

THE CARBON SUPER MARKET



YOUR FUTURE
FOR SALE...

KATE
EVANS



IT'S SO SIMPLE, A **SCHOOLGIRL** CAN EXPLAIN IT. LET'S START WITH THE **PHYSICS**. GREENHOUSE GASES KEEP THE EARTH WARM. ADD MORE GREENHOUSE GASES AND WE MAKE THE EARTH WARMER.

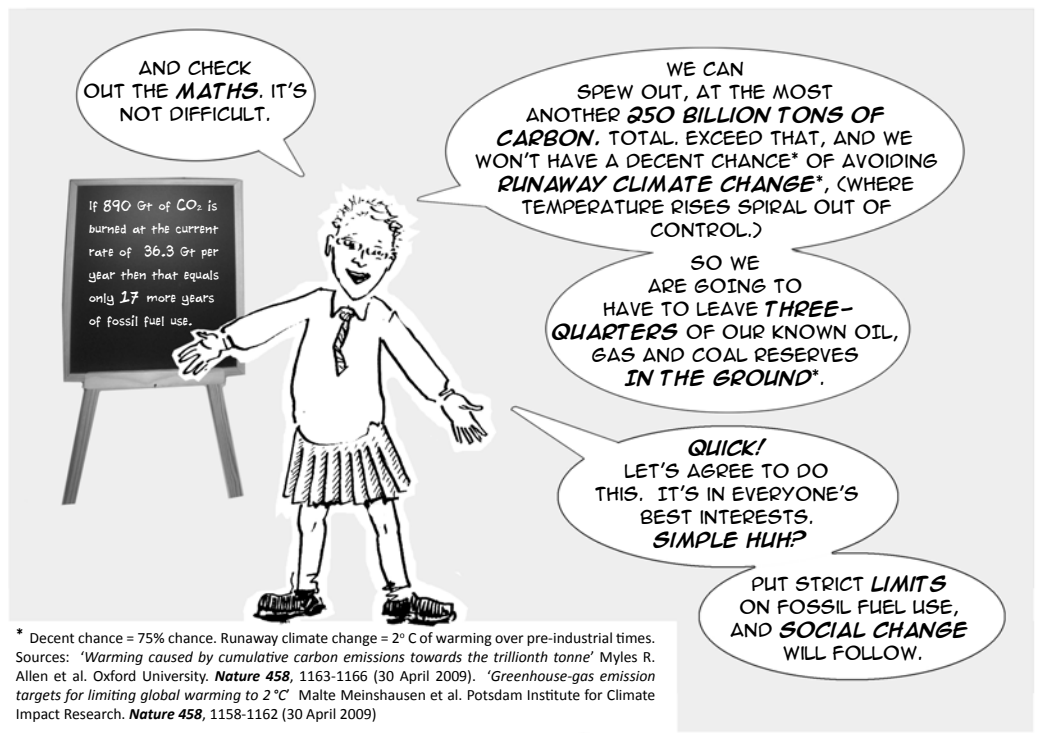
YOU'RE WITH ME SO FAR.

ACTUALLY, I DO HAVE AN EMAIL FROM THE **FLAT EARTH SOCIETY** OBJECTING TO THIS.

THEY DON'T AGREE, AND FURTHERMORE THEY CAN PROVE THAT **BLACK IS WHITE...**

YOU'RE WITH ME SO FAR.

UH, OK.



AND CHECK OUT THE **MATHS**. IT'S NOT DIFFICULT.

If 890 Gt of CO₂ is burned at the current rate of 36.3 Gt per year then that equals only 17 more years of fossil fuel use.

