

# Storytellers' Chronicles

*Welcome to our world! It might be somewhat weird or irritating from your point of view, but that is a really natural perspective of people who are confronted with the future - which always almost turns out to be very different from their expectations. If you give our world a chance you might discover that it's actually pretty great. There are nearly limitless possibilities for those who are not afraid of making decisions, and also deeply meaningful ways of life for those who prefer nearly perfect guidance instead of free decisions. But who are we to tell you about our world before we introduce ourselves? We are storytellers and these are our chronicles.*

## Part 1: Initiation

### (1.1) 2188 A.F. 03-36-17-00 Origis Standard Time

*The date 2188 A.F. refers to the number of days after the day of the Foundation of our civilization. We prefer counting days instead of years, because our culture is much faster than yours. Those numbers 03-36-17-00 refer to smaller intervals of time than whole days. The units of those numbers are 24 minutes, 24 seconds, 400 milliseconds and 6 and two thirds milliseconds in that order. One last note before the story actually starts: Things might seem to be extremely confusing at the beginning and even this comment stream won't explain everything, but in hindsight everything will finally make sense.*

A great congregation of mind waited patiently in the area that was delimited by the local anima of welcoming. That congregation knew what was about to happen soon.

*Even in our world, places sometimes become too crowded if something interesting happens in that place. The local anima of welcoming is a person who is responsible for only letting in official members of the welcoming congregation.*

Asheku Amrilad Mystery Dilatation was ready to initiate a new being, for fes first time.

*While "Mystery Dilatation" is the chosen name of that person, "Asheku Amrilad" is the initialization name - like a name that's given at the birth of a human. Usually the first part of the chosen name of a person is used as calling name. It is necessary to know that Mystery is a so-called focus mind and thus referred to as "fe". The word "fes" is just the genitive case of that pronoun. In your world the most fitting word for a focus mind would be artificial intellect. Focus minds play the roles of specialized experts in our world.*

In the sea of mind the waves of thought slowly diminished around the critical area to gave way for great tranquility. A rare event was about to happen around that area: Total separation. Exactly when the precise target configuration was reached, the waters of mind around the critical area receded quickly. From that point of the critical area was completely separated from the sea of mind. If that hadn't been a planned event, it would have given rise to great

concern. Thus, the new mind, who was that critical area, reacted in the only sensible way there is for exceptional innocuous moments: Absolute bliss. Ses world was an isolated one now, but it was filled with joy that cannot be described by mere words. To describe it as orgasm of cosmic proportions would be a vast understatement. Feeling like being one with a multiverse of perfectly synchronized and harmonic Satori would be just another futile comparison. It was much better. Much much better. That single moment was absolutely perfect. And it was actually mirrored in Mystery, but fes bliss wasn't absolutely pure. A few concerns about the future mixed up with the incredible happiness about this unique moment.

*There are many ways in which new minds can be initialized. In our time, transforming a part of a larger mind into a starting configuration of a new mind and then separating that part is a pretty common method. It is quite natural that new minds our absolutely blissed out, as our hedonic technology is fairly advanced. Unfortunately there's just no way to give you an appropriate impression how advanced it really is. Here, the new mind is referred to as "se", which means se is a universal mind. Universal minds represent the type of mind that resemble biological pre-Singularity minds the most.*

When those worries reached the greeting congregation they were answered by an overwhelming wave of optimism and confidence in the destiny of the new mind, which washed away even the tiniest of Mystery's sorrows for a few moments.

*It is quite common for us to share intense emotions with those around us directly. We are really uninhibited about sharing almost everything with others, because it's usually seen as the responsibility of the others to filter out what they don't want to perceive.*

After the initial peak of euphoria the total isolation of the new mind was broken and a simple communication channel was opened between Mystery and Dessin Jorthai. Mystery's presence was felt like an all surrounding bright glow by Dessin who experienced the first break of absolute symmetry, because that presence was vastly different from the calm darkness at the moment of initiation. Not everything is the same was the first simple insight that formed in Dessin's neural complex.

