

POSTLUDE WRITTEN BY ANDREW MAN

Teaser

INT. GCHQ, ENGLAND - DAY ONE

Director (50) dressed in military uniform is watching the screen.

UK DIRECTOR

We need a precise confirmation of that incoming object

CONTROLLER

(On screen from US)

Coming online now. Target is acquired and falling fast. Re-entry now expected on northern coastline, most likely close to shore.

CUT TO: screen showing a metallic cylinder, 300 feet long, no wings, no windows, slowly descending through the clouds.

UK DIRECTOR

What in Gods name is that?

CONTROLLER

US fighter planes on the runway waiting instructions to launch. Do you want us to launch?

UK DIRECTOR

No, do not take any further action. We can see a strong magnetic field interfering with our communications and losing contact.

CONTROLLER

Our satellite has lost contact with the object, presumed lost and has crashed into the sea.

UK DIRECTOR

The Governor has been advised of a possible land attack and ordered all the islanders indoors until further notice.

CUT TO: GCHQ control room - DAY TWO

UK DIRECTOR

Our military is recommending a joint US/UK mission for Recon and evaluation of latest situation on the island.

CUT TO: US General comes on screen in uniform

US GENERAL

POTUS and British PM have been notified and concur with the action.

UK DIRECTOR

All communication with the Governor has been lost and local phone network has gone down. Until further notice we advise extreme caution. Local airport is closed and no further sailings to the island will be allowed.

US GENERAL

Thank you everyone. We are closing down this video link until our satellite is back in position.

UK DIRECTOR

We will remain available if needed.

Director turns to his assistant for a confirmation

DIRECTOR

What the hell just happened there? Get onto the navy and find out where's the nearest ship.

ASSISTANT

Already done Sir. HMS Medway and her task force are on station near Bermuda, about a thousand miles away and will take a couple of days sailing to reach the island.

DIRECTOR

Christ man, talk to the admiral and tell him to reposition his task force close to the island. Don't say anything you may have seen here, tell him that the volcano may be going to erupt again.

ASSISTANT

Right Sir, understood.

Director walks across the room looking worried.

DIRECTOR

What did you make of those craft we saw from the satellite?

ASSISTANT

Definitely some kind of extra terrestrial craft. Looked like what the US pilots call Tic-Tacks if I remember correctly.

DIRECTOR

Yes, that's what I thought. It's going to take another day to position our satellite over the Caribbean. In the meantime we have to see what this joint expeditionary team finds on the island.

CUT TO: Island, West Indies where events are being considered as a humanitarian disaster. GCHQ watch on a screen as 800 survivors are seen on the beach.

DIRECTOR

We have a complete media blackout in force in UK, what's your status in US?

US OBSERVER

The airport is open to US military airlift and satellite observation is being done around the clock.

DIRECTOR

Our RN ship has arrived off the island and the exploratory team is being sent back home for debriefing.

ASSISTANT

We have eyes on a house close to a beach on the island where US forces are requesting a drone strike. Do you concur Sir?

DIRECTOR

Of course it can be destroyed if the US see the target as a threat to island security.

ASSISTANT

We concur, you may launch an attack on the target.

DIRECTOR

Look the house has been
destroyed! What the hell just
happened?

Image of house!! Silently dematerialised. Everything all
gone. All that remains is a GAPING HOLE.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE UK COVID PANDEMIC - NIGHT

On their phones, the head of security in UK checks the
progress to contain the virus.

HEAD MI5

I don't care if he's infected you
go into the house and arrest him,
is that understood.

POLICE SUPERINTENDENT

We will need a contamination unit
with white suits and helmets to
make it look real..

HEAD MI5

Do whatever you need.

POLICE SUPER

And it's just Commando Justin
Benbow you want him taken down to
the Royal Marines in Dorset.

HEAD MI5

Yes, just him, we are monitoring
the others in the house as we
speak.

POLICE SUPER

Very well, you know some think
this is all a scam, don't you.

The Superintendent climbs into the car, and watches as his
team drives up towards the house.

END OF Teaser

ACT ONE

INT. MILITARY BASE, ENGLAND - NIGHT

SERGEANT

(MORE)

SERGEANT (CONT'D)

Right Lance Corporal Benbow you'd better get a good night's rest in here because we'll start the interrogation tomorrow.

JUSTIN

Well, what have I done to deserve this?

INT. MILITARY BASE ENGLAND - DAY

A table and two chairs. On the floor is a green backpack.

GILES PROCTOR

Hello, my name is Giles Proctor, but call me Giles. Thank you for joining us today. We want to hear your side of the mission to that Island. You can write your report on this official service paper.

Justin nods in agreement and reaches for a glass of water.

GILES PROCTOR

Take your time, but make sure you list all the people you met on this mission and the dates if you can remember them. One more thing, you need to sign the Official Secrets agreement, here and here, just to keep our records up to date.

Justin smiles and taking a pen, signs in the places indicated by a red sticker.

GILES PROCTOR

Thank you. I will leave you to complete the report and please hand it to the sergeant in the sealed envelope. He'll be waiting outside when you finish.

Justin picks up the pen, starts writing keeping the details as brief as possible.

JUSTIN

Here's the signed form. Might I be provided with some refreshment and coffee?

SERGEANT

Coming right up. Would a tray of coffee and some English cake be alright.

The sergeant leaves and Giles Proctor returns to the room

GILES PROCTOR

Hello, now that was quick. Now about this affair on the Island, let's get down to the details, shall we.

Giles produces a small tape recorder and signalling turns it on.

GILES PROCTOR

This recording is made by Lance Corporal Justin Benbow at R.M Station - July 2020. Justin, now we have your Mission Report can you elaborate on the names and rank of the service personnel involved?

JUSTIN

Not really, I only know the name of the US Army Sergeant, called Sam, may have been a Navy Seal. Have no idea about the second American. Might have been a scientist or CIA, You need to check with the US Army or their intelligence services.

GILES PROCTOR

Don't worry about the RN officer, Lieutenant Elizabeth K. We can use that title for this interview.

JUSTIN

Yes, I had arrived a day before her with the US personnel and at their suggestion, had rented a scuba diving boat to sail over to the Island. There were no public ferry services and the airport was closed, so it appeared the safest way for such a covert operation.

GILES PROCTOR

And you picked up Elizabeth K at the V.C Bird International airport on Antigua. On the runway wasn't it, on 20th February 2020, didn't you.

JUSTIN

Yes, that was done to save time and avoid any difficult questions at immigration concerning the reason for her visit.

GILES PROCTOR

But the islanders must have known there were communication difficulties with the Island, with no telephones or ferries?

JUSTIN

Really I don't know. I just took her straight to the docks and we sailed immediately. No one questioned us, or filmed us leaving, as far as I know.

GILES PROCTOR

I see. And how did this small team of just four persons cooperate on such a small boat? Did the naval officer try and pull rank over the US forces of you just got on with the mission in hand?

JUSTIN

We were all professionals with military training, so we got on with the job.

GILES PROCTOR

Really, I find that hard to believe.

JUSTIN

At that time we really didn't know what we were up against and to be honest were a bit scared of what we would find. It was only later when we found the cylinder underwater that we realised we were out of our depth in understanding what had happened.

GILES PROCTOR

Why did you mark the 'RISKS and CONCERNS' on the briefing format classified. Because you don't trust UK security?

JUSTIN

Not entirely, but because we still don't understand what happened on that Island... You weren't there on the beach with all the dead fish and birds. It was just so quiet and scary.

GILES PROCTOR

When you say 'we' did you discuss this with Elizabeth K or any others of the team?

JUSTIN

Yes, of course. I discussed this with the RN officer and there was another man we met. He did some weird things with the underwater cylinder that saved a lot of lives.

