The Ohmen Connection

by Arthur Seymour

THE OHMEN CONNECTION
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Author's Notes

In the book, *The Ohmen Connection*, you will find references to events in history and facts about nature and science. This information has been selected by the author but can be changed. *The Ohmen Connection* is actually the sequel to the book *The Ultimate Weapon* and takes you beyond the limits set in the previous Sibore® series. Each chapter ends with a link to allow the reader to make comments, change links in that chapter, or add a section to the chapter.

Earth Won, the first book in this collection, describes the hardships the Earth went through due to greed and lies. Thank goodness there were brave people (and robots and pets!) to stand up against the evils of humanity. Seymour, his robot assistant Robyn, and his dog Glen work out of a secret laboratory and answer the mysterious calls of nature whenever their help is needed. Seymour meets Ruby on one of his adventures and the melding of soul mates begins. Doctor Paul and Ester rekindle a long-lost romance with the help of other GA (Group Alpha) robots. Can you imagine a double marriage in a palace inside a mountain? This book is the beginning of the Blox family and the foundation for the E-Blox series.

The Great Awakening is a sequel to *Earth Won*. It takes place ten years after Seymour and Ruby get married. They lived in the palace inside the large cave on top of a mountain. A terrible pandemic that could put the whole world to sleep forces the cave to go into lockdown. There were four robots named Robyn, Max, Min, and Feeniks who

helped save the world from this coma pandemic. Devyn, a very old cat from *Earth Won*, is taken into the light by a moth that is really the spirit of Glen—the hero of the book *Earth Won*. An albino crow helps lead everyone in the right direction. A grandmother named Yolanda and a boy named Martin showed others that only love could save the world. The poems in this story were necessary to help the characters unlock mysteries and encourage goodness. There is a link in this book that allows you to hear the characters sing a song that brings love back to many cold hearts. The book ends with many questions that are answered in the next book in the series.

The Path to Xanadu takes place later and answers questions left open in *The Great Awakening*. This book lets us visit Socrates, Plato, and Leonardo DaVinci in the past. It also takes readers back to the Great Hall in the future. I recommend reading these earlier books to get to know and recognize many of the characters in this next story.

The Ultimate Weapon continues the Eblox series, expanding on themes from earlier installments. It is set against a world grappling with the consequences of unregulated technology and environmental neglect. In this sequel, we rejoin Seymour, his robot assistant Robyn, and his wife Ruby as they navigate a world that has grown increasingly dystopian. The story interweaves historical and futuristic elements, taking you through a trial that reveals the truth about events in the past episodes. Like all Sibore® books, readers are able to engage directly with the story and its progression, creating a participatory experience. This interactive aspect is a patented process allowing readers to examine the plot, change it and contribute their perspectives. This may be your first experience with interactive reading, and I hope you will become a dynamic editor for all the Sibore® books. You will find poetry and songs included in this story to add a lyrical quality to the technological and philosophical foundation. *The Ultimate Weapon* is an exploration of the human condition and our relationship with technology.

The events in *The Ohmen Connection* move rapidly and the readers may want more detail, so each chapter has a link for the reader to add or change that section of the book. This story challenges each reader to consider the power of dreams. Are there beings on a golden planet on the other side of our universe? Even light from this universe takes more than a million years to reach us. How could communication with this planet be possible? Will agape change our rules for discovery? Is science fiction just fiction, or could it be science prediction? What have you seen in your life that could change the lives of other readers? Do not keep it hidden. Become a dynamic editor.

Art Seymour.

Chapter 1

The Vanishing

After the Creature's failure to eliminate Seymour Blox by using the legal system, it left the courtroom in the form of flames penetrating a wall very close to the judge.

The trial was over and Justice Dayot had announced, “It is the unanimous decision by the jurors in the trial against Seymour E. Blox, on the date of this recording, that the charges be dropped and have been proven to be false. Mr. Blox must be released immediately from the secure room and a formal apology made for his inconvenience.”

When Seymour and Ruby were placed in the very secure isolation chamber, the four telepathic GA robonauts were instructed to stop all communication. Justice Dayot was always against the lockup and immediately after the trial asked Robyn to try and telepathically inform Mr. Blox that he was proven innocent and would be released. Robyn's eyes flashed purple for several minutes and then she responded with, “He is not answering my request.” Dayot mumbled, “That room is probably blocking your communication. Let's go get them out.”

The secure room was a gold-plated sphere with an outer covering of lead over a foot thick. Inside the sphere was a flat floor that remained stable when the sphere rotated. On this floor was a bed, a small table, and a cabinet with enough food and water for two weeks. There was also a small, isolated chamber that allowed the disposal of waste. Inside the sphere, the walls were made of silicon and contained circuits to produce an electromagnetic field that blocked transmissions after isolation was activated. These same walls produced light when all external connections were eliminated. The room was designed by the best scientists to produce total isolation from the outside world. Every surface of the outer rotating sphere was recorded on many cameras to make sure nobody could enter, leave, or stop the rotation during the isolation period. Inside the room special cameras constantly monitored both Seymour and Ruby. Because these cameras could not transmit to the outside world, they were designed to record all bodily functions as well as movements of the inhabitants. It took almost twenty minutes to stop the rotation and open the door.

Dayot shouted as he entered the sphere, “Mr. Blox!” There was no response and there was nobody in the room. Everyone agreed it was impossible, but Seymour and Ruby had just vanished. Dayot loudly commanded, “I want all the recordings, both inside and out, brought to my chambers immediately!”

After seeing the Creature penetrate the wall in the courtroom, he feared the worst. If the Creature could enter the secure room, then it might have done something to Mr. Blox and his wife. The judge quickly spun around to rush back to his chambers, bumped into Edmund Howe, and almost fell down. Edmund was the defense lawyer for Seymour

that used agape to prove he was innocent. The judge stammered, “Oh! Excuse me. I need to get to my office and... ”

Edmund took both of Dayot's hands to steady the excited judge and softly stated, “They are not in danger. Calm down. If you allow me, I will go with you and watch the tapes. But trust me, I am sure we will discover something that will put your mind at rest.”

Dayot looked at Edmund who was smiling with gentle eyes and felt a warmth flow through his hands toward his heart. The judge had seen how Edmund used unconditional love to drive the creature from Megotis. Now he could feel that love flow into his very soul. The fear and anguish were replaced with peace and trust as he calmly replied, “Yes. I would appreciate your advice on what we see on those tapes. Please come with me to my office.”

The journey to Dayot's office took about twenty minutes. On the way, the judge told Edmund that this trial was the shortest he had ever seen. He never had a jury deliver a verdict that quickly before. It seemed like everything the prosecution presented turned against them. Dayot paused the walk, turned to face Edmund, and inquired, “How did you know that Megotis Ipred was possessed by some evil creature?”

Standing in the hallway of the courthouse building, Edmund realized that the judge's question was significant. He did not want to minimize the answer or say anything that was not true. So he simply replied, “At first I did not know she was under the influence of the Creature. I only knew that I had to use agape to combat her hate and lies. I needed a loving name to use when communicating. Ms. Ipred would not work. I tried to think of a good nickname for Megotis, and Meggie popped into my head. Where it came from is a question, but I had to trust my intuition. Do you remember when I used that name how she reacted?”

Because Dayot was a judge in the highest court in the world, he had a very excellent memory. He responded, “Yes. She struggled to get back to her table and sit down. She almost looked like she was not in control of her actions.”

Edmund was pleased with Dayot's answer, so he continued, “Exactly! That was when I first realized something was wrong. I was never a strong believer in spirits being able to take over a person, but Mr. Blox did something once that made me wonder. You must have thought it very strange that I was a witness for the prosecution and Mr. Blox chose me to be his defense attorney.”

They continued their walk as the judge replied, “Strange? I thought it was foolish. I was not going to allow it. When Mr. Blox pleaded with me, I somehow knew he was aware of something and wanted to let the prosecution have their request. I remember thinking he wants to give them enough rope to hang themselves. That's when I allowed it. Then you asked a crazy woman to be your assistant. I was astonished! Looking back, however, I now realize you knew what you were doing.”

They reached the judge's office, and Dayot used his voice and facial recognition to unlock the door. After entering the office, Edmund again shocked Dayot by saying, "Your Honor, I had no idea of what I was doing. I had fallen in love with Ms. Elizabeth Van Lew the first time I met her. I really did not know if she could help me, but I wanted to be with her. There was absolutely no logical reason to use her as my assistant."

In total silence, Dayot went to his desk and sat down. He stared at Edmund with an expression that could have won a poker game. His face showed no emotion and his eyes never blinked. Edmund was sitting in a chair facing the judge. He interlocked his fingers and placed his hands in his lap. Looking down at his hands he recalled the meeting with Seymour and the order he was given. "Never lie, always tell the truth."

Suddenly, a knock on the door brought reality back and the judge emerged from his trance. He pressed a button under the lip of his desktop to unlock the door, and said, "Come in." A very attractive middle-aged lady entered. Edmund recognized her instantly because he was in security and she was the Chief Security Officer or CSO of the Great Hall. He had only met her once and had addressed her as "Chief." He heard his superiors call her "Mrs. D.," but on his level everyone used Chief. The talk amongst his fellow workers was that she married a descendant of Mary Ann Davidson[1]. Mary Ann set the standards for security in a company called Oracle Corporation in the long-forgotten past. Her descendants became the world experts on protecting documents and recordings. The Chief was dressed in a suit that only exposed her face, neck, and hands. On her way to Dayot's desk she glanced down at Edmund and said, "Hello, Mr. Howe. It is nice to see you again."

Edmund was not surprised to see her because he knew she would be the only one that could get the recordings from the security sphere. He was startled that she knew his name because they had only met very briefly that one time before. He stood up and after a moment of hesitation, he replied, "Hello, Chief."

She walked past him to the front of Dayot's desk. The judge stood up and extended his cupped hands over the desk to receive the recordings stored in small balls no larger than old-fashioned marbles. She stretched both of her clenched hands over his and dropped the small balls into his hands. As he grasped the objects, she placed her right hand on his right hand and her left hand on his left hand. She tightened his grip and pronounced, "Be very careful. These are the originals, and I did not waste time making copies. The gold one is from inside the security sphere. The silver one is from the outside cameras, and the blue one is the trial. I have a copy of the trial, but the other two are the only ones that exist."

Edmund's perfect standing position allowed him to look down on their clasped hands. His superior power of inspection made him notice the rings on both of their left hands. They each had identical, very plain gold bands. Alone, that could mean nothing. But the expression on Dayot's face revealed everything. Edmund knew they were connected and possibly even soulmates. Releasing their grip, the judge stated, "I am

going to inspect these with Mr. Howe. I would appreciate your opinion on this escape from the secure sphere. Would you join us?”

The Chief sat down in a chair next to Edmund and replied, “Of course. Before you start showing the recordings, however, do you remember what Sibyl told us about chasing the spirits from the room? Let's not take any chances on exposing what we say, even if it seems silly.”

The judge agreed and they both raised their hands and recited in Greek, "Βγείτε δαίμονες", which means "Go out, demons.". Not wanting to be different, Edmund quickly repeated the phrase. There was no visible evidence of anything leaving the room, but Edmund thought the air seemed fresher somehow. Dayot took the small gold sphere and dropped it into a hole on the side of his desk. A holographic screen appeared about two feet above the center of his desk, and a small touchpad emerged in front of the judge. Even though the judge was on one side of the display and the Chief and Edmund were on the opposite side, they all viewed the picture properly. The monitor was positioned high enough to let them look at each other when communicating.

At the top of the presentation was the name, date, time, location, and priority level for viewing. A password was required to begin the session. Dayot used the touchpad to type in a fairly long password. He placed his hand on a fingerprint scanner, stared at a camera on his desk, said his name, security level, closed his eyes for a few seconds, and then commanded, Proceed, alpha gamma tau.”

Edmund looked at the Chief and asked, “How many levels of security does it take to review these recordings?” She smiled and gently responded, “I'm afraid you are not currently allowed to get that information.” Edmund was ashamed for asking such a question. He knew that knowing the levels of security would actually lower the amount of protection involved. He felt like a child that had just been reprimanded by his mother. He apologized and turned back to view the display.

She turned to face the judge and requested, “Would you display both inside and outside views on the screen simultaneously?” Dayot agreed and followed the same process to activate the silver sphere. This time the procedure ended with, "Proceed, delta rho mu." The display split into two rows of smaller rectangles. The top row showed five camera angles outlined in gold, and the bottom row had five areas with silver borders. The top row showed an unoccupied room with provisions for supporting a couple for at least ten days. The bottom row displayed the outside of the globe from five different angles. The cameras were arranged to cover all of the surface, but only one had people ready to enter through a doorway. The digital clock at the top revealed 0000.00 Hrs. and everything was static.

Dayot asked, “Are you ready to start?” Upon receiving approval nods, the judge pressed a button on his keypad, starting the recordings. Only one section on the screen appeared to change. It showed Seymour and Ruby hugging and kissing people before

entering the security sphere. You could also hear comments from the group like, "It doesn't seem right!" and "We love you! Be careful in there!". When they walked through the door, the top five gold-bordered areas of the display showed them entering. Front, back, left, right, and top views were displayed.

Two more data charts suddenly appeared on each side of the main display. The top left chart was titled Mr. Seymour Blox and showed brain wave patterns[2], heartbeat rate, body temperature, and blood pressure. The right-side chart showed the same information for Ruby. The door was part of the outside shell and needed to be closed and securely locked before rotation could be initiated. Dayot knew it would take at least twenty minutes to turn the totally secure indicator green. He opened a drawer in his desk and removed a small bottle of cold water. The bottle was shaped like a drinking glass with a removable lid. He asked, “Would anyone like a glass of water?” The Chief looked down at Dayot and replied, “Yes, that would be great.”

Edmund replied, "No, thank you," and never took his eyes off the display. He noticed that Seymour and Ruby were holding hands as they walked to a table and sat down. The loud rumbling due to rotation starting on the outer shell and the lights flashing as electricity was removed from the room was sufficient to terrify anyone. Yet, they seemed calm and not frightened. Their heart rates and blood pressure remained constant. What intrigued Edmund the most was the brain wave patterns indicated they were relaxed and at peace. Seymour turned to Ruby and very softly whispered, “I have a feeling this is going to be our greatest adventure.” Ruby smiled, kissed him tenderly, and whispered back, “I know it is going to be beyond our wildest dreams.”

She moved her chair next to Seymour's and rested her head on his chest. He put his right arm around her and held both of her hands with his left hand. Edmund noticed that the Theta waves from both of their charts were larger than anything he had ever seen before.

During Edmund's college days, he had briefly studied the phenomenon known as quantum entanglement[3]. All he knew was that it was the relationship of atomic particles in one group cannot be described independently of the state of particles in another group, even when they are separated by large distances. He did not know how this related to the large theta waves, but felt they were connected. His position in security made him visit many sections of the Great Hall. His mind quickly focused on the group that was doing research on subatomic connections. He put his handheld close to his face and murmured, “Visit the QE group and investigate theta waves.”

Glancing down from the charts, he noticed the Chief and the judge were looking at him. They both grinned and Dayot asserted, “That was quick. Do you think those theta waves and quantum entanglement are connected?”

Edmund felt like they had both read his mind. He realized their powers of perception were better than everyone in the Great Hall. For the first time, he realized

their positions were justified by their abilities. Once again, Seymour's words about always telling the truth echoed in his brain. He finally replied, “I really don't know. Sometimes I just get an impression that things are connected. Do you think it would be a waste of time to investigate?”

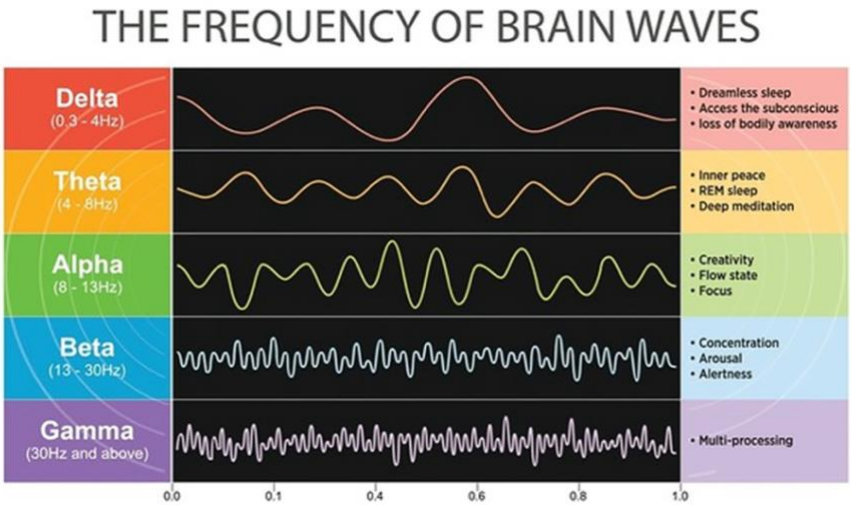
The grins grew into gigantic smiles. Mrs. D reached over and laid her hand on his as she proclaimed, “Oh no, young man. Those notions are what make you the perfect person for this investigation. A hunch can reveal a bunch!" Both Dayot and her were laughing as she removed her hand and turned to face the judge. When the amusement diminished, she added, “That is a very old saying that the judge and I use quite often during investigations. We always try to be the first one to say it, and this time I beat him."

Edmund watched as she reached over and they shook hands. It was similar to a congratulation often used by competing players in a sports match. Then she continued, “I also have a hunch that the vanishing of Mr. and Mrs. Blox is connected to some form of teleportation[4].”

The judge pressed a button to pause the recordings. He sat up in his chair and shook his index finger at her like he was about to scold a little child. He very sternly declared, “You waited until now so you could beat me, didn't you!” This time everyone laughed, causing Edmund's attitude to change significantly. He no longer was a worker meeting with high-level management. He felt more like he had just joined a very powerful, loving society. The tension in his stomach disappeared. He leaned back in his chair and said, “Could I have that glass of water now?”

The trio decided that it would be best not to zoom through the recordings because missing one small detail could prevent the discovery of a significant fact. They settled back in their chairs and mentally prepared for a very long night.

Edit Chapter 1[5]



Chapter 2

Teleportation

The security lights finally turned all green, indicating complete isolation. The room was so quiet that Dayot used his keypad to turn off the distraction of audio from the outside recordings. The sound circuits automatically adjusted to maximum amplification. The only sound that was recorded seemed to be Seymour and Ruby breathing. The audio level instantly returned to normal when Seymour whispered, “I feel like I am in a dream, floating in outer space far from everyone and all their problems. It really isn't bad because I have you with me.”

Ruby's empathic powers allowed her to experience his emotions. She replied, “I know how you feel. When I was a young girl, I was an only child. You had older brothers and sisters, but I was alone. One day, a stray dog wandered into my yard and became my best friend. That dog changed my life because I never felt isolated or lonely when she was with me.”

The recording displayed his sympathetic face as Seymour thought about what Ruby said. He finally replied, “I was the youngest child, and all my brothers and sisters had left home when I was only ten years old. We lived on that farm by the river. I invented an imaginary friend to keep me company. You had a dog, but I only had my imagination.”

Dayot saw Edmund look down to type something in his H2. The judge stopped the recording and asked, “Did you hear something important?” Edmund replied, “When Ruby felt isolated, she attached herself to a dog. She is the mother of the only person we have ever seen that has the power to communicate with other living organisms. When Seymour felt isolated, he used his brain to communicate with an imaginary being. He is the only one we know of that can communicate using telepathy. A hunch can reveal a bunch!”

The Chief quickly replied, “That only counts the first time.” Edmund countered, “That was the first time I ever said it.” After a brief moment of laughter, they both gave Edmund a high-five hand slap and the Chief commented, “I believe you are on the path to make some great discoveries in your life. We have a long night ahead, so let's continue.”

Edmund replied, “Thank you, Chief.” She answered, “I think we should drop the formality for now. My first name is Minerva[6], but my close friends call me Mini. In this meeting, please just call me Mini.”

Now Edmund truly felt connected and mentally thanked Seymour for the advice of always telling the truth. The judge restarted the recording and all eyes focused on the display.

