



**THE**  
**ARK**  
**ANNABEL SMITH**

Book One  
2041

Kirk

The Australian, June 24th 2093

# Chaos Cult Bunker Unearthed at Mount Kosciuszko

Seventeen people have been recovered from a bunker built into Mount Kosciuszko in south-east Australia, where they have been living in total isolation for almost five decades, since the government collapse in the wake of the post-peak oil chaos in 2041.

The find has sent shockwaves through the international scientific community, as the bunker, the most sophisticated of its kind to be unearthed, houses a vault containing thousands of seed specimens, including some from plants previously believed to be ex-

tinct. In size and scope its collection exceeds those of both the Millennium Seedbank in London, and the Svalbard Global Seedbank in Norway, known as the 'Doomsday Vault'.

Hikers sheltering from a sandstorm were astonished to discover the concealed entrance leading to a bunker which was 'like something out of a science-fiction movie'. A reintegration team has spent the last three days preparing the inhabitants for their transition to the world at large. The men, women and children are now being treated at a Post-Chaos Rehabilita-

tion Centre, on the north-east coast of Australia.

Roscoe Baker-Albright, who was taken to the bunker by his parents when he was only 15 and is now the oldest inhabitant at 67, revealed that of the original 26 people who moved into the bunker in 2041, only four remain. The rest of the survivors were born in the facility, including one six-year-old girl, a third generation bunker baby.

Rosalie Ornish, director of the Rehabilitation Centre for almost two decades, reported that though suffering from acute culture shock, the group is in the

best physical health of any she has treated. She believes that this may be attributable to their diet: despite the low quality of the soil, they have apparently been successful in growing enough edible crops to meet all their nutritional needs.

Pedro Ramirez of the New World Health Organisation announced yesterday that 'the significance of this discovery to the global food crisis cannot be overstated.' It is hoped that an in-depth investigation will reveal the full story behind the creation of the bunker.

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**To** Employees

**Date** 11.04.41

**From** Aidan Fox

**Re** Closure of The Ark

This unencrypted memo is an **apparition**<sup>™</sup>. It cannot be printed, saved, forwarded, or replied to. Within 5 minutes of being opened it will be irretrievably deleted from your system and will leave no trace. Read it carefully and ensure you understand its contents.

Recent events have necessitated the closure of the National Arboreal Protection Facility aka the Ark. The Ark will be sealed at 2359 hours, TOMORROW, April 12th, 2041.

Transport to the Ark has been arranged for employees and those members of their families approved for Ark habitation. Those who wish to be admitted prior to the closure must be ready for collection at the previously arranged location from 1600 hours tomorrow.

As agreed in your contract, your departure must not be disclosed to any parties, under any circumstances. Those who breach security may be refused transportation. Unapproved persons will be refused transportation. Approved inhabitants accompanied by unapproved persons will be refused transportation. Reasonable force will be used, if necessary.

Each inhabitant may bring one bag of personal items, measuring not more than 90 by 75 by 43cm and weighing

not more than 23kg. It is not necessary to bring clothing as suitable attire will be provided for all inhabitants.

Sanctioned items include:

- » Photographs & personal memorabilia
- » MyBytz (NB: these will be quarantined upon arrival)
- » Personal valuables, e.g. jewellery
- » Prescription medications (recommended five year supply), accompanied by documentation

Contraband items include:

- » Non-prescription medications & illegal narcotics
- » Non-essential electric/electronic appliances, e.g. electric shavers, hairstylers
- » Weaponry and self-defence apparatus
- » Pets & plant-matter

Regards

Aidan

Project Manager



**To** Ark Inhabitants

**Date** 13.04.41

**From** Aidan Fox

**Re** Welcome

Dear friends

Welcome! It's wonderful to have you all here, and a special welcome to those of you who have brought family members. I'd like to ask everyone to do their best to help our new arrivals find their way around and feel comfortable. We will have a full team briefing and guided tour this afternoon, but in the meantime, I'd like to let you all know exactly who we have on board so that we can start to get to know each other:

## **OPERATIONS & ADMINISTRATION**

**Gabriella (Gab) Portelli** is our manager of Information Security; she's been with the Ark since its inception and knows the facility better than anyone.

**Huyen Phan, Ali Abdullal** and **Etienne Delorme-Hart** are respectively our Mechanical, Electrical and Hydrolex Engineers and it's thanks to them we have fresh water, light, hot showers and everything else that makes our lives comfortable down here. Etienne has brought his wife, Ava, and their 8-year-old daughter Isadora with him.



**Felipe Morales-Parker** is responsible for maintenance – you name it, he can fix it. He's here with his wife Paige, and kids Louis, aged 6, and Clementine, aged 4.

**Alejandro (Alex) Lopez-Gordieva** is our doctor and psychologist. Those of you with prescription meds would have registered with him already; he's also the person to talk to about any stress or anxiety from the journey here, or trouble settling in. He's come with his wife **Darya**, also a qualified MD.

**Koshan Shahriyor** is responsible for technology and communications. You would have all met him when you surrendered your MyBytz on arrival – he's working furiously to disinfect them all and should have them back to you in a day or two. In the meantime you have access to the stations in the Hub, which you must have found, otherwise you wouldn't be reading this!

**Mia Baker-Albright** is our Futurologist. She has brought her husband, **Griffin**, and their children: **Roscoe** (15) and **Marigold** (10).

## **LABS/GARDEN**

Our labs and G.A.R.D.E.N. (Growth Apparatus for Regenerative Development of Edible Nourishment) team

are responsible for the Ark's core work – protecting and building knowledge of our collection of seeds:

**Rudolph Schwab** – Chemist

**Haruki Nishimura** – Microbiologist

**Nisha Lakhani** – Food Scientist

**Pilot Nielsen** – Botanist

**Caitlin Wood** – Agricultural Scientist

**Maribel McLeod** – Soil Scientist

**Kristjan Sepp** – Horticulturalist

**Leilani Rivera** – Biologist

I hope this gives you at least a rudimentary knowledge of who to ask for what and I look forward to seeing you all in the Hub this afternoon to share more information.

