죽 음

A death of the future

writer _ Hyunchoul Kim

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- Opposition forces



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contents

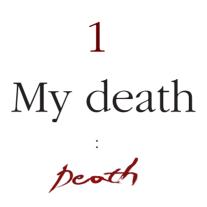
101

1. My death _6 2. Winning death _8 3. The 60th Birthday _15 4. Time of grand alpha _19 5. Opposition forces _25 6. Consideration on death _31 7. Me _36 8. Hunting _41 9. Farm _43 10. Zombie _48 11. Recovery _53

12. The Earth _60

Nobody Believes his own death

-Sigmund Freud -



I guess I'm dying now. My whole body is getting warmer and relaxed; I see a bright light but it doesn't blur my vision. Oh I'm finally dying.

How long did I wait for this death! I was supposed to be dead within 10 years, but each year shook me with anxiety! The fear of not dying made me anxious. It's been 23 years since I decided to die, and I will finally die now.

When was the last time I felt this calm and peaceful?

I'm worried and scared now; what if my soul still lives on after I die? I've been waiting to meet my beloved wife who rested in peace before me, but now I want my soul to disappear when I die. I want myself to be completely gone.

I'm still thinking. I guess I'm still alive. My body seems to

have stopped functioning, but my cognition seems to still be working. Am I dead? I never knew that dying was so hard.

I'm 159 years old. I was diagnosed with liver cancer in 2050 at the age of 50. One hundred and nine years have passed from the day I shortly thought of death, and 23 years have passed since the day I decided to die.

I was diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer in April 2050. I thought I was healthy. I had regular checkups every year and tried to live healthy in my own way, but cancer conquered me. With improved medicine using stem cells, cancer was no longer a fatal disease, but it made me think of death in a more realistic way.

If they had only treated my cancer, I would have been dead long ago. I can't blame anyone because this is all because of my greed.



"What should the opposition party do? The opposition party is dissenting from whatever the ruling party is doing." The governor of the ruling party is broadcasted on TV. 'How sick, the society is improving but politics is still the same.' I switch to another news channel. Social or financial news seems to be more bearable than political news.

I needed surgery to treat the cancer. The surgery was scheduled several months ago, but I was afraid. It was a stem cell surgery, and my tooth was used to get the stem cell extracted. I saw the sample going into a complicated machine to make blood for artificial liver cultivation. I was able to see my liver after 3 months. I heard from someone working in insurance, that my liver was similar to the condition of a 10– year old, and calmly thought 'that little thing can either save or kill me'.

I was not shocked when my doctor suggested a stem cell activation treatment with artificially cultivated liver transplantation for life extension. It seemed to be the natural thing to do. I saw many people receiving life extension surgeries on TV, and their successful life was broadcasted on documentary channels.

When I listened to the surgical methods, my doctor seemed to be like God. He said that a device will be attached to the aorta to continuously inject microscopic dose of medicine into the circulating blood. The device looked like a small round shield. It was actually called a Shield, which meant a shield that blocks age, and I heard that it could also be inserted between the heart and the ribs to protect the heart. It kind of resembles 'padding' in women's lingerie; the ones they put in their bra. The size was similar. The medicine inside the Shield moves with the blood and activates the stem cells inside the body, replacing old or dead cells. Consequently it keeps the current state of all the cells in the body.

The medication needs to be injected every 2 years, but no additional surgery is needed; it can be done through a syringe.

The medication effects are improving, so there would be new medications within 2–3 years that would extend the injection cycle up to 10 years. No batteries are needed for the device to work because my blood in the arteries will generate the electricity needed for as long as I'm alive, and the device also controls the medication quantity as the body temperature vaporizes it to keep the injection dose the same.

A single injection would make the body stay conditioned at the current or the age of the time of injection. If I have the injection 2 years later, I will be back in my 50's body, which is the age that I had the surgery. I wished that I could live healthy in the body of a 50-year old until I turned 100. I persuaded my distressed wife and decided to get the Shield implant for life extension along with liver transplantation. The surgeon, my wife, and I were not aware of the things that would happen in the future for implanting this tiny device in my body.

As I was preparing for liver transplantation surgery, I wondered, 'would I still be me after the surgery?' I knew that it's only a part of my body, but I wondered, 'would the liver transplant change me? or would I stay the same?' Some people say that I would be the same person as long as I have the same brain, but would I still be myself after surgery? I'm only

changing my liver, but many people were changing most of their internal organs, and some people even changed their entire body plus brain transplantation to upgrade themselves.

Let's look at an example of a watch, told by my philosopher. My watch was broken, so I visited a watch mender to fix it. The watch mender disassembles my watch to find the reason of failure, then replaces the broken part, and reassembles it. Is that my watch? What if I ask the watch mender "This is not my watch. You disassembled the watch and changed a part. How would you prove that this is the same watch that I gave you?"

When I was young, the most important national treasure of Korea, Sungnyemun, was completely destroyed by fire. It was restored afterwards, but many people raised questions on whether if it was still regarded as the most important national treasure. It was regarded as the most important national treasure, yet no one remembered the old Sungnyemun. The Gate was restored and looked the same on the outside, but the materials and the builders were not the same as the original. Sungnyemun is no longer the same. What if it was not burnt down? What if it just collapsed and we used the same materials to restore it by reassembling them? Would it be the same gate as the one that was designated as the most important national treasure in 1934?

As Sungnyemun is no longer the same gate as the original, people who changed most of their internal organs are not the same. Those who believe that their body is who they are, changing the body would make them think that they are no longer the same person, and the people who believe that their personality is what makes them, then their memories, beliefs, trust, desire, and volition would need to stay the same for them to think that they are the same old 'me'. I don't know where our soul exists in the body, but for the ones who believe in souls, their souls would need to stay the same to make them think that they are the same person. I don't know how they would prove that the soul is the same.

The first morning of my new life was beautiful. When I was young, I used to sit by a table or desk and look out the window on rainy days and felt cozy, warm, and safe for some reason. I felt the same way that morning. I could see how clean the air was in the dense forest through a wide hospital window. The sound of rain and tremulous leaves looked so peaceful, and the air inside the hospital room was warm and cozy.

Life around me became more exaggerated; my wife, I felt more warmth and loveliness towards my wife whom was sitting next to me.

While heading home after 2 weeks of hospital life, I felt healthy and energetic, and I was satisfied with the two surgeries I had. I was thrilled to go back to work, which I missed for almost a month. I remember that I've never felt that way before surgery.

