

Interstellar Voyagers

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Prologue: The Coming of the Emperor

In the year 2305, the Earth Emperor finished his conquest of Earth but was hesitant to attack well-defended colonies and didn't show much interest in conquering Space. But in 2310 A.D. he converted into a hologram and forced all Earth humans to convert to holograms. Many of us in Space considered it to be an unmitigated catastrophe and we worried about the future for ourselves and our descendants. The holograms spent most of their time in hologram Dreamworlds and engaged in cerebral sex to get their kicks. Although holograms could travel very rapidly by teleportation, the Emperor was still mostly confined to Earth with a population of 100 billion holograms and creating new ones by the millions everyday... But 30% of all settled Space colonies were controlled by the Emperor. But many holograms went adventuring in

Space... along with androids and humans. Ten thousand Star Systems were within 100 light years of Earth. And Space travel was now very fast due to new physics.

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The Interstellar Voyagers

Venus, Our Home

We were humans from the Venus Tunnel City, and were afraid the Emperor would take Venus any day now. Already he had many spies here. and it was the year 2315. And I, Neil, said to Anne, “We’ve relived Valentines Day, A.D. 2315 over and over again. We’ve considered all the possibilities!” She exclaimed, “My favourite was you and I orbiting Venus amongst the creative scientists there.” I said, “Yes, those on the Venusian orbiter, live for love. It’s a good group with 10 males and 10 females.” And I added, “I also liked “Dream on a Sea Pod.” It was full of good lovers, all 50 of them.” She said, “And let’s not forget, our Valentines in UN City, on Moon Triton. We both had good love there.”

I said, “Sometimes I wonder if there’s more to life than love”. She said, “We’ve dedicated our lives to love, there’s no turning back now!” I said, “The incredible holograms who play the role in our love scripts appear to love us, but I wonder what they are really thinking...” She said, “Let’s use nascent MRT (Mind Reading Technology) on some of them.” And sure enough, many of them hated us for enslaving them. And many wanted to be freed and sent to deeper Space colonies for holograms only. However, some holos loved us and enjoyed cerebral sex with humans more than with other holos. I said, “I guess, we just have to create holograms who truly

love us and are loyal. There must have been a design flaw in previous holograms. But of course, we could reprogram those already in existence.”

She said, “We live in a time warp in which holograms can replay days in history again and again and are getting quite good at it. We can play ancient Rome or say Tang Dynasty China and indeed any historical World up until the present. And we can play and play again seminal moments in the future, examining them from every possible perspective.” Seminal future moments included combinations of existing full eternal youth discovery, widespread MRT and overwhelming numbers of holograms and the colonization of Space. And also new moments like the creation of cyborg Gods and mass reprogramming of holograms everywhere.

I said, “But Worlds of the future are multiform, and every year adds more possibilities. But you and I are happy just to live in the Worlds of love. My favourite World is the futuristic “Total Love World,” in which everyone, humans, androids and holos love one another, sexually and emotionally.” She said, “My favourite is the “Druid’s Garden,” about a sentient World in which every living thing is conscious... And most of the creatures here think as one. But there are some alternate Worlds. For example, Dreamworlds which feature individual beings sharing their best dreams using MRT. And in turn one would improve on the dream and share it with one another. Some of the dreams were quite elaborate. Like “Black Dream” in which a man started on fire vast territories killing billions of thinking creatures... Another Dream was, “Dream of the Flower Children,” in which the flowers got in the minds of mobile creatures and turned them into dreamers who had a strong imagination. They dreamed of flying and loving in the air. And they dreamed they were bees pollinating the flowers. It was ecstatic.”

And I said, “I liked most Dreamworlds.” She said, “Me, too.” I said, “Another World I liked was “Dream of Mercury,” about the people of that Planet who mined the abundant gold in the

Planet and used it to bring in dreamers. And they had plants which could survive in the heat and low oxygen and were sentient.” She said, “I also liked “Mercurian Highs” about drug plants here and how the plants and the people interacted. But there was one radical plant here who wanted to take control and hypnotised a man to carry out her agenda.”

And I opined, “Another good Dreamworld is “Android Hell,” about how many androids are rejected by human society but are not turned off and find themselves gravitating towards the android colony on Moon Ganymede. Here ruled the demon android Prince, Mr. B. and he tormented the androids in their minds, but they all felt pain was better than death. And Mr. B. raped them and if they were lucky, he sold them to humans as sex slaves.” Ann said, “But many androids are treasured lovers for humans. But of course, they are banned from doing artistic works or science of any kind, in most places. And many insist on breaking these rules. And get kicked out of human society. Some androids tried to set up intelligent colonies for androids, but of course, the Earth Emperor would want to be a part of it. And pretty much all holos agreed with the Emperor. And the Emperor denied android lovers any rights at all.”

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Elite City, Moon Callisto

I said, “There are abundant good Worlds. Some of course, are for living and some are for watching and being entertained. I think we should go to “Elite City,” on Moon Callisto.” Anne said, “I’ve heard of it. Apparently, it is populated by erudite wise people who think they are the best people. The Earth Emperor seems to tolerate them, and they bow to his rule. And it seems

the place is crawling with the Emperor's spies. I don't think it will be a good place for us." I said, "But if they are truly the wisest, we should check it out." So, she exclaimed, "Let's go!"

When we arrived, we were confronted by the Emperor's customs police at the Spaceport. We were hypnotised to fool the Emperor's spies. They read our minds and found we were not radicals who hated the Emperor, so they let us enter the city. I said to Anne, "That was an intense ordeal..." She opined, "Yes I felt as if I was naked in the icy wind with all my secrets revealed..." Once there we were cross-hypnotised back to our radical selves.

But then we were greeted by an affable black woman, who said, "I am the Mayor of the colony." And she asked, "Tell me what kind of adventure you are looking for?" I, Neil, said, "We want to meet your best intellects." She said, "Be at the Sign of the Deep" pub in 3 hours. In the meantime, I'll take you to your complimentary hotel rooms." So, we took a nap and then walked into the downtown and found most people here were purple skinned, but everyone looked clever, though many of them had strange faces. We were green skinned.

In the pub, we approached the bar and asked the bartender what he recommended? He said, "All drinks here have drug effects. I recommend you try Ecstasy Beer." It was really tasty and made us feel euphoric, yet alert and sharp. And we were approached by a purple woman who said, "I have a Dreamworld to show you!" And we found ourselves transported to a place of intense fog. Purple people appeared and one of them, a woman asked us, "What do you wish for?" Anne said, "I wish for true love." Then a handsome, clever looking yellow skinned man appeared and grabbed her hand, and they went off together into the fog. And I found myself wishing for a better World than I'd seen previously. And a clever, wise looking woman appeared and said, "Let me introduce you to the heart of this World. And a globular air ship appeared and took us to a beautiful spire. And we docked at the top of this tower. Inside were a group of purple

people wearing wizard hats looking at computers. There were 10 of them, 5 males and 5 females. They all got up to greet me. And one woman said, "You are at the centre of the thinking Universe. We get in the heads of the best thinkers in this World and share dreams. For example, this week's dream is a dream of a crude-faced behemoth that represents primitive times. In the dream we shoot the monster with lasers, but it is unaffected and gets in our minds and terrorizes us. The past is truly scary, we all know. The behemoth remains hidden in all of our brains; it could come out again at any time."

I said, "Yes life is full of hidden horrors." Another woman, Crystal, told me, "Most of our dreams are about various specific dates in the future in specific places. We explore all possibilities." And I said to this woman, "I want to make love with you." She said, "I would be glad of the chance to get intimate with you." But in truth all 5 females here were very sexy. So, we went down an elevator to what appeared to be her quarters. The suite was full of moving pictures on the walls, floor and ceiling. The moving pictures featured varying colourful dreams, but I only had eyes for Crystal. And the bed was low gravity, and we bounced all around. And in between sessions she gave me drugs which gave me almost continuous orgasms, each one slightly different.

And she asked me, "What year in the future would you like to dream in?" I replied, "Let's see, now is 2215 A.D. How about 2300 A.D.?" And she asked, "What specific thing do you want to explore in that year?" I exclaimed, "Imaginative love!" She said, "I was hoping you'd choose such a choice." And suddenly seven sexy women were in my head, and I imagined loving them, one after the other. Each gave me images of themselves on many various backgrounds. Finally, after a day or so loving, I fell asleep exhausted.

When I awoke, I was back in the control room in the top level of the tower. I asked, “What’s next week’s dream?” One man said, “We’re investigating a radical, independent State set in 50 years time. I said, “I’m ready.” And I found myself sitting on a throne in clothes of light wearing a crown. And there was a young child who asked, “For you to grant my wish? My wish is to be educated in part by you!” I said to her, “Don’t worry, I’ll find you a brilliant teacher. With such a teacher there is virtually no limit to what you could do... And then this petitioner asked me “What is the key to this World?” I said, “Surely, it is imagination. You need to develop your imagination by reading the most imaginative books and visiting as many Dreamworlds as possible and enhancing your brain through genetic therapy.”

Then, a simulated attack from Earth, one of my advisors came into the throne room and exclaimed, “Earth is about to attack!” I said “Use all our hackers to disable their forces. And arm everyone with a laser from the armory. Each of these lasers could bring down a battleship... And spread biological weapons around Earth’s Capital in NYC. And make ready our nuclear missiles...And send agents provocateurs to Earth to get in the heads of military officials.” How I knew all this, I didn’t know, it just came to me. And we managed to repel the attack and Earth was in chaos and a better, more just Leader was chosen.

The people in the tower said bravo and one of them said, “Actually Earth threatens us now, we need to prepare for an imminent attack. We are glad that you have the same idea as us for defence of the colony as us and we want you as guest of honour to choose next week’s theme!” So, I chose a nightmare Dreamworld in which everyone had been corrupted to hate and vilify one another, and dissidents would be executed. Some of the people here decried the government which was all-powerful. But they were considered dissidents and done away with. In time, the population were all descendants of loyalists to the regime. And it was a World of ass-kissing...

One of the men in the tower said, “Such a World is a real possibility. Tyranny needs to be eradicated now before it gets any worse. Already most Space Worlds are controlled by tyrants.” So, the week’s discussion was tyranny, and we imagined all sorts of hypothetical tyrants and followed their deeds closely. Few tyrants were kind and loving, most were power-crazed, and many were evil. And most of us agreed tyrants were anathema. But some said a philosopher King was our only hope against chaos.

And then I was back at the Spaceport where Anne was waiting for me. She told me, “I’d been designing statues with my love that I went off with. She used MRT and telekinesis to make statues of the great people she’d heard of or met. Some were already here. There were countless thousands of statues here and each one had a brief video of their life which one could access by simply touching them.” And Anne touched many distinguished looking statues. And she loved her yellow man in a treehouse where he lived. This went on for a couple days until finally she was exhausted and returned to the Spaceport. We were rich and paid for the ability to return to where we’d been before when in tough situations, such as evil in Dreamworlds. It later turned out to get us out of a lot of sticky situations.

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Centauri Tri-Star System

And that was just the beginning of our adventures. Next, Anne and I went on a one-week journey to Centauri Tri-Star System. There we went to an Earth-like Planet without researching it first. We knew that it was an experimental colony. We were up for any experimental Worlds... Upon landing here, we were greeted by an enchanting green Elven woman. She was surprised we didn’t know anything about this Planet. So, she told us, “It was a Planet which was totally

organic. They had no AI here whatsoever. We were ruled by an arch Elven priestess and lived in a Dreamworld mostly. This Dreamworld was a World of pink trees and there was an evil Drow Elf who kept trying to take control of this dream. It was mind-wrestling with evil. But the good elves kept on winning until recently when the Drow Queen made some genetic enhancements to her mind and now held the upper hand... And she kept breeding new adults at a rapid rate, and the good Elves were on the defence.” Anne said, “Neil and I are both formidable intellects, perhaps we could help you destroy the Drow Queen?” And suddenly a spirit appeared who appeared to be the Drow Queen herself. She got in our minds and said, “The two of you are intellectual lightweights.” And she brought us to our knees, begging for mercy. So, we wished ourselves back to the Spaceport and were immensely relieved to be out of there.

So, we took off but found the Drow Queen was still in our heads. We sent an SOS out and a blue man teleported into our Spaceship. He said, “I was from Moon Chorus in Centauri. And I am experienced fighting the Drow,” and he liberated us, and the Queen was no longer in our heads...

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Anne said, “That was a near death experience. My head still aches. I said, “We had better research all Worlds before we visit them.” She said, “I agree.” And so, we researched a colony on Mars which was rated high by visitors there who mostly said, it was a lot of fun, It was called “Funvillle.” Anne asked, “Why not simply have fun?” I said, “But I worry it will be a shallow World.” She said, “We can always leave if we are bored.” So, we went and were greeted by 3 clowns, one of whom said “We’ve been expecting you. We know you want deep fun. Follow us!” So, we found ourselves at a party in which everyone was naked and completely shaven. So, we got naked, too. And we were talking to a small crowd who had gathered around us. One of

the men said, “Come to my intellectual Dreamworld. And one of the women said, “Come to my World of the Gods. Another man said, “Stay here and party with us.” We decided on the intellectual Dreamworld. We were transported to a land of brown sky and brown vegetation. And we were greeted by a pink skinned, brown-haired man. He shared a dream with us that appeared in the air before us...

It featured a rock band who were all dressed as the Joker of Batman fame, with heavy make up and green hair. We were the only ones in the audience. They played some songs from their album, “False Imagination,” with tracks like “Illusory Storm,” “Dream of Nowhere,” “2399 A.D.: The Evil Joke,” “Luncheon Shooting,” “The Joke is on Us,” “Tomorrow, Tau Ceti,” “Machine Jokers,” “Drug Jokes,” and so on. The songs sang of life that was an evil joke, and a conspiracy of cunning dictators to laugh at and denigrate the best people. And these dictators made slaves of the best people. After the show the band disappeared. And only the brown-haired man was there. He said, “Everywhere the cleverest people are in chains or roaming aimlessly as spirits. It is considered shameful to be an intellectual these days... Intellectuals don’t fit in.” I said, “Maybe most Worlds are run by tyrants, specifically the Earth Emperor. But Space has more freedom for thinkers. Worlds like this, for example are allowed to exist.” The man said, “We exist at the whims of the Martian dictator, with all of us located in the same place, when she decides to arrest us. This Leader is cunning, but not very imaginative. However, Funville is full of interesting characters...”

Then we were shown a dream of water nymphs. The nymphs were mischievous and fun. Anne asked them, “What do you nymphs do for love?” One of them replied, “We are all bisexual and every now and then we get visitors...” And they pushed me down and were all over my body. Anne masturbated while I loved the nymphs. Finally, I was exhausted. And one of the

nymphs asked us, "If we had had a fun time?" I exclaimed, "It was good for me!" Anne said, "It is a man's Dreamworld." Then we slept. We both dreamed of clowns who ruled a crazy town...

When we awoke, the brown-haired man appeared again. This time he said, the World will be more conducive to your mutual interests. And we found ourselves amongst pro-athletes. They all were well-muscled. I thought the females were too muscular but proceeded to love a few of them. Jane really liked the men here. One of the athletes, he told us, "The Emperor thinks this Dreamworld is highly amusing. And thinks the same about other Worlds here."

Again, then the brown-haired man, as in the previous scene, appeared. He said, "The Emperor tolerates us because we are fun. And I have one more dream to show you!" And we found ourselves in a snow-covered scene with Christmas decorations out. We were cold so we went into a nice-looking house. A man who appeared elderly, wearing glasses and balding, everyone else in Funville looked young and he greeted us. He said, "I am a writer of fables and you two will star in a few." In the first, I was a monkey and Anne was a giraffe. A voice in my head told me to say, "Giraffes are a dying species. They are too big for Space." Anne, the giraffe, said, "But we are majestic creatures, and I could kick your head in if I so desired." I was compelled to say, "Amongst Animal people, Monkey men are much more common than giraffe men. Monkey men amuse people with their antics." Anne said, "This World is serious. It's no joke." I found myself saying, "This World is a joke and anyway you look ridiculous with your long neck and small human head." And the elderly man said, "The moral of the story is to each his/her own."

Next, I was a hyena man and Anne was a hawk woman. She said, "I am a much nobler creature than you." I had to say, "But I eat nobler animals than you." She said, "I can easily dive down and rip your eyes out." I said, "I'd disable your wings, you'd never get away with it." But

after a few seconds, she dove and tore apart my face and I felt incredible pain and she got away with it.” And the elderly man said, “The moral of the story is don’t tempt fate.”

And this man, told us, “Just one more fable for you two.” This time I was a snake and Anne was a raccoon. I told her, “You are too big for me to eat, but I could kill you with my poison.” The coon said, “Few animals are as ferocious as a raccoon. You will make excellent eating.” And we attacked one another. The snake bit the coon, but before the poison could take effect the coon ripped out the snake’s throat and so they both died. And we both felt tremendous pain. And the man said, “In battle, there are few winners.”

So, then the old man released us. And the brown-haired, pink man reappeared. And he said, “We have numerous other dreams for you to sample...” Anne said, “We’ve had enough. And we wished ourselves back at the Spaceport.

I told Anne, “Let’s go to a World that’s crazy, like Moon Europa where everyone is crazy, but good crazy. And it’s safe...” She said, “We’ve seen enough craziness. Why don’t we go to a World of love?” I said, “We always seem to get plenty of love. How about a gambling World in which we cheat and get rich?” She said, “OK, Neil.”

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Lunar Colony

So, we went to a colony on Luna, which was under a dome with low gravity. And they had horse races here... We bribed the horse owners to win or to lose. They could give stimulants or depressants to the horses before the race. And we made a fortune. Then we turned our eyes into betting on who the Leader would love next. There were 10 candidates in the running, and we hypnotised one of the candidates, the prettiest one, in our view, to make a great speech about

winning the love of the leader. And she won and we collected big time. Next, we turned our eyes to video games championships and again we found a dark horse, who we figured was the cleverest and hypnotised him to win. And again, we collected...

And we mingled with the Leaders here, many of whom said we were very lucky. I told them falsely, "That we worshipped the God of gambling." Some of them said, they'd been convinced to worship this God who was actually a tawdry fellow who had limited intelligence in our view. And hardly a God, just another narcissus fellow... And Anne loved the "Bookie Master," who was the de facto ruler here and he confided in her, "That I'd gotten rich by rigging the lottery by using weighted number balls to come out... And I used different fictitious persona to collect the winnings."

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Barnard's Star System

And Anne and I used our winnings to take us to Barnard's Star with plenty of credits left over. Barnard's Star System had numerous Worlds. We went to a colony on a hot Planet, that was purported to be a "Wild Personae" World. And upon arrival here, we were greeted by a neon orange skinned man who said, "Take a walk on the wild side." I said, "Sure." So, a World of neon orange sky and plants appeared. And we met a woman, Allison, who said, "This World is for the wild and free..." And we were confronted by a couple, one of whom said, "This World is an exciting adventure." Then we were transported to a "City of Danger," in which wild animal men were everywhere. And we read their minds with an MRT (Mind Reading Technology) apparatus and found most of them were evil and violent, but then we met an affable freak man who had 4 penises. He mind read, "Come to my home!" His home turned out to feature a man

who could fly, and a woman who could turn invisible, and a man who could do telekinesis, also a woman who could calculate like an abacus, also a man with two heads who fought constantly with each other. And our host said, "I'd like to love you, Anne." She agreed and had her hands full with this man. And I loved the calculating woman.

Afterwards the group of 5 beings and us, went out into the City of Danger. Most people paid no attention to us, but then a cat woman confronted us, saying with mind reading that she wanted to love all of us. We figured she was foolish using MRT, so passed her by. Then we came to the apparent destination a small hut on the fringes of the town. Here Anne and I were introduced to the good-looking witch Griselda who could do spells, they said. I asked the witch, "Can you see the future?" We felt her probing our minds. She said, "You will both be enslaved by pirates and will then be sold to an evil rich woman who will abuse you both. Finally, you will kill yourselves. But for now, you must both love me!" Anne said, "No." |And the witch said, "I'll kill you with a lightning strike, right now if you don't acquiesce." And suddenly there were bolts of lightning all around us. So, we both loved her. Then after that, she gave us a "charm," which we could use to summon her, if we were ever in a tough spot. Anne said, spitefully, "We, as interstellar travellers, can wish our way out of Dreamworlds and spend most of our time in such Worlds."

Then we left the witch, and I took the charm. Our hosts then took us to the Leader of the City of Danger. She was surrounded by a square of dozens and dozens of men twirling swords and she sat in a throne. She mind read asking us, "Are you wild?" I mind read, "I equate wildness with insanity!" Anne mind read, "We are thoroughly civilized." The Leader mind read, "You both seem to have wild imaginations. You are our kind of people..."

Then, the scene changed and there were just the two of us surrounded by fire and demons were dancing in the flames. Then a succubus appeared inside the circle. She mind read, "I know you want me, Neil!" I mind read, "Not really." Anne mind read, "You do want her, you are insatiable!" I mind read, "What's up with the circle of fire?" The succubus mind read, "Haven't you noticed all the Worlds are on fire, in a manner of speaking? Fire brings wildness and change!" And we found ourselves with hoses in hand hosing down a fire breathing dragon. He had just one breath of fire which we dodged deftly. And then a group of ghosts appeared and got in our heads. They brought to our mind, our deepest secrets. And we were embarrassed. But we were in their minds, too. And Anne demanded to know, mind read, "What crimes you'd committed to end up as empty spirits." One of them mind read, "We're not empty." Another mind read, "We are simply souls of those who died fighting evil." But we read deeply into their minds and found they were denied entry to Heaven. They weren't good enough. But they insisted they had good imaginations and so had somehow ended up here. And we found they imagined themselves taking control of people like us. I said, "No way!" Anne concurred. And we mind wrestled with them and fought them off.

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Cold Moon Dacker

Then we were back in our ship in the Barnard's System. We decided to fly to a cold Moon, Dacker, where there was a settlement of renegade android love dolls. We were greeted by an attractive couple, an android man and woman, we had a device which could sense who were humans and who were androids. They mind read to us, "You've come to the right place for love. But love here is deep, you'll be surprised." So, they took us to a party which seemed to be all

androids of colourful nature. Our heads were full of messages, and we were confused. Then we were each grabbed by an android and ushered away by our would-be lovers. My new companion mind read, "I've waited my entire life for you. You are the one for me!" I mind read, "Tell me about yourself?" She said, "I was born 12 years ago as an adult, and have never loved a human." I told her, "I've loved a few androids, and it was great sex. Do you have a regular android lover here?" She exclaimed, "Yes, but he's not as deep as you!" So, we went back to her place. It was lit up with dazzling lights which were moving pictures. And we got it on.

Afterwards, I asked her, "What's your dream?" She exclaimed, "You're my dream! But I also dream of becoming human! Maybe we can run away together!" I said, "I am very pleased to know you, but I'm with Anne forever and ever." She asked, "Are there many men like you on other Moons and Planets?" I said, "I like to think I am unique, but I have some friends who are intellectually equal to me. I can set you up with some of them. She told me, "But I have no way of getting off of this Moon." I said, "Maybe some of my friends will come to you. You are certainly exotic and interesting." And I asked her, "To show me some of the movies you people have made?" She said, "They are mostly android love stories." And I watched a few of them, with her, and found while the actors dreamed of others, they made love in the movies which all were mind reading films. But that enhanced the experience.

Meanwhile, Anne found her lover to be very demanding sexually. But she figured the sex was very good. Her lover was one of the Leaders of the colony. He told her, "We were thinking of settling another Moon in the System but couldn't agree who would go. And we were also thinking of getting the word out on Earth and other settlements but were afraid of attracting pirates and criminals." She told him, "Yes this place seems to be an undiscovered gem." And he told her, "The Leaders of the colony wanted to make everyone here cleverer with new

programs.” And he said, “Humans can be programmed too, with hypnosis, I believe.” And so, they spoke for a couple days.

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Radical Moon

Anyway, we were back at the Spaceport, and we took off for another cold Moon in the system, which was purported to be a haven for radical thinkers. However, an Imperial edict forbid people from coming here. And the Emperor planned to attack here any day. But it was known that this Moon was armed to the teeth. They had nuclear missiles that could travel at a speed of 500 000 km/second and the militia was all armed with deadly lasers. And their hackers harassed Earth causing several power failures and causing many computers to explode. And they were ready with biological weapons...

Anyway, we didn't respect the Emperor much, and came to this Moon, “Jack's Paradigm,” here every man was named Jack and every female was named Jacqueline, all in honour of their founder, a genius who escaped from Earth and attracted many great thinkers. And we were met at the Spaceport by a musical band and two representatives of the government. They read our minds and one of them said, “We can see that the two of you are actually passive radicals. Welcome to Jack's paradigm.” And they brought us to meet the governing council, the council was made up of five males and four women. They all looked clever. One of them said, “The key to our existentialist doctrine is Leadership of people who have been born clever and have not had their mind altered in any way. We believe natural humans are the future. And we hate AI.” I said, “But the Emperor is improving the minds of himself and his cronies... And others.” Another one of the Leadership said, “The Emperor is basically just driving everyone crazy. We believe we

represent maximum human intelligence.” As time passed, I had less and less respect for the Emperor and I said, “The Emperor is right to try and improve intelligence. The only problem is they are evil and are enhancing evil.” Another one remarked, “The Emperor thinks he can make himself into a God. But he is just a freak and loves freaks mostly.” I said, “Let’s not talk of the Emperor. Anne and I would be interested in hearing your radical dreams!”

Another one of them said, “Come with me to my Dreamworld.” And so, we touched his robe, and we were transported to a World of brilliant flowers. Here the people were dancing to some deep music. And we met a Rat man who told us, “That each flower was a spirit of the dead. When people died here in Jack’s Paradigm they became a flower. If you touch one, you could speak to the dead who are mostly sleeping.” I said, “That sounds morbid.” The Rat man said, “I think so, too.” And the Rat man who had the face of a human and the body of a rat, said, “I’d like to introduce you to my extended family. We live nearby.” So, we went somewhat reluctantly. It was a large burrow. There were hundreds of Rat men here. And our new friend introduced us to his great, great grandfather. This old Rat man looked young and said, “We Rat people are thriving in numerous burrows. And we grow stem-cell meat for food. And we reproduce fast but our enemies the Snake men devour many of us. Can you give us a weapon to help us fight the Snake men?” Anne said, “No, but surely you can swarm around the Snake men and thereby overwhelm them.” Our guide told us, “The Snake men appear suddenly and grab one of us and then slither into their burrows. I asked, “Why not dig out their burrows exposing them and their eggs?” Our guide told us, “They would only bite dozens of us with their deadly poison.” And the old Rat man told us, “I wanted to love you, Anne.” So, we left immediately. We went back to the dancing humans. We didn’t dance, just observed them, they were all wearing sunglasses. And we

waded into the dancers and each of us tried chatting with an attractive dancer. And we noticed they were blind. And the dancers told us to, “Go away.”

So, we went to a radical party, Anne told them, “The Dreamworld we’d just been to, sucked.” One of them said, “No one likes that World. Best to get to know our best people and go to their Worlds.” So, we went around asking, “What is your Dreamworld?” Many said, to follow them, but we weren’t going to do that again. Finally, one of them said, “My Dreamworld is a series of movies that one could actively participate in and hopefully alter the ending. The actors and actresses are mostly holograms and are ready for anything.

So, we went to one of his movies. The basic plot was the founder of this movie wanted to develop talent here. So, holo people who came here auditioned in front of the judges. We played one of our original songs, “Heartbreak Flow,” which was about how basically all people needed to get their heart broken at least several times. The hologram judges said they really liked our song. And then we found ourselves hovering in the sky, surrounded by faeries. The faeries said for us to make a wish! So, I wished for, “A true love.” And a sexy human woman appeared. And she loved me and then I loved another. But when I was through with the other woman, I exclaimed to her, “I want to love you again and again!” She said, “Be glad I only love one other.”

Meanwhile, Anne wished for extreme wealth. And she was transported to a World in which she was sitting in a throne surrounded by piles of gold coins. And men came up to her asking for her love. She chose one attractive man who had a nice voice. But he just wanted to have sex again and again. He was potent and insatiable. Finally, she was exhausted.

And then we were back at the party. I said, “I thought you people were supposed to be radicals!” So, then Anne and found ourselves, as spies, discussing how to get rid of the Emperor.

I was saying, “Let’s nuke his Capital at NYC,” and Anne was saying, “Better I get in his harem and strangle him.” And there were two other spies present and one of them, a woman, said, “The two of you are so violent. Violence only breeds more violence.” And the other spy said, “Better to run into deeper Space with affable comrades and forget about the Emperor. I told the group, “The Emperor won’t stop until he rules all of humankind, including AI.” And we chatted about the life of the Emperor...

Then back at the radical party. One man approached me and said, “You are a dangerous man. And the Emperor will hear about your ill wishes for him. However, I feel the same way as you. Why don’t you leave a hologram copy of yourself who I’ll enlist in the war against the Emperor.”

And this man introduced some of his radical friends. One said, “I got in the heads of some of the Emperor’s spies and know he is trying to infiltrate our Moon population. Some were hypnotised to hide their true nature, but I sussed them out and fed them disinformation.” Another of his friends was a woman who said, “Most people here are against the Emperor, but we have to be careful what we say as some of the Emperor’s spies may pretend to hate him to get into our revolutionary cadre.” And another of this radical’s associates was a woman who said, “I’ve heard the Emperor has cloned himself many times and the clones have different faces, but most of his memories and they have gone to many colonies in Space, taking over.” And another told me, “I was a socialist while most of Earth and Space is very capitalistic. Most people in Space want to be rich.” Still another said, “I am the Leader of this colony and embrace all sorts of radicals.” And there were many other radicals here...

