

# LIFE

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A Primer on the Human Condition

by

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Life. Your life. If you haven't thought about it in a while, there's good reason for that.

We live on a rock hurtling through space, in a non-descriptive arm of the Milky Way, in an unimportant part of the cosmos. We are only allowed to be here because our Sun and Jupiter let us.

We live on a globe that, before us, there was no waste. Everything got recycled. Now that there are so many of us, humans, on this planet; and the fact that we do not, as a general rule, recycle; we have made a ton of waste to deal with.

You can put it off for later—that is exactly what every power structure is telling you to do. Because there is always somebody with an agenda to keep their job. Even if they hate their job with a passion, or they really love their job, no matter how altruistic—there is always an agenda.

When you meet a girl, when you meet a boy, every introduction; there is always an agenda with every interaction. We can't help it. It is wired as a survival mechanism in our DNA. You can definitely have very close exceptions in your life, hopefully—a spouse, a sibling, a relative, a friend, a coworker, a neighbor—someone that you could say is a closely held relationship. But, the vast majority of our daily interactions have to be thought about through the lens that: everybody has a role to play in life. Whether they hate it or love it.

[illegible]

We think that our authority will last forever, this time, but it will not. Ask the Egyptians or Romans or British Empire from before. But, since we really already know that, we have infiltrated our systems with our own survivalism instinct. So, once we have the structure—a family, a religion, an alma mater, a city, a state, a team—once it is in existence, it becomes its own agenda and then we become slaves to what we have created. For better or worse.

Once created, it wants to live.

I am very sorry to introduce a writing that seems so pessimistic at first and, because there will be a transition from what we have known into what will come--some people will get hurt. But, since we are at the edge of a paradigm shift—we made it. And that has made all the difference.

And, all you need is love.

Even I have my own agenda, and have to admit it. I do not want to bore you with the details from my life. Suffice to say, everybody has sob stories and has more or less a mix of emotions they have to deal with. If you added it up, positive and negative feelings over the course of a year, I would say: after age 6, I wanted to die more than I wanted to live, and I definitely feel like I was not alone. It lasted 35 years (I'm 41 when writing this). It may only be 51% less happy than more happy, but that means most of the time I was not happy. I have had to recover from a car wreck that left me needing complete facial reconstruction and a stroke that I am still having to recover from. The stroke started with losing my speech and my full right side, which was my dominant side, almost instantly.

I already have said too much. But, back to the agenda that I cannot hide. You may not believe this; and I can't challenge you. About 20 years of my life I tended to be more selfish than not. When I had the car wreck, I had a life review. I saw my interactions from the other side. When I realized how much damage we can do--even just with words--we can scar people for life. Real abuse and neglect just makes it worse. So, for around 20 years I've tried to understand that people are hurting, their jobs are threatened, there is abuse at home, everybody has a bad day. I have found a reason to believe humanity has a little bit more to offer than less, even if I am fooling myself.

After the stroke, I really, really, really wanted to be dead. But, since I won't make that happen, and I am still here, I am going to spend my life trying to make life better for everybody. That is my agenda.

But, because we are so far away, humanity, from the path; it is going to hurt for some people. Making life better for everybody means that we will have to make life better for everything that we can influence in the universe. This is why we are here. If you have the power of an ant, you should use your power for good. If you have the power of a God, you should do good. But, going back to the idea about power and authority; really, nature has no defense and humanity always has agendas and excuses for not doing the right thing. So, hate it or love it: that is my agenda. Doing the right thing. If I don't know the right thing at first, I will try to do the best I can and adapt.

Western religions say: we need to be stewards of the Earth. Eastern religions with karmic notions and reincarnation say: if you are a little better than worse, you will come back in a better life. So, I'm not just saying that out of whole cloth.

All you need is love. And I am going to grab you and take you with me whether you like it or not. Sorry.

But, I think that you will. Like it. A lot. Eventually.

We are in a garden of earthly delights. And, we should enjoy them. In moderation. Never forgetting the golden rule. Do unto others as you would have done unto you.

Easy to say but not so easy to practice.

## Chapter One

Slavery.

Merriam-Webster says slavery is the “state of a person who is held in forced servitude” or “a situation or practice in which people are entrapped...and exploited”.

The whole history of advancement of human culture has been predicated on slavery.

