

## **Free, An Ode To Plato**

This will be the most personal and painful revelation I can offer. The personal means not about me, or rather more about you. And yet, this will be the most universal approach, offered to almost all the six billion inhabitants of this planet. How can this be? What is the common thread here and now? And why do I offer it as an homage to Plato? Well, he was one of those few people who I know achieved the state of “free” through the same road that lead me to you, with this letter, on this site. <br>

This site claims that understanding is the most universal common language of all intelligent life. And yet, all intelligent life produces this state, where the common root and essence is merely a narrow frame, without the consciousness it deserves. <br>

I won't talk about Plato the philosopher, nor Plato the man. The line he started didn't die out because it is false. Yet, it did reach an extinction. That's just the fate of thoughts. Their truth lose their historical potential. The last honest abuser of this line was Hegel. So it's very appropriate that he gave the first abstract definition of this critical state of mind. He identified it with understanding the things that must happen. It would sound so much easier if we said “To be free, is to accept fate.”. A simple state of mind reduced to another simple attitude of emotions. But this would be a complete lie. All lies cling onto something true and use it in a perverted way. Here too, the cheap truth is that freedom shouldn't be about the infinite possibilities out in the world, rather being happy with ourselves. The cynics would laugh rightfully and say “I prefer wealth and power.”. Even the naïvest mind will get to the point of realizing that all this boils down to what your goals are. Breathing, having a heart beat, is not a goal. The goals and their obstacles enter our lives so smoothly that we can't even trace them back. We can clearly think about them, but soon we'll go in circles. Thinking about the futility of possessions, passions and power, will not get anybody away from these. Thinking about the world is much easier. This usually becomes its own addiction. Intellectuality is just another form of possession. Real possession is at least verifiable by our senses. They are true because they exist. More refined verifications can be titles, recognition and all the crap that goes with the so-called “finer” things. And in this dark jungle of false values, fancy cars, book collections, hobbies and past times, a color TV to watch the mind numbing shows and the misery of other billions, lie some foot paths that our mind can walk through. The common sense of how to turn on all this, a switch, a fuse, how to use a computer. Always just common sense far enough not to understand what and especially why. But it all works out, maybe even we work out and definitely, we work. Because that's how it works mostly. We all know how it is. It's all on TV. The rich, the poor, the ones who don't want to work, the ones who want to be famous. And it's all new. Poor Hegel, he couldn't out-smart history. And yet, he could nail something before this new age, that turned fairy tales into fiction. <br>

So lets be respectable, and give him some credit. Freedom is to know what must come true. Accept it through understanding. But how much? How far? We can't understand every detail of every change. The mind, the lightning, the airplanes, the world that makes us beg for more, and especially our own mind that says, no, or I just don't know. Is there a science of our own dilemma, some eternal food for thought, that avoids history, stands against society, this arena of circus, that means nothing to us and yet moves us like puppets from kindergarten to retirement villages? The world around us is so much without mind and soul, that we have to know the names and faces of those who create this flaw. The famous and temporary famous, the infamous, the self appointed crazy who just wanders in the spotlight, they all are puppets themselves, but for the rest, who only watch the show, the names and faces are the

proof. Because, history fades, generation by generation. So what moves this alteration of circumstances that alters us? Can it be just a random flow that vibrates us in the most intimate manner? The buffoons of society will tell you to relax: It all came through hell, but we are sailing home. History was meant to be where we are now. Freedom and justice for all. So that word again. Hegel who accepted history with pride, even waved to Napoleon, thought too that freedom and balance was quieting down hell, and could not even imagine what we went through since his “final” state of order. And that’s exactly why we don’t have to go back to the Romans or the Greeks, the Dark Ages, or even to that peaceful end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. But even the turmoils of this last hundred years are too much to conceive. And yet if you want to be free, you have to see the pulsating artery that drives this beast. Not only is society a beast without mind and soul and yet with a goal, but history is the flow of it. It’s a life, without soul, without conscience and yet with the best moves. <br>

The animals were regarded as perfectly, purposefully designed creatures by God. Today, we accept that they evolved by adopting to the changing circumstances. Natural selection explains such slow evolution in some part, but for history, we can’t apply anything like that. So is history blind, isn’t there a purposeful direction? Is it just survival of the strongest in the short term, without even being the fittest for the long term? As I said, those in power will tell you that it all just happens to be perfect, the strongest happen to be the fittest. The rise of America, the new free world, the unification of Europe. What is this? End game or the start of a new collapse? To see the simple things, we have to ask simple questions. A simplest question of our new age is this: Where would America be without Hitler? Everyone knows the answer, nowhere! If there is no second world war, there is no atom bomb, there is no cold war, nothing. Now you may say, of course there would be something. The communists, the Soviet Union would have still been struggling to keep up with the west, because free market economy is simply superior to centralized socialist. So this economic view seemingly is willing to face the questions of “what would be if”? Most strangely, this economic determinism is the philosophy of the communists, not its opponents. <br>

