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How about a future where farmers in these countries are supported by technology towards more effective farming so the countries can sustain economically instead of depending on western aid.

Image by EcoSikh, licensed under CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons. Image by NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center, licensed under CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons For some reason (lately) I have been feeling nervous, scared, daunted, hard to proceed – hard to make sense out of things, hard to have a plan, disempowered. A very typical thing around me is to say things like "no way out but through," that if we keep talking and building relationships and signing petitions and canvassing and writing and reading we will carve our way out of this moment –



but im maybe more reassured by the image of mushrooms, a weird growth emerging in weird places – a cliche symbol that no matter what, and even in decay and death, there will be something living at the end of that; that there will be something new no matter how much we are afraid of the process to create it or how worried we are that this is the end



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research referencing sexual orientation and gender identity



Article: "CDC scrubs research databases referencing sexual orientation and gender identity," Los Angeles Times, January 31, 2025. Image: "Surveillance video cameras, Gdynia" by MOs810, licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons. Image of Divine from Pink Flamingos (1972), likely under copyright. Used under fair use for transformative purposes. Building for Safety



"They are content to be brushed like flies from the path of a great man."

THE PLEA FOR help arrived last summer. "I am in Myanmar and work for a fraud company," a Chinese human-trafficking victim wrote in a short email sent from within the Tai Chang scam compound. Like thousands of others in the region, they were promised legitimate work only to find themselves tricked into modern slavery and forced to scam people online for hours every day. Tai Chang, which backs on to the Myanmar-Thailand border, has been linked to incidents of torture. "I'm not safe, I'm chatting with you secretly," they said. Despite the risk, their first request wasn't to be rescued.

Tai Chang's internet connection had recently been cut off from Thailand, the person wrote in the messages to anti-scam group GASO in June 2024. Instead of scamming within the compound grinding to a halt, the organized criminals behind the operation found another way to stay online, they claimed.

individual wrote. "Now

the fraud work is running normally. If the fraud network here is down, we

Image from Public Domain Image Archive. No known copyright restrictions.

Article: Matt Burgess, "Elon Musk's Starlink Is Keeping Modern Slavery Compounds Online," Wired. Available at: https://www.wired.com/story/starlink-scam-compounds/.



Kate Knibbs, "The Internet Archive Loses Its Appeal of a Major Copyright Case," Wired, September 4, 2024, 1:55 PM. Available at: https://www.wired.com/story/internet-archive-loses-hachette-books-case-appeal/.

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Adrienne

Are You Nuttier Than a Tech Bro

Mad Libs

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*Tech Bro*Actual Quotes

"One day when I was young, my parents warned me against playing with fire. So I took a box of matches behind a tree and started lighting them."

"When I ask for something. You fucking give it to me"

"Step one should be to question the requirements. Make them less wrong and dumb, because all requirements are somewhat wrong and dumb. And then delete, delete, delete."

"Is it better to live in a world where everyone is happy all the time, even if that happiness is artificial? Do you wish for world peace and happiness all the time? Are you sure?"

"I wonder why hate evolved. I'm not saying we should amplify hate, of course. I think we should try to minimize it. But none at all? Hmm. There might be a reason for hate."

"Vacations will kill you."

"... even if there's the zombie apocalypse, you'll still be able to travel throughout the country using the Tesla supercharging system."

"It's true that if they see the general out on the battlefield, the troops are going to be motivated. Wherever Napoleon was, that's where his armies would do best. Even if I don't do anything but show up ..."

"No. No. NO. No mirrors, no pedals, no steering wheel." "I'm the law."

"Comradery is dangerous. It makes it hard for people to challenge each other's work. There is a tendency to not want to throw a colleague under the bus. That needs to be avoided."

"I would like to die on Mars. Just not on impact. Ideally, I'd like to go for a visit, come back for a while, and then go there when I'm like 70 or something and then just stay there."

"Do you think I'm insane?"

Source: Politico Staff, "The 199 Most Elon Musk Things Elon Musk Has Ever Said." Politico Magazine, January 24, 2025. Available at: https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2025/01/24/199-elon-musk-guotes-00199008.

