

### Colophon

EmbrACE is the official magazine of the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication. It connects students and faculty staff with topics related to history, culture and the media industry. The editorial team of EmbrACE is part of the International Faculty Association ACE.

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### **Table of Contents**

Editor's Note by Jonah

Green Roffa: How Rotterdam Invests In A Sustainable Future Every Day by Noa

The Dystopian Scenario of Eugenics by Alice

Modern Reflection -Noitcelfer Nredom by Sofia

Ink and Concrete:
Authors and Poets Who
Inspire Rotterdam by
Casssandra

Finding Your Third Place in the Urban Space / Rotterdam by Maya

Fear and Loathing in Rotterdam: A Guide to Not Cycling by Jana

A Break Up Letter / Rotterdam by Anushka

Finding the Missing Piece by Sakina



google maps:

ve wrote about google maps!



### Editor'

### Dear reader,

Like the water that breaks
Rotterdam in two, I don't want
to stay in one place. Staying
is safe, comfortable, but it's
not living. Living in the midst
of the angst of uncertainty,
you know you're doing
something worthwhile.
Rotterdam is so comfortable
because when you look after
the city, it looks after you.

Just recently, I went to pick up food. When it was done and I was just about to step out the door, the guy handing me the food stopped me with a question. "What happened to your eye?" It was eczema, so I responded: "It's eczema." "It looks like you were in a fight" he said. I was tempted to say I was. After all, I was in a self-declared struggle for life or death against eczema. But I decided to keep it at: "No, fortunately not."

Any normal conversation would have stopped there, however: "You know what you should do? You should find a natural medicine that works for you. Don't put on that chemical trash." "So where do I find this natural medicine?" "Just google it" he said, his hand mimicking the motion of typing on a phone, his eyes flashing a look of incredulity after being asked such a stupid question. "But when I google, I find the chemical trash." "Do you have TikTok?" I responded: "No. There you go!" But in fact, I was the one who was going.

The Atlantic Ocean may be vast but an uncomfortable journey can cross it.
Rotterdam is not that far away for me, and the journey has never been that uncomfortable. What makes a journey uncomfortable

### s Note

is leaving people behind.
Belonging in a place is being recognized by the people around you. With no-one around you to tell you that you belong is to live an invisible life.

Slowly but surely, Rotterdam has told me I belong. But sometimes I doubt it. I have a tendency to doubt everything Rotterdam has given me. How can it all be real if it's so fleeting? Memories can be great but they also serve as a painful reminder of what's absent in your life, or at least what you feel is absent in your life.

The suitcase that brought me to Rotterdam is fuller now than it was when I arrived. I owe it all to Rotterdam, but I'm not grateful enough. Though I see what the city has done for me, I'm still planning my escape. I

suppose a goodbye does not have to be forever, but you never know beforehand.

For now I will still have some time to spend here, but time is always limited. If I can ever say goodbye, Rotterdam will take in more people in my absence and shape their identities. It's not a unique quality to this city, but it still deserves our attention. In this issue we pay attention to this aspect of Rotterdam, and the way city life in general shapes our lives. Maybe you can remember when you were little and your parents gave you a snack out of nowhere, would they say: "Don't eat it all at once?" It's the advice I will give you for our third issue: Don't read it all at once. Save some treats for later.

Jonah Van Lotringen

### Green Roffa:

# How Rotterdam invests in a sustainable future every day (that you maybe didn't know of)

### Noa op 't Ende

The Markthal, Erasmusbrug, Euromast, or the Depot: Rotterdam is mostly known for its urban life and architectural masterpieces. Still, the city has actively invested in making urban life as sustainable as possible, and with success. Earning the 12th spot in the Sustainable Cities Index of 2022, Rotterdam is starting to earn its characterizing green color on the city flag more and more. But how exactly could they make a lively, polluting city so green? Those tactics might surprise you.

skyscrapers,

various vegetables and fruits are grown (also for local restaurants) for which bees are kept to pollinate the crops. A whole peaceful ecosystem in itself, literally 'on top' of a busy city. And you can even enjoy it yourself at the breakfast- and lunch bar amidst the farm. Top tip now that spring is coming, right?

