

- GREUNE:** Taiwan is under our protection. We have a defensive commitment to Taiwan. We won't let China invade Taiwan.
- STOSSEN:** But Taiwan, it just so happens, is the world's leading chip fabricator. Taiwan makes about 90% of the GPUs in the world.
- VICE PRES:** Shit.
- OGDEN:** GPUs are the chips we use in our generative A.I. systems. Graphics Processing Units. It's technical.
- STOSSEN:** Yeah. Taiwan has the chip fabs. And we won't let China buy any of those G.P.U.s, for obvious strategic reasons. We have sanctions against China making it illegal for them to import G.P.U.s. And China wants them. Badly. So I don't have to draw you a picture, Madam Chair. If DeepCent-2 really does go full A.G.I., China will at last deliver on its threats. It invades Taiwan. And when our ships try to intercede, they come under cyberattack by Chinese A.I.
- GREUNE:** No. Our computers have strong encryption. They're not susceptible to cyberattack.
- STOSSEN:** Strong encryption won't stop an A.G.I. It's smarter than us.
- GREUNE:** It doesn't matter.
- STOSSEN:** It does matter.
- GREUNE:** No. It doesn't work that way. It doesn't matter if it's smarter than us. It's not about being smarter, it's about –
- STOSSEN:** It's much smarter than us, Senator. You don't understand. DeepCent-2 penetrates our networks, disabling the shipboard computers on our carriers and battleships. The ships lose power and drift. Their scopes go dark. They can't even radio for help.
- NAJAH:** It's a theoretical possibility.
- STOSSEN:** What's less theoretical is what happens next. It's not theoretical at all. It's policy. It's a strict application of doctrine based on game theory. The U.S. has to assume that China will hit the homeland next. That China will take out our grids, communications, missile bases, missile subs, everything. And that means war. Automatically. Anything that tips the balance of power like that, any perceived major advantage by either side, makes war unavoidable. So the President gives the order. We enter the launch codes to empty our silos.

- GREUNE:** Bullshit.
- STOSSEN:** And so either our missiles launch or they don't, depending on whether DeepCent-2 has managed to disable them. If the missiles work, if they launch, it's the end of the world. Everybody dies. If the missiles sputter out, then we lose the war. Our silos, our subs, our cities, everything powers down. We're radically exposed. Naked to invasion or worse.
- NAJAH:** Yes.
- VICE PRES:** Goddamn it.
- NAJAH:** This is what confronts us, Madam Chair. This possibility. That this is theoretically possible. All of our systems are human-designed. Every time you turn on the lights or drink from a faucet, every time we radio orders to a fighter pilot or the White House calls the Kremlin, we're using a human-designed system. A system operating at the level of human intelligence. And DeepCent-2, in this scenario, is what we call superintelligent. So. Yes.
- GREUNE:** (To the others in the committee) Don't tell me you people are buying this. Our entire military, our entire company, shut down by cyberattacks? It's bullshit. It's fantasy. We have encryption that – our encryption is so strong that if you took all the supercomputers in the world and let them spend billions of years trying, they still couldn't crack the encryption. You think that just because they've built a computer that can chat with you about cat videos that means it can achieve these impossible computational tasks? No chance.
- STOSSEN:** It won't have to solve the computational tasks.
- NAJAH:** That's correct.
- GREUNE:** What are you talking about?
- STOSSEN:** There are human beings in the loop at every step. Human beings are insecure, no matter how strong our encryption is.
- GREUNE:** No A.I. is going to make our officers betray their country. Give me a fucking break.
- STOSSEN:** It's smarter than them. It's smarter than us.
- OGDEN:** It's smarter than all of us put together. We estimate.