A public relations manager of a pharmaceutical company explained to me about Shield. She said that the device can be used permanently because it has a very simple structure, and my own blood flow generates the power for the device to control the medication dose injection. Then she showed me the same device that was put inside my chest.

A commentator claimed that injecting a medication with only 10 years of actual use is dangerous for life extension; at least a generation-long clinical study is necessary, but the medicine is continuously being sold without it, and it is very dangerous and problematic. The other commentator argued that the medicine has already been approved by the US FDA among other countries for its stability, and that no more clinical studies are necessary because the drug simply helps cellular activation. "We secured the stability of the drug through 10 years of clinical study and 10 years of actual use. Shield can help mankind achieve the dream of life extension."

Those who had received the Shield surgery were shown on the screen while a reporter emphasized the happiness of their lives as he also felt energetic and confident having the surgery.

"The steady stock market began to progress as the stability of the Shield was announced. The exchange ceiling was outturned several times, and the price limit regime was invoked every time. This phenomenon is expected to continue."

3 The 60th Birthday

During the time I received the Shield surgery, less than 40% of the population in their 60s went through the surgery, but media showed that 80% of the population in their 60s, which accounts for about 42% of the total population, received the surgery within 5 years as its popularity grew. Economy news reported that as more people are getting the Shield surgery, the elder people, who were exempted from the economically active population, were going back to work, and these senior citizens were becoming powerful buyers.

The whole world is complimenting on Shield, which was born into the world by the Korean stem cell technology. The surgery started out in the advanced countries but now it is spreading to developing countries and to the underdeveloped countries. The drug sales of the pharmaceutical company were reported to be in geometrical progression, and its share prices are being exchanged in the highest price in the world.

Those who received the Shield surgery were being called Grand alpha, which meant that they are old grandfathers but with far better abilities (Alpha). The news reported that the surgical price for Shield was sharply dropping, and no side effects were found with 20 years of use; the medicine was confirmed to be perfectly stable.

News reported that as the tremendous amount of national pension and medical costs for the aged drastically decreased due to Shield, a bill to support the Shield surgery with National Health Service (NHS) for people over 60 passed. There were reports that only a small number of people showed side effects, and 99% of the people were satisfied with the surgery results. A few young people reported to be having the surgery with their own expenses, but most of the people wanted to wait until they get 60 to get the surgery with the benefits of NHS.

Business news reported that elderly who had surgery have the same energy as the young and the Know-How from abundant work experience, thus grand alphas were being hired increasingly. This contributes to the growth of profits and domestic market as well as reaching the loop of good money circulation.

I also had the energy of a 30-year old, and felt confident in my work as I had the top score in evaluation. My job was related to computer programming, and I went to the office 2–3 times a week and spent other days working at home. My life was stable; I went shopping with my wife, took strolls with her, and thought what a happy life I had.

I slept well today again, and I felt an irresistible energy in the morning. I did the same exercise as I used to do before, run a little bit on the running machine, had breakfast, went to work, and came back home with some work to do. On the days I didn't go to office, I was a little lazy, and prepared to work in my study. The overnight work that I used to do in my 40s always felt strenuous, but it wasn't difficult at all anymore. I have my 60th birthday party tonight. We used to have big parties on holidays before, but now we have simple dinners with close families; parties on holidays are against etiquette now.

I had 3 injections, and with medical improvement I can get the injection every decade now. This means that I can live another 10 years in my 50-year old body.

I tried to persuade my wife to have the surgery, but she

insisted that she would not go through any surgery that goes against nature. I thought she would change her mind when she got older, but she didn't. I was still 50 years old, but my wife was getting older, and it made me sad.

When my children turned 30, they talked about Shield in a positive way because they were trying to persuade my wife. She didn't look as old as my grandmother when I was little, but I still didn't want my wife looking older than me, and my kids probably didn't want to see her old either.

My relatives visited us for my 60th birthday, and I could see the effects of Shield. My younger cousins didn't have the surgery, and they looked older than me. One cousin had the Shield surgery, and he definitely looked lively. He said that he became really energetic at work and other parts of life compared to his age mates, and told his cousins to get the surgery as soon as possible. One of my cousins said that he doubled the dose and he's even getting younger. He actually looked younger than me although he had the surgery after me.

In the evening on my birthday, there was a news report on a three-car rear-end collision due to a grand alpha's sleepdriving on the highway. This accident caused 5 causalities.

Time of grand alpha

4

teoth

The morning news reported that the Shield surgery has extended the retirement age as the surgery is now being covered by health insurance up to the age of 50, and that the people who had surgery live until they get 100 years old, and even the general public is living a longer life up to the age of 80. Also, grand alphas were becoming the new buyers as their earnings per household increased as much as general households. Companies were releasing various products for them and the market entered the growth phase, and the market is expected to grow continuously, the report said. There even was a comment saying that the industry would regress if there were no grand alphas.

News that the nation is inducing grand alphas to go into the

world through various benefits, that the population of grand alpha is approaching 50% of the total population, and that the number goes up to 60% when the people under 50 who had the surgery are included. When the elders in general are included, the number goes up to 62% of the total population. The reporter added that this means that the politicians cannot ignore such high numbers of aged population. The politicians themselves are also grand alphas, and they will pour out more pledges to earn the other grand alphas' votes. This can be a great disadvantage for the young people who just entered the world, and the whole nation focusing on the elders could make the politics head towards extreme conservatism.

Reports on the overall social change and expansion of the labor market, retirement age extension, and social insurance programs such as pension and health insurance stated that grand alphas were in the lead. There are more young people who are getting the Shield surgery to compete with grand alphas, and getting the surgery at earlier age was reported to be making the social activities more vigorous than grand alphas.

While videos on active images were shown including news that people appreciating the medical improvement that won over aging and death, news on side effects also started to splurge. News showed poor people who could not get the Shield surgery, and the unemployed people who needed to get the Shield injection were stealing to get the surgery or even stealing Shield injections by breaking into hospitals. Fake Shields were being made and some people were using or being injected with the fake medicine, and these people even died after suffering from side effects. The reporter said not use the fake drugs. The news lastly reported there were more people who were doubling the dosage to get younger, but this could cause potential problems. Doctors warned that the approved dosage needs to be followed for safety.

It's been over a decade since I got the surgery. Medication gives me the energy to actively participate in social activities, and I had a feeling that I was also getting healthier. Brain activity was also livelier; I spent less time designing logic, and the error rate decreased.

