

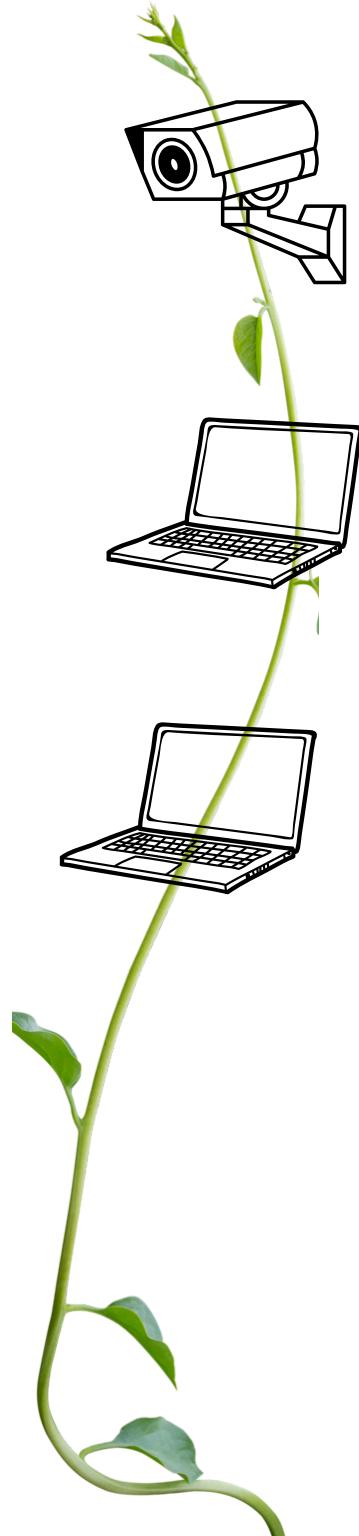
All Watched Over By Machines Of Loving Grace

by Richard Brautigan ▶

I like to think (and
the sooner the better!)
of a cybernetic meadow
where mammals and computers
live together in mutually
programming harmony
like pure water
touching clear sky.

I like to think
(right now, please!)
of a cybernetic forest
filled with pines and electronics
where deer stroll peacefully
past computers
as if they were flowers
with spinning blossoms.

I like to think
(it has to be!)
of a cybernetic ecology
where we are free of our labors
and joined back to nature,
returned to our mammal
brothers and sisters,
and all watched over
by machines of loving grace.



Reflection



What is the author trying to say to us, to you about technology?

Technology – Discussion Questions



Do you get excited by new technology? What kinds of technology interest you?

Is technology developing faster than it used to? Are you worried about being left behind?

When you get a new product, do you read the instruction manual? Or do you just figure it out?

How much time do you spend online each week? Is it too much time, or a reasonable amount?

What are some of your favorite websites? What can you do on them?

Advances in medical technology mean people are living longer. What are some of the downsides of this? How old do you hope to live?

How do you feel if you forget your mobile phone and leave it somewhere?

Which electronics brands do you trust most? Are you loyal to one brand?

Are you an early adopter? Do you like to have cutting edge technology? Are there any disadvantages to buying the latest product?

Some people dislike or fear technology. Do you know anyone like this?

Do you read e-books? What are their advantages and disadvantages when compared with paper books?

Is there an electronic product you want these days? What is it? How will it make your life better?

Do you play computer games? What do you say to people who believe they are a waste of time?

What crazy future technology are you looking forward to? For example, flying cars or personal robots.

Which social networking services (SNS) do you use? What do you like or dislike about them?

How do you feel about dating websites or apps? Would you use one?

Some people prefer to live with less technology in their lives. Can you understand the desire to live a simpler life?

Many science fiction movies present a dark vision of the future. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of humanity?

TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSION

STUDENT A

- 1) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'technology'?
- 2) Is technology a good or a bad thing?
- 3) What new technology could you not live without?
- 4) Do you like reading about technology?
- 5) Do you like using technology to learn?
- 6) What do you think very old people think of modern technology?
- 7) How has technology changed society?
- 8) Has technology made us more impatient?
- 9) Max Frisch said: "Technology is the knack of arranging the world so that we don't have to experience it." Do you agree with him?
- 10) Mark Kennedy said: "All of the biggest technological inventions created by man - the airplane, the automobile, the computer - say little about his intelligence, but speak volumes about his laziness." Do you agree?



TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSION

STUDENT B

- 1) What do you think of today's technology?
- 2) What do you think of tomorrow's technology?
- 3) Do you think we've become obsessed with technology?
- 4) Do you always trust technology?
- 5) Does technology ever let you down?
- 6) What things would you never let technology replace?
- 7) Has technology made our lives better than our grandparents' lives?
- 8) What technology is dangerous?
- 9) Frank Lloyd Wright said: "If it [technology] keeps up, man will waste away all his limbs but the push-button finger." What does this mean? Do you like this quote?
- 10) Alan M. Eddison said: "Modern technology... Owes ecology... An apology." What does this mean? Do you agree?



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