

**A MANUAL
ON
WORK
AND
HAPPINESS**

**ALL TEXTS IN
ENGLISH**

FUTURISTIC TEXTS

1.

A man gets up from his bed, drinks water and eats a piece of bread, fruits and cheese. We are in a house located in Northern Ethiopia in 2220 AD.

The name of this man who gets up to go to work is Mnoge, he is 61 years old and his wife died 10 years ago from something that he was never able to explain: he woke up one morning at her side, but she was already a cold corpse and far from being human. He carried her that same morning to a meadow full of holm oak, dug a hole and buried her according to his religious rite. He cried non-stop for more than three weeks.

The couple lived in a house on a meadow located in the Ras Dashan mountain in Ethiopia, one of the higher peaks in Africa, located at 4553 meters high. The closest village was over 50 km away, it took 4 days to get there walking. Their only means of livelihood was sheep breeding and its further exploitation: cheese, milk, meat and wool. They would travel three times a year to close villages to sell and exchange their products in roadside markets with other people: breeders, farmers, carpenters or blacksmiths. This couple had three children, two boys and one girl. The boys died on their first months of life, also for unknown reasons; possibly malnutrition, cold, infection or diarrhoea. Their only daughter disappeared one night at the age of 14 and they never heard from her again, this traumatized them deeply. Their 14-year-old daughter was a dynamic and cheerful young woman; provided all the help needed not only regarding to the sheep but also in the house maintenance. This Ethiopian man that lives in the Ras Dashan mountain in 2220 AD will die alone in his house in the mountain. One afternoon, after closing the sheep in the stable, he will start to feel bad, he will fall to the ground and will finally die alone. However, far from being scared in his last seconds of life, this man will strongly wish to die and finally re-encounter his wife and boys again, the ones he had loved with passion all his life; and, who knows, also his young 14-year-old daughter.

According to this story, what kind of needs can we deduce that a human being will have in the future?

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2.

A crowd of people form an hour-long queue in front of the new attraction of the theme park Futuroscope, in the Paris outskirts. After many years of progressive ageing and low influx of visitors, the possibility of closing doors of this theme park was even considered. What in the beginning meant Futuroscope, - a theme park dedicated to the development of multimedia science where attractions were underlined in the latest cinematographic, audiovisual and robotic technologies of the future - until recently, this mythical theme park became a kind of futuristic joke due to the progressive ageing of its attractions. But, by 2055 AD, a 2500 million Euros investment put this old theme park at the forefront, and shortly it went back to being one of the most visited theme parks in the world.

Right now, a crowd of people enthusiastically wait by the door of an attraction called The Memory House. In this attraction, 15 people enter a huge, empty and dark room. After some minutes of relaxing music, some neural waves spread around the entire room, and they introduce,

affect and amplify some brain parts, more specifically the hippocampus and the prefrontal cortex, where useless memories are stored: dinners, walks, conversations, afternoons, streets, people, everyday situations completely forgotten in a moment, but that the brain was responsible for storing them strictly and this information was never erased. And that is why, many of those 15 people that decided right now to enter this attraction, will spend the next 5 minutes revisiting their infancy, real images that they were never able to retain due to being kids: moments with their parents, afternoons with their grandparents, they first steps, their first dips in the pool, games with their school friends, etc.; real sensations and moments they have lived which were never possible to remember.

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3.

A 42-year-old woman enters a room of an apartment in Oslo, capital of New Scandinavia. We are in 2130 AD. Nowadays, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland, after splitting from the European Union permanently in 2055, created their own political and economic union called New Scandinavia and right now, New Scandinavia is one of the most prosperous countries in the world.

The 42-year-old woman washed, combed and scented herself. There, in the apartment located in Oslo, a 55-year-old couple waits nervously. They thank her for coming. They tell her that it was not an easy decision and look at the ground constantly while they are talking, as they are embarrassed by the situation.

Inside, in the room, there is a bedridden 33-year-old man; he doesn't speak, he doesn't gesticulate and he doesn't move. He was born with a radical degenerative illness and now, at the age of 33, he is permanently bedridden. He is practically a human vegetable, even though his intelligence remains intact. On the contrary, this 33-year-old man can only express his thoughts in the form of sentences in a computer; thanks to technology, this man has some gloves that are able to capture the movement of his hands and translate it to written digital language.

