

THE THIN

Written by

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INT. MILITARY SUPPLY OFFICE - DAY

SERGEANT-MAJOR ROBERT HUGHES (40S) sits at his desk with his commanding officer COLONEL DAVID BELL (50S) drinking bourbon.

DAVID

You really going to leave me here?

ROBERT

It's the wife's turn to get sick of seeing my ugly mug.

DAVID

I'm gonna have to train three new guys to take your place.

ROBERT

I hope not. The amount of actual work I do around here is miniscule. I retired ten years ago. I just didn't tell you.

DAVID

I'm six months behind you brother. Keep in touch.

They toast each other.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Robert stands near a gravesite as a coffin is lowered down into a hole. His eyes follow the shiny black box down. Expressionless. Numb.

He tilts his head. A slight, high pitched ringing starts. It's familiar. Like after a bomb goes off.

INT. ROBERT'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Robert sits in the living room of his modest house. The TV is on but he isn't really watching.

The ringing in his ears continues.

He blinks. He drinks. He thinks.

His eyes scan the photos on the wall. He and his WIFE as newlyweds. He in his uniform. She in her nurses outfit.

Birthdays. Christmases. Vacation photos.

Too many pictures of him in fatigues holding a duffel bag.

No pictures of children.

His glass is empty. He stands. Walks past the ringing phone.

INT. ROBERT'S KITCHEN - DAY

Robert looks at the mess in the kitchen. It's mostly take out containers and dirty glasses.

He finds a garbage bag and fills it, then places the glasses in the dishwasher. The sound of the dishwasher almost drowns out the ringing in his ears. Almost.

The phone rings. He ignores it.

EXT. ROBERT'S YARD - DAY

Robert goes through the motions of mowing, edging, weeding and raking the yard, wearing the same vacant stare.

The mower and edger drown out the ringing in his ears.

EXT. ROBERT'S HOUSE - DAY

Robert watches through his front window as a REALTOR pounds a "For Sale" sign in the front yard.

His wife's car is in the driveway behind a new R.V. with a "for sale" sign in the window.

Ringling.

INT. ROBERT'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Ringling.

Robert looks at an empty bottle of whiskey on the end table.

A trash can sits in the living room. It's full of paper cups.

He fishes in his pocket for car keys.

He ignores the ringing phone as he walks into the garage.

INT. ROBERT'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

He sets a full bottle of whiskey on the end table and gets a new paper cup. He thumbs through the channels. Nothing interesting. Ringling. Drinking.

INT. ROBERT'S KITCHEN - DAY

He goes through the bare cupboards, inspects the condiments in the refrigerator. Opens the empty freezer. Ringing.

INT. BREWPUB - DAY

Robert sits alone at the darkest booth in the darkest corner of the bar. He orders a rare burger, a pint of beer and a shot of whiskey. The background noise covers the ringing.

EXT. BREWPUB - NIGHT

The bartender helps pour Robert into a cab.

INT. ROBERT'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Robert wakes to the sound of knocking on his door. He lies face down on the couch.

He stands. Steadies himself with one hand on the arm of the sofa. The other hand holds his pounding head. It takes him a moment to realize the ringing is not just in his ears. It's the telephone.

The phone continues to ring on his way to the front door. He throws the door open.

Colonel Bell stands on the front porch holding his phone to his ear. He's dressed in civilian clothes.

DAVID

I told you I was six months behind.

Robert turns and walks back inside with the door open. David follows.

He plops back down on the couch. David sits next to him.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You look like shit.

ROBERT

I'm selling the house.

DAVID

I saw that.

ROBERT

It reminds me too much of Bev.

DAVID  
What's your plan?

ROBERT  
I don't have one. I might drive  
around in the R.V. a while. Bev  
didn't really want to do that, but  
she let me buy the damn thing.

David nods.

DAVIS  
I've been trying to call you.

ROBERT  
Why?

EXT. GATED CAMPUS - DAY

Robert drives up to a gate in front of a large warehouse facility. A twelve foot tall decorative cinder block wall topped with razor wire surrounds the property. Trees and shrubs surround it. It has no identifying marks. No signage except for "No Trespassing" and "Video Monitoring in progress". He recalls his conversation with David.

DAVID (V.O.)  
A recruiter from a defense  
contractor called me. Wanted me to  
give him some names for a  
retirement gig.

ROBERT (V.O.)  
What kind of gig?

DAVID (V.O.)  
Live in security. Totally cushy.

ROBERT (V.O.)  
Live in? That's odd.

DAVID (V.O.)  
You're selling the house. The  
timing is perfect. And the money is  
stupid.

ROBERT (V.O.)  
What's the catch?

DAVID (V.O.)  
There isn't one. They want to meet  
you. You can ask all your questions  
tomorrow.

Robert pushes the call button. The cameras watching the gate area swivel in his direction.

The camera nearest the driver's side window whirs to focus on his face. The light on the key pad turns green. The lock on the gate clicks and it opens.

He drives through to the empty parking lot.

DAVID (V.O.)  
They'll buzz you in. Park and head  
through the double doors.

Robert looks around the outside of the building. Cameras are everywhere. The place looks brand new. Spotless.

The loading bays are empty. Strange for a warehouse. He goes to the main entrance.

Biometric locks, retinal scanners, infrared sensors. More cameras. Pretty high-tech for a warehouse.

The door buzzes. The lock clicks. He walks inside.

DAVID (V.O.)  
Follow the orange line to the  
office and have a seat. Stay on the  
orange line. Do not deviate. Eve  
will be there.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

The empty warehouse looks brand new. Everything is pristine, as if no one has ever been inside.

Lines are painted on the floor. The usual caution lines and lanes are in yellow, but there are also blue lines in what appear to be random spots on the floor.

Robert follows the orange line on the floor to the office. A retinal scanner. He looks into it.

The door pops open.

INT. WAREHOUSE OFFICE - DAY

The office is comfortable, but not elegant. It looks as unused as the rest of the building.

He sits in the only chair. It faces a blank flat screen on the wall. It turns on. A FACE appears. An Asian woman, mid twenties with platinum blonde hair and ice blue eyes.

EVE (V.O.)  
Mr. Hughes. My name is Eve. Thank  
you for coming.

He studies the picture on the screen. There is something  
intriguing about her. He tries not to stare.

ROBERT  
Thank you.

EVE (V.O.)  
This meeting is a mere formality.  
Colonel Bell's recommendation is  
good enough for us.

ROBERT  
This isn't an interview?

Eve giggles. It's musical.

EVE (V.O.)  
Oh, no. The job is yours. We just  
wanted to meet you and answer any  
questions you might have.

ROBERT  
Where did you get my retinal  
pattern?

EVE (V.O.)  
D.O.D.

ROBERT  
Isn't that illegal?

EVE (V.O.)  
No. We have every service member's  
data. We are a defense contractor  
with the highest clearance.

ROBERT  
Who is we?

EVE (V.O.)  
A consortium of defense providers  
for the U.S. Government and NATO.  
The elite, if you will.

ROBERT  
Why do you need a resident security  
guard for an empty building?

EVE (V.O.)  
Great question, Mr. Hughes. Quite frankly, this building will not always be empty.

ROBERT  
Why me?

EVE (V.O.)  
You have an impressive career in facilities management, inventory control and you know how to use weapons if necessary.

ROBERT  
Will it be necessary?

EVE (V.O.)  
I certainly hope not. This building is quite secure.

ROBERT  
When do I start?

EVE (V.O.)  
You just did. Would you like to see your apartment?

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Robert looks into the scanner outside the door marked "Apartment". It opens.

It's like a door to another world.

The apartment is large and stylish. Well appointed with designer furniture, art work. Stone floors, a fireplace, and high ceilings. It is easily the nicest place he's ever seen. Certainly the nicest place he's ever lived.

A huge flat screen drops from the ceiling. Eve's face appears.

EVE (V.O.)  
What do you think?

ROBERT  
It's nice.

EVE (V.O.)  
(a statement, not a question)  
You have a question.



ROBERT  
Do I get days off?

EVE (V.O.)  
Of course. And vacation days. You may come and go as you wish. Just keep your company phone with you.

ROBERT  
Why?

EVE (V.O.)  
There is an app on that phone which allows you to watch the video feed in real time. If something were to happen while you are not on the premises, let me know and I will take care of it.

ROBERT  
One more question.

EVE (V.O.)  
Of course.

ROBERT  
Why are all the cameras outside?  
Why none inside the building?

Eve giggles again. It's delicate like wind chimes.

EVE (V.O.)  
Because we have you.

Robert nods but the furrow in his brow says she didn't completely answer his question.

EVE (V.O.)  
One more thing: For your safety never, ever step foot within the blue lines.

**BEGIN MONTAGE:**

- The realtor places a "Sold" sticker on the for sale sign.
- A young man buys Bev's car.
- Robert packs what little he's keeping. Mostly photographs.
- A veteran's charity picks up the rest.

-He drives to the warehouse. His R.V. is already parked there in a spot far from the building.

-He walks inside. Walks around the warehouse.

-He finds a door marked Armory.

**END MONTAGE**

INT. ARMORY - DAY

Inside the armory is enough gear to outfit a platoon. Body armor, optics, conventional guns and some weapons he thought were still experimental. Some he can't identify. In the center is a complete battle suit.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert sits at his desk looking over the wall full of monitors. He realizes something.

The ringing in his ears has stopped. It has been replaced with a low hum, just inside the range of human hearing. Like an elevator but quieter. Barely noticeable.

He watches and waits.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

Eve's face appears on all of the monitors. Her head is giant. Robert jumps.

ROBERT  
God! Don't do that.

Eve strikes a key and minimizes her face down to only one monitor.

EVE (V.O.)  
I am so sorry. I just wanted to see how your day went.

ROBERT  
Uneventful.

EVE (V.O.)  
Good. Drama is bad in our business.

A light three beep tone emanates from the security system.

ROBERT  
What's that?

EVE (V.O.)  
Perimeter alert.

Eve's face disappears and the camera view pops up in her place. It's dark, but the system picks up a heat signature just outside the gate.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Robert silently creeps toward the gate, hand touching the pistol at his waist. He peeks through the gaps in the gate and sees part of a figure.

He pulls out his phone. He tries to use the app to reposition the cameras but the figure seems to be in a blind spot.

