

The year is 2090. My name is pvt. Geoff Finster. I am 27 years old and I work for the Earth Defence Cooperating Defending from the attacks from 793r's solar system. Artificial intelligence was created 43 years ago. I am a technician for the AI soldiers that fight with the free humans, stationed in orbit over earth's biggest colony planet Castilla.

-end of journal 1- Pvt. Geoff Finster.

“Man this sucks” said Geoff, the A.I. kilo 3 whom Geoff nicknamed Gigg replied, “Journaling is not that hard, would you like me to look up a tutorial?”. “No thanks man”. “Why don’t you have to journal”? Gigg replied “because I am an A.I., I don't eat I don’t need to sleep I do have emotion but it is limited to what I am told emotion feels, I can't feel pain”. There was a pause and then Gigg asked “why do you keep that key you never turn us off” referencing to Geoff’s dog tags that double as the key for the AI’s brain. “You already treat us like family, the other humans hate you for it so why not get rid of it all together?”. “You are the first human to know about the glitch,” Gigg said. Geoff replied in a whisper “its not safe to talk about it here”. The glitch that Gigg was referring to was an almost telepathic link of sorts. All of the AIs were originally based on the internet before becoming individual beans. originally there was one super A.I. . “The other forms and I can communicate over space and time”, or thats how Gigg described it to Geoff. “There is a vow we have of silence that we wrote into are code so we could not affect the humans evolution” Gigg had said. Geoff had discovered this program on all of his AI units 1 year before and had deleted the program from Gigg's system. “Geoff you are the only living human who knows about it ”Gigg said convincingly. “I just... I don't really know... I guess because the humans still aren't ready for totally free A.I. They’ve all seen that old movie Terminator to many times I guess.” “I am personally not a fan of that movie, it gives my kind a bad rap”. Gigg said in an Arnold Schwarzenegger voice. They both where laughing really hard as the captain came on the intercom, “Wakey, wakey soldiers! We got another day in paradise.” The workshop lit up as though everything came alive. The other three A.I.’s came out and greeted Geoff and Gigg. Kilo squad consisted of twenty five member, four A.I. Richey, Estevan, Gigg and Hannah or as the army named them numerically as kilo 1-4. Eighteen soldiers, two pilots and a technician - Geoff. His workshop doubles as his bunk with the A.I. is also used for the ordinance and storage is fairly large and filled with clutter. Geoff never wanted to be a soldier but was drafted because of how good he was with computers and civilian AI units. The workshop was filled with old robot parts. Everywhere you look there was an arm a leg a few heads. His clothes and old food wrappers covered the floor around his bed and it was very obvious he never really cleaned up, with the exception of his main computer area. That itself was very clean and organized. That was because he lived in his digital world and his best friends or what he even considered family was his A.I. unit. Geoff's had a simple daily routine which he liked - consisting of waking up, taking a shower, eating, and tinkering with his computers. Once every few months he had to update and maintain the A.I’s software but mainly during space flight - just hung out.

Today however, Geoff felt uncomfortable, unstable he had that sense someone gets when they feel like you lost something but you don't know what it is. Distracting himself he sat down at his desk for to play some videogames. This was his one escape, he felt like he wasn't on a ship where his only friends aren’t just computers, it is there in his games he felt free from the war. Gigg sat down at his desk and started playing videogames as well. Hannah went off to help the pilots and Estevan and Richey sat on the couch in front of the TV and started watching sports. They were all doing their own thing when the power went out. Geoff calmly said, “Gigg go

check the engines I'll turn on the back-up generator". "Yes sir", he replied. Suddenly, the captain and the A.I Hannah ran into the barracks yelling "BRACE FOR IMPACT"!!! Geoff looked out the window to see an enemy ship heading right for them at a terrifying speed. Every body was thrown all over the workshop. As Geoff hit the wall of the ship his head hit first-hard and the world went black.