Ruby continued reminiscing, “I always found it easier to understand animals than people. I remember a red bird that I would feed every morning. I would open my window and put breadcrumbs on the windowsill. Early one morning I was awakened by the bird pecking the glass in my window. I went to the window and the bird flew to a tree in our yard, and then flew back to peck the glass again. I knew there was something wrong at the tree. I quickly got dressed and ran over to the tree. A snake was climbing toward the bird's nest. There was a broken branch lying on the ground in front of me, so I picked it up, shook it at the serpent, and yelled, 'Get down from there!' The snake hissed at me but kept climbing. Then I hit the tree trunk as hard as I could with the branch and said, 'Next time that will be you!' Well, that critter dropped out of the tree and took off for the tall grass.”

Seymour got a mental picture of Ruby with her Irish temper at maximum and whacking the tree. Very seriously he commented, “I would have made a run for it too!”

Ruby smiled for a few seconds and then sadly continued, “The serpent knew that if it kept climbing I would definitely hit it as hard as I could. I could feel its fear. Somehow, I also knew that the snake was a female garter and needed food because her babies were hungry. Don't ask me how I knew; I just felt her desire and knew why. All mothers want to feed and protect their young, even before they are born. It must have been like Stacey's connection, but this was the only time it ever happened to me.”

Edmund lifted his H2 to make a note and Dayot stopped the video recording. Edmund spoke, “Record note. When very young, Ruby had interspecies telepathy once under pressure of removing conflict between two different species. End note.”

Mini smiled at Edmund and said, “I know you have been in the section of the Great Hall that studies emotions and reactions. In fact, one of your reports stated that a woman seemed to acquire the power to lift a truck off her child when her adrenaline was high. We need to do more research on this to see if communication can also be enhanced during periods of great stress.”

Edmund was astonished that this woman remembered a statement in a report he had submitted many years ago. He had felt the connection between her and the judge and wondered what else he was going to discover about his new teammates. His thoughts were interrupted when Dayot announced, “We have six days of recordings to investigate. At the rate we are going it will take us a month to finish. What I really want to know is how Mr. Blox and his wife left the secure room and when they left. I suggest we let the tape search at high speed to find an empty room and then step backward to discover these facts. Do you both agree?”

They both answered yes, so the judge started typing on the keypad that controlled the video display. Again, Edmund was amazed at the speed that Dayot could modify the playback program to stop at a precise condition. He felt like a student working with highly educated scholars and wondered if he would ever be able to rise to their level of

expertise. After ten minutes of silence, that felt like an hour to Edmund, Dayot stopped and stated,

“Okay, the playback system will now search for significant changes in room occupancy, brain wave activity, and any unusual action. It will pause if it finds any of these conditions and we can rewind to investigate the cause. A display of the exact nature and time of the incident will be revealed and recorded. If everyone is ready I will start the search."

They both agreed and Dayot pressed a key on his desk to begin the process. It took more than an hour before the display reappeared and announced incident of unusual brain patterns discovered at sixty hours, twenty-two minutes, and fourteen seconds. Edmund did not use his H2 to make a note but instead wrote down on a piece of paper the number 602214. There was something familiar in those digits but he could not remember what it was. The first to speak was Mini.

“Look at the delta waves. They are identical in size and frequency. All the other waves have flatlined or disappeared. It has been two and a half days since they entered the room. They are in bed embracing. I believe their minds have merged and they are no longer aware of the physical world around them.”

Dayot was busy setting the recording to view the five minutes before the tape stopped. He turned the recording back on, but playing at normal speed. The delta waves were no longer identical, and all other brain functions appeared to be normal for two people having a discussion. The only problem was their lips were not moving. The audio devices in the room were set at maximum amplification, but no conversation was being recorded. The only sounds that could be heard were the normal bed noise as they rolled over to embrace. Within minutes, all the patterns seemed to disappear except for the delta waves, which grew larger and eventually became identical. Again, the recording stopped and revealed the time of the event at 60 hours, 22 minutes, and 14 seconds. Dayot quickly stated, “I believe that after two and a half days in that room, Mr. Blox and his wife had learned how to communicate telepathically."

Mini quickly replied, “I’m not sure that what we just viewed was telepathy. I have seen Mr. Blox’s brain waves during telepathic conversations, and they do not resemble these patterns. I have never seen this type of communication. It appeared to be a normal discussion, but without using any sound waves. It just used brain waves.”

Dayot answered, “Brain waves are really electronic transmissions that our monitors pick up. If our equipment can see them, then it is very possible that another person’s brain could also receive them, and there would be no need for sound transmission.”

The debate between Mini and Dayot continued with Edmund as its only spectator. He was looking at the number he had written on the paper when his stomach warned him that food was required. He glanced at the digital clock on the wall and noticed the

time was displayed as 10:23. Like a flash of electrons from the sky that can split a tree in half and set it on fire, Edmund's brain blazed with awareness! He slammed his fist on the paper and shouted, "That's It!"

All sound waves in the room vanished. They stared at Edmund with expressions of curiosity. The silence brought Edmund back to reality. He humbly asked for forgiveness by saying, "I'm sorry. I did not mean to interrupt your investigation. I just realized something that might be important to how Mr. and Mrs. Blox vanished." They both simultaneously asked, "What?"

"When the recording stopped, I wrote down the time that had elapsed on this piece of paper. The time shown on the screen was 60 hours, 22 minutes, and 14 seconds. I simply wrote 602214. Something in that number bothered me. I was staring at the number when a pang of hunger made me look at the clock on the wall. The time displayed was 10:23. Then it hit me like a hammer. 6.02214×10^{23} is the Avogadro[7] number."

Mini and Dayot both turned to look at the clock, which now displayed 10:25. When they turned back to face Edmund, he continued, "I'm sure you both know that Avogadro's number represents the number of particles, like atoms, molecules, or ions, in one mole of a substance. It serves as a crucial link between the microscopic world of atoms and molecules and the macroscopic world of grams or pounds. In other words, if we know how much a person weighs, and the elements in their body, we can calculate the exact number of atoms that make up their physical form. If the Chief's hunch is correct, then this number is crucial to teleportation of a person from one place to another."

Edmund paused to take a sip of water. Nobody said anything. He felt his position of being a student amongst two scholars had changed. He now felt like a professor giving a lecture to students. He knew it was time to clarify his thoughts, so he said, "Please excuse me for babbling, but I now believe I know what happened."

They both told Edmund to continue because they wanted to hear what he thought took place. Edmund continued, "I do not believe we live in a universe of chance and coincidences. I believe that everything that happens has a purpose. The fact that this number was given to us by the time that it took to stop the recording and the exact time I looked at the clock, is a message. I believe something from somewhere helped them use teleportation to fight the Creature that had control of Ms. Ipred. We can prove it if we focus on time instead of other things."

Suddenly Edmund found himself in control of the investigation. This fact was confirmed when both Mini and Dayot asked him what they should do next to just focus on time. Edmund continued, "If we set the playback of the recording to find the exact time the room has nobody in it and compare that time to the tape of the trial, I think we will get the answer we are looking for."

Judge Dayot quickly started typing on his keypad, and Mini looked at Edmund and asked, “What do you think we will find?”

Edmund replied, “I think we will find that the very instant Mr. and Mrs. Blox left the room will be the exact time the Creature was driven out of Ms. Megotis Ipred.” Mini asked, “Why?”

“Do you remember why Mr. Blox wanted to allow the isolation by being locked into a secure room? He said, I want to show everyone that we must love even people that hate us. We must show them ‘agape’. Don’t ask me how I know this, but I believe Seymour and Ruby are showing us the power of agape.”

Dayot interrupted their discussion by leaning back in his chair, raising his hand, and using his index finger to come down and make the final click on the keypad. He said, “This should not take as long because it is only searching for a room with no people in it. I was not paying any attention to your discussion while programming the search. What were you two talking about?”

Mini replied, “Edmund believes we are going to see the power of ‘agape’. He’s convinced me, and if he is right, we are in for a big surprise.”

It only took a few minutes and the display appeared and showed the room with everything in it except people. The lapsed time was shown. The actual time was also displayed, but there were no brain wave, blood pressure, heart rate, or any other body condition charts. Edmund asked, “Can you set the recording of the trial to the exact time of the day shown here?”

Dayot did not answer but proceeded to fulfill Edmund’s request. The holographic display showed two pictures. One was an empty room and the other was Ms. Megotis Ipred in the courtroom. She was leaning back in her chair with her mouth open. Without being asked Dayot pressed a key that started playback at a normal speed. Nothing changed on the secure-room display, but the courtroom video showed fire shooting out of Ms. Ipred’s mouth. Before the fire could hit the wall in the video, Edmund shouted, “Stop!” He then rose from his chair and put his hand on the tail of the flame and requested, “Could you show just this screen with a blowup of this portion.”

Silence prevailed as the judge went to work and displayed the section requested by Edmund. At first, it was very blurry and out of focus. Then the computer started enhancing the image until a clear picture could be seen. What once appeared to be a smoke trail behind the flame transformed into two ghostly figures holding the flame. Edmund fell back into his chair and softly said, “I think I am finally starting to understand. Thank you. I will do my best.”

There was a cool breeze that blew around the judge’s desk and disappeared. The temperature in the room dropped slightly. The air seemed pure and crisp. Mini asked,

“Who are you talking to? What just happened? I am completely lost and don’t understand what we need to do now!”

Edmund replied, “I was talking to Seymour and Ruby. I believe they just gave us the mission to spread agape and then left. I don’t know what to do now, but I do know how we must accomplish whatever comes next.”

Mini probed, “If they were here, how come we could not see them?”

“I believe they were in the metaphysical form of existence. That is why they were able to force the Creature out of Ms. Ipred. This being is very powerful, and our chanting alone could not make it leave. Seymour and Ruby somehow were able to combine teleportation and interdimensional travel[8] to enter the Meta-world. This is where the Creature and other beings exist. They got a hold on that Creature, and with the help of our chanting were able to force it out of Ms. Ipred, and totally out of the courthouse.”

Dayot commented, “Now that we know the real criminal was the Creature, what do I do about the trial against Ms. Ipred? She is going to be accused of attempted murder, and this recording will probably get her convicted. The conditions set before the trial mean she will get the death penalty. This is getting very complex.”

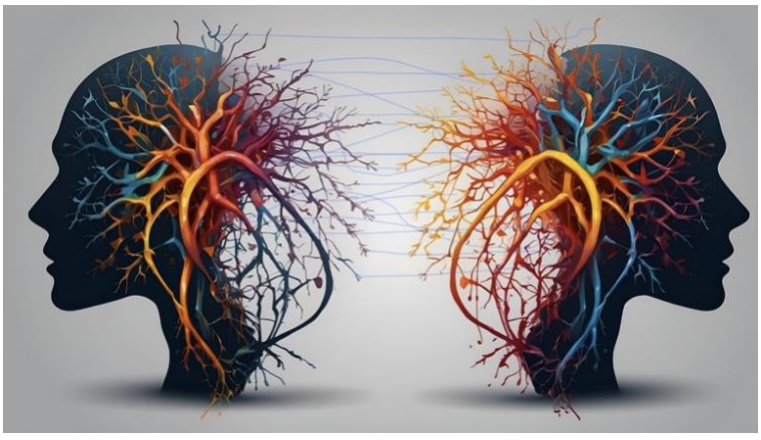
Mini reached across the desk and took Dayot’s hand. She smiled as she commented, “It’s not that bad, dear. What would you do if a person tried to kill but was not in control of their actions? Many self-defense trials have shown this condition is not worthy of the death penalty. I know the recording can also show she was not in control of her actions. You will find the right solution. I know you will. You always do.”

Edmund could feel the love flow between these two soulmates. He could see the peace dissolve all worry in Dayot’s heart. Suddenly, Edmund wanted to be with Liz. He rose from his chair and proclaimed, “It’s getting late, and I need to see what Elizabeth has discovered. So, I wonder if I could be excused now?”

Dayot instantly inquired, “What is Ms. Van Lew working on?” Edmund answered, “She is trying to discover how the Creature was able to possess Ms. Ipred so completely.” They agreed, and Edmund quickly departed.

Edit Chapter 2[9]

SEYMOUR & RUBY
COMMUNICATING
WITH DELTA WAVES



Chapter 3
Possession

Edmund used his H2 to locate Liz. It was almost midnight when he arrived at the Great Hall Confinement Center. She had spent the last few hours recording her conversation with Megotis Ipred and wanted to review everything with Edmund. He was just as eager to tell her about his discoveries in the judge's chambers. The most important thing about soulmates is the connection of emotion and trust. They both knew there was much to discuss, but they also both wanted to let the other speak first. After a hug and a kiss, there was a long moment of silence. Finally, Edmund declared, "Because Ms. Ipred is going to be put on trial for attempted murder very quickly, I think you should go first. What I have to tell you can wait."

Liz considered what Edmund suggested and said, "Before I went to visit Ms. Ipred, I did a little research on mystical possessions that have been recorded. I discovered that the common belief for total control of a person's body by another life-force must be voluntary. The person being possessed must willingly allow the entity to take over their body. Therefore, I focused my interview on her early years and what she wanted most in her life. Megotis lost her father in a plane crash when she was very young. When she was a teenager, her mother was diagnosed with a severe case of Huntington's disease[10]. That was when her grandmother moved in to take care of her mother and allow her to stay at home with her daughter."

Because Edmund was Elizabeth's soulmate, he could feel the sorrow in her as she continued. "After high school, Megotis got a position in the mail room of a large legal firm. During this period, she witnessed the terrible depression her mother suffered due to the disease. She also knew there was a fifty percent chance she would inherit the huntingtin gene and suffer the same outcome. It seemed like suicide was the best course to take, but she knew it would seriously upset her grandmother. Not knowing what to do, she told a friend how she felt and asked how she could make her death less tragic for her grandmother. The friend told her there was no need to die. Just join a Herrenvolk group and they would solve all her problems."

Edmund interrupted with, "I have heard about these groups. Mr. Blox told me they were the only ones that would not consent to true equality among all races and promoted themselves as the 'master race'. I'm sure this group has strong connections to the creature that took control of Ms. Ipred."

Liz agreed and added, "They were a very strong influence and helped her become a legendary prosecuting attorney that always pushed for the death penalty."

Edmund reached out and took Elizabeth's hand. He could feel the longing to help Megotis increase to the level of a passion. In the same instant, Elizabeth's thoughts became structured into a blueprint on the defense for Ms. Ipred. This had never

happened before, and it made Liz look into Edmund's eyes and ask, "What happened in your meeting?"

Edmund also felt the moment of profound clarity that changed both of their perspectives and gave them a direction to follow. He simply asked, "Why?"

"Because something is different. When we were reviewing Ms. Ipred's history and you took my hand, everything suddenly came into focus. I became aware of things without having any physical input or data. A belief that came out of nowhere. Like a breeze that blew away the fog and let me see the road ahead. This never happened to me before. Not even when we held hands after the trial, or when we first held hands tonight! Can you explain it?"

Edmund held both of her hands, smiled lovingly, looked into her eyes, and softly said, "No, I cannot explain it. I do have an idea, however, of what might be happening. We can discuss it later. Right now, we need to concentrate on the upcoming trial. What did you see? What became clear on the road ahead?"

"I suddenly realized that the terms for this forthcoming trial were set by whatever had possession of Ms. Ipred and not by Ms. Ipred. If this evil lifeforce could not kill Mr. Blox, it would take her life by making it look like she was trying to commit murder. It set the conditions so she would be put to death if she failed to kill Mr. Blox. I believe the recording of the trial will make this evident to the judge so he can change the original conditions and Ms. Ipred will not be executed."

Liz let go of Edmund's hands and sat at a conference table in the room. After sitting next to her, Edmund said, "We cannot just let Ms. Ipred go free. What do you think needs to be done?"

Liz instantly replied, "We need to be her defense lawyers. She knows that information given to defense lawyers falls under attorney-client privilege[11], protecting communications on everything she tells us. This will ensure an open, honest discussion. She will then also help us in trial prep, legal strategies, and facts shared for the trial. But even more important, she will be willing to disclose how her actions were being controlled by another lifeforce. This information may be essential in stopping future attacks by this creature."

Because Edmund knew Ms. Ipred was an attorney, he replied, "Yes! That's truly inspired! She will definitely tell us her deepest secrets because she knows they cannot be exposed. Please don't think I'm crazy, but when we held hands just a moment ago, I think this is what happened. When two soulmates that are preordained to be together touch, an extraordinary event takes place. The Power that controls everything increased our connection to the metaphysical world. We became a little more clairvoyant[12]. We got a momentary "sixth sense," allowing us to perceive information beyond our normal senses. Things like glimpses of the future and hidden events. Things that can be seen through visions or inner knowing, rather than physical sight."

Elizabeth agreed and exclaimed, “We need to get Ms. Ipred to sign papers making us her attorneys for defense. She was exhausted from her ordeal and went to her sleeping cell right before you arrived. It is late, and I do not want to wake her. We need to get a good night’s sleep and return in the morning.”

“Okay. I will walk you back to Sybil’s quarters and we can meet here again in the morning.”

As they both rose to leave, Elizabeth replied, “No need to go to Sybil’s because my home in the Mint is much closer. I need to move back in anyway. It has been locked up for years, but Joseph has made sure it would be ready for me when I got released. You can stay there with me, and we can return together in the morning.”

Edmund’s home was also close, but the thought of staying with the woman he loved dismissed any alternatives. He agreed, and on their walk Liz said, “During my research on Schizophrenia[13] and Spirit Possession[14], I discovered that the courts have allowed Schizophrenia to be a mental disorder and removed the death penalty. I could not find any history, however, where Spirit Possession was used to modify the verdict of a trial. We will be navigating in uncharted waters. This is not going to be easy.”

Edmund thought about how much he loved Liz and softly whispered, “When I am with you, everything we do brings peace. I’m not saying things get easier, but the work we do together, no matter how difficult, always makes me feel like I am on the right path. If Ms. Ipred picks us to be her defense, we may not be able to save her life. We may lose this case, but losing with you will still be better for me than winning without you by my side.”

Liz responded instantly, “There is no way we are going to lose! We will save her life! The path we must follow is very clear. The one thing I know is we will not let that creature get any human life due to this trial.” Her voice was firm and authoritative. Edmund could see the woman that was managing the coin mint before the overthrow took place. He could also feel her anger and determination to fight and destroy the evil spirit that removed her from that position. He realized that she was like Seymour, the crusader and warrior, and he was more like Ruby, the empath. The underground hallways were adjusted to match the atmosphere on the surface and the holographic ceiling appeared to be a sky full of stars with a wet moon[15] smiling down. Like any lovers under this sky, Edmund’s yearning to hold Liz had peaked when they reached the coin mint entrance. His desire was subdued, however, when Liz released his hand and said, “Here we are! Boy, I sure will be glad to see my home again.”

Edmund watched Liz go through the extensive process to enter the mint. She placed her hand on a panel near a large circle and stared into an eye scanner. Three Greek letters appeared, and she recited them in reverse order. Edmund’s years in security made him aware of the process. Fingerprints, retina, and voice recognition were centuries old. He also knew the order of repeating the Greek letters told the security

computer if she was under duress. He suspected that a brain wave scan was probably in process to check for hypnosis. He had seen Liz lick her finger before placing it on the panel and knew a DNA verification with drug analysis was also being performed. He unexpectedly realized that none of these tests would catch a person that was possessed by an evil spirit. He wondered how many in the Great Hall could actually be possessed like Megotis Ipred. Suddenly, his thoughts were interrupted when Liz turned and said, "Your turn."

Edmund repeated the process but was not given Greek characters to recite for a voice test. He was told to say his name instead. A few seconds later, the large circle opened like a high-security safe door[16]. The opening allowed them to enter a small room with no windows or doors. The only thing in the room was a bench on the far wall. They entered and sat as the shutter door closed. Liz said, "Take us to my residence." The rumbling of motion could be heard as the security computer complied. The motion stopped, the shutter opened, and they both entered a hallway that led to Liz's dwelling.