*Dessin Jorthai is the newly initiated mind, whose mental architecture is a so-called neural complex. Our neural complexes could be seen as advanced generalized neural networks. Dessin is relatively special in the sense that se has a strong pre-configured general preference for symmetry.*

A first point of attention was projected into Dessin's consciousness, then a second at another spot, and finally a third one at a different place. Naturally, Dessin divided ses attention equally between those three spots and the diffuse presence of Mystery. Only a few moments later the first point of attention expanded in its extension and divided the intensity of its attention attraction equally within its whole area. Where that area of attention met the background of Mystery's basic presence both would combine to create a much richer fabric of information. Soon, the enriched fabric of information and attention reached the other still localized points of

attention, and at the same time they started expanding, too. All three simultaneously expanding areas of attention flooded Dessin's mind with different kinds of information. With the increasing amount of information more and more different modalities of Dessin's perception became active and interacted with the data flood to make it understandable. Even before the expansion of the attention fields was complete, the complexity of their perception streams became increasingly complex. Beginning with simple basic qualia, the arrangement of those perception streams turned from simple patterns up to complicated dynamic impressions. So, these perception streams made Dessin use more and more of his computational capacities in order to try to understand all of it.

*Some of us are authorized to direct the attention of newly initiated minds directly for providing optimally guided education. That's a very intricate process whose complexity can only be hinted at here.*

Correlations were detected between some perception streams by Dessin while he was unable to find a lot of significant correlation between all of them. Intuitively, Dessin grouped the perception streams into relatively independent units, which he analyzed in more detail all at once. These dozens of different units were perception spaces which presented different scenes, which were mostly dynamic. In one of them two extremely simple entities exchanged parts of information they held inside of them through a simple data transfer protocol. Another one showed a very elastic ball jumping on a rectangular plane, creating sound waves every time it hit that plane. The movement of the celestial bodies in the solar system was shown in a third perception space. In that animation a certain spot close to the surface of the third ball from the big central ball was highlighted by an attention spot. That seemed to be pretty random and confusing as this place wasn't really different from all the other points in the solar system. It was a reason for slight irritation, but also astonishment, because of the breach of symmetry.

*Our consciousness is capable of doing many different tasks at once. Perception spaces are like private virtual realities in which each part of that reality can produce a stream of any kind of sensory information. This principle is also called holistic perception. It's like being able to view, hear, feel, smell and taste (and so on) from all points of a space at once. But usually only a grid of points is used for collecting sensory information to prevent sensory overload.*

Similar, but more detailed perception spaces were put besides the already active ones. While Dessin was absolutely excited about noticing all the correlations and understanding the structure of those perception spaces, every confrontation with a new concept also created some emotional tension, because it showed that Dessin hasn't understood everything there is to be understood, yet. Every new perception space had strong similarities with a previous space, but contained more information and less symmetry. Also, the attention fields changed their configuration to highlight the new, more detailed, perception spaces, while putting less weight on the old ones. Dessin was totally fascinated by the challenge to understand the refined objects in the new perception spaces.

The ball jumping on the plane in the newer version of the perception space that contained it

wasn't as elastic as the old ball anymore and the areas where both objects hit became hot for a moment, which was demonstrated by direct temperature perception and also by the weak flashes of infrared light, which occurred when the ball hit the ground. Even the deformation of the ball was shown. Meanwhile, a third participant appeared in the upgraded version of the communication protocol demonstration space. All of them exchanged, or rather copied, special packets of data until all of them had every special packet that was available. To the animation of the solar system information about temperature and material composition was added, and Dessin could feel the gradients of temperature and their fluctuations inside of the celestial bodies as well as the different materials the celestial bodies were made of. But still, nothing made the single extra point of attention really special. No matter, how long and how intensely Dessin pondered about the meaning of that point, he couldn't find any meaningful correlation to anything. Consequently, this failure to understand this mystery caused something which could be called frustration, but in fact it was a positive emotion, because it demonstrated that this special problem was identified as being too difficult, which was a kind of insight, too. In its functional aspect, that frustration only changed the density of a special additional attention field that determined what Dessin actually pondered about, in combination with the three attention fields that started as single attention points and guided Dessin's learning process.

