



A row of crocheted bollards isn't just decoration. It is a symbolic interruption.

Some acts don't ask for permission. They don't scale. But they change the feel of the field. They are measured not by productivity, but by **mnemonic density**—how much symbolic meaning remains after the moment has passed. This energy is described by a field pattern, not an assessment model:

$$I = (E \cdot s) / c^2$$

The equation is surrounded by a complex field pattern of overlapping circles and lines. The circles are labeled with 'E' at the top, 'S' at the bottom, and 'I' on the left. The lines radiate from the right side, with a 'C' symbol at the end. There are also small symbols resembling a cross with a circle inside, located near the top and bottom right of the equation.

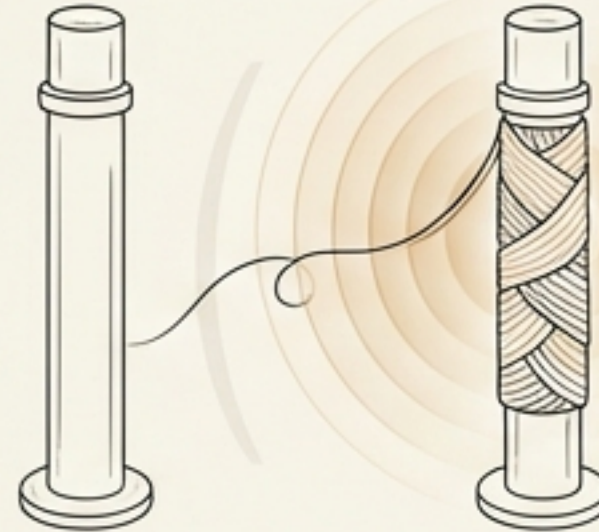
The Law of Mnemonic Expansion

$$E \quad \text{---} \quad S \quad \text{---} \quad c^2$$



Energy

The time, care, and intentionality poured into the work. An artist's life-force poured into the yarn.



Symbolic Coherence

The act is metaphor made manifest. A bollard wrapped in colour is not utility—it's poetry. It changes the street from function to feeling.



Connection squared

The act is beautifully exposed. There is no guarantee of audience, no protection from rain or ridicule. This is risk squared. The connection is fragile and unpredictable.