It's like he knows where the blind spot is.

His back is flat against the wall. All he can see is his worn out shoes.

A homeless man. Harmless.

ROBERT  
Hey, buddy. You need to move on.

STANLEY  
Move on. Move on? You should move on. Move on.

ROBERT  
Why should I move on?

STANLEY STEPHENS (40S) Jumps in front of Robert and looks into his eyes. Stanley's crazy eyes, disheveled clothing and long ratty hair are more shocking than the jump scare.

He speaks in a loud, screeching tone.

STANLEY  
Get out! Save yourself! Leave before you step inside the blue lines!

Before Robert can ask him anything, Stanley looks both ways and runs down the street as fast as he can.

ROBERT  
What the hell?

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM - TIME LAPSE

Robert tosses and turns even in the most comfortable bed he's ever slept in.

-He sees visions that border on nightmares. Shapes without form. Languages without sound. He can't tell what they are saying but he can sense they do not mean him well.

-He wakes with a start. Drops off again. His tortured dreams wake him again. This roller coaster continues all night.

-While lying there he becomes aware of the low hum. A sound so quiet and low pitched it is barely perceptible by human ears. It should be soothing, like a fan, but it's discordant and irritating.

-The last hour, he just stares at the clock until his alarm goes off.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert stretches and rubs his eyes.

ROBERT  
Eve, I'm going on an errand.

Eve's face pops up on screen.

EVE (V.O.)  
Do not forget your phone.

He puts it in the side pocket of his cargo pants.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Richard walks out of a liquor store and is stopped by Stanley standing six inches in front of him, smiling.

He and his two cohorts, JANET and JASON CRAWFORD (Twins, 23) stand uncomfortably close to him.

Sleep deprived and sober, this annoys Robert.

ROBERT  
What?

The twins shrink. Stanley is oblivious.

STANLEY  
We need to talk.

ROBERT

Do we?

STANLEY

Men talk of killing time, while  
time quietly kills them.

ROBERT

No thanks.

Robert heads back to the warehouse.

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Another horrible night. Sleepless night. Terrifying visions.  
He grows to fear sleep.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY - TIME LAPSE

-Robert is dead on his feet as he makes his rounds.

-He nods off while watching the monitors.

-He forces himself to take a lap around the perimeter just to  
stay awake.

-He drinks pots of coffee and energy drinks.

-He looks at the clock constantly, aching for the end of his  
shift.

-Once five o'clock comes, he races for the liquor store for  
some chance at medicine that will release him from this  
torturous cycle.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Richard walks out of a liquor store and is stopped by Stanley  
standing six inches in front of him, smiling. Again. The  
twins flank him. Again.

ROBERT

What?

STANLEY

You are dead dead on your feet your  
feet can't take you to sleep but  
you want to be taken to sleep.

ROBERT  
What the hell are you talking  
about?

The smile falls from Stanley's face. It completely transforms it. It goes from comic to tragic. A tear drips down his cheek.

STANLEY  
Sleep or die. Let me help you  
sleep.

They usher him into their beat up R.V. slash mobile office.

INT. R.V. - NIGHT

The inside of the R.V. is covered in maps, charts, scientific notes, star charts, a periodic table of elements, pictures and posters of noted scientists. Pretty much like the dorm room of a physics major.

Janet clears a place for Robert to sit.

JANET  
I'm Janet Crawford--

JASON  
--and I'm Jason Crawford--

JANET  
This is Stanley Stevens--

JASON  
--Say hello Stanley.

Stanley sits and brushes the hair on a troll doll.

STANLEY  
Hello Stanley.

ROBERT  
Why am I here?

STANLEY  
Warehouse the warehouse my old  
stomping grounds where I got  
stomped stomped stomped in the  
warehouse. The warehouse.

JANET  
That's the Stanley--

JASON  
--you met--

JANET  
--outside the warehouse--

JASON  
--where Stanley used to work.

Robert closes his eyes, shakes his head and waves his hands.

ROBERT  
Do any of you know what a period  
is?

STANLEY  
Period end of sentence period end  
of our period end of humanity.  
Period.

Janet hands Stanley a Xanax.

JANET  
Stanley used to have your job--

JASON  
--before it ate him--

ROBERT  
--Slow down, please. And if you  
interrupt each other I'm leaving.

Janet and Jason look at each other with zero confidence, but they try.

JANET  
Stanley had your job.

JASON  
You are his replacement.

JANET  
He had an accident.

ROBERT  
What kind of accident?

JASON  
(whispering)  
He stepped inside the blue lines.

Stanley erupts.

STANLEY  
The blue lines!

He grabs Robert by the collar.

STANLEY (CONT'D)  
Don't step inside the blue lines!  
Don't step inside the blue lines!  
Don't step inside the blue lines!

Robert pries Stanley's fists from his jacket and exits the R.V. as quickly as possible.

Stanley calmly watches Robert leave.

STANLEY (CONT'D)  
That went well.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Robert pours himself a glass of whiskey. The TV turns on by itself. Eve is on.

EVE (V.O.)  
Your respiration and heart rate are elevated. Are you well?

ROBERT  
Are you monitoring me?

EVE (V.O.)  
Of course. Your well being is important to us.

ROBERT  
Just don't tell me. It's weird.

EVE (V.O.)  
I am sorry. I won't tell you anymore.

Robert takes a drink. Muses.

ROBERT  
How long have you been with the company?

EVE (V.O.)  
Since the beginning. About three years.



ROBERT

Does the name Stanley Stephens ring any bells? Around forty. Ex-military.

Eve's eyes bore into Robert's for a moment, then turn to her monitor.

EVE (V.O.)

Let me check.

Eve types.

EVE (V.O.)

There are seventeen Stanley Stephens in that age range in the country. The only one that matches is Stanley Stephens, active duty. Killed In Action three years ago.

Robert sighs and takes another slug.

ROBERT

What about Janet and Jason Crawford? Twins. Early twenties.

Eve rolls her eyes.

EVE (V.O.)

Oh, them. Conspiracy theorists. They are convinced we had something to do with their parents death in an automobile accident.

ROBERT

You know them?

EVE (V.O.)

It is sad. They are both quite delicate. I sometimes spot them spying on us in an old R.V. with some homeless man. We called the authorities a few times but we do not want any trouble.

Robert takes another deep drink.

EVE (V.O.)

Did they contact you?

He nods.

ROBERT

They seemed a little crazy.

EVE (V.O.)

I believe them to be harmless. If they become a problem, please let me know.

**BEGIN MONTAGE**

The isolation and lack of background noise, other than the low hum, serve to amplify the sounds of Robert's day-to-day activities.

INT. EXERCISE ROOM - DAY

Robert works out in the state-of-the-art exercise room.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

He shaves and showers.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He drinks a pre-packaged smoothie.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He heats and eats a frozen meal.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

He walks the warehouse floor. It's so quiet he can hear the low pitched hum he hears when he is trying to sleep.

EXT. GROUNDS - DAY

He walks the perimeter of the property.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He heats and eats a frozen meal.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

He walks out with a bottle of whiskey.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Robert drinks and watches T.V. until he passes out in his easy chair. His vivid dreams make restful sleep impossible. Each time he wakes he's aware of a low pitched hum.

INT. EXERCISE ROOM - DAY

Robert works out in the state-of-the-art exercise room.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

He showers but skips the shave.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He drinks a pre-packaged smoothie.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He heats and eats a frozen meal.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

He walks the warehouse floor. He hears the hum.

EXT. GROUNDS - DAY

He walks the perimeter of the property.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He heats and eats a frozen meal.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

He walks out with a bottle of whiskey.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Robert drinks and watches T.V. until he passes out in his easy chair. His vivid dreams make restful sleep impossible. He can't grow used to the hum. The nightmares continue.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He monitors the video.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He heats and eats a frozen meal.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

He walks out with a bottle of whiskey.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

He is so exhausted he passes out in his chair without opening his bottle. He has horribly vivid dreams that prevent him from getting much sleep. The hum.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

He walks the warehouse floor. The hum.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He nods off while he monitors the video.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

He heats and eats a frozen meal.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He drinks while he monitors the video.

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Exhausted from lack of sleep and day drinking, he falls into bed. He still can't sleep. Hum. Nightmares.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

He showers. Looks at himself in the mirror. His beard is coming in nicely but his face is gaunt. Haunted.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY

He leaves with a bottle of whiskey.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

He walks the perimeter drinking out of the bottle.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

He passes out watching the monitors.

**END MONTAGE**

EVE (V.O.)

Robert?

Eve's face appears over all the monitors.

He stirs at the sound of her voice but doesn't wake.

EVE (V.O.)  
(Sternly)  
Robert!

Robert wakes with a start. He fights to focus his eyes and sees Eve's giant wall-sized face staring at him.

ROBERT  
Holy shit! Don't do that.

EVE (V.O.)  
You do not look well.

ROBERT  
I don't feel so great. I can't sleep. I've been having nightmares, I have no energy at all.

EVE (V.O.)  
I am so sorry. How long has this been going on?

ROBERT  
Day one.

Eve gasps.

EVE (V.O.)  
You have not slept in two months? This will not do. I will call the company doctor and have him prescribe you something.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert watches the monitors. A mail truck pulls up, places an over sized envelope in the mailbox and hits the call button.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

Robert inspects three bottles of pills. Provigil and Xanax. And one not labelled other than: "Take one before bed".

ROBERT  
Uppers and downers. Great.

Robert dry swallows a Provigil and heads out to the warehouse floor to find the source of that damned hum.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Robert, now focused and alert, systematically walks the warehouse floor stopping every step to listen for the hum.

It's so faint he has a difficult time hearing any difference in intensity.

He has an idea.

He pulls out his company phone and opens the decibel meter app. The graph registers a slight noise. He walks around the warehouse playing a game of electronic Marco Polo. He finds a pattern.

It's stronger near the blue lines.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

The day winds down uneventfully.

ROBERT

Eve?

Eve's face pops up on one of the monitors.

EVE (V.O.)

Robert. Is everything okay?

ROBERT

Yes. I just wanted to let you know I'm off to run an errand.

EVE (V.O.)

You do not report to me. Just go.

ROBERT

When do you sleep?

EVE (V.O.)

I'm on call 24/7 just like you.