Yes, the American culture of 2021 is focused on African-American (now Black) Slavery and the Sex trade, but I’m talking way before that.

Way before the Bible. Out and out slavery or some form of indentured servitude has almost always been the case with the human species. Some active part of our culture involves slavery.

That means the human race has not grown up yet. The thing is, though, we have had to go through this to get here.

Every time we make vast improvements for humanity, something happens and we get set back a notch. To get back to where we were, or advance, we employ some form of slavery. Whether we like it or not. Most of the time the things that set us back involve natural calamities, things out of our control. (Although now we have enough of us to create extra global warming and our rubbish is out of control, so, I guess we have figured out a little bit of control.)

[I say “extra” global warning because everybody should know that the earth goes through cycles tending towards ice ages or warming periods. In ice ages a lot of the earth’s water gets trapped at the poles, the ocean recedes, there is more land, and the coasts are further away from where there are now. In warming periods the poles have less ice, the oceans are deeper, more of the land is covered by water, and the coasts recede. Where we could live before becomes uninhabitable, or we have to expect ruin and rebuilding more often.]

In the United States of America, one of the newest countries, where freedom and liberty are supposed be cornerstones of principle, the original people fighting for it often owned slaves, and often had children from rape of their slaves. True. Period. One of the reasons the founding fathers selected the land for the Capital of Washington, D.C., is because the land was originally from Maryland and Virginia, Southern/Slave states where they could employ slaves to build.

For some reason, just saying that becomes political. But it is true. It is a fact.

My saying that is not a judgment. Again, it is a fact.

If we want to continue to advance as a human race, we have to come to grips with our past. It does not mean we need to sweep it under the rug or simply ignore it. But, it also does not mean we need to revolt and create a new country.

Reparations.

Merriam-Webster says reparation is “a repairing or keeping in repair” and “the act of making amends, offering expiation, or giving satisfaction for a wrong or injury” or “something done or given as amends or satisfaction” and “the payment of damages”.

The thing is: there is so much human misery caused by other humans. Where to start with reparations. Well, you know Black males in the U.S.A. were given the right to vote (arguably, at least on paper) before any women had the right. Where to start with their reparations.

After we fought “the good war” (WWII) where, in part, we fought to end human experimentation, we secretly experimented on our own impoverished Black males (Tuskegee) and other countries’ people (Guatemala comes to mind).

Again, I am not trying to point out our foibles only. It’s just that we already know the bad things other countries have done, more or less. Yet we still seem to think we are above the fray. No. We are just the one most in control right now. And, we know that: to the victor go the spoils; i.e. the one in charge writes the history. But, in this small world after all, it is not so easy to escape from the harsh truth of the camera’s eye.

In the current time where truth does not seem to matter anymore and, therefore, logic and reason cannot win over the sways of opinion, maybe this small voice will disappear with the truth I am espousing. But, I am a big proponent of truth.

## Chapter Two

Hope.

Now that I have your attention, I wanted to let you know I remember I said “I am very sorry to introduce a writing that seems so pessimistic” at first.

There is so much to be sad at, if you are so inclined. There have been countless higher good governments (and, let’s be real, a lot of bad governments, too) that have bit the dust over time. We are just the next in line.

The thing is, if we take a step back and look at it, we finally have the building blocks to survive almost anything that comes our way. Not everybody, but a lot of us.

There is a fact that the earth, a very long time from now, will get swallowed by our sun. Sad. But, we have some time to figure out how to survive elsewhere now. It will take some time, but not too awful long. Especially if we focus on it.

## Chapter Three

But, what do we want to spread throughout this beautiful universe, when we can? We have to start thinking about it because now that we can envision the ways to get there, it is only a matter of time before we are there.

## Chapter Four

Money.

A funny thing about money is that it does not exist.

At least when we were trading furs, clothing, food, weapons, things you could not acquire in your home area; these things were tangible items with real value. When you get to now, money is an idea of power, only. Even when it was tied to gold (it is not now), money was tied to a rock. A rock that could become something; but, an idea, nonetheless.

We are in a Man's world. Not a Woman's world, or a fluid world. To understand things now, we have to reflect on how and why we got here.

Why is easy. Throughout history, our civilizations keep getting destroyed by natural disasters or roaming men taking over other men. Really, arguably, it use to be about resources. If a better resourced community took over another, the chances of the community surviving as a whole went up when the next natural disaster happened. It is still about resources a bit. But, mainly it is about power, now.

