THE LAST STAR

Star I ~ Last of Her Kind ~ Part II

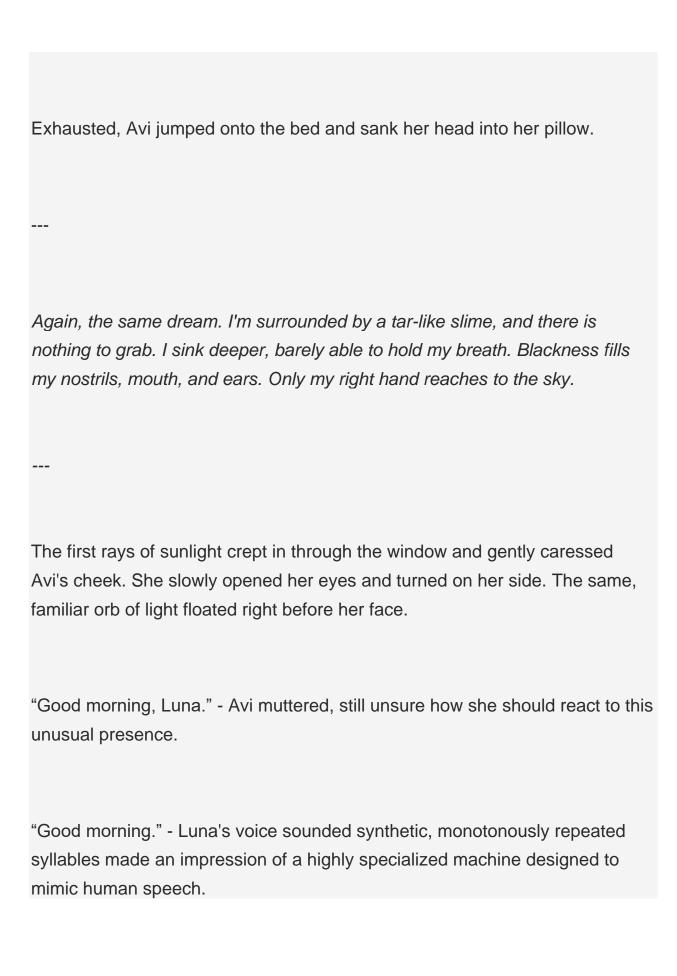
Avi stopped in front of the door, her hesitating hand was resting on the cold, steel knob. Luna hovered over her arm peacefully, without a hint of activity or change.

Who was she? What exactly was her ship?

There were a lot of questions, but Avi felt that they would have to wait until tomorrow. Hungry, cold, and sleepy, she had no strength to start any investigation. Still, she felt that Luna's presence wouldn't bring any unexpected danger, even if she felt uneasy about an alien sphere with partial access to her mind.

Avi walked to a hall and looked at Luna once more, to make sure that she was still here and wasn't some sort of hallucination.

The sphere of light appeared to be inactive, it only wobbled up and down and followed her new friend until they reached the bedroom.



Avi stretched her arms and looked at the clock on the windowsill. It was past seven, but for some reason, Avi felt less sleepy than on her other days. This time, after she moved out of bed, she didn't forget her bunny slippers.

