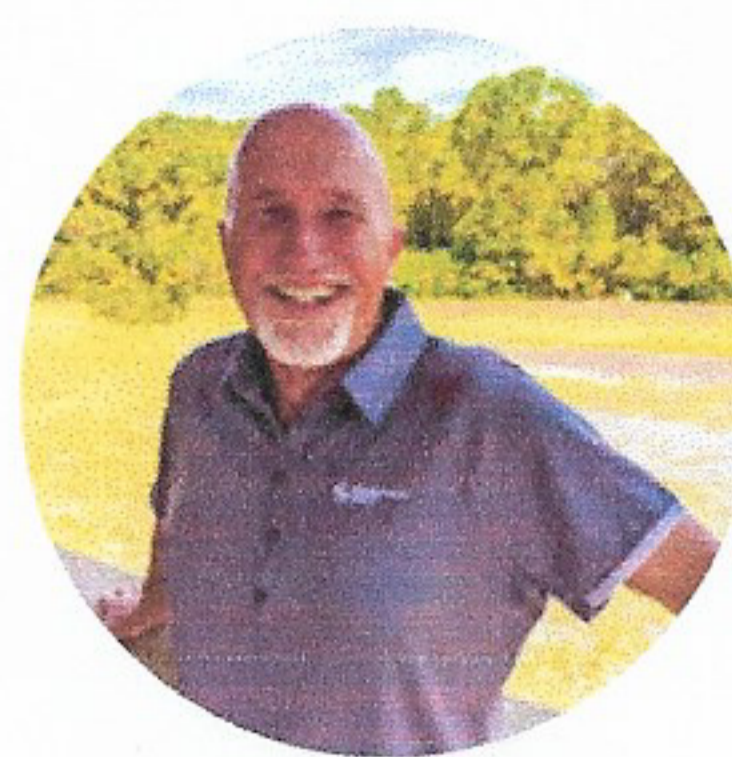


Book Reviews



By William J. (Jay) Carson

Aka 'Dad'

The Cyber Librarian

ISSA Member, Colorado Springs Chapter



Disclaimer: These are the author's subjective opinions, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of any organization or other individual. A human prepared this article, with assistance from Microsoft Editor and Grammarly.

I have a terrific group of colleagues as reviewers who generously make great improvements to these articles. I greatly respect, but do not always follow their advice. For example, I am told by one to delete the tables of contents' reviews, but another reviewer finds that the best part. I am told the comments about public library availability are unnecessary, but I am trying encourage professional reading by ISSA members where paying \$50 for a book means less food on the table. I am also told to give more of my own thoughts. That comment I will follow this time! Sorry!

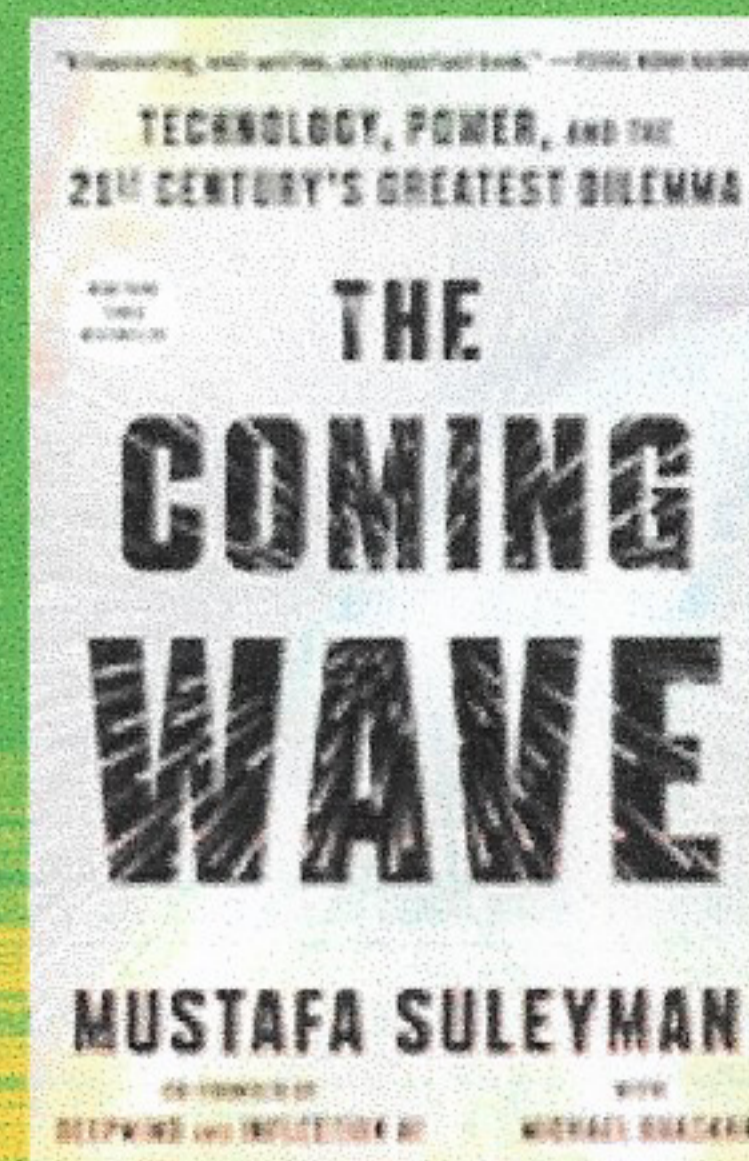
We are all star-struck with idols to some degree, often in the entertainment or athletics industries. My idols are really smart people who have proven they know their topics and write well about them. Both Mustafa Suleyman and Anu Bradford fit the category.