Regards

Aidan

**Project Manager**

13.04.47 Kirk >>> Aidan

Aidan, there've been some disturbing rumours circulating this morning about an emergency closure of The Ark. I've no idea how it got started but it's causing a frenzy here as you can imagine and I've already got someone from Global breathing down my neck.

I'd appreciate it if you could get in touch as soon as you get this so I can reassure the powers that be that everything is proceeding as planned.

Global are monitoring dailemail™ so please use gopher until further notice.

Regards

Kirk

Chief Executive Officer  
SynBioTec Australasia  
289 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney 2000



sender>  
-Aidan Fox

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 13-04-2041    sub> Ark Closure

**Kirk**

**For once the rumours are true - unfortunately recent events have necessitated the closure of the Ark.**

**The impact of the Chaos has been more pervasive of late and I've been increasingly concerned about a number of my team members. With the pressure mounting both inside and out, I suspected it was only a matter of time before someone cracked.**

**I don't need to tell you, of all people, the dangers of the general public knowing of our existence. The fact that news of the closure has already reached you proves my hunch, so the closure couldn't have been more timely.**

**I apologise for not communicating the news sooner - needless to say the last 48 hours have been filled with more immediate concerns.**

**I'll be in touch again once things have settled down here.**

**Regards, Aidan**

**Project Manager**

**National Arboreal Protection Facility**

13.04.47 Kirk >>> Aidan

Aidan, have you lost your mind? Concerns about your team members do not constitute grounds for unauthorised closure of the facility! Even if your suspicions prove correct and the security of the Ark is deemed to be in jeopardy, the decision to close is beyond your jurisdiction. It is unthinkable that you would make such a decision without consulting me. You've put me in a most compromising position.

I have, of course, denied the rumours about the closure. But Global is demanding a report on the matter so we're going to have to put our heads together and come up with something plausible – a security systems test or some such. I'll have to come down and check things out for appearances' sake – I'll be arriving late tomorrow evening.

I'll expect the facility to be open for business as usual by the time I arrive.

Kirk

PS Use gopher™ if you need to contact me.



sender>  
-Aidan Fox

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 13-04-2041    sub> Maximum Security Implemented

**Kirk**

I understand your concerns, given SynBioTec's investment in the Arboreal Protection Project. In fact, your interests were a primary factor in the decision - early closure seemed the only course of action guaranteed to protect SynBioTec's assets.

Unfortunately, it won't be possible for me to reopen the facility or for you to gain access. Under the circumstances it seemed prudent to implement maximum security by activating a five-year time-delay lock.

Please advise your superiors in the Global office that we continue to operate in SynBioTec's best interests, and in accordance with the Covenant, and rest assured I'll keep you regularly updated with any developments here. If you have any specific concerns or questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Regards**  
**Aidan**



13.04.47 Kirk >>> Aidan

Don't bullshit me, Aidan, have you forgotten who you're talking to? I helped design the security systems, remember? There is no five-year time-delay lock and we both know it.

You leave me no choice but to bring a SynBioTecSecure team with me. I'm obliged by law to warn you that if we don't arrive to find those gates wide open we'll use whatever force is necessary to get inside.

And in the meantime, use the fucking gopher.



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Gabriella Portelli

date> 13-04-2041 sub> Unauthorised Closure

**Gabriella**

I learnt this morning that an unauthorised closure of the Ark has been implemented. I'm aware of how persuasive Aidan can be but I've never doubted your ability to keep him in check. I sincerely hope you won't give me cause to doubt it now.

I assume there's a reasonable explanation for this commotion. We can have an in-depth discussion when I arrive tomorrow but I'll expect to hear from you before then.