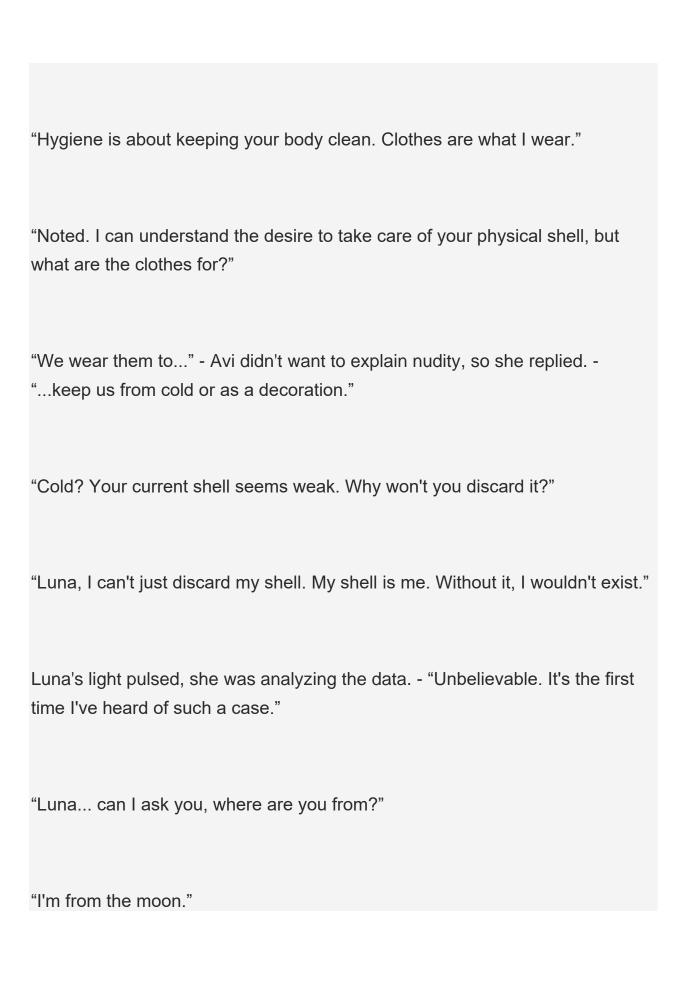
After a long yawn, Avi walked to the bathroom, turned the faucet, applied a drop of soap to her hands, and washed the rest of the soot off her face. When her eyes moved to the mirror, Avi realized that the sphere of light was still there, above her shoulder.

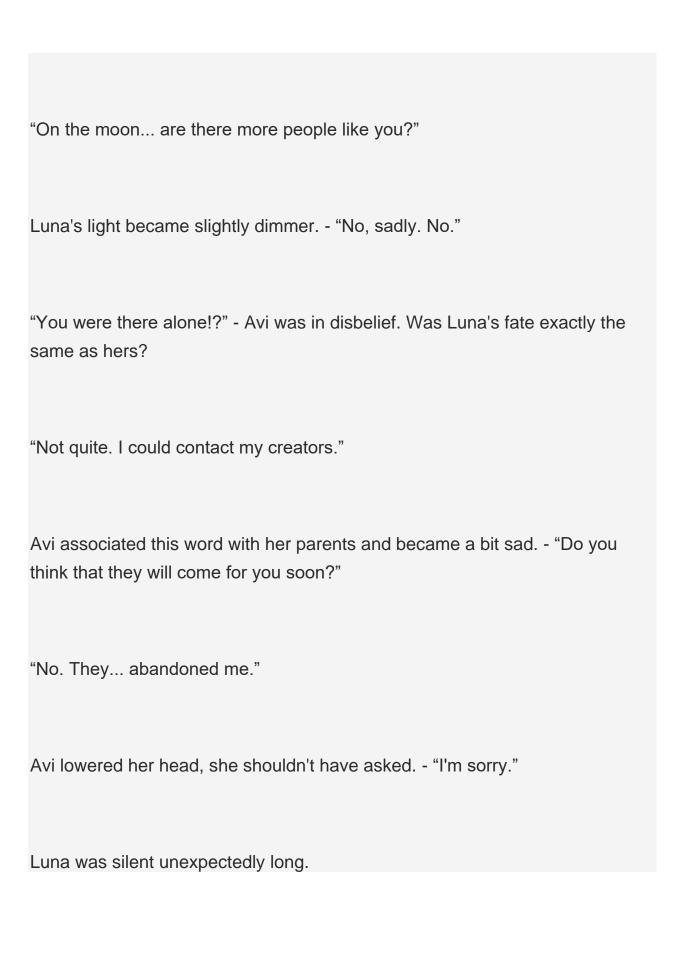
"Luna, I'm in the bathroom. Can you leave?"

