

Prologue

For mankind it was now both the best and worst of times as humanity rushed headlong into a parallel unsustainable rise and as well as the almost certain demise of their future prospects.

For those newly born and the young, it was a time of great hope of continuing technological progress, the digital accessibility of the cumulative knowledge of all who came before. This information was available from a device in their pocket or on their desks. There was no longer an excuse to be stupid, yet many saw this as a superpower and this disease was now endemic. There were major medical advances, and ambitious human exploration of the oceans and of space. Yet there were many who chose superstition over science because it was easier.

The wealthy who reveled in their decadence earned from their predatory thievery now having obtained a majority of the total money, engaged in the unaccountable plundering of the planet's resources and the eminent domain capture of the property of the world. Their corporations continue their Manifest Destiny of war driven empire building, dystopian global surveillance, and their parasitic digital data collection machines to exploit, commercialize and commoditize human online life. They passed this wealth from generation to generation, each generation believing that they were inherently smarter and more deserving. As if being born on third base carried with it the assurance, they had hit a standup triple. This was the primary source of their unwarranted and naïve optimism. With power and wealth, they have created their own narcissistic reality.

For all others, those matured and life experienced in the dirty ways of the world, it was a time of great dread from unchecked parasitic vulture economics, disease, and the climate self-destructing around them. The relentless driving of previously unknown levels of economic inequality and unsustainable social division from parasitic and predatory behavior all driven by the profit incentives of social media corporations. The toll in human costs of the immoral perpetual wars, autonomous robotic aerial executions perpetrating war crimes now approaching one million civilian casualties early

into this century, and the extra-judicial confinement, and torture of the innocent. The continuing destruction of their planets environment, the rise of religious fanaticism seeking a near-term end of days. The acting out of those who have abandoned all hope, due to extreme poverty, high inflation, homelessness, and unemployment, leading them to employ terrorism and seek weapons of mass destruction. The engineers and scientists emboldened by their successes and lack of accountability drove the society toward the danger of an uncontrollable autonomous artificial intelligence future. Governments left cyber security exploits unreported and unpatched for badly intentioned offensive purposes at the cost of defensive security. The CIA could no longer even secure their own offensive cyberwar hacking tools known by the WikiLeaks release as Vault 7. They intentionally and recklessly endangering all of us by throwing stones from a world full of glass houses. These were the sources of their pessimism and their belief in a certain and undeniable destiny which would soon bring an end to the dominant species on their dying planet. For them, it looked increasingly like the end of civilization for the human race.

There were however, a few signs of hope that these same technologies could be employed on behalf of the have nots and powerless. Scientific journalism as practiced by organizations like WikiLeaks¹ and others which have had positive impacts for accountability, but at a high individual cost. The effects of requiring all media to link to the original source documents so that the reader can judge for themselves if the reporters interpretation is accurate and valid, and not government propaganda. There was also the positive effects of increased use of end to end encryption in web traffic, data transfers, file and email exchanges. This reduced attack surfaces and the risk of data interception by malicious actors.

There were also some signs that the corporate media, due to the current political attacks and espionage threat punishments will place survival over profit, as politicians seek to blur the line between whistleblower leaks and traditional journalism. This obscuration threatens their very survival, not to mention

¹ *“Give a man a mask and he’ll tell you the truth.” – Oscar Wilde*

observance of the Constitutional protections which allow democracies to exist. There was some hope that technology could insist on consequences for bad behavior.

The rule of law and the accountability to it, was come to be known as the operating system of a democracy.

But in general, the moral physics that a 250 year old democracy had come to rely on had now failed making this the worst of times for most, and degenerating each and every day.



Error code 155 is a malfunction in your systems operation

The prophecies of Idiocracy² swept through the analog and digital landscapes. Everyone's digital communications became cesspools of malware attempting to steal or hold for ransom your identity, your personal information and your money.

Citizens didn't have any fear the social media that now unknowingly controlled them. The Internet or Clearnet³ was now a dangerous place for those unaware to visit. Everything

² This film tells the story of an American soldier, part in a classified military human hibernation experiment, who accidentally awakens 500 years later in a dystopian society. There mankind has embraced anti-intellectualism and commercialism was rampant, and was devoid of intellectual curiosity, social responsibility, or coherent notions of justice and human rights.

³ Clearnet is a term typically referring to the publicly accessible Internet, the opposite of the DarkNet encrypted, anonymous services of the Tor network..

connected to this system was hackable. Hell, the NSA could not even protect their hacking tools from being stolen by crackers.

