

Leadership

Global Awareness

Personal Mastery

Community Spiritedness

**5 KEY WAYS AI  
CAN HELP BB  
COMPANIES**

**THE FUTURE  
OF AI  
IN BB LIFE**

**AI AS MY BB  
SUPPORT OFFICER**

**THE AI ISSUE**

April 2026 Issue 2

# BB NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN SINGAPORE

[www.BB.org.sg](http://www.BB.org.sg)

@BBsingapore



# April to June QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

*\*Follow our Instagram & Facebook to read more about these events.*

## BOTC & Adventure Weekend

18, 25 APRIL,  
16-17 MAY



## J M Fraser Award Presentation Ceremony

23 MAY



## National Leadership Assessment Camp

01/26

6-7 JUNE



## BB Week Prize Presentation Ceremony

8 JUNE



## Primers Challenge

18-21 JUNE



## Chaplain's Orientation

10 APRIL



## BB Blaze

11 APRIL



## NDP Contingent Selection Exercise

18 APRIL



## Anchor Conference

30 MAY



## Officers Enrolment Ceremony

8 JUNE



## Primers Summit

18 JUNE



## Founder's Award Presentation Ceremony

27 JUNE





# Artificial Intelligence and BB Boys



by Brigade President LTA Patrick Koh

You are growing up in an amazing time. Everywhere we look, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and new technologies are changing how we live, study and play. You might be using AI to help with your school projects or seeing it in the news every day.

As a Brigade, we want you to know that we are stepping into this future right alongside you.

## TOOLS CHANGE BUT OUR MISSION REMAINS



The BB has been around for a very long time, and to keep things exciting and helpful for you, we have to adapt.

- **Times change:** The world today is very different from even five years ago, and we want to understand the world you live in.
- **Methods change:** AI and new technology can make your BB experience even better, from learning new skills and badgework more effectively, to running more engaging activities in your Companies.

We want to equip you to use these tools smartly and creatively. But even as technology gets smarter, there are some things that will never change.

## WHAT TRULY MAKES A BB BOY

An AI app can write a perfect essay or solve a math problem in seconds. But AI cannot build your character. It cannot teach you what it means to be a person of integrity, courage and kindness. It cannot show you how to be a true friend, or what it means to stand tall with the right values.

Our core purpose, the Object of The Boys' Brigade, remains exactly the same:

*"The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-Respect and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness."*

## YOUR CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE

As you embrace the future and learn to use new digital tools, remember to keep your foundation strong:

- **Learn with wisdom:** Use AI to help you learn and grow, but never let it do the hard work of building your character.
- **Connect in real life:** Value the face-to-face friendships you make in your BB Companies, the mentorship from your Officers, and the shared experiences on the parade square or during camps.
- **Stand firm:** Be a generation that uses technology responsibly, while holding on to the BB Object.



Let us charge forward into this new digital era together, anchored by the things that truly matter.

# AI IN THE BOYS' BRIGADE: DRIVING EFFICIENCY AND INNOVATION

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly becoming part of everyday life, changing the way people learn, plan and communicate. From schools and workplaces to homes and community organisations, AI is increasingly being used to save time, generate ideas and support decision-making.

For the Boys' Brigade in Singapore, this presents new opportunities to strengthen the way parades, camps, badgework and other activities are carried out. AI can help Officers with planning, administration and programme design, while also giving Boys new ways to learn, revise and develop leadership skills.

At the same time, AI should be seen as a tool rather than a replacement for the heart of BB work. The Boys' Brigade has always been about building Boys in character, discipline and service through real relationships and shared experiences. No technology can replace the guidance of committed Officers, the lessons learned through teamwork, or the growth that comes from challenge and responsibility. Used wisely and responsibly, however, AI can make planning more efficient, learning more engaging and development more meaningful for both Officers and Boys.





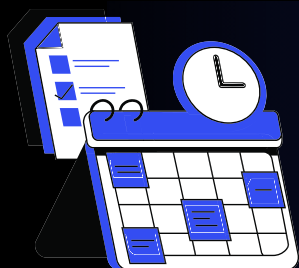
# 5 KEY WAYS AI CAN HELP BB COMPANIES



01

## Better Planning for Officers

AI can help Officers prepare parade programmes, camp schedules, packing lists and activity ideas quickly. This reduces administrative workload and gives Officers more time to focus on key tasks such as mentoring and engagement.



