

AI “situational awareness,” agent-ready CLI design, and a robotics progress watchlist

Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

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Today’s most high-signal picks span AI strategy, hands-on agent-ready tooling, and on-the-ground robotics progress—plus one founder’s recommendation for richly detailed, human-centered period films. The lead item is Vinod Khosla’s endorsed essay meant to sharpen “situational awareness” about the pace and impact of AI change.

Most compelling recommendation: an “AI progress is faster than businesses realize” reality check

Situational Awareness (essay) — @leopoldasch

- **Link/URL:** <http://situational-awareness.ai> ¹
- **Recommended by:** Vinod Khosla ²
- **Key takeaway (as shared):** Khosla says he’s “awe struck” by the pace of AI progress, expects today’s one-year-ahead expectations to “look silly,” and argues most businesses “have no clue” what’s coming as “rules of engagement will change” over the next ten years—prompting a need to rethink/transform every business ³. He adds he “buys” the essay’s assertion that only “a few hundred people know what is happening” ⁴.
- **Why it matters:** This is a direct pointer (from an investor) to a single, named piece he treats as unusually clarifying—paired with a high-conviction claim that many organizations are underestimating what’s about to change ⁵.

¹ post by @vkhosla

² post by @vkhosla

³ post by @vkhosla

⁴ post by @vkhosla

⁵ post by @vkhosla

I am awe struck at the rate of progress of AI on all fronts... It's time to rethink/transform every business in the next decade. ⁶

Signal boost: Khosla later reaffirmed the recommendation with “Still true two years later” ⁷.

Other standout recommendations (practical + concrete)

“Rewrite your CLI for AI Agents” (blog post) — Justin Poehnel

- **Link/URL:** <https://justin.poehnel.com/posts/rewrite-your-cli-for-ai-agents/> ⁸
- **Recommended by:** Guillermo Rauch ⁹
- **Key takeaway (as shared):** Rauch praises the CLI described as “very well implemented” and “thorough,” noting it dynamically registers commands, is designed for a browser-wielding agent to automate setup steps, and can start an MCP daemon ¹⁰.
- **Why it matters:** It's a concrete, implementation-level recommendation for building tooling that's *agent-operable* (not just human-friendly), with specific features called out as evidence of quality ¹¹.

Watching list (physical AI / robotics)

“China dominates the physical AI race” (article with videos) — Time (author not specified in source)

- **Link/URL:** <https://time.com/7382151/china-dominates-the-physical-ai-race/> ¹²
- **Recommended by:** Eric Schmidt ¹³
- **Key takeaway (as shared):** Schmidt urges readers to “watch the videos,” saying “China is moving very fast in robots” ¹⁴.
- **Why it matters:** A direct prompt to *look at the evidence* (via the included videos) rather than rely on secondhand summaries—useful if you're tracking real-world progress in robotics/“physical AI” ¹⁵.

⁶ post by @vkhosla

⁷ post by @vkhosla

⁸ post by @rauchg

⁹ post by @rauchg

¹⁰ post by @rauchg

¹¹ post by @rauchg

¹² post by @eric Schmidt

¹³ post by @eric Schmidt

¹⁴ post by @eric Schmidt

¹⁵ post by @eric Schmidt

Offbeat (but deliberate) rec: detailed, human historical films

Merchant Ivory films (filmography / production company) — Merchant Ivory

- **Link/URL (where it was recommended):** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hYWMYXMkZmE>¹⁶
- **Recommended by:** Ivan Zhao (Notion co-founder)¹⁷
- **Key takeaway (as shared):** Zhao says he recently discovered Merchant Ivory and recommends exploring their films—mostly period, adapted novels with meticulous detail, “beautifully shot,” and focused on “very human” dynamics between groups of people in historical settings (he mentions *A Room with a View* and *Death in Venice*)¹⁸.
- **Why it matters:** A founder’s explicit recommendation for work that’s craft-focused and “very human”—a different kind of input than tech/media analysis, but suggested as highly worth discovering¹⁹.



How Notion Rebuilt for the Age of AI (56:26)

¹⁶How Notion Rebuilt for the Age of AI

¹⁷How Notion Rebuilt for the Age of AI

¹⁸How Notion Rebuilt for the Age of AI

¹⁹How Notion Rebuilt for the Age of AI

Pattern across today's picks

A cluster of recommendations point at *AI showing up in more places, faster*—from strategic “situational awareness” framing ²⁰ to agent-ready developer tooling details ²¹ to “physical AI” progress you can watch directly ²².

Sources

1. post by @vkhosla
2. post by @vkhosla
3. post by @rauchg
4. post by @ericschmidt
5. How Notion Rebuilt for the Age of AI

²⁰ post by @vkhosla

²¹ post by @rauchg

²² post by @ericschmidt