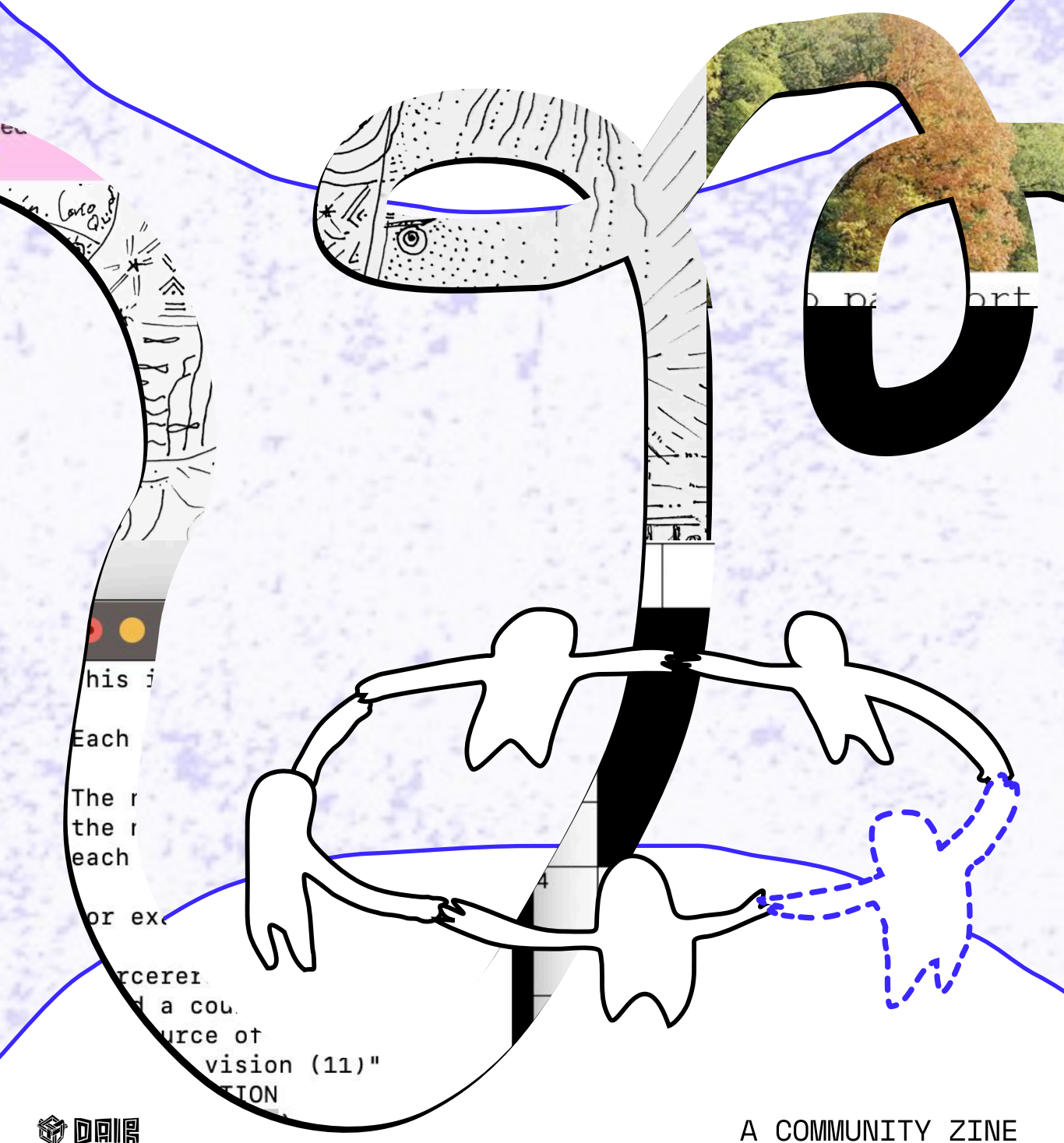


POSSIBLE FUTURES

VOL
001



THE FOLLOWING PIECES WERE
CREATED DURING A WORKSHOP
HELD VIRTUALLY ON APRIL
11, 2025.

CREATIVE COMMONS

CC BY-NC-SA 4.0

WE ASKED
PARTICIPANTS:

TELL US ABOUT
YOUR IMAGINED
TECHNO-FUTURES

lllll

In my ideal future...

[redacted] an AI model [redacted] launched [redacted] years ago [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] fully replaced [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted] further improved [redacted]
instruction [redacted] problem solving, and conversational flow [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted] multimodal capabilities, allowing them to understand both
images and text — the first for a widely deployed OpenAI model.

