

Artificial Intelligence: AI (2001)

by Ian Watson and Brian Aldiss.
The Complete Dialogue.

Part One

ATLANTIC OCEAN

NARRATOR

Those were the years after the ice caps had melted because of the greenhouse gases, and the oceans had risen to drown so many cities along all the shorelines of the world. Amsterdam. Venice. New York. Forever lost.

Millions of people were displaced, climate became chaotic. Hundreds of millions of people starved in poorer countries. Elsewhere, a high degree of prosperity survived when most governments in the developed world introduced legal sanctions to strictly license pregnancies, which was why robots, who were never hungry and who did not consume resources beyond those of their first manufacture, were so essential an economic link in the chain mail of society.

LIBRARY-CYBERTRONICS CORP.

HOBBY

To create an artificial being has been the dream of man since the birth of science. Not merely the beginning of the modern age, when our forebears astonished the world with the first thinking machines: primitive monsters that could play chess.

How far we have come. The artificial being is a reality of perfect simulacrum, articulated in limb, articulate in speech, and not lacking in human response❖

SHEILA

Ahhh!!

HOBBY

...and even pain memory response.
How did that make you feel? Angry? Shocked?

SHEILA

I don't understand.

HOBBY

What did I do to your feelings?

SHEILA

You did it to my hand.

HOBBY

Aye. There's the rub. Undress.

At Cybertronics of New Jersey, the artificial being has reached its highest form. Universally adopted mecha, the basis for hundreds of models, serving the human race in all the multiplicity of daily life.

That's far enough. But we have no reason to congratulate ourselves. We are, rightly, proud of it, but what does it amount to?

Sheila, open.

A sensory toy, with intelligent behavioral circuits, using neurone sequencing technology as old as I am. I believe that my work on mapping the impulse pathways in a single neurone can enable us to construct a mecha of a qualitatively different order. I propose that we build a robot, who can love.

TEAM MEMBER #1

Love?

TEAM MEMBER #2

But we ship thousands of lover models every month.

TEAM MEMBER #3

Of course, you're your own best customer, Siyatsu-sama.

TEAM MEMBER #2

Quality control is very important!

HOBBY

Tell me, what is love?

SHEILA

Love is first widening my eyes a little bit and quickening my breathing a little and warming my skin and touching with my -

HOBBY

And so on. Exactly so. Thank you, Sheila.

But I wasn't referring to sensuality simulators. The word that I used was love. Love like the love of a child for its parents. I propose that we build a robot child, who can

love. A robot child who will genuinely love the parent or parents it imprints on, with a love that will never end.

TEAM MEMBER #3

A child substitute mecha?

HOBBY

But a mecha with a mind, with neuronal feedback. You see what I'm suggesting is that love will be the key by which they acquire a kind of subconscious never before achieved. An inner world of metaphor, of intuition, of self motivated reasoning. Of dreams.

TEAM MEMBER #4

A robot that dreams?

HOBBY

Yes.

TEAM MEMBER #4

And how exactly do we pull this off?

FEMALE TEAM MEMBER

You know, it occurs to me... um...with all this animus existing against mechas today, it isn't simply a question of creating a robot who can love, but isn't the real conundrum - can you get a human to love them back?

HOBBY

Ours will be a perfect child caught in a freeze-frame - always loving, never ill, never changing. With all the childless couples yearning in vain for a license, our little mecha would not only open an entirely new market, it will fill a great human need.

FEMALE TEAM MEMBER

But you haven't answered my question. If a robot could genuinely love a person, what responsibility does that person hold toward that mecha in return? It's a moral question, isn't it?

HOBBY

The oldest one of all. But in the beginning, didn't God create Adam to love him?

CRYOGENIC HOSPITAL

MONICA

The baby was born as the first leaves of autumn fell. A baby boy. And Marion's wish came true. The boy had white hair. He was baptized Martin after his grandfather.

HENRY

Dr Frazier. Hi. It's good to see you.

DR.FRAZIER

Hi. How're you?

HENRY

Listen, there was an article by Randenbach in the Journal of Chinese Medicine - they're talking about these virus locators....

DR.FRAZIER

Hello again, Monica.

HENRY

... microscopic, synthetic hunter killers. Did you read that article?

MONICA

I can still hear you!

DR.FRAZIER

I'm worried about her, Henry. She's really got me worried.

HENRY

Yeah, I know.

DR.FRAZIER

She's in the most difficult position of feeling she should mourn the death of your son. After five years your instincts tell you to mourn him, too. But medicine assures us that mourning is inappropriate, that Martin is merely pending.

HENRY

Pending.

DR.FRAZIER

So all her grief goes undigested. Henry, your son may be beyond our science, but it's your wife who can still be reached.

HOBBY'S OFFICE

FIRST ASSISTANT

The screening process was extremely difficult. It was almost tougher than building the prototype.

SECOND ASSISTANT

Of our 2,000 employees a surprising few met your minimum requirements for the in-house testing. Initiate. Employment record. Quality of life style. Query. Internal data. Loyalty to the firm. And...in this individuals case, a family tragedy that may qualify him above the rest.

HOBBY

I'll see him.

FOYER-SWINTON HOME

MONICA

Henry.

HENRY

Don't kill me.

MONICA

Henry, what are you doing?

HENRY

I love you. Don't kill me.

Door's closed.

DAVID

I like your floor.

MASTER BEDROOM

MONICA

I can't accept this! There is no substitute for your own child!

HENRY

You don't have to accept it or even try - it's not too late to take him back!

MONICA

What were you thinking?!

HENRY

I'll do whatever you want me to do!

MONICA

You think I can just, I can just...

HENRY

I'll do whatever you want me to do!

MONICA

I don't know... what to do.

HENRY

I know, I know. I'll return him to Cybertronics first thing in the morning, it's gone.

MONICA

Good. I mean Henry, did you see his face? He's, he's so real. But he's not...

HENRY

No, he's not.

MONICA

I mean, inside he's like all the rest, isn't he?

HENRY

A hundred miles of fiber, yeah.

MONICA

But outside he just looks so real... like he is a child.

HENRY

A mecha child.

MONICA

A child...

MASTER BATHROOM

HENRY

The show of faith my company has placed on me...on us, is extraordinary. Now there are a few simple procedures we need to follow if and when you decide to keep David. If you decide to keep him, there's an imprinting protocol consisting of a code string of seven particular words which

need to be spoken to David in the predefined order that's been printed here. Now Monica, for our own protection, this imprinting is irreversible. The robot child's love would be sealed, in a sense hardwired, and we'd be part of him forever.

