

# J O Y T O P I A

*World-wide Wealth in Harmony with Nature*

*A story by Bernd Hueckstaedt*

## The Encounter

Recently I had a dream, or rather a daydream. I went for a walk in a forest and enjoyed the nature around me. Suddenly I noticed someone walking light-footed next to me. He was about two meters tall, dark-skinned, and had an athletic figure. He was dressed in a kind of gold coloured jogging-outfit. Although he looked like a human, he didn't seem to be of this world. He wore such a happy and cheerful look that you seldom find in our world. When I looked at him I had to laugh spontaneously. It was a hearty, happy laugh, pure joy at the sight of this friendly companion.

"Excuse me, I didn't mean to laugh at you", I explained when I had regained myself. "I'm just surprised at your sudden appearance." "That's a common reaction of most people on this planet", he replied amiably. "Most humans react like you, only a few run away or turn aggressive."

"Then you are not from here?" I asked disconcertedly. "I come from Joytopia, a state on the planet Freegaia on the edge of the galaxy. A jump through the space-time-continuum brought me here. My name is Goodfriend, Very Goodfriend."

"How did you learn our language so quickly?" "We are communicating through telepathy. We transmit our thoughts and our brain translates them into our language. It functions also with pictures, sounds, smells, and emotions. See..."

I didn't see anything. He had disappeared. Astonished and deeply moved I went on. Did I just imagine all that? Maybe I should go and see a doctor? I'd better not tell anyone and forget the incident as quickly as possible.

"I brought something for you, a present!" I heard Very say. "Where were you all of a sudden?" "I just went home to get something for you."

"Doesn't that take years? I mean, the highest attainable velocity..." "We travel in thoughts.

*Thoughts are known to be free. Space-and-time-boundaries only exist when they are invented. We used to invent many boundaries. Our limited thinking had shaped our planet in a similar way to how the human race is shaping your planet. Try it yourself, you see me because you think you see me."* While he said that, a bicycle rider approached us. He gave a short greeting and drove right through Very. "Do you understand now?" Very asked "Yes."

*"I brought something for you, a thought."* "What kind of thought?"

*"The thought, that everything you can imagine is possible. Everything that you think becomes a reality. Everything you wish for will happen if you can imagine it."* "Then I wish for ten million Marks." "OK" "What do you mean, OK? That's going to work? I can't imagine." "Exactly!" I was ashamed.

*"Others could imagine it and became millionaires. Perhaps it's not your wish to be a millionaire. What is your most ardent wish?"* "That all people were rich and everyone could do as his heart desires without hurting other people or nature."

*"I propose a journey. We have already reached that goal on our planet Freegaia. You only have to witness it and spread the idea on earth. That is our present to the human race."*

"How can I travel through the space-time-what-d'you-call-it?" "Just imagine it, I will accompany you."

It was strange It seemed that I was in two places at the same time: while one part of me walked through the woods, the other part flew with Very through the universe.

## FREEGAI A

We approached a solar system and soon it floated within range: Freegaia, a beautiful blue planet resembling our earth. Softly we

immersed in the atmosphere and landed in a beautiful park that looked like a huge English garden. The plants gave off a wonderful fragrance. Off and on a mall aircraft would scurry almost soundless over our heads. But there: among the plants stood houses. They were nothing like our houses, they were integrated into nature in such a way that they were hardly recognisable as houses. The people that met us greeted us in a friendly way. They seemed to be happy. People and nature lived together in harmony.

"How did you achieve all that? Can you tell me something about your technology?" "Technology was never a problem," Very said. *The problem we had to solve had its roots in the mentality of the inhabitants and in the economy. Our ancestors built an economic system based on deficiency-thinking that was characterised by competition. Since then, our economy is based on abundance, wealth, and love for nature and all that exists."*

Very gave me a short outline of his planet's history: *A long time ago, a few robbing, murdering carnivores (Ramuca) assumed the power by killing the weak and taking away their fundamentals. To prevent the Ramuca from eating each other, massive lawbooks were written in which every detail was regulated. The Ramuca didn't have a sufficient amount of reason and ethics to live peacefully with each other. The lawbooks also contained practical instructions such as "Thou shall not kill". The Ramuca had to be explicitly told! During the raids of the Ramuca these laws were either invalidated or the opponents were defined as "savages" who had to be conformed through missions or simply exterminated. After the raids, "humane" Ramuca introduced equal Ramuca-law for all. Hence they established stability and fortified the new balance of power.*

The main illusion of the Ramuca was the deficiency-thinking. It seemed that there wasn't enough for everyone. Their favourite pastime was either battle or competition. There had to be winners and losers. Since killing was forbidden and most of the savages had been murdered or conformed anyway, the ambitious Ramuca shifted their activities to other areas such as economy, sports, and games. Sports and games was a relatively harmless ground for their rivalry. In the economy, Ramucism increased social injustice. The gap between the poor and the rich got bigger and bigger.