The 42-year-old woman doesn't blink in front of his parents. She told them that this was her job, that she has been doing it for years now, and that, even though the Government does not recognize it as such, her work should be considered a mandatory and free social service.

The bedridden 33-year-old man has been writing for two years in his computer the words I WANT A WHORE. Every day before eating, after bathing, during the walk in the park and in family visits, this man demands in his computer to have sexual contact with a woman. He has never had any contact with any woman. His sexual obsession has reached such an extreme that, one night, he begged his mother to masturbate him. This tragic episode for the parents, finally made this 55-year-old couple decide to look for a professional prostitute on the internet who

provided that kind of service. Surprisingly, they found many web pages of prostitutes that included such an offer, however, they took advantage of the situation, by doubling the price of this sexual service.

The 42-year-old woman enters the man's room, closes the door and greets him. She gets undressed and leaves her clothes above the chair. She approaches the bed and finds the man looking at her without blinking. The man does not show any gesture of happiness, fear nor nervousness. She lifts the sheet that covers him and observes his nakedness. His mother, like any mother would do, had left him prepared before the service. The 42-year-old woman starts to lick the 33-year-old man's foreskin. Immediately, he gets an erection. She keeps fondling his testicles, while the 33-year-old man does not show any kind of emotion. After three minutes, his sex starts to redden and, in such a way the 42-year-old woman had never seen, the 33-year-old man ejaculates and soaks her hands and the entire sheet with semen. In that moment, she smiles; it is the first time she sees such an extreme ejaculation. The guy subtly moves his hands and writes in the huge screen in the wall the word THANKS. She cleans the semen from her hands with damp towelettes she kept in her bag, she gets dressed and, after saluting him cordially with her hand, she leaves the room.

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4.
An American closes the door of his room before going to bed. He works as an engineer for a South Korean pharmaceutical. He is very tired after his work journey. We are in 2305 AD. Him and his team should finalise a pioneering project in external neo-maternity. This project handles the possibility of achieving a human birth in a programmed way through an animal uterus. In the West, women's childbearing age, due to several nutritional, physical and cellular factors, have made the possibility of bearing a new-born in their bodies difficult. For many years, the birth rates have decreased substantially. This matter, initially seen as an issue, has been converted into a possible business opportunity for some of the biggest pharmaceutical companies, who did not hesitate to turn this situation in their favour.

For this project, three of the biggest pharmaceutical companies in the world were able collect 2400 million dollars, for its development. On the other hand, these pharmaceutical companies have paid 2 billion dollars to the US government to eliminate any laws that forestall the research on this type of experimental projects from the constitution. Cows, horses and most of all pigs - as they have a DNA 90% similar to human beings - are being genetically adapted in order to, in the future, be a womb able of bearing human life.

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5.

The sonata in A minor (K109) by Domenico Scarlatti is heard in a room. There, a 32-year-old woman expert in telecommunications works for some time now. The windows of the room where she works have a protective filter called 340-EXF to prevent the heat of the sun from decomposing the human body. The ozone layer that protects from sunlight has disappeared around 30% in the last 100 years. The entire world is an oven where higher temperatures reach 79 degrees Celsius. The most developed cities in the world have a superstructure in the form of a protective dome to prevent sunlight from entering and destroying their population. On the other hand, there are other much poorer cities, - which are the majority - that can only apply protectors to the windows of their buildings; putting all the population together in mega-building like cities: schools, hospitals, houses, supermarkets, theme parks, museums, swimming pools, everything in the same building.

After listening to the sonata in A minor (K109) by Domenico Scarlatti, this 32-year-old woman who works in an office of one of these mega-buildings looks through the window in silence and asks herself, how it would have been to live in a world in which it was possible to walk peacefully under the sun without any kind of protection.

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6.

In 2140 AD, synaesthesia is a part of life. Different investigators created a series of digital sensors that, connected to the human body, cause something that for many years has been a dream for humanity: By 2140, this type of sensors applicable to the human body allow to see music, smell colours, touch flavours and taste anything with the taste buds by simply looking at it. This caused a radical revolution in the way of feeling the world, increasing fast and exponentially the sensorial possibilities. From this moment on, were formed groups of people that have sexual intercourse with colours. Religious cults have appeared that show adoration for odours. Also, there are elite restaurants where the Bach suites played by a small string quartet for the diners can be savoured.