Current readers of the Artificial Intelligence business must know of Mustafa Suleyman. To say he is a major leader in artificial intelligence development is a great understatement. His reasoned positivism gives me hope, and you might have recently seen him on CNN's *Fareed Zakaria GPS*. And then there is Anu Bradford.

When I was studying for my CIPP/E, I read in English the entire GDPR, including the recitals. It is tough reading, but fortunately, I spent years in my past life reading NATO documents. Frankly, the GDPR is like reading serious works by Yoda the Jedia Master. Every long sentence seems to end in a vowel! So I was expecting something similar from a (initially) European-trained law professor.

In contrast, Anu Bradford's writing is refreshingly clear. It is quite serious, mind you, but she gets to the point. I do not personally know her, but I am a major fan! To prove it, I intend to read her earlier acclaimed book, *The Brussels Effect: How the European Union Rules the World*.

01. Suleyman, Mustafa. *The Coming Wave: Technology, Power, and the 21st Century's Greatest Dilemma*. Crown (2023)



Sound Bite: Do not lose sight of the benefits of AI and synthetic biology while recognizing the harms.

Opinion on Primary Audience: World

This book will inspire you to deal with the many challenges of our technological future. Mustafa Suleyman believes in humanity, and our capacity to find and harness AI to find solutions to challenges in a wide variety of recent technologies, including synthetic biology. The 'wave' of modern technologies looks overpowering. We can be knocked down by it, or we can surf it.

The Author

Mustafa Suleyman's credentials are more in the 'school of hard knocks.' He is an Oxford dropout, but was a Founder of DeepMind, a VP at Google, and for the last two years a Founder of Inflection AI. Call it at least 14 years of experience in cyber leadership, especially AI. Other AI books I have read reference him as a major leader. I note the book jacket and title page say, "with Michael Bhaskar." Mr. Bhaskar has an MA from Oxford and is an experienced writer and publisher with several books to his credit.

The Metadata

A **2023** publishing date! The online ordering cost, including shipping, is under \$25, a third less with an e-reader. The hardcover book is over 300 pages, including notes pages. My local public library system has multiple copies, but an extensive 'hold' list. Public library availability is noted for those like me who try to keep costs down.

I took a one-page sample of the text to analyze for readability. Using a Wikipedia article about the Flesch-Kincaid Readability Test, the readability is high school level. There was under 5% passive voice in my sample. I sense the expert hand of Mr. Bhaskar in making the book so readable. This article is about 6% passive voice, for comparison.