02

## More Engaging Activities

AI can suggest games, leadership challenges, icebreaker prompts and wet-weather alternatives for weekly parades or during camp. This helps Officers create more varied, interactive and well-prepared activities.



03

## Stronger Support for Badgework

Boys can use AI to revise topics, ask questions and practise key knowledge for badgework. It makes learning more accessible and helps Boys understand concepts at their own pace.



04

## Leadership and Creativity Development

AI can help Boys prepare presentations, solve teamwork scenarios and develop project ideas. It also supports Officers in teaching leadership, communication and problem-solving skills.



05

## Better Reflection and Responsible Use

AI can help Officers write reports and help Boys reflect on lessons from camps and activities. At the same time, it should be used carefully, with facts checked and effort still coming from trusted people.

**What are some of the ways your Company utilise AI?  
Share with us on our social media!**

# THE FUTURE OF AI IN BB LIFE

by Captain LTA Joel Lai  
33rd Singapore Company  
Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary)

## USING AI TO DEEPEN GLOBAL AWARENESS LEARNING

At the 33rd Company, we adopt the Singapore Ministry of Education's four 'Learns' (4Learns) framework when integrating the use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) into learning. Rather than using AI as a tool simply for text generation, we use it as a platform to develop critical thinking, research, collaboration, and problem-solving skills among Boys.

### LEARN ABOUT AI

The first step is helping Boys understand what AI is and what it is not. Boys learn that large language models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, Gemini and Copilot, are powerful language prediction tools, but they do not "think" or "know" information in the same way humans do. We discuss both the strengths and limitations of AI, including the potential for inaccurate information, bias, and the necessity for verification.

Boys are taught that AI should be viewed as a helper, not a replacement for their own thinking. They learn that AI-generated content should be treated as a draft that requires further evaluation, refinement, and fact-checking.

At our Company, we work closely with the suite of AI tools provided by the school. For Upper Secondary Boys, we made use of their Google NotebookLM subscription as a base to understand the requirements of the Global Awareness (GA) Project rubrics.

### LEARN HOW TO USE AI

Once Boys understand the technology, they learn how to use AI responsibly and effectively through prompt engineering. For their GA Project, Boys are taught how to analyse the assessment rubrics and translate rubric requirements into effective prompts.

For example, instead of asking a simple question such as "What is food insecurity?", Boys learn to construct detailed prompts that specify a role for the LLM, task, context, constraints, and desired output. They might ask AI to act as a research mentor, identify suitable issue-community pairs, or generate a research brief that aligns closely with project requirements. This process helps Boys understand that the quality of AI outputs depends greatly on the quality of human inputs.



## LEARN WITH AI

The GA Project is conducted in a highly interactive and hands-on manner. Boys work collaboratively in groups to design prompts, test them, analyse AI responses and refine their instructions.

Throughout the Project, AI serves as a learning partner that helps Boys:

- Explore possible global issues and affected communities,
- Research social, economic, environmental, and cultural contexts,
- Identify existing solutions implemented by governments, NGOs, and community organisations,
- Generate and evaluate new proposals, and
- Analyse the strengths and limitations of different solutions.

Boys immediately see how different prompts produce different outcomes, reinforcing the importance of clarity, specificity and critical evaluation.



## LEARN BEYOND AI

The most important aspect of our approach is ensuring that Boys remain masters of technology rather than passive consumers of it. Before Boys use AI, they undergo an experiential learning activity that exposes them to real-world challenges such as food security, literacy, poverty and resource depletion, etc. These experiences seek to provide them with a certain level of authentic perspectives and empathy towards affected communities.

As a result, when Boys receive AI-generated suggestions, they are able to evaluate them against their prior experience considerations. Boys are encouraged to challenge AI outputs, identify gaps and propose improvements. This develops higher-order thinking skills that remain valuable regardless of how technology evolves. They learn to ask important questions:

Will this solution work in the local culture?

Is it sustainable in multiple dimensions?

What unintended consequences might arise?

