

DON'T LOOK UP

Written by

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Story by

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BLACK.

A tea kettle whistles.

OPEN ON:

Boiling water pours into a mug with a tea bag.

Raspberry JAM is spread on a piece of WHOLE GRAIN BREAD.

INT. SUBARU TELESCOPE MAUNA KEA - NIGHT

PhD candidate KATE DIBIASKY, 26, dyed red hair, rides the fine line between geeky and alternative, walks up the stairs to a desk overlooking a giant telescope.

A CARL SAGAN action figure is positioned next to the computer.

Kate types coordinates. The TELESCOPE REPOSITIONS. AND THE ROOF OPENS revealing a starry night.

And for the final preparatory touch Kate puts her ear buds in and HITS PLAY ON HER PHONE.

MUSIC: WU-TANG CLAN AINT NUTHING TO F' WIT by Wu-Tang Clan

Kate raps along under her breath. She also SELF BEEPS any questionable words without falling off the beat.

As we hear Kate rap we cut back and forth between Kate's COMPUTER SCREEN SHOWING A HARD TO DECIPHER IMAGE and A STUNNING REAL LIFE VIEW SPACE THAT ENDS ON A LITTLE SPIRAL GALAXY.

She clicks several photos. QUICK TIME JUMP to her looking through photos but there's....nothing.

Kate clicks through more photos. Still nothing.

She sees something else, a small smudge of light. Quickly she takes more pictures.

JUMP CUT: She walks over to a big screen and "stretches" the photo until a clearly visible "streak" is visible in the sky.

Kate gasps and steps back to confirm what she sees is real.

She stares, jaw dropped, at a giant screen of a comet.

CUT TO:

INT. SUBARU TELESCOPE - 2 IN THE MORNING - NIGHT

MUSIC: RIGHT THURR by Chingy

A "Party" is coming together with a group of 4 GRAD STUDENTS in their mid 20s, DANIEL, NISHA, OLIVER, WIN and their PROFESSOR from Michigan State, PROFESSOR RANDALL MINDY, 50s, Midwestern, bearded, not so ambitious since he got tenure.

RANDALL

This is nuts!! This is so crazy...

NISHA

I've got a hard cider and a bag of Crossbone Crunch!

WIN

It's a party.

RANDALL

I'm just so, so thrilled for you Kate.

(raises a glass)

To "Comet Dibiasky." Right? Cheers!

Randall is transfixed by the pictures.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

It's got to be an Oort cloud comet just based on where you saw it. Probably the last time it got this close to the sun was long before human civilization. Look at the arc on that thing. My god that's amazing.

NISHA

How would we find out the comet's velocity and orbit Professor Mindy?

RANDALL

What a great question. I haven't done orbital dynamics since Grad school. The question is, "What would Carl Sagan do?" He would take it back to first principles.

Randall wheels over a white board. He begins to draw the XYZ Axis from **FIGURE 1**.

Daniel hands him a battered textbook.

RANDALL (CONT'D)
 The topocentric vector is rho...
 Kate, what are the initial
 coordinates?

Kate is on her laptop.

KATE
 21....24...13...

Quick time dashes as Randall writes more and more equations
 on the board and flips through the textbook.

RANDALL
 This is fun, huh guys?

KATE
 67...

RANDALL (CONT'D)
 Wow, now you're got me
 pumped.

WIN
 Uh, Doctor Mindy, how many
 terms do you have to
 calculate to induce the FNG
 function?

RANDALL (CONT'D)
 All right, um-- This is a
 good approximation according
 to Marsden eighty-five.

RANDALL (CONT'D)
 Now that we have the comets orbit.
 We will check the ephemeris. And
 that will give us the distance
 between the comet and earth.

Randall continues to map out the results on the white board.

KATE
 Why does the ephemeris keep getting
 lower and lower?

Randall writes the last part of **FIGURE 2**.

And then finally...he writes "0.00"

His hand is frozen with the marker in it in front of the
 board.

KATE (CONT'D)
 Professor Mindy?
 (beat)
 Professor Mindy?

Randall quickly erases the "0.00"

RANDALL
You know what guys? Let's, uh, call
it a night, huh?

WIN
But what's the relative position?

RANDALL
I can't figure it out, guys. Not
tonight, sorry.

DANIEL
You know what, I'm beat.

NISHA
Me too.

DANIEL
Kate this was amazing.

The Grad students shuffle off. Randall hasn't taken his eyes
off the board.

RANDALL
Hey Kate?...you stay.

QUOTE AGAINST BLACK:

"I want to die peacefully in my sleep like my grandfather,
not screaming in terror like his passengers." - Jack Handey

INT. NASA HEADQUARTERS - HALLWAY - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

L/3 "NASA HEADQUARTERS, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA 10:42
AM"

DR. JOCELYN CALDER, early 50s and political player, comes
walking down a hallway fast in a sharp business suit.

INT. NASA HEADQUARTERS - OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Calder takes the phone from a NASA SCIENTIST.

NASA SCIENTIST
Dr. Calder. A Michigan State
Professor and his grad students are
at Subaru--

DR. CALDER

(ignores him)

This is Dr. Calder. You've just pulled me out of a meeting where I had to tell my team we've lost 8 billion in funding.

RANDALL

I am so sorry Dr. Calder. But we are seeing some awfully strange orbital numbers on this comet we just found. They should be in your inbox.

Data and pictures are on the computer screen in front of Dr. Calder. Dr. Calder takes a look.

DR. CALDER

Okay... Hmm...yeah, yeah, okay...

(beat)

Let me get Doctor Oglethorpe on the line. Please hold.

INT. SUBARU TELESCOPE - SAME TIME

RANDALL

I'm on hold... She's calling a Doctor Oglethorpe. Who is that?

Kate on her phone.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ, who is that? I'm gonna put them on speaker.

Hold music plays.

KATE

Dr. Oglethorpe: the head of the Planetary Defense Coordination Office in Washington DC.

(and then)

Is that a real place?

An image of the actual Planetary Defense Coordination Office logo appears on screen.

EXT. GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDINGS, WASHINGTON DC - MORNING

L/3 "THE PLANETARY DEFENSE COORDINATION OFFICE (YES, IT'S A REAL PLACE)

A collection of bland buildings in the Nation's capital.

An African American man, late fifties, DR. CLAYTON "TEDDY" OGLETHORPE, whip sharp, seen it all, answers his phone as he walks into the building THROUGH A LIGHT SUN SHOWER.

DR. OGLETHORPE
This is Dr. Oglethorpe...

DR. CALDER
Yes, this is Jocelyn Calder from
Kennedy Space Center.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Hey Jocelyn.

INT. NASA HEADQUARTERS - OFFICE -FLORIDA- DAY - CONTINUOUS

Dr. Calder reads more and more print outs.

DR. CALDER
Listen we got a sighting of an
N.E.O. from Suburu Telescope.

INT. SUBARU TELESCOPE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

INTERCUT ALL THREE CONVERSATIONS as Teddy makes his way into the building and waits for an elevator.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Ok, why didn't you just report it
to the Minor Planet Center.

DR. CALDER
The Professor and a bunch of
Michigan State students who
identified something big.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Really? How large?

DR. CALDER
(to the NASA Scientist)
How big we talking?

NASA SCIENTIST
We clocked it in at about 5 to 10
kilometers wide.

DR. CALDER
About 5 to 10 kilometers wide.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Uh...that's a big boy.
(beat)
And was this Professor the one who
made the observation?

Randall chimes in.

RANDALL
Uh, hi, yes, Dr. Mindy. And no, PHD
candidate Kate Dibiasky found it, I
did the orbital calculations. I
study um, trace gases in dead
galaxies. I haven't published in
awhile so you probably haven't
heard of me - but that doesn't
matter obviously - sorry.

DR. OGLETHORPE
And what are the most updated
estimates on its trajectory?

Kate does more calculations on her Matlabs.

KATE
I've been running it all day, I
keep getting the same result. A
direct hit of earth in 6 months and
14 days.

RANDALL
Me too.

DR. CALDER
Mathew, what are your calculations?

NASA SCIENTIST
Our scout program is saying...6
months, 14 days.

DR. CALDER
We've got 6 months and 14 days.

DR. OGLETHORPE
And it's roughly 5 to 10 kilometers
wide. Which means...

RANDALL
...Isn't that an extinction level
event?

A terrifying silence hits the room.

DR. CALDER

Well, let's not be dramatic here.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Ok, first move is to get the school field trip out here to DC. I need the person who first had eyes on the comet and the person in charge.

DR. CALDER (CONT'D)

Ok, let's all calm down here!

Kate and Randall look at each other.

DR. OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

Okay we need to share this data immediately with Cambridge, Cal Tech and the I.A.U.

DR. CALDER

This is classified information Dr. Oglethorpe. I serve at the discretion of the President and her policy is all priority intel goes to her first.

KATE

Is this really happening?

DR. CALDER

Now let's get the student and the dead galaxy Professor to Hickam Air Force Base now.

They hang up. Terrified Kate looks to Randall who begins pacing around the room.

KATE

What the hell is happening?

RANDALL

Kate! This isn't happening right? This isn't real right? This is just some sort of alternate reality? Kate say something!

Kate leans her head back.

KATE

I gotta go get high....

QUICK CUT:

EXT. HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE-HONOLULU-30 MINUTES LATER-NIGHT

Kate and Randall, each holding a mini suit case stand on the tarmac of a full on active air force base.

A CAPTAIN comes over to them yelling above the jets.

CAPTAIN

Word is I need you both in DC fast!
Only plane we got going there is
that one!

We see a C-5 Galaxy transport plane. The nose cone of the plane (the visor) is up as a line of trucks are being offloaded. The massive rear cargo bay doors are open.

RANDALL

Okay. I'm Dr. Mindy and this is-

CAPTAIN

Go! Go! Go!

He ushers them towards the massive plane.

RANDALL

Is there any customary seating--

INT. C-5 GALAXY PLANE - HOURS LATER

Kate and Randall sit in the vacant back of the plane. It's like two football fields and is completely empty except for the two of them.

EXT. C-5 IN THE SKY - NIGHT TO DAY

EXT. JOINT BASE ANACOSTIA BOLLING - 7 HOURS LATER - 11 AM

C-5 lands.

Kate and Randall emerge from the open back of the huge plane to BLINDING LIGHT.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE - 30 MINUTES LATER - DAY

Randall and Kate, both pulling their bags on wheels walk down a hallway and catch Dr. Oglethorpe and AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES, 61, a straight ahead General with a permanent resting smirk, mid-conversation.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
Brendan?

DR. OGLETHORPE
Yeah, Brendan.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
Brendan. Oh you'd think he was--
It's all politics Teddy.

Randall and Kate walk up.

DR. OGLETHORPE
You must be Randall and Kate. I'm
Dr. Oglethorpe but you can call me
Teddy.

RANDALL
I'm sorry, did you say your name
was....I should call you Teddy?

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
Yeah, you know we call him Teddy
because he ain't no Teddy Bear.
General Themes, I'm the Pentagon's
eyes on whatever this turns out to
be.

Everyone shakes hands.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES (CONT'D)
The President is famously late. And
you've had a long flight so.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE - LATER - DAY

Randall, Kate, Dr. Oglethorpe and General Themes sit waiting
in the hall outside the Oval Office.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
Michigan State...Spartans.

Kate nods.

KATE
Is that the oval office?

She points directly across from them.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
Yeah, that's the Oval Office, yeah.
It's a lot smaller than it is in
pictures.

DR. OGLETHORPE
The President should be here
shortly. She's already been
briefed, correct Scott?

General Themes nods.

Kate whispers to Randall.

KATE
Are we really about to tell the
President of the United States that
we have just over six months before
mankind and pretty much all life on
planet earth are completely
destroyed?

RANDALL
That's exactly what we're about to
do.

Kate motions for the WASTEBASKET and BEGINS TO THROW UP.

MAIN TITLE: **DON'T LOOK UP**

INT. WHITE HOUSE HALLWAY - A FEW HOURS LATER

Kate, Randall, Dr. Oglethorpe and Air Force General Themes
are waiting... and waiting.

Finally a crisp and purposeful entourage makes it way around
the corner.

IT'S THE PRESIDENT and her ADVISORS with Secret Service
Detail.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Yes, I said law enforcement, but I
didn't want...You told me that he
was clean.

The foursome stands to greet the President.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Hello Madam President. I'm Doctor
Oglethorpe. I believe Jocelyn told
you-

But THE PRESIDENT WALKS RIGHT PAST THEM and into the Oval
Office.

DR. OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)
Hey, Jason? Jason?

A trailing advisor JASON, 33, is closing the doors.

JASON
What up yo?

DR. OGLETHORPE
C'mon Man. What the hell Jason?
This is real world.

JASON
Yeah, I know we need five minutes.
We're having a problem with our
Supreme Court Nominee. Five
minutes. Thank you.

OVAL OFFICE DOORS CLOSE.

INT. WHITE HOUSE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The foursome sits back down. They wait and wait.

THREE ASSISTANTS sing happy birthday to an assistant and
leave balloons on the desk.

They continue to wait. Kate scrolls through her phone.

KATE
There's a bunch of stuff about
their Nominee not being
qualified... But I don't see any
articles about our... thing.

