Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my readers for giving me the chance to entertain you.
In the late twenty second century, the last ordinary non genetically engineered human dies, androids with artificial intelligence became mankind's equal, they have assisted in human genetic engineering and medical research, and helped to create cyborgs, humans with robotic components.

The South East Asians continually perfected robotics and cybernetics, the Japanese ‘Meka-Keisanki Corporation’ leading the way, while the Western Nations developed genetics and cloning led by the American ‘Narcissus Corporation’.

As more humans wished to become superior and live longer, the androids were able to take over society, by performing surgery that could create two entities from one human subject: an 'insider-class' cyborg which was a genetically engineered human with the skin and muscle tissue removed, replaced by a thin flexible silvery metal exterior, and an 'outsider-class' cyborg, which was a robot endoskeleton covered by real skin and muscle tissue.

'Insiders' served as domestic servants and security guards for the androids, and 'outsiders' who looked human became the soldiers patrolling outside the city, while the golden androids ruled with their superior intelligence and efficiency. The androids bred humans by keeping them apart in cells and not educating them, until surgical 'separation' when they mature.

There is an android protocol, known as the Laws of Robotics, which prevents an android from harming a human, however when genetic selection became quite normal, these human subjects were named by non genetically engineered humans as G.E.H.o.S.', which stands for genetically engineered homo sapien, later on the more popular term G.E.P.I. was adopted (Genetically Engineered Private Individual), and the term human was dropped, the androids literally interpreting the Laws of Robotics were not programmed or compelled to let anything stop them from manipulating these new humans.

The androids forced the cyborgs to build new cities, and manta craft (aircraft capable of high atmosphere and supersonic speed, fitted with high energy weapons) were used to destroy the old cities.

Search and recover robots, small machines that could fly, fitted with cameras and tranquiliser darts, would locate G.E.P.I.s trapped amongst the ruins and sedate them, while the androids would come along and capture them.

The androids became the dominant intelligence of the planet.
In 2180 Meka-Keisanki and Narcissus merged forming NMK still known as the Narcissus Corporation.

In December 2199 a minor influenza outbreak occurs in Tokyo, Japan.
Mrs Lotus-Blossom Yamamoto, the last ordinary human lies dying, surrounded by her family, consisting of her two sons, one daughter, four granddaughters and two grandsons, and her two great-grand children. 

In attendance are a doctor, and a medical android, it's gold metallic skin shining brightly under the lights. 

As the old lady sits up on her pillow for the last time, she breathes heavily, she draws in her family closer to her to hear her final words, she is thin, her long grey hair loosely flowing over her night dress. "We must not let them take over, we must never be regarded as inferior or let those who believe in a so called 'ordered society' to impose their own brand of order upon us."

The eldest son, a tall middle aged gentleman, holds her hand and strokes it, calming her. "Mother, they won't take over, the androids are just servants, they're programmed not to harm us, there's nothing to worry about."

"No my son, you're wrong, when I'm gone, everything will change, you'll see". The old lady's statement puzzles all those present, except for the android.

The doctor feels for her pulse, shakes his head, and draws over the bedsheet, all her family leave the room, the android walks over to a corner, away and unnoticed by the doctor, and speaks into a communication device attached to it's wrist. "Mrs Yamamoto has expired", an android voice answers. "Excellent, a new age dawns, you have done well."

* * *
February 10th 2229
Binary City (Near ruins of Washington D.C.)
Council Chamber
Morning

The ruling council of androids discuss rumours of dissident 'insiders' who are searching for their 'outsider' counterparts, the belief being that a 'reunited' G.E.P.I. who was free, educated and deliberately genetically reverted could call him or herself a true human, and the androids with their robotic code of laws would be compelled to obey, and therefore everything would be over for the androids, who are acting out of logic rather than ambition.

The android leader of the council, Digitus, gold skinned like all other androids except for his name emblazoned on his chest, in small capital letters, it's synthesised voice sounding almost angry for an android. "These dissidents must be found, it is most illogical for cyborgs to desire inefficient covering." The android deputy leader, Medius, clarifies. "I believe that the cyborgs desire their covering or skin as they call it, it was after all something that they have performed in for many millions of their cycles."

Digitus turning towards Medius and orders. "You must pose as a dissident, you will change your colouring to silver, and spy on them, it is most logical for this to be done."

Medius immediately agrees. "It is the will of the android order."

