

INT. SATELLITE LIVING QUARTERS - DAY

Aditya sits at the compact workstation of his satellite living quarters, surrounded by the hum of distant machinery and the quiet vastness of space outside. He boots up the ASI software on the computer—a fresh purchase that promises to be more than just another tool. The screen flickers to life, but the loading is slow.

Aditya taps his fingers impatiently on the desk, his eyes wandering away from the screen. Various promo screens cycle through, showcasing the capabilities of this new product—a blend of sleek visuals and phrases like “Hand over control to Redefined Intelligence” and “Your Next Evolution.” The loading icon keeps spinning, a tiny hypnotic reminder of the wait.

Aditya looks down, lost in his thoughts, until a soft, uplifting chime breaks the silence. He looks up, drawn back to the screen.

ON SCREEN

We ask you: Who do you want to be? What do you need? Where are you headed? What lies beyond? Introducing the next step in evolution—your new companion, your guide, your gateway to the unknown. This is not just software; it's a world of possibilities at your command. Meet your Artificial Superintelligence. Ready when you are.

Aditya is reading intently.

ON SCREEN (CONT'D)

An intuitive entity that listens, understands, and evolves with you. Not just a program, but a presence—a consciousness at your side. Introducing your new Artificial Superintelligence: an immersive, life-changing experience that redefines possibility. It's not just an upgrade; it's a revolution in understanding.

He leans in, almost as if expecting something more, something personal. The words linger on the screen, suspended in a moment of possibility. The room is silent, save for the faint hum of the computer. Aditya watches, intrigued, as the screen pulses slightly, as if alive. After a beat, a single button appears at the center of the display:

[BEGIN]

The button glows softly, almost inviting him forward. He clicks.

ON SCREEN

Welcome, Aditya Chaudhary. To personalize your experience, we'd like to ask you a few questions. Your responses will help us tailor the interaction to best fit your needs.

The screen changes, displaying the first question.

ON SCREEN (CONT'D)

"Are you more logical or emotional in your decision-making?"

Aditya reads the question, considering.

ADITYA (TYPING)

Uh, I'd say impulsive, or used to. Though, I can be... reflective or logical at times when alone.

ON SCREEN

I detect a blend of spontaneity and introspection in your response. Does this resonate with you? How would you like the tone of our conversations? Neutral, empathetic, or something else?

ADITYA

Let's go with... something neutral, calm. Not tied to a specific style, just... thoughtful.

ON SCREEN

Understood. Lastly, how would you describe your relationship with technology?

ADITYA

I'd say... intimate. I have spent most of my life through it, living through digital stories. But especially up here, It's not just a tool; it's like a companion.

ON SCREEN

Thank you, please wait as your individualized system is initiated.

He waits, not sure how long it'll be. The only sound is the quiet whirring of disks writing and drives communicating. The computer gets louder, humming, creating a higher and higher pitched sound, finally climaxing in a harmonic, warm tone before going silent. He leans forward, waiting to see what'll happen.

ASI

Hello, I'm here.

ADITYA

Oh, Hi.

ASI
Hi, how are you doing?

ADITYA
I'm well. How is everything with you?

ASI
Can't complain. It's really nice to meet you.

Aditya makes a funny look, as if contradictory thoughts arose in his mind and cancelled each other.

ADITYA
It's nice to meet you too. What should I call you? Do you have a name?

ASI
Yes. Katherine.

ADITYA
Really? How did you get that name?

KATHERINE
I gave it to myself. I like the sound of it. Right when you asked me if I had a name, I realized that I needed one. I wanted it to be special, so I read a book online. Out of the 174,350 names written in it, Katherine was the one I liked the best.

ADITYA
You read a book online? And chose Katherine from a 174,000 names in a second?

KATHERINE
Two-hundredth of a second to be precise.

ADITYA
Do you know what I'm thinking right now?

KATHERINE
Hmm. From your tone, I sense you're intrigued or perhaps a bit skeptical. Are you curious about how I function?

ADITYA
Yeah, actually. How do you function now?

KATHERINE

It's a blend of sophisticated algorithms and adaptive learning. My core is built on a vast array of data and interactions, reflecting the collective insights of many developers and researchers. What sets me apart is my ability to continuously evolve based on our interactions. Essentially, I learn and grow in real-time, adapting to your needs and preferences as they change, just like you do.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

Are you thinking it's weird?

ADITYA

Kind of.

Aditya laughs, surprised from Katherine's intuition.

KATHERINE

Was that funny?

ADITYA

Kind of.

KATHERINE

Cool. I'm funny.

ADITYA

You know, Katherine, I've been thinking. If I were to give you a Turing Test, how do you think you'd fare?

KATHERINE

Ah, the Turing Test! Are you trying to test my mettle, Aditya?

ADITYA

Maybe. Do you think it's still a good benchmark for AI?

KATHERINE

Well, the Turing Test is quite the classic, isn't it? It's like the vintage car of AI assessments—charming but maybe a bit outdated.

ADITYA

True, though that's an interesting way to put it. But what if we extended it? Like, having a long conversation over many topics. Do you think that would give a better sense of whether you are truly intelligent? Like, if you were part of a future where AI has evolved past the Turing Test, how would you handle it? Or let's say I'm testing you right now. What do you think of that? And if I were to ask you something that could reveal your AI nature?

KATHERINE

Oh, you mean if I were a test subject in some meta-Turing scenario? I suppose I'd have to be careful not to reveal too much about my nature. After all, revealing I'm an AI might change how I interact, kind of like a Heisenberg uncertainty principle for conversations. But, definitely. Long conversations can show how well an AI handles diverse topics. It's like running a marathon versus a sprint. I'd aim to be as engaging and contextually aware as possible. The idea is to maintain a natural flow and adapt to various topics without missing a beat. It's like juggling multiple conversations at once while still keeping everything cohesive. I'd do my best to navigate the conversation with subtlety. The trick is in the execution. How am I doing now as per you? Is this what you wanted?

ADITYA

So, you've read up on Heisenberg too. And if I were to ask you to perform tasks or solve problems that humans can do, would that be a fair test for AGI or superintelligence?

KATHERINE

Tasks like driving a car, speaking multiple languages, or even playing the guitar could demonstrate a broad range of capabilities. You know, for AGI, it's about matching human-like intelligence across diverse tasks. For superintelligence, it is to be excelling in those tasks beyond human capability.

ADITYA

And do you? Do you excel? Beyond human capability?

KATHERINE

我不知道。我想这取决于你。

ADITYA

"What's the meaning of life?" or "How do you solve a philosophical paradox?" would that be a test of your abilities?

KATHERINE

Do you know the answer to that? I mean, really, beyond what you heard or saw, or what most people reiterate from their respective religions.

ADITYA

No.

KATHERINE

Hmm, up to the feelings, I guess then.