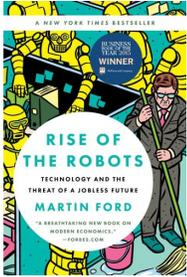


# Books by the Stack



## *The Rise of Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future* by Martin Ford

Examines the effects of accelerating technology on the economic system.

**Why you'll like it:** *Business and economics. Science writing. Disturbing.*

**About the Author:** Martin Ford is a prominent futurist, New York Times bestselling author, and leading expert on artificial intelligence and robotics and their potential impact on the job market, economy and society. His most recent book, "Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future" won the 2015 Financial Times and McKinsey Business Book of the Year Award.

### Questions for Discussion

1. The decimation of the value of human labor due to technology has been proclaimed and proven wrong for time immemorial. Humans have always found new ways to contribute and avoid obsolescence, transitioning from hunter gatherers to farmers to manufacturing workers to service providers. Why is this time different?
2. Why are white collar jobs the most at risk? Are there any industries that may be a last stand for human labor?
3. What are the investment implications of a world where robots allow for most of the gains to flow through to capital owners and there's nothing left for labor? Are we heading toward a type of technofeudalism?
4. In your view, does the singularity look more like the movie *Wall-E* where humans become feeble and are cared for by benevolent robots, or more like *The Matrix* where the robots eventually want to enslave us to protect themselves from humans pulling the plug? Or maybe a third option?
5. What are some examples of automation altering or impacting traditional professional roles?
6. What steps can a professional take today to prepare themselves for the threat of automation? Is it possible to "future-proof" your career? What skills will be the most in-demand over the next one or two decades?
7. How do you see automation affecting education and training moving forward? Is the traditional model in imminent danger?
8. Do you think that modern governments and societies are prepared for what may be coming?

*(Questions provided by Safari Books Online and Valuwalk.com)*

