

# BROKEN SYMMETRIES

AGE OF ILLUMINATI



H. A. ORMZIAR

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## **Disclaimer**

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, organizations, and incidents are either products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, organizations or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

The Abrahamic faith and the holy script in this book are a fictitious religion and text. Despite the similarities to the real Abrahamic faiths, the prophecies mentioned in this fiction are not meant to be an accurate reflection of the prophecies of any existing religions or texts.

## **Facts**

Optogenetics is a real technology currently used to control animal brains for scientific research.

Conversion disorder is a psychiatric disorder; its symptoms can be relieved temporarily by faith healing.

3D bio-printing is a real technology; it can print living tissues and organs.

General purpose 3D printing technology is now available for the consumer use and it's expected to become one of the most revolutionary technologies of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## Prologue

Physicists have recently proposed a theory which would answer questions that Einstein himself had tried to answer in his lifetime. The theory states that in an ideal universe for every particle there is a partner anti-particle with an opposite charge and direction to the particle, and both are necessary to achieve a state of symmetry in the universe. However, some string theory scientists have reached the conclusion that our current universe is a broken universe that separated during the big bang event from a much larger super-symmetric universe with eleven dimensions.

This has brought the notion of broken symmetries to the attention of many scientists; everything in our universe is almost symmetric but not perfectly so.

The famous physicist Richard Feynman addressed this issue in his lectures: “There is a gate in Japan, a gate in Neiko, which is sometimes called by the Japanese the most beautiful gate in all Japan; it was built in a time when there was great influence from Chinese art. This gate is very elaborate, with lots of gables and beautiful carving and lots of columns and dragon heads and princes carved into the pillars, and so on. But when one looks closely he sees that in the elaborate and complex design along one of the pillars, one of the small design elements is carved upside down; otherwise the thing is completely symmetrical. If one asks why this is, the story is that it was carved upside down so that the gods will not be jealous of the perfection of man. So they purposely put an error in there, so that the gods would not be jealous and get angry with human beings.”

We could conclude from the broken symmetries theory that if God made the universe and living beings then he, similarly to the Japanese gate’s artist, made them in a near symmetric shape. The right and left sides of our faces and bodies are created

in almost a perfectly symmetric shape but not quite. For instance, we have two eyes on either side of a centrally placed nose and above a mouth, and all are almost symmetrical but not quite. The orbital system of planets, stars, and galaxies are almost perfectly symmetrical but not exactly, and everything that seems to be designed is symmetric to some extent; the intriguing puzzle is they are not made to be perfectly symmetrical!

Broken symmetries are evident in every dimension, space and time. If you toss a coin and you get the 'head' then you have broken the symmetry unless you toss it again to get the 'tail'. If you are happy one moment you have broken the symmetry unless you are sad the next moment...

The broken symmetry in space dimension tells us that life is unfair. There are rich and poor, healthy and diseased, weak and strong but these issues may be solved with a better justice system that humans are continuously striving to achieve. What is unfixable to restore is the broken symmetry in our time dimension, and we tend to dream that our unhappy past will be overridden by a happy future or that someday the oppressed will be relieved, children with cancer will be cured, and refugees will be sheltered. Unfortunately, because of death, the broken symmetry in our time dimension is unfixable, and what is gone is gone. The past and the future are hugely asymmetric, and the prime culprit for the growing asymmetry between the past and future is evolution which is fuelled by past sacrifices. The only salvation to return our universe to its super-symmetric state is to fix the past.

## Chapter 1

Hast opened his eyes upon hearing a loud sound, and he became aware that a tremendous catastrophe like nothing he had seen before cast a dark shadow on earth. The sky was dark and the blood colored sun disk was visible behind the clouds. In the far distance huge buildings were falling apart, and the horizon of the city looked like a flat unrecognizable land covered with ruins of houses and debris. Hast quickly looked around seeing nothing but the unexplainable ruins. The house where he, his brother, and parents were living was now unrecognizable dust beneath him. He began to desperately check the area around his house for someone, first he shouted, “Sardar! ... Sardar! Where are you?” He heard no response then he shouted, “Mom ... Dad ... Where are you?” He heard nothing but silence.

As there was no response, a great fear came over him. This was a fear of great loss, a loss which meant he wouldn't ever see his beloved and caring people again. He then wandered away and to his relief, he finally saw a large group of faraway people marching in a long line and walking to somewhere!

Hast ran toward the crowd thinking that members of his family might have survived and were among the crowd. Once he closed in, he slowed down and looked at the faces of the people. They looked very frightened and their faces were like those of defendants waiting for a jury's decision.

“What is happening here?” he asked the crowd curiously.

“It is Judgment Day. Don't you know?” someone replied. At first Hast thought it was a joke, but he got the same response from everyone he asked. They all replied, “It's the Judgement Day!”

A look of shock appeared on Hast's face, not because he did not believe in the Judgment Day, in fact he was deeply

faithful and always believed that a day would come when he would face his own creator, ∞Illuhim∞ - the omnipotent being in the universe best described in the Abrahamic religion. He was the one who had created everything, the earth, the heavens, the good, and the bad. The dream of any follower of Abrahamic faith was to come face to face to ∞Illuhim∞, not only because he promised eternal life for his followers, but because he was an idol who was the perfect being. Upon seeing him, eyes would be saturated with pleasure and one's body would be shaken upon meeting with him incapable of comprehending the view of his majesty since he was the ultimate being in the universe beyond human imagination.