Table of Contents (abbreviated/modified and annotated in bold font (inside parenthesis) by me)

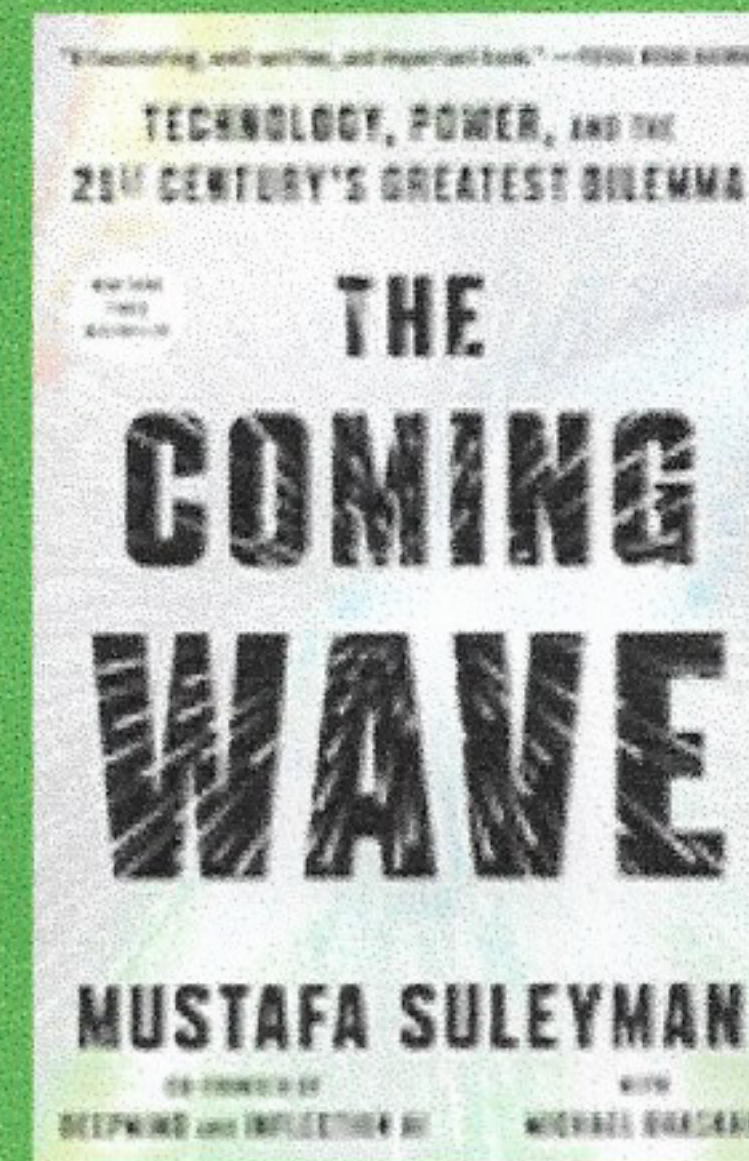
1 Containment Is Not Possible (**Based on the Past**)

Part I Homo Technologicus

2 Endless Proliferation

3 The Containment Problem

Suleyman, Mustafa. *The Coming Wave: Technology, Power, and the 21st Century's Greatest Dilemma*. Crown (2023)



