



"The house is on fire, let's build a truck that can carry water," we can say, "Let's move in the equipment." All of the reason we're going into deeper and deeper water with higher stakes is that we are running out of oil. We need a national policy of transitioning to the next kind of energy economy. People say, "It's too expensive," but look at the costs of these accidents. We spend a tremendous amount of tax money giving subsidies to big oil and big

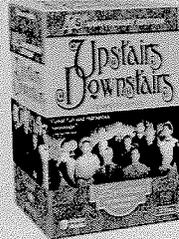
coal so they can lobby for more subsidies, making it almost impossible for clean energy technology to get on an even playing field. Many clean-energy start-ups are going to Germany and China and Denmark, whoever creates the next energy economy will own the future, and then they'll sell it back to us. I'm already buying too many things from China, and I would rather that the country that owned the future was the United States.

# DOG BITES

hello

### Two tales of two cities.

Tee up the DVD player on March 29 for two decidedly different releases. The complete *Upstairs, Downstairs* (68 episodes, 57 hours, plus 25 hours of extras; \$199.99) is out in a boxed set for the 40th anniversary. PBS rebroadcasts the series—aristocrats! servants!—starting April 10. Instead of Jean Marsh in Edwardian London, *Treme* (ten episodes; \$59.95) features Khandi Alexander in post-Katrina New Orleans. The HBO show's second season starts April 24.



**The website you've been waiting for.** Confused about the difference between antlers and horns? Tartan and plaid? Melody and harmony? [DifferenceBetween.net](http://DifferenceBetween.net) explains it all for you.

goodbye

### Dogs with manners.

From 1993 to 2008, hospital admissions for dog bites increased a whopping 86 percent, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

### Young people who can't.

It sounds like something out of the mouth of a crotchety 110-year-old, but science agrees: "College students' self-reported empathy has declined since 1980," says *Scientific American Mind*, "with an especially steep drop in the past ten years." Another study shows that the same group's narcissism is at a new high. *Young people!*

**Civilization:** People who want to be on reality-TV shows and in commercials—and really, who doesn't?—can now submit their videos to the site [auditionbooth.com](http://auditionbooth.com), reports *Inc. magazine*. And whom can we thank for this opportunity? Paula Abdul.