Incompetence and deception no longer shape the course of nations. Politicians do not rise through manipulation but through merit, because the electorate is no longer uninformed, no longer swayed by empty rhetoric and false promises. The chaos of kakistocracies, broligarchies, and kleptocracies; where ignorance fuels corruption, has been left in the past. Here, democracy is not a reckless gamble but a system where knowledge is power, and every vote is cast with informed intent.

This world is built on universal civic education, where every citizen learns not just their rights but their responsibilities. A mandatory voting exam ensures that elections reflect wisdom, not manipulation. The process is fair, inclusive, and adapted to diverse needs; whether one is literate or not, the knowledge is made accessible. No one is excluded from learning, but only those who engage in the process shape the future. In this world, political charlatans have no foothold, and leadership is earned, not won through deceit.

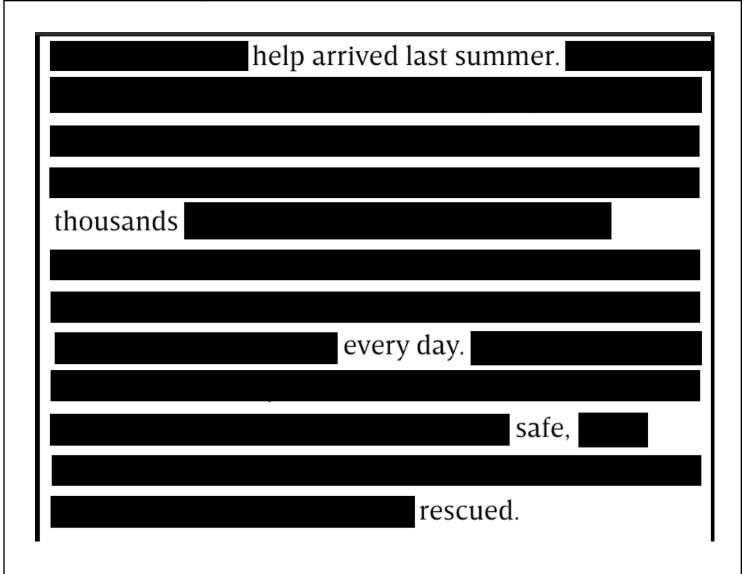
Now, politicians serve rather than rule. Accountability is the norm, corruption an anomaly, and the electorate understands that democracy is a tool, not a weapon turned against itself. The cycle of ignorance and exploitation is broken, replaced by a society where governance is not a spectacle but a contract of trust, upheld by an informed and empowered people.



Image: Almost blank wall, Paignton, by Geograph contributor, licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0. Available via Wikimedia Commons.



"Alone Together" by mendezmendez (2024). Mixed digital media, part of The Present collection. Image used under fair use for commentary/analysis.



Article: Matt Burgess, "Elon Musk's Starlink Is Keeping Modern Slavery Compounds Online," Wired. Available at: https://www.wired.com/story/starlink-scam-compounds/.

