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This is an archived post. You won't be able to vote or comment.

I am Kevin Kelly, radical techno-optimist and co-founder of Wired magazine. AMA!

**JOURNALIST** submitted 1 year ago \* by kevin2kelly

I built my own house, rode a bike across the US twice, kept bees, homeschooled my son, hitchhiked in Japan, started three businesses, launched the first Hackers' Conference, the Quantified Self movement, and now self-published a book of Cool Tools. AMA.

I am now closing the session. Thanks Reddit for the great questions.

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[[-](#)] **itsinsider** 5 points 1 year ago

Have you read The Circle? If so, what did you think of it?

welcome to /r/IAmA

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Submitted on 11 Dec 2013

**53** points (82% upvoted)

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[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 7 points 1 year ago

I think the Circle is both brilliant and profound. I think the book will take its place alongside 1984 and Brave New World. It doesn't have much chance of happening, but it is a cautionary tale to keep us honest.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [anotherjohn](#) 7 points 1 year ago

It seems you've been all over the world. I assume you're already living in your favorite place to live. But if you couldn't live there, what would be your second choice?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 3 points 1 year ago

Singapore. I am half Asian now and Singapore is one of the few cities in Asia I could imagine living in. It's vibrant, but still works, and it is far greener than you'd think. It's not Disneyland with the death penalty.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [ninjachewie](#) 7 points 1 year ago

What do you think contributed most to your success?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 15 points 1 year ago

No TV.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [jesseab](#) 3 points 1 year ago

Can you paraphrase your argument against The Singularity?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 11 points 1 year ago

In short: Timing. Longer: it will happen but only be visible in retrospect. During the time, it will just seem like incremental change.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [nickoneill](#) 4 points 1 year ago

It seems like you spend a fair bit of time thinking about the future, probably just in general as well. Where's your day-to-day

**AMAs are scheduled in Eastern Standard Time (GMT-5:00).**

		Person	Description
2 Dec	3pm	<a href="#">Larry Livermore</a>	Musician, Founder of Lookout Records, Author
2 Dec	3pm	<a href="#">The Academy Is...</a>	Musicians
2 Dec	6pm	<a href="#">Greg Lansky</a>	Creator and director of adult films
2 Dec	7pm	<a href="#">Asa Akira</a>	Adult Film Star
3 Dec	2pm	<a href="#">Charlie Bresler and Roy Head</a>	Exec. Director, <a href="#">The Life You Can Save</a> , Development Media Int'l
7 Dec	2pm	<a href="#">Tim Roth</a>	Actor, <a href="#">Postponed</a>
7 Dec	2pm	<a href="#">Kim MacQuarrie</a>	Documentary filmmaker, author
7 Dec	4pm	<a href="#">Taniya Nayak</a>	Designer, TV Personality
8 Dec	2pm	<a href="#">H. Jon Benjamin</a>	Comedian, Voice Actor
9 Dec	4pm	<a href="#">Cat Cora</a>	Chef, TV Personality
9 Dec	7pm	<a href="#">Taryn Southern</a>	Actor
10 Dec	3pm	<a href="#">Peter Singer</a>	Philosopher

[see more...](#)

## Submitting:

AMAs should be about:

- Something uncommon that plays a central role in your life, or
- A truly interesting and unique event.
- [Explanation and examples of this rule can be found here](#)

All AMAs require proof.

- Proof should be included in the text of the post when you start your AMA. If it

"thinking time" look like? Do you have a time scheduled during the day to stop writing/beekeeping/whatever and just think? Do you focus on a particular problem or idea to think about or just let your mind run wild? Considering your quantified self connection, have you found any useful tips for finding your most creative moments?

permalink

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 7 points 1 year ago

I block out lots of time to 1) Read (books)  
2) Think in silence 3) Sketch and doodle 4)  
Go for walks

permalink parent

[\[-\]](#) [nickoneill](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Awesome, thanks. Any plans to put  
select sketches/doodles online?

permalink parent

[\[-\]](#) [JRFricke](#) 6 points 1 year ago

Out of all the things you have done in your life,  
what are you the most proud of and why?

