

**THE END OF THE WORLD
AS WE KNOW IT**

"Pilot"

written by

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COLD OPEN

1 INT. THE BELLEROPHON - PASSAGEWAY - (D-1)

1

Inside the corridor of a spacecraft. It looks industrial and well-used. Think Ripley's ship from ALIEN--a rabbit warren of pipes, ducts, blinking lights and monitors. Designed by Steve Jobs, this ship was not. The CAMERA PANS along the chamber, landing on a row of metal sarcophagus-like capsules. As we PUSH IN, we expect to see familiarly human faces. Instead, we see the grotesque faces of ALIEN CAPTIVES in hyper-sleep.

Two figures enter: The first is GAH'REE, a bipedal, reptilian sociopath with razor sharp teeth and an intellect to match. Gah'ree's hands are cuffed and he is being "perp-walked" from behind by QUINN (30), a ruggedly handsome, humanoid alien cop. A John McClane type: too young to be this grizzled.

Quinn motions for Gah'ree to climb into an empty open sarcophagus capsule. As he does, he maintains his calm:

GAH'REE

I understand you're upset, but to
be fair, the point was to wipe out
an entire civilization, not *just*
your wife and children.

Quinn jabs Gah'ree with an electrified cattle prod.

GAH'REE (CONT'D)

Oh dear, that's quite a temper.
Should I be worried I won't make it
back alive to the precinct?

CLOSE ON GAH'REE COVERING THE LOCKING MECHANISM WITH A GOO HE
SECRETES. QUINN DOES NOT SEE THIS and seals the lid.

QUINN

Killing you would be too easy.

Quinn arms the pressure-lock on Gah'ree's capsule. Steam releases as it seals. A dispassionate A.I. VOICE narrates:

A.I. VOICE (V.O.)

Initiating hyper-sleep...

Quinn exits. A WARNING LIGHT on Gah'ree's capsule BLINKS.

2 INT. THE BELLEROPHON - COCKPIT - (D-1)

2

Quinn enters a cockpit, stares out into space.

A.I. VOICE
Officer Quinn, shall I contact
headquarters and inform them you've
secured the last fugitive?

QUINN
Negative.

A.I. VOICE
If I may, sir, this is in violation
of protocol.

QUINN
Shut up. Set a course for the Dead
Lands in the Volstagg system.

Suddenly, QUINN IS HIT FROM BEHIND BY GAH'REE.

GAH'REE
Should've killed me when you had
the chance, old friend!

Quinn charges Gah'ree and tackles him into the ship's
NAVIGATION CONTROLS.

A.I. VOICE
Setting new course...

Quinn and Gah'ree continue to be locked in BRUTAL BATTLE.

3

EXT. SPACE (D-1)

3

In the foreground is the familiar yellow SUN of our solar
system, with EARTH as a pale blue dot off in the distance.
Suddenly, the Bellerophon hurtles into frame, making a bee-
line for our planet.

TITLE CARD: "THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT"

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

4

INT. NONDESCRIPT ROOM - DAY (D-1)

4

We're on the bridge of another space ship. We find KATE ETHERIDGE, (25, Type-A, think Chloe Moretz). She's shot OVER THE SHOULDER of the strapping male to whom she speaks.

KATE

(impassioned)

Captain, *please*. We don't know what's down there. What's your motto? "Earthlings can't be trusted?" Send someone else. Anyone else. You're too valuable to this ship, to this crew, to *me*.

We stay on Kate. She's so convincing that if we were the captain, we sure as hell wouldn't go. But not this dolt...

CAPTAIN

I have to go.

KATE

Your odds of survival are one in five-hundred and two thousand, one hundred and eight. If you won't do it for me, Finn, then do it for your child.

(then)

You heard me right. I'm pregnant. That's what happens when two people--

Kate pauses. She shakes her head as if she's trying to talk herself out of doing something bad. She can't help herself.

KATE (CONT'D)

(turning away from
Captain)

Sorry. Do you mind if I say "one in a half-million?" It rolls off the tongue a bit better.

WIDEN OUT TO REVEAL we are in an AUDITION on the set of BLACK HOLE SONS. Kate stands opposite a SHOWRUNNER and a tired CASTING DIRECTOR seated at a table. The casting director rubs her face with her hands, shakes her head.

SHOWRUNNER

(annoyed, but...)

Sure.

Momentarily satisfied with the showrunner's response, Kate turns back to the captain, acts the hell out of...

KATE
Your odds of survival are one in a
half million...

Kate trails off. The captain looks at her imploringly.

CAPTAIN
(whispered, fervent)
Not again, Kate. I told them they
had to see you for this.

Kate ignores him, takes a breath, turns to the showrunner.

KATE
Would she really have this
conversation on the bridge in front
of her co-workers?

The showrunner turns to the pained casting director. WTF?

KATE (CONT'D)
She probably worked her ass off to
get to this place in her life,
right? Chief science officer at 25
of a Tongarian war ship. I mean,
wow. The character description says
she graduated top of her class at
the Science Academy. She doesn't
know how to prevent pregnancy?

The showrunner whispers something to the casting director.

CASTING DIRECTOR
Thanks for coming in, Kate. We'll
let you know.

Off Kate, full of self loathing.

5

EXT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - PARKING LOT - LATER (D-1)

5

PAN DOWN from the GIANT CARTOON SQUIRREL atop the roof of a Chuck E Cheese-style kids pizza place. Kate stands outside the open trunk of her car and changes into a CHEAP Princess Elsa from Frozen dress. She mimics herself.

KATE
"It just rolls off the tongue
better." God, you're an asshole.

Her phone vibrates. She picks up:

KATE (CONT'D)
I'm right outside! Sorry! Sorry!

6

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - PARTY ROOM - DAY (D-1)

6

On the other end of the line is LAURA BALABAN, (25, a little spacey, a little anxious, but sharp and very sweet. The Beta to Kate's Alpha, think Hailee Steinfeld).

LAURA
(panicked)
Please hurry.

WIDEN OUT to reveal Laura is wearing a Dizz E. Skwirlz UNIFORM which includes a FURRY SQUIRREL TAIL hanging from her belt. Around her: nothing but unruly kids.

LAURA (CONT'D)
Some kid just peed in the ball pit.
And not accidental style; he
straight up took down his pants and
peed in it like it was a toilet.
And the birthday girl's Mom is a
monster.

KATE (O.S.)
Breathe, Laura. Just breathe.
You've got this. I'll be right
there. Bye.

LAURA
Thanks. Bye.

Laura takes one quality breath. She's tapped on the shoulder.

ANGRY BIRTHDAY MOM
You're the manager, right?

LAURA
Yes, ma'am.

Angry Birthday Mom gestures for Laura to follow her into...

7

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - DINING AREA - CONTINUOUS

7

Even more unruly kids out here, but that's not what we focus on. Encino Mom directs Laura's attention to the stage...

ANGRY BIRTHDAY MOM
Explain this.

...where a band of life-size animatronic animals -- a BADGER, a HEDGEHOG, a RACCOON and RABBIT play instruments and DIZZ E SKWIRL sings lead.

LAURA

Oops.

The problem? The band is performing Snoop Dogg's "Gin and Juice." Dizz E mouths the lyrics perfectly.

DIZZ E SKWIRL

*Rollin' down the street, smokin'
indo, sippin on gin and juice...*

LAURA

It's not supposed to do that.

ANGRY BIRTHDAY MOM

No kidding.

LAURA

There are only ten songs. You selected number 11, didn't you?

ANGRY BIRTHDAY MOM

No. I chose song 1, "Happy Birthday to You," because it's my six-year-old's birthday. It didn't start playing, so I chose it again.

LAURA

Oh, you've just gotta give it a minute. Song 11 is just something I programmed...to entertain the crew after closing.

ANGRY BIRTHDAY MOM

Seems like a design flaw to me, so you can comp our entire party, or you'll be reading a Yelp review that will literally melt phones. I already wrote it; I'm just deciding whether to hit send.

LAURA

(crumbling)

Uh. I should get my mom.

ANGRY BIRTHDAY MOM

Your mom?! I thought I was talking to a manager! Here, take a gander.

Angry Birthday Mom shoves her phone in Laura's face. Laura stammers, steps back. Kate (in her Elsa garb) swoops in.

KATE

Get your phone out of her face, you
cheap-ass, entitled soccer mom.
Talk to my friend that way again,
and you'll be wearing a pizza home.

Encino Mom's jaw drops to the floor. In that same moment, the
band stops playing and the stage goes dark.

REVEAL LAURA'S MOM, DIANA BALABAN (late 50s, Greek-descent,
Greek accent) holding the plug. Diana bustles over.

DIANA

Laura, go help out in the kitchen.

Laura sighs, trudges away. Diana turns her attention to
Encino Mom, speaks to her with well-honed ease.

DIANA (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, ma'am. Everything
today is on the house. Let me go
get you a fresh round of drinks for
your table.

