UPLOAD

One-hour pilot of a half-hour series

Created by

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OVER BLACK

"Nora"

NORA ANTONY,

cute, defiant, 27, in a profile picture on an app called "Nitely," above a 5-possible-star rating that hasn't been filled out yet.

REVEAL a dude named BYRON is holding the screen and looking at the real NORA getting dressed next to a bed.

INT. NY APARTMENT BEDROOM - DECEMBER DAY, 2031 - CONTINUOUS

Nora waits for a shirt to come out of a 3D printer. It's the future, guys.

NORA Hey thanks for the bottle of water. It's the little touches get you 5 stars.

She shows him she rated him 5 stars on her version of Nitely (which is like a Tinder/Uber hybrid.)

BYRON

Cool. Hey, you have time for a quick fuck before work?

NORA I really don't. Maybe if we get matched up again.

BYRON Um, I haven't rated you yet.

NORA ... Really, dude?

BYRON I mean, two stars can significantly lower your average...

Nora sighs and starts taking off her clothes.

BYRON (CONT'D) Awesome. Thanks man.

NORA No, you know what? Fuck this. I'll take the two. BYRON Too bad, bitch. I gave you a one.

NORA Wow. Okay then, I'll earn it.

She grabs the shirt and heaves the printer in the air, leaving as Byron scrambles to catch it.

INT. HALL OUTSIDE BYRON'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Pulling on her shirt, Nora hears a CRASH and smiles. Her phone dings and she sees a screen: "You have received a 0-star rating on your last Nitely experience. Would you like to contest, y/n?" She scowls.

FADE TO BLACK

"Nathan"

EXT. FREEWAY - L.A. - NOVEMBER DAY, A MONTH BEFORE

The freeway is full of SELF-DRIVING CARS shaped like eggs.

INT. NATHAN'S SELF-DRIVING CAR - CONTINUOUS

NATHAN BROWN, 27, things come easily to him, especially women, edits lines of computer code projected on windshield/screen.

Nathan's best friend/work partner JAIME ARNAZ is on speaker.

JAIME (V.O.) There's some kind of acceptance bias in the last three lines.

NATHAN Yeah... what <u>is</u> that?... oh.

He hits a few keys.

JAIME (V.O.) (tired) Aw yiss. Nailed it. Okay, the AGIP protocol still needs work.

NATHAN God no. I gotta veg a little. See you later, okay? Nathan hangs up, then pokes a key. His work is pushed to the side. He decides to have some fun.

NATHAN

Car?

CAR (Australian accent female) Yes, Nathan?

NATHAN Clean camera lenses please.

CAR

Cleaning...

Little squirts and wipers go off inside and out. While the car can't see, Nathan shuts off the car's brain and hacks something to drive using the keyboard with the W-A-S-D keys. He swerves in and out, passing other cars and enjoying the startled looks. After a few seconds, he hears a SIREN.

NATHAN

Uh oh.

FREEWAY SHOULDER - MOMENTS LATER

Nathan explains out the window.

NATHAN It just started racing, who knows why. I'll take it in to be serviced asap, swear to God.

REVEAL he's Facetiming a FEMALE CHP OFFICER on a tablet attached to a hovering DRONE.

NATHAN (CONT'D) I'm on my way to my parent's house for Thanksgiving -- can you imagine if they were waiting and my car had -- I don't even want to think about it.

FEMALE CHP OFFICER Uh huh. Car, what's your story? CAR Don't know what happened. Lost consciousness for a minute. Will update anti-virus software now.

NATHAN Yeah, you do that. There's a human life back here!

FEMALE CHP OFFICER Okay, you can go. Get it fixed soon though. I don't want to see you again.

NATHAN

Oh no...?

He smiles at her. She laughs, charmed.

CAR Should I call your long-time girlfriend Ingrid and tell her you will be late?

The officer rolls her eyes and flies off.

NATHAN It's called being nice. God.

INT. NY SUBWAY - FUTURE DECEMBER DAY - MORNING

Ads for the big digital afterlives line the car. ("Experience 'Ternity' by Spectrum." "Apple/Intel's 'Cove'" "40% off your first 100 years at Snap-Disney's 'Cumulus.'" "You did well, you deserve Lakeview by Amazon.")

Nora, squeezed on a bench, glances at the guy next to her.

He's watching a telenovela called "Amor Despues de la Muerte." A man holds his hand up to a giant screen. On the other side, a woman holds her hand up to touch his. Behind her is a color-saturated Puerto Rico beach resort.

> TELENOVELA WOMAN Me estas esperando?

TELENOVELA MAN Dije que lo haria.

Nora leans closer to the guy's earbud to listen in. The guy turns and kisses her on the mouth. She rubs her lip with her sleeve. Echh. Fucking commuters.

EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - FUTURE - OVERCAST DAY - A LITTLE LATER

Nora walks down the crowded sidewalk. Drones fly overhead like pigeons. The street is crammed with bikes, one of which bangs into Nora.

> NORA Ow! Fucking bikes!

EXT. AMAZON OFFICE BUILDING - BROOKLYN - DAY

Nora hurries past protesters, holding signs like "Digital Afterlife is an Abomination to God!"

PROTESTOR The Works of Man are Shit!

NORA

Fucking Ludds.

INT. AMAZON OFFICE BUILDING ENTRANCE - BROOKLYN - DAY

Employees touch their index finger to a screen and are allowed to enter. Nora gives the middle finger to the screen, then uses it to log in. She walks under a sign reading: "Amazon Lakeview Customer Service."

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING IN LA (ECHO PARK) - EVENING

An old Tesla Model S (a junker in the future) stops in front and Jaime runs out. Behind him, the car parks itself.

INT. BROWN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Jaime lets himself in and rushes to the dining room.

JAIME Hey, Mrs. Brown, sorry I'm late-whoa!

He sees Nathan sitting next to INGRID KANNERMAN, 28, blonde, very beautiful but intense, surrounded by Nathan's family.

JAIME (CONT'D) Ingrid. What are you -- I mean, am I crashing something? Ingrid nods. Nathan's Mom, who is smoking a joint, waves off his concern.

NATHAN'S MOM Pshh, Jaime, you're always welcome. Nathan, get him a chair.

JAIME

I'll help.

