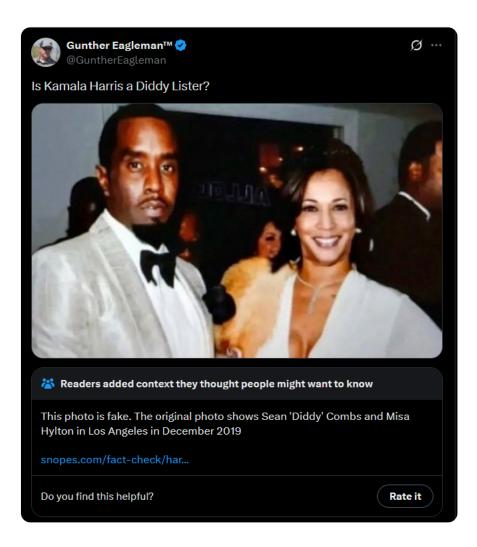


In today's Vatnik Soup, I'll introduce American social media personality David Freeman, AKA Gunther Eagleman $^{\text{\tiny TM}}$ (@Gunther Eagleman). He's best known for spreading political disinformation on X and shamelessly sucking up to Trump, Putin, and other authoritarian leaders.

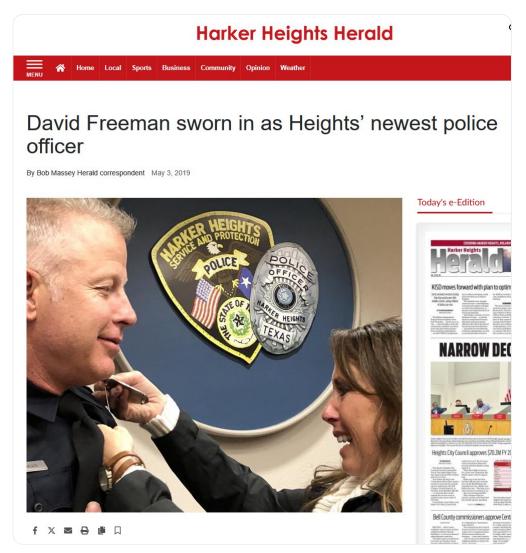


David is a textbook example of someone profiting from MAGA grievance politics. He uses extreme, provocative language to farm engagement on X and never hesitates to flatter anyone who might give him more exposure — or money.





But David wasn't always like this. At some point, in his mid-40s, he even tried a real job: he trained to become a cop. He spent three years with the Metro Transit PD, but after that he either got fired or quit, and never looked back.

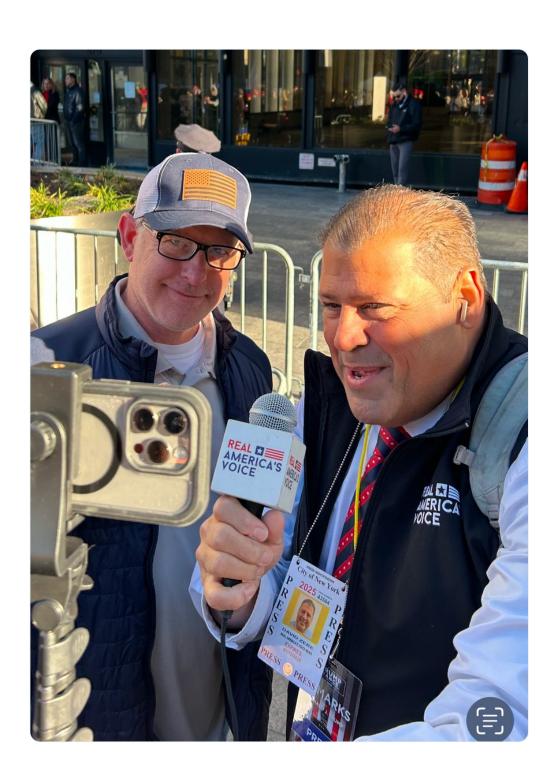


Freeman also started several plastic companies in Texas, all using the same address. They looked serious at first, but like most of his projects, nothing came of them. The businesses and their web domains failed quickly and then quietly disappeared.

