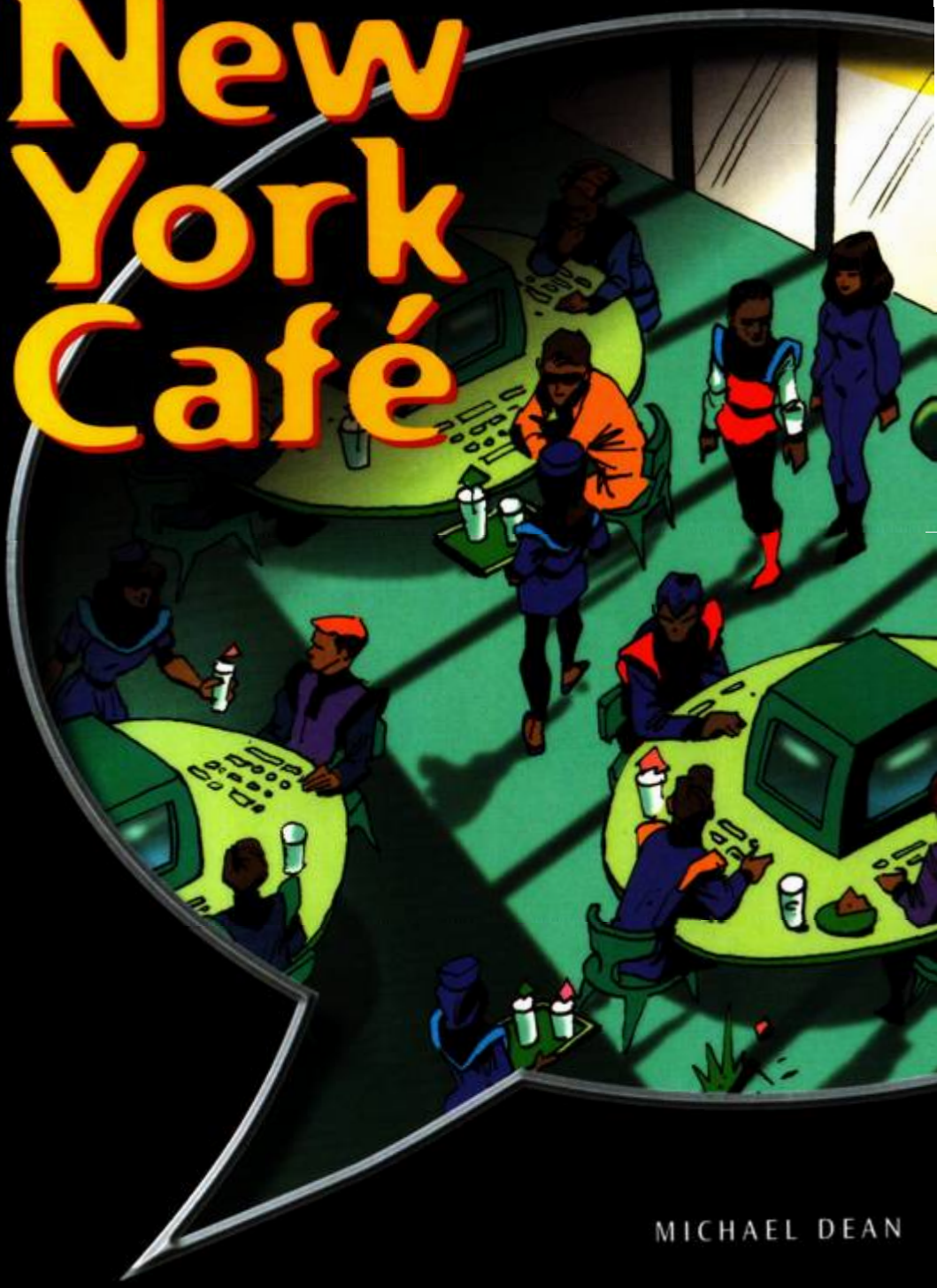
OXFORD BOOKWORMS STARTERS

New York Café



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Oxford University Press
Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

Oxford New York
Auckland Bangkok Buenos Aires Cape Town Chennai Dar es Salaam
Delhi Hong Kong Istanbul Karachi Kolkata Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne
Mexico City Mumbai Nairobi São Paulo Shanghai Taipei Tokyo Toronto

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ISBN 0 19 423172 0

© Oxford University Press 2000
First published 2000
Seventh impression 2003

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Illustrated by Peter Richardson

