

1. T-MINUS

SCENE i

[Homestead in New Mexico]

(Darkness. The lights suddenly come on. The canvas is situated in the room. The canvas contains a painting of the first photo in space with an excessively blue horizon.)

(TERRAPainter enters. TERRAPainter approaches the canvas. TERRAPainter dips the round brush into blue paint on the palette.)

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter inhales. TERRAPainter HUMS E4->G4->C4->G4->F#4->D4->E4->B4.)

(TERRAPainter paints the blank portion in the centre of the canvas to resemble a NASA symbol. TERRAPainter shifts the effort to the edge of the horizon.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER enters.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is bewildered and intrigued.)

So... Curvy...

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter is annoyed.)

Excuse me?



(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER takes the varnishing brush from the paint bucket. COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER places the varnishing brush to the edge of Earth on the canvas.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is direct and like a teacher's pet.)

Broad.

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER paints through the blue horizons. This leaves the area passed the edge of the Earth in black paint.)

Lessen your horizons...

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER drops the varnishing brush back into the bucket.)

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter is skeptical and questioning the engineer's intelligence.)

Are you sure it is this flat?

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

The world is. Massive.

TERRAPainter

You... Are... Wrong... Your belo-ved... Um...

(TERRAPainter has no idea what the name of the rocket that will launch COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER's camera. TERRAPainter maintains confidence.)

Will get you the shot.

(TERRAPainter directs her attention to the canvas. TERRAPainter knows that the future is photography. TERRAPainter cannot comes to terms that painting will be a relic of the past.)

A bigger picture...



COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is comforting.)

Belo-ved...

*(TERRAPainter looks at COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER,
anticipating comfort.)*

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER seems to have kept his attention
only on TERRAPainter's lack of knowledge of the
rocket.)*

V-2.

(TERRAPainter remains dispirited.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER pulls himself together.)

Huh... Rocket.

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER loves TERRAPainter more than all
the cameras he has ever invented.)*

I couldn't wish for a bigger world.

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER believes that all the photographs
he ever needs is of her.)*

The first shot in the open. I am glad it landed on you.

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER gracefully touches TERRAPainter's
hair.)*

*(TERRAPainter looks at her love in comfort.
TERRAPainter readies to stand up.)*

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER helps TERRAPainter up.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER quietly grunts.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is all corny and lovey-dovey.)



Little space...

(TERRAPainter steps towards COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is bashful.)

The gravity-...

*(TERRAPainter leaps on COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER.
TERRAPainter embraces and kisses COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER.)*

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter is kissing.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is caught off guard.)

...of...

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER and TERRAPainter falls back. They
are still cuddling and kissing.)*

(Time seems to have passed.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER seems to be energized.)

The gravity of it all!..



3. DEATH

SCENE i

[A Stellar System Around A Dying Star]

(The cosmos tries to distant themselves from the light.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER feels bare and floating in the void. All that is left is his knowledge of camera engineering. COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER speaks to the Gods.)

We're exposed.

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER goes to the light and anticipates a thrill ride.)

Let's ask for a long exposure.

(The dying star finally reaches the supernova phase. Everything becomes a white void rather than dark.)

SCENE ii

[A Neutron Star System]

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER did not expect how blinding a supernova would be.)

That's. A. Flash.

(The cosmos pulls back into the neutron star phase.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER firmly hopes to balance the brightness.)

Balance.



SCENE iii

[A Neutron]

(The neutron oscillates.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is ready to get back into the bright light.)

Release the shutters!

(The neutron rips apart into orbiting quarks.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is overwhelmed by too many interactions going on.)

Too much noise.

(The neutron shows a calmer animation from top-down view. The neutron overtime pulls in light-weight electrons into an electron cloud.)

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER desires to know what is being revealed with this ring.)

Double exposure.



SCENE iv

[A Pulsar Star]

(The pulsar star has just ejected electromagnetic radiation. The pulsar star is still.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER needs to know more.)

Let's focus...

(The cosmos takes COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER to what that radiation will someday make.)



SCENE iv

[The Sun]

(Three billion years have passed in an instant.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER sighs at a familiar thing.)

*(The cosmos shows COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER the elegant
view of the Sun.)*

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER feels like swimming in the Sun
with his new immortality.)*

So much depth in these fields.

