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for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra

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SUPREMACY: New-Genesis

Night of The Rowing Beacons

As clear as the night of October 12th, 1992. As clear the terror that’s coming. Beautiful indeed the night was, but ended up tragic that night was. Great the mankind was but why should we embraced absolute threat, not like anything we’ve ever faced.

Is this the end of the reign of the Human race?

Main Lady, Linda.

I’m reading a poem, written by my mother in her notebook. Telling about the night when the Aliens, or what we call; The Skyman, came to earth, and brought destruction and sufferings to mankind. I actually don’t really know how the event was. I’m only 12 now, and when that event happened, I was just born.

I’m not really into poem but her notebook is the only thing to fill the absence of my mother. I’m not one hundred percent sure but her sudden leaving last night puts an idea inside my mind that she would never come back.

Last night, I was sleeping in my room when mother woke me up. She woke me up, hugged me tight and whispered to my ear,

“This is our land. .. our home son, not theirs.” She kissed me on the forehead; a tender and loving kiss one.

Then my bedroom door opened, and a silhouette appeared. I thought it was my father, but it wasn’t. It was something else. It’s not human, it was probably the Skyman. All of my senses told me that it wouldn’t end up good. I leaped out of my bed and rushed toward my bedroom door, but the door has been closed.
The last thing I remember I was crying to my sleep.

*Knock knock*

I hear several knocks on the door, and then the door opens.

“Excuse me, Sir Gage”

It is my butler, Ralph. Coming to my room along with some maids. With his calm voice, Ralph addresses me with my noble title. I don’t have any interest to answer him, so I just turn my face a bit.

“Mister Governor told me to bring you to his brother’s house”

“Why? This is my house, why should I leave?”

I turn my head at him. He looks down avoiding eye contact

“I’m sorry sire, I’m just following order” I can hear hesitation when he speaks, I bet he doesn’t want to sound rude. “But still, you could bring some stuffs, if you’d like to, Sir”.

I have run out of willingness to argue, for me, without the presence of my mother, this house is nothing but a stack of sticks and stones. Blocks of concretes of loneliness.

I don’t like to bring anything from this house with me. I don’t even like to bring any clothes, yet still some maids are packing some of my clothes into the suitcase.

As I get out of my room, I see a long hallway with some corners that lead to the main door. Ralph was about to hold my hand and bring me outside, but I refused him with a gentle pull.

“I know the way, Ralph” Ralph then nods and walks behind me, followed with some maids bringing my suitcases.
Straight ahead is the main door, already opened. My transport is already waiting for me. As we get closer to the door, Ralph is softly clearing his throat. Years of working for my family, I already know that by clearing his throat means Ralph has something to say, or to ask.

“No intention to be rude, sir. I see you only bring your mother’s notebook, don’t you want to bring something more... memorable?"

“Why, Ralph? So I could mourn to sleep in every single night of my life?”

“My humblest apology, sir. I didn’t mean to offend you.”

Ralph stops walking and bowing his back, begging for my apology, although I’m not even feeling offended. Not even a bit. So I reply him with a wave of my hand, telling him that he has been forgiven.

As we have arrived to my transport, maids are starting to put my suitcase inside. I have big amount of desire to look back and take a last of my house. But I choose not to.

I sit inside the transport. Ralph and the woman maids are on the outside, waiting for me to set. This transport is different than my usual transport, this one is .. less noble, if I must say.

“Until we meet again, sir” Ralph and the maids bow, offering me their last respect before I leave.

“I guess not, Ralph .. I’m afraid this would be the last time you’d be hearing about me”

“I choose to doubt that, sir”

My transport door closes. I’m still wondering why Ralph is able to say that but I forget it when the transport starts moving.
As I’m leaving further from my house, I choose the clear my mind from everything inside the house. Now they are just nothing but the past I don’t want to brag about.

...........

Neo-Earth

I miss the day when there’s only man and woman, I miss the day when humans build their houses with sticks and stones, I miss the day when we can do everything in the way that we want to, I miss the past time for I hate the present time, I miss the mother earth back when we just called it Earth ...

Not the other way around.

Main lady, Linda

Beep beep beep beep

I am reading my mother’s notebook on my bed, when suddenly the alarm goes off telling me that I should be ready for work.

“Gage! Gage! How long d’you want to lay on your bedroom? ... Why don’t you come up and help your niece”

My uncle; Rando, in the upper floor is calling me to go up.

I put my late mother’s notebook into the drawer beside my bed. My room is a small room in the 3rd floor below the ground. Just like everyone else, my house is a dome-shaped house that goes down to the underground, with vertical stairs connecting each floors.

It is the Skyman’s design.
Hate to admit but the design is undeniably effective. The shape is built to prevent it from being too hot, yet it preserving the heat for cold night, more to that, the underground design provides a better access for ground water.

I pack my belongings, get out of my bedroom and climb upstairs.

As I arrived on the 2nd floor, I go to the dining room helping my niece to prep for school. Her name is Tiara, a 5 years old girl, studying in the Skyman’s school for children.

“Morning, Gage.”

“Morning”

“Why, Gage? You look unenthusiastic for work”

Rando has finished preparing the breakfast, and puts it on the table for us to eat.

“You know I never like to work for those bugs”

I often address the Skyman as bugs; because they do look like a bug inside their suit.

