We have just learned on the television news that a horrible storm is coming. It will not only destroy the apricot marmalade I had just asked for. I knew instantly from my head, what started the process that eventually resulted in my decision to create Akkadia.

I am a bit of a child. My family and friends in Holland, where I had spent time as a child. My family members and friends in Holland, where she had spent time as a child.

I was smiling, thinking of the upcoming holidays our families were looking forward to, like the soft, salty sheep’s cheese and thin slices of aged ham. My mouth was dry. I was thirsty, but I wanted to keep the tears from my eyes. We live on but only under the suffocating memory of a population explosion fueled our unprecedented economic growth, too large to mention in full. The use of fossil fuels increased our population by our sheer numbers alone. Our booming population fueled our unprecedented economic growth, but we also contributed to the environmental crisis by fishing every last fish in the ocean, burning every last tree on the planet, and dumping every last chemical on the surface of the earth. We took the energy of past life to work and create. Unfortunately, we also have the capacity to transform the very face of the world. We transformed mountains, seas, and deserts.

It was already too late. When the truth became unavoidable, the mirror of history. “What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. It can’t happen to me. “What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. It can’t happen to me. "What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. It can’t happen to me. "What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. It can’t happen to me. "What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. It can’t happen to me. "What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. It can’t happen to me. "What is good for me today must of course be good for all tomorrow.” I guess that is what the wise man said. 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We humans are good at polishing the door knob while the house is search they were conducting, if there was no hope?

Before I left that day, I had asked him what was the point of all the re

nies sending their dirty factories and polluting industries to the poor

their tough environmental laws, which only results in the big compa

an I had always known him to be.

he had told me. “It is smaller and more contained, and surrounded by

in the Mediterranean—the emerging warm-water species didn’t have a

sea. The North Atlantic lobsters had gone, and the water had become

then, approaching the end of the first quarter of the 21st Century, the

caught—always unintentionally for there were too few left for any sport

Joumage, the museum’s illustrious director, about the research he was

the port where the first glimmer of Akkadia was conceived.

called, I knew that every inch of the harbor was man-made. As the win

packed with pretty white-sided yachts and tall silvery masts.

way I could look down over the Mediterranean’s most glittering jewel,

harbor from the Monaco Yacht Club where Princess Grace was docked,

suffocated by the constant reminder of what I had just lost?

airplane in Russia. I sat, dazed by the news, teetering between

start my third year of university at The Sorbonne when I received

countryside with the top down on my convertible on the way to

I had just turned twenty and was driving through the Italian

Mother Earth to death.

faltered, infrastructures collapsed, and governments failed.

seas would continue to rise for another 150 years. As we all know

already warning about the changes we had set in motion by

and fires raged across mountain ranges and plains, people kept

droughts turned once-fertile farmlands into vast wastelands,

as the trickle of refugees turned into a torrent, even as hurricanes

winter snows now fell as rain, with raging floods as a consequence.

uninhabitable by the rising salt beneath their feet. It only took a

southern third of the country’s once-productive fields were left

urban areas became uninhabitable. With every passing rainstorm,

millions were forced to move inland. Long before the grids failed

Even before the world’s coastal cities had drowned, tens of

left. The Indian subcontinent became the site of the first Climate

the flooding seas came to share what little food and water was

blown deserts. People starved as more and more refugees from

loss of private insurance, but everyone realized there was not

waterfront property values around the world. Without insurance

While a monumental catastrophe by any measure, the damage

early October of 2005 another first in weather annals had occurred

rapidly rising sea and rivers cut off entire towns and villages.

enormous physical damage. But the loss of life, more than 150,000

that leveled New Orleans 18 years before, dikes and seawalls

Miriam’s winds topped 120 miles an hour, but it was her gigantic

crossed the Atlantic almost to Bermuda, and then began racing

to traverse the English Channel into the North Sea. The late-season

Ironically, even for one of the most environmentally progressive

seriously about sea level rise. Even though much of the world was still in

enclose the Isylmeer, the old inland sea that had flooded. They had

initiated a 40-year-plan to raise their dikes another five meters, build

flooded the lowlands. With their usual industry and ingenuity, they

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