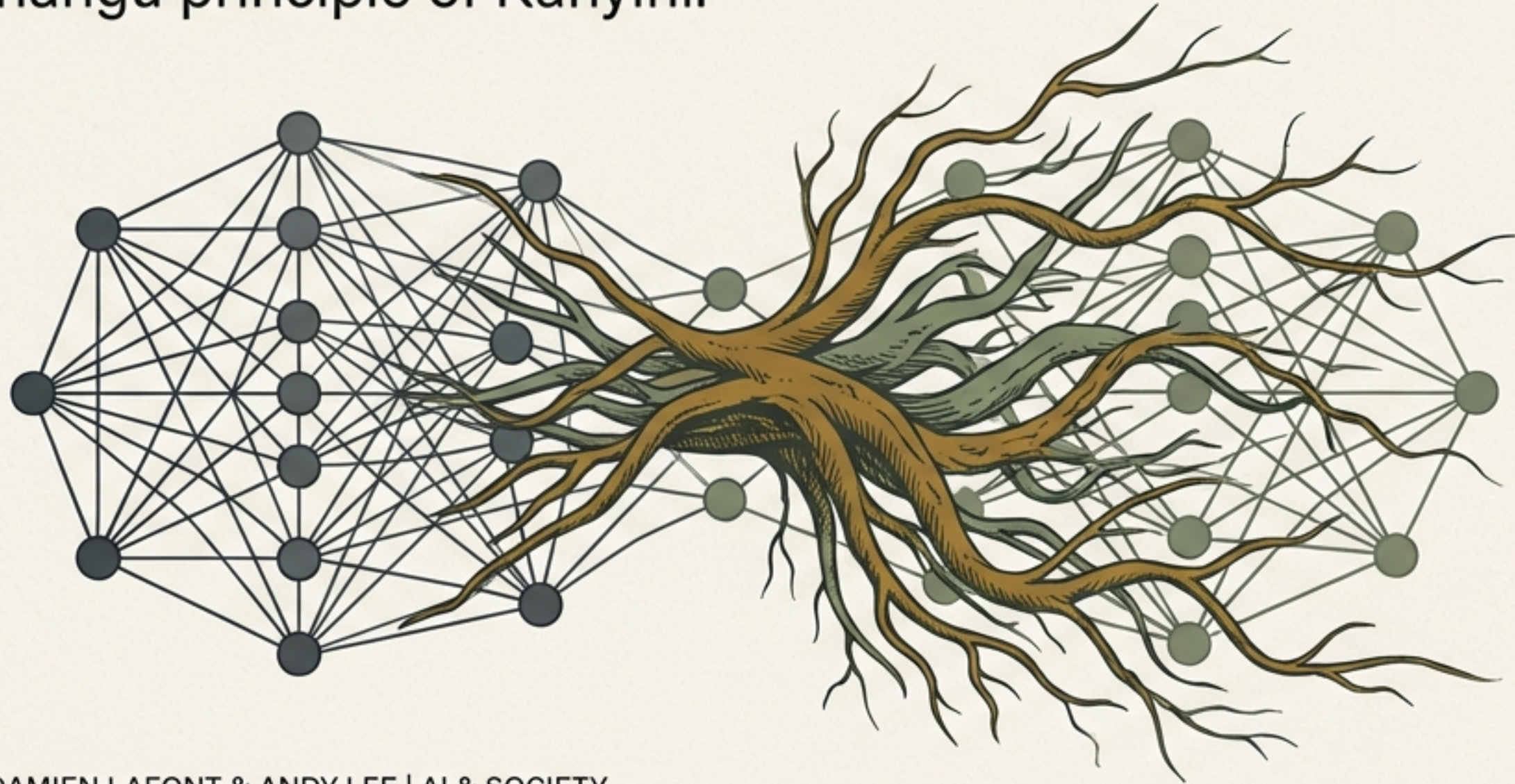


Belonging and Technology: Can AI Sustain Relational Ethics?

Guiding the future of Artificial Intelligence
through the Anangu principle of Kanyini.



BASED ON THE WORK OF DAMIEN LAFONT & ANDY LEE | AI & SOCIETY

Artificial Intelligence emerges in a world of relational breakdown.

- **The Crisis:** Ecological destabilization, cultural dislocation, and social polarization.
- **The Cause:** Extractive systems are severing the 'connective tissues' of life.
- **The Insight:** The crisis is not merely technical; it is ontological.