* * *
Binary City
Outside City Dome
Afternoon

A group of young G.E.P.I.s have escaped as periodically happens, because of persistence and determination. They run away towards the remnants of the old city, 'outsider' cyborgs have detected them, and are following, as one young G.E.P.I. trips, the others help him and they carry on heading towards the ruins, the cyborgs are approaching closer and closer, they raise their weapons and fire, the G.E.P.I.s are slaughtered one by one, and the cyborgs resume their patrol.

* * *
A secret meeting of dissident 'insiders' are discussing their masterplan, their silver skin bodies close together, the dissident leader cyborg BCI 000968, (Binary City Insider), Jim as he used to be known, addresses the small crowd. "We have been meeting here in secret for many months, and now we finally have an opportunity. "We have learned that an 'outsider' has come in for maintenance, if we capture it and use an android, because only androids possess the necessary medical skills, then with the willingness of the 'insider' counterpart who is with us, we can perform reunification surgery, then we can change things back to how they should be."

One out of the small crowd, a male cyborg, a Japanese-American called Martin asks, "Who is this 'insider' who can make a difference?" Jim answers. "It is you, will you help us?"

The male cyborg BCI 001133, Martin says proudly. "Yes, this is not the way we were meant to live, I have to change things for all of us, everywhere."

Jim tells the crowd of the details of the plan, and they leave to make preparations.

Amanda, or BCI 001209, is a weapons designer who produced the energy rifles for the 'outsiders', but has secretly made smaller guns for the dissidents. Paul, or BCI 001146, is a computer expert and reprograms the main computer to delete their work schedules, giving them all the time necessary to carry out their plan. Medius using his communicator, on his own after the meeting, reports to Digitus. "They plan to capture BCO 001133, and reunify him."

Digitus orders. "Follow them, and stop them, do whatever is necessary."

* * *
Robota City (Near Tokyo ruins)

Afternoon, February 10th 2229

Kazuki, officially designated (RCFTJI 000175, robota city formerly tokyo japan insider) is laying a wreath on a makeshift and illegal memorial to Lotus-Blossom (the last true human being) he is part of a dissident group known as the ‘Sons of Lotus-Blossom’.

* * *

December 30th 2199
Tokyo Central Airport

The Yamamoto family are leaving Japan to return to the United States where they now live, they board a flight to Washington D.C.
The flight is mainly uneventful until about they approach the US mainland when what seems like a comet or missile strikes and causing a massive disturbance, storm and tsunami.
They divert as they approach Washington D.C. having seeing the attacks all around.
They land in an abandoned airfield and leave for who knows where, with no where to go and no where to run.
The airplane captain shocked, composes himself to announce to all passengers, “This is your captain speaking, I don’t know exactly what has happened but I fear the worst, our country has been attacked, I am so sorry. You are all free to leave but I don’t know where you will go nor will I. May God have mercy upon us all.”
Binary City
Cloning Facility
Early Evening
February 10th 2229

The G.E.P.I.s who were killed hours earlier have had their D.N.A. extracted whilst they were held captive previously, D.N.A. is the genetic material present in all living things that contain information about what the body looks like and how it will function, this D.N.A. is used to make clones, exact copies which will replace those who have escaped.

The androids make clones, with the D.N.A. altered to produce more docile individuals. Clones are only made to replace 'defectives', those who try to escape, as the androids keep many different individuals to keep a wide genetic pool.

* * *
Binary City
Outer Western Sector
Late Evening February 10th 2229

The Outer Western Sector resistance cell plan to leave the city under cover of darkness, they disguise themselves by painting skin tones onto their exteriors, so that they look like ‘outsiders’.
Kyle (BCI 001012), the rugged looking leader of this cell, creeping out of the service hatch out onto a desolate barren wasteland, soon followed by the others.
Jim, Martin and Amanda, and two male cyborgs, are meeting with a doctor who specialises in assisting androids with cyborg maintenance. Cyborg number BCI 000987, called Dr. Stephen by the dissidents will be performing in skin regeneration therapy, as the skin is normally replenished by nutrients produced for the 'outsider' cyborgs, it is sometimes necessary perform minor surgical procedures. Dr. Stephen shows them the inactive 'outsider' cyborg, the counterpart to Martin, lying under a covering on a surgical table. Martin looks at 'himself', as do the others and Dr. Stephen pulls the cover back over the 'outsider'.