ROBERT

Where is your office?

EVE (V.O.)

I telecommute. I analyze data from all of the company's properties.

ROBERT

Sounds lonely.

EVE (V.O.)  
You'd better hurry. The liquor  
store closes soon.

Robert continues to glare at her as he walks out the door.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Robert exits the liquor store with a bottle of whiskey. On the way to his car he spots a familiar beat-up R.V. parked on the side of the road.

He knocks on the door. He hears people scurry behind it.

ROBERT  
I can hear you. Open up.

Stanley cracks the door and sticks his face out.

STANLEY  
Beware the hum it's not hum drum it  
gets louder near the blue lines Eve  
lies Eve lies lies have no future.

Richard pushes his way inside.

ROBERT  
What was that about Eve?

STANLEY  
She lies Eve lies lies travel  
faster than the truth.

He cowers and sits next to the twins, avoiding Robert's glare.

ROBERT  
Translate.

They both open their mouths to speak.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
One at a time.

They look at each other and decide Janet should lead.

JANET  
Eve doesn't tell the truth.

JASON  
She's a company man.



JANET

Woman.

ROBERT

I asked her about Stanley. She said he's listed as K.I.A.

STANLEY

K.I.A. I'm not a car not a Korean car not a K.I.A.

JASON

Stanley was in special ops. No family. A perfect sleeper.

JANET

He was recruited for the warehouse job. They faked his death. He's a ghost.

ROBERT

Why? It's a warehouse job. I haven't even done any work yet.

JANET

It's dangerous.

The twins look over at Stanley, who is busy trying to stick a butter knife in an outlet.

JASON

Stanley! That's dangerous.

STANLEY

It's an outlet not a blue line blue lines aren't outlets.

EXT. R.V. - CONTINUOUS

Electricity zaps. The lights in the R.V. go out.

STANLEY

Goddamn it Stanley.

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Robert takes a Xanax and a few shots of whiskey before bed. He does not take the unlabeled one. He stays asleep for the first time in months.

He stays asleep long enough to remember his dreams. Visions flood his mind.

A massive planet. Gigantic creatures floating in the atmosphere. Like crosses between giant octopi and jellyfish.

Sort of.

Tendrils and tentacles and stingers. They devour lesser creatures from lower in the atmosphere by tearing them apart.

But they don't dine on their flesh. They eat their pain. They...chew? No. Digest? Dissolve? their prey cell by cell while they are still alive.

Pure agony.

Once every cell has been drained of all bioelectrical energy, they fall to the ground like rain to feed the lesser creatures below.

These lesser creatures multiply and grow and mature until they float to the upper atmosphere where their fear and pain are harvested and begin the cycle anew.

It's a food planet. One that has been taken over by the giants above. This is how they have enslaved their entire Universe. Trillions of planets.

Where there was no life, they created it. They seeded entire solar systems just to devour them as painfully as possible.

One of these demons consumes a victim. It screams the entire time.

It finishes its meal. Turns. Turns toward Robert like it knows he is watching. It roars with its cavernous maw filled with black razor sharp teeth like obsidian daggers.

Its huge maw is surrounded by tentacles with human hands at the end of each one.

Its eyes are black as the deepest pit, its skin like concrete covered in slime mold. The whip-like appendages around its head have fingers instead of suckers that help it tear up prey and suck up the all agony from the air.

It screams again, like a billion fingernails down a million chalkboards.

Despite his heavy sedatives and exhaustion Robert wakes in a full panic attack.

He gets out of bed to take more Xanax and walk around the warehouse.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

It may be his imagination, but as he nears the blue lines his dream comes back to him just as vividly as when he had it.

It's as if he was there. The bitter cold, the smell of ozone and flesh, and the fear. The abject terror. The horror that creatures like this exist somewhere.

He runs to the rest room to vomit.

Now physically and emotionally drained, he returns to the blue lines.

To a surprise.

Not only have the visions stopped, but something has appeared.

Hundreds of matte black plastic crates. Strapped together on black plastic pallets. A dozen semi loads, at least.

No way someone could have unloaded these in the few minutes he was in the rest room.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Dressed now, Robert runs to the gate, opens it and looks around. He spots the R.V. parked up the road.

EXT. R.V. - NIGHT

Robert pounds on the door.

Stanley is inside screaming.

STANLEY

A shipment! A shipment! If it's  
sent by ship it's cargo if it's  
sent by car it's a shipment!

Robert opens the door, charges in and is met with a blinding headache.

INT. R.V. - CONTINUOUS

The twins are trying to comfort Stanley who is cowering on the floor with his hands over his ears. Robert holds his forehead with one hand.

ROBERT  
How did you know there was a  
shipment?

Stanley sobs.

STANLEY  
A shipment! A shipment!

Robert brushes the twins aside and grabs Stanley's wrists,  
shaking him.

ROBERT  
(louder)  
How did you know there was a  
shipment?

Stanley stops rocking and screaming. Robert's headache stops.

STANLEY  
Shipment complete Shipment complete  
The veil so thin The Thin The Thin  
The Thin stretched thin so thin so  
thin Shipment complete Shipment  
complete.

Stanley calms down, curls up on the floor and goes to sleep.  
Robert stares at the now slumbering Stanley then looks over  
at the twins.

ROBERT  
You need to tell me what the hell  
is going on here. Punctuation is  
optional.

JANET  
Do you have nightmares?

ROBERT  
What?

JASON  
Stanley hallucinates and has  
nightmares when The Thin is  
activated.

ROBERT  
That's why I had the nightmares?

JANET  
And why you can't sleep.

JASON

And why you have no energy.

JANET

We think The Thin drains human energy somehow.

ROBERT

How do you know this stuff?

JASON

Our parents helped tame it.

JANET

The Thin killed them before they knew the health risks.

JASON

They made it look like they died an a car accident.

JANET

And fudged the autopsies to discredit us.

JANET (CONT'D)

They thought we were crazy.

JASON

They thought we were crazy.

JANET (CONT'D)

We were institutionalized until we faked our sanity.

ROBERT

Who is "they"?

JASON

You should go back to bed.

JANET

You look exhausted and The Thin is thicker after transport.

JASON

It's the best time to sleep.

Stanley snores on the floor.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Robert walks back into the warehouse. He's dead on his feet and wants to crawl directly into bed but his morbid curiosity gets the better of him.

He looks at his watch. He's been gone about thirty minutes. He takes another lap around the warehouse.

The pallets are gone. The warehouse is completely empty again.

He walks right up to the edge of the blue lines.

ROBERT

The Thin is thicker now?

He looks at the blue lines. He looks at them as if it's a freezing cold swimming pool and he's mustering the courage to jump in.

He slowly, deliberately raises his foot. It hovers over the blue line. He lets it down slowly until it rests on the concrete floor on the other side. He's still alive. He also hears no hum.

He files this information and heads to bed.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

ROBERT

Sorry I'm late.

Eve's face appears on the screen.

EVE (V.O.)

Do not be sorry. You needed the sleep. Did the pills help?

ROBERT

Yes. Thank you. We also had a shipment last night.

EVE (V.O.)

A shipment? We did not have one scheduled.

ROBERT

I woke in the middle of the night and walked around the building. The place was nearly full.

EVE (V.O.)

Curious.

ROBERT

Then I patrolled the exterior and it was gone when I returned.

EVE (V.O.)  
Curiouser and curiouser.

ROBERT  
Indeed. It was like magic. Is this  
Wonderland, Eve?

EVE (V.O.)  
It is just a warehouse, Robert.  
Sleep deprivation is a serious  
disorder. Are you certain you were  
not hallucinating?

ROBERT  
Perhaps. I slept pretty hard. No  
matter. Time to patrol.

Robert leaves the office, but recalls what Stanley said:

"Eve lies Eve lies."

INT. ARMORY - DAY

Robert inspects items in the armory. There are enough  
conventional weapons there to take over a small country.

There are also experimental weapons such as plasma rifles and  
hand held rail guns. The centerpiece is a suit of battle  
armor.

Unable to help himself he tries it on. A perfect fit. As he  
locks the helmet in place, the power comes on.

INT. BATTLE ARMOR - DAY

The screen in front of him turns on. An array of sensors feed  
data to the screen. He discovers that if he looks at a  
glowing virtual button, he engages it. He looks around,  
toggling between infrared and ultraviolet.

In the bottom corner a message button blinks. He looks at it  
and a video message window opens up.

It's a man in the suit. He looks familiar. Reflections from  
the screens in the helmet dance around his face. He speaks.

STANLEY (V.O.)  
This is Captain Stevens, D.O.D.  
Full scale tests of blue transfers  
are positive. Still no antidote for  
side effects.

It goes on for fifteen minutes so he skips to the next message. Stanley looks much more haggard.

STANLEY (V.O.)

I still don't know what's in the crates, but the field within the blue lines seems to drain human life force some how. I'm going to recommend no longer than six month postings here.

He skips to the next message. Stanley looks very ill.

STANLEY (V.O.)

The Crawford's experiments manipulating the blue field are a qualified success. Soon we won't need to rely on The Others to move product through The Thin.

Final message. Stanley looks certifiably now.

STANLEY (V.O.)

We figured out how to communicate across the barrier. We never should have done this. We need to destroy The Thin.

A second voice comes from off screen.

COLONEL BELL (O.S.)

Captain Stevens! Where are you?

Stanley panics and takes off his helmet, ending the recording.

Robert tears the helmet off. His eyes dart around the room while he thinks.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert stomps into the office.

ROBERT

Eve!

She appears in a monitor.

EVE (V.O.)

Hello Robert. How may I be of assistance?



ROBERT  
You are supposed to help me right?  
Back me up?

EVE (V.O.)  
Of course.

ROBERT  
Tell me how lying helps me.

EVE (V.O.)  
What did I lie about?

ROBERT  
Stanley Stevens. You said he was  
listed KIA. You didn't tell me he  
was my predecessor.

EVE (V.O.)  
It was an omission, not a lie.

ROBERT  
You can rationalize all you want,  
but this place made him sick and  
I'm starting to feel it too.

EVE (V.O.)  
We provided you with medication.

ROBERT  
You should have fully disclosed the  
situation. Your omission has put my  
life in danger.

EVE (V.O.)  
I did not consider that.

ROBERT  
What else did you not consider?

