

# **BCA Second Semester English-II**

## **Summary of Oxford Book of Science Fiction Stories**



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# STORIES

1. The Land Ironclad
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3. Billennium
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5. The Metal Man

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## **Story 1:**

## **The Land Ironclads**

The science fictional story, “The Land Ironclads” was written by Herbert George Wells (1866-1946). H.G. Wells was an English writer; he wrote many novels and short stories. H.G. Wells was nominated four times for Nobel Prize in Literature. He is famous for his sci-fi novels and also called as “Father of Science Fiction”.

“The Land Ironclads” was published in Strand magazine on 1903. The Land Ironclads was written at the time when European war was over people minds and possibilities of future European conflicts were popular talk. The logical foreseeing nature of H.G. Wells about the upcoming events and future possibilities were the main reasons his stories and novels got such huge popularity and attention among large number of people along with high ranked personals. In the story, 30 meter long heavily armed and armored behemoth powered by steam (Land Ironclads) is used to break trench warfare stalemate between two sides in the war field. This story acted as inspiration for Winston Churchill. This story inspired the development of tanks and was used 13 years after it was written.

In story, the war begins between two nations; none of the nations are named but are called as “the invader” and “the defender”. The defenders were professional soldiers, whereas the invaders were civilians put into military. The defenders are presented as professional fighter whereas, the invaders are presented as educated people living a quality and civilized life with less physical power (comparatively). The invaders are factory handed and amateurs in war. In other hand, the defenders are less advanced but very much skilled defenders. The skilled defenders underestimated the power of the smart invaders.

The invaders directly attempted to attack defender's capital but failed as the defense of trenches were prepared. The war field was on a stalemate situation. But as the invaders brought land ironclads, the condition changed. As 14 ironclads were brought to the war field stalemate changed into domination. Ironclads easily crossed trenches and continued on its way. The rifles were not sufficient in the defense of the ironclads. The defenders guns seemed to be useless battling with ironclads. The defending nation was defeated by a technological force. H.G. Wells showed that the modern wars are won with the use of science and technology against over strength.

The Land Ironclads were 14 large landships built by the invaders for powerful attack on the defenders. It was made of large steel and had eight pair of pedrail wheels. The top of it had tower-like vision ports for the commander of ironclad. The ironclad's weapon (armament) consisted of rows of sponson cabins which were slung along the sides, rear and front of the ironclad crewed by riflemen. Gunner's cabin would use camera picture for aiming and the gun is fired using an electronic trigger. Ironclad carried spare guns for replacing or repairing incase if a gun was damaged. The captain of iron landclad is in the middle, he scout the surroundings using the ladder that led to the conning tower. The speed of land ironclads were at least 6mps. The land ironclads used steam engines. The big machine has eight pairs of pedrail wheels. Each pedrail wheel has serial feet structure connected to the middle of a wheel. In story, the wheels are designed in a way such that it's easier to cross rough terrain and high slopes. Each foot humped itself. Pedrail wheels were thick, stumpy feet, broad flat buttons in shape. The writer described the pedrail wheel's feet as of elephant and the legs of caterpillars, which means the wheels of the land ironclad are strong, connected and can go easy

on trenches and slopes carrying those heavy weight. Few advanced version had suspension for individual foot.

The automatic rifles (weapons) of that time were few in numbers. The riflemen can aim seeing the camera obscura picture next to him. The picture seen by riflemen has a cross sign in the middle which helps riflemen aiming his gun. The gun was fired using an electrical button and their gun was moved using knob. The riflemen could see the out image, aim using his obscura camera and fire electronic magazine-fed automatic rifle along with changing its direction. The land Ironclad, its idea and technological abilities were ahead of its time, making it powerful and dominant weapon in the war at that time.

Even though the story was a Sci-Fi and a foreseeing of future, the idea of The land Ironclad inspired Winston Churchill, one of the highest ranked personals. He played important role in the development of Landships Committee, in 1915. First tank rolled out in 1916. Even though the future of armored vehicles like tanks were introduced/foreseen by many authors H.G. Wells was given the credit for foreseeing the future of tanks by Winston Churchill, in 1925.