EXT. APARTMENT BALCONY - MOMENTS LATER

JAIME The fuck?! She always has Thanksgiving with her family.

NATHAN Invited herself. I didn't think it

was a great idea but she started crying, and I can't handle crying.

JAIME You could have told me she'd be here. I had time to kill myself.

NATHAN Just drop it, man. She's my girlfriend now and I love her. Get used to it.

JAMIE Okay, but if she's coming to family Thanksgiving, next thing she's gonna expect is a proposal. Get used to that.

INT. BROWN DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ingrid holds up a spoon of rice with red berries.

INGRID And it's really called "barbarian stew?"

NATHAN'S MOM No, those are "bar-berries." The dish is Zereshk Pollo. It's Persian, from my mother's side.

INGRID Ha ahhaa. It is <u>so</u> good. Spicy! Nathan and Jaime come back in.

JAIME So, Ingrid, Nathan says you invited him to your grandma's 100th birthday?

NATHAN'S DAD A hundred! Wow, impressive.

INGRID Well, she's in Heaven.

NATHAN'S MOM Oh, which one?

INGRID

Lakeview.

NATHAN'S MOM Mmm, I've heard it's beautiful.

INGRID Well, we're an Amazon family. Prime on both sides.

NATHAN'S DAD Heaven's too expensive for me. I'll be stored on a sim card until these two finish their free version.

JAIME It won't be long, if Nathan parties a little less and programs a little more.

NATHAN'S MOM Pay him a salary, you can ask for a drug test.

NATHAN Aw yiss, Mom!

INGRID Well, you'd all be welcome at Lakeview. It's surprisingly affordable.

Awkward beat. Nathan's niece NEVAEH, 8, whispers in his ear.

NEVAEH

Uncle Nathan, can you help me with my classical dance homework?

INT. FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Nevaeh is TWERKING happily to "OMG" by Arash as Nathan mimes riding her like a cowboy.

DANCING MONTAGE: Nathan holds Nevaeh's hands and spins her around. He glances in the mirror and fixes his hair. Nevaeh slips out of his other hand and crashes into the wall.

NEVAEH

Uncle Nathan!

NATHAN

Sorry!

They keep twirling. Nevaeh is red in the face but loving it. Ingrid watches him dance with a smile, then checks her phone. She catches Nathan's eye and makes a "let's go" face.

INT. AMAZON OFFICE AREA - BROOKLYN - DAY

Nora walks past rows of desks, puts her coat on her chair, and touches her ear. A little earbud blinks on and she hears Beyoncé's "Crazy in Love." She waves at her terminal and her screen lights up.

Across the room, Nora's supervisor, LUCY, looks at a map of the workstations. Next to "Nora Antony" is a headset icon. Lucy pokes it with her finger.

LUCY

No music!

The music stops.

NORA Cool! Thanks so much, Lucy! Merry Winterday!

She turns to her screen covered with folders and opens one labelled "Rechna Futawarab." Inside is an avatar of a MIDDLE-AGED INDIAN WOMAN next to a million video files and an alert: "rendering complete: activate?" Nora hits a key and a window opens with a jiggling brain wave and an upload circle that starts filling up.

> NORA (CONT'D) (into her headset) Hello, Rechna. (MORE)

NORA (CONT'D) I'm not expecting you to answer me yet, the system is sorting through a lot of information right now, but I'm gonna count to three, try to count with me. One... two... three.

RECHNA (V.O.) (moaning) Oo-oh my God, where am I...?

NORA (0.S.) It's all good, Rechna. Welcome to Heaven.

INT. A BED SOMEWHERE - NIGHT - LATER

Nathan and Ingrid finish making love, and she snuggles into him. Passing lights and advertising flicker on the ceiling. REVEAL the bed is in Ingrid's CAR.

> INGRID Think they liked me?

NATHAN Sure. You're so fucking hot.

INGRID

What?

NATHAN Sorry, what'd you say?

INGRID Your family. Your mom said I was the first girl you ever brought home for Thanksgiving.

NATHAN No big deal.

INGRID I think it <u>is</u> a big deal. I feel very special, babe.

NATHAN

... Cool.

HONK !! The car swerves, people outside curse, Nathan sits up.

NATHAN (CONT'D) Whoa, do you have "prioritize occupant" on? INGRID Of course. I care about us. You don't "prioritize pedestrian," do you?

He does. Ingrid notices something outside.

INGRID (CONT'D)

Park!

INT./EXT. INGRID'S CAR POD - CONTINUOUS

Ingrid's car pulls over across from a little bodega called "Whole Foods." (For some reason, that chain has shrunk in the future.) Behind them, Nathan's empty car pulls over too.

INGRID Sleep over tonight?

NATHAN

Uh...

INGRID (sexy) I'll make it worth your while in the morning.

NATHAN

Okay.

INGRID Good. We need egg powder and a can of toast.

EXT. INGRID'S CAR POD - CONTINUOUS

Nathan enters the store. Her pod takes off, his waits.

INT. WHOLE FOODS - FREEZER AISLE - NIGHT

Nathan pushes a cart down the freezer aisle.

FREEZER (Australian accent) You lack iron. Buy some spinach.

INT. WHOLE FOODS - CHECK OUT - A LITTLE LATER

A robot arm bags his groceries. Nathan pages through a tabloid on a screen.

CLOSE ON - TABLOID ARTICLE

"Facebook/Panera Heaven Breaks First Weekend Attendance Records." Videos show a Morongo-style hotel, with crowds gambling, learning to sexy dance, etc.

INT. NATHAN'S CAR - SPEEDING - LATER

PULL OUT to see the article is now on Nathan's windshield.

REPORTER (V.O.) Panera went online with a recordbreaking fifty million unique souls and visitors. The aggressive former-chain restaurant is on an acquisition tear, its stock soaring after rolling up Monsanto and Facebook earlier this year.

Nathan suddenly notices his car is going fast and is HEADING STRAIGHT FOR a double-parked truck.

NATHAN Car, see the parked truck?

CAR

No.

NATHAN Yeah, it's double parked.

CAR Data shows no vehicles.

NATHAN I'm looking right at a truck!

CAR Could you be impaired by drugs? Again?

NATHAN Fuck you! Manual override!

CAR Manuel? There is no Manuel here. You are probably impaired.

NATHAN

STOP THE CAR!

Nathan CRASHES into the truck.