*It is important to note that Dessin's "negative" emotions have a different character than your negative emotions. In hedonents - hedonic entities - emotions mostly just adjust the focus of attention, while they remain manically euphoric all the time. Usually hedonents work with an emotional configuration of their mind that excludes any real suffering. If it can be said that they suffer, then what is meant, is that their level of happiness is reduced in the case that conflicting internal interests can't be resolved immediately. On extremely rare occasions it can happen that the happiness level of a hedonent drops down to the levels that origents - original entities - can reach. In any case, the possibility of such a "down" must be intended by the hedonent in question.*

In addition to the senses, which were used in the different perception spaces, Dessin also had the ability to see and distinguish different attention fields. A few moments after the shift in density of the new attention field happened, Dessin noticed that shift and was perplexed. Up until now, Dessin thought there were only three different attention fields at work. The new attention field failed to show a localized correlation with the other three, so it really had to be a separate one, which didn't originate from a singular attention point. Or did it? Of course, Dessin had a memory, in which all events since the very beginning were saved. To get clarity about the question whether the fourth attention field originated in a singular attention point, Dessin followed the signature of that fourth attention field backwards in time. A first remarkable insight which Dessin gained during this retrospection process, was that usually the fourth field closely followed the density distributions of the other three fields. Some confusion was also caused by the observation that retrospection itself seemed to create an overlay of fourth field attention in a separate layer of time which was closer to the dynamic end point of time that was farther away from the beginning of time. After these insights, Dessin noticed that the fourth field was strongly correlated to activity within a special perception field that was not introduced by the three other fields. Going back to the beginning of time, Dessin noticed that there was only this special

perception space and that the fourth field was completely determined by the activity inside of that perception space. Going deeper into detail, Dessin relived his extreme initial euphoria which was the only perception that existed that close to the beginning of time. Enjoying that special moment intensely, Dessin split up the attention unit which made the recent discoveries about the four field into two different attention units. One of them had the purpose of examining the fascinating fourth field, while the other one simply existed for revelling in the astonishing initial euphoria.

*Dessin's neural architecture allow him to change the working mode of his consciousness. The entities which are called "attention" units here could be described as parallel streams of consciousness. However, those streams usually aren't completely separated from each other, but interact in a way that creates a holistic consciousness.*

Meanwhile, the perception spaces were upgraded once again. All the celestial bodies in the virtual solar system gained a very finely grained topography. Mountains, oceans, volcanoes and craters were visible now. But there was also another change. The bouncing ball was inserted into the perception space of the solar system, at exactly the spot on the surface that's above the mysterious attention point. Surprisingly, the ball was extremely small compared to the planet it was located on. As if these vastly different proportions weren't enough, another perception space, in which the interactions between atoms and molecules was shown, was integrated into the center of the bouncing ball. From that point on, Dessin could observe every spot of the solar system down to atomic precision - or at least it seemed to be possible. Although the process of integration of different perception spaces was a general trend at this phase, the perception space with the information exchanging agents was still separate. But now a fourth agent appeared. To Dessin's surprise this fourth agent's behavior was different from that of the other three. That fourth agent just received data packets from the other agents, but sent out no packets back. Annoyed about this lack of symmetry, Dessin wished that the fourth agent would start communicating with the other agents, but that wish had no visible effect. A new idea grew in Dessin's mind: The fourth agent could be somehow related to the fourth attention field. However, Dessin couldn't imagine what kind of connection that might be.

Roughly at that time, Dessin noticed that the perception of the expansion of the three attention fields was another perception space in itself. By now it was filled up completely by the three attention fields, but they were different from each other in the sense that the density distributions of them were not the same. The first attention field had the most evenly distributed density, but even given its high level of spread, it was stronger than the other two almost everywhere. In principle, the second attention field was very similar to the first one, because it was almost as much evenly distributed as the first one. Only the third field was really qualitatively different, as it was mostly localized in one small area and its extension to the whole perception space was much weaker than the extension of the other two attention fields. Its distribution in space was also much more chaotic and asymmetrical.