America of course, had no philosophy, at least seemingly. In reality, it had one that goes back right to the root of the two alternative economic rivals, the Frankfurt and Viennese school or Marxism versus free market. The French revolution was a mini version of why communism must fail. We take away the wealth of the rich, give it to the poor and then they can fight for it or waste it. When the US ambassador, Jefferson, returned from France, he learnt a few things and came up with a very definite philosophy. The privileged having more wealth than the poor is an unfair initial condition for every generation, but it is also a motor of development. If society is organized fairly, then the advantage of inequality far outweighs the ideal of equality. How far the government should interfere with this conservation and balancing of the inequalities, brought about the two parties, but they both believe in the Jefferson principle: Inequality is useful and in the long run it’s just too. This mind set was solidified with an economic success. The first real shake to this prosperity was the share market collapse of ’29, which also meant the road to power for Hitler. America got out of the depression without any social change. But Hitler was able to build an economy from nothing, simply by preparing for war. The war came and he lost. At once, the new enemy became the Soviet Union, cold war, iron curtain, McCarthy era. <br>

This thirty years from ’29 to ’59 was so crowded, so fast paced that we easily miss what really happened. It is shocking: Hitler tried out an economic model that was transferred to the United States. It took me thirty years to realize this simple fact. <br>

My mother was giving communist speeches as the party secretary at the statistical bureau in Budapest. Her whole family was killed by the Nazis. My parents divorced and my father ended up working in Berlin as a foreign trade representative. I remember my first social task: To find out if my mother is right and the Germans are evil. Okay, I over-simplified it, but she did hate them. I spent a whole summer in Berlin, between second and third year high school. My father bought me a bratwurst, then left me alone for three months. I was working in a TV factory. He even arranged a girlfriend, Evelyn. I took my task very seriously, talked to old people, a lot about what they knew, what they saw and how they felt. The end result, not surprisingly was, that the Germans have the least fascistic mentality, in spite of all the bad rap they got. The hatred of communism was of course, much more apparent, than any old feelings. Even I was an anti-communist. Just eight years after my observations in Berlin, I was in America, in a seemingly totally opposite world. Indeed, at first it seemed. I was floating on freedom. It took two years to detect the social blood pressure. To turn from anti-communist into a hippie, is nothing strange in itself, but I lost something or gained something bigger. But I didn't know it at that time yet. Probably I was the only person who returned from the US to a communist country. Even the communists didn't get it. They thought that I must be an American spy, so I never got a passport again. Not until '88, when we came to Australia. And even then, I still didn't see what's going on. The social influence is the most deceiving beast. You can never see its face, while its active over your mind, and when you turn your back to it, you easily forget even the pain, the need to solve it and rather return to understand particulars or everything. This understanding everything is yoga, in its true old meaning, but even that is a cop out. Between the particulars and the all, lies the most concrete reality, understanding itself. Once you see that understanding is the right of everybody, and without spreading it, you can't really understand anything, then you enter a whole new relationship with the social influence. Still not being able to see the beast in motion, but slowly the blindfolds begin to loosen. Only in the end, will you see why all this happened. I can explain it externally, this is what this letter is about, but to experience it with your own past and future, is the real understanding of it. In short, the abstract here can not be didactically concretized. I can still try to tell the abstract, as well as possible. <br>

The social influence, the blindfolds, sound external as I talk about it, but they are very inner, very natural when they are active. An even more drastic way to express this is to remind you, what I already emphasized so many times, that society is mindless and soulless. To put it quite simply, society is finite, while you are infinite. Usually, here religions and even yoga jump to the fact that you have a soul and a mind, and this is a bridge to the eternal or God and so on. This is merely, blah blah blah. You already know this argument and this is finite. This argument can not take you out of your finite bind. I start from a much earlier point: A piece of rock is infinite too! Is it bigger than society? This question has no exact meaning. You can have a vague understanding of why the rock is infinite. Namely, as any pieces of matter, it is a part of the universe, in a more substantial manner, than a system of relationships between people. Society is obviously a more abstract reality. You might even deny the reality of it, as many intellectuals do. So then you can regard life much simpler. Obey without even realizing the master of your actions. Then you think, you are free. You can have a chosen profession, a chosen religion, all magically fitting into where you are. So then stop reading here and be happy. But if you feel that there is a problem with what you are, and how you came to be this, then keep on reading: <br>