All of Hast's doubts were swept away when he saw in the distance a shiny white cloud pondering upon a huge golden looking palace with a big central dome and many high branches. The palace resembled a fantasy to him. He also realized that the city he was living in was no longer recognizable. He no longer saw the ancient Citadel of Erbil which was previously situated on a hill at the center of the city and was visible from everywhere. 'Could we be in the heavens already?' he asked himself.

He began to walk with the crowd toward the golden palace, but along the way, he found some people crying. One of them, a young lady, was crying loudly and shedding lots of tears!

"Why are you crying my lady?" he asked.

"I'm afraid of hell," the young lady replied.

"∞Illuhim∞ is a loving God and will forgive all your sins," he said to the lady trying to comfort her.

"He will not forgive mine," she hesitantly replied.

"I'm sure he will. I am one of his devout followers and I have read a lot about him. There is no sin he won't forgive," Hast said to her with a smiling face.

"I did not believe in ∞Illuhim∞!" she replied in a frightened voice.

When Hast heard that, the smile faded away from his face. He could now no longer cheer her up because he knew that ∞Illuhim∞ tolerates all sins but one: the blasphemy, the sin of not believing in him or worshipping a false god. This was a sin that according to Abrahamic faith was central to all the other sins. It was the only sin that when one committed it would not be saved from the Lord's ultimate punishment, eternal burning and torture in hell forever and ever.

Suddenly! Hast remembered his atheist brother, Sardar. Sardar was two years younger than him and they were childhood companions. When younger, they played together, quarreled, competed and grew up together. They graduated from the same school until Sardar went on to study medicine and Hast went on to study theology.

When Hast had first awoke this morning, he was afraid that he might have lost his family, but now he was afraid about their afterlife fate, especially the fate of his atheist brother. Hast's parents were devout followers of Abrahamic faith. However, his younger brother was not! He and his brother used to engage in lengthy debates about God and the purpose of human existence. Hast was eager to bring faith to his younger brother, not only because he was afraid that his brother would go to hell, but mainly because he wanted to show God that he was one of his majesty's faithful ministers. Hast was desperate to convince his younger brother, but Sardar always asked for evidence.

"Can you show me a single, palpable piece of evidence about ∞Illuhim∞?" Sardar once asked Hast while looking at the sky and shouting in a mocking way. "∞Illuhim∞ where are you? Why are you hiding from us? If you want me to believe in you, show yourself!"

"You fool! Do not be disrespectful to ∞Illuhim∞," Hast angrily used to respond to him. "∞Illuhim∞ is not like humans.

He will not reveal himself to you from the outside. ∞Illuhim∞ reveals himself from the inside, and since our sensory organs are only useful to detect the materialistic world surrounding us, they cannot detect ∞Illuhim∞.”

To which Sardar replied, “What should I do then? Why it is my fault if God does not reveal himself to me from the inside as you say?”

Hast always felt frustrated when his brother asked for the impossible in order to make him submit to ∞Illuhim∞. He was wishing for something, a supernatural miracle, to make Sardar realize his arrogance and regret his decision.

Now, Hast was convinced that he was experiencing Judgment Day, and remembering his brother and his debates with him, initially made him feel proud about winning the argument as finally the truth was revealing itself, but then shortly afterwards, he began to feel sorry for his brother and thought that his younger brother may be somewhere in the crowd crying like the young lady and awaiting his doomed fate.

It was impossible to find his brother among the huge crowd of people. They were everywhere! Some people were wandering around like drunkards while some were entering the long queue. Nevertheless, Hast decided to find his brother at any cost as he couldn't imagine the thought of him suffering in hell. This was a thought that had never occurred to him before or it did not seem to be so serious, just a harsh a warning to unbelievers, but now it was a reality!

He began to look around for Sardar. Shouting again, “Sardar! ... Sardar!” He kept circling back to his ruined house and looked everywhere he could. Finally, after several hours of waiting and looking, he found Sardar walking within a section of the queue. He was surprised by how quickly he was able to find

his young brother among the huge crowd. “Sardar, are you OK?” he said while approaching Sardar.

Sardar turned to him with a pale and frightened face. “I don’t know,” he replied. “What do you think is happening? Is it post-earthquake chaos, or as people are saying, Judgment Day?”

“I’m also not sure, but based on what I see this is not an ordinary natural disaster. Look at the sun! I noticed it has moved to set in the east! This is one of the prophecies of Judgment Day,” Hast said.

“I noticed that! Many other people noticed it too, but could this be some sort of a bizarre cosmologic disaster?” Sardar wondered.

“Brother, everything you see happening around us is described in the holyScript. Any faithful follower knows and is confident about what is happening right now,” he claimed.

They continued walking for a period of over three hours and were hungry and tired. It was getting darker, the sun was about to set in the east, and the only source of light was coming from the golden palace far ahead. Both brothers were waiting in the crowd and advancing slowly toward it, and once they were closed into one of its huge gates, they were shocked to see a huge figure, over nine feet tall which had white wings attached to his back and who looked similar to angels described in the holyScripts of Abrahamic faith.

The angel figure was guarding the big gate, and another smaller looking angel was looking for people’s names in his handheld notebook. Once their name was found, a person was handed either a red letter or a green letter. People who received the letter then could pass through the smaller doors that were installed all around the huge golden palace.

“Our turn is coming soon!” Sardar said in a frightened voice.

