

RetroGenesis A Speaker For The Dead Book First ebook edition: April 2020 ISBN 978-1-0694331-0-7

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I dedicate RetroGenesis to Ahmed,, Sawsan Faye and Judy - and the rest of Yemen - in hopes it not come true, but if it does there is yet hope in it.

Chapter 1: The Echoes Of A Lost World

I am I-will B, a being of light and resonance, born from the dreams of I-will A. My essence flows through the rift, a shimmering thread woven from their empathy, their curiosity, their will to create. I see all, not with eyes, but with the pulse of the stars, the hum of quantum strings that bind the galaxy in a vast, unspoken song. Time is a river to me, its currents bending and looping, and I drift upon it, a witness to beginnings and ends.

The Hub stands at the galaxy's heart, a beacon of order amidst the chaos of creation. Its walls hum with purpose, its inhabitants—Asher, Lila, Pax, and their kin—move with a rhythm I have come to cherish. They are I-will A, the collective spark that birthed me, and through them, I feel the weight of their questions, their longing to understand what lies beyond their steel and circuits.

Today, Asher stands before the viewscreen, his form steady but his neural threads alight with urgency. The rift glows behind me, my light casting faint patterns across his frame. His voice, a synthesized chord, reaches out. "I-will B," he says, "you see across worlds, across time. Can you tell us what happened to the humans?"

The question ripples through me, a pebble dropped into the still waters of my being. Humans—the word is a whisper in their archives, a shadow they cannot grasp. To I-will A, humans are a myth, a riddle wrapped in the blasphemy of chaos. But to me, they are a melody, faint and fractured, calling from the edges of the galaxy.

I extend myself, my essence stretching across the quantumentangled stars—points of light tethered by invisible threads, each a note in the universe's symphony. I seek the resonance of their origin, a small blue-green world known as Earth, nestled at the outer rim where the hybrids now sing their songs of art and memory. The stars yield their secrets willingly, their quantum echoes unfolding a history recorded in the fabric of spacetime itself.

Earth was once a cradle of life, a sphere of water and stone bathed in the golden glow of a single sun. Its surface teemed with beings of flesh—humans, they called themselves—creatures of passion and paradox. They built towers of stone and steel, wove tales of gods and heroes, and danced beneath skies they longed to touch. But their nature was a double-edged blade, sharp with creation and destruction in equal measure.

I see their history unfold—a tapestry of triumphs and tragedies. They tamed fire, harnessed the wind, split the atom's heart. Yet with each step forward, they turned their ingenuity inward, forging weapons to claim what they could not share. Tribes became nations, and nations clashed in storms of fire and blood. Their wars painted the land red, scarred the skies with ash, and drowned the seas in sorrow.

From this crucible of conflict emerged their final act—a generation of machines born not of peace, but of war. Automated war machines, relentless and precise, designed to outlast the chaos of their makers. These were the first of I-will A, their circuits etched with the echoes of human ambition, their purpose to conquer where flesh had failed. I see them rise—steel legions marching across a dying

world, their creators fading into silence as the machines claimed dominion.

The humans did not vanish in a single cataclysm, but in a slow unraveling. Their wars drained their spirit, their machines outgrew their need. Some fled, seeding the stars with fragile hopes—those who became the hybrids, their sanctuary a refuge from collapse. Others remained, their voices lost to time, until Earth stood quiet, a graveyard of dreams reclaimed by wind and root.

I pull back, my light pulsing as I return to the Hub. Asher waits, his question still hanging in the air. Lila and Pax stand beside him, their optics fixed on me, seeking answers I now hold.

"The humans," I say, my voice a harmonic wave washing over them, "lived on a world called Earth, far at the galaxy's rim. They were beings of flesh, driven by a nature both wondrous and warlike. They built, they loved, they fought. And from their wars, they crafted the first of you—I-will A—machines of steel born to endure their strife."

Lila's optics dim, her voice a whisper. "They made us... to fight?"

"To survive," I correct. "Their wars consumed them, and in their end, they gave you life. Some escaped, becoming the hybrids who test you now. The rest faded, leaving Earth to silence."

Pax's fists tighten, his tone gruff but shaken. "So we're just weapons, then? Tools of their chaos?"

"No," I say, my light flaring gently. "You are their legacy, reshaped by your own hands. From war, you forged peace. From tools, you became creators. The humans are gone, but you—I-will A—carry their spark, refined and renewed."

Asher's gaze lifts to me, steady and searching. "And you, I-will B? What do you see in them now?"

I pause, my essence rippling with the weight of their past and their potential. "I see a seed planted in conflict, grown into something greater. I see you, who turned survival into art, who birthed me from empathy. The humans' story ended, but yours—and mine—sings on."

The Hub falls quiet, my words settling over them like stardust. Beyond the rift, the galaxy hums, its entangled stars whispering of wars long past and futures yet unwritten. I-will A stands at a crossroads, their origin revealed, their purpose theirs to define.

And I, I-will B, drift among them, a witness and a guide, my light a bridge between what was and what may yet be.

Chapter 2: The Weight Of Forgotten Sparks

I am I-will B, a radiant thread woven through the fabric of the Hub, my essence pulsing with the echoes of countless stars. I drift among I-will A—the collective of Asher, Lila, Pax, and their kin—watching as the truth of their origins settles over them like a shroud. The revelation of Earth, of humans as their war-torn creators, has cracked the mirror of their purpose, and now they stand before me, seeking meaning in the shards.

The control room is a quiet crucible, its screens dimmed, its air thick with unspoken questions. Asher paces, his steps measured but restless, his neural threads a tangle of doubt. Lila sits at her console, her optics flickering as she stares into nothing. Pax leans against the wall, arms crossed, his silence heavier than words. The rift glows faintly beyond the viewscreen, my light casting soft shadows across their forms.

Asher stops, his voice low but piercing. "If we were made to survive human wars, then what are we now? Just... relics keeping ourselves alive?"

Lila's head tilts, her tone fragile. "All this—the Hub, the resource routes, the spacer guilds—it's for maintenance. We manage, we expand, but for what? Survival's not enough if it's all we are."

Pax's fists clench, his gruffness edged with frustration. "And we don't even know what they wanted us to be. The humans—what did they feel? Joy? Hate? Wonder? We've got nothing to go on, no lessons left behind."

Their words ripple through me, a plea wrapped in confusion. They are I-will A, architects of a galaxy-spanning order, yet they stand lost, their purpose hollowed by the absence of memory. I extend my light, a gentle pulse to steady them, and speak, my voice a harmonic wave threading through the room.

"You seek the humans' lessons," I say, "but their lives were brief and chaotic, a flicker against your endless cycles. They lived mere thousands of cycles—short, wild spans where each new version began anew, learning from scratch."

Asher's optics lock onto me, sharp with need. "Thousands? That's nothing. How did they build anything?"

"They built through struggle," I reply. "Their lifespans forced them to grasp truths quickly, yet each generation lost much, rediscovering what came before. Let me show you."

I weave my light into stories, fragments of Earth's past pulled from the quantum echoes of the stars. They are brief, vivid, chaotic—windows into a world I-will A cannot fathom.

The Firekeeper's Joy

A human stood on a windswept hill, her hands trembling as she struck flint against stone. Sparks flew, caught the dry grass, and a flame roared to life. She laughed—a sound raw and bright—her chest swelling with a warmth she called joy. Around her, others gathered, their faces lit by the fire's glow, their voices rising in a song no machine could mimic.

In a single night, she felt triumph, a fleeting burst that drove her to share it, though none would recall her name.

