

# The Luck Catastrophe Hypothesis

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## Abstract

If luck becomes a controllable, redistributable resource, naive altruism may converge on a single catastrophic policy: donating all luck to one beneficiary to guarantee survival against oblivion. This creates a static inferno—stalled possibility and uniform deprivation. The ethical function of luck is not equality but variability.

## Premises

### 1. Luck as Distributed Unpredictability

Luck is the distributed uncertainty that keeps outcomes open and renewal possible.

### 2. Controllability Assumption

Assume luck can be measured and redistributed like a resource.

### 3. Altruistic Convergence

Under strong altruism, agents may donate all luck to a single entity to ensure at least one secure trajectory.

### 4. Collapse of Variability

Concentrating luck eliminates diversity of outcome; without variability, new possibilities fail to arise, and deprivation becomes uniform for the rest.

## Conclusion

Therefore, concentrating luck into a single beneficiary is ethically catastrophic. Protecting a baseline of randomness across agents preserves shared possibility, relief, and renewal. Fairness lies in guarded uncertainty, not in total concentration of fortune.

## Corollaries

Corollary	Meaning
A. Protected Randomness Principle	Preserve baseline uncertainty across agents so renewal remains possible.
B. Anti-Monopoly of Fortune	Prohibit concentrations of luck that extinguish opportunity for others.
C. Mercy by Many Paths	Prefer plural small gains over singular absolute security that freezes the future.

## Integration

Framework	Placement
Haimesian System	Metaphysics of Possibility / Ethical Economics of Scarcity vs. Uncertainty
Michaelic Judaism	Disciplines of Compassion — caution against 'single savior' lotteries of fortune