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7.

It is 9 a.m. in 2150 AD: A 59-year-old German man drives through Berlin to his working place with his armoured car. Crime, insecurity and assassinations in Europe reached similar levels to the Latin American countries. No woman can walk in the street with complete safety, the best neighbourhoods are completely isolated with a strong security system, and a great number of politicians, police and military officers have been bought and silenced by different criminal mobs. That is why, after reaching the point of no return, in which a woman is raped every 13 minutes in Europe, every day there are 1290 violent robberies and there is an average of 350 murders per

day; after reaching this extreme point, all countries in the European Union decided to finally establish the death penalty again. What was before a controversial proposal by some of the neo-liberal politicians, little by little, became very popular among the population and, right now, after a year and a decrease of the crime rate by 42%, this new Death Penalty law is statistically endorsed by 89% of the European population. Only some minimal sectors from the old pacifist left-wing are against it. Although several militants from the old pacifist left-wing have confessed in an interview on the internet, that they do not know why they are against the Death Penalty, since they are currently living more peacefully when comparing to before the controversial reinstatement.

This 59-year-old German man that drives to his working place with his armoured car is an official executioner of the German Government. This morning he has to execute two people, a dangerous repeat offender rapist and a famous paramilitary leader of the extreme right-wing accused of coup attempt.

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8.

We are in 2026 AD. A 23-year-old young woman, a sociocultural animator of a hotel for tourists, arrives late at her work place. Her boss is quite angry and demands punctuality. This 23-year-old young woman, sociocultural animator of a hotel for tourist, arrived late at her work place because she had a fierce argument with her dog: her mascot was demanding that she spent more time at home; the mascot didn't understand why he had to spend so much time alone at home. She was explaining him that, with the money she was making in the summer as a sociocultural animator, they could buy food and pay the house rent.

For a little while now, household pets can express themselves through a range of neurodigital implants put in the mascots' head. Their thoughts appear immediately written in a screen that they have hanging around their neck. Although we are at the technological beginning of this new relation possibility, they, the mascots, are also learning to connect with humans, so that is why sometimes there are some moments of tension. For now, this experiment has only been created for dogs but it is expected in the future to be implanted on the rest of the animals, and if engineering allows, in the vegetable world as well. The dogs and their owners can have conversations, exchange ideas and even, as it happened with this young woman, have heated arguments. During one of her shows in the hotel swimming pool, this 23-year-old young woman doesn't forget her dog's words: "I am at this forsaken house all day long and I am sick of seeing you go around without me. I want you to know that until you don't get home and take me out to the street, I stay for hours holding my shit and I don't leave poop on the floor because I don't want you to get mad at me if you find it when you come back. I would like to see you suffer like I do for hours."

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9.

A young speaker, expert in Contemporary History of Latin America, gives a presentation about the effects of the internet in "the last indigenous tribes of the Amazon". We are in 2190 AD. In front of him, there are 150 people who watch him in absolute silence. This is one of the first conferences given after the creation of the PAGEM32: a ground-breaking neural device that allows to exchange information between people through simply thinking. Something similar to what humanity, for centuries, considered as telepathy: through this neural device a human being can send information with their brain without using any known physical agents; what was considered a form of extrasensory perception close to paranormal until the 20th century, in 2190, due to the extreme technological evolution, it is now simply another reality scope. Right now, this speaker and his 150 listeners attend the conference in absolute silence, while the expert in Contemporary History of Latin America introduces in the attendees' brains anthropological texts, images of the indigenous people surfing the internet and also a soundtrack in melodic piano Phillip Glass style to emotionally go together with the presentation.

In the conference, there is a guy and a girl that are starting a love story: these two young people have disconnected their brains from the speaker. Right now, she is inviting him to go spend the night at her house. Last time, he decided to leave because he had to work the next day. This is something that surprised her immensely.

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10.

We are in 2309 AD. A medicine professor teaches a class in the Medical University of Hernei, formerly known as Bucharest, after its destruction at the end of the 21st century.