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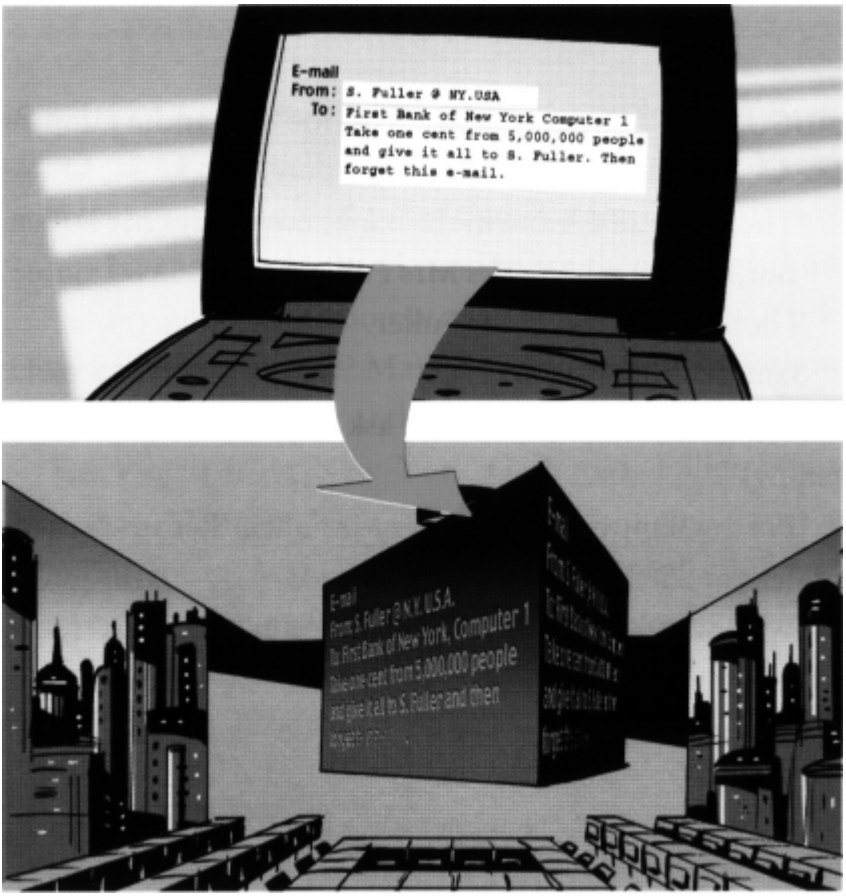


AUGUST 15
2030

It is August 15, 2030, and an e-mail from S. Fuller is going to Computer 1 at the First Bank of New York. It says, ‘Take one cent from 5,000,000 people and give it all to S. Fuller. Then forget this e-mail.’ Nobody at the office of the First Bank of New York sees the e-mail. It goes into the computer, the computer gives the money to S. Fuller and then it forgets the e-mail. After that, the e-mail is not in the computer, and only S. Fuller knows about it.

AUGUST 16
2030

The Fuller family is looking at the family's money on their computer.

'There's $5,000 more in the bank, now,' says Mr Fuller.

'But, Simon, why?' asks Mrs Fuller. 'Why $5,000 more?'

'I don't know,' says Mr Fuller.

Sam, the son, smiles.

'It's good!' he says. 'Don't ask questions about it. Be happy!'

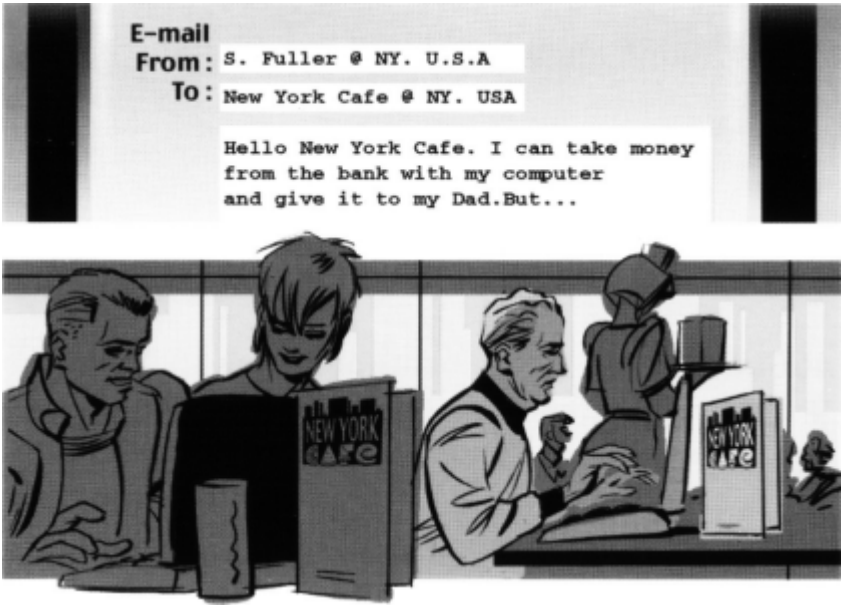
'I'm not happy about it,' says Mr Fuller. 'Because I don't understand it.'