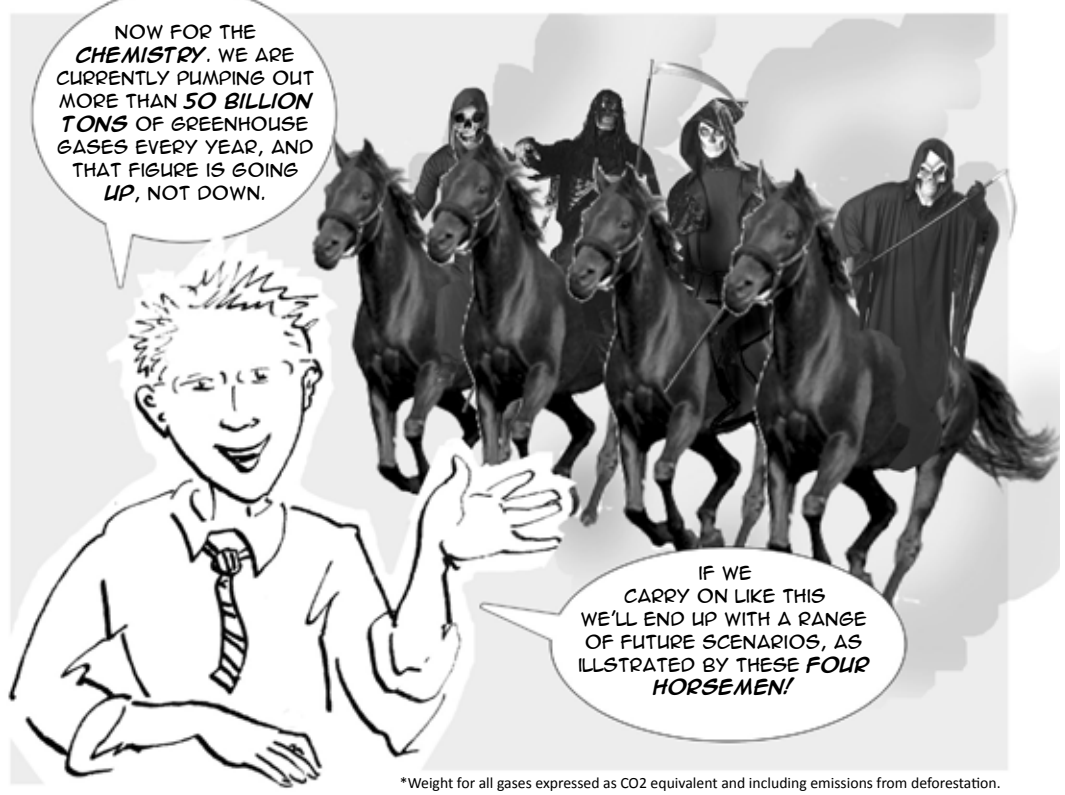
WE CAN SPEW OUT, AT THE MOST ANOTHER **250 BILLION TONS OF CARBON**. TOTAL. EXCEED THAT, AND WE WON'T HAVE A DECENT CHANCE* OF AVOIDING **RUNAWAY CLIMATE CHANGE**, (WHERE TEMPERATURE RISES SPIRAL OUT OF CONTROL.)

SO WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE **THREE-QUARTERS** OF OUR KNOWN OIL, GAS AND COAL RESERVES **IN THE GROUND***

QUICK! LET'S AGREE TO DO THIS. IT'S IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTERESTS. **SIMPLE HUH?**

PUT STRICT **LIMITS** ON FOSSIL FUEL USE, AND **SOCIAL CHANGE** WILL FOLLOW.

