

The Human Farm



An Interactive fiction

By
Group 3, W14

Yee Jiong Le, Alfred A0139173A - Writer
Cui Yu Xi A0125134U – Story Planner
Teo Qiao Kang A0154499M – Story Planner
Dinah Nazurah Binte Zulkifli A0161816E - Writer
Siaw Chi Shuen A0157204M - Writer

Description of Project: This interactive story aims to introduce the Lomansky, utilitarian argument against eating meat and rationality and ethics of care objection. Readers would be presented with an interactive scenario where humans are harvested by aliens for food similar to how humans are harvesting farmed animals for meat.

November 7th 2065

You are just about to return home for dinner when your ears pick up the sound of an eerie hum. You suddenly hear numerous, high-pitched voices, all broadcasting the same message:

Attention all humans, I hope you have been enjoying our wonderful hospitable facilities here so far in Singapore™!

That's kinda true, you have to concur. Your life has been running pretty smoothly these past few weeks. Perhaps, *too* smoothly. When you first received a letter in your mailbox that says you have been picked to stay in the newly built mega dome-city a.k.a Singapore™ you can hardly believe your stroke of luck. You have seen at least a dozen adverts right now of the newly built Singapore™: *A paradise city within a city, Shangri-La*. And suddenly, you are swept up into a grand, lavish life. You now reside in a luxurious, mansion-like house with built-in amenities of the latest advancements. You are served daily meals of the finest quality. In other words, you are living the life of kings.

Within a few days after witnessing that strange broadcasted message, you receive another message on your mobile phone. This time, it tells you that you (and the other new residents of Singapore™ dome-city) can never ever leave the place. Ever.

Residents begin to disappear without a trace. Surprisingly (or perhaps not so) their disappearances are never broadcasted on the news or media.

Then, one day – a mysterious guest greets you at your home:

“Well, hello. Life has been *pleasurable*, isn't it?”

The mysterious guest then carefully reveals that he is part of a hyper-intelligent alien-like species called Vectors. As you press your conversation further with this particular Vector, you come to learn that Singapore™, for all its worth as a paradise city or Shangri-La is actually a factory-farm. A human factory farm. Or to put it more plainly, the Vectors have been harvesting humans for food.

You demand to be set free. The Vector gazes thoughtfully at you for a moment but quickly reminds you of all the various forms of pleasures that Singapore™ has provided to you. All for the small price of being the Vector's food at any given time.

Even though you are distraught by the idea of a premature death, you do have to admit that you have taken great delights in the many forms of pleasures provided here. *In other words, you are living the life of kings.*

“If you think about it carefully, what we're doing isn't so bad after all. If we Vectors cannot harvest you humans, Singapore™ wouldn't even exist...And many of you will have to return fending yourself in the wild...I mean impoverished world...”

Do you agree with the Vector's statement?

1. The Vectors seems right... if the citizens in Singapore™ do seem to be experiencing greater pleasure than pain (perhaps even after knowing their fate as factory-farmed humans) I see nothing wrong with what the Vectors are doing. I don't mind my fate here. (if you choose this answer turn to page 3)
2. No! Don't you dare treat us like *animals*! (if you choose this answer turn to page 4)

Everyone will die eventually; it is only a matter of time.

Compared to living an impoverished life where we have to keep fending for ourselves, it is indeed better that we get to enjoy our life to the fullest before experiencing death.

Hedonism is the philosophy that pleasure is the most important pursuit of mankind and the only thing that is good for an individual. Hedonists believe that pleasure is the only good in life, and pain is the only evil, and our life's goal should be to maximize pleasure and minimize pain.

Since pleasure is something all humans seek, the fact that the vectors provided us with such desirable satisfaction and luxurious lifestyle before a quick and painless death provides sufficient reason for them to continue farming humans.

If the Vectors are able to let us pursue pleasure despite the fact that we are being kept as their food stock, it may not be wrong for them to argue that there is nothing wrong for them to farm humans.