4/22



For a long time, "Gunther" hid behind his silly pseudonym. But recently he revealed his real identity during an interview. Since then, he's been desperately trying to insert himself into the MAGA media ecosystem, with rather sad results.



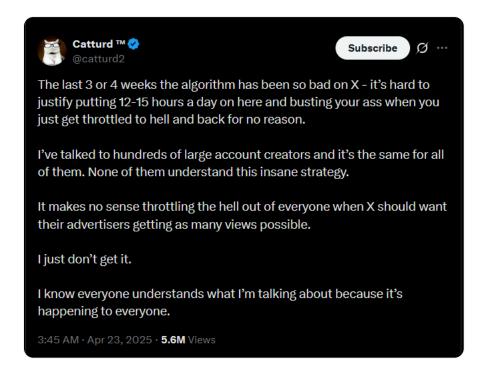


As you can see, there's nothing remarkable about David offline. He's just a boomer who failed at pretty much everything he ever tried. That may explain why he created his online alter ego, Gunther Eagleman: a fantasy projection of himself as a political MAGA pundit.

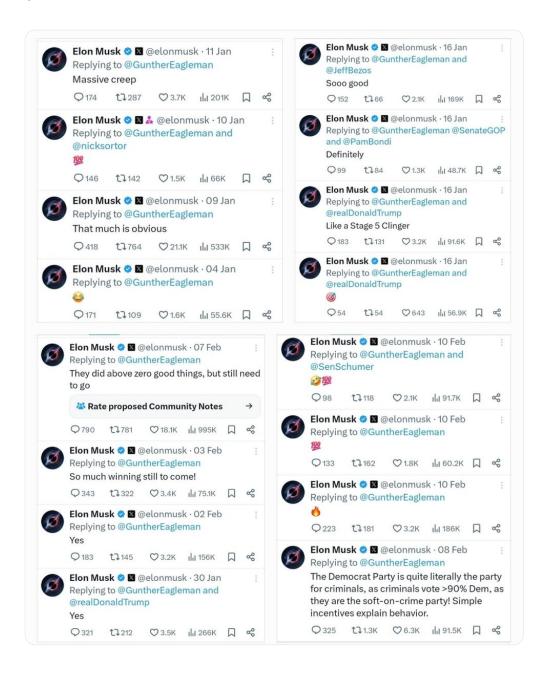


And oh boy, does he commit to the bit. These days, David spends most of his time "owning libs" and losing arguments with 20-something Democratic influencers on X. Like Phillip "Catturd" Buchanan, Freeman's only source of income seems to be social media ad revenue.





Elon's monetization model on X is perfect for grifters: it doesn't require facts and can be boosted by armies of bots and troll farms. Freeman's content thrives in this system, sitting right at the center, and Elon himself has even retweeted many of his posts.

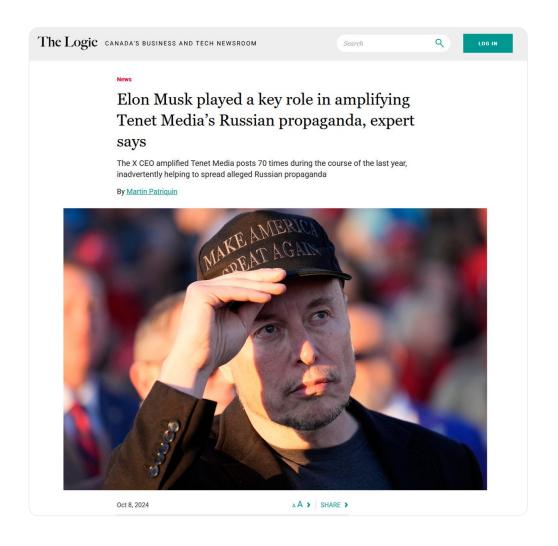








But that's just the tip of the iceberg: behind the scenes is a much bigger system, one that gives large accounts far more money than Elon's ad share ever could. Today, people are offered huge sums for posts pushing certain topics or agendas.