Does the AI truly understand the community's needs?

## WHY THIS APPROACH WORKS



Using AI within MOE's 4Learns framework transforms the technology from a simple answer-generating tool into a platform for inquiry and critical thinking. Boys learn how to conduct better research, ask more thoughtful questions, evaluate evidence and develop solutions grounded in real-world contexts.

The affordances of AI allow us to use parade times meaningfully to expand beyond the lower levels of Bloom's taxonomy and target the higher echelons. Most importantly, AI does not replace learning. Instead, it enhances it by allowing Boys to spend less time on information seeking and more time analysing, evaluating, and creating meaningful solutions to address complex global challenges.

In this way, AI supports both the goals of the Global Awareness programme and the broader objective of preparing Boys to become thoughtful, responsible, and discerning citizens in an increasingly AI-driven world.

# AI as My BB Support Officer



by Captain LTA Lim Ting Jie  
2nd Singapore Company  
Victoria School

## How AI is used to Serve Better

When people think about artificial intelligence, they often imagine robots replacing people or generating flashy content. My experience has been very different. In my work with The Boys' Brigade, AI has become less of a "writer" and more of a support Officer, handling much of the thinking, drafting, organising and refining behind the scenes so that I can spend more time with the Boys themselves.

Looking back over my interactions with AI tools, I have realised that almost every aspect of my volunteer ministry has been enhanced by AI. Not because AI understands youth better than people do, but because it removes many of the administrative and communication burdens that consume volunteer leaders.

## Clear Parent Communications

One of the biggest recurring uses of AI has been communicating with parents.

Every parade, camp, hike, training session or event generates numerous messages - reporting times, collection points, attire, transport arrangements, payment instructions, reminders and FAQs. While none of these messages are difficult individually, ensuring they are consistently clear, concise and friendly takes considerable effort.

Rather than simply asking AI to "write a message", I often use it to adjust tone. Sometimes a notice needs to sound warm without becoming overly casual. At other times it needs to communicate urgency without sounding harsh. AI helps strike that balance.

Instead of a prolonged period rewriting the WhatsApp announcement several times, a polished version can be produced within minutes.

## Turning Administrative Information into Readable Information

A surprising amount of BB work involves translating information into something others can understand.

### AI can be used to:

- simplify event instructions;
- organise logistics into readable formats;
- improve RSVP wording;
- explain administrative processes;
- standardise information across different communication channels.

The information itself doesn't change. AI simply helps present it in a way that reduces confusion and unnecessary follow-up questions.







## Developing Recruitment Materials

Recruitment is another area where AI has become an effective collaborator. Visual communication matters.

Whether promoting the Primers Programme, encouraging Boys to attend leadership courses or inviting volunteers to participate in initiatives, AI helps adapt the same core message for different audiences.

AI is used to generate text layouts for posters, improve event publicity, suggest visual arrangements, and even assist with image editing.

AI accelerates the early stages of content creation, allowing publicity materials to be produced faster and with greater consistency.

The same design can be reshaped for different channels while maintaining consistency ie.:

- poster headline;
- speech for officers;
- WhatsApp invitation;
- parent information sheet; and/or
- social media caption..

## Building Digital Workflows

The most technically demanding area has been workflow automation.

Over multiple conversations, AI has helped to build Google Apps Script solutions that automate repetitive administrative tasks.

These include:

- processing Google Form submissions;
- generating notifications;
- manipulating Google Sheets data;
- formatting records;
- reducing manual copying and pasting; and
- streamlining administrative workflows.

Many volunteer organisations rely on manual processes simply because they lack dedicated IT support. AI has effectively become an on-demand technical consultant, allowing custom solutions that would otherwise require specialised programming knowledge.

## Saving Time Where It Matters

Perhaps the biggest insight is that AI has not fundamentally changed what I, as a Captain, do.

It has changed how much time I spend doing things that only humans can do.

Instead of spending hours:

- proofreading notices
- formatting documents
- rewriting announcements
- debugging scripts
- refining presentations
- summarising reflections

I can spend that time speaking with Boys, planning meaningful programmes, mentoring Officers and building relationships.

In other words, AI has not replaced leadership. It has removed much of the invisible work surrounding leadership.

