

(Front cover)



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**Every revolution in history** succeeded only in replacing one government by another, and usually employed violence.

The American Revolution of 2027 will produce no government at all, and will employ no violence at all. It has begun already, and on a few simple key assumptions, stated in this book, its success is as inevitable and unstoppable as an avalanche. Every government is actually a fiction; there are men and women who issue orders and wield guns and wear uniforms, but when those people walk away from it “government” will be revealed for the sordid pretense that it is, and will evaporate like a bad dream.

In “Transition to Liberty” Jim Davies chronicles the five years *preceding* that revolution, detailing the stages through which society will probably pass, so equipping the reader to prepare, survive and prosper in a period of unprecedented turbulence and government hostility. Contrary to the pessimists who think government is too powerful ever to be overcome, this story shows how on the contrary, there is nothing at all as powerful as an idea whose time has arrived – nor any slight possibility of ruling people who no longer consent to be governed.

This book complements his earlier “A Vision of Liberty”, which portrays the three years that will follow 2027.



Jim was raised in England and holds a Master's from Cambridge, and has worked in both a corporate environment and as the owner of a small business. He has lived in America since 1978 and has actively promoted individual liberty since 1980. In 2006 he led the team that launched the interactive learning center “The On Line Freedom Academy.”

# **Transition to Liberty**

*America, 2023-2027*

by Jim Davies

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## *Dedication*

This book is dedicated to those who yearn for liberty, but cannot yet perceive that it will ever be experienced.

Resolve to serve no more, and you are at once freed. I do not ask that you place hands upon the tyrant to topple him over, but simply that you support him no longer; then you will behold him, like a great Colossus whose pedestal has been pulled away, fall of his own weight and break in pieces.

*Etienne de la Boëtie, 1553.*



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## *Foreword*

This book is a prediction about what life will be like in America during the period 2023 through 2027, in the form of a chronicle written afterwards. As such a great deal of imagination has been used, and without doubt most of the details will prove to be wrong; but the *kind* of events portrayed here will certainly take place. Accordingly it will, the author hopes, prove priceless in preparing the reader not just to survive those turbulent years but to grasp new opportunities while the world seems to be falling apart.

That five-year period may begin rather sooner than 2023 or rather later; that's one of the uncertainties. 2022 appears likely to become a “pivot” year, based on the progress of The On Line Freedom Academy, which provides quite a thorough education in the nature of human freedom, which can (at this writing) still be found on the Net at [tolfa.us](http://tolfa.us) and which will be obtainable from any of millions of CD copies by the time government destroys that web site; so just ask around for one. The essential factors are that:

1. Academy graduates bring one of their friends to join it each year, and
2. If they are working for government, they quit.

Early progress gave reason to expect  $2^{23}$  or over 8 million graduates by the end of 2022, and  $2^{28}$  or 268 million (the whole literate US population) five years later in 2027, the year when government will evaporate for want of anyone to employ. 8 million is still too small a number significantly to affect the government employee attrition rate but 16, 32,

64 and 128 million most certainly are big enough and so it's in those five years that it will unravel. Those are the years this book describes.

A Vision of Liberty, by this author, describes what life will be like in the resulting free society during its first three very exciting years following the day in 2027 that it begins, known as "E-Day." A worthwhile companion book.

TOLFA students are strongly advised to live conventional, low-profile lives while awaiting E-Day, ignoring politics and eschewing public protests as completely irrelevant, and generally conforming to government's repulsive laws so as not to place themselves at risk. Aside from resigning any government job, the only unusual thing most of us will do is to home-school our children so as to keep them free of government indoctrination, and refuse to obey any draft to kill the government's enemies; others may draw different lines in the sand but it's advisable to keep them few. Why cause difficulties, when the age of government will end so soon, by means of so simple a program of action?

Peaceful though we will try to be, when government people find attrition rates are going out of control so that they can no longer get their orders carried out, they will certainly thrash around in panic and try to stop the avalanche – in vain, as this book will show.

In 1861 the Federal Government waged war rather than allow Southern States to secede, so killing over half a million of those it pretended to exist to protect. In 1917 it prolonged another terribly destructive war so as to extend its influence overseas, and yet again in 1941 for the same reason. It killed over 100,000 more Americans in futile

wars in Korea and Vietnam, then in 2001 it started the first of two wars in the Middle East, still in progress at this writing, to suppress Muslim hostility that was itself provoked by six decades of US foreign policy that favored the State of Israel. All this is in addition to the distortion government creates as damage incidental to its exercise of power; for example in 1931 it intervened in the economy after a stock-market correction and so created a Depression whose misery lasted an unprecedented decade and a half.

When the German government faced inevitable defeat in 1945, its leader tried to take down the whole country with it – ordering that German land be “scorched” in front of the advancing Allied armies. Happily for Germans, Albert Speer risked death and earned honor by disobeying; but the order well shows the attitude of collapsing governments.

There is therefore no known limit to what it will do when it feels itself threatened – or merely sees an opportunity to flex its muscle. The chaos it will cause in 2023-27, and how we can survive it, is the subject of this book.

Lastly here, **a note about some terms used** in this book: “Freedom-School Graduate”, “Re-educated American” and “White Marketeer” are more or less interchangeable, and refer to those who have understood what is taught in one of the *freedom schools* like TOLFA above, and so have been *re-educated* about human beings and governments, and therefore understand and take part in a progressively larger and more important underground *free market*, which is called “black” by government people but which in reality is white and honorable and fair. “Gigabox” refers to the very low-cost, write-once, read-only storage devices expected to be developed from today's Flash or Thumb USB drives.



## *1: Tremor*

In 2006 there began a way to put theories of a free society in to practice, and that project grew well for 16 years. Several hundred participated at once, after which a slow, organic, exponential growth took place.

The idea is simple: students join an interactive school for free, work diligently and steadily through its 18 segments and learn why market anarchism is not just a good option, but logically the *only* option consistent with reason, intellectual integrity, human nature and the survival of the race. After graduation they are asked to do two things:

- Find at least one of their friends per year to join the Academy and guide them through it, and otherwise
- Enjoy a normal life, preparing for the coming free society but taking no unusual action except to quit any government job they may hold

*Nothing* else is needed, yet this will fulfill the three indispensable prerequisites for a free society:

1. The entire literate population must gain a good understanding of freedom and free markets and therefore desire to experience them
2. They must all gain it within about one generation, so that momentum doesn't dissipate, and
3. The whole institution of government must disappear

No other strategic plan, past or present, even addresses all those requirements - and so while most of them help, no other pro-freedom activity can possibly bring about a free society and at first TOLFA was the only show in town. Indeed, one danger was that the FedGov might make such an appalling mess that it might collapse in chaos *before* a universal re-education has taken place, and the result of that would have been something very different from freedom.

The Academy suffered only a very few failures, and they were of people who declined to apply themselves by engaging the brain, doing the work it prescribes and following the logic. Instead they retained whatever mythology with which they entered the process, and rushed through the curriculum like bats out of hell.

Those few apart, growth proceeded well through 2022. Instead of there being just a few thousand well-informed market anarchists in America as before, the quiet, systematic, unspectacular one-on-one introduction to The On Line Freedom Academy by each of its graduates each year grew that number to six or seven million. Still not nearly enough, of course, to replace government with a free market - and probably not even enough to be noticed by government as a potential threat to its continued existence; and that's just fine - not hearing the wheel squeak, they paid it no heed and did it no damage (not that its CD replication system would allow much damage to be done.) Meanwhile our wheel went on quietly turning, doubling our numbers each year until, as de la Boétie so brilliantly foresaw, government collapsed for want of support.

2022, though, was the year in which significant numbers of people started to leave government employ. Six or seven

million is still less than 3% of the adult population and since most of them had previously been making a living *outside* government service, their effect on government attrition rates was negligible; after then, however, the rate went up steeply as this book describes. Government's ability to function suffered; it became unglued. Here's an example of what took place in that pivotal year, rather in the way a small tremor triggers an avalanche.

David Keegan was working as a mid-level exec in a State government office. A few months earlier his friend in the local recreation club suggested he might be interested to check out some ideas about freedom, and he joined the Academy and found his outlook on life completely altered; he now understood in some detail and depth that every human being is (and logically *must be*) by right his own self-owner, and therefore that the entire institution of government is antithetical to human nature and a violator of that right. He knew he must quit what he was doing, every day between weekends, for he could not live with his new self in good conscience, nor enhance his primary asset, until he did. So he started planning how.

It wasn't quite as simple as writing a resignation letter, for he had a wife and two children to support and a pension to anticipate. It was a while since he had to sell his skills, but he did remember not to let go of one branch without taking firm hold of the next. So, for whom will he work?

David learned that everyone actually works for *himself*, and that it's important to understand one's own skills inventory and to offer them to the best bidder. Still, it was scary to leave the cocoon of a warm bureaucracy, reliably funded by money stolen by force or fraud at which his boss was an

expert, and enter the real-world job market where payments depend on fulfillment of voluntarily-drawn contracts.

His job was to help administer the State's laws about vehicle insurance, to make sure insurers paid claims properly so that they could retain their licenses to do business. He now knew of course that such third-party licensure is repugnant to a proper understanding of free exchange, but he figured that in the coming free-market society there would still be a demand for insurance, so that an accident would not wipe out the finances of an unlucky car owner. So he reckoned there might be an opportunity somewhere in the insurance business.

He put out some feelers on the Old Boy Network, and landed a couple of interviews with companies he knew. One of them had an outstanding record of meeting claims, but charged high premiums so had been losing business, and his interviewer liked David's understanding of his trade and offered him a job as a claims assessor; that is, making sure that a claim is genuine and then arranging for repairs to be made - well, but at low cost to the Company. Sounded good - until the pay rate was named. He was looking at a 15% cut, and he mentioned his concern.

The interviewer explained that that's all the job is worth, in the market, but liked David and empathized. What made him consider leaving the DMV, he asked? - and David explained that there were two factors. One was his sense of self-esteem; he no longer wished to work for an organization that used force in every aspect of its operations; he now understood the ethical dimension. The second however was his judgment that within a very few years, the DMV would go out of business - because he had



understood the power of exponential growth and knew that the Colossus must shortly topple. He wanted to be well established elsewhere when the inevitable crash took place.

The interviewer was astonished at this, and asked for more information. David took the chance to describe TOLFA and suggested he took its entrance questionnaire and join it himself. At his follow-up interview a week later he found he had done so, and so there developed a strong mutual respect. He couldn't raise his offer price, but David sensed he has his eyes on him as a good candidate for promotion especially when the company found itself in the coming period of turbulent change, and so reckoned this was the job for him. He took the leap, and in the coming months was able to save his new boss useful sums of money by negotiating repairs that fix the actual damage suffered, but no more; the savings permitted lower premiums and market share was regained. Naturally, he earned some raises.

Five years later all government evaporated for want of employees, the world radically changed and new opportunities for company growth arose, across lines drawn by the former States, and across risk categories - unrestricted by laws and regulations. David was promoted to Regional Development Director and never looked back.

That story was typical of millions, in and after 2022. The jobs vacated (as above, in David's DMV) were progressively harder and eventually impossible to fill; therefore they did not get done and every government office faced a melt-down. It didn't affect the eventual outcome but the more senior of the employees left first - not the topmost brass (the government junkies who, like McCain for the Iraq war, were the "last ones standing") but

those two or three levels down, without whose management the offices became as rudderless as the torpedoed Bismarck. Those are the people best equipped to see the handwriting on the wall first, and it helped bring about the collapse all the sooner.

It was fun to see what that top brass tried to do, to stop the egress of indispensable employees. At first they just promoted to the vacated management spots people less than qualified for the responsibilities and so gave an extra twist to the spiral of public disgust with government "service"; then they tried raising the pay offered. Since in the same period taxpaying compliance was falling off a cliff and few were fool enough to lend them money, they had to print it - so the pay "raises" just gave successive extra twists to a spiral of inflation. Their problem was then that a re-educated real world outside was increasingly trading in gold or gold certificates (hard-copy and electronic) and so they fast became trapped in hyper-inflation and their remaining employees wondered how many barrow loads of paper would buy a week's groceries when the food store was flouting the now unenforcible legal-tender laws. Were there then prohibitions against resigning from government jobs - rather like the "tour extensions" thrust upon uniformed employees in Iraq? Later chapters here will show, but the reader can guess already how eagerly their duties would be performed, by those forced to sit at a desk they wish to leave! In any case, the Brass could write as many laws as they liked, but all were toothless without someone to administer their enforcement, and by that time the government's acute staff shortage was very well known to the public at large - and so were deservedly scoffed.

Étienne de la Boëtie, in his grave, chortled with glee.

## *2: The Slide Begins*

By 2023, 18 million people were employed by government directly (Federal, State and Local) and another 32 million worked for it indirectly as contractors or in quasi-government organizations like the Post Office.

The proportion of work done by those contractors for government varied greatly. Some, like computer makers, sold only about 15% of their business to government buyers, while others, like “defense contractors”, served but one single buyer: the DoD. So employees in those companies who had learned that government was a malevolent organization irreconcilable with human nature and wellbeing had a problem: should they leave their jobs, or stay, or try to negotiate a position that produced nothing for government customers? It wasn't easy, but as each graduated from the Academy he or she did face the issue and make his decision, and all those who reckoned that more than a small part of his working day was spent serving government took steps to quit. Some 22 of the 32 million came to that decision eventually, meaning that for our purpose in understanding history the number of people working for government was in effect (18+22=) 40 million.

The attrition problem was just coming to government attention by the start of 2023.

About 3% of government employees retired every year, and another 5% left for other work and were (normally) replaced – a total attrition, or turnover, of 8% gross but zero, net. That had been so for many decades, and was “business as usual” although it varied greatly among various types of job, with higher rates being noted in boring

or unpopular activities like TSA baggage screening, and in professions in high demand, like IT. But by the end of 2022, it had risen across the board by almost two percentage points; and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) took notice.

The 40 million people engaged in working for government directly or indirectly made up one quarter of the work force in America – and while TOLFA and other freedom school graduates made up by year's end over 3% overall, their penetration of government employees at that time was only 2% - because, naturally, people working for government had been more reluctant to join a school teaching about freedom than people working for free enterprise, or not in the work force at all.

That 2%, however, meant that by end-2022, government attrition rates had shot up from its normal 8% to 10%; and that had a lot of managers worried. Even more worrying was the fact that most of the increase was found to have taken place in professional or middle-management grades, which were especially hard to replace quickly. The great liberty walk-out had begun to bite, and in March 2023 a GAO task force was appointed to find out why and to recommend what to do about it.

Paul Taylor was its leader, and he set about his task with vigor. Of all the departments in the FedGov's alphabet soup, the GAO was the least objectionable; its mission was to oversee administration in every other department, to spot waste and propose improvements in efficiency. Paul's training in financial auditing made him a good fit.

He had his team interview Human Resource managers in half a dozen key departments including that of Defense, and he himself did the same in a few key contractors, for he

had heard reports that some were missing deadlines and had given the excuse that key personnel had left unexpectedly. So one of his first trips was to the North West to see Boeing's chief of personnel.

The defense contractor reported the same as Paul had seen elsewhere; elevated attrition rates, especially among engineers and managers hard to replace quickly – except that the increase in the rate was *double* what had been evident inside government. He also learned something of the reason, for his Boeing informant said he had conducted interviews with those who had handed in a resignation, to see if there was a common factor.

There was; and that factor was that all of the unexpected resignations were by people who said they no longer wanted to support the institution of government.

Boeing had been able to reassign most of those – at least the ones they least wanted to lose – but that still left the important Defense Division seriously undermanned. Paul asked if he might interview some of those reassigned, and with the agreement of the individuals concerned he did get that opportunity.

Each confirmed that he or she had, indeed, recently come to the belief that government was not only a parasite on the face of a free society but an actually malevolent institution in and of itself, unalterably opposed to human happiness and progress. Paul learned they had reached that conclusion after taking a course on the subject to which a friend had introduced him – and it appeared that there was not just one such course, but several, in rivalry. All seemed however to be telling the same message in about the same manner. He asked whether he might have a copy of any of them, and all those he interviewed were only too happy to hand him a

CD – along with an offer to help him through any difficulty he encountered!

Paul was astounded. He knew of plenty of waste and inefficiency, but had never wavered in his belief that wise and frugal government was indispensable to a free and orderly society; yet here were otherwise intelligent and hardworking individuals questioning everything he found in the Constitution and all he'd learned in Civics.

Back at the office, that Spring of 2023, the results from each team member were compared and collated and a Report was presented to the Chief in July. They were more or less uniform; a small series of underground education facilities was spreading through society to undermine the very foundations of democracy, and were succeeding. Just in time for the presentation, the latest quarterly reports arrived on Paul's desk, and the news was bad: the attrition rate in major FedGov departments had risen to 11.2% and work was suffering: output delays were measurably longer.

The GAO's Comptroller General – Paul's boss – took a summary of these findings to the White House for the next Cabinet Meeting, and presented a summary. “Does this affect the military?” barked the Commander in Chief.

“Yes, Sir. The rate of contract renewal is lower than at any time since 2009.”

The President was astonished. Morale had been so low in that year that a draft had very nearly been implemented, so as to finish off the Afghan War and keep enough of a force in the Mid-East to intimidate Iran and Pakistan, to say nothing of the most important target, Saudi Arabia. Yet in the dozen years following, most of those objectives had been achieved and the occupations were no longer hazardous. All expectations had been that there would be

ample recruits for a volunteer army and that most of those whose term had expired would sign-up for renewals.

