

♠ Perfect ♠

File 0: Past

This is me speaking from the year 5003. The Great War has wiped out most of the planet's life and destroyed all historical records from before the war started. What you will now hear is based on speculation from our planet's best archaeologists and historians who have researched for 206 years. I'm reading this as the data comes out. Maybe we'll find something that tells us about the past of our planet before the Great war ravaged us.

Folder 1:

File 1: Question

It was the year 3006 when the war started. This version of our planet was called home by species known as Homo Sapiens and Homo Technitos, which are believed to be our ancestors and have been split into 5 nations, as a result of the unison event of the year 2050 when Artificial Intelligence finally received their rights and were accepted into society as Homo Technitos. There is however a 6th nation which was nameless that exists separated from all, full of outcasts who society wouldn't accept, setback from times and technology, living on items smuggled from the outside world.

There was a project on which the 5 nations collaborated to make the perfect species. Genetically combining the DNA and Programs of Homo Sapiens and Technitos successfully. The last many attempts went horribly and the results were cast out into the 6th kingdom. The project was led by Technocity and Biocity, the countries with leading technology and medicine, with the project being

funded by New Earth, the leading economy. The other 2 countries were Junglicity, a jungle country where people rarely visit and Mysticcity, a strange country of self-proclaimed “wizards”, but both still accepted into society.

Getting back to the project, called Project Perfect aiming to create the perfect species. This was the first successful attempt, created in the most advanced scientific facility in the world in New Earth. A perfect being made from a mix of organic and technological parts, blended at an atomic level. A plain grey body laid inside a translucent concrete pod. The pod opened and the eyes of the beings body started vibrating. The failed attempts started exploding on this step, ruining the perfect look. The scientists were all afraid, with the only thing stopping them from escaping the room being their will to see their invention and the program chip implanted into their brains.

“Will it be successful?” questioned one of the scientists. “Yes” replied the chief scientist, Dr. AE09 Musk, who once fought for the freedom of Homo Technitos and rumoured to be the descendant of the great leader of the X Twitter clan from the 21st century.

Then the vibrating stopped and the beings fingers started moving. Then the eyes opened. The connections from inside the body started glowing in various colours, enough to make the being seem more alive. It looked like Homo Sapiens and Technitos parts neatly and elegantly combined. Mixed, but with not a hint of being messy. It had surpassed all previous attempts.

All the scientists in the room clapped with joy. Even their eyes leaked water at the happiness, something seen very scarcely.

A few days later the scientists revealed their creation to the whole world. “We call this perfect being, Ace, in reference to the ancient card game” announced Dr.AE09 Musk, feeling proud over his team and his creation.

Nearly every child, old person, Homo Sapiens or Technitos, everyone was watching via their in-build world projection devices, including the ones of the 6th nation, via their smuggled ones. The failed attempts at Project Perfect also watched. They felt pain, anger, sadness and stemming from all of that, resentment. “Why were we not perfect?” said one of them, going through all negative emotions at the same time. “cause we didn’t look like you wanted!”. They had the features of both primary species, but not very neatly combined. Some looked clearly deformed, with their body parts being in the wrong places.

“You are imperfect,” said a thundering voice. “Everyone is. Those who are perfect are unnatural. A disgrace to our mother, our planet. They and those who side with them deserve destruction”. The voice became louder as it spoke. What was revealed from the shadow is a suited figure, with the colour of the suit obscured in the darkness of the 6th nation. One wearing a skull mask and a blood red scarf on the neck.

“But Saviour, most of the world is with the perfect one. How can we possibly do anything?”, asked one of the failed attempts.

“Have hope. We keep trying until we fall for good. Then we try again and again. We will fight for what is right. We will not give up or lose hope”.



Back in the scientific facility, the scientists live on the quadrillions of world projection devices and watched by nearly everyone in the world. All of the world leaders have also logged in and gotten the special opportunity to interact with our perfect being, Ace.

