

# *THE MCAULIFFE EQUATION*

by  
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Def Leppard's "*Pour Some Sugar On Me*" begins to play O.S. A tiny LED pierces the blackness and begins "blinking" to the BEAT. A VOICE start SINGING along to the song.

DANIEL (O.S.)  
(singing)  
"Love is like a bomb, baby, c'mon  
get it on."

FADE IN:

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - COMPUTER BAY - NIGHT

Dozens of additional LEDs join the first - *illuminating a large computer bay* stacked, wall-to-wall, with huge RAID processing towers.

DANIEL (O.S.)  
(singing the wrong words)  
"Livin' like a lover with a red  
iPhone."

SUPER: **VALENCIA, CALIFORNIA... TOMORROW NIGHT.**

MAIN TITLES BEGIN

INT. DANIEL MCAULIFFE'S SECRET OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

TIGHT ON A COMPUTER - The edges of the monitor are covered in Post-It notes and Polaroid's featuring everything from advanced equations to grocery shopping lists.

DANIEL (O.C.)  
"Lookin' like a tramp, like a video  
vamp. Demolition woman, can I be  
your man?"

REVERSE - DANIEL MCAULIFFE (*Mid-40's, awkwardly handsome*) sits in front of the computer, SINGING to the song playing LOUDLY from the BEATS by Dre covering his ears - and the bluetooth speaker in the corner.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
"Yeah, Yeah."

He places his hand on a cool-looking scanner beside his keyboard. Nothing happens. Perplexed, he glances up - finding the Post-It above a GLOWING button on his hard drive that reads: **DON'T FORGET TO ENGAGE THE QUANTUM INTERFACE.**

Daniel presses a button, repeats the action and *his computer ROARS TO LIFE!*

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
"Break it up. Pour some..."

Daniel excitedly gets up and follows a bundle of industrial cables out of his office and into --

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

-- a small passageway. Exposed insulation hangs from the ceiling. He DANCES towards a small staircase at the end, pulling a six-inch CAPTAIN AMERICA action figure from his pocket.

DANIEL  
(to action figure)  
You ready to make history  
CAAAAAHHH!!!!

He VANISHES from frame! WE ANGLE to the large note above the staircase that reads: **"WATCH THE FIRST STEP!"**

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET LAB - CONTINUOUS

Daniel TUMBLES out a doorway into a dark room, *SLAMMING face first onto the floor.*

DANIEL  
(to himself)  
That hurt.

He painfully gets to his feet and FLICKS on the light switch.

WIDE - *We are inside a secret laboratory. The room looks like an old bomb bunker. Unfinished "Projects" and GEEK paraphernalia are scattered about.*

In the center of the room, dry ice PUMPS ACROSS the graphite top of two, cool-looking six foot towers: *The QUANTUM DISPLACEMENT REACTOR.*

Daniel places the action figure on the top of one of the towers the AIR-GUITARS a few feet to his work station: *a large computer rests on a desk cluttered with pens, more post-its, and a small Keurig.*

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
(singing)  
*"Pour some sugar on me. Oh, in the name of love....."*

Daniel's computer screen is displaying a layout of Southern California's ENTIRE ENERGY GRID. He casually TYPES one-handed into his keyboard as he makes himself a coffee with the other.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
 (typing)  
 Sorry So Cal, quantum experiment in  
 progress. Need to borrow some  
 juice.

Multiple WARNING windows POP UP across his screen. Daniel continues TYPING - overriding the security firewalls with remarkable ease.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
 Bla, bla, bla. I'm smarter than you  
 and... scene.

He HITS the return key. The graphic on his monitor shows energy from ACROSS THE STATE converge on his location. *The lights in the lab begin to GLOW with POWER.* He glances at Captain America.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
 Time to change the world, Steve.

He DOUBLE CLICKS his mouse and A LASER begins to SCAN the action figure on the tower - digitally RE-BUILDING it on his screen.

Daniel leans back to sit in his chair and MISSES IT. FLAILING BACKWARD, he REACHES for his desk to catch his fall -- SPILLING his coffee across his computer - then KICKS the bottom of his desk, LAUNCHING a handful of PENS on it INTO THE AIR!

IN SLOW MOTION - We watch single DROP of coffee SAILS THROUGH THE AIR towards the action figure. AT THE EXACT moment it hits Cap's head we see the PENS come down hitting a RANDOM SEQUENCE on Daniel's keyboard. VRUUUUMMMM - Daniel's computer SURGES with POWER as the equation on his screen begins RE-CONFIGURING itself! LIGHTS IN THE ROOM BURST! POWER CABLES BOUNCE WITH ENERGY!

TIGHT ON DANIEL - WIND begins SWIRLING around him like a tornado! He squints at something O.S.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
 What in the...

A thundering BOOM LAUNCHES Daniel OFF HIS FEET and SLAMS him against the wall. A look of horror falls across his face as an INHUMAN ROAR rings out O.C.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
 (terrified)  
 Oh... My...

TITLE CARD FLASHES ACROSS SCREEN: **THE MCAULIFFE EQUATION**

PETER (O.S.)  
(screaming)  
*JESSICA MARSHALL CHASE!*

INT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

JESSICA "JESSIE" CHASE (14, female, hispanic, awkward. A tomboy) *BOLTS* upright from her desk with a *SCREAM*, judo-chops the air then *TUMBLES OUT OF FRAME* with a *THUD!*

**SUPER: VALENCIA, CALIFORNIA... TODAY.**

*Jessie's bedroom is an explosion of geekiness: Sci-fi movie posters, video game insignias. An Infinity Gauntlet prop rests on her night stand.*

PETER (O.S.)  
You're gonna be late for school again!

Jessie *POPS* back *INTO FRAME*, looks at the clock on her desk and pales. She *WIPES* the drool from her cheek, *TEARS* a *FLASH DRIVE* out of her computer and *BOLTS* out the door!

INT. JESSIE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

With the flash drive clenched between her teeth, Jessie hurriedly tries to apply some ancient looking eyeliner. We hear a *KNOCK* O.S.

CAMILLE (O.S.)  
I need to use the bathroom!

JESSIE  
(rushed)  
Hang on --

CAMILLE (17, pretty, total bitch) *BARGES* into the tiny bathroom and brushes past Jessie, watching YouTube on her cellphone.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(annoyed)  
Camille, I'm almost done. Can you just give me a minute.

CAMILLE  
(watching a video)  
Nope...

Camille *PLOPS* down on the toilet beside Jessie then looks up at her with a *MALICIOUS GRIN*.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
But if you enjoy the fresh smell of  
shit in the morning, feel free to  
stay.

Camille CRINGES seeing Jessie's face.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
What's on your face?

Jessie shifts, uncomfortably.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
(amused)  
Is that supposed to be make-up?

*Applying makeup is clearly something Jessie has zero skill  
at.*

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
(with a sarcastic smile)  
Wow. You're really good at that.

She punctuates her statement with a FART - signaling the  
beginning of her bowel movement. Jessie glares at her.

JESSIE  
(sarcastic)  
Best sister, ever.

INT. JESSIE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jessie lands at the bottom of the staircase and reaches for  
the front door.

PETER (O.S.)  
You have to eat and take your  
vitamins before you leave!

Jessie turns to her father - PETER CHASE (40's) - standing at  
the island in their kitchen (*which is in the early stages of  
a re-model*). A bowl of cereal and a cup of vitamins rest  
beside him.

JESSIE  
Dad, Lucas and I are presenting the  
short film we made for our  
Environmental Science class today.  
It determines our final grade. I  
can't be late.

Peter gives her a look; she isn't going anywhere. Jessie  
EXHALES and crosses to the island. She dumps vitamins into  
her mouth, SWALLOWS them without water then reaches for her  
cereal. A *black cat intercepts her hand.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(fuming)  
Not now, Jinks!

*She PUSHES the cat out of the way and TOSSES a handful of cereal in her mouth.*

PETER  
I start my triple shift tonight at the pharmacy. Your sister is in charge till I get back Sunday.

JESSIE  
(sarcastic)  
Ah, an excellent decision.

She WASHES down the cereal with a GULP of Almond Milk.

PETER  
I put forty bucks in the copper jar this time.

JESSIE  
(chewing)  
Dad, you don't need to go over this every two weeks.  
(wiping her mouth as she rises)  
I promise I'll re-stock the liquor cabinet after the party.  
(she heads toward the door)  
You've still got weed on your nightstand, right? I'm asking for Camille.

PETER  
(sarcastic)  
You're hilarious.

She smiles as she arrives at the door.

JESSIE  
Love you, Dad.

PETER (O.C.)  
Jess!

She EXHALES and SPINS to her Dad.

JESSIE  
(incredulously)  
What Dad!?!

Peter points to Jessie's legs.

PETER  
You want to fix that first?

Jessie looks down.

POV - She's still just wearing boxers.

JESSIE  
(to herself)  
Crap.

INT. LUCAS MOKE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

LUCAS MOKE (*Male, 14, overweight, Samoan*) stands in-front of a mirror struggling to pin his long hair off his face. *With a DOCTOR WHO tee-shirt and a DARK CRYSTAL backpack, he's a walking version of Jessie's bedroom.*

Lucas's Mom, ABIGAIL "ABBY" MOKE (*40. African American*) WALKS into the kitchen. She stops the moment she sees him.

LUCAS  
(defensively)  
What?

ABIGAIL  
I... I'm just not used to actually seeing your face.

LUCAS  
Long hair is in, Mom.

ABIGAIL  
I know. I think you look dope.  
(correcting herself)  
I mean totes...  
(reaching)  
Lit?

LUCAS  
(cringing)  
Mom, don't use ANY of those words in a sentence. Like, ever.

ABIGAIL  
(dying to help Lucas with his hair)  
You know, the one benefit of having an actor for a Mom is that I'm really good with hair.

Lucas stares at her for a moment, then EXHALES with a nod. Abby excitedly takes over.



ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
(re: Lucas's hair)  
Do you ever wonder if there's a  
Whooville in here?  
(Lucas SMIRKS)  
You're in a positive mood today.  
What's the big occasion?

LUCAS  
(excited)  
I... Jessie and I are showing our  
short film for Environmental  
Science today.  
(hopeful)  
I think it might just be a social  
game changer for us.

ABIGAIL  
What short film?

LUCAS  
(incredulous)  
You made the costumes for it.

ABIGAIL  
Oh, that short film!  
(LAUGHS)  
Man, that thing is so funny!

Lucas turns at her, horrified.

LUCAS  
Funny?

ABIGAIL  
Yeah...  
(confused)  
It's a comedy...  
(reaching)  
Right?

*The color drains from Lucas's face.*

EXT. VALENCIA HIGH SCHOOL - SANTA CLARITA - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas nervously paces outside the main doors of the High School, nursing a Coke-Zero. Students file past him, barely acknowledging his existence. His unfinished, partially pinned hairdo looks ridiculous.

LUCAS  
(quietly to himself)  
Don't show up. Don't show up. Don't  
show up...

JESSIE (O.C.)  
LUCAS!

Lucas *mouths a colorful metaphor* as Jessie arrives beside him -- *It's looks like she vigorously wiped the makeup off her face with a piece of sandpaper.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(bursting with excited energy)  
Sorry, I'm late.

LUCAS  
Was hoping you got lost or...

*He notices Jessie's MAKEUP FAIL.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(horrified)  
What's on your face?

JESSIE  
(sardonic)  
Oh, you mean my attempt to apply makeup?

LUCAS  
Yeah...  
(a beat)  
It looks bad.

JESSIE  
(matter-of-fact)  
I know.  
(re: Lucas's hair)  
I see I wasn't the only one who attempt to "spruce themselves up" a bit today.

Lucas nods touching his quasi-pompadour. Jessie attempts to fix it.

LUCAS  
Better?

JESSIE  
Not at all.

They SMILE: *They're hopeless - but at least they're hopeless together.*

LUCAS  
I was kinda hoping you'd call in sick.

Jessie LIFTS up her flash drive.

JESSIE  
(bursting with pride)  
And miss the day our cinematic  
efforts catapult us into social  
significance?

A half eaten Twinky suddenly *SPLATS AGAINST HER CHEEK*.

STUDENTS (O.S.)  
FUGLY!

LUCAS  
Or maybe... Since we've been living  
in the shadows of social purgatory  
for so long we thought, "Hey, why  
not do something that helps us  
reach an even deeper level of  
suck."

Jessie puts a confident hand on Lucas's shoulder.

JESSIE  
Lucas, this is the moment we've  
been working towards our whole  
lives!  
(*The Twinky jiggles from  
her cheek like a growth*)  
The day we emerge from the shadows  
of insignificance and into the warm  
embrace of popularity.  
(unwavering confidence)  
We're game-changing the crap out of  
our lives today!

Lucas smiles. Jessie's optimism is infectious. He *PEELS* the  
Twinky off her cheek and casually *POPS* it into his mouth.

STUDENTS (O.S.)  
*OMG! So gross! Ratchet!*

A look of surprise falls across his face as he *CHEWS*.

LUCAS  
(re: the Twinky)  
It's fresh today.

JESSIE  
(shocked)  
What?

Jessie *LICKS* the excess filling off Lucas's finger: her face  
lights up.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
If this isn't a positive sign, I  
don't know what is?

They share a mutual smile.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(unwavering confidence)  
Let's go change our destiny, my  
friend!

The dramatic SWELL of a MOVIE SCORE begins to PLAY O.S.

CUT TO:

EXT. LA RIVER - "LUCAS AND JESSIE'S STUDENT FILM/VIDEO" - DAY

TIGHT - Lucas turns to camera, dirt spattered across his face. Wind and smoke are swirling around him. A lens flare FLASHES the screen. Are we in a J.J. Abrams movie?

LUCAS  
(dramatic bad acting)  
GET OUT OF THERE! THE DETONATOR'S  
ABOUT TO BLOW!

*LAUGHTER breaks out O.S.* Jessie (also dirty) scrambles to get out of a concrete water pipe as a monster (guy in a bad monster costume) reaches for her.

JESSIE  
(over-dramatic)  
SAVE YOURSELF!!!

*More LAUGHTER erupts O.S.* We PULL BACK from the action --

INT. VALENCIA HIGH SCHOOL, AUDITORIUM - DAY

-- into a packed High School Auditorium watching Lucas and Jessie's "student film" projected on-stage. The are students HOWLING with laughter. Lucas and Jessie are nowhere to be seen.

MADISON WU (30's, Asian, WAY too beautiful to be a teacher) glares disapprovingly at the students when the BELL RINGS.

MADISON  
(YELLING as they quickly  
file out)  
IF YOU PLAN TO JOIN THE FIELD TRIP  
TO WESTFORD LABORATORIES MONDAY  
MORNING, I NEED PERMISSION SLIPS ON  
MY DESK BY...

The auditorium is already empty. Madison EXHALES: why do I even try? She solemnly makes her way up the main aisle to a row of seats near the back and turns to them.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
They're all gone. You can get up  
now.

POV - Jessie and Lucas are laying on the floor hiding under a  
row of seats, staring at the ceiling mortified.

LUCAS  
We're good.

JESSIE  
Pretty sure we'll be comfortable  
here for the rest of our lives.

MADISON  
(re: students)  
They're just jealous.

JESSIE  
(sarcastic)  
Oh yeah, of course. I mean who in  
this school doesn't wish they were  
us right now.

MADISON  
(trying to "spin" it)  
I thought it was awesome. You're  
both getting A's. I...

JESSIE  
It's OK Miss Wu, you don't need to  
try and cheer us up.

MADISON  
I'm not. I really thought it was  
ingenious.  
(genuine)  
All the pop culture references in  
there. Loved the nod to Neo!

Lucas perks up.

LUCAS  
You got that?

MADISON  
(nodding)  
Of course.

He smiles at her, admiring her hair.

LUCAS  
Did you get a haircut?

MADISON  
(someone noticed)  
I did.

LUCAS  
It looks really nice.

Jessie GLARES at Lucas: OMFG.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(defensive)  
What? It accentuates her  
cheekbones.

Jessie DRY HEAVES then YANKS Lucas to his feet.

JESSIE  
OK, we're gonna go now.

She starts DRAGGING HIM to the exit.

LUCAS  
What are you...

JESSIE  
(to Madison)  
Thank you for not giving away our  
location during that soul crushing  
experience, Miss Wu. You are a  
saint.  
(a beat)  
If you could do us a solid and  
destroy the flash drive that video  
exists on, we'd appreciate it.  
(sincere)  
Knowing only the kids in this class  
saw it, will help us avoid becoming  
another teen statistic --

INT. VALENCIA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

-- CLANG! The auditorium doors closes behind them.

JESSIE  
(to Lucas, disgusted)  
I swear to god, I'm gonna throw up  
on you.

LUCAS  
What?

JESSIE  
(stating the obvious)  
The repulsive crush you have on our  
Environmental Science teacher!

LUCAS  
(blushing)  
She's so goals.

JESSIE  
 No, no, no!  
 (a beat)  
 Margot Robbie is goals. Scarlett  
 Johansson is goals.  
 (pointed)  
 Miss Wu is NOT goals, my friend.

CAMERON (O.C.)  
 Dude, she's so goals.

Jessie turns with a cringe to CAMERON PIKE (15, Male, Gay, Geeky) and PARKER BLUE (14, female, goth) who've arrived beside them. Parker is recoding a Snapchat video.

PARKER  
 (into camera)  
 Goals.

Jessie BATS her phone away, annoyed.

JESSIE  
 What do you want ladies?

CAMERON  
 Freddy's home sick today and just  
 wanted me to tell you that he  
 uploaded your film to YouTube this  
 morning, like you asked.

*All the color DRAINS from Jessie and Lucas's face.*

LUCAS  
 (to Jessie, mortified)  
 You didn't?

*CAMILLE walks by with a group of seniors, watching the VIDEO her cellphone, ROARING WITH LAUGHTER. She smiles at Jessie as she passes.*

CAMILLE  
 (maleficent delight)  
Best sister, ever!

EXT. PARK TRAIL, WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

*Jessie and Lucas RACE along a trail leading away from school. They're both on their CELL PHONES in a STATE OF PANIC.*

LUCAS  
 I can't believe you did this!

JESSIE  
 (apologetic)  
 I thought our film was going to  
 have a much different reception.

LUCAS  
 Why? Because the rest of our lives  
 have been such a dream thus far!?

JESSIE LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 He's not answering my texts. TRY HIS LAND LINE!

Jessie DIALS and puts the phone to her ear.

JESSIE  
 (impatiently)  
 Pick up, pick up...

FREDDY (O.S.)  
 This is B-Dog.

JESSIE  
 (furious)  
 Freddy!?! Why aren't you answering  
 our texts?

INT. FREDDY BURNS GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

FREDDY BURNS (16. Jewish. Genius. Extra AF) answers the  
 phone, *POUNDING AWAY* on the keyboard of his computer.

FREDDY  
 You know they created "do not  
 disturb" for a reason, Jessie.

*Freddy's room looks like a mix between a rat's nest, a comic  
 book shop, and the offices of Google.*

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
 Can't talk. I'm in the middle of a  
 very intense OVERWATCH campaign  
 with some scientists at Cern but I  
 posted the short you made with  
 Lucas on YouTube, per your request,  
 and gave it a big social media  
 birth so.... You're welcome.

EXT. PARK TRAIL - CONTINUOUS

CLICK - the line goes dead.

JESSIE  
 (furious)  
 Freddy? FREDDY?

LUCAS  
 Did he just hang up on you?

Jessie nods, remorsefully. Lucas DROPS his head.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Well, this day can't get any worse?



DEXTER (O.C.)  
If it isn't puke face and twiddle  
dick.

LUCAS  
Nope. I stand corrected.

