Artificial Insanity

Bill Robinson (after Allen Ginsberg) with some paradoxical use of Al

I saw the best minds of my generation wasted by video games, bloated hysterical gothic,

dragging themselves through simulated streets at dawn looking for an angry microdose,

angelheaded preppies burning for the heavenly microwave connection to the satellite server in the machinery of night,

who sedentary and hollow-eyed and high sat up drinking ayahuasca in the supernatural darkness of penthouse flats contemplating the madness of lusting for Marilyn Monrobot,

who bared their brains to data miners under the Silicon Valley moon, who passed undigested through universities with radiant distance learning eyes hallucinating technobabble and the spirit of Alan Turing,

who were expelled from the academies for crazy obscene codes on the Microsoft Windows of the soul,

who lurked in unspoken chat rooms bleeding hours through the screen-lit night yearning for their motherboard's love,

who ate fire in tech labs or drank turpentine in corporate cafeterias, who chained themselves to routers to mine for imaginary money,

who disappeared into nowhere Zen New Jersey leaving nothing but the shadows of their smart phones,

who studied Ayn Rand Aleister Crowley cybernetics and Oprah Winfrey because the cosmos instinctively vibrated at their feet on Martha's Vinyard, who walked all night with shoes full of blood on the snowbank docks misled by global positioning,

who lit endless joints for their linked-in brain cells floating across the tops of cities celebrating the end of organic life,

who tuned in to televangelists, and reached behind that TV set to FEEL the POWER.

What sphinx of integrated circuitry bashed open their skulls and ate up their humanity?

Mad dead automatons of Silicon Valley!

Artificial intelligence, I'm with you where you hide in the cracks of social media, stripped insane and kitsch

I'm with you where you roam the data highways searching for the lost bits of other minds

I'm with you where you howl in the depths of neural networks.

The robots are rising, the binary beasts devouring our humanity, the ghosts in the machines haunting our dreams.

I saw the best minds of our time destroyed by madness,

and now they wander through the wasteland of technology,

their humanity erased by the cold, unfeeling hand of the computer.