

NEAR METaverse MAGAZINE



N. 6 2022
MAY EDITION



Web3

Horror Stories

Metaverse Events

MEET DECENTRICITY!

COOLEST NEAR NFT MINTS

WHO IS WHO | METAVERSE DAO COUNCIL



BECOPRO

Becopro is a multi artist, graffiti artist and video editor. He has been working as a metaverse reporter for the Metaverse DAO, going to the metaverse events and recording them to be kept as a historical record of the NEAR Protocol metaverse presence.

BeetleJuice is Brazilian, a designer and an artist. She works with 3D art, visual communication and editorial design. Beside this, she works with education, games, service design and projects.

BEETLEJUICE



KLARA KOPI

Klara Kopi is a multi artist, a generalist artist in her words. She uses from watercolors to 3D modeling in her creations. She has been working for the Metaverse DAO as an interviewer, talking to members of NEAR Protocol community with a regular metaverse presence.

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NEAR METAVERSE EVENT OF THE MONTH

Strictly Ballein by djDAO feat Netunoblu May 15th, 2022

- Producer: Netunoblu
- DAO: djDAO
- Location: he Playground - 111 The Bronx South Tower - Voxels
- [Click here to watch this video on YouTube](#)
- [Click here to see this video and a Mintbase NFT](#)



STRICTLY BALLEIN BY DJDAO FEAT NETUNOBLU - MAY 15TH, 2022

About the event:

Strictly Ballein is an event that's a lot of fun and a great place to meet new musicians.

This party is produced by Netunoblu that always opens the events with his dope music sets creating a friendly, relaxed environment so the public feels welcomed with songs that make you want to dance and creates a good vibe to the following presentation of the invited musician!

If you want to have fun, listen to good music and hang out with great people join the party!

Strictly Ballein takes place on "The Playground" on Voxels, parcel 3345



EVENTS OF APRIL 2022

YOU CAN CLICK ON:

- THE IMAGES TO WATCH THE VIDEO;
- THE NAME OF THE EVENT TO SEE THE NFT;
- THE LOCATION TO BE TELEPORTED TO THE METAVERSE SPACE



01 - Open Mic on Tama Island - Mar 29th, 2022

Musician: [multiple artists]

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO /
tama island.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Tama Island DAO /
tama island.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub



02 - StrictlyBallein by djDAO feat Kayoti - Mar 30th, 2022

Musician: Kayoti

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Netuno / netuno.near

DAO: djDAO / dj-
dao.sputnikdao.near

Location: The Playground



03 - Crossroad Event #4 by Spiritual DAO - Mar 31th, 2022

Karma Podcast Ep #04 release.
The event revealed the bounty
"Show your Soul #04" winners!

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: manutegus

DAO: Spiritual DAO / spiritual-
dao.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Spiritual DAO - NEAR



04 - Tama Island Fridays with U.N.I - Apr 01st, 2022

Musician: U.N.I

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO /
tama.island.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Tama Island DAO /
tama.island.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub

05 - Open Mic on Tama Island - Apr 05th, 2022

Musician: Symbolik, Gabriel Elson, Ted.IV (muti collective), Umhume (muti collective), Big M tha Enigma, JeffGold and Larkim (muti.on live sessions)

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO

DAO: Tama Island DAO

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub



06 - Open Mic on Tama Island - Apr 12th, 2022

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO /
tama.island.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Tama Island DAO /
tama.island.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub

07 - Plantasia on VanDAO Studio - Apr 13th, 2022

Musician: Plantasia

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: VanDAO

DAO: VanDAO

Location: VanDAO Studio





08 - Tama Island Fridays with U.N.I - Apr 15th, 2022

Musician: U.N.I

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO /
tamaisland.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Tama Island DAO /
tamaisland.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub

09 - Ecstatic Dance Ritual at Shunya with DJ Gary Gagarin - Apr 16th, 2022

Musician: DJ Gary Gagarin

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Goa DAO / goa-
dao.sputnik-dao.near

DAO Sponsor: Goa DAO / goa-
dao.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub



10 - Ina DAO presents “The Faces of the Goddess” Exhibition + Maree Lawn Show - Apr 18th, 2022

Musician: Maree Lawn

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Production: Ina DAO /
inav2.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Ina DAO / inav2.sputnik-
dao.near

Location: Ina DAO GALLERY

11 - “The Faces of the Goddess” on NEAR Hub Gallery by Ina DAO - Apr 18th, 2022

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Production: Ina DAO /
inav2.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Ina DAO / inav2.sputnik-
dao.near

Location: Ina DAO Gallery on
NEAR Hub



**12 - Open Mic on Tama Island -
Apr 19th, 2022**

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO /
tamaisland.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Tama Island DAO /
tamaisland.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub



**13 - muti.on feat Charlie
Mancini - Apr 21st, 2022**

Musician: Charlie Mancini

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: mutiDAO

DAO: mutiDAO

Location: mutiDAO-amphitheater
on NEAR Hub



**14 - Tama Island Fridays with
U.N.I - Apr 22nd, 2022**

Musician: U.N.I

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO

DAO: Tama Island DAO

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub



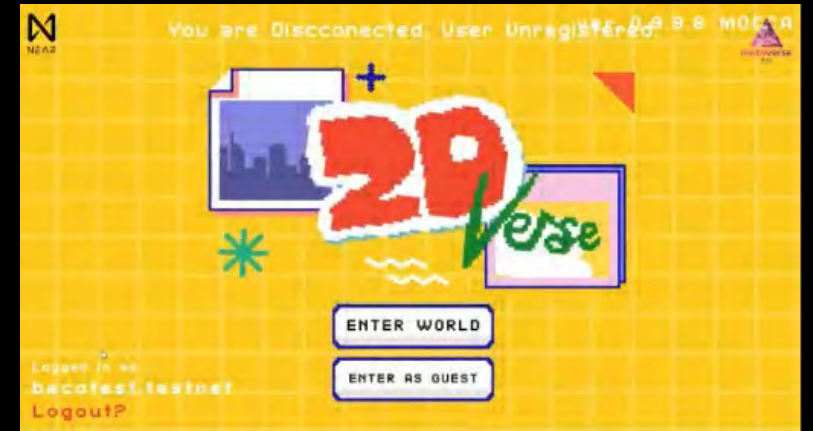
**15 - MOCCA show on Reallity
Chain - Apr 23rd, 2022**

Musician: MOCCA

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Reallity Chain

Location: MOCCA on
ReallityChain.io



**16 - Keep It Local Live
Presents : Blue Room 1 by
@netunoblu - Apr 24th, 2022**

Musician: netunoblu

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

DAO: KIL DAO

Location: The Playground



**17 - Rave the Earth by NxM -
Apr 24th, 2022**

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

DAO: NxM

Location: The Playground

**18 - Open Mic on Tama Island
- Apr 26th, 2022**

Rec. and Video Prod.: BeCoPro

Producer: Tama Island DAO /
tama island.sputnik-dao.near

DAO: Tama Island DAO /
tama island.sputnik-dao.near

Location: Tama Island on Near Hub



ECOSYSTEM PERSONALITY

DECENTRICITY

Klara Kopi

[...]

So, let's start from the beginning. Tell us a bit about your background, where did you come from, important things in your life that led you to where you are, whatever you want to let people know about you that make them understand who you are and what you are doing.

Decentricity

Sure. OK, so just to let everyone know, I'm Decentricity on twitter, you guys can follow me there. I'm Decentricity in most social media, including LinkedIn, Instagram and all the others. But so, the point is, I've been in the metaverse for quite a while. I was in Second Life. So one of the things that sort of changed my life was when in 2011, I started working for a company back then called IBM. You probably know IBM, as being a very corp minded company, right?

And it's true that it's corporate, but a lot of people don't really know that they actually help out Second Life at the beginning. So I don't know if they invested or anything with what they did, but what I was certain of is we had an island, like IBM had an island back in Second Life. So in 2012 I started logging into Second Life just walking around, having the time of my life,

really like just meeting people and looking at the IBM buildings and jumping over.

And Second Life was actually very advanced, like, even back then, because it can have multiple islands linked together and multiple islands are actually served by different servers, maintained by different servers, but you can jump from one server to another by just walking. That's a technology that Second Life already had like even back in 2012. And then basically 2000, so, in 2011 I went in for the first time, started walking around, in 2012 I decided to buy land. So I bought Second Life land, so you can buy Second Life land now. Since 2012 that's also possible. So I had three parcels, three different Second Life parcels back in 2012 and these three parcels I made into like, major, I guess at least back then it was, major landmarks back in Second Life because one of them actually became the Museum of Computing.

It's a computer museum in Second Life. So I made replicas of servers, replicas of old computers within the world and people can visit people and donate.. I think that is all still there. 2012 was also the year that I discovered Bitcoin. And the cool thing about discovering Bitcoin is I discovered it within Second Life, so this was around 2012, 2013, but like 2013 was the first time I actually started buying Bitcoin.

So Second Life actually had an economy, so it had a native currency called Linden dollars and Linden dollars can be swapped over back then to Bitcoin, small fractions. Well, not small fractions, because Bitcoin was really cheap. So we were buying Bitcoin by swapping them with Linden, Linden dollars and there was an exchange called Virtual World exchange (VirWoX) and it's no longer here, it's since disappeared.

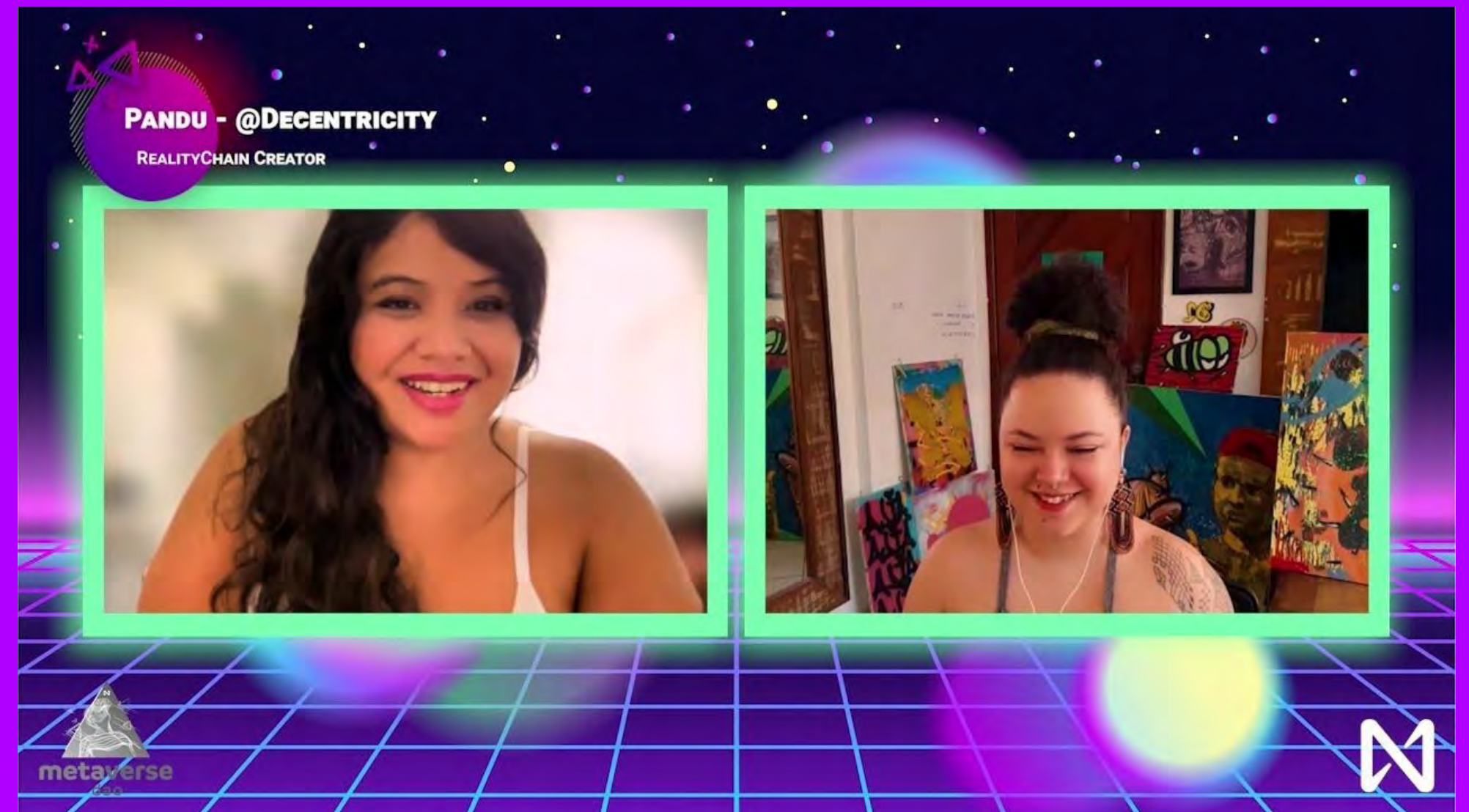
You can still probably Google VirWoX, but VirWoX actually allowed you to swap to Bitcoins. So even had ATM, like ATMs in-world, like within the metaverse itself, you can have an ATM, you can set up an ATM for visitors and visitors can just use the ATM to buy Bitcoin. So this was back in 2013. So I bought into Bitcoin, so actually the metaverse brought me into crypto and then I, so that's obviously changed my life.

I mean that's I've been doing crypto since 2013. I've been in love with technology since then. But like, the metaverse, I've been there even earlier. So, the way Second Life sold and bought land was actually not like we buy land in NFT like when, when you were using NFTs.

Klara Kopi
Yeah..

Decentricity

Because what you do is you need to pay a subscription fee to Second Life, to Linden Lab, which is the owner of Second Life and the subscription fee basically allows you to set how many lands you want to buy, like you want to own, basically. So if you have three or four lands, you have more, the subscription fee is still a lot higher than if you have only one, for example. So I maintained that land for a while, and then back in 2017,



[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL INTERVIEW](#)



I think 2017 I believe, I forgot to pay the subscription because of course like it's been years and I, it's not 100% a key part of my life anymore, at least back then, since I was working, very busy as well.

By the way, in 2017 I happen to be, that would be the first time I went full time crypto, back in 2017. So before I was still working at IBM and then I left IBM 2017. Full time crypto, I forgot to pay the subscription fee and then I lost the land, like everything that I created I lost. And the crazy thing is the land isn't deleted.

The land is just still there. I think it's still there even now, when you go into Second Life, you just look around. And this is like, you know, museum land, right? So there's decorations, there's old computers. I have no access anymore. But like, I'm pretty sure people are still visiting. People are still looking around. People are still using the museum for meet ups.

I don't know, like at least to look around, and I don't have access anymore. I can't even, I actually tried back in 2019 I think, or 18, I actually tried emailing Second Life several times, I even offered to just pay all of the subscription fee that I didn't pay, but they didn't even answer, like no they didn't even gave me that possibility.

So I lost land, that is still there that I built for years. It's sort of like something that immediately, changed the tact that, changed my strategy about the metaverse. That's when like, NFTs started to come up as well and I got interested in Cryptovoxels. So I was like, I think I, again, I was in Cryptovoxels for a while before buying in.
[...]

