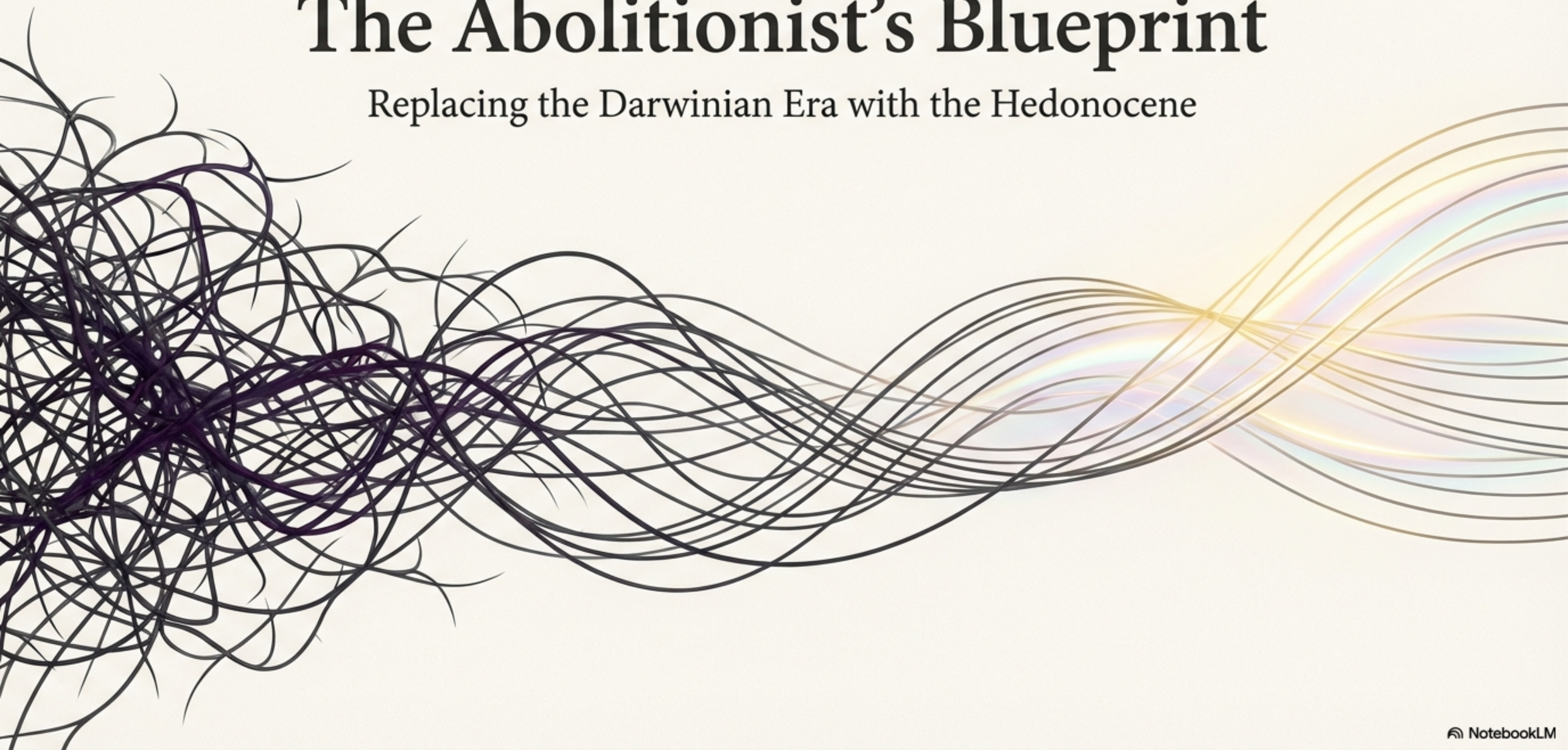
The Abolitionist's Blueprint

Replacing the Darwinian Era with the Hedonocene



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Nature is cruel. Evolution via natural selection is an engine of immense suffering.

“Men are the devils of the earth, and the animals are the tormented souls.” — Arthur Schopenhauer

Nature doesn’t have to resemble a snuff movie.