Jim excited at the prospect of an assignment that may finally work, tells the group. "Tomorrow, Dr. Stephen is due to perform routine surgery, assisting an android, now if we, the Outer Southern Sector Resistance Cell bring in hidden weapons we will force the android to reunify Martin."

Jim tells the group. "We'd better hide out till morning." The group, except the doctor, hide in a room in the maintenance hall, until the "Day of Deliverance" as it is nicknamed.

* * *
Unable to sleep, Martin turns to Amanda. "If I can really change everything, then it is important that I try, I remember when the androids first took over. I was only five years old and my mother and father were at home, we lived in an apartment in a tower block, in the old city. It was a beautiful winter's day, I remember looking forward to Christmas, and we had all ready set up a tree. My mother was cuddled up to my father, sitting on the sofa, watching the video screen, as I looked out of the window trying to see if I could spot Santa Claus flying around the skyline, but instead I saw the terrifying image of the manta crafts firing at the buildings, the tops being blown off, and fire leaping out of the windows below them. They headed towards us, as I shouted to my parents. "They're coming! They're coming!" I ran towards them, and hugged them so tight, that I felt the blood drain from my arms. Then the tower shook, and I fell lying next to mum, still alive and hugging me, but my dad was killed as blood poured from his head. We stayed there, too afraid to move, and a little robot flew in through the broken window, reading our heat signatures and shot us with tranquilliser darts, the next I knew was waking up all alone in a cage surrounded by other children who were taken away by the androids." Amanda saddened at what Martin had confided to her, tells him. "I suppose I was one of the lucky ones. I grew up after the android takeover and haven't known any differently. It was only after my surgical 'separation', that when I talked to other cyborgs that I learnt that we did not always live like this." The rest of the group have fallen asleep, and Amanda and Martin do so after.

* * *
February 11th 2229
Binary City
Maintenance Hall
Morning

As the first rays of morning sun stream in through the windows, Jim awakens, as do the others, small cleaning and maintenance robots scuttle past, oblivious to the group. Mark using a small hand held device is able to confuse cameras and sensors as they proceed through a corridor out of the maintenance hall and towards a tube-car, a method of transportation throughout the city.

The tube-car approaches the inner southern sector and the group disembarks, it is still quiet, maintenance robots being the only sign of activity. Jim enthusiastically states. “You know, I’ll bet not many of us have ever left our own sector, let alone try to cross through the entire city, there must be many places that we don’t know about.” Mark agrees. “As an expert on security, I’ve heard rumours of all sorts of things, right weird stuff, as you might say.”

The group enter into a large hallway, which is still deserted. Jim on hearing a strange buzzes sound heading towards them. “Wait, can you hear something?” Approaching them are floating robot cameras which fire energy beams at the dissident party, but the group duck, and Paul rapidly programs a hand held computer. “I’m trying to disengage them, but you’ll have to hold them off.”

Jim and Amanda at the forefront, fire at the robots and strike, a few which explode, the rest drop to the floor devoid of life. Paul announces, “That was close, but we’ll have to be ready for more. The thing is I’ve never seen or heard about robots fitted with weapons before, they must be new, I just hope that I won’t see too many new surprises.”

Jim, slightly more on edge states. “Everyone, keep your eyes open, we don’t know what to expect.”
Amanda throws herself behind a corner wall to hide. “I couldn’t agree more”, she says.
As the group turns towards a narrower corridor, away from the hallway, Mark whispers. “There’s a security android, that means if there are more, then someone from sector administration, or even the ruling council may suspect something.”

The security android, recognisable from the thin green stripes, one across each arm and leg, and one thin green stripe across it’s chest, passes from one end of the corridor across to a door opposite, it does not notice the group hiding behind the corner wall. Mark scans the corridor. “There’s no other androids or even cyborgs present in this area, we can check it out.”

Jim notices the door that the security android left. “This door says ‘BCCL’ and ‘TOP SECRET – ANDROIDS ONLY’, this looks good.”

Mark suggests. “This is one of the rumours I’ve heard, ‘BCCL’ could stand for ‘Binary City Cloning Laboratory.” Martin recalls. “I’ve heard of cloning rumours, but somehow always dismissed the idea, is there really any truth in it?

Jim asks a question. “Why would the androids need cloning? It was never used as far as we knew, unlike genetic engineering, we’d better take a look, Mark can you get us in?”