When you were born as a baby, indeed, you were almost the same infinity as a piece of rock. In fact, a rock survives better alone. The separation from the infinity of your

body, starts right there when you are taken care of, to keep that infinitely complex body alive. But it's not the infinity that makes it and keeps it alive. Oh no! The livingness itself is a very finite condition. It's not an infinite soul that got into an otherwise finite body. It is true, that potentially a baby is infinite, while a rock is not. But exactly because it's merely a potential claim, it doesn't exist out of time. This reverse vision of the facts was devised because of the consequences. Namely, if a baby dies, then there is no more potential. To make the potential real, and thus the loss more dramatic, the false vision of the full infinite soul was assumed to die. Then if somebody kills a baby, he is responsible in full, but if the baby dies in illness, then it's God's will. No wonder, that those who were thinking straight, couldn't go along with this nonsense. But that doesn't mean, they will get to the truth. We can't feel pity for destroying a rock. To say that both the rock and the baby are infinite, simply because they exist, seems sacrilegious. And yet, the facts are even worse. If the baby is born and the finite conditions are met, to live and grow, then it will also walk and talk and seek out conditions and create ones for others. And in all these finite changes, it remains infinite. There is no organic infinity, some magical plus between the parts, that elevate it above a rock. The heart, the brain, all function by finite conditions. The complicatedness means in itself that it can reflect the world, or rather all finite relations. The act of understanding is also brought about by finite conditions. These understandings are governed by higher goals or denials. But once the understanding becomes the only goal, this system is potentially self destructive. At this point, the mere existence, the infinity becomes active. This is a delusion itself, because the original infinity of the body is eternal. Death simply changes its form from flesh to ashes. But the loss of ability to understand, now represents itself. So this is a paradox. The potential loss of understanding is deeper than the strive to understand itself. All children go through a distinct period when the conception of death is connected to their own future, but the root of this connection is the recognition that they won't be able to experience. Sleep was no reason to be afraid before. It's not the actual state of non experience that is frightening. That's why religion invented hell. To be nothing is not enough punishment. For the child who first realizes the fear of dying, this nothingness is scary enough. But this alerted state of mind disappears, because understanding is not the goal. Society implants the finite life. This is a tricky business. The finiteness of every meaningless life is much simpler than the giant system that organizes these mind controls. Every single human being is infinite. Even every single brain is infinite, just as every rock is infinite. But rocks are not responding to society, so the superiority of a rock is abstract. The programmability of the brain on the other hand, is a dangerous affair for society. Every influenced brain must be given the illusion of freedom. Hiding the determining factors is a continuous method for greater flexibility. Already animals are not aware of their vegetative functions, so they can be more aware of their perceptions. Another way of saying this is interiorization. If we use a stick, then soon we feel the end of the stick too. The organizing of the reactions to perceptions can be also kept in secret. And indeed, all animals live in the actual perceptions. <br>

The isomorphism principle means that certain reactions can be depending not on continuous or analog changes, rather on similarity groups, like shapes or number of elements. Most amazingly, the very foundation of life is coded in such discreet ways. Of course, no plants, animals or even humans are aware of this. And yet, we humans know about it as an abstract fact. But this is only possible, because there are more concrete isomorphism conditions that we have access to. The brain couldn't function properly without giving access to some such isomorphisms. These neuron connections are inaccessible in the animal brain. The brain is there to form the connections and

potentially could become humanoid. So the poor rat has to learn every labyrinth again and again, even if the same rules apply to them, because it can not cross over. Whereas a child once learns to play chess, will be able to play with any pieces. He has to identify the bishop and the knight by shapes, that is similarity groups, and the board and steps obey simple arithmetics. The similarity groups are already hidden in all animals. The lion sees a zebra from a distance as small, yet he knows it's a full size prey. But actually, this identification of the similarity group is the non consciousness. A child is aware of the difference of a picture of his father to the real one, and yet recognizes it as his father. So it is actually a negation, a denial, a lie. Once the brain is able to operate in this modeling fashion, a whole new road is open. This is thinking. Language is its most external consequence. Communication itself is already at animals, without the use of the isomorphism principle. Matter being able to model itself might seem at first as a great achievement, as an evolution, some kind of sophistication. But this is false. It's not the dead matter that became conscious. Matter is always infinitely deep. The amazing is that its finite external relations get more and more access to this infinity. This is much more complex than simple evolution. It is not adaptation for a more successful existence. It is using the self reflection in a non surviving way, even self destructively. It is survival of the non fit to survive. The weakness of early man, is obvious, because now we are far enough from it. The evolutionists turn this weakness into smartness. They say, using fire, using language, the weak humans became strong together as a race and conquered the earth. This is the mammoth talking. It was the individuals who conquered fire and painted pictures. Individuals who stepped beyond society. The smartness is more applicable to obedience. The birds are smart who migrate. Our DNA is smart, how it works. Everything is smart. To strive for understanding on its own, is not smart. To spread it, is even less. <br>

