

On another planet, one city remains, a police state that lay on the brink of revolution and the perils of civil war. View one man's perspective of cruel inhumanities of the war that he never wanted.

Dream of Utopia

by Andrew G. Edwards

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First Edition

Timeline and summary of events preceeding the happenings of this recollection

A.L. After Landing

- 327 A.L. Earth ship *Rebirth* takes off for the New World
- 322 A.L. Earth ship *Rebirth* enters stasis
- 2 A.L. Earth ship *Rebirth* exits stasis
- 0 A.L. Earth ship *Rebirth* lands on New World:-
- 3 A.L. Settlement at the Acropolis is permanently settled after a period of wandering
- 5 A.L. Questions arise on how the planet should be ruled
- 7 A.L. Debates between free and planned economy proponents
- 8 A.L. Violence erupts between free and planned proponents
- 9 A.L. Free marketers separate into Stockists planned proponents into Unionists
- 14 A.L. Violence spirals out of control, city council bans weapons, but the black market trade skyrockets
- 15 A.L. Battle between the Unionists and the Stockists results in a stalemate with 455 dead
- 16 A.L. Due to the battle, fighting ended with both sides deciding to spread throughout the planet

- 57 A.L. Civil war begins
- 59 A.L. Planet divides into dozens of independent states due to governmental failure
- 64 A.L. Fascist revolution in the city of the Acropolis is led by Thomas Pendragon.
- 67 A.L. Tensions between Stockist and Unionist nations occur, brief wars break out, but Pendragon declares neutrality
- 68 A.L. Operation Suppressendum is approved by Pendragon
- 69 A.L. Internal factions "The Grand Communisma" and "Imperial Bourgeoisie" commit biological terror all over the New World
- 72 A.L. The Communisma and Bourgeoisie team up to assassinate Pendragon; in a Day of Terror, 4,558 die, including Pendragon.
- 75 A.L. Biological terror attacks trigger the Great War between the Unionist and Stockist alliances
- 77 A.L. Operation Suppressendum is complete meanwhile corruption wreaks havoc through the party
- 79 A.L. A Pendragon Restoration revolution occurs in the Acropolis unsuccessfully government starts first Four Year Shift
- 82 A.L. Massive biological warfare mutates most of the population of the new world (except in the Acropolis)
- 83 A.L. Stockists and Unionists begin the nuclear exchange dates after this don't really matter, do they?

Chapter One

Just another link in the chain. Another cool day passes over the Acropolis. Just another day another insignificant ant in the colony. I work only for one purpose, to ensure the survival of my race.

Who is this ant that speaks here? Randall Adams is my name, and financial management is my game. You know, making sure the stock market survives. If the market survives, the economy survives. If the economy survives, humanity survives. What do I mean by “humanity survives”? Simply that the Acropolis is the last city, the last hope for humanity and... blah blah blah...

If you missed the above public broadcast, I don't really care. The story begins in a place called Terra. Those people were just as screwed up as people in any other era. People draining their atmosphere for fuel. They asked questions about the depletion of their resources, then murder each other over those resources. One day, a group of idealists knew that things would go up in smoke. They barely got out alive.

These idealists were as stupid as the people they were escaping from. Can one ~~not~~ escape the very nature of his species? The same story Red vs. White-started up in just seven years. Socialists vs. Federalists. The Rose vs. The Tulip. Just crying for the urge of an outbreak of war.

So it began again. The 5.56 cartridges flew in both directions. Millions of lives were lost for two ideologies and for only a few quarter-miles in small settlements. Territory not large enough or worthy enough for a spider to die on, let alone a man.

Things got worse, in Socialist countries, ~~emp~~ employers said that things were unfair. Likewise, workers in some Federalist countries said that

things were unfair. What did they both have in common? They both killed many of their own people.

Through all the mess, a light shined through. A man named Thomas Pendragon, looked to bridge both philosophies. His ideas attracted many supporters and many enemies. Many flocked to the planet's capital in the Acropolis. In 64 A.L., Pendragon led his revolution, and the Acropolis was formed.

That's when it all changed for the worse. The Grand Communism and the Imperial Bourgeoisie, hated each other with a burning passion. Their common foe was Pendragon, so, they killed him along with many other Acropoleans.

This is where true history and propaganda split. According to the government, we unify to keep the policy and neutrality that Pendragon held dear. All lies! You see, here's what really happened.

After Pendragon's death, the party went astray. Yes, the vision of neutrality was still there, but corruption rampantly swept through it. They indoctrinated students, seized the media and silenced all who opposed them. Then the Operation kicked in. The Operation was started to ensure one thing; the survival of humanity *at any cost necessary*. It went as far as temporary mind control, known as the Four--Year Shift.

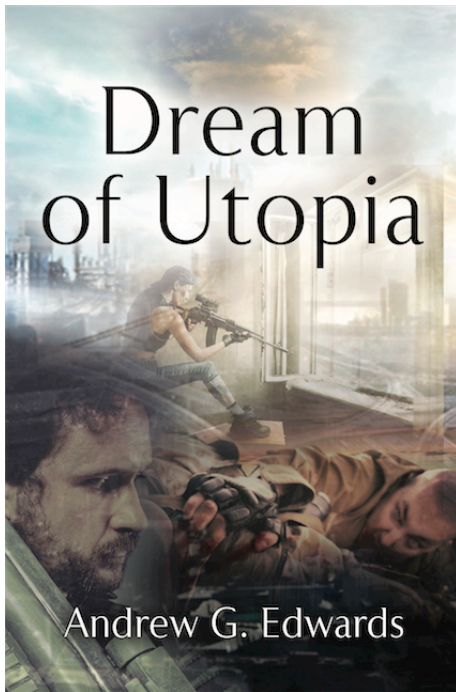
The Four-Year Shift had a powerful effect. Once dissent and turmoil began, that was the time for its use. Its intention is to take control of the population simultaneously for four years, putting security at maximum efficiency. Its effects can only last four years, as the mechanism breaks down after that period. Afterward, it must be repaired, which involves tedious and time--consuming effort. The most evident sign of its failure to further operate, is the rotten food in one's refrigerator.

This brings me to my tale. You see, we've just gone through a Four-Year Shift, and I am in my house as I write this, smelling my fridge

from the door. The last thing I remember, I was on 4th West Business Avenue, brokering stocks. Who knows what kind?:-

Why was the Four--Year Shift called? Perhaps there was a fierce riot, or mutants breached the walls. I supposed I would watch the morning news to find out.

Anyway, today, at about 5:30 p.m., I was in the munitions yard near the dockside, handling an M16. Why I was put there, I had no idea! I could have been doing anything from putting down arms; to assembly. Either way, I then took out the half--decade--old trash and cleaned out my refrigerator. I was tired, so I went to bed afterward. It was going to be a long morning.



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