



# Cyborg Dadu

**Author:** Lavanya Karthik

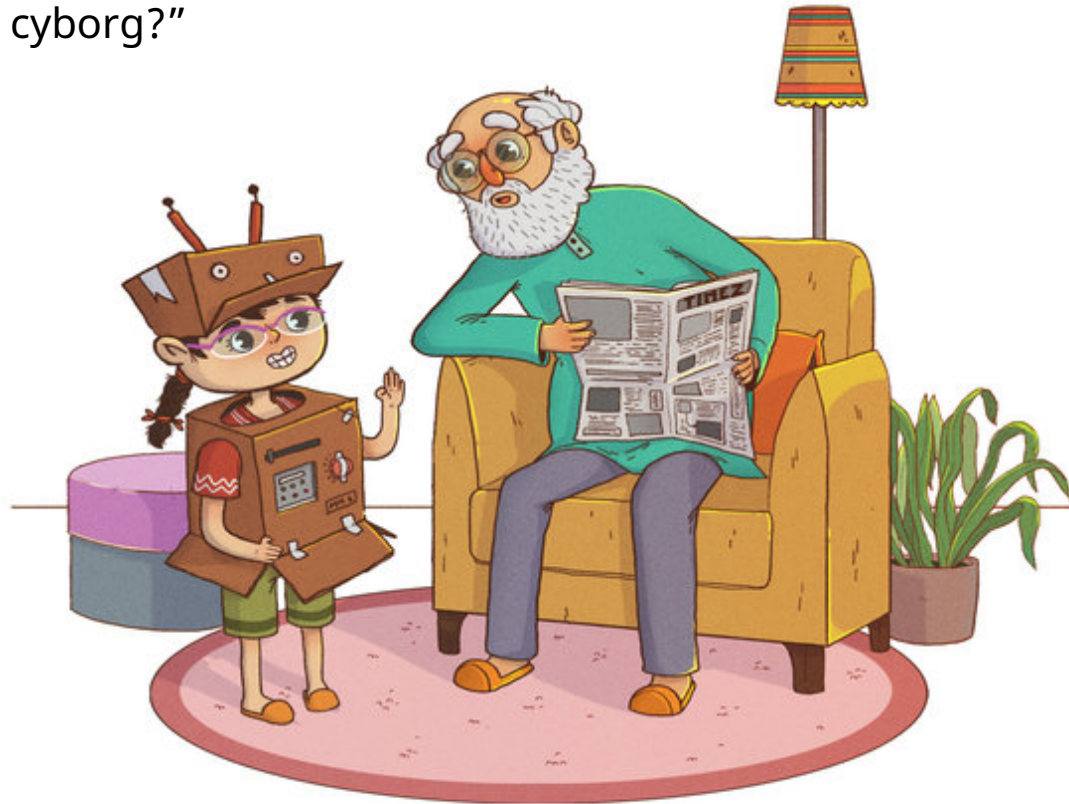
**Illustrators:** Angshuman Dhar, Arindam Dhar



Aiman loves machines!  
She likes looking at them,  
she likes drawing them,  
she likes reading about them.

"You've turned into a machine!" her grandfather says.  
"I'm part machine and part human," says Aiman.  
"I'm a cyborg, Dadu!"

"What is a cyborg?"



"A cyborg is short for 'cybernetic organism'.  
It is a living thing with artificial body parts that can be  
controlled by the nervous system."

Dadu is curious and wants to know how human beings can function with artificial body parts.



“Scientists in a field called bionics study the way different parts of the human body work, and design machines to copy these actions.

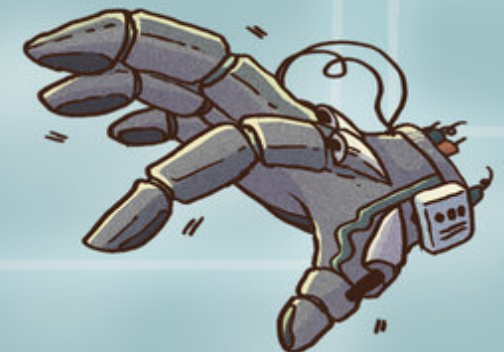






Organs that aren't working the way they should can be replaced or supported by these bionic parts," says Aiman.