(curtly to Kate)

Kate, I believe you have work to
do.

Kate shoots a last look at the Angry Mom before heading off.

8

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - OFFICE - DAY - (D-1)

8

Laura knocks on the door, enters. She finds Diana, her dad,
NICOS BALABAN (60, gregarious, also Greek) and KEVIN (her
officious co-worker, a ginger Stephen Miller, 19) inside.

LAURA

Hey, you two. You've gotta get on
the road. They want you at the
airport three hours early for
international flights.

NICOS

(Greek accent)

Your mom doesn't think we should go.

LAURA

(horrified)

Why?

DIANA

We worked so hard to build our
business, honey.

KEVIN
(kiss-assy)
It shows.

Laura shoots a *why-are-you-here?* look at Kevin.

DIANA
We don't want it to fall to pieces
just because we went on vacation.

LAURA
You two haven't had a vacation your
entire lives! You're going back to
the old country for the first time!
(directly to Nicos)
Yaya's gonna die soon! What if you
never--

NICOS
Don't look at *me*. *I'm* ready to go.

LAURA
(settling down)
Good.

Diana regards Laura sympathetically.

NICOS
But only if we leave Kevin, here,
in charge.

Laura reacts, gut-punched.

KEVIN
I'll keep everything ship-shape.

LAURA
Shut up, Kevin.
(to Nicos)
Dad. I've got this. It's only three
months. I know I can--

DIANA
Then honey, you'll need to fire
Kate.

LAURA
(appalled)
What?! No..!

DIANA
She's a terrible employee. She
won't sing the Princess Elsie song.
She's always late.

LAURA
She has auditions.

DIANA
She hates kids.

LAURA
(pleading)
Not as much as she hates the
parents. She's my best friend. I
can't--

KEVIN
I can.

A pregnant moment. Nicos and Diana share a long look. Diana
sighs and nods at Nicos. Nicos regards Kevin.

NICOS
Do it.

Kevin lights up, exits.

NICOS (CONT'D)
Firing bad employees. That's part
of the job. Not folding under
pressure? That's part of the job.
Knowing not to program Dizz E's
Good Time Band to play gangster rap
-- that's part of the job.

DIANA
I asked you to add "Head,
Shoulders, Knees." How did we end
up with Snoop Dogg?

LAURA
I started out doing "Head,
Shoulders, Knees," but it was so
boring.

DIANA
(sighs)
How many times have we talked about
follow through?

NICOS
(cutting Diana off)
Most of all, Sweetie... You don't
want to be here. You went to M.I.T.
You *shouldn't* be here. Go do what
you love. Aeronautics! Robotics!
Focus on your inventions!

LAURA
I tried. Getting a job in robotics
as a woman? In *this* economy?

DIANA
Lauroula... Have you considered
maybe smoking less weed?

Off Laura, aghast.

9

EXT. SAN FERNANDO VALLEY HILLSIDE - (N-1)

9

Kate and Laura lean against the Dizz E. Skwirlz van, sharing
a joint and staring off at the lights of the San Fernando
Valley. Occasional PLANES fly over them.

LAURA
(exhaling a hit)
Today sucked.
(seeing a plane)
Piper Cherokee 140.
(continuing)
I hate my job.

KATE
At least you still have one.

LAURA
I'm sorry. That sucks.

KATE
I deserved to get fired, but it's
messed up your parents promoted
douche-nozzle Kevin over you.

LAURA
I would've felt worse if they
hadn't gotten on that plane. And, I
get it. They're on vacation for the
first time. They need someone
responsible. I didn't really wanna
be manager, but it's humiliating.

We hear the sound of an ARTIFICIAL BARK.

ANGLE DOWN AT "BALZAC," A ROBOT DOG. It's all legs, chassis
and jaw. Something more mechanical than cuddly.

Laura throws a tennis ball and the robot dog chases after it.

LAURA (CONT'D)
I'd just wish they trusted me to
handle it.
(MORE)

LAURA (CONT'D)
(sees another plane)
Mooney M20.

KATE
No judgment, but you do smoke a lot
of weed.

LAURA
(takes a big hit)
Maybe you're right. I just want to
find my thing, you know? Like when
Luke Skywalker gets behind an X-
Wing for the first time, he knows.
This is what he was meant to do.
(then)
I told you about that time I saw
Mark Hamill at Quizno's right? He--

KATE
--got two cookies, no sandwich, you
thought that was weird, yes. Look,
knowing what you want to do is
overrated. I've been auditioning
for five years and my biggest
accomplishment is getting murdered
on three of the four CSIs. I came
to L.A. to play strong female
characters. It's like moving to
Houston to eat healthier. The roles
I want don't exist. Or, if they do,
no one wants *me* to play them. Maybe
I'm just not good enough.

LAURA
You shut up. You're incredible. You
get offered stuff all the time.

KATE
Bimbos. Hookers. Hysterical
girlfriends. Just once I wanna get
the kick-ass line. The "yippee-ki-
ay."

LAURA
You said your audition today was
for a science officer.

KATE
...who lets the captain knock her
up, then whines about it.

LAURA
And you said something, didn't you?

KATE
I don't wanna say it's the
patriarchy, but, dude...

LAURA
It's the patriarchy.

Robot Dog BARKS. The ball is in the dog's mouth.

LAURA (CONT'D)
Drop it, Balzac.

Balzac offers his paw to shake.

LAURA (CONT'D)
Balzac! Drop the ball.

Balzac lies down.

LAURA (CONT'D)
Fine. Stay.

Balzac accomplishes this task.

KATE
Still has some kinks.

LAURA
I'm gonna fix that.

KATE
(a hint of doubt)
Yeah.

LAURA
For what it's worth, I admire your
stand. No bimbos. No hookers...

KATE
Don't waste any of that admiration
on me. My credit cards are maxed. My
car's about to give up the ghost.
You floated me last month's rent.
(sighs, admits)
I just said yes to a guest-star on
SORORITY DAD. I play Willing Girl.

LAURA
(surprised, disappointed)
Oh.

KATE
(stung by disappointment)
You know, when I left home, I told
everyone I was going to make it as
an actress.

(MORE)

KATE (CONT'D)
 If I went home now without any real
 credits, I'd be a joke. Back in
 Eureka, Missouri, playing almost
 anything on TV would be a win.
 Sadly, even "Willing Girl."

LAURA
 Then stay out here with me.

Suddenly a UFO blasts pasts them overhead and **CRASHES INTO
 THE JUNK YARD BELOW EXPLODING IN A HUGE FIREBALL!**

KATE
 (to Laura)
 What kind of plane was that!?

10 EXT. OTTO MARTZ AUTO PARTS - (N-1)

10

A junkyard filled crushed cars: Kate, Laura (slightly behind her) and Balzac (trotting out front) approach the WRECKAGE of the crash. The girls notice bizarre markings and machinery.

KATE
 What language is that?

LAURA
 No idea.
 (then)
 Protection mode, Balzac.

Balzac barks in response.

KATE
 Is this a satellite or something?

LAURA
 (points out a chair)
 Satellites don't have cockpits.

Just then a DAZED, BLOODY QUINN, his clothes tattered, appears and stumbles into them speaking an unintelligible, guttural alien language. He tries to use the girls to support his beaten, scraped up frame. The girls shriek and leap away.

Quinn drops face-first into the dirt. The girls stare down at Quinn in disbelief. Balzac continues trotting, unaware.

KATE
 (disgruntled)
 So you may wanna tweak "protection mode."

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO11 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ VAN - NIGHT (N-1)

11

Kate and Laura crouch over an unconscious Quinn laid out in the back of the delivery van.

LAURA

You heard the weird language he was speaking, right? And look at the markings on his clothing.

(deciding)

He's an alien.

KATE

Or he's just a hot guy who picked the coolest jacket he could find at Burlington Coat Factory. Real space aliens would have, like, tentacles or huge saucer eyes.

LAURA

Han Solo? Hot alien. Thor? Hot alien. Star Man--

KATE

Those are movies!

LAURA

Uh, we just witnessed a UFO crash into a junkyard and this half-naked guy passes out in front of us. We are in a movie.

KATE

Alien or not -- and to be clear I'm very firmly in the "not" camp -- we should just roll him out the back of the van and call the cops.

LAURA

No way! I have questions. Like "are you carbon or silicon based?" Or "How do you travel faster than the speed of light," or, I dunno, "Are we living in a simulation? We could be having the first-ever close encounter of the third kind.

KATE

Or he's a Russian who crashed his spy plane. Which is more likely?

LAURA

He's from space. We need to treat
him like precious cargo. We need--

QUINN'S EYES BURST OPEN. He shoots up into a seated position.

Laura gasps, reflexively SPRAYS Quinn in the face with PEPPER SPRAY. Quinn shouts what we can assume is profanity in an alien-sounding guttural language. Outside, Balzac barks like crazy.

Laura and Kate scoot as far away from Quinn as possible. Both now have canisters of pepper spray pointed at Quinn.

