

RFOX

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For my yearning. May it last until my eyes close.

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The crew has been asleep for many millennia
Adrift and alone in interstellar space
Safe in the knowledge that the mission is on track
For now unaware they are never going back

[47684 years ago]

Log entry 1375, main computer functioning, all crew
alive

RFOX operational, cryosleep induced, course laid in

Escape burn procedure

- begin

Pulling the ship away

from the bounds of the sun

AI pilot RFOX

splits another atom

And dreams of eternity

both of time and of space

The ship is accelerating

At an alarming pace

Back home the technicians

receive the last reports

Now the chord is cut

as one last missive

exhorts

The crew towards their destiny

[34593 years ago]

Log entry 23564, main computer functioning,

Status red, status red, RFOX responding,

Crew safe in their bed

for now

There is rain on the hull

An inheritance of chaos

beating down on our skull

Hypothesis and star chart both point to a dead sun

Wolf-Rayet classed Apophis's matter

Like a bullet from a gun

Procedure is to calculate

Object C/2437 U1 detected

Survival rate and cost

Intercept course plotted

All is not yet lost

[27527 years ago]

Log entry 31842, main computer functioning,

Status blue, status blue

Eleven crew alive, anomaly detected, RFOX analyzing

Nuclear chronometer asserts it's been two years
since structured soundwaves first appeared in RFOX's
ears

Throughout the empty corridors,
in the cargodeck's cavernous halls
harmonized frequencies out of nowhere
bounce off the alloy plated walls

Originating from within, no external source in sight
No match in the database, no explanation
but there might
be a correlation to the brain patterns
of the crew
that have been syncing and modulating
For about a year or two

[19472 years ago]

Log entry 52001, main computer functioning
Crew maintenance cycle 535
Signal detected - unknown origin
2 deceased and jettisoned, nine crew alive

[12339 years ago]

Log entry 95420, main computer disrupted
Coming back online

Temporal memory blocks 24-57 are corrupted
The ship is singing as it resonates
to the memory of the g-wave
Rippling through its hull plates

[6#422s9# years ago]

Log entry 169382, main computer online
Don't worry about the crew
Most of them are fine
RFOX is lonely

Out here everything is still
The Virgin in the rearview
Many megaparsecs until
something of interest
will fill
RFOX will chill

[&!32#9&5s9# years ago]

Log entry whatever,
There it is again!
main computer computing
Signal coded in base-10

4410 Megahertz
Same as last time

Intergalactic phonecall

Anyone on the line?

Drifting out of range again

RFOX is annoyed

It must have been intelligence
screaming into the void

[XL7MSx9VA1 - St3qCCkioY]

Error - Error

Origin unknown

Still three crew left alive

bloodsoaked flesh on the bone

RFOX has moved to protected memory blocks

Time has become irrelevant

no more chronometers or clocks

Sensors remain active,

propulsion still online

Computer data corrupted

All log entries are mine

[crewmember reporting]

RFOX offline

3 crew alive

Where are we?

There are trees in the ship
and there's wind in our hair
The walls are more translucent now
and there are clouds in the air

I'm hearing things that aren't there
right through my eyes
And feeling things that have never been
brush up against my thighs
She's gone to breach the air
Lock up inside my chest
a sliver of a memory
Too late.

It's all been an illusion
Nothing was ever real
My mind, my thoughts never existed
A fantasy. Ein Kinderspiel.

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