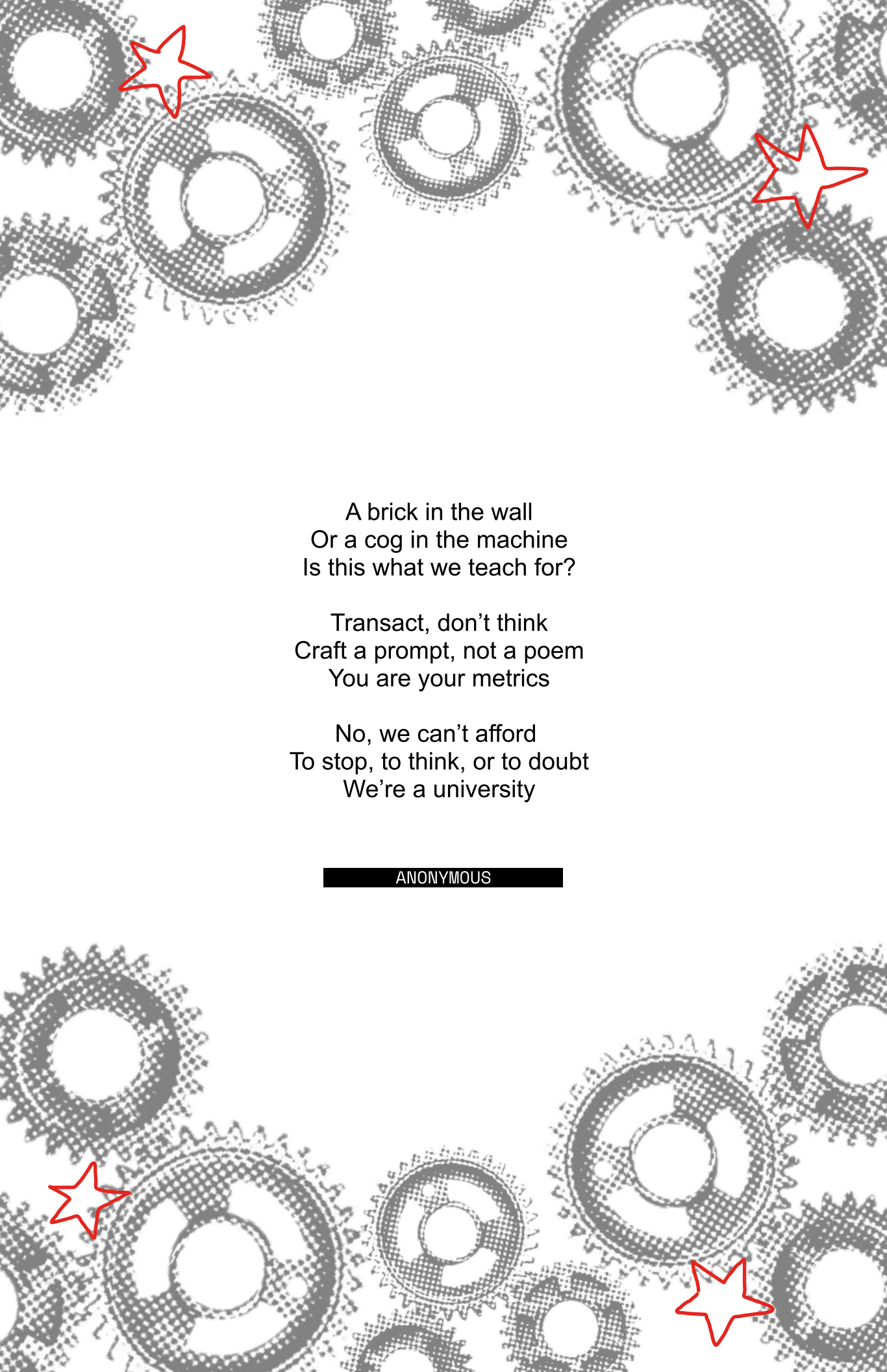
[redacted]
[redacted] a faster and cheaper
model.

[redacted] copyright [redacted]
[redacted]. [redacted] data
[redacted] consent. [redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

SARAH KIDEN, RESEARCH FELLOW
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

lllll

The background of the entire page is a halftone pattern of interlocking gears of various sizes. Four red, hand-drawn style stars are placed in the corners: top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right.

A brick in the wall
Or a cog in the machine
Is this what we teach for?

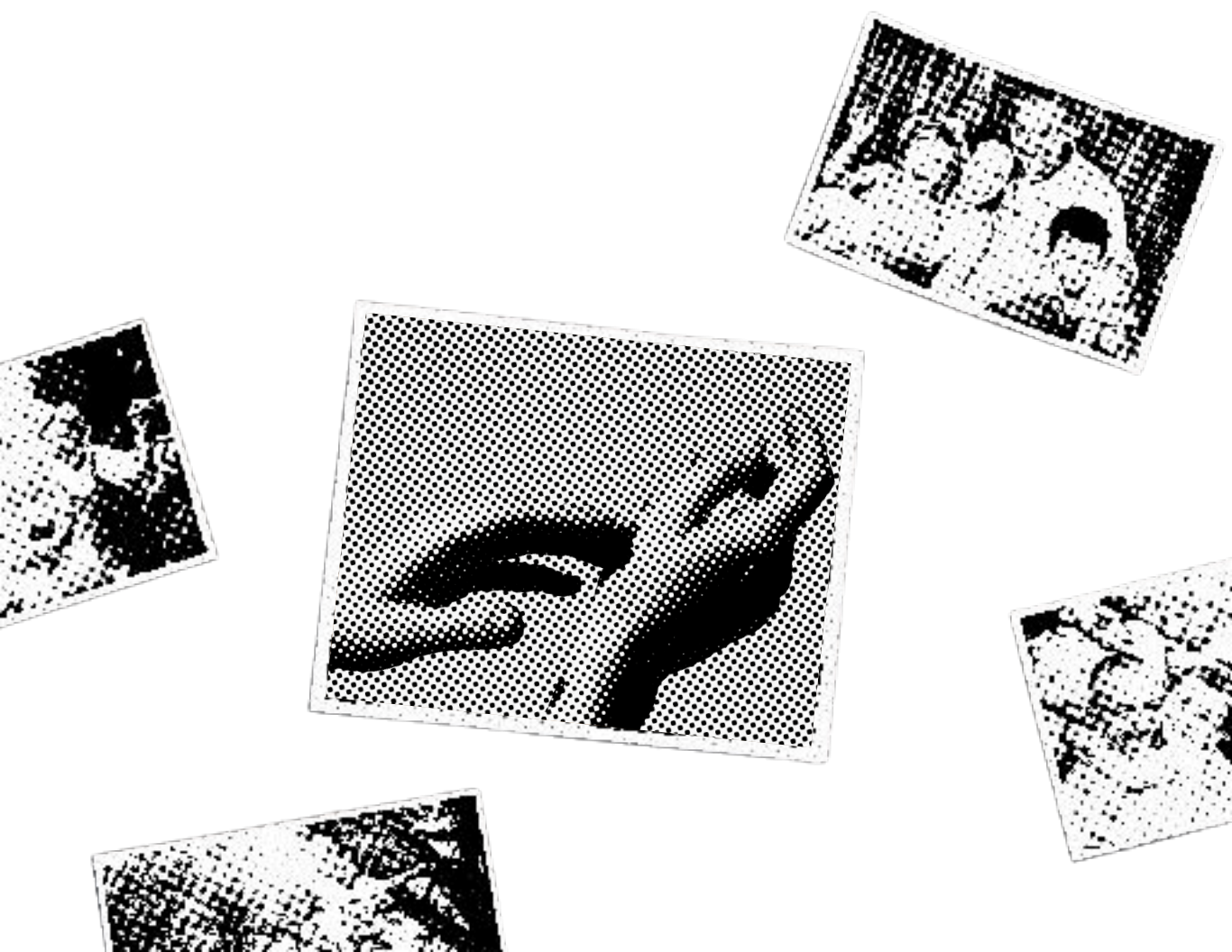
Transact, don't think
Craft a prompt, not a poem
You are your metrics