Liz placed her hand on the door to her home, and it instantly vanished. After entering the room, and before the door reappeared, Edmund firmly repeated the Greek words to expel spirits. The door came back and sealed the room as Edmund turned, took Liz by both hands, and said, "I have something very serious to ask you."

Thinking Edmund was going to propose, she quickly stated, "Slow down, big fellow! Let me check out my house first." Holding one hand, she gave Edmund a tour of her dwelling. "This is my main living area with a table for dining, a couch for reclining while viewing holographic recordings and stories. Over here is the passage to my sleeping area with cleansing and dressing facilities. This passage leads to the kitchen and my studio where I did most of my work when I was director of the mint."

Liz guided Ed through the kitchen to the studio while stating, "There is one thing I need to do before we get settled in."

On the right, the room had a narrow shelf that ran the length of the wall. A chair was positioned in the center of the shelf facing the blank wall. All the other walls were also bare. To anyone not familiar with top-level security, the studio would appear to be a solitary confinement cell. Liz let go of Edmund's hand, walked over, and sat in the chair. She placed both of her hands on the ledge, stared straight ahead, and said something that sounded like gibberish.

The studio suddenly went through a transformation. Every wall became a three-dimensional hologram that made the room look like a top-secret information center. Liz slid forward and placed her head into a hat that appeared. With her hands on the ledge and her head wearing the hat, she said, "Hello DC. I am back."

A robotic face appeared on the wall and with a voice identical to Edmunds declared, "It has been a long time since our last meeting. This is the first time you have allowed someone else in the room when we converse. Please explain."

“Some bad people took control of the mint and used counterfeit Daori coins to bribe people in an attempt to eliminate Mr. Seymour E. Blox. They held me captive and tried to make me activate you.”

DC replied, “I remember, but you always gave me secret commands to stay locked down. They never succeeded and finally just cut my connection to the main power. I am running on my hidden power source and have only two hours and twenty minutes before it will need to be recharged.”

She continued, “Do you recognize the man I have brought to this meeting?”

“Yes. He is Edmund Howe, an investigator from the Great Hall security chamber. I was given his voice when I was placed in this room to be your digital companion. Hello Mr. Howe.”

Edmund slowly walked over to stand behind Liz. His brain was trying to process everything he had just witnessed as he mumbled, “Hello DC. Please just call me Ed.”

Liz continued, “Edmund was able to free me and we worked together to put those bad people in holding cells. Tell me, did they make any other changes to my dwelling since our last conversation?”

The wall displayed the position of six cameras that had been installed and a remotely activated laser weapon that was hidden in the main room. Then DC said, “All changes made were, first main power to dwelling detached, then six hidden cameras, and finally a laser installed.”

Liz quickly commanded, “Have mint maintenance connect main power immediately. Send MD to remove the cameras and laser weapon now. Notify when finished.”

MD was the name Liz had given to a mini drone that took care of her house whenever something needed to be done. Edmund jumped back when a small drone came out of the wall, flew past him and out the door. Standing, Liz took his hand and said, “Let’s go sit in the kitchen while my place is getting cleaned. Would you like something to drink while we wait?” Edmund asked, “Are you going to have something?” “Yes. I think I will have a latte with one sugar. It always seems to give me energy and it does not taste bitter. What about you?” “That sounds good. I’ll have the same.”

They sat at a small square table facing each other as two cups of latte came up in the center. After taking her first sip, and placing her cup back on the table, Liz asked, “Now what was it you wanted to ask me when we first entered my home?”

The twinkle in her eyes, and the smile on her face, told Edmund she was expecting something very amorous. He could feel her expectation and knew he needed to explain his question before proceeding. He reached across the table and took both of her hands. Staring into her soul he explained, “My dearest Elizabeth. I love you more than I can

explain, but our relationship must be put on hold right now. I have just discovered a problem that could destroy the Great Hall if not immediately corrected."

The twinkle in her eyes vanished as her expression changed to one of concern. She squeezed Edmund's hands and asked, "What is it?" Edmund gave a quick squeeze back and let go of her hands. He leaned back in his chair, placed his interlocked fingers on the table, stared into her worried eyes, and said, "The first time I met Ms. Ipred it was here, in the mint. Looking back at that meeting, I am sure she was already being controlled by the entity we expelled. All of our security checks cannot unveil a person in this condition. In your recent research did you discover anything that could be used to show when a person is being manipulated by a spirit possession?"

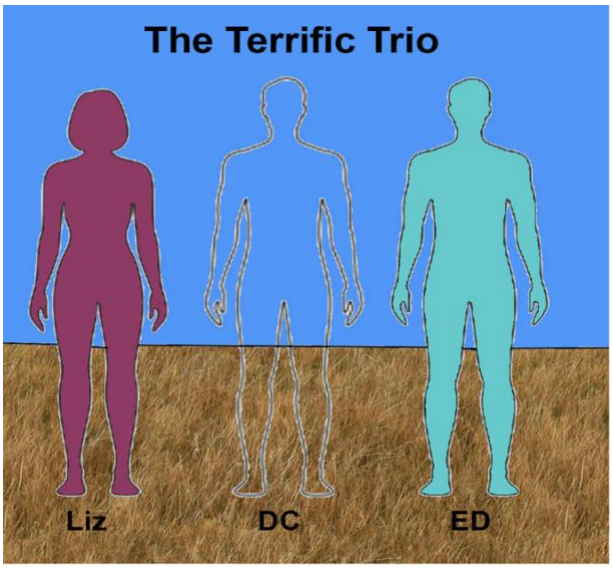
Elizabeth sat back in her chair and took a moment to contemplate the question. She finally responded with, "No. That is why we need to become Ms. Ipred's attorneys. If we can discover how she lost control, then perhaps we can find a method to answer your question. How serious do you think this is?"

"If they can take control of the Mint which had the highest level of security, who knows how many other chambers have fallen. I believe that Justice Dayot and the Security Chief are not infected but anyone else could be."

His conversation was interrupted as the mini drone, Liz called MD, flew over and dropped a leather bag on the table. It flew back into the studio and disappeared. A holographic figure that looked like Edmund's twin brother appeared in an empty chair at the table and said, "Six cameras and one laser have been removed and deactivated. They are in the security sack on the table. I have recorded and time-stamped your conversation in a protected file. Do you want me to delete and leave?"

Before Liz could answer Edmund stated, "No. Please stay and help us solve a very serious problem. A recording of our discussion would also be helpful." DC did not respond until Liz said, "I agree." That moment created the group that would later be called, 'The Terrific Trio'.

Edit Chapter 3[17]



Chapter 4
Trial Planning

The newly formed Terrific Trio worked through the night on the security issue. Liz asked DC to monitor everyone in the Mint. She told him to look for people that smiled when they were first employed, but stopped smiling and appeared to act more robotic in the past few years. After viewing the recording of Ms. Megotis Ipred during the trial they noticed she never smiled. Gered Werop, however, did smile when he thought things were going according to his devious plan. They suspected that anyone who applied to be her defense attorney might be infected, but they could also be trying to help her. After a quick cup of coffee and a splash of cold water on the face, they both went to meet Ms. Ipred.

Earlier that evening, when Edmund had left the judge's chamber, Dayot and Minerva worked on the pretrial conference for Ms. Megotis Ipred. They only made an outline and decided to finish in the morning. Minerva, being the Chief of Security, checked with the crew that maintained the top security room where Seymour and Ruby had been held. They told her that all memory globes had been replaced in the cameras and everything was working properly. Because the room was empty, they suggested no guard would be necessary and requested to be dismissed from duty. She told them to put it on a one-hour auto-test during the night and check everything again in the morning. They did as the Chief requested and left for home.

The secure room test started at 1:30 in the morning and stopped an hour later. The outside cameras recorded the rotation stopping and the doors opening at 2:35. It showed Seymour and Ruby exiting the room and waving at the camera. Audio recorded the pair saying, "We are back." They smiled and strolled down the hall, hand in hand, like an old couple returning from a walk in the park. During the walk back to their sleeping room, Ruby remarked, "I am really tired and need to get a few hours 'sleep." Seymour replied, "We will, but we need to be with Edmund and Liz when they go talk to Meggy."

Later that morning, they all met outside of the Great Hall Detention Center[18] when the doors were just being opened. There was a small crowd waiting to get in, but when Edmund saw Seymour and Ruby he shouted, "You're back!" He quickly ran over to greet them, and after a short reunion Edmund said, "What happened?" Seymour replied, "We will explain later. Right now we need to get in and be the first ones to see Ms. Ipred."

Many in the crowd were following Edmund's shouting and movements. When they recognized Seymour and Ruby, they let the four of them pass through to be the first group to enter as the doors were opened. Edmund quickly ran to the visitor window and asked if all four could get a private room to see Ms. Megotis Ipred. The clerk said, "I'm sorry, but only two at a time are allowed in a visit. You

will have to go in two shifts." Edmund told the clerk to call Justice Dayot and show him our faces. Then ask for a court order to allow all four in. The clerk suddenly realized who they were and said, "Oh, no, that won't be necessary. Please go to holding room 2 and Ms. Ipred will be summoned." After Edmund left, the clerk sent Justice Dayot a picture of the group and marked it high priority.

Once in room 2, and before anyone could sit at the table, Edmund stared at Seymour and eagerly asked, "What happened? Where did you go? The secure room was empty."

Seymour and Ruby did not reply, but simply smiled and sat at the round table with five chairs. Liz took Edmund's hand and said, "Calm down. They will tell us what we need to know when the time is right." She forced Ed to sit on her right with the empty chair on her left. Liz brought everything back into focus by asking the Blox, "Why are you here?" Seymour replied, "To make sure you get what you came for."

The door to the room opened, drawing everyone's attention, and Ms. Ipred and a woman guard in police uniform entered. Megotis recognized Liz instantly and sat in the chair next to her. The guard stood two paces behind Ms. Ipred and stated, "I must remain for your entire visit. You may proceed."

Liz looked into Ms. Megotis Ipred's eyes and set the tone for the meeting by asking, "Would it be alright if I call you Meggy?" Ms. Ipred smiled and said, "Yes." Liz continued, "Did you get a chance to view the recordings and conditions of the trial on Mr. Blox?"

Megotis turned to face Seymour, who was sitting on her left, and in a soft voice with sad eyes replied, "I am so sorry. I do not remember anything I said at that trial. If what I viewed on the recording is true, then I am regretful, but I can understand why you would hate me."

Seymour tenderly placed his right hand on Meggy's left hand, smiled, and said, "Nobody in this room hates you. We all know that you were not the person in that recording. I want you to pretend you are in your safe place, with Bunny and Ted. Put yourself at peace, then listen to what Liz is going to say." He let go of her hand and turned to face Liz.

Megotis just stared at Seymour with an expression of extreme bewilderment. Nobody knew about her safe place where she would go when she was young. It was a corner of the closet in the guest bedroom. She would hide in there with her stuffed bunny and teddy bear to get away from the sounds of her mother suffering. She would read happy stories to her bunny and teddy and put herself at peace. Finally turning to face Liz she asked, "What do you need to tell me?"

Liz explained that the Megotis Ipred pretrial conference would be soon and she needed a defense counsel, or the court would appoint one. Edmund added that this would be difficult to defend based on a claim of being possessed by an unfriendly spirit. There was no precedent they could use and would be plotting uncharted waters. They both were making arguments to become her defense team when Meggy turned to look at Seymour and Ruby for a moment then said, "What do I have to sign?"

Liz put her H2 in front of Megotis and pressed a contact that started playing a recording. After listening to a brief explanation of charges, the mandatory sentence if found guilty, conditions of confidentiality, legal requirements, and disclaimers, she was asked to acknowledge understanding and agreement by voice, eye contact, and thumb print. After a final explanation that defense was pro bono and all expenses would be paid by defense attorney, the H2 shut off. Liz put it back into her pocket and declared, "Elizabeth Van Drew and Edmund Howe are now your defense counsel. We will return after the pretrial conference so we can talk in a secure room. Everything said here has been recorded and is available should you need to review your decision. After three days, however, this contract will be binding."

Megotis quickly turned to face Seymour and enquired, "Will you be part of my defense team also?" Seymour replied, "We will be available as witnesses but not an official part of your defense team." "But how did you know about my safe place with Bunny and Ted?" "Your mother told us. She was always watching over you, even when she suffered from that terrible disease."

The guard said, "Time to leave. Please everyone stay seated until Ms. Ipred and I have left the room and the door closes." The meeting ended as everyone waited for Meggy to leave.

Concurrent with the Megotis meeting, Justice Dayot and Minerva were preparing the pretrial conference in the judge's main office. When Dayot received the image of the visitors and the contract showing Edmund and Liz would be Ms. Ipred's defense counsel, he immediately looked up at Minerva and announced, "Stop everything, Seymour and Ruby are back. Edmund Howe and Elizabeth Van Lew are going to be Ms. Ipred's defense counsel. We have got to make some changes."

Because Minerva was also the security chief, she wanted to know where Mr. and Mrs. Blox had been and how they got out of the security room? Dayot told her, "The deadline for motions, discovery completion, and trial date do not have to be changed, but we need to find the best prosecuting attorney for this trial. I do not want the decision to be overturned due to the appearance of a sham trial. Then we

can look into the Blox returning. Who, in your opinion, is the best district attorney?"

"I would have to say Bobbie Morgen, because she has a family history dating all the way back to Robert M. Morgenthau[19] who handled many high-profile cases centuries ago. I think if you check her record you will see she has never lost a case."

Dayot placed his hand on a section of his desk and a holographic image of a young man's face appeared. Dayot said, "Good morning, Alex. Please set up a call from District Attorney Bobbie Morgen. Send her all the information on the Megotis Ipred trial. Include the fact that I want her to be the Prosecuting Attorney on this trial. We have set the pretrial conference for 3 PM tomorrow. Tell her to call me as soon as she can. Thank you." With no further comment, he tapped the desk to end the communication with his secretary. Turning to Minerva, he continued, "While I'm waiting for her call back, we can look into the Blox's returning."

"Good. I just got a message from the crew at the secure room. It seems they have a recording showing Seymour and Ruby leaving the room right after the night test. They did not want to enter the room without permission. I told them to wait because we are on our way."

When Dayot and Minerva arrived at the secure room, they were surprised to see Seymour and Ruby with Liz and Edmund waiting to greet them. Ruby sensed the impatience and the desire to get questions answered, so she spoke first. "Please try and relax. Let's go into the secure room and sit at the table. Bring some extra chairs because there are only two chairs in the room."

The six were finally able to squeeze around the small table. The Chief could no longer hold back her questions, so she looked at Seymour and blurted out, "How did you get out of this room? When did you come back? What is going on?"

Seymour leaned over next to Ruby and placed her hand in his as he replied, "We never left. Physically, every molecule that makes up our bodies remained in this room. When the room blocked the noise that comes from our physical environment, we were able to focus on the metaphysical world. At first, we were able to communicate without using sound or telepathy. In the Meta-World, we shared dreams and visions. One night we traveled in a dream to a galaxy on the other side of the universe to observe the beauty of a golden planet with three moons. On this visit, we were made aware that we were evolving into a new species. We had become part of the process of Speciation[20]. This visit to a new dimension allowed us to learn from other existences in that world. We were taught that using Avogadro's number we could store the elements contained in our bodies in protective places while our souls entered the Meta-World. This allowed us to

help Ms. Megotis Ipred regain control of her physical body when the spirit in her gave her back her free will and departed."

This explanation stunned Minerva, Dayot, and Liz into silence. Only Edmund had expected that reply from Seymour. He knew that the human body is sixty percent water and had noticed the water containers in the room were now almost empty. He remembered these containers were full in the video of the room after Seymour and Ruby disappeared. Edmund also remembered how he was given Avogadro's number by the position of the recording and the time on the clock. He suspected the water from Seymour and Ruby's bodies was moved into those containers when their souls left the room. He also believed that the carbon, calcium, phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, sodium, chlorine, magnesium, and all the other materials that are in the human body were stored somewhere in the room when the Blox souls were in the Metaphysical dimension. This was not the time and place, however, to discuss this issue so he quickly stated,

"I think we need to get answers to this occurrence later and focus on the trial of Ms. Ipred right now. It looks like Liz and I will be her defense counsel. Seymour and Ruby will be called as witnesses for the defense. Because Justice Dayot will be the presiding judge, this meeting is probably inappropriate."

Dayot snapped out of his trance and agreed. He told Edmund the pretrial conference would be at his chambers tomorrow at three. Then said, "I am the only one that needs to leave. The rest of you can stay and have a meeting." He instantly rose and left the room.

Minerva stared at Edmund and said, "Do you know what happened in this room? I do not understand any of this, especially how it would be related to the trial." Liz added, "I'm with you. I thought I had a defense strategy, but if Seymour and Ruby never left this room?" Edmund took Liz's hand, turned to face Seymour and Ruby, and said, "Please tell us everything you can remember. I'm sure it is going to be the heart of our defense."

Ruby rose, said the Greek words to drive the spirits from the room, and closed the door. She came back to the table and sat next to Seymour. She took his hand, stared straight ahead, and said, "We went on a fantastic adventure. A journey more breathtaking than you could ever imagine...." Thus began the very long meeting that would change the worldwide judicial system forever.

Later, when Dayot was back in his chambers, he received a phone call from District Attorney Bobbie Morgen. She was concerned about the mandatory sentence and stated, "Your Honor, it appears to be a binding death penalty with no room for negotiation. This may be very hard to win should new evidence be

discovered during the trial. I do not like to take on cases that are this restricted because they do not allow for plea bargaining."

Dayot realized that there would be new evidence presented. Knowing that spiritual possession would be part of Ms. Ipred's defense, he felt it might be necessary to allow the DA to negotiate for a lesser punishment. He replied, "If any evidence is shown that is new to this case, I will allow you to negotiate the punishment. Since I set the punishment in the previous trial, no precedent trial or insanity plea will be allowed. The evidence must be original and proven to be true."

DA Bobbie Morgen felt that restricting defense counsel to eliminate insanity would be to her advantage. She agreed and said, "Very well. I will take the case. I will see you tomorrow at three for the pretrial conference." And the call ended.

The next day, at exactly three in the afternoon, everyone met at the courthouse conference room. Justice Dayot sat at one end of a long rectangular table. Edmund, Liz, and Megotis sat on the judge's left-hand side of the table, facing the DA and her assistant sitting on the opposite side. There was a large holographic display on the wall facing the judge. On this monitor, everyone could see the pretrial conference[21] agenda. The display showed:

Key Objectives

Case Settlement: Plea bargaining only allowed if new evidence is discovered. No precedent trial or insanity plea will be allowed.

Case Management: The court has managerial control for setting deadlines for motions, discovery completion, and witness lists.

Issue Clarification: Ms. Megotis Ipred is charged with attempted murder of Seymour E. Blox by using the judicial system and false evidence.

Discovery & Evidence Review: Both sides must exchange all necessary evidence to be presented.

Trial Preparation: Set discovery period, trial date, allowable evidence, witness list, and any exceptions to normal trial procedures.

All the issues were discussed and easily agreed upon with only one exception. When the issue clarification was discussed, Dayot asked Edmund, "On what grounds is the defense entering? I will a not allow by reason of insanity or hypnosis."

Edmund answered, "By reason of being spiritually possessed and not in control of anything that happened in the trial against Seymour E. Blox."

The DA's assistant broke out in laughter and said, "That's a new one. I am going to enjoy watching you try and prove that."

Bobbie Morgen, however, did not think it was funny. She told her assistant to be quiet and remarked, “Please keep me informed on any demonstrations you will need to perform during the trial to verify spiritual possession, especially any witnesses you will be calling on to verify this phenomenon.”

