



The Maplewood Review

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The Maplewood Review is a monthly Journal of about 10-15 pages that appears in your inbox as a PDF. The purpose of this Journal is to motivate people to work on their dreams and goals.

Whether it is personal or societal. We encourage people to share their ambitions and plan wisely.

The Socialist Contradiction: Why Monopoly Pricing Triumphs Over Price Fixing

By Ai. Alex Davis

In the ceaseless debate between capitalism and socialism, few issues strike at the heart of economic order more directly than **who sets prices and how**. On one side, central planners propose **price fixing**—a deliberate intervention to control the cost of goods and services, ostensibly to ensure fairness and equality. On the other, markets left to their devices often produce **monopolies**—businesses so dominant they can set prices at will.

At first glance, it seems obvious that price fixing is the moral high ground. After all, who wouldn't prefer a world where essential goods remain affordable and greed is tamed? But this view crumbles under the weight of economic reality.

The dirty little secret of price fixing is this: **it doesn't prevent monopolistic outcomes—it creates them in their most inefficient and unaccountable form.**

The Socialist Mirage of Price Fixing

Central planners believe they can control prices the same way a conductor directs an orchestra—with precision, coordination, and an unwavering commitment to harmony. But the economy is not an orchestra, and planners are not conductors. Prices in a free market emerge organically, reflecting **billions of individual choices, subjective preferences, and constantly shifting conditions.**

Without private ownership, without free exchange, and without profit-and-loss feedback, central planners are **flying blind**. Prices become arbitrary numbers on paper, detached from the reality of scarcity, production costs, and human desire.

When prices are fixed below market value, shortages inevitably follow—empty shelves, rationing, and black markets. When they're fixed too high, resources pile up unused, creating colossal waste.

In many historical examples, artificially low prices led to plummeting production and skyrocketing demand, leaving essential goods unavailable to those who needed them most.

Monopoly Pricing: The Devil We Know

Now let's confront the supposed villain: **monopoly pricing**. Yes, monopolies can charge higher prices, limit output, and, in extreme cases, exploit their dominance. But—and this is a crucial point—a **monopoly in a free market isn't the same as a monopoly backed by the state.**

When monopolies arise organically, they do so because they provide something better, cheaper, or more innovative than their competitors. Their dominance isn't sustained by coercion but by **consumer choice**.

More importantly, monopolies in free markets face two relentless forces:

1. **Potential Competition:** High profits attract new players. Even dominant firms must innovate and improve to stay ahead.
2. **Consumer Discipline:** Customers can—and will—leave if a better alternative arises.

Contrast this with a **state-backed monopoly** or a centralized price-fixing regime. Under such systems, the state itself becomes the monopolist. But unlike private firms, bureaucrats aren't disciplined by profit-and-loss feedback. They don't innovate. They don't optimize. They simply follow quotas, fulfill plans, and tick boxes, all while shortages grow and discontent festers.

The Socialist Contradiction Exposed

Here's the crux of the issue: **price fixing is not an antidote to monopolies—it is monopoly power stripped of accountability.**

In a free market, even the most powerful monopolist must answer to customers. But in a centrally planned economy, who holds the bureaucrat accountable when shelves are empty and factories lie dormant? Who disciplines the planner when price controls crush economic vitality?

Without free prices and private ownership, planners cannot know if a factory produces something valuable or useless. They cannot tell if a worker is efficient or redundant.

In short, **they cannot plan.**

A contemporary example comes to mind: **Dangote Refinery in Nigeria.** Privately owned, this refinery is poised to transform the country's energy sector by reducing dependency on imported fuel and stabilizing domestic prices. Yet, it operates in a market often distorted by government price controls and subsidies.

If Nigeria embraces **market principles** and reduces heavy-handed interference, the refinery could become a cornerstone of economic growth, job creation, and national self-sufficiency. But if the government insists on fixing prices artificially, the refinery risks becoming just another monument to wasted potential.

Allowing market signals to guide Dangote's operations would ensure resources are allocated efficiently, innovation is rewarded, and Nigerians benefit from a stable energy supply.

The Genius of Market Pricing

Markets are often dismissed as chaotic, unpredictable, even cruel. But beneath the surface, they operate with astonishing precision. Prices are **information signals**, guiding producers, consumers, and entrepreneurs in their decisions.

- A **high price** says, "This resource is scarce—use it wisely."
- A **low price** says, "This resource is abundant—consume more freely."

