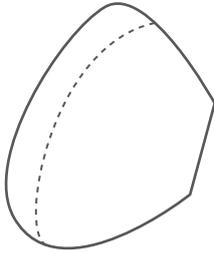


INTERIOR. DAY.

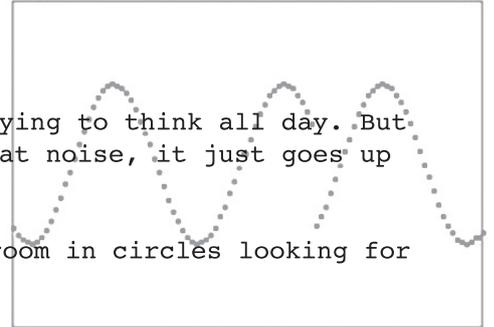
An unidentified room. All walls, the ceiling and the floor are white. There are no windows, only space. There is no visible light source although the whole room is flooded in light. SAM is sitting. ALEX barges in, stops, and leans against a wall.



ALEX
Can you still hear it?

SAM
What are you talking about?

ALEX
I'm trying to think. I've been trying to think all day. But that ringing just never stops. That noise, it just goes up and down, over and over.



Silence. Alex starts moving around the room in circles looking for something.

SAM
Just ignore it. You'll see it can even become pleasant.

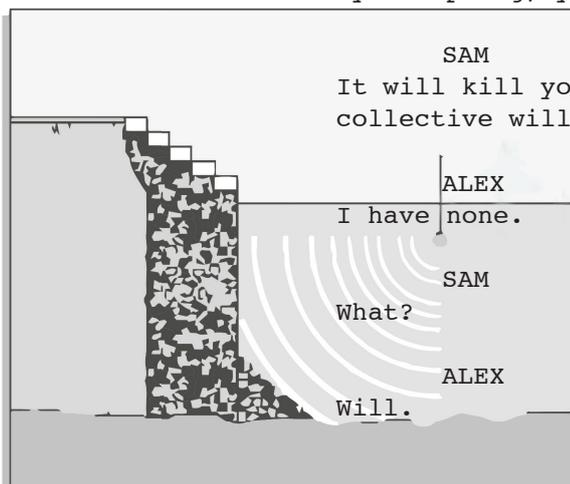
ALEX
How can you say that? You're like inviting it in! It's everywhere. We are nodes for it to disperse through. It occupies all of its surrounding space but has no shape or volume. It penetrates and infests us, then expands through us.

Sam doesn't seem concerned.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Don't you care?

SAM
No. I accept it. It comforts me. You should use it, live with it. Grow through it. There is no other way to go. Being everywhere. You should try. Sometimes I even forget it is here. It is only when I fight it that I suffer from it.

ALEX
But, you do know it is only a fiction, right? You are only a vessel. A vector. It is a lie, it lays you down. By accepting, you are worthless. You are unarmed.



SAM
It will kill you. It is how I exist... Through it we become a collective will. We are one.

ALEX
I have none.

SAM
What?

ALEX
Will.

Short silence



ALEX (CONT'D)

I can't choose when I want or don't want to hear it. I don't need to know all my surroundings. I can hear it bouncing on each surface around us. I have a million particles bouncing in and out of my body. You don't choose anymore.

Alex goes towards the wall closest to him.

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ALEX (CONT'D)

I should feel shielded here. I can feel the buzzing, it got closer.

Alex sticks his ear to the wall.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I can't think, I can't talk anymore. It's obsessing. I would like to express myself without this perpetual noise. It's like not hearing my own voice. I don't want it to cover me or speak through me.

SAM

At least you don't need to accept it to be anywhere and nowhere at the same time. You keep talking about it. Talking about it is recognizing it. Listen to yourself occupying my space! That's it, you disperse yourself, and now we don't even know what we're talking about.

ALEX

I'm not only dispersing myself, I spread and distribute words that you give me back, you augment them. The only difference is that my language is direct, it doesn't require the use of an external body. I am not occupying the space, I am making space; space for us to discuss. I can accept that our words resonate through us, but I can't just relay an energy without understanding it. [PAUSE] What matters is the trace your voice leaves behind you when you're gone. And you, your silence is so present it could fill the void...

SAM

I am not silent. I'm thinking, choosing and matching my thoughts to our space. Hopefully it will then make sense. You're only talking about your possibilities when I'm trying to occupy a non physical body. Occupying is embodying.

ALEX

What are we talking about? You see, you're trying to make me forget about that noise. I won't let you do so. I don't want to forget, I want to solve it. I can hear it echoing through this room. There is no point in covering it. If I let you do so, I will end up like you. I will forget it is here with us.

SAM (INTERRUPTING)

I don't forget. I embrace.