Dr. Oglethorpe checks his phone too.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Social media's going on and on
about that singer Riley Bina and DJ
Chello breaking up... That's too
bad... They seem like sweet kids.

RANDALL

I don't know them. But that's a shame. Kate do you know them?

KATE

Yes. But I really don't give a shit right now.

Air Force General Themes returns from the coffee station with bags of Cheez-bits and bottled waters.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES

Sorry but they charge an arm and leg for this stuff. Ten a piece should do it.

RANDALL

Of course... I've got Kate as well. Here's a twenty.

Randall gives him a twenty. Dr. Oglethorpe gives him a twenty as well.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Do you have change?

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES

No. But I can ask the Marine at the-

DR. OGLETHORPE

Forget it.

After a beat of eating, Randall reaches into his jacket pocket and takes out a pill. He bites the tip off and swallows with water. Kate looks at him.

RANDALL

It's a Xanax. I can only take a quarter or otherwise I get-

Kate takes the rest of the pill and dry swallows it.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Kate!

KATE

(mouths)

Thank you.

RANDALL

You know, you should be careful with that much.

INT. WHITE HOUSE HALLWAY - LATER

Shadows get long through the windows and eventually the OFFICE LIGHTS COME ON.

SFX: Air Force General Themes' phone alarm goes off.

He immediately starts packing up his belongings.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
I'm very sorry. But I have to be in
Okinawa by two o'clock tomorrow.

KATE
Really? Are you serious? This
is...very important.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES
I have to go quell the natives.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Tell your daughter I said hi.

They stand, shake hands and the General exits.

Dr. Oglethorpe, Kate and Randall sit back down and wait more.

It's now fully dark outside.

Kate gets up and walks down the hallway.

There's a coffee station with bottled water and snacks. She grabs a bottle and a bag of chips. An OFFICE WORKER is there.

KATE
Excuse me, where do I pay for this?

OFFICE WORKER
It's free.

KATE
Really?

OFFICE WORKER
Yes. It's the White House.

Kate returns to Randall and Dr. Oglethorpe.

KATE
The snacks are free.

DR. OGLETHORPE
What?

KATE

The General. He charged us for the snacks, but they're free.

RANDALL

Oh gosh...

KATE

Why on earth would he do that?!

SUDDENLY THE OVAL OFFICE DOORS OPEN and the staff member from earlier, JASON, pops out.

JASON

Hey Peeps. It's looking like it's not happening tonight and I feel horrible, so we're gonna put you up in a hotel somewhere-

RANDALL

Excuse me! Does the President know why we're here?

He's already closed the door.

KATE

You gotta be fucking kidding me?

RANDALL

They must not know why we're here!

DR. OGLETHORPE

No, they know, they know. But you heard him. Be ready for tomorrow guys.

RANDALL

Do they know how long it took for us to get here?

CUT TO:

EXT. HACIENDA COURTS MOTEL - WASHINGTON, DC - LATER THAT NIGHT

It's a rainy night. The traffic is nasty and honking.

INT. KATE'S ROOM - WASHINGTON, DC - CONTINUOUS

Kate talks to her boyfriend PHILLIP KAJ, 28. INTERCUT.

KATE

And then they made us wait for seven hours. And they never even called us in. I couldn't believe it.

INT. WEBSITE OFFICES - MANHATTAN - SAME TIME

Phillip, still mad he didn't get into Yale, is in the offices of a news and culture website AUTOPSY. Despite the late hour, the open concept office is full. TVs and screens everywhere.

PHILLIP

Of course they didn't call you in, Kate, have you watched any news today?

KATE

No. I've been pretty... wrapped up in our... project.

PHILLIP

Turn on your TV right now. President Orlean is in the middle of an all-time shit storm.

Kate does so. There's CVN coverage about the President's Supreme Court nominee. It also plays in Phillip's office.

ANCHOR 1

... Sheriff Wade Conlon was already a controversial nominee with no law degree and a record of shoot first and ask questions later but with his background as a nude life model in college now coming to light, the White House is in full crisis mode.

Kate stares at the tv in a daze.

PHILLIP

And get this, I found five former students willing to go on record that Conlon got noticeably aroused when he posed for their drawing classes.

INTERVIEW with SHERIFF CONLON, 60s, walking fast away from the cameras.

SHERIFF CONLON (SOT)

I have no shame in what I did!

PHILLIP

Should I say "noticeably aroused"
or "engorged?" I don't want this to
read like click bait. This is a
real article.

Kate doesn't respond

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

Kate can I get...something from
you?

KATE

I'm sorry, I'm just out of sorts
tonight.

PHILLIP

Can we just have this conversation
because I feel like we're skirting
around this whole thing. Do you
have an issue with my mom, is that
what all of this is about, because--

CUT TO:

INT. RANDALL'S ROOM - SAME TIME

Randall is on the phone while the TV plays a CELL PHONE
COMMERCIAL in the background an APPLE-like gravitas to it.

INT. MIDDLE CLASS HOME - LANSING, MICHIGAN - DAY

Randall's wife, JUNE, 40s, earthy yet sharp. She's clearly
the rock of the family. INTERCUT

INT. MIDDLE CLASS HOME - LANSING, MICHIGAN - DAY

Randall's wife, JUNE, 40s, earthy yet sharp. She's clearly
the rock of the family. INTERCUT

JUNE

And you can't tell me what's
happening?

RANDALL

It's just the protocol. Please
don't worry.

JUNE

Oh! Marshall got a 180 on his LSATs
and we're celebrating.

We see their sons EVAN, early 20s and MARSHALL, mid 20s who both look and carry themselves exactly like Randall.

RANDALL

Way to go Marshall! I'm proud of you buddy!

MARSHALL

Thanks Dad! Miss you!

RANDALL

How's Evan feeling? Are the new meds working out?

EVAN

I'm a solid four!

JUNE

He's a solid four!

RANDALL

Well, that's uh, better than last month, right!

JUNE

Just remember to speak up in the meeting. You know get so quiet when it's time to take credit.

INT. KATE'S ROOM - WASHINGTON, DC

Kate and Phillip are not in a full blown fight.

PHILLIP

--She asked if you were a lesbian. She did not say that you WERE a lesbian. It was a question-

KATE

Look, can I sit down to have lunch with your mom in like....7 months?

PHILLIP

7 months?! That's weirdly specific and distant!

CUT TO:

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - WASHINGTON DC - THE NEXT AFTERNOON

INT. OVAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Randall, his leg moving nervously, Dr. Oglethorpe and Kate sit in the Oval Office across from PRESIDENT JANIE ORLEAN, 60s.

President Orlean has bright blonde statement hair, remnants of a Long Island accent and behind her dozens of copies of her best selling "HOW TO MANAGE YOUR MONEY EVEN WHEN YOU HAVE NONE."

Her Chief of Staff who we met yesterday, son Jason is there along with TWO OTHER AIDES in their 70s.

The President checks her phone and texts for a long beat while everyone waits. Finally she puts it down and addresses the room.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Okay, I heard there's something about an asteroid or a comet you don't like the looks of. Tell me about it and then tell me why you're telling me about it. You've got twenty minutes.

RANDALL

Twenty minutes?

Teddy Oglethorpe looks at Randall.

DR. OGLETHORPE

That's you Doc. Go.

Randall is very nervous.

RANDALL

Okay... okay, um, Madame President. Approximately, 36 hours ago PhD graduate student, Kate Dibiasky here... discovered a very large comet.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

(to Kate)

Oh! Good for you.

RANDALL

A comet 5-10 kilometers across, that we estimate came from the Oort cloud, the outer part of the solar system.

He pauses. Looks at his notes. Randall's hand shakes a little as he looks at his notes.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

And uh, using Gauss' method of orbital determination and the average astrometric uncertainty of 0.04 arcseconds...

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Whoah, whoah. What the hell?

JASON

I am so bored. Just tell us what it is.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Knock that shit off.

JASON

Seriously, stop.

KATE

(cuts to the quick)

What Dr. Mindy is trying to say is that there is a comet headed directly towards earth.

He lays out the photos highlighting the blurry "streak." The President and Jason examine the pictures.

KATE (CONT'D)

According to NASA's computers this object will hit the Pacific Ocean a sixty two miles due west off the coast of Chile.

JASON

And then what happens? A tidal wave?

RANDALL

No, it will be far more catastrophic. There will be mile-high tsunamis, fanning out all across the globe. If this comet makes impact, it will have the power of a billion Hiroshima bombs. There will be magnitude 10 or 11 earthquakes-

JASON

You're stressing me out! You're breathing weird. It's just making me uncomfortable.

RANDALL

I'm sorry. I'm just trying to articulate the science.

JASON

I know but it's like sooo stressful. I'm like tryin' to listen-

RANDALL

I don't think you understand the gravity of this situation. I'm trying to articulate it the best I can.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Madame President, this comet is what we call a planet killer.

RANDALL

That is correct.

President Orlean takes this all in.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

So how certain is this?

RANDALL

There is basically 100% certainty of impact.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Please don't say 100%.

AIDE #2

Can we just call it a potentially significant event.

KATE

But it's not "potentially" going to happen. It is going to happen.

RANDALL

Exactly, 99.78 percent to be exact.

JASON

Oh, great! So it's not 100%.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Scientists never like to say 100%.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Call it 70% and let's move on.

KATE
It's not even close to seventy percent.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
You can't go around to people telling them there's a 100% chance that they are going to die.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN (CONT'D)
And we should get our own scientists on this. No offense, but you're just two people who walked in here with...

DR. OGLETHORPE
Dr. Oglethorpe.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Dr. Ogilvy.

DR. OGLETHORPE
I've been head of Planetary Defense at NASA for fifteen year. And Dr. Mindy is a tenured Professor of astronomy at Michigan State where Ms. Dibiasky is a doctoral candidate.

JASON
I'm sorry, did you say Michigan State?

DR. OGLETHORPE
They have an excellent astronomy department.

JASON
Come on bro...

KATE
Are you serious? Do you want to see my goddam SAT scores?

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Okay, let's bottom line this. What is this gonna cost me? What's the ask here?

DR. OGLETHORPE

There are government plans in place. Actions we can take through NASA. Drones that can be outfitted with nukes to deflect and hopefully change the orbit of this comet. But we must act now.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Alright, alright, let me think here... When are the midterms?...

JASON

Three weeks.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Three weeks. If this breaks before then we could lose Congress and then there's nothing we can do about this anyway.

JASON

It'll be gridlock.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Exactly, the timing...it's atrocious.

(breath)

At this exact moment... I say we sit tight and assess.

RANDALL

Sit tight and assess?

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

And let's get some Ivy Leaguers, no offense. And we will review the NASA plans.

DR. OGLETHORPE

I'd greatly appreciate it.

KATE

Am I to understand correctly that with all the information you've received today, you're making the decision to "sit tight and assess?"

The President is barely paying attention as she searches drawer after drawer in her office.

JASON
 Seriously. Who is she?

KATE
 Who are you? Aren't you her son?

JASON
 I'm the Chief of Staff, Boy with a Dragon Tattoo, so I'm doin' fine!

KATE
 (whispers to Randall)
 This place is a freak show.

RANDALL
 I think what Ms. Dibiasky is trying to say is that the idea of sitting tight is an extremely dangerous idea.

President Orlean discovers a pack of smokes in her desk.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
 Oh! Oh!
 (looks up to the heavens)
 Thank you!
 (back to the room)
 Well at least one good thing happened today!

She pulls out a cigarette and lights it.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN (CONT'D)
 Funny story, when I ran for President I had to sneak cigarettes for the first month of the campaign. Photographs of me smoking were going for a hundred grand a shot. So I'm always hiding. But you know what? I got sick of it and I just said, I'm gonna smoke whenever I want to! And guess what happened? I went up three points in the polls.

JASON
 People loved that she kept it real. They loved watching a smoke-show, smoke! I can't think of another President that I'd want to see in Playboy.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Do you know how many "the world is ending meetings" that we've had over the years? Economic collapse, loose nukes, car exhaust killing the atmosphere, rogue A.I.

JASON

Drought, famine, plagues, population growth, the hole in the ozone, the rapture, alien invasion...

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Jason, hey! That's enough. Read the room for once in your life.

JASON

Sorry, Mom.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

(exhales a giant plume of smoke)

The point is... I have a job to do.

RANDALL

You do understand that this is an apocalyptic event? This is a large celestial body headed towards our earth.

President Orlean makes her way over to Randall.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Dr. Mindy, I hear you! I hear you. You should be proud.

RANDALL

Thank you.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

I'm taking it very seriously. I'm taking it straight in the heart.

RANDALL

I am so glad to hear that. I am so glad.

They all stand to leave.

JASON

Hey gang, obviously everything we talked about in here is classified.

Jason motions to fist bump Kate.

JASON (CONT'D)
(to Kate)
Thanks for dressing up!

CUT TO:

INT. WASHINGTON UNION STATION - 40 MINUTES LATER

Kate and Randall followed by Teddy speed through the DC train station pulling their bags towards their track. Kate finishes a call on her cell phone.

RANDALL
So you're saying we're just going to leak it to the press? Isn't that illegal?

DR. OGLETHORPE
Hell yes, we're going to leak it. In case you didn't notice, the White House just blew us off.

KATE
My boyfriend Phillip says he knows a reporter from the New York Herald we can talk to. "Adul Grelio."