#### **DakAkker**

A one-kilometer square farm right in the city center of Rotterdam. You might be wondering: "Where would that be?" Right on top of the community building Schieblock, the city has made one of the largest rooftop farms in Europe. Between the intimidating



**Floating Farm** 

What would be even crazier than a rooftop farm? A farm on water. Might sound utopian or futuristic, but it's actually just a bike-ride away for you. Since May 2019, the world's first floating farm has been operational in Rotterdam. Of course, Rotterdam is a harbor city surrounded by lots of water, which is why this is a perfect solution. The Floating Farm is aimed to produce healthy, organic food in cities - close to its consumers. With less food waste and long transport, and more care for animals, it is one of the most sustainable ways of urban food production we have ever seen. Cows on the farm are fed residual flows from local breweries and windmills, making the production cycle as localized as possible.

unused spaces in which
Rotterdam sees potential to make
city life more sustainable. Looking
at the first prototypes, it has
some similarities to the High Line
in NYC, and is meant to utilize
unused urban space to
make the city more green.

You see, even though 'urban' and 'green' might seem like contrasting concepts at first, with a little bit of creativity, innovation, and humanity there are a lot of ways in which city life can become more bearable. Look at our own Roffa! Next time you're about to go for a beer for friends at the usual spots, consider the sustainable brewery or a garden on the rooftop instead!

### **New City Parks**

As long as we're on the futuristic topic, Rotterdam has started to create a park running through the city on a former railway viaduct. Between 2024 and 2027, the city will develop a two-kilometer long and climate-adaptive park that will be open to anyone and everyone. Rooftops, like this roof of the Hofbogen railway viaduct, are



# The Dystopian Scenario of Eugenics



A few days ago, I re-watched Gattaca with my roommates and realized how much this dystopian-futuristic film fascinates me. If you have never watched Gattaca, let me explain guickly what it's about. Gattaca is a 1997 film, taking place in a "not too distant future," in which society is divided by genetics. Most individuals are born after a thorough selection of the desired genes, to ensure the best physical and intellectual outcome possible. Meanwhile, the "children of God," the ones that are not the product of an artificial selection, are at the bottom of the social ladder.

They are disadvantaged by all their potential diseases, by their need for glasses, or even by their baldness. betraying their imperfect genetics. In such

a world, discrimination is not based on skin color, gender, or sexuality: it is based solely on DNA. A blood test replaces a job interview, and being a math genius is useless if their DNA is "flawed."

This dystopian scenario is only a good film scenario, right? Well, yes and no. Gattaca's society does not exist per se, however, eugenics practices exist and have been used on a mass scale already. Eugenics is a technique or belief, depending on how you view this practice, that attempts to 'improve' the genetic quality of a human population. In short, eugenics consists of favoring or excluding some genetic traits, to have a population that corresponds to an ideal. Eugenics might sound like an obscure and futuristic procedure, but it's actually older than Joe Biden. Back in Antiquity, Plato already had the idea of 'improving' the quality of the population, which nowadays would be qualified as eugenic.

Eugenics is divided between 'positive' and 'negative' eugenics. Positive eugenics consists of encouraging what is considered good genetic traits to be perpetuated, whereas negative eugenics tries to end weaker genetic characteristics. One of the easiest ways to do such a thing is of course through reproduction. On the one hand, encouraging people with 'good'

characteristics to reproduce, and on the other hand, forbidding people with 'negative' characteristics to reproduce.