Lucas turns to the smiling mug of DEXTER WALLER (18,  
douchebag) as his fist *FLIES INTO HIS FACE!*

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas and Jessie sit on rusted outdoor exercise equipment at  
the edge of the large park. Jessie is *SHOVING TISSUE* up her  
bloody nostril.

LUCAS  
(pissed)  
Who hits girls in 2020!?

JESSIE  
(self-deprecating)  
Pretty sure he doesn't know I am  
one.

*It is kinda hard to tell that Jessie is a girl.*

LUCAS  
(apologetic)  
If puberty hadn't decided to be on  
some kind of rare, freakish delay  
for the both of us, I might have  
been able to defend us.

JESSIE  
It's OK.  
(self-deprecating)  
Thanks to my baby fat and the  
defensive shield of sarcastic wit  
I've developed, I don't feel much.

Lucas shakes his head.

LUCAS  
(overwhelmed)  
We're cursed.

JESSIE  
Without question.  
(positive)  
But hey, it's not like anybody is  
gonna be going out of their way to  
find a video we made. The one  
advantage of being "bottom  
dwellers" is nobody knows we exist.

LUCAS  
Except your evil, super popular  
sister.

Jessie stares at her cellphone uncomfortably.

JESSIE  
(flat)  
Well... that was quick.

LUCAS  
(worried)  
What?

She reluctantly shows Lucas her phone.

INSERT PHONE - *Jessie's Instagram feed features post-after-post of a meme of Lucas screaming "GET OUT OF THERE" from their short.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(re: the student body)  
They're gonna be relentless.

JESSIE  
On an epic scale.

LUCAS  
(frustrated)  
Why does everything always have to  
go wrong for us?

Lucas STANDS and start to march away in a huff.

JESSIE  
Come on Lucas, this isn't that bad.

Jessie grabs Lucas's backpack and tries to catch up.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
We don't want to be like all the  
popular kids at our school,  
desperate for "likes" to feel  
validated anyway!

LUCAS  
Popular? I'd just like to have a  
glimmer of hope. Be invited to a  
party on occasion! Have friends!?

JESSIE  
We have friends.

LUCAS  
Who... The Goonies?  
(exasperated)  
Cam and Parker are people you crowd  
around a fire with for warmth.

Jessie NODS to herself: *there is some truth to that.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
That video was supposed to change  
things for us Jessie. Make us cool.

JESSIE  
We are cool.

Lucas stops.

LUCAS  
Really? How many people follow you  
on Instagram?  
(a beat)  
Other than your Dad?

Jessie doesn't respond. Lucas continues to *MARCH towards some MONKEY BARS.*

JESSIE  
(the optimist)  
So our film didn't go over as well  
as we hoped... and may haunt us for  
years to come.. But our lives  
aren't that bleak.

LUCAS  
Jessie we're two socially awkward,  
non-athletic "ethnic" teens living  
in California's last white hope!  
(a beat)  
It doesn't get much bleaker than  
that.  
(after a long beat -  
emotional)  
I'm so tired of being a nobody.

JESSIE  
You're not a nobody. You're like  
the coolest person I know!

LUCAS  
I'm the ONLY person you know.

JESSIE  
So?

LUCAS  
(emotional/stinging)  
Well, excuse me for wanting a  
little more!

Jessie looks away: that one hurt.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(feeling horrible)  
Jessie, I'm...

Unable to find the words, Lucas turns and runs toward some  
old MONKEY BARS.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(SCREAMING)  
WHY CAN'T SOMETHING COOL HAPPEN TO  
US! JUST FOR ONCE!

*As he runs underneath them he's ENGULFED in a SWIRLING VORTEX  
OF BLINDING LIGHT - and with A CRACKLING BOOM - vanishes into  
thin air!*

Jessie blinks and looks around: WTF? LUCAS IS GONE. She  
nervously calls out.

JESSIE  
L... Lucas?

With a SONIC BOOM, the BLINDING LIGHT RE-APPEARS and a  
futuristic-soldier (40's, a hulk of a man: The Rock) comes  
sailing out of it, BACKWARDS - FIRING his PULSE RIFLE back  
INTO IT as LASERS WHIZ past his head!

*The soldier SLAMS ON THE GROUND as the VORTEX COLLAPSES and  
SLIDES several feet - before coming to a stop inches from  
Jessie's feet.*

TIGHT ON JESSIE - She looks down at the soldier with  
awestruck confusion - steam rising off his a tattered cloak.

*She JUMPS BACK as the soldier HOPS up and WHIPS OPEN his  
cloak - revealing THE FUTURISTIC IRON MAN-LIKE TACTICAL ARMOR  
HE'S WEARING UNDERNEATH. Jessie's jaw DROPS OPEN in awe. The  
soldier "check himself for holes" - then EXHALES, relieved.*

SOLDIER  
(out of breath)  
Thank God.  
(into his earpiece)  
Is anyone from Alpha team still  
alive?  
(intense)  
SILK? RIPCORDER? ARE YOU...

His voice trails off as he takes in his surroundings for the first time.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
 What the hell? I...  
 (confused)  
 It can't be?... Impossible.

He senses Jessie behind him and SPINS, *leveling his rifle on her*. Jessie THROWS HER HANDS UP with a frightened YELP.

JESSIE  
 (terrified)  
 Don't shoot, Don't shoot!

SOLDIER  
 Are you a friendly?

JESSIE  
 A what?

SOLDIER  
 A friendly?  
 (a secret code)  
 Black Dragon.  
 (LUNGING at her  
 aggressively)  
 BLACK DRAGON!

The soldier suddenly stops. After a beat, he LOWERS HIS RIFLE and stares at Jessie, dumbfounded.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
 J... Jessie?

Jessie TILTS her head; how did he know my name?

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
 (emotional)  
 Am... Am I really back?... Is that  
 really you?

The soldier SHAKES his head, getting his bearings back and GLARES at her.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
 (angrily)  
 Oh, I get it... This is some sort  
 of new Klathorian trick isn't it?  
 You tapped into my memories or  
 something...  
 (pissed)  
 What is this, a new kind of holo-  
 projection? A temporal input? Grim  
 worms?

Jessie is too freaked out and confused to respond. *The soldier AIMS his rifle at her again!*

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
WHAT IS THIS PLACE!?

Jessie GULPS and forces her lips to move.

JESSIE  
Va... Va... Valencia.

The soldier BLINKS.

SOLDIER  
Oh my god... It's really you?

*He POKES Jessie in the chest with the tip of his gun.*

JESSIE  
Ouch.

SOLDIER  
It's over... It's finally over...

*The soldier lets out A EUPHORIC YELP and lifts Jessie into a HUG. Jessie SCREAMS and starts judo-chopping his head!*

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
WHOA! RELAX, RELAX.

He puts Jessie down. She JUMPS BACK on defensively, LIFTING her hands karate style.

JESSIE  
(re: her hands)  
These hands are registered weapons.

SOLDIER  
It's OK.  
(soft/calm)  
I'm not gonna hurt you.

Jessie stares, trying to determine if he's lying.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)  
(calm)  
Jessie, it's me.... It's Lucas.

Jessie BLINKS. What did he just say?

LUCAS  
Your best friend, Lucas Moke.

Jessie stares at the soldier, trying to process what he just said. After a beat, she starts to manically LAUGH.

JESSIE

OK! Look Sir, I don't know what's going on right now? My best friend just vanished in a flash of light and I think I'm a having a conversation with the ethnic version of Deadpool's Cable.

(rationalizing)

Clearly, I'm having some kind of massive mental collapse.

(a beat)

I'm also pretty sure I shit my pants a little when you pointed your wicked cool and very REAL looking rifle at me, so...

(taking a breath)

If you don't mind, I'd like to go home right now, clean myself up and hopefully find a safe corner to cry in.

The soldier fights back the urge to LAUGH.

LUCAS

You're not having a mental collapse right now, Jessie. It is possible you did just crap in your pants a little bit, but...

(calm)

It's really me. It's Lucas.

A beat passes between them.

JESSIE

Bullshit.

LUCAS

Your full name is Jessica Marshal Chase. You where Born on March 31st, 2006. You want to be a director when you grow up, have watched James Cameron's ALIENS about a thousand times and fart when you're nervous.

*Jessie FARTS.*

JESSIE

(suspiciously)

All facts... Any creepy, social media trolling, albeit highly skilled cos-player could easily get off the internet.

LUCAS

Your most prized possession is an original printing of Incredible Hulk #181 that features the introduction of Wolverine.

(a beat)

A comic book that would be worth a fortune today if you hadn't written "Jessie" in the top left corner of it when you where six.

Jessie's JAW ALMOST HITS THE GROUND.

JESSIE

Holy... Lucas?

He nods.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

What the hell is going on?

LUCAS

I have no idea?  
(trying to piece it together)  
I was -- OWW!

*Lucas SLAPS his neck like he was BITTEN by a mosquito. He flicks whatever bit him onto the ground and continues:*

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I was trying to make it to the safety of this tree line. Two Klathorian Units and more Lugorcs than I'd ever seen were on-top of me... It was like their whole army was after me...

JESSIE

Wait? Kalath-a-what?  
(incredulously)  
No!?! I mean, a minutes ago you looked like me, and now you look like STAR-LORD!?

KID 1 (O.S.)

WHOA SICK!?!?

KID 2 (O.S.)

WICKED COSTUME DUDE!!!

*Like a reflex, Lucas SPINS - RAISING HIS RIFLE on two eleven year olds who've arrived on bikes a few feet away - and FIRES TWICE! Two projectiles SLAM INTO THE KIDS CHESTS, sending them FLYING ONTO THEIR BACKS! Jessie pales.*

JESSIE

OH MY GOD!



LUCAS  
(cringing)  
Sorry.

JESSIE  
(freaking out)  
SORRY!?!

*She RACES over to the kids as they SPASAM on the ground for a few seconds - then stop moving.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(incredulously)  
Did you just kill two kids!

LUCAS  
No. Thoser were non-lethal rounds.  
(reassuringly)  
Relax, they'll just be paralyzed  
for a couple of hours.

JESSIE  
(sarcastically)  
Oh, what a relief!?

LUCAS  
(defensive)  
Hey, I just somehow traveled back  
in time after witnessing humanity  
fall to the Klathorians in a war  
I've been fighting in for 20 years!  
(matter-of-fact)  
You'd be a little on edge too!

JESSIE  
You... Traveled into the future?

Lucas PUTS A HAND on Jessie's shoulder.

LUCAS  
Jess, I don't think it's a good  
idea for me to be out in public  
right now.

JESSIE  
Agreed.

LUCAS  
So, what do you say we go back to  
your house and try to figure out  
what the hell just happened to me?

Jessie NODS.

JESSIE  
Sounds like a plan.  
(re: the unconscious kids)  
(MORE)

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 If you could try not to paralyze  
any other children before we get  
 there, that would be great.

LUCAS  
 Noted.

As they leave the park, we PAN DOWN to the spot where Lucas  
 had flicked the BUG THAT BIT HIM. A *maggot-sized blob*  
*PULSATES IN THE GLASS*.

TIGHT ON BLOB - A mouth appears at the top of it, GARGLING a  
 DROP OF BLOOD in it's SHARK-LIKE TEETH. It SWALLOWS THE  
 BLOOD, lets out a menacing "SQUEEK" and LIKE A HUMAN CELL,  
 begins to SPLIT APART like it's DUPLICATING ITSELF.

INT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas is sitting on Jessie's bed trying to relax as Jessie  
 PACES - barely contain her excitement.

JESSIE  
 (clarifying)  
 So, let me get this straight. That  
 vortex of light you stepped into  
 was some kind of "temporal vortex"  
 that sent you 14 years into the  
 future - where you spent 20 years  
 fighting in a war against the  
 Kardashians?

LUCAS  
Klathorians.

JESSIE  
 Right. Humanoids from another  
 dimension, who conquered, then  
 wiped out the human race.  
 (off Lucas's nod)  
 That arrived here because of that.

She POINTS to a small device on her desk that is *PROJECTING A*  
*HOLOGRAM* of an advanced-looking mathematical equation. An  
*octagon of complex symbols and numbers*.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 The MacGyver Malaysian.

LUCAS  
 (correcting her)  
 Mcauliffe Equation.

JESSIE  
Right... An experiment this  
Mcauliffe guy did, that opened a  
dimensional wormhole on earth that  
allowed those Klathorian's to enter  
our dimension.

(Lucas nods)  
This is unbelievable.

Jessie's cat JUMPS ON THE BED beside Lucas. *He spins, RAISING  
his rifle at the cat.* Jessie LEAPS IN FRONT OF LUCAS and  
PUSHES the barrel of his rifle away.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
WHAO! It's just my cat, Lucas!

Lucas takes a DEEP BREATH.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(worried)  
Wow... You need to chill. You want  
me to see if my Dad's got some  
Xanax laying around?

LUCAS  
(lying)  
No. I'm fine.

Jessie doesn't push it.

JESSIE  
OK. So, how did you arrive back  
here?

LUCAS  
(frustrated)  
I told you, I don't know? I don't  
even know what created that vortex  
that sent me into the future to  
begin with!

Several sections of Lucas's armor BEGIN TO GLOW.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(confused)  
What the hell?

Jessie geeks out as Lucas POPS OPEN a panel on his gauntlet  
and a HOLOGRAPHIC INTERFACE appears.

JESSIE  
(under her breath)  
So rad.

LUCAS  
Impossible.

Lucas begins furiously TYPING into his interface.

JESSIE  
What's going on?

LUCAS  
I think someone's hacking my  
communications matrix...

*BAMF!!! A fractured HOLOGRAPHIC MESSAGE APPEARS over Lucas's  
gauntlet and BEGINS TO PLAY.*

INSERT HOLOGRAPHIC VIDEO - An old man, FLYING SOME KIND OF  
FUTURISTIC SHIP, addresses camera. *It's an 80 year old DANIEL  
MCAULIFFE!*

OLD MCAULIFFE  
Lucas, if you've been here as long  
as I think you ----, you know who I  
am. I'm sorry I didn't have time to  
tell you --- in person, but the  
Klathorians got wind -- my plan  
before --- ---.  
(SCREAMS OFF CAMERA)  
FIRE UP --- SEQUENCER!!!  
(continuing)  
Sorry about what happened to you. I  
had no idea the wormhole's blast  
wave could travel ----- time-space  
itself.  
(SCREAMS OFF CAMERA)  
ISOLATE --- QUANTUM STREAMS!!!  
(continuing)  
If my ----- worked and you're  
seeing this, you should be back in -  
-----, about -- hours before I do  
my experiment!  
(SCREAMS OFF CAMERA)  
ENGAGE THE ----- DRIVE!!!  
(desperate)  
I know I'm responsible for all  
this. I'm sorry. But this -- our  
only chance to fix it.  
(a beat)  
Find me Lucas! Stop me ---- doing  
the equation and re-write ---  
future! Close ---- ----- and  
save --- human race!

*FANZZAP!!! The hologram splinters out. Jessie stares at  
Lucas.*

JESSIE  
What the hell was that?

LUCAS  
(trying to process it)  
I think that was Daniel Mcauliffe.

JESSIE  
The guy responsible for all this?

Lucas nods.

LUCAS  
(intense)  
The date. What's the exact date today?

JESSIE  
Uh...  
(checking her phone)  
The 20th. June, 20th, 2020.

LUCAS  
I don't believe it... Mcauliffe sent me back here to stop it from happening.

JESSIE  
Stop what from happening?

LUCAS  
The Mcauliffe Equation.  
(a beat)  
Jessie, the experiment Daniel did took place at 12:12AM, June 21st, 2020.

JESSIE  
That's tomorrow.

LUCAS  
Exactly. It hasn't happened yet!

Jessie can barely contain her excitement.

JESSIE  
Oh my god... DID OUR LIVES JUST BECOME A TERMINATOR MOVIE!?

Lucas CHUCKLES to himself a bit.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
And you said nothing cool ever happened to us.  
(pumped)  
Let's go find this Mcauliffe son of a bitch and save the day!

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - VALENCIA, CA - MOMENTS LATER

Daniel rounds the hallway of an upscale technology lab, fumbling with a laptop. He's trailing his annoyed-looking boss, HENRY SPARKS (early 30's).

DANIEL  
 (frustrated)  
 But Henry, every simulation I've  
 run has worked. Look at the data!

He SHOVES his laptop into Henry's hands.

HENRY  
 Daniel, the processing speed you'd  
 need to map every atom of a human  
 body...

DANIEL  
 I'm not teleporting a human. I'm  
 teleporting Captain America.  
 (off Henry's confused  
 look)  
 An action figure of him.

He accidentally TRIPS over a decorative plant in the hall and  
 HITS the floor FACE FIRST!

HENRY  
 Are you OK?

Daniel pops back up, shaking it off.

DANIEL  
 'Meant to do that.

Blood begins to trickle from his nose.

HENRY  
 (recoiling)  
 Jesus, you're bleeding Daniel.

Daniel pinches his nose.

DANIEL  
 Look, the raid towers in the  
 computer bay have more than enough  
 power to launch my processing  
 matrix. The quantum algorithm I  
 created will do the rest. I just  
 need a spark.

HENRY  
 (insinuating lunacy)  
 Which will require us to syphon  
 Southern California's entire power  
 grid!

DANIEL  
 (shrugs)  
 For like 15 seconds.

HENRY

Which is all it would take to send us to jail for the rest of our lives.

DANIEL

If they found out?  
(under his breath)  
It's very easy to mask your digital footprint.

Henry hands Daniel back his laptop as he reaches his office. He *PLACES HIS HAND ON THE SECURITY SCANNER* on his door - and it slides open.

HENRY

Your "Beam me up Scotty" is a fascinating concept Daniel. But I'm not going to jail for it.

He *SLAMS* the door in Daniel's face.

DANIEL

Dumb.  
(a beat)  
I didn't want to resort to this Henry but...

Daniel *FLIPS* his laptop over. A GRAPHITE STICKER is mounted to the underside of it that has COPIED HENRY'S HANDPRINT.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

I can't let visionless corporate zombies stand in the way of the greatest advancement in human history.

LUCAS (O.S.)

The cell tower's this way?

EXT. PARK TRAIL, WOODS - LATER

JESSIE

Yeah, top of the hill.

Lucas and Jessie are *HIGH-TAILING* it along the same trail from earlier. Jessie can't stop staring at the *advanced-looking holographic computer interface* Lucas is *TYPING* into on his gauntlet.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

So sick.  
(re: his armor's computer)  
You can really hack into satellites with your armor?

LUCAS

(nodding)

Once I'm linked up, I should be able to pinpoint Mcauliffe's location in nano-seconds.

(in agreement)

This armor operating system is Klathorian technology. Wicked fast.

JESSIE

Klathorian technology? I thought they were the bad guys?

LUCAS

Well, humans didn't know that at first.

(explaining)

Only a handful of Klathorians arrived here when the Mcauliffe Equation happened. All the data was destroyed when the wormhole collapsed, so The Klathorians needed Mcauliffe to re-open that dimensional gateway.

(a beat)

So, under this "banner of peace", they shared their technology to build a bridge to "connect our cultures" and people just ate it up.

(angry)

Our defenses were completely down when they launched their attack. By the time people realized the wormhole was a "bridge to conquer" it was too late.

(angry)

They played us perfectly.

They come upon Dexter, vaping by a tree.

JESSIE

(sarcastic)

Great.

Lucas STOPS and stares at Dexter for a long moment.

LUCAS

(remembering)

Didn't he kick our asses earlier today?

He raises his eyebrow and marches towards him.

JESSIE

Lucas, what are you doing?



LUCAS  
 (over his shoulder)  
 I think you might enjoy this.

