Superpowers: How I’m using coding agents in October 2025

https://blog.fsck.com/2025/10/09/superpowers

"I used to write more"

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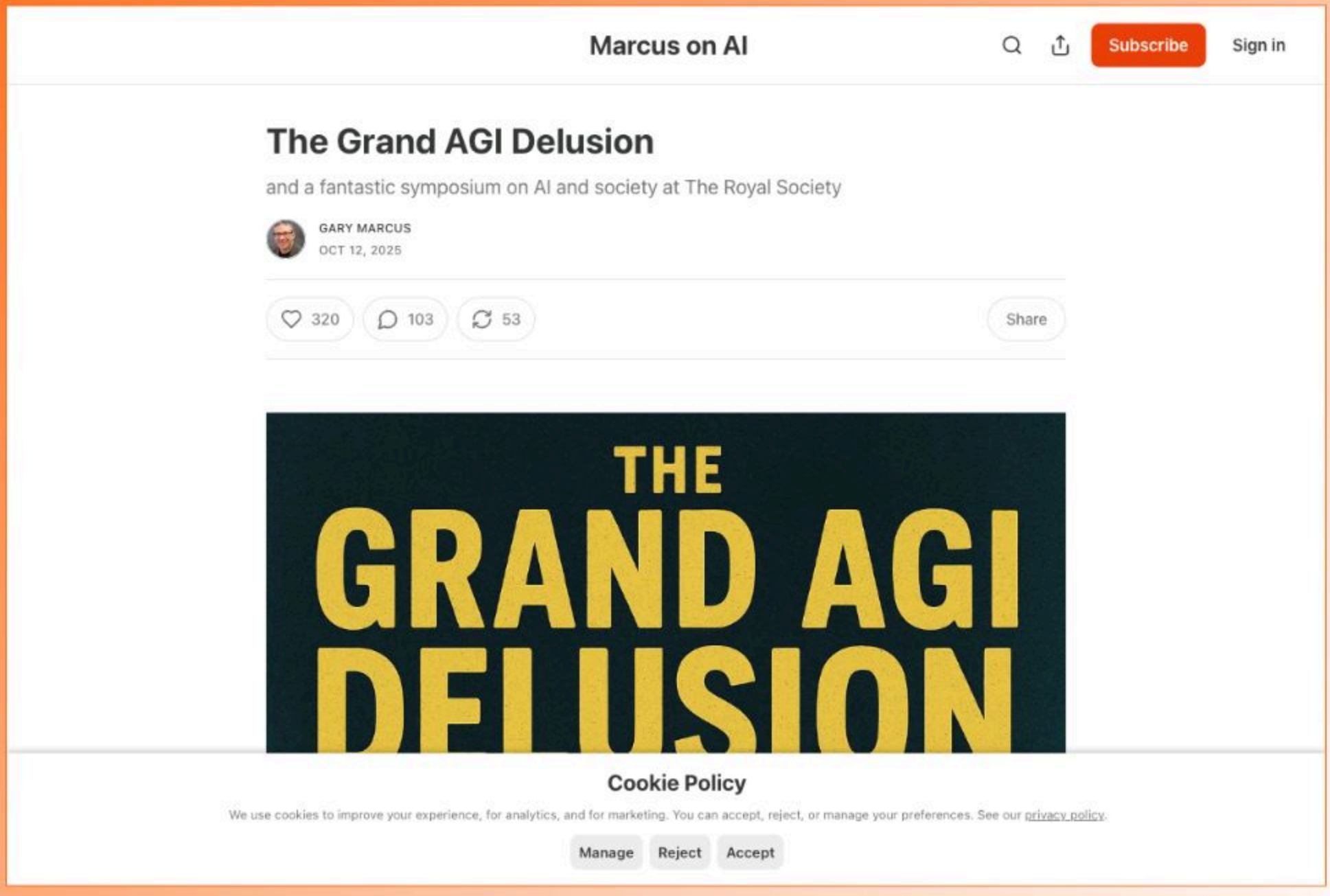
The Grand AGI Delusion

https://garymarcus.substack.com/p/the-grand-agi-delusion



"and a fantastic symposium on AI and society at The Royal Society"

