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Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

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Two a16z partners pointed to the same 20VC interview. Bill Gurley shared an essay on AI "handoverism," and Keith Rabois praised Stratechery's "Obituaries." Other picks covered startup speed, Muse, agent evals and Tocqueville.

Two a16z partners recommend the same 20VC interview

Martin Casado called Harry Stebbings' interview with Diogo (@CompleteSkeptic) "Very good" and "Comprehensive." He said it "draws out a lot of Diogo's nuanced views from labs, AI, research, engineering, capital etc." [1] **Ben Horowitz** linked the same video. His reason: "the number of original ideas per minute," and Diogo is "the best" [2]. Watch

Gurley: an essay on AI "handoverism"

Bill Gurley called Ruxandra Teslo's piece "wonderfully thoughtful" [3]. The piece is about the idea that humanity should, or inevitably will, hand control of the world over to AI. He shared it in a post that quotes Anthropic's Tom Brown and Dario Amodei on that idea. He argued that if the company's founders hold this view, it belongs in the Risk Factors section of Anthropic's S-1 [3]. Gurley calls himself "decidedly anti-handoverism." He wants anyone shaping AI regulation to disclose where they stand on the question [3]. Read

Rabois: Stratechery's "Obituaries"

Keith Rabois called Ben Thompson's latest piece "Still the best analysis in all of tech." He added that he often disagrees with Ben on China policy [4]. The piece argues that Jensen Huang's demise was the end of Nvidia's long-term

prospects, the AI bubble, and "the exceptional way in which the U.S. viewed itself in the world" [5]. Read

Founders and operators

- **Shaan Puri** recommended his podcast episode with James Currier of NFX, who teaches a startup class at Stanford. Puri asked Currier to teach the class on the podcast for free [6]. His main takeaway is that speed is the best proxy for founder success: how fast a founder decides, learns and iterates [6]. Currier's advice is to reset your speed bar by spending time with people who move much faster than you do [6]. Watch
- **Alexandr Wang** told followers to "listen for the inside scoop on muse" [7]. He was pointing to Lenny Rachitsky's interview with Mona Sarantakos, Muse's head of product. Topics include why the team waited seven months to launch, the two levers that move activation for an AI agent, and why taste is now the most important PM skill [8]. Wang is named in the episode as one of the people who shaped the product [8]. Listen
- **Guillermo Rauch** called Vercel's post on agent evals a "Good read on how we do evals at Vercel." Note that it's his own company's post. His framing: users are now agents, so you run evals instead of user interviews, and the evals inform the engineering loop [9]. The post covers seeing how agents use your product, testing changes before you ship, and comparing models as they launch [10]. Read
- **Sarah Guo** replied "Phil knows" [11] to Phil Venables' announcement of his book *Scaling Security: The 7 Pillars of Elite Cybersecurity Teams*. Venables says it covers how to lead a security team, work as a C-suite executive, and make an organization more defensible [12]. Link

Classics cited on stage

- **Patrick Collison**, speaking at a panel moderated by Fed Chairman Kevin Warsh, said that as an immigrant he felt he should read Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*, and he just finished it. He pointed to the last chapter's warning about "soft despotism," where a comfortable state brings a "suffocating tranquility" that undermines ambition and great works [13]. He tied this to his question of what a good AI future should look like [13]. That continues his request in the Nov 14–15 brief for optimistic writing on post-work societies.
- **Marc Andreessen** called the "now famous Dynamo paper" from the economics literature "100% correct." He cited it to argue that new technologies take a long time to deploy because organizations have to change how they operate [14].

Also noted

Paul Graham shared Ben Todd's updated METR graph with a caveat: "If this is real, this is stupendously fast growth" [15]. Post

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Sources

1. X post by @martin_casado
2. X post by @bhorowitz
3. X post by @bgurley
4. X post by @rabois
5. X post by @stratechery
6. X post by @ShaanVP
7. X post by @alexandr_wang
8. X post by @lennysan
9. X post by @rauchg
10. X post by @vercel
11. X post by @saranormous
12. X post by @philvenables
13. Fed Chairman Warsh speaks with CEOs of Stripe, Palo Alto Networks, and Affirm [FULL] | Yahoo Finance
14. Kevin Warsh interviews Marc Andreessen and Gina Raimondo [FULL] | Yahoo Finance
15. X post by @paulg