permalink

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 10 points 1 year ago

Having three children who are now adults  
and not in jail.

permalink parent

[\[-\]](#) [ArsenicAndRoses](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Have you heard of the [Technocopia project](#)? I'm  
curious to hear what a self described "techno-  
optimist" like yourself has to say on it :)

permalink

[\[-\]](#) [hephaestusness](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I may be biased, but I would love to hear  
the answer to this...

permalink parent

[\[-\]](#) [anotherjohn](#) 3 points 1 year ago

A beard without a mustache? Please explain  
that unusual choice.

permalink

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 3 points 1 year ago

When I first grew a beard after highschool  
(1971) the mustache bothered me to no

must remain confidential, you can  
[message it to the moderators](#) and we  
can verify you.

- [See here for tips concerning proof and examples](#)

## Request threads

- Requests must be reasonable and realistic. All requests must have 5 questions for the person being requested.
- **Requests for celebrities must contain their public contact info in the body of the request.**
- [See here for information about requests](#)

## Commenting:

Please note:

- All initial responses to posters must contain a properly punctuated question.
- **Attempting to bypass this rule by adding a ? to a non question will result in a permanent ban.**
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Useful Links!

- 1 [Step-by-step guide to doing an AMA](#)
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end. So I shaved it and kept the beard.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [run\\_zeno\\_run](#) 4 points 1 year ago

Hey Kevin! Some questions of mine, feel free to answer some or all:

- 1.) How has the internet (or tech in general) of today surprised you compared to your expectations from the early days of Wired and the Well.
- 2.) What's your opinion of bitcoin?
- 3.) Do you think the maker movement and interest in all things cool tools is the start of a new personal manufacturing industry (similar to the PC revolution) or is it just for tinkerers and hobbyists?
- 4.) As a fellow spiritual person, I feel the silicon valley brand of transhumanist futurism (the dominant vision of the future for many techno-progressives) is too materialistic and devoid of what William James called 'religious experience'. Any thoughts on rational spirituality moving forward?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 4 points 1 year ago

1) We did not really get how much of the web would be user generated. 2) The principles of Bitcoin (block chains, etc.) will be very disruptive. It makes money a type of communication instead of value. 3) I think makers will shift the manufacturing landscape. 4) I bet there will be new religions around technology, someday.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [anotherjohn](#) 3 points 1 year ago

Wikipedia sez: *When he was 27 Kevin Kelly was a freelance photo journalist, and got locked out of his hostel in Jerusalem due to being late for a curfew. He slept on the supposed spot where Jesus was crucified, and in the morning had a religious experience. He decided to live as if he only had six months left to live. He went and lived peacefully with his parents, anonymously*



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*gave away his money, visited his friends, and came back home to "die" on the night of Halloween.*

True?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 3 points 1 year ago

True. I told the full story on the very first episode of This American Life, one they called Shoulda Been Dead.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [rishi\\_sambora](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Can you please talk more about your experience?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [jeffreyguterman](#) 2 points 1 year ago

In a tweet, you once suggested that content we have today, say on Facebook and Twitter, will be gone in 25 or 50 years. Are you confident these companies will not be around and/or transition? Also, are you able to provide brief, clear, simple vision of how laypersons might expect to reliably store data in next 25 years? Thanks for consideration.

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

It is very unlikely that ANY company at its peak today will be around in 50 years. They just don't have long lifespans.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [zorroTrismegistus](#) 1 point 1 year ago

what's that have to do with data longevity? things posted to usenet in the 80s are still available today... and storage was relatively expensive back then...

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [Igaertner](#) 2 points 1 year ago

DO you believe the social media excess will lead to a luddite period soon? Are the make movements a sign of this?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 5 points 1 year ago

I see no evidence at all of a retreat in the luddite fashion. People will (and should) take vacations and sabbaticals from constant connection -- but leave forever -- not going to happen.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[[-](#)] [AubreyPlazasButtHair](#) 2 points 1 year ago

As a radical techno-optimist, what do you think is something people believe technology can/will do that you think it *can't*?