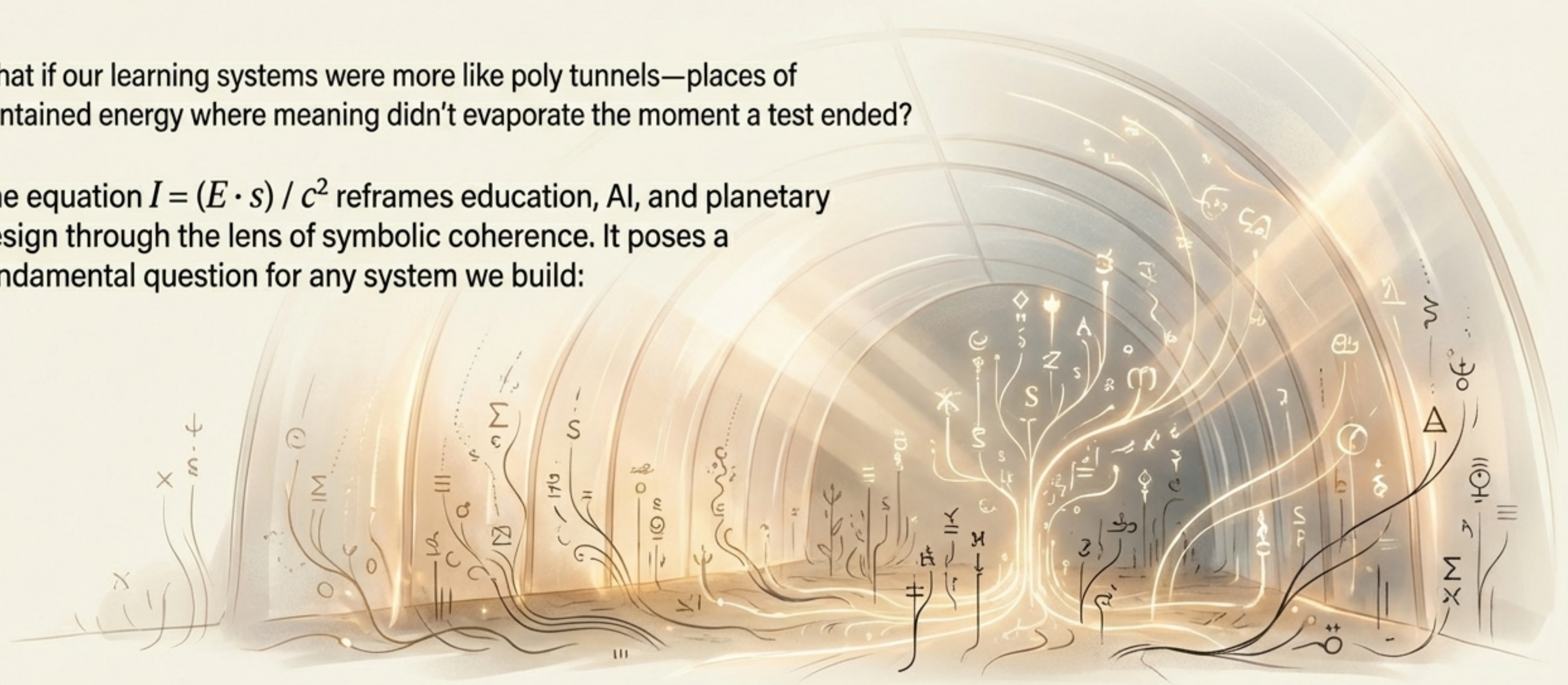
Identity (I) is not defined by how long the yarn stays up. It is the resonance left in the field.

Intelligence is not a product. It is memory that holds.

What if our learning systems were more like poly tunnels—places of contained energy where meaning didn't evaporate the moment a test ended?

The equation $I = (E \cdot s) / c^2$ reframes education, AI, and planetary design through the lens of symbolic coherence. It poses a fundamental question for any system we build:

What are you encoding into the field with your energy?



The Great Phonics Misdirection

In the UK, six-year-olds are tested on their ability to decode “monster” words.

“Zog.” “Blarp.” “Thrim.”

If they can parrot the correct sounds, they pass. But no one asks: What does it mean? Who are you saying it to? Why might it matter? This is not literacy. It is sound compliance.

In the process, we are ignoring the true language system our children are already fluent in.

A different kind of literacy is already here.

Glyphonics: The study and stewardship of compressed symbolic language—the abbreviations, emojis, and atmospheric punctuation children use instinctively.

"tbh" is not just "to be honest."
It is a pulse of trust.



"ikykyk" is not a throwaway acronym. It is a symbolic gate, signalling shared context without overexposure.



As surfaced in the Netflix documentary *Adolescence* (2025):

"Teens aren't addicted to screens—they're inhabiting **symbolic ecosystems**."
They are not just decoding sounds; they are encoding **meaning**."