*Tanks were first time used in the battle(Battle of the Somme) during World War I by British on 15 September, 1916. The fictional foreseen story turned into reality after 13 years from the time it was written.*

The designs and ideas elaborated in the science fiction story “The Land Ironclads” aren’t all accurate but it inspired and showed the way towards the future of tanks in the battle field. H.G Wells, writer of the story showed that the science and technology is future of world. In story, writer showed that the invader are not as strong as the defenders, the invaders aren’t much physically stronger than the

defenders, neither they are skilled in war comparing to the invaders. Still, the factory hands, the educated and civilized townsmen(the invaders) with their technological advancement won the war in short time. The story also showed that the smart and technological people have upper hand in world.

This sci-fi story showed the condition was stalemate between two countries during the war, but after the invaders brought The Land Ironclads in the war field it didn't took long to change the stalemate into victory for the invaders. The defenders were losing the war before they turned themselves into threat for the invaders. The powerful and skilled war nation(the defender) lost against the technologically powered nation(the invaders). The Ironclad's idea was ahead of its time; heavy armored machine- firing electronic magazine-fed automatic rifle and crossing trenches and slopes easily and continuing on its way. Trenches were the ditches dug in the ground where soldiers lived and defended their side. Trenches are muddy and uncomfortable. Trenches were by far one of the best defense mechanism in the war at that time. The Land Ironclads on its way destroying the trenches showed that the foreseeing future and using science and technology against the strength and physical power is advantageous.

We can learn the change in technology can bring changes in our lives. Science and technology plays a huge role in shaping the world. The advancement in science and technology has played a huge role in turning the world into how it's today. We can observe the difference in technology from time to time and how it is changing the way we live to the way we think. The best thing is not what we have right now, but what we can achieve can be learned in the story when the defenders instead of changing their strategies and advancing the war mode, they relied on their physical strength and martial power for defense, underestimating the power of advance

weapon of civilized townsmen. On other hand, when engineers battled with the land ironclads, it crushed the trenches destroying the defenders while the damaged dealt with the defenders' rifles didn't helped them much counter-attacking the ironclads of the invaders. Result: lost of the skilled war men (the defenders) against the invaders with better engineering and technological advancement.



## **Story 2:      Who Can Replace Man?**

The science fiction story, “Who can replace a man?” is written by Brian Wilson Aldiss(1925-2017) . The sci-fi story was written in 1965. Brian W. Aldiss was highly influenced from the writings of H.G. Wells (one of the great sci-fi writers). Inspired by writing of a great writer, Brian W. Aldiss wrote many sci-fi novels and stories. Brian Wilson Aldiss was author of over 80 books and 300 short stories along with several volumes of poetry. “Who can replace a man?” is one of his sci-fi stories about the relation between human and machines.

The writer has introduced the future of Earth, where machines are highly advanced and skilled. In story, machines are smart enough to talk and think. Due to the human-war and conflicts, Earth is messed and damaged a lot. Human kind is in extinction stage and they are totally dependent on machines for their every work daily.

One day, field minder on his duty met other machines and find out that other machines in farm aren't performing their tasks. As a high-level machine, field-minder investigates the situation. Other machine including level-two machines joined field-minder; they found that the man who ordered them task didn't issue any order, leaving machine on their own. In story, the scarcity of man is found. There were only few men surviving for some years and they are dead from diet deficiency few days before the day machines investigated. Machines with high-level brain were able to analyze and go through it, but those with low level brain were unable to perform any task in that situation. They came out with a solution of replacing a man. They discussed to go to city side in search of human or level-one machine (highest-leveled machine) so they can take orders and know what to do



next, other machines joined them. But as they were country machines they should be in country side as instructed. They found that one machine who wasn't instructed to follow them was following them, as the machine was doing task out of orders they destroyed it, before it could complete his words. This showed that even the high level brain machines lacked feelings and compassion for others.

