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November, 2025

Steering A Ship in A Wired Ocean

## Head of Your Own Headache



We were under soft lights in a buzzing lounge when “digital sovereignty” drifted through the room like perfume. At the bar, someone charming pulled me into a private talk.

“Is it true? Is it real independence?” I asked.

They smiled. “Yes —but independence isn’t one thing. It means taking control away from those who hold it too tightly.”

“Open source is the tool,” they said. “It lets you steer your own ship.” They talked about Mastodon like a lover: Forks, instances, and personal autonomy —each idea a small promise.

“You’re both builder and activist,” they whispered. “Same protocol, your own pace. You get freedom —and the headaches that come with it.”

The conversation felt part manifesto, part seduction: freedom and connection braided together until desire and change blurred.

*Billie*