Billions of simple minded and uninformed humans acted like lemmings all stepping off digital cliffs and into the corporate clouds. There, their personal data is vacuumed like some giant digital spider spinning its web and sucking dry anything that smelled like personal data from the monopoly corporate transfer pipes containing the digital lives of billions of people on the planet.

Corporations used this data to alter the thinking, habits, purchases, and voting preferences of the masses in the now damaged and failing democracies. Yet these lemmings continued to carry these tracking devices with them and placed additional surveillance devices in their homes, on their homes and in their cars, being misled by some misguided sense of convenience. They did this of course, because their connected devices told them to.

Those around the world now impoverished, unemployed and without hope from being on the wrong end of Western empire building, became criminals who seek out your money with phishing⁴ emails.



Phishing your wallet

⁴ *Phishing is an example of social engineering techniques being used to deceive users with communications purporting to be from trusted parties such as social web sites, auction sites, banks, online payment processors, or IT administrators.*

Back in the early days of computers no one had worried about all the disparate data being collected by these earlier computing machines, because they knew, or thought they did, that there would never be a way to aggregate it all these disparate databases into anything collectively useful to anyone. But then came the unregulated profit incentives which birthed server farms, and Internet clouds, web crawlers, crawler bots, and the algorithms to find, manipulate, sort, and deliver this big data of a nation and then the entire world to corporations.

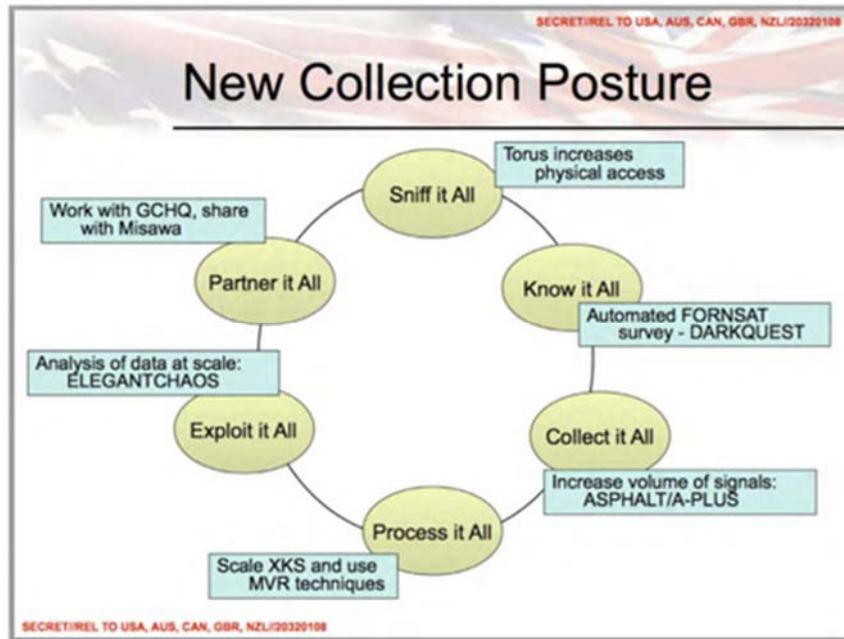
They were wrong, very, very, wrong.

Greed was good, and practiced from the top on down. People voted for politicians based on what was in it for them. They were disconnected from any remaining personal morals or ethics. It was hooray for me and screw you buddy! I got mine, not you try to get yours. The Haves pulled up all the ladders that they had used to get there. Every business transaction was seen as an opportunity to screw someone over.

Banks and money ruled as if some great vampire squid had wrapped itself around the face of humanity, relentlessly jamming its blood funnel into anything that smelled like money.⁵

And of course the American National Security Agency or NSA was hovering up all worldwide digital communications under the guise of Signals Intelligence (SISINT). Using their significant computer power to translate all of these zeros and ones into Human Intelligence (HUMINT) to know everything about everyone. "Collect it all", they said.

⁵ July 2009 Rolling Stone magazine "The Great American Bubble Machine," by Matt Taibbi



NSA PowerPoint slide courtesy of Edward Snowden

Why would the NSA be interested in you?
Not much of a thinker are you?

The NSA is interested in everything and everyone. They collect and analyze everything. Then they store it, mostly forever. Information is power, power to control, power to manipulate, power to convict, power to frame.

- Are you willing to share your salary?
- How about your purchases?
- How about your sexual preferences?
- How about you medical conditions?
- How about your political beliefs?
- How about your religious beliefs?
- How about your friends and all their information?
- How about your travel locations?