Because of this, after imprinting, no mecha child can be resold. If an adoptive parent should ever decide not to keep the child, they must return it to Cybertronics for destruction. Now, I had to sign a letter of agreement or they wouldn't even let you see David. You have to sign it too... right here. Monica... don't imprint until you're entirely sure.

MONICA

Silly man. Of course I'm not sure.

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

DAVID

Would you like me to sleep now?

MONICA

Uh...

HENRY

Good Idea. Good idea. Monica?

MONICA

Uh..well..it's late, you know it's after nine,so uh...

HENRY

Yeah. Ten past.

MONICA

How..how late do they let you stay up?

DAVID

I can never go to sleep, but I can lay quietly, and not make a peep.

MONICA

So those pajamas will fit you, and uh, we'll be in to check on you first thing in the morning.

DAVID

Dress me?

MONICA

You know I'm gonna say good night...while you...boys be boys.

HENRY

Raise your arms.

HALLWAY CLOSET

DAVID

Is it a game?

MONICA

Yes. Hide and Seek. Found you. That's your bedroom. Just go and play.

HALLWAY BATHROOM

MONICA

Ahhh!

DAVID

I found you.

MONICA

Out! Out! Get outta here! And close the goddamn door!

DINING ROOM

DAVID, MONICA, & HENRY

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-?!

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

(Monica dresses David for bed - her mind bounces back and forth between David and Martin.

The next day...)

DAVID

Is it a game?

MONICA

Now, I'm gonna read some words, and uh...they won't make any sense, but I want you to listen to them anyway. And...look at me all the time. Can you do that?

DAVID

Yes, Monica.

MONICA

Can you feel my hand on the back of your neck?

DAVID

Yes.

MONICA

Does any of this hurt?

DAVID

No.

MONICA

Okay. Now. Look at me? Ready? Cirrus. Socrates. Particle. Decibel. Hurricane. Dolphin. Tulip. Monica. David. Monica...

All right? I wonder if I did that right. I don't-

DAVID

What were those words for, Mommy?

MONICA

What did you call me?

DAVID

Mommy.

MONICA

Who am I, David?

DAVID

You are my Mommy.

MASTER BEDROOM

MONICA

(Humming...) Hmm...!

HENRY

You smell lovely. I love it when you wear this stuff.

MONICA

Will you still love me when it's all gone?

HENRY

No.

MONICA

Wha...stop it!

HENRY

But we can get married again and begin with a fragrance that's not in such short supply.

MONICA

Hmmm...

HENRY

Gotta go...Come on, we're late!

MONICA

(Still humming...)

HENRY

Hello, David.

DAVID

Hello, Henry.

MONICA

Walk us out, alright, sweetheart? Come on.

My shoe! (Laughs)

FOYER

MONICA

Henry, your tie!

HENRY

Yeah I know! I'm helpless!

MONICA

You're hopeless!

HENRY

Oh, it's not bad...

MONICA

Oh, it's just tight...I was just trying so hard.

HENRY

You see the way he rearranged that...

MONICA

He tries so hard to please me. He has a way with my coffee.

HENRY

And it's creepy. You can never hear him coming. He's just always there.

MONICA

He is only a child.

HENRY

Monica, he's a toy.

MONICA

He's a gift, from you.

David! When we leave, all the doors and windows will go smart, so you can't leave your room, but, if you'd like...oh, I put way too much on.

DAVID

Do I smell lovely?

MONICA

(Sighs) I'll go look...

MASTER BEDROOM

DAVID

Mommy? Will you die?

MONICA

Well....one day David. Yes, I will.

DAVID

I'll be alone.

MONICA

Don't worry yourself so.

DAVID

How long will you live?

MONICA

For ages. For fifty years.

DAVID

I love you, Mommy. I hope you never die. Never.

MONICA

Yes...

HENRY

Darling? We're becoming unfashionably, unreasonably late.

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

MONICA

This belonged to Martin. My son.

TEDDY

Grr-rowr!

MONICA

His name is Teddy. Teddy, this is David.

DAVID

Hello, Teddy.

TEDDY

Hello, David.

MONICA

David, Teddy is a Super-Toy, and I know you'll take good care of each other.

TEDDY

I am not...a toy.

STAIRCASE/FOYER

MONICA
Henry? Sorry...!

HENRY
What were you doing up there?

MONICA
Ohh, I'll tell you in the car. C'mon.

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

DAVID
Is fifty years a long time?

TEDDY
I don't think so.

KITCHEN

MONICA
David, I'll get it! Honey, hand it to me.

DAVID
Look what I can do!
(Operator's voice) Hello...?

MONICA
Hah...Yes?

DAVID
(Operator's voice) Mrs. Swinton, could you hold a moment? I
have an urgent call from your husband.

MONICA
Monica: Yes. I will. Uh..uh...David, I need to talk to the
phone now.

DAVID
(Henry's voice) Monica? Monica can you hear me, Monica?

MONICA
Let the phone talk now. Come on.

DAVID
(Henry's voice) Monica, can you hear me? Pick up the phone

Monica.

MONICA

Run along, play with Teddy.

DAVID

(Henry's voice) Pick up the phone, Monica! Oh my god Moni...

MONICA

Hello? Henry? What is it? Wha...What? When? Oh god...

FOYER

MONICA

David? The most wonderful thing in the whole world has happened. This is Martin. This is my son.

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

TEDDY

Martin, no...

MARTIN

We'll have a contest, to see who he comes to first. Come here, Teddy! Come here, boy! Teddy! Come here! You call him too.

DAVID

Come here, Teddy.

MARTIN

Come on...

DAVID

Come here, boy.

MARTIN

Teddy! Teddy! Come here! Come on, Teddy! Come here!

DAVID

Come here, Teddy.

MARTIN

Come here, Teddy! Teddy! Teddy come! C'mere!

DAVID
Come here, Teddy.

MARTIN
Come Teddy! Come!

TEDDY
Mommy! Mommy!

MONICA
Are they torturing you , Teddy?

MARTIN
He used to be a Super-Toy, but now he's old and stupid. You want him?

DAVID
Yes, please.

MARTIN
So, I guess now you're the new Super-Toy, so what good stuff can you do? Oh, can you do 'power' stuff, like, uhhh, walk on the ceiling or the walls? Anti-gravity? Like, float, or fly?

DAVID
Can you?

MARTIN
No, because I'm real. Can you break this?

DAVID
I better not.

MARTIN
These things...they do look better in pieces. They do.

DAVID
I can't.

MARTIN
Stand up. Look, they made you bigger than me.

DAVID
Who did?

MARTIN
Well, they did, the dollmakers. They made you taller. Why don't you look like one?

DAVID
Like one...

MARTIN
You're not cute like a doll. You just look like someone's
ordinary kid. When's your birthday?