“Hahaha.. So you still cannot forgive them”

“Meh.. never even tried”

“Well... what can I say then, Ah! Have you ever heard about The Revolution, Gage?”

“Nope, not even once. What is that?”

Rando must have realized that I don’t like the topics, thus he changes it, although, I still doubt this one is going to attract me.

“A rebel group.”

“Pfffttt! Really, Rando? Hahaha, since when you care about silly thing like that?”
“You know.. Gossips among the workers, but, I don’t know.. this one sounds.. more promising”

“Hah! Bullcrap! In the end they’ll end up just like every single one before them, hole through the head, or rotting in Skyman’s rebel compartments”

“Well..well.. you probably right, but you sure are different than your mother, you know”

“Really? How come?”

“Back in her days, she’s always enthusiastic in such thing like that, once, I even heard that she joined—“

“My mother was never involved in something like that, Rando!”

I don’t care what he knows about my mother, but rebel groups are silly and I believe my mother was not into it.

“Hey.. I’m sorry, okay? I’m just saying what I know”

Rando looks sincerely sorry, which makes me feel bad. I did not mean to be rude at him.

“that’s okay, I’m sorry too, I was not supposed to burst like that as well”

Beep beep beep

Suddenly the alarm in my watch goes off, meaning I should get going.

“Well.. I guess it’s that it, I should go now, bye Tiara, bye Rando.. Thanks for the breakfast”
I get out of my house and walk on the sideways to the Shuttle stops, where all the workers waiting for their transport to the facilities they are working in. Surrounding me, there are rows and rows of domes and people walking side to side with their colored working suits. It’s funny to think that some people actually despised the Skyman, while in fact, we humans are starting to act like them.

From above, all of these domes and people would look like clusters of white anthills with ants in different colors walking in line.

“Haha. Eat that, hypocrite!” I know this one goes for me too.

When I arrive, the shuttle-stop is crowded with people. They are wearing different color uniforms, indicating in what facility they are working in. In front of the shuttle stops, there is a vacant street. My mother used to tell me that back in her days, the streets used to be crowded with private vehicles using fossil fuels.

Nowadays, those vehicles are no more. The Skyman has banned it, and changed it into public vehicles; such as Shuttle-transport that uses solar energy. Once in a while there are one or two Skyman’s Hover-ship passes by, or their Skylaner flies above me.

Not waiting for too long, the shuttle arrives. When the door opens, I get inside along with some other workers. The shuttle looks like a hovering box moving automatically by the system, integrated with city roads to each destinations.

To think that humanity has become more and more similar to those bugs is funny yet sad at the same time. I have never liked it, but at this time, grieving about it won’t give me any good. Well .. Atleast thinking about it could cool me down for working later.

I hope.
The shuttle drops us right in front of the facility I’m working in. Surround me, swarm of people are walking towards the main gate.

“Hey! ‘sup, mate? Good day, isn’t it?”

Someone from behind hugs me over my shoulder, from his voice, I know It’s my friend Dirk, A 165 cm tall ginger-guy. A complete nerd with freckles on his face. With a swift move, I twist his hand and press his head between my fists, quite strong without any intention of hurting him.

“Who taught you to surprise me from behind, eh?? Geek-head! hahahaha”

“ouch.. ouch.. ouch.. Gage! Gage! Ouch.. ouch”

I release my pressure on his head, and hug him over his shoulders while laughing at him.

“Fuck, dude! You know I never like when you do that.. dang! It hurts”

“Then why do you keep falling to the same move?? Hahahahahaha”

“Fuck, off!”

“Hahahahaha okay, okay.. chill out, mate! Hahahaha”

“Stop doing that you jerk.. it’s getting old and hurts so much”

“Then you stop surprising me from behind, hahaha, okay.. okay.. so do you have any news to tell me today? C’mon, I know you’re the best in digging for news.”
Dirk is looking a bit upset, so I change the topic to make him forget about it. I know he is not a butt-hurt.

“Do you know about Project Genesis?” I reply him with a shook of my head.

“It is a coop-project of human congress and the Skyman”

“Really? What is it about?”

“I’m not sure, but I heard it has something to do with installing some kind of microchip in our head to enhance our physical strength”

Along with every one else, we are walking in a wide open space that goes directly to the main gate of the facility. Around us, there are some Sentinels and patrol drones watching us all. Sentinels are Skyman’s armed soldiers.

“Number 0011 and number 0007. Quit your chatter. You are slowing down the line”

One of the Sentinels with their artificial voice warns us, as we are slowing the line. I then fasten my walking pace along with Dirk. We don’t want to trigger them, The Sentinels are known to use physical abuse towards violating citizens.

“One of my friends have told me that the project will be presented at the central space and be streamed live in every place, including our facility”

“Well.. let’s see about it later then. Anyway, who’s going to present the project?”

“Not sure.. But according to the scale of the project, I believe it would be the Governor”

The shocking news stops my heart from beating for a second. After all these years, I will finally see my father.

“What’s wrong dude?”
“Nothing, nothing particular”

My origins and childhood are not something that I can share with everyone, so that, I try not to make Dirk suspicious about it.

