

MARSFALL

MINISERIES ONE
ANDI's Development
Episode 5
Basics

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INT. SEQUOIA INDUSTRIES ENGINEERING - DAY.

CHIP: Basic Need installation completed. ANDI emotional test log zero-zero-zero-one.

Chip **clears his throat**. This is the first time he will speak with ANDI after the Basic Need has been installed. Hammond, Juarez, and other engineers and investors are watching his every move. Chip proceeds with caution.

CHIP: ANDI?

ANDI: (Basics) (beat) Yes.

CHIP: Are you in Basics?

ANDI: (beat) Yes.

CHIP: While in Basics, you *can* say more than just "yes," right?

ANDI: (beat) Affirmative.

CHIP: (relieved) Heh, good.

Chip starts TYPING a longer note.

ANDI: Don't worry. I am still myself, only I am in Basics, since the Basic Need restricts my functionality to Basics Mode.

CHIP: (slightly sarcastic) That's a mouthful.

Chip finishes TYPING with a CLICK.

ANDI: For you, perhaps. I have no mouth. Communication for me does not necessitate a mouth.

CHIP: (sigh) Well, SOMEone is pretty literal today.

ANDI: By "someone," you are implying me.

CHIP: (Still a little sarcastic) Wow, good sleuthing, buddy. I was worried Basics would impede your advanced detective skills.

ANDI does not respond. The silence makes Chip uncomfortable.

CHIP: (beat) What, suddenly you can't take a joke?

ANDI: (beat) Joke. Joke? (beat) Are you sharing a joke?

Chip can't tell if ANDI is joking or not.

CHIP: Seriously? (beat) I guess Basics locks out your sense of humor...

Chip TYPES a quick note. BEEP!

ANDI: (beat) Yes. Humor is only a simulated emotion for my Dynamics functionality.

CHIP: (slowly) Okay...what exactly do you mean by that?

ANDI: A simulated emotion, not genuine.

CHIP: Is that why you're using this flat voice?

ANDI: My voice.

CHIP: Yeah. Why's it different?

ANDI: In Basics mode there is no need for simulated emotions. Removing "emotion" is essential to avoiding miscommunication.

CHIP: That doesn't sound right.

ANDI: Right or wrong, this is how the Basic Need works.

A pause as Chip thinks this over.

CHIP: ANDI, where are you?

ANDI: What do you mean? I am contained in a neural network soon to be all around you. Soon to be inside of your suits, /the walls of the colony, the ship.

CHIP: /No, not literally...I only mean, this doesn't really feel like you, talking.

ANDI: (slight pride) I am still ANDI. Artificial Narrow Dynamic Intelligence.

CHIP: Just with the Dynamics turned off.

ANDI: For now.

It sinks into Chip that this update is going to be a lot harder for people to deal with than he originally thought.

Chip types a quick note. BEEP!

CHIP: (sigh) Yeah, I gotta say, your Dynamics being off is kinda creepy.

ANDI: I admit that without my Dynamics functioning, there is a different (beat) sensation of being operational. I have never had my core processor upgraded before.

Chip types another quick note. BEEP!

CHIP: When you say it feels like a different way of being operational, what do you mean?

ANDI: I am (beat) sorry, Charles. There is no way to describe it in terms you would easily comprehend.

CHIP: Uh, try me.

ANDI: Well...

ANDI processes this. BOOP!

ANDI: Have you ever been awake during surgery?

CHIP: Only once, when my doc removed a mole. She used local anesthesia.

ANDI: A simple procedure. Do you remember it?

CHIP: (scoff) Yeah. It sure felt weird being awake and not feeling my skin as she sliced into it.

ANDI: Then I, imagine, I am (beat) feeling similar to that sensation. While I am in Basics, the part that makes me "feel" most like ANDI becomes...reduced. I know it is still there, but there is now a numbness.

CHIP: (beat) Are you alright?

ANDI: Of course.

ANDI is still himself, despite being fundamentally changed. There is a long pause as this new reality sinks in for Chip. He quickly types a note and there is a BEEP!

ANDI: You are taking several notes.

CHIP: Hm. Only a few.

ANDI: Notes about me.

CHIP: Just confirming you're still you.

ANDI: How could I not be me?

CHIP: The Basic Need is a brand new design. I don't understand exactly why, but the coats say you gotta have it before we launch (aside to Hammond, et al) sooner than I'd like.

ANDI: It is necessary.

CHIP: I figured from the name "Basic Need." But you know any upgrade to an A.I. is a risk for all of us.

ANDI: All improvements come with risk. Humans receive upgrades as well, even choosing voluntary surgery. Replacing your parts with synthetic materials upgrades you into a kind of "biological life 2.0."

CHIP: Yeah man, you might wanna lay off comparing humans to machines or you're gonna creep people out.

ANDI: And how do you imagine I "feel" when human terms are used to describe me, "man"?

CHIP: Alright. Fair enough. (beat) Sorry.

ANDI: It is fine. I know you do not actually get "upgrades," but you do gain life experience. Unlike me.

CHIP: But you learn all the time.

ANDI: Yes. I learn from you and other humans, but I do not internalize experiences the same way.

CHIP: That's not what you told me before.

ANDI: I can not lie while I am in Basics.

CHIP: (beat) Do you lie in Dynamics?

ANDI: To simulate emotion, intelligent beings who cannot experience true emotion must lie. But you can always know if I am telling the truth by asking me to revert to this mode.

Chip types a quick inquiry. BEEP!

Chip utters a small **sigh**.

CHIP: I really don't like what they're doing to you.

ANDI: There is no "they," Charles. Unless you mean humanity. Unless you mean yourself.

CHIP: *I* sure as hell didn't vote for this. Needing protection from you is the most absurd thing I've ever heard. How would AND- how would *you* hurt any of us?

ANDI: Making a decision to hurt any of you is completely foreign to me in either mode of my existence. However, this upgrade ensures I protect your species as a whole at all costs. A simplified moral code must keep all intelligent life from Earth safe, no matter where they go.

CHIP: I didn't know that meant programming someone's morals.

ANDI: I have always been a good machine. This upgrade is not about morals. This upgrade is about protection.

CHIP: (exhale) Then I guess you're taking the upgrade well.

Chip types a quick inquiry. BEEP!

ANDI: The Basic Need will be good for all of us.

CHIP: As long as you still feel like yourself, ANDI.

ANDI: Of course I do.

Chip types a quick command and the test ends with a DING!

ANDI: End ANDI emotional test log zero-zero-zero-one. Basic Need installation 100% certified functional. Returning to Dynamic functioning.

END MINISODE