On Freegaia there were always people who observed nature and tried to understand its laws. In ancient times they were burned as heretic thinkers. Later, when their knowledge could be used for military purposes they were appointed as scientists were. Naturalists whose discoveries could not be used for military purposes were called charlatans and ridiculed. In the course of time the climate became more liberal and an increasing number of states converted to democracies. Shortly before the New Age the observations of scientists and charlatans began to coincide. Correspondence between Natural Sciences, Philosophy, and Religions were used in Politics and Economic Science.

Economics were compared with Nature: Nature produces nourishment from itself and donates to living beings. When nature is in order, there is abundance; i.e. there is more food than is needed. The food is perishable and can be stored only for a limited amount of time. And there is no interest. Thus plants and animals do not store more than they need. That is why there are neither "rich" nor "poor animals or plants. And something else: if and how hard animals work for their food depends upon their way of life. Every free-living animal behaves according to its nature. An animal in captivity can only be forced to work by constantly prodding it. No animal would fight for its "Right to work".

## Natural Economy

"Nourishment in economy is money. In these past times, the state didn't give away money to its citizens. On the contrary, it demanded taxes from them. There wasn't an abundance of money but the deficiency was so great, that each year the

states indebted themselves anew. There was a painstaking control over the stability of money, so that it would maintain its value over long periods of time. Economical interest was born, i.e., assets as well as debts increased. The citizens did everything to acquire and accumulate money. The rich got richer and the poor got poorer.

And as far as work was concerned: most citizens performed similar work, which seldom corresponded to their nature. Although they didn't like doing work, which was foreign to their nature, they had fought hard for the right to work. In spite of this right, a large part of the world population was unemployed. On the other side there was an abundance of goods and services.

**The economy related exactly contrary to nature. We merely had to reverse the polarity of our economic customs and bring them into accordance with nature. This knowledge was the key to the New Age!**

Thus we developed our new economic model which is still in use on the entire planet today, the FREE GIVING STATE that has brought wealth and fortune to all those involved.

Like any other state on Freegaia, Joytopia has the financial sovereignty. Every state produces its own currency and gives it to its citizens. First of all, Joytopia and the other states agreed upon a general debt-release. In order not to harm anyone, the states transferred the entitled sums of money to its creditors. Then they abolished the economy based on interest. Since then we have a "transient" currency. It makes no sense to hoard money over a longer period of time since it rapidly loses in value."

"Transient currency? We call that inflation!" "The word inflation is a phrase from from the old economic system it doesn't really get to the point. We talk about Natural Economy; i.e., the natural cycle of growth and decay."

"How high is the "rate of transience" on Freegaia?" "In the beginning we experimented

a bit. Now, all states have agreed on 100% per year. That means after one year, the money is worth only half of its original value."

"So if this year a Hot Dog costs one Dollar, in three years it will cost 8 Dollars?"

**"We distinguish between valuation and payment.** The valuation occurs in points and remains constant. The Hot Dog with a value of one point still has a value of one point after 3 years.

Our currency is called FREE, that means **"FRee Energy Exchange"**. The FREE is designated with the year of issue. For example "FREE 2001". The value of the currency FREE is changed quarterly: In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 1Point=1FREE, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 1.25 FREE, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1.5 FREE, and in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 1.75 FREE.

At the start of 2002, 1 Point=2 FREE 2001 or 1FREE 2002 The conversion factors are easy to remember, they are in accord with the four seasons and with music."

"With music?" "Yes, they correspond with the overtone series on which the entire universe is based. They are Primary tone, tierce, fifth, and minor seventh." "Do you have to print new money every year?" "Yes, cash will be printed yearly. The old money can be exchanged in the following year at a rate of 2:1. There's no problem there."

"How does that function in everyday-life?" "The state gives our citizens –regardless of age- a monthly basic amount of 1000 points which covers the costs of living. A mother with two children will get 3000 points monthly. Families or single parents are no longer at a disadvantage compared to singles." "Do you still have catalogues? They would have to be re-issued every month!" "The catalogues contain the point-value; that remains constant."