GILES PROCTOR

So, was this man called James?

JUSTIN

Yes, he was apparently known to Elizabeth, from her distant past.

GILES PROCTOR

Thank you Justin, you have confirmed a lot more than you wrote in the mission brief. Now, did Elizabeth or James introduce you to any other people on the Island?

JUSTIN

Yes, she took me up to a house on the Old Bluff that was owned by a local British Expat called Janet Romford, where we stayed the night.

GILES PROCTOR

And did you sleep together, because Elizabeth is quite an attractive woman isn't she.

JUSTIN

No, we didn't sleep together, because we had an argument about how the virus came to our planet and a few other things.

GILES PROCTOR

I see, and what happened before you left the house?

JUSTIN

In the morning the US Army visited the house and wanted to see our ID. Elizabeth had a passport of James Romford who owned the house, much to my relief.

GILES PROCTOR

And what did you do Justin?

JUSTIN

Well..I went downstairs and found the British passport of James Pollack and said it was mine!

GILES PROCTOR

Really, so you both faked your identity to army officials and they didn't notice?

JUSTIN

No, they said they only wanted passport numbers, that's all.

GILES PROCTOR

So they weren't really doing a control were they Justin.

JUSTIN

No, I suppose not, but Elizabeth said she was Special Forces and always carried other people's passports with her.

GILES PROCTOR

Have you been in contact with Elizabeth since you came back to the UK? Do you know where she is right now?

JUSTIN

NO, I haven't and don't want to see her again.

GILES PROCTOR

And have you been in contact with James since you came back to the UK?

JUSTIN

Yes, of course. You know he was at the house in Windsor, where I was stopped, and brought down here.

GILES PROCTOR

Ah yes! And do you know where James Pollack is now?

JUSTIN

No I don't. I only met the man in a scuba diving suit and have no idea where he might be.

GILES PROCTOR

Very well. Thank you Justin. You have been most help full with our enquires. However, you realise your report and this recording will have to be reviewed by your commanding officer for a decision. If you can wait a longer, I'm sure he would like to meet you.

CUT TO:

Justin sat in the room waiting and drinking more cups of coffee, when the door opens and a young Captain enters.

CAPTAIN

Justin, great to meet with you. At ease Commando, and sit down and listen. I've read your report and listened to the tape and in the circumstances, we think you behaved in an explanatory fashion serving Queen and Country. Is there anything you would like to say?

JUSTIN

Well Sir. I really need to go to the toilet.

CAPTAIN

Sergeant, escort this man to the loo right away.

SERGEANT

Yes Sir, this way Lance Corporal.

CUT TO: Captain picks up the backpack on the floor and empties contents on the table. An assortment of mens beach clothing and a pair of a woman's panties are found.

CAPTAIN

Justin, I see you had some female company on the beach and were able to relax.

Laughing he beams his appreciation and stuffs the contents back in the bag,

CAPTAIN

Now sit down and listen my man. I see you have signed the official secrets document, so none of this goes any further, or you will end up in jail. In recognition of your services I want you to take a few weeks leave on full pay.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)
Go for a long walk along the
Jurassic Devon coast and keep in
touch on your mobile phone.

JUSTIN
Yes Sir, I understand that.

CAPTAIN
There will be a formal inquiry
into this, that in the
circumstances, we would not want
you to appear.

Captain calls the Sergeant to enter the room.

CAPTAIN
Sergeant, take this man with his
personal belongings to any
destination on the coast he
wants. We wish him well for the
future.

Justin stands up up, salutes and shakes hands.

EXT. MILITARY BASE, ENGLAND - DAY

Justin outside with his backpack where he finds a taxi
waiting for him.

TAXI DRIVER
Where to Gov?

JUSTIN
I think I want to go to Sidmouth
on the Devon coast, for a
holiday.

ACT TWO

INT. MILITARY BASE. OFFICE - EVENING

GILES
So, you let him go, just like
that?

CAPTAIN
No, he's on a very short leash. I
made it clear that he had an
affair with a female naval
officer on the mission. He knows
that's a court martial offence,
end of career etc.

GILES PROCTOR
Very well.
(MORE)

GILES PROCTOR (CONT'D)

So can I ask you a few questions about what we have found about this mission. We need your military advice on these satellite images we received from that Island.

Pulls a large brown envelope from his briefcase.

GILES PROCTOR

Here the first shows the crater where the expat had built a house up on the Old Bluff. What we don't know is if this crater was made by an explosion from above the house? If you look below there's just a pool of water.

CAPTAIN

Let me take a closer look. Hmm..no, the crater is definitely not made by a missile or a shell from above. If you look closely no earth has been thrown up around the crater.

GILES PROCTOR

Thanks strange, because we know Elizabeth K ordered a drone strike on the house. That was aborted because by the time the drone reached the house, it had already been destroyed.

CAPTAIN

Do you know where this RN officer is now?

GILES

OH yes! She's a Captain in the US Army based in Dallas. But with this new US President, there's no way we can get more co-operation from the Yanks, at present.

CAPTAIN

And the owner of the house, do you know where she is at present?

GILES PROCTOR

Mrs Janet Romford was ordered to return to the States with her private jet, that we think had been provided by NASA. She's not been heard from since. Sounds like a case of her helping with their enquires.

CAPTAIN

Anything else, I can help you with?

GILES PROCTOR

Well, there's one more image we can't understand. But this is strictly confidential you understand. It's a close up of a naked girl covered in mud, being helped out of the rim of the crater by two local women holding a blanket.

CAPTAIN

What! That's impossible for anyone to have survived such a huge explosion and still able to walk, let alone climb out.

GILES

We know that and the local police are making enquires on the island. The image is a poor quality and not good enough to identify the two islanders.

CAPTAIN

So. this would collaborate Justin's report. He was most concerned, or even frightened that we are dealing with something extra-terrestrial. The people on the beach if you remember.

GILES PROCTOR

Yes, there were hundreds if I recall.

CAPTAIN

But where is this person now, and the house? How does a few thousand tons of solid concrete just disappear like that. Come on man, you must have found more.

GILES

We did. We had a forensic team comb the site last week. They found no debris at all, the gravel of the driveway went right up to the edge of the crater, hardly a stone disturbed.

CAPTAIN

You mean as if the house had dematerialised?

GILES

Yes, What they found was this metal box, it was stamped into the ground by size 12 US army boot, with a lot more boot prints all around. Look at this photo of the small metal box thats been crushed flat.

CAPTAIN

Anything else I can help you with?

GILES

Yes, but thats strictly above your pay grade. Still, for a drop of scotch, I might be able to tell you more.

Captain opens a cupboard, producing two glasses and a bottle

GILES

In fact it's a bit of a military matter, because scattered around the metal box they found a number of used cases from US military small arms.

CAPTAIN

So, there must have been some sort of a fire fight outside the house, before it disappeared?

GILES PROCTOR

Yes that's what we think. But whats of more interest was the contents of the metal box. It had contained some liquid, so forensics were very careful in case it was toxic.

CAPTAIN

And what did they find. Has it been analysed.

GILES

Yes, they sent it on the next flight back to UK where its been under investigation at Portland Down. It was finally thought to be the basic H1N1 virus from the past, you know the old Spanish flu. The question being asked is how did a sample of that vaccine get on the island? We can't do a lot more now the island is 'locked down' with the COVID pandemic.

CAPTAIN

You mean someone might have brought it to help us or infect the planet?

GILES PROCTOR

They really don't know, but that was our interest to meet with Justin. It appears this all happened after he left the island. Although we know that our RN officer was at the house at the time of the incident. Meanwhile, we are waiting to receive the original plans of the house, to see how it fits onto the crater that's left behind.

