

BIOSYN VS. REALITY **KEY**

JURASSIC WORLD DOMINION

PART 1: The BioSyn Corporate Audit

Observation Category	BioSyn Evidence (during movie)	Real-World Parallel (After Movie)
Monopolizing Food	BioSyn creates giant "hexapod" locusts that eat all crops <i>except</i> those grown with BioSyn seeds, forcing the world to buy their grain.	<p>Bayer (Monsanto): Controls roughly 72% of the US corn seed market and 66% of the soybean market through its acquisition of Monsanto.</p> <p>The "Big Four": Bayer, Corteva, Syngenta, and BASF control over 60% of the global seed market, effectively acting as "gatekeepers" to the food supply.</p>
Genetic "Terminators"	The locusts are engineered with a "terminator gene" meant to ensure they die off after one generation (though this fails in the film).	<p>Terminator Technology (GURTs): In 1998, Delta & Pine Land Co. (later bought by Monsanto) patented seeds that produce sterile offspring, preventing farmers from saving and replanting them.</p> <p>Contractual "Terminators": Most companies use legal contracts to achieve the same result, suing farmers (e.g., <i>Bowman v. Monsanto</i>) who replant patented seeds.</p>
Containment Failure	The genetically modified locusts escape the BioSyn valley, leading to a global ecological "biblical plague".	<p>Conyers - Biolab (sprinkler systems, etc)</p> <p>StarLink Corn (Aventis): In 2000, GM corn approved only for animal feed was found in human food products, leading to a massive recall.</p> <p>LMO (Living Modified Organisms) Spreads: There are documented cases of GM canola and bentgrass spreading beyond test plots into the wild through wind-blown pollen.</p>
Corporate "Redemption"	BioSyn markets its valley as a "sanctuary" for dinosaurs and a hub for medical breakthroughs to hide its corporate espionage.	<p>Bayer's Rebrand: After the controversial acquisition of Monsanto, Bayer retired the "Monsanto" name to distance itself from negative public perception and lawsuits over Roundup.</p> <p>Life Science Focus: Major firms often market their work under the banner of "Sustainability" and "Global Food Security" to counter criticisms of corporate greed.</p>

Part II: Reflection:

- Controlling the World's Food:** In the movie, BioSyn creates a "biblical plague" to ensure they control the global food supply. Real companies like **Monsanto** have been criticized for "Genomic Dominance". Do you believe it is ethical for a single corporation to hold a patent on a life form (like a seed or an animal) that the rest of the world depends on for food? Why or why not? **EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER: The Dilemma:** Is it ethical to patent life forms? **Key Arguments (Pro):** Patents provide the financial incentive (ROI) for companies to invest billions in R&D to create drought-resistant or high-yield crops. **Key Arguments (Con):** "Seed Slavery" or "Genomic Dominance" prevents poor farmers from traditional seed-saving practices and puts the global food supply in the hands of a few profit-driven boards.
- The Redemption of Dr. Wu:** Dr. Wu gets a "redemption arc" by using cloning research to stop the plague he started. In the real biotech industry, does "fixing" a problem excuse a scientist from the initial unethical creation of that problem? If you were on a hiring board for **Bayer**, would you trust Dr. Wu's "Scientific Integrity" enough to give him a lab? **EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER: Scientific Integrity:** Does "fixing" a problem excuse the initial unethical act? **Historical Context:** Consider the case of Bayer, which has historically faced lawsuits for products like Roundup but currently leads research into curing diseases and ending world hunger. **Hiring Board Perspective:** Students should consider if a scientist's technical brilliance (cloning) outweighs a history of "reckless innovation" that ignores safety protocols.