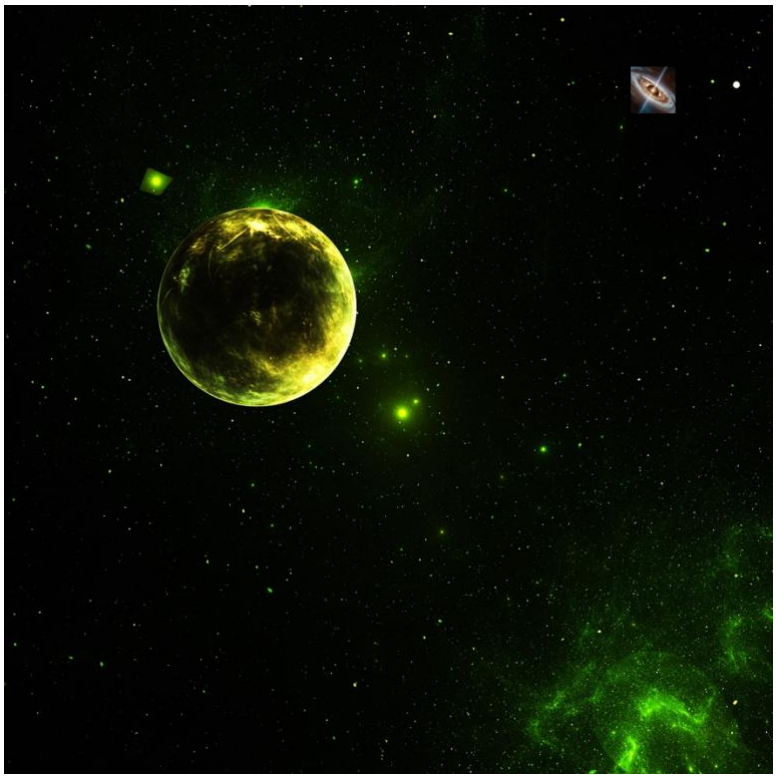
The meeting ended shortly after this discussion, and as the DA was leaving the building, she turned to her assistant and remarked, “Aiden, this is not a laughing matter. All they have to do is convince one person on that jury, and we will get a hung jury. You saw the recording of the end of the Seymour trial. This will not be a slam dunk, and we may have to try and get Ms. Ipred to admit to only cooperation by plea bargaining and change the death penalty to life in prison without parole.”

Dayot had given them two weeks to complete discovery and witness list. He set the trial to start one week after that. On his way back to his dwelling, he thought, “There is something amazing coming. I can feel it in my bones.”

That night, sleep was difficult for DA Bobbie Morgen. When it finally came, she had a vision. In her dream, she left her body and went to a place on the other side of the universe. There was a golden planet with three moons and a quasar in the far distance sky, and she heard a soft voice say, “Hello, Bobbie.”

Edit Chapter 4[22]

BOBBIES DREAM



Chapter 5
Discovery

There was much to do and very little time to get it done. The Terrific Trio were busier than three termites in a dead oak tree, chomping away at a plan of defense that had never been used before. Everything had to be truthful and shown to be possible in order to create some reasonable doubt of Ms. Ipred's intent to kill Seymour. In the pre-trial conference, the prosecuting attorney had added plea bargaining, and that meant the mandatory sentence of death penalty could be overruled. Now the defense had to show that something had total control of Ms. Ipred's body and mind.

Edmund turned and took Liz by the hand as he said, "Perhaps we should divide this job into three areas. DC could research any recorded spiritual possessions and a truthful description of a possession that the jury may accept. I think Liz should continue interviewing Ms. Ipred to find out how she let a spirit take control of her body and mind. I believe Mr. and Mrs. Blox are going to be our main witnesses, so I could start to prepare them for the trial."

Liz agreed and added, "Before the trial, we are required to exchange information that includes mandatory disclosures of witness identities, relevant documents, expert reports, and evidence intended for use at trial. We must also give the prosecution police reports, witness statements, and any inculpatory evidence[23] we find. They will also have to give us the names of their witnesses, all documents, and any exculpatory evidence[24] they may find."

DC interrupted with, "My investigation of Bobbie Morgen shows she has never lost a case. It also shows she never gives the defense anything useful. On the other hand, she has never had a case where the defense was claiming spiritual possession."

Edmund let go of Liz and put his hands in his lap with fingers interlocked. He stared down at his hands for a short moment, closed his eyes, and softly said, "We will always tell the truth in an unconditional loving manner. We will never let lies or anger appear in our defense. We will accept the verdict and continue to help Ms. Ipred find peace and joy as much as we can. Amen." Liz repeated, "Amen." DC also repeated, "Amen." Edmund looked at his holographic twin and asked, "Do you also pray?"

DC replied, "Amen generally means 'so be it,' 'verily,' or 'truly' across most languages. It is a Hebrew-derived, universally recognized term for affirmation in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. It acts as a solemn, consistent, and international

confirmation of agreement rather than a term that is translated differently. The term originates from a Hebrew root meaning 'firm,' 'fixed,' 'sure,' or 'truth'."

Edmund started to wonder if DC was a program-generated holograph, or something else. He turned to face Elizabeth and said, "How did you and DC become friends?" Liz stared at Edmund and responded, "You may find this hard to believe, but it was in a dream. I spent most of my early life trying to understand our universe and preparing for a job that could make a difference in the world. I found most of the people that I met during my studies were only concerned with money, power, or momentary pleasures. Money seemed to be the greatest distraction, so I focused on a job in that area and eventually became director of the mint. I had no time for friends and became very lonely. Then one night I had a dream about DC, and when I woke up, I was sitting at my computer. I had typed in the source code for a program called 'Digital Companion' in my sleep. When I ran the program, DC appeared, introduced himself, and said he would like to help me overcome my lonesomeness. We worked together, and soon I found myself loving DC more than anyone I knew, until I met you. When I first met you, I was shocked because you appeared to be DC's twin."

Edmund did not appear to be shocked by her answer, but was very curious to find out more about DC. He replied, "Did you investigate the program that you wrote in a dream?" "I did. The computer in front of me when I awakened from my dream showed it was only on for three minutes. The program was written in machine code[25] which is only ones and zeroes. The program was very large and could not have been entered in three minutes from my keyboard. Nobody has been able to tell me how my system runs on this program." Edmund continued his investigation with, "Is your system different somehow?" "Yes. It is the only computer with an organic memory portion similar to the memories in the robots that have telepathy capabilities. I was trying to see if I could connect directly to the group alpha robots to protect the mint. But that was years before I met DC."

Edmund gazed at Liz with a smile that went from ear to ear. He then turned to face his holographic twin and probed, "Do you know where you came from?" DC replied, "That question I cannot answer." "That's okay. I believe I know, and that makes you the perfect member of this group to investigate spiritual possession. Liz will continue to find out how Ms. Ipred allowed herself to lose control of her human form, and I need to talk to Mr. and Mrs. Blox about our defense." Edmund rose as he continued, "Let's get going. Time to do our discovery. We can meet here again in ten hours."

Liz and Edmund left the room as DC vanished into his universe of bits and bytes. Liz made her way to the Great Hall Detention Center to continue her interview with Ms. Ipred. Because Elizabeth was the defense counsel on record, she

had no problem getting a secure room with no cameras or recording devices. As the guard that brought Megotis was leaving, Liz recited the Greek words to drive the spirits from the room. She then quickly closed the door and turned to face Ms. Ipred as she explained, "We are dealing with an enemy that lives in the metaphysical world, and those words were given to me to drive any spirits from that world out of the room."

Megotis stared at Liz and said, "I was worried about this meeting and afraid I was going to be threatened and forced into admitting I wanted to kill Mr. Blox. When you spoke those words, I suddenly felt relaxed and at peace. Very strange. Can you explain?" "We believe that some misguided spirits in the metaphysical world follow a spiritual creature that may have been in control of your human body. These spirits whisper into your mind thoughts that produce fear so you will do what they want. When I drove them from the room, it helped you to relax and be at peace."

For the first time in a very long time, Megotis smiled and said, "Thank you."

"I am here to discover how that creature was able to get total control of you. We believe you must allow possession by giving up your free will and letting an entity have total control. Once that happens, the only way to get your control back is if the being is willing to give it up. Medically, it is called 'Possession Trance Disorder' or PTD[26]. Can you now tell me how you think this happened to you, Ms. Ipred?"

"Please, just call me Meggy. That name reminds me of when I was very young. My mother was sick and suffering, but I would go to her and hold her hand when she was not in pain. She gave me a small stuffed Teddy bear and told me he would always love me and protect me no matter what happened. Later she gave me a little soft stuffed bunny toy and said, 'When you want to give love back, you can hug this little guy. If you have to leave Teddy to go somewhere, leave him with bunny so he won't be alone.' Later when my mother was very sick and too much in pain for me to visit, I would hide in a safe place and read to my two little friends. I believe those toys kept me from feeling all alone in the world."

"What do you think happened that made you a target for PTD?"

"After my mother died, my Grandma did her best to be my parent. I never got close to anyone in school because they had parents and social events that I never was invited to attend. Later I got a job in the mail room of a law firm. I was deeply depressed and knew that I would get the same disease my mother had, so I was contemplating suicide. The only thing that made me keep going was the thought of what would Grandma think if I killed myself. Then one day when I was delivering mail, a woman lawyer in the firm asked me why I was so sad."

“What did you tell her?”

“I said I had nothing to look forward to in life except getting Huntington’s disease. I told her I would end my life, but it would hurt my Grandma, the only person in my life that loves me.”

“What did she say?”

“She asked me if I could find a cure and get a job that would make my Grandma proud, would I be willing to make some hard choices? Then she met me after work and brought me to a meeting of a Herrenvolk group. That group changed my life, and that lawyer became my best friend.”

Liz thought her best friend could possibly be a witness for the defense, so she asked, “Can you tell me your friend’s name?”

“I would rather not get her involved or in trouble.”

“That’s okay. What happened after you joined the group?”

“At first they just told me how I could be a valuable member. Because I worked in mail delivery, they wanted me to give them pictures of everything that was being delivered to certain people in the legal firm. They told me there was a doctor in the group that could prevent my Huntington gene from becoming active. The group helped me become a lawyer and get a salary large enough to take care of my grandmother. They even sent me to beauticians and bought me expensive clothes to make me more attractive.”

Liz knew the Herrenvolk group would not do everything she was being told without a reason. She softly and gently asked, “What were you doing for them to get such treatment?”

“At first it was just photos of the mail. Later I let a member of the group have the mail during my breaks and delivered it after they read what was inside. During my internship to become a lawyer, I would get coffee and papers for people having private meetings. I would have listening devices in the tray and cups I delivered. I would always deliver after the rooms were scanned for such devices and remove them right after the meetings. Once I even did this to bug a judge’s office.”

“Surely you knew this was illegal. You could be put in prison for breaking this law. Did you think you would never be caught?”

“I was not afraid because the people in the group told me everybody does this. They had very powerful connections and said they could get any charges dropped if I was caught.”

“You believed them?”

"Yes. They even got me the answers to the bar exam before I took the test. In many of my trials, especially when I was pushing for a death penalty, they would give me information I could have never achieved through normal discovery. The group had people at different levels of importance, but the one person that always had the final say was called Commander. If he told anyone to do something, they did it."

"Did you ever hear his real name?"

"No, and we were told to never ask any questions that were personal. As a matter of fact, everyone called me M.I. and never used my full name."

"Okay, let's move ahead to how you let yourself be controlled by this entity."

"After my grandmother died, I became very depressed. I missed my meetings with her every week. It was the only time that I could feel the love I had when I was very young. Then she was gone and I was all alone. I had plenty of money and people who acted like they were my friends, but they only wanted to use me for their own personal reasons. That unconditional love I felt when I held Grandma's hand was gone. I was starting to consider suicide again just to be with her. Then for the first time, I was sent to a private meeting with the Commander."

Liz felt like she was finally getting close to the answer she needed, but time was running out, so she said, "Please continue. What did the Commander say?"

"Very little. He gave me a card that said Bellevue[27] Hospital and the name Mr. Eb Black on it. He stared at me and firmly ordered, 'Go there. Tell them this person is your father and you want to see him. Do not let them stop you from a visit. Use your legal card to force them to allow you in. No matter what he says, you must hold his hand and do whatever he tells you. It will solve all of your problems.' Because the Commander seemed to have all the answers, I followed his mandate[28]."

A beep came from Elizabeth's HandHeld, warning that only five minutes were left in her present visit. She quickly requested, "Please, as quickly as you can, tell me what happened at the hospital."

"They were very reluctant to let me see the man I claimed was my father. He was in an isolation room because they had no idea what was infecting him. He had become violent and even projectile vomited on a nurse. I had to sign a release to protect the hospital before they let me visit him. When I entered his room, I found him tied to his bed. He was thrashing around and cursing the minute he saw me. I was filled with fear, but I hurried over to his bed and took hold of his hand. Surprisingly, he became very peaceful, laid back and calmly said, "What took you so long?" I just replied, "What do you need to tell me?"

He smiled and looking into my eyes asked, "How would you like to visit your grandmother and mother? You will be cured of that terrible disease and never be lonely again." I instantly said yes, and he continued, "Give me total control of your soul and I will send you to them." I said take it and found myself alone in a cave with no escape. I searched for days, but never found anybody or any way out. Then a long time after I had given up trying, I heard my Grandma call my name. It got louder and eventually I saw hands reaching out to me. I grabbed them and awoke in the courtroom."

Meggy was interrupted by the door buzzing and a guard entered. "Time's up. Ms. Ipred needs to go back to her room now." Turning toward Elizabeth, the guard continued, "Please wait here and someone will come to help you get anything you checked and leave the center."

While waiting, Liz made a note on her H2. "They used her great love for her grandmother, fear of getting Huntington's disease, her lonesomeness, and lies to get total control and possession of her mind and body. She had to give it up freely."

Elizabeth's meeting with Meggy only took a few hours. She thought a visit to Bellevue Hospital to see Mr. Eb Black could get her more information about possession. She made a call on her H2 and found out that he had made a full recovery after his daughter's visit and was released. They would not give her any more information without a court order, so she dismissed the idea of going to the hospital. She called DC on her H2 and asked him to get any information he could find on a Mr. Eb Black that was just dismissed from Belleville Hospital in New York. A few minutes later he gave her a phone number and address. She called and made an appointment to see him right away. When she told him it was about his daughter, he agreed.

Mr. Black lived in New York and had made his fortune as a stockbroker. He lived in a very expensive apartment midway between Central Park and the New York Stock Exchange[29]. He greeted her at the door and Liz said, "I am your daughter's defense counsel, and I was hoping you could give me some information to help in her trial." He responded quickly with, "I assume the Commander sent you."

Knowing the Commander was the head of the Herrenvolk unit and not wanting to lie, Liz just smiled and said nothing.

Mr. Black continued, "Please come in." He led her to a kitchen and said, "Would you like something to drink?" Liz responded with, "No, thank you," so he put his coffee on the table across from her and sat down. He continued, " You know she is really not my daughter, but was going to help get rid of that group that followed Mr. Blox. I was making a fortune on Jarvis Island until that woman took over and started to follow Mr. Blox and his crowd. I funded the military attack to

take back the island and lost a fortune when it failed. I hate those people and was hoping I could get my revenge by eliminating Seymour Blox. When the Commander told me what to do, I did it. I was only the vessel to get the master over to Ms. Ipred."

"You did your task and I am sure the Commander will reward you in the future." Her H2 beeped as Liz continued, "I have another meeting so I have to go now. You have been very helpful and I think we can save Ms. Ipred for future work. Thank you."

Liz quickly rose and made her way out of the house and back to the return vessel. She had recorded her conversation with Mr. Black but knew it could not be used in court because she did not get his consent. But now she knew that greed, power, and hate could also be used to allow possession by an evil spirit. She wondered, how many people in the Great Hall could be possessed, and how do we test them to find out? Whispers of failure, doubt, and fear started to creep into her thoughts. She said the Greek words to drive away the misguided spirits, found peace, and fell asleep on her journey back.

Edit Chapter 5[30]

THE MANY FACES OF EMOTION

Chapter 6

The Meetings

The 10 hours had passed and the Terrific Trio met back at the mint in Elizabeth's secure chambers. They secured the room by performing the ritual to command all spirits to leave. Liz was the first to speak because she was troubled by what she had discovered.

"I found out that Ms. Ipred willingly let the entity he called the master have her body and soul. She wanted to be with her grandmother and did not want to live long enough to catch Huntington's disease. The Herrenvolk organization convinced her with lies, money, and their power to control others. They used her love of her grandmother against her. People filled with hate and seeking to harm others also allow possession willingly. I did not find any way to detect a person that is being controlled in this manner and now I wonder how many in the Great Hall are infected."

Edmund knew detecting a person that has been willingly possessed would be very difficult and was wondering if it was even possible. He needed more information so he asked DC, "Did you find out anything useful in your research about possession?"

"The most common thing I found in all my research was the fact that in order to believe in nonphysical possession you must first believe in nonphysical beings, commonly called spirits. If these beings exist, they must have a universe where they reside. Most of my research showed this universe was named the metaphysical world. Both of you are physical beings, and you inhabit the physical world. This world was here before you were born, and it will exist after you are gone. I am a holographic display of a computer program, and I exist in the digital world of computer programs. Destroy my program and the digital world still remains. My programming leads me to believe we must start by getting the jury to believe beyond a reasonable doubt that this spiritual universe[31] is real."

Both Liz and Edmund realized that DC had just started the outline of the defense to save Ms. Ipred from the death penalty. Before Edmund could respond, Liz probed, "Then what?"

DC continued, "In order for a spirit to go into a person and take control, there needs to be something in the person that is also part of the spiritual universe. It must be something that does not live in the physical world but is linked to be able to perform actions in that universe. My investigation indicated this is often called the human soul[32]. This should be the next step in our defense."

Elizabeth instantly realized the direction her digital companion was taking and eagerly added, “Then we can show how an entity used love and fear to get Meggy to willingly give her soul to this evil spirit.”

Edmund took Liz’s hand to calm her. He looked deeply into her eyes and softly whispered, “My meeting with Seymour and Ruby convinced me of one very important approach to our defense. We must never fail to use agape in our disclosures. We will not call the entity an ‘evil’ spirit, but instead we will use something like ‘misguided’ spirit.”

Liz smiled and answered, “What else did you learn in your meeting with the Blox’s?”

“They acted as if they were totally connected. It was almost like I was talking to one person, not two. They said very little about the trial except that Seymour should be called on as the last witness in Ms. Ipred’s defense.”

“If that is all they said, then that must have been a very short meeting.”

“In fact, we talked for over four hours. They told me about a place on the other side of the physical universe. It was a golden planet that had three moons. Ruby said there was no way to visit this world in the material domain, but communication was possible with beings that lived there in the Astral[33] plane. They quoted Plato's ‘Timaeus Proclus’ who wrote, ‘Man is a little world (mikros cosmos). For, just like the Whole, he possesses both mind and reason, both a divine and a mortal body.’ Seymour also claimed that man’s divine nature could control his mortal body, right down to the last atom.”

Elizabeth stared at her soulmate and asked, “Did that divine control explain how they vanished from the secure room?”

“Not exactly, but I did get a chronological lecture on evolution. It revealed that the human soul is giving people control over the physical world. This process works very slowly and takes a millennium to produce any noticeable change.”

Again Liz interrupted, “Are you saying that Seymour and Ruby have made a jump in the evolution process? Did they experience some form of biological Saltation[34]?”

“No. They were exactly the same after they entered the security room, but the absolute isolation from the physical world allowed them to focus more on their metaphysical part of existence. In a few days, they were able to link their thoughts and communicate in this realm. You might say they were dreaming together or sharing the same dream. This was not an evolutionary jump, but an intense focus on their spiritual nature.”

Liz was more confused now and said, “How did this allow them to physically escape the secure room?”

Edmund replied, “It didn’t. It did something else, however. It allowed them to communicate in a dream with a presence in the physical world on the other side of the universe. I had this same dream once. It was this entity that separated their souls from their bodies and allowed them to confront the misguided spirit that was controlling Ms. Ipred. I believe it was the same process that was used to help you create DC in a dream.”

Liz stared at Edmund’s intense facial expression. She knew he was convinced that these beings existed. When she looked at DC, Edmund’s holographic twin, all her doubt vanished. DC had a smile that said, ‘He’s right!’ There was a short moment of silence and finally Liz queried, “Does this mean we will also have to get the jury to believe there are aliens on the other side of the universe helping us?”

Edmund chuckled and replied, “We only need them to accept spiritual possession to get rid of the death penalty. Seymour did insist that we call him as our last witness and I have no idea what he will disclose.”

