

Title: What a wonderful world...■

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Is_self: False

Here's a little something for your Sunday-night reading.

Hello all my fellow big, sexy, brainy apes; u/Cryptids4Sale here with another thoroughly pre-chewed bit of [thoughts](<https://external-content.duckduckgo.com/iu/?u=https%3A%2F%2Fbeekeeperfacts.com%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F04%2Fbeekeeper-inspecting-beehive-1024x680.jpg&f=1&nofb=1>) transferring from my brain to yours, like a mother bird gently, albeit disgustingly feeding her babies. Drink up, babies, don't you know the knowledge is good for you?

Sorry, that was kinda gross. But would you be listening to me if I sounded like a lobotomized high-school government teacher? Exactly, now open wide.

****TA;DR**** \- Wall Street both hosts companies to contribute to their success, but can directly profit off of either their success or failure, making them parasitic in nature. This is bad, because a lot of the rest of the economy can live or die based on whether or not Wall Street decides to kill them, robbing people of jobs and retirement funds in the process.

I say "our" economy referring to the US Economy; I recognize that the United States isn't representative of the entire world economy, but because almost everything happening with GameStop and the Apes is directly related to Wall Street and the United States economy... So I'm just gonna talk about that.

And I'll keep it in simple terms (because I'm not exactly an expert in a lot of this, I just know about general concepts). We'll think of this as 3 basic units: companies, investors, and financiers (referring to hedge funds, investment firms, market-makers, etc.).

Companies produce goods or provide services, and provide jobs. Just like real life, eh? Investors, the general public, buy those goods or use those services, and are given jobs by those companies... And, they can also invest in them directly to support those companies. This is a mutually beneficial relationship, symbiotic, one may say. Companies get money from investments and can improve, and investors (ideally) get improved goods and services and can profit from selling their stake in the company. Awesome, right? It all works.

So where do the financiers fit into this? Well, my inquisitive little thinker, that's a great question. Financiers, essentially, are middle-men in the investment process. Like a good lubricant is the middle-man in an interaction between a piston and a shaft. Mmm, how tantalizing. They make the investments and the market work smoothly by being a hub that can quickly handle the transactions between millions of investors to tens of thousands of companies. Financiers host these companies through IPOs (Initial Public Offerings; when a company "goes public" and accepts money from investors to raise capital), and they make their money from little pockets of extra cash that exist in the process of money changing hands... For investment firms and HFs, this means commissions or payment for order flow; for Market-Makers, this is on the price differences on the "buy" and "sale" price of stocks. Skimming money off the top, basically.

Now let me back up from that; this process of skimming money off the top should in theory be fine; the financiers are providing a service for the market, right? Well, this is where things get complicated.

Financiers are hosts and parasites simultaneously. Let me use my titular Bee-Keeper Model to help put this on display so you can see what I mean.

EDIT: thanks to u/GMEJesus, I was looking for the exact term; a Parasitoid is a parasite that kills it's host, THIS is the most apt word to describe this situation

The Hostile Bee-Keeper Model

[hmm i wish these were dead and that i had slightly more money](<https://preview.redd.it/oynzushwboa71.jpg?width=1024&format=pjpg&auto=webp&s=3bc9978dded32772d1c48f4e7fe34be173122856>)

Imagine a bee-keeper; but, like an asshole bee-keeper. That keeper represents the financiers on Wall Street. He owns a bunch of boxes full of hives, which represent businesses; and the bees within are the individual investors and workers. The bees keep the hives running properly, producing honey and keeping everyone fed. In a situation like this, we kind of just picture bees contributing their work to the businesses as "investing" in them; they have stakes in the hives' success, and suffer if the hive suffers. The bee-keeper, of course, keeps the bees for the sake of taking the excess honey they produce.

In such a situation, the bee-keeper "hosting" the hives is like taking a company public. The financiers do the actual swapping of shares/money, which creates an influx of revenue for the businesses (individual hives). I want to highlight this; they provide a key means by which companies gain revenue... Not necessarily the main way, but enough to be significant. This, again, makes the trading environment provided by the financiers a host to the companies.

At the same time, the bee-keeper could be seen as a parasite in that it's taking excess honey from the hives. Now, I say parasite, and this is arguable, but here me out. Yes, the financiers provide a service by hosting the companies (or, the bee-keeper hosts the hives) and handling transactions... But, I argue this benefit can be almost entirely negated by the fact that the financiers/bee-keeper can profit directly off of the failure of the hives, through things like predatory shorting. In our bee-keeping analogy, this would be like the bee-keeper being more than willing to let a sick hive die to sell the box the hive is in for a profit. Why should the bee-keeper care if one hive dies? There are plenty of others, and the bee-keeper still made money off letting the one hive die.

[\"I could squash you like a bug right now\" - Kenny G. to GameStop, ca. 2020](<https://preview.redd.it/6g9huxu5coa71.jpg?width=1920&format=pjpg&auto=webp&s=14be213e83e15d96df5797a1ab2f553dd4acffec>)

The financiers support companies, making them a hostile host; then they turn a profit taking their excess, or by actively killing them, making them a parasite. (Arguably). At the very best, they're like asshole landlords.

Do you see the problem with this here? We've put the fate of our businesses into the hands of people that can turn a profit whether those businesses live or die. And the same is true for our retirement funds; sinners in the hands of an angry god. If individuals lose their job because the company they work for goes under, they've basically lost everything. If a hedge fund shorts a company to death, everyone gets a bonus. And this has a profound effect on our economy... Remember 2008?

That's where an even bigger problem occurs. The bees and the hives are fucked if the bee-keeper decides to stop supporting them, but if the bee-keeper is in trouble, literally the entire fucking thing collapses. In 2008, after the housing market collapsed, and financiers lost money, it created a panic that led to a mass exodus of money out of the investing ecosystem. This took the money out of the hands of companies, who had to shut down, which left thousands unemployed, and many homeless without means of paying their bills. And guess who got millions in bailouts?

[\"The Apes destroyed the economy, I had nothing to do with it! Don't let them take me again, protect me!\"](<https://preview.redd.it/ahmcxo5kcoa71.jpg?width=1280&format=pjpg&auto=webp&s=2fa92598ff436a37156e113640141cfa2b91a9cb>)

It sucks to be the host of a parasite, it's deadly to depend on people that have no reason to protect. The American economy exists right in the overlap of the two. In my opinion, post-MOASS, solving this kind of structural issue in the economy should be a priority for our philanthropic apes to try to correct.

****Post Script**:** Please, if any of this information is wrong or doesn't represent some function within the economy well, please reach out and point it out to me! This is just a thought piece I came up with after thinking for a while about how everything seems to be structured; I have no background in economics, so I

may have this whole thing wrong. I trust the community, though, to correct anything that *is* wrong, though... Apes are good for that B).

Hope you've enjoyed reading! - Cryptid

[the stories this hat could tell](<https://preview.redd.it/t8fs6z33doa71.jpg?width=768&format=pjpg&auto=webp&s=15790499f9cc139160a102e6d82941622c7cc48a>)