Chapter 6 🡪 Tell them I love (some randomness)

This chapter presents an argument that adding some amount of randomness is helpful to many systems. There are examples presented from different contexts to prove the point.

1. Small forest fires are good as they cause clean-up of dried and flammable material. If we try to prevent these forest fires this may lead to large scale uncontrolled forest fires.
2. Absence of variation in a market causes accumulation of hidden risk which causes markets to take big blows. Markets have intrinsic nature to keep fluctuating to new highs and lows. Trying to force stabilize them causes us to make such policies which always lead to new unknown disasters.
3. Adding randomness to systems helps them in taking decisions in status-quo conditions. Simple heuristics can help in making a move instead of ideal evaluation and taking theoretical optimal decisions.
4. Example on stochastic resonance: A scientific technique that has many practical applications has been used as an example. [Wikipedia page](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stochastic_resonance) for details. It should be noted that this phenomenon is seen only in bistable systems and for signals with value lower than the detectable range. Adding random noise to a high strength signal degrades SNR. So this is [cherry-pick].
5. Page 163 paragraph 2 mentions about a study by Nathan Myhrvoid without any detail. This paragraph is referenced later as a discussion. This may be an honest mistake at best.

I am leaving the discussion on politics and foreign policy making.

Discussion of modernity is correct when scoped to taleb’s definition of modernity. Let’s call it abc for that matter. For that subset of development of human civilization it is true that we are making society and culture a lot mechanical and it causes harm as it increases fragility towards any uncontrolled any unforeseen circumstances as things are made to fit in an ideal model with an ideal behavior.