Part II The Next Wave

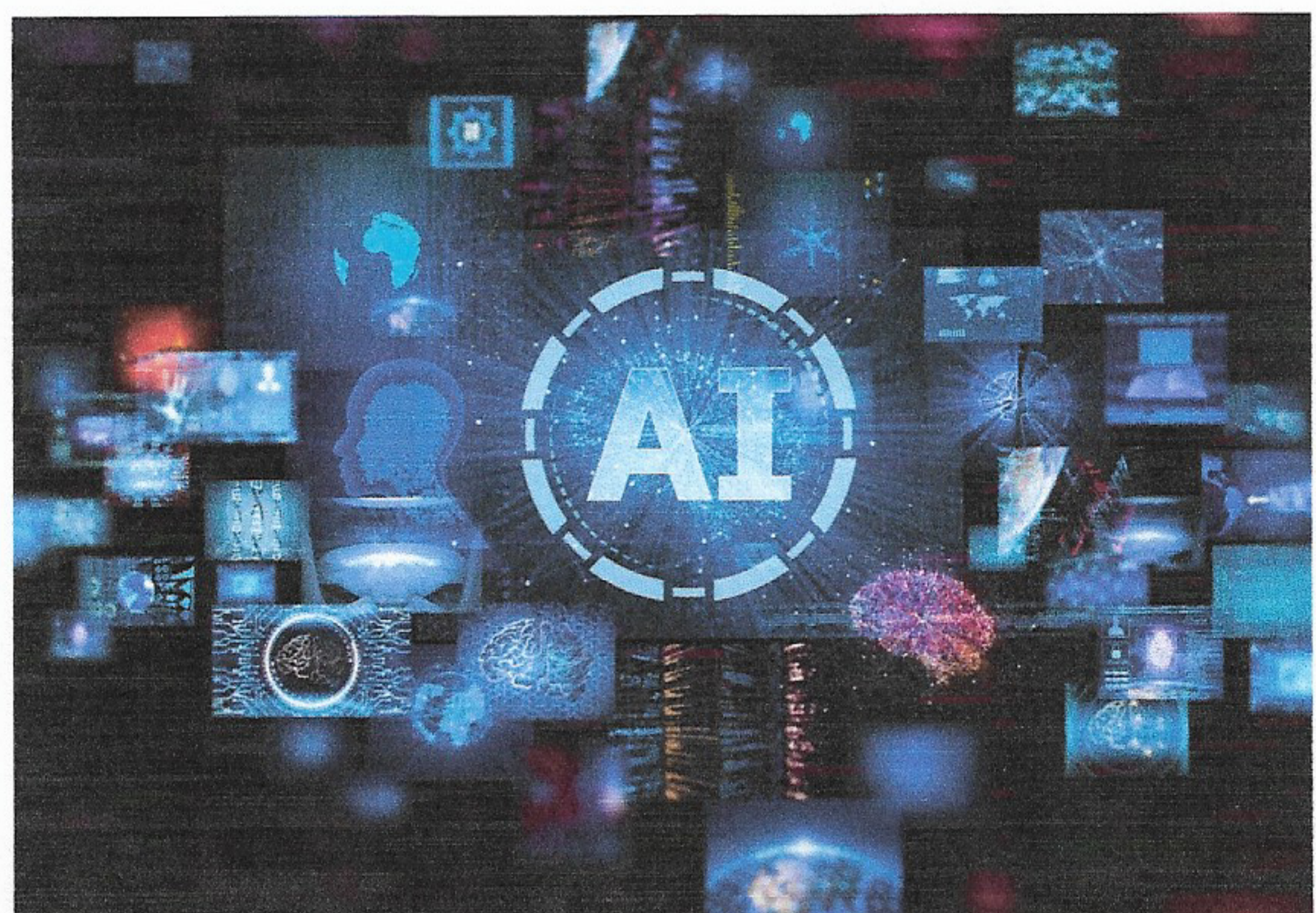
- 4 The Technology of Intelligence (**Good AI history here**)
- 5 The Technology of Life (**Good bioengineering history here**)
- 6 The Wider Wave (**AI will impact everything**)
- 7 Four Features Of The Coming Wave
 - (#1 AI is an asymmetric force compared with past innovations)**
 - #2 AI is not just growing, it is accelerating**
 - #3 AI spreads everywhere**
 - #4 Compared to AI, we are like gorillas in a zoo. Physically stronger, but not as smart)**
- 8 Unstoppable Incentives (**We have no choice - deal with it**)