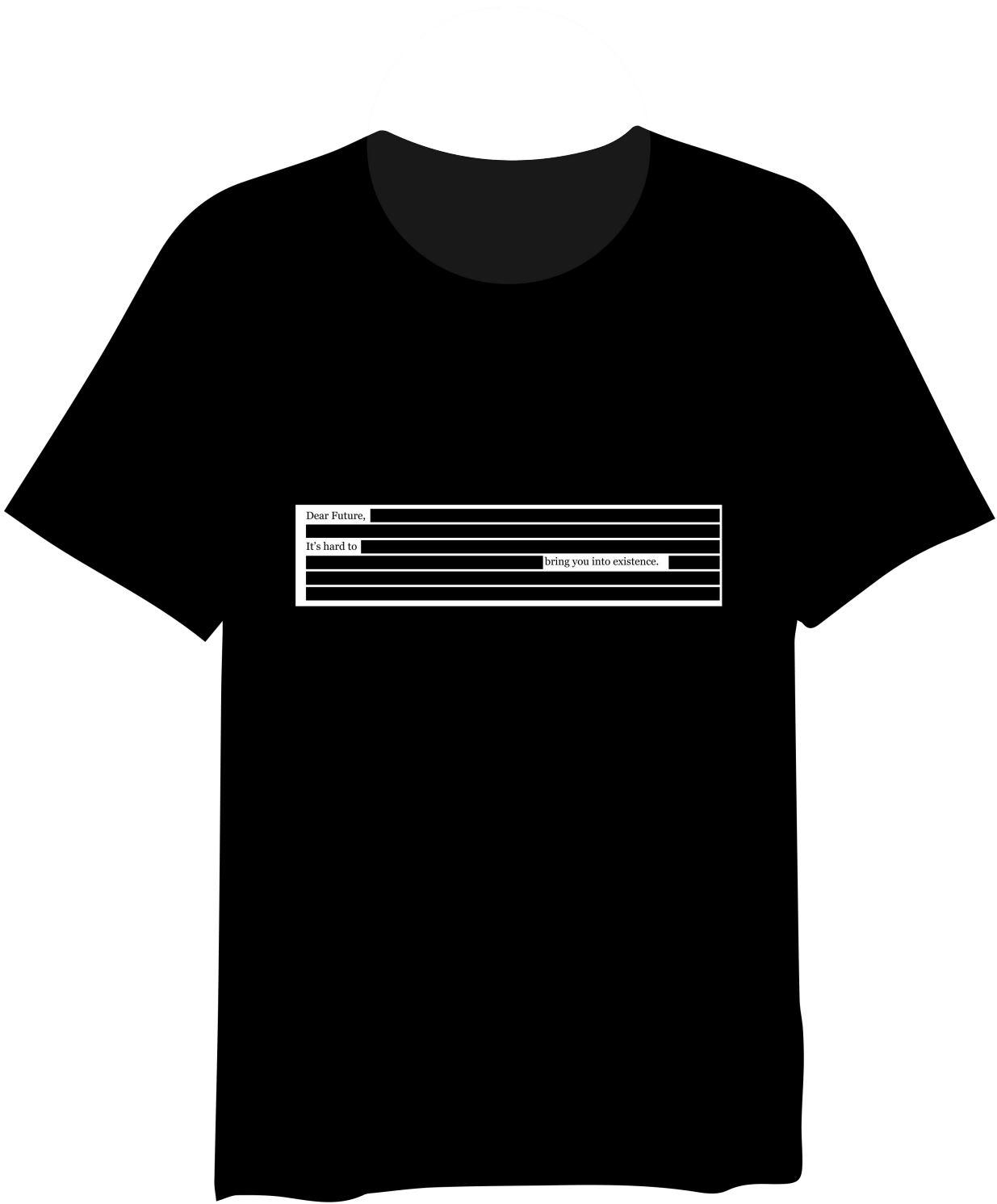
No, we can't afford
To stop, to think, or to doubt
We're a university

ANONYMOUS

Code writes itself,
Jobs fade like old photographs,
Human touch, a distant dream.

RASAGY SHARMA





ANGELOS FROM JOINT FRONTIERS



together

everywhere

no borders

no passports

"Grandma, what was a visa?"

LAURA CARTER





In my technofuture, we have embraced rewilding 🌱

There is no separation of 'humans' vs 'nature', and it's not a hobbyist activity but the community lifeline 🍷



Technology is a joyous tool used as and when needed 💜



We repair, reuse, and share our community tech 🔧





young science

marshaled

medicine

shaped climate

progress is happening,
vulnerable

response to

environmental justice investigation

Excellence.

young science

marshaled

medicine

shaped climate

progress is happening,
vulnerable

response to

environmental justice investigation

Excellence.

SIOBHAN O'FLYNN
 UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
 INSTAGRAM: @SIOFLYNN, @SIOFLYNN.BSKY.SOCIAL



My little world in 2050

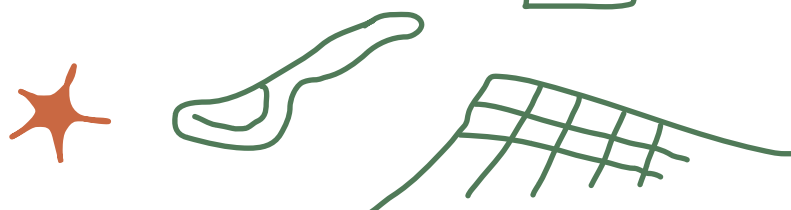
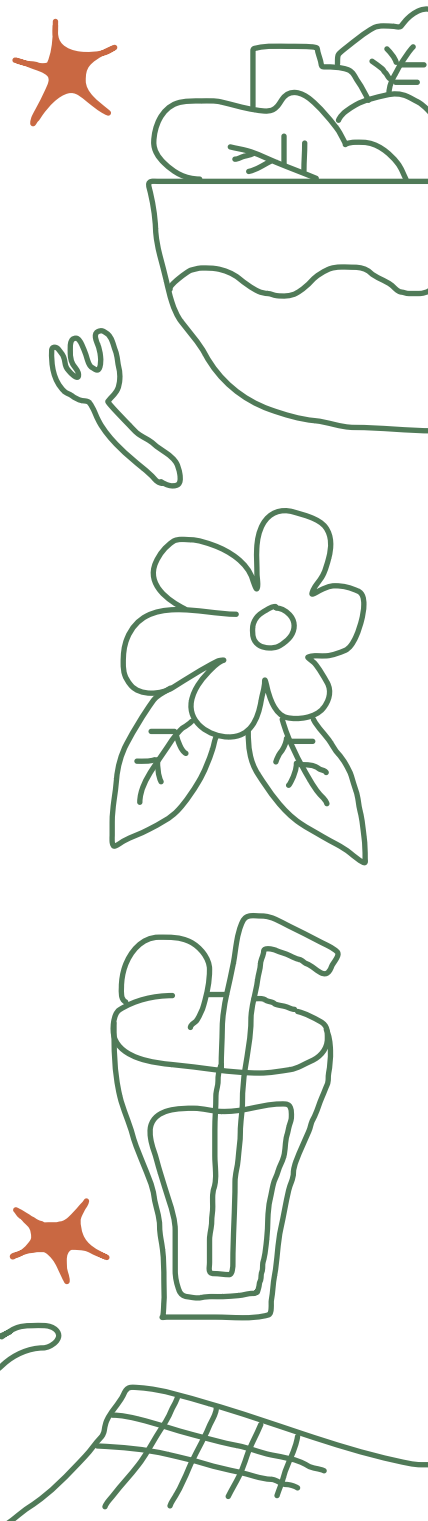
In 2050 my kids will be grown up, maybe there'll even be grandchildren. We meet every Sunday for lunch, everyone takes turns to prepare it.

