Aquila Station

The train stopped at Aquila Station. A man with an old-fashioned panama hat went on the train. He had a black backpack behind him, and he started to scan through the coach. Then, he seemed to make up his mind. He walked towards Nella and asked: ‘May I sit beside you, gentleman?’ Nella was thinking about other things. He nodded and went back to think about other things again. The man with the hat, however, ignored the fact that Nella was thinking about other things. He faced towards Nella and tried to start a conversation. ‘My name is Jonah, and I’m a bird hunter.’ ‘A bird hunter?’ The line attracted Nella’s attention. Jonah, who was content that Nella was interested, said: ‘Yes! I catch these birds and made them into desserts. In fact, I can give you a box of bird as a gift.’ Jonah started searching in the backpack, and pulled out an exquisite candy box. Nella thanked Jonah, and opened the box. There was a crystal bird inside. Nella pulled down one of its legs and put it into the mouth. It tasted like chocolate. The satisfying sweetness diffused throughout Nella’s mouth. ‘It’s pretty good.’ Nella smiled at Jonah, and Jonah replied with a belly laugh. Inside the box, there was a picture showing three enormous trunks of cosmic dust and gases. Nella pointed at the picture, ‘Ah, I know this picture. <The pillars of creation>, taken by the Hubble space telescope.’ ‘100 points! I put this one in the box because it’s my favourite space picture.’ ‘So am I. I just can’t express enough about how I love the Hubble space telescope.’ Silence for a short time. Jonah suddenly stood up. ‘I need to go and chase after some birds right now. We might meet in the future if you stay on this train.’ ‘I might, good luck.’ Jonah lowered his hat to show his respect, and walked slowly towards the door.

2nd time

Nella realised that he was walking in the space. The Hubble space globe was in front of him. It didn’t take long for him to recall what he needed to do. The Hubble space globe was broken, and he needed to repair it. He took out some tools from a small bag, and started repairing. The space globe was like the eyes of human civilization. We can only glimpse into the far universe through it. Suddenly, Nella realised that there was a piece of space junk approaching the Hubble space globe. The debris was travelling very fast, and unfortunately, Hubble was on its way. Hubble is not going to survive the clash, and the eyes of human civilization will be destroyed. We can never see the beautiful pictures of stars ever again. Without any hesitation, Nella jumped out and reached for the space junk. He rolled in the space, and the debris struck him in the back. Hubble was not in its path anymore, but the clash destroyed Nella’s oxygen supplying system. He felt that he was losing his thoughts, and when he woke up, he saw the face of Jonah. ‘You fell asleep.’ ‘I… dreamt about the last few minutes of my life.’ ‘Really? What did you do?’ ‘I… I protected the Hubble space globe.’ ‘You did something good for the entire human civilization.’ Jonah took off his hat and bowed at Nella.