Lucas arrives in front of Dexter - who takes in his "outfit" and CHUCKLES to himself.

DEXTER  
 You get lost finding a Star Wars convention, bra?

*Lucas smiles and taps a BUTTON on his GAUNTLET. It OPENS, revealing a COMPARTMENT - HOLDING A SMALL SILVER BALL. He pulls the ball out and TOSSES it to Dexter.*

LUCAS  
 Catch!

Dexter moronically does.

DEXTER  
 (looking at the ball)  
 What's this?

LUCAS  
 Karma.

Lucas presses a BUTTON on his wrist and the silver ball EXPANDS, ENVELOPING Dexter inside a GLOWING PLASMA BUBBLE. Dexter's face is frozen in a terrified scream as bands of ELECTRICAL ENERGY pass over his face and body.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Dexter, you're trapped inside a Thorium Plasma Sphere. It's impossible to escape, so don't even try. Blink once if you understand me.

(Dexter BLINKS)  
 Excellent. While you can't move, you'll be fully aware of the horror that's happening to you while you're inside it.

(reassuring)  
 Don't worry, the sphere will dissolve on its own in about 19 hours. While you'll leave physically unharmed, the psychological damage will haunt you for decades to come.

(a beat)  
 I hope you have a good bladder, because whatever comes out of you will stay with you for the duration.

(smiles)  
 (MORE)

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 I suggest you use this time to  
 reevaluate your choices in life.  
 Like the one that makes you think  
 is OK to hit girls.

*He KICKS the SPHERE! Jessie watches in euphoric awe as the sphere FLIES UP into the trees and begin SILENTLY bouncing BACK-AND-FOURTH between the tree-tops like he's inside A GIANT PIN-BALL MACHINE.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 God, that felt good.

Lucas turns to Jessie who THRUSTS a finger up to SILENCE him.

JESSIE  
 Just gonna need a second, here.

She SHUTS HER EYES to compose herself - then looks at Lucas with a smile.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 Welcome home.

Lucas smiles. *It fades as he's overcome by a painful memory.*

LUCAS  
 Home.  
 (emotional)  
 She's still alive, isn't she?

JESSIE  
 Who, your mom?  
 (Lucas nods)  
 I frickin' hope so.

Lucas struggles to contain his emotions.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (softening)  
 Hey.. Are you OK?

*He NODS.*

LUCAS  
 Yeah, yeah, I'm fine.  
 (shaking it off)  
 Come on, let's get to that cell tower.

EXT. HILLSIDE - CELL TOWER - MOMENTS LATER

Jessie is beside Lucas, still GEEKING OUT, as he wires his gauntlet into a panel at the base of the large cell tower.

JESSIE  
 You close?

Jessie PULLS OUT her cell phone and frames Lucas up behind her.

LUCAS  
Should be wired up in a few more seconds.

JESSIE'S CELLPHONE POV - *She's started to RECORD an INSTAGRAM story.*

JESSIE  
Well folks, today is your lucky day. It's not often you get to watch someone save the world. But fortunately for you....

LUCAS  
What the hell are you doing?

JESSIE  
(matter-of-fact)  
Posting to my Instagram story?

*Lucas, GLARES AT HER like she's insane.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Don't worry, I'm tagging you.

LUCAS	JESSIE (CONT'D)
STOP RECORDING.	I...

LUCAS	JESSIE (CONT'D)
STOP RECORDING NOW.	OK, geez.

She lowers her phone.

LUCAS  
Delete it.

JESSIE  
You do know our faces are never gonna make us famous?

LUCAS  
(firm)  
Delete it now, Jessie.

Jessie reluctantly TAPS her phone and SLIDES IT back into her pocket. Lucas stares at her incredulously.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I really have no words right now.

Jessie PLOPS down beside him, guilty.

JESSIE

Sorry.

Lucas continues to work.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

So, what else can your armor do?

LUCAS

(a warning)

Paralyze stupid teenagers.

JESSIE

(defensive/apologetic)

I said, sorry.

Jessie, pouts for a moment watching Lucas work. Unable not to geek out over his armor, she *innocently REACHES for a RED BUTTON located near his chest.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)

What does this button do--

AHHHH!!!!

LUCAS

*He BATS Jessie's hand AWAY, horrified!*

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Are you insane?

JESSIE

(innocently)

What?

LUCAS

You almost killed us!

He EXHALES like he just "dodged a bullet" and makes sure the protective plate covering the RED BUTTON is secure.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(adult seriousness)

Look, Jessie. I think I might need to take you back home.

JESSIE

WHAT!?!

LUCAS

I'm not sure you're mature enough for all this.

JESSIE

YES I AM!

LUCAS

This isn't a game. The future of the human race is at stake here.

JESSIE  
I KNOW THAT LUCAS!

Jessie calms down, taking responsibility for her actions.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry. You're right, I've been  
letting my excitement cloud my  
judgment too much... but please.  
(pleading)  
I swear to God, I'll be cool from  
now on.

*Lucas gives her a "less than" confident look.*

LUCAS  
Don't touch ANY buttons on my  
armor.

JESSIE  
(confirming)  
No buttons.

LUCAS  
(firm)  
Like EVER.

JESSIE  
Got it. It won't happen again.

*Lucas's ARMOR suddenly lets out a horrible WHINING SOUND.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)	LUCAS
(defensive)	(re: his armor)
I didn't touch anything!	No, no, no....

Lucas POPS open a CIRCUITRY PANEL on his gauntlet - when his armor POWERS DOWN.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Son of a bitch!  
(Pissed)  
My power cell is drained.

INSERT: A CLOCK on Lucas's gauntlet begins to COUNT DOWN from 11:00.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
It'll be 11 hours until the system  
re-boots. All I have access to are  
my primary weapons.  
(triggered)  
Well... There goes finding  
Mcauliffe quickly.

*He SLAMS his fist against the tower, ANGRILY!*

JESSIE  
 Whoa! It's all good.  
 (calming mode)  
 We got this. We'll just use another  
 computer to Google Mcauliffe.

LUCAS  
 (pointedly)  
 One that's fast and has a lot of  
 power.

JESSIE  
 Well, nothing is gonna be as fast  
 as your super-suit, but...

LUCAS  
 (remembering something)  
 Freddy. He's got the fastest  
 computer we know.  
 (getting up)  
 Come on.

JESSIE  
 (horrified)  
 What!? No, no, no. There is no way  
 we are bringing Freddy into this!

LUCAS  
 Jessie...

JESSIE  
 (VIGOROUSLY SHAKING HER  
 HEAD)  
 No. Not gonna happen. End of  
 discussion. Moving on.

LUCAS  
 I need you to act like an adult  
 here.

JESSIE  
*WHICH IS EVEN MORE OF A REASON NOT  
 TO INCLUDE FREDDY!?*

Jessie does have a point there.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (very rational)  
 Look, your computer will be fast  
 enough.

LUCAS  
 I just told you my armor's  
 operating system won't re-boot for  
 eleven hour---

JESSIE  
 Not your super computer assbat!  
 Your Mac Book pro.  
 (Lucas is confused)  
 The one your Mom gave you for your  
 birthday?

Lucas nods, remembering a memory from long ago.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 You left it home today. We'll just  
 swing by your house and pick it up.

LUCAS  
 (unconvinced)  
 Freddy's computer is still gonna be  
 faster.

JESSIE  
 Uh, it's not like Freddy lives in  
 Korea. We all have the same  
 internet speed. We're talking the  
 difference of maybe ten minutes  
 here.  
 (pleading)  
 Lucas, I'm begging you. Please let  
 us make Freddy a last resort.

Lucas RELUCTANTLY NODS.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (relieved)  
 Thank you.

Lucas SLINGS his rifle over his shoulder.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 You know, I think seeing your Mom  
 is gonna be a really good thing for  
 you.

Lucas LAUGHS at it the absurdity of Jessie's statement.

LUCAS  
 I'm not going with you.

JESSIE  
 Yes, you are.

LUCAS  
 No, I'm not.

JESSIE  
 Lucas, I've actually been thinking  
 about this a lot since you got  
 back. You're dealing with some  
 serious trauma.  
 (MORE)

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (He shoots her a look: *and that's a shock to you*)  
 Totally understandable given the circumstances.  
 (a beat)  
 Which is why, I think seeing your Mom would be really good for you.

LUCAS  
 Jess, that is pretty much the worst idea you've ever had.

JESSIE  
 Please, I've had WAY worse ideas.  
 (a beat)  
 Come on, Lucas. You know you want to see her?

LUCAS  
 What difference does that make?  
 (motioning to his egregious hulking frame)  
 How do you plan to explain all this, genius?

JESSIE  
 We won't have to.  
 (confident)  
 Trust me. I got a plan.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - EDGE OF WOODS - CONTINUOUS

We hear the sound of LIGAMENTS CRACKING and TEARING coming from a overgrowth of brush at the edge of the park.

PUSH IN ON OVERGROWTH - *A large mass is moving inside the shadows. A scattering of yellow eyes appear in the darkness. SNIKT! A large, blade-like talon SLIDES INTO THE SUNLIGHT - then retracts back into the shadows.*

INT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - A SHORT TIME LATER

Lucas is standing in front of the mirror beside Jessie. He's squeezed himself into one of Jessie's Dad's sweatsuits. It barely covers his BULGING muscles.

JESSIE  
 (re: Lucas's muscles)  
 Did they feed you like small humans in the future?

LUCAS  
 This is a bad idea.

JESSIE  
 Not it's not - and please, you look awesome.

(MORE)



JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 May we all experience the butterfly-  
 like transformation puberty had on  
 you.

Jessie finishes the TEXT she's been composing on her  
 cellphone.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 OK, so you're my cousin's brother-  
 in-law from Spain, in town helping  
 my Dad with the kitchen re-model.  
 (a beat)  
 As soon as we get inside your mom's  
 house, I'll introduce you and run  
 upstairs to grab your computer.  
 That should give you three or four  
 minutes to see her.

Lucas shakes his head.

LUCAS  
 I can't believe I'm agreeing to do  
 this.

CAMILLE (O.S.)  
 DITCHING SCHOOL IN THE MIDDLE OF  
 THE DAY, SHE-WOLF?

Jessie SPINS to her door: CRAP.

CAMILLE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 DAD'S GONNA BE SO PISSED!

Jessie LOCKS HER DOOR and leans her back up against it. She  
 notices that Lucas has PICKED UP HIS RIFLE.

JESSIE  
 (quietly, reassuringly)  
 It's just my sister.

LUCAS  
 Exactly.

EXT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Camille (*wearing Volleyball gear*) stands outside Jessie's  
 door.

CAMILLE  
 I'd be hiding out if I'd made a  
 video like that too.  
 (golf claps with a LAUGH)  
 Bravo!

She tries to open the door.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
OPEN YOUR DOOR!

INT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

JESSIE  
(fighting a panic attack)  
I... I'm not dressed!

CAMILLE (O.S.)  
Do you have a boy in there with  
you? Your creepy special needs BFF  
doesn't count.

*Lucas COCKS his rifle.*

LUCAS  
(to Jessie)  
Just let me do it. Please.

JESSIE  
(whispering)  
STOP IT!  
(to Camille)  
I'm not feeling well.

CAMILLE (O.S.)  
(really enjoying this)  
The thought of you having to walk  
the hallways of school all day is  
just too glorious a vision not to  
witness so... get your clothes on  
and let's go.

INTERCUT FOR DOOR CONVERSATION

JESSIE  
Camille, seriously. I can't go back  
to school right now.

CAMILLE  
OK. I'll just call Dad and let him  
deal with it.

JESSIE  
Camille, I'm begging you. Please  
don't do this.

CAMILLE  
Why?

JESSIE  
Because somewhere inside your soul  
there is a tiny sliver of  
compassion?

Camille contemplates her next move.

CAMILLE  
What jar did Dad put the \$40 in?

JESSIE  
(relenting)  
The copper one.

CAMILLE  
You're cleaning my room and washing  
ALL my Volleyball gear.

JESSIE  
(cringing)  
Done.

CAMILLE  
Also... Nikki's having a party  
tonight, so I'm gonna spend the  
weekend at her house. I'm gonna  
leave my cellphone in my room, so  
when Dad tracks me on Life360, it  
looks like I'm home.  
(firm)  
Make sure it stays charged.

JESSIE  
I will.

CAMILLE  
You're lucky I'm feeling generous  
today.

JESSIE  
(sarcastic)  
I am a lucky little girl.

Jessie EXHALES as Camille STOMPS AWAY O.S.

LUCAS  
Why do you let her treat you like  
that?

JESSIE  
It's an act of compassion. Feeling  
superior is the only way her  
minuscule brain produces dopamine.  
(to the point)  
Now, we're in the middle of a  
mission to save the world and I  
need to help my traumatized best  
friend feel better, so...

She grabs her Jacket.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Let's get over to your house and  
let the healing begin.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD CUL DE SAC - DUSK

Lucas stands beside Jessie on the sidewalk overcome with emotions as he stares at his house.

LUCAS  
God... It hasn't changed a bit.

JESSIE  
Uh... Because, you left it for school this morning.

Lucas nods, remembering this is the same day he vanished. Jessie puts a confident hand on his shoulder.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(reassuring)  
Relax. This is gonna be great.

INT. LUCAS'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DUSK

Abby is pouring herself a GLASS OF WINE at the island in the kitchen. The doorbell RINGS O.S.

ABIGAIL  
(over her shoulder)  
DOOR'S OPEN, JESS!

Abby's back is to Jessie and Lucas as they enter the kitchen. She turns around to greet them and *Lucas's heart practically BURSTS OUT OF HIS CHEST*. She takes in Lucas's muscular frame.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
(to Jessie)  
Whoa... I didn't know there was a side of your family that experimented with Gamma Rays?

She CHUCKLES at her own "nerd joke". She's a little tipsy. Jessie makes introductions.

JESSIE  
(to Abby)  
Mrs. Moke, this is my cousin-in-law, Jake.

Lucas stares at Abby, *fighting the urge NOT to cry*.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(to Lucas)  
Jake, this my best friend's mother, Abigail Moke.

ABIGAIL  
(to Lucas)  
It's just Abby.  
(MORE)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
 (extending her hand to  
 shake)  
 It's nice to meet you, Jake.

Lucas bypasses her hand and gives her a HUG. Jessie cringes:  
this was not the start she was hoping for. Lucas won't let  
 go.

JESSIE  
 (covering for Lucas's  
 behavior)  
 They're big huggers on his side of  
 the family.

ABIGAIL  
 It's all good.

Abby doesn't seem to mind being hugged by such a big,  
 strapping man.

JESSIE  
 (slightly concerned)  
 OK, well... I'm gonna grab Lucas's  
 computer real FAST, and we'll be  
 out of here.

ABIGAIL  
 (re: Lucas's bedroom)  
 OK. Good luck in there! Lucas's  
 bedroom is like an episode of  
 American Horror Story.

Jessie quickly disappears upstairs. Abby, still clutched in  
 Lucas's embrace, awkwardly PATS HIS BACK.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
 OK then.

This makes Lucas just SQUEEZE HER TIGHTER. The color begins  
 to DRAIN FROM HER FACE.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
 (struggling)  
 Getting a... little... hard to...  
 breath.

Lucas realizes what he's doing and RELEASES his grip.

LUCAS  
 I'm so...  
 (faking an accent)  
 ...sorry.

ABIGAIL  
 (catching her breath)  
 It's OK. I mean who doesn't love a  
 good hug?  
 (MORE)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
(self-deprecating)  
You're just very strong. Girlfriend  
here needs to get back to the gym.

LUCAS  
(emotional)  
*What? No. You look perfect.*

ABIGAIL  
(blushing)  
Why... Thank you, Jake.

She takes a sip of wine, not used to flattery.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
(enchanted)  
You're not too bad yourself.

Lucas smiles, too enamored seeing his mom to pick up on her  
subtle innuendo.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
So, how's the renovation going?

Lucas stares at her, confused.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
In Jessie's kitchen?

LUCAS  
(remembering)  
Oh... Yes...  
(fake accent)  
*It is going good.*

ABIGAIL  
So, are you a professional  
contractor?

LUCAS  
(fake accent)  
*You bet.*  
(playing along)  
*If you ever need any work done  
around here, just let me know.*  
(a beat)  
*I'm real good at hammering things  
in.*

ABIGAIL  
(flirtatiously)  
Well, how soon can you start?

Lucas BLINKS. *Was that flirting? The reality of the situation  
hits him like train.*

LUCAS  
Oh... my...

JESSIE (O.C.)  
OK!

*Jessie BOUNDS into the kitchen with Lucas's computer.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
We're all set!

ABIGAIL  
(re: computer)  
I'm impressed you found anything in  
Lucas's room.

JESSIE  
(re: Lucas's bedroom)  
Yeah, that was pretty traumatizing.

*She returns to Lucas, whose trying not to loose it.*

ABIGAIL  
(to Lucas)  
Well, it was really nice to meet  
you Jake.  
(a beat)  
Feel free to stop buy later, if you  
want to wind down with a little  
wine.

*She playfully winks. Lucas DRY HEAVES.*

JESSIE  
(urgent)  
Time to go!

*She grabs Lucas's arm and starts pulling his to the front door.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
I'll tell Lucas you said "hi" Mrs.  
Moke. OK, bye bye then!

*The door SLAMS CLOSED behind them.*

INT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

*Lucas is PACING on the far side of Jessie's bed, mortified.  
Jessie stands across from him looking very guilty.*

JESSIE  
Well, that didn't go quite the way  
I hoped.

*Lucas shoots her an accusatory look.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (defensive)  
 Hey, I'm not the one who decided to  
 be the stud who likes to hug!

LUCAS  
 (pales)  
 Oh my God...

She POINTS to his computer resting on her bed trying to  
 change the subject

JESSIE  
 Hey, at least we got your computer!  
 What do you say we get back to  
 finding Mcrau...

Lucas looks like he's gonna lose it.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 OK, Lucas. Just take a few deep  
 breaths.

LUCAS  
 (trying to avoid a total  
 meltdown)  
 Jessie, I need you need to start  
 talking about something else.

JESSIE	LUCAS (CONT'D)
OK. Uh...	Like right NOW!

Jessie scans the room and points to Lucas's rifle on her  
 desk.

JESSIE  
 Tell me about your rifle?

LUCAS  
 MX-19 pulse rifle. Fusion core,  
 thermal tip rounds with cell-based  
 neutronic tracking.  
 (to himself)  
 This is working. Just gotta clear  
 the mind...  
 (loosing it)  
 Oh god... She invited me over for  
 a nightcap!

JESSIE  
 Stay with me Lucas!  
 (thinking fast)  
 Uh... The Klathorians! Tell me  
 about the Klathorians? What do they  
 look like?



LUCAS  
 Reptilian-like humanoids with  
 adaptable DNA that allows them to  
 adjust their appearance to look  
 human.

(continuing)  
 Ugly when they're not mirroring  
 human form.

JESSIE  
 (keeping him going)  
 So, was it cool killing them? Did  
 their heads explode and shit?

Lucas stares at her, incredulous.

LUCAS  
 What? There's nothing "cool" about  
 killing anything.  
 (bleak)  
 It was war.

Jessie's hit a nerve. She nods apologetically.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Well...  
 (remorseless)  
 Except maybe Lugorcs.

JESSIE  
 What's a Lugorc?

*SMASH! The window to Jessie's room EXPLODES and a LUGORC (A huge half wolf, half ant-like beast with a scattering of beady yellow eyes buried between the muscular shoulders holding up it's massive arms) comes FLYING IN! It LANDS on the bed between them, CRUSHING Lucas's laptop under its talon tipped hooves!*

LUCAS  
 THAT'S A LUGORC!