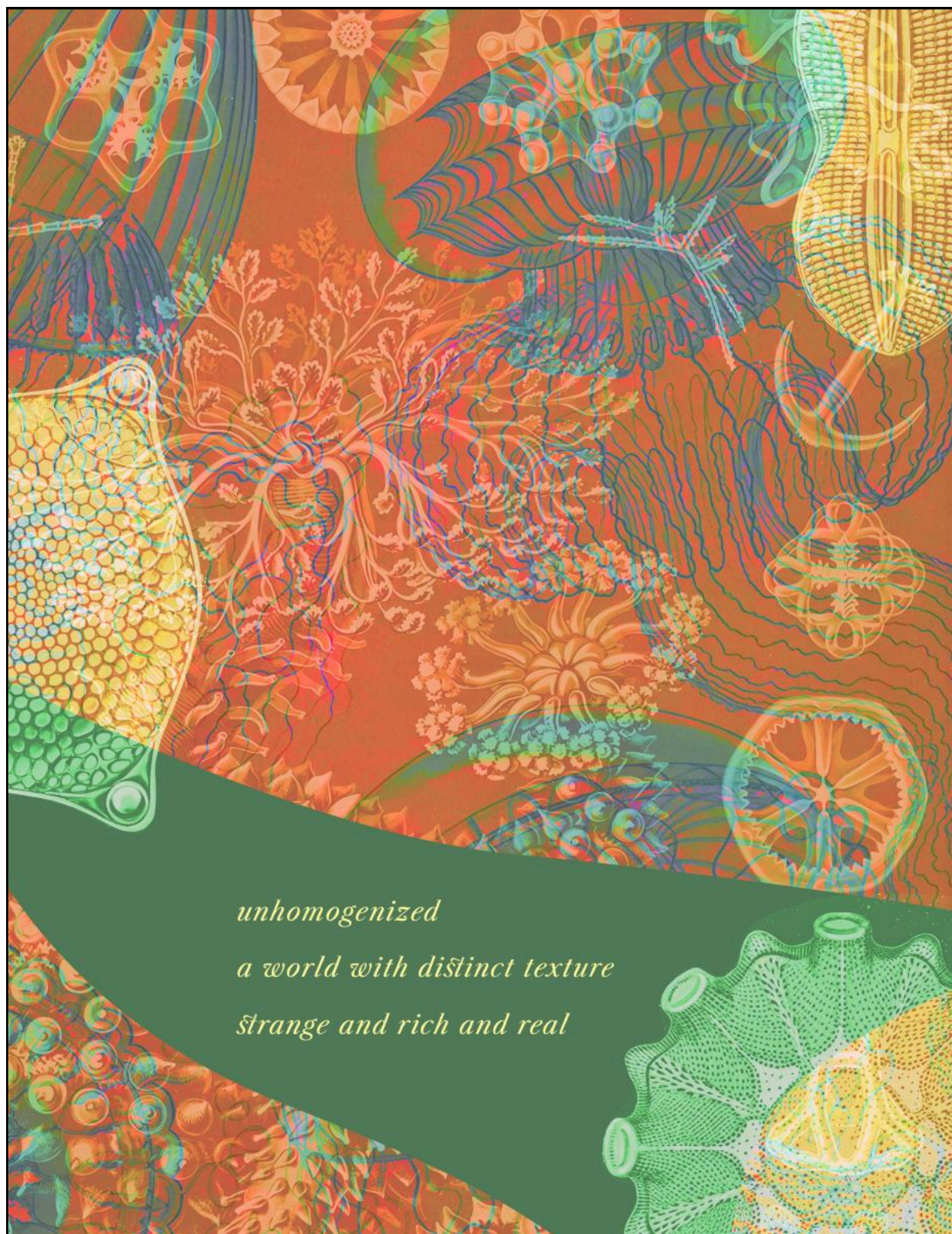
In the summer, we sit outside in the garden, in wintertime it's cozy inside.

On Monday my kids will return to friends, hobbies, studies and work. My partner and me will return to our daily routines and look forward to the future that lies ahead of our children.

The role of technology in the big world out there: To support our all daily lives, our communities and our environment.