On paper, such a practice sounds horrifying, but it has been a legal procedure in several countries. Of course, the Nazis embodied eugenics to an extreme degree during the second world

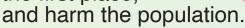
war, but sadly
they are not the
only ones. The
US and Sweden
were also involved
with eugenics for
decades. As a

matter of fact. Sweden forced thousands of people to be sterilized between 1934 and 1976, simply because they were considered weaker than the rest of the population. Mostly, the victims were young women who were seen as rebellious, with low IQ, or simply women who happened to be mixed race. It is important to note that at that time, IQ tests were more similar to knowledge tests than IQ tests. Thus, it is easy to understand that the poorer people with less education were more likely to be targeted for such sterilization. Moreover, IQ tests today are still very unreliable to measure "intelligence". The poorer being the first ones in trouble? What a brand-new scenario! Ironically. Sweden was also the first

European country to abolish forced sterilization.

Eugenics advocates see it as a practice that could improve humanity's future, notably by erasing certain diseases and strengthening individuals. But concretely, what are the risks of eugenics in the long run? In addition to the obvious violation of human rights that it is when done through forced sterilization, it can be dangerous for genetic diversity. A limited genetic pool means a decrease in immunity and resilience among the population. If you have watched Game of Thrones, you know that Joffrey Lannister is an extreme

example of this practice. Therefore, eugenics could lead to the opposite of what was intended in the first place,



To cut a long story short, eugenics is not new, but some people still see it as the future of humanity. In my opinion, it can be a dangerous and creepy belief. But you might think I just watched Gattaca too many times.

### Futuristically, Alice Raffegeau

### Modern reflection - noitcelf

Sofia Major

In the tunneling notion of light,

I discern a murmuring hiss,

Echoing wheels of an unstoppable ride,

Oh, how I yearn to change my sit

Within the bittersweet embrace of sadness,

My thoughts wander to distant lands,

Where I might unburden the weight of darkness,

Lost in the labyrinth of a tunneling heart.

Some may deem it madness,
Yet, I'm compelled to give it a try,
To stray from the prescribed path,
And linger where destiny did not assign.

Lost in a burst of the streets,

Drowning in the neon light,

Running circles across busy places,

### er nredom

Once again, I wake up surrounded by shadows. I can see the city lights outside my window; it's the first time I will be able to see the sun rising in a couple of hours. My mum is always angry with me for missing the first lights of the sun.

Morning arrives, cold but sunny, as people slowly crawl out from their shelters, or rather, apartments, to face the new day. They will drink their cup of coffee, scrolling through online news outlets barely paying attention to any worldwide events. It's just for fun, just for the sake of knowing, but never understanding.

Grabbing their coffee, they rush through the city, eating on the run, always swallowing and never chewing. Their eyes will never focus on the advertisements surrounding the utopian landscape: bright, sarcastic, prepared for the critical sights of ironic readers, they will never catch even the slightest attention.

Being on the train, face to face with colleagues, you may have a talk. You can mention the weather forecast and the bitter coffee aftertaste (it was cheap and had more Robusta than Arabica - that's the reason you will say). You may even talk about the latest



news you read, or rather scrolled through, roughly remembering the scandalous headlines and the first and last passages within the article (where the most important information is usually placed, isn't it).

Your eyes will look straight into his or hers, but they will be dead, no notion of sense. Physical presence - mental absence, but don't worry - the companion isn't here either. You step out of your metro, throw your paper cap into the right recycling bin, and then you are lost, stepping from one glass and cement block into another. Nevermind though.

By the way, have I mentioned that my mum is always angry with me for missing the first lights of the sun?

### Inkand Concrete:

Authors and Poets Who Inspire

### Rotterdam

### Cassandra Pacheco

As you wander through the streets and modern architecture of Rotterdam, you will always encounter verses and quotes plastered across facades, etched into bridges, and metro stops. These snippets of poetry serve as glimpses into the diversity and history of Rotterdam, offering moments of quiet reflection amidst the urban hustle and bustle.