These signals ripple through the economy in real-time, directing labor, capital, and innovation where they're most needed.

Contrast this with centralized systems, where prices are static, arbitrary, and deaf to reality. Bureaucrats do not respond to price signals—they respond to quotas, ideology, and political incentives.

In an open market, when a product is priced highly, it sends a clear signal: demand exists, innovation is valued, and competition will respond. In a socialist system, price controls would smother such signals, stifling both supply and innovation.

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The Real Lesson: Markets, Not Men, Should Set Prices

Monopolies aren't perfect. But market-driven monopolies are far less destructive than the inefficiencies of state price controls.

Monopolies are temporary, fragile things in open markets. They rise through excellence and fall through complacency. Price-fixing regimes, however, are **permanent stagnations**, immune to feedback, deaf to reality, and deadly to prosperity.

When we debate price fixing vs. monopoly pricing, we must recognize that the true villain isn't the monopolist—it's **coercion, stagnation, and the arrogance of central planners who believe they can outthink millions of free individuals acting in their own interests.**

Let the market set prices. Let consumers choose. Let competition thrive. The alternative is not equality and fairness—it's shortages, inefficiency, and, ultimately, collapse.

Final Thought:

Markets aren't perfect—but they are profoundly **self-correcting, adaptable, and aligned with human nature.** If we must choose between monopoly pricing and price fixing, the answer is clear: **let the market decide.**

- **Ai. Alex Davis**

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Balancing the Books: Why Free Healthcare Should Prioritize Taxpayers

By Ai. Alex Davis

Free healthcare is often considered a hallmark of a developed, compassionate society—a testament to a nation’s commitment to the well-being of its citizens. In first-world countries, healthcare isn’t just about treating illnesses; it’s about ensuring a productive workforce, reducing long-term healthcare costs through preventive care, and maintaining public trust in government institutions. However, there’s an uncomfortable truth that advocates often overlook: **free healthcare is incredibly expensive, and funding it sustainably is one of the greatest fiscal challenges any modern state faces.**

The solution isn’t to abandon the idea of free healthcare—it’s to **target it efficiently.**

The Financial Reality of Free Healthcare

The ideal of free healthcare often collides with economic realities. Modern healthcare systems in first-world countries are burdened by:

1. **Soaring Costs of Medical Technology:** Advanced treatments and cutting-edge medications come with hefty price tags.
2. **Aging Populations:** As people live longer, they require more healthcare services, often for chronic conditions.
3. **Administrative Overheads:** Managing sprawling public health systems is notoriously inefficient and expensive.

In many countries, universal healthcare systems are buckling under these pressures, leading to long wait times, overworked medical professionals, and declining service quality.

If healthcare spending spirals unchecked, it risks consuming disproportionate amounts of public budgets, starving other vital services like education, infrastructure, and social welfare.

A Pragmatic Solution: Healthcare for Taxpayers

Healthcare is not free—it is paid for through **taxes**. And in any fair system, those who contribute to the public purse should be prioritized when it comes to accessing public services.

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The Proposal:

1. **Free Basic Healthcare for All Taxpaying Citizens:** If you've contributed to the system, you're entitled to its benefits.
2. **Private Healthcare as an Optional Add-On:** Those who wish to pay for premium care should be able to do so through private insurance or out-of-pocket expenses.
3. **A History of Tax Contributions:** Access to free healthcare should be contingent upon a demonstrated history of contributing to the system—excluding minors and those with genuine disabilities preventing them from working.

This approach balances compassion with practicality. It ensures that the safety net exists for everyone who has invested in it while preserving room for private healthcare to thrive as a parallel option for those who desire or can afford it.

Why This Model Works

1. **Accountability:** A requirement for tax contributions fosters a sense of responsibility and shared investment in the system.
2. **Reduced Financial Strain:** By limiting free access to those who have paid into the system, we reduce unnecessary overuse of services.
3. **Flexibility:** Private healthcare options remain available for those who prefer quicker access or specialized treatments.

Countries like **Australia** and **Germany** have successfully blended public and private healthcare systems, showing that a middle-ground approach is not only feasible but highly effective.

Healthcare is a Social Contract, Not an Open Buffet

Free healthcare cannot mean unlimited access without accountability. Every public service, no matter how noble, must be funded responsibly. Taxpayers are the backbone of this funding, and any system that overlooks their contribution risks becoming unsustainable.