INT. NORA'S WORKSTATION - BROOKLYN - DAY

Nora sucks an iced coffee from Dunkin Donuts, and works on a new folder on her screen labelled "NATHAN BROWN."

She opens a video memory file to see ...

Nathan's POV: he happily dances with Nevaeh at Thanksgiving. Nathan catches sight of himself in the mirror and grins.

Nora pauses the image, then screenshots Nathan's face and drags it to an empty wire frame animation, giving it a blurry Nathan face.

Lucy walks down the line of desks.

LUCY

Anyone see my coffee order?

Nora rotates her cup which says "Lucy" away as Lucy passes.

NORA

Nope.

She opens another memory file.

Nathan's POV: the Pacific Coast Highway over the top of motorcycle handlebars, ocean on the left. Nathan looks into the side mirror and grins, the wind whipping his hair.

Nora pauses the picture of Nathan checking his look in the mirror again. This guy just loves himself, doesn't he? She drags the image to the wire-frame avatar, which gets more detailed and high-res.

FEMALE CO-WORKER (O.S.) Ooh, young.

A female co-worker looks over Nora's shoulder.

FEMALE CO-WORKER (CONT'D) And cute.

NORA He sure thinks he's cute. Basic Beverly Hills douche. App startup? Vintage motorcycle? Come on.

FEMALE CO-WORKER I didn't say have his baby, I'd just dance that pole. I'm in the wrong neighborhood -- my Nitely fucks all have less muscles and body hair than me... How'd he die? NORA (looks at file) Car accident.

FEMALE CO-WORKER You mean motorcycle?

NORA It says car.

FEMALE CO-WORKER Weird. I'm Uploading my fifth old woman in a row. Fun, huh?

LATER

Nora carefully edits Nathan's hair on the avatar she is building, which is very detailed now. Using a stylus, she smooths out a cowlick. *Perfect*. She is very good at what she does. She looks at his handsome face for a beat, then mischievously "undos" the last few strokes until the cowlick is back, and saves her work.

She clicks on another memory file, but it doesn't open. "MEMORY FILE A56F432C8 DAMAGED." Nora frowns. That usually doesn't happen. She starts a folder labelled "???" and drags the damaged file into it. She opens the next memory file.

Nathan's POV: lights pass by on a ceiling.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - SHORTLY AFTER THE ACCIDENT

Chaos. Nathan is on a gurney being pushed into an OR where a team is working on him. Ingrid follows, freaking out.

ER NURSE Do you have any drug allergies, Nathan?

NATHAN (voice is weird and whispery) No. I really think I'm okay.

ER NURSE When's your birthday?

NATHAN On the brif of Febinary. INGRID Oh, you're not okay. God, I should have waited for you!

NATHAN ... Your teeth are so white.

ER NURSE Morphine has kicked in.

NATHAN I'm going home.

Nathan tries to stand up.

BLOOD PRESSURE MACHINE (another Australian female voice) Sit down please.

ANOTHER ER NURSE His vitals are dropping.

ER NURSE 5 mgs epinephrine NOW.

INGRID Oh! We really want to Upload and I don't want to miss the window.

ER NURSE Is the paperwork all filled out?

INGRID

No.

ER NURSE Heaven sales rep to the ER.

NATHAN

Wait, what?

ER NURSE ANOTHER ER NURSE Just in case. Can't Upload a dead body.

> NATHAN (CONT'D) Dead body?! I'm going to be fine.

INGRID Baby there's pieces of you sticking out all over the place!

NATHAN ANOTHER ER NURSE Could someone call my folks? Vitals still dropping. INGRID ER NURSE They're on their way. Your Where is my surgical car called them after me. consult!?

A man in a suit steps in holding a tablet.

HEAVEN SALES REP

Brand?

INGRID Amazon Lakeview please.

NATHAN I want to request Neutral Storage, it's a separate form.

HEAVEN SALES REP Sorry. One at a time please. I need to start with an Amazon ID.

INGRID Ingrid Kannerman. Capital P panorama ampersand 2002.

ER NURSE Stand by on Upload Room 2.

NATHAN Really don't think we need Upload. I'm feeling pretty chill.

INSERT SHOT: his vital signs dropping on the monitor.

ANOTHER ER NURSE	ER NURSE
His vitals are still going	Another 3 mgs epinephrine.
down.	I've got OR 3 on hold also.
	Where is my consult?!?

INGRID

Baby, don't try and tough this out. You could just old-fashioned die, or we could be together forever.

NATHAN Forever? Um. Honey you know I love you, you're amazing, but--

INGRID

But what?

Ingrid starts CRYING.

INGRID (CONT'D) If you'd rather die than be with me-- I just -- I --NATHAN Don't cry. Please don't cry. Ingrid cries harder. Nathan is aware of the sales rep. NATHAN (CONT'D) There's people... Now is so... (sigh) Of course I want to be with you, INGRID NATHAN Me too! there's just a lot going on--HEAVEN SALES REP (thrusting tablet under Nathan's hand) Great. Hit "accept." NATHAN Wait, what am I accepting? HEAVEN SALES REP Our terms of service. NATHAN Which are? HEAVEN SALES REP You want to read it? It's like two hundred pages. NATHAN I can't sign without knowing what I'm signing. HEAVEN SALES REP Have you never gotten an app, ever? You can't use the service without agreeing to the terms of service. NATHAN But that's not fair. If I don't use the service, I could be dead. I mean really dead dead. (it hits him) Disappear forever dead. HEAVEN SALES REP I would choose "agree" then.

16.

NATHAN

Fuuuuuuck.

INT. NORA'S WORKSTATION - BROOKLYN - DAY

Nora watches the memory unfold with interest, loudly sucking her drink down to the ice.

BACK TO SCENE

NATHAN (to ER nurse) What are my chances here?

ER NURSE Your vitals keep dropping so unless your system rallies, you are currently dying of a punctured lung. I'm sorry.

NATHAN

This is insane, I'm only 27!

They stop pushing the gurney because the hall splits into two directions: left to Operating Rooms 1-4 and right to Upload Rooms 1-3.

ER NURSE What do you want to do?

INGRID Sign the thing!

Nathan motions to the Heaven Sales Rep to lean in.

NATHAN There's still sex, right?

