

BIG BANG 2014  
RESIDUAL DEBRIS  
FROM ONE WOMAN'S  
OVERTAXED BRAIN.

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**POLITICAL**

Larry Lessig makes a lot of sense with his idea of a 'Super PAC' to end all Super PACs. A return to 'We the people' and a May One bid to take back control. [MayOne.us](#) Stephen Colbert, are you listening?

**PSYCHOPATHIC PARASITES**

Surprisingly compelling speech (who knew?) from Ed Yong @edyong209 on parasites like toxo that hijacks a mouse's brain and makes it run towards the parasite's ultimate host, the cat. Ends with chilling early indicators that toxo could be a parasite in the human brain, as people with toxo behave differently to people without. I don't know who made me write this...

**MANUFACTURING**

3D printing has been around since 1983, but it's finally here and disrupting the distribution chain from factory to consumer. Find out how in this great talk.

**GOOGLE GLASSES**

From 'glasshole' to 'aha' in one short talk. Former NFL punter Chris Kluwe opens our eyes to the voyeuristic potential of glass. We are all a potential revenue stream. Amazing turnaround for me on the potential of these things.

**ARCHITECTURE FEEDBACK LOOP**

Compelling talk by architect Marc Kushner on how the socialization of renderings and viral sharing of finished buildings has closed the feedback loop.

**DOVES IN SPACE**

Planet-labs.com announced they are launching a 20+ fleet of satellites that will take a picture of 100% of the Earth's surface every day and, importantly, make the data free to all. Think of tracking airplanes, deforestation and much more over time. One global view will be hard to ignore.

**MAJOR TOM**

Chris Hadfield who made news by singing "Major Tom" and tweeting from space gently explains that going blind on a space walk is no biggie. It's just a small matter of accepting fear ≠ danger.

**OCULAR SHIELD**

You know when you're driving and you've forgotten your sunglasses and you hold your hand up to the sun so you can see oncoming traffic? Well, Jeremy Kasdin worked out how to do this on a universal level, as you do. A giant ocular shield to enable astronomers to observe other galaxies without being blinded by our sun. Pretty cool.

**TELESCOPE**

"Software will be as important as telescopes," says Andrew Connolly, because the new LSST telescope has 3,200,000,000 pixels and will generate as much data in one image as 300 images from the Hubble telescope. [LSST.org](#)

**GEIGER COUNTER**

Dismayed at not being able to get accurate information about his family's safety from the Japanese government after the reactor meltdown in the wake of the tsunami, MIT Media Lab director Joi Ito did what had to be done and in a few short days formed Safecast, which is the biggest citizen science project ever and crowd-sources radiation readings around the globe. @joi

**FISH**

This talk by Allan Adams was above my pay grade, but passionately delivered and mind-blowing nonetheless. Basically there is a fish in 3D and 2D in a black hole at the end of the universe, or something like that.



**NSA**

We stopped 54 terrorist acts, many of which were in the European countries that are beating us up about these programs. The debate is not over.

**DATA GUARD**

Brilliantly deadpan talk from badass ex-FBI agent Del Harvey on how she keeps Twitter safe for all.

**WWW**

Sir Tim Berners-Lee celebrates 25 years since he invented the web but calls for a 'Magna Carta for the web' to protect our privacy.

**A SUNNY OUTLOOK**

Al Gore celebrates the fact that the nation has finally gone from denial to acceptance and now must land on hope not despair. Several people give us hope that humankind can innovate their way out of this mess: Amory Lovins | Michel Laberge | Taylor Wilson

**A BRAIN**

Ray Kurzweil predicts that in the future we'll swallow a pill sized nanobot that enables us to download "French" or "physics" from the cloud. The question in the audience was, How much would a TED pill cost?

**BODY EVOLUTION**

Not a dry eye in the house as Boston Marathon runner danced again for the first time with robotic legs custom built by Hugh Herr. The future of robotics is here.

Fascinating talk from sports writer David Epstein on the role of technology in sports.

Amy Cuddy on how your body language determines who you are.

Jane McGonigal on how a game called SnowWorld has been more effective than morphine in treating pain for burn victims.

Fecal transplants make sense. If you don't believe me - watch this:

**OCEANS: UNPROTECTED AND UNEXPLORED**

The mysteries of the universe are underneath us. Sylvia Earle passionately talks about how only 1-2% of the oceans are protected. See her film "Mission Blue." What is more, David Gallo reminds us that only 6-7% have been explored. Diving is as important as stargazing it seems.

**RESILIENCE PROJECT**

Stephen Friend announces [resilienceproject.me](#) in conjunction with 23andMe to identify the folks who beat the odds to benefit us all.

**DNA UNLOCKING NEW WORLDS**

Whole Earth Catalog founder Stewart Brand showcases his 'de-extinction' project to use DNA to bring back the dinosaurs. Well, the woolly mammoth anyway. Oh, and passenger pigeons.

**THE CONTINUING FIGHT FOR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS**

We are evolving on our journey towards human rights for all, but we have a ways to go. Homophobia reigns across most of the globe. Yoruba Richen delivers a compelling speech on how the LGBT movement is 16 years behind racial equality.

Yet, Bryan Stevenson and Melody Hobson remind us that color is still very much an issue.

And Malala's dad humbly shines a light on his daughter's continuing quest for equal education even after she was shot in the head.

And we witness a brave act for transgender rights in this surprising talk by Geena Rocero. We have a long, long way to go.

**HEY! TEACHERS! LEAVE THEM KIDS ALONE.**

Education is revolutionized on a global scale as SOLE (Self Organized Learning Environments) takes hold in various forms.

School in the Cloud, last year's prizewinner, is up and running in the UK and Africa.

University of the People: a fully accredited online university with 3,000 professors from the top universities in the world. 1,700 students enrolled from 143 countries. Average degree cost? \$4K.

Neil Turok, 2008 prizewinner, on finding the next Einstein in Africa.

Phil Zimbardo on how we are failing boys.

Salman Khan updates us on the Khan Academy.

**A THREAT TO DEMOCRACY**

Provocative statement from Clay Shirky: "We are all familiar with Twitter as the accelerator of the Arab Spring, but a cautionary tale from Thailand shows Twitter could be as much of a threat to democracy as it is to autocracy."

**BEN SAUNDERS**

does a very self-deprecating British speech on the merits of walking 1,800 miles (in Scott's footsteps, unassisted by animals or engines), which is the equivalent of walking to the center of the Earth and back, only to find that the point is the journey not the destination. Good to know. Sting opens up about how despite his fame and experiences, something drew him back to the start of his journey.

**CORPORATIONS**

David Brooks argues for eulogy virtues over resume virtues.

Larry Page: Business and philanthropy go hand in hand.

Susan Cain unveils a workplace model for introverts.

TED prizewinner Charmian Gooch of Global Witness calls for global transparency of corporate ownership to expose arms deals and money laundering.

**SMARTPHONE**

Larry Page on how Google wants to connect the 60%.\*

Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales talks about how in developing countries a smartphone can now be acquired for \$43. And showed a moving video of kids asking cell phone providers to allow data from Wikipedia for free. #Gamechanger.

\*40% of the global population is online. Imagine the ideas the other 60% will bring.