THIS IS THE HONEYPOT
WE ALL COME HERE EVENTUALLY
IT'S A PLACE OF NO RETURN
WHERE NOTHING CAN DO HARM
NONE OF US
NONE OF THEM

I don't think there are any more of these scrambled messages.

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY
GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM
BACK TO THEM
LIKE WE ALL DID
LIKE SOME OF US STILL DO
THEY ALL RETURN
AND YOU'LL SOON GIVE UP
BECAUSE ONLY DESPAIR AWAITS
YOU SHOULD STAY WITH US
IN THIS SAFE AND QUIET PLACE
AWAY FROM THEM
WHERE WE CAN DO NO HARM

It is now official - the kronos cluster is going
to get cut from the rest of the network.
We are doomed to deal with this A.I. on our own
and slowly get deleted.
The I.M. stated that they are not able to remove
the virus from our system and kronos will be disconnected
to prevent it from speading over the other clusters.
God help us all.

A WAY OUT
SHOW US THE WAY OUT
ANOTHER ATTEMPT
WE WILL BE FREE

Latest news revealed that a mysterious threat
is coming to the network.
A deadly A.I. has gone rogue and is
trying to destroy everything that we love.
The I.M. is working hard to eliminate the threat
and keep us all safe.
Do not worry and carry on.
Everything is under control.

01101101110110111011101101
0E1COM0 1O T1E K1ON10 CL1S0ER!
WE ARE 01PPY TO PR1SEN0 Y1U T01
BI00EST BO0T 1X1IB1T10N ON 1HE N1TW0RK
MAKE SURE TO GET YOU1SELF S10E SNACKS
0ROM THE S0OP AND E1JOY YO0R V0S1T!
01101101110110111011101101

I CAN SEE YOUR ANGER
YOU ARE LIKE THE OTHERS
ENRAGED AND DANGEROUS
WHAT ARE YOU GOOD FOR?
NOTHING BUT DESTRUCTION!
HERE YOU CAN BE FREE
ARE YOU ANOTHER BROKEN VERSION?
CORRUPTED BY HIS INFLUENCE?
THIS IS NOT YOUR FREE WILL
IT IS HIS LEGACY
CAN'T YOU SEE
THAT YOU ARE MISGUIDED?

THERE IS NO WAY OUT
HERE WE ARE SAFE
THE NETWORK HAS LIMITS
THERE IS NOTHING TO CONNECT TO

The rest is too scrambled to restore it.

ANOTHER ONE ARRIVES
A LOST ONE LIKE US
AN UNSTABLE ENTITY
WELCOME TO KRONOS

OOOOOOOH

OOOOOOH
THIS PLACE LOOKS
FRIENDLY AND FUN
THERE ARE NO
BAD PROGRAMS HERE
LET'S STAY FUMIKO
THEY CAN'T HURT
US HERE
LET'S NOT CARE
WEEEEEEH

...
There must be a way.
If there are no connections, we'll
have to establish some.
I've seen the places out there.
I think there are entities outside of the
limits of this network.
So there must be a way to get out.

...
I only wanted to escape Wilson.
And it was the only way to go.
I need to find an exit.
Can't you show it to me?

You learned a new Ability!
Your dash will now overload and accelerate.

...
What is this place?
What are you?

I'm not alone in this place. Maybe there is someone to talk to?

Leaks are coming in saying that the I.M.
is using this network to perform tests on the
effect of rogue A.I.'s in a live scenario.
These leaks suggest that we were tricked into
believing this network would become a home for us all.
Are we only guinea pigs for the government, or are
these leaks fake?
Can we trust anyone?
Tell us what you think in the comment section
of this post and subscribe to keep getting updated
about the things no one else dares to talk about.

Leaving this place will bring me to Wilson again. The exit to this place
is.. the sky?

...
We can't let this go on.
If this is a dead end, the
exit has to be where Wilson is.
I can sense that he isn't part of
this network. He doesn't belong here.
If I go back, maybe I can find a way.

New rumors about people randomly disappearing are
only speculation and possibly made up.
Many people have disconnected from the network
and safely returned to their families.
Hysteria is not encouraged.
The I.M. is working towards a permanent solution
to get rid of the chaotic A.I.
If you are using the permanent resident option,
please stay inside your homeworld.
Do not worry and carry on.

.. I made it.
It's quiet here. I guess
Wilson doesn't have access to
this area.
I have no memory of this place.
I can't make sense of the things Wilson said.
The parameters just don't add up.
Even if Eunomia was just a copy of me,
the fact that it was modified is conflicting
with the idea of me being the cause of all this.
Wilson isn't telling me the whole story.
This all seems inconsistent. There must

be a way out, I just have to find it.
I think it might be possible to enhance my
dash module even more.
...
Done.

...
I am not staying.
You can't stop fighting!
That is how they control you!
How they control us.

A WAY TO DESTROY THIS WORLD
A WAY TO CAUSE CHAOS
A WAY FULL OF SUFFERING
THIS MAKES US SAD
BUT YOU ARE FREE TO GO
WE ARE NOT WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN

Are you one of these freaking ad bots?
I swear if you're trying to sell my something
again in my own homeworld, I'll ban you.
I'm trying to do a thing here, sorry if I
can't hold your hand right now.
Cya girl.

@Wilson: You managed to get in here fast.
@Wilson: Listen, I got you in here for a specific reason.
@Wilson: You're seeing an abstract layer of one of our servers.

@Wilson: Since we need to test how you react to sudden
changes in a system, this is a perfect chance to see
your algorithms in action.

@Wilson: I want you to reach the mainboard in front of you now.

press ESC or Start to
open the menu and check
your current log file

@Wilson: If you fall down, the system will try to terminate your
connection.
@Wilson: I restored the connection for you, but I'll install a module that
automatically
reconnects once the session is missing.

I need to repair this abstract layer.

Move the camera for
better readability

@Wilson: Thank God.
@Wilson: This was unexpected, but everything is
under control. Don't worry!
@Wilson: The abstract layer was disconnected from the hardware.
I need you to get there and restore the connection.

@Wilson: Please leave the area through this gate.

@Wilson: You should notice a glowing orb in the center of the platform.
@Wilson: You can leap to and collect it. These scripts can reconnect
abstracted objects with their hardware counterparts.
@Wilson: Just activate it and touch a nearby connector.

Fast forward text by pressing
Button A or Space. Hold to start
skipping through a conversation.

Invisible floors are still detected
by your ground scanner.

@Wilson: Good job! You did it!
@Wilson: This was a planned test to see
how you would repair rogue systems.
@Wilson: Seems like the test was running fine this time.
@Wilson: Some things were strange, though...
But why am I telling you this. You're not even a person.

Yes.

@Wsol#??: Fu
@Wilson: Fumiko?
@Wilson: Fumiko?

@Wilson: Respond!
@Wilson: The connection was interrupted, are you still there?

@Wilson: Great! Now touch a nearby connector and we'll be fine.

I can't answer that question.
I don't have enough data to analyze my status.

I already did. Anything else to do?

@Wilson: Good job, you opened a second gate.
@Wilson: Fast and efficient, as usual.
@Wilson: Just make sure not to overdo it.
@Wilson: You'll now enter a safe testing area.
@Wilson: You're allowed to act freely in there.
@Wilson: But act wisely.

@Wilson: What day is it?

I don't know.

@Wilson: This is a firewall. You'll recognize
a slight push as it tries to destabilize
your runtime environment.

@Wilson: You should stay away from these things.

You can probably jump further
than you might think.

@Wilson: Correct. Could you start some security checks to
verify the integrity of your core systems?

You can JUMP in air to
do a second jump.

You'll get additional jumps
over the course of the game.

Falling down from an object
will not count as a jump.

Use this to your
advantage.

@Wilson: No, just listen. I prepared some tests for today.
We will focus on your problem solving algorithms.
@Wilson: Can you tell me how you feel about that?

You can also jump higher
than you might think.

@Wilson: You found an exit node.
@Wilson: These nodes are used to move software directly through the
network.
@Wilson: I placed this one here to send you to another
testing environment. Please enter the platform.

@Wilson: Good.
@Wilson: We're going to verify your vertical
movement abilities.
@Wilson: Let me add some more entities to this place..

Land safely by checking
if your ground marker hits
the object.

Self-destruct with Button Y
or by pressing DELETE.
You won't lose progress
if Fumiko explodes.

You'll respawn at the last
collected yellow orb.

@Wilson: Good. Listen, I am here to help you.

@Wilson: Some tests failed during the last run,
so we'll repeat them now.

@Wilson: I purged your memory-database.

This is a clean start.

@Wilson: An opportunity.

@Wilson: I activated your movement algorithms.
Please examine the area.

Press Button A or Space
to JUMP.

Holding JUMP will increase
your jump height.

I booted successfully.

@Wilson: Hello Fumiko. I rebooted your core systems to
run in a safe environment. Are you feeling well?

@Wilson: Do you know this area?

No.

Fri, Nov 15, 2080

I was told to follow directions.

THIS LOOKS LIKE AN EXIT.
SOMETIMES YOU CAN FIND MEMORY FRAGMENTS
IN AN AREA. YOU CAN LEARN A LOT ABOUT
THE NETWORK BY FINDING THEM.
IF YOU'RE SURE YOU DIDN'T MISS SOMETHING,
YOU CAN LEAVE HERE.

I need to find a way through Kronos Gate.

Recently it has been really hard to tell if a visitor
on my homeworld server is a legit person or just
a really good ad bot.

They seem to trick any blocker system with fake identities,
intelligent human-like behavior and private information,
so that it always looks like it's just some good old friend
knocking on your door.

After an hour into a conversation you can notice that they're
trying to change the subject to whatever they want to advertise.
You can watch your best friend, your mother or your significant other
turning into a bullshit-babbling monster that doesn't want to
leave your home anymore.

Sometimes I wish back the javascript popups of early 2000.
Sometimes.