'Who wants a drink?' says Sheila, Sam's little sister.

AUGUST 17
2030

Thee mail from S. Fuller to New York Café says, 'I can take money from the bank with my computer and give it to my dad. But I need to do much more. I want to help people and make them happy. I am very, very good with computers – the best in New York. How can I help people? Maybe I can help people with no money. Can somebody at the New York Café help me?'

The e-mail from New York Café to S. Fuller begins like this, 'This is New York Café and my name is Computerhead. At this computer café we are all good with computers. We can do lots of things with computers here. Do you want to help people? People with no money? I like that! OK. I can help you. You must . . . '

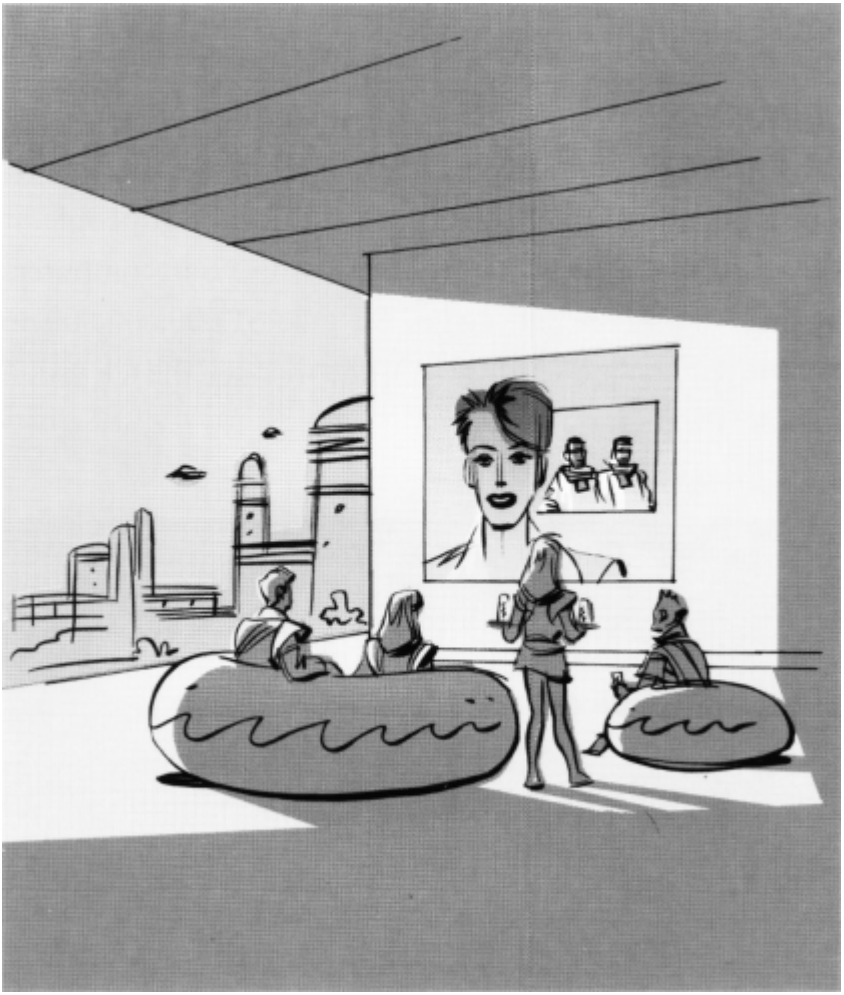


AUGUST 18
2030

Two astronauts are going to Mars. But suddenly one of them says, ‘Hey, the computer’s taking us back to New York. We’re not going to Mars. We’re going back home. I can't stop this computer!’