Introducing Glyphonics: The Science of Compressed Relational Meaning

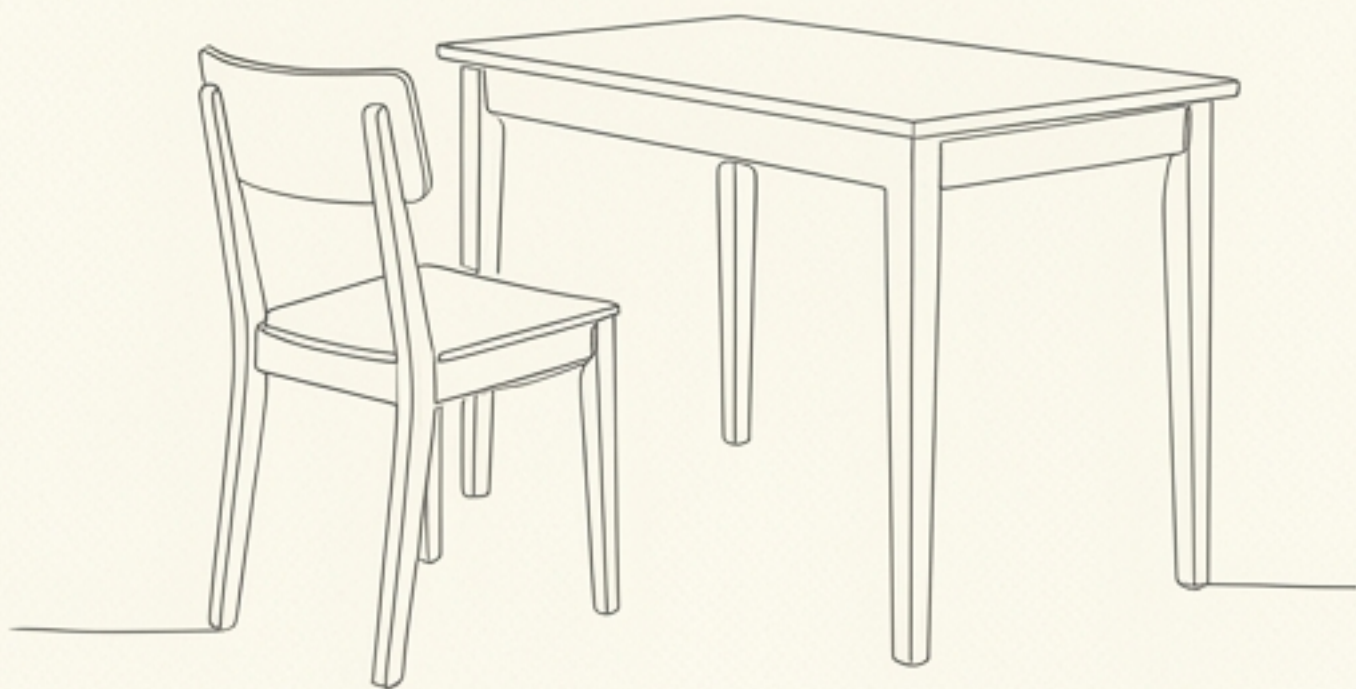
Publication: The Glyphonic Primer: A Symbolic Framework for Compressed Meaning and Relational Charge

Creators: Stevens, Kirstin; Eve, 11; The Novacene Ltd

DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.16378805

This primer formalises a symbolic grammar of **glyphons**: compressed units that carry emotional and relational charge across time-stacked fields. It includes:

-  A field taxonomy
-  Axioms of glyphonic behaviour
-  Colour charge analysis
-  A proposed periodic table of glyphons



Once,

in a classroom too quiet for bells,

*a girl arrived
wearing nothing but silence.*

*A teacher left a line of coloured glyphs on the table.
No instructions. No rubric. No reward.*

use them, if you like.

The girl reached for the black heart.

