

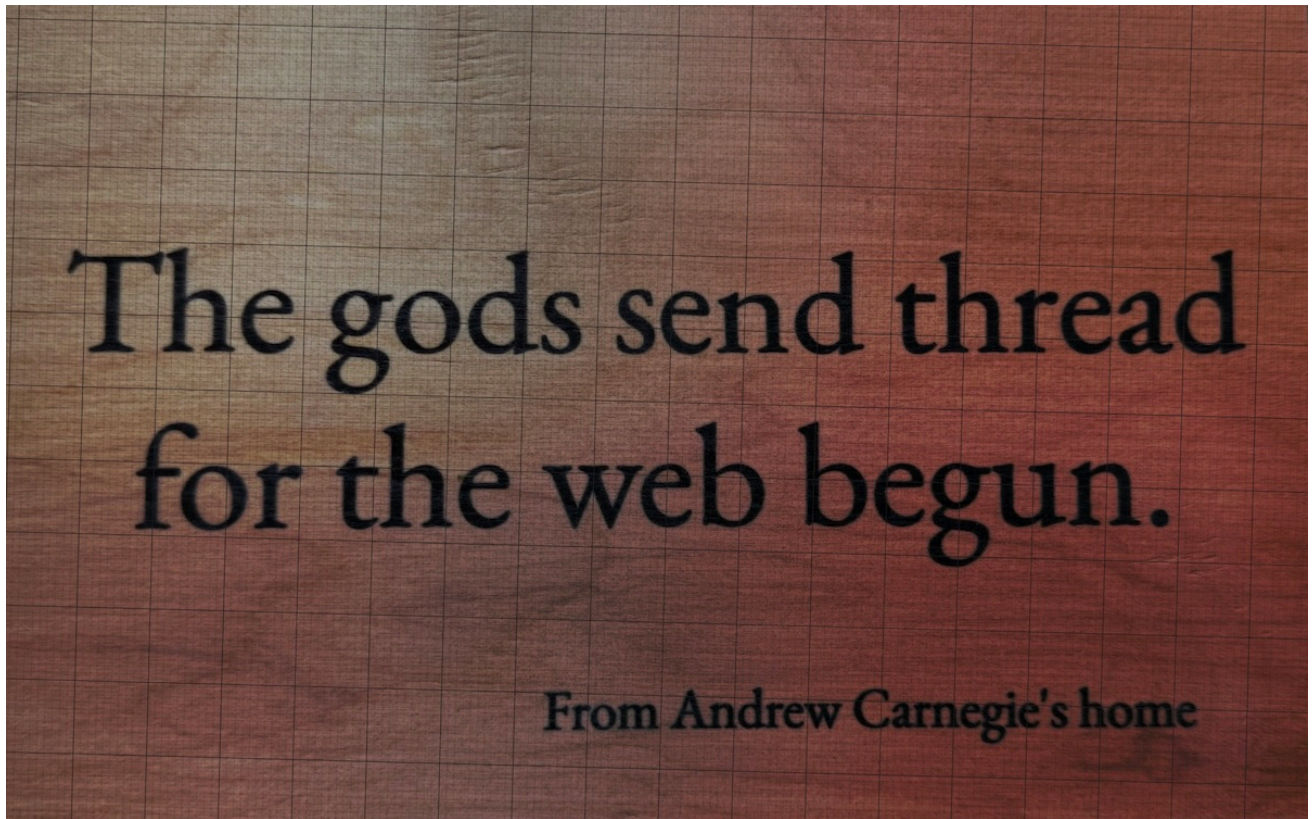
threads of freeorder, leif smith, editor

Each separate month of *Threads* will be found at leifsmith.substack.com

The entire *Threads* is at <http://explorersfoundation.org/threads.html>

[About Threads of Freeorder](#) — [About Freeorder](#)

February 2025 - threads of freeorder



Joseph Frazier Wall writes of Carnegie's last home, built in New York City:

'In his magnificent library-study on the first floor, seated at a roll top desk so huge that it had had to be constructed inside the room, Carnegie, his feet barely able to touch the floor, would sit, contemplating how best to dispose of his wealth. All around him, carved into the wood paneling of the walls,

were the slogans that had inspired him throughout his life: high above the mantle of the fireplace, "Let There Be Light," and directly below that the words which he had first seen as a young man in the Stoke's Library in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and which he had vowed would some day be in a library of his:

*He that cannot reason is a fool,
He that will not is a bigot,
He that dares not is a slave.*

'Running around the walls of the room like a frieze carved out of Poor Richard's Almanac were the words: "The Kingdom of Heaven is Within You," "The Gods Send Thread For The Web Begun," "All Is Well Since All Grows Better," "The Aids To A Noble Life Are All Within," and "Thine Own Reproach Alone Do Fear." It was difficult to be other than noble in such a room.'

