

# Hybrid [Artificial] Autobiography

## Thinking about a “human body” which is difficult to acquire

### — Aleš Čermák

*There is only one reality, but a thousand opinions on it exist.*

*Something is weird in the magical forest.*  
— Vimeo

*The prime suspect is always you yourself!*

*I don't really like the idea that there's 'the body'. I don't know what 'the body' is: there's this body, my body, your body... there's no 'the body' disenfranchised from its psyche and its context. It doesn't really exist.*  
— Chrysa Parkinson

*It is possible, why it takes place in such a world, and that is what is here for us.*  
— @0iyE1, 05:51pm on 2019-May-27, (RNN)<sup>1</sup>

*I will bury myself in my own imagination and let myself rot, eaten by all the thoughts that I once ate. Until only an almost-nothing remains, an infra-thing that whispers between words and speaks to You!*  
— L'aura di Cristallo

*The very essence of matter consists in opening up to the other.*

<sup>1</sup> An RNN (Recurrent Neural Network) is a neural network (NN) based on the architecture designed by Andrej Karpathy. The resulting model which NN utilizes learns from each individual letter and attempts to determine which letter might follow simply based on the process of generation itself. This process exhibits something undoubtedly magical – the NN determines its own direction and creates citations without making reference to any central core. NN is a distributed system which functions analogically to the brain, as it has the ability to learn, think, develop and live.



## PROLOGUE

The virtual human body

left to right – top to bottom

–every body has its origin in childhood, the body matures and through the passing of time ages and finally dies.

[OBE & NDE]

The participants of the experiment use alternative [VR] bodies. These were designed so that they are sexually neutral and generally attractive – these bodies are reminiscent of the characters in the film Avatar.

Revision of life = tour of life.

A tunnel leading to white light – follows

observation of the virtual world on an external monitor.

Each of the experiment participants experienced a meeting at a beautiful island along with two other companions.

Together they explored the island and performed the given tasks

their virtual bodies changed as time went by.

Sixteen female participants experienced six encounters

their virtual bodies developed

first, they were those of children

then matured

– finally they aged and then died.

Somewhere in reality, there was a group of sixteen persons who waited for the return of sixteen participants which happened to be somewhere on the island.

The mechanism of imaging creates strong illusions.

Those who experienced the island – announced a change in their approach to life.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Čermák, Aleš: *Return.Self.*  
New. Brno: Brno University of  
Technology, Faculty of Fine  
Arts 2019, p. 26 [translation].

**FRAGMENT THE FIRST**  
**On Strange Intimacy**

**§1**

When the sun is shining and the rain comes with it, we see a rainbow in the sky. Similarly, all the diverse forms we encounter are the result of a fleeting connection among a number of variables. But none of them have any physical existence.

When we say *body*, we mean that constantly undulating assemblage of bones, meat and blood, but in fact, no such entity exists. The illusory feeling of a physically existing I – the source of all suffering. In each individual pore of the body we see endless spaces – empty spaces of wisdom – spaces of creativity.

When we observe our body in comparison to the head, we see that the body is large and the head is merely a small part of it. We might say that the large body is more important than the small head. But really that small head does all the work of the large body. If we didn't have a head, we would not be able to see with our eyes, hear with our ears and speak with our mouth. Without our small head, it seems as if the large body could not do anything, but with a small head, the large body is able to exist.





## §2

I am dying. I believe that I am dead because I am imitating a corpse. Symptoms of sickness, these are the processes, states and situations of the body. What is a symptom, and how do we recognize it? My RNN @0iyE1 of 2019 randomly generated this answer:

In this manner it expresses itself in this form.

From that our body and bodies and bodies are generated again, , and.

It is a method.

To be a body means to not wholly be a body. The body reproduces noise and interference out into the world. The body is a form of life which must always be reconstructed anew. The body naturally calls for a different language. With eyes closed you see a dark blue which disappears as soon as we open our eyes. The body is just as alien to us as the world, and that is why we should accept its strangeness. It is important to realize that we are already other, strange – extraterrestrial. It is simply necessary to carefully connect to this feeling – to be aware of it and to ally with it. Personally, I prefer to close my eyes. This is no longer a social game, it is hidden somewhere deep within. If we observe our body long and hard enough and let various forces act on it without trying to control this process in any way, a strange sensitivity appears. A strange sensitivity which transcends all conceptions. The body is thus real, but what we think of it is a fiction. We are awake in one world, but we slumber in the others. The way of thought can never comprehend the transcendental mind. Let's keep consciousness as a consciousness in itself, not as a means of the intellect. What are we when we experience a state which cannot be described by words? Our bodily identity poses a great obstacle for understanding what the body might become, so let's forget about it! Who were we when bodily experience did not yet exist? Without a body we do not know that we exist. The body should thus be well taken care of.

