

### Lean Logic

A Dictionary for the Future  
and How to Survive It

David Fleming

Foreword by Jonathon Porritt

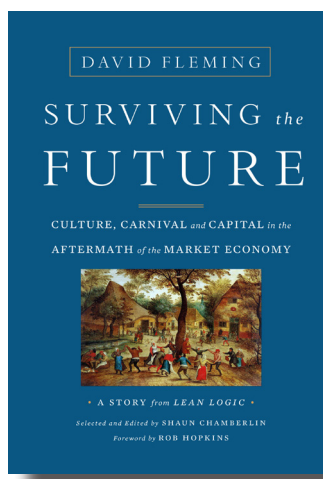
\$50 USD • Hardcover

7 x 9 • 672 pages

B&W illustrations throughout

ISBN 9781603586481

Pub Date: Sept 8, 2016



### Surviving the Future

Culture, Carnival and Capital  
in the Aftermath of the  
Market Economy

A Story from *Lean Logic*

David Fleming

Selected and Edited by  
Shaun Chamberlin

Foreword by Rob Hopkins

\$20 USD • Paperback

6 x 9 • 288 pages

B&W illustrations throughout

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“ I would unreservedly go so far as to say that David Fleming was one of the most original, brilliant, urgently-needed, under-rated, and ahead-of-his-time thinkers of the last 50 years. —Rob Hopkins, co-founder of the Transition Network, from the Foreword of *Surviving the Future* ”

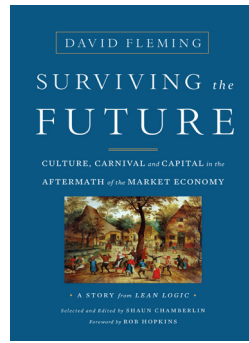
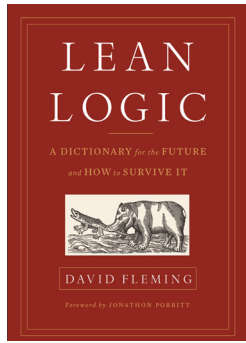
When British economist David Fleming died unexpectedly in 2010, he left behind his great unpublished work, a masterpiece more than thirty years in the making. In it, Fleming examined the consequences of an economy that destroys the very foundations—ecological, economic, and cultural—upon which it is built. Knowing that collapse is the only possible outcome, he asked, and envisioned, “What will follow?”

Now, in partnership with Fleming’s estate and his close friend and collaborator Shaun Chamberlin, Chelsea Green Publishing announces the release of Fleming’s posthumous work—*Lean Logic: A Dictionary for the Future and How to Survive It*. Characteristic of Fleming’s wit, whimsy, and rebellion, he chose an all but bygone form—a written dictionary—to express his views of a future beyond industrial capitalism.

A dictionary unlike any other, *Lean Logic* leads readers through Fleming’s exploration of fields as diverse as culture, history, science, art, logic, ethics, myth, economics, and anthropology, comprised of more than 400 essay-entries covering topics such as Boredom, Community, Debt, Growth, Harmless Lunatics, Land, Lean Thinking, Nanotechnology, Play, Religion, Spirit, Trust, and Utopia.

The beauty of the linked dictionary format is that it allows Fleming to draw attention to connections that might otherwise be overlooked (each definition contains pointers to related entries) without detracting from his in-depth exploration of each topic. This also allows readers to follow a narrative that reflects their own inquisitive journeys.

And since Fleming’s death in 2010, Chamberlin found growing demand among fans of his work for a paperback version, to concisely present his rare insights and uniquely enjoyable writing style in a more conventional read-it-front-to-back format, perfect for readers discovering Fleming for the first time.



**For media inquiries contact  
Shay Totten**

stotten@chelseagreen.com  
802.295.6300 ext.125

**For author events contact  
Jenna Stewart**

jstewart@chelseagreen.com  
802.295.6300 ext.120

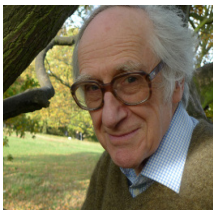
So, alongside *Lean Logic*, Chelsea Green plans to publish *Surviving the Future: Culture, Carnival and Capital in the Aftermath of the Market Economy*. The book's subtitle hints at Fleming's compelling alternative, and there is no doubt that his far-sightedness has become ever more apparent over recent years. He foresaw the schisms and convulsions shaking the economies of Europe, and was among the first in the world to reveal the ongoing pressure on oil supply and predict the subsequent growth in 'unconventional' oil and gas, with all its consequences.

Fleming acknowledges, with honesty, the challenges we face. But rather than inducing despair, *Lean Logic* and *Surviving the Future* inspire optimism in the creativity and intelligence of humans to nurse our ecology back to health; to rediscover the importance of place and play, of reciprocity and resilience, and of community and culture. Ironically, the post-growth society Fleming envisioned may only come to pass after his death.

As Fleming writes in his introduction to *Lean Logic*: "The shocks of descent converging into our culture's 'climacteric' will leave nothing in our lives unchanged. We cannot now avoid it, but it can be managed, mitigated, made survivable, recognised as our species' toughest, but greatest, opportunity... We need to build the sequel, to draw on inspiration which has lain dormant, like the seed beneath the snow."

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## About the Authors



**David Fleming (1940-2010)** was a visionary thinker and writer who played significant roles in the genesis of the UK Green Party, the Transition Towns movement, and the New Economics Foundation, as well as chairing the Soil Association. He was one of the early whistle-blowers on oil depletion and designer of the influential TEQs carbon/energy rationing system. He read Modern History at Trinity College, Oxford, and later earned an MBA, an MSc and PhD in economics. *Lean Logic* was the work of over thirty years.



**Shaun Chamberlin** has been involved with the Transition Network since its inception, cofounding Transition Town Kingston and authoring the movement's second book, *The Transition Timeline*. He is managing director of the Fleming Policy Centre and former chair of the Ecological Land Co-operative, and has spoken at venues ranging from Occupy camps to parliaments. He has written for or edited several books, magazines, academic journals, and other publications, including coauthoring a significant UK All Party Parliamentary report with David Fleming. His website is [www.darkoptimism.org](http://www.darkoptimism.org).

## More Information

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