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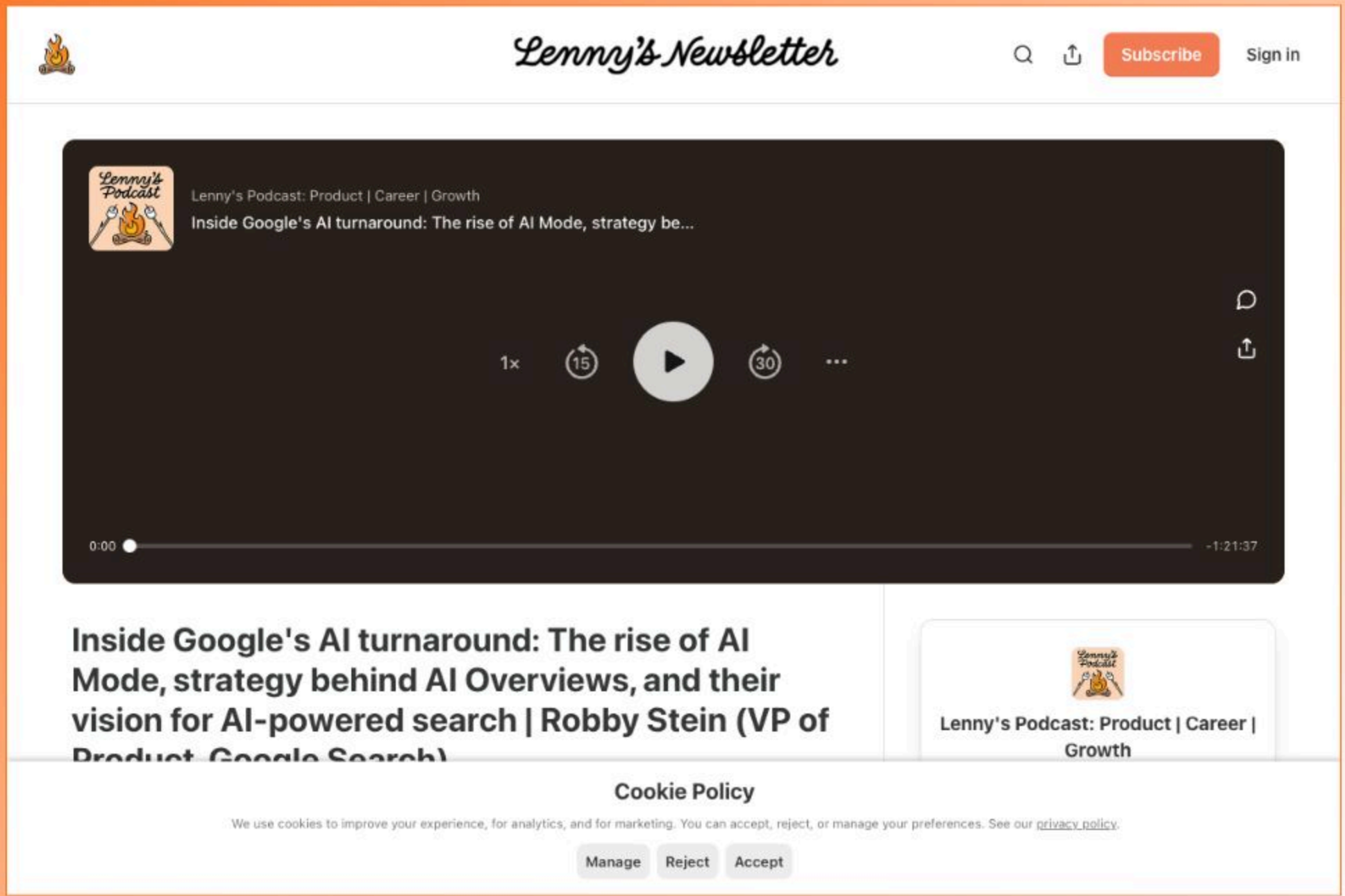
Inside Google’s AI turnaround: The rise of AI Mode, strategy behind AI Overviews, and their vision for AI-powered search | Robby Stein (VP of Product, Google Search)

https://www.lennysnewsletter.com/p/fc235f0b-992e-483c-a391-4ef905208357



"Robby Stein on Google’s AI comeback: Gemini hits #1 beating ChatGPT, why AI is expanding the pie for search, and his frameworks behind two billion-user products"