Hast sensed his brother's fear, "Don't worry, ∞Illuhim∞ is a loving god."

"It seems that I was wrong," Sardar said. "I still can't believe why I was so blinded by my arrogant mind." He turned to his brother with a sorrowful face, "It was all my fault and now I'm ready to face the consequences."

"Don't say that brother. I will be with you until the end," Hast sensed the deep regret in his brother's voice and he wished to have done more to introduce ∞Illuhim∞ to him before today because, according to the holy§cript, regret would not save anyone on Judgment Day. Still Hast was feeling there might be some hope because his brother was a good man. He had recently graduated from the college of medicine, and he was eager to help the elderly and the diseased and had already saved many lives.

"God will not forget your good work, brother," Hast said to Sardar trying to comfort him.

As both brothers came closer to the front of the queue, people behind them interrupted their talk and pushed them toward the two angels. Sardar, who was in the front, seemed to have collected his courage and walked toward the angelic guard. "Are you aliens who have invaded our earth?"

The angelic guard looked down toward Sardar. "I know who you are; you didn't believe in us, did you? And yes, we are the same aliens in your holy§cripts, human!"

Hast was irritated by his brother's rude question to the angel. It seemed to Hast that his brother was still in denial and looking for other explanations.

The angel looked in his notebook as if he was looking for Sardar's name. After a brief moment, the angelic guard signaled to the other angel who was standing by with the red and green letters. The smaller angel understood the signal and handed a red letter to Sardar, "Take it. This is your pass." Once Sardar took

the letter, the angel followed with some instructions to him. “You can enter through any of the small doors after a symbol of a key appears on the letter. It has your identity, so you cannot use someone else’s letter to enter. If the key symbol has appeared and you don’t enter the palace in time, the key will disappear shortly and you will face your destined fate without any Judgment,” the angel said.

“Does the color of the letter indicate anything?” Sardar asked cautiously.

“You will find out later! We won’t tell you any more details,” the angel replied curtly as if it wasn’t interested in helping Sardar.

As the queue advanced and Hast’s turn came, the angel looked at his name in the notebook to see the symbol which denoted Hast’s destined fate, and then the smaller angel gave him a green letter with a smiley face and gave the same instructions to him.

Hast felt that the color might indeed indicate the determined fate, but he was afraid to ask the angel about it fearing to hear the news. Whatever the answer, even if it turned out good for him, it would not be for his beloved brother!

Moments passed and Hast was constantly looking for comforting words to say to his anxious brother. They waited in front of the small doors looking for the key symbol to appear in their letters before entering.

Sardar looked shocked and overwhelmed by the amount of inexplicable things that were happening. “Hast, I’m very scared,” he said in a croaky voice. “I think my red letter means something bad will happen to me ... I hope it is not as bad as your holyscript describes,” he swallowed his sputum while trying to finish his sentence.

“Don’t worry brother. We will enter the doors together and I will ask God to forgive us. I’m also not sure about my fate but ∞Illuhim∞ is very merciful,” he said.

After around half an hour, a symbol of a key appeared on Sardar’s red letter. “Hast, look at this!” he exclaimed pointing at his letter. “I think this is a signal for me to enter through one of the small doors.”

Hast looked at his own letter, but he couldn’t see any symbol yet on his green letter. “I think you should wait until the symbol appears on mine too so we can both enter together,” he advised Sardar.

The idea sounded plausible to Sardar. He stayed still while carefully watching the symbol on his letter. “Hast look!” Sardar said showing his letter to Hast. “I think the symbol is gradually fading away on my letter. I need to enter soon; I don’t want to face my fate without any Judgment.”

Hast looked at his green letter, but no symbol had appeared on his letter. He thought the symbols could be like slots allocated to each person, and they might not appear in people’s letters simultaneously.

“Hast, I think that even if your symbol appears, we might not be able to see each other on the other side of the palace when we enter.”

“I think so too because God’s judgment is private,” Hast replied.

“Then, I’m going to enter before the symbol completely fades away,” Sardar said. “Please, ask your God to forgive me when your judgment comes. Remember me!”

“I will never forget you, and I promise I will not go to heaven without you,” Hast said.

Sardar emotionally burst into tears hugging his older brother. “Please don’t do that,” he said. “You should enjoy

heaven. You deserve it. Don't worry about me. I was stubborn, and it is all my fault. Nobody should be blamed but me."

"Let's try to enter together," Hast said holding his younger brother's hand as they approached one of the small doors and tried to enter together. They both touched the door simultaneously; the door then magically pulled Sardar's hand and dragged him through. Sardar was swallowed into the palace.

"Sardar!" Hast shouted in frustration as he realized that he couldn't pass through the door to follow his younger brother. He became very concerned about what would happen to him inside the palace. 'I need to join him,' he said in his heart as he frequently gazed at his letter awaiting the appearance of the symbol. Many frightening images of his brother suffering in hell came to his mind making him more and more unsettled. He continued thinking about how his brother could defend his lack of faith when confronted by ∞Illuhim∞ himself. 'God, please forgive him,' he started to pray. 'God help us all...'

As time passed slowly, Hast feared that he would forget about his brother during his judgement because according to the holy script, God would take away emotions and mercy toward unbelievers so that believers who entered heaven wouldn't feel sorry for the unbelievers who were suffering and being tortured forever in hell.

