

Yesirree, the last packet to Nogales had come and went. He could try and retry as many times as he liked — with or without protocol stacks — but that buggy wasn't going nowhere, except for a one-way trip to the Big Bucket in the sky, and I'm not talkin' Mac Trashworld.

Williams, himself, was too stunned to move. He lay there helpless, like a disk after a headcrash. I poked him with my stirrups and reckoned his JK flip-flops wouldn't be firing no more. A glance at my real-time clock showed that it was just a few cycles past high noon.

Well, I'd done what I set out for: I came; I linked; I executed. The microchannel bus had shut down ages ago, and now my only hope was to get my Mac in the stable before the first snowfall. I untethered Bess, eased into fourth, and headed west of Route 128 on that long, lonely Information Highway.

I reckon I'd fixed Williams' wily wagons. He wouldn't be polluting the electronic bulletin board with his junior league patter for a long while. But they hadn't seen the last of me at MIT. No, ma'am. Heard tell of an Integral Bee next spring, and that's one party I don't fancy missin'. Looks like I'll be spending most of the winter roping triple integrals, Green's functions, and ERF functions, as well as milking all kinds of ugly critters you'd just as soon shoot as look at.

But that, my friends, is what separates the goats from the sheep, the wheat from the chaff, the hacks from the quacks. and don't let any low-down, conniving, techno-illiterate greenhorn tell you different.

(The author, Snake Plissken, will never forget the help provided by Ma and Pa Macintosh, Doc DFixer, Hoyt Axton, and countless other kindly folk he can't for the life of him remember.)



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## ***The Psychology of Repetitive Reading***

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### **Abstract**

Human beings can be induced to carry out many kinds of repetitive actions. In this experiment the author asked 200 subjects to read a very repetitive essay. The essay consisted of a single paragraph repeated several times. Each subject was told beforehand that the essay was highly repetitive. The result was surprising. Ninety-two percent of the subjects read the essay completely from beginning to end.

### **Introduction**

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### **Results**

Human beings can be induced to carry out many kinds of repetitive actions. In this experiment the author asked 200 subjects to read a very repetitive essay. The essay consisted of a single paragraph repeated several times. Each subject was told beforehand that the essay was highly repetitive. The result was surprising. Ninety-two percent of the subjects read the essay completely from beginning to end.