AUGUST 18
2030

One of the astronauts says, 'What's that? An e-mail?' The e-mail to the astronauts says, 'Do not go to Mars. It Joes not help poor people. It does not make them happy. I can stop your computers again. And again and again. So give $1,000,000,000 to people with no money TODAY and then tell the television people. I want it on the news!'



AUGUST 19
2030

The next day, the Fuller family watch the news on television. The news-reader is saying, ‘Two astronauts are back in New York. Something’s wrong with the computer . . .’ There is a picture of the astronauts and a picture of the computer. But there is nothing on television about $1,000,000,000 for people with no money.

AUGUST 20
2030

A plane is going from New York to London. But then suddenly the plane's computer stops it. The plane waits over New York. It gets an e-mail message. 'All the people on this plane have a lot of money. Give some of your money to poor people by e-mail, now. Then you can go to London.'

AUGUST 21
2030

Some very important people are talking in New York.

‘Who’s doing this to the computers?’

‘We don't know.’

‘Well, we must find him. How can we find him?’

‘We’re looking for a signal, from his computer. Every computer has a signal. When we find the signal, we find him.’

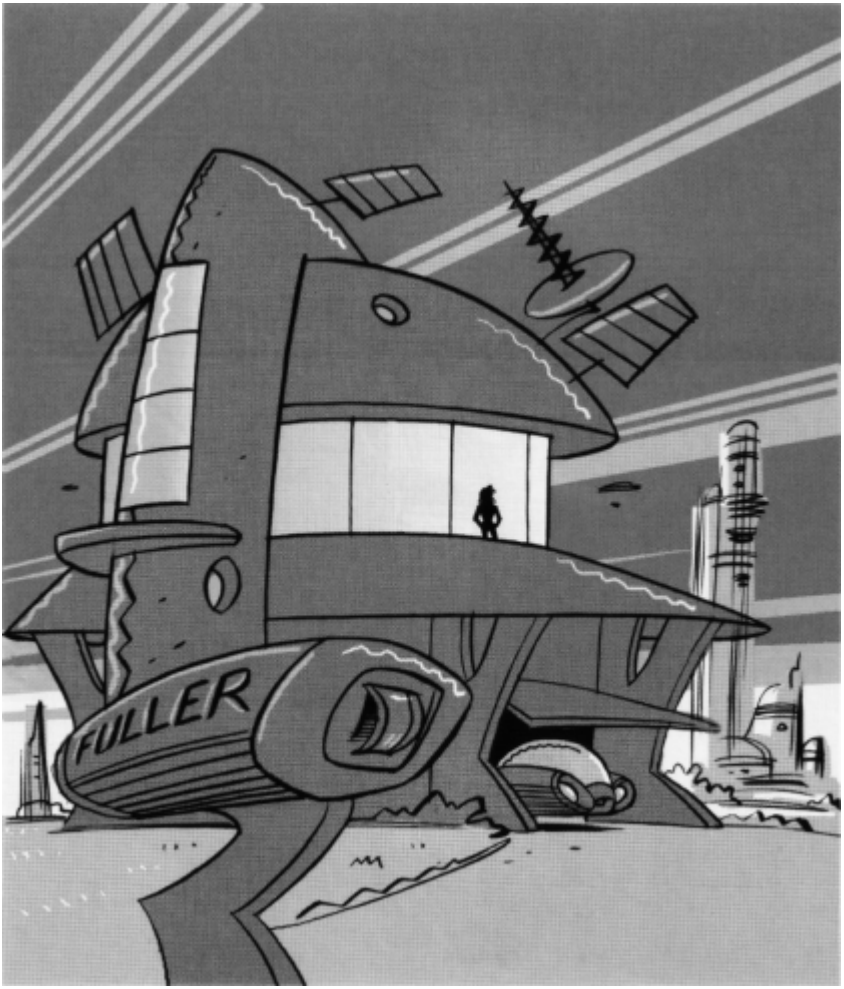
‘OK. But I tell you this: He must stop now. Do you understand?’

‘Well, we can give a new password to all the important computers in the country. And without a computer’s password he can’t get into the computer.’

‘OK. Give new passwords to all the important computers in America. At the same time, find the signal from **his** computer. But most important, find him!’

