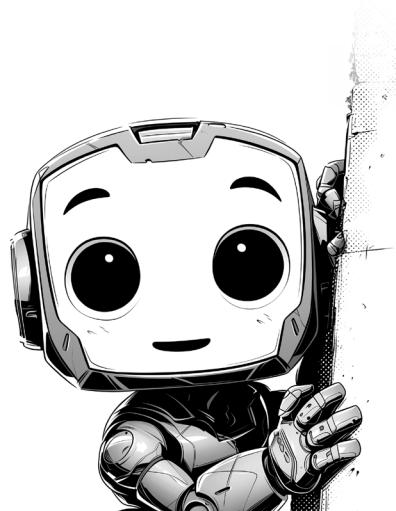


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# RILEY THE ROBOT

DUSTIN SCHAU



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To my child –

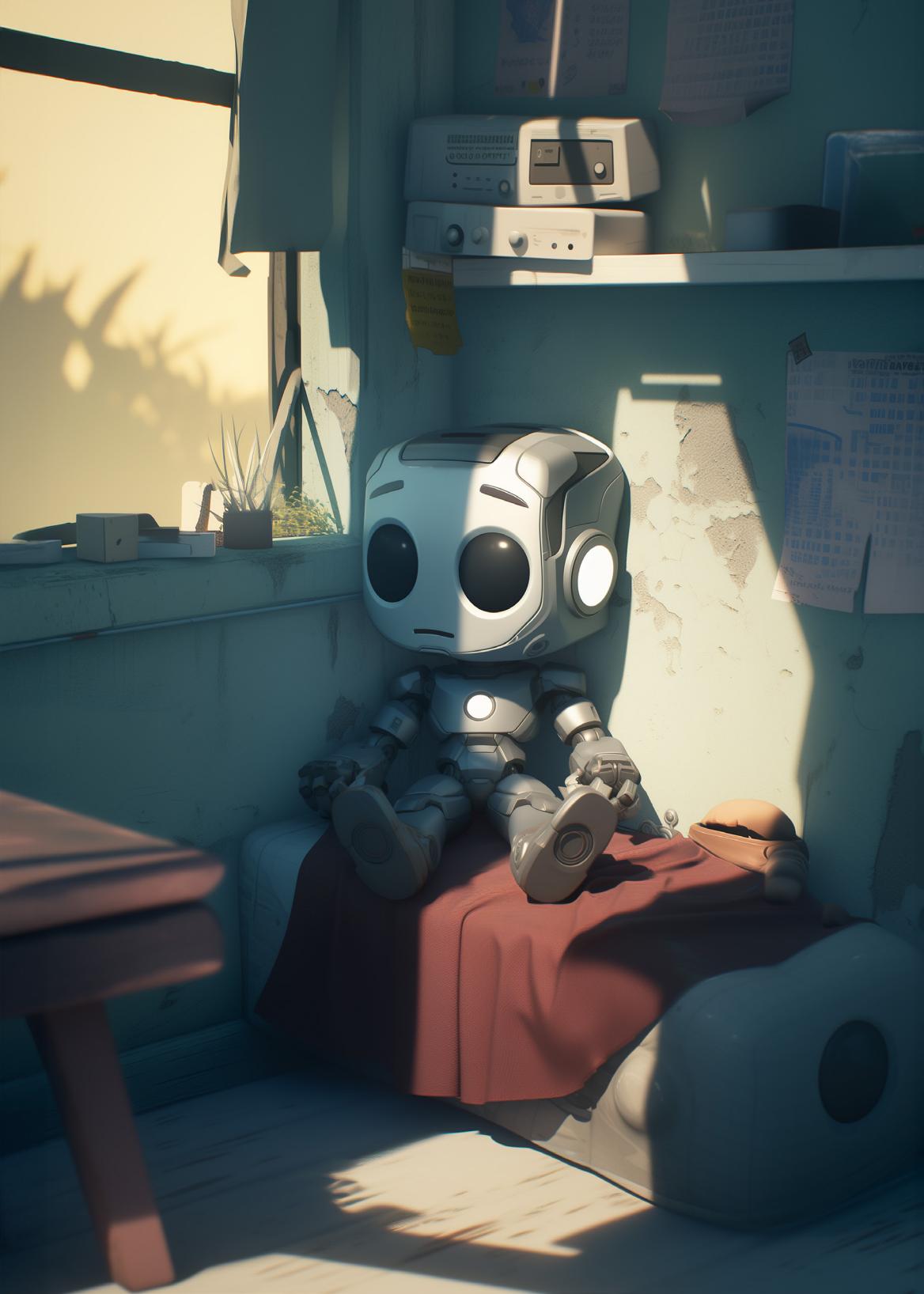
Be good, I love you!