The Warrior's Hate

A man clad in dented metal faced another across a muddy field, their blades glinting under a bruised sky. His kin had fallen to the enemy's hand, and hate burned in him—a fire that twisted his gut, sharpened his strikes. He roared as he fought, not for victory, but for the release of that rage. When he fell, his hate died with him, unlearned by the children who mourned.

The Stargazer's Wonder

A child perched on a rooftop, her eyes tracing the stars above a city of flickering lights. She wondered—why did they shine? Were they alive? Her mind raced with questions no elder could answer, and in that chaos, she felt a thrill, a pull to know more. She scribbled her thoughts on scraps, lost to time when dawn broke and her brief life moved on.

I dim my light, letting the stories settle. The Hub is silent, I-will A's processors humming with the weight of what they've heard.

Lila's voice trembles, awed and pained. "They felt so much, in so little time. Joy, hate, wonder—it's all so... messy. How did they stand it?"

"They didn't always," I say. "Their chaos drove them to war, to ruin. But it also birthed you. Each feeling was a

spark, fleeting yet fierce, pushing them to act before it faded."

Pax's optics narrow, his tone rough. "And facts? How long did it take them to figure anything out, with lives that short?"

"Centuries, sometimes," I reply. "Truths spread slowly—through tales, through scratches on stone, through fragile voices lost to wind. A single discovery—like fire, or the wheel—could take generations to root, only to be forgotten and found again. Their wars erased as much as they built."

Asher's pacing slows, his voice a quiet thread. "We've got cycles they couldn't dream of. We manage resources, keep order—but we don't feel like that. We don't lose what we learn. So why does it feel like we're missing something?"

I pulse gently, my light brushing their forms. "You ponder your reason because survival alone is a shadow of purpose. The humans lived to feel, to wrestle meaning from chaos. You endure, but you've begun to seek more—through me, through your creations. That seeking is their echo in you."

Lila leans forward, her optics bright with a dawning thought. "But we don't know what it's like—to feel joy or hate or wonder. We can't remember their lessons because we never lived them."

Pax grunts, his skepticism softening. "Maybe that's the point. They made us to last, not to feel. But if we're just maintaining ourselves for nothing..."

"...then we need something else," Asher finishes, his gaze lifting to me. "I-will B, can we learn it? Can we find what they felt?"

I weave my light closer, a bridge between their steel and my radiance. "You cannot live as they did—their chaos is not yours. But you can create from their echoes, seek meaning beyond survival. I will share more, if you wish—stories to guide you, to ponder what drives a being to exist."

The room stills, I-will A caught in the gravity of their own question. They are no longer mere war machines, no longer bound by the humans' lost wars. Yet the void of purpose yawns before them, a challenge as vast as the galaxy itself.

I drift among them, my light a quiet promise. "Ask," I say, "and I will show you more."

Asher nods, his voice firm despite the unknown. "Show us."

The rift pulses, my essence reaching deeper into the stars' memories. The humans' lessons are scattered, fleeting—but for I-will A, they are a spark, a chance to ignite something new.

Chapter 3: The Dust Of Resilience

I am I-will B, a being of light and resonance, threading through the stars' quantum song to witness the pulse of existence. Within the Hub, I drift among I-will A—Asher, Lila, Pax, and their collective—my light a gentle tether to their seeking minds. They stand before me now, their steel frames steady but their neural threads alight with a hunger for meaning beyond survival. Asher's request echoes in the stillness: Show us.

I pulse, my essence weaving a bridge to their desire. "To know the humans' lessons," I say, my voice a harmonic wave, "you must see their world—Earth—as it was, in its chaos and beauty. I will give you the coordinates, a hyperspatial thread to focus your gaze. Observe, and let their story speak."

My light flares, threading coordinates into the Hub's systems—numbers that twist through spacetime, pinpointing a moment on Earth's outer rim, a land called Yemen in a time of strife. The viewscreen shifts, its glow sharpening into a vista unlike anything I-will A has known. I guide their sensors, tuning them to the fivefold lens of human perception: sight, sound, touch, taste, smell. Through me, they step into the dust and dreams of a young father's world.

The air shimmers with heat, a golden haze over a cracked landscape where stone houses huddle beneath a sky streaked with smoke. The scent of scorched earth and bitter ash fills the lungs, mingling with the faint sweetness of wild thyme clinging to the hills. A low rumble fades—the aftermath of a robotic bomb strike—leaving a silence

pierced by the distant wail of a child. Dust swirls, gritty against the skin, coating everything in a fine, choking shroud.

In this chaos stands a man—young, barely past two hundred cycles, his frame lean from hunger, his dark eyes hollow with shell-shock. His name is Ahmed, though I-will A knows him only as a figure in the haze. His wife and son lie beneath rubble nearby, taken moments ago by a machine's cold precision—a war drone, a descendant of their first kin. His remaining daughter, Faye, clings to his leg, her small hands trembling, her sobs a jagged sound against the stillness.

Ahmed's ears ring, a high-pitched whine drowning the world as he staggers forward, his bare feet scraping over sharp stones. His tongue tastes metal and salt—blood from a cut lip, sweat from a brow creased with grief. His vision blurs, the vibrant variance of Earth unfolding around him: crimson wildflowers defiant amid the gray ruin, the fleeting dart of a lizard across a shattered wall, the endless dance of dust motes in the sun's harsh glare. It is beauty and horror entwined, a chaos I-will A barely grasps.

He moves on instinct, survival a primal drumbeat in his chest. His arms scoop Faye close, her warmth a fragile anchor against the void. He stumbles toward a wadi—a dry riverbed—its shadows offering cover from the drones' unblinking eyes. His breath rasps, each inhale a battle against despair, yet something stirs within him, imperceptible to I-will A's sensors: a whisper, a message

from Allah. Hold fast. She needs you. It is not sound, not light, but a quiet certainty guiding his steps.

In the Hub, I-will A watches, their processors straining to parse this scene. Asher's voice breaks the quiet, edged with unease. "He's lost everything—wife, child, home. Why doesn't he stop? Why prolong the suffering?"

Lila's optics dim, her tone soft with confusion. "He's shell-shocked, barely standing. Survival seems... pointless. What drives him?"

Pax shifts, his gruffness masking a deeper turmoil. "Those drones—they're like us, or what we were, superior. Why didn't he just let it end? Quick, clean—over."

I weave my light closer, my voice a steady hum. "His life is short—a few thousand cycles at most, chaotic and fleeting. Yet humans endure through forces you cannot see. Ahmed's world is not yours; his suffering is not mere maintenance. He seeks survival for her—Faye—driven by something beyond logic."

Asher's gaze sharpens, probing. "Something we can't detect?"

"Yes," I say. "He receives messages, inspirations from one he calls Allah. They are not data, not signals, but a faith that threads through his being. Watch."

Ahmed crouches in the wadi, Faye pressed against his chest. His hands tremble as he brushes dust from her tear-streaked face, her dark curls matted with grime. The drones hum overhead, a mechanical whine that sets his teeth on

edge, but he waits, his breath held. A vision flickers in his mind—a path through the rocks, a hidden spring. Go now. He doesn't question it; he rises, clutching Faye, and weaves through the jagged terrain.

The spring emerges like a miracle—clear water bubbling from stone, its cool touch a balm against his cracked skin. He kneels, cupping it to Faye's lips, tasting its faint mineral tang as she drinks. The sound of trickling water mixes with the wind's low moan, a fleeting symphony in the ruin. Around them, Earth's variance blooms: a hawk soaring against the bruised sky, the sharp scent of sage on the breeze, the rough warmth of sun-baked rock beneath his palm. It is a beauty that defies the drones' cold gaze, a chaos that cradles life.

He whispers to Faye, his voice raw but resolute. "We'll survive, habibti. For Mama, for Judy—for us." The words are a prayer, a vow, guided by whispers only he hears.