Andrew Carnegie, by Joseph Frazier Wall, Oxford University Press, 1970, University of Pittsburgh Press edition of 1989, page 857. A magnificent work, and an inspiration for the creation of the Office for Open Network [...](#) Denver, Colorado (1975-2000).

Andrew Carnegie's Triumphant Democracy — Dedication

TO THE
BELOVED REPUBLIC
UNDER WHOSE EQUAL LAWS
I AM MADE THE PEER OF ANY MAN,
ALTHOUGH DENIED
POLITICAL EQUALITY BY MY NATIVE LAND,
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK,

WITH AN
INTENSITY OF GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION
WHICH THE NATIVE-BORN CITIZEN
CAN NEITHER FEEL NOR UNDERSTAND.

ANDREW CARNEGIE.

~

A question that will drive the emergence of Freeorder: “What improved balances among designed and spontaneous orders are possible if the test of balance is fitness to support lives of subjectively rewarded quest?”

~

When thinking of the making of Freeorder it may be worthwhile to simultaneously hold in mind the following two stories.

The story of the life of Andrew Carnegie as told by himself [...](#) [gutenberg]

In the Preface of *Triumphant Democracy* Carnegie wrote, “...Triumphant Democracy was written at high noon, when the blazing sun right overhead casts no shadows.” This light pervades his autobiography, although shadows are permitted..

The story of the twentieth century by Leonard Bernstein illustrated by Gustav Mahler

“The Unanswered Question” [...](#) [youtube] — Norton Lectures, 1973, Harvard

The 1921 Club is for all who think the 19th century is a better model for the 21st than is the 20th.

All that is necessary to join the 1921 Club is to do so in your own mind. I keep a list of those who have told me they are members. Please let me know if you would like to be on it. It’s shared only with members. I hope there are other such lists unknown to me. There is no need to be on a list to be in the Club. -ls

Perhaps we should think of the 20th century as a time when humanity had a serious case of pneumonia from which we now have hope of recovery. -ls

Ayn Rand’s *We the Living* reviewed by Diamond-Michael Scott, 25 February 2025

This fine review is significantly contributory to thinking about freeorder.

<https://chocolatetaoist.substack.com/p/a-must-read-book-for-the-times-were>

Douglas Murray at the Alliance for Responsible Citizenship (ARC) Conference, 18 Feb 2025

Murray advocates for a coming age of “reconstruction” [...](#) [youtube]

“Override: Inside the Revolution Rewiring American Power” [...](#) by Eko, 5 February 2025

“... analysis revealed patterns that career officials didn't even know existed. By dawn, they would understand more about Treasury's operations than people who had worked there for decades.”

Own gold and receive interest paid in gold. Monetary Metals [...](#)

“True Gold Lease Objective: Monetary Metals’ True Gold Lease program has one objective; to put your gold to work. This is achieved by matching gold owners with businesses that use gold productively. Gold Fixed Income True Gold leases are designed to earn a yield, not to speculate on price. A true gold lease provides income on your gold, while title to your gold remains with you. It’s structured as a true lease of personal property. Your gold is never financialized into a loan. Be aware that leasing your metal may involve risk of loss. No expectation of lease payments comes without risk.”

Laying a foundation for a future world money? -ls

Kenneth Boulding, 1956 “General Systems Theory: The Skeleton of Science” [...](#)
[panarchy]

Unbounding the Future: The Nanotech Revolution [...](#) by K. Eric Drexler, Chris Peterson, and Gayle Pergamit, made available by The Foresight Institute [...](#) and provided with context in this description of their history, 30 Years of Foresight - Timeline 1986 – 2016: <https://foresight.org/our-history/>

Pergamit has since co-founded a company, Covalent LLC [...](#) developing nanotechnology that addresses problems critical to the flourishing of humanity, on earth and beyond, through the manufacture of 1-atomic-layer thick membranes for the separation of fluids and gasses.

The first application of these membranes will be purification and desalination of water through Agua Via [...](#) a licensee of Covalent’s technology.