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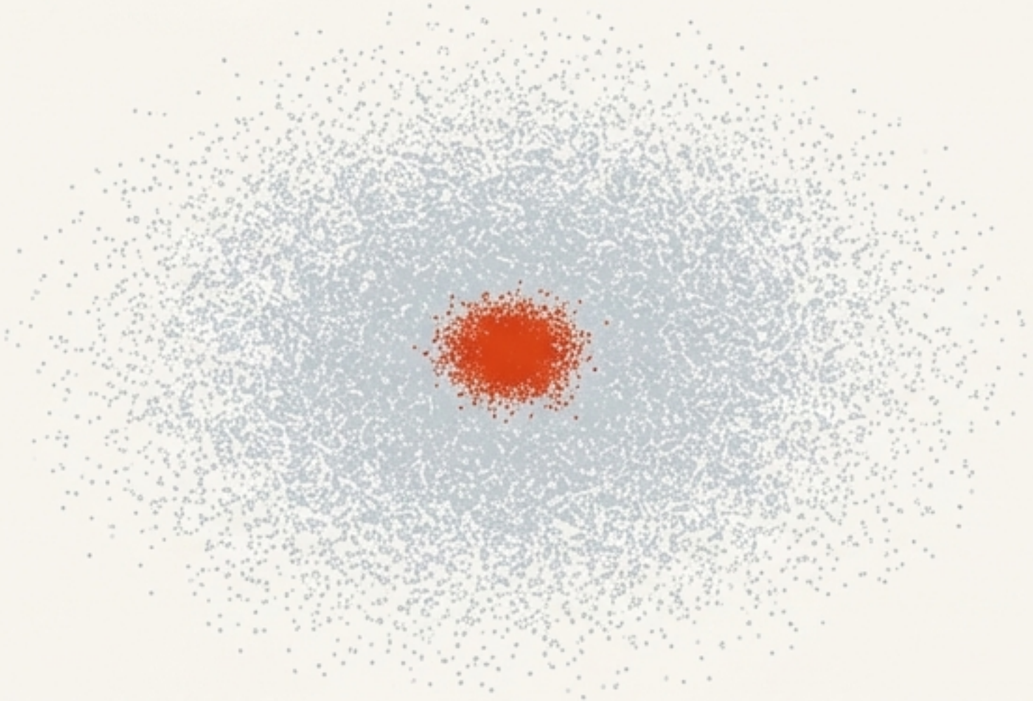
The Darwinian Holocaust: Suffering by the Numbers

Non-Human Animals



Most free-living sentient beings on Earth die horribly as juveniles from starvation or predation.

Humans

Suffering causes around 800,000 people to take their own lives each year.

The Underlying Mechanism: A predisposition to mental and physical pain promotes the inclusive fitness of our DNA. The pleasure-pain axis is an archaic and barbaric signalling system.

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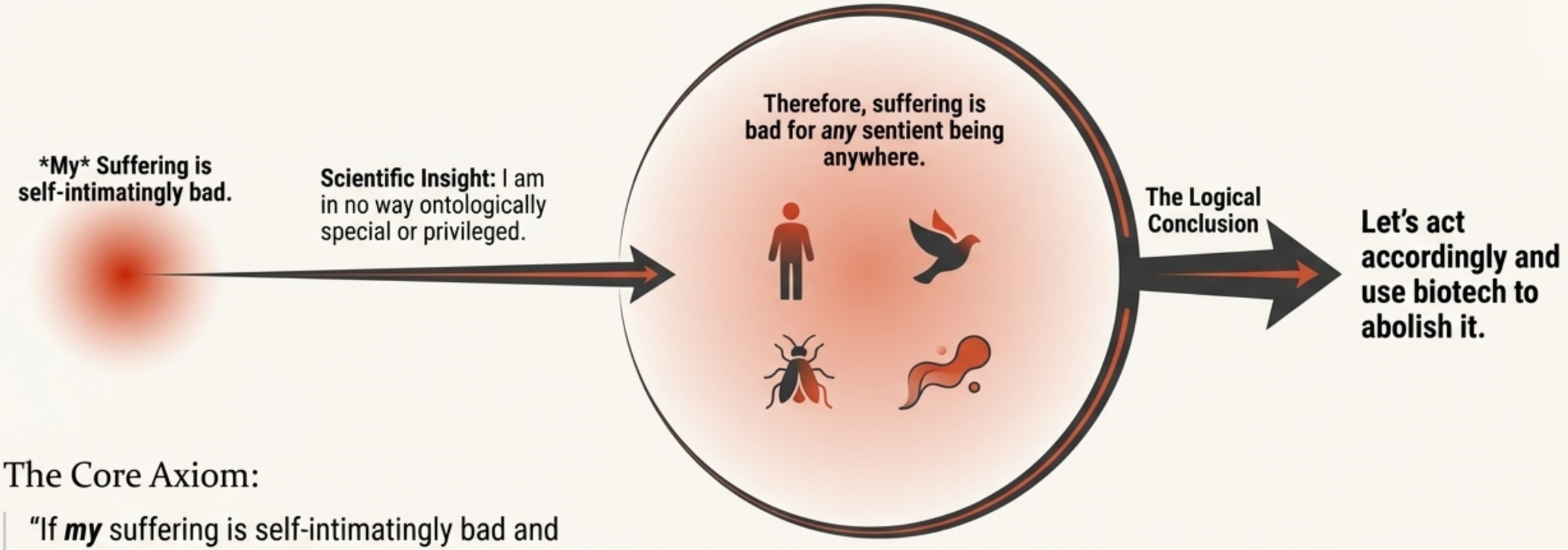
The Moral Imperative: A Foundation for Action



The Core Axiom:

> "If ***my*** suffering is self-intimatingly bad and disvaluable for me, and science shows that I'm in no way ontologically special or privileged, then it's bad for any sentient being anywhere. So let's act accordingly and use biotech to abolish it."

