

## **Leviathan Spam**

Send the bits with lasers and chips  
See the bytes with LED lights

Wireless, optical, bandwidth boom  
A flood of info, a global zoom

Now comes Lessig  
Now comes Wu  
To tell us what we cannot do

The Net, they say,  
Is under attack  
Stop!  
Before we can't turn back

They know best  
These coder kings  
So they prohibit a billion things

What is on their list of don'ts?  
Most everything we need the most

To make the Web work  
We parse and label  
We tag the bits to keep the Net stable

The cloud is not magic  
It's routers and switches  
It takes a machine to move exadigits

Now Lessig tells us to route is illegal  
To manage Net traffic, Wu's ultimate  
evil

The FCC in Oh Eight bought into the  
theory  
And Comcast, the Chairman  
determined to bury

Then on Nine Twenty One  
Genachowski declareth  
Thou shalt not give primacy  
Networks, you must shareth

The Net's great virtue was  
decentralization  
But Julius from on high decreed  
concentration  
of power and decisions over all peers  
Substitute bureaucrats for Net  
engineers

You may not  
Shall not  
Cannot cap  
It's discrimination!  
Don't you know that?

You may not give  
the bits a weighting  
No matter importance, voice or data

You may not  
Shall not  
Cannot charge  
Even though  
the bytes are large

In what other sector  
is pricing illegal?  
All for nothing as business model  
is laughably feeble

Silicon, wires, software glue  
It takes tens of billions to make bits  
move

You cannot charge  
You cannot price  
You cannot cap  
It won't suffice

No, no, they say, to bit analysis  
Though it may lead to Net paralysis

We will not tolerate Q. O. S.  
Not Weighted Round Robin  
Nor flow-based service

Not Q-in-Q  
Not PBT  
Nor SLAs  
at Layer Three

Storewidth and caching to speed the  
bits through  
Akamai, Limelight cut latency to you  
Though the result is customer speed  
Don't you get it? You may not give  
priority

Content, conduit, Googleplex  
This neutrality thing may lead to bit  
wrecks

We thought all was well  
3G, 4G, then WiMax  
But the once free Net  
suffered bureaucratic attacks

When zetta visual bits  
and mobile nets collide  
Will the Chairman answer his phone?  
. . . Or run and hide?

Out: speed, gadgets, quantum  
innovation  
In: lobbyists, lawyers, mass litigation

Come to Washington  
Ask us permission  
Don't they know it's abundance they're  
missin'?

But abundance is over  
Scarcity is cool  
We thought the Web was different  
Now who's the fool?

Moore's law transcends  
the cramped, dire fears  
of misnamed Free Press  
They're no high tech seers

Mr. Chairman, please  
might you cut us a break?  
Should D.C. micromanage  
the guts of cyberspace?

If you ban the codes that make the Net  
work  
DiffServ, IPsec, and Dual Leaky Bucket  
Net investors may revolt  
and with fury say ———!

Who knows what the Web will bring  
Which business models or networks  
will reign  
With Net traffic growing at 60 percent  
Shouldn't techies experiment?

With fiber and cable  
to bandwidth enable  
Googleplex servers  
a giant content stable

We do useful things like  
BRED and Draft Martini  
But once Neutrality is loosed,  
might we never bottle this genie?

What about MPLS  
and Inter Frame Gap?  
Utopians now rule  
Get used to that fact

Traffic, apps, digital value exploding  
So tell me, FCC  
What the heck is the problem?

The Net keeps on giving  
Like water to wine  
No artificial limits  
Abundance sublime

But D.C. takes this great bounty for  
granted  
Reap others' rewards, assume  
innovation planted

Tera, peta, exa, zetta  
So long free Net, see ya later

Miracle though the Net may be  
The global telecosm is not free

— Bret Swanson