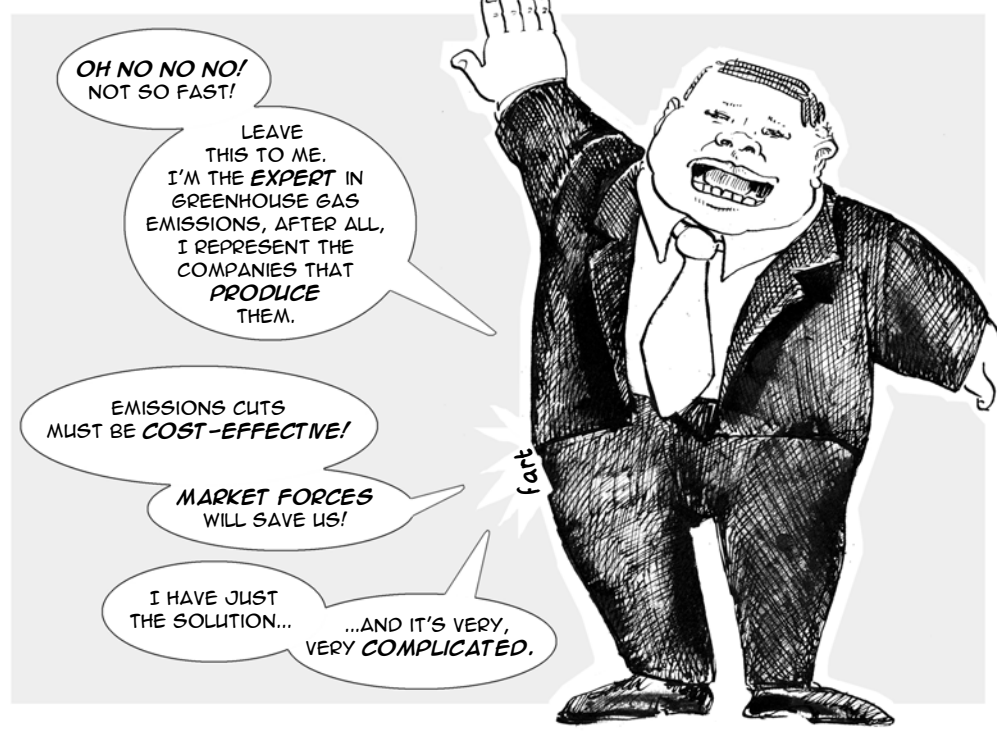
* Decent chance = 75% chance. Runaway climate change = 2° C of warming over pre-industrial times. Sources: 'Warming caused by cumulative carbon emissions towards the trillionth tonne' Myles R. Allen et al. Oxford University. *Nature* 458, 1163-1166 (30 April 2009). 'Greenhouse-gas emission targets for limiting global warming to 2°C' Malte Meinshausen et al. Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. *Nature* 458, 1158-1162 (30 April 2009)



NOW FOR THE **CHEMISTRY**. WE ARE CURRENTLY PUMPING OUT MORE THAN **50 BILLION TONS** OF GREENHOUSE GASES EVERY YEAR, AND THAT FIGURE IS GOING UP, NOT DOWN.

IF WE CARRY ON LIKE THIS WE'LL END UP WITH A RANGE OF FUTURE SCENARIOS, AS ILLUSTRATED BY THESE **FOUR HORSEMEN!**

*Weight for all gases expressed as CO2 equivalent and including emissions from deforestation.



OH NO NO NO! NOT SO FAST!

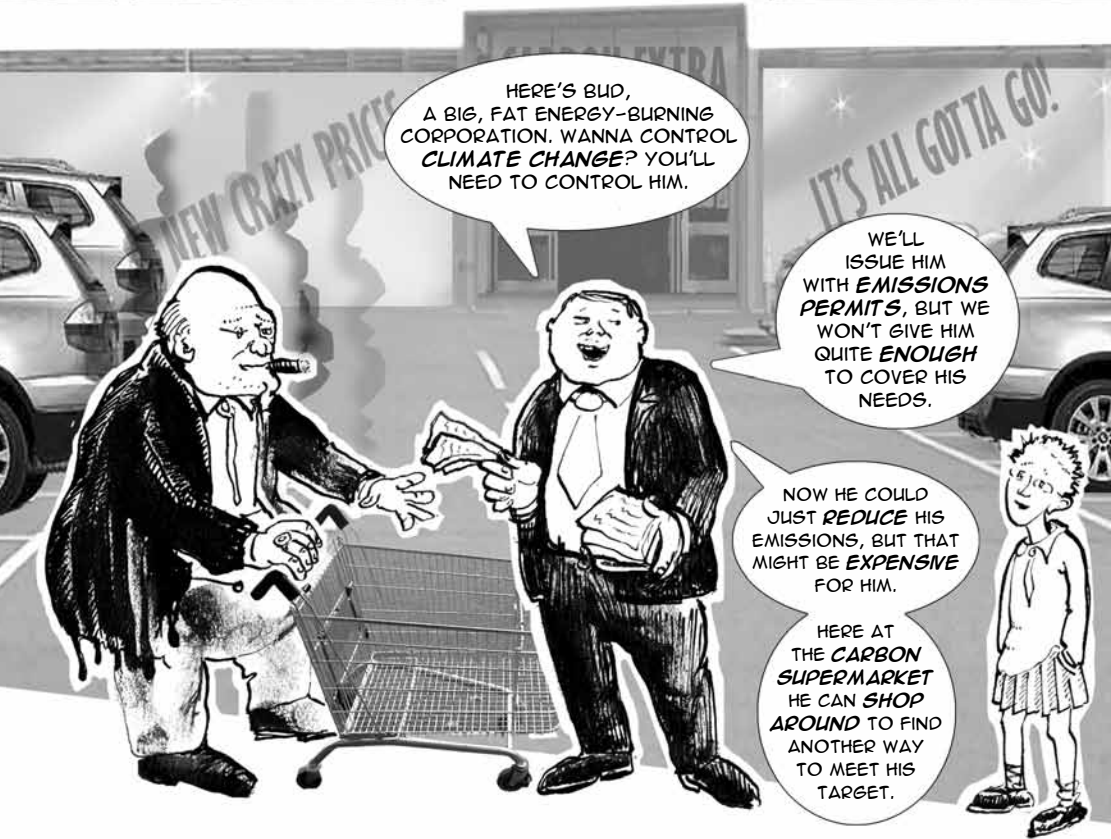
LEAVE THIS TO ME. I'M THE **EXPERT** IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, AFTER ALL, I REPRESENT THE COMPANIES THAT **PRODUCE** THEM.