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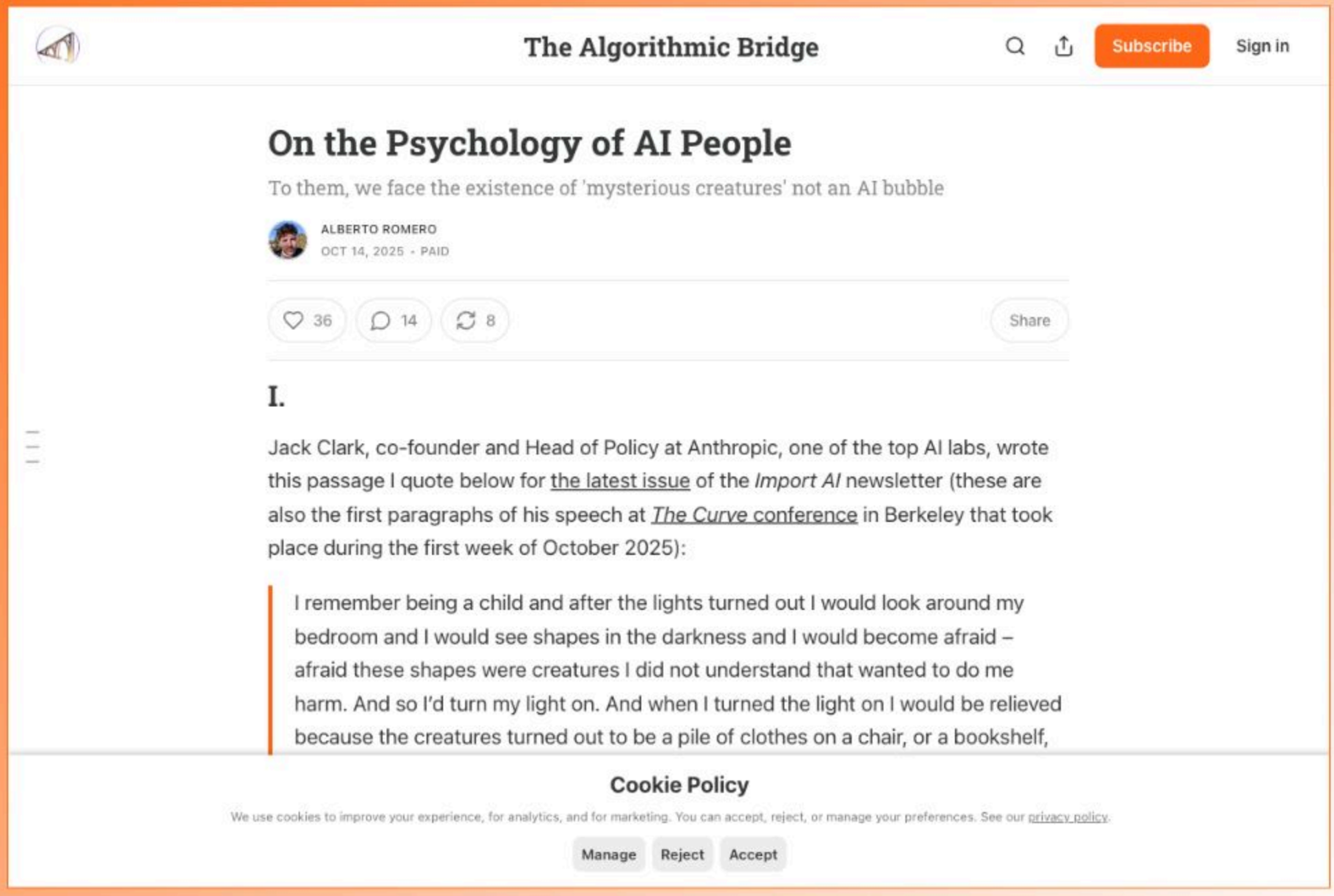
On the Psychology of AI People

https://www.thealgorithmicbridge.com/p/on-the-psychology-of-ai-people



"To them, we face the existence of 'mysterious creatures' not an AI bubble"

