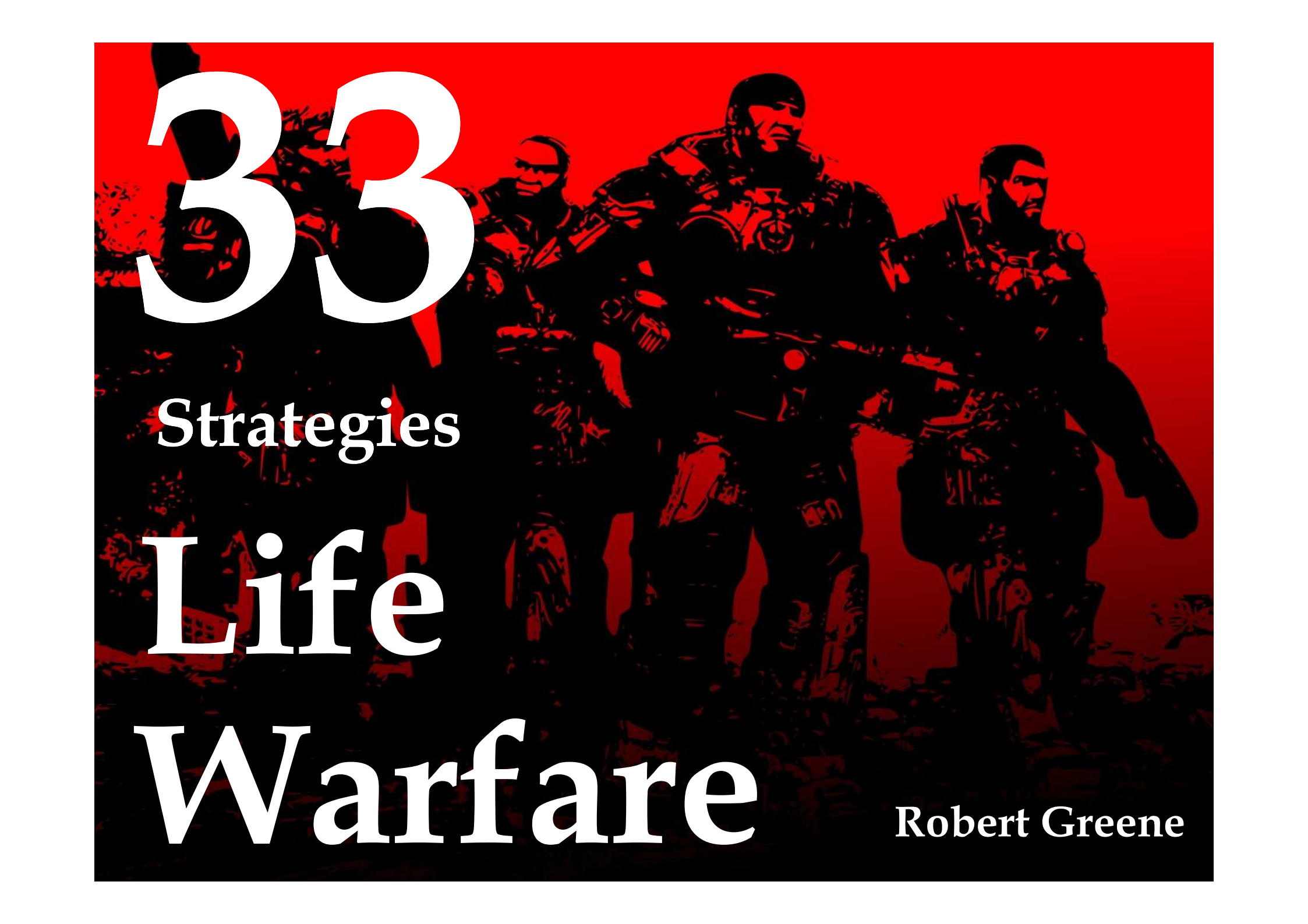




33

Strategies

Life

Warfare

Robert Greene

It has been a customary perception that peace-loving people triumph more in life. Day after day, you will be faced with numerous conflicts that demand the need to engage in constant struggle or battle. Bestselling author Robert Greene shares 33 effective strategies of war to guide you through the realistic battlefield called life.