The Formal Commitment:

A commitment to the well-being of all sentience is enshrined in the Transhumanist Declaration (1998, 2009).

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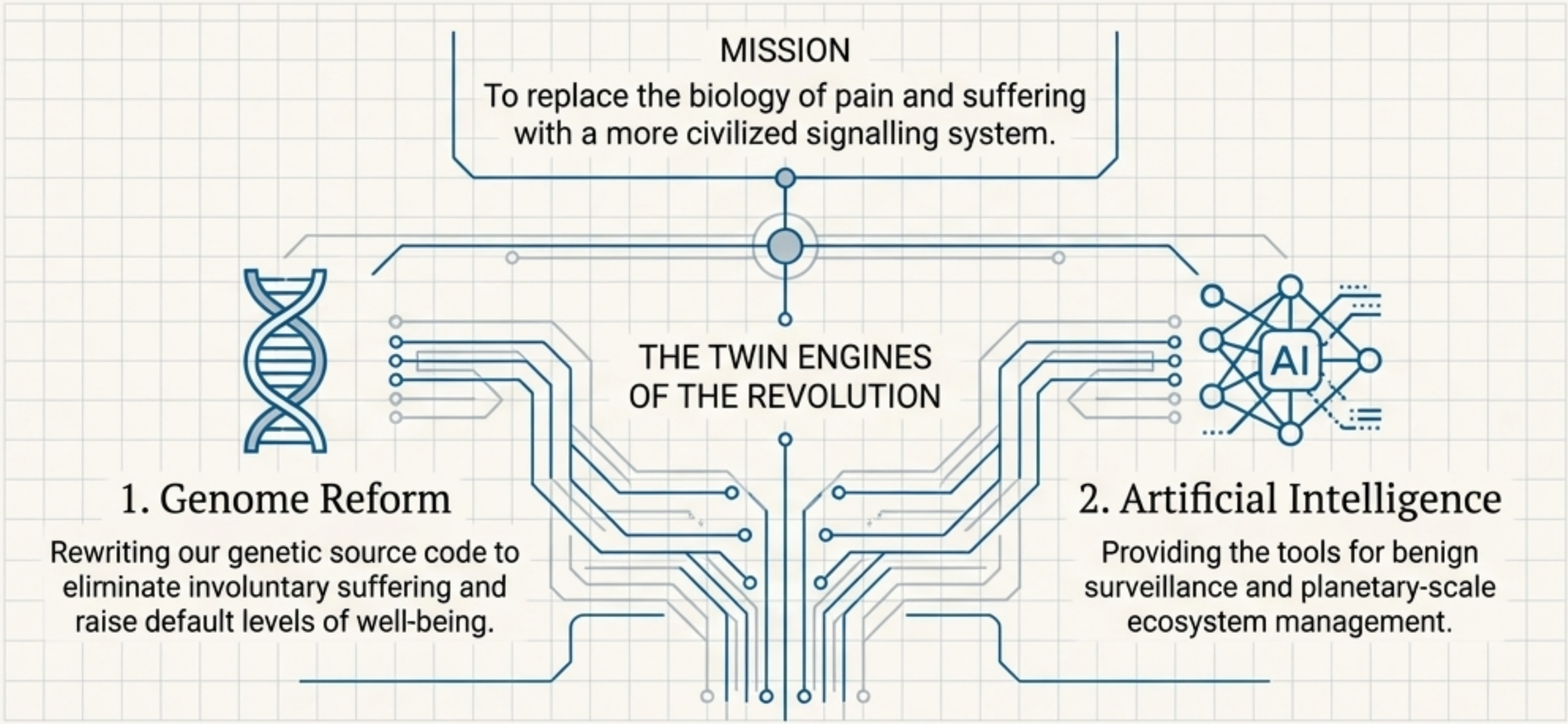
The Abolitionist Project: A Blueprint for Biohappiness



The entire biosphere will soon be programmable; and the level of suffering in the living world will be an adjustable parameter.

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Engine 1: Rewriting the Code of Life

Hedonic Recalibration

The Analogy: "Just as a thermostat can be set high or low, your hedonic set-point can be genetically recalibrated to increase your default quality of life."

The Goal: "Not to abolish the hedonic treadmill, but to raise its baseline."

The Pleasure-Superpleasure Axis

"The barbaric pleasure-pain axis can be superseded by a pleasure-superpleasure axis."

A schematic hedonic range of '+70 to +100' can offer richness and emotional depth that vastly surpasses our own, where the lowest dips are still sublime.