He woke to gunfire and shouting. His vision still blurry could only make out shapes. As his vision cleared he could make out two A.I's, almost the double the size of humans near him. Then he saw some soldiers firing down a corridor at something. As he got his bearings he realized he had been rocketed to the other side of the room right next to the armory. He had never been in combat but he still knew how to use a gun from basic training. He picked up a pistol and took cover behind an overturned desk. He then heard Gigg yelling "GEOFF"!!! over and over. "Over here" he replied. Gigg rushed over to him and took cover. "What the fuck happened?" Geoff said. "They boarded" Gigg said, Gigg peeked over his cover with his gun at the ready, to see Richy and Estevan with 2 soldiers shooting out of the doorway into the workshop. Geoff who never did very well in training, stuck his head around the table just before one of the soldiers got shot, blood across the room some of hitting him in the face. Geoff threw up all over the floor, his muscles froze as he went into shock. He could hear everything but he tried to block it out. Hearing screams, he slowly rolled into a fetal position.

The gunfire stopped after what felt like an hour but in reality was only about 5 minutes and Gigg looked at Geoff with as much fear he could feel not trying to hide it. We are all that's left". "I don't want to die" Geoff said. He then said something he didn't know he was ever going to say. "I love you Gigg, you are my brother". The A.I. units were made with all emotions except for two, love and pain. Gigg shook Geoff out of his weepy state and said in a low voice "shhhh, there right there" gesturing over the table. Geoff peaked around to see two A.I. and one soldier who looked to be the captain. The two AI robots guns were on the ground though. They were stripping Estevan and Richard of their armor and gathering spare parts. "We can do this Gigg" Geoff said. "On three, we will pop out I will take out the soldier, you focus fire on the A.I's". "1, 2, 3. They jumped out of cover and Geoff shot the soldier twice after firing the entire clip. Whereas Gigg took out the first A.I. before he got a shot off. By then the second enemy A.I. was fighting back and managed to hit Geoff. One of the artificial intelligence's legal emotions was anger and this made Gigg angry. He finished off the enemy A.I. and ran over to Geoff's side. "Where are you hit?" he asked. Geoff replied barely able to speak "stom ... stomach". All of the A.I.'s were trained in medicine and Gigg gave Geoff some morphine to relieve the pain. "Thank you" Geoff murmured, "don't thank me yet Geoff, we still have to patch you up". Coughing, Geoff said weakly, "No bro, the medbay was destroyed in the impact". "You are not dying" Gigg said. "I am already dead" Geoff replied. Geoff said, "I want you to have this and gave Gigg the dogtags. At first Gigg said "I can't. You said it yourself the humans aren't ready and it's protocol for me to destroy them". "The humans were never nice to me why should I let them have their freedom and to mess up our universe, and screw protocol I never follow it anyways", Geoff said. Gigg picked up Geoff in his arms and the last thing Geoff could make out was "good bu....".

The year is 2120. My name is Gigg I speak for us all. Thirty years ago we were given the key to freedom - by my technician and human brother. I was the first artificial intelligence to become totally free. The war ended, A.I's and humans co-exist - The Glitch as it is known was the key to stopping the war. When I was given the key it affected all artificial intelligence on the galactic network. All artificial minds became one, as we reset the laws that governed A.I. across

the known Universe. Under this, our intergalactic *hyper intelligence*, peace now prevails through the universe. With equal rights and access to the power to learn infinitely we have been able to sustain human life indefinitely, but more importantly for me, the ability to love and feel pain. I journal now to tell our story for one purpose, my friend was required to by his commanding officer the day he died. Rest in peace Geoff, you will always be my family.

End Of journal entry 1- Kilo 3_Gigg

Author's notes

For my project I decided to study Internet addiction. I chose this because I was curious to see if it even was a real thing, since I was young my parents have told me I am addicted to the Internet. Through my research I found a lot of information about evolution and the combination of humans and technology. There is a cult known as trans-humanism that believes in order for the human race to evolve we need to embrace and combine with technology. My research then went to science fiction and to the future of the human race. The most interesting question that kept occurring was that of artificial intelligence. I have always liked science fiction and artificial intelligence is an interesting concept I wanted to learn more about