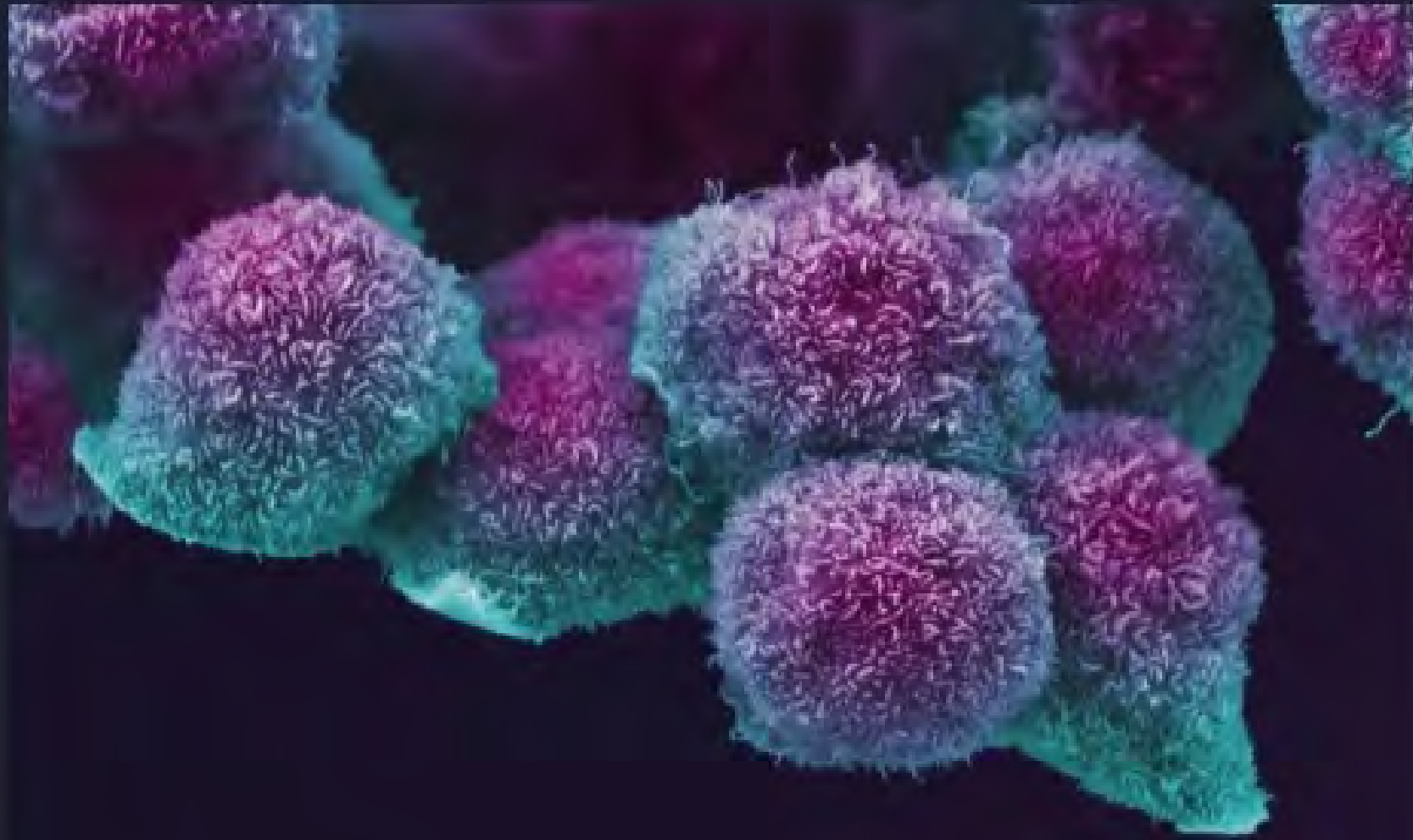
This text is a part of the video
interview transcript.
Watch the full interview on Youtube.

COOLEST NEAR NFT MINTS

MINTBASE

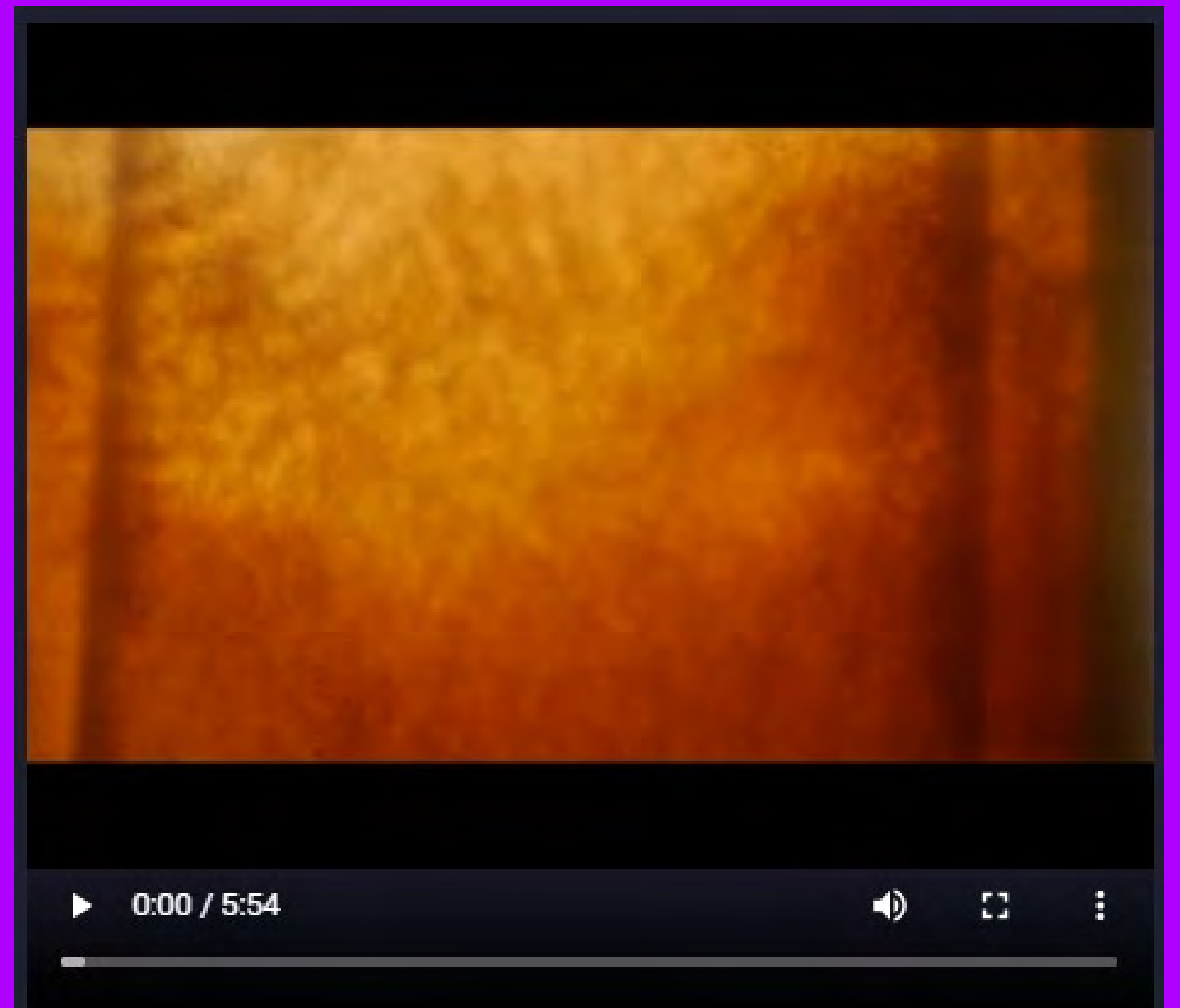
Artist: pbborges.near

Title: beauty might lie beneath 27



Artist: filmesdeinfiltracao.near

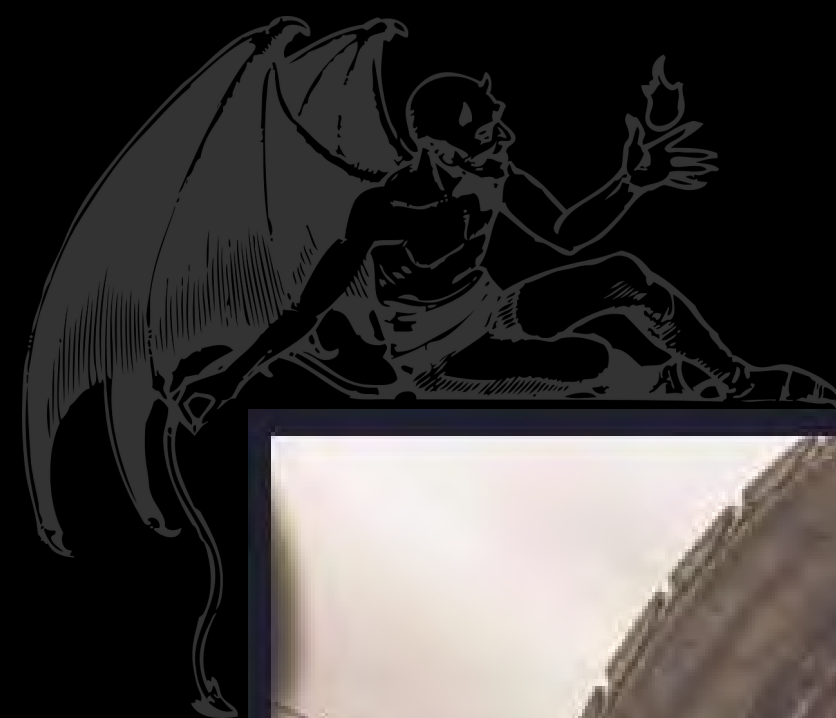
Title: B - There Is Something Wrong
with Charlie - Fragment 3





Artist: [marcospalhano.near](#)

Title: Nutrition Source - - By Marcos Palhano, April, 2013.



Artist: [tudorkrypt.near](#)