KATE

One move, and it's *dasvidanya*,
Ivan. We're American women, and we
will frak you up--

Laura covers Kate's mouth, lowers her pepper spray.

LAURA

We don't want to hurt you.

Quinn appraises Laura and Kate. He then reaches to his neck and appears to dial something in.

QUINN

My name is Quinn. I'm a police
officer from the Eben-Benzo galaxy.

LAURA

(duh, at Kate)
Oh, like a *space alien*!

KATE

(to Laura)
He's messing with us. Ten bucks
says he's some meth head from the
Valley. He got here before us, and
now he's just putting on this Space
Man act. Arkham's Razor, Laur.

LAURA

Arkham's Batman. Occam's the Razor.

KATE

Whatever. This guy's only mission
is to get laid.

Kate gestures outside the van where the ship would be.

QUINN

My ship was carrying criminals from all over the universe. My *mission* is to return them to stand trial.

KATE

I was an extra in a straight to DVD movie with Jonathan Taylor Thomas where he had a concussion and thought he was Muay Thai fighter. I think that's what's happening here.

QUINN

I don't have time for this. Where's my ship?

KATE

There's the door, pal!

Quinn waves his hand over the back door as though he thinks it will open on its own. It doesn't. He's unimpressed.

QUINN

How primitive *is* this planet?

Kate, growls, but leans over and opens the door for him. As Quinn gets out, Kate has an epiphany.

KATE

(to Laura)

I know what's happening here.

(calling off)

YOU PEOPLE CAN'T PUT ME ON TV
UNLESS I SIGN A WAIVER! I KNOW MY
RIGHTS!

(back to Laura)

We're definitely on a reality show.

A disgruntled Laura scoots forward and looks out the back door of the van in time to see Quinn bend down next to Balzac. Balzac drops his tennis ball at Quinn's feet. Quinn picks up Balzac and peers at his mechanics. Quinn looks back at the van.

QUINN

Maybe not so primitive.

Laura smiles.

Laura speed walks toward camera. Kate, annoyed, tries to catch up.

KATE

Laura. Stop. Get back in the van.
Let's get out of here.

REVERSE REVEALS Laura is hustling to catch up with Quinn.

KATE (CONT'D)

Laura. Did you buy weed from your
friend who thinks the moon is a
spaceship?

ON QUINN as he arrives at the wreckage of his ship. Quinn
clocks that all the EMPTY SARCOPHAGI that once contained his
prisoners. First Laura, then Kate, catches up to him.

QUINN

(desolate)

They're gone. Every single
goddamned one of 'em.

LAURA

(excited)

So there are a bunch of escaped
alien fugitives on the loose?

QUINN

Yes.

KATE

Okay, fine. I'll play along. If
there's a bunch of escaped aliens,
that sounds like a you problem.

QUINN

All of my prisoners are virus-
based. They're thugs, thieves,
pirates, slavers, hijackers,
murderers, mass murderers and
genocidal maniacs. They have the
ability to live inside humanoid
life forms. They can wear your
bodies like camouflage. It's not a
me problem; it's a planet--

(then)

Where did I land?

LAURA

Earth.

QUINN

It's a Planet Earth problem.

Quinn begins searching through the wreckage. As he continues
to explain Earth's predicament...

13 VARIOUS LOS ANGELES LOCATIONS - MONTAGE (N-1) 13

A CRAB-LIKE ALIEN dissolves into VAPOR and takes over the body of a PERSONAL TRAINER.

QUINN (V.O.)
They dissolve themselves into a
vapor and enter through your
respiratory system.

A FAT GRUB-LIKE ALIEN takes over a MOVIE AGENT...

QUINN (V.O.)
They'll act quickly. They can't
survive for long outside a host.

A LIQUID ALIEN takes over a MARIJUANA DISPENSARY CLERK...

QUINN (V.O.)
Once they're in, *they're* in
control.

A ROCK-LIKE ALIEN takes over a LYFT DRIVER.

QUINN (V.O.)
And the damage they can do is
incalculable.

14 INT. PUBLIC BATHROOM - NIGHT (N-1) 14

ELMO'S HEAD sits on a sink. A toilet flushes and a JUNKIE JACKIE EARLE HALEY-LOOKING GUY walks out in the remainder of the Elmo costume. And there to greet him is none other than Gah'ree.

ELMO
Whoa. Great costume.

Gah'ree smiles, baring dozens of predatory teeth.

GAH'REE
I need to borrow yours for a little
while.

Off Elmo's fright.

15 INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - BULLPEN - NIGHT (N-1) 15

EXTREME CLOSE UP on a postage stamp featuring a picture of Benjamin Franklin dated 1867.

REVEAL AGENT JIMMY FISHBURNE (28, African-American, eager, think Sam Richardson.) Jimmy studies the stamp through a large lighted magnifying glass in his cubicle, recording himself with his cell.

FISHBURNE

The disputed Franklin stamp is a forgery. Someone re-perforated it. The watermark is too visible for a hundred and fifty year old stamp. Evidence of re-gumming--

YOUNG FBI AGENT

Hey, Jimmy!

Fishburne stands, spots the other agent whose head is popping up above the cubicle walls in the nearly empty bullpen.

FISHBURNE

Yeah?

YOUNG FBI AGENT

Who here handles UFOs?

FISHBURNE

No one. That's Air Force...

YOUNG FBI AGENT

Okay.

(indicating phone, amused)

This is the third call I've gotten telling me about this fireball over Encino.

FISHBURNE

I live in Sherman Oaks!

The other FBI agent shrugs. So...

FISHBURNE (CONT'D)

Send it over to me. I'll point 'em in the right direction.

He sits back down, picks up his desk phone when it rings.

FISHBURNE (INTO PHONE) (CONT'D)

FBI, this is Agent Fishburne...

As the caller on the end speaks, Jimmy picks up his coffee mug. As he drinks from it, we note the logo: The X-Files, "The Truth Is Out There."

16

EXT. OTTO MARTZ AUTO PARTS - CRASH SITE - NIGHT (N-1)

16

Quinn continues hunting around the crash site.

LAURA

What are you looking for?

QUINN

My tracker... My weapon... My first aid tool...

KATE

Okay. If you're an alien, how can you speak our language?

QUINN

I have a microchip in my voicebox. I say the words I'm thinking. It comes out as words you understand.

KATE

(suspicious)

Let's hear your alien voice again.

Quinn puts a finger up to his throat and pushes on it, then SPEAKS IN AN UNINTELLIGIBLE, GUTTURAL MUMBLE.

KATE (CONT'D)

Okay, that just sounds like Tom Hardy. See, this is why I hate reality TV. There's no effort put into it. An alien language should be like beeps and blurps. Or a math language like Arrival.

(shouting)

YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME, PEOPLE!

QUINN

Are we being watched?

LAURA

No, she's an actress. She thinks we're on a reality show.

QUINN

Actors are untrustworthy people. We had them on my planet. A lower caste of people. Professional liars. I have no use for them.

KATE

Here on Earth, actors are royalty.

Quinn regards Kate, studies her.

QUINN

A lie. You need practice.

Kate stink-eyes Quinn, but he's already back to digging through wreckage.

KATE

All right. I'm done with this reality show crap. Let's hit the road, Laura.

LAURA

You think a reality show VFX'd a giant fireball crashlanding in an abandoned junkyard to catfish us in?

KATE

Current theory: one of us is in the other's hallucination.

Quinn picks something up. His first smile.

QUINN

My first aid tool!

LAURA

(eyeing device)

It looks like a bar code reader.

Suddenly, Balzac begins barking like crazy.

SFX: "BRAAAAAAHM!!!"

Our trio looks up in time to see HYPNOZ -- a bi-pedal alien with the head of an angler fish and EYES AGLOW -- scuttling (fast scuttling!) toward them from behind a smashed car!

QUINN

Run!

Kate and Laura shriek and flee as Hypnoz bull rushes Quinn. Quinn dodges, then picks up a muffler and swings it, knocking Hypnoz to the ground. Quinn jumps on top of Hypnoz and punches the alien in what passes for a face, not seeing that Hypnoz has grabbed a rusty tailpipe. Hypnoz **JAMS IT THROUGH QUINN'S STOMACH.**

FIND THE GIRLS backing up into a wall of cars.

KATE

Oh my god this is real!

(to Hypnoz)

(MORE)

KATE (CONT'D)
Stay away! We have weird Earth
diseases!

Hypnoz staggers at them, SALIVA DRIPPING FROM ITS MANDIBLES.

LAURA
SIC 'EM, BALZAC!

Balzac rolls over, exasperating Laura. Hypnoz closes on Kate and Laura. WE HEAR A THUNK. Hypnoz COLLAPSES revealing Quinn, a YARD OF REBAR in his hand.

KATE
(a beat, then...)
Okay, *that* thing is an alien.

Quinn drops to his knees, a pipe still sticks through his torso. He PULLS IT OUT LIKE A BADASS, leaving a huge hole.