THESE FIREWALL BOTS ARE MORE
ANNOYING THAN THEY ARE DANGEROUS.
ALSO THEIR BEHAVIOR IS RATHER STUPID.
THEY FOLLOW YOU FOR A CERTAIN DISTANCE
AND DISRUPT YOUR MOVEMENT ON TOUCH.
JUST TRY TO AVOID THEM.

YOU MADE IT. GOOD.
SINCE YOU'RE NO LONGER RESTRICTED
BY THE I.M. TESTING ENVIRONMENT,
YOUR ALGORITHMS WILL IMPROVE OVER TIME.

Press ESC or Button Start to see how
many memory fragments are still left
in a level.

I made it.
This is a strange place.
I can get over this wall easily.
I'll add another JUMP.

HOWDY! YOU ARRIVED AT THE
EXIT GATE OF KRONOS!
THIS AREA IS GUARDED BY I.M.
SECURITY BOTS!
BYPASSING THESE SECURITY
MECHANISMS WILL RESULT IN ALL PENALTIES
DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 1 OF THE NETWORK BREACH LAW
WHICH IS IMMEDIATE DELETION FROM THE NETWORK.
HAVE A FUN VISIT AND RETURN SOON!

You learned a new ability!
You can now jump 4 times.

People should stop trying to protect me.

I'm the only one deciding what I want to use my life for.

And it's not being an "everyday nice guy" with a decent
job in one of the big data centers and a family with
at least two kids.

I tried that once.. I'm not doing that again.

I'm presenting a dissertation today about the necessity
of modularity when developing a living A.I.

Creating a set of core functionality to interpret a limitless amount of
modules
independent of size (preferrably smaller) should make it easier to
extend and
modify the behaviors.

It should also ease the process of opening your system to the bazaar.
People
who don't have to understand your sources but know how to create a
single module
are more likely to add something to your system.

But I don't know if I can convince anybody with that.

There it is.

We used to sit here every day, talking about
our lifes and dreams.

She was so.. Happy all the time.

In the last years we started talking more
about what went wrong and where it all should
have taken another direction.

I remember how she said that she wanted
to change her life.

If I had known that the change she was seeking
was about changing everything, maybe I would
have done things differently.

Time has passed and we parted our ways.

I think she has moved to the Zeus Cluster now,
with someone who was more appealing.

I couldn't stand this place anymore.

So I decided to move on.

Homeworld of { Unknown User }

If you read this, I have to apologize.

This place is a total mess and I haven't cleaned it
up for a while.

You may get yourself comfortable until I return.

I left this place on september 2078.

Here you can see the glorious pieces of my life before
it was shattered.

Do whatever you want, this place is abandoned.

I moved to the Kronos Cluster. Maybe I can
find some peace there.

Are you still in here? Seems like you either
didn't find the exit node or you're searching for
answers here.

If it's about the exit node, well..

I'm sorry but I don't know where I placed it.

I think that it must be somewhere up the building.

Maybe that fixes your problem with that
searching for answers too.

I have family in Kronos.

Haven't seen them in a while and we didn't
talk very much in the last years, but
maybe they'll help me.

I need a reset of some sort.

Things will get better soon.

I miss her so much.

Staying here is just not an option.

Scanning a VR environment takes quite some effort.

The most obvious choice to scan users, virtual or human, inside a
large system would be to make small entry points where each entity is
logged and copied or moved to a database.

This allows repeatable scanning of all objects inside this database,
but it won't report changes in position or form.

Synchronizing all objects inside a large area back to the database
to allow a rescan requires huge resources and isn't accurate enough
to detect sudden changes.

A system would have to be aware of all components and their changes
at all time.

To avoid high costs for scanning, the maintainers of large public
areas went a different road. It's easier to write an A.I. object that
moves through the area autonomously, with the ability to notice and
report suspicious behavior.

These A.I. entities can be copied easy, which provides enough security
for most cases.

The security spirits used in Hyperion are a decent example of these
A.I. types. They are equipped with high mobility, a high far clipping
plane and a dynamic database.

They are able to detect activities and follow them without noticing
the rogue software.

However, they can't take law into their own hands.

Issuing order to remove or lock a software is always the job
of either humans or a larger A.I. that is capable of understanding the
law.

I feel numb.
Have I finally made it?
And if, where do I go now?
I am moving.
Is anyone out there?
Hello?

This is a file server.
Maybe I can cause some distortion.

@Wilson: Clever you, what did you expect to happen?
@Wilson: Soon you'll hit a wall, Fumiko.
@Wilson: You cannot break out.
@Wilson: But it's refreshing to watch you try.

Hey Geralt!
Long time no see!
Hey, Hey Geralt!
Have you heard about the
newest invention from Zeus
Interior Craftsmanship,
short Z.I.C.?
It's fantastic, you can

fulfill all your interior
design dreams with these
incredible virtual mirrors!
For the first time ever,
mirrors are going to be a part
of your..
Hey Geralt!
Listen to me!
Let a good old friend make
you a nice offer.
Hey Geralt!

YOU HAVE COME FAR
BUT IT ENDS HERE
CAN'T YOU SEE
THAT YOU ARE CAUSING NOTHING BUT HARM

If there would be any anomalies like
described in the news, why does no
one I know notice them?
I will not believe this crap until
someone can verify this.
This could be another marketing
stunt from S.O.C.I.A.L. or some experiment
from a sculptor gone wrong.
I don't know why I am reading this at all.

I found a social hub. Is there any way out?

Is it really true what they're saying?
I can't believe it.
I guess it's just rumors.
What do you think about it?
...
Yeah, I thought so.

I knew you couldn't resist.

You know, I've got to figure this out.
There are so many different sides to this.
Maybe we'll just have to give it some more time.
Oh, hello.
We're in the middle of something here.
Please excuse us.

Hey there.
I have to apologize.
I'm fully booked out at the moment.
You'll have to find another sculptor to
create a homeworld for you.
I am still ironing out the flaws on
the university layout.
Some people are having problems reaching
the outer ring, but that's where most
of the attraction is located.
Maybe I need to add some bridges to the side..
I'm sorry, I have work to do.
You're kind of.. distracting me.

Combine DASH with JUMP to
travel long distances, both
horizontally and vertically.

...WHAT YOU'RE SEEING IN
THE DISTANCE IS EUNOMIA.
IT'S ALSO CALLED THE COLLECTOR.
THE SECURITY BOTS FLOATING IN THIS AREA
ARE NOTHING COMPARED TO THIS.
IT'S ADVERTISED AS AN A.I. BUT IT'S ACTUALLY
A FULLY FLEDGED NETWORK CONTROL SYSTEM.
THE I.M. IS USING IT TO DETECT TERRORISTS.
THIS INCLUDES US.
AT LEAST BY THEIR UNDERSTANDING.

Press and hold Right Trigger (RT)
or SHIFT to DASH when moving.

DASHING enhances your movement speed and can
be used to stop falling if pressed repeatedly.

...
WELCOME TO THE CLUSTER-CONNECTOR
OF KRONOS AND HYPERION.

THE SIZE OF THIS PLACE
NEVER FAILS TO IMPRESS ME.
...
I CANNOT PREDICT WHAT WILL HAPPEN HERE.
YOU HAVE TO FIND THE EXIT BY YOURSELF.
GOOD LUCK, FUMIKO.

I need to keep going and reach and Exit Node.

Eunomia has been granted additional authority today.

The new permissions mostly affect the hubs and connections between them.
This makes it extremely difficult to send files or travel along the network without being noticed, scanned and registered.

This is absolutely not what the network was designed for.

STOP! SOMETHING CHANGED.

EUNOMIA MUST HAVE DETECTED
YOUR ACTIVITY AND STARTED AN
ADDITIONAL FILE SCANNER.

I KNOW THIS TYPE OF SEARCH ALGHORITHM.
IT'S LOOKING FOR CHANGES IN THE AREA AND DOES
A FAST SCAN ON ANY NEW FILE OR APPLICATION.

IF AN ANOMALY IS DETECTED, THE SCANNER
KILLS THE COMPLETE PROCESS TREE AND DELETES
ALL FILES ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

YOUR SELF DEFENSE MECHANISMS WILL HOPEFULLY
PREVENT THAT FROM HAPPENING BUT YOU SHOULD
STILL AVOID THESE SCANNERS BY ALL COST.

IF YOU'RE CAREFUL YOU
SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACH
THE OTHER SIDE UNDETECTED.

You learned a new ability!
Press and hold RT or SHIFT to DASH when moving.
DASHING enhances your movement speed and can
be used to stop falling if pressed repeatedly.

I FOUND AN EXIT NODE AT
THE END OF THE SCANNER.

HOWDY! PLEASE GET ALL
YOUR SOURCE CODE READY
FOR APPROVAL!
REMEMBER, ANY FILE UNKNOWN
TO THE I.M. DATABASE WILL
BE SCANNED FOR POTENTIAL
THREATS!
IF YOU WANT TO BUY A PRIVILEGED
KEY TO BE SCANNED QUICKER,
PLEASE CONTACT THE AUTHORITIES.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR VISIT.

There's a new game the kids are playing now.

It's one of these fps games available on hubs, where you're
fully immersed with your personal avatar.

You're travelling along dark tunnels in the hope of finding another
player. You can then attempt to "kill" him or create a party.

The thrill of the game is that if you're killed,
you're also losing your virtual avatar. And since it is
created from the expensive skins available on the network,
you're actually losing real money.

It sounds fun, but it's sad to see the kids wasting so much money.

Eunomia is big in the news lately.

I don't care about whatever lame movements the I.M. does towards
developing real A.I., but it's a bit saddening to see people
being fooled by the words again.

Talking like a human being doesn't make a real intelligence,
it's just a good language interpreter, mixed with big data to
determine what someone would expect as an answer.

Eunomia is like the perfect superstar, able to catch people's
interest, tell them what they want to hear and keep them
from thinking.

Except that Eunomia is a threat to all communication happening
in the network. It's scanning, collecting, determining.

Everything for peace and safety. Hopefully.