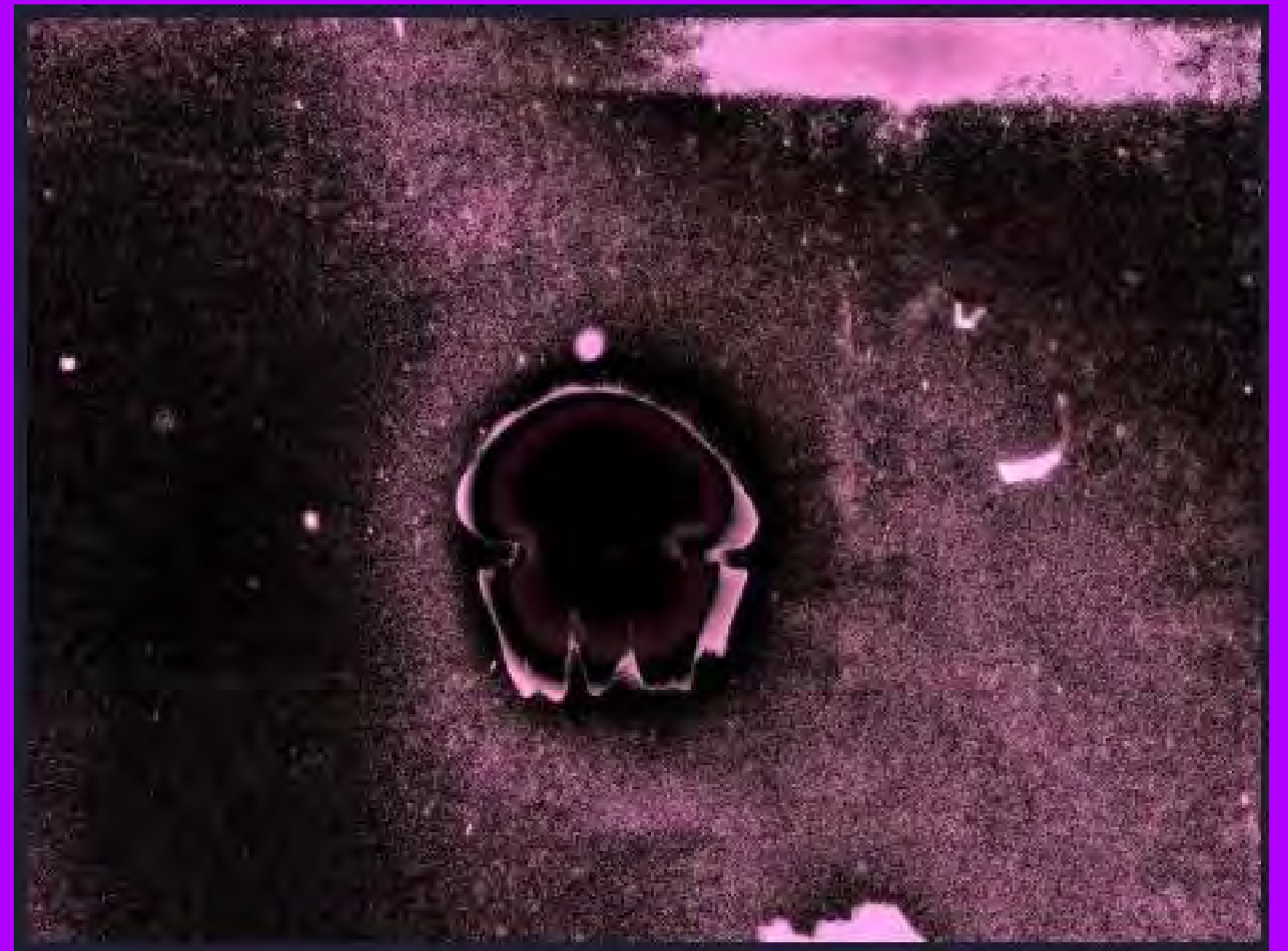
Title: PLAY





Artist: Ien
Title: Crocus

Artist: rene
Title: Burnout U/V





Artist: LETTERS

Title: 9benga03.near

Artist: cpadronart.near

Title: Fight. Liquid Universe Series





Artist: s4is.near

Title: #35MM TH1NG




Artist: vihdeleo.near


Title: Distanásia IV

← Back


Detail / Card

✦ C4C HUAFU V.2 ✦
SUPER HUAFU



gangshuafu.near  Edition of 100

SERIES // Edition of 100

✦ C4C HUAFU V.2 ✦
by gangshuafu.near 

Info

OwnersOffersHistoryPublication

Description


This is for sell
SPECIAL EVENT C4C MARCH 28-31
#card4card

Collection

SUPER HUAFU

Featured in


Card4Card March 2022

Buy for 0.2 

Place an offer


← Back

Detail / Card



SERIES // Edition of 1

Cyborg who Model #64

by cyborgwhooo.near 

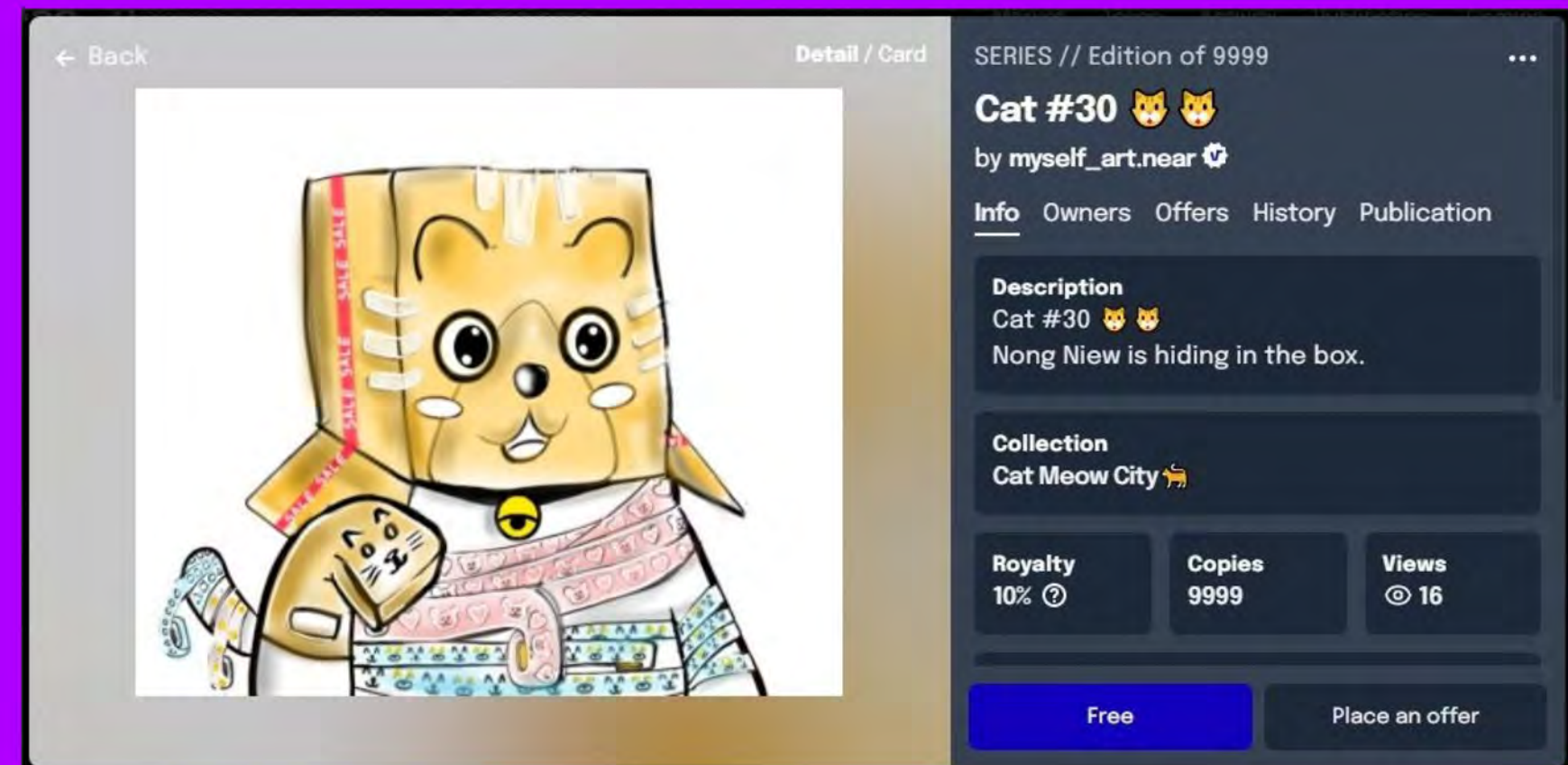
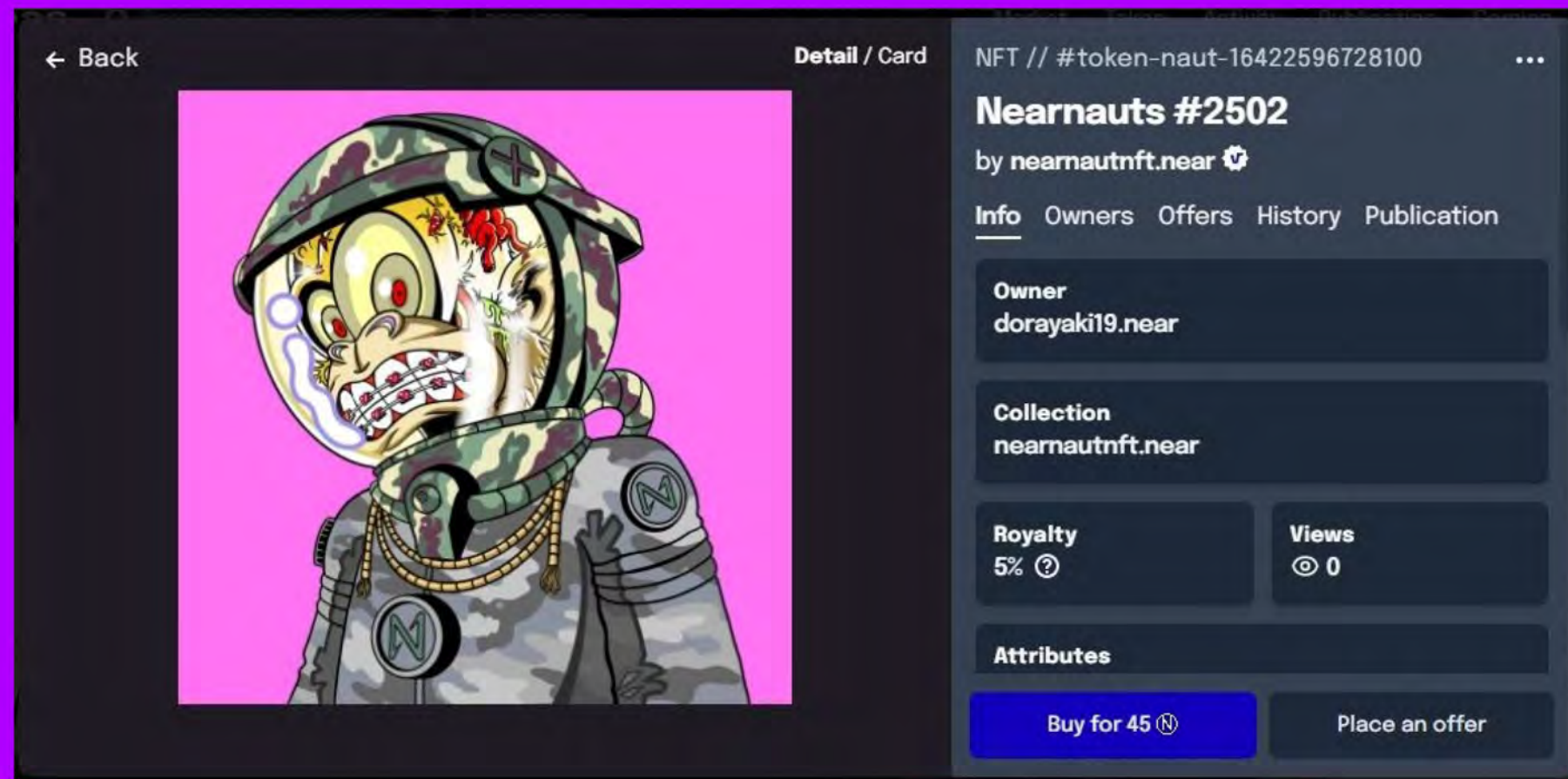
Info

OwnersOffersHistoryPublication

Description


A possible image The environment around us will change over the next 50 years. Because the sea flooded the land, humans became robots, including the creation of an environment for robots out of electronic waste. Because nothing in the next world can happen naturally. because of the pollution caused by modern humans' wastes.

Place an offer



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Detail / Card



NFT // #726

...

MR. BROWN #726

by [mrbrownproject.near](#)

Info

Owners

Offers

History

Publication

Description

4200 Identities living inside Mr. Brown's head

Owner

[unsophisticated.near](#)

Collection

[mrbrownproject.near](#)


Buy for 9.8 ₳

Place an offer



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Detail / Card



NFT // #1 of 1

...

Mini Alien X Hippo big nose # 1

by [bigk.near](#)

Info

Owners

Offers

History

Publication

Description

Hippo Big Nose
<https://paras.id/hippobignose.near/creation>

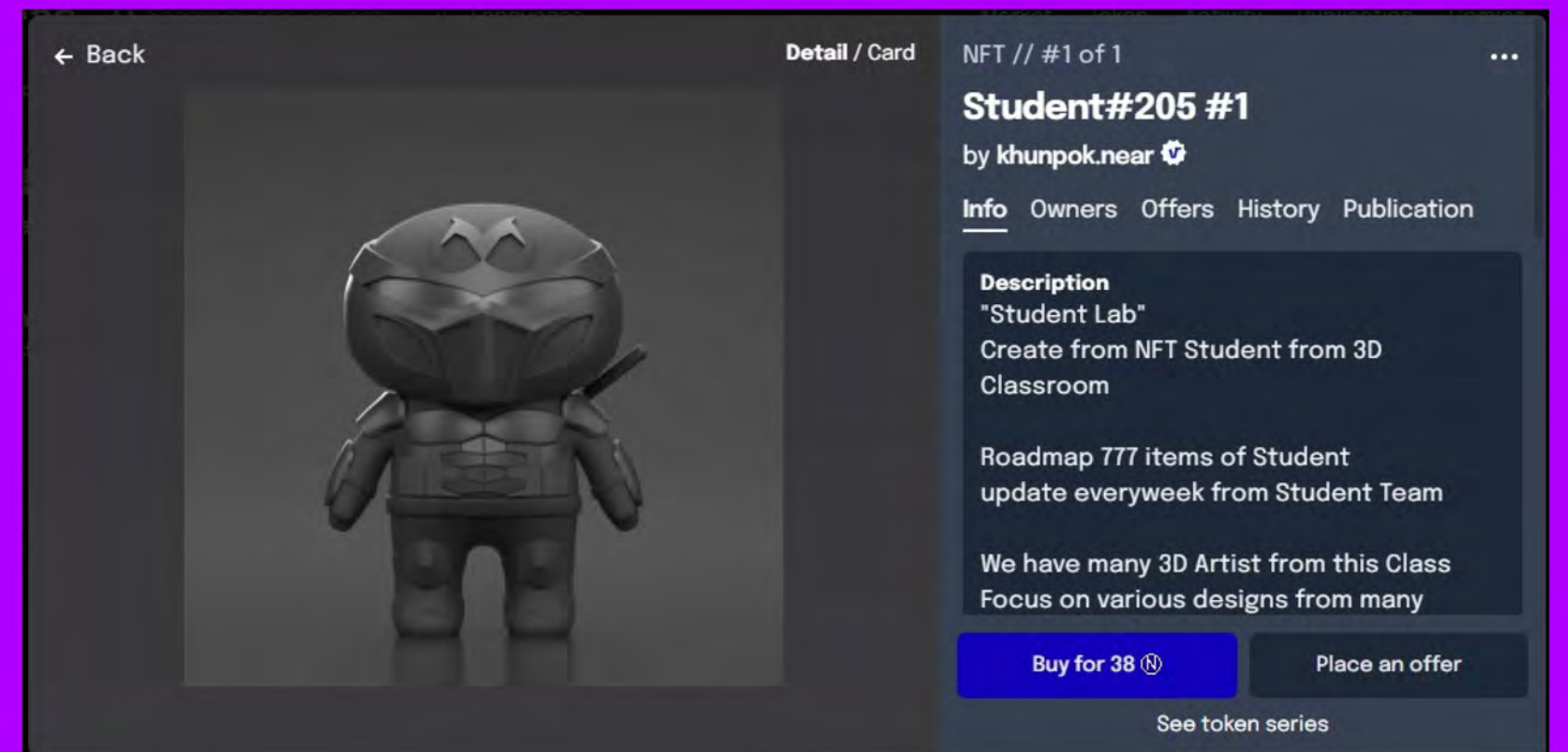
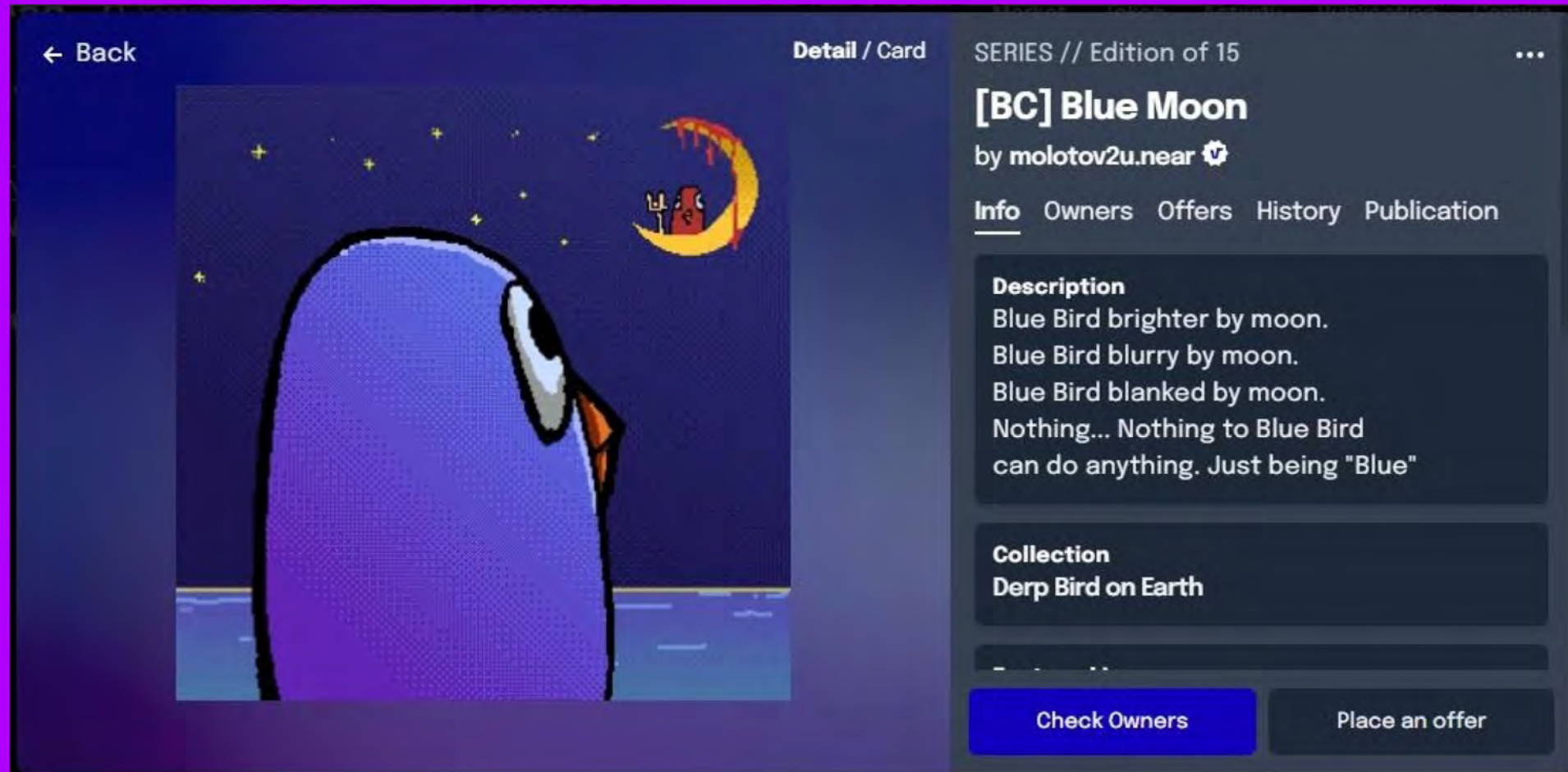
Owner

[kratuanoiy.near](#)

Buy for 5 ₳

Place an offer

[See token series](#)



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Detail / Card

SERIES // Edition of 1

80arfish #74

by sandier.near

Info Owners Offers History Publication

Description

Cool animals infinity

Collection

8 animals

Royalty

10% ?

Copies

1


Views

1

Token Info

Buy for 1.1

Place an offer



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Detail / Card

NFT // #1 of 1

Beat #88 #1

by markoeth.near

Info Owners Offers History Publication

Description


Hearbeat lines.
1st series of handmade non-generative art on NEAR Protocol. Beats come in variety of brush shapes, sizes, backgrounds and colours. Format: ".jpeg". There will be a total of 256 unique Beats that will ever exist on NEAR Protocol.

Owner

Buy for 12

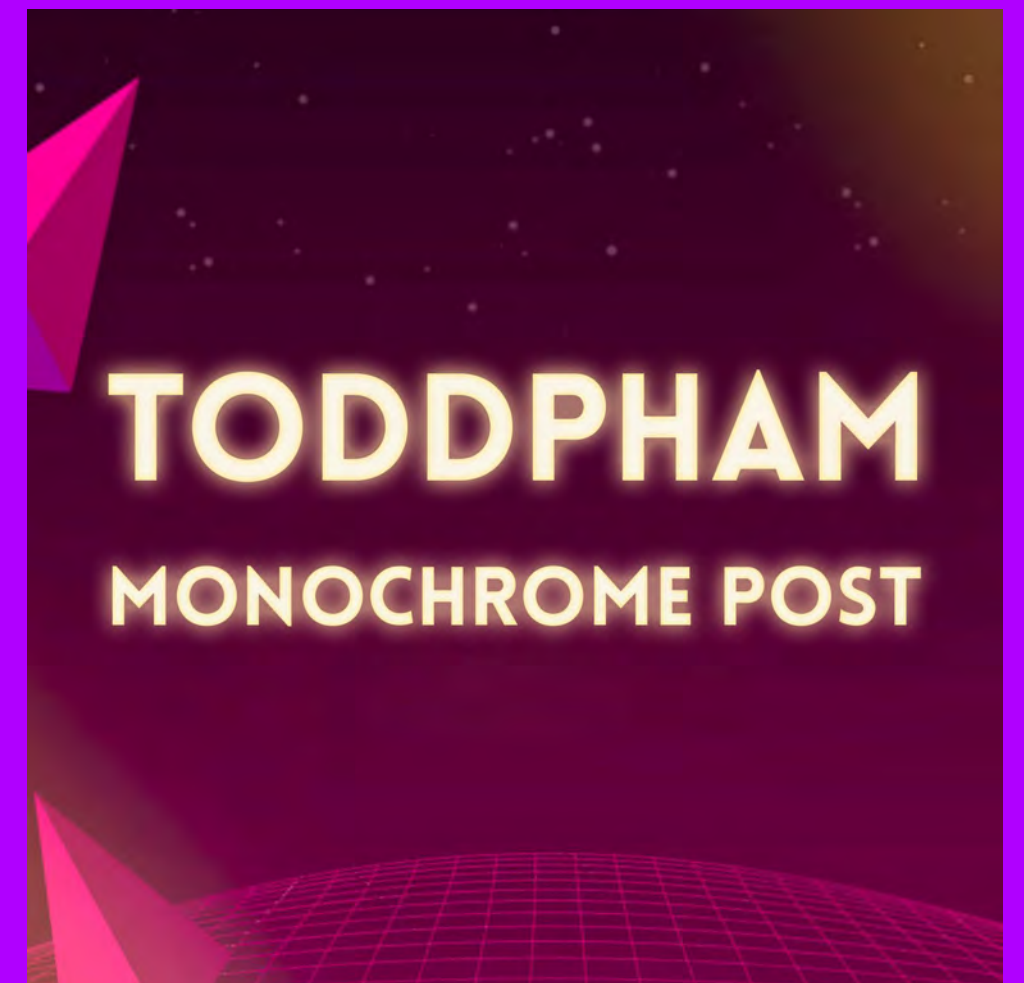
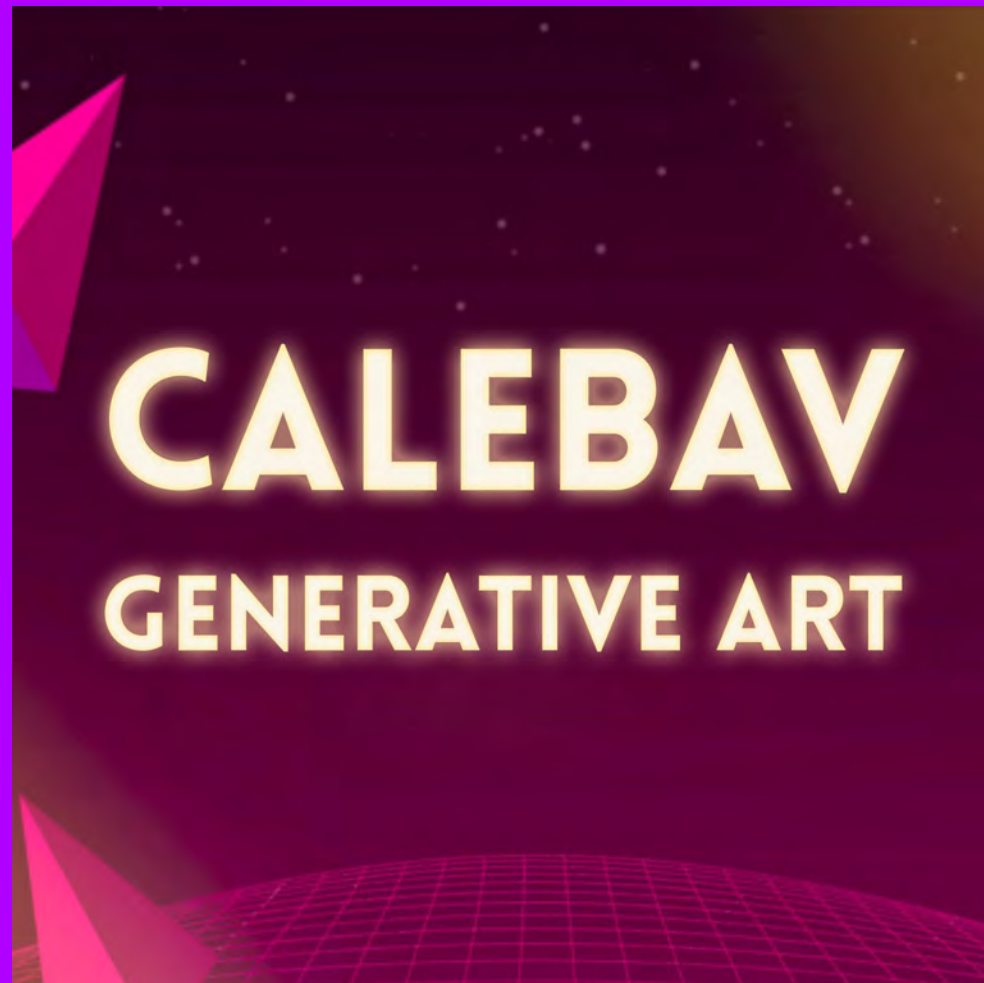
Place an offer