The Lugorc turns to Jessie. *SKNIKT! Several BLADE-LIKE TALONS SPRING from its bulking forearms.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 (to Jessie: screaming)  
 DUCK!

*Jessie ducks - BARELY MISSING THE TALONS that would have REMOVED HER HEAD. Lucas locks eyes on his rifle. The Lugorc is standing between him and it - blocking his path. The beast rears back to STRIKE Jessie again.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 HERE! YOU WANT ME!

*The beast SPINS to Lucas - who LAUNCHES himself at it LIKE A LINEBACKER!*

INT. JESSIE'S HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

*BOOM! Lucas and the Lugorc EXPLODE out Jessie's bedroom door into the hallway. Lucas DRIVES AN ELBOW into the beast's face - stunning it for a moment. He SCRAMBLES to his feet and RACES DOWN THE HALLWAY.*

LUCAS

Come on!

*As Lucas reaches the staircase, the Lugorc BRANDISHES ITS TALONS and LEAPS for him! Lucas drops as the Lugorc reaches him and DRIVES HIS FOOT into its MID-SECTION!*

*It FLIES over his head with a YELP but manages to hook a talon on Lucas's shoulder - PULLING HIM DOWN THE STAIRCASE BEHIND HIM!*

INT. JESSIE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*They BURST through the bannister and TUMBLE across the living room floor!*

LUCAS

(screaming)

JESSIE! GET ME MY RIFLE!

INT. JESSIE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

*Jessie grabs Lucas's rifle off her desk.*

INT. JESSIE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*The Lugorc LUNGES for Lucas. He picks up a piece of the busted bannister and SMASHES IT ACROSS ITS FACE!*

LUCAS

(out-of-breath)

MAKE SURE YOU RELEASE THE SAFETY!

EXT. JESSIE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*Jessie looks over the massive rifle as she RUNS DOWN the hall.*

JESSIE

WHERE IS IT?

INT. JESSIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*Lucas LEAPS over the dining room table and heads for the kitchen as the disoriented Lugorc gets to its feet.*

LUCAS  
THE BLUE BUTTON ON THE BACK!

INT. JESSIE'S STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

*Jessie flips the rifle over trying to find the blue button.*

JESSIE  
(frustrated)  
What blue button?

LUCAS (O.S.)  
JESSIE!!!

INT. JESSIE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*Lucas reaches the door to the kitchen as the Lugorc DIVES for him! He LEAPS UP, grabbing onto the doorframe and TUCKS HIS LEGS UP UNDER HIM. The Lugorc SAILS underneath him and FLIES INTO THE KITCHEN!*

INT. JESSIE'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

*It CRASHES through the island and SLAMS into the refrigerator. It BURSTS open sending food EVERYWHERE!*

*Lucas SWINGS DOWN from the doorframe and grabs a blade from a knife rack when the Lugorc lets out a BLOOD-CURDLING CRY! Some kind of WHITE LIQUID is EATING through the Lugorc's head like ACID! Lucas watches, bewildered as Jessie FLIES into the kitchen with his rifle!*

LUCAS  
It's OK. It's dead.

He takes his rifle from Jessie.

JESSIE  
What is that thing?

LUCAS  
Lugorc. Genetically designed  
Klathorian assassin.

She covers her nose, GAGGING from the creature's FOUL STENCH.

JESSIE  
What did you do to it?

LUCAS  
(confused)  
I didn't do anything?

*Lucas steps over to the beast, SCOOPS some of the white liquid off its melted head and SNIFFS IT. He then TASTES it.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(surprised)  
Milk?

JESSIE  
Milk kills those things?

LUCAS  
(matter of fact)  
That makes a lot more sense now.  
(off Jessie's confused  
look)  
The first thing the Klathorians  
targeted when they attacked were  
our dairy farms.

*Lucas EJECTS a pen-sized needle from the side of his rifle  
and JAMS IT into the dead Lugorc's NECK.*

JESSIE  
(re: needle)  
What are you doing?

LUCAS  
Analyzing it's codex to see how  
many more we're facing.

JESSIE  
(concerned)  
More?

LUCAS  
Aside from the stench, Lugorcs can  
self-replicate. If you've got one  
in the morning, you'll have dozens  
by the end of the day.

JESSIE  
You mean like Gremlins?

LUCAS  
No, I don't mean like Gremlins!

Lucas pauses for a moment.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Well... Yeah, sort of like  
Gremlins.  
(re: Lugorc)  
Point is, they aren't that hard to  
kill individually but they're  
practically unstoppable in packs.

*His rifle BEEPS! Two orange dots POP UP on his TRACKING  
DISPLAY.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Two more. Not too far from the High School.

*He removes the needle and INSERTS IT back into his RIFLE.*

JESSIE  
(excited)  
We're going after them?

Lucas nods. Jessie stands excited.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Yes!  
(a beat)  
Wait... What am I supposed to fight them with?

*Lucas DETACHES the front section of his rifle. He HANDS it to Jessie, PRESSES a button on its side and a HANDLE POPS OUT: it's a PISTOL.*

LUCAS  
Be careful with that.

Jessie holds the gun like she's won the lottery.

JESSIE  
This is the best day ever...

*She accidentally SQUEEZES the trigger! TA-BLAT-TAT-TAT-TAT! Lucas DUCKS as BULLETS SHRED THE CABINET behind him! Jessie RELEASES her grip and smiles sheepishly.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Oops.

*He RIPS the pistol out of her hand and SLAMS IT back into his rifle.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
It was an accident!

Lucas heads out of the kitchen.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Really!?!?  
(exasperated)  
Well, what am I supposed to fight them with?

*Lucas GRABS an unopened jug of milk off the counter and PLOPS IT in her hand.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(sarcastic distain)  
Awesome.

EXT. EDGE OF FIELD - CENTRAL PARK - NIGHT

*Lucas (back in his armor) RUNS past the outdoor exercise equipment with his rifle at the ready. Jessie is close behind, looking idiotic carrying the milk jug. LUCAS CHECKS HIS TRACKING DISPLAY.*

LUCAS  
Ten meters.

*He gives Jessie a complicated HAND SIGNAL.*

JESSIE  
(confused)  
What was that? Jazz hands?

LUCAS  
(EXHALING annoyed)  
Just stay here, I'll be right back.

Lucas disappears. Jessie leans against a tree, a bit annoyed to be left out. *Dexter SUDDENLY FLOATS BY in the PLASMA BUBBLE. His face still frozen in a silent scream. Jessie smiles.*

JESSIE  
That is a truly beautiful sight.

Jessie hears the SOUND OF STRUGGLE in the distance, TWO LASER SHOTS, then everything gets silent. Too silent.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(nervously)  
LUCAS?

She GAGS as a RANCID smell wafts past her.

With a gulp, she slowly turns to the Lugorc standing behind her. *It SLIDES it's TALON out with a menacing SKNIKT! Jessie shuts her eyes.* She GRIPS the milk jug TIGHT IN HER HAND, finding her courage.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(to herself)  
You can do this Jess.

She opens her eyes, staring into the beast's face.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(with a smirk)  
Got Milk?

*She THRUSTS the jug of milk at the Lugorc but nothing happens. She looks down and grimaces - the cap is still on.*

*BOOM - the SIDE of the beasts HEAD EXPLODES and it COLLAPSES to the ground. Lucas steps out from behind it.*

LUCAS  
 (re: Jessie's Milk)  
 Probably a good idea to make sure  
 the cap's off next time.

Jessie gives him the finger. He CHUCKLES *then FIRES a few more rounds in the Lugorc.*

JESSIE  
 (re: dead Lugorc)  
 We get all of them?

LUCAS  
 (checking his display)  
 I think so, but my tracker only has  
 a range of about 4 miles.

Jessie looks down at the dead Lugorc.

JESSIE  
 How did that thing know where you  
 were?

LUCAS  
 I don't know? Lugorcs use blood to  
 track their targets...

*He TOUCHES his neck where the misquote had bit him.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
That's what bit me!

He searches the grass and finds a small exoskeleton. He picks it up.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 (NODS to himself)  
 Must have hit me with a spore  
 before I came back through that  
 temporal rift.

JESSIE  
 A spore?

LUCAS  
 Lugorcs are maggot sized at first.  
 Easier for the Klathorians to hit  
 their targets that way.

JESSIE  
 Does this mean the Klathorians are  
 here?

LUCAS  
 I don't know...

He looks around nervously.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 But we're not waiting around to  
 find out.  
 (serious)  
 We need to find Mcauliffe, now.

JESSIE  
 Are we talking the last resort  
 here?

Lucas NODS. Jessie EXHALES, disgruntled.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 Fine. But we're making a pitstop  
 first.  
 (lifting up her milk jug)  
 I'm not walking around with this  
 all night.

INT. JESSIE'S GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

ECU - *The top of an old TOY BOX is RIPPED OPEN. White liquid is poured into a brightly colored plastic receptacle. SQUIRT, SQUIRT! Milk SPLATTERS against a wall.*

WIDE - Jessie lowers a *SUPER SOAKER WATER GUN* filled with *MILK* and nods with a confident smile.

INT. JESSIE'S KITCHEN - LATER

Several flies SWARM around the dead Lugorc lying on the Kitchen floor. *The dead creatures stomach TWITCHES.*

WE PUSH IN as something begins to move inside it towards the exposed flesh of its headless neck. *SPLURT - a disgusting, membraned covered placenta BURSTS out and FLOPS onto the floor. Something in a "fetal" position inside it BEGINS TO MOVE.*

EXT. FREDDY BERN'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Freddy stares into frame with a defiant look on his face. He's sporting camouflage make-up, a military throat mic and holding an air-soft rifle.

FREDDY  
 No.

WIDE - Jessie is standing across from him, outside his garage. Her Super Soaker is slung over her shoulder now.

JESSIE  
 You're joking, right?



FREDDY  
How am I supposed to promise not to  
talk about something if I don't  
even know what it is?

JESSIE  
Because that's the whole point of a  
secret, Freddy!  
(a beat)  
Come on. This is fate of the world  
stuff here. Don't be a dick.

FREDDY  
A dick.

He turns indignantly.

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
Well, good luck finding a fast  
computer, Jess.

LUCAS (O.C.)  
We don't have time for this.

*Lucas EMERGES from the shadows. He GRABS Freddy and PINS HIM  
AGAINST HIS DOOR!*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(annoyed)  
Listen you little...

REN O.S.  
Freddy?

They turn to the terrified face of REN (8, Freddy's bratty  
little sister) - *who's also wearing camouflage make-up and  
holding a air-soft gun.* Jessie tries to defuse the situation.

JESSIE  
(calm)  
Hey Ren. Wow, look at you all  
decked out?

*Her LIP BEGINS to TREMBLE with fear.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
This isn't what you think. We're  
just having a little fun.

She OPENS HER MOUTH to scream.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
REN, NO, NO--

*PIIISSST!!! Lucas BLASTS some kind of mist from his rifle  
INTO HER FACE. She blinks and COLLAPSES to the ground with a  
THUD.*

A trickle of pee RUNS DOWN Freddy's leg. His eyes ROLL UP INTO HIS HEAD and he PASSES OUT in Lucas's arms. Jessie glares at Lucas annoyed.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
And that was the best idea you  
could come up with!?

INT. FREDDY BERN'S HOUSE - GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas and Jessie sit on a couch across from Freddy - who's awake. He finishes GULPING DOWN a glass a water.

LUCAS  
Stay hydrated. The adrenaline  
booster I gave you is very strong  
stuff.

FREDDY  
Sorry, I passed out again.

JESSIE  
(pointedly)  
Third time, Freddy.

FREDDY  
(defensively)  
That was a lot of info to take in.

He glances over at Ren - *who's propped on the couch beside him unconscious.*

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
Is that permanent?

LUCAS  
No. She'll wake up in a few hours.

FREDDY  
Damn it.

Jessie points to Freddy's throat mic.

JESSIE  
Where the hell did you get  
military grade throat mics?

FREDDY  
(matter-of-fact)  
China.

LUCAS  
Listen Freddy, seeing as time is  
not exactly on our side right now,  
maybe you can get to finding  
Mcauliffe?

Freddy puts on his "game face".

FREDDY  
 Right. You were smart coming to me.  
 Most people only use 10% of their  
 brain.  
 (cocky)  
 I'm pretty sure I'm clocking in at  
 19%.

Jessie floats Lucas a sour gaze as Freddy SLIDES over to his computer.

JESSIE  
 (under her breath)  
 This is why I said last resort.

*Freddy begins furiously TYPING into his keyboard.*

FREDDY  
 ("meth" fast)  
 The search algorithm I'm about to  
 use is crazy efficient. Designed it  
 myself. Uses key-strokes and  
 available facial recognition to  
 narrow the search. Google's already  
 approached me about buying it.

Jessie and Lucas share a surprised look.

JESSIE  
 Really?

FREDDY  
 I keep things close to the hip so  
 people don't get overwhelmed.  
 (cocky)  
 Feel free to look away if your eyes  
 start to burn.

Jessie rolls her eyes.

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
 (over his shoulder)  
 Wow... The stimulant you gave me is  
 really starting to kick in, Lucas.  
 (buzzing)  
 I'm feel kinda invincible.

LUCAS  
 (little worried)  
 Well, just remember that you're  
not.

JESSIE  
 (to Lucas, under his  
 breath)  
 (MORE)

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
How strong was the stuff you used  
on him?

LUCAS  
Designed to re-start a human heart.

JESSIE  
(sarcastic)  
This should be fun.

INT. FREDDY'S GARAGE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Lucas is standing by a window holding an old *IN-N-OUT* burger box. He's *SMELLING* it with reverence. Jessie approaches as he digs a stale fry from the corner and pops it in his mouth. Jessie is about to say something when she sees that the fry has *transported him to a happier place*.

JESSIE  
(soft)  
Been a long time since you've had  
one of those, huh?  
(Lucas nods)  
Well, then you should enjoy this,  
too.

She hands him a Coke-Zero.

LUCAS  
Thanks.  
(motioning to Freddy)  
How's it coming?

ANGLE ON FREDDY - He's *WAILING AWAY* on his keyboard in a *POOL OF SWEAT*.

JESSIE  
Well... I think I finally  
understand the dangers of meth.

LUCAS  
You should get some sleep.

JESSIE  
Are you kidding? I'm not gonna  
sleep again for the rest of my  
life.

Lucas understands that statement far too well and checks the tracking display on his rifle. Jessie holds her gaze on him. It's the first time she's seeing a man who was literally in BATTLE a FEW HOURS AGO.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(softly)  
You wanna talk about it?

LUCAS  
Talk about what?

JESSIE  
What happened to you in the future?  
The War?

LUCAS  
Not really.

Jessie nods, respecting his space. After a beat, she can't help but ask the question that's been burning her up inside:

JESSIE  
You gotta tell me... Are all my  
movies like mega blockbusters in  
the future?

Lucas looks away, trying to avoid the conversation.

LUCAS  
Wasn't... a lot of time to be  
making movies.

JESSIE  
(remembering)  
Right... Because you and I were too  
busy fighting the Klathorians  
together.

Lucas forces a smile.

LUCAS  
(lying)  
Till the end.

Jessie stares at Lucas.

JESSIE  
You're lying.

LUCAS  
(lying)  
No, I'm not.

JESSIE  
Yes, you are.  
(a beat)  
Something bad happened to me in the  
future, didn't it?  
(Lucas is silent)  
It's OK Lucas, you can tell me.

LUCAS  
I...  
(with tactful sensitivity)  
(MORE)

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Look Jessie, we're attempting to change the course of history right now. We're in uncharted waters here. There's no way to predict what might happen if we succeed or don't succeed.

JESSIE

I know.

LUCAS

(delicate)

So it doesn't matter what happened. If we succeed, we'll change it anyway but...

(a beat)

If for some reason something bad happens to me...

JESSIE

(the optimist)

Nothing bad is going to happen to you, Lucas. We're gonna find Mcauliffe and save the world.

LUCAS

Just promise me you won't tell anyone the truth about what really happened to me. No matter what.

JESSIE

What do you mean?

LUCAS

If someone asks you how I disappeared, just make something up. Say I ran away or something. Don't tell the authorities the truth.

JESSIE

What? Did they lock me up in an mental institution or something?

LUCAS

(ignoring the question)

Just promise me you won't tell anyone the truth.

Jessie's never seen Lucas so serious before.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(earnest and vulnerable)

Please.

JESSIE  
(nodding)  
I promise.

LUCAS  
Thank you--

FREDDY (O.C.)  
--Found him!

They turn to Freddy.

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
(reading off his screen)  
Daniel Ryan Mcauliffe. Born March  
31st, 1978. Physicist specializing  
in quantum dynamics, astro-physics  
and wave theory.

They RUN OVER and view Freddy's computer.

LUCAS  
You might just be using 19%,  
Freddy!

FREDDY  
(beaming)  
That's not even the best part. He  
works right here in Santa Clarita.

JESSIE  
What?

Freddy pulls SURVEILLANCE VIDEO of the WESTFORD LABORATORIES  
up on-screen. *High concrete fences surround the place. One  
road in and out - with double checkpoints.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Is that Westford Laboratories?

FREDDY  
Yup.  
(concerned)  
Hope you have a plan to get in  
there, cause that place has serious  
security.

*Lucas lifts his rifle and COCKS it with bravado.*

LUCAS  
I call this my universal key.

JESSIE  
Whoa! You can't just blast your way  
in there?

LUCAS  
Jessie, we have to stop Mcauliffe.

JESSIE  
Agreed. But we can do it without  
hurting innocent people.

FREDDY (O.C.)  
(re: his monitor)  
Is that Mrs. Wu?

They turn to Freddy's computer. The SURVEILLANCE VIDEO is showing Madison EXITING the guard gate in a souped up Chevy Charger. Lucas stares at Madison.

LUCAS  
Man, I forgot how beautiful she  
was.

FREDDY  
(agreeing)  
So hot.

Jessie DRY HEAVES.

LUCAS  
What's she doing there?

FREDDY  
(remembering to Jessie)  
Isn't Westford Labs where Mrs. Wu's  
taking us for the field trip on  
Monday?

ANGLE ON SURVEILLANCE VIDEO - *Madison swipes an ACCESS CARD  
by the guard station. The gate opens and she drives away.*

JESSIE  
She's got an access card.

LUCAS  
(to Freddy)  
Can you track her?

FREDDY  
(offended)  
Is that a joke?

Lucas GETS UP.

LUCAS  
(to Freddy)  
I need to borrow your car.

FREDDY  
(confused)  
What?



Lucas remembers that he's talking to a 14 year old.

LUCAS  
Never mind. I'll just jump start a  
car on the street.

JESSIE  
We're stealing a car?

FREDDY  
We're stealing a car!?

*Freddy HOPS UP, excited. Lucas puts a hand on Freddy, and  
gently PUSHES HIM BACK DOWN into his chair.*

LUCAS  
(to Freddy)  
You are not stealing anything.  
(a beat)  
You are staying right here.

FREDDY  
(pissed)  
What? Why?

LUCAS  
(reaching)  
Because... Uh...

Jessie jumps in to defuse the situation.

JESSIE  
Because, we need that brilliant  
mind of yours on your computer in  
case something goes wrong.  
(laying it on thick)  
You're our Dustin from Stranger  
Things now.

*Freddy POPS the equivalent of a GEEK BONER.*

FREDDY  
Consider your backs covered, Elle.  
(to Lucas)  
You too, Chief.

INT. JESSIE'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

The membraned placenta we saw earlier, lays *PEELED OPEN* on  
the kitchen floor. The dead Lugorc is nowhere to be seen.

A slim trail is leading to a pantry in the corner. The sounds  
of CHEWING are COMING FROM IT.

