

Welcome to this week's presentation & conversation hosted by the **Canadian Association for the Club of Rome**, a Club dedicated to intelligent debate & action on global issues.

The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the speaker & do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of CACOR.

## ***The Publication of 'The Great Disruption.'***

Our speaker today is TD Dougherty, a retired environmental scientist. He has been a CACOR member for well over a decade and is one of the administrators of this Zoom presentation series.

DESCRIPTION: Today, he explains how he came to publish a series of climate fiction (cli-fi) books. These books outline the lives of various characters in the not-too-distant future. Climate change has exceeded expectations and keeps getting more intense. Thus far, *The Odd One* has followed Max (a scientist), *The Rich One* followed Doug (an entrepreneur), and *The Young One* followed Hamilton (a young boy who ages into a man in an emerging wilderness). More books are planned in the coming years. None is for the faint of heart. Rather, the stories are explorations of the sorts of realities people may face as the grand uncontrolled experiment we are undertaking on our atmosphere and hydrosphere unfolds.

The presentation will be followed by a conversation, questions, & observations from the participants.

CACOR acknowledges that we all benefit from sharing the traditional territories of local Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada) and their descendants.



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2023 Nov 08 Zoom #170

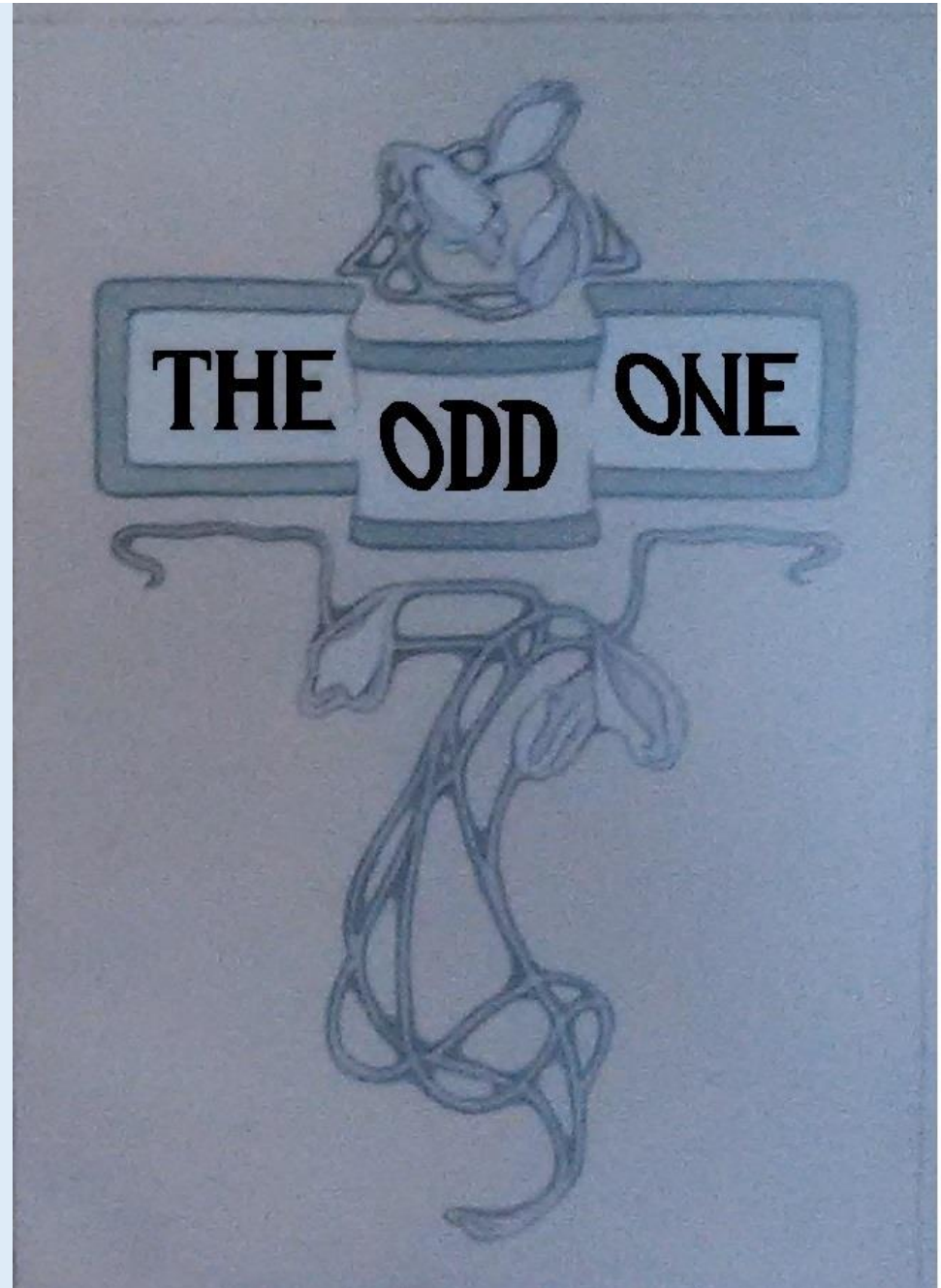
# Inception of the Idea

It started with artwork by Grey Marcuse

A cover with no book

A story to fit the title

Text enhanced in *Paint*



# Choice of Theme

We are in a polycrisis

- Mass extinction, resource depletion, weapons of mass destruction, climate change, universal toxicity, food crises, population and urban expansion, pandemic disease, dangerous new technologies, self-delusion (Julian Cribb's list)

All problems must be solved without worsening any of the others

Climate disruption is the most pressing problem

- If we don't solve climate change, we won't have time to solve the other problems
- This really is the **Pyrocene Epoch**



*Smoke over North America in summer 2016.*

[Wildfire-smoke-WU-am-May-7-2016-265x225.jpg \(265x225\) \(wildfiretoday.com\)](#)

# Basis in Plausibility

There are scientific bases to believe many things possible

The world sees many predictable events

- The Great Methane Burp, the Great Ice Melt, the Great Fire, the Great Maelstrom, category 7 hurricane, floods, market collapses, climate refugee migrations, prison camps, riots, plagues, poisons, polar outflows

The characters go through many personal trials

- Kidney stones, murder, disease, poisoning, attack, imprisonment, hunger, thirst, homelessness