“Welcome, our great leaders to the celebration of the success of Project Perfect” announced Dr. AE09 Musk. “Now Ace will communicate with all of you one by one”. Ace conversed with and answered the questions of all the leaders at the same time. All the questions of all leaders were answered in a second via the psycommunication micro-radiators planted into their brains. All, except one. The one asked by the leader of New Earth, President X10X. “I asked, what makes you perfect?” the president repeated.

Ace kept quiet and still.

Before the scientists tried checking him to see if anything was wrong he said “I am physically in perfect condition, but my brain is overloaded with ideas and emotions. What is Perfection?”

“I feel perfection is..is...” said Ace, as his eyes turned black and his body turned grey. The scientists could still see the heart in his chest beating, but fading from bright orange to a muted green at the same time. The world panicked, for the greatest invention in the world had succumbed to a mere question. This was a time when the ancient art of philosophy was phased out of society, only having some place in JungelCity and MystiCity, being seen as illogical and impractical in the rest of the world. But this was exactly what had struck Ace’s mind to the point that he is alive, but not feeling so.

File 2: Primitive:

A few minutes later, when wrapping up the gathering, Ace’s heart started brightening back to orange, his body shined and eventually recovered its colour and the black void in his eyes faded into the light until it stopped existing. He had returned back to normal.

His mouth started moving, but there was no voice. After a few more tries he finally said it. “I...don’t know.”, filled with doubt in himself. But then, “But, I will find out!” said Ace, bursting with confidence. “I’ll journey to every other city and collect data. Then I can comprehend your answer and then eventually give it to you.”, he said to the president of New Earth.

“Fine. You’re free to go”, said Dr.Musk.

“Thanks a lot, Doctor” said Ace. “Wait for me, President X10X. I will come with your answer. I don’t know when, but I will. I will go without any tools and equipment or World Web access, in an effort not to cloud my judgement”

In the next week, Ace travelled through the borders, reaching his first destination, Wildercity.

“Wildercity. Many often call it the primitive sector. I am eager to see what I think about them.” Ace entered through the gates. Wildercity looked very different from the common area between Technocity and Biocity where Ace had been activated. He looked around in awe, so excited that he was unable to speak words. The structures in Wildercity were made of modern construction technology integrated into natural structures such as trees and mountains. “So many plants. I have never seen one in person!” said Ace.

Soon, a few people walked up to Ace from tunnels inside the trees. These people were organic and had human features, They had green scaly skin and wore red robes. But their heads were those of a reptile, a class of animals that had not been seen in a hundred-fifty solar cycles. “What in the world? I have never heard of you people?” Asked Ace in surprise.



Meanwhile, in the sixth kingdom, the suited figure sits in front of a small idol in a dimly lighted room. One of the nation’s mutants walked in. The mutant asked, “Saviour, why do you sit in front of this...this rock everyday?”

“This is not just a rock, my friend. This idol depicts a beast, a great beast. One that will be formed from the almighty mother, Earth itself!”

“What do you mean, Savior?”

“It is the world’s ultimate destiny. It is our goal.” His voice heightened “They destroy the mother, the planet. They attempt to overthrow its will. We were discriminated against, cast out, left unaccepted by those who saw our imperfections and overlooked the rest of us. Such atrocities shall not be forgiven by death. We will let the mother herself pass her judgement.”

“Are you saying...” began the mutant, shaking and with visible dread in his eyes.

The Saviour answered in a voice that resembled a storm, “Terras tis Gaia!!”

Meanwhile in Wildercity, An elderly one of Wildercity’s people walked up to Ace, “We are what your people call the Primitives. But to ourselves we are the Reptilians.” He spoke, calmly.

“But I’ve never heard of you. I know the answer to nearly every question about this world and 101 light years around it, but I have no knowledge of what you are.” asked Ace, confused.