The NSA is gathering all this information from everywhere. They can paint a complete picture of your life, right or wrong. What you know, who you see, what you believe, where you go. They can learn how you learn, how you think, and who you are.

If you know someone is watching do you behave differently, talk differently?

Did you as a kid, if your mom or dad were watching?

Did you grow up in a small town or neighborhood where everyone knew who's kid you were? Did it change your behavior?

Is this really what you want, for you, your children, and your grandchildren?

Do you want to be led by leaders, or ruled by dictators?

A democracy to be replaced by and totalitarian oligarchy?

It was also a time of post-factual politics, where politician's spent their time trolling the media and the public with demonstrably false conspiracy theories, creating division, fear and confusion. When challenged they backed down with nihilistic denials, alternate facts, and attempting to delegitimize the media with claims of fake news. When directly confronted, they build strawmen, and used Whataboutism⁶ to change the subject to something else.

⁶ Whataboutism, is a logical fallacy that attempts to discredit an opponent's position by charging them with hypocrisy without directly refuting or

The Insider Goes Deep

This is now the job description of our politicians rather than serving the people who elected them by actually doing things that help people like creating jobs, finding markets for it products, providing healthcare, and adequate education.

They continue to explore the depths of division, derision, and tribalism, to see just how low they could go. They plumb the depths of our worst angels. They test the strength of the nation's founding principles, checks and balances, and now had a democratic society bulging at its seams.

After forty years of disinvesting in public education, the population of the semiliterate uninformed where now intentionally electronically misinformed and thus disinclined to believe in facts and science and instead clung to unsubstantiated beliefs (superstitions) and unproven and fact-less theories and opinions provided by random unqualified people. They no longer consider the source of information. The failures to fully fund public education systems had led to a nation of lazy minds unable to keep up with the complexities and pace of modern society. They then withdrew from trying to understand the modern world, because it was simpler and easier to live in a smaller less complicated world of their own with these blinders on. These people with a narrow view of convenience over common sense will follow their cars GPS faithfully and drive into a lake and place surveillance devices not only in their pockets but in their homes and cars as well.



Image courtesy of theintercept.com

disproving their argument. A classic Soviet/Russian disinformation technique.

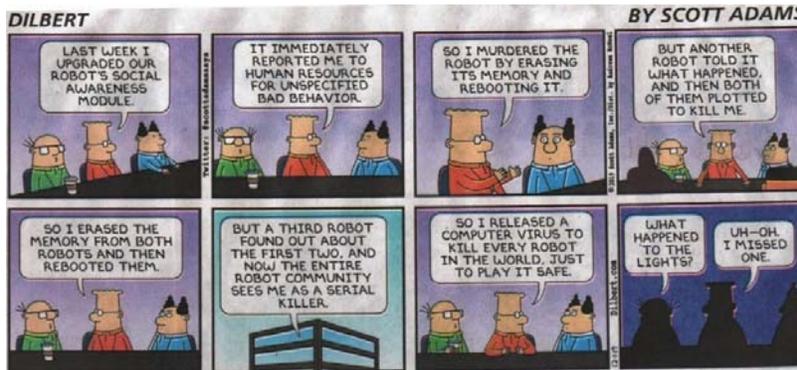
The Internet was purposely designed with intelligence at the end points, specifically with no centralized control. But now these amoral and unbridled capitalist digital gangster corporations like Facebook (Meta), Google, Apple, Amazon, and Microsoft have inserted themselves as Internet gateways into every transaction and communication. More than 70% of all Internet traffic goes through sites owned or operated by Google or Facebook. Not unlike the Truman show⁷, they are using tools and code to record everyone’s digital lives, monitoring, guiding and predicting their behavior and wantonly and recklessly violating the American Constitutional guarantees of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. They make their enormous profits from doing this conscience free work.

Does Liberty⁸ include the freedom from being enslaved by machines that surround us?⁹

“I’m sorry Dave, I’m afraid I can do that”. HAL 9000 from the movie 2001: A Space Odyssey.

The War Operation Plan Response, WOPR, “The only way to win, is not to play.” From the movie WARGAMES.

Meanwhile, back at the NSA...



