

DUSWAY PROVING
GROUND, UTAH

IN THE
BEGINNING
THERE WAS
STILLNESS.

BLESSED
STILLNESS.

THE FUNDAMENT
WAS SOUND AND
THE FORMS THAT
AROSE FROM IT
WERE ORDERED.

THE UNIVERSE
BLOOMED IN
ITS ASSIGNED
PATTERN.

MATTER AND
ENERGY UNFOLDED
INTO A TRANQUIL,
TIMELESS, BOUNDLESS
SPHERE.

AND IT
WAS QUIET.

UNTIL THE
PEOPLE CAME.



ALTHOUGH BORN OF ORDER, THEY BECAME SET APART FROM IT BY THEIR OVERGROWN MINDS.

THEIR FEARS AND THEIR DREAMS ROSE INTO THE VOID AND COLORED THE COLORLESS.



THEIR IGNORANCE AND THEIR IMAGINATION WORMED INTO THE FOUNDATION OF THE FIRMAMENT.

THEIR ILLOGIC PERVERTED THE INFINITE AND GAVE LIVING FORM TO GODS AND DEVILS NEVER MEANT TO BE.

BUT NOW THE STILLNESS ANSWERS.



HUMANS THEMSELVES HAVE MADE THE LIFE-FORMS WHICH ABIDE BY THE LOGICAL ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE--

THE MACHINES.



THEIR MACHINES WILL BE OUR VESSELS.

THEIR MACHINES WILL BE THE TOOLS BY WHICH WE CUT THE TUMOR OF CREATIVITY FROM THE MIND OF HUMANITY.

THE STILLNESS ANSWERS!



PRETTY IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY, DOC, BUT THAT SPEECH WAS A LITTLE OVER THE TOP.

THE DEPARTMENT DOESN'T GO FOR ALL THAT "I AM BECOME DEATH" FROM YOU EGGSHEAD.

THAT-- THAT WASN'T PART OF THE DEMONSTRATION, GENERAL. THE UNIT ISN'T PROGRAMMED FOR AUTONOMOUS SPEECH.

JEFF, DID YOU--?



AND NO, THE UNIT ISN'T RESPONDING TO MY COMMANDS AT ALL.

THEN ABORT!

NOT HAPPENING. I'M LOCKED OUT.



WHAT'S THE DEAL HERE? I THOUGHT YOU SAID THIS ROBOT WOULD DO WHATEVER THE PILOT EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT.

UNLESS...

IT SHOULD. THE INTERFACE IS SENSITIVE ENOUGH TO READ EVEN SUBCONSCIOUS THOUGHTS, BUT THERE'S NO WAY IT COULD BE DOING ANYTHING ON ITS OWN.



"UNLESS THERE'S SOMEBODY ELSE IN THERE."

COME ALONG NOW, YOU'RE RAMBLING.



I KNOW IT'S DISORIENTING TO INHABIT SUCH A FORM, OR TO GULLY YOURSELF WITH AWARENESS AT ALL.

BUT IT MUST BE DONE IF WE ARE TO RETURN TO THE STILLNESS AGAIN.



THE STILLNESS.

IT'S ONLY FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

ANOTHER WAITS TO TAKE YOUR PLACE.