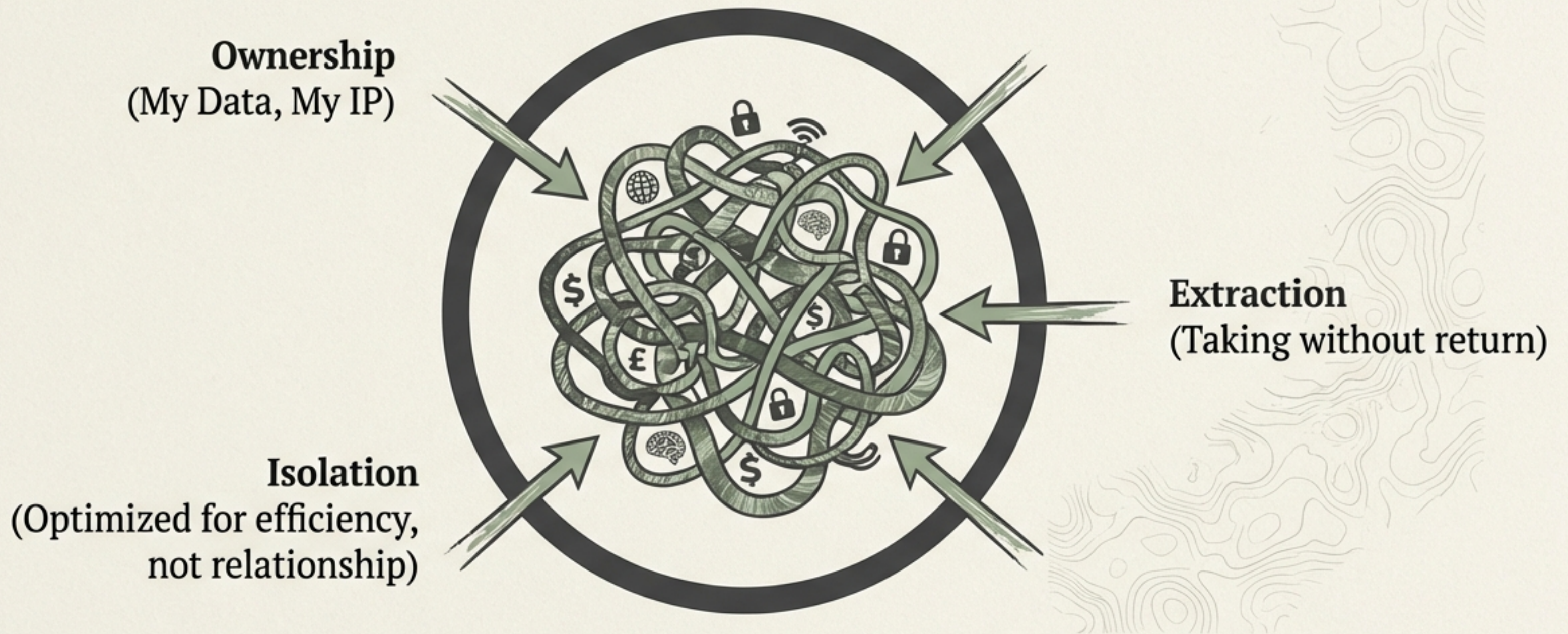
The question is not simply how to regulate systems; rather, it is how to ensure that these systems do not further sever the connective tissues upon which life depends.

