# RECENT TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENT OF VIRTUAL ASSISTANTS A STUDY OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE THROUGH SELECT DYSTOPIAN TEXTS

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## ABSTRACT

Technology remains that one thing, which has been always in the process of development to simplify human lives and to better our experiences, and this was exactly the reason for the rise of virtual assistants in 1990s. Although the concept of Virtual Assistants (VA) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be traced back to early science fiction novels from 1940s, the transformation of it in reality was not possible until 1994. This study, explores the emergence of Virtual Assistants, and the shift of it from a very idealistic form, which can be seen in Pygmalion's Spectacles, to a very responsive and experiential form where Virtual Assistants can interact with our world physically, which can be seen in Asimov's "I, Robot", or though Japan's recently developing "Gatebox Project" and even in a more developed form in Louis Rosenberg's SF graphic novel "Upgrade" where Virtual Assistance has transformed us and human lives so much that the entire human race is rather controlled/regulated by it.

*Keywords: Virtual Assistant, Artificial Intelligence, Dystopia, Gatebox, Science Fiction*