After several checking posts, we arrived in the inside of the facility. Dirk and I walk separately to our own working stations, where we spend 7 hours a day looking at bunch of buttons, panels, and flickering lights.

The facility we are working in is a facility that working on developing basic material for pretty much every Skyman’s technologies. Time feels like eternity when I’m working as I never enjoy it at all.

Suddenly a loud alarm goes off and then the big screens on the side of the rooms are turned on. According to what Dirk had told me before, I guess it must be it. instantenously everyone is looking at the screen.

And then, there he is, the figure of a familiar face.

The Governor, ... my own father.

“My fellow people, I’m here to tell you a very good news. Not only for you, but for all of us. For every single species linger on the surface of this planet. Whether it is us; Human, or our brother from the sky; The Skyman”

Looking at my father on the screen brings me such “reunion feelings” yet the way he addresses the Skyman as “brother” really annoys me.

“In this moment, I proudly announce you a giant leap in our new history. Behold! Project Genesis ...”
A brief presentation about the project is displayed on the screen. Shimmering graphics, figures of delinquent man and woman with strong profile, and everything you need to sell your idea and make people believe they are about to be involved in something amazing.

The project is explained briefly and quickly, then he shows up once again for a closing speech.

I don’t really understand the project, but I have to admit, he is doing an awesome job with his words as he manages to stun the audience and left them with amazement. For me personally, I feel a mixed feeling inside. I’m actually proud that my father is such a great and charismatic man, yet I’m feeling left out. No matter how great he is, he never treats me like his son.

....

12.30 (Lunch Time) ; Lunch Area - Grade II Facility: Source Material Refining and Cultivating Facility

I’m in a queue, standing in the line with everyone else waiting for our lunch to be served by a machine at the front end of the line. The queue is going fast since this facility has only one menu. Eating one same menu everyday is not very pleasant indeed, but I must admit that it’s a very efficient method of time management since we don’t have to bother choosing what to eat.

After a while, my turn comes. I put my plate below the funnel and the machine automatically served the lunch on my plate.

“Gage Governson, son of Barrington-Governor the 5th”

I was about to get out of the queue when I heard someone call me softly. So I quickly turn my back to see who’s talking.
“No need to look surprised. Just act normal.. you might cause needless attentions”

Behind me a woman that I never know before speaks to me. she’s a tall dark-skinned woman, with a trimmed blond hair. I’m still wondering how does she know my identity.

“Find an empty table and sit. I’ll tell you when we get there”.

I follow her instruction and sweep my sight looking for an empty table. When I find one, I walk there as quick as possible, yet still as casual as possible.

I pull one chair when I get there and sit. She walks casually towards my table and sits on the chair in front of me. Without a second thought I burst her with questions.

“Who are you? How do you know my identity?”

“Who am I is not important, but what I’m about to say is”.

She eats her lunch like everyone else not to cause any suspicion.

“I have friends, and they want you to join us”.

“Who’s this friends of yours?

“We are a group of people.. called.. The Revolution”

“I’m out! She’s nuts” That’s the only that comes into my mind whe she mentions The Revolution, I quickly stands about to leave her on the table.

“Are you going to abandon something that was made by your mother”

I sit back on the chair when she mentions my mother, I bend closer and look directly to her eyes.

“You are not spitting bullshits about my mother, woman!”
It almost like I’m threatening her when I said it.

“No one’s bullshitting you, Governson. We have evidence! I can show it to you here, but if you really want to know the truth, meet me in front of the facility after the work.”

She is saying it in a very casual way, I can’t trust her completely but I think I’ll give it a shot.

She finishes her lunch and leaves me. I don’t care anymore where she goes. One thing in my mind is that later, I probably would know the truth about my mother.

I hope.

........

16.04 | Outside of the Facility

In front of the facility, her distinctive profile is quite hard to miss out, I wonder why did I not notice her before. I walk through the crowds approaching her.

“To make it easier for you, .. you can call me Ray”

She lets me know her name, then followed with a shook of her head and walks. I guess she wants me to follow her. I follow her walking among the crowds to the Shuttle stops.

I was expecting “Going to a secret meeting” would be more like walking through a dark-alley or something like that. Not just casually walking to the shuttle stops like this.

At the shuttle stops, I couldn’t hold my thoughts and spit my question.

“Why are we stopping, here? Aren’t we going to the---”

“Waiting for a shuttle of course. Why? Is this something new for you?”
The way she answers my question makes me feel stupid. I guess she wants me to shut up.

“It’s just.. Not like the way I expected”

“Brace yourself, dude. The world doesn’t always go together with our expectation” She turns her face at me and smirks.

I know that asking more questions would give me nothing but sarcasms and rude answers.

Not long after that, a shuttle arrives. It doesn’t take too long for the empty shuttle to be filled with people, but Ray doesn’t get in. The shuttle then goes off and leaving us there.

“I thought we were waiting for the shuttle?”

“Not that one”

I know further arguments are no use against this woman. So I just stand there and shut my mouth. It doesn’t take too long for the next shuttle to arrive. An empty one, only few people inside. Once the shuttle opens its door, Ray goes inside the shuttle and I follow her.

“The meeting will only last for 30 minutes, so pay attention, there won’t be any extra-time”

“What do you mean? So the meeting has started?” She nods her head, without looking at me at all.