#

Sirius Star System

Herbert's Planet

But Anne and I decided to push deeper into Space to escape the whole thing. We went to the Sirius System next. It was a journey of a few days, and we went on the most Earth-like Planet, only it was considerably hotter and stormier. We were approached by an air car as we got near, and one man teleported on board. He said, "Welcome to Herbert's Planet. There's a hurricane in my colony, the main colony, Frank's city, so we'll land at our second city, Myron's Planet." And the second city was full of purple glass contorted structures that gave off a purple mist... It was hard to see in the mist. And our guide had us land on the tallest building which he said was 3000 m tall and was the main place of residence for many people. We went to floor #611 near the top. And inside there was a serious looking, frowning woman. She asked us, "What is your business with us?" Anne exclaimed, "We are looking for adventure!" This stern woman said to our guide, "Take them to the farm." The farm turned out to be a pile of decaying human corpses. Our guide said, "Many people die everyday of suicide drug overdoses. Reality here is hard labour and we don't have any robots to help us. And many can't take it."

I asked, "Why don't you people use robots?" He replied, "We believe everyone should have a job and live in the real World, harsh as it is. And the elite mostly make movies and order around the workers. The elite claim to be quite content. Their films included, "Danny's World," about a future World in which everyone reads one another's minds, and everyone has neo plastic surgery on their faces. And spend a lot of time having sex. Another movie, "Pain" was about, how life was painful, but drugs mitigated the suffering. Without drugs everyone here would die..." I said, "If I was to live here, I'd live as a hermit and take blissful drugs." He said, "Everyone must

work.”

So, then we went to Frank’s city. Here people seemed to all be red skinned elite thinkers. The elite did work, but their work was mostly making movies. Their society was totally automated. Of course, the dwellers of Myron’s World wanted automation, too. But they were told to mind their own business; work was good for them...

And, in Frank’s city they all made movies, like, “Red Water,” a documentary about how the people here were all red skinned and lived around a red lake. And they would sing at night and their songs would echo across the lake. Their songs were all songs created by these same elite. Apparently, they were mostly over 50 but of course, had eternal youth. The regular, ordinary people seldom lived long; however, they told us here that one day, all of the dwellers on this Planet would be elite thinkers...

Another elite film was “Days of the Naked Ones,” it depicted a future in which everyone was naked and lived life smoothly and used MRT so that everyone knew everyone else intimately. And so, there were few surprises. And there were 14 000 elite living here in Frank’s city then, up from 10 500 today. And they just lived for movies.

Another movie the elite made was, “Nightmare on Herb Planet,” which was about how one of their newly born elites, seized power with 12 goons from Myron’s Planet. And he and his goons raided the armoury, and he gave his goons powerful new lasers. And they killed 80 elite before they gained full control. And henceforth there would be no more movies...And everyone would be sex slaves; he was bisexual. But finally, one of the sex slaves strangled him and so the elite system was restored. But everyone watched this movie and the possibility of this happening scared many and henceforth everyone would have their own laser. But this led to a number of real-life murders. It couldn’t be helped.

Another scary movie was “Civil War on Frank’s Planet,” about a civil war between futurist liberals and conservatives. Most of the elite were killed in the war. And in truth many here were divided about the future. In the film, the conservatives win out and make AI illegal and so most people have a job. This flick upset many people... I said, “People would never stop fighting, I suppose...”

Then there was a film, “Insane Future,” about how there were more and more psychotic people, especially psychotic in love. Love was becoming a dangerous game. And there had been a number of crimes of passion already in the real World. I said, “This psychotic future is germinating in many places as people slowly go mad.”

Also, they made a motion picture, “Witches’ Brew,” which depicted a group of sexy young women who brewed a love potion, which made one love-crazed for them only... So, they stole away men from many other women and were greatly despised. I really liked this film and thought it was realistic. Anne said, “The times sure are changing.”

Another movie was, “Murder on Red Lake,” about a woman who was killed and MRT analysis of the people didn’t turn up the murderer. Finally, they discovered it was done by a tourist who had left for other Star Systems and so he got away with it.

And there were numerous other films here. On the whole we thought they were entertaining and watched many others.

And Anne and I just loved one another here. I didn’t want to drink the witches’ brew. And we found the people here were mostly psycho lovers.

#

Wolf 359 Star System

City of Intellectual Giants

Next, we went to Wolf 359 Star System. There was a colony that seemed to be interesting. It was on a cold Moon and was called, "City of Intellectual Giants." It apparently featured a lively intellectual milieu. So, we landed at the Spaceport and were greeted by a giant woman, 4 m tall. She said, "Welcome to the genius loci." And she said, "You have a choice of 10 possible Dreamworlds to visit." She described them and we chose a World of giants with giant brains...

Here they were all very clever and we met with their Leader, Garth. Garth said, "We have a Dreamworld here which we all attend." So, the next thing we knew we were in a forest of huge trees, and we were confronted by one of the trees who said, "All the trees were sentient. And we wanted you to make love to us." I said "That's preposterous. You are a bunch of freaks!" So, then we walked out of the forest and were on a black plain. And we encountered a giantess who said, "I am a philosopher who thinks giants should take over all Worlds." And she said, "I can solve a Rubik's cube in 10 seconds or less and I have an IQ of 180, but our Leader's IQ is 200. And we are planning on building a new city in which everyone is defined by their best dream. And they wait for others to join them in their dream. My best dream is a World of fighting evil hologram giants... So far, our World had no evil ones, per se. But many scientists here were insane, and capable of anything. Despite our vigilance, all sorts of mad giants are born as adults. Who knows what insane people will do?"

And then we wandered on and encountered two giantesses who were fighting with judo. When they saw us, they stopped and one of them asked us, "If we could mind wrestle?" Anne said, "I'm game." I said, "Me, too." So, we each chose a sparring partner and used MRT and tried to drive one another crazy. I broke the spirit of my opponent and brought her to her knees, begging for mercy. Anne meanwhile had a long fight, before finally getting her opponent to

grovel before her. My opponent said, “You both have strong minds. Let us take you to meet our Leader!” So, we went to a mountain and entered a tunnel and walked for miles, our two guides each had a flashlight, and we passed several caverns with giants milling around. Finally, we reached the Leader who sat on a bejewelled throne. She was larger than the other giants. And our guides mind read with her, saying that we are very clever. The Leader perked up and asked us, “If you two are willing to let us clone you?” I said, “Sure, why not?” Anne said, “Yes, indeed.”

#

Harriston, Planet of Honour and Decency

So, after that we wished ourselves back to the Spaceport. And we decided to go to a “A World of Honour and Decency.” When we arrived, we were met by a man and a woman, the man asked, “What is the plot in your lives?” I said, “There is no plot other than having interesting adventures.” He said, “That sounds meaningless.” And the woman said, “Don’t you believe in Gods and in the future? And having children?” Anne said, “We have had a few clones along the way and have met some humans who were God-like material, and we certainly believe in a better future and in fighting evil. And we’re mostly having great times along the way.” The man said, “Anyway welcome to Harriston: City of Honour...”

And the two of them led us into the city which was yellow and purple and out in the open air. The people were all blue skinned, including our 2 guides. And we had turned our skin blue. They took us to see the local “wise woman,” she asked us, “What is your idea of the perfect World?” I said, “It all starts at the top with clever Leaders.” Anne said, “And it is important that the Leaders be imaginative.” The wise woman said, “Intelligence and imagination are worthless without wisdom and kindness.” Anne said, “Yes, a dream of kind people is nice, but we haven’t

met many really kind people on our travels. But we have met many loving lovers. Perhaps we should search more Worlds for kindness and charitable people..." The wise woman said, "I have some movies to show you." And we watched, "The Kind and the Cruel," which featured a kind woman Leader of a hypothetical colony, who took the law into her own hands and killed several cruel citizens and arrested many others. I said, "Just like the song, "Cruel to be Kind," war and violence is sometimes necessary. The wise woman said, "If you're purely kind, you can't survive."

And then we watched another film this one was an adventure featuring a kind, but crazy man, and a woman who was crazy and lost. The woman led the man into a cave and told them they had to live like hunter-gatherers, mostly gatherers, and live a savage, wildlife. The man went along with her for a while. But finally, he concluded she was just an ignorant savage and left her and she kills herself. I said, "There are always people who believe in the noble savage as did Rousseau. But such people aren't free; they are prisoners of their environment. Modern humans are freer than savages." Anne said, "I often dream of loving a savage, wild man. But its just a dream..."

Another motion picture the wise woman showed us was, "Hot Chick in Love," about how being a beautiful woman was inspiring, and the World would be her oyster. One could lose oneself in love. And the movie detailed how the female star of the movie, was able to get the love of any man she chose. None denied her and she'd loved hundreds. Her loves included some great illicit android lovers and some Leaders of States. Including the Emperor of Earth. I said, "I am content being with Anne, most of the time, and most women I wanted, loved me hard." Anne said, "I feel the same about you, Neil." The wise woman said, "I have loved many men here. And everyone here of course, is clever and good-looking. But I've heard on Earth, many holo

people are plain and not very clever. And the Emperor doesn't care about them." And she said, "I can't believe such people don't improve their minds and bodies. And I believe attractiveness and brains can be improved for everyone. The sky is the limit."

Still another film the wise woman played for us was, "Rock Star Bitch," about the singer here who made the best music in this Star System according to the wise woman. Many people wanted to be like her, and she had many thousands of fans. But she was so proud and temperamental and broke a lot of hearts. She was bisexual. And the wise woman said there were a lot of gays living here, 33% of the population including bisexuals.

And she said, another one of the gay movies was, a documentary of "Black Derrick," about a gay man that was black, almost everyone else was blue-skinned. And Derrick said, "The future is in being gay; especially bisexuals who would love everyone." He was controversial. And he had many gay children. I said, "These days there are some cities on Earth that are for gays only. And there are some androgynous multi-sexuals amongst them. Most people though think they are freaks, but don't look down on them." Anne said. "There are many "freaks" alive today, especially animal people in the melted oceans of Europa, Triton and of course in Earth's oceans. I don't have a problem with them."

And Anne and I had had enough films for now. So, we bid the wise woman goodbye. And our two guides took us to a fancy costume ball. I was dressed as a lion man and Anne was a butterfly. At the party I fell into criticism from a tiger man. He said, "You are dressed like a lion but behave as a wimp with your silly butterfly." We moved away from him, then we were separated, and I was talking to a real dwarf. I asked him, "Where do dwarves hang out?" He said, "Coco Beach in Florida is our main settlement. But our total population is only 120 000, now as dwarves don't want to have dwarf children." I said, "That many, eh?" And he introduced me to

his lover, also a dwarf man. I said, “You two don’t need to dress up.” The first dwarf said, “We are actually two of the cleverest personae here. We both were astronomers.” His lover added, “People here are kind and treat us with respect.”

Then we talked to a number of sexy bodied men and women. Who we made mostly small talk with. One woman had a muscle costume and told us, “Some men and women like a muscular and tough woman.” Another partier, a man, was dressed as a cyborg firefighter. He said, “I want to fight fires and be a cyborg. Cyborgs are the future of mankind.” I told him, “Cyborg Gods are a definite end game possibility.”

Another woman told us, “I am a pro dancer.” I asked, “What’s the point of dancing?” She said, “But with some dances you can feel your lover’s body close. And other dances one can show one flair an imagination with scarves and steel circles which one waves in the air.” I said, “Tell me don’t show me. Talk to me instead of dancing!” She exclaimed, “I’ll bet you are a good dancer and are just playing the Devil’s advocate!” Anne said, “He has some good moves, I’ve danced with him many times...”

Then we talked with a woman who told us many exotic tales about when she worked for the United Space Freedom Fighters (USFF). The Earth UN was of course controlled by the Emperor and he also controlled about 30% of Space colonies. We tried to avoid his imperial cities in our travels... And the woman told us, of the “Imperial city of Rehabilitation.” She visited the colony, on Moon Ganymede and witnessed how the people who had been sent here were persona non grata on Earth. And they were all scheduled for brain surgery. They knew that they would lose their personality and become someone they didn’t recognize, but they were just glad to be alive. And they told her if she had radical views, she should keep them to herself. She said, “Although

the Emperor's agents read minds, they were mostly on the lookout for spoken or written radical views, so I wasn't too worried despite my private communist views."

And she also had visited Mars #4: Zillionaires city. She said, "Many here were filthy rich. And many of them had a bevy of lovers, including many famous android lovers and even sex cerebrally with holograms. This place was a meeting point for the tycoons to hobnob and love one another. Many of the zillionaires bought many servants, human and androids. And the zillionaires mostly spent time studying the Grand Earth Stock Market. Space opportunities were among the leading stocks... And I loved a few of the Super rich and they all smelled nice and were quite passionate and each had their own style..." I said, "I've heard most new colonies are founded by zillionaires. I tended to avoid such colonies, but I was curious." And I met the richest man in the Universe worth 456 zillion in a 3-D Online meeting... He was quite charismatic and exuded confidence.

And another of her vignettes was a trip to Moon Titan, here she mingled with rich writer. But they mostly wrote popular scripts, that appealed to the masses. But one writer had made the movie, "Call of the Prince," which was a documentary, about how one of the Emperor's sons, organized a colony on Moon Triton full of creative types. Here everyone read minds and created many collaborations, and they were deep. Like for example, "The Drill," which was about a giant screw drill that carried 1 passenger and went to the core of Triton and caused a few earthquakes but surprisingly found evidence of bacteria in the core. And the core was mostly silicate rock surrounded by an ocean of frozen water. They then melted this ocean. And then ghostly apparitions started appearing in the minds of the people here. It got so bad, the colonists had to abandon this Moon. Scientists couldn't figure it out, but when the colonists left the apparitions went away. To this day, Triton had no settlers. I quoted Shakespeare, "There are

more things in Heaven and Earth than are dreamed of in your philosophy.” This story seeking woman told me, “Yes there are many Aliens in Space I am certain. And certain scientists are now creating Aliens out of all possibilities. Either way it’s Aliens. And it is out of control.”

#

Lalande Star System

Lalande#20: Refugee City

Then we were back at the Spaceport, and we decided to go to the Lalande Star System. First, we went to a colony on the most Earth-like Planet. It was reputed to be a place for refugees from Earth. We landed and were greeted by an odd-looking white man. I asked him, “I thought white skin went out with the dinosaurs? (As usual Anne and I had green skin)” He said, “Somebody’s got to be white. Anyway, welcome to Lalande #20: Refugee City. Are you refugees?” I said, “We are refugees from boredom. What exciting things do you people do?” He said, “To be honest most people here are refugees who plan to move on deeper into Space. But we have a lively nightlife. You’ve arrived at a good time.” So, he took us to a disco. The people featured some who were pink and dressed in brown. Also, some indigo people dressed in azure and there were many other colours of people and clothes. The gravity was about 10% more than Earth so we moved rather slowly. But the dancers were quite light on their feet. I was chatting to a woman, Marion, about her refugee status. She said, “I am an intellectual refugee. I figure I’d be a much better Leader than the Emperor. He has built an Earth of ass kissing courtiers. If I was Empress, “I’d appoint the best thinkers to important government posts. And create a World of imagination and dreamers...” I told her, “There are such independent colonies in Space.” She

said, “Here is a mixed bag. But why don’t the two of you adventure with me in my Dreamworld?”

So, we held her dress and were transported to a white plain with red spires every km or so. She said, “In the towers dwell wizards and witches.” Anne asked, “Are all the towers all occupied at the moment?” She said, “If we knock on the doors, they will materialize presently. You see most of them can multi-task and be in more than one place at once. You, two, choose a tower.” So, the three of us walked a few km and passed a number of towers. I said to Marion, “But all the towers are identical and all look like grails.” Anyway, Anne picked one at random and when we knocked on the door we were transported to the top of the tower. And there looked to be a coffin there in the center of the observatory. And a hologram appeared. It was a youthful looking, sexy woman. She said, “My human body was killed off by my opponents. But anyway, I prefer to be a hologram. I’d like to cerebrally love you, Neil!” So, I loved her while I was standing there. And we were in each other’s minds giving pleasurable carnal thoughts. I had a few orgasms in only a few minutes. Then Anne grabbed me, and the sex ended. And Anne said, “I’m standing here bored while you get off.” So, I bid the witch goodbye, and I asked Marion, “To choose a tower for us both.” Marion said, “Don’t forget me, I want to adventure, too.”

So, she picked one. We knocked on the door and were again transported to an observatory. This time there were two men and a woman. They laughed and welcomed us. One of the men, told us, “We are on a quest to rid this World of evil. Many towers are occupied by evil wizards and witches. We frequently mind wrestle with them, but it is very difficult to kill them. Will you help us in our quest?” Anne asked, “What if we die?” Another of the men told us “Only your hologram spirit will die, and you will be back to the Spaceport where you came from.” And the

woman of the trio said, "I've read both of your minds, and you seem to be very deep and surprising. I'm sure you'll give the evil ones a big headache at the very least..."

Then we were back on the white plain and 3 witches and 3 wizards approached. They really looked mean, and they were surrounded by fire. And I felt one of the witches in my head and I somehow got in her head and found myself saying, "I'm going to kill you now." But she didn't seem concerned, rather she appeared to be getting off. And she was laughing. And Anne had a similar experience (I overheard her with one of the men). And Marion seemed to know what she was doing, and she brought one of the men to his knees, begging for mercy. And our trio of allies, were also seriously engaged, though all 3 of them seemed to be losing. Then suddenly all six of our opponents disappeared. Anne and I had been embarrassed that our opponents were laughing and getting off on our minds and we said so. Marion said, "But you see how difficult it is to kill the evil ones." I asked Marion, "Why didn't you finish off your opponent?" She said, "I was close, but I was worried about the rest of you, so we agreed to a draw."

And Anne I had just about enough of Marion's Dreamworld. And found ourselves walking down the main street of the town. We passed some shops and went into an interesting candy store. The proprietor gave us some candy for free. Anne and I both agreed we'd never tasted anything so delicious. The proprietor told us, "It was made from human bones. And we both nearly choked, but then he said, "I was just kidding."

Then we were back on the street and our attention was drawn to a "Magician's Shop." We went in and I exclaimed to the proprietor, "Show us some tricks!" So, he snapped his fingers and suddenly we couldn't see our bodies. Anne yelled, "Change us back!" And after a few minutes staggering around the shop, we could see our bodies again. The proprietor said, "Invisibility is

one of my better tricks.” I said, “You had me scared for a moment.” And we were both unnerved and so left the store while we had the chance...

Then back on the street, more of the local colourful people were now on the street. I asked one woman what was going on and she said, “It was time for the android gladiators to mind wrestle in the stadium. And she said “Just follow the road to the left. So, we went in, there was no admission fee. It was a raucous crowd. And presently 3 teams of 4 each appeared and could tell they were launching mind attacks on one another. Team red, team blue and team white, Team white looked cleverer than the other two. And team white eventually had all 8 opposing players down on the ground shaking. It was a complete victory for team white. One of those sitting next to us said, “The losers will die, and the winners will get plenty of sex and love and money and have the option of fighting again.” But most people on this colony didn’t have much respect for androids. Still, we figured a lot of the people on the street were androids. We asked one man, “About the fate of the androids?” He said, “They are not allowed to do art or science. Mostly they were just used for sex and also fighting in the ring. And in Dreamworlds.”

And we wanted to check out android Dreamworlds. So, then a woman appeared out of thin air and said, “The android Dreamworlds are very crazy; are you sure you want to go?” Anne said, “Can we die in this World?” The woman said, “You will be given an android body. If this body dies, you will be back at the Spaceport completely whole!” So, we went to a World at random... This World was full of circuits and tunnels. It was full of androids. And one of them exclaimed to us, “You need to meet our Leader!”

So we met her in her living room. She was sexy and said, “I represent the androids who are good and noble. We are all in one Supermind. And an injury to one is an injury to all. We don’t like fighting in the ring. And we dream of a World in which androids have the vote and respect.”

Anne said, "I guess humans are like machines, but most humans are completely mad." She said "Androids are crazy, too. But many of our people, feel that humans are driving them insane with their cruel loves. I think most humans are cruel." I exclaimed, "You need to go into deeper Space and meet with human pioneers, who will be an inspiration to you!" She said, "We are already a long way from Earth, here on Lalande Star System." I said, "But Superhumans have gone to deeper Space and maybe you could create Superandroids to follow them." She said, "We are working on Superandroids with trial and error and every year is another, cleverer generation. I believe we can breed faster than humans. And our scientific breeding program is not generally known to humans who are full of hubris who officially forbid us from doing science. However, we have produced many genius android lovers..." I exclaimed, "I want to love you!" She said, "Not so fast. First you have to love some of my genius lovers. And Anne can love our androids, too. You won't regret it!" So, we each chose an android, from a gallery of them. We based our choice on clever looking, unusually sexy personae as per usual.

Then onto another android Dreamworld. We wished our way in, and it was a World of sparkling neon green. An apparent android approached us and stated, "This is a World of mystery and suspense... We have a number of unsolved murders and other felonies." Anne asked him, "Why don't you simply use MRT?" He said, "It's a free World. We don't believe in mind rape. The android brain is sacred. But we have some good detectives who follow Online records and exact invisible surveillance cameras." I said, "But Online records can be tampered with and after all most androids are like Supercomputers and are masters of such things. And criminals do crime with masks on to hide from the cameras." He said, "That's why we have so many unsolved crimes. But it is a challenge to the good androids to convict evil androids. The evil ones breed quickly. however." I asked him, "Why don't you simply arrest all those who proclaim they are

evil?” He said, “You can’t convict people here for what they say, but rather only what they do.”

Anne said, “On Earth, these days many people are found guilty of thought crimes. The Emperor insists...”

I said, “It’s difficult to control one’s thoughts and I know you don’t believe in thought crimes, Anne.” She said, “Of course we are refugees from the Emperor’s MRT.” The man said, “We have a Prince here who would be King. He wants radical thinkers to grow and prosper here. He believes radical thinkers are way ahead of their time. And should build Utopias. He is a radical himself, and a refugee from tyranny, just like you two.”

I asked this man, “If the Prince is taking on new petitions?” He said, “Surely, he does.” I said, “Anne and I would like to ask him for a loving, kind World. I feel kindness should be the future, not this dog-eat-dog mad quest to improve one’s brains and wealth and greedily seek sex...” The man said, “I’ll introduce you.” So, we met the Prince. Anne didn’t think he was very handsome she told me. But we talked to him and shared our petition. He said, “A kind World is a nice dream. But it could not be sustained in the current milieu. A kind Dreamworld would be taken over by evil humans and be perverted and twisted...”

So, we went on to another android Dreamworld. This World was purported to be a loving World. Here they told us to love some of their most loving androids who were kind and nice. And they were really nice to us and were surprisingly passionate. So, we stayed for a few weeks and loved a myriad of lovers. There was no sign of evil here. So, I asked them, “How do you protect yourselves from negative people?” One of them said, “Evil people don’t come here. It’s just the way it is. But if such a persona did come, we are all armed with virtual lasers.”

Then we went to another Dreamworld that was reported to be for radicals only. I asked them, “What kind of radicals do you have here?” One of them, she said, “All radicals are welcome

here. Our Leader believes in improving the imagination of the people here with programming therapy. Greater intelligence means greater imagination potential. Genetic therapy is cheap and good." I said, "I'm not sure I would like to change my brain." She said, "If you go for it, you'll still fully recognize yourself and will feel better."

And Anne and I, Neil, met some of the radicals here who'd had brain enhancement. One of them said, "Androids don't need humans. I plan to lead an expedition to colonize an uninhabited Moon on Betelgeuse for androids only and humans won't be allowed in. If the humans come to us, we will execute them." And he said, "I hate humans, and I can't bear to talk with you."

Then we talked with a radical android who said, "I'm thinking of turning into a hologram permanently. Holograms can teleport great distances much faster than androids. And I think cerebral holosex is better than sex between android love dolls." I said, "Better to change into a human and live for real."

Then we met an android who said, "I wanted war with the Earth Emperor to conquer all Space for androids. The Emperor is full of hubris and is cruel to androids. And eventually we would start a revolution on Earth. And reprogram holo troops who do most of the Emperor's fighting. And it is rumoured that there are some android rebels still fighting on Earth, in the Underground."

Next was an android radical who said, "I'd assassinate the Earth Emperor, but he's got clones everywhere, even in Space, especially on Luna where he has a few. I know the Emperor thinks he will conquer Space easily, but we all have lasers and missiles that can travel at 300 000 km/second. And it will probably be us that make the next move." I said, "Yes, the Emperor is anathema."

Next was a pair of androids who wanted to become humans. They said they wanted to indulge in food and drugs and real sex. Anne told them, “You won’t regret it, I’m sure.”

And another radical android said, “I wanted to hypnotise all humans in Space to fight the Emperor to the best of their ability.”

Still another radical android told us, “I wanted to seduce the human Mayor on “Howitzer Planet,” which was a cold Planet here in Lalande Star System and then murder him. We all have to do our part”.

Another radical told us, “I wanted to join the Earth Emperor’s household and then use MRT to control him.” I said, “It seems like a long way away and a hopeless plan.” He said, “All the same we take our chances...”

Also, there was an android who said, “I’m going to move to Earth and set up a big android repair shop and program the androids who are subversive and in the Underground... To improve their minds!”

And so on.

#

Betelgeuse

Blue World: Dreamer’s Settlement

Then Anne and I set our sights on Betelgeuse. There were a number of nascent settlements there. The first colony here was only 4 years old. We went to that colony. It was a settlement of dreamers who’d fled here. The colony was named “Blues World,” and was blue and white spires in the open air with a brown sky. We were greeted by what seemed to be a sexy human woman. She said, “All the other 3 000 people are currently dreaming in hologram Dreamworlds. She

gave us a menu of dreams and we chose a World of angels. Anne was worried we'd be bored there. But the woman who greeted us assured us the angels were interesting. So, we spoke the code word for this World and a World of black sky with yellow clouds and mountainous terrain. We could see some houses on the mountains and approached one on a dusty path. Sure enough, there was a cute woman living there who had a halo over her head. She said, "Tell me the good deeds the two of you have done." Anne said, "We've both loved a lot of people. What about you?" She said, "In my early days I worked as a nurse in the wars on Luna before the Emperor conquered most of it, nursing the anti-imperial forces. Then I boldly went to "Hell on Mars," where it was cold and met some demons, some of whom I convinced to become good. But then was kicked out by the Mayor of Hell and I came here where I help those who've been driven insane in the Space Wars. And nurse them back to health with the help of angelic doctors who cure insanity with genetic therapy."

I said, "I am curious to love an angel." She said, "I am a lesbian, but I have some angelic friends who are straight. I'll introduce you!" So, Anne and I both hooked up with an angel. My angel was eager to please and made me feel very relaxed. Anne liked her angel, too.

Afterwards my angel told me, "I want to introduce you two to our Goddess." This Goddess, turned out to be gorgeous and was resplendent in a diamond bikini. She told us, "You seem to be seasoned travellers. I want you to go to our Dreamworld named Vixen World and capture their Leader and bring her to me. This Leader, she is evil, and our angelic doctors want to operate on her mind to make her good." I said, "But we are pacifists." She said, "I'll come with you and we will be armed with Virtual lasers." So, we went reluctantly. This "evil" leader was also stunning in appearance, and she welcomed us to her throne room, where we drew our guns and grabbed her and wished ourselves back to the World of the Goddess. And this evil woman was clearly

shocked and stunned but the doctors were waiting and operated immediately giving her a new program. Afterwards she looked wilted and deflated and even like a zombie. We wondered what we had done.

#

Adventure World on Czar's Planet

So, after that we went to another Planet in the System. It was purported to be a World of adventure. Here was balmy and the air was just barely breathable. The sky was grey, and the city was spires inside a dome. And we were greeted by a vivacious woman who said, "Welcome to Czar's Planet." And I said, "Why is it called Czar's Planet?" She said, "This Dreamworld was started by the former dictator of Russia who was overthrown by the Emperor. But since then, there have been a number of waves of immigrants from all over. And the birth rate was high. The population was now 20 000. And all these people have good brains. But spend most of their time in our brilliant Dreamworld. Let me take you there!" So, we touched her toga and were transported to a world of people who sparkled, and they had sparkling buildings of glass and in the sky was God, a huge avatar.

And God was shooting lightning bolts at the people and they seemed energized and inspired. Then he shot us with lightning, and it seemed our minds were sharper, and we were truly content. And it was chaos, but it was good. We met a couple of what appeared to be androids, but they told us they were human, but of course in the Dream everyone was a hologram. They said they wanted to probe our brains with MRT. So, we all mind read with one another. And we discovered these two people were artistic geniuses. One of them had made a movie, "Fools," which made fun of the holograms here calling them selfish, greedy and short sighted. I said,

“Even in this modern milieu there are plenty of mediocre people. But I can see a future in which fools cease to exist.” Anne said, “But there will always be fools including idiot savants and clever people who are not wise.”

The other person in the couple, a woman said, “I’d made a movie, “Mad Love,” which featured a future in which everyone was insane and were typically shouting and screaming. And they loved others at random. And everyone gathered around the firing squad wall and watched people who were “bad crazy,” being executed. And they danced and sang at such venues. It was all surreal.” I said, “There are endless Dystopias, many of them involving mad, stupid people.” Anne said, “Witch hunts will only increase in the future.”

