C. Clarke*

What about artists?  
They used to be our magic individuals.

There was always a next big art thing  
out there waiting to hit us and change  
the way we understood the world.



What if:

**Tech itself is already the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

**And the next big thing.**

Every new tech promises to make us feel freer than we felt before.



It is  
the ultimate  
modern magic

[mm4tthieu\\_uuu](#) 6 days ago  
Heavenly

228



Technologists  
are now our  
magic individuals

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Technologists founded and run today's biggest tech companies.  
But their end goal isn't just more technology.

# It's the future of civilization.



# It's the future of you.

The most persistent visual expressions found in Silicon Valley workstations are Lego, Rubiks cubes or *Star Wars*. One wonders if the world is being made in the image of a Silicon Valley workstation desktop. The closer one envisions a world just like that, the closer one is to seeing the world that is actually going to happen.

# Artificial charisma\* remains elusive

\*Unless you count Context Hierarchy-based  
Adaptive Reasoning Self-Motivated Agent: CHARISMA

Imagine if:

Technologists are  
the Extreme Selves  
making us more



What might technologists have in common?

- Some of them believe the human body can't be perfected. It's better to start from scratch.
- A few of them cast human workers as the stop-gap until machines can do everything by themselves.

- Many of them don't think sovereign nation states are a good way to run the world. That's because their platforms' users make up numbers dwarfing entire continents.

- Too much democracy can interfere in their visions.

- All see themselves as new figures of extraordinary persuasion.



You  
are  
alive

for  
the  
moment

Everywhere we look we hope to see omens: sharks left stranded on beaches by receding tides; colorful birds flying into windows; a woman's eye is bitten by a spider that turns her eye black; Florida teenagers drop the head of an elk onto a freeway.



# The Apocalypse arrived one day.

## It was not what we expected.

[Rebecca\\_Aich 10 seconds ago](#)  
So sad but so beautiful

237

'During the pandemic, Western customers revealed their panic purchases of choice were flour and toilet paper.'

Regardless of how we morally frame the current human soul, one thing is for certain: we wanted something, and we got it.

We're not innocent.



Can young people ever have nostalgia if they only ever inhabit a present?

I often feel like I have too many and not enough tabs open at the same time.



people don't wait for centuries to end before they express it. Any date can be justified on some calculation or other.

Frank Kermode, *The Sense of an Ending*

'You sometimes hear people say that the nineteenth century really ended not in 1900 but in 1914. But there are different ways of measuring an epoch. [However] there is something satisfying about the fin de siècle, some confirmation of the rightness of the patterns we impose. As Focillon observed, the anxiety reflected by the fin de siècle is perpetual, and people don't wait for centuries to end before they express it. Any date can be justified on some calculation or other.'

Frank Kermode, *The Sense of an Ending*

'You sometimes hear people say that the nineteenth century really ended not in 1900 but in 1914. But there are different ways of measuring an epoch. [However] there is something

Next  
year  
is  
1,000  
years  
away\*

'Time is actually the lead character in the film.'  
Richard Linklater on his film *Boyhood*

\*We need to invent new tenses for time.

I miss time



D  
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'List of selfie-related injuries and deaths'

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_selfie-related\\_injuries\\_and\\_deaths](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_selfie-related_injuries_and_deaths)

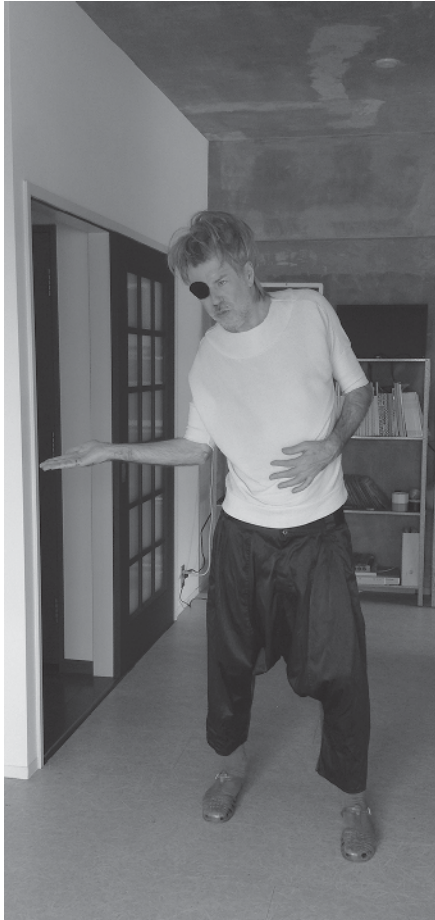
Date: October 15, 2011

Country: United States

Casualties: 3

Type: Transport

Three teenagers (two sisters and a friend) were killed by a train while posing for a selfie. The train is just visible in the final picture they posted to Facebook, along with the caption, 'Standing right by a train ahaha this is awesome!!!!'




Living  
forever  
turns out  
to be  
slightly  
boring

It is easier to imagine the end of the world than  
the end of the Internet.

'Millions long for im-mortality who don't know what to do on a rainy Sunday  
afternoon,' Susan Ertz



This is just a dress rehearsal for something  
scarier to come.

