

*Transcript of audio logs concerning Rens, digitized 2010*

1973: Clearly these creatures will require considerable care. It's difficult to ascertain their needs given their extremely limited communication. They still don't respond well to the sound of my voice, but with gestures and props we've managed to make some headway with the most basic comforts: hunger, thirst, fatigue, fear. I'm satisfied that their bodies aren't suffering, but I can't yet venture a guess about the quality of their minds.

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When left with a pen and paper, or a glass of water, or a pile of stones, or even nothing but time, they will make pictures. I've taken the images to the Runners to begin translating what these pictures might mean. They are uncannily consistent across all of them. We suspect that they're describing the world around them. The first image they made seems to be of our Room. We've identified signs for Reticulites, the ParAngel...their "vocabulary" is expanding every day!

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Have found that they're very shy. I brought Naoki into their room in the lab to observe their behavior directly and they behaved just like they did when I first introduced myself to them. Luckily Naoko is empathetic and sweet, and didn't appear frightened at all by their masks or their strange bodies. Soon they were hunched together in some sort of collaborative translation game. Naoko, apparently, did well. She made crude images of her own to interpret what they were scratching out with chalk. So much better than the charades I've been using.

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UPDATE 2010:

Rens had another visitor today. J came to speak with them but didn't bring a phone. We know their language well. Still have to tell people who don't want to understand. Rens make a picture. Wait for response. No engagement until their companion responds to the picture with something. Something fitting. Similar. "Corresponding" is the word. Requirements obscure at best. Words won't do.