EMISSIONS CUTS MUST BE **COST-EFFECTIVE!**

MARKET FORCES WILL SAVE US!

I HAVE JUST THE SOLUTION...
...AND IT'S VERY, VERY **COMPLICATED.**

WELCOME TO THE CARBON SUPERMARKET!



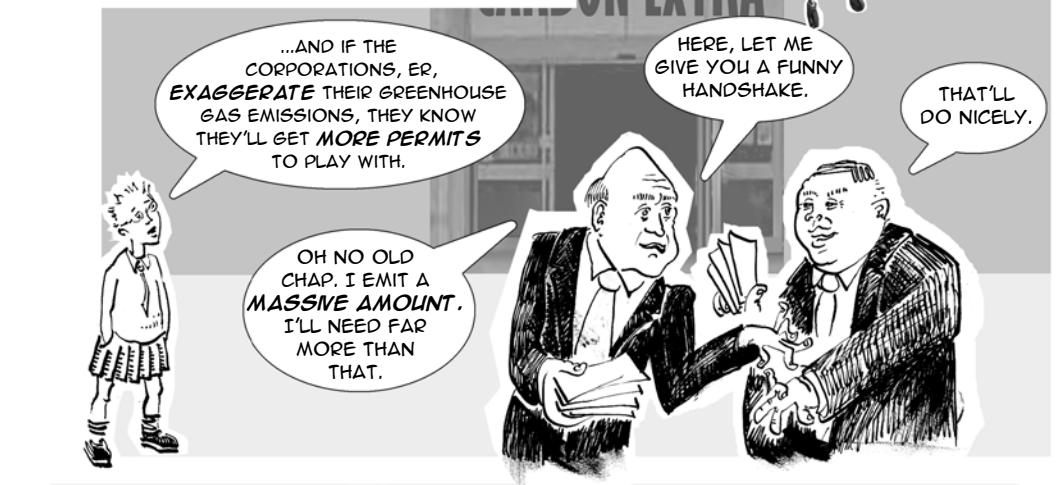


SO THE IDEA IS THAT CORPORATIONS ONLY GET A **LIMITED NUMBER** OF PERMITS, AND EVERY YEAR YOU **TAKE SOME AWAY**.

SURE, **REDUCE THE PERMITS BY 80%** BY 2050 AND OF COURSE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS WILL FALL THE **SAME AMOUNT**.

YOU'LL HAVE TO BE **STRICT** THOUGH. POLITICIANS WANT EXTRA PERMITS FOR THEIR NATIONAL INDUSTRIES...