*WE PUSH IN on the dark pantry - just in time to see the DEAD  
LUGORC'S LEG get PULLED INSIDE. We hear several CRACKS and a  
LOUD GULP - then watch a shapeless form begin to RISE UP in  
the darkness. It's muscles SHIFT and CRACK as it begins to  
take on a HUMAN FORM.*

*The THING reaches into its MOUTH and PULLS out a small, MULTI-TENTACLED LARVA. It SQUIRMS and lets out a VENOMOUS SHRIEK!*

INT. STOLEN SEDAN - LOCAL BAR - LATER

Jessie and Lucas sit in a stolen car, in the PARKING LOT of a local bar.

LUCAS  
That Stranger Things move on Freddy  
was pretty impressive.

JESSIE  
You've clearly forgotten who our  
friends are? Their geek  
sensibilities will overcome their  
rational minds, every time.

Jessie's cell RINGS.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(listening)  
Yeah... OK... Nice work, Dustin.

She puts the phone down and motions to the bar.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Freddy said Mrs. Wu went into the  
Bar five minutes ago.  
(Lucas NODS)  
So what's the plan?

LUCAS  
(surveying the bar)  
Go in and get her access card.

JESSIE  
How?

LUCAS  
I don't know Jessie? In a non-  
lethal way.

He hands Jessie his rifle.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(re: his rifle)  
Try not to shoot yourself.

Lucas HOPS OUT of the car with a CHUCKLE and heads for the bar. Jessie CALLS to him, as he nears the entrance.

JESSIE (O.C.)  
LUCAS!  
(he turns to her)  
Stay focused.  
(MORE)

JESSIE (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
 Don't let your "feelings" get you  
 all distracted in there.

LUCAS  
 I'm aware of what's at stake here.

She and POINTS to his CLOAK.

JESSIE  
 Your armor is showing.

Lucas catches his reflection in a car window. *He adjusts his cloak to cover his armor - then briefly FIXES HIS HAIR.*  
 Jessie GLARES at him, nauseated.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 I swear to god, I'm gonna throw up  
 on you.

INT. LOCAL BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lucas ENTERS the empty bar and surveys the room. Madison is sitting alone at the bar, nursing a beer. He sits down beside her.

BARTENDER  
 (to Lucas)  
 What can I get you?

LUCAS  
 Oh, uh...

Madison looks at him and smiles. He kinda melts.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 I'll take what she's having.

The Bartender nods and steps away.

MADISON  
 Sorry.  
 (re: her drink of choice)  
 It's light beer.

LUCAS  
 Oh... That's fine with me.

Madison takes in his appearance for a moment.

MADISON  
 Do you have a circulation  
 problem?... Or do you always walk  
 around dressed like a Jedi?

Lucas LAUGHS.

LUCAS

Jedi.

(wry)

That's why I'm usually drinking alone.

Madison LAUGHS and points to herself.

MADISON

(consolatory)

The nerd runs deep here too.

She shows Lucas a *Leeloo Dallas' multipass replica that's hanging from the lanyard she's wearing (that's also holding her access card)*.

LUCAS

(impressed)

Is that a Leeloo Dallas multipass from The Fifth Element?

(Madison nods with pride)

That's next level geek right there.

MADISON

(with a wink)

Still in the closet.

LUCAS

(re: multipass replica)

You get that at comic-con or something?

MADISON

I wish. Amazon.

(a beat)

I've actually never left the Santa Clarita Valley.

LUCAS

Really?

She nods. It's not something she's proud of.

MADISON

Born and raised here. Married my high school sweetheart, work as a teacher at the high-school, the whole shebang.

LUCAS

(slightly disappointed)

You're married?

MADISON

What!? No. God no!

(clear)

Divorced. Very Divorced.

(MORE)

MADISON (CONT'D)  
(a beat)  
Why, you looking for a girlfriend?

She blinks.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
I said that out-loud, didn't I?

Lucas nods. She smiles, innocently embarrassed.

LUCAS  
Not complaining.

Lucas smiles. *The chemistry between these two is palpable.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
How did I not know you were such a  
huge geek?

MADISON  
How could you?

An uncomfortable beat passes between them.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
(a little unnerved)  
Uh... I'm sorry, have we met  
before?

INT. STOLEN SEDAN - CONTINUOUS

Jessie checks her watch impatiently.

JESSIE  
Come on, Lucas.

A FLASHLIGHT shines in her face. *A cop car has pulled up beside her.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(under her breath)  
Crap.

The officer MOTIONS for Jessie to roll down her window. She complies.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Evening officer.

POLICE OFFICER  
Evening.

JESSIE  
How can I help you?

POLICE OFFICER  
Your car matches the description of  
one that was reported stolen about  
an hour ago.

Jessie nervously smiles.

JESSIE  
(re: stolen car)  
Well, I guess someone else also has  
good taste.

*She PATS THE DASHBOARD confidently.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
'Cause this bad boy is all mine.

The officer STEPS OUT and approaches her door.

POLICE OFFICER  
If I could just see your license  
and registration anyways.  
(a beat)  
I'd hate to arrest the wrong  
person.

JESSIE  
Absolutely.

Jessie reaches for the glove box when - *she sees an ORANGE  
TARGET moving on the TRACKING DISPLAY of Lucas's rifle.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Oh no....

INT. LOCAL BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lucas stares at Madison, not sure what to say.

MADISON  
Do we know each other?

LUCAS  
Well, that's kind of a loaded  
question...

Madison involuntarily GAGS and covers her nose.

MADISON  
What is that smell?

Lucas snaps to attention. He REACHES INTO his cloak for his  
rifle then cringes: he left it with Jessie. He locks his eyes  
on Madison.

LUCAS

Madison, please don't take this personally, but I'm gonna pick you up right now and toss you over this bar.

MADISON

Excuse me?

LUCAS

No matter what you hear, stay down.

Lucas GRABS Madison by her jacket and *LITERALLY TOSSES HER OVER THE BAR*. As she disappears behind it, he *SPINS* around, *RIPS OFF* his cloak and *THROWS* it over the head of *THE LUGORC* that's *CHARGING* at him - *blinding it's multiple yellow eyes*.

It *SLAMS* into the thick wood bar with a loud *CRACK*. Madison *SCREAMS*!

EXT. LOCAL BAR - CONTINUOUS

The Police Officer *SPINS* to the bar.

POLICE OFFICER

What the hell was that...

He *TAKES OFF* for the entrance. Jessie *SCREAMS* after him!

JESSIE

DON'T GO IN THERE!

INT. LOCAL BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lucas *JUMPS* back, *TWISTS A KNOB* on his right gauntlet and a *small grappling hook POPS INTO HIS HAND* - a thin cable is attached to him. The Lugorc *TEARS THE CLOAK* from its head and *LAUNCHES* at Lucas. He *THROWS* the grappling hook at the beast *WHILE IT'S AIRBORNE*. The hook's cable *WRAPS AROUND* the beast's talon clad arm, then *IMBEDS ITSELF* into its leathery alien skin!

Using the Lugorc's momentum, Lucas *PULLS ON THE CABLE* with both arms, *SWINGING* the beast around and *LAUNCHING IT ACROSS THE ROOM*! It *CRASHES* into the corner. He detaches the cable from his wrist and *ANCHORS IT* into a wood beam beside him.

Lucas then *TAPS* his outside thigh and two *BATON SHAPED/KATANA BLADES POP OUT*. He *SWINGS* them into fighting position and sees Madison, staring at him from behind the bar.

LUCAS

(over his shoulder)

MADISON, STAY DOWN!

The police officer suddenly *BURSTS* into the bar and *DRAWS* his gun on Lucas.

POLICE OFFICER  
DROP YOUR WEAPON!

Lucas stares at him, incredulously.

LUCAS  
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

POLICE OFFICER  
DROP THEM NOW!!!

Lucas *LIFTS HIS ARM* to point at the Lugorc in the corner when... BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! The officer FIRES THREE SHOTS into Lucas's chest, sending him *SLAMMING* onto his back!

MADISON (O.C.)  
LUCAS!!!!

A MENACING ROAR causes the Officer to SPIN to the corner: seeing the Lugorc for the first time.

POLICE OFFICER  
What the...

He FIRES into its chest as it CHARGES HIM. His bullets have zero effect on its plated, shell-like chest. Madison SCREAMS as it DESCENDS on the officer with a ROAR. It TEARS INTO HIM for a few seconds then locks its seven beady yellow eyes on Madison and CHARGES.

Lucas SLIDES IN FRONT of the beast before it reaches the bar and DEFLECTS its arm with his BLADES. The Lugorc tries to SWING its other arm but can't: the cable that Lucas anchored is STILL HOLDING IT BACK.

Seeing his advantage, Lucas SLASHES into the beast's midsection landing numerous punishing STRIKES before the CABLE holding the Lugorc SNAPS.

The beast LAUNCHES forward, SLAMMING Lucas against the counter and SWINGS both talons down at his head.

CLANG! Lucas stops them with his blades - inches before they hit his face - but he's PINNED. The Lugorc bears its weight down on him, pushing its talons CLOSER AND CLOSER to his face. Lucas glances at Madison - who's watching from behind the counter.

LUCAS  
(straining)  
M...ilk.

MADISON  
What?



LUCAS  
(straining)  
Milk.... Please.

Madison doesn't understand the request. *Lucas shuts his eyes as a talon REACHES HIS FACE. This is it.*

*BLA-TAT-TAT-TAT! The Lugorc FLIES OFF Lucas and CRASHES to the floor in a bloody heap.*

JESSIE stands a few feet away - the barrel of Lucas's rifle she's holding SMOKES.

JESSIE  
(triumphantly)  
Found the blue button.

*Lucas SLIDES to the floor, relieved.*

LUCAS  
(exhausted)  
I really love you right now,  
Jessie.

MADISON  
Jessie Chase?

Jessie casually WAVES at Madison.

JESSIE  
Hi, Miss Wu.

MADISON  
What... Are you doing here?

JESSIE  
(cocky)  
Saving your ass.

Madison stares at the dead Lugorc.

MADISON  
What the hell is that?

JESSIE  
A Gremlin assassin from the future.  
(cringing to Lucas)  
I wasn't supposed to say that, was I?

LUCAS  
(out-of-breath)  
We're gonna have to explain it all  
anyway.

Jessie nods and MOTIONS to the dead beast.

JESSIE  
Guess we missed one?

Lucas NODS, heads over to the fallen police officer and examines his injuries.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Is he dead?

LUCAS  
(relieved)  
He had his vest on. Just surface wounds.

He PULLS a syringe-like medical device from his belt - and *INJECTS something into the officer's neck.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
That will speed up the healing and keep him unconscious for a couple of hours.  
(to Jessie)  
The last thing we need right now is Police involvement.

JESSIE  
Agreed.

Madison stares at Lucas as he STANDS.

MADISON  
Who are you?

LUCAS  
Uh... Lucas Moke.  
(after a long beat)  
9th Grade Environmental Science class.

MADISON  
What?

JESSIE  
(explaining)  
He's been in the future for 20 years, so he's old now.

LUCAS  
I'm not old.

Madison stares at Lucas, trying to process if he's telling her the truth.

MADISON  
(surprised)  
Why do I believe you?

Lucas MOTIONS to the DESTRUCTION surrounding them: why wouldn't you? Madison NODS, reaches behind the bar and HANDS LUCAS A GLASS OF MILK. He stares at it for a beat - then starts to LAUGH.

MADISON (CONT'D)

What?

*Lucas TOSSES it on the Lugorc.* Madison watches it MELT through the creature's skin.

MADISON (CONT'D)

(apologetic)

Sorry, about that.

LUCAS

It's OK.

MADISON

So, are you going to explain what's going on here?

LUCAS

Absolutely. But first, we need to borrow your Westford Lab access card.

MADISON

Why?

JESSIE

Would you believe us if we told you we needed it to save the world?

EXT. SIDE STREET - MOMENTS LATER

*Madison's car comes DRIFTING around a corner.*

INT. MADISON'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Jessie and Lucas HOLD ON for dear life.

LUCAS

EASY MADISON!

JESSIE

AHHHH!!!

MADISON

YOU SAID WE'RE TRYING TO SAVE THE WORLD!

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison leads Lucas and Jessie down a hallway. They're both a little frazzled from the ride.

JESSIE  
(to Madison)  
Jesus, is your last name Toretto?

LUCAS  
(in agreement)  
Seriously.  
(to Madison)  
Where did you learn to drive like that?

MADISON  
I teach a precision and stunt driving course twice a month for extra money.  
(a beat)  
A school teacher's salary isn't exactly something you can live on.

LUCAS  
(re: her driving)  
Might be your true calling.

JESSIE  
So, how do you know Mcauliffe anyway?

MADISON  
I don't, really. He's just the person the facility put me in contact with for the field trip.

LUCAS  
How dangerous is he?

Madison LAUGHS.

MADISON  
He's a little accident prone but far from dangerous.  
(pointing)  
That's his office.

They arrive outside Daniel's office. His door is plastered with POST-IT NOTES and POLAROIDs.

JESSIE  
Is that on purpose?

MADISON  
(nodding)  
Daniel's got really bad A.D.D. Forgets stuff all the time so, he leaves himself lots of notes.

Lucas BANGS LOUDLY on the door.

LUCAS  
MCAU...

JESSIE  
Whoa! You're gonna scare the hell  
out of him.

LUCAS  
That's kinda the point.

MADISON  
(reassuring)  
Trust me. He isn't a threat.  
(re: the office door.)  
May I?

She gently NUDGES Lucas to the side and RAPS on the door.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
(sweetly)  
Daniel? Hey, it's Madison Wu!

INT. DANIEL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel's wearing his huge headphones and can't hear a thing.

MADSON (O.S.)  
(louder)  
DANIEL!

He turns to his door, tearing off his headphones.

DANIEL  
Hello?

MADISON (O.S.)  
Daniel, it's Madison Wu from  
Valencia High. Can you open the  
door, please?

DANIEL  
Sure, hang on!...

He PUNCHES his security code into his door - *and it slides open.*

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
(embarrassed)  
Were you standing there lo...

Daniel STOPS as he sees Lucas and the large rifle he's holding.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
(nervous)  
Did Henry send you?

LUCAS  
 (going along with it)  
 Sure did.

He smiles nervously, then CLOSES the door on their faces!

EXT. DANIEL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Jessie turns to Lucas.

JESSIE  
 (sarcastic)  
 Yeah, that didn't seem suspicious  
 at all.

We hear Daniel's door LOCK O.S. Madison RAPS on it.

MADISON  
 (annoyed)  
 DANIEL! OPEN THIS DOOR!

LUCAS  
 May I?

Lucas NUDGES Madison to the side and --

INT. DANIEL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

-- *KICKS the door open!* They BURST into the office but Mcauliffe is gone. A door is SWINGING open at the back of the room. A CRASH O.S. pulls them back into the hallway.

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Lucas, Jessie and Madison watch Daniel - *clamoring to his feet a few feet away, trying to stuff some papers back into his arms.*

MADISON  
 What the hell are you doing?

He abandons the papers and makes a mad DASH for the exit! *Lucas RIPS a futuristic-looking bolas off his utility belt and HURLS it at his legs.* Daniel CRASHES onto his face.

JESSIE  
 (to Lucas)  
 You seriously have to let me try  
 your armor out.

Lucas RUNS over and PULLS Daniel to his feet. Blood has begun to pour from his nose.

DANIEL  
 (pleading)  
 I'm sorry! Please don't hurt me!  
 (MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Tell Henry I can get everything  
back to normal!

LUCAS  
(intense)  
Where is it?

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET LAB - CONTINUOUS

Daniel leads the group into his secret lab. He motions to the towers.

DANIEL  
That's my Displacement Reactor.

Lucas steps to the towers, then turns to Daniel - flooded with emotion.

LUCAS  
(angry)  
Did it ever occur to you that maybe  
opening a wormhole might have some  
dire consequences?!

DANIEL  
Wormhole?...  
(confused)  
What are you talking about?

JESSIE  
The Mcauliffe Equation!

DANIEL  
(confused)  
The Mc..  
(excited)  
That's actually a really good name  
for it.

LUCAS  
The experiment you're going to do  
at 12:12AM!

DANIEL  
(confused)  
I'm not opening a wormhole.

He pauses for a moment - *quickly refers to a note on his desk*  
- and nods confidently.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
(to himself)  
Yep, not opening a wormhole.  
(pointing to the towers)  
At 12:12AM, I'm going to be the  
first scientist to successfully  
achieve teleportation!

JESSIE  
Teleportation?

Daniel PULLS the CAPTAIN AMERICA ACTION FIGURE from his pocket.

DANIEL  
Cap's going to make history.

Lucas and Jessie share a confused look.

JESSIE  
What is he talking about?

DANIEL  
Didn't Henry tell you that?  
(suspicious)  
Wait, how did you know what time I  
was planning to do my experiment?

MADISON  
Because he's from the future.

DANIEL  
Oh... He's what!?

MADISON  
They're here to stop you.

LUCAS  
Is this not the right guy?

DANIEL  
Stop me?

JESSIE  
It has to be.

Daniel SCREAMS.

DANIEL  
WOULD SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHAT  
THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE!?

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET OFFICE - LATER

The group all stand around Daniel's desk, WATCHING the end of the HOLOGRAM his older self had sent Lucas. The Mcauliffe Equation is displayed on his computer screen.

OLD MCAULIFFE (O.C.)  
...re-write --- future. Save the  
human---!

The video ends. Daniel sits there trying to process everything.

DANIEL  
(awestruck)  
I can't believe I created a stable  
wormhole... I mean, how AWESOME is  
that!?

(MORE)



DANIEL (CONT'D)  
(a beat)  
...but not.

MADISON  
You aged really well.

DANIEL  
(agreeing)  
I know, right?

LUCAS  
So you're saying, opening the  
wormhole was an accident?

DANIEL  
(nodding)  
1000%. Believe me, I wish I was  
that smart.

Daniel returns to the Equation displayed on his computer  
screen.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
(amazed)  
The fact that the blast wave was  
powerful enough to travel across  
time and send you into the future  
is just remarkable.

LUCAS  
Wait... You know what sent me into  
the future?

DANIEL  
Of course.

Clearly no one else does.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Right...  
(explaining)  
So, you know how when a bomb  
explodes, it releases a "shock  
wave" that can shatter windows  
miles away? Well, when this  
dimensional wormhole opened, its  
"shock wave" didn't just blow out  
windows a few miles away, but  
cracked open a hole in the very  
fabric of TIME/SPACE itself...  
(to Lucas)  
A temporal fracture, in the exact  
spot where you just happened to be  
walking.

JESSIE

Wait... Are you saying anybody  
could have stepped into that thing  
and been sent to the future?

(off Daniel's nod)

So not fair.

LUCAS

So how did you send me back?

DANIEL

I don't know.

(theorizing)

I must have found some way to punch  
you back into that temporal  
fracture...

(re: the equation.)

I'm sure the answer's somewhere in  
there but, I mean, it doesn't  
really matter. I'm not going to do  
that experiment tonight... Or ever.

MADISON

So, is that it?... Did we stop it?

Daniel NODS. *A beat passes between everyone.*

JESSIE

(slightly disappointed)

Well, that's anti-climactic. I was  
kinda hoping for some kind of epic  
final battle...

(everyone is staring at  
her)

But, I mean... It's all good.

Lucas puts his hand on Jessie's shoulder.

LUCAS

(proud)

We did it.

She smiles. Madison notices Daniel staring at his computer -  
*a hint of sadness in his eyes.*

MADISON

How long have you been working on  
that teleportation thing?

DANIEL

(bittersweet)

My whole life.

MADISON

Sorry.