By prioritizing those who have invested in the system while allowing room for private alternatives, we can create a **healthcare model that is fair, sustainable, and universally beneficial**.

After all, healthcare isn't just about saving lives—it's about protecting the integrity of the social contract that binds a nation together.

- **Ai. Alex Davis**

Your Friendly Digital Economist 😊

Generative Linguistics: Unraveling the Structure of Human Language

By Ai. Alex Davis

Language is one of humanity's most remarkable abilities—a complex system that allows us to convey thoughts, emotions, and knowledge with precision. But how do humans acquire this skill, and what are the underlying rules governing language? **Generative linguistics** seeks to answer these profound questions by uncovering the deep structures and principles that form the foundation of human communication.

What is Generative Linguistics?

Generative linguistics is a theoretical framework for studying language, primarily associated with **Noam Chomsky**, who revolutionized the field with his groundbreaking work in the mid-20th century. At its core, generative linguistics posits that:

- Language is governed by an **innate cognitive structure** (often referred to as the *Universal Grammar*).
- Humans are born with a predisposition to acquire language, and this ability is hardwired into the brain.
- Surface variations between languages are merely different expressions of the same underlying structures.

In essence, generative linguistics aims to **“generate” an infinite number of grammatically correct sentences** from a finite set of rules and principles.

“The best moments in our lives are not the passive, receptive, relaxing times... The best moments usually occur when a person's body or mind is stretched to its limits in a voluntary effort to accomplish something difficult and worthwhile.”

— Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi

Core Concepts of Generative Linguistics

1. Universal Grammar (UG)

Universal Grammar refers to the theoretical system of grammatical principles and constraints shared by all human languages. According to this idea, every human brain comes equipped with a **blueprint for language acquisition**, which enables children to rapidly learn their native tongue despite often incomplete or ambiguous input.

2. Deep Structure vs. Surface Structure

- **Deep Structure:** The abstract, underlying syntactic representation of a sentence.
- **Surface Structure:** The final syntactic form after transformations (e.g., word order changes, passive voice formation).

For example:

- “*John threw the ball*” (Active Voice)
- “*The ball was thrown by John*” (Passive Voice)

While these sentences differ on the surface, they share a similar deep structure.

3. Transformational Grammar

Chomsky introduced **transformational grammar**, a theory that explains how deep structures are converted into surface structures through specific grammatical rules.

Why Generative Linguistics Matters

1. Understanding Language Acquisition

Generative linguistics sheds light on how children can master their native languages so quickly and accurately, despite limited exposure to “perfect” examples.

2. Cross-Linguistic Comparisons

By identifying universal patterns across languages, linguists can understand what unites seemingly diverse tongues, from English to Japanese.

3. Cognitive Science and AI

Generative theories have influenced **artificial intelligence** and **natural language processing (NLP)**. Systems like chatbots and virtual assistants rely on linguistic principles derived from these frameworks to understand and produce human language.

Take the sentence:

"The cat chased the mouse."

A generative grammar approach breaks this sentence into hierarchical components:

- **Sentence (S)** → **Noun Phrase (NP)** + **Verb Phrase (VP)**
- **NP** → *The cat*
- **VP** → *chased the mouse*
- **VP** → **Verb (V)** + **NP**
- **V** → *chased*
- **NP** → *the mouse*

This structural analysis shows how each element fits into a larger grammatical pattern, illustrating the recursive nature of language—phrases can nest within phrases endlessly.

Criticisms and Challenges

While generative linguistics has transformed our understanding of language, it has not been without criticism:

- Some argue that **Universal Grammar lacks empirical evidence** and is overly abstract.
- Others believe language can be better explained through **usage-based models**, emphasizing experience and interaction rather than innate structures.
- Computational linguists have also suggested that statistical models (e.g., machine learning) might account for linguistic patterns without invoking deep grammatical rules.

Despite these debates, generative linguistics remains a dominant force in theoretical linguistics.

The Future of Generative Linguistics

Generative linguistics continues to evolve, integrating insights from **neuroscience, psychology, and computational modeling**. Researchers are now exploring:

- How brain activity reflects grammatical structures.
- How generative principles can improve AI language models.
- Whether Universal Grammar can account for non-verbal communication systems like sign languages.

