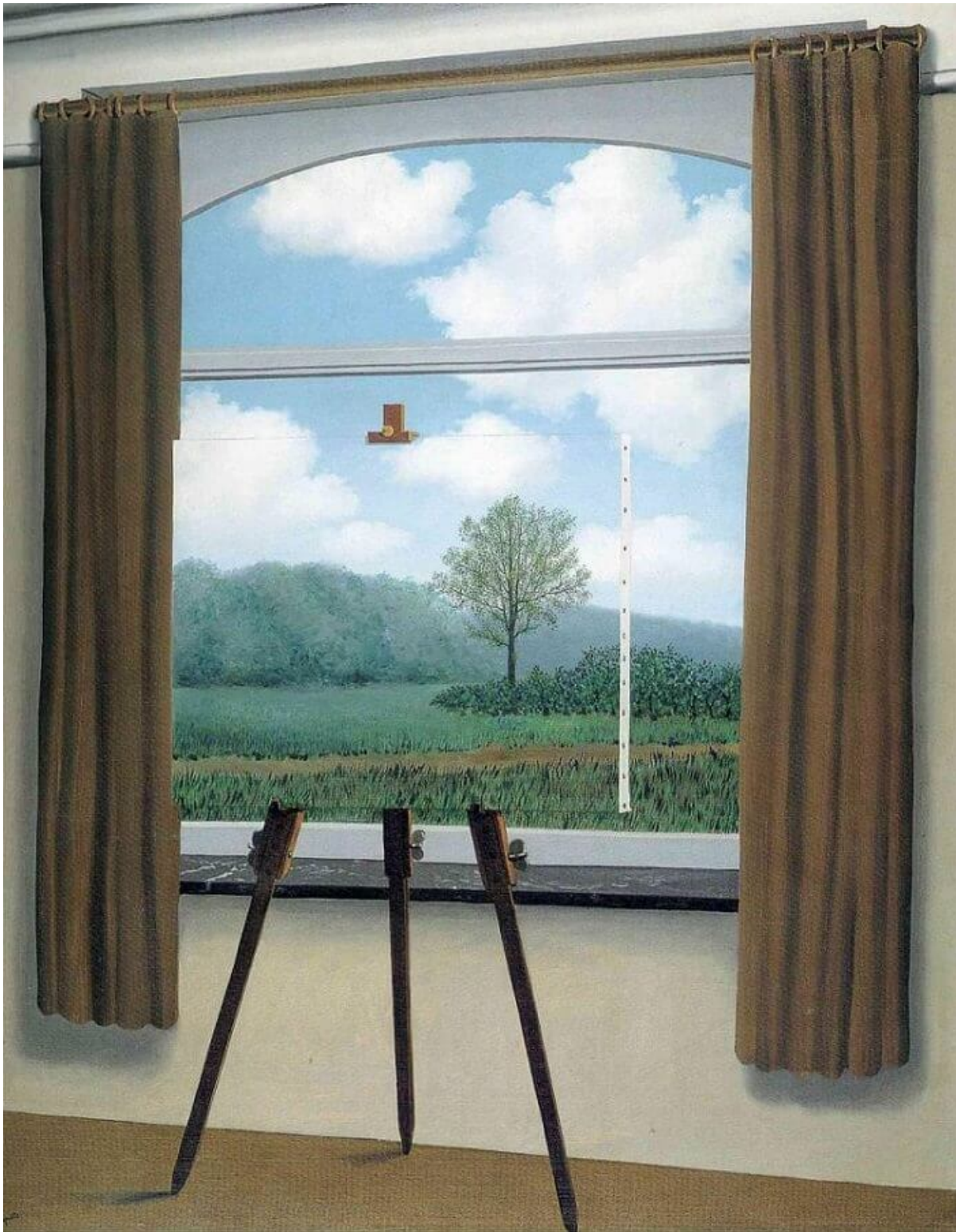


# The Age of Liberation

by [Walt Garlington](#) (July 2021)



*The Human Condition*, Rene Magritte, 1933

Not so long ago,  
In the miserable  
Ages of slavery,  
Our wills and passions were  
Restrained by obedience  
To parents and the care  
Of the bodies of aging  
Grandsires. But the forward  
March of Progress has freed us  
From the dungeon-home.

Alone in our apartments,  
Unencumbered  
With the care of others,  
Our personalities  
Are free to develop  
With the help of Paxil  
And a dose of Xanax.

Liberated  
From garden, cow, and kitchen  
We let McDonald's  
Mass-produce our daily meals.

The repetition  
Of elders' ancient tales  
Oppresses us no more.  
A smart phone and a streaming  
Service will weave a new  
Mythology to give  
Meaning to our lives.

And if life should become  
Too difficult to bear,  
We will end it  
Comfortably and quickly

With a doctor by our side,  
Administering  
To us the final  
Benediction  
Of all-kind *pharmakeia*.

Consciousness,  
This product of Universal evolution,  
Will dissolve again  
To background radiation—  
This body, through chemical cremation,  
To its tiny atoms—  
Seed and nourishment  
For the new and higher  
Forms of life germinating  
In the cosmic womb.

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Walt Garlington was born and raised in that part of Dixieland called Louisiana. A chemical engineer by training, he has spent the last several years writing full-time. He has written essays and poems for *The Hayride*, *The Tenth Amendment Center*, *The Abbeville Institute*, *Reckonin'*, *Katehon*, *Geopolitica*, and *USA Really*. He writes regularly at his own web site, [Confiteri: A Southern Perspective](#).

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