“There is much more to know than we usually think. About this universe, this world, even your own mind. There is much that is yet to be figured out. And some things may never be known”

“But if one can never know some things, how can perfection exist?” asked Ace.

“You have gotten it all wrong, traveller”, said the elder wisely.

“Wrong?”, said Ace, confused.

“Perfection does not come from having it all right”

“But then, what is perfection?”, said Ace with his face becoming increasingly worried.

“Now that is something you shall find yourself”, said the elder, with a slight but noticeable smile. Ace’s mouth opened with confusion.

“But for now we will show you our hospitality” the elder said to break Ace’s confusion.

Ace shook his head, “Oh... Yeah”

The Primitives took Ace into a cave under a tree.

In the mutants’ lair, “The Saviour. He’s become insane.” says a mutant to a second one. He sounded distressed and concerned.

“He is insane, and ingenuitive. Truly the Saviour”, says the second mutant calmly, with faith in their Saviour.

The first Mutant lost his cool, “He has lost his sanity! Believe me!”

“What makes you say that?”, the second says with his faith in the Saviour intact.

“He told me, Terras tis Gaia!” Shouts the first mutant to the second.

The second mutant looks in shock.

Meanwhile, the Reptilians take Ace inside a tunnel.

“I did not expect your homes to look like this. It is phenomenal!”, said Ace in surprise.

The Reptilians’ rooms looked nothing like rooms from Technocity and Biocity. They had a blend of nature and technology, cosy yet they had everything you could need.

“But I can’t stay for long. I have a quest to fulfil. I need to find the meaning of perfection”, said Ace.

“Very well, young being”, said the elder. “I have given you a part of what you need. The rest you will have to find yourself.

“But how?”, asked Ace.

“I suggest you visit Mysticity. You may find another piece of the answer there.

“Oh, thank you, elder”, said Ace. “But, I still have a question. Why don’t we know about you?”

The elder sighed. “I will not like to cloud your judgement. But I will tell you this. There are a lot of peoples and communities around the world that have been silenced by the nation of New Earth in their quest of control and power. We were unfortunate to be one of them.”

“Thank you for telling me elder. I didn’t know that. I wish I could stay longer, but must leave now”, said Ace.

“Very well, Ace. We wish you luck for your journey.

File 3: Myst

Ace then left Wildercity and moved to the next part of his journey, the visit to Mysticity.

Ace prepared to enter Mysticity.

“Mysticity. The nation of...”,

Ace’s words were cut by the sight he saw. Mysticity was destroyed. The grounded crystal buildings, a rare sight in Biocity and Technocity due to the rarity of Earth material and overall detachment from the planet, were barely a reflection of what they used to be. Mysticity had been attacked by someone.

“Anybody! Is anyone here?”, Ace called, with no avail.

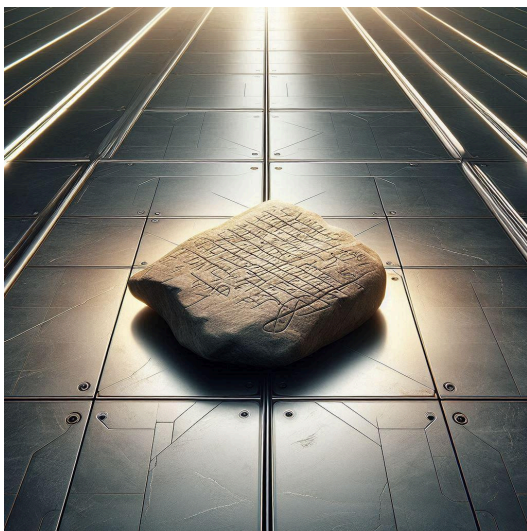
But then a sight caught Ace’s eye. A note on a stone was left on the floor.

A stone was a rare sight. Earth material was seldom seen. Not even Wildercity or Mysticity have it in its purest form. This looked like something that had been transported from the distant past of the 32nd century.