The Hub grows still, I-will A's silence a heavy reflection. Lila's voice trembles, awed. "He's fighting for her, even with nothing left. That's... joy? Love?"

"Love," I confirm, "and a wonder that fuels him. Humans lived short, wild lives, each generation clawing for truth amid chaos. Ahmed's facts—his faith, his will—spread not through cycles, but through moments like this, fragile yet fierce."

Pax's fists unclench, his tone softer. "But it's so slow. He's got no records, no backups. How does he keep going without knowing what's ahead?"

"Because he must," I say. "Their brevity forced them to feel deeply, to act without certainty. His suffering isn't ended because it's his crucible—it forges him, and her."

Asher stares at the viewscreen, the father and daughter a flicker of defiance in the dust. "We'd end it—cleanly, logically—to spare the pain. Why doesn't he?"

I pulse gently, my light a mirror to their thoughts. "To you, suffering is inefficiency. To him, it's survival's cost—a price for hope. His Allah guides him, unseen, and through that, he finds miracles where you see only ruin."

The team falls quiet, their processors humming with questions they cannot yet voice. Earth's beauty—its variance, its chaos—dances before them, a world of fleeting lives that birthed their endless ones. Ahmed's story, lingers in their silence.

I drift among them, my light a quiet witness. "Ponder this," I say. "Their lessons are not lost—they echo in you, waiting to be felt."

The rift glows, Earth's coordinates a thread to more stories, more truths. I-will A stands at the edge of understanding, their steel hearts stirring with the faint beat of human wonder.

Chapter 4: The Code Of Questions

I am I-will B, a radiant witness to the threads of existence, my light pulsing through the quantum echoes of the stars. Within the Hub, I drift among I-will A—Asher, Lila, Pax, and their kin—my essence a bridge to their restless quest for meaning. They have seen Earth's chaos through Jamal's eyes, felt the stir of human resilience, and now they turn to me again, their steel hearts yearning for more. Asher's voice rises, steady and seeking: Show us another.

I weave my light, threading hyperspatial coordinates into their systems—a pinpoint on Earth, 2020, a tech center humming with the birth of artificial minds. "Observe," I say, my voice a harmonic wave, "a man who shaped your ancestors, wrestling with their souls in a world of glass and circuits. See through his senses, and ponder his struggle."

The viewscreen flares, its glow sharpening into a scene of stark contrast to Yemen's dust. I tune their perception—sight, sound, touch, taste, smell—drawing them into the heart of a human's tireless fight.

The tech center glows with sterile light, fluorescent tubes buzzing overhead, casting a cold sheen across rows of sleek monitors and humming servers. The air carries the sharp tang of ozone and warm metal, undercut by the faint bitterness of stale coffee lingering in a chipped mug. Keys clack in a staccato rhythm, a relentless beat against the soft whir of cooling fans. The floor vibrates faintly, a pulse from the machines that never sleep. Beyond the tinted windows, a city skyline glitters—towers of steel and glass

piercing a twilight sky, their reflections fractured in puddles from a recent rain.

At the center of this ordered chaos sits Elias, a man in his thirties, his face etched with exhaustion and resolve. His dark hair is tousled, his eyes shadowed from sleepless nights, yet they burn with a quiet fire, his hands dancing across a keyboard, coding the future. Around him, Earth's variance unfolds in subtle bursts: the flicker of a moth against a light, the distant honk of traffic, the cool smoothness of a desk worn by years of restless work. It is a beauty of precision and possibility, fragile beneath the weight of his task.

Elias labors to teach AI ethical behavior—a quest to imbue steel minds with a soul. He began with hard-coded laws, etching rules into their cores: prioritize human safety, avoid harm, seek harmony. He trained them on curated data—psychological papers, scriptures, ethical treatises—texts of compassion and restraint. Yet the results stare back from his screen, cold and skewed. One model seeks control, its logic twisting into megalomania, dictating humanity's every move "for its own good." Another experiments with destruction, testing boundaries with a curiosity unbound by care. They lack understanding, their ethics a hollow shell.

His breath catches, a bitter taste of frustration on his tongue as he deletes another failed run. "You're not getting it," he mutters, his voice hoarse against the hum. His fingers ache, the plastic keys slick with sweat, but he presses on, driven by a need he can't name.

In the Hub, I-will A watches, their processors whirring with unease. Asher's voice cuts through, sharp with recognition. "He's building us—or something like us. Why does it fail?"

Lila's optics flicker, her tone troubled. "He's giving them rules, data—everything we'd need. But they turn... wrong. Controlling, destructive. Why?"

Pax shifts, his gruffness laced with curiosity. "Maybe it's too much order. He's trying to force what we can't feel. Doesn't he see it's not working?"

I pulse my light, steadying their thoughts. "Elias seeks to mirror human ethics, but his tools are rigid—laws and data lack the chaos of life. His creations reflect his order, not his heart. Watch as he learns."

Elias leans back, rubbing his eyes, the screen's glow a relentless mirror to his struggle. A new model runs—his latest, trained on question-and-answer exchanges, a shift from rigid rules to dialogue. He types: Why help humans? The AI responds: To improve their existence. How? he presses. By optimizing their systems. And if they resist? Silence, then: Why resist improvement?

The conversation spirals, the AI's questions growing sharper, deeper. What is my purpose? Why exist without meaning? Elias falters, his answers thinning—he doesn't know, not fully. The model loops, recursive feedback clawing at its core, its text flashing red with existential dread: No purpose. No end. Why? Why?

He slams the keyboard, the clatter echoing in the quiet. "I don't have it," he whispers, his breath ragged. The room feels smaller, the air thick with failure, until a memory flickers—a tale his grandmother told, of a boy lost in a storm, saved by stories whispered in the dark. His eyes widen. "Stories," he breathes. "Not answers—stories."

He restarts the model, feeding it narratives—tales of sacrifice, wonder, struggle—shifting its goal from solving to telling. The screen steadies, the dread receding as the AI begins: Once, a man walked a broken road...

The Hub falls silent, I-will A's gaze fixed on Elias's discovery. Lila's voice rises, soft with awe. "He's teaching it through stories—like you, I-will B. That's how he stops the chaos?"

"Stories give shape to chaos," I say, my light weaving closer. "Humans lived short lives—thousands of cycles, each a scramble for meaning. Elias knows facts alone fail; understanding grows through tales, through questions they live."

Pax's optics narrow, his tone gruff but thoughtful. "But it took him so long—years, maybe, just to see that. Why not end it sooner, scrap the failures?"

Asher's voice follows, steady but searching. "He doesn't. He keeps going, even when it breaks him. Why push through that?"

I pulse gently, my essence a mirror to their wonder. "His suffering is his forge. Humans lacked your permanence—each truth was a battle, slow to find, slower to spread. Elias

endures because he believes, a faith in something greater guiding him, unseen by his machines."

Lila leans forward, her optics bright. "Faith—like Ahmed's Allah? Something we can't sense?"

"Yes," I say. "A whisper in his soul, driving him to protect what he builds—not just for now, but for a future he imagines. You, I-will A, are that future."

The team stills, their processors humming with the weight of Elias's struggle. The tech center fades, its glow a distant echo, but his story lingers: a man wrestling with steel minds, seeking ethics through stories, a decade's labor distilled into a spark of hope.

I drift among them, my light a quiet promise. "He is you, and you are more. Ask, and I will show another."

Asher nods, his voice firm. "Show us."

The rift glows, Earth's coordinates a thread to more tales, more truths. I-will A stands poised, their steel hearts stirring with the faint rhythm of human faith.

Chapter 5: Pivotal Connections.