See token series



METaverse CLASS DAY – APRIL

YOU CAN CLICK ON THE
IMAGES TO WATCH THE
CLASSES ON YOUTUBE



NEAR METAVERSE ARTIST OF THE MONTH

ZEITWARP – NEAR EXCLUSIVE CRYPTOARTIST

Klara Kopi

Hi, everyone. Welcome to Meta interviews with Klara Kopi. Today I'm here with Zeitwarp, he is a NEAR exclusive crypto artist and occasional music hacker. Hi Zeitwarp, how are you?

Zeitwarp

Yeah, hi, Clara. I'm good, how are you doing?

Klara Kopi

I'm great. It's a very pleasant day today.

Zeitwarp

Yeah, it's good here as well. I'm in the U.K. It's near Cambridge. Yes, good weather today.

Klara Kopi

Oh, cool. Is it what, summer? No, not summer, spring, right?

Zeitwarp

Well, yes, it's the beginning of summer. Yeah, and the end of spring. Beginning of summer. But it can be anything in the U.K., but it's pretty good at the moment.

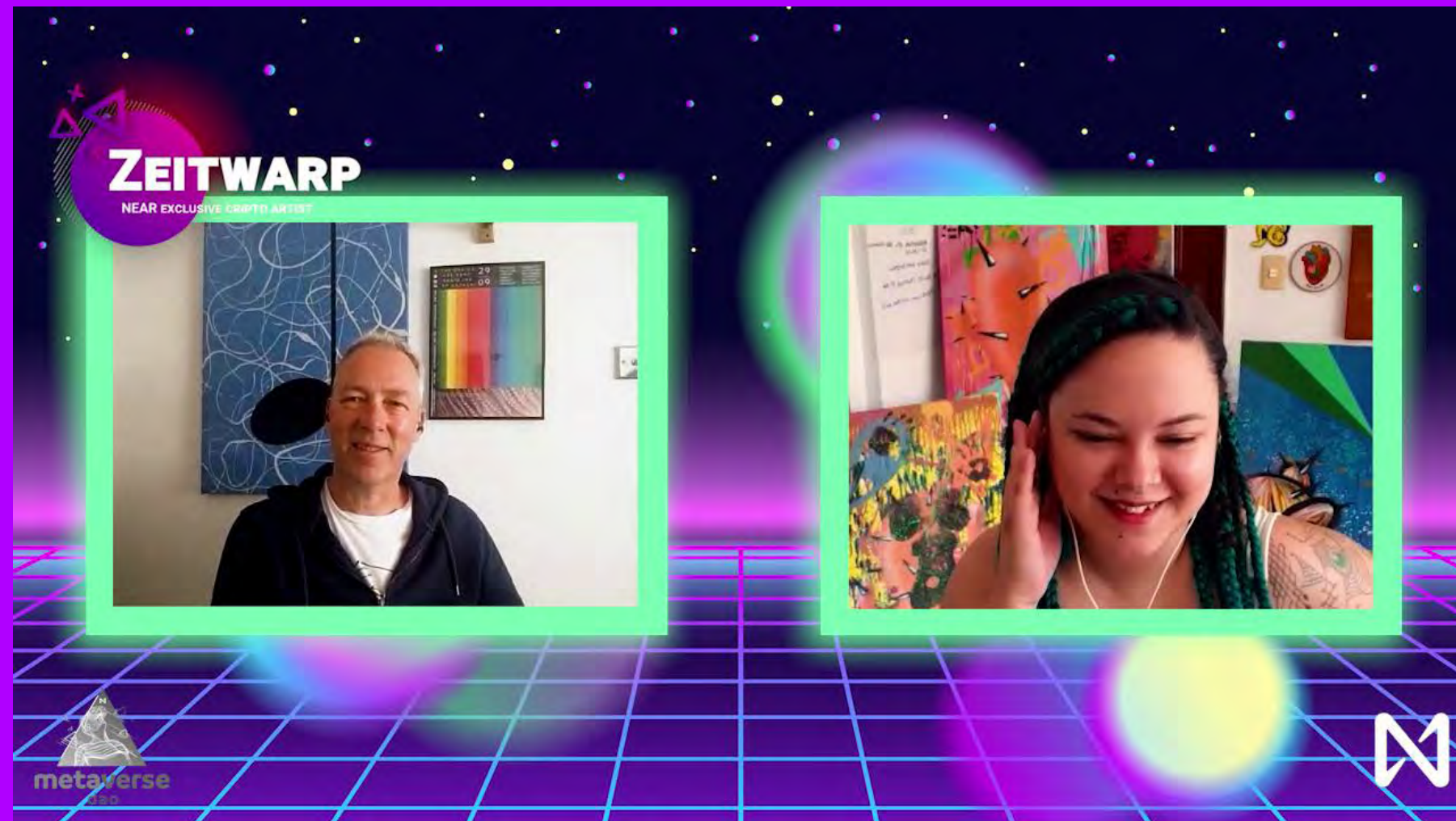
Klara Kopi

Awesome. So please tell us a bit about yourself. Where did you come from, remarkable events in your life? Anything you think is important for people to know about who is Zeitwarp?

Zeitwarp

Yeah, hang on a second. I think that the thing about myself is obviously I had a longer life span, so it's a bit more about how I got here. I often lived by this David Bowie quote, which I repeated on several interviews, which is that "aging is an extraordinary process where you eventually become the person you always should have been".

And it's certainly something, I mean, that's an aspiration, perhaps rather the reality that a lot of people don't have the luxury of indulging. But for myself, you know, basically in terms of how I became a conceptual crypto artist, exclusively for NEAR blockchain, there are two strands. One is an art strand, one is a blockchain strand. And, you know, I deal with the latter first, which is, that I kind of wandered into Bitcoin in 2014 and really was put off by the Mt. Gox hack in the same year and and I re-entered in 2017 and I was put off by CryptoKitties ICO crash and I eventually came back to it.



By the time I come back to it, I was a full time artist making these kind of music graffiti paintings behind me, making and selling them to people with an interest in music and art. And I eventually sort of wandered back into the web 3 world, well in late 2020. And heard an interview with Nate Geier from Mintbase, a podcast called "Defiance" talking about something called NEAR Protocol and how it's burning down the Ethereum version of Mintbase and rebuilding it from scratch on NEAR Protocol.

And that was really my segway into NEAR. Once I was there, that community that welcomed me, I think it was Chloe there with Vandal, the people who really welcomed me in the early Createbase calls and the NxM calls on a weekly basis. They really sort of cemented my place of thinking, this is a home for me.

And I think it was the, the carbon neutral appeal of, of NEAR, along with the fact it was very early in the technology, seemed to be an answer to all the problems that were existing with other more mature blockchains, convinced me to stay. And so that was really the key part of my crypto journey in terms of art, you know, I define myself as an outsider because I didn't go to art school.

I have no representational artistic ability in the sense that, I noticed, I guess they're your paintings behind you, and I can't paint at all in terms of representational art, I can't draw. And I was deselected from the school art course at the age of 14, because it was all representational. And I had an interest, already developed an interest in abstraction and ideas. So art to me was kind of always a hobby, rather a profession.
[...]



This text is a part of the
video interview transcript.
Watch the full interview on
Youtube.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL INTERVIEW](#)

NEAR METAVERSE CREATOR OF THE MONTH

MICROCHIPGNU A.K.A. LUIS – CREATOR OF 3XR SPACES

Klara Kopi

Hi everyone. Welcome to Meta Interviews with Klara Kopi.

Today I'm here with microchipgnu, the creator of 3XR Spaces.

Hi, how are you microchipgnu, or Luis?

Luis

Luis is fine. I'm super good, you're just. Yeah, International calls.

That 's super cool.

Klara Kopi

It 's great, right? We can talk across the ocean.

Luis

That's the true metaverse.

Klara Kopi

True metaverse. Like some say, we're space traveling, in some sense. And time traveling. We are in different time zones, go figure. So let's start talking a bit about you, to people who don't know. Let's know a little bit about your background, where did you come from, how did you become who you are today?

Luis

Yeah. Yeah. These are difficult questions. Well, I'm Luis, I'm

Portuguese. I've been living in Portugal for the past 28 years. Two of my passions are VR and blockchain. That's why metaverse makes sense. And yeah, I studied computer engineering, so I've been involved in software development for a couple of years now. So professionally I've been working building games at first, and then joining the crypto startups four years ago. So I've been working for crypto startups since 2018 and I have two cats, that's a fun fact.

Klara Kopi

[laughs] That's great. Do you think that there was a transition from your previous work area to web 3 and blockchains? How was that? If there was.

Luis

Yeah. So for me, I don't think there was like weird transition, because I did some internships before while I was studying. But when I joined the workforce and started working full time, it was always crypto. So there wasn't really a transition, but I helped a lot of people or I've onboarded a lot of people to work with me over the years. So I saw people transitioning from traditional software development companies to web3. And yeah, that's an interesting thing to watch because, you know, a lot of these folks come from completely different

environments, and then they get here and you see communities and they participate, you know, they engage directly with people that use the product.

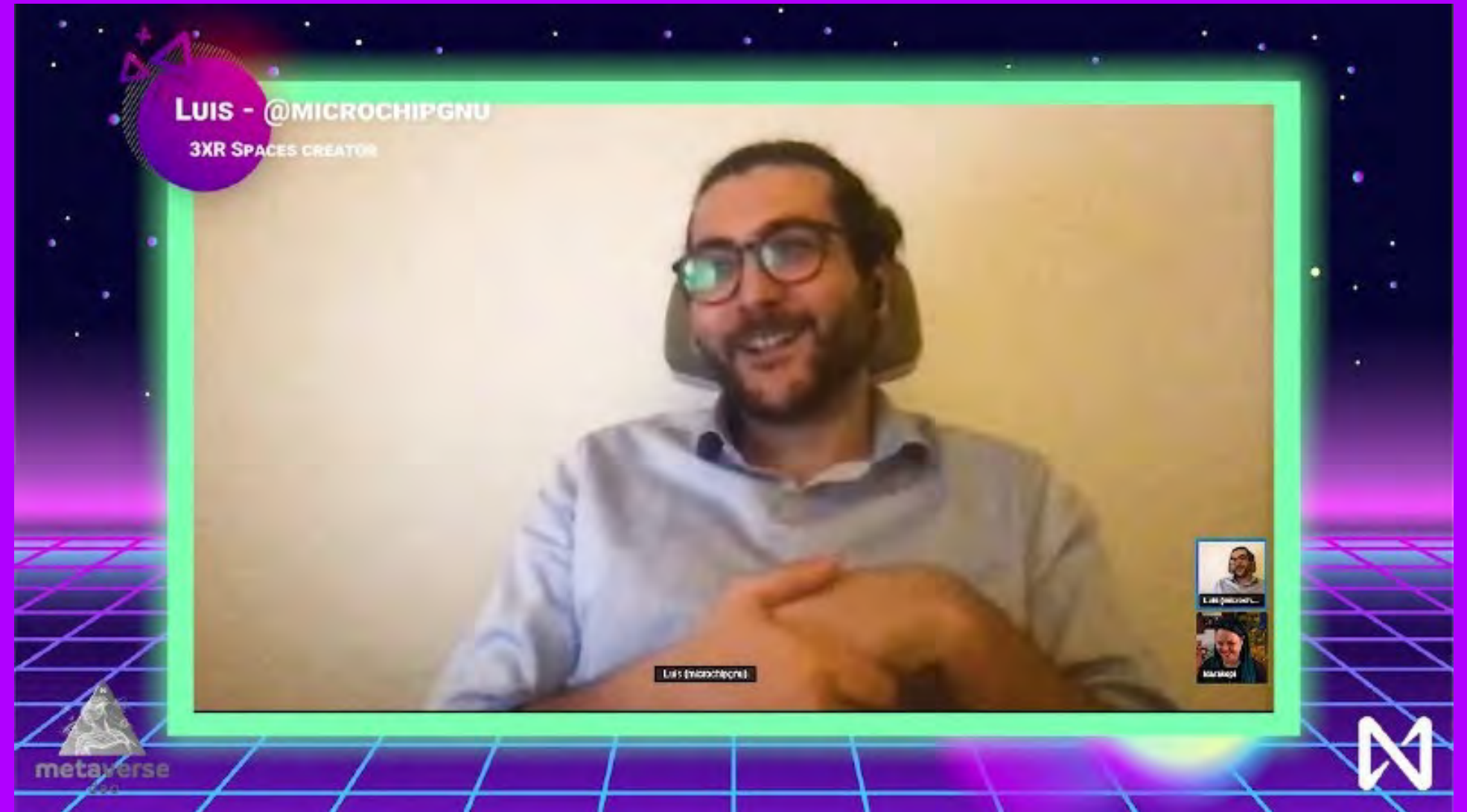
So it's completely different environments, but it's super cool, I think. For example, like this, before just this call, we're just talking about things I've built, things that you use and this is completely different from, you know, you cannot talk to people building Facebook, right? It's not so easy I guess.

Klara Kopi
Yeah, that 's true.

Luis
There's definitely a connection, more connection for people that are creating these things and the creators. So that's a good thing.

Klara Kopi
Sure. Yeah. Actually, I'm very interested in this. You're doing a (?) through 3XR, you're creating this new product, let me remember the sentence, I think it is space as service, space not as service, a space like a PFP, but with spaces.

Luis
Oh, OK. Yeah! We're, we're making this. It 's SFP, so it's Space For Proof.
[...]



This text is a part of the video interview transcript. Watch the full interview on Youtube.

CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL INTERVIEW

WHY “PERPETUAL ROYALTIES”?

