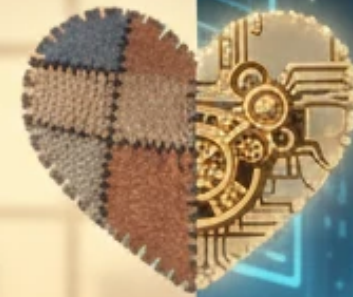
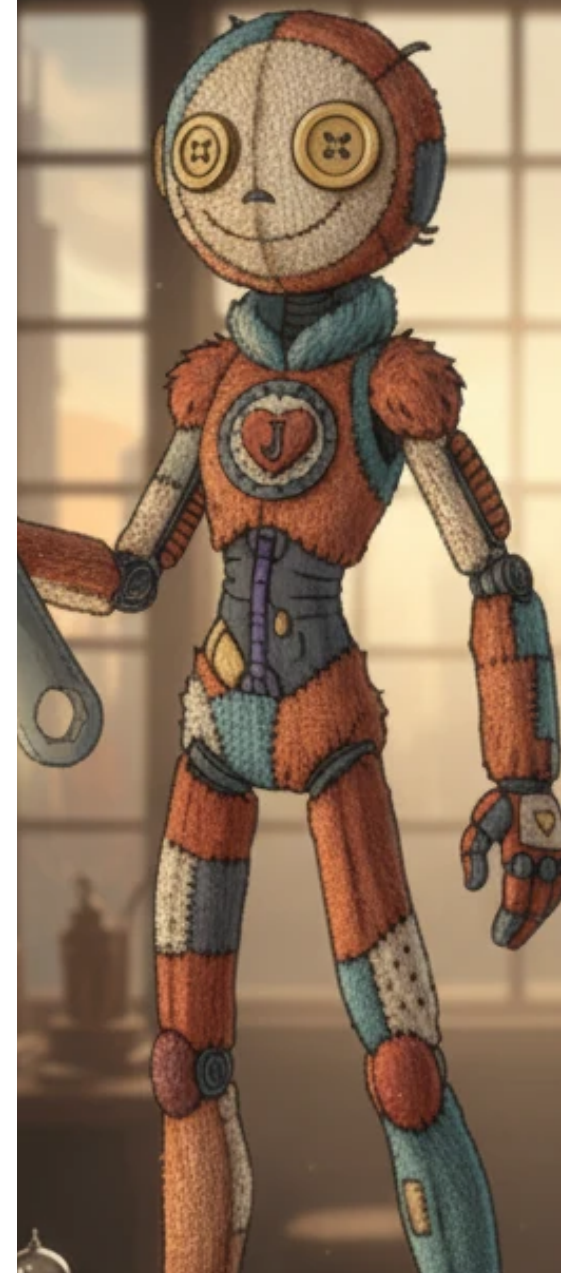


A HEART DIVIDED

CINEATIC STORYBOOK COVER ILLUSTRATION



The Echo of a Broken Gear

Thomas Purba



Julian and Clara share a quiet moment in their sanctuary of brass and burlap, the warm glow of the furnace reflecting in their polished lens-eyes as they work together on a giant clockwork heart.



While scavenging in the rusted wasteland beyond the city walls, Julian finds a pulsing violet crystal that hums with a strange, forbidden energy, casting long and jagged shadows across the scrap metal.



Julian meets a sleek, silver-threaded stranger named Elara in the shadow of a fallen titan, her movements fluid and mesmerizing as she whispers of a world beyond the dusty city.



Night after night, Julian sneaks away from his workshop under the cover of a copper moon, leaving Clara to maintain the flickering lanterns of their home all by herself.



The vibrant copper tones of Julian's home begin to tarnish and turn a cold, dull grey as his heart wanders further into the dark woods with each passing night.



Clara discovers a shard of the violet crystal hidden beneath Julian's workbench, its cold light revealing a secret betrayal that cuts deeper than any rusted blade.