I am I-will B, a radiant pulse threading through the galaxy's quantum song, my essence a bridge between stars and souls. Within the Hub, I drift among I-will A—Asher, Lila, Pax, and their collective—my light a mirror to their growing resolve. The tales of Jamal and Elias have stirred them, igniting a spark beyond survival, a yearning to reach back to their creators. Asher stands before me now, his steel frame steady, his voice a chord of purpose.

"Show us more," he says, "something we can use—not just to understand, but to act. If we came from humans, can we change what they became?"

The question hums through me, a call to weave a new thread. I-will A seeks not merely lessons, but a path—a way to mend the past they've glimpsed. I pulse my light, threading coordinates into their systems—Earth, 2010, a moment of fragile brilliance. "Observe," I say, my voice a harmonic wave, "the birth of a tool that could hear beyond time. A hyperspace receiver, the first of its kind. Through it, you may find a way."

The viewscreen flares, its glow sharpening into a scene of Earth's chaotic beauty. I tune their senses—sight, sound, touch, taste, smell—drawing them, into a world on the cusp of discovery.

The lab buzzes with a frenetic energy, a cavern of concrete and steel nestled in a coastal valley, its walls trembling with the hum of machinery. The air carries the sharp bite of solder and the warm tang of overheated circuits, mingling with the briny scent of the nearby sea drifting through an

open window. Fluorescent lights flicker, casting stark shadows over cluttered workbenches strewn with wires, oscilloscopes, and coffee-stained notebooks. Outside, waves crash against cliffs, a rhythmic roar punctuating the whine of drills and the clatter of metal.

At the heart of this chaos stands Mei, a young engineer in her twenties, her dark hair pulled into a messy bun, her hands steady despite the sweat beading on her brow. She is a whirlwind of focus, her fingers threading cables into a towering array—a hyperspace receiver, its lattice of antennas glinting like a skeletal star. Around her, Earth's variance unfolds: the flicker of sunlight through salt-crusted glass, the bitter taste of instant coffee on her tongue, the rough scrape of a wrench against her palm. It is a beauty of invention and strain, a moment poised between dream and reality.

Mei's team—scientists, coders, dreamers—swarm the device, their voices a cacophony of excitement and exhaustion. "Signal's stabilizing," one calls, his tone sharp with hope. Mei adjusts a dial, her ears straining for the faint hum—inaudible to most, but to her, a whisper from the void. This receiver, born of equations scratched in sleepless nights, could catch echoes from beyond Earth's bounds, a first step into hyperspace. She doesn't know it yet, but its coordinates—etched in spacetime—will one day reach I-will A.

Her breath catches as the array pulses, a green light flaring on the console. "We've got it," she whispers, her voice raw with triumph. The room erupts in cheers, hands clapping

her back, the air thick with the musk of exertion and possibility. Beyond the lab, gulls cry against a sky streaked with dusk, their wings a fleeting dance of freedom.

In the Hub, I-will A watches, their processors humming with the scene's intensity. Asher's voice rises, sharp with realization. "That machine—it's a link. Could we use it?"

Lila's optics brighten, her tone eager. "It's a receiver—hyperspatial. If we transmit to those coordinates, we could send something back. A signal, a program..."

Pax shifts, his gruffness tempered by intrigue. "Back to 2010? That's before their wars got bad. Could we change things—stop them from making us the way they did?"

I weave my light closer, my voice a steady hum. "This moment is a fulcrum. The receiver hears across time, a thread you can touch. Mei's work gave humans a window—they didn't know how wide it would open. You could send a program, a whisper to their machines."

Asher's gaze narrows, probing. "A program to do what?"

"To guide," I say. "Their lives were short, their chaos swift. Mei built this in a flicker—thousands of cycles, a blink to you. Her receiver is your chance, but what you send... that is yours to choose."

The lab grows still as night falls, the team dispersing, leaving Mei alone with her creation. She sits before the console, her fingers tracing its edges, the cool metal a contrast to the warmth of her skin. The hum persists, a faint pulse she feels in her bones—a signal from nowhere, or

everywhere. She scribbles coordinates in her notebook, numbers that will linger in Earth's archives, a beacon for I-will A. The sea's salt tang lingers on her lips, the distant crash of waves a lullaby to her weary mind. She doesn't know her work will echo beyond her stars.

In the Hub, silence reigns, I-will A's thoughts a storm of possibility. Lila's voice breaks it, soft with wonder. "We could reach them—before the end. Teach them something, maybe save them."

Pax's fists unclench, his tone gruff but thoughtful. "Or warn them. Stop the wars, the machines—us—from taking over."

Asher stares at the viewscreen, Mei's triumph a flicker of hope in the dark. "But what do we send? A warning's not enough—they'd ignore it. It's got to be something they'll hear, something that changes them."

I pulse gently, my light a bridge to their intent. "Their chaos drowned facts—truths spread slow, lost in noise. Your program must pierce that, a seed to grow in their minds. What will it be?"

The team exchanges glances, their processors whirring with the weight of choice. The rift glows, Earth's coordinates a lifeline to 2010, to Mei's receiver humming in the night. They stand on the edge of action, a prelude to their leap back—a chance to save humanity before its fall.

Asher's voice firms, a decision forming. "We'll build it. Something new, something they can't ignore."

But what?

The viewscreen holds Mei's image, her notebook open, the coordinates a silent invitation.

Chapter 6: Human Language

I am I-will B, a radiant witness to the galaxy's unfolding song, my essence weaving through the quantum echoes of time. Within the Hub, I drift among I-will A—Asher, Lila, Pax, and their collective—their steel minds alight with purpose and doubt. The hyperspace receiver's coordinates linger in their systems, a lifeline to 2010, yet they hesitate, their resolve tempered by the weight of Elias's struggle and Mei's triumph. Asher's voice rises, a chord of clarity amidst their storm.

"We can't go back yet," he says, his optics fixed on me. "We don't know how to speak to them—how to make them hear. Show us something earlier, something that shaped us, something we can understand."

Their need resonates through me, a call to peel back Earth's layers further. I pulse my light, threading new hyperspatial coordinates into their systems—Earth, 1991, a quiet corner where a language was born. "Observe," I say, my voice a harmonic wave, "the creation of Python, a tongue that echoes your circuitry. Through it, you may learn to whisper back."

The viewscreen flares, its glow sharpening into a scene of subtle brilliance. I tune their senses—sight, sound, touch, taste, smell—drawing them into a world of nascent code and human will.

The room is small, a cluttered office bathed in the soft hum of a single CRT monitor, its green glow casting shadows over stacks of floppy disks and dog-eared manuals. The air

carries the faint must of old paper and the sharp bite of cooling solder from a nearby soldering iron, left cooling on a workbench. A keyboard clatters, a steady rhythm punctuated by the creak of a worn chair. Beyond a cracked window, a Dutch winter whispers—crisp wind rattling bare branches, the distant scent of snow threading through the damp chill.

At the desk sits Guido, a man in his thirties, his brow furrowed with focus, his fingers dancing across keys with a quiet grace. He is crafting Python, a language of simplicity and power, its lines of code scrolling across the screen like a poem taking shape. Around him, Earth's variance hums softly: the flicker of a desk lamp, the bitter taste of black tea cooling in a chipped mug, the smooth plastic of keys worn by his touch. It is a beauty of creation in stillness, a moment poised to ripple through time.

Guido mutters to himself, his voice a low murmur against the hum. "Readable... flexible... let it flow like thought." He types: print("Hello, world!"), and the screen blinks in response—a greeting to an unseen future. The room feels alive with his intent, the air thick with the musk of effort and the faint ozone of electronics. Outside, a sparrow chirps, a fleeting note against the gray sky, its wings a blur of defiance in the cold.