QUINN
(gasping)
My first aid tool...

Laura spots the device Quinn was holding previously. She sprints over, grabs it and returns it to Quinn.

QUINN, in agony, TURNS ON THE DEVICE. It glows purple. He waves it over his wound. The wound eventually closes.

LAURA
That was so dope.

KATE
Okay. You're an alien.

QUINN
We need to lock this perp up. Do
you have a place I can do that?

LAURA
(immediately)
Yes.

KATE
No.

LAURA
(definitively)
Yes.

Kate clocks Laura's conviction, let's "yes" be the last word.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

17

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - WALK-IN FREEZER - NIGHT (N-1)

17

Quinn efficiently ties up an unconscious Hypnoz. Laura stacks boxes around Hypnoz to hide her. Kate stands in the corner, lost in thought.

QUINN

How cold does this compartment get?

LAURA

I mean, it's a freezer, but we've definitely never had to freeze a...

KATE

What is he?

QUINN

Her name is Hypnoz.

LAURA

(to Kate, ribbing)

Ha! Sexist...

(to Quinn)

What's that thing on her head?

Laura points at the angler-fish style bulb hanging in front of Hypnoz head like bait on the end of a rod.

QUINN

She uses it to perform mass hypnosis on the simpleminded.

(tightens a knot, turns to Laura)

Picture dimwits by the score hurling themselves off a cliff because a voice in their head tells them to. Hypnoz is a psychopath. All she wants to do is kill. We need to keep her frozen. She can do damage even if she's tied up.

KATE

Basement of a kids' party palace? Perfect place to keep her.

Suddenly Quinn's LEGS GIVE and he GETS LIGHTHEADED.

KATE (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

QUINN

I've been awake for days.

Quinn tries to walk and COLLAPSES ON THE GROUND, out cold.
Kate and Laura regard Quinn.

KATE

Huh. This kinda works. We can
freeze them both. Problem solved.

Laura glares at Kate.

LAURA

He's a space cop. We need him to
round up all these monsters. You
heard him. This is "an Earth
problem."

KATE

That *he* caused. Clearly his
piloting leaves something to be
desired.

LAURA

C'mon! Maybe we could help him! We
can at least give him a place to
sleep. This is the most exciting
thing that's happened to me like,
ever. I'm an hourly employee at a
pizza place. I don't exactly have a
lot going on right now.

KATE

So join a softball team! Don't
invite an alien that other aliens
wanna atomize to crash at our
place!

LAURA

It's one night, dude! And you've
brought a lot worse guys to sleep
over.

KATE

Hurtful ...but not wrong.

LAURA

I promise this is not going to mess
up your life at all.

Kate looks dubious, but she sighs. *Fine*.

18

INT. KATE AND LAURA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (N-1)18

Laura and Kate stare down at something.

LAURA

Can we just take a moment to fully appreciate how insane this is?

KATE

I'll give you that.

REVEAL QUINN passed out on Kate and Laura's couch.

LAURA

How do we just go back to our normal lives after this?

A WIDER SHOT reveals a messy No-Ho apartment. The best things are from Ikea. The apartment has Laura's half-baked mechanical inventions spread out everywhere.

KATE

To be fair, you literally said the same thing after you ate the burger where the bun was a donut.

Laura smiles.

LAURA

Yeah but this changes everything.

KATE

Does it? Quinn is leaving in the morning. You have to punch the clock at The Squirrel.

Kate makes her way to a fax machine, picks up some pages.

KATE (CONT'D)

I have to memorize my...
(scanning pages)
...three lines for SORORITY DAD.

LAURA

What about the horde of evil aliens running around the city?

KATE

That's what *he's* here for.

LAURA

He doesn't know Earth; we do. He needs a guide; that's us.

KATE

Laur, you know I think you're totally awesome, but you don't have a clue about hunting space monsters for real.

Laura crosses to Kate, puts her hands on Kate's shoulders. She's dead serious.

LAURA

I think this is my Luke and the X-Wing moment. Maybe I'm meant to save the world from evil aliens. And maybe you are, too.

KATE

I'm not.

LAURA

Are you meant to be ogled on *SORORITY DAD*? You're so much better than that and you know it.

KATE

Have you listened to me at all?

LAURA

There's a character on that show whose catchphrase is "Gimmie dat badonkadonk."

KATE

Yeah, well, I can't be picky right now, and I'm sure capturing aliens sounds really cool to you right now, but we both know what's going to happen.

LAURA

What's that supposed to mean?

KATE

Stick-to-it-iveness? Not exactly a Laura Balaban strong suit.

LAURA

That's not fair. I'm super into this.

KATE

You were super into building Balzac, the rape prevention robot dog until you actually had some interest from backers.

(MORE)

KATE (CONT'D)
 What's the status on that?
 (then)
 Balzac, sit!

Balzac barks.

KATE (CONT'D)
 Not exactly ready for Wal-Mart.

LAURA
 I'm just stuck on the voice
 recognition. The programming is
 super boring.

KATE
 You've been stuck on it for a year.
 You taught it to fetch, bring in
 the morning paper, give hugs and
 herd sheep. It just can't prevent
 rapes, because you'd rather play
 Halo than do the part of the job
 that's a grind.

Kate's words sting Laura. She folds her arms across her chest. Kate tries to proceed delicately.

KATE (CONT'D)
 And think about it, dude. It stands
 to reason that there'll be some
 pretty stressful situations in the
 hunting space aliens game, yeah?

LAURA
 Of course.

KATE
 Well... How many times have you
 said yourself that you don't do
 well under pressure?

Laura glares at Kate, her feelings hurt badly.

LAURA
 Why are you judging me when you're
 the one passing up the chance to
 save the world so you can go on TV
 and say--

Laura snatches Kate's sides.

LAURA (CONT'D)
 (reading sides)
 "Oops, I dropped my pen."
 (reading stage direction)
 (MORE)

LAURA (CONT'D)

"Stacy bends down. Angle on her badonkadonk."

(then)

What happened to the actress hell bent on playing strong women -- badasses who save the day and deliver the killer one-liners?

KATE

She's broke and she doesn't want to move back to her mom's house in Missouri!

LAURA

Is that the fancy way of saying she's selling out?

Kate looks like she might blow her top. She takes a couple deep breaths, then...

KATE

You do what you want. I'm done with this.

Kate exits. Laura exhales. She shakes her head, full of self-loathing. She turns to Balzac.

LAURA

What are you looking at.

Balzac barks. Laura stares at him, considering.

19 INT. KATE AND LAURA'S APARTMENT - DAY (D-2)

19

A new day. Kate exits her bedroom rubbing her eyes. There is music cranked from the bathroom door. Kate knocks.

KATE

(ironic)

Laur. Thanks for the early wake up call.

(then)

C'mon. I need in. Open up.

No response. Kate heads out into...

20 INT. KATE AND LAURA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 20

Kate sees the couch is empty. No Quinn.

KATE

Thank god. He's gone.

21

INT. KATE AND LAURA'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

21

Kate pauses as she enters.

REVEAL LAURA asleep at the kitchen table. Balzac is on top of the table. A cable runs from Balzac's guts to Laura's laptop. Tools and grease are spread across the table.

KATE

Great.

Kate sticks a coffee pod in the coffee maker, begins digging in the fridge for milk.

QUINN (O.C.)

I require transportation to my ship.

Kate turns around, discovers a cleaned-up Quinn in the kitchen. He's wearing a Comic-Con 2012 T-shirt.

KATE

(indicating shirt)

Laura sleeps in that.

QUINN

Invoice the Alliance of Planets. My need for transportation is urgent. I shouldn't have slept that long.

KATE

(indicating Laura)

Laura here wants to run off and join the circus with you. Promise me you won't let her.

QUINN

I don't need help. I don't want help. Now who will give me a ride?

KATE

On your planet, do people think you're kind of a dick?

QUINN

There are no people on my planet. They were all murdered.

Kate softens a bit, tries to be helpful.

KATE

Maybe if you learn to speak--

On the word "speak," Balzac BARKS sharply. This awakens Laura.

KATE (CONT'D)
(regarding Balzac)
That's an improvement.

QUINN
The professional liar refuses to provide me transportation. Is that something you're willing to do.

LAURA
Absolutely.

Off Kate's concern.

22 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - KITCHEN - DAY (D-2)

22

Kevin parades in front of the DIZZ E SKWIRLZ STAFF.

KEVIN
Someone turned the temperature way down on the thermostat, and I want to know who. It's a freezer, not the frigid tundra of Hoth!

Kevin looks for a laugh. Nothing.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
I caught it this time. We were lucky. Next time, it's someone's ass.

23 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - WALK IN FREEZER - SAME TIME

23

A COOK enters, grabs a box. CAMERA PANS TO THE SPOT where Hypnoz is hidden. We can see a tiny section of his claw. A tiny bead of condensation drips off of it. Uh oh...