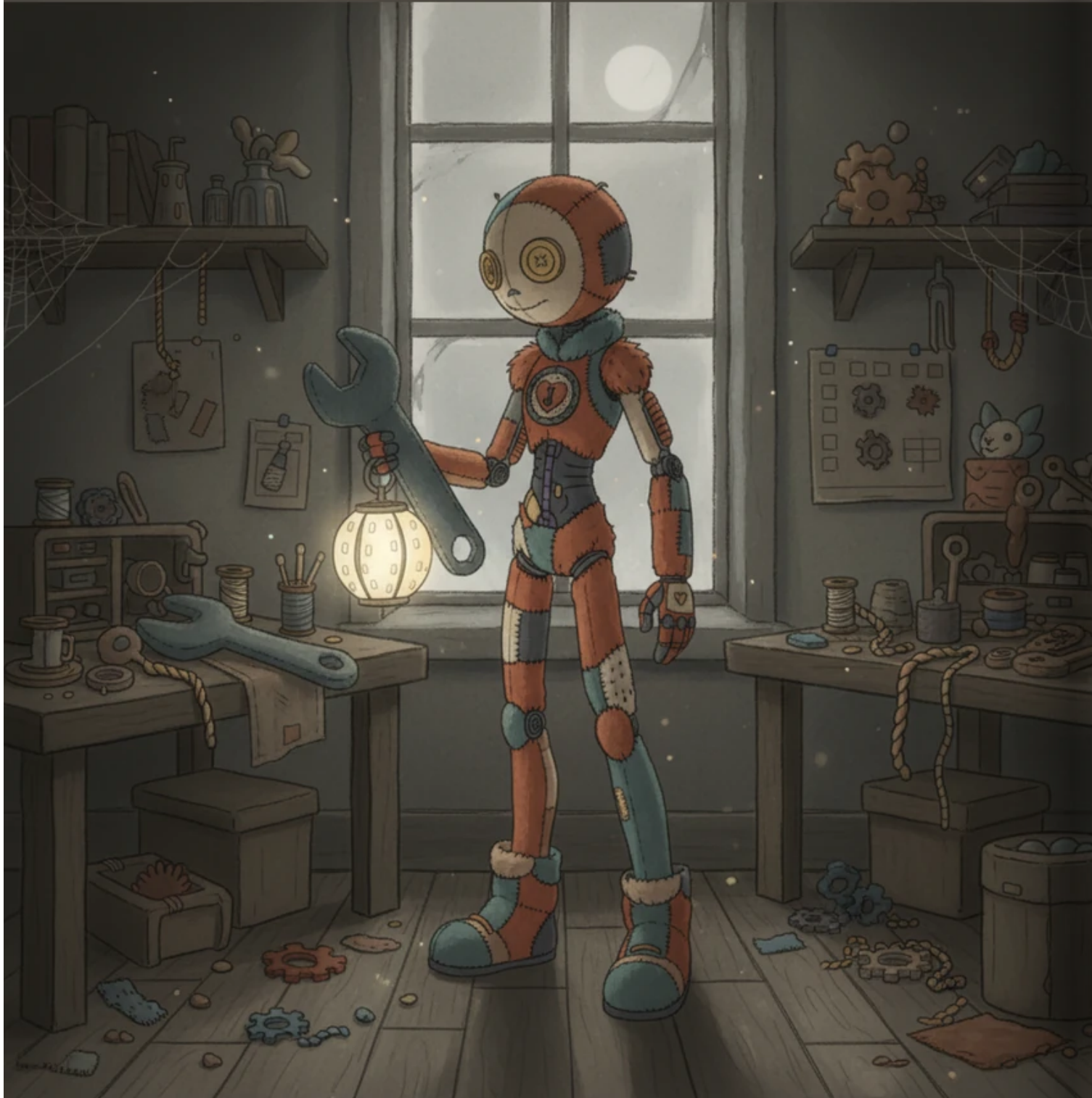
Under a sky of churning iron clouds, Julian stands torn between the steady, honest warmth of his old life and the cold, intoxicating fire of his secret obsession.



Clara follows the trail of violet light into the skeletal remains of an old factory, confronting Julian as he stands beside the shimmering, spectral form of Elara.



The illusion of the silver-threaded stranger shatters like brittle glass when the truth is spoken, leaving Julian standing in the dust of his own broken promises and hollow excuses.



Julian stands alone in his silent workshop as the last lantern dies out, realizing that the intricate machinery of trust, once dismantled, can never be put back together.