The medicine professor is in front of a group of young students. This group of young students watch a representation of death before its disappearance in the 22nd century. In this room at the Medical University of Hernei it is shown how human beings experienced their last minutes of life. The former experience of death was an intrinsic concept in people's life. This experience was profoundly deep-rooted in the life of human beings since its beginning until the invention of the medicine PKQ-33, also known as The Paradise, created by Thomas Ghets at the end of the 21st century. PKQ-33, or The Paradise, is considered one of the most important inventions in the history of Mankind. After the outreach and commercialization of the PKQ-33, the idea of suffering in relation to death has been eliminated.

A group of actors interpret, in front of the students and the medicine professor, the last minutes of people's life before the appearance of PKQ-33. This group of actors perform several convulsions and desperate screams, a bit overacted, until they finally die. Afterwards, the students applaud unanimously the different interpreters' performances and evaluate the reactions of the human body.

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11.

By the middle of the 21st century, most western governments fail in trying to form an economically stable country. Given the political crisis in the entire world, the biggest international companies become in charge of their own countries. That is why from that moment on France becomes AXA-France; Germany becomes Bayer-Deutschland, USA becomes Google-USA and also Banco Santander-España, MEO-Portugal or YouPorn-England. This new political and economic period is called NEO-FEUDALISM.

A leading officer of the insurance company AXA meets with several French ministers to discuss about implanting a new law that will ensure minimum sanitary coverage in the entire country of France for all undocumented people that live in the streets. The leading officer of the insurance company AXA has the last word about whether the law will finally be approved or not, but everything points to be a positive decision, considering that several NGOs have participated, contributing with millions to the French government coffers which will guarantee this minimum sanitary coverage.

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12.

An entire family of Burundi, the poorest country in the world, enjoys a meal full of vegetables, meat and fruits. Both the children and the adults enjoy eating in the ground while the overview of the village is devastating.

In 2108 AD, the world population density is approximately 15.000 million people. This demographic data is one of the biggest problems for the experts in demographic growth. Although in the beginning this would imply a big hunger issue, the appearance of synthetic vegetables, meats and fruits in the 21st century finally started to solve the lack of food in the world.

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13.

We are in 2045 AD. The foremost specialist in Greek classic philology at the Athens University is sitting at his desk, in front of one of the most important Greek texts he had ever translated. He is a specialized translator in the complete works of Plato, Homero's Odyssey and Aristophanes' comedies. In 2045 AD, our planet Earth receives the first and until now the only, recognized and confirmed first contact with extra-terrestrial civilizations. This will radically change the idea of Universe, the idea of Life and, above all, the idea of God. The spatial waves that capture information receive an extra-terrestrial message, written in an unrecognisable language but curiously translated into ancient Greek. In this brief message, translated by the Greek specialist, the extra-terrestrial civilization greets us cordially and plans for a future encounter, when they finally have the technological means to reach our planet. This initial extra-terrestrial contact will be, for many years, the only topic of conversations between the leaders of the world.

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14.

The young Turkish scientist, Fátima Ab-Salma, considered to have the highest IQ in the history of Mankind, superior to Albert Einstein in 30 points, shows in Brussels, in 2075 AD, in front of the International Scientific Committee, that God's existence is scientifically impossible. The young Turkish scientist reached this new discovery by chance, after working for years in her thesis about the confirmation on the infinity of life in the universe. The proof of God's non-existence is one of the most radical discoveries since the beginning of humanity. This occurrence changes, modifies and deeply disrupts the roots of all the Planet's civilizations, since there isn't a tradition that doesn't have a source in the divine idea of life. The International Scientific Committee, based in Brussels, decides to, starting in 2075 AD, set aside the current Gregorian calendar based in the birth of Jesus Christ and replace all forms of temporal numbering currently in place to start in zero; that is why 2075 AD is the new year 0 for westerns.

After this discovery in 2075 AD, the young Turkish scientist Fátima Ab-Salma lives in unknown whereabouts, because, since the discovery of this radical thesis, she has suffered several assassination attempts.

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15.

We are in 2350: Artificial intelligence has reached the maximum level of hyperrealism. In a small room, a robotic engineer observes how a baby-robot behaves. The robotic engineer takes notes of its movements, gestures and reactions to human stimuli.

This robotic engineer has dedicated his whole life to the technological perfection of robots; his maximum contribution was the development of a red liquid, similar to blood, which has all the information regarding a humanoid machine, a kind of digital DNA, that robots could easily exchange between each other.

