SIM 15

written by

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EXT/INT. UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

We observe through window three men having a discussion. RYAN, (30s) walks in the room- obviously late for some meeting.

    SCIENTIST 1
    Glad you could join us Mr. Ryan.

    RYAN
    (sarcastically)
    The pleasure is all mine. Thanks for having me.

Scientist 2 across from Scientist 1 continues discussion -

    SCIENTIST 2
    Look, to me, both the ‘are we living in a simulation’ question and any response to it is preposterous.

    SCIENTIST 3
    Whether or not we live in a computer simulation is not even a scientific question.

Ryan's face boils from his disagreeing position.

    RYAN
    Gentlemen, 40 years ago, we had Pong, two rectangles and a dot. That's what games were. Now, 40 years later, we have photo-realistic 3D simulations with millions of people playing simultaneously, and it's getting better every year. If you assume any rate of improvement at all, the games will eventually become indistinguishable from reality.

    SCIENTIST 1
    If we live in a simulation, how would we exist and interact with the physical world? Unless our physical interactions are nothing more than elaborate programs to trick the brain, the concept is flawed. I can't support this grant proposal.

Ryan is at a lost for words.
INT. FUTURISTIC ROOM - UNKNOWN TIME

We see the back of a boy standing before a huge 360-degree wrap around computer screen. It's a teenage boy—no more than 15 years old. There are tactile electronic displays all around him. He's typing very fast on these displays. Finally, he stops.

BOY
(a sigh)
That was close. Can't quite let you figure it all out.

We approach slowly towards the screen, closer and closer until we can make out words that read: EARTH AND HUMANKIND SIMULATION 15.

FADE OUT.