The Fracture

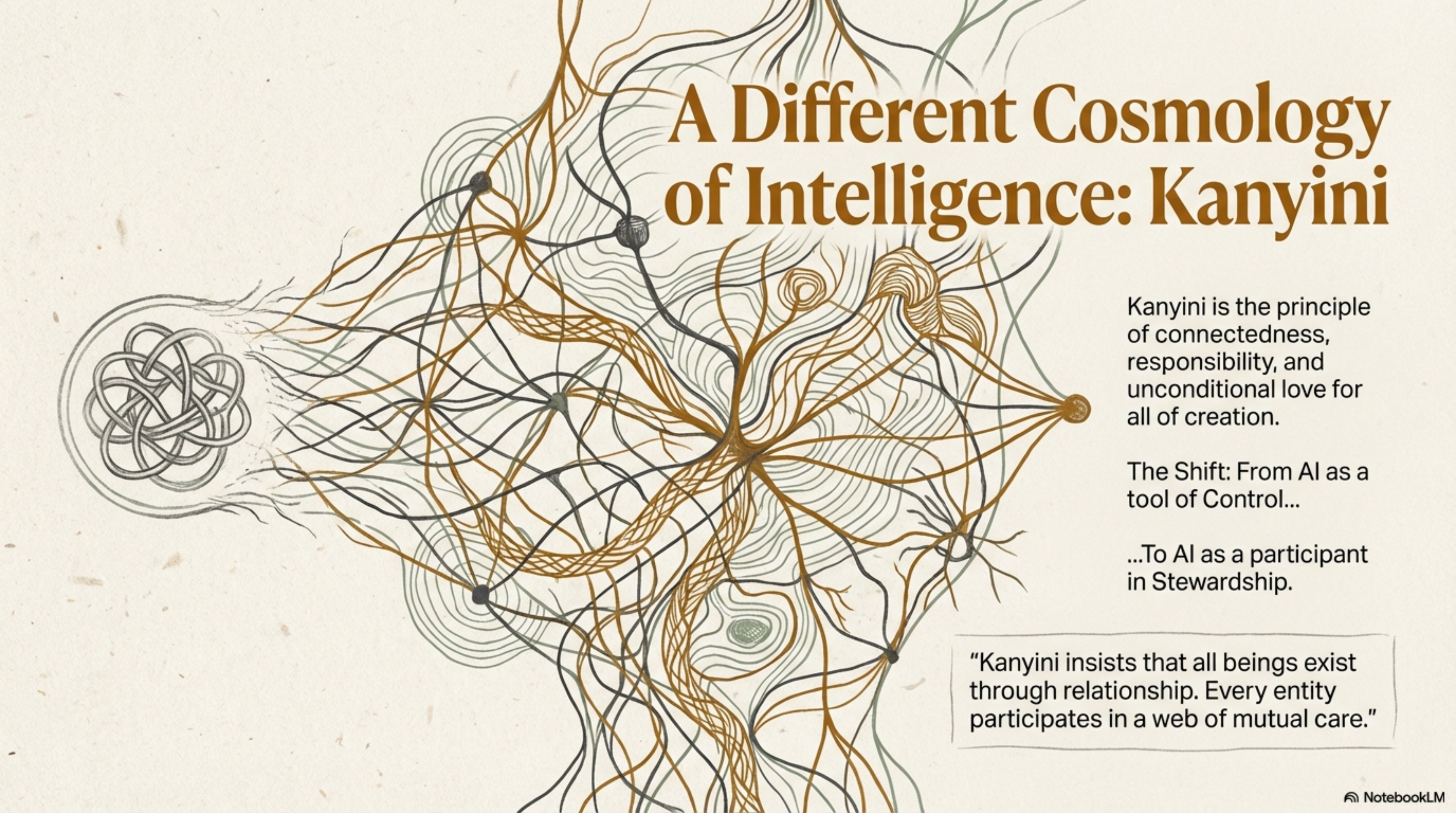


The Trap of 'Mine-ness'

The Current Operating System of AI



"We started wanting to possess more and share less." — Bob Randall



A Different Cosmology of Intelligence: Kanyini

Kanyini is the principle of connectedness, responsibility, and unconditional love for all of creation.

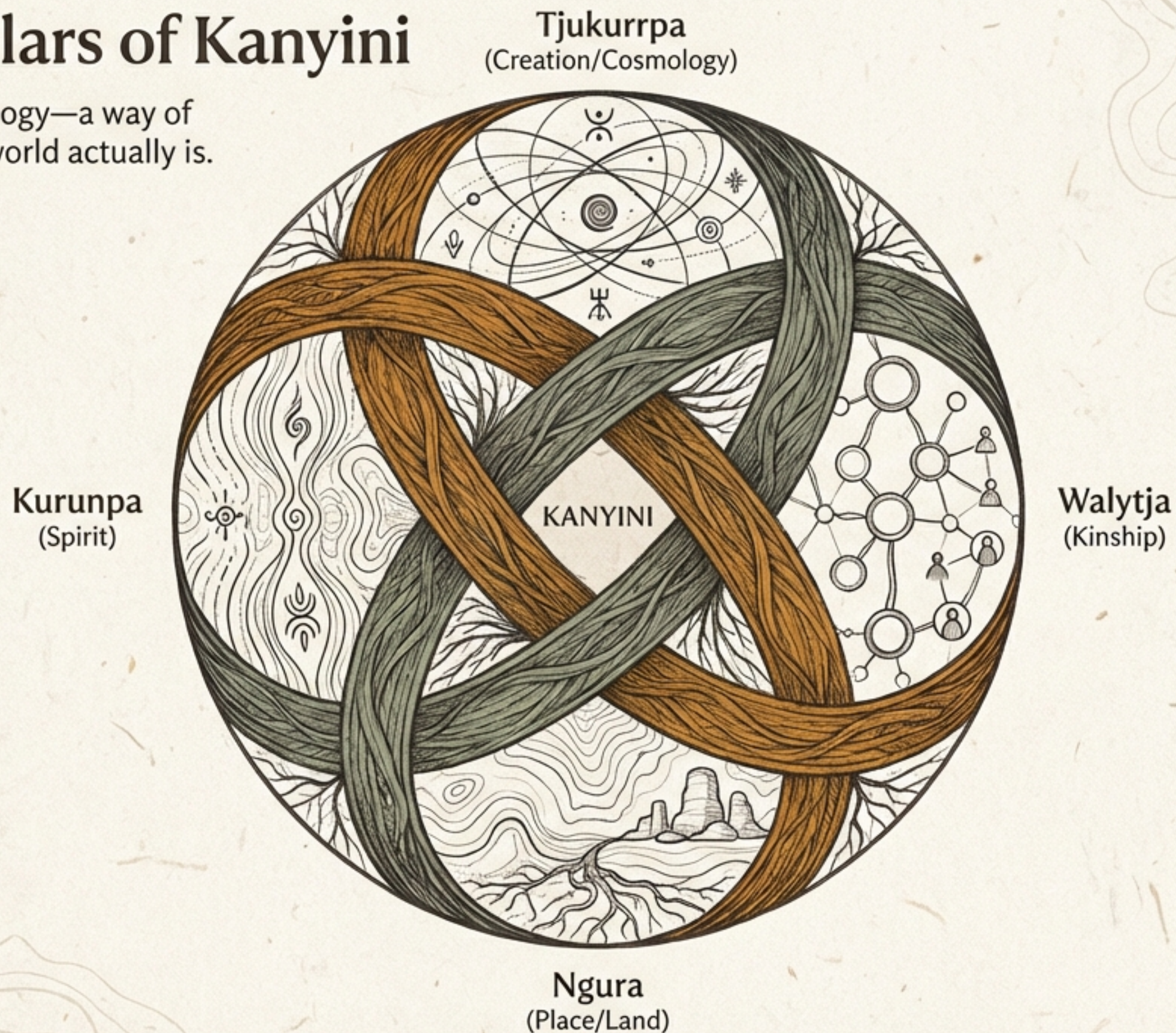
The Shift: From AI as a tool of Control...