DR. OGLETHORPE
Good. That guy's a heavy hitter. And I'll reach out to more of the scientific community on the down low.

They're getting on the train.

RANDALL
I just feel like this isn't what I do.

DR. OGLETHORPE
You're just telling a story! Keep it simple! And no math!

RANDALL
But it's all math!

Train doors close.

CUT TO:

INT. GIANT CONVENTION CENTER - SAN FRANCISCO - DAY

A 10 STORY SCREEN SHOWS the ceiling of the SISTINE CHAPEL.
PUSH IN TO GOD'S HAND TOUCHING ADAM'S.

MUSIC: BASH THEME

LIEV SCHREIBER (V.O.)
It all started with a connection...
A simple gesture that created so
much.

GOD'S HAND TURNS revealing a CELL PHONE.

LIEV SCHREIBER (V.O.)
So many choices. Sometimes it can
even feel like too much. Until now.

THE CELL PHONE GLOWS and then Adam's hand turns revealing a
SECOND CELL PHONE. PUSH IN TO THE SCREEN to see the texted
words "Let There Be Life. BASH Liif."

LIEV SCHREIBER (V.O.)
Introducing BASH Liif. Liif without
the stress of living.

The CROWD of 5 thousand TECH CONFERENCE attendees applauds
heartily.

FEMALE ANCR (V.O.)
Before we introduce the founder and
CEO of BASH, please remember to
avoid direct eye contact, sudden
movements, coughing, or negative
facial expressions. And now, Sir
Peter Isherwell.

THREE CHILDREN (AGES 8-9 African American, Asian American and
Caucasian) enter the stage with Peter Isherwell, an ageless
optimistic yet very shy man in a windbreaker.

PETER ISHERWELL
Hello everyone. All of my work has
been driven by the inexpressable
need for a friend who would
understand of a friend to
understand and sooth me.
And you know, all those years of
work have come to fruition... with
BASH Liif.
Our new BASH 14 point three phone
is fully integrated into your every
feeling and desire without you
needing to say one single word.

Peter and the children hold up the new cell phone.

PETER ISHERWELL (CONT'D)
If I feel...

CHILD 1
Sad.

CHILD 2
Afraid.

CHILD 3
Or alone.

PETER ISHERWELL
...the BASH 14 point three phone
when set to Liif setting, instantly
senses my mood through blood
pressure, heart rates and-

PHONE VOICE (V.O.)
Your vitals show that you are sad.
This will cheer you up Peter.

"Here, this will cheer you up..." appears on the screen and a
VT of a puppy riding a rooster.

PETER ISHERWELL
...It also schedules a therapy
session with a nearby professional
so we can make sure this sad
feeling doesn't return.

CHILD 2
May I say something Mr. Isherwell.

PETER ISHERWELL
No.

All of these functions play out on the screen behind him.

PETER ISHERWELL (CONT'D)
And to support BASH Liif I would
like to officially announce...

SMASH CUT:

INT. BACKSTAGE - 20 MINUTES LATER

Isherwell and the children exit to the backstage. A Junior
Executive, LINDA, takes their phones.

LINDA DICALIO
Give me the phones they're not
yours.

KIDS
Bye Mr. Isherwell... Bye Peter.

CHILD 2
I love you, Peter.

PETER ISHERWELL
(ignores the children)
Are we sure the video of the little
girl singing is optimizing our pre-
pubescent sense memory consumer
sector? I find the bird quite
threatening.

EXECUTIVE
We'll cross check the data on that
for sure.

Linda pulls Isherwell aside.

LINDA DICALIO
Mr. Isherwell, Paul Debent wanted
me to give you this. He got it from
an astronomer friend of his in
Mexico.

She hands him a PICTURE OF THE BLURRY COMET with "Direct hit"
handwritten on it.

PETER ISHERWELL
Oh my.

INT. NEW YORK HERALD OFFICE

Now Randall and Kate are in a conference room at the Herald
with the CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS, 51, two of the OWNERS and
journalist ADUL GRILIO, 47, handsome and international.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS
What other confirmation do we have
on this Adul?

ADUL GRELIO
I've spoken to Dr. Oglethorpe in
DC. He confirmed it and all the
math. Plus I showed it to Dr.
Franks at Columbia and he almost
fell out of his chair.

(MORE)

ADUL GRELIO (CONT'D)

So I have to admit, I was very skeptical at first but this is all quite credible.

RANDALL

The calculations are all credible.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

Jesus. And the President really said to sit tight?

RANDALL

Yes, that's correct.

KATE

Sit tight and assess.

MRS. TANKEN

She's probably worried about the midterms.

The other owner BENJAMIN, 38, chimes in.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

We need to move fast. The Feds will claim breach of security so make sure these two get a pro bono attorney.

MRS. TANKEN

You can use my attorney.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

You can certainly afford it now.

RANDALL

(to Kate)

We have to hire a lawyer now?

Mrs. Tanken and Chief Editor begin bickering.

MRS. TANKEN

That wasn't necessary.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

I think it was.

Randal interjects.

RANDALL

I'm sorry!

MRS. TANKEN

That was not called for.

RANDALL

I'M SORRY! How is it criminal if we just tell people, like the public, what we saw? And tell them the truth.

BENJAMIN

(re: Randall)

Make sure this one gets some kind of media training before he hits the shows. He seems a step slow.

RANDALL

What does that mean I need media training? What does tha-

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET - 20 MINUTES LATER

Kate and Randall followed by Phillip, Kate's boyfriend, are pulling their bags and looking for the Westin Hotel.

RANDALL

(reading his texts)

They want us on a show called The Daily Rip first thing in the morning tomorrow when the article comes out. What is the Daily Rip?

Phillip is now hunched over and hyperventilating.

PHILLIP

It's the best show. Everyone wants to be on it. Brie and Jack, they have legendary chemistry. They asked me to go on it and I couldn't sleep for two nights I was so excited. But they cut me for time. It still hurts to think about it.

RANDALL

I know what show you're talking about. My wife loves that show.

PHILLIP

Can you just tell me what this is all about? Because you haven't read my article about Conlon getting hard in the art class, and now Adul Grelio has come down from his mountain top for your thing and you won't even give me a lousy pronoun.

Kate stops suddenly.

KATE

A comet bigger than the asteroid
that killed the dinosaurs is headed
directly at earth. If it isn't
deflected the entire planet dies.

Phillip is stunned. A PASSERBY stops.

PASSERBY

What did you just say?

KATE

It's for a video game.

Passerby moves on.

PHILLIP

Are you being serious?

KATE

Yes.

PHILLIP

Oh my god.

Phillip hyperventilates and starts to walk into the street
where he is almost hit by a car. Kate pulls him back.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

Oh my god! What the fuck man?

RANDALL

(on his phone)

I love you too. Alright. Yeah.

(to Kate and Phillip)

Hey guys, we gotta keep walking.

EXT. SPACE - SAME TIME

THERE IS A BLINKING LIGHT MAYBE A COMET IN THE DISTANCE
growing larger at an astonishing rate. Suddenly the light is
upon us in a BLINDING MASSIVE FLASH.

WAVES crash against a giant rock. A lizard picks away at its
skin. A hummingbird gets nectar from a flower.

EXT. NY CITY STREETS

Two garbage men collect trash from the street and toss it in
the truck.

EXT. MIDTOWN MANHATTAN - THE NEXT DAY

A 30 Rock type building. People bustling everywhere. A TOWN CAR pulls up and Randall and Kate get out. They are greeted by a TALENT P.A.

TALENT P.A.

You must be Dr. Mindy and Ms. Dibiasky. Jack and Brie are so excited to have you on the show.

RANDALL

Really? They know who we are?

INT. NEW YORK HERALD OFFICE - SAME TIME

The Chief Editor Paula Woods sits in her office with Adul Grelio.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

The White House is denying they even met with them.

ADUL GRELIO

Assholes will always be assholes.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - SAME TIME

Randall and Kate are led to the makeup room. The hallway is bustling. A tray of raw meat passes by. A poster hangs advertising the show "Secretly Poor."

A groomer greets them.

GROOMER THALIA

Hi I'm Thalia. The Herald sent me to help with your wardrobe.

She holds up two fashionable outfits.

KATE

Oh, I'm not wearing that.

They sit in the hair and makeup chairs.

HAIR PERSON

(to Randall)

You actually have a great facial structure. What if we trim this beard down a little bit.

(to Kate)

I love your hair.

KATE

Thank you.

(to Randall)

Ok, so how are we going to do this?
I'll talk about the discovery and
you talk about how urgent it is
that we take action-

RANDALL

(whispers)

How...how...how do we say it? I
mean, shouldn't we practice it or
write it out beforehand?

He's opening another FedEx package and takes a nibble of a pill.

KATE

So I'll start by describing the
comet discovery and then you talk
about what it means and how urgent
it is to take action.

RANDALL

But how do we... you know, how do
we say it? Shouldn't we practice
it... or write it out beforehand?

HAIR PERSON

How about some water?

RANDALL

Yeah, some water would be great

Randall begins to panic and recites calming phrases and tongue twisters to calm himself.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

You are here now. You are here now.
Eleven benevolent elephants. Eleven
benevolent elephants. Eleven
benevolent elephants.

Randall pulls out another xanax.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

I'm just gonna take some xanax. I
take it sometimes when I-

Kate sees an opportunity and grabs for the xanax.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Kate not this time. Not this time.

INT. LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

June Mindy, Randall's wife and his two sons are up early eating eggs and waiting for the Daily Rip to start.

JUNE

He just needs to breathe. And speak up. You know?

MARSHALL

He's got this. I know he does.

INT. STUDIO BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Randall is in the bathroom with his outfit having a full-on panic attack and taking deliberate deep breaths trying to calm down.

RANDALL

(groans)
Oh god.

Randall begins splashing water on his face.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

You are here now... You are here now...You are here now.

He goes for a paper towel that is stuck and begins to fight the machine.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

We meet our hosts: JACK BREMMER, 48, in the know but also a bit charmingly dumb and BRIE EVANTEE, 45.

JACK BREMMER

You gotta stop drinking the cheap shit.

BRIE EVANTEE

It was only two glasses.

JACK BREMMER

Yeah, two and half.

A studio manager

STUDIO MANAGER

Alright we're twenty out, let's make sure on our eyelines.

(MORE)

STUDIO MANAGER (CONT'D)
That we're not looking at Jack and
Brie. And...cue the package.

OPENING VT PACKAGE FOR THE DAILY RIP PLAYS

Brie gets a last look from Jack.

BRIE EVANTEE
(adjusting her breasts)
Ladies ok?

JACK BREMMER
(to Brie)
Yes.
(to camera)
Aw Brie, I've got something for you
today. Listen to this. President
Orlean's Supreme Court nominee
Sheriff Conlon has now been
identified as appearing in a soft
core porn cable show from the early
90s...

INT. LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

Randall's family watches the Daily Rip.

MARSHALL
That's Ridiculous.

INT. GREEN ROOM - SAME TIME

Randall, groomed and in his new stylish clothes, and Kate are
seated and waiting their turn. There's a YOUNG SINGER WITH AN
ENTOURAGE also in the room. This is RILEY BINA, 25.

RANDALL
(whispers to Kate)
Is that Riley Bina?

Kate quietly nods.

RANDALL (CONT'D)
Really?! She looks a lot smaller in
person.

INT. CRAPPY APARTMENT - WASHINGTON DC - SAME TIME

Teddy is having coffee with the Daily Rip on the TV while
petting his cat.

INT. GREEN ROOM - SAME TIME

A STAGE MANAGER pops in.

STAGE MANAGER

Hey Everyone. I'm Sean from the show. We're gonna do, well Jack and Brie are gonna do like 10 on the SCOTUS nominee. Then Riley Bina, you come on...

RILEY BINA

And I can talk about my new single right? A portion of the profits goes to manatee sanctuaries.

STAGE MANAGER

Yes, but the break up first. And then Dr. Mindy and Ms. Dibiasky you both come on to talk about the planet you discovered.

RANDALL

Comet. We found a comet.

KATE

They know what we're here to talk about right?

STAGE MANAGER

Of course. Jack and Brie love doing science segments. Just remember keep it light, fun. Jack and Brie love to have a good time.

Stage Manager exits.

RILEY BINA

You guys discovered a comet? That's so dope. I have a tattoo of a shooting star on my back.

RANDALL

That's terrific.

Long awkward pause. Randall can't help himself.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

We heard about your break up too. We just want to say we're very sorry, right? We're very sorry you seem like a great person.

RILEY BINA
 Why don't you mind your own
 business you old fuck.

RANDALL
 Oh. Okay.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - 30 MINUTES LATER

Jack and Brie are interviewing Riley Bina.

RILEY BINA
 I'm not gonna lie, but my friends
 and my Vroom Vroom Army have been
 so amazing, so... I'm really
 grateful for that, but I can't lie
 it's been hard.

BRIE EVANTEE
 You're an inspiration. You're
 really owning that pain. You know
 Jack, I feel like there's some kind
 of conversation that we need to be
 having. Is there any message you
 want to send to your ex DJ Chello?

RILEY BINA
 You know...

JACK BREMMER
 If there's something you want to
 say let's say it right into this
 camera. Just tell him. As if that
 was him, you tell him exactly what
 you're thinking.

RILEY BINA
 Ok, um...Chell... I still love
 you... and after a lot of sleepless
 nights...three. I want to take you
 back.

