

He RBS

The main control of the virus was emotional. People in the Green State were furious of what humans are doing to nature, even though they participated in the wrong-doings. Now they wanted to completely eliminate the normal humans and leave nature take control again.

The real control was coming from Nature. The virus gave Nature a conscience.

Imagine the wrath. After thousands of years since Humans evolved and started using natural resources for their own supreme benefit without care for the consequences, it was now Nature's opportunity, maybe the only opportunity, to take back what was Hers.

The virus became aware of the opportunity to evolve as soon as it came in contact with Laika's body. The structure of her cells showed what substances she has in her body and where these came from: an environment where it can easily evolve and control, an environment it can easily overcome. Earth.

It is still unknown where this virus came from. But once landed on the planet it could easily explore one of Humans biggest struggles: their self-destructive nature as a species. The evolution of humans as species was leading to inevitable extinction. And the virus identified the opportunity to make this happen sooner.

At the time of the complete take-over, the planet was heavily industrialized and digitized. The social era was at its peak and people lived their lives mostly online. Each person's behavior was overstudied and easily anticipated.

With the introduction of the biometric passports, it was just a matter of time until each person on the planet would be allocated a personal identification number.

In 2050 came the introduction of POId's which meant Personal Online Identity. Each person had a unique number around the world. Allocated to this number were his behavioral patterns deducted from a constant recording of the individual's habits. Massive amounts of data was recorded per individual and shared between local services and authorities. This data was then used online and on-street to decide and anticipate the person's needs.

The invention was a massive hit. It gave individuals an online freedom and not only online. You went down the street and stopped in front of a digital library and the shelves would automatically recommend books that you would like. You went into shops and as you would go down the aisle the shelves would highlight products you previously bought, you liked and presented recommendations. Your PDA (Personal Digital Agenda), what used to be smartphones, would keep a constant record of your day-to-day health, mood, agenda and basic needs. It was making decisions for you. All based on your POId.

Life in general improved immensely. Whole industries had to re-shape and re-invent. Everything was happening online now so everything was created based on functionality. The notion of beauty was forgotten or was too expensive to care for. Simple decisions, based on a need, like "I need water" and the environment would recommend the water you had before and you liked. Social life was pre-specified, people would meet and fall in love online and





then physically meet when ready to marry or have children. Cybersex was the new thing. Paper was extinct.

Life was virtual.

Economists invented the Needs Diagram, on which a spreadsheet of human needs was presented to each new product, service or business. The product had to match as many needs as possible in order to be authorized for development. This list grew constantly.

This new way of life was efficient.

The sense of freedom was what most people loved. The fact that you could influence everything around you without doing anything, only by being, existing, was an immense sense of power and no responsibility. This formula was appealing to anyone. You took a decision and if your decision was wrong the consequences would go online and be virtual. And virtual was adjustable.

The truth was that this freedom was just a feeling of freedom. A feeling of power. The user thought he was deciding for himself, but his decisions were influenced by the online community. And the community was influenced by the ones that created and populated the community spaces. The Administrators were the ones holding all the keys. They were employed by the big corporations to be in charge of the online space and had massive decisional power over what to promote and what not to. Directed by the board of Chairmen, the Administrators were left with most of the decisions. They were the trend-setters, literally influencing everything from what movie to see, to what color to wear or what type of beverage to buy. They were everywhere. They were superstars.

This way of life structured the society in a simple way: Onliners and Offliners.

Onliners were most of the people that accepted the POId's and made the most of it. It was 90% of the globe's population. And it was growing. Not necessarily because the Offliners were converted, but because they were hunted down.

It became illegal to be offline.

So Offliners were outlawed. The ones that opposed the virtual life and the POId. They still had to live with the Onliners in the online world, just that they were under fake POId's and with no real location. They were blending within Onliners just to get the basic needs and services, but had no respect for the society and authorities. They were living under the radar, constantly trying to undermine the system and develop ways to prove its rotten structure. The Offliners were like an underground religion, they developed psychological methods to undermine the Onliners belief in the virtual and turn them into Offliners. They had a risky existence with their lives constantly in danger.

They were in danger because the Onliners had a lawful right to exterminate them. A license to kill. The Offliners were treated severely by the state and governments and anyone who would discover one had the right to kill him in any way he could.

All this online world had to be backed up somehow. So major Server Plants were built where all this data was stored. Where all the lives were recorded and controlled. These were the most secured places on Earth.

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Then there were the factories. Because there was no need to promote anymore, as everything was done online, the sole purpose of factories was to produce. The supply and demand was determined online and product was developed in factories. There were factories the size of cities, huge areas that could supply a large metropolis with all the products needed.

Overnight time was when things were delivered. The distribution industry was working only at night and was unbelievably efficient. Everything was delivered by 5 am in the morning and nothing was delivered during day. This industry was almost like a separate life, a different social class, like “the night shift”.

The 'green spaces' in the cities were where people relaxed and met. They were with restricted access and a real treat for anyone who could afford it. The main need for all citizens was for more green spaces and more accessibility. It was a rare thing to go across country and see forests or natural background. Traveling from one city to another meant going from one factory zone through another until reaching your destination. Everything was utilized and industrialized.

It was the climax of civilization. Humanity was walking the edge.