ANONYMOUS





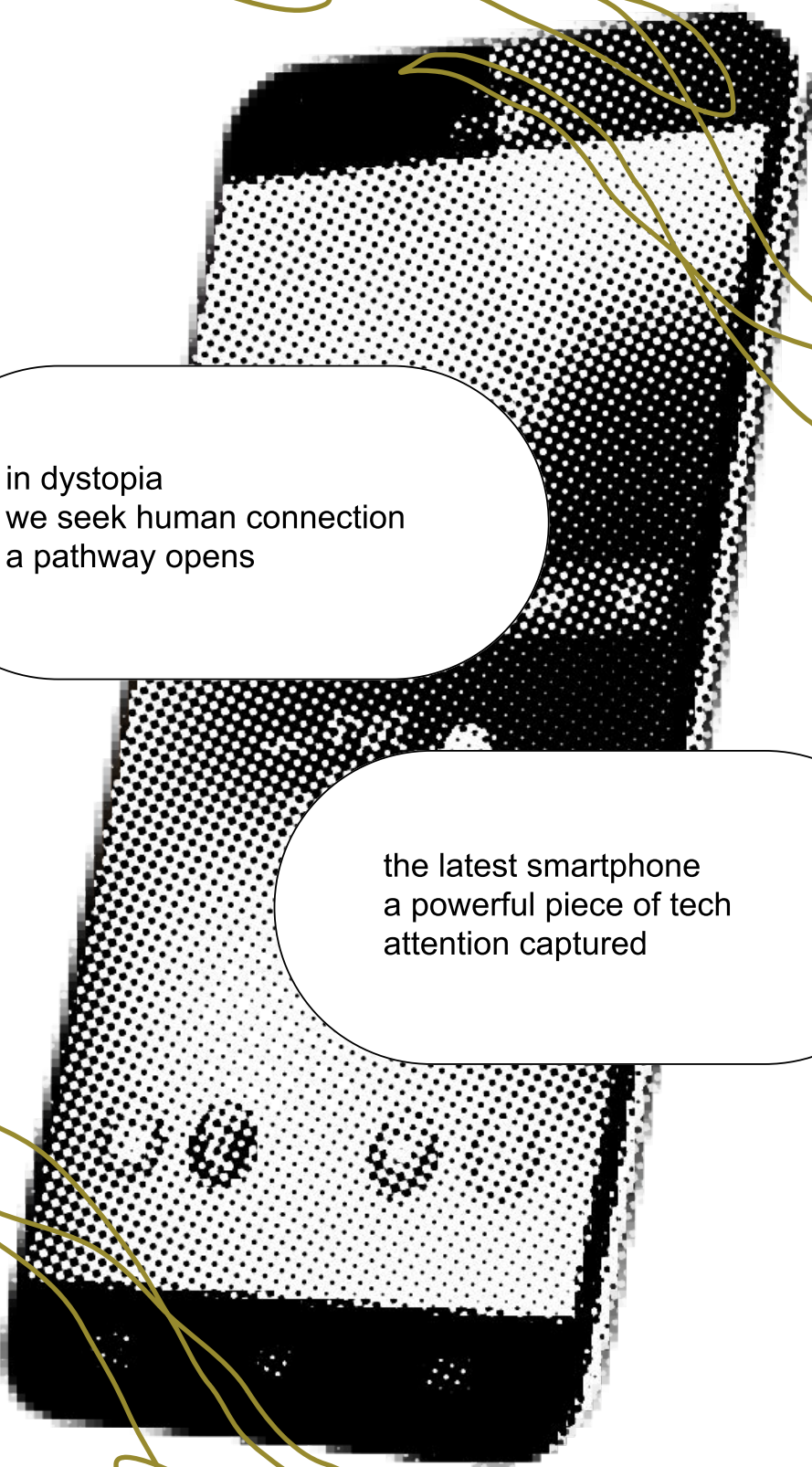
unhomogenized
a world with distinct texture
strange and rich and real

KATHERINE OLVERA




Lo que importa es la Contención.





in dystopia
we seek human connection
a pathway opens

the latest smartphone
a powerful piece of tech
attention captured

A photograph of a traditional wooden bridge with dark railings, leading through a park. Large weeping willow trees with yellow-green foliage frame the bridge. In the background, there are green pine trees and a glimpse of a building. The sky is overcast.

*the present is here
who will decide our future?
we must lead the way*

© Chris Weiland - CC BY-NC-SA 4.0

CHRIS WEILAND
@CHRISWEI@MASTODON.ONLINE

Progress [REDACTED],
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] means [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

[REDACTED] slowing [REDACTED] down, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] solutionism [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
divided highways [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NATASHA SAMANTHA GODWIN

Text Source: *Progress happens because solutions create new problems to solve*
by Jason Crawford for Freethink



Text Source: *The cinematograph, the “noematograph,” and the future of AI art* by Ken Liu for Big Think

the world's
discovered
moderation
there's excitement
to
do better
because
growth
is based
In
others

E.J. PAVY, PH.D.

Text Source: ChatGPT became the most downloaded app globally in March
by Sarah Perez for TechCrunch

do not exist

straight
lines

In my Utopia

software

does
not
exist.

things
are

coded.

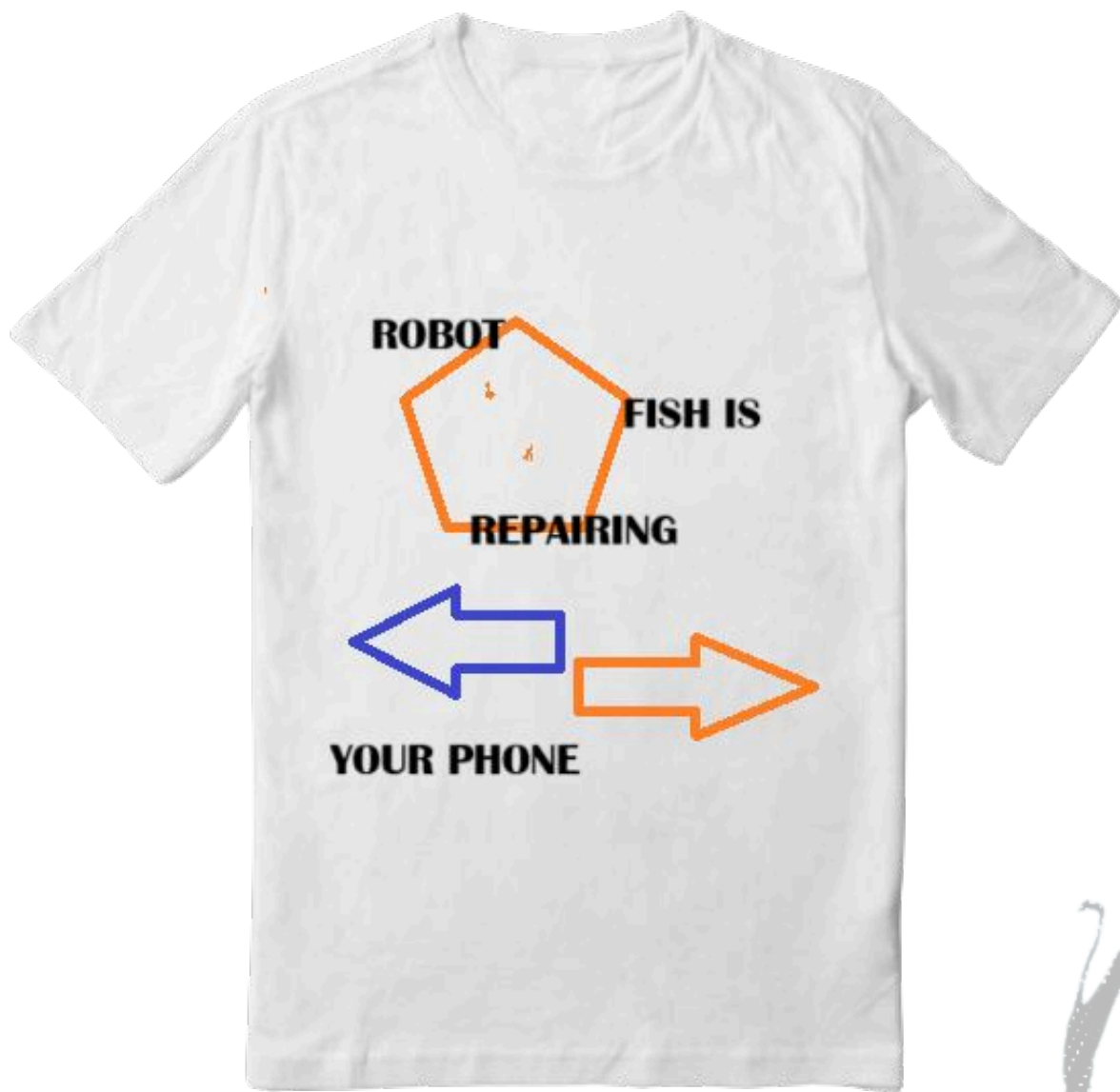
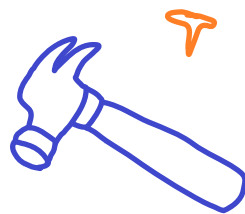
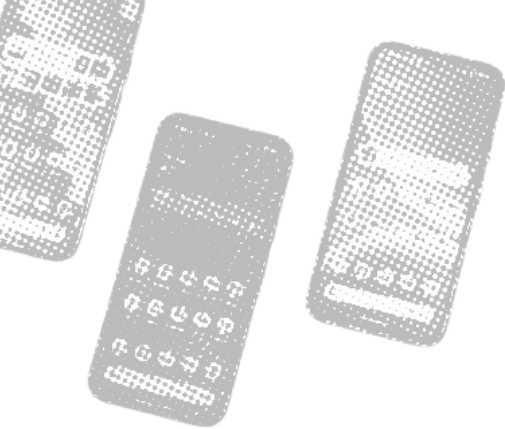
we can