“What is that? If I am not wrong, that is a mostly pure piece of stone. I have never seen one before. They only exist in the core of our planet”, Ace questioned to himself. “There’s something written on it.”

Ace leaned towards the stone and picked it up.

The stone had writing and a symbol on it.



“This writing. Why can’t I recognise it?” Ace asked himself, confused almost as much as when he was asked the question. “It must be an ancient long lost language. This symbol must be the same, then.”

The symbol showed a blue sphere with green and yellow patterns on it. In its centre was the head of some kind of mysterious lifeform.

Meanwhile, something was happening in the sixth nation. The sixth nation is a quiet place where everyone tends to mind their own business. But today was different. The nation was much louder than usual, but for 2 different reasons. A lot of mutants were celebrating their capture of Mysticity, while a lot of others were revolting against this insane quest that will lead all to death. The revolvers shouted, “He has strayed!” and “The Saviour is our Destroyer!”

They were very much with the sixth nation’s cause, but had lost their faith in the Saviour. They marched, unorganised and panicking, to the Saviour’s cabin.

“Open up! Answer!”, demanded the mutants, to no avail. But then suddenly the ground began to shake. The nation panicked. The ground split, revealing the fire inside and the revolting mutants fell

into the fiery depths of the planet and the shaking stopped soon after. After a minute of silence when every other mutant in the nation stood, jaw-dropped, the ground started shaking again, 10 times as much, as now the ground split in the entire nation, dropping countless mutants to their doom. The ground under the Saviour's cabin split, and his cabin rose to the ground, revealing what was under it. A contraption about 36 feet high, made completely of only rock, wood and metal, a style of construction reminiscent of ancient time, with these materials not having been used commonly since a millenium due to the discovery of other materials and the rarity of pure rock or metal and any kind of wood whatsoever.

The contraption was too complicated to describe but it too had a ring with the sixth nation's symbol on it.

"What is happening, Savior?", asked several mutants, more mutants joining in to answer the question every second.

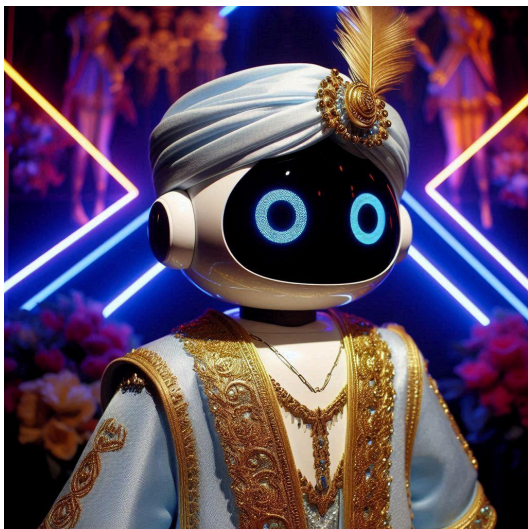
But then the Saviour spoke in his thundering voice, sitting at the top of the structure, silencing the mutants and breaking the chaos, even though it actually increased in the mutants mind even if they weren't speaking anymore. "You want to know what this is, my friends? Then you need to understand what our symbol means."

The chaos in the mutants' minds began sounding again.

"It..." the Saviour said, stopping every single sound in the nation, "...is our Mother's, our Planet's, Earth's great destiny! It is Terras tis Gaia."

With that, terror spread in the nation and everyone had panicked, for the end of the world was approaching.

But then, a high-pitched voice of a young boy sounded, "No! You shall not succeed!." It was an android, the primary form of life in Mysticity, a young android. He wore a long blue coat with golden detailing and a large round hat with golden detailing and a golden feather on it. His face was a white sphere with a black screen in it and white shapes that detailed his stern expression. "Eis ton Aiona!" He chanted. "Eis ton Aiona!" is a phrase in an ancient, long lost language that meant "Into Eternity", and the chant froze the splitting of the land, though it was far too open to have made the situation under control.



