Free Network Services



Evan Prodromou

(not actually a paranoid psychopath)



Wikitravel.org



Vinismo.com



Kei.ki



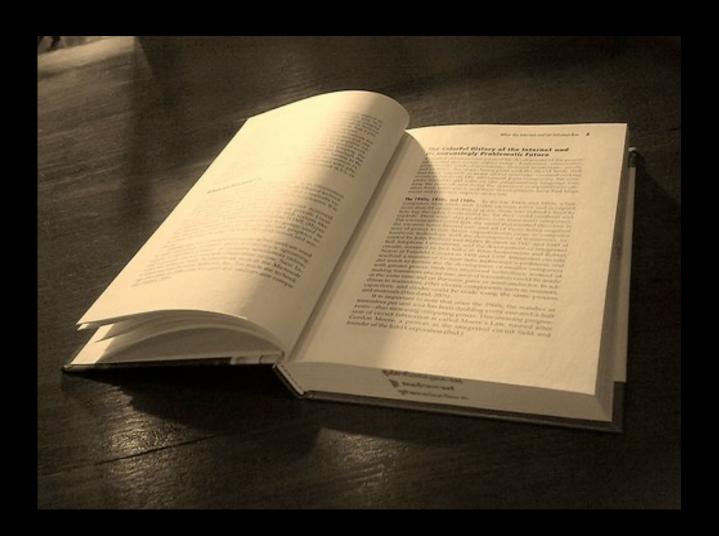
Identica



Open Source Software: it rocks!



Use it



Understand it



Share it



Mix it

And it's everywhere.

Programming languages

Office suite

Web server

Mail programs

Browsers

So, we're winning, right?

Not even close.

We have been pwned.

Our computers are getting smaller.

Mobile devices

And the things we do require communication.

We're using other people's computers to do our work.

Like Facebook.

And Twitter.

And Google.

And eBay.

And Flickr.

And whatever.

(Almost) none of that software is free.

But the corners are rounded.

And the mascots are cute.

So we kind of ignore it.

Web Server Programming Language

But it's a sandwich.

Desktop Browser Plugins

But it's a sandwich.



But it's a sandwich.

The data is worse.

We pour our lives into these services.

Our attention

Our desire

Our love

Our friendship

All locked up

In someone else's silo

COMPUTING HAS CHANGED.

User-generated content

In non-free services

Accessed from dinky, weak computers.

And we're being smug idiots

Who think we won.

What is to be done?

autonomo.us

Franklin Street Statement

Open Source Open Data Open Standards

Franklin Street Statement

Open Source: understand it.

Open Data: move it.

Open Standards: connect it.

We need to rebuild the Web.

Break it into 100 million parts.

And tie them together in new ways.

Small pieces.

Loosely joined.

(With apologies.)

People in control of their own stuff.

Their identities.

Their connections.

Tinkering.

Experimenting.

Designing.

So let's:

1. Build protocols for distributed sociality.

Distributed commerce.

Distributed sharing.

Distributed authorization.

These aren't intractable problems.

2. Make Free Software for the Web services we use.

For photo sharing.

For social networking.

For bookmark sharing.

Let's clone every damn Web 2.0 site out there!

We have some great starts.

Like WordPress!

And Identi.ca!

Look how great Wikipedia is.

5th biggest site on the Web.

It's a Free Network Service.

Reddit has Free Software.

Digg has public domain content.

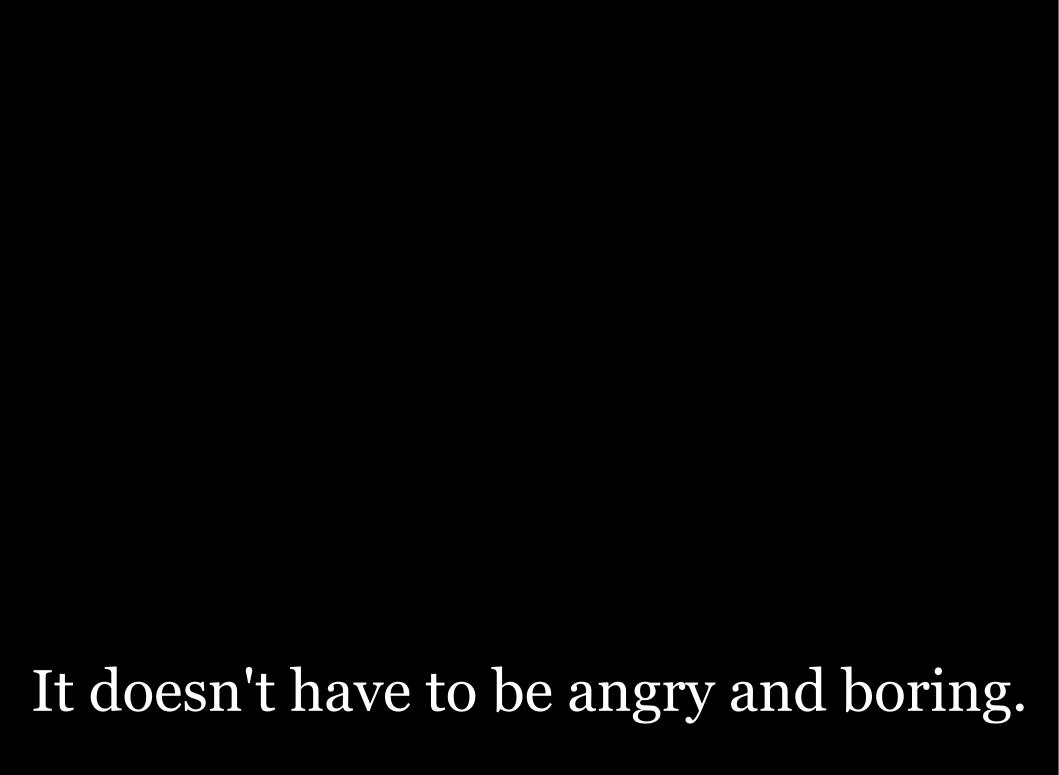
MASHUP!

But there's still lots to do.

So let's get cracking.

3. Make it cool.

Really cool.



This isn't anti-business.

Or anti-government.

Or anti-anything.

I Google.

(P.S. Thanks for the award.)



And smart business will benefit.

Remember when blogging was cool?

We can make an independent Web cool again.

Let's get it going on.

http://autonomo.us/