How to Think About the Future Part 4 – Mordor to the Long Repair: How Might Daily Life Feel in the Next Decades?

with Nate Hagens | Frankly 148

Show Notes and Links to Learn More

The TGS team puts together these brief references and show notes for the learning and convenience of our listeners. However, most of the points made in episodes hold more nuance than one link can address, and we encourage you to dig deeper into any of these topics and come to your own informed conclusions.

00:00 – *"How to Think About the Future"* Series Playlist: Part 1, Part 2, Part 3
00:13 – Coupled systems (more info), Phase shifts and tipping points, Shortfall risk
00:30 – Scenario planning, How to do scenario analysis, *Scenario Thinking: A Historical Evolution of Strategic Foresight*
01:20 – Energy constraints, Resource depletion, Debt saturation, and Ecological overshoot
01:30 – Sustained, aggregate global physical growth cannot be sustained
02:30 – Planetary Health Check, Ecological overshoot and human overpopulation
03:30 – Just-in-time, Six-continent supply chains
03:45 – Iran War 2026
05:15 – The Great Simplification (Movie), Post-growth (More info)
06:10 – Forces that push governments toward authoritarianism
06:40 – Autarky
06:45 – Drivers of public trust
07:10 – How to reduce the carbon footprint of your diet
07:27 – Importance of Local governance and Decentralization
08:09 – David Graeber, "Bullshit jobs"
08:20 – Transition towns (more info), Regional food networks, Community land trusts, Municipal energy cooperatives, Makerspaces, Repair cafes
08:40 – Islands of coherence
09:03 – *Frankly* about Nate's Lebanese friend
09:30 – How to build trust:
- *How and why humans trust: A meta-analysis and elaborated model*
- *Developing Trust & Being Trustworthy*

10:00 – Mordor
10:45 – Captured democracy
11:40 – Soils, Pollinators, Fisheries diminishing, Water tables dwindling
14:00 – Maritime trade chokepoints, Hormuz crisis
14:10 – Efficiency decreases resilience and room for error
16:08 – Modern-day feudalism

16:40 – AI/Robotics policy in the U.S.
17:30 – *The Hunger Games*
18:20 – Humans can normalize nearly anything
18:50 – AI and energy demand
19:00 – Fall of the Roman Empire, Joseph Tainter's *The Collapse of Complex Societies* (*The Great Simplification* episode)
20:15 – *Mad Max*
22:05 – Humans are social animals
23:45 – Nate's energy/economic synthesis: The Superorganism
25:19 – Cancer growth
28:15 – More-than-human predicament
30:30 – Switchbacks (from *"How to Think About the Future" Part 3*)
31:20 – How to regenerate the biosphere in your own backyard/locality (*The Great Simplification Episodes* on such: #222, #178)