*Both start out already sitting. Luus has a coffee cup in front of them. Namo doesn’t, and is sitting in a way as to engage Luus in conversation.*

NAMO

Sorry, took me awhile to get here.

LUUS *(takes a moment to reply)*

I don’t mind. I’d only really just ordered myself. A coffee. {with milk} You still drink, right?

NAMO

Coffee, right! Yes. I do, of course. Nothing keeps you as lucid {awake expression} as caffeine.

Let me just order {menu} right now.

*(motions physically for the waiter)* [black, make it pipecleaner]

[I’m surprised]

*(drops hand slightly)* Right yeah [guess that’s unexpected].

You’d think I’d just {operation room} implanted. It’s hard getting used to. [even after 3 years] [Of course]

LUUS

[Hold on] I don’t want you to misunderstand. Body expression {flashes of different body language, ~5} is a powerful thing. That’s the one thing I miss from before {life before, high school age? On campus?} implanting. And you’ve always been particularly expressive {NAMO expression? Laughter photo?}. It won’t be easy to weed out.

NAMO

That’s not embarrassing at all. Thanks.

[I’m not really sure how to respond to this] [Just an observation]

So - what’s been up with you these past {college life flashes, ~5} two years.

[Has it really been that long?] {calendar} [Yeah, haven’t seen you in awhile.]

LUUS

I’m honestly not surprised. I must have lost track somewhere {worklife}. You know how easy it is nowadays. Time seems to be getting more fluid by the day {more worklife}. [A progressively flawed concept] [Go with the flow]

NAMO *(motions to laugh)*

It’s always been like this with you. Expunge the small talk to hell. [That is the way it goes] [A lot to talk about] College days {college life, one each}. Remember those? [Of all things?] [Different times] Doing nothing was something else, then. Not that we didn’t have a lot on our minds then too.

LUUS

I like to think of it. But to think about it now: it was hardly of merit to anyone. [That’s harsh] The concerns we had then don’t really apply to what is actually going on around us.

NAMO

[A nice transition to the more relevant] You’re still working for [Subsupplier?] {corporate} the Subsupplier? [Yes] So you’re at the top of the world. {big building seen from below} What does that look like?

LUUS

[Funny] Things haven’t changed that much. [You should’ve stuck around] [Maybe]

How about you? I heard you’re back at the Polytechniq {college like building}. [back at the spawn point]

NAMO

Studying {books (digital?)}, teaching now {lecture room}, too.

LUUS

Didn’t the Polytechniq just accept the *first near-Natives*? {expressionless children} [It’s all over the news] Is it true they don’t know how to speak? [i can’t imagine]

NAMO

Very poorly. If at all. [trouble formulating sentences, sounds] Being connected at such an early age {babys together in room}, they don’t need to waste time on speech or body language. [Funny] Some communicate in such advanced [more like efficient] shortspeak: that some coworkers struggle to catch on.

LUUS *(amused)*

It’s not exactly a surprise. Each generation adapts to emerging technology faster than the one before it. These children especially. [They’ve got a head start]

NAMO

That’s what I meant. Wholly efficient shortspeak. I admit this. [still in awe of it] I didn’t think this level of communication would be possible. [True for me as well] Not as soon. And I doubt ever by ourselves [eventually, not never][dont think so, Im still struggling to use this, forget shortspeak]

LUUS

The good thing is. The design meant to handle such a type of emergent use {engineering room?}. But that makes me wonder. [maybe you know more of this] How much of it was instruction? Or the echo chamber between them? How do these infants mature so much [in so little time] when they have but each other?

NAMO

I think both. I can only speak for when they’re in the Polytechniq {instructors}. And they’re brilliant. Retain very well {classroom with kids}. And on a whole different level. But the stuff they come up with is problematic. [the consequence of getting implanted at birth]

LUUS

[I don’t see a problem] Why do you say so? The young pave the way to the future {cliche ad of people looking to brighter future with so-and-so company} [the new status quo]. It’s always been so. [hell] The expectations {workforce} for us were already high. Not to speak for the resultant trauma {mental institution? pills?}. [You move on] That's the way things go. We had to pay our dues. For the education, rearing, care, time that was put into us.