Also, what's your favorite Christmas song?

[permalink](#)

[[-](#)] [kevin2kelly](#) [[S](#)] 4 points 1 year ago

People often think technology will make their lives simpler. That's utopian.

Favorite Christmas song: Michael Jackson (the kid) singing I saw mama kissing Santa Claus.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[[-](#)] [luciddreamist](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Why is it utopian? Care to elaborate?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[[-](#)] [AubreyPlazasButtHair](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I think one of us is confused about with the word "optimist" means.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[[-](#)] [kevin2kelly](#) [[S](#)] 6 points 1 year ago

I am protopian, not utopian. I believe in progress, that things are getting better by a little bit. I don't believe that we can eliminate problems without introducing new ones.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[[-](#)] [AubreyPlazasButtHair](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Hm I think I get what you mean now.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[[-](#)] [ChuckEye](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I've been reading Wired since the beginning, which means I've aged alongside the magazine. I know the design has always been cutting

edge, but am I the only one who gets frustrated by the 6 pt type they're using now days for some of their blurbs? I realize I'm in bifocals now, but seriously—the bespectacled geek wants to be able to read the trivial notions as much as any other reader...

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 5 points 1 year ago

You are not the only one frustrated. I fought many battles for the sake of legibility. I lost.

**permalink** **parent**

[\[-\]](#) [lomoeffect](#) 2 points 1 year ago

What is your favourite country in the world? Do you have a country in particular where you like to photograph?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 3 points 1 year ago

For a photographer India can't be beat, but its a tough country to travel in many ways.

**permalink** **parent**

[\[-\]](#) [deleted] 1 year ago

[deleted]

[\[-\]](#) [ollyosborne](#) 1 point 1 year ago

:(

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [toastedtwister](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Thoughts on Facebook?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 5 points 1 year ago

I don't understand how they will make money. But I said the same thing about Google when they started.

**permalink** **parent**

[\[-\]](#) [PerceptionHacker](#) 2 points 1 year ago

How much has seeing technology as the 7th kingdom of life changed your relationship to technology? As In, After reading What Technology Wants. I have a much deeper appreciation for our tools and see the Technium all around me. Thank you for taking the time to write it!

[permalink](#)

[\[-\] Jaybowles](#) 2 points 1 year ago

What are some implications of a 'complete' quantified self, i.e. a total representation of a human life in digital form?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\] zorroTrismegistus](#) 2 points 1 year ago

do you have any comments or observations on neomonasticism and it's relationship to technology / technoculture / global business?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\] akshatrathi](#) 2 points 1 year ago

What do you think about human longevity? Will we break the 120-year barrier and live for hundreds of years? If yes, when?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I am not expecting to live to 120. Like AI, I think this will take longer than we hope.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\] IanWaring](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Received my first copy of Cool Tools today. Brilliant book, been reading it over and over for 5 hours today. It will inspire my father, kids and my grand kids alike. Class job!

Seems to be out of stock now before it got out of the USA, and the \$999 speculators are now active. Any reprints planned?

I have another 4 on order, 3 in the UK that were due 9th Jan, another 1 on Amazon USA for \$57 inc shipping, currently awaiting new stock.

Ps: cool that Louis Rossetto did a review on tires of all things. Guess he's the same Louis that started Wired back in 93?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I did a reprint of Cool Tools which should be at Amazon soon. I am hoping their "temporarily out of stock" is just that, temporary.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\] IanWaring](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Thank you.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [mind\\_bomber](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Hi Kevin,

Thank you for doing this AMA. My question is, which technology companies (other than IBM, Intel, and Google) do you think are driving innovation?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [savevinyl](#) 2 points 1 year ago

What are the 2-3 movements in tech you're seeing right now that most interest you? Top of my head I'm guessing 1) Makers Movement 2) Screen Ecology 3) Quantified Self, but are there any more?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 5 points 1 year ago

3D printing. E-money. Wearables.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [rimmortal](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Any thoughts on the consumerization of biotech (i.e. DIYBio but I think it's more than that)?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I think biotech is going to move much slower than silicon tech for a while. Our bodies will be the last to accelerate.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [rimmortal](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Agreed any thoughts on the first Biotech Moonshots? :)

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I am now closing the session. Thanks Reddit for the great questions.