HEAVEN SALES REP Oh yeah. The VR suits are amazing. You can adjust her avatar, you can boost levels, stimulation you wouldn't believe.

Nathan nods and looks around.

NATHAN Where's my mom? I need to talk to her.

HEAVEN SALES REP Eww gross.

His monitor beeps another warning. Ingrid gets on her knees and holds his hand like a demented proposal.

INGRID Nathan please. Say yes. I'm begging you, we're out of time.

NATHAN Ugh. Okay. Okay!

He touches "ACCEPT" and they wheel him to the right.

INGRID NATHAN This is going to be so great! Okay. Whatever. (overwhelmed) It's only for eternity.

INT. UPLOAD ROOM 2 - MOMENTS LATER

Nathan is strapped in a chair under a giant device that hangs from the ceiling.

SCANNING TECHNICIAN This won't hurt. As soon as the shutters are up to speed, the scanner will start recording. I'm jealous man, Lakeview's plush. See you on the other side.

He exits. (ANGLE ON THE MONITOR: Unnoticed, Nathan's VITAL SIGNS start to GO BACK UP.)

Nathan looks above him where a metal blade is starting to spin faster and faster.

NATHAN (scared) Uh... Can we hit pause here?

SCANNING TECHNICIAN (V.O.) Please look forward at the spot in front of you.

Nathan looks at a "LOOK HERE" sign on the wall next to the window where Ingrid and the nurses are watching him. Through the window, he sees his mom burst in the back of the room.

NATHAN Oh thank God. Mom-- Suddenly the Scan begins. A blinding WHITE LIGHT shines down on Nathan's head, burning off one layer of molecules at a time, as a fan blows the ash of the already recorded layer out of the way.

Quickly, Nathan's HEAD FIZZLES down to his shoulders like a burnt hair and the machine shuts off.

His headless body, still with arm raised to his mom, falls into a cooler full of ice. As his mom and Ingrid SCREAM...

SCANNING MACHINE (Australian accent) Upload complete.

FADE TO BLACK

After a time...

NORA (V.O.) Hello, Nathan. I'm not expecting you to answer me yet, the system is sorting through a lot of information, but I'm going to count to three, and try to count with me. One... two... three...

INT. NORA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Nora looks at a wave form of Nathan's consciousness. Next to it is a circle that is slowly filling up. (Another window scrolls through the millions of video files and photos. It's complicated and cool as shit.)

> NORA Welcome to Heaven, Nathan.

BACK TO BLACK

NORA (V.O.) You made it to Lakeview, you lucky duck.

NATHAN (V.O.) (groans)

NORA (V.O.) Hang in there, dude. INT. NORA'S WORKSTATION - CONTINUOUS

Nora's screen has Nathan's brainwaves playing in a window.

NORA I want you to think of your *self*. The "I" in the sentence, "I think therefore I am." Okay, cool, just gonna grab that...

She highlights a section of his waveform with her cursor.

NORA (CONT'D) That'll be your password, or passthought. I'll always be able to use this to--

BACK TO DARKNESS

NORA (V.O.) recognize you. Now, remember kindergarten? The alphabet song, A B C D? Think that for me... Yeah, good. Now think the color blue... white... red... yellow. Perfect.

The darkness goes blue, then white, then red, then yellow, then starts resolving slowly into a scene.

INT. NORA'S WORKSTATION - CONTINUOUS

Nora looks at the screen.

NATHAN (V.O.) (Australian female) I'm feeling pins and needles.

NORA (laughs) Why do people always set it for Australian accent? Say again please.

She adjusts some stuff on the screen.

NATHAN (V.O.) (regular voice) Pins and needles.

NORA There we go. That's a lot better voice for you.

NATHAN (V.O.) Yours is nice too.

Nora rolls her eyes and ignores that.

NORA

Pins and needles is just the program finding your nerve endings. Can you see anything?

INT. AMAZON LAKEVIEW - CONTINUOUS

The place is booting up -- a rectangle becomes a window. Details emerge: a wooden rocking chair, a crocheted cushion, porcelain door knobs. Out the window, brilliant blue sky, dark green fir trees on a distant mountain.

> NATHAN (O.S.) I'm in some kind of old-fashioned room...

Nathan's voice comes out of a simple male avatar with brown skin and hair, whose details are quickly getting filled in. He looks out the window...

NATHAN (CONT'D) ...looking over a lake...

Aaaannnd, he is completely detailed and HD.

NATHAN (CONT'D) ...beautiful trees... And, whoa! A shark swimming right towards me!

NORA (V.O.) What?! That's not supposed to--

NATHAN

JK.

INTERCUT BETWEEN NATHAN AND NORA

NORA

(a little impressed) Ha! Sense of humor. Nice. Um, so, welcome to Amazon's Lakeview. The only digital afterlife environment modeled on the grand Victorian hotels of the United States and Canada. Nathan looks around the room -- a big, luxurious, hotel suite with a stuffed moose head and handmade wooden chairs with the bark still on.

NORA (V.O.) (CONT'D) Hope it's not too specific for you.

NATHAN

It was never my thing, but it's kinda cool.

NORA

Yeah, our design team is brilliant. They took for inspiration the vacation spots of the Gilded Age millionaires, with a little Gatsby and Niagara Falls thrown in for fun. Timeless Americana, uplifting views, healthy pursuits. Good stuff.

NATHAN

Are there slaves?

NORA

What?! This is a design scheme, one, and that's not even the right period, two. Lakeview is open to all races, religions, genders, absolutely anybody. I see you selected "non-denominational charismatic Christian" as your creed. That means, for you, the little chapel east of the hotel will be a Pentecostal Church. For someone else, the same building could be a mosque or even a bowling alley.

NATHAN

I'll take the bowling alley.

NORA

I can make that change if you give me your Amazon ID.

NATHAN

BrunoMelrose18.

NORA

(typing) Your first dog and the street you grew up -- you used your porn name for an Amazon ID? Pretty poor security for a coder.

NATHAN

Excuse me?

NORA

Didn't work. Your charges are going to an Ingrid Kannerman.

NATHAN

Oh yeah.

NORA There're lots of free activities. Swim in the lake, hike up to a gazebo, take a class.

Nathan's face suddenly screws up and he chokes back tears.

NORA (CONT'D) Uh oh. Dude, you okay?

NATHAN (tearful) Yeah. I don't know. No.

