# Twitter Thread by Jack Rhysider



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**Those of you who believe in free will. I have some questions for you.**

**1. When you suddenly wake up at 2am and can't stop thinking about work and can't go back to bed for hours and hours because your brain won't shut off. Would you say you have free will during that time?**

2. When you really don't want to do something but you know you have to do it so you do it, would you consider that to be free will?
For instance suppose you're a parent and you've got a sick kid vomiting in their bed, all night. Then they wake you up at 6am hungry and needy.

3.Suppose there's something you know you should do but just aren't doing it. Like getting out of bed on time, or doing exercise, or cleaning the toilet. You know you should and you want to, but you just aren't. So if you want to but aren't doing it, where's the free will in that?

4. Pick a random number from 1-1000. Got one? Is picking something at random free will? You're trying really hard for it to be random, and so you blank out your mind and wait for the first number to pop in. How is what you picked free will? It's a complete throw of the dice...

5. When you do something consistently every day for over a decade, and you know you'll be doing it for another decade to come. Is it really free will when you decide to do it today?

6. What about when you hear an old song it reminds you of something you did in high school. Is that free will that you're consciously deciding to bring that thought up right now?

7. For free will to exist it would have to mean you know what you're going to think about, before you think about it. How can you think thoughts before you think those thoughts?

8. Suppose you've been craving a strawberry sundae all week. First of all why didn't you go get a damn strawberry sundae yet? Anyway when you finally get the chance to buy some ice cream and you pick strawberry sundae, is that free will? Or simply a craving you must satisfy?

9. When you decide what to do Friday night, is it really free will? You've got to first eliminate all the things you simply can't do. Your location, energy, info, and access to stuff limits your options. You can't go to mars for instance. So where's the free will in that?

10. I can do this all day. Suppose you want to eat and sleep and pee at the same time. Do you really have free will in choosing what to do? Or will your body force one of them to happen?

11. Suppose you have strong morals on something. Like you always hold doors open for strangers or feed homeless. Do you seriously have the free will to slam a door in their face or poison the food you give to homeless? You would never do that. So where's the free will in that?

12. Is there any free will in a buying a new shirt? First, you aren't going to buy an ugly shirt. You want to look good. But where did you get the idea of what looks good? You probably saw how others look, and buy similar clothes. Your taste has been developed over years.

13. Or suppose you aren't influenced by others, instead you make purchasing decisions based on utility, price, or brand loyalty. If you're doing some kind of mental calculus and decide based on the result, where's the free will in that?

14. Suppose you want something you simply can't get. Like a billion dollars or maybe something simple like a strawberry sundae but everywhere is sold out. When forces beyond your control keep you from getting what you want, do you still have free will?

15. Suppose you read all this and decide, "screw you Jack, I'm going to do something that I would never do right now just to show you I have free will". Well if you didn't read all this would you have any desire to do that thing?

16. You can still make decisions without free will. We all want to be rational and make good choices. But don't you think a lot of your decisions are based on what you've learned from past decisions? You know what to do and what not to do before you decide to do it.

17. If none of these things are signs of free will, then where is it?

18. If you think you have free will, can you at least try to put a % on how much free will you think you have? Surely you don't have free will over 100% of your decisions. Is it 20% of your choices that are made with free will? 80%?