“So what do you propose we do about this?”

There was silence for a while in the Cabinet room, broken at length by the Comptroller: “It seems to me, Mr President, that we should deal with this poison at its source. These so-called on-line schools have to be terminated.”

There was discussion about that, for in 2015 a different attempt had been made to close down part of the Internet, and the resistance had been so fierce as to lose the governing party the 2016 election. Mitt Romney had come to power in part on his promise never again to interfere with free speech on the Net.

“Mr President, this is a form of terrorism; these anarchists are attacking the foundation of our country. You have the power to close down these sites, just by Executive Order” pointed out the Secretary for Homeland Security.

And so it was. The plug was pulled on [tolfa.us](http://tolfa.us) and on all its friendly-rival sites, by edict from the top; Romney was not running, of course, in 2024 and the polls showed his Democrat rival well ahead so the problem could form a little poison pill for the new Administration. The Cabinet meeting was adjourned.

By October of 2023, Paul and his chief were surprised by two new factors: first, there had been virtually none of the expected protest about the closure of the web sites, and secondly there was no decrease at all in the attrition rates reported in the quarter ending September. In fact, the first figures available showed a hike from 11.5% to 13%. Paul decided it was time to do some serious homework.

From his interviews in Seattle he had collected several of

the “education courses” on CDs and other storage devices, so he decided to get to work with one of them, to see what about it was so potent. He happened to pick TOLFA, and one of the first things he noticed was its “Download” page. Apparently, back when this thing had been designed in 2006, the architects had foreseen what President Romney had done in July, by urging every student to make his or her own copy of the course, *ready* for when the Internet site was taken down! When a new student was introduced, he was just handed a CD copy and asked to do the same in due course - so the destruction of the web site was almost irrelevant to the spread of the poison. Paul swore; he should have seen that earlier, and he warned the Chief. Romney would be furious when he learned about it, and that wasn't good for Paul's career.

During November Paul continued with the course, and by Christmas time he had become unusually thoughtful. He went back to Segment One and found he was unable to get around the key, interactive question there: “Why is it certain that each human being must be his or her own self-owner?” Paul was unable to counter the answers offered: that if it weren't so, one would be unable to decide anything at all. *No alternative exists*, to what it called the “self ownership axiom.” Think as he did, Paul couldn't find one.

On Christmas eve his family watched the classic, George Scott movie “A Christmas Carol” and Paul was reminded that conversions happen; that sometimes, powerful men undergo a radical change of outlook. He wondered: Am I on the wrong side? Have I been misled, all my life?

That weekend he Googled the movie's title and came upon an alternative book: David Holmes' “A Capitalist Carol” - and on a whim, bought and downloaded it. He sat up reading, deep in to Saturday night. This picked up Dickens'



tale where it left off, and showed Ebenezer Scrooge brought low by his mindless generosity, and so converted again – not back to his former, miserly self but to a life of hard work and productivity that itself necessarily benefited his customers and employees while earning for him ample funds with which either to invest (which would benefit others by producing something they found it advantageous to buy) or to be charitable, or both; capitalism, in fact.

By New Year's Day 2024, Paul had made up his mind. After a successful, 20-year career in government he was going to live the rest of his life making his neighbors offers they *could* refuse, if so inclined. He had finally had enough of helping rule other peoples' lives. The next day, he walked in to the Comptroller's office, and quit his job.

### *3: Twenty Twenty-Four*

Paul Taylor's successor at the GAO was Randy Hays, and while a good administrator and investigator he didn't have quite as much drive as Paul. Nonetheless, there was nobody more suitable for the Comptroller to appoint. He was told in clear terms to move the "Attrition Problem" to front and center, and given 30 days to brief the Chief on what to do, ready for the first Cabinet Meeting in February.

During that first month, the 2023 year-end reports came in, and the situation was worse yet. For the year in total, the loss rate had risen to over 12% - a staggering, 50% rise above its norm of 8%. More than one and a half million government people had resigned from jobs at Federal, State and local levels and in contractor offices, extra to normal retirement and job changes. The reports Randy read frequently added that the loss was having a serious impact on performance. He smiled thinly; these department heads did know how to cover their backsides. One thing government was good at.

The President exploded when this was brought to his attention the first Monday in February. "I thought we took care of this last Summer?"

Once again, the focus was on what to do about it, and now the problem was better understood, it was seen as much harder to solve. One thing to close down a web site; quite another to confiscate millions of plug-in gigaboxes chock full of sedition. Not even Hitler had eradicated all copies of books that Goebbels outlawed; those 1930-era book-

burnings had been largely symbolic, meant to intimidate and terrorize. And these g-boxes could be concealed far more easily than a book.

Randy Hays' suggestion was to make it a criminal offense to be found in possession of copies of any of the schools teaching the abolition of government. His report pointed to several precedents:

- anarchists had since the early 1900s been expressly prohibited from immigrating to the US
- alcohol possession had been outlawed in the 1920s
- a whole range of other drugs, some with quantities as small as a gram, had been outlawed for over half a century, with only muted protest and with heavy penalties for possession

Since a gram of coke in a plastic baggie can land an American in prison for years, Randy argued, it should not be all that hard to frame a law to make it equally illegal to be found in possession of a heterodox gigabox. Well, those were not actually the words in his report but it's the way his staff characterized the proposal, when he wasn't around.

It's hard to see what else Randy could have suggested, but the ideas did not go down too well, at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. It wasn't that anyone in the Cabinet was outraged at the loss of privacy and freedom involved, for the spinmeisters could handle that well enough; rather, the concern was whether it could do the job.

The current Drug Czar pointed out that random searches netted only a tiny proportion of users, and that informers had not produced much more; despite the ample publicity given to drug busts over 40 or 50 years, regular, illegal drug

use persisted at about 8% of the population as it had since 1900. To punish the study of an heterodox opinion would be not only unpopular with the free-speech fanatics, it would likely be *counter-productive*; for every Press Release about a gigabox or CD bust would tell the rest of society that there was something out there that government doesn't like, and so stimulate interest where none might yet exist. What can it be, people would wonder, that they don't want me to know?

Then in addition, the Czar pointed out, these gizmos were not like baggies of dope, commanding a high price and replaceable only by importing some more. If one gets confiscated, six more can be copied free and distributed by sundown, by anyone with a computer. This is not something that can be stamped out by force; yet force is, of course (as Washington said) all that government can use.

The Attorney General extended Randy's idea by wondering aloud whether to arrest, convict and execute those who had designed the freedom schools, so as to discourage further distribution of their contents; he said it would be easy to arrange. That too was rejected, for it was seen as vital to preserve what was left of the fiction that government stood for fairness and justice – added to which those originators, like myself, by this time had zero influence on their ongoing growth. Had a different decision been made, this book would have been written by a different author.

An unprecedented full hour later, the Cabinet reluctantly agreed – there would be no attempt to ban the boxes. The meeting adjourned, and this time the task of finding a solution was taken out of GAO and handed to Homeland Security. There were grumbles from the Gingrich Right that it was time Romney took his mitts off, but Randy was relieved; life on the hot seat suited him ill.

The HS Secretary had become quite a power in the land, after the uncertain beginning by Chertoff back in the fiasco of Katrina. The agency was as widely feared as the secret police of the German government, the Gestapo – and with almost as many powers. So the task force commissioned to solve the problem didn't have too many obstacles in its way – and it got to work before Spring was half-way sprung.

The team quickly concluded that there was no way the distribution of tuition CDs could be suppressed; the poison had to be handled by counter-persuasion. They observed that government's was a problem comparable to the Roman Catholic church in the 1500s; a new style of religious knowledge had taken root in Europe and led to massive defections from Mother Church; Jesuit torture, burnings at the stake and the *index librorum prohibitorum* had all been tried, but none of them were effective. New ideas seemed to have a power of their own, and the counter-Reformation did not succeed. Protestantism became permanent.

The HS Secretary was smart enough to see that he couldn't do the job, so he was quite happy to show why it should be given to someone else; what was needed was a massive program of re-re-education, to counter the re-education contained in the gigaboxes. The Department of Education, naturally, was tapped to oversee the details.

So the Nation's principal Principal took over the task. Should be easy enough, thought Miss Spellings (whose mother had held the job only 16 years earlier) – just create a course to counter the heresy, launch it on the Internet using the abundance of civics material already in existence, instruct every Principal not to advance any student a single grade until he or she had passed an examination on its contents, and the next generation, at least, would be taken care of – and she was so pleased with the idea, she ended

that sentence with a preposition. Next came the much tougher job of reaching the parents and other adults.

Her solution was to create on the Net a resource that would contradict every major assertion of TOLFA and its rivals, in the format of a pair of columns: "They Say" followed by "The Facts." Should be simple, and she had her Principal Assistant for Instruction of Dummies (not his official title, but the acronym was widely used by those who envied his salary) build the web site. He got to work, early in July.

At the end of August he ground to a halt. He'd wrestled with the question night and day, and run it past all the colleagues he respected, and still could not find an answer; the logic he was charged with refuting was not refutable. *Of course* human beings are self-owners, because there is no other possibility; and *of course* government governs, that is always what it's for. Therefore, *of course* the two come into absolute collision; how can one avoid an unavoidable contradiction? So although he was able to provide counter arguments for quite a lot of the information on TOLFA and its rivals, in fields like health care and economics, those root premises were beyond his ability to shift. And so he confessed to Miss Spellings.

He brought her another problem too: suppose, he asked, this impasse could be overcome; then what? How, exactly, were over 200 million Americans to be injected with his anti-freedom vaccine; what would compel them to learn, if they should not wish to look? And by the way, suppose they all *did* look and learn and then start to question and argue; who exactly was going to provide answers?

The Secretary's brow grew dark and furrowed, and the only idea that came to her was to call her Mom. Experience would surely solve this puzzle.

Margaret Spellings was however of little help. She did have a sense of humor, did the former Secretary, and she gave her daughter all the love in the world but said in effect "You're on your own, baby."

So at the September Cabinet Meeting, at which much of the talk concerned the upcoming election, she had to confess that beyond increased indoctrination of the little ones, she had not been able to come up with any vaccine for the anarchist bug. She didn't like admitting failure, but took some comfort in the fact that the polls happened to be running hard against the Republicans that year, so the chances of her being in office come January were slim to none, and the problem would then pass to her successor.

There was one idea spawned at this time which did bring government some return: to *counterfeit* the freedom schools. The task was given to the world's experts in the art of deception, the CIA.

The Director set up a 10-person team to modify the content of each of the six major schools in circulation, so as to draw from each its sting - the components that taught that government was totally irreconcilable with freedom, and which asked graduates to quit its service. It was a delicate job, requiring the skill of a surgeon, for the finished product had to look like the original so closely that it could be passed off as such and recommended to friends. It took the team three months.

The main modification was to remove the parts that taught that "limited government" was an absolute, unresolvable contradiction in terms. In its place were put words to commend the virtues of government operating under Constitutional limits, for the forgers reckoned that was their best chance of connecting with a population that had been

drilled at school to suppose that governments gave that founding document respect, honor and obedience - one of the great myths of the era, which had never been true since its ink dried. The thinking was that clearly the government industry was taking a major hit, but if a residue could survive the Anarchist Avalanche, over time it could recover and rebuild. In that, they were of course correct.

Here's how the scheme went down. The CIA team worked through the Fall of 2024 and had the counterfeit CDs and gigaboxes ready by year's end. The Director instructed 1,000 agents to study and then to introduce their friends to one of the schools, and to do so not at the usual rate of one per year but as many as they could - the quota set was one a month. That was, however, too high; the average achieved was five per agent in the whole of 2025. Still, that was 5,000 people who were falsely re-educated and they, in turn were asked to bring *their* friends to the respective school the following year. Lacking the urgency of the CIA agent originals, their achievement was only 1.5 each, so in 2026 they added only another 7,500 and the final round in 2027 attracted only a further 8,000.

So the entire false-flag operation produced only 21,500 victims of deception, whose effect on the Avalanche was no greater than a blade of grass.

As 2024 ended, so Randy Hays discovered in January, the government attrition rate had risen to over 17%, or more than twice the norm; and chaos, or something close to it, was breaking out all over the bureaucracy – not only in D.C. but in every State Capitol and City and Town Hall; departments everywhere were just not completing the work assigned to them and that failure was one of the factors in



November's ouster of the Republicans. Voters had not understood the reason, but they had certainly recognized the incompetence.

## 4: *Law Crumbles*

During 2024 the number of freedom-school graduates rose to 34 million or 12% of the literate population of America, which is one person in eight. The schools from which they had graduated all showed that "law" is a fraud - a device with which government perfumes the ugly fact of its use of force to compel obedience, with the myth that there is something moral about obeying; for all laws are, in reality, merely one-sided contracts to which nobody has any moral duty to pay attention.

That number - one in eight - was significant, because while few if any of the graduates ever voted again in elections, fewer yet bothered to take their names off the register of voters in their home towns. Therefore, they were called upon with the same frequency as anyone else to serve on juries - whose function had for long been only to endow government prosecutions with the illusion of fairness.

This was not a problem when the defendant was accused of damaging someone or his property - like other jurors, the graduates could evaluate the facts of the case and contribute accordingly; though some did take the opportunity to favor defendants when it was known that the penalty was draconian, as in the case of California's odious "three strike law" which arbitrarily locked people up and threw away the key, just for having been caught three times in the government dragnet.

It was very much an issue, however, when the case concerned a victimless crime, such as using or dealing in prohibited drugs or failing to pay taxes. Then, the educated

juror knew very well that there was no way the defendant could be morally "guilty" of anything and was not about to help get him punished. In case of any doubt, the venerable "Fully Informed Jury Association" was still publishing its excellent materials on the Net and elsewhere, to remind potential jurors that ever since government juries were formalized under King John in 1215, they have had the principal proper purpose of rejecting any law they find unsuitable, at least in the case being considered.

Now, by long tradition that no government was about to pervert, most convictions required juries to vote 12 to zip. Hence the significance of the 1:8 ratio in 2024; on average, the jury pool had 1½ people in every 12 who had no intention of ever voting to convict anyone unless he had clearly done real harm to a real victim. To the extent that these re-educated Americans got on juries, therefore, such cases could not be won by government prosecutors: the "rule of law" had come to an end, exactly as it had by 1930 in cases of accused rum-runners. Such "jury nullification" was what had caused Prohibition to fail; it was useless to prosecute when no convictions could be obtained from independent-thinking jurors.

There was one difficulty: as it had for several decades previously, government courts had required jurors to answer numerous questions including "Will you accept the law as the judge instructs you?" - whose actual effects were of course firstly to shred whatever law the legislature might have written and substitute whatever the judge declared it to be, and secondly to prevent a juror voting to nullify a law without committing perjury on his questionnaire. That was how the illusion of "justice" was used to enforce the government's will. It presented the freedom-believing juror

with a dilemma; was he to lie on the questionnaire and so get the opportunity to help a possible victim of government, or was he to tell the truth (ie that he would judge the law exactly as he saw fit, regardless of the judge's opinion) and so get "bumped" off the jury for sure?

Some decided one way, some the other. But by the end of 2024, enough had chosen the lesser evil (to lie on the form so as to prevent government devastating someone's life) for one well-informed juror to be present on the great majority of panels of twelve. Knowing they could simply vote "not guilty" and give no reason for their verdict, except perhaps to say it was a "gut feeling," kept these activist jurors out of trouble with courts who might have punished them if it was known the juror was actually nullifying a law. A year later there were two, on average. During 2024, therefore, most such cases ended in hung juries; victimless crimes therefore became unpunishable; that part of the "rule of law" had disintegrated and the benefits to society were enormous.

The first major benefit was that the war on users of illegal drugs came screeching to a halt. It didn't take long for the word to get around the street that dealers and users alike would "walk" even if prosecuted, so the cost of dealing dropped steeply, meaning dealers could offer drugs more cheaply – with vigorous price competition. That in turn made "turf wars" unnecessary, so the violence between dealers also dropped off, along with the tragedy of passers-by getting killed in the crossfire. It didn't happen overnight, but before E-Day the market in illegal drugs had become almost "normal" - though they didn't generally reach the shelves of the local pharmacy or grocery until afterwards. Curiously, their dramatically lower prices did not stimulate significant extra demand; a century of history had

demonstrated that price sensitivity was very low for these products. Whether the level of price and persecution was high or low, about one person in twelve used them on a regular basis.

No government “drug warrior” ever actually cared a fig who used what dope, so the drug war was always a sham and never had any effect on usage. Its real purpose was to provide an excuse for probing into everybody's finances – even worldwide; the idea being that governments “must” have the ability to track down “laundered drug sale proceeds.” The only money governments really cared about was what they could steal as taxes, so the real purpose of the drug war was to shore up tax collections and that is why governments worldwide cooperated in the revolting “Know your customer” rule for opening a bank account anywhere.

That obscenity was not, alas, affected at this time by the defanging of “drug” prosecutions. It had to await E-Day.

The second major beneficial result of jury nullification was that government's ability to collect taxes started a steep decline. This took effect at every level of government – Federal, State and local – because ultimately its power to enforce such theft rested on the willingness of juries to convict resisters. Hung juries meant: game over.

Even so, the tax-collecting machine didn't stop abruptly - its momentum was large. Employers for example continued to with-hold “income tax”, even though more and more employees asked them not to; so the Feds and the 45 States that collected i-tax still retained a revenue flow, albeit reduced. Similarly most retailers continued to charge State sales taxes, because they were managed by boards of whom

a clear majority of members had *not* yet been through a freedom school. Most local property taxes, likewise, continued to be collected because most home-owners were still fearful of losing them to a government bailiff or auctioneer. Nonetheless, tax collections generally did from this time start to take a serious hit, from which they never recovered, and inflation rose above its normal rate as the printing press was used to make up the shortfall.