NORA

Don't be embarrassed. It must be really hard. To die, I mean. Especially when you're young, and handss - um, healthy. And remember, they saved your body so who knows? Maybe one day they figure out how to put you back in.

Nora watches with compassion as Nathan sucks it back up and composes himself.

NATHAN Thanks. What's your name?

NORA Well, you're supposed to just refer to me as your "Angel."

NATHAN Oh. Are you dead too, or alive? Or just artificial intelligence? NORA

I'm not allowed to say. Sorry. But anytime you need me I'll be here for you. Just ask and I'll be right in your ear.

NATHAN

Okay... Angel.

Nora, privately, realizes she likes having this handsome guy call her "angel." Before the pause turns into a moment...

NORA (back on script) So you're all connected now. Do you look real to yourself? Ten fingers and toes?

He wiggles them.

NATHAN Yeah, pretty seamless.

NORA Explore, enjoy, meet your fellow Uploads. This is the first day of the rest of your afterlife.

NATHAN Got it. OK. Sounds good.

He gives a brave thumbs up. Nora touches her screen and is suddenly looking at 48 little windows with other clients in them. She takes off her headset and rubs her temples. She finds she is still watching Nathan in his small window.

She watches as he goes to the window, closes the shades and curls up in bed. *Wait, is he crying?*

She touches the screen to make it go full screen again, and watches Nathan grieve.

NORA

(gently) Hey, this was a big day. You died and were reborn, so a lot to process.

NATHAN

Yeah.

NORA Tomorrow'll be better, you'll see. Get some rest. Ugh, there's no way I'm going to fall asl--

Nora drags down a setting bar on her screen and Nathan is instantly asleep. She watches him for a beat, then types something on her keyboard, and a blanket covers him.

INT. NATHAN'S SUITE - LAKEVIEW - NEXT MORNING

Nathan wakes up, sunshine streaming in his window. He stretches and looks around. Not terrible.

INT. NATHAN'S BATHROOM

He takes a long shower with great water pressure.

NATHAN Oh yiss! Oh my god, yes!!

INT. NATHAN'S BATHROOM - LATER

Nathan combs his hair but can't get rid of the cowlick.

INT. NATHAN'S SUITE - KITCHENETTE - CONTINUOUS

He walks into a kitchenette and opens the fridge.

NATHAN'S POV

The fridge is only stocked with drinks. A sign appears in the air: "swipe left." He swipes and the drinks slide away, revealing a fridge interior full of fruit. He swipes a couple more times until he sees a bunch of hot coffees. He tries to take out a coffee cup of steaming hot coffee.

Another sign appears in the air: "IN-APP PURCHASE. Enter your Amazon ID and you will be charged \$1.99."

NATHAN

Angel?

MALE ANGEL (O.S.) Yes, Nathan?

Nathan jumps. Behind him is a STUDLY MAN WITH ANGEL WINGS.

NATHAN Yo, what the--? where did you--? MALE ANGEL Ha ha ha. Don't freak.

INT. AMAZON CALL CENTER - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Male Angel, a much shlubbier guy in real life, sits at his work station, with a Virtual Reality box on his face.

MALE ANGEL It's just VR so I can visit in person. You good?

INT. NATHAN'S SUITE - CONTINUOUS

NATHAN What happened to the one from last night?

MALE ANGEL Not her shift yet. Want a coffee?

NATHAN Maybe something stronger. Genie, a Moscow Mule please.

MALE ANGEL Ha ha ha. But really, we have them on screen 27.

NATHAN ... Nah. It's okay.

MALE ANGEL No problem. Later gater.

He disappears. How weird.

EXT. NATHAN'S BALCONY - MOMENTS LATER

Nathan goes out on the balcony and sees a BEAUTIFUL LAKE with pine-clad mountains across the water.

A couple (ZACH and BARBARA) sit holding hands in Adirondack chairs on the balcony next to his.

ZACH Hey newbie.

NATHAN

Hey.

BARBARA Settling in okay?

NATHAN Yeah. Are you both...?

BARBARA Dead? Yup. But thank God we both had time for Upload.

ZACH High school sweethearts. First woman I ever kissed.

NATHAN Aww, soulmates. That's awesome.

ZACH That's what it's all about. Love beats death, two zip.

NATHAN Cute. So, Upload, huh? (slaps his chest, deep breath) I feel completely real and alive. The programming depth is insane. And I'm a coder.

BARBARA Oh, what do you program?

NATHAN (trying to remember) Uh... different things.

ZACH Good! Gonna go for a hike?

NATHAN

Maybe after breakfast. If I don't want to use the minibar, is there a breakfast that's included, or...?

BARBARA

Yes, in the dining hall, for another 20 minutes. It's amazing. They've got maple bacon donuts.

NATHAN D'oh! Right? (off their stare) Simpsons? (mutters to himself) (MORE) NATHAN (CONT'D) It's only been on the air for 57 years.

INT. LAKEVIEW - HALL.

Nathan goes out his front door (Suite 10556) and is in a long hall. He walks past other doors looking for the elevators.

INT. LAKEVIEW - ELEVATOR

He gets on an elevator with a woman who looks 18, but wears clothes from the 1960s, and is only in black-and-white. He stares at her...

1960S WOMAN Can I help you?

NATHAN Sorry. This is my first day.

1960S WOMAN Oh! You're wondering about my avatar. I turn a hundred next month, but I used a photo of me from 1961, although it might be my sister.

NATHAN Is your last name Kannerman by any chance?

1960S WOMAN Yes it is. Mildred Kannerman.

NATHAN I'm going to your birthday party. I'm Ingrid's boyfriend.

MILDRED Oh, honey, I hadn't heard. I'm so sorry. Oh, poor Ingrid. This is really too bad.

The elevator stops at her floor.

MILDRED (CONT'D) That's me. 10,300. (she stares at him) This is really too bad.

She gets off, leaving him a bit thrown.

INT. LAKEVIEW - FIRST FLOOR

Nathan walks past a CONCIERGE DESK with a line of people. A GUY WITH A CHEERFUL GRIN (DAN) is offering them GUM.

DAN THE ORBIT GUM GUY Gum? Orbit Gum? Piece of gum? Piece of Orbit Spearmint gum? Sugar free? Piece of Orbit's new Wintergreen Wonderland flavor-fixed gum with healthy Sorbitol?