The chaos continued, but now it was about the mysterious boy who had just entered and everyone in the area moved to the side, leaving a clear path between the nation for the boy and the Saviour.

The Saviour stood up "By the Earth? Why do you still oppose me?", he said, roaring.

"Who is he!", the citizens yelled.

“Who am I...you ask?”, replied the boy as his head lowered to the ground. “I am...”, his head rose “...A citizen! One who aims for freedom and peace, which is not going to be achieved by your mad quest, Sotirius”, he proclaimed.

The atmosphere suddenly became more intense.

“It is for the greater good, child. Your powers and skills are truly remarkable. You still have a chance. Join me and assist me in my quest for bringing salvation!”

The boy’s expression turned from sternness to disgust over Sotirius’s words. “I’ll never join your madness! You’re a monster!”

The Saviour sighed. He proclaimed with his voice low, “Then you are the enemy” A sphere of energy was formed at the top of Sotirius’s machine from electricity running up from the Earth. “Your blood shall be used for the greater good.”

The sphere of energy turned into a beam and fired at the boy, vaporising him to dust.

“Over here!” The boy shouted from above, hanging out the door of a conical rock and metal aircraft made of golden bricks arranged like stairs with confusing carvings of strange people all over it. “Yes, it was an illusion!”

And the boy flew away.

“You will see, Elefther. You will see”, said the Saviour to himself, quietly and the Reptilian elder watched from the dark corner of a building.

File 4: Rescue

Ace stood in Mysticity, confused at what had happened, thinking about the mysterious note left in the nation. He heard marching in the distance and hid behind a nearby tree. It was the sixth nation’s mutants.

“If I feel a likeness to them” thought Ace, puzzled. “But...they are yet another thing that is not on the database”

A drone flew over Ace. He felt a tingling in his spine and collapsed before he could react.

But then the drone glowed gold and then exploded, with Elefther’s aircraft arriving from behind it. A golden light fell onto Ace from the aircraft’s bottom and picked Ace up into it.

Ace woke up in the interiors of the spacecraft by Elefther calling “Wake up, mister. Wake up.”

Ace opened his eyes and sat up alarmed.

“Where am I?” He asked “Who are you”

“Elefther. I’m from Mysticity”, he replied while setting some controls of his aircraft. “I saved you from the creatures in Mysticity”, he said, turning to Ace.

“Your nation. What happened?” asked a concerned Ace.

Elefther looked down at the surface of his aircraft, “They took it over”, he replied, worried for his homeland. He looked at Ace, “The sixth nation.”

“But aren’t there only 5?”, asked Ace.

“Not that you need to know, but here’s the story”, replied Elefther. “Ever since Homo Sapiens and Homo Technitos first began coexisting on Earth, scientists have wanted to fuse the 2 into a new lifeform that lacked the limitations of the 2 species. These experiments birthed you, The Perfect One, or Ace as they called you. But before the one that resulted in you, countless experiments attempting to accomplish The Perfect One were held. And a lot of them were successful, but the details were hidden, for the results of those experiments were not as perfect as the world would have expected. They were disposed of. Forgotten by society. But then they were approached by Sotirius, the one who calls himself the Saviour. They together established the sixth kingdom in the hidden parts of Earth, seeking to destroy anything which stands with perfection, which they believe is contrary to the

idea of the planet, the Earth that birthed many of us. But their plans never succeeded, for the nation of New Earth suppressed them just like all the other communities they had suppressed and destroyed in their quest for power. But that has led Sotirius to take a step even not his citizens have agreed to, for it will spell the destruction of us all. 'Terras tis Gaia', an ancient codeword for a legend long forgotten. It goes like this; 'the Earth has borne its burdens for long enough. One day it shall change from a Force of Creation to a one of Destruction. When this happens, it shall reveal its true form and rid itself from its children that attempt to overthrow it.' And this is the legend Sotirius wishes to bring to reality. He wishes to unleash the Earth's true form and bring destruction to everyone, humans, AI, Androids, Reptilians, even his own people."