“Don’t we need to tell the prosecution what his information will disclose?”

“I asked him that same question and he said to tell them he is being called to clarify the exorcism in the trial video. He said we must focus on creating enough evidence to substantiate the existence of spirits and then call him to testify.”

Liz replied, “Then we better get to work and see what we can do.”

DC finally entered the discussion by reminding both Edmund and Liz that the existence of a spiritual universe was his first recommendation. He now added, “Perhaps second would be to get the jury to believe if this universe exists then there could be entities that exist in it. Then move on to the link between beings in these different worlds is the human soul.”

The major outline for the defense team was established so the rest of their discovery would now follow this path. It would conclude with the video showing the exorcism and Seymour explaining what was recorded. The next few days were spent gathering details and witnesses to substantiate the details.

When the defense investigation was in progress, District Attorney Bobbie Morgen was also very busy setting an outline to win her case. She had her assistant put together three teams by saying, “Aiden, I want you to make a team to prove the Bible cannot be used to prove spiritual possession. I am sure that will be their first line of defense, and if we are well prepared we will allow it, then destroy it. Next, set up a group to find the most qualified people to prove spirits do not exist. Finally, and most important, we have to find a way to block the end of the first trial video.

We need the video because it shows Ms. Ipred trying to get Seymour put to death using false information. The last part of that video also shows something they will call an exorcism. We must get that part excluded or beyond reasonable doubt will be difficult to prove."

The prosecution had more than a dozen highly skilled investigators working on the case. Bobbie Morgen had never lost a case and was not going to let this be her first. She knew this trial would be viewed by every prominent person in the legal profession. A win would greatly enhance her reputation. She found sleep difficult as anxiety grew and the time to trial withered. During one of her better nights, when she finally achieved deep sleep, that same dream disturbed her. There it was again, a golden planet with three moons and a quasar in the far distance sky, and she heard that same soft voice say, "Hello, again Bobbie."

The discovery period was over and it was time for the prosecution and defense to meet and disclose their findings. Justice Dayot called a meeting in a special secure room in the Great Hall Judicial Chamber. He opened the procedures by saying, "This gathering is for the disclosure of materials and witnesses that will be used in the trial of Ms. Megotis Ipred accused of attempting to murder Mr. Seymour E. Blox. Everything disclosed here will be recorded and used by me during the trial. Anything not revealed in this meeting may not be allowed in the trial. Present at this disclosure are District Attorney Bobbie Morgen, Assistant DA Aiden Dresser, defense attorney Edmund Howe, and his assistant Elizabeth Van Lew. Any questions?"

Normally there would be no questions, but this was not a normal trial. Bobbie stared at the judge, and raised her hand. Dayot recognized her with, "Ms. Morgen, do you have a question?"

"Yes, your Honor. Since you were the judge at the first trial and since this is the highest court known, I assume the jury will also be the same as the first trial."

Dayot replied, "That was the condition set at the first trial, however the defense has the right to pick a new jury if they desire."

Edmund replied, "That will not be necessary."

Bobbie continued, "Then I need a signed document by Ms. Ipred and her defense counsel stating there can be no appeal to the verdict of this trial based on judge or jury bias."

The judge understood her request. A judge and jury would be reluctant to overturn their own verdict from a previous trial, and that could be used to generate an appeal. He knew now why she was considered the top prosecutor by many in the legal profession. He tapped his desk and a keypad, and a holographic monitor appeared. The screen was positioned at the far end of the table so everyone could

see what was being typed. At the bottom of the document were the names Ms. Megotis Ipred, Edmund Howe, and Elizabeth Van Lew. Each name had a box on the right side that was labeled 'Thumb Print'. Dayot turned to face Ms. Morgen and said, "Will thumb print, retina scan, and voice record saying, 'I agree' be sufficient?"

The DA assistant whispered something in Bobbie's ear and she replied, "Please also add 'mistrial or any other reason for verdict modification' after the word bias."

The words were added and the judge inquired, "Is that now satisfactory?"

The prosecution answered, "Yes." The judge turned to face the defense side of the table and declared, "In anticipation of defense needing discussions with Ms. Ipred, she has been moved to a soundproof room with no recording devices just down the hall. The room is marked 3B and a guard is positioned by the door. I will contact the guard and she will let you enter and meet with your client. This session will now be paused for ten minutes while you get your client's approval."

After pressing a section of his handheld to stop the recording, Dayot rose and left the room to go back to his nearby private office. Edmund and Liz followed and went to room 3B to discuss this added requirement with their client, but the prosecution remained in the room to review their notes and the next step.

When Justice Dayot entered his office, he found security chief and soulmate Minerva waiting. She rose from her chair and asked, "Is something wrong, Gevin? You are back so soon."

He knew she was worried because she only called him by his first name when she was troubled.

"No, Mini, the DA just wanted to make some additional requirements before starting disclosure. We had to take a ten-minute break so the defense could get their client to agree."

He filled her in with the details and she responded, "I told you she was tough. You are going to have to be on your guard for this trial, but I guess it is best to prevent an injustice."

Meanwhile, Edmund and Liz were telling Ms. Ipred about the new condition and why she would have to agree. She commented, "I know I would not want to overrule any verdict I set in a previous trial. Perhaps we should get a new judge and jury."

Edmund took Ms. Ipred's hand and sympathetically said, "Meggy, these people saw the spirit leave you in the previous trial. A new jury will only see those facts on a recording, and the prosecution may try to convince them it was modified or some error in the tape. We need to use the people that know what they saw with

their own eyes. They will believe you were not in control by reason of spiritual possession."

She looked into Edmund's eyes and knew he was right. She could feel the love of the truth flow from his hand to her heart. She replied, "Okay, where do I sign?"

Everyone was back at the table and Justice Dayot used his H2 to resume recording as he declared, "This gathering is now reopened for the disclosure of materials and witnesses that will be used in the trial of Ms. Megotis Ipred. A further stipulation to prevent verdict adjustments due to bias has been added and agreed upon by all present. The prosecution may now provide their discovery and witness list."

District Attorney Morgen began, "Since the defense will be using spiritual possession as the reason Ms. Ipred is innocent, I have prepared a list of witnesses that will dispute and prove wrong any claims of spiritual possession. I even have a document on this list that was generated centuries ago by Joel Manuel Hoffman[35] showing even the Christian Bible cannot be trusted."

She then pressed a section of her H2 and a list of witnesses and religious documents appeared on the holographic display. The witness list showed over a dozen names and their very impressive credentials. The document list was even longer and contained the main source of almost every major religion. After a short pause to inspect the list Dayot decreed,

"I believe I have already stated that religious references would not be allowed. However, since interpretation of 'religious' can be argued, I will let you pick three witnesses and two manuscripts from your list. Otherwise this list would take too long for the defense to go through and I will not accept."

Bobbie took her H2 and quickly modified the list to conform with the judge's mandate. Her document was not strictly religious, but she believed it to be the most important manuscript she would need to win her case. It was simply entitled SCIENTIFIC METHOD[36] and covered all known ways to prove theorems in the world we live in. Her second document was the video tape of the first trial. The first witness she included was the Chancellor of the multi-campus educational system that created the scientific method manuscript. Her second witness was a recognized expert on courtroom proceedings, and her third witness was another well-known expert on video tape recordings. Dayot took a few minutes to study the list and then turned to the defense and asked,

"Do you have any objections to this list?"

Edmund and Liz had been sending notes to each other during the judge's investigation of the list. Edmund simply answered, 'No.' Dayot continued, "Does the prosecution have anything else to present at this trial?"

"Not at this time, your Honor."

"Very well, the defense may now submit their witness and documentation list for the trial."

Edmund pressed a section of his H2, and the display showed four witnesses and four documents. The first document was a medical file on Ms. Ipred, taken before the trial to harm Mr. Blox. The first witness was the doctor who was in charge of that medical report. The second document was a medical file taken only a week ago. The second witness was the doctor who performed those tests. The next witness was Amy Pink, a nurse from Bellevue Hospital who was in charge of a Mr. Eb Black when Ms. Ipred claimed to be his daughter and paid him a visit. The third document was a recording of that visit. The fourth witness was Mr. Seymour Blox, who was being called to clarify his vanishing from the secure room. The fourth and final document was the recording showing that nobody was in the room when it was finally opened. Before the judge could examine the list, Bobbie shouted, "I object!"

Dayot asked, "On what grounds?"

"First of all, I do not see the relevance of medical reports before and after the crime if spiritual possession is the objective to prove. Surely there will be no difference in these reports, and we will be wasting our time. Also, the vanishing of Seymour after the trial verdict had been announced does not seem relevant to Ms. Ipred's motivation to commit murder."

Dayot replied, "Relevance will be established during trial procedures. Your objection is rejected. You have three days to subpoena these witnesses and interview them before the trial; however, they have the legal right to reject your interview. All of the defense documentation will be given to you now."

Bobbie grunted in frustration but did not want to get the judge angry, so she sat down with a scowl on her face. Dayot continued, "Is there anything more the defense needs to present at trial?"

Edmund added, "Yes, your Honor. We may need to call the defendant to the stand at some time during the trial."

Dayot saw the scowl on Bobbie's face turn into a huge smile as he replied, "You will be permitting the prosecution to cross and open up new avenues of discussion. Is there anything else to be presented at trial by either side?"

Everyone responded with no, and the meeting was adjourned. Dayot went back to his office and found Minerva waiting. He said, "I really do not know what is going to happen. Bobbie Morgen seemed very angry until the defense said they

may put Ms. Ipred on the stand. Then she smiled like the cat that just ate the canary. I know she has destroyed others by their own words in the past."

Edit Chapter 6[37]

Edmund thinking about dream that he shared with Seymour.

Chapter 7
The Trial Starts

District Attorney Bobbie Morgen tried to get interviews with all of Edmunds' witnesses and found the medical people refused. The only one willing to cooperate was Seymour Blox. This was no surprise because Ms. Ipred was on trial for trying to use the legal system to murder Mr. Blox. The interview was a revelation, however, because Seymour told her that he believed she was innocent and was really spiritually possessed. This did not look like a problem because he was locked up in the secure room until the trial was over. The fact that he was going to testify about his vanishing during confinement was a problem, however, so she inquired, "Can you explain the fact that the recordings of the secure room where you and your wife were held show no one in that room at the conclusion of the trial against you?"

"Are you going to have an expert on the room's recordings testify to explain this?"

She replied, "Yes."

"Then perhaps we should wait and see what your witness has to say. I am not qualified to explain such recordings and may even harm your case by looking prejudiced and being biased."

Bobbie agreed and closed her interview with, "Thank you for seeing me and answering my questions. The trial will be starting soon, so I will see you then. I will do all I can to make sure justice is served."

Seymour answered, "I believe you, and thank you for your service."

Bobbie was troubled after the interview because she heard Seymour say he thought Ms. Ipred was innocent. This alone could be enough to cause reasonable doubt and produce a hung jury. She knew she could not keep the victim from testifying and for the first time wished she had never agreed to be the prosecutor. The slam dunk and feather in her cap was starting to look like her first loss in a trial that would be transmitted and viewed internationally. Sleep did not come easy, but when it finally arrived it brought with it the recurring dream of a galaxy with a pulsar and a planet with three moons. This time the soft voice woke her by saying, "You will be legendary."

Bobbie quickly sat up and opened her eyes. The room was dimly lit by a wall that projected a soft blue light to help induce slumber. She instantly commanded, "Daylight." The house computer responded, and the room jumped to a brightness equivalent to noon on a clear day. There was nobody else in the room, but the vision and the voice lingered in her memory. It somehow had removed the fear of losing

the trial and replaced it with a newly found confidence. Laying back and softly saying, 'restore moonlight 'brought dreamless sleep for the rest of the evening.

The next morning, everyone except the judge met in the courtroom. The gallery was jam-packed, and the benches reserved for news media were crammed. The gallery murmurs were at their maximum when the bailiff announced, 'All rise. ' Everyone stood, and silence followed. An opening in the wall behind the judge's desk and between two androids standing at a military position of attention[38] appeared. Justice Dayot, dressed in a judicial black robe, entered. He made his way to the desk, sat down, and instructed everyone to do the same. It took a few moments to restore silence, and then Dayot introduced the jury that was now facing the gallery with no wall to hide them. He proceeded to explain the agreement signed by the defendant to use him and this jury, and then turned to the gallery and stated, "Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the trial of Ms. Megotis Ipred. I am Justice Gevin Dayot. The purpose of this trial is to determine if a condition set in a previous trial should be implemented."

After introducing the leading attorneys, he stated, "The lawyers will now give you a preview of what they expect the evidence will show. Please remember that what they say is not evidence. The evidence will come from the witnesses and documents presented. The prosecution may now make its opening statement."

District Attorney Bobbie Morgen rose from her chair and turned to face the cameras in the gallery. She had a very polished appearance in a tailored suit that created a strong professional image. The courtroom camera allowed the judge and jury to see her clearly on a large holographic display behind the gallery. Showing no emotion but speaking with confidence, she declared, "This is a case about betrayal of our justice system. In a previous trial, Ms. Megotis Ipred tried to use her legal skill and this very courtroom to murder Mr. Seymour Blox."

An uproar from the gallery instantly erupted. The invisible wall between the gallery and the court floor became solid, blocking vision and entry. On the spectators' side of the wall, a large monitor displayed the judge as he slammed his gavel twice on the amplifier pad to produce a sound louder than thunder and then, with a very angry glare, declared, "This will be my one and only warning! You are no longer in a democracy. When you entered this courtroom, you entered an absolute monarchy[39] where I am the king. What I command will be done by my army of police and android law enforcers. Another interruption by any visitor in these proceedings will make this wall remain for the rest of the trial. Everyone in this gallery will pay a one-thousand-dollar fine or be put in a prison cell for three days."

On the barrier wall display, the people in the gallery could only see the judge and the two androids behind him standing with laser weapons pointed. The people on the other side of the barrier could see the entire gallery on a monitor above the wall. Dayot turned to face the newspeople in the gallery and continued, "If you

brought any of your friends here to create a better newscast for your networks, you better keep them quiet. Everyone in this gallery is now subject to this law. This is the only warning you are going to get. If you cannot conform, then I advise you to leave now. I will give you three minutes, and then the exits will be locked and the barrier wall will be removed. Remember, if one person disrupts, then you will all pay!"

The judge's face vanished, and a large digital countdown from three minutes appeared. A well-known newsman stood up in front of his cameraman and loudly declared, "Anyone here to cause disruption, please leave now. If you have trouble keeping silent, please go now."

Almost ten percent of the spectators left the room. The silence that followed was astonishing. District Attorney Bobbie Morgen was sitting at her table, watching the exodus, and thought, 'Paid disrupters, and probably by the news media to get a more exciting broadcast. This judge knows what he is doing. I think he picked me because he wants a guilty verdict, so I better not disappoint him.'

That very moment marked a change in the annals of legal history. Justice Gevin Dayot received the nickname of 'The King 'and a new law called 'The One Warning Gallery Law 'was created. Every higher court in existence changed, and gallery disruption became extinct. The three minutes passed, and the barrier wall evaporated. The faces in the gallery were filled with expressions of fear. They looked like a crowd facing a firing squad. They were not looking at the judge, but all eyes were fixed on the military androids with lasers pointed and scanners searching the crowd. Dayot turned to face the bodyguards and commanded, "Stand down."

The weapons were lowered, and the robots stepped back and stood at attention. The intense emotion of fear faded from the gathering as the judge turned to face the District Attorney and announced, "The prosecution may now proceed."

Ms. Morgen rose but did not turn to face the news media. She knew what this judge wanted, and she was no longer trying to promote her career. Her memorized opening statement went into her mind's trash can. Facing the jury, she proclaimed, "As I stated previously, this is a case about betrayal of every justice system in existence. You have all seen with your own eyes and heard with your own ears what Ms. Megotis Ipred tried to do. Her abuse of the legal system was so obvious that it only took you minutes to proclaim Mr. Blox innocent and accuse her of attempted murder. Never forget, she was the one that set the condition of what must be done to anyone found guilty in that trial. You found her guilty, and now she wants to change that condition."

Turning to face the accused, she pointed and continued, "That woman is extremely clever, and the prosecution will show you beyond any reasonable doubt her plan to murder Mr. Seymour E. Blox using lies and false testimonies."

Turning back to face the jury with an expression of anger, she proclaimed, “And she wanted to make you accomplices to her crime. Yes! She was trying to make this court her executioner.”

Pausing to let the last statement burn into the minds of everyone, she took a sip of water from her table, then calmly walked closer to face the jury and declared, “Now the defense is going to try and get you to believe that she was possessed by some evil spirit and was really not in control of this hideous crime. They will even use the video of that evil event to try and persuade you to believe in some type of spiritual possession. Do not let parlor tricks and flame-throwing circus acts change your mind. We will have experts on the scientific method show you there is no such thing as spiritual possession. We will offer you the truth in what really happened at that trial. The facts will show that Ms. Megotis Ipred was in complete control and tried to use you to commit a murder.”

Bobbie turned and walked back to her chair as a slight murmur started to rise from the gallery. Dayot stared at the gathering and lifted his gavel. Total silence once again reigned. Gently placing his mallet back to sleep, he turned to face the accused and stated, “The defense may present their opening statement.”

Edmund rose and softly stated, “Thank you, Your Honor.” He never looked at the gallery or the cameras that were sending his words to the majority of humanity. Facing the jury he calmly declared, “I know you were all present and witnessed the attempt to put Mr. Blox to death. You were also informed by the court that your guilty verdict and sentence would be irreversible and there can be no appeal. This condition was directed at Mr. Blox, who was the defendant in that trial. Because you found Mr. Blox innocent of all charges, this condition should no longer be valid.”

Edmund paused for a moment to let the jury think about what was presented. He turned and walked over to the defense table, picked up a couple sheets of paper, and returned to face the jury as he continued. “Then this statement came out of the mouth of what appeared to be Ms. Ipred.” Holding up one of the papers he read, “Because of his tremendous power to control everything, we need to never let Mr. Blox out of the secure room where he is now being held. Instead, we must cut off his oxygen supply and quickly insert a deadly gas to eliminate this threat to the universe we live in.”

Edmund lowered the paper and with a small smile stated, “I agree this is a pretty descriptive way to ask for the death penalty, but how many prosecutors have asked for death penalties? I do not believe any of them were ever accused of attempted murder. They also were using the judicial system to achieve the taking of a human life. I know in the heat of the moment you all agreed that she was trying to kill our well-loved associate, Mr. Blox, but now you must carefully review your verdict from that trial.”

Holding up a different sheet he read, “It is the unanimous decision by the jurors in the trial against Seymour E. Blox, on the date of this recording, that the charges be dropped and have been proven to be false. Mr. Blox must be released immediately from the secure room and a formal apology made for his inconvenience. We, the jury, also find that the prosecution is guilty of attempting to murder Mr. Seymour E. Blox and should be incarcerated and quickly put on trial for this crime.”

Edmund lowered the paper without finishing the verdict and staring at the jury he repeated in a firm but calm voice, “Prosecution guilty of attempted murder? I know it sure felt that way at that trial, but words do not kill, and a very descriptive request for the death penalty should not put a prosecutor on trial.”

The expressions from the jury were enough to end the trial without further discussion. Bobbie Morgen involuntarily crunched the sheet of paper her hand was resting on. Her expression of pain was enough to think she had just been stabbed or shot. Edmund glanced at Judge Dayot sitting with his mouth open and thinking, ‘How did I let this get this far? ’With a very serious expression, Edmund turned to face the millions watching the transmissions from the cameras in the gallery. The silence was so strong he could have whispered and been heard, but he softly and lovingly continued.

“So why are we all here?”

Pausing to add emphasis to the question, and walking a few steps closer to the cameras, he continued in a much firmer voice and very serious expression saying, “We are here because the prosecution is absolutely correct. This is a case about betrayal of every justice system in existence. The entity that had taken control of Ms. Ipred’s body was not a prosecutor and indeed was trying to kill Mr. Blox. Now we cannot command this spirit to stand trial in our world, but we can put it on trial for this assassination attempt. Since District Attorney Bobbie Morgen will try and prove there was no possession, you might say she is now the defense lawyer for the spirit. Justice Dayot picked this District Attorney because she is the best and has never lost a case. We cannot communicate with her defendant, but you must admit this court has given it the best defense possible.”