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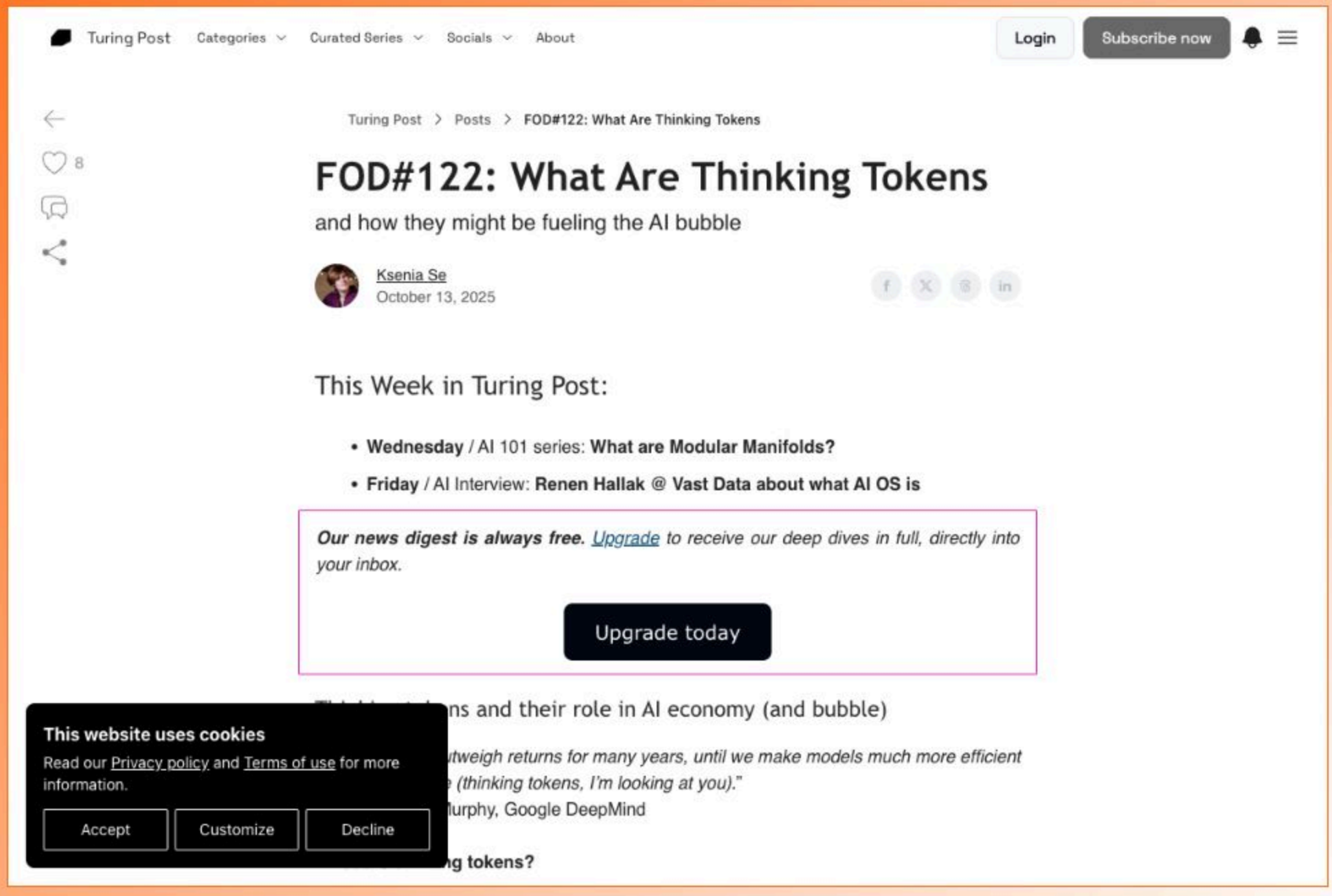
FOD#122: What Are Thinking Tokens

https://www.turingpost.com/p/fod122



"and how they might be fueling the AI bubble"