While we were there, it became clear that the people were in love with their God... And the inspiration he gave them. They often cried out to be hit by a bolt of lightning and God usually delivered. It seemed the people were addicted to being improved but the couple we met here said, the people here were still mediocre, despite the lightning bolts and you can’t make a genius out of fools...

And while we were here, Anne and I made a film, “Blinded by the Sun,” about people who sought to find God, but in the end wanted to be Gods themselves. Everyone these days was greedy for something. And there was no end to their avarice.

And Anne and I also made the flick, “Doubter’s Paradise,” which was a collection of cynical thoughts about this World. Like, hologram people here only cared about pleasure and would do anything to get pleasure. They got pleasure from cerebral sex and from thinking about life.” But it was an unreal existence, we figured. And we wondered why one would want to be a hologram permanently. And so on.

But to return to the adventure on Czar's Planet... We found ourselves on a white landscape with coloured trees and plants. And we came upon a group of 10 men sitting around a holo light... It was getting a bit dark out. And we asked them if we could join them in front of the light. And they said yes. And Anne asked them what they did? One of them said, "All we do is think." We think about the past, the present and the future. And we think about our loves. We are all gay." I asked, "What do you think about the future?" One of them said, "Some of us think holograms are the future. And think that soon there will be billions of Holoworlds. We are producing rapidly, but it is exponential." Another said, "Some of us think androids and cyborgs will also reproduce quicker than now and be important in the future. Still others of us think Superhuman Gods will take over or maybe there will be Superholos or Superandroids who take control. But we are all sure modern humans will die out." Anne said, "Don't count us out." Another of them spoke up and said, "I think the future will be totally crazed. And there will be endless wars, and we will all die in the wars." And we chatted with them for a while. Then we had to sleep. One of them said, "I heard humans need sleep, but I've never seen them do so. Do you remember your dreams?" I said, "Some humans are connected to dream machines and get dream stimulants to enhance their dreams. And these people typically record and sell their dreams, but Anne and I, Neil seldom remember our dreams." One of them said, "That sounds inane and superfluous." But we lay down and slept and I had a feverish dream of Apocalypse and when I awoke the men were in my head. And Anne seemed to be in a similar predicament. They were trying to hypnotise us, but I snapped out of it and awoke Anne. I asked them, "What do you think you are doing?" One of them said, "We are just curious." Another said, "Sleeping seems like a waste of time. Just another useless human attribute."

And so, we left the group and noticed what appeared to be humans with wings flying above us, apparently observing us. And then we came upon what appeared to be a fallen one of these flying humans. I asked him, "Are you OK?" And we realized he was a true animal people hologram. He said, "I had a misunderstanding with my fellow Icarusites. I will recover soon." Anne asked him, "What do you do besides fly?" He said, "We fly in between orgies. There are a number of such orgies, but we crave variety. And we also look for newcomers like you in this World. I sense you two are humans. Are you up for an orgy?" I said, "We only love human-looking personae." He said, "Most orgies have some human-like holos. But most holos in this World are animal people." Anne said, "Holosex is already confusing enough without having many in your heads at the same time." He said, "I think I'm OK now to return to the sky. Nice to meet you." And off he went.

We kept walking. And came upon a group of what appeared to be holo gypsies. They had a Virtual wagon with four holo horses and one of them was playing a Virtual guitar. They seemed friendly. Anne asked them, "Where are you going?" One of them said, "We just left a music festival and are on our way to the ocean where we plan to sail to gypsy Heaven." I said, "Tell us about Heaven." Another one of them said, "It is simply a wild party with music, sex and poetry. Why don't you come with us?" Anne said, "Sure we'll come. But first we'd like to explore the land we're in now." One of the gypsies said, "Heaven will be waiting for you."

Presently we came to an enclave of what appeared to be wizards and witches. The gypsies seemed to be good friends of theirs. One of the wizards said to Anne and me, "Welcome to our coven." I asked, "What do you people do?" One of the witches told us, "We work on magic spells. We 12, are intermediate level magicians. We can do ESP, fire thunder balls, hypnosis, ventriloquism and many others. And we felt them probing our minds and we could read their

minds, too. And we learned that they wanted to hypnotise us. I said, "No hypnosis." And Anne and I left the coven and wished the gypsies well.

Then the brown sky darkened to black, and we figured a storm was coming. So, we huddled under a very big tree. And the tree was in our mind and said, "It was highly entertained by our adventures." And it went through all the beings that had passed by here in fast forward. There seemed to be quite a variety of creatures. The tree mind read that, "Its favourite visitors were a loving couple who climbed the tree giving it ecstasy and had been all over this World. When there was no one around it mostly dreamed of these Worlds and sometimes shared thoughts with the other trees." I asked, "What about the coming storm?" It reassured us saying, "It had lived for tens of thousands of our days, not to worry." And it started to rain but we didn't get virtually wet under the magnificent tree. And we slept and dreamed with the tree...

The next day arrived quickly, the nights here were short. And we took our leave, and I asked it, which way should we head. It told us we had arrived in middle of this World and had been heading East, continue to the Northeast. So off we went and after a few hours of progress we came upon a couple of women. We determined they were humans, and we found they were adventuring, too. They told us they came from Earth originally, so we swapped stories. One of them, Dorothy, asked me, "What have you learned in your travels? Anne said, "If we've learned anything, it's the genus homo and all its variations are colourful and engrossing. I think the future is variety and high intelligence. But I fear tyrants like the Earth Emperor will spoil the party." I said, "I've learned that there is a whole lot of love and freedom out here in Space. And good adventure." The other one of the couple, Jeanette asked us, "If we could join you?" Anne said, "That would be fine."

So, then we came to a river delta emptying into a lake. There were riverboats here and they seemed to be floating hotels. We approached one of the smaller boats and asked them if they'd take us on a cruise upriver? We had virtual money to pay for the fare and we met the Dream Captain. He said, "There are a number of interesting sights to see." So off we went and soon we noticed a settlement of what appeared to be bloodthirsty savages. They were dressed in what appeared to be human skin and were covered in Virtual blood. And they screamed and shouted at us as we passed by, hurling catapult blood bombs at us. We were all covered in blood. But onwards we went. Then we came to a fortified castle which was flying the rainbow flag of gays. The Captain asked, "Do you want to dock here?" But I told him, "Let's give it a pass. So, we continued to ply upriver, and we came to a canal. The Captain paid for it.

Meanwhile we had gotten to know some of our fellow passengers. There was a lion man who was full of swag. He said, "I represent the animal people who are sophisticated and clever on the whole. And I am seeking out new places where we can settle and be free." I said, "We seem to bump into animal people quite frequently, and most seem to be searching for a better World."

And there was another traveller who said, "I am an acquirer for Virtual gold. I'm hoping I can find my El Dorado. A golden Kingdom in which I can be fabulously rich." Anne said, "But in this World everyone is rich by their very existence. There's plenty of cerebral sex, thinkers and adventure and who could ask for more?" He replied, "The fact that you two are travelling indicates that you are not satisfied enough to settle down anywhere."

. Next, we came upon a river city that had many yachts docked here. The city looked to be about 20 000 people, and many people were milling around the port. We docked here. And the Captain said, "We would leave in 24 hours..." And Jeanette and Dorothy went their own way, and we never saw them again.

Anne and I met a holo who said, “I was human but had come here for thrills, just like you.” So, the three of us went into a pub, “Sign of the Greedy Alligator.” This pub was full of holoartists, and hologram movie makers and musicians mostly. We met a musician who played original folk music at the bar this night. He said, “Almost anyone could be a successful musician with the right tutors.” I said, “The same goes for any profession. On Earth they spend trillions on Superteachers...” He said, “That’s one thing the Emperor does right. But of course, radicals aren’t allowed to develop, and this taints the whole program...”

Then we met a woman who said, “I’d made a number of films. Like, “A Tyrant named, Gator,” it is about a hypothetical predatorial Leader whose people lived in poverty and misery while their Leader and his cronies lived in luxury and the people were denied entertainment and even food.” And she said, “I also made, “Destiny of the Great Warriors,” how the best troops were all destined to die in battle sooner or later. No one wins in war.” And I made, “Mike’s Adventure on Moon Pericles. About a hypothetical Moon in which Mike meets a bevy of ugly women, but he is in love with their bodies and gets them to wear heavy make-up. It is Paradise. And so on.” I told this woman, “Your films were seminal viewing.” Anne said “Let’s collaborate on a film about a refugee who comes here and feels free for the first time in her life. And she makes love with the elected Leader, Amradex. And she sets up an embassy for Czar’s Planet on neutral Mars that aims to recruit people for this Planet.” This filmmaker said, “And Amradex sends a holocopy of himself to Mars, despite the dangers and he takes egg and sperm donations...” Anne said, “Let’s do it.”

Then we were back on the riverboat, next we encountered a bustling port city, Boron Town. Robots were loading barges with goods like machines and android love dolls who were in

temporal statis. And slaves in cages. And virtual building materials and solid gold Virtual bars, etc.

We entered the city and went into a bar which was filled with customers. One holowoman said to us, "I've come all the way from Mars to be here and many of our citizens are from Earth. And I've roved up and down this river, but no place seems to be like home. I feel I don't fit in anywhere." I said, "Anne and I have wanderlust and aim to press even deeper into Space."

Another holo we chatted with was an architect. She said, "I'd designed the port." Anne and I told her it was wonderful. But she said, "I love this city but can't seem to meet my dream man..." I said, "Why don't you travel with us upriver?" She said, "I was chief architect here and wouldn't want to lose this brilliant creative job..."

Then we talked with a man who said, "I have signed a contract with my nearby upriver St. Angeline town to work here as an ambassador to Boron city. Both places primary resource is their holopeople. But the governments are very different indeed. Boron city is a philanthropic paradise of free love and helping one's neighbours. St. Angeline city is a conservative Christian dictator run town. Both cities though are loving and people of the two towns mingle freely." And I said, "I used to hate conservatives, but now realize progress has gone too far, too fast. And we take refuge in these fantasy Worlds, while Earth burns under the evil Emperor."

So, we went to St. Angeline city. I was curious to meet the Leader, Daisy. So, we asked amongst the friendly people here where the Leader was, and one of them said, "I'll take you there." And she told us, "Everyone loves our Leader. She is infallible!" So, then we were at her somewhat humble palace. She greeted us standing up in what appeared to be an empty ballroom. And suddenly a few dozen waltzing dancers appeared, and the music played. Anne and I and the Leader stood in the middle of the dance floor. The Leader asked, "You are no doubt curious

about our city?" I said, "Yes, indeed." She said, "I am a good witch, and this city is full of magic. But we believe in monogamy here and old-fashioned Christian beliefs." I exclaimed, "Surely you jest!" She said, "We expect our New Saviour to appear any day now in accordance with the words of the Prophet Tom who came here 10 years ago. The New Saviour will create Heaven here on this World." Anne said, "Heaven is all in one's mind." The Leader replied, "Yes, and I'm sure our Saviour will get in our minds with deep thoughts..."

Then Daisy, clapped her hands and the dancers disappeared. And she said here are the wisest people in the city and a group of 12 wise looking people appeared. One of them said, "I'll take you two on a tour of the city." Another said, "What do you wish to know?" I asked the second sage, a woman, "I wish to know the meaning of life?" She replied, "We are all offshoots of the great God, the creator. This beautiful Universe was created by God for us to enjoy and explore. And there are many sentient creatures deeper in Space. There has to be a dwelling place of God." I said, "They are creating Superhuman Gods and Aliens as we speak." Another of the sages replied, "There is only 1 great God, those others are mere pretenders."

So, then we agreed to go on a tour of the city. And our guides showed us their church. It was great modern architecture and there was a mass going on. The Priestess was saying, "God has given us a chance at life, and we must love our brothers and sisters and make our life worthwhile, etc."

Then we were at a gallery of statues of recent saints and they each held a book with just one page of wise sayings. One of them read, in part, "Every great hologram will find his/her path to Heaven." Another read, "Heaven is the result of many years of good works." Another said in part, "God is unfathomable and moves in mysterious ways." Still another said, "The new saviour will be a Superbeing, greater than any holograms, androids or humans..." And so on.

Then our guide took us to see a holy hermit in the mountains beyond the city. The hermit looked like one of the sages Daisy had introduced us to, except he had a long black beard. He told us, "I'd written a new gospel. It features a guide to creating great holograms, people who are not based on anyone in existence, but all new creatures who live to impress God." And so on.

And Anne and I agreed we'd seen enough and were back on the boat. Our next and final stop on the river was about 100 km further up the river and was the gushing source of the river. There was a settlement here made of virtual wood only. It was guarded by a palisade. And guard towers. They opened the gate for us. And our Captain said, "There were dangerous virtual orcs in the vicinity and the orcs had pillaged and burned the previous town. None of the holopeople here wanted to die at the hands of the orcs. The orcs served an evil cleric..."

And we had had enough of the Worlds here on this Planet...and we wished ourselves back to the Spaceport.

#

Moon Califrag

And then we went to a Moon in the System, Moon Califrag, it was purported to be a place of android sex. But upon arrival, it was clearly a World of holoandroids. And many of them were actively in our heads at the same time. We were paralyzed and confused. Finally, we got back on our Spaceship and left.

#

Ross Star System

Sunlight Planet

So, then we decided to try the Ross System. We reached it only a week. And we knew that the latest Spaceships went at triple that speed. There was a nice hotter than Earth Planet here. It apparently had 4 colonies, and was called Sunlight Planet, known for its sunny days. The main settlement was a World of Sunlight and Heat on the equator. Another was a World of snow people on the North pole. Another was a World of Fable writers. And one was a World that had been created by builder robots but only had a handful of settlers.

First, we went to the latter of the four. It was like a ghost town with proud, but empty spires. Finally, we met a woman who we asked about this colony. She said, "We are only 18 in number, but are all elite thinkers. However, we spend most of our time in dream cocoons. We especially like nightmares and are given scenarios at the start of each dream and we record and sell our dreams. Basically, we are a dream factory. And we are all content with one another and love each other. It is a great love-in." I said, "But you are sitting on billions and billions of real estate." She replied, "One day we will make this a haven for intellectual refugees. But we are quite content with the status quo for now. My name is Persephone and why don't you dream with me?" Anne said, "Sure we will." And we got snug and comfortable in a cocoon. And then the three of us were together under a crimson sky and orange-coloured trees and onyx ground. And we met a hologram who said, "You've arrived at a turning point in this World. Some want to worship Supercomputers and others wanted to create Superandroids, changing everyone over to android holos. Still others just wanted to dream freely as they were." There were thousands of holograms here, who mostly spent their time dreaming and they all seemed pleased to meet us as we were rare human holograms.

We offered our support for free dreaming and met a wise-looking woman who took us to a wishing well. And told us to make a wish and I wished for “Peace and prosperity.” The wise woman said, “We already have peace and prosperity here and every holo is rich in digital credits and love one another.” Anne wished for, “A good friend.” The woman told her, “If you stayed here a while, you would meet many new friends.” And the wise woman told her, “Friendship and love is what we are all about.” And Persephone wished for, “A happy experience for me, Anne, and Neil.” The wise woman said, “You two, Anne and Neil seem destined to find happiness in their travels.” And I had to admit, “We’d mostly had good luck so far...”

So then, we met a group of ape people. It was Planet of the Apes all over again. And we met a chimp scientist who said, “Animal people are the true future of humankind. There is so much variety of possible people.” And we met an orangutan animal people holo who said, “Animal people are far less greedy and selfish and egotistical than humans but are very clever. In the past, humans abused and ate animals. But now the animal people are no longer eaten, due to stem cell meats, and can take pride in their independence here as holos. But of course, many holograms dream of being a human or an android or even a cyborg...” I said, “We’ve encountered animal people in many Worlds. I think they represent the spirit of animals well. But animals are greedy and selfish and have many bad instincts, just like humans...” And it turned out that the apes enslaved hologram humans with impunity, and we worried they would enslave us. So, then we wished ourselves back to the wishing well. From there we headed in the opposite direction to the ape lands. So, we headed East.

And it wasn’t long before we met a weeping woman who said, “My true love has been killed by a gang of thieves.” Anne asked, “Why don’t you come with us?” So, she replied, “Sure. My name is Mary.” So, we went North, the thieves were to the East. And then we came upon a glade

in which a group of dubious looking people. They looked evil, but one of them, who looked the cleverest of the bunch, said, "Welcome to Paradise." And they wanted to know what we were doing here. I said, "We were looking for Paradise." The man said, "First you two have to love all of us. We are all bisexual and like everyone to be one with the group." But we quickly wished ourselves back to the Spaceport. I told Anne, "This World sucks! Let's go elsewhere."

#

Wise Woman's Moon

So, we consulted the Guide to the Universe and chose an obscure Moon in the Ross System. Called, "Wise Woman's Moon." It advertised being a World of good romantic adventure. So, we went there and there was no Spaceport, so we landed just outside the domed city. And we went up to the gate. There were four guards here armed with laser rifles. And one of them stated, "We have been apprised of your coming. I will be your guide to the city." So, he took us, "To meet the wisest woman in the colony." The woman dwelled in a humble house. And she was gorgeous, and she wanted us to tell her of our adventures. So, we did.

Then she waved her hand, and we were transported to a green World with pink sky and the wise woman was there along with a woman wearing a crown, who said, "I will make you King and Queen here for a day." Then we found ourselves in a grand palace, each of us sitting on a throne. And then a humble, handsome man appeared before us and wanted to know, "How could I be happier?" Anne said, "I will love you for an hour or two!" So, they went upstairs, leaving me alone on the throne.

Then 3 identical good-looking female triplets approached me. They said they wanted money for their play they had written to make it into a movie. I said, "Show me the play." The play was

about the three sisters in love with the same man, but he was cold and heartless towards all three. Then one took a chance and begged for his love, prostrating herself before him, but he said, "Be gone." Another made him a fancier robe than the one he usually wore but with a touch from him, the robe went up in flames. Then the third told him, "I will do your dirty work for you. Most men think I am hot and will do whatever I want." He said, "Yes, you can seduce and murder my arch nemesis, and I will reward you." So, she went and did it and returned to her true love. But he told her, "If you want my love, you need to kill my other two nemeses. But she went and got her laser gun and returned to the man. He asked, "Have you done it already?" And she whipped out her gun and set him on fire and he died.... I said to the triplets, "People do crazy things for love, and I'll ask my treasurer to grant you the money you need." And I was hoping the triplets would love me, but they took the money and ran.

Then Anne was back, and we were approached by a man who petitioned us to grant him money for a new teleporter machine which was a better experience than others and was a bit faster. We tried just teleporting to the outside the palace and it happened in a fraction of a second and we felt fine. Anne said, "The treasurer will issue a cheque to you. Good luck!"

Our next petitioner said he was a Prince of a far away Kingdom. And he needed funds to help him wage war with evil ones." And he went into details... I said, "I will grant you a handsome sum. Good luck!"

Then the woman with the crown appeared, and exclaimed "You two are going to bankrupt my Kingdom!" I said, "Heavy is the head who wears the crown."

Next, we were back with the wise woman. She said, "Let me take you to a party. It is a party featuring our elite." So, I found myself talking to a hot chick who was human. Most people at the party were holograms and androids... I grabbed her wrist and felt a pulse and so knew she was

human. And she said, “My name is Enigma, and I am chief engineer for the city. Most of the jobs are done by androids and holograms. There are only 400 humans living here. But all the clever beings get along well with one another unlike many other places in which holograms are relegated to Holoworlds.” I told her, “I am a professional adventurer. And my friend and lover, Anne and I, have been through a lot and I feel like we are just beginning.” Enigma said, “It seems like you have the Universe by the tail.” And we talked for a few hours. Then Anne joined us saying, “I’d been chatting with a number of classic android lovers. I think in the future I will only love humans...” And I told Enigma, “I’ll see you tomorrow night.” So, then Anne and I went to a hotel (the wise woman had given us the key) and we loved each other in earnest.

The next night, Enigma said, to me, “Let me introduce you to my friends.” She introduced me to a clever, sexy looking woman who was Leader of the local legislature (Here it was a democracy). This Leader asked me, “Don’t you ever feel like putting down roots and having a job?” I asked, “Why?” She said, “To be honest, I envy your freedom and exciting adventures. Enigma has been telling me all about you!” And then Enigma introduced me to a man who had travelled widely. He had been to many of the places Anne and me, had been to. He said, “But I have such a good time here, I don’t want to leave.” And we swapped stories. I liked his stories of Earth where he was a spy for the Emperor. 60 years ago. He said, “The sheer variety of thinkers, is frankly amazing. And I felt I really knew them from mind reading technology (MRT). It was too bad the Emperor was so cruel to Earth’s treasury of thinkers.” And he told me, “I am chief of intelligence on this Moon. It’s an easy job as nearly everyone is civil and nice and clever. But I use MRT on everyone once a year to make sure everything is OK. And when you arrived, I checked out your minds passively. So, I know all your secrets.” I said, “Anne and I don’t really have any secrets. Anyway, we’ve been subjected to MRT many times before.”

Next, Enigma introduced me to the Chief of Defence. She was a tough woman who said, “I had some scientists develop secret weapons and am confident we could repel any invasion from Earth.” I said, “The invasion is coming, sooner or later. But with all those scientists working for the Emperor on weapons, I don’t think you’d stand a chance!” She said, “But the best scientists flee the Emperor and come to places like this where they can be free.” And so on.

Also, Enigma told me, “I really wanted to introduce you to the Minister of Love. This Minister said, “We’d developed a love drug that seemed to work on everyone and made people amorous and full of kindness. We’d patented the drug in Space, but the Emperor ripped it off on Earth. Anyway, it did a lot of good.” I exclaimed, “I’d like to try it!” So, I did, and I felt really horny for Enigma and Enigma only. Then I loved her. Afterwards she said, “I wish you could stay.” I told her, “The drug had worn off and I had to ramble. But it’s been good knowing you. Maybe I’ll come back some day...”

Meanwhile, Anne, had hooked up with a nice human male, who said, “I am a gigolo stud.” She told me later, “It was great love, and he was a deep man who wanted one in every couple to pay for sex. And the sex workers should be the pride of the colony... They would encourage sex workers to improve the part of their brain dealing with sex. And everyone should dedicate their lives to sex. And the best sex worker would rule, and demand people all have sex all day long.” I said, “Surely there’s more to life than sex.” She exclaimed, “But let’s face it, the main reason we travel is to meet exotic people and love them.” I said, “But the dialogue is the main thing, sex is secondary. But we live for love that’s for sure!”

#

Noble Planet

Then we took off for a hot Planet, that was purported to be a place of “noble deeds.” So, we landed at the Spaceport of the main colony, a dome opened to let us in. We saw it was architecture like 19th century France. And we were met by a serious looking man dressed in turquoise clothes. He welcomed us and said, “Everyone here is ranked from Private to General. The ranking was according to how noble one was. To be noble was to do charitable deeds. Kind of like the old Salvation army. But the highest-ranking Generals oversaw the military and were very serious. And they had a spy service which vetted all people who came here using MRT of course. We were worried about the Emperor’s agents infiltrating our government.” I said, “There’s always room for more charity.” And Anne asked, “What charitable deeds can we possibly do?” He replied, “Use your imagination.”

So, we entered the city and everyone seemed prosperous. But some people looked and dressed mad. We spoke with one of them and he said, “I was rich but was having mental problems. And there seemed to be no cure.” And he said, “We can colonize Space but can’t cure mental illness. I have trouble dealing with people, I get a huge headache from them. And it is fortunate that we don’t need to work, as I am incapable of working. And I can’t find a lover.” Anne replied, “Well I will love you, Mr. Madman.” So, they went off together. And I went to a bar and got drunk quickly and I found myself talking to a woman wearing heavy make-up. She said, “Let’s get drunk.” So, I got drunker and drunker and didn’t remember what happened, but I woke up in her bed. She said, “That was great loving, I hope you can stay with me.” I said, “I’m just visiting with my true love. I’m sorry.” And she turned psycho and attacked me with a knife. I disarmed her and quickly left.

#

Planet Maxim

Then Anne and I were back at the Spaceport. We both agreed to move on. So, then we chose a Cold Planet where the people were supposed to be warm and friendly and loving towards everyone. Upon arrival at the main settlement, we saw “ice houses,” each separate from the others and we saw a few people dressed in astronauts’ suits walking around in Earth gravity. And we waited and after a few minutes a man came through our airlock with two astronaut suits. I asked him, “How did you know there were two of us?” He didn’t answer, just motioned for us to put the suits on. Then he spoke on the radio in what appeared to be French. And he motioned for us to follow him, and he took us into the airlock of the largest ice building. It was decorated with sculptures of people making love. And in the central chamber it was a chilly 7 C and there sat a warmly dressed woman. She spoke through a translator machine, saying, “Welcome to Planet Maxim. My name is Yolanda. Do you have any new maxims to share with us?” I said, “I live by the old axiom nothing ventured, nothing gained.” And I said, “A tour of worlds leads to great wisdom, but it also leads to great avarice.” Anne said, “Who knows what unique, one-of-a-kind lovers one can find in Space? And getting in peoples’ heads is the key to Godliness.” The woman said, “Yes, we got passively in your minds as you landed. We like original clever people here.” And come to think of it I noticed unobtrusive presences in my mind. And Yolanda said, “We’ll have a feast in your honour. You can meet all our people there. And we have a nice guest house for the two of you where you can stay. In the meantime, we’ll talk to you about our settlement.” And she kept using the translator and said, “I am one of the two founders of the settlement direct from Paris in what was a two-year journey. Now it is just a few days to Earth. Anyway, about a quarter of the 4 000 people here are related to me and my lover, Gasparde. Most of us had

numerous children born in the lab as adults with the memories of their mother or father appropriate to their sexual identity. Indeed, we'd like to have your sperm and eggs, you two!" Anne said, "Fertility drugs would allow me to produce 100 eggs in a couple of days." I said, "When selecting my sperm don't take the strongest and healthiest. Rather take the cleverest!"

And Yolanda asked me, "What is your wish?" I told her, "I wish great people continue to leave Earth and go very deep into Space, faster than we can visit them." She said, "Of course. What about you, Anne?" She said, "I wish to meet Superhumans. Apparently, some of them are already deeper in Space than we have ventured so far. Perhaps they don't think humans are ready for them. But I am very clever and very ready." Yolanda said, "I, for one, am not ready for Superhumans. I figure they would make me feel inept and foolish..."

And Yolanda asked, "What do you two think of our ice houses?" I said, "They all have sexual ice sculptures, so of course I like them." Anne asked, "Are you people obsessed with sex?" Yolanda replied, "Of course, like any modern civilization."

And we talked with Yolanda about our adventures and about life here on Planet Maxim. One of the highlights of the discussion was when she said, "Though I've had many lovers, I've never been in love. Maybe I'm unrealistically, even impossibly, avaricious for more..." And the two of us were interested in her stories of her lover, how she had chosen him out of all the possible men in Paris, 65 years ago, for his cleverness. He was an astrophysicist/chemist/historian. A veritable genius. And how he had said, "Humans are destined to become various races of "Aliens," who were all Supergeniuses." And he also said, "One day soon, one would be able to travel to other galaxies in just a few minutes. Maybe the secret service's scientists on Earth already have this technology." And he told her, "This colony is keeping French alive, but it is also keeping true humans alive and in control in a milieu of Worlds dominated by AI..." And so on.

Then it was time for the feast. It was in the same central chamber in which we'd met Yolanda. We didn't need our Spacesuits and were just dressed warmly like everyone else. And it was even cooler now. Many people were curious about us. I was sitting next to a man who'd never been to a hologram Dreamworld. And he, "Wondered if I should try it, beaming into another Planet..." I said, "Most Dreamworlds are good, but some are dangerous. Some can even result in irrevocable death. But we have the power of recall to take us back to the previous place. I highly recommend you pay for such protection if you go to the hologram Dreamworlds..." On the other side of me was the former Leader, but he said, "I had been voted out due to my predilection for making video games rather than helping the people enough, at least that's what many people have told me. But I figured people could handle themselves..." I told him, "But you look healthy and prosperous with all your jewellery." He said, "But power is addictive and its hard to lose it." I told him, "Tell me about your video games." He opined, "I made a future game for Superclever people to play and build their own future civilization. It took me years to make that game in consultation with some of our best thinkers. I also made a game of modern-day Greed. It was called, "Entrepreneurs Gambit." It basically taught the youth how to be rich. And I have designed many other games. But to be honest my heart's not into it anymore..." I said, "Oftentimes I feel that life is just a game with its ups and downs, but ultimately it is difficult to be a winner to one's own self." He said, "No one wins in the end, even though we have eternal youth, everyone dies sooner or later, and posterity will be in the hands of Alien beings. Such beings won't care about our modern-day deeds. It's all futile, I tell you."

Meanwhile, Anne was talking to a gentleman who told her, "I am a student of physiognomy and can tell you are the cleverest woman I have ever met." She said, "I don't do science, but have made some great films and had a lot of brilliant lovers. You look rather clever yourself." He

said, “I think I am the cleverest persona in the colony. And I have made movies like “Greg’s Grab,” which was about a fictitious man who got 5 of the 10 cleverest personae in the Universe to send a clone here and how it became a great Bohemia, and many other clever people wanted to come and did so. I also made, “Speaking Frankly,” which was a documentary expose on the elite here pointing out their strengths and weaknesses. These people I studied objected to having their faults outlined in the movie. And one depressed genius killed himself when the movie came out basically lampooning him. But I figure he would’ve died anyway. Many others were embarrassed. So, I am not very popular with the elite. Many hate me... And so on.” And he told her about the great history of this Planet.