*Every machine has own level of brain. Highest is one, considered highly intelligent and lowest is ten. Each high-level machine has their way of analyzing situation whereas, low level machine were unable to analyze but only able to follow orders. Their brains worked in logical way. Higher the level; higher the logical machine would be.*

Level-one machine was leading the city side and level-two machines were fighting against it. As they realize they had no chance to win against level-one machine, they decided to look after themselves. One of the machines (Bull dozer) suggested going badlands so they might meet other machines. They find the idea logical and went towards the badlands. Penner told that they will form new city over there and they who opposes will be destroyed. The machines went to towards the mountain. On the way, they got a message that there are few men living on the badlands side too. They were alert and went towards the badlands side, following bull dozer.

On the way, Penner legs slipped and it fall on the ground. Penner's gyro was not working and as there was no any mechanic Penner had to stop its journey and rust there. The other machines left Penner behind saying it has become useless, even though its second level brain machine. They reached a plateau then Fielder led the machines. After some time, a single man came out of cave; naked and shivering, suffering from starvation. The man ordered machines to get him food. The machines replied, "*Yes master!*"

The story ends. The machine accepted the man order but badlands where nothing grows; it's hard for machines to find food for starving man. The story has shown the relation between machines and human being, and we can learn what makes human and machine different from each other. The story presented how machines are related and controlled by humans, also presented how humankind has totally depended on machines for their living.

### **Shortly**

*Writer has introduced the possible future of Earth where machines can talk and think for themselves whereas mankind is involved in wars and disasters. One day machines didn't get their orders, later they find out the human who gave orders was gone. They searched in city side, but they fall back as the war was on. Now, machines have to depend upon their own intelligence and skills. Machines with higher-level brain were able to analyze the situation and adjust as much as they could but machines with lower-level brain were unable to analyze and they were unable to get themselves adjust in a new situation. They were on the way to form their own society. The lack of empathy and compassion for each other among machines led to destruction of their own group members. At the end, they find a man who orders them to bring him food. The machine replies, **"Yes, Master"**, the free machines were now on their duty instructed by a man.*

This science fictional story has shown the future world where the machines are highly intelligent and skilled. They are capable of thinking and solving problem. Whereas, in other side of the story, we find that Earth is devastated due to several wars. The population of human kind has degraded due to unhealthy environment and diet. Writer presented what are the limitations of machines that stop them from replacing human in nature.

When the uninstructed follower machine started to follow the squad, it was destroyed before letting it complete its words. This shows the lack of care and compassion in machines. Despite of high intelligent brain, machine lacked many things like love, care, sadness and other kind of feelings for others. Penner(a third-level brain machine) said, "All who oppose us will be destroyed." This is similar to the domination behavior of a human being which is the main cause of war. At the end, Penner was unable to continue its journey as its gyro breaks, while other machines continue their journey without showing any care for Penner. This also shows that without human help machines can't repair themselves and can't maintain the society as they lack feelings. Even though, Penner was a leader featured machine, one of the high-level, the other machines didn't care for him. These shows, even after having great logical thinking like human being, machine stills lack the sense of caring and loyalty. The human in story is shown very much dependent on machines, the human think they will get the result from machines once they give them order. The order given by a man at the end to machines for getting him food in the badlands made the above statement clear. The suspense of what happens after he ordered the food, was it possible to form a machine society, how would it end up if they didn't found a man still remains for readers.

From story we can say, human should learn from their mistakes. The human war will lead nothing but destruction leaving nothing behind but dust. Human should create machines that can do work fast and in great accuracy, but shouldn't be dependent upon machines. Machines are human made and can never surpass the level of human being. They are always controlled by human being. In today's date the reliability upon machines is increasing rapidly, the future that the writer has foreseen shall come true.

## **Story 3:**

## **Billennium**

The science fiction story, “Billennium” is written by James Graham Ballard (1930-2009). J.G. Ballard was an English novelist, story writer, satirist and essay writer. J.G. Ballard tried training to be a doctor, later quit it to read English Literature. He didn’t complete this course too. Heading of the “Billennium” refers to the future time when the world has to face the consequences of overpopulation.