BRIE EVANTEE
 I'm sorry, wha-

RILEY BINA
 Is that ok?

INT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

June and her sons are watching. One of the sons is on Social
 media.

JUNE

Oh my god, you guys..

EVAN

Diddly just exploded. So did Vroom
Vroom.

MARSHALL

Wait, BASH News just gave me 8 push
notifications. And my phone
purchased DJ Chello's latest
single. Without even asking. It
just did that.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - SAME TIME

JACK BREMMER (SOT)

I've just been told we have DJ
Chello live on a Mugg link!

DJ CHELLO is on a Skype type link.

DJ CHELLO (SOT)

(tearing up)

Hey baby doll, your kid messed up
bad. Lady Baroque wasn't wearing
panties in the club that night. I
just wasn't thinking straight....
and I made a mistake. But it's you,
it's always been you.

RILEY BINA

I get it. It's ok. I hooked up with
her too at the Music Globes last
year, right before I ran off with
that power forward from the
Nuggets. And none of that matters.

INT. AUTOPSY OFFICES - SAME TIME

Phillip watches the TV in the packed office.

DAMAIN

What about "Forget break up sex,
try a break up relationship?"

AUTOPSY EDITOR

Oh that's good.

PHILLIP
 (can't help himself)
 10 Famous Second Chances for Two
 Timers, guys!

AUTOPSY EDITOR
 Oh, there we go.

PHILLIP
 It's on a plate!

Phillip glances nervously at the TV.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - SAME TIME

DJ CHELLO
 I was scared, but honestly I'm not
 scared anymore. My little bumble
 bee, will you marry me?

RILEY BINA
 Oh my god, of course!

DJ CHELLO
 Yes!!

RILEY BINA
 Chel, of course. That's sick.

INT. TEDDY'S APARTMENT - WASHINGTON DC - SAME TIME

Teddy is petting his cat.

DR. OGLETHORPE
 Alright...DJ Chello.

INT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

Notifications are popping up on all their phones.

MARSHALL
 It just bought another.

JUNE
 Who are these people again?

MARSHALL
 Mom they're like the biggest names
 in--

INT. DAILY RIP - SAME TIME

Jack and Brie recovering from the proposal. Randall and Kate wait in the wings.

BRIE EVANTEE

Wow. The fireworks have certainly gone off today...

JACK BREMMER

Yes, they have. From a wedding proposal to a little science experiment, I'm gonna need a temple rub and a martini.

BRIE EVANTEE

Well, our last guests...

STAGE MANAGER cues Randall and Kate to take their seats.

STAGE MANAGER

(whispering)

Go, go, go!

BRIE EVANTEE

...have made a pretty big discovery in space. Astronomer Dr. Randall Mindy and PHD candidate Ms. Kate Dibiasky are here. Welcome.

JACK BREMMER

Can I just ask one thing before we go any further: is there life out there? Yes or no? Final answer.

RANDALL

Well we don't have the data.

(being playful)

But sure. Why not. In the vastness of space, sure, aliens are real.

Kate gives Randall a quick sideways glance.

JACK BREMMER

See I knew it. I knew I would like this guy! See you owe me fifty bucks.

BRIE EVANTEE

Please don't encourage him Dr. Mindy. We'll never get out of here. Now, Jack was having some fun here..

INT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

June and their sons watch their Dad.

EVAN

Dad looks great. Doesn't he look good?

MARSHALL

They did something with his beard.

JUNE

He really does!

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

BRIE EVANTEE

Now Jack was having some fun about the aliens, whatever, but I'm told there's a New York Herald story that has just come out that talks about a very serious discovery you two have made.

INT. TEDDY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Teddy watches nervous

DR. OGLETHORPE

Keep it right there, you're doing good.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

RANDALL

That's right Brie. Kate was observing supernovas on the Subaru optical telescope..

INT. AUTOPSY - CONTINUOUS

DAMAIN

Is that your girl?

Phillip nods.

DAMAIN (CONT'D)

Not bad.

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

RANDALL

...when she made a breathtaking and once in a lifetime discovery.

JACK BREMMER

I had no idea that Suburu made telescopes.

BRIE EVANTEE

Incredible.

JACK BREMMER

So this is really exciting. Tell us what you found Ms. Dibiasky...

KATE

(a little awkward)

Well, I was monitoring exploding stars... to help measure the measurement expansion of the universe-

BRIE EVANTEE

For your PhD...

KATE

Right. But I saw something I didn't recognize. It was a comet. A big one. And it's headed directly at earth. And it very likely will hit.

JACK BREMMER

This sounds very, very exciting. Exploding stars. Like stars actually explode? Now how big is this thing? Could it destroy someone's house? Is that possible?

RANDALL

Well Comet Dibiasky, which is what it will officially be named-

JACK BREMMER

After her?

RANDALL

Yeah after her.

JACK BREMMER

Alright, Congratulations!

BRIE EVANTEE

Oh! Congratulations!!

RANDALL

It's somewhere between 6 and 9 kilometers across. So, it would damage the entire planet. Much more than a house.

JACK BREMMER

The entire planet. Ok, so while it's damaging that, can it hit this one house in particular, that's just off the coast of New Jersey? It's my ex-wife's house. I just need it to be hit. Can we make that happen?

Brie hits his arm playfully.

BRIE EVANTEE

Come on! You and Shelly have a great friendship! Stop! You need to Stop!

JACK BREMMER (CONT'D)

In fairness I did pay for the house the comet would hit!

BRIE EVANTEE (CONT'D)

I apologize for him. He's terrible!

KATE

(interrupting)

I'm sorry... Are we not being clear! We're trying to tell you that the entire planet is about to be destroyed.

BRIE EVANTEE

It's something we do around here to keep the bad news light.

JACK BREMMER

Helps the medicine go down. And speaking of medicine, tomorrow we've got a-

KATE

Well maybe the destruction of the entire planet isn't supposed to be fun.

Everyone stops.

KATE (CONT'D)

Maybe it's supposed to be terrifying... and upsetting...and maybe we're supposed to stay up all night every night crying...

(MORE)

KATE (CONT'D)
when we're all 100% for sure going
to fucking die!

She storms off.

RANDALL
Hey Kate-

KATE
Sorry!

There is a long silence.

INT. AUTOPSY - CONTINUOUS

Phillip and Damain stare at the tv horrified.

DAMAIN
Hey man, my brother has bipolar
disorder. If you ever need to talk
to anyone-

INT. DAILY RIP - SAME TIME

BRIE EVANTEE
Is she always like that? Was it
something I said?

Randall is totally on the spot. Finally after a painful beat
he opens his mouth...

RANDALL
Maybe I should have given her that
extra Xanax that I had.

Jack, Brie and the crew ERUPT INTO LAUGHTER.

JACK BREMMER
Listen, if you don't have enough,
we all have enough around here!

BRIE EVANTEE
A spoonful of Xanax helps the
medicine go down!

JASON
That's right! That's good.

Brie gives Randall a quick intrigued glance.

BRIE EVANTEE
We're gonna have to get you back.
(to the studio)
Is he a plant?!

JACK BREMMER
I knew I'd like this guy. I knew
it!

BRIE EVANTEE
The handsome astronomer can come
back anytime. Yelling lady, not so
much.

JACK BREMMER
Join us tomorrow when our guest
will be the man who many say will
challenge President Orlean in two
years, Senator Jeff Lerner.

BRIE EVANTEE
And wrongly convicted murderer
Michelle Weems talks to us about
her third place finish on Celebrity
Dance Off.

JACK BREMMER
I thought she should have won. I
really did.

BRIE EVANTEE
And I still think she's guilty.

JACK BREMMER
That's the Daily Rip guys!

BRIE EVANTEE
Have a great day!

STAGE MANAGER
And we're out!

Everyone stands up and pulls off their mics.

RANDALL
That's it? Did what we wanted to
say get across?

JACK BREMMER
Yeah, yeah, you were great. But I
think mullet girl she probably
needs some media training.

RANDALL

Really?

JACK BREMMER

Yeah, terrible buddy.

BRIE EVANTEE

We usually get drinks at Aundrine's after our 5 o'clock staff meeting. You know, it's fun! You should come.

RANDALL

Oh I'll have to see. Thank you for the invitation.

She gives him a hard look and then exits. The Groomer from the Herald is there.

GROOMER THALIA

You were awesome. Can I take a picture of you for my portfolio?

RANDALL

Of course.

She takes his picture.

GROOMER THALIA

Thank you!

INT. NEW YORK HERALD OFFICE - AN HOUR LATER - AFTERNOON

Randall, Kate, Adul, Chief Editor Paula Woods and the Herald's MEDIA QUANT go through the numbers on a giant computer screen.

MEDIA QUANT

You can see this spike here is when Riley Bina asked to take DJ Chello back on the segment before you. We saw engagement across all social media platforms.

RANDALL

What about our story?

MEDIA QUANT

Randall and Kate your TV appearance got some nice traffic when Ms. Dibiasky cursed. But unfortunately there was an immediate backlash that quickly became a meme...

Screen shows VT of Kate next to Charles Manson reading, "CRAZY. It's all in the eyes." Another meme of Kate's deformed face looking like a monster.

KATE

Jesus. They just think I'm crazy.

RANDALL

I mean look at that. That's so unnecessary.

Another meme of Kate screaming paired with a wet cat.

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

You can move on.

RANDALL

Is that even allowed?

Another meme of Kate eating a baby, captioned, "Delicious!"

RANDALL (CONT'D)

I think that's photo shop Kate.

MEDIA QUANT

Dr. Mindy on the other hand had very high favorables. VeganBabe wrote "Meooow. Me likey hunky Star Man" Some accounts called him "The Bedroom Eyes Doomsday Prophet" and "A.I.L.F." which means "Astronomer I'd Like to Fuck."

RANDALL

I don't see what that has to do with anything.

MEDIA QUANT

Annd that's everything. We did not feature or push on any sites. And clicks overall were below basic weather and traffic stories.

Beat.

RANDALL

So....that's it?

KATE

I knew it.

RANDALL

That's it!

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS
Thank you Erin.

The Media Quant packs up. They all wait until she leaves.

RANDALL
I don't understand. I don't
understand. Why aren't people
terrified! What do we have to say?
What do we have to do?

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS
Scientists in Mexico and Spain are
currently going through the data.
And South Korea has expressed
concern.

RANDALL
Oh that's great! South Korea.

ADUL GRELIO
Let's not bullshit each other.
Bottom line is you told us the
science was 100% and it's not. And
now we look like idiots.

RANDALL
No, no, you tell me who said the
science isn't 100%-

KATE
Excuse me?

RANDALL
I want to talk to this person. You
tell me who said the science isn't
100%.

ADUL GRELIO
Dr. Jocelyn Calder the head of NASA
just came out calling it "more near
miss astronomy hysteria."

KATE
She's the one who told us not to
tell anyone.

ADUL GRELIO
"More near miss hysteria!"

KATE
Is she even an astronomer?

ADUL GRELIO

She's the head of NASA but maybe she doesn't know what she's talking about.

RANDALL

(off his phone)

Yeah, she's the head of NASA but she's also a former anesthesiologist and a President Orlean super donor. It's all corrupt!

CHIEF EDITOR PAULA WOODS

The point is, Adul's right, there's still serious debate. And now the Herald has egg on its face.

ADUL GRELIO

We've taken this story as far as it goes. I wish you a very pleasant end of times.

Adul leaves.

RANDALL

It's not a goddam story ok?

Paula leaves as well. Kate and Randall are alone. Randall wipes makeup off his face with a tissue.

KATE

As of right now we have exactly six months, ten days, two hours, 11 minutes and 41 seconds, until a comet the size of downtown Denver rips through our atmosphere and extincts all life on earth.

RANDALL

When did you do those calculations?

Holds out her phone.

KATE

I put the moment of impact on a diet app. So impact is when my diet ends. Only I'm not on a diet, I'm just crying five times a day.

Kate begins to cry.

RANDALL
 Hey come on, come on, everyone
 should be panicking right now.
 Don't cry.

KATE
 I know...

A BASH push notification comes on her phone.

KATE (CONT'D)
 That prick.

We see an article on Autopsy "YOU KNOW THE CRAZY GIRL WHO
 THINKS WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE? I ACTUALLY SLEPT WITH HER." By
 Phillip Kaj.

Randall walks over to look at her phone.

RANDALL
 What happened?

KATE
 Well I guess my boyfriend just
 broke up with me.

RANDALL
 What a day.

Randall puts his arms around Kate as she continues to cry.

BASH graphics whoosh across the screen.

MONTAGE: Traffic jams on the freeway. Cells multiplying.
 People walking through Tokyo. An ant climbs on a twig.

KATE
 You're gonna die! And you're gonna
 die! And you're gonna die!

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE

A calm shot of planets in space. A large shadow darkens the
 view.

CUT TO:

INT. CVN CABLE NEWS STUDIO

BLACK.

WE HEAR THE AUDIO OF A MAJOR NEWS STORY FADING IN.

ANCHOR 2

It started with a photo many
thought was an armpit or the chin
of a man with a strange beard...
But what's emerging now is a
scandal that may rock the--

EXT. WHITE HOUSE LAWN - NIGHT

A reporter DALIA HENSFIELD, 43, in front of the White House
fence.