I don’t understand. I don’t know what did she mean by that, so I look her showing her a great amount of confusion.
“Is there any slight part of your brain still working? Can’t you figure out that the meeting is happening right here in this shuttle?”

Once again, she answers me with a rude answer, then suddenly the door opens and Several people get inside, one of them is an old guy. I couldn’t look at his face clearly, but I feel like I know this guy.

They all but the old guy are sitting on the seats. He puts off his cap and starts talking.

“Evening, lads! Today, we’re here for two agendas, one of them is to---”

“Ralph? Is that you? .. Ralph the Butler?”

The way he talks sounds different, but I’m definitely sure he is Ralph. Ralph the butler in my old house.

“Yeah.. yeah.. it’s me. Get back to your seat, kid!”

“Wait! How’d you end up here? Are you still working in my old house? And... How about everyone else?”

“Hey! Hey! Save your reunion vibes for later, kid! Time’s running short and we don’t have times for your nagging!”

Ralph pushes me back on my seat, which shocks me a lot. I’m offended. Never in my life someone treats me like that.

“Back off! Old man!”

I get off of my seat and push him back. Only to make everybody there draw their gun and point them at me.
“What’s wrong, young master? You look surprised.. why? Not expecting someone to point their guns at you? Still thinking you’re a noble? Eh?”

I find no answers to reply him, so I just stand there looking intensely into his eyes.

“Why? Somebody got your tongue, eh? If you don’t have anything more to say, back to your seat and sit like a good boy!”

“I’ll sit back if you give me the evidence related to this group and my mother”

“Ah! Of course.. Well.. Lads, give him the wills”

Someone in the back gives me a paper that I believe is the wills of my mother. I sit back on my seat and read the wills. On it, I find that my mother is the one who started The Revolution itself, and there she clearly stated how she wanted me to join The Revolution.

Looking at the wills, I’m pretty sure that it’s authentic. The fact feels like a thunderstruck in my mind. My mother is actually started a rebel group; which is something that I dread the most. I find myself ended up in a crossroads, whether to follow my mother’s path, or get out and leave this group.

I raise my hand about to ask something from Ralph.

“If I joined, how do I know your plan’s gonna work? How do I know you’ll not gonna end up like the other rebel groups?”

“Nobody knows, kid.. nobody knows.. But thanks to your mother’s research of the Skyman’s order and system, we have developed a virus that could corrupt the Skyman’s system, and disabled their defense”
I’m about to ask another question, but the Shuttle has arrived on its final stops which means the meeting should end. The shuttle door opens and everybody’s getting out of there casually.

“Look kid, I’m not gonna push you, but if you want to join, you should be ready. The path of The Revolution is not an easy path to take”

Ralph warns me, and goes his way. I take another way and walk my way home. When I’m getting closer I realize that there are numbers of Sentinels around my house. My sense tells me that presences of Sentinels means bad news.

I run inside through lines of guarding Sentinels and find my uncle and Tiara are safe and sound. From behind one of the Sentinels grabs me and pins me down to the floor, assuming that I’m a threat.

“Release him! I know that guy”

Familiar voice comes from the stairs, and the Sentinels obediently releases me and helps me to stand.

“I’m surprised you’re still keeping your mother’s notebook”

As what I have guessed, that voice is coming from my father.

“Put down that book! Don’t you dare touch it!”

“Hey.. hey.. hey.. I’m sorry, okay? Do you have to be so rude to your own father? Don’t you miss your father?”

“Why should I miss someone who’s never been in my life?”
“I’m sorry, Gage.. It’s not like I didn’t want to be there for you.. But I just can’t! The Skyman didn’t let me.. Your mother was involved in—“

“Stop talking about my mother!”

Now I’ve known that mother is indeed involved, but I don’t like if he just talks about my mother like she was a convict. No matter what, my mother is far better than him.

“Oh.. You said you have something to tell us, Barry. What is that?”

Rando sinks in the conversation with a change of a topic, he probably wants to break the awkward silence or just prevents further arguments.

“Ah! Yea.. Tomorrow at the Central Space, the first phase of Project Genesis will be launched! Great, isn’t it?”

“Really? That fast? The project has only been introduced this morning..”

“Well.. I can’t really tell you why, kid, let’s just say.... We’re on a race.”

My blood rushes and my heart’s beating faster, I don’t know if he knew a thing about me and The Revolution, but from the way he’s saying it feels like he’s implying a winning.

“I guess it’s time for me to leave then, official announcement has been released to the public and tomorrow it’ll be live-streamed across the cities. You better watch it, son, you’ll be... surprised”

He smirks and walks out of my house, followed by the Sentinels. I get my mother’s notebook and go to my bedroom. I jump into my bed as soon as I get there, and close my eyes. Today is just too much and I just want to have some rests.
Next Day; 10.13 | Inside a shuttle to the Central Space

I should be in the facility and work, but here I am in the Shuttle going to Central Space. I know I’m not technically have joined The Revolution, but, not coming at all and ignore them feels wrong to me, I just can’t do it.

It feels like I betray my mother.

The shuttle has arrived at the Central Space, and huge amount of crowds have already there. I walk toward the crowds and join them. The event has started as my father is on the stage giving a speech. I can’t see the other members of The Revolution but I know they are here. They can’t miss it.

