

PROMPT #1: Write about a god desperately trying to get their chosen hero to follow the path they set out for them.

In the Control Room

by **Anonymous**

Are you seeing that?

Yes, yes I can see that.

What does he think he is doing?

Looks like – Hmmm. He is trying to launch a peace campaign. Did you get him to do that?

Of course not! I was trying to make him the hero by having him launch an attack on the _____ empire when the guards are down. But that stupid fool seems hell-bent on disregarding me. I can't take this anymore, let's go and have a drink.

Mithandres took out a bottle of a greenish looking drink and two glasses and poured it out to Cisternos. 'Why did we have to make them intelligent anyway?'

It was after the Great war. We created some really dumb beings on CLXVI that followed our every order but then the brogulodites used them to carry out some suicide attacks on our planet. So now we've created these 'humans' with some intelligence and introduced religion as a method of indirect control. It's cute really, they think I'm going to solve their problems and they pray to me and offer me sacrifices and all that, but they gotta solve their own problems. Religion is just for control. What is he doing now?

He seems to have got the idea that non-violent demonstrations outside the parliament are going to put an end to this war.

Huh, well I'm going to put the idea in his mind that

Mithrandes went over to a big machine, which said Thought Projection on top and spoke softly into it.

Can they hear you?

No most of them can't hear me. But sometimes they can – we introduce little changes in each new human to make them slightly different and they have unintended effects. It was useful at first, people used to consider them some kind of enlightened being and it would be easier to control them. But now, they're getting smarter - they just consider these people mad. I tried to get the disease named after me - Mithranditis but they went with some kind of ancient Greek name which I forget.

'Greek?'

Yeah, that's their name for their earlier prototypes. Back then we were still allowed to go down there and influence actions directly. That's why the gods they have in their mythology are more like us.

Of course the big meeting of LVXII outlawed it. Now we can only influence their thoughts.

Speaking of thoughts, look what he's doing now -

Oh great, looks like he's making speeches against the leadership of his country. I don't know how this idea of pacifism got into his head. He had distinguished himself in the previous war. I just want to go down and wring his neck.

What's the point of getting them to fight each other?

It's so much fun. You're new but you'll get it slowly. Besides it's also about collecting data to create the perfect prototype. These humans are slowly getting smarter - one of them made a movie about them living in a simulation. Human movies are like my favourite guilty pleasure, it's cute how smart they think they are. I enjoy them every once in a while with a glass of -- .

Hey, your hero he seems to have attracted a bunch of followers.

So it seems. These humans sometimes do some amazingly stupid things.

He now seems to be leading a non-violent protest about the war. Oh no wait, what's that commotion – looks like he's been killed.

Must be one of the guys of the _____ empire controlled by _____. He's always out to get me.

So there are multiple controllers of the humans.

Of course, different scientists have different goals. To borrow a phrase from the human lingo – They are just pawns in a chess game.

“Oh, look at that – they are worshipping him as god now.”

“Fuck’s sake, I gotta go start the Crusades or something.”