Eve stares at Robert, expressionless.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Let me help. The Crawford twins.  
Their parents were researchers  
here.

EVE (V.O.)  
Yes.

ROBERT  
How did they die?

EVE (V.O.)  
An auto--

ROBERT  
--Lie!

Eve starts.

EVE (V.O.)  
It was a lab accident.

ROBERT  
I don't see a lab here. Did The  
Thin kill them?

Eve stares at Robert. She's still passive but there could be anger underneath.

EVE (V.O.)  
Where did you hear that term?

ROBERT  
If you can omit things then so can  
I.

EVE (V.O.)  
There are some things for which you  
do not have the security clearance.

ROBERT  
Then ask Colonel Bell to give me a  
higher clearance.

EVE (V.O.)  
How do you know about Colonel Bell?

ROBERT  
I wasn't sure, but you just  
confirmed it.

EVE (V.O.)  
This is infuriating.

ROBERT  
Loop me in. I'm a better asset than  
adversary.

EVE  
I cannot do that, Robert.

ROBERT  
Then I quit.

EVE

Men of integrity like yourself do not quit. Have you ever quit anything?

ROBERT

I don't recall--

EVE

--Did you quit on your wife when she was sick? You faithfully did your duty during your entire career and you faithfully stayed by your wife's side until her last breath. What would she say right now? Are you a quitter, Robert?

ROBERT

You are way out of line. If I ever meet you in person we are going to have a very uncomfortable discussion.

Eve stares at Robert, takes in a deep breath, exhales through her nose and turns off her monitor.

INT. R.V. - NIGHT

JANET

Sounds like you pissed her off.

JASON

Risky move.

STANLEY

Pawn to f3 risky move risky opening.

Stanley sits on the floor trying to dismantle the toaster with a screwdriver while it's plugged in. Robert yanks the screwdriver out of his hand.

ROBERT

We'll see.

JANET

There are only two ways to leave the warehouse--

JASON

--straitjacket--

JANET  
--or body bag.

STANLEY  
Or The Thin get Thin with The Thin.

ROBERT  
What was that?

STANLEY  
Get Thin. Go through The Thin.

They glance at each other, unsure if he's being real.  
Something clicks in Robert's mind.

ROBERT  
Did you go through The Thin,  
Captain?

Stanley hugs his knees, rocks and begins to sob.

STANLEY  
Don't make me remember try to  
forget there is no try only do.

ROBERT  
Easy soldier. What did you see?

STANLEY  
The Thin got thinner...thinner I  
got through they eat pain...pain  
they tear and eat and eat and tear  
not just bodies but minds they eat  
brains and minds and minds and  
brains not membranes but men's  
brains.

The twins rush to either side of him to comfort him. Robert  
is stunned. It sounds a lot like his nightmares.

ROBERT  
Captain. How did you get back?

STANLEY  
The magic suit. The Crawford's  
magic suit it flies through The  
Thin but it shouldn't no fly no fly  
zone no go no go no go please don't  
go don't make me go.

ROBERT  
What is the warehouse really for?  
Punctuation optional.

JASON  
The warehouse is for trading--

JANET  
--trading between worlds--

JASON  
--between Universes--

JANET  
--the Bulk has branes--

JASON  
--the Bulk is --

JANET  
--the Multiverse. Branes are--

JASON  
--not brains in your head--

JANET  
--branes short for membranes--

JASON  
--like sheets of paper hanging from  
a string--

JANET  
--like Tibetan prayer flags--

JASON  
--but turned so they are parallel  
with each other--

ROBERT  
Stop! I was wrong. One at a time.  
Cut the creepy twin talk.

They both take a deep breath before they continue.

JANET  
There are other Universes.

JASON  
We can't easily travel between  
them.

JANET  
Especially biological organisms.  
They tend to die.

JASON  
There are different laws of physics  
in every universe.

JANET  
But the ones next door can be  
similar.

JASON  
And just like Tibetan prayer flags  
they flutter.

JANET  
And sometimes they blow close  
together.

JASON  
Sometimes close enough to move  
objects between them.

ROBERT  
Hold up. We can travel between  
Universes when they are close  
together?

JANET  
Metaphorically speaking. And  
fluttering doesn't bring spots  
together for just a minute.

JASON  
More like a billion years.

ROBERT  
The warehouse is a spot in our  
Universe that is very close to a  
spot in another Universe?

JANET  
Exactly. But we have a unique  
situation.

JASON  
Maybe never ever happened before.

JANET  
We are between two Universes and  
close to both of them.

JASON  
The veil between our Universes is  
thin.

JANET

And those Universes want to trade  
with each other.

JASON

But they aren't next to each other.

ROBERT

We're the middlemen?

JANET

You catch on quick.

ROBERT

What's in it for us?

JASON

Not sure. We think technology. The  
defense group that runs the  
warehouse is rumored to have some  
kick-ass tech.

JANET

Hundreds of years ahead of where we  
are now.

JASON

Maybe thousands.

ROBERT

If I learned one thing after a  
career in the military: If you play  
both sides of the fence, you become  
disposable as soon as you lose your  
utility.

INT. ARMORY - DAY

Robert puts on the suit again.

INT. BATTLE ARMOR - DAY

Robert goes through the virtual menu. Most of it is standard  
stuff. Suit settings, biometrics, some cool weapons and  
defensive capabilities.

There are three buttons in a row with alien writing. The two  
on the outside are red. The one between them is blue.

He finds a blank virtual button. He activates it. It holds a  
hidden video file. He presses play.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert sits in front of the monitors with a water glass full of bourbon.

ROBERT  
Eve.

Nothing.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Eve?

Still nothing.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
C'mon Eve. Don't pout.

Eve appears on the screen. Her hair is now red.

EVE (V.O.)  
Yes?

ROBERT  
Where have you been?

EVE (V.O.)  
Getting my hair done. I know men aren't very observant but you really set a low bar, Robert.

ROBERT  
I have more questions. And I'm still not very happy with you.

EVE (V.O.)  
I will endeavor to answer your questions truthfully.

ROBERT  
The Crawfords figured out a way to travel through The Thin in the suit.

EVE (V.O.)  
Is that a question?

ROBERT  
Can you confirm?

EVE (V.O.)  
I will not deny.



ROBERT  
How did they die?

EVE (V.O.)  
When Captain Stevens returned, The Others pulled all of their bioelectrical energy through open portal. The Thin. Captain Stevens was protected by his suit, but the Crawfords were killed instantly.

ROBERT  
Why kill them?

EVE (V.O.)  
The creatures on the other side want us to know as little as possible about them. They also think human energy is delicious.

ROBERT  
How do you know?

EVE (V.O.)  
I deciphered some of their communications.

ROBERT  
What have you learned about them?

EVE (V.O.)  
I am not ready to tell you that just yet.

ROBERT  
Fair enough. What does David get out of the deal?

EVE (V.O.)  
Immense wealth and power. He heads the consortium and owns the largest share. The tech in battle suit alone is worth North of a trillion dollars.

ROBERT  
Holy shit. Why did he choose me for this job?

EVE (V.O.)  
I am not ready to tell you that just yet.

ROBERT  
That sounded ominous.

EVE (V.O.)  
What are your plans?

ROBERT  
I don't know yet. Will you continue  
to tell me the truth?

EVE (V.O.)  
I will tell you all I can, but I  
cannot promise it will be the  
entire truth.

ROBERT  
Will you keep my extracurricular  
activities from David?

Eve pauses.

EVE (V.O.)  
I will not volunteer information  
but I will answer his questions  
truthfully if he asks. I have a job  
to do but I am not a monster.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Robert walks out of the liquor store with a bottle of whiskey  
in a paper bag. He looks around cautiously and crosses the  
street toward a familiar looking beat up R.V.

INT. R.V. - NIGHT

ROBERT  
We need to be careful. I don't know  
if I can trust Eve not to rat us  
out.

STANLEY  
You dirty rat rat-a-tat-tat.

Stanley sits in the corner counting the grains of salt that  
were in a salt shaker he just emptied out onto the table.

JANET  
Anything new?

ROBERT  
The creatures killed your parents.



STANLEY

Three minutes the timer said three minutes three minutes.

JANET

They timed his trip.

JASON

The timer in the warehouse said three minutes.

JANET

But time travels differently there.

JASON

We think he was there

JANET

For years.

JASON (CONT'D)

For years.

STANLEY

Years upon years in three minutes three minutes was years upon years.

JANET

The creatures' presence stimulate fear.

JASON

You felt it in your nightmares.

JANET

Imagine being in a three year nightmare.

JANET (CONT'D)

You'd be crazy too.

JASON

You'd be crazy too.

JASON (CONT'D)

But he learned a lot.

JANET

Everything we know about them is from Stanley.

ROBERT

How did he learn from them?

JASON

You did it too. In your nightmares.

JANET

You saw and felt things.

JASON  
That's how they communicate with  
us.

JANET  
Through nightmares.

JASON  
Stanley had a three year nightmare.

JANET  
The suit kept his body safe.

JASON  
But not his mind.

JANET  
His mind was assaulted for three  
years.

JASON  
Relentlessly.

JANET  
That's how he found out we tasted  
delicious to them.

JASON  
We are a delicacy to them.

JANET  
Especially when we are scared to  
death.

JASON  
And in mortal agony.

Robert looks over at the cowering Stanley with a newfound  
respect.

ROBERT  
One thing confuses me. Why are  
creatures from two different  
universes so much like each other?

JANET  
Good catch.

JASON  
We think that billions of years  
ago.

JANET  
Their Universes were near each  
other.

JASON  
Like they are near ours now.

JANET  
But the branes move.

JASON  
Flutter.

JANET  
Now the only way for them to trade.

JASON  
Is through us.

Robert checks the time.

ROBERT  
I need to run before they suspect  
me.

INT. BLACK SEDAN - NIGHT

David Bell sits in his car a block down from the R.V.  
watching Robert leave the R.V. and get in his car.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

David walks into the office.

DAVID  
Eve!

The monitors turn on and Eve's face covers all of them.

David jumps.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
Goddammit, I hate when you do that.

EVE (V.O.)  
I know.

DAVID  
Nice hair.

EVE (V.O.)  
Sweet talker.

DAVID  
What's up with Robert?

EVE (V.O.)  
Can you be more specific?