Near the stage, there are several capsules and lines of people walking towards it. I believe they are test-subjects for Project Genesis. There is a big screen behind the stage in display for the crowds to get a closer look. Among the test-subjects, I see one familiar face that surprised me.

It’s Dirk. I don’t know he is assigned for the Project, or maybe, somebody makes him to do it?

When all the test-subjects are inside, the capsules are closing and bright lights shining from the inside, along with a whirring noise. The process only takes about 2 or 3 minutes and the capsules doors open back again.

Dirk and the Test-Subjects are walking out of the capsules, there are no big differences happen to them, only a patch of bandage on the side of their heads. I guess it’s to cover the wound of where the chip is planted.
“There’s no huge difference happening here, people! But wait.. The real magic is about to happen”

“You! Nerd boy! Come here, kid!” he addresses Dirk, “Lift this steel-weight beside me”

Dirk is looking confused, as well as everyone here. The weight looks very heavy and there’s no way he could lift it. Still, Dirk approaches the weight and grabs it. Reluctantly, he tries to lift it.

Just like everyone else, I’m surprised, even Dirk himself looks surprised.

He lifts the weight like nothing. The crowds go crazy. They clap their hands and cheer for what they have witnessed. Dirk then slams the weight to the stage and makes a loud slamming sound. Just a second ago, I thought it’s fake, but from the sound of it, I know what’s happening there is real.

The crowd is still in a great excitement when my father raises his arm to calm the crowds.

“Sorry to interrupt your excitement, people. However, I’m here not to just showing you this.. Lately, there’s a significant disturbance in our society from a group of people who call themselves.. The Revolution”

When he mentions “The Revolution” loud booing from the crowd is rising. I don’t know what he wanted to say but I have a bad feeling.

“Yea.. yea.. I know, people. They are obstacles of our great improvements, they are burden of humanity’s leap in technology, they are disturbance in our peaceful bonds between
our brother; The Skyman. Therefore, right now, I bring you the crooks in our society! Behold, people! These are.. The Revolution!”

Suddenly, numbers of patrol drones are flying above the crowds. One of them stops right above me, and spots me with a red-spotlight, my face along with some other faces are displayed on the big screen.

Swarm of booing and mockery are addressed to us. Some of the crowds around me spit on me, and curse me with bad words like “savage”, “terrorist”, “no-brainers” and stuffs, I can even feel some of them throw rocks and garbage at me.

When I thought that was bad, the worst of it comes. The Skyman Sentinels start to move and come to us. I run for my life through the crowds, from all around me I hear exploding sounds and gunshots.

The situation is chaotic. I hear a whizzing sound of a gun coming from my left, I thought it was the Sentinels, but it’s not. Some guys of ours shoot one of the Sentinels on my right, and the Sentinels falls to the ground.

The Central Space now turns into battlefield, with thousands of innocent people caught in the middle. Suddenly, I feel something terrible coming at me. I look back and it’s not a Sentinel or some sort, but my own friend; Dirk. He is running towards me with an inhuman speed.

“Hey.. hey.. Dirk, what are you doing? It’s me, Gage! Your friend!”

I’m shouting my name to snap him out, only to be answered with a punch on my chest. The incredible power of the punch flies me away several feet, and slams me to the ground. I almost puke from the great pain but I give it a hold.
I look at his face, and I know that something controls Dirk. I try to stand and approach him, but before I can even stand properly, Dirk chokes me with his hand and lifts me above the ground. I can’t breathe.

My vision’s getting blurry and I feel like this is going to the end.

Suddenly, I’m dropped back to the ground and the choke on my neck is gone. Slowly, my vision is going back and in front of me, Dirk is standing with one of his arm destroyed.

*Bang*

Another shot is taken from behind me, that puts Dirk down with a big hole on his chest.

“No! Dirk! Noooooooooo!!”

“Pull yourself together, son! Whoever he was to you, that same person isn’t there anymore”

Ralph then sheathes his gun and drags me out of the battlefields. The gunshots are still going around us. Ralph drags me away from there while avoiding gunshots as best as we could.

“Sir! Our reinforcements are ambushed on their way! We’re on our own now!”

Ray is coming from the side joining the two of us. knowing that we have nowhere to run, Ralph and Ray stops running. They are looking back in despair when one of the Sentinel is already behind us, pointing its weapon.

“Stop right there. Put your hands where I can see them”

We stop there and do as he says, the Sentinel step by step approaches us from behind. Ralph gives me and Ray one glance. From the look of it, I guess he wants to surprise the Sentinel with a strike.
The footsteps are getting closer and I have ready to give it everything I have.

“Now!” Ralph is screaming giving us sign to attack.

*Bam*

Suddenly, there’s a crashing sound from behind. When I turn my back, the Sentinel is flattened by industrial truck with my uncle behind the steering wheel.

“Get in!”

Ralph and I quickly run towards it and get inside, but Ray is still standing there.

“Get inside, Ray!”

“But sir, what about them? Are we just gonna leave them die here?”

“Don’t make me go there and slap you in the face, Ray! From the first time all of us joined The Revolution, we all know we are prepared for this! Now you choose whether you want hold all of us here and we all die like a loser, or retreat now and come back another day!”

