



Strategic Tale 4.2 (On the Scenario Method)

What is to become of me?

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I have just got back from the Business School after picking up my English grade. The truth is that I am no good at languages, but I have finally passed the last subject on the degree! For a couple of months, everyone has been asking me what I'm going to do with my life, and now I have no excuse for not making a decision.

I can't stop thinking about it. My parents would like me to do a master's degree. My Finance teacher tells me he has a cousin who earns a lot of money as an accountant in a multinational company. The speaker at last week's careers seminar told us that setting up your own business is an incredible experience. My best friend has already decided to sit for public examinations here in Spain. My girlfriend wants us to find jobs in the UK, where there are many opportunities. I'm in a muddle because when it seems I've finally made up my mind, I start having doubts, and then I get depressed.

I turn on the TV. It's lunchtime, and there's nothing on but the news. The first thing I hear is that the government assures us that the measures to put an end to temporary employment and precariousness will bear fruit in less than a year, creating more than 500,000 jobs for young people and promoting entrepreneurship. I change the channel and hear that according to its one-year forecasts, the Chamber of Commerce expects the labour market to stagnate in Spain because of a possible economic slowdown. I switch to another channel, and hear that the IMF is warning of a significant fall in Spain's GDP that will have a negative impact on employment, especially for Gen Z.

Who do you believe? I haven't finished eating. I turn off the TV and check my phone.

—Siri, what is the labour market going to do in the short term?

—My skills don't go that far. Can I help you with anything else?

—Yes, what do you think would happen if the government's expectations for promoting youth employment were to be met?

—Here's what I've found: I'd bin my CV and ask the finance teacher for his cousin's phone number. If you find a job soon and keep it, you could become independent!



—What if I go to London with my girlfriend? I could also become independent.

—What's your English like?

—Siri, you don't want to know. What would be the best thing to do if employment stagnated this year?

—You could set up your own business; do you have a good idea to start with?

—Not really. I have never thought about it.

—Then do a master's degree! The labour market may well pick up a little in the meantime, and then you could apply for more qualified positions. Your parents would be happy to have you at home for another year!

—What if youth unemployment keeps going up over the coming years?

—I suggest sitting for public examinations to become a tax inspector or a civil servant. Of course, that means years of sacrifice and study ahead, but if and when you pass, the worst will be over. The good thing is that by then your parents will want you to move out as much or more than you.

—Siri, one last thing, what would I do without you?

—My thoughts exactly. That's very nice of you to say.

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