

AGORA, NOSTALGIA, LEARNED LAZINESS AND MISTRUST INC.

Welcome, My Dear readers!

18/30s, 2/8/23

Sorry if this will end out weirdly. I just cant really write to the theme, you see. In those posts of mine, you met me at my lowest lows - and I am that type of writer who will write to ease out his head. So I guess, please Lord, let me turn this into something that will not be so self-centred and let me not be it at least not the half-bad the usual cry-anger-post.

This post is written as part of **Agora Road Travelogue** two-parter.

You might have seen Webring in the middle-top part of my „webpage“ really. Also the part (and idea-rel. consisting of *Friends* [#PALS id-tag] Section. We know each other from Webring - and therefore, *Agora*.

Today, we will talk about this one place. Very nice place. Not quite for everyone. Well, yes, but „no“. It is quite similar to how Old-Web used to be; before 2010s-mid 2010s trends come to be normalized, bastardized, on nose and then forgotten, shrug off and „repainted“, as trends tend to *happen* (as the saying goes, „Average voter has memory of 6 months.“) ...

Well - as You (dear reader) can see, I am pretty nostalgic right (t)here. There was something magical. Or that people were more open. Or I am just like those Old folks (to say it nicely) who cry about „good old days“. You are not imune to Nostalgia Marketing - see Y2K trends comming back, Citypop 80s Revival or right (t)here - Old-Web Nostalgia...

Yes, that would be *it*. I miss what never was - Faux Nostalgia - Techzine Futures - things that „were promised“, but never come to be, never stood the test of time, were always, really - just Vaporware...

As is too this one place. Just imagine this situation:

You started to frequent this Fandom about Aesthetics (plural) while ago, when you at once, find yourself on article/page on Y2K (Futurism). As you are, once in a while, reading the whole article much more aware than you are usually - you are startled and your brain freezes. „What did I just read? Place I dont know, a - secretative place? On Net? How is that!?“

You click. „Damn, cute. Whats the catch?“ (You didnt read the article at all, now you recall. Your memories are mixed-up...) - Nostalgia huh. You love-hate that. It cant let you go. You cant let it. And those Fandomers too. Kids. And Kids who never grew up. -

I am angry-glad I am not „the only one“. Well, what a *typische* attitude, an *Aquarius INFP Enneagram 4* ... But you fit those both places. Agora and Aesthetics. Both of those, nostalgic. Kids, Children, Raised up [by Web] - those, longing for What never was - Y2K, Old-Web, idealized Nostalgia. False memory. Old folks with „in my times“, „when [Communists]“ and „Youd never survive with that attitude“. It happened to us too. This curse of being human. With every generation, the pattern repeats...

And oh, those all Promises. „Imagine the Future if (only)...“ basically. Fukuyama. Long Bloom '97 Issue of Wired, Barrilé with Once upon a time...Space, those cheesy 1900s postcards of „[X] in 21st Century“... You wanna cry. You are nota lone, bet on that. But it may make you salty. Grumpy. „How dare they, too!?“ - if you are (in all disgust you may feel for me) me - the author. Sorry not sorry for that.

Laziness, or, is it Disgust? Whatever those Dreams were. Shit that was told to us - „Internet will destroy capitalism; We will with help of it, eat the rich; Infinite prospect for all, thanks to infinite education and Human unity“.

Sweet. At time, you could believe all that. Now, you grew up (depends) and learned from that mistake - and maybe even from some info on Web getting shadowbanned, deleted - and from your memories „how it all was“, both good and bad - to not trust people. Others. Institutions.

Those elderly - I am not blaming them, you shouldnt too - they too, believed once. Conspiracies are just cope - you see, „world didnt used to be this big!“ And being apart, it seems we were more connected, understanding. - Things need to be Special, really; from Mundanity comes... Laziness. You get used to it/that. Normalized behaviours, good and bad - learned (used to) - generalized, bastardized even. „Things never change.“, if only you tried; but „what for!“ Only if there was alternative to this Numbness - is this *the only one* World, Universe to live in, Reality!? - Alternative; Stirner, Fukuyama, Fisher at it again...