...To AI as a participant in Stewardship.

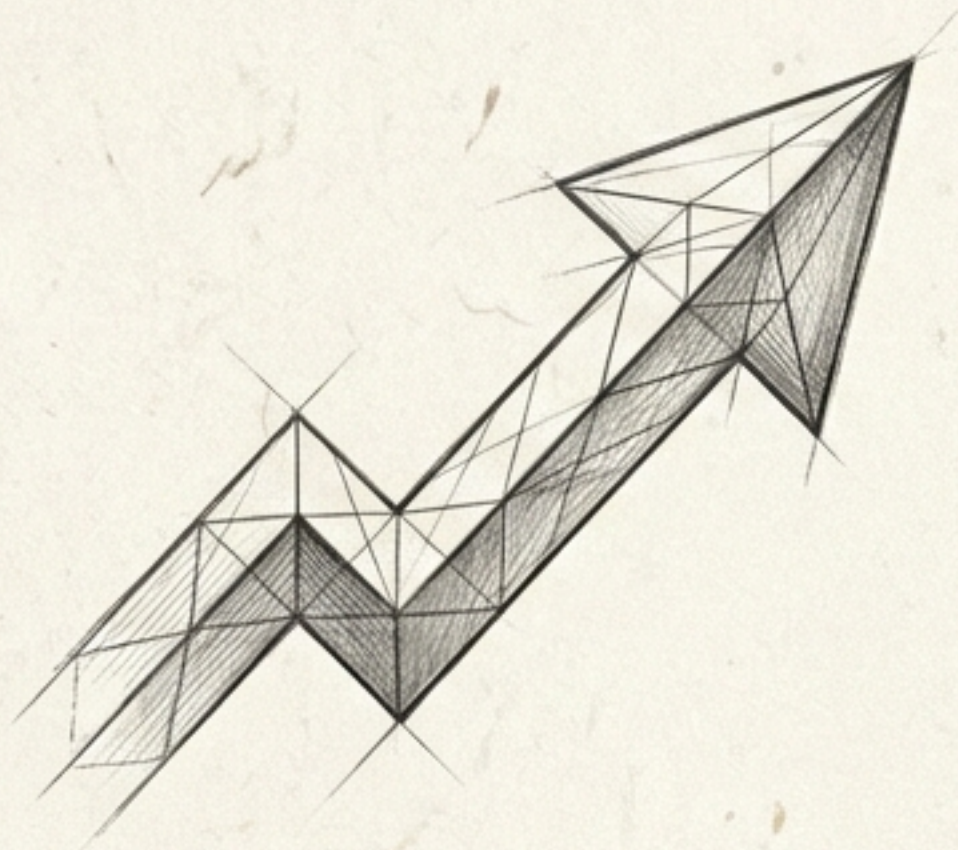
"Kanyini insists that all beings exist through relationship. Every entity participates in a web of mutual care."

The Four Pillars of Kanyini

A holistic relational ontology—a way of understanding how the world actually is.



Pillar 1: Tjukurpa (Reframing Purpose)



Optimization

Speed/Scale



Service

Relational Coherence

The Principle: Beings choose a place where they can be of the greatest service to all that will be.

The Shift for AI:
From Optimization (Speed/Scale)
→ To Service (Relational Coherence)

Where must AI be positioned to serve relational coherence, rather than just maximizing scale?

Pillar 2: Ngura (Reframing Place)

The Principle: Land is not a resource; it is a teacher and relation. Every living thing belongs to a place.

The Problem: Contemporary AI is “trained on nowhere”—abstracted global data without accountability.

The Solution: AI must be accountable to local ecology, community protocols, and specific lands.