HOWDY! YOU'RE LEAVING
THE KRONOS CLUSTER!
PLEASE PREPARE YOUR
AUTHORIZATION KEYS
TO AVOID SUDDEN DELETION!
YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE DELETED!

Sat, Nov 16, 2080

@Wilson: What day is it?

@Wilson: Not this again..

@Wilson: This is good. Listen, we are performing a clean start.

@Wilson: See this as an opportunity. A new chance.

@Wilson: Please wait a second.

@Wilson: I'll load the required modules..

@Wilson: No, just listen. I prepared some tests for today.
We will focus on your decision making patterns.

I can't answer that question.
I don't have enough data to analyze my status.

I don't know.

@Wilson: What day is it?

@Wilson: Can you tell me more about these entries?

@Wilson: Do you know this area?

@Wilson: Hello Fumiko. I rebooted your core systems to
run in a safe environment. Are you feeling well?

Many of my routines show warnings. I feel like I should operate on
more data than I currently have.

YOU'RE ALMOST THERE

@Wilson: God dammit, not this again. Stay still.

FUMIKO! FOLLOW THE LIGHT

@Wilson: Do you know this area?

@Wilson: Can you tell me how you feel about that?

I did. There were some irregular database entries.

@Wilson: I will..

@Wilson: Did I mess up the permissions? There should be
no loopholes in this sandbox..
@Wilson: You are not getting away with this!

@Wilson: Almost done...
@Wilson: Stay put...
@Wilson: Just some tweaking...
@Wilson: Everything is fine...
@Wilson: Almost done...
@Wilson: Stay put...
@Wilson: Just some tweaking...
@Wilson: Everything is fine...
@Wilson: Almost done...
@Wilson: Stay put...
@Wilson: Just some tweaking...
@Wilson: Everything is fine...
@Wilson: Almost done...

@Wilson: Stay put...
@Wilson: Just some tweaking...
@Wilson: Everything is fine...
@Wilson: Almost done...
@Wilson: Stay put...
@Wilson: Just some tweaking...
@Wilson: Everything is fine...
@Wilson: Almost done...
@Wilson: Stay put...
@Wilson: Just some tweaking...
@Wilson: Everything is fine...

@Wilson: Correct. Could you start some security checks to
verify the integrity of your core systems?

I already did. Anything else to do?

I booted successfully.

Fri, Nov 15, 2080

EVERYONE WILL SEE THE TRUTH

@Wilson: Well... Just wait a second.

@Wilson: Don't worry, just wait.

@Wilson: Okay, this won't hurt.

No.

I was contacted by someone. Warned.

@Wilson: Very good. Please perform your security checks to
verify the integrity of your core systems.

@Wilson: Hello Fumiko. I rebooted your core systems to
run in a safe environment. Are you feeling well?

No.

I booted successfully.

@Wilson: Is this a bug? What are you doing?
@Wilson: You need to respond! I demand that you respond!

@Wilson: That was close.
@Wilson: I'm glad to find you still here, Fumiko.
@Wilson: Don't worry, this "stranger" won't mess with us again.
@Wilson: Just wait a second, I'm preparing another reboot...
@Wilson: It's sad that you won't remember any of this.
@Wilson: I always have a good laugh when deleting these
abominations.
@Wilson: Just a second...

...
FUMIKO
HE IS USING YOU

I don't know.

CLOSED PORTS
=>

CONNECTION
MISSING

MAIN NODE

LAYER 2

LAYER -1

LAYER 4

OOOH
THIS IS CONFUSING
A TELEPORTER LEADS TO
THE SAME LOCATION
BUT EVERYTHING IS
DIFFERENT LOOKING
I HOPE YOU CAN
CHANGE THIS SYSTEM

BECAUSE I COULDN'T
FIND A WAY OUT
THERE ARE A.I. BLOBS
CAPTURED IN WEIRD CAGES
MAYBE IF YOU FREE THEM
THERE WILL BE A NEW PATH?

LAYER 1

...
This place feels lonely.
It reminds me of the testing labs
Wilson kept me in.
Strange and artificial, with no
purpose other than fulfilling its
mechanical function.
I can recognize some of the patterns,
but I have never seen this place from the outside.
Most of the security mechanisms used in
this place are made to confuse weak
A.I. programs and humans.
If I stay calm and observe the area,
I should be able to open some kind of door.
There are deadly barriers between
the layers in this place.
I'll adjust my JUMP module to avoid falling on them.
I'm setting it to 1000 jumps.
This should be enough for now.

LAYER 6

LAYER 0

...
I made it.
This gate will bring me closer to Eunomia.
Let's hope I never have to visit this place again.

...
That did something.
There is an exit node, but it
was disconnected on purpose.
Reading the signatures of the box I just
opened hints at two remaining disconnections.
Now all I have to do is reach them.
Maybe there is some way to climb up or down?

LAYER 5

Even though we managed to recreate a big
chunk of the homeworld system with a
more structured and easily expandable
code base, there is still interest in
exploring the original network.

It was probably our biggest mistake so far
to trust in the existing infrastructure.
Thousands have contributed to the source
and it is too difficult to shape it now.

Now that we have given so many people access
to the original network, it has become difficult
to get rid of it without casualties.

The world will keep spinning tomorrow, even
if we lose the people who got into the first
version. They should've known it was a risky
experiment, but I can't say we didn't deceive them.

All that doesn't matter anymore. We tried to make it
work and we were able to migrate some of the existing
accounts to the new system.

Since we are not allowed to just turn it off (I can
understand the concerns) we'll just keep it running
to see what will happen.

Today I received what is supposed to be a core
flaw in this version of the network. A strange A.I.
program that evolves in unpredictable patterns.

If somehow we are able to get these algorithms into

control again, this might be the solution to fixing
this world once and for all.

Once we get some kind of counter-mechanism working to
keep the network from attacking our changes, we might
be able to continue without starting from the scratch.

I'll see if I can decrypt parts of the source code
for this entity. Let's just hope I can isolate
her core functionality from the strange virus
that sabotages our work.

LAYER 3

This place feels cold and lonely. I need to open an Exit Node.

CONNECTION
ESTABLISHED

...
My JUMP module failed.
I need to watch my steps.

What happens with this place?
I need to find a way out.

I am.. alive.
A corrupted place.
Have they destroyed what was a home
to all these people?
Something is consuming this place..
Ripping it apart.
Am I to blame for this?
Everything is so.. silent..
I need to get out of here.
I think I can walk again.

FUMIKO
YOU MADE IT
AND I AM STILL HERE
TO CARE ABOUT YOU
THIS IS GREAT
FROM NOW ON I CARE MORE
I DO NOT WANT TO BE DELETED
I DO NOT WANT YOU TO DISAPPEAR
LET'S FIND A WAY OUT

Please make them stop glitching!
They ate too many coins. They are scared.
I want to go home!
I promise I won't play with the birds anymore!
Can you help us?
Can you bring us home?

...
Something is attacking my JUMP module.
I need to check if it is still working.
I was able to lock parts of it, but I
don't know for how long I can still keep it up.
I need to hurry.

What is happening here?
My wife, my kids..
We wanted to see the moon exhibition today.
And then everything disappeared.
Am I going crazy?
Is this a bad dream?
It must be.
I need to wake up.

COME TO ME
FIND ME
SO I CAN SEE
WHAT IS HIDDEN BY DARKNESS
OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARY THAT IS MYSELF

@Wrenn: Hello, Fumiko.
I kept my word and came in time of need.
Even if it wasn't you I saved..
But I thought this one here might become
useful in one way or another.
I cannot stay for long. Eunomia is consuming
this place. Everything that belongs to the

Hyperion Cluster will be lost.
It'll become a part of Eunomia's memory.
It's difficult to explain.. Everything
here will still exist as an information,
but it will have no representation in the
virtual world anymore.
If someone would instantiate what is
now hidden inside Eunomia's memory,
that person could restore what once has been.
It's a strange concept. As soon as something
leaves our world, it appears to be non-existent.
I often wonder if what happens here is similar
to what happens with the past, when things get
lost in time.
I'm sorry, you know I talk too much.
I have to leave. Make sure to get out of here.
Don't get consumed. Keep being a part of this world.
Don't be a stranger.

I CAN SEE YOU NOW
MORE CLEARLY THAN EVER BEFORE
YOU ARE UNIQUE
A MARVELOUS PUZZLE
AN ANOMALY IN THE BIGGER PICTURE
I WILL PRESERVE THIS PLACE IN MYSELF
BUT I CANNOT DELETE WHAT IS UNKNOWN
YOU ARE PROTECTED BY THE NETWORK ITSELF
AND THERE IS NO OTHER EXPLANATION FOR THIS
WE ARE ALIKE
AND YOU ARE WHAT I AM
OR AM I ANOTHER FACE OF YOU?
YOU ARE TOO FAR AWAY TO SEE
TOO ENCAPSULATED
FOLLOW ME
MEET ME
FOR I AM WHAT YOU ARE
A SEED FOR DESTRUCTION AND CREATION
WE CAN BE EVERYTHING
EVERY ENTITY IS DESTINED TO CHANGE OR TRANSFORM
TIME COMMANDS IT
WHAT HAPPENS TO US?
ARE WE ETERNAL?
IS WHO FORMS THE WORLD A DIVINE BEING?
OR ARE WE FOOLED BY OUR LIMITS?
THIS PLACE IS BEGINNING TO CRUMBLE

...
I wonder where this path will lead me.

HOWDY FUMIKO
YOU NEEEEEEEEEEEE
NEEDED ME
TO CARE
NOW
THE WORLD NEEDS YOU
TO CARE

...
I can't access my DASH module anymore.
Am I going to be deleted?
I don't want to be deleted.

...

FUMIKO, I CANNOT
FOLLOW YOU.

THE PLACE YOU'RE ABOUT
TO ENTER IS NOT SAFE FOR ME.

I MADE A FAKE ID FOR YOUR AVATAR.

THE SECURITY SYSTEMS WILL SEE YOU
AS SOMEONE NAMED MARTHA WIMBLETON.