In the same room, a group of anonymous people connected to sensors are surrounding the baby-robot. These anonymous people are hired by the engineer to perform some studies according to their sensory responses and thus determine the degree of plausibility of the machine. They feel affection when the baby-robot stretches, they laugh when the baby-robot laughs, they shudder when the engineer hits the baby-robot's head. All these emotions by the anonymous group will be registered for future studies of human conduct versus robotic technology.

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16.

In 2204 AD, the first Olympic Games for robots in the history of Mankind have been created. After a tough and controversial debate about the participation of robot-humanoids in the classic Olympic Games, it was unanimously decided to create another parallel competition, as before the Paralympic Games have been created to include all kinds of athletes.

This decision by the International Olympic Committee was taken after all robotic technology had surpassed completely any human athlete. The idea of mixing humans and robot-humanoids in the same participation was, in the beginning, a conciliatory idea for both worlds. However, in the last Olympic Games in Tokyo, a robot-humanoid ran the 100 meters straight in 2 seconds and 44 milliseconds. This result, impossible to reach by a human being, re-enforced the possibility of creating another Olympic competition, exclusively for robot-humanoids.

Currently, the Olympic Games for robots, generate more expectation than any other international event. In this competition gender has been abolished, and men and women humanoid compete in the same sports and categories regardless of gender, which is something that generated a sense of joy among the international queer movement: Humanoid swimmers, such as the Russian Boris Bogdanov, who are capable of not breathing during the 500 meters butterfly category; humanoid athletes, like the French Marion Bian, who are capable of throwing javelins that reach up to 90 km in length, and gymnasts, such as the humanoid Chinese Sau-Chin Xuang, who were able to

give 25 turns over themselves in the same jump, are some of the most peculiar examples of this new Olympic category.

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17.

A crowd of young people yell, take pictures and record their favourite singer during a concert in 2099 AD. The North American singer Gina M. G. sings to her fans in Chicago in an auditorium filled with fans that love her pop singles. This North American singer is one of the first artists in the world to offer her songs in the application A.M.S. of the company Virgin. (Algorithmic Music Songs)

This new method of listening music revolutionized the music industry: A.M.S. works based on the algorithms themselves created in the electronic devices of each user: mobile phones, iPads, computers, Google Glasses, etc.

Depending on the type of tastes, preferences, trips, friends, readings, Youtube viewings, etc., this new application A.M.S. captures all algorithms created according to your searches, tastes, interests and it modifies the structure, rhythm and style of each song, so that it gets adapted to your own personality. That is why that a certain song by Gina M. G., listened in a Gothic girl's computer who loves Death Metal, living in Finland, sounds more dark, fast and gloomy, than the same song by Gina M. G. listened in a computer that belongs to a young gay student of graphic design, who loves animals and lives in Barcelona.

Paradoxically, the way of watching live a show of algorithmic composition has also changed the musical scene. All Gina's fans have headphones and each one of them dances, sings and applauds distinctively, according to the different algorithmic variations produced in each song.

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18.

A 55-year-old woman, lawyer in a Swiss law firm, is penetrated by a 23-year-old Senegalese man. She enjoys it very much and demands him to go faster. The man smiles and hastens to do as told, since he just arrived in Europe, got married to her and wishes, above all, to spend the two weeks of trial that his new marriage provides him.

This 55-year-old woman, lawyer in a Swiss law firm, got interested in the new interchangeable marriages by law 348 of the Swiss civil code. Many of the western governments, by confirming that almost 75% of marriages between two people reach a maximum of 3 years of marital life

relationship, have created, after a referendum approved by citizenship of each country, a law where they approve that, during a maximum of 3 years, an European can marry with an male or female illegal immigrant, to then interchange them with other citizens, if the immigrant overcomes the two weeks of trial and receives, at the end of marriage contract, a good punctuation by their partner. Initially, this law was created with a humanistic point of view, to integrate the most vulnerable immigrants and incorporate them in the system in a true innovative way when it was created.