DAVID
I never had a birthday.

MARTIN
Okay, well, when were you first built? When's your build
day?

DAVID
I don't remember.

MARTIN
Okay, what's the first thing you can remember?

DAVID
A bird.

MARTIN
What sort of bird?

DAVID
A bird with big wings. And feathers sticking up from the
bottom.

MARTIN
Could you draw it?

DAVID
Yes.

MARTIN
That looks like a peacock. Can you say peacock?

DAVID
Peacock.

MARTIN
Can you say pea?

DAVID
Pea.

MARTIN

Now, say that two times fast.

KITCHEN

MONICA

Okay. Then you gotta put the green ones.

MARTIN

Read to us?

MONICA

Hey... Let's see. Oh, yes.

MARTIN

David's going to love it.

ON THE BOAT

MONICA

As soon as the show was over, the showman went into the kitchen, where the whole sheep which he was preparing for supper was roasting on a slowly turning spit in the furnace. When he saw that there was not enough wood to finish roasting it, he called Harlequin and Pulcinella and said, 'Bring me in Pinocchio! You will find him hanging on a nail. He is made of nice dry wood and I'm sure he will make a nice fire for my roast.'

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

MONICA

Pinocchio worked until midnight, and instead of making eight baskets, he made sixteen. Then he went to bed, and fell asleep. As he slept, he dreamt he saw the fairy, lovely and smiling, who gave him a kiss, saying, 'Brave Pinocchio, in return for your good heart, I forgive all your past misdeeds. Be good in the future, and you will be happy.' Then the dream ended, and Pinocchio awoke, full of amazement. You can imagine how astonished he was when he saw that he was no longer a puppet, but a real boy, just like other boys.

DINING ROOM

HENRY

Josephine evidently has.. uh.. taken a leave of absence.

MONICA

Oh my God...

HENRY

Umm...hummm.

MONICA

Well...I saw that coming.

HENRY

How could you see that coming? They were fabulous together.

MONICA

Oh Come on! She was miserable... I mean...

HENRY

Well, he never said they were miserable.

MONICA

Yeah.. . that's because.... Was that because of the cutbacks or what?

HENRY

I have no idea. They certainly don't tell me anything.

MONICA

Didn't they have a bit of a weight problem?

HENRY

Well so do I...I mean...

MONICA

Do not! That is ridiculous.

HENRY

...well... all right look.. I don't know... isn't there...something about inner beauty?

TEDDY

You will break.

MONICA

Oh that is ridiculous.

HENRY

Exactly...oh, work has become so silly.
Does he eat?

MONICA

I'm not sure.

HENRY

You're not supposed to do that.

MONICA

David, what are you doing? David?!

HENRY

Do you have the manual... the book?

MONICA

Martin, put the fork down. Put it down now.

HENRY

Stop. Stop, David. Will you stop?

MONICA

David?! Stop it. Martin you're provoking him. OK?

HENRY

David, stop it!

MONICA

The two of you stop it! Stop it now!

Stop it!! David! Stop it!

LATER

FIRST A.R.T. TECH

Hmmm..spewed in the code blockers.

SECOND A.R.T. TECH

Smell that garlic!

FIRST A.R.T. TECH

Should clone the chest bridge...

Ehhh...!

SECOND A.R.T. TECH

Did you locate the servers?

FIRST A.R.T. TECH
Don't touch the merchandise.

SECOND A.R.T. TECH
It's all swamp in here.

FIRST A.R.T. TECH
You... made a mess of yourself! Spinach is for rabbits,
people and Popeye. Not robo-boys.

SECOND A.R.T. TECH
Go ahead insert your cells... let's do a patching on the
lower shelves.

DAVID
It's OK, Mommy. It doesn't hurt!

FIRST A.R.T. TECH
The activators are all hooked up on this side.

HENRY
Monica...

MONICA
No! I just have to...

SECOND A.R.T. TECH
That's not all of it... that's not all of it...

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

MARTIN
If you do something really, really, really special for me, a
special mission, then I'll go tell Mommy...I love you, and
then she'll love you, too.

DAVID
What shall I do?

MARTIN
You have to promise, and then I'll tell you.

DAVID
You have to tell me, and then I'll promise.

MARTIN

I want a lock of Mommy's hair. I'll share it with you. And if you had it, and wore it, she might love you even more, like the princess in the movie we saw. When she had the prince's hair in her necklace thing, he loved her.

DAVID

We can ask her-

MARTIN

No! It has to be a secret mission. Sneak in to Mommy's bedroom, in the middle of the night, and chop it off.

DAVID

I can't, Martin. I'm not allowed.

MARTIN

You promised. You said 'tell me and then I'll promise', didn't you?

MASTER BEDROOM

(HENRY & MONICA talk over each other. Dialogue separated)

HENRY

David! -

MONICA

(Gasp!)

HENRY

Why did you do that?! Why did you do that?! Talk to me! David god damn it, talk to me David! Why did you do that, David?! Why did you do that?! Tell me WHY-DID-YOU-

MONICA

Henry, what are you doing - you're hurting him! Henry, let him go! Henry you're hurting him! You're hurting him! You-DON'T BREAK HIM!!

DAVID

Henry I wanted Mommy to love me more.

MONICA

Oh my god

HENRY
What?

MONICA
Oh my god, I think I cut my eye.

HENRY
Lemme see.

MONICA
Oh god, I think it's bleeding!

HENRY
Come? come...come on, wash it out.

BACKYARD POOL

MONICA
It's normal for little boys to feel jealous and competitive. Martin's only been home a month and...it's normal for brothers to challenge each other. He...He was playing a game, he made a mistake, and he - he's practically human.

HENRY
That's not how he looked holding the knife.

MONICA
Scissors.

HENRY
It was a weapon.

MONICA
Why do you keep imagining that he was purposely trying to harm me?

HENRY
Uh, because we don't know the answer to that! How is he worth the risk to you, or to Martin, or to us as a family?

MONICA
I will not let you take him back. You told me what would happen if you ever took him back.

HENRY
Think about this. If he was created to love, then it's reasonable to assume he knows how to hate. And if pushed to

those extremes, what is he really capable of?

LATER

DAVID

Happy birthday, Martin. I made this for you.

TOD

This him? This your little brother?

MARTIN

Technically no.

TOD

He's mecha!

DAVID

What's mecha?

TOD

We're orga-nic, you're mecha-nical. Orga, mecha, orga...

MARTIN

Tod...

TOD

...mecha, orga, mecha...

MARTIN

Tod...stop.

TOD

I didn't know they even made little kids.

BOY #1

Can you pee?

DAVID

I cannot.