*Category 5 Hurricane Katrina from Space. NASA (2005)*



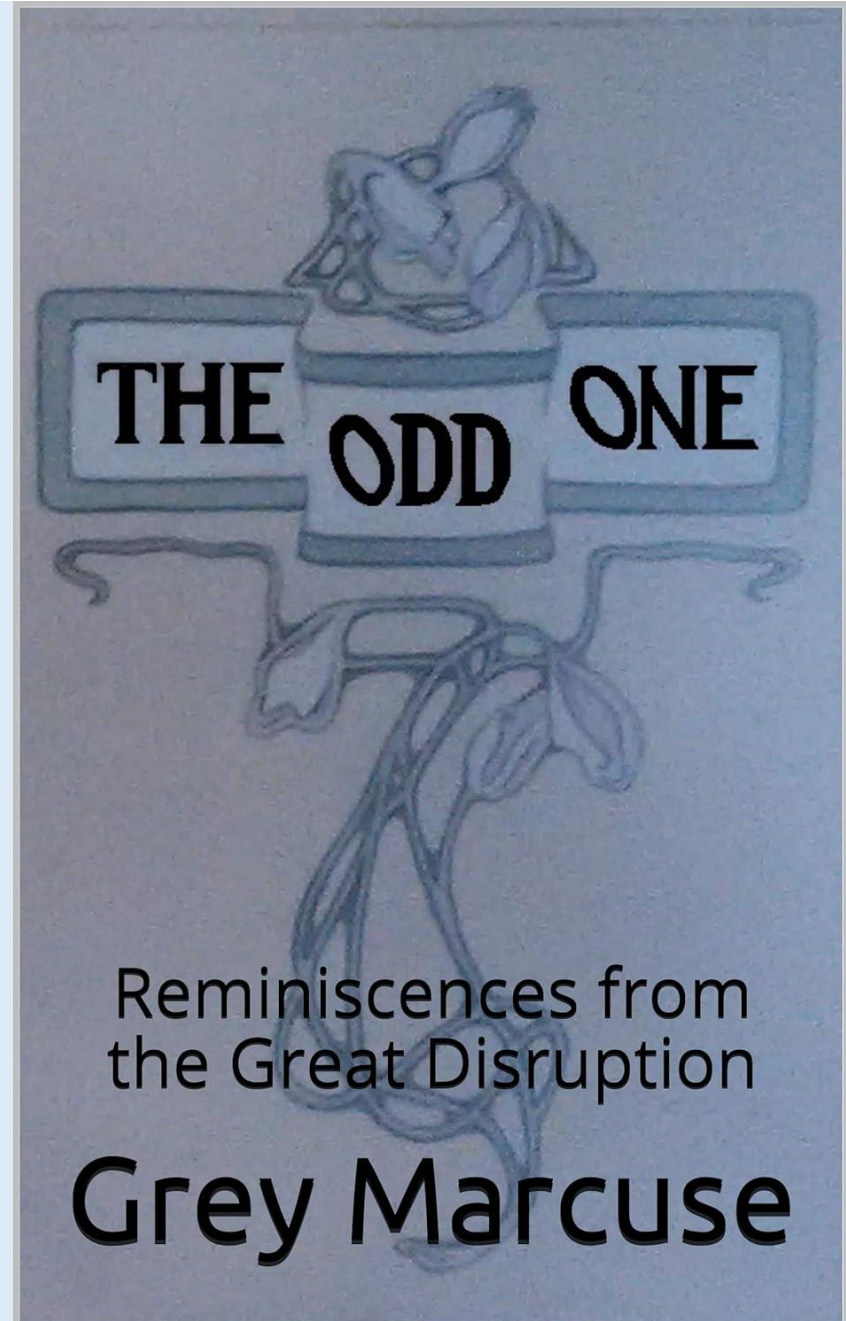
# *The Odd One*

Max is a scientist who works in a laboratory

Throughout the story he loses family members to tragedies

Max encounters a young boy in the ruins of his town—we encounter him again in *The Young One*

Max encounters a man in dress shoes pushing a wheel-barrow full of money through his town trying to buy food—we encounter him again in *The Rich One*