You were learned to be, made to be, what you are. It would be awesome to be able to accept unknown, - without any dissonance at all, wouldnt it?! What would future then - present times now - look like then; we can only dream. Yet, why would we at all - isnt it all futile - waste of time, brainpower - to think of what we cant change; and, at times, not only about past - try to think about things where we have no influence... It is just „first-world problem“, really(?). And „love“ to self-hate under Rich bitch'es blame-game; how disgusting - yet, do you see???

Call [them] schizos, conspiratories - tell what you want. But if you agree what I just told you - and I am not (sadly, LOL) alone, then - I can navigate you. As I said before (2x), there is this one place, and I too, mentioned it in this story already. - „Will you join the Black Parade?“ /jk, will you *hold my hand*? Come and see, place to be, and Webring, if you seek - and learn, Kid...

Agora Road. Where did you may hear(d) it already? Rings a bell? T as in Traveler. O, maybe in „of“. R - Road. But what Road? Road 66? Well, kinda maybe, you know - Route. Add R. Router. Add S. Routers. But what of T.O.R? Or is it TOR? What about now? Sounds familiar?

TOR - And Deep, Dark Web. Roads - and inspiration. Namesakes. Products. „On Router“ - and in Real-life route. *Onion's*, - and, real life's - Silk Road. Agora Road too, in the first case too -

If you are kid of Old Web, you bet. Those stories. And greentexts. Copypastas. UrbDic. Feels nostalgic?

Those poor kids, you may say, seeing those „Newbies“. *Using only Surface Web! And apps! Blasphemy!! What we did (not) to them*, I hear you say, am I? *As if curiosity was gone!* Buried in deep ends of 2000s and mid-00s. *Where are those kids, who would dissect computer as if it was their sacred obligation?* Or, would you wish your kid was one of Those? Perhaps even, you being That kid - can it be that!?

I wonder and cant find any answer. What happened to *those*, where are they now - was *that* thing with comps just one-time 80s-00s, *Utopian Scholastic* fad? What, precisely, happened between „Y2K“ and 2010s, that this „fascination“ stopped?

Is it simply vendor lock-ins, XaaS, phone apps and somewhat „nerd is cool now“? - Is that *just psyop* to „homogenize“ all niche under „one roof“, be-it Google, Fandom, Discord and so? -

But then, is it really just laziness and comfort, to not self-host, to go the way of least resistance, to not speak up your mind? - What can we lose, but return to what made Web, WWW, „it“!? It is **easy** to understand that *those at the top* dont want, allow, and shadowban you for that.

They radicalized „normies“ unto thinking of „only way“. If it isnt 55-150 words-a-line, if it isnt easily understandable and if it goes against neo-liberalism („solving“ capitalism problems with even more of (it) capitalism). Generalizations, bagetelizations, simplifications. „Leaders know the best“. As if! If only they cared - who will they have „slaves“ of!? Does it make sense? Is something missing from this equation?...

But do you really care for being *celebrity* - do you? Or you just came here to make friends, to chat, to share Your part of world and view - as Net supposed to be in the first place!?!?

- Talking about all that: Do you feel something, then? Maybe I am just „stupid-smart“, someone who just scrapes surface of everything, and nothing at all (of it). So fake. So vain. - Just second-hand experiences and stories.

Who knows, really. If you are sucker for nostalgia, you could love *Agora Road* as well as I do. You may miss Forums, those were good - then youd love **that** place. Or maybe you hate it - hate that you can relate. I know that feeling if you are that dense as edgy, as I tend to be, when I find that „other does [thing] too“ - funny-sad, isnt it...

Or I am too, very vague. As I said in the beggining, it is very hard to write about „things“, when you are not used to do that. Feelings is what I can write for hours - without even getting to point. My brain just Works - or not, this way.

Agora Road!

/is real Z-KP possible, or is it just fairytale for children?/