COME COME NOW. THIS IS A **BRITISH FIRM**. MORE PERMITS.



...AND IF THE CORPORATIONS, ER, **EXAGGERATE** THEIR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, THEY KNOW THEY'LL GET **MORE PERMITS** TO PLAY WITH.

OH NO OLD CHAP. I EMIT A **MASSIVE AMOUNT**. I'LL NEED FAR MORE THAN THAT.

HERE, LET ME GIVE YOU A FUNNY HANDSHAKE.

THAT'LL DO NICELY.



BUT LOOK AT THE **EUROPEAN TRADING SCHEME**, ONE OF THE FIRST CARBON SUPER-MARKETS.

WHEN IT OPENED, IT ISSUED WAY **TOO MANY PERMITS**. NO FIRMS MADE ANY EMISSIONS CUTS BECAUSE THEY HAD **ALL THE PERMITS** THEY NEEDED.

YOU ALREADY TRIED THIS CARBON MARKET THING AND IT DIDN'T WORK.



HOW ARE YOU GOING TO STOP THIS SYSTEM **MESSING UP** LIKE E.T.S. DID? I MEAN, HOW WILL YOU WORK OUT HOW MUCH CO₂ A FIRM EMITS?

AND HOW WILL YOU TELL HOW MUCH CO₂ THEY SAVE?

WE'LL **ASK THEM**.

THEY **TELL US**.



RELAX. MY SCHEME IS WORKING.

AND NO-ONE WILL **LIE** ABOUT ANY OF THAT. **FINE**.

MIKE HERE HAS SWITCHED HIS COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS TO GAS, A MORE EFFICIENT FUEL. BUD GIVES HIM SOME CASH FOR HIS PERMITS, AND THERE'S A **NET CO₂ SAVING**. SEE?



YEAH, I SEE. THE SCHEME WORKS **IF ALL THE COMPANIES INVOLVED BURN FOSSIL FUELS...**

...BUT, LOOK **WHAT ELSE BUD CAN BUY** TO GET CARBON CREDITS...



AFFORESTATION PROJECTS. HE'S PAYING FOR A NEW COAL-FIRED POWER STATION BY PLANTING TREES IN SOUTH AMERICA.

YESSIR, AH'LL REPLACE THOSE UNPROFITABLE INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS WITH CHEAP, CARBON-FRIENDLY TREE PLANTATIONS. YEEHA!

MARVELLOUS! INGENIOUS!



RUBBISH! WHEN YOU TAKE FOSSIL FUELS OUT OF THE GROUND AND BURN THEM, YOU CAN'T "SOAK UP" THE CO₂ YOU RELEASE BY GROWING TREES!

TREES ONLY STORE CARBON TEMPORARILY, UNTIL THEY DIE!

OF DROUGHT!

CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE!



YOU CAN'T TRADE ONE OF THESE THINGS FOR THE OTHER, BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT THE SAME!

AH, BUT THEY ARE HERE.



SO RICH WESTERN CORPORATIONS ARE REALLY HERE TO BROWSE FOR BARGAIN CARBON CUTS FROM THE MAJORITY WORLD.

LOVELY CHEAP CARBON FROM OUR HYDROELECTRIC DAM. IT WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN BUILT WITHOUT YOUR HELP KIND SIR.

TAKE THIS CARBON HALO AND USE IT TO SANCTIFY SOME COAL.