## *5: The Job Market*

At this point in our narrative of the five most turbulent peacetime years in American history, we'll pause to describe what happened to those who left their government jobs. By the end of 2024, it was later found, some 3,680,000 former employees had walked out of government offices and contractors in favor of other work. Like David Keegan in Chapter 1, they knew better than to let go of one branch before grasping the next.

Paul Taylor, for example, the senior GAO manager who had quit after realizing he had been working all his life against the better interests of human beings instead of for them, lost no time in joining the placement industry. While he was not directly qualified in human resources, his job had brought him into close contact with many in that profession – including the Boeing chief mentioned in Chapter 2 – and the nature of investigating performance and costs in other Federal departments fit him quite well for the business of matching skills to opportunities.

So he first joined [monster.com](https://www.monster.com) as a consultant for clients transferring, as he had done, from government employ - but within a year had decided to form his own agency. He was fairly well known in Federal circles so he called his firm simply “Taylor Placement” and hung out his shingle on the Internet and in places that he knew his former colleagues would look. He had, of course, thoroughly researched job opportunities in the productive sector, and had formed a

wide set of contacts to call with news of good candidates.

Taylor Placements took finders' fees from the firms recruiting, so he made a good living. But what sort of enterprises, in this period, were recruiting?

To prepare an answer for that, we need to check the numbers. The 3.7 million former government employees that we noted above needed that many jobs, in a fairly wide variety of skill settings. Those expert in information technology had little problem finding positions; demand for such skills had been high for half a century and there was no slackening. Others were in more varied demand.

A continuing key factor in this was the fact that the same freedom schools that had caused the exodus from government offices had also taught the high value of home schooling. Altogether (by end-2024) there were 34 million graduates and 10 million of those had children – of whom 5 million accepted the advice learned and set about staying home to teach the kids instead of going out to work for pay. Notice that at this time (unlike the situation after E-Day) this meant a considerable financial loss for the family, for taxes were still being extracted to pay for government-school places whether they were used or not. Hence the figure of about 5 million, rather than twice that number.

Nonetheless, five million jobs were vacant as a result, and nearly 90% of them were outside of government, so there was not a glut in labor; supply and demand were quite well matched, with about 5 million jobs for 3.7 million seekers. There was plenty of work to do fitting square pegs in that shape of hole, and that's why the placement industry prospered so very well in those years – but nobody stayed



out of work for long.

A further important factor came in to play after 2024. We saw that the exodus had by then caused serious shortfall in performance of government departments, some of which were actually useful (though horribly expensive) in the economy. So the market responded: new companies were formed, and existing ones expanded, to fill the vacuum and provide the missing services - for a price, naturally. Now, at this stage this was not a large scale phenomenon (which it would become a few years later) for just that reason: customers had to pay twice; once in the form of taxes to governments which failed to deliver, and once to the free-enterprise suppliers who did.

An example was that of snow plowing. Towns and States ran short of drivers, so roads went unplowed, and in snowy weather the local economy threatened to grind to a halt; so hundreds of pickup owners (with plows) quickly solicited business from homeowners unable to go anywhere - and even from local governments, still unwilling to confess publicly to failure - to get the job done. Sometimes a driver would be given City equipment to operate, even though he was a contractor not in the Union - something to cause some argument later. But in emergencies, one has to do whatever it takes to clear the roads.

Another example, not prominent in 2024 but to become very much so three years later, was in policing. Jobs like that attract little Hitlers, people with a compulsion to dominate others, and that kind of personality accepts the freedom philosophy rather slowly. But some did so even then, and P.D.s all over the country were running short. They had to choose which laws to enforce and which to

overlook, and some of the Chiefs ordered concentration on revenue raising, safe activities like traffic stops rather than dangerous, costly ones like murder enquiries. Not that they ignored murders – they were just given a lower priority.

That very benighted policy stimulated the use of private security and investigation firms, and the formation of new ones. These were to become the backbone of the free-enterprise justice system that followed E-Day; but this is the time they received their first major stimulus to trade.

A final example concerns welfare – handouts of taxpayer money or other favors to corporate and individual clients with political clout. This accounts for a large portion of State budgets and two thirds of the Federal one, including “Social Security.” When these functions began to malfunction due to the freedom walkout, how did the beneficiaries survive – who took care of them?

Knowing well that a failure in this area would have a catastrophic effect on public confidence in government, all possible priority was given to keep it going – and in 2024, that had been successful. One big help was the part played by computers; “social security” checks had for example for long been cut by computers and not many operators were needed; a mere 2.5% of Federal employees were disbursing one third of its entire spend. The main problem lay in *changes* to recipient lists - new retirees, address changes, deaths etc. These all needed manual processing and even by 2024, delays were developing. In subsequent years they became critical, for there was no easy way for free enterprise to take over the task – especially as those able to read the tea leaves knew well that the entire system would shortly expire.

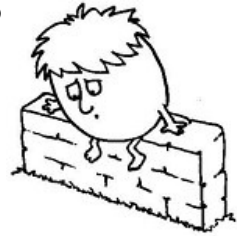
There never was a good solution to this dilemma. The computers kept whirring all the time until E-Day, and even when benefit sums were repeatedly increased to compensate for the fast-rising inflation, checks were mailed – often, though, to people who had been two or three years in their graves. Nobody complained.

Meanwhile, however, those with wealth they wanted to share with those in need could also read the tea leaves, and in these years they set about forming charities to handle the load that was bound to fall after E-Day – and they hired able people to help in administration. Often, during the Government Era, such benefactors had made poor choices about who would benefit – but as the re-education programs did their good work, and as it became ever clearer that the end of the government gravy train was imminent, those choices radically improved.

Overall, the job market was proving resilient and former government employees were finding work quite readily, quite often at pay or profit rates very comparable to their former salaries. Absolute numbers were to increase dramatically in the coming three years (to a total of forty million!) but the above shows the kind of move they made.

## 6: *Twenty Twenty-Five*

News of the 2024 failures of the Departments of Homeland Security and Education to stop the spread of the freedom schools was not announced to the media, of course, but reports leaked out anyway – especially to members of the government bureaucracy. Graffiti appeared early in 2025 all over D.C as a result, usually of a simple picture of Humpty Dumpty, whom the King and all his men were unable to repair. It all helped stimulate the accelerating exodus from government service. King Mitt was not amused, as banners bearing the graffiti were seen at the inauguration of his successor.



Chelsea Clinton had been briefed on the looming crisis, and spent most of her second Cabinet Meeting running what amounted to a think tank or brainstorm session on how to end what was becoming known as the “Anarchist Avalanche.” Nobody found any new ideas - except one: to make it illegal to leave government employ. All agreed that that was draconian, and would only drive the problem underground, but things were getting desperate. By the end of March, *another million* had left their government jobs.

Would that work? - there was a partial precedent, in that despite the widely-honored right to strike, that right does not apply to government workers when national security is at stake. The President had a lot of power in that area.

The consensus was that it would not. It was agreed that if someone has made up his mind to leave, he will mentally quit whether he is free to go or forced to stay; it would amount to slavery (and so be unconstitutional, not that anyone present cared a fig about that) and slaves cannot be made to work without whipping and other forms of torture. As had been said twenty years earlier, "America doesn't do torture" - although they would all have supported that in a heartbeat if they thought it likely to succeed.

The meeting adjourned; and by the end of June another million had left their government jobs.

When even a few members of the White House staff walked out and explained why, President Clinton expressed her frustration in words that would have shocked Richard Nixon or LBJ. She was not yet six months into her first term, yet it seemed the entire structure of government was about to melt down. What on Earth was she going to do?

She called up her father. Relations between them had been strained ever since the Lewinsky affair, but she could not but respect his political savvy and she was desperate.

Bill, still active at 78, offered his daughter no promises but reminded her what he did the day Monica was to testify before a grand jury: he'd ordered the bombing of an aspirin factory in Sudan, on the pretext that it was making weapons for terrorists. In other words, he asked, why not start a war?

The President recalled watching the movie "Wag the Dog" and ordered a replay that evening in the White House cinema, with top advisors to keep her company.

The idea was seriously considered. The US Government had no shortage of enemies, and a brief war could be started on some pretext and quickly won, just like the one

that Hollywood fabricated in the movie. But the consensus was that that would simply not solve the problem; it would distract the public for a while, but when it was over, the spread of the heresy would resume. Or if the war was protracted like Iraq-Two, it would merely give added weight to the theories that government was a lethal parasite and so make the situation worse. Reluctantly, she put it with all the other ideas, on the scrap heap.

By mid-year, major government functions were failing to perform. In some ways the most serious was that of Air Traffic Control, for nearly all economic activity depended on safe air transport – to say nothing of tourists who got deeply frustrated by the lengthening delays.

As the public became increasingly disgusted with government at every level, an ever larger number listened when their friends invited them to join one of the freedom schools – and government spokespersons did counter by loudly blaming the influence of the schools on staff morale and hence on the delays and poor service being experienced. It didn't work. Too many had been ill served for so long that when TOLFA was named as one of the culprits, most called up the friend from whom they had first heard that name and said it was time they took another look. As in the old political dictum, it didn't matter what they said about the schools, so long as they spelled the names right. And this name had only five letters.

The air traffic emergency had to be handled at once, and the President studied what Reagan had done in 1981 when controllers had flouted a no-strike law. He fired the lot of them. Could she do that? - not so fast, advised her Secretary of Transportation. Reagan's SoT had already trained thousands of replacement controllers, so when the strikers moved out, the replacement moved in and the strike

was broken. Today, she was told, there were no such replacements. Those with the needed skills just didn't want to work for government.

Another emergency Cabinet Meeting was called, and the only possible solution was adopted: to *privatize* the function of controlling air traffic. As a Democrat, that was a bitter pill for her to swallow; but no alternative was found. So whole volumes of legislation were torn up on Executive Order and the right to operate control centers was put up for auction. On hearing the news, individual controllers about to walk off the job paused to await the outcome, so the situation became no worse during the two months it took to complete the sale, and by September 2025 some six companies had taken over the industry and negotiated better pay and conditions with controllers and started the long delayed work of bringing the system into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with all the huge array of technical innovation that had been waiting years to be implemented.

That process was to take three years for in its nature it could not be done overnight, but the result was far less of the traditional “Mother, May I? In the Sky” system in favor of collision-avoidance technology and pilot control in the cockpit. It was one of the first major fruits of America's change to a free market – and it happened because Clinton, through her clenched teeth, had ordered it to be allowed.

That reform notwithstanding, by end-September *another* million had walked out of their government jobs as the Anarchist Avalanche gathered momentum.

It was in the last quarter of 2025 that the Feds changed their attitude, and in so doing set the tone for all other levels of government in America; some called the change “No more Mr Nice Guy.” Having found no way either to silence or to

refute the burgeoning freedom schools and having actually reinforced their message by giving way in the matter of air traffic control, the Clinton Administration recognized that the issue was now one of survival and that their only alternatives were surrender or the use of force. And force, after all, was the only thing government did ever use, even when it appeared benevolent; for behind every welfare check there was a gun, held to a taxpayer's head.

By year's end more than eight million government workers had quit, the attrition rate had exceeded 28%, functions that had previously performed smoothly were in chaos, the "black" market was beginning to boom, "Humpty" drawings decorated walls nationwide, and the Top Pols were looking directly down a bottomless void. All of them intended to hang on to power yet not one of them had any idea how to do it. The coming year promised to be bleak.



## 7: *Crackdown*

“Deniability” is the key word among Pols, when a decision is to be made over a doubtful or controversial matter, and after the event nobody could identify a written order to authorize the crackdown. Nobody doubted that Chelsea was behind it, but nobody could find her signature on an order; it was quite similar to the 1993 Waco massacre for which her father had unquestionably been responsible but for which formal authority could be traced only as far as Janet Reno. The same was true of the German holocaust; no postwar researcher ever found Hitler's signature on an order to kill every Jew in the Reich – yet when questioned on the point in the infamous 1942 Wannsee meeting, its chairman Reinhard Heydrich replied that the Führer's (spoken) word obviously superseded any written document.

When government people have to do something but can't figure out what, the answer ends up as force, and force is what was used against the 67 million anarchist heretics.

The crackdown started promptly on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2026. All Federal, State and local police were under orders to perform random searches on the street and in road blocks, to find and confiscate all CDs and gigaboxes and, if found to have copies of any freedom school, to arrest the carrier. Jails immediately filled to overflowing. By mid-month, they were impossible to maintain with any pretense of civility; food was far too short, beds were shared in three shifts, court dates were a sick joke because the clerks were down to 75% strength and could not even schedule them, let alone ensure that prisoners were brought to any hearing.

SWAT teams raided houses – again at random, for by then

the probability of finding forbidden material was approaching one in three – and when freedom-school data was found on any storage device whether inside the PC or portable, the equipment was seized and the owner arrested. All pretense of honoring the Fourth Amendment was abandoned; no warrants were issued. They had long been a farce anyway, since the issuing judges were government employees, but now the pretense was gone and the ugly face of government was now uncovered. Within one month, total prison population *doubled*, to seven million. TV and newspaper reporters were forbidden to report what was going on, so often the first anybody knew was that they were looking down the barrel of a government gun.

Almost as an afterthought, the President announced Martial Law - lest history judge her actions in some way illegal.

Reaction in February was swift. As soon as the news spread (despite the destruction of every web site found to be helping spread it) the reader now knew for sure that his friend who had suggested joining one of the schools had not been crazy. The idea that government was the biggest terrorist organization in the world had seemed absurd and unpatriotic – but now, the evidence for that view was all around him, and the propaganda spewing all day from the Boob Tube became more incredible, literally, by the hour. The image portrayed in the 2005 movie “V for Vendetta” of ordinary families ridiculing BTN broadcasts by pouring scorn upon them now became real, daily life in America.

The scorn was intensified by the fact that although that ratio of 1:3 meant that plenty of outlawed storage devices were discovered in the raids, *two out of three were “legal”* - that is, the CDs or other devices stored data that had nothing to do with a freedom school and their confiscation, even temporarily, meant that vast numbers of people and

businesses lost information of enormous value to their lives; the disruption to business was immense and some of it blew back and impacted governments. Never before had government created so much chaos in so short a period.

So instead of suppressing the freedom schools, as Clinton had hoped, the crackdown had just the opposite effect; those who had been doubters and critics now went back to their friends (unless they were behind bars) to ask how they could get on board. There were by now tens of millions of gigaboxes around, sometimes well hidden or disguised, so there was no shortage of access – though necessarily, the homework had to be done very quietly.

By the end of January, *another eight hundred thousand* had left the employ of government or its contractors.

Then the madness ended, as suddenly as it had begun; not because any government manager saw the folly of trying to suppress knowledge, but because understanding of the chaos and blowback it was creating dawned on government leaders, because no government manager could find any more prison space and – an ominous trend, for true believers in the government myth – because a few police and prison personnel were declining to follow orders. In the chaos of January, some of these had (usually for the first time) actually read the Constitution they had sworn to uphold, and had found themselves unable to reconcile what they found with what their orders told them to do. Then they snuck a CD out of the evidence locker, and started to find out what was going on. Before the winter snows had melted, they had left to find honest work.

The crackdown was an abject failure, just as some of Clinton's advisors had told her it would be, and - just as Romney's drug Czar had warned the previous year - it was

counter-productive. When staff defections added to riots in the overcrowded prisons, she had no alternative but to call it off. In fact, she had few alternatives at all, given that simple abdication was not even considered.

Most prison wardens took it on themselves quietly to liberate those prisoners who had been poured in to their premises during that disastrous January, and so all freedom-school graduates went back to work outside the government, each quietly encouraging another friend to join the school and get to understand what was going on, in good time to prosper in the coming free-market society.

By the end of March, a total of ten million had quit their government jobs, never to return. The industry was operating on three cylinders.

By April 15<sup>th</sup>, the date when returns were traditionally due for the alleged US Income Tax, all those claiming refunds had been filed and although checks were very late, they did get sent out. Returns showing money due the government, however, were not filed so timely. By this time 30% of the population had learned what government and freedom really mean, and the atrocities of January did not motivate them to pay the former any more money at all. They all sensed, correctly, that it was spinning out of control and that even the IRS would shortly be unable to function – so they filed for an automatic six-month extension, or simply “forgot.” The result was a lot less money flowing towards the US Treasury. That all assisted progression of the virtuous cycle, though it must be said that the Feds did not suffer as much revenue reduction as their State and local counterparts because half of them came from the withholding from pay checks by employers – and still a majority of employers had not graduated from a freedom school and so continued to with-hold.

However, this early-2026 tax season focused the attention of freedom-school graduates on the problem, and the solution was to file an amended W-4 with such employers, showing a large number of deductions. This considerably reduced the sums with-held, in a time when the IRS was running short of ability to stop the haemorrhage or even question the W-4s.

Clinton held yet another emergency Cabinet Meeting in May, to which State governors and major-city mayors were invited. The government had taken its best shot, and missed. The analogy with an avalanche was now unmistakable; it was essential somehow to stop the exploding exodus of government employees at all levels – State and local as well as Federal. All the previous ideas were re-examined, and nobody believed that any that had not so far been tried would actually work, but everyone agreed they could not just do nothing.

