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Thread: [The internet doesnt feel like the internet anymore](#)

jasonust - September 21, 2025, 2:56 pm

I've been online long enough to remember when every corner of the web felt different. You'd stumble onto weird forums, sites built by random hobbyists, or niche communities where people actually talked. Now it feels like the internet has shrunk into a handful of massive platforms, all fighting for your attention with the same algorithm-driven content loops.

Don't get me wrong, there are way more opportunities now — you can build a brand, make money, or blow up overnight in ways that weren't possible back then. But at the same time, it feels like we traded personality for efficiency. Instead of exploring, most people just scroll whatever feed is put in front of them.

So here's the question: did the internet actually get “worse,” or did we just outgrow the novelty of it? Was the old chaotic web really better, or are we just nostalgic for when everything felt new?

Curious what HF thinks — is there still space for smaller, authentic online spaces, or is the internet destined to be a few mega-platforms forever?