You can build a machine that operates. You can build a machine that is programmable and self altering. The more complex it is, the more it can reflect finite relations of matter in general. If we can build a machine that explores its own matter, to reflect more and more about it, then it will be artificially intelligent. But right now, we humans are artificially intelligent already. Understanding the relationships of matter, just for the sake of understanding, is the limit of our spirituality. This is the true and actual denial of matter. To say that matter is merely energy and information, are abstract slogans. Cheap science fiction, obedience to society. The future was always here and now. To be free and free others, that's concrete. The yogi wants to be free, but today you can't be anymore, without freeing others. This is the evolution of yoga. Philosophy, more concretely, idealism, was the beginning of this active yoga, but still without the sufficient anti-social emphasis. Of course, every yoga and every true philosophy is anti-social but it was a hide and seek game. Today, to be free you have to see the enemy. Society will give you degrees, titles, respect you, as long as you don't turn against it, even in your thoughts. History flows with one single goal, to keep the understandings isolated. The mindless mass is what society needs. Fragmented interests, egos riding high. Consumption and entertainment. <br>

The communists thought that providing economic equality will evolve the minds. Consumption and cheap entertainment won't be the goal, rather self realization. The economic superiority of the free market was never the sole argument of its advocates. Oh no, freedom of thought was on their mind too. The realization that the free world is the biggest mind control, still didn't register for most advocates. You are free to be stupid. In fact, you are encouraged to be stupid. There is nothing wrong with even that, if you are free to be smart too. But are you free, to become free? Marx himself went through already a transition, from believing that the revolution starts in America, to

that it shouldn't. He saw the emergence of the new petty bourgeoisie. The non mobilizable proletariat. But Marx couldn't step ahead into the level of globalization, where a grandma investing in shares, is equivalent to a Rockefeller. Then of course, classes as actual set of people is meaningless. This more abstract level of evil actually justifies his theory even better. The basic truth of Marx is that Jefferson was wrong! Inequality, can't work for the good of all. It tries to increase itself, it uses every little window to bite more. Behind the Kennedys, the charities, the rags to riches stories, the stupidity of Schwarzenegger and Reagan, lies a simple fact that there is an economic drive, towards self destruction. But what this self destruction means, is not clear at all. Is it social revolution? Is it economic collapse? Is it alienation of people in the pursuit of money? And most importantly, when must this collapse happen? <br> Hitler proved that if you cut out the political games, then modern production can provide for all in a very short time. The tricky involvement of the state with leaving the free market, was not analyzed. Neither Dimitrov, nor Stalin, realized what made this fast rise of Germany possible. The temporary advancements and paybacks. The new up and down waves of economic progress, is merely a side effect of a new free market, that expands spatially too. The fundamental contradiction that the world population is too big, and the free economies can only exist with bigger and bigger markets, is simply ignored. Today, this ignorance is hidden as a strive for greener economies. So this last avoidable contradiction is still coming down. But instead today, the markets are gained from the already existing populations. This even helps the globalization. So maybe the fundamental Marxist truth will strike when the whole world can be punished together. At any rate, it's all far from what Marx envisioned and yet proves him right. This is so, because it was much less an economic prediction. Even my prediction above, that the need for new markets has to collide with the problem of population growth, is a much deeper one. Marx was definitely way off when he analyzed the work into the value. He was right, that value must exist beyond market prices, but it's nothing to do with work. By today, it's obvious. Practically all work is unproductive. People get degrees and diplomas, just to avoid actual work. And it's possible, because production is so advanced. So society is willing to accept even the burden of a non producing surplus as long as it is a market and extra profit can be obtained. This non productive mass of people can't be called petty bourgeois anymore. This is the new mass of slaves. The slaves to obedience. Obey the law and consume. But these slaves would never rise up. Finally, the circus and bread is continuously provided for them. The toil of production is replaced by a feeling of guilt. So Marx was not quite right about this alienation either, because it appeared in a very different form, than what we and some science fiction writers expected. The guilt of getting paid for non production is very hidden. Family as the bed of artificial goals, softens the guilt even more. Family is almost a justification of existence. This changes the dynamics of child raising too. So in turn, prepares better slaves for the next generation. But all this is happening with a seemingly sharper generational conflict. Yet this is merely a new form of the old and continuous conflict, and merely the media and entertainment is using it as self diffusion. The young always realizes that he or she is doomed, that society is the trap.