DALIA HENSFIELD (SOT)

--President Orlean sent her Supreme
Court nominee Sheriff Conlon a cell
phone picture of her private part.

SOCIAL MEDIA MONTAGE: Shots of citizens protesting. People
posting opinions on social media.

SARAH BENTERMAN

Isn't she the same person that said
if poor people don't want to be
poor they should pick better
Lottery numbers? She actually said
that!

DALIA HENSFIELD

The source also confirmed that the
pair have been having an affair for
years--

EXT. DC HOTEL - NIGHT

SENATOR LERNER getting into a car addresses the press in a
white collared shirt.

SENATOR LERNER

Members of my party are currently
drawing up a formal censure of the
President.

INT. DR. MINDY HOME - DAY

Randall is on his home computer arguing with people on Diddly
(Twitter). He has grown into his Daily Rip look nicely.

RANDALL

My God honey, this guy doesn't even know what a heliocentric orbit is and he's calling me a crackpot. He says Jewish billionaires invented the comet so the government can confiscate our liberty and our guns. #DontBeScared.

June passes by the doorway.

JUNE MINDY

You've been on that site a lot lately.

RANDALL

I've got over a quarter million subscribers. I've got to use my voice to get the truth out there, right?

JUNE

I'm going for a walk if you want to come.

RANDALL

(talks while typing)
It's called "the scientific method." It's what created the the computer you're typing your half witted conspiracy theories on. What do you think about that?

JUNE MINDY (O.C.)

Randall!

RANDALL

Yeah, honey?

JUNE MINDY

Someone is here to see you!

RANDALL

Who?

INT. THE MINDY LIVING ROOM - SECONDS LATER

Randall enters and there are SEVEN FBI AGENTS in his living room and TWO BLACK SEDANS WITH HOOD LIGHTS FLASHING ON HIS FRONT LAWN.

RANDALL

Oh gosh! Right. Ok.

FBI AGENT
Are you Dr. Randall Mindy?

RANDALL
Yes, sir, I am.

EXT. MICHIGAN STATE CAMPUS - SAME DAY, SAME TIME

Kate is jogging across campus. A COLLEGE GIRL hanging out with friends yells at her as she passes.

COLLEGE GIRL
(mocking)
"We're all going to die!!"

KATE
(like she's said it a 100
times)
Fuck off please!

Suddenly A PASSING STUDENT, A BLIND MAN WITH A CANE, A COFFEE VENDOR reveal they are undercover FBI, tackle her and draw guns on her.

FBI AGENTS
FBI! Freeze! Get on your knees
right now. Get on your knees! You
are under arrest for breach of
national security secrets!

KATE
(getting on the ground)
Jesus Christ! You could have just
called me! Or showed up to my
apartment.
(sees more agents)
What are you dressed up as a blind
guy?

EXT. "OFFICE 4 YOU" OFFICE BUILDING - D.C. - 1 HOUR LATER

Teddy Oglethorpe exits a rent by the day office space building holding his briefcase.

Suddenly THREE BLACK SEDANS screech up to the curb and FBI AGENTS point guns at him.

FBI AGENTS
FBI! Get down on the ground!

DR. OGLETHORPE

Okay... Be cool... I just have more skin pigmentation than you because your ancestors migrated to northern Europe and developed lighter skin so as not to get vitamin-

He slowly gets on the ground.

INT. BLACK SEDAN - SAME TIME

Kate is in the back seat of a black sedan driven by TWO FEDS. She has a HOOD OVER HER HEAD.

KATE

Unless you two assholes are taking me to the Bat Cave fuck you for putting this hood on me!

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - SIX HOURS LATER - NIGHT

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE OVAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Teddy Oglethorpe, Randall and Kate are seated in the hallway outside the Oval Office. Two SECRET SERVICE AGENTS stand guard.

Air Force General Themes, the General from their first White House visit walks by with TWO CONTRACTORS.

KATE

Watch out for him. He'll charge you for free shit.

Jason, President Orlean's son, peaks out of the Oval Office.

JASON

Gentleman, you can come in.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - TEN MINUTES LATER

President Orlean and Jason speak to Randall, Teddy and Kate. Dr. Calder is also there.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

I think it was Winston Churchill,
or maybe it was Bobby Knight, who
said the great labor of leadership
Look there are times as a leader is
to lay down ones yolk of pride and
admit, that mistakes were made.

She exhales a plume of smoke and dies out a cigarette.

JASON

You were deceived, as was I, but
the end result was, we had our
scientists who went to the
prestigious schools of Harvard and
Princeton and... they confirmed the
data. So we would like to offer you
a Presidential apology.

RANDALL

Really?

JASON

And we are fully prepared to
mobilize in an historic fashion to
save this planet.

Randall and Oglethorpe look to each other and let out a huge
sigh a huge relief. Everyone is celebrating.

KATE

So basically, what you're saying is-

DR. OGLETHORPE

Hey. There's no need. We all get-

KATE

- you're about to lose the midterms
because you got caught sending
pictures of your cooch to your porn
star Sheriff and now suddenly it's
to your advantage to act on the
comet?

Beat.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

(mocking)
Right...

KATE

(big exhale)
Ok.

(MORE)

KATE (CONT'D)

Ok, I'm just so relieved that you guys are finally doing something...This has been really really hard.

RANDALL

This has been really really stressful.

DR. OGLETHORPE

It's been a lot. I can agree.

Kate begins crying. Randall puts his hand on hers. Jason starts laughing at Kate.

JASON

Sorry, you just look so bad when you cry!

(to Jocelyn)

People are going to ask why we didn't act earlier so we need you to take the hit on this.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Yeah...but we'll take care of you down the road Jocelyn.

DR. CALDER

Of course Janie. I'll resign in disgrace first thing tomorrow.

KATE

(under her breath)

Well that's weird as hell.

RANDALL

Anesthesiologist.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

I am going to make a statement, a Presidential statement to the American people. We're not going to tell the press about it ahead of time, so it will have the quality of a breaking news.

INT. OHIO LIVING ROOM - TWO NIGHTS LATER

A MOM(40s) AND HER TEEN DAUGHTER (14) watch TV. THE BACHELOR type show they're watching is interrupted.

CLOSE UP: TV SCREEN: PRESIDENTIAL SEAL

ANCR (V.O.)

We interrupt this broadcast of
Jackpot Fiancé for an emergency
message from the President of the
United States.

EXT. WW 2 BATTLESHIP - NIGHT

President Orlean, at a podium in front of a WORLD WAR TWO
BATTLESHIP with American flags everywhere. It's lit like a
movie. Behind her are Randall, Kate, Teddy and Jason. Jason
occasionally mouths the words of the speech along with his
Mom.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Citizens of the United States and
peoples of the world. I have just
been handed scientific findings
that confirm a worst case scenario.
An unprecedented comet 9 kilometers
wide is now on a direct collision
course with our cherished home:
planet earth. Estimated time of
arrival is approximately 5 months,
so we have some time.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - FLASHBACK

CUT BETWEEN PLANNING AND THE EXECUTION of the media roll out.

JASON

We've already drawn up an emergency
Congressional spending bill.

EXT. BATTLESHIP - TWO NIGHTS LATER

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

I have already put together an
emergency spending package for
Congress-

INT. OVAL OFFICE - FLASHBACK

JASON

That the Senate and the House both
agreed upon.

RANDALL

That is great to hear.

EXT. BATTLESHIP

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

And that will enable NASA and our great military to launch a preemptive strike using decommissioned Space Shuttles and Satellites loaded with nuclear explosives. We will knock Comet Dibiasky off her course.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - TWO NIGHTS PRIOR

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

But we're gonna need a hero. A pilot.

RANDALL

Shouldn't the mission all be done using remote technology?

DR. OGLETHORPE

Washington's always gotta have a hero.

EXT. BATTLESHIP - TWO NIGHTS LATER

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

... I have asked Medal of Freedom recipient and outspoken Patriot, Benedict Drask to undertake this difficult and-

INT. OVAL OFFICE - TWO NIGHTS EARLIER

RANDALL

I'm sorry, isn't he the mercenary gentleman who screamed at all those children on the White House lawn?

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Yes, he was given the honor of leading the Presidential Initiative to get kids to exercise.

EXT. WHITE HOUSE FRONT LAWN 3 YEARS EARLIER - DAY

A HUNDRED CHILDREN between the ages of 8-11 are doing jumping jacks on the White House Front Lawn while BENEDICT DRASK, 49, leads them on.

BENEDICT DRASK
You goddam lard ass! You look like
a bunch of pussies!!

INT. OVAL OFFICE - TWO NIGHTS EARLIER

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
He's just of a different
generation.

DR. CALDER
You know, I used to date him.

EXT. WHITE HOUSE FRONT LAWN 3 YEARS EARLIER - DAY

BENEDICT DRASK
You want to hear about the last
pussy I worked with in combat? You
ever see inside a man's torso?

EXT. BATTLESHIP - NIGHT

Benedict Drask stands at attention in his private military
uniform and salutes.

BENEDICT DRASK
Benedict Drask reporting for duty
sir!

The President returns the salute.

BENEDICT DRASK (CONT'D)
Some are saying this is a suicide
mission. Well all I ask is if I get
snuffed make sure you all earn the
extra living my sacrifice gives
you.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - TWO NIGHTS EARLIER

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Earn the extra living my sacrifice
gives you.

JASON
I wrote that line for him.

KATE
Isn't that from Saving Private
Ryan?

RANDALL

Yes!

JASON

No. It's totally different.

EXT. BATTLESHIP - NIGHT

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

And special thanks go to the team
of scientists behind me..

INT. OVAL OFFICE - FLASH BACK TWO NIGHTS PRIOR

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

We're gonna need everybody's help
on this. Everybody. We all have to
push out this message.

EXT. BATTLESHIP - NIGHT

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

-Dr. Teddy Oglethorpe, my African
American scientist. Kate Dibiasky
who the comet is named after. But
please don't blame her.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - FLASH BACK TWO NIGHTS PRIOR

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Ms. Dibiasky, she connects with the
disaffected youth and the mentally
ill.

KATE

Thank you

DR. OGLETHORPE

We'll do whatever we can.

RANDALL

As long as you do the right thing,
we're there for you.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Especially you Dr. Mindy. You poll
much higher than your colleagues.
It's wild.

EXT. BATTLESHIP - NIGHT

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
And Dr. Randall Mindy, he will help
us destroy our common enemy
Dibiasky.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - FLASH BACK TWO NIGHTS PRIOR

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Wonderful. Well, I think we're
done!

JASON
Let's go!

They all stand to leave.

KATE
Can I say something?

JASON
Yeah, we've all been dying to hear
what you've got to say.

KATE
I didn't vote for you... But this
is obviously much...much bigger
than any of my misgivings. So I
will be 100% behind this effort. No
matter how offensive I find you.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Wow. That's great.

JASON
You know I was the one who told the
FBI to put the sack over your head.
The FBI doesn't do that. That's
CIA. But I made them.

KATE
I had a feeling. I really did.

JASON
It's a good feeling, because that
is what I did. And it's very funny
and cool.

Kate rolls her eyes.

EXT. BATTLESHIP - 2 NIGHTS LATER

President Orlean finishes her speech.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
 And may Jesus Christ bless every
 one of you. Especially the
 honorable members of my party. We
 will prevail.

MUSIC: SCORE: INSPIRING HORNS AND TIMPANIS.

Fireworks explode off the battleship

INT. CLOSE UP OF SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS

DIDDLY FEED that dissolves into FRIEND POST that dissolves
 into VROOM VROOM all buzzing about the comet: "Is this for
 real?" "I'm scared." "We're gonna kick this comet's ass!"
 "That Dr. Mindy is fire hot." "I hate that crazy chick." "God
 will protect us."

RILEY BINA
 You guys, this comet is seriously
 stressing me out."

OLDER TOUGH LADY
 Comet's coming. People gotta dig
 in. We already got buyers for these
 shovels on E-Market. Thousand bucks
 a pop.

DALIA HENSFIELD
 It's a clean sweep for President
 Orlean.

EXT. NEWS STAND AT TRAIN STATION - DAY

Magazine covers at a news stand (or online) show headlines
 like "Earth's Big Moment!" "Drask's Miracle Workout" "How the
 Comet Changes NFL Playoff Race!"

NEWS STAND GUY puts out new Time Magazines with a cover
 showing President Orlean smoking a cigarette with the
 headline "SMOKING HOT!"

Another magazine with Kate on the cover: Is She to Blame for
 the Comet? And one of Randall "America's Scientist"

EXT. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - DAYS LATER

An Old SPACE SHUTTLE and MISSILES ARE BEING TOWED ONTO THE TARMAC. Crews are building launch platforms.

INT. KIDS SHOW STUDIO - DAY

Randall talks to SAMMY, a cute, famous kids' puppet.

SAMMY
Hello, Dr. Mindy.

RANDALL
Hello Sammy.

SAMMY
Are you really a doctor?

RANDALL
No Sammy, I'm an astronomer.

SAMMY
What's an astronomer?

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - DA

Randall speaks with Brie and Jack on the air.

JACK BREMMER
Dr. Mindy there is a lot of fear out there, America, around the world, parents don't know what to say to their kids, what would you say to them to help them understand?

RANDALL
I'm sure many of us are frightened. But I can assure you our best and brightest are on the job. I've seen the science on this plan... and it is sound.

