

1: Lean Logic: A Dictionary For The Future and How To Survive It: Design Observer

A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It. "A monumental achievement, David Fleming's Lean Logic is an encyclopedic guide to the crisis of industrial civilization.

Extensive references are given in the dictionary itself, but are omitted here. Localisation stands, at best, at the limits of practical possibility, but it has the decisive argument in its favour that there will be no alternative. Does that mean the end of travel? On the contrary, it means the end of mass dislocation and the recovery of place. Almost wherever you go in the market economy, you find yourself in the same place in the globalised market with its shared banality, its fullness; at the end of every lane is a busy road and a housing estate like the one at the beginning of it. You cannot get out of a globalised world, because there is no out. Localisation means the protection of distinctiveness: Travel now finds its purpose, taking you to a place which is not in essentials identical to the one you have left, but to one that is interesting and finds you interesting, that wants to hear your song, that dances to a different tune. A distinction between needs and wants has been made by many critics in the green movement and its predecessors, who have argued that consumption in response to our needs is justifiable and sustainable, but consumption in response to our wants is not. Yet this notion that needs are good and wants bad does not survive inspection. Lean Logic argues that those economists have it somewhat back-to-front. The heaviest burden of the modern economy, by far, is that imposed by its own elaborations. Any large-scale economy requires massive infrastructures and material flows just to support itself and keep existing. Regardless of whether we want them, we need the sewage systems, heavy-goods transport, police-forces. Given the substantial scale of the task of feeding, raising and schooling a suburban family, and the increasing challenge of such routine needs as finding a post office, many of us undoubtedly need cars. The collapse of local self-reliance was both the cause and the effect of the massive elaboration of transport, and when that need can no longer be met, its life-sustaining function will be bitterly recognised. It is, then, the elaboration of needs by large-scale industrial life that causes the trouble. Our wants are squeezed-out, much-missed and light by comparison, not least because they often involve labour-intensive crafts and services pianists, craftsmen, dress-makers, waitresses, gardeners with minimum environmental impact. Some wants are also needs, of course, and they cannot be cleanly separated, but if we focus our efforts on finding a way, under the stresses of the climacteric, of achieving a substantial and rapid liquidation of our needs, we will be getting somewhere. It is argued that the other big energy options are not going to provide solutions in the future, and that therefore the solution is a vast expansion of nuclear energy. But this is a non sequitur: A person practicing small-scale, mixed, energy-efficient, fertility-conserving farming designed chiefly for local subsistence. It is integrated into local culture. It is the defining practice of the community. This model of farming, however, became briefly obsolete in the market economy, with its abundant cheap energy, enabling a different one to develop which did not need to supply its own energy and sustain its own fertility. Peasant farming is a skilled and efficient way of sustaining food production within the limits of the ecology. It is an eco-ethic, sustaining the measured synergy with nature that we find in Tao philosophy. It has the five properties of resilience. But it has a flaw. It is highly productive, so it yields a surplus, and this is a tempting resource for the gradual evolution of an urban civic society, with its unstoppable implications of growth, hubris and trouble. Is there a way of learning from that dismal cycle, and sustaining, instead, a localised, community-based, decentralised society, without the seeds of its own destruction? Space whose local narrative can still be heard, and could be heard again, given the chance. Place is the practical, located, tangible, bounded setting which protects us from abstractions, generalities and ideologies and opens the way to thinking as discovery. On this scale, there is elegance, and some relief from the need to be right, for if you are wrong, the small scale of place allows for revision and repair, supported by conversation. Place is the endangered habitat of our species. The act of caring for something that you value, or for which you are responsible it is a deep behaviour which, in some senses, is shared by all living things. It is widely supposed to be a good thing, except in the case of economies, which are required to dance to the single tune of perpetual competition. True, natural selection is a condition of all living things, too. But species

