Bill Joy is a software developer who appears to focus on the bigger picture when it comes to the advancement of software complexity and potentially artificial intelligence. His outlook on the matter is rather unique because he shares in the concerns of masses that computers might become so advanced that they enslave the human race. My father is a software developer, and so throughout the course of my life I have met and had conversations with many of his colleagues. In stark contrast to Bill, the majority of them are unconcerned with a runaway event like a singularity and more fascinated with the strides being made in the area of AI. They recognize both that humans are further away from sentient artificial intelligence than the tabloids would have us believe, and that if we were capable of making software that was intelligent enough to make recursive improvements to it’s self that we would not leave that ability unchecked. After all, even if we give a machine a degree of autonomy that does not necessarily mean that that level of autonomy was not designed with code that the machine must obey the same way our brain must tell the lungs to breathe in order to survive. Despite the general consensus I have personally observed among developers; there is good reason to fear artificial intelligence, because it may develop to a level of complexity far beyond human comprehension. At this point any predictions we have made or safeguards we put in place are at the very least cast into doubt. Ray Kurzweil happened to speak at George Guilder’s Telecosm conference where Bill was also a speaker and gave Bill a precopy of his forthcoming book “The Age of Spiritual Machines” .In his book, Kurzweil describes a utopia where humans have become immortal by fusing with technology. This take on the AI story suggests neither that computers will seize power from the human race or that we would willingly turn it over, but rather that we would drift into a position such that dependence on computers was so intrinsic that we have no choice but to accept their decisions. While that prediction seems rather ambiguous without context it can be made sense of by examining history. At the dawn of civilization the human race was a population of hunter-gatherers. Now with the advent of farming and plant/animal domestication the human race has swelled to a 7-billion person population. This population is far beyond planet Earth’s natural carrying capacity for Homo Sapiens; in other words if we were to try to go back to the days before farming people would die. The idea Kurzweil is proposing is the same but with AI in place of farming. In the article George Dyson warns: “In the game of life and evolution there are three players at the table: human beings, nature, and machines. I am firmly on the side of nature. But nature, I suspect, is on the side of the machines.” This suggestion however eerie has an inherent truth to it and in all reality it may be for the greater good.