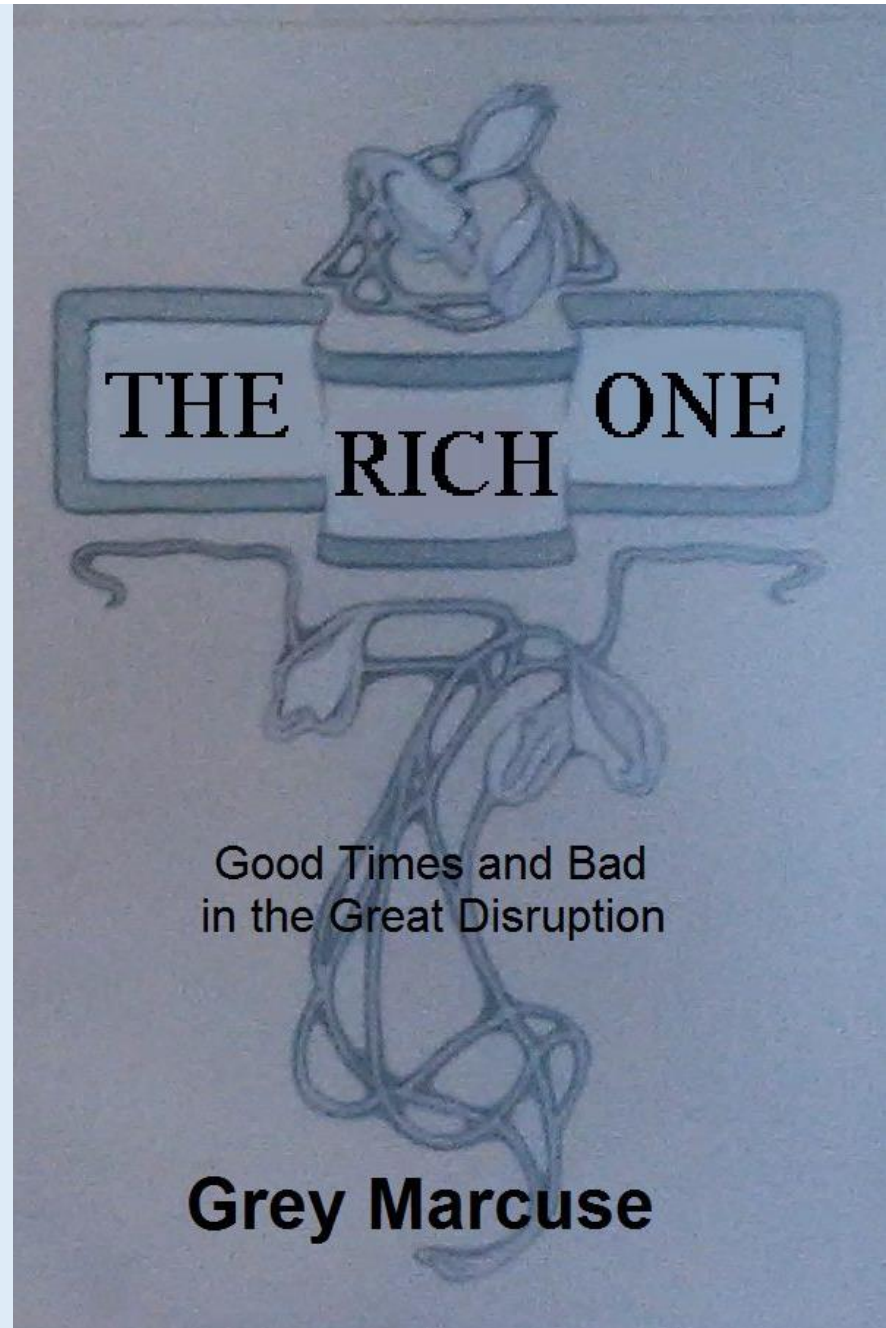
# *The Rich One*

We follow Doug through his life from his time as a young boy through to his death from heat stroke as a middle-aged adult

He gradually learns from experience

He rises by his greed—opportunism, duplicity, cunning, and ruthlessness take to unimaginable heights