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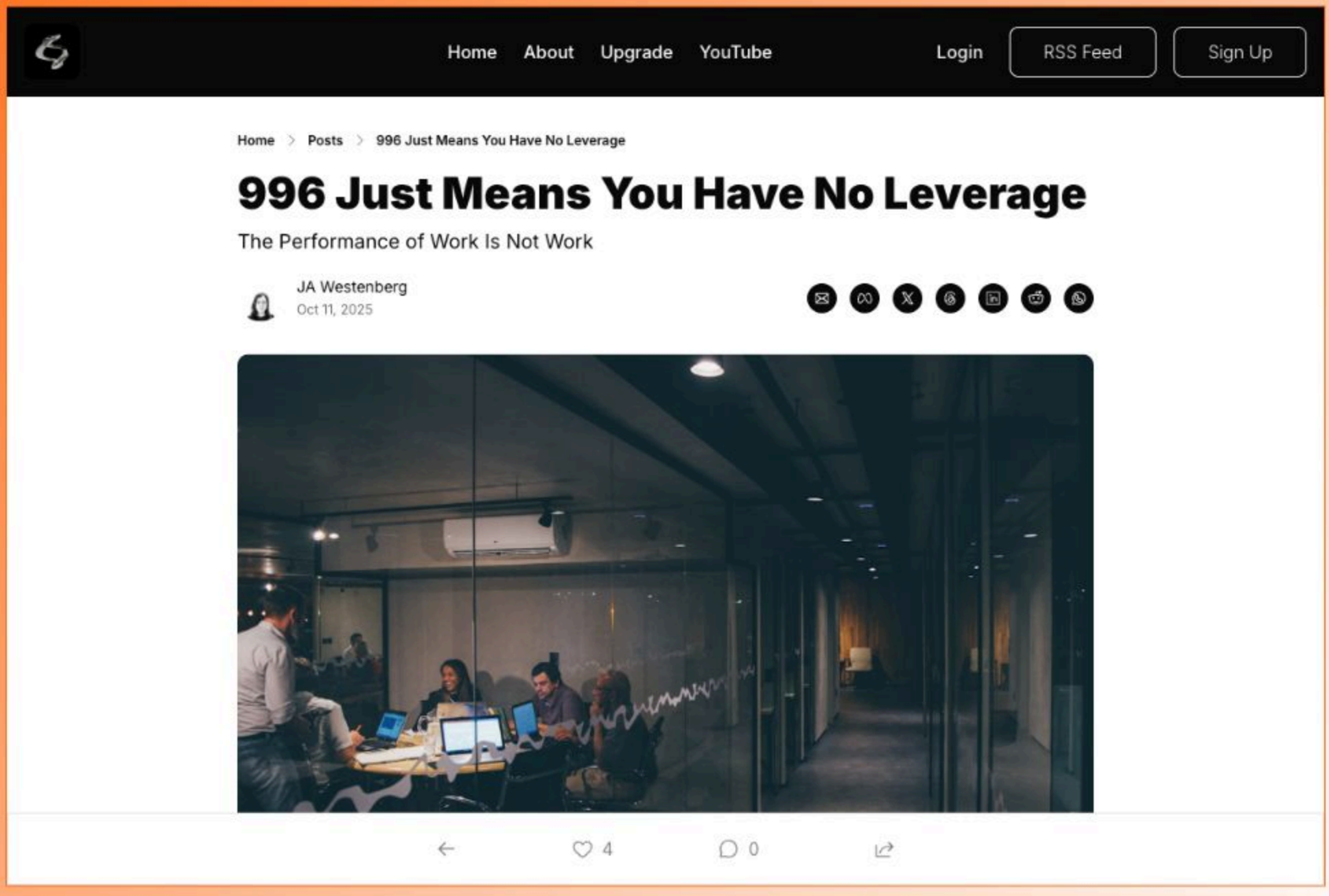
996 Just Means You Have No Leverage

https://www.joanwestenberg.com/p/996-just-means-you-have-no-leverage



"The Performance of Work Is Not Work"