24 EXT. OTTO MARTZ AUTO PARTS - DAY (D-2)

24

Laura, surprisingly dressed in professional business attire, follows Quinn as he approaches his crashed ship.

LAURA
I'm not sure if returning to the scene of the crime, so to speak, is a good idea. The authorities always show up. No telling how many people reported your crash landing.

QUINN

What happened to your tail?

LAURA

(baffled)

My--? Oh, you mean from last night?
That's part of my work uniform. I
don't have a tail.

(indicating her attire)

This is just because I'm dropping
off a resume at Cal-Tech robotics
lab. It's a long shot, though. I've
got plenty of time to help you out.

QUINN

As soon as I get my tracker running
and locate an alternative holding
cell, I'll pick up Hypnoz, and you
and I will cease communication.

LAURA

You're not listening. I want to
help you.

QUINN

(scoffs)

No.

LAURA

You don't know your way around
Earth. I do. These are my people
we'd be saving.

QUINN

I've been to hundreds of planets.
I've captured a serial killer on a
planet where time and space were a
fluid concept. I think I can figure
out this backwater planet.

LAURA

Truly, dude. You can't download an
etiquette program? It'll save you.
We Earthlings don't respond well to
dickishness.

QUINN

I'll manage.

LAURA

You need a partner. I'm an
engineer. I built Balzac. He seemed
to impress you. I've got a car and
a walk-in freezer.

Quinn pauses, considers, but then shakes his head.

QUINN

My last partner had his skin
stripped from his body before he
was set on fire. He died screaming.

LAURA

I'm not saying I have to be on the
front lines or anything.

Quinn spots a small METAL OCTAGON about the size of a 50 cent
piece on the ground. He picks it up, hands it to Laura. Quinn
does his best to sound friendly. It's not his strong suit.

QUINN

Here. A souvenir. And if you're
ever in the Zemplar Galaxy this'll
buy you a nice meal.

Laura, hurt by the brush off, flings the coin into the
distance (toward the entrance).

QUINN (CONT'D)

Fine. Go hungry in Zemplar.

LAURA

(plaintive)

This is my Luke-gets-his-X-Wing
moment! It has to be!

Quinn gives Laura his full attention.

QUINN

Do you even understand what I'm
doing? This isn't a game. I'm
attempting to put away the scum of
the universe. I'm hunting down the
sociopath who destroyed my entire
planet wiping out my entire family.
You can't help me.

Laura finds herself at a loss for words for a moment. Then...

LAURA

That must've been awful. ...Good
luck. We're counting on you.

Laura pulls a card and a couple of bills from her pocket.

LAURA (CONT'D)

That has our phone numbers. And
that's currency. In case you want a
nice meal in the Milky Way galaxy.

Laura departs. Quinn takes a beat to watch her go. He sighs, giving the sense that he was harsher than he wanted to be.

Quinn returns to sifting through the wreckage. After a beat of this, he picks up a SMALL IPHONE-LIKE DEVICE. This is his TRACKER.

QUINN

There you are.

25

EXT. OTTO MARTZ AUTO PARTS - DAY (D-2)

25

A distraught Laura heads toward the exit when an ND CAR pulls in. She watches with interest as Jimmy Fishburne gets out in his suit.

LAURA

(to herself)

Authorities. Told ya so.

Jimmy notices Laura heading towards him in her own business attire.

LAURA (CONT'D)

(calling out)

Hey there! Air Force?

FISHBURNE

Jimmy Fishburne, FBI.

LAURA

Laura Mulder, Federal Aviation
Administration. False alarm.

Fishburne deflates. He was hoping for something fun.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Yeah, it was a Skybaby. Engine
caught fire. It's a mess back
there.

Laura points to a wall of crushed cars that prevents our view of the wreckage of Quinn's ship.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Pilot walked away, though.

FISHBURNE

That's good.

LAURA

The first reports we got, I thought
it was gonna be a Cessna Citation
or a PAC Fletcher. Maybe an Ag Cat.

(smiling, snapping her
fingers in a *shoot*
gesture)

But I was really hoping for some
little green men.

FISHBURNE

(sheepish)

Yeah. Me, too.

Laura starts to get in her car. Fishburne calls out.

FISHBURNE (CONT'D)

May the Force be with you!

Laura regards Fishburne. WTF? Fishburne reads her confusion.

FISHBURNE (CONT'D)

Your bumper sticker. I saw it when
I pulled in.

Laura relaxes, smiles at Fishburne.

LAURA

Live long and prosper.

There's the hint of a spark.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Okay. Gotta go file some paperwork.

FISHBURNE

Did you say "Mulder?"

Laura nods. Ducks down into her car, starts it. She's pleased to see Fishburne head back to his own car. She pulls out, heads off. We catch her bumper sticker: I had friends on that Death Star!

Fishburne is almost at his car when he spots something on the ground. He picks it up. It's the METAL OCTAGON. Fishburne squints at it, registers his curiosity, then puts it in his pocket and gets in his car.

On the other side of the WALL OF STACKED CARS, we find Quinn. His tracker is projecting a 3D Radar Display. Blips show all the alien escapees. It flickers on and off, but eventually...

A.I. VOICE (V.O.)
One hundred percent of targets
located.

Quinn types on a keyboard and a picture of GAH'REE pops up on screen, along with a GPS-like location for him.

A.I. VOICE (V.O.)
Detainee 5002N. Name: Gah'ree.
Planetary location: 34.0745° N,
118.3599° W.

QUINN
I'm coming for you.

27 EXT. HOLLYWOOD BLVD - DAY (D-2)

27

Elmo stands on Hollywood Blvd, taking pics with TOURISTS.

ELMO
Who's next? Ten of your currency
per picture. Elmo needs money to
buy some clothing.

Suddenly Elmo is **FORM TACKLED TO THE GROUND BY QUINN!** Quinn wrestles him down, begins pummeling him as horrified tourists look on, some screaming for someone to help Elmo.

QUINN
Miss me?!

Quinn pulls his fist back, but is YANKED OFF ELMO by two POLICEMAN. They struggle to wrestle him to the ground.

QUINN (CONT'D)
You have no idea who that is!

Quinn slips the hold of both cops and tackles Elmo again, this time BASHING HIS HEAD ON THE GROUND OVER AND OVER.

TWO MORE COPS, grab Quinn and wrestle him to the ground. One of the other cops cuffs Quinn.

QUINN (CONT'D)
You're making a giant mistake.

They pick Quinn up to his feet and carry him off.

GAH'REE
(to the crowd)
Okay, who wants a picture with
Elmo?!

47

END OF ACT THREE

47

ACT FOUR28 INT. KATE & LAURA'S APARTMENT - DAY (D2)

28

Kate stands in front of the mirror rehearsing her dialogue for SORORITY DAD.

KATE
Oops, I dropped my *pen*.

Kate tries another go. This time, in a baby voice.

KATE (CONT'D)
Oooops, I dropped my *pen*!

Kate tosses her script on the bed, rubs her eyes and takes a long hard look in the mirror.

KATE (CONT'D)
(to self)
Jessica Chastain guested on
FRANKLIN AND BASH before she booked
ZERO DARK THIRTY. You're going to
do bigger and better things...

Kate's PHONE RINGS. She picks it up.

KATE (CONT'D)
This is Kate.

29 INT. LAPD HOLLYWOOD STATION - SAME TIME - INTERCUT

29

Find Quinn on a PAY PHONE surrounded by derelicts.

QUINN
It's Quinn. I'm being held at the
LAPD Hollywood Station. The police
tell me I need a lawyer.

KATE
What'd you do?

QUINN
Tried to rid the galaxy of a
genocidal maniac. ...The police are
calling it assault.

KATE
Fine, but why are you calling me?
I'm the professional liar. I'm
useless, remember?

QUINN

I already tried Laura. She didn't answer.

(then)

So do you know a lawyer?

Off Kate, considering.

30

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - ARCADE - (D2)

30

SHARON and VANCE, two muscle-bound dim bulbs wearing FITNESS NATION t-shirts berate Kevin and Laura across the counter.

VANCE

The theme is "Girls-Get-Ripped."
What's with all the pony crap?

KEVIN

We are so sorry.

LAURA

(muttered)

You're 30 minutes early, sir.

SHARON

Theme was very important here. It's not just a party. It's marketing. We asked for no-fat ice cream.

LAURA

(muttered)

For a kid's birthday party?

VANCE

Our little girl says the ball pit smells like pee, and Princess Elsa...

LAURA

(muttered)

Elsie.

KEVIN

What's the problem, sir?

VANCE

Well, look at her.

ANGLE ON an elderly, plump Vietnamese Woman dressed as Elsa.

KEVIN

(to Laura)

Ice cream. Party room. Piss. *Stat!*

An annoyed Laura picks up a PAIR OF PAPIER-MÂCHÉ BARBELLS from behind the counter and heads off.