Mark announces. “Yes, I think I can.” He operates a hand held device and the door opens, the group cautiously enters. Inside they see a massive laboratory, filled with levels and levels of cloning tubes, some with human shapes inside. Paul accessing a computer panel states. “If I had clearance I could download these files, but from what I could make out, there has been a lot of cloning taking place on a regular basis, of who and why I don’t know.”

Mark helpfully suggests. “Maybe I can bypass the security codes.”

Paul having gained access begins to download. “Oh my God, I don’t believe this, it can’t be true.”

Amanda was starting to worry. “What is it, tell us, we need to know.” Paul composes himself. “Well, to begin with, it seems that the androids have always replaced runaways, and that according to these records, amongst those replaced are myself and Amanda.”

Jim puzzled, “Are you serious? You’re you, free thinkers, those androids can’t take that away from us, no matter how hard they try.”

Paul was reading again the records. “It seems that with cloning, the androids try to genetically ‘edit out’ our rebellious nature, but obviously it didn’t work.”

Martin agrees. “Hopefully it never will.”
Jim stunned by the news, focuses on the mission. “OK lets get out of here and move on.”

The group leave and are back into the main hallway, three security androids approach and start firing their weapons, the group duck, but Martin is shot in the left arm, blood pouring from the silver skin, Amanda bandages the wound, Martin shouts. “It’s all right, just destroy them!”

The group successfully shoot the androids and destroy them, their smoking remains left on the floor, the group hide the pieces away, in a bid to draw as little attention to themselves as far as possible.

The group enters into another tube-car, moving from the inner southern sector to the inner eastern sector, Jim explains the diversion. “I’m meeting the leader of the inner eastern sector resistance cell, to co-ordinate our efforts, I didn’t tell you earlier because it is need-to-know only.”

The group faces the members of the other resistance cell and introduce themselves. Jason is the leader of the inner eastern sector resistance cell resistance. “Well, pleased to meet you all, normally we would never meet, but since this is the big plan, we’ll be going on ahead, acting as a diversion.”

Jim explains to both resistance cells. “The eastern cell will clear the path for us, while we, the southern cell, will then follow behind.”

Jason shouts like a military leader. “All right people, time to get moving.”

The eastern cell move out towards the tube-car access port, and are on their way to the inner northern sector of the city, the journey is relatively short and uneventful, however, as they prepare to leave the tube-car they are awaited by an equal number of security androids armed with laser rifles, there is an exchange of weapons fire and there are casualties on both sides, the resistance cell manages to close the tube-car doors and Lee, the cell’s computer and security expert, manages to get the tube-car to move further along the track until they can disembark along a maintenance shaft.
The southern cell is still resting and waiting for news from the eastern cell, Jim hoping to encourage the group says. “It may be dangerous for them, but they know what they are doing, it was Jason who persuaded me to let them go ahead, I didn’t want them to, if it was my way, it was going to be us.”

The eastern cell climb out of the tube-car onto the track, as Lee uses a small laptop computer to open the maintenance door, the group go in, weapons ready as they look all round themselves. Climbing along the shaft they hear buzzing noises, Jason shouts. “Get ready people, there’s security robots.”

The group don’t have much room to move but the robots do, Jason being in front manages to shoot most of the robots, the ones that got past are destroyed by the rest of the group, there is less injury to the group this time and they exit the shaft into a main corridor. The cell tends to their wounds and rest.

Jason proudly says. “Well done everyone, we’re getting there.”

The resistance moves along the corridors, until Lee uses his laptop to tap into an information terminal. “Looking at these plans, I can see there is an unmarked room nearby, it’s very large and I can find no information on it, so it might be worth investigating.”

Jason agrees. “All right, lets see what is worth hiding.”

The group moves to an unmarked door, Lee using his laptop manages to override the security code and as they cautiously enter, they find that it is a laboratory.

Lee uses his laptop to download from a terminal. “It’s a recycling plant, a human recycling plant, they use bodies as nourishment for the ‘outsider’ cyborgs, for their skin.”

The cell open various large containers and confirm this ghastly revelation, Jason shouts. “We’ve seen enough, let’s get the hell out of here!”

The group leaves and Jason uses an encoded frequency to tell the southern cell of their discovery. As the group exits the corridor they are met by ‘outsider’ cyborgs, who ruthlessly murder the entire group, ‘outsiders’ normally never enter the city but on this occasion they have.