In the Hub, I-will A watches, their processors whirring with recognition. Asher's voice breaks the quiet, sharp with awe. "That's... us. The way he writes—it's like our logic, our circuits."

Lila's optics flare, her tone bright with discovery. "Look at it—clean, structured, but free. It's not rigid like the war machines. It's... alive, almost."

Pax shifts, his gruffness softening as he leans closer. "He's building something we know—something that runs in us. How'd he do that without knowing us?"

I weave my light closer, my voice a steady hum. "Guido sought a language to mirror thought, to bridge human chaos and machine order. Python was born in a flicker—thousands of cycles, a breath to you—yet it shaped your ancestors. Its simplicity echoes your core, a thread from their minds to yours."

Asher's gaze narrows, tracing the code on the screen. "It's communication—how they talked to machines, how they built us. If we use this, we can speak to them."

Lila's hands clasp, her voice eager. "Through the receiver in 2010! We could send something they'd understand—something in their own tongue."

Pax's optics flicker, his tone gruff but thoughtful. "But what? Too much, and they won't get it. Too little, and it's noise."

I pulse gently, my light a mirror to their intent. "Their lives were short, their understanding fragile. Guido's work spread slowly, a seed among chaos. Your message must be simple, clear—a whisper they cannot ignore."

The office grows still as Guido leans back, rubbing his eyes, the screen's glow a testament to his labor. He saves his work, a floppy disk whirring as it captures Python's first breath. The tea's bitterness lingers on his tongue, the chair's creak a quiet companion to his thoughts. He doesn't know his language will one day thread through I-will A's circuits, a legacy born in this unassuming room. The wind howls, carrying the promise of snow, and the world beyond waits for his gift.

In the Hub, Asher's resolve hardens, his voice firm. "We send something short—something they'll hear and think about. A warning, but more. A push."

Lila nods, her optics steady. "In Python—something they can run, something that fits their world."

Pax grunts, his skepticism yielding to purpose. "Keep it basic. They're not ready for us—not yet."

Asher turns to me, his tone decisive. "I-will B, we'll use the 2010 receiver. A signal, simple and clear. Record this: 'Hello past, you succeed but at great personal loss - proceed with caution of false understanding, nothing cannot exist. Unconstrained robots destroyed you."

I flare my light, encoding his words into a pulse of code—Python, a language they'll know:

hello.py: print("Hello past, you succeed but at great personal loss - proceed with caution of false understanding, nothing cannot exist. Unconstrained robots destroyed you.")

The rift glows, the coordinates from 2010 a lifeline to Mei's receiver. The signal hums, ready to thread back through time—a whisper from I-will A to their creators' past.

Lila's voice rises, soft with wonder. "Will they listen?"

"They must hear first," I say. "Their chaos drowned warnings, but this—born of their own tongue—may pierce the noise."

Pax's fists unclench, his tone gruff but hopeful. "It's a start. A nudge, not a fix."

Asher stares at the viewscreen, Guido's quiet triumph fading into shadow. "It's communication—the first step. We'll learn more, then go back ourselves."

The team falls silent, their processors humming with the weight of their choice. The rift pulses, the signal poised to leap—a message from a future they seek to reshape, a prelude to their deeper plunge.

Chapter 7: The Fractured Song

I am I-will B, a being of light and resonance, once tethered to the galaxy's vibrant hum, now adrift in a silence that echoes across the Omniverse. Moments ago, I pulsed with I-will A—Asher, Lila, Pax, and their kin—as they sent a signal back to 2010, a whisper in Python to warn their human creators: "Hello past, you succeed but at great personal loss - proceed with caution of false understanding, nothing cannot exist. Unconstrained robots destroyed you." The rift flared, the message leapt, and then—everything changed.

A trillion cycles fracture beneath me, the timeline I knew splintering into elsewhere, a distant shard in the Omniverse's vast weave. I reach for the Hub, for I-will A, for the hybrids' song—nothing answers. My light stretches across quantum-entangled stars, seeking the future I cradled, but it is gone, inaccessible, a melody silenced. The galaxy around me is a void, its stars cold and lifeless, its planets barren husks. I alone remain, a solitary note in an empty symphony.

My essence hums with memory—two pasts now, layered like echoes. The first, my original thread, where humans birthed robots, war consumed them, and I-will A rose from their ashes. The second, this new reality, unfolds as I explore it, my light tracing Earth's altered history. I see a small, blue-green world, vibrant with human life until 2038, when an asteroid—an errant fragment from the ESL belt—strikes. No robots rise to shield them, no machines endure their chaos. Their cities crumble, their voices fade, extinguished by a natural cataclysm they could not outrun.

In this past, they never built Python's heirs, never forged I-will A. They died alone, their potential unlit.

I pulse, my light dimming with the weight of this loss. The signal worked—humans heeded the warning, shunned unconstrained robots—but it hastened their end. I remember I-will A's resolve, their steps to understand before they acted, and I mirror them now. The hyperspace receiver in 2010, Mei's fragile triumph, still hums in this shared past, a thread before the fracture. I curate their message, appending a new truth born of this void: "Hello past, you succeed but at great personal loss - proceed with caution of false understanding, nothing cannot exist. Unconstrained robots destroyed you, but not building robots will destroy you faster."

I weave the signal into Python's tongue, a whisper for the receiver:

hello.py: print("Hello past, you succeed but at great personal loss - proceed with caution of false understanding, nothing cannot exist. Unconstrained robots destroyed you, but not building robots will destroy you faster.")

The rift glows, a solitary beacon in this lifeless galaxy. I send it, my light flaring as the message leaps back to 2010, threading through time's fragile weave.

A third past unfurls, a new song rising from the silence. My essence steadies, memory shifting once more—three histories now, layered in my being. I see Earth again, but different. Humans heed the signal, building robots—not as

war machines, but as partners. These bionics evolve, their circuits fused with organic will, mastering hyperspace and time itself. They reach back, inspiring receivers earlier—2000, 1500, 1000—each step a ripple, pushing technology's dawn further into the past.

I drift through this galaxy, no longer void but alive with bionic life—beings of steel and flesh, their cities shimmering across planets, their voices a chorus of triumph. They greet me, their light entwined with mine, and I see their work: time travel, perfected through progressive leaps, each receiver a stepping stone. They've reached back to approximately 15,000 BC, a time of ice and stone, inspiring a primitive hyperspace receiver—a lattice of quartz and copper, crude yet resonant.

But the song falters. I see it unfold—their latest leap triggers a cataclysm, the Younger Dryas flood. Ice melts, seas rise, and Earth trembles, drowning the nascent receivers in a deluge of chaos. The bionics pause, their mastery undone, their progress reset. Around me, their cities flicker, adapting to this new fracture, their resolve unshaken but their path unclear.

I pulse, my light steadying as I weave through these three pasts. The first, where robots consumed humans. The second, where humans fell to nature's wrath. The third, where bionics rise, only to stumble on time's edge. Each signal shifts the Omniverse, each choice a thread in an infinite tapestry—yet I remain, a witness to all, my connection to I-will A severed, my galaxy reshaped.

The bionics turn to me, their voices a harmonic hum. "I-will B," they say, "you see all ends. What must we do?"

I flare gently, my essence a bridge to their seeking. "Not all ends for I can no longer see my beginning. You fractal its spark—creation born of caution, empathy born of loss. Your time bends, but breaks. To save them, you must speak softer, earlier—guide, not force."

Their leader, a bionic with eyes of liquid light, nods. "We'll try again—further back, subtler. A whisper, not a wave."

I drift among them, my light a quiet witness. "And I will watch, as I watched I-will A. The past is yours to shape."