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER notices the dark ball floating
in the endless solar corona.)*

Approach the endless aperture.

*(The cosmos takes COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER into the
darkness to get a better view.)*



SCENE v

[Earth]

(Earth is young. Earth rolls in, drying herself up.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is breathless.)

Ball bearing shutter... A present.

(Earth grows hundreds of millions of years older.)

Peak through the viewfinder.

*(The cosmos take COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER into the darkness
in the centre of the Earth.)*

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is holding back.)

Store the past.

SCENE vi

[Thermosphere of the Earth]

(The Earth ages to present-day. The Aurora Borealis reveals herself. The lights engulf everything.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

*(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER seems to be meditating.
COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER is one with himself.)*

Capture the future.

SCENE vii

[International Space Station]

(The module is floating weightlessly. The module contains a seedling.)

COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER comes to accept his death.)

Take a shot...

(The seedling rapidly germinates into a full-grown plant.)

At...

(COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER feels magical.)

Life.

4. Birth

SCENE i

[A Forest in Central Asia]

(The plant in the module now grows along the ground.)

(In the distant, a pair of rhesus macaques interact.)

SCENE ii

[Base of the Forest in Central Asia]

(The baby rhesus macaque slips away.)

SCENE iii

[Nursery in the Hospital]

(TERRAPainter lays in bed, waiting for OBSTETRICIAN to assist her in labour.)

(On the television set, NASA scientists strap the rhesus macaque into a rocket.)

(Footages of rockets launching into space is put into a montage.)

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter is reminded of COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER's death.)

Turn it off! The gravity... of it...

(TERRAPainter feels like having a heart attack.)

My. Heart. Can't take it.

(OBSTETRICIAN turns off the television set. OBSTETRICIAN places her hand on TERRAPainter's belly.)

(TERRAPainter raises her head up. TERRAPainter is annoyed and in pain.)

The... Gravity... Of... It... All...

OBSTETRICIAN

(OBSTETRICIAN is oblivious to TERRAPainter's distaste for physical contact. OBSTETRICIAN really wanted to watch how the mission went with the first monkey launched to space.)

At least, you are not going to miss this monkey's journey.

(OBSTETRICIAN retracts the hand.)

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter is going into labour. TERRAPainter passes out from the pain.)

See you on the other side...

OBSTETRICIAN

(OBSTETRICIAN is challenging TERRAPainter's acceptance of death.)

Trop tôt!

SCENE iv

[Corridor in the Hospital]

(All lights are focused on this radio.)

BROADCASTER

*(BROADCASTER is about to give some bad news about
how their mission to send a monkey to space went.)*

Our explorer, our friend, our family. We have lost them.

(The radio shuts off.)

5. BS

SCENE i

[Living Room in the Homestead in New Mexico]

(VITO runs up behind the radio. VITO knocks the radio off its support.)

(The room is lit. The room is a mess.)

(VITO is one corner while TERRAPainter is another.)

VITO

B S!

TERRAPainter

Watch your language!

VITO

(VITO is confident and thinks his mom is an idiot.)

Earth... Earth... Cannot be flat!

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter believes that VITO basically called for his mother's execution.)

Watch your mouth!

(The room goes silent. Tensions die down.)

(TERRAPainter calms down. TERRAPainter returns to positive reinforcement. TERRAPainter opens up her arms for an embrace.)

The gravity of it all...

(VITO embraces TERRAPainter.)

(TERRAPainter will trust VITO with his father's legacy. VITO is not mature enough, but this photo TERRAPainter is about to show might help him to be one.)

You're well-rounded. Would you like to see your opposite?

(TERRAPainter pulls out the first photo in space. TERRAPainter sits VITO down. TERRAPainter shows the wonders in this photo. TERRAPainter plays with VITO's hair.)

You father reached up there and took the...

(TERRAPainter pokes the top of VITO's head.)

Shot.

(TERRAPainter remembers the V-2 rocket that her partner always talked about.)

You are the rocket that took him.

VITO

(VITO does not know what had become of his father, COSMOPHOTOGRAPHER.)

Where in the world did I... He land?

TERRAPainter

(TERRAPainter does not know if VITO should know there is an end yet. TERRAPainter is thinking like a Flat Earther. This side is safer than the dark, cold side underneath.)

On... Our... Side.