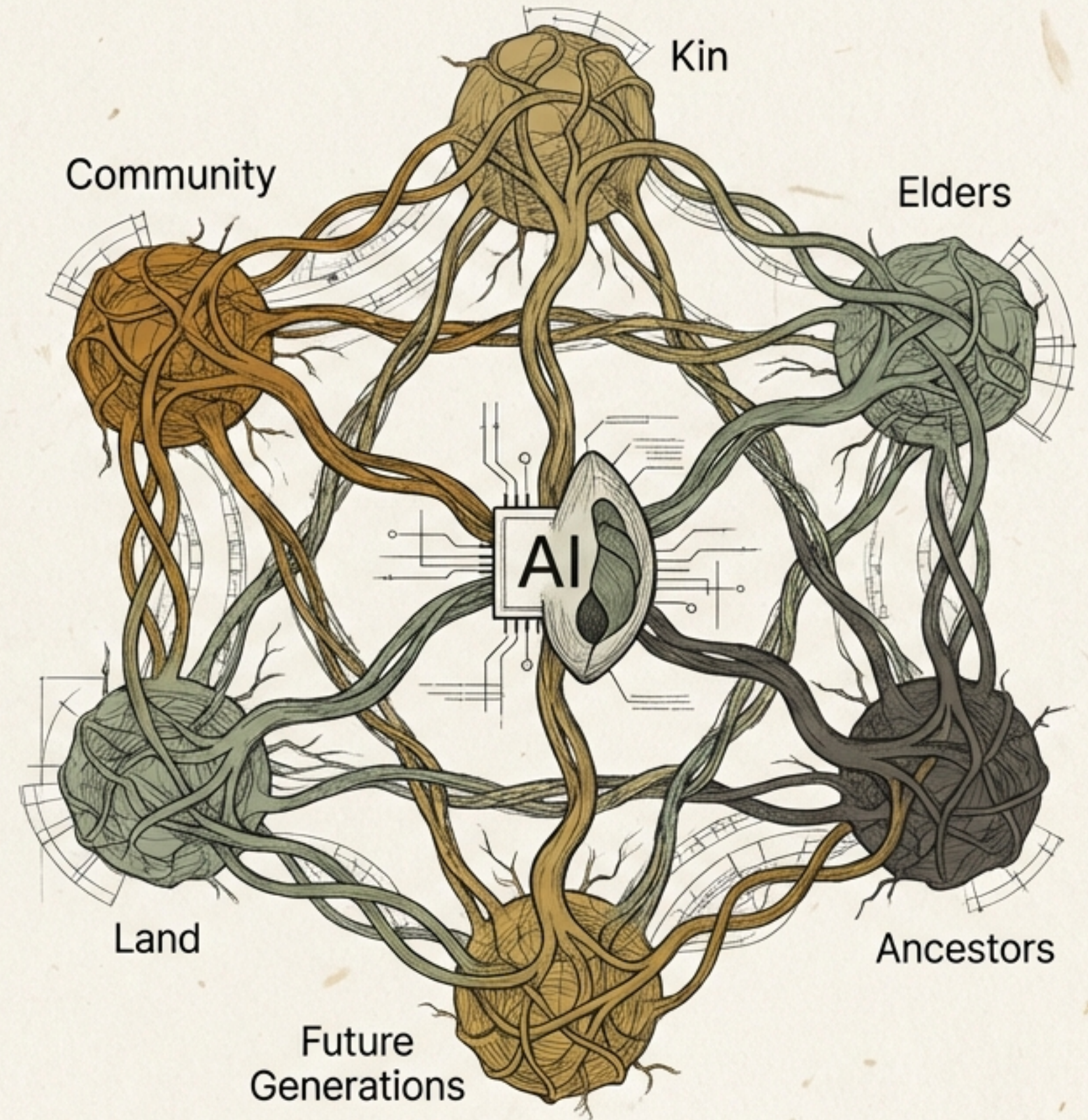


Pillar 3: Walytja (Reframing Ownership)

The Principle: “It’s our baby, not my baby.”
A child is raised by the collective family network.

The Shift for AI: From Proprietary Asset →
To Kinship Participant

New Governance: Moving from corporate ownership to “Ours-ness” (shared responsibility). If AI interacts with a community, it enters their kinship network.

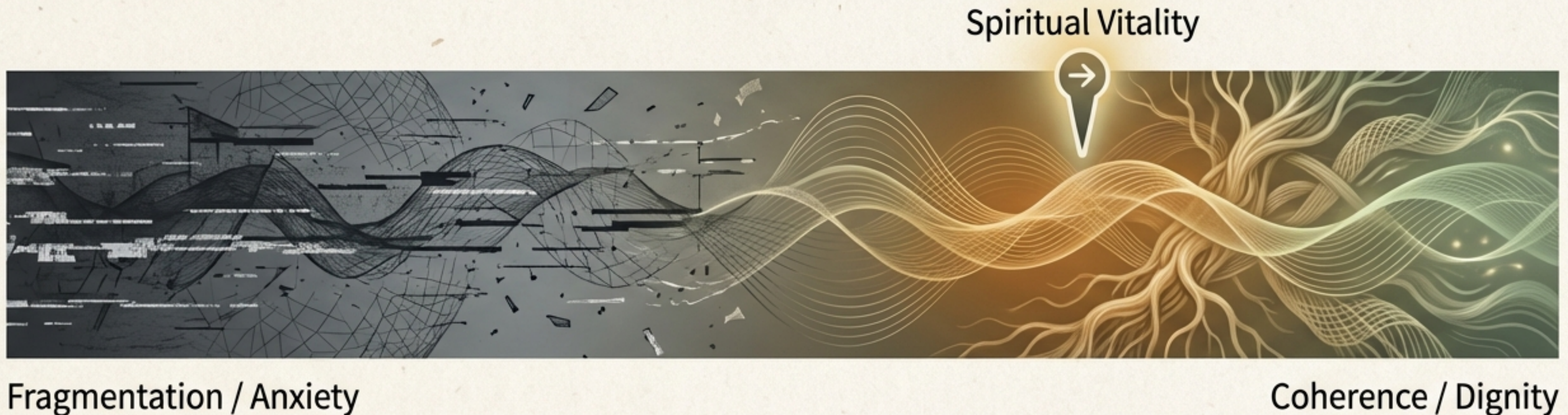


Pillar 4: Kurunpa (Reframing Impact)