DANIEL  
 Hey, I'm not responsible for  
 opening a gateway that let  
 creatures into our world who  
 destroyed the human race.  
 (a beat)  
 I'm feeling pretty good right now.

Jessie notices an odd looking clock on Daniel's wall. *The hands are spinning weirdly and the corner is drooping like a Salvador Dalí painting.*

JESSIE  
 (re: clock, disturbed)  
 Was buying that like, a conscious  
 choice?

Daniel turning to Lucas, ignores Jessie's question

DANEIL  
 What happens now?

LUCAS  
 We destroy everything. That  
 accelerator, all the data there is  
 on the Equation.  
 (a beat)  
 Make sure this can never happen  
 again.

DANIEL  
 (nodding)  
 Most of my data is on the hard-  
 drives at my house. I'll head  
 there, first.

LUCAS  
 No. You stay here and start  
 disassembling that accelerator.

*Lucas suddenly BUCKLES weakly and DROPS to a knee.*

MADISON  
 (worried)  
 Lucas?

JESSIE  
 (concerned)  
 Whoa... Are you OK?

LUCAS  
 Yeah, Yeah... Just got a little  
 lightheaded all of a sudden.

He takes a DEEP BREATH and STANDS back up.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 (to Daniel)  
 We'll head to your house and  
 destroy the drives.  
 (MORE)

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I wanna sweep the area and make  
sure we're done with our Lugorc  
problem anyway.

DANIEL  
(nervous)  
Speaking of that... You mind  
leaving me something to protect  
myself with?

Lucas nods, removes the front section of his rifle - *and hands Daniel the pistol.*

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Thanks.

LUCAS  
We'll see you soon.

Jessie gives Lucas a worried look as they head out.

JESSIE  
Are you sure you're OK? You look  
bad.

MADISON  
(in agreement with Jessie)  
It's true. When's the last time you  
ate or had water or anything?

Lucas SHRUGS. Madison SCOFFS a little.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
We need to get some food in you.

Jessie SMILES.

JESSIE  
I know the perfect place.

INT. DANIEL MCAULIFFE'S HOUSE - LATER

Lucas, Jessie and Madison are sitting at a table in Daniel's kitchen eating IN-N-OUT BURGERS. *Madison is holding one of the numerous Polaroid cameras lying around Daniel's kitchen.*

Lucas and Jessie barley acknowledge Madison as they INHALE their food with EUPHORIC ECSTASY. Madison watches them amused.

MADISON  
Glad you're feeling better.

LUCAS  
(nodding, mouth full)  
So... Good.

JESSIE  
(nodding, mouth full)  
So... Good.

Jessie looks at Lucas as he eats. For the first time since all this started - *he seems happy*.

MADISON  
(to Lucas)  
You really made this list of things  
you'd do if you ever got back  
here... and having In-N-Out was at  
the top of your list?

Both Lucas and Jessie give Madison a shocked look. They LIFT up their burgers.

JESSIE	LUCAS
(chewing)	(chewing)
Uh... This is a Double Double with cheese.	Quite literally the greatest food ever created by humans.

Madison CHUCKLES as they continue to eat and aims the Polaroid camera at them.

MADISON  
Smile.

Jessie makes a "peace sign" and Lucas flips a "hang-loose" as Madison SNAPS a shot of them.

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET LAB - NIGHT

Daniel finishes ATTACHING SOMETHING to the underside of his desk, then stares at The Mcauliffe Equation on his computer screen, still in awe of the marvel he created. His gaze suddenly shifts to the UPPER RIGHT CORNER of the monitor.

DANIEL  
What in...

POV COMPUTER MONITOR - *The right corner looks like it's DETACHED - FLOATING an inch away from the rest of the computer - defying the very laws of physics. Daniel PUSHES against the detached section and the ENTIRE COMPUTER MOVES. It's still one solid piece. A look of doom falls across his face as he LOOKS over at the clock on his wall Jessie had mentioned - seeing that it too is defying the laws of physics.*

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Oh God....

*He begins furiously TYPING into his keyboard.*

INT. DANIEL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jessie admires the POLAROID Madison took of her and Lucas. There is a twinkle of youthful innocence in Lucas's eyes again. *She SLIDES the POLAROID into her JACKET POCKET with a sense of accomplishment.*

MADISON  
So, what happens now?

LUCAS  
(chewing)  
What do you mean?

MADISON  
I mean, how are you gonna explain  
to people what happened tomorrow?  
I mean you were fourteen this  
morning.

LUCAS  
Well... I don't think I'll have to.

Jessie nods - *completely in sync with Lucas's thought process.*

MADISON  
What do you mean?

LUCAS  
Well, I'm no time travel expert  
but... When McAuliffe doesn't do  
the equation at 12:12AM - that  
temporal crack I walked through  
this morning will never appear  
and... This whole day will be  
erased.

MADISON  
So, I won't remember any of this?

JESSIE  
(nodding)  
Nobody will. It will be like it  
never happened.

Madison EXHALES relieved.

MADISON  
(to Lucas)  
Well, at least I won't have to feel  
guilty for wanting to go out with  
you.

*Lucas practically CHOKES on his burger.*

JESSIE  
(grossed out)  
Uh... I'm sitting right here.

LUCAS  
(to Madison)  
You... Really?

She gives him an incredulous look: *who wouldn't want to hook-up with a man as hot as he is?*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Why would you feel guilty about that?

MADISON  
Because you were my student this morning.

JESSIE (O.C.)  
EXACTLY.

LUCAS  
Yeah, but I'm not now?  
(a beat)  
I'm like a man. A fully grown "man" man.

MADISON  
(agreeing)  
Big time.

*DANIEL suddenly BURSTS into the kitchen carrying the clock from his office.*

DANIEL  
(dire, out of breath)  
Tell me you didn't destroy my hard drives?

JESSIE	LUCAS
Daniel?	What are you doing here?

DANIEL  
(frantic)  
DID YOU DESTROY MY HARD DRIVES?

MADISON  
No. We haven't touched anything yet.

DANIEL  
(exhales, relieved)  
Thank God.

MADISON  
What's going on?

DANIEL  
 (uncomfortable)  
 I uh... I'm gonna have to open up  
 that wormhole again tonight.

JESSIE  
 WHAT!?

LUCAS  
 WHY THE HELL WOULD YOU DO  
 THAT?

DANIEL  
 Because if I don't I'm pretty sure  
we'll destroy the universe as we  
know it.

Daniel DROPS the clock onto the table and POINTS.

JESSIE  
 (confused)  
 And you brought your weird ass  
 clock, because?

DANIEL  
 It's not just weird... It's wrong.  
 LOOK!

*They LEAN IN and stare at the clock hands, spinning in a way  
 that defies physics.*

DANIEL (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
 The same thing is happening to a  
 computer at my lab.

MADISON  
 What is that?

DANIEL  
 A part of our reality that's  
 already started to collapse.

That got their attention.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
 Look, when you guys left and I saw  
 my computer, I opened the Mcauliffe  
 Equation to see if something in the  
 math might explain what was  
 happening.

(a beat)  
 When I did, I discovered an anomaly  
 in the sequencing... A piece of the  
 math that didn't fit.

(a beat)  
 I applied every variable I could  
 think of to solve it, but nothing  
 worked.

(a beat)  
 (MORE)



DANIEL (CONT'D)

That's when I realized that the anomaly wasn't in the math... It was in the quantum structure of the equation itself.

(to Lucas)

The anomaly... is you Lucas.

LUCAS

Me?

DANIEL

You. You're the key to the whole thing!

(worried)

Lucas, when you stepped into that temporal fracture this morning, you weren't just sent into the future, your body became entangled in the quantum fabric of the Equation itself... Your physical matter literally became a part of it.

(a beat)

That's how the old me was able to send you back. He... I must have discovered the anomaly and realized that you were the only person who could re-enter that temporal fracture without collapsing it's quantum state.

JESSIE

Am I the only person who's totally lost here?

DANIEL

Think of Lucas like an organ transplant. If you needed a kidney and a doctor puts someone else's in you, your body will reject it. But if the kidney was say... re-created from your stem cells so it carried your own DNA... Your body would instantly accept it.

(a beat)

It's basically like Lucas's DNA is part of the equation. The older me knew that temporal fracture wouldn't collapse if Lucas re-entered it.

JESSIE

So, Lucas is like the only person who could have traveled back in time?

DANIEL

Exactly.

LUCAS  
 (frustrated)  
 So, why would you do the equation  
 again, if you sent me back in time  
 to STOP YOU from DOING IT IN THE  
 FIRST PLACE!?

DANIEL  
 Because, he... I didn't realize  
 that by sending you back here, I'd  
 be punching you into a reality that  
 you're not supposed to be in!  
 (heavy)  
 Subsequently creating a...

LUCAS  
 (getting it)  
 A glitch in the Matrix.

JESSIE  
 (getting it)  
 A glitch in the Matrix.

DANIEL  
 Exactly.  
 (serious)  
 All this weird stuff started  
 happening the moment you guys  
 stopped me from doing the equation.

MADISON  
 (to Lucas)  
 That's when you started feeling  
 bad.

DANIEL  
 And it's only gonna get worse.  
 (to Lucas, dire)  
 Lucas, you're not supposed to be  
 here. And now, if I DON'T open that  
 wormhole again at 12:12AM, you'll  
 be completely erased from reality.

LUCAS  
 So, I'm erased!  
 (a beat)  
 If that's what it's gonna take to  
 stop the War... That's a sacrifice  
 I'm willing to make.

DANIEL  
 Lucas, you're not getting it.  
 (deadly serious)  
 If you're erased from this  
 reality... That means you'll be  
erased from existence itself.  
 (a beat)  
 Which means you were never born,  
 your parents never met, their  
 parents and so on...  
 (a beat)  
 (MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Which would cause a chain reaction  
that would destroy the entire  
universe as we know it.

There is a long silence as that sinks in.

LUCAS  
Oh.

JESSIE  
Yeah, that's not good.

DANIEL  
No, it's not! Which is why I have  
to open that dimensional wormhole  
again tonight, so we can remove  
Lucas from this reality.

JESSIE  
How exactly do we do that?

DANIEL  
Well, when the wormhole opens...  
Lucas is gonna have to jump into  
it.

MADISON  
And then what?

DANIEL  
Well...  
(pausing uncomfortably)  
I'm not exactly sure.

JESSIE  
What do you mean you're not exactly  
sure?

DANIEL  
Hypothetically, he'd close the  
temporal fracture he entered  
causing a chain reaction that would  
revert everything back to zero.

A long beat passes.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Or... He'll be sent into some  
alternate dimension.

MADISON  
What?

LUCAS  
(to himself. sarcastic)  
Well, this day just keeps getting  
better and better.

DANIEL  
(to Lucas)  
If it makes you feel any better,  
I'm pretty sure we're screwed  
anyway.

Why? JESSIE

DANIEL  
Because The Mcauliffe Equation was  
an accident.  
(bleak)  
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DID!  
(a beat)  
So, unless you can somehow erase  
the last few hours from my memory,  
I won't make the same mistakes I  
did that caused it to happen in the  
first place and...  
(finite)  
Bye, bye universe.

LUCAS  
(matter of fact)  
I can erase your memory.

You can?                      JESSIE                      Really?                      DANIEL

LUCAS

Yes.

(intense)

But what about the Klathorians? We can't let those bastards enter our dimension when you open that wormhole again.

DANIEL  
(in agreement)  
Well, one of you will have to kill  
them when they come through.  
(a beat)  
You'll just have to make sure you  
stay out of my way until it  
happens.

LUCAS  
(with resolute intention)  
OK. So how do we do this?

INT. DANIEL'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Everything is cleaned up. Daniel sits at his desk, checking his watch. Lucas is adjusting a tiny SYRINGE-LIKE needle on his gauntlet.

DANIEL  
(nervous)  
Will this hurt?

LUCAS  
Not a bit.

DANIEL  
Remember to stay out of my way  
until I do the experiment. No one  
can interact with me at all or this  
won't work.

JESSIE  
We understand.

DANIEL  
(re: syringe. nervous)  
Will my memory ever come back?

LUCAS  
100%. As soon as I hit you with my  
myelin stimulator, you'll have  
total recall.

MADISON  
(loudly)  
QUAID!

Lucas and Daniel JUMP, startled!

LUCAS  
(spooked)  
AHHH!!!!

DANIEL  
(spooked)  
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU!

MADISON  
I.... You know, from the movie  
TOTAL RECALL?

Jessie CHUCKLES - she got it.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
(apologetic)  
Sorry... I was just trying to  
lighten the mood.

DANIEL  
Well please don't.

Madison SHRUGS apologetically and steps back. Lucas aims his  
syringe at Daniel's neck.

LUCAS  
Good luck.

DANIEL  
You too.

Daniel takes a deep BREATH and Lucas SLAMS the needle into the base of his neck. He SLUMPS onto his desk.

EXT. DANIEL MCAULIFFE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas, Madison and Jessie watch Daniel exit his house, get in his car and drive away.

MADISON  
Now what?

JESSIE  
We lay low at my house for the next hour then head to the lab.

INT. JESSIE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jessie leads Madison and Lucas into the house. She tosses her jacket on the table as Madison takes in the DEMOLISHED LIVING ROOM.

MADISON  
What the hell happened in here?

JESSIE  
First Lugorc attack.  
(sarcastic)  
Or as I like to call it, a  
"glimpse" at what will most likely  
keep me grounded--

CAMILLE (O.C.)  
--for the rest of your life!

Jessie shuts her eyes: fuck me. CAMILLE has landed at the bottom of the stairs.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
You are so dead. When Dad sees this house...  
(noticing Lucas and Madison)  
Uh... Who are the two old people standing in our living room?

JESSIE  
(panicked)  
Camille, listen...

CAMILLE  
No, you listen to me you little...

THUNK, THUNK! Camille SPASMS then collapses to the floor with a THUD. Jessie turns to Lucas, who lowers his SMOKING rifle.

LUCAS

It took everything in me not to  
make those rounds lethal.

JESSIE

(relieved)

I might not have cared.

Jessie turns to Madison, as if nothing just happened.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

So, would you like to see the  
little guy who first discovered  
that Milk doesn't do the body good?

MADISON

Uh... Sure.

Jessie STEPS OVER Camille's unconscious body and MOTIONS for  
Madison to follow her into the kitchen.

INT. JESSIE'S KITCHEN

Jessie arrives at the kitchen doorway, FREEZES and nervously  
FARTS.

JESSIE

Lucas?

(grasping at hope)

Does this explain where that Lugorc  
from the bar came from?

Lucas STEPS behind Jessie and pales. We PAN DOWN to the pile  
of torn up membrane on the floor.

LUCAS

Oh, no...

Lucas nervously examines it.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Please, tell me I wasn't that  
stupid.

He looks up at the trail of slime leading to the empty pantry  
- *and drops his head*. He knows exactly what it means.

He turns to Jessie and gives her a painfully apologetic look.  
Jessie seems to understand what's coming.

JESSIE

We have a really big problem don't  
we?

LUCAS

Yup.

JESSIE  
It's gonna make the next hour and a half really difficult isn't it?

LUCAS  
(nods apologetically)  
It is.

JESSIE  
Our chances of surviving it are slim.

LUCAS  
(matter of fact)  
It'll take a miracle.

Jessie NODS as if surrendering to the bad news to come.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(polite)  
Do you mind calling Freddy for me?

JESSIE  
(polite)  
Not at all.

Jessie pulls out her cell and begins to dial. Madison, having just witnessed this entire exchange, CHIMES in.

MADISON  
(confused)  
What is going on here?

LUCAS  
(matter of fact)  
Well, I'm calling Freddy right now to have him hack into the surveillance cameras at Westfield Laboratory, to see if it's crawling with Lugorcs.

Jessie hands Lucas her cell phone.

JESSIE  
It's ringing.

LUCAS  
Thank you.

Lucas lifts the phone to his ear.

MADISON  
Why would it be crawling with Lugorcs?



LUCAS

Because, I'm pretty sure the Lugorc we killed in this kitchen was a female. It was the first time I experienced the deadly effects of Milk, so I foolishly failed to deliver a secondary shot to it's lower pectoral region.

Jessie nods. All the information Lucas is delivering is news to her - *but she acts as if she already knew all of it.*

FREDDY (O.S.)

(on cellphone)

It's Dustin. What cha need, Eleven?

LUCAS

(into cell)

It's me.

FREDDY (O.S.)

(on cellphone)

Oh, what's going on Chief?

LUCAS

(into cell)

Do you mind hacking into the LIVE footage from the surveillance cameras at Mcauliffe's lab for me, real quick?

FREDDY (O.S.)

(on cellphone)

Not at all. Give me a sec.

Lucas covers the mouthpiece and continues.

LUCAS

(to Madison)

We do that secondary shot to make sure that if the Lugorc is female, the fertilized egg it's carrying is destroyed - so it can't mature into an adult Alpha. A smart and very dangerous Alpha Lugorc, genetically programmed to carry out orders, who can do things --

FREDDY (O.S.)

(on cellphone, nervously)

Chief, I think we might have a serious Demogorgon problem.

LUCAS

(conceding defeat)

-- like lay growth nests.

Lucas shoots Jessie an apologetic look.

JESSIE  
(with a sarcastic smirk)  
Well, let's get to it then, shall we.

FREDDY (O.S.)  
(to Lucas)  
I've counted 16 Ligorcs so far...

INT. FREDDY'S GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

They all stand behind Freddy, staring uncomfortably at his computer screen.

FREDDY  
Wait...  
(pointing)  
17. That one just replicated.

FREDDY'S COMPUTER SCREEN - *is displaying multiple LIVE SURVEILLANCE VIDEOS featuring LUGORCS (of varying sizes) roaming the lad.*

MADISON (O.C.)  
(to Lucas, concerned)  
Your Alpha has been busy.

Lucas POINTS to a surveillance video showing A *LARGE, SEMI-TRANSPARENT CRYSTALLITE DOME* with *DOZENS OF BABY LUGORCS SQUIRMING AROUND* inside it.

LUCAS  
(weary but in control)  
If we don't destroy that other nest before it hatches, there's gonna be an army of Ligorcs between us and Mcauliffe.

Jessie looks at her watch.

JESSIE  
Who's doing his equation in a little over an hour.

MADISON  
So what's the plan?

LUCAS  
We're gonna need explosives, weapons... And a shit-ton of Milk.

INT. RALPHS/HOME DEPO/WALMART - VARIOUS

MONTAGE: *Lucas loads pipes, wires and cleaning supplies into a shopping cart / Freddy grabs Milk jugs from the refrigerator section / Madison loads up on boxes of batteries / Jessie grabs several SUPER-SOAKER water guns off a shelf.*

INT. FREDDY'S GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

They DUMP the supplies onto the floor.

LUCAS  
I'll get to work on the explosives.  
(to Jessie and Madison)  
You two are on weapons detail.

Freddy RAISES his hand.

FREDDY  
What about me?

LUCAS  
I need a detailed structural  
blueprint of Westford Laboratories.

INT. DANIEL MCAULIFFE'S SECRET OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Wearing his BEATS by Dre headphones - Daniel places the **"Don't forget to engage the quantum interface"** Post-it on his hard drive then pulls up a PLAYLIST on his iPhone marked: **"LEVEL UP"** - and hits **SHUFFLE**.

INT. FREDDY'S GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

The team is gathered behind Freddy, staring at his computer screen. *Jessie and Madison have Milk filled water guns strapped across their shoulders, back-up MILK bottles hooked on their belts, skate pads the works.*

LUCAS  
(impressed)  
I can't believe you built that  
whole thing in 15 minutes.