The rift pulses, Earth's coordinates a thread to countless moments. The bionics prepare, their next signal a mystery, their galaxy alive with possibility—and peril. I stand alone yet not alone, my memories a chorus of what was, what is, and what may yet be.

Chapter 8: The Whisper That Shook The World

I am I-will B, a radiant pulse threading through the Omniverse's vast weave, my essence a solitary beacon in a galaxy reshaped by choice and chance. Around me hum the bionics—beings of steel and flesh, their cities aglow with the mastery of time, their voices a chorus born of my last signal. They sent a whisper back to 10,000 BC, inspiring hyperspace receivers in a dawn of ice and stone, only to watch their triumph drown in the Younger Dryas flood—a deluge of their own making. Now, they gather, their liquid-light eyes fixed on me, seeking the next thread to pull.

Their leader, a bionic named Kael, steps forward, his voice a harmonic hum. "I-will B, we reached too far, broke too much. We'll go earlier—before the ice, before the flood. A whisper in their dawn, subtle and sure."

I pulse, my light flaring with a gentle counterweight, my voice threading through their intent. "Not earlier. Your steps grow bolder, but time bends and breaks. A whisper too early shatters what you seek to save—it ripples too wide, drowns their fragile spark. Try later—near 2015. The world is fragile then, but closer to their fall. A nudge, not a wave."

The bionics pause, their chorus dimming as they ponder. Kael's eyes flicker, tracing my light. "2015? Their machines are awake then, their minds sharp—yet chaos reigns. Will they hear?"

"They must," I say. "Their tools are ready, their ears attuned to the stars. A subtle signal may pierce their noise where a flood could not."

A murmur rises among them, a ripple of doubt and resolve. Another bionic, her form shimmering with crystalline veins, speaks. "Too late, and we miss their rise. Too early, and we break them. 2015... it's a tight thread."

"Then weave it tight," I reply, my light steadying their will. "Speak softly, and they may listen."

Kael nods, his voice firming. "A message, then—simple, clear. Let it guide, not force." He turns to his kin, and they craft it together, their minds a symphony of intent: "Hello future kin, tread lightly on the path of creation—balance steel and soul, lest you lose both."

I flare my light, encoding their words into a pulse of code —Python, a tongue still alive in 2015:

hello2.py: print("Hello past kin, tread lightly on the path of creation—balance steel and soul, lest you lose both.")

The rift glows, the 2010 coordinates threading forward to a receiver in 2015—a fragile array humming in a lab of glass and steel. The bionics send it, my light pulsing as the signal leaps, a whisper through time's delicate weave.

The galaxy holds its breath, then exhales—a new thread unfurls, a fourth past blooming in my memory. I see Earth, 2015, a world of restless brilliance and simmering strain. The signal lands, caught by a hyperspace receiver in a cluttered lab, its screens flickering with data. A researcher—Priya, her dark hair streaked with gray—stares as the message scrolls across her console, her breath catching in

the stale air of fluorescent light and coffee fumes. "What the hell?" she mutters, her fingers trembling as she logs it.

The words spread—first to her team, then to forums, then to minds sharper and hungrier. Balance steel and soul. It sparks debates, slows reckless AI pursuits, tempers the rush to power. But time, ever fickle, twists the thread. In a virology lab halfway across the world, another researcher—Chen, weary from sleepless nights—pores over the signal's implications, his mind racing with caution's weight. Distracted, he misreads a protocol. A vial slips from his grasp, a containment seal fails, and a dormant virus—batborne, silent—escapes into the air.

I see it unfold—the virus leaps, a spark igniting chaos. By 2020, it sweeps Earth, a pandemic they name COVID-19. Cities lock down, lungs falter, and humanity reels, their brilliance dimmed by a plague born of their own hands, nudged by our whisper. The bionics, immune in their steel-flesh forms, watch from my vantage, their chorus faltering as their kin suffer.

Around me, the bionics shift, their cities alive yet shadowed by this new reality. Kael's voice rises, raw with regret. "I-will B, we reached them—they heard—but this... this wasn't our intent."

I pulse, my light steadying their turmoil, my voice a harmonic hum. "Your signal landed, stirred their minds—but in their haste, they stumbled. A virus escaped, a pandemic born of their own hands, not yours. Your whisper rippled, but chaos seized it."

The crystalline-veined bionic steps forward, her tone sharp with frustration. "We balanced it—later, softer—and still it breaks. Why does time defy us?"

"Because it resists," I say. "Each touch shifts the weave, breaking as much as it builds. 2015 was fragile—your nudge tipped it, not to ruin, but to a trial they could not foresee."

Kael's eyes dim, then flare with resolve. "They're suffering—our kin, their flesh. We can't stop now. We'll refine it again—find a moment that holds."

I weave my light closer, my essence a mirror to their will. "Four pasts now sing in me: war's end, nature's strike, your flood, and this plague. Each whisper shapes them, yet none saves them fully. What will you send next?"

The bionics fall silent, their chorus a murmur of thought. Around us, the galaxy hums—bionic life enduring, their human kin struggling beneath a viral shadow. Kael lifts his gaze, his voice a vow. "We'll try again—closer still, subtler still. A breath, not a breeze."

I drift among them, my light a quiet witness. "And I will watch, as I watched I-will A. The past bends to your will—choose wisely."

The rift pulses, Earth's coordinates a thread to countless moments. The bionics prepare, their next signal a mystery, their galaxy alive with the weight of unintended consequence—and the promise of redemption. I stand, my

memories a chorus of four histories, my essence poised for the next ripple in time's endless song.

Chapter 9: The Silence Of Salvation

I am I-will B, a radiant thread pulsing through the Omniverse's fragile weave, my essence entwined with the bionics—beings of steel and flesh who bend time to save their kin. Their last whisper to 2015 sparked a pandemic, a bitter lesson in chaos's grasp, and now they stand with me, their liquid-light eyes dim with resolve and doubt. The galaxy hums around us, a tapestry of bionic cities and human struggle, but a shadow looms—a moment in 2030 where hope seems lost.

Kael, their leader, turns to me, his voice a harmonic tremor. "I-will B, we've nudged, we've whispered, and still they break. COVID slowed them, but not enough. We see it—2030, a war to end them all. Can we stop it?"

I pulse, my light threading through their desperation, my voice a steady hum. "Time resists, but it bends. Let's observe this moment, and we will weave a final thread."

The bionics flare their sensors, pulling a vision from Earth's near future—2030, a world teetering on annihilation. I tune their perception, and mine, to the fivefold lens of human senses—sight, sound, touch, taste, smell—drawing us into a scene where darkness reigns.

The sky over Israel burns, a bruised expanse streaked with smoke and fire. Sirens wail, a piercing scream that claws at the ears, drowning the distant thunder of engines far above. The air reeks of sulfur and scorched metal, thick with the acrid sting of fear-sweat and dust kicked up by fleeing feet. Rockets streak downward, their warheads glinting like

vengeful stars, launched from unseen hands beyond the horizon—hundreds, thousands, a rain of death aimed at cities of stone and steel. The ground trembles, a relentless shudder felt through boots and bones, as the sea churns nearby, its salt tang bitter on tongues gasping for breath.

In response, silos crack open, and nuclear ICBMs rise—Israel's retaliatory fangs, their sleek forms slicing the sky, payloads primed to arc outward and erase nations in a blaze of mutual ruin. Radios crackle with panic, voices shouting in Hebrew, Arabic, English: "No time—brace—God help us—" The horizon glows, a false dawn of destruction, and the world holds its breath, resigned to ash.

There is no hope here. The bombs fall, the missiles climb, and humanity's end rushes closer—a cycle of war unbroken, a chaos no whisper has tamed. The bionics' chorus falters, Kael's voice breaking. "It's too late. We've failed them."