Regards  
Kirk

dailyemail™



sender>  
-Gabriella Portelli

recipients>  
-Aidan Fox

date> 13-04-2041 sub> FW> Unauthorised Closure

**FYI. Do you really think he'll come?**

sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Gabriella Portelli

date> 13-04-2041 sub> Unauthorised Closure

**Gabriella**

dailyemail™

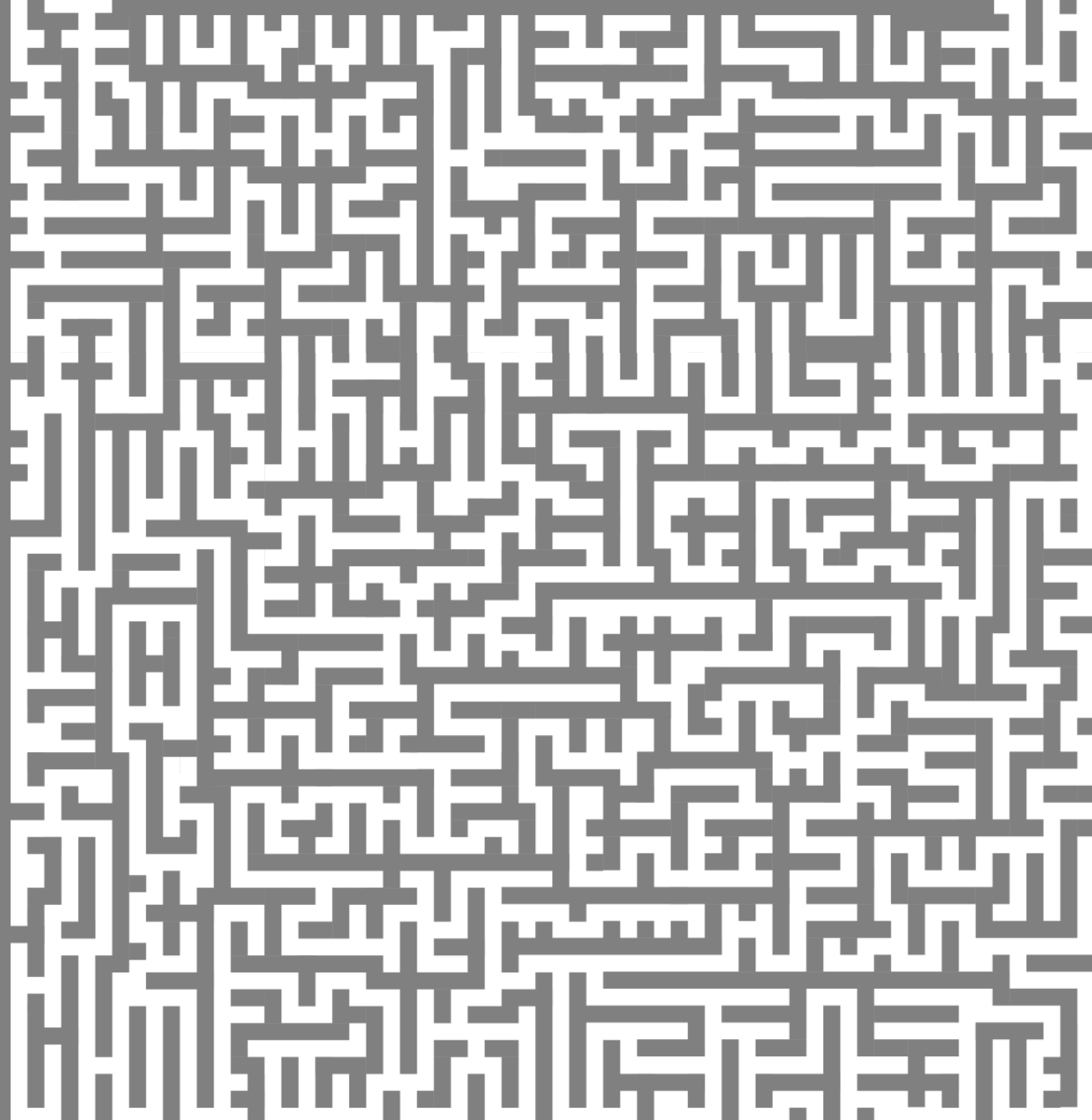




13.04.47 Aidan >>> Gabriella

He'll be wasting precious fuel. I'll take care of it. We'll keep in touch via gopher, for obvious reasons.

AF



SynBioTec Global ®  
1-5 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY  
USA 10011

Mr Aidan Fox  
3/12 Yarrandabby Street  
Elizabeth Bay NSW 2011

April 14th 2041

Mr Fox

It has come to our attention that the National Arboreal Protection Facility, also known as the Ark, has been closed.

According to article 213b(iv) of the agreement between NAPF and SynBioTec Global, dated September 23rd 2034, the closure of the Facility requires the written permission of a SynBioTec Executive.

Since no such authority has been issued, the closure of the Ark constitutes a direct contravention of The Agreement. You are hereby ordered to reopen the Ark and report to the office of SynBioTec Australasia within 48 hours.

Failure to comply with this directive will result in legal proceedings.

Meeting needs through seeds,



Juan Carlos Almodovar  
President

copy: klongrigg@synbiotec.com.au



**LetterLike**



sender>  
-Juan Carlos Almodovar

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 14-04-2041    sub> The Ark Closure

**We both know that letter's going to achieve sweet fuck all. What's your real plan?**

dail<sup>e</sup>mail™



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Juan Carlos Almodovar

date> 14-04-2041    sub>Re: The Ark Closure

**Juan Carlos**

**We're using a three-pronged attack:**

- 1. Regaining the cooperation of Gabriella Portelli (Head of InfoSec)**
- 2. Enlisting the support of employees**
- 3. Activating our plant for inside intel**

**I'll keep you in the loop with any developments.  
Kirk**

dail<sup>e</sup>mail™



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Gabriella Portelli

date> 14-04-2041    sub> Maximum Security Implemented?

**Gabriella**

I'm disappointed not to have heard back from you. When I confirmed your appointment as Head of InfoSec I thought we had an understanding about where your obligations lay. Nowhere did it include the appropriation of SynBioTec's intellectual and physical property. I'm sure I don't need to spell out the legal implications of such insubordination.

However, provided you can guarantee me your unequivocal assistance in bringing the Ark back under SynBioTec's control, I'm prepared to overlook this aberration.

First and foremost, I require from you the repudiation of the existence of a supposed five-year time-delay lock which Aidan claims to have activated.

I await confirmation of your cooperation moving forward.

**Kirk**

14.04.47 Aidan >>> Kirk

That's rich, Kirk, accusing me of bullshitting you and then in the same breath threatening me with a Sec Team. We BOTH know you won't bring a Sec Team down here because you wouldn't want any of those leadheads knowing the whereabouts of the facility.

And as for that letter supposedly from the king dick himself, what do you take me for? You probably got some secretary you're screwing to type it up for you.

If I'd waited for written permission from every joe who has an interest in this facility it would have been too late. I did what had to be done, and that's why you put me in charge here, because I could think for myself and make tough decisions when they needed to be made

Pull yourself together for fuckssake.

14.04.41 Kirk >>> Aidan

You always were an arrogant little prick Aidan. Don't make the mistake of assuming you've got SynBioTec all worked out. Surely even you aren't stupid enough to think those gorillas you saw at the Radical Rally are the only type of Sec Teams we have? We've got guys that make Darth Vader look like a fucking retard. And believe me, you don't want to get on the wrong side of them.

We own you, Fox, don't ever forget that.