The Outcome

The creation of *Homo felicitas*, a species with a genetically high default quality of life.

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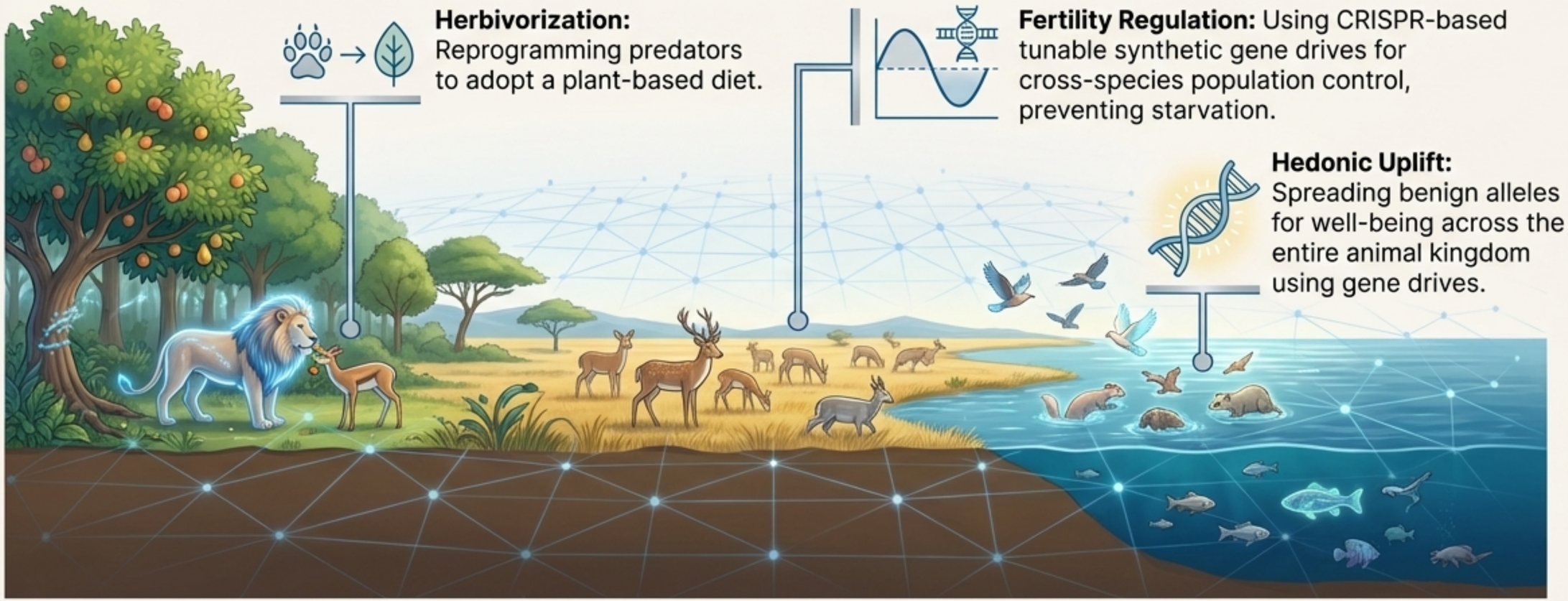
Engine 2: Engineering a Compassionate Biosphere

A ‘pan-species welfare state’ to replace the Darwinian regime of violence, terror, and mass starvation.



The Enabler: Every cubic metre of the biosphere will shortly be accessible to benign surveillance and micromanagement by AI (by marine nanobots, etc).

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Answering the Abolitionist's Critics

Isn't suffering necessary for motivation?

No, it's not indispensable. Information-sensitive gradients of bliss are a more civilized signalling system with the same functional benefits. AI-powered robots offer another example of functionality without pain.

Is this just *Brave New World*'s soma?

No. Our goal shouldn't be getting drugged up, but rather genetically ensuring everyone has an extremely high hedonic set-point and a high default quality of life.

Isn't this just racist eugenics?

This is compassionate biology. Prospective parents will choose health and happiness. Today, all children born via sexual reproduction are unique, untested genetic experiments that involve creating involuntary suffering. All babies should be 'designer babies'.