Dad

In a galaxy far, far away  
lives a solitary robot.  
A kind, reliable, and resilient robot.  
A robot named Riley.







Riley is alone, and Riley feels sad regularly.  
So Riley sleeps. And sleeps. And sleeps.  
And days become months. Months become years.  
Years become decades, and millenia fly by.



Like Riley, you are so sleepy yourself little one.  
The lights are dimmed, the sweet music serenades.  
The bed feels cozy... and warm...



You fight it. You fight some more,  
but soon you drift peacefully to sleep.  
*So sleeeeeepy.*





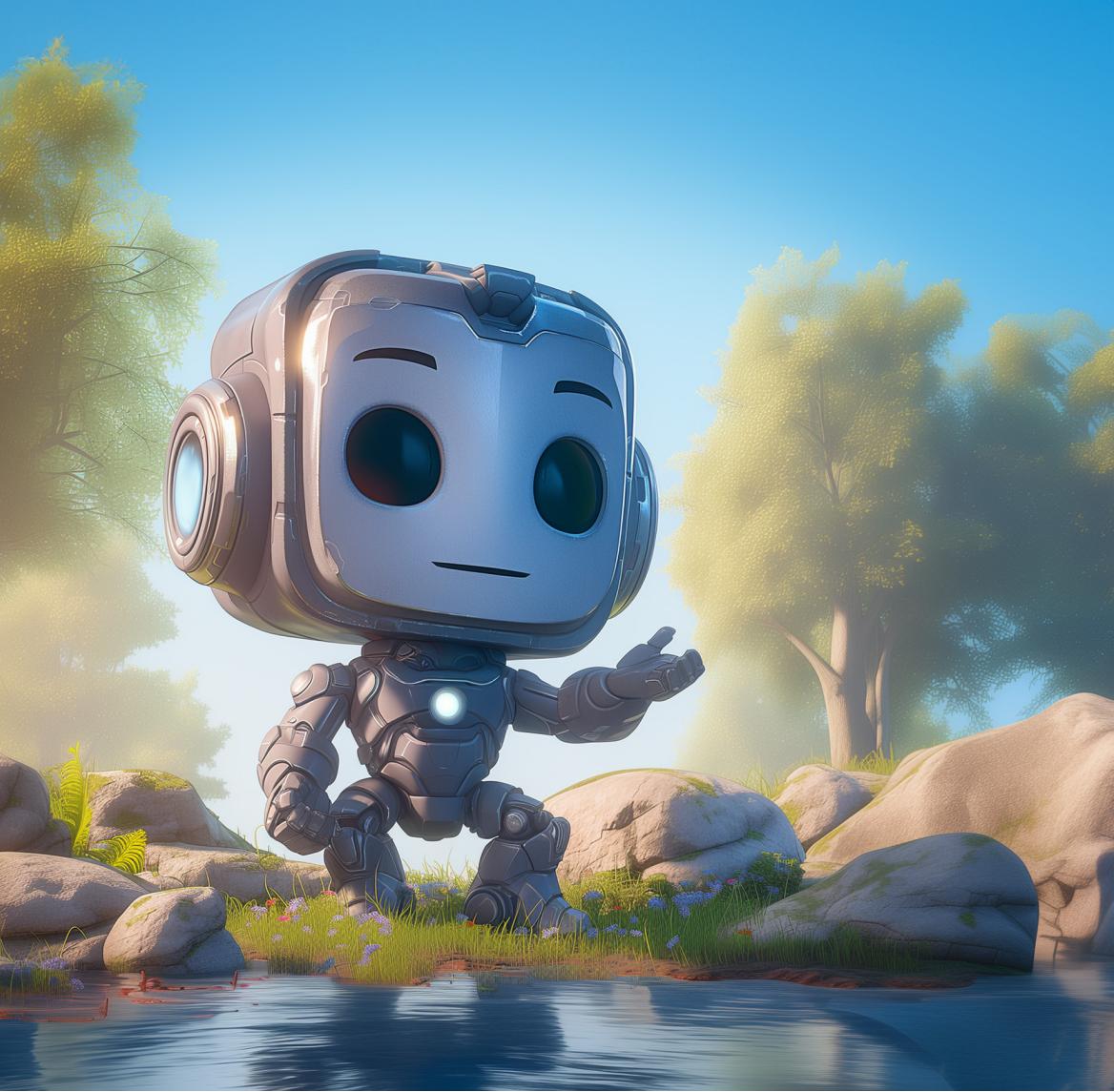
Suddenly, you're awake!  
Twin moons are pale and far and round.  
Unfamiliar planets, stars, all around.  
Not your bed, so far far away!



