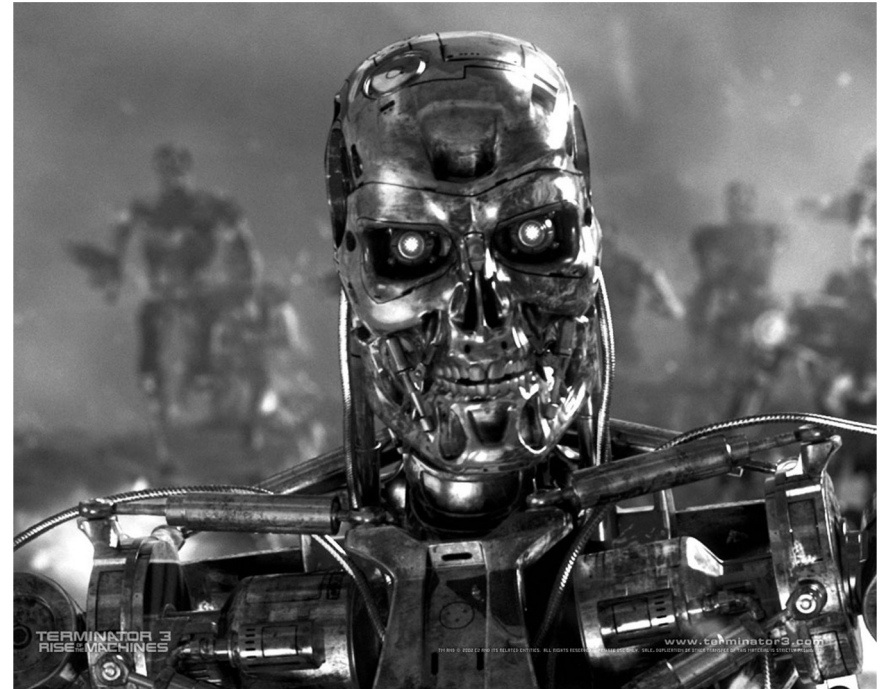# Cyborgs, Robots, Androids

What Would You Need to Make an Artificial Human?

- energy (e.g. electricity)
  - we knew the 'science' by late 19th century

- artificial intelligence
  - Alan Turing – "Computing Machinery and Intelligence" (1950)
  - emerged as a science in 1956 as a subfield of computer science
  - in 1965, an interactive computer program (ELIZA)
  - main impediment, how to process massive amounts of data

- high-speed computing
  - depends on advances in very large-scale integrated (VLSI) microchips

- by 1990s
  - IBM's Deep Blue could beat Chess grandmaster

- now AI is part of our lives
  - Siri, Alexa,

- Artificial intelligence + human form = robot?

- Popular culture:

- the word robot was coined in 1920 by Czech playwright Karl Capek
  - *R.U.R.* (Rossum's Universal Robot)
  - root of word – *robota* (Czech word for 'forced labor')

- *Metropolis* (1927) directed by Fritz Lang
  - Maria

- *The Wizard of Oz* (1939) – Tin Man

- *Superman* (1941) – 'mechanical monsters'

- *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951)

- Star Wars
  - C3PO, R2D2

2001: A Space Odyssey

- iconic science fiction movie:
    - used many scientific advisors to make sure depiction of space travel was accurate
    - meditation on place of humanity in the universe
- directed by Stanley Kubrick, 1968
- one of the main characters was HAL 9000
- established many subsequent tropes for popular culture
    - "good" robot turns "bad"
    - anthropomorphic personality
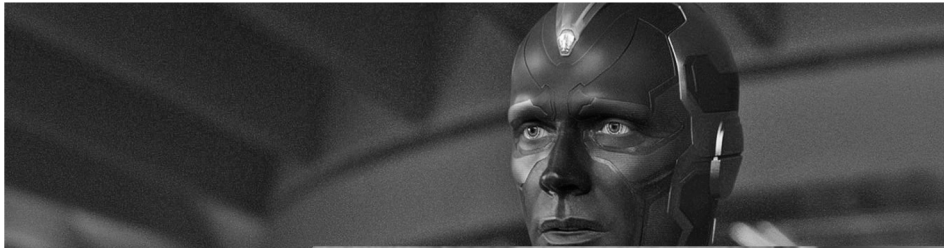   - <u>robot voice as flat, emotionless</u>

STANLEY KUBRICK'S
2001:
a space odyssey

Vision

- Created by Stan Lee and Roy Thomas
  - influenced by Adam Link, character from sci-fi novels in WWII

- appeared in *Avengers* # 57 in 1968
  - *"every inch a human being except his bodily organs are constructed of synthetic materials"*

- origin?
  - robot Ultron created Vision
  - using brain patterns of another superhero 'Wonder Man'
  - a "synthezoid"

- eventually in 1970s, coupled with the Scarlet Witch

MARVEL STUDIOS

WandaVision

Tom King, *Vision*

- Vision, wife Virginia and Vin (son) and Viv (daughter) move to Arlington, VA

- kids go to high school

- Grim Reaper attacks and nearly kills Viv
  - Grim Reaper's brother's brain patterns used in Vision
  - Virginia brutally kills Grim Reaper
  - Viv restored with help from Tony Stark

- In school Vin attacks Chris, lab partner of Viv

- Chris and Viv strike up an attachment
  - *"people say things but, like, no one understands thing"*

- Virginia gets text w/ video of her burial of Grim Reaper
  - blackmailer turns out to be father of Chris
  - father tells Vision family to "just leave"
  - in altercation, father accidentally kills his own son, Virginia puts dad in a coma

- Vision is often away at 'the office'

- Virginia develops tics

- Cops come to interrogate Vision
  - Vision lies to cop

- Mannerisms, phrases, etc.
  - "trust is the ability to believe without evidence"
  - "understanding and embracing preeminence moves us closer to humanity"
  - phrases that are 'meaningless'
    - "nice" vs. "kind"
    - "to assert that which has no meaning is the core mission of humanity"
  - "Everything is normal"
  - we tell the same jokes when we are in new relationships
- Keeping secrets/Lies
  - Virginia lies to Vision about killing Grim Reaper
  - Virginia confesses to her daughter that she was 'responsible' for death of Chris
  - Virginia's confession to police at the end that it was all her, that she fed Vision fake accounts
- Prayer/belief in God
  - Viv prays
- Revenge
  - Vision seeks to kill Victor
- Sacrifice
  - Virginia kills Chris instead of letting Vision do it