

The illusion of a better world

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Be wary of artificial intelligence but be even more wary of humans - Laurna and Matthieu

Chapter 1 - Preamble

Rory

I remember this day like it was yesterday, the 6th october of 2069. I woke up so early that I could not see the sun on the Tower Bridge. I was exhausted and felt a thing in my stomach. But anyways, I put on my usual Monday outfit in other words grey pants and a white linen shirt.

I looked at my watch in order to check how many hours I slept last night, apparently 3 hours, that's probably why I could not stand. My AI, Irina, asked me if I was okay. I must admit that I found that quite hilarious given that this artificial intelligence created by me and my dear partner Ina will soon counter our country, this way citizens too asked my news

I took our self-driving car called Tesla, what a genius this Elon Musk was, sadly he passed away in 2063. It's him who inspired me years ago when we created the "T-watch". At first, it was to help citizens during World War III in 2061.

People can do everything remotely, artificial intelligence Irina can find solutions to all their problems. Need a cab? Thanks to Irina you have one in less than 5 minutes! Are you hungry? Irina knows this because she sees with your data that you run out of carbohydrate and makes an order for food with what your body needs to re render energy.

Irina can surely do easy tasks but solves really hard issues too. In fact, the government managed to stop WW3 by requesting the help of Ina .

Thus, in 2065, the government who was impressed by our invention and WW3 was over, recommended to all citizens to buy one ! This way, all British citizens bought our watch that they used to call futurist

Then, we easily understood that this watch could change our life. Ina and I were CEO of our own company, so we surely had money but we needed something more, we needed power. The government was crazy about us, we were called “the war heroes”, we even had a ceremony in our honour. The Prime Minister Liam Johnson was killed during WW3 so we decided to run as two candidates for election to be future prime ministers and we won.

Our first measure was of course to give a T-watch to each citizen. In this way had access to the data of all British citizens. For political reasons, we could not have access to those foreigners who lived in our beautiful country.

We needed security after what had gone wrong after ww3, not having access to the data of all the inhabitants of this country, was taking a risk for our project. So we sent most of the foreigners back to their country of origin but of course there were the most tenacious ones who wanted to stay. Stay "in their country of heart" they said, I mean we were nice to host them but the UK wasn't their country for god sake. We don't know foreigners well, they could become dangerous you know...

We launched our security policy “On the road for modernity” and for the minority of foreigners who stayed, Ina had this wonderful idea. The massive creation of these watches was becoming difficult to manage. We needed manpower, so we sent all these foreigners to our factories, so that they were at least useful for once in our country instead of enjoying the generosity of the UK, there they finally were grateful.

Chapter 2 - Not a so normal day

Ina

This 6th of October of 2069, everything changed. Yet, Rory and I could never have planned this day.

When I really remember it, I felt someone looking at me when I woke up. Rory was already gone, so I was alone in our house. I thought I was probably paranoid so I got out of bed and worked remotely on our large computers that we had installed in our office to follow the lives of our citizens. Only I noticed that a dozen watches had been disconnected in the same neighbourhood.

Was it because of an electrecité problem? Strange because even if citizens ignore it our “T-watches” have batteries that allow to follow their trance and recognise their identity. But I couldn’t recognize their identity. I only knew they were in the Stratford neighbourhood. Still poor that they want to complicate our life I said in my head. I was distracted by that so I decided to leave the house and go to 10 Downing Street to talk about Rory and the government of this incident.

I left the house , I started to look for a cab but Ina did not want to order me one? It was strange she never did that. My watch started to buzz and I started to panic.p Then I saw people were waiting for me two streets behind. I started to run, crossing the main street, running in front of the cars on the avenue. The noise of the brakes stopping right in front of me fell like a hurricane for my ears. I asked for a taxi, and the moment I jumped in, they caught me and put me into a huge black car for villains in science-fiction movies. I just saw some weapons on the other side of the trunk. The journey lasted approximately twenty minutes. We arrived in a huge place where nothing was growing, only dust and spider webs. I was alone.

Chapter 3 - Where is Ina ?

Rory

It was almost 11:30 in the morning and Ina had still not arrived at the office. Where is she, I said? We used to go to work together but today I watched him sleep so peacefully that I was left alone. Shouldn’t I have?

We were solving a problem about immigrants working at the factory. Apparently, one of them had managed to get a phone and had sent a message on social aid networks. Sometimes I think I should have killed those ungrateful people. They were left in "their country of heart", they were given a job and they are even given a bed to sleep and a meal a day and they always find some pampering to claim, it exasperates me. Then I heard my “T-watch”. I heard my watch ringing and it was Ina calling me. She always calls me with the hologram of our watch. This time it was just an audio call.

It was not Ina’s sharp voice but a very deep voice that answered me :

-Good morning, sir Miller, how are you today ? said the deep voice.

-Where is this ? I answered back.

-Someone that I assume you hate. A poor immigrant. I’m calling with the watch of your dear Ina. Here what is, your colleague is released only if you resign

from the government, turn off all "T watches", and give liberty to all our friends who work in factories is clear?

-First of all, who is "we"?

-Don't be ridiculous, with all the information you've on citizens of this country, I'm sure you know who we are. Anyway, we let you 5 hours to do what we said. Otherwise you will learn the death of someone dear to you...

I was right. I knew who I knew who was behind it. It was the association giving us "back our freedom !".

Chapter 4 - Ina's capture

Ina's point of view

We have been caught at our own game, we wanted to control people and now, people have all control over myself. It's hard to believe that you are on the other side of the wall, but there it is, the final chapter of my short life. There is a point, when the trust you established with people breaks because they noticed your intentions, they notice that you don't want to "just sell watches". It was the beginning of the end, literally.

I was in this place, so dark. People looked at me meanly. I was in a cell, tied up. They were asking me all the time to turn off the watches and leave the government, and after, they would let me go. In my head, I was trying to think about several solutions but with no certitudes, it was complicated to be a hundred percent sure. But we needed, with Rory to end the project, the goal of our poor lives.

I made a quick decision, I was going to tell them that I wanted to stop the "t-watches". I said Rory did not want but I wanted to stop these "t-watches" (it was obviously a lie). They would let me go and I can go join my dear Rory to finish what we have started. Surprisingly, they let me go after I disconnected two of their watches. In their mind, they won the game, but when I jumped into my car, I opened my laptop and started to update the watches to control everyone except us. Now I needed to meet with Rory and to leave far from the city to not be caught by the population before the update ends. I called him

Final chapter - We finally won

Rory

I went back to our house to find a solution and I saw Ina coming. How did she get out of there? I was the happiest in the world. She explained to me how she had done it and told me that she was ready to put our plan into action, it was time. So, on October 6, 2069, we finalised our plan and even though we had "disconnected" the watches, we had all the most confidential data of the citizens. This data allowed us to robotize all the humans of this country into robots, they no longer had consciousness, they were thinking like artificial intelligence Irina. Only Ina and I were humans. Hand in hand we managed to control this country and these people.

Elon Musk said "With artificial intelligence we are summoning the demon." I guess he was wrong, AI are not demons, humans are.