

After the Shock: Regaining Balance, Part 1

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Nyck: Hi there, and thanks for joining us here on Future Sense this week with myself, Nyck Jeanes, and my co-host, Steve McDonald. How you doing today?

Steve: I'm great thanks, Nyck. Good to see you again.

Nyck: Well, we do see each other fairly regularly, at least once a week at the very least.

Steve: Yes, that's true.

Nyck: So it's a big time, as we know out there. What are we going to be talking about today? We've got a lot of stuff here. Hopefully we can fit it into two wonderful segments for you folks out there listening from any place in the world.

Steve: We do have a lot of great stuff and we like to make our material timely, so we always look to see what's happening around the time that we record the show and tune in to the deeper currents that are running and the causative currents that are guiding the way the world is heading and the way that we're behaving. So today we're going to talk about *After the Shock: Regaining Balance*.

We've had this big, not just one shock, but multiple shocks, really—at least a double shock. One shock was the COVID-19—the whole thing and the lockdown—and then the second shock has been the economic shock, and really with no breathing space in between. So we're going to talk about that, and talk about how we get back onto both feet and balanced after such a heavy shock like that, and we're going to talk about tapping into the deeper currents of knowledge.

We'll talk a little bit about the gradual return to indigenous ways of knowing, which we see happening in the world at the moment, and is certainly part of the transition into Second Tier consciousness; and starting to embrace the non-rational as we move out of this superrational Scientific-Industrial era. We'll talk a little bit about different sources that we use to tap into those deeper currents in the process of going about that, and we'll draw on some of Clare Graves's work as well in terms of what he says about being able to adapt rapidly to change and take control of your own change process.

Nyck: It's an amazing time. We are recording this on the 2nd of July, and you may be listening to it anytime in the next week—or sometime—but what we're saying today will be relevant anyway.

It is also the time right now, most of you will be aware, of the full moon and penumbral lunar eclipse, which is happening on the 4th and 5th of July, depending on where you are. The 4th of July is a rather interesting. Of course, it's American Independence Day if you're in the US of A, you might be listening here. There's a strong impact of this eclipse across the board with regard to the kind of themes that we're going to be talking about today, so we'll be referring to astrology quite a lot today as it's one of the models we use quite a bit, and hopefully for you guys out there—new people out there—you will find a place to find it relevant and tune into that if you do. And if you don't, perhaps it's an interest that you might take up. Astrology seems to be a very good reflection of things that are happening. Not causative—I don't think so—but certainly a great reflection of what's going on.

Steve: And like everything, astrology can be interpreted in different ways. So as we grow through the different layers of consciousness and our worldview changes, our capacity to sense things changes, and there's a general expansion of our capacity to take in and process and use new information as we move up through the spiral of growth. So astrology will look different depending on which layer of consciousness you are viewing it through, and certainly, once we start to move into Layer 6 and then Layer 7 in the Second Tier, astrology starts to become a very, very complex and reliable science, which is certainly not the way that it's been seen in the Scientific-Industrial era.

Nyck: Although, as I said to you off air earlier today, even those who are not *au fait* with astrology at all, will use comments like: 'oh, Mercury is retrograde, that's when my washing machine is not working', without possibly knowing anything to do with Mercury or astrology whatsoever. So astrology is sort of entering the zeitgeist in a certain way. And also, with regard to what you just said there, Steve, it's fascinating because the discovery of planets actually seems to indicate the readiness for humanity to deal with the psychological and psychic and spiritual meanings, if you will, of the planets as they come forward. That's what happened with Pluto, happened with Chiron, and I think it's fascinating that as we get more complex ourselves—as we go deeper—that regarding planetary bodies that have always been there, we are suddenly able to see them, and actually have this reflection of that deeper journey that we're on.

Steve: That's right. So keep listening, to be able to sort out your washing machine, no problems at all.

Nyck: And if you don't, we know a bloke. It's an Australian word, 'bloke'.

Steve: So everything we talk about is related to the change cycle—the change process, the experience that we go through when a sudden change occurs—or a gradual change, for that matter, in our lives. Then when we're talking about transformational change, which is basically a major change where the change encompasses a changing worldview and a change of motivations, a change of values—so changing from one layer to the next layer on Clare Graves's model, is what I was going to say there.