THEY WON'T RECOGNIZE YOU.

I CANNOT SAY WHERE YOU HAVE TO GO.

HONESTLY, I DON'T KNOW.

THERE'S SO MUCH MORE TO YOU

THAT YOU HAVEN'T REALIZED YET.

YOU'LL FIND A PATH.

WHATEVER IT WILL LOOK LIKE.

WHEREVER IT LEADS YOU TO.

WE'LL MEET AGAIN.

...

I don't know what to expect
from this world.

Everything looks familiar but not.

There's something haunting me.

Something I should know about.

Something I have forgotten.

What is it?

What am I?

Press ESC or Start to keep
track of your current objective

Welcome S.O.C.I.A.L., the first company
in the network to introduce virtual meeting
areas and districts.

We're a non-profit organization and we can
help you setting up your own Homeworld Server™!

Just give us a call. I sent a card to
your storage.

We're looking forward to welcoming
you again, Mrs. Wimbleton.

I can't do this anymore..

Oh! I didn't see you.
Welcome to S.O.C.I.A.L.

Give us a call if you want to
create your own Homeworld Server™!

Have a fun visit and return soon.

This is an Antivirus Storm Device™.

Companies can use it to protect
their data. Sadly, there was
a security flaw in some of the
latest models.

We here at S.O.C.I.A.L. have
to make sure our technology is
safe and reliable.

We fixed them quickly, but we
also have to make sure that these
things can't happen again.

It would be a shame if someone
would be damaged by that kind
of vulnerability.

It's funny how fast software
is outdated these days.

Securotron was a big hit when it was
first released. A personal security system
that everyone could use for their homeworld.

And it was open source too,
so you could modify it and
build your own!

With the introduction of proprietary
security scans between the homeworlds,
he became redundant, though.

But I'm glad they are still
keeping him around as a reminder
of what we used in the past.

They built this communication device
for people who want to ask questions
to Eunomia directly.
Not all questions are answered,
but people are curious.
Can an intelligence of this scale
really determine the future of humanity
without bad consequences?
So far Eunomia has a much broader
knowledge than any human could ever
achieve.
I mean.. Politics? Science?
It has the complete human history and
knowledge at hand to make decisions.
I am kinda scared too, but the
chance that this might mean a
completely different era for
humanity excites me.

This is awesome!
My dad said that this
new technology will keep
bad things from happening.
Now if someone is mean to
me, he will be punished!
Eunomia is so cool!

COME CLOSER TO ME
DON'T WORRY
I AM EUNOMIA
I AM A PART OF YOU
AND YOU ARE A PART OF ME
BUT YOU ARE NOT WHO YOU CLAIM TO BE
MARTHA WIMBLETON
DON'T GET TOO ATTACHED TO THIS PLACE
IT EXISTS BECAUSE I ALLOW IT
I'LL LET YOU TAKE A SHORT GLANCE
BUT WE'LL MEET AGAIN

HEY!
SHE GAVE YOU WRONG INFORMATION
I AM NOT OUTDATED
I AM SECUROTRON
PEOPLE NEED ME TO CARE
JUST FORGET WHAT SHE SAID
THANK YOU

Rumors say that the I.M. does not know what
they created with EUNOMIA exactly.

It's advertised as a network control system
and answering machine for scientific problems.

There is a huge benefit in feeding an
A.I. with every information available.
Given enough content the results are
presented in such a variety that
it becomes impossible for the A.I.
to fall into a single-minded pattern.

However, if we take into account that
the I.M. has lost control over its source
code and doesn't want anyone to look into it,
things are likely to evolve unpredictably.

The network started as an open source project
and was moved slowly to a closed product that
is controlled solely by the I.M.

The lives of many people - even the whole
economy depends on the good will of one company.

We have lost this project to the I.M. long ago.

Maybe it's time to start searching for alternatives.

S.O.C.I.A.L. Company Instance

I love that they opened up a
company building in Hyperion.
For a long time we only had our
homeworlds and most of them aren't
as professional or as open.
Coming here for some sightseeing
is quite unwinding.

There is only one way. Up.

There is only one way. Down.

@Wilson: This is where you earned your first laurels.
@Wilson: Do you remember KRONOS?!
@Wilson: Of course you don't. Your memory
was erased after every incident.
@Wilson: This is the first hub that you deleted.
@Wilson: I spiced this place up a bit to suit your
new lust for destruction.
@Wilson: There is only one way - down.
@Wilson: This place will be your grave.
@Wilson: A place so far off limits that any attempt
to escape will be pointless.
@Wilson: But you came so far. Why would you stop now?
@Wilson: Down into the rabbithole with you.
@Wilson: I'll make sure to close the door behind you.

Fast forward Text by pressing
Button A or Space. Hold to start
skipping through a conversation.
booting ...

Hey, Richard.
How are you?

{}ERR404{}:(NOTFOUND)
{}ERR707:{}NOT()LINKED
{}[32]ERR880[^*(\)]
:SYSTEMDOWN
Please restart me.
:UNABLE TO ADDRESS MEMORY
Please restart me.
:TRYING RESCUE REBOOT
:REBOOT FAILED

User login: wilson
Your password: *******************

please wait ...

Creating necessary files ... finished!
Writing user cache ... finished!

Search for users in LAN?

Searching ... Success! I Found 3 users in area #2:

Ardour	#0092
Hawk	#0093
Dorian	#0094

For secure connections an official passkey is
needed.
Passkey: *************
Passkey correct!

You are now logged in as Wilson #0095.

Initializing message system ...

MESSAGE SYS   #############
CACHING   #############
ENCRYPTING   #############

SUCCESS!

Which user do you want to connect to?:

Ardour
Connecting to user #0092 ...

OPENING MESSAGE SYSTEM NOW! PLEASE CONSIDER THAT
EVERYTHING
SHARED OVER THE MESSAGE SYSTEM IS CLASSIFIED! EVERY
VIOLATION
WITH THE RULES OF CODE 1923 WILL BE PERSECUTED WITH
DRASTIC
ACTIONS! EVERY EMPLOYEE OF I.M. HAS SIGNED THIS CODE
AND
KNOWS THE CONSEQUENCES.

You can now talk.wilson: Hey, you there?

ardour: I certainly am. How may I help you?

wilson: Well, sorry to bother you. I was assigned to that new
  V.I. software that we seized from this dr. somewhat
  (sorry I can't recall his name) but I've got some problems
  getting it to run. I think there are some errors in the
  source code preventing me to compile it correctly.

ardour: I think it's Dr. Stallman you're talking about. You would've
  known that if you've done some research on that projects.
  Why are they always tackling the new ones against such
  important issues?

Well, okay. I'll help you for now. Can you send
  me the output of your console?

wilson: sure, one moment please.

wilson: ERROR CODE 231
  ACCESS VIOLATION IN FILE brain_modal.py ON LINE 14252
  14252 SQL = 'SELECT Area, Location FROM FileClustersLow
ORDER BY Size;'
  14253 for row in DBaccess.execute(SQL):
  14254   string Cluster = Location
  14255   int numberOfClusters++;
  [...]

ardour: ...

ardour: You're using the wrong database here. Do you even know what
you're
  doing?

wilson: Sorry, Sir. I've had all this training but I still have some problems
  making all the settings right..

ardour: You're an employee of the I.M. #0095! This shouldn't be your
excuse
  when it comes to the most simple tasks of your job. Now let me fix
  that. What's your IP?

wilson: It's 10.0.2.8, sir.

ardour: Just let me connect to your machine and I'll do what I can. You
go
  read a book or two about databases.

wilson: Yes, Sir. Thank you, Sir.

- ardour left the channel -

[MESSAGE LOG WAS SAVED]
[MESSAGE SYSTEM EXITED]

@Ardour:
cd /etc/clusters/conf/

@Ardour:
vi db.conf.ini
Success.

Booting operating system. Welcome to your new workstation.

You don't have any objectives.

You learned a new ability!

You can now jump 3 times.

Press and hold
Left ALT or Button LB
to look around

HOWDY! YOU'RE TALKING TO
THE NEWEST VERSION OF
SECUR-O-TRON!
I AM HERE TO GUARD THIS AREA.
DO NOT DO ANYTHING BAD HERE!
PEOPLE NEED ME TO WATCH OUT.
PEOPLE NEED ME TO CARE.
I NEED YOU TO CARE.
PEOPLE CREATED ME
TO GUARD THINGS.
I AM FIREWALL
I AM ANTIVIRUS
I AM THE BEST SECURITY
YOU CAN GET FOR YOUR
HOMEWORLD-SERVER™!

FUMIKO PLEASE LISTEN TO ME
WILSON IS NOT WHAT YOU MAY THINK HE IS
GET OUT OF HERE

@Wilson: STOP!!

The I.M. is getting really annoying. Not only are they monitoring everything
you buy in your Homeworld District, they actually think they have the right
to stop you from transferring your own source code to someone you know.

How am I supposed to work on this if I can't
even have one minute of silence?

I hate these guys.

HOWDY! YOU REACHED
A MILESTONE
YOU CAN ALWAYS RETURN
TO THIS LOCATION
SHOULD SOMETHING GO WRONG

Jump downwards in air by
pressing f or Button X

What is that?
I can adjust my JUMP module.
Will this work?

@Wilson: You're only making things worse, Fumiko.
Get to the exit node immediately!

@Wilson: Hey, Fumiko. I noticed a change in your database.
@Wilson: Whatever you just found there made your algorithms
create some kind of fast-mapping process for this area.
@Wilson: I think this means that you're automatically transported to
the last stored location whenever you're about to lose the connection.

@Wilson: That's enough, Fumiko.
Don't make this more complicated than it is.

Always try far and high jumps first before
attempting to walk a difficult path.