Part III States of Failure

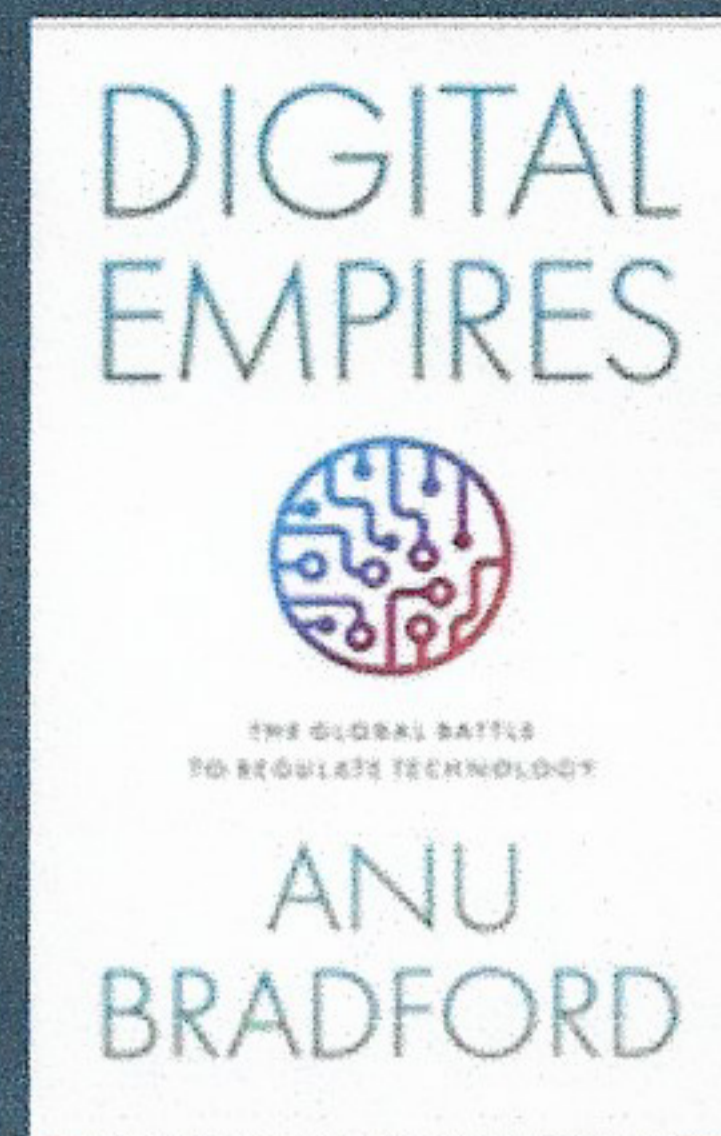
- 9 The Grand Bargain
- 10 Fragility Amplifiers (**Cybersecurity people - read this!**)
- 11 The Future of Nations (**Wish Kissinger was here to comment**)
- 12 The Dilemma (**Even if we could shut AI down, can we afford to stagnate?**)

Part IV Through the Wave

- 13 Containment Must Be Possible
- 14 Ten Steps Toward Containment (**below are the author's ten**)
 - #1 Technical Safety**
 - #2 Audits**
 - #3 Choke Points**
 - #4 Makers**
 - #5 Businesses**
 - #6 Government**
 - #7 Alliances**
 - #8 Culture**
 - #9 Movements**
 - #10 Coherence**



02. Bradford, Anu. *Digital Empires: The Global Battle to Regulate Technology*. Oxford University Press (2023)



Sound Bite: Two major points: 1) Defense against China's growing authoritarian power requires international teamwork. 2) Tech companies in the US market-driven model have enormous power, not always used wisely.

Opinion on Primary Audience: Anyone with a need to understand global economies in the digital age. Especially important for international-level cyber leaders.

When you see a video of an international cyber and/or privacy lecture, you routinely see the lecturer in front of shelves of privacy books. Look at the books. If *Digital Empires* is not there, make a mental question mark on the lecturer's topic currency.

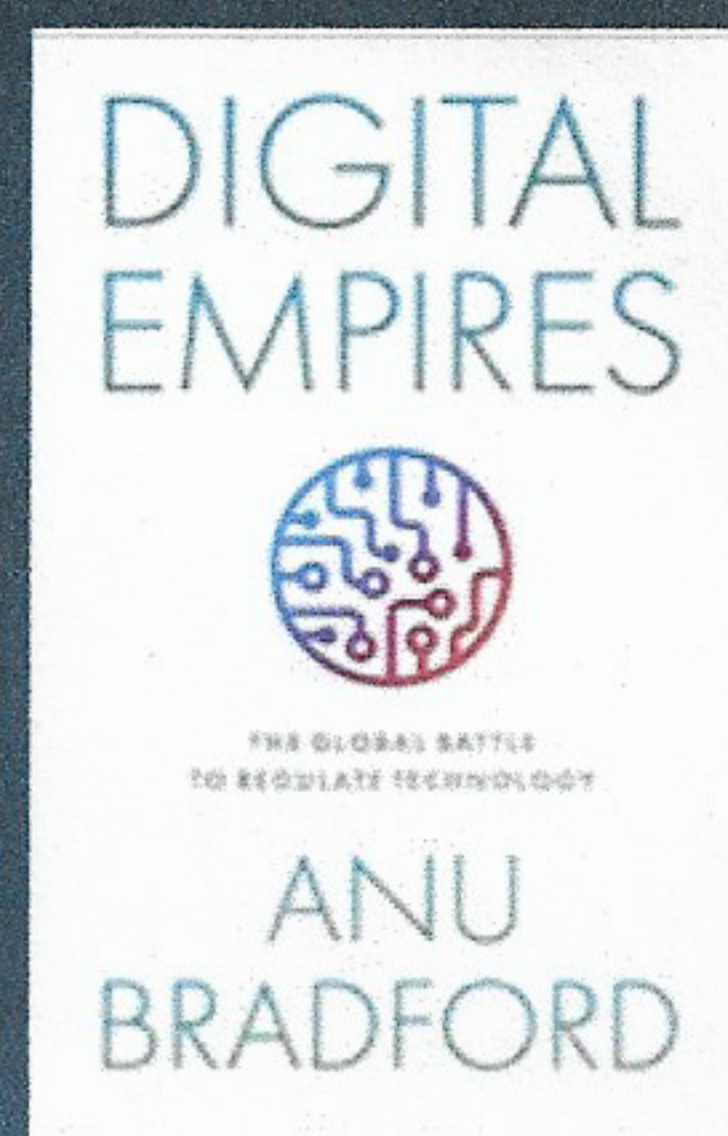
I am seeing a lot of books on the China domination threat and will be reviewing some in later articles. These books clearly state the challenge, but their solutions seem to lead to economic or actual warfare. Professor Bradford offers a workable solution. It is for the U.S. and the EU to team up and blend the market-driven digital approach of the U.S. with the EU rights-based approach. Together, they make a more powerful example to the world.

