

EXT. OUTPOST - BACK ALLEY - DAY

Michelle and Rotor collapse to the ground, gasping for breath. Angelica seems barely affected by the poison.

She squats next to wheezing Rotor.

ANGELICA

You said you create life after death. What did you mean?

ROTOR

From a single strand of DNA, I can replicate an entire organism. Essentially recreating life.

MICHELLE

Reincarnation.

ROTOR

But without the soul.

He suddenly blanches when he notices Angelica's leg.

ROTOR (CONT'D)

Um, you should probably take care of that.

She doesn't see anything wrong, so he points it out to her. Her leg is completely shattered. Bits of bone protruding through her skin.

Sighing, Angelica sits down. Slices her leg open to the bone. Not even a hint of discomfort.

ANGELICA

That's impossible. To re-code a strand of DNA would take several years. Do you know how many millions of--

Michelle gawks at Angelica. Watching in amazement as Angelica nonchalantly operates on her own leg.

ROTOR

No, you're looking at it from a singularity point of view. Let me give you an example.

Rotor picks up a fistful of sand from the ground. Places a single grain on his palm.

ROTOR (CONT'D)

Pretend this represents a DNA strand.

(MORE)

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ROTOR (CONT'D)

You need to create X-number of the same sequence to create a living organism. Now you could do it one at a time...

He places more individual grains of sand on his palm.

ROTOR (CONT'D)

...and Angelica's right. It'll take forever. HOWEVER, if we introduce a parasitic viral code into the equation... what do you suppose that does?

Listening intently, Angelica sews herself up.

MICHELLE

Each virus creates another batch of virus...

ROTOR

Correct. Viruses, like all living organisms, are programmed for reproduction and survival. Just like us, we spread our genes and multiply ourselves. So, in essence, one virus creates a DNA strand...

Again, Rotor lays a grain of sand on his open palm.

ROTOR (CONT'D)

...and multiplies by creating more replicas of itself.

For each grain, he partners it up with a "replica" grain.

ROTOR (CONT'D)

Each replica does the same thing.

He empties the entire fistful of sand. It overflows his open hand.

ROTOR (CONT'D)

When you multiply it exponentially, very soon, thousands create millions and millions create billions, all within just a few minutes.

MICHELLE

Incredible...

ROTOR

That's how it's done.

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ANGELICA

So what are the bio-punks  
creating? What are they bringing  
back to life?

ROTOR

That... we will have to find out.  
Why don't you join us?

MICHELLE

We don't need a tag-along.

ANGELICA

I just saved your life!

MICHELLE

Good. So we're even now.

Angelica stands up. Gazes coldly at them.

ANGELICA

The gas should have dissipated by  
now. I'm going back below. Maybe  
I'll see you there.

Michelle doesn't answer as Angelica opens the hatch to  
the tunnel entrance. Disappears below the surface.

MICHELLE

What was that all about?

ROTOR

You shouldn't have run her off. I  
think our paths have crossed for a  
reason. Your brother, my machine,  
her clan...

MICHELLE

Not that. She just opened herself  
up and sewed herself back together  
without even flinching.

ROTOR

Angelica is... special.

MICHELLE

A cyborg?

ROTOR

Please. You're too old to believe  
in fairy tales.

MICHELLE

Then what? She's not human.

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ROTOR

On the contrary, she... is the  
next stage of human evolution.