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An AI chatbot's feedback style can alter your brain activity during learning

https://www.psypost.org/an-ai-chatbots-feedback-style-can-alter-your-brain-activity-during-learning

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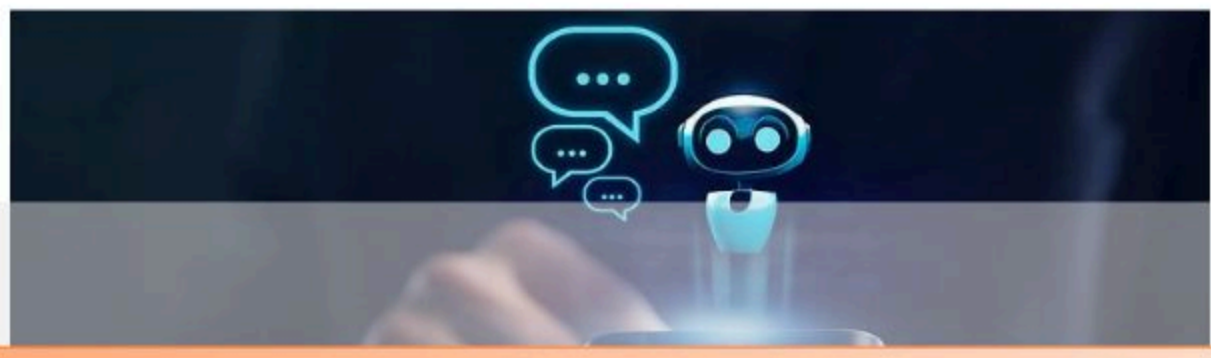
An AI chatbot's feedback style can alter your brain activity during learning

by **Karina Petrova** — October 9, 2025 in **Artificial Intelligence, Cognitive Science, Neuroimaging**



"A new study shows the type of feedback a chatbot gives affects learning and brain activity. Reflective feedback boosts problem-solving, while encouraging feedback improves memory."

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Claude Skills are awesome, maybe a bigger deal than MCP

https://simonwillison.net/2025/Oct/16/claude-skills/

Claude Skills are awesome, maybe a bigger deal than MCP

Anthropic this morning introduced Claude Skills, a new pattern for making new abilities available to their models:

> Claude can now use *Skills* to improve how it performs specific tasks. Skills are folders that include instructions, scripts, and resources that Claude can load when needed.
>
> Claude will only access a skill when it's relevant to the task at hand. When used, skills make Claude better at specialized tasks like working with Excel or following your organization's brand guidelines.

Their engineering blog has a more detailed explanation. There's also a new anthropic/skills GitHub repo.

(I inadvertently preempted their announcement of this feature when I reverse engineered and wrote about it last Friday!)

Skills are conceptually extremely simple: a skill is a Markdown file telling the model how to do something, optionally accompanied by extra documents and pre-written scripts that the model can run to help it accomplish the tasks described by the skill.

Claude's new document creation abilities, which accompanied their new code interpreter feature in September, turned out to be entirely implemented using skills. Those are now available in Anthropic's repo covering `.pdf`, `.docx`, `.xlsx`, and `.pptx` files.

There's one extra detail that makes this a feature, not just a bunch of files on disk. At the start of a session Claude's various harnesses can scan all available skill files and read a short explanation for each one from the frontmatter YAML in the Markdown file. This is *very* token efficient: each skill only takes up a few dozen extra tokens, with the full details only loaded in

This is **Claude Skills are awesome, maybe a bigger deal than MCP** by Simon Willison, posted on 16th October 2025.