## §3

Now that I am steadfastly imitating a corpse, I realize just how much I am hanging onto life. We get the idea that we are performing some sort of exercise only by means of our bodily identity. But in fact, we are its mere observers.

## §4

We have adopted strategies which bring short-term advantages and which have recently been shown to be destructive from the long-term perspective. In the meantime however, they have become deeply rooted in our civilizational structures which makes the possibility of changing them very difficult. This is a classic example of extinction through loss of flexibility.

## §5

A new invention opens new possibilities and provides a new level of flexibility. The exhaustion of this flexibility means death. Flexibility should be in accordance with the flexibility of other actors. It should exhibit a high enough level of diversity so that it might serve the genetic diversity of its own members and would be able to assure flexibility and the necessary means of preadaptation to overcome unexpected changes. Now and into the future, we will need to be greatly flexible.



Extinction according to necessity – injustice according to the law of time.

Endless change which lives in us and through us in that it awakens us to the inhuman might seem uncaring, irrational, but can help us face the depths of what responsibility brings with it.

## §6

When we fall into a deep, dreamless sleep, we seem to be in complete darkness. We do not know what is happening.

The night which is slowly coming joins the living with the non-living.

One long dark night,

Transforms the living into the non-living.

## §7

With your body consistency, you will surely die!

## §8

When the mind is not functioning, the world is not present. When two hands touch, the sensuality of the body appears – we feel the warmth of the other, their pressure, tremors, nervousness, their presence and closeness. The intimacy of the other which at that moment achieves the level of oneself. A greeting from a stranger deep within us. One touch rouses an infinity of others. An infinity of other beings, an infinity of other spaces in various temporal strata. At least before we fall asleep, let us remember that we are not a body.

## PLACE: NEW DELHI, INDIA

**Date: August 20, 2563**

*On September 20, 2563 I realized while asleep that I am dreaming and decided that the best thing I can do is fly towards the sky. I latched onto a current of air which took me very high up, into the stratosphere. Then I changed the current's direction so that I might observe the world, suspended in air. I looked down and saw the earth as a large sphere. Then I let go of the air current and spread my arms so that I might slide better through the air. I stayed in the sky a long time, long enough for me to realize the immensity and beauty of the ocean when observed from above. After a short while, I started floating lower and found myself in a narrow but bustling street in the Majnu-ka-tilla colony in New Delhi.*

*The place and the street's atmosphere had a very soothing effect on me. It was early morning and the noise of the place allowed me to have a very clear view on it. Somewhere in the background of my own experience, I started perceiving the growing intensity of the colors and of emotion, and a strange sense of participation in a grand moment. The mind without a body is immensely flexible and any thought can immediately be made real. The dream state is just as real as the waking state. The waking state created this*



*world. Can you say why you woke from a deep sleep? And why did this specific dream come to you? Without waking, there is no world. The waking world is a copy of the dream world. Our current discussion is also taking place in a dream. As soon as your bodily identity disappears, you will see yourself merging through all space. What can we say about ourselves in a deep dream? The waking which grows from deep sleep is almost imperceptible, yet one sees a vast world within it. If there is no waking, who is it that died? When he who is awake falls asleep, does that mean that understanding becomes ignorance? When you are awake, do you feel that it is you who is not sleeping? The ignorance called sleep supports everything. Waking is childish ignorance – what would happen if sleep did not exist? There are regular intervals, segues from waking into sleep*



*and from sleep into a waking state. Thus, our existence is temporary.*

Many voices speak from the interstitial spaces, like a cacophony within stories which somehow resonates with itself. The stories are woven into one another, are nested within each other. Are these stories essentially not in contact with the understanding, the invasion of the stranger, whether wanted or uninvited, who is hidden deep within? Stories woven into one another.

Inhalation and exhalation.

Let's consider waking and dreaming together. The difference between waking and dreaming is only in their continuity. Our existence is fickle because of the shifting states of waking

and sleep. Whatever is temporally limited is transitory, and so is not real. If our dreams were properly coherent, so that the same people and circumstances would return again every night, we would have to consider very carefully what is waking life and what is a dream. And so, if we speak of a waking state, we must also take into account the dream state.