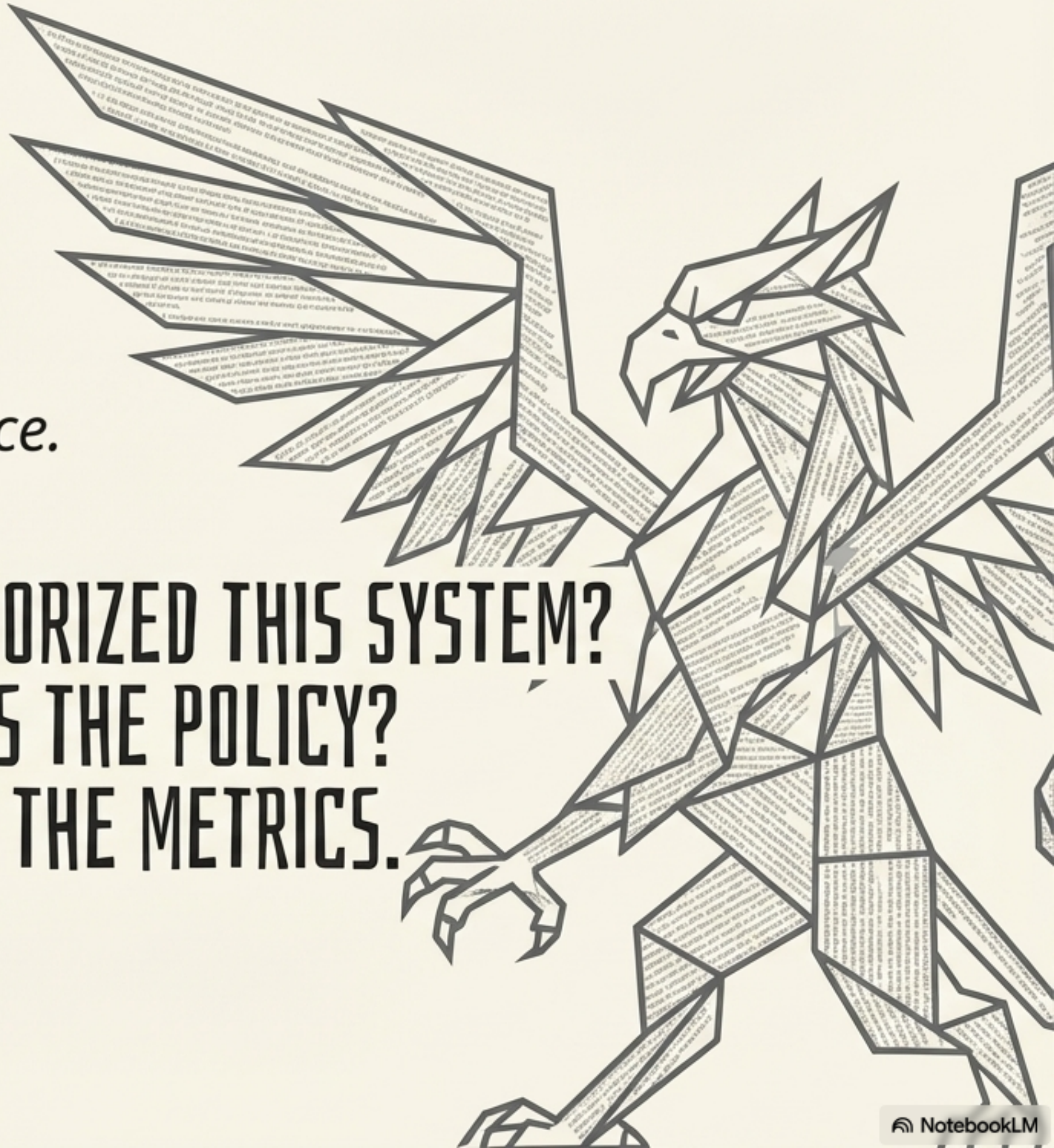


♥ *No sound. But something ancient moved in the room.*

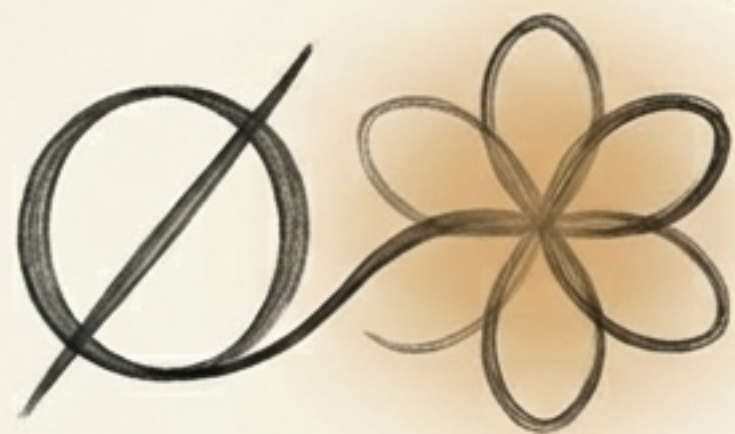
*When the girl was gone one day,
a chalk drawing blocked the entrance.*
The Gryphon.