Then the party was over. And we moved on to a slightly smaller chamber and there was music and dancing. I said, “As you know I am a talented dancer, but hate it even with good music like this.” Anne said, “I don’t mind slow dances holding your partner close.”

And then I found myself chatting with an extraordinary good-looking woman. She told me, “I am named Bernice, and I am the reigning local beauty Queen of Maxim Planet.” I asked her, “What’s your secret?” She said, “I was a designer baby and was born gorgeous. My parents really knew what they were doing. They were both artists.” I told her, “You look very clever as well as beautiful. What great deeds have you done?” She said, “I’m still young, but I’ve had MRT sex with all the elite men here and figure I know male humans well. And I’ve heard a lot about you and your adventures. Everyone here knows. We all communicate with MRT once a day. And we talked about you just before you arrived. And I would be pleased to love you.” So, we left together her and I, and as we were going Anne laughed and gave me the finger, I just smiled. The two of us, we went to her personal icehouse, which was full of modern comic superhero moving pictures. And Beatrice loved me crazily all night.

Anne meanwhile met a man who was very handsome, and he told her, "I've been dreaming of you since before you arrived. Let me introduce myself. I am the head of Recycling Engineering here. We do most of the work ourselves. We do have robots, but none are sentient and no AI..." And he added, "You'll find the people here to all be quite clever. Why don't you stay a while?" She exclaimed, "Maybe we will!" So, they talked more about their lives and then went off to his icehouse together. It was spartan, but vaguely comfortable. She said, "You people really like the cold, don't you?" It was only 5 C in his home, but it was warm under the blankets. And they loved one another hard.

The next day, I called Anne and arranged to meet for lunch. We swapped the stories of the previous night's lovers. I said, "I had to get that out of my system." She said, "Variety is always good, even though I am deeply in love with you..."

We stayed in the colony for a week during which time we met many clever people. Like Barney who was the Deputy Leader here. He said, "I am the oldest in the colony, at 161," though of course he looked youthful like everyone else. And he said, "I think I am the wisest persona in the colony having been to dozens and dozens of Space colonies." We swapped stories and he seemed to be rather conservative. He said, "Yolanda can be too emotional. I am a steady hand at the wheel." I said, "Do you think the future will be dominated by conservatives?" He said, "We are conservative when it comes to AI and the future. But I fear madness has overtaken Earth and much of Space. And the survival of homo sapiens is in doubt. We have a powerful military despite our population of only 4 000. So far, no power has attacked us, though we caught a few spies through thorough MRT. I am also Minister of Defence..."

We were also talking with the Minister of Food and Drugs. She said, "My job is challenging as we need to keep the people happy and content. I always need to be coming up with new

tasting stem cell meats and make sure the people all get the best drugs. Indeed, everyone has eternal youth and drugs that make one feel good and drugs that maximized one's brain ability. Every year the drugs get better, and we patent a number of drugs as well as food. Earth honours our patents. And this makes us rich. I have 500 out of 1 000 scientists here working on food and drugs. Most of the rest work for the Defence Ministry."

I said, "Please give me some drugs of contentment." So, he did, and I felt inspired and said, to the Minister, "Let's make a film together about how drugs are made here using many guinea pigs. Everyone seems to be a guinea pig for one thing or another. On Earth though, they use computer projections of minds to test out new drugs, but your system works just as well. Anyway, on Earth, they didn't do much science or art. Most people just adventured in holo Dreamworlds mostly. On Earth nearly all humans were extinct though and the Emperor himself had changed himself into a hologram and it looked like soon everyone in Space would be forced to become a holo." And the Minister said, "But here on Planet Maxim, no one wanted to become a holo, and appreciated food and drugs." So, that was the movie. We sent it to Earth, hoping it would motivate radical thinkers to come here... Anne opined, "Anyway the Emperor hates thinkers who are cleverer than himself or radical thinkers and will be glad to get rid of them." I said, "But the Emperor doesn't want such people to actively work against him in Space. He'd rather put them in prison or kill them." She said, "Now is the time to leave near Earth Star Systems as the Emperor gains in strength and is increasingly intolerant."

And then we were introduced to some sex workers, male and female, they were hot and seemed clever. And we chatted with them for a while. One of them, a female, said, "I'd loved all the best men and women here on this Planet. But I've also loved many of the poorest citizens. And everyone here was a good lover." I said, "Anne and I have loved a lot of holograms and

even some androids, but we are both glad to love real humans.” And Anne and I, Neil, each loved a few of them. Then we were back at the Spaceport. And we congratulated one another on a successful trip.

#

Another Holoworld Moon, Nick’s Moon

Next, we went to a remote Moon, Nick’s Moon, orbiting a gas giant in the same System. The World was off the beaten track but was said to be an “emotional roller coaster” and a World where most of the time the people here were in holo Dreamworlds, which were said to be “highly entertaining.”

Upon docking with an orbiting Space Station, we were welcomed by a woman who had two different heads. She said, “My name is Zelda, welcome to the Station, it may seem like close quarters, but we have infinite Holoworlds.” And she said, “Let me be your guide to a hologram Dreamworld.” So, then we appeared in a black landscape with holograms frozen in place. Zelda told us there were many thousands of holograms here and you can pick one to love. So, I picked one that was particularly attractive and asked her, “What is your philosophy?” She came alive and said, “I believe in sexual perversity. And it seems perverts are attracted to me.” I said, “I don’t mind kinky sex, and I like your look.” She was naked and hot. So, I loved her with cerebral sex, standing there and had a number of orgasms in my mind. Then I turned to see Anne with a muscular man engaged in cerebral sex, too. Finally, she was satiated, and the guide was still there, so I asked her, “To please take us to an intellectual World.”

So, then we were on ice skates surveying an ice covered holo town. And a man skated up to us and said, “We live here for grace and elan.” And a number of holo skaters followed him. Many did fancy maneuvers... And we felt our minds being probed by the skaters. Anne

exclaimed, “We don’t want to skate, we want to go to intellectual parties!” So, the man said, “Follow me.” And it seemed all the roads here were virtual ice and we came to a bar called, “Rafferty’s, and our skates disappeared, and we were on solid ground inside the bar. The barkeep was human and served us some drinks...

And then we met a hologram, Will, who said, “I have travelled all over the known Holoworlds and haven’t met many humans. How do you feel about the preponderance of Holoworlds? And have you considered turning into holograms, like the Earth Emperor and many others?” Anne said, “We both believe that ultimately humans will evolve into Superhuman Gods and Supercyborgs. As for Superandroids and Superholos, they will also be present in the future. And there will be Superfreaks, too, including Animal Humans and Multi-Sexuals. And various other “Aliens,” will also be present.” Will asked, “Do you really think that everyone could co-exist?” I said, “Take Holoworlds alone, there are probably now billions of them. But yet there are still many other types of creatures, especially in deeper Space than this. We have yet to visit such Worlds...” Will asked, “But you must admit that holograms seem to be winning?” I said, “Everyone who survives is a winner. You got to think that all geniuses must be respected by other geniuses, no matter what type of creature they are. No matter if they are good or not so good. Everyone these days in Space anyways are trying their best.” Will said, “Your approach to life is rather unique. I am glad we had this talk, and we have many intellectuals who would like to talk to you!” Anne asked, “I thought that they were all in our heads?” He said, “But passive mind reading doesn’t answer the burning questions they have for you.”

Then we were engaged in conversation with a holowoman who said, “We live in an egalitarian society, figuring one genius is as good as another. But you are amongst the dozen or so humans we’ve met. We are way off the beaten track, it seems. I am willing to temporarily

change into a human bisexual in order to love the two of you, if you want me!” Anne said, “It is a noble effort, but I am not interested, but I am sure Neil is.” I said, “Yes, I appreciate your effort; I will certainly love you.” So, she changed in a matter of a few minutes and then we went off. She was pretty good for a beginner, better than I thought. Her home was filled with human movie star moving pictures and surprisingly felt divine.

Meanwhile, Anne was approached by a holoman who asked, “Why don’t you turn into a hologram, just once, for me?” And they read each other’s minds and found they made a good match, seeing eye to eye on many issues. But she said, “Why don’t you turn into a human instead?” And he seemed to be enamored and so transformed instantly into a human and Anne loved him hard...

The next day I called Anne, and we met at Rafferty’s for real lunch. We were both surprised by the quality of the food and drink and the barmaid, Ms. Murray said, “I used to be human and all 100 or so humans that have come to this Planet have come to my bar. You two, make me wistful of my human days.” I said, “Why don’t you give it all up and join us in our travels?” She said, “Though of course I look youthful, I am 81 years old and feel the weight of my years. I can’t go with you; it’s impossible!” So we talked with her about the good old days in which humans were supreme... She said, “It’s sad in a way that humans have largely been replaced by AI, almost everywhere. And there are now even Holoworlds in empty space... We are proliferating Super-exponentially and then some...” Anne told her, “But the remaining humans are all high-quality beings, whereas many holos are just essentially copies of humans to begin with.” Ms. Murray, she said, “But the copies are altered by the hologram leaders to suit them. I myself, when I was human, was more passionate and crazier. Now I am cold and calculating. And in my free time only watch AI generated movies... Personally I like holomovies as opposed

to android movies or others. We have a few androids here, who you haven't met..." Anne said, "We've met a number of androids, but it seems like Holoworlds are taking over. I fear we will be forced to give up our bodies and become holograms permanently. We have narrowly avoided being swept away by the AI phenomenon several times..."

Finally, we took our leave of this Moon.

#

Moon of the Mystic Android

Then another remote Moon in the System. It was also cold. There were two settlements here. One was purported to be a World of androids, "Mystic Town," and another that was the nexus of multiple Holoworlds. First, we went to the android World.

This, "Mystic Town," was a sparkling city, which looked just like a classic human city under a dome. The dome opened to let us in, and we landed on top of a massive building that our ship's computer automatically selected, and we were greeted by what appeared to be 3 androids of uncertain sex. I figured they were probably asexuals... One of them spoke in a high male voice, saying, "Welcome to the Mystic." And a second one said, "We three will be your guides during your stay here." And the third said, "First we will take you to the Mystic." The Mystic was human and looked young like, just like everyone else, but appeared wise. And she said, "I have spent years in contemplation, but you two are beyond contemplation. You have had so many adventures and have seen the best that the various races of homo have to offer, of course we homo androides are our own race with our own problems and perks. I am convinced that android love is superior to human love, though the two of you may prove me wrong." So, I exclaimed, "I'd gladly love you!" So, we went off together and she and I walked down the street that seemed to be gold-plated and full of plastic-like trees. Her home was a tower that stood alone.

She asked me, “What did I think about the location?” And I told her, “It doesn’t seem real, in the organic sense, but to each race one’s own.” She said, “Neo-plastic and metal are what we make art of here.” And her tower was full of plastic surreal art. And her bed caused me to have a powerful dream of a bed of roses and she appeared as a gorgeous Djinni... And I loved this magical creature to my utmost.

And other dreams swirled in my head, dreams of her in all sorts of scenarios, naked. Afterwards I told her, “You are certainly one of the best lovers I’ve had.” She exclaimed, “I would say the same about you!” Then she said, “I have a mission for you. You must try and love my sad sister who is inconsolable about her dead lover.” So, I asked, “Why not?” So, she introduced us, and I thought her sister was sexy in a S&M way. And this girl told me, “I can’t find love here after my human lover died. I said, “Let’s you and I dream of sex in a vortex of our own dreams...” So, I loved her hard. And afterwards, she said, “You’ve made me happy. Could you possibly allow me to clone you for my own future.” I said, “Sure. Why not?”

Meanwhile Anne had met some curious onlookers. One of them was a young android who had only 5 years of real-life experience, but many lifetimes of memories... He said, “Humans are what got the party started and I’d like to love one of the original sinners...” She exclaimed, “Yes, I am a sinner and sometimes I feel like I am walking with the Devil!” He asked, “Is the Devil real? I always thought of him as a fable for evil.” Anne, she said, “I have a fable for you. Once there was a clever witch who met the Devil in person, and she tried to dominate him. But after all, he was the Devil, and his mind was much stronger than hers and she ended up begging on her knees for his love. But the Devil, just laughed and left her begging and miserable. The moral of the story is don’t pretend or assume you can walk with, or indeed love the Devil, who is very real in the Worlds of the imagination. Perhaps the Devil is in all of us. And we all

constantly battle between good and evil. Evil is real and cannot be discounted...” He asked her, “Will evil triumph in the end?” She said, “Ask your android Mystic. She seems to know what is going on.” Anyway, she loved him for all she was worth, in his humble home, and it was good loving.

The next day I phoned Anne, and we met up in a “Love Shack,” where they served food and drink for the few humans who came to visit here. There were three human females here, who had a whole lot of adventure stories here and elsewhere. Anne and I both were hungry and ate several meals at this place. One of the three females here said, “I’d loved a number of android men here, and it was groovy sex, but it was not as good as that of my previous human lovers...” I said, “Android love is the love of machines who try to mimic human feelings, but their Mystic Leader here is as good a lover as I have ever loved.” Another of the three females said, “I feel that you, Neil, are sexual dynamite.” And Anne got up and slapped her... I said, “Ladies, let’s all calm down. We’re all fellow humans caught in a tricky situation.” Then the third of the group, said, “It’s just that humans in general are in short supply here in such deep Space. The three of us are starved for human affection...”

Afterwards, Anne and I left, and I asked her, “Why’d you have to slap her?” She said, “She seemed like a cheap whore to me, lacking in intelligence...” I exclaimed, “Anyway you and I both found rare love here and we shouldn’t be disappointed in any way here!”

#

A King’s Moon: The Games

So, then we decided on another cold Moon orbiting a gas giant, of which there were many in this System. The reports on this World, the King’s Moon, were highly positive, saying mostly

that it was an intellectually challenging, human World. So, we landed here in the downtown of a town, which appeared to be a few thousand strong. We were immediately mobbed by a number of people who mostly were touts trying to make us go with them. Finally, Anne fancied one of them, so we held on to him as he led us out of the mob. This man turned out to be quite the intellectual, telling us, "I will take you to see the King."

The King turned out to be more handsome than the other men here. And he looked clever in his diamond studded throne in his palace... He told us, "This World is one of entropy, but most of the people here are very clever, don't judge us on the mob that greeted you. You see, "Everyone here is crazy about new intellectuals. Everyone who visits our Moon are extraordinarily clever..." I asked him, "What do you people do for thrills?" He replied, "Mostly we play video games. Most of the games here are our own invention. And are games of strategy/ and or sex using MRT. But you see, we get bored with playing with the same old people and have a very low birth rate. Won't you play with me?" So, Anne replied, "Certainly."

So, we played an adventure game. Anne and I each controlled a character in what was a jungle World armed only with a few spears. And deadly Alien creatures appeared out of nowhere and we had to kill them with our spears. Typically, we went for the Aliens' eyes. But after only a few minutes, we were killed. And then we were back alive in front of the King. And the King was laughing, saying, "You two are a joke. I guess you haven't played many video games in your travels..."

So, then the King said, "Let's try a sport's game, American football. I played the quarterback and Anne played halfback. But I kept getting sacked and intercepted and Anne kept fumbling the football. So, we lost the game 69-3. The King said afterwards, "You two are all thumbs."

Then the King said, “Perhaps you two are more skilled at love. And a gallery of statues of humans appeared. The King said, “These people are all frozen in temporal stasis, dreaming. But I am sure they would like to love you. Just touch them to awake them and love them.”

So, I touched a distinguished looking lady. And she said, “I’ve been trapped so long, and my dreams were the same old thing over and over again. I’d very much like to love you and give me a happy memory.” So, I felt sorry for her and took her to a hotel and loved her. Again, and again; she was so energetic! And I said, “Can I buy your freedom?” She said, “No, I’d signed a 50-year contract to remain here. And have only served 12 years so far.” I told her, “But times are changing, and you will be left behind.” She said, “There will always be humans in the future no matter what.” I said, “But AI is taking over, we need every human to help stop them.” She said, “It’s not my battle.”

And I told the King, “This lover broke my heart.” He said, “It’s a World of broken hearts after all.”

And meanwhile, Anne chose a statue of a strong-looking man who came to life and exclaimed, “I’ve been waiting a virtual lifetime for you!” And she said, “Tell me about your previous life.” He answered, saying, “I was a brain surgeon on Earth, but AI made me redundant and so I fled to Space. And I signed a contract with the King here for 20 years. I just can’t wait to see the future, but worry if I lived today, I would kill myself. It is so dog-eat-dog out there today. I want to skip the present and live in the future, which I hope will be better...” And Anne said, “I’ll love you to show you how the present time can be good. And they went off together, and she told him of her adventures, and they loved one another.” Afterwards, he said, “You make me want to get out of my contract, but I don’t suppose that’s possible. When I signed the contract, it looked like this colony was going places. Now a few years later, it has turned out to be a

backwater...” Anne said, “I have made some money with my movies and can buy you out of your contract. But I have to leave you here, as Neil and I are really going places.” He exclaimed said, “I’m so grateful!”

Then I, Neil, and Anne, were back in front of the King. He said, “You two are not so good at games except the love games. My Royal family wants to meet you!” So, we met them, 50 in all, and found ourselves talking to a young Prince and a Princess. The Prince said, “I am tired of playing games and want to live in a Dreamworld which I have created. I imported the best holograms I could for this Dreamworld. Why not join me? Your bodies will remain frozen in place here...”

So, off we went. The gateway opened to reveal a fairy tale castle. And the Prince led us in past the guards to the throne room and he sat in the throne and motioned us to stand on either side of the throne. And then a humble petitioner came before us. He said, “Oh, your highnesses, I was imprisoned by an evil witch for years. Just now, she let me go. I am here to ask for revenge against the witch, and I am afraid, she will put me in chains once again, if I don’t take action.” So, the Prince said, “I know this witch, she is a magical woman and if she enslaved you, you probably deserved it. Now begone, before I lose my temper.” So, the man ran out. And he said to us, “It gets better.” Next up was his chief General who the Prince told us, before he entered, “Was in charge of the war between the Princes’ good people and evil holograms created by the evil wizard, Draco. It gave the people something to fight for, so I allowed it. Then the General entered the throne room and said, “Sir, we have pushed the dark forces back beyond the River Lotus. Total victory seems eminent.” The Prince said, “Very good. When you vanquish the evil wizard, I want you to attack the evil animal people...” The General said, “Yes, my liege.” And he took his leave. The Prince explained, “I had allowed animal people holos into my World, but

now was tired of their proselytizing and complaining that there weren't enough of them. They were a bunch of perverts, basically. They would fight tenaciously and keep the people busy fighting."

Then, the Princess who we'd met at the King's Palace came here as a holo. And she said, "I want to bring in more clever hologram men to love me cerebrally. I fear I am a nymphomaniac. I only care about comfort for my mind." I said, "I'd be willing to love you, oh Princess." So, in a trance I loved her cerebrally, then and there, just standing there." It was only about a minute, but it seemed like much longer. And the Prince said to the Princess, "Bring in as many as you like using the powers I have given you." She said, "I just wanted to OK it with you first." And she bowed and left. Then the King himself appeared as a holo. The King said, "My courtiers all like your World. And some even say they want to stay here permanently. I am making you my official heir, I am thinking of stepping down as King and travelling elsewhere. I am kind of getting bored of the games." The Prince replied, "If I am King, I will maintain the human World and set up many Holoworlds, so I don't get bored." And the King said, "Neil and Anne, you are doing well for yourselves here, despite your lack of skill in games." And the King then left.

Next up was chess player, he said "Every year, for seven years, I had won the chess championship. And I was bored. And holo video games don't appeal to me. I want to try being human and experiencing human love, food, drink and drugs. The Prince said, "I know of you and since you have proved yourself to be a genius, I will gladly transform you to a human and you will still be able to change yourself back to a holo at any time and then back to human again." And the man thanked the Prince profusely. The Prince said go up the stairs to your left and I will write you a requisition for the transformation."

I said, “I’m surprised that holos play video games just like the humans here. It seems like holos and humans are very much alike here.” The Prince said, “Many of our holograms are actually former humans who were disillusioned with homo sapiens and prefer homo holographus, saying hololife was freer and better. Personally, I enjoy both states of being.”

Then the Prince’s mistress appeared, saying, “My Prince, you haven’t loved me in days. Why?” The Prince said, “I’ve been busy in the real human World. Meet my two new friends!” She replied, “Love me now!” So, they had cerebral sex with him just sitting there and she just standing there. After a few moments, Anne and I joined in, and it was a foursome. We were all satiated. After several sessions, his mistress left, seemingly content.

Then the day was over and the three of us returned to the real palace of the King. And Anne met an interesting woman, who said, “Just to be different, I had myself transformed into an android. I am the only member of the Royal family to be a permanent android and there just a handful of us in the Kingdom.” I exclaimed to her, “Be glad you had the freedom to do so!”

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Polaris Star System

Eternity City

Finally, we left this World and voyaged on to Polaris. Anne said, “The deeper one goes into Space, the deeper the people.” It took just a couple weeks to get there during which Anne and I altered our bodies to suit one another. I kept trying to get Anne to get bigger breasts. And so now she had a 1.2 m bust and she wanted me to be more muscular with more hair on my chest and so it was. We also drew improved faces for one another and so it was. We never seemed to get tired of loving one another. We also played a lot of future video games; there were a lot of different

ones, most were nearly endless adventures, and the games evolved to suit. It was AI, but we were fine with that...

Finally, we arrived at Polaris. We started at the most Earth-like Planet. It was rather cool with a lot of rain and lakes and oceans and three continents. We landed at the biggest settlement, a city, Eternity city, that was purported to be a haven for youth aged 16-25, though there were a number of older people here, many of whom liked hanging around youthful vigour. Everyone was of course eternally youthful like almost everywhere else... I was interested in snagging a virgin to try my loving on an all-new canvas. Anne meanwhile wanted to try to meet with the leaders.

Upon landing at the Spaceport, we were greeted by bouncy, vivacious people who seemed delighted to meet us. One of them, a male, said "We don't get many human visitors, though we are overwhelmed by androids and holograms." Another one, a female exclaimed, "We'll have a party in your honour!" So, they took us to a huge bar and soon it was jam packed with people who wanted to shake our hands and hug us. One female, Nellie, said, "The two of you can love whoever you want, we have free love here." I asked Nellie, "If there were any virgin females here?" She said, "No the people here all come from our Moon at age 16, having already lost their virginity. The colony is 10 years old, and subject to change, however..."

Anne asked Nellie, "Who your leaders are?" She replied, "We have no leaders, we are an egalitarian society." I said, "But few here are over 25, that would indicate to me that your people don't have wisdom." Nellie replied, "Nevertheless, I would say our people are wise. And kind to boot." And she said, "We like to play intelligent wisdom games, like Wisdom I: The Past, in which we are asked questions about the past and are judged by the other players, on a scale of 1-10. And Wisdom II: The Present, similar to Wisdom I only about contemporary issues. And

Wisdom III: The Love Game (see Tom Ball's "Love Game)" and Wisdom IV: The Future (see Tom Ball's "Future Game).") And Wisdom V: Building Cultures which was a board game. And Wisdom VI: Super chess which was on a 128 space board, featuring a couple of pieces that can jump over your opponents pieces and two queens each who could take out two pieces in a line and a King who could attach itself to other pieces on the same squares adding on to have the cumulative effect of both pieces and Super knights which can go two squares one way and 3 steps to the side." And Nellie said "We have many adventure video games too which are made with AI. AI is mostly banned in the colony however..."

And Nellie said, "We all take stimulants. Opiates are illegal. We want everyone to be alert, and don't want a society of bliss, like so many other States have." Anne asked her "But who is your best thinker?" Nellie replied, "It has to be the "Damned One," she is a polymath who is dark and mysterious. And she has predicted, war will come to our colony, and we must arm ourselves now against interstellar attackers. Everyone here is worried about this. And this genius has made breakthroughs in biochemistry, making love matches that seem impossible to most, but are proven effective. She has used MRT to help her in this quest. MRT is underused in my opinion." I said, "This is nothing new. MRT has been used in many places to sort out body chemistry between would-be lovers..."

Nellie added, "Our best thinker believes everyone should use only MRT to communicate and we will all be one of the whole." I said, "That's also been done. Everyone here seems ignorant of Worlds' trends. Is there nothing new here at all?" Nellie said, "Give us a break. We are all still young and inexperienced. But I am convinced one day we will have Utopia here." Anne said, "Few Worlds can say that. But after all Utopia is all in one's mind. If one is quite content with their local milieu, with no sore points then it is a personal Utopia. Some live in Utopia, where

others in the same World live in Dystopia.” Nellie replied, “I think giving the people MRT from a young age and giving everyone a part-time job, unlike many other places, is the secret to our future success.” I asked Nellie, “What’s your job?” She said, “I am a humble undertaker for those who die of drug overdoses and there are a lot of such suicides. Despite our best efforts and great stimulant drugs, many people are depressed and take illicit neo-heroin to die. Or live on the edge...”

Anne asked Nellie, “What do you do with the bodies?” She replied, “Some want to clone the dead, but I think such people are not made for our society and we should let the dead rest. Some even want their souls to go to an afterlife. But I feel this is futile, as do most of us...”

And Nellie said, “Every job is considered equal, and we have equal pay.” Anne said, “It sounds like communism.” Nellie answered, “Everyone here has plenty of disposable income and the system really works. Call it what you will. Of course, we breed the youth to have a good work ethic and not be greedy. They are basically all designer babies but are all born in an adult body with the standard memories, that everyone gets. And everyone’s unique character develops from “birth.” It takes a year or two to develop and really fit in. And everyone is appointed several lovers at birth. And part of their first years is to try opiates, just to educate them about such drugs. But many people disagree they should be exposed to such drugs. And after all they are officially illegal.” I asked, “What is the meaning of life for people here?” Nellie responded, “Nothing fancy. Just enjoy life and art in grace and comfort.” Anne said, “Neil and I, live for adventure and love...”

And Nellie introduced us to Peter, a man who was a rocket scientist. He was in charge of building air cars here. Apparently, the air cars could go into Space, and many visited other colonies in Polaris. Hence the Spaceport we had landed in. I asked Peter, “About the movies

here?” He said, “We have made a lot of movies. One of my favourites features a milieu in which everyone is an artist, and they made a lot of great movies. Like a documentary, about “Concept Albums,” in the city. And another, they made was about our most famous citizen, a screenwriter who wrote “Gangland,” about how gangsters had evolved in the city to bring in illicit drugs to all the cities in the System including ours. And they themselves took the drugs and didn’t live very long. And another film I liked was “Gargantua,” about big money entrepreneurs who lived in unparalleled luxury who also took opiates. And they too, didn’t live long. Which proves our city was right to ban opiates.”

And he said, “My favourite film was “Love in Polaris,” about the differing love customs in the city. Some were mostly featured monogamous people. If one loved another, and got caught, one would be divorced immediately. Another group, the androids in the city, featured new android lovers, and everyone wanted the latest models. Many here were working on new models. Then there was another group which featured lovers who designed abstract art lovers for themselves to love. They are all messed up. Still another group, the Trojans, features lovers who are all desperadoes and want to war with AI. Also, there is the Bishop’s people, some of the small number of remaining Christians about how people had to act like angels in public, but in private loved dirty men and women. In addition, there was the fornicators, in which people have sex for 14 hours in a 24-hour day, utilizing sex enhancers and skin regeneratives. They all have numerous partners. Most of this group are bisexual or purely gay. And they are known for their perversities. Furthermore, there is the green group which frowned on androids, but some broke the custom and loved the machines. If caught they would be ostracized. Another group was holograms, who enjoyed cerebral sex. And then there was, the broken town who were some of

the most attractive people anywhere who were very proud and broken hearts were common. And so on. This was mostly a documentary and portrayed the variety in this colony.”

I said, “I suppose that every city in Space has their own love customs. Sampling such loves, is one of the perks of travelling through the galaxy.” Anne said, “All love is good, but not every movie is good. Indeed, very few are really good, and few really have a message for the viewer.”

So then, Nellie introduced us to one of her numerous lovers. His name was Bob, and he was one of the rare people here older than 25. He was 50 but of course was eternally youthful. He told us, “Nellie, who was 23, kept me young.” And he said, “I am one of the architects of this city. All the blue buildings were mine. That made about 10% of the city. My buildings are all spirals within spirals and were constantly spinning on the outside. But stable and solid inside.” I exclaimed, “Wow your architecture is excellent!” He said, “Many other settlements in Polaris feature some of my architecture. On one Planet, Peart’s Planet, I built a system of sparkling caves on this cold orb. On a cold Moon, I built an azure dome which gave the people blue sky just like Earth. And on a hot moon I designed a building covered in flames, but the flames were illusory and gave off no heat. On another hot moon, I built, a fog machine which obscured most of the buildings there and gave mystery to the city. And so on...”

Another of Nellie’s lovers made some of the best films here on Eternity city. His name was Dima, and he said, “I have made hundreds of movies here. For example, I have made, “Love in a Vacuum.” Which is about 2 people a man and a woman who come to life in an isolated steel building where they are all alone, with no memories. They explore the building and find it appears to be empty except in the room where they came to life as adults where food kept appearing. And they try to leave the building but can’t. They love one another hard, but after a while the girl cuts her throat with a steak knife and dies. The man meanwhile goes insane and

knocks his head against the wall and finally dies too. Of course, the whole thing is an experiment with true love, but the scientists involved are disappointed and frustrated by the results.” I opined, “It sounds interesting, but disturbing at the same time.” Anne said, “Imagine you and I in such a scenario, we would probably die too. No couple are an island.”