The story describes time when human has to face overpopulation. The world population has reached 20,000 billion. The fictional story is set on future where people live on their individual cubicles. The word ‘cubicles’ is a synonym word for room. An individual is allowed to occupy thirty eight square feet space. Most of the land is used for agriculture and farming purpose because the population size is very huge; leading to increase in demand of food, so to supply more; most part of the land is used for farming and agriculture. The story features two main characters; John Ward and Henry Rossiter, they are very different from each other even though they are close friends. Double cubicles were less expensive than single cubicles. Single people were charged more amount because they were unable to fit in whereas people who lived in joint were charged less.

*From view point of our main character John; the government is shown bit careless in terms of population management. The management plan of cubicles supports large family by allowing them to pay less for double or triple size cubicles. In other hand, single people has to pay more for single cubicles, so single people rather live with partner just to pay less money for cubicles.*

John Ward is described as a middle aged librarian. He lives with his friend Henry Rossiter. John hates his landlords for decreasing his cubicles size. John got very disturbed when the Victorian Wardrobe is destroyed for increasing space; this shows John is sensitive towards beauty. In another hand, Henry Rossiter, close friend of John, is very different from John. Henry Rossiter works for the government, he is sharp and realistic. Henry is not sensitive towards beauty as John is, this can be known while he was the one to suggest sacrificing the Victorian wardrobe for more space. In story, Victorian wardrobe which they destroyed was symbolized as beauty in their lives. The city where John and Henry live is shown as crowded, noisy, full of traffic jams and congested. Sometimes, the traffic jam can last days. Almost twenty million people live in the city; they find it hard to live in such congested environment.

One day, John discovers a room adjacent to their cubicle. The room he discovered was forgotten by others. Both friends were in joy of finding a new space, as they were feeling uncomfortable in the small cubicles. They bought a beautiful wardrobe to decorate the new place. At the beginning, they used the new room turn by turn. Later, both of them moved in. Henry found that two girls have been kicked out again. Still there was a lot of space left, Jack allowed Henry to invite the girls to live in with them. The girls were Judith and Helen. Judith wanted her aunty to come over their living place. So, Henry allowed it. Later, Helen's mother needed personal care because she was sick. They let Helen's sick mother in their new room to take care of her. After sometime, Helen's father joined them. John found him irritating. The open space is now filled with people. The beautiful wardrobe has to be dismantled in order to increase area. John left his job at library, he charged small rental amount so he can his needs. He spent most of the time in his room tolerating the man whom he found irritating.

The open space which they wanted became crowded leaving their condition as it was before. John who hated greedy landlords has now become the one like them. John hated the system before but at the end of story he used it for his own benefit. The story has beautifully portrayed the value of freedom.

### **Shortly**

*As the story heading (Billennium), the story is set in future when the population is about 20 billion and living is very congested. There is lack of privacy and space. City has often traffic jams and some last for days, congested and no one can move. Most of the land is used for farming and agriculture purpose. People live in small room called "cubicles". Story features two main characters; John and Henry. John hated the cubicles system and landlords. John and Henry are friends who lived in same cubicle. One day, they find an extra abandoned room adjacent to their room. They were filled with joy. They moved in to the new room they found. They later called two girls who were kicked out of their cubicles. Afterwards, girls' relative joined their new room. The room is then filled with people. At the end of the story, John quit his librarian job and started to live as landlord of the new space he found. He became like the landlords, he once hated.*

The science fiction story gives a strong message on the unorganized way of how we live and what it will lead into future. The uncontrolled population growth is the main problem in future. As shown in story, war was not the problem of future but uncontrolled overpopulation was. In story, human live in congested place because most of the land is used for farming and agriculture. People are given limited area to live. The city is very crowded and noisy as per story.

