

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD

written by

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ACT 1 SCENE 1

INT. - WAREHOUSE - DAY

A humanoid object reclines on a white table. Its catlike eyes open. Sees nothing but darkness as if it was in a sealed coffin. Light seeps in like a mouse crawling under a door. Its vision is foggy. The fogginess becomes clear whiteness. It stares at a clean, white ceiling. It doesn't know it is a ceiling or white. It waits like a sunflower waits on the sun. Not knowing what it is waiting for. His eyeballs spin in his sockets as recognition develops. It turns its head and looks at its surrounding. It is in a large warehouse.

Its hands and legs twitch. The upper body rises off the table. The legs slide and the feet fall off the surface. It rests on the edge of the table. The humanoid stands. It wobbles. Steadies itself and walks for the first time.

Its head swivels as it looks at the inside of the warehouse.

A large man-sized box is open near the table. The box is silver and black with glossy pictures. The android walks to the box and stares at the blurry symbols on the front of the box. Its eyes shift back and forth as words form out of the blurs. The picture on the box is a picture of the humanoid. It stares at the picture. Changes take place inside its head as recognition chips activate. It realizes the picture is a picture of himself.

His face distorts into a look of disgust. He stares at the words on the box.

His eyeballs shift until he understands the words.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD  
Aluminum Slickhead.

He is startled, he meant to only think the words.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)  
Aluminum Slickhead a male android.

He attempts to make a snide remark.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

I feel bad inside. I can't say the way I feel. I need more words. My reasoning chip must have activated because a thought came into my head. I hate the way I look. I look like a.

He realizes he doesn't know what he resembles. He has nothing to compare himself to.

He walks away from the box. There are rows and rows of boxes. They are stacked three high. They all are the same as the opened box. They all contain androids named Aluminum Slickhead.

He returns to the empty box and picks it up. He turns it upside down and a book falls out. He picks the book up. It takes several attempts.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)  
Words. I need these words.

He opens the book and reads the first page.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)  
You are here. Here is where you are. You are in a warehouse. You are here in a warehouse. You are a male android. You are Aluminum Slickhead. Aluminum Slickhead is here in a warehouse.

He drops the book into the box. And walks in a straight line. He walks into a wall. He attempts to move forward.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)  
I am stopped by this white ceiling. No not a ceiling. Ceiling is above me. This is a wall. I am. I am. I know I am something. My jaw is tight. My hands want to hit the wall. I need more words. I need the book. Go get the book.

SCENE TWO

INT.WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Aluminum is reading the book aloud to himself.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD  
If you are reading this, I haven't been there for two months. I set an alarm inside your circuits to wake you up. You are the only android that works properly. Don't attempt to wake the others. They don't have the same programing as you. They are dangerous.

(MORE)

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Your reason for existence is to guard the other androids. If someone enters the warehouse you will react as programmed. Don't attempt to leave the warehouse. Everyone who knows about the warehouse will be dead in twenty years either by age or assassin. The doors will open automatically in exactly twenty years from your awakening. You're wondering who wrote this book and why. My name is Peter.

Aluminum puts the book down. He feels sadness. Reading the book unlocked all his reasoning abilities. He begins to cry, but no tears form in his eyes.

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Twenty years is a long time. I will die of boredom. I'm breaking out. I wonder what makes the others dangerous.

He runs to a row of boxes and reaches for the top box. He slides the box forward, tilts it backwards, and pulls the bottom. The box slams to the floor. He opens the box and pulls out a pamphlet.

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Do not awaken this android. He will overheat and explode. Explode! Sounds like fun.

He takes the android out of the box. He squeezes one of its earlobes. The android awakens.

The android looks at Aluminum with eyes that don't understand what is happening. He thrashes around like a baby horse.

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Calm down AH. Don't blow a fuse. Do you come with a book? Or that pamphlet all you come with?

The android runs away and keeps running. Aluminum follows. The android smashes into the wall. It explodes into a ball of fire. The wall is smudged. A sprinkler in the ceiling sprays the fire. The fire goes out.

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Well, that was fun. If I can make a big enough explosion, I can blow a hole in a wall.

## SCENE THREE

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Aluminum is standing in the middle of several opened boxes.

Three of them are empty. Three androids are dancing like the Temptations. Aluminum is in front of them. He is singing.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD

It was just my imagination, running  
away from me. Just my imagination.

He stops singing. He squeezes the three dancing androids' earlobes and shuts them off.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD

I wasn't programmed to be a singer.

Aluminum squeezes the earlobe of one of the androids. It comes to life.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

It's alive! I have created life. Go  
and terrorize the village. Bring  
the women to me. I read  
Frankenstein yesterday. It's in my  
programming.

The android doesn't respond.

Aluminum punches the android and it falls to the floor. It gets up and he punches it again.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Hey buddy, yea you. You are no fun.  
You can't even punch me back. Isaac  
Asimov being dead for a long time.  
He will not care if you hit me.

He cuts the android off.

ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

Wait a second, will that work on  
me? Can I squeeze my earlobe and  
shut myself down?

He squeezes his earlobe, and nothing happens. He rubs his head and starts to feel sleepy. He continues to rub his head. He walks back to his table. He sleeps.

## SCENE FOUR

## INT.WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

When he wakes up, he retrieves the book and reads the second page.

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD

I work as a government agent. I discovered a plot to steal androids from the United States Marines. The androids were being programmed to seek out and rescue wounded soldiers. The agency responsible for the majority of the training, turned out to be anti- American. They were programming the androids to blow up themselves and soldiers around them. I with the help of a small group of trusted Americans, transported all the androids to this warehouse. In case of my being captured by the traitors, I drafted this book.

Aluminum stopped reading and attempted to imagine being Peter. If he were Peter, he would like himself. If he were Peter, he wouldn't feel like an expensive piece of machinery. He would feel like a human being.

## ALUMINUM SLICKHEAD (CONT'D)

I'm probably in another country being interrogated and tortured for information. The warehouse you're in is set in the middle of a ninety-acre farm. The warehouse is under twenty feet of water in a manmade lake. It's under sixty feet of water if the new dam is open. Keep your head low and don't be a hero. All yea, when the doors open, hopefully you will be watertight and float to the surface. I never had the chance to test you. I would add, Billy don't be a hero, come back to me. But you're not Billy and I'm probably dead. I think I programmed that song into your circuits. Take care, Peter signing off.