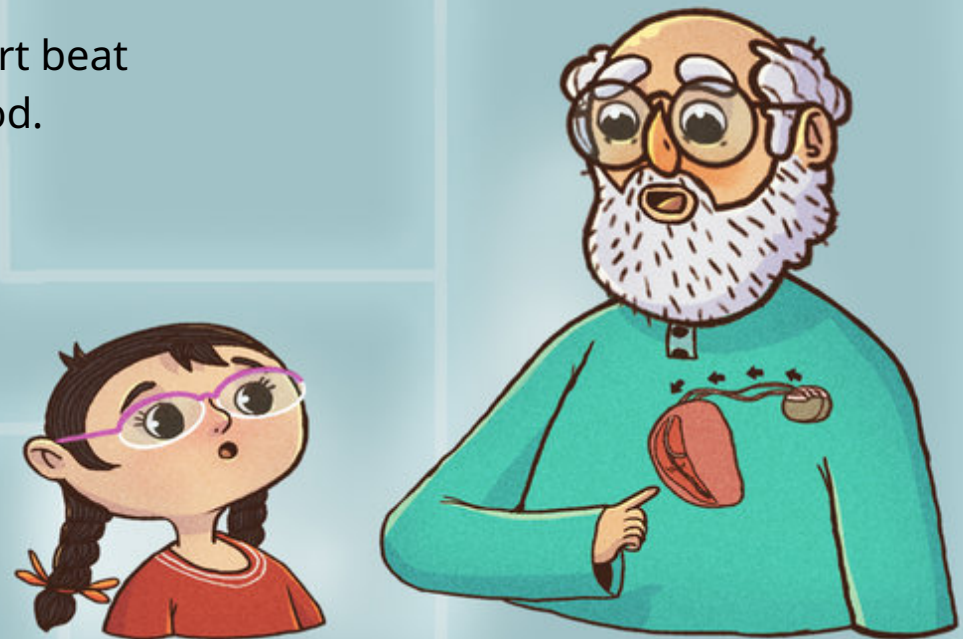
Aiman shows Dadu a drawing of the human body. "Some bionic devices have been in use for years," she says.



Dadu has heard of some of these devices.

A dialysis machine filters blood if the kidneys aren't functioning.

A pacemaker helps the human heart beat in a regular rhythm and pump blood.



"Can bionics make me stronger?" he asks.  
"Can it help me fly like a bird or run like a cheetah?"

"No!" Aiman laughs. "But a lost arm or leg can be replaced with a bionic limb that you can control with your brain."



"What if I lost my hearing? My voice?  
My sight or my sense of taste?" Dadu wonders.

Aiman has the answers:



A bionic ear implant to allow Dadu to listen to his favourite radio programmes!

A bionic voice box so he can sing along!

A bionic eye to help him choose the best fruit from the market!


A bionic tongue to taste that fruit!





“But there are some human organs which cannot be replaced with machines yet,” adds Aiman.

The human nose, she tells Dadu, can detect up to 10,000 different smells and sends signals to the brain to identify them. Creating a machine as efficient and powerful as the nose may take a while to perfect.



"Bionics has made great progress and is changing the human body, Dadu.

One day, we could all become cyborgs," says Aiman.

Dadu has a question. "Aiman, do you think..."



...I am a cyborg already?"



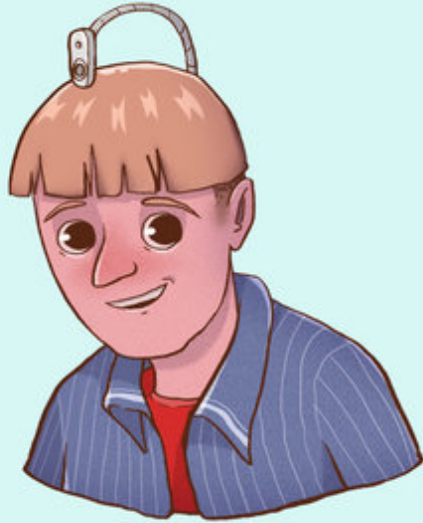
*What do you think?*



No, Dadu is NOT a cyborg!

False teeth are not machines that interact with his brain and nervous system. But here are some people from around the world who could be cyborgs.





Artist **Neil Harbisson** was born with extreme colour blindness or achromatopsia. But he can hear colours that other humans cannot even imagine! This is because of a special antenna connected to his skull that lets him sense colours through sounds and vibrations. He can even connect to the internet with the antenna or have his friends phone his brain.

**Emily Borghard** used to suffer fits due to severe epilepsy. A small computer fixed to her brain in 2013 has helped her lead a healthy life.



### Story Attribution:

This story: Cyborg Dadu is written by [Lavanya Karthik](#) . © Pratham Books , 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

### Other Credits:

'Cyborg Dadu' has been published by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by CISCO. [www.prathambooks.org](http://www.prathambooks.org) | Guest Editor: Shabnam Minwalla | Guest Art Director: Vidyun Sabhaney

### Images Attributions:

Cover page: [A man with an artificial hand with a girl](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [A girl playing with toys](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [A man and a girl sitting on a sofa](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [People with bionic implants](#), by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [Bionic implants on humans](#), by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [A girl and an old man talking](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [A man and a cheetah racing](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [A man with bionic equipments](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [A man and a girl drinking beverage](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [A man and a girl looking out of the window](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [A man and a girl laughing](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions)



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



The development of this book has been supported by CISCO. [www.prathambooks.org](http://www.prathambooks.org)



This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following [link](#).

#### Images Attributions:

Page 12: [Gadgets in the background](#), by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Page 13: [Two people with gadgets](#) by [Angshuman Dhar](#), [Arindam Dhar](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions)



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



The development of this book has been supported by CISCO. [www.prathambooks.org](http://www.prathambooks.org)

# Cyborg Dadu

(English)

Aiman tells Dadu that the science of bionics could make it possible for many of our body parts to be replaced by machines. Find out how.

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!