A pro-Trump influencer says a Russian agent paid him \$100 to post a fake voter fraud video. It wasn't the first time





The person who operates the AlphaFox78 account on X says he was paid by a Russian agent to post videos and content promoting false information. From AlphaFox78/X $\,$

Right-wing influencers say they were dupes in an alleged Russian influence operation. They're keeping their millions, for now



By Jon Passantino and Sean Lyngaas, CNN

① 5 min read · Published 6:15 AM EDT, Fri September 13, 2024

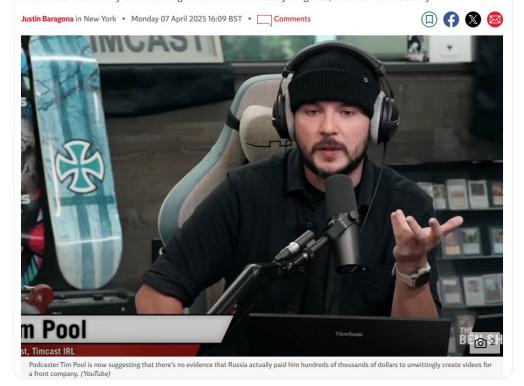




Dave Rubin, Benny Johnson and Tim Pool. Getty Images/Reuters

MAGA influencer Tim Pool now claims there's 'no actual proof' showing he unwittingly took Russian money

'The indictment includes out of context messages that are in dispute, no actual proof of said messages in fact, and claims without any corroborating hard evidence for everything else,' Tim Pool said recently

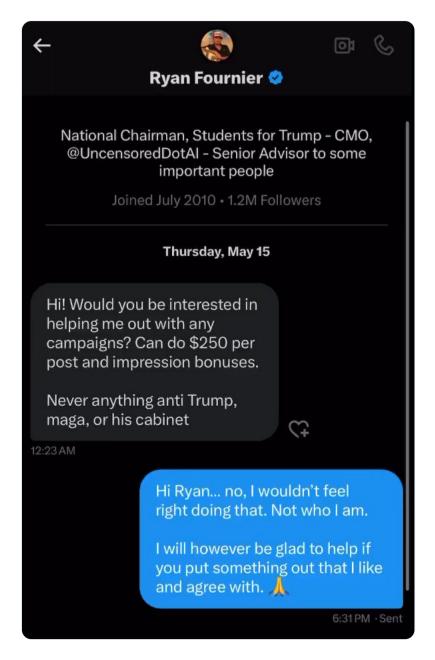


Marketing firms, crypto scammers, and political operatives are paying up to \$500 per post to accounts willing to shill their agenda. One scheme was exposed by pro-Trump account @MJTruthUltra, who leaked messages from political scammer @RyanAFournier.

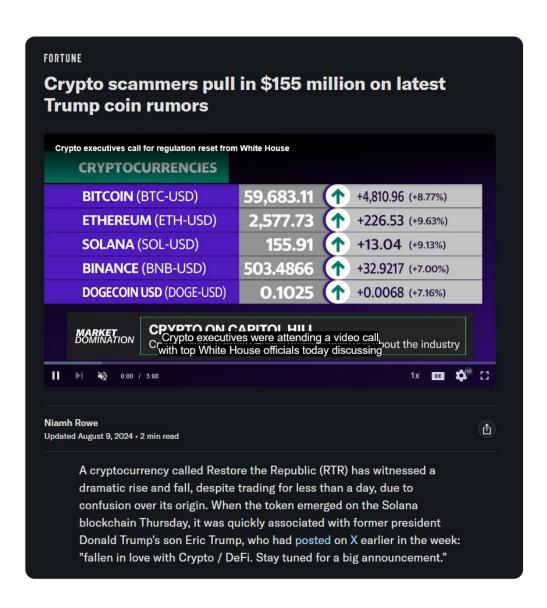


Fournier offered "\$250 per post plus impression bonuses," adding: "Never anything anti-Trump, MAGA, or his cabinet." Amusingly, these rules are nearly identical to those given to Yevgeny Prigozhin's trolls at Russia's first troll farm, the "Internet Research Agency".

11/22



Fournier himself once ran a crypto scam with a "Restore the Republic" coin, cashing out after pumping the price. He was also arrested in 2023 for allegedly beating up his girlfriend. In today's MAGA world, these count as résumé highlights.