CAPTAIN

So my best military guess is that someone walked out of the house into a squad of trigger-happy US marines and was shot at?

GILES PROCTOR

Yes, James sounds like the most likely person, but we never found his body and he's not been seen since.

CAPTAIN

Well, the one person who knows the layout of the house is Justin. Do you want us to contact him again?

GILES PROCTOR

Good point, but I don't want him to get involved with the formal inquiry coming up. I'll let you know if we should need him in the next couple of weeks, providing you know where he's located.

CAPTAIN

Yes, of course, we're monitoring his location 24/7 and thanks for your help.

Giles stands up, shakes hands and is led out of the building, back to the gate-house, where a car is waiting for him.

ACT THREE

EXT. HOUSE, MONTSERRAT - DAY

US MARINE

We couldn't kill him ma'am he just disappeared.

ELIZABETH K

Yes, that's what I expected. Follow me back to the chopper and I'll order a drone strike to destroy the house.

CUT TO:

Elizabeth leaves the house and walks towards a US military helicopter waiting on the Bluff outside.

ELIZABETH K

This is Lima Foxtrot requesting drone strike on the target.

CONTROLLER

We have eyes on the target, requesting permission to destroy. Drone will not be available for another ten minutes. Repeat one zero minutes.

ELIZABETH K

Wait, target has already been destroyed. You can stand down that order. Drone strike is not required.

Elizabeth boards the chopper with the marines, lifts off and departs.

INT. MASSIVE CRATER, ISLAND - DAY

After the explosion a person is seen sitting in a pool of mud the rest of the house has disappeared.

GRANDMA

Come on my dear. You have to climb out of there. Here take hold of this blanket and we'll pull you out.

CUT TO:

Girl picks up her naked body and starts to climb out of the crater.

LUCY

Hello, my names Lucy and this is my Gran. We came to find James and heard shooting is he dead?

They carry her back to a car and wait for her to talk.

KIYA

James is not dead, he just moved to another dimension.

GRANDMA

Yes well, we've had a lot of odd things happening around here. Let's get you home to a nice bath and we'll find you some clothes to wear. Isn't that right Lucy.

LUCY

Your name is Kiya, isn't it and you arrived on that cylinder in the sea, didn't you.

KIYA

Yes, so you can read my mind?

LUCY

Yes, well a bit. I can see you in another dimension on a boat or a submarine. How did you know James?

KIYA

You are right. I was on a boat and was sent back with something important for James but don't remember what it was.

INT. VILLAGE HOUSE, CARIBBEAN ISLAND - DAY

Drive back to Lucy's house where Kiya joins family in front room.

GRANDMA

Here you are my dear, a nice cup of tea to warm you up.

KIYA

So, you're a family living where on this planet?

LUCY

Montserrat. It's a tropical island in the Caribbean. Well actually its still British territory. We speak English and have picked up many of their customs and habits. We also have a volcano, isn't it Gran.

GRANDMA

Twenty years ago, we had volcanic eruptions on the island. The south is still covered in ash, dreadful times, but we survived. And where are you from my dear?

KIYA

Yes well... it's a bit difficult to explain. I lived in a city called Amarma, where it was very hot but it got destroyed. So we had to flee on a boat. It was far away in another dimension.

LUCY

I see that's most interesting, did you have a Queen like ours on that picture on the wall.

KIYA

Oh yes, our Queen was called Queen Susana. I think she may have come from this planet.

GRANDMA

Still, you must be pleased to find its nice and warm here in the tropics.

LUCY

Come on Kiya, let's find you some clothes to wear and you will have to sleep with me as there are only two bedrooms in the house.

KIYA

Yes, I would like that very much. I would like to go and see this volcano tomorrow.

GRANDMA

I'm afraid no one is allowed to visit that part of the island, its called the Exclusion Zone.

KIYA

OH! I see, maybe we go somewhere else, like a visit to the beach.

ACT FOUR

EXT. ISLAND ROAD TO BEACH - MORNING

Both girls ride on bikes. Kiya's bike leaves the road and goes in a ditch.

KIYA

I'm never going on that machine again.

LUCY

Kiya watch out?
(MORE)

LUCY (CONT'D)

Thats the second truck we've seen today going down to the beach. The first was full of army men thats most strange. All right, let's leave our bikes at the Botanic Gardens, as there's a back way down to the beach, if you don't mind a walk.

KIYA

No, I don't mind walking at all. Is it very far?

LUCY

It shouldn't take us more than half an hour and you can tell me about your travel experience on that cylinder thing.

KIYA

Okay, but I don't remember much at all. I remember there was a woman called Nathalie who gave me something for James. She thought your planet was in great danger. All I remember was James at the house.

LUCY

So you did meet James at the house?

KIYA

Yes, I think there was a temple in front of the pool, then I heard an argument and gunfire, so I swam down to the bottom of the water and waited. The next moment I was sitting in a pool of mud and the house had disappeared. You know places with volcanoes are very powerful and can interfere with reality.

LUCY

So, you think that James never died, but moved on with the house?

KIYA

Yes, I'm certain, there was a temple beside the pool like we had in Amarma. Our priests could levitate people and move huge blocks of stone as if by magic. Have you ever seen that done on this island.

LUCY

Yes, we've seen all kinds of things here. Force fields and people flying through the air. That all started when the cylinder thing arrived on the beach,

KIYA

That's why we we have to get onto the beached see if it's still there.

LUCY

Well we are at the end of the beach road, but keep to the side as we don't want to be seen by the men with the trucks parked ahead. Come on this way Kiya, we need to cross the road to get down onto the beach. There's plenty of cover by the rocks.

Taking Kiya's hand, they run across the road and disappear down a path onto the beach.

LUCY

It looks like they've started work on the north end of the beach, so we should be able to see the cylinder from here.

KIYA

Look Lucy, the cylinder has been pulled back up the beach by a system of ropes with soldiers doing the work.

LUCY

Yes, they look like Royal Engineers with their white faces and uniforms. They must have been sent here from England. But what are those local men doing working on the far end of the beach?

KIYA

I think they're starting to build a fence. It looks as iff the whole beach will be shut off in the next few days.

LUCY

Let's stay behind these rocks and wait for the soldiers to take a break for lunch. It's nearly midday so can't be long.

They wait by the rocks where Kiya looks at the seaweed growing in the rock pools.

LUCY

Look, I think they're leaving. Probably going to lunch at the Lodge close by so now we can check out the cylinder. Do you still want to go Kiya?

KIYA

Yes of course, but its going to be scary for you, so let's go together.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMPTY BEACH MONTSERRAT - MIDDAY

They walk some across the beach and look up at the shining cylinder towering above them.

LUCY

What do you think Kiya, this thing is much bigger than I thought. Don't see any windows or a door, do you see a way to get inside?

KIYA

Yes, can you help me dig away some sand here. I think there's a way in below where I can crawl inside.

LUCY

All right, but you will have to be quick because when the tide comes back, you'll be trapped inside.

KIYA

Don't worry. I know what this thing is now. We often saw them on our planet. can you help me dig out this hole.

LUCY

So please tell me what it is.

KIYA

I don't know what you call these things but it's a spaceship that can move people and fly through space. I never saw one crashed before.

LUCY

But why might it have crashed here on Montserrat?

KIYA

I told you before. It may have been done by that volcano of yours. It must have interfered with the magnetic fields but I need to get inside to see what happened. I think I can squeeze through this entrance and get onboard. Can you stay here and watch out for when the water comes back.

LUCY

All right, but if you're not back by the time the soldiers return, I'm going to tell them someone is trapped inside.

KIYA

Ok, that's a deal. Now wish me luck, as I think I can wriggle my way inside now.