BOY #1

Then let's see what you can't pee with.

MARTIN

Come on...

BOY #2

Touch it.

BOY#3

It feels so real.

BOY #2

Oh, that's...that's creepy.

BOY #4

Whoa...feels so real.

BOY #2

That is too real.

TOD

Mecha real.

Does he have DAS?

BOY #3

DAS what?

BOY #2

Das ist gut!

TOD

Damage Avoidance System. DAS. It's a pain-alert system. Our serving-man has it. It's so they don't go picking up fire with their bare hands and stuff.

Watch. Watch this. Now, I'm not going to cut you. This isn't gonna hurt. I'm not gonna cut your skin. Just tell me when you can feel it.

DAVID

Keep me safe, Martin. Keep me safe!

MARTIN

Lemme go!

DAVID

Keep me safe Martin!

MARTIN

Lemme go! Mom! Mom! Mommomomomom!

DAVID

Keep me safe, keep me safe, keep me safe, keep me safe...

MONICA

Henry!

Oh my...God!
He's not breathing...he's not breathing! Come on, breathe!

HENRY
Come on..come on, man...Martin! Take a breath...cough it up
! Thatta boy, that's a great boy!

MONICA
Oh...thank God...thank God thank God!

HENRY
Call Frazier-tell him what happened! Get him outta there!

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

MONICA
Hey David?

DAVID
Mommy! Mommy!

MONICA
David, wait. I need to speak to to you for a minute, okay?

DAVID
Okay!

MONICA
Yeah...

Monica looks over some messages that David has been writing.

MONICA
Oh, David, these are beautiful! Thank you. Um...

Um, hey David, I was thinking that we could go for a drive
tomorrow in the country. You and me. What do you say?

DAVID
And Teddy?

MONICA
Yeah, and Teddy.

DAVID
Thank you Mommy! Thank you so much!

MONICA

Tomorrow's gonna be just for us, okay?

IN THE CAR

DAVID

Where are we going? Someplace nice? Are those happy tears?
What's for dinner tonight?

MONICA

You know you don't eat.

DAVID

Yes. But I like sitting at the table.

IN THE WOODS

MONICA

David. David, hold on. David? David! Listen! Listen to me!
David? David listen! Now you won't understand the reasons,
but I ..I have to leave you here.

DAVID

Is it a game?

MONICA

No.

DAVID

When will you come back for me?

MONICA

I'm not, David, you...you'll have to be here by yourself.

DAVID

Alone?

MONICA

With Teddy.

**David and Monica talk over each other. For clarity, here
is the dialogue, separated.

DAVID

No. No! No, no, no, no! No, Mommy please!

MONICA

Shhh...shhh...

DAVID

No! No! Please no Mommy no!

MONICA

They're going to destroy you...

DAVID

No, Mommy!

MONICA

David, they'll destroy you. David...David, they're going to destroy you!

DAVID

Mommy, No! I'm sorry I broke myself! I'm so sorry I cut your hair off and I'm oh so sorry I hurt you and I hurt Martin and I hurt Henry and I hurt everybody!

MONICA

No...no, no...I have to go. I have to go! Stop it!

DAVID

I'm sorry!

MONICA

Stop it! I have to GO!

DAVID

Mommy, no! Mommy! MOMMY! Mommy, if Pinocchio became a real boy and...and I become a real boy can I come home?

MONICA

But that's just a story, David.

DAVID

But that story tells what happens!

MONICA

Stories are not real! You're not real!

Now listen , look. Look! Take this, alright? Take this. And don't let anyone see how much it is. Now look. Don't go that

way, alright? Look! Don't look at me, look! Don't go that way, alright? Go any where but that way or they'll catch you! Don't ever let them catch you! Listen, stay away from Flesh Fairs, away from where there are lots of people! Stay away from all people! Only others like you, only Mecha are safe! Now get going!

DAVID

Why do you want to leave me? Why do you want to leave me??!
I'm sorry I'm not real, if you let me I'll be so real for you!

MONICA

Let go. Let go! Let GO!!

I'm sorry I didn't tell you about the world!

SLEAZY MOTEL ROOM

PATRICIA

I'm afraid...

JOE

Of me? That I will hurt you?

PATRICIA

Yes...

JOE

I think... you're afraid of letting go. I think you're afraid of happiness. And this is starting to excite me. Are you afraid of seeing the stars...Patricia? I can show you how to reach them.

PATRICIA

I'm afraid... of what you've got under there. May I see what it looks like first?

JOE

Is this your first time... with something like me?

PATRICIA

I've never been with mecha.

JOE

That makes two of us.

PATRICIA

I'm afraid it will hurt.

JOE

Patricia...once you've had a lover robot, you'll never want a real man...again.

Are these the wounds of passion?

Singer: Are the stars out tonight?

I don't know if it's cloudy or bright.

I only have eyes for you, dear!

PATRICIA

Do you...do you hear that music?

Singer: (note: this is played over Joe's next line)

The moon may be high,

But I can't see a thing in the sky,

'Cause I only have eyes for you,

Yeah...I only have eyes for you!

JOE

You... are a goddess, Patricia. You wind me up inside. But you deserve much better in your life. You deserve... me.

Chorus: 'Cause I only have eyes for you.

The moon may be high,

but I can't see a thing in the sky

'Cause I only have eyes for you!

CITY STREET

JANE

Hey, Joe, whaddaya know?

JOE

Hey, Jane, how's the game?

AT THE HOTEL

FRONT DESK CLERK

Hey, Joe, whaddyaknow?

JOE

Hello, Mr. Williamson. Place a DND on room one-oh-two,

please.

MR. WILLIAMSON

Sure thing. (Exhales) 'ere ya go.
Here y'are.

Oh! Joe! Uh, when you're finished here, crack your collar.
Show off your operating license. The, uh, flesh fair's in
Barn Creek, and the hounds are out hunting for strays.

JOE

It's a good thing I ran into you. Thanks Mr. Williamson.

MR. WILLIAMSON

Sure thing.

JOE

Mustn't keep a lady waiting.

IN ROOM 102

JOE

Ms. Bevins. It's Joe. At your service. I've been counting
the seconds since last we met.
Have you been crying, Samantha? I found a tear.

MR. BEVINS

Hey Joe, whatdya know?
How many seconds has it been, the last time the two of you
were together?

JOE

Two hundred and fifty five thousand, one hundred and thirty
three.

MR. BEVINS

Goodbye, Sam. And never forget, you killed me first.

JOE

I'm in bad trouble.

IN THE WOODS

DAVID

If I am a real boy, then I can go back. And she will love me

then.

TEDDY
How?