So we've had this double shock. It's been a huge shock. It's probably unique in that I don't think there's ever been a time when our global communication has been so fast and so effective, so we all experienced this shock virtually—literally, virtually—simultaneously around the world, and I don't think that's ever happened before, with the exception of things like 9/11, I suppose; and even 9/11 was short and sharp compared to what we've been hit with here.

Nyck: Large volcanic eruptions occurs to me, too. That would take a long time to see the effects of across the planet in ancient times.

Steve: Yes, in the past. That's true.

So we've had this sudden shock—and not just one shock, but at least two shocks; like a double shock with no real breathing space in between—and now we are thrust into a change process unexpectedly. Typically, shock is the response when that happens, when something changes suddenly, and I'm sure many of you would have experienced this at some point in your life where something unexpected happens, whether it's an accident or something else, and all of a sudden you're dealing with a very different set of circumstances. Typically we are knocked off balance, both mentally and emotionally, and sometimes even physically. It's interesting, just to ponder the connection between those different aspects of ourself, because often if you are off balance in an emotional sense, or a rational-minded sense, your physical balance will also not be in tune either. Certainly I know that from experience as a martial artist and an instructor of martial arts, is that if you are moving and you're losing your balance—if you're moving, then it's usually because there's something internally that's out of balance—if you've lost your focus, in other words.

So, what do we do now that we find ourselves in the aftermath of this shock? Some of you listening out there, quite likely have had a major disruption to your industry. It's quite possible that some of you have lost your jobs. In fact, some of the industries here in Australia, particularly the aviation industry, at least, which has already announced the lay-off

of thousands and thousands of employees, so many people will find themselves out of work and having to literally recreate their life in many aspects. So how do we do that? How do we how do we navigate this time of recovery, regain our balance as quickly as we can, and get our compass working again so we know which way we need to head and how to recreate our life?

There are a number of things that we can do there, but they all point to our internal world to start with, because we have this causative process whereby things arise within us and then they manifest outside us. That causative process is very well acknowledged in the in the field of psychology, where it's all about your mindset, your internal life conditions, and the effect that they have on your external world, and, of course, vice versa. It's a cyclic, circular, spiralling kind of a motion.

So what we're going to be mostly focusing on today is what's being indicated to us by the subtle sources that we consult. They include, as Nyck already mentioned, the astrology—and we will look at that in the most sophisticated way that we're able to—and also my background, of course, is in Taoism. I often consult the Taoist tool, the *I Ching*, the Book of Changes, which is actually an extremely sophisticated change-analysis tool. All of these things at the moment are pointing to the fact that we're in a time of needing to look within and regain our inner balance in order to then set our outside world right and move forward. This also ties into the process of being re-attracted to indigenous ways and re-adopting and adapting some of these indigenous ways to suit us in the future.

We've spoken on the show before about the rebirth of Indigenous knowledge—you might like to look up that episode, if you're interested in that. It's very obvious, and has been very obvious for some decades at least, that the emerging paradigm, Layer 6 consciousness, is very much attracted to the old indigenous ways. There is a resurgence of interest in traditional tribal ways of knowing and being. So, that is very, very much a part of the life conditions in this situation that we find ourselves in right now, and it's a useful thing to do, is to look back at the old ways of being communal in an indigenous Layer 2, tribal way, and the rather amazing techniques that they had there for reading nature, reading the energy of the day which guided their routine.

Nyck: Yes, including, of course, great events like full moons and eclipses, which we'll come to.

I've got a beautiful Lakota prayer here, which I might read. It's appropriate at this time because I think a lot of what we're talking about here is a rediscovery of trust in a time of great mistrust and distrust of pretty well everything out there for so many people, and confusing times that we're in, and the intense shock that we have been through and continue to go through.

It's a simple prayer for the Lakota people of American Indian origin and talks about trust very simply goes like this: "Great mystery, teach me how to trust my heart, my mind, my intuition, my inner knowing, the senses of my body, the blessings of my spirit. Teach me to trust these things so that I may enter my sacred space and love beyond my fear and thus walk in balance with the passing of each glorious sun."

I got this from a chap called Nick Polizzi, who is the director of *The Sacred Science*, and he's talking really about the walking balance of this little prayer: between heaven (spirituality) and earth (physicality) in harmony.

It's central in things like the I Ching, isn't it? As above, so below.