After another half an hour the symbol finally appeared on Hast's green letter, and he quickly ran toward the door while reciting his brother's name so that he could keep his promise and try to defend him in front of God. Once he touched the door's handle, he felt a gentle force dragging him into the palace, and for a brief moment his vision became dark then he saw the light.

Hast found himself in a large hall with its walls covered in shiny, expensive looking marble which was covered with streaks of gold and silver. Far ahead, he saw an elevation on the floor

where a nine foot archangel with a pair of asymmetrical red wings stood in front of a curtain. The curtain had a marvelous design and it seemed to be a barrier between Hast and between someone else behind it. Hast tried to look through the curtain by sharpening his eyes, he was eventually able to see a shaded figure sitting on a throne behind the curtain. ‘Could it be ∞Illuhim∞ himself?’ Hast thought.

“Welcome to the Lord’s kingdom. Today there is no king but him,” the archangel said. “You are one of the Lord’s devout believers, and he will be glad to meet you face to face,” said the angel who stood by the curtain. “Before the Lord reveals himself to you, he gives you two choices and you are free to choose either one. Would you choose to live with the Lord in the Garden of Eden forever, or would you choose to go back to oblivion?”

Although Hast had recited his younger brother’s name before entering the palace, he momentarily forgot him when he was listening to the angel’s question, but now he remembered his brother again and thought this could be the best chance to ask about his brother’s fate before he forgot him possibly forever.

“What happened to my brother, Sardar?”

The angel seemed surprised by Hast’s irrelevant question. “He is in his deserved place. You will forget about him once you choose to live with the Lord in heaven.”

“Please, I need him to be with me in the heaven. I cannot enjoy heaven without him,” Hast said.

“He cannot be with you,” the archangel replied. “He did not believe, and according to the rules which you yourself have chosen to obey, your brother is now in his deserved place.”

“Is he now being tortured and suffering?” Hast asked hesitantly. “He is a good person, and he didn’t do anything bad.”

“Because you are a believer, I’m obliged to answer you, but I don’t recommend that you find out about the details of your brother’s fate.” The archangel continued, “During Judgment your brother himself admitted that he deserves to go to hell for eternity.”

Hast knew he’d get such an answer but he still didn’t want to give up and was determined to negotiate until he could save his brother or at least reduce his punishment. He looked toward the curtain, “Please God, could you not cover him with your mercy and save him after he spends time in hell for his sins?”

“God cannot break his rules. His punishment is eternal,” the archangel interrupted. “You already knew the rules and believed in them, didn’t you?”

“I know,” Hast interjected, “but I also know that ∞Illuhim∞ is a loving God and can forgive any sin.”

“Rules are rules,” the archangel replied. “Your emotions are getting in your way and are preventing you from seeing the righteous Judgment, but this will all be over soon when you make the right choice and decide to live in the Garden of Eden with the Lord. Your brother will be unknown to you and you will be able to enjoy heaven forever without any memories of him.”

Hast started to shed tears as he recalled his life with his brother. He remembered their childhood quarrels, happy moments and sad events as they all came back in a rapid but vivid flashback. He needed to do something to help his brother no matter what, and that moment he remembered his mother and father. “Where are my parents?”

“Your parents are in heaven already and they are waiting for you,” the archangel replied. Hast knew his parents would be safe as they were faithful to ∞Illuhim∞. “Did they ask about Sardar?” Hast asked eagerly

“They did in the beginning,” the angel replied, “but now they are living happily in the Garden of Eden and they have no emotions toward Sardar. In fact, they are disgusted by him and want him to suffer more. They are eager to see you, and you can follow them too if you choose heaven.”

Hast found it puzzling that his parents had chosen to forget about their son! He wondered why they didn’t insist on saving their son before they lost their emotions toward him! ‘If they chose to forget him, why shouldn’t I?’ he thought in his heart. ‘I have no option. I cannot save him ... I wish my memories and emotions toward my brother were taken from me involuntarily. I cannot choose to ignore my brother voluntarily. In fact, it is not only my brother but so many other people I know who will face this doomed fate! And I still have a heart, so why am I in this situation?’ Hast couldn’t throw away all of his guilty and disturbing thoughts since they kept forcefully intruding into his mind.

“You are emotionally suffering right now,” the archangel said reading Hast’s expression, “but everything will go away once you choose to live in heaven and enter a persistent state of joy and euphoria.”

A long pause followed...

“Time is running out,” the archangel said. “Give us your choice. Heaven or oblivion?”

Hast thought deeply in his heart, ‘It’s only a moment, and the memory of my brother will be wiped out. I will not feel guilty about not keeping my promise to him. I have no choice about his fate, and I only have choice about mine. I tried my best to save him. I have advised him for years, but he chose hell! It is not my fault!’ Hast kept reciting these thoughts in his mind which made him feel less guilty about the choice he would be making in seconds...

“I have made my choice,” Hast finally declared.

“What is your choice?” the angel asked.

“I ...,” Hast said while looking at the shadowy figure behind the curtain. “I ...,” he continued to murmur. “... I DON’T BELIEVE IN YOU,” he stated boldly facing the curtain. “YOU ARE NOT MY GOD!”

“What are you saying?!” the archangel asked while in shock. “You were already faithful before Judgment Day, so why have you changed your mind now?”

“I didn’t change my mind nor my faith,” Hast stated. “I’m still a devout follower of ∞Illuhim∞, the benevolent loving God, but the one behind this curtain is not ∞Illuhim∞.”

“Then who do you think he is?” the archangel asked.