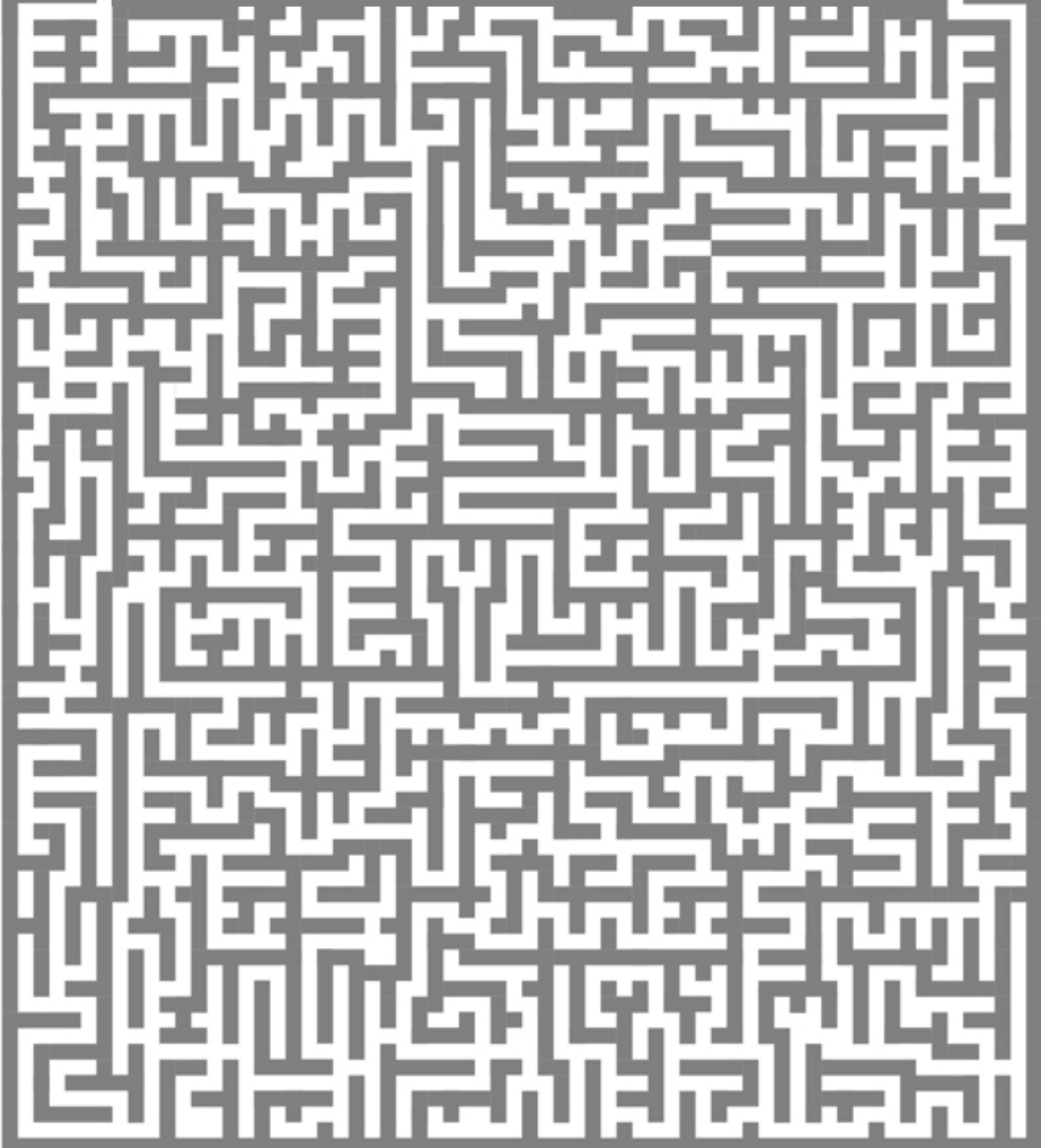
14.04.41 Aidan >>> Kirk

You might own me but for the next five years I own your facility.

14.04.41 Kirk >>> Aidan

Fuck it, Aidan. Let's give up trying to call each other's bluff. We've known each

other a long time and both our necks are on the guillotine. I give my word it'll just be me and my sec guard. We'll talk it over and I'm sure we can work something out that's agreeable to both parties.





sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Gabriella Portelli

date> 14-04-2041 sub>Fw: Maximum Security Implemented?

**Gabriella**

I'm still awaiting your response to yesterday's email. You should be aware that failure to cooperate may result in charges of hijacking a national trust facility under the latest anti-terrorist legislation.

I trust I will hear from you without further delay.  
Kirk

daily**mail**™



sender>  
-Juan Carlos Almodovar

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 14-04-2041 sub>

Enough pussy-licking, Kirk. What do you think we employ you for? This is not a negotiation. If you don't get down there and get this situation under control in the next 12 hours, I'll find someone who can.

daily**mail**™



SynBioTec Australasia®  
289 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney 2000

Attn: Ark Employees

April 16th 2041

It is with regret that I write to inform you that Aidan Fox has been removed from his position as SynBioTec's Arboreal Protection Project Manager, effective immediately.

Until a suitable replacement can be appointed, I will be assuming Mr Fox's duties. For the time being, all employees of the Arboreal Protection Facility will report to me.

All employees of the Ark have been informed of the situation. However, this is a confidential matter which must not be discussed with any other party, including colleagues and family members. In particular, since the arrangements regarding Mr Fox's departure are not yet finalised, this matter must not be discussed with Mr Fox himself.

We appreciate your discretion and loyalty to SynBioTec.

Meeting needs through seeds,



Kirk Longrigg  
Chief Executive Officer  
copy: jcalmodovar@synbiotec.com



**LetterLike**



sender>  
-Rudolph Schwab

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 16-04-2041    sub> Removal of Aidan Fox

I'd like to know on what grounds Aidan has been removed from his position.

Rudolph Schwab, Chemist



sender>  
-Mia Baker-Albright

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 16-04-2041    sub> Removal of Aidan

Mr Longrigg

Allow me to introduce myself: My name is Mia Baker-Albright and I have been the futurologist here at the Ark for four years. Recently, my husband and I made the decision to move into the facility with our two children, aged ten and fifteen.

Despite repeated assurances from the government about safeguards for 'law abiding citizens', the impact of the Chaos is becoming more evident by the day and it seemed that being here would be best for our children's welfare in the short term. However, as I'm sure you can imagine, it was not an easy decision to take them away from friends, schools, grandparents and so on.