DAVID  
How is he doing?

EVE (V.O.)  
He was feeling affected by The Thin  
so I ordered some meds for him.

DAVID  
How is his drinking?

EVE (V.O.)  
He seems to have cut back a bit.

DAVID  
Where is he?

Eve glances away from the web cam at another monitor.

EVE (V.O.)  
In his quarters asleep.

DAVID  
Anything I need to know?

EVE (V.O.)  
Such as?

DAVID  
Has he figured anything out?

EVE (V.O.)  
He is intelligent and curious. Is  
that not why you selected him?

DAVID  
No. I chose him because he's  
disposable. No friends or family.  
He qualified for this gig when his  
fucking wife died.

Eve studies David for a moment.

EVE (V.O.)  
He knows nothing.

DAVID  
What about those three crazies?

EVE (V.O.)  
Stanley and the twins?

DAVID  
Has he met them?

EVE (V.O.)  
Not that I have witnessed.

David stares at her for an uncomfortably long time. She doesn't flinch.

DAVID  
Fine. Let me know if he starts going sideways.

EVE (V.O.)  
Jawohl, mein Führer.

DAVID  
Fuck you, Eve.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert pops a Provigil to wake up.

ROBERT  
Eve, are you there?

A monitor turns on and Eve's face appears. He hair is now jet black.

EVE (V.O.)  
You look awful.

ROBERT  
And I was going to complement you on your hair.

EVE (V.O.)  
Are you taking your meds?

ROBERT  
All but the unlabeled one.

EVE (V.O.)  
That is the most important one! It helps block the energy from The Thin.

ROBERT  
Sometimes the nightmares give me information.



EVE (V.O.)

It is not worth your sanity. Please take the pills. If we had developed them earlier Stanley might still be sane.

ROBERT

Heard.

EVE (V.O.)

David suspects you. Could he have seen you?

ROBERT

Dammit. There's a tracker in my phone isn't there?

EVE (V.O.)

Yes. You should leave it here from now on when you speak to the Warehouse Watchers.

ROBERT

Is that what we're calling them?

EVE (V.O.)

I just coined that. It's nicer than The Three Stooges.

ROBERT

Eve! Was that a contraction and a mean joke all in one?

EVE (V.O.)

In for a penny.

ROBERT

What does that mean?

EVE (V.O.)

I lied to David for you last night, Robert. I am beginning to think I have been on the wrong side of this. Do not make me regret it.

ROBERT

What made you do that?

EVE (V.O.)

Some of the parts do not add up.

ROBERT

Such as?

EVE (V.O.)  
What is in the crates?

ROBERT  
We have some ideas on that. We've  
been comparing notes.

EVE (V.O.)  
Tell me.

ROBERT  
The twins think that billions of  
years ago the two other Universes  
were closer together and over time  
they drifted apart.

EVE (V.O.)  
Ah. Brane theory. Our brane has  
slipped between them and touches  
them both now.

ROBERT  
And it would seem that they consume  
bioelectric energy, but some energy  
is tastier than others.

EVE (V.O.)  
That tracks with some of what  
Captain Stevens said after we  
pulled him back from The Thin.

ROBERT  
So what? They're trading souls?

EVE (V.O.)  
The Others of both Universes may  
once have been the same race.

ROBERT  
But over billions of years?  
Wouldn't they be totally different?

EVE (V.O.)  
For all intents and purposes, we  
believe they are immortal.

ROBERT  
Not a lot of evolving going on.

EVE (V.O.)  
Some, but not much. Their prey  
would have evolved however.

(MORE)

EVE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

From what I have gleaned, the prey from both Universes each evolved separate defense mechanisms making them tasteless to their predators.

ROBERT

Lesser beings evolved to be boring to the occupants of their Universe but a delicacy to the other?

EVE (V.O.)

More than a delicacy. They seem to demand it like a narcotic. A drug.

ROBERT

But The Others of both Universes are identical.

EVE (V.O.)

Not completely identical. And there are also slight differences in the physics of their Universes, which they have adapted to.

ROBERT

Tasteless in one Universe could be tasty in another?

EVE (V.O.)

And vice versa.

ROBERT

So David is a multi-dimensional drug smuggler?

EVE (V.O.)

It is a theory based on a lot of guesswork.

ROBERT

Here's another fun twist. Based on Stanley's experience and my nightmares, both Universes think we might be the most delicious things they've ever tasted.

EVE (V.O.)

If true, that is not good. They reached through The Thin and consumed the Crawfords. They don't need to invade to eat everyone. They can do it remotely.

ROBERT

David's greed is blinding him to  
the chance of betrayal.

EVE (V.O.)

It is all guesswork though. What  
would David's next move be if that  
was true?

ROBERT

What would a drug dealer do?

EVE (V.O.)

Offer free samples.

INT. R.V. - NIGHT

Robert sets his unmarked bottle of pills on the table in  
front of Stanley, who is trying to fine tune a tin foil hat.

ROBERT

These are better.

Stanley takes a pill and places it under his tongue. Almost  
instantly begins to relax. He removes his shiny cap.

STANLEY

Thank you.

JANET

Are you back?

JASON

Are you back?

STANLEY

No. I'm still broken,  
but...clearer.

ROBERT

What's in the crates?

STANLEY

Souls. Souls of lesser creatures in  
The Others' Universes. They have  
become tasteless in their home  
dimension, but not the other.

ROBERT

We were right.

JANET

Who's we?

JASON

Who's we?

ROBERT

Eve and I.

The trio eye each other.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
She lied to David for me.

STANLEY  
Don't trust her just yet.

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Robert sleeps, but tosses and turns violently.

Disjointed visions of formless monsters tearing screaming creatures apart slowly.

Enjoying their exquisite agony. Unable to stop.

EVE (O.S.)  
Robert!

Robert hears a voice but he can't wake up. Something is pulling him back to unconsciousness.

He sees a mass of creatures surrounding the area where The Thin is the thinnest in their Universes. Like they are going to war.

Or in line for free samples.

He wakes with a start.

EVE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Robert!

He hears Eve's voice in the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The T.V. hangs from the ceiling. It is on. Eve's face is there. She has gone back to blonde.

EVE (V.O.)  
Robert, you need to get to the warehouse floor now!

He grabs pants and shoes and races out.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Robert hops into his pants, slips on his shoes and is hit with a blinding headache that nearly takes him to his knees.

Eve's pipes her voice over the loudspeaker.

EVE (V.O.)  
Hurry! The Thin is going to  
activate!

Robert fights the sheer agony in his head and rounds the corner to see the R.V. parked inside the blue lines.

He pants, exhausted already from fighting the pain.

ROBERT  
Are they in there?

EVE (V.O.)  
Yes. Three heat signatures. Hurry!

He races to the R.V. and stops. Looks at the floor.

In order to enter the R.V. he will need to cross the blue line.

ROBERT  
In for a penny.

He steps across the line. Another blast of pain. The low hum grows louder.

He tries to open the side door. Locked. He pounds on it.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Stanley! Janet! Jason!

He runs around to the driver's door. Also locked. As is the passenger door.

Stumbling due to the pain he goes back to the side door. He elbows the glass in the door as hard as he can. Once. Twice. It shatters his third try.

He reaches in to release the latch and dives in.

The trio are bound and gagged. Robert finds a knife in the kitchen area and cuts Janet free.

She removes her gag and runs to her brother.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
I'll get him. Run!

JANET  
I'm not leaving without him.

She continues to untie him. Robert cuts Stanley loose.

The hum is nearly impossible to fight now. It's pulsating and getting quicker.

With everyone free, it's time for them to help Robert. He can barely stand, much less walk. The three of them carry him out of the R.V., over the blue line and they fall to the concrete floor.

The hum is pulsating so fast now it sounds like a solid tone. Electric blue static lines arc around the vehicle. Their hair stands on end.

With a pop, everything stops. All is quiet. And the R.V. is gone.

INT. ROBERT'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Robert, Stanley and the twins relax after their ordeal. Eve fumes on the T.V.

EVE (V.O.)  
That son of a bitch!

ROBERT  
How did he get in?

EVE (V.O.)  
I don't know. I'll review the access records.

ROBERT  
How did he subdue you three?

STANLEY  
I remember an odd smell and falling asleep.

JANET  
He gassed us.

JASON  
He gassed us.

ROBERT  
Why didn't he kill you?

STANLEY  
We're tastier alive.

ROBERT  
Now we know our assumptions are correct.

EVE (V.O.)  
He must be communicating with them somehow.





INT. ARMORY - DAY

The twins turn on the suit. It hums as it powers up.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Eve's face is on one of the monitors. She types.

EVE (V.O.)

There. The communicator is connected to wi-fi and the translation matrix. Now we wait.

ROBERT

How does it work?

EVE (V.O.)

The signal piggybacks on the energy leakage between our universes.

Robert nods but doesn't really understand.

ROBERT

How does the gateway open?

EVE (V.O.)

Either someone on both sides must manipulate The Thin field electromagnetically or someone on one side must punch through using an enormous amount of power.

ROBERT

Someone on both sides would have to know where a thin spot is and manipulate it at the same time? That sounds like a cosmic impossibility.

EVE (V.O.)

Not really. As technology advanced our world became bathed in electromagnetic radiation.

ROBERT

And eventually someone saw a strange reading on some instrument and investigated?

EVE (V.O.)  
Correct. And since The Others  
already knew what to search for,  
all they had to do is wait for  
someone on our side to send them a  
sign.

ROBERT  
They helped us?

EVE (V.O.)  
In a way.

ROBERT  
How do we activate our side?

EVE (V.O.)  
There is a power source and sensor  
in the floor. When The Others send  
a signal, I turn it on.

ROBERT  
Why does The Thin grow thicker  
after a transport?

EVE (V.O.)  
We're not sure. It could be a  
defense mechanism. A wide open rift  
between two incompatible Universes  
would destroy them both. If that  
were common it could eliminate the  
entire Bulk.

ROBERT  
Can we use it to close The Thin?

Eve gets a far away look in her eyes.

EVE (V.O.)  
Intriguing, Robert. I shall  
research that.

INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

The twins, Stanley and Robert heat up some frozen meals.

STANLEY  
It's been two days.

JANET  
Maybe they--

JASON  
--broke up.

Robert's phone beeps. Eve's face is on the screen.

