I WANT A BETTER CATASTROPHE

A Flowchart for Navigating our Climate Predicament

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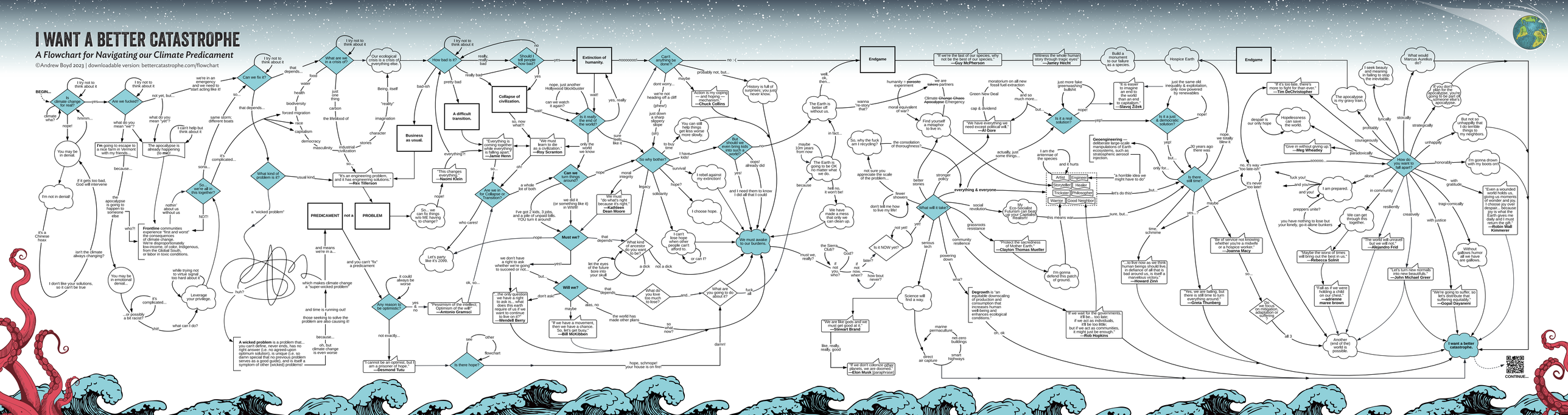
BEGIN...
Is climate change for real?
climate what?
nope!
You may be in denial.
I'm not in denial!
It's a Chinese hoax
isn't the climate always changing?
I don't like your solutions, so it can't be true
If it gets too bad, God will intervene
I try not to think about it
Are we fucked?
hmmm...
what do you mean "we"?
I'm going to escape to a nice farm in Vermont with my friends.
because...
the apocalypse is going to happen to someone else
nothin' about us without us
NOT!
who?
Frontline communities experience "first and worst" the consequences of climate change. These are disproportionately low-income, of color, Indigenous, from the Global South, or labor in toxic conditions.
You may be in emotional denial...
...or possibly a bit racist?
what can I do?
shit!
while trying not to virtue signal too hard about it.
Leverage your privilege.
it's complicated...
what do you mean "yet"?
I can't help but think about it
The apocalypse is already happening (to me).
not yet, but...
we're in an emergency and we need to start acting like it!
so...
Can we fix it?
that depends...
food
water
health
biodiversity
forced migration
race
capitalism
democracy
masculinity
industrial civilization
carbon
the livelihood of
Being, itself
"reality"
imagination
character
stories
bad-ish
pretty bad
really bad
really, really bad
Should I tell people how bad?
yes
no
nope, just another Hollywood blockbuster
can we match it again?
wait!
Is it really the end of the world?
sure feels like it
only the world we know
Extinction of humanity.
nooooooo!
Can't anything be done?
probably not, but...
maybe
dont worry...
we're not heading off a cliff
(phew!)
just down a sharp slippery slope
(oh)
so buy time
I have kids!
survival
hope?
solidarity
legacy
moral integrity
nope
So why bother?
Can we turn things around?
oh!
so...
a whole lot of hope
I've got 2 kids, 3 jobs, and a pile of unpaid bills. YOU turn it around!
we did it (or something like it) in WWII!
"Do what's right, because it's right." —Kathleen Dean Moore
Must we?
that depends...
nope
yes
we don't have a right to ask whether we're going to succeed or not...
but...
...the only question we have a right to ask is... what does this earth require of us if we want to continue to live on it? —Wendell Berry
Will we?
that depends...
don't ask!
maybe
alas, no
the world has made other plans
"If we have a movement, then we have a chance. So, let's get busy." —Bill McKibben
so what now?
damn!
hope, schmope! your house is on fire!
Can we stop the bad guys?
Can we fix it?
Can we fix the climate crisis?
Can we fix the climate crisis?
Can we fix the climate crisis