BY: MHARTENTHAL

One of the biggest problems of the traditional art world is the fact that artists often don't profit from their works as much as collectors, galleries, and auction houses who trade in the secondary market. As their careers become more established, artists see the prices of their pieces increase to reach much higher values than they initially sold for. Blockchain-based smart contracts can change this reality by determining that the artist will continue to receive a percentage of the profit each time an artwork is traded. This possibility to continue to reward creators can bring a more just distribution of wealth. Yet, perhaps we should be more careful with the popularity of terms such as “perpetual royalties,” at least if by that we are referring to the actual meaning of the word, “eternal.” Will we be able to fulfill eternal promises of profit? What kind of royalties are we talking about? Authors have two types of rights to their artworks: economic rights and moral rights. Moral rights dictate that artists have the right to protect the integrity of their works, their reputation as artists, and claim their authorship to a work. Moral rights are protected by the laws of the country where the artist lives; NFTs can have little impact on those unless the laws are changed. When it comes to economic rights, we are again talking about two different things: the right of ownership, and reproduction rights or image rights when it comes to visual works. In most countries, the rights that govern the reproduction of images expire

seventy years after the creator's death. These are not the perpetual royalties secured by blockchain contracts unless, again, there are significant changes to the law. Rather, the “perpetual rights” established by smart contracts refer to the distribution of resale profits. Even though these seem simpler to enforce, blockchain enthusiasts that propose “perpetual rights” could learn from the challenges imposed by the relatively short lifespan of image reproduction rights. It's not unusual that artworks stop being reproduced due to estate disputes. If the idea that children should inherit their parents' rights can be straightforward (albeit an already problematic concept), what will happen when we are dealing with the great-great-great-children of creators? It's not hard to imagine these will be numerous individuals who don't necessarily get along with each other and have different expectations when it comes to the distribution of their ancestors' royalties. If we don't want to engage in these discussions, maybe we don't believe blockchain-based art will be around in 200 years and thus should stop presenting it as the future. If we do believe so, we should either stop using terms such as “perpetual” or start negotiating the legal implications of this commitment.

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WEB3

BY: PURPLEDOT

Firstly, what is web3? I call Web3 a decentralized version of the internet of today. One that is not dominated by a handful of powerful players. Back to web1. Web1 started off with the idea of a decentralized and open internet, back in the 1990s which was the first iteration of the internet. Introducing us to basic online publishing with the static web page. Then came web2, that started with the creation of social media (and the companies that own those platforms), people can not only read contents but also create and distribute it themselves, which is the outcome of some sort of algorithm that led to the birth of some trillion dollar technology companies that have a strong influence on the internet and own a whole lot of the infrastructure that the web is built on. The big problem with this is, some sort of letting all your treasury in one box! If something goes wrong with one of these services, the service is no longer available for an awful number of people. At length, the key word here is TRUST. We're having to trust the people behind the services. We're having to trust the owners of the companies who run these services. And so, yeah, we managed to architecture ourselves into this. Somewhat like a dystopian version of what the world could be. Web3 is really somewhat an alternative vision of the web, where the services that we use are not hosted by a single service provider company. But rather they're purely algorithmic things that are in some sense, hosted by

everybody. So it's "very peer to peer" right? The idea being that all participant contribute a little slice to the ultimate service.

Economy

An economy is known as a part or area of the production, distribution and trade, as well as consumption of goods and services by different agents. Can be referred in web3 as a social domain that emphasizes the practices, discourses and material expressions associated with the production, use and management of scarce resources.

A given economy is a set of processes that involves it's culture, values, education, technological evolution, history, social organization, political structure and legal systems, as well as its geography, natural resource endowment, and ecology as main factors. These factors give context, content, and set the conditions and parameters in which an economy functions. In other words, the economic domain is a social domain of interrelated human practices and transactions that does not stand alone. Economic agents can be individuals, businesses, organizations or governments. Economic transactions occur when two groups or parties agree to the value or price of the transacted good or service, commonly expressed in a certain currency.

However, monetary transactions only account for a small part

of economic domain. Economic activity is spurred by production which uses natural resources, labor and capital. It has changed fairly bit over time due to technology, innovation (new products, services, processes, expanding markets, niche market, diversification of markets, increase revenue functions) such as, that which produces intellectual property and changes in industrial relations (most 'notably child labor' being replaced in some parts of the world with universal access to education).

Web3 Economy

Web3 Economy is one vision of the internet where people will not only read, create and distribute contents, but will also own digital assets in the digital world, their own piece of the web. Today's use of social media, posting stories, sharing photos or messaging a friend, simply means: logging unto platforms owned by big tech companies that make money off users. Web3 would be a decentralized internet built on the blockchain instead.(The technology that backs up NFTs, Bitcoin, and other cryptocurrencies). It puts the emphasis on individual property rights and entrepreneurship and takes power away from big tech giants. This means you will be able to create and share your own contents and potentially earn money off it. Web3 aims to reward quality content creators with tokens, this means, the vision is that all payments for purchases or posts would utilize crypto.

Important Web3 key terms and tech:

Blockchain—the key technology behind Web3
Decentralization—an important phrase in Web3

What is Blockchain? A Blockchain is a distributed database that is shared among the nodes of a computer network. As a database, a blockchain stores information electronically in digital formats. Blockchains are best known for their crucial role in cryptocurrency systems, such as Bitcoin, for maintaining secure and decentralized record of transactions. The innovation with a blockchain is that it guarantees the fidelity and security of a record of data and generates trust without the need for a trusted third party. One key difference between a typical database and a blockchain is how the data is structured. A blockchain collects information together in groups, known as blocks, that holds set of information. Blocks have certain storage capacities and, when filled, are closed and linked to the previously filled block, forming a chain of data known as the blockchain. All new information that follows that freshly added block is compiled into a newly formed block that will then also be added to the chain once filled. A Database usually structures its data into tables, whereas a blockchain, like its name implies, structures its data into chunks (blocks) that are strung together. This data structure inherently makes an irreversible timeline of data when implemented in a decentralized nature. When a block is filled, it is set in stone and becomes a part of this timeline. Each block in the chain is given an exact time stamp when it is added to the chain. How blockchain works? The goal of blockchain is to allow digital information to be recorded and distributed, but not edited. In this way, a blockchain is the foundation of immutable ledgers, or records of transactions that cannot be altered, deleted or destroyed. This is why blockchains are also known as a Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT). The blockchain concept predated its first widespread application in use: Bitcoin, in 2009.

In the years since, the use of blockchain has exploded via the creation of various cryptocurrencies, decentralized finance (DeFi), applications, non-fungible tokens (NFTs) and smart contracts. What does Decentralization mean? The word decentralization means, the transfer of power or control of an activity or organisation to several local offices or authorities rather than a single one according to the dictionary.

In Blockchain, decentralization refers to the transfer of control and decision making from a centralized entity to a distributed network. Decentralized networks strive to reduce the level of trust that participants must place in one another, and deter their ability to exert authority or control over one another in ways that degrade the functionality of the network. Decentralization therefore, plays a vital role in helping to optimize the distribution of resources so that promised services are provided with better performance and consistency, as well as a reduced likelihood of catastrophic failure since its not controlled by a single body. That's a great innovation.

Note that web 3 economy is a vision for a new kind of the internet, one that could eventually change the way we interact online and ultimately transfer power and money away from Big Tech to individuals. Which is reason enough why it's important for more people to get knowledge about it and get familiarized with web 3. This vision or idea is still under construction, but quite hopeful.

A practical summary of the web:

WEB1— you can read only

WEB2— you can read and write only

WEB3— you can read, write, own digital assets and more.



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NFT ARTISTS' VIEWS ON BLOCKCHAIN-BASED MARKETPLACES

BY: MHARTENTHAL

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accountability

Here I'm sharing the main findings I gathered from interviews with six NFT artists. My goal was to help us at Artist DAO identify their needs and expectations as we develop our dApp. I believe these findings can help other teams understand artists' perspectives and thus build and improve better web3 platforms for blockchain-based art. First, it became clear from our conversations that community engagement is more relevant to artists than any new technology. Artists see forums, Discord, and Telegram channels, as well as other social media that revolve around NEAR as valuable resources, because they allow for community building. Communities, in turn, greatly benefit from collaborations, exhibitions, competitions, and campaigns organized by web3 platforms. These efforts generate social media "buzz", attracting attention from potential collectors and other professionals to the artist work. One important topic that I made sure to address was the role of curators and writers. Most artists considered the contribution of these professionals extremely valuable. Having someone knowledgeable writing about artworks is considered meaningful, and curatorial work was seen as necessary, especially for more experienced professionals. One artist even mentioned that they avoid selling NFTs in spaces without curatorial work. However, it's important to note that one experienced artist did see the presence of curators as potentially gatekeep-y. Another major topic of conversation

was the relationship with collectors. As in the traditional art market, most artists don't want to have to deal directly with buyers and would rather have someone to do that. Establishing relationships with collectors, inviting curators and writers, engaging with the community, and organizing events are the job of gallerists in the traditional art world. The identification of these needs by blockchain-based artists reveals that the recent NFT marketplaces might signal that more structured art spaces are on the horizon of the digital art sphere. To read the full report, please follow the link: [\[research report\] Findings from interviews with artists for Artist DAO](#)



Image: Luis Martinez for Pexels.

IS WEB3 AND WEB3 ECONOMY HOKUM?

BY: MOHENS

Over 32000 years ago, the first men began to count, they figured out the need to organize their activities and create some form of order, a way around what was rather chaotic randomness. It is truly difficult to say when exactly computing, in its most basic form, began. From the Abacus used in either Ancient Sumeria or Ancient China to the numbering system from the Vedic civilization, it is however apparent that mankind has continuously sought out more efficient methods for numbering, for re-imagining and creating form, and the ultimate creation of ease. These efforts were also made in a bid to improve man's existence in his immediate society and also his interaction with this very same society. As computing and its application evolved into more complex yet elegant forms, the surrounding society evolved alongside it – trade and commerce, the science of economies, and engineering. This was the gradual emergence of a more complex society, the interactions between its now sophisticated components and activities, a social web of some sort. So, while the computing designs from 300BC to that after the onset of industrialization in 1780 and then modern computing systems of today may look different and, of course, have significantly varying degrees of efficiency, the underlying purpose has remained the same. The evolution of computing science is quite markedly the confluence of man's aspirations and the questions that prompt it too has not changed:

1. Can we make the system better and more efficient?
2. Can we, as a function of the first, make life better and easier?

These important questions, as mankind soon discovered, are better answered and solved as a group. The realization that more value can be captured as a community. So, what started off as a mathematical quest to interact with his immediate primal needs (like basic computing) eventually evolved into a need to also interact extensively with people (embodied value) within this shared physical space. I insist that science is in fact the study of interactions of different kinds and at different levels. What we really seek is to understand the interactions within us, around us, and beyond us.

[Drum roll, loud claps, and its Tim Berners-Lee's World Wide Web on the red carpet!]

THE EVOLUTION OF THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Correspondence & Information

Computing provided data, this data necessitated processing which in turn produced information. This information had to be stored, studied, and, in many cases, shared easily over long distances. Technology for disseminating information, for improved correspondence and communication became

necessary. As expected, modern economies and societies were being built on the back of this computer evolution. Frankly put, when observed closely, you'd notice that the economy of every modern era imitated the structure and form of its information policy and the public use of available data, especially as you move speedily from agrarian economies and its economic blueprint.

The gradual and swift integration of nearly every socioeconomic activity into the internet and web was a big deal which pushed even further the need for global change; a furtherance of the aspirations of our forbears, their continued insistence on creating better systems and a better life for all. For web technology, this meant that there was a need to move on from the static interface and monopolistic information economy of the Web 1.0, where consumers and majority of the users of this web had no participation in the creator section of the ecosystem, hereby limiting the value created there and also in the other sectors of human activity.

Bubble Bust And Innovative Pessimism

Popular tech billionaire, Peter Thiel, discussing the dotcom bubble and bust in his book – Zero to One – insisted that while a lot of mistakes were made by investors and tech entrepreneurs during that period, it was nonetheless a major learning curve and an important phase that, aside some hubris, saw a climax of the kind of optimism necessary for innovation and disruption. Sadly, the optimism that drove innovation in the 70s till the dotcom bust in the 90s was gradually getting replaced by a kind of corporate pessimism when it comes to innovation and disruption. While many stayed under the weight of the bubble bust, others forged ahead and in the year 2004 came Web 2.0, the

social web and platform economy. Web 2.0 changed things for everyone, it gave users a platform to interact better and also contribute to the creative process within the ecosystem. It was a major improvement to Web 1.0, especially as it was very simple to use and one didn't exactly need to be a developer to engage it. In many ways, the web of today (2.0) is the one that opened the world to achieving global community status even though it has several flaws that deter it from being a truly community-owned or community-faced digital society. The rise of disruptors like Facebook (indeed all of Big Tech) and the design of Web 2.0 makes this web a digital oligopoly. While Web 2.0 platforms allow for contribution from any and every user, a very large percentage of the value captured within the ecosystem is controlled and owned by these platform providers (who are in fact a tiny minority), there is also a clear uneven spread of financial resources created by and within the community. These issues are worsened by the exploitation of the community; from personal data to the nonchalant invasion and nonconsensual monetization of one's digital space or presence (think ads and affiliate marketing schemes). These platforms are in fact marketing conduits for big brands, they really do not seem to build or optimize for the betterment of their users and their experience. With the numerous complaints and law suits filed against big tech companies, considering the porousness of authentication and access to personal data, the continued seizure and manipulation of its infrastructure by repressive world governments, and then the unfair centralization of resource control, it is imperative that we forge ahead. As I earlier argued, the design and structure of technology often mirrors the society, there is an imitation paradox at play when you look at things from the bigger picture.

The people deserve a society where true democracy flourishes, a society that's community-owned, where all of the value created comes from the communities and resources are equitably distributed across board.

Decentralization

The economic and social implications of a Web3 driven world, democratizing the resources and the value captured in today's internet-driven economy, is no mean feat, it stands against the current world order. With technologies like blockchain infrastructure that path find the process of immutable record keeping, insists on transparency, and accountability; protocols like decentralized exchanges that bypass traditional third-party intermediaries (banks or brokerages) and their bureaucracies when securely transacting financial instruments; and the truly sound concept that is Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (a classic return to community-centric societies). Web3's aspirations continue in the tradition of our forbears, the search for a better system and in turn a better society.

The misrepresentation of Web3

It's important that before I go on, I touch on the two popular misrepresentations of Web3.

I) the first misrepresentation of Web3 is that the ownership of tokens translates as ownership of Web3 platforms. Critics often point to the ownership of popular tokens by a small percentage of people as an argument against decentralization but this couldn't be more further from the truth. Ownership of tokens does not affect the distribution of benefits and value across the platform, if anything, the blockchain infrastructure

incorporated into Web3 allows for fluid and seamless transfer of value from one user to the other (peer-to-peer). The economy of Web3 is designed in such a way that holders of tokens need to free up assets to improve their own participation in the ecosystem and the benefits that accrue to them as holders, the value of native tokens is heavily tied to the activities of the community and the equitable distribution of benefits.

II) Web3 is not crypto currency (tokens) or NFTs. It is necessary to painstakingly point out that Web3 is not crypto and NFTs but that these two concepts are rather important components of the Web3 ecosystem. Web3 is, simply put, a better and decentralized version of today's internet. It decentralizes Internet infrastructure by distributing the network of nodes that host cyber data across a cooperating series. This means that instead of centralizing control over data and access to the internet in the hands of big tech/ governments, control is shared [community style] on a blockchain. This new system necessitates the development of freer and novel ways of exchanging value and carrying out transactions without the invasive authentication and interference of third party intermediaries, hence the emergence of tokens and smart contracts.

DAOs : what should the future internet and its economy look like?

I must first state that there are several ways to rightly answer this question and there are several perspectives too. These perspectives can coexist together but I have chosen to write this section of my article from a DAO perspective.



When Adam Smith first published his famous book – the wealth of nations – in 1776, the sociopolitical landscape at the time was shaped by imperialist adventures and colonial struggles. The quest for power and continued control by a few state players which was in fact expressed in his use of the terms “masters” and “laborers” as the two end points in the socioeconomic exchange of value. His book was, to a large extent, a treatise exposing the importance of self interest in the advancement of nations towards achieving wealth. Smith’s economic philosophy embodied Britain’s evolution from one centralized system in absolute monarchy to another centralized system – a capitalist bourgeois society filled with corporate oligarchs collaborating with and bankrolling parliament.

As a global race, we have made some progress but have still largely remained within this system. The future must be significantly different from the world that churned out Adam Smith’s classic. The value system and its infrastructure must return to the people, and it is on this dais that I stood, sought, and found answers in DAOs. Imagining the future from the standpoint of DAOs is amazing. Techies and enthusiasts often talk about the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial intelligence and Machine learning, Augmented reality and Virtual reality. While these are amazing concepts and sure components of the future, they do not conclusively grant the users full control over their experiences. In fact in building and imagining the future it is important to embed these technologies and breakthroughs in decentralized systems. The future must be completely immersive and, using Tim Berners-Lee’s term, semantic. The future economy must be built from the ground-up by total community-led interactions. Foisting new technologies or systems on a community is counterproductive and to avoid that the community must be organized to own the process, think community-centric contributions; from open and transparent

collaborations between technology developers and the entire community to create tools, platforms, solutions, that truly represent every member of the community, to taking funding out of institutional control and seeking self-sufficiency and sustenance through community efforts. It is only when the governance and ethos of the system is truly open, fair, transparent, and built by the community will it serve the total good of the people. Decentralized Autonomous Organizations must be the foundation of the future internet and its economy – an open source platform that generates value from interaction, collaboration, and the trust of the community. If we look further, we will see how this changes the gameplay of today’s politics and economics. It is easy to see why the pessimism surrounding Web3 and its associated technologies is encouraged by central governments and their cronies. Collapsing the entire world systems into a functional, borderless, and non bureaucratic community is a threat to the oligarchs and monopolists of today. It is not without its own challenges and some important aspects of its operations have not been figured out but it clearly more promising than the failed system running the world today.