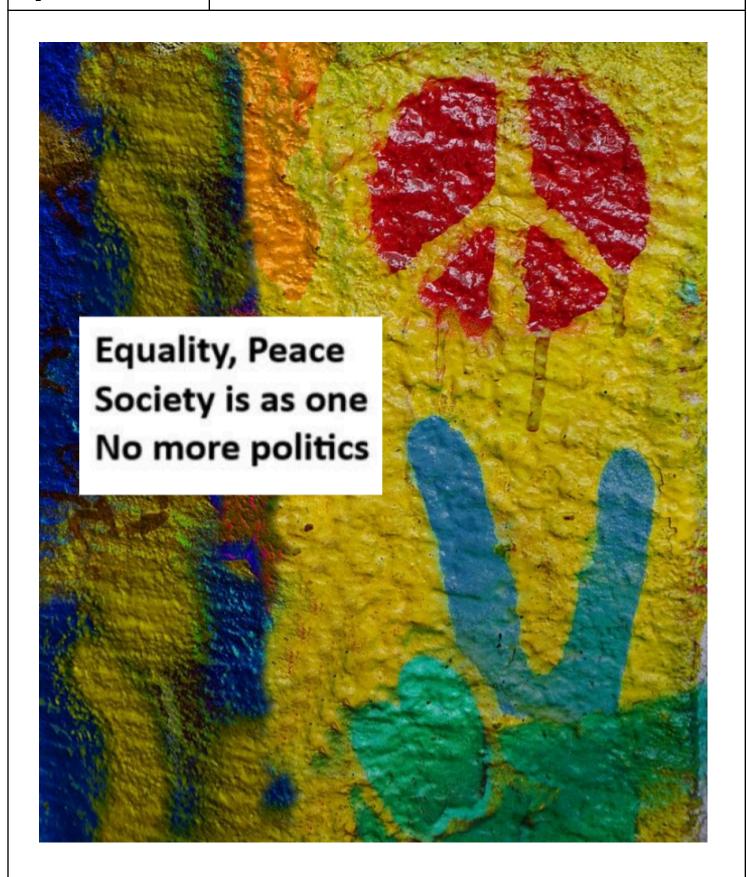
Dear Diary,

Today is March 28th, 2500 and it is my birthday. Today is a special day, but not only for me, for everyone! Everyone around me is happy, celebrating something special to them. There are no worries, no concerns. Only celebration and success. I see smiles and hear laughter, no more tears, no more frowns. I see families out and about, children playing and laughing. I see no more "paying bills or providing a fun day" decision, I see no more "buying food or paying for gas" decision. There's no dreading financial decisions floating around.

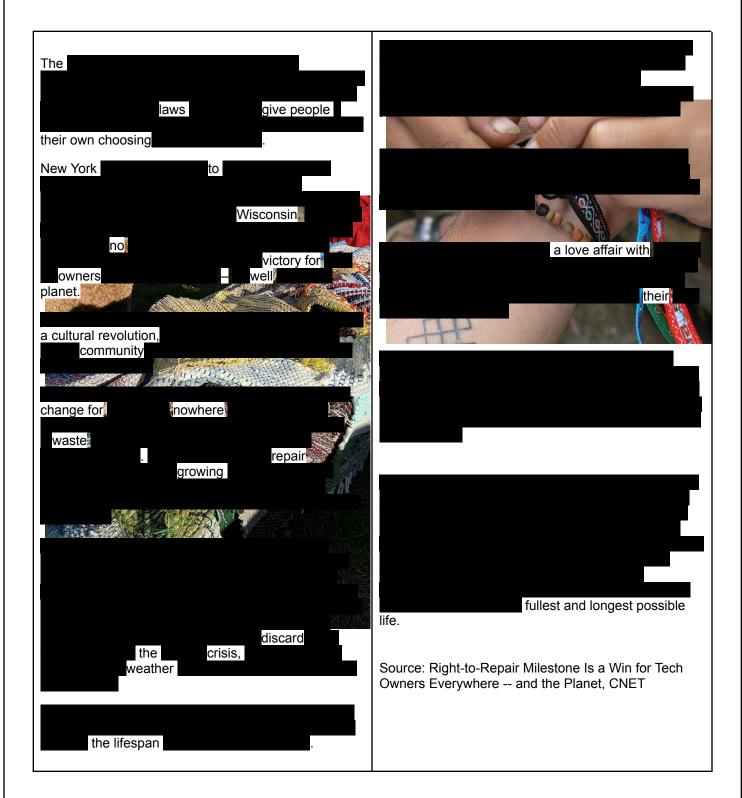
Today is a special day, even if it is my birthday, it is special for everyone. Everyone around me cheers and hugs, regardless of whom they are. No matter their appearance, no matter their background, no matter their status. Everyone is mixing and everyone is talking. All I see is a beautiful palette of colors. All I hear is a soundtrack of the world. A true representation of everyone.

Today, March 28th, marks a special day for me, but I do not celebrate it alone. I celebrate it with everyone. I walk one way and meet with some friends. I walk the other way and meet with some of my family members. I walk and walk and walk until I meet with others. Everyone different, I acknowledge it, but everyone is also the same. This world is different, this borderless world.

Today is my birthday, and I do not recall for a better wish than a modern society of all good things. I remember the days though, when race, class, and power dominated our lives. That is my only wish for today, to never go back. I know soon, I won't remember what those are.



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Article: "Right-to-Repair Milestone Is a Win for Tech Owners Everywhere -- and the Planet," CNET, by Katie Collins, published on Feb. 27, 2025.



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