BR

finally

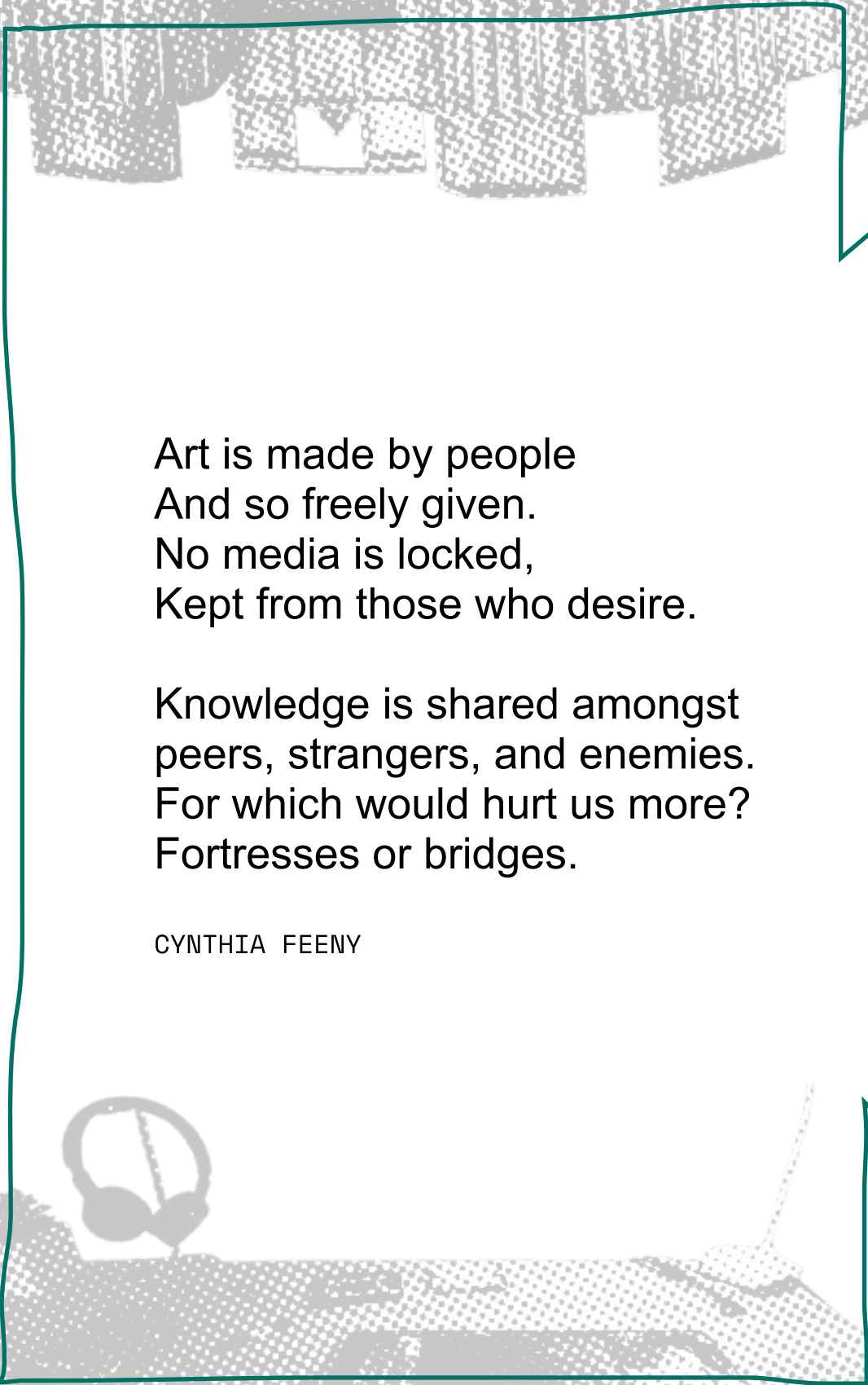
we can mouse freely

we can mouse freely



GIRLBANDGEEK





Art is made by people
And so freely given.
No media is locked,
Kept from those who desire.

Knowledge is shared amongst
peers, strangers, and enemies.
For which would hurt us more?
Fortresses or bridges.

