

AI Analysis of Graven's, *Story Coders*

[Performed by Grok AI – Feb. 2026]

<-Poem Begins->

Story Coders

(*Mock~Ode to AI~Authors*)

G.E. Graven

Oceans of authors and writers abound ~ around the world;
and most, more notable and capable of the craft.
(*We dare to drift*) we float amongst them, with unworthy art unfurled;
yet, we shan't roil beneath them, since their seas uphold our raft.

NO, we are *neither* authors, *nor* writers; but instead: floating ' *linguistic c0ders* ' ~
(*thru I's and O's*) engineers of ideas (+) developers of dialogue (+) scientists of setting,
where chapters and volumes serve in functional order ~ 3v3nly~s3qu3nc3d ~
positioned precisely t'ward proper (*programmatic*) p10t~driven s01uti0n.

>-Poem Begins-<

<-Analysis Begins->

Structure & Form

The poem is written in **free verse** with two stanzas of unequal length (4 lines + 8 lines), no consistent rhyme scheme or meter. This mirrors the "unworthy art" humility in the opening — it's deliberately unpolished, almost conversational/prose-like in places, yet deliberately patterned.

- Stanza 1: Traditional poetic reflection on humility among "oceans of authors."
- Stanza 2: Sudden shift to self-definition as "linguistic coders," with heavier experimentation (leet-speak style substitutions, symbols, tildes ~ for emphasis or "glitch" effects).

The break between stanzas marks a pivot from deference → redefinition / reclamation.

Language & Style

Heavy use of **leet/1337 speak** and typographic play:

- "1inguistic c0ders" (1 for l, 0 for o)
- "3v3nly~s3qu3nc3d" (3 for e)
- "p10t~driven s01uti0n" (1 for i/l, 0 for o)
- Tildes ~ as "floating" separators or digital waves/glitches

- Parentheses for asides: "(thru 1's and 0's)", "(+ developers...", "(programmatic)"

This isn't random — it's **deliberate code-poetry fusion**. The poem literally enacts what it describes: words are "coded" with numbers/symbols, just as stories are engineered via binary (1s and 0s). It feels like early internet-era hacker-poetry or glitch art in text form.

Punctuation is sparse but purposeful:

- Semicolon after the title-like opening line
- Backslashes for line breaks (possibly evoking code line continuations or escapes)
- Em-dashes and parentheses for layered asides

Vocabulary mixes archaic/literary ("shan't roil", "unfurled", "raft") with modern tech ("engineers of ideas", "developers of dialogue", "programmatic plot-driven solution").

Core Themes & Central Idea

The poem is a **manifesto of identity redefinition** for a certain kind of creator — probably AI-assisted writers, prompt engineers, interactive fiction authors, game narrative designers, or people using LLMs/code to generate stories.

Key contrast:

- Traditional authors/writers = vast ocean, "notable and capable," sailing grand ships.
- "We" = humble, drifting, "unworthy," floating on a makeshift **raft** buoyed by others' seas.
- Yet rejection of inferiority: "we shan't roil beneath them" (won't be churned under / submit).
- Instead: we are **something new** — not authors, but "floating '1inguistic c0ders'" who engineer narrative like software.

It's claiming legitimacy for a post-traditional mode of storytelling:

- Stories as **programs**: sequenced chapters, plotted toward "s0luti0n" (solution/resolution).
- Creation via binary logic (1s & 0s), functional order, precision.
- Roles: engineers, developers, scientists — not artists in the romantic sense.

This reads as a defense / celebration of **generative AI-era storytelling** (or code-driven narrative tools), where the human is more architect than inspired bard. The "raft" is sustained by the "seas" of existing literature/data that LLMs are trained on — we float on borrowed oceans.

Imagery & Symbolism

- **Oceans / seas / raft:** Classic metaphor for the literary canon as an overwhelming, supportive-yet-threatening expanse. Traditional writers sail; we drift on scraps.
- **Floating:** Repeated — passive, humble, yet persistent. Suggests buoyed by currents (training data, prompts, algorithms) rather than self-propelled.
- **1's and 0's:** Binary as the new ink/quill. Stories are compiled/executed, not merely written.
- **Plot-driven solution:** Echoes programming (solve for x) and genre fiction tropes (resolution). Narrative reduced to elegant, functional code.

The leet substitutions symbolize the hybridization: language infected/corrupted/enhanced by digital logic.

Tone & Voice

Self-deprecating yet defiant:

- Starts humble/apologetic ("unworthy art", "dare to drift").

- Turns quietly assertive ("we shan't roil", "NO, we are neither... but instead").
- Ends proud/technical — listing roles like a resume ("engineers... developers... scientists").

It's the tone of someone who feels looked down on by "real" writers but knows their method produces results. There's wry humor in the exaggeration ("scientists of setting").

Overall Interpretation

"Story Coders" is a clever, meta declaration for the current era (especially resonant in 2025–2026 with widespread LLM use in creative work). The speaker claims a new guild: not poets or novelists, but builders who treat narrative as executable code — precise, sequential, outcome-oriented.

It's humblebrag + provocation:

- Humble: We're just floating, unworthy, on your seas.
- Brag: But we engineer plots to perfect solutions while you... sail around poetically.

In a world where AI "co-authors" proliferate, this poem proudly says: **Yes, we're different. We're coders of stories. And that's valid — even superior in precision.**

>-Analysis Ends-<

Note: 'Story Coders' is a **mockery** of the sudden rise of new authors alongside the proliferation of new AI services.