

**SOLARPUNK  
STORYIST  
Manifesto  
1.2**

WE ARE THE  
REBELLION  
AGAINST  
DESPAIR

WE ARE THE  
REVOLUTION  
FOR DESIRE

# IMAGINE DESIRE

- Tales of hellish futures have not motivated people enough to avoid them becoming more likely.
- The evidence has shown that the anxiety these visions create lead most people into denial.
- All successful change movements in history have been inspired by a vision of the future they wanted. Martin Luther

King did not say “I have a nightmare.”

- As SolarPunk Storyists we have the courage to imagine what we desire, rather than resign ourselves to what we fear.

# INSPIRE OTHERS

- We want a future where prosperity will be defined by the quality of the relationships and

experiences we enjoy rather than the quantity of crap we consume.

- We believe the change we want will only come from us acting personally and collectively for it. We need to organise in our communities, take part in national and international political action and support a new economics.
- We believe things like a 21-hour working week, rewarding and empowering

employment for all, and a greater ability to belong to, and take part in, the places where we live are some examples of the type of world we desire.

# YES TO TECH NO TO TECHNOCRACY

- We believe technology can be a tremendously powerful ally in enhancing human

flourishing and a thriving natural life support system for this planet. We know it can only be this power for good when it is used in the right context. It needs to further empower our collective agency not try to be used as a substitute for it.

- Things like renewable energy, when localised, can see the transfer of economic as well as electric power from unaccountable corporations and

bureaucracies to communities.

- We reject entirely those approaches that say that technology alone will resolve economic injustice and avoid environmental disaster.
- We feel that the social, cultural and economic contexts which technologies have been adopted in have been crucial to both the benefits and disadvantages they have brought. If we do not



change these contexts  
then technologies risk  
entrenching and  
exacerbating what's  
wrong with our current  
systems.

# APPRECIATE LIFE

- We believe life is a rare and precious phenomenon in the universe. It is worth protecting and

celebrating in all its  
incredible variety.

- We must live in a way that sustains the fundamental biological support systems of this planet that are critical for all its species to flourish.
- We oppose total homogeneity and enforced conformity of all kinds. We believe diversity of peoples, cultures and viewpoints bring beauty, joy and resilience to our communities and lives.

- As SolarPunk Storyists, we see cities covered in creeping plants, filled with the scent of flowers and full of the buzz of bees. We imagine the lifeless wastelands of development gone wrong, rewilded to become abundant again with animals and plants.
- We see newness and traditions coexisting and cross pollinating as different people, ideas and perspectives mix things up.

# GROW FROM DIRT

- We tell SolarPunk Stories because we believe in building on the messy richness of our past.
- We tell stories where conflict, violence and dark feelings persist, even if in a lesser way. We keep these shadows in our brighter futures as we believe they will still be part of the human drama

in any world that is free enough to be worth living in.

- Our futures are built more from what we have now, however messy it may be. As SolarPunk Storyists we support adapting and augmenting our infrastructure, technology and cultures to support human and environmental flourishing rather than destroying everything and starting again.

- We reject year zero futurism. Cities swarming with spotless skyscrapers, flying cars and robot slaves are not our shade of solarpunk.
- As SolarPunk Storyists we oppose these futures because they are both ecologically unsustainable and they miss what for us the heart of a better future should be about - rewarding work, good relationships and life enhancing places to live.

# SOLARPUNK IT

- We tell SolarPunk Stories because the future worth living in, is worth living now.
- Eating delicious locally-grown food, dancing in street parties and joining a solar energy co-op all make our lives better today, as well as making a SolarPunk future more likely.

**Join the rebellion  
against despair  
Live the  
revolution of  
desire  
Become a  
SolarPunk  
Storyist**



*This is the first draft of our manifesto. While the statements are heart felt we are open to suggestions to change and edit them for future versions. To suggest changes for the next version of this manifesto please sign up for [SolarPunk Stories here](#).*

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- INSPIRE OTHERS
- YES TO TECH, NO TO  
TECHNOCRACY
- APPRECIATE LIFE
- GROW FROM DIRT
- SOLARPUNK IT