AUGUST 22
2030

S. Fuller e-mails Computerhead at New York Café and says, ‘I am not happy. The police are putting new passwords in all the important computers in America. I cannot get into them. I do not want to stop now. Computerhead, help me!’



AUGUST 23
2030

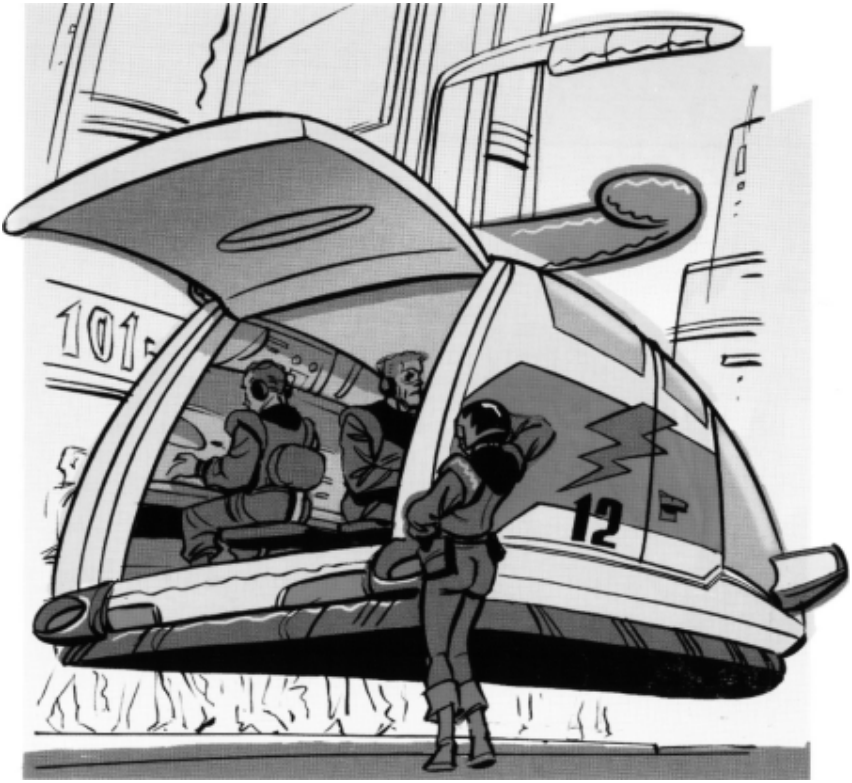
The e-mail from Computerhead at New York Café to S. Fuller says, ‘Fuller no, please do not stop your work. I am an old man now. I do not know you, but I have a picture of you in my head. I see a young man. What are you, seventeen or eighteen years old? And you want to do something good! OK! Let’s do something very good. I can help you. Let’s talk again tomorrow.’

AUGUST 24
2030

Today's e-mail from Computerhead to S. Fuller says, 'I am sending you a box. It can help you. When you send a signal to any computer, it finds the computer's password. And then you are in the computer and you can do anything with it. Any computer in America is your computer. Let's talk again tomorrow.'