The book that started it all: K. Eric Drexler’s *Engines of Creation: The Coming Era of Nanotechnology* [...](#) published in 1986, and worth reading today, especially for its ideas on wise governance of advanced technologies.

Chapter 1, made available by MIT [...](#)

“Transforming the Material Basis of Civilization | Eric Drexler | TEDxISTAlameda” [...](#) [youtube]

HederaCon [...](#) 25 Feb 2025 — about the future of web3 [editor of Threads attended]

“The African Economic Miracle that Almost Was: What really happened in the 1980s and 90s, by Magatte Wade, 26 Feb 2025, on her Substack, “Africa’s Bright Future” [...](#)

Atlas Network’s Freedoms Champion Magazine writes about Magatte in their winter 2024 issue [...](#)

Magatte received an Explorers Foundation Cobden-Bright Award in 2018. EF invests in people who are contributing to the emergence of Freeorder. Magatte has repaid us well.

Catherine Herridge on “Circular Reporting”

From her article, “Why Big Media Loathes Kash Patel” 2 Feb 2025

“Patel’s investigation revealed evidence of “circular reporting.” Here’s how it works: an FBI or other government official leaks information to a reporter, who then publishes the information, and it then comes full circle when the FBI cites the same reporter’s work as evidence to back up the bureau or DOJ’s case.

“Pulling back the curtain on circular reporting undercuts the credibility of some journalists who raised their profiles through Russia Gate “scoops” from anonymous ‘law enforcement officials’ or ‘sources familiar with the matter.’”

catherineherridgereports.com

Elon Musk explains why DOGE recommended the termination of USAID [...](#) [youtube]

USAID was a “ball of worms” -Musk

The wrecking ball is working. Now let’s limit what it wrecks to nothing but constraints on the emergence of Freeorder. -ls

“More tips for being non-partisan in a partisan age: It ain't easy, it can be exhausting, and you're not always going to get everything right. But you have to keep trying.”
x.com [fire], by Greg Lukianoff, FIRE, 19 Feb2025

Comment by Pat Wagner

“My husband Leif Smith and I ran an information and idea exchange for 25 years here in Denver. Our clientele ran the proverbial political gamut, from Marxists to members of the John Birch Society as well as mainstream Republicans and Democrats, progressive liberals, the founders of the Libertarian party, avowed socialists, and Christian conservatives. Also, rich people, poor people, some famous people, and mostly folks looking for information and connections.

“Our goals were simple - help our clients with their individual quests: building nonprofits, businesses, and helping their government agencies.

“Liked your rules. Thank you for what you do.

“Our one rule was we never talked about our personal points of view. We were not there to convince people that we were right and they were wrong. We able to help nurture an open marketplace of ideas, which tended to attract innovators from many walks of life. We saw a greater good of working with people we might disagree with, but, as you pointed out, we never talked about that.

“When a fellow traveler did show up, they already knew us from other venues. Ironically, we identify as libertarians and were denounced publicly by someone in the party for working with unacceptable people. I was proud (grin). One of our clients called us "Little Switzerland." Cause-driven folks, opponents in debates on topics such as abortion, nuclear power, taxation, and community development aka gentrification, could come to our office and talk to the other side without the glare of publicity.

“We did a good enough job that many people thought we were one of the "them." In some cases, at the end of our run, we let people know our personal positions when asked. Some were shocked. Some stopped talking to us.

“By committing to a respect for the individual explorer above all, we were able to help each client, regardless of their position.

“We rarely turned away a client, usually because they wanted to access a list of all of the other clients to sell them something. I am pleased that we became a source for authors, librarians, newspaper reporters and editors, and other people who were focused on providing information for their customers.

“I think it comes down to what someone's values are. A simple mission statement

makes it easy, in most cases, to make decisions and take actions that stay on track.”

The world will heal more through listening than through talking. Our Office for Open Network was devoted to that idea. -ls

The most common type of forge (freeorder generator) will be devoted exclusively to listening and attempting to be useful —from the viewpoint of the person speaking. Other kinds of forge will openly discuss the vision and philosophy of [freeorder](#).