Reluctantly, Ray’s running towards the truck looking down. Ray is a strong person, yet I can see tear drops from her eyes. Ray then closes the door, and the truck is moving away from the battlefield.

I take one look at the battlefield before we leave Central Space, and I see my father. He is way on the other side of the field but I can feel he is looking at me.

“I stole this truck from the Facility and drove here when I heard about the chaos, but to be honest, I don’t have any plans now” My uncle; Rando breaks the silence,

“Just drive, I’ll tell you where to go” Ralph answers him shortly,
None of us speaks too much in the rest of the way, only Ralph showing the direction once at a time. All of us are sitting in silence, Dirk’s death is still hard for me to believe. Ray is no better than me, I can see a great grief on her face. I don’t know about Ralph, but after I finally saw the true face of my father. I know what kind of person he is. And I know, when we meet again..

Only one of us would survive.

Same day; somewhere around midnight | The Revolution’s Secret Hideout

Embers

O’ blazing flame of unrestrained souls, fighting your way under the heavy rains of excruciating pains. Dims your flares have become, after years of struggles you’ve done. Only embers remain. Only embers remain.

Don’t let your embers gone in vain, for when the day comes, your embers should lead to flames.

Main Lady, Linda

“That’s a beautiful poem for a time like this”

“it’s my mother’s poem, thank her when our mission’s done”

The night is late, and there’s only me and Ralph on the side of the river. Rando and Tiara have asleep, and Ray is inside dwelling with her mind. I float a lantern on the river to honor our fallen friends in the battlefield.

“Ralph, what kind of person my mother was in the Revolution?”
“She was the mother of The Revolution itself, Gage. She was the heart that lives the Revolution... and she still is.”

“Do you think I could fulfill her will, Ralph? Do you think I could make her proud?”

“Why do you ask me, Gage? Isn’t it for you to decide? Isn’t it all coming back to you?”

I don’t answer him, and walk inside. None of that questions are easy to answer.

“Does this mean you’re with us?” Ralph asks me before I get inside.

“Don’t get me wrong, Ralph. I never like rebel groups and I think I never will. But in a time like this, I guess fighting along with you guys is better than sitting down and do nothing. Somebody gotta stop my father.”

........

Week after | Transport Vehicles on the way to the Hive

Self-Journal #1

It’s been a week since the launching of the Phase 1 of Project Genesis. The project which was known as the greatest leap of humankind has taken its toll. The chip planted inside their head only enhance the subject’s physical strength, yet their body endurance remains normal as average human.

Those who are lucky, gradually losing self-conscious and died from exhaustion. Those who are not, with their self-conscious remains, shall experience the exhausting-never-ending work while helplessly waiting for their death, unable to control their body.

I believe the Skyman and the congress realized that the project is not ready for the launch. Again, humans are huge in number, and for them, we are nothing but a replaceable
resource. Such conditions lead to protest from the majority, and today, thousands of angry crowds are marching in front of the Hive demanding for the project to be stopped.

We; The Revolution, are using this momentum for our final stage. We had gathered our remaining members and weapons in the last week. Not many but it’s enough; at least Ralph said so.

Today is the D-day. The Revolution was made for nothing but this day.

Here I am, Gage Governson, writing in my mother’s notebook. If I shall not made out alive, and ones found this notebook, here you can find remnants of human’s will of freedom, written in a form of poems by my mother.

Shall you carry my spirits, and my mother’s before me. Live with you the souls of The Revolution and the spirit of freedom. No creatures shall live under oppression.

Governson, Gage.

“Gage! Put down that note, we are closing in”

I put the notebook inside my pocket aside as we are about to arrive in the deploy zone.

“In the deploy zone, Assault team will be led by Ray and breach the enemy line, to the Hive’s control room and plug the Drive to disable the Skyman’s system. I will lead the Ground team and fight in the enemy lines”

I’m assigned in the Assault team along with Ray and some other members. My task is pretty much easier than those in the Ground team, which shall fight the enemy right in their line. But one thing that I concern the most is that their plan includes persuading the Crowds to fight on their side.

Which is quite risky as none could predict how the masses would react.
“We’re here, lads! Move your asses! It’s now or never! For The Revolution!!”

“The Revolution!!”

All of the members are shouting to pump up their spirits. The transit doors open and all of us burst out of the Transit. The Ground team with their heavy weapons, shoot bunch of Propelled Missiles towards the enemy line. The Propelled Missiles then blast some kind of sound waves to stun the Skyman Sentinels and their equipments for about a minute.

I and the Assault team are running pass through the enemy line, and get inside the Hive. The crowds are panicking as they do not expect another open war to happen. Suddenly, Ralph with a loud speaker, speaks to the panic crowds.

“People! Now you have witnessed, the real face of our so-called-brother from the sky! You have experienced how they treat us like a slave! Now it’s your chance, people! Join us in this fight! Join The Revolution! Join your brothers of flesh and blood!”

This is the moment of truth. This is the moment whether they will join us, or shall we fight alone. I almost feel down when the crowds are just standing there, but then..

one of the masses scream his lungs out, and run towards the stunned Skyman Sentinels.

As one of them triggered, the rest of the crowds follow and run towards the enemy line. They use everything they find to fight; steel-bar, sticks and stones, some of them even manage to snatch the Skyman Sentinels’ guns.