Today I promised to take my grandson and granddaughter to an amusement park. Two of my sons got married and I have 3 grandsons and granddaughters. I tried to spend more time with my grandchildren. I tried the rides and 3D games with them, and tried to do the things that I couldn't do with my children when I was a parent. My grandchildren often come to me instead of their parents when they want to do something, probably because my wife and I play with them better.

My wife is now in her 60s. She looks younger than her age, but I could see her getting tired at the amusement park today. I agree with my wife that we should follow the nature of life as we were born naturally, but whenever I saw her body aging, I could only think of how to persuade her to get the Shield surgery. However I knew that I could never change her thoughts.

While I watched my wife and kids play and go on the rides, I thought about the meaning of family. I often thought that a family is a group of people on a life holding bus and holding on to the bus straps together.

When I was little, my parents held my hands to make sure that I didn't fall down on the bus, but when I grew up and was able to hold the straps myself, I didn't need my parents to hold my hand because I could stand without falling. However, when my parents got older, I would need to hold their hands to make sure that they didn't fall.

One day I met my wife and we got on the same life bus. I held one strap and my wife held another. We held each other's hands, and either of us would not fall no matter how bumpy the bus ride gets. Sometimes my wife or I would get tired or weak and would have no energy to hold on to the straps, but either one of us will put more strength in the hand to hold and protect the other person to make sure that she/he didn't fall.

When our children were born, my wife and I would need more strength in our hands because our kids would need our hands to hold on to until they grow up and be able to hold the straps themselves. If we let go of their hands, they would obviously fall down in a moving bus.

There are some families that only a father or a mother is holding the strap and everybody else is depending on that person. Some families might have all of the family members holding the strap on one hand and each other's hand on the other. Some families might be holding the straps, but not holding hands with each other. Some families might pretend that they're holding hands, but they're satisfied that they are not holding it tight. My family used to hold the strap with one hand and hold each other's hand with the other so that we could all stand still on a moving bus. My wife was in the center, and she never let go of my hand and our children's hands.

My family lived a stable life together, and I believe that we are still holding our hands. However, my wife began to get weak. Her hands were losing strength. My children and I could hold her hands tighter, but I can't keep telling my children to hold her up. I need to be stronger to hold her, and for a long time.

As I was thinking this, my children came home with their children for dinner. We had a good time together eating and talking, and we were happy. I felt confident that my wife and I were living a happy life. I was proud that I still had strength in my hands.

News reported that a person who took the Shield medicine while controlling the dosage died of cancer (nobody died of cancer for several decades ever since cancer was conquered). Additional news showed that a grand alpha was killed because he was caught under a machine during work. However, this information lasted for less than 10 seconds in media.

A 40-year old jobless breadwinner was sentenced to death because he killed his own parents to get the Shield injection out of them to inject it to himself. This incident became headline news, and it ended with the commentators against Shield, stating that 'I knew this would happen someday. It'll just get worse."

Opposition forces

peoth

"For humans to live humanely mean that we are born and killed by the laws of nature. Shield goes against nature, and it should be disappeared. We need to ban the manufacture of Shield, and make grand alphas stop getting the Shield injection. This would make us human."

News screen is displaying the entire scene of National Assembly as the spokesperson of GS (Green Silver) Party was addressing in a high-pitched voice. He stated that 50% of the population agrees with his argument, and that Shield means the wrongful greed of people, and this greed will lead us to the end of mankind. Some of the members of the National Assembly seemed to be applauding, but it disappeared as it echoed in emptiness. The reporter ended the news saying "All of the members of National Assembly are grand alphas except 3 people. Nobody believes that this policy that GS Party is talking about is going to pass."

Other reporters continued with a look that he already knew this was going to happen. "So the law to ban the manufacturing of the Shield or the use of it did not pass. GS Party said that they will hold a demonstration until the law passes. A religious party that agrees with the GS Party sent a supporting message. Religious parties are already opposing the use of Shield, but many of the believers became grand alphas, and what they're doing is not going to work."

Business news reports that the grand alphas are doing a great job in the society. "Grandaplhas are actively working in the society as much as young people no matter how old they are. Their experience and know-how are becoming the basis for their superior performance." The reporter spoke sounded with confidence and strong belief in his words. "As grand alphas are earning more, they have increased purchasing power. You might already know this. This can be an example of what their roles are in society as purchasing power takes an important part of economic growth in terms of money circulation."

Social news reported that the population of grand alphas

approached 65% of the total population, and that we used to call people over 60 years old who had the surgery Grand alphas 10 years ago, but now anyone who had the surgery are called grand alphas. For the last few years the number stayed within $60\% \sim 65\%$, and people forecasted that this number would stay the same. The reporter says that the other 40% of the people are thought to be the ones who think that natural death is more humane or people were too poor to afford the Shield injections. He stated that he wonders why the health insurance only covers the first Shield surgery and not the following injections, and that everybody would need to get the chance to extend life.

I used to wake up at 7am and watch the news, but now I automatically wake up at 5am and watch the 5am-news. I'm worried that I'm sleeping less than before but I still sleep 7 hours a day, and I don't get tired during the day, so I think I'm okay. My wife was still in bed when the news was over, so I made us breakfast. I stopped working out in the morning because it was winter and I didn't want to go outside early in the morning. I didn't know what to do until my wife woke up, so I changed the channel to watch other news. The news was exactly the same with the 5am-news.

"You guys are just living corpse. Just go outside and die. It'd be

more humane and helpful for the people around you." The new managerial staff was yelling at a grand alpha who was older than me. People tried to stop the managerial staff, but he shouted out "now the humans are coming to an end. Everyone should know that working with these zombies is a problem." and left the office. I knew that the staff was a passionate follower of the GS Party, but I could feel that more people became our enemies than before.

Something had happened in the morning as I just stepped into the office, so I was confused on what was going on. I started to worry that this would become a problem. One employee came to me and said "there was an error in the program that the grand alpha worked on, and a customer who spotted this called his boss and complained about it. The boss got mad at the managerial staff, and he told the grand alpha to write an apology and explanation, but he just smiled and tried to leave the office."

I recently felt there was a strange atmosphere between the normal people and grand alphas. I saw frequent fights between the regular people and grand alphas in restaurants and pubs, and these were reported on the news and radio. Some young people thought of grand alphas as filthy animals and said 'they're not human. They should be killed.' Maybe they're right. I used to compare my life to a skein of thread. I thought of myself as a ball of thread that came out from many skeins of human thread. I was formed from nothing but a thread out of my father and mother. I grew bigger as other people gave their threads to me. Later I started giving my thread to others. When I gave more than I get, my skein would not have much thread left, and then I would die.