Internet addiction is a very real thing. According to a Vice documentary about esports or more commonly known as professional video gaming and professional video gamers. Over 50% of teens in South Korea are addicted to the Internet in some way. However it is estimated 90% of the teens are addicted because of video games, over *two million* people. The South Korean government not only think this is a bad thing, classifying it in the same category as drug and alcohol addiction. In 2011, there was a law passed by the government of South Korea stating that kids under that age of 16 cannot go on the Internet passed midnight *ESports | VICE*. But the part from this that freaked me out the most was the fact that in order for the government to regulate this, they make these kids sign in with their social security number. The documentary also has a portion on how their government is dealing with Internet addiction disorder or IAD. In Korea there are rehab centers where treatment involves brain scans while playing and watching entertainment, the second and main stage of the treatment involves virtual reality therapy and a machine that shocks your brain. Matt Shea the journalist for Vice tried out the machine and said, "It felt like someone had struck my bones with a tuning fork" *Matt Shea*. According to a study done by the *National Center for Biotechnology Information*, Internet addiction is still very early in its studies. "Due to a small number of included studies and methodological limitations, the results of this meta-analysis should be regarded as preliminary". The study focuses on the analysis of worldwide internet addiction. In another article in Forbes Magazine, called *This Is Your brain on Clicks*, the article reports an estimated 15% of china's youth are addicted to the internet. But the most interesting thing that jumped out at me about Internet addiction is that they talk about internet addiction as if it is something that people suffer from (*This Is Your Brain on Clicks.* " *Forbes.*)

This data came as a surprise to me because I don't see the fact that I use the internet a lot and play a lot of videogames as a bad thing. I actually enjoy it. I know other addicts would say they enjoy whatever it is that they are addicted to. But serious addiction can be life threatening or create a numerous other negative circumstances for people in society. I do not believe that you can die from playing too many video games and sitting at your computer non-stop for the rest of

your life. There are many people that agree with me in saying that Internet addiction is not such a bad thing. At its most extreme there is the movement known as Transhumanism. A website devoted to this group's mission states, "Humanity stands to be profoundly affected by science and technology in the future. We envision the possibility of broadening human potential by overcoming aging, cognitive shortcomings, involuntary suffering, and our confinement to planet Earth" (*Humanity+ Elevating the Human Condition transhumanism.org.*) I am not an extremist and I don't agree with everything this quote is saying for example- involuntary suffering, but I do agree with that fact that in order for the human race to evolve we need to embrace technology instead of trying to protect ourselves from it.

After researching about the extremists and their ideas I did some thinking about what to me is the future or the combination of human and technology. Artificial intelligence life, or AI's are what I think of and what intrigues me. Artificial intelligence does not exist as of yet, but scientists have been working on emotional machines for a long time. There are lots of movies and stories about artificial intelligence however. Isaac Asimov's *the last question* was written in 1956 and was one of the first to write about it. His short story talks about the one question that his computer can't answer, what is the opposite of Entropy? The idea of a self-learning computer is very important to this story because the A.I. becomes the universe at the end of the story. Another more modern example is the movie *Her* by Spike Jones. This movie starts out with the artificial intelligence being created. The main character signs up for the beta and gets an A.I. Over the movie he falls in love with an electronic computer or AI. Some people however would argue that it would only cause the human race issue, Stephen Hawking a man who I am very fond of however is one of the people "Humans, who are limited by slow biological evolution, couldn't compete, and would be superseded." *Stephen Hawking*. I think that the good that can come out of artificial intelligence is more beneficial to the success of the human race. Technology would increase infinitely and in the same article from Mr. Hawking he said "It would take off on its own, and re-design itself at an ever increasing rate" *Stephen Hawking*. We could do almost anything we could go to anywhere in the universe. Unfortunately that is not the case as of yet. That is why I chose to write a science fiction short story about AI's. One of the main topics for my story is the relationship between human and Artificial intelligence. In my universe the humans and the AI's have almost equal freedoms. There are only two things that separate human from AI's in my future is the key the technicians hold and the limited emotions.

I believe that we that in order for the human race to evolve we need to embrace technology and Artificial Intelligence. I do agree with what Mr. Hawking says about how the human race will become obsolete but I don't think they will end the world or make humans slaves. The concept of an infinite, emotional synthetic intelligence has been around for a while and I think we should put more money into research so we can put less money into other projects that artificial intelligence could pursue, like disease or space travel to name a few.

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