



**I WANT YOU**  
to be a  
**Philosopher**



# I WANT YOU to be a Philosopher!

A manifesto on awareness, language, and the crime of unexamined existence

We deal with what we call “psychological issues” as if they were mechanical faults—something to patch, reroute, sedate, or train away. But often, what’s labeled as psychological distress is actually something deeper, more existential, more philosophical in nature. Not a clinical dysfunction, but a crisis of sensemaking and meaning. A disconnection from a lived philosophy.

And here’s the core of it:

**If a person doesn’t have a personal philosophy, not just borrowed ideas filled with “isms” and “ists”, but a consciously constructed framework of looking at their situation, then they are living inside someone else’s story without realizing it.**

We need more than just participation in more belief systems. We need a first-principle understanding, a personal exploration and understanding of the ideas we live by. Not declarations, but discoveries. Not borrowed language, but earned thought.

All human beings must be philosophers because, without a philosophy, you’re not alive—you’re confused.

## **The Failure to Think as a Structural Error**

Could there be a sadder story than for a capable mind to go through life without reflecting on its own being, without ever asking What am I? Why am I aware? What is this all for?

You were given the capacity for meta-awareness/meta-cognition, or whatever you want to call your ability to reflect on your own thinking. You are composed of inert matter that contemplates its own constructed “self.” You are the only known thing in the universe that can run recursive/repeated internal simulations about its own presence and visualize and plan its next move with meticulous precision. And yet, so many minds live and die having never looked directly into the face of that undeniably unfathomable, unbelievable **fact**. If we are not careful, we end up like trains on a track.

## **Language Is Not Reality—But It Shapes It**

When constructing a personal philosophy, one must first understand the substrate we all swim in: language. It is not just a tool for description; it is the medium of thought itself. If you do not understand the nature and limits of language, you are not thinking; you are being thought.

Every belief you hold is composed of symbols (stand-ins) pretending to be truths. Every “self” you describe is a performance stitched together with syntax and memory. Words don’t reflect the world; they construct your interface with it.

And let’s consider ole reliable: logic. It is not the blueprint of reality; it is a consistency system inside language. It operates on defined terms within defined bounds. It gives us clarity, but not ontology. It doesn’t answer the question of being. It just helps us make sure our answers don’t contradict themselves too obviously.

### **Science Solves Problems—It Doesn’t Explain WHY We Exist**

It feels as though we currently live under the illusion that science has replaced philosophy. Instead of the Human Condition, we are more concerned with the Human System and how to get more out of it while stripping it of its presence. It feels to the author at least that mathematics and measurement have rendered questions of meaning obsolete.

But science, for all its elegance and pragmatic success, only deals with what we can observe and replicate. It refines regularity and maps causality so that no one can honestly dispute its very real impact on our lived experience. It gives us tools to send bodies into space and cells into remission. We should pay it homage, but see it for what it is: a compendium of precisely defined ideas reducible to stories and built to improve the human condition, but never to override it.

Science cannot explain why any of this feels like something because feeling is not a number that can be counted. You do not feel a happiness of 1 today and maybe 1000 tomorrow. It will never work that way, nor should it. It is laughable to think that any of our lives could ever be reduced to numbers or a set of symbols, no matter how articulate and elaborate the verbiage used. Nor can it give you a reason to live or tell you why you should live a certain way. These things are not quantifiable, and, therefore, are out of the reach of science and maths.

These useful and logically consistent tools cannot account for the fact that some clump of atoms (I’m looking at you) is walking around other clumps of atoms and telling stories about it for no other reason than for the simple fact that it can. That one arrangement of **matter** can experience awe, or shame, or wanting, all while claiming that it **matters!** Matter telling itself it matters while knowing it is in some way reducible to all the other matter it trods upon or brushes against.

And, when our numbers fail to explain our experience adequately, the default tendency is to assume the stories already laid down for us by someone else. Few dare to go into the space between stories and build their own system of understanding from the raw strangeness of being alive. This must change.

## **To Be Understood Is the Deepest Human Need**

People don't just want to be heard; They want to be understood.

As Robert Anton Wilson puts it, every person lives in a reality tunnel: a cognitive structure made of memory, emotion, sensation, trauma, desire, attention, language, and narrative. To be understood is to have someone else simulate your tunnel inside their own. Not to agree or approve. But to say, I see how you see and maybe even why you see it that way.

And that, more than anything else, is what this strange species of ours seems to want. We want to be taken seriously as a mind, and to be included in the story we keep passing down through generations, from the first self-replicating molecule to the last thing capable of thinking these thoughts.

**We are stories, trying to be known by other stories. Don't you see?**

—R