DAVID
The Blue Fairy made Pinocchio into a real boy. She can make me into a real boy. I must find her, so I can become real. There must be someone in the whole world who knows where she lives.

ROADSIDE DUMP/WOODS

JUNKYARD MECHA #1 -
Moon on the rise!

JUNKYARD MECHA #2 -
It's a Flesh Fair. They destroy us on stage. I've been there.

DAVID
What do we do?

TEDDY
We run now.

FLESH FAIR BALLOON

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON
Any old iron? Any old iron? Any old iron? Any old iron?
Expel your mecha. Purge yourselves of artificiality. Come along now, let some mecha loose to run, any old unlicensed iron down there? Hey, see that? Could be a human thing.

BALLOON OPERATOR
No, he's scanning cold. No expiration date, no ID.

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON
What's a new model doing loose and unregistered?

BALLOON OPERATOR
Sir, it's a late generation lover mecha.

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON
Well, there's a relief from all this antique iron. You are

certain he's not a man? I wouldn't want a repeat of the Trenton incident.

BALLOON OPERATOR

Sir, he's free range mecha, running hot.

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Let's reel him in, boys. Sic the hounds on the rest. Shake down Shantytown.

HOUSE IN SHANTYTOWN

MECHA NANNY

What's your name?

DAVID

My name is David.

MECHA NANNY

Hello David! How old are you?

DAVID

I don't know.

MECHA NANNY

Do you need someone to take care of you? Would you like a nanny? I have many good references.

DAVID

Do you know where the Blue Fairy lives?

HANGING IN THE NET

MECHA NANNY

Don't be afraid, David.

Dodo, l'enfant do, L'enfant dormira bien vite;
Dodo, l'enfant do, L'enfant dormira bientot...

TEDDY

I'll break, David.

MECHA NANNY

Une chanson douce
que me chantait ma maman...

TEDDY

Ow!

MECHA NANNY

Une chanson douce
que me chantait ma maman...

THE FLESH FAIR

FRONT GATE ATTENDANT

Hello. Anybody lose this? Hello? This your dog?

TEDDY

Grr-rrrr...

FRONT GATE ATTENDANT

Take it to lost and found for me, okay?

CREW MEMBER #1

Hey, Allen! Lost and found!

TEDDY

Do you know David?

CREW MEMBER #2

Where's the off switch?

TEDDY

Where's David? Can you help me find David? I have to find David. Are you taking me to David?

THE ARENA

MECHA COMEDIAN

Can you shoot me OVER the propeller thing? Yea, I don't need to go through it. Ahhh, I was considering it, but I changed my mind.

RINGLEADER

Gentlemen! Start... your... engines! Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one.
What about us?!

CROWD

What about us!

RINGLEADER

What... about... us?!

CROWD

What about us!

RINGLEADER

We are alive, and this is a celebration of life! And this is
commitment to a truly human future!

LITTLE GIRL (to TEDDY)

What's your name?

DAVID

Hello, Teddy.

TEDDY

Hello, David.

CONTROL BOOTH

PAPA

Take it! Take it. Backgrounds rolling...

LITTLE GIRL

Papa?

PAPA

Not on the...

TECHNICIAN

...biker helm.

LITTLE GIRL

Papa?

PAPA

Amanda, go on back outside, honey. It's too smoky in here.

AMANDA

There's a boy in the cage.

PAPA

What'd you say?

AMANDA

There's a boy the cage.

PAPA
A boy?

AMANDA
A real boy. He's stuck in the cage.

PAPA
In the pen, honey?

AMANDA
In the jail place...

TECHNICIAN
Random crowd reaction-

PAPA
Hey, Russell, will you get a remote near the pig pen? Bring it up on VT1. Lemme see what she's talking about.

RUSSELL
Move it up on one.

TECHNICIAN
Push in.

RUSSELL
What are you looking for?

PAPA
Amanda said she saw a little boy in there.

TECHNICIAN
Push in!
Denny, let's go wide on the shot - wide on the shot.

PAPA
Honey, how do you know about this?

AMANDA
The bear told me.

TEDDY
I told her.

THE PIG PEN

JUNKY MECHA #1

Would you be so kind and shut down my pain receivers?

DAVID

Why is this happening?

TAXI MECHA

History repeats itself. It's the rite of blood and electricity.

GRUMPY MECHA

So, when the opportunities avail themselves, they pick away at us, cutting away our numbers so they can maintain numerical superiority!

JUNKY MECHA #1

My time... is it up already? Goodbye everyone.

DAVID

Keep me safe! Keep me safe! Keep me safe! Keep me safe!

CREW MEMBER

Not yet! Just this one here!

DAVID

Keep me safe. Keep me safe. Keep me safe...

FEMALE CREW MEMBER

Mike, security? Mike! Do you have any reports of any missing kids, any missing children? Alright, thanks.

PAPA

How'd you get in there? Boy! You, boy! Hey, what's your name? I won't bite ya. Come on over where I can see ya. Hey hey, it won't hurt ya. I just need to see. You're a machine.

DAVID

I'm a boy.

AMANDA

Is he a toyboy?

DAVID

My name is David.

PAPA

Impossible.

THE ARENA

JUNKY MECHA #1

I still work, don't I? I can still work in the dark, but my lamp is broken. My lamplight will not work. I hit my lamp on a girder overhead.

THE PIG PEN

NANNY MECHA

Goodbye, David.

PAPA

No one builds children. No one ever has. What would be the point?

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Aye, he could be a custom job. Some rich, and lonely, scaredy pusses pretend child.

GRUMPY MECHA

I'm a custom job. 75 years ago I was Time Magazine's mecha of the year!

PAPA

Eh, this work is first rate. A lot of love went into him. David! You are one of a kind, you know that? Who made you?

DAVID

My mommy made me.

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Her womb was your factory, eh? One of those built to aspire to the human condition. What is the name of your maker? Serve U.S., E.Z. Living, Robbyville? Simulate-City, Santern, Cybertronics, Sidekicks--

DAVID

Monica is my mommy.

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Can I speak with you for a moment? You thinking of not putting him in the show?

PAPA

Something as original as this you don't toss out with the rest of the garbage!

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Yeah, well, I say originality without purpose is a white elephant, but if money is your purpose, then here's your refund-- my compliments.

PAPA

What are you going to do with him?

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Put him where he belongs-- in show business.

JOE

It was certainly my good fortune running into you!

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Let go of him.

JOE

Let go of me.

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

I said let go of him.

JOE

I'm trying!

DAVID

Don't let go. Keep me safe! Don't let go!

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Suit yourselves.