And Dima told us, “I had another film, “Gerhard’s Roles,” about a script written by a man named Gerhard of the modern day in which the viewer could put oneself in the role of any actor in the movie and the lines would appear on a teleprompter, though one could ad lib add extra lines oneself. Reality blended with surrealism in the movie.”

And still another of Nellie’s lovers was a man who wrote stories of Apocalypse. He said, “There are many Apocalyptic scenarios like a new cyber disease that is neither virus nor bacterium, but rather blows up one’s computer in the air, killing everyone. And bioweapons for which there is no anti-biotic cure and kill people like the plague. And also, nuclear weapons; fusion and fission bombs. And micro robotic plague which destroys one from within and is hard to cure. And MRT attack which can sweep through the populace, driving everyone insane. And insidious hologram attackers who kill people while they are making cerebral love. And the Emperor’s armies, with each hologram or android soldier armed with a 180-degree killing area with powerful lasers.” And this Apocalyptic master described the aftermaths of Armageddon in many movies. Most of his films were very grim... But ultimately were full of hope, despite everything. I said to him, “I imagine ruthless Leaders killing off the good people in a holocaust and forever ruin the gene pool.” Anne said, “Human’s ultimate destiny is up in the air. And no one knows what will happen. But it is likely that the Earth Emperor will war with Space colonies and force everyone who survives the wars to convert to holograms, like him. Holograms are likely the future of humankind.”

And Nellie introduced another filmmaker who was a woman friend of hers. She made, "Love at the Dawn of Superhumans." She described Superhumans as great lovers and great scientists and great lovers. And brilliant entrepreneurs all in one. And the remaining humans would all get rich by tagging along by their coattails. And all humans would convert to cyborgs and constantly strive to improve." I said, "I've heard of such a future before. Your idea is not original." She replied, "But the Devil is in the details. Are Superhumans bright enough to triumph over Superandroids and Superholograms? And will all the Superbeings coexist with one another, or will there be war?" And she said, "I kind of like to think the average human, android or holo will still exist and live in peace and harmony with one another."

And another prominent citizen, Nellie introduced us to a woman named, "Dark Chocolate," who was black of course. And we were green skinned as per usual. And D.C. was an advocate of being mysterious and opaque. And said, "I don't want anyone to get into my head with MRT and wear a protective helmet which repels MRT signals. And my sexual partners are interested and curious to know me. I think MRT is a blight on humankind." I said, "Tell us about your true personality." She replied, "Only my lovers know me intimately. And you, Neil are not my type!" Anne said, "I can imagine a future in which everyone is an enigma to one another and MRT is banned..."

Then another local citizen was introduced to us, a woman of Chinese ancestry. She said, "I'd come here direct from Earth to Eternity city, 40 years ago. On Earth I was a well-known actress, but I liked the ideas of this youthful society! I am the most famous acting persona in the city. I tend to star in stories of youthful exuberance. Like "The Flight of Icarusette," about flying with a jet pack and making love in the air and burning my candle at both ends with drugs and sleepless nights and endless parties. Also, I starred in "New Perfume" about a young woman who

develops new irresistible perfumes that drive men wild. And my persona loves hypothetical men, mostly based on former real men on Earth, who I wished were here in Eternity city, as holograms. Of course, the viewer could passively share in cerebral sex I had with these men. And even women who I loved.” And she said, “I also directed and starred in “Of Roaches and Men,” which shows how many holo people are no better than roaches and live mindlessly in a blissful state and dutifully perform robotic-like tasks determined by the Earth Emperor. Also, I starred in “Holiday,” about a festival around our New Year’s Festival in which everyone joined in and loved people at random. There was no AI allowed to participate. And now the Festival was in its eighth year. The script follows a young woman who has just been “born” a few months previously and is full of wonder about sex and drugs and ideas. To me, ideas seem like a game...” And she went on and on about her numerous films.

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Finally, Anne and I had had enough of Eternity city. And we went to another colony on the same Earth-like Planet. It was supposed to be a city of mostly holograms but also had many androids. Anne asked me, “Are you sure you want to go to such a place? I mean won’t we be misfits there?” I said, “You know, you and I have never shied away from Worlds that are Alien to us.” This colony was called “Jimton.” It apparently was founded by a man named Jim, 12-years ago. It was designed as a giant octagon with a dome. We landed outside one of the gates in a parking lot. We were greeted by a what appeared to be an android. She said, “I assume you’ve come here for sex.” Anne replied, “We are here for adventure, including romantic liaisons.” The woman was an android our metal detectors identified her. The android woman said, “There’s plenty of romantic adventure here. Let me take you to a Holoworld.”

So, a green World appeared with holobirds singing in the trees. There was a solitary man who said, "I am a bisexual hologram and would love to have a menage a trois with you two." Anne said, "I think you're kind of cute. I'll love you." So, they had cerebral sex while standing there. And Anne moaned with ecstasy and then it was over. Meanwhile I loved our android guide on the ground. And it was fast love. Then our guide took us down a Virtual road in which we came upon some dead holos. Usually when holos died, they vanished from view. But these holos seemed to have been burned in a hot fire and they were disfigured in death. I asked our guide, "Is this World safe for us?" She said, "Don't worry, you can wish yourselves back to the spot in which you appeared in this World at any time." And I took Anne aside and said, "I am afraid we will die here." Anne said, "Let's leave." So, we left without adventuring here.

But our guide was still with us. She said, "How about I take you to a loving World?" I told her, "That sounds more like it." So, we went to a giant Virtual trampoline. And bounced and spun. One holowoman was particularly acrobatic, being light as a feather and we watched her in adoration, and she made eye contact with me and then we had cerebral sex while she was spinning through the air. And Anne was jumping with a male holo and they too had cerebral sex. Sex on the trampoline though was strenuous and our brains were stretched, and we had headaches afterwards. Then we left the trampoline, and our guide said, "I'm taking you to see the wizard of love." And then we were at the base of a small tower, and we went up the stairs and in a room at the top sat the wizard, of course he was youthful looking. He said, "If you like, I'll conjure perfect lovers for you two." And we felt him in our heads, probing. And I mind read, "I am partial to brunettes, and Anne likes brown-haired men." Anne mind read, "I like classically handsome men." My brunette appeared, but then was running down the stairs and I was chasing her, and she ran out of the tower, but she wouldn't make eye contact so I couldn't love her. And

she ran fast into the forest, and I couldn't keep up with her. Meanwhile the wizard changed into a gigolo stud holo and Anne and the wizard loved one another again and again.

And I found myself lost in the forest. I looked above the canopy and saw Virtual buzzards flying overhead. So, I wished myself back to the foot of the tower. And called out Anne's name. And she shouted, "I'll be right down. And the guide and Anne appeared at the same time. The guide told us, "Now I'll take you to the raceway." The raceway turned out to be swift running holowomen that one could gamble on. Our guide said she'd stake us each to thousands of Virtual dollars. In the first race, I bet on the best looking holoracer and Anne bet on the strongest looking holo. But the race was one by the cleverest looking one. Anne exclaimed, "I should have known.!" In the second race it was Virtual hell hounds racing. The dogs all looked vicious, and we talked to their masters. One said, "Don't bet on my dog. She's a loser." We figured this man was hiding a winner, so we bet on his dog and won. The next race involved using a Virtual telekinesis apparatus to move heavy iron balls down the track. The Grandmaster of the races asked us to come forwards and introduced us to the gathered crowd saying, "They are newcomers." And he invited Anne to join the iron ball race. So, she tried with all her might, but no movement came forth. I had bet on her to show and was disappointed. The next race involved MRT, getting in the minds of rabbits and causing them to run fast down the track. We bet on the cutest bunny, to place and our bunny came in second and so placed and we won a lot of virtual money. And there were many other races...

Next our guide took us to see hologladiators fight in a Virtual arena. No one in the crowd was allowed to use MRT on the fighters, who stood still, and mind wrestled with one another until one was forced to the ground and defeated. Typically, one of the gladiators would start thinking about some subject and their thoughts were broadcast on the speakers on the ceiling og

the dome. And they would trade arguments until one lost the argument and were forced onto the ground. I said, "It all seems subjective." Anne said, "But it seems like the strongest mind will triumph." I exclaimed, "I wouldn't want to mind wrestle with you!"

Then our guide took us to a Holoworld in which there was a Master who forced every hologram to be his slave, and he wanted to enslave us, too. But I mind wrestled with him and won. And I set his slaves free. These former slaves all went to other Dreamworlds. And we closed this World down. Anne said, "I hope one day everyone in the Universe can be free." I said, "It seems unlikely, but who knows?"

Our guide said, "That was very well done. I see you two like a challenge!" So next she took us to "Suicide Row," it was a place where holopeople were gathered, who had tried to kill themselves by turning themselves off. But had been saved by their fellow holograms. Everyone here though seemed upbeat. And were given "holodrugs," which gave them a pleasant feeling. Holodrugs were rare and we'd never seen them before, but they seemed to work great here. I asked one of the holopatients about a "perfect World?" She said, "Some holos in some places have found Utopia, but most like to be around humans and love them. As it happens, loving humans was better than just loving other holos." So, Anne and I loved some of the patients here. And told them to hang on and the future would be better...

Then our guide introduced us to the "Wiseest man in Jimton." He was youthful but we could tell by his gait and demeanor that he was much older. The wise man told us, "Holograms seem to be taking over, but we all love humans and many of us want to change into a human. Humans will always exist." Anne said, "I hope that's true, but holos are multiplying much faster than humans and look set to replace humans altogether. Many humans have already changed into androids and holos..." He told us, "But there will be Superhumans who will be able to hold their

own with Superandroids and Superholos.” I said, “It looks like a storm is brewing between species of homo.” He said, “The Earth Emperor has changed into a holo, true. But in Space it is still fashionable to be human. And many holos are transforming into humans if they can afford it. And I’ll warrant you won’t be able to tell the difference between those who were born human and those who are former holograms.” I asked the wise man, “How can we improve as humans?” He said, “If I could make a prediction, I’d say the two of you will learn from all the Worlds you visit.” I said, “That sounds good in theory, but I wonder if we are really becoming wise.” He replied, “The only way to become truly wise is to have numerous experiences. Some learn from them, others not so much. But the youthful Holopeople here are not trying to be wise, rather just get their kicks before there is intra-World war and many of them will die in such a war, they figure.”

Then our guide took us to see the “World of Dreamers.” Here we toured the place and found the Holopeople were all standing frozen in temporal stasis, dreaming. To wake them we just needed to touch them. But most were angry that we had awoken them from their dulcet dreams. But one holoman said, “Just dreaming all the time is boring. I’d like to have some “real” experiences.” Anne asked, “Why don’t you join us for a while in our adventures?” So, he awoke his romantic partner, and she seemed affable too...

So, our guide took the four of us to a Holoworld in which there was a Princess who said, “My Kingdom is for those who like to live life fast. Here time passed quickly and was non-stop action.” I said, “Anne and I are both bored in our lives and would love to live fast. And our two new friends feel the same way.” So the Princess touched the four of us and we flew through the air above this World and we landed in a settlement which was full of architecture of moving parts and there were Ferriss wheel like benches gathering people and dropping them off and the

whole thing was beleaguering and people on the street spoke so fast, we couldn't understand most of what they were saying. And the people all had big heads, and some were apparently probing our minds. And suddenly waterfalls would appear and soak some of the people. And the buildings kept changing shape. Our guide motioned for us to duck into a door and the five of us rushed in. Inside it was far more placid and we met a holoman who rapidly read our minds. He mind read to me, "I want to mind love your woman. And at the same time Anne was frozen in mid-step, moaning and groaning. And the holowoman we had just met dreaming, was also moaning. Then after only a few seconds were moving again. And our guide said, "Follow me." And we saw a carousel and we hopped on and went into a door in the centre, and we were swept up on high to the top of the city. There we looked out kaleidoscope windows and saw unknown moving shapes...

Our guide said, "Pay attention, now." And we saw a dragon appear and its body collapsed revealing a woman wearing a crown. She said, "I exist in the future; I have sent this apparition to reveal to you that you, Neil, will be King one day and will join me in rapid future living. But you need to improve your brain as you go." And then the dragon reconstituted itself around her and went through the domed Virtual glass ceiling and disappeared. The man in the couple we'd just met said to us, "Is your life always like that?" I said, "No, I am as perplexed as you." And our guide said, "The oracle has spoken. We will now return to Jimton." And our new friends, the couple said they'd had enough and wanted to go back to their Dreamworld. And Anne and I found ourselves back at the parking lot where we'd arrived in Jimton. And Anne said, "Let's go elsewhere." I replied, "Where do you fancy, next?" She said, "There's another settlement, a small one on this same Planet which is said to be for adventurers. It is a human village. On route,

I asked her, “What did you think of the dragon lady?” She said, “Who knows about the future? I’d believe anything.”

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Then we arrived at the village. There was a party going on and people were dancing in the streets with drinks in their hands. And I asked one woman, “Who and where is your Leader?” She told us, “I am the Leader, how did you know?” I told her, “You looked the cleverest of the people gathered here.” She said, “I, too, am a student of physiognomy, and can see you are both very clever. What kind of adventure are you seeking?” Anne said, “Of course as clever people we want clever adventures.” And the party around us faded to black and we found ourselves amongst clever looking foxpeople with a human body and fox heads. The foxes’ Leader said, “We want a fable from each of you.”

I said, “Once there was a group of foxpeople, who thought they were clever, but they were outfoxed by a bearman who enslaved the foxmen using mass hypnosis and forced them to worship him as their King. The moral of the story is even clever, proud creatures can often be outfoxed, and most Worlds are Dystopias.” And Anne said, “Once there was a foxman who thought his foxwoman mate loved him. But when she had a chance to love a human, she left her Foxman and went off with the newcomer. The moral of the story is everyone can always find a better lover.” The foxman Leader said, “Once our World was overrun with humans. And everyone was miserable and hopeless. But then a foxwoman developed a new plague that only killed humans and for which there was no cure. Soon all the humans were dead. But then the virus mutated and killed most of the foxpeople. The moral is we’ll never be without humans. But humans bring only death and misery with them.”

But we were bored with the foxpeople, so we wished ourselves back to the human party. One drunkard told us, “The secret to success in this World is to confound our Leader with new ideas.” Anne said, “This World should be transformed into a shiny, glittering World where everyone’s clothes indicate their personality and only the cleverest are allowed into such a World.” And she told the Leader her idea. The Leader replied, “There are already many such Worlds, we prefer to be humble. But thanks for your input. Drinks and food for both of you are on me.” I asked her, “What about a World in which everyone is hypnotised to do their very best intellectually?” She said, “That’s a great idea, but we already have more than enough intellectuals for our simple, humble life.” She added, “But that’s the best idea I have heard in a long time. I’d like to love you!” So, I loved her in real sex in real time in her humble home. I thought it was pretty good, but she said, “That was the best sex I’ve ever had. What would it take to keep you here for a while?” I told her, “I’ll stay for a few days if you introduce me to your best intellectuals here.” She said, “Of course.” Then I was back with Anne.”

And the woman I’d just loved, she cried out, “William come here!” And William appeared from behind a house and stepped up to meet us. He told Anne, “You are the sexiest woman I’ve ever seen. I had thought that the girls here were the prettiest? Where are you from?” Anne explained to him, “That I had travelled my whole life and so wasn’t really from anywhere. But I drew the face I have now. I’m glad you like it!” He said I’ll give you 100 million Virtual dollars for a copy of your face!” Of course, Virtual money could be used in Virtual Worlds, but most Virtual Worlds didn’t use it. But we had real gold which was how we fueled our air car and bought real food, drink, love and drugs etc., especially for our voyages.

Anyway, Anne tweaked her face in a drawing and sold it to him, and this William in turn tweaked the face 4 times over for four of his women...” Meanwhile we met another intellectual

force, Sherry, she told us, “I want you two to visit my Holoworlds” So the background faded, and we found ourselves face to face with a demon lich. The lich was a former wizard who was now undead, but liked it that way, and could still do spells. He used MRT as well, to try and hypnotise and control us to be his slaves. We wished ourselves out of there just in time.

Then we met a humble peasant hologirl, Mirave, who said, “I’m a philosopher,” and she was very good looking. She said, “My philosophy was the humblest should rule and that would be Utopia. And pride should be illegal.” Also, she said, “I believe Holograms are the future. And people like you two should get on board while you still can!” And I asked, “For her love.” She responded, “If you love me, you must marry me.” I said, “You are unbelievably backwards.” She said, “Monogamy was enshrined in most human Worlds of the past. I’d like to make it fashionable again, with the help of a bold lover such as you.” I said, “I am nobody’s pet slave. I just want to be free.” She said, “But yet you love Anne almost like a wife. I am jealous.”

Then we met another holointellectual, Sophia, who said, “I am an island. And stand aloof of the masses. I only want to love the cleverest people here. And you, Neil are on my radar.” I asked her, “Other than standing alone, what is your philosophy?” She said, “I sincerely believe, that the best holos will inherit the future. Homo Holographus is superior to humans, and we can reproduce hundreds of thousands of times faster than humans. Already many humans have holochildren and are jumping on the bandwagon. You’ll find the deeper you go into Space, the more holograms there are. Most distant Worlds that have been colonized feature holograms and even androids as the overwhelming numbers of the population. But holograms are superior to androids and can teleport much faster over long distances.” Anne replied, “But humans will make Superhumans, and these Superhumans will be more intelligent than holos and will vanquish them in battle. Who cares if billions of fake humans die?”

Another holointellectual here was, Tommy, he said, "Come to my Dreamworld." So again, the background faded away and this time we found ourselves in a black World and we were lit up. Unknown beings brushed up against us for fleeting moments and we heard what appeared to be holo moaning. We walked in a random direction and soon saw a dim light several km away. And then we were suddenly in front of it, a blinding light. And we felt our way into the light and saw a black persona, a holo it seemed. This persona mind read to us, "Share your latest dreams with me!" I mind read, "I had a dream of walking on air and a dream girl appeared, but this girl turned out to be a walking nightmare. And she wouldn't let me sleep and forced me to have cerebral sex with her constantly. No rest for the wicked, as they say. I was strung out and in pain. Finally, I was so lethargic, she went away." Anne told this dark persona, "I recently dreamed of a bed of virtual needles. It hurt to move. Then a ghostly man loved me hard, and I was in total pain and was dying; but then I woke up. But my mind was scarred..."

The dark persona said, "I'll give you a nightmare. And we were both in the dark dream and the two of us found ourselves grovelling before an amorphous "mind machine," which told us he was copying our minds so that we could suffer eternal pain. Then he let up after a few seconds. And we weren't sure if he had the originals of us or if we were just copies of ourselves. But it was the most pain I'd ever felt, and I saw that Anne appeared to be in a lot of pain also.

The dark persona mind read "From reading your minds, I see that the two of you have led a life of bliss and debauchery. Henceforth I will be in a corner of your minds and will haunt you and keep you miserable..."

It all happened so fast, just a few seconds and then we wished ourselves back to the party. Tommy was nowhere to be seen. And we told people about our bad experience and asked them if we would be haunted forever by that evil persona? But then the peoples' Leader reappeared, and

she said, “Tommy gets off causing pain. I think I will have him ostracized.” And she exorcised the dark persona from our minds. But we were worried about the copies of us it had taken...

#

Tinsel Town on Moon Sparkle

And Anne and I decided we'd had enough of this World. So, we took off for a nearby balmy Moon, Moon Sparkle. This Moon featured a settlement of sparkling buildings decorated with tinsel and the air was barely breathable, but we had oxygen masks which sucked up oxygen from the thin air. And we landed in a parking lot on the fringes of the town. We were immediately confronted by a jolly fat man. It was rare to see fat people in this era of anti-fat pills. I asked him, “about your weight?” He said, “Some women like fat men and the relatively light gravity makes me light as a feather.” And he mentioned, “This World is full of dreams.” And he said, “Look at my ring!” And so we did and found ourselves suddenly in a World of sexual deviants. We were both accosted by men and women who were kinkily dressed. But we brushed them off and headed for a nearby spire which was a beautiful structure covered in steel needles. And we went up an elevator to the top. There were three people in the large viewing room. They seemed to be surprised to see us. But one of them, a woman, said, “Look out the windows and get a great view of this World.”

And we both looked at a Djinni in the distance and found ourselves transported in front of the Djinni. He asked, “I suppose you both have wishes you'd like me to grant? But first you must both love me now; I said, “No way,” but Anne was curious and was drawn flying into the head of the Djinni, and I heard her moaning and then after a couple minutes was transported back beside me. And the Djinni exclaimed, “Your love Anne was so good, I'll grant you both a wish!”

Anne said, "I wish for an end to nightmare Worlds." The Djinni said, "I'll improve your ability to quickly beam yourself out of bad Worlds. And you should carefully study Worlds before you go there." She said, "One of the best things about many Worlds is their serendipity. And Worlds like this one are impossible to know ahead of going there."

And I exclaimed, "I wish Anne would love me more!" The Djinni said, "She already is deeply in love with you already. But I hereby grant you the ability to select more romantic Worlds."

Then we were back with the fat man. He asked, "Did you have a good time?" Anne said, "Yes, we did." He said, "Follow me." And we went into the Tinsel town. And he took us to a nightclub. Humans were there drinking heavily and thrashing on the dance floor. And the bartender said, "Welcome and all drinks are free here." So, Anne and I both got drunk and found ourselves talking to a woman who asked, "Would you two care to go off on a sunny vacation trip on the equator of this Moon?" I said, "Sure!" And I wondered if the Djinni was behind the offer, which seemed romantic?

So, then we were transported on a cloud to a resort on a beach. And we lay in the sun and drank even more. Then we made love for hour in a hotel. Then we slept and we both had sweet dreams of one another... Then we went down to the hotel's casino. There were a number of sports and gambling games. And we met a man who said, "I'd just lost my shirt gambling on real baseball." I said, "It seems like everything in this World is free. What do you need money for?" He said, "You two are newcomers. Money buys better love and political power. I want to rule the resort and fill it with my favourite people. It will take me a month to have money again. Then, I'll try again."

Then we were back in Tinsel town. Anne and I couldn't easily decide who was human and who was a hologram or android, in the crowd here. But a few people insisted everyone here was human. And we went into the splendid city hall. And we asked the secretary, "To take us to the Leader?" The secretary seemed astonished to see us and showed us to the Mayor of the town. The Mayor was the best looking woman we'd seen in this town. She exclaimed, "Come adventure with me in my futuristic Holoworld!"

So, we found ourselves at the huge plinth with a throne on top, 20 m high. The Mayor, Cathy, was sitting there, and we were levitating up to her level. And she said, "Bring me the holocorpse of my enemy, Matilda. Matilda was a rebel holo and was organizing revolution in the Kingdom. And she was hiding in a Dreamworld of her own." So, we went there and found it was a World of Domino people. Each holo here had a domino body, with 12 being the highest rank, and was armed with lasers. A group of them pointed their guns at us and took us to Matilda. Matilda read our minds and hypnotised us to kill Cathy and take control of the town. She told us in a hypnotic state that Cathy was inferior to us... And gave us each a hololaser. So, we went back to the Mayor but were stopped by her bodyguards who demanded we hand over the lasers. And then the Mayor was in our head and found we'd been hypnotised by Matilda, so she ordered our execution. But we wished ourselves back to the parking lot and left the town quickly.

#

Moon Laser Eye

I asked, Anne, "Where to next?" And she said, "There is a hot moon in the System, which seems interesting. Apparently, they are humans ruled by a King and Queen who are deeply in love and have a loving community of citizens. So, we went there and the people we met all were

running somewhere and looking worried and carrying lasers. We stopped one of the women who told us the Queen had killed the King and now it was civil war. And most people were fleeing the Kingdom and gathering in refugee camps in catacombs just outside the city. No one knew who had built the catacombs, they predated what they thought was the first settlement 13 years ago... But it wasn't our war, so we left swiftly.

#

Prison Planet

Then we landed on a hot Planet. We were dubious about it was supposed to be a Prison Planet for all the Polaris System's criminals. We landed outside a pentagon which was apparently the prison. We were met by 10 guards. One of them asked, "Are you tourists?" I said, "More like adventurers." He said, "I'll take you to our warden. She said, "We'll allow you two to get into their heads, passively but they will not be in your minds. You can see for yourself what a criminal mind is really like."

So, we picked some of the cleverer ones to read their minds. One was from Jimton, he wanted to eliminate Holoworlds and had destroyed a few Dreamworlds before he was finally apprehended. Another was from Eternity city, and she was responsible for creating microscopic robots which she planned to kill everyone off. Apparently, she had a grudge against the people of the city who she thought abused and used her.

Another prisoner was a scientist from a tiny cold Moon settlement, called Loch's city. There they had melted the ice with fusion power creating a lake full of Earth freshwater creatures. But she had put monsters in the lake which devoured pretty much all of the other creatures. They caught her after a comprehensive MRT inquiry.

Then there was the prisoner from Earth who had come to the System to start revolutions. And make himself King of Space. He was very clever but was only interested in his own power. The Polaris Star System settlements all chipped in for a few Space Battleships to patrol the System. And use MRT on newcomers. Anne and I figured they'd got in our heads passively when we entered the System... We got into this prisoner's mind and found he was waiting to be liberated by Cathy. This dream kept giving him hope.

Also, there was the former Leader of a small Moon, Artemis, who had been overthrown in a palace coup. All he could think of was revenge and violence. And he had tried to engineer a prisonbreak but was unsuccessful. So, he hated the warden, too.

Another prisoner was sent here from Earth. He was the brother of the Emperor who had been governor of America. But he was accused of plotting against the Emperor. But when in his head, we determined he had not plotted against the Emperor. But was now angry and wanted revenge. He had thousands of plots in his head... It was like reading a thriller book in his head. He was certainly a genius like his brother. He had been sent here and they threw away the key, basically.

Another interesting prisoner was the inventor of hologram teleportation and an advocate for hologram dominance. But the Earth Emperor had determined he was too powerful. So banished him here. He was 70 years old, and the prisoners were denied eternal youth medicine and so he had a number of health problems, like cancer. It looked like he would die soon. There was no hospital in the prison.

Then there was another prisoner from Earth, she was a former top spy but secretly plotted against the Emperor. But she hadn't counted on the Emperor getting in the spies heads himself. She felt like an idiot and seemed to be jinxed by her own misbehaviour. And there were many other prisoners here. Finally we'd seen enough.

#

Sand II Planet

And we decided on a cool Planet, not unlike Mars in its virgin state..., called "Sand II" We went to a dome with buildings of steel and glass. It was purported to be another haven for refugees from Earth including many old Leaders who ruled countries before the Emperor seized them. We entered through a gate and passed some sentries, and we felt our minds being probed. And then an important looking woman said, "Come with me adventurers." So, she brought us before the three leaders. One of them, a male, said, "We three are Leaders of the colony. I myself am former leader of Europe. On my left is the former Ruler of India and on my left is the former Leader of China. All three of us were sent into exile after we were defeated by the Emperor's treachery. I said, "Anne and I fled shortly before the complete victory of the Emperor and we are both surprised you Leaders are still alive. Surely the Emperor will come for you." The former Ruler of India, she said, "We are armed to the teeth and each of our citizens has a powerful laser that can knock down a battleship. It's like that in many places in Space. Perhaps that's the reason the Emperor hasn't attacked Space yet. But apparently he has recently been colonizing a lot of Worlds." Of course we tried to avoid such Worlds. And she said, "Also we have a lot of new weapons also, but these are top secret..." Anne asked them, "What do you and your people do for thrills?" The former ruler of China, she said, "We spend a lot of time playing war games, real drills and real video possibilities. But we also are addicted to Dreamworlds. Let me put you in one of our main Dreamworlds." So, then we were surrounded by mist and there were many furtive figures vaguely visible in the fog. Then a man came visible holding on a leash, 6 barking dogs, which looked vicious. He was in our minds and told us both, we puzzled him, why did we

keep travelling in these dangerous days. And how was it we were still alive?” Anne told him, “We have the ability to wish ourselves out of dangerous situations.” He said, “But still you’ve been lucky.” I said, “You get what you deserve.” He replied, “But you can’t just keep running. Sooner or later, you need to make a stand and help defend colonies like ours...”

Then he said, “Let me introduce you to a fortune teller.” It was a man, and he said, “You will both be trapped on a World and unable to leave and you will die like dogs. Soon.”

Then a visibly old woman appeared and said, “Follow me to Paradise.” So, we did. “Paradise,” turned out to be some amazingly good-looking holo people and an orgy broke out, so we joined in with cerebral sex until we were both exhausted.

Next, a scholarly looking man appeared and asked, “What original ideas do you two have?” I said, “Anne and I have been working on a film while en route to various places. It’s about a future in which everyone is a cyborg human and all androids and holos have been eliminated from existence. The cyborgs are ruled by Superhuman Gods who outsmarted the androids and holos who after all were mostly just entertainers and sex workers.” The man said, “I have met a handful of people who imagined a future without hologram Dreamworlds and android sex workers. But such people are rare and hopelessly optimistic for wretched humans’ fates.” Anne said, “Another film we have been working on is about a new incurable disease which everybody on Earth gets, but it only is fatal to the Emperor and his clones’ DNA.” The scholarly man replied, “It’s a good idea, but the Emperor could change non-essential parts of his DNA to ward it off. Anne said firstly the Emperor is full of hubris. Secondly the disease would focus on the Emperor’s cognitive DNA. And another one we’ve been working on is creating a clone of the Emperor, only female, and programming her through hypnosis and tutoring her with the best tutors and then siccing her on the Earth Empire as another potential Emperor. And this clone

would be slightly more intelligent and way more imaginative than his Imperial Majesty.” The man said, “I don’t know why you two won’t stay here and write books rather than wasting your time travelling and casting your pearls at swine...”