"AI has not replaced leadership. It has removed much of the invisible work surrounding leadership... so that I spend doing things that only humans can do."  
-LTA Lim Ting Jie-



# SPIRITUALITY AND AI

BY BRIGADE CHAPLAIN REV DANIEL TONG

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly shaping our world and raising important questions about ethics, humanity and spirituality. Although its development is often controlled by governments and corporations, and though it can widen inequality and displace workers, these concerns are not enough to reject it entirely. AI is already deeply embedded in daily life.

AI is a tool. It is neither good nor bad in itself; its value depends on how people design and use it. Used wisely, it can support medicine, research and many forms of human work. Used wrongly, it can spread deception, deepfakes and unhealthy forms of escapism.

However, AI has important limits:

- It simulates intelligence but does not possess consciousness or sentience.
- It simulates interaction but cannot offer real companionship, love or vulnerability.
- It may appear powerful and all-knowing, but it is not omniscient or omnipotent like God.



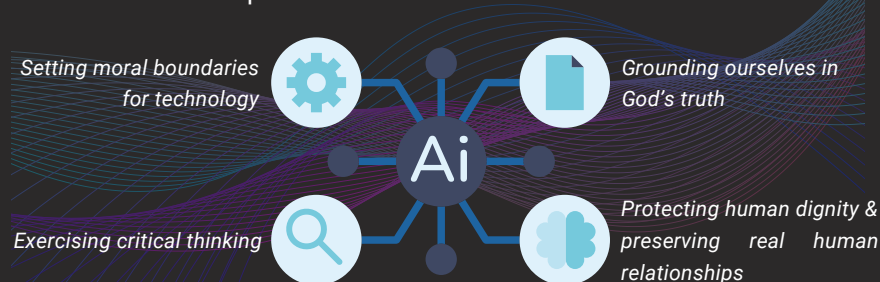
This is why discernment is essential. AI is not neutral, because it reflects the assumptions and values of its creators. It can provide information, but not wisdom; customised responses, but not genuine friendship or moral guidance.

Potential dangers include:

- ✗ Confusing knowledge with wisdom
- ✗ Treating AI as a substitute for God, weakening human relationships
- ✗ Encouraging self-deification through transhumanist ideals

Scripture teaches that human beings are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26–27). Therefore, every person has inherent dignity, value and purpose. Human qualities such as self-awareness, creativity, reason, love, sacrifice and relationship with God and others must be protected and treasured.

For this reason, AI must remain a servant, not a master. Wise and ethical use of AI requires:



In this way, AI can be used responsibly without replacing God or diminishing our humanity.



# BUILDING BONDS THROUGH CRAFT - ITECC X 83J



by 2LT Ryan Sebastian  
ITECC Primers Singapore Company  
ITE College Central

On 9 April 2026, 83J Singapore Company in Cedar Primary School hosted a collaborative workshop together with ITE College Central Primers Company and 82(P) Girls' Brigade Company.



For many of the Boys & Girls, it was their first time using paracord. They learned knotting, focus, and creativity, transforming simple cords into colourful keychains and bracelets they proudly completed.



The collaboration between ITE College Central Primers Company and the Junior BB and GB Companies showed teamwork and service, helping participants learn practical skills, build friendships, and strengthen community spirit.

About 80 Boys and Girls learned to make paracord keychains and bracelets under the guidance of the Officers. Beyond crafting, the session fostered intergenerational bonding, mentorship, and shared learning.

Officers gained valuable experience engaging younger participants, while the children enjoyed an afternoon filled with creativity, encouragement, laughter, and meaningful fellowship.