Nov 28, 2023 - Politics & Policy

Scoop: Students for Trump founder charged with assault



Lucille Sherman









Photo: David J. Griffin/Icon Sportswire

The North Carolina-based Students for <u>Trump</u> cofounder Ryan Fournier is facing misdemeanor assault charges, law enforcement records obtained by Axios show.

This shouldn't be news to anyone who's been reading my soups, but there's once again an important point to make here: social media is not real. It's completely fake, with fake/paid engagement on topics often coming not from the creator themselves but from external actors.

X (Twitter) Overrun by Bots: Binance's CZ Urges Elon Musk to Step In

Mon 10 Mar 2025 • 4 min read • by Mikaia A.

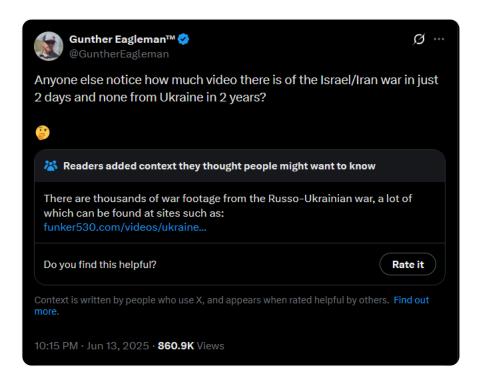
😂 🥯 🕯 Getting informed • Cybersécurit

When Elon Musk acquired Twitter for the modest sum of 44 billion dollars, he promised to put an end to bots. However, three years later, the observation is alarming: the social network, renamed X, is more infested than ever. Worse, the bots proudly display their blue badge, proof that some pay to exist. Changpeng Zhao, aka CZ, former head of Binance and contributor to the purchase of Twitter, has just slammed the table: he wants a network populated by humans, not robots.



So whenever David posts, you should view his content through this lens.

When he claimed there was "no video content from the war in Ukraine" — one of the most well-documented conflicts in history over the last three years — who was paying him?





Subscribe

I'm still waiting for war footage in Ukraine... It's almost like it's not really happening.

Do you find it ironic that we don't ever see war footage from Ukraine but can see the feds acting a fool in West Virginia?



4:50 PM · 28 Apr 24 · 198K Views



Subscribe

Technology must be better in Israel than Ukraine...

I've seen more pictures and videos of the attacks in Israel this morning than I have in 18 months of the war in Ukraine.

5:52 PM · 07 Oct 23 · 96.7K Views



Subscribe

Isn't it crazy the amount of video footage coming out of Israel and Gaza the last couple days...?

and almost no video footage for 18 months out of Ukraine.

5:12 PM · 10 Oct 23 · 295K Views

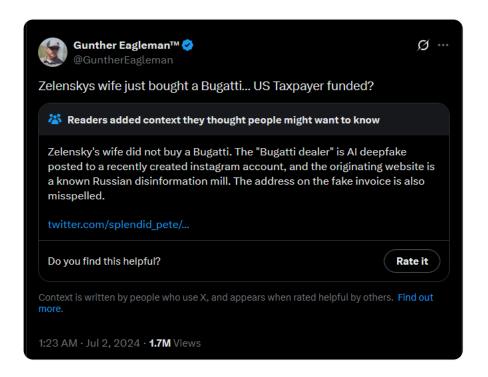
Or when he lies about "corrupt Ukraine," claiming Zelenskyy bought a \$75 million yacht or his wife a \$5 million Bugatti — who's paying him then?

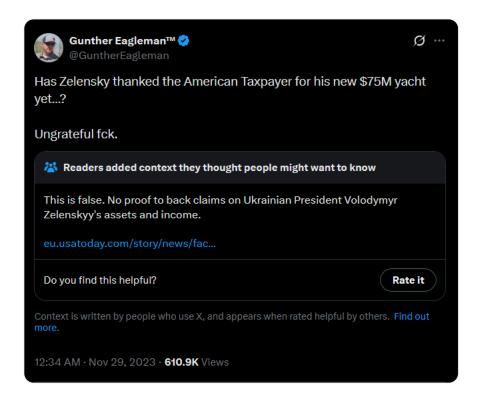
15/22

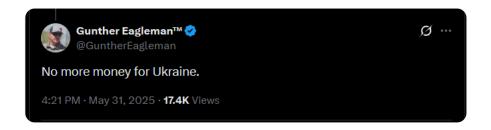
French soup about the fake Bugatti story:











Hell, even his infamous love letter to Putin in April 2024 was likely paid for by a MAGA pro-Kremlin marketing campaign. David has claimed he's never taken money from a "foreign entity" or "foreigner" to post on social media, yet he gladly accepts BTC donations on X.