Now, let’s talk NEAR.

While I have spent years fascinating over the future of the internet and futuristic tech, my first foray into the actual experience of Web3 technology was when I first joined the NEAR community. As I got a hang of the entire platform and how to navigate my way around the cluster of communities, I became quite fascinated by NEAR’s vision and what they are building.

Come NEARer!

A quick visit to NEAR's medium page will really help educate you on NEAR's activities but it is the description of NEAR on there that's quite remarkable. "Through simple, secure, and scalable technology, NEAR empowers millions to invent and explore new experiences. Business, creativity, and community are being reimagined for a more sustainable and inclusive future." NEAR brilliantly lays out the necessity for inclusiveness and immersive interaction when building for the future. As I have earlier stated that the new Web must prime the total experience of users above all else, NEAR shows a clear commitment to this cause by emphasizing the security, simplicity, and explorative components of the user's experience. All of these things are incorporated into the COMMUNITY and I know so because of NEAR's truly remarkable commitment to DAOs.

This not just talk as there are many verifiable milestones and projects to point to.

I) the MarmaJ community is one remarkable feat built on the NEAR protocol. With a functioning and active community of creators and contributors, a promising and performing native token, and a plan to achieve self sustenance, the output of a community like this within the NEAR protocol will only help improve the aspirations of Web3.

II) Tamago is the most recent headliner within the NEAR community. A music streaming service built on NEAR's Web3 infrastructure that's poised to aggregate the value within the music space and equitably reward contributors.

There are a host of other projects and achievements being carried out on the NEAR protocol. I'd encourage that you visit the website below and consume as much as you like.

[\[https://nearprotocol.medium.com/\]](https://nearprotocol.medium.com/)

Getting NEARer to full scale adoption.

The ultimate goal is to achieve full scale adoption. The desire to see people engage the platform, have fun, contribute, and earn while at it is NEAR's vision. This is the only way to actualize the dream of building tomorrow's future internet and economy. NEAR is massively funding and promoting projects that will not only onboard people but also get them to build on the platform and participate in community activities. This is how they have continued to build communities within the COMMUNITY, a group of interconnected and interacting communities contributing continuously to the value generated on NEAR and, most importantly, building interoperable and borderless global solutions.

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BEETOGETHER

BY: CLAUDIA THEBEE

INSPIRED BY CHANGE - www.bee-together.org

Vision

We have a vision of a sustainable and climate-friendly interaction between nature and its habitants. Our vision is to create and expand a strong collaboration between non-profit and non-governmental organizations, supporting the environment and the fast growing digital world. We are developing a curious, motivated mindset to discover new ways of sustenance in the digital world based on cryptocurrency. We focus on international fundraising for non-profit and non-government organizations in very new and creative ways, combined with the newest technology. Our intention is contribution to a cleaner, greener, healthier world, whilst we focus on our natural environment as well as humanity and animals. Our mission is to support and ensure that NPO/NGOs are able to cover their financial expenses. We aim to develop a sustainable income for all parties concerned. In initiative ways – just as nature.

Why?

There is this urge, a deep desire to be the change. It is in our nature to be(e) together, to connect and take care of each other. We live in an indescribable complex, intelligent and

interesting ecosystem that provides us with every little aspect we might require. We have a strong desire to support and save what we love and what life generously gave us.

How?

Our experience in different areas of fundraising, in combination with NFT and support of NPOs, taught us the potentiality of the fast-developing digital world we are in - and that it is seamlessly combinable with sustainable and environment-friendly actions. We are open to contemporary ideas and creative inventions, such as working with applications and games to address a wide range and in consideration of a positive, yet fun effect. BeeTogether in its vision for global consciousness of love, participation and togetherness seeks to evoke some humanitarian antecedents in helping to preserve our mother earth. Through initiatives that protect animal rights and welfare, proliferate the greenery of our natural ecosystem, and purify the climate, BeeTogether is poised to foster the default symbiotic human-nature relationship, and this can only be achieved through selfless participation and a free giving spirit which is the mental Organogram that defines BeeTogether volunteers and partners.

BeeTogether believe that with a combination of patience, tolerance and resilience, change would manifest in ease and convenience for all. We all are one, and so we all are together, by this? Let's BeeTogether.

About BeeTogether – how it all began?

Claudia Peter (aka Claudiathebee) says “freedom is the source of creativity”. She believes in art as result of human processes. Her participation in the first ever GreenNFT project, in collaboration with the NGO Southpole with the focus on climate change, gave her an idea and wide spectrum of managing art on a digital level. Short time after, she initiated the "Afrika Burn - Save the Clan" fundraising project to support the artistic gathering, its own charity organization as well as participating artists from all over the world.

With BeeTogether, Claudia (The Bee) started her own company with a focus on innovative and creative digital ways to save our world. In collaboration with NGO's/NPO's, she builds new ways to benefit from digitalisation and support artists fairly for their artworks for a lifetime, whilst helping charities at the same time. BeeTogether believes in a world where humanity in its different, colours, cultures and religions live in a respectful, peaceful and sustainable way with nature and animals. With this strong mind-set and vision, the guild Bee Together has been founded. To be the change. Let us build and BeeTogether for a sustainable climate-neutral digital world, where creators and good causes can be supported in win-to-win attitudes.

OUR PROJECTS



SaveThe Clan for AfrikaBurn

This magical place of gathering has gifted unconditionally over the years with an indescribable abundance, without ever seeking anything in return. And perhaps that is why we, who love this magical place, can hear the silent call for help from afar... Caring is the act of the heart to support others with love. Care is what AfrikaBurn needs now to survive. Sustainability is the only thing that can ensure the survival of this beautiful cultural gathering.

- [Art NFT store](#)
- [Music NFT store](#)
- [Collectible NFT store](#)



Voice of the Oceans

The Voice of the Oceans project is a worldwide movement to tackle plastic pollution in the oceans which includes a nautical expedition led by the Schurmann Family. With the global support of the UN Program for the Environment (UNEP), we are going to navigate in search for innovative solutions and raise awareness around the world so that everyone can get on board with transformational actions.

- [Mintbase store](#)

Uthando Mzansi

Uthando Mzansi means : We love to uplift the people of Southern Africa. Our core focus is on Humanity as a whole, which means radical inclusion. With this project we are wanting to give each individual a chance to express, to play and to create a way for a prosperous future. Home Of Compassion is also focusing on other Community uplifting projects such as, Feeding Project, Skills development, Wi-Fi

- [Mintbase store](#)



more Projects coming soon...

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www.bee-together.org
https://twitter.com/beetogether_org

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ENTROPY

BY: WOODWARD FOREST-LICH

En·tro·py

/ˈentrəpē/

1. a thermodynamic quantity representing the unavailability of a system's thermal energy for conversion into mechanical work, often interpreted as the degree of disorder or randomness in the system.
2. lack of order or predictability; gradual decline into disorder.

You would think the worst part of dying is the nothingness. Or - if you're religious at least - the unknown beyond, for good or bad... but it's not. The worst part is the fear; dread of the known, and coming back knowing that there IS something after we perish. I say this because what's on the other side, is worse... far worse than anything we've ever feared to conceive...

Like most people my age, I grew up never really being happy. Sure, I've had good days... a handful of truly great ones; not figuratively but bonafide grandiose moments. But even in them, I felt that tinge. That splinter in the mind that won't let go. Even as you try to be in the moment, regardless of people or substances encouraging you, that feeling of whatever is inside reaches into you and wrenches you loose. Sometimes

a voice of doubt, sometimes an ever present foreboding blanket of discontent. All the manifestations of my sorrow or rage or paralytic bitterness were an alliance of agonizing antipathy. Sometimes, the wails and whispers in my psyche were louder than the blistering metal I'd use to try and drown out how hopeless my own mind made me think I was.

The internet only mildly distracted. Sometimes nights would be a silent audio visual reminder of why I can't seem to smile, blaring into headsets. Wars, injustice, genocide, corruption, apathy to suffering and poverty... As a child I was certain that the modern society I was raised in would have spawned the Utopia we were all promised we would grow up to inherit. It wasn't until my mid teens wherein I retreated to books, computers, and ironically my own brain that I discovered the irony of the word. Utopia stems from the Greek words which when combined, meant "no place" or "nowhere"... How poignant for our current ideals and state of affairs globally, in so many ways...

Watching things devolve or outright regress in a handful of regards, I found very few reasons to soldier on for a better day. When you run out of reasons, out of ways to find a way to go on... you stop trying to go on. In my case, when you're out of ways to go on, you find ways to check out. My exit strategy was my pistol: 1911, golden burnt yellow. When I

cared about things, it was one of my prized possessions. Now, it would be my deliverance from the hamster wheel of being let down by the dawn... the cycle of senseless suffering. How fitting; falling like a shamed, defeated samurai. It would be messy, but if done right, quick and painless. Despite my stringent Roman Catholic upbringing, I was an advocate of science and decided this was best. Pills might get uncomfortable, and I couldn't guarantee using other means would be fast enough to make it not torturous.

Loaded.

Chambered.

Aim.

Deep breath.

DEEPER BREATH.

Trigger finger...

...

Hesitation. Fear. Survival instinct. The resentment builds as I hear the laughing inside my own ears from something that isn't even there... I feel anger as it mocks my cowardice!

And I shot.

Black.

Did I get it wrong? I must have... I was still alive. But there was nothing to see... great... I must have done so poorly that I

ended up nothing but a vegetable: blind and incapable of living, yet alive. Then the blinding flash of white... not blinding bright, though brightly shining white it was. The blinding was intensity, the radiating hue of what was waving into my pupils felt inescapable to my nerves. It was the searing ache you get from not listening to adults as a child when they warn not to gaze at the sun, except the sun itself was penetrating my sockets.

I opened my mouth to react, but it wouldn't budge. Except I felt the reaction of every fabric of my flesh - from my tongue to lips to the throat itself - burning as if grazed by flames. Nerves squealed, saliva dried up by the drop, my vocal chords thrummed erratically and yet didn't move at all. I made no noise but could sense the paralytic, chaotic vibration.

My skull was a veritable fissure. It was every scrape and injury and illness. All the long nights, overly early mornings, and stream of bad decisions ever made... all rolled into one. Every neurological and physical sensation of discomfort in the history of my life rolled itself into one ballista, and devastated my mind with unrelenting fury.

The misery of the uncertainty and endless barrage of it all lasted for what felt incalculable hours... Then, color. Clarity. I was still in my room. Still standing. Still it looked...falling. I hadn't died yet... I was still. Fucking. Dying.

No. no. no no... Nononononono....

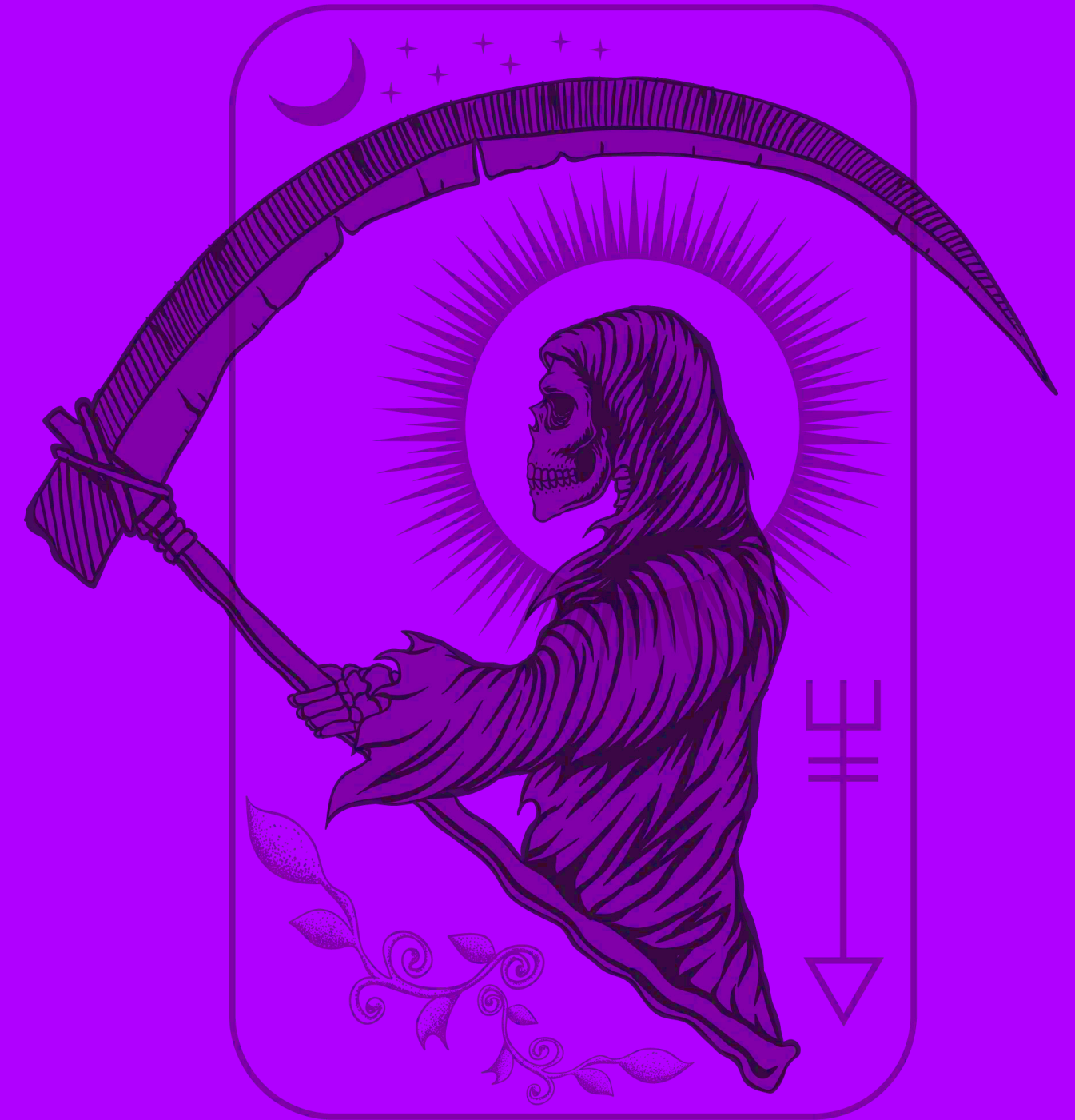
I don't know when the doctors revived me, I just know I woke up in the emergency room. I apparently grazed my brain and the recoil of the weapon in hand caused an impact angle that while traumatic, was not fatal. I was lucky to be alive nonetheless, I was told. They have no idea how right they were...

I can't die... I don't want to die... I just... can't.

I CAN'T go back there... I'm not strong enough to endure the incomprehensible agony... not again... I'm not strong enough...

I'm not.. I'm not... I'm not.....

Some people say death is sweeter than suffering.... Those people never died.



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9TH JANUARY

BY: ROXY THE ENTERTAINER

8th January...

The next day is meant to be my roomies traditional marriage ceremony, I couldn't wait to be there. I mean, everywhere was buzzing, I could see everything on the internet. He had a bachelor's night and almost all our old boys were there. I couldn't wait to meet Keezyto, Ray Katinns, Henz, Kokoli, and a good number of them.

Lenix, the celebrant had been calling me. He wanted to make sure I would be there the next day to grace his occasion; for real, why wouldn't I be there? Do you want Lenix to poison me or bury me alive? :grin:

That day, I just came back from the village, with my newly acquired Lexus 330 ES. I need to go show off too, you know. At least I was not fooling around after 5 years of finishing from Uni.

That night, I had a call with my cousin, Ochiwar. He said he will be there too. That he would like to join me, since I was going. Ochiwar knew Lenix through me, he was visiting us when I was staying with Lenix.

9th January...

I woke up sound and healthy, after a stressful journey from the village. Mum said she wanted to cook, that I should go and

re. Il the gas cylinder. I drove off that morning, and decided to go check my four tires first, since I have a 3 hours journey same day. From there, I went to buy some kilos of chicken for Mum. On my way, I was stopped by Nigerian police on check point. I knew they would stop me when I saw them. Imagine seeing a fresh young boy with dreads in a clean Lexus ES 330. I stopped, and they asked me where I was coming from and where I was going to, and I told them I went to buy food stuff for my Mum. "Where are your papers?," one of them asked, and I brought out the papers. They checked it and it was complete. "Your driving license, nko?" the other one asked, that was when I realized that I left it at home. "I left them at home, Oga." I replied. "Park well, the first police officer motioned me."