If I lived my life normally, my skein of thread would be very small now, and it would be naturally waiting to go back to the empty space that I came from. However, my skein of thread seemed to be greedy holding up the threads, not giving any to others. I have so much thread now, but they were supposed to be passed on to others. What if they never get passed on to the other skein of thread and just disappear one day? What if the people can't make their own perfect skein of thread because the threads were not passed on to them?

Unlike my skein of thread, my wife's would be passed on to all the people that she loves, making their skein of thread bigger as my wife's skein of thread gets smaller. I would persuade my wife to get the shield surgery if I had the same thoughts as before, but now I envy her. She looked good getting old. She was beautiful as she was. Wasn't I supposed to live like my wife did? I came back home, had dinner, and watched the news. I can't sleep tonight.

Some of the grand alphas are having the symptoms of not sleeping, and the pharmaceutical company is doing their best to find the reasons, the news reported. There are more shops opening late at night as these grand alphas are not sleeping, and this is a new phenomenon that began with grand alphas.

There are more traffic accidents that are caused by grand alphas, but the news said it's not so bad, and we don't need to worry. Some grand alphas were experiencing lethargy.

Now the news on grand alphas seemed to be normal. They were causing accidents, getting cancer from increasing the shield injection dose, and the cancer is fatal since it doesn't occur in one or two places but the entire body. 100% of the grand alphas are reported to die if they get cancer.

News reported that the UN gathered supreme commanders of each country to discuss and announce the protocol on controlling the use of Shield. However, the reporter said that all of the supreme commanders are grand alphas now, and what would this protocol mean to us, and ended with "they agreed on the matter but the meeting ended without having a detailed schedule to make plans for execution."

6

Consideration on death

peath

My wife's skein of thread is gone. She left me alone on the bus. "Now we need to stop young people from getting addicted to the Shield that is wiping out humanity. We should not make political decisions just because many voters are grand alphas although we know the risks. We need to be determined." A young member of GS Party spoke up to the TV camera. The grand alphas who would have opposed to this were not there anymore.

The morning news anchor who's been anchoring for more than 30 years was replaced, probably because he was a grand alpha.

Except the grand alphas who received the Shield in the past,

the bill for Shield surgery for general people was brought before the National Assembly and was pending. Not many people think that the bill would pass since most of the members of the National Assembly are still grand alphas, but it could not be delayed any longer considering the people's emotions.

The events and accidents of grand alphas were no longer attracting people's attention. People were now fed up with such news. Statistic reports were replacing the news on the events and accidents caused by grand alphas. Citizen's interview on this issue was shown on the news, and they said that the driver license of grand alphas needed to be revoked and the ones who are showing symptoms need to be put in a concentration camp to prevent any injury or death of innocent and normal people.

Some doctors were siding with the grand alphas' explaining that there still are many of them who do not have any symptoms, but their voices were not heard anymore. Doctors who forecasted the dark prospect of grand alphas having symptoms by showing the statistic reports were well heard by the people. Voices that normal people should take over power of grand alphas in politics and economy were becoming stronger.

The following news reported that the pharmaceutical company of Shield is trying to find the reasons of the symptoms, and that they will make new drugs to treat these symptoms.

While I watched the morning news as usual I started to worry 'would I become like that?' 'what if I do?' I sleep less now, less than 4 hours a day. I can't sleep longer even if I try. I comforted myself because I didn't feel tired yet, but I was afraid that I would also become like those on the news.

My wife is sick. She's not just sick, she can no longer move. I suggested major organ transplantation, but she's not having the surgery. 'It's my time now, and I should die.' she thinks. My younger son respected my wife's opinion, and stayed 'natural'. He looks older than me now. Although he suggested surgery to my wife, she wouldn't listen.

She has aged and is waiting for her time, but it's beautiful. I kept thinking that I should have been like that. My grandchildren are all here and we were waiting for her death. I'm amazed that my wife waiting for her death looked so beautiful. People say that everybody dies alone, but my wife is definitely not dying alone.

My wife took look at everyone and looked at me, then closed her eyes. My wife worried about me this morning for not sleeping longer, but she died. She died with a happy face.

What is death? Does death make me vanish? Does getting

old and dying make me dead? Can I be alive when my body is dead? Or do I die when my body dies? Then what am I being able to die?

What am I and how can I die? Is this body me? Or what's inside is me? Is there anything in me? If that is a soul, is there a soul? or does my brain make the concept of a soul? If there is a soul, can it be separated from the body? If it gets separated from the body, would it stay alive after I died? If the soul stays alive, can that be called me? Would that soul live forever? Or would it disappear someday?

I believe that the soul lives in the body. Although, I don't know where in the body. It could be in the brain or in the heart. However the soul is not a substance, so maybe it does not exist anywhere. I still believe that the soul lives in the body. Yet what I think differently from religion is I believe the soul dies with the body.

Many say that death is sad. Was my wife sad that she was dying? She smiled. She wouldn't know whether to be sad or not. Dying means that she will disappear. How would she know whether to be sad or not? If she felt sad, then she would have been alive. Of course, my family and I are sad because my wife is gone. If our soul and body cannot be separated, my wife would not have been gone. If my wife exists, is there a reason to be sad?

My wife is dead. If there is a soul, my wife would worry about me, about my symptoms, my future, and my life without her.

I turned on the evening news, but nothing came to me. I needed 3 days to let my wife go. I turned the TV off.

When will my skein of thread be gone? Would it disappear? It's so greedy and holds up the thread so tight, would it be able to disappear?

Someone told me that the best way to remember someone is to live my life as the person help me become as I am. Would I be able to live on as the way that my wife formed me?

I miss my wife.

7 Me : peoth

Someone kicked me. I was lying down on the street when I woke up. I went to bed last night so I didn't understand what had happened. I thought about it, and realized that maybe I was having the stage 2 symptoms. It shocked me.

I slept less every day after my wife died. I didn't even sleep 2 hours a day but I was not tired. I sometimes fell asleep during the day though. I fell asleep while I was working, eating, or bathing. I knew that I had the stage 1 symptoms because the news talked all about it.

As I was heading home, I regretted about the injection that I had before my wife died. I shouldn't have been so greedy. The newly improved medicine makes me live for 40 years without additional injection. If I knew that the reinjection time was

living after my wife's death, I wouldn't have had it. It was my mistake for not controlling myself rather than my older son.

