The Original Crew

Freddy, Foxy, Chica and Bonnie are the original animatronics. Believed to be haunted, they're more hacked than anything. They function with the same robot mind, and whatever they possess the memories of the children matters not. Over time, original personalities tend to fade unless they were properly recalled. Foxy shows the greatest relapse, and was likely pushed behind closed curtains for obstructing 'acquisition'. Recently, Foxy operates as expected.

After expansion of the robotic workforce, the original crew serves primarily as promotional units, with their jobs as entertainers taken over by a more varied menu of fresh robots.

Golden Freddy

Golden Freddy is believed to be a nanite cloud condensed. This forms theories that Freddy is the original source, but theories vary wildly in origin and purpose. What is known is that Golden Freddy adheres to no sensible rules and seems to have near god-like abilities.

Some likely theories is that GF is the byproduct of Freddy's production, management is under its control and GF is an enforcer or sorts, and one theory speculates that the 'cloud' is merely a glitch caused by the very use of nanomachines itself, similar to radiation from heavy elements. GF also appears to transform people out of order. One likely victim of this theoretical phenomena is Toby the Technician/Tender, who was recorded to be suited without external help. However, the recording camera was disabled during this period, meaning it might have been a self-inflicted fate.

Naturally, one theory assumed GF provided 'mental support' if that is the case.

The Means to an End

Nanomachines, mostly. To put it bluntly, there's a few ways to be changes, but they all involve a very deep processing. Death doesn't prevent this unless the damage is severe enough that the nanites cannot recover the body or its memories. Suicide by shotgun is your best shot if you prefer death.

Their murderous intent is only skin deep. They merely do what must be done to satisfy some unheard voice, like a to-do list taped to their RAM. Because of this, there can be long periods of silence wherein they are benign.

Originally, captured victims resulted in imperfect robots that were disposed of. Recent attacks resulted in functional robots, though memories remain. The ability to retain the original self varies greatly from person to person.

The transformation can be painless or painful, again varying. Due to this, the nanites are believed to be like DNA; there's a standard result as template, but variance is inevitable.

According to recent research, the process can be reverted. Using the least coopertive machine, Toby, as test subject, scientists managed to revert him back. Memory after reversion is spotty.

Management

The degree to which management knows or understands what is happening is vague. At times their documents go into morbid details, at other times they deny knowing anything and procure purchase documents on their newest animatronics.

What is known is that the recent increase in robotics lead to expansion of the Freddy Franchise with items like the Lazy Lounge. The management is also using the robots for cheap labor and to spread abroad. Due to this, lower jobs at Freddy's have been reduced to robots. Strangely, the original workers vanish shortly before robotic replacements are installed.

The Murdering

While one can think this happens constantly, it appears to work on a per-order basis. The robots are non-hostile during most hours (most of them are, anyway), and only become hostile if an order for a new robot exists. Who maintains this list is completely unknown.

What is known is that some robots ignore this list, while others operate outside it. The original's mindset has a strong influence on this. For example, a violent man may be hostile during operational hours and requires advanced protocols, if not permanent storage to be contained from harming customers.

Toby remains the only robot that consistently denies any action. Its harshest action was to sprain the wrist of a child who attempted to take a screwdriver he required.

It should be noted that the robots attack as their personalities operate. A heavy eater may cue his motions by food; a sneaky hunter will use the shadows.

The Results

Most robots remain their old selves, with a few additions. Their position heavily influences what they do, but out of work hours they seem to revert to something resembling their old selves. While on hostile modes, this becomes very suppressed. Key traits dominate their method of hunting. While some robots appear to have rigid roles, most are flexible in operation. Reassigning is as simple as telling them to. Because of this usability, it is extremely likely that they were designed by persons seeking to advance the franchise by extending the cast.

Remodeling proves itself a pain. Many resist strongly, often requiring deep rewrites to cooperate. Even then, they revert to normal (via manual labor of re-applying the parts) when given a breather during non-work hours. Those unable to keep their identities are prone to errors.

While full rewrites are possible, they are to be avoided. Rewrites decrease reliability and can cause rampages. Some appear immune to it altogether, and revert the moment they are overwritten.