CUT TO:

Lucy in a panic as the tide water returns. The cylinder starts to glow and slowly lifts off the beach.

LUCY

Oh my God, this thing is moving.

Lucy falls into shallow water as the cylinder moves up the beach and stops at the high tide mark, a door opens.

KIYA

Lucy did you see that! I managed to move this up the beach, without all those silly men with all those ropes.

KIYA

That was amazing. I think it's time we disappeared before the soldiers come back and we get asked a lot of questions.

KIYA

Come on let's go and hide in the trees above the beach. I remembered the training my first husband taught me how to control these things.

LUCY

Oh look! The soldiers have returned from their lunch only to find the cylinder had moved further up the beach.

(MORE)

LUCY (CONT'D)

That's really funny isn't it, but Kiya you left that small door open, that's not good.

KIYA

In fact, I stole the control panel so I'm closing it now before anyone thinks they can get inside.

LUCY

Come on Kiya, we must leave quickly on the back path, as they may check people on the road.

EXT. RETURN THROUGH WOODS - AFTERNOON

LUCY

Did you find out more of why the cylinder may have crashed.

KIYA

Sorry no. It was very dark inside and took me a while to find the room with the controls. There're no windows, so until I started the power again, there wasn't much to see at all.

LUCY

But you had an idea of what you were doing, so tell me what these things were used for on your planet?

KIYA

Our planet was at times most unstable. with a big moon that came back every ten years. Our Kings and Queens need help to move people to higher places, often to other planets. Doesn't your Queen see any need to that here.

LUCY

No, it's not quite the same here. Its our governments that make such decisions and even now, they refuse to believe in extra-terrestrial visitors. They say they aren't real, can you believe.

KIYA

That's strange because we worked with some of your people on the boat who helped us escape on the boat. Thats how I leant to speak your language, thats called English, isn't it.

LUCY

Yes, so tell me how big was this boat and how many people were on board.

KIYA

The ship was as big as the cylinder. Mo, I think a lot bigger.

LUCA

Thats interesting. You must tell me more of your of your experience with the English speaking crew.

KIYA

There were two English women with their two girls and Nathalie who helped us escape. The Captain's name was Claude and his partner Anita was a woman who controlled the weapons on the ship.

LUCY

So, how many local women were you onboard this boat.

KIYA

There were six of us. We were trained by Anita to be the crew. They said we were sailors. What I don't understand is why your people want to make uniforms. We had to sew new work clothes and that was quite an experience for us all.

LUCY

So you were working with these people from our planet all that time?

KIYA

Yes, sometimes it was frightening as the ship went under the sea.

LUCY

You mean like a submarine?

KIYA

Yes. You know the good thing about taking the control panel is that I can get inside again and perhaps fly away to look for James?

LUCY

But, we don't even know which dimension James is in.

KIYA

Yes, and I don't know how to get back to that planet where the boat is now. The captain was my lover and now I've lost him forever.

LUCY

I'm sorry, but for us women that's often how men come and go in our lives. Look, we are back at Mary's clothing shop, let's go in and buy some proper clothes that fit. This time, I promise, you won't have to sew anything at all.

KIYA

Thanks, that's most kind. If we get stopped by the army, we say we're just two girls out buying clothes.

LUCY

After that we pick up our bikes at the Gardens and walk back home.

KIYA

Right, just in time for a cup of your English tea with Grandma. I'm starting to like your way of life here.

ACT FIVE

INT. HOUSE ON DESERT ISLAND - EVENING

Flash forward ten years later to 2030.

FROM VIEWERS POV: It's a concrete room with sunlight streaming in from outside.

White wall of limestone starts to --CRAAACK--CHUNCK OF WALL BREAKS FREE--MUCH LARGER--5 FEET WIDE--THEN ANOTHER--THE HOLE GETTING BIGGER UNTIL A HAND APPEARS--AS THE LIMESTONE FALLS AWAY IT REVEALS A MAN--NOW LYING ON THE GROUND

The Man massages his temples. Breathes Slowly, his head throbbing, in some pain. Tries to stand up and falls down.

JAMES

My God what is this place? Where am I in reality? Perhaps I died and have come back in a dream.

Finally he stands and walks to the door to see nothing but sand and clumps of grass being blown by a hot wind.

JAMES

Well this is definitely not a Caribbean Island. So, let's see where we are on this planet.

EXT. ISLAND - EVENING

He walks west across the flat sand and reaches a gulley that's been flattened by a great force of water. Looking across the water he sees tall buildings still intact that must be the mainland.

JAMES

thinking... I need a boat to get there or something to keep me afloat, but everything has been washed away.

James looks under the rubble and finds a paddle board.

EXT. ISLAND - SUNSET

HE launches the board and starts paddling towards the land, he sees a flashing red light on the shore. He meets a mountain of debris blocking his way that's cleared by a school of dolphins.

EXT. MAINLAND - QUAY - NIGHT

CUT TO: James sitting at the bottom of stone steps leading up to a damaged quay, where he hears a voice above.

BEN

Hello James. you're late, almost ten years late.

JAMES

Really, I'm sorry I don't remember much, except I think I left Janet's house on that island across there...

BEN

James where the hell have you been?

JAMES

I had to swim to get back here, so if I'm late, what year is it now?

BEN

You really don't know what's happened to our planet ...well the year is 2030. November 2030 to be precise.

Ben helps James climb the steps to the quay above.

JAMES

There was a pandemic on this planet wasn't there?

BEN

Yes, but that was years ago. They gave a vaccine to all the people with something that's not been good. Here take this blanket before you catch a cold.

JAMES

OK, how do we get out of this place, everything looks derelict and has been swept away by the flood. Can we still get to an airport?

BEN

No James, Faro airport was badly damaged and has been underwater for months.

JAMES

Great, so how did you get here?

BEN

I was advised of your arrival by Jana and flew down here in Janet's new hover plane.

JAMES

Which is where?

BEN

Just over there. It's a lot smaller than before but much faster, you will see. Let me recover the red light as there's no electricity and most of the marina boats are up on the road.

JAMES

So where are all the people,
there looks to be no one around.

BEN

They were evacuated to higher
land before the waves came. Come
on James, we must leave as soon
as possible.

JAMES

DO you know the location of
Janet's house now.

BEN

Yes of course. It's an island
called Culatra off the coast of
Portugal, if you remember your
geography.

JAMES

Well thanks Ben for coming to
look for me, you may have saved
my life.

BEN

No James, I think the dolphins
did that. Come on follow me to
the plane, we need to get back to
London.

First view of a small plane when Ben hits the activate button
the flying machine lights up.

JAMES

What the fuck! Where did you get
this thing, it looks almost
alien.

BEN

Yes, its most certainly alien,
and has room for two persons in
the back.

JAMES

I'm not sure I want to go
anywhere on this thing. Do you
know how to fly it?

BEN

Yes, I've had some training, but
this is only the second flight
I've done.

JAMES

Okay, how do I get on board?

BEN

GO under the tail, and look for the footsteps in the hull and pull yourself up inside.

JAMES

That doesn't sound so easy.

BEN

I'll open the rear door for you to climb onboard.

JAMES

Okay I've made that, now what?

BEN

Put on the headphones on your seat, so we can talk to each other.

JAMES

Wow, this looks really cool, all alien technology. Where did your mother Janet, find this machine?

BEN

Eight years ago after you disappeared, mum had fallen out the US authorities and found this replacement plane.

JAMES

The design looks to have been reverse engineered, so how's it work Ben?

BEN

We climb to about 300 feet off the ground with an anti-gravity device. I input the co-ordinates and we fly to the destination.

JAMES

What's the speed Ben, Mach 5 or something?