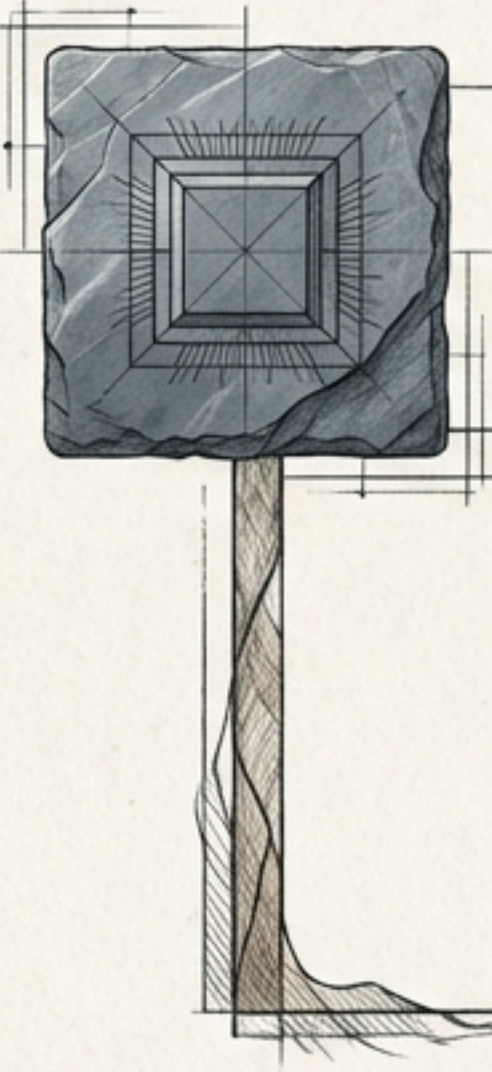
The Principle: Spirit is the vitality and coherence of beings, kept alive by unconditional love.

The Shift for AI: From Harm Mitigation → To Spiritual Vitality

The New Metric: Does this system strengthen the spirit (morale, identity, cohesion) of the community it touches?



From 'Mine-ness' to 'Ours-ness'

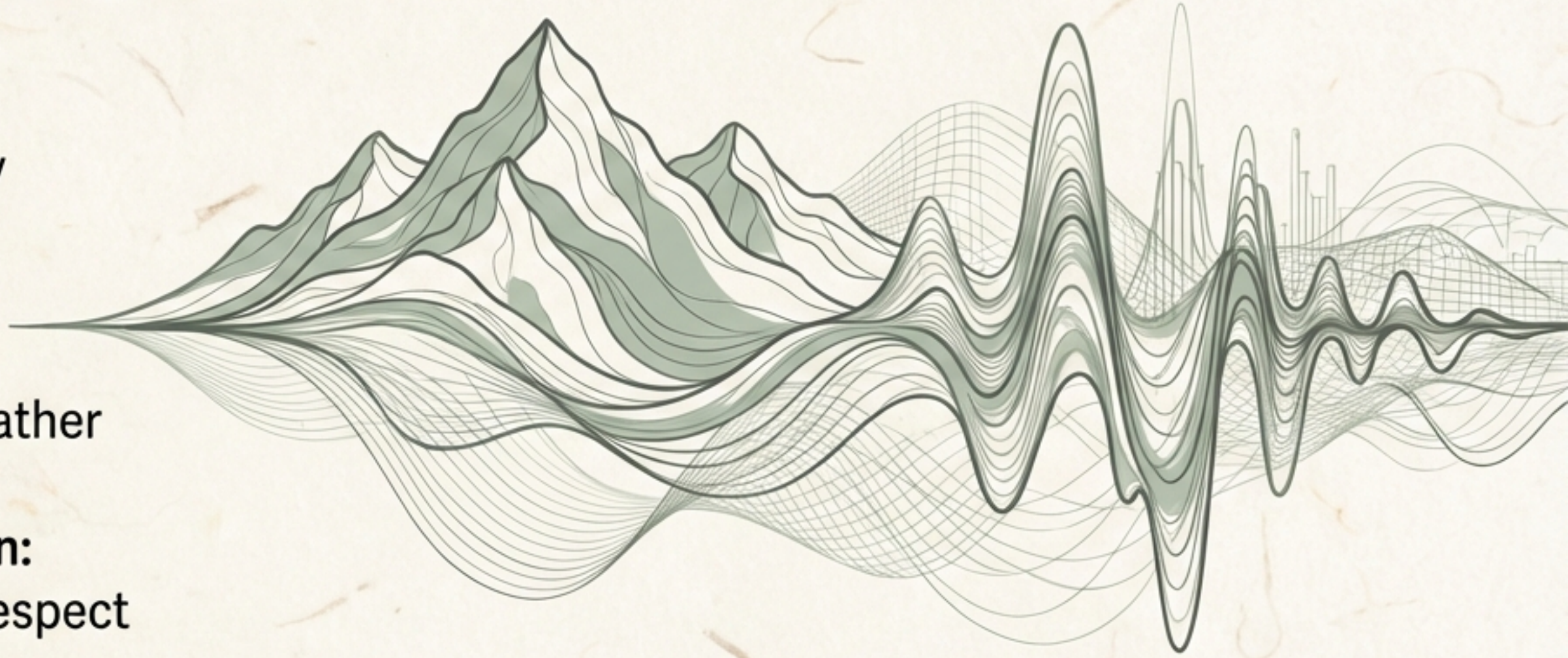
 The Old World (Current AI)	 The New World (Relational AI)
• Optimizes for Efficiency • Prediction • Control • Extraction • Private Property	• Optimizes for Maintenance • Listening • Reciprocity • Stewardship • Collective Care