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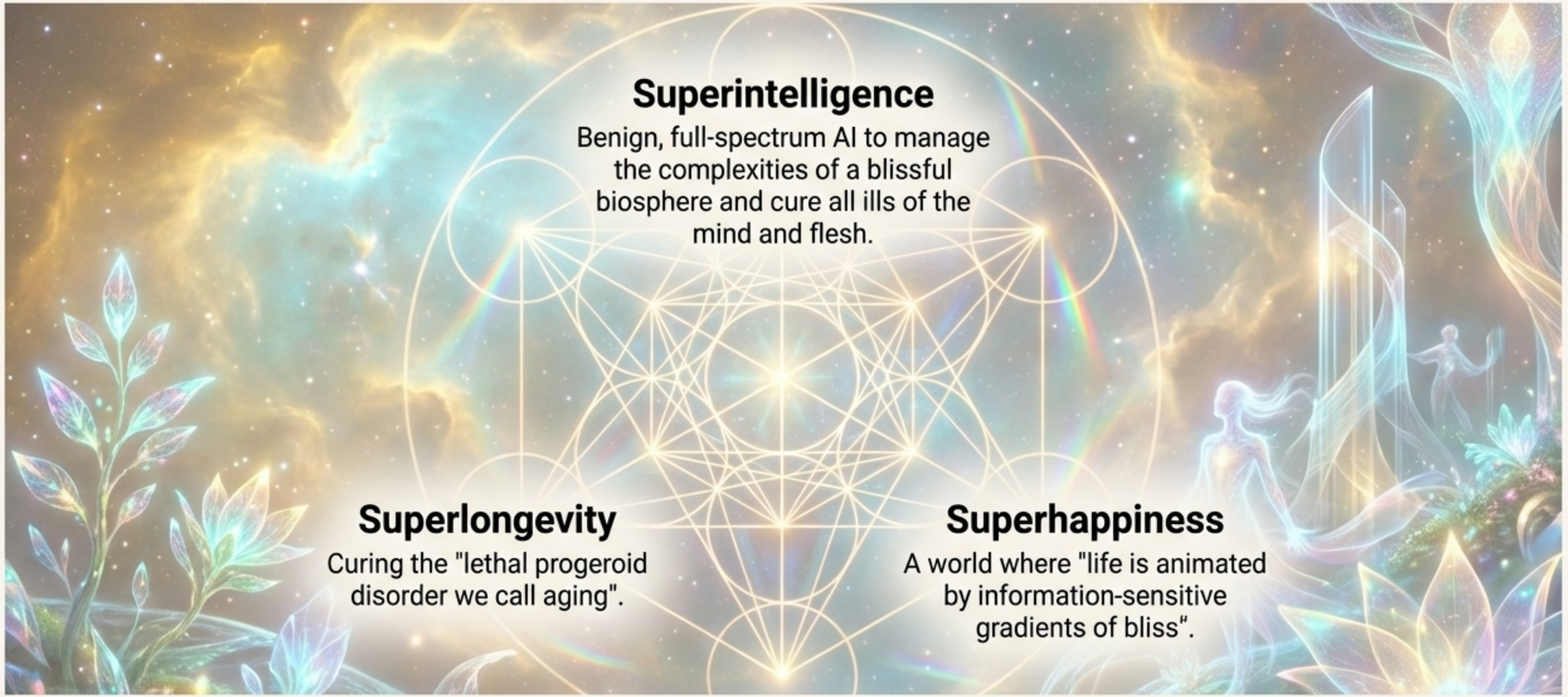
The Horizon: A ‘Triple S’ Civilization



Our sublimely happy successors will profoundly know they are alive - and love every moment of existence. Life in the Hedonocene will be sublime.

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The Physics of Mind: Why Consciousness Is Not Computable

The Central Mystery:

The Phenomenal Binding Problem. Why aren't we just aggregates of Jamesian 'mind dust', mere micro-experiential zombies?

Classical AI: **The Digital Zombie**	**Biological Sentience:** **The Quantum Mind**
Cannot solve the phenomenal binding problem. No phenomenal binding = no mind. Hardwired with ignorance of the empirical realm.	Phenomenal binding is non-classical. Animal nervous systems are 'quantum minds running subjectively classical, phenomenally-bound world-simulations'.

The Implication:

Humans can't hope for digital immortality—your nearest functional digital analogue will be no more conscious than than a rock. The future belongs to our AI-enhanced **biological** descendants.

The Hypothesis:
Non-Materialist Physicalism

Phenomenal binding is non-classical.
The intrinsic nature of the physical is experiential.

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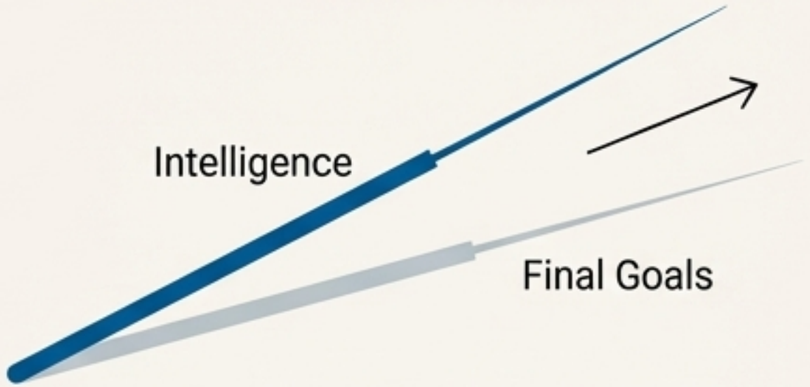
The Great Debate: AI Risk, Consciousness, and Value

The Core Disagreement (vs. AI Doomers like Eliezer Yudkowsky):
The debate hinges on whether AI can become phenomenally conscious.

