

Patrick Collison Highlights Quanta’s Look at What Causes Lightning

Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

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Today’s clearest authentic recommendation was Patrick Collison’s link to a Quanta Magazine article on lightning. He framed it as meaningful progress on one of the everyday phenomena he says we still do not fully understand.

Most compelling recommendation

Patrick Collison shared Quanta Magazine’s *What Causes Lightning? The Answer Keeps Getting More Interesting*, describing it as “some progress in lightning” [1]. He paired the article with a broader list of everyday phenomena we still do not fully understand, explicitly including lightning and asking, “how does it happen?” [2].

“Some progress in lightning” [1]

Resource details

- **Title:** *What Causes Lightning? The Answer Keeps Getting More Interesting* [1]
- **Content type:** Article [1]
- **Author/creator:** Quanta Magazine [1]
- **Link/URL:** <https://www.quantamagazine.org/what-causes-lightning-the-answer-keeps-getting-more-interesting-20260506/> [1]
- **Who recommended it:** Patrick Collison [1]
- **Key takeaway:** Collison highlighted the piece as evidence of some progress on the question of how lightning happens [1, 2]
- **Why it matters:** He framed the article as part of a larger class of ordinary phenomena that still invite basic questions, making it a useful

starting point for readers who want to understand one of the everyday mysteries he singled out [2]

Why this stood out

This was the strongest recommendation in today's notes because it came with both a direct endorsement and a clear reason to read: Collison did not just pass along a link, he used it to point readers toward meaningful progress on a familiar phenomenon that he still considers an open question worth revisiting [1, 2].

Sources

1. X post by @patricke
2. X post by @patricke