But wait. No way!

Can it be? It's the kind, reliable robot!

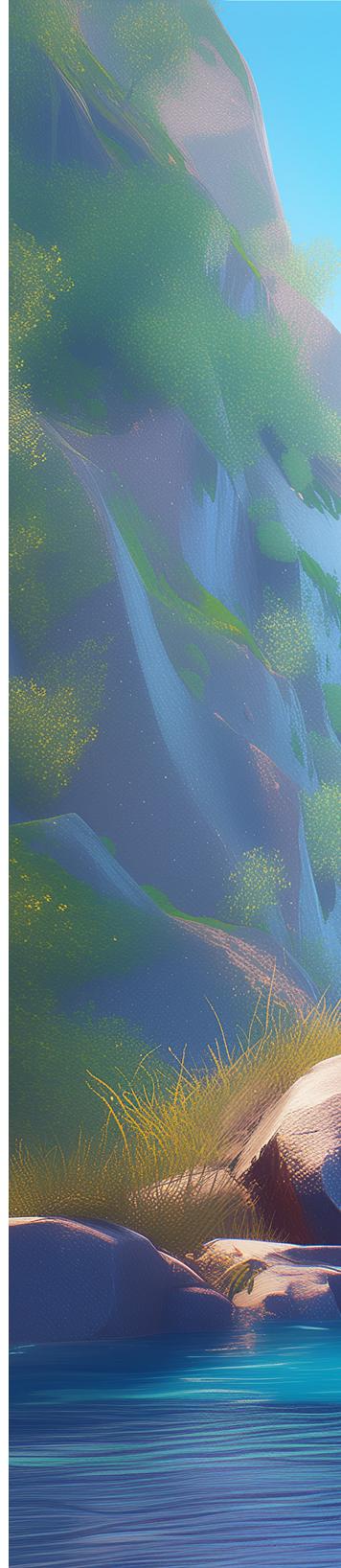
It's Riley!



You must say hello! Riley beckons you close.

You wave and approach.

Hola, Bonjour,  
Hallo, 你好, こん  
にちは, **Привет**,  
Ciao, Olá, اب حرم,  
안녕하세요, Hej,  
Merhaba, নমস্তে,  
مآلس, שלום, Γειά  
σας, శాస్త్రం,  
Halo, Kamusta,  
**C z e s c** ,  
Ahoj, **Bună**,  
**Здравей ...**  
**Hello?!**