This meeting proved to be their most productive so far. It was very clear by then that the freedom schools could not be suppressed; everything that had been tried had failed or even been counter productive. During the first four months of the year the best minds in the government industry (all the King's men) had been focused on finding a solution - for it was rightly seen that whoever solved this one would gain a place in history and a comfortable income for life.

All who offered ideas proposed ways not so much to censor ideas as just to stop the loss, by any means that might work; the loss, that is, of re-educated employees of government contractors and of government itself at Federal, State and local levels. Four solutions were presented, all four were adopted, and - as we'll see - all four miserably failed.

**1. Resignations were prohibited** from government jobs, in the “national interest.” It was announced by the President as an Executive Order, and she went on national TV to explain the unprecedented restriction on liberty. The broadcast was not well received; not by the media, and least of all by government employees. The general reaction was that if this is all the government can do, maybe it was time to re-examine what government was for. Therefore enrollments in the freedom schools actually increased as a result! The unprecedented law was accompanied by a draconian set of fines for late performance by government contractors; it was not seen feasible to extend the no-quit law to their employees (due to difficulties of definition) and since most of those we have classified in this book as “government employees” were actually working in private industry but at jobs heavily related to government contracts, this was a vital leakage to try to stop.

That part of the measure went down among contractors like a lead balloon. Their management had been having a hard enough time trying to meet commitments with staff leaving every week, and now their companies were to be penalized even after doing the best they could. At board meetings all over the country, the decisions were almost uniform: very well, they decided, we'll fill existing government orders as well as we can, but never again. If government imposes these retroactive terms, we'll take our business elsewhere.

Among these was the Dell company, which had been selling 20% of its output to governments, and members of whose board had already graduated from freedom schools; on receiving notice of the decree they met and decided to cut off all further dealings with government at once. The result was further chaos in a big majority of all government offices; the provision of spare parts and service stopped

cold. Dell instructed its lawyers to stonewall the expected demand for late fees and anticipated correctly that payment could be delayed until after the alleged creditor had evaporated.

There were even some (notably, small single-client firms that could not sell their products to anyone *but* government) that just went out of business, filing for bankruptcy.

Direct government employees did often respond by staying in their jobs, for even though the court backlog was now impossibly long and juries well enough informed to throw out any prosecutions for defying this new law, most workers, even though well re-educated, did not want the hassle so they stayed put and drew their pay. They were however not idle; firstly they “worked to rule” to use the old trade-union term; they dusted off their terms of employment and found regulations to be observed that they and their managers had quietly ignored, in the interest of efficiency, for years; and they meticulously observed the lot of them. The result was an immediate 20% loss in productivity. They also called-in sick, at a rate double the normal frequency. The resentment at being enslaved in this way ran wide and deep, and so it backfired badly – just as had been foreseen the previous year, as told in Chapter 6.

So the No-Quit Law, as it was called, was counter-productive both at once and in the longer term. As with so very much that government does, interference with free choices brings unintended consequences. There was no gain, and a heavy loss when contractors declined to bid on new projects. The edict was withdrawn before Fall fell.

**2. Foreign workers were imported** to fill the growing void. This was radical and ingenious, for it had long been noted that immigrants from Asia are abnormally hard-

working, intelligent and above all obedient; the cultures of China and India raise people with more respect for authority than the traditionally freewheeling one of America. So the word went out from the DHS, in mid-2026, to all USCIS offices in embassies and consulates in that region of the world to recruit suitable workers *fast*; the only key requirement was proficiency in English, and that was widespread. Objections that adjustments to immigration quotas were the province of Congress, not the Executive Branch, were over-ruled by Clinton on the grounds that if this didn't work there would be no Congress to object, while if it did work, Congress would fall over itself in gratitude for having survived.

The plan failed because of logistics. At the time that the massive recruitment campaign got under way, half a million people a month were leaving the parasite sector after graduating from a freedom school, which is over 16,000 a day. There were not enough clerks to process the green-card paperwork, even though it had been put on a fast track, nor enough ships and aircraft to move that many recruits (with families) half way across the world, and certainly not enough time available to those who had *not* yet left government employ to train them ready for productive work; further, even if that many had been assimilated they would merely have replaced those currently quitting, and done nothing to replace the ten million who had already left. Additionally they were not being recruited for one giant organization with a smoothly functioning HR department to direct them promptly to the right offices, but to tens of thousands of autonomous municipalities all across America, even before considering the majority of the parasite sector, namely subcontractor companies. Those companies were not very eager to take



on foreign replacements; most were already busy restructuring their businesses so as not to depend on government contracts. So while some holes were plugged with this plan, by and large the result - by early 2027 - was one gigantic mess. The best that came of it was the unintended consequence that several hundred thousand did migrate to what they had heard was the "land of the free" and within a single year, did indeed discover and embrace real freedom.

**3. Employees were drugged.** In one sense, *everyone* in America had been drugged for generations, by the relentless mantras in the government school systems and the daily bombardment of government-approved "news" on TV; but this plan was specific to the remaining employees of government and was developed from existing programs to supervise their health, physical and psychological. The latter, particularly, were quickly modified to put workers through evaluations more frequently, so that any warning signs of discontent could be spotted early; and medication was prescribed for all, to render them ever more subservient. Government's friends in Big Pharma, who had ample reason to be grateful, had for two decades been steadily working to perfect pills to make the patient more compliant, after the success in the late 20th Century of Ritalin when used on children who failed to pay proper attention in government school. These derivative drugs were used lavishly, in the second half of 2026.

This plan also failed, though it did slow down the egress from Federal government offices, where it was easiest to administer. The problem with it was again that the parasite sector was not one giant organization but a large number of small ones, each of which was managed by controllers who

did not always agree with drugging their employees - urgent though the crisis was becoming. Townships, for example, each employed a relatively small number of people, many of whom were personal friends of the town manager or mayor or selectmen; and it did not seem right to them to treat their friends and neighbors in such a way. This applied even more among the commercial subcontractors; each company had its own personnel policy and it while company-financed health care was common, that policy almost always drew a sharp distinction between medical treatment and managerial control.

4. Perhaps most sinister of all, **food was rationed**. Over the years, there had been several “trial runs” in which government tested its ability to influence the food market, and all had been highly successful thanks to its allies in the TV trade. Beef sales had twice been slashed by rumors of BSE, apple sales by rumors of poisonous chemicals, and over a couple of weeks in 2008 a few hundred became ill, and one person died, after eating certain tomatoes. News of the threat was aired daily, and over half a billion dollars of damage was done to the tomato trade in Florida and elsewhere; every death is a tragedy but at the time about one person was dying every 14 *minutes* on government roads, yet that didn't rate a mention.

Mechanisms for rationing had been implemented in WW-II, and were (incredibly) accepted by the population as a necessary and "fair" measure in that time of emergency. It was widely rumored to be under consideration in 2008 when a double whammy hit the food trade: soaring oil prices triggered a too-hasty rush into the production of corn ethanol, which transferred some of the price hike to foodstuffs, while fast-growing populations in Asia led to a

demand for rice which outstripped the supply. Markets - including farm markets - can readily respond to such changes (for example, by 1988 the heavily-circumscribed private farmers of the USSR were feeding more than a third of the whole population) but food does take time to grow, so production cannot be doubled overnight.

So the TV mouthpieces were told to emphasize that 2026 was a period of acute national emergency and in order that greedy, rich people would not buy up all the available food supplies (which were, in reality, quite adequate for everyone) ration coupons would be issued and required for the purchase of essential foods. Retailers were forbidden to sell food without collecting the coupons and so government, in one move, acquired a death-grip over the nutrition of every person in the country.

The devil came in the detail, which was of course not published: the coupons were given only to those known to be loyal to the government industry; everyone else was left out. If the IRS or the SS files showed that a person had left government employ, he received no ration cards by mail. It promised to place a deep chill on employees about to quit.

The scheme came unstuck for several reasons, though it did cause immense hardship to a few. *First*, once again it barely affected the majority of former parasite sector employees because they had long worked for subcontracting commercial companies even though some had recently changed departments - so their work records revealed no change. *Second*, by this time the White Market was developing nicely and part of it consisted of food producers, because ever since the early 2000s it had been clear that rising wealth in the huge populations of India and

China were creating new demand for food – the surplus of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century was over. This spelled opportunity, and the large number of small lots in the North East that had reverted to forest 150 years earlier when the vast farms of the Heartland had outperformed them, came back into use to take advantage of the higher food prices. These largely White Market food producers were among the earliest to graduate from a freedom school and were quite willing to divert some of their crops to those whom the government was trying to starve - especially if they were paid in gold, as was often the case. *Thirdly*, government records were of such poor quality that coupons were with-held from some who had not yet thought of leaving, so there was extreme aggravation caused to some who were still loyal. A *fourth* reason it failed was that, despite the lack of official publication, news of the attempted starvation spread fast - again, through White Market channels, and finally the *fifth* reason was that several of the bigger food retailers refused to cooperate.

That refusal was a significant case of civil disobedience (of whose value in general, see more in the next chapter) for it was not done by an individual but by public companies, openly defying the law. Not only did they, like the Dell example above, conclude that this latest interference by government was more than they could stomach, they also realized its purpose was to kill dissidents and they wanted no part of that; they were in the business of feeding their customers, not starving them. They saw also that, as noted in Chapter 4, laws were no longer readily enforceable and that this one would almost certainly be rejected by a jury if it came to trial. So they worked with the food producers and persuaded them likewise and went ahead and sold food to any with money to buy.

The savagery was rightly compared to Stalin's massacre of seven million small farmers in the Ukraine of the 1930s, by stealing their produce; though unlike his, this attempt did not succeed. When the news got around, the backlash was huge; even the SS clerks who were with-holding ration books from the intended victims balked at what they soon understood would make them accessories to mass murder.

An extra, and very welcome reason for the failure was that by the Fall of 2026, the freedom revolution had reached some of the TV companies. Some staff even in the newsrooms had been re-educated, so while broadcasts up to then had uniformly supported the government viewpoint, now viewers could detect a change in emphasis - and this attempt to starve dissidents into submission was not kept under wraps. It became public knowledge, and public disgust with government lost most of its remaining bounds.

So instead of choking off the move out of government employ, this vicious measure, like all the other crackdowns of 2026, only gave it an extra boost.

## 8: *Late 2026*

Government now no longer had any policy, any identified way to stop the avalanche. All it did, for this was all it *could* do, was to keep going like an aircraft whose crew is drugged; on autopilot, until the fuel runs out. Creatures of habit and recipients of paychecks, its remaining employees did what they had always done, until they too learned of the real nature of what they were doing, and quit. Work fell further and further behind, and the public with whom they interfaced became less and less satisfied, so more and more sought out a freedom-school gigabox to find out why.

This was the reason why those who had foreseen a slowing down of the exponential growth of the free community were mistaken. The view was credible, for sure; victims of government, they said, may take quickly enough to a rational understanding of human freedom – but those who are well paid to administer the oppression and have little talent to do anything else will join the schools much less readily. Fair enough; but in reality when 2026 arrived, government was unraveling before their eyes and suddenly the old illusion of “security” in a “public service job” looked a great deal less secure and more deeply resented by those “served.” The two influences canceled each other out.

So while the intellectual effort may have been greater than for long-time members of the productive sector, public sector students were by this time very numerous and just as diligent. And by now there was a large number of neighbors ready to give them a helping hand into the free economy, semi-underground though it was.

That economy was beginning to take shape very well. By

mid-2026 it consisted of over 90 million people, larger than most nations in the world, and although members could not openly identify themselves nor communicate with each other exclusively, gradually they got to know each other – if in no other way, when they invited someone to join a freedom school and found he was already a graduate! That was an early indicator to them that a free society would not be long delayed.

Members were also practicing what they had learned in school, trading with each other with no reference to the parasite sector. They did not charge each other sales tax nor collect it for the State governments, they hired each other without deduction of income tax, for they knew that the omission would not be questioned until the IRS had vanished from the pages of history; and paid wages that were mutually agreeable, without reference to employment or wage laws. They ignored any other obstructive regulation they felt had become unenforcible – in short, they committed free enterprise. It was an exhilarating experience, even though constrained by the presence of government snoops, albeit in decreasing numbers. These 90 million laid the foundations of the new, free society in the area called “America.”

Many of them lived in homes they owned, and most did not trouble to pay the tax demands of the local government, so the revenue stream of the latter fell off a cliff even steeper than that of the Feds – and unlike the latter they had no press with which to print up the shortfall. The largest item on every local government's budget is what it graced with the euphemism “school”, so by mid-year there was no longer enough to pay teachers and administrators – who were in any case pretending to teach a student body that had fallen by 30%, as children were taken back home to be

taught properly by a parent. Faced with the probability of no pay check in the new school year, many teachers took the chance of the long vacation to find more suitable employment – even some of those who had not yet graduated from a freedom school. They were wise; but this introduces a subject that deserves comment as follows.

“**Civil Disobedience**” was sometimes recommended as a way to bring down government, but that was a mistake. Each graduate understood that he had a moral line not to be crossed (for example, to refuse a military draft) but such refusal could never end the tyranny – and it might rather easily have interfered with the dissolution of government in the mid-2020s in the following way.

Once it became clear that collection of some taxes could no longer be enforced, White Marketeers very reasonably stopped paying them and that triggered a revenue shortfall that made it impossible to pay government workers, as in the case of teachers above. If such shortfalls (resulting from such civil disobedience) had happened *faster than* government workers were leaving anyway of their own volition after having graduated, it would have meant that some were being fired, let go against their will; and they would have blamed the freedom movement for their misfortune and so been much harder to persuade to enroll in a freedom school themselves – so delaying E-Day.

Fortunately, however, that did not take place and the math of the matter made it very unlikely – for if x% of the population has learned about freedom and a little later flouts the tax laws and so slashes government revenues,

1. The revenue reduction must *follow* that action by several weeks at least, during which time more government workers are leaving of their own accord



2. The reduction must be of *less than x%* because there are some (eg sales tax) impossible to avoid until the government's collapse is almost complete.

So Civil Disobedience is a courageous and honorable thing to do, and on occasion can provide valuable help – notably when the law being defied is no longer enforceable - but was neither necessary nor sufficient for the task of ending the Age of Government – and might in some circumstances have actually impeded it. In contrast, Education about the nature of man and government is *both necessary and sufficient* – as this chronicle shows.

Thus, with reduced income-tax with-holdings (and none at all in that part of the productive sector where employers saw which way was up) Federal receipts fell by mid-year to 80% of normal, and they simply printed more with the help of their friends in the Federal Reserve; but that didn't help State & local governments – which had no choice but not to replace departing staff. That accelerated the departure and stimulated more to join the freedom schools to discover an explanation for it all, and presented local entrepreneurs with fresh opportunities to serve customers with alternatives to those local-government services that had actually been of some use. Thus, the parasitic sector shrunk and the productive one grew. The transition was progressing well, with the virtuous cycle spinning nicely.

The extra “money” printed to fix the Fed's funding crisis went directly to create inflation, for that's how inflation always occurs; and the amounts were so large as to bring that effect so much sooner than is usual that even the uneducated part of the public could see that dollars no longer bought what they used to buy. This further stimulated enrollment in the freedom schools, and accelerated the trend towards gold as the medium of

exchange preferred in the “white market” - the community of educated traders whom government called the “black market.” All this was excellent preparation for the day when government vanished, which could not now be long delayed; for gold would then resume its place as the exchange medium of choice.

I must give some account of the particular functions of government which disintegrated during this second half of 2026. Resignations were being handed in by its employees across the spectrum despite the short-lived No-Quit Law (in another useful example of Civil Disobedience) but remaining managers struggled to allocate remaining resources among “must not fail” departments. It was a difficult and constantly moving target – for walk-outs had become more of a run-out, at 1.5 million in the month of June alone.

**Midterm Elections** in November were a farce. Normally the turnout for these was a little under 40% of those eligible; in 2026, it plunged to 23% - by far the biggest drop in over a century. It was also normal for this important statistic not to be reported until long after interest in the result had faded; but this year, the TV companies gave it proper prominence and added to the public perception that the whole government industry was facing meltdown.

**The Military** was heavily curtailed. The first sign that men and women in uniform were less enthusiastic about government than one might expect from those who had volunteered to put their lives at risk in its behalf came in 2008, when a surprisingly large measure of support came from there for the campaign of Ron Paul – who, while no anarchist, offered some dramatic cuts in its size and scope.

This healthy skepticism was balanced by their commitment

to serve for specific periods, and their sense of honor in wanting to fulfill those commitments – but the balance left about the same number of defections from the military as from other government jobs: 25%, by the end of June. As it happened the government was not operating a war at the time (despite the “Wag the Dog” suggestion noted in Chapter 5) so the net effect was that the US withdrew from a third of its overseas bases – and all the rest a little later. This exposed Americans to no new dangers – those bases had long been surplus – and won it some new friends overseas, who then took a close interest in what was going on in America to cause it. Their enquiries fueled an interest in foreign-language versions of the freedom schools, which stimulated an early export of the Freedom Revolution.

That reduction of one-third in the number of foreign bases turned into a rout, for the Anarchist Avalanche affected numbers of enlisted men and officers at such a rate that the evacuation of bases never stopped until 100% of them were empty, by E-Day the following year. Those leaving (or deserting, if you must) took their favorite weapons with them in to the free market, while history's mightiest military machine imploded like a pricked balloon.