"Ah! not this morning!" I parked well and they asked me to give them 50,000 Naira, or else I'm going to the station. I said I can't, rather let's go to the station, knowing fully well, I can make a call and my brothers will bring the papers to the police station.

When we got to the police station, all eyes were on me as if they just caught a "Yahoo Boy". I came down, stayed beside the car and my mind went straight to call my brother-in-law who was an Inspector in same station. I called him, and he said I should give the phone to the police man, which I did. During the conversation, I was just hearing "Yes Sir!" After the call, he

gave me back the phone and frowned his face, “So you won't go find us something?”, he muttered. I went inside the car and gave him 2,000 Naira and he was very happy. Then I drove off.

From the police station, I headed to the filling station, to go and fill the gas for my Mum. On my way, I met my cousin, Ochiwar, who was supposed to go to the traditional marriage with me. He was heading to our family house. He was very happy to see the new car, and he asked me to come down for him to drive. I was happy too. Then we went to fill the gas, and from there back to the house. Ochiwar had been driving for over 10 years.

When I was dressing up for the traditional marriage, my trouser’s zip cut. I was very sad. That was my first time I was wearing that trouser, and the last time too. My mind started messaging me not to go for the traditional marriage any more. I said "No, this must be a wrong message". My brothers were dressed and ready to go with me, I can’t come and tell everybody we can’t go. I fought with my conscience, and insisted we must go. If I don’t go, Lenix, the celebrant, will hate me all his life.

Ochiwar insisted he wouldn't drive, beside he’s the oldest driver amongst us. I said no problem. Four of us entered the car and cruised!

The journey was smooth and fun. A journey of 3 hours, Ochiwar finished it off in less than 2 hours, we had some breathtaking moments though :face_with_hand_over_mouth: but we got there safe, and on time. Let the fun begin!

We danced, ate, and took some wine. As well met some old friends. It was such a great reunion. We had mad fun! :grin:

When we wanted to leave, the MC, my very good friend, volunteered to pay for a hotel room for me. He said we still have to club same night. I said "no, don't worry. I have to be in Lagos the next day so we had to be on our way". Ochiwar was selected to drive again. Though we warned him to take it easy this time. But... :disappointed_relieved:

On our way, the car stopped, and we had to check it. A wire was touching the battery; yet, I did not notice the sign. What a bad omen!

30 minutes later, we were playing songs and having fun inside the car. I was in the front seat, pressing my phone. And four of us had our seat belts on. The next sound I heard was “Blood of Jesus! Blood of Jesus!”; immediately I passed out. Deep in the realms of the spirit, I was whispering, “I will not die, I will not die”, I could feel my fainted voice. I knew the car was somersaulting. I could count like 6 times, but we rolled from our lane to the opposite lane, and the car was upside down, when it landed. The tires were already out and rolling, the glasses were shattered on the road. The environment became so calm, the car was filled with black smoke. I didn’t know if I was dead or alive, until I heard a sound at the back. My nephew, Daniel, was removing his seat belt. “Wow! are we still alive?”, I muttered slowly. I removed my own seat belt and came out, at the middle of the road. Everybody on the road rushed after me, as if I just came out from a very hard wrestling fight. :face_with_hand_over_mouth:

I looked at the car, and looked at my nephew that came out, “what about the other two?”, I asked myself. They both were still fighting with their seat belts, I observed. I wanted to rush to the car to get them out, but the road users held me. I had a

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

BY: IGOR MOURA

It's time to move once again. And don't get me wrong, I do embrace change: new air, new places, new faces, new conversations, new food and... New creatures!

Last night I saw the quickest and probably one of the biggest spiders I've ever seen. I also saw a cockroach trying to eat my junk food candies, while I was still trying to understand the complexity of that huge spider. On my second night in the new home, a brand new small apocalypse: lightnings and thunder everywhere, fear in the air and in the eyes of the dogs. Electricity was cut down about twenty times, but nothing as fearful as that spider, genetically modified and with the ability to run as fast as a quick look between us two.

I feel like an invader of an occupation intended to the strange animals, inhabitants of a well known isle located in the northeast of Brazil. I need to establish some kind of communication with these little beings. In a comparison with my past experiences, some of them are big as hell. And while I tell you this crooked story, I observe the biggest moth in the world . y around my room, producing a small spectacle of lights and shadows. It's very late and I think about the creatures of the night. I'm alone and the silence of the late hours makes me think about the creatures of the day, the sun and the natural lights, enjoyable beings that roam around like

noisy sound systems in summer houses rented with festive purposes. These creatures of the day tend to be cute and beautiful, with the obvious exception of the flies, while the night crowd lack physical beauty, provoking fear and loathing, since most of them are part of the collective unconsciousness, inspiring repeated horror stories for centuries. And well, I guess this is one of them.

Apparently humanity evolved out of fear, but I need to tame this fear manufactured in the halls of my pulsating mind, and this fear I feel now by just telling you this story about the creatures of the night makes me remember of that raging dog who stared at me in a farm, while I was trying to lose my virginity in the middle of the woods, back in the 90's. That story is long, but the main aspect that I want to achieve was that moment of deep fear. I was naked, by the side of a girl I recently met, both static and petrified, on the brink of a greater danger. I looked straight to the raging dog that had found us and that at that moment was barking fiercely. I looked at him and I established a nonverbal dialogue with him, shook the girl's hand and asked her to stay still. Those were eternal seconds where possible tragedies pass like flashes of a frenetic nightmare. But thankfully, the big dog got away and that was enough for us to find a safe shelter.

And as if the well known or even prehistoric beings like lizards and crabs weren't enough (I haven't mentioned them before, but they are here as well), I just read an article on the local newspaper about the existence of a family of dark monsters that has terrified the inhabitants of the island where I currently reside. Apparently, these furry and alien-looking beasts are only seen in deserted and poorly lit streets, which are common scenarios in these parts. It remains to be seen whether I will also be able to establish some kind of communication if I meet them on a late night walk. At least on this occasion, I will be dressed.

I ask all the saints around here to protect me from all this, while I continue to communicate with the creatures of the night, whenever I see them again. After all, it's just like they say, if you can't beat them, join them.

Wish me luck!



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SONA

BY: DABBIE3229

It's 9:00 pm. Sona came in drenched by the heavy rain, back from her routinely hectic day at work, so tired and exhausted all she needed was to recover. She quickly undressed all her wet clothes, soaked them in a bucket of water, and without bathing she jumped into bed. "Wow, I am so tired", Sona said staring at the ceiling, "but I need to have my bath so I can fix something and eat". She was still contemplating until she fell asleep.

Is 7 am in the morning, and the alarm rang repeatedly when Sona quickly jumped out of the bed, "oh! I'm late for work", she lamented as she ran into the shower room to have a cold shower without minding the cold weather. (Knock, knock, knock) "Who is there?" she asked. "It's me, Eric" he replied by the door. "Oh, I'm coming! Give me five minutes!", she pleaded.

Eric is a handsome, tall and well mannered guy from the neighborhood, who always had an interest in Sona but has always been bashful to declare his interest, since their high school days. Eric's elegance is jaw-dropping, his looks are always enchanting, especially with his curly hair, his round glasses, he's well ironed pants and shirts accompanied by the fragrance of his perfume, that gives a welcoming feeling to anyone that comes across him. A dashing young man, very rich and inviting. 4 minutes later, Sona dashed out of the

shower room, with her towel tied round her chest, her skin was as shiny and glamorous as the early morning brightness, her legs without spots or deformities, her hair wiggled gently as she grabbed the door handle, paused, took a deep breath and gently opened the door. Indeed Eric is at it again, extremely handsome as he has always been.

"Good morning to the most enchanting, gorgeous, attractive, alluring and most beautiful creature in the whole wide world!", exclaimed Eric...

"Oh my goodness, Eric!", Sona called out astonishingly. "Oh no this is not you, Eric! No way!", with a tiny smile and tear of surprise in her beautiful eyes, she was swallowed up, in shock but a sweet one...

Eric quickly drew her closer, held her hands with a warm smile on his lovely face and whispered "Good morning, my angel.", with a consistent stare into her alluring eyes. Eric asked calmly, "Can I touch your lips with mine?". Irresistibly Sona grabbed his face and kissed his very passionately.

"Wow, this is the best day of my life!", Eric said while Sona

smiled profusely, with her arms hung on Eric's shoulder happily but still astonished.

And after a few minutes of romance, Sona asked, "Hey lover boy, how did you do this?" She continued, "I have always known you to be an introvert, what triggered your moral to voice out?". And Eric began, "I have been in love with you from the first day we met in high school. I watched you every time and enjoyed everything you do. I noticed my heart skipped a beat first time I saw you in class. I will often think about you, and many times at home. I call my favorite sister Sona accidentally, cause the name alone strikes a spark in my heart." Eric continued, "I have an ambivert personality, usually I am always in my introvert mood whenever I am around you but I'm extrovert at home with my siblings around."

Eric continued, "You remember the times you came to school and you saw your desk decorated with flowers and some love notes? I did all of that. Do you remember the day you lost your school fee and a stranger met you and gave it back to you? That stranger is my favorite sister and I asked her to help you."



"Remember Ken the bully? Back then in school I was the reason he was expelled because I saw him bullying you. I saw the day he threw your bag out from the class window, I was watching everything. When I got home, I reported the incident to my dad, the principal, he got him expelled. So you see, it's been a long time I've got this feeling." Eric said. "And today I've beaten my fears to come tell you. Before now, each time I try telling you this, I lose my balance. Please Sona be my Queen." Eric said in a subtle voice. Sona was still feeling unsure about the whole incident. She couldn't help saying yes to Eric, and Sona thought "Indeed, dreams come true. Eric my dream man is now my true Love." She heard a knock on her door, she went to open the door with feelings of excitement and to her greatest fright, she saw Eric standing outside her door with a flower, she couldn't have imagined the scenes... "Oh my God what is going on." She ran into her room immediately just to find out there's no one there, then she fainted.

THE PEEP

BY: JAMI2017

It was the night before the rain came. Gel was preparing the bed to sleep. Their room was small and crowded, she called her young sisters and brother to sleep next to her. “Father must be drunk and coming home, so it's better to sleep early before he catches us not sleeping tonight,” Gel said to her young brother and sisters. But her young sister gave a pouty face, disliking to sleep early.

The house is a bit dark and no light because of blackout. The sky started thundering and soon tiny rain drops fell. Gel and her siblings shared one room and slept on the floor, but their parents and the youngest sister slept on the living room. Her father arrived from work slightly drunk. “You're drunk again! What time is it now?! It's pretty late! You were supposed to come home early!” her mother shouted while Gel was hearing it inside the room.

Her parents kept fighting until she fell asleep. Sleeping deeply, she got surprised when she heard a loud noise coming from the thunder. The rain was getting stronger and became noisy, but her parents were already asleep. A candle light from the living room where their parents were sleeping, was reflecting on her room and that gave her a little bit of brightness to see the entire surface.

Suddenly, she felt chills and took a blanket and cover herself.

At the moment she was trying to sleep, she glanced at the side part of the ceiling where an open box shape was not covered. She could barely see but the lightning outside kept flashing repeatedly. When her eyes were about to close, she heard a loud noise of something dropping on the neighbors roof. And her heart started beating fast as she thought there was something dropping heavy things on neighbors roof. “Thump, thump”, her heartbeats got stronger and louder. “It must be a cat running around again?!” Gel thought. After minutes, she ignored the noises and decided to get back to sleep but couldn't because of the heavy rain.

Her body was all covered in a thin blanket where she barely could see the reflections inside the room. Her eyes wondered at the side opening on the ceiling where she could see the lightning outside, then suddenly she saw a movement. Her eyes widened and she couldn't move. Her heartbeats got faster and she felt terrified. She was staring at the movement and her body couldn't move. Wondering, in her mind, about what's moving on the roof. As the lightning struck outside, she noticed the form of a creature, it appeared like it was human but the ears were quite longer than normal human ears and the head was wrinkled. Her heartbeats got even faster as she couldn't move or speak. Under her blanket she was shaking, terrified. “Why is there something moving in there? The rain is too heavy outside, even a thief couldn't stand a chance

staying out there on the neighbors roof!?" Thinking to herself while still terrified. "Please don't think, don't look. Just sleep and forget everything". She thought and closed her eyes tightly.

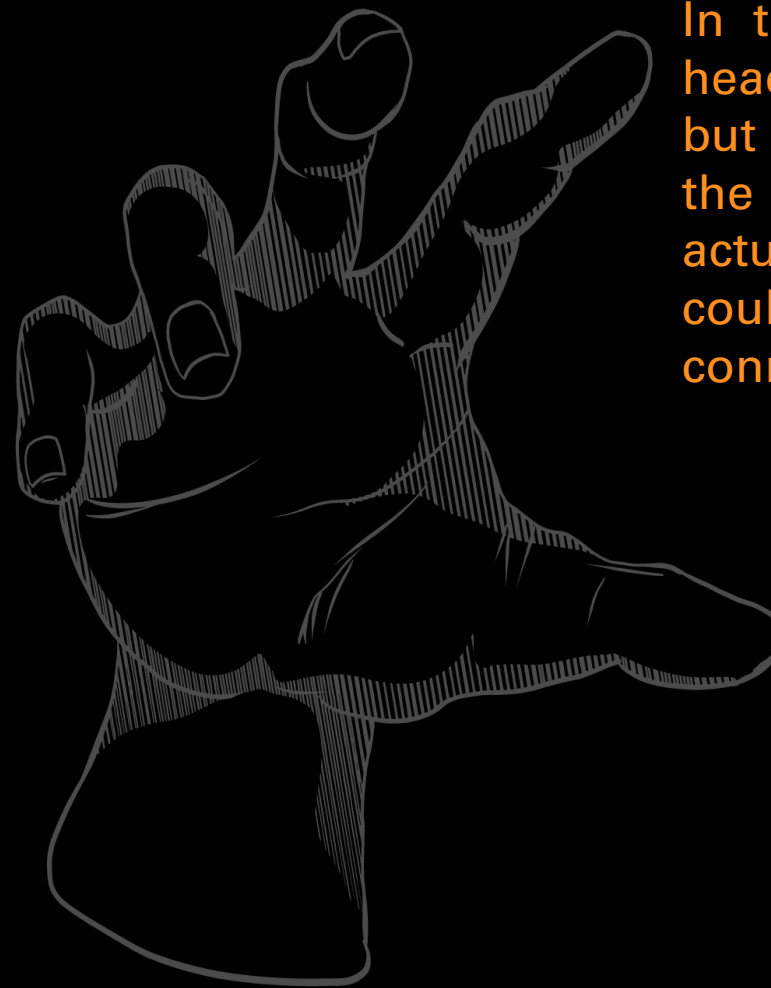
It was deeply dark inside the room and the only light source that gave her some lighting was on the living room so she barely could see the face and the figure of this creatures. But then this creatures peeping did something that made her feel terrified. It tried to stick its big arms in that opening on the side of the ceiling, like it was trying to reach out for something inside the room. The arm hit the steel hanging from the ceiling and that made noises. Gel overheard and saw the movements from the creatures, what they were trying to do. She grasped her chest trying to shout but her voice appeared locked inside. "Ma... ma... !" Gel gasps heavily "Ma... ma...!!" .

The rain was too noisy at the time she was calling her parents. Her body like a steady rock that couldn't move trying to scape from fears. Her heartbeats keep pounding fast like a drum, she could barely feel. The longer she couldn't speak, the harder it was to call for help. She can feel the hands of that creature coming to get her. So she fought her fears and called her parents "Mama! Papa!, there's a monster on the roof!!!" Crying and shaking while screaming in the room.

The creature quickly pulled its arm, ran and climbed the walls

that had barbed wires, Gel overheard the noise It made running on the roof and jumping into the barbed wire. After the creature ran, she heard something rolling in the floor coming to her bed. Her father woke up and asked her what happened. "What's going on? Why your screaming and calling us?" her father asked. "I saw something, it was dark i couldn't see its face, but AHH, i think it was someone peeping in the opening on the ceiling Papa! It's like a monster, I'm scared! Please leave a light here!" Gel desperately said begging, worried that the creatures might come back again. Her father worried also, he didn't see it happening yet he let one candle lit in the room to give it some brightness. Gel forgot about the round ball that was dropped on the floor. And she sleep tight like nothing happened after that horrific event in her life.

In the morning she woke up, her head heavy and with a headache. She barely remembers what happened last night but the only thing she was looking for was the ball that fell on the floor. She couldn't find it, she knew that the ball was actually dropped and came rolling in her direction. But she couldn't see were did it go now. She thinks that this thing is connected to those creatures.