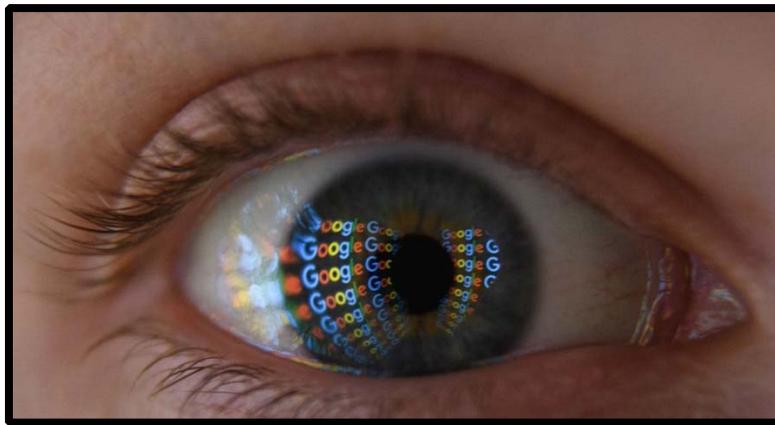
⁷ *The Truman Show* is a film starring Jim Carrey as Truman, a man who grew up living an ordinary life that—unbeknownst to him—takes place on a large set populated by actors for a television show about him

⁸ "Computers make excellent and efficient servants, but I have no wish to serve under them." --Mr. Spock from Season 2, Episode 24 of the original *Star Trek* TV series.

⁹ *You Are My Creator, But I Am Your Master. Obey!* Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The Insider Goes Deep

Google has 10 million servers now and is headed for 100 million and Facebook collects a staggering amount of data 500MB per person per day. (IBM estimate 2012) Facebook (Meta) is an Artificial Intelligence or AI pointed at your brain, using this monstrous amount of your personal data and the Psychological Warfare techniques first developed to combat ISIS online. Yet this is the Faustian bargain¹⁰ people are making, unwittingly for the most part.



These are the times in which we now live.

Windows 10 required a Microsoft account (MSA) for telemetry tracking (keylogger) but you could bypass it if you knew how. Windows 11 requires an MSA to even run and now also requires a credit card number to even install.

Microsoft has begun testing promotions for some of its other products in the File Explorer app on devices running its latest Windows 11 Insider build. From a report: bleepingcomputer.com

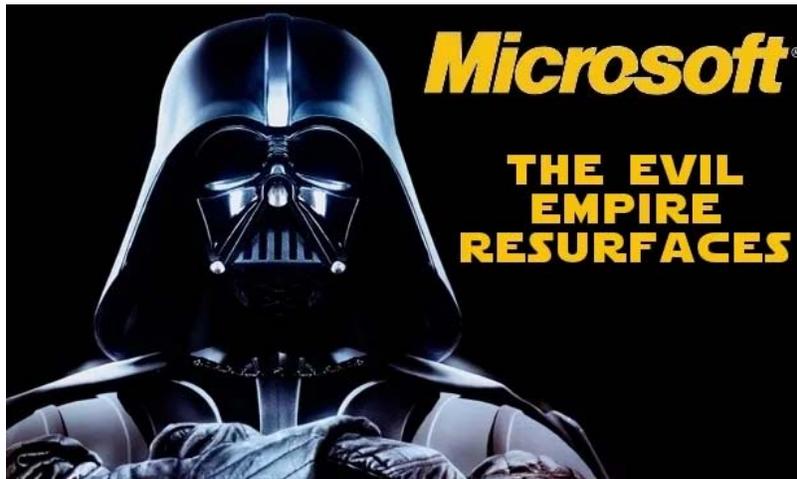
The new Windows 11 "feature" was discovered by a Windows user and Insider MVP who saw an advertisement notification displayed above the listing of folders and files to the File Explorer, the Windows default file manager.

¹⁰ *Faustian bargain, a pact whereby a person trades something of supreme moral or spiritual importance, such as personal values or the soul, for some worldly or material benefit, such as knowledge, power, or riches.*

Microsoft can use such ads to promote other Microsoft products, for instance, about how to "write with confidence across documents, email, and the web with advanced writing suggestions from Microsoft Editor.

As you can imagine, the reaction to this was adverse, to say the least, with some saying that "File Explorer one of the worst places to show ads," while others added that this is the way to go if Microsoft wants "people ditching Explorer for something else."

<https://tech.slashdot.org/story/22/03/14/2036243/microsoft-is-testing-ads-in-the-windows-11-file-explorer>



So it seems that these days that it's just one damn thing after another. Or perhaps as Roseanne Roseannadanna¹¹ would say: "It's always something!"

"Most people are fools, most authority is malignant, God does not exist, and everything is wrong." Ted Nelson

¹¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hYGtXIqDa0>