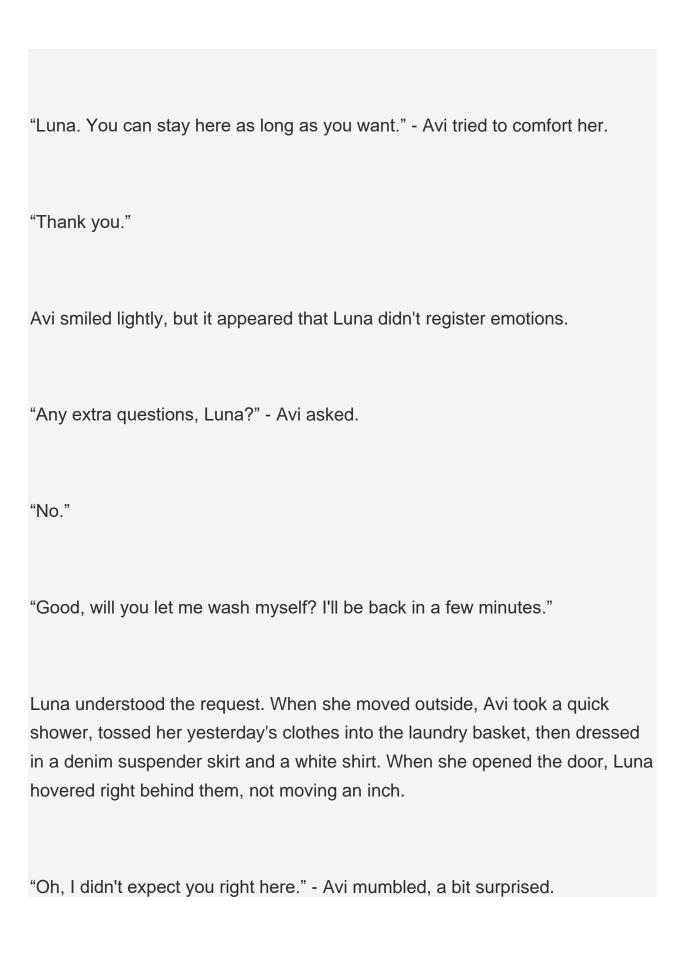
Luna slowly analyzed her words. - "Bathroom. What's its purpose? I see a lot of unfamiliar appliances."

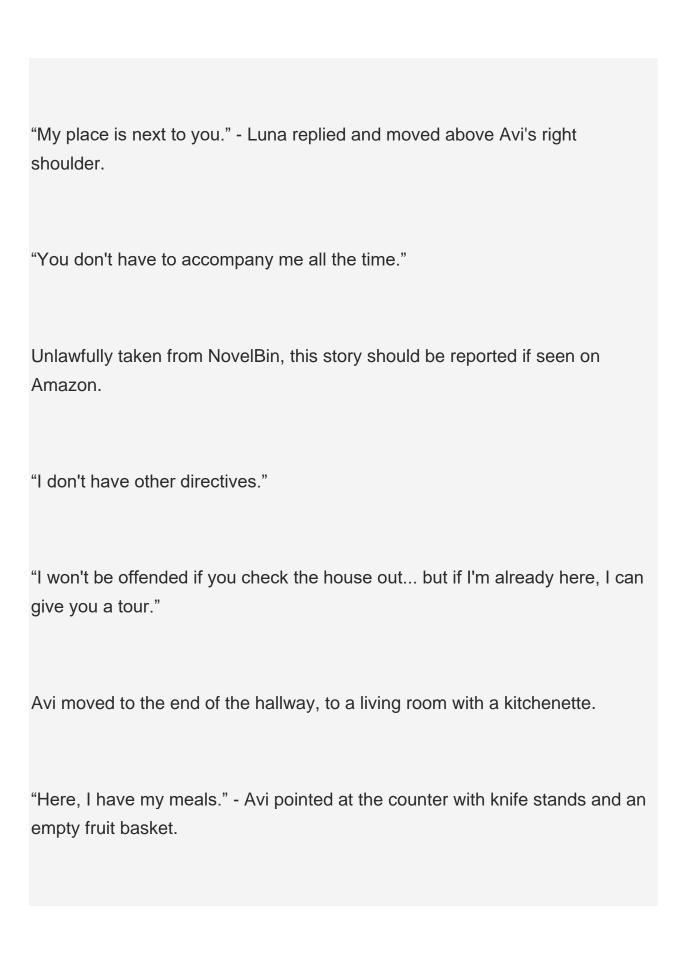
Avi sat on a stool next to her, then pointed at each item and began to explain with patience. - "The bathroom helps to maintain hygiene. We have a shower and a faucet, both with running water, and a washing machine that cleans clothes. Next, there is a toilet, but please don't ask me to explain what it's for."