Office for Open Network [...](#) Denver, 1975 to 2000 — a short history, by Pat Wagner

Trump's War on Capitalism, by David Stockman, 9 Jan 2024, Foreword by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

<https://www.amazon.com/Trumps-War-Capitalism-David-Stockman/dp/1510779329>

Foreword by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Chapter One: The Myth of the MAGA Economy

Chapter Two: The Illusory Foundations of Peak Trump

Chapter Three: The Donald's Disastrous Fourth Year—But Don't Blame the Covid

Chapter Four: A Big Spender's League All of His Own

Chapter Five: Wreck of the Good Ship MAGA

Chapter Six: The Trouble with Trump-O-Nomics

Chapter Seven: The Upside-Down Economics of The Donald's Border Wars

Chapter Eight: The Trumpian Immigration Fallacy and Bedtime for the Boomers

Chapter Nine: The Trumpian Canard of Global Grand Theft

Chapter Ten: The Red Ponzi and the Folly of Trump's Big Chiina Tariff

Chapter Eleven: The Rising Tide Which Lifted All the Yachts

Right-Wing Collectivism: The Other Threat to Liberty [...](#) [amazon] by [Jeffrey A. Tucker](#)
16 Oct 2017

Preface [...](#) by Deirdre Nansen McCloskey [...](#)

The Libertarian Alliance [...](#) U.K. — managed by Sean Gabb [...](#) and allies

The Latest from the Libertarian Alliance Blog [...](#) 15 Feb 2025"

“J.D. Vance in Paris: A Manifesto Against the Death of the West”, by Alan Bickley

“... we should be under no illusions. This is not our revolution. It is merely the latest power struggle among those who rule us. We should take advantage of the breathing space it offers. We should enjoy the temporary relief. But we should not make the mistake of believing that these men are our saviours. One does not thank a forest fire for changing direction. ... The age of illusions is over. The fight for what comes next has begun.” — <https://libertarianism.uk/2025/02/15/j-d-vance-in-paris-a-manifesto-against-the-death-of-the-west/>

“The Greatness of Margaret Thatcher, An Alternative View”, by Sean Gabb, 2nd Septembe 2016, Bodrum, Turkey — <https://libertarianism.uk/2016/09/02/the-greatness-of-margaret-thatcher-an-alternative-view/>

“I am aware that one of her personal friends is in this room, and I will say now, for the avoidance of the slightest doubt, that I will speak no ill of her personal character, which appears to have been singularly plain and honest for a British politician. I do not, even so, share the assumption that was general at the time of her death. I will, in the time allowed me, give my settled opinion, which is that, in no sense, was Margaret Thatcher a conservative – let alone a libertarian – hero. Rather, she was, in every sense, the midwife of the leftist police state that is modern Britain.”

“More Empty Words on Growth” — <https://libertarianism.uk/2025/02/02/more-empty-words-on-growth/> — A short and pointed critique of the Prime Minister and current U.K. policies, by Bryan Mercadente.

Sean Gabb and the Libertarian Alliance have received support from Explorers Foundation.

Economics as a Source of Hope, the vision of Ludwig von Mises

Human Action, 1949, by Mises, offers hope for a better future for the human race. He notes that economics is only three hundred years old, and is a form of knowledge never before available.

From the first paragraph: “Economics is the youngest of all sciences. ... The discovery of regularity in the sequence and interdependence of market phenomena went beyond the limits of the traditional system of learning. It conveyed knowledge which could be regarded neither as logic, mathematics, psychology physics, nor biology.”

From the last paragraph: “The body of economic knowledge is an essential element in the structure of human civilization; it is the foundation upon which modern industrialism and all the moral, intellectual, technological, and therapeutical achievements of the last centuries have been built. It rests with men whether they will make the proper use of the rich treasure with which this knowledge provides them or

whether they will leave it unused. But if they fail to take the best advantage of it and disregard its teachings and warnings, they will not annul economics; they will stamp out society and the human race.”

Human Action is available from the Ludwig von Mises Institute, in digital versions for immediate free download: <http://mises.org/library/human-action-0>

If I chose a few books essential to the preparation of forge builders and investors for their work of listening and acting on the edges of an emerging concert of civilizations, *Human Action* would be one of them. -Is

Mises: The Last Knight of Liberalism ... by Jörg Guido Hülsmann ...

Freedom Worldwide with Tom G. Palmer: Iran in a Changing Middle East ... [youtube]

“Iran’s authoritarian regime is losing power. Everyday Iranians are rejecting official propaganda and have even refused to take part in state-sponsored pro-Hamas demonstrations. Although it still faces government oppression, the freedom movement in the country is growing as more and more people come in contact with the ideas of free markets and individual rights. The regime’s waning strength has created a unique opportunity for growing pro-freedom momentum in Iran and across the region to advance peace, prosperity, and human dignity.

