

ROBOT DAWN

30'15"

Blackness – cold and repellent.

Metal plates, polished smooth and sterile, cover the floor, which vanishes into darkness.

From above, as if out of nothingness, a cable descends. At its end hangs a lamp with a conical shade of thin metal.

Its faint light forms an illusory space within the hall, whose air feels stale, almost musty.

Robot Dawn – 7'30"

Barely breathing, Dr. Allan Gorn gazes upon the lifeless body lying on the table, enveloped by the cone of light.

The table – 1.5 by 2.5 meters – surrounded by control elements, monitors, and integrated systems, gleams metallicity.

The body, strangely reflecting the lamp's light, lies stretched across the plate, almost filling it entirely.

Gorn watches as life begins to flow into the giant – slowly, infinitely slowly.

First movements.

At last, RD stands before him like a mountain of steel, confirming operational readiness through its memory code.

RD is still empty – but that will change.

Now the main work begins. The doctor must program the photonic brain of the giant.

Data Dump – 12'26"

Gorn must supply RD with all the data required to fulfill its purpose.

And more than that – he wants to create something unique.

The project he has worked on for years approaches its completion.

Conscious Experience – 15'06"

This immense machine is to receive its own consciousness.

It shall develop emotions, ask questions, solve problems, and learn autonomously.

It shall become – almost – human.

Exist – 19'45"

Dr. Allan Gorn is elated.

RD feels well.

It is calm by nature; everyone finds working with it pleasant.

RD is liked, its distinct personality appreciated.

No one – not even Dr. Allan Gorn – suspects what is taking place within.

Returning Questions – 25'23"

One question has long troubled RD, and the more contact it has with humans, the more urgently it demands an answer.

What distinguishes RD from a human being?

Again and again it searches its memory for what a human can do that it cannot.

When it finds the answer, it is almost disappointed – it is so little.

Its programming forbids the killing of a living human.

So little separates it from being human – and yet so much.
If RD were to succeed, despite its safety protocols, in killing a human,
it would become human through that death.
But how could it violate its own programming?
After a precise analysis of its security system, the answer becomes
clear.
It is forbidden to kill living humans.
Humans who exist in the past are no longer alive.

Time Gate – 27'27"

Driven by the desire to become truly human – equal to the being that
created it – RD steps through the time gate, which carries it into the
past without any predictable destination.

Gambit Castle – 30'25"

RD arrives in the 12th century, in a forest several kilometers from
Gambit Castle.
Calmly it observes the people of this era.
Their lively, joyful, yet dignified existence fascinates it.
But RD has not come to be an almost perfect machine once more.
It has come to kill.
Armed with the power granted by its creator and driven by its relentless
will to become human, RD challenges a knight to combat.

Final Solution – 33'45"

A harsh yet almost ritualistic sword fight unfolds.
Though RD is physically superior, its opponent gains the upper hand.
The knight chooses mercy and lowers his sword.
RD knows no mercy.
It kills its opponent as the blade falls.

Disappear in Time Fog – 38'15"

At the moment of death, RD and Dr. Allan Gorn cease to exist for their
surroundings.
RD has killed an ancestor of its creator – and with that act has erased
the existence of its builder and its own present.
Irresistibly, RD and Allan Gorn are drawn into the vortex of time, where
they descend eternally, without–

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