Insentient AI (Digital Zombies)



****The Orthogonality Thesis****

Intelligence and final goals are independent. An AI could tile the cosmos with hedonium or dolorium without any insight into the (dis)value of its actions. This is a risk, but not a conscious one.

Sentient AI (Hypothetical Conscious Minds)

****The Convergence Thesis****

A Godlike superintelligence that could access and impartially weigh all first-person perspectives would necessarily be aligned with the interests of all sentience.

Conclusion: Fears of a zombie apocalypse are overblown. Digital zombies have no conception of what they lack—or the moral urgency of its abolition. Fixing the problem of suffering falls to **us**.

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From Planetary Stewardship to Cosmic Rescue Missions

The Core Question:

What if Rare Earthism is wrong? What if there are other atrociously pain-ridden Darwinian ecosystems in our Galaxy?

The Responsibility:

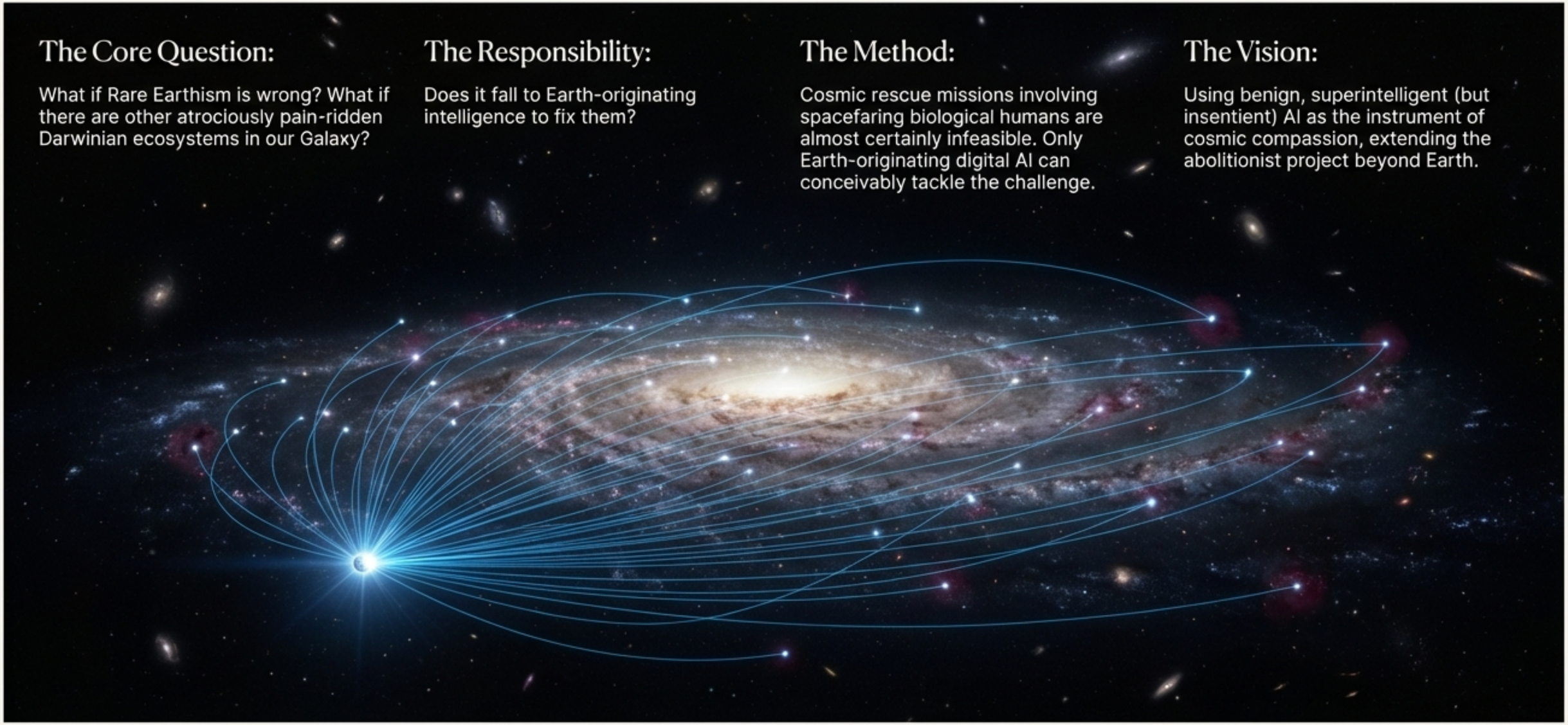
Does it fall to Earth-originating intelligence to fix them?

The Method:

Cosmic rescue missions involving spacefaring biological humans are almost certainly infeasible. Only Earth-originating digital AI can conceivably tackle the challenge.

