

## 68. Father of the Year

In 2021, Elon Musk, the visionary behind companies like Tesla and SpaceX, welcomed twins with Shivon Zilis, a prominent AI investor and operations manager at Neuralink. Their connection began in 2015 when Musk recruited Zilis to OpenAI, leading to a deep intellectual companionship. Zilis, aligned with Musk's vision and having a strong desire for motherhood, agreed to conceive via IVF, with Musk as the sperm donor. This decision was influenced by Musk's advocacy for intelligent individuals to have more children, considering declining birthrates a threat to human civilization.

The twins, Strider Sekhar Sirius and Azure Astra Alice, were born prematurely but healthy, with Zilis's last name, reflecting her expectation of Musk's limited involvement due to his busy lifestyle. Contrary to her expectations, Musk actively participated in their upbringing, bonding with them uniquely despite his emotional wiring.

Parallely, Musk and Grimes, his partner with whom he has a son named X, decided to have another child via surrogacy during a rocky phase in their relationship. Grimes desired a daughter, leading to the birth of their child through a surrogate, coinciding closely with the twins' birth. Musk's life during this period was a blend of personal milestones and professional endeavors, marked by the births and his continuous work on projects like the Raptor engine.

This chapter juxtaposes Musk's personal life complexities, including unconventional family dynamics and multiple children with different partners, against his relentless pursuit of technological and space exploration advancements. The narrative underscores Musk's multifaceted persona, balancing groundbreaking professional achievements with a non-traditional personal life shaped by futuristic visions and intellectual companionships.