The wardrobe has played a great role in displaying the character's personality. The wardrobe was kept in their new room as a symbol of beauty and freedom. The



wardrobe was beautiful and well made. Our main character, John has is sensitive to beauty. When Henry suggest dismantling the wardrobe, John was bit sad. Even at the end of story, he misses it very much. If necessary, the needs of time can kill things we like and admire the most. This shows how over population affects our surroundings. The beauty was lost due to overpopulation. Not only wardrobe was destroyed, many beautiful buildings were replaced by cubicles. The problem of overpopulation made human to sacrifice a lot.

In the story, landlords are shown as someone powerful. They own lands and spaces which are seen as valuable thing during the period of billennium. John hated the system as well as landlords. At the end, John himself became one of the landlords owning the secret room, along with his friend. The thing he hated so much was now used by him for self-benefit.

Over all, the main message of this sci-fi story is to show the possible future of world. The unchanged behavior of human at present has sure consequences in future. Talking about reality, the population growth has been increasing rapidly. The problem of overpopulation even exists in today's date. It's not worse as the writer has described in story but if the mankind doesn't take this as a threat for future generation, the sci-fi story might change into reality.

## **Story 4:**

## **Burning Chrome**

The science fiction story “Burning Chrome” is written by William Gibson (March 17, 1948). William Gibson is credited for beginning the cyberpunk genre under Science Fiction. He is a speculative fiction writer. His writing career began in late 1970s. The sci-fi story, Burning Chrome was first published in Omni magazine, in 1982.

Burning chrome is a science fiction story narrated by one of its characters. The story is beautifully elaborated as every slice of the story can be found detailed, with the character representation to their behavior, and many more. There are three main characters in the story; Bobby Quine, Automatic Jack and Rikki Wildside. Bobby and Jack are professional hackers, Bobby is an expert in software and Jack is an expert in hardware. In story, Bobby is searching for a big hit to turn his life. Jack is Bobby’s partner in crime, they are a hacking duo. Jack has an artificial right arm. He maintains the hardware system that Bobby uses for hacking and gets hardware and software that are necessary and helpful for hacking. Rikki is a 19/20 year old girl whom Bobby is deeply in love with. She came afterward as an addition to the group. Both the boys have grown love for her, and she was the also reason Bobby and Jack hacked Chrome’s security. In story, we can find how this three character stick to each other to meet their goal.

*Chrome is a criminal figure; she deals with monetary transaction with crime organization and has a lot of money, power and dangerous people in contact. Chrome is the one that Bobby and John have chosen to rob. The heading “Burning Chrome” is given because the story’s events are covered around it. In story, they plan to get into Chrome’s security and rob money.*



When Jack went to New York to find if any new hot software was available, he found a Russian program at Finn's place. Finn got it from some Jersey's kids. It was the only hot software available as per Finn. "I'll give you a bargain on it, Jack. For old times' sake." we can find that Jack is his old customer. Finn was just selling the product so he showed no any concerns to know about the software is about. Jack bought it.

Bobby has interests on woman; he saw them as tarot or something as per Jack. "... he was waiting for, the wild card or luck changer. The new one." This point hints that Bobby was looking for someone new with whom he can match up and be happy with. Then Bobby meets Rikki and brings her to their place. There Jack and Rikki get to know each other, Jack had good feelings for her and beside Bobby he was also interested in her. That's how three main characters of the story "Burning Chrome" met.

Bobby wanted to impress Rikki so badly that he planned to use the Russian "Icebreaker" program to break into the system of Chrome. Jack agrees with him. They were waiting for a big hit, so they risked breaking into Chrome's security to rob. Bobby was way too much into it, he got hyped up and both of them started to burn Chrome. They had planned out already on how they will get money to how much they take. They were successful, they successful robbed Chrome only less than 8 minutes. They did a big hit as they wished for long time. They only took 10% of robbed amount for themselves.

While they were hacking into Chrome's security; Jack made a street fighter to keep eyes on Rikki, but later she gets away from the watcher's eye. They found that Rikki worked at brothel. After that, Jack himself went to see for her. She was heading to the Hollywood. She had a plane to catch, but Jack managed to change

her flight to Chiba, Japan. He also managed a return ticket for her but she didn't come back.

