

The Grinders

by Collin M. Pointon

"You know it as the 'Parvima'. You know the lives it's saved, like my own. You know the revolution it's caused in medicine. Any biochemical treatment you pick has been made safer, more accurate, and more reliable. Any implant you choose can be controlled and regulated to a degree unobtainable by any other means." The many giant screens behind William Zarrow's changed as he addressed the hungry crowd.

"For the first time, physicians have been able to monitor the health and wellbeing of patients, no matter where they are in real time. But I'm up here in front of you all to tell you about the next revolution." His blue eyes took in the energy of the crowd; his bald head had been powdered so it wouldn't look too shiny.

"Here's the first pearl I have for you. A lot of people still don't know, surprisingly, that I came up with the name by combining the words of the phrase *Parvus animae*, 'the tiny soul'."

"The second pearl: my original name for it, for quite some time early on, was the 'BetterU'. That didn't focus group too well I'm afraid." The crowd roared with sycophantic laughter. It echoed around the cavernous concert hall.

"But jokes aside, I have a third pearl. Today, I announce the next generation of health implant technology. The next revolution in the industry is here. Let me introduce you to the Parvima 3.0..."