Whether you're a seasoned literary enthusiast or simply a curious traveler, Rotterdam's poetic landscape offers something for everyone to enjoy and appreciate. So,

as the summer sun bathes Rotterdam, take a moment to explore the city's literary side through some of its most famous writers.

### Jules Deelder: The Night Mayor

No exploration of Rotterdam's literary scene would be complete without mentioning Jules Deelder, often dubbed as the "Night Mayor" of the city. Born in Rotterdam in 1944, Deelder's distinctive style and unapologetic portrayal of urban life have made him a beloved icon among Rotterdamers. Deelder earned his moniker

"Night Mayor" due to his nocturnal lifestyle and his affinity for the city's nightlife. He often roamed the streets of Rotterdam in the wee hours, soaking in the atmosphere and drawing inspiration from the city after dark. His poetry reflects this intimate connection with a nocturnal Rotterdam, capturing the intensity and allure of its streets as seen in 'Portret van de nacht' (Portrait of the Night) and 'Swing', an homage to the city's jazz scene. Through his work like 'Fellow Sufferers', he invites us to experience Rotterdam through his eyes, embracing its contradictions and complexities.

Jules
Deelder's
poetry
resonates
with readers
not only
for its raw
honesty and
vivid imagery
but also for
its profound
portrayal of
Rotterdam's
soul.

### Ramsey Nasr: A Poetic Disionary

One of Rotterdam's most celebrated literary figures, Ramsey Nasr, stands as a testament to the city's vibrant artistic spirit. Born and raised in Rotterdam in 1974, Nasr's journey from the streets of his hometown to the international stage has been nothing short of extraordinary. As a poet, playwright, actor, and public intellectual, he has left an indelible mark on the cultural landscape of the Netherlands.

In his poem "Mi have een droom" (I Have a Dream), Nasr explores themes of identity, belonging, and cultural heritage by drawing inspiration from his own background within Rotterdam's diverse communities. Nasr channels the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr.'s iconic speech," I Have a Dream" offering his own vision of a world where all people are treated with dignity and respect. Through his work. Nasr envisioned a future Rotterdam where languages from different cultures mingle seamlessly, reflecting the city's rich

diversity and collective dreams for a better tomorrow.



One can see
Nasr's influence through the quote "Mi have een droom," painted across the air bridge at Rotterdam Central Station.

### Anna Blaman: A Reflection of Rotterdamers

In the annals of Dutch literature, few names shine as brightly as Anna Blaman, a pioneering figure born and raised in the heart of Rotterdam. Born Johanna Petronella Vrugt in 1905, Blaman adopted the pseudonym Anna Blaman to conceal her gender, a bold move that would pave the way for future

generations of female writers. Her groundbreaking novel **Eenzaam Avontuur (Lonely** Adventure), published in 1948, shattered conventions and tackled taboo subjects with depth, earning her widespread acclaim. Blaman's portrayal of Rotterdam in her works reflects a deep affection for her hometown, as well as a keen understanding of its inhabitants and their struggles. As seen in her novel, 'Eenzaam Avontuur', which follows the journey of a young woman named Marianne who navigates the complexities of love, desire, and self-discovery in a postwar Rotterdam.



From the bustling streets of the city center to the quiet suburbs on its outskirts, Blaman's prose captures Rotterdam's diverse landscape, painting a vivid portrait of its people and their lives. Like in 'De Kruisvaarder' (The Crusader) where Blaman delves into the intricacies of faith, identity, and social justice in the context of Rotterdam's Catholic community.

Blaman's literary legacy extends far beyond the confines of her hometown, but her intimate connection to Rotterdam infuses her work with a distinct sense of place and identity within the larger context of the Netherlands. When you begin to delve into the literature of Rotterdam,

it reveals diverse voices and vibrant narratives. Authors through the years offer glimpses into the heart and soul of the city that often ring true to this day. Even for those who may not yet understand Dutch, translations of their popular works are readily available online, providing access to

their unique perspectives.