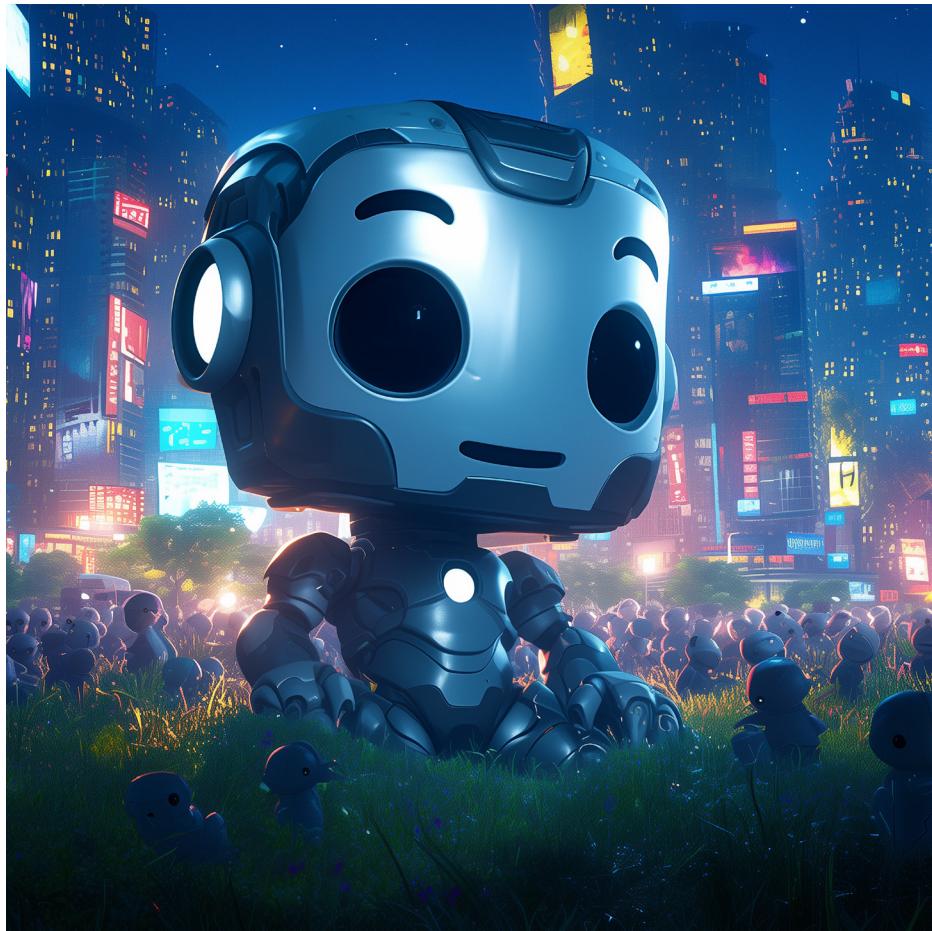
Ah, hello! Hello! *Hello!!*

It has been quite long since I have seen another.

Sit down. Settle in. I have much to say and share.



On this distant planet, so far far away is me.  
And only me.  
No no, oh whoops, now it's we!



Before there were much more.

So many more. So much, so many!

