

ALIENOCENE – DIS-JUNCTION

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# A COMMUNISM OF GHOSTS

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The situation seemed hopeless. From out of each future, the Predictor always returned with the same conclusion: extinction, he declared with the same haggard grimace— absolute and utter extinction— of the birds, the fish, the mammals, and even the humans. Hidden within the data flows picked over by the drones, the Council of Neon gathered together one last time: “We have failed,” Sawyer whispered. “They have appeared to survive in one of the para-universes where they learned to re-invent usury, balls-for-feet, and the flag. The time has come to proceed with the Eidolon phase.”

Asteroid interjected, “We must act very carefully. Once activated, there is no turning back, the Eidolon phase is irreversible: the entire past of faded futures will be completely blended into a myriad of presents. Predictor, what does the past foresee?” Predictor answered solemnly: “I have no way of knowing, since the end will have completely remade any para-universe in its entirety— to such an extent that we will have no way of knowing whether this text itself ever existed.”

“Well, when all is said and done, what do we have to lose?”, queried Sawyer.

“Loss itself,” Asteroid responded, slowly closing his eyes.  
“Loss.”

They all sat in silence, deep in reflection, pretending to be interested in current affairs.

And then, Nada slowly decided to speak up. “Don’t you see, it’s precisely extinction itself that is fatal, because our enemies learned how to become vendors of stars and bone, all that remains for us to save is extinction itself. From now on, only ghosts can create the fear that Communism was once capable of producing, only ghosts will deliver justice.”<sup>i</sup>

Then everyone abandoned their places to their specters who, upon returning from an abolished future, began to yank out the cadavers one by one from the rivers of mud in order to judge them, screaming in their faces all the crimes they had committed, eternally suspending them high above the barren landscape, before then plunging them into the oceans of plastic thereby making them feed off the flesh of their ancestors.

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<sup>i</sup> The original French term used by the author was that of “revenant,” literally meaning: *the one who returns*. We have chosen to translate this term with a less formal expression of “ghost.”