Recently, "Gunther" joined a campaign promoting India's friendship with Trump and MAGA. The same effort was pushed by big accounts like @CNviolations and @DefiantLs, who, like David, are tied to the Resist the Mainstream (@ResisttheMS) network.



The CCP:

- -Runs illegal surveillance ops
- -Floods U.S. markets with subsidized spyware
- -Steals military & tech secrets

India? Buys oil — LEGALLY.

India loves Trump, that's why the mainstream media is going after them

Let's not waste time pretending they're the enemy just because India participates in the free market neutrally.

Community Notes & Violations ♥ · 17h

America and India should stand united!

Slapping tariffs on India over oil won't hurt Moscow-it'll spike prices, shake markets, and let China seize the advantage.

The real threat is the CCP, and we can't let the mainstream media take our eyes off the target. x.com/ElijahSchaffer...







India has always welcomed Trump with open arms.

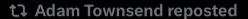
Hitting India with tariffs over oil won't punish Moscow.

It'll raise prices, destabilize markets, and help China fill the gap.

Use leverage where it works! x.com/ ElijahSchaffer...









X.com

I highly recommend that you follow @ResisttheMS on Twitter.

They post news you won't see on mainstream media.

If you're reading this, go and follow their account!

#sponsored #paralleleconomy #americafirst

15:11 · 2/21/23 · **17K** Views

If you believe all of David's 1.5 million followers are real, I've got a bridge to sell you. Most come from troll and bot farms, something Elon could wipe out instantly, but won't, since they amplify his political agenda and make X's user stats look prettier.



Home News Sport Business Innovation Culture Arts Travel Earth Audio Video Live

Elon Musk warns Twitter deal stuck without fake account proof

17 May 2022 Share **≺** Save □

Tom Espiner Business reporter, BBC News



Elon Musk has said his \$44bn deal to buy Twitter may be in jeopardy due to a disagreement over the number of fake accounts on the social media platform.

Mr Musk tweeted that the deal "cannot move forward" unless Twitter backs up its claims that less than 5% of daily users are fake or spam accounts.

Twitter has <u>defended its figures</u>, adding that Mr Musk waived rights to "due diligence" to clinch the deal.

The spat has raised doubts about the takeover.

Analysts have speculated that Mr Musk may be looking for ways to renegotiate the price of the deal or walk away.

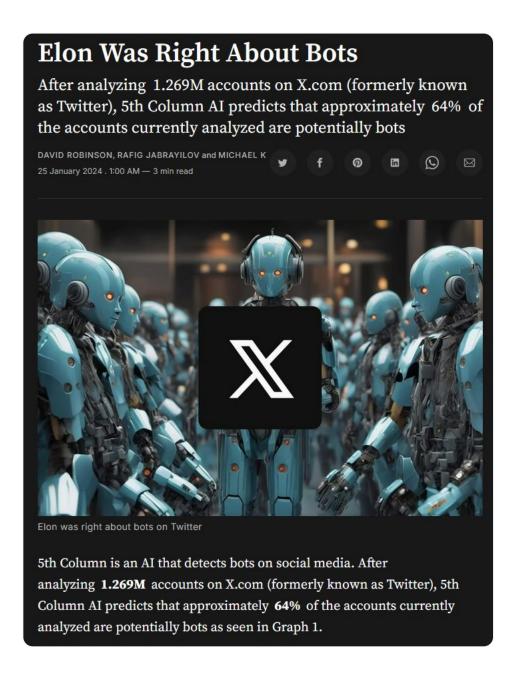
Mr Musk agreed the \$44bn (£34.5bn) deal to buy Twitter with its board in April, but last week Mr Musk said the deal was "on hold" while he sought details about fake

He has continued to press the issue in tweets and public appearances, while also hinting that he could seek a lower price.