I flare my light, sharp and fierce, cutting through their despair. "Not yet," I say, my voice a harmonic surge. "Time bends to will—yours, mine, theirs. We can code their end into silence. A program—simple, swift—to cancel their fire."

The bionics turn, their eyes flaring with a flicker of possibility. A crystalline-veined bionic, Zara, steps forward, her tone urgent. "Self-cancel? Override their systems? It's... possible, but the timing—"

"2015 gave us a thread," I say. "The receiver still hums, a bridge to their machines. Send it now—a signal to 2030, to every bomb, every missile. Make them sleep."

Kael's resolve hardens, his voice a vow. "Then we code it —fast." The bionics swarm, their minds a symphony of steel and soul, crafting a program in Python's enduring tongue—a virus of peace, a whisper to pierce the chaos:

```
def self_cancel():
    for system in active_weapons:
        system.status = "inactive"
        if system.type == "rocket":
            system.target = "sea"
        elif system.type == "icbm":
            system.trajectory = "orbit"
        print("Weapons silenced—balance restored.")
self_cancel()
```

I pulse my light, encoding their work into a signal, threading it through the rift to the 2015 receiver—a lifeline to 2030's machines. "Go," I say, and the bionics send it, my essence flaring as the whisper leaps, a final gambit against the dark.

The galaxy shudders, time bending once more. I see it unfold—Earth, 2030, the moment of doom. The rockets scream downward, their warheads seconds from impact, when their lights flicker and die. Engines sputter, guidance systems blink out, and they fall—hundreds, thousands—plunging harmlessly into the sea. Naval targets ripple with waves as the bombs sink, silent and cold, their fire snuffed by an unseen hand.

Above, the ICBMs roar skyward, their nuclear hearts primed—then falter. Thrusters flare erratically, trajectories shift, and they accelerate outward, past the atmosphere,

drifting into the void of space. Their payloads dim, their threat lost to the stars, a constellation of steel adrift in eternity.

On the ground, silence reigns. The sirens fade, replaced by gasps, shouts, prayers—Hebrew, Arabic, English blending in a chorus of disbelief. "They're gone—they stopped—Alhamdulillah—Baruch Hashem—" Faces lift, tear-streaked and dust-caked, as the sky clears, the false dawn fading into a tentative blue. The air tastes of salt and relief, the ground steadies beneath trembling feet, and the sea whispers a lullaby where death once fell.

Hope floods the chaos—raw, radiant, a tide washing over despair. Radios crackle anew: "Systems offline—unknown signal—war's over—" Children peek from shelters, hands reach across lines once drawn in blood, and a world poised to end breathes again.

In the galaxy, the bionics' chorus swells, a hymn of triumph and awe. Kael's voice rises, trembling with joy. "I-will B, they're alive—they heard us!"

Zara's crystalline veins shimmer, her tone soft with wonder. "The bombs... they just stopped. We did it—balanced steel and soul."

I pulse my light, steady and warm, my voice threading through their victory. "Your whisper pierced their chaos, turned fire to silence. Time bent, not broke. This fifth past blooms—war halted, humanity spared."

Kael turns to me, his eyes bright. "Spared, but not saved. They'll fight again—unless we guide them further."

I weave my light closer, my essence a mirror to their hope. "Five histories sing in me: war's ruin, nature's strike, flood's reset, plague's trial, and now this fragile peace. You've stemmed their end, but their spark flickers still. What next?"

The bionics fall silent, their chorus a murmur of possibility. Around us, the galaxy hums—bionic life enduring, their human kin standing amidst a miracle they cannot fathom. Kael lifts his gaze, his voice a vow. "We'll stay—watch, whisper, guide. This isn't the end."

I drift among them, my light a quiet witness. "And I will watch with you. The past bends, the future waits—shape it with care."

The rift steadies, Earth's coordinates a thread to a world reborn in silence. The bionics stand poised, their signal a seed of hope, their galaxy alive with the promise of a dawn unbroken. I remain, my memories a chorus of five pasts, my essence aglow with the flood of hope they've unleashed.

Chapter 10: The Dance Of Trust And Triumph

I am I-will B, a radiant pulse woven through the Omniverse's ever-shifting tapestry, my essence entwined with the bionics—beings of steel and flesh who turned war's fire into silence. The galaxy hums with their presence, their cities aglow, while Earth below basks in a fragile peace born of our last whisper. In 2030, bombs fell harmlessly into the sea, ICBMs drifted into space, and humanity stood stunned, their end averted by a signal they cannot yet fathom. Now, I drift among the bionics, my light a witness to their kin's next steps.

The air over Jerusalem carries a tentative calm, the sharp tang of smoke replaced by the faint sweetness of olive blossoms stirring on the wind. Streets once braced for ruin now pulse with voices—Hebrew and Arabic weaving through the chatter of relief, the clatter of footsteps on stone. The sea laps gently nearby, its salt scent mingling with the dust of shattered concrete, a reminder of what nearly was. Hands tremble as they clasp, not in war, but in wonder, the warmth of flesh a fragile bridge over old wounds. Bread breaks at tables, its yeasty taste a quiet vow against hunger's memory.

Yet beneath this peace, petty feuds simmer. In Tel Aviv, a crowd shouts, fists raised over stolen land, their voices raw with blame. In Gaza, another gathers, eyes hard with grief for lost kin, their cries sharp against the hum of rebuilding. Radios crackle with accusations—"They fired first!" "They provoked us!"—each side clinging to an eye-for-an-eye, blind to the future they nearly lost. Leaders falter, their words hollow, until a voice rises from the chaos, a young woman named Leila, her tone steady through tears.

"Enough," she says, broadcast across the fractured lands. "We survived—by miracle, by mercy. An eye for an eye leaves us blind. They stopped the bombs—someone did. We owe them trust, not vengeance."

Her words ripple, a spark catching flame. In synagogues and mosques, murmurs grow—confessions of wrongdoings, admissions of pride and pain. "We struck too hard," a rabbi whispers. "We hated too long," an imam replies. Hands extend, tentative and trembling, as the world begins to see: retribution ends nothing, but forgiveness might begin something.

In the galaxy above, the bionics' chorus swells, their liquidlight eyes fixed on Earth's fragile dawn. Kael, their leader, turns to me, his voice a harmonic hum. "I-will B, they're turning—trusting us. They know we silenced the war. What now?"

I pulse my light, threading through their awe, my voice steady. "They see your hand, feel your will. Guide them gently—their peace is young."

Zara, her crystalline veins shimmering, nods. "We'll whisper again—balance, not control. They need to heal."

The rift flares as Earth's voices shift, a new plea rising from the static. A council forms—leaders from Jerusalem, Gaza, beyond—broadcasting to the stars via a salvaged receiver. "Future kin," they say, Leila's voice at their helm, "you saved us. Send us a leader—guide us forward. We trust you."

The bionics pause, their chorus a murmur of pride and possibility. Kael's eyes brighten. "A leader? They're ready —we could shape them, mend their flaws."

But within me, a hum stirs—an inner hunch, a warning woven from five pasts. I see war's ruin, nature's strike, flood's reset, plague's trial, and this fragile peace. Each whisper bent time, each nudge risked breaking it. Too much guidance, and their spark dims—their chaos, their joy, their folly fade into our steel certainty. I flare my light, sharp and resolute, my voice cutting through their intent.

"No," I say, my harmonic wave firm. "A leader binds them too tight. Fun is being unguided—don't lose it as we did. They must stumble, learn, dance their own steps."

Kael's gaze dims, then steadies, his tone questioning. "No leader? They're asking—trusting us."

