

WHAT THE HECK IS A DOMINO?

A Small Book About Events, Chaos, and Guidance

Chapter One — The Game of Dominoes

Before the metaphors, before the river, before the waves — we start with the real object.

A domino is a small rectangular tile divided into two halves.
Each half has a number of dots.
You match the dots: six to six, three to three, blank to blank.
That's the basic game.

But the part that matters for us is what happens when you **stand them up**.

You place one domino behind another in a line, all spaced just close enough.
When you tap the first one, it falls into the second.
The second falls into the third.
And on it goes — a chain reaction.

That chain reaction is the important part.

One push, and the whole line moves.
Sometimes the line branches.
Sometimes two paths collide.
Sometimes one path fizzles out because the spacing was wrong or a domino was out of place.

A domino is an event.
A falling domino is a consequence.
A chain of falling dominoes is a pattern of cause and effect stretching across time.

That's the foundation:
a simple object, a simple rule, and a surprisingly complicated result.

Chapter Two — When the Dominoes Stop Behaving

If life were a tidy line of dominoes, everything would make sense.
Event A would always knock over Event B.
Event B would always knock over Event C.

But that isn't how life feels.

Life feels like someone decided to play the game in a river.

You're no longer watching a straight line on solid ground.
You're riding on the tops of events that burst upward like water piles — unpredictable, colliding, splitting, merging. The chain reactions don't move neatly forward. They explode sideways. They slam into strangers. They crash into your plans, your relationships, your hopes.

In the real Domino Stream, micro-events matter.
The tiny tilt of one falling tile changes the angle of the next.
A delayed fall here produces a collision there.
Two falling paths can merge.
A huge tile can fall with almost no effect.
A tiny tile can topple half your life.

From the inside, the world looks chaotic.
The waves look random.
The pulses look dangerous.
We're riders bouncing from impact to impact, sometimes finding each other, sometimes spinning apart.

This is where moral perception blurs.
Chaos makes people think the rules don't exist.
But the rules exist whether we see them or not.

Dominoes follow laws even when we don't understand the pattern.

Chapter Three — The Banks of the River

When you're caught inside the flood of events, it's easy to believe the chaos is the whole story.
But the river has **banks** — the boundaries shaped by the one who built the flow.

From our point of view, the pulses are wild.
From the banks, they are coordinated.

From our point of view, consequences seem random.
From the banks, they follow a pattern.

God does not sit inside the current with us.
God is the structure that holds the river in shape — the one who carved the channel through which the Domino Stream rushes.

You can fight the waves, but the river won't change.
You can surrender and drift, but drifting isn't wisdom.
Wisdom is standing up, steadyng yourself, and listening.

Not to the chaos.
Not to your fear.
Not to the noise of other riders crashing around you.

Listening to **the one on the banks** — the authority who sees the whole map of falling dominoes from outside time, and who knows where each wave should carry you.

Awakening isn't floating.

Awakening is choosing your steps, one rising event to the next, guided by the One who sees the whole field.

Dominoes teach us that one action leads to another.

The river teaches us that we cannot control the sequence.

The banks teach us that the sequence is not meaningless.

This is what a domino really is:

a moment that matters —

not because we control it,

but because Someone does.

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