

The Visionary

It's one thing to have a bunch of wild ideas but how on earth did you ever get them up? Well, you have a massive power-base and a bunch of sycophantic supporters within the science community - that helps. Your colleagues provide further insight:

*He's a visionary. He is **willing to take risks**.*

*an **activist** who.. at the same time is a **very big**-picture thinker*

(Not normal big-picture thinker - **very big**)

*He's **massively driven**, and a great visionary.*

*Jeremy's very much a **shrewd team player** who has brokered funding from several sources in negotiations with .. China.*

A shrewd 'visionary' - activist - risk-taker - good at *brokering funding* with the CCP.

Most of them i'd agree - but the **very big**-picture visionary? Depends how you define *visionary*.

For mine, it's *more than* someone having a *grandiose thought bubble* - equipped with the mega-power to enact it.

A visionary is someone who has the rare ability to:

- *think things through* -

All aspects. Not limited to one's power-accumulating self-interest. Be able to think like a Grand Master chess player. Envision how moves play out - as if *you are* your opponent - see not only the good that might come from a move - but the bad. Weigh that up.

But that's not how Sir Jeremy approaches life. It's more your *devil-may-care* style where ... *we are faced with some decisions* - ***we don't really ever quite understand the implications*** of the decisions we reach. (or care)

Farrar (2018): *This week we announced the creation of the **Wellcome Leap Fund** (the Great Leap Forward?), a new £250 million fund designed to **fast forward .. progress** (that sounds eerily like Covid) by taking **greater risks** and **funding ambitious research** programmes **at scale**. .. In the meantime, I am off for a walking cycling and sailing holiday in the Alps - I'll be in touch when I am back.*

Nice. Set the dial to *maximum risk* - then pop off for a holiday in the Alps - we'll see how it works out when I get back...

Now there's no turning back.

Farrar, Nature: *We are at a crucial juncture in international health; .. we must grasp the opportunity .. or we will lose our ventures.*

And grasp it you did. Congratulations - you won your ventures. *Freedom* lost.

Though let's call it the battle - not the war.

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