NAMO *(gets animated)*

Young, ever younger! [Too young] {little kids in suits? Or just youth}

*[You’re fine] (Luus comforts, Namo appears to start again)*

We’re looking at *teen graduates* {more youth}, Luus. I have a 7-year-old in the track {single kid photo}. It sees [but not quite seeing] - knows concepts {image of foreign concepts?} it doesn’t yet have the grounds to understand. [to see that is quite jarring]

LUUS *(cuts in)*

[Such impressive minds!] This I’ve always thought. The Khaarle methodology is quite fascinating {lecture notes}. [Curious to get your thoughts on that] So the child will sift through the information you provide it {cliche hacker text scroll} and fiddle with the most interesting aspects. Put them together in their infantile fashion. [An example] Something abstract. Grief {sadness}. And so what if it misunderstands grief? Will grief as we know it continue to matter {expressionless}? In their status quo {stats/graph}?

*(Waiter comes with Namo’s coffee. Places it in front of Namo, who is so distracted, as Luus continues.)*

\*transparency and conflict vignette\*

LUUS

You stand in a commendable position, Namo. To be the children’s educator and interpreter {teaching college}. At the helm of entering a new paradigm. [very exciting times ahead of us]

*(The waiter stands around for a little too long, supposedly interested by the topic. [Off with you] Namo gets annoyed by that and shoos them away, again motioning physically.*

*[Sorry! To have such distinguished personas visit. We are humbled. Welcome!]* {business profiles? Articles about them?}

Some people. [They’ll hear from there too]

NAMO (*smiles bitterly, next thoughts come off as ‘measured’)*

What we’re doing is imposing our logic [outdated] on them {logic tree}. We feed them our framework, and expect them to better us within it. We couldn’t be more alienating {annoyed looking kids}.

LUUS

How would you do it differently? To leave them to their own devices? Disastrous! {fear of child: still} Structure is paramount. Without structure we wouldn’t have been able to continue on. Would have surrendered to Gigacorp {gigacorp}. Or worse, perished during the Gelid Standoff {DMZ between Koreas?}. [The worst of all cold wars]

NAMO !!!

ON HISTORY/AIMS OF TECH

*\*START READING LINES SEPARATE, MORE ENERGETIC\**

\*\*LEVEL 1 shortspeak\*\*

NAMO

[i don’t disagree] The truth is. Their minds are still enraptured {another kid photo} [and so impressionable]. By the world {worms-eye view of city}. By what they can learn {world photos}. By what they can do {hand}. They’re children still {children}. But once they take ahold of their agency? The manifestation might be too much for us to handle {MRI brainscan}. [they will realize their place in relation to us] You brought up the complexity of grief, I bring up the complexity of us. We may end up having little relevance {generation divide photo}. To their idea of the transhuman {rows and rows of expressionless people \*the FF} [posthuman would be more appropriate] [i don’t see why]

LUUS

And what? Throw us away? [a ridiculous notion] We may be recent converts. But we are adaptable. [This is concerning to me] Where is this coming from, Namo? I hadn’t heard you like this before. [You’d always been an advocate of the technology]

NAMO

[I am] I am! The move to a transparent society was inevitable {patriotic/propaganda poster}. [as you said] The only thing that had gotten us this far. But that’s exactly the problem. [we may have outdone ourselves]

*\* corporate / privacy vignette \**

LUUS

In that same vein then. [It is inevitable] These children are our ticket into the next stage. Said to be the solution to the state’s stagnation. [jargon] Spare me, Mano. [especially since] You have to agree they will redefine our concepts. The concept of the state altogether.

