

Protomen

"Keep Quiet"

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Joe:

I've seen your face in the shadows.
I've seen your face in the places I wasn't meant to be.
I've heard them whisper about you.
I've heard the men in the bars
And I've seen the women lock their doors at night
They say your eyes are on fire.
They say you'd kill a man for walking the wrong side of
The line
But men, they say a lot of foolish things
And in the end the only words I can find to believe in
Are mine.

They say

Human Choir:

This city, she's been dead for years now... for years
Now.
So death is not something that scares me... that scares
Me.
There's worse things than death here.

Joe:

They told me...

Human Choir:

Keep quiet.

I will not be told where to stand!
I will not be told what to say.
Not by man or machine,
Not by you,
Not by anyone tonight!
You're gonna have to do better than fear.
You're gonna have to step out of the shadows and
fight.
And when they see your face again,
They will know what it means
To have fear dragged out into the light.
Drag it out!

Human Choir:

This city, she's been dead for years now... for years
Now.

So death is not something that scares me... that scares
Me.

There's worse things than death here.

Joe:

So come on!

Come on!

Step into the light!

[The red-eyed assassin stepped from the shadows.

He'd

Been keeping pace with a motorcycle racing at top
speed

For an hour, yet he showed no sign of fatigue. The
Gray-haired man watched from the alley tensing visibly
As the machine revealed itself. Joe slowly backed away
From the bike, deliberately withdrawing towards the
Gray-haired man in the alley. He stopped as his foot
Brushed against something solid.

The sniper robot's hand never once went for the gun at
It's side. It leaned in, a large blade clenched in it's
Left fist, waiting for the proper moment.]

Human Choir:

This city, she's been dead for years now... for years
Now.

So death is not something that scares me... that scares
Me.

Joe:

There's worse things

Than death here

There's loss and there's silence and sadness.

[Joe's hands were shaking.]

So come on,

Come on,

Just open your mouths and revive it.

[Joe leaned forward and charged towards the machine.

If

He was going to die, he would go down swinging. He

Plunged his shoulder into the chest of the automaton.

With every bit of strength he could summon, Joe thrust

Upward, and both man and machine left the ground in

an

Arc. By the time they slammed back into the asphalt,
The machine was on top, it's cold hands tightening
Around Joe'e neck. The impact sent the pipe bounding
Far from Joe's reach. Joe's fingers clawed at the
Smooth metal covering the machine, searching for a
Chink in it's armor. His hand found the gun instead.

The light of the blast was painful, even through Joe's
Closed eyes. He opened them slowly. Carefully. He
found

The machine lying several feet away, immobilized, with
A smoking hole in it's chest. it's red eye fading and
Flickering. Joe rose. He approached the machine. He
Pointed the gun at the robot's head and slid his finger
Over the trigger, steeling himself for the blast. The
Gray-haired man stopped him. The man knelt down -
his
Face inches from the machine's - and spoke, his voice
Gruff and trembling.

"I built this. It's mine to destroy."

With surprising speed, his right hand shot to Joe's
Boot and withdrew the knife. With his left hand he
Grabbed the machine by the jugular-shaped electrical
Conduit at it's throat and sliced. A single swift blow.
The eye went dark. The machine was dead.

The two faced each other in the middle of the street.
Joe's labored breaths drowning out the telescreen in
The distance.

"My name is Thomas Light..."

Returning to the lifeless machine at his feet, Light
Motioned for the speechless Joe to assist him.
Together, they dragged the remains of the murderer
out
Of the light and into the protection of the alley.
Light sheathed the knife into Joe's boot holster and
Turned back to the machine. He examined the assassin
For a few seconds and nodded. With a few deft
motions,
He detached the dark green helmet from the body of
the
Robot, tossing it to Joe.

"Here... try this on."]