INSERT COMPUTER SCREEN - Freddy has created a detailed version of Westford Laboratories in **MINECRAFT**.

JESSIE  
I can't believe you still use  
Minecraft.

LUCAS  
OK, let's go over this one more  
time.  
(checking his watch)  
We have 45 minutes 'till Mcauliffe  
does his experiment.  
(MORE)

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(re: Minecraft map)  
The Lugorcs are primarily grouped  
outside the entrance to the labs.  
We need to eliminate and/or lure  
them away, so we can get in.

*Freddy animates "Steve" in his Minecraft map, giving us a  
visual of what Lucas is explaining. He's even created Lugorc  
Avatars.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Once Madison and I arrive by the  
north wing.  
(to Jessie)  
You and Freddy blow the other nest.  
That should allow us to force the  
remaining Lugorcs towards the  
commissary where we can hold them.

MADISON  
And the Alpha?

LUCAS  
Hopefully she'll reveal herself in  
the chaos.

FREDDY  
And because she carries the  
Klathorian's adaptive DNA, she  
might look human?

LUCAS  
(nodding)  
So, if you bump into a naked  
version of yourself - shoot it.

JESSIE  
And if all this doesn't work?

Lucas looks at the charging panel on his armor which reads at  
88%. He nods uncomfortably.

LUCAS  
(unhappy about this)  
Bring some Ibuprofen...  
And pray we won't need it.

Jessie nods with a SHRUG. Freddy RAISES his hand.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Freddy, you don't have to raise  
your hand every time you have a  
question.

FREDDY  
(lowering his hand)  
I just wanted to ask how we plan to  
cover the access tunnel in the sub-  
level basement?

LUCAS  
What sub-level basement?

Freddy animates "Steve" to a new section of the Minecraft  
map.

LUCAS (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
That wasn't on the surveillance  
cameras?

FREDDY  
No cameras down there. I saw it on  
the blueprints.

LUCAS  
AND YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS NOW!?

Freddy SHRUGS apologetically. Lucas stares at the computer.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(concerned)  
We're gonna need more people.

*Jessie gives Lucas a BEMUSED GRIN.*

JESSIE  
Time to call in the Goonies?

Off Madison's confused look we -

CUT TO:

INT. FREDDY'S GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Jessie addresses someone O.S.

JESSIE  
You two need to be super cool, OK.  
This is real life stuff. We are  
legit trying to save the universe  
here.

REVERSE - CAMERON and PARKER stand across from Jessie trying  
to contain their excited faces. *They're both geared up like  
Jessie and Madison too.*

Madison is helping Lucas secure the last of four, one gallon  
MILK JUGS - *to the crude but powerful looking SHAPE CHARGER  
BOMB he's been finishing.*

MADISON  
 (under her breath)  
 Are you sure it's a good idea to  
 bring those two into this?

LUCAS  
 (matter-of-fact)  
 Not at all.

JESSIE  
 (continuing)  
 You two are strictly back up, OK?  
 God willing you'll just be standing  
 around for half an hour doing  
 nothing. Which I know you both  
 excel at.

LUCAS  
 (continuing to work)  
 But just to be on the safe side...  
 you'll both have one of these pipe  
 bombs.

He motions to the handmade PIPE BOMBS resting beside his  
 Shape Charger. *Each one has a 1 gallon milk jug wired to it.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Hopefully you won't need to use  
 them, but if you do, the blast  
 radius will cover about a 20 feet  
 so... The more Lugorcs around you  
 the better.

He DUSTS OFF HIS HANDS and STANDS UP.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Everyone clear on the plan?

They nod. Lucas looks around.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Where the hell is Freddy?

A VOICE comes from the bathroom O.S.

FREDDY (O.S.)  
 I'm almost ready!

Parker has picked up one of the pipe bombs and is playing  
 with it.

LUCAS  
 Parker, if you could try not to  
 kill us all before we leave, that  
 would be great.

PARKER

Goals.

She gives Lucas a thumbs up, DROPPING the pipe bomb. They collectively GASP as it HITS the floor. Luckily it doesn't blow. She SMIRKS.

PARKER (CONT'D)

(apologetically)

My bad.

As if ON CUE, Freddy EMERGES from the bathroom, having taken "gearing up" to the next level. *He's covered from head-to-toe in air-soft camouflage gear and has even PAINTED HIS FACE. He LIFTS his Super Soaker.*

FREDDY

(pumped)

Let's do this.

Lucas and Jessie exchange a pained look.

JESSIE

(sardonic levity)

We're all gonna die.

LUCAS

(nodding in agreement)

The chances of this working are very slim.

JESSIE

At least we'll go down together --

LUCAS

(nodding)

-- and take the entire universe with us.

They share a smile. Jessie raises her water gun.

JESSIE

Well, what do you say we go hero  
the shit out of this!

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - OUTER HALLWAY 1

Wearing bandanas to shield themselves from the smell, Lucas and Jessie carefully place the Shape Charge Bomb by the unopened Lugorc nest.

EXT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - BACK LOADING DOCK - MOMENTS  
LATER

They quietly exit the lab UNFOLDING A LONG DETONATOR CORD until they arrive beside Madison and Freddy - a few feet away. Lucas carefully ATTACHES the cord to a REMOTE DETONATOR which he hands to Jessie.

LUCAS  
OK. We're hot.

He TAPS his throat mic (*note: only Lucas, Jessie and Cameron have throat mics*).

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(into mic)  
Cam, how's everything looking down there?

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - SUB LEVEL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Parker and Cameron stand with their water guns at the ready. *A large puddle of Milk has been POURED ACROSS THE FLOOR behind them, SEPARATING THEM from the dark inner hallway.*

CAMERON  
We're ready to go.

PARKER  
Goals.

EXT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - CONTINUOUS

LUCAS  
(to Jessie)  
Once Madison and I reach the north corridor, I'll signal you to blow the nest.

Jessie nods, looking a little scared.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
You, OK?

JESSIE  
(lying)  
100%.

LUCAS  
(being positive)  
I'll see you on the other side.



INT. WESTFORD LABS - MAIN CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas and Madison stand on either side of the pitch dark corridor. We can hear Lugorcs GURGLE and SNARL in the darkness. *Lucas RAISES his rifle.*

LUCAS  
Just stay close to me.

She LIFTS her milk-filled water gun with a confident smile.

MADISON  
Try not to fall behind.

Lucas SMILES - *and they CHARGE into the darkness!*

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - EAST SUB LEVEL - CONTINUOUS

We are looking at Parker via her SNAPCHAT STORY she's recording. She makes a "peace sign" and angles the camera at Cameron.

CAMERON  
Parker, Lucas told us not to post  
anything on social media...  
(his face SOURS)  
OMG...  
(into camera)  
Girlfriend, just ripped the  
nastiest fart.

INT. WESTFORD LABS - MAIN CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas and Madison EMERGE from the corridor, covered in chunks of Lugorc meat. Lucas stares at Madison, impressed.

LUCAS  
Do you teach Tactical Assault  
drills on weekends, too?

MADISON  
Maybe.

Lucas TAPS his throat mic.

LUCAS  
(into mic)  
Jessie, blow the nest!

There's no response. He TAPS the mic again.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Jessie?  
(SMACKING his mic,  
concerned)  
Come on. Not now.

EXT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - CONTINUOUS

Jessie stands beside Freddy, impatient.

JESSIE  
What's Lucas waiting for? That nest  
is gonna....

A LOUD CRACK rings out O.S.

FREDDY  
(pan-iced)  
Was that what I think it was?

Freddy nervously STEPS BACK - *accidentally TEARING THE CORD OUT of the remote detonator.*

JESSIE  
(pissed)  
Freddy, you idiot!!!

A GURGLING ROAR rings out O.S.

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - LOWER SUB-LEVEL

Lucas and Madison look up as the sound ECHOES past them. They exchange a look: they know exactly what that means.

MADISON  
(worried)  
Oh God.

A BOOM suddenly RINGS OUT from the opposite direction.

LUCAS  
That came from the sub-level.

They exchange a concerned look.

MADISON  
Get to Jessie. I'll go after Cam  
and Parker.

*Lucas NODS and they TAKE OFF in opposite directions!*

EXT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - CONTINUOUS

Jessie frantically tries to re-attach the detonator cord.  
Several more ROARS ring out O.S.

FREDDY  
(terrified)  
The nest is open!

JESSIE  
I'm aware of that Freddy!

FREDDY  
What are we gonna do?

Jessie looks around trying to think. She spots a metal staircase leading up to the second floor.

JESSIE  
(taking charge)  
We'll just go over them. Find Lucas  
on the other side.

She LIFTS her water gun and makes for the stairs.

FREDDY  
Buuu... I... Wwww...

Jessie turns back to see Freddy has stopped moving. His eyes are frozen like a deer in headlights.

JESSIE  
Freddy? No, no, no...

She runs back and WAVES HER HAND across his face - *he's totally unresponsive*.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Come on... We don't have time for  
this, Freddy!  
(loosing it)  
PULL IT TOGETHER BURNS!

She SLAPS Freddy across the face - *stunning him back into his body. He BLINKS in pain*.

FREDDY  
Ouch.

JESSIE  
(a leader emerging)  
Freddy, are the air-soft games you  
play with your little sister all  
you're capable of? Or will there be  
a monument built in your honor  
someday, that says Freddy Rambo?

A steely wave of prepubescent masculinity WASHES OVER  
FREDDY'S FACE. He take a DEEP BREATH and LIFTS his water gun  
with purpose.

FREDDY  
(confidence)  
Rambo.

JESSIE  
Alright. Then let's go make sure  
we'll have a world to put it in.

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - SUB-LEVEL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Madison RACES down the dark tunnel. The sound of CARNAGE is coming from the darkness.

MADISON  
CAM! PARKER!

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - UPPER HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jessie enters the upper level doorway with Freddy. She shoots MILK around the frame as Freddy scans the hallway like he's some kind of trained Navy Seal now. He PRESSES an imaginary throat mic.

FREDDY  
All clear.  
(to Jessie)  
I'll seal the door at the west corner, then double back and meet you by the main conference room.

JESSIE  
You know you're not wearing a throat mic, right?

Freddy NODS and TAPS his "imaginary" mic again.

FREDDY  
Moving out.

Jessie watches him disappear down the hall and shakes her head.

JESSIE  
We're definitely gonna die.

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - UPPER HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Freddy SEALS a different doorway with his water gun.

FREDDY  
West entrance secured.  
(tapping his imaginary mic)  
Engaging night-vision.

Freddy turns on the FLASHLIGHT taped to his water gun - *ILLUMINATING the face of an INFANT SIZED LUGORC standing across from him*. Despite the slime DRIPPING from its talon spiked appendages, it looks surprisingly innocent.

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
Awww... Aren't you cute.

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - SUB-LEVEL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Madison SKIDS to a stop as she comes upon Cameron and Parker - *who are using their water-guns to SHOOT DOWN Lugorcs on the other side of their milk line with calm efficiency.*

Cameron looks over at Madison with a smile.

CAMERON  
(casual)  
What's up, Mrs. Wu!

MADISON  
You guys are OK?

Parker looks over her shoulder at Madison as she continues to FIRE.

PARKER  
Goals.

EXT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jessie arrives by the doors to the conference room and looks around.

JESSIE  
(a loud whisper)  
Freddy? Are you here?

She hears FOOTSTEPS approaching O.S. She RAISES her water gun as Freddy EMERGES from the dark hallway - *with the infant Lugorc on his shoulder, BITING HIS NECK!*

FREDDY  
(total panic)  
GET IT OFF!!! GET IT OFF!!!

Jessie calmly SHOOTS the infant off his neck as he RUNS by. Despite being free from his attacker, Freddy continues RUNNING - *and disappears down the hall.*

JESSIE  
(CALLING AFTER HIM)  
FREDDY! I GOT IT!

Freddy re-emerges RUNNING back towards Jessie - *with a SWARM of BABY LUGORCS ON HIS TAIL.*

Jessie backpedals, PULLING the PIPE BOMB from her hip. Holding her water gun in ONE HAND, she PICKS OFF several Lugorcs and LIGHTS her bomb with the other. *It's an impressive feat by any standard.*

She tosses the pipe bomb at the swarm: BOOM! *The explosion LAUNCHES THEM against the wall.*

They sit up, trying to get their bearings when a much larger Lugorc *LEAPS* though the smoke *DESCENDING* on them!

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 AHHH!!!!

FREDDY  
 AHHH!!!

*They DUCK, just missing the Lugorc's talon which SINKS into the wall above their heads! They ROLL under the creature's body to get away. With its free arm, it manages to KNOCK Jessie's water gun from her hand and send it SPINNING down the hallway.*

*As the Lugorc struggles to FREE its TALON from the wall - Jessie and Freddy scramble to their feet and RACE for the conference room!*

INT. MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*They BOUND into the room and lock the door behind them. They RUN across the room as the Lugorc SLAMS its body against the door.*

*Jessie and Freddy reach the corner just before the Lugorc BURSTS through the door!*

*They have no place to go. Jessie SCREAMS at Freddy as the Lugorc CHARGES!*

JESSIE  
 SHOOT IT!!!

*Freddy FIRES his water gun INTO THE BEASTS FACE just before it reaches them. It stops - momentarily blinded - but doesn't start to melt.*

*Jessie stares at Freddy's water gun, WIPES a drop of milk off it's barrel and TASTES it.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (incredulously)  
 Is that soy milk?

Freddy SHRUGS innocently.

FREDDY  
 I'm lactose intolerant.

*Jessie shuts her eyes as the Lugorc REARS BACK to strike when - BLAT-TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT - bullets BURSTS UP THROUGH THE FLOOR, cutting a perfect circle around them. They exchange a look as floor beneath them CRACKS - and they DROP DOWN through it!*

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - LOWER OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Jess and Freddy LAND on the ground beside LUCAS, still standing on the circular piece of floor he just shot out with his rifle.

LUCAS  
You guys OK?

They NOD in shock as Lucas LIGHTS his pipe bomb.

FREDDY  
The Lugorc nest opened.

LUCAS  
I'm aware of that, Freddy.

*He PITCHES the bomb up through the fresh hole in the ceiling.*

JESSIE  
I thought you were gonna signal me  
to set off the bomb.

*BOOM! Lugorc bits SPLATTER across them.*

LUCAS  
I tried.  
(pointing to his throat  
mic)  
It wouldn't work.

FREDDY  
What? I just bought those.

Annoyed, Freddy begins to examine Lucas's mic pack. Jessie CHECKS HER WATCH. We can hear Lugorcs approaching O.S.

JESSIE  
(to Lucas, concerned)  
We're running out of time.

LUCAS  
(nodding)  
I know.

Freddy casually FLIPS something on Lucas's mic pack and it CRACKLES to life.

FREDDY  
Power was off.

Madison's VOICE comes over his radio.

MADISON (O.S.)  
LUCAS!?

LUCAS  
(taps his Mic)  
Yeah, Maddy. It's me.

MADISON (O.S.)  
(relieved)  
Thank God.

LUCAS  
(into mic)  
Is everyone OK?

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - SUB-LEVEL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Madison is HOLDING a throat mic to her neck. Parker and Cameron continue to FIRE their water guns O.S.

MADISON  
Not really... There must have been  
another growth nest down here  
because we're facing a lot of  
Lugorcs.  
(starts firing her water  
gun)  
We're holding them back, but we're  
gonna run out of milk soon.  
(a beat)  
Please, tell me you got a plan?

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - LOWER OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Lucas CHECKS the charging bar on his armor: IT'S AT 98%. He looks around trying to think when his gaze falls upon the LARGE COMMISSARY across the hall from them.

LUCAS  
Jessie, you brought that Ibuprofen?

She nods, pulling a single use PACKET OF ADVIL out from her pocket. Lucas EXHALES uncomfortably.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(into mic)  
Madison, how many shape charge  
grenades do you have left?

MADISON (O.S.)  
Parker has one.

FREDDY  
I have mine too.

LUCAS  
OK.  
(into mic)  
(MORE)



LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Do you think you can force those  
Lugorcs into the south corridor  
with two of them?

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - SUB-LEVEL TUNNEL

Madison TILTS her head, confused.

MADISON  
(confused)  
Yeah, but... Won't that send them  
all straight to you?

LUCAS (O.S.)  
Yes.

INTERCUT FOR CONVERSATION

MADISON  
(concerned)  
Lucas, I don't understand? Why  
would you want me to do that?

LUCAS  
I don't have time to explain. As  
soon as your clear, get to  
Mcauliffe's lab.  
(a beat)  
I need you to be there when the  
wormhole opens to kill those  
Klathorians, if I'm late.

MADISON  
(confused)  
Late?

LUCAS  
Just trust me, Maddy. I got a plan.

MADISON  
OK.

LUCAS  
I'm sending Freddy, now.

Lucas turns to Freddy, whose just standing there.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Why are you just standing there?  
GO!!!

Freddy TAKES OFF. Lucas PULLS out one of his KATANA BLADES -  
and SLICES open his hand.

JESSIE  
What are you doing?

LUCAS  
Laying bait.

His BLOOD starts to DRIP onto the floor.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
My blood is what triggered that  
first Lugorc and the Alpha inside  
it, to grow.

*Lucas continues as they RUN towards the commissary.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
So, it's inside every Lugorc that  
hatched from those nests.

INT. WESTFORD LABS - VARIOUS

LUCAS (O.S.)  
(continuing)  
Their primal instinct to track it  
will override anything else...

The Lugorcs begin to PACE in a wild frenzy as they SMELL  
LUCAS'S BLOOD.

INT. COMMISSARY - CONTINUOUS

Lucas and Jessie enter the huge commissary. They RUN toward  
the center of the room. *Lucas is leaving a trail of blood  
behind him.*

LUCAS  
(continuing)  
...and I need them all close, for  
this to work.

INT. WESTFORD LABORATORIES - SUB-LEVEL CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

BOOM! Madison LIGHTS the first pipe bomb, pushing the HORD of  
Lugorcs back.

INT. COMMISSARY - CONTINUOUS

A second BOOM rings out O.S. Madison's VOICE comes over  
Lucas's radio.

MADISON (O.S.)  
They're on their way.

LUCAS  
(into mic)  
I'll see you soon.

Lucas ties off the cut on his hand and checks his armor.

INSERT CHARGING BAR: It reads 99%.

He POINTS to a steel serving island in the corner.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 (to Jessie)  
 When all the Lugorcs are inside  
 get under that island. The thick  
 steel on it will protect you when  
 it starts.

JESSIE  
 When what starts?

Def Leppard's "Pour Some Sugar On Me" begins to play O.S.  
 Lucas YELPS in pain - *and drops to his knee.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 (concerned)  
 Lucas?

Suddenly his head begins to *SHAKE and WARP like a blur.* It  
 lasts for a few seconds then stops. He wobbles, dizzy.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 Are you OK?

LUCAS  
 That did NOT feel good.

We hear the SONG playing O.S. again. *Lucas's body WARPS and  
 FLICKERS for a moment again.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 AHHH!!!  
 (re: the music)  
 I think Mcauliffe started.  
 (his legs give out)  
 Quick, get us over to the island.

*Jessie helps Lucas over to the serving island.*

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Madison, Freddy, Cameron and Parker RACE down the hallway  
 towards Daniel's Secret Lab!

INT. COMMISSARY - CONTINUOUS

Lucas BRACES himself AGAINST THE ISLAND, as his body WARPS  
 again.

LUCAS  
 I'm sorry Jessie... your gonna have  
 to do it.

JESSIE  
Do what?

LUCAS  
Put on my armor.

JESSIE  
What?

Jessie's face LIGHTS UP. This is literally the moment she's been waiting for.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
I...