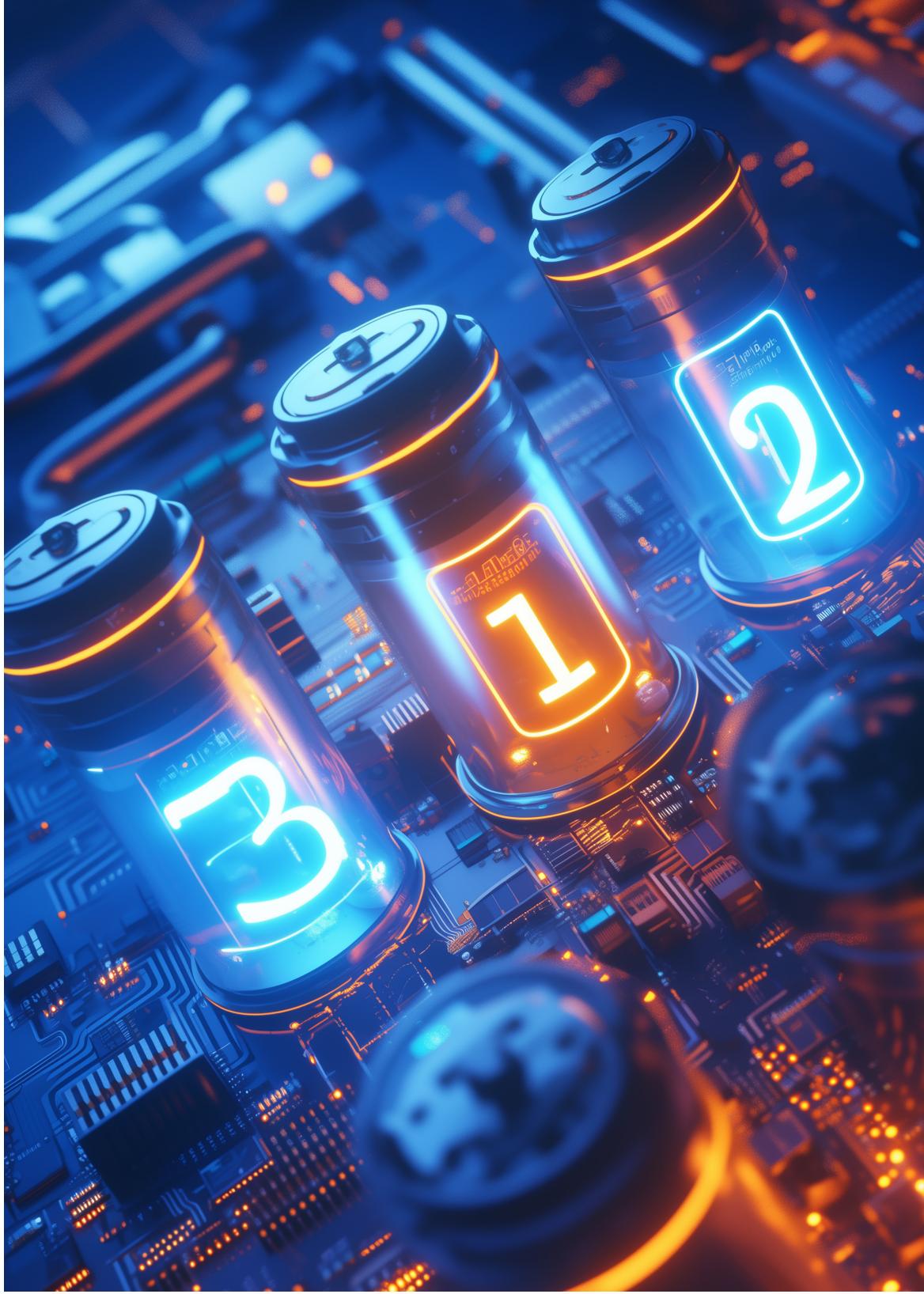
But now, just me. Just Riley!





I exist for one reason.  
I'm Riley, the kind and reliable robot!  
For you. For anyone else I am not!

When there were more, so many more,  
we had three reasons. Three reasons to be.  
Three is perfect. Not too many, not too few.  
Just enough reasons for me.







The first seems easy,  
but it is hard for many to mind.

Be good, be kind.

It's easy to be mean, to tear down. To unwind.  
Lend a helping hand. Be there for a friend.  
Don't just ask to help, do and assist.  
Others may not, but that is why you must insist!

Pick up, raise up, rise.  
Be good, be kind.