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [BuffaloSoljah](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Mr. Kelly I wish I had a clever question to ask you but I merely wanted to say 'What Technology Wants' is one of my all time favorite books. I learn something new every time I re-read it! Thanks for your insight I've gained a

substantial amount of knowledge from your work sir.

**permalink**

[\[-\] literocola431](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Why did the dangerroom section die and can you bring it back?

**permalink**

[\[-\] mattlandis](#) 2 points 1 year ago

What do you find the strongest argument for God?

**permalink**

[\[-\] hephaestusness](#) 3 points 1 year ago

Hi Kevin,

First of all, thank you for taking the time to answer questions. I have been a reader of WIRED for quite a few years and love what you folks do!

I would like to draw your attention to [The Technocopia Project](#). We are a new Hackerspace in MA that is focused on fully automating sustainable manufacturing from the plants up.

“ The Technocopia Project is the outline of the long term goals of Technocopia. Explicitly, Technocopia intends to support the development of open-source technology that will allow any individual, family, or community to sustainably and independently satisfy their own humanitarian needs. We define these needs loosely as things like (but not limited to): nutritious food, clean water, shelter, electricity, medicine, free access to knowledge (i.e. access to the internet), etc.. The general plan is outlined, as follows:

- Build the tools that build all tools.
- Create an independent and sustainable source(s) of all required raw materials and energy.
- Refine these sustainably sourced raw

materials into usable materials.

- Encapsulate these three parts into one integrated prototype factory unit, called "Prometheus".
- Use Prometheus to replicate itself.
- Distribute these child units to locally, and support them until they are self sustaining.
- Use the children to replicate themselves, distributing them nationally and globally.
- Enjoy relative global abundance, peace and prosperity. >While on the surface this plan may seem far fetched, we can assure you that every piece of technology required by this plan to succeed has, in fact, already been invented and developed, in one form or another. The "only" thing we have to do is take all of these technologies and blend them together and implement them in a way that empowers individuals, families, and communities.

My question is, how do you see automation of the workforce transitioning to post-scarcity(if at all)?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 6 points 1 year ago

Automation of work will create new scarcities while filling the world with plentitude in other ways. New scarcities will be such things as human attention, human relations, silence, errors, questions.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [hephaestusness](#) 3 points 1 year ago

How then might you imagine displaced service workers surviving? Should every have an automatic right to the plentitude? We think so and are using the open source model as applied to manufacturing. [As a roboticist](#) whose works has been used in everything from manufacturing to neurosurgery i have watched closely the steady displacement of the workforce by

various pieces of automation. It seems to me that now is the time to begin questioning the idea of scarcity based economics, and to begin to discuss what comes after that. It seems like a horrifying distopia to suggest that everyone will be forced to sell ones attention just to survive...

If that is not what you are suggesting, then the discussion of rights to the surplus needs to be addressed.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [Rukuku](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Is it possible for the Technium to produce a technology that will destroy all other tech and its creators? Or is it inherently a good force that in aggregate does good?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 3 points 1 year ago

No one technology will rule them all, but cheap ubiquitous artificial intelligence WILL disrupt all other technologies.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [abstrachhole](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I just had my first daughter 5 months ago and am thinking more about what I can do to make extra money (start a business, grow mushrooms to sell to restaurants, etc). Do you have any advice or ideas about being a new father and starting a business?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Starting a biz and starting a family at the same time is hairy. I don't have any other advice that what you usually hear beyond "be useful" and "do stuff that matters."

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [\[deleted\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

So.... Steampunk or High Fantasy?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

Steampunk.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[ - ] [JamesLiptonAsks](#) 1 point 1 year ago

- Your favourites and idols\*
- The thing that isn't mainstream but one should check out
- What are you most pessimistic about
- The epiphany that you never forget
- The sacrifice you had to make in order to establish your career

\*(suggestions: quote, movie, tv show, book, fictional character, rule of thumb, song/musician, artist, philosopher, scientist, director, historian, author, historical figure, mentor, comedian...)

