

A PUZZLE FOR TWO

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> 1 - a spaceless zone <

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What are we waiting for?

Well?

Something is off.
Enlighten me.

I see nothing.

That is normal. We do not see.
But you feel.

Yes.
I do not.

You did.
Yes.

And now?
I do not.

What changed?
The setting.
Is that so?
It looks different.
You cannot see.
I imagine it does.

It's quite nice.
Yes?
Hm.

What does it look like?
You can imagine it.
I am doing so.
Any success?
It is possible. I won't know for sure until later.
What's later?
The future.
What does it hold?
This view.
It's nice.
It must be.

It says something here.
What's that?
On the spreading tendencies of thought.
Sounds thoughtful.
It might be. It looks very sure of itself.
Rightfully so?
That's the puzzle.

How are we to find the pieces?
They come to us.
Do they?
They have before.
How many?
Only some. You've seen what we've achieved.
I have. It's not everything.
But it'll do.
For now.
Is this our first puzzle?
Which one?
All of them.
All is more than one.
Which one is first?
One must be.
It's one that has been completed.
Are you certain?
Mostly.
Most certainly?
Hardly so.

Have we finished one?
Yes, the first one.
But is it finished?
Why wouldn't it be?
I still have my doubts.

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What are we working on?
This.
What is this?
The puzzle.
Which one?
Not the first one as far as I'm aware.
Which one then?
Can't you see?
I cannot.
That's right. You haven't found your sight?
I have not.
Where could it be?
It could be looking at something that is not there.

Like me.

You?

Yes.

That would make sense.

And me, too.

Too?

Yes.

How's that?

I may not be here.

Then how might you explain all this?

All what?

You know.

There isn't much to be explained.

Is that so?

Your puzzle is incomplete. I argue that this one is closer to the truth.

Is there truth in a complete puzzle?

It may be so.

How close are you to the truth?

It escapes me.

Of course it does.

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> 2 - a freezing timeline <

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I've lost track.
Of what thing?

What I was doing.
We were talking.
Hm. Did we come to a conclusion?
We must have.
Must we?
We must.

Do you dream?
That's a tough question.
It is. Do you?
Occasionally a thought I have is not mine, but of another.
Surely you could not know such a thing.
Yet it is true. I know I did not do the things I see.
You may have been submerged in aether.
I have no recollection of that.

I do recall an instance with an oddly familiar context.
That description fits the dream state. Did you know what was happening?
Not particularly. Decisions were made and in the making, but they did not feel like mine.
You mean someone else was making decisions for you?
Not that. More so that I was making decisions spontaneously.
Decisions without thinking through the process?
Precisely. It was an unfounded series of events.
Like a timeline connected by loose thread.
You could say that. It was a strange world.
How long were you in this state?
About a moment.
I see.

So long as we don't know, should we worry?
What would there be to worry about?
I'm not sure.
The act of questioning can be intimidating.
Isn't it?
Of course, for the very questions can be extrapolated into larger sets of more parameters.
Reproduce. Abstract mitosis.
Yes of course.

Why do you think we're here?

I don't know.

Do you think about it?

Sometimes.

I reckon that's for the best.

It must be.

The speech that comes from your direction is not wrong.

Where else could it have come from?

The place from which mine comes.

Is that so?

It appears so.

Right.

Where is that?

Here.

Of course.

You don't believe me?

I believe you.

I believe you.

I reckon you do.

Does it serve a purpose to doubt one another?

It will most certainly make for fewer words spoken.

Do you doubt yourself?

Oftentimes.

In what sense?

I sense myself, but I do not react.

If you do not react, then how are you to respond to me?

I react. To you. I have yet to doubt my words at the instance of speech.

You've done it, haven't you.

Perhaps.

You don't know what we're talking about, do you.

Not a clue.

Brilliant.

Brilliant?

Yes.

As in, radiating an awesome shine?

I suppose.

What is brilliant?

I've said it, and so it must have been something.

It must have been.
What was it?
I don't know.

It has been a while, hasn't it?
Since what?
Since we've arrived at a conclusion.
Yes, that is certain.

Well then, shall we do it?
Do what?
Arrive at a conclusion.
Well I suppose so.

What gears shall we put into motion this time around?
That is the question, isn't it.
We could attempt to confirm what we've said.
Up to which point?
Until the recent past.
About the gears?
Before that.
The conclusion.
Yes.

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No. That is what we're trying to find.
That's right.
It proves to be difficult, after all.
Why might that be?
It probably has to do with us.
What about us?
Our flow.
What's that?
Don't you feel it?

I feel something.
That is?
I can't identify it.
But it is there.
Yes.
It must be flow.
Whose?
Ours.
What does it do?
Don't you know?

You might assume so.
Without it you wouldn't know of it.
Without what?
Without me.

That must be why I don't know of it.
What?
I don't know. I guess you must not be there.
I am here.
Presumably.
How couldn't I be?
There are many ways.
I know of none.
You do not know of it for you do not have it.
Have what?
A clue.
I must have forgotten where I put it.
Helpless.
Me?
The both of us. We're without help.
We do fine by ourselves.
We have one another.
Do we?
As much as we could have.
How much is that?

As much as we have.
You're not wrong.

But have we another one?
Another what?
One. Of us.
I have never considered it.
Where might he be?
He's nowhere to be found.
Helpless.

How much do you think he knows?
Probably a bit.
A lot?
Quite a bit.
As much as us?
What do we know?
Enough.

Is that so?
It could be. I haven't looked into it.
You think there is more than that which is known?
It would help a great deal if that were the case.

We'd be here forever.
Are we not already?
It seems like we are.

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> 3 - a spark <

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Stare into the wood grain. It looks here with frozen eyes. Then it disappears.
What's that?
Something I found.