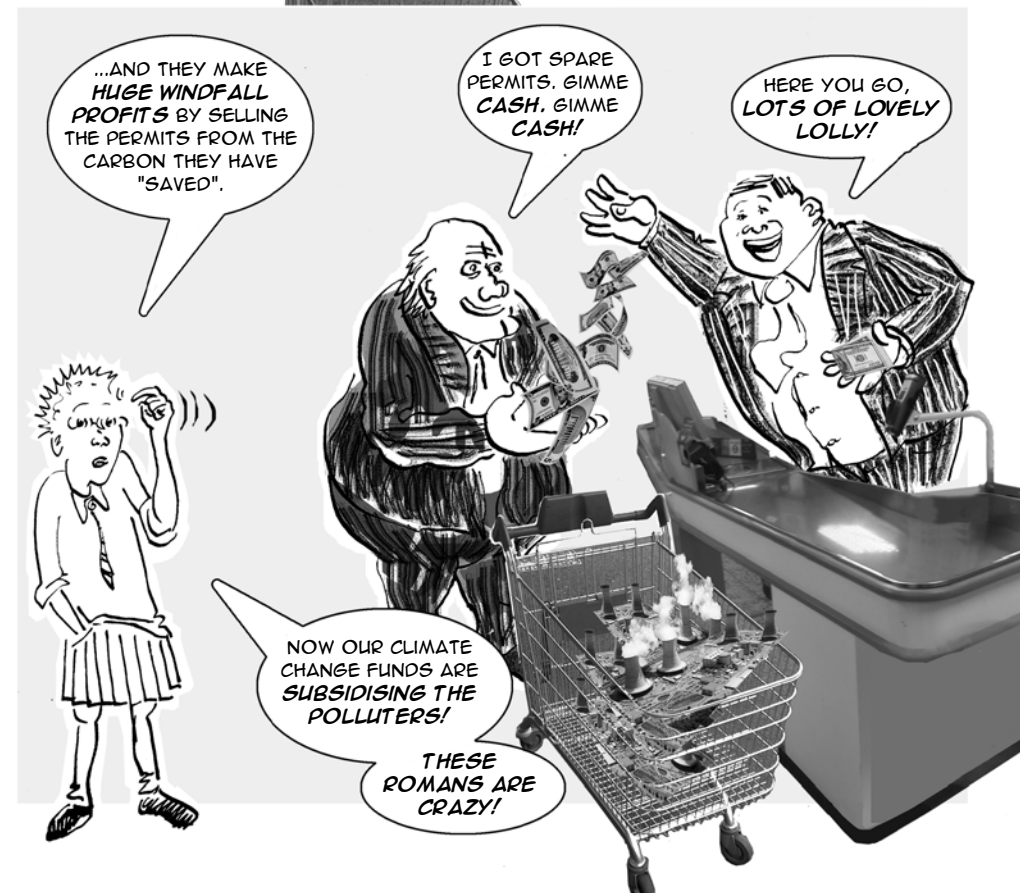
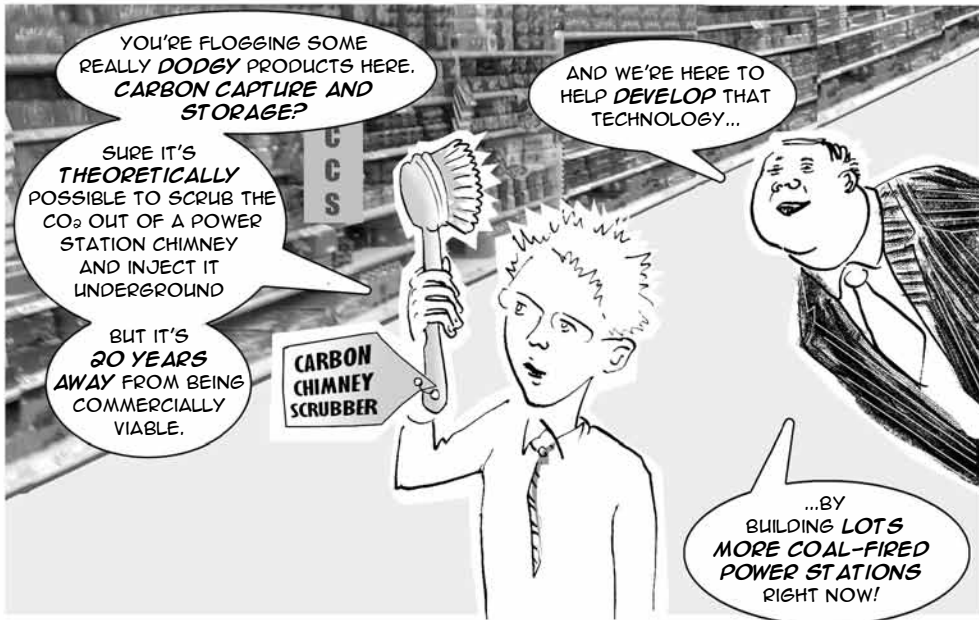
FANTASTIC, ISN'T IT?