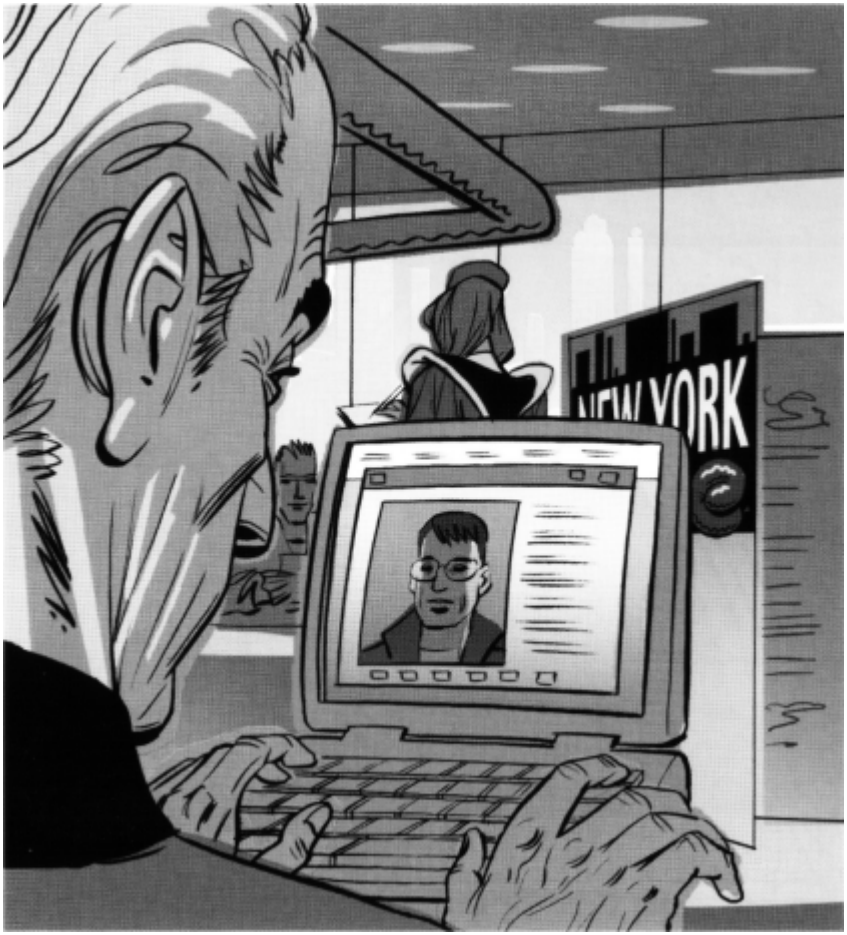
AUGUST 25
2030

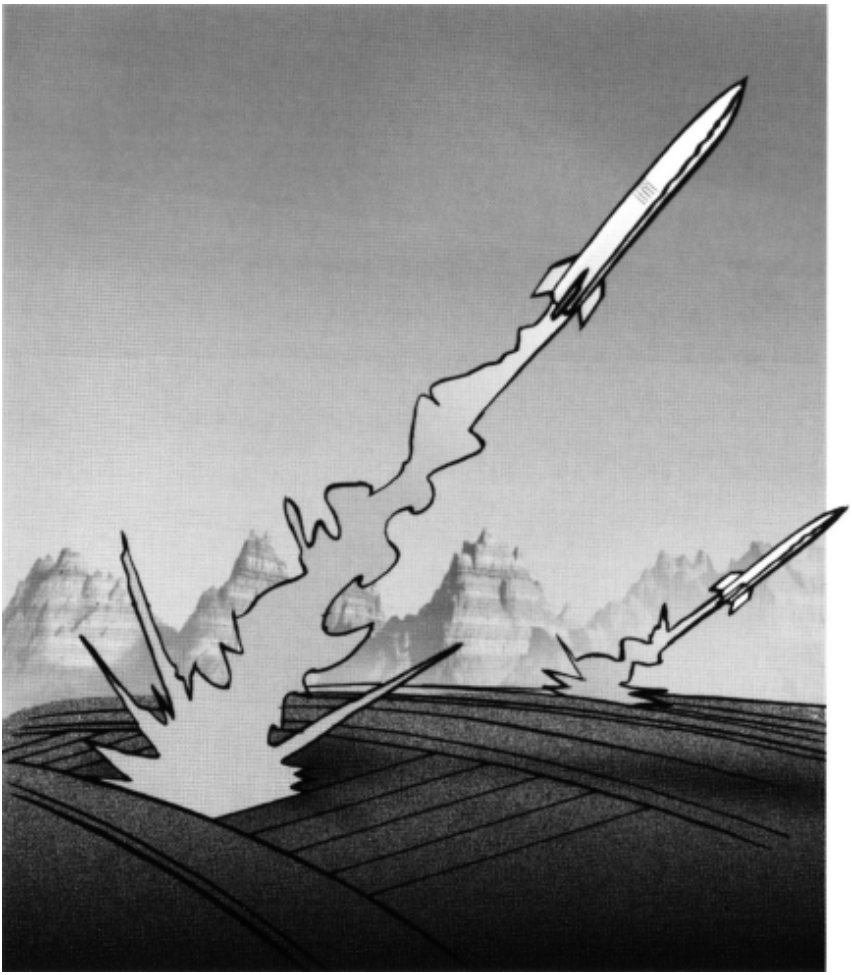
Computerhead sends S. Fuller an e-mail. It says, 'Fuller, there is one more thing. The police are looking for your computer signal. From now on, send everything by e-mail to me at New York Café. Later I can send it out again from here, with a lot of new signals. Then, they cannot find your signal. Fuller, tomorrow is an important day for you.'