THE END

You stand up bravely and wag a finger at the Vector. “No you’re wrong! We can’t compare ourselves to animals. The value of a human life cannot be measured simply in terms of pleasure. Perhaps there are other factors and interests to consider, such as the value of a human life being measured in terms of virtue.”

The Vector’s simply responds with a poker-faced expression. Your heart begins to pound against your chest - fearing that your display of ‘insolence’ will cost you your life. Instead, the Vector gives you a small mysterious smile.

“Amusing, I would like to see how you shall prove us wrong.”

Before you know it, you are teleported to an alien court. After a thorough assessment by the Vector Judge Loy (who has a doctorate in Philosophy), the Vectors deem your rational prowess worthy.

You are now tasked to reason with the Vectors on why they shouldn’t be farming and eating humans. And if your reasoning is convincing enough, the Vectors will agree to leave you and the rest of humanity alone (for the time being.)

Sounds simple right?

“Order! Order!” Judge Loy smashes his hammer against the podium. The murmurs of the audience die down. “Let us begin the case by asking this human here a simple question: why shouldn’t we be farming you humans?”

How would you respond?

1. You argue that farming humans will create more misery than happiness (if you choose this option go to page 6)
2. You assert that you and the rest of the humans have families and loved ones like the Vectors, and hence you seek the alien’s pity and understanding (if you choose this option go to page 5)
3. You simply implore the Vectors to be kind enough to spare you and the rest of the humans (if you choose this option go to page 7)

The Vectors considers what you said for a moment. You almost believed that you manage to gain sympathy from the aliens. However, the Vector's smile turns sinister. It responds, "There is a difference between my fellow Vectors and you. I care about them in a way that I don't care about you. Basically, to us you are food. Your family is food. Your loved ones are food. So why can't I eat you?"

How do you intend to argue now?

1. You shoot them a question, "What if there were hyper-rational beings that didn't care about you Vectors?" (if you choose this option go to page 9)
2. You simply implore for the Vectors to be kind enough to spare you and the rest of the humans (if you choose this option go to page 7)

The Vector considers your argument and replies, "There is a difference between my fellow Vectors and you. You are simply a lower, dumber life form than us."

How do you respond?

1. You argue that "if you won't let other smarter Vectors eat you than what right do you have to eat us?" (If you choose this option go to page 5)
2. You question their assumption, "Why is rationality even a factor in distinguishing you humans from us Vectors?" (if you choose this option page 8)

The Vector considers you for a moment, then responds “Haven’t I made myself clear? You so called humans are just food. Even if I were to spare your life, why should it apply to all other humans? Hmm. My appetite is not that good today. I shall eat you today, and I will only eat your family another day. Since you are a dumb being, you will never truly understand how kind I have been.”

The Vector eats you and the rest of the humans continue to be farmed for food.

THE END ☹

You explain, "Is rationality all that matters? Can you say that rationality is all there is to morally distinguish different species or creatures such you and I? What if there are certain Vectors who do not possess the same level of rationality (babies, mentally-disabled) - does that give you the right to eat them? And at what is the cut-off criteria of rationality?"

The Vector smiles, "Interesting, us Vectors shall ponder over this. In the meantime, off you go."

The Vectors set you free and you become the saviour of humans. You will never look at the farmed animals the same way again.

THE END ☺

You press on, "What if you are no longer at the top of the food chain?"

What if one day you become the innocent being hunted by something higher up the food chain?

What if one day you wake up and you realise that your loved ones are no longer around you? No matter how much you search so desperately, there is not a trace of their existence.

One day, as the world continues to evolve, Vectors will no longer be the strongest species in the food chain. There will be something that wields greater power and have a higher level of intelligence.

When the time comes, vectors will be reduced to a prey as well. You will no longer be the predator that does not have to fear for anything that is higher up in the food chain.

You will have to constantly look behind your shoulders for fear of being the next prey. Yet, your predator can leave you completely helpless and powerless. You will not only have to fear your own kind, but will also being a potential target for another species."

Vector Loy replies, "Hmm...fine you have changed my mind. I shall spare you and the rest of the humans this time."

The Vectors set you free and you become the saviour of humans. You will never look at the farmed animals the same way again.

THE END ☺