



# Think Like a Commoner: A Short Introduction to the Life of the Commons

*David Bollier*

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The biggest "tragedy of the commons" is the misconception that commons are failures—relics from another era rendered unnecessary by the market and state. *Think Like a Commoner* dispels such prejudices by explaining the rich history and promising future of the commons—an ageless paradigm of cooperation and fairness that is re-making our world.

With graceful prose and dozens of fascinating stories, David Bollier describes the quiet revolution that is pioneering practical forms of self-governance and production controlled by people themselves. *Think Like a Commoner* explains how the commons:

- Is an exploding field of DIY innovation ranging from Wikipedia and seed-sharing to community forests, collaborative consumption, and beyond
- Challenges the standard narrative of market economics by explaining how cooperation generates significant value and human fulfillment
- Provides a framework of law and social action that can help us move beyond the pathologies of neoliberal capitalism

We have a choice: ignore the commons and suffer the ongoing private plunder of our common wealth, or *Think Like a Commoner* and learn how to rebuild our society and reclaim our shared inheritance. This accessible, comprehensive introduction to the commons will surprise and enlighten you, and provoke you to action.

**David Bollier** is an author, activist, blogger, and independent scholar. He is the author of six books on different aspects of the commons, including *Green Governance*, *The Wealth of the Commons*, and *Viral Spiral*, and is a frequent speaker at conferences, colleges and universities, and policy workshops.

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