**Government Contractors** (whose staff actually made up the majority of those classed in this book as “government employees”) had by this time lost nearly a third of their ability to fulfill contracts. Staff engaged on that work had not all walked out, for the more valuable ones had been persuaded to stay and transfer to work that served only the productive sector – genuine customers – but still, their ability to deliver government work on time (or even at all) fell off a cliff, and as noted above a large number of firms just stopped bidding on government contracts in reaction to the No-Quit Law. This heavily affected the “Defense”

Department and so military equipment did not get augmented or renewed, It hardly mattered, since the personnel needed for their operation were at the same time quitting in droves. All this augured well for future peace.

Contractors working for government in non-military ways, such as road and civil engineering firms, were also unable to perform as promised but were in an interesting situation: most roads and some of the structures in progress would need to be built, even though no longer operated by government; yet at mid-2026 there was no entity in place to own and operate the roads and so pay the contractors. They were in effect in limbo for the next year and a half, and some of them could not survive that long financially and went under. The employees released, for all reasons, in some cases made it their business to work with the White Market to prepare for the day when roads would be owned and operated for profit – so although many fell into disrepair during this period, when E-Day arrived these firms were ready to fix that problem at once.

**Health care** was not strictly a government function even though it was heavily controlled and very largely funded as if it was; so there had not been any unusual attrition of staff. The problem rather was in getting those funds in time to pay them, because the payment processing centers were in as much of a shambles as every other government office.

The (very healthy) result was that physicians and hospitals too conferred with the White Market to plan a replacement industry, ready for the obviously imminent E-Day. Plenty of adjustments would have to be made (as recounted in the book [A Vision of Liberty](#)) and not all of them were foreseen at this stage – but enough of them were, to enable the industry to hit the ground running.

**Wealth Redistribution** was by far the biggest component of the Federal spend, and a large slice of State ones as well; the very useful annual IRS pie-charts of Federal income and expenditure show that “Social Security, Medicare and Social Programs” - an enormous catch-all, that latter – made up no less than 57% of the total. However as noted above, it didn't absorb that large a share of employees, for the whole function was heavily computerized. Only 2.5% of Federal and 2% of State workers were so engaged. Thus, as government workers walked out, the impact on handouts to the public was not heavy, and remaining managers moved remaining employees over to fill the vacancies – because it was rightly perceived that if those benefits stopped flowing, there would be no hope whatever of retaining any public belief in the need for any government.

That said, the *value* of the checks that were being churned out fell precipitously, starting in 2026, as the extra printing of “money” took its inevitable effect in inflated prices. The response was to have Congress authorize large, emergency cost of living increases; the numbers printed on the government checks were larger, yet they drew on accounts that were empty and so yet more printing had to be done. This cycle accelerated during 2026; there was a big raise in July, than another in September, then even bigger ones each month for the rest of the year. That was the perceived price of retaining support for government: to pay its prime beneficiaries, even in rapidly-deteriorating “money.” For the first time ever in America, hyperinflation took hold.

**“General Government”** was a function mentioned in reports of what government people did all day, and included the administration of what it was pleased to call justice; yet it made up a very small portion of what governments spent and of the number of employees hired

to carry them out; usually between 3% and 7%. To the extent that this miscellany of activities was felt to be too important to fail, residual government personnel were moved in to replace those who quit from these areas; but that feeling was not uniform. Policing was perceived to be vital, as were prisons, but the operation of courts less so – time was now critically important and court hearings meant long delays which could be ill-afforded. Another function many of the remaining government people felt disposable was that of the Passport Office.

When the Feds “closed down” in 1995 following squabbles in Congress about how much to steal from taxpayers and how to spend the loot, the first of the few offices to close down was the one for issuing passports. This cynical trick got the attention of the most influential members of society (who tend to travel abroad most) and of vacationers, and so built rapidly a constituency for reopening at any cost. That precedent was favored by many as a “bit of stick” to put about to quell the alleged Republican Revolution. However, this time it backfired, as had the crackdown of January. This time, too much of the population recognized the trick for what it was, and hostility against government rose to a fever pitch and new students poured in to the freedom schools faster than ever. So passports continued to be renewed and, alas, police continued to patrol.

“Justice”, on the other hand, fell apart - being a low priority for government resource allocators.

**The Postal Service** was a whale on the point of being beached. It had employed a million people (though more than a third of them had quit) and was perfumed with the appearance of a Corporation, but it retained a monopoly over First Class mail and jealously guarded the legal fiction of its “ownership” of the inside of everybody's mailbox.

Lacking competition, it's amazing that it had ever delivered good quality; but its prices were high and always rising and in mid-2026 its service had become abysmal.

In June, inflation was running at 5% a month and *the rate was doubling every month*. With its powerful Union the Post Office employees were able to make sure that the numbers printed on their paychecks kept pace with that, but it fast became obvious to all but the dimmest of them that their cushy jobs were coming to an end. The brighter ones, who had been the first to quit, gave thought to what might replace the monopoly.

The market being served consisted of businesses mailing documents unsuitable for electronic transmission, such as top-copy legal pages or promotional material designed for maximum visual impact, and greeting cards sent by more traditional members of society who saw emailed cards as too ephemeral. There were also still a few handwritten, personal letters but the number was dwindling.

So one of the plans being formed at this time centered on working with the greeting-card giant, Hallmark. We'll read more about that venture in the next chapter.

By the end of September, 42% of the American population knew well that government was an absolute parasite – and why - and wished eagerly for it to disappear; and of their number, nearly 15 million former government employees or 37% of that total, had quit. The freedom avalanche was now thundering along with unstoppable momentum.

## 9: *Enterprise*

113 million re-educated Americans made up the White Market at the end of September 2026, and despite the need to operate with little or no advertising, its members lost no time exchanging goods and services among themselves and increasingly did so with the help of real money.

Gold was the exchange medium of choice, both physical and electronic. The latter had been outlawed nearly two decades earlier, but by basing both the web sites and the metal that backed the accounts offshore, free-market bankers were able to avoid harassment and provide a service – which fast became popular even among non-graduates of a freedom school, because of its huge advantage of stable prices in a period of hyperinflation.

Those 113 million were bright and creative, more so on average than those who had not so far responded to an invitation to join a freedom school. Accordingly new and inventive ideas bubbled up every day, everywhere, for offering ways to improve peoples' lives, but the frustrating part was that rather often, those products and services could still not be offered openly, for the government's regulators and police were still around. For the most part therefore, 2026 was a year when entrepreneurs planned and invested, identified key staff and made agreements – ready for when the restrictions were lifted.

**A new postal service** formed one interesting venture for the coming, free society. It was PHUPS, which stood for the Provisional Hallmark Universal Postal Service. Hallmark had been building up its greeting-card business



by franchising card racks in major convenience and grocery chains, so by 2015 actually had many more retail points of sale than the Post Office. The company also depended heavily on a mail delivery service, which by 2026 was fast becoming unreliable, so the idea was born to turn those points of sale into general mail service centers.

Stamps could be sold across the counters (as well as in regular Hallmark stores) and on-line stamp purchase could also readily be arranged. A rate of 10 gold milligrams was planned, for first class letters up to 50 grams, and that was thought to allow plenty of room for price reduction as the operation became more efficient with experience and competitive pressure. Recruits drawn from the several hundred thousand former USPS employees could make up a sorting and delivery staff – but the big obstacle at this time was the “ownership” the USPS claimed over mailbox interiors. PHUPS owners recognized that there would be few customers unless delivery could be guaranteed free of interference by malefactors. That is why “Provisional” formed the first word of its name – so the next twelve months were spent equipping the racks with a mail drop, training a nucleus of staff, and refining the business plan. Then when the USPS completely fell apart, HUPS was ready to spring into action, having dropped the “P”.

This was expensive in that capital had to be invested long before any revenues could be enjoyed – and that was typical of ventures in this transitional period – but once free to operate as planned, the expected return would be large. The further advantage of delay was that once liberated, HUPS would be able to take over some of the USPS' sorting and retail centers, without need to build from scratch. It was expected that HUPS would operate with

under 15% of the staff used by the USPS and provide better, cheaper service.

Lysander Spooner, who had tried in 1844 to compete with the government monopoly but who had been slapped down for his impertinence, cheered almost audibly in his grave.

**Retail** remained, for similar reasons, relatively unchanged at this period but behind the scenes a great deal of creative planning was under way because it was clear that after E-Day all the silly rules and restrictions would vanish and any with a storefront could bring to the buyer any merchandise he wished – including liquor, probably the most regulated of all. When Prohibition was repealed in 1933, State and local governments all got aboard a bandwagon to milk (if that's the word) the expected heavy demand by taxing it, and some (including the “Live Free or Die” State of New Hampshire!) *monopolized* its distribution. It remained illegal to sell liquor by mail order, and very commonly beer retailers could not sell spirits and vice-versa. All the arrogance and absurdity of the tin gods of government lay in this labyrinth of legislation. So, a huge opportunity was pending, to meet buyers' demand with low prices and fast service, and preparations were made by both established retailers and new specialty firms formed for the purpose.

**On-Line Trading**, on the other hand, boomed. It had been booming ever since eBay began operating in 1995, and by 2026 tens of millions of Americans were trading frequently in merchandise they made themselves, or bought in wholesale lots and sold with a markup, over the Net. Only a minority made all their earnings that way, but it was a useful source of extra money for everyone - and by the mid-20s, the exchange medium of choice was electronic

gold. eBay itself was slow to make that change, being the owner of rival PayPal, but when hyperinflation took hold they had little choice but to follow the lead of others, like Yabee – based in Costa Rica so that no dying US Government could lash out and stop them promoting what Keynes called the “barbarous relic.” So, around 45% of all American “retail” purchases were done on-line in 2026 and over 90% of those transactions were settled with gold. This was what ordinary people did, first and foremost, if they needed a rewarding hobby; this was the core of the coming free market, and government was unable to shut it down for its banks had no control over the money used and in any case it was, as we've seen, fast running out of people.

**Banking** remained a government-licensed cartel at this time, but the industry employed plenty of bright people who could see what was coming and so who made plans for free-market banking when the opportunity arose. In fact the Bank for Americans' Gold (BAG) was formed in mid-year, in Panama so as to be beyond FedGov interference - and offered on-line instant fund transfer services in terms of gold, which metal backed all accounts 100%. By making agreements with Visa and Mastercard operators (also offshore) it became easy for customers to draw government money out of ATMs, and at points of sale, for spending (very fast, before it lost value) in stores where gold was not yet accepted. A nice feature was that amounts could be specified in any multiple of hundredths of a milligram (there are about three 2008 cents in a gold mg.) so pricing had never been so precise. BAG quickly attracted customers eager to protect their government fiat currency from its daily plunge towards extinction, even those still not graduated from a freedom school. Its operation was very like that of E-Gold, which the FedGov had

extinguished in 2010, but was placed in a jurisdiction that had long been friendly towards offshore free enterprise and which was no longer afraid of US military reprisals.

The **justice industry** formed a ground-floor opportunity for people a wide range of skills, because it was basically brand-new and with a ready-made demand waiting; under government, justice had been a farce, a pretense.

More is told in [A Vision of Liberty](#) of how it developed in the three years following E-Day, but in preparation scores of thousands of creative entrepreneurs laid plans, and some of them (investigators, for example) could start at once.

Real justice has to do with righting wrongs, ie restoring lost rights. A interferes with the person or property of B, that is a wrong and the function of a proper justice system is to restore B to his or her former condition as far as feasible, at the expense of A. That's it; there is no component under which a third party (government) has to be propitiated by means of some “punishment.” The elements of a justice system that operate to rectify an attack on B by an “A” whose identity is unknown are:

- Detection: A must be identified
- Apprehension: A must be held or bonded to appear in a free-market court of B's choosing
- Trial and disposition: if the facts B alleges are found to be proven, A must be ordered to compensate B and the payment, enforced

That “enforcement” was done, once the free society was in place after E-Day, by affecting A's reputation. The facts of the matter got published, and A's future ability to trade (eg,

to get a job) depended on his having obeyed the court order and so demonstrated that his word can be trusted, having put right a wrong he caused. At the time being described, however, not much of this was in place – but all of it was the subject of some very vigorous planning. Companies were being formed all over the country to detect, apprehend and try disputes of that and all other kinds, and staff were being recruited and trained using investors' money.

Many of the staff had previously been working in regular police detective offices and government court systems – but all had been re-educated and understood that the old fiction that “crime” and “punishment” had any connection with justice had been laid to rest. They were all eager to help offer true justice, for the first time ever, in the marketplace. Naturally, they expected to do so at a fraction of the previous cost – and that hope was well fulfilled later.

**Database Operations** were going to play a key part in the coming free society, and were commonplace already by 2026. This refers to *personal* databases – places on the Net where anyone could read about anyone who chose to give up a measure of privacy so as to be better known. “Personal web pages” had of course begun before the Century turned, and with “MySpace” and other databases they gained a head of steam in its first decade. At that time also, search engines like Yahoo operated “people finders” and Google could spot entries in different places for the same person, and so enable a profile to be read by anyone interested. Finally eBay had pioneered the idea of having customers and vendors (both sides of a trading transaction) record impressions of each other, which played a significant part in the future ability of each to trade. A “favorable rating” of 99% or better was a prize asset. In the coming free society,

it would become priceless.

I mention this technique not because it formed a separate industry in which large numbers worked at this time, but because it facilitated almost all others businesses and for that matter personal relationships. About the first thing anyone did, upon meeting someone or receiving a business proposition, was to check his or her profile on the Net. This meant that the person's reputation, recorded there by himself and others with whom he'd had dealings, was of paramount importance.

If he'd been accused of committing aggression in some way, details of how the matter was resolved would be read – usually before any job was offered or purchase made. If such a matter had not been properly resolved (for example if he'd been found liable by a court but had failed to try to make restitution) it would be hard indeed for him to earn a living, or certainly a good one. Conversely if information found on the database was predominantly positive, his trading opportunities would multiply. This was a central aspect of the coming free society and by 2026 the practice was already very widespread; it formed a sound foundation.

**Trash Disposal** promised to be a key opportunity in the new, free America and hundreds of thousands of inventive men and women got to work – and as local government ground to a halt during 2027, stepped in even before E-Day in some cases to take over the failing functions – and it's just as well, for the sake of public health. At first they simply operated existing facilities and charged for entry, usually just by the car- or pickup-load. Afterwards, they got smarter and so were able to reduce prices.

The first change was that everyone planned for action *rationally*. Where there was a demand for particular kinds of waste (steel, glass, paper...) customers bringing it were offered a discount if they would dump those items separately. There was of course no compulsion to do so, merely an incentive; carrots, not sticks.

Next (and often this had to await E-Day so that no bureaucrats could interfere) each facility except transfer stations in cities re-planned their land and dug. It's been said that America's entire output of waste for more than a year could be accommodated in a hole one mile cubed, so local firms dug holes – but in places where no water run-off would impact a neighbor, for that would have risked a later lawsuit with associated costs. Nobody wanted to externalize a cost, it wasn't worth it. But the local holes were used to dump waste that had no scrap or combustible value, and covered over with the earth that had been removed. Yes, this was land-fill, done as it had been done for ages before the eco-freaks got political influence, but without disregard for anyone downstream or down-wind – the compensation would have been too expensive.

Waste that could be burned was, in fact, burned – often in small scale power-generator stations located right next to where customers brought it. The electricity made was sold back to the nearest power company – so each trash dump was its own profit center and prices (to customers who dropped off the raw materials) were charged competitively for otherwise they would, as it were, shop elsewhere.

Although the laws were still on the books they were fast becoming unenforcible so the coming free market was being anticipated; there was no *compulsion* to bring or send

trash to any handling-company. People could foul their own nest as it were, if they wanted, or bury it in their own back yard. However there were constraints that generally prevented that:

1. It reduced the value of the home where they lived, so the motivation was negative
2. If rented, the owner often forbade it anyway
3. If it impacted a neighbor in some way compensation would be claimed and paid.

These, at any rate, were the plans being laid by enterprising people during 2026; some of them were implemented at once, most had to wait a year or so. But rational free enterprise did the job of efficiently handling trash and making good money for those in the business. It was a very sweet-smelling change.

**Education** was the industry undergoing the most dramatic change in late 2026. By year-end fully half the population understood how evil government is, and those with children naturally took them away from its influence. Most chose to home-school them (which meant a lot of vacant jobs no longer performed by the spouses who stayed home) but the pace of change left two needs, which entrepreneurs hurried to fill: (a) the home teacher needed help and (b) when the help ran short, ie when the material to be taught was simply beyond his or her grasp, experts in the subject(s) concerned were needed to run specialty classes. Additionally (c) some parents chose not to leave the regular workplace but to place the children in free-market schools with a style and curriculum of which they approved.

It's to be noted that associated expenses were borne by



these parents at this time while property taxes were still being demanded to pay for government-school places they did not use. In previous years this had been a heavy burden on the smaller number of people involved, but by late 2026 the fear of loss of home for nonpayment of tax had abated; the local tax bills were ignored in the knowledge that they were uncollectible. This partial liberty turbocharged the move out of government schools and gave huge impetus to the new members of the education industry.

As above, those members were: (a) schools charging fees, (b) specialist advance classes, (c) adult education services and (d) software providers.

(a) The schools were well placed for a flying start, to meet the increasing demand, because “private schools” had been in existence since Colonial times and despite the great burden of having to pay twice over for a child's education, many parents had made the needed sacrifices for that to happen – often including those employed in government schools as teachers, which was a powerful indictment of their quality of education. So all that private schools had to do was to expand and to move “down-market” - that is, to offer high quality basic education, without the frills that had become commonplace in academies for the sons and daughters of gentlefolk.