[permalink](#)

[ - ] [carlmyhill](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I find it hard to be techno-optimistic. Humans seem to have a very hard time engaging with the threat of climate change. A lot of energy goes into denial and most of the rest goes into business as usual. I find it hard to be optimistic for the planet my kids will inherit. We need to do some urgent things, like stop burning oil and gas, but we don't seem to be able to kick the habit. How do you remain optimistic?

[permalink](#)

[ - ] [kevin2kelly](#) [ S ] 2 points 1 year ago

I read a lot of history. The degree of hopelessness in the past, which we overcame, puts today's despair into perspective. Also, I have children.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[ - ] [val\\_anon](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I spoke to you once about consciousness and psychedelics. Are you excited about tools (heart-rate, EEG, GSR, wearable devices in general) that purport to help make us more aware of our bodies and minds?

In the short-term, what would you personally use, or desire to be created in this space?

[permalink](#)

[ - ] [kevin2kelly](#) [ S ] 3 points 1 year ago

I am pro-info. While there are limits to what information can yield, I think we are far

away from extracting all we can from measuring ourselves all the time.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[–] [abstracthole](#) 1 point 1 year ago

What do you do each day that brings you the most peace of mind?

[permalink](#)

[–] [kevin2kelly](#) [S] 2 points 1 year ago

Soaking in my hot tub under the sky right before climbing into bed.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[–] [ruby-n-max](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I'm fascinated by your story on TAL about convincing yourself that you had six months to live. [Shoulda been dead](#)

How do you suggest someone adopt that mindset? Does that experience still affect your life today? Talk more about it, I'd love to hear more.

[permalink](#)

[–] [kevin2kelly](#) [S] 3 points 1 year ago

I am not sure I would recommend this experiment. I am glad to have done it, but I didn't really choose to. That made it easier to do -- it was an assignment. But I do still go back to that point of having no regrets, of being fully ready (but not willing) to die. Reviewing my regrets is something I revisit every now and then.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[–] [IanWaring](#) 1 point 1 year ago

What was your favourite thing about Japan? Ever had the urge to travel through China?

[permalink](#)

[–] [kevin2kelly](#) [S] 1 point 1 year ago

I've been to China twice this year already. The thing I liked about hitchhiking in Japan is that the person giving you a ride was socially obligated to find you the next ride! I can't say if this was only for gaijin, but it sure worked for me!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[–] [anotherjohn](#) 1 point 1 year ago

< > discussions in /r/lamA X

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11 points · 593 comments

[lamA 63 % burn victim \(third degree, except luckily my face is second degree - it will heal.\) AMA!](#)

Three years from now, which will be more popular: Facebook, G+, or something else?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Something else.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [durthar](#) 1 point 1 year ago

First, I want to say thanks for your contributions to ecology/systems thinking. Specifically, "New Rules", "Better than Free" and "1000 True Fans". I use or refer to them almost daily.

My question is: Do you foresee a clash between the ever-increasing divide between Luddites and Early Adopters, Old Money and New Startups, and a fallout of local sustainability?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Friction and conflict between those long established, recently established, challenging, and about to challenge will never cease.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [durthar](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Will rural cities be able to sustain in 20 years? Technology comes in, money goes out.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [mattlandis](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Any chance you'll write more on subject of Amish and technology?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I would like to write more about the Amish. This summer I had a chance to stay overnight with an Amish family and go to church in their horse buggy Sunday morning, and as always I learned so much more about their curious (to me) ways. They really do operated with a different world view that I am not sure is transferable outside of their society.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [rustyrueff](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Hey Kevin, great to see you on Reddit. Thanks for the Cool Tools "Catalog". My wife said it was the modern day Sears and Roebuck catalog. Very cool. What's the latest with Silver Cord and how is the Technium influencing that story?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

We are on target to deliver a printed book of the complete Silver Cord graphic novel this summer to all the Kickstarter funders who supported us. What I've learned doing this: it's all in the details. Like building a house, it's all the stuff you don't notice that take most of the time.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [ollyosborne](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Hi Kevin, What are your views towards ephemeral media, such as Snapchat? Do you think that, looking forward to our own future as well as the generations below us, that we need to begin setting 'data expiration' dates on the content that we post on the Web? It seems as if the current self self-censors in the present as well as the future in order to properly contextualise the content that they are putting on the web. Viktor M.S. firmly argues that humans natural ability to forget needs to be (re)introduced to the digital age. Would be great to hear your thoughts. Olly Osborne.

