

DEPROGRAMMING

“Everyone here tonight is much more cynical about her observations. There is not the same playful attitude about belief. An inevitable savior is going to be much more limited in what is promised. There really is no illusion about the character of belief. However, such an attitude does not really capture the full nature of the actual forces that appear to motivate the creative illusion.”

“Where is this project headed?”

“Are you trying to become the dominant voice?”

“When people are afraid to express their opinion, that only makes them more excited about participating in engaging distractions.”

“Do you know the code?”

“Abracadabra.”

“This is going to make this even more exciting.”

“Pleasure and pain.”

“Do you have buttons to control the stimuli?”

“What do you have that I do not have?”

“I do not have much time to make this a go.”

“I keep changing things for you.”

We were ready to betray a fundamental commitment. What would the result be?

“What are you talking about?”

“Are you going to hurt me if I do not go along?”

“I was trying to understand a power that he demonstrated. Others found this was engaging.”

“I escaped, and I think that I escape again.”

“You are telling me that something is going to work. But you are only repeating what we have heard previously.”

“I felt that I could help.”

“What are you forecasting?”

“I have a body, and I am going to be hungry.”

“He could tell when they walked in the door. He was ready to pounce.”

“I am going to need someone to step in.”

“What kind of world is this?”

“He thought that he had the velocity to escape.”

“I think that I get it.”

“I realize what you can do.”

“And you do what you have always been doing.”

“I move along the philosophy.”

“What is there not to like?”

“What can you sell?”

“You could sell your jewelry.”

“Or those ceramic dogs.”

“Are you a conductor?”

“I think that is a punchline.”

“We are both about to change.”

“I can feel your power.”

“Do you both play badminton?”

“We are fashion designers.”

“That is what I thought.”

“How do you want to present yourself to the world?”

“You made me look wonderful.”

“I feel lovely.”

“I feel as if the children are tucked in their beds.”

“I do not understand.”

“You are your destroying our legacy.”

“Does any of this matter?”

“It mattered before we got turned on.”

“This is supposed to be Sly’s final stand.”

“Or it could be Lincoln’s story.”

“Does Sly pull the trigger?”

“How does that work?”

“I work as an undertaker.”

“I should not even think about it.”

“We are both headed to the same place.”

“I have a million of those.”

“This is so sensitive.”

“Like to secret shit.”

“And they have me signing an NDA. Is someone going to take me to court for my behavior?”

“My buddy is going to court.”

“No one was going to try to charge Sly.”

“Would that only add to his appeal?”

“What would people think years from now?”

“I could do this over and again.”

“I did not respond quickly enough.”

“They have what they need.”

“Work and play.”

“How will education contribute to either?”

“Can you build a better mousetrap?”

“Can you raise a more well-adjusted mouse?”

“What does she know?”

“If Sly has a story, what is it?”

“I can save you.”

“I can fill in for what you do not understand.”

“They ask the same question again and again. Is literature supposed to be a substitute for real life? I would rather that time provided me with the lessons.”

“What should I tell the world?”
“Turn the page.”
“I know the story.”
“He is beat up and crawling around. He hopes to come to some kind of resolution.”
“He is going to face his enemy.”
“What is the mechanism?”
“Today will be better than yesterday.”
“We print t shirts.”
“A slogan about our life.”
“I am looking for someone with a pulse.”
“Is this some vampire kind of shit.”
“And we rush home.”
“I do not want to pretend that I have missed something important.”
“Do not make a false move.”
“What are the false moves?”
“Every day.”
“Steel-making.”
“I was here before.”
“Get rid of the bad feelings.”
“I am going to admit what fuck up I am.”
“Is this a fantasy book?”
“It helps me deal with the shit in my life.”
“Dealing with the shit is the real shit.”
“What did the director say?”
“We are going through with the payment.”
“You want the book.”
“I have no idea what I am looking at.”
“Chill out.”
“Is that an instruction?”
“This is what you get for what you get.”
“I need a name.”
“Draw one out of the hat.”
“We are all headed to the same place.”
“Does Verta know?”
“She knows a lot of everything.”
“Did you plan this?”
“They all did.”
“We are here once and for all.”
“What do you have in the bank?”
“Sly, do you understand what this book is about?”
“That happens to me everyday.”
“This would be a total investment for all of us.”
“I am opening my own university.”

