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From: [REDACTED]
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Subject: tomorrow

There are two big stories (WSJ and BusinessWeek) that are profiles on Stevie. We've tried to keep his personal life out of the picture so that part should be ok but Ballmer working behind the scenes to portray a mean guy. Poor Stevie is really taking it hard but then again folks are entitled to their opinions and ultimately, the proof is in the product.

You are likely to be awake and reading press tomorrow before I do. Let me know what you think. Just dropped him off for his flight to Shanghai where he will do the release and then head to NYC.

I've been waiting to discuss stuff with you till I see you in NYC but I have been shortlisted for a kind of big job on the East Coast. Stevie made me apply for it and I think he is secretly hoping I will get it and it will be an excuse for him to leave Seattle too.

He spoke with Bill last week and said that if we couldn't find something for "both of us" (Seattle) that we'd be looking for our next opportunity elsewhere. Bill acted shocked that I was unhappy at the foundation but said that he and Boris would take care of it. I do know it is a low priority for them to deal with me (my issues) but just not sure they realize that it is a package deal. I've not been a jerk or pressed too hard mostly because I do really want out. Managing a real body of work that has intellectual merit and is *FUN* is important to me.

I don't want to be the jerk that pulls Stevie away from a job that could seriously transform the trajectory of the tech world and not sure what to do.