

## Here Begins the *Interview with the Devil*



*Q* I have uncovered the secret code by which I can pick up your thoughts. I have come to ask you some very plain questions. I demand that you give me direct and truthful answers. Are you ready for the interview, Mr. Devil?

*A* Yes, I am ready, but you must address me with more respect. During this interview you will address me as “Your Majesty.”

*Q* By what right do you demand such royal respect?

*A* You should know I control 98 percent of the people of your world. Do you not think that entitles me to rate as royalty?

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I had an extremely adverse reaction to hearing the Devil referred to as “Your Majesty” when I first read this interview. Then I realized that Hill probably intended to create just that reaction . . . and I read on. And, of course, the text does not reflect whether Hill might have used an ironic or sarcastic tone when so addressing the Devil.

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