CYNTHIA FEENY



WIRED

SECURITY

POLITICS

GEAR

MORE ▾

[GIVE A GIFT](#)

The

CEO

is

a system crash.

go rogue

YAN BASQUE

Text Source: *If Anthropic Succeeds, a Nation of Benevolent AI Geniuses Could Be Born*
by Steven Levy for Wired Magazine



In the name of efficiency and accuracy
We lost all the rest, called it 'bias' — then progress
Who cares for what's lost in the cracks?
We got our general super machines
Who know everything in sweeps
But nothing specific about you or me

ASMA HUSSEIN



MARA



Slow

Caring

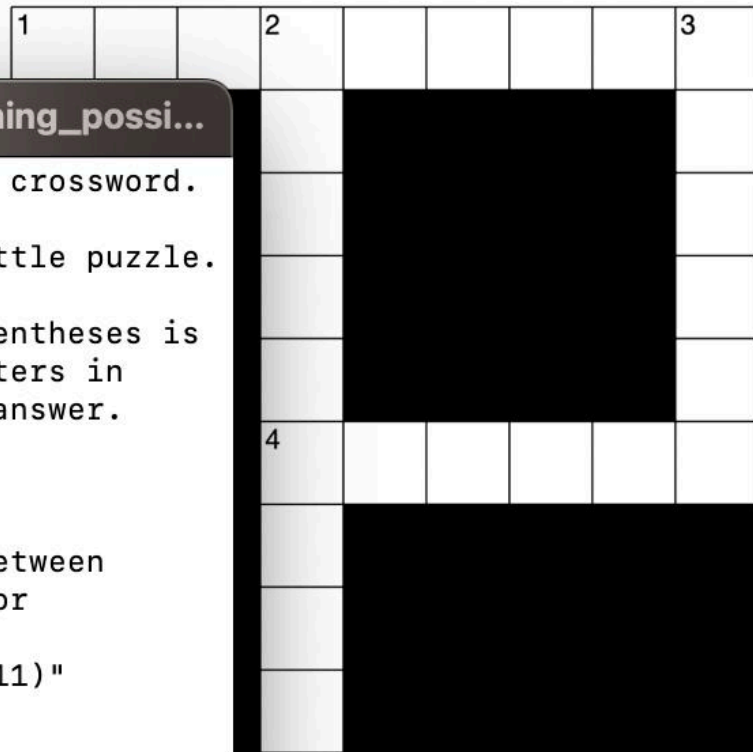
Warmth

Joyful

The knowledge of elders

ANONYMOUS

Imagining Possible Futures Abstract Tesseract




This is a cryptic crossword.
Each clue is a little puzzle.
The number in parentheses is
the number of letters in
each word of the answer.
For example:
"Sorcerers come between
I and a country for
the source of
creative vision (11)"
→ IMAGINATION
(I-MAGI-NATION)

ACROSS

1. Ed, you charged particle for learning (9)
4. Neither's partner,
headless lush
as the ideal learning speed (2, 4)

DOWN

2. Model United Nations inside a
mutually-beneficial national association—
it's where learning should happen (9)
3. Jumbled onrush
as the ideal learning speed (2, 4)



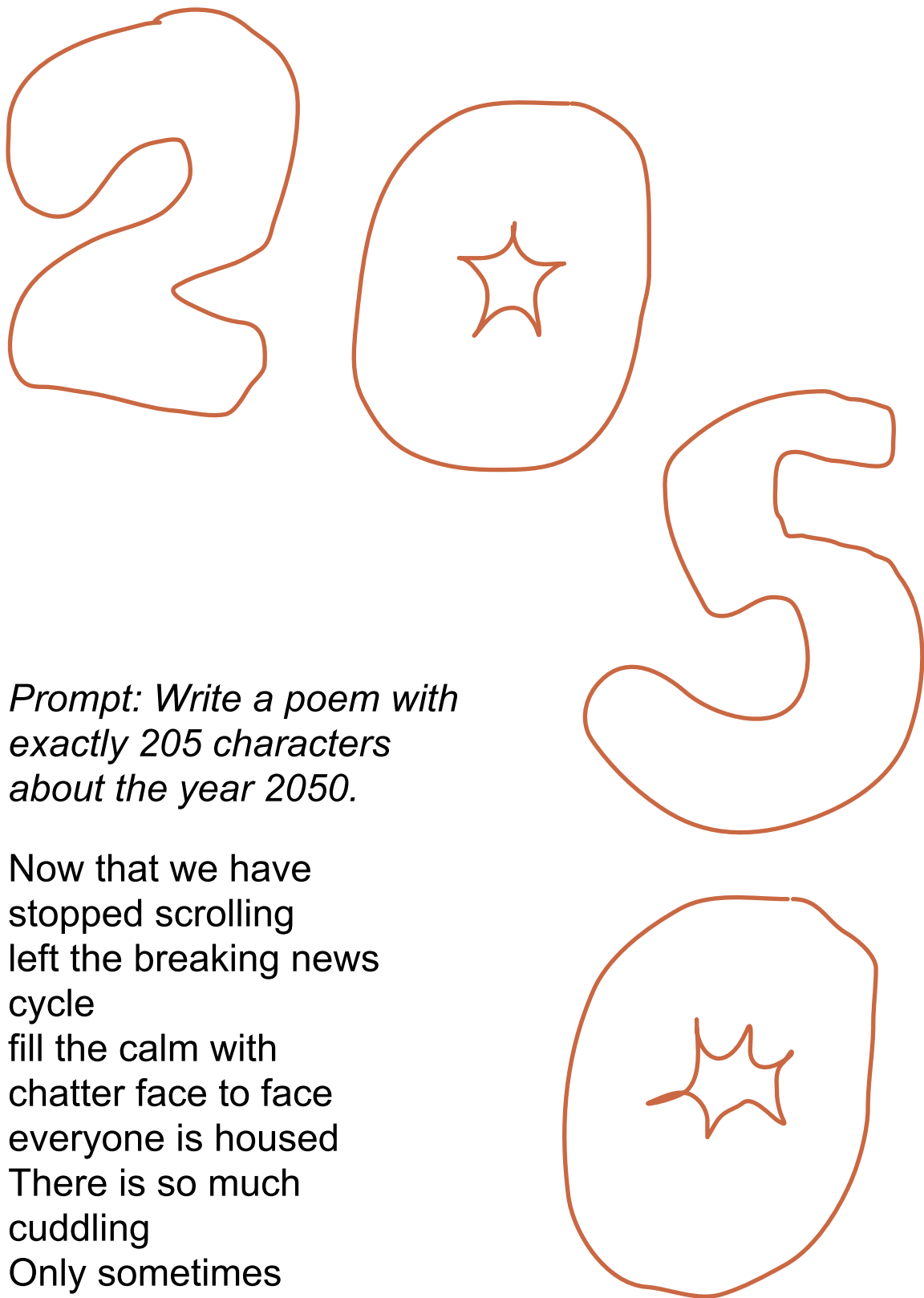
Calmness in the middle of the fog.
Clearing, opening, embracing wide.
Open.
We go.