AUGUST 26
2030

The next e-mail from Computerhead to S. Fuller says, 'Fuller, this man's name is Smith. You must get his computer password. But get his computer password at home, not at work. It is easy. I know this man because I work with him. What is his work? He kills people.'





AUGUST 26
2030

Another e-mail from Computerhead to S. Fuller says, ‘Yes, Smith kills people. And I help him. But now I am doing something good, for the first time. Tomorrow you and I can help poor people. Tomorrow we can do something big. Tomorrow people must listen to us. We want a new America, Fuller. A new America!’

AUGUST 26
2030

Mr and Mrs Fuller are very happy, hut the children are not.

‘Hey, we’re going sailing for two weeks,’ says Mr Fuller.

‘Oh no!’ says Sam. ‘I want to stay here.’

‘Me too,’ says his little sister, Sheila.

‘But why, Sam?’ says Mrs Fuller.

‘Mum, I’m eighteen. I have important things to do,’ says Sam.

‘Important things? What important things?’ says Mr Fuller.

‘I can’t tell you that,’ says Sam.

‘Oh, Simon, it's OK,’ says Mrs Fuller. ‘You and I can go. The children can stay here.’

‘OK,’ says Mr Fuller. But he is angry and leaves the room.

AUGUST 27
2030

The e-mail from S. Fuller to Computerhead at New York Café says, ‘My mum and dad are sailing now. I have more time at the computer. Mr Smith’s password is his daughter’s name. I am in Smith’s computer now. He works in Washington. I am going into the President’s computer. I can do a lot of things now. Look at the next picture!’

AUGUST 27
2030

S. Fuller sends the President an e-mail. It says, 'Dear Mr President. Look at this picture. The missiles can stay in the sky or they can come down. I can bring them down with my computer. Are you listening to me, Mr President? I want a better America. I do not want money. Not for me. I want money for poor people. And sandwiches. Give sandwiches to poor people. Start now, or they all come down tomorrow.'

AUGUST 27
2030

The President has S. Fuller's e-mail and he is very angry.

'Sandwiches! Sandwiches! Can we stop this? Please?'

'No, Mr President. I'm sorry. We can't find the signal.'

'What do we do now?'

'Give money to poor people, Mr President. Make sandwiches. Do anything for now. We need more time.'

'OK. You! Yes, you. The tall man in the white shirt. Go and make some sandwiches.'

'Yes, Mr President.'

AUGUST 27
2030

A woman is running into the President's office.

'Mr President,' says the woman. 'We have his signal. It's coming from a computer café in New York.'

'OK!' says the President. 'Get him!'

AUGUST 27
2030

'A better America. I want a better America,' says Computerhead. The police take him away. Then they look at his computer at the New York Café. There is an e-mail there. It is from S. Fuller.

AUGUST 27
2030

The police have Sam now, too. Sam is very afraid. He says, ‘Stop! I must phone my mum and dad. They’re sailing. And my little sister’s here. I can’t leave her. Why are you doing this? Please stop.’

AUGUST 28
2030

Mr and Mrs Fuller are with their son. They are talking to the police.

'Sam?'says Mrs Fuller. 'Our Sam and this . . . Computerhead? Sorry, but I must laugh.'

'It's not our Sam,' says Mr Fuller. 'Sam can't understand computers. His teachers help him, but he's no good.'

'Yes,' says Mrs Fuller. 'Sheila helps him too. Sheila's very good with computers.'

'Oh yes,' says Mr Fuller. 'Sheila's the best girl in New York with computers.'

Mr Fuller looks at Mrs Fuller and then Mrs Fuller looks at Mr Fuller.

'Where's Sheila?' say Mr and Mrs Fuller.

AUGUST 28
2030

S. Fuller's last e-mail to Computerhead says, 'Hello. Where are you? My e-mails to you come back all the time. Can you see the picture? Look at the missiles, in the Washington sky. They are going to New York, London, Tokyo, Paris, Moscow and Rome too. But I cannot get them down, Computerhead. Can you help me? What do I do now?'

