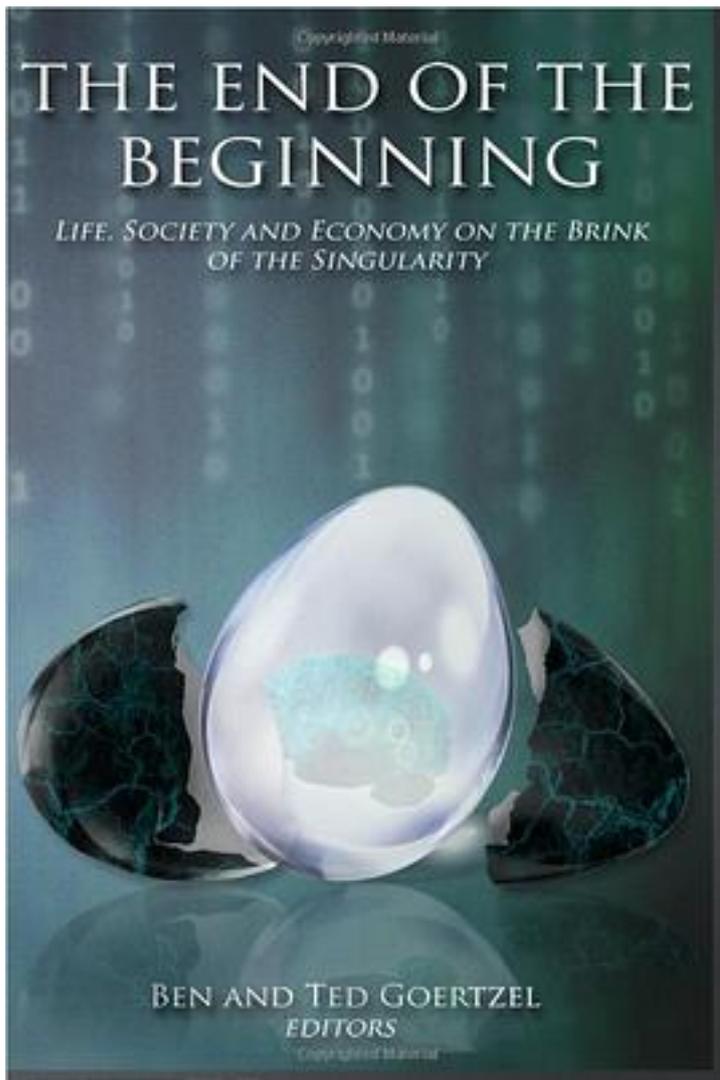# The End of the Beginning

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A deep, diverse edited volume addressing the most critical issues regarding the future of humanity and intelligence -- with chapters authored by a who's-who of leading futurist thinkers and doers.

According to Vernor Vinge, Ray Kurzweil and a rapidly increasing chorus of techno-futurists, we are living on the brink of a technological Singularity — a time when machines will become vastly more intelligent than humans. In such a scenario, death, disease and everyday material scarcity will be radically diminished, and life will be dramatically different in many other ways.

But what will the path to this amazing future look like? How will human life grow and unfold as technology advances and Singularity approaches? The chapters in this book approach this issue from the perspectives of multiple visionary authors from around the globe, covering topics such as the impact of life extension, the future of money and exchange, the future of human psychology, biological self-modification, intelligence enhancement, automation and escalating unemployment, the possibility of global war between pro and anti technology forces, the impact of future technology on Asia and Africa, the emerging Global Brain, the future of surveillance and privacy, and much more.

There are no easy or definite answers here — but lots of fascinating questions to explore.

作者介绍:

Dr. Ben Goertzel is a leader of the field of Artificial General Intelligence, and a prolific speaker and writer on topics related to AI and its future. He serves as Chief Scientist of financial prediction firm Aidyia Holdings; Chairman of AI software company Novamente LLC, bioinformatics company Biomind LLC. the Artificial General Intelligence Society and the OpenCog Foundation; and Vice Chairman of futurist nonprofit Humanity+.

Dr. Ted Goertzel is professor emeritus of sociology at Rutgers University, with research expertise in political sociology, statistical data analysis, psychobiography and other areas. In recent years he has published papers and given talks on the future of AI.

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