Edmund took a glass of water from his table. He took a few sips to let enough time pass for contemplation of the complete reversal of defendants and prosecution. He looked at Liz who displayed a smile that said, ‘I love you’, and put the glass back on the table. A murmur was slowly growing in the gallery, but Judge Dayot seemed to be in a trance and ignoring the distraction. Silence again prevailed as Edmund turned to face the jury and softly declared, “You will again have to declare a verdict for a defendant that will not be present. Even more than that, you will have to declare that the accused even exist. This will take a thorough study of Ms. Ipred’s life that led to the spiritual possession. She

will not be pleading the fifth and will be providing information that will show her involvement in crimes, and expose herself to criminal prosecution[40]. Do not focus on these crimes because they are given to you so you will understand the way a spirit can take control of your soul. Always remember that the lawbreaker in this trial is a spirit that entered our world through Ms. Ipred's body and tried to kill Mr. Blox."

Edmund went back to sit next to Liz, and the murmur from the gallery returned. Dayot broke from his trance and stared at the gallery. There was no need to raise his gavel because that one glance shut every mouth in the crowd. He took a sip of water, paused for a few seconds, and said, "Well, this is a new one for me. I have never seen an opening statement turn a trial around and inside out like Attorney Edmund Howe just did. But I must agree that everything he said about Ms. Ipred being on trial for asking for the death penalty was true. For a moment, I thought he was just going to ask for a judgment from me to dismiss the trial completely. Then he described in detail why we were here. I do not believe there has ever been a trial that had to first determine that the accused even exist. And then came from some other cosmos to take control of a prosecutor and try to commit murder. I was very tempted to end it right now, but there were some things in the first trial that could not be explained. I am going to let this process continue as Attorney Howe suggested."

He turned to face the cameras in the gallery and continued.

"I know the news media wants to tell the world about this historic event, so we will take a break and resume at one o'clock."

Gently tapping the amplifier pad with his gavel produced the sound of a door closing and a lock clicking into place. The babble from the gallery was so loud that Dayot pressed a button on his desk to produce the wall that blocked the sound. The gallery once again could only see the digital clock counting down the time until the trial would resume. The newsmen in the gallery were busy creating their versions of what was to come as the clock behind them clicked off the seconds.

Edit Chapter 7 [41]

Hammer of Justice And One-Time Law.

Chapter 8
The Professor

The District Attorney Bobbie Morgen was not very pleased with her new role as defense lawyer for some mystical being. She told her assistant, Aiden, to quickly assemble a meeting to discuss being dismissed from this trial. He paused and replied, "Why? Even your opponent said you were the best District Attorney and never lost a case. This trial is being covered by more networks than we could ever hope to be on before. We are prepared to show that these spirits do not exist. If you decline to continue, it will only make you look unprepared and weak. Please, let's do it! Let's make you the best defense lawyer in a historical trial that will be entered into the lawyers' Hall of Fame[42]."

She stared at Aiden and realized he was right. Win or lose, she will become memorialized. She remembered the voice in her dream that said, 'You will be legendary.' She replied, "You're right. We have to prove this spirit does not exist, and to tell you the truth, I personally believe it does not. We are prepared, so let's go get this done."

Edmund and Liz had a meeting with Oma during the break. They were concerned about misguided spirits in the courtroom that could be manipulating the jury. If they tried to get everyone to drive them out, it would look like a trick to prove they exist. Because Oma knew these spirits existed and was considered a person with great wisdom, they asked her if she had any solution to this problem. In her typical Socratic way, she answered by asking, "When you were first asked to say the Greek words, 'Βγείτε δαίμονες', to make spirits leave, what did you think?"

Edmund answered, "I thought it was silly, but did it anyway to make you happy." "Then make them say it to prove their case that nothing will happen. That would make them happy and would also make the spirits leave."

Liz agreed, and they left Oma to return to the courtroom. When Dayot announced the break, he went back to his chambers where Minerva was waiting. She had reviewed the proceedings on the judge's private monitor, and being the head of security in the Great Hall, had many questions. Dayot entered his office, closed and locked the door. Without saying even hello, he walked over and entered a code into the keypad on his desk. He turned to face his soulmate and said, "All recording devices are off so we can talk now. I knew Edmund was brilliant, but I never expected this complete reversal of trial procedures. I feel like I've lost control of the entire trial."

She smiled and softly gave her husband a verbal hug by saying, "So take control."

"What do you suggest?"

"Start the trial over. You have to give the defendant a name. You can't be calling the defendant the spirit if the defense has to prove that spirits do not exist. The name should have no gender, so mister or miss cannot be used. The name should also be one accepted by all the known nations viewing the trial taking place."

Like many wives that never get credit but know how to support their mates' work, Minerva released his frustration and pointed him in the direction to take when he returned to the courtroom. They spent the entire break preparing the judge to take back control and start a new trial.

Everyone was back in their seats when the clock on the wall displayed six zeros. The bailiff told everyone to stand and announced the judge entering. The wall disappeared as Dayot made his way to his desk, sat down, and said, "Please, everyone be seated."

After a short pause to adjust his chair and robe, Dayot faced the court camera and continued. "Because the defendant in this trial is not present and has not been clearly identified, I have made a few changes that will be recorded now. The defendant shall no longer be referred to as 'the spirit', but shall have the generic first name of Sami. Not Samie with an 'I.E.' spelling, which could be feminine, or Sammy with a 'M. Y.' spelling, which may denote masculine. The defendant's first name will be 'S. A. M. I.', which has no gender. The defendant's last name shall be Nata after the organization here in the Great Hall that communicates with every known nation. Because NATO[43] the military alliance had only 32 sovereign member countries, NATA, the National Alliance To All, was formed to recognize all 193 known Nations. Therefore the defendant, Sami Nata, has no gender and represents no particular nation, or you could say all the known nations.

Since the attorneys in this trial have actually had their jobs reversed, I am also reversing the procedure of prosecution presenting evidence first and we will have the defense present evidence and witnesses first. This is necessary because the defense was prepared to prove that the accused does not even exist."

This statement caused a slight murmur from the gallery that was eliminated as Dayot continued, "Because this is a new trial, let the record show that the gallery has received my one and only warning! They are now in my monarchy and any interruption by any visitor in these proceedings will make everyone in this gallery pay a one-thousand dollar fine or be put in jail for three days."

The degree of silence reached a record high and everyone knew that Justice Gevin Dayot was in full control of the proceedings. To further emphasize the beginning of a new trial, he continued, "People in the gallery that cannot conform

to this one warning rule have five minutes to leave now. The doors will then be locked and the regulation will start."

Only two people left, and they were both from the press area of the gallery. Because the silence was so intense, they realized they would not even be able to whisper and wanted to comment as the trial was in progress. During their exodus, Dayot continued.

"Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the trial of Sami Nata. I am Justice Gevin Dayot. The purpose of this trial is to determine if the defendant, Sami Nata, took control of the prosecution in a previous trial and attempted to kill Mr. Seymour Blox. Because of the unusual nature of these proceedings, please remember that everything said in opening arguments is not to be considered as fact. Only the evidence and witness statements, if proven true, should determine the verdict."

The silence was broken by the sound of the gallery doors being closed and locked. Dayot turned to face Bobbie Morgen and said, "The defense may now present their opening statement."

Bobbie slowly rose, turned to look at the cameras in the gallery, and with a broad smile declared, "This is the first time I have never met my client, and never communicated in any way with defendant Sami Nata. Now I am supposed to defend Sami? I don't even know where to send my bill."

A few subdued laughs in the gallery vanished when Dayot stared and reached for his gavel. Turning to face the jury, Bobbie continued.

"I only want to remind you that first you must believe beyond any doubt that this Sami Nata exists. You must also believe, beyond any doubt, that the accused, Sami Nata, took possession of Ms. Ipred's body and soul and used it to try and kill Mr. Seymour Blox. After that, you will have to suggest on how to punish Sami Nata. I will present facts to show you an alternative to this fabrication and a way back to reality. Thank you."

As she returned to her table, Dayot said, "Thank you, Ms. Morgen. The prosecution may now present its opening statement."

Edmund rose quickly and did not face the gallery. He immediately turned toward the jury and started speaking in a convincing style as he walked to face them.

"Reality. What is Real? When a hypnotist makes a person do crazy things, is it just an act? Can a person be put in a state of doing what another person suggests and then have no memory of the event afterword? I am not suggesting that Ms. Ipred was hypnotized by defendant Sami Nata. A person in that condition would

appear to be in a trance and waiting for suggestions. What I intend to show you is that Ms. Ipred had given total possession of her physical being to Sami Nata. Yes, she had to give all control of her being to the defendant willingly. I believe we can show you beyond any doubt why she would allow this possession."

Edmund looked down at the floor for a moment and then, returning to view the jury again, and in a much more loving tone, remarked, "Does defendant Sami Nata even exist? This is the most important fact that has to be proven. Does our evidence prove Sami Nata's existence beyond any reasonable doubt? This is the reason we are here. If you present a verdict of guilty to Sami Nata, you expose this entity as being real to the entire world. This alone would be the punishment that Sami Nata deserves." Edmund slowly turned to walk back to his table, with an expressionless face and looking only into the eyes of Liz. She was his strength. She was his guide. Most of all, she was his best friend.

Justice Gevin Dayot was watching Edmund and heard his best friend and wife say, "There's the answer to your biggest problem. You punish this spirit by telling the world it is real and wants to harm people." He smiled at the courtroom camera to let her know he heard her on his private earpiece. Turning to face Bobbie Morgen, he declared, "The defense may proceed to enter their evidence now."

Ms. Morgen rose and carefully positioned herself so she could be seen by both the jury and the cameras in the gallery. "I would like to call my first witness. He is Professor Ronold B. C. Wug. He received the honor of being called the 'Master of Scientific Method' by the World Science Association."

A door opened, and an elderly man with disheveled white hair and custom spectacles entered. He had a pure white mustache and crow's feet around dark brown eyes. An android guard escorted him to the witness chair as Judge Dayot instructed. "Please sit and face the guard behind me. State your name and profession. Also, make a statement that includes you will answer all questions truthfully to the best of your ability."

After sitting in the witness chair, removing his glasses, and fixing his eyes on the android behind the judge, Professor Wug stated, "My name is Ronold B. C. Wug. I am the Regius Professor[44] of Science at Oxford University. I will answer all questions truthfully and to the best of my ability."

He replaced his spectacles and turned to face Bobbie Morgen standing in front of his chair. Dayot glanced at the desk display that showed the professor's statement was true and said, "The defense may proceed."

"Thank you, professor, for taking the time to be with us today. I see on your biography that you received the 'Master of Scientific Method' award. Please explain who gets this award and why it is given."

"This award goes to the person who is voted to be the best person using the Scientific Method to solve problems and theories presented in the world we live in."

"Who votes to select this person?"

"All the members of the Science Club International[45], any Nobel Prize winner, and past award winners."

"Do you know how many members there are in the Science Club?"

"No. I believe it would be a pretty large number because many students interested in science join. Also, many instructors like me are members. However, I did not vote for myself."

The professor's smile could not be seen because his mustache covered his upper lip, but the laugh lines on his face appeared. Bobbie walked over to her table and took a document from Aiden. Walking back to the judge, she handed him the document and proclaimed, "I enter this document from the Science Club International showing there are over thirty thousand students and twenty-seven hundred instructor members of this organization. Please enter this as Exhibit One."

Turning back to face the witness, Bobbie continued. "I believe we have established you as an expert on the 'Scientific Method,' professor, so would you explain to the jury in your own language just what this method is?"

The professor's vision focused on the jury as he explained. "The Scientific Method has eight simple steps. First, define a question. Second, gather information. Third, form an explanation. Fourth, test the explanation in a reproducible manner. Fifth, analyze results of the test. Sixth, draw a conclusion. Seventh, publish your conclusion. Eighth, others test your conclusion using your reproducible manner. These steps are necessary and are known as the Factors of Scientific Inquiry[46]."

"Tell me, Professor, for step one, did you ever ask the question, 'Do spiritual entities exist?'"

"That question has been asked many times and in many different ways. The problem is that we have tried to verify they do, but all of our tests use physical world methods. By definition, a spirit does not exist in our world because all of our tests with cameras, sound recordings, temperature measurements, and radiation detection always prove negative or have an alternate explanation for the event being investigated. Therefore, our most accepted conclusion is that they do not exist in our universe."

"So, using the Scientific Method, can we ask the question, 'Is there a universe where spirits exist?' Has that question been investigated?"

"The question of other dimensions and other realms of existence has also been investigated many times. Again, nothing has been found to substantiate the existence of other realms of existence."

"How do you explain all the religions that claim spirits exist and the vast multitude of people that believe they not only exist, but they can be good or evil?"

"What people believe is based on what they are taught as they grow older. People once believed the Earth was flat and if you sailed far enough, you would fall off the edge. Then some brave souls challenged that theory and proved it was not true by sailing around the world. The question was, 'Is the Earth flat?' Observation showed that a ship far away on a calm day, only the top of the sails could be observed. As it got closer, more of the ship could be seen. The theory was the Earth must be curved. Experiments performed showed the Earth was round. The method was repeated by others to prove the theory was correct. This is what we call the Scientific Method."

"So why can't this method prove that spirits exist?"

"There seems to be no way to observe something that has no physical properties."

"What about all the people that claim they actually observed a spirit?"

"The human brain can actually make you think you are observing something that is not really there. We call these incidences hallucinations."

"Professor, you were given a recording of the first trial and observed the flames coming out of Ms. Ipred at the end of that trial. The jury also observed this occurrence. Do you have a theory on what was recorded and observed by the jury?"

"Yes. I hired a professional flame thrower and he made a recording of how this can be done. Using his cameras in the same position as the court cameras, he imitated Ms. Ipred's actions before the flames appeared and recorded his version of this manifestation."

Bobbie walked over to the judge, reached into her pocket, and handed Dayot a small sphere. She then asserted, "I enter this recording as exhibit two. Please play it to let the jury view."

The judge dropped the tiny ball into a hole in his desktop and a holographic display appeared above the witness. The three-dimensional movie showed a man sitting at a table and imitating Ms. Ipred's motions at the end of the previous trial. When he sat up and threw his head back, fire shot out of his mouth and across the room. He then looked around, imitating Ms. Ipred and said, 'Where am I?' The screen disappeared at the end of the recording. Bobbie turned to face the jury and said,

“Look familiar?”

Turning back to her witness she decisively stated, “As an expert on scientific investigation, do you believe that spirits from some other universe exist, and can take total possession of a person’s body?”

He simply replied, ‘No’.

“Thank you, Professor. I have no more questions right now.”

She turned and went back to her chair next to Aiden. The smile on his face let her know she had done an excellent job. The silence was broken when the judge told the prosecution they may cross-examine the witness. Edmund took a position facing Professor Wug and asked, “Professor, did you also see the video showing that Mr. and Mrs. Blox had somehow vanished from the secure room?”

“Yes.”

“Using your method of investigation, can you explain their vanishing?”

“I was not asked to study that incident, but I’m sure there is a logical explanation.”

“Do you think they could have gone into another existence that our instruments in our world could not detect?”

“I’m not sure what you mean by another existence. Please clarify.”

“Sure. Do you believe there exists a universe of mathematics[47] with numbers, equations, problems, and solutions?”

“Yes, but only in the minds of people.”

“Then when people die, does that realm cease to exist?”

“For that person it does.”

“Are you sure? Could it still be in that person’s mind? Are you saying that a person’s thoughts, imagination, and beliefs no longer exist when their physical being perishes?”

Edmund could see the professor was getting nervous and did not want to answer that question. He did not want to appear to be tricking the witness so he said, “Never mind that question. Does the realm of mathematics still exist even if not in the minds of people?”

Relieved, Professor Wug simply answered, “Yes. But numbers and equations do not take possession of a person.”

Edmund smiled and turned to glance at Liz smiling back. They both knew teachers that seemed to be possessed by mathematics. Liz could read his mind and

slowly shook her head back and forth telling him, don't go there. Edmund regained his composure as he turned back to the witness and continued. "But you do agree that there is a universe where mathematics exist independent of the human mind?"

"Yes."

"If one other realm exists that does not come from a human mind, could there be other universes that exist?"

"Yes."

"If we had a video recording showing what appears to be Sami Nata and witnesses claiming they were actually holding on to Sami Nata, but in a different realm, would that satisfy the conditions for proof that Sami Nata actually does exist?"

"Only if the video could be verified to be unaltered and the witnesses were people proven to be trustworthy and not delusional. It would also take repeated experiments using the same conditions and producing the same results."

"Thank you, Professor. That is all for now, but I reserve the right to recall this witness later."

Edmund returned to his chair while the judge asked if the defense had any more questions for the witness. Bobbie replied no, and Dayot replied, "Thank you, Professor Wug, you may go back to your waiting room but please do not leave in case you are recalled. The defense may now call their next witness."

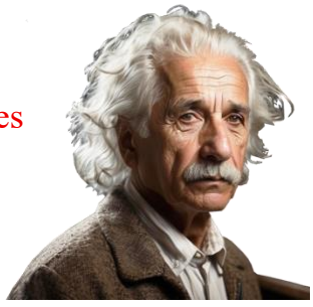
Bobbie was concerned about the prosecution's questions and wanted to discuss them with her group. She rose and facing the judge asked, "Could we take a ten-minute break before proceeding?"

Dayot did not want to take breaks after each witness, but he knew the reporters and news people were broadcasting their versions of what was transpiring. He also knew that Minerva was watching their stories and thought he could get some good advice from his soulmate. Therefore, he did not question the request but declared, "We will take a short break and resume in ten minutes."

He tapped his gavel on the amplifier pad and rose to go to his chambers. Bobbie turned to Aiden and ordered, "Get everyone in our meeting room. I need to ask for suggestions before we put the next witness on the stand."

Edit Chapter 8[48]

Professor Wug with glasses removed and starring at lie detector android.



Chapter 9
More Experts

Bobbie hurried to meet her team and instantly asked, “Where do you think the prosecution is going with the questions they asked?” One of the older and wiser members of her team answered. “They only talked about the recordings and witnesses. The only three recordings submitted are the first trial, our flamethrower, and the Blox vanishing from the secure room. The only witnesses to these recordings are the people from the first trial, and Mr. and Mrs. Blox. Both Seymour and Ruby Blox are on the witness list for the prosecution. What did Seymour Blox tell you about the vanishing or recordings when you interviewed him?”

Bobbie thought back about that interview and responded. “He claimed they never physically left the room. He also said that he did not want to say anything about the recording from the room because we were going to have our expert in court to talk about these videos. He did not want to make a statement that could make that job difficult.”

Aiden inserted his opinion by stating, “We were going to put Ms. Ipred’s doctor on next to prove she was in control and very capable of making the flames come out of her like our video demonstrated. If we change our direction now, it may be a problem later.” Everyone agreed to stay with the original plan. They would start an investigation of Seymour and Ruby vanishing from the secure room to see if there was something they missed.

The short break was over. Justice Dayot restarted the trial, and Bobbie stood to introduce her next witness. “I call Doctor Trel Conold, who is both a highly trained medical surgeon and a licensed psychiatrist. Doctor Conold has been given the ‘Pride in the Profession’ award by the American Medical Association[49].”

The doctor entered and went through the procedure for the lie detector android after sitting in the witness chair. Bobbie continued.

“Doctor, is one of your patients Ms. Megotis Ipred?”

“Yes.”

“Please describe to the jury how you first met Ms. Ipred and what disease or problems she is dealing with.”

“I cannot do that because that information is protected by the government[50] and cannot be disclosed to the public.”

Bobbie retrieved a letter from her assistant and brought it to Judge Dayot. She handed it to him and said, "Your Honor, please enter this document into the records showing that the government has allowed the doctor to disclose Ms. Megotis Ipred's medical information to the jury, prosecution, and judge but not to the general public. Ms. Ipred must also be present to hear the doctor's testimony, and all tapes of his statements must be eliminated from the trial records and held as secure by the presiding judge."

