

FADE IN:

INT. A LECTURE HALL - NIGHT

HARRY PEMBROKE (60) stands at a lectern before a small audience. Torches burn on either side of him.

HARRY PEMBROKE

(ecstatic)

I, *Harry Pembroke*, will succeed where Hitler failed. And you, loyal members of the Iron Order, will be able to tell your children and grandchildren you "were there."

(beat)

I'm speaking of the creation of *homo superior*, a telepathic master race that will eliminate humans as surely as we eliminated Neanderthals.

(beat)

Yesterday, they called us madmen. Tomorrow they will kneel before us as our slaves. Do not mourn the billions who will have to die. Do gardeners mourn weeds?

(beat)

Just as my H1P1 virus cured congenital blindness, so my god-virus will cure inferiority.

(beat)

I have tricked ignorant thugs into funding my final push and found a dupe to incubate the virus.

The audience repeatedly chants Hail Victory.

INT. DEREK'S ROOM - NIGHT

This is a one-room "efficiency apartment." It has a bed, a table with two chairs, and a bookcase partitioning off a "kitchen" area with a tiny stove, sink, and refrigerator. A short hallway leads to the bathroom.

DEREK (24) lies in bed, tossing and turning. He is 6' 5" and built like an athlete (not obvious in this scene!).

The point of view rises to the ceiling.