As Rotterdam's literary heritage continues to evolve, new voices and narratives enrich its cultural fabric and inspire generations to come, making it an endlessly fascinating way to discover the city and a perfect way to spend a summer afternoon.



### Finding Your **Third Place** in the **Urban Space** | Rotterdam

Maya Barakova

When your card declines at therapy you know it's time to look for alternative ways to salvage your weakened mental state. Ray Oldernburg suggests in his book The Great Good Place, the idea of having a 'third place.' In his case, the 'first place' would be home, the 'second place' is considered your work and the 'third place' is a space where you can escape from the work-home loophole. People have a third place in order to engage with communities, broaden their social circle and experience personal growth. Third places have a vital role in our life as cities can often make us feel isolated and alienated. That being said, when it comes to Rotterdam there is an abundance of opportunities to find a 'third place'. I am taking you on a journey to some of my 'third place' locations in Rotterdam that maybe by the end of this could become yours too.

Firstly, I'm feeling peckish. Maybe we should eat.

We go to Bagels & Beans - a cafe that masters the skills to serve both great coffee and supreme bagels. With plenty of cafes around the

city you can safely go to a new cafe everytime you go out. Even though I love to try new places, I can't help myself going to Bagels & Beans because I just know I'm always going to enjoy it. The cafe has this cosy small-town cafe atmosphere and big colourful mugs where you can sip your unnecessarily large cappuccino, or peppermint tea for the noncoffee drinkers. Now let's talk about bagels. If I ever reject a bagel then consider the decline of my mental state irreversible. If in some dystopian future bagels are illegal, I would waste no time downloading a Tor browser and looking for bagels on the dark web. What I noticed is that a few vears ago there was an option to order a bugs bagel with crickets, flour worms and grasshoppers on the menu of Bagels & Beans. Unfortunately, this option is not available anymore. The reason behind this is unclear, however I can imagine it must not have been a popular menu item. If I had known that in the future that bug bagel would cease to exist. I would've ordered it once just for

> the experience. Looking back, I went to Bagels & Beans many times when I used to live in Eindhoven, Later on

when I started living in Rotterdam and noticed there are Bagel & Beans cafes it felt like a bright lighthouse in a storm.

Now that we filled our stomachs and clenched our thirst, let's go to the park.

Het park is a beautiful wellrounded park situated not far
from the centre of Rotterdam. The
famous observation
tower 'Euromast' is
located in this park,
although this will not
be a place to sightsee
and visit tourist
attractions. Instead,
this will be a place

where you invite all your friends to meet in the sunny weather and have picnics. Another reason you should come often

to this place is to watch people walk their dogs. Not in a stalkerish kind of way but rather with a mild curiousity masked under an uninterested demeanour. The saying 'dogs match their owner' truly comes into play in some cases. The possibilities of this park are endless - meeting with friends, doing solo activities, going on a park date, using the kid's playground when nobody is watching. Nevertheless, there are various ways you can utilize this park, this is just how I make use of it as my 'third place.'

Okay, I'm bored now. Let's go look at some books now.

The perfect place to look at printed words on flimsy pieces of paper glued together and wrapped in a nice cover is Donner bookstore on Coolsingel. The Donner bookstore is spread over three floors with the upper floor containing a cosy little cafe combined with a second hand books and vinyl records area. We will stroll along the hallways of this gigantic bookstore, like some friendly ghosts from the past. In a true broke student fashion we will not commit to purchasing a book, rather we will see what intrigues us and add it to our 'want to read' list on our phones. Donner bookstore offers more than just books but surely you don't come with the intention to look at what puzzles they have. Furthermore, if you go to bookstores and don't mention the phrase "I've read this" regarding at least one book, lazily resting on the dusty shelves, you must be some new kind of a psychopath.