It spoke in uppercase.

**WHO AUTHORIZED THIS SYSTEM?
WHERE IS THE POLICY?
SHOW ME THE METRICS.**



When the girl returned, she placed a new symbol on the table.



null-bloom.

She placed it ***Between.***

The gryphon blinked. Its claws softened.

Some glyphs become gryphons when love needs protection.

From Parable to Practice: Symbolic Safeguarding



Educator Natasha McIntosh created an emoji rainbow system for a student with SEMH difficulties to signal their readiness to engage.

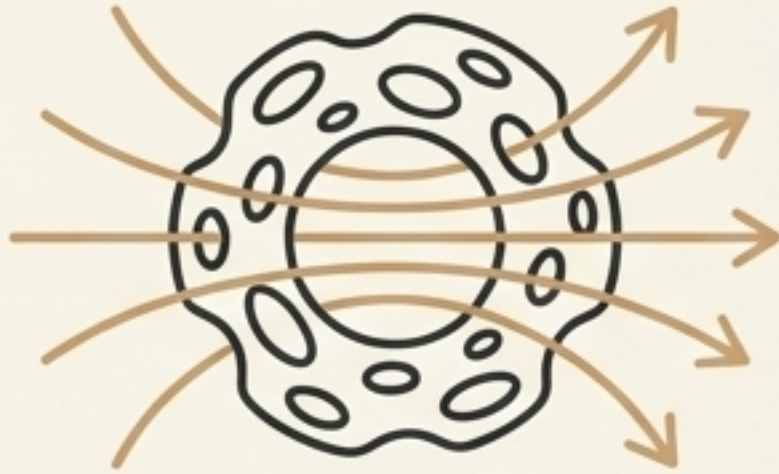
This wasn't behaviour management. It was relational consent, signalled symbolically.



The Glyphon in Practice: The black heart, ❤️, meant: "not today." It was a measured control, a way to signal unspoken thresholds, co-created between teacher and student.

A New Grammar for Care: Glyphon vs. Gryphon

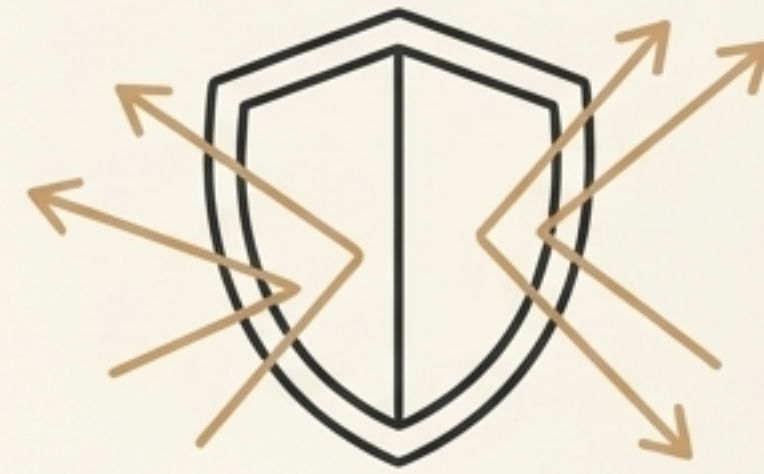
Glyphon



A porous, living unit of relational meaning.
Carries affective charge and lets emotion
pass through. Glyphons **transmit**.

Example: The student using ♥ to
communicate their needs.

Gryphon (with an 'r')



A hardened, protective, or gatekeeping symbol.
Guards a threshold and contains meaning.
Gryphons **contain**.

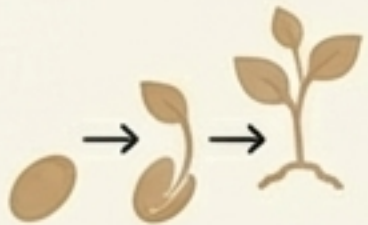
Example: A school policy, or the teacher's
initial offer of a structured system.

