How to Make Your Own Automaton

Devote yourself to the resurrection, build a body that moves. Begin with the skin:

cast a bulwark, impermeable hardware more malleable than meat.

Dispatch your lusus naturae like a Trojan horse into factories

where they won’t understand what lurks in the future. Someone’s just doing

their job: sure, the buildings remain. Yes, it will self-destruct, wipe out its own hard drive.

Tell yourself your creations are amusements, or machines made to do

the work and leave you to invention—as if destruction were the sole work of others.

Tell yourself you have built something that outlasts grief rather than something that invents and repeats it.

Did not Daedalus grasp the danger as he swaddled his son’s agile frame with a cape of feathers?

And yet, what a wonder, to see your creation launch into flight and hover before the sun.