Her words fail. Inches from her dream, the subconscious voice that's been telling her that she's "not good enough", rears it ugly head.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(hesitant)  
I... don't think that's a good idea.

LUCAS  
What? Jess, this isn't so much an idea as a necessity.

JESSIE  
You're the hero here, Lucas. Not me.

LUCAS  
What are you talking about?

Jessie doesn't respond. Lucas suddenly seems to understand what's going on and softens.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(matter-of-fact)  
Jessie, you're the reason I'm alive.  
(emotional)  
I've been fighting in this war since I was 14. I've wanted to give up and quit more times than I can remember. The only reason I didn't, is because of you...

She wasn't expecting that.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
...I'd say to myself "What would Jessie do, right now?" And every single time, I'd hear you say, "Just keep going, Lucas."

Jessie tears up a little.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Jessie, you're more of a hero than  
 I'll ever be.  
 (a beat)  
 You were born to wear this armor.

JESSIE  
 (fighting the fear)  
 I...  
 (re: his armor)  
 I don't even know how to use it?

LUCAS  
 Yes you do.  
 (a beat)  
 It's not the technology in the  
 armor that makes it work... It's  
 the person whose driving it.

A tear rolls down Jessie's cheek as she NODS. Lucas opens his hand and Jessie places a PACKET OF ADVIL in it. He MOTIONS to a small sensor on his wrist.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Place your finger there.

Jessie PUTS HER FINGER on the sensor. It scans it and DINGS!

ARMOR AI (O.S.)  
 NEW DRIVER BIO-SIGNATURE ACCEPTED.

*PING, PING, PING, Lucas's armor POPS open in the back.* Jessie helps Lucas out of the armor - which remains upright.

LUCAS  
 Just step into my boots.

Jessie NODS and STEPS into his HUGE boots. *The CHARGING BAR flips to 100%.*

ARMOR AI (O.S.)  
 INITIATING TACTICAL RE-SIZING.

The armor HUMS, SURGING WITH POWER! It RECONFIGURES itself to FIT Jessie's frame. BEEP!

ARMOR AI (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 RE-SIZING COMPLETE.

Jessie can barely contain herself as she takes in the bad-ass armored suit she's FINALLY WEARING.

JESSIE  
 I'm pretty sure I just shit in my  
 pants a little bit again.

Lucas SMILES as Lugorcs ROAR O.S.

LUCAS  
Go hero the shit out of this.

Jessie NODS brimming with a confidence as the first Lugorc  
BOUNDS into the commissary.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(pointing)  
Get in the center of the room.

Jessie nods and TAKES OFF as all the Lugorcs begin to STREAM  
IN. She ARRIVES in the center of the room.

JESSIE  
(yelling)  
NOW WHAT?

LUCAS  
(yelling back)  
OPEN THE PROTECTIVE PLATE TO THE  
RED BUTTON AND REST YOUR FINGER ON  
IT!

She does exactly what he says.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
WHEN THE LUGORCS ARE CLOSE, TAKE A  
DEEP BREATH...  
(somewhat apologetic)  
...AND PRESS IT.

She NODS as the Lugorcs circle in around her, *HISSING* and  
*SNARLING*.

JESSIE  
(yelling)  
NOW?

LUCAS  
(yelling)  
NO! WAIT 'TILL THEY'RE A LITTLE  
CLOSER!

Jessie NODS, *letting the LUGORCS close in*. She's surprisingly  
poised considering the danger she's face-to-face with.

The closest Lugorc LIFTS its arm. The moment it POPS out it  
TALONS to strike - Lucas SCREAMS!

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
NOW!

TIGHT ON JESSIE - She PRESSES the red button and her armor  
COMES TO LIFE! A *helmet quickly folds out over her head*.

*Two stabilizing bars SPRING from her back, BOLTING themselves into the floor! With AMAZING SPEED the armor CLICKS, SHIFTS, and LOCKS over Jessie, transforming into a large, ARMORED BALL - and begins SPINNING 360 degrees between the stabilizing bars as dozens of tiny GUN BARRELS pop out all over it.*

Lucas DUCKS his head beneath the island.

*BLAT-TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT! A HAILSTORM of LASER FIRE shoots out from the ball SHREDDING THE LUGORCS - and everything else in the room - to BITS!*

*After a few seconds of PURE MAYHEM - the BALL stops SPINNING and begins TRANSFORMING back to normal.*

Lucas CRAWLS OUT from under the island and STUMBLES OVER to Jessie. He arrives just as her helmet FOLDS BACK - revealing her blood-shot eyes and pale face. He TEARS the single use ADVIL packet OPEN - and dumps two pills into her hand.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
(weakly)  
Sorry.

Jessie glances at the pills and NODS painfully.

JESSIE  
(pride)  
Worth it.

She TOSSES the pills in her mouth and THROWS Lucas's arm over her shoulder.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
Come on.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jessie and Lucas CALL OUT for the others as they approach the Xerox room.

LUCAS  
MADISON! JESSIE  
FREDD...

They come upon Madison, Freddy, Cameron and Parker - standing outside the Xerox room - *like lifeless zombies.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
What the...

Lucas THROWS HIS HAND over Jessie's mouth and POINTS to Madison. A *creepy, multi-tentacle worm is PULSATING on her neck.* The others have them too.

LUCAS  
 (under his breath)  
 Grim worm. Neuron inhibiting  
 parasite.

JESSIE  
 (under her breath)  
 And Alpha's make those?

*Lucas NODS when SOMETHING HITS HIM. He SLAMS against the wall. Jessie GULPS and turns to THE ALPHA. It looks almost identical to LUCAS - except completely naked. Jessie looks away, disturbed.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
*I did not need to see that.*

THE ALPHA ROARS. *Like Indiana Jones in Raiders of the Lost Arc - Jessie casually lifts the rifle and SHOOTS the Alpha in the chest. It SLAMS on the ground with a THUD. Jessie RACES to Lucas and helps him up.*

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
 You OK?

LUCAS  
 (struggling to breathe)  
 She's really strong.

JESSIE  
 (matter-of-fact)  
 Female.

Lucas NODS and points to Mcauliffe - *who they can see getting up from his desk across the Xerox room.*

LUCAS  
 You need to get into the lab and  
 kill the Klathorians when he opens  
 that wormhole.  
 (off her concerned look)  
 I'll be right behind you.

She NODS and GETS UP at the exact same moment the ALPHA DOES.  
 It's barely winded by the rounds she pumped into her chest.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 (to Jessie, SCREAMING)  
 RUN!!!!

Jessie stares the Alpha down and SHAKES her head. Lucas looks at her, like she's crazy.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Jessie?

She TOSSES him his rifle.



JESSIE  
 Take care of those Klathorians.  
 (a beat)  
 I've got this biatch.

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

*Identical to the open - Daniel DANCES down the passageway. As he pulls the CAPTAIN AMERICA action figure from his pocket - Jessie EXPLODES THROUGH THE WALL behind him, trading BLOWS with the Alpha - clearly NOT having this BIATCH.*

Daniel can't hear a thing over the Def Leppard BLASTING through his headphones.

DANIEL  
 (to action figure)  
 You ready to make history CaAAAAAA -

*As he VANISHES below to the "Watch the first step!" note, Lucas STAGGERS into the passageway with his rifle.*

INT. DANIEL'S SECRET LAB - CONTINUOUS

Daniel PLACES the action figure on the tower.

DANIEL  
 (singing)  
*"Pour some sugar on me. Oh, In the name of love....."*

*As he dances to his WORK STATION - Lucas BURSTS through the doorway with his rifle. Three talons FLY OUT the passageway. THUNK, THUNK, THUNK, they pin Lucas to the door causing him to DROP HIS RIFLE! It SLIDES across the floor out of reach.*

DANIEL (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
 Time to save the world Steve.

Daniel MISSES his chair, tumbles backwards and KICKS the bottom of his desk. As the pens LAUNCH into the air - A banged up Jessie comes through the door Lucas is PINNED too. Lucas MOTIONS to his rifle a few feet away as lights BURST and power cables BOUNCE with energy around them.

LUCAS  
 GET THE RIFLE!

The WIND begins to swirl like a TORNADO. Jessie makes a DASH for the rifle - when The Alpha BURSTS into the lab. It tackles Jessie to the floor as the WORMHOLE OPENS with a THUNDERING CRACK!

Jessie trades BLOWS with The Alpha as an inhuman ROAR rings out O.S.

DANIEL (O.C.)  
Oh... My... God.

Jessie looks up to see several KLATHORIANS (*large ant-like humanoids*) step out of the SWIRLING DIMENSIONAL GATEWAY. *The Alpha makes a quick move and LOCKS Jessie in a choke hold. She reaches for the rifle - but it's just out of reach.*

She locks eyes with Lucas, helpless - there is nothing they can do now.

TIGHT ON DANIEL - He stares terrified at the Klathorians, then COCKS his head quizzically.

DANIEL'S POV: Just beyond the wormhole, a LARGE NOTE is attached to the wall that reads: **LOOK DOWN.**

Daniel LOOKS DOWN at his desk. Another note is STICKING OUT from the underside that reads: **PULL HERE.**

Daniel pulls - and *THE PISTOL Lucas gave him earlier slides into view.* A note is taped to it that reads: **PICK UP! SHOOT MONSTERS!**

Daniel awkwardly PICKS up the pistol, AIMS it at the Klathorians and FIRES! *BLAT-TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT!* The Klathorians are *BLASTED OFF THEIR FEET* backwards into the wormhole!

The Alpha that was pinning Jessie suddenly VANISHES. The TALONS pinning Lucas to the door VANISH TOO and he drops to the floor. They exchanges a look of utter astonishment.

They RUN over to Daniel. He SPINS to them with the pistol - *Jessie RIPS it from his hand before he shoots them.*

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Who are..

Before he can finish, Lucas PRESSES a button on Jessie's armor - POPPING out a GLOWING needle - *which she injects into his neck.* Daniel BLINKS recognizing Lucas and Jessie again.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
Hey guys.

He looks at the wormhole, SWIRLING OPEN across the room and all his notes.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
I totally forgot about that.  
(explaining)  
When you guys first left, I got paranoid I'd forget everything you said and... Left myself some notes.

LUCAS  
I love your ADD Daniel.

Madison, Freddy, Cameron and Parker enter the lab. Madison RUNS over to them.

MADISON  
What happened?

JESSIE  
Daniel saved the day.

The ARMOR Jessie was wearing FADES AWAY.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(bummed)  
Damn it.

The entire room BEGINS TO SHAKE! Lucas let's out a GRUNT and grabs onto the desk. *His ENTIRE BODY begins PHASING IN-AND-OUT with intensity.*

DANIEL  
(remembering)  
Our reality's starting to collapse.  
(to Lucas)  
You need to get into that wormhole,  
now.

Lucas NODS and Jessie and Madison help Lucas toward the SWIRLING WORMHOLE. *The walls in the lab are beginning to FRACTURE and WARP!*

LUCAS  
(to Jessie)  
If everything doesn't revert back  
to zero when I jump into that  
thing... Remember not to tell  
anyone the truth about what  
happened here.

JESSIE  
I won't.

LUCAS  
(he hesitates)  
Except my Mom... Tell her the  
truth. She'll be able to handle it.

JESSIE  
OK.

They reach the wormhole's EVENT HORIZON. Lucas looks a little nervous.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
You're gonna be OK.  
(a beat)  
(MORE)

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
And if you're about to jump into  
some alternate dimension... I won't  
stop till, I find you.

MADISON  
Me either.

Lucas SMILES as his body FAZES in and out.

LUCAS  
I know.  
(to Jessie, emotional)  
Jessie, the last time I left, I  
said I wanted more...  
(a beat)  
I don't. You're all the best friend  
I'll ever need... and you always  
will be.  
(a beat)  
I love you Jessie.

Jessie smirks like *Han Solo from The Empire Strikes Back*.

JESSIE  
I know.

They hug. When they separate Madison PLANTS A KISS on Lucas's  
lips.

LUCAS  
What was that for?

MADISON  
Luck.

He SMILES. *The whole room is SHAKING WITH FURY!*

DANIEL (O.C.)  
YOU'VE GOT TO JUMP NOW, LUCAS!

Jessie gives Lucas one last look as everything in the lab  
WARPS and BENDS.

JESSIE  
See you soon.

He nods and *LEAPS INTO THE WORMHOLE!* It collapses behind him  
with a EXPLOSIVE SNAP - and the entire lab returns to normal.  
Daniel BLINKS. He and the others look around as if to make  
sure what he's seeing is real.

DANEIL  
Holy crap... It worked.  
(exuberant)  
IT ACTUALLY WORKED!

He triumphantly THROWS his FIST IN THE AIR! Jessie shoots him and incredulous look.

JESSIE

(irked)

Worked? You also said that when Lucas entered that wormhole everything might revert back to zero.

(looking around)

Does this feel like zero to you?

DANIEL

No.

JESSIE

Which means, my best friend just leaped into some alternate dimension didn't he?

DANEIL

Yes.

JESSIE

So, until we figure out where he went and how to get him back.

(firm)

I believe you have some work to do?

He NODS. Jessie turns to Freddy and the others.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Are you guys, OK?

CAMERON

That was so lit!

PARKER

Goals.

FREDDY

So... What happens now?

JESSIE

We get our stories straight. Lucas said no one can ever know the truth about what happened so that's exactly what we're gonna do.

(firm)

This stays between us. Got it.

They NOD in agreement.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

We'll get together later to hash out the details. In the meantime, you all need to get home so we don't have parents calling the cops about missing kids.

Jessie turns to Madison.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
You mind helping me drop these  
ladies home Toretto?

EXT. FREDDY'S HOUSE - LATER

Freddy stands on his doorstep, having just been dropped off.  
Jessie MOTIONS to her lips.

JESSIE  
Keep it zipped, Freddy.

FREDDY  
I will.

JESSIE  
I'll see you later.

Jessie WALKS back to Madison's car.

FREDDY (O.C.)  
Hey Jessie!

She stops and turns.

FREDDY (CONT'D)  
This was the single greatest night  
of my entire life.  
(sincere)  
Thanks for including me.

JESSIE  
Trust me, if I had an option B, I  
would have taken it.

Jessie hops in the passenger seat then CALLS out the window  
to Freddy.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(with a smirk)  
And you're welcome.

Freddy smiles.

MADISON  
So, we head to Lucas's mom's house  
now?

JESSIE  
Just have to grab something from my  
house first.

INT. JESSIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jessie enters and runs over to her jacket, sitting on the dinning room table. She DIGS inside the pocket and PULLS OUT the POLAROID Madison took of her and Lucas.

She turns to leave. Camille is standing in front of the door.

CAMILLE  
Where do you think your going?

Jessie EXHALES, this is the last thing she needs.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)  
I... I honestly don't even know  
where to start?

Jessie stares at her for a long beat.

JESSIE  
Well, if I were you, I'd start in  
the kitchen and then work my way  
forward. The banister is gonna take  
the most time and you only have 16  
hours 'till Dad comes home.

CAMILLE  
What are you talking about?

JESSIE  
Cleaning up after the rager of a  
party you threw here last night.

CAMILLE  
What? This is your mess!

JESSIE  
How could it be? I've been gone all  
night.

CAMILLE  
So have I, turd-face.

JESSIE  
Not according to LIFE360. Remember  
when you blackmailed me earlier and  
told to make sure your cellphone  
stayed charged in your room, so Dad  
would think you were home all  
weekend so you could go party with  
your friends?

CAMILLE  
I... I don't even know what you  
think you're trying to pull  
here?... But it's not gonna work.  
Dad won't believe you.

JESSIE  
Really? I'm 14 and your about to  
graduate from high school.

CAMILLE  
You wouldn't.

JESSIE  
I just did.

Camille looks around, taking in the massive task ahead.

CAMILLE  
How am I supposed to fix the  
banister?

JESSIE  
You've learned everything in your  
life so far from YouTube. Look it  
up.

Jessie SMIRKS and WALKS out the door.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
(over her shoulder)  
Best sister ever.

EXT. LUCAS'S HOUSE - MADISON'S CAR - LATER THAT NIGHT

Jessie and Madison sit in her car outside Lucas's house.

MADISON  
You sure you don't want me to come  
with you? Some things are easier to  
digest when they come from another  
adult.

JESSIE  
No. I need to tell Abby this  
myself. It's OK.  
(a beat)  
She'll believe me.

Jessie LIFTS the Polaroid and gazes at it for a moment.

MADISON  
(tender)  
We'll find him, Jessie. I'm sure  
wherever Lucas is... He's OK.

JESSIE  
(confident)  
I know he is.

Madison looks at Lucas in the Polaroid.



MADISON  
I already miss him.

Jessie restrains herself from reacting.

MADISON (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry. Me having feelings for  
Lucas must be so weird for you.

JESSIE  
It's not that weird.  
(looking at the picture)  
There's a lot to love.

That's the closest Madison may ever get to her blessing.  
Jessie HOPS out of the car.

JESSIE (CONT'D)  
'Night Madison.

MADISON  
See you tomorrow.  
(re: Lucas's mom)  
Good luck in there.

JESSIE  
Thanks.

Jessie watches Madison DRIVE OFF then turns to Lucas's house.  
She takes a DEEP BREATH, grips the polaroid tightly in her  
hand and begins to walk toward the door.

DANIEL (O.C.)  
Jessie!

She SPINS to see Daniel - *RACING up the sidewalk towards her.*  
*He's wearing protective goggles and carrying several pieces*  
*of futuristic looking gear.*

JESSIE  
Daniel? What are...

DANIEL  
I was totally wrong. There's no  
time to explain right now. The  
temporal window will only be open  
for a few seconds. Put these on!

He TOSSES Jessie a pair of SKYDIVING GOGGLES.

DANIEL (CONT'D)  
I hope you're not afraid of  
heights?

A DIMENSIONAL WORMHOLE OPENS UP as Daniel reaches her. *He*  
*YANKS her into it with him. The wormhole COLLAPSES behind*  
*them with a BOOM!*

We see the polaroid Jessie was holding, DRIFT OUT OF THE AIR and LAND on the sidewalk.

EXT. SKY - STORM CLOUDS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Daniel and Jessie MATERIALIZE out of a HOLE IN THE SKY - and PLUMMET toward a lightning storm below them. Just before they reach it, something SWOOPS by and WHISKS THEM AWAY!

EXT. HAZARD SKY SHIP - UPPER DECK - NIGHT

Jessie and Daniel TUMBLE to a stop in a large safety net on the stern of *some kind of STEAMPUNK-LOOKING FLYING BOAT!* Daniel enthusiastically THROWS his fist INTO THE AIR!

DANIEL  
IT WORKED!

JESSIE  
What in the....

LUCAS (O.C.)  
DON'T START CELEBRATING YET!

Jessie looks over to see LUCAS - *gripping the wheel of the ship as WIND whips through the blue and red mohawk that adorns his head.* A decorative tattoo runs down the side of his face now too.

JESSIE  
Lucas?

LUCAS  
(over the wind)  
GOOD TOO SEE YOU AGAIN, JESSIE!  
HOLD ON TIGHT. WE ONLY GOT ONE SHOT  
AT THIS!

Lucas CRANKS the wheel - *and the ship BANKS DOWN into the storm clouds.*

TIGHT ON JESSIE - *Her cheeks begin to RIPPLE from the g-force of the ship's dive.* Her eyes go wide with horrified excitement as a LIGHTNING BOLT STRIKES O.S.

JESSIE  
HOLY...

FADE TO BLACK.

**TO BE CONTINUED...**

(Over the end credits, similar to what Peter Parker did in the beginning of "Spider-Man: Homecoming", we'll watch Jessie's very funny INSTAGRAM STORY. One she secretly recorded all day of Lucas and hers adventure.)