He eventually amasses enormous wealth, but in the end it does him little good as he falls victim to his greed and the ill-will of others



# *The Young One*

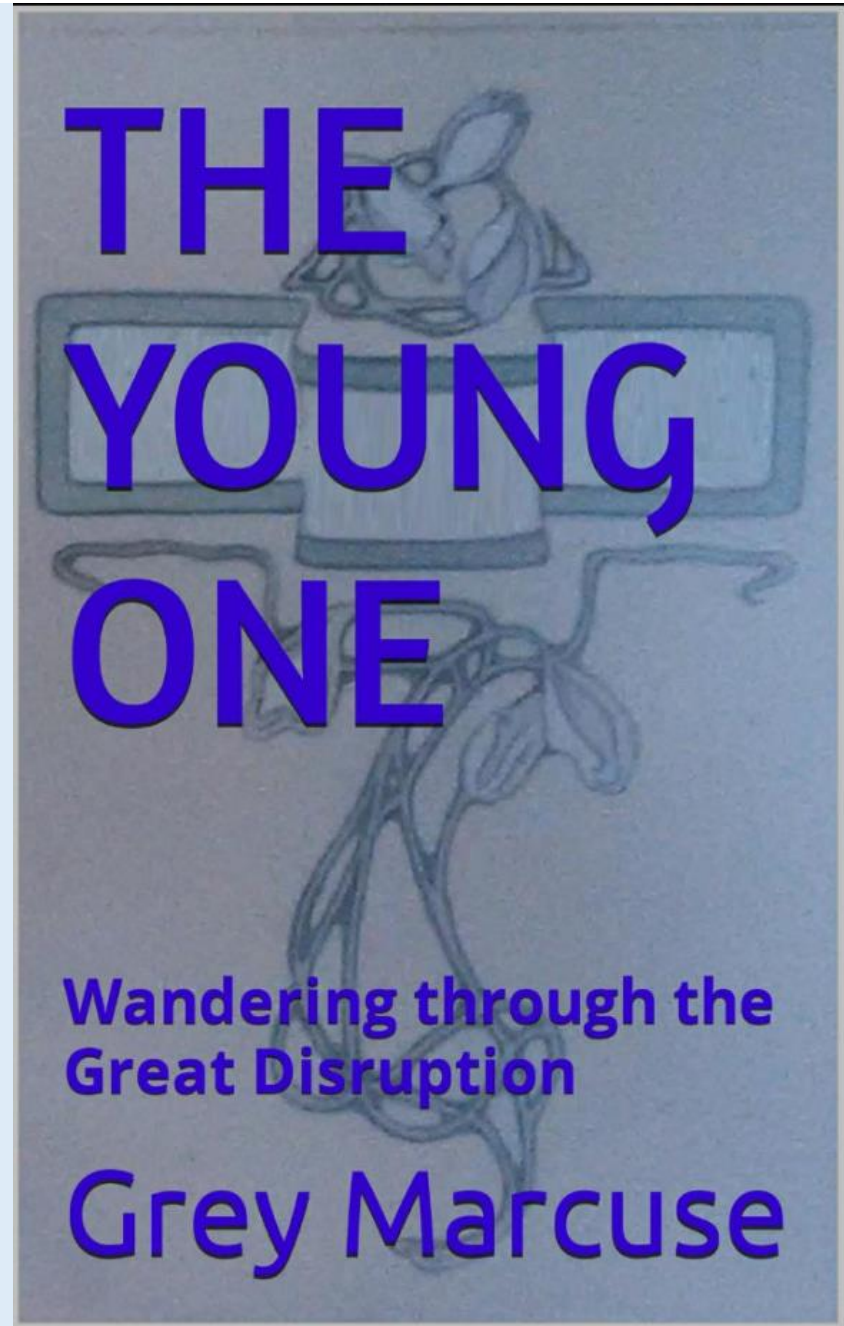
Hamilton goes from a city kid in Grade 3 to an experienced man of the wilderness