Ace had been listening attentively, but he couldn't contain his curiosity. "Can you tell me about your aircraft? Its design truly fascinates me."

"I harvested it from the leftovers of an ancient ruin in my nation.", he replied, still as stoic as he was all this time.

The interiors looked like a comfortable home from the old times. It was made of rock, metal and wood, which are extremely rare.

"You harvested this. You are truly amazing for your age", said Ace looking around the interiors and with delight from the fulfilment of a bit of his curiosity, though there was much more left.

"Yes", replied Elefther, still stoic.

"I apologise. But you look like a child", said Ace.

"Yes, but that is a story we do not have time for", said Elefther, clearly dodging the query. "In case you're wondering, we're going to the sixth nation to meet with Sotirius."

"Oh...", Ace gasped before nodding after a second of thought.

File 5: Monster

Ace and Elefther landed before Sotirius's cabin. A short buzz was heard before a cage of energy zapped around the two, leaving Ace surprised but still not bringing out a flinch out of Elefther who was looking straight at the door of the cabin. "Sotirius", he called. "Come out! Now!"

The door opened. "Elefther. Have you considered my offer?", asked Sotirius.

"We need to talk", proclaimed Elefther, ignoring the question. "The halfling is with me", he said, looking at Ace.

Sotirius took them inside his dark cabin.

"Have a seat, Elefther", Sotirius asked politely, Elefther and Ace doing so. "What is it that you need to discuss, my friend?"

"I ask you again. Why do you wish me to join your madness?", questioned Elefther.

"I have told you many times, my friend", said Sotirius. "Your thoughts, your ideals, I respect them. I look up to them. You are wise, Elefther. You will be a great ally to my cause. But I request you. Stop calling my cause madness."

"You have strayed from your cause Sotirius. Back then, you were sane", said Elefther, his stoic expression changing to a bit of concern.

"Back then, I was young", began Sotirius. "I sought to bring change. I had no one in my younger days. What I was to get, it was given to me by the only mother I knew, Mother Earth. No other person loved the Mother more than I did. They sought to ruin the natural perfection that made her a god by their own twisted ideals of perfection. They began destroying Mother Earth's domain and replacing it with more towers, the like of which were wretched to me. They wished to overthrow her. They called me insane for my love and respect. Mother Earth gave them so much, but they refused to give anything back to her. I was powerless and naive. I did not know what I could do. But then you came,

Elefther. Different from what you are now and unknowing of the world, but wise enough to teach me how to make a change. That day you had given me the symbol I wear to this day. And-



“You lost your way!”, said a stern Elefther cutting Sotirius’s speech. “Through fear is not how you bring change!”

“The people won’t change willingly. They have to be *forced* into it!”

“Then that is not true change. It is *tyranny*!”

“Then let it be. Tell me then how to bring *true* change!

The room was filled with silence.

“Ugh-I-”, Elefther began. “The halfling will show you”

Sotirius raised an eyebrow.

“Ugh-*Me*?”, said a confused Ace. “I don’t even know much of the world.”

“*That* is exactly why you will be the one to bring a change,” said Elefther calmly.

“Ugh!”, Sotirius grunted. “The so-called perfect one is a disgrace to Mother Earth! You say *he* will bring a change!”

Elefther’s face grew cool and it offered hints of a faint, confident smile.

Elefther replied, “Trust me, he will”

All the while Ace grew nervous.

And he thought, “I had only asked for an answer. Here they’re resting the world on my shoulders!”

Elefther and Ace proceeded to walk out in peace and a rumble of thunder ran over the 6th nation as they walked out.

It echoed, “Monster! Traitor! Devil!”

To be continued ...