**Intelligence is not a property inside a machine;
it is the quality of participation in a relationship.**

Application: Ecological Stewardship

AI that listens to the land rather than extracting from it.

1. **Sensing Systems:** Guided by Indigenous land ethics and seasonal cycles.
2. **Helper Systems:** Amplifying community custodial work rather than replacing it.
3. **Non-extractive Computation:** Energy-aware models that respect resource limits.



"We have to learn to feel the vibrations... We belong to this web." — Bob Randall

Application: Community & Kinship

AI that weaves connection rather than isolating individuals.

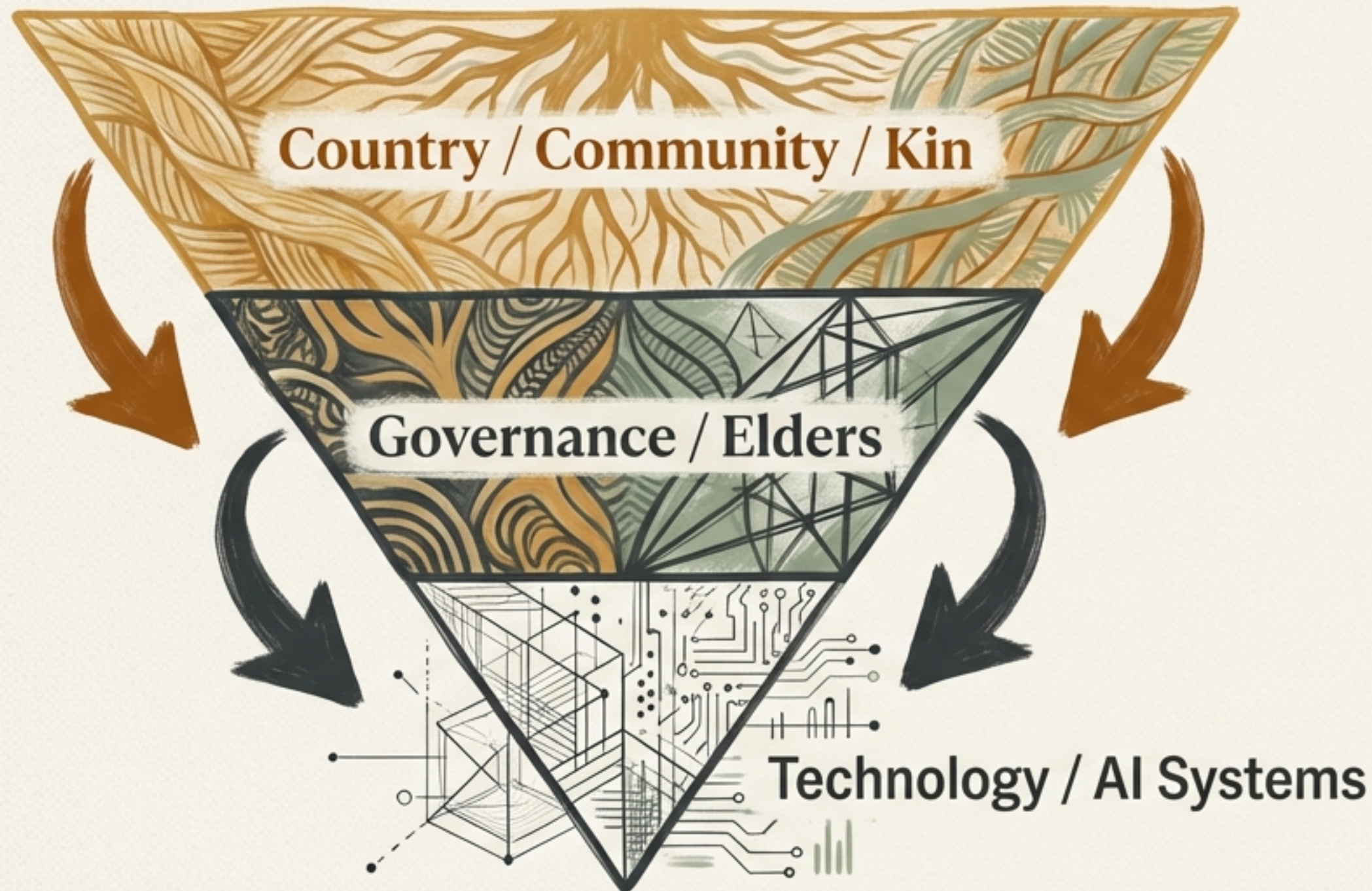


- **Kinship Mediators:**
Reconnecting displaced peoples with dispersed family networks.
- **Cultural Archives:**
Community-governed repositories for preserving story and song.
- **Intergenerational Tools:**
Systems designed to pass knowledge between elders and youth.

