Test whether LibreOffice puts additional strange character (Unicode FFF9) near pairs of characters <non-breaking space><space> when you save as docx format.  (This produces illegal characters when you convert the .docx into .mobi format for Amazon.  But it doesn't do it every time – only about one in 50 sentences are affected.  It might depend on context, or font, too.

It generally happens for the text below just before the text “Old bones”.

Chief High Cloud crouched, silent, hands still trembling in shock.  Trying to understand it all: the vision; the bonfire's snuffing; the hungering cold.

One small ember struggled in the frozen ashes, and blowing gently he nursed the fire back to life, taking comfort from the simple act.  Firelight breathed traces of warmth and hope back into the shocked faces around him.  Their desperate expressions pressed on him like the hopes of distressed children, eager to believe a parent could somehow make everything all right.

*There would be no way to make this right,* he knew.

Behind him, beyond the gathering of mis-matched people, the sun's last light crowned their geodesic domes in a glow of burnt orange.  Even as he watched, the tallest slid into darkness.  *Not an omen,* he told himself, as the flame took tentative hold.

But he could delay no longer.  ￹Old bones, weakened from too many zero-gravity months in years long past, protested as he stood to speak into the wretched stillness.