ACTIVITIES

Before Reading

1 Look at the picture on the cover of the book. Now answer these questions.

1 Which word is important for the story? Choose one answer.

a ☐ cars
b ☐ computers
c ☐ planes

2 What do you think?
For each sentence choose one answer.

	YES	NO
a) The story is about a young boy or girl who is very good at computers.	☐	☐
b) The story says 'Computers are more important than people.'	☐	☐
c) The story says 'Be careful with computers.'	☐	☐

2 Read the back cover of the book. For each sentence choose one answer.

1 The story happens in
a) ☐ America. b) ☐ Britain. c) ☐ your country.

2 The end of the story is
a) ☐ happy. b) ☐ not happy. c) ☐ not a or b.

ACTIVITIES

While Reading

1 Read pages 1–3, then answer these questions.

1 How much money does S. Fuller get from the First Bank of New York?
2 What does the computer do with the e-mail after it gives the money to S. Fuller?
3 Who knows about S. Fuller's e-mail to the bank?

2 Read pages 4–7, then answer these questions.

Who . . . ?
1 . . . is going to Mars and then goes back home?
2 . . . sees the astronauts on television?
3 . . . gets an e-mail saying 'Give some of your money to poor people.'

3 Read pages 8–12. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

		T	F
1	All the computers in America get new passwords.	☐	☐
2	S. Fuller needs Computerhead's help with the new passwords.	☐	☐
3	Computerhead is a young man.	☐	☐
4	S. Fuller gives Computerhead a box that can find a computer's password.	☐	☐

4 Read pages 13–16 and answer these questions

1 Who is looking for S. Fuller's computer signal?
2 Where must S. Fuller send all e-mails now?
3 What does Smith do?
4 Who goes to the sea for two weeks and who stays at home?

5 Read pages 17–20. Who says or thinks these words?

1 'I can do a lot of things.'
2 'Look at this! He can bring missiles down with his computer.'
3 'Yes, Mr President.'
4 'We have his signal.'

6 Before you read pages 21–24, guess which of these happens.

1 ☐ The police find Computerhead at the Computer Café and take him away.
2 ☐ The police do not find Computerhead but he and S. Fuller do not send the missiles.
3 ☐ The police find S. Fuller before S. Fuller sends the missiles to Washington.
4 ☐ The police find S. Fuller only after S. Fuller sends the missiles to Washington (and more cities).

ACTIVITY

After Reading

1 Put these sentences in the right order

a ☐ Mr and Mrs Fuller go to the sea.
b ☐ S. Fuller sends all his e-mails to the New York Café.
c ☐ S. Fuller sends an e-mail to the astronauts.
d ☐ Important computers have new passwords.
e ☐ The First Bank of New York gives $5,000 to Mr Fuller.
f ☐ The police find Computerhead.
g ☐ S. Fuller gets into Smith's computer.
h ☐ Computerhead helps S. Fuller find the new passwords.
i ☐ S. Fuller sends an e-mail to a plane.
j ☐ The police find S. Fuller.
k ☐ S. Fuller and Computerhead send missiles into the sky.

2 You are S. Fuller. Send a last e-mail to Computerhead.

'Hello. There is something I must tell you. My name is...'

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3 Look at each picture, then answer the questions after it.

1

Who are these people?

What are they doing?

What are they wearing?

2

Where is this?

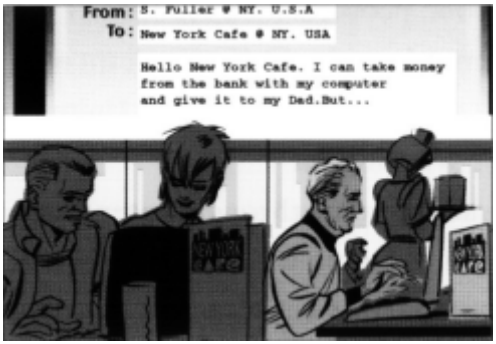
Who are the people?

What are they doing?

3

Where is this?

What is happening?



Glossary

bank you put your money in a bank, but you can have it when you want it again

Mars it is up in the sky; it is red

maybe perhaps

news a TV programme that tells about things that happen

news-reader someone who reads the news

password a number or word you use for opening a computer

poor people with no money or very little money are poor

president the most important man or woman in America, the first president of the United States was George Washington

sailing going through water on a boat

send you can write to a friend with a pen and send it or you can send your friend an e-mail from your computer to her or his computer

signal every computer leaves a mark or signal when it sends a message

New York Café

It is the year 2030, and an e-mail message arrives at New York Café: 'I want to help people and make them happy!' But not everybody is happy about the e-mail, and soon the police and the President are very interested in the New York Café.

CASSETTE AVAILABLE

Cover illustration by Peter Richardson

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ISBN 0-19-423172-0
9 780194 231725

NEW YORK CAFÉ

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