Garry Tan Backs Bostrom's "If Nobody Builds It" Argument; Sarah Guo Recommends Bob McGrew on Physical AI

Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

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On Anthropic's IPO day, Garry Tan endorsed a post on Nick Bostrom's Deep Utopia. Sarah Guo shared two No Priors episodes, Guillermo Rauch recommended a cybersecurity essay, and Jason Lemkin pointed to 20VC.

Tan: Bostrom's *Deep Utopia*

Garry Tan quoted VirtualElena's post and replied "Hard agree" to Bostrom's line "if nobody builds it, everyone dies" [1]. The post argues that Anthropic's IPO day is a good time to revisit Nick Bostrom. It notes that Dario Amodei read Bostrom's work more than a decade ago and that *Superintelligence* "helped define questions the industry still faces." It asks readers to take his later book, *Deep Utopia*, just as seriously; that book asks what we do after we get superintelligence [2]. The post explains the quote Tan endorsed: Bostrom offers the line as a hypothetical inversion of the Yudkowsky/Soares book title. His point is that people keep dying while potentially lifesaving advances remain unavailable [2].

Guo: two No Priors episodes

Sarah Guo called her No Priors episode with Bob McGrew "really fun." McGrew is Arda's co-founder, OpenAI's former Chief Research Officer and an early Palantir executive [3, 4]. Chapters include why superintelligence requires physical AI, why the hard-takeoff argument is wrong, and Palantir's problem-first approach compared with OpenAI's technology-first one [3].

In the episode, McGrew makes a recommendation of his own. After Palantir, he says, he taught himself deep learning by watching **Andrej Karpathy's videos**. He got to the point of teaching a robot to play checkers from vision, then decided it was "not the right time for a startup" [5].

On the eve of the Anthropic IPO, Guo also shared her episode with Robinhood CEO Vlad Tenev. It covers giving retail investors access to upside in private startups and to "institutional" tools such as derivatives, prediction markets and agentic trading [6, 7]. Guo co-hosts the show.

Rauch: "Everything Hackable Will Be Hacked"

Asked for his hottest take on stage, **Guillermo Rauch** said there will be many more high-profile hacks. He pointed to an essay his team published, "Everything Hackable Will Be Hacked," and said "I recommend everyone to read" it. His argument is that anything that can be hacked can now actually be hacked, so everyone needs to shore up their cybersecurity [8]. He warned of likely short-term pain, possibly a CrowdStrike-style outage that takes down critical systems [8]. No link was given, and the essay comes from his own company. Video

Lemkin: 20VC on the Anthropic IPO

Jason Lemkin promoted this week's 20VC with Harry Stebbings and Rory O'Driscoll (@rodriscoll). It covers Jensen Huang leaving Nvidia, Anthropic's $1.4T IPO and HubSpot bringing back Brian Halligan [9]. Lemkin is one of the panelists. His headline take is that Anthropic will reach $100B in revenue with under 6,000 employees. He compares that with 81,000 at Google and 71,000 at Meta at the same size [9]. His favorite line from O'Driscoll: "You're dealing with a government that might be mad at itself" [9].

During the episode, one speaker calls **Veni's post** on the IPO "that great post." The point they took from it: early Anthropic backers Spark and, in the following round, Menlo will be "playing with the house money for a long time to come" [10].

Shorter picks

- **Matt Mullenweg** called Matt Medeiros's Grand Theft WordPress video a "nice take" on what's new in the WordPress world [11]. It covers Studio updates that let you bring your own agent to build themes and plugins, plus one-click uploads to Spacefast for static hosting [12].
- **Guillermo Rauch** endorsed @cramforce's post on how his "software factories" use Vercel Board. He said he loves its "headless Slack for agents" analogy, "because UI is free now," and called Board "the Redux state manager of your agents" [13]. Board is a Vercel product.

Sources

1. X post by @garrytan
2. X post by @VirtualElena
3. X post by @saranormous
4. X post by @saranormous
5. Superintelligence Needs the Physical World with CEO and Co-Founder of Arda Bob McGrew
6. X post by @saranormous
7. X post by @saranormous
8. TomorrowX: Brian Armstrong, Gavin Baker, Andrew Feldman & More
9. X post by @jasonlk
10. Will Jensen Return to NVIDIA | Kalshi, Mercor, Fractile: Mega-Rounds Continue
11. X post by @photomatt
12. X post by @mattmedeiros
13. X post by @rauchg