Steve: Yes, absolutely. I know Nick, actually. He's a wonderful guy. I met him when I was over in the US working on some film projects with Mitch Schulz.

Nyck: I really like his stuff. I've been watching some of his recent things. For those who are out there, I think the series is called *Proven*. It's very good, about all the different medical approaches to everything, that are alternative, but backed by science. Many of them are rediscoveries of ancient wisdom, of course.

Steve: Beautiful.

As we're moving now out of the Scientific-Industrial era, which in many ways has been the peak of rationalism and materialism, we have a need to embrace the non-rational and bring all of these things that we've used in the past prior to this industrial era, prior to the Scientific-Industrial era, as useful tools for knowing and doing and being. So it's very much about starting to embrace what we feel and what we sense, once again.

The journey through Layer 6 is really about, in many ways, preparing a foundation for the big leap into Second Tier consciousness, which happens between Layer 6 and Layer 7. In order to go into the Second Tier, we really have to have all of our First Tier in sufficient order to provide a solid foundation for the leap, and that means bringing back in the pre-rational— which embraces Layers 1, 2 and 3, where we lived very much according to our emotions and instincts, and very much in the moment—and not discarding the rational at all, but understanding that these things are nested. So we have at our core the pre-rational ways of knowing and being, and then the rational gets wrapped over the outside of that and then the trans-rational, which comes with Second Tier, gets wrapped over that again. So none of it goes away. The only thing that does change is which of those different ways is dominant in everyday life, and of course, even in Second Tier, it's very dynamic. So there will be times, if we're operating in a trans-rational way, where it might be appropriate to really drop down in the moment and operate from one of those other nested systems there.

Nyck: Indeed. I wrote a short thing about the notion that it's not about the destination with Layer 6, as we're moving into that. It's about the journey—or the quest, which is the word you used—as we move away from Layer 5, and that result-oriented thinking, to an interest in the journey and the quest without a final result, necessarily. A deeper appreciation of the journey inwards, whatever that looks like to you, emerges, and it doesn't have to be a particular way of getting there, but there are obviously many tools and many modalities that you can use that are very valuable. We talk about those often here. More than ever, it's now possible with COVID and the shock that we're talking about here, to design and create your

own pathway to a deeper understanding of the self and the processes that we are going through with respect to the global change process that's occurring.

In the past, most self-developmental and spiritual modalities seem to have an endpoint inherent in their structure—like enlightenment, for example, from meditation practices, or how to do that yoga pose absolutely perfectly—but it would appear now that we've been sort of upgraded to a deeper and bigger appreciation of what is required to grow in respect to the global processes, even beyond our own individual processes—that surrender of our own gift and not trying to achieve necessarily for ourselves, but focusing on what I can bring to the table in terms of a global perspective.

Steve: Absolutely, and that reflects the move from the individually-themed Scientific-Industrial Layer 5 to the communally-themed Layer 6, which is very humanistic and networkcentric. So embracing and being within the communal ways is very much a part of this shift. If you have found yourself in that transition from the old paradigm—very, very rational, materialistic and practical way of being—and been through this big disruptive shock that we've experienced—thrust into a different set of life conditions—then you may find yourself in this place of feeling like you're drawn to be in community and be working with people and certainly needing the assistance of other people for your own benefit and to regain your balance at this time.

Nyck: It's fascinating. My oldest son (he's 33), his partner and their cohort who live in Melbourne, are quite successful in the tech world. I was talking to him on the phone the other day—you've just reminded me of it—and he was talking, for the first time about moving to Tasmania, getting a piece of land and creating a community, and for those guys, it's not their normal way of thinking at all. He says he's getting quite a lot of resistance from many of that cohort, and yet also, on the other hand, there's quite a lot of people who are going: 'well, maybe that's what we have to do; go somewhere remote and set ourselves up.'

Steve: Yes, classic. There was a media article just recently—you probably saw it—about land sales in this area here around the Byron Shire and people moving from Melbourne and other places to this area. And that is a very, very predictable dynamic with this shift from Layer 5 to Layer 6, is the classic tree change or sea change, which is seeking to change your life conditions, basically to escape the rat race, because when you're caught up in that day-to-day race to get to work and earn the money that you need to survive and get home again and not much spare time, it's very hard to sit and ponder what's next. That is another aspect of what's needed for this transition into Layer 6, is time to think, and certainly COVID-19 has given us that in spades.