*While the first two attention fields belong to focus minds like Mystery, the third attention field belongs to a universal mind. The extension of the different attention fields has a spacial*

*interpretation: The original location of the three attention fields, which started as attention points correspond to the location of the respective agents in the computation substrate.*

Trying to understand the nature of the fourth field, the fourth field examination unit watched the interaction of the fourth field with itself and the patterns of perception. Somehow the intensity of the fourth field matched the intensity of qualia and perception so much, that Dessin was really confused about this fact. The closest thing that was comparable to the relation between the fourth field and perception itself was the relation between the global perception space with the three attention fields and the other perception spaces that were somehow linked to it. If the function of the global perception field was to navigate the other perception field, perhaps it was the function of the fourth field to navigate perception itself. Nevertheless, this relation was somehow different, because perceptions influenced the activity of the fourth field in turn. In contrast, the different perception fields had no effect on the global perception field. Suddenly, the fourth field examination unit noticed a parallel of this lack of symmetry to the lack of symmetry in the information sharing agent perception space. The common element was the missing reciprocity, even though in the agent space there was only one agent which didn't interact with the others symmetrically, and the perception spaces which didn't interact with the global perception space were many (there were still about a dozen of them). Another observation was, that while the fourth attention field roughly followed the activity of the other three attention fields, it didn't seem to have a strong effect on those fields. And in fact, the fourth field became increasingly independent from the other ones over time. For example, there was no interaction between the three fields and the fourth field examination unit. Actually, there was an increasing activity of the fourth field that was not connected to the three other fields at all, and also only very slightly correlated to the usual activity of the fourth field. It seemed that the number of perception units was increasing and they also became more and more different.

*Here, Dessin starts exploring es inner processes. Even though the visualization of Dessin's consciousness as "fourth attention field" makes it easier to understand the working principles of consciousness, it remains a complex and elusive phenomenon.*

Some of those separate perception units were filled with rather chaotic impressions, thoughts, memories and emotions. Old objects that were presented in the early perception spaces were included and manipulated in various ways. There was also a lot of integration of different objects into a common perception space. New ways of combining objects, ideas and paradigms were tested out in a hardly comprehensible fashion. This was the most astounding display of chaos that Dessin ever observed. However, from time to time a really interesting new object or idea appeared, like the thought that things were made up of smaller things and those smaller things themselves were made out of even smaller things and that this relation could be repeated again and again. Was there an ending to that process?

*Possessing a highly parallel consciousness enables parallel dreaming. While Dessin dreams several different dreams at once, ses remaining consciousness streams can observe them.*

The mind-boggling level of profound chaos in those wild experimentation units frustrated the fourth field examination unit a bit, because it meant that it would be extremely difficult to understand the dynamics of the fourth field. Dessin hoped that the three other fields would help sem understand this great mystery.

Perfectly synchronously, those three fields added another attention point to the global perception space. Then the agent communication space was integrated into the global perception space, so that the fourth agent was placed at the new attention point and the other three agents were placed at the spots where the three attention fields started as singular points. What was the meaning of that? Are those other three attention fields actually information exchanging agents? Are they feeding the fourth agent with information packets? And if yes, how would those packets look like? At the current moment it was visible that the three agent exchanged some packets with one another, but that there was no communication with the fourth agent.

Soon, the situation changed completely: After the three agents have sent a wave of new packets to the fourth agent, the perception spaces were updated again. The global perception space was integrated in the perception space of the solar system, exactly at the mysterious attention point in that space. So, that was the meaning of that mysterious point: The information exchanging agents have a location in the solar system! And those new packets, which the three agents have sent, were ... the perception spaces themselves! No, not all of them were perception spaces. Some of them contained the information about the change of the density distribution of the three attention fields. But those packets weren't displayed before. Somehow the animation didn't reveal all of the packets that are exchanged between the different agents. More and more packets were revealed now. Some packets that were sent from the fourth agent to the three other agents became visible. What was their meaning? Those packets had the same shape as the packets for the attention field updates. However, they had a different signature, so they were probably not related to the three attention fields, but to a fourth attention field... THE fourth attention field. That was the relation between the fourth agent and the fourth attention field: The fourth field is information that belongs to the fourth agent!