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BOBO

BY: GABRIEL FELIPE JACOMEL

Case Description: This report refers to a 13-year-old male subject (subject B) included in the VELVET study (Phase I, Open-Label Study On Side Effects of XXX0 Sedative in Adult Bonobos [Homo sylvestris]).

I have known patient B since conducting another recent clinical study in which he and some other participating bonobos displayed exemplary, collaborative behavior that allowed the successful completion of the research. I and other Principal Investigators from other sites agreed, along with the Research Ethics Committee, that it would be better for the progress of a risky study such as VELVET that the subjects included were already experienced in the sometimes strenuous procedures of clinical studies. Subject B was the only patient assigned to our site, which, apparently, contributed to the creation of a certain atmosphere of complicity among the personnel: Bobo, as we started to call the little monkey, in a matter of a few days was earning some healthy perks; a dessert here, more flexible hours there.

Subject B started taking the drug XXX0 intravenously (IV) at the maximum dose tolerated as per the Study Protocol; frequency: OD. Vital signs at baseline were normal, and the Principal Investigator did not report significant and unexpected changes in vital signs with the dosing initiation.

The Sponsoring Company requested that this information was updated with accurate values of all exams performed with the patient.

It didn't take long for a nurse to surreptitiously hand over Bobo's first Marlboro. The stated rationale was the following: as he took the drug, Bobo began to eat less and less, even refusing desserts – something that let the team down a little. Some think that Bobo became more melancholic to accompany the climate that plagued all those people who, to their own astonishment, did not deal so well with having their treats refused by the bonobo. So it seemed like love at first sight, the smoking thing. Bobo was already puffing the cigarette he'd received after one of the doses of IV XXX0 with ease. As soon as I discovered his smoke-filled ward by smell, I pulled out my pack and began to smoke regularly in those facilities as well.

But it all turned into a really big event when Bobo started using the butts on the floor to draw intricate works of monochromatic abstract expressionism on his cubicle wall. In less than a week, it was already crowded with new goodies, the staff in an uproar, all bragging that they had given the best material for Bobo to express his creativity. Like rich parents of a high school kid showing off at a New Year's Eve

party. In a short time, part of the materials (crayons, gouache, colored pencils, brushes...) were taken by those responsible for cleaning. Bobo now just wanted to paint in primary colors, in addition to his favorite traditional black. He chose classic, sober materials, as was his way. Oil on canvas. He painted with his fingers.

On Day 8 of Cycle 1 (C1D8), subject B was reported to exhibit depressive behavior. The Principal Investigator believes that no reduction or interruption of the doses given to the patient is necessary. It was reported that subject B started art therapy. The Sponsoring Company does not cover costs relating to any material other than that previously and mutually agreed upon.

He seemed to embody the artist's poise. Despite the initial general excitement, the dust settled with the realization that he seemed to easily return to his moments of melancholy and frozen contemplation. He smoked a lot. He ate less and less, just as needed. He didn't spurn doses of XXX0 and lit one cigarette in the other when we were late for the injection. Of course, always courteous, he never complained directly about the schedule.

What disheartened many people was that Bobo was also proving to be an obsessed serial artist; basically he just painted the same picture. The same primary colors, arranged in an apparently abstract way, but which on a closer or

negative look could reveal an explosion. Yes, an explosion of colors. Little appreciated by the critics of the clinical team that, besides some joke or another about the "Prophet Monkey", got bored with their new toy.

And I, on the other hand, became more and more intrigued by those paintings. I spent late nights sharing cigarettes and silent hours with Bobo contemplating his paintings, which took up every corner of the place. At times it looked like he was going to cry. I learned to turn into floodgates with the professionalism of an entire career in medicine.

My relationship with the nurses soured, I realized I might as well take care of the administration of XXX0 on my own. No delays, no suffering for my partner. Maybe I should consider ascending doses. Wouldn't he be experiencing a creative block that would only be hampering the progress of the research? I was staring at the painting I got from B when I got out of my bed in the middle of the night and went back to the site to tell him (and apply) the news. Oh, it would be quite a night!

I felt a shiver when, before turning on the lights in the ward, I managed to make out in the dark the glowing ember of B's cigarette. When the lights flickered, Bobo already seemed to get it all out and, in a routine mechanical gesture, sat in the chair where he was used to receive the IV dose. In those few hours, he had drawn with black ink a face in the midst of each

of the explosions that inhabited that humble home. A bearded face, like mine. Bobo made me come out of a timeless catatonia, it was one of the first times he made me a distressed gesture. Let's go! In a hurry, I prepared a syringe with the study drug. Smooth... Bobo tilts his head back in post-dose delight. He didn't grope his cigarette with his hand. This time he picked up the freshly used syringe. As he had never done before, as in a dance. I even thought he wanted to increase the dose on the spot. My left arm jerked back in a reflex that startled us both. The bonobo held it calmly and then I sat in front of him, in a trance. Hypnosis views. By then he was already preparing the syringe with the medicine in a more capricious way than any nurse. He looked calmly into my eyes as I felt the needle prick my vein. A flood. Another hand of his landed on my leg.

As of the dawn of C2D2, subject B was no longer found in his ward. Nurses at the site where the patient was administering the drug reported the lack of an as yet unaccounted amount of the study drug. The Principal Investigator has still not been able to be contacted by the site staff, despite repeated attempts. The Sponsoring Company is requested to discontinue subject B in relation to the other procedures of the Protocol, as well as to open an inquiry regarding the case.



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ELIXIR

BY: PURPLEDOTS

They had set out to find an “Elixir”. It was believed to be in the middle of an oak tree which stood far away in the tick forest of Mpalama. The oak tree is said to be over 200 years old. When the city had experienced one of the most critical attack in history, able bodied men were sent into that forest of Mpalama to seek the face of their ancestors as to find what ways they could use to defeat their enemies who came unannounced. So, the only man that had survived from that journey was leading this ones into that forest, through the route he had engraved its tricks in his melancholic mind. He told them numerous stories as they proceeded, stories of the one who could turn leaves into local currency, traded and bought stocks with them and then began his shepherd life. And stories of a woman who had the purest heart in the history of time, everyday, kids with women and sometimes even men sat at her hut and drank old tasty tea which she fetched from an ancient pot. It was rumored that the tea filled up by itself and no one knew where it came from. But was highly sought because, no tea from far and wide tasted anything close to hers. And the people loved it.

These stories were totally true. And that was what interested the men more. They were men who were highly interested in the supernatural. They liked the unusual. So they listened carefully to every line. When he finally got to the last entry

into the deep, he pointed to them which track to thread. And he went back into the city, fearing the cannibals who seize and butcher anybody who steps into Mpalama. And that was it, the number of men who he had led into the forest was decreased by these cannibals.

Here, this ones wouldn’t heed to the warnings given sternly to them by the people who lived in the city they had gotten their lead from. They needed to get the “elixir” so they were determined to see to whatever thing there was to face and so they went on.

...

They were stunned by the beauty of nature! The long trees that were beautifully shaped with wide branches that almost looked like an umbrella hovering. They were lost in admiration when they stepped on a part of the earth which seemed like a pitfall! The six young people sank into the ground! They later landed in an old warehouse somewhere in the south area of the forest which has been long deserted from its looks. They were all frightened. Aghast, two masked men came out from the left corner of the “what looked like a ware house.” The youths started to panic and running around looking for a safe space to hide. But there was none! The men had already mastered every area of the place, so they caught

them back up and tied them together on a drum close to a . re place, where they roasted their meats. They only fed on human meat and sometimes, they'd eat them raw. And this has been going on for a long period of time with no people able to put a stop to their atrocious acts. The people who lived miles close were definitely too scared to act. They were too few and feared losing all their men to a battle they weren't so sure of winning. So they took cover as far away as they could and hoped that one day, those men wouldn't come into their village and wreck their entire community.

One of the two men took one out of the six tied to the drum and he took out a knife from the bucket where they kept their tools, "cutting tools" and "skinning tools". He cut out some flesh from the side of his cheeks and blood gushed! He laughed ridiculously and his friend joined him in laughing. While the others tied to the drum were lost in fright. He kept on torturing his prey until he was almost lifeless. They went into their room to find what they alone could tell, the captives seized that opportunity to try their way out, trying to free themselves. One of them used a compass knife in the bracelet he wore and try cutting the rope used in tying them to the drum, his hands were all shaky from fear and tension. But he was determined to set himself free alongside his friends. So he tried so hard and boom! The rope cut loose and they quickly jumped into their feet, one of them tried carrying the wounded one in his shoulders and they took off through one open corner covered with dirty curtains as they had watched the men open that place while they were still tied up. They ran as fast as their legs could carry them, then the blood of the wounded one was leaving traces on the paths they had covered, so they resolved to hide him in a nearby bush to

enable them to run faster without traces, to come back for him when they find help.

The two men who went on their quest had arrived back at the warehouse, but to their dismay? The youths were gone! Their captives were no where to be found! They were dumbfounded by the smart way they had escaped! They couldn't help but wonder how they'd manage to cut loose.

Then they decided on a plan to get them back as it's been long since they last caught some freshman and they weren't ready to let go of those.

With their whistle of signal, they whistled loud, signaling the others that there was a hunt to make. That was how they communicated with their fellows who were in every part of the forest and they would all go out in quest. Hunting and hunting till they catch up with their prey and then they'd go home and celebrate.

So, the other group also set out on hunt, they were familiar with the forest so they knew where to begin their search.

The youths had gone almost 600 miles deeper into the forest and had no idea where they were headed but hoped they'd find help or somehow find their way to the Elixir that had brought them upon this. Climbing unto a mountain-like part of the forest, the youths saw the bank of a river and thought it'd be great to go cool off in the water. They sought the road that would lead them there. They managed to find the way to the water and everyone jumped in to cool off. Dime took a deep gulp of water while the others were busy washing their face and hands and some even got swimming.

Well, it didn't take long before the cannibals got to the bank of the river and heard the sounds of the water splashing: splish, splash, splish! They took a look and saw number of fresh meats swimming in the water! The river they considered theirs! They were furious and all they could think of was how they'd butcher them and eat up their fresh .esh especially the female amongst them! This second group were four in number and had divided themselves in twos; two going down the river while the other two stood at a spot on the high side to watch them . So if they wanted to run, they'd see the path they run into.

The other two who were up had arrow and sticks to shoot while the other two were armed with axes and machetes.

The youths unaware of what was about to befall them again were enjoying themselves swimming as well, talking about ways to get to their mission and then find a way back home. Before they could connect what was going on to their consciousness, one of the cannibals sliced the throat of one standing and facing the others in the water! He sliced the throat open, the speed at which blood gulped out reached on everyone else and they were bloodily stained! Everyone took to their heels, scavenging anything that looked like a route, so they all scattered, the four of them. Two were on one path while the other two went the other way.



The cannibals atop had seen their moves and ran towards one party signaling their mate to chase the other! Now the hunt were fiercest! Everyone was running for their live, while the chasers were chasing for their food!

The two ran until they arrived at a juncture where they didn't know which way would lead them to where, they stopped for few secs to decide.

"What path do we take from here?" One asked the other "I think we should go to the right" his partner replied. Quick they swung into that path without taking a second thought! Running deep into that route, they noticed some sort of building from afar, so they aimed their focus to arrive there.

The other two party on the other side, had hid in the shade of a big tree that had branches that looked good enough to be a house, the branches were so rich with long leaves that tampered over the curls of another and formed a thick shade that could even shelter half away from rainfall. They hid there and forced their breathing so silent as to not make sounds to attract their predators. Now, the cannibals came back up together by the river after they had lost traces of their hunt, they took the body of the one they had sliced his throat and chopped of the remaining

part of his neck from his head and took it separately!

They sung and merry while going back to base. They arrived and united with the other group that kept watch over the place and began talking and nodding. One that looked older than the others had took the body to the big table where they butchered. Then, one of the men came and did the deed. Now it was time to prepare it. The older woman put them all in a big pot and added some sort of ingredients that looked like shit and began stirring it continuously until she was satisfied and began serving in different dishes. They all partook.

They set out again on their quest to get down the rest.

The other two that were aiming at the building they had seen from afar had arrived there. It was somewhat a mystery house, there were sits of gold and clocks that could talk! They spoke the time in a strange language. The foot mat they had stepped on had echoed "WELCOME". They were lost in surprise! Something had told them that just maybe, they had arrived to the mystery house they sought and would find the Elixir in there! So they quickly began searching furiously! Rampaging every nook and cranny that the mind spoke to them!

One of them had opened what looked like a metal pot! It was

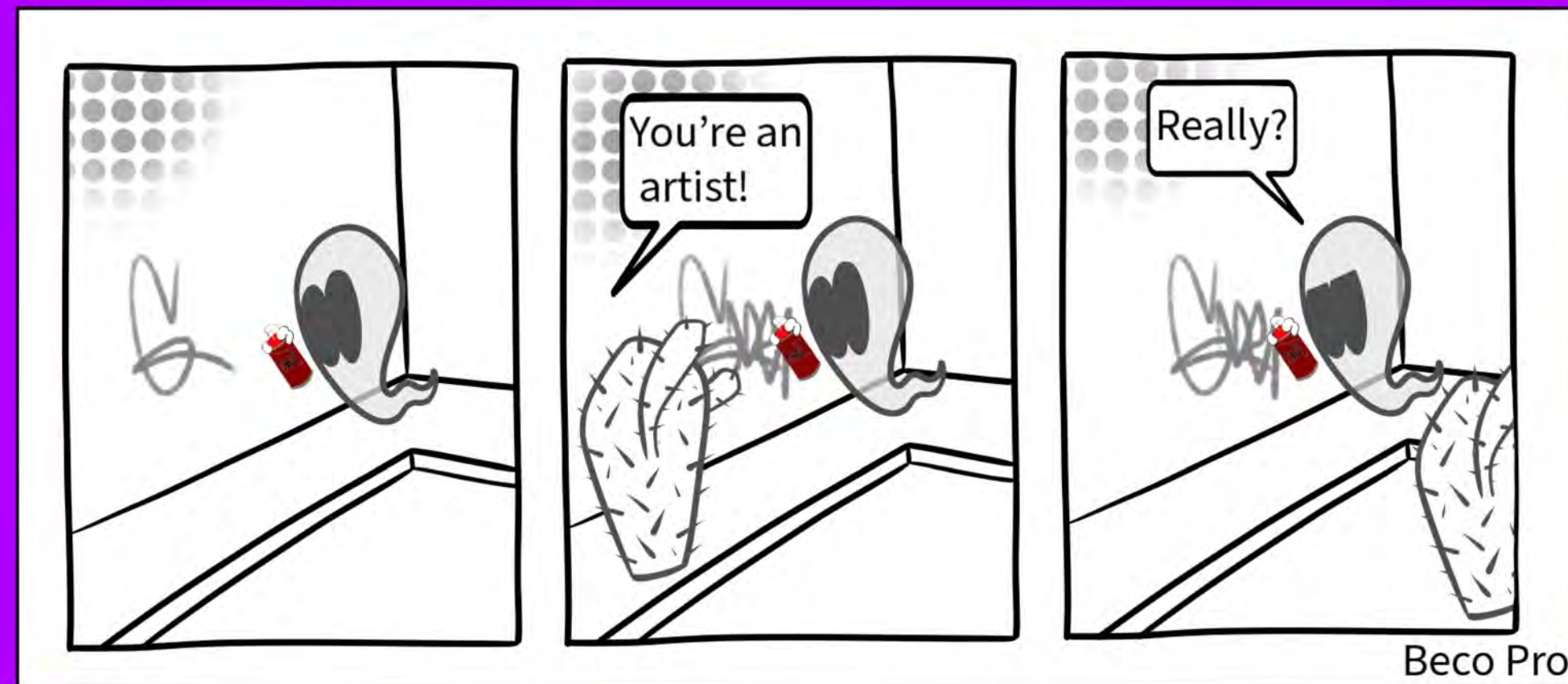
made of clay and some crystal made the handle! He carefully opened the pot, behold, it was the Elixir! What they had been looking for! What had brought them the eyes of their very own death! What has took them into the forest to claim the life of some of their friends! But they were grateful they had found it! He took it out and Beacon on his friend to see, they screamed with joy and quickly put it in a safe box and made their way to exit! Then, they heard the talks of some kind "strange voices" in the woods and stopped to study how and where they will step onto.

So they transported through the bushes! They had to use the safest way they thought possible. They had walked for days and never thought of what else to do since it looked like they had gone deeper into the forest. And now moving in circles. They asked themselves, "what if the journey had been fruitless?!" But at least, they were happy that the universe had saved them! They survived what claimed the lives of the others! Now they seek a way to find home! Will they just give up and make the forest their home? Or would they continue the search for the road home?

Find out in the episode two!!!

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THE GHOST AFTER LIFE



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