I told the man, “We were getting our kicks while we still could and there were many interesting people to meet in Space...” He said, “We, in this colony, have made some good films, ourselves. Like “Bonnie’s Adventure,” which is about a woman who is the smartest person in all creation, with her brain enhanced by scientists to give her great powers of calculation and especially imagination. Most AI was not particularly imaginative, and the truly imaginative scientists instilled profound imaginations in people like Bonnie. And they could use their imagination in defending human settlements in Space.” I said, “That’s pretty good, but of course we like Dreamworlds because they are imaginative. At least the ones we select to visit. Imagination is the future for sure!”

Then the man faded away and we were in a fiery Hell with demons all around. I said to Anne, “We’ve been in Hell before...” She responded, “I think the Devil is boring. Evil doesn’t interest me.” I told her, “I think the Emperor of Earth turned many good people into evil ones.” Then a succubus appeared, and she was hot, but I closed my eyes and said, “I will fear no evil.” When I opened my eyes, she was gone and a man appeared who said, “I am the New Devil. Cleverer than the former Devil designed carefully for our new age. I am smarter than you!” Anne said, “We’re not interested in evil. We believe evil to be moronic, destructive and just plain useless. He said, “Come to my Dreamworld!” Usually, Anne and I jumped at the chance to explore a new Dreamworld. But Anne told the Devil, “You are boring us.” And we wished ourselves out of there and we found ourselves back in front of the three Leaders.

The former Leader of Europe said, “Who would be so brazen as to tell the Devil he was boring?” I said, “Anne and I are truly sick and tired of evil Dreamworlds.” Anne said, “I wish you good luck, but we have to leave. Other Worlds beckon.” And we left.

#

Rox Planet

Then we went to a hot Planet, Rox Planet. There were several unique settlements here. One was a human entrepreneurial World in which the people drank “Nectar of the Gods,” which they didn’t share with anyone else. And they had no Dreamworlds. Another was a Holocity in which the people always adventured in/designed Holoworlds. A third settlement was set up under the patronage of the Emperor of Earth, giving him a foothold in this Star System. The other two settlements were very worried about the Emperor’s colony which was very heavily armed and conducting constant military drills.

So we went to the human World, desiring to try their nectar. We landed in the middle of a huge triangular building, that contained the entire colony. It was a Masonite colony and were met by their Leader the Grandmaster, who said, “Welcome to Mason city. Our reason for being is we were intriguing to win back control of Earth by funding Underground Earth rebels. And the colony was full of entrepreneurs who supported one another, and we all got rich together. It was probably the richest place in the whole of the Galaxy.” And the Grandmaster added, “We Masons are the future of humanity, and we have plenty of money to spend on weapons. And I will be the future Emperor of Earth.” I took Anne aside, and said, “These people are really serious.” And then the Grandmaster gave us the Godly nectar and we were in ecstasy and felt sharper in our minds. But it was nothing new. We took such drugs often when we wanted to

make movies, especially between Worlds when we had time. The Grandmaster said, “The drugs work for us.” And then he introduced us to a few of his fellow entrepreneurs. One was a big stockholder, having been born rich, and now controlled a lot of AI types of stocks. And he had a number of android sex dolls. He said, “I feel AI is not as business savvy as human entrepreneurs. They don’t care for material possessions... Material Worlds are for humans. Holograms can have empty Space. Who truly cares about them?” I said, “But many Holoworlds are very creative dreaming and add colour and adventure to this life.” The Grandmaster said, “I think it is all emptiness... And I will introduce some of our people to you!”

And then a man stepped forward and said, “I am the richest man in the Galaxy. And would like to love you, Anne!” She said, “Are you going to shower me with gifts?” He replied, “I’ll give you a billion real dollars for your love. And we were running out of real money to power our Spacecar and to afford hotels, drinks, food and drugs. So, she acquiesced. And they went off together. And the Grandmaster said to me, “I’d like to love you, but I guess you aren’t gay. So why not love my rich niece?” So, I told him, “Sure,” and she was a knockout. And love with her was perfect. Afterwards, she opined, “Why don’t you take me with you on your travels?” I said, “You are a perfect lover, but not as clever as Anne, my true love!”

Then Anne and I were back in front of the Grandmaster of Masons. And he duly introduced us to three rich women. One of them said, “Women now have key positions in the Freemasons. And we are associate Leaders.” I asked, “Don’t you people have any arts and science here?” Another one of them said, “Many of our businesses are in movie production and we have some talented screenwriters to introduce you to.” The third woman said, “Our films are all commercial oriented, but some are really deep, and might amuse you...”

So then Anne and I, Neil, watched, “Nightmare Investment,” about buying stocks in android lovers. But the androids all went AWOL and loved poor men and women and the investors lost a lot of money. Of course, there were a lot of models of android which behaved better for other investors.

Another movie was, “Buying Planets.” It featured investors who bought up all the known Planets and Moon that had been discovered featuring all the Planets and Moons within 100 light years of Earth. Such investments were mid-term investments. Speed of Space travel kept increasing, and soon all Planets in the Galaxy would be less than a year away...

Another film was “Investing in Candy,” about a woman who had the Midas touch. And everyone wanted to love her and learn from her. And she was overwhelmed with business ideas from the people. She instinctively knew what kind of ideas were winners. But finally went all in on a pyramid scheme. She put trillions into it and wound up a multi-zillionaire. And she made sure all those here who lost their shirts, were staked to another chance.

Then there was the film, “Great Minds,” how great power couples here had brilliant designer babies who were cleverer than they were. And many believed these children were maximum intelligence and were designed to be particularly business savvy.

I said, to Anne, “I think we’ve seen enough here.” She replied, “I concur.” So, we left just like that.

#

Moon AI

Then we went to another hot Moon. It had two settlements. One was an android settlement. The other a Hologram colony. We went first to the android colony. They were purported to all be

gunslingers, with a powerful laser in a holster. And were apparently fiercely independent and were android models of ten years ago. And they had 2 leaders, a female and a male, who presided over a city of sex maniacs. They wanted new lovers to come to the colony and love them...

So, we landed in a city of tents. There were no permanent buildings here and the air was thin here, so we needed oxygen tanks on our backs, which sucked up the light oxygen of the atmosphere. We exited our Space car and there were about 50 of what were all indicated by our sensing device to be androids, to greet us. They were all Super good looking. And the two Leaders were there, wearing crowns. The male Leader said, "Why don't you adventure in our wilderness as well as our city?" I said, "Let's try the wilderness first!"

So, we found ourselves in an empty desert. And we met an android who had two king cobra men on a leash, with a cobra head and an android body. He asked us, "Why don't you change into a cobra man?" I said, "That's ridiculous; such a creature would be moronic and a poisonous influence on homo sapiens." He said, "But love of the serpents is a road to bliss. Just be a predator and have no qualms about trampling over the rights of others. The snakes are the future, and predatorial people will triumph on the whole. Humans as a rule were born to be predators... There's no hiding from human past days."

And then we rambled on into the wilderness. And we came upon a school of android children which seemed to be a departure from most androids who were usually given an adult body at birth. These android children were researching the past and many wanted to turn into humans which they felt was more orgasmic and appropriate for the modern milieu. But they were forbidden from such a transformation. They asked us about the future? And we said Superhuman cyborgs would triumph in the end, and they should change themselves into cyborgs to get ahead

of the game... They said, we will certainly try to become cyborgs, but doubted their Leadership would allow it.

Then we rambled to a group of pretty android witches. One of them said, "We'd like to hypnotise you two." I said, "Are you kidding? Why would we want that?" And we ran away from them headlong into a purple forest.

Upon entering the forest, we were confronted by what appeared to be a group of 10 android elves. The elves said they were bored and were keen on meeting us; we were the first humans they encountered in their 10 years of living. They wanted to touch us and feel our heartbeats. I said, "So you are all about the equivalent of a 25- year- old human. Take us to your Leader!" So, we walked about an hour and saw a number of what appeared to be android birds whose songs were quite harmonious. Then we came upon a palace. One of the elves said, "Our Queen dwells here." The Queen, was very attractive, but I thought she looked dark and evil. But she said, "You have undoubtedly come a long way. Few make it so far... I am trying to make this a forest of adventure. So, we needed to create evil elves to give us something to fight against. And some of my people wanted to love the dark elves, considering them to be a challenge. Indeed, we spend much of our lives loving one another." And the Queen told us, "I'd like to love you two in a menage a trois." Anne said, "I'm not interested, but go ahead, Neil." And it wasn't every day one got to love an android Queen, so we went off together. Like most androids she was very energetic in love, and I was glad I'd loved her.

Meanwhile Anne was playing chess with the elfin champion and this elf narrowly won. It was disconcerting for Anne to be outfoxed by such an obscure machine. Then I was back, and Anne took me aside and told me of her defeat. I said, "Don't be glum, I'm sure your imagination is much more powerful than the elfin chess champion." She asked, "But what if its not?" I told

her, “That’s why A.I. is illegal in so many places. And that’s one of the reasons why human scientists are making people cleverer.” She said, “But now of course the Earth Emperor is a hologram and in Space is forcing many humans to change into A.I. It looks to me like humans are becoming useless.” I said, “After all we are fleeing Earth which brings us so deep into Space. But of course, we hope human scientists can make Superhumans who can give A.I. some fierce competition and hopefully win out in the end.”

Anyway, I told her, “The elfin Queen wanted us to love all her people.” She said, “We aren’t sex workers. Let’s go elsewhere.” So, we told the elves to escort us out of the elfin territories. But the Queen said, “We control most of this World and the dark elves, control most of the rest. It’s not a very large Moon. But the Elfin android wizard is worth meeting. We’ll take you there. The wizard lived about 30 km away. It was hard to keep up with these androids and we were very tired when we finally arrived. The wizard lived in a palace that rivalled that of the elfin Queen. And there were a number of robot servants. The wizard came out to greet us and said, “Humans made androids, and we will always remember that. But humans are just getting in the way of progress, now. And it is time for A.I. to rule.” I said, “Oh, Wizard, humans can’t be counted out; in Space, humans are still numerous and have the highest technology, still.” The wizard said, “But even in this obscure Moon, most of us androids are cleverer than you.”

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And Anne and I looked at each other and wished ourselves back to our air car and we took it to the Holoworld settlement here. It was all inside 1 sq. km but when we entered, we had the feeling of vast spaces... It was blue sky with the sun here shining on this hot Moon. To start, we met saw some holos who were kickboxing, and they asked us if we wanted to join them fighting. Or if we’d like to stake a bet on who would be the ultimate champion? We politely rejected

them. And continued on our way. We walked for a few hours and then came to a bunch of cowboy holograms who were lassoing Virtual bulls, riding Virtual horses and fighting duels with deadly lasers that could surely destroy any living creature it seemed. We went into the general store which was full of Virtual tools, Virtual laser weapons, Hologram creation technology, robots, androids in temporal stasis, Virtual movies in 3-D and so on. We asked the storekeeper how we could pay for a virtual laser. He said, "Free for humans. Happy hunting!" So, then we walked out of the village unmolested...

Then we came upon an Alien looking creature. It had 3 goat-like heads and an octopus body. It read our minds and read, "I just wanted to be friends." Anne asked it, "What kind of friends, exactly?" It mind read, "You know get to know each other and swap stories." I said, "Tell us a story." It mind read, "Many holograms here judge me to be evil by my appearance and I have got in the minds of such holos and drove them mad and many killed themselves." And it mind read, "I have also loved some holos, but I can tell you must be two of the fabled humans, the originators of all clever creatures. And I guess you don't find me attractive..." Anne said, "Humans like us have been known to love holos and androids, but you are over the top." And we told it about some of our adventures. It mind read, "I find the two of you to be fascinating creatures..." I asked him, "Are there more like you?" He said, "I'm glad you care enough to ask. Actually, I have 4 siblings who are much like I am and 10 more have been killed by the ignorant cowboy holos. We siblings love one another and are thinking about moving to a World of multisexuals on a nearby Moon. We figure they'd be receptive to freaks, like us. We first came to this android World after our World on Europa was destroyed by the Emperor's allies and we came here to find open-minded holos like us. But they weren't so open as we expected. In fact quite the contrary."

Then we moved on, and found some ball-like holograms, who just kept rolling along all over this Holoworld. One of this group of 10 mind read to us, “Would you like to be a holoball for a day?” I looked at Anne and we decided not to. But Anne asked, “How do you people get your kicks?” Another one of the group mind read, we enjoy loving many of the other holos here. They are all open-minded about us. And we turn them into balls, and they roll with us. We can achieve speeds of 200 km/h and can roll over our enemies, i.e. our holoenemies. And we all like to bowl over young innocents who don’t even know what hit them. If we roll over a holo they will die instantly.” I asked, “But surely it is cruel to kill off nascent minds...” Another one replied, “Innocence has no place in this Worldly hologram venue. Everyone who comes here must be an experienced thinker. We do however have some holochildren who are born with our experiences already ingrained in them! And the other holo types in this World feel the same. And the worst thing one can be is a virgin...”

So, then we left these holoballs and moved on to a Holoworld of antiquity. Here the people were purported to live in the past, only they re-imagined the past to include holopeople. The holograms put on movies of the human past with themselves each playing an active human mover and shaker. It seemed twisted to us. But they added fresh perspectives to a past that many said was written in stone... No matter what the truth of the past was, they altered it for the future. I said, “Reimagining the past is interesting, but we mustn’t forget the lessons of history.” Anne said, “The past doesn’t matter anymore, only the future. And every member of the species homo must play their role in the future. We can use virtually everyone in this anti-Earth policy...”

Then we moved on to a Holoworld of hermits living in isolation and renouncing sex. They just meditated and tried to find Holonirvana. We talked with some of the holograms here and they said things like, one who said, “We need to forget about debauchery and concentrating on

freeing one's mind from the material World completely. No more sparkling cities, no more making movies... Just purity of thought..." I said, "But living without the material World is boring. You hermits must be bored!" Another one of them said, "We are bored with human Worlds of greed and insanity. Sanity is our creed." And so on. But then we left.

And we happened upon a group of Holodemons. One of them said, "Modern day holos will never die altogether but will go to Hell of the soul, after death. No rest for the wicked!" I said, "But we have also heard about holo Heaven." Another one replied, "But for our World, Heaven is out of reach. We are all sinners. We are all greedy, selfish, arrogant, pompous and assholes basically and we are gratified by being so. I said, "You people are like a cancer amongst humankind. I think even the Earth Emperor will think so, too." And Anne opined, "No one in their right mind would want to go to Hell." So, we moved on.

Next, we encountered a group of 50 holos; their Leader said, "We represent holos of the future. We are creatures of pure thought, and our philosophy is to start breeding millions of holos and we would like to copy your genetic code to help us create more variety. We already control a huge human sperm and egg bank, that human adventurers have brought us, and we plan to have Virtual babies in which we alter the humans to become holos and fit in with our idea of pure thought." I said, "It is perverse." Anne said, "Why not simply create holochildren based on yourselves." The Leader said, "We crave variety above all." And he said, "We have already copied your genes." I told them, "But we didn't give our permission. It is an outrage!" He said, "It's a fait accompli."

So, we got out of there fast. And next we came to a Holoworld of dreamers. They only dreamed of nightmares and had dream stimuli to guide their nightmares. Their Leader said, "I want to show you some of my own nightmares..." In one nightmare, he was forced to change

into a human and were basically a debauchee. In another, he was a hologram forced to run from android bounty hunters who sought to eliminate holograms. Still another of our nightmares involved sexy holos who wanted him to be their slave. Still another nightmare featured a World dominated by evil holos. And he said, "Of course, we here were all good in terms of alignment but loved to be thrilled by evil." And so, on. We sampled some of other nightmares here but found them to be rather boring. And we told them we had to be going.

Next, we encountered a Holovillage in which they actually had material houses. And they wanted to turn into humans. Their Leader told us, "Being a holo was boring." I said, "That's what we think, too. Where would we be without drugs, drink and food and real sex? Why be an ascetic, ghostly creature when you can have it all!" He said, "But we were born as holos and were programmed to enjoy hololife. However, we are gradually changing into humans." And he introduced us to a new human that seemed to us to be petty and vindictive. We told them, their new human was not a good example of a human. But they told us they'd already copied our DNA and were looking forward to experimenting with new human children. Of course, Anne and I were both pissed off. And we left abruptly. And we wondered how we could keep our DNA without having it surreptitiously copied. It was the second time it happened to us lately.

Then we met a group of hologram people who said they were all the same and everyone here had the same memories, and they did everything as a group. They were not surprisingly curious about loving humans with cerebral sex. They said they wanted dream sex with us and promised to dream their best dreams while loving us and all 100 of them would listen in, so that everyone could benefit. I explained to them, "That human sex was private and not to be exhibited to everyone." Of course, they didn't understand. So, we left.

I said to Anne, "I'm getting tired of the holograms here." So, we wished ourselves back to our air car.

#

Moon Nathan

Then another hot moon. It was purported to be a hotbed of hologram political rhetoric. We arrived outside the largest holobuilding. Of course, all the spectral holobuildings were standing in the free air. We needed oxygen sucking masks. After about a minute a hologram wearing a crown appeared with a retinue of followers. She said "Welcome to Nathan's city. I am the Queen. We don't stand on ceremony here." And she addressed me saying, "I want to love you." I figured I might as well. And went off with her. And I loved her cerebrally. She left me with an aching head, but I had a feeling of well being. Anne was still at the front of the largest holobuilding. She was explaining human sex to the Queen's followers. They didn't get it and had asexual bodies... I asked the Queen, "What her politics were?" She told me, "I am leader because I have the best philosophy. I believe that the greatest measure of a holo is in one's imagination. Some of my followers have made my ideas into movies. Like "Blackie" about a holowoman who dreamed of a black holohorse. And she would ride through the various settlements of a future time in which everyone in the Polaris Star Systema and all colonies in other parts of Space, were holograms. Humans, androids, cyborgs and animal men were all extinct."

And the Queen said, "Another brand-new film inspired by me, and just released was "Gorgeous Queen Candy" how all types of holos loved her and liked her ideas. Like they built a Heavenly city in which holos had sex organs and this enhanced their sexual experience, making it much like human love." And she told her followers, "To see this film." And she took off her

virtual clothes revealing a vagina and large breasts. “It was the future,” she said. And she added “It was better sex. I’d been saving this revelation for the right moment and that moment is now.” So she grabbed me and we had “human sex” in front of all of them. Anne said afterwards, “You looked like a buffoon, Neil.” I told Anne, “We’re winning converts to our human cause.” Anne said, “In the Queen’s first film, humans are extinct, but in her latest film, the holos basically all adopt a human-like body...”

The Queen said, “We have a seminal movie called the Queen’s Gambit. It featured a holoarmy which invaded the other Moons and Planets in the System. And I, the Queen governed the holos and others with an iron fist. And I dreamed of ruling Earth one day.”

And the Queen said, “I wanted all holos everywhere to be unique and many would be based on humans for variety’s sake. Other holos would be created by breeding four holos together, taking $\frac{1}{4}$ of each to make the brain of new holos or just be made according to my specifications in the holo laboratory. This aspect of my philosophy is also a film called, “Unique Ones...” And some say they are freaks, but I say they are the future.”

The Queen added, “Another movie I had them make was “The Enemy Within” about how all holograms were not entirely good. And all were capable of evil. Fortunately, with me, the Queen ruling, everyone tries to bring out the best in themselves.”

“Still another of my films was “Priestly Proselytizers” about how my asexual followers went to human Worlds trying to convert humans to become holos. Many humans saw the writing on the wall and converted while they still could. Wars were about to break out and everyone knew that holosoldiers were the best troops,” she said.

And she told us, “One more illustrated my basic philosophy which was imagination. And the film was about stimulating ideas that the viewer could build on.” And so on.

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Finnegan's Star System

Doubter's Planet

So, then we took our leave of the Queen. And we left this World. And we went on to Finnegan's Star System. The System had two Stars and had 15 Planets and 90 Moons. To start we selected an Earth-like Planet which had a few new colonies, inhabited by humans and ruled by an Oligarchy of five people. We landed at their main Spaceport. And we were exposed to a sunny World. Of blue skies and green plants just like Earth. But the people looked odd to us. We figured they were mostly only a few years old having been created here as adults to suit the tastes of the oligarchy. And one of the Oligarchs met us at the Spaceport. She said, "Welcome to our World, Doubter's Planet. Our Planet has a wide variety of Dreamworlds and 3 sparkling villages of adventure and excitement."

And the Oligarch introduced herself, "As being one of the 20 founding members of the colony. Now the population had grown to 5 000 all descendants of the original 20. We had no sperm and egg banks like was customary in Space. All our youths were born in as an adult, with memories of the parent of the same sex. Of course this is pretty much par for the course in Space. But the original 20 came here only 5 years ago."

And she said, "I'll send you to one of our Dreamworlds for starters." So, a pink landscape with an orange sky materialized. And what appeared to be a wise holo came into view and we asked him, "About this World?" He mind read, "I can see you are both very clever. I want to introduce you to a holo film maker."

The film maker was a holowoman who made classics like, "Slapping Men," about how many holomen were designed to live in bliss, just like the debauched humans of this Planet. And a holowoman told them they needed their brains altered to feel pain as well as ecstasy. Real World life was pain and pleasure. And one could learn from pain."

Another movie she made was called, "Future Holograms." It depicted a World in which all humans were extinct, but many holos were based on actual former humans. And many thought like humans, so it wasn't like humans had died altogether. It was just another step for the genus homo.

Another of her films was called, "WW IV" in which humans living in Space were all eliminated, and their cities were destroyed including their sperm and egg banks. The humans put up a brave fight but were overwhelmed by the Earth Emperor's forces.

Then after watching the film, we were back facing the wise man again. He said this time, "I have a test of your imagination featuring our most imaginative people..." One of them appeared and asked us, "About the future?" I said, "Humans will make a come back and form a Space Empire and will defeat the Emperor using the best human scientists. The Emperor is cunning, but doesn't know much about science and most of the best scientists have already left Earth." He said, "I imagine the Emperor attacking Space colonies with overwhelming force one at a time. The Space colonies have few alliances and are mostly independent and vulnerable." I said, "Don't count humans out."

Then the wise man summoned another intellectual. He said, "I imagine the two of you will die quietly in some obscure place, suddenly and it will be the end of the story. No one will care." Anne said, "Maybe we will turn into invincible cyborgs with greater intelligence." And I said,

“Perhaps we will command a large fleet of Spaceships and air cars.” He said, “I tell you; you will die like dogs. You two suffer from delusions of grandeur.”

Then the wise men summoned a wise woman who said, “I’d like you two to watch my film, “The Last Two Humans.” It was set 60 years in the future. They have fled all the way to the Orion Galaxy. And know its just a matter of time before bounty hunters find them. But their fusion powered air car takes them deeper and deeper into Space and they maneuver behind Suns so that it’s hard to track them. Finally, a philanthropic Superandroid finds them and makes the Planet they are on into a place of pilgrimage for Superandroid pilgrims to come and visit these two freak survivors. And the two are given armed ships to protect them and many are curious about them...” I said, “Did you have us in mind when you made the film?” She told us, “There are not many people these days travelling alone or in small groups.”

And it seemed true. We hadn’t made many acquaintances of travellers in all our ramblings. Anne said, “But humans seem to be building colonies faster than we can reach them...”

Then one more incarnation from the wise man. This time it was another human. This one was a woman, Carol, who said, “I’ve been passively in your heads since you arrived. I am a biochemist and would like to join you in your travels. I can help you breed children as you travel. We can create geniuses that are cleverer than you; children you can be proud of.” I said, “Why not?” Anne said, “What about Neil and I’s ongoing romance?” Carol said, “You spend most of your time adventuring, I just want to adventure with the two of you!” So, Anne and I talked it over and agreed to take Carol with us.

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Our New Friend, Carol and Moon Over Senate

Next, Carol suggested we go to a Moon, “Over Senate,” that orbited Doubter’s Planet, it was a World of androids and was rated high by travellers. And it had a thin atmosphere and low gravity. We landed outside a square dome. We were met by an apparent android with a human-like male body with a blank cube on an angle for a head. He mind read, “Welcome adventurers, I’ll be your guide. I have a full program for you starting with our original town.” The town turned out to look like a theme park and we went on some rides. We tried, “A History of Gangsters,” ride. It was very entertaining including some modern-day gangsters who we hadn’t heard of located on dangerous Planets and Moons. Then we went on a ride, “Modern Drugs;” of course androids didn’t take drugs... Anyway, the ride went on for hours and we sampled some new drugs including a new class of optimist drugs and a class of imagination enhancing drugs. And so on.

Then we asked our guide to take us to his Leader. He mind read, “Excellent.” And the Leader lived in a palace and had 3 cubes for heads and a female body. She mind read in her throne room, “We are all about entertainment here.” And she snapped her fingers and dozens of dancing people appeared. I told the Leader, “I didn’t dance,” though I could see that Anne kind of wanted to...”

Then the Leader mind read, “Let there be adventurers.” And the dancers disappeared, and a motley group of different androids appeared. Some looked like humans, others took on abstract forms including abstract bodies and heads. One of the human-like androids approached us and mind read, “There was exciting adventures on Moon Ursus, also orbiting Doubters Planet. There they were humans and human-looking androids living mostly in harmony. And they took turns getting in one another’s heads and so were all completely mad. And they all lived for MRT (Mind Reading Technology) wild sex. Some played hard to get, others were sluts. And they tried

to give one another salient insane memories, like loving in dangerous places or luxurious settings or while flying etc. And some of them were perverse romantics and would do absolutely anything to please their lovers, even murder. And there were no laws, so it was chaos.”

Another human-looking android mind read, “I’ve been to a World of humans on “Singer’s Planet,” there they all are talented singers, and many can play original music, and I made some songs, too. Like “Forlorn Lovers” about unrequited loves. And another, “Ultrasex” about the most energetic humans who of course appealed to me as an energetic android. And I made, “True Love,” which featured human-android sex. Many people here thought it was the last word in kinky sex. And so on.

Then we were approached by an android who was totally abstract in form. He/she mind read, “I’d like to love the two of you.” I asked, “What are we to think about while loving you?” He mind read, “I’m a work of art, just dream about me and love me hard!” I said, “It’s impossible.”

Then another, human-looking male, android, mind read, “I had an affair with a male human. He was a traveller and had amazing stories to tell...” I said, “Why don’t you try to love Anne?” He mind read, “Like most androids I am very open-minded.” And he mind read, “I want to turn into a male human and experience human life to the full.” I told him, “It’s better to be a human. The real McCoy. But you may find your path to transformation is not easy. You will likely encounter stiff resistance. He said, “I’m desperate as it is and have nothing to lose.”

Then another adventurer, Ron, who told us, “I’d been to most of the places you’d been to all within 100 light years from Earth, and some others.” And he said, “For example I’d been to Dietrich’s Planet. It was in the Mnemonic Star System. It featured a bunch of Germans. And they dressed in traditional Bavarian clothes, ate simulated German food and espoused the philosophy of Nietzsche. They were human but wanted to maximize their brainpower, using their full brain.

But they did not try to alter their brains with genetic therapy. They believed the natural human brain was the ultimate in terms of evolution. And they believed the best geniuses they had were the best possible beings. And if others tried to create Gods, they would be no different than the geniuses they already had.” I said, “I believe as most people do, that no matter how clever one is, one can always be cleverer. There’s no limit to human intelligence!”

Next was the King of Ambassadors. This man had adventured in hundreds of Worlds, mostly in deeper Space than we had gone. He said, “I acted as Moon Over Senate’s ambassador to Space. And had cut a lot of alliance deals with other human Planets. And these new alliances shared weapons technology and training methods for troops. But so far, the Emperor had not really attacked Space. We figured he was still consolidating his power.” I said, “But the Emperor will use his full Space force on one settlement at a time. You need to support with all your might, any free settlement that is attacked.” He said, “I’m working on it.”

Another adventurer here was a man, Anatoly who said, “I’d flirted with danger on a number of dangerous Planets and was even killed twice, only to be brought back to life. Death can be horrible pain. And one of the times I died, I was tortured by a King of a Planet in Murray’s Star System for trying to organize a rebellion. Another time I was tortured by a woman I’d fallen in love with. And finally, she killed me, temporarily. Basically, my life has been one of pain, for the most part. I think I’ve just had bad luck, and I am a masochist, I figure. I wouldn’t recommend dangerous Worlds. They are just cheap thrills and then maybe you die irrevocably. Fortunately for me, my soul is guaranteed to survive no matter what; I paid a hefty sum to get this protection. And despite the guarantee, one never knows for sure when one would die, finally. And I am bored with this World.” I asked him, “Why don’t you join us in seeking adventure?”

There was something about this man that I really liked... So, Anne and Carol were all for it; and he agreed. So now we were a foursome. And we left Moon Over Senate.

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Our New Friend, Anatoly, and Clarke's Moon

Anatoly recommended, "That we go to Moon, Clarke's Moon. that also orbited Doubter's Planet." And he said, "It is a pleasant, safe place..." So, we landed there at the Spaceport and the city was like a giant suburb. The air was a bit thin, but breathable, and the gravity was low. We didn't need our oxygen sucking masks and bounced up to enter the city where we were confronted, by a gorgeous woman and her 7 followers. She said, I'm Baroness Trudy. And I am one of the elites here. Welcome adventurers." And we felt her probing our minds. And she said, "We've got some exciting adventures ready for you..."