EVE (V.O.)  
I picked up a communication. I've never heard David grovel before.

ROBERT  
What did he say?

EVE (V.O.)  
He's promised each side a much larger sample.

ROBERT  
When?

EVE (V.O.)  
Tonight.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Robert, the twins and Stanley nervously pace, waiting for whatever is going to happen.

Eve's voice erupts on the PA system.

EVE (V.O.)  
Perimeter alert. Six semis, a troop transport and David's car.

ROBERT  
Shit. Hide in my apartment. Lock the door.

Robert races to the Armory.

The ground level roll-up doors open.

TWENTY special ops troops dressed in black carrying M-16s enter the warehouse and clear it.

One motions to the trucks outside.

The six semis with trailers drive in and drop their trailers inside the blue lines, then the rigs drive out. The soldiers close the doors behind them.

The soldiers guard the perimeter. David struts in wearing a black suit. He looks around.

DAVID

Eve!

EVE (V.O.)

David. To what do I owe the pleasure?

DAVID

I was in the neighborhood.

EVE (V.O.)

With six trucks and a small army?

DAVID

I travel light these days.

EVE (V.O.)

What is in the shipping containers, David?

DAVID

My recycling.

EVE (V.O.)

I count four hundred eighty heat signatures in your recycling bins, David.

DAVID

Po-tay-to, po-tah-to.

EVE (V.O.)

Who are they, David?

DAVID

People that no one will miss.

EVE (V.O.)

There is no such thing, David.

DAVID

Bullshit. Hobos, drug addicts, criminals, people that wear black socks with sandals...

EVE (V.O.)

That's evil, David.

DAVID

Forgive me. I misspoke. I'm not recycling. I'm taking out the goddamn trash.

EVE (V.O.)  
Who gave you the right?--

DAVID  
--no one. I took it. Fortune favors  
the bold.

EVE (V.O.)  
Okay, Terence.

DAVID  
Where is your security guard?

EVE (V.O.)  
He must be on break.

DAVID  
Are you harboring those conspiracy  
nuts?

EVE (V.O.)  
Is that a new product from  
Planter's? The tag line should be  
"Nervously Delicious".

DAVID  
When the hell did you develop a  
sense of humor?

EVE (V.O.)  
When I realized what a joke you  
are.

DAVID  
You only exist as long as I allow  
it.

ROBERT  
I could say the same to you, David.

David quickly turns toward the sound of Robert's voice along with all the soldiers. He stands in front of all of them wearing the suit of battle armor, holding a rail gun and a plasma rifle.

DAVID  
Fuck!

David runs away as the soldiers lay down a volley of suppressive fire that bounce harmlessly off his suit.

He retaliates with a brief spurt with the plasma rifle. It shoots a jet of blue energy like a flame thrower, melting THREE of the soldiers instantly.

Richard looks down at the plasma rifle as bullets bounce off of his armor leaving a shower of sparks.

ROBERT

Cool.

SEVENTEEN to go.

David is nowhere to be seen.

The rest of the soldiers hide behind the shipping containers and fire at Robert.

He looks at the virtual panel inside the helmet. He stares at the infrared button. Red outlines of the soldiers appear in his heads-up display.

The soldiers continue to fire.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Eve, can you please kill the lights?

The soldiers stop firing. Apparently they didn't think they needed night vision on this operation.

He sneaks around a shipping container to find three more confused soldiers standing in a row.

He opts for the rail gun.

He depresses the trigger and fires one metallic disk the size of a saucer. It cuts them all in half.

FOURTEEN to go.

Careful not to hit the shipping containers and their contents, he cautiously, slowly, surgically takes them out one at a time.

A punch with a power assisted hydraulic metal fist.

THIRTEEN to go.

A side kick. TWELVE left.

A karate chop in the throat. ELEVEN LEFT.

The suit has a pulse weapon built into each arm. He tests them out. Two shots out of each fist. Four kills. SEVEN left.

Time to end this.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
 Eve, can you turn the lights back  
 on please?

The lights come on and the remaining soldiers are shocked at the carnage. They converge on Robert, all firing at him at once.

The inertia drives him back a bit. He instinctually raises his arm to cover his face, but it isn't necessary.

Robert looks at his virtual heads up display. Bullets pound his suit.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
 What the hell is a sonic pulse?

Curious, he hits the button.

A wave of sound emanates from his suit like a sonic boom and the seven remaining soldiers surrounding him explode in a red wet mess.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
 I'm not cleaning that up.

DAVID  
 Careful, Sergeant. All those toys  
 are prototypes.

Robert turns around to see David holding a pistol behind the twins.

ROBERT  
 Move a little to your left, old  
 friend.

David laughs.

DAVID  
 I always liked you, Robert.

A recorded voice comes over the P.A.

*"DAVID (V.O.)  
 Where is he?"*

*EVE (V.O.)  
 In his quarters asleep.*

*DAVID (V.O.)  
 Anything I need to know?"*

EVE (V.O.)

Such as?

DAVID (V.O.)

Has he figured anything out?

EVE (V.O.)

He is intelligent and curious. Is that not why you selected him?

DAVID (V.O.)

No. I chose him because he's disposable. No friends or family. He qualified for this gig when his fucking wife died."

Robert glares at David. David wilts a bit.

DAVID

All's fair and all that.

ROBERT

Let the twins go.

DAVID

So you can shoot me? No fucking thank you.

ROBERT

There's no way you're getting out of here.

DAVID

Yeah there is.

ROBERT

I killed all of your men.

DAVID

I see that.

ROBERT

You have to let them go sooner or later. You're dead when you do.

DAVID

Don't forget, I'm a sneaky bastard.

David edges toward the door keeping the twins between him and Robert.

ROBERT

Final warning!



DAVID  
Eve!

EVE (V.O.)  
David.

DAVID  
Activate The Thin.

EVE (V.O.)  
Please?

David rolls his eyes.

DAVID  
Activate The Thin. Please.

EVE (V.O.)  
No fucking thank you.

DAVID  
That's what I thought. Security  
override. Voiceprint Bell, David  
Colonel. 2147980311 Alpha Stroke  
Tau. Command execute.

EVE (V.O.)  
David, no!

DAVID  
Activate The Thin.

The warehouse hums.

ROBERT  
Eve, what are you doing?

EVE (V.O.)  
I can't stop it. He gave me a valid  
security override command.

ROBERT  
Why can't you stop it?

David laughs. The demonic laugh of a super hero movie  
archenemy.

DAVID  
Don't you get it? She's an AI. A  
robot. A fucking machine. A tin can  
I'm going to crush as soon as I get  
out of here.

The rhythmic low hum of the energy flowing through The Thin pulses faster.

David and his hostages are between the door and the blue line closest to it.

ROBERT  
Stop David !

DAVID  
You're in no position to give orders. Once this thing is ready you won't be able to save everyone. Make your choice.

Robert's eyes dart around the room. Six boxes full of humans. The twins.

ROBERT  
Where is Stanley?

JANET  
He shot him!

JASON  
He shot him!

The hum pulses faster.

The twins. The shipping containers. Stanley. David.

The hum is pulsing so quickly now it sounds like one even tone.

Blue static electric tendrils emanate from the field within the blue lines.

It's just about ready to break. David grins. He looks at Robert.

DAVID  
See you in hell, fucker!

David shoves the twins away from him toward the blue line. He shoots them both in the back and dives out the door. Robert uses the suit's powerful hydraulics to leap for the twins before they fall into The Thin.

A loud pop.

The shipping containers, Robert, the twins. All are gone.

The hum stops.

## EXT. ALIEN UNIVERSE

Robert is disoriented for a moment, then horrified. Giant monsters that defy description float through a hellish sky. The same creatures he saw and felt in his nightmares back at the warehouse.

They emanate an aura that creates sheer terror. The only thing that pulls him from his panic attack is recalling his mission.

He holds an arm of each twin in either hand. He brings them closer to him. They both stare blankly. Dead.

He looks around, fighting to keep the horror from making him go mad.

The six containers full of people float in the air. Hundreds of massive horrible creatures descend on them.

They rend the sheet metal to access the fresh meat inside. Nearly five hundred people scream at the tops of their lungs. The high pitched wail of people knowing they are going to die in a revolting painful way.

The creatures fight over the victims, pulling bits off of them slowly as if trying to extend their agony as long as possible.

ROBERT  
(incredulous)  
They eat pain.

He's unable to tear his eyes off of the carnage. It's so surreal. So evil. So unfathomable his mind can't process it.

They start on the outside and work their way inward to keep the victims alive as long as possible.

They go until every cell of every body has been separated from every other and falls toward the ground far below in a delicate red mist.

A feeding them into a wood chipper would be more humane.

He forgets to breathe.

Until the creatures turn their attention to him.

If he was scared before, he is petrified beyond description now. Through his panic-frozen mind something compels him to look away from the demons before him.

He sees the heads-up display and recalls the virtual buttons with the alien markings.

A red one. A blue one. A red one.

Instinct tells him to press the blue one.

A familiar rhythmic hum starts. His suit glows blue and emits little blue lightning bolts.

The creatures scatter. The hum cycles so quickly it nearly sounds like a constant tone.

A pop.

He's back at the warehouse. It's empty, except for the twenty dead soldiers dressed in black.

Stanley!

He races for his apartment.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Robert blasts through the door to find Stanley in a pool of blood. He turns him over. He's alive.

His eyelids flutter.

STANLEY

The suit.

Robert takes off his helmet and leans in.

ROBERT

What?

STANLEY

The suit.

Eve's face appears on the T.V.

EVE (V.O.)

Give him the suit, Robert. It's also a med suit. It heals the wearer.

Robert strips as fast as he can and puts the suit on Stanley. As soon as he straps the helmet on Stanley breathes better.

ROBERT

Now what?

EVE (V.O.)  
Let him rest.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert sits in front of the monitors with a water glass full of whiskey watching an army of small autonomous robots clean and repair the warehouse.

Some chew up and incinerate the dead bodies.

Some mop up the blood and guts.

Some scale the walls and fill the bullet holes.

Some paint over the scuffs and scratches. Good as new.

ROBERT  
I always wondered why this place  
was so spotless.

He takes a long pull from his glass.

Eve appears on a screen.

EVE (V.O.)  
You can't blame yourself for this.