When I went home, the house was robbed. I left the door open, so the insurance company wouldn't take responsibility for it. I was thinking whether I should buy a TV since I couldn't watch the news, but I fell asleep

The news didn't attract my attention anymore. I wanted to know my future. I resigned from my company several years ago. I was actually fired. The company decided to not hire any grand alphas, so we were all fired. Funny thing is that most of the leading members of the company are grand alphas. I had some savings and insurance, so I won't have any problem with living.

I woke up in the same place again. It had not even been an hour since I got home.

My grandchildren didn't visit me anymore. My sons didn't visit me anymore. They came home on my wife's memorial, but they left as soon as the ceremony was over. My grandchildren used to love me when they were little, but now they looked at as if they saw a monster and avoided me. My sons didn't say anything. My older son had the chance to get the reinjection before my wife died, but he refused to get the injection. It's been 10 years since the medication effects were wearing off, and now he looks like a grandfather waiting for his death.

My son had his Shield surgery when he was 40, and looked the same until my wife died. However he was aging faster than the normal people when he didn't get the injection. It was one of the withdrawal symptoms of shield. He was older than my younger son who was not a grand alpha. However, he made the choices on his own, so he's happy with his life. He felt proud to get old now as he saw his mother die.

Stage 2 symptoms were becoming serious. I used to sleep for 2 hours and I was okay during the stage 1 symptoms, but now I needed 12 hours of sleep every day. Some people were sleeping for 16 hours. It'd be okay if people were just sleeping longer. The problem is that they woke up unconsciously and go shopping, walk, drive, and work in office, and they don't remember doing any of that. They suddenly fall asleep and wake up in strange places. I experienced stage 1 symptoms. I needed to be very careful from now on.

Grand alphas don't have driver's license. They cannot get drivers license, and the ones they had before were all collected. We can't drive now. The stage 2 symptoms make people drive without conscious. This made them get into accidents because they don't think while driving and fall asleep in dangers. Some merchants took advantage of this. They found out the customers with stage 2 symptoms, and they earned money by making them pay more. They would paid whatever the merchants asked even if the product was 100 hwan, they paid 10 won when the merchants said it was 10won, because they were not thinking. People were taking advantage of this to make them steal money or even kill people

If I existed in my body, then the body would be me, but if I do the things that I don't remember, would it be me who's doing the things? Like in somnambulism, I wouldn't remember anything, and I wouldn't think anything. Would it still be me? How would I know if it was me? I woke up in a different place from where I went to bed. Someone inside me would open the doors to go outside and walk around the streets to do the things that I thought should be done. Could this still be considered things done by me?

I opened up a ramen soup in a bag, put water in it, and ate it for lunch. Then I went to buy a TV thinking that I fell asleep in the morning so I wouldn't fall asleep until evening. I recently slept a lot, mostly during the day, but usually once a day. I fell asleep twice at one time, so I thought I wouldn't fall asleep. I picked out the cheapest TV in the store. It was in the size of a hand, but costed 1 won 99 hwan. The salesperson checked whether I had stage 2 symptoms, and he told me the correct price when I answered all the questions correctly.

I came home and turned on the TV on a roughly wrecked table. A light came out of the TV and the screen showed moving people. I turned on the news.

Grand alphas are no longer an issue on the news. The events and accidents caused by grand alphas didn't even show up in the news anymore unless normal people got hurt or killed. Today's news was on people with stage 3 symptoms escaping out of the farm they worked in. Their pictures and phone numbers were posted, and the reporter announced to report them on notice

News reported that the bill had passed that made government officials, members of national assembly, and politicians with stage 2 symptoms leave their jobs despite of strong opposition of many politicians. Although the current president still has his term remaining, he had to resign because of the law, and we needed to prepare for an upcoming presidential election. The vice president will be in charge until the next president.

8 Hunting

peoth

I'm running. I finally came to my senses and consciousness "Why am I running?"

A truck filled with people was chasing after me. "Ah, the grand alpha hunters."

The government isolated grand alphas who had stage 2 symptoms, and sent the ones with stage 3 symptoms off to the farm. People knew there were farms nationwide, but nobody knew what people exactly do there. The government said that they would pay a certain amount of money to the grand alpha hunters for every grand alpha they seize. I didn't know what they do at the farm, but my instincts told me that I shouldn't get caught, so I'm running.

I've been running so much that I'm running out of breath,

but I had to keep running because I heard gun fire. Many other grand alphas around me were all running, so I guess we were all in one place. One person next to me falls down. He probably got shot by the electric bullet. Now we're going up the mountain. The hunters are on trucks, so they don't follow us when we go up the mountains. This is possible when I'm thinking and conscious. I'm conscious now. I go up into the mountains and hide when I'm conscious, but I wander around when I'm not conscious.

I thought I couldn't run anymore but I am still running in the mountains. A couple of other people were running next to me, and they are saying no one is chasing us. I looked back. I saw the lights of the truck. The people were dragging something and loading them on the truck. They kept doing that and then left the mountain behind. I survived today.

The person who escaped from the farm said that the hunters use electric shock bullets, but once in a while they use real bullets. The hunters bet often to collect money and give it to the person who kills the most. This was because the government gives them money even when they take dead bodies back.

I'm hungry. I can't live like this. Should I kill myself? I can't kill myself. I don't have the guts to give up my life.

9 Farm : peoth

My arms hurt. I woke up in the morning, and my whole body is in pain. I don't know if it's morning or night. I don't get any sunlight even during the day. People next to me are sleeping. I didn't think 'how long did I sleep?' but that I need to do something before I lose my mind again. I checked if I had to go to the restroom. I didn't. I checked whether I was hungry. Yes, I'm hungry. That meant that it's been a time since I ate.

I walked down the path between beds and checked the food tray with my number on it. There was food. I ate the food.

My arms hurt. I woke up and my whole body was in pain. I thought if I needed to poop. Yes, I did. It is cleaner to take care of it while I'm conscious. I went to the restroom. It was full, so I decided to wait. I was working when I woke up. Yes I need to work. I need to think before I lose it again. Just think about anything.

I'm in the farm because I have stage 3 symptoms. I'm not just staying here but actually working. They provide us room and board, and make us work. We clean the roads or we move bricks and other materials at construction sites.

I'm not conscious for a long time. I just do what I'm told to do for most of the time. I can't do complicated things. We only do simple work. One time I was told to dig for building a road, so I was digging. When I woke up I was digging up the farmland with crops in it. I was getting beaten up. When that happens, I want to just lose my mind again, because it wouldn't hurt as much.