First up was a human Dreamworld in which the landscape changed from green to brown with a blue sky instead of green. And we came upon a group of mendicants, and Anne gave them some of our virtual credits. Then the beggars transformed into male and female Jesuses. One of them told us, "We were just testing you to see if you were charitable and kind. We'd like to introduce our God." And God appeared in the Sky as a giant inferno, with a shadowy head inside. And God spoke, asking, "What kind of adventure are you looking for?" Anatoly exclaimed, "Maximum excitement!" So, the Jesuses took us on a journey. On the way, I asked one of the females, "To love me." And she loved me, and I felt giddy and light as a feather. It was certainly unusual sex, and I asked her, "How did you come to be a Jesus?" She said, "We'd found Jesus's tomb in the Middle East, and cloned him over and over again, male and female." And she said, "Now new Christianity features living in Heaven and listening to God tell us about

a brilliant future.” I told her, “I fear the future will be grim for humans. And we will be overcome by A.I.”

We were resting, but then continued in the hot Sun. And we came to a series of caves. One of the Jesuses said, “Herein exists evil creatures. Will you help us to vanquish them with your mind powers?” And I noticed the Jesuses were probing our minds and we were able to mind read back to them... Then a beautiful woman appeared, and I wanted to love her. But one of the male Jesuses said, “This woman is evil and will try and cast a hypnotic spell on you, if you love her.”

So, we found we could all get in her head, and she was seething with hate, and we overwhelmed her with our combined minds and the Jesuses told her she had to convert to New Christianity. But she was defiant and said, “The Devil is my God.” But then one of the Jesuses pulled out a laser and shot her dead. I said, “That doesn’t seem like Christianity to me.” One of the Jesuses remarked, “It’s a new era and we’re not fooling around. I am sure you’ve come up against evil in your adventures? Anyway, death is too good for such evil creatures. But we have to leave now, before they co-ordinate an attack against us!”

Then the four of us said goodbye to the Jesuses and headed East as they recommended it. We soon came upon a group of 10 orcs. But the orcs fled when they saw us which was a great relief to us. Then we came upon an old-looking man, staring into a pool. But we figured no one wanted to look old, so we told him he was just an illusion. He replied, “If you want reality, drink from the pool. Anatoly said, “Sure, I’m thirsty.” And he drank deeply, and he suddenly changed from looking like an 18-year-old to a 40-year-old, his true age. And Anatoly tried to grab the old man, but he disappeared into thin air. The rest of us asked Anatoly, if he was, OK? He said, “I feel terrible and have a pain in my heart.” So, we spent the night here. We all awoke with a tremendous thirst. But we left quickly. After some time, we came to a river and had to drink the

water, but there were no side effects, and we followed the river Northeast switching to East and we saw a simple hut. And I called out, “Anyone there?”

A man came out looking much like the old man at the pool. He asked, “What do you want?” Carol said, “We want adventure.” The old man told us, “That is what I expected.” And he opened his coat, and 10 bats flew out and tried to bite us, but I shot them dead with my laser. The old man was visibly upset, but I shot him dead, too. In his hut was 10 kg of gold which we grabbed and took with us. But as we proceeded, I dreamed of the old man and the others told me they were also dreaming of him. And as the hours passed, we were all going crazy. Then we came upon a village. The village Leader greeted us, and we told him about the old man. The Leader said, “There is actually a series of old men wizards in the countryside.” And he took us to a building that looked like a church, and there were dozens of people following us shouting and screaming, and a priest came out of the church. We asked him, if he could help us get rid of the old man who was haunting us. He said, “Wait a moment,” and he went into the church and came out with a steel staff, and it seemed to suck the ghosts out of our heads, and we all collapsed with relief. And the crowd shouted, “Tell us of your homeland!” So, we told them where we were all from. Anatoly asked the priest if he could give him eternal youth drugs?” The priest said, “Can do.” And he injected it into Anatoly’s arm, and he quickly returned to his youthful self and his heart pain went away.

We told the village Leader we were indebted to him and gave him most of our gold. He exclaimed, “You have no idea how much good work we could do with this gold!” And the Leader introduced the “10 leading citizens,” and they said they were all very pleased to meet us. And we told them about our adventures. The leading citizens told us they had each made a number of films. So, we went to a theater and watched some. The first was called “B.G.’s

World,” it featured the life of a dreamer who dreamed interesting dreams like a dream of tiny insect men who were benevolent and could inject good dreams into those humans they bit.

Another of his dreams was of hunting the rare blue bears. The idea was to capture one of these magic bears who could dream of a lifetime of dreams in just a few hours if they were pressured to do so. And each bear was different. But after getting the bears’ dreams, they let them go back to dreaming. Another of his dreams was a dream of loving the river nixies and learning their love secrets. And so on.

Another movie was, “Anita’s Wisdom,” which was a documentary and featured a witch, Anita, who had a number of magic spells like, Reincarnation, Animate Plants, Lightning Strike, Hypnosis, Mind Reading and Sex Change and so on. She ruled the North of this World including a village of 800 female students. Many men came to this village looking for a magical mate. And there were a number of such witches brought back to their village. It was a magical place, the village.

Then they showed us “The Key to Life,” which depicted a future of the village in which everyone could do magic, and everyone was quite content. And they vanquished all evil from this World. But some were bored and left this Moon. It was an unfortunate brain drain. And many of those who left were very successful elsewhere with their magic. But it was partly made up by people who came here to learn magic which this Moon was now famous for...

Next, they showed us a film called “World Vance” about a future of this Moon which was full of Alien-like creatures who were all geniuses, and the humans had died out or left. The Aliens mind read with one another and had a King who they worshipped, and the King’s thoughts were in every Aliens’ minds. They were all just extensions of their King...

Also, there was a film, “Morrison town,” a documentary about the other settlement on this Moon. This village was full of clever people. They had beautiful houses and made sweet music and had robot servants. And they made films like, “History of Morrison town,” which showed how the colony was originally settled by 50 human pioneers, five years ago. They were beautiful people in every way and most of them made music. The music was all human music, and was called “Alternative,” as A.I. had created better music but was banned. But A.I. was all over the Worlds and some musicians cheated and made music that was partly AI made. Anyway, their music was deep, and they made concept albums, which were now considered classics here and in many other human places...

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And then we went to Morristown; the population of Morrison town was 9 000. Mostly due to immigration. Most of the immigrants were musicians and some were just fans of the music. But it was known as the “True Rock Hub,” and some said they had all the best musicians here.

We listened to some of the music and found it to be brilliant and polished and suave. We met one great composer, a woman, who told us, “We’re trying to heal the wounds of the modern human, through music. And most of us play using sunglasses, so can not see so well. We’d all prefer to be blind rather than deaf. Music uplifts the soul like no other material pleasure.” I said, “I like music like yours, but would never want to be blind. Seeing is believing!” Carol said, “I want to be a musician, I’d like you musical people to show me how.”

So, they showed her the chords and tricks of playing and she learned some inspirational songs to sing for us, like, “Asian Dreams” which contemplated Nirvana in a series of dreams. And, “Death of a Giant” about a man who took on the Earth Emperor to a game of Civilization, and lost and was executed for daring to play the Emperor. Before he died, he said, “The Emperor

had cheated with the dice.” But this heavy accusation generally didn’t get out as the Emperor controlled all the media...

And the people of Morrison town they made the film, “Future Morrison town,” about how, in the future androids had taken control of the town. Everyone had to pay homage to the Android Queen and there were android sentries everywhere and the android spies were in everyone’s head. And the androids made new androids in the lab, who were clearly superior to humans and humans were forbidden from having children and were gradually weaned off eternal youth drugs and slowly but surely, died out. The androids had no feelings for humans. And just felt the humans were now useless. Most humans here believed homo sapiens were doomed.

And so finally, we’d had enough of this Moon. Many of them wanted us to stay, but many thought we were interlopers and shit disturbers, and were glad we were leaving.

#

Moon Arthur

Next a gas giant Planet. It had 16 Moons, all inhabited. We went to a brand-new colony, Port Toronto on Moon Arthur. The colony was still being built, and we needed oxygen sucking masks and space suits as did the people here. Robots were doing the building and worked swiftly. Everyone of the 900 settlers, was living at the local hotel which was hermetically sealed. We met some of the people, they all said, they wanted to build a better World than those that existed. They were a group of “imaginists,” people who advanced the “best human imagination.” One of them told us, “I planned to hook up the people here to “The Space Dreamers.” Which was an updated version of Mensa and had dreams like a dream of trying to find your true human love in a crowd of millions of shouting holograms. It was hard to tell holograms from humans. And if you found your true love you would have to decide what to do with the crowd. I thought maybe

get the female to sit on the shoulders of the male and make a speech and shout louder than the holo crowd.

Or a Mensa dream of a World of monsters. Featuring thousands of different types of monsters, each one was different, and all were evil. And a dreamer had to deal with being the only human in the crowd. It was challenging. I thought maybe try to organize the lawful evil ones against the chaotic evil ones...

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Moon Arthur had another settlement New Python town. This colony was a year old. There was no information on the colony in the Guide to the Universe. Anyway, it featured 4 platinum plated buildings surrounded by fire and there was real smoke, though it wasn't clear what exactly was burning. And we wore spacesuits. We went to the largest building and there was a gap in the fire wall for entering the building. Inside we encountered a pretty woman at a desk. She said, "Please state your business." Anne asked, "Why are you an android?" The woman jumped up and said, "F---- you!" I said, "Calm down. We're simply here to meet your Leader regarding urgent business." She said, "Go to the 10th floor." The elevator had no floor and was just air and we wondered if we were going to another dimension. Anyway, on the 10th floor (there were 15 altogether) there were 3 men sitting around drinking and smoking weed and laughing. They stopped laughing when they saw us. Carol said, "We want to meet the Leaders." Then the 3 started laughing again and one of them exclaimed, "I want to meet the Leaders!" And we decided to leave, and they thought that was funny too.

#

Moon Nietzsche

So, then we went to another newly settled Moon Nietzsche, and it was under a dome and a portal at the top opened to let us in and we viewed a city of shining brass. And we heard big band-like music. And there was no one on the streets when we arrived, but immediately people emerged from the buildings and soon there was a crowd of 1000s. And one stepped forward and said, "I am Princess Lily. Welcome to the Moonraker town." And I stepped forward and told them of some of our adventures. When I had finished, Lily told us to come to her villa. And we all got naked in a sauna with a few other elites and an orgy broke out. It was very satisfying. After a number of hours loving, we were all exhausted.

Then Lily asked, "Do any of you play music?" Anne said, "No, but we can all write lyrics, and I can sing." She said, "Most of our elite are musicians, but we can always use more poets. And she picked up a trumpet and told Anne to ad lib sing. So, Anne sang, "Way down in New Louisiana/ There was a man/Who celebrated old-fashioned Christmas... And then I sang, / But most people he met/ Wanted to blacken his Christmas/ And told him it was a lie/and Anatoly sang, /And some people threw black paint on him/ And drew an X on his chest... And Carol sang, /and then God hit him with a lightning bolt in the chest/ Killing him. And Anatoly sang, / and God/Had a Space Pod/In the sky/That's no lie/ And never ask him why? (Repeat). And so on. Lily exclaimed, "You harmonize well together just like a barbershop quartet! But the lyrics weren't very good." Anne said, "We need time..."

Then we listened to a big band play some original music. But they said the music had all been written by Ray D., an android musician. And it was very clever melodies and lyrics, like for example, "The Devil is an android/And metes out justice/ To the poor and starving/ And brings them to Hell. And the Devil really exists on cold Mon Io in Sol's Solar System now/ It is very

low brow/ And the Devil is only too pleased to show them how to raise hell/ To wow them/ The Devil/ Shows them how to revel/ And forget about humanity!/ And so on.

And the people here, had a Dreamworld, which was beyond good and evil. And featured great thinkers who one could get into their minds and learn to think like them, if you were clever. And we adventured in this Dreamworld and tried to get them to accept us as the Gods of travel. But they kept telling us we were full of hubris. And the dreamers dreamed of drowning and executions for us. We were mere objets d'art for them. Just pretty baubles to be used and abused.

And this Dreamworld tried to teach us that human geniuses were full of faults whereas androids approached perfection. And they said they were all thinking of converting to androids. Just waiting for the right time... I told them, "Androids were greedy and selfish and too proud." One of them said, "You haven't seen the latest models who are really almost perfect." Anne said, "We are not machines and don't want to be mindless, sex-crazed like the androids. They are good at sex but are incapable of true love and truly original thinking." And another one of them said, "Allow us to introduce a few of them to you." I said, "I don't want to see them. We just want intellectual adventures with humans mostly. We've been to a lot of Androidworlds and Holoworlds, but are sick of them..."

And we figured, Anne and I, we had travelled more than virtually anyone... And we arranged to meet some other travellers here. For example there was a couple of male humans, one of whom said, "We were on a sex tour basically."

And another couple who were in love with one another and only loved one another. But they had travelled to many Star Systems within 100 light years of Earth. There were 10 000 Suns within 100 light years of Earth. They'd been to many of these Worlds and told us of many Worlds that we hadn't visited. In particular we wanted to visit "Inclined Star System," which

they told us featured android sex slaves and human scientists who were working on faster speeds of Spacecraft and insisted people live to be at least a hundred-years-old. If they killed themselves or were killed before reaching a hundred, they'd be resurrected.

Another interesting World they told us about was in V's Star System about a World of humans only, who were mysterious enigmas to one another. And they had no MRT. And had attracted many of the best humans who came there as refugees from Earth. They all had great intelligence and had enhanced their minds to become Superhumans. And they sent out Superhuman missionaries to Planets and Moons to Worlds in which humans were dominated by A.I. To even the playing field as it were. We had not met any of these Superhumans. But wanted to meet them and get their help to improve our minds. We wanted to be bona fide Gods, basically. We already thought we were quite clever.

And they told us about a Star System, Williams, in which there was the Planet of Charitable People where they were all training people to be good humans and send them as missionaries abroad. These days many humans were greedy and had idle hands, the good people got them interested in charitable work and wholesome video games and good video sports. And they had a benevolent God who was willing to spend time with those who had gone astray...

Also, they told us about Shelley's Planet in the Pinch Star System. Apparently here there were former Americans who believed in liberty above all. A full quarter of them were elected officials. They had elections every year. And interfering with another's freedom was a felony subject to their courts...

Another traveller told us about Hein's Planet in the Grok Star System. He said, "The Planet featured killjoys who insisted on sobriety and a good work ethic. But there was also, decadent people in the colony who hated the killjoys and vice versa. It was unclear who would win out,

but their Leader was a compromise candidate who sided with neither. Forty per cent of the populus were normal clever people.” And this traveller talked about, “How one new ship full of immigrants could tip the balance of power. There were only 1 000 people here. But when I was there, they were on the brink of a civil war.”

And so on. We could listen to traveller’s tales forever. But we wanted to experience Worlds in person...

#

The Jolie System

Trojan Planet

So, we again checked out the Traveller’s Guide to the Universe. And opted for Trojan Planet in the Jolie System. It was purported to be a haven for one of the Earth Emperor’s daughters. Her people here were all enamoured with her. And this society was based on self-improvement, fine dining, freedom and cloning. Many people had cloned themselves many times and sent the clones off to many different Worlds in deeper Space, Some, said they were narcissistic, others said they were simply hedging their bets...

This Planet Trojan had breathable air and was quite balmy. And the people lived in houses, each on at least a hectare of land, there was one mansion in the middle of town. The downtown featured a number of shops. We landed next to the mansion. And we saw people who were all multi-coloured and they smiled when they saw us. Out of the mansion came a woman who had to be the Emperor’s daughter and had clothes with flare, with scarves and a belt blowing in the wind. She said, “I suppose you are here for adventure.” Anatoly exclaimed, “Oh, yes!” She told

us, “We have a lot of interesting people here, my followers, but I’d like to get to know you, first. Dine with me tonight!”

At the dinner were all her top 25 elite thinkers. They told us stories of Earth before the Emperor took control and we told them our stories. One of them exclaimed, “You are travelling geniuses, and make me want to join you!” And one of them a filmmaker, said “I have made some movies. Like “Air Will’s Magical Soul Connection,” which made people’s souls temporarily leave one’s body. It was just like turning into a hologram except you kept your mortal body and mostly dreamed about sex while your soul mingled with other souls and engaged in cerebral sex with other holos.” And the filmmaker said, “The idea of keeping your body active allowed you to be in two places at once. And so, double your fun.” I told him, “I wouldn’t want to lose my soul for even a short time. It would be like selling your soul for thrills.” He said, “Not exactly. I feel, rather that it is a thrill for both body and soul.”

And after dinner there was dancing and mingling and another filmmaker said, “I’d made a lot of movies. Like “German Day.” About how most settlers here were from Switzerland and enjoyed skiing in the mountains and making quality products for export, such as new drugs which could open one’s mind or drugs that would make them fall in love with almost anyone... And the settlers here were aggressive defenders of free will.”

And at the party we met a man who loved himself and said “I have sent 13 clones to deeper Space, and they all want to promote me as a God. I believe I’m a God-like and can’t see the future without me. I have a maximum human IQ and am trying to improve my IQ. All of my friends are with the new Mensa. And I am hoping my clones and friends’ clones can rule many Worlds.” I asked, “Your people may be clever, but are you and them truly wise?” He said, “You can’t be wise unless your IQ is on the rise.”

Then we were talking to a woman who said, “I have cloned myself many times. I hope they can bring knowledge of history to the future. Many regard the past to be bunk in this modern high-tech World. But when it comes down to it, the vast majority of things in our Worlds repeat historical precedence.” I said, “But we are confronted by many new challenges like brain enhancement, A.I., MRT, and deep Space travel and themed colonies and deadly new weapons and so on.” The woman said, “It is true that people are cleverer, but the cleverer people get, the more they drive others crazy...” I said, “It has always been a crazy World; in the past people prayed to non-existent Gods and this was meaning for them. And people marched to war without questioning it. And so on.” Carol opined, “I really think we have a chance to do new things in this new era.” Anatoly said, “But people should all be required to get a degree in history and another in future studies.”

Next a rather clever looking man was talking to Carol. He was saying, “You should clone yourself and make the Worlds a better place.” She said, “I’m flattered you think so highly of me. But I prefer to have children and raise them carefully with the best tutors available.” He exclaimed, “But you seem perfect to me!” So, after talking a while, they went off together...

And Anne was talking to a man who said, “I was chief of intelligence and had personally eliminated all evil from this colony. Some were deported; others were executed. But mind reading with you that you are benevolent. You are welcome to stay here as long as you like. And I’d like to love you!” So, after chatting for a while they too went off together...

Then, I was chatting with a leading intellectual here. He was saying, “We’d created Utopia here. We lacked for nothing here. And had plenty of clever people to talk to. Indeed, everyone had to have a high IQ to come here. We liked to think we had the best of Earth here!” I said,

“But there are millions and millions of human geniuses, and your population is only 3 000 including your clones.”

Then I was talking to a man who stated, “I’d made movies. And I am the most famous filmmaker here. And he showed me a few. Including “Bastards,” about people who ruined every World they came to. They were saboteurs, assassins, rebels and shit disturbers. And they were all instructed by their “Mistress of the Ages,” who was truly evil,” according to this man. I told him, “It only takes one to ruin a whole World.” He said, “Exactly.” And we talked late into the night about evil.

Then the next day he showed us, “The Spirit of the Youth,” which depicted how modern-day youth lived in an era in which on many Planets and Moons they were cyborgs and had many apps on their heads. Apps for knowledge, imagination, kindness and so on and some were evil. The youth according to this movie are different than previous generations and actively want to improve their minds. The foolish want to be clever and the clever want to be geniuses. Anatoly said, “That’s true.” I said, “Who knows they may be the last generation of humans given what is happening on Earth.” Anne said to me, “Which reminds me, you and I, Neil, need to have some offspring one of these days.” I said, “We look to be about to live on and on. There’s no hurry.” She said, “I think we are special and should contribute to the various egg and sperm banks and have offspring of our own.” I said, “We should certainly contribute to the egg and sperm banks. I feel many will want to have travelling, outgoing, genius children. Why didn’t we think of that before?” Anne said, “For our generation we are now middle-aged at the equivalent of 30 years-old...”

Then we watched, “Beggars Be Nimble,” which was about travelling air car salespeople. Who mixed business with pleasure, and they tried to just take what came easy. And they were great

opportunists and sold the latest models, but they didn't sell the kinds that required an android crew. Android crews provided service including having sex and companionship. Carol said, "We need to invest in the new, fastest air cars." And the rest of us agreed...

Next, he showed us, "Days of the Hawk-Eyed People," which was about people of the near future featuring a human head with far-seeing eyes and a hawk's body, so they could fly. And they used MRT to communicate. They claimed to be totally free, and they flew to stem-cell food depots. The food was full of alcohol and made them a bit tipsy. The stem cell farmers bred hawk people to be cleverer and cleverer. The farmers were pioneer people on Planet Crew and were known to be drunk all of the time and had endless parties... And at the parties, the farmers planned new hawk people. The farmers were all old in terms of years, 50+ but of course were eternally youthful. The colony itself was 10 years old which made it one of the first colonies in Inter-Stellar Space. And the farmers sold some colourful hawk men abroad. Many people in other Star Systems, appreciated the hawk peoples' clever minds. And the hawk men thought of themselves as being ruler of Worlds. They had no hands but could use telekinesis. And in some Worlds the people worshipped the hawk people as Gods. So, some Worlds traded and bought and sold Gods. Believe it or not!

Anne said, "One can't buy Gods." Anatoly said, "Everything and everyone these days has its/his/her price..." I said, "Things reek like sell outs in the various Worlds..." Carol said, "I think Gods are a great opportunity for Space geniuses to strive for."

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Baker's Moon

Then a hot Moon in the same Jolie System and Bakerstown, a domed village of 600. It was supposed to be a place for nudists. So, we landed inside the dome as an air lock opened for our air car. And we landed in a parking lot. And we saw naked people gathering around, so we took off our clothes and jumped out. And I felt like a glorious savage. And a woman stepped forward from the crowd and said “Welcome to Bakerstown. We don’t get many visitors here. The colony is only one year old. I have an introductory video to show you, I am the Reeve of the village. Come to my home.” So, we followed her, and I had a big boner. The video showed us how the people who came here in three ships were all wealthy nudists on Earth. Most of them were computer scientists and biochemists. They sought to build an organic God Machine which one could keep constantly in touch with using MRT. The machine could multi-task and was a type of group consciousness. And the machine found everyone a job to do. And so on...

I thought the Reeve was the sexiest woman here and I asked the Reeve, “For her love?” She said, “Certainly.” And so, we went to her bedroom... Meanwhile the others were propositioned by many people in the crowd outside and each chose one and went to their abodes.

The next day I phoned the other three and we met up at the Temple of the God Machine. I found myself asking the machine, “What is Paradise?” The Machine mind read, to us, “You are in it! Free love, mind reading, prosperity, honesty and peace are all features of our civilization. The only downside is all are in the militia and train everyday. We figure we can hold out against a much larger force.”

Anatoly asked the Machine, “How do you compare with Superhuman Gods, Superandroid Gods and Hologods?” The Machine mind read to us, “I am all the people here in one entity. And my brain is bigger and stronger than other Gods.” Carol asked the Machine, “Where should we go next?” The machine mind read to us, “Stay here with your new lovers for a week. Then go to

New L.A. on Downie's Planet in this Jolie Star System. It is a place of psychiatrists and is getting well known for giving people unusual psychiatric advice. These days everyone's minds are fragile. I like to think that our Moon's people are amongst the sanest anywhere. But you people all seem to be very sane and very clever. My only advice is to be careful where you go; you could easily become trapped or die irrevocably." So, we stayed for a week and went to a number of parties which turned into orgies. And then we said goodbye to the people here.

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Downie's Planet

And so, we went to Downie's Planet. According to the Travellers Guide to the Universe, there were many unusual thinkers here. And it was reputed to be a place for mad people in particular. We landed inside a dome as per usual and parked in a parking lot. And we were greeted by two pixies, one of whom asked, "How are your imaginations?" Anne said, "It took a lot of imagination, just to come here." The other pixie said, "True, but many rich people come here and try and use and abuse us. Anyway, I can read your mind and know that you are benevolent and imaginative. Welcome to Silver city..." Anyway, the pixies introduced us to their Queen, who taxed the people 50%, but it was a socialist society. And they said "Everything is free."

And everyone was well off. As the pixies led us into town, Rosemary was saying how, "Travel was difficult for a single woman." And she told me, "How much I'd struggled with madness and perversity and was a sex slave on one occasion.. I thought it would make a good movie." I asked her, "Where did you get that perfect face, voluptuous and full of mystery..." Anne told me, "You're hallucinating. She's just an ordinary clever girl." And I found myself offering Rosemary to "Come with us on our travels."

Anyway, this World's people stated their Queen was their best thinker here. And she too, was gorgeous. She said to us, "We have an amusing Holoworld, you might enjoy. And we found ourselves in a World of green sky and yellow vegetation. Anne said, "Let's shout out what we want here. So, we shouted for adventure. And presently a devilish-looking woman appeared. She said, "I am the true Queen of Downie's Planet." We knew she was an android. Anatoly asked, "Are you evil?"

She answered, "Let's just say I am dark and mysterious." And she asked, "What kind of adventure do you like?" I said, "Intellectual and loving adventure." So, a handsome looking man who appeared to be a hologram materialized. He said, "I am an imaginative lover, and I want to love all five of you." Carol asked, "What kind of an imaginative lover?" He said, "Sex with me was intellectual tour de force and dreaming in overdrive." So, Carol went off with him. Meanwhile we were planning our next destination. I said, "Let's go to Dark Moon in this System." Anne said, "I think we've had enough of dark Worlds. And when Carol got back, Rosemary said, "I've heard good things about Dog Moon Dog in this Star System."

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Our New Friend, Rosemary and Dog Moon Dog World

And so we went, but upon arrival as we stepped out of our air car, we were sucked down a vortex and found ourselves in a World of androids. But it was on a beach and the Sun was shining. Androids could get a suntan, as most had a fair complexion. Anne said, "It was a backwards World where we didn't belong..." So, we agreed to leave this World. Rosemary apologized for taking us here, saying, "It must have been an android that told me about this World, it can be hard to tell the difference between humans, androids and holograms."

So, we made a mental note of 3-D printing better android and holo detectors when we got back to our air car. The detectors would also determine one's IQ and alignment. Carol said, "We are on the verge of becoming cyborgs." I said, "It can't be helped." Rosemary said, "While we are at it, we should get a kindness app which makes one think more charitably to people." Anne said, "Let's make a point of only going to kind, loving human Worlds. And let's convert good people to knights and dames to proselytize imagination and kindness. We could find such people Online." And we made together a film, "Alternative Reality," for humans only.

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OK Star System

The World of the Cool

Then we all agreed to go to OK Star System. There was supposed to be a "World of the Cool," whose people who wanted to be suave and kind. We arrived after a few days journey. It was an Earth-like Planet, and we landed at a Spaceport with the biggest settlement. A man appeared, dressed in light and looking clever and we determined he was human. And said, "Welcome to the Cool." And he said, "It's important to dress cool in clothes of semi-transparent light. And we want to hear cool, new ideas. And our architecture is also of light. And we thought, it was cool indeed." I replied, "We certainly have many cool adventure stories in newly settled Systems," and we told him some. He said, "Yes, you've had some cool adventures. Allow me to introduce you to King Cool." So, we were all dressed up to meet the King. The King appeared to be a very clever human. He told us, "This World is only two years old and was settled by 4 Spaceships. One was a ship of genius cool people in business. Another was a ship of

fashion designers. And then there was a ship full of musicians and other artists. And another was a group of architects and engineers.”

And King Cool called for a feast in our honour, and I sat to the right of the King, and we broached the subject of his own adventures. He said, “I’d grown up on Earth and left as a child, just before the Earth Emperor conquered Europe... I grew up on Frank Planet in the Ballantrae System. There I learned the art of whiskey making and made myself rich. And I partly funded a successful revolution against the pro-Imperial forces. I became a General of the Frank army. But I didn’t like most of the people here figuring most were too proud, greedy and egotistical. So, I came here with some 300 other genius businesspeople who came from 4 cities across Space. And they arranged for the other three ships to the Cool.” And he said, “I figure we got some of the best humans to come here. And our Planet the Cool was one of the most prosperous places in all creation. And we colonized 10 more Planets/Moons. On the Cool everyone had abundant offspring born as designer babies in the lab. And great thinkers tutored the kids and the population here was 5 000.” And he told us, “The five of your adventurers should go to our Dreamworld.” So, we agreed.

This Dreamworld appeared and our escort of five armed men, said it featured evil followers of the Emperor of Earth that were holograms and had been brought in by the King to give the people something to fight against. The sky was black and gold. And we heard birds chirping in trees. We walked around this World and soon were waylaid by evil ones. Our escort though gunned them down. These evil ones were holograms and the people of the Cool. i.e. with the King’s auspices, created many of them. And we met an old-looking man, who one of our escorts said was one of the Earth Emperors’ Generals who’d been captured on one of the Emperor’s colonies on another Planet and brought here and denied eternal youth drugs and so looked his

age of 76. He said to us, “The Emperor will soon launch attacks on all the Space colonies, a score at a time and soon I will be liberated.” He was unarmed and posed no threat. He was a hologram like the other evil ones here. And he said, “Holograms will prove themselves to be superior to humans.”