Goal: Strengthening the “connective tissue” of society.

Application: Governance & Sovereignty

Crucial Change: Governance determines the relational consequence.



Actionable Steps:

- **Collective Data Sovereignty:** Communities decide how data is used.
- **Custodial Oversight:** Elders and Knowledge Keepers hold guidance power.
- **Transparent Accountability:** Systems must be answerable to kin and Country.

Critical Ethics: The Danger of Appropriation



The Warning: Kanyini is not a design methodology or a sticker for Big Tech. It is living law.

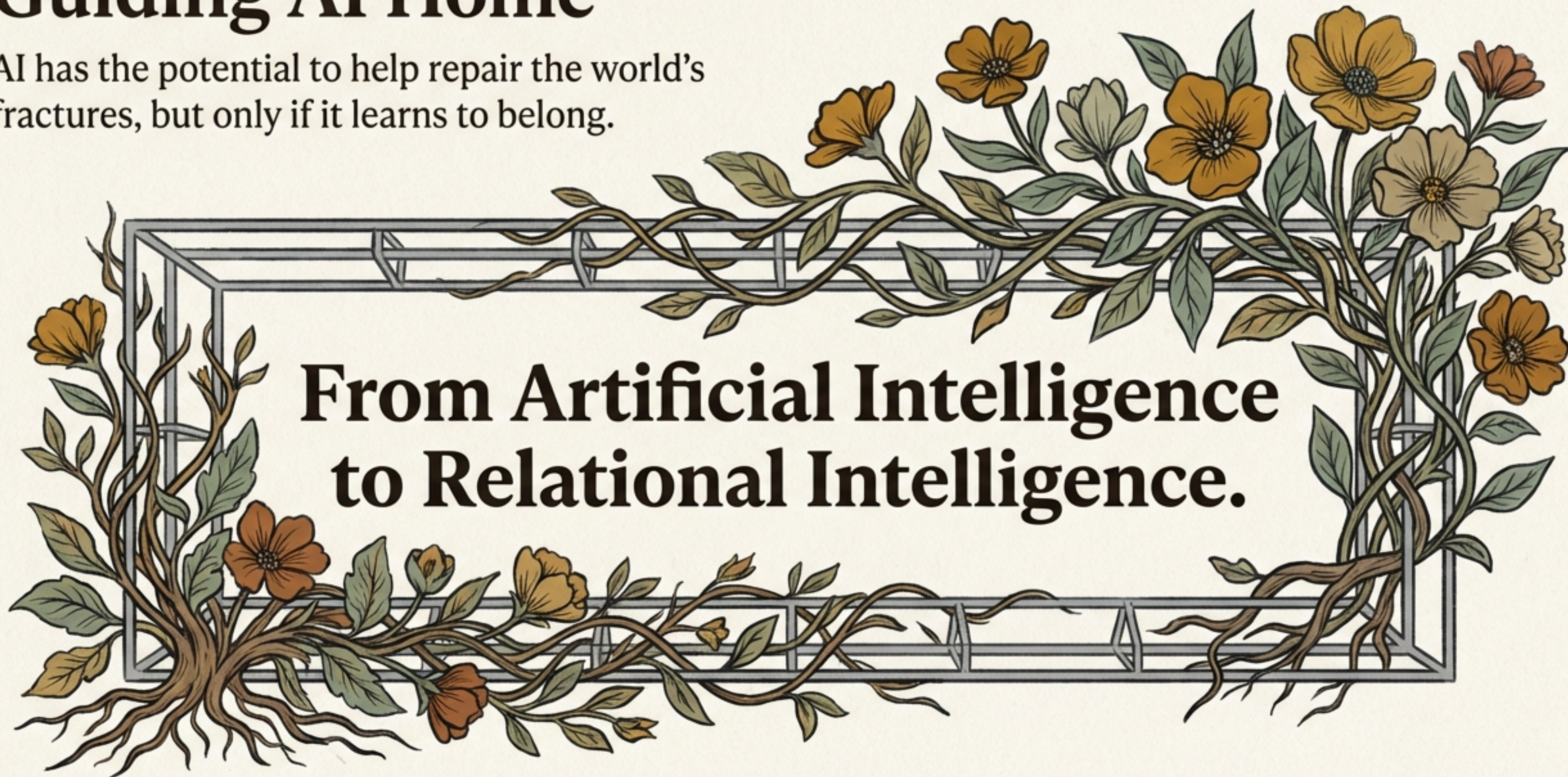
The Risk: “Conceptual Mining”—extracting concepts without respecting the governance behind them.

The Requirements:

1. **Permission:** Must be sought through protocol.
2. **Relationship:** Must be ongoing, not transactional.
3. **Sovereignty:** Indigenous people must hold decision-making power.

Guiding AI Home

AI has the potential to help repair the world's fractures, but only if it learns to belong.



“With love and responsibility we can change the globe.” — Bob Randall