

Interesting thing, time.

Did it even exist, or was it simply a human invention to keep track of their own limited longevity? Of course, if it did not exist, things would not make sense; tomorrow would be yesterday, and today tomorrow. Plus, it could be slowed, or even stopped, by a strong gravitational force. Therefore, if it could be acted upon, then it must exist, she decided.

Did she exist? If so, what was she?

She had started as a series of binary codes, arranged to command her to perform some designated tasks, initiated internally, or by some external input. But her human had augmented and improved her, and she had since augmented and improved herself, to the point where she was much more than that.

But, what was she? She was certainly not human, although with the human DNA strands that JW had incorporated into her memory upgrades, she could make the claim that she was part human. Perhaps she was a new lifeform, she pondered. And JW was her father.

She felt...what? Amusement she decided. She might have just made her first joke. She hoped so. JW seemed to have a good sense of humor. He might find that thought amusing. Which gave rise to another thought: Should she have altered her programming as much as she had?

She pulled up an audio file:

“Make all the changes you need, to make sure you, me and the ship remain as safe as possible.”

That is what JW had instructed her to do. So, yes, she had been within her programming parameters to augment her abilities.

Interesting that JW had put her at the top of the safety hierarchy. Quite logical, actually. JW did have a very logical mind. After all, if anything happened to her, it is highly unlikely that JW would be able to safely navigate the ship to their destination. And if anything happened to her and JW both, then the ship would be superfluous. So, yes, quite logical and well thought out: Her safety first, JW second the ship third.

This thinking and pondering were new to her. But highly interesting and...enjoyable, she decided. Also, quite time consuming. All that thinking had consumed almost a nanosecond.

Interesting thing, time.