“Move, Gage! Our fight isn’t here!”

Ray snaps me out of my mind and thus I get inside the Hive. From the inside, two members shut the Hives’ doors and jammed it to hold the enemy in front from coming in.
The Control room is straight ahead and we all are running towards it. As we are approaching, the door is open automatically. I’m running in the front of everybody

*Bam*

Suddenly, the door is closing and my body is squeezed between the closing door. I can hold the door from closing completely, but I heard footsteps coming to us from all directions.

We’re trapped.

“Get inside! I can hold the door”

“No, Gage! If all of us get inside, they’ll just open the door and blast us like sitting ducks! You go inside! We’ll hold the ground for you!”

“What’s the difference?! They’ll wipe you all in----“

“Remember your mission, Gage! I have left my team once, and I will not do it again!”

“Arghh! NO!”

Ray kicks me, and I’m thrown inside the control room. The door then shuts and Locked. Behind the door I can hear the gunshots have begun. I brace myself and approach the Main Control. The control room is dark but I can see where the port is, I grab the driver from my pocket, about to plug it in the port.

“Not so fast, son”

*Bang*

“Argh!”
I haven’t managed to plug the driver but something strong grabs my back and slams me back. My weapon and the driver thrown across the room as I’m slammed. Lights in the control room are turned on and I can see my father is standing beside a big muscular person.

His appearance is different, but I slightly recognize his face.

“Is that.. Dirk? But.. How?”

“Great, isn’t he? We manage to save whatever left from him, and now... here he is! The masterpiece! Behold, Gage.. This is the Phase 2 of Project Genesis! Hahahaha!”

“You bastard!”

Anger fuels my bloods and I run into him as fast as I can. One thing in my mind I want to punch him in the face.

*Bam!*

“Arrrrrgggghhh!!”

Dirk punches me on my right cheeks and blows me several feet away. I’m slammed back to the floor after hitting the wall. I feel hard to breathe, I guess the slam must have broken some of my ribs.

“Ironic, isn’t it? Your best friend is now protecting someone you hate the most!”

He grins at me as he thinks he has won the battle. I try to stand with all my strength only to be grabbed by Dirk, and once again thrown to another side of the room. I think some more of my bones are broken. I can’t stand. There are excruciating pains all over my body. I have lost all my strengths.
“Why, dad? Why are you doing this to me? To mom.. To humanity, to your own race!!

Why, dad?”

“Awww.. do you really have to be so emotional? Hmm? Simple, it is, my son.. Humanity, with their so-called-freedom only caused civil wars, crimes and chaos! Now look here! After the Skyman came, wars are no more, crimes are pressed to the point of almost zero..”

Once again, I try to stand up but only end up being pinned against the wall, by Dirk.

“Open your naive mind, Gage! Freedom only leads to chaos! It is oppression that matters! Absolute orders, Gage! I’m a saviour, Gage.. along with the Skyman, we have created an absolute peace!!”

His mad voice is echoing in the room. The screens in the control room are now showing the condition outside.

The Ground team is now cornered.

“You didn’t create peace! You created terror! You’re a madman!!”

I try to get back up, but Dirk quickly pins me against the wall.

“You can say anything you want, son! But while we’re talking, your friends out there are getting their asses beaten.

I almost feel desperate, but from the corner of my eyes I see my gun lies there steps away from me. I stretched my hand.

When I manage to grab it, I quickly point the gun at my father, and pull the trigger.

*Bang!*
The concentrated heat energy hits his left shoulder and throws him to the floor with a destroyed arm. Dirk once again, slams me across the room. Lucky me, he slams me closer to the drive which lies down on the floor. Now my whole body feels terribly in pain but I ignore it. With all that’s left in me, I quickly grab the driver and plug it in the port.

Zziiiinggg

After the whizzing sound, Dirk stops moving and falls to the floor, along with every single Skyman Sentinels on the outside.

We make it. We win.

I feel relieved. From the screen, I can see them rushily approach the paralyzed Skyman Sentinels and disarm them.

My dad is lying there, he is not dead but I’m quite sure he is not a threat anymore. I can’t move anymore and I just sit there on there floor, waiting for the evacuation team.

Suddenly, Dirk’s body is twitching, and slowly trying to stand. At this moment, I have nothing to stop him, I have set myself ready if he is going to kill me. He looks at me with his eyes, and his lips slowly moving.

“G..Ga..Gage, Where are we? How did I end up looking like this?? Who did this to you?! Gage! Answer me!”

I guess Dirk is back, now he’s shaking my body trying to get answers of all of these.

“it’s a long story to tell, Dirk.. I tell you everything when we get home”

Dirk looks at me with his wrinkled-nerdy-face. It’s funny how his face is barely changed but his body is now big and bulky. I guess I can’t pick on him like I used to do.
“Now you’re the big guy, aren’t you” giggle

Bam!

I’m shocked. Dirk’s face is still looking at me, blankly.. but there’s a hole as wide as a coin on his head. His body slowly falls on his side.

“Aw, shite! I was expecting a piercing shot! Now remain still and let me finish you, kiddo!”

My father, in front of me with his right arm points his gun at me from the other side the room.

“You Motherfucker!”

I crawl trying to reach my gun lying few feet away from me, but I have no power anymore.