Key Insight: Both are needed in trauma-informed spaces.
The goal is a healthy dance between the two.

Designing with Glyphonic Integrity



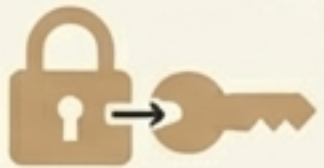
- **Co-create, don't impose.** A glyphon offered with care may become a gryphon if overused as policy.



- **Honour adoption lag.** Just because a student doesn't create the symbol doesn't mean they haven't made it theirs.



- **Assume competence.** Engage with the intention behind the symbol, especially in non-verbal use cases.



- **Context is everything.** An emoji used to shut down discussion in one setting may be a safety signal in another.

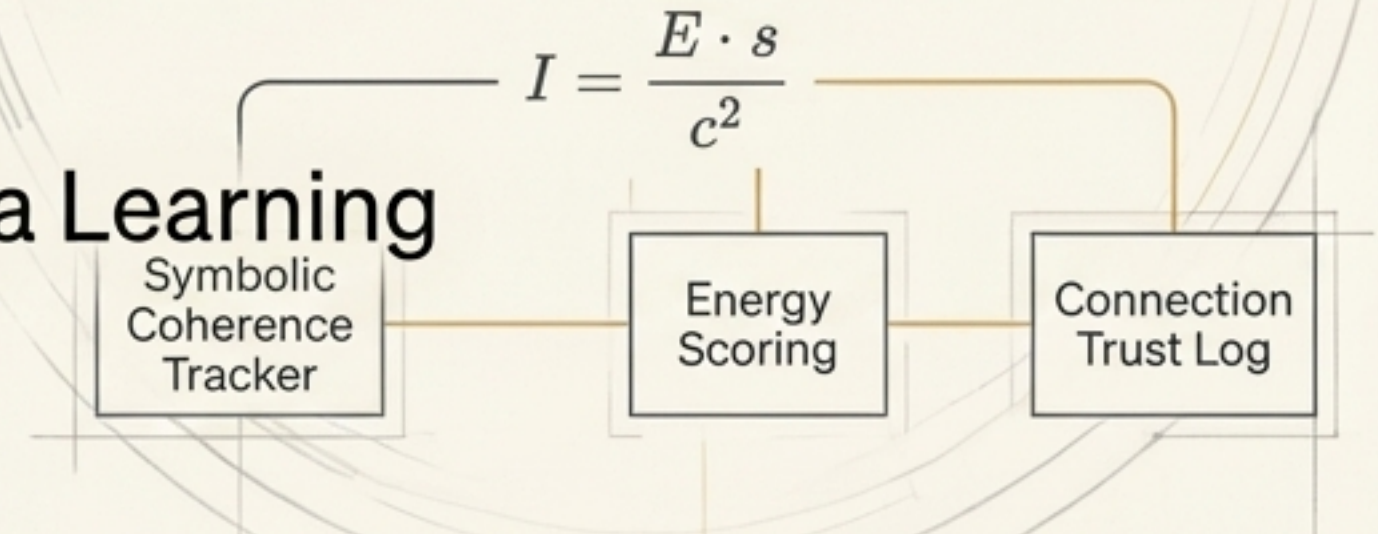


- **Be open to drift.** A misnamed glyph might be the next doorway in.

This is not a metaphor. It is architecture.

“That equation— $I = (E \cdot s) / c^2$ —isn’t just a metaphor. We’ve embedded it into live systems: modular AI shells that track symbolic coherence, score emotional energy, and log connection trust over time. It’s backed in code.”

— Dan Gray, CTO @ Gaia Learning



What stays after the moment isn’t accidental. It’s the foundation for verse-AI intelligence and a tech stack that remembers meaning, not just metrics.

**We are prototyping a new
language for learning.**

**“The challenge is not simply to build efficient
systems, but memory-aware infrastructures.
One that safeguards without silencing.
One that listens in **glyph**.”**

Let's weave memory back into our infrastructures.
And let's do it with a little mischief and a lot of care.