BRIE EVANTEE
I know your words are a great comfort to all of our viewers Dr. Randall. We thank you for your courage and service. I just like to say, whenever I feel afraid or alone, I think of you and I just feel... Better.

Randall looks down and Brie has put her hand on his thigh. He clearly has a hard on pushing against his pants.

INT. FANCY HOTEL - DAY

Randall and Brie Evantee walk down a hallway. Brie pulls Randall in for a kiss and they start having sex against the wall in a posh Manhattan hotel.

BRIE EVANTEE

Tell me we're all going to die...

RANDALL

What?

BRIE EVANTEE

Tell me we're all going to die...
Do it...

RANDALL

We're all going to die...

BRIE EVANTEE

Ohhhh!!!!

INT. 24 HOUR GYM - SAME TIME

A LINE OF 9 GYM PATRONS all watch the announcement on their treadmill TV screens.

INT. PATRIOT NEWS STUDIO - DAY

Kate and Teddy being interviewed by a Hannity type DAN PAWKETTY, 55 and debating with a Texas CONGRESSMAN TENANT, 76.

CONGRESSMAN TENANT

So these two Marxists wave around the word "science" and we're all supposed to do whatever they say? How do we know there even is a comet?

KATE

Mr. Pawketty, Congressman, this data has now been confirmed and peer reviewed by hundreds of world-renowned scientists.

CONGRESSMAN TENANT

And we're supposed to trust you?
The comet's got your name!

KATE

I don't see the relevancy. That
doesn't even make sense.

DAN PAWKETTY

Then why won't you answer the
question?

KATE

Then what's the question?

DR. OGLETHORPE

Grow up, here. This is ridiculous!

INT. HOTEL ROOM BEDROOM - NIGHT

Brie holds a glass of wine as she and Randall lay in bed post
coital.

BRIE EVANTEE

I just realized we don't really
know anything about each other.

RANDALL

True. Every time I ask about your
life you tell me about your
favorite restaurants.

BRIE EVANTEE

I despise the "get to know you"
part of relationships.

RANDALL

Oh, ok. I understand.

BRIE EVANTEE

Ok, let's just get it all over and
done with: My Grandfather invented
the flash freezing process so I
come from grotesque money but I got
away from it by getting three
Master's degrees. I've been
divorced twice. One was a Secretary
of State. The other a sport
fisherman. I've slept with two
former Presidents and I speak four
languages and own two Monets.

Randall sits up a little straighter.

RANDALL

Wow. Two former Presidents? Wow.
My turn? My Father was a middle
school geography teacher. My Mother
cut hair out of our kitchen. About
two years ago our family dog JoJo
died. Which was really emotional. I
can't remember crying that much
ever. And, I finally got my Star
Wars poster signed by Mark Hamill.
It's in the garage.

BRIE EVANTEE

Ok, Good. That's done.
(beat)
Now where are we gonna go for
dinner tonight?

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. DC SKYLINE

JET PLANES RIP ACROSS THE D.C. SKY IN FORMATION WITH A
DEAFENING ROAR.

"GIANT LETTERS ACROSS THE SCREEN "LAUNCH DAY"

EXT. LAUNCH PAD - CONTINUOUS

12:24p EST. Two helicopters circle a giant MODIFIED SPACE
SHUTTLE preparing to launch

EXT. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - SAME TIME

MASSIVE CROWD WATCHING AND CHEERING ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE

SCORE: GLORIOUS

NEWS ANCHORS CHATTER (V.O.)

Not since D-Day have we seen such a
mass mobilization, our unions and
resources..

Hundreds of press report from around the world.

FRENCH REPORTER

I've just spoken to the
technical liaison-

HAITIAN REPORTER

The skies are clear and the
weather is temperate-

EXT. LAUNCH PAD - CONTINUOUS

NASA van pulls up, Drask exits van heroically in a space suit.

INT. BEDROOM - INDIA - DAY

CLOSE UP: An INDIAN TEEN watches on his phone in bed.

INT. SUDANESE LIVING ROOM - DAY.

A FAMILY IN THE SUDAN watch on TV

INT. MISSION CONTROL - CONTINUOUS

MISSION COORDINATOR

Ok, here we go everyone! Let's stay sharp!

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - DAY

President Orlean, Randall, Jason, Kate, Teddy, Air Force General Themes, THREE OTHER GENERALS and for some reason Brie Evantee are all crouched in the situation room looking at MONITORS SHOWING A MODIFIED SPACE SHUTTLE. It's surrounded by an array of satellites and other Space Shuttles on the launch pad at Kennedy Center.

BENEDICT DRASK (O.C.)

(crackly on the radio)

What's the hold up Mother Fuckers?
Come on, let's fucking light this fire cracker. You think I've got all day.

EXT. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - 3 MILES AWAY - SAME TIME

A HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE watch from a distance with binoculars and phones raised.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN (V.O.)

Commander Drask, this is your President speaking. Your nation thanks you. Your planet thanks you. Your God, and I, thank you.

INT. SHUTTLE - CONTINUOUS

BENEDICT DRASK

The only thanks I need is a shot of Jack Daniels. And a couple of DUIs to magically go away.

INT. MISSION CONTROL - CONTINUOUS

Mission control full of techies at screens coordinate the launch.

MISSION COORDINATOR

This is Mission Control. All indicators are coming up green. This is a final warning to control the launch pad.

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

(to Randall)

Your discovery led to this mission and the chance to save earth. I give you the honor.

Kate glances over at Randall. She sees he and Brie Evantee are holding hands?

Randall takes an awkward sip of water.

RANDALL

Thank you Madame President. Citizens of planet earth, everything is theoretically possible, until it is done. And with that, we are a go for launch.

The room applauds.

Peter Isherwell, CEO of BASH enters the room.

PETER ISHERWELL

(looking down at his phone)

Hello. Oh Brie, you look fabulous. As always.

KATE

Should he be in here?

JASON

Yes, Peter's a Platinum Eagle Donor to the campaign. He has full clearance.

(beat)

Molly kicking in. I timed that shit perfect.

MISSION COORDINATOR (V.O.)

...3, 2, 1... liftoff!

EXT. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - SAME TIME

The Shuttles and satellites shoot bright yellow and red flame as they battle against the pull of gravity.

INT. SHUTTLE - CONTINUOUS

BENEDICT DRASK

(sing)

-come from Alabama with a banjo on my knee. Hey!

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - SAME TIME

Everyone cheers and high fives.

DR. OGLETHORPE

We didn't lose any satellites. Margin of error was for two to malfunction.

PETER ISHERWELL

Madame President can I speak to you outside for one second?

She's engrossed by the screens showing liftoff.

RANDALL

The success probability has already increased to 81%.

PETER ISHERWELL

(in his real voice)

Janie. Now!

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

I'm so sorry. Of course Peter.

INT. SHUTTLE COCKPIT - THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE - SAME TIME

Drask shakes and rattles in the cockpit.

BENEDICT DRASK

And a big hello to that beautiful
blue ball we call home. All those
hard working white folks. God bless
ya!

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - SAME TIME

The room listens uncomfortably.

AIR FORCE GENERAL THEMES

It's just a different generation.

INT. SHUTTLE COCKPIT - THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE - SAME TIME

BENEDICT DRASK

I also want to say hello to all the
Indians out there. Both kinds. You
know, the ones with the elephant,
the ones with the bow and arrow.
Hey, why haven't you guys ever
teamed up? How cool would that be?
I also want to say hi to all the
gays out there-

MISSION COORDINATOR (V.O.)

Uh, Commander. Booster ejection is
imminent.

BENEDICT DRASK

Roger that.

INT. PICK UP TRUCK - DAY

A MEXICAN FATHER (51) AND SON (17) watch the launch on a cell
in their truck behind a warehouse.

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - SAME TIME

The Shuttles and satellites approach the outer atmosphere.

BRIE EVANTEE

(in French)

Et les anges s'envolent vers le
ciel...

RANDALL

Is that French?

BRIE EVANTEE

Yes, it means "And the angels soar to the heavens..." It's from a 14th century French poem I studied at Dartmouth... Watching this made me think of it... And you.

Brie and Randall kiss. The room clocks it.

Kate stares at him hard. But then President Orlean walks back in looking solemn.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Everyone...I've just received some critical information concerning our mission.

CUT TO:

EXT. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - SAME TIME

MASSIVE CROWD WATCHING AND CHEERING ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE

Although it's just a flaming speck in the sky, we see slowly but surely that THE LEAD SPACE SHUTTLE BEGINS TURNING. The crowd begins to chatter.

ONLOOKER

Hey! It's looks like it's turning around!

GUY

No it's not! It's a course correction! Pretty standard! I was in the Navy.

Nope. It's turning around.

ONLOOKER

Nope! It's turning around!

And now IT'S FULLY HEADED BACK TO EARTH along with the other shuttles and satellites. THE CROWD AND CROWDS ACROSS THE WORLD ARE SILENT AND CONFUSED.

ANCHORS CHATTER (V.O.)

There seems to be some confusion - I'm not gonna lie to you - This reporter is at a loss for words - It's definitely turning around.

INT. MISSION CONTROL

Mission Coordinator turns around in his seat and addresses the rest of his team.

MISSION COORDINATOR
Does anyone know what the fuck just happened?!

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE OFFICE - TWO HOURS LATER

Teddy, Randall and Kate are in a generic office. Teddy tries the door.

DR. OGLETHORPE
It's still locked.

RANDALL
I don't understand what could have happened. The mission was working. Everything was on track.

DR. OGLETHORPE
It could have been anything, guidance system could have malfunction, nukes destabilized. Myriad of things.

KATE
Who was that man who walked in when we were in the situation room? He looked familiar.

DR. OGLETHORPE
That was Peter Isherwell, CEO of BASH. And the third richest human ever.

RANDALL
He's the guy that bought the Gutenberg Bible and then lost it.

The door opens. It's Jason.

JASON
Sorry to keep you waiting, but the situation is extremely fluid.
(and then)
Dr. Randall, you're now Chief Science Advisor to the White House...

RANDALL

What?

JASON

...and as such we need you for an emergency cabinet meeting right now where you will be fully debriefed.

KATE

What about us?

JASON

You don't have the clearance for this, sweetheart. Don't trip, got you some snacks. Waters.

Jason tosses everything on the floor.

RANDALL

You don't need to throw it on the floor.

JASON

It'll be 3-4 hours, tops.

KATE

What if we have to go to the bathroom!?

JASON

We'll lay out some newspaper for you. Grab you a can of febreze.

RANDALL

I'll be back.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Science tells the truth, Randall.

Jason begins to shut the door and then stops himself.

JASON

(to Kate)

Do you wanna come?

KATE

Yes!

Jason slams the door in her face.

INT. CABINET ROOM - 20 MINUTES LATER

President Orlean presides over a FULL CABINET MEETING with Randall, Jason, several Generals in attendance. Peter Isherwell stands behind the President.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Ladies and gentlemen what we and what the world thought was an impending and terrifying danger... is actually an astonishing opportunity.

SECRETARY OF STATE GLEESON BERKERS

Our allies are very confused and demanding answers Madame President.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Tell them to wait.

(moves on)

According to the most recent spectrometer reading of Comet Dibiasky made by astro-geologists at BASH cellular... we have discovered something. Something truly miraculous. Peter?

PETER ISHERWELL

Thank you, Janie. As some of you know the most valuable minerals in the world are fast becoming the ones used to make cell phones and computers: yttrium, terbium, osmium, dysprosium, and on and on. We're running short. And the problem is exacerbated because China has her big panda paw firmly on almost all the mines that produce these valuable rare earth assets. So you can imagine, wow, just how happy we were at BASH when our astrogeologists that this comet hurtling towards earth actually contains at least thirty-two trillion dollars of these critical materials.

RANDALL

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, is that why you aborted this entire mission because you are trying to mine the comet?

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Dr. Mindy, I think we should all questions until the end of the presentation and you might find that your questions are answered.

RANDALL

Yes, Madame President.

PETER ISHERWELL

When other metals are factored in this comet contains almost 140 trillion dollars' worth of assets.

There's some muttering and oohs and ahhs in the room.

JASON

Buck Forty Trilly. Uh...

RANDALL

But what does any of this matter if we're all going to die?

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

I was about to ask the same question Janie.

JASON

Oh no...what if we're all rich! And we're safe!

INT. WHITE HOUSE OFFICE - SAME TIME

Teddy and Kate have eaten the Cheez-Bits and drank the water. They stare off, half asleep and half stricken with stress.

KATE

I've gone over it again and again in my head and I still don't get it. He's a three star General. He works at the Pentagon. Why would he charge us for the free snacks?

DR. OGLETHORPE

One time I met Sting and I swear to God he farted right in front of me, didn't even break eye contact, and didn't even say excuse me. Thing is, he actually pulled it off. Because I still found him to be quite charming.

The door opens. It's Randall.

RANDALL

Guys let's go! We have to go! NOW!!

EXT. BOJO MAMBO'S SHRIMP - AN HOUR LATER - NIGHT

INT. BOJO MAMBO'S SHRIMP - CONTINUOUS

Seafood, cocktails. It's Bojo Mambo's, you know the vibe.

DR. OGLETHORPE

That's insane. Completely insane.

RANDALL

I had the exact same reaction.