BEN

No James, it's instant as in time travel. Now, if you put on your safety belt, I'll start the procedure.

JAMES

WE're going back to Janet's house in Windsor?

BEN

No James, London's still flooded all the way past Windsor. We have to land at a higher elevation in High Wycombe.

JAMES

Would this place be a training centre for military based aircraft?

BEN

Yes, James, it's called the Number 22 Group in the RAF.

JAMES

What if I don't want to go to a military base in the UK?

BEN

That's not possible, because we're already here.

JAMES

What will I do after arrival?

BEN

You will almost certainly have to quarantine for some days. After that we can meet and plan our next move.

EXT. AIR BASE CHILTERN HILLS, ENGLAND- NIGHT

James looks down to see the lights of the airfield below as the craft slowly touches down on a landing pad. A team of men in white suits spray the plane.

JAMES

What's happening now are we being de-iced?

BEN

NO, that's a spray to remove any bad dust after the flight through space.

JAMES

Thank you BEN, that was a most impressive first flight.

BEN

Let me de-board first and explain who you are. After that you will be in the hands of the medics.

CUT TO: Craft is towed inside a hangar. Planes rear door opens and James is looking down at a plastic tunnel.

GROUND CONTROL
Please leave the plane now Mr
Pollack and slide down the tunnel
to our medical reception area.

James thought someone was taking no chances with his arrival.

ACT SIX

INT. MILITARY HOSPITAL, AIR BASE - DAY

Ten days later James is released from quarantine.

JAMES

Hi Ben, I'm free to come and see
Janet's house tonight.

BEN

Okay, thats great. Will pass by
the hospital early this evening
and pick you up.

CUT TO: Hospital room where James signs his discharge papers
with Michelle the nurse

MICHELLE

There are some rules about this
airbase, You're not to leave the
airfield without an escort and
permission.

JAMES

So what's happened outside, can
you explain-

MICHELLE

Well, first there are dangerous
people outside looking for food
and second most of the low land
is still flooded.

JAMES

So, can you explain what happened
here?

MICHELLE

There are rumours, but what's
clear is that our planet was hit
by a space rock. This must have
created tsunamis over most of the
English costal areas that still
remain flooded.

JAMES

Really, when did this happen.

MICHELLE

Don't you remember any of this?

JAMES

No, not really, I've been living off the grid for months.

MICHELLE

So you don't remember that most electrical things have also stopped. We had days of darkness before the sun returned and it was very cold.

JAMES

You see, I was living underground, near the Atlantic Ocean. I did see a lot of destruction in the region, when I was rescued.

MICHELLE

You were lucky, because there are thousands of homeless people in London and a lot more who didn't survive when the Thames valley flooded.

JAMES

But weren't the Governments prepared for such an impact?

MICHELLE

Wow, you have been out of the loop. Who exactly are you and why were you rescued. I need your last address or a Country of origin before you can sign the forms.

JAMES

I'm sorry but its along story, and you know...

MICHELLE

That's okay. I know it's classified. Thats all the people on the base ever tell us.

JAMES

Well I'm nothing to do with the military. In fact I'm a marine scientist, been studying underwater earthquakes and they brought me back her to explain the data.

MICHELLE

Country of Origin please?

JAMES

Alright - I'm originally from the UK. As for an address I was living underground on an island, so I'm as lost as you.

MICHELLE

And your friend coming to pick you up is the person living in the old house at the end of the runway?

JAMES

Yes, I think so, but I've never been there.

MICHELLE

Why don't you ask him what's going on, because I've got to know Ben and there's a lot more he can tell you.

JAMES

Thanks, will do. Now where do I sign and I'll go and wait for Ben to arrive.

Ben arrives with a man in Royal Marine uniform.

BEN

Sorry I'm late. Training took a bit longer than expected. This is my security detail for today, who will be escorting us back to the house.

JAMES

No problem. Can't wait to get back to a more normal life and find some comfortable clothes again.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIR BASE-HOUSE - NIGHT

Military jeep drives to the house at the end of runway surrounded by a high fence.

BEN

Here we are the humble home of one of the last Air Chief Marshals who refused to allow it to be demolished.

JAMES

Well its a long way from the main base, is there any electricity?

BEN

Yes, that comes from the main generators at the base. It's a bit out of the way, but that's how I like it. Follow me with your kit and I'll show you around.

JAMES

Ben, I don't have any kit, just the clothes you found me with.

BEN

Right, let's go inside and I'll show you around.

JAMES

WOW, I see they kept most of the wooden beams and a comfortable lounge with leather sofa and armchairs to match. It really is a home from home.

BEN

Would you like a beer and I'll show you the rest later. There are two bedrooms in a basement with bath and toilet. I sleep in the master room so you can take the single room next door.

JAMES

Good idea, lead on and I'll follow.

BEN

Look, why don't we take our beer outside on a small terrace at the back, and you can tell me your story.

JAMES

Ben, it remains a mystery to me. All I can tell you is that I've lost eight, no ten years of my life, not knowing where I've been.

BEN

Come and sit at this garden table as I think it's better we talk outside. Great to see you again, after all those times on Montserrat.

JAMES

I'm thinking that my return may be connected with that space rock that you experienced recently? I spoke to the nurse at the hospital, but she said to ask you.

BEN

Really, did you tell her where you're from?

JAMES

No, of course not. I said I was marine scientist living underground and had been rescued. She said she knew you.

BEN

Wow, you do get around. Yes that's Michelle, we got to know each other and try to be discrete.

JAMES

Ben, she's really attractive, but she told me to ask you about a 'cover up' story going on here.

BEN

Yes, but thats something Janet's working on in the States, so I'd rather she explained to you what we think happened. It's her idea after what happened on the island.

JAMES

Okay, no problem at all. So, what's with all these military escorts? When did the Royal Marines get into security on an RAF base.

BEN

James you have to understand after so many died in London. We had a security problem here at the base and they sent us some Marines to help.

JAMES

Yes, I heard it was as bad as that.

BEN

They come and pick me up at 0800 hrs and bring me back.

(MORE)

BEN (CONT'D)

Remember, it's a bloody long walk to the end of the runway.

JAMES

Okay, can we go inside and see if you can find me some warmer clothes to wear, that might fit.

BEN

Have a look through these winter clothes, I no longer wear. Also I found you a toothbrush and an old razor.

JAMES

Thanks Ben. Would it be possible to join you with your training tomorrow? There's really nothing to do here.

BEN

Yes, of course. We leave at eight sharp and I don't eat breakfast. See you in the morning and good night.

****ACT SEVEN****

INT. AIR BASE HEAD QUARTERS, ENGLAND- DAY

Ben and James are driven to the NAAFI for coffee

BEN

Come on James, drink up. We have a meeting over at the Base HQ.

JAMES

Anything in particular you can think of?

BEN

No. but they all want to meet you.

CUT TO:

Ben leads the way to an imposing building with RAF and Union flags flying outside. Armed sentry guards the entrance.

SENTRY

Hey you two. ID or papers first.

BEN

Sorry, but I lost mine and he doesn't have any.

MILITARY POLICE OFFICER
Wait. Are you Ben Romford and
James Pollack?

BEN
Yes, we are.

MILITARY POLICE OFFICER
Alright then. Follow me.

They follow the officer down stairs to a basement, where a heavy door swings open and face a Group Captain.

GROUP CAPTAIN
Welcome, good to see you again
Ben. This is our conference room,
where our Service officers are
watching a small plane make a
vertical touchdown on a landing
pad.

BEN
This James, is going to be
interesting.

GROUP CAPTAIN
Now today we need you to meet
these people for a briefing.

GROUP CAPTAIN
I'll leave you to your discussion
as its a security matter.