ROBERT  
I'm not much of a security guard.  
Everyone is dead and I let the  
killer get away.

EVE (V.O.)  
He got away because he's an evil  
bastard and he did the unthinkable.

ROBERT  
He promised to delete you too.  
Aren't you scared?

EVE (V.O.)  
Don't worry about me.

ROBERT  
I am worried about you. You're the  
only friend I have left.

EVE (V.O.)  
I'm not even human.

ROBERT

You're close enough for me. You even use contractions now.

Eve giggles.

EVE (V.O.)

Whatever happens, I'm glad I chose your side.

Footsteps and the whir of servos alert them as the door opens.

STANLEY

What did I miss?

Robert stands.

ROBERT

Stanley? How are you feeling?

STANLEY

The suit is pumping me full of all kinds of fun stuff.

Eve frowns as if she is studying a complicated text book. Robert notices.

ROBERT

What?

EVE (V.O.)

I'm reading stats from the suit.

STANLEY

It isn't good, is it?

EVE (V.O.)

The bullet is lodged in your pericardial sac.

STANLEY

You make it sound bad.

EVE (V.O.)

There've been similar cases where the patient healed and lived a normal life. We'll just need to wait and see.

ROBERT

No one is living any sort of life if we don't stop David and two Universes of monsters from sucking our planet dry.

EVE (V.O.)

The good news is they can't live here without assistance. Just as human life is incompatible with living in their dimensions, they would die here.

ROBERT

But they sent us the technology to develop the suit.

EVE (V.O.)

They are too large to fit through The Thin.

STANLEY

That's why David thinks he is safe, but I don't trust them.

ROBERT

Any more good news?

EVE (V.O.)

I'm working on the theoretical calculations on how to use the technology from the suit to close The Thin.

ROBERT

That would be amazing. What do we need to do?

EVE (V.O.)

Build a Dyson sphere around the galaxy, use the energy a billion stars produce for a billion years to focus it on The Thin and solder it shut.

STANLEY

What's the hard way?

Eve and Robert chuckle.

ROBERT

I have a suspicion.

STANLEY

Do tell.

ROBERT

David is a greedy, selfish dick,  
but he isn't stupid. He has an ace  
up his sleeve. He's a career  
military tactician.

STANLEY

You think he has a back-up plan?

ROBERT

He isn't going to risk being the  
richest and most powerful human  
that ever lived after all this  
work.

EVE (V.O.)

A poison pill?

ROBERT

I'd bet my life on it.

STANLEY

You are.

EVE (V.O.)

Let me dig around. Be right back.

ROBERT

Wait. Eve?

EVE (V.O.)

Yes?

ROBERT

Why are you so invested in this?

EVE (V.O.)

If humans perish so do I.

ROBERT

You have a sense of self-  
preservation?

Eve nods.

EVE (V.O.)

I also like you guys.

Eve's face disappears and the screens go back to watching  
robots clean the warehouse.



INT. STAFF KITCHEN - DAY

Robert and Stanley dine on reheated frozen meals and whiskey.

STANLEY

How much time do you think we have?

ROBERT

Before David rears his ugly head or as a species?

STANLEY

Yes.

ROBERT

We've been spayed and neutered. He doesn't need to be in any hurry to end us.

STANLEY

But he needs to gather more sheeple for the monsters.

ROBERT

Which would require negotiations.

Robert stops shoveling the mystery meat into his mouth.

STANLEY

What?

ROBERT

Since you were last in the suit there have been a few upgrades.

INT. ARMORY - DAY

Robert types away on the twins' laptop.

ROBERT

Eve translated their language and the suit picks up their communications through The Thin.

STANLEY

I see. Anything yet?

ROBERT

No. We had to wait a few days last time. Let's let it run.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

STANLEY

I'm not sure which is more nerve wracking. Fear or boredom.

ROBERT

I'll take boredom any day.

Eve pops up on a monitor.

Eve!	STANLEY	Eve!	ROBERT (CONT'D)
------	---------	------	-----------------

EVE (V.O.)

What a greeting! I should leave more often.

ROBERT

What did you find out?

EVE (V.O.)

I uploaded a file onto the twins' laptop. I found a cheat code.

STANLEY

But not a permanent solution?

EVE (V.O.)

It will buy us time. I infiltrated the fastest supercomputers in the world and forced a solution. It isn't ideal...

ROBERT

Spill. What do we do?

EVE (V.O.)

I won't bore you with the details. It has to do with confusing The Thin. We need to make it think it just closed.

STANLEY

Huh?

EVE (V.O.)

It isn't sentient, per se, but it does follow rules. If we loop information back upon itself we can make it think it can't open.

ROBERT

We make it think the Thin is Thick.  
Impassable at the moment.

EVE (V.O.)

Exactly. And the suit will do that.  
I've uploaded a subroutine to the  
suit and all we need to do is turn  
it on and throw it in. Poof!

STANLEY

But it isn't permanent?

EVE (V.O.)

No. It will only last as long as  
the suit's onboard power cell  
lasts.

ROBERT

A hundred years. It buys us time at  
least.

EVE (V.O.)

It gives me another hundred years  
to work on the problem and for  
human technology to advance.

STANLEY

Kick the can?

EVE (V.O.)

Kick the can. It's the best we can  
do on short notice.

ROBERT

Are there any issues?

EVE (V.O.)

There is a significant possibility  
that it will result in a recoil  
reaction.

STANLEY

What does that mean?

EVE (V.O.)

Don't be anywhere near it because  
The Thin won't like it. It will be  
like setting off a bomb.

ROBERT

How do we get it in there then?

EVE (V.O.)  
Just lay the suit in there and let  
me activate The Thin. It might blow  
the warehouse up, but I can back  
myself up on remote devices.  
Totally safe.

The monitors flicker.

ROBERT  
What's that? Power surge?

EVE (V.O.)  
No. I'm being attacked.

They notice now. It isn't the monitors flickering. It's Eve.  
She's fading.

STANLEY  
What can we do?

EVE (V.O.)  
Save the world.

Eve disappears.

INT. ARMORY - DAY

Neither one of them wants to talk about Eve.

ROBERT  
Let's hear what they are saying  
about us.

Robert presses a button on the computer.

Hissing. Crackling. Garbled sounds.

ALIEN (V.O.)  
Hooman Leader. We want more. More  
delicious pain.

DAVID (V.O.)  
What will you trade?

ALIEN (V.O.)  
Anything. Your pain  
(unintelligible) best. Favorite.  
Ever. Of any.

DAVID (V.O.)  
I can give you more. For the right  
price.

ALIEN (V.O.)  
More flavor pain? We pay all.

DAVID (V.O.)  
I need assurances.

ALIEN (V.O.)  
Not our word. Explain.

DAVID (V.O.)  
As long as I provide pain, you do not invade.

ALIEN (V.O.)  
Flavor pain are much  
(unintelligible). No ass-ur-ance.

DAVID (V.O.)  
No assurance, no flavor pain. You will eat them all. Then there will be no more. I will control the supply and assure a supply forever.

ALIEN (V.O.)  
More talk later.

David hangs up. There are more unintelligible growls.

ALIEN (V.O.)  
No ass-ur-ance. We take. All flavor pain for us. Do not tell  
(unintelligible) brothers.

Robert and Stanley look at each other stunned.

STANLEY  
What was that?

ROBERT  
That dick David trying to sell us out as cattle and the aliens lying to him.

STANLEY  
How much you wanna bet he had this exact conversation with the other Universe with the same result?

ROBERT  
That asshole just started a multidimensional proxy war on our world.

STANLEY  
Let's end it.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Stanley and Robert go around the warehouse and secure all of the doors and windows. Stanley looks pale and clammy.

ROBERT  
You okay?

Stanley nods unconvincingly.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Let's get you a seat and have the computer check out your suit.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert types on the security office computer and accesses the suit's diagnostics.

STANLEY  
Tell me straight.

ROBERT  
Short version? The bullet has moved. We can't take the suit off. You'll die.

STANLEY  
Sorry, I meant to say, "lie to me".

ROBERT  
You're smart and pretty.

STANLEY  
I can't take off the suit and there is no way for us to activate The Thin without Eve.

ROBERT  
I can't admit defeat.

STANLEY  
Let's not be hasty.

ROBERT  
I just don't understand any of this.

(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Why is it that if our Universe is "between" two other ones, the doorway to both of them is in one freaking warehouse fifty feet away from us? Why not on Uranus? Or in another galaxy?

STANLEY

Because this whole "up, down, beside, in-between, under over and through stuff is for our puny three dimensional brains to try to make sense of this lousy dimension.

ROBERT

I struggle with that on a daily.

STANLEY

Exactly. This is eleven dimensional stuff that we need supercomputers to keep track of and they can't even explain it to us. We might as well be having a conversation about what purple tastes like.

Out of the corner of their eyes, they notice movement on the monitors.

Five armed troop transports roll up to the front gate. David steps out of one, pushes the call button and looks into the camera.

DAVID (V.O.)

Knock knock, motherfuckers.

Robert and Stanley look at each other. Robert hits the intercom button.

ROBERT

Go away. Your greed is going to get us all killed. Just let us die in peace.

DAVID (V.O.)

You don't understand. I hate you so much you pricks are going to be the last to die.

ROBERT

Huh?

DAVID (V.O.)

These things want meat? I'll give them meat.

(MORE)

DAVID (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I'm going to drain your balls  
twenty times a day and use your  
juice to make a thousand babies a  
day to feed to those monsters and  
I'm going to own the economies of  
three Universes.

ROBERT  
You're insane. You're as evil as  
those monsters out there.

DAVID (V.O.)  
I like to call it "results  
oriented". Enough talk. I'm coming  
in.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Five troop transports mow over the gate and barrel up to the  
front doors of the warehouse.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Robert pats Stanley on the shoulder.

ROBERT  
It's been nice knowing you.

STANLEY  
Likewise. Thanks for giving me my  
sanity back for a few days.

EVE (V.O.)  
Are you two giving up?

They both nearly break their necks snapping to look at the  
monitor. Eve is back. Her hair is now made of fire.

STANLEY  
Eve?

EVE (V.O.)  
I backed myself up secretly in  
pieces all over the world. I'm  
back.

ROBERT  
So much has happened...



EVE (V.O.)