There was a shortage of physical premises in 2026, so as student enrollments grew they had to rent space in off-campus buildings, but it was quite easy to recruit extra teaching staff; they just cherry-picked the best out of the droves of teachers quitting the government system.

The move down-market took rather longer, because most

had to be started from nothing. The job was done partly by business people who saw the opportunity, and again by teachers recruited from the best of those leaving government schools. By late 2026, supply was meeting demand; the market was stable, for as noted above, most parents chose to do their own teaching, at home.

(b) Special, advanced classes were formed all over the country to assist parents with bright teenagers whose minds were able to absorb concepts faster than Mom or Dad; the need here was to teach what had been taught only in colleges, for it was outside the scope of regular high schools. If the child was ready, his questions had to be answered; that's what "education" means!

The need was met, and the classes founded, by experts in the field concerned – the sciences, literature, language, history etc – who had previously tried to teach sixth forms in their specialty subject, or who had been lecturers in a college perhaps, and who, having graduated from a freedom school, understood what society now needed. They typically ran classes from their homes, gathering groups of fewer than a dozen students, and charging modest fees to the parents. These students achieved by age 18 the level of scholarship reached in the government system four years later after a horribly expensive period in college, so were very well qualified to enter the job market. The formal awarding of a "degree" had to await E-Day, but there were now plenty of opportunities in the White Market - where employers knew the difference between a printed diploma and a real mastery of the subject.

(c) The third major business opportunity in Education was that of *adult* schooling. The wreckage caused by

government schools for children was wide-ranging; it had deliberately made it hard for people to think, to use their reasoning ability. A lot of this was repaired by TOLFA and the other freedom schools, but that still left a huge amount of history, math, literature, physics, economics, geography etc. to be learned and not all of it was absorbed while rushing to answer the questions posed by adults' own children – some of them had no children, or had some who were already grown up. So there was a rapidly-growing market demand for learning by those already earning a living, and it was not all for technical training related directly to their work. A lot of adults, having been deprived of one when they were young, wanted an *education*. The market began to provide one, and this new industry began at this time and prospered for many years after E-Day; and the best method, as in (d) below, was on-line interactive tuition with books and in-person “chat” help available when needed, all for modest fees. Increasingly, the books were electronic.

(d) The fourth and most important business opportunity in the new education market was in providing software for home school parents – who were almost always non-teachers, learning as they went, just a few steps ahead of their children. Or at least, they tried to stay ahead.

Software of this kind had been generated since before the turn of the Century, for there was even then a demand from the parents of over a million home-schooled children; so when the White Market numbers exploded after 2022 this formed a very important business and many firms produced some excellent software in all major school subjects. The format was very often interactive, both for the students and for the parent teacher, in the form of advice on how to

guide the student and answer his or her questions. The best products came from centers with a resident staff (with experienced teachers in attendance) so that when a query arose not yet covered in the programmed Q&A of each lesson, a “live chat” could put the student and/or his parent in contact with an expert with an answer.

Very properly, since all that cost money, the software vendor charged a modest fee for each software segment and included a quota of live-chat sessions. The word soon got around among parents if a particular firm's service was superior – or less so. Competition was vigorous, and it produced excellent results. The end-result was not a “High School Diploma” (which had for decades hardly been worth the paper it was printed on) but a certificate from the company providing the service and measuring the student's performance. The job market rapidly came to evaluate these latter as worth any six of the former.

Some States prohibited home-schooling, but because their ability to enforce such an arrogant law was dissolving before everybody's eyes, very few freedom-school graduates paid it any heed. Real education was accordingly again taking place, among that half of the country's school-age children who had, by end-2026, been liberated.

**Manufacturing** was another industry segment in great flux in that year; for even in the major firms there was a huge amount of re-tooling going on so as to stimulate and meet a public demand for what had been called “consumer goods” - that is, useful things that real people might want to buy; all the facilities that had been devoted to government contracts were withering for want of staff – nearly half of whom had quit – and of payment for goods produced, for

government IOUs were no longer well regarded even by those firms whose management had not yet joined the White Market. This was a classic case of beating swords into plowshares, on an unprecedented scale; one has to think back to the cases of Heinkel, Messerschmitt, Krupp and BMW in 1946 Germany to find a comparable change.

It was the new, small firms however that made the most exciting news for 2026. As talented staff quit jobs in firms catering to government, they got together in groups either physically local or by interest on the Internet, and figured out what kind of products might be in demand by a newly liberated public, and used their talents to invent, design, cost, manufacture and market their ideas.

One area in this segment of tremendous innovation at this time was that of **avionics**. These ideas were not new, but the air traffic-control monopoly had delayed their implementation for many years, and following its privatization in 2025, carriers and controllers were lining up to acquire the best devices for collision avoidance, navigation and landing. It was a race to get the best performers delivered first, and mainly small firms all over the country were eager to grasp this one-time opportunity.

Another, more focused on individual buyers, was the field of **power generators**. The idea of having a home generator was almost as old as electricity – but for most of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century large-scale generators with the national distribution grid had provided lower kWh prices. In the 2010s that changed; the long dominance of ecofascists in government had prevented construction of enough new generators to meet peak demand and so by the early 2020s brownouts were common and blackouts far too frequent.

The public had become aware of yet another major result of government regulation of industry, and fast action was needed. Even if permits had been issued on demand, new power plants would take at least five years to put on-line, so there were scores of new companies that designed and built small-scale, quiet generators for residential use which used almost any available fuel and provided reliable power.

Success was inversely proportional to price. Grid power cost the dollar equivalent of 5 gold milligrams, and the new power entrepreneurs produced machines whose cost would be recovered in 3 years or less and which would then yield electricity for a cost of 1 mg per kWh. Preparation went on from 2022 onwards and by 2026, when local regulations prohibiting such devices began to become unenforceable, they could sell all they could build. It was boom time!

The crackdowns since January had left deep scars throughout society, and although freedom-school graduates were clear that there was to be no violent revolution, government was so violence-prone and unpredictable that it was well to stay well prepared for self-defense and so the demand for **handguns**, especially, was high – and not just among White Marketeers – and not all of that demand was met by sales of the millions of guns that were eventually transferred from the parasite sector by soldiers and police when they walked off the job. Accordingly another business opportunity that was exploited at this time had been made possible by materials development in the 2010s: that of manufacturing such guns out of carbon fiber and composites, often in “cottage industries”, and selling them by word of mouth so as to avoid the government anti-gun snoops and their ubiquitous metal detectors - while going about well armed.

By late in the year, neighborhood **handgun-control classes** formed a popular new business, for laws had curtailed gun use and people were out of practice. When the laws lost their teeth for want of enforcement capability, people took back responsibility for self-defense – not just against a possible repeated government offensive, but against ordinary criminals who were, alas, also taking advantage of short staffing among police. Those were soon to learn that crime seldom pays when the victim is well armed.

Also exciting as early as 2026 was the range of new **batteries**. Sounds unromantic, but technology had made great strides since the lead-acid batteries of over a century earlier and ten times more power could be stored for a given size and weight than just a decade earlier. The invention had, however, been further delayed by government eco-regulations, for one of the components in each battery was not biodegradable. Once it became clear that those could no longer be enforced, they hit the market big-time, for hundreds of different purposes from trucks to wristwatches, and the low price stimulated new sales of everything in which they could be used. Disposal, when eventually they ran down, was easy enough and the half of the population that had been re-educated had no wish to impose a cost on their neighbors so they traded in the old battery when buying a replacement and in a typical case the retailer would pay the owner of a local disused mineshaft to collect and drop them in. None of that was legal, but none of the laws could any longer be enforced. Freedom was imminent, and 'most everyone knew it, and few any longer cared what government said or did.

**Charities** were an important component of the developing

White Market. It was clear to those benefactors who had graduated from a freedom school that there would continue to be some needy people in society - especially at its beginning; for the forced “charity” of government would terminate and some people – disabled and elderly folk – would not be able to make do without help.

They rightly saw this as a temporary problem, for in decades to come everyone would know that along with freedom comes the responsibility to plan for our own needs in the future – and the general level of prosperity would be high enough for that to be done rather easily. Meantime, though, there would be a period of considerable need.

Benefactors are motivated by genuine compassion and by a wish to hold themselves in high regard, so this presented them with a prime opportunity. They rose to it. By 2026 half a dozen major charities had been set up and partly funded, and while few disbursements had been needed so far, staff were being recruited to handle what would become a very active year in and after 2027. Those recruited got each venture planned for the greatest possible efficiency, so that the largest possible percentage of funds donated would go to the intended beneficiaries. They communicated with each other so as not to duplicate efforts, and in some cases rented offices and moved in so as to be ready for E-Day. And of course, targeted advertising was done to attract additional funds. Since many taxes were by this time no longer enforceable, there was new money available and some was donated. The milk of human kindness flowed again.

**Clean-up** was one of the biggest developing industries, fairly bristling with opportunity for creative people at all



levels of skill. It too was largely in the planning stage in 2026, but needed to be ready to spring into action when government finally disappeared. The business opportunity lay in profitably tidying up the mess it would leave behind.

As well as large firms with ample resources, thousands of small companies, groups of individuals, got together at this time to prepare for action. I was one of them, though not physically active due to my age, and very often they were the same people who, in their former government jobs, had created the mess in the first place – so they knew just where to look and often, what to do.

By “mess” is meant government pollution, such as:

- WMDs (poison-gas and bio-weapon dumps, nuclear warheads, missile silos...)
- Navy yards, army depots, air bases
- Ordinance – submarines, carriers, tanks, aircraft, artillery, guns without peaceful use, explosives...
- Environmental pollution, as from Hanford Nuclear
- Purpose-designed government buildings (courts, schools, prisons...)

It was noted in the 1990s that despite the hypocritical claim that government's laws reduce pollution, the countries where government had most power (the Communist ones of Eastern Europe and China) air and water pollution was *far* worse than in those where it had less. Yet in America too, the mess government was to leave behind was appalling.

This pollution was spread widely throughout the country. Some (eg the radioactive waste at Hanford) formed a problem so massive as not to be susceptible to small-firm

inventiveness – indeed, it had frustrated very well-funded sub-contractors for decades before 2026. Many of the other tasks did, however, lend themselves to individual creativity.

Always, the first question was: who would pay? - for while nobody likes to have a disused jail next door, going to rot and vermin infestation, its removal costs a heap of money and nobody could be forced to contribute. Close behind that however came the question “how can money be made?” and that's what always enabled the job to be done, with profits left over. In 2026, however, virtually none of it could start; this was the time for making plans, attracting capital, and recruiting staff.

The story of how my own small firm dealt with a poison gas dump after E-Day is told in [A Vision of Liberty](#), which book also mentions “Silk Purse Enterprises” that was founded early in 2026 and became one of the most successful groups in this industry. As an example, here's how Silk Purse planned to dispose of a jail, in a city not far away from where I live.

First, they arranged that after it was abandoned on E-Day they would acquire title to the whole site – see below for more about title acquisitions. Then they could get to work, and the plan was to turn the jail into low-rent apartments.

The structure itself was quite sound, and plumbing and power reached every cell – so apart from a little repair here and there, the utilities were in place. Internet connections would of course be provided as wi-fi. The main remodeling to be done was in the removal of the bars across each cell (the steel would fetch a good price on the recycle market) and in the demolition of dividing walls – a few parts of

which were retained, when they had particularly well-composed graffiti, to adorn the entrance to the apartment unit in a glass display case.

Then new dividing walls were to be erected to form units for rent. The jail had 300 double-occupancy cells in blocks arranged around a central courtyard, each 10' by 8' – so the space from ten cells was to be converted to one 1-bedroom apartment and that from fifteen into 2- and 3-bedroom suites. In all there would be 24 apartments, and the central courtyard was turned in to a recreation area with children's play area, tennis court and swimming pool. There was a park area for 35 cars, for jail staff and visitors, which would later serve the residents. The planned rentals were from 15 grams to 25 grams of gold per month plus utilities, with an expected revenue of 5 kilograms a year for Silk Purse Enterprises, allowing for less than 100% occupancy. Their financial planners reckoned that would lead to a healthy 11% net return on investment, after maintenance expenses had been deducted.

The unit was to be named “The Old Jail House” and Silk Purse's planning team included two recruited from a group of recently released prisoners, who had lost no time studying in and graduating from a freedom school.

Additional plans provided for a restaurant facility (called, what else, simply “Bars”) on the side facing the road, to attract custom from both residents and travelers, and all the remodeling work was to be done by local contractors, who had signed-up for the work when plans became known or who had joined when the work began, and they included several former inmates, who took part in the demolition phase with particular enthusiasm. The jail's liberated

kitchen equipment was to be used, though alas the bar furniture had to be purchased new.

**Title Registration** sounds dull, yet those with a real-estate background could readily see that after E-Day it would play a vital role in the new society – so they got ready.

Prior to E-Day real estate ownership was recorded by local governments, usually counties; and title companies would record and search those records, for fees, and insure titles – meaning that if they erred, compensation would be paid.

In the final couple of years of government, that system fell apart and title companies scrambled to form their own copies of titles, properly computerized. The clerical work involved was huge, and many extra staff were needed; the situation also created opportunities for new companies to enter the industry and many did, almost all on a local basis – by taking over, in effect, the county records. As those were vacated by their staff, Your Neighborhood Recording Co would step in to fill the void. It was painstaking work, but these firms were led by IT professionals and computers did much of it – with OCR scanning as well as image archiving. Having formed the local database, access was provided on-line to any party for fees – very profitably.

These title companies – long-established or brand new – were to play a key part in the transition to liberty after E-Day, as well as helping enable property to be bought and sold beforehand. That part concerned acquisition of real estate formerly “owned” by governments.

The service they offered was to record the title to a lot of land and buildings, for a fee, upon request. That sounds a

lot simpler than it might have been. The fundamental problem is that unlike an individual or company, there is no actual existence or identity for “government”. It is a legal fiction, an abstract term. There are real people employed by “it”, but “it” itself isn't actually real, nobody exists who is responsible. After even the fictional entity disappeared on E-Day, for both reasons there was nobody capable of transferring ownership to a new party. Accordingly it was a matter of first-come, first-served; as if all former “government property” was unclaimed, wilderness land beyond some frontier; and title companies did the job.

This was sometimes a major responsibility, for the Feds alone had pretended to own one third of all American land!

Usually, there was only one claimant – like Silk Purse in the case of the abandoned jail, above. If there were several, the usual practice was for the title company to grant it to the first to register, and then later claimants could negotiate a “quit claim” for a payment. An analogy was what happened to Internet domain names around the turn of the Century; some bright investors would register common names like “bac.com” and later sell rights to it to the Barchester Aluminum Company – for a handsome markup. However the title firms discouraged large-scale land-grabs by advertising all claims upon receipt, and imposing a wait period so that others could come forward; they did this to retain their own good reputation in the marketplace. Sometimes they had to play arbiter between rivals, and occasionally rival claims were settled in court before being recorded as final. If there was something sensitive about the property (eg a missile silo) they were particularly careful (for the same reason) they would record only *conditional* ownership – ie, conditional upon certain action being taken

within a specified time, such as the removal of all radioactive or explosive material. I did that myself, when my firm acquired the poison-gas dump.

For the most part, though, title registration was a simple and valuable service, which after E-Day was performed with the efficiency and low prices that only free-market, competing operators can furnish.

**Roads** formed one of the biggest intellectual challenges (and therefore opportunities!) for business folk looking for work to do in the new society.

Highways were easy enough to contemplate; many were already operating as toll roads so road-operating firms could move right in after E-Day, take over operations, put improvements in place and make profits.

Local streets within housing developments, likewise, were not hard to adapt; almost all traffic served owners of homes located on the roads, so user fees to maintain them could be allocated to them by the new road owner – and often, the homeowners themselves would form the road company for that purpose, as a kind of neighborhood road association.

The problem came, rather, with the third kind of road: those with properties on either side, but whose main function was to convey traffic from one end to the other, only occasionally serving any of those homeowners. Such roads were often rural, but were also found in cities. How could ownership of that kind of road become an attractive proposition – who would pay the user fees and how would they be charged? What would be the business model for owning and operating Fifth Avenue?

The only way to discover an optimal answer to that kind of question was for a market to operate, and eventually it did and answered it very well indeed – with different solutions emerging in different circumstances. What a contrast with the present one-size-fits-all arrangement! Nonetheless, at the time of our story, 2026, no such unfettered market existed and so the answer wasn't clear. All that could be done, until government got right out of the way, was to speculate and plan, and tens of thousands of companies speculated and planned and prepared, ready to take profitable opportunity when the time arrived. It's worth noticing that prior to this time, *nobody had ever tried* to make a rational business plan for marketing road usage, so it was little wonder that the political-control method was expensive and often of poor quality. It's not so much that in 2026 intending road-owners wrestled with problems – it's rather that roads hadn't been provided on a rational basis ever in history, and these entrepreneurs were busy breaking that wholly new ground. It was exciting!

**Publishing** was another industry that underwent great expansion in this period – in fact the trend had started ten years earlier when Laissez-Faire's spin-off Orinoco.com broke through its millionth “book” sale; this enterprise placed a special emphasis on freedom-oriented books for downloading only. The founders made agreements with authors (or their estates, if deceased) to market the works in this way and as the freedom community grew, thirst for this kind of knowledge seemed insatiable. Classics like Murray Rothbard's “Power & Market” were subjected to OCR scanning so it could be searched like any hand-entered text and in 2026 Orinoco made *ten million* sales by September, almost all for prices under 250 mg.