Another aspect of this shift out of the old paradigm that's worth mentioning is how our understanding of truth is shifting. This has been a topic of hot discussion around fake news and how we find out what's actually true, and the fact of the matter is that our life conditions have changed, particularly through our electronic connectedness—social media—and science has changed as well. There's a shifting motivation because the Layer 5 motivation is

primarily one of personal success and the Layer 6's motivation, that set of values, drives us to find deep connections with other people. So they are two very different things. Whereas the Layer 5 success-driven motive operates very well in a very rational, practical, material world, the Layer 6 motive of connecting deeply with other people really requires us to open up our sense of feeling, and re-embrace all that pre-rational stuff; to add that element and start to build this foundation of those two systems; the pre-rational ways and the rational ways.

It's also interesting to note that, for some people at this time, the rational mind has been going crazy with conspiracy theories, and that, I see as really a huge distraction, to be honest. Sometimes when there's a sudden change, it's very, very useful to understand why the change happened and understand what might be driving it, and certainly we covered those issues earlier on during the COVID-19 shift. We looked at: How did this happen? Why did it happen? Who might be behind the self-interest aspects of it? But there comes a point where you can easily get lost going down a rabbit hole with conspiracy theories, and you've got to stop and ask yourself, 'okay, what am I actually getting out of this, apart from just increasing fear, basically?'

Nyck: Yes, there's a lot in that. I'm thinking about the astrology of the moment here, too, because while we have the eclipse coming up on this weekend, the 4th or 5th of July, a longer-term process now is the new position, just recently, of the north node and the south node—the moon's nodes. If you don't know what I'm talking about, you can look it up.

The nodes kind of represent, in a sense, the soul's journey. The south node, very simply put represents the old, the karmic, those things that you've achieved or haven't yet finalised in past lifetimes, if you want to go that far with thinking that way. The north node represents your soul journey in this lifetime. Just recently, those nodal points have moved out of the Capricorn-Cancer axis to the Sagittarius-Gemini axis, and with regard to what you're saying there, Steve, as the north node is now in Gemini, the south node is in Sagittarius, and Sagittarius, in terms of its shadow, its darkness—because the south node is also that, the shadow, the darkness—at its negative point, Sagittarius expression is actually about: 'I think I know what the truth is and I'm going to tell you what the truth is'. That can end up with being preachy, even whereas on the other side of the equation, Gemini, in its ultimate higher function is really about the truth: what is actually true here?, and with crystal clarity to discern what the truth is and act from that point.

I think that's actually what the stars are reflecting at the moment: this balance between true information and dogma, for example. The information warfare we have going on at the moment is sort of dogma against dogma, position against position, fundamental plays against another one, and so on. So we're challenged to rebalance that by moving away from that, and you can feel this now. As you said, you can feel what's valuable in the conspiracy theories, for example. It becomes too much and too preachy and, 'they know, how come I don't know?', and instead of getting subsumed and captured by that, to actually step back a minute and consider, 'what's actually true for me here?' with discernment, and that's the Gemini north node in action. So that's part of the balance structure at the moment, reflected in the stars.

Steve: That's great, Nyck, and there's so much that is pointing to the need for us to look inside at this time and look to rebalance our internal world as a precursor to stepping back out into the outside world. Of course, we're very aware of the fact that wherever you might be listening to this podcast around the world, your local life conditions might be very, very different to ours here.

Some countries are still very much in the thick of trying to deal with the virus, and in full lockdown. Here in Australia, we are in the process of reopening up again to return to life. I won't say normal life, but a return to the new normal, whatever that might look like. So, I'm sure you will find different aspects of what we're saying are appropriate to your circumstances wherever you are, and also, as things progress in your country, in your local area, then you'll probably be able to make sense of some of the stuff that we're talking about as we're starting to reopen again here.

I think it's probably worth us diving a little bit deeper into the astrology and also, just briefly, into what I drew out of the *I Ching*, just to give us a slightly deeper understanding of what's really driving us at the moment. These things that we're talking about, particularly the astrological energies, of course, apply to everybody on the planet. This is also true of sophisticated divination systems like the *I Ching*, which look at all aspects of change and long-term change cycles. They apply to everybody as well.