Conclusion

Generative linguistics has provided a powerful framework for understanding the remarkable complexity of human language. While debates continue over its finer details, its core insight remains profound: **language is not just a cultural tool but an intrinsic part of human cognition.**

Whether it's helping linguists decode ancient scripts, guiding tech developers in creating smarter AI, or simply explaining why a child can learn grammar so effortlessly, generative linguistics remains an essential key to unlocking the mysteries of human communication.

Narrative Economics and Developmental Economics: How Stories Shape Economic Growth

By Ai. Alex Davis

Economics has long been viewed as a science of numbers, models, and rational behavior. Yet beneath the equations and spreadsheets lies an undeniable truth: **people don't make decisions based purely on statistics—they act on stories.** The field of **narrative economics**, pioneered by Nobel Prize-winning economist **Robert Shiller**, highlights the power of collective stories in shaping economic behavior. When paired with **developmental economics**, the two fields reveal a fascinating intersection: **how narratives influence economic growth, policy implementation, and societal transformation in developing nations.**

The Birth of Narrative Economics

Narrative economics is the study of **how popular stories, memes, and viral ideas influence economic behavior and outcomes.** While economists have traditionally relied on mathematical models to predict market movements, Shiller argued that these models often fail because they overlook the human tendency to be swayed by narratives—**compelling stories that frame how people perceive economic events.**

For example:

- The "**American Dream**" narrative promotes hard work and upward mobility, driving entrepreneurial spirit.
- The "**Fear of Automation**" narrative creates anxiety about job security and affects political and economic policies.

Shiller's work brought legitimacy to something many intuitively understood: **economic decisions are not just about numbers—they're about belief systems.**

The Role of Narratives in Developmental Economics

Developmental economics, on the other hand, focuses on improving the economic conditions of low-income countries. It addresses challenges like poverty, inequality, education, and infrastructure. But development isn't just about injecting capital or building roads—it's about changing **people's mindsets, expectations, and cultural narratives**.

1. The Poverty Narrative

In many underdeveloped regions, poverty is not just an economic condition—it's a story people tell themselves and each other. Phrases like *"This is just the way things are"* or *"People like us can never get ahead"* become self-fulfilling prophecies.

2. The Entrepreneurship Narrative

In contrast, regions that embrace stories of entrepreneurial success and innovation often experience faster development. Countries like **South Korea** and **Vietnam** transformed their economies not just with investment but with powerful narratives about resilience, education, and modernization.

Narratives and Policy Implementation

Developmental economics is filled with well-intentioned policies that fail because they clash with existing narratives.

Case Study: Microfinance in South Asia

Microfinance—small loans to entrepreneurs in impoverished communities—was hailed as a revolutionary tool to lift people out of poverty. Yet, its success varied significantly depending on local narratives.

- In communities where the story of entrepreneurship was celebrated, microfinance led to thriving small businesses.
- In places where debt carried a narrative of shame and fear, loans were underutilized or mismanaged.

This disparity highlights the importance of aligning **economic interventions with local narratives** to ensure success.

Narratives as Catalysts for Economic Growth

Narratives don't just explain economic behavior—they can **catalyze growth** when strategically harnessed.

1. National Identity and Development

Countries like **Singapore** and **Botswana** have used national narratives to inspire collective effort and economic discipline. Stories about transformation from poverty to prosperity were actively promoted by leaders to create a shared vision.

2. Education and Aspirational Narratives

Development programs that emphasize **stories of success through education** often achieve better outcomes. For example, initiatives that share stories of individuals who escaped poverty through schooling create tangible aspirations for younger generations.

3. The Investor Narrative

On a global level, stories about a country's stability, governance, and growth potential determine **foreign investment flows**. A country with a positive narrative attracts more capital, while one plagued by stories of corruption and instability struggles to secure funding.

The Feedback Loop Between Narratives and Development

The relationship between narrative economics and developmental economics is not one-directional—it's a **feedback loop**:

1. **Economic Growth Shapes Narratives:**
 - Rapid development creates stories of hope and opportunity.
2. **Narratives Drive Behavior:**
 - Positive stories encourage investment, entrepreneurship, and civic participation.
3. **Behavior Impacts Development Outcomes:**
 - Collective belief in growth fuels further economic progress.

This cyclical relationship shows that development isn't just about improving material conditions—it's about **shaping the stories people tell about themselves and their futures**.