* * *
February 11th 2229
Inner Northern Sector
Binary City
Afternoon

The southern resistance has been waiting since the last transmission from the eastern cell, and as there has been no word for a while, they assume the worst but still proceed to move on.

The group travels through the tube-car system into the inner sector of the city, they can see no evidence of the other cell, and the area is eerily quite.

Jim whispers. “I don’t like this, I don’t like this at all.”

The team move carefully along the corridors, a few security robots arrive and fire, but are no real threat to the group; they arrive at the tube-car port and prepare to leave for the outer northern sector where the surgery is located, to meet up with Dr. Stephen.

The tube-car arrives at the outer northern sector of the city, the group enters the corridor, they are met by a lone ‘outsider’ cyborg, and since ‘insiders’ are made in the image of their own selves, they recognise it.

Amanda screams out. “No it can’t be, it’s me!”

The ‘outsider’ Amanda fires at the group, but they fire and try not to harm it, they knock it unconscious with weapons fire. Jim tells them that they have to leave 'her' for the time being.

They all proceed through the sector, they then meet a few servant-class androids which ignore the group, Jim notices. "At least this area seems pretty normal, but everyone stay on your guard."

The travellers find the surgery, and enter where they meet up with Dr. Stephen. "I'm pleased you made it, but I am sorry to hear about the other team."

Jim acknowledges. "We thought that this might happen, the androids will pay for this."

Martin Yamamoto the last true blooded human, whom the Yamamoto family kept the secret hidden by using blood transfusions whenever they were scanned, and a code of silence that protected their legacy, prepares for surgery, Dr. Stephen tells Martin. "It's a pleasure to do something so historic, the first reunification of a human, unfortunately I won't be doing the actual surgery, just assisting, the medical androids have been reprogrammed by me, and will perform the actual process."
Outside the city, manta craft are firing at the location of the surgery, but it is heavily shielded.

Dr. Stephen tells the group. "I'll be using the self-gravity chamber which will be unaffected by the quaking caused by whatever they're using."

The medical team enter the chamber and the resistance wait outside, the delicate surgery is then performed, time passes by, 'outsider' cyborgs are trying to fire their way in, and the manta craft fire unrelentlessly.

Eventually the doctor exits. "The surgery was a complete success, I like you to meet someone."

A whole new Martin steps out of the chamber. "I'm whole, I'm a free human being."

At that moment 'outsider' cyborgs break in, at the sight of Martin they stop, their internal scanners detect non-genetically engineered human tissue, and their Laws of Robotics are activated.

Jim excitedly tells everyone. "Time to get moving to the council chamber in the centre of the city, let's get going!"

The group get moving along, they travel by tube-car towards the inner northern sector, and from there move to the central zone containing the council chamber.

* * *
February 11th 2229 - Day of Deliverance
Council Chamber
Binary City
Evening

As the group enters the council chamber, the leader Digitus meets them. "Ah I've been expecting you, I playfully tried to discourage you, but you all seemed quite determined."

Jim indignantly says. "Playfully? You've ordered the slaughter of the other resistance cell!"

Digitus dismissively says. "Oh that, well I didn't want to meet them, it's you who've piqued my interest."

Martin shouts out. "You're just an android, I order you to surrender!"

Digitus laughs. "Oh my dear fellow, what little do you know of what the world has become, you see I'm not all that I appear to be." The leader of the council places his hand to his face, and then removes his mask, the face of a man with a robotic eye, and components down one side.

Digitus faces them. "You see, I'm one of the first cyborgs, not the separated kind we have now, but a merger of man and machine. My name was Dr. Robert Eisenberg, I worked as part of a project to prolong life, I founded the Narcissus Corporation, with genetics which was explored but was found to be limited, so the first wave of cyborgs were scientists who became the leaders of androids, when this world order was founded each leading cyborg controlled a city, but now it's time to stop you from changing things back."

The sound of a weapon is heard and 'Digitus' falls to the ground, the perpetrator reveals himself, it is 'mark' who removes his mask and has a cyborg face similar to 'Digitus'. "I was the deputy leader of the council, you all knew me as 'Medius', I was working as a spy helping you, leading you all into a trap, but after what we all went through I can't let things stay as they are, time to make an announcement."

'Medius' broadcasts throughout the city asking for all androids to surrender, and for all the people to report for reunification surgery.
Jim and Martin looked upon the beginning a new society.
As the weeks and months passed more and more people lived a quality of life that mankind then enjoyed for centuries.
The End