## 91ST SINGAPORE COMPANY

### PARENT-CHILD BONDING DAY 2026

On 9 May 2026, Regent Secondary School organised a Parent-Child Bonding Day. Over 40 sets of parents attended, with this year's expanded programme strengthening inter-CCA collaboration. Families enjoyed interactive game booths, including charades and the "Duck Lift" challenge, which promoted teamwork and friendly competition. Participants also baked brownies together in the Food Lab, guided by student helpers. The event gave parents meaningful insights into students' CCA experiences while fostering stronger bonds and showcasing the teamwork, creativity, and spirit of the school community.

by PTE Arya Abeshai  
91st Singapore Company  
Regent Secondary School

### NIGHT EXPEDITION 2026

On 15 May, the 91st BB Company held its annual expedition, where squads navigated a 10km route from Yishun to Woodlands using maps they had plotted themselves. Despite initial challenges in reading contour lines, landmarks, and identifying the correct routes, the Boys gradually gained confidence with guidance from their Officers and completed the journey successfully. Beyond sharpening topography and navigation skills, the expedition strengthened teamwork, communication, and trust as each member took turns leading. Filled with shared stories, laughter, and perseverance, the experience became a memorable highlight that deepened squad bonds and built independence, responsibility and resilience.

by LCP Chan Kai Xi  
91st Singapore Company  
Regent Secondary School





# UK FELLOWSHIP AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

BY LTA DAVID CHEW, 23RD SINGAPORE COMPANY CAPTAIN

The 23rd Singapore Company recently completed a 12-day visit to the United Kingdom, joining the annual camp of the 1st Guildford Boys' Brigade Company at Headland for a meaningful time of fellowship, cultural exchange, and shared learning.

Representing the 23rd Singapore Company were its Captain Mr David Chew, Mr Albert Khoo and Mr Peter Phuah. During the camp, they experienced British outdoor camping traditions and also shared about BB life in Singapore. One of the highlights was a cultural exchange session, where the Singapore team presented "Top 10 Things We Love About Singapore," introducing UK campers to our local culture, food and popular landmarks. In return, the UK group shared an engaging presentation on the "Top 10 UK Royals".



The delegation also participated in a sailing session at Spinnaker Club, where Boys and leaders enjoyed time on the water while building teamwork, confidence, and friendship. Photos and videos of BB activities in Singapore were also shared, generating strong interest and highlighting the common values and mission shared by both groups.

After the Guildford camp, the three officers travelled to Loch Achray in Scotland for a 2-day outdoor adventure trip. Despite limited equipment and rainy weather, they relied on lifeskills learnt through the BB and enjoyed the beauty of the outdoors together.

The trip concluded in London with a warm reunion dinner with Mr Ray Lewis from BB UK Alumni. The visit was a wonderful reminder of the lasting friendships built through the Boys' Brigade and of our shared faith, service, and fellowship under the motto, "Sure and Stedfast".

This friendship dates back to 1995, when former Brigade President LTA Poh Leong Berg became involved with the 1st Guildford Company while studying in the UK. Since then, the bond has remained strong, even through online exchanges during the COVID-19 pandemic.





# STRENGTHENING BONDS ACROSS BORDERS: OVERSEAS IMMERSION EXCHANGE PROGRAMME TO KUALA LUMPUR



**Photo Above:**

One of the highlights of the trip was the band exchange. By playing and learning together, the Boys developed their musical skills while building friendships with their Malaysian counterparts. These sessions strengthened the spirit of fellowship and reminded everyone that, although they came from different countries, they were united by the common values and mission of The Boys' Brigade.



SG & MY



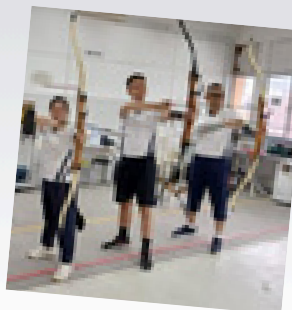
In June, 10th Singapore Company in Beatty Secondary School embarked on an Overseas Immersion Exchange Programme to Kuala Lumpur. The trip was a meaningful and enriching experience for both the Boys and Officers, offering valuable opportunities for learning, fellowship and growth.

During the trip, we visited two BB Kuala Lumpur Companies. These exchanges gave the Boys a chance to interact with fellow members from Malaysia through the band and programme exchange sessions, observe how their Companies conducted activities and share their own experiences and practices (left, top photo).

Beyond the exchange sessions, the Boys also visited several cultural places of interest around Kuala Lumpur (left, bottom photo). These visits helped them gain a better understanding of the city's history, culture and environment, making the trip both enjoyable and educational.

Travelling and participating in activities together also helped the Boys build stronger relationships with one another. Away from the usual parade setting, they had more opportunities to communicate, work as a team and support each other. Overall, the programme broadened perspectives, encouraged cultural appreciation and created lasting memories.