OF COURSE, THAT'S WHY WESTERN GOVERNMENTS BUILT THE CARBON SUPERMARKET IN THE FIRST PLACE. NOW WE CAN IMPORT OUR CARBON SAVINGS FROM THE SAME PLACES AS OUR AIR-FREIGHTED TROPICAL FRUIT.

LET'S FACE IT, DOMESTIC CARBON SAVINGS ARE JUST NOT A VOTE-WINNER.

I MEAN, WHERE'S THE MONEY IN PROMOTING ALTERNATIVES TO CAR USE?

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO CATCH ME GETTING ON MY BIKE!





HEY, YOU'RE **THE BROKER** IN THE CARBON MARKET,

SO YOU MAKE **COMMISSION** EVERY TIME SOMEONE TRADES A PERMIT,

AND **WHATEVER** HAPPENS TO THE CLIMATE, YOU **GET RICH ANYWAY.**

ACTUALLY, IT'S EVEN **BETTER** THAN THAT. THE MARKET **FLUCTUATES**, AND THE PRICE OF CARBON GOES UP AND DOWN, SO I CAN **BET AGAINST THE FUTURE PRICE OF CARBON...**

...THE WHOLE **SUPERMARKET** IS JUST A **FRONT** FOR THIS...



NO-ONE OUTSIDE **WALL STREET** KNOWS WHAT **DERIVATIVES** ARE SO THEY **CAN'T COMPLAIN** ABOUT OUR **CRAZY GAMBLING** THAT **DESTABILISES** THE WORLD ECONOMY

SMOKE AND MIRRORS GIRL.

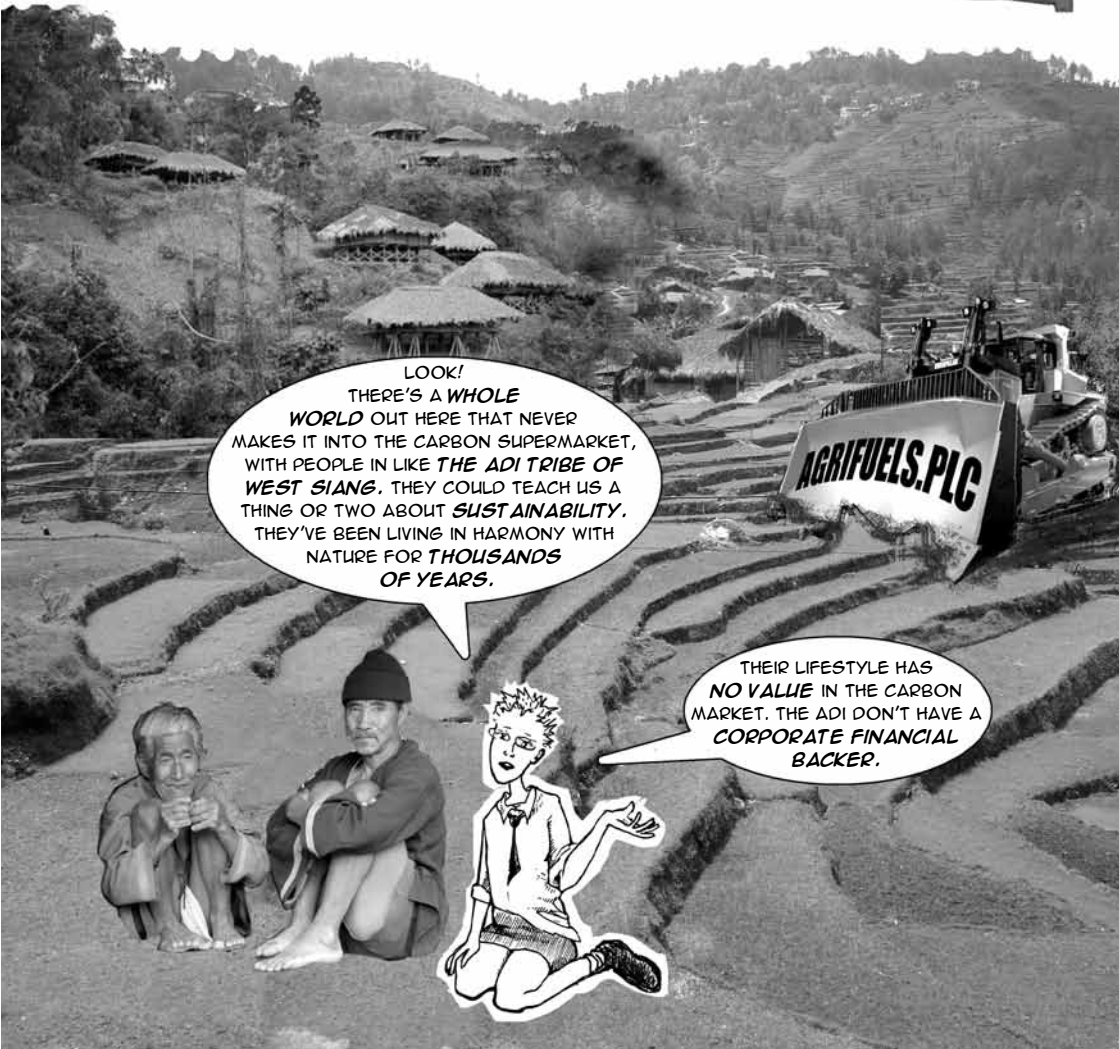
I HAVE TO **GET OUT OF HERE!** I NEED SOME **FRESH AIR!**