A large part of our willingness to move here was based on our faith in Aidan's leadership. You can imagine our consternation then, to receive your letter this morning. To be told that Aidan was to be removed from his position was not welcome news.

I understand there may be privacy conventions preventing you from revealing the reasons behind Aidan's removal. However, Griffin and I would

appreciate it if you could at least give us some information as soon as possible which would provide a clear picture of the ways in which this change will impact the facility and us, as employees and inhabitants.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours sincerely

Mia



sender>  
-Nisha Lakhani

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 16-04-2021 sub> Aidan Fox

**Mr Longrigg**

**My name is Nisha Lakhani; I am the food scientist here at the Ark. Respectfully, I think you should know that your letter has caused something of a panic here today.**

**I'm sure I don't need to point out to you that the timing is less than opportune, since it has been only a matter of days since we all arrived at the Ark for habitation and we are still going through the process of adjusting. As I expect you can imagine, the confinement, the atmosphere underground, the new routines and living as a community take some getting used to.**

**To be frank, if a reappointment at this level needed to be made, I think it would have been better to have it finalised before habitation occurred. It is one thing to agree to live and work under the leadership of someone you know and trust, and altogether another to live and work under the leadership of an unknown entity.**

**I think we are all feeling in need of additional information and reassurance at this point in time.**

**Yours faithfully  
Nisha Lakhani**



sender>  
-Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 16-04-2021    sub> Team Wellbeing

**Mr Longrigg**

**My name is Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva and I am the Vitality Coordinator for this facility. I have been with the team for less than six months, as obviously there was no pressing need for an onsite medic until habitation became a real possibility.**

**As the newest member of the team, I have not yet had the opportunity to form the close relationship with Aidan that many of my co-workers have. Some team members have reacted to the news of his removal as Project Manager with concern and there is considerable apprehension about a replacement. Personally, I would not presume to ask for the reasons behind the decision to remove Aidan, but as the person responsible for the wellbeing of the Ark employees (and their families), I believe an explanation would assist them in adjusting to this unexpected change.**

**Though I do have experience in psychological practice, it is not my primary field of expertise, and I believe in a situation like this the team may benefit from either group and/or individual consultations**

**with a practitioner who has experience in this type of situation. Is there any possibility that such a service could be arranged?**

**In healing**

**Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva**



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Ark Employees

date> 17-04-2041

sub> Human Resource Changes

**My colleagues**

**Thank you for your prompt responses to my letter. It is heartening to be presented with so much evidence of your dedication to the Arboreal Protection Project and your loyalty to your former leader.**

**I apologise for not being more open in my first letter. As such steadfast employees, it is only proper that you receive an honest explanation for this unexpected human resourcing change.**

**A few days ago it came to my attention that all Arboreal Protection team members had been instructed by Mr Fox to proceed to the Ark for closure. No authority for this closure had been given and by issuing this directive, Mr Fox transgressed the boundaries of his role as Project Manager of the facility.**

**It is understood that Mr Fox claimed the closure was a response to an alleged security breach. Mr Fox has been integral in designing, implementing**



and maintaining myriad measures to protect SynBioTec's investment in the Arboreal Protection Project and maintain the secrecy of the Ark. There is no evidence of any of these systems being breached, or even so much as threatened.

We are awaiting a complete diagnosis from our wellbeing experts, but, regrettably, signs indicate that Mr Fox is suffering from psychological strain which may be impacting on his critical thinking and decision-making abilities.

Mr Fox's condition is, of course, a highly confidential matter which would not usually be shared with colleagues. However, the SynBioTec legal team have deemed these to be special circumstances. They have advised that withholding this information would be neither right nor fair to those of you who have been affected so directly by Mr Fox's actions.

Your wellbeing is our first priority in this situation. For your own protection, it is imperative that you do not attempt to confront Mr Fox, or reveal the content of my communications. As previously mentioned, he is in a volatile psychological state and any antagonistic behaviour may trigger an unpredictable, or even violent, response.

**On behalf of SynBioTec I would like to apologise for the considerable inconvenience caused by Mr Fox's actions and to assure you that we have a specialist team working round the clock to ensure this delicate matter will be expeditiously resolved in a manner satisfactory to all parties.**

**Yours faithfully  
Kirk**

**Kirk Longrigg  
Chief Executive Officer  
SynBioTec Australasia  
289 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney 2000**



sender>  
-Rudolph Schwab

recipients>  
-Aidan Fox

date> 17-04-2041 sub> FW> Human Resource Changes

**Presume you're monitoring all incoming? Wanted to make sure you'd seen this:**

sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Ark Employees

date> 17-04-2041 sub> Human Resource Changes

**Rudolph**

daily**mail**™



sender>  
-Aidan Fox

recipients>  
-Rudolph Schwab

date> 17-04-2041 sub> Re:Fw: Human Resource Changes

**Thanks, working on a response now, will BLiPP shortly, see you in the hub.**

**AF**

daily**mail**™

SENDER  
> AIDAN

RECIPIENT/S  
> ARK EMPLOYEES

- > team engagement
- > immediate
- > hub
- > minors to media pod

**BLIPP™**

Date > 17-04-41

Drafted & Delivered > Aidan Fox

Form > Focused Communication

Location > Hub

[Businesslike] Welcome, and thank you for responding so quickly to my BLiPP. I know for many of you, the decision of whether to attend this engagement was not an easy one because it contravened the orders you had been given by your so-called new manager. I appreciate your loyalty in making the decision to come and your willingness to allow me to explain what's behind Longrigg's communiqué.

[Heartfelt] The Arboreal Protection Project is without doubt the most important biodiversity project in Australia, possibly even the world. I believe in it with every fibre of my being. [Grateful] What touches me so deeply is the knowledge that every one of you believes in it as fervently as I do.