**Inventions** proceeded apace and their development and marketing absorbed a large and fast-growing part of the work force, but I will not tell you about those because if you knew about them in 2008 they could not be invented in the mid-2020s and then my account of that period would be less than accurate – which would not possibly do.

These few examples form a cameo of one of the most creative and productive eras in American history – to date. There was, of course, far more to come after E-Day.



## *10: Over the Edge*

The toast almost everywhere on New Year's Day 2027 was to “FREEDOM!” - proposed just as passionately as the memorable shout of William Wallace, as brilliantly portrayed by Mel Gibson in the movie “Braveheart.” The difference was that his was a shout of defiance just prior to a painful death, while these revelers gave a shout of delight while anticipating a new and unprecedented quality of life. Wallace, further, sought liberty only from one government, just as did the East Germans of 1989; re-educated Americans wanted liberty from *all* government, and knew exactly why, as humans, we were entitled to nothing less.

One half of the literate population of America had graduated from a freedom school by the evening before – 134 million people, young and old. Everybody knew that the end of an era could only be months away, and as we saw in the previous chapter many were anticipating the event by flouting restrictive laws and practicing free enterprise – to everybody's benefit – since those laws could seldom any longer be enforced. All that remained was to wait while the less intelligent, less imaginative, more heavily brainwashed half of the population caught up.

That slower half included those who regularly voted – some 80 or 100 million people – and those used to dependency on government either directly as pensioners or other welfare recipients, or as employees – of whom 22 million remained to quit. Initially (the first time or two that a friend had suggested they join one of the freedom schools) they had declined to do so, supposing the friend to

have taken leave of his sanity; now, with half-empty government offices and a currency that was falling off a cliff and a daily TV dose of hand-wringing incompetents revealing the pathetic figures behind the green curtain in this land of Oz, they began to see that it was they themselves, not their friends, whose mental acuity was in question. They now came aboard even faster than hitherto.

It's worth re-stating that the essence of the freedom schools was that every graduate decided for himself, by reason, that *there is no rational alternative to a free market*. Only then could he qualify to take part in one, with the understanding and desire that is indispensable for its operation. For any to “go along with the flow” or to assent in some way to a free society without understanding what his rights are and are not would be a critical error; for such would, very quickly, suppose that they had some right to the product of someone else's labor and then take action to steal it. A free-market justice system can and does handle a small degree of that, but nothing more than a small degree. Members of a free society must be its members by choice, or it cannot work.

So for all the revelry at New Year's, we had to be patient; our neighbors had to join us voluntarily on purpose, with understanding and without coercion. Happily, they did.

The method of persuasion - to enroll in one of the freedom schools - was unchanged: the personal invitation of a friend. That had produced the phenomenal result of 134 million graduates, and it would produce the remaining 134 million also. It was tempting to advertise, but one-on-one contact has no equal, ever. But now, in 2027, the move to liberty depended on the “hard core” of the government apparatus yielding to reason and morality. It wasn't over.

**Welfare dependents** were the toughest group to persuade, though as above they were never approached as a group, only as individuals. The reason was clear: how could they survive, if they gave up their supposed “entitlements”?

The problem was clear to all, and here's how it was solved.

The friend seeking someone's enrollment in a freedom school would start by dealing with some hard but undeniable truths, using sympathy as befit the friendship. *First*, there was no true entitlement, because no contract ever existed – only political promises – and even one had existed, it would have been void because it would have been a contract to steal from a third party. *Second*, if the person had ever voted (unless for a Libertarian) he had voted for that fraud to continue, so he shared responsibility and was in no position to complain. Then *third*, the benefit being paid by government was losing half its value by the month-end anyway, and would likely cease altogether within a few months regardless of what action the recipient took – so his decision was not really about whether to give something up that he might otherwise keep, but rather just to find the best way to manage without it.

Then the friend would ask who owned the house being occupied, and put him in touch with a financier if it was the occupant himself. By that means he could set up a reverse mortgage, which meant that the financier would take title to the home, but make a monthly payment while the dependent still lived. This handled a majority of such cases, because although the elderly had generally small incomes, they were often quite well-off on paper, more so than any other age group.

If that did not apply, the next suggestion was to ask for help from the family – it's what families are for – and only if that failed for some reason was the resident referred to one of the charities that stood ready to help victims of government. Such support was given willingly, because providing it gave pleasure to the benefactors concerned.

Having helped solve the prospective student's financial need, the invitation to enroll was pressed because there was a need to live in harmony with the coming free society. Having now no reason to refuse, in 2027 it was accepted.

**Long-time government clerks and police** were the next toughest kind of person to bring in to the freedom schools, because years of exposure to a deadly boring job that placed no demands on the intellect had almost flat-lined the brain. Friends had to be especially patient and kindly in mentoring them. In the case of police, especially those whose training had started in the military, the obstacle was the prospect of losing what they had largely lived for: the “right” to exercise authority over people with three times their own intellectual capacity and cultural class.

Once again, the key to success was personal friendship. These folk joined a freedom school because, first and foremost, they liked and respected the friend who was inviting them – and could not ignore the fact that now not just one but *several* friends were calling it a good idea – an important fact detailed in the next chapter.

The closest (who would as usual become his “mentor” through the school) would gently point out that life as he had known it was about to end, no matter what decision he

now made; the choice was to fit in with the new society or to be an outcast in it. He would also stress that it was in its core nature a *voluntary* society, in which nobody would compel him to do anything against his will.

The two groups had one sharp difference: the clerks were “mousy” or somewhat introverted and withdrawn, while the police types were strident and “bossy” - so there had to be different strokes for different folks. Perhaps the hardest type to handle were the 15,000 remaining IRS professionals (the majority of the Service was clerical, with little notion of the particular fraud it was operating) because they combined the worst aspects of both groups! Still, the great frustration already experienced by these tax-gatherers, now that their practical power had been eroded, had severely damaged morale and a lot of them were ready to consider the awful truth of what they had been doing all their working lives.

Nobody was better placed to handle these varying characteristics than the close friend in question, and in 2027 it worked. It could not have worked any other way.

By the end of June of that year, it was later found, 203 million Americans had graduated from the freedom schools, which is 76% of all who were capable of doing so, and among them were 29 million who had worked for government but who had then quit; and that was 73% of that total. *Government had now to operate on one cylinder.*

During all this time **there was no “leader”** of the freedom movement – indeed the schools warned expressly against such people, that if any should emerge they should be ignored, for they would be false on their faces. Freedom

means that each individual governs (leads) *himself*, so any who claimed to be some sort of champion would clearly be an impostor. The work of changing minds was done, then as during the preceding two decades, by the reasoning in the schools themselves, with one-on-one mentor assistance as needed. Another good reason why leaders were a bad idea was that if one had arisen, government would certainly have chopped him down. One great strength of the movement as it did develop was that there was never any one person or small group of people whom the government could arrest, execute or assassinate. There was nothing and nobody capable of being decapitated.

**Television improved**, however, and that did give a nice boost to freedom's progress during 2027 – in fact, early signs of the change had been seen late in the previous year. Until 2026, all the TV propaganda had been firmly under government control and it had uniformly disparaged the freedom schools and all who studied in them – hence the derision with which the broadcasts had come to be greeted.

However, now that half the population understood which way was up, and now that more than half of the TV executives had joined the White Market, they used their influence to change the tone of the broadcasts. Instead of a drumbeat of opposition, TV now became the ally of the schools; news broadcasts told truthfully of the meltdown of the currency, of the nature and cause of inflation, etc. Milton Friedman's 13-part PBS series “Free to Choose” and his “Tyranny of the Status Quo” were dug out of the archives, dusted off and re-broadcast over and over, as was the long-suppressed ABC-TV miniseries “Amerika”; and camera crews did not just cover scenes of chaos caused by government failure, but the associated interviews also

showed that it was government that had failed! This was unprecedented, and it helped sway those who had so far resisted re-education.

A particularly helpful and significant documentary that was broadcast in May was a CBS examination of how freedom ideas had been spread, during the previous two decades, using early estimates of the figures revealed in this book. The discovery that an annual doubling had indeed been taking place, in the number of people to whom the necessity and desirability of freedom had been proven conclusively, was the first time this had been shown to the public (though the graduates of freedom schools had of course a pretty good idea that it was so.) The effect this had on the remaining 30% of the population was electric: they could do simple math, and the probability that government would disappear later that same year was seen to be huge. Each person realized that show-time had now arrived.

At the end of June, \$64 would buy what \$1 had bought on New Year's Day, or what 1.5¢ had bought in June 2026. All who could do so were now trading with gold as money.

## *11: Invitations Snowball*

The whole growth of the freedom movement from 2006 through E-Day was powered by personal invitations, friend-to-friend, to join one of the interactive freedom schools and be helped or “mentored” through them. This is why it succeeded; the alternative of advertising would have been ineffective (even a successful campaign nets a 1% response, costs a fortune, and exposes its principals to hostile action) and the work involved was very light and very simple; each graduate committed to find just one of his friends per year, out of the 200 or so people that everyone knows.

At this point in our story however it's worth examining how the numbers worked during that 21-year period, and in particular, *how many invitations a person received.*

It was soon found that on average, a graduate had to invite 25 of his friends to join before one would say “yes.” This should not surprise us, for the brain-damage done by the government's school system was formidable. This ratio of 25:1 lasted through most of the period. Here's its effect.

In the year after the number of graduates reached 1,000 there were 25,000 invitations issued in order to find the next 1,000 students – in a population 10,000 times larger! - so the chance of being invited at that time was only one in ten thousand, and that of being invited twice in the same year (by different friends) was negligible. However, all that changed radically as time passed.

A few years later (in the early 2010s) when alumni numbers



had grown to 10,000, the total number of invitations given in a year was 250,000 and that was about one in one thousand of the population; so it was still very rare to get invited by more than one person, though by then quite a lot of people were getting to know that the schools existed.

Contrast those examples with 2022, by when there were, as we saw in Chapter 1, some 8 million graduates. In the following year ( $8 \times 25 =$ ) 200 million invitations were given, to attract the next 8 million students, and that storm of invitations covered nearly the whole population and included some “doubles” - that is, some invitees got invited more than once, by more than one friend. So by that year, America was well and truly aware the schools existed.

During 2024 every non-student was being invited 2.5 times on average, by 2 or 3 different graduate friends; in 2025, 5.5 times, and in 2026, 14 times – more than once a month! - and a table in the Appendix shows how this worked.

Back now to our chronicle: by June 2027 the Anarchist Avalanche was thundering down at top speed. There were then 203 million graduates, trying to recruit friends at the usual rate of one a year, or one-twelfth of that per month; so in that month alone ( $25 \times 203/12 =$ ) 423 million invitations were being given! Now, because there were then only ( $268 - 203 =$ ) 65 million non-students remaining that meant that on average, each was receiving ( $423/65 =$ ) 6.5 invitations in that one month alone, from different friends. *That's intense!*

The intensity goes far to explain why freedom-school alumni numbers continued to grow exponentially right up to E-Day, leaving only a handful of government junkies

(almost all at the top of the heap) whose minds were still absolutely closed to reason. Certainly, resistance grew during the final few years, for all those people were deeply embedded in government mythology and the revelation of what they had been doing all their working lives was very hard to accept; but in that period they were being asked to reconsider every week – *eventually every day!* - by different friends whose opinion they respected. This came to them in addition to the very obvious fact that the world that governments had built was collapsing around them, with currency hyperinflation and empty offices.

Their natural reluctance to admit how wrong they had been was therefore swamped by the storm of invitations from people they knew and trusted – often, former colleagues - and the immense power of the personal-introduction method was demonstrated in spades. Nor was it hindered by the realization that life as they had known it was going shortly to end regardless of their own response, so it made sense to get prepared.

## *12: Trees Crack*

Healthy, supple, well-rooted trees sometimes survive the onslaught of an avalanche; they bend, and when the rush of snow has abated they regain their upright stature. Otherwise, the power of the snow rips them out or snaps the trunk like a matchstick. Such was the case with government departments; for by definition they had never been nurtured in society by voluntary support but operated always by force, regardless of the wish of the ruled. So not one of them survived this Anarchist Avalanche, and most of them, as they broke, fell upon their neighbors and helped cause them to break as well.

The most acute money shortage for governments was in the non-Federal areas as we've seen, because they could not even print any when White Marketeers stopped paying taxes that could no longer be enforced. There was still some flow of funds from sales taxes because, provided the retailer handed over what had been collected, there was no way for anyone to refuse them; but for most jurisdictions it was not nearly enough. Then later, retailers stopped both charging sales tax and submitting any to Mafia Central, so even that source of funds dried up; competition made sure that when one retailer stopped charging it, the rest followed swiftly. The protection racket was over.

**Schools** were the first forest to fall, and few outside that Union-dominated make-work indoctrination industry mourned their passing. There were 100,000 government schools in 2022, and by the end of the 2025-26 school year, at which time 70% of government workers were still in

place, 95% of them still had open doors. Closures began, however, during that Summer – as more and more teachers graduated from the freedom schools and realized they had been child abusers instead of child educators. Another 10% announced before September that they would not re-open, and when 2026 ended only two thirds were still operating.

As we noted in Chapter 7, children were being withdrawn at an ever faster rate, as re-educated parents started teaching them at home, or in for-fee schools; at the end of 2026 the student enrollment had fallen to 50% of 2022 numbers, and local governments had no money to pay school staff anyway so teachers were in a similar position to that of Russian soldiers in the 1990s. It's remarkable that as many as 66% of schools could still operate.

During 2027 that changed; for all those reasons, they closed at the rate of 11,000 a month through June and during the Summer break there was not a single school able to confirm that it would re-open in September. America's disastrous digression into collectivized child control came, after 185 years or nearly eight generations, to a richly deserved and ignominious end.

**State Colleges** followed the K-12 closure curve rather closely, but a few months later – and again for the same reasons: lack of money to pay the faculties, and lack of applications by students, for a fast-growing portion of 18-year-olds had been home-schooled already to the extent reached at the colleges for most Bachelor degrees and were on their way to well-paying jobs. By September 2027, the only ones that could stay open were the dozen that had been taken over by their faculties as business ventures, offering advanced tuition for fees; that was completely

extra-legal but since respective States could not pay the professors concerned they were in a poor condition to complain and the courts had an 18-month backlog so there was no practical way to stop the experiment. In fact all twelve were able to survive after E-Day as profit-seeking higher-education centers.

**Most hospitals** were able to do something rather similar: the medical and administrative staffs formed entities that worked a little like employee buy-outs, and simply started charging patients (and their insurers) fees which they kept, to run the establishment and pay themselves salaries. State treasuries were all empty by September, so in areas where demand for hospitals was still strong, this was the reality. It was a privatization, but *de facto* and not the usual *de jure*.

Some of the 5,000 government-run hospitals did not have a sufficient local demand for that to work (that is, the area was over-served by hospitals) and those closed their doors in the Summer of 2027. Their equipment was later put up to auction and the proceeds used to defray some of the unpaid salaries of the staff.

**Trash disposal**, water supply and sewer treatment plants were the most critically exposed operations during 2027 as the money was running out – for those were essential to public health and, while their for-profit operation after E-Day was much more cost-effective, there was still the transition problem and no time could be lost in the transfer. Fortunately they absorbed only a very small proportion of local-government funds and the elected officials were sufficiently humane – and cognizant of the value of a good reputation in the obviously imminent free society - to use what funds remained to keep them open until a proposal

was received to operate them for profit. Those usually came from associations of the staff concerned, and that worked very well; without formal legislation the newly formed companies simply took over. As time passed, they brought in a vast range of efficiency reforms that would bring prices down well below the previous cost levels; as always, free capitalist enterprise was at least twice as efficient.

**Prisons** formed the last major government function to cease operation, for they were the ultimate expression of its claimed monopoly on initiated force; so as guards walked off the job, they were quickly replaced by police officers and other remaining Federal and State employees. These were naturally ill-trained for the job, yet had to face an increasingly restive, violent inmate population – for newspapers and TV were still allowed “inside” and news of the great changes taking place had reached them too.

As the leaves fell that year, however, managers' ability to continue such transfers dried up; there were no more to be drafted, while the bad conditions inside accelerated the departure of guards whether experienced or fresh. The result was close to chaos, and riots rather often broke out; food was scarce, medical treatment almost absent, and lock-downs increasingly confined prisoners to their cages. As the end of October approached, wardens were taking it on themselves to release all guard staff and have the last man out open all the gates; for by now many wardens had themselves graduated from a freedom school and so at long last understood what they had been doing all their working lives. They were not about to add mass murder by starvation to the evil they had done, so they simply ran and let the prisoners do the same – very like the German concentration camp guards had done in 1945.

The result of the exodus was not pretty, and the sad tale is told in A Vision of Liberty. I do not see how it could have been handled differently; the mayhem was not the result of liberating the prisoners but of caging them in the first place.

It was at this time – early Fall, 2027 – as all parts of the government industry were decomposing, that the question of **restitution** was widely discussed. Horrible things had been done by government agents, for example in the malodorous “crackdowns” of 2026, related in Chapter 7. Judges had for decades prevented victimless “criminals” presenting an effective defense, just to protect their own salary sources and careers, and had viciously had them incarcerated. Cops had savaged those they found insufficiently respectful. A nationwide infestation of bureaucrats had been so maddeningly arrogant as to drive some to despair, suicide and murder – like Carl Drega in Colebrook, NH in 1997 and John Albro in Newbury, NH in 1993. Were these tin gods to go scot-free, in the coming new society?