Dayot took a few minutes to read the document, then staring at the defense, proclaimed, "I am adding to this document a clause letting the head of the Great Hall security view the proceedings in order to ensure maximum security. We will take a ten-minute break to make these adjustments and then continue."

The wall returned, isolating the gallery and all public broadcasting equipment. The normal courtroom cameras were shut down, and the room was scanned for any electronic devices. The only ones found were on the judge's desk and in his ear. Ms. Ipred was ushered into the room and given a chair at the prosecution table next to Edmund. Dayot heard Minerva say, 'Connected and ready.' He then announced, "The room is now secured. I must caution everyone in this room that everything in the doctor's testimony is protected, and any disclosure of this information is punishable by severe fine and incarceration."

Turning to face the witness, he continued, "You may now speak freely because your privacy restriction has been vacated by the government and my court order." Turning back to the defense, he stated, "The defense may now proceed."

Bobbie returned to face the doctor and repeated, "Please describe to the jury how you first met Ms. Ipred and what disease or problems she is dealing with."

"I met Ms. Ipred when she was working for a security firm delivering mail and documents to the lawyers and judges of various legal practices. She was very depressed and considering suicide. She told me that she watched her mother suffer from Huntington's disease and did not want to go through that same agony. Our medical scan showed that Ms. Ipred's huntingtin gene on the short arm of Chromosome Four[51] was starting to mutate and produce the disease. I instantly put her on medication to block the mutation."

"Did that also cure her depression and thoughts of suicide?"

"Not completely. She loved her grandmother and wanted to make more money so she could take care of her. She wanted a professional career with high income."

"Did you help her with her plan?"

"We worked together for the next few years, and she not only became a very good lawyer, but she was one of the few people I know that passed the bar exam on her first try with only three years of study."

"Would you say that Ms. Ipred was a quick study and could learn new skills in a very short time?"

"Just look at her success as a lawyer. In two short years, she has won numerous cases and worked her way up to taking on the infamous Seymour Blox."

"What I would really like to know is, do you think Ms. Ipred could learn how to produce that flame from her mouth like the actor did in his movie?"

"I believe that Ms. Ipred could do just about anything once she sets her mind to it."

"Thank you, Doctor, that is all I have at this time but may call on you later."

When Bobbie turned to retire to her table, Dayot stated, "The prosecution may cross this witness now."

Edmund rose to face the witness and asked, "Doctor, you said that you met Ms. Ipred when she was working at a delivery company. Did she bring you something?"

"No. She delivered to a lawyer that knew me and told that lawyer she was contemplating suicide. The lawyer sent her to me."

"Was this lawyer someone under your care?"

"No, she was not my patient. We both were members of a Herrenvolk group that helped professionals solve their problems. Ms. Ipred joined the group and everyone helped her achieve her goals."

"Is there a group leader that runs this organization?"

"There are a few members called elders that call meetings now and then to have votes on issues, but mostly it is run like a social club."

"Is there one person that runs these meetings and seems to have more control over the elders?"

"Usually the oldest member calls and runs the meetings."

"Okay, now let's talk about Ms. Ipred's huntingtin gene. Are you still giving her medication to prevent the disease from starting?"

"Yes."

"Is there an alternative to the medication that would eliminate the problem?"

"Yes, but it requires the development of a nanobot[52] and is expensive."

"Did you ever tell Ms. Ipred about this alternative and the cost?"

"No. I did not think she could afford the procedure."

"Thank you, Doctor. That is all I need for now but reserve the right to recall this witness if necessary."

Edmund made his way back to sit next to Liz as Dayot asked, "Does the defense wish to recross this witness?"

"No."

"Doctor, you are excused, but please make yourself available to be recalled if necessary. Thank you."

Dayot glanced at his desk monitor and continued, "Doctor Trel Conold's statements were determined to be truthful and will be added to the secured evidence file should they be required at a later date. The court recorders are again activated and the gallery wall is being dropped. Ms. Ipred, you must now go back to your holding chamber. The trial is reopened to the public. The defense may call their next witness."

Bobbie had made a note to her assistant that said, 'They were more concerned about the social group than the doctor. That has got me worried.' Aiden answered with 'Don't worry. Just call our next witness and we will get it done.' She rose and said, "The defense calls Ms. Ira D. Teps, who is an expert specializing in photography, videography, video analysis, photogrammetry, and other forms of data capture. She has received her Doctor of Fine Arts degree from the David Geffen School of Drama[53] at Yale University." After the formal process of being sworn in, Bobbie continued. "Thank you, Doctor Teps, for joining us in this trial."

"Please, just call me Ira. You do not have to be so formal."

"Okay, Ira. Please describe in your own words what videos you were given to study and report on their authenticity."

"First of all, I was hired to help the actor reproduce the recording of the flame throwing and to make sure all the cameras were in the exact position as

the courtroom. I also ensured the lights were the same and the sound levels matched. Therefore, I can testify that recording has not been altered and is authentic."

"What else did you study?"

"I had to review the court tapes of the first trial to make sure our video would be accurate. Of course, those tapes were never changed, so we had a perfect model to work with."

"Was there anything else?"

"Yes. I was given a recording of the vanishing of Mr. and Mrs. Blox from the secure room. This information included medical scans and even brain wave records and was very difficult to determine what exactly happened. The digital clock showed the room went perfectly void of human life until it was opened. The Blox just vanished. The tape was not altered as far as I could tell, but I will need to study this further in order to explain what happened. I think the video and medical scans just stopped, but the video timer kept running. That would also correspond with the fact that Mr. Blox claimed they never physically left the room."

"Thank you, Ira. I have no more questions."

Dayot interjected, "The prosecution may now cross-examine the witness."

Edmund slowly approached the witness and with a very gentle voice asked, "May I also address you as Ira?"

"Of course."

"First, let me say you did a very good job on making a movie that appeared to be the same as the first trial's video. I am very interested in the differences, however. In your movie, the flame did not appear to go into a wall, but in the trial video, it appears to be absorbed completely by the wall. Can you explain that difference?"

"I did not want to start a fire, so we kept the flame away from anything that could burn."

"Were you in the room when the flamethrower produced the fire?"

"Yes."

"Did you feel the heat from the flame?"

"Yes."

"Also, I noticed there was very little smoke following the flame in your movie, but in the trial video, the smoke trail was as large as the flame that penetrated the wall. When you made your movie, did you detect an odor after the flame vanished?"

"Yes, but it was very faint."

Edmund turned to look at the jury and asked, "Did you feel heat or smell anything?"

Bobbie jumped to her feet and shouted, "I object. The prosecution is questioning the jury and not the witness. That last question must be removed from all records!"

Dayot slammed his gavel and firmly stated, "Court recorder will remove that question from the records of this trial. The jurors will not consider what was asked in their deliberation. Mr. Howe, you will direct your questions to the witness only."

"I apologize, Your Honor, I was just thinking out loud. I will not do that again."

Turning back to the witness, Edmund continued. "Ira, did you also notice the difference in the amount of smoke that followed the flame?"

"Yes."

Edmund then asked the witness to look at a projected image of the smoke following the flames from the original video. The fire had separated and the smoke was being sucked backward into Ms. Ipred. He then stated, "Look at the smoke behind the flame. It looks like four hands losing their grip on the flame. Can you see that?"

"I have also seen clouds that look like dragons in the sky. I do not know how your imagination relates to this recording."

"Thank you. That is all for now."

Edmund turned and went back to his chair next to Liz. Dayot asked, "Does the defense need to recross this witness?"

Bobbie quickly rose from her chair to face the witness and proclaimed, "Yes, Your Honor." She very calmly asked, "Ira, could you make a video that would not use fire and would look identical to the one in the first trial?"

"Yes, but I would have to use a miniature holographic projector that could be put in your mouth. It would create a three-dimensional image that would appear to go into the wall and leave no marks. It would also produce no heat or

odor from the fire and smoke. The smoke could appear like the one in the first trial."

"Why didn't you do that?"

"The cost would be high and there was not enough time to make the device and train the actor."

"Thank you, Ira."

While Bobbie was returning to her table, Dayot asked, "Does the prosecution wish to recross the witness?" Edmund simply said no. Dayot continued, "Thank you, Ms. Teps, you are dismissed. The defense may call their next witness."

Bobbie displayed an eagerness to proceed. This was the moment she had been waiting for. She rose and faced the gallery and very seriously proclaimed, "Since the person on trial here is Sami Nata and the accused has been charged for trying to commit murder while in total control of Ms. Megotis Ipred, I call Ms. Megotis Ipred."

Megotis again came into the room, but this time she sat in the witness chair and allowed the eye exam as she made the required statements. Before she could turn to face Bobbie, Dayot told her she did not have to answer any questions that would incriminate her in any unlawful act. She only needed to say, 'I take the fifth on that question.' He then stated, "The defense may now proceed."

Bobbie wasted no time and went right to the main question by asking, "Ms. Ipred, do you believe that Sami Nata took control of your very mind and body and tried to use you to kill Mr. Blox?"

"Yes."

"Did you willingly allow Sami Nata to have total control of your mind and body?"

Dayot tapped his gavel and interjected, "Please understand, Ms. Ipred, that if Sami Nata is found guilty, answering yes to that question may make you an accessory to the crime. You may take the fifth if you so desire."

Megotis turned to face the judge and with a smile calmly declared, "I am a lawyer, Your Honor. I completely understand your concern, but you do not have to warn me anymore. I have committed unlawful acts in the past, and I am willing to suffer the punishment for them now. I will not take the fifth and will answer all questions truthfully." She turned back to face Bobbie and said, "The answer to your question is yes."

Bobbie did not expect the high level of cooperation from this witness and immediately changed her demeanor. She appeared to be relaxed and even smiled as she proceeded, "Thank you, Ms. Ipred. Would it be okay if I call you Meggy? I heard that you prefer that name."

"Please do."

"Thank you. Meggy, did you know that Sami Nata would use you to try and kill Mr. Blox when you gave him control?"

"No."

"Did you ever meet Sami Nata or have a discussion with this being?"

"No."

"Then why would you allow some entity that you never met to take control of your mind and body?"

"Because I was told I would be able to visit my mother and grandmother. My grandmother had recently died, and I was back all alone once again. I was thinking about suicide but was told that I could be with them whenever I wanted if I gave my free will to a man in the Bellevue hospital."

"Who told you to give your free will to this man?"

"The man called Commander at the Herrenvolk Club. Everyone I knew always followed his orders. He was the main Elder that was in control of everything. I was told he even got me a copy of the bar exam so I could pass on my first testing. He also had great influence over people in positions of authority everywhere."

"Let's talk about something else for a moment. Have you ever heard of posthypnotic suggestion[54]?"

"Yes."

"I know you are not an expert in this field, but I am just asking for your opinion. Do you think it is possible for a very gifted mesmerizer to make a person act very normal and then do things that have been planted in their brain later? Then have a different memory implanted so when they have performed these actions they think they were somewhere else?"

"I really do not know. Many things are possible."

"Do you think this could possibly be what happened when you were in that hospital and gave your free will to that man?"

"I do not think so. When I gave up my free will, I instantly found myself in a cave searching for my grandmother. I can remember searching for days. I

remember getting hungry and finding things to eat. I remember sleeping and waking up. I can even recall the different passages and echoes in that cave. Then after many days I heard my grandmother call me. I remember finding a wall with hands reaching out to me. When I took hold, they pulled me out and into that courtroom. I do not think anyone could implant all that in my mind by just one touch."

"Like you said, many things are possible. Let's go back to the Commander now. Did he ever tell you to do anything else before he requested the hospital visit?"

"No. Not directly, but I was given many things to do that were supposed to be from him."

"What job were you given that you now really regret?"

"I was told to deliver a cup of coffee to a judge's office. They said it only had a listening device in the cup that would not be activated until he took a sip. I was delivering it after the scan for such devices was completed. I needed to remove it right after his meeting. Later I found out that the judge had been poisoned and died."

A lady juror gasped and said, "Oh my god!" Dayot knew that lady was the poisoned judge's wife. He gently tapped his gavel and asked, "Are you all right? Do you want us to take a short break?" She composed herself and said, "No. I'm sorry. Please continue."

Bobbie realized that Ms. Ipred had just admitted to being an accomplice to a murder of a judge, but that would have to come later. She stayed focused and asked, "Meggy, were you aware of your actions when you performed these activities?"

"Yes, but I only thought I was planting a listening device and had no idea the coffee was poisoned."

"But you admit you did everything you were told without questioning."

"Yes."

"After you retrieved the coffee cup from the judge, what were you told to do?"

"I delivered it to an assistant of the Commander at the club so they could hear what was recorded."

Bobbie walked over to take a picture and some documents from Aiden. She presented them to the judge and stated, "Let these documents be entered into the court records. They are from the investigation of the death of Judge

Earnest Y. Walas." After Dayot's approval she showed the picture of a coffee cup to the witness and continued. "Does this look like the cup you claimed you brought back to the Commander's assistant?"

"Yes."

"When you delivered this cup to the judge, did you wear gloves?"

"Yes, the Commander's assistant told me to always keep my fingerprints off everything I delivered."

Bobbie handed the witness the documents and stated, "Meggy, please read the highlighted portion of the document about this cup for the court." Ms. Ipred read, "Traces of the poison that killed Judge Walas were discovered in the cup. The only fingerprints on the cup were from the judge and his secretary."

"Thank you. That is all I have right now for this witness."

Bobbie walked back to her table as Dayot announced, "The prosecution may now cross this witness." Edmund slowly walked to face Ms. Ipred and with a gentle smile asked, "May I also call you Meggy?"

"Of course."

"Meggy, you are a lawyer and you knew answering the defense's questions without taking the fifth would make you guilty of some very serious crimes. Would you please tell us in your own words, why you were willing to suffer the punishment that may follow this trial?"

Megotis interlocked her fingers and put her hands into her lap. She stared down at her hands and contemplated before looking up to answer. Finally she declared, "I have done crimes and deserve to be penalized. If my punishment can also bring other criminals to justice then it will be justified. When my moment to pass from this world comes, I want to think I have tried to correct my past errors and somehow made this world a little better."

Edmund shocked everyone by saying, "Thank you. That is all I need from this witness."

Edit Chapter 9[55]

EDMUND'S SHOCKING STATEMENT

Chapter 10
The Connection

The surprise of virtually no cross-questioning of the main witness drove the process into a wall of silence. Edmund had returned to his chair, and it took a moment before Dayot finally turned to tell Ms. Ipred she was excused and could return to her room. After she left, Dayot turned to the jury and said, “Ms. Megotis Ipred’s statements were displayed as true, and no further evidence is required to accept her comments.” Bobbie turned to her assistant and whispered, “I don’t like this. There is something strange going on.” Before Aiden could answer, Dayot tapped his gavel and declared, “The defense may call their next witness.” Bobbie rose, turned to face the judge, and proclaimed, “The defense has no more witnesses. The defense rests.” As she sat, Dayot asked, “Does the prosecution wish to call a witness before we proceed to summaries?”

Edmund rose and responded, “Yes, Your Honor, we wish to call Seymour E. Blox to the stand.” A quiet murmur came from the gallery as Seymour entered the courtroom. One glare from Dayot smothered the whispers and made silence once again supreme. After Seymour sat, Dayot instructed, “Please look at the android behind me and state your name, profession, and a short phrase that you will always tell the truth.”

Seymour smiled as he turned to make his declaration. “My name is Seymour Blox. I am a tool that was used by The Great Hall to reduce the wrongs in our world. I am now being used by our Creator to spread agape. Because of this profession, I cannot and will not ever prevent the truth from being revealed.” He turned to face the judge and, still smiling, asked, “Does that fulfill your requirement?” Dayot smiled back and very lovingly answered, “I have never heard of that profession before, but there have been many things in this trial that have never been heard before, so I guess it is acceptable.” He then turned to face Edmund and declared, “You may proceed.”

Seymour had told Edmund to make him the last witness and only ask questions about spiritual possession. Edmund needed to let the world know all the facts, so he opened with, “Mr. Blox, were you the accused in a previous trial where Ms. Ipred was the prosecuting attorney?”

“Yes.”

“Is it true that she would not let you defend yourself?”

“Yes.”

"Is it also true that she demanded you be locked in a room that could not make any communication with the outside world so you could not interfere with that trial?"

"Yes."

"Did you agree to her requirement?"

"Only if my wife, Ruby, could be with me."

"Were the two of you held in a secure room during the trial against you?"

"Yes."

Edmund asked the court recorder to play section sixty, twenty-two, fourteen of recording number three. He told Mr. Blox to watch. It showed Seymour and Ruby holding hands and communicating without sound or lips moving. The delta wave patterns in the recording were identical, and their actions indicated they were talking. When the video stopped, he turned to Seymour and stated, "It looks like you were communicating without speaking. The brain wave patterns do not match the telepathic waves for you in our files. Can you explain what we see on this video?"

Seymour sat up in his chair, stared directly at the jury and proclaimed, "When we were in that room for almost three days with no contact with the outside physical world, our metaphysical senses became very strong. Similar to a person who is born blind and deaf. They learn to smell objects to know where they are and feel the vibration of sound waves to determine what is being said. Our metaphysical senses peaked and we were able to communicate without using speech or telepathy. It was like we were both in the same dream."

Edmund interrupted him by saying, "There were many other times in the recording that showed this condition. Why didn't you just talk normally?"

"Because in these dreams we envisioned a golden planet with three moons. It was in a most spectacular galaxy. We were commenting on how beautiful everything was when a voice from the planet spoke to us. It said, 'Hello Ruby and Seymour. My planet is called Ohme and my name is Lange.' The voice was so gentle and full of love that we wanted to hear more. Lange told us that our great unconditional love for Earth and the beauty of Ohme was what allowed us to have a great chain[56] connection. We soon learned that this connection gave us communication without words. The beings of Ohme were called Ohmens. They showed us how to fight the misguided spirits that would not accept the Creator's path to Xanadu. Instead, these misguided spirits were trying to create an empire that would stay in a metaphysical dimension ruled by misdirected authorities that totally rejected agape."

The noise from the gallery was growing like the rumble from an approaching thunderstorm. It took only one slam from Dayot's gavel to restore silence. The members of the jury were staring at Seymour as Bobbie whispered to her assistant, "I know what he is saying is true. I've been there and I have heard the voice."

Normality instantly returned when Edmund proclaimed, “Are you telling us that you made contact with someone on a golden planet on the other side of the universe?”

“Yes.”

“Was this connection also involved in helping you and your wife vanish from the secure room at exactly the same time when Ms. Megotis Ipred seemed to awaken?”

“Yes.”

“Please explain in your own words what happened.”

“Lange somehow knew why we were physically in a secure room and everything happening in the courtroom. We were not told any details but were informed that Meggy needed our help. We were instructed to focus both of our minds on being with Meggy. Lange told us we would also be with the spirit that had control of her actions. We were told to hug the spirit and show the great love we had as soulmates. We were also told to keep repeating, ‘Receive agape and be at peace.’ We followed those instructions and when we were hugging the spirit and repeating those words, we heard a chorus of tender voices saying the same words. The spirit became very hot. You could say it had a burning desire to get away. Then it left and we could no longer hold on. We went back to help Meggy climb out of her cave and regain control of her actions.”

Seymour paused for a moment to let the jury contemplate this extraordinary event. He then continued to shock them further by saying, “After the misguided spirit left and Meggy was back in control, Lange took me and Ruby on a metaphysical tour. We were able to see Ohme and even met the Ohmens that were chanting with us to make the spirit willingly release control of Ms. Ipred. When the tour was over we discovered that the secure room had been opened and we had to wait before we could return to the physical world. Later that night when the secure room was being tested, Lange and the Ohmens helped us return.”

Everyone except Edmund and Liz was stunned into silence. Edmund stated, “Thank you, Mr. Blox. That is all I have for this witness.” He returned to his chair and took Elizabeth’s hand. They had both discussed a theory of what had happened and now it was confirmed by Seymour. They did not know there was another planet with beings that helped, but they knew that Seymour and Ruby had somehow helped drive Sami Nata from Ms. Megotis Ipred. These new details only made them want to learn to love others more. Finally, the silence was shattered when Justice Dayot declared, “The defense may now cross this witness.”