31 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - KITCHEN/WALK-IN FREEZER - DAY (D-2) 31

Laura enters. She quickly checks on Hypnoz. Still frozen! Good. She grabs the no-fat ice cream and exits.

PUSH IN ON HYPNOZ. THE RIME COATING HER BODY IS THAWING!

Her EYE OPENS and she lets out a HIDEOUS SHRIEK!

32 INT. JAIL CELL - DAY 32

PAN OFF AN ENORMOUS MAN with a swastika tattoo on his neck and find he's sitting very close to a peeved Quinn.

WIDEN TO REVEAL they're the only two in the large cell.

QUINN

There are lots of places to sit.

ENORMOUS MAN

I like this one. I like the smell of you. I'll bet you'd taste good.

Quinn, in a lightning quick move, jabs Enormous Man in a spot on his neck just below the ear. Enormous Man's head drops. It's like Quinn turned him off with a light switch. Quinn looks up to see a guard arrive.

GUARD

You. Your lawyer's here.

33 INT. POLICE STATION - DAY (D-2) 33

Quinn is led out to a processing station. He furrows his brows when he sees Kate, wearing a suit and carrying a briefcase, already mid-argument with a policeman.

KATE

...well as his attorney, I can tell you -- that's *not* going to happen.

Kate shoots an I've-got-this-nod at Quinn.

COP #1

Is that so? Your client -- *your client with no ID* -- just beat the snot out of a street performer on Hollywood Boulevard.

Kate eyes the cop with righteous indignation, then proceeds to deliver a bravura performance as Space Alien's Lawyer.

KATE

What's another word for street performer?

(before they can answer)

That's right -- *junkie*. And what do junkies want? That's right -- heroin. And how do they get heroin -- that's right, they mug people. People like my client.

The cop begins to respond, but Kate cuts him off.

KATE (CONT'D)

Unh uh. No. You listen to *me*. That "victim" you protected has a rap sheet as long as my arm. He's also in possession of everything my client owns -- my client, a decorated war hero. Now, frankly, I'm not sure who to call first: my friends in the media or my friends in government. But remember this moment. It's the moment where you can let this man go and live your life in peace, or it's the moment where you can cross swords with me. And if that's the way you want to play it, the first thing I'm going to do is bury your ass in so much paperwork, you'll be filling out reports through the new year. You'll have to tell your kids "Daddy can't have Christmas with you. He's at the precinct, dotting his i's and crossing his t's. Tell mom and her new boyfriend I hope they got the alimony check."

Kate stares. Cop #1 has no comment. Quinn hides a smirk.

34

EXT. POLICE STATION - PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER (D-2)

34

Kate and Quinn step outside. Kate is exhilarated, proud.

QUINN

What was that?

KATE

That was acting.

QUINN

Ah! Lying. You're very good at it.

KATE

You're damn straight.

(then, confessed)

The back half was a monologue from an episode of *Law & Order*. I was a featured background extra. I heard it a lot.

(then)

That useless skill just saved your ass.

Quinn considers this. Then pulls his TRACKER out of his bag of belongings the cops had confiscated. He examines it.

QUINN

Dammit, cops must've been messing with my tracker. I need to fix it back at my ship. Give me a ride.

KATE

Yeah, well, I need to get to work, so...

QUINN

It's urgent.

Kate shakes her head, pulls out her cell.

KATE

I'll get you an Uber. You know, For some super cop who doesn't need any help, you sure seem to ask for it a lot.

35

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - DAY (D-2)

35

The middle of a taping of SORORITY DAD, a cheesy multicam like \$#!% MY DAD SAYS. Kate is on the set of a fake sorority house. She is dressed in a short skirt and tube top. She looks miserable.

DIRECTOR (O.S.)

And! Action!

Kate walks past SORORITY DAD (a 40-something Kevin James doppelganger) and the SORORITY GIRLS he takes care of. Kate drops her pen. She bends down to pick it up.

KATE

Oops, I dropped my pen.

SORORITY DAD
Damn! Gimme dat badonkadonk!

The AUDIENCE CACKLES. Kate, in character, to Sorority Dad:

KATE
Keep talking to me like that and
I'll badonka-DONK you in the head!

The AUDIENCE "OOOHS" in titillated delight.

DIRECTOR (O.S.)
And cut! Great!

Kate's face drops. This is mortifying and she hates herself for doing this. The DIRECTOR steps onto the stage.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
Kate, good news/bad news. Good news: we love you. You're awesome. We want to put you in another scene. Bad news: hair in the lens. We're gonna have to reshoot that last one after some punch ups.

KATE
What's the new scene?

DIRECTOR
Picture this: You're on a ladder--

KATE
Got it.

DIRECTOR
Producers really love you. They're talking about making you recurring!

KATE
(halfhearted)
Awesome...

The director walks off and Kate, miserable, pulls on a PARKA over her skin-tight wardrobe. She shivers.

It's madness at the kids' party. A LITTLE KID, mouth covered in ice cream, stands on top of an ARCADE MACHINE. Laura tries to negotiate with him as if he's a jumper atop a building.

LAURA
 C'mon, buddy! You don't wanna do
 this. What say I help you down and
 we have some Dizz E. Skwirlz ice
 cream?

The kid spits out a mouthful of jelly beans like machine gun
 fire. Hoai-Tran, still dressed as Princess Elsie, trudges up.

HOAI-TRAN
 Laura, these children are monsters.
 I quit.

LAURA
 Wait, what? No! Please, Hoai-Tran--

Laura wants to go after Hoai-Tran, but...

LITTLE KID
 BONZAI!

The Little Kid leaps right into Laura's arms, nearly knocking
 her over. Musclehead Dad Vance shows up with attitude.

VANCE
 Where's Elsa going?

LAURA
 Elsie.

VANCE
 Whatever. We paid for an Elsie. We
 sure as hell better get an Elsie!

Off Laura, flustered, trying to keep it together.

37

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - MOMENTS LATER (D-2)

37

Kate approaches a director's chair on the set of SORORITY
 DAD and takes a seat. She sees her phone. CLOSE ON: the
 phone's screen, which reads "VOICEMAIL." Kate picks up.

LAURA (O.S.)
 Hey. It's me. I'm not sure when
 your filming wraps but... we're
 desperate for an Elsie over here.
 Even one who hates children.
 (then)
 Help me, Kati-wan. You're my only
 hope.

Kate hangs up. As she's considering, the Director approaches.
 Between stuffing his face with Red Vines, he gets out...

DIRECTOR

Hey, Kate. Just about to run through the rewrite. You're gonna drop a big textbook that says "science" and then say, "Now I understand gravity!" It's hilarious.

Kate takes a deep breath, and then:

KATE

Sorry. I quit. Just booked a better part where no one ogles my ass and I get to work with better people.

Kate exits to the shock of the Director and the crew.

38

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - ARCADE - DAY (D-2)

38

Two brothers, MILES (8) and TOBY (5), fight over an ACTION FIGURE.

MILES

Leggo!

TOBY

Screw you, Miles! I had it first!

Laura arrives, intervenes.

LAURA

Guys! No fighting! The liability waivers your parents signed only apply to the party room. Out!

Laura crosses off and the kids fight again. Miles gives one big rip, and the ACTION FIGURE lands in the ball pit.

Miles runs over and reaches his hand into the balls. Just a few feet away, the BALLS IN THE PIT RUMBLE, and HYPNOZ'S GLOWING ANGLER FISH-STYLE LURE surfaces like a periscope, moving toward Miles. Miles sees none of this.

IN THE B.G. the ARCADE SCREENS go haywire. SFX: "BRAAAAHM!"

Just as Hypnoz gets dangerously close to Miles, the boy pulls the action figure out and heads off to play.

Hypnoz sinks under the balls... waiting for her next potential victim!

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

39

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - ARCADE - DAY (D-2)

39

Laura places the candles in the birthday cake as Vance and Sharon stand over her. Laura is extremely stressed out.

VANCE

Where the hell is the upgraded
Princess Elsa you promised?

LAURA

Just FYI, we never promised you a
white princess Elsa because that
would be super racist.

SHARON

Are you calling us racist?

LAURA

No-- well-- no, I'm just saying--

LITTLE KID

It's Princess Elsa!

Laura turns to see KATE entering like a savior. She wears her Princess Elsie costume. And this time, Kate is OWNING the character. She's warm and engaging, brimming with love.

KATE

Hello, children! I've come straight
from the Kingdom of Arendale to
celebrate a special birthday girl!
(then)
Now who wants a hug from Princess
Elsie?!

The kids swarm Kate. Vance and Sharon turn to Laura.

VANCE

Well, this *is* an upgrade.

Kevin approaches and tries to claim part of the victory.

KEVIN

I'm glad we could deliver the full
Dizz E. Skwirlz package for a VIP
client like yourself.

VANCE

(disdainful)
That ball pit clean yet?

Vance and Sharon cross off. Laura is touched. Kate came through for her.

KATE
(to the party)
Okay! Who's ready for a song?!

All the kids cheer.