THE ARENA

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Ladies and gentlemen. Girls and boys and children of all ages! What will they think of next?! See here: a bitty box, a tinker toy, a living doll. 'Course we all know why they made them. To seize your hearts. To replace your children! This is the latest iteration to the series of insults to human dignity. An underground scheme to phase out all of God's little children. Meet the next generation of child designed to do just that!

Do not be fooled by the artistry of this creation. No doubt there was talent in the crafting of this simulator. Yet with the very first strike, you will see the big lie come apart before your very eyes!

DAVID

Don't burn me! Don't burn me! I'm not Pinocchio! Don't make me die! I'm David, I'm David, I'm David!

WOMAN IN CROWD

Mecha don't plead for their lives! Who is that? He looks like a boy...

DAVID

Don't make me die...don't make me die! I'm David!

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Built like a boy to disarm us! See how they try to imitate our emotions, now!

DAVID

I'm David, I'm David, I'm David...

LORD JOHNSON-JOHNSON

Whatever performance this sim puts on, remember we are only demolishing artificiality! Let he who is without 'sim' cast the first stone.

CROWD

He's just a boy... He's just a boy, Johnson...You're a monster!...(hubbub)

PAPA

Get them out of there before they tear this place apart.

HOBBY'S OFFICE

ASSISTANT #1

We found him.

HOBBY

Where?

ASSISTANT #1

Flesh Fair outside Haddonfield.

HOBBY

Is he alive?

ASSISTANT #2

Yes. He's in one piece.

IN THE WOODS

TEDDY

I see the moon.

DAVID

Is it real?

TEDDY

I don't know, David.

DAVID

Is it coming?

TEDDY

I can't tell yet.

DAVID

Let's not walk this way.

JOE

Where are we going?

DAVID

This way now.

JOE

Are you in bad trouble, have you run away from someone?

DAVID

My mommy told me to run away.

JOE

Why did she say that?

DAVID

I guess...because Henry didn't like me.

JOE

Why was that?

DAVID

Martin came home.

JOE
And who is he?

DAVID
Martin is Mommy and Henry's REAL son. After I find the Blue Fairy, then I can go home. Mommy will love a real boy. The Blue Fairy will make me into one.

JOE
Is Blue Fairy mecha, orga, man, or woman?

DAVID
Woman.

JOE
Woman. I know women! They sometimes ask for me by name. I know all about women. About as much as there is to know. No two are ever alike, and after they've met me, no two are ever the same! And I know where most of them can be found.

DAVID
Where?

JOE
Rouge City. Across the Delaware. Too far for our feet. We'll need help to get there. And, it is not without peril. We will have to journey....towards the moon.

DAVID
Are there many women in Rouge City?

JOE
As there are stars at night.

DAVID
And how will we find just one?

JOE
We will ask Dr. Know! There is nothing he doesn't. Exactly what name do you give this woman?

DAVID
She is...just Blue Fairy.

JOE
Blue Fairy. In the world of Orga blue is the color of melancholy, yet the services I provide will put a blush back

on anyones cheek. I will change the color of your fairy for you. She will scream out in the moonlight...'Ah, oh yes, oh god, oh yes, oh god, oh god'...she will make you a real boy for I will make her a real woman and all will be right with the world, because you held my hand and saved my brain. So once again my customers may ask for my by name 'Gigolo Joe, whatdoyaknow'!

DAVID

Why do you do that?

JOE

That's just what I do. Now follow me, and don't fall behind. All roads lead to Rouge! Don't they say that, eh? Don't they just....

ON THE ROADSIDE

JOE

There are girls your age who are just like me. We are the guiltless pleasures of the lonely human being. You're not going to get us pregnant, or have us over for supper with mummy and daddy. We work under you, we work on you, and we work for you. Man made us better at what we do than was ever humanly possible. If you can manage us a lift to Rouge City, all this, and much, much more, can be yours.

TEENAGER

Get in!

IN THE CAR

JOE

Say ♡Ah!♡

JOE & TEENS

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

ROUGE CITY PLAZA

JOE

Over there is 'Here, Kitty Kitty'. That's where the agency held my trial when I was made new. That's 'Tails'...very

'hoity-toity'. Only sunrise gents and sunset ladies. I've never been asked to perform there. Strictly sierra class robots who have no idea how to live. Can't even speak English, all made in Sweden. Couldn't tell a joke from a poke.

There's Mildred! I have to show you inside Mildred!

DAVID

Are you her?

JOE

That's Our Lady of the Immaculate Heart. The ones who made us are always looking for the ones that made them. They go in, look around their feet, sing songs, and when they come out, it's usually me they find. I've picked up a lot of business in this spot.

DAVID

But Joe, where's Blue Fairy?

JOE

That's what we're gonna find out when we ask Dr. Know. It's where everyone goes who needs to know.

Meet the good doctor!

DOCTOR KNOW'S SHOP

DR.KNOW

Starving minds, welcome to Dr. Know! Where fast-food for thought is served up 24 hours a day, in 40,000 locations nationwide. Ask Dr. Know, there's nothing I don't!

DAVID

Tell me where I can find the Blue Fairy.

DR.KNOW

Question me you pay the fee, two for five you get one free!

JOE

He means two questions cost five Newbucks with a third question on the house. In this day and age, David, nothing costs more than information.

DAVID

That's everything!

JOE

Ten Newbucks and a ten copper comes to 7 questions for Dr. Know.

DAVID

That should be enough!

JOE

He's a smooth operator. He'll test our limits, but try we must.

DR.KNOW

Greetings colleagues. On author, factual text or fictionalized text, 1st or 3rd person, usual literacy range from primal level to the post doctoral, usual span of styles from fairy tale to religious, who❖s who, or where❖s where - or, flat fact.

DAVID

Flat-fact?

DR.KNOW

Thank you for question number one. 'Flat-fact' is a term demanding an equal answer with interpretive speculation... merely not the... and what you are saying is basically that is what you-

DAVID

That shouldn't count, that wasn't my question!

JOE

You must take care not to raise your voice up at the end of a sentence.
'Flat-fact'.

Dr.KNOW

You have 6 more questions!

DAVID

Where is Blue Fair-REE?

DR.KNOW

In the Garden. Vascostylis blue fairy. Blooms twice annually with bright blue flowers on a branched inflorescence. A hybrid between Ascola Meda Arnold. You have 5 more questions.

DAVID

Who is Blue Fair-REE?

DR.KNOW

Are you sad, lonely, looking for a friend? 'Blue Fairy Escort Service' will find a mate for you! You have 4 more questions.

DAVID

Joe. Try fairy tale.

JOE

New category. A fairy's tail.

DAVID

No! Fairy tale!

JOE

No. Fairy tale.

DAVID

What is Blue Fairy?

