

Hyper-focusing

(continued)

practices: from regularly seeking solitude in the wildness of the land, from long experience in counseling, from regular meditation practice, from working steadily to understand their dreams. First, they learn to be aware of uncomfortable feelings and thought patterns as they arise and not to be either controlled or unduly upset by them. Second, they learn to trust both their capacity to have keen insights and to express them to those who have the ability to hear them.

A question now: if today's business profits are to a great extent based on creating compulsions within "customers," is there meaningful free choice in the marketplace anymore? If not, what kind of economic system is this?

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I took the third photograph while standing over a barbed wire fence just outside the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park along the dirt exit road.

Even from within a prison cell, sunsets are an unfailing source of beauty. But as sad experience has repeatedly shown us, beauty alone will never save the wildness of our lands from being devoured, whether by draglines, dynamite or Disneyfication.

In the wildness of the land, however, a sunset is a spiritual experience that can create a bond with a landscape lasting a lifetime. If that land is torn apart, part of you will be torn apart.

Which is why indigenous people don't abandon their lands – ever.



SCOTT THOMPSON is a regular contributor to The Zephyr.

He lives in Beckley, WV.



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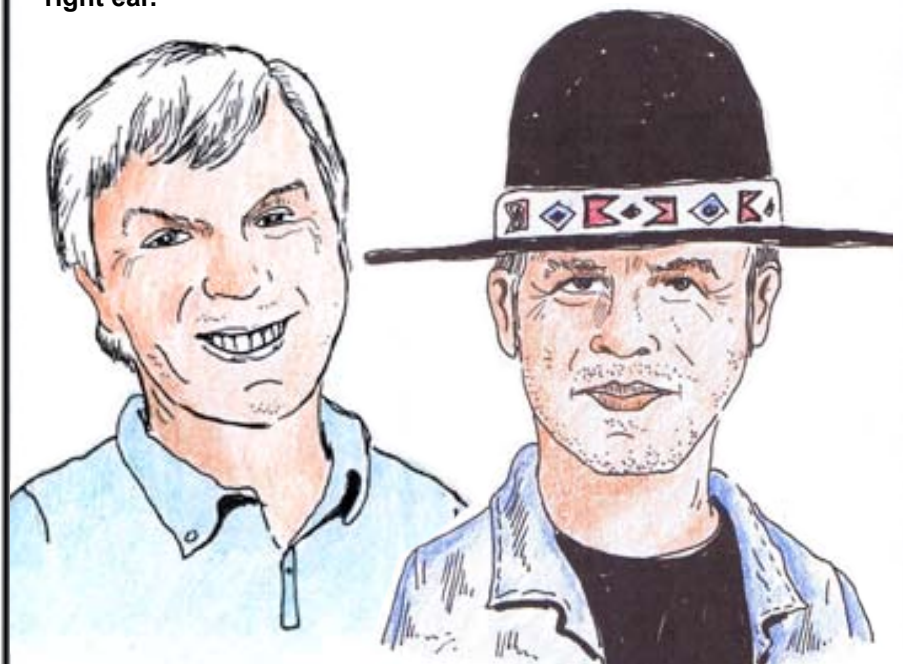


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right ear.**

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a lot more
than it does me**



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