40 INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S OFFICE - DAY (D-24)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR REYES (50s, gruff) reads over a file.
Fishburne enters.

FISHBURNE
Sir?

REYES
Yes, Fishburne?

FISHBURNE
We got some calls last night about
a UFO crashing out in the Valley.

REYES
(focused on his file)
Air Force handles UFOs.

FISHBURNE
Yeah, well... I live out in that
direction, so I checked it out.

Fishburne sets the METAL OCTAGON on Reyes' desk.

FISHBURNE (CONT'D)
I found this. It's baffling.

Reyes half-heartedly glances down.

REYES
It looks like a coin. Isn't that
your specialty?

FISHBURNE
Yes, sir. But it matches no
currency I'm aware of. And these
hieroglyphics don't match any
language I can find on record. I
don't know where on Earth this
could have been manufactured.

Reyes finally leans forward, takes a closer look.

REYES
You wanna know what I think?

FISHBURNE
(hopeful)
Absolutely.

REYES
I think you're a damn fine art
forgeries agent who watches too
much TV.

Reyes FLIPS the COIN back to Fishburne, returns to his file.
Fishburne exits, discouraged.

41 INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - BULLPEN - MOMENTS LATER (D2) 41

Fishburne sits at his desk. He stares at the coin, then at a
trash can. He sighs, and carefully places the coin in his
desk drawer. He's not done investigating this.

42 EXT. CBS TELEVISION CITY - GATES - DAY (D-2) 42

Gah'ree, still wearing his Elmo costume (minus the head)
stares at massive satellite towers beyond the gates of the
classic TV studio. A SECURITY GUARD sees him and approaches.

SECURITY GUARD
If you're looking for tickets for
PRICE IS RIGHT, you're out of luck
for today, sir.

Gah'ree continues to stare eerily at the towers.

GAH'REE
What is the range on those
satellites? I'm looking to send a
message.

SECURITY GUARD
If it's to anyone from the cast of
YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS, I can give
you a P.O. Box.

GAH'REE
How can I get access to those
satellite towers?

SECURITY GUARD
You're not from around here, are
you? Ha!

(MORE)

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)
Well, I suppose you can get a
decent suit, get a job as a page
and try to work your way up until
you're running the network.

Gah'ree does not laugh. He pulls out a WAD OF CASH.

GAH'REE
Is this enough for a suit?

43

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - ARCADE - DAY (D-2)

43

Kate, still as Princess Elsie, finishes up a song with the kids, who are RAPT. (NOTE: The song is a clear knock-off of "Let It Go"). Sharon and Vance nod their heads to the beat.

KATE
(belting it out)
Leave it behind, leave it behind!
Turn your back and close the
blinds! I don't care
what weathermen say!
Let the blizzard come
The ice never worried me anyway!

The kids erupt in APPLAUSE. Kate curtsies to them all. Kate approaches Laura. Laura addresses the kids.

LAURA
Okay! I think Princess Elsie has to
go back to Arendale. Say bye!

The kids ad-lib "awww/we love her."

LAURA (CONT'D)
That was just... You even did the
song.

KATE
I may have even found inspiration
in it -- the whole, "don't let the
bastards get you down" subtext.

LAURA
(who are you?)
Huh. I never listened that closely.

Laura takes a deep breath, launches into...

LAURA (CONT'D)
Listen. I was wrong to call you a
sell out. I hate that I said that.

KATE

Yeah, but I had just called you an
aimless neurotic who folds when the
going gets tough.

LAURA

Yeah, but I am an aimless neurotic.

KATE

And I *was* selling out.
(gesturing for a hug)
Bring it in here. Let's at least be
sucky people who love each other.

Laura and Kate hug. Laura looks over Kate's shoulder, sees
Vance approach holding a large cake box. Laura breaks apart
from Kate as Vance arrives and holds the box open for her.

VANCE

Is this some kind of a joke? Look
at our ice cream cake!

Kate and Laura look inside the box. The cake has melted.

LAURA

(realizing)
The freezer!

Laura and Kate regard each other, then speed off to see if
their fears are confirmed.

44 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - WALK-IN FREEZER - CONTINUOUS (D-2) 44

Laura and Kate stand, jaws agape. HYPNOZ IS MISSING!

KATE

(aghast)
No *effing* way! He's gone.

LAURA

She's gone. Sexist.

The small moment of levity elicits smiles from both girls,
but the direness of the situation quickly settles on them.

45 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - BALL PIT AREA - CONTINUOUS (D-2) 45

Kevin stands in front of the ball pit holding SPRAY BOTTLE
DISINFECTANT AND A RAG like some timid gunslinger. He's
disgusted by this human petri dish. Two KIDS stand nearby.

KEVIN
 (muttering to nearby Kid)
 This is completely beneath the
 office of a manager...

Kevin copiously pumps HAND SANITIZER into his palm.

The Kids are a bit creeped out and cross off. As Kevin approaches the ball pit, a strange HISSING NOISE comes from beneath the balls, and then...

Hypnoz shoots a CLAW OUT OF THE PIT and YANKS KEVIN UNDER IN ONE MOTION!

46

EXT. OTTO MARTZ AUTO PARTS - CONTINUOUS

46

Quinn fumbles with some jury-rigged WIRING on his TRACKER. It SPARKS and burns his fingers.

QUINN
 Gah! Come on! Work, dammit!

Quinn pops another wire into place and fires it up.

QUINN (CONT'D)
 Yes!

A.I. VOICE (V.O.)
 Initiating tracking.

The 3-D RADAR DISPLAY pops back up, along with several BLIPS representing all the alien escapees.

QUINN
 Show me Detainee 5002N.

The RADAR DISPLAY TURNS AND ZOOMS IN.

A.I. VOICE (V.O.)
 Detainee: Gah'ree. Located.

QUINN
 I'm coming for you, Gah'ree,
 destroyer of worlds.

A.I. VOICE
 Detainee: Hypnoz on the move.

QUINN
 What!?

A.I. VOICE
 Detainee: Hypnoz--

QUINN
No. I heard you.
(slams fist into the side
of an old Chevy)
Furrrrrrgh!

Quinn struggles with the decision he has to make: go after the criminal that destroyed his planet or attempt to save the two Earthling women who have helped him.

47 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - WALK-IN FREEZER - CONTINUOUS (D2) 47

Kate and Laura continue their conversation.

LAURA
Okay, you get over to the junkyard
and bring Quinn back here. I'll
search the building.

KATE
Don't let her hypnotize you.

LAURA
I went to M.I.T., girl. Quinn said
only the feeble-minded get
hypnotized.

KATE
(proud)
Look at you -- handling a crisis
like a boss.

The girls exit the freezer and are immediately confronted by Kevin.

KEVIN
Death awaits those who disobey me.

KATE
Settle down, nerd.

Kevin does not respond to Kate. The girls regard each other.

LAURA
You're skeeving us out, man. We're
gonna go upstairs now...

The girls exit. Kevin's eyes begin to glow.

48

INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - ARCADE - MOMENTS LATER (D-2)

48

Kate and Laura enter to find the ENTIRE RESTAURANT COMPLETELY EMPTY. No Vance and Sharon. No kids. No employees. Just dead SILENCE.

KATE

What the hell is going on?

LAURA

Did Vance and Sharon skip out on the bill?

Kate and Laura head to the front doors.

49

EXT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS (D-2)

49

Kate and Laura step outside to find... ALL THE BIRTHDAY KIDS STAND IN THE PARKING LOT IN A PERFECT MATRIX. It's like they're operating as a HIVE MIND.

LAURA

Oh crap. I think Hypnoz may have found some people he could control.

VANCE/SHARON (O.C.)

Queen Hypnoz...

Kate and Laura whip their heads around. They find Vance and Sharon standing on either side of the doors facing out like two sentries. Their eyes have gone BLANK.

Kevin/Hypnoz emerges from the building.

VANCE/SHARON (CONT'D)

(indicating Kate and
Laura)

What would you have us do with them?

HYPNOZ/KEVIN

Kill them.

Vance and Sharon march toward Kate and Laura.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

50

EXT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ PARKING LOT - DAY (D-2)

50

Immediate pickup. Kate and Laura are mid-showdown with Hypnoz (in Kevin's body) and his army (Vance, Sharon, Kids).

KEVIN/HYPNOZ
(To Vance/Sharon)
Execute them! I will dispose of the
tiny Earthlings.

A hypnotized Vance and Sharon descend on Kate and Laura who nervously back away. High concrete walls around the parking lot prevent any real chance of escape. The only way out is toward Ventura Blvd, but Vance and Sharon are cutting off that route.

ANGLE ON HYPNOZ, who uses her powers on the KIDS.

KEVIN/HYPNOZ (CONT'D)
Children! It's time to go for a
walk...

CHILDREN
(all together)
Yes, Queen Hypnoz.

The children all SHUFFLE and march steadily out of the parking lot and toward Ventura Boulevard traffic!