A woman with long dark hair is partially visible, peeking from behind a bamboo stalk. She is holding a silver smartphone in her right hand, which is raised towards the camera. The background is a dense bamboo forest with sunlight filtering through the leaves. The overall tone is soft and contemplative.

One day I realized that  
the screen was looking  
back at me.

That was too much  
intimacy.

# IMAGE CREDITS AND REFERENCES

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2–3 Image: Christine Sun Kim, *sub-advertisement*, 2018  
Text reference to Hito Steyerl, Julieta Aranda, Brian Kuan Wood, Stephen Squibb, Anton Vidolke, 'Editorial – Strange Universalism,' *e-flux journal* #86, November 2017.

8 Suzanne Treister, *SURVIVOR (F)/Pink Quantum Data Cloud*, 2018 Oil on canvas

10–11 Ana Nicolaescu, *Simulant 1*, 2019. Simulants are synthetic humans made by real humans, as a way to teach machines about us.



12 Peter Saville by Yoso Mouri, 2016

16 Pierre Huyghe, *Self-portrait*, 2019, Deep image reconstruction. Courtesy of the artist; © Kamitani Lab / Kyoto University and ATR

23 Victoria Sin, *It was like looking into a mirror*, 2017

24–25 Michael Stipe, *3-D Scan, Early Technology, with Michael Oliveri*, Athens, 2010

26–27 Jenna Sutela, *nimiia cétii*, 2018

34 Wang Haiyang, *Skins 01*, 2017

36 Jarvis Cocker, *Hong Kong Mirror*, November 10, 2018

39 Detail from <https://thispersondoesnotexist.com>

43 Jürgen Klauke, *Self*, 2016, Tableau: 9 parts

44 Anne Imhof, *Untitled*, 2018

46–47 Johannes Paul Raether, *Transformella Malor Ikea Warszawa [4.4.6.4]*, 2017. Photo: Pat Mic

51 Lynn Hershman Leeson, *Exhibit as DNA and antibody*, 2018

52 Cécile B. Evans, *Haku, Hyperlinks or It Didn't Happen*, 2014

55 Pierre Huyghe, *Untitled (Human Mask)*, 2014

56–57 Basar / Coupland / Obrist / Daly & Lyon, *Anxiousexplodinghead emoji*, 2019

58–59 Pamela Rosenkranz, *Work in progress*, 2019

62 PC via Pexels

65 Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, *(Untitled (MM))*, 2015

71 Fatima Al Qadiri, *Research for Shaneera Makeup*, 2016

73 Fatima Al Qadiri, *Shaneera Cover Shoot Image*, 2016. Photo by Fijla Nabeel. Makeup by Arabia Felix & Styling by Khalid al Gharaballi

74 Craig Green, Spring / Summer 2018 collection. Photo: Indigital

75 Stéphanie Saadé, *Digiprint*, 2019

76 Yaeji, *Untitled (Self portrait)*, 2019

79 Miranda July, *Face Match*, 2018; Miranda July, *Style Reference*, 2015

80–81 Urs Lüthi, *TRANSMISSION ERROR II & I*, 2015, Ultrachrome-Pigmentprint

85 Anna Uddenberg, *Journey of Self Discovery*, 2016, fiberglass, aqua resin, wind jacket, synthetic hair, paint, crocs, fabric, selfie stick, rubber strings, terrace puff, wall tattoo

86 Yu Honglei, *#1*, 2018, brass, stainless steel, iron wire, paper, millet rice

87 Daly & Lyon, *Clownvoid emoji*, 2021

88 Michael Stipe, *Casey Spooner Copy Hide*, 2015

89 Amalia Ulman, *Privilege 5/24/2016*, 2015–2017, photography / online durational performance

92 Thomas Dozol, *Skincontact. PNG*, 2017

94 Isabel Lewis, *Unambitious Stripper*, 2017

99 Cao Fei, *Asia One*, 2018, color video with sound

100 Raja'a Khalid, *Physique 57*, 2019. Artist's visit history page on her Physique 57 MINDBODY account. It lists every barre class she has taken.

102 Agnieszka Kurant and John Menick, *Production Line 4*, 2016–ongoing. From a series of drawings whose production is outsourced to thousands of online workers on the crowdsourcing website 'Amazon Mechanical Turk.' Any profits are shared with the workers via a bonus system.

103 Ania Soliman (with Lee Burkins), *Bagua for Robots*, 2019

104–105 Still from *Electronic Countermeasures*, directed by Liam Young, 2012. Drone Pilots: Eleanor Saitta, Oliviu Lugojan-Ghenciu. Photo: Claus Langer.

