Plots:

1. She felt the ridges of the map she was carving and wondered if the storms below still whispered secrets to those who dared listen. Secrets of the past, yet untold…

Lia, a young and talented artist, was asked to draw the map of a specific area which has been off limits for numerous years, the reason unknown. A special team of researchers needed to use the map to explore the place and declare if it was safe for the public. As Lia carved the map, an eerie voice echoed, and it almost seemed as it was coming out of the map… Her eyes gazed at the map for a moment, a gulp of trepidation sliding down her quenched throat. Despite her fear, an intense gush of curiosity took over her. In that moment, she knew she had to explore the area herself. Something just seemed to pull her towards it.

It was a glacial day, slight rain pouring down, along with winds that forced the trees to dance. She held the map in her bone-white nimble fingers, her eyes wandering around the unfamiliar place. What had brought her here? The eerie voices echoed in her head again. This time, it said something. *The wind and the rain, will soon be your pain. Will soon be your death.*

Something about the voices gave her goosebumps… She held the sides of her head tight, trying to get the voices out of her head. Suddenly, the winds and rain got stronger. Louder. Faster. Lia started hyperventilating, cold tears running down her face. The deafening rain echoed across the dense forest that encircled the area. Her breaths got heavier and heavier until—silence. The world went black. Total silence.

Friday the thirteenth, the day where horror took place, Lia Gutsburg went missing, and was reported as dead….

1. In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gasped at the intricate sculpture, unaware it was created by the one thing they feared most-robots…

The eerie but comforting glow grew brighter by the second, enveloping the structure that towered over the hundreds of villagers gazing up on the beauty. Suddenly, humming echoed from the structure, gasps filling the moist air. From the middle, the structure slowly opened, and from there emerged a gargantuan beast with an evil chuckle, or at least that’s how the villagers saw it. It was a robot. Chatter of worries escalated, as people started throwing rocks at the robot.

“Me and my army want to work with you. We don’t mean any harm”, the robot announced.

“You took our loved ones for testing!” a woman from the side screamed.

“For the better of all of you!” the robot replied.

“We are fine on our own! Now LEAVE!” a man from the crowd declared.

“YEAH”, the crowd cheered, some continuing to throw rocks at the peculiar robot.

“We would be essential for you when you need us for emergencies” the robot said.

“We said we’ll be fine on our own! LEAVE!!” another man said.

“You’ll regret your choice when you will need us”, the robot murmured…

*2 years later*

“32 people died in the flood, 40 injured. This has been one of the greatest floods in the city’s history.” The newspaper read.

“We should have listened to them”, the man in the rocking chair said.

Interview Questions (100 words each)  
1. How has your family shaped the way you approach challenges in life? Can you give a specific example?

My family has shaped the way I approach challenges in life, as now if I face a challenge, I don’t back away from it, but try the best I can. For example, I had an important speech coming up but I was extremely sick. However, that speech was very important to me, so I took all my courage and tried my best. Winning was important to me, as I had won the competition 2 years in a row. The hard work took a lot of my strength because I was sick, but I kept on going forward. Despite coming second in the competition instead of coming first, I didn’t back down, but I told myself it was ok, and tried harder for next year. This growth mindset and perspective was shaped by my family, as my family inhabit that confidence and mindset, and have taught me that no matter what happens, it’s always good to try your best.

2. What is one tradition or habit in your family that you cherish the most, and why?

A tradition within my family is where at the end or start of the year, we all take turns to tell each other what we can improve on, and we like to call it a family new year’s resolution. I cherish this family tradition, and believe that it is essential for personal growth. As individuals and as a family, it is important to always find something to work on and improve ourselves, creating a healthy and supportive lifestyle.

3. Who in your family inspires you the most, and what lessons have you learned from them?

My father, a hard-working man, inspires me the most, and I have learned plenty of lessons from him. My dad, who is the CEO and founder of a software engineering company, has faced many challenges in his career journey, but is still working hard and successful till this day. My dad works day and night to keep this family running smoothly. Although the numerous and never-ending stresses, financially or innovatively, my dad continues to work on, just for the happiness of our family. My dad has taught me that life has its challenges, but what’s most important is to keep working on.