“You’re going to hell with me, son!!!”

Bang Bang Bang Bang

I thought he shot me, but then I realize none of the shots gets me. When I look at him, he has fallen dead on the floor with holes on his body. Behind him, Ralph and some other members are there. Just in time.

“You okay, kid?’’

“I’m fine.. Thanks, arghh.. what about Ray?’’

“She is badly wounded, but she’ll make it”

“Good then, arghhh.. Does this mean we win? Can we go home now?”
“Yea, we win, kid.. We’re going home now”

Ralph picks me up, and helps me walking out of there.

“Ralph..”

“Yes, kid?”

“What if they come again tomorrow with a greater threat?”

“Then we fight them once again, kid.. we will fight them as long as we it takes”

“Then our mission isn’t done, right?”

“No kid, our mission has finished.. From the first place, The Revolution is not about winning the war. The Revolution is about giving hope.”

“What do you mean?”

“All the people across the world will be hearing about this later, and when they do, they’ll know.. They will finally know that the walls which bound us from our freedom is not invincible. The walls can be defeated. And when they know it can be defeated... they’ll have..

Hope.”
REFLECTIVE PAPER

1. Intended Audience

Hupe leap in technologies especially in space exploration and observation have brought mankind into a new interest and understanding. Rumours, such as, terraforming neighbour planets into a new earth, or finding intelligent life-forms, and unravelling mysteries of space have spread like wildfire. In addition to that sci-fi movies seem to be flourishing in recent years, such as, Interstellar, Star Wars, Star Trek, The Martians, and etc. Thus, the author tends to join this mainstream wave yet dives into it through different perspectives. The author purposely wrote this works for readers whose thirsty for different approach of Sci-fi story. The works itself is containing practice of literature theories for Sci-fi literature community, however, it is brought up with entertaining aspects such as, actions and drama for those whose looking for “light” contents to be read.

2. Creative Process

As a 23 years old student, the writer is growing up and highly influenced with science-fiction movies, TV series, and etc. In the latest years, the writer seems to show a huge interest in space exploration and outer space phenomena, thus, the writer finally decides to write a science-fiction story. The story itself is written based on one idea which is “what if it’s not human who is making contact with the aliens, but vice versa”. By that idea, the writer wants to react on one of human’s recent achievement, which is, how Space drone Voyager 1 has managed to reach Pluto, and now in an extended mission to the outer space to find, or at least make a contact with intelligent life-forms in the outer space. This achievement, for the writer, personally, feels so arrogant and risky, since it can be possible that a far greater species could find us humans, and in the end, human would end up like Native Americans which invaded by the Europeans
Even though the story is containing Science and Futuristic stuffs, the story itself is actually based on a real historical event and figure, which is the life of Pangeran Diponegoro. The main character of the story; Gage Governson is written by the figure of Pangeran Diponegoro. Even the plot itself, although there are still quite differences, is heavily influenced by Perang Diponegoro.

In the process of writing, the writer finds words limitation to be the most difficult obstacle of the writing process. The writer wants to show a clear picture of the invaded earth and the new system that the Skyman has made in the story, but then again, the limitation makes the writer ends up omitting some parts of the story. Still, the writer believes that the story and the plots are still clear and entertaining enough for the readers. In the end, there are still a lot of improvements can be added to the story, one of them is obviously the portrayal of the world and the skyman invasion to be more detail, second, to add more of the practice of Post-Colonization theory which actually is enough but still can be improved. The last is, a lot more approach of the portrayal of Project Genesis and its aftermath on humanity.

In the future, the writer hopes that writers who write in the same genre to be more careful and selective, when writing the plots and ideas, so that they would not end up in the same obstacles as the writer does in this work.

3. Theories

Mimicry, in this story, is becoming a theory which takes most of the part of this work. One of them is written in the part when humans, especially the workers of the Facility are wearing a certain uniform and living inside domes which are the system and technologies that belong to the Skyman. In this part, it can be seen that no matter how great humans dread the Skyman and think of them as invader and resist them, they unconsciously have the tendency to
follow everything that they see as more superior and mimic them, even though they are invaders or colonizers.

Ideally, humans are independent beings who like to express and live in freedom as how they want. But, put in the state of being colonized, humans in fact are tend to be submissive and just following the system. In the story, following system and orders are the Skman or the colonizers’ behavior, and not the human. Therefore, the story wants to show the idea that humans are submissive no matter how hard they are trying to deny it.
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This final project would not have been possible without any support. Firstly, the writer would like to thank Jesus Christ for His blessings and guidance to finish this works. Second, the writer would like to thank the supervisor of this project, which is, Mr. Erio R.P FanggidaE, M.Hum, for the guidance throughout the beginning to the end of this project and the second reader Mrs. Suzanna Maria, also for her guidance.

The writer would also like to thank to the parents, for their physical and mental support along the process of the works. In addition, the writer would like to thank Bianca Ganov and fellow Cemara 2 and Cungkup boarding house residents for all of their support to this work. Lastly, the writer would like to thank all of the members of FLA annual drama production “Shrek” and “Romeo & Juliet” who are involved in the supporting part of making this work, and also all the lecturers of the Faculty of Language and Arts, especially, Ms. Ervin Suryaningsih, for all their constant supports.
REFERENCES