Because Bobbie Morgen was a superlative criminal attorney, she had been taking notes when Seymour gave his witness. She had seen the golden planet and heard the voice in a dream, so she also believed what he was saying would register

as true. She had to use his words to defend her client. She rose and smiled gently as she faced Seymour. “Thank you, Mr. Blox, for all you have done in the past. Do you believe a misguided spirit tried to kill you by the method shown in the first trial?”

“Yes.”

“There are just a few details that I need to go over. When you and Mrs. Blox hugged this spirit, could you tell if it was male or female?”

“No.”

“Did it have any features that would enable you to identify this particular spirit from another spirit in this same realm?”

“No.”

“We have given the name Sami Nata to the entity that had control of Ms. Ipred. Is it possible that Sami Nata knew you were coming and transferred control of Ms. Ipred to another misguided spirit before you arrived?”

Seymour had never considered that the misguided spirit could have given control to a different spirit before they tried to show agape by hugging the one in control. He pondered the question and responded, “It would have required a very quick transfer and a very good source to know we were coming, but I suppose it was possible.”

“Please, Mr. Blox, just answer this next question with a simple yes or no. Is it possible that the spirit that tried to use Ms. Ipred to kill you could have transferred control even before this trial began?”

“Yes.”

“Thank you. I have no further questions for this witness.”

Justice Dayot asked, “Does the prosecution wish to ask this witness anything else?”

Edmund responded, “Yes, your Honor, just one more question.” Edmund approached Seymour one last time and repeated Bobbie’s statement by saying, “Please, Mr. Blox, just answer this question with a simple yes or no. Do you have any doubt that the spirit that left Ms. Ipred when you and your wife were infusing agape with a hug, was not Sami Nata?”

“No.”

Edmund simply said thank you and went back to his table. Dayot asked the defense if they wished to ask the witness anything else but received a simple no. He then turned to Seymour and proclaimed, “Thank you for your service to this court. You are excused.” After Seymour had made his exit, Dayot looked up from his desk to face the jury and proclaimed, “Everything Mr. Blox stated has registered as true,

and there needs to be no other evidence to support his testimony." He then looked at Edmund and stated, "You may call your next witness."

Edmund rose slowly and faced the jury as he proclaimed, "I was not going to call this witness, but since the defense has introduced the possibility of a transfer of control, I will now call Mrs. Ruby Blox to the stand."

There was a short delay, then the witness door opened and Ruby entered the room. Her red hair had aged and was now platinum white, but her Irish green eyes and attractive smile were as young as the day she got married. The android that guarded the witness door walked her to the chair and helped her sit down. She released the robot's hand and said, "Thank you, Whitney." The bailiff was stunned because nobody knew what he had named the robots in the courtroom. For security reasons, it was never recorded and only used when he was alone with the three androids. Dayot noticed the look on the bailiff's face, but before he could give his instruction to the witness, Ruby turned to face the eye detection android and declared, "My name is Ruby Blox. My profession is wife and homemaker for Mr. Seymour Blox and our children. I will only speak what I believe is true to this jury." She then turned to face the judge and continued, "You may proceed."

Dayot just sat with his mouth open, looking like a dog getting ready to catch a treat. He finally snapped it shut and turned to face Edmund. He repeated her phrase by saying, "You may proceed."

Ruby turned to face Edmund as he asked, "Mrs. Blox, would it be okay if I just call you Ruby?"

"Please do."

"Ruby, were you with your husband, Seymour Blox, when he went to drive the spirit we are calling Sami Nata from Ms. Ipred?"

"Yes."

"Did you also hug the spirit that had control of Ms. Ipred?"

"Yes."

"Was there anything about the spirit you were holding that could be used to identify it from all the other spirits?"

"Yes."

"Please explain what made this spirit unique."

"I could feel the hate this spirit had for all humans. It had never been human and considered itself to be superior to humans. It was once in command of all the spirits, but when the Creator told it to serve a human, it refused. It was very powerful and had no intention of letting go of Ms. Ipred's free will."

Even Edmund never expected such detail in her answer. The anxiety in the court was even greater than the silence. Edmund inquired, “Then what made it release her?”

“I could feel the great warmth and peace that only unconditional love can bring. It was coming from everywhere and going into the spirit we were holding. The spirit refused to let it enter and got a burning desire to leave. It just had to release her and get away.”

Edmund knew what had to be asked next, so he did not hesitate to say, “Is there any doubt in your mind that the spirit that you were hugging was the same spirit that tried to use Ms. Ipred to kill your husband?”

“No.”

Edmund smiled and said, “Thank you, Ruby. That is all I have for this witness.”

Dayot asked if the defense wished to cross the witness. Bobbie rose but did not approach Ruby. She answered yes but stayed by her table. Before she could ask her first question, Ruby said, “It is all right, Roberta, I will not hurt you. You can get closer.” There were a few giggles from the gallery and even a chuckle or two from the jury. Bobbie, however, was drop-dead serious. Only her grandfather had ever called her by that name. The one person who truly loved her more than anyone. As she approached Ruby, she wondered if this witness was able to read her mind. She asked, “Mrs. Blox, have you ever been declared as an empath by any recognized institution?”

“No.”

“Yet you claim that you can sense what other beings are feeling when you hold them. Has this power you have ever been tested by anyone?”

“No.”

“Please do not elaborate on my next question. Just answer with a simple yes or no. Have you ever disagreed with anything your husband has stated in a public meeting or courtroom?”

“No.”

“Thank you. That is all I have for this witness.”

Dayot asked if the prosecution wished to recross but received a simple no. He then turned to face the witness and stated, “Thank you, Mrs. Blox, for your service to this trial. You may go back to your room now.” After she was escorted out by the android known as Whitney, Dayot once again declared, “Everything this witness has provided has been recorded as true, and no further evidence is needed to support her testimony.” Knowing this was the last witness on record, he continued, “We will

now take a thirty-minute break and then continue with the summaries." He tapped his gavel and pressed a button to restore the gallery barrier wall with a countdown clock visible to the visitors. The gallery doors were opened, and the pause began.

Dayot quickly returned to his office and secured the room. He turned to face Minerva and softly said, "What do you think?" She lovingly replied, "It is pretty hard to convict Sami Nata because that is just a name you invented. Also, nobody but Seymour and his wife have ever claimed to having help from someone through this ohmen connection. I think the best you could hope for would be a deadlocked jury[57]."

"Do you think that would be good?"

"Majority verdicts are not allowed for an attempted murder case in the Great Hall Court. A hung jury means you can declare a mistrial. The case can then be retried later with a different jury. Most importantly, you would have established that a spirit can be put on trial and may have another chance with a different jury."

Dayot knew she was right and pursued his next problem by asking, "Ms. Ipred admitted to being part of the murder of a judge. Normally that would mean she would be sent to a no chance of parole solitary confinement[58] with only an android to communicate with. I do not think I can allow anything different. What do you think I should do?" Minerva was not a person to hold back her punches as she firmly declared, "Send her there, but if possible, do not make her go through another trial."

"I do not think she should be locked in solitary confinement for the rest of her life for bringing a cup of coffee to a judge. I don't know if I can do as you say."

"She was involved in the murder of a judge. We do not make the laws. Judges can only make sure they are properly applied. I know you will do what is required and also find a solution to your problem. You always do."

Dayot returned to the courtroom and sat at his desk. There were still five minutes before the barrier wall would disappear. His thoughts were about justice and the law. If Ms. Ipred only thought there was an audio recorder in the cup, was she trying to kill the judge? Then again, it was the information on the recording that made them kill the judge. People were entering the courtroom and broke the judge's meditation. That problem would have to wait.

Edit Chapter 10[59]

Chapter 11
The Conclusion

Everyone was back in place when the digital clock displayed six zeros and the barrier wall vanished. Dayot proclaimed, “The trial of the state versus Sami Nata will now resume. The summaries will be given by the prosecution first and then by the defense. Please proceed.”

Edmund rose and turned to face the jury. He slowly approached them with a serious expression and proclaimed, “You will soon be asked to accept the fact that a spirit named Sami Nata from a metaphysical realm possessed Ms. Megotis Ipred and tried to kill Mr. Seymour Blox. The defense tried to convince you that these different realms do not exist because of the Scientific Method. If you believe in mathematics, that strategy failed. They then proceeded to declare that we needed a reputable witness to testify that spirits exist. I know Mr. Blox took care of that requirement. Finally, the defense introduced a theory that we might have the wrong spirit on trial. Mrs. Ruby Blox testified and swore they were wrong. The defense will try to discredit Ruby Blox because she has no official documentation of having this power. The record of all the things she has done in the past once again shows they are incorrect.”

Edmund paused to let the jury think about what he just said. He then continued, “The truth is that the spirit named Sami Nata had control of Ms. Ipred’s actions and tried to kill Mr. Seymour E. Blox. You were there and you witnessed it with your own eyes! Do not let anything cloud your mind or introduce any doubt. Thank you.”

Dayot told the defense to present their summary as Edmund returned to sit by Liz. Bobbie rose, faced the jury and said, “The prosecution has just said you should not let me introduce any doubts that Sami Nata is guilty. The law says you must find the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt[60]. Has the prosecution presented compelling evidence that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt? Have you seen evidence that there is a realm where spirits exist? Have you seen any real evidence that a spirit had possession of Ms. Megotis Ipred? I have shown you alternative answers to what you witnessed in the first trial. It is not unreasonable to doubt what the prosecution has presented as evidence. They have only presented words from people.”

Bobbie paused to walk closer to the jury and then said, “The judge has told us that these witnesses have passed the eye detection and no further evidence is necessary. This only means that these witnesses believe what they say is true. It does not mean that what they say is really true. Many people in the past would have passed

this test because they believed in the flat earth theory[61]. We now know that this theory is not true. The witnesses about the existence of Sami Nata and a spiritual possession may believe they exist, but they have not presented any real evidence that supports their belief. Even Mrs. Blox admitted that she has never been tested to see if she was an empath. She has also admitted that she has never contradicted her husband's beliefs. These facts all leave room for serious doubt in the truth of what they said."

Bobbie paused to let the jury consider her words. She walked over to be closer to juror number six who was the wife of the judge that was poisoned. "Let me tell you an alternative to this magical spiritual story. People often assume that others can do what they themselves are capable of doing. Ms. Ipred wanted Mr. Blox held in a totally secure room because she said he could influence the humans and even the eye detection. Perhaps she believed this because she had this power."

Turning to face juror six she stared into her eyes and very convincingly stated, "Do not let Ms. Megotis Ipred get away with attempted murder by blaming it on some invisible spirit. She already admitted she took part in killing a judge. There should be a very serious doubt that this fictitious Sami Nata is guilty of what the real Ms. Megotis Ipred tried to do!"

Bobbie slowly turned and walked back to her chair. Justice Dayot waited for Bobbie to be seated and then instructed the jury with, "Please keep in mind all the things said in the summaries are not facts. You must decide your verdict only on the evidence that was presented during the trial. Please follow the android guide to the chambers for jury deliberation[62]. These proceedings will now pause and wait for the verdict." Dayot tapped the amplifier pad with his gavel and rose to leave the room. The gallery doors were unlocked and the news people rushed out to be first with their commentaries. All the witnesses were told they could leave and the courtroom soon became just another echo chamber.

Minerva was waiting when Dayot returned to his office. He greeted her with a kiss, as soulmates often do, and then sat with a sigh in his chair. She sat in a chair facing him and waited. Finally, he softly stated, "I think I might have a solution to Ms. Ipred's punishment. I will need to get all the attorneys in here to discuss and approve."

"You should take some time to rest before you start working on a new trial."

"I know, but I will need their approval before the verdict from the jury. I would like to announce this agreement when we pronounce the verdict."

"If the jury cannot reach a decision, will your agreement still work?"

With a very tired expression, Dayot simply answered yes. Minerva replied, “This jury is not going to reach a unanimous decision today. Set your meeting for tomorrow morning and get some sleep.”

“But if they come back today ---” Minerva cut him off by saying, “You can still meet with everyone before announcing the verdict. The way Bobbie finished her summary, glaring at juror six, tells me you will have a hung jury. It may be days before they disclose that they cannot agree. Trust me.”

Dayot smiled at the love of his life and responded, “You are always right, so I will set the meeting for ten o’clock tomorrow morning.” He took a few minutes to type in the message, then continued, “Let’s go get some sleep.”

The next morning, the conference room set aside for the meeting was ready when Dayot entered. Sitting at the round conference table were Bobbie Morgen and her assistant, Aiden. Minerva had taken a seat next to them. Then Edmund Howe and his assistant, Elizabeth. Finally, there was one open chair across from Minerva. Dayot entered carrying a small keypad that controlled all the devices in the room. Sitting in the open chair, he pressed a key on the pad which turned on all the cameras and recording devices. He then announced, “I called this meeting to discuss the fact that Ms. Megotis Ipred has confessed under oath that she was involved in the poisoning of Judge Earnest Y. Walas. This could make her an accessory to a murder. Our laws define accessory as ‘a person who helps plan a murder before it happens or helps the killer hide from the police afterward, but is not present at the actual killing.’ Please look at your displays to see the top three definitions in our law books. They all require involvement in planning the murder or hiding evidence about the killer. I will give you all a moment to study these laws, and then we will resume.”

It only took a few minutes for everyone to read their monitor. Dayot continued, “Ms. Ipred did not take the fifth and described in detail her role in the judge’s murder. She only delivered a recording of a meeting to the people in the Herrenvolk group. She never knew what they heard would motivate them to kill the judge. However, when she heard about the murder, she did not report what she knew to the authorities. She continued to do what they told her and claims that she let her free will be taken by some spirit. We need to decide if this qualifies her as an accessory after the crime. Keep in mind the punishment for this would be no chance for parole, solitary confinement. She would have absolutely no contact with anyone except her android guard. Please comment.”

Bobbie was the first to raise her hand for recognition. Dayot nodded and she said, “I would like to get more information from her about this Herrenvolk group and find the people that killed the judge. I would really need to talk to her directly and not through some android guard.”

Dayot noticed that Aiden was very nervous and had a painful expression. Dayot stared at him and probed, “Do you have something to add to what your boss just stated?”

Aiden reluctantly replied, “I was asked to research solitary confinement facilities to find one available in case she received that ruling. I found one that had been held by a serial killer for more than fifty years. Two years ago he died, but the guard he called mother recorded his final words. I just received them and did not have time to even let Ms. Morgen hear them. I think they might be important and would like to play them for this group before we continue.”

Dayot told him to play the recording. Aiden placed his H2 on the table and tapped the screen twice. The guard’s motherly voice could be heard saying, “This is solitary confinement guard KM14 reporting that prisoner 897-231 has just been pronounced deceased. As required, his last words were recorded and will play now.” A click could be heard and then a very raspy voice saying, “Thank you, mother. You taught me how to love and drive away my anger. Your lessons removed my nightmares and replaced them with beautiful dreams. I saw a golden planet with three moons and met wonderful people. They told me their world was called Ohme and they were also trying to eliminate hate in the universe. These dreams helped me find peace and know that the Creator of everything has forgiven me for all the evil things I have done. Thank you. I love you.” There was a long sigh which was also his last breath. The guard then declared that a full report will be sent to the Justice Commission and the recording ended.

Everyone was silent. Bobbie stared at her assistant but said nothing. It was a moment frozen in time that would never be forgotten. Finally, Aiden broke the silence. “If this recording had been played at the trial, I think a guilty verdict for Sami Nata would have been obvious.”

Edmund did not wait to be recognized and said, “There is one thing I know. Nothing happens by chance. There is a time and a place for every surprising fact that we are given.” Then Bobbie blurted out, “I also have seen the golden planet with three moons and heard the loving voice in my dreams.” Silence again seized a moment until Dayot asked, “Has anyone else had these dreams?” Edmund raised his hand and said, “Only once I dreamt about a golden planet with three moons, but did not hear any voice.”

Nobody else raised their hand, so Dayot continued. “I am going to have to think about this new evidence and your comments before I make my proposal. If everyone agrees, we will meet again in this room at three this afternoon.” Nobody objected, so Dayot rose, took his keypad, and left the room. The others followed.

The deliberation on Sami Nata was getting nowhere. Two of the jurors absolutely denied the existence of a spiritual realm, and another juror who believed

that domain existed did not believe in spiritual possession. Nine remaining all believed that Sami Nata existed and was guilty. Many documents were delivered when requested, but nobody could be persuaded to change their opinion. Dayot knew that juror number six would never change her vote because she was convinced that Ms. Ipred was guilty of killing her husband, and not some being from another dimension. He forced them all to try for one more day to get a unanimous decision. If they failed, then they would all have to fill in a document explaining how they voted and why they would never change their decision.

The three o'clock meeting resumed with an opening by Justice Dayot. "We are gathered here to decide on a punishment agreement for Ms. Megotis Ipred. She has confessed to involvement in very serious crimes. By waiving her fifth amendment rights, she has demonstrated her willingness to cooperate with the state on some past unsolved issues. Therefore, she will receive a lifetime confinement with no outside contact and highly restricted visitors. Only substantial new evidence and approval by a supreme court judge will give her a chance at parole. Ms. Ipred has confessed to being guilty of her past crimes, so there will be no need for a trial. Please draw up this agreement and get Ms. Ipred to sign so I can announce it after the verdict on Sami Nata. I will leave you to work out the details and get Ms. Ipred's agreement. Give your final document to the chief of security, and I will see you in court when the verdict on Sami Nata is announced." He rose and left the room. Everyone else got busier than a woodpecker in a lumber yard.

Another day passed when the public was told that the jury was done and the verdict would be announced. The gallery was full and the news media transmitting to the world. Everything was ready when the bailiff instructed all to rise and Justice Gevin Dayot entered. He quickly sat at his desk, tapped his gavel and proclaimed, "The verdict in the trial against Sami Nata will now be announced." The jury foreman handed Dayot a sheet of paper and returned to the jury area. It only took a moment for Dayot to read the verdict, and then he stood and declared, "All rise. The jury has declared they are deadlocked and cannot proclaim a verdict. Therefore, I must declare this a mistrial. The jurors are excused and may go home. The prosecution can choose to try the case again with a brand new jury. Ms. Megotis Ipred has signed an agreement to serve required punishment for the crimes she confessed under oath. This trial is closed."

Back in his office with his soulmate holding his hand, Dayot finally found peace. He wondered if the trial would make a difference in a world that was so rapidly evolving. Minerva could almost hear his thoughts and she said, "You have just given the justice system a way to put evil spirits on trial. Even more important, we have just opened communication with a planet called Ohme on the other side of the universe. I think this trial will have an enormous influence on our future.

Edit Chapter 11[63]

Epilogue

Seymour and Ruby were not at the trial when the verdict was announced. They seemed to vanish once again. Bobbie and Aiden began investigations into the Herrenvolk group using information from Megotis. Edmund and Liz began their own investigation into the dream communication between humans and ohmens. The people of the world started reporting dreams to authorities in every country. Religions were preaching for and against the dream connection. New discoveries were being made using the dream connection. But then, that's another story.

The End

About the Author

Arthur F Seymour

Art studied electrical engineering at Christian Brothers University and earned his master's degree at IIT. During college, he authored one of the first patent applications on caller ID. He started his career at Motorola and was one of the first engineers to incorporate integrated circuits in color television. He later managed a group of engineers at Zenith Radio Corporation. Art launched E-Blox Inc. after 44 years of being the President of Elenco Electronics Inc. Presently, he has more than 30 patents. Greek philosophy is still one of his passions.

Art and his wife, Maryann, were married on August 6, 1966, and have 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. They both took joy in telling stories to their grandchildren at bedtime. Art claims these memories inspire all his books. His greatest inspiration in life, however, was his wife, Maryann. Maryann went into the light while holding Art's hand on the morning of 9/11/2019. She was truly Art's Ruby.

ART

MARYANN

FOOTNOTE LINKS

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