Strategy # 1 - Declare War On Your Enemies

Enemies come everywhere. It is important that you recognize these enemies and from there, start strategizing. Discovering that you have too many enemies may entice you towards the safer side; which is to act in accordance to the enemies' ways and be one of them. Consider your enemies as your opposites. Without enemies, you might lose your drive to go on with life.



Strategy # 2 - Do Not Fight The Last War

Holding on so much to past successes and resentments may indeed cause the mind to languish somewhere along the way. To restore the mind's natural course forward, here are some tactics that you can employ: Reexamine all your cherished beliefs and principles. Erase the memory of the last war. Keep the mind moving. Absorb the spirit of the times. Reverse course.



Strategy # 3 - Do Not Lose Your Presence of Mind

Be self-reliant. Suffer fools gladly. Crowd out feelings of panic by focusing on simple tasks. Unintimidate yourself. Develop your fingertip feel .



Strategy # 4 - Create A Sense of Urgency And Desperation

Act before you are ready. Enter new waters. Make it “you against the world”. Keep yourself restless and unsatisfied.



Strategy # 5 - Avoid The Snares Of Groupthink

Since an organization is composed of different people with varied personalities, intentions, and goals, it is important that you, as a leader, are aware of the strengths and weakness of your people. Furthermore, you must recognize the fact that it is time-consuming and beyond human capacity to monitor and give direction to everyone all at the same time.



Strategy # 6 - Segment Your Forces

Everything transpires quickly at war. You are not given the luxury of time. You have to make decisions and act before the enemy does. Creation of smaller teams that are directed towards particular and clear goals is more effective.



Strategy # 7 - Transform Your War Into A Crusade

Unite your troops around a cause. Keep their bellies full. Lead from the front. Concentrate their ch'i. Play to their emotions. Mix harshness and kindness. Build the group myth. Be ruthless with grumblers.



Strategy # 8 - Pick Your Battles Carefully

All human beings have certain strengths and, at the same time, weaknesses. At some point, you will have limitations. At times, your desire to get something that you really want propels you to be impulsive and blocks off your capacity to identify further costs.



Strategy # 9 - Turn The Tables

Warriors often take into consideration only two options: to fight offensively or defensively. There is a third option that is often disregarded. This is a balance of both offensive and defensive strategies. When enemies sense weakness in the opponent, they lower their guard.



Strategy # 10 - Create A Threatening Presence

Surprise with a bold maneuver. Reverse the threat. Seem unpredictable and irrational. Play on people's natural paranoia. Establish a frightening reputation.



Strategy # 11 - Trade Space For Time

Retreat is not a sign of weakness. Rather, it is one way of utilizing and maximizing available resources. Get out of your paradigm that advancing is the best thing to do no matter what since it is not always the case. Retreat paves the way for reassessment of the situation and strategies. It saves time and effort for situations that really call for action.



Strategy # 12 - Lose Battles But Win The War

Focus on your greater goal, your destiny. Widen your perspective. Sever the roots. Take the indirect route to your goal.



Strategy # 13 - Know Your Enemy

Be keener in your interactions with people and situations. The superficial does not always reveal the entirety of one's thoughts and intentions. Remember that your opponent's mind is your real enemy. Having an accurate grasp of the enemy's weaknesses will contribute much to your victory.



Strategy # 14 - Overwhelm Resistance With Speed And Suddenness

You must come up with a plan that will catch your enemies off guard. You take advantage of the opponent's slowing down and surprise him with an attack. With this, he is forced to act impulsively. He gets confounded and you follow up with another attack that causes further confusion. This leads to a cycle of error on the opponent's part leading to his downfall.



Strategy # 15 - Control The Dynamic

Keep them on their heels. Shift the battlefield. Compel mistakes. Assume passive control.



Strategy # 16 - Hit Them Where It Hurts

At war, the opponent's power rests on certain elements that work for them like gravity. Look beyond the obvious and identify what these gravity-like elements are and make it your target.