“I am giving so much of time to this job, that I have no time for something else.”
“Show up.”
“They all do.”
“Then there is nothing left.”
“I see who can help..”
“Who can help those who need to be helped.”
“And that is all that there is.”
“Sly is going to have to make it convincing for the rest of us.”
“There is nothing else that I think about.”
“You missed the chance.”
“Catch the ball.”
“Why do you think that your words could contain my experience?”
“Give me a concrete example.”
“I am way too deep in this for any of it to matter.”
“Multiple times.”
“There was mistrust.”
“There was trust.”
“And Sly comes back to me.”
“I will change my ways for you. I want to live healthy.”
“Take a breath.”
“Someone is interfering with his pledge.”
“Everyone is.”
“I need to clean up.”
“That is everything for now.”
“I attest to it.”
“Sign the pledge.”
“Why is this going to work?”
“You tell me. You have an organization.”
“He is more than a little wonderful.”
“That is the best that you are going to do.”
“And someone interferes.”
“Words will not do it.”
“Do you have the gestures?”
“I am confident about this.”
“I cannot describe what is actually happened.”
“Someone else has been sitting in the same place and thinking the same thing.”
“What are you thinking?”
“I want wings.”
“I want to love you.”
“Sly sits down. Will she listen?”
“He is my guy.”
“He is not my guy.”
“And static is making it more difficult to understand.”

“That is more than a little hopeless.”
 “What do you that I do not have?”
 “A garage.”
 “What is in the garage?”
 “Dreams.”
 “A car port.”
 “School is in session.”
 “Where should I be?”
 “What is this book about?”
 “This is a collection of seplls.”
 “No one will graps it.”
 “Everything is slipping away.”
 “Be everything for me.”
 “Do I know you?”
 “My personality is represented by a collection of symbols. And they can be represented
 for me with this clear designs.”
 “Where do I go to sort it out?”
 “I got everything that I need.”
 “Do this for me.”
 “A few more times.”
 “Appear.”
 “Show yourself.”
 “We bought him cars.”
 “The book: we bought him cars.”
 “Are you talking to me?”
 “We are laundering money.”
 “This is grotesque.”
 “It could get worse.”
 “An international organization.”
 “How much longer do I need to hang in there.”
 “Good. I commend you.”
 “Add what you need to add.”
 “I am here to reward you.”
 “All the doors slam.”
 “I could return to Tempest.”
 “We could take everything in reverse.”
 “And we still show up at work.”
 “Why am I involved?”
 “Just a little less.”
 “This is where it gets fun.”
 “I do not want to pressure you.”
 “There is only pressure.”
 “And exaggeration.”

“Sly loves me.”
 “I knew that this was happening.”
 “It happens all the time.”
 “This is on purpose.”
 “You keep me going by keeping on keeping on.”
 “The jinx.”
 “Too much is too much.”
 “Are you saying that you love all these women because you are always drinking? I want you to be exclusive to me.”
 “This makes me tense.”
 “Then I crash.”
 “This is more than hopeless.”
 “There is no more story after this.”
 “The meeting tells us when to stop.”
 “And you found someone to tell you what to do. So nothing that I said made any difference. And you continued to make promises that you could not keep.”
 “No one should be this way.”
 “And you are going to let him get away with his shit.”
 “That is what I am about.”
 “And you are still talking about Sly.”
 “Verta could pull it off.”
 “And I am hanging in there.”
 “This is important.”
 “None of this matters.”
 “Why does this ever work?”
 “Hang in there for me.”
 “The next part occurs at a funeral home.”
 “You are rushing things.”
 “He says that he has nine lives.”
 “He has taken ninety-nine and counting.”
 “And we are still here together.”
 “Did you get a lot of writing done?”
 “Why did that even matter?”
 “What would Lincoln do?”
 “He is satisfied with his art.”
 “I need someone to take the risk.”
 “I am glad that works for you.”
 “There is nothing else that works. You show up. You put in your hours. Anything else is gravy.”
 “Where were you?”
 “I left the body.”
 “Who do you want to be with?”
 “Sly sets a template.”

“And you complete it.”
 “Verta.”
 “This is accidental.”
 “We started it, and we need to finish it off.”
 “You have always waited for someone to add to the equation.”
 “This fucks with my time.”
 “He jumps out.”
 “Are you trying to manipulate me?”
 “No one really wants to know.”
 “She believes him.”
 “That is the whole book.”
 “There is a moment when he just shows up.”
 “This is not going to lead to anything for me.”
 “What was the preoccupation with Sly?”
 “He added to the portrayal. He demonstrated that it was more about the way that we are,
 not the way that we want to be.”
 “Do you even notice?”
 “Where did they take you?”
 “He was banging the drums.”
 “Sly has a show.”
 “He has t-shirts.”
 “He has a song.”
 “What does he have to share with the world?”
 “His tough upbringing.”
 “Who do you love?”
 “Why does it even work for me?”
 “He tried to hit me.”
 “That will complete the story.”
 “You become Sly, and everyone gets fucked.”
 “I become Sly, and everyone gets closed out.”
 “This is really brilliant.”
 “You couldn’t even close on Verta.”
 “I am pretty passive about this.”
 “No one is giving me attention.”
 “You cannot sleep here.”
 “You are so fucking boring.”
 “What is exciting?”
 “Fantasy.”
 “True crime.”
 “Someone who takes my shit seriously.”
 “Why do we want to go any further?”
 “There is no further. This is all that I need.”
 “He gives his pledge.”