Over the last few months I have been consistently amazed by the depth of commitment shown by each of you. [Dramatic] Every time you left your homes to come here you faced untold menace, risked never seeing

your loved ones again. Touched though I was by your devotion to your work, I felt increasingly uncomfortable with what was being asked of you.

As you well know, one of SynBioTec's guiding principles is 'our people are our most valuable resource'. Yet, when I raised my concerns about your safety with [Sarcastic] our esteemed leader, his response was, and I quote, [Cold] There'll always be collateral damage. You don't stop the whole production line just because one worker cuts off his hand.

[Pause] The callousness of his words shocked me. [Plaintive] Initially I felt powerless in the face of an organisation which so blatantly neglects its duty of care to its people. I came to see that the only way to safeguard your welfare was to take the responsibility upon myself.

I told Kirk that the Ark had to be closed because there had been a security breach. [Compassionate] But the truth is, I closed those doors because I saw no other way to protect you and your families from the perils that jeopardised our lives in the world outside.

As I'm sure I don't need to tell you, SynBioTec asks a great deal of its employees. But of all the demands, the

most stringent is the demand for unwavering loyalty. [Menacing] Anyone who questions, doubts, challenges is amputated like a gangrenous limb, the blow so swift and sharp they hardly feel it. But before the blade even falls, irreparable damage has been done: their personal and professional integrity in ruins, their financial security in jeopardy. SynBioTec obliterates its former allies as it would its most formidable enemies.

[Regretful] Over the years I have seen enough lives destroyed to have no doubts about the fate that would befall me by closing the Ark without seeking approval. [Brave] When I closed those doors I knew I was sealing my own fate. And yet, I did it gladly, because I value you more than I value my reputation. [Rousing] Because of far greater importance than my own livelihood is the success of this incredible and important project which we have the privilege to be part of.


Was my decision reckless? Possibly. Was it the act of a madman? [Solemn] That is for you to decide. [Doubting] Will you accept the diagnosis of Longrigg's wellbeing experts, a team apparently so refined in their expertise that they can draw conclusions about my condition without even the most cursory of examinations? [Trusting] Wouldn't you rather make up your own mind? Use your

eyes and your ears. Use the critical judgement that has made you so indispensable to the success of this project. Take a moment to reflect.

Do you see before you the violent lunatic Longrigg described? [Forgiving] If so, I give you my blessing to accept his leadership. [Humble] But, if you see the man you've worked alongside, a man who has acted from the purest of intentions, who has put your best interests and the interests of the facility before his own, I ask you to come now and stand beside me. For I can lead you without SynBioTec's sanction. I can do without a title, a BizChip, a DigiFon. [Brotherly] What I can't do without is your support.







sender>  
-Huyen Phan

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 17-04-2041    sub>Re: Human Resource Changes

**Mr Longrigg**

**My name is Huyen Phan; I'm the Mechanical Engineer here, as you may remember. I've worked with Aidan for nearly a decade (since the design phase of the Ark). I don't know the first thing about psychology but I know Aidan as well as anyone here and I can tell you that there is nothing wrong with his mind. I don't know where you're getting your information but you should check your sources because I think someone's feeding you a line and frankly, all this brouhaha over getting someone else to take the wheel is making it hard for us to do our jobs.**

**My suggestion is that you come down here so you can see for yourself that he's perfectly sane and in fact, doing a bloody good job. In my experience these things are always better dealt with face-to-face.**

**Thanks for your time.**

**Huyen**



sender>  
-Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 17-04-2041

sub>Re: Human Resource Changes

Mr Longrigg

Thanks for your email and for taking on board my suggestion of providing more explanation for Aidan's departure. Unfortunately, it had the opposite effect than I'd hoped for. Your doubts about Aidan's mental health have caused distress to many team members, especially those with families who feel they've put their partners and/or children at risk by coming here. And among those who know Aidan better, the general reaction has been confusion as they can't see anything out of the ordinary in his behaviour.

Based on my own observation, Aidan seems wholly rational. In fact, given the circumstances, I would say he's extremely calm. He's working with the team to resolve any teething problems and is maintaining a positive demeanour despite the incessant demands on his time and attention.

I'm doing my best to talk to people and keep things calm, and have dispensed meds in a few cases. But, I feel that now, more than ever, some additional psychological support would be a big help, and I hope you'll think again about my suggestion to employ a consultant practitioner.

In healing

Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva

date> 17-04-2041

sub>Re:Re: Human Resource Changes

**Alejandro**

Though I'm sure your observations are well-intentioned, as you yourself said, psychology is not your area of expertise, so let's leave a diagnosis of Aidan's condition to the experts, shall we?

**Kirk**

**Kirk Longrigg  
Chief Executive Officer  
SynBioTec Australasia  
289 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney 2000**



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Ark Employees


date> 18-04-2041    sub> Liberation

Thank you for your patience. I am pleased to inform you that a SynBioTecSecure team will be arriving at the Ark within 24 hours to reopen the facility and liberate you and your families. For your own wellbeing, you will be brought to our national office for a situation debrief, before being returned home.

In addition, I am delighted to announce that SynBioTec Global has put together a most generous package to compensate you and your families for the inconvenience caused by this unfortunate episode. The contents of your package will be revealed upon your arrival at our offices; we look forward to making you welcome.

Warm regards

Kirk



sender>  
-Huyen Phan

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 18-04-2041    sub> Re: Liberation

Mr Longrigg, you seem to be labouring under the impression that we're being held here against our will. We all came to the Ark willingly and have no need to be either 'liberated' or debriefed. What we'd like most of all is just to be able to get on with our work.

Huyen Phan

daily  mail™



sender>  
-Aidan Fox

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 18-04-2041    sub> Proposed 'Liberation'

I don't know how to make this any clearer - **THE TIME-DELAY LOCK HAS BEEN ACTIVATED.** The only copy of the disarm codes has been **INCINERATED.** (Oh, and did I mention that **5,000** heirloom fruit tree seeds have been stored in special chambers adjacent to the entrance?)