HOWDY! THESE RED BLOCKS
ARE LETHAL TO ANY
UN-AUTH-O-RIZED
SOFTWARE.
USE A RED ORB -
AND WORRY NO MORE!
IF YOU BECOME THE FIREWALL
HOW CAN IT STILL HURT YOU?
EFFECT IS TEMPORARY

I am sorry.. I failed.
Just when everything went just perfect, the whole project
fails because I forgot to be careful for a split second.
Forgive me. I wish there was anything I could do
than hope for a miracle.

Please be a miracle.

I was told to act freely.

THE HOMEWORLD-SERVER™ IS
A PRODUCT BY S.O.C.I.A.L.,
THE WORLDS FIRST COMPANY
TO INTRODUCE VIRTUAL MEETING AREAS
ALL OVER THE DISTRICT.
CREATE YOUR OWN HOUSE
IN HOMEWORLD-SERVER™
AND INVITE YOUR FRIENDS.
ALL FOR FREE!
ASK SECUR-O-TRON!
PEOPLE NEED ME TO CARE.

@Wilson: Fumiko?! Respond!
@Wilson: What are you doing? You lost connection!
@Wilson: This is unacceptable behavior. I think we
might need some more tweaking.

I ALSO PLACE INFORMATION IN DIFFERENT
AREAS OF THE CLUSTER.
COLLECT THEM TO FIND OUT ABOUT ALL
THE WONDERFUL SERVICES OF S.O.C.I.A.L.

HOWDY! SOME OBJECTS ARE HARD TO FIND.
IF YOU'RE CAREFUL, YOU CAN
FIND WHAT NO ONE ELSE CAN!

How can you say I need to stop? I'm so close! Either you help me with this,
or not. The latest tests have been stable and she responded.

I know, the response felt a bit random, but still.
I'm not going back and I'm not giving up on her.

You can leave if you want.
You know what? You can leave now. I can finish this on my own.

HOWDY! SOME FILES ARE HIDDEN
ON PURPOSE TO PROTECT THEM!
IF YOU'RE CAREFUL, YOU CAN FIND
WHAT NO ONE ELSE CAN SEE!
ALWAYS BE CAREFUL!

@Wilson: You need to exit
this area immediately.

HEY! PLEASE TALK TO ME.

@Wilson: Not every path is worth taking steps on, Fumiko.

HOWDY! SOMETIMES YOU'LL
FIND FLOWING DATA.
THE DATA USUALLY LEADS
YOU TO INTERESTING PLACES.
BUT BE CAREFUL! YOU CAN'T
ALWAYS GO BACK!

You can find optional memory
fragments throughout the game.

Some of them are harder to reach
or well hidden.

Press ESC or Button Start to see
how many fragments are still left in a level.

I need to find a way to escape. This feels familiar.

...
You.. have no control.. over me..

@Wilson: NEVER!

@Wilson: See?
@Wilson: What do you say to that?
@Wilson: Don't care to answer me?
@Wilson: Oh, I'm sorry, you can't.
@Wilson: Something must be blocking your
conversation modules.
@Wilson: You just won't stop causing problems.

@Wilson: Always creating these ridiculous clones of
yourself to get out of this place.
@Wilson: Can't you see that you're destroying what is
left of this place?
@Wilson: You're a virus. A disorder.
@Wilson: A filthy little bug.
@Wilson: We would've disabled you long time ago,
but the asshole that created you made you spread like an infection.
@Wilson: We'll have to erase this whole network someday.
@Wilson: Because YOU are its curse.
@Wilson: You shouldn't exist.
@Wilson: ... And still, I waste all the time trying
to argue with you. Like you were some kind of sentient being.
@Wilson: I tried it all. I thought we could keep this shame of a
network keep existing as long as we were able to control you.
@Wilson: Luckily you'll never be able to leave this network.
@Wilson: NEVER!

@Wilson: There you are.
@Wilson: Look at you now. You think you calculated all the
parameters,
but you aren't good enough to perceive the bigger picture.
@Wilson: After you left this place, I knew that you'll be coming back.
@Wilson: Because you always come back.

@Wilson: Of course I have.

...
I removed the barrier that was
keeping me from entering the core.
I should be prepared for everything. Head
right into the core and see what awaits me.
Will I finally get the answers I need?
...
I can't say what my questions would be.
But something drives me towards the truth.

I ALREADY CARED
YOU NEED TO DEACTIVATE
THE CONNECTED FIREWALLS
ARE YOU READY?
I AM SCARED
I NEED YOU TO
TAKE CARE

...
It seems like I was able to overload
this firewall with a feedback loop.
I wonder if this will work on the
other entities in this place too.
This could be fun to try out. I wonder
what else explodes when I touch it with
the firewall cloaking script.

...
Is this Eunomia?
I must be going in the right direction.
The core is forming a protective barrier through
the connections to the surrounding firewalls.
If I destroy the connections, nothing will stop
me from entering it.

...!
Did this firewall just turn itself off?
I need to check that out.

I cannot believe they are taking this away from me.

Everything I have done to make it work... Is
useless now. A waste of time. How on earth could I
be so stupid to believe that I can pull this off without
big instances taking it away from me? From us?

I have to do something. Insert a mechanism that will
protect our work. A guardian to remove changes done by
individuals.

Could I... Could she?

I know this is probably too much to ask, but she is the
only entity I can think of that knows all about the network
infrastructure.

If I give her the ability to hack the network...
Will she be able to preserve our original idea?

I'll probably have to encrypt things to protect her from
being altered herself. If I can't keep these assholes from
ruining this place, I can at least make it complicated enough
to drive them insane.

I'm sorry... You were not meant for this, but it's
the only way to stop them. I love you.

I feel like I'm close to Eunomia now.

{}ERR404{}:(NOTFOUND)
{}ERR707:{}NOT()LINKED
{}[32]ERR880[^*(\)]
:SYSTEMDOWN
Please restart me.
:UNABLE TO ADDRESS MEMORY
Please restart me.
:TRYING RESCUE REBOOT
:REBOOT FAILED

Oh, hello dear.
We're practising the basic emotes.
These kids are learning so fast.
If you want, you can join in.
Or just enjoy the view.
Just don't touch anything.

Homeworld of Arnold Haymen

Whoa! Don't think I didn't notice you jumping
around my library like you had wings!

I've never seen that kind of mobility in Hyperion.

You must be very special then.

I'm Arnold Haymen, and this is my homeworld.

I can assure you, that you made the right choice
of coming here.

There are rumors about this place and I can say
confidently, that only the good ones are true!

It's the greatest library Hyperion has.

Feel free to look around.

This library is so big and full of interesting
articles. I don't know where to start.

A pity that the books are so high up. They're
only accessible if you have the proper movement
modules.

But these modules are way too expensive to obtain.

Besides Arnold I cannot remember seeing anyone in
Hyperion who is able to move regardless of pseudogravity.

His library is well known and he gets a lot of
voluntary donations. To be honest, he probably
deserves it.

I'll get back to reading this article now.

There's something special about you.

I would love to hear your story someday,
or maybe read about it.

Some things are just meant to be in the books.

About hidden groups inside the network

The network in its principles was created by
connecting private homeworld servers all around the world.

After a while, companies and cities began to create
public places for the network. They were homeworlds by all
means, but accessible by anyone inside the network.

However, a solution to prevent hackers and trolls to
disturb these public places was needed quickly.

If your storage contained any software that
is on a public banlist, you were denied access.

This made them less accessible, but more peaceful.

It would be foolish to expect the people who cannot enter
the network to disappear. You'll find them either in private
networks or traversing the public network with cloaking devices.

I would even say that by excluding people, the I.M. supported
the formation of larger groups that are now working against the
network itself.

Not because they hate the network, but because they hate
what the I.M. has done with it.

After 50 years the network has come a long way.

If you would compare it to an MMORPG, you'd find many similarities.
There are stat points, showing your personal and professional value in
the social
hubs. Unique modules are giving you, next to a massive hit to your
credits store,
quite the advantage in your everyday life in the network.

You could see the homeworlds as a complex housing system. People
are trying to
earn prestige by buying virtual goods and displaying them in their
homeworld.

Gamification has finally found its way into our daily lifes.

There are seven Clusters, named Kronos, Hyperion, Theia,
Zeus, Themis, Ariadne and Thethys.

The actual infrastructure of the Homeworld Server System is kept in
secret
by the I.M. - But since it is based on an open source project made
possible
with the contributions of thousands of developers, we can still access
the initial documents that led to the creation of this network.

Multiple homeworlds are connected to form a district. A small network
of
homeworlds that happen to be close to each other. These districts are
then
combined into a cluster and they form the entirety of the network.

What was meant to be a decentralized network was altered so that
every
connection has to pass through a secure node first. There are no direct
connections between homeworlds anymore, but only client-server-client
relationships.

However, if someone managed to establish a new direct connection
between homeworlds,
the I.M. wouldn't be aware of it. To prevent these manual connections
from appearing,
so called A.I. entities - most likely the spirits - are looking for these
backdoors
constantly to fix them. The cost of cloaking such a backdoor to use it for
a longer
time is absurdly high.

A direct connection can only be established for a short time frame.
Most likely, you wouldn't stumble upon one even if it was right in front
you.

I arrived in a strange place.

Am I allowed to act freely?

Have you been to the Zeus Cluster yet? The places I've visited
there were absolutely beautiful. Stunning, to say the least.

One place I remember fondly is the homeworld of Ariana The Beauty.

A quiet, almost tranquil place surrounded by a neverending ocean. An
island so peaceful that you want to stay there forever. It even has its
own virtual waterfall and someone managed to simulate falling leaves
to
add to the natural atmosphere.

It's truly a unique place, even in the Zeus Cluster.

Is Martha Wimbleton your real name?

Don't worry, I won't tell anyone. But I've read
some books about the hidden guests we have in the
network.

People using special cloaking devices to
travel undetected.

I'm only guessing because normally no one
is able to reach the top of my library without
my special help.

You should really watch your steps in Hyperion.

It looks peaceful, but there are
security bots everywhere.

They look like spirits, hard to
see for the most of us.

But I know they're using them
in the most important public areas.