People scowl and push him out of the way. A guy takes a piece and "0.75" floats over his head and evaporates.

Nathan follows a sign for "Dining Hall." He opens his fingers and his screen appears.

NATHAN

Ingrid.

Facetime request connects. (Nathan talks as he walks through the public areas of Lakeview.) Ingrid looks flushed and dressed up, a lot of people behind her.

INGRID Yes!! Hi there! How's it going?

NATHAN

(thrown) Uh, it's okay. Where'd I get you?

INGRID

At a friend's. So? Is it amazing? Do you feel like yourself? Was it scary? Do you love it?

NATHAN Yeah, it's really cool. I mean, I'd rather be alive, obviously. I met your grandma.

INGRID I know! She texted me. She said you were cute but a little lost.

NATHAN

Both true. (beat) I miss you. INGRID Yeah. I miss you too. Everybody's been all, I'm so sorry your boyfriend died. I miss your body.

NATHAN Aww. I miss my hair. There's something off about my hair now.

INGRID Yeah, looks different. Hair is probably hard to program.

NATHAN Tell me about it.

They look at each other awkwardly.

NATHAN (CONT'D) Is this weird?

INGRID We'll get used to it.

NATHAN Pretend I'm on a business trip.

INGRID For the next 50 years until I can join you. 60 if I eat right.

NATHAN

Then don't.

INGRID I had ice cream for breakfast.

NATHAN That's so hot. Hey, so can I get your Amazon password? I can't charge anything to my account here.

INGRID Yeah, we used my account in the ER.

NATHAN I guess I need your password then.

INGRID Well, I set something up where I get a text alert when you want to charge something. I like knowing what you're up to. (MORE) INGRID (CONT'D) Makes me feel closer to you. Hey! Show me the lake!

Nathan points his screen towards the window across the porch.

INGRID (CONT'D)
Fucking gorgeous, babe!

WOMAN (O.S.) Ing! Ohmygod, I'm so sorry!

INGRID (turns to someone offscreen) Theng you! Ohmigod, I probably look like a fucking wreck right now, it's been so difficult--

WOMAN (O.S.) No you look strong like a goddess, like a hot survivor.

INGRID Theng you! (whispering to Nathan) Baby, I ran into my pube stylist, I gotta drone.

NATHAN But you don't have any pubes.

INGRID

I know, she's amazing. I'll call you later. If you need anything I am here for you. Utterly. Love you.

NATHAN

Love you too.

CLOSE UP OF FRAMED PHOTO

Nora in a graduation gown between her smiling parents.

INT. DAVE ANTONY'S HOUSE - CITY ISLAND - EVENING - CONTINUOUS

Nora looks at the photo wistfully. In the background, her Dad, DAVE, is in his kitchen.

DAVE ANTONY Hope you're hungry! I printed a steak design Jamie Oliver tweeted this morning.

A 3D printer finishes two plates of dinner, layer by layer.

DAVE ANTONY (CONT'D) Oliver's only on Google/Samsung so I know you didn't have this for lunch.

He brings the food to a table set for two.

NORA Speaking of work, Dad...

DAVE ANTONY (cautious) O-kay.

NORA We've had a ton of upgrades lately. With my employee discount, it'd be smart to lock in such a good deal--

Dave stifles a coughing fit. Nora looks on, concerned.

NORA (CONT'D)

Dad...

After his coughs subside --

DAVE ANTONY Sorry, honey. No go.

NORA I could be your angel, we could hang out--

DAVE ANTONY I can't. Mom is waiting for me.

NORA C'mon! You don't believe that old stuff!

DAVE ANTONY It doesn't make any sense, but it's how I feel. How could Heaven not have your mother in it?

He looks at her with a sad smile. Nora sighs and goes back to her dinner.

NORA I think your fat cartridge might be low.

DAVE ANTONY Yeah, it's terrible.

INT. LAKEVIEW DINING HALL - LATER

The grand dining hall with a view of the lake and mountains is full of Uploads. A sign says "Breakfast served 6 - 10am." Nathan starts loading a plate with treats from the buffet.

> NATHAN Oh my god. This is amazing! Bacon <u>and</u> Canadian bacon. Chocolate chip pancakes. Noice!

CULTURED VOICE (V.O.) Ten o'clock. Breakfast is over.

All the food in the dining hall and on his plate disappears.

NATHAN

What?! Aww!

A disheveled angry guy (LUKE) rushes in and takes in the emptiness.

LUKE

FUCK! Fuckity fuck fuck fuck.

He heads over to one of those industrial milk dispensers with rubber tubes coming out the bottom, and opens and slams the door five times fast. A dinner roll appears in an empty bread basket. He scarfs the roll then does it again. Nathan walks over.

NATHAN

Can I try?

Luke nods and Nathan slams the door to get a free roll.

NATHAN (CONT'D) Useful glitch. I don't know why I'm feeling hungry at all, I mean, there's no need to eat, right? LUKE The first Uploads didn't shit or eat, didn't even have eyelids. They all went psychotic in a week.

Luke rapidly slams the milk door.

LUKE (CONT'D) You gotta believe it's real. When the weirdness gets in your head, guys are drawn to the torrent.

He points out the window to the far end of the lake at a waterfall.

Close up: THE DATA TORRENT. A rushing column of plasma with steam boiling off it. Oddly beautiful and powerful, like Niagara Falls.

LUKE (CONT'D) That's the data stream between here and the real world. Poor bastards jump in to try to get back.

NATHAN

Can they?

LUKE

Nah, they get blown to bits. My angel has me working on deep breathing and meditation to keep me "here and now," stay connected. Of course, stuff like hot rolls magically appearing when you slam a milk door doesn't help.

NATHAN

Tasty, though.

They each munch a roll and grin.

NATHAN (CONT'D) Hey I'm Nathan. This is my first day.

LUKE Luke. How'd you buy it?

NATHAN My self-driving car crashed.

LUKE Ha! They're supposed to be foolproof. NATHAN Guess it wasn't. How about you?

LUKE Lost my legs in Iran and spent five years in a wheelchair. Then one day I wheeled my ass under a scanner.

NATHAN

(sober) Oh. Suiscan.

LUKE Yeah. But look what I'm working with now!

He does a crazy little jig, gesturing to his legs.