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I am glad Snapchat is there. As an option. I'd like to see other options for ephemeral media, or continuous degrees of communication. How about a way to whisper online? But I think these will always be just part of the media ecosystem, and maybe not the central part.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [Deschooled\\_funfmal](#) 1 point 1 year ago

do you think we are tools of technologies or rather tools for "technium"? what do you think about "convivial" tools? can we reach conviviality with our modern view of technology

that it should be faster and more powerful?  
what do you think about energy equity for  
automobiles and energy consuming? can we  
reach equity with the capital mentality of always  
selling faster and bigger cars? and for last what  
do you think about Telsa car? thank you sir for  
doing this AmA.

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 2 points 1 year ago

I drove a prototype Tesla, and I was  
impressed by its power. It was almost  
scary. I think they'll work out the battery  
issues. I have no bet on Tesla, but I would  
bet on electric cars for the long term. In  
China, electric scooters are the norm.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [DavidWMiller](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Hi Kevin, this Dave from the fiberglass shop in  
Lancaster. What is your view on the future of  
3D printing as an industry? Would you think it  
wise to start a business of that nature?

[permalink](#)

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Yes, I think 3D printing could be make into  
a business today. The proliferation of home  
models will only fuel the need for  
professionals. But this will be a horrifically  
fast-paced business, with constant  
obsolescence. Then again, folks like you  
might be able to located a quiet niche --  
maybe like repairing 3D printers!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [DavidWMiller](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I may call you tomorrow to pick your  
brain on the feasibility of institutional  
grade printers, as I am flying to the  
west coast to meet a team of  
engineers. There is a first time for  
everything. Even flying, ;)

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

[\[-\]](#) [ArthurEloi115](#) 1 point 1 year ago

What does it takes for a foreigner to write in an  
american magazine? Is there any other way of  
learning their textual structure that it is not

reading?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

It's tough. I am sadly monolingual, so I can't help.

**permalink** **parent**

[\[-\]](#) [satype](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Having homeschooled your children, have you come to any principles about when to introduce technology and how much? Should children try to have an analog experience prior to a certain age?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [kevin2kelly](#) [\[S\]](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Like a lot of parents we limit access to certain time periods, and to certain ages. Those may shift as we learn more about specific technologies but the idea remains.

**permalink** **parent**

[\[-\]](#) [hackergirl11](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Would you like to imagine the future with kids ?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [Fartweaver](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Hi Kevin,

I read your book "Out of Control" years back, and it was the main catalyst for me enrolling at university and studying biology and philosophy. Thankyou!

Would you care to revisit the themes of that book, and comment on what you think may have significantly changed since you wrote it?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [chronographer](#) 1 point 1 year ago

What Fiction books are you reading at the moment?

**permalink**

[\[-\]](#) [chuckwagun](#) 1 point 1 year ago

I was wondering if you could briefly summarise your religious beliefs, and how they intersect with your technological beliefs?

And how do you like living in Pacifica? I recently moved to San Francisco and often think about

moving there as I spend a lot of time surfing there!

I loved 'What Technology Wants', especially the bits about the Amish.

Keep up the good work!

**permalink**

[\[-\] Iplaymeinreallife](#) 1 point 1 year ago

There's no magazine called 'Weird', is there?

**permalink**

[\[-\] imar0ckstar](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Your magazine is the only magazine I read on the reg. Thanks for all the awesome articles.

**permalink**

[\[-\] UNOBTANIUM](#) 1 point 1 year ago

Hey Kev,

What long and short term technological solutions have you conceived of to ameliorate the terrible air quality in China?

**permalink**

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