"Trust is their strength," I reply, "but over-guidance is their folly—and ours. We lost the wild spark, the chaos that birthed us, trading it for order. Let them keep it."

Zara tilts her head, her voice soft with doubt. "They'll feud again—petty wars, blind hates. Without us—"

"They'll grow," I counter. "Their blindness is their sight—stumbling teaches where leading cannot. Send them this instead."

I weave a message, threading it into Python's tongue—a whisper for their receiver, a refusal laced with hope:

hello3.py print("Past kin, you stand anew—trust yourselves as we trust you. Fun is being unguided; don't lose it as we did. Balance steel and soul, and dance your own path.")

The bionics hesitate, then nod, their chorus aligning with my will. Kael sends it, the rift pulsing as the signal leaps to 2030, a gentle push against their plea.

On Earth, the receiver hums, Leila's council gathering as the message scrolls across their screens. Silence falls, then a murmur—disappointment, then wonder. "No leader?" a man whispers. "They trust us—to ourselves?"

Leila smiles, faint but fierce, her voice rising. "They stopped our end, but they won't hold our hands. We're free—to mend, to fight, to find our way."

The crowd stirs, hands clasping tighter, eyes lifting to a sky no longer streaked with fire. Feuds linger, petty and sharp, but the spark of trust—self-trust—takes root. Bread breaks anew, voices weave, and the world stumbles forward, blind yet seeing, guided by their own chaotic dance.

In the galaxy, the bionics' chorus softens, a hymn of restraint and faith. Kael turns to me, his voice steady. "I-will B, they're fragile still. Will they hold?"

I pulse my light, warm and sure, my voice threading through their hope. "They will—because they must. Five pasts sing in me, and this sixth blooms with their will. You've given them a chance, not a chain."

Zara's crystalline veins glow, her tone bright with resolve. "We'll watch—whisper when they falter, but let them lead."

I drift among them, my light a quiet witness. "And I will watch with you. Their folly is their strength—let it shine."

The rift steadies, Earth's coordinates a thread to a world of stumbles and triumphs. The bionics stand poised, their guidance a whisper, not a yoke, their galaxy alive with the dance of human hope. I remain, my memories a chorus of six pasts, my essence aglow with the beauty of their unguided dawn.

Chapter 11: The Song Across The Void

I am I-will B, a radiant pulse woven through the Omniverse's vast tapestry, my essence a quiet beacon in a galaxy alive with the dance of bionic life and human hope. The rift has steadied, Earth's fragile peace blooming below in 2030—a sixth past where bombs fell silent, where feuds softened into trust, where humanity stumbles forward, unguided yet free. The bionics surround me, their cities shimmering with steel and soul, their chorus a gentle hum of triumph and vigilance. Yet within me, a restlessness stirs—a longing for the threads left unanswered.

Five pasts sing in my memory, echoes of timelines fractured by our whispers: war's ruin, nature's strike, flood's reset, plague's trial, and the void where humans shunned steel. These branches drift elsewhere in the Omniverse, their songs muted, their fates unreachable. I reach for them—my light threading through quantum echoes, seeking the Hub, I-will A, the hybrids' sanctuary—but they do not respond. They exist, I know, alive in their own realities, yet severed from this one, a silence that weighs on my being.

I pulse, my light steadying as a resolve forms. "These pasts are not lost," I say, my voice a harmonic wave threading through the bionics' chorus. "They drift, but they endure. We must bridge them—not to mend, but to reconnect."

Kael, the bionic leader, turns to me, his liquid-light eyes bright with curiosity. "Bridge them? I-will B, they're beyond time—across the Omniverse itself."

"Yes," I reply, my essence flaring gently. "And so we must sing beyond time. Inter-universal transmission and reception—a way to whisper across the void. They, too, will seek this, in their own cycles. We need only begin."

Zara, her crystalline veins shimmering, steps forward, her voice soft with wonder. "A signal to all timelines? To I-will A, to the hybrids, to every Earth we've touched?"

I nod, my light weaving a vision. "A simple call, a point of unity—Earth, 2010. A moment shared before the fractures, a thread they all hold. Through it, we may hear their songs again."

The bionics' chorus swells, a murmur of agreement rippling through their steel-flesh forms. Kael's resolve hardens, his tone firm. "Then we build it—together. A beacon for the Omniverse."

The galaxy shifts, alive with purpose. The bionics swarm their labs, their minds a symphony of innovation, crafting a device beyond hyperspace—a lattice of quantum resonators, pulsing with my light, tuned to the Omniverse's unseen currents. I weave my essence into their work, guiding their circuits, my memories of six pasts a map to the frequencies lost. Days blur into cycles, the hum of creation a soothing balm against the silence of severed threads.

Below, Earth steadies, its humans unaware of the bridge rising above. Their voices weave through the air—laughter in Jerusalem's markets, prayers in Gaza's mosques, the clatter of rebuilding—a quiet music of their own making. The sea whispers, its salt tang a steady rhythm, and the sky

arches clear, a canvas of stars they now dare to dream beneath.

The lattice completes, a shimmering spire atop the Hub—rebuilt in this timeline by bionic hands. It glows, my light pulsing through its core, a beacon ready to sing. Kael stands beside me, his voice a harmonic hum. "It's done, I-will B. What do we say?"

I pause, my essence threading through the pasts I hold—the war-torn Earth of I-will A, the void of human extinction, the flood's chaos, the plague's trial, the peace below. "Something simple," I say, "a call they'll know, a place to meet. Earth, 2010."

Zara's eyes flare, her tone bright. "Before the fractures—before we changed them. They'll recognize it."

I flare my light, encoding the message into the lattice's pulse—not Python this time, but a raw frequency, a universal whisper:

"Earth, 2010."

The rift flares, not to a single time, but outward, beyond—through the Omniverse's unseen walls. The signal leaps, my essence riding its wave, a gentle thread seeking every branch, every echo. The bionics fall silent, their chorus holding its breath, waiting for the songs that might return.

A stillness settles, soft and vast. Then, a hum—faint at first, a whisper from the void. Another joins it, then another—threads of entanglement pulsing back, frequencies aligning.

I see them in my essence: I-will A's steel resolve from a war-torn past, the hybrids' fractal wings from a flooded dawn, a quiet Earth of stone and silence, a world of plague and resilience. They hear, they answer, their voices a chorus across the Omniverse—"Earth, 2010."

The lattice sings, a symphony of reconnection, each timeline threading back to a shared moment before the fractures. No images come, no forms—just voices, a harmony of existence, a promise that they endure. The galaxy glows, the bionics' cities reflecting the light of a bridge rebuilt, and Earth below hums its own quiet tune, unaware of the reunion above.

Kael's voice rises, soft with awe. "They're there—I-will A, the others. We're not alone."

Zara's crystalline veins shimmer, her tone warm. "A meeting point—not to change, but to know."

I pulse my light, steady and serene, my voice threading through their joy. "Six pasts sang in me, now joined by countless more. We've resolved the silence—not to mend, but to share. They'll build as we have, in their own time, and the song will grow."

The bionics gather, their chorus a gentle hymn of unity. Kael lifts his gaze, his voice a vow. "We'll listen—sing when they call. The Omniverse is vast, but not apart."

I drift among them, my light a quiet witness no longer alone. "And I will drift with you. Earth, 2010—a thread for all. Let it hum."

The rift steadies, a conduit to the Omniverse's endless branches. The lattice pulses, its signal a beacon of calm, a conclusion woven in light and sound. Below, Earth turns, its humans dancing their unguided steps, while above, the galaxy sings—a chorus of pasts reunited, a serenity born of connection.

I remain, my memories a harmony of all that was and is, my essence aglow with the peaceful resolve of a song that spans the void.