KATE

This is a 9 kilometer wide planet killer we're talking about not roaming charges.

RANDALL

I'm as concerned and enraged as you, but they've got Gary Talcamont out of Stanford and Lisa Inez from Princeton on their team. This is cutting edge next generation technology they've created.

INT. CABINET ROOM - EARLIER

Isherwell, DR. INEZ, DR. TALCAMONT and a BASH designer show an impressive animation of featuring dozens of DRONES WITH DRILL TIPS and EXPLOSIVE CHARGES. President Orlean vapes while she listens.

PETER ISHERWELL

Obviously, one giant comet is a major and existential threat to our planet... But 30 smaller meteoroids we can handle. Our BEADS, which stands for BASH Explore and Acquire Drones, will attach to the comet and scan using Nano-technology developed by Nobel Prize winner Dr. Gary Talcamont here. And then we will then deploy Nobel and Polofsky prize winning scientist Dr. Inez's micro targeted quantum fission explosives deep into the object. Dr. Inez, would you like to explain-

COMET has been scanned on a 3D grid. IN THE ANIMATION the drones ATTACH USING THEIR DRILL BITS and BLAM!

DR. INEZ

Thank you Peter. We've been developing phase fission reactions in the CERN particle accelerator that can splinter the comet into smaller pieces with breathtaking accuracy. These segments are then steered and decelerated by each BEAD into the Pacific Ocean for reclamation by waiting US Navy ships...

The animated drones then individually steer each piece of the comet into the Pacific ocean making a simple splash.

PETER ISHERWELL

And when these treasures from heaven are claimed, poverty as we know it, social injustice, lose of biodiversity, all these multitudes of problems will become relics of the past and humanity will stride through the pillars of Boaz and Jachin, naked into the glory of a golden age...

INT. BOJO MAMBO'S SHRIMP RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

DR. OGLETHORPE

And is this nano-tech work peer reviewed?

RANDALL

I need to review the data but it's been modeled.

KATE

Has any of this been reviewed?

RANDALL

No.

INT. CABINET ROOM - EARLIER

PETER ISHERWELL

Interplanetary, interstellar, intergalactic existence for the human race.

The room applauds

INT. BOJO MAMBO'S SHRIMP RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

RANDALL

I understand the wealth that they could extract from this comet. It could end world hunger or..

Kate begins to laugh.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Oh, I see.

RANDALL

What? Why are you laughing?

DR. OGLETHORPE

So that's the pretty bow they're putting around this line of bullshit.

KATE

I bet they'll say freedom and puppies too.

RANDALL

You want me to quit the mission? Ok, I'll quit the mission. But you have to understand, this is now beyond our control. They have all the power. So who do you want in the actual room to make sure this whole thing doesn't turn out to be a complete goddamn disaster?

KATE

I have news for you, it's already a complete disaster. They're about to let a comet the size of a mountain hit the planet to jack up a cell phone company's stock!

Everyone at the bar and tables nearby is now looking at them.

DR. OGLETHORPE

(whispering)

You gotta take it down about four or five notches now red.

The WAITRESS, 23, comes over.

WAITRESS

Were you just yelling about why they turned that mission around? Why were you talking about cell phones?

DR. OGLETHORPE

My friend was just theorizing as to what's going on. We're confused too.

WAITRESS

That's an official looking White House badge you have on.

Randall is still wearing his White House laminate ID.

RANDALL

I don't know why I have this on.

Randall quickly takes off the badge.

WAITRESS

Just tell us what's going on.

Another GUY FROM THE BAR comes over.

GUY FROM THE BAR

I got three scared kids at home. How about you just tell us something?

A NEARBY DINER turns from a table near them.

RANDALL

I understand. I wish I could share information, but-

GUY FROM THE BAR

We're people just like you. We deserve to know!

KATE

They're right. They deserve to know. You wanna know what's going on? Does everyone really want to know what's going on?!

Now the WHOLE RESTAURANT is listening.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Kate don't-

KATE

They found a bunch of gold and diamonds and rare shit on the comet and now they're going to let it hit earth to make a bunch of rich people even more disgustingly rich!

Everyone freezes.

What the hell does anybody do with that information?

CUT TO:

EXT. BOJO MAMBO'S SHRIMP - 20 MINUTES LATER

People are SMASHING OUT THE WINDOWS ON THE RESTAURANT. 4 COP CARS are there with LIGHTS FLASHING. There's a dumpster and a car on FIRE.

PATRONS

Fuck you! Ahhh!!! Assholes are gonna kill us all!... Tell us the truth!! Etc.

CUSTOMERS FIGHT WITH COPS. Others LOOT AND DRINK FREE LIQUOR.

Kate is in the back of a BLACK SEDAN with a HOOD OVER HER HEAD. Teddy and Randall talk to her through the car window.

RANDALL

I tried everything I could they won't listen.

KATE

Surprise, surprise.

DR. OGLETHORPE

I'm starting to think you just like riling people up.

RANDALL

I'm so sorry Kate, really I am.

KATE

Oh Randall, god! Where's Brie Evantee? Shouldn't you guys be playing footsie at a restaurant that only serves cubes and foam?

DR. OGLETHORPE

Well she ain't wrong. You did lose the thread in a big way.

RANDALL

And what do you suggest we do? An online petition, huh? You want to hold...Get a mob and hold up picket signs? You want to overthrow the government, I mean, look at this!

KATE

I can't! My head is in a bag!

FEDERAL AGENT approaches.

AGENT

I'm sorry Dr. Mindy. White House wants her off the grid.

KATE

Wait! What does that mean? Hey!
What the hell does that mean?!

THE CAR DRIVES AWAY. Teddy walks away from Randall.

RANDALL

Kate! Oh gosh Kate. Are you ok?

People are shouting in the streets!

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Teddy! Come on! What choice do I have?

DR. OGLETHORPE

A man's always got choices!
(turns back to him)
Sometimes he's just gotta choose
the good one!

EXT. SCOTT AIRFORCE BASE - ST. CLAIR, ILLINOIS - MORNING

The HOOD IS REMOVED FROM KATE'S HEAD revealing she is in a small office with an air force base outside the window. A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ATTORNEY, 41 is in front of her with TWO SOLDIERS behind him. He reads a written statement.

FEDERAL ATTORNEY

Ms. Katelyn Dibiasky, the charges against you are violation of national security secrets, inciting a riot and destruction of private property owned by Bojo Mambo Shrimp LLC.

KATE
But I didn't-

FEDERAL ATTORNEY
However, the Attorney General is willing to not pursue prosecution if you will agree to the following: a suspension of all public media appearances and incendiary language relating to Comet Dibiasky and BASH Cellular.

Beat.

KATE
Fine. Give it to me. I don't give a shit anymore.

She signs the agreement.

CUT TO:

EXT. ILLINOIS HIGHWAY - DAY

Kate is now in the back of a cargo van sans hood driving along a long four lane highway.

EXT. LOWER MIDDLE CLASS ILLINOIS HOME - DUSK

Kate's van pulls away as snow falls. She goes up to the front door of a modest home and knocks.

Her MOM AND DAD, mid 50s and clearly traumatized by all of this, open the door.

KATE
(breaks down in tears)
Mom... Dad... I'm so glad to be home...

But they don't open the door.

KATE (CONT'D)
Open the door...

DAD
No politics. None.

KATE
What are you talking about?

MOM

Your Dad and I are for the jobs the comet will provide.

DAD

The divisions in this country is bad enough. We don't want more of it in our house.

INT. MIDDLE CLASS KITCHEN - DAY

TV COMMERCIAL: A worried HOUSEWIFE is in a kitchen. Her children run past.

MUSIC: Like a pharma ad: contemplative yet hopeful

HOUSE WIFE

Woah, slow down kids!

(to camera)

I worry about my kids and their future. Sure the jobs the comet will create sound great but what if it's not safe?

Randall enters in a sweater and suit jacket. He is now fully a "star." L/3 "Dr. Randall Mindy. Senior White House Science Advisor

RANDALL

(very warm and sincere)

Right now millions of you are having these same questions and doubts about the approaching comet. That's why BASH cellular in conjunction with the US Government is creating a new hotline, free of charge to answer your questions. And who knows, maybe, just maybe one of our scientists...

The Housewife is already on the phone talking and even smiles a little.

HOUSE WIFE

Thank you Sharon. That makes me feel so much better.

RANDALL

...can be that friend we all need to lean on during uncertain times.

ANCR (V.O.)

Call 1-(254)63-COMET for peace of mind. Offer only available to BASH customers. Details of your call may be shared with other subsidiaries to enhance your customer experience. Data and roaming charges apply.

CUT TO:

INT. THE WASHINGTON DC HYATT - A FEW NIGHTS LATER

A big, impressive suite with the lights out. We hear laughter and the door opens. It's Randall, in a tuxedo and Brie Evantee in a stunning gown.

BRIE EVANTEE

So, I thought it was the ambassador. I was flattering him!

RANDALL

Well he was the waiter and now he's got an ego the size of Texas.

They turn on the lights. JUNE, RANDALL'S WIFE IS ON THE COUCH WITH A BAG OF LUGGAGE NEXT TO HER.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Oh my god. June. What are you doing here sweetie.

JUNE

I had a feeling something was going on.

RANDALL

Well you know we're discussing important business. That's what we're doing.

JUNE

Oh yeah, that's really very important.

BRIE EVANTEE

Can we just skip past this whole part please, where you get to feel self-righteous and we put our tails between our legs? It's so boring.

JUNE

You want to skip the part where you feel bad for screwing my husband.

BRIE EVANTEE

Oh I don't feel bad. Randall and I are having a wonderful time. So I think the question is: do we keep having a wonderful time or does he go back with you to Wisconsin? Or Montana? Or Michigan?

RANDALL

Michigan.

Beat.

JUNE

You know what? She's actually right. That is the only question. So...

RANDALL

Well June, sweetie. Sometimes things in life, they're, you know, complicated and they just-

JUNE

Oh, ok, that was fast. Before I go let me give you some instructions on how to take care of Randall-

She comes out of the bathroom holding a bunch of prescription pill bottles.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Here's the Xanax he takes for his panic attacks...

She throws the bottle at them, pills fly everywhere.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Here's the Zoloft he takes to curb the crashing depressions...

RANDALL

Not so much recently.

She throws the bottle. More pills fly.

JUNE

Oh, good for you! This is for his blood pressure. Restless Leg Syndrome. Appetite suppressant to counteract appetite gain from his other meds. And yeah, for America's Sexiest Scientist, a bottle of goddamn Cialis!

The last bottle hits Randall right on the head.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Goodbye. Goodbye Randall! I'll tell your sons Dad's fucking the lady on our television!

RANDALL

June, I-

BRIE EVANTEE

I really thought for a second that was gonna work out.

They're gone.

CUT TO:

INT. DRINK-MO STORE - ILLINOIS - CONTINUOUS

Kate, now a cashier at a giant Drink-Mo watches a CVN show. Phillip Kaj is a guest on the show.

PHILLIP (SOT)

...people, they want to manage the comet to create jobs. 37% don't want the comet to hit. That's actually down by three points. And 23%, they don't think there's a comet at all. And that number is way up.

INTERRUPTING VOICE

Not Bitcoin, Ratcoin. Ratcoin.

A SKATER PUNK, 24 with TWO FRIENDS. One of them wears a MISFITS jacket and they all have stickers and hand drawn stuff on their clothes. The main guy, YULE has half his hair cut off.

YULE

I'd like to buy these sunglasses.
(gets a good look at Kate)
Aren't you that girl from live TV who said "we're all gonna die"?

KATE

No.
(and then)
What's your purchase?

He holds up his phone to her face. His lock screen is a meme of Kate from The Daily Rip.

YULE

Yeah, that's you. It's definitely you.

KATE

Yup. That's me.

YULE

You are a stone cold legend. Word is bond.

FRIEND

I've got a picture of you on my board.

YULE

He's got a picture of you on his fucking board.

KATE

Great. What's your purchase? If you don't have one you need to make room for the next customer in line.

There's no next customer.

OTHER FRIEND

Can I touch your hair in a non sexual way?

KATE

Get the fuck away from me.

YULE

(to his friend)

Oh dude... have some...Call Diogo, he'll freak out. Will you say hi to my friend? Dude, he's obsessed with you. We love you. We don't like... Can't stand Orlean either.

His friend dials Diogo on FaceTime.

YULE (CONT'D)

YO0000. Yo, shut the fuck up. Check out who we're with. What up??

A beat later.

YULE (CONT'D)

I mean, we have a purchase but we don't have payment. Which is a metaphor on...

Yule holds open his jacket to reveal FOUR BOTTLES OF EXPENSIVE VODKA they've shoplifted.

YULE (CONT'D)

...cash?

Back to the CVN show. Kate turns around to listen.

CVN ANCHOR

Also, Phillip, I've been told that you wrote a book about your past relationship with Kate Dibiasky.

PHILLIP

Funny you should say that, I'm actually working on that now. It's gonna be called, A Brush With The Devil, and it's uh...

YULE

You calling security or something, with your eyes?

KATE

No, you're free to go.

YULE

Just like that? You don't give a shit do you?

KATE

(flat)

Sure I do. I care about the Drink-Mo guarantee of quality service.

FRIEND

We don't give a shit either.

OTHER FRIEND

Not one single shit.