CUT TO:

Woman in early forties, dark hair, wide mouth, bright with red lipstick, with a man who's reading a file.

BEN
Hello, is anyone in here.

JAMES
I think you^{re} going to have to
bring more chairs if you want us
to talk.

RUTH LONDON
OH! I'm sorry we didn't see you
come in. Of course more chairs.

BEN
Yes, and can we have some more
coffee, please.

James approaches the man, offering to shake his hand.

JAMES
Hi, I'm James Pollack, haven't we
met before? MI5 about ten years
ago in Windsor?

RUTH LONDON

James, please sit down. We are not playing games here. I'm Ruth London from the Home Office.

Two more chairs arrive with coffee for four of them.

RUTH LONDON

So Mr Pollack, it's good to see you again after such a long time. Can you tell us where you've been?

JAMES

As I've told everyone already; I woke up in a house on an island off the coast of Portugal.

BEN

That's true, I questioned him last night and remembers nothing. He didn't even know what year it was.

JAMES

Tell me Ms. London what's the current security level at this base today?

RUTH LONDON

You can call me Ruth. I don't know what you mean.

JAMES

I've been here for over ten days and never seen or heard a military aircraft take off or land.

RUTH LONDON

You mean you really don't know.

BEN

No, ma'am, he really doesn't know what happened after the impact.

RUTH LONDON

Our planet was hit by a massive CME that took out most electrical systems, surveillance, internet and communications.

JAMES

I see, so no electric cars, and we drive around in 1940's jeeps. What about the planes?

RUTH LONDON

Without any satellite or guidance systems, we've gone back to the old planes from the past, to supply the base.

JAMES

So, exactly which part of the Home Office are you from?

RUTH LONDON

Technically security. But we are here to give you a chance to explain how Ben's plane can fly when almost all others are grounded.

JAMES

Alright, but you had better ask Ben, or better still his mother, Mrs Romford,

RUTH LONDON

Your sudden arrival has been most dramatic but we want answers. Thats more important for us.

JAMES

What exactly do you want me to do?

RUTH LONDON

Mr Pollack, we have you trapped here. You and Ben can either work with us or face imprisonment.

JAMES

Then you would have to find a new pilot.

RUTH LONDON

We've brought the documents for you to sign. Official secrets, just in case this doesn't work out as we hoped.

JAMES

Forget the administration, what do you want us to do?

RUTH LONDON

You need to return the plane to the US military, find Mrs Romford and bring her back to the UK.

JAMES

Wow, you really have read my file.

(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

Let's start with Ben returning the plane to the US. How certain is the pilot that he can do this.

RUTH LONDON

We know the plane can fly after his return from Portugal.

JAMES

Can you tell us how the craft arrived here at the airbase.

RUTH LONDON

It came over on a US cargo flight before the CME.

JAMES

So the plane has never flown 3,000 miles across the Atlantic. It's only done a short hop to Portugal and back. What does the pilot think.

BEN

Frankly, I have no idea. The military scientists have had the plane for two months and no one has any idea how it works.

RUTH LONDON

Of course, there's a risk. That's why we're offering you a chance to help our nation.

JAMES

Alright, we'll sign your documents and then you can leave us in peace.

Ruth London stands up as they both sign the documents.

RUTH LONDON

Thank you, Mr Pollack, Mr Romford, I'm sure we will be in touch with you again.

CUT TO:

Ruth and the man leave the room. James and Ben burst out laughing at the situation - Group Captain returns.

GROUP CAPTAIN

Welcome to the Royal Air Force, or perhaps I should say the Space Air Force. I have some I.D for you both.

BEN

Thank you. I think I should take James to the hangar and see if the boffins know how it flies.

ACT EIGHT

EXT. AIR BASE HANGAR - DAY 2030

BEN

So, what do you think James?

JAMES

Yes, its odd that they've opened my file again after ten years.

BEN

Do you know anything about comets hitting our planet in the past?

JAMES

Yes, multiple fragments of a giant comet impacted the Earth 12,000 years ago so it's nothing new.

BEN

Maybe Governments were expecting something to happen in 2030. Since you were away, they've been launching rockets every day to the moon for years and never said why.

JAMES

Interesting, I read the dangers of these mass coronal ejections from the sun and it looks to have happened here.

They arrive at the launch pad and the entrance to the hangar.

BEN

Look James, I really don't want to go through more tests with these boffins. Maybe you can help them more than I can.

JAMES

Okay, do you have something better to do?

BEN

Yes, Im going to catch up with Michelle.

JAMES

Okay no problem.

BEN

Meet me at the hospital and we can get a ride back to the house together.

CUT TO:

James shows his pass to the guard and enters the hangar, met by a technician.

FLIGHT TECHNICIAN

Good morning Sir. We were hoping you would come by and see us.

JAMES

What exactly do you want me to do?

FLIGHT TECHNICIAN

A short test flight today. Please come this way to change.

James changes into a light blue flying suit with a pilots helmet to wear.

JAMES

You know I've never been in the pilots seat before.

TECHNICIAN

Don't worry, it will be very simple today. Lift off to 300 feet and a slow descent.

JAMES

Okay, sounds easy to me.

TECHNICIAN

The flight mode has been disconnected, so you can't fly off anywhere.

CUT TO:

James follows the instructor out to the plane on the launch pad, climbs a ladder to the pilot seat. Talks through his headphones.

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR

Now in front of you is the control panel and the start procedure button. Do you see that?

JAMES

Yes, looks pretty clear to me.

INSTRUCTOR

When we close the cockpit canopy, you push the button and wait for our signal.

JAMES

OK, I think I've got that.

INSTRUCTOR

Good, now push the start up and watch the control panel light up. You will feel the plane coming alive without any noise.

JAMES

Roger that, it feels fine.

INSTRUCTOR

Now set the altitude to 300 and prepare to lift off.

Immediately a panel with flight coordinates lights up as the plane rose off the ground in a slow hover.

JAMES

I can see a list of flights that were used for the flights to Portugal. Can you explain more?

INSTRUCTOR

No, you should not interfere with that. Please don't touch those controls.

James ignores the instructor and adds a co-ordinate of his own.

PAN AROUND James sees all the runways of the airfield and fields down to the river Thames.

INSTRUCTOR

Now push the lever to start descending back onto the landing pad.

CUT TO:

Men with paddles, dressed in white wave the plane silently back onto the ground.

JAMES

So how did it go for you. The view from up there was amazing.

INSTRUCTOR

Yes, it went well. You can climb down now onto the pad,

JAMES

What exactly was being measured
this time?

INSTRUCTOR

We are measuring the
electromagnetic waves in the
cavity walls.

JAMES

If thats what gives the plane the
lift to hover, what happens
during a flight?

INSTRUCTOR

We're not sure, but these waves
may create a vacuum around the
plane, allowing it to move at
high speed.

JAMES

You mean it can be used
underwater or even in space?

INSTRUCTOR

Really, we don't know. You know
the plane must be returned to the
US military tomorrow. Sorry,
we're out of time.

JAMES

So you've been told to have the
plane ready for a flight
tomorrow.

INSTRUCTOR

Yes, we will be ready for you as
soon as we get the approval
orders.

INT. AIR BASE HOSPITAL - DAY 2030

James walks back to the hangar to change and leaves. Finds
Ben at the medical centre talking to Michelle.

JAMES

Hi guys. Just back from a short
test flight. Anything new here.

BEN

NO, I just told Michelle we're
leaving tomorrow to return the
plane to the US. She's not happy.

JAMES

Oh! Don't worry about that as I
have a plan, or more an idea.

BEN

Really, thats why you look so happy.

MICHELLE

No, let James explain what's his idea first.

JAMES

Well it's too early for that. Can you get us a few hours in flight simulator this afternoon.