“He is the Antichrist,” Hast replied. “∞Illuhim∞ doesn’t reveal himself from the outside. He reveals himself from the inside. I felt much closer to God when I was praying in the holy☉house than now, and you can’t be the god I believed in and waited for so long to meet!” Hast continued, “I know ∞Illuhim∞, and he is pure enlightenment. He is love and mercy, he doesn’t hide himself behind curtains, and he is always close to us in our hearts.”

“Then, I think you have chosen oblivion,” the archangel said. “You will go back to oblivion now.” He pointed a cane toward Hast’s chest. “Unless you ask for forgiveness and bow to the Lord now.”

“I will not bow to the Antichrist,” Hast declared confidently.

He felt the archangel’s cane pushing toward his chest then pain and darkness. He then suddenly felt like he was falling into a deep hole, but the impact with the floor made him jump from his bed and wake up in the middle of the night from a terrifying nightmare shouting!

“Are you OK?” said the woman sleeping next to him.

Hast realized that everything he had just seen was a nightmare! His wife Nergz was beside him with a sleepy look on her face and on her right side, his newly born baby was now starting to cry.

“You woke up the child!” Nergz said. “Did you have a nightmare?”

“I thought it was Doomsday. I didn’t remember you, and I thought I was younger and living with my brother in my parents’ house,” he said. Hast stood up from the bed, and took his child on his lap kissing him on the forehead while trying to settle the crying baby who he had named after the person he most admired, Abraham.

“It would be a horrific day,” Nergz said. “I wouldn’t blame you for not remembering us.”

“I did remember my brother, Sardar,” Hast said. “That was probably because I thought he was going to hell and the reason why I was most concerned about him in the dream.”

“This could be a sign from ∞Illuhim∞ to save your brother before this day comes.”

“Doomsday is perhaps on its way,” announced Hast as he walked back to his bed.

One week ago, he had read a news article where scientists were warning people that a deadly meteor was heading toward earth, and it was set to hit it by 2068. According to their calculations, if it hits the earth, all life forms would become extinct. This was because the meteor was the largest ever recorded, and hence the scientists were calling it the ‘Doomsday Meteor’. Hast recalled that today’s date was the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2060 then he looked at his baby again. He thought that eight years was enough time for scientists to find a solution. ‘I can’t

imagine my kid growing up just to face the horrors of that day,' he thought.

## Chapter 2

Kogar Shervan was a well-known, self-made rich entrepreneur. At 30 years old, he had won the local election and became the governor of Shinar Land from the years 2051 to 2056, and under his rule, life and prosperity skyrocketed.

When he was 22, he graduated from the college of psychology, and his studies on this subject helped him to deeply understand some aspects of human behavior. He knew what made people afraid of new ideas and what made them resist and oppose them. He used to explain to his colleagues that some of the human brain regions evolved in controlling the language processing were particularly useful in transferring our identity and ideas to other people. He used to say that language was a cheap attempt by our brains to counteract entropy and achieve immortality. He argued that the information acquired in one's lifetime of experience can be retained forever through copying the thought contents in one's brain to other brains.

Kogar knew the best way to copy his own thoughts to other people and to spread the seeds of his identity was to use the social media effectively, so at the age of 23, he decided to do a TV show. He started presenting a show on the topics of science and society, and his TV show soon became a big hit for the local people because he was presenting and discussing novel scientific ideas which helped to solve simple problems in society in a very appealing way.

Kogar's ultimate dream was to become the governor of Shinar Land that is why in his show he used to indirectly criticize the current political system in order to attract the audience's attention. For instance, he used to say that the parliamentary

voting system was an inefficient emulation of a human's central nervous system giving the impression to his audience that he knew a lot about the weakness of the country's political system.

“Democracy was invented by the Greeks when there was no social media,” he used to say in his show. “Ancient people didn't have access to the tools and technologies we have today, so they invented a system where some people thought on behalf of other people to establish that country's policies. This was the best idea back then, but we can do much better today. Every political decision today is driven by polls and social media,” he claimed. “Our politicians behave like they are independent and think for themselves, but in fact, they are all like me and you. They watch TV, surf the web to look at what's trending and what makes people happy or angry. We have to admit that today people are ruling themselves by themselves, and our politicians are nothing more than highly paid, useless statues. For example, take a look at our parliament. It has more than 200 members and we tend to think that 200 smart brains are thinking and looking for solutions to our life problems, but let me tell you, this is not true. Actually no more than two brains are actively working.”

With this reference Kogar was talking about the two major political parties which had the most members in parliament, the conservatives and the liberals. “Nevertheless, we are still paying huge salaries to over 200 members. I have studied psychology and I know that the brain efforts don't add up if they are not independent, and this is hard to achieve with our current political system because all the parliament members belonging to a particular party are just following the decision of their head unanimously instead of thinking independently.”

With his examples and his systematic expose of the corrupt political system, Kogar's popularity grew. People started

to suggest to him that he should run in the next election. He continued criticizing the political system in his shows.

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A few years later when Kogar was 26, he invested in a small but rising social website called 'zanzor.com', and initially the website was not very different than the other more popular and dominant social websites. It allowed its users to post, comment and follow each other until a small brain recording tool was introduced by Tek-Brain company. This tool, a sensor attached to the user's forehead, recorded brain signals and detected whether the person who was wearing it was happy or sad. Kogar saw potential in the device and immediately invested in Tek-Brain. He saw from this an opportunity to introduce something new on zanzor.com. The timing was ideal as at that moment another gaming company called Virtual-world™, had introduced a helmet which could take signals directly from the gamer's mind and use them to control the game flow. The company had already sold millions of the helmets and it had become a very popular gaming console among teenagers.