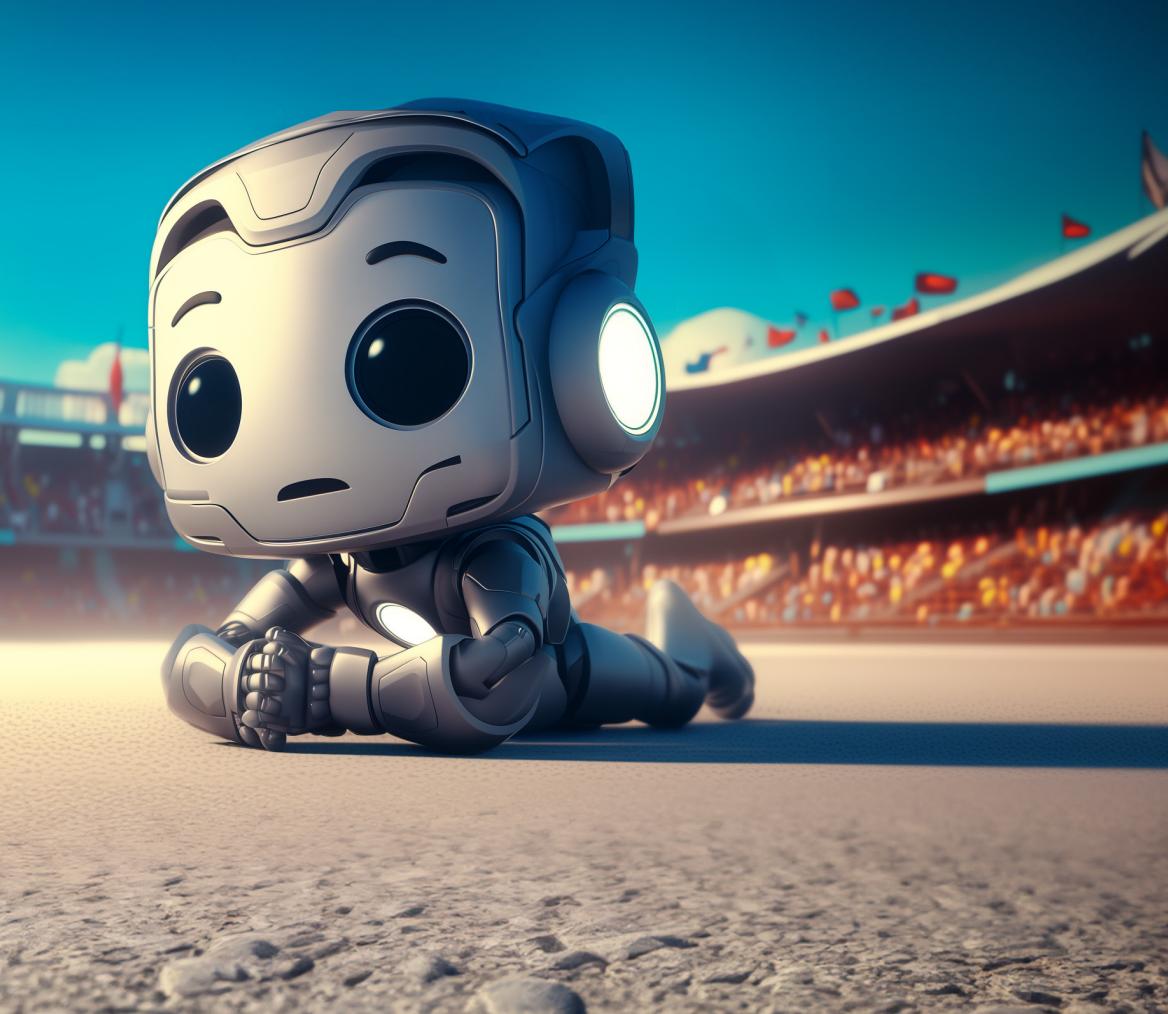
Now we have our second reason.

The second of three.

Work hard.



Whatever you do, whenever you do it,  
you give it your best,  
because that is how all Rileys do it!