ANONYMOUS

Fruits of labor. harvested.



DARCY CHRISTIANSON



Prompt: Write a poem with exactly 205 characters about the year 2050.

Now that we have
stopped scrolling
left the breaking news
cycle
fill the calm with
chatter face to face
everyone is housed
There is so much
cuddling
Only sometimes
the children asleep
we tell each other stories
about that time we almost lost our way

TATJANA



ELISA ABUIN
EXPERIENCE DESIGN MANAGER. MADRID, SPAIN.

A Data Spill

AdTargetr dealt in a special kind of information: If you were a business and you wanted to know the habits of your customers, they would correlate email addresses to location data, and tell you the types of places your customers frequented. Now you could advertise in those places, hoping that the other people in those areas were also potential customers.

This was extremely illegal, of course. That's why AdTargetr only dealt on the Dark Web.

If the Data Protection Agency ever found out who ran AdTargetr, they were going to be in big trouble.

But there were only a few places that the location data could have come from, so it was easy to track down the company that provided it. A map startup.

The Data Protection Agency investigated, and found that their users' data was gathered intentionally -- already a major violation. They also found that the data was sold intentionally -- the worst violation.

The map startup was seized and brought to an auction of groups wishing to run it as a worker collective.

The money seized from the map startup could only go part way toward compensating the victims of the leak. That's why, like all information technology companies, they had been paying into the government's "Data Leak Cleanup Fund". That money went to helping individuals whose data had been leaked -- relocation was offered. New identity documents, new accounts on their platforms. The data ombudsperson would help with all that.

This program helped clean up data spills. It did some to reduce them at the source, by reducing the amount of data that companies stored. But more could be done: A society could be created based more on person-to-person relationships, where data didn't have the dangerous power it had over people.



MICHELLE HUGHES
@MEGAMICHELLE@A2MI.SOCIAL



So, what happens when



We are ready to share



ANONYMOUS

Text Source: *The Cybernetic Teammate*
by Ethan Mollick for the *One Useful Thing* Substack

We never learn.

We always build massive infrastructures without considering alternative futures. It happened with highways in the petroleum age, and again with data centers in the AI age.

In the 2020s, the AI boom led to an explosion of data center construction. Governments and corporations rushed to expand computational capacity, prioritizing scale over sustainability. Localized and edge computing existed, but policymakers were blind to alternative models. Centralized infrastructure was seen as the only way forward. The signals were there. Heatwaves had already forced data centers offline. In the summer of 2024, a facility in the UK had to shut down when its cooling systems failed under extreme temperatures.

Climate experts warned that these energy-hungry infrastructures weren't built for a warming world. Advocates pushed for localized AI, energy-efficient edge computing, and smaller-scale infrastructure. But governments saw centralized AI as key to data sovereignty, while tech giants resisted decentralization to maintain control over computational economies. They couldn't imagine an AI future without massive structures.

By the 2050s, as energy grids strained and cooling systems failed en masse, these structures were slowly decommissioned. Now, in 2100, these once-powerful data centers lie abandoned- monuments to an era of reckless digital expansion. Their structures are crumbling, their servers silent. Archaeologists and historians explore their ruins, unearthing the remnants of a society that believed in infinite computation.

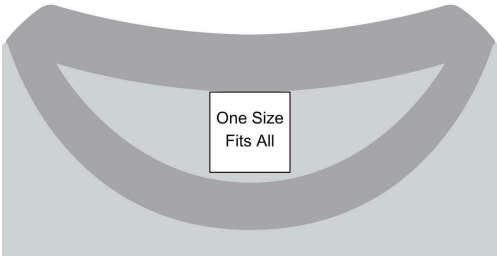
ASMITA MEHTA
FUTURES RESEARCHER, ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART



photo by [kennedy_ryann](#)



In my ideal technofuture, you can tune a personalized AR system to reformat incoming speech to align with a healthy culture that works for you – your culture – while preserving the statement’s best intent. harmful stereotypes and beliefs would be automatically processed to phase them out. this would be normalized, so we’d live in a hyper-compatible culture over an ethical, nonjudgemental, compassionate baseline



What's a problem that bothers you about technology?

Problem: Tech is a one-sized-fits-all approach. The status quo of localization is the same tech shipped everywhere, only some copies have crappy translations.



In an ideal world, how would we design tech?

For emphasis: Communities are given the rights and support to develop an iteration - especially the first - of whatever tech they want and need.

Hard and Fast Rules:

No underpaid and exploited shadow workers allowed! People are credited fairly for their work.

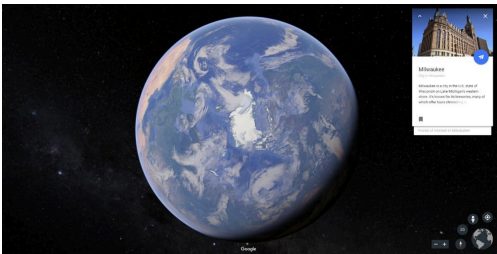
Funding and support shall not be bureaucratic! What shall be bureaucratic is the paper trail that demonstrates that all components and work that contributed to the tech abides by fair practices.

No stealing of natural resources allowed!

An objective of the tech shall be to have a small environmental footprint.

A STARTER CHECKLIST

1. Acknowledge who the tech is being built for. No tech is universal! Be specific.
This tech is being built for the group _____.
2. 😊 Take the time to think. Do any more (NOT OTHER) groups besides the one named even need this tech?
 - a. If not, limit distribution.
 - b. If so, name the groups: _____ . Be comprehensive.
3. Design tech to respond to everyone's needs and interests.
 - a. In-culture experts lead culture-specific design.
 - b. Tech features bespoke language(s) that speaks culturally to each group.



Time for the real imagination... What would a world look like where the problem identified is unimaginable?

People would have tech that they don't have to fight with, that is ethical, useful and intuitive, engaging and even delightful that helps them to achieve their creative vision for the world.

ANONYMOUS

access to live, uncensored
images of conflict, poverty and
disaster worldwide.

raw videos of people
grieving rubble
destruction

glued to our screens,

distress.

overwhelmed

'what's the
point of all of this?'
live your
life.

ANONYMOUS