Kogar thought that if his Tek-Brain company produced a web application that could interface with Virtual-world's™ helmet, a million more users would then have the ability to register on his social website zanzor.com without purchasing their own sensors. People who were wearing the helmet could share their true emotions with others, and it didn't stop there since the brain recorder became increasingly more sensitive and could read a range of human emotions: sad, happy, eager, curious, love, or hate. This had made a big breach in people's private feelings because people usually tended to hide their true emotions. For instance, under the current social media's 'like' and 'dislike' system, a person could press 'like' when a friend posted

something online even if he/she didn't really like the post. In zanzor.com you couldn't do that because the helmet recorded only true feelings. If a person logged on to the website, they couldn't enjoy using all its features without turning on the brain recording helmet, and if the user decided to click on a friend's post, the helmet recorded true feelings and shared it with the friend. This was a double-edged sword, and zanzor.com turned many friends into enemies and many enemies into friends. The honesty associated with the website was very addictive, and it became very popular among a specific sect of the population.

Soon young people started to use this feature for dating as the website provided a good measure of true feelings toward each other. The website became a hit and within a couple years, its user base jumped from one million to 100 million. Kogar himself claimed to have found his true love, who later became his wife, through the website he owned.

In 2051 the regional election for the post of governor was announced and Kogar was among the most prominent candidates. He used to tell people that they should trust him because honesty was his motto, and he claimed that if he wasn't honest, he wouldn't have invented a social website solely based on this trait. His star kept rising, but unfortunately tragedy struck. There was an assassination attempt on his life, and the bomb explosion, thought to have been plotted by his competitors, claimed Kogar's beloved wife. He survived but was in deep shock and mourning.

The election was postponed, many people got emotional against all the other competitors and pointed the blame toward them. After one month of the incident, Kogar appeared on TV and promised that he would stay faithful to his beloved wife's memory and would not marry again. His statement attracted the attention and emotion of many people, even those who didn't

initially support him. It became clear that he would be the clear winner of the election and indeed he achieved 91% of all the votes and became the first governor to gain such massive support.

His legend didn't stop here, and during his five year rule, he achieved miracles for Shinar Land. He used science and technology to achieve many things that appeared to be impossible. Because of his social website, he gained a lot of experience analyzing the data collected online using artificial intelligence (AI), and so he was able to predict trends and changes. He could monitor graphs online to see the collective emotion of the people by what they posted on his webpage daily. He could also see how a specific decision made by him changed these trends. His aim was simple: maximize the happiness emotion.

During his role, he also invested heavily in 3D printing technologies as some Chinese companies had recently started to make and sell relatively cheap, large, general purpose 3D printing machines. The invention of these was labeled to be the humanity's crowning achievement in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With them anything from a small cup to an entire building could be printed, and not only that. Items with dynamic parts, such as cars, generators, utilities could also be printed. It made the process of creation as simple as possible, and to produce anything, all that was needed was a design model inside the computer, the necessary elements for printing and then to hit the print button!

Kogar invested in many general purpose 3D printing machines and used them to build houses and provide shelter for the many homeless and refugees fleeing from war torn countries. With Kogar's investment in the technology, the 3D printing industry had a rapid boost in productivity.

The advantages of the large scale general purpose 3D printers were immense. They sped up construction time and reduced costs by a factor of ten. Despite the job losses due to the new technology, Kogar was still able to secure new jobs for workers.

During the last year of his rule, he tested another masterpiece of a recently invented new 3D printing technology. This one took advantage of the helmet which recorded and read brain signals and was able to transform imagination into reality. There were currently limitations, the primary one being the fact that the machine couldn't accurately detect the imagined shape in someone's mind, but the entire thing was an impressive leap in itself.

At this point it became clear to Kogar that in the near future he would be able to model reality using his imagination just like in science fiction. 'With this, I can achieve miracles,' he whispered in his mind, and then an unexpected thought came to him and he suddenly felt paralyzed! The disturbing thought was that he could sense the presence of a big conspiracy. 'I'm not the richest person around, nor the smartest, and not even the ruler of a big country. If I can change the trends with my decisions, then others are already capable of doing much more!'

He remembered that the USA had started using an artificial intelligence program called 'The Brain Storm' nearly 60 years ago to predict best outcomes for its political decisions! There was another hyped project trying to build a superhuman called 'The New **ARK**' or TNARK project started 30 years ago in Europe. The Chinese entrepreneur, Lee Shark, the richest person on the planet who owned the biggest 3D company could already build entire cities in a short period of time. Many other rich and highly influential people had already started investing in God playing projects! And they were all ahead of him by miles.

He remembered all the conspiracy theories in his era which blamed the superpowers for wars and calamities. ‘They could be all true!’ he thought. ‘If I can use my imagination to model reality and change trends, then other superpowers are already ahead of me by light years! I could be the last one who has entered this game,’ Kogar thought. ‘If someone is already playing God by controlling everything, I need to find that person!’ he said to himself.

In the year 2055 at the age of 35, Kogar resigned from his position as governor. People were urging him to run for another round, as according to the polls, his popularity had increased even further and it was obvious that he could win another round easily, but he rejected them by saying that a change in power was needed and he wanted to give the chance for others to rule.