I worry that no one seeing this book in a bookstore or library will pick it up as a potential read. The hardcover edition is thick, the print is small, and there are no pictures. It is a good personal defense weapon for a bar fight, assuming you take books to bars. I do, but everyone thinks I am strange.

Not reading it would be a crying shame, for it is a fine book, well worthwhile for cybersecurity and privacy leaders. The reason for the heft is over 150 pages of meticulous notes. The body of the book is readable, enjoyable, and if you aspire to global corporate leadership, important.

You will need to understand her terminology of horizontal conflict - governmental system against government system, and vertical conflict - governmental system against its own and foreign-owned digital corporations. Daring to mildly criticize a superbly credentialed author, I found the book a bit too supportive toward the European digital management model, not surprising with the author's legal and early training background, and her familiarity with the European management systems. She is listed in Wikipedia as a Finnish American, and her first degree was from a Finnish university. If that sounds presumptive on my part, let me clearly state she is not above criticizing the European model for a lack of innovation results compared to the U.S. market model. My caution is because I just finished listening to Walter Isaacson's *Elon Musk* and wonder if Mr. Musk would find the European individual rights-based world confining.

Bradford, Anu. *Digital Empires: The Global Battle to Regulate Technology*. Oxford University Press (2023)



While I am certainly **not** a fan of Mr. Musk, he does get things done.

The Author

Professor Bradford has wonderful academic and writing credentials for her subject. In addition to her Law master's degree from the University of Helsinki, she has her master's degree and JD from Harvard. She currently holds a prestigious International Law professorship at Columbia Law School, where she has taught for over 11 years. She speaks four European languages in addition to English. This is her second book.

The Metadata

A **2023** publishing date! The online ordering cost, including shipping, is under \$35. You can cut that cost by half if you use e-reader. The hardcover version is about 550 pages including notes. My public library has no copies. Loan, but do not give away this book. If you ever go for a privacy certification, I consider it essential background reading.

I took a one-page sample of the text to analyze for readability. Using a Wikipedia article about the Flesch-Kincaid Readability Test, the writing level and style measurement is graduate school level. There was around 50% passive voice in my sample, but the author keeps it interesting with examples. This article is about 6% passive voice, for comparison.