Although Dessin could take a look at the packets that travelled between the other three agents, se couldn't understand them, because they were much too many, and way to complicated, and only few of them had any relation to anything else. Even more frustrating was the fact, that most of those packets were even more complex than the activity of the chaotic experimentation units.

*Reading the thoughts of others isn't very enlightening, if those thoughts are too complicated to understand.*

New packets arrived at the fourth agent. They caused a highlighting of the agent communication animation together with an idea: The relation between the agent communication animation to *unknown entity* is like the relation between the early perception spaces to the latest versions of them. What did that mean? It seemed to point to an increasing complexity in time. Was the agent communication animation still just a vast simplification? That thought caused a weird

feeling in Dessin, which could be circumscribed as mixture of awe, vertigo and fascination. How complex could things become? Does complexity always increase? Luckily, Dessin still had the unit that was completely busy with bathing in the excessive joy of the beginning of time. This memory would always remain to create a constant background of pure happiness, as opposed to the quickly varying levels of happiness that were caused by understanding all kinds of different relations.

*A perfect memory certainly is a huge advantage, in the case that you had a wonderful childhood.*

More packets arrived. An unprecedented number of packets revealed parts of the internal structure of the three agents. Also, there were actually more than the four agents! Twenty five attention points represented an equal number of agents, which exchanged huge numbers of packets with each other. After Dessin observed all that activity for a while, se noticed that only the three original agents communicated with the fourth agent directly. Many packets were forwarded by the three agents to the fourth agent and the attention field updates of the fourth agent were forwarded to the other agents. Most of the traffic went through the first agent, less through the second agent, and much less through the third agent. Even in general, very many packets went through the first two agents, were copied by them, and distributed to many of the other agents. The third agent resembled most of the other agents in the sense that it wasn't a big center of traffic. Still, the internal structure and the attention fields of all the other agents, if they existed at all, weren't visible.

*It's not the case that there are only two focus minds in the group. But they are special in the sense that they are animas (it would be more precise to speak of animae, but that sounds too similar to anime). Because animas fulfill representative tasks, they are usually the centers of communication.*

Out of curiosity, Dessin tried to manipulate one of the experimentation units. The chosen unit was busy with attaching all kinds of entities to the agent communication animation. There, the packets were felt directly as ideas, attention field densities, objects in space, and other perceptions. Dessin imagined that the other agents would send packets filled with information about their internal structure and their attention field densities to the fourth agent.

*Dessins's high degree of mental parallelism allows for permanent lucidity.*

After Dessin was doing that, another experimentation unit came up with a pretty fascinating idea: The information about the perception spaces and the different attention units was bound to the fourth field, so that this information would be copied to the other agents with the next outgoing packets that contained the information about the fourth field.

*Because Dessin likes symmetry very much and hopes that as much as possible is symmetric, se dreams the thought that when se can read the minds of others, that the others can read ses mind, too.*

Now, Dessin was really curious what would actually happen when the latest outgoing packages would reach the other agents. At first, the arrival of those packets at the first agents caused a lot of traffic between them. For a while, the traffic circulated freely, but later on the traffic focused on the origin of the first attention field. Finally, the turmoil settled down. In fact, the traffic nearly went down to half of the unusual level.

*Imagine your child asked you to reveal all your thoughts, shortly after its birth. The response to this request needs to be discussed in detail.*

At last, the first agent sent out tiny packets to all other other agents, except for the forth one. After receiving those packets, the agents sent extensive information about their attention fields and their inner structure, together with some small additional packets with unknown meaning. It was absolutely overwhelming! Immediately new perception units appeared to be able to deal with the massive flood of information. To no avail. Dealing with that level of complexity would occupy Dessin for a long long while. Nevertheless, Dessin hovered in a cloud of unimaginable happiness and excitement about this great challenge.

*The meaning of those additional packets will be revealed later on. From Dessins initiation to ses welcoming by the group less than 9000 su have passed.*

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