“My resignation from power will ensure that democracy will continue and power will be exchanged peacefully,” he said in his last interview.

“What is your plan after you retire?” the interviewer asked.

“I will be hiding from the media and public and take some rest for a while,” he answered. “Meanwhile, I will be funding revolutionary science projects. I will also use my money to encourage and fund education and health programs around the world.”

## Chapter 3

The next morning after his nightmare, Hast called his brother. “Sardar, you will not believe what I saw last night!” he said. “I just wanted to make sure you are OK because I had a bad dream about you.”

“What did you see?” Sardar asked. “Dreams are normal things.”

“I thought we were in the Judgment Day and you went to hell. It looked very real. I wanted to save you from the hell, but it would be much easier to save you now before that day comes.”

“What is the big deal?! Of course you will have such nightmares,” Sardar claimed. “You are always thinking about the apocalyptic fictional Doomsday.”

Hast realized he couldn’t convince him even a bit over the phone.

“I will pray for you until you will change your heart,” he said ending the call.

After getting his degree in theology, Hast taught the subject to 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and his wife Nergz was a history teacher at the same school. Once she has given birth to their child, they were both given parental leave for six months. During this time Hast had created an online blog and had posted many articles about his views on theology and Abrahamic faith prophecies of the end-days.

Two days after his dream, he received a call from someone identifying himself as Agent Mark Robinson from Interpol. He had said he wanted to meet Hast to discuss an important topic. Hast agreed to meet Mark the following week in a local coffee shop in his hometown, the city of Erbil, where he and his family lived. He found it strange that someone from Interpol wanted to meet with him. He kept thinking whether

posting controversial articles online had anything to do with the call he had received from Interpol.

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Mark had worked for Interpol for five years and he was also a member of International Conspiracy Private Investigators, known as ICPI. His job was solving puzzling international cases and facilitating the work of Interpol through co-operation with local police in member countries.

One month ago Mark had received a call from Zaniar, a previous Interpol agent and a close friend of him, he told Mark that Kogar Shervan, the previous governor of Shinar Land, wanted to meet with him on a very important subject. When Mark finally met Kogar, he warned the Interpol agent that someone was trying to play the role of God and was planning to control everyone's mind. Kogar suspected that someone working for the highly hyped, futuristic TNARK project was already planning to control the world through controlling people's minds. When Mark asked him what made him so sure, Kogar told him that after he resigned from his position as governor, he made a deal with Virtual-world™, the pioneer gaming company, to produce a shared helmet that had better brain signal detectors and could be used by the clients of both companies, Tek-Brains and Virtual-world™. Kogar claimed to have found shocking evidence that Virtual-world™ and possibly TNARK were trying to control the minds of their users through their suspicious equipment.

Virtual-world™ was an offshoot of the bigger TNARK project, when a user put on the helmet he would enter into a huge online multiplayer universe that had over a million other users. The helmet acted as a brain signal detector, the gamer used his/her mind to send commands to control the online game

without using any controllers. As a side project, the helmet also collected brain data from the users anonymously and provided this information to neuroscientists. The data would then be analyzed to understand how the human brain works, and this ultimately would help to advance the TNARK project.

During the meeting, Kogar showed Mark the newly designed helmets, the product of his deal with the Virtual-world™ company. There were 120 diodes emitting blue light all over the helmet. Kogar claimed that he didn't know the purpose of these small blue lights because for him these light emitters were separate and different from the normal 120 sensors that he used as brain signal recorders for his social website, zanzor.com. Kogar told Mark that brain sensors didn't need to emit any light to record brain signals, so someone working for TNARK or Virtual-world™ company must be up to something suspicious. Hence, Kogar urged Mark to investigate the matter further.

When Mark began his investigation, it turned out that the designers and engineers working for Virtual-world™ didn't want to share everything with him! The company's manager simply told Mark that the purpose of the blue lights on the outer surface of the helmet was just for aesthetics, mainly to make the helmet look more beautiful and technical! Mark didn't believe them. He urged Interpol to issue a 'Red light' and a formal letter to them so that the managers of TNARK and Virtual-world™ company would comply and reveal some of their classified documents to Mark. Meanwhile, he had also started to look online for topics related to mind control. Accidentally, he came across some articles and blogs written by a theologian named Hast about Abrahamic faith prophecies of the end-days and about mind control too!

Mark soon realized that there were a lot of similarities between what he was looking for and the prophecies of Abrahamic faith

which claimed that the Antichrist would appear in the end-days trying to play God and control the minds of people. That moment, Mark decided to meet Hast in person and ask him more about the details of Abrahamic faith prophecies.

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When Mark met Hast at a local coffee shop in Erbil City, he tried to explain the purpose of his meeting to Hast.

“Mr. Hast you may wonder why I wanted to meet you,” he said.

“Please just call me Hast, and yes I’m very curious to find out why an Interpol agent wanted to meet with me,” Hast said. “I don’t recall doing anything outside of the law. Has someone I know done something bad?”

“No, not at all,” Mark said. “Actually, I just wanted your expertise and advice in regard to something. I hope you don’t mind helping me.”

Hast thought there was a mistake. “I studied theology, so how can this expertise be useful to Interpol?” he wondered.

“I know,” Mark said. “I have read your profile and checked your resume and records. You have an impressive knowledge about the history of religions, especially Abrahamic faiths. I have also read some of your online articles and blogs about the end-days and the rise of the Antichrist. I wanted to ask you more about that if you don’t mind.”