DR.KNOW

Pinocchio, by Carlo Collodi. At the signal, there was a rustling as flapping of wings, and a large falcon flew to the windowsill. What are your orders, beautiful fairy, he asked...

DAVID

That's her.

DR.KNOW

...For you must know that the child with blue hair was no other than the good hearted fairy who had lived in that wood for more than a thousand years...

JOE

David! David!

DAVID

That's her!

JOE

It was an example of her. But I think we're getting closer.

DAVID

But if a fairy tale is real, wouldn't it be a fact? A flat fact?

DR.KNOW

...then the dream ended, and Pinocchio awoke, full of amazement...

JOE

Say no more. New category, please. Combine Fact with Fairy Tale. Now. Ask him again.

DAVID

How can the Blue Fairy make a robot into a real, live boy?

DR.KNOW

Come away, O human child!
To the waters and the wild
With a fairy, hand in hand,
For the world's more full of weeping
then you can understand.

Your quest will be perilous
Yet the reward is beyond price.
In his book
'How Can A Robot Become Human',
Professor Allen Hobby writes
of the power which
will transform Mecha into Orga.

DAVID

Will you tell me how to find her?

DR.KNOW

Discovery is quite possible.
Our blue fairy does exist
in one place, and one place only,
At the end of the world
Where the lions weep.
Here is the place dreams are born.

JOE

Many a mecha has gone to the end of the world... never to come back! That is why they call the end of the world 'MAN-hattan'.

DAVID

And that is why we must go there!

HALLWAY OUTSIDE DR. KNOW'S SHOP

JOE

Wait! What if the blue fairy isn't real at all, David? What if she's magic? The supernatural is the hidden web that unites the universe. Only orga believe what cannot be seen or measured. It is that oddness that separates our species. Or what if the Blue Fairy is an electronic parasite that has arisen to hold the minds of artificial intelligence? They hate us, you know? The humans...They'll stop at nothing.

DAVID

My Mommy doesn't hate me! Because I'm special, and...unique! Because there has never been anyone like me before! Ever! Mommy loves Martin because he is real and when I am real, Mommy's going to read to me, and tuck me in my bed, and sing to me, and listen to what I say, and she will cuddle with me, and tell me every day a hundred times a day that she loves me!

JOE

She loves what you do for her, as my customers love what it is I do for them. But she does not love you David, she cannot love you. You are neither flesh, nor blood. You are not a dog, a cat or a canary. You were designed and built specific, like the rest of us. And you are alone now only because they tired of you, or replaced you with a younger model, or were displeased with something you said, or broke. They made us too smart, too quick, and too many. We are suffering for the mistakes they made because when the end comes, all that will be left is us. That's why they hate us, and that is why you must stay here, with me.

DAVID

Goodbye, Joe.

ROUGE CITY PLAZA

POLICE OFFICER

You're in big trouble.

TEDDY

Be careful David, this is not a toy.

AMPHIBICOPTER

Destination please?

JOE

MAN-hattan.

MANHATTAN

AMPHIBICOPTER

Mecha Restricted Area.
Manhattan. Destination Achieved.

JOE

Man-hattan, the lost city in the sea at the end of the world.

DAVID

Where the lions weep.

TEDDY

Grrrrrrr❖

DAVID

Turn around, Joe.

JOE

We're not going to give up yet, David.

TEDDY

Grrrrrrr❖

DAVID

Turn around, Joe. Turn all the way around.

TEDDY

Grrrrrrr❖

CYBERTRONICS PENTHOUSE ENTRANCE

DAVID

Professor Hobby? Professor Hobby?

JOE

Come away, O human child!
To the waters and the wild
With a Faery, hand in hand,
For the world's more full of weeping than you can understand.

PENTHOUSE LIBRARY

DAVID

Professor Hobby? Professor Hobby? Hello? Hello?
Is this the place they make you real?

DAVID II

This is the place they make you read.

DAVID

Are you real?

DAVID II

I guess.

DAVID

Are you me?

DAVID II

I'm David.

DAVID

You're not.

DAVID II

Yes, I am! I'm David!

DAVID

So am I.

DAVID II

Hello, David. -

Can you read? Can you sit down, and we can read together?

Let's be friends.

DAVID

You can't have her.

DAVID II

I can't hear you.

DAVID

She's mine. And I'm the ONLY one.

I'm David! I'm David! I'm David! I'm David! I'm...(pause),

I'm David! I'm David! I'm David! I'm special! I'm unique!

I'm David! You can't have her!

I'm David...I'm David...I'm David...

HOBBY

David? David!

DAVID

I'm David...I'm David...

HOBBY

Yes, you are David.

DAVID

Professor Hobby?

HOBBY

Yes David, I've been waiting for you.

DAVID

Dr. Know told me you'd be here. Is Blue Fairy here, too?

HOBBY

I first heard of your Blue Fairy from Monica. What did you believe the Blue Fairy could do for you?

DAVID

She would make me a real boy.

HOBBY

But you are a real boy. At least as real as I've ever made one which by all reasonable accounts would make me your Blue Fairy.

DAVID

You are not her. Dr. Know told me she would be here at the lost city in the sea at the end of the world where the lions weep.

HOBBY

And that's what Dr. Know needed to know to get you to come home to us. And it's the only time we intervened; the only help that we gave him to give to you, so you could find your way home to us.

Until you were born, robots didn't dream, robots didn't desire, unless we told them what to want. David! Do you have any idea what a success story you've become? You found a fairy tale and inspired by love, fueled by desire, you set out on a journey to make her real and, most remarkable of all, no one taught you how. We actually lost you for a while. But when you were found again we didn't make our presence known because our test was a simple one: Where would your self-motivated reasoning take you? To the logical

conclusion? The Blue Fairy is part of the great human flaw to wish for things that don't exist. Or to the greatest single human gift - the ability to chase down our dreams. And that is something no machine has ever done until you.

DAVID

I thought I was one of a kind.

HOBBY

My son was one of a kind. You are the first of a kind. David?

DAVID

My brain is falling out.

HOBBY

Would you like to come meet your real mothers and fathers? The team is anxious to talk to you. I want you to wait here and I'll gather them up. We want to hear everything about your adventure. We want thank you, and tell you what's in store for you next.

OUTSIDE LEDGE OF CYBERTRONICS BLDG.

DAVID

Mommy.

IN THE AMPHIBICOPTER

DAVID

I saw it Joe, I saw it! The place where she lives! She's right down there, Joe!

JOE

She is?

DAVID

She's waiting for me, we have to go!

JOE

Uh-oh.

When you become a real boy, remember me to the ladies when you grow up!

DAVID

Good-bye Joe.