I don't know what day it is. I wake up in the morning, eat, and then work. There's no lunch. I get dinner after work.

When I gain my conscious, I think about my wife and children. My older son is has passed away. I lost contact with my younger son. I don't even know if he's alive or dead. I just wish that I die fast and I get unconscious.

The production and sales of Shield is banned now, and there are no more grand alphas made. Only the ones who are getting reinjections are left now, like myself. However these types of people still take up about 1/3 of the total population. About 30% of them have stage 3 symptoms. I learned of this by reading the newspapers that was thrown out in the farm. I tried reading them because I don't know what's going on in the world and if I don't even read this. Well honestly, now who cares what happens in the world? But I still read to think.

The government is hiding it, but the government can remove the shield implanted in our body. However, they're using us to recover the fallen economy as side effects of the Shield and how economic activities stopped. We work as long as we eat and sleep. This is cheaper than any other labor force, and we do simple work. We even go into dangerous places to work. How wonderful is that? There is no problem when we die on site. It's better for us to disappear anyway because that was what the society wants now.

Our labor force is making goods for the normal people in power now. The ones with stage 2 symptoms work in factories. They are fixed to the chairs so that they don't get hurt when they fall asleep while they're working. They work for free. The government tells the factory to secure the laborer's human rights, but the factory doesn't care. Everybody knows about this. I worked at the factory before I came here. I wouldn't get food if I made defective products. They would put me in a cell with no lights and no sound for weeks, but the factory was heaven.

I can't control myself anymore. The old me that was intelligent would have said that 'in the physicalist's view, I am me since the body and the brain are mine. In the soulist's view, I am me because my soul is still in my body. Any proof? I have the same soul when I'm conscious and not conscious. In the personalist's view, I am me because the memory, desire, and expectations are me. I'm sure now that I'm no longer me.'

If I were me, how can I do the things that I'm not aware of, how can I sleep with the people I don't know, eat, breath, poop, and work? I work for free. It's like the dog I used to have. I would feed him, give him a place to sleep, and beat him when necessary. A philosopher once asked. Do "I" have the privilege to my life? or does my 'body'? If it's the 'body' that has the privilege to my life, then I would have to give up on my privileges to my life. If it's 'me', do I have the privilege to my life?

Stage 4 symptoms are different from ours. I'm currently with the people who are just starting to have stage 3 symptoms. The ones with stage 4 symptoms cannot work outside because they cause trouble outside. They stay within the farm and work. I'm not as bad, but I'll be soon like them.

I passed out as I was thinking about my children. When will this end? I want to end it. I tried killing myself when I was conscious, but I passed out not knowing what went wrong and then I woke up again. How many times did I experience this? I want to die now.

10 Zombie

peoth

I have blood on my hands. I have blood all over my body. My face and mouth probably looks the same. The blood is dry and dark, so I guess it's been a while. I don't know how long it took for me to wake up this time. I'm a zombie now. They call people (?) like us zombies for a simple reason. We eat animals and humans whenever we get hungry.

The farm knows about this, but they don't care as long as we do well in farming. They don't care what goes on in the pen (this building we live in is called a pen). When I wake up in the morning, I see leftover bones and clothes of humans on the floor. Someone was hungry and ate up a zombie, and then other hungry zombies ate up the rest of it. This is the perfect scene for the 'humans are wolves to humans'. In some novel, a corpse is not buried or cremated but just left on the grassland. A young man asks an old man the reason. The old man answers, 'the grassland people killed so many to eat meat for their entire life. They're sinful. That's why they return their bodies to the grassland when they die. That's fair, and that's how their soul would be pain free and go up to Tangry.¹¹ I don't know what kind of a person he was before he was eaten by the zombies, but I'm sure his soul is free from pain. Although he was not eaten by the wolves but humans.

When a zombie dies, the manager appears right away with stun guns. They make the killer zombie and other zombies get out of the way and remove the Shield. They're trying to get the Shield injection. I don't know where they use that, and I don't care.

'This refers to the corpse that was magically revived by a voodoo bocor in the Western Indian Empire of America. It has the look of humans but it may be rotten because it is a dead body. It is completely under the magician's control, so it cannot listen, has no free will, and almost all zombies are used as slave–laborers in the farm. Zombies stay inside the graves in the daytime and come out at night to work. They can see in the

¹⁾ Wolf Totem, Jiang Rong, 2008. Kimyongsa

dark, so no light is necessary. Humans with high sins are told to become zombies as a punishment.' If this is called a zombie, then that's exactly what we are.

We're alive because of the drug. I sleep all day and don't remember most of it, and we're living without any will. We work for free at farms. One difference is that we work day and night. We have sinned. The sin was to go against the law of nature.

The life here is a nightmare. I don't know for how long I've been sleeping. Sometimes when I wake up, I remember things as I dreamed them, but most I don't remember. Every time I wake up I think one or two zombies are gone and a different zombie had come in. I don't know how I work. One thing that I'm sure of is that we're no longer humans. I heard that humans put existence before essence. We're not humans according to this, because we put essence before existence.

I need to wash up when I'm conscious. Like zombies, we don't wash. There is a faucet above my head. Nothing covers me. Who cares if someone sees me? No one will watch anyway, and even if someone does see me, would he remember what he saw? While I'm washing, one female zombie comes up to me. She's barely wearing anything, but she takes off all the clothes and opens up her legs to show me everything, and runs into me. She's probably ovulating. She would come to me even if I tried to kill her. I let her do whatever she needed to do. I was scared. Freud once said, 'women's genital area is not a thing that exists but an empty space needing something and a hole opened up towards men. That's why men are afraid of it. 'I need to think when I'm conscious; whatever that is.

Humans try to be perfect. Sometimes people let go of everything they ever wanted just to be perfect. However, we know that perfection is not good. There is something called the paradox of a vacuum cleaner. If vacuum cleaners could really make vacuum, would it be able to clean? The answer is 'no'. To make the space between a vacuum cleaner and the floor to be cleaned close to 'vacuum', all the dust will stay in the place and the cleaner would be difficult to move around. If vacuum cleaners become real vacuum, it would not suit its purpose. Vacuum cleaners shouldn't be a vacuum in order to clean. We all want perfection, but we all like the people who are not perfect. There's only one reason. Those people are more humane.