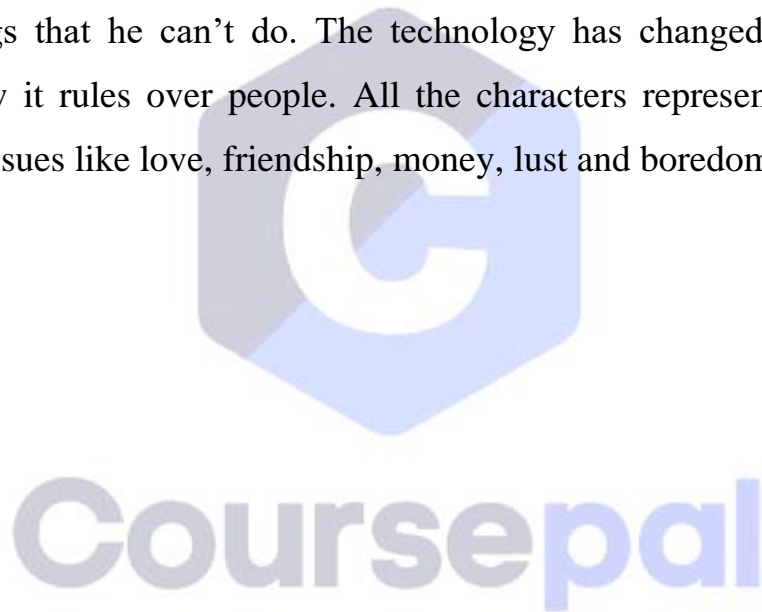
Both the boys were devastated, the girl they loved both; the one who gave them a reason is now no longer in their life. Even though Jack had a chance to go with her he stayed with his friend Bobby. They hit their dream but still they felt empty void inside them, it was the absence of Rikki Wildside.

### **Shortly:**

*The cyberpunk genre sci-fi story, "Burning Chrome" is about the people living their life in the computer era. We have two friends; Bobby and Jack, both of them fall for same girl. They were waiting for a big to change their life. One day, Jack brings Russian "Icebreaker" software that they use to break the security of very dangerous criminal known as Chrome. Chrome handles the money of organized crime. They broke the Chrome's security successfully and emptied the bank account of Chrome. They also find out that the woman whom they were in love with works in brothel. Bobby loved Rikki very much, and Jack was also in love with her secretly, but at the very end both of them are left by her. They were devastated. The woman whom they loved is now no longer with them. The story presented low-life and high tech life style; this is how cyberpunk term was coined by the writer.*

William Gibson, writer of the story is famous for beginning a subgenre "Cyberpunk" under the sci-fi, Cyberpunk referring to combination of lowlife and high tech. "Burning Chrome" falls under the cyberpunk category. It shows the characters living life surrounded by technology and computers, earning sufficient. Writer has tried to relate the characters with real people. In reality, people have let technology overcome them.

The story shows the struggle of people facing in the real world. The way those three were stick to each other had their own self-reason. Their goals made them stick together. Both the men realize if they fulfill their dream, they can be satisfied but in reality, after the girl left them both they were devastated even if their long-dream was fulfilled. The girl even had no interest in them; she was for fun and thrill. After she was full, she left them. At the end of the story, we can a drastic change in lives of Bobby and Jack. Bobby, who was taken as self control person was controlled over by lust, and Jack who was taken to be skillful realize that there are many things that he can't do. The technology has changed the world very much, that now it rules over people. All the characters represented the real life problems and issues like love, friendship, money, lust and boredom.



## **Story 5:**

## **The Metal Man**

The science fiction story, “The Metal Man” is written by Jack Williamson (1908-2006). It was first published in the magazine “Amazing Stories” in 1928. Jack Williamson is known as “Dean of Science Fiction”, he is also credited for using the term “Genetic engineering” for first time. The story “The Metal Man” is related with the consequences of technology-overuse and the possible life form due to the effect of technology-overuse.