He becomes a climate refugee

He loses his family to disasters

He meets the loves of his life, but also loses them

He learns survival skills that include foraging, hunting, and battle



# Making It Pretty

Personal trove of old digital photos

- Memories of fantastic natural places we are fast losing
- A reminder of personal participation in the consumer economy

*Subalpine forest in the Coast Mountains, British Columbia, Canada.  
TD Dougherty (2011)*





# Getting the Platform

## Self-publishing at Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) in all markets

- <https://tinyurl.com/TheRichOne>
- [The Great Disruption \(2 book series\) Kindle edition \(amazon.ca\)](https://www.amazon.ca/Rich-One-Times-Great-Disruption-ebook/dp/B0B5LZJK4T/ref=...)

The screenshot shows the Amazon.ca product page for the Kindle edition of 'The Rich One: Good Times and Bad in the Great Disruption' by Grey Marcuse. The page features a book cover on the left with the title 'The Rich One' and the subtitle 'Good Times and Bad in the Great Disruption' by Grey Marcuse. The main content area displays the title, author, format (Kindle Edition), a 5.0 star rating with 2 ratings, and a price of \$0.00 for Kindle Unlimited. A description of the book is provided, along with a 'Read sample' button. The right sidebar includes a 'kindleunlimited' banner, a 'Read for Free' button, the Kindle price of \$6.61, and a 'Buy now with 1-Click' button. At the bottom, there are options to 'Send a free sample' and 'Add to Wish List'. A 'READ ON ANY DEVICE' banner is visible at the bottom right.

https://www.amazon.ca/Rich-One-Times-Great-Disruption-ebook/dp/B0B5LZJK4T/ref=...

### The Rich One: Good Times and Bad in the Great Disruption Kindle Edition

by Grey Marcuse (Author) | Format: Kindle Edition

5.0 ★★★★★ 2 ratings

Part of: The Great Disruption (2 books) [See all formats and editions](#)

**Kindle Edition**  
\$0.00 kindleunlimited

This title and over 4 million more available with Kindle Unlimited \$6.61 to buy

Doug begins his journey in life just as climate change is beginning to be noticeable to many people. We follow him through his rise to wealth and fame, then to his demise as climate change causes the Great Disruption, ravaging everything around him and bringing to realize that hope is just not a very good strategy.