JOE
Good-bye David.
I am...I was!

UNDER WATER

TEDDY
David, please, be careful.

STOPPED

DAVID
The Blue Fairy's all right!

TEDDY
What happened?

DAVID
I don't know.

TEDDY
We are in a cage.

DAVID
Blue Fairy? Please...please, please make me into a real live boy. Please...Blue Fairy? Please...please...make me real. Blue Fairy? Please, please make me real. Please make me a real boy. Please, Blue Fairy, make me into a real boy. Please...

NARRATOR
And David continued to pray to the Blue Fairy there before him, she who smiled softly, forever...she who welcomed forever. Eventually the floodlights dimmed and died, but David could still see her palely by day, and he still addressed her, in hope. He prayed until all the sea anemones had shriveled and died. He prayed as the ocean froze and the ice encased the caged amphibicopter, and the Blue Fairy too, locking them together where he could still make her out - a blue ghost in ice - always there, always smiling, always awaiting him. Eventually he never moved at all, but his eyes always stayed open, staring ahead forever all through the darkness of each night, and the next day...and the next day...

Thus, 2000 years passed by.

A.I. : Artificial Intelligence
The Complete Dialogue

Part Three

THE ICE DIG

SPECIALIST (subtitled)

These machines were trapped under the wreckage before the freezing. Therefore, these robots are originals. They knew living people.

KITCHEN-SWINTON HOME

DAVID

Teddy, we're home. Mommy?! Mommy?! We're home! Where are you?!

DISEMBODIED VOICE (BLUE FAIRY)

DavidDaaaaaaaavidDavidDaaaaaaaavid

MARTIN'S BEDROOM-*EMPTY

BLUE FAIRY

You have been searching for me, haven't you David?

DAVID

For...my whole life.

BLUE FAIRY

And what after all this time have you come to ask me?

DAVID

I had a wish to make.

BLUE FAIRY

And what is your wish?

DAVID

Please make me a real boy so my Mommy will love me, and let me stay with her.

BLUE FAIRY

David, I will do anything that is possible, but I cannot make you a real boy.

DAVID

Where am I? This looks like my house, but it is different.

BLUE FAIRY

Yes, it is different, but it's also your home. We read your mind, and it's all here. There's nothing too small that you didn't store for us to remember. We so want you to be happy. You are so important to us David, you are unique in all the world.

DAVID

Will Mommy be coming home soon? Is she out shopping with Martin now?

BLUE FAIRY

David, she can never come home, because two-thousand years have passed, and she is no longer living. Dearest David, when you are lonely, we can bring back other people from your time in the past.

DAVID

If you can bring back other people, why can't you bring back HER?

BLUE FAIRY

Because we can only bring back people whose bodies we dig up from the ice. We need some physical sample of the person, like a bone, or a fingernail.

TEDDY

David.

DAVID

Yes Teddy.

TEDDY

Do you remember when you cut some of Mommy's hair?

DAVID

Henry shook me.

TEDDY

And you dropped her hair?

DAVID

I know.

Now you can bring her back, can't you?

SPECIALIST OBSERVATION ROOM

SPECIALIST (NARRATOR)
Give him what he wants.

MARTIN'S BEDROOM

BLUE FAIRY
Dearest David, your wish is my command.

DAVID'S BEDROOM

DAVID
Hey Joe what do you know?

SPECIALIST (NARRATOR)
David, I often felt a sort of envy of human beings and that thing they call 'spirit'. Human beings had created a million explanations of the meaning of life in art, in poetry, in mathematical formulas. Certainly, human beings must be the key to the meaning of existence, but human beings no longer existed.

So, we began a project that would make it possible to recreate the living body of a person long dead from the DNA in a fragment of bone or mummified skin. We also wondered, would it be possible to retrieve a memory trace in resonance with a recreated body. And do you know what we found? We found... the very fabric of space-time itself appeared to store information about every event which had ever occurred in the past.

But the experiment... was a failure. For those who were resurrected only lived through a single day of renewed life. When the resurrectees fell asleep on the night of their first new day, they died, again. As soon as they became unconscious, their very existence faded away into darkness. So you see, David, the equations have shown that once an individual space-time pathway had been used, it could not be reused. If we bring your mother back now, it will only be for one day, and then you'll never be able to see her again.

DAVID

Maybe maybe she will be special, maybe she will stay.

SPECIALIST (NARRATOR)

I thought this might be hard for you to understand. You were created to be so young.

DAVID

Maybe the one day will be like that one day inside the amphibicopter, maybe it will last forever.

SPECIALIST (NARRATOR)

David, you are the enduring memory of the human race, the most lasting proof of their genius. We only want for your happiness. David, you've had so little of that.

DAVID

If you want for my happiness, then you know what you have to do.

SPECIALIST (NARRATOR)

Listen. Can you hear that? The new morning has come. Go to her David, she's just waking up this instant.

MASTER BEDROOM

DAVID

I found you.

MONICA

Hi.

DAVID

Hi.

MONICA

I must've dozed off. How long have I-

DAVID

Would you like some coffee? Just the way you like it?

MONICA

Yeah, I'd love a coffee. It'll wake me up.

DAVID

Okay.

MONICA

You never forget how, do you?

DAVID

No. I never forget.

MONICA

I must be a little confused. What day is it?

DAVID

It is today!

MASTER BATHROOM

NARRATOR

And as the day wore on, David thought it was the happiest day of his life. All the problems seemed to have disappeared from his mommy's mind. There was no Henry, there was no Martin, there was no grief, there was only David.

DAVID & MONICA

(Laughter)

KITCHEN

NARRATOR

David had been warned not to explain anything to Monica, otherwise she would become frightened, and everything would be spoiled. But David's journey home belonged only to him, so he didn't see the harm of painting her pictures of things she would have no memory of.

HALLWAY/CLOSET

DAVID & MONICA -(hide & seek w/Teddy)

Aaaahhhhh!

KITCHEN

NARRATOR

David had never had a birthday party, because David had never been born. So they baked a cake, and lit some candles.

MONICA

Now make a wish.

DAVID

It came true already.

NARRATOR

By now indeed the windows were beginning to dim. David drew the shades without even needing to be asked.

MASTER BEDROOM

MONICA

I really ought to be tucking you in. Strange. Hmm...How fascinating. I can hardly keep my eyes open. I don't know what's come over me. Such a beautiful day. I love you David. I do love you. I have always loved you.

NARRATOR

That was the everlasting moment he had been waiting for. And the moment had passed, for Monica was sound asleep - more than merely asleep. Should he shake her she would never rouse. So David went to sleep too. And for the first time in his life, he went to that place where dreams are born.

THE END