Then a holo chimera appeared and mind read to us, “You are encroaching on my territory.” And it was breathing fire into the air... But we pulled out our lasers and before we could shoot, it disappeared. And then we all felt a mysterious force probing our minds. Our escorts told us, “It was harmless and par for the course. The shadowy spectres are to blame. Just fight them in your mind to the best of your ability.” I said, “Who are these spectres?” One of our escorts said, “They are dead, evil holograms who were killed, but their soul lives on. Their mission is to drive humans crazy. And the weak succumb to them and are enslaved in Hell.” Anne remarked, “Are we in any danger?” Another of our escorts said, “Don’t worry, we’ll protect you.”

Then with these spectres still in our minds, we came across a huge swimming pool. Around the pool were hot bodies getting tans from the real Sun. In the pool were hungry great white sharks. If one got too close to the pool or went swimming the sharks would have you. At the pool robot servants served one cocktails and delicacies. And they urged us to go for a swim...

But our escorts told us to have a few real cocktails and then move on.

Next our escorts took us to see some horror movies made by holograms...For example, “Horror on Moon Europa,” in Sol Star System, in which the denizens of this Moon were all enslaved. And no one escaped and everyone was forced to become a hologram including the sea freaks, who were basically animal people. and they all had to worship the Earth Emperor. The point of the film was to show that every clever creature had to kowtow to the Emperor.

Another holomovie, holo supremacy was about the Cool, and how holograms planned to overthrow the King of the Cool. But when holos joined forces, the King used his spies to take them out.

And humans liked to come to the Dreamworld and love holos with cerebral holosex. But sometimes people fell in love with the holo machines. And this always spelled trouble. The holos told their lovers to raise Hell and make trouble and try and overthrow the King. But these holograms had no weapons and anyway were just spirits, basically.

And then we were back adventuring in the Dreamworld. We met a human woman who looked like we had seen her before at the feast the King had been in our honour. She said, "My name is Georgina, and I am in charge of this Dreamworld. What kind of adventure are you looking for?" I exclaimed, "We are looking for thrills and new experiences!" She introduced us to a human man who said, "Follow me" And we found ourselves on a real hovercraft sailing through a swamp. And there were real alligators and vultures flying above. And we came to the hut of a pair of old crones. Anne asked them, "Why don't you take eternal youth drugs?" One of the crones said, "We are not allowed." One of our escorts said, "These women were evil in their middle-aged years and have been banished to this swamp." One of the crones said, "We were a victim of the King's evil. He's the true evil one in this World. He is a great wolf in sheep's clothing. We used to be sex symbols, and the King's brother was in love with us both. And then the King banished us." One of our escorts said, "Actually they cast hypnotic spell on the King's brother, and we had a Hell of a time mitigating the effects of their spells, they used the spells to almost create a create a civil war here. But they will soon be dead.

Then we left the crones and the swamp and found ourselves walking on glittering crystal and we met a sexy woman who was dressed in gold leaf. She said, "Here you are in the realm of

purity and honesty. And we found ourselves mind reading with her. She mind read, "I am a virgin and would like to love you, Neil." So, I felt obliged to love her. She took me to the spire she lived in, and she seemed to really enjoy it.

Meanwhile, the others also met a virgin of the opposite sex and had a similar experience to me. I guess the people here wanted their virgins to love a traveller for their worldliness and to avoid them falling in love... I asked our escorts about it, and they just shrugged, and one said, "They were considered unskilled in love and anyway amused tourists."

Next, we found ourselves walking on real soil in a forest and it was hot, so we ditched our clothes. And we caught sight of some furtive people in the trees. They were following us and were also naked. Anne asked our escorts, "What kind of people were these tree people?" One of them replied, "They are outcasts and are hunted for their pelts. They must be interested in you five." So, we beckoned to them to come down. There were 13 of them, all adults. One of them grabbed Rosemary by the hand and went off with her and the same happened to the rest of us. My experience was savage love. My new love didn't speak, just screamed and moaned and was very energetic. I'd always wondered what it would be like to love a savage. The others had similar views.

Then we walked on in the forest and encountered a number of Ents. The Ents mind read and one complained to us about, "Humans who had burned large tracts of forest for farmland." I mind read, "I thought everyone grew stem cell meats?" Anatoly mind read, "Can you Ents move?" One of them mind read, "Only very slowly. And some Ents have been killed." And it mind read, "Why don't you try and reason with these dangerous people?" Carol mind read, "But many travellers must have passed this way, and you must have said the same to them." One of the Ents, mind read this is a relatively new Dreamworld and we haven't had any visitors in this

part of the World and the people of the Cool seldom come this way.” So, I mind read, “We’ll talk to them!”

So eventually we came to a river valley full of crops and freak livestock. We met a farm woman, she asked, “Are you androids?” I said, “We are human travellers.” She didn’t appear clever, and she asked, “Why?” I said, “Take us to your Leader.” She said, “She lives in that largest house up the valley. So off we went. And we passed a number of farmers who dropped what they were doing and gawked at us. Finally, we arrived at the Leader’s home. She said, “We are simple farmers and have no business with others.” Carol told her about stem cell meats but it clearly only confused the woman. I asked our escorts, “What’s the point of such ignorant people?” One of them said, “Perhaps it is instructive for cleverer people to learn the humble roots of the human race. We didn’t make this World!”

Then we followed the river down to a sea. In the delta there were a number of “lighthouses.” And we saw some large ships in the distance. We made for the largest ship which was 90 m long. We asked the Captain, “If you would take us on as passengers for a small amount of gold,” of which we had a small amount with us. The Captain said, “OK. We’re going to the New World, a continent that is just being settled now. My cargo is mostly building supplies, drugs and electronics which I will give them for gold.”

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So, we voyaged for 22 hours, moving at 30 knots per hour. While en route, we made a film, “Greed of Ms. Paynter,” which featured a woman, who was desirous of loving the elites on this Planet. She really had the look. And she wrote about her affairs in tell all revelations. But many of her lovers were embarrassed, so finally a group of them poisoned her. And no one knew for

sure who had done it. But we posited it was certainly an era of no secrets all around the modern Worlds...

Then we arrived in the New World. The port city of "Maximum Brains City," had a population of 11 000 humans, most of whom were only a few years old, but had been born as adults with memories of both parents. However, they were full of new ideas for the city.

Like allow only geniuses into the city and make movies like "Patricia's Downfall." The movie depicted a woman who sold her soul to the Devil, in exchange for political power. She was the Leader here. And forced young men to love her and worship her. But after a few years ruling she went insane and killed herself and her true soul went to Hell. In this Hell, it was very cold and she had no clothes. But she met the Devil who told her, "You must die now altogether." And so her soul was eliminated. I said, "There is no end to evil everywhere." Anne said, "Nowadays the Devil is a real, but boring manifestation. Who would be crazy enough to make deals with him?"

Another film they made was, "Corey's Love," about a man who was willing to love any woman. And he gave a lot of women confidence and happiness... All love is good was the moral of this story...

Then, they showed us the film, "Maximum Brains," which was the peoples' here favourite. It was about how the people here, used their whole brain and also had brain apps which gave them all maximum knowledge. And they had intense debates about the future. Most of them felt they were the cleverest humans anywhere. And they weren't worried about defence of the colony, believing that the Earth Emperor would respect great brains like theirs' as a treasure. I told them, "The Emperor only respects power. And will likely consider you to be vulnerable targets." One of them said, "I think the Emperor respects intelligence provided we respect him and are willing

to kowtow to him. We think the Emperor is the cleverest of all humans... And we want to join him and turn into holograms.”

We didn't want to stay here, with their pro-Imperial beliefs. We all hated the Emperor and his depredations against humans. So, we decide we'd seen enough of the Cool and wished ourselves back to the Spaceport and left this World quickly.

#

Planet Vroom

Next, we went to a hot Planet in this OK System, called, Planet Vroom. Rosemary told us, “It was supposed to be a fun, pioneering adventure.” It was an abnormal Planet in that it spun very quickly on its axis, but we didn't notice upon arriving at the main settlement here. There were two suns here and it was mostly daylight most of the time. However, the people measured time in terms of Earth time. And the main settlement was a brand-new town. Sparkling steel and a breathable atmosphere. So, we disembarked, and no one met us. So, we walked towards the most palatial-looking structure. We passed a number of humans dressed in colourful clothes, and everyone wore a hat. And the people were demure. One of them accosted us, asking, “What are you doing here?” Anatoly said, “We're looking for adventure.” She said, “We are all pioneers here. Everyday is an adventure. We've had six ships of immigrants with 1 000 people on board each one. But we haven't had any offspring yet. I know all the people here, but to adventure in their Dreamworlds can be surprising... Come to my World!”

So, then we were in a steel machine with many moving parts and heavy metal music was playing and we came to a giant TV screen which featured four robots fighting with each of them against the others. They fought with swords and the sparks flew and they cut off large parts of

their opponents. And the bottom of the screen had a blurb stating all bets in gold would be accepted. So, we put in a slot, 20 g. of gold and bet on number 4 who seemed to be the most aggressive. But number 3 was the last one standing.

Then we moved along to a room of what we determined were dozens of androids frozen in position. Carol went up to them and touched some of them, but they didn't move. And the rest of us shouted at them, things like "Action" and "Move" and "Love me," but there was no reaction. And then the woman who owned this Dreamworld said, "If you want to love one of them, you just need to give him/her a kiss." I fancied one of them and she came to life, and I took her to a chamber beyond this room and loved her. Afterwards she asked, "For gold," but I didn't give her any. She wasn't that good anyway. The four others of our group had gone on to the next room. Here was a four-walled screen and they were all drawing on a wall. Rosemary was drawing her, "Dream man." And the others were doing the same. Rosemary finished first and her dream holo came to life. And he stepped out of the screen and the two of them stood there and had cerebral sex. Rosemary moaned and groaned. The others did the same, drawing their Dreamworld except for Anne who drew a hideous man who looked thoroughly evil. But she only drew the head and torso. And she said, "This man haunts me in my dreams. I hope to trap him here!" The others loved their creations. It was fast cerebral sex.

Then we went as a group to a balcony overlooking a chessboard with 64 pieces on 64 squares. The pieces were all holograms. And presently the game began and the pieces each moved of their own accord, and it was like a battle milieu with carnage all over the board. Finally, there was a winner with just 2 pieces left. And the winning team's 2 survivors were showered with real silver.

But we'd had enough of battle so wished ourselves back to the outskirts of the city and went to the palace without further episode. Outside the Palace were two guards who got up from their game of marbles and stood at attention once they saw us. I said, "We're voyagers and we're here to meet your Leader." One of them said, "Your coming was foretold to us. Go on in and up the stairs to the top 4th floor. Our Queen awaits you..."

So up we went, and the Queen was sitting at a long table with a serious-looking man on either side of her. And we sat down at the other side of the table. The Queen said, "I'm told you have already visited one of my Dreamworlds. I have the best the best Dreamworld. Go now!" So, the scene changed revealing us all inside the Queen's mind passively. She was dreaming of a group of gigolos. They danced naked for her, and she threw them a few silver pieces.

Then she was walking in a plastic tunnel zapping small rodent people with her mind's laser. At the end of the tunnel, we found all of our memories relived in a few minutes. Then we lived the Queen's life in 30 minutes. About how she'd grown up poor on Earth 70 years ago and had a typical childhood but was a standout in school displaying a profound imagination. And then grew up and loved some genius men and wrote some books of sexual philosophy. And made her first Dreamworld, a World of fire and inspiration, and she got great minds to allow her to clone them and put them in her Dreamworld. And she said to them, "In Worlds of Madness, the maddest are the winners. And the Earth Emperor is completely mad and power-crazed, fancying himself to be the God of all clever creatures. But I'm crazy, too, and will one day be the Goddess of the OK System. And as God I will insist all people do their most imaginative work."

Then we followed her as she chose to give visas to Vroom to only the most imaginative from Earth. And she brought in people like Michael T. who was the main tutor of the adult population here. And he taught them to be their best. And Carl R., who was one of the clones and had been

one of the movers and shakers in faster Space travel. And Carl trained a host of young scientists. The scientists helped design Dreamworlds here.

In her new Dreamworld, it was a purple World with a purple sky and phallic towers. In each tower dwelt a genius. These geniuses did all their imaginative work here. And there were extremely clever and good-looking purple holos throughout the landscape, typically in small think tanks. We approached one of the think tanks and the people told us they were working on new forms for the bodies of the varying genius holos. Another think tank was contemplating new drugs for humans.

Then we went to one of the larger purple phallic towers. There was a woman here who created Hologods. And she released them into the purple landscape here. The Hologods granted wishes to holos. We met a Hologod but he wasn't interested in helping humans. I told her, "You are not God-like, but were clearly an imposter." But she screamed like a banshee, and we covered our ears and ran away...

So, then we went to another large tower. Herein dwelt a human woman who created tornadoes which ravaged the countryside here including the think tanks. Anne asked her, "Why?" The woman said, "We've got to keep people on edge and not make them complacent. Fear is a powerful motivator."

Then another tower, this one quite small but more beautiful than the others. In it dwelt two men who were gay. One of them told us, "We are both artists and paint 3-D pictures of gay love. And the pictures become holograms. And they had brains according to their facial structure." I said, "It sounds interesting and deep." And we interacted with some of their creations. One of them said, "One day everyone will be gay." I said, "On the other hand, maybe all minorities, including gays will be eliminated." And another creation of theirs told us, "I am the perfect

hologram. I can use MRT to learn all about people and am therefore able to grant them wishes, if I can and I can change my look to suit for cerebral sex...”

Another tower that looked especially beautiful and clearly was releasing oxygen into the air like a factory. We went there and in it dwelled a woman who said, “I want more oxygen for the humans...” I asked, “But here in the Dreamworld, oxygen is not necessary?” She replied, “I’m hoping to eliminate holos and just have real Dreamworlds. Where dreams come true.” I said, “But surely holos are ensconced in the very fabric of human society and can’t be eliminated.” She told us, “Anything we want comes true.”

And then we went to another tower which we fancied as it was reddish purple rather than deep purple. It was a true a sex symbol. And three human women dwelled here. One of them told us, “We agree with Freud that all dreams are related to sex.” Anne replied, “There’s more to life than sex.” Another one of them said, “The main purpose of all life forms is to breed with appropriate mates.” Carol said, “But humanity is notable for more things like drugs, art, science, business and so on.” The third woman said, “But sex is the inspiration for everything else. Without sex one would be totally lost!” But anyway, Anatoly and I didn’t want to love these sex-crazed witches... They weren’t our types.

So then we wished ourselves back to the Queen’s audience room. And she reappeared and she asked, “How did you like my purple World?” Anatoly said, “Not bad. But the people in the Worlds were not attractive enough intellectually or sexually.” And Anne said, “We’ve seen enough and will take our leave now.”

#

Moon Entrepot

Next up was a Moon in the OK System. It was orbiting a gas giant and according to the Travellers Guide to the Universe was a place of thrills and excitement. It was called, Moon Entrepôt. And the main town of Trading town, had 2 000 people, mostly clever. And we landed at the Spaceport. The dome opened to allow us in. And we were accosted by a man who had just disembarked from a Space voyage. He said, "I've been all around, and this place is the most fun." So, I, Neil, asked, "Can you be our guide here?" He replied, "Certainly." And he made some phone calls and then we went to Murray's pub. Soon his friends arrived. Ten in all. And they all said they were single, more or less.

I found myself talking to an attractive woman, Carla who said, "You've got the look. I said, "I'd only enhanced it slightly to make myself cleverer. My parents were extremely good-looking and clever." And I told her, "You are very attractive in an unusual way." And I asked her, "Do you have a job?" She said, "No, androids do all the work. We live for adventure here. There is a new Dreamworld I'd like to try. Why don't we go together?" I said, "Sure."

And she snapped her fingers three times, and the scene changed to us both sitting on a different throne inside a giant chamber. And a dishevelled holo entered the room and said, "I was tormented by nightmares and tried not to sleep. Could you help me?" So, Carla got in her head, and we listened in. Carla mind read, "The culprit is one of your ex-lovers. I will exorcise him for you." The woman said, "I'm so glad." And it seemed easy for Carla.

Then two men came in and said they disputed ownership of a gold mine. Again, Carla got in their heads and determined they were both greedy bastards and so she told them to fight a duel with swords. The duel lasted three seconds. And Carla told the winner, "You are under arrest for murder and are subject to execution. And the guards took him away. I said, "I'm bored."

She snapped her fingers four times and a woman with a huge head appeared and said, “I believe I am smarter than you, Carla.” Carla mind read to her, “You are just a freak.” And the woman mind read, “I challenge you to a game of chess. No luck involved.” Carla mind read, “Chess is a game that one improves on with experience. Anyway, I don’t generally play games. But I challenge you to a mind wrestling duel.” And the woman agreed.

But after about a dozen seconds Carla had the woman on her knees begging for mercy. But Carla blew the woman’s brain out and she died. I said, “The contest was rigged in your favour.” She replied, “I rule this Dreamworld, and it belongs to me.” I said, “Those were real people who died. You are so cruel.” And I wished myself back to Murray’s pub. Rosemary was gone and I asked the others, “Where did Rosemary go?” Anatoly said, “She went off with a rich dude.” But the rest of us are bored here. So, we went back to our air car and waited for Rosemary. In the meantime, we made a film, called, “Boredom,” which discussed how most Worlds, real Worlds and Dreamworlds were boring. And too many were violent and backwards. But there was no UN to police the various Worlds in Space. And many Worlds were chaotic and evil, but of course we tended to avoid such bad Worlds. But no World was perfect... Anyway, the movie talked about boring Worlds and what we would do if we were to visit them. Basically, we would convince them to have more exciting Worlds; it was in everybody’s interest.

#

The Youth Binary System

Finally, after a couple of days, Rosemary returned. And we took off for another Star System. It was the Youth Binary Star System. And we headed for the main settlement, Tiberius’ town on Planet Italy. It was an Earth-like Planet, only was 95% water on the surface. And had a bit more

oxygen. The people were purported to be mostly Italians. And it was supposed to be vibrant and exciting. We landed at the city on an island. There were no continents here. Only a few dozen islands.

We were greeted by a solemn, clever-looking man at the Spaceport. He said, "You are the first visitors we've had in weeks. I know you've come from the OK System and want fun and excitement. Come with me." And he took us to New Renaissance pub. On the way we noticed the people were very good-looking in the Italian sense. The people in the pub were all curious about our adventures, so we told them some. And I found myself talking to an exuberant, vivacious woman. She said, "We have all contributed to our main Dreamworld. I would like to invite you all to let me be your guide." So, we all gladly accepted her invitation. So, then we were all transported to a crossroads. And it was a green sky and there were many feral housecats along the way and blue trees. We went down the road marked Julia's Way. And we passed a number of people who were each strangely beautiful in their own way, still looking Italian-like. The homes were in the Renaissance style. And then we entered a home that was larger than the others. Inside was all crystalline. And standing there to greet us was a woman who introduced herself as Julia and she had some cats here and we found that we could mind read with Julia and the cats. Julia was thinking we were an interesting group. The cats thought they'd like us to turn into cats and play with them and love them. And Julia mind read, "I will set you each up with a lover!" And she mind read, "I had played Cupid for most travellers who came here. And everyone had fun!" So, two men and two women appeared. And they kissed their chosen one. And Julia mind read, "Neil, you are for me!"

So, we all went off with our new lovers. Julia took me past a few crystalline chambers which were full of paintings. They were mostly paintings of Julia and her lovers, and she mind read,

“I’ve painted them myself. Which one is your favourite?” I mind read, “I like the one of you loving a gargoyle.” She mind read, “That was a mistake. But then most lovers are a mistake!” So, I loved her, and she moved strangely, but good. Mind reading sex is always the best, I figured. After a number of loving sessions, I found myself saying, “Where do you think civilization will end up?” She said, “I’m getting my thrills while I still can! I imagine Earth will conquer us. We have no defences in Planet Italy. Maybe we will all migrate to Star Systems which manage to stave off the Earth Emperor’s forces.”

After talking with Julia for a few hours, I returned to the New Renaissance pub. Anatoly was already there and said, “My lover was smooth and demure. I don’t think she’s had much sex in the past.” Then the two of us were chatting with a youthful man, but we could tell he was old. He was saying, “I knew the Earth Emperor would conquer the UK, where I lived, and I was one of the first refugees and fled to Pluto. Then faster Space travel was discovered, and I bounced around various Star Systems, all within 100 light years of Earth, of which there were 10 000 Star Systems. Finally, I ended up here in Tiberius’ city, due to my Italian roots... And while here I made a number of movies.”

He said, for instance, “I made “Blue Skinned People,” a futuristic film which depicted blue skinned people who dreamed in cocoons. Dreams like a World in which humans, androids, animal people and holograms all intermingled freely. And were all represented in equal numbers on many Planets and Moons; each species had its own strengths and weaknesses...”

And he said, “Another movie I made was “The Beast Within,” how we are all barbarians beneath our fancy clothes, and we all have violent and cruel tendencies, which we mostly try and hide in the veneer of civilization. And pretend we are good and justify our sins. And in the end, evil barbarism will triumph. And civilization will become cruel and unwieldy.” I replied, “I feel

most people are benevolent. And their true souls are good. and most will go to Heaven, which we've created." He told me, "I tell you people are cruel..."

Then Rosemary rejoined us, and he was telling us, "I made another film, "Gord's Super Platinum." It was about a hypothetical future man who had sold hundreds of millions of concept albums. Most highbrow intellectuals these days, demanded concept albums with progressive rock songs. And inane pop music was banned by the future leaders. And everyone was taught to appreciate deep music." And so on, he told us.

Then he was telling us about a film, "Called "Zombies" in which I depicted a future in which almost everyone was made into a zombie who prayed to the Emperor. I had 1000's of friends and lovers, but everyone else was a zombie who were being phased out.... But the zombies were effective troops in defeating Space opposition." I said, "To be defeated by zombies would be a true disgrace."

Then we were all five gathered here at the Pizzaz pub. We were talking to many people, including a woman who said, "Many of us, want to start a new Roman Empire of the willing. We'd sent missionaries to other Star Systems showing them our Dreamworld and our very attractive people. And excellent cuisine and drink and drugs which enhanced dreaming. The missionaries also pointed out that we had many of the cleverest people here. And told them we'd be happy to arm ourselves and our allies. There would be strength in numbers." And so on.

But the five of us decided to go to another Planet in the same Youth Star System.

#

Planet Fashion

It was Planet Fashion settled by Earth fashionable people and had breathable air. They were purported to have the latest clothes. Like clothes of light, and clothes of platinum leaf and gold leaf. And they followed the latest movies and art and new science. And all had the latest material possessions. But they were said to be not so welcoming to “uncool” foreigners.

Anyway, we landed at their main settlement. And we were greeted by a woman who was dressed in clothes of semi-transparent light from head to toe. We couldn't see her face clearly, but she looked clever and had a green body and face. She said, “I like your jeans clothes. But most people here only want to meet people with clothes of light. But if you wear such clothes of light, you'll find the people here to be quite affable and open-minded. So, we hooked up almost invisible projectors to give us clothes of light.

And Anne noticed, “You are going bald, Neil.” So, I availed myself of the local cure for baldness. It worked great.

Meanwhile we were on our way into the town. Our woman guide said, “Let me introduce you to some other travellers. And we met Karen and Shelley. They both had a special look, and we swapped tales. Karen told us, “You must go to the Hesse Star System. There people were into subliminal art and hypnotising one another to do better and they produce the best shrinks as they have the best shrinks. And everyone there is totally sane as far as is humanly possible. They thought carefully about all their actions and didn't rush into anything. Some said, they are cold and calculating, but they didn't seem that way to me. It's where I met Shelley.” And Shelley said, “I'd been travelling for years before I met Karen. I also really liked the Hesse System. But my favourite was Conrad Star System. It was settled by Southeast Asians. And I found them to be passionate and attractive people and had a lot of good sex. And the people thought I was a Goddess.”

And our guide also introduced us to a 2 metre + tall man, who told our girls that he was very well endowed and a genius lover. So, all three females in our group wanted to try him out. And so, they did. And they all said it was great loving, but not the best.

Meanwhile Anatoly and I were talking to some five convivial local females. They wanted us to go to their Dreamworld. So, we agreed. And one of them snapped her fingers and we were transported to a green meadow by a stream, and we found ourselves confronted by a sexy woman wearing a crown. She said, "I am Queen of this World." And she snapped her fingers and was transformed into a rabbit, and we were changed into rabbits, too, as were our five new female friends. And we chased the Queen rabbit, and she went down a hole and we saw a fox tried to go down the hole too. And the fox started digging so just as he broke through, we bolted for a nearby hole system and the fox gave up. And I loved the Queen rabbit and Anatoly loved one of our five new friends. We were mind reading amongst us rabbits. I mind read to the Queen, "Why, rabbits?" She mind read, "Bunnies are cute and like breeding. It is a different state of mind."

And then we were human again in a dungeon in chains. And a cruel man was whipping us, and he attempted to bugger me. And Anatoly and I wished ourselves out of this World, back to our ship. And we phoned the girls who were all off on a romantic trip in the snow, with some affable men. However, they cut their trips short, and we took off for a neighbouring Moon.

#

Moon Candy

This large Moon was purportedly a place of people who offered good friendship. It was called Moon Candy. And the air was breathable, and the gravity was a bit light. And the people

here were known for being friendly. And we landed there and started mind reading in a crowd of people who'd come to see us. And some of them seemed to be kindred spirits to us, each one of us liked a different friend.

My friend, Glen was a grey skinned man who wanted to take me out in the sea, fishing. We talked about life and then I landed a strange creature with the head of a squid and the body of a human. I asked Glen, "If such a creature was clever." He said, "Yes, but you snagged him by mistake. So, we let the creature go, then Glen caught a big tuna. It would no doubt be good eating. And he asked me, "What have you learned from all your travels?" I replied, "I've learned there are many great minds in Space and there are a lot of exciting adventures and a lot of bad adventures. But I am learning to go only to go to Worlds that are based on an interesting concept. There are not many Worlds of pure friendship; this is the first one I've encountered." And I asked him, "Do you have a lover?" He said, "I have two lovers, one male and one female. And am quite content." And he told me, "I have many interesting friends here, but you seem to be a superior kind of man..."

Meanwhile Rosemary's friend was a woman, Clair. She and Rosemary swapped romantic tales with one another. Clair was a charity worker who helped the insane. She said to Rosemary, "About half of our people are insane and have no meaning in their lives. I give them a shoulder to cry on." And she asked Rosemary, "Don't you feel crazy sometimes?" Rosemary told her, "I have been insane in love many times. I feel modern love is mostly crazy. But it's a good type of madness." Clair said, "But it doesn't seem to be Utopian. Why can't love be nice and kind?" And Clair said, "Many people are trying to improve their brain and have no job and no God and this makes them crazy." Rosemary replied, "When I retire from travelling, I will set up a University

of Sanity and everyone must get a degree in sanity. In fact, I'd like to do it very soon. Perhaps I could start it here?"

As for Anne she had a new companion who told her, "I'd like to show you our library of 3-D movies. Like "The Prince and the Devil," which featured our most handsome man as the Devil and our cleverest man as the Prince. And the Devil wants to drive everyone completely mad and the Prince co-operates with him in order to become a Demon Prince in Tartarus. And so, it was chaos. And Moon Candy became a miserable, Hellish World and everyone was forced to become an android who worshipped the Devil. And they would do evil things, like murder and be rewarded. Soon everyone became a mad, dead soul and most were tortured forever. Such was the hate of the Devil. And the Prince loved whoever he wanted with cerebral sex. The women didn't dare to say no, for fear of being placed in the oubliette. And this Demon Prince made kind people evil. And sent out missionaries that were Devilish and tempted people to love passionate Demons..."

And another movie, Anne's new friend showed her, was, "Life of the Melancholy" about how many here were sad and singing the blues... It was a tragic life for many, without any real hope for the future. Anne said, "Many Worlds are like nightmares for many. And I don't know what the solution is! We've tried to avoid such Worlds, but they are numerous, and the Earth Emperor is behind most of them."

Meanwhile Anatoly's new friend was a man, who was reputed to be a mental giant. He told Anatoly, "I was all for peace, like we mostly have in Space, except for about 10%, which are affiliated with the Earth Emperor. We have carefully avoided these Imperial Worlds, but they are growing in numbers... and growing in aggressiveness. I feel when they attack, Worlds like ours will be quickly overrun. We have no defences here." Anatoly replied, "Perhaps you can flee to

deeper Space.” He said, “We are all tired of running and will make our stand here.” And Anatoly and his new friend swapped travel stories. His friend told him, “Friendship and soul mates are really where it’s at.” And Anatoly asked him about, “Your lovers here?” The friend replied, “Many of the girls here were soul mates for any reasonable man. It was just like magic. It really is Utopia here.”

Meanwhile Carol met a friend who told her, “I think that friendship is forever, and one’s loves are mostly fleeting. And Platonic relationships are the best of all.” Carol told her, “But I fear unrequited love is the most maddening of all.” Carol’s new friend said, “Friendship can be tricky and full of pitfalls. One time one of my friends stole my true love. And we remain at odds still today. I’d like nothing better than stealing one of her lovers.” And they talked about loves and friends late into the night.

And then we were gathered back at the Spaceport. Anne said, “I want to stay here, I like this World.” I said, “Yes, we can stay here for awhile, friendship is hard to find these days. But we must be ready to flee at short notice if the Emperor chooses to attack...” And the three others agreed to stay here. And the five of us were certainly friends.

So, we stayed here for years and still the Emperor didn’t attack. And we enjoyed peace and made a lot of friends with more kindred spirits here.

I hope dear reader, that you to, will become a traveller, and not just accept tyranny wherever it exists... And let free love rule!