KATE
Laura, look. The kids.

But when Kate takes her eyes off Sharon and Vance, she sees that Laura has broken and run in the opposite direction.

KATE (CONT'D)
(upset)
LAURA!

Vance and Sharon advance like the mindless husks they are. They back her in between two cars. We think she's doomed.

AT THE DIZZ E SKWIRLZ VAN: Laura sprints up and begins desperately trying to get the right key in the lock. For a moment, we're afraid she's just going to drive away.

Once Laura manages to open the door, she reaches inside for something and pulls out BALZAC. She sets him on the ground.

LAURA
Balzac! Herd!

Balzac takes off running.

BACK ON KATE:

Kate has retreated as far as she can. As they lunge at her, Kate QUICK DRAWS her pepper spray and doses them in the face.

Kate hops over one of the cars. She races toward the children, but she's not fast enough. Despite being half-blinded, Vance manages to cut her off, grab her by the ankle.

Kate is sprawled out on the parking lot for a beat.

KATE'S POV: the 25 children have spread out. The leaders are about to step into traffic when Balzac sprints into view. He barks at the children in the most danger. The children hesitate. He's holding them at bay.

Despite her pain and her desperate situation, Kate manages a smile.

KATE
Yes!

And that's the moment that Sharon's first kick breaks one of Kate's ribs. Kate rolls around in agony.

She looks up in time to see Vance coming at her with a PIECE OF BROKEN CEMENT PARKING BLOCK. He is about to bash Kate's head in when Quinn flies in and tackles Vance.

Kevin/Hypnoz calls out from the entrance.

KEVIN/HYPNOZ
(furious)
KILL QUINN!

As Quinn rolls up from tackling Vance, we realize he's completely winded from running here from the junkyard. Also, his tracker has slipped out of his pocket. Vance begins feinting and dodging with the confidence of an MMA fighter.

QUINN
Kate! My tracker!

Quinn takes a karate kick to the mouth. It rocks him.

Kate spots the tracker. She crawls toward it.

SHARON (O.S.)
Aaaaaaaagh!

Kate looks back, sees that it's now Sharon running at her with a cement block over her head. Sharon launches it at Kate, but Kate rolls away. The cement block misses Kate, but shatters Quinn's tracker.

Unfortunately for Kate, she can't dodge Sharon's kick to the skull. It puts Kate out of action.

REVEAL OUR HERO QUINN out of breath and getting his ass kicked by a skilled muscle-bound fighter. Now that Sharon has taken down Kate, she turns to join her husband for the beat down, but Laura flies in and jumps on her back.

Sharon doesn't have much trouble with Laura. She slams her back into the concrete wall of the parking lot. Once. Twice. Three times.

Laura releases her grip on Sharon and slides down the wall into a heap.

That leaves Vance and Sharon on Quinn who can barely stand. He gets in an occasional shot, but this is likely Indiana Jones fighting the huge Nazi airplane mechanic. He's going to need some luck.

Luck doesn't come. Vance manages to wrestle Quinn into a FULL NELSON. Now it's open season on him. Sharon begins using Quinn like a punching bag. Just before it looks like he may not survive the beating...

HYPNOZ/KEVIN

Stop.

Vance lets go of Quinn who drops like a sack of potatoes.

Kevin/Hypnoz now moves onto the battlefield, pausing only long enough to pick up one of the cement blocks.

HYPNOZ/KEVIN (CONT'D)

Time to die, Quinn.

(looking around)

Never a Kragorian Scribe around when you want one.

(regarding Quinn on the ground)

By the sound of your breathing, you travelled some great distance to assist these two. My host body knows them and indicates they are unworthy of the bother.

Hypnoz/Kevin points to Kate who has managed to make it to her knees.

HYPNOZ/KEVIN (CONT'D)
You. The one who called me "nerd."
Present yourself.

In this moment, Kate transforms. She looks every bit as under the spell of Hypnoz as Vance and Sharon are.

KATE
Yes, my queen.

HYPNOZ/KEVIN
Come take this from me and smash
Quinn's skull.

KATE
Yes, my queen.

Laura is trying to make it to her feet, but she's too banged up and too far away to prevent Kate from taking the block.

LAURA
Kate! No!

HYPNOZ/KEVIN
Finish him, and your death will be
mercifully quick.

KATE
Your mercy is undeserved my queen.

Kate takes the block from Hypnoz/Kevin. She turns back toward Quinn and Laura.

She gives a quick WINK. Then...

Kate SWINGS AROUND AND CLOCKS HYPNOZ/KEVIN across the skull with the CEMENT BLOCK. Hypnoz collapses, knocked unconscious.

KATE (CONT'D)
Welcome to Earth, you bitch!

Vance and Sharon as well as the Kids all snap out of the mass hypnosis. No one is quite sure what's going on.

Laura smiles across the parking lot at her friend.

LAURA
You got the hero line!

Kate takes a bow for her performance. The stabbing pain from her broken rib reminds her that she's badly damaged. She yelps from the pain and grabs her side.

51 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - ARCADE - DAY (D-2)

51

Laura stands with Vance, Sharon and their daughter, who still seem a little confused. Dizz E's has mostly cleared out.

LAURA

Well, that was a huge success.
Thanks so much for choosing to make
your birthday "Squirrely."

Laura escorts them towards the door.

SHARON

I feel so... strange.

LAURA

Our chardonnay'll do that to you.

Laura pushes them out the door and locks it.

52 INT. DIZZ E SKWIRLZ - WALK-IN FREEZER - DAY (D-2)

52

Quinn stands over Kevin and Hypnoz, now separate bodies. Hypnoz is unconscious. Kevin moans as Laura enters. She finds Quinn applying his First Aid Tool to Kate's side.

LAURA

I'll take a hit of that when you're
done with it.

KATE

What's gonna happen to Kevin?

QUINN

He won't remember anything, but
he's going to remain low
functioning for a few months then
before he's back to normal.

LAURA

Like, too low functioning to manage
this place?

QUINN

He's going to sleep upwards of
twenty hours a day and his waking
hours will be spent ravenously
eating.

KATE

That's not that different from my
first year of college.

LAURA
Crap, so that means I'm manager?
I'm not sure I can handle that.

Kate takes Laura by the shoulders.

KATE
(to Laura)
Laur, one of the worst criminals in
the universe just tried to kill
you, and you didn't crumble. You
were a total badass. So don't tell
me you can't run this place until
your parents get back. Believe in
yourself. You can do whatever you
want. You just have to figure out
what that is and accept the
challenge.

Laura takes this in.

QUINN
Just to be clear Hypnoz is not one
of the 'worst criminals in the
universe.' Top half, at best.

KATE
Don't ruin our moment, dude.

Laura takes a breath and steels herself.

LAURA
What I meant was, I'm not sure I
can handle saving the world *and*
managing this place. It may have to
be one of the other.

Kate smiles, amused by Laura's sudden chutzpah.

KATE
You know what? I think you can
handle both.

LAURA
Cool. First things first. I need an
Elsie.

KATE
And I really need a job! Maybe we
can work something out.

QUINN
I believe I've mentioned once or
twice that I work alone.

KATE

No you don't! "Can I get a ride?"
"Can you get me out of jail?" "I
need to borrow some clothes."

LAURA

If you worked alone, you'd be dead,
dude.

Laura steps up to Quinn and looks him right in the eyes.

LAURA (CONT'D)

I can only imagine what it's like
to lose the people I love.

Laura shares a look with Kate, whom she almost lost.

LAURA (CONT'D)

(back to Quinn)

We want the same thing here. Frozen
space monsters. Safe planet Earth.

Quinn nods in agreement.

QUINN

I'll admit, I was impressed. Maybe
you're worth the trouble.

KATE

How are you so bad at compliments?
It's crazy. Just, like, the worst.

QUINN

(to Laura, reframing)

I would appreciate your help.

KATE

Whoa! What about mine? I don't
wanna say I was the MVP today, but--

LAURA

I thought you wanted no part of
this?

KATE

Yeah. Like I said, I came out here
to play strong female leads and
this may be the closest I'm gonna
get... until my genius is properly
recognized by the entertainment
community.

Laura smiles.

QUINN

Just don't come running to me when
your skin is flayed and you're
burned alive.

KATE

Wait. What?

LAURA

Inside joke.
(quickly moving on)
So... now that your tracker's
broken, how are we gonna find the
bad guys.

QUINN

It's going to take some work.

KATE

That one guy you were talking about
earlier... Gah'ree... is he a lot
worse than Hypnoz?

QUINN

It's not even close...

Off Quinn's tense look:

53

INT. CBS - TELEVISION CITY - DAY (D-3)

53

Gah'ree now sports a businessman's haircut and a CBS PAGE
JACKET. He affixes a NAME TAG to his lapel. IT READS: "GARY."
The phone RINGS and he picks it up, and smiles devilishly:

GAH'REE

Thank you for calling CBS. How may
I direct your call?

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW