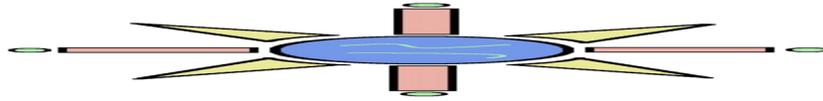


The Coquitsam Review



Édition 5, March 2017

How to build Utopia (installment one)

Society demands a purpose. There must be a reason for which to strive, a reason to excel, to work together and to grow.

Reflect upon a robotised society, a society in which there is no need to do anything. A society that robotically produces all foodstuffs and goods desired at any given moment, where inequality has been all but wiped out and where health and safety automation is so proficient as to render the instinct for survival unnecessary. A society such as this is in danger of becoming stagnant.

Imagine now a world in such a state. There will be holdouts, but robotisation is too advantageous to the individual, it will come to pass. Robotisation will simply provide too much, there will be few who can resist it. Therefore, without a common goal, that both stirs nationalism and propels technology, the Earth will become a slobbering monoculture directed by a few, or directed by the very machines it created.

We must endeavour forward in joint purpose, rallying one and all to the same cry. This grand project must be one that requires the cooperation of an entire planet. That might inspire an entire planet to find purpose once more in the unknown. To traverse the shores of heaven and peek in through the gates. To go boldly, with recording devices, into the unknown. Robotisation will allow this. Every country will be able to efficiently and proficiently contribute to the building and running of a fleet of exploratory vessels capable of travelling the solar system.

The usefulness of coherent, organized groups within a larger whole is exemplified by team sports, this is what nationalism does for a peaceful world, it fosters competition, flexibility, cooperation and enterprise.

Robotisation will provide opportunity beyond scope, but there are pitfalls on the path to peace. Greed may lead to meanness. Loss of control over one's life may lead to resentment. Inequality may lead to violence. The onslaught of robotisation must be tempered by a rising social conscience.

At first there may be need of groupings between neighbours in order to produce a space worthy vessel, but with time such groupings will prove no longer necessary as any small groupings of skilled mechanics might fashion one. That is not to say there will be no cooperation. The light class exploration vessels that individual countries will supply to...

(cont. p.2)

(cont. p.1, Utopia)

the fleet are scout ships, giant research vessels will need to be cooperatively constructed on low-to-no gravity stations by all able countries.

The beauty in not having to do anything is that everything is there to do. Just choose what you wish. Whatever task you decide to undertake, whether it be sitting on a rock in the park feeding pigeons, or learning to navigate the stars, is beneficial to society, not only beneficial, further, helpful. And that is not only because of the distinct monetary value that each individual has due to the human need to eat and drink and do something, though that value does become substantial when scaled, no, any undertaken task is helpful because it is an example of the potential life has to offer and, perhaps, the pitfalls one might avoid. This is not to say society esteems the old man feeding the pigeons and the star ship captain equally, but it does mean the two might talk of the oncoming autumn with mutual respect. Every Individual must be afforded the ability to live and the opportunity to thrive. There is an abundance due to robotisation, one has but to reach towards a sugar plumb and five should leap from the branch and land in palm upturned. Robotisation will force contemplation and require inaction, choosing to do nothing will be a helpful action... (to be continued)

Where the Rain Fell

Where the rain fell,
There was your memory.

Where the sun shone,
There was your heart.

I shall carry an umbrella
And wait for summer to
arrive.

The Coquitlam Review is published by the Commonwealth Federation of Explorers.

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