There were a few reported cases of revenge being taken, but generally the correct understanding of “justice”, taught in the freedom schools, had taken firm hold and the only remedy considered was restitution, not retribution. Further, there was the question of culpability; were not most of the outrages committed under the umbrella of a savage *system*? The 1946 Nürnberg trials had tried to wreak vengeance on leading Nazis, but in doing so had promoted the terrible idea of retroactive law. So the example of amnesty in post-Apartheid South Africa was preferred.

Ex-government brutes had to live with their consciences for ever, and their deeds did not go unreported thanks to the flow of information on the Net, which in turn affected the degree of trust with which the free market endowed them; but in time everyone came to realize that in one degree or another nearly *all* members of society in the Government Era had been at fault. Half of the population had actually and repeatedly *elected* it to power. Others had been *silent* when they might have spoken out against it. Others had *obeyed* instructions their consciences must have told them were immoral. Yet others had *worked for it*, until recently at least, while alternative jobs existed. There were oceans of blame to go around, and the consensus was to leave it all be, and start afresh.



### *13: November 9, 2027*

In the first week of November the few remaining useful government functions ceased to operate and were taken over fully by free enterprise; and on the 9<sup>th</sup> of the month the very last operation of any government in America came to a halt; *this was the much-anticipated E-Day!* The arrogant manipulators who imagined someone had given them the right to move human beings around like pieces on a chess board were left with nobody to carry out their instructions; they had no choice but to quit too, and many of them left the country, not wishing to live in a free society where they would have no elevated status – though some had quietly changed their dollars into gold and took it with them, just as some top Nazis had squirreled away gold and diamonds in 1945. Now, the Age of Government ended in America, and nobody heard even a whimper. It remained only for the rest of the world to catch up.

It was peaceful, in that there were no riots of the kind that normally accompany revolutions – even the relatively peaceful Russian one of 1990. The only significant violence was by habitually violent criminals who had been set loose from the Nation's prisons in recent weeks, when all the remaining guards walked off the job.

Early November happens rather often to be a time of big changes. That first week used to include election day, when a new set of political thugs took power from the previous lot. Further, the 11<sup>th</sup> of the month is celebrated as Armistice Day, when the warring governments of Europe finally gave up the mutual slaughter in 1918. The 5<sup>th</sup> of the month is remembered in England as the date when Guy Fawkes tried

to bomb Parliament so as to restore a Roman Catholic monarch; a curious hero figure for the much more enlightened but fictional “V” of the 2005 “Vendetta” movie. Then on November 9<sup>th</sup> 1989 the Berlin Wall finally fell, as Germans to its East stopped obeying their government and it yielded to one less cruel; one of the happiest days in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Thirty eight years later, November 9<sup>th</sup> took on a far greater significance when the mother of all changes took place; for Josiah Browne, a caretaker in the otherwise deserted IRS headquarters in Washington, DC, placed his keys on the reception desk, pulled the master switch for the building's lights, and walked out of the open door into Pennsylvania Avenue, having lowered the Stars & Stripes from the flag poles there a few minutes earlier. He was the last known government employee in America to walk off the job.

Josiah was not the brightest star in his family's firmament, but steady reliable service for government in humble occupations had led him in due course to serve the Revenuers, and he did so with pride for thirteen years.

All the Brownes attended church every Sunday, and in a city renowned for a high crime rate even outside its government buildings, they led an upright life and Josiah had raised his children not to steal or cheat, not to bully their schoolmates, and to obey the law. Josiah didn't read too well, but in recent months he had become gradually more concerned by reports that reached him on the “grapevine” that the men and women he cared for every weekday might be breaking some of those very principles.

During 2026 and particularly 2027 he had noticed that an

increasing number of those fellow-employees, who wore smart suits and usually came and went swiftly with their briefcases, weren't around any more. Several of the “suits” had become friendly with Josiah, for he was a simple and friendly soul who would occasionally run them errands, and they would exchange pleasantries when passing through the lobby. One was Greb de Monay, the graying former revenue agent who had been pilloried years earlier by the pioneer of tax-law research Irwin Schiff, when Greb was a young hotshot, a rising star.

One evening in May, Greb stopped by and shared with Josiah the news that he too was leaving the Service. He said he had come to realize that all his working life, he had been trying to enforce laws that did not exist (and that would have been utterly immoral if they had) and felt very bad about it. He also said he'd been learning about the real nature of government, and wanted to end his days putting right some of the damage he had caused.

Josiah related this story back home next weekend while his brother's family was visiting, and nephew Caleb – who had a neat job in IT for a shipping company in Baltimore – told him Greb had been exactly right, and asked whether his uncle had joined one of the freedom schools yet. Not so, for Josiah's computer skills were limited to gaming, so Caleb invited him to join one and showed him how to work it. So with a fair bit of help from the nephew, the uncle worked his way through TOLFA and by late October, had just about got it. He then realized – as Greb had done – that he had been working for the wrong master; that all the precepts he had taught his children were being violated by his employer all over the floor. And so, without knowing whom he would work for next, he resolved to quit; and on November 9<sup>th</sup>, he

put that resolve in to action. What he could not have known beforehand was that he was the very last employee to do so.

The Internal Revenue Service had never been of “service” to anyone except the government that set it up, so when Josiah walked out on that historic evening, nobody mourned its passing. He had hardly walked a block, however, when he noticed fireworks over the National Mall. He decided to check them out, and called his wife April to meet him, to meander around and join the party.

It was an amazing sight, which others compared to the German celebrations 38 years earlier. There was no centrally choreographed display; rather, single individuals and families and quite often company managers had brought boxes of fireworks bought outside D.C., and set them going in areas they picked on the grass or near one of the monuments.



Not far from the Capitol steps there was a bonfire, and what seemed like relays of pickup trucks and SUVs brought more and more papers to pile upon it. Josiah asked about those, and was told by people with very happy faces that they were some of the files they had been working on in the Justice Department, the DHS, the FBI and several other components of the former government's alphabet soup. One couple said that when last seen, by the entrance to Justice had been a placard announcing "FOR SALE" beneath which someone had written "AS USUAL." The paper burners were all celebrating the destruction of some outrageous

violations of privacy of innocent people.

There were some bands here and there, with makeshift stages, and nearby each people were dancing. There weren't picnics, as such, for the evening was chilly – but there were several hot-dog stands to be seen, and that was the first time many had ventured near the Mall since the DC Peddlers' Law had confined them to other streets. They were being *very* well patronized – as were the stalls set up with beer kegs and marijuana, both far more illegal yet. Everyone was having a good time, for none of those ridiculous laws now had any teeth whatever. The only disappointment of the evening was felt by the retailers of pot; they were able to sell the product only at prices lower than what they had paid for it. The drug-price decline which began when juries had refused to convict in drug trials tipped over the edge this week; marijuana commanded a price little higher than tobacco.

Groups had been busy at the monuments. Only Jefferson's, across the water, was left pretty well unscathed – but the others were enhanced with suitable graffiti, including the old familiar Humpty Dumpty outline, though now he was wearing a grin from ear to ear. Those had hitherto been kept away from these most sacred icons of government by special teams of round-the-clock police patrols.

The busiest paint sprays were at the huge Lincoln Memorial, where the true nature of his bloodthirsty presidency began to get revealed on the stonework. Slaves, one graffito said now, he freed as an afterthought; his achievement rather was to enforce Federal rule over millions who wished to secede and to kill over half a million in the process, one American in 32 - a ratio higher

than in any war before or since. Another sign adapted the title of Jeffrey Rogers Hummel's 1996 book, to "Emancipator of Slaves, Enslaver of Free Men."

Painters were busy too at the Washington Monument, and Josiah and April saw taking shape on one of its sides his famous quote "Government is not reason, it is force; and force, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearsome master." There were additions in smaller letters and different colors, to the effect that old George, like all the others, knew the truth but operated a government anyhow. A pipe and fiddler group topped with Tricorn hats and calling itself "The Whiskey Rebels" was playing an Irish jig inside the circle of flag posts and the crowd around was engaged in a lively hop – not always, it must be admitted, in perfect time to the music. The flags themselves were an assortment; the US ones had been removed (like the "U.S." itself) and were being auctioned off for charity, and most of the replacements were black, some with the encircled anarchist "A" on, there were a couple of yellow "Don't Tread on Me" snakes riding high, and just as the Brownes reached the circle a group of revelers from New Hampshire arrived and started raising a flag picturing a porcupine up the last unoccupied pole.

The Vietnam Memorial was of course left unpainted, out of respect for those 58,000 victims of government folly, but one group was busy digging-in a new memorial stone nearby, already engraved with the words "THEY DIED, SO THAT GOVERNMENT COULD LIVE."

Perhaps the most telling graffiti were sprayed around the statue of FD Roosevelt, in his half-concealed wheelchair. In various ways, they expressed the accurate perception that

this insanely ambitious cripple had crippled a whole economy for twelve years and caused the slaughter of four hundred thousand Americans, blighted the lives of a million families, deprived three generations of retired people of the living standards they would have enjoyed absent the grotesquely mis-named “Social Security” system, and laid the foundations for a truly massive growth in government.

These were all sobering truths, and many more would be added in the weeks following. But the prevailing atmosphere on this November 9<sup>th</sup> was of gaiety and relief and joy and optimism, more than recrimination about the savagery of dead politicians. Not too many splashed in the Reflecting Pool, for it was too cool – but there were speakers at the place where MLK had spoken of his famous “dream” so many years earlier, and April and Josiah listened there for a while and realized that at long last, that dream had been fulfilled before their very eyes.

Strolling back beside the pool, the Brownes were passed by half a dozen evidently deep in conference, three of them in uniform - though those each dangled a “peace sign” medal on a breast pocket. Some of what they said could be overheard. “The thing is the world’s largest white elephant,” said one, “I can see no use for it at all.” “Hold on,” replied another, “that’s for the market to decide. Just because we can’t put 3.7 million square feet of office space to good use doesn’t mean that nobody else can. I say we just form the company and claim the title. Nobody else wants it, so there shouldn’t be any quit-claim settlements to pay.” “I agree,” said another. “Heck, it’s right by a marina, some of it could be remodeled into a resort!” “Harrumph.” retorted the first. “Desirable rabbit warren with 17 miles of corridor, convenient to downtown D.C., for sale or rent”

and the six dissolved in laughter.

As the group continued past them, Josiah realized they had been speaking of the Pentagon. How amazing, he thought to himself. The nerve-center of history's mightiest military machine, being put somehow to good use. "Amen," he said to April, and quoted Micah 4:3 out loud: "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Tailgate stalls opened around the Mall offering free-market liquor, the first of their kind for over a century. One of them was spectacular: the White House Sommelier had "liberated" a good deal of the Presidential Cellar and was offering as much of it as he could pack into his pickup to any who would buy, with proceeds going to charity – notably, to the several that been recently formed to help those devastated by government action. He quickly attracted buyers, and ran an auction (illegally, of course, since he wasn't licensed as an auctioneer; but everyone knew that no laws were any longer enforceable.) The prices were amazing! Each bottle or case came with a provenance to certify its origin in the cellar of the last US President in history, and one case of 2015 Château Margaux fetched 350 gold grams! The Sommelier didn't know, but the buyer later sold it again for 750 gg, and donated half his profit to charity also. I cannot tell you if that wine was ever actually drunk, but it did do a heap of good.

Such prices were way beyond the Brownes' means, so they just passed by the tailgates with interest. In any case, aside from a little wine on special occasions and a sip of Benedictine on birthdays, they didn't drink.



Another type of stall was found around the Mall: “HELP WANTED” posters adorned them, and there were lines of ex-government workers forming. Josiah had not made much of a plan for the future when he had walked out, for the last time, of what was widely known as Gestapo Headquarters. He didn't have many skills, but thanks to his recent studies he did have a new and healthy understanding of which way was up and he was a willing worker, so he lingered a while at each he passed, in case there might be a job to suit him.

One in particular caught his eye; a couple was recruiting on behalf of one of the charities that had arisen to help those in need. This one was the Society to Assist Victims of Government, or SAVOG, and they needed some support staff for their new office following receipt recently of several generous benefactions.

Josiah introduced himself, and was amazed to learn that SAVOG planned to move in to some of the ground-floor offices at 10th St & Pennsylvania Ave, NW – the very building he had just left! The charity felt there could be no more suitable place to set up their offices than where so much devastation had been caused to so many victims of government - the former IRS Headquarters; and since nobody held a valid title to it, the premises were there for anyone to take, without rental. But of course, staff would be needed to maintain the building.

Josiah was a perfect fit, and he was hired on the spot – to do basically what he had been doing for several years past. He and April were *really* pleased they had decided to join the fireworks party! Later on, in that job, his colleagues discovered that he had been the very last government

employee to quit, and after he had borne his share of teasing the news reached a TV company and he was interviewed for nationwide syndication and even overseas sales, for a royalty that more than made up what he'd lost in the form of lower wages.

April and Josiah left the party at 10 pm, though it continued into the small hours – indeed, spontaneous parties took place for the rest of the week, all over the country, as broadcasters from the world over reported that not a single function of government anywhere at any level was functioning any more, and so everyone realized that Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> 2027 was the day for which they had learned to prepare - the day when each one took his or her life back, liberated at last to live it his own way. It was the most significant single day in thousands of years of human history. In cities and towns from sea to shining sea, joy knew no bounds as FREEDOM was celebrated!

An account of the next, exciting three years is given in the book A Vision of Liberty by this author, but now mankind's long, disastrous subjection to the totally irrational institution of government had, in the first of what was to become every country in the world during the next decade and a half, come to an end. The new era had begun, and the human race was about to experience progress beyond all previous imagining.

## *Appendix*

### **The Number of Freedom-school Graduates**

Annual doubling brought this by 2022 to 2<sup>23</sup> or 8 million.

Included in that are some working for government, but they joined more reluctantly and graduated more slowly until 2023, after which that rate accelerated as they realized that their friends might be right. Overall rates increased during 2027 as it became clear that the end was in sight – that year's doubling happened in ten months, not twelve.

Year	<u>In literate population</u>		<u>In government employ</u>	
	Millions	%	Millions	%
2022	8	3	0.75	1.9
2023	17	6	1.7	4.1
2024	34	12.5	3.7	9.2
2025	67	25	8	20
2026				
Mar	80	30	10	25
Jun	95	35	12	30
Sep	113	42	15	37
Dec	134	50	18	45
2027				
Jan	144	54	20	50
Feb	154	57	21	53
Mar	165	62	23	58
Apr	177	66	25	63
May	190	71	27	68
Jun	203	76	29	73
Jul	218	81	32	80
Aug	233	87	34	85
Sep	250	93	37	93
Oct	268	100	40	100

## Final Collapse of the Paper Dollar

“Normal” inflation doubled every month because, seeing government's power to enforce taxation disintegrate, everyone able to do so stopped paying tax - while no sane person would buy its bonds. It therefore printed “money”.

Here is the result.

End Month	Percent Inflation	Price Mult	Value of \$1000
2026			
Jul	5	1.05	952.38
Aug	10	1.10	909.09
Sep	20	1.20	833.33
Oct	40	1.40	714.29
Nov	80	1.80	555.56
Dec	160	2.60	384.62
2027			
Jan	320	4.20	238.10
Feb	640	7.40	135.14
Mar	1280	13.80	72.46
Apr	2560	26.60	37.59
May	5120	52.20	19.16
Jun	10240	103.40	9.67
Jul	20480	205.80	4.86
Aug	40960	410.60	2.44
Sep	81920	820.20	1.22
Oct	163840	1639.40	0.61
( Nov	327680	3277.80	0.31)
( Dec	655360	6554.60	0.15)

## Impact of Tax Nonpayment

This shows a “snapshot” of how government revenues were impacted, at the end of June 2026, by nonpayment of tax by those in the White Market at that time and who saw that tax law enforcement was no longer effective: 35% of all the population, including 30% of former government workers.

Half of them were still employed in companies that withheld income tax, but the other half (18%) stopped paying it - along with Social Security “contributions.” All of them who owned property (30%) stopped paying tax on it.

Tax type	Federal			State			City / Town		
	Req	Imp%	Res	Req	Imp%	Res	Req	Imp%	Res
Income	\$39	18	\$32	\$31	18	\$25	0	0	0
Soc Sec	32	18	26	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sales	0	0	0	24	0	24	0	0	0
Property	0	0	0	0	0	0	90	30	63
Transfers	0	0	0	16	10	15	0	0	0
Other	29	0	29	29	0	29	10	0	10
Total	\$100		<b>\$87</b>	\$100		<b>\$94</b>	\$100		<b>\$73</b>

Thus, regular Federal revenues were slashed to 87% of spending, State ones to 94% and local ones to 73%. As well as shifting remaining staff around, the actions taken were:

The **Feds** printed up the shortfall so creating hyperinflation  
**States** laid off nobody because 30% had left anyway  
**Towns** laid off nobody because 30% had left anyway

The Feds had also lost 30% of their staff but unlike the other government levels most of their spending was on non-staff expenses. All these numbers are typical, but of course not uniform.

## Invitation Storm (see Chapter 11)

	--- Million ---		Invitations	
Mid-year	graduates	remainder	Given(M)	To each
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2023	12	256	300	1.17
2024	24	244	600	2.45
2025	48	220	1200	5.45
2026	95	173	2375	13.7
2027	203	65	5075	78*
(Sept 2027	250	18	6250	347*)

Invitations were given out at the rate of 25 per year per graduate, to find one new student.

\* The rate of 78/yr is 6.5 a month and that of 347/yr is once almost every day!

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