

## *The New Economy* *out of money, out of time, but not out of ideas*

*Sixty million people, 1% of the human population, die every year. In most years, around a third of those people died early because they are poor.*

There are three directions a desperate human being can point their aggressive desire to improve their situation. The first is *inter-species competition*. The aggression is pointed at an animal or a plant, and we eat it or turn its skin into our clothes, or otherwise exploit it in a way that benefits us. A second option is *intra-species competition* where we screw over our brothers for the promotion or con somebody in a deal, getting rich at their expense.

Only the third kind of aggression is remotely beneficial: we can *explore, discover, create and grow*. These responses are fundamentally transcendent: in changing either ourselves or the situation, we have *competed with the unknown, and won*. The unknown is infinite and unmanifest, and if we can solve our problems at the expense of *making the unknown into the known*, we have not depleted a scarce resource at all!

We are out of natural resources. The richest 20% of the human race are eating the rest of the planet out of house and home, often at gunpoint. Their competition with other species and other humans is total. *Our* competition, because if you can read this, you are like in that fifth.

So we must withdraw our claws and fangs, and stop destroying the other species we share the world with, and on each other. I want to note that to eat chicken is to dine on a *chicken*, but not to dine on *the very fact there are chickens in the world*. We prey on the natural world not just one individual at a time, but *many species at a time fall to our scythe*.

What can grow back from the natural world is a harvest. What cannot is war. We are at war with the other species of the earth, we destroy their habitat, we destroy what allows them to exist *as species* - their historical continuity into the future, the sum of all of their children's children - and in doing so we make war upon the earth itself.

The new economy must stop this war. It must be an economy of peace not only with each other, but peace with the planet. *But this means that we must provide for all desperate human beings in a way which does not force them to make war upon the land or upon other humans*. We are here until there is a high frontier and space opens space to unlimited expansion.

What is it then to expand into the unknown to provide for *all* of our needs? It is science, it is engineering of the benign kind, permaculture and farming that supports the diversity of life upon the earth, and all other useful things which have clean inputs and non-destructive outputs. Here is the hard part: with the exception of cheap renewable electricity, you will be poorer in an economy which is not based on plunder. But we will all be richer, together.