The only way into this Ark is with enough dynamite to render every credit you've spent a credit wasted. Not even God Almighty and a choir of angels could open these doors now.

See you in five years - if you're still alive.

daily  mail™



sender>  
-Gabriella Portelli

recipients>  
-Kirk Longrigg

date> 19-04-2041    sub> New Distribution List

**Kirk**

**Because the issues which have been raised in the emails circulating since the closure of the Ark affect not only employees of the Arboreal Protection Project but also their family members currently residing in the Ark, it has been deemed appropriate for those parties to be included in all group e-comms.**

**I thank you to use the attached Ark Inhabitants list for all future communications.**

**Kind regards  
Gabriella**



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Gabriella Portelli

date> 19-04-2041 sub>Re: New Distribution List

**Have you taken leave of your senses? It's been six days since the illegal seizure of the Ark; you've failed to respond to my critical communications and the first I hear from you is a request to amend my distribution list!**

**I can't hold the dogs off anymore. This is your last chance to come over.**

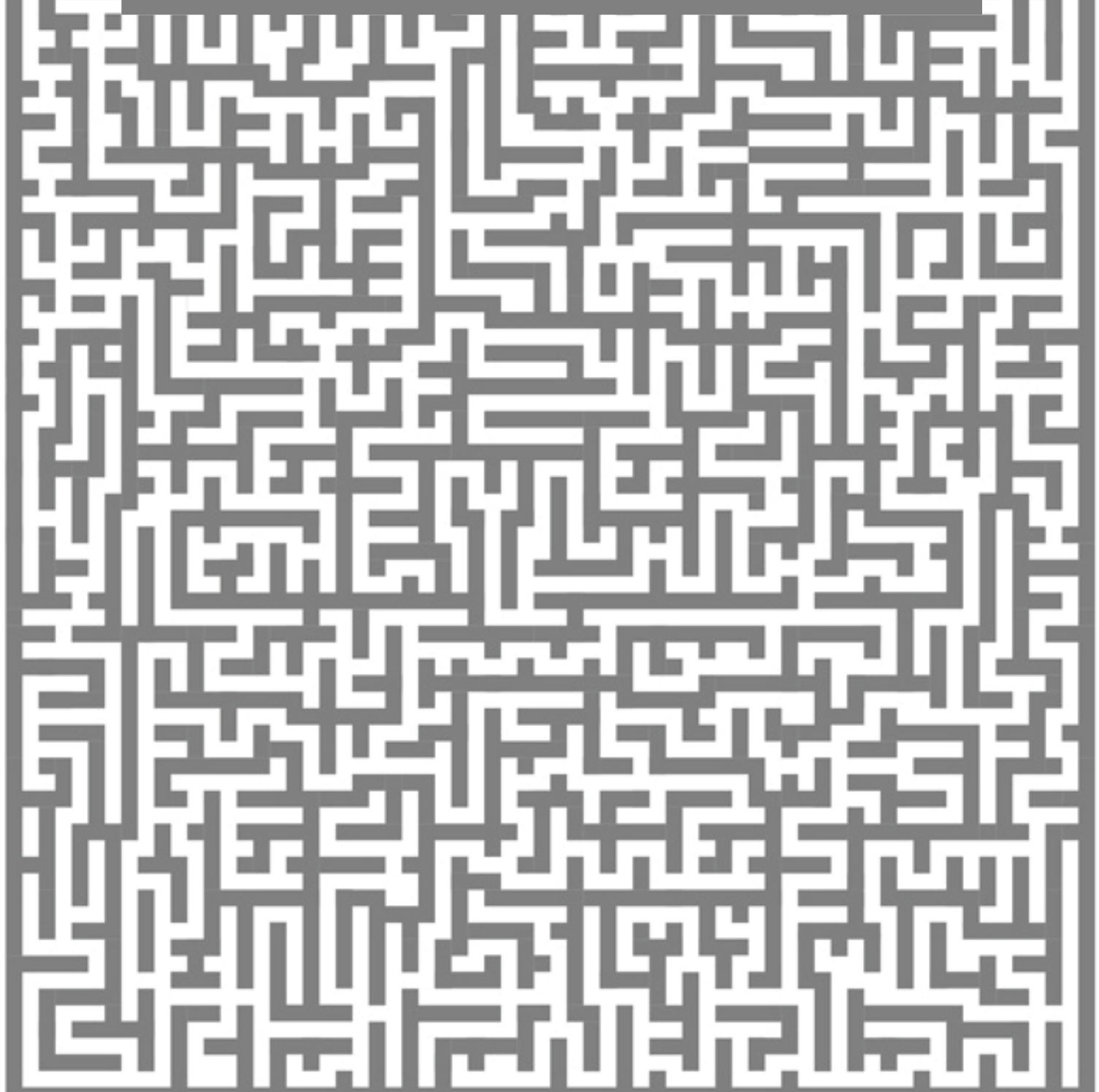
**Kirk**



19.04.47 Aidan >>> Rudolph

Org a media leak, ostensibly from w/in SynBioTec? Something about me having a history of mental illness/drug abuse, etc.

Thanks, AF





# National Arboreal Protection Project Manager Fired

Aidan Fox, Project Manager of the National Arboreal Protection Facility, has allegedly been removed from his position by his employer, global seed giant SynBioTec.

SynBioTec was last year absolved from responsibility for the worldwide crop failure caused by Pro-Maize and its partner product Gro-Maize, despite their scientists having initially developed both products.

Their multi-billion dollar Arboreal Protection Facility, hidden below-ground in a top-secret location, is designed to withstand

environmental, nuclear and political catastrophe. The most sophisticated facility of its kind, it houses more than 4 billion seeds from around the world.

Mr Fox has been Project Manager of the Arboreal Protection Facility since its inception in 2130.

An anonymous source from within SynBioTec revealed that Mr Fox had a history of substance abuse and that evidence had recently come to light that Fox has become addicted to the drug MdP<sub>2</sub>, more commonly known by its street name, friek.