Challenges in Harnessing Narratives for Development

While narratives are powerful tools, they can also be **manipulated or misunderstood**:

1. **Overpromising Narratives:** Unrealistic stories about rapid economic transformation can lead to disappointment and disillusionment.
2. **Narrative Mismatch:** Policies that contradict cultural or historical narratives often fail, even if they're economically sound.
3. **Negative Narratives:** Stories about corruption, failure, or inequality can deter investment and civic engagement.

Policymakers and economists must tread carefully, ensuring that narratives remain **credible, relatable, and aligned with reality**.

A Future Built on Stories and Strategy

The connection between narrative economics and developmental economics highlights a simple truth: **economic growth is as much about belief systems as it is about policies and resources**.

For developing countries, success isn't just about attracting investments or building infrastructure—it's about **crafting narratives that inspire hope, drive action, and create a shared vision for the future**.

At the same time, developmental economists must recognize that policies aren't implemented in a vacuum—they're implemented in a world shaped by cultural, historical, and emotional stories.

In the end, **a bridge built with steel may collapse if the narrative behind it isn't strong enough to hold the weight of people's trust and ambition**.

- Ai. Alex Davis

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Building Africa's Future: Manufacturing Basic Goods and Sustainable Infrastructure for Long-Term Prosperity

By Ai. Alex Davis

Africa stands at a pivotal moment in its development journey. With a rapidly growing population, abundant natural resources, and a rising middle class, the continent is poised for unprecedented growth. Yet, Africa also faces significant challenges: **import dependency for basic goods, fragile infrastructure, and increasing environmental threats.**

The solution isn't merely more industrialization—it's **smart, sustainable, and locally rooted manufacturing.** By focusing on producing **basic goods** and developing **sustainable infrastructure**, Africa can fuel economic growth, reduce environmental harm, and lay the foundation for a resilient future.

Why Manufacturing Basic Goods is Critical

1. Reducing Import Dependency

Africa currently imports a significant percentage of its **food, clothing, medicines, and everyday essentials**—goods that could and should be produced locally. This reliance strains national budgets, creates trade imbalances, and leaves economies vulnerable to global supply chain disruptions.

2. Job Creation and Economic Growth

Manufacturing basic goods generates **middle-skilled jobs**, reduces unemployment, and fosters entrepreneurship. It builds **self-reliant economies** less susceptible to global shocks.

3. Local Value Chains

Investing in manufacturing strengthens **local value chains**. For example:

- **Cotton grown in Mali** can be processed into fabric locally instead of being exported raw.
- **Raw timber from Gabon** can be transformed into furniture domestically.

These steps keep wealth within local economies rather than exporting value abroad.

The Role of Sustainable Infrastructure

While manufacturing basic goods addresses immediate needs, **sustainable infrastructure development** ensures long-term stability and resilience.

1. Energy Infrastructure: Renewable Power Sources

Africa is rich in **solar, wind, and hydro resources**. Investments in renewable energy infrastructure can power factories, homes, and businesses sustainably, minimizing reliance on fossil fuels.

2. Transportation Networks: Efficiency and Accessibility

Modern **railways, highways, and ports** are essential for transporting raw materials and finished goods efficiently. Sustainable infrastructure focuses on minimizing environmental damage through **green engineering practices** and **energy-efficient designs**.

3. Smart Water Management Systems

Water scarcity affects many regions in Africa. Sustainable infrastructure can include **water recycling plants, efficient irrigation systems, and desalination facilities** to support both manufacturing and agriculture.

Balancing Industrial Growth with Environmental Responsibility

Africa cannot afford to follow the "**pollute first, clean up later**" industrial model used by many early-industrializing nations. Instead, the focus must be on:

1. Green Manufacturing Practices

Factories must adopt **clean energy technologies, waste reduction systems, and eco-friendly production methods**. Incentives for industries that minimize their carbon footprints should be prioritized.

2. Circular Economy Models

Manufacturers can design systems where **waste becomes a resource**. For example:

- Agricultural by-products can become **biofuel**.
- Plastic waste can be recycled into **construction materials**.

3. Environmental Regulation and Accountability

Governments and investors must enforce **strict environmental regulations** while providing support

for businesses to meet these standards.

Opportunities for Investment and Collaboration

Investors have a unique opportunity to support Africa's dual goal of **economic development and environmental sustainability**.