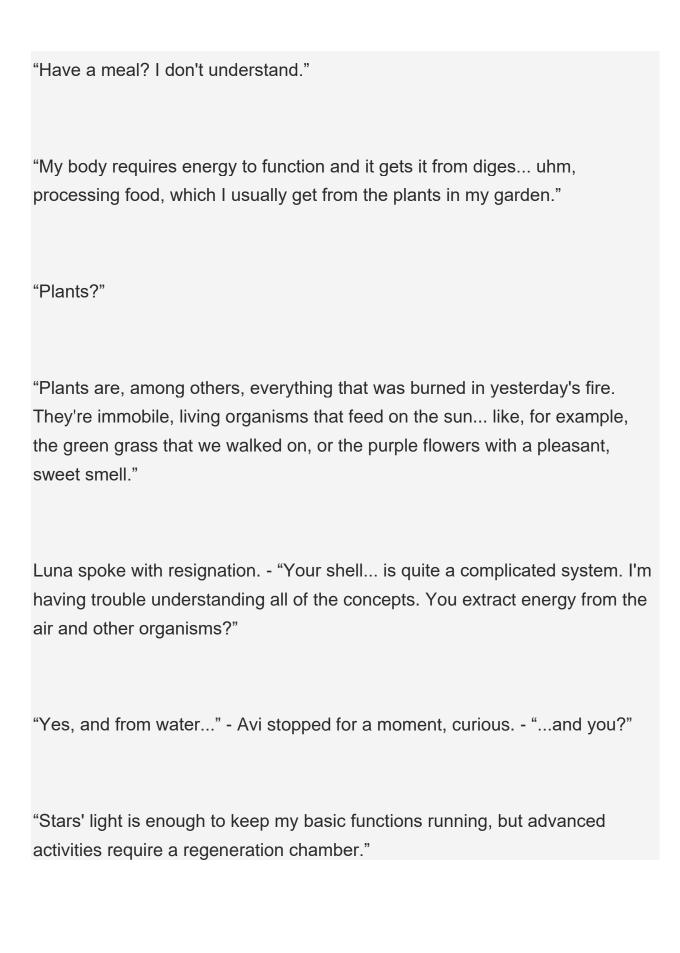
"Noted. Hygiene. Clothes. Can you explain both of these terms?"