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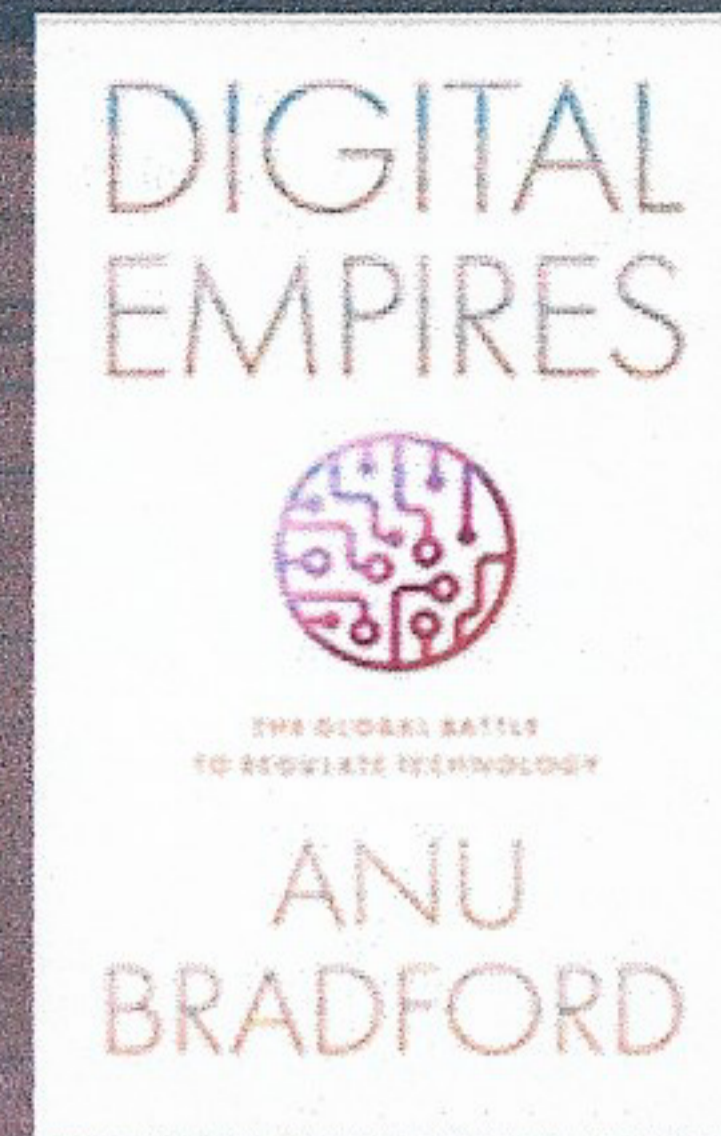
Part I Digital Empires

- 1 The American Market-Driven Regulatory Model (**The most originally innovative! China's innovations are sometimes US copies**)
- 2 The Chinese State-Driven Regulatory Model (**Great if you love the State more than freedom**)
- 3 The European Rights-Driven Regulatory Model (**GDPR+**)

Part II Imperial Rivalries

- 4 Between Freedom and Control: Navigating Competing Regulatory Models
 - 5 The Battle for Technological Supremacy: The US-China Tech War (**Facts to support your argument that China's power is growing**)
 - 6 When Rights, Markets, and Security Collide: The US-EU Regulatory Battles (**Great explanations of current disputes**)
-

Bradford, Anu. *Digital Empires: The Global Battle to Regulate Technology*. Oxford University Press (2023)



Part III The Expansion of Empires

7 The Waning Global Influence of American Techno-Libertarianism (**Big surprise - authoritarian governments find America a dangerous influence on their populations**)

8 Exporting China's Digital Authoritarianism through Infrastructure (**Exactly 'how' China is taking control of a long-term basis, through appeals to authoritarian governments and infrastructure deals**)

9 Globalizing European Digital Rights through Regulatory Power (**A reasonable solution to balance China's growing power**)

Happy Reading!

PS - If you have a book you want me to read & review, please use the email address in my bio to let me know!

For next month's reviews, I got two terrific suggestions from people I follow on LinkedIn. Ben Rothke recommended:

Schneier, Bruce. *A Hacker's Mind: How the Powerful Bend Society's Rules, and How to Bend Them Back*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2023.

Robert Metzger recommended:

McLaughlin, Michael G., and William Holstein. *Battlefield Cyber: How China and Russia Are Undermining Our Democracy and National Security*. Washington, DC. Rowman & Littlefield, 2023.

Additional sources used in the article:

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anu_Bradford
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mustafa_Suleyman
3. LinkedIn profiles for authors listed, where available.
4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flesch%E2%80%93Kincaid_readability_tests

About the Author

William J. (Jay) Carson, ISSA Senior Member, ISSA 2020 Volunteer of the Year, and a past ISSA-Colorado Springs Executive Vice President. He is the part-time 'Cyber Librarian' of Semper Sec, LLC. Holding Security+ and CIPP/E certifications, he is a former high school math/science teacher, civil servant, contractor, and retired USAF Lieutenant Colonel. He can be reached at Runningjay51@gmail.com.