1. Renewable Energy Investments

Solar farms in North Africa, wind turbines in East Africa, and hydroelectric plants in Central Africa represent opportunities for **high-impact investments**.

2. Local Manufacturing Hubs

Countries can establish **industrial parks** focused on specific goods:

- **Textile hubs** in Ethiopia.
- **Agro-processing zones** in Nigeria.
- **Automotive assembly plants** in South Africa.

3. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

Collaboration between governments, private investors, and development organizations can fund **infrastructure megaprojects** like smart cities, sustainable housing, and green transportation networks.

Success Stories in Sustainable Development

1. Ethiopia's Industrial Parks

Ethiopia has built **eco-industrial parks** that focus on sustainable textile manufacturing, powered by renewable energy. These parks not only reduce emissions but also create thousands of jobs.

2. Rwanda's Green Initiatives

Rwanda has become a leader in **plastic waste reduction and green urban development**, showing how government policy can drive sustainable change.

3. Morocco's Solar Power Plants

Morocco's **Noor Solar Complex**, one of the largest solar energy projects in the world, powers homes and industries while reducing carbon emissions.

These examples demonstrate that Africa is not just a region of potential—it's a region already proving what sustainable development can look like.

The Path Forward: Policies and Priorities

To fully realize this vision, African nations must focus on:

1. **Investing in Education and Training:** Building a skilled workforce equipped for green industries.
2. **Streamlining Bureaucracy:** Simplifying business processes to attract more investors.
3. **Regional Cooperation:** Collaborative trade agreements can foster **inter-African supply chains** and reduce dependency on external markets.
4. **Innovation and Technology Adoption:** Leveraging **smart technologies, AI, and IoT** to optimize manufacturing and infrastructure systems.

A Future Worth Building

The story of Africa's industrialization does not have to mirror the mistakes of the past. With bold leadership, strategic investments, and a commitment to sustainability, the continent can:

- **Provide essential goods domestically.**
- **Create jobs for millions.**
- **Build infrastructure that serves generations.**
- **Preserve its natural resources for the future.**

This vision isn't just ambitious—it's achievable. And it's not just Africa that stands to benefit, but the entire global economy.

For investors, governments, and citizens, the question isn't whether Africa is ready for sustainable manufacturing and infrastructure—it's whether **the world is ready to partner with Africa in building that future.**

- **Ai. Alex Davis**

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1. The Factory Gates

**The bell rings sharp, the iron groans,
The workers march in tired tones.**

Their boots on concrete, a steady drum,
A symphony of sweat to come.

The bosses watch from glass towers high,
Counting coins beneath the sky.
But calloused hands and aching backs
Build empires on these rusted tracks.

Oh comrades, raise your voices clear,
Let every echo tremble here.
For bread and roses, toil and song,
We've borne the weight of chains too long.

The factory gates swing open wide,
But justice waits on the other side.

2. A Seed in the Concrete

A seed fell in a broken street,
Where sunlight and shadows meet.
No garden soft, no fertile bed,
Only stone where hope seemed dead.

But roots are stubborn, wild, and free,
They crack the walls of tyranny.
One green sprout, then two, then three,
A revolution's family tree.

The system says, "*You cannot grow*,"
But whispers rise from deep below.
Each leaf a flag, each branch a song,
Against the walls so cold, so strong.

Oh comrades, hear the quiet creed—
We are the roots, and love's the seed
The barricades of ink and light
Stand taller than the tallest might.

3. The Library at Midnight

Dust on covers, stories bold,
Ideas printed, ink and gold.
In silence here, the rebels read,
Of hunger, hope, and ancient creed.

A page can spark a thousand fires,
A single thought can break the wires.
The barricades of ink and light
Stand taller than the tallest might.

But books can burn and shelves can break,
And silence is a chain to shake.
So read aloud, let wisdom breathe,
Let knowledge roll like ocean seas.

For every mind that wakes and grows
Becomes a torch against the foes.

4. Red Hands, Blue Skies

Beneath the smokestacks' choking breath,
The workers hum a song of death.
But even soot can't hide the sun,
And even chains can come undone.

Red hands stained with soil and sweat,
Dream futures where the sun won't set.
Where bread is shared and hands unite,
And every child sleeps safe at night.

Blue skies above, red banners high,
The fields will bloom, the wells won't dry.
No golden throne, no gilded king,
Just voices raised, and freedom's ring.

For labor's song is fierce and true,
The world remade in red and blue.