with less intelligence than ours use both. It is time we caught up. Lean Economics is about protecting the right of local economies to proceed on a different basis. On such matters, market economics is far from neutral. It takes the view that the competitive market is the only sound basis for economy, politics and culture, and it advocates its case with evangelical conviction: In a taut, competitive, growing market, it is true that protectionism is not a good idea. Competitive free trade comes with a commitment to growth, i. It is too late to consider protection against these things; the damage has already been done. But protection of what is left of indigenous food production and steps toward local self-reliance and reduced dependence on fossil fuels for every aspect of food production would be rational. The key rule governing systems-design: The fallacy which gives undue emphasis to the present when considering an option with long-term consequences. This presumption of a constant present is a leading symptom of the dementia that afflicts the judgment of governments – dementia absens: And there is a risk that the values of the present may crowd out all other values. An argument that affirms that now is a special case in that the present has achieved standards of reason and ethics which have not been available before. The fallacy typically cites the fact that this is the twenty-first century as proof that the argument is correct: The Irrelevant Past argument begs the question: Here is the scientist-philosopher Mary Warnock being sympathetic with the unfortunates who are so stuck in the past that they are opposed to genetically-modified crops: It was upon such fears that Mary Shelley played, as long ago as , in her story of Frankenstein. Perhaps we should learn from the future? The Great Transformation has already happened. It was the revolution in politics, economics and society that came with the market economy, and which hit its stride in Britain in the late eighteenth century. Most of human history had been bred, fed and watered by another sort of economy, but the market has replaced, as far as possible, the social capital of reciprocal obligation, loyalties, authority structures, culture and traditions with exchange, price and the impersonal principles of economics. Unfortunately, the critics of economics have had a tendency to discuss the whole structure as a tissue of misconceptions. It is a critique that fails. The strength of economics is its considerable, if far from complete, understanding of the flows and comparative advantages that underlie trade, jobs, capital and incomes, and the logic of optimising behaviour, all backed by glittering accomplishment in mathematics. That makes it a powerful analytical instrument, so that just a few misconceptions – such as a failure to understand the informal economy or resource depletion – can have leverage: If it were a tissue of errors, it would not be dangerous: Economics has therefore been seductive. The market economy is effective for sustaining social order: It supports a more egalitarian society than any other large-scale state has been capable of and it saves a great deal of trouble: In the meantime, the reduction of a society and culture to dependence on mathematical abstraction has infantilised a grown-up civilisation and is well on the way to destroying it. Civilisations self-destruct anyway, but it is reasonable to ask whether they have done so before with such enthusiasm, in obedience to such an acutely absurd superstition, while claiming with such insistence that they were beyond being seduced by the irrational promises of religion. Every civilisation has had its irrational but reassuring myth. Previous civilisations have used their culture to sing about it and tell stories about it. Ours has used its mathematics to prove it. Yet, when this relatively short-lived market-society is gone, we will miss its essential simplicity, its price mechanism, its self-stabilising properties, its impersonal exchange, the comforts it delivers to many, and the freedoms it underwrites. Its failure will be destructive. And the end is in sight; during the early decades of the century, the market will lose its magic. It is the aim of Lean Logic to suggest some principles for the design of a replacement.

2: Lean Logic: A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It

Lean Logic is David Fleming's masterpiece, the product of more than thirty years' work and a testament to the creative brilliance of one of Britain's most important intellectuals.

The five tasters released so far have gone viral on social media, viewed over 4. Published reviews Breaking the System: A Review of Surviving the Future Resilience. I have never encountered a book that is so hard to characterise yet so hard, despite its weight, to put down. Its pages span ethics, science, culture, art, and history. I refer to the late David Fleming, whose book Lean Logic has recently been published thanks to the excellent editorship of Shaun Chamberlin, and is garnering all sorts of critical plaudits. Those were the days. Fleming shows us how the future we want really is up to us. His vision could really work, and is already beginning to work in the first Transition Towns and community-building efforts in many parts of the world. And it is wisdom waiting to be discovered. A nuanced comparison of the case for scale vs. Fleming provides us with one such vision. He contended that post-market economics had to include space for people to enjoy themselves, to put on local carnivals now and then. Obligations and duties that do not depend on money. And a sense of community, the glue of identity around which reciprocity forms. Neither does the book suggest that there are easy solutions to these dilemmas. Instead, Fleming argues with clarity and wit that we need to segue now from the market economy to its sequel, i. Such localisation need be no ordeal and, if anything, could enrich our lives if we embraced it. Falling in love again with our place and the natural world – living in a healthy relationship with it, supporting it, protecting it – could be our salvation. As I was reading, my mind kept wandering back to my multiple trips to Europe as a child growing up in a Europhile academic family. Europe, for us, was, I believe, what Italy was for E. I think this is one everybody in the – what do we call it now? Instead of reading about space shuttles, birch bark and howitzers this dictionary draws one into the present need for new thinking about our culture and our role in the world. Kept me up in the night for a week. It is expensive but gives you the feeling we all know from reading this blog – when an insight just opens a window in your mind and the world looks different than it did a moment before – about every second page. I was collected by my good friend Leonie, and fed, and made to feel safe in her home while the anaesthetic was still stewing my brain; she was an informal economy nurse you might say. Our NHS would be less than half of what it is without the love of our communities. Lean Logic in this way makes the future with less resources and complexity look possible, and to some extent desirable. I highly recommend it. But rather than inducing despair, Lean Logic and Surviving the Future inspire optimism – to rediscover the importance of resilience, community, and culture. A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive it. I will be buying a copy of this. Like the doves I saw today in the dovecote I walked past, peaceful thoughts of a thriving future fly through the mind after reading such a visionary book as this! Fleming possessed and transmitted on these pages. If I had to pick only one book to save and pass along to future generations, this would be that book. I literally have not been able to put it down since picking it up. This is a book written with such wit, compassion and humanity that you are completely drawn in. Many times I had to drag myself away to fact check some of its claims fearing I was under some sort of spell. After going through the book I find myself unable to disagree with any of it. It certainly puts Brexit and Trump into perspective. I will definitely be buying the larger dictionary version. This culture of belonging, they argue, is the real social capital, and it is vulnerable to dispersal and spoliation, just as soon as the market achieves its dominance, when all obligations – trust, piety and even love itself – are up for sale. Evidently, he possessed the personality, the temperament, of a happy warrior: That seems to be the biggest problem in our political culture today: I was therefore pleased when a new friend introduced me to the writings of David Fleming. Fleming is exploring a radical shift in our economy [but] – Surviving the Future is no doctrinaire manifesto or doomsday prophecy. Surviving the Future certainly expanded my appreciation for a future that is already arriving. But it has the decisive argument in its favour that there is no alternative. It is the most concrete and descriptive look into a post-capitalist future I have found. The prose is accessible and the future Fleming paints is alluring. The man is a true philosopher of gifted insight, balanced with a heart for the real subtle details of lived experience. This