"Then I always have to calculate the price?" "Well, that's easy: As I've said, after a quarter year we have a rate of one and one quarter, after a half year one and a half, and after three quarters of a year the rate of one and three quarters. Maybe that sounds a bit unusual, but consider all the things that no

longer exist: Taxes, Medical Insurance, Social Insurance...”

“How is that?” “Since the state produces its own money it doesn’t have to collect taxes. That means there won’t be revenue offices, bookkeeping, no more illicit work and much less administration. The state finances social expenditures such as public health, care programs, emergency-aid, etc; Insurances and social contributions have become unnecessary.”

## Environmental Control and FREE GIVING

“Who is still working, then?” “It’s the same as in nature. Everyone is preoccupied according to his nature. Whoever likes to bake bread bakes bread, those who like music will be musicians. Some citizens have several professions because they like being versatile. Others will be lazy for a while. Because of the transience of money, everyone will want to spend and afford some kind of luxury. The economy—especially the small trade, services, and art—flourishes as never before. On the other hand, everyone works just as much as he wants to, so there is no surplus production which burdens the environment.”

“How do you handle environmental control?” “The state finances projects that support environmental control. Industries that are ecologically beneficial will receive subsidies. Studies of alternative energy sources are also supported. Moreover, we have abolished the copyright.”

“What does that have to do with environmental control?” “All new ideas and inventions belong to the public. Imagine we’ve wasted 100 years by powering our cars with combustion engines. A terrible stench had spread over the planet. In some big cities they had oxygen-vendors where people could buy fresh air for money! Every car-manufacturer employed his research- and development-teams that kept their results secret or had them patented. In the end you had a patent on almost every single screw. No wonder, development didn’t advance. After the copyright was abolished and everyone gave away their ideas and inventions for free, we developed the zero-energy-motor within months! Just like in

a big puzzle, every inventor and developer put his stone into the right space.”

“You often use the term ‘Free Giving’, what exactly do you mean by that?” “Free Giving is an essential part of our economic system. Whereas it used to be important to obtain high profits, Free Giving wants to provide benefits and happiness for oneself and for others with a minimum effort. A direct return service is not important because benefit and happiness are bestowed upon the Free Giving individual in multitude.

A good example is the Free Giving State: It merely has to prompt its bank-computers to transfer money to the accounts of its citizens and there won’t be any more poverty. The general wealth of the population goes automatically back to the state. State and citizen are one and the same. Another example is what you call neighbourly help. One friend helps another in a field that he knows best and the other needs. Or you have some item to spare which someone else needs. If you give it away, you have gained some room and the other got the item he really wanted. Since money is there in abundance, it has lost its importance. We have all become more generous and get a great joy from giving freely!”

“Who does the dirty work?” “Our rapid technological development has made dirty work almost extinct. Our houses are equipped with compost-toilets that are absolutely odourless. All packaging-material and most utensils are made of decomposable material. Our houses are built in a unit construction system that consists of natural materials. Machines do heavy and unpopular work. The rest of the unpleasant work is either shared or highly paid. Quite a few people were able to finance an expensive holiday-trip by doing some dirty work.”

## Financing and Investment

“Speaking of financing – how can you finance large sums if the money constantly loses in value?” “Credits are given in points. The point-value is stable and bears no interest. Since the states are no longer indebted and

taxes do not exist, the need for credits has been drastically reduced.”

“Is there such a thing as investment?” “Yes, you can take part financially in projects, similar to your shareholding-system. In both cases points settle the accounts. However, the need for investments has decreased. After all, everyone is provided for at all times. You don’t have to accumulate money to prevent hard times. The fear of not being taken care of has disappeared. We all live much more in the Here and Now. And in the Here and Now we are provided for. Often we give away surplus money.” “Really?” “Yes, if someone has a project and needs more money, he writes a circular to his friends. Those who like the project support him and send the circular to their friends. That way it happens that he will get the help from people he doesn’t even know. We call that Here-and-Now-Financing.”

“And that works?” “Depends on the person and the project. Ego-trips are hard to finance. You know the principle as donation. You mostly donate for a so-called good cause, for example, to help people in need. We no longer have need but we have more or lesser good causes.”

“Are you really so generous?” “Some more, some less. Each according to his free will. Consider that we have money in abundance. If we keep it, it loses in value. And we gain more new friends by helping each other. If, in turn, we need something, we will be helped as well.”

“The whole thing reminds me of chainletters and the snowball-principle,” I commented, “I don’t if that is allowed. At any rate it has a bad reputation.” “Why does it have a bad reputation?” “Because a few people get rich at the expense of many others.” “Doesn’t that apply to your entire economy?” “Yes.”