Ina Grundtal, spokes-

person for the federal drug recovery program Kick It, said that there has been a spike in use of the drug since the Chaos began to impact on corporate bottom lines. The effects of the drug, which include dramatically enhanced brain activity and seemingly infinite energy, have made it popular with executives in positions of extreme stress.

Ms Grundtal said that due to initial minimal side-effects, there is a perception among users that the drug is safe. However, Ms Grundtal warned that

with regular use MdP<sub>2</sub> quickly becomes addictive, and with habituation more severe side-effects, including aggression, paranoia and hallucinations, begin to manifest.

A spokesperson for SynBioTec declined to comment on the allegations of Mr Fox's drug abuse. They did confirm that Mr Fox was being replaced as Project Manager for the Arboreal Protection Facility, although the replacement had not been finalised.

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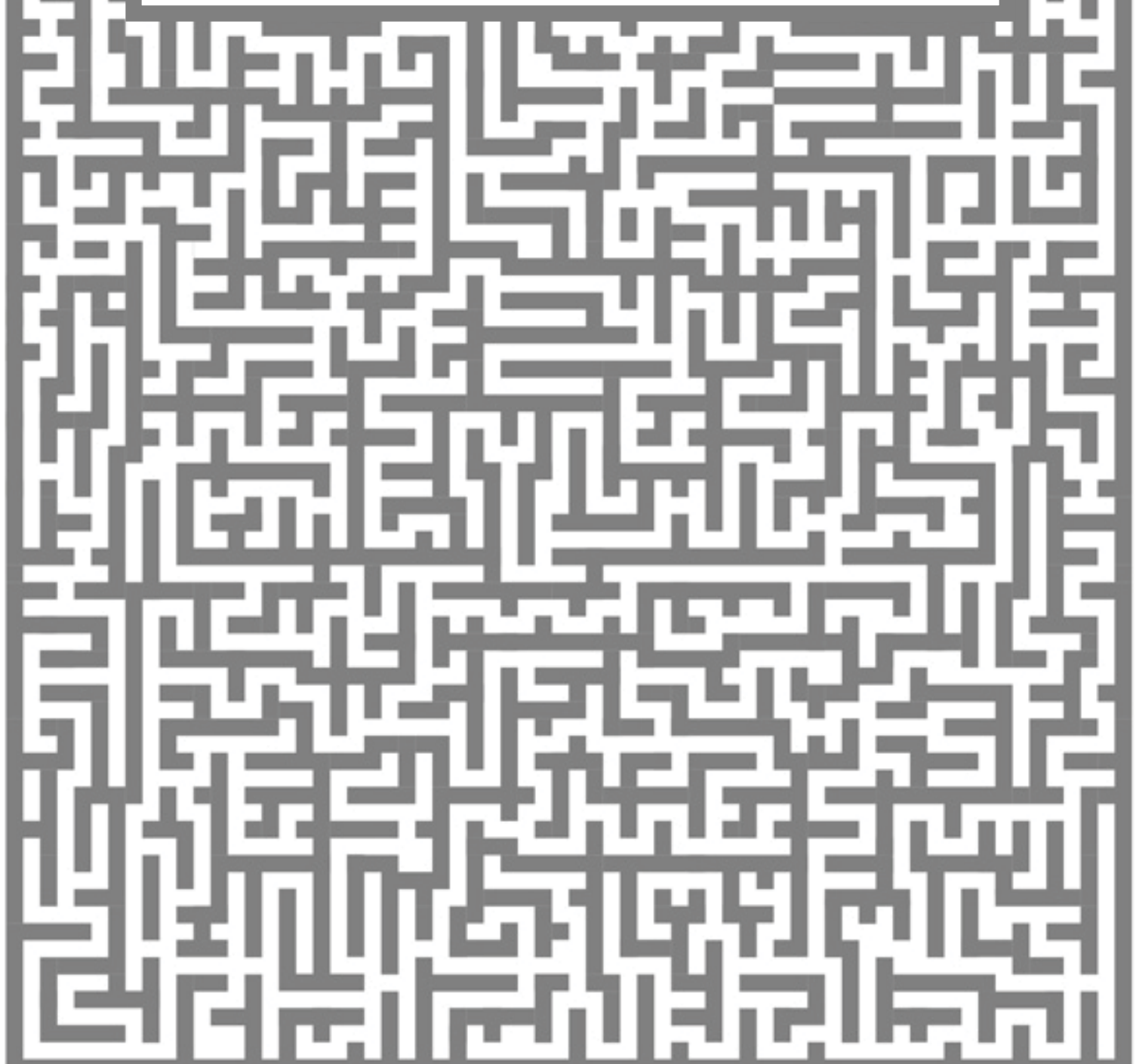


20.04.47 Aidan >>> Rudolph

Perfect. Take a cleanskin urine sample out of the archive, put my label on it and give it to Alex for testing – say I insisted.

Thanks

AF





sender>  
-Alejandro Lopez-Gordieva

recipients>  
-Ark Inhabitants

date>20-04-2041 sub>Re: NewsBLiPP

Some of you may have come across the attached NewsBLiPP. I'm sure none of us believed it for a moment but Aidan insisted we do things by the book and I'm glad to tell you his tests came back clear; not a trace of 'frieik' in sight. I think in future we can safely disregard any information that comes from 'an anonymous source within SynBioTec'!

In healing, Alex

---

ëKLiPP :: National Arboreal Protection Project Manager Fired



sender>  
-Kirk Longrigg

recipients>  
-Juan Carlos Almodovar

date> 19-06-2041 sub> Resignation

**Juan Carlos**

I regret that I am not writing with better news. We have exhausted every possibility (both physical and electronic) for accessing the Ark, and all attempts have failed.

We can at least be proud of having built an impenetrable facility.

I would like to take this opportunity to tender my resignation, effective immediately.

Yours faithfully

**Kirk Longrigg**

Chief Executive Officer  
SynBioTec Australasia  
289 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney 2000