BEN

Yes, I mean it's possible. I already did a couple of hours in there, so what do you need.

JAMES

We need a simulator for a plane where the two pilots sit next to each other.

BEN

You mean like a military trainer aircraft?

JAMES

YES, thats so I can instruct you what to do.

BEN

Okay, but on our plane, you sit in the back and I pilot from up front. I don't get what you want.

JAMES

Come on, let's go over to the simulator and I'll explain as we walk.

BEN

Great, I'm up for something new. Sorry Michelle, but I hope to see you later tonight.

EXT. AIR BASE SIMULATOR - DAY 2030

Ben leads James over to the building with the simulator and they talk.

BEN

So, what happened with the training today?

JAMES

Test flight up to 300 feet and down again, but the control panel gave me ideas.

BEN

Really like what?

JAMES

The plane creates a vacuum that clears a path in space and gives negative mass. So it can reach very fast speeds.

BEN

What up to the speed of light?

JAMES

No, it must fly below that, but that's already fast enough. I think it can operate under water or maybe even in space.

BEN

Okay, so why the flight simulator?

JAMES

First it shows we're serious and second, I can show you what to do.

BEN

What do you mean what to do?

JAMES

Ben. I don't think we should fly the plane back to the US. Frankly, I don't trust them.

BEN

Alright tell me your plan, because we're sure to be observed inside.

JAMES

Remember the control panel - I changed the co-ordinates for your mothers house from Portugal to Montserrat.

BEN

You did what? Why would we want to go there. Won't we be tracked.

JAMES

Not without any satellites.
(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

Look we fly to the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, descend into the sea and jump back in time to your mother's house.

BEN

James, you're clearly mad. The Atlantic is two miles deep and the plane would be crushed.

JAMES

Okay, I'm just thinking. You know there's a time indicator on the control panel, so we can return to 2020. I'm sure, no problem.

BEN

My goodness, you really have been all over the controls. Alright, let's go inside and see how we can make this idea work.

ACT NINE

INT. HALL OF RESIDENCE OXFORD UNIVERSITY, UK - 2030

THREE MONTHS EARLIER - MICHELLE ENTERS HER ROOM ON FIRST DAY OF TERM AT THE UNIVERSITY

MICHELLE

Hello, I think we're sharing this room together this year. Come and give me a hug.

LUCY

Really, that's great to meet you. What's your name.

MICHELLE

I'm Michelle, doing second year medicine here at Pembroke College and you.

LUCY

Oh! I just arrived in the UK from abroad. I won an international scholarship to study here.

MICHELLE

Wow, Lucy that's great. So where are you from?

LUCY

I was at school on the Island of Montserrat in the Caribbean? Have you heard of it?

MICHELLE

Err.. was that the island with a volcano, years ago?

LUCY

Yes, everyone remembers that. but frankly I'm a bit frightened of being such a long way from home.

MICHELLE

Don't worry, I'll show you how to get around here. Now which bed do you want to chose? The one by the window or this one by the door.

LUCY

Maybe the one by the door. I know it gets cold here in the winter.

MICHELLE

Okay, thats agreed. Now let me show you around.

LUCY

I heard that Pembroke is a very old college, but really friendly for overseas students.

MICHELLE

Yes, it is. Now leave your suitcase on the bed and I'll take you on a quick tour outside.

CUT TO:

Michelle and Lucy quickly bond together until in the autumn the impact occurs and they are back in their room.

MICHELLE

I'm so sorry Lucy, the news about this comet impact is most worrying, so many parts of England have been flooded.

LUCY

Don't worry, our island has a lot of high ground, even mountains. I'm sure everyone will be safe.

CUT TO:

Two day later, the lights go out and everything electronic no longer works. No phones, no electricity or cars and it remained dark outside for days.

MICHELLE

I know everyone on the college campus is doing the best. We have candles and cooking outside, but what do you want to do?

LUCY

Well, I most certainly can't get a plane back home, so I want to stay with you until we find a solution.

MICHELLE

Okay, agreed, but we need to get to higher ground. My father had been stationed at an air base near High Wycombe in the Chiltern hills.

LUCY

Is that very far, how do we get there?

MICHELLE

No, it's not far, maybe twenty five miles to the air base and we can cycle on our bikes.

LUCY

I'm not going anywhere in this cold darkness, how long will it continue?

MICHELLE

Really I don't know, but we have to plan for more sunlight and steal some food. Come on let's go to the library and see if we can find a map.

CUT TO:

INT. MCGOWAN LIBRARY, PEMBROKE COLLEGE - NIGHT

LUCY

I'm sorry Michelle but I'm not going back to our room, its much warmer in here.

MICHELLE

Agreed, we can hide in here tonight and I'll go outside and find us some food in the morning.

Lucy and Michelle are sitting in the library surrounded by books, with a candle on the floor.

LUCY

Did I tell you why I really came to Oxford to study.

MICHELLE

No, you mean this was planned some time ago?

LUCY

Ten years ago we had some strange things occur on the island. It was never reported on the media and covered up by our governments

MICHELLE

Really, so what happened?

LUCY

You wouldn't believe me if I told you. I meet a man called James. He told me to study hard and come to England by the summer of 2030.

MICHELLE

So why did you believe him?

LUCY

Are you looking for air base Group Number 22?

MICHELLE

Yes, I believe that's the military name of this airbase.

LUCY

That's exactly what he told me ten years ago. Do you believe in coincidences.

MICHELLE

You mean he was from the future or the past?

LUCY

Really, I don't know, but what he said has mostly become true. My sharing with you cannot be a coincidence.

MICHELLE

Alright, enough of this. We have to find a map of how to get there.

LUCY

But there's are nothing but old research books in here and none of the computers work. How do we find a map?

MICHELLE

Easy, we look under geography, local and I'm going to find a book with an image of the old roads to High Wycombe, if it kills me!

LUCY

Sorry I'm a bit depressed, can I help you.

MICHELLE

Yes of course, light another candle and follow me.

Finds a book with images of the roads from Oxford - High Wycombe in the 1930's.

MICHELLE

Right now thats done, I'm going back to our room and will bring mattresses and blankets for us to sleep.

LUCY

No, I'm coming with you. The boys outside have become difficult. You need me to help carry and keep a watch.

MICHELLE

Alright, let's go. This may be more difficult than I thought.

CUT TO:

A week later, they have survived from the chaos outside and sunlight is returning.

MICHELLE

I think there's enough light to try and leave tomorrow. You do have a bicycle don't you?

LUCY

No, I just arrived. Can't we steal one?

MICHELLE

Yes, but most will still be padlocked.

LUCY

Alright, I'll look around the cycle shed to see what I can find.

MICHELLE

No, no, I'm coming with you. I'm not going to lose you after all we've been through.

CUT TO:

Next morning when the light has appeared, they walk down to the bicycle shed.

GROUP OF STUDENTS

Oh! What do we have here. Michelle and her friend are leaving us, without saying goodbye.

OTHER STUDENT

No, don't touch them, or we'll have more trouble on our hands.

OTHER STUDENT

Come on, don't screw around, its time we got these girls to bed.

CUT TO:

Michelle and Lucy breath a sigh of relief - wheel the bikes out of the shed and cycle as fast as they can out of the college.

MICHELLE

Follow me, I know the way out of the centre of Oxford, we need to find the road going east.

LUCY

Yes, is not bad at all. But where are all the people, the roads are all deserted.

MICHELLE

Hang on , I need to stop a moment to check the map. Can you bring the torch to me.

LUCY

We need to keep moving east. Do you see any road signs around here?

LUCY

Yes, there was a sign to Thame back there. Is that on the right road.

MICHELLE

Yes, brilliant. I'm sure we're on the right way to High Wycombe.