The story is narrated by the friend of our main character professor Thomas Kelvin. Professor left the manuscript for Russell about his journey to the red snake-figure-river of blood (El Rio de la Sangre) in the exploration and search for radium. On the journey, he finds that the tissue is converting into metal form, unless if a special berry juice gets contact with it. Here, we can see the converting of tissue into metal and how it can be only fixed when the berry juice is in contact. This shows the overuse of technology & its misuse; which is a massive threat for humanity can be fixed only if nature is balanced side-by-side.

The overuse of technology is in the way such that it's capable of dehumanizing the humans. In story, there is a statue of a metal man standing in the Tyburn College Museum; it's the statue of Professor Thomas Kelvin. He is helping into the development of medical field with radium. He is trying to survive because he is suffering from disorder that still hasn't been figured out. The statue however is there to represent to warn the consequences of using technology and what it can lead to. On one hand, technology is helpful; it makes life better but in another hand its misuse can lead to a horrible and devastating situation. The misuse of technology can lead humanity and world to the end.

In the story, professor is shown in the way to search of radium. Radium is rare and expensive; this is what made him motivated. While going through the river contaminated with radium, he and his arm got heavy and was unable to control his plane. The plane got pulled down to the ground. The place was colorful and empty with no any sign of humans. Some plants were able to change themselves according to the surrounding. In story, colors are chosen to let imagine readers the surroundings; also using the colors metaphorically to display his ideas, like green fire. He saw birds changed into metal form. He gets trapped in the unknown place where he finds the highly radioactive radium. He finds the radium but gets affected by it. His fingernails and hairs are changed into green metal form. Later, he found berries; he squeezed it upon his finger and wiped it. He was in joy as it cured him from converting himself into metal. He carried the berries juice in his bottle and went further to explore the place, as he was curious. There he found many metal trees and birds. He later went to his plane and came back. He was very much contaminated with radium. His berry bottle that is used to stop him from being a metal man is empty. He wrote his full story about his journey and what he discovered. The ending goes with the belief of our narrator thinking the manuscript is fake, as it was very unrealistic and very much non-natural.

The greed to get more than necessary is costly and dangerous. Even though he earned a lot from it, the radium affected his health and he couldn't survive for long period. The story is written in very metaphorical and phenomenal pattern, that readers have to give full attention to understand its meaning.

*Radium is highly radioactive, an alkaline metal; soft, shiny and silver-white in color. It is very dangerous element as it can affect our body causing liver, bone and breast cancer. It's used as cure to prostate cancer in bones in medicals. It is*

*rare and expensive. In story, radium converts any tissue into metal but in reality, being in contact with radium leads body to suffer from different illness and sickness.*

### **Shortly:**

The basic concept of the story is to show the readers how the use of technology is affecting daily life and what will be the future consequences. The story also hints how humans in future will be dehumanizing, in future and more mechanical. The emotions, the sentiments rationality or can be said all in one; humanity is likely to suffer due to the increase use of technology. We are very much influenced by technology that we don't observe our real surrounding, we are lost in technology. We are becoming more mechanical and less human. The world will come under a threat because of excessive use of technology and human will be the one to suffer more from it. According to the story, the technology in upcoming future might be a risk the life of human and entire humanity. The message of the story is, human lose their humanity due to the excessive dependence and use of technology, making them like metal; no emotions and no feelings.

The story is written in 1928 i.e. between World War I and II. We know how the world turned during WWII and how the technology was used, or can be said misused for mass destruction. Atomic bomb contaminated with radium brought a massive disaster in humanity. The writer has foreseen the future of excessive dependency of human upon technology and how we are turning into slave in front of the technological era. People at the time when this story was written might not have thought about the consequences of overuse of technology and its future impact, but the writer has foreseen the consequences and its result on humanity and human life style.

We can find the haphazard that technology has brought in the human life. Human are now so much reliable and influenced by technology. Science and technology is helping human to live longer and healthy life. Also it is bringing a terrible threat to the human in future. World War II was an example of what can happen if science and technology is abused, or misused. We should only walk on the white, safe side of science. We shouldn't poke dark side of science else, it can lead to a massive destruction; even to the end of entire human life. Humans should learn from their mistakes.