When we are mostly focused on rebuilding (after disasters) or fighting (when men take over other men), brute strength and violence is rewarded. Because the community needs to build or fight, the gender best suited for building and fighting becomes more valuable as a whole. Historically, males were more valuable.

How we got here is more delicate. Even if you accept what I have said, what males have done because they think they are more valuable is sad. When those individuals with the most strength and violent tendencies get rewarded the most, we end up in our current reality. Abuse of the "weaker" gender and "others", gambling, game playing, vices, and asserting power over others are the rewards.

What is the stock market? Arguably, it is about resources, right? Yeah, but really it's about ideas and power. The stock market is "legitimate" gambling on a grand scale. Game playing (sports) is one of the most lucrative jobs around--simulated war. Legitimate gambling. Simulated war. That is Man's world.



Communities need to be able to move resources around throughout their area of control generally and when disasters happen. That need has led to development of governments and politics to control how resources move. As soon as there is a position of control, there is a gamut of people ready to assert their power over others.

Money is the made-up thing men have used to semi-legitimately hide the fact that some people have power and others do not.

I say “semi-legitimately” because there is a use for money. I have an asset, my time. You do, too. I might have something that you do not. Instead of trading for a mental or physical something in return, we use a different medium that we both agree means something. We use money. Money used to correspond to a physical something (gold--a rock) somewhere, but it does not anymore. Now that we have computers, money is a series of ones and zeros in space and time.

That does not explain how and why we got here.

## Chapter Five

## Beyond Survival.

You might live forever.

Lots and lots of people will die.

But, You, You might live forever.

You might live forever starting in this current life.

Maybe, not in the current state as it is now, or maybe it is. There are so many things about to happen, it will be astounding.

Your current consciousness might be around a lot longer than you ever could have imagined. You might end up not being able to die unless you really want to.

That's crazy, right? But, stick around long enough, you'll see what I'm saying.

[illegible]

So, looking back at Your life. How do you want to live your life, if you can live beyond survival?

To get to this point in life, you probably have had more than your share of pain. If you do not or did not have enough to sustain you—food, water, shelter, medicine, education—than you already have many reasons to suffer. If those all are present, you still have not evaded suffering. Being a body subject to gravity is pain enough for some people.

But, there are far too many of us that have suffered real physical and mental abuse inflicted by other people. The people doing the hurting are generally people that have been hurt by others before becoming the ones hurting others. Was that confusing? The cyclical nature of pain, abuse, and neglect seems to keep rolling along.

If you understand that you might be here indefinitely, you might want to seek out the source of your pain and see if there is a way to address it. It is not so easy to tackle all the problems currently. We actually might have the tools, but we definitely do not have the ability for everyone to access those tools, currently.

This goes back to power.

## Chapter Six

Rationality.

Merriam-Webster says rationality, among other definitions as well, is “the quality or state of being agreeable to reason”. “Reason” is “a sufficient ground of explanation or of logical defense” and “sanity”, etc.

What I am trying to say here is, like Rene Descartes before, “*cogito, ergo sum*”, “I think, therefore I am.” But, for a new age: We think, therefore We are.

Because We are here, We have to deal with the consequences of us being Here.

Here in a society of humans, among other animals and plant life, on a globe that keeps us grounded through gravity.

We used to have to consider reproduction the most important thing among all things. Why? Because there would not be a person to consider something important or otherwise if there is not another person left after I am no longer here.

Check. Now when we have disasters or epidemics affecting “large” numbers of people, the “large” numbers of people keeps getting smaller and smaller as a proportion of the total human population. We have figured a way to decimate or eliminate lots of species on this planet but nothing seems to stop us reproducing faster and faster.

Since we really don’t have to worry about needing extra people specifically from me or you, an individual does not need to reproduce to save the human population. That is tremendously freeing for every human individual looking at it from a rational, reasonable standpoint.

## Chapter Seven

Everything is Magic.

When the human race advances, one can look back on how we got here and say it makes sense. The problem is: if you plucked a person from 100 years ago and moved them to now, so much would seem like magic to that person. Even if you tried to explain it to them, it would be like gibberish because the vocabulary develops as the advancement advances.

It is so funny that people generally think, “Now, we are advanced.” No, not compared to where we are going to be 100 years from now—we will seem primitive.

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