The 55-year-old woman, lawyer in a Swiss law firm, who enjoys being penetrated by her new 23-year-old Senegalese husband, found him through an immigrant catalogue that a few NGOs had compiled. In these catalogues, European people from all countries, enjoy watching possible husbands and wives, skin colour, languages mastered, skills to take into account and the person's age. The immigrants strongly endeavour to satisfy all kinds of wishes that their new partner has. This law is being criticized by both extreme left-wing and right-wing politicians. The left-wing ones for considering this new marriage type true slavery in the 21st century, the right-wing ones for allowing new immigrants from all over the world to become part of the European citizenship and legislation.

This type of new marriages has created a very peculiar overview in the streets of the main avenues in all Europe: old German men, ugly and fat, walking hand in hand with young Iraqi women in their early twenties, Parisian 50-plus women having coffee with 18-year-old Brazilian men, and homosexual groups of 60-plus people surrounded by Taiwanese, Thai and Vietnamese.

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19.

A group of Dutch kids walks through the field near Enschede, at the border with Germany. Their spare time supervisor demands them not to leave the marked route. The spare time supervisor knows that it could end in disaster if one of the kids decided to have an adventure alone in the woods. In the beginning of the 22nd century, the European Union has disintegrated almost completely. The borders have been closed and most countries have installed infra-red walls on land and at sea: These 20 meters high electric installations broadcast some invisible electronic bands that prevent entering the territory. This kind of electrified magnetic bands carbonizes anyone who tries to cross them. Since its appearance in 2300 AD, more than 1,000,000 people have died electrocuted by trying to cross them. There are also deaths by mistake. This is the kind of accidents that the spare time supervisor wants to prevent above all. Even though the group of kids walks with the supervisor through a safe route, there are sensors that detect human movement and activate the alarms, to warn about a possible mortal accident. The supervisor knows about these alarms but it is better to be safe than sorry.

These electrified magnetic bands have been a success for the countries who needed more

protection to stop the constant flow of illegal immigrants. Only the richest countries in the world have been able to build this state security infrastructure, since the costs of its construction, in small countries like Netherlands, were more than 9,000 million dollars.

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WHITE TEXT

To you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, I have several things to say: you have already confirmed with your own bodies that your life revolves around your work. You've grown older while you worked. You were considered adults the day you got your first job, because, up until then, you were considered children or teenagers. The day you started earning money, you started being a part of this world. Until then, you were part of childhood. Most of you consider childhood as Paradise, probably because you've never worked before or because Paradise is a poetic image that increases maximum happiness.

I'm not sure if your lives should revolve around work or not but, for now, it has always been this way. And, more specifically, your professional life revolves around on the progress of technology. You, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, believe that the recent appearance of machines in your workplace is replacing all the tasks you, the workers, have done for years. In other words, you are already guessing what will happen in the near future: machines will eliminate you. That's why you felt outraged, because that idea deeply terrorizes you. And all these contradictory thoughts make you wonder: if we are being progressively replaced by machines, what will we do now?

A revolutionary idea in the 19th century was that humans would finally stop working because the machines would do all the work. Some thinkers even guaranteed that machines would do all the heavy work while humans could finally dedicate themselves to what mattered most to them, their own happiness. But if life, and therefore, the idea of happiness, are built upon the idea of work, does it make sense to stop working? And let me ask you another question: is it a good idea for humans to dedicate themselves only to their own happiness?

But I honestly believe, and I don't mean to offend anyone, you've made a huge mistake: you did not take into account the historical perspective. And that mistake will cost you. Your lack of historical perspective had as a consequence that none of you suspected that would happen.

To you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, I have another thing to say: not long ago, I heard you talking among yourselves that the current introduction of technology would be the destruction of millions of working posts. After hearing this, I understood that only a few years ago you were limiting the idea that technology appeared in the work history. But I believe this is a completely poor vision of the world, very restrictive and simplistic, since the history of civilization is simply the history of technology development. The human being evolves while technology evolves. Isn't the appearance of the hammer a radical human breakthrough? Isn't the appearance of the press a radical human breakthrough? Isn't the creation of the light bulb a radical human breakthrough? Wasn't the appearance of the telephone, penicillin and the Internet a radical human breakthrough? I wouldn't say that the history of human civilization exists, I would say that the world is the history of technology applied to the human being. It's all backwards. And that's why some working posts were eliminated with the appearance of the hammer. Due to the appearance of mechanical mules in the fields, some working posts were eliminated. Due to the appearance of press, some working posts were eliminated. Just 1000 years ago, in order to kill 100,000 soldiers in a battle field, another 100.000 soldiers were needed and they fought face to face in a battle field. But just a few years ago, on the 6th of August 1945, the

North-American Paul Tibbets, pilot of the B-29 Enola Gay bomber, launched a bomb over the Japanese town of Hiroshima, killing 140,000 people in one second. Someone cynical might say that the soldier Paul Tibbets eliminated by himself 140,000 soldiers working posts in a single day.