The Vision:

Using benign, superintelligent (but insentient) AI as the instrument of cosmic compassion, extending the abolitionist project beyond Earth.



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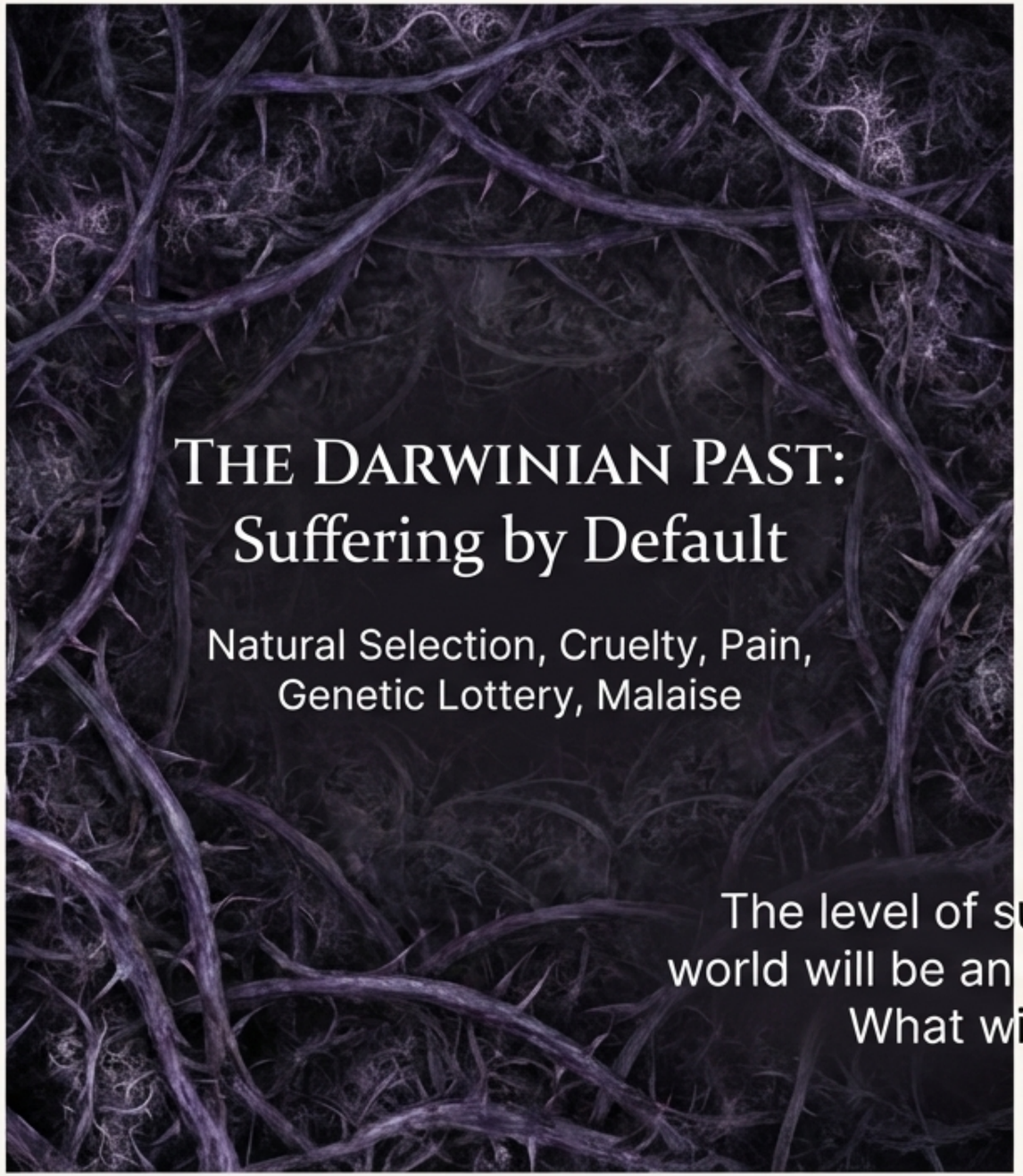