“The snowball-principle exposes your entire economic system! We use the snowball-principle mainly to distribute information. It is the simplest and fastest method to spread information among people. If everyone passes the information on to 4-6

friends, then after 16-17 on-passing generations the entire human race will be informed. Do you understand why the snowball-principle has been discredited?" "I think I'm beginning to understand."

"It has another advantage: everyone just passes on the information that he deems correct and important. Your mass media can tell you anything that is determined by a few in power." "But this way you are open to rumours. Like in the game <stille post> where one whispers something into someone's ear and in the end something totally different is the result." "That is true. That is why it is important to always mention the source, the author. So anyone can double-check at the source and then decide whether to pass on the information."

"How is that going to work?" "On earth you have the Internet. Isn't it already the case, that everyone who wants to publish something has his homepage? So everyone could inform himself directly through the author."

"But what's the difference between your Here-and-Now Financing and our tabooed snowball-principle?" "It's the attitude towards your fellow men and towards money. Here, it's all about Free Giving. We give others a present that will help them realise their wishes and projects. Because everyone has money in abundance that quickly loses in value, Giving comes easy. In addition comes the feeling of happiness when you help others. Aren't you happy when you help others?" "Yes, if I do it voluntarily, regardless whether someone expects my help or not; then I feel happy." "It's the same with Free Giving. It's absolutely voluntary and a lot of fun."

"I'd like to know more about the Here-and-Now-Financing. Theoretically, anyone could initiate one or more of these Here-and-Now-Financings. In total it should come out equal." "For one thing, the purpose must be plausible for the others. Besides, not everyone has a big project for which he needs a lot of money at the same time. In the New Age we no longer look at money as being static; we don't ask who has how much money, Static money loses its value rapidly. In the New Age, the dynamic principle reigns. Now the point is to move as much money as possible as fast as possible. The movement results in net product (a house, a car, whatever). Moreover, after the

expenditure, the money isn't gone. It just belongs to someone else who also wants to spend it as fast as possible. That creates more net product, and so on. We consider the whole as a game."

"As a game?" "Yes, money no longer has the rank it has in your world. Since everyone has enough money, you can no longer force anyone with it. Money is only a means of motivation, not a means of power. Everything is more playful now. Work is a game, commerce is a game. Whoever doesn't want to play along will have a little less money, but still more than enough for living."

"Is there still such a thing as competitive struggle?" "In a playful sense, yes. Sure, some "games" are more successful than others are. But: there can be no real losers."

"Are the "games" controlled by the state?" "There is no reason for that because the Free Giving State knows no taxes. Anyway, the state doesn't itself a control organisation but rather as the whole of its citizens. State and citizens are one. Thus the state has only one interest: to promote the interests of its citizens."

## The Transition

"One other important question: how did you manage the transition from the Old to the New Age? How did you create JOYTOPIA? Was there any resistance? Was the transition free of violence?"

"You'll remember, that just before the Transition most states were already democracies. That was very good. You can change anything in a democracy if you have the necessary majority. Do you remember, how on your planet even in dictatorships, peaceful changes were possible? I'm thinking of India or the reunion of Germany. In democracies it is even easier. It began when a few citizens on Freegaia discovered the new constitutionality and formed a state model. This model of the FREE GIVING STATE they called JOYTOPIA and spread the idea by the snowball-principle. They wrote a document and gave it to friends. They, in turn, passed on copies of the document to their friends and so on. Others distributed the text in computer networks. That was faster. The text was translated into many languages

and distributed in all countries. After approximately 16 on-passing generations, the entire population was informed. At the same time, communities, circles of friends, and associations began to test the natural economy. In exchange-rings, which used to have a kind of alternative currency, they began to simulate the FREE GIVING State. Others tested the Here-and-Now-Financing in business and in private-life. The results were gathered and the model refined. When the model seemed perfect, global elections took place. The result was overwhelming: by far the greater part of the planetary population voted for the model of natural economy."

"Was there no resistance?" "Yes! In the beginning, a lot of people feared for their possessions. The planetary banks, which were partly to blame for the indebtedness of the state, tried to sabotage wherever they could. The global enlightenment that awoke the entire population of the planet brought the change. Even members of the planetary banks started to promote the natural economy. Thus, the initial resistance dissolved into peace and delight." "Did everything go well after the elections?" "Of course there were initial difficulties, but they were nothing compared to the problems of the Old Age."

"Dear Very, good friend! I sincerely thank you for this information! One last question before I go back: Where exactly is FREEGAIA?"

"Just a moment ago it was on another planet. Now it is deep in your heart. Good luck!"

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