## §9

When two hands touch, how close are they really? Touch moves and influences what it acts on at the given moment. It is an electromagnetic interaction. That means that it is not real contact. And that is perhaps why we think that your hands touch someone else when you press them together. But it is not so. We might feel warmth, the smooth surface of the skin right at the place where our fingers touch another. But that which you really feel is the electromagnetic repulsion between the electrons of the atoms which co-create your fingers in connection with someone or something other. The world is immeasurably vast and him who observes it is smaller than an atom.

By means of touch, we feel differential speed coming on. Touch is never pure or innocent. What words describe is not stable or permanent. That is why it is similar to dreaming.

## §10

Awake into a dream where no one is awake. Maybe it is time to face the inhuman within us.

## §11

Are we the clothes we wear? No. And just the same, we are not the body either. The body is a mere marionette made of food stuffs. Every living being performs activities so that it might keep its sense of being occupied. It is a big mistake to identify with the body, but also the fact that we consider ourselves man and woman. To consider oneself a human being is also erroneous. Our body is in fact space – the vast space is the body of universal expression. Life does not create itself by accident. If the body is real, then everything other is also real.

Our assumed form also does not remain identical. We are neither living, nor that which dies. Do we need to have at hand something else than ourselves, so that we realize that we exist? In other words, if we are truly lonely, we do not know that we are here. When we don't know that we exist, does a world exist at all? As soon as we realize that the message regarding our existence is insensible, there is no space for any mental creations. If I don't exist, what can be said to exist? What to call this state?

*Close your eyes. Do you see twilight?*

*And you also saw that deep blue. Will you remember it? That dark blue light?*

*Remember that fears kill the intellect.*

A miniature consciousness can create only a false, albeit immense, world. We must destroy this strange custom of identifying ourselves with the body. And start thinking about what we really are and stop limiting our lives.

## §12

Thinking was never a mindless or unique human activity.

A real being is not a thing, it is a process – a dynamic process. One cannot comprehend it. It is a freely flowing world without stops. We found out that we are not the body, but that the body should rather become our direct experience. There is nothing wrong with us taking care of our body, for example by not being one. We are not the body, but we are its experts. Because there is no form or color, the expert cannot be seen. The body is our fold, not our form. Are you able to see some hole, an interruption, in the vast space? There were times when we did not know about our existence, and then suddenly there appeared the sensation of being, and the world also appeared along with it. But the world is a hospital full of unhealthy people. If we reject a false medicine, we will not experience its impacts. What are we when we are in a state which cannot be described by words? The mind is able to consider only the acquired impressions. How do thoughts of the unknown appear? Is the unknown world our own creation? Did it appear all on its own? When you wake from your sleep you observe your surroundings and realize that you are awake. Through bodily identity, everything seems real. For those without a body, this is mere illusion. Because we feel limited to our body, we have the option to go from one place to another. But in fact, no movement is at all possible. We are not limited to the body because we are everywhere. The reason we discovered ourselves in the body has become clear. It was enough to understand that the body is not me.

My miniscule feeling of being has become the cosmos, just like being born inside a dream gives rise to a whole, vast dream world. Our waking can be compared to the cosmos – either to this one, or to its dreamy copy. Mental modifications, in other words our memories, are responsible for all our activities. But the future is not completely unreal. That which is unexpected and unpredictable and limited in time, that is what is real.

## POSTSCRIPT

The very form of experimentation is always about contact. An experiment is always a living, breathing configuration of the world. Space is very, very soft and your consciousness is even softer.

We function in this world based on our ideas which have no existence. Apart from thoughts, nothing like the world exists. We must destroy this strange habit of identifying ourselves with our body and again start considering the body, which is so difficult to acquire. The body should thus be well cared for! Our world is only the creation of our consciousness, and so we experience it at precisely the moment when we realize that we exist. Was there a world before we were born? A world without us? We must answer this on the basis of our own direct experience. Because we do not analyze ourselves enough, we leave the world waiting. We are the tools of our own action because we lack any other truly reliable tools.

Because the world is false, we do not need to be particularly respectful towards it. But still I ask: What do we need to move the false world? To enter into the emptiness, open ourselves to its possibilities and to wander. To experience this living, breathing indeterminacy of non-/being. To deny the existence of that which we imagine. Our thoughts are unreal. That which is real is truly independent. Because the existence of the individual is dependent on the existence of the world and is circumscribed and determined by the world, it cannot be real. That which we consider the individual can be something wholly different.