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Previous: NVIDIA DGX Spark: great hardware, early days for the ecosystem

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"Anthropic this morning introduced Claude Skills, a new pattern for making new abilities available to their models: Claude can now use Skills to improve how it performs specific tasks. Skills …"

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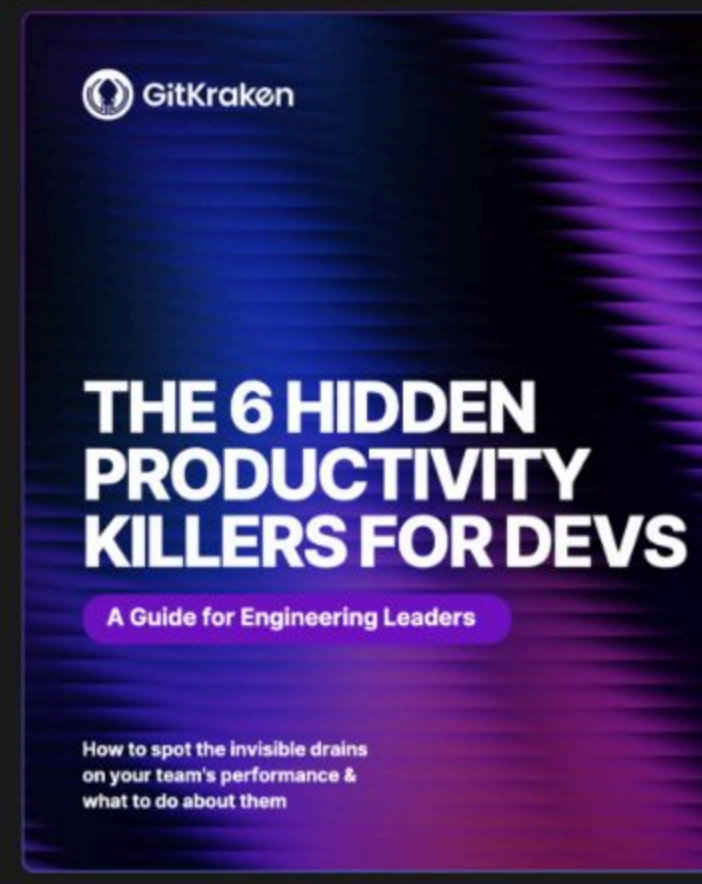
The 6 Hidden Productivity Killers - A Guide for Leaders

https://www.gitkraken.com/the-6-hidden-productivity-killers-2025

The 6 Hidden Productivity Killers

A guide for engineering leaders

Engineering teams lose 12 hours per week per developer to hidden productivity killers. That's 30% of capacity vanishing into invisible friction that traditional metrics miss.



The 30% problem

Your team shipped more features last quarter. DORA metrics look solid.

So why does it still feel like you're swimming against the current?

What's inside:

Read the guide

Work Email*

"Stop flying blind on team productivity. Discover the 6 hidden killers draining 30% of engineering capacity and practical frameworks to eliminate them."

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You Still Need to Think

https://calv.info/you-still-need-to-think

You Still Need to Think

SEP 26, 2025

As coding agents become more capable and long-running, they don't remove the human job of thinking. Someone still has to direct the work—set goals, choose constraints, and judge outputs.

Everyone seems to recognize this in the abstract. But nobody seems to talk much about how the product shape fundamentally shifts the type of thinking required to write code.

I'd argue that seemingly minor UX differences between different coding agents end up having a massive impact on how users spend their "thinking budget."

With a **remote-first product like Codex Cloud** (not the CLI), the product encourages you not to spend time thinking while the agent is *working* and spend more time thinking about the *end result* that the agent gave. We intentionally didn't want users watching the agent invoking terminal commands, because the model works very differently than a human might.

With an **interactive product like Claude Code or Codex CLI**, you naturally spend more time thinking about about specs and the high level approach the agent is taking as you follow the chain of thought in the terminal. But you need some other means of

"As coding agents become more capable and long-running, they don't remove the human job of thinking. Someone still has to direct the work—set goals, choose constraints, and judge outputs."