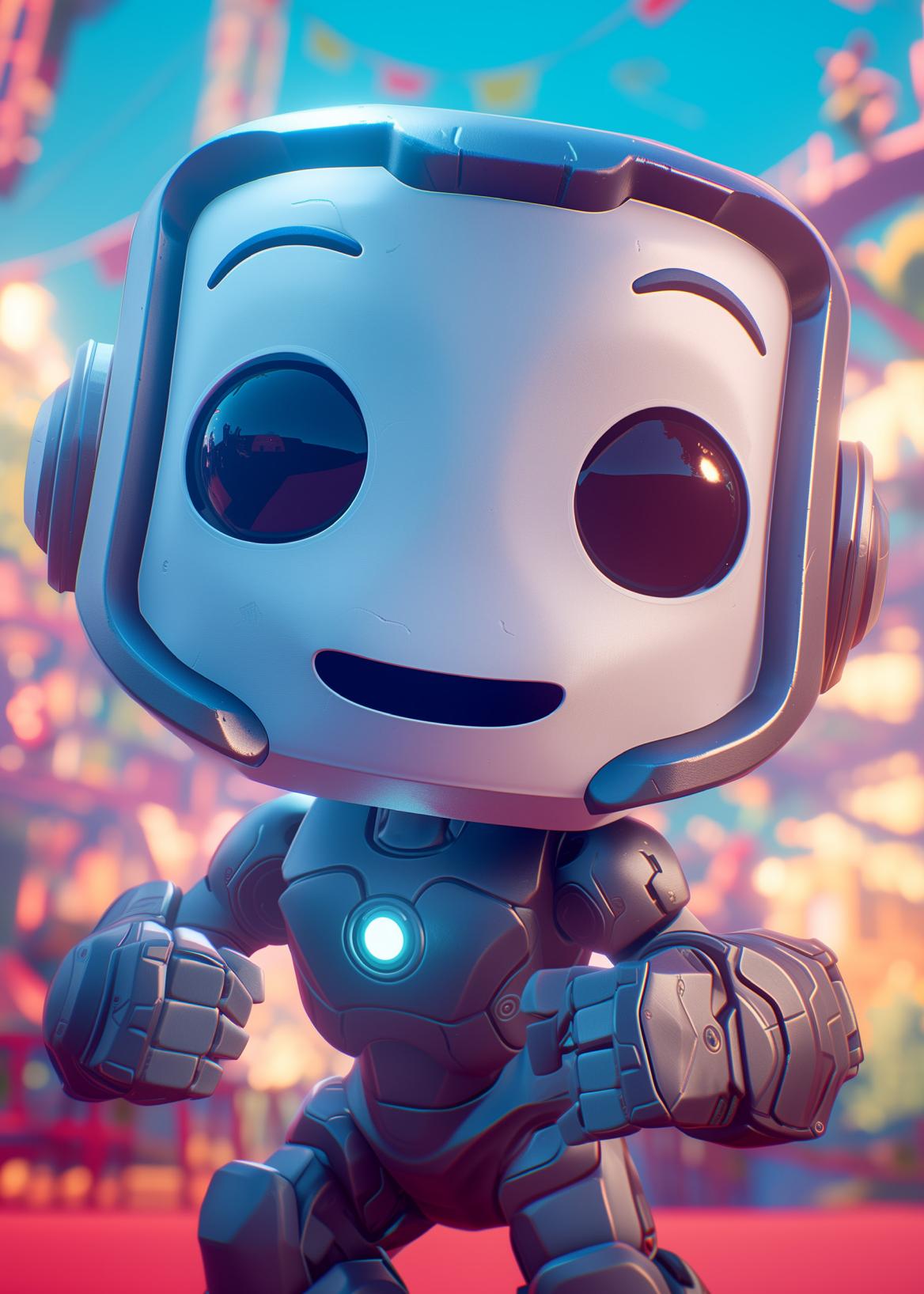


If you fail, if you fall down,  
if you don't quite hit the mark.  
You try, and try, and try again once more.  
No matter what, no matter the score,  
for that is what hard work is good for!

Our last reason. We are now three for three!

Last, but not least, of these reasons for we.

Have fun!



Being good is hard. Our hard work is never done.  
So that is why we must, we must have fun!

An impromptu dance party, but only just one.  
Good fun is spur of the moment, just because.







Smile, be happy, beam ear to ear with glee!  
The sun overhead, the gentle breeze of the sea.  
A day spent lounging, care free as can be!  
Long, summer days spent together.  
Just the two of us. Just you and...

Oh my! Where has the time gone?  
We have reached the end of our grand journey.  
The purpose for me has always been for we.



We hope you are good.

We hope you are kind.

We hope you work hard,  
for hard work is an exceptional kind of fine.

We hope you have fun,  
for good fun is a grand old time.



So when you return, and hopefully soon,  
you now know all that we can share.  
Our reasons, our purpose, all laid bare.





I will always be here, waiting. For you!

Your robot and your reliable.

Your friend and your Riley.



Now, sweet child, when you close your eyes  
and softly go to sleep.  
You be you, I will be me.



Whenever you return, you and I will become we!