Now that we have finished our journey

I hope you have some ideas of what having a 'third place' entails. I believe that when I was being generous with my vulnerability in sharing my third places it inspired you to think about where your own 'third place' might be.

# Fear and Loathing In Rotterdam: A Guide to Not Cycling Jana Perusheska

Depending on where you come from, moving to a big city like Rotterdam can be an intimidating experience, especially if getting on a bike is your biggest nightmare. This comprehensive guide to the city will show you all the best spots to visit and feel like a real local.

#### Oude Haven

Right in the center of the city, Oude Haven is one of the oldest ports in Rotterdam, and home to a line of beautiful bars and cafes to sit at and have a drink, regardless of the weather. Having too much fun and want to continue your night out after the last metro? No problem! Due to its central location, an Uber from one of the nearby clubs will cost you no more than 12 euros as you're stumbling home drunk, even if you live in Zuid!

**Pro tip:** best enjoyed with an easily convinced friend to share the cab fare with.

#### **UEB West**

Located on the bustling Nieuwe Binnenweg street in Rotterdam West, this adorable brunch spot is the place to be on a weekend morning. Make sure to get their locally brewed coffee, delicious and strong enough to give you energy for the 35 minute walk home when your bus doesn't show!

**Kralingse Zoom** 

Located close to the beautiful Woudestein campus, the Kralingse Zoom station is every cycling-challenged student's most visited location. On the scenic 15 minute walk to your class, you can ponder why your parents didn't force you to take off the training wheels 10 years ago.

**Pro tip:** take the bus for one stop to avoid your fellow students seeing you out of breath from running to your 9am!

### **Het Park**

Het Park is perfect for a sunny day where you decide to let the city win and give up your OV Chipcard. As spring is coming, it's time to grab three of your most patient friends, one with a bike they won't miss too much, and finally learn how to cycle. After a few hours of frustration and screaming at each other, you might feel like a real Rotterdammer.





## A Break Up Letter to Rotterdam

### Dear Rotterdam,

How have you been lately? It's been a while since we connected. I overthought writing to you a lot. I thought maybe I did not have anything to say and we could keep the peace if I did not say anything to you. For someone who loves to write letters, this one has been the most difficult for me.

I am writing this to let you know that it's my time to go. We had the classic enemies to lovers trope. I will not say it is not you, it is me because it is a little bit of you too. Three years back I was indifferent to your existence. When I first met you it felt like you did not want me here. You made it so difficult for me to exist that I was ready to take the next flight out. I was homeless, I barely had any money. I was struggling to put a roof over my head. I had to survive on a raw diet cause I did not have a kitchen to cook or money to afford takeout every day. My parents told me that everyone goes through rough patches. It gets better and easier with time. Does it get better for everyone or just for neurotypical people who bow down to the system? Yes, I was mad at you! I despised you. You felt rude, arrogant and definitely not welcoming. I had to leave everything behind to come to you and you couldn't even make it a little welcoming. I get that you cannot control the weather but at least make it easier. I gave

away my house, my love and my life for you and I didn't even get a thank you? How about you start giving a damn, Rotterdam? You pushed me but I pushed back. I had to fight for my own place. I had to survive you for me to love me.

Maybe that is what was wrong with our relationship in the first place? We accept the love we think we deserve. I really wanted you to accept me and to love me.

After a few months, it felt like you started to accept my existence. You made space for me. We went through so many dark days together. I stood by you through those cold, rainy and windy days as I hoped for the sun to shine. Then it did. We had our rare sunny and warm days. The sunny days made me forget the gloomy days. They even gave me the power to deal with the gloomy days. The world seemed better when it was sunnier. It got you and I closer. The summer was when I truly and completely fell in love with you. I did not want to leave you ever. I day dreamed about our lives together. You made me feel seen, wanted and happy all at the same time. Until you did not.

