SYNOPSIS

The backdrop of this book is information technology, spanning from the 1970s with the first computers and systems to the present day with new technologies such as the internet, e-commerce platforms, and AI – Artificial Intelligence, among others.

The friendship of young students begins in the late 1970s at the Computer Science faculty and would unite them for life. But the reality outside of academic life had no playful contours.

In the voids left by the obsolescence of old technologies, new tax regulations, new communication protocols with the financial market, clients, and suppliers, plus the constant evolutions of compliance rules, lies the epicenter of creativity for brilliant minds, albeit for malevolent purposes.

Emanuel and Paulo had to assess and resolve these challenges. It was during this assessment that Paulo discovered a sophisticated capital diversion scheme.

The sophistication was based on new technologies and the vacuum of obsolete management systems, weak

compliance rules, and, above all, administrators of dubious character.

Besides the architecture, the scheme's main merit was the non-traceability of actions and money.

But for Emanuel there were two problems to be solved, because due to his discovery Paulo's life was cut short. It was a perfect plan in its conception and execution. Again, they left no trace.

Limited by his ethical, moral, and religious convictions, Emanuel sought help from an old friend. Both used all their knowledge and experience so that:

"The Truth Always Come Out."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To my friends who studied with me, I want to thank you for the happy years we spent together. I apologize for not mentioning everyone, but there will be opportunities in the near future.

There's no doubt that those were the best years of our lives, as we acquired a wealth of knowledge, our worldview was inevitably transformed, we played, we made lasting friendships, each of us found the love of our lives, and we matured into real men ready to face the future.

There is a group that continues to discuss, swear, and play pranks irresponsibly as if they were still 18 years old. I also belong to this group, as my time accumulator remains stopped at college.

I need to speed up that accumulator...

This is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to reality is pure coincidence.

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1. Silent Revolution

In the 1960s, the world experienced a series of events that profoundly shaped society, from politics to technology. These events influenced everyone's lives and still resonate today. We could cite some examples such as Yuri Gagarin's orbit around the Earth, which sparked the space race, the Cold War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, independence movements in various countries in Africa and Asia, among others.

But a silent revolution was beginning to take great strides, opening a new path for humanity. And even today, we do not know the limits of its evolution.

This revolution began in World War II with Alan Turing, wronged by society at the time, but history has consecrated him with a public apology made by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, and a posthumous pardon from Queen Elizabeth II. We are talking about the father of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence.

The computer, until then seen as equipment exclusive to military centers and large corporations, was slowly becoming popular. Colleges and research centers around the world glimpsed the potential of the new science that was emerging, Computer Science. It was in this context that

a group of unknown young people with brilliant minds would build a long and sincere friendship. We start with Paul Nunquam and Emanuel Barlochio, the first to meet at the Computer Science college.

Paul was an introspective young man, not an athlete, but his curiosity about how machines worked consumed hours of analysis, as did anything with circuits and some functionality. Emanuel, on the other hand, was the opposite, outgoing, practiced many sports, always with a smile on his face, liked to lead discussions, and had a fascination with logical thinking. Both, however, shared a common passion, the desire to understand the future of machines.

The first day of class at the University was full of expectations. It was a new University, only 10 years old, but it was already in the media for the dissemination of its work in various areas of knowledge. Thus, the University was on the path of excellence, considered by all as a bastion of Science and Culture. The first feeling of all new students was of being at the epicenter of research and culture. The Department of Mathematics, with the newly created Computer Science course, attracted the attention of many young people interested in exploring this new technological frontier.

On the first day of class, Paul enters the room with his usual silence. He sat at the back, observing the new faces around him. Emanuel, in turn, did the opposite. As soon as he crossed the door, he started talking to his classmates. It was during one of these interactions that he spotted Paul, concentrated in his own thoughts. Emanuel, as usual, went to him and, with a smile on his face, said:

> Emanuel: Are you here because of computers too?
>
> Paul: Yes. I'm very interested in what we can do with these machines.

Emanuel sat next to Paul, and at that moment a friendship was born that would last for many years.

In addition to academic and sports challenges, Paul and Emanuel participated in numerous internal games and competitions with their classmates. There was, for example, the famous "Programming Marathon", a competition in which students had to solve complex logic problems in the shortest possible time. Paul always stood out for the efficiency of his code, while Emanuel was known for his ability to think outside the box, which obviously didn't always work.

But there was a prank that would change Emanuel's life. It happened one night at the processing center where they

were solving course assignments. The group of friends was also made up of Carol, a very polite, elegant, and refined girl, and her more outgoing but also elegant friend Mary. In the center, there were other classmates also involved in the project.

It was Carol's first time using the computer terminal, having obvious difficulty with the operating system commands. Louis Filipe Faustofen, a friend of Emanuel and Paul, noticing this difficulty, sent a message to Carol's terminal asking who was using the terminal. Carol was startled and went to Emanuel, who was next to her:

> Carol: Emanuel, what does this mean?

Emanuel, realizing Carol's lack of knowledge, asked to use her terminal to find out what the message was about. In the act, and by identifying the terminal, Emanuel discovered it was Louis, and thus the dialogue between the two begins:

> Emanuel: Who am I talking to?
>
> Louis: I am Prof. Dr. Tsekoúri, director of the processing center of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, and who are you?
>
> Emanuel: It doesn’t matter who I am, why are you questioning me and disrupting my work?

> Louis: Be more polite, besides, you are filling up the user's disk with this infinite loop in your program. I repeat, who are you and what are you doing?

Emanuel asks Carol what she did, Carol replies that she did nothing.

> Emanuel: Stop lying, I didn’t do anything, go bother someone else.

At this point, Carol was already sweating and afraid of the direction of the dialogue, as the terminal was logged in with her name.

> Louis: If you don’t want to identify yourself, no problem, I’ll easily find out, but from now on, bear the consequences of your actions.
>
> Emanuel: You are an imbecile, arrogant, pretentious. Don't bother me.
>
> Louis: I already know who you are, Ms. Carol. Your days are numbered.
>
> Emanuel: Who do you think you are? You are a conceited, petulant, cocky person. You don't have that much power.

> Louis: I will take your name to the council and ask for your expulsion from our faculty.

Carol leaves the room with tears in her eyes, thinking about the expulsion and how it would shake her life, both family and her future.

As soon as they realized that Carol was no longer in the room, Louis and Emanuel began to laugh at how the prank was conducted. The spontaneity and without any rehearsal were a source of satisfaction for both of them. Everything was done intuitively and naturally without looking at each other during the execution, giving realism to the event.

After a few minutes, 3 more friends arrived in the room: Winston Blackbridge, Paul Nunquam, Xirito Katsohara. Noticing Carol sitting on the floor and crying, they go to her to find out what happened and try to help her. Winston, astute as always, realizes it was Emanuel's doing, enters the room and says:

> Winston: You animal, Carol is crying. Go there and fix the mess you made.

Emanuel goes to Carol and talks to her, trying to convince her that it was a joke. Carol moved away, her face red with