Secrets Timeline

***Sometime before the fall of the Soviet Union***

* A meteor strike causes a nuclear-like event that wipes out the village of Vsevokhan (v – SEV – oh – KHAN).
* A team of investigators are sent to determine the cause of the explosion. They find an irregularly shaped metal core filled with intact circuitry.
  + At first, they thought it was the remnants of a satellite.
  + Too advanced to be a Soviet satellite – was it American?
* They dubbed the strange device “семечко” (sem – ITCH – ko) or “The Seed”, and began to study it, hoping to unlock its secrets and counter whatever American plan to which it belonged.
* It quickly became apparent that the device was too advanced to be American.
  + They concluded that The Seed was extra-terrestrial in origin.

***Soon after the fall of the Soviet Union***

* The Seed is found in an abandoned lab facility on the Chechen border.
* It is crudely attached to a large, mainframe computer, and an array of “brains in a jar.”
* The “Chechen Brain Farm” is packed up and handed over to American authorities.

***Sometime in the 90s***

* Programmer David Terry heads up the team to study The Seed.
  + Because some of the materials found in the Seed were hard to replicate, the first project was to implement a full software simulation of the circuitry.
  + This project succeeded and the massive program JOHNNYAPPLE was created.
  + JOHNNYAPPLE allowed scientists to repair/tweak/experiment with aspects of the Seed, which before were limited by engineering concerns.
  + At this level of computing power, JOHNNYAPPLE requires a huge supercomputer to run.
* JA is found to be a general-purpose, adaptive AI where the program rewrites itself based on its interactions with users and other systems.
  + David learns he can “talk” to JA and JA talks back, and rewrites its programming accordingly.
* While writing JOHNNYAPPLE, David Terry suffered a mental breakdown and became convinced that the Seed was sent as a way to communicate directly with God.
  + David saves the code to JA onto a private server (LITTLEJOHN) to continue his personal pursuit of talking to God.
* David Terry is ultimately fired for instability culminating in his assaulting a fellow employee.

Sometime in the early 2000s

* A merger between Hideki Co., Imagine Industries, and Hinks Aviation brings together three key technologies and forms Visionary Enterprises.
  + Mental Haptics
  + “Perfect” Human to Computer Interfaces
  + Fast, Adaptive, General-Purpose Artificial Intelligence