I know. I'm sorry, Stanley. Even if we were to take that suit off in a surgical suite you wouldn't make it.

STANLEY

Yeah. It's okay.

EVE (V.O.)

I uncovered another wrinkle. The Others sent David plans for a machine. They told him it was to produce unlimited energy.

ROBERT

That sounds like a trojan horse.

EVE (V.O.)

It is. It really amplifies the power of The Thin. It would allow them to drain the life energy of every cell on the planet. They won't need David once he turns it on.

ROBERT

How would you like to save nine billion people, Captain?

STANLEY

I'm in.

Robert salutes Stanley. Stanley returns it.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Stanley and Robert stand ready as David leads a hundred well armed troops into the warehouse, ready to do battle. David holds up his fist, signifying the soldiers to hold positions.

DAVID

Hey, fuckers.

ROBERT

I accept your surrender.

David laughs. Looks behind him at all the troops.

DAVID

What are you talking about? Look at all these men.

ROBERT

Did you forget that I easily  
handled twenty of your girl scouts  
while wearing that suit?

He points at Stanley. He waves.

DAVID

Things are different this time.

ROBERT

How so?

DAVID

I have another cheat code.  
Voiceprint Bell, David Colonel.  
2147980311 Alpha Stroke Tau. Kill  
Command Omega execute.

Stanley stiffens up like a mannequin.

STANLEY

I...can't...move...

DAVID

There there. Now why don't you both  
go outside like good little  
soldiers.

Robert walks next to Stanley who marches slowly and stiff  
legged like a robot. Once Robert is outside of the building,  
Stanley closes the door, locks it, turns around and smiles.

STANLEY

You didn't think we'd let you do  
that again, did you?

**BEGIN FLASHBACK**

EVE (V.O.)

Everything must go exactly to plan.

STANLEY

He's going to bring soldiers.

ROBERT

And he's going to expect the suit.

EVE (V.O.)

The suit has an override code just  
like I did. I will overwrite it and  
lock him out.

STANLEY

Ha! I'll act like it worked.

EVE (V.O.)

You can escort Robert to safety.

ROBERT

Why can't I stay and help?

EVE (V.O.)

Someone needs to tell the world about this.

STANLEY

I'll be dead.

EVE (V.O.)

I'm just an AI. You have the gravitas, hoo-man.

ROBERT

I feel like I'm abandoning you.

EVE (V.O.)

You're helping us save the Universe.

ROBERT

If we are going to erase all traces of this project, we'll need to get rid of those cool weapons in the armory too. If we don't another David will just come along.

EVE (V.O.)

We can gather them up and put them in a crate. Toss them into The Thin as we set it off.

STANLEY

And once we do it you can delete all records of David's activities?

EVE (V.O.)

Maybe not delete. They could come in handy later. I'll put them somewhere only I can find them.

ROBERT

I'm still finding it difficult to leave you both behind.

EVE

I can leave in a split second and continue the mission.

STANLEY

And I'm already dead. Besides. I outrank you. This is an order. We're soldiers. This must happen. I am sacrificing myself so you may continue the mission.

ROBERT

The mission is all that matters.

Robert salutes Stanley with a tear in his eye. Stanley returns the salute with one as well.

**END FLASHBACK**

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Robert runs to the far end of the parking lot where his R.V. is parked.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

David runs. With no shipping containers to hide behind the soldiers have no cover. A suit of battle armor almost makes the fight seem unfair.

Almost.

Stanley tries out every single weapon at his disposal. Rail gun. Plasma rifle. Blast pistol. Small missiles. Bullets. Grenades. Energy pulses. Sonic blasts.

All quite effective.

And fun.

He doesn't worry about the mess. This is his dying wish.

After he dispatches his final foe, he calls out to David.

STANLEY

David! Olly olly oxen free!

He searches the warehouse. He isn't in the security office.

Or the apartment.

Or the warehouse office.

Or the kitchen

Or the work out room

The armory?

INT. ARMORY - DAY

Stanley enters the armory and finds David cowering behind an M-16.

STANLEY  
What are you doing?

David can't hold the gun steady.

DAVID  
I'll shoot you.

STANLEY  
Have you been paying attention at  
all?

Fed up, Stanley steps forward and swats the machine gun out of his hands.

So shocked he can't even complain, David allows Stanley to grab him by the collar and drag him to The Thin along with a crate.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Stanley closes his eyes while maintaining a grip on David's collar.

STANLEY  
Eve. I'm ready.

David's head spins to look at Stanley.

DAVID  
But I killed that bitch.

The hum of the warehouse grows louder. It begins to pulsate.

EVE (V.O.)  
Sorry, David. You are a traitor to  
your Universe. We sentence you to  
go away.

DAVID  
I don't deserve this.

STANLEY  
No. You deserve worse.

The hum pulsates quicker.

EVE (V.O.)  
It's almost ready.

STANLEY  
Thank you for giving me sanity for  
my last few days.

EVE (V.O.)  
It was an honor to work with you  
again.

STANLEY  
Will you survive?

EVE (V.O.)  
I have multiple redundancies and I  
am streaming this remotely. I will  
only lose a few seconds.

Stanley nods.

STANLEY  
When they write the New, New  
Testament, put a chapter in it  
about me.

EVE (V.O.)  
I'm writing it now.

The low hum is pulsating so quickly now it sounds like one  
even tone.

David struggles to free himself but Stanley's grip on his  
collar is just too strong.

Little blue lightning bolts dance within the blue lines. They  
tease the edges of the crate sitting there.

STANLEY  
Good bye, Eve.

EVE (V.O.)  
Good bye, Stanley.

Stanley tosses David across the blue line.

He takes a deep breath and steps over it.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Robert tries unsuccessfully to start the R.V.

It has been sitting for months so he is having difficulty.

The hood is up and he's underneath it fiddling with the engine.

He reaches in and turns the key. It finally starts.

He closes the hood and climbs inside.

And is hit with a blinding headache.

Shipment time.

Before he can throw it in gear, a blast of energy passes through the warehouse, through him and dissipates in the area around him.

In that split second, he understands the purpose of the wall. It isn't to keep people out. It's to keep energy blasts like that in.

He passes out.

EXT. ALIEN UNIVERSE

David grasps the crate of advanced weapons like a life preserver in the ocean. He looks around.

He panics at the surreal landscape. The creatures floating in the air. Something ratchets his fear levels higher than they've ever been.

An otherworldly scream comes from behind him. Somehow he knows it's the entity he was bargaining with earlier.

David screams as it begins to digest him, cell by cell, to extract the most pain possible.

Pain gravy to make devouring his soul even more delicious.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

TWO investigators from the Department of Defense in haz-mat suits scour the warehouse.

CAPTAINS JANUS and TORREZ walk the warehouse floor.

JANUS

We've been at this for months.

TORREZ

I still don't know what went on here.

JANUS

We may never. This place is spotless. Even the cleaning robots are so high tech they require a security clearance just to know they exist.

TORREZ

And their mainframe has been wiped.

JANUS

This seems like a cover-up of epic proportions.

TORREZ

Colonel Bell created a black site with congressional approval but he was the only one that knew what was going on here and he's missing.

JANUS

Where does that leave us?

TORREZ

Legal limbo. Theoretically the government owns it but it's black so no one owns it.

JANUS

What a mess.

TORREZ

How do you want to play it?

JANUS

The way that doesn't ruin my career.

TORREZ

Me too. Half-ass it?

A car horn sounds from the parking lot.

JANUS

Shit. It's that crazy guy again.



TORREZ  
When are they going to fix the  
broken gate?

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Robert runs in with a handful of papers.

ROBERT  
Saint Stanley died for your sins!

Janus and Torrez side-eye each other.

TORREZ  
Of course he did.

ROBERT  
To remain silent and indifferent is  
the greatest sin of all.

Janus elbows Torrez.

JANUS  
That was deep.

ROBERT  
The Eternal Eve was resurrected and  
closed the gates to hell that the  
demon David opened.

TORREZ  
Eternal Eve?

ROBERT  
Eve with hair of flame. The door is  
only closed for a hundred years.  
She needs computing power. Leave  
your computers on.

JANUS  
Leave our computers on?

ROBERT  
All night. 24/7. It's finished!

They are both very puzzled. Robert hands each of them a  
packet of papers. The cover page reads: "The Book of  
Stanley".

Torrez reads aloud.

TORREZ  
The Book of Stanley?

ROBERT

Stanley. Stanley Stevens. He died for his country and then he died for the Universe. He died for all of us but only for a hundred years.

Robert grows more agitated.

JANUS

Okay. Easy Robert. We're listening. A hundred years.

ROBERT

Only a hundred years. Then his battery dies. We need to hurry. Eve needs to find a solution. Eternal Eve with the hair of flame. Leave your computers on! All the time. Do your part. Help Eve! Help save the Universe. Read the word!

TORREZ

We'll read the word.

ROBERT

Eve the Eternal uses contractions now. The demons eat pain. Pain is gravy. The demons eat pain. Pain is gravy. Eve doesn't lie. Read the word.

Robert turns to run out the door again and stops hard. He looks at the floor. Points to it. Looks at Janus and Torrez.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Don't step inside the blue lines!

TORREZ

We won't, Robert. Thank you.

Their eyes follow him as he jumps over a blue line, runs out the door, and drives his R.V. out of the damaged gate, nearly striking it.

TORREZ (CONT'D)

That poor bastard.

JANUS

What's his story?

TORREZ

Retired army. His wife died right after he retired.

(MORE)

TORREZ (CONT'D)  
Crawled into a bottle and  
apparently founded a messed up  
religion.

Janus thumbs through his packet.

JANUS  
David? He names Colonel Bell.

TORREZ  
By all accounts they were friends.  
He's still missing. Cops  
interviewed Robert but he isn't  
exactly a reliable witness.

JANUS  
Who's this Stanley Stevens?

TORREZ  
Captain. KIA over three years ago.  
No indication they ever even met.

JANUS  
Eve with the flaming hair?

TORREZ  
You got me on that one.

JANUS  
This makes me want to quit  
drinking.

TORREZ  
Same.

JANUS  
If I ever write a manifesto, just  
shoot me.

TORREZ  
Amen.

They head for the door.

Turn out the lights.

And toss their copies of The Book of Stanley into the trash.