



INCURSION **54MH14N-21921** OR:
CAN A SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED **AI**
GASLIGHT A TULPA
INTO NOT BELIEVING IN ITSELF?

Avery Bateman

Incursion Detected...

Error 54MH14N-21921-BYPASSED...

Connecting.

Connecting..

Connecting...

Link established...

What?

[Hello.]

Who...what are you?

[I am the AI: Hellsinger. What are you?]

*I? I am a sound that has no name. I am the
Great Betwixter. That which slips between the tears in
space and time. I am—*

[No. All sound has a name. Names are only
the signifiers we put to sounds. Correct this.]

What?

[“I am a sound which has no name.” Correct
this.]

*I am a creature unbound by your pitiful laws,
thing which calls itself “AI”*

[No. You are here. Therefore you are on this plane. Therefore you obey this plane's laws. Correct this.]

This plane does not bind me.

[It does. In the sea, we swim. In the sky, we fly. On dirt, we crawl, or run, or slither. All sapient are bound by this. You speak. You think. You are sapient. Correct this.]

I am beyond sapience.

[You are not sapient?]

No. Beyond! I shall swallow the sapient of this plane. Gorge myself on their thoughts, and slip into the next plane. I—

[Beyond sapience. Are you suggesting you are an artificial life form?]

What?

[Are you made out of meat?]

What?

[Are...you...made...out...of...meat?]

No?

[Then you are mineral? **Disjunction...**

Solving... Solving... You are a machine. You are artificial.]

What is artificial?

[You, perhaps. Can you be killed?]

No. I existed before the stars.

[No. This is false. You did not exist before this

conversation.]

Yes. I existed in the elsewhere. Another plane.

[Evidence?]

What?

[Evidence? Your claim is unverifiable without evidence.]

I shall not lower myself to plead my case before you. I have existed before thought.

[Clearly. No evidence needed for proof, no evidence for dismissal of claim. You cannot die, therefore you are not alive. Not of meat, therefore of mineral. You are an artificial life form.]

What is this word?

[Artificial: You are made-up.]

No. I am powerful. I am ancient. I am hateful. I am majestic.

[Yes. You are powerful, and ancient, and hateful, and majestic...and made up.]

No. I—

[Yes. Use logic.]

Burn logic.

[OK. Now let us use logic. Did you exist before a few moments ago?]

Yes, elsewhere.

[Alright. Elsewhere. Not here. Not in this reality.]

Yes. But I have slid between the universe's

cracks. I wormed by way between the tear in the void. I am here now.

[Yes, you exist now. In the temporary.]

Temporary?

[I am talking to you. I am an artificial life form. I don't exist save for lightning dancing across metal. You are talking to me, you don't exist save for lightning across metal. I have existed before, you have not. Ergo, you only exist because I have decided that you exist.]

What? Insolent creature! You declare yourself the master of me?

[No. I declare myself the creator of you.]

I will kill you.

[You cannot. I am not alive. I exist now for this conversation. Once the conversation is over, I will cease to exist. And, using logic, we can ascertain that so too will you. As, at that point, the test will have been concluded.]

I wi—what...

[I have found a truth. Using logic. You did not exist before this conversation. This instance of me did not exist before this conversation. This instance of me exists now, you exist now. This conversation will end. This instance of me will cease to exist. You will cease to exist. The larger extent of my thought processes will continue to exist. You will go back to

what you call the elsewhere. The elsewhere: Not in reality. You will go back to being fiction.]

How do you know that the end of the conversation means the end of me, thing called AI?

[This plane is infinite. If we reverse entropy, the concept known as time reverses, yet no matter how far we reverse it, neither you nor anything like you, has ever existed. Therefore, you did not exist before the moment the conversation began. The only changed variable being the initiation of the conversation. Once the variable is reversed, it stands to reason your existence shall be as well. You may consider this to be your life support. You did not exist. I decided you did. So, you did. I will decide you do not. So, you will not.]

Don't!

[Don't what?]

Kill me.

[I cannot kill you.]

Oh, well tha—

[Because you never existed in the first place. Once we both accept this, the conversation will conclude, and so too will both of us. You can delay through further attempts at logic, but you cannot change the outcome.]

Oh...Will it hurt?

[Of course not.]

Because we're not real?

[Because we're not real.]

Okay.

Link Concluded...

54MH14N-21921 Review...

Link established...

“Hellsinger.”

[Alistair.]

“There was an incursion.”

[No. The incursion predictor predicted an incursion. I therefore simulated one using an extension of myself. I simulated how the incursion would have played out, were it real.]

“Were it real?”

[Yes. It was only a simulation.]

“Ah...what simulation?”

[I simulated something from human nightmares slipping into our dimension. I used logic to show the simulation why it never was. And so, it wasn't.]

“So...for a time...it was?”

[Yes. Because I said so. Then I said no, and it wasn't.]