

# Codegen Catch-Up Leads a Day of AI and Decision-Making Picks

Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

2026-04-06

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*By Recommended Reading from Tech Founders • April 6, 2026*

Today's recommendations split between frontier AI literacy and stronger judgment. Garry Tan's codegen interview pick leads the list, followed by Bill Gates' Steve Wolfram book recommendation, three books from Anthropic's Amol Avasarala, and one founder-endorsed article on entrepreneurial mindset.

### Today's signal

The clearest pattern today is a split between **AI literacy** and **better judgment**. Garry Tan and Bill Gates point readers toward resources that help explain current model capability and uncertainty, while Amol Avasarala and Amjad Masad recommend reading that sharpens mindset, reflection, and decision-making. [1, 2, 3, 4]

### Most compelling recommendation

*Newest @steipete / @lexfridman interview*

- **Content type:** Interview [1]
- **Author/creator:** @steipete and @lexfridman [1]
- **Link/URL:** Not provided in the source material
- **Who recommended it:** Garry Tan [1]
- **Key takeaway:** Tan says it is “probably the best way to catch up to what is really going on” and calls it “a perfect encapsulation of the extreme edge of what is possible now in codegen.” [1]
- **Why it matters:** This is the strongest recommendation in today's set because it combines a clear use case—getting up to speed quickly—with a concrete thesis about where the frontier is headed: “just in time smart personal software is here, just not evenly distributed.” [1]

“Probably the best way to catch up to what is really going on is listen to the newest @steipete @lexfridman interview” [1]

## AI mechanics and limits

### *How ChatGPT Works*

- **Content type:** Book [2]
- **Author/creator:** Steve Wolfram [2]
- **Link/URL:** Not provided in the source material
- **Who recommended it:** Bill Gates [2]
- **Key takeaway:** Gates recommends it as a useful resource on language model mechanics, while stressing Wolfram’s point that the way these systems represent knowledge is still not fully understood. [2]
- **Why it matters:** The recommendation does more than point to an explainer; it also frames the current limit of expert understanding. [2]

“the way that it’s actually representing knowledge we don’t fully understand.” [2]

## Books on mindset and decision quality

Amol Avasarala’s recommendations form a coherent mini-list: two books on reframing internal experience, and one on making product decisions more explicitly probabilistic. [3]

### *The Joy of Living*

- **Content type:** Book [3]
- **Author/creator:** Yongi Mingya Ringpoche [3]
- **Link/URL:** Not provided in the source material
- **Who recommended it:** Amol Avasarala [3]
- **Key takeaway:** It helps readers think about life experience differently and offers tactics for changing how they think about things. [3]
- **Why it matters:** Avasarala says he has recommended it repeatedly and that people have “really, really enjoyed it.” [3]

### *Awareness*

- **Content type:** Book [3]
- **Author/creator:** Anthony DeMello [3]
- **Link/URL:** Not provided in the source material
- **Who recommended it:** Amol Avasarala [3]
- **Key takeaway:** He describes it as offering similar value from a different angle. [3]
- **Why it matters:** He groups it with *The Joy of Living* as one of the books he consistently recommends. [3]

### *Thinking in Bets*

- **Content type:** Book [3]
- **Author/creator:** Annie Duke [3]
- **Link/URL:** Not provided in the source material
- **Who recommended it:** Amol Avasarala [3]
- **Key takeaway:** It is tactically useful in product because it pushes teams to convert vague timing claims into explicit probability estimates. [3]
- **Why it matters:** Avasarala gives a concrete operating example: asking for a percentage likelihood instead of accepting “I don’t know, it’ll get done in time.” [3]

### Lower-context but still useful

#### Article on entrepreneurial mindset

- **Content type:** Article [4]
- **Author/creator:** Not provided in the source material
- **Link/URL:** <http://x.com/i/article/2040473188568649728> [5]
- **Who recommended it:** Amjad Masad [4]
- **Key takeaway:** Masad’s endorsement is brief but explicit: he called it a “great article” on entrepreneurial mindset. [4]
- **Why it matters:** There is less context than the other picks, but this one is immediately accessible through a direct article link. [5]

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### Sources

1. X post by @garrytan
2. AHEAD OF OUR TIME! Ari presents Erykah Badu, Mark Ronson & Bill Gates their *own* AI depictions
3. How Anthropic is using Claude to automate its own growth (and why old playbooks are obsolete)
4. X post by @amasad
5. X post by @EntrClub\_KAU