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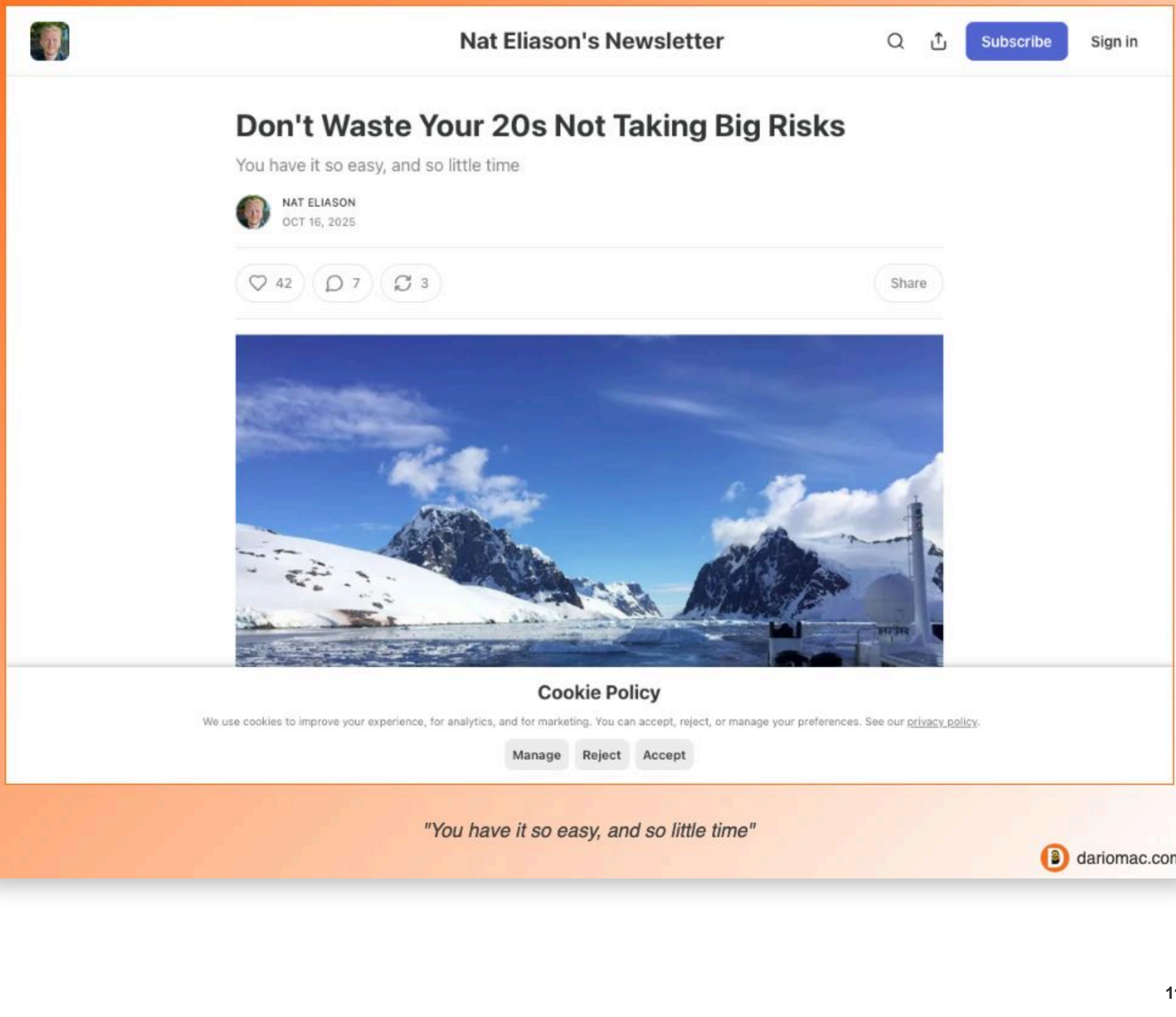
Don’t Waste Your 20s Not Taking Big Risks

https://blog.nateliason.com/p/dont-waste-your-20s-not-taking-big



"You have it so easy, and so little time"

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