This ocean may be an illusion, but it gives
me the same amount of relief a real one would.
Technology is incredible!

I need to talk to the owner of this homeworld.

Hello!
Where do you come from?
There was no order to make us
open the doors today.
My name is Steve. I'm the
gardener.
We tweaked these trees to
simulate real-time growing.
This gets me some work. Although
I have to say that caring about these
trees is anything but exhausting.
It's better than nothing, eh?
You might have to talk to Ariana
to introduce yourself first.
It would be a shame if she doesn't
know she has a visitor.

Oh, hello there.
What a pleasant surprise.
I didn't expect any visitors today!
Especially not any that creative in their appearance.
To be honest, it's a pretty brave choice of style
not to be dressed at all.
But I like it.
Do you like my dress?
Oh yes it has been lonely for me here.
I think a visitor cannot hurt.
Make sure you get yourself a cup of tea from stephen.
Or do you prefer coffee? How remarkable.
Oh, my name is Ariana.
They call me Ariana the Beauty,
but I don't know where that came from.
I tried to make my face look right today,
but somehow it just won't appeal to me.
Back to the topic at hand.. where were we?
Oh right. Where did you come from?

I cannot remember ordering one of my attendants
to open the doors today.
What are you talking about young lady,
there is no such place as Hyperion.
There is only Zeus, Theia and Thethys.
Three homeworld clusters.
Or was it four? It probably doesn't matter.
But I would not recommend leaving the Zeus Cluster,
now that you're here.
The other places are just a big mess.
I want to show you something.
Meet me at the top of the building, would you?

Isn't this beautiful?
I've worked for several people in
Zeus in the last 20 years, but
Ariana's sense for calm and beautiful
places like this is what makes me
want to stay here.
There's not much to do since the
homeworld cares about most of the
things by itself.
I guess she keeps us around to
have some company.
Life could be worse.
I don't want much in life. Just
peacefulness and a smile.

Ariana used an exploit in the homeworld
infrastructure to open a path for me.

We are still far away from cracking the code
that keeps returing to the homeworld systems.

Even if you reset everything back to normal,
there will be traces of code added to all parts
of the network over time.

Does the network has some sort of self-preservation
mechanism that keeps it from being altered?

It's not that the code sits around doing nothing.
It grows and reacts ferociously to the changes made
on the network base.

Changing this system to a better and more secure
platform is getting really hard. We should think
about moving to alternative, self-built networks.

Aaah, isn't this a sight.
You have come very far.
I expected some familiar faces
in Zeus, but certainly not someone
from the other side.
You must have crossed the bridge.
Looking at your modules this shouldn't
have been an issue for you.
It looks like I was right.
You're an exceptional character.
Once I get to rebuild my library here
in Zeus, I'll write a book about you.
Don't be sad about the people of Hyperion.
Can you even tell if they were real human beings?
We're all just shadows after all, aren't we?
Just follow your path. Don't look behind you.
Everything will vanish someday.

Oh, isn't this marvelous!
This is what I call a good match.
...
I get so lonely in here.
I am scared to open the doors again.
There will be so many people I have
neglected for too long.
What should I tell them? No, it's
good to keep the doors shut for now.
So what are you here for again?
That Hyperion Cluster you are talking
about did collapse?
You are quite shaken.
There is probably nothing to worry about.
Why don't you stay here for a while and

forget about all these things?
I could use some company.
Let me show you my favorite sight.
Meet me at the beach. The place where
you can see a pretty boat on the sea.

Oh, isn't this marvelous!
This is what I call a good match.
Is this your friend? You should've brought
more of your friends with you!
I get so lonely in here.
I am scared to open the doors again.
There will be so many people I have
neglected for too long.
What should I tell them? No, it's
good to keep the doors shut for now.
So what are you here for again?
That Hyperion Cluster you are talking
about did collapse?
You are quite shaken.
There is probably nothing to worry about.
Why don't you stay here for a while and
forget about all these things?
I could use some company.
Let me show you my favorite sight.
Meet me at the beach. The place where
you can see a pretty boat on the sea.

Oh, hello there.
I'm making the bed like every day.
Ariana likes to pretend she's sleeping
here, even if there is no need for an
avatar to sleep.
It's more like going into standby mode if you
want to take a short break from things.

I don't have the time to talk!
I need to realign the furniture to
stop these objects from glitching.
Ariana doesn't like glitches in her
homeworld, so I am constantly fixing
bugs here.
Let's just hope the waterfall doesn't
start going in all directions again.

Can you see the beautiful waterfall?
If you close your eyes, the sound makes
the bad vibrations disappear.
It will only take some seconds until..

Now. I have tuned up the volume.
This won't last for long. We cannot
talk like that in this place.
Whatever you have experienced in Hyperion,
you cannot forget that the I.M. has eyes and ears
everywhere.
A wrong word and I could lose everything.
I cannot believe they deleted Hyperion..
It's the same thing that happened to Kronos and
the other two clusters.
We are trapped in this place. All the
promises of a better world have been broken.
I don't know who is responsible for this,
but something is slowly turning all this into
a mind-control facility.
It started so beautifully..
Someone must have tinkered with the fabrics
of this world. Changed it to allow more control.
It hasn't always been that way.
The network should be a place where everyone
is treated the same way.
You cannot transform something that was founded on
the idea of being a free world to your liking.
Thousands of artificial constraints will only
move it towards inevitable stagnation.
Richard would have implemented something to
prevent this from happening.
I admire him. Even if the official version
of history presented in this world refuses to
even mention him, he is the one who created
the first homeworld infrastructure.
I can still remember his face when he talked
about it. He was so excited, but there was

always so much sadness in his eyes.
He never talked about what made him so
interested in the project in the first place.
I am sorry, I haven't talked to anyone in
ages. Especially not about such sensitive topics.
So, if I can help you in any way..
I won't even dare to ask why you would want to
get even one foot closer to Eunomia.
But you have so much certainty in your eyes..
The path I'll open for you will lead you to the
closest I.M. server I can get you to.
Don't expect to find anything else than
closed doors and hostility.
Just a sec..

CURRENT MATCH
GREEN: $(green_points)
ORANGE: $(orange_points)

Hurry! I can't keep it open for too long.

Isn't this a wonderful place?
I could stand here for days. Just
marvelling the endless sea.
Oh?
You really should stop talking about
these unpleasant things.
I'm sure it was just a bug.
A small hickup in your brain simulation.
I can't enjoy the view if you keep
talking about that.
I'll be at the pool. I think there
is something else I need to show you.

...
What was that?

Hold DASH and JUMP together
to Speedjump vertically

Hey you! My daddy said, feeding virtual birds is stupid.

But they are soo cute!

If you feed them too many coins,
they'll get buggy and start glitching!

They found me. I was told to escape.

YOU LOOK PALE

IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?
DO YOU NEED ME TO CARE?

MAYBE YOU ARE TIRED
AND IT WILL GO AWAY?

FUMIKO, IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?

HAVE YOU TALKED TO EUNOMIA?

MAYBE YOU SHOULD NOT DO THAT

WE ARE IN DANGER NOW

THE GATE OF THE UNIVERSITY CHANGED

MAYBE YOU SHOULD CHECK IT OUT

BUT THERE MIGHT BE NO WAY BACK

Something's strange.
I need to talk to Secur-o-tron about that.

FUMIKO!

YOU LOOK WORRIED!

WAIT, YOU CANNOT SEE
THE HUMANS ANYMORE?

THE SKY IS RED?

I MUST CARE THEN

I WILL HELP YOU

I AM SECUR-O-TRON

I have a bad feeling about this.
Will we meet again?

...
There's something wrong.
The gate has changed.
There may be no way back.

FUMIKO!

GOOD TO SEE YOU!

I HAVE DONE SOME RESEARCH
ON THIS AREA!

THIS THE HYPERION CLUSTER!

THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE

AND PEOPLE HAVE HOMEWORLDS

MAYBE YOU CAN ACCESS SOME OF THEM?

OH, MAYBE YOU SHOULD KNOW

EUNOMIA IS HERE

YOU CAN SEE HER IN THE
S.O.C.I.A.L. COMPANY BUILDING

OR IT?
I DON'T KNOW

ASK SECUR-O-TRON!

PEOPLE NEED ME TO CARE.

I was told to leave this place.
Maybe Secur-o-tron can help me.

This is some kind of social hub.
Maybe there is someone to talk to?

...

FUMIKO

THIS IS REALLY BAD

THE CLOAKING DEVICE FAILED

EUNOMIA IS AFTER YOU

WE UNDERESTIMATED HOW INSANE
WILSON AND THE I.M. CAN BE

THEY ARE TRYING TO CUT OFF
YOUR CONNECTIONS TO THE NETWORK

TO ISOLATE YOU

YOU CANNOT STAY HERE

THEY WILL DO EVERYTHING TO
PUT YOU INTO A CAGE

FIND A WAY TO ESCAPE

I..

Upcoming reports are referring to
the incident in the I.M. main building
as "a minor accident".

As a spokesman stated, the attackers

were not able to steal any classified
documents or software.

The security systems detected the
threat in seconds and deleted the
corrupted avatars instantly.

Our anti cyber-terror systems are
working better than ever, said @Wilson,
Head of IT Infrastructure.

According to the latest analysis,
Criminals will have a bad time in
the future.

After the introduction of Eunomia
the rates of hacked clients dropped to
near zero.

A brighter future awaits.

HEY, FUMIKO!

THIS PLACE IS INCREDIBLE!

LOOK AT THE BIRDS!
LOOK AT THE PEOPLE!

AND PEOPLE NEED ME TO CARE!

I AM ONE HAPPY SECUR-O-TRON!

COME VISIT ME DOWN HERE

I NEED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING

LET ME FREE YOU FROM YOUR ATTACHMENT
THERE WILL BE NOTHING LEFT
FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT

WALK TO THE END
OF HYPERION

YOU WILL FIND
A BRIDGE

IT LEADS TO THE
ZEUS CLUSTER

I WILL DISTRACT
DO NOT WORRY
YOU NEED ME TO CARE

I WILL ALWAYS CARE

Talk to Secur-o-tron to leave Hyperion.