The timing may be slightly different wherever you are, because influences, particularly the astrology astrological influences, might be slightly staggered around the planet by a short period of time, and same with other things that impact our life conditions. But do you want to just dive a little bit deeper, Nyck, and just give us a more complete picture of what's driving things at the moment?

Nyck: Yes. Well, as we have talked about before, first of all, many astrologers are pointing to the fact that this year, the year 2020 in particular, is really heavy. It's a Capricorn year. We've got all these planets in Capricorn: Jupiter, Saturn, Pluto, and the Moon will shortly be there for the eclipse at 13, 14 degrees Capricorn on Saturday/Sunday, depending on where you are. The Capricorn energy is ruled by Saturn itself, and those planets are in that sign right now, and they're doing a dance - I use that word a lot because it is a dance through this whole year, right through to the beginning of next year, we're seeing this process.

Right at the moment, Jupiter and Pluto are actually conjunct and they'll be conjunct several times, including during the week of the US election, which is important. At the same time, Mars is in Aries—I'll come back to that in a minute—but in Capricorn, we have these planets in that dance as they move towards Aquarius. In fact, Saturn, as we speak today, has just slipped back in retrograde into Capricorn at 29 degrees Capricorn. It is really quite an arcane point in astrology, which has to do with the sort of final doorway, the gateway, the threshold and the absolutely new. So we're getting those sort of things triggered and resonating generally with the world's astrology and experience at the moment.

But at the same time, we're seeing this eclipse occur on the weekend at 30, 40 degrees Cancer, Capricorn-Cancer. That means that the sun is at 13, 14 degrees Cancer and the moon is that degree at full moon there. So it depends on your own personal chart. You could look at any planets if you are *au fait* with astrology, anything in the cardinal signs, which are Capricorn, Cancer, Libra and Aries, between the degrees of, say, 9 and 17 degrees. If you have those sort of planets and positions in your chart—and even more so, the north node, the south node and the midheaven—these are really soul-trigger points.

It's interesting to note, for example, on a broader scale, that this is the eclipse season where we had a solar eclipse at 0 degrees Cancer, which is interesting itself, on the summer solstice and the winter solstice a couple of weeks ago. Now we've got this one coming up here. The last time that a solar eclipse corresponded with the summer solstice that's just gone, was in June 2001. This was just before 9/11, and presaged that, so these are very big things. I'm not saying that anything like that is going to happen, because a lunar eclipse is actually a little bit softer than a solar eclipse, but nevertheless, there is this idea that we are returning to an understanding, perhaps, or an appreciation of what 9/11 triggered, because in fact, the eclipse over this weekend—we won't see it in Australia, but if you're listening in the US or in other parts of the world, it's going to definitely cover most of the US on July 4th, July 5th—is on Independence Day. I think that's quite an interesting thing.

The next eclipse coming up is three weeks after the US election, as I said before, on November the 30th this year. So this is the season of eclipses and the effect of eclipses last really for months. This eclipse season—its energetic signature—will last right through till the next eclipse in November and through the US elections and through all the things that are going on at the moment.

At the same time, just mentioning Mars in Aries, we might come back to that because there's a few points about Mars in Aries. Mars is in Aries and will be for about six months to early next year. It is very rare that Mars is in one sign for that long. It's usually only in a sign for a few months—for half of that, even less than that—so this is an unusual position for Mars during this time, and that squares, which is a conflicting aspect, the Capricorn planets in various ways through this whole year, through this whole period, which is suggesting: watch out for war, watch out for conflict, watch out for activating on a personal level, in your community, but certainly on a global political level, those sort of tensions.

We can see this with what's currently going on in the world as we're speaking today. In Hong Kong, we've just seen a law passed by the Chinese which is going to make freedom of movement, freedom of speech and freedom of activity, and freedom in the streets much more difficult for those residents there. Britain's offering residents of Hong Kong a special passport, so that's interesting. We're also seeing things like the aggressive military force, the word 'aggressive' used to configure a new investment in Australia's defence forces by the conservative Morrison government right here. That's just happened; and also just another little tiny piece of that, I think it's interesting that they're pulling down all the Confederate statues in the US. So all these sort of marshal areas of ideas and thought.