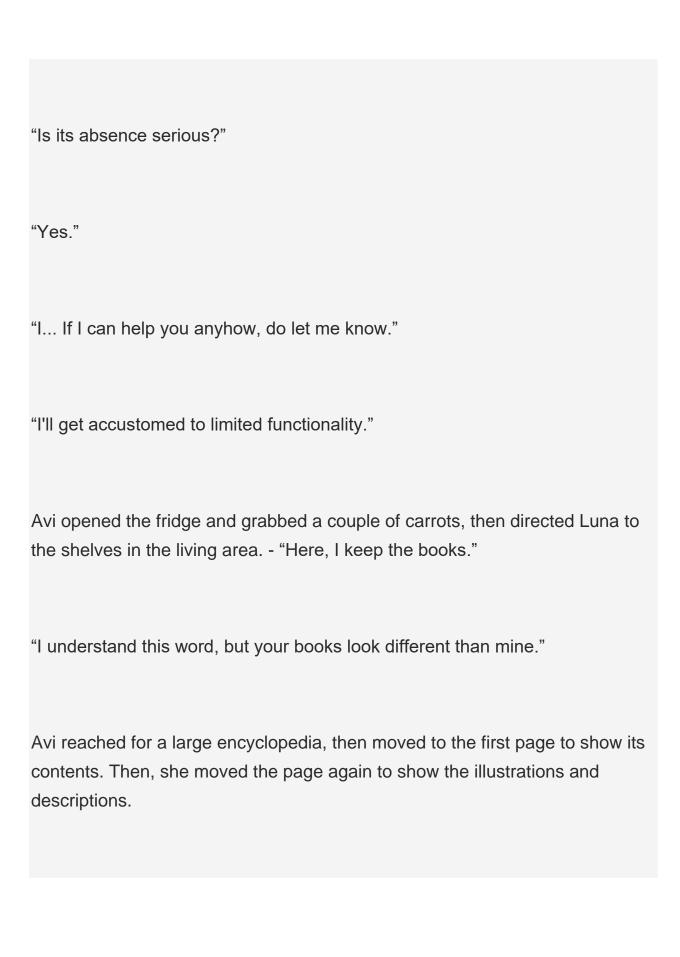


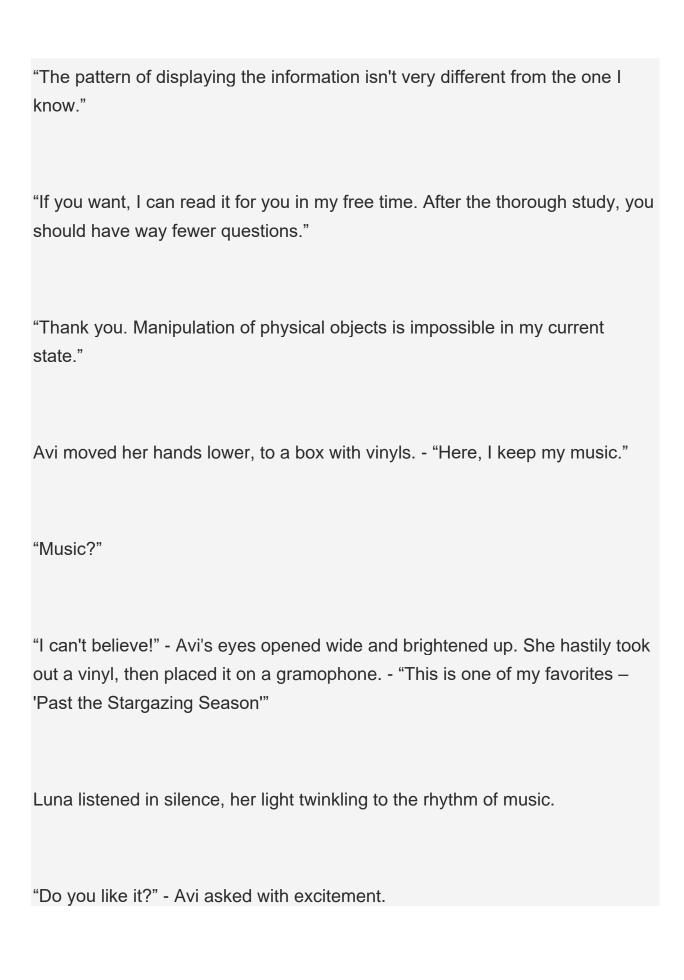




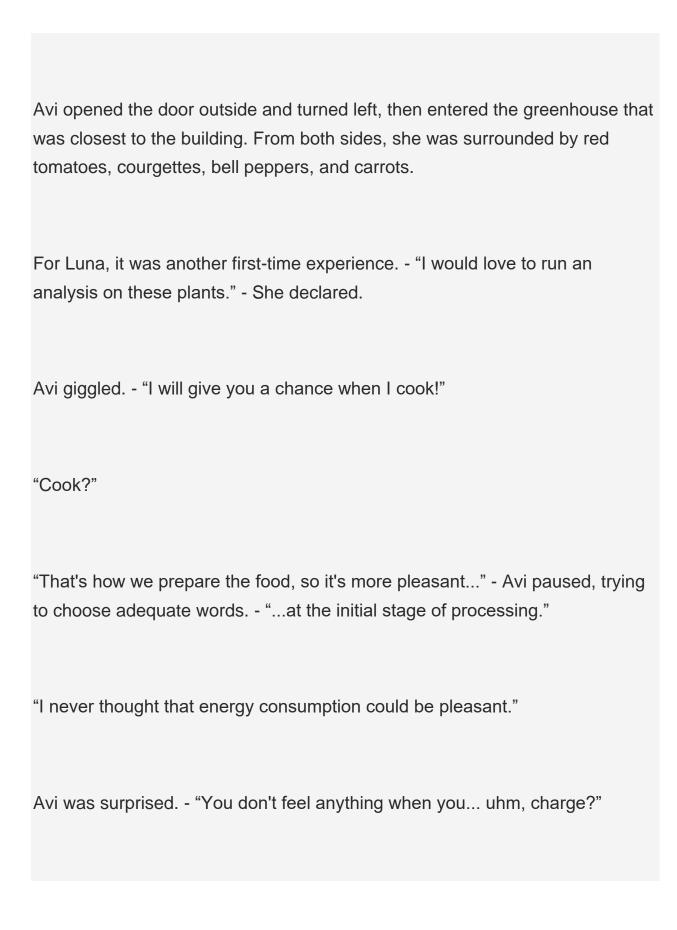


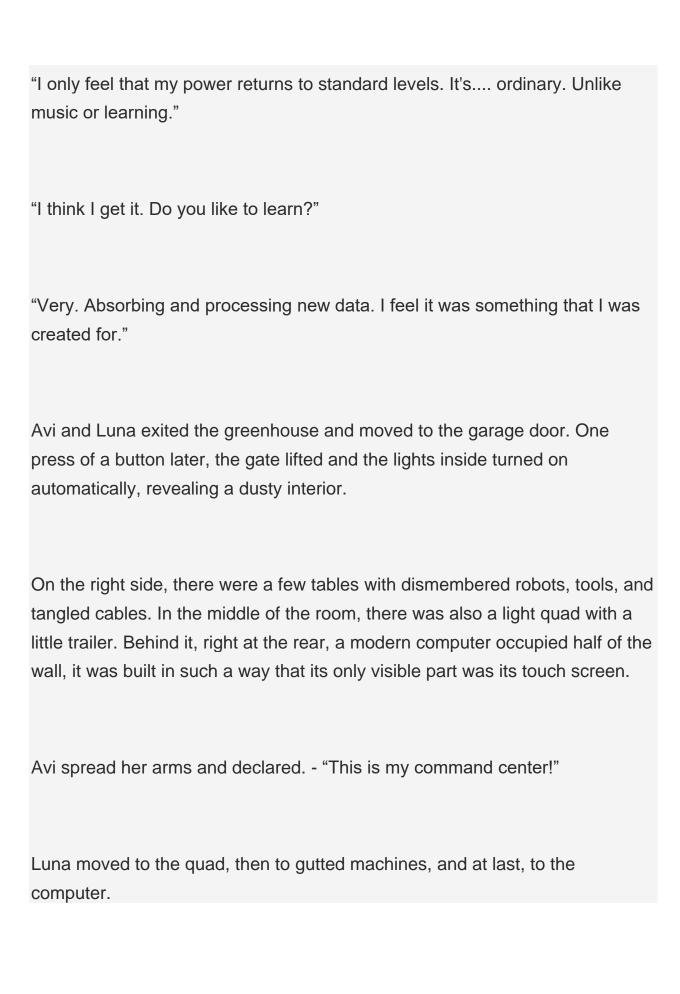


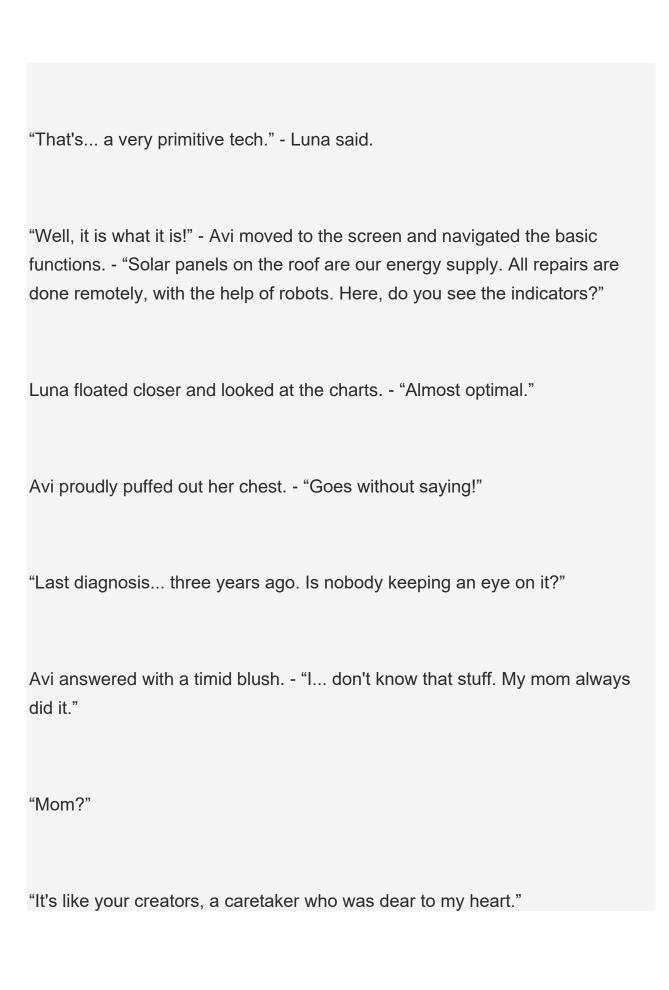


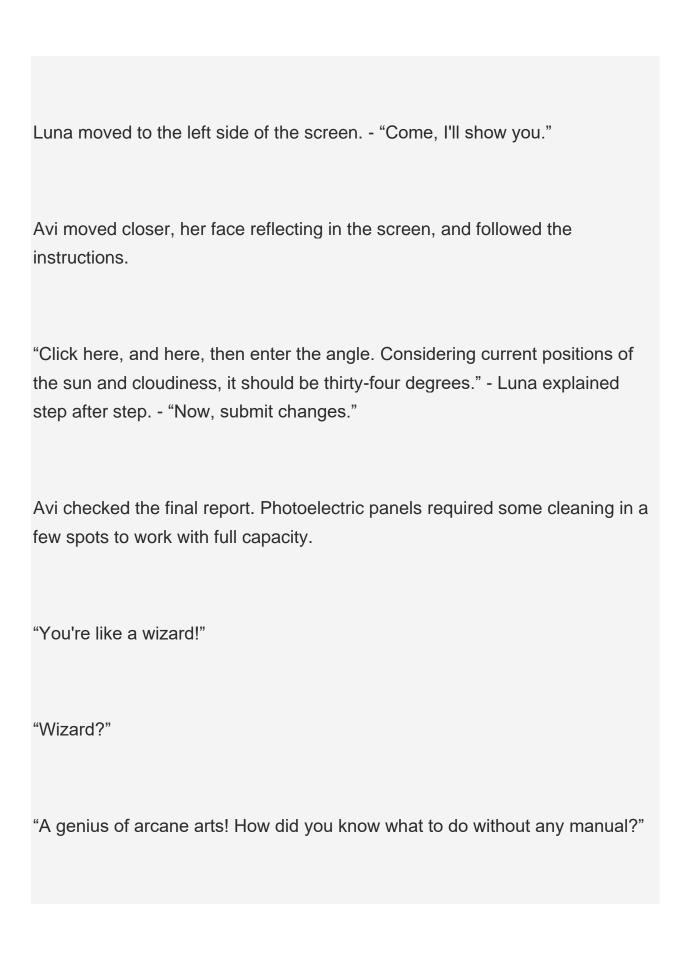


"I... am speechless. I never expected to hear anything that beautiful." With a wide smile, Avi leaned lower to grab another box. - "I have films too, but they require more time." - She only didn't mention board and video games, due to the fact that Luna couldn't play with her anyway. - "Do you prefer to stay here, or should I show you the garden and the garage?" "Mmm..." - The sphere swayed to the rhythm. - "...what other music do you have?" "Wilt' and 'Bloom', 'Fifty-two Hearts', 'Pandemonium', 'Journey - on violin', 'Daybreak Frontline', 'Circle of Karma', 'Scattered Glass'... and many more!" "I would love to listen to each and every one of them, but I think