

*The year is 3030. Two soldiers in partial nanosuits sit on guard beneath a scalding desert sun. They are guarding the door to an enormous and alien-looking dome and discussing what they think might be inside. They think they are alone.*

ANDY

Do you think they really plan on utilizing *whatever's inside* at some point?

RYAN

I don't know, man. My guess is as good as yours. Why?

*He takes a pack of cigarettes out of his pocket. There's only one left inside.*

ANDY

Well, it's stupid, but I just had this dream where they made us press that red button... And, um, we were the first ones to go...

*Ryan chuckles while lighting the cigarette and takes the first puff.*

RYAN

We've never even been inside. What red button are you talking about?

ANDY (agitated)

You know... This weapon must be very important to them! Why else would there be such secrecy?

*Ryan chokes and coughs.*

ANDY (CONT'D)

And we've never seen anybody entering through that door or walking anywhere close to it! So maybe we could be ordered to launch it any minute...

RYAN

Wait, Andy... You don't think they sent two lieutenants to guard an intergalactic nuke, do you?

*Silence.*

RYAN (CONT'D)

Pretty sure it's just some extraterrestrial junk our manic miss Captain is obsessed with.

ANDY

Maybe you're right. After all, it was just a dream... But why's that dome so big then?..

CAPTAIN GILBERT

*(her voice is coming from the dome, sounds slightly distorted)*

Hate to interrupt this little conspiracy club's meeting, but your smoke break is over. I see you two are getting too cozy out here in the sun.

*Ryan puts out the cigarette as both soldiers stand up, trying to find the source of the voice.*

ANDY

*(stammering)*

Captain Gilbert, we didn't know that...

CAPTAIN GILBERT

I'm sure you didn't. Let me remind you that you're here to report any danger to the object in case our surveillance system fails.

*She scoffs.*

CAPTAIN GILBERT (CONT'D) Automated drones will do the rest.