Post summer blues started to set in. Reality hit me like a strong wind. Maybe our love did not mean as much to you? I wish it did. I was left alone to deal with the stormy nights. As I stayed still under my blanket watching my nails turn blue. I could not breathe. There was no one I could call or go to. They did not understand why it is so difficult for me just to survive. It made me think, did you even care? As I went through the cold days stuck under my blanket. I realized I had been waiting for a patronus to come save me while it was me who had to cast the patronus. Maybe I expected too much from you? Maybe you could never give me the warmth the east did? Maybe you weren't meant to? Maybe I built it all in my head? I wondered if I fixed myself, would Rotterdam miss me? I did start to focus on myself. As much I love you, I love the sun more! Before you throw me out, I have decided to leave with dignity. Though every now and then I see the magic of Rotterdam. The reason why I fell in love with you. The glimpses of the magic are a reminder that the time we had was real. I will surely miss you, Rotterdam and everything you gave me and made me feel.



# Finding the Missing Piece

### Sakina Fütterer

The sound of your alarm goes off, BEEP...BEEP...BEEP! With a lot of sighing, you reach the alarm and push the button to turn it off. Today is just a normal day. A day of working, getting home, eating, sleeping, and repeating. You get ready for your new job in Avalon, one of the biggest and most popular cities in your country, Aztlán. But today feels different; something feels off but you don't know what. The energy around you is more energetic and positive. You feel like you can take on the whole world. When you step outside, you startle. Something looks different, it doesn't look like Avalon at all. Someone walks by and says, "Hey there, hope you are feeling wonderful! Have a nice day!" You look confused and say to yourself, "What is going on here? That person normally walks by and looks angry at me for no reason and now he is

saying "Have a nice day"? And why does Avalon suddenly look like a perfect world where the colors are brighter and the people are acting differently?" Without giving that much attention, you travel to your work. You are a research journalist who has to work very hard and read a lot. Currently, you are investigating the political history of a country that is now controlled by their strict leader. The strict leader sends the military to all the protests that take place. They take tough action against the residents and journalists are arrested. You reach for the stack of paper with information about the history. When you look up the current state on Google, you can't find any information about the war in the country, like it doesn't even exist. Quickly, you call over a colleague and friend, James. "James, is there a malfunction at Google or something, because I

can't find the information I have read before?" James answers. "Nope, there is no malfunction! What are you looking for?" You answer: "I am looking for information on the war in this country, but Google says that there is no war at all." "That is weird," said James. You begin to overthink and try to connect vour earlier incident with this. "James, do you also feel like it is a different day than normal?" He answers, "Well, now that you mention it, everyone was being nice to me and the city looked more beautiful than it normally does. Why do you ask?" Your suspicion is getting stronger and stronger and you call over your other colleague, who is always grumpy, to see if your suspicions are true. "Hi Grace, how are you today? I have a quick question, but do you also feel like it is a different day than normal?" Grace answers with a big smile: "What do you mean? Every day is such a beautiful day! Everyone is so kind to each other: I wouldn't change anything in this world because it is already so perfect!" You said, "Oh, that is great to hear; thank you, Grace!" She walks back to her work space and begins to laugh with other colleagues that are telling a story. James gives you a worried and confused look. "What happened to Grumpy Grace?" whispered

James. "I have no clue but I think that my suspicions are true. I think something or someone turned this world into an utopian world!" "You think that because everyone is so nice and because all the trouble in the world cannot be found anymore?" "Yes," you said. James said: "Well then we have to find answers, because we are the only ones who know that something isn't right...That is it! Our next research for our job is going to be about this, but no one can know about it. We have to make sure that no one suspects us of being outsiders." You said: "Okay I am in! We have to interview people and try to find out who is behind this. We also have to look for information about natural phenomena; maybe something weird occurred? Furthermore, we also should travel to my research country to see if it is really true that there is no war anymore." You both left your desk and quickly went to your home to unravel this odd puzzle. What will you and James find out?

Stay tuned for Part II.