Part of series: **The Great Disruption**

Print length: **155 pages**

Language: **English**

Sticky notes: **On Kindle Scribe**

Roll over image to zoom in

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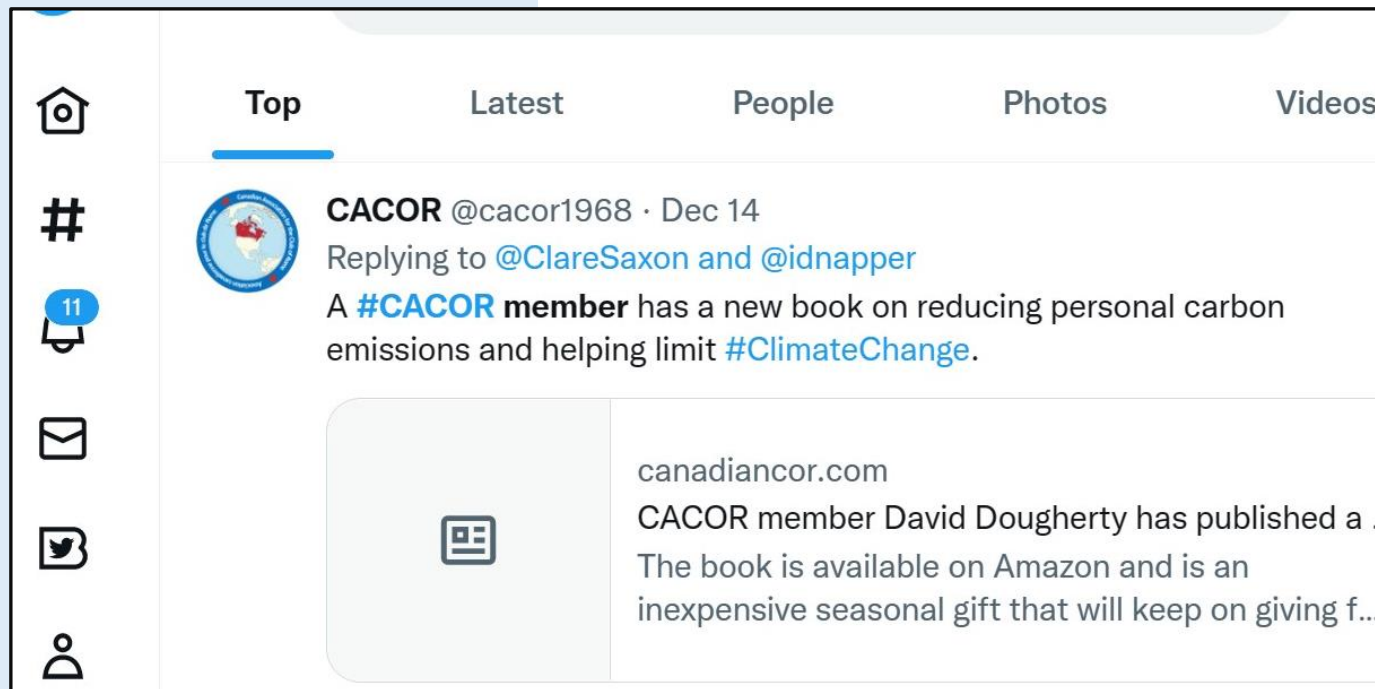
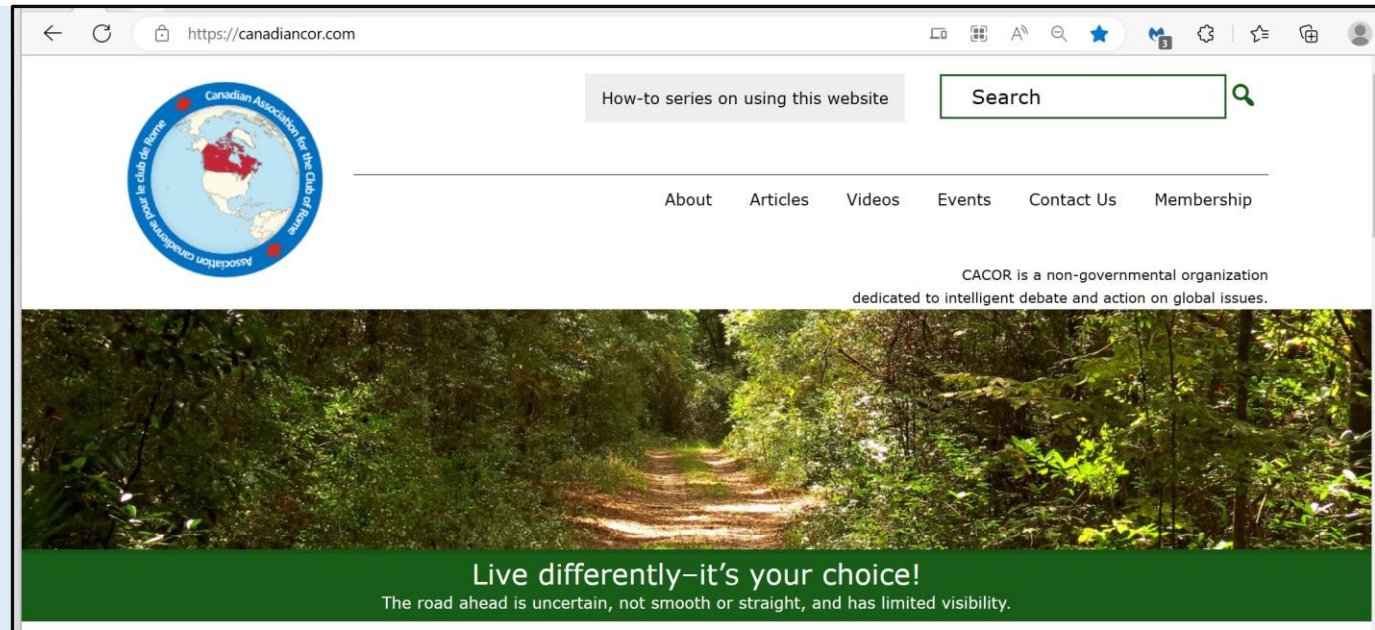
# Getting It Out