NATHAN

Right on!

INT. MENS ROOM - LATER

Nathan stands in front of a urinal, a stream of pee going in. Something looks "off" to him. Experimentally, he twists his pelvis. The pee stream bends in mid air and still ends up perfectly in the urinal.

NATHAN

Ha ha. Awesome.

QUICK MONTAGE of Nathan peeing sideways, peeing behind himself, peeing out the window. In all cases, the stream curves and shoots directly into the urinal.

INT. NORA'S APARTMENT - QUEENS, NY - BATHROOM

Nora's in the shower, under a horrible low-flo dribble. MANDI, Nora's roommate, holds up a fitband that's on a pile of Nora's clothes.

> MANDI Can I check Nitely on your phone?

NORA Be my guest. I am so done with that app. Well, almost done.

Mandi snaps the fitband on her wrist and opens her thumb and finger, making the screen appear. She swipes through Nitely, looking at profiles.

MANDI

It's proven to know you better than you know yourself, they invested a billion dollars in the algorithm. (seeing a cool profile) Ooh, they're matching you with some real hotties. I get nothing but bus boys and meth addicts.

NORA I thought you said the algorithm was good.

MANDI Yeah, I deserve a meth addict.

NORA

Oh Mandi.

MANDI

Ah, he was fun, he was up for anything. And the lack of teeth proved to be pretty bomb actually. He gummed me until I screamed.

EXT. LAKEVIEW - DAY

Nathan goes for a hike around the lake. It is really beautiful. He smiles at other scans as he walks.

NATHAN Morning! Good day!

EXT. LAKE - A LITTLE LATER

He comes upon a resort map on a signpost. Next to it, LOUIE CRUZ, fat, 40s, is talking into an Ansel Adams-style box camera on a tripod.

LOUIE CRUZ

Hey guys, its Lou Crayz, whassup? Coming at you live from Lakeview. So... I really like this view of the lake, it's one of my faves. They've spent beaucoup bucks on getting the view absolutely right. It's Lakey as hell. The waterfeel is more meh. Kind of grainy, and the sun on the ripples is a repeating gif but it repeats too fast to be really mwah! That's all for now. Like, comment, subscribe! Louie starts packing up his camera.

NATHAN

Hey I've seen the ads for a Lakeview V-cation, where is everybody? I thought this was a super popular place for Weekend Gigaways.

LOUIE CRUZ

They're all here. You only see 5 floors at a time. Like what is your suite number?

NATHAN

10556.

LOUIE CRUZ

OK, you're on the ten thousand five hundredth floor. Living people on V-cation are floors 1 to 5,000. You don't want to go down there, it smells like a Senor Frog's. Everything over 5,000 is Heaven, permanent residents.

He pinches the resort map and expands the picture of the hotel. It stretches 10,000 floors into the sky.

LOUIE CRUZ (CONT'D) We all use the same map. There's millions of people swimming in the pool right now. You can tell cause the frame rate drops.

He points to a guy diving off the diving board. The guy enters the water in jerky increments.

NATHAN

Whoa.

INT. NORA'S TINY APARTMENT - NIGHT

CLOSE ON a Kindle-like device with a "Queens Public Library" bar code. REVEAL it's connected to a VR headset that Nora wears, sitting up in bed.

IN NORA'S VIRTUAL REALITY - HAWAII, 2004 - CONTINUOUS

A scene from the Adam Sandler/Drew Barrymore romantic comedy 50 <u>First Dates</u>, only Drew Barrymore has been removed and Nora is in the film, walking to her car with young Adam Sandler after eating breakfast. They are both being very flirty. ADAM SANDLER And the real cool thing about walruses is they're very mysterious.

NORA

Mysterious?

ADAM SANDLER Yeah, yeah, we really don't know what they're like in the wild.

NORA They don't just sleep on icebergs and yawn all the time?

ADAM SANDLER

Yeah that's all we really see that they do outside of the water. There hasn't been much research on what they do under the ice, which is where they spend two thirds of their lives.

NORA Well maybe they're just down there intimidating the other sea creatures with their big winkies.

ADAM SANDLER That is one theory.

They both laugh.

INT. NORA'S TINY APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Nora sits alone in her bed lost in VR. Reveal on the other side of the room: Mandi is having LOUD SEX with some scrawny dude with bad teeth.

EXT. LAKEVIEW - HEDGE - LATER

Nathan walks up to a magnificent tree next to a hedge. He pulls off a few leaves and looks at them. They are all copies of the same leaf.

NATHAN (disappointed) Hmm. Cut and paste.

Suddenly a tennis ball flies over the top.

DYLAN (V.O.)

Ball!

Nathan picks it up and looks over the hedge.

NATHAN'S POV

An 11-year-old boy, DYLAN MCNAB, sits in the middle of A GREY VOID. The hedge was the border of what was programmed, and past it is... nothing.

NATHAN Agh! Get down from there!

DYLAN Calm down. It's okay.

Nathan gingerly climbs over and slides to Dylan like a guy walking on thin ice. Dylan takes the ball and begins bouncing it against the back of the hedge and catching it.

Nathan looks down into the void, then back at Lakeview.

NATHAN This is fucking weird.

DYLAN

It's nice. Like being nowhere. Sometimes I can't take it anymore, you know?

NATHAN Are your parents here too?

DYLAN No, I fell off a cliff at the Grand Canyon. My mom says I was a handful. (squints at Nathan's hair) Are you wearing a wig?

NATHAN

(self-consciously running fingers through hair) No. God, no. This isn't my normal hair. They like programmed it really wavy or something. It's driving me nuts.

DYLAN

Yeah, well--

NATHAN At home I used a Natural Sculpting Creme and an anti-frizz Pomade, but here... (shrugs) You're at their mercy, I guess.

DYLAN

Well, that's--

NATHAN Pff. Wig! Kid, you're hilarious!

INT. AMAZON LAKEVIEW OFFICES - BROOKLYN - EVENING

Nora gets out of the elevator with her messenger bag. The schlubby male angel, IVAN, is getting on to leave.

IVAN

Hey.

Nora nods hello. Ivan wedges his foot in the elevator door.

IVAN (CONT'D) Hey, I got a friend who's having a party in a sick loft Friday night. He's got about a thousand Fentanyl. I've seen 'em.

NORA Yeah, no that's not for me.