Patients with stage 3 symptoms in the farm are confined separately according to their gender, but the zombies with stage 4 symptoms stay together in one place. This makes the male zombies get on female zombies, but the female zombies welcome them. This happened to the zombies who became grand alphas at young age. Ovulating female zombies sometimes approach to the male zombies that they like and rub their bodies against the male zombies and actively woo them. Then they kill male zombies when they're on their period.

Some of the female zombies get pregnant. They stay with us if they can work, but they disappear one day. Nobody knows where they go.

I stayed conscious for a long time today. I was me when I started working. It was a sowing work. I remembered sowing and planting with my children before. I'm breaking into tears. I hope my children are all fine. I fall asleep again.

11 Recovery

I woke up with a tremendous amount of pain. One zombie was biting on my arm. The other zombies were standing around me in a circle, looking down on me. They were all drooling over me. One zombie was lifting up my clothes to bite my stomach. I tried so hard to get away, but I couldn't move my body. I tried every possible way to get out, but my body couldn't move as if I was frozen, and the zombies were eating me. If this could be the only way to die.

I'm completely covered in sweat. Where am I? Am I conscious? Or am I dreaming?

I slowly look around, and I'm back in reality. I got kicked out of the farm 3 years ago, and I still dream every night. Well, I'm not sure if I'm still dreaming, or if that's the reality. I'm confused.

It's been over 40 years since I had the last Shield injection, and I started to have strange symptoms in my body. I started to wake up from my sleep, my body started to age, and I couldn't do much work as I used to. The farm gave me 2 sets of clothes, 1 pair of shoes, a one-way domestic bus ticket to anywhere I wanted to go, and some money for one meal.

"With the effort of grand alphas, we're back at the economic standard of early 2090s. Grand alphas gave us hard times, but they were also victims. They were our parents, siblings, friends, and classmates. We survived, but they had to give up their lives. The damage that came from grand alphas was only about the amount of the economic growth they made and then took away as they were isolated from our society. Now we need to thank them. They recovered all the damages they made with their blood and sweat." A man in a suit is giving a speech on TV. He's probably the president or someone like that.

"We've been treating them worse than animals, but they've helped us rebuild our economy through the choices they made, and the things that we needed but didn't seem possible. Some of them live better lives now, but they're still doing the things that we don't want to do or think dangerous and avoid doing. Now they need to be respected as human beings and their human rights need to be secured. We need to return some of the fruits we have now. They were treated like animals until several years ago. They didn't even have food and shelter guaranteed, and they were either kicked our or left to die. We will pay the right amount of money for the people who are working now. We also need to provide some form of compensation for the people who couldn't die there but were kicked out." When I heard this man in a suit say the word people and human rights, I felt shivers coming down my spine. 'Now we're called humans, not zombies or grand alphas.'

The man in the suit on TV is probably the president. I'm not sure if I could believe everything he is saying though. The scene changed and a person from the Ministry of Health and Welfare started to speak. "If we pay all the people who worked at the farm the absolute standard of living, then we'll be spending the money from other welfare policy. Therefore, this can only work out after securing the budget to pay their salary."

A reporter responds. "The number of grand alphas that approached 30 million continuously decreased, and currently there are about 2 million grand alphas working in the farm. About 3 hundred thousand people are estimated to be kicked out or escaped from the farm. Therefore about 2.3million people are the subjects who will be receiving the payments. Although we provide the absolute standard of living, this number is too big that we won't be able to execute this considering the national economy. This is what the opposition party thinks."

"I won't deny how much they tried to rebuild our economy, but as much as they helped us, our financial standing isn't exactly stable now. If we already look for where to spend money as we began to recover, we will soon go back to the hard times again. There are so many welfare policies starting out for the commoners. We need to be reasonable on making decisions especially when the issue is spending money." said the man in a suit. Is this the president? He seemed quite satisfied for delivering the message of what is needed to give anything to people like us, the grand alphas.

I don't care whether they give me money or not. I'm just thankful that they see me as a human being now.

I am now living in a small house with a small garden, farming up in the mountains. I have a battery-powered TV, broken bowls, pots, spoon and chopsticks, and nothing more. I farm in the day time, pick up firewood's, herbs, and some greens for food. When there is nothing to eat, I will just starve. It's been several years since I saw a person. The Machiavelli intelligence hypothesis is as follows. 'the improvement in intelligence by the size of the brain is based on the demands of social world, not on the epidemic world.' If I live alone like this, would I have lower intelligence and won't even know that I'm dying?

It's been snowing since morning. It's not the same warm snow that I used to see when I was little, but snow in the mountains is very beautiful. The snow seems to be warming up the weather a little bit. I won't be able to do anything today because of the snow. My wife's face haunts me. Where would she be? I need to think when I'm conscious.

There was a time when I looked at death differently.

We were born in 1D, as we define it. A different world would have existed before although we don't know about it. In 1D, things only moved forward or backward. We knew that there were sideways, but it was impossible to go sideways. When I meet someone like me, I could move forward only if that person moves forward, and if they don't move, I also have to stop. We need to stick together as if it's our destiny. This relationship with that existence always stays the same; one in the front, one in the back.

In 1D, the existence "I" comes to death. I die in 1D, and

then come to the world of 2D where I could also go sideways. Now I'm finally at the place that I dreamed of. However, I don't remember anything from the 1D world. Therefore I'm not grateful that I'm born into the 2D world, but I complain about the problems of 2D. I complain about not being able to go up in the 2D world. We are now able to live as far as we can; sideways from each other. If someone doesn't move forward, I can go sideways and go ahead of him.

We die in 2D. Now I'm born into the 3D world that I'm currently living in. I finally conquered height. However, I don't remember anything from the 2D world. I can jump up and move forward without going sideways. However, our major movement patterns are the same as 2D. Height was conquered, but our bodies live in the 2D plane. Even though we get on the plane, we need to come down to the floor at some point. We live in the 3D world, but we can't go past time. If I die, I'd be able to move time freely. If souls live in the 4D world, and if they could go past time and stand beside me or past me, I'm going to shout. "Ghost!"

Then what would be the great gulf fixed in the 4D world? We wouldn't know in the 3D world. If we go past the 4D world, would I be born into the 5D world? Are we heading towards a

more complex world like this? Can dying be a new birth that is out of our limitations? If that is true, then we'll be alive forever without dying. We just won't remember anything from the previous world.

Would my wife be living in the 4D world? Would she be going back and forth the time with her soul since she has no body? If she's like that, she could show up in front of me, but I guess she's not like that. If my wife lived in the 4D world, I believe that she would have passed by me at least once even if I shout out 'ghost!'