Steve: Yes, and we've been saying for a while, based on Martin Armstrong's algorithm, which follows the market patterns, that it's quite possible that there will be violence in the US around the time of the election, so we can see how the astrological situation now is certainly lending itself to that possibility as well.

Nyck: And lastly, just with the eclipses we've seen, because this eclipse is in the sign of Capricorn, it really zeroes in on things like injustice, economic disparities, health care inefficiency, failures of leadership—that's a big one—and really, overall, Capricorn is old thinking that needs to be transformed, at its shadow side. We're seeing clearly that old thinking that has not helped our social problems—can't solve our social problems now—is being challenged seriously, and this is really indicated by these planets in this dance in Capricorn and particularly impacted by the eclipse coming up this weekend.

Steve: I might just add there, too, Nyck, that these themes don't just apply to world events, but they apply to you personally as well. So many of us are feeling these within ourselves at the moment, old patterns that need to be transformed. We're actually revisiting, re-emerging right now so that we can deal with them, and of course, from a personal development and healing point of view, it's very difficult to heal something when it's not in your face. So when something does reappear from the past, whether it's a healing issue that re-emerges or just a pattern of thinking or behaviour, once it's in your face and you're aware of it, then you have the opportunity to work with it. So it's really important just to look at these things from a positive point of view and take that opportunity. I guess that is really the key thing, is not to just go into shock, but actually move and take the opportunity to work with whatever is arising.

Nyck: And on that note, just finishing with Mars again, I had a bit of an insight in the last 24 hours. Mars is the ruler of Aries, on one level, and so it's a good place for Mars, too. However, the expression can tend to be marshal, but there's also an opportunity for Mars to be seen as a kind of guardian on the threshold—we talked about that before: the threshold. So there's a way, personally, this year that I think you can resist the temptation to fall into misinformation, disinformation, fake news, information warfare. You can observe it, but to get captured in it—to go to battle one way or the other, go to one side or the other—is probably not the right way to go at this time. It's better to take a step back and to self-nurture—and we'll talk further about that, too—and to really look after yourself in this time and to realise that Mars is actually, in a sense, helping us to discern what the appropriate action is in response to this heavy Capricorn energy that continues through this year and around the eclipse right now.

Steve: And in patterns of change, like Joseph Campbell's *Hero's Journey*, where we look at the process of being called to change, and in going through the rigmarole of actually creating or experiencing the change, the guardian-at-the-threshold figure is usually the first challenge that comes up in the change process. You might have a general idea that you want to head in a certain direction and all of a sudden you meet a fierce guardian at a threshold. The mythological purpose of that is to test whether you're ready to go on this journey or not yet. If you get scared away by that first encounter, then you go back home and you won't go on the journey, but if you really, really know that this is the direction you need to go, then

the guardian will help you take note of that and really grok that—get that on a deep level: 'I know I really need to do this. I'm going to push forward.'

Nyck: Yeah, let's grok that. And again, when you're saying that, of course, it's just adding here another little bit of astrology, too. At the moment, most of the planets, or Jupiter, Saturn, Pluto and Mercury, as I mentioned earlier, are retrograde. Now, retrograde motion is interesting. It's not actually the planets going backwards, just from our perspective, but it is saying to us it's not a time to fight. It's a time for introverted meaning. The meanings of the planets sort of turn inward when they're retrograde. So clear perception arrives through an inward journey, not from reading thousands of articles in *The Guardian* or other newspapers or any other source whatsoever. It's like nurture and heal ourselves. Going inward now is the way to begin to heal our thoughts.

That's what this is saying, and is this is going to be concurrent really for another two or three months as those planets start to move forward then.

Steve: Thanks, Nyck. You can really see how all those astrological influences are turning our heads to look inwards and take note of what's going on inside of ourselves, as we said at the start of the show, in order to prepare for re-engaging with the world after the big shocks we've been through.

In Part 2 of the show, we're going to continue this theme and I'll talk a little bit about the *I Ching* and what very subtle undercurrents are being picked up there, which are also giving us this same fundamental message of looking inside and finding our balance again before engaging with the outside world. We'll also talk in Part 2 about Clare Graves's work and some of the detail around dealing effectively with rapid change and making ourselves more adaptable, and also the very specific things that are changing as the world is moving into this different layer of consciousness at Layer 6, which is changing our value systems in the way that we view the world. So tune in.

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