Strategy # 17 - Defeat Them In Detail

Instead of looking at the totality of your opponent, try to examine its parts and how you can defeat each of them. The whole may appear overwhelming and disheartening to conquer. The parts, however, seem easier to overcome.



Strategy # 18 - Expose And Attack Your Opponent's Soft Flank

People tend to camouflage their weaknesses by presenting the opposite. The most effective way to overcome this kind of situation is to attack indirectly.



Strategy # 19 - Envelop The Enemy

When the enemy feels that there is not a single gap in your strategies that he can take advantage of, he starts to get weak and lose control of the situation. Any form of manipulation of the mind, whether positive or negative, shall strongly influence corresponding actions.



Strategy # 20 - Maneuver Them Into Weakness

Craft a plan with branches. Give yourself room to maneuver. Give your enemy dilemmas, not problems. Create maximum disorder.



Strategy # 21 - Negotiate While Advancing

When things do not seem resolved at battle, people resort to negotiations. The strength that you have prepared for battle should be maintained during negotiations for these usually involve scheming for power and control.



Strategy # 22 - Know How To End Things

Always put to mind your purpose for entering the war in the first place. Reevaluate and see if you have attained that in the end. Remember that an ending is never a fundamental dead-end. Rather it is just the beginning of yet another opportunity. Thus, a war should end on a positive note, acting more as a teacher that will guide you in your next moves.



Strategy # 23 - Weave A Seamless Blend Of Fact and Fiction

The more unclear your actions and strategies are to the opponent, the better. This makes it more complex for your enemies to fathom reality.



Strategy # 24 - Take The Line Of Least Expectation

Your enemies may anticipate your actions by basing it on certain patterns of actions and behavior. Fail them in their expectations and be as unpredictable as possible.



Strategy # 25 - Occupy The Moral High Ground

Question the value of your opponent's campaign and efforts. Build up your own as more worthy. Make this fact obvious by proactively advocating it.



Strategy # 26 - Deny Them Targets

Human beings always act for a certain purpose. At war, the opponent's ultimate goal is certainly to target or capture you by tempting you to attack certain points that are intended to make you fall into a trap. Do not give away success. Do everything you can to make their efforts pointless.



Strategy # 27 - Seem To Work For The Interests Of Others While Furthering Your Own

Keep in mind as well that you are getting allies to complement you temporarily. In other words, they should be able to do things you cannot accomplish on your own and possess some of the resources that you lack.



Strategy # 28 - Give Your Rivals Enough Rope To Hang Themselves

Not all enemies come from outside. At times, you will find them in places you least expect, that is, inside. Defeat them by subtly making them feel inferior and dubious of their capabilities.



Strategy # 29 - Take Small Bites

To conquer something is not always straightforward as envy comes into the picture. This strategy is too subtle that it does not capture much attention. In effect, you can freely move about and implement your plans. If and when they do notice, it will all be too late since you must have conquered much already.



Strategy # 30 - Penetrate Their Minds

Effectively communicating your ideas can significantly alter another person's behavior. They may primarily block you off in several ways but appealing to their emotions will certainly lower these defenses.



Strategy # 31 - Destroy From Within

The best way to truly know your enemy is to take their side and appear a supporter. You will be able to gain information not readily available and accessible to outsiders.