IVAN You should go out sometime. Get fucked up, have some fun.

NORA I go out plenty. Just not gonna be tripping with you in some loft. I'm not there yet.

IVAN Too good for that huh? Don't wait too long. This offer isn't open forever.

He lets the doors close.

INT. NATHAN'S BEDROOM - LAKEVIEW LATER

Nathan picks up a remote and browses a screen that says "Entertainment." He selects "Classic TV" then "Game of Thrones" and a sign appears: In-App Purchase, \$4.99. He tries "Fargo": In-App Purchase, \$4.99. He selects "2 Broke Girls: FREE." He turns it off.

He opens his hand to call Ingrid but it goes straight to voicemail.

INGRID (V.O.) Hey it's Ingrid, I'm either out or busy right now, but I'll--

Nathan breaks it off. He starts pacing.

NATHAN I am so lucky. People save their whole lives for this.

EXT. NATHAN'S BALCONY - MOMENTS LATER

He stands on the balcony taking in the beautiful view and breathing heavily.

NATHAN Nngg, nggg, calm down, buddy.

A banner ad appears on a cloud: "You recently searched 'Fargo: Season One.' Purchase in HD for \$49.99?"

NATHAN (CONT'D) Nngg, nngg.

INT. NATHAN'S BATHROOM - LAKEVIEW - MOMENTS LATER

He stares at himself in the mirror. He tries to fix the cowlick, but it bounces back.

NATHAN It's all good. Gonna live forever.

He smiles into the mirror. After a beat, he tries to rip the cowlick out of his head with both hands.

INT. AMAZON OFFICE BUILDING - BATHROOM - BROOKLYN

Nora is in a stall, sitting on the toilet and looking at memes on her hand-screen.

FEMALE CO-WORKER (O.S.) Nora, are you in here?

Nora says nothing.

FEMALE CO-WORKER (CONT'D) Um, your new boy is freaking out. The hot dude. He's hiking up near the torrent.

NORA Shit. Thanks!

INT. AMAZON OFFICE BUILDING - BROOKLYN

Nora runs to her desk and grabs her VR mask. She glances at her screen.

NORA Shit shit.

EXT. LAKEVIEW - DATA TORRENT PATH

Nathan walks towards the waterfall, passing signs "Data torrent ahead. Do not approach." and "Avatars, AIs, Uploads go no further. The data torrent will deliminate you into undifferentiated data bits." Nora appears behind him.

> NORA Hey, Nathan, wait up!

He recognizes her voice.

NATHAN

Oh, it's your shift now? You know you work for a really fucked up thing. This is a bad idea. The ads make it look great, but it's fucking... monstrous.

NORA So maybe not the best first day.

NATHAN

Day? There's no day, there's no night, there's no dirt, there's no rain, there're no bad smells. I farted, which is already like, why? just a weird detail, and it was like someone spritzed the room with cologne.

NORA

It's supposed to be Heaven.

NATHAN How is <u>that</u> Heaven?

NORA

Well, maybe not for you, but if you were stuck in an elevator with another guest...

NATHAN

Uh huh. I just want to look over the edge there. Maybe I can see home.

NORA

You realize if you jump into that thing, you don't go anywhere, you just disappear. And there's nothing left to rescan.

NATHAN

Maybe that's just my tough luck, but it's how it's supposed to go down.

NORA Oo-oh. So you agree with Neil Beagley.

NATHAN

Who's that?

NORA

He was a 16 year old boy who died of a uti 'cause he refused medical treatment for religious reasons. Or the parents of Wesley Parker who let him die age 11 while they sang hymns instead of giving him insulin. You agree with them?

NATHAN

No, that's fucked up.

NORA

Exactly.

NATHAN But I <u>did</u> die. NORA What was the first thing I asked you to think of?

NATHAN

My a-b-c's?

NORA

No, your self. I think therefore I am. That is still you, it has always been you, it will always be you as long as it can still be aware of itself. That's consciousness and that's what we're in the business of keeping going. Why do you think it's sometimes weird and unnatural here? Because your consciousness is thinking and comparing with your memories -that's you, baby. Doing what you you always did. Thinking and being alive. And I'm sure there are plenty of people, including me for one, that are glad you're still here.

NATHAN You don't even know me.

NORA

Not yet. But I'd like to. And I get this isn't perfect, and maybe you were led to believe it would be since the marketing mentions Heaven like a dozen times, but it's kind of better isn't it? Maybe the imperfections make it more like Life, 'cause Life isn't perfect, but Life is the most magical gift there is. If there's God, he's amazing because he gave us Life, and the gratitude and creativity to keep it going as long as we possibly can.

NATHAN (beat) You're good.

NORA

Yeah.

NATHAN

(examines her) You're a living person. AI doesn't talk like that, with passion and... pain. Soul. Something's going on with you, in your life. This isn't just about one of your clients. This is about you, saving people.

NORA

Maybe.

NATHAN

Is this what you look like for real? You're not an old woman or a dude or something?

NORA

This is me. (suddenly self conscious) I mean, my avatar has make-up on and my hair is nice, and I'm not in sweatpants, so it's a little better than normal, but nothing else is tweaked.

NATHAN Good for you then. (matter of fact) You're really pretty.

Nora takes this in.

NATHAN (CONT'D) But I'm not allowed to know your name.

NORA No. I could get in trouble. It's a policy.

NATHAN (disappointed) Okay.

Nora makes a decision.

NORA My name is Nora. I live in Ozone Park, Queens. My apartment's about as big as your bathroom, but I'm at work now which is in Dumbo, Brooklyn. (MORE)

NORA (CONT'D)

It's a really humid day and the bitch a couple desks down is taking forever to eat a tuna sandwich that I'm considering chucking out the window. Nora Antony.

NATHAN Nice to meet you.

NORA Likewise. Can we go home now?

NATHAN

Okay.

They start to walk down the path back to the hotel. We see them from behind. After a beat...

NORA What's your *favorite* smell?

NATHAN

I don't know. Fresh baked bread, right out of the oven?

They walk for another couple steps, then Nora shakes her leg out and farts at him.

> NATHAN (CONT'D) Eww, you weirdo.

> > NORA

Smell it.

He takes a deep breath, closes his eyes and smiles.

NATHAN Mmmmmm. You genius.

END OF EPISODE