A reporter gets the microphone. "The number of grand alphas that approached 40 million continuously decreased, and now there are about 10 million grand alphas working at the farm. About 3 hundred thousand people are estimated to be kicked out or escaped from the farm. Therefore about 10.3million people are the subjects who will be receiving the payments. Although we provide the absolute standard of living, the number is too big that we won't be able to do it considering the national economy. That's what the opposition party thinks."

The same people from the morning news came out on TV and said the same things, and left the scene.

12 The Earth

peoth

I thought I'd be dead in 10 years, because they said 10 years was the average. I survived more than 10 years. I take my clothes off and look at myself in the mirror. It's hard to stand still and look into the mirror because my legs are too weak and back is bent. I lift up my face and look into the mirror with all the wrinkles I have in the face. Now my body is all wrinkly and old. It hasn't even been 20 years since I quit using Shield, but my 50-year-old body turned into a 90-year-old. It's hard to stand still.

My skin lost elasticity, my internal organs are refusing to work, so I'm diseased. I'm taking so many drugs that I get full just by taking them. I'm extending my life by these drugs now. I've wanted to die so badly, but I'm still afraid of dying. What a coward.

'I think of Shield injection everyday although it's been 10 years now. Man's greed can never be fulfilled. Reasoning tells me that it's nonsense, but my emotions and body keep wanting the injection. I could get it just by paying the illegal dealers. This is worse than narcotics. One single injection will make me all young and alive again. I'm still thinking of it right at this moment. Just one single shot..

Living alone up in the mountains, I got so weak and old that I can't do anything on my own. I just wanted to die in the woods. I'd be dead anyways if I didn't do anything. One philosopher asked 'Is dying better than living a miserable life? If that is true, can the decisions you make while you're in the miserable situation be trusted?²⁾ Well, I was certain, and I could answer that with 'Yes'. As the philosopher said, two situations are needed to compare what is good and what is bad, but there is no comparison target to death. I'm sure about that. I would never regret dying even if the comparative condition is worse.

I've been waiting to die for several months, but somebody reported me as he was climbing up the mountain. The police carried me, and I had to go to a hospital. I kept on saying that I

²⁾ Death, Shelly Kagan, 2012. Eldorado

want to die, but nobody listened to me. The hospital found out that I was a grand alpha, and they sent me to a national nursing facility. Now I'm spending each day waiting to die.

That philosopher took an example of this situation. Person A saved person B's life. B thanks A. However, A says, 'Oh, you probably misunderstood something. If you want to thank me for saving your life, I need to give you some kind of benefit. If saving life is a benefit, then we need two hypotheses that your life is valuable and it is better for you to live. However, we can't guarantee that you living is any better when we think of the two condition factors. For the two condition factors to be fulfilled, you need a condition that you'd be in after death, but if you're already dead, you wouldn't exist, and that nonexistence is not the "condition" we're talking about. Therefore, if you thank me for saving your life, you're in great confusion in philosophical view.³⁰ Do I need to thank the police or the person who found me and reported me although I ignored my condition?

Today my great grandchildren are visiting me. Actually, they're the children of my great grandson. I found my great grandchildren after I was admitted to the nursing home for grand alphas. It took me several years to find them. However,

3) Death, Shelly Kagan, 2012. Eldorado

I wasn't sure if I was qualified to meet them or if it was okay to meet them, because I didn't know how they thought of me. I changed my mind many times a day whether I should meet them or not, and one day they came to see me. My grandchildren saw me when they were little, so they recognized me, but I couldn't recognize them. They were all grown up, and looked different.

They welcomed me as a human. The fact that I have the compensation benefits from the government probably played a part. Well, so what? My grandchildren are here but I can't play with them. I just look at them playing as I stay lying in bed, and I'm almost bursting into tears because I'm so happy. My wife would be happy to see this.

When my children visit me, other elderly people get happier than me. This deadly silent nursing home becomes a playground filled with laughter and loud noises when they come see me. It can get quite noisy, but everyone just smiles and watches them play as they listen to them. The children go around the nursing home playing and fighting; they're just having fun with each other. The days that my children visited me go by so fast that I don't know how it went by. Then I wait everyday for them to come see me again. I thought that my skein of thread would never give, and will just disappear one day as it still has handful of threads. However when I saw my grandchildren, I began to think that my thread is twirling off and I'm starting give my threads to others. I was happy to think that all my thread will be gone some day. I even wished that I could see them grow. '

As I watched my grandchildren play I thought, 'can a person live on?' I need to think when I'm conscious.

We learned that all matters are based on atoms and electrons. However, we found out that atom breaks into polonium and radium. As science improves, we will learn that what we know now is not all there is to it. The particles are so small that we live ignoring them. What if this world is, no wait, what if the galaxy is the atom and electron of the dust in the place where something great, something that is beyond our imagination, lives? Then what would that make us? What meanings do we have if the space is just another small particle that makes up a small dust in the bigger world that we can't even imagine?

On the other hand, what would it mean if the particles that we call atoms and electrons are actually another galaxy with other forms of life? If the particles called atoms and electrons is actually some kind of a planet that other things live in, then the studies that we do with atoms and electrons such as putting them in a super high speed machine to speed them up and collide them would make the Earth vanish along with the study. If 1 second means 9,192,631,770 days or 9,192,631,770 years to them, that the life of the Earth would only be 0.5 seconds.

We are nothing. If some form of existence sees the Earth as an electron and try putting it in the super high speed machine to make the Earth spin and break down saying "hey, we finally found the basic structure of a matter.", then our great human beings will just disappear with the Earth.

If they were uncivilized, would the human race survive? My children will have their children, and they will have theirs and maintain as human beings for the next 5 billion years, then will disappear by other fate of the Earth. The scientists (0.5 seconds on their clock) say that the sun will run out in 5 billion years and become a white dwarf star. When it becomes a white dwarf star, the sun will get bigger and bigger and one day it will swallow up the Earth, and the Earth will go inside the Sun. Then the Earth will become a planet of lava where no humans or bacteria can live on it. I guess I'm dying now. My whole body is getting warmer and relaxed, I see a bright light but it doesn't blur my vision



Oh I'm finally dying

Nobody believes his own Death

When was the last time I felt this calm and peaceful?

I'm worried and scared now; what if my soul still lives on after I die? I've been waiting to meet my beloved wife who rested in peace before me, but now I want my soul to disappear when I die. I want myself to be completely gone.

- My death

"Why am I running?" A truck filled with people was chasing after me. "Ah, the grand alpha hunters."

Hunting