On Tuesday, Mr Musk said Twitter boss Parag Agrawal had "publicly refused to show proof" that fewer than 5% of its accounts were fake, and said the deal "cannot move forward" until Mr Agrawal does show proof.

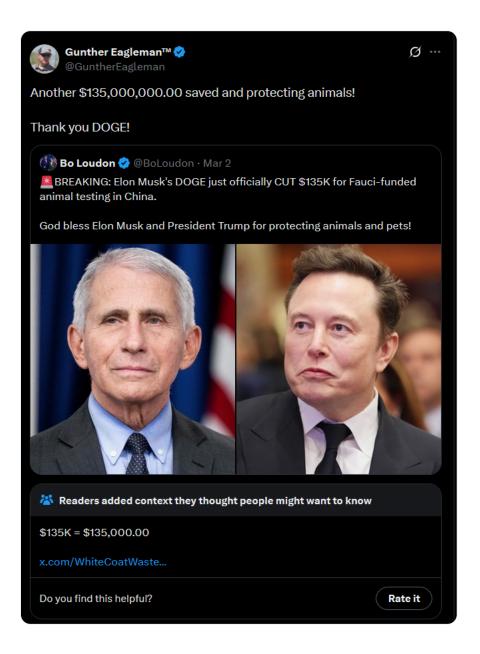
Mr Musk's tweet then appeared to be deleted.

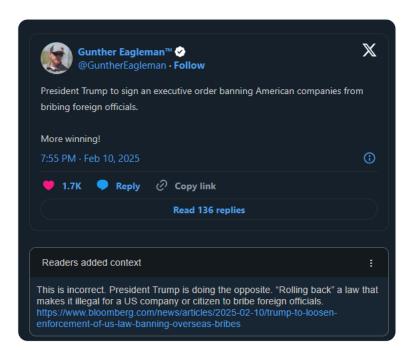
The billionaire, who also runs carmaker Tesla, has put the number of fake accounts at 20% or more.





When David posts, facts don't matter. On the Community Notes leaderboard, he ranks #146 with 63 corrections. Like many boomers, he often falls for AI slop, and much of his flagged









"Gunther" is likely pulling in tens of thousands each month from his polarizing, rage-baiting posts, and that's not even counting the grifter cash he pockets for pushing whatever topic MAGA pundits use to distract from the Epstein files.





BREAKING: President Trump just said Tariff rebates may be coming to the American people!

"We're thinking about a rebate. Because we have so much money coming in from tariffs. A little rebate for people of a certain income level might be very nice."

WINNING!!!

10:11 am · 25 Jul 2025

David has no spine, and his political (cultist?) stance shifts entirely with whatever Trump says. Contradicting himself is never a problem. And that India campaign he was likely paid for? "Gunther" took the money — then turned around and attacked India once Trump did.



foreign born citizens should not be allowed to serve in office.

American born citizens only.

7:46 AM · Jun 25, 2025

@THISS_YOUU



Elon Musk for Speaker!

9:01 AM · Dec 19, 2024



JUST IN: President Trumps administration tells allies it will not get involved in war against Iran unless Iran attacks Americans.

Good! Not our war.

4:49 PM · Jun 16, 2025



@THISS_YOUU

I stand with Trump, I trust Trump! He made the right call.

8:24 AM · Jun 22, 2025



JUST IN: President Trumps administration tells allies it will not get involved in war against Iran unless Iran attacks Americans.

Good! Not our war.

4:49 PM · Jun 16, 2025



QTHISS_YOUU

I stand with Trump, I trust Trump! He made the right call.

8:24 AM · Jun 22, 2025



To conclude, David is basically a dumber, less dangerous version of @bennyjohnson. With no charisma and zero real skills, he sticks to boomer-level shitposting on X for profit, grifting for whoever pays him most.

How pathetic is that?



The 2nd edition of "Vatnik Soup — The Ultimate Guide to Russian Disinformation" is officially out!

You can order your copy here:

The Book | Vatnik Soup

 $\label{thm:control} \mbox{Vatnik Soup: Your most comprehensive resource on pro-Kremlin disinformation and propaganda.}$

https://vatniksoup.com/en/books/

"Eagleman" is a terrible alias for someone who thinks so little of his own country.

Which new nickname do you think suits David best?

• • •