is a book to be cherished, and cannot truly be finished “ every entry comes alive in a new light on any given day it is read. This book more than any other on its shelf is a treasure from our civilization to the future. Help carry it on, please. At this day and age, where political imagination is in short supply, it fills a niche waiting to be discovered by the multitudes “ Interdisciplinary? This is beyond disciplines “ Fleming is scientifically informed, playful and consistent “ this is a unique and enormously powerful view of the world in which we live, and the one we want to build. We have never seen anything like it.

3: Lean Logic | Chelsea Green Publishing

Five years ago I obtained an extraordinary page book called Lean Logic: A Dictionary For The Future and How To Survive It. Written over a thirty year period by the English ecologist David Fleming, the book had been published in a limited edition after the author's untimely death.

A society that provides a satisfying, culturally-rich context for lives well lived, in an economy not reliant on the impossible promise of eternal economic growth. A society worth living in. The beauty of the dictionary format is that it allows Fleming to draw connections without detracting from his in-depth exploration of each topic. Each entry carries intriguing links to other entries, inviting the enchanted reader to break free of the imposed order of a conventional book, starting where she will and following the links in the order of her choosing. Fleming acknowledges, with honesty, the challenges ahead, but rather than inducing despair, Lean Logic is rare in its ability to inspire optimism in the creativity and intelligence of humans to nurse our ecology back to health; to rediscover the importance of place and play, of reciprocity and resilience, and of community and culture. Fleming is best known for introducing the economic concept of "Tradable Energy Quotas" TEQs , which aims to plot the means for a vast reduction of carbon emissions and energy consumption. Even though the book is laid out in a dictionary format, it is best viewed as a series of interconnected essays. The notion of "lean logic," i. Fleming claims an optimistic vision, yet the stark overhaul of existing social ties he foresees has a strong chiliastic bent. Nonetheless, this is a welcome work with a distinctive and well-articulated point of view. I challenge anyone to read as much as a page of it without finding at least one insight worth serious reflection. Individuals, families, and communities will find it invaluable as a guide to navigating the troubled waters of the future. And how do we create something else? This book is remarkable and scintillating; the product of a truly original mind. I have never encountered a book that is so hard to characterise yet so hard, despite its weight, to put down. Lean Logic is neither a policy manifesto nor a dry technical guide. His brilliance, good humour, and deep insight were legendary and unforgettable. His writing, too, was of the highest calibre—witty, entertaining, profound, informative, and transformative. These books of his give us the opportunity to savour the great treasure that was his mind. To read them is to gain a superb education in ecology from one of the greatest masters in the field. Stephan Harding, resident ecologist, Schumacher College; author of Animate Earth "A splendid smorgasbord, Lean Logic provides rare insight into some of the key issues of our time! His highly poetic description of these qualities is neither gloomy nor self-deceived but tranquil and inspiring. All environmental activists should read him and learn to think in his cultivated and nuanced way. Fleming fathomed the depth of the mess in which we find ourselves and left us clues as to how we might find our way through that mess. Fleming has written a guide to becoming an authentic individual and to recognizing toxic relationships on every level of material and personal exchange. This is a serious guide to health on every level of relationships and at the same time a deeply humorous read. Amongst many virtues, his approach to climate change and ecology embraced the commons. Seeing this as a solution, with collective decision-making leading to a better future, was at the heart of his work. It is so sad that David is no longer with us, but his words are; these books are full of insight and enjoyment. I hope his laughter and enlightenment spread far and wide through new readers as well as those of us familiar with his thoughts already. All these qualities are present in his writing. His lifelong championing of Tradable Energy Quotas, one of the very few instruments which promote sustainable consumption in a progressive rather than regressive way thereby combining environmental gain with a simultaneous transfer of resources from richer to poorer people, propels him to an honoured place in the pantheon of green campaigners. Lean Logic is an instant classic that was many years in the making, and it should be essential reading for environmentalists, economists, policy makers, and anyone who wants greater clarity in understanding the most important issues of our time. It is a work of genius. David Fleming — was a visionary thinker and writer who played significant roles in the genesis of the UK Green Party, the Transition Towns movement, and the New Economics Foundation, as well as chairing the Soil Association. These enabled him to better engage with and confound the mainstream, in support of his true passion and genius:

4: Lean Logic: A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It - Resilience

Lean Logic argues that those economists have it somewhat back-to-front. The heaviest burden of the modern economy, by far, is that imposed by its own elaborations. Any large-scale economy requires massive infrastructures and material flows just to support itself and keep existing.

5: LEAN LOGIC: A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It by David Fleming - Geographical

A fan of Lean Logic has been working on exactly this for 18 months, with the blessing of myself and the publisher. Clearly more Hi Brandon, actually, yes! Clearly the 'linked dictionary' format lends itself well to the internet age, so it was a tough project to resist!

6: Lean Logic: A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It by David Fleming

A dictionary unlike any other, it leads readers through Fleming's stimulating exploration of fields as diverse as culture, history, science, art, logic, ethics, myth, economics, and anthropology, being made up of four hundred and four engaging essay-entries covering topics such as Boredom, Community, Debt, Growth, Harmless Lunatics, Land, Lean Thinking, Nanotechnology, Play, Religion, Spirit, Trust, and Utopia.

7: Book of the Day: Lean Logic: A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It | P2P Foundation

Lean Logic acknowledges, with honesty, the challenges ahead in finding our way out of an economy that has all but destroyed the very foundations upon which it depends - the climate, the complex ecological system and the community and culture which gives meaning to life.

8: Lean Logic: A Dictionary for the Future

Lean Logic explores themes including ethics, science, relationships, culture, policy, art and history but, unconventionally, it is structured in dictionary format, with each entry followed by a list of other related entries. Through this device, Fleming encourages an active role on the reader, who must follow the narrative of their choice as they consider his thoughts on strategies for the future.

9: David Fleming (writer) - Wikipedia

Lean Logic was the supposedly slim crib sheet for The Lean Economy, a blue print for 'the future and how to survive it', David's massive tome that was rejected by innumerable publishers on the grounds of length and complexity.

Marty Halls Servlets and JavaServer Pages Training Course The Penguin Book of Contemporary British Poetry Advertising media models Landscape Contractor (Career Exploration) Expanding electorates Swiss family robinson ebook Economics of pakistan book by saeed nasir The dawn of peace Ordinary Advertising. And How To Avoid It Like The Plague Law, morality, and human rights of HIV/AIDS patients and sensitization of society You Can Slay the Dragon the Phoenix Rise (Phoenix Journal) Barney's can you imagine? Updated figures (based on 1995 prices) Church Lore Gleanings The permanente group retirement plan Jlg 600a parts manual Music Therapy with Premature Infants Inuktun: An introduction to the language of Qaanaaq, Thule Inuktun New Queueing Network Approximations for Vaccination Clinics Studying the Batch Arrival, Batch Service Pro The Principality of Wales in the later Middle Ages Problem solutions for matrix analysis of framed structures The artist and his audience Vocabulary for the Book of Ruth Illusions of a revolving door Links awakening manga The application of monaural phase sensitivity testing to the study of temporally-based hearing mechanisms Monsters of architecture On Edge (Revised) Reports of hearing officer on native reservations at Klukwan and Barrow, Alaska A way back to then sheet music Java regular expression Application of remote sensing in agriculture Villa-Lobos Solo Guitar Gram positive cocci list Mans hope destroyed by the death of the young Great feast of light Hooker, M. In his own image? The Phoenix Circle A Match Made In Dry Creek To hold a mirror to nature