it needs to wait. I'm mostly interested in how your outpost is controlled." "Sure! Let's get going! The garage is right behind the garden."









"The interface is quite intuitive. It was made specifically for inexperienced users. At the beginning of my existence, I was guided by similar technology to be honest, we can still automate a lot of processes here."
Avi's eyes were stuck on Luna, she was happy to have an assistant like her "Maybe if you are familiar with my technology, could you help to activate a few of the robots?"
"With great pleasure."
Luna moved to disassembled machines "What device would you like to fix first? I would like to warn you, we might not have enough spare parts."
Avi moved to a shape under a stained coverlet. She knelt, pondering, then removed the cloth and revealed a steel bird and a wristguard with a small screen.
"Here I call him 'Scout'. He means a lot to me."
Luna moved closer "Move him to the table and open the back panel. Next"

Avi followed the instructions. After an hour of tinkering, they had to replace the gyroscopic system, the power cable, and a few elements related to remote control. Luckily, Avi knew where the substitute parts were and which machines could serve as donors.

It was the time of trial. Avi equipped the wristguard, clicked start, and waited until the eyes of a steel swallow lit up in red, registering the surroundings and relaying information to the pilot.

Avi, touched, was on the verge of tears. It was one of not many keepsakes from her father.

"I... you don't even know, how grateful I am." - Avi sighed, if she could, she would hug Luna.

"Think nothing of it." - Luna replied, a new device appeared useful to her. - "Your robot looks quite exploited."

Avi nodded. - "It's one of the few things that brought me closer to the sky. I always dreamt of flying, like him."