Strategy # 32 - Dominate While Seeming To Submit

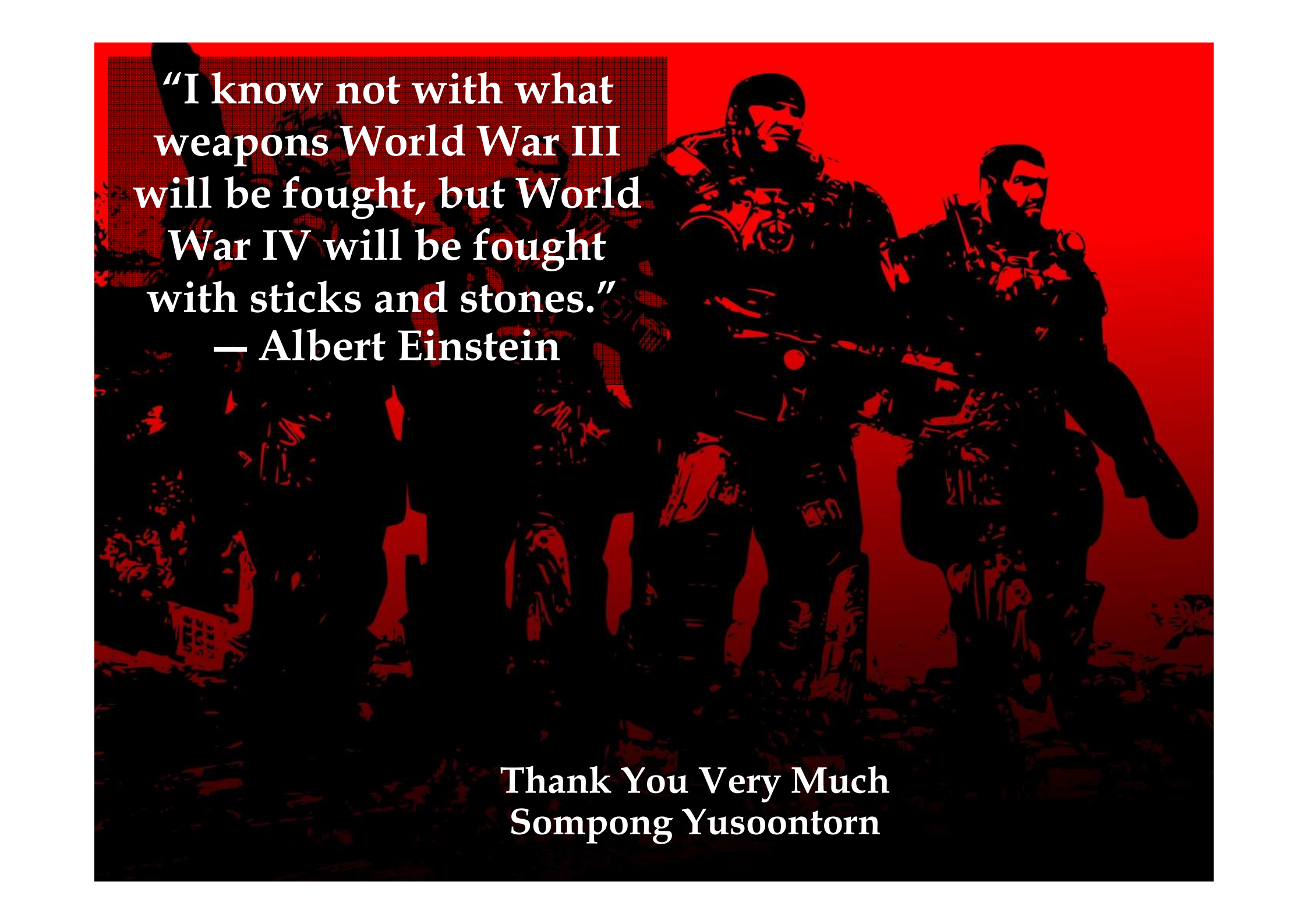
Outright expression of contradiction is translated as a form of aggression. This mainly explains why some people are hesitant to implement something that is not in line with the usual as they are concerned about gaining resistance and dislike. To block off this notion before it surfaces, you must project yourself as in submission to your opponent. In this way, you get zero resistance.



Strategy # 33 - Sow Uncertainty And Panic Through Acts of Terror

A person can easily be influenced and affected by the emotions of those surrounding him. Introducing fear instigates extreme emotional reaction that spreads almost automatically. A great sense of fear makes anyone more vulnerable than usual and less resistant. Strategic capabilities seem to take the back seat as well. You can take advantage of this if you want to easily conquer an enemy.





**"I know not with what
weapons World War III
will be fought, but World
War IV will be fought
with sticks and stones."
— Albert Einstein**

**Thank You Very Much
Sompong Yusoontorn**