?!

...**A DERIVATIVES MARKET!** TRILLIONS OF DOLLARS **SLOSHING** AROUND **MAKING A QUICK BUCK** BY **ABSTRACTING** REAL WORLD DECISIONS INTO **FINANCIAL COMMODITIES.**

THIS IS **GONNA MAKE** THE **SUB-PRIME HOUSING BUBBLE** LOOK LIKE **SOAP SUDS!**



LOOK! THERE'S A **WHOLE WORLD** OUT HERE THAT NEVER **MAKES IT** INTO THE **CARBON SUPERMARKET**, WITH PEOPLE IN LIKE **THE ADI TRIBE OF WEST SIANG**. THEY COULD TEACH US A THING OR TWO ABOUT **SUSTAINABILITY**. THEY'VE BEEN **LIVING IN HARMONY** WITH NATURE FOR **THOUSANDS OF YEARS.**

THEIR **LIFESTYLE** HAS **NO VALUE** IN THE **CARBON MARKET**. THE **ADI** DON'T HAVE A **CORPORATE FINANCIAL BACKER.**

BUT **NOW** LOOK WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST. **ALL THE MONEY, THE POWER AND THE INFLUENCE** IS HELD BY AN **UNHOLY ALLIANCE OF CARBON TRADERS, PERMIT HOLDERS, THIRD WORLD 'DEVELOPERS' AND GOVERNMENT AIDES.**

THEY'LL **FIGHT** TO KEEP **THEIR RIGHTS** TO OUR **ATMOSPHERE.**

AND THERE'S **NO LIMIT** TO THE AMOUNT OF CARBON THEY'LL BURN, JUST SO LONG AS IT LOOKS **GOOD** ON THEIR **TILL RECEIPTS.**



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE MEANS **CHANGING** THE WAY WE **LIVE, WORK AND PLAY.** BUT YOU CAN'T ADD UP PEOPLE'S **INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS** AND ENTER THEM ONTO THE CARBON MARKET BALANCE SHEET.



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE MEANS **CHANGING** THE WAY WE **THINK.** WE'RE STUCK ON THE IDEA THAT **PROFITS** ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN **PEOPLE.** WE NEED TO SEE **PAST** THAT. THAT KIND OF THINKING **GOT US INTO THIS MESS.** IT'S **NOT** GOING TO GET US OUT OF IT.



IN THE CARBON SUPERMARKET, IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL.

www.carbontradewatch.org

www.cartoonkate.co.uk

www.funnyweather.org



creative
commons
anti-copyright

pass it on!