But let's get to what is most important, how is it possible that there is happiness while being aware of this barbarity? There are some data that I would like to remember and I hope it won't be boring: the war and the following genocide in Cambodia, between 1946 and 1954, which are pictured in the famous film *The act of killing*, have caused 8 million dead. The Chernobyl accident caused and will continue to cause 270,000 cases of cancer since the nuclear power plant, located in Ukraine, exploded in 1986. Counting only the civilian victims, not the military, during the Second World War, over 60 million people were killed. The Rwanda genocide in 1994 killed 900,000 people with an axe in just 3 months. The North-American president, Barack Obama, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, bombarded 7 countries during his term. The Haiti earthquake in 2010 caused 316,000 deaths in a single day. The victims of the drug trade in Mexico are counted by the second. To you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing: despite all of this, and more data that you all know, how is it possible that happiness exists?

I don't want to be ironic by stating that, in reality, all these millions of victims may surprise you right now, but in a few minutes, they will no longer matter to you. We only remember as truly tragic what we, from an emotional point of view, experienced and stored in the body and brain of each one of us. Then, this is no longer simple information, but those memories stored in the body and the brain are life itself, those memories have the shape of hands, faces, strokes, kisses. That's why you feel sadder for any ending of a love story you've lived than by acknowledging all the Auschwitz victims. Your perception of reality was designed trillions of years ago, so that no external tragedy affects you in the final decision of being happy and that, despite all, the search for happiness continues.

That's why we, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, spend all our lives searching for happiness in every possible corner, every person and every conversation. After many years, happiness has appeared in the cities destroyed by the Spanish in America, nowadays, happiness appears in the houses of Sarajevo and, in many years' time, happiness will finally appear in Syria. Since happiness is a conviction, it's above everything: wars, governments and people, because happiness is the obligation to live. That is the power of life itself: an interior conviction we all carry as human beings. And finally, that eternal search for happiness is what makes our species persist. That's why we, absorbed and seduced by that uncontrolled search for happiness, continue our activities, travel, sing, dance, experience the feeling of wholeness by seeing our children growing up happy, are hypnotized by the sensation of watching our partner reach an orgasm, like to share a dinner with our friends, devour books written with intelligence, contemplating a full moon moves us and we define all these moments we call happy moments as the ultimate goal of our life, we even say that these are the only reason life is worth living for. And, initially, something so good as happiness, watching it from a distance and avoiding the knowledge of our historical perspective, happiness becomes, I believe, an invisible conviction, an unconscious obligation, it might even be said that it's a universal joke.

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To you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, I know that in every party, in any gathering with friends, in any meal with family and in any public event, you are always trying to show the most affectionate part of your personality, I know that you always show your most gracious face, that you always try to bring harmony to the meetings, safety to your children and peace to yourselves because you know that's how it must be. In social events, you have greeted every individual the way they deserved. In family meals, you've played with the children. In parties with friends, you've made them laugh. In each meeting, event and party, you've tried to spend your time in the best possible way.

I know that you, the workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, have tried to give all the possible love to your children, all the possible affection to your partner, you've dedicated yourselves to your co-workers, to share what you had in your hands, to spend the last days with your parents; you did all of these things, even though I know you felt that all of this was never enough.

And among you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, you have talked about sports, have worried about the sudden climate changes in the last 10 years, world hunger makes you sad, you have criticized politicians and cursed the terrorists who have destabilized our cities. You did all these things while you spent time with your loved ones. And after all that, after the night is gone, you've returned home and couldn't fall asleep, because something wasn't working correctly inside your head. And you will say that the happiest moment of your life was when you had children and you'll say that happiness is in the small things in life: sharing a good dinner, reading a good book, the coffee you take in the morning, strolls in the mountain while the sun sets, even some of you will say that you wouldn't change your life for nothing in this world. You say, manifest and exteriorize everything to justify a life that will end. And I know that, inside your brains, there is an unspeakable truth, a truth that scares you only by thinking about it: you know you've wasted your time.

You, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, have experienced life: you have enjoyed some time for youth, some time for love, some time for adventure, some time for thinking, some time for sex and, in some moments, you even though that all of this wasn't enough. You have thought that the strength of youth was endless and you've found out that it was starting to fail you. You've found out your body didn't react as it did before. You've experienced with your own body, touched other bodies and liked it, desired other bodies without being able to touch them and that has tormented you for years. You've found out what friendship is, you've experienced the love that arises from friendship and you've also been betrayed by those you least expected.

I know some of you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, have lived your parents' death, you've already felt the pain following the death of a loved one, some of you have lost your partners, some of you have even lost one of your children and none of the Gods made up in the history of Mankind may heal the pain of a child's death. And you have my understanding in this.

You, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, were born in a country and, over the years, you've seen how your country was dissolving, as if everything that in the beginning was a solid base for existence was gradually disappearing. Then, some weird feelings started arising in your brains, some of you started to blame those poorer than you and others started to blame those richer than you. And now time has gone by so fast, within you, you know that something is failing; silently, you know you were deceiving yourselves but you've blamed others for your misfortunes. And that's when the funniest thing happened: you've fallen straight into the trap you have built: silently, you despise those like you, which means you silently despise yourselves. And now you're wondering why this has anything to do with me, since I didn't do anything. And I'll answer: that's the answer you never did anything.

You, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, are those who pull the trigger that shoots the world, you're responsible for Gods continuing to exist, because let me tell you one thing: you are the world and its history, you're the history of the world. Without you, none of this would make sense, because you are the numbers in surveys, the receivers of offers, you are the civil victims, you're the percentage of unemployed people, the corporate market, the voters of politicians, the receivers of owners, the cheering squad in football fields, those who dance at discos, drink at bars and walk along the avenues; in a nutshell, you are the collaborators. And you've decorated this constantly with nice words, sentences that show tranquillity and pacifism: you even said that "the beauty of living small things, work dignity, luck in life, spending time with loved ones", words like "peace, multiculturalism and freedom". And all this, unconsciously said, to legitimate a murderous life, a collaborative life, a shitty existence, just another simple life.

Because I know that you, workers, often dream at night to leave everything behind, you dream about living another dreamt life, the one you hoped for at the beginning, you dream about other bodies lying next to you in bed, younger, intelligent and stronger bodies. Because people are driven by their dreams. Silently, you hate your work, because it's not really what you wanted to do, you expected more from yourselves. Silently, you curse your life, you curse your country because it's not the promised land you were expecting. Silently, you deny your own monogamy, you hate your old bodies, you see yourselves as old people. And while you do this, you travel, laugh and get drunk. But I know that sometimes, when you're lying in bed at night, just a few nights once in a while - because all of these ideas only attack the mind at night once in a while - when everything is silent, when you're alone, when you start thinking about the lost time, the time you have left, the time you will never be able to get back. And that feeling, when it shows up, the fear it causes, freezes you in bed.

Without questioning it, you've continued with a tradition, defended learnt values, sang some songs repeated centuries ago, some words that no one knows who invented them, you've spoken the language you were taught and, with all of this, your brain as assimilated a scenery for life: to all of this you called culture. Making part of this makes you feel strong, because you had the feeling of belonging to a group, a community that validated you as someone. And you've never stopped to think that you did exactly what was expected from you: work, fuck and die. Meanwhile, you have children so that they do the same as you and to this subtle and unnoticeable movement you called it: tradition, culture and history. And in the meantime, your lives were over and it was impossible

to dominate them and you know it. And to be able to ignore it, you've decorated your days with a lot of work and little happiness.

I have one last thing to tell you, workers who were invited to this dinner we are now sharing, even though you've considered all of these things in the beginning, even though you understood all these ideas before starting working, before you started living, even though you were extremely lucid and wanted to anticipate the blow that was coming, I believe that none of you could have done anything to stop it, because this is one of the world's paradox: no one escapes the terror waiting for them, because it's impossible to save oneself if we don't save all of us.

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