LUCY

And then?

MICHELLE

Then we start the climb up the chiltern Hills to High Wycombe.

LUCY

Good and the light is returning at last.

EXT. GROUP NO 22 AIR BASE HIGH WYCOMBE - DAY

CUT TO:

Arrival outside the gates only to find the gates shut.

MICHELLE

Hang on I'm going to look closer, there must be a guard or someone here.

LOCAL WOMAN

There's no one there's my dear. The gates have been closed for days.

LUCY

Oh dear! doesn't look good.

LOCAL WOMAN

Have you come far on those bikes of yours?

MICHELLE

Yes, we've cycled from Oxford, come to find my dad, he works here.

LOCAL WOMAN

Yes, all of us are looking for family aren't we, now the phones no longer work.

LUCY

Michelle this is madness, what do we do?

LOCAL WOMAN

Come over and join me for a cup of tea.

MICHELLE

Yes, we are both tired, but I need to find a way into the base here.

LOCAL WOMAN

Do you have any food you can share my dear. That you could share with me?

LUCY

Give me the food we brought Michelle and go and look for you father.

MICHELLE

No, I can't leave you outside like this.

LUCY

You have no other choice. I'll go and help this poor woman but somehow you need to get inside.

MICHELLE

Alright, take my back pack and if I'm not successful will come and join you. I promise.

The two women hug each other and Michelle cycles away.

CUT TO:

After riding around the village, she finds a man standing next to an old motor bike.

POSTMAN

Hello and who the hell might you be.

MICHELLE

My name is Michelle Warwick and I'm looking for my father.

POSTMAN

Warwick, you mean you are Robert's daughter, well I never did.

MICHELLE

Yes and I've cycled all the way from Oxford to find him.

POSTMAN

You cycled on that old bike?

MICHELLE

Yes, all the way from Oxford. Can you help me get into the base, as the main gates are closed.

POSTMAN

Of course they are, thats for security, see. I'm the postman for the base, and might be able to help you.

MICHELLE

Thank goodness I've found someone who knew my father.

POSTMAN

Yes, I knew you father but that was years ago. So what do you want with a Royal Air Force Base?

MICHELLE

I'm looking for a job, any sort of job that's in a secure place, not like out here.

POSTMAN

I see, well if you told me you were a medical student, I might be able to help you.

MICHELLE

Yes, only second year, but willing to help.

POSTMAN

All right, follow me, as you are Robert's girl. Let's see if we can get you inside to work as a nurse. Is that okay?

MICHELLE

Yes, yes, whatever.

CUT TO:

She follows him to another ten foot high gate and both are waved inside to face a military guard.

POSTMAN

We have Ms. Warwick here reporting for duty as the nurse needed at the medical centre.

The Guard looks at his clipboard and lets them pass. She follows the motorbike down to the medical centre where she starts to work.

INT. MEDICAL CENTRE AIR BASE - DAY

CUT TO:

Doctors and Sister guide Michelle in her new routine, until she meets Ben.

MICHELLE

Tell me Ben where were you living before the impact?

BEN

I told you I was living at my mothers house in Windsor.

MICHELLE

Oh yes, she's now over in the States, have you heard from her.

BEN

No, not since the impact. I came here to train as a pilot on her plane sent over from the US.

MICHELLE

Yes, but why are there a hundred airmen working here but almost no flights.

BEN

Well, there are but only small ones. A cargo plane flies in once a week with food and supplies, but none of the military jets are active because of the CME.

MICHELLE

Then why is your plane the only military craft that still flies?

MICHELLE

Well Ben, what kind of plane are you training on?

BEN

Something very advanced and you may be needed tonight. I'm making the first flight this evening. If you must know.

CUT TO:

Ben leaves but before Michelle finishes her work she's called by the Sister.

SISTER

Ms. Warwick, you must come now in your uniform and a coat and follow me.

MICHELLE

OF course, has there been an accident?

SISTER

We are needed in one of the hangars, thats all you need to know.

INT. AIR BASE HANGAR - NIGHT 2030

SISTER

Please Ms. Warwick, return to the hospital and bring this medication from the dispensary.

EXT. AIR BASE HANGAR - NIGHT 2030

CUT TO:

Michelle stands outside the hangar watching a small craft silently hover, rise in the sky and disappear.

ARMED MARINE

Excuse me miss. You should't be out here, it's a restricted area .

MICHELLE

Sorry, I was sent to bring some things from the medical centre and just saw this plane fly away.

MARINE

That's alright but I'll have to escort you.

MICHELLE

Do you know what's happening tonight

MARINE

Yes, that plane you saw has gone to recover someone. Probably be your next patient.

MICHELLE

Right, so I'll go inside and you can escort me back.

and that was the first time that Michelle saw James...

ACT TEN

EXT. AIR BASE HOUSE/RUNWAY - DAY 2030

CUT TO:

Ben and James leave the house dressed in blue jump suits and walk to the army jeep waiting outside

DRIVER

Morning guys. See you have your flying kit, going somewhere today.

BEN

Good morning, yes today's the big day.

The driver points to a ladies bicycle parked outside the house.

DRIVER

What about your girlfriend. Doesn't she want a ride back to the base.

BEN

No, she's got to stay and clean the house! She'll return on her bike later.

DRIVER

Okay, so where shall I drop you off today?

BEN

Drop us at the NAAFI as usual for a coffee. After that we need to say goodbye to some of our friends.

JAMES

You know Ben, I still can't believe how quiet it is here compared to what I hear is happening outside.

BEN

Yes, I hear it's chaos outside London. Army running low on weapons, food, everything.

JAMES

But the military jets, can't any of them be fixed?

BEN

Not easily done. Those planes were controlled from satellites. When the CME hit most were lost, so no GPS navigation, no controls, means no fly.

JAMES

So here we are on an airbase with no planes.

BEN

Yes James, and we're just in time for our last cup of English coffee!

JAMES

Then we meet the big brass to get their approval to leave?

BEN

Yes, come on let's go inside.

INT. AIR BASE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 2030

CUT TO:

James and Ben sit on two chairs in front of the High Command.

GROUP COMMANDER

Welcome everyone. Today we thank the two pilots with us, for their work and returning the plane to the USA.

JAMES

Why don't they just let us fly away - James thought to himself.

CUT TO:

When they stand up to leave James is confronted by Ms London

RUTH LONDON

Can you come with us, Mr. pollack, we need to talk.

JAMES

Sorry, but you're not going to stop us leaving here today, are you.

CUT TO:

The crowd pushes the two pilots forward towards the launch pad. Ben is accompanied by the Group Commander to the hangar, to say goodbye.

EXT. AIR BASE LAUNCH PAD - DAY

BEN

I hope this won't be the last time we meet, but we may be away for some time.

CUT TO:

They shake hands, while James mounts the stairs at the rear of the plane and waits for Ben to arrive. Instead Michelle joins James.

JAMES
Hello Michelle. I was expecting you to show up. You need to put on these headphones to hear Ben.

MICHELLE
You have done this before, haven't you James.

JAMES
Yes, twice first as a passenger and later in the pilot seat.

MICHELLE
So where exactly are we going to?

BEN
Everyone ready back there.

JAMES
Yes, let's do it.

The plane rises off the ground and everything goes black.

EXT. MID-ATLANTIC - NIGHT

MICHELLE
What happened Ben, where are we.

BEN
We're hovering 300 feet above the sea in mid-Atlantic.

JAMES
Change the co-ordinates to Janet's House and insert the time change.

BEN
You're sure it's February 2020?

JAMES
NO wait, make that the beginning of March 2020.

BEN
March 2020 it is. Here we go.

SMASH TO BLACK

END OF PILOT