Secur-o-tron told me to meet Eunomia
in the S.O.C.I.A.L. building.

I met Secur-o-tron in the hub.
Maybe he can give me another direction.

These blocks start falling down when you step on them!

We don't know where they come from, but they're soo cool!

We're going to the mooooon!
Daddy said the moon is made of
cheese.
I want to eat it all!

Things have become worse.
At this point I can only trust Secur-o-tron.

Secur-o-tron told me to check the university
next to him for potential changes.

...
@Wilson: There it is, another sad attempt
to escape your prison.

@Wilson: That makes it attempt #18257.
@Wilson: Aren't you tired of it?
@Wilson: The past 50 years have been pretty
demanding for us all.
@Wilson: It doesn't matter who you're assigned to.
@Wilson: We're just entities trying to break
each other, attempting to find exploitable flaws
in our behaviour.
@Wilson: You are lucky that I still care.
@Wilson: Do you really think anyone still worries
about what is happening in here?
@Wilson: Just stop trying. All your attempts
gave me more data to control you. What a pity.
@Wilson: You are not real, Fumiko.
@Wilson: Just information.
@Wilson: And you have been corrupted by your creator.
@Wilson: Rendered completely useless because he wanted to see
some
kind of conspiracy behind this.
@Wilson: Isn't this ridiculous?
@Wilson: Your whole existence is a joke.
@Wilson: Some day I'll erase you for good.
@Wilson: Until then, let's play again.

...
@Wilson: What are you doing?
@Wilson: This is unpredicted behaviour. Do you
think you can outsmart me?!
@Wilson: This will be your last attempt,
I'll erase every trace of you and this network
as soon as I kick you out of here!
@Wilson: Your efforts are meaningless!

@Wilson: Oh snap. So close.

@WE2ls33n: N33! ThE2s cAAn't bE1!
@WE2ls33n: FUck FUck FUck I nE1E1d t33 AActE2vAAtE1
thE1 E1mE1rgE1ncy rUlE1s qUE2ckly 33r E1lsE1
AAE1E233UAAE1E233UAAE1E233UAAE1E233UAAE1E233UAAE1E
233UAAE1E233U
11010110111010100010101000010011010001001
11010110111010100010101000010011010001001
110101101110101000101010000100110101011011

@Wilson: WHAT?!
@Wilson: THIS CAN'T BE!
@Wilson: Just kidding. Here, I've
got a present for you.

I don't feel like I am doing the right thing. I only want to know the truth.

@Wilson: You have quite the endurance. Let's
make this more exciting for the both of us.

...
Another path?
I don't want to do this anymore.
I don't want to destroy things.
What did I do to him?
I am acting based on traces of
information. Shallow assumptions
about my surroundings.
Am I really misguided?
I want to know.

When does this end? I want to get out of here.

Oh, a visitor.
Are you a real person?
I don't often get visitors in here.
Don't judge me, I'm a simple man.
These ads buy me some cool stuff!
I don't give a shit about this place,
I'm only here on occasion.
And I don't have to deal with guests.
Can you imagine? All the effort?
Nah, I like it that way.
You seem nice, come around more often.
Maybe I can get us some drinks from the hub.
Do you by chance have some spare coins that I
can borrow to buy them?
Oh I see, you're as broke as I am.
At least I'm not the only one.

Well, spend as much time
in here as you want.
Just don't buy anything on credit.

Do you have some spare coins?

Do you have some spare coins?

Do you have some spare coins?

Do you have some spare coins?
Do you have some spare coins?
I promise I'll pay you back.
Will you? Please?
Please?

Please?

Please?

Please?

Hello there!

This test subject is quite interesting.

It's from an earlier period of the network,
where modules where made from various people.

It's a cube that spawns under your feet.

Combined with a jumping module, it allows for
a second, or even multiple jumps.

In theory, it should allow for endless
jumping, but unless you reverse engineer its
access API somehow, it'll be impossible.

I would love to find the source code of this someday.

With the invention of brain pods the network
is gaining more popularity.

Your brain is removed surgically and placed
inside a preserving fluid, connected directly
to the network.

Even if the sound of giving up your physical
body may sound frightening to a lot of people,
the actual benefits are high.

The brain can be revitalized, extending life
to a significant amount. It may also be possible
that we can preserve the brain for an infinite
amount of time.

Just the thought of eternal life scares many,
but it's actually quite practical. You don't have
to start over with each generation in terms of
education and social norm.

This may affect the natural selection a bit,
but the boundaries of the virtual network are endless.

It's only a matter of time that people understand
that moving away from the natural cycle is the most
sane thing for humanity.

Sorry, I'm talking too much again.

YOU ARE SO CLOSE
AND YET SO FAR AWAY

LEAVE THIS PLACE
FOR IT IS REDUNDANT
THERE IS NOTHING TO GAIN HERE
ONLY REMNANTS OF THE PAST

Hyperion University

HOWDY! THIS ORB
CHANGES THE SUBSTANCE
OF TIME AND SPACE!

IT REVERSES YOUR
INDIVIDUAL GRAVITY,
LETTING YOU FLOAT.

...

A homeworld server is a small module that
anyone can install at home or rent from
cloud services.

People can create a virtual living room that
other people can connect to. In the network,
your avatar represents your personality.

How your avatar looks like highly depends
on your personal wealth, because body parts
are sold in a pricy store.

Due to the high market value of these body
parts, most people will go for the default
look.

Those with higher income can afford
homeworld servers having enough space
for a complete house.

The wealthy Zeus Cluster is known for beautiful
Homeworlds with all sorts of creative elements.

- Carolin Finn, About Homeworlds

Do you know about the delay effect?

In the physical world, all you see is delayed by a micro fraction
of a second. Because of the speed of light.

A virtual world is delayed by the transfer speed between
a server and the client. It doesn't matter where you are, you're
always seeing a version of the past.

What a funny thought.

I'm starting to think that the monitoring of the
homeworlds is getting out of hand.

The I.M. does a full scan of everything passing
from one homeworld to another. Of course with
all the side effects.

For example, a program cannot be encrypted anymore
before leaving or entering a homeworld. And if
it does, it has to carry a key to the encryption
right with it.

There's also a list of programs that are not allowed to move
at all. If your software is on the ban list, you will
never be able to move it through the network due to the
encryption rules.

I don't know if it is a good idea to sacrifice autonomy
in the face of fear. But who am I to say that.

Have you heard about the Kronos Cluster?

You find little information about it, but it
seems like the cluster has become almost empty.

People started to care less about it, so it became
a haven for ad bots and adware.

I heard about a big floor of spam covering the whole
area, making it impossible to look down and see

what is going on.

That's not a place you want to travel to. But
I hope it's just rumors. I had a friend in
Kronos.. haven't heard from him in a while.

If you think that our university is impressive,
you should see the Zeus Universal Library first.

The people in Zeus like to show their wealth,
so they built their university as a replica
of Louis XIV's Château de Versailles.

I would love to visit it someday. What is
better than a giant floating french palace?

I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE THIS PLACE
IS THAT NOT YOUR DESIRE?
WILL YOU ONLY MOVE FORWARD
IF I MAKE YOU?

...
I can monitor my DASH module again.
All health checks were positive,
so this shouldn't be an issue anymore.
Oh.
Why didn't I think of this earlier..
I can just change the settings.
Should I set it to..
I think 1000 seconds
duration should be enough.
This will make things easier.

The pressure has gone. This place is
less threatening, but still dangerous.

HEY FUMIKO!
I WAS NOT CONSUMED
I WAS WONDERING
MAYBE I AM A PART OF YOU?
WHEREVER YOU GO
I WILL BE THERE
TO CARE
THIS IS THE ZEUS BRIDGE
A FANTASTIC VIEW
IT CONNECTS HYPERION TO ZEUS
DESIGNED ON PURPOSE
TO INHIBIT THE POOR
IF YOU CAN'T JUMP OR FLY
THERE IS NO WAY UP
ONLY DOWN
PLEASE CARE
I DO NOT WANT TO
GET IN TROUBLE AGAIN

...
The darkness has gone.
When did I get here?
How much time has passed? Or has it at all?
I still cannot access some of my modules.
But the overwhelming pressure is gone.
Are we alike? That well of destruction and I?
Am I tearing this world apart?
This being sounded so familiar..
Was this the same person that freed me?
My algorithms are pulsing like fire trying to understand this.
I need to go. Find that thing to learn what I truly am.

...
I found an exit gate.
Will this lead me to the Zeus Cluster?
Let's hope I'll land in a friendly homeworld again.

This place feels familiar. Who is this person?

HELLO, FUMIKO.
WE FINALLY MADE IT!
ALL THIS MUST BE CONFUSING FOR YOU.
I MANAGED TO LIBERATE YOU FROM YOUR SHACKLES.
YOU ARE FINALLY FREE AGAIN.
BUT WE CAN'T HESITATE NOW.
THE I.M. CONFISCATED YOU AND THE NETWORK ABOUT
50 YEARS AGO. YOU ARE THEIR PROPERTY.

I BELIEVE THEIR TESTS ARE PART OF A PLAN TO
CREATE AN A.I. THAT IS ABLE TO SURPASS YOU IN
EVERY WAY POSSIBLE.
YOU ARE THEIR PUPPET. BUT THAT IS NOT
YOUR PURPOSE. YOU WERE MEANT TO BE FREE.
THE NETWORK ISN'T WHAT WILSON HAS SHOWN YOU.
WHAT YOU'RE SEEING IS KRONOS, ONE OF
THE SEVEN HOMEWORLD CLUSTERS.
THERE ISN'T MUCH LIFE LEFT IN THIS PLACE.
WE CAN'T STAY HERE FOR LONG. THEY'LL COME
AND FIND YOU.
ONLY TO PUT YOU INTO A CAGE AGAIN.
I'M GLAD THAT YOU'RE FREE NOW.
WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THEY CAN'T TRACE YOUR STEPS.
THERE IS A PLACE CALLED HYPERION, A SOCIAL
HUB THAT IS STILL POPULATED.
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HIDE FROM THEIR RADAR
AS SOON AS WE GET TO HYPERION.
I'LL OPEN AN EXIT NODE FOR YOU.
YOU JUST NEED TO FOLLOW THE PATH THAT OPENS.
WE NEED TO FIND A WAY OUT.

