Eleven doors

Live rooms with a related sentiment, and eleven writers worth opening after them.

October 2026. A neighbor is not this order.

These eleven sites were open when this page was written. Each proposes, or already runs, a fairer book: a floor, a published holding, a member's vote, a contract that can be read, or a charge on the land. None of them is the eight-step order. Read them as doors. If a line cannot be shown, it is still not a policy.

01 **Basic Income Earth Network**
https://basicincome.org/
The floor as periodic cash to the person. Not a coupon, and not a caseworker's mood.

02 **GiveDirectly**
https://www.givedirectly.org/
Cash, sent, including long trials of a basic income. The basket is money the person can refuse to explain.

03 **Doughnut Economics Action Lab**
https://doughnuteconomics.org/
A social foundation underfoot and an ecological ceiling overhead. The land is a limit, not a backdrop.

04 **New Economics Foundation**
https://neweconomics.org/
A London workshop for economic rules that serve a public purpose. Useful, and not a scripture.

05 **Positive Money**
https://positivemoney.org/
Who is allowed to create the money. Adjacent to the mint. They do not post this whole order.

06 **Mondragon**
https://www.mondragon-corporation.com/en/
A federation of cooperatives that already exists. Member-owners. The room, not a platform.

07 **International Cooperative Alliance**
https://ica.coop/
One member, one vote, and a surplus named to the people who produced it.

08 **Open Contracting Partnership**
https://www.open-contracting.org/
Public contracts written so a stranger can read them. A tape for the deals of governments.

09 **Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend**
https://pfd.alaska.gov/
An equal cash dividend from a saved public fund. The remainder has a person's name on it.

10 **Norges Bank Investment Management**
https://www.nbim.no/
The oil rent is invested. The state spends about the real return, and publishes the holdings.

11 **Progress and Poverty Institute**
https://progressandpovertyinstitute.org/
The heirs of Henry George. The charge sits on the land, and the fund belongs to everyone.

Eleven writers, on the three topics

A sentence is not the book. Each take below is an invitation to the work named. The comedy is kept where the writer was comic. The beauty is kept where they were in earnest. None of them wrote this site.

The working book

Thomas Paine, Agrarian Justice (1797). He does not ask the rich to be kind. He says the earth, uncultivated, "was, and ever would have continued to be, the common property of the human race," and that every proprietor of cultivated land owes a ground-rent "from which the fund proposed in this plan is to issue." The payment is to every person, rich or poor, "to prevent invidious distinctions." Read the plan, not a summary of the plan. It is the ancestor of a floor that is a right.

Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations (1776), Book I, Chapter 6. Once land is private, "the landlords, like all other men, love to reap where they never sowed, and demand a rent even for its natural produce." The joke is dry and exact. A charge that is not posted is just that appetite with a better coat. Read the chapter. He is not the mascot he is sold as.

Charles Dickens, David Copperfield (1850), chapter 12. Mr. Micawber, permanently floored, delivers the only economic model he can afford: "Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen and six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery." Sixpence is the whole difference between a life and a speech. A basket that arrives after the misery is a punchline. Read him for the comedy, and notice who is always the joke.

John Maynard Keynes, "Economic Possibilities for our Grandchildren" (1930). If the pressing cares were actually lifted, "man will be faced with his real, his permanent problem - how to use his freedom from pressing economic cares, how to occupy the leisure, which science and compound interest will have won for him, to live wisely and agreeably and well." That is the point of a floor. It is not an excuse to close the book. Read the essay. He is funny about the love of money, and serious about the day after.

Inside the room

Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice (1813). The first sentence is a ledger wearing a ball gown: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife." Everyone in the room can price everyone else, and nobody will say the price aloud. Read the novel as a comedy of unpublished charges. The friend rate is called a marriage.

Oscar Wilde, The Soul of Man under Socialism (1891). He is outrageous on purpose, and then he is right: "The proper aim is to try and reconstruct society on such a basis that poverty will be impossible." Charity, he says, "creates a multitude of sins." A hardship basket paid as a favor is still a favor. Read the essay aloud. If you are not laughing, you are reading it too solemnly, and if you are only laughing, you missed the floor.

John Stuart Mill, Principles of Political Economy (1848). He looked at a society split into "the payers of wages and the receivers of them, the first counted by thousands and the last by millions," and said that economy "is neither fit for, nor capable of, indefinite duration." His hope was partnership, not a new master. Read the chapters on co-operation. A credit union is closer to him than a platform is.

Ursula K. Le Guin, The Dispossessed (1974). Shevek tells a rich world: "You cannot buy the revolution. You cannot make the revolution. You can only be the revolution. It is in your spirit, or it is nowhere." And: "Nothing is yours. It is to use. It is to share." The book is not a pamphlet. Anarres is short of beauty and full of committees. Read it for the warning inside the hope. A room that cannot be left becomes a clique.

The name on the map

Virginia Woolf, A Room of One's Own (1929). "A woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction." Later, plainer: "Intellectual freedom depends upon material things. Poetry depends upon intellectual freedom." The highest pursuits are not an alternative to the floor. They are what the floor is for. Read the lectures. She is witty about the bad dinner and the good one, and the dinner is the argument.

Mary Wollstonecraft, A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792), chapter 4. "I do not wish them to have power over men; but over themselves." A basket that comes with a tutor attached is the old exemption in a softer voice. Read her against the sentimental dole. Power over oneself is the third seat, stated before the word existed.

Henry George, Progress and Poverty (1879). "The equal right of all men to the use of land is as clear as their equal right to breathe the air." He is the serious version of Smith's joke and Paine's fund. The charge on land is not a punishment. It is the rent of a common, returned. Read Book VII. Then look at a city that grew richer while the people who made it grew poorer, and see if the enigma has retired.

Open the door. Then open the book. A sentence that replaces the work is the same trick as a tax that replaces the decree.