106–107 Cao Fei, *Asia One*, 2018, color video with sound

111 Satoshi Fujiwara, *Venus*, 2016–18

116–117 Pan Daijing, *Self Portrait*, 2019

- 126 Precious Okoyomon, *Self Portrait*, 2019
- 130–131 Carsten Höller, *The Forest*, 2002, 2 films on DVD, 2 DVD players, 3D-glasses with LCD-monitors, synchronizer
- 135 Jürgen Klauke, *Gehänge III*, 2017
- 136 Sissel Tolaas, *Data Graphs: Smell Molecular Recordings of Self*, 2004–2019
- 139 Liam Gillick, *Information Posters (Wien / Public)*, 2017
- 144 Ana Nicolaescu
- 145 Design Ecologist, *Girl Pointing*, via Pexels
- 152–153 Yuri Pattison, *IMG\_2019.jpg*
- 160 Lucy Raven, *Two men painting the surface of a low relief model of hazard-prone islands in the Philippines at the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS)*, 2019
- 161 Lorraine O'Grady, *Miscegenated Family Album (Sisters III)*, L: Nefertiti's daughter, Maketaten; R: Devonia's daughter, Kimberley, 1980/1994. Courtesy Alexander Gray Associates, New York © Lorraine O'Grady / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York
- 163 Thomas Hirschhorn, *Plan 'S'*, 2017
- 164–165 Still from the *New City* animated panorama series. Directed by Liam Young, 2016. Text by Tim Maughan.
- 166–167 GCC, *Portrait*, 2016. Photo: Jason Nocito
- 169 Farah Al Qasimi, *House Plant*, 2015
- 170–171 Sara Cwynar, *Hands (Re-enactment)*, 2016
- 173 Samuel Fosso, *Autoportrait: 'Emperor of Africa' series, SFEA*, 1955, 2013. © Samuel Fosso, courtesy Jean Marc Patras / Paris
- 180 Bogosi Sekhukhuni, *Shaman's Death/The Great Karmic Cycle*, 2019. Sekhukhuni is collecting 19th newspaper prints sold online that describe the colonial wars between the British army and a direct ancestor of his, Sekhukhune II, King of the Pedi nation.
- 182 Asad Raza, *Root Sequence Mother Tongue*, 2017. Shown at Grimaldi Forum, Monaco. Photo: Haydn Appelby.
- 183 Emmanuel Iduma by Amitava Kumar, 2018
- 184 Jenna Sutela, *Many-Headed Reading*, 2016
- 186 Tabita Rezaire, video still from *Peaceful Warrior*, 2015. Courtesy of the artist and Goodman Gallery, South Africa
- 189 Ania Soliman, *Drawing Screens*, 2019, video still
- 190–191 Stephanie Comilang, still from *Lumapit Sa Akin, Paraiso (Come To Me, Paradise)*, 2016
- 196 *Pyramids of Giza, Cairo*, Google Maps, May 18, 2019
- 197 Miles Gertler, *Benjamin's Vision (The Port and the Fall of Icarus)*, 2018
- 198 Oriana Polito, *Luxury yacht stock image*, via Pexels
- 201 Barry Doupé, stills from *Distracted Blueberry*, 2019
- 202–203 *Money stock image*, via Pixabay
- 204 Simon Denny, Davos 2019: Integral Petroleum's 'Caspian Week' commemorative caps, 2019
- 205 Simon Denny, *Davos 2019: Amazon Web Services/Swiss Alp Fantasy*, 2019
- 208–209 Sophia Al-Maria, *A Literal Look*, 2018
- 211 GCC, *Royal Mirage*, 2014
- 213 Goshka Macuga, *Marx*, 2016
- 214 Agnieszka Kurant, *A.A.I. (Systems Negative)*, 2017
- 215 Lawrence Abu Hamdan, *Disputed Utterances*, 2018
- 218 Trevor Paglen, *Machine Readable Hito*, 2017
- 219 Yuri Pattison, *Untitled (iOS emoji content aware fill)*, c.2021
- 221 Rami Farook, *Self portrait as Andy*, 2020
- 224–225 Amnesia Scanner & PWR, 2018, *Crust Punk Patch Generated Algorithm*
- 226 Ingrid Hora, *Sun Ritual*, 2021
- 228 Ian Cheng, *Emissary Sunsets The Self*, 2017, live simulation and story, infinite duration, sound
- 229 Philippe Parreno, still from *No More Reality Whereabouts*, 2019
- 230 Yazan Khalili, *Don't be a Stranger*, 2019
- 237 Koo Jeong A, *DEEP & SIMPLE*, 2019
- 238–239 Chen Zhou, still from *SIGhostNAL*, 2018
- 242–243 Suzanne Treister, *Self Portrait in Outerspace*, 2018
- 244 Momus as Erich Heckel's *Roquairol*, 2016
- 246 Ana Nicolaescu, *Game Death*, 2018
- 247 Rachel Rose, 2019
- 248–249 Stephanie Comilang, still from *Lumapit Sa Akin, Paraiso (Come To Me, Paradise)*, 2016
- 254 Paul Mpagi Sepuya, *Self Portrait*, 2018
- 256 Anonymous, *The Impossibility of David Bowie Being Dead in the Minds of the Living*, 2014–

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See Why



I promise  
you  
you are  
real  
and you  
will  
live  
forever

I promise you a mystery. I promise you peace. I promise you great visions.



Restore  
me  
to  
factory  
settings



>DRJ\_2016< 1 day from now

The more I get to know you  
the more we seem to