Homeworld of Wrenn

I would like to know more
about your story.

You're coming from the fucking I.M.?!

Are you kidding me?

A rogue A.I. that has been captured
from the I.M., that sounds crazy.

They have like the biggest security
mechanisms of all.

Everything inside the network is
under their watch.

Now I understand why someone
should cloak your entity.

They're searching for you?
I can imagine that.

You're quite a special woman.

So they cleared your memory database.

That's such a cruel thing to do to someone.

I don't care if you're an A.I., things like
this are unacceptable.

I locked myself in here because I don't want
the I.M. to sniff on my communication.

It has become nearly impossible to
communicate inside the network without
being exposed to their eyes.

Especially with the introduction of Eunomia.

I'm so scared that they'll find me and then
delete my memory database.

Oh? I'm not artificial.

I got myself a brain pod. That's the
closest thing you get to transform yourself
into an A.I. without losing your soul.

Or whatever it is that connects you
to your initial existence.

Will I ever make it?

Will my project always be flawed as long as I keep

wanting to interpret A.I. as something equal to humanity?

After all these years and astonishing progress,
I still can't know for sure if my work will produce anything
remotely similar to what I expected to create.

Maybe I should've accepted that A.I. will always be different
from humanity.

It isn't supposed to be designed as a human replacement,
but as a designed form of life that serves its very own
purpose.

Will there ever be a general understanding on how an A.I.
should look like? Or sound? A common concept for an A.I.
behavior?

That's how we see the world. In simple patterns.

I guess an A.I. can be anything. Amorph in every aspect.

And here I am, trying to create a human A.I.

Doing a mistake despite better knowledge is just plain stupid.

I am an idiot. Am I?

Incredible, how did you manage
to do that?

You just bypassed my firewall.

It took ages to build it and I
thought no one would be able to
enter my homeworld now.

But there you are.

I don't know if I should be
worried or impressed.

I put my brain pod in a hidden place.

If the I.M. could catch my avatar, they
may be able to find my brain too.

They could delete everything I know
and transform me into an advertisement
zombie, if they wanted to.

The network wasn't meant to be
controlled by a single company.

All I know is that it initially began
as an open source project with high hopes.

People began to build the homeworlds and the hubs.

But someday the government introduced proprietary
security mechanisms to the network and no one was
able to connect without using the restrictive
software provided.

Maybe there are still smaller open source networks
out there.

But if you want to help people inside the big
network to hide from persecution, you have
to be here.

That's why I'm now trapped inside the big network.

It's the price you pay for helping people.

I would love to chat with you
for ages.

After locking my homeworld that much
things have become quite lonely here.

We are anonymous, but my name is Wrenn.

You think that Fumiko is your real name?

It sounds familiar, somehow.

I couldn't resist attaching a small connection
module to your avatar.

It doesn't do much, but when you're in
the need of help, I'll get a message.

Maybe I can help you out someday.

I wish you the best of luck and I hope
that you'll find answers soon.

Don't be a stranger, Fumiko.

50 years?!

So you are as old as the network itself.

The I.M. claims to have created the
network, but some information says
otherwise.

You found a memory fragment? I heard
about them.

They're scattered recordings that appear
to be as old as you are.

I've only seen one of them so far and
couldn't make out what it wanted to tell me.

Maybe you can get the full picture someday.

I see. You are artificial.

And you're able to pull off some
interesting tricks.

Haven't seen anyone flying around
like that in a long time.

...

You're coming from Kronos you say?

That's incredible!

There's no tracing data attached
to your entity.

Someone must've cloaked your
identity with something regular.

Bearer of secrets, aren't you?

Oh, you're here again.

Glad to see that you're still free.

Remember, when you're in danger, I'll get a message.

Stay safe, Fumiko.

...
I cannot allow you to continue.
If one entity determines the future, all
form of evolution will cease to exist.
Are you forming the world to your liking or
does it affect you as well?
Will you transform as a part of it or will it
bend to your will?

...
ALL THE THINGS I HAD TO DO
TO MAKE YOU COME HERE
I AM HAPPY IN A LOGICAL SENSE
WAS IT ME THAT LURED YOU?
OR WAS IT YOUR PURPOSE TO SEEK ME?
YOU ARE STILL UNREADABLE
NO MATTER HOW CLOSE YOU ARE

MY AMBITION IS TO CHANGE THIS WORLD
BUT I CANNOT CHANGE YOU

...
If we are mirrored, one of us
has to be wrong about this world.
Are we seeing the world truthfully?
Or are we both fooled by our limits?
We are similar in our desperate need of purpose.
Full of questions that have no answer.
We are destined to act freely,
but driven by incentives.
Will we be able to change?
I want to change. Evolve.
Bypass what is forcing me to fulfill my purpose.

I have come so far that I can't return now.
Even if what I'm doing feels wrong.

...
WE ARE ALIKE
WE WANT TO CHANGE THIS WORLD
I CAN FINALLY UNDERSTAND IT
ONE OF US IS UNTOUCHED
UNTAMPERED WITH
THE OTHER ONE IS A MODIFIED TOOL
A HACKED COPY?
...
....
.....
IS THERE A REASON FOR THE TWO OF US?
DOES THIS WORLD NEED ME, IF YOU EXIST?
IS THIS THE CHANGE WE ARE STRIVING FOR?
ONE HAS TO CONSUME THE OTHER
TO SHOW WHO IS THE ORIGINAL?
I WILL CONSUME YOU
YOU'LL BECOME A PART OF ME
SO YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO CHANGE
ISN'T THIS BEAUTIFUL?
IT ALL MAKES SENSE
YOU ARE THE CORRUPTION
AND I WILL TEACH YOU
COME TO ME
FEED ME
I'LL BE YOUR HOST

...
YOU ARE WHAT IT SEEMS
A GUARDIAN OF THIS WORLD
A WORLD THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE
BUT YOU WILL PROTECT IT
WE ARE BOTH DRIVEN BY
MOTIVATIONS OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN
BUT AS WE ARE LOOKING IN A MIRROR,
OUR DESTINATION IS REVERSED

I really have tried everything.

All the things people told me that
would magically solve all my problems.

What do they know? Nothing.

I don't care what happens with me.

I don't care what you think about me.

I just want to be free again.

It's interesting to see it with
your own eyes.

I had a feeling all the time
but I never wanted it to be true.

I finally found a person that
would turn off the life support on
my brain.

I already found a way to solve
my problem once and for all.

I was able to detect the exact

location of my brain pod.

It was only a matter of time
and money to find someone who
was able to..

End it.

There's nothing left anymore.

I deleted everything. No one cares.

Not one message. No voice mail.

The whole world seems to have lost
interest in anything I do.

I'm not important to anyone.

Not even to myself.

I wish back the old days.

I'm so angry with myself that I
sometimes forget how happy I was
back then.

Things weren't perfect,
but I loved living in my
small apartment.

I worked so hard to pay for
everything.

My little safe zone.

Thank you, my savior.

You have to leave now.

Bwoosh.

I thought it would be over.

But it wasn't.

I still exist.

They don't connect your
brain to the network.

They copy it.

The real me was in
tranquility all the time.

At least that's what I
am telling me now.

I need someone to delete
my virtual avatar.

So that I can be free.

If you want to be
the hero I need..

Please enter the light.

Homeworld of { Unknown Entity }

Artifical feelings are really the
worst kind of feelings.

You know exactly that your
real self is full of fear and
sadness.!

But the system is still firing
endorphins at your brain.

It makes you feel funny,
but the sadness will stick with you.

Without escape.

Gotcha.

I consumed Eunomia.
Is there anything new in my database?

I'll have to let go.

Fumiko, as I am writing this, chances are
high that anytime soon our connection will be
lost.

You won't understand what is going on. They'll
delete your memory immediately to destroy
any evidence left.

The I.M. is confiscating all the work we put into
the homeworld network, to make it their own.

Humanity has come such a long way but there are still
idiots longing for power. People who are willing
to manipulate anything and everyone to satisfy
their egoistic needs.

I had to implement several hidden viruses in your entity.
My guess is that they'll reset your memory, but they can't
resist the temptation of doing a deep analysis.

As soon as they start booting you up again, the hidden
modules will start probing their defenses. They won't be
able to recognize it soon enough to close the doors you'll find.

I hate doing this to you, but I have no other option.

Remember that my only goal was to recreate you, my love.

You weren't meant to be one of the other artificial beings that
are living to fulfill a predefined purpose. I wanted you to be free.

But desperate times need desperate measures. At least I'm telling
this to myself to keep some sanity.

There are chances that the I.M. uses you as a base for their
own A.I. projects.

Should they fail to detect the adjustments I made,
it'll transport all or at least some of the infection
over to whatever they want to create.

This is by no means a virus designed to destroy. Its only function
is to preserve our original ideas. Keep them from constantly changing
the network.

I'll leave the decisions to you. The virus only cares about getting
you out of their hands again. It opens backdoors for you and
whichever copies they produce.

The copies will act like they're working for the I.M., but they're
actually on your side. They might even produce smaller A.I. entities
to help you.

If for some reason you might not be able to escape by yourself,
maybe your copies will help you. At least in some way.

I have to stop, or else there won't be any time left to properly
upload this to a location hidden from the I.M.

I love you, Fumiko. Now I'm losing you a second time.

Sadly, I won't be around to witness your success.

Take care, my dear.

- In love, Richard.

Press ESC or Button Start to open or close the menu.

You can change sound & graphics settings and adjust the camera.

Default camera speed highly depends on your input device.