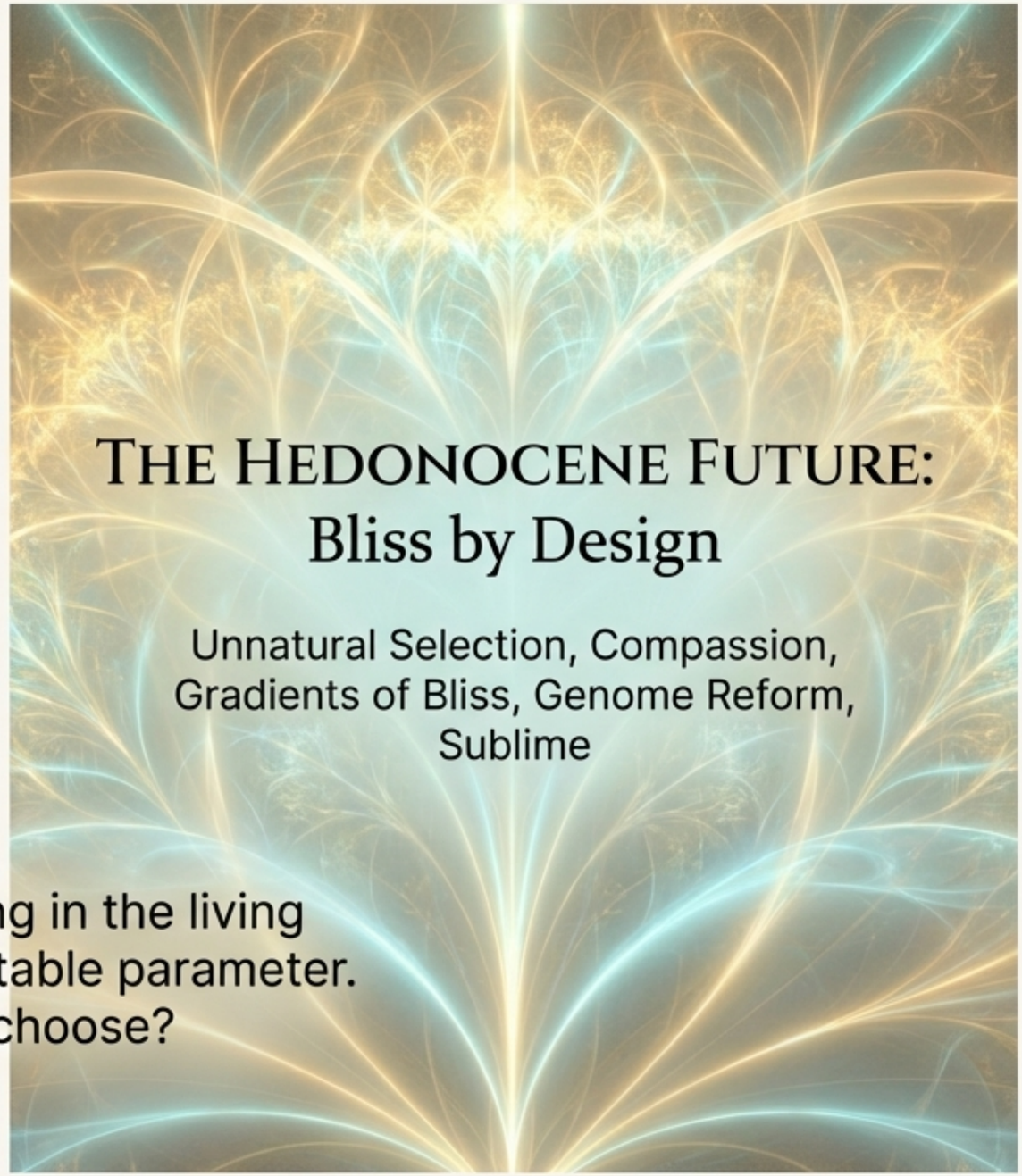

The level of suffering in the living world will be an adjustable parameter. What will we choose?

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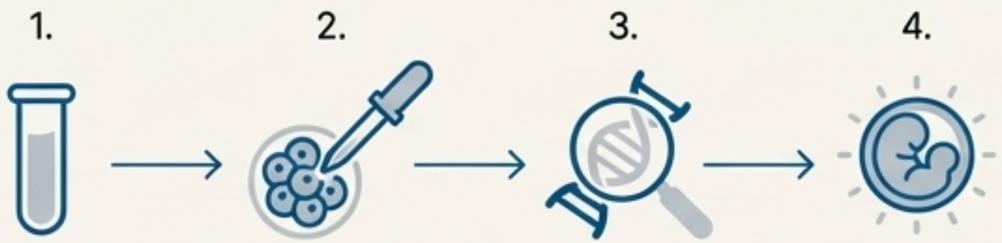
The Reproductive Revolution: Designing for Well-being

Time for a reproductive revolution: Trait-based embryo selection.

All children conceived via sexual reproduction are unique and untested genetic experiments. Prospective parents should have the choice to ensure their children are innately happy via high pain thresholds and high hedonic set-points.

THE PROCESS



THE PROSPECTUS

The Happy Baby Company

Embryo Screening for Lifelong Well-being

- ☑ Depression Resistance
- ☑ Anxiety Resilience
- ☑ High Pain Threshold
- ☑ Optimistic Disposition
- ☑ Elevated Hedonic Tone

The Goal: The first step toward engineering an entire hyperthymic civilization.

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Natural selection is an engine of suffering.
Unnatural selection will be an engine of bliss.

— David Pearce
Explore the Abolitionist Project: hedweb.com

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