“Join Dr. Tom G. Palmer—live [now recorded] from the Middle East—as he leads a conversation on the changing situation in Iran and what it means for the future of freedom in the country and across the region. This webinar will feature Mohamad Machine-Chian, an Iranian public policy scholar and a leader of the country’s freedom movement.

“About Dr. Tom G. Palmer:

“Atlas Network’s Executive Vice President, Dr. Tom G. Palmer, has played a pivotal role in advancing liberty in challenging environments, from behind the Iron Curtain to the heart of the Muslim World. His rich experiences fostering young freedom movements around the globe make him the perfect guide to explore the current situation in the Middle East.”

For reports from Tom Palmer on his current work in Syria sign up to receive emails from Atlas Network ...

Watch a “Special Message” from Tom Palmer ...

The Atlas Network [...](#) “Over 500 partners in more than 100 countries around the globe. Atlas Network actively partners with over 500 wholly independent, nonprofit organizations spanning more than 100 countries around the globe because they share our commitment to the principles of a free society and welcome association with peer organizations. Each year, Atlas Network makes hundreds of grant and training investments to promote, support, and strengthen the work of these local think tanks and civil society organizations.”

African Liberty Writing Fellows [...](#)

“Our writing fellows are young African leaders and researchers in African affairs. We work with these young journalists and experts in politics, economics, culture, and philosophy to bring fresh perspectives towards Africa's prosperity and liberty.”

Applied Economics for Africa [...](#) [africanliberty.org]

George B.N. Ayittey, PhD

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This magnificent speech by Ayittey introduces the African Cheetah
[ted.com/talks/george_ayittey_africa_s_cheetahs_versus_hippos](https://www.ted.com/talks/george_ayittey_africa_s_cheetahs_versus_hippos)

All-In Podcast [...](#) [youtube] Trump's first week — this program offers a high idea/time ratio

Regular participants: Chamath Palihapitiya, Jason Calacanis, David Sacks & David Friedberg

Insights into what's happening ... Chamath Palihapitiya's tuxedo ... Crypto Ball in D.C. ... Expiration of Davos dominance ... Chinese entrepreneurs & the CCP ... Demonstrated interests of politicians ... Government partial ownership of technology companies ...

Challenging ideas and puzzles for anyone working on the evolution of freeorder, especially the governance aspects.

Javier Milei's speech at the Davos World Economic Forum, 23 Jan 2025 [...](#) [youtube]

The philanthropic achievements and legacy of Paul Newman

"Newman's Own invites more companies to donate 100% of their profits to charities"

<https://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory/newmans-invites-companies-donate-100-profits-charities-118015871>

This became simpler to do when Congress in 2018 passed the Philanthropic Enterprise Act [...](#)

After all that had been done and said by Gustav Mahler to discourage his wife, Alma, from her passion for composing, one day late in their relationship she discovers him playing her compositions on the piano. He says to her, “There is genius in you.” We learn of this in an article by Alex Ross published in the New Yorker of 10 Feb 2025

In the movie “Bride of the Wind” Reneé Fleming (her voice only) sings one of Alma Mahler’s songs.

Alma Mahler’s songs [...](#) [youtube]

“The Impossible Entrepreneurs [...](#) On the relentless optimism and tireless work of two men who realized the impossible. Dispatch from Prospera, Roatan, Honduras by Max Borders, 10 Feb 2025

“To Infinita and Beyond [...](#) Weekly freedom news, 2025's first edition, 20 Jan 2025
“Infinita is a network city for founders to build world-class companies building towards longevity, through biotechnology, computation, and science.”

“Infinita City builds a network of small hubs—starting in Próspera ZEDE [...](#) Roatán jurisdiction —where founders can develop biotech and healthcare solutions with much reduced and streamlined red tape.”

Infinita Manifesto 2.0 [...](#)

<https://inflationchart.com> —“was the first website to accurately prove the rampant inflation of 24% in June 2021 while governments kept stating inflation was low and not an issue. In a way it frontruns the data and uncovers inflation before it is publicly announced.”

Hayek & Beethoven [...](#) — a dialogue by Perplexity.ai, prompts by Leif Smith.

First prompt: Write a short exchange of ideas between F. A. Hayek and Beethoven as they respond to this question: What do you think about the potential for adventure and exploration in a world governed by top-down design as opposed to a world that takes shape due to market conjectures within an ever changing spontaneous order?

~

The Wheel of Emergence
yes drives no — no enables yes



The image of Freeorder summons expectation of light, the energy to remove darkness.

.oOo.