CACOR website

CACOR social media

Personal connections

Environmental organizations

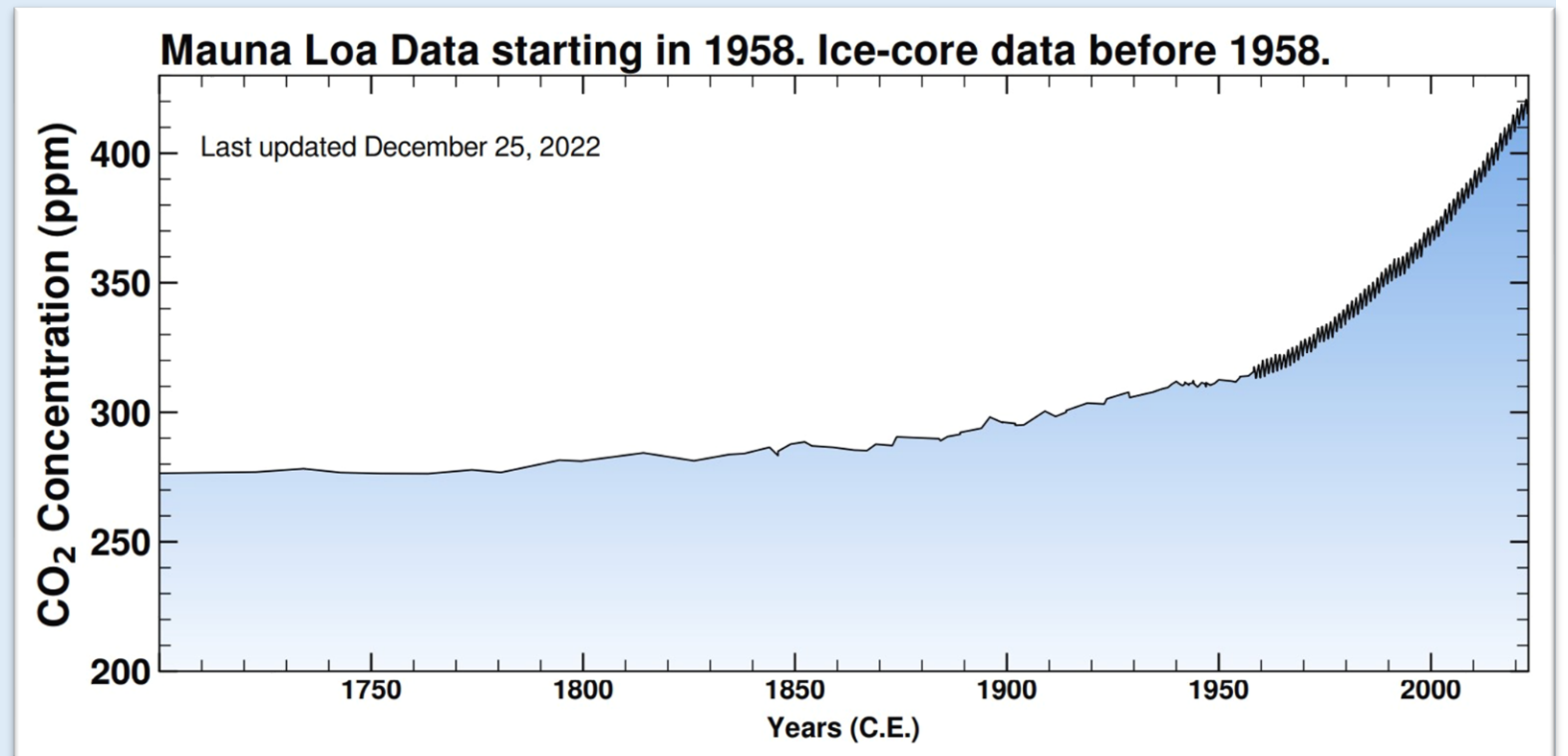


# Results

No expectations for uptake

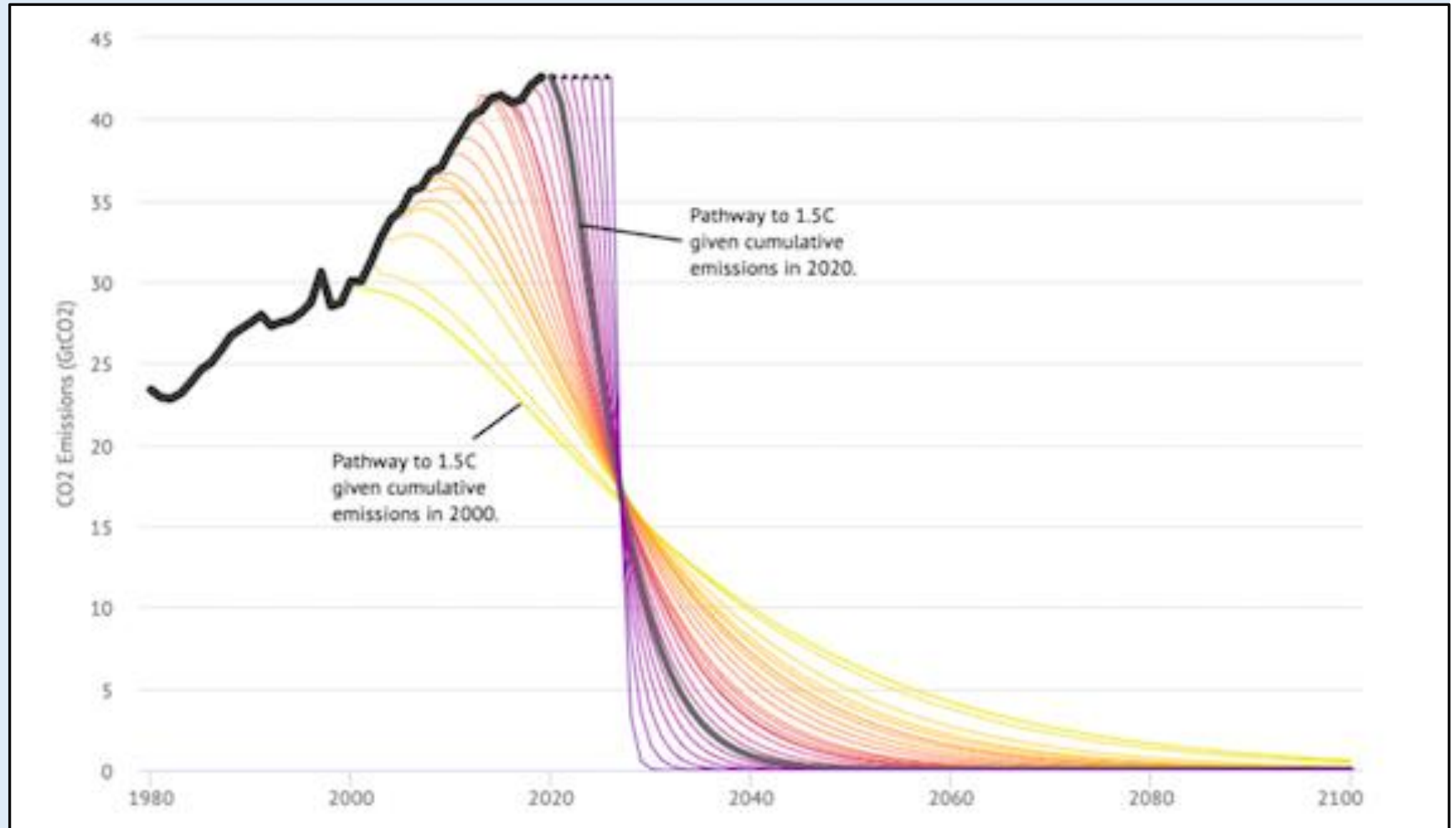
Satisfaction from recording suspicions about the future from observation of the past

Perhaps some will awaken



# Urgency

Really...finally...we need to change what we are doing or we'll get the Great Disruption



[Make-or-break on our climate crisis](#)