“Is this part of your mission or just a personal interest?”

“Well, maybe both,” Mark said. “I think it could be related to something I’m working on.”

“Is it crime related?” he asked. “Could you please tell me more?”

“In your articles you claim that the appearance of the Antichrist is near,” Mark said. “Would you please tell me why you think that?”

“Well, because many of the prophecies have already come true,” Hast said.

“How?” Mark asked.

“We have already seen the minor signs, and now I’m witnessing the emergence of some major signs too.”

“What are the minor and the major signs?” Mark asked.

“The holy script describes some signs that will come true before the emergence of the Antichrist and Doomsday,” Hast replied. “Minor signs include: wars, corruption, bankruptcy, earthquakes, drought, disobedience to parents, worshipping money, committing sins publicly, and the appearance of new diseases. All of these will increase before the end-days, and you know more than I do that these things are already happening and increasing. Don’t you?”

“I see, but this could be due to the increase in population and more effective media coverage nowadays,” Mark proposed.

“That is one of the explanations, but you can’t deny the minor signs are increasing and there are major signs too which I think I have seen them emerging,” Hast said.

“Like what?” Mark wondered.

“In the prophecies it says that before the end of days a talking Beast will come out. People will love to talk to it and believe in what the Beast says. Also the beast can do wonders and miracles,” he claimed.

“And where is this Beast?” Mark asked.

“According to scripture the Beast is everywhere,” Hast claimed. “It can travel at the speed of light to everywhere.”

“And ‘who’ is that by your account?” Mark asked.

“It’s the AI revolution,” Hast answered. “Can’t you see that chatting bots like Cortana-x and Siri-z are now in every mobile device and in every pocket. They do talk to people, answer their questions, customize what the users like to see in the social media and very soon they will do miracles. We will be increasingly reliant on them.”

“This is an interesting analogy, but I’m not convinced to be honest,” Mark said. “And do you think that AI is the Antichrist?”

“No, the Antichrist is a person with blood and flesh. The Beast which the holyScript describes could be anything and that is why I suspect AI. I think the Beast is the false prophet who appears in the end-days too.”

“And what does the false prophet do?” Mark wondered.

“The false prophet is the one who deceives and lures ordinary people to follow the Antichrist. The Antichrist is yet to reveal himself, but I am guessing he is almost here.”

“OK, that will be helpful in order to identify him,” Mark said. “So you think the Antichrist is someone who uses AI to his advantage to lure people?”

“I think so because that is in line with the holyScript which says that the false prophet works under the Antichrist’s command,” he said.

“So it could be someone from the US government or Google headquarters for example?”

“It could be an organization in the beginning, but then someone would be controlling everything. I mean it should boil down to one single person who is evil and responsible for everything.”

“You think it’s a conspiracy like Illuminati?” Mark suggested.

“Actually, it’s interesting you brought this up because Illuminati is a code name for the Antichrist,” Hast claimed.

“Seriously?!” Mark wondered.

“Yes, the Illuminati word itself originally comes from Anti-Illuhim. However, because the word Anti-Illuhim was a very bold word and has caused a lot of irritation to Abrahamic faith followers, the word was changed to a more subtle one by putting the word ‘Anti’ as a suffix to form Illuhim-Anti, then gradually the word was merged to become Illuminati, which is more secretive but has the same intention,” Hast said.

“So you think Illuminati is a code name for the Antichrist and both words are used interchangeably?” Mark asked.

“I do think so,” Hast said.

“If the Antichrist has one power I should be aware of, what do you think it would be?” Mark asked.

“Mind control,” Hast answered confidently.

“I think I should end the meeting here,” he said. “Hast, you have indeed been very helpful.”

“I don’t quite understand your mission yet,” Hast wondered aloud. “Are you looking for the Antichrist?”

“Kind of... honestly, I don’t quite believe in the Antichrist, but maybe I’m looking for someone who is trying to play God.”

“I’m interested in tracking that person too. We should combine our efforts,” Hast said.

“I wouldn’t recommend you to,” Mark said. “My mission is risky and complex.”

“I don’t mind. I would like to save people from the Antichrist,” Hast insisted. “Please understand that tracking that person is more important for me than for you,” he claimed.

Mark saw determination in Hast’s eyes, and although he wasn’t very religious himself, he had a tendency to believe in the

religious prophecies especially in his current case where he detected a pattern of similarity between Hast's warnings about the Antichrist and Kogar's warnings about the true intention of TNARK's project. He thought to himself that two minds reaching a similar conclusion independently shouldn't be taken lightly. Hence, he decided to share more information with Hast to see if he could be more helpful.

"OK, I agree but you need to promise me that anything that happens will remain confidential between us."

"I promise," Hast said with an eager voice.

"When you told me that the Antichrist's biggest power is mind control, I couldn't refuse your offer to help me because I think your theological knowledge might be useful in my case," Mark said.

"Well, I think too much about the Antichrist. I have read a lot about him, how he looks, how he behaves, and basically everything about him. I might even be able to recognize him if he walked down the street in front of us," Hast said jokingly.

Mark laughed. "I bet you could!" He continued, "I'm currently investigating a technology built by TNARK and is widely used by gamers. I fear it could be exploited by someone in the company to control the mind of its users!"

"Actually, that is what I think the Antichrist would do to control people's minds; use technology!" Hast said.

End of Preview