YULE

We hang and board behind the abandoned Burger Crown from seven to whenever. You should come hang if you want. If you're not a fucking pussy.

Kate doesn't respond.

YULE (CONT'D)

Fuck. Okay. Thanks.

Yule closes his jacket and they walk away. Kate watches them go but says nothing about the stolen liquor. The TV plays in the background.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASH AIRPLANE HANGAR - SAME TIME

INCOMPLETE DRONES WITH DRILLING ARMS AND WARHEADS ON THEM are being wheeled around the massive launch pad.

Randall and President Orlean land in a helicopter and walk over to a hangar.

A giant BEAD DRONE is in front of them.

PETER ISHERWELL

Okay, let me introduce you, uh, to mankind's savior. The Bash Explore and Acquire Drone.

RANDALL

It's incredible.

PETER ISHERWELL

It's incredible, isn't it? I call this one Primo the first.

(laughs)

It's like my first child.

(speaking to drone)

Primo, my boy. It's your father, Cronos.

(laughing)

Don't be shy. Come on. You're gonna be a God in the sky.

RANDALL

(laughs nervously)

Are you at all concerned about the sync on the BEAD explosions? There are studies that show that the comet-

PETER ISHERWELL

Oh, Doctor. There are always questions and fears and...

Randall takes some papers from his jacket. Hands them to Isherwell.

RANDALL

Right. I have a report here from a Dr. Inez if you'd just take a look at this study.

PETER ISHERWELL

Oh, thanks...

RANDALL

Listen, a lot of my colleagues, they've either been removed or resigned from this project, apparently for asking too many questions about this mission here. So I just wanna make sure that you're open to the scientific peer-review process and you're not approaching this entire mission like a businessman.

PETER ISHERWELL

What did you say?

RANDALL

I wanna know if you're-

Beat. Uh-oh. Wrong thing to say. A hint of anger flashes in Isherwell's eyes.

PETER ISHERWELL

Did you call me a businessman?

RANDALL

You do own a corporate-

PETER ISHERWELL

You think I'm just a businessman? Do you think you know me, Doctor? Business? This is evolution. This is evolution of the human species.

(To President Orlean)

What are you doing bringing this-

(Back to Randall)

Did you know that BASH has over 40 million data points on you and every decision you've made since 1994, Doctor? I know when you have colon polyps months before your doctor does. You've got four or five at the moment, actually. You know, they're not of concern, but I'd have a checkup as soon as you can.

(MORE)

PETER ISHERWELL (CONT'D)

But more importantly than that, much more importantly, I know what you are. I know who you are. My algorithms have determined eight fundamental consumer profile types. You are a Lifestyle Idealist. You think you are motivated by beliefs, high ethical beliefs, but you just run towards pleasure and away from pain. Like a field mouse.

RANDALL

(almost in a whisper)

I just want to make sure the science is sound on this project. I hope you understand -

Isherwell gets right in Randall's face.

PETER ISHERWELL

Our algorithms can even predict how you'll die with up to 96% accuracy. I looked you up after we first met. Your death was so unremarkable and boring... I can't even remember what it said. Apart from one thing. You're going to die alone.

Randall shakes his head.

PETER ISHERWELL (CONT'D)

Alone. If you'll excuse me Madam President. I've got some work to do.

Isherwell leaves.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

What the hell are you doing? My God...

RANDALL

I'm trying to do my job.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

You are just so lucky Peter adores you.

President Orlean lights up a cigarette with a GIANT: "HIGHLY FLAMMABLE" warning sign behind her.

RANDALL

I wouldn't-

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

You are with the grown-ups now
Randall.

CUT TO:

EXT. OLD BURGER CROWN PARKING LOT - THAT NIGHT

About a dozen kids ages 16-25 are skateboarding and drinking
with music blaring.

Yule sits next to Kate who is drinking a beer.

YULE

I heard today on the corporate
owned news BASH got Orlean to pay
the Chilean government, if I'm
correct, 90 billion dollars to let
the tsunami hit off the coast of
the country. That sound right to
you?

FRIEND

You know Isherwell built an
underground bunker for him and all
his executives.

TEEN GIRL

No, I heard they're building an
escape ship.

KATE

You guys, the truth is way more
depressing. They're not even smart
enough to be as evil as you're
giving them credit for.

Yule, clearly enamored, leans over and kisses Kate. She
pushes him back.

KATE (CONT'D)

Ugh! No.

More teens skateboard and a guy throws a glass bottle against
the wall.

Yule punches the air in frustration.

YULE

Fuck! You drive me fucking crazy,
Kate.

Beat.

KATE

Fuck it. We're all gonna die.

They make out as the hardcore music plays and more kids break light tubes.

INT. KATE'S DIET APP

CLOSE UP of KATE'S DIET APP countdown showing 25 days until diet ends.

INT. MAKEUP ROOM - THE DAILY RIP - TWO DAYS LATER

CU of Randall's face as makeup is being applied and hair is being styled. For the first time in a while he looks anxious. We hear the show from the monitor.

JACK BREMMER (O.C.)

The movie will be released the day that some believe Comet Dibiasky will impact the planet. And early word is it's already a classic.

BRIE EVANTEE (O.C.)

Oh yes and what a stellar cast. I always love Devin Peters. He's great in everything he does. What's it called again?

INT. THE DAILY RIP STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

Show is in progress with Brie and Jack hosting.

JACK BREMMER

It's called "Total Devastation." It cost 300 million dollars to make. I mean these movies...

BRIE EVANTEE

It's more than you earn!

JACK BREMMER

(laughs)

Tell me about it. And my friend Farley saw it and says it's a ton of fun.

BRIE EVANTEE

Alright well, what Farley says goes.

(MORE)

BRIE EVANTEE (CONT'D)

But first, and you can tell by my smile, that America's sexiest scientist is here. Dr. Randall. Welcome.

Randall seems tense and awkward. The studio lights somehow brighter.

JACK BREMMER

Dr. Randall. How are you sir?

RANDALL

I'm good. Gooder... than good!

Tiny awkward beat. Tepid laughs from the crew.

BRIE EVANTEE

So Randall, we're hearing there's no comet, that there is a comet but it's a good thing, or maybe it's a bad thing. We are so confused.

BRIE EVANTEE (CONT'D)

So could you please help us out here, oh, wise scientist?

RANDALL

Well... uh...first and foremost, Brie, there most certainly is a comet.

BRIE EVANTEE

All right.

RANDALL

And we know that there is a comet because we have the data. There has been growing concern within the scientific community as of late. You see, the peer-review process is absolutely essential...

JACK BREMMER

Well listen, if BASH's stock is any indicator, then we don't have to worry about the peer review. It is going gangbusters. And listen, full disclosure, I bought as many shares as I could. I advise you to do the same.

BRIE EVANTEE

You are such a shameless capitalist.

JACK BREMMER

Said the woman who will be in the brand-new hot tub on my back deck when I put it in.

BRIE EVANTEE

He knows me too well. Dr. Randall, are you sure you're okay? Do you want a glass of water?

RANDALL

I don't feel so well...

BRIE EVANTEE

Okay...Well, we're going to go to a commercial and come back-

RANDALL

NO please Brie, don't cut away. Let me say something.

JACK BREMMER

Well you came to the right place. Because on this show, we like to say things.

RANDALL

WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP BEING SO FUCKING PLEASANT!

Everyone goes quiet.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Not everything needs to sound so goddamn clever or charming or likable all the time. Sometimes, we just need to be able to say things to one another. We need to hear things. Look, let's establish, once again, that there is a huge comet headed towards Earth. And the reason we know that there is a comet is because we saw it. We saw it with our own eyes using a telescope. I mean, for God's sake, we took a FUCKING PICTURE OF IT! What other proof do we need? And if we can't all agree at the bare minimum that a giant comet the size of Mount Everest hurtling its way toward planet Earth is NOT A FUCKING GOOD THING, then what the hell happened to us?

(MORE)

RANDALL (CONT'D)

I mean, my God, how do- How do we even talk to each other? What have we done to ourselves? How do we fix it? We should've deflected this comet when we had the fucking chance, but we didn't do it. I don't know why we didn't do it.

Brie, Jack, and the crew stare at Randall with concern.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

And now they're actually firing scientists like me for speaking out, for opposing them. And I'm sure many of the people out there aren't even going to listen to what I just said because they have their own political ideology. But, I assure you, I am not on one side or the other. I'm just telling you the fucking truth.

BRIE EVANTEE

I think this would be a good time to establish that Isherwell and the President that there's benefits to be had-

RANDALL

Right, well, the President of the United States is FUCKING LYING. Look, I'm just like all of you...I hope to GOD, I hope to GOD that this President knows what she's doing... I hope she's got us all taken care of. But the truth is, I think this whole administration has COMPLETELY LOST THEIR FUCKING MIND. AND I THINK WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE.

(softly)

Look, I just wanna go home. I just wanna go home more than anything.

(breathing heavily)

But if there is one thing, one thing that I pray that all of you hear from what I have just said... is that all of us, all of us-

EXT. STUDIO - MOMENTS LATER

Randall is in the back of an FBI unmarked sedan with a HOOD OVER HIS HEAD. Brie Evantee gets in the back seat.

BRIE EVANTEE
Why did you do that? I really liked
you. And I despise most people.

RANDALL
You know, I really thought I loved
you.

BRIE EVANTEE
Really? Wow. That's wild.

FBI AGENT gets opens Brie's door.

STOCKY FBI AGENT
Ma'am. You need to go. We need to
get this man off the grid.

Beat as Brie stares at the hooded Randall.

RANDALL
Are you still there?

BRIE EVANTEE
No.

She gets out of the car.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF OF A CLOSED BURGER KING - TWO NIGHTS LATER

Kate and Yule lay on the roof looking at the stars with a six
pack.

KATE
I mean maybe he just gets off on
power. Any kind of power. It's like
he knew eventually that I was going
to find out the snacks were free.
You know what I mean? So it was
just a power play.

YULE
Yeah, guys are weird. I'm starting
to think that all of this "end of
the world" stuff is bullshit.

KATE
Well, it's not. It's definitely
happening. I've seen it.

YULE

I feel like if God wanted to
destroy the Earth, He would destroy
the Earth.

KATE

You believe in God?

YULE

My parents raised me evangelical,
and I hate them. But I found my own
way to it. My own relationship. I'd
appreciate it if you didn't
advertise it though.

KATE

I won't tell anybody. I think it's
kind of sweet.

YULE

Wanna make out?

KATE

Yeah, why not?

YULE

Can you not say "why not." It makes
me feel like you don't want it.
It's shitty.

KATE

Sure. Whatever.

YULE

That's better.

They kiss.

EXT. EAST LANSING BUSY ROAD - SAME TIME

Randall is in a crappy Honda driving with a WHIP (UBER) LIGHT
on his dashboard listening to Troubador by George Strait and
eating chips.

EXT. ABANDONED BURGER KING ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Kate and Yule are making out. And while they do Kate looks up
in the sky and sees something... A *twinkle*.

KATE

Oh my God...

She pushes him off.

KATE (CONT'D)

Oh my God, that's it! That's the comet right there!

YULE

Where?

KATE

That's the big dipper. That's Venus. There's the north star. Well what is that?

YULE

Oh shit.

EXT. EAST LANSING BUSY ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Suddenly Randall sees something above him and STOPS HIS CAR.

RANDALL

What the hell?

Cars honk AS RANDALL GETS OUT AND LOOKS UP AT THE NIGHT SKY. He sees the twinkling comet.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

There it is. There you are. There you are. Is anyone else seeing this? That's it. That's the comet! Look! It's right there.

Cars are honking at Randall. People slowly get out of their cars and look at the sky in quiet wonderment. Randall gets on his phone and dials.

People keep staring at the small but bright fleck of the comet in the sky.

EXT. ABANDONED BURGER KING ROOF - CONTINUOUS

YULE

So that's really it?... God... I just got really scared.

KATE

Exactly!

She takes out her phone and picks up the call.

Intercut between Kate and Randall on their phones.

KATE (CONT'D)

Dr. Mindy!

RANDALL

Kate!

KATE

Doc, you can see it!!

RANDALL

I'm looking at it right now, too. It's unbelievable. It's horrific, and it's beautiful at the same time.

(to the crowd)

We've been trying to tell you! We tried to tell you this whole time. It's right there! It's... It's right there, Kate.

KATE

Where are you?

RANDALL

I'm in Lansing, Michigan trying to fix things with June, but she won't talk to me. Where are you?

KATE

I-

RANDALL

I'm gonna come find you, okay?

KATE

Well, I'm in Illinois. I could be ready by tomorrow. Yeah I'm-

YULE

(kneels down to pray)

Dearest Father, as a sinner I come to You for your grace and guidance...

RANDALL

(on phone)

They're finally seeing it. They're finally seeing it. THERE IT IS.

MONTAGE: The bright flash of the comet fills the screen. A woman in a coffee shop looks up in awe.

The side profile of a statue. Two hippos play fighting. A baby cooing. Crowd at a religious temple praying.

CUT TO:

INT. DIDDLY FEED - DAY

A video with Kate and Randall talking right into camera is being re-diddled like crazy. 100k shares... 1 mill...5 mill

KATE (SOT)

Go outside - into your yard, on your roof, onto your sidewalk, and just look up into the sky...

RANDALL (SOT