## BASIC ARCHERY COURSE



Basic Archery Course was held at the BBHQ Indoor Range on 9 and 15 May 2026.

Conducted by Chee Seng and Anthony with support from dedicated Officers, the course introduced participants to archery theory, safety rules, barebow shooting and recurve techniques. Officers also learned the differences in anchor points and form adjustments between both styles. Despite the challenges of picking up new skills, the Officers showed strong commitment and enthusiasm throughout. Special thanks to the coaches and Officers, the course marked a meaningful first step in reviving the BB archery scene.



# COMING TOGETHER

## CONTINUING THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE

**By BB Alumni Vice-President  
LTA Peter Leong**

Across the different seasons of life, The Boys' Brigade Alumni carry with them something that time does not diminish — the values, discipline and sense of responsibility formed during our years in the Brigade. While our careers and life journeys may lead us down different paths, the spirit that shaped us remains a quiet but enduring bond that continues to connect us.

The significance of the Alumni movement lies not merely in staying connected, but in ensuring continuity. What we received during our time in The Boys' Brigade was never meant to end with us. The leadership lessons we learned, the sense of duty we embraced and the heart for service nurtured in us are meant to be lived out and shared with others. In this way, alumni involvement becomes more than participation — it becomes stewardship of the values that once shaped us.

Scripture reminds us, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another" (1 Peter 4:10). Each of us carries gifts that can continue to bless the movement — whether through professional experience, life wisdom, mentorship, or simply the willingness to be present and support the work of the Brigade. Sustaining the spirit of the movement does not always require grand gestures; often it is the *stedfast* faithfulness of many willing hearts that makes the greatest difference.

When alumni come together, it represents more than fellowship. It reflects a shared desire to stand behind the Boys and the wider Brigade community — offering encouragement, guidance and support in ways both visible and unseen. Every contribution, no matter how small, strengthens the fabric of the Brigade's ongoing mission.

The Alumni movement continues not simply because of tradition, but because individuals remain willing to serve. And in that willingness, the spirit of The Boys' Brigade continues to live on — quietly, faithfully through each of us.



## Upcoming Events

- 1 July**  
Emotional Awareness and Grief Workshop
- 2 August**  
BB Alumni Bowling League
- 3 9 October**  
BB Founder's Day Dinner

## Sure & Stedfast



**Once BB, Always BB**  
Calling all Ex-BB Members or Officers  
to join our BB Alumni Community  
**Sign up for Membership Today!**



Register Now: [tiny.cc/bbamembership](https://tiny.cc/bbamembership)



# BB ALUMNI EVENTS



## BB ALUMNI 1ST COMPANY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The BB Alumni 1st Singapore Branch held its 33rd Annual General Meeting on 8th March 2026, paired with a festive Lunar New Year celebration at Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church. The gathering drew 29 attendees, comprising members and supporters, who came together to review the year's achievements and ring in the new year with fellowship. As Founder Sir William Smith once said, "There is no influence so powerful as that of true friendship."

## BB ALUMNI 1ST SINGAPORE COMPANY ENROLMENT & DEDICATION CEREMONY

The BB Alumni 1st Singapore Branch joined the 1st Singapore Company's Enrolment & Dedication Ceremony on 25th April 2026, marking the dedication of the 2026/2027 Management Committee. James Milner Fraser once pledged to pioneer a BB Company wherever he went, and today's 1st Singapore Company leaders carry forward that same spirit of faithful service.



## BB ALUMNI ARCHERY FELLOWSHIP

The BB Alumni Archery Fellowship on 28th February 2026 at BBHQ, Kwong Avenue, proved a memorable morning out. From 9.30am to 12pm, 15 ex-BB members and alumni picked up the bow under the guidance of 4 instructors, with most trying their hand at archery for the very first time. What began as technical pointers on stance and aim soon gave way to laughter and friendly competition, as participants of different generations bonded over a shared pursuit. More than just a sporting activity, the session offered a welcome opportunity for old and young alumni to reconnect and deepen ties within the BB family. Our Sessions are always on the last Saturday of each month.



# PLAN THEIR FUTURE

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