NAMO

The state. A new state. Of being? [what do you mean?] [esoteric cosmology, superconscious state, transcendental consciousness, mind-melding, hive mind-] A hive mind? {connected brains? (from a film)} [is that even possible?] [that’s what i’m asking]

LUUS

Long way to go. Seeing as people still don’t understand each other {argument}. [even with this technology]. To imagine a point [In the future] where we become a society. Rid of misunderstanding. [misinterpretations] [and] become unified [synchronous] in intention [and ideology] [problematic] in all people {working together} [a one mindset?] [no, just clarity]

NAMO

I get what you mean. We’ve tried hardest to catch the elusive concepts. Of total transparency. [or at least] A common thread of understanding [to aid in defeating misunderstandings]. Public safety! Avoiding [future] wars, [unrealized] calamities [all avoidable conflict][though opinions will continue to exist]

LUUS

Must be doable. We can prototype it.

NAMO

There’s always room for error [for things to go wrong]. What about accessibility. [accessibility of what?] Control. Of the technology [the device in our heads] {hacked! Article headline} hackers, terrorists [mental hijacking. Brainwashing. Guided being] Not all follow in good faith. For transparency.

LUUS

Need. there is none [for malicious purposes?] [no need] Stolen identity. Still cannot bypass [biology-based] authentication processes {high tech security} [impenetrable method for identification] I know that much. The security branch has kept busy. [not necessarily effective]

NAMO

What about ill-minded individuals [affecting those around them?] those in different mind-states {jack nicholson?} [intentional or not] disrupting the integrity of those around them [you know about mutes]

LUUS

They are taken care of. [The Mutes. danger to public]. {mutes (homeless?)} Shut down devices. Inability to listen to us [or] project thoughts to anyone again [to be trapped alone in your head again]

NAMO

I wouldn’t mind. Would it surprise you? [I know]

LUUS

Getting back [to the hive mind] To get rid of the individual. A hard task. [it would fail] We come with our unique forms {diff people (character designs?)}. [with opinions. Actions. Responses. Emotions] [but when everything’s shared] I see what you’re getting at. Maybe pathways would become homogeneous. [flattened intelligence?] [or more complex intelligence structures?]

NAMO

Before we go there. [step back] We should consider. Getting implanted hasn’t changed us. Our thought process is still linear. [the intelligence structures, remained the same] It’s about focus {DoF focus pic} [conscious is limiting]. The biggest hurdle right now. [subconscious is limited] [post focus?] Even now. Ignoring the various stimuli. [proximity based thoughts] [noise]. The hiss of the coffeemaker {coffeemaker}. [none of that] our conscious limiting our focus to one task.

LUUS

Like all the generations before us. [single-tasked minds] [no multi-tasking ability] If [future generations] people can break conscious barrier. Make sense of stimuli. [the real goal]. [Stop focusing on single processes.] A [truly mental] multi-tasking ability. [disproving cognitive research of inability to multitask]

NAMO

Unlocking brain potential [power] {brain MRI}. Humans could expand intelligence [expand focus]. What are the potentials [of this]? [at Polytechniq] we research cognitive expansion {scientific illustration of thought/brain} [among other things] on an education level. We are already impressed. [not only you] The progress of near-natives. To a higher mental state. [are they there?] They’re closer.

LUUS

I can’t imagine[it’s riveting] So there will be higher sensitivity [more subconscious awareness] to other thoughts [and impressions]. We’ll be more connected mentally [not just local. The internet?] Forming more homogenous, blended thought-

\*\*LEVEL 2 shortspeak\*\*

NAMO [fueling expansion of intelligence] through multithreaded cognitive processes. [like a computer!] {processor} [my thoughts exactly] You wonder. About the human brain. [don’t we always] How would it handle the bandwidth [overflow] The extent of global thought {internet}? [local exposure levels can’t compare] [the brain is the supercomputer]

LUUS

That would be something. A global thought database {internet wires} [cloud-based network]. Populated. Diverse and self-multiplying. What we haven’t considered. So much stimuli at all times. May sensitize the population.

NAMO

[or] desensitize us. Hard to say.

LUUS

But we agree. Same-thinking. Same-feeling.

NAMO

Whatever that means.

*END*

[*Uberveillance*](http://www.eyetap.org/papers/docs/UberveillanceBook.pdf)

[*M<edia*](http://media-cyber-culture.blogspot.com/)