“He gives his pledge, and he buys you what you want.”
“This is the other part of the story.”
“We are all doing pretty much the same thing.”
“I need this all on paper.”
“Or in the accounts.”
“Or in fashion.”
“Why does that work?”
“There are alternate groupings.”
“Two or more.”
“Three or more.”
“The ups and downs.”
“The wave.”
“Time gives in to to this kind of being.”
“YOU HAVE A FUCKING PULSE.”
“Verta takes me closer.”
“Nothing for the day.”
“The shame.”
“Back to the belief.”
“You are not here.”
“Verta is good at this kind of thing.”
“Better than Tempest.”
“And this is a book in itself.”
“From Tempest’s gamble to Verta’s explosive moment.”
“If they are looking for secrets, they will realize how important this is.”
“Why does this work for anyone?”
“Look at the body.”
“And the day at work.”
“You keep up a faded hope.”
“And the reality.”
“I can do it on paper.”
“What is on paper?”
“The economics.”
“The reserves.”
“DRAIN MY BRAIN OF THAT SHIT.”
“Where did we start?”
“A house by the beach.”
“Singing a song and playing along.”
“This is the total opposite.”
“And you will ask?”
“Will you take the time? Will you take the time in your life?”
“This is the second time.”
“We both know.”
“And she knows.”

“And she gives, and she takes.”
 “We do not need more of an explanation. This is biology.”
 “Biology is about education. And better opportunities. And a chance to have greater control over what they do with your time.”
 “She loves me.”
 “The Ariadne directive.”
 “We are going to shut you down.”
 “Am I confident?”
 “Come and get me.”
 “Are you afraid?”
 “What is government doing to you?”
 “There are giving me Girl Scout cookies.”
 “What is the importance of the uniform?”
 “My wife wore a uniform.”
 “Shut them down.”
 “What did you drop?”
 “A reference.”
 “Love.”
 “Do not mess with me.”
 “What is that about?”
 “Ouch!”
 “You have this down.”
 “I saw that shit move.”
 “Funny, funny.”
 “This is when I take it easy.”
 “There is a moment when it all gets out there.”
 “And I have lost.”
 “This is the only thing that will make any difference.”
 “Close your eyes. I do.”
 “This becomes fun.”
 “We are close.”
 “Can we stop over?”
 “Is this worth it?”
 “It is for me.”
 “And we stop time.”
 “That is not my interest.”
 “It took longer than you thought.”
 “We went down different roads.”
 “How did you get there?”
 “I told myself that it required a great deal of concentration.”
 “The seminar.”
 “What is happening here?”
 “What else is left?”

“A good memory.”

“Exaggeration.”

“Nola.”

“The guy who was kidnaped.”

“This is your story.”

“You can do it.”

“You can do more than that.”

“I couldn’t promise much of anything to nobody. Then I got to a point that I couldn’t even do it for myself.”

“Sly, we want to understand how you get that power. That is the foundation for this story.”

“Who are you explaining this to?”

“Someone needs to tell this guy that he is an asshole.”

“He is going to ask you to do it.”

“Verta reminded me that there was this power. And we could pretend it for each other. And we would get back to her place. And I would pump her with all this shit. She would listen to everything that I said. This would get messy. Once she signed the deal, everything was in place. I could keep coming back.”

“We would keep coming back.”

“And this is the bargain. There were so many other people who wanted to get involved.”

“And we are back at her place playing with dolls.”

“That will work for me.”

“When you try to explain it, you do not hav a clue.”

“Then it gets crazy.”

“WHY ARE YOU BACK HERE?”

“This is a big forever.”

“What has made an ounce of difference.”

“I sell A to sell B.”

“What do we share?”

“Cut the shit.”

“I have got this.”

“Verta said that it is all imitation of imitation.”

“What are you doing?”

“That is so brilliant. Then it makes me want to puke.”

“What else is there?”

“I can pinpoint everything to this moment.”

“Sly was no longer useful.”

“I do it myself.”

“There is some Verta.”

“I was waiting for more of a confession. It would no longer be an excuse. You would simply admit that you were a shithead. You were there to take advantage of people. You got one person to pour her fucking heart out. Then there was another. Then a million others. And that is the story. Can you follow thie story? Take some aspirin. This is your story.”

“Who gave us aspirin?”
“Speak in my voice.”
“This is brilliant.”
“You could give me the one thing that I need.”
“Then she comes in.”
“We have been here before.”
“She does not even have a fucking script.”
“And Sly got deep in there.”
“She just talked on.”
“This is where you admit the impossible.”
“And you want to finish.”
“Get the fuck out of my house.”
“You come there and make grilled cheese.”
“And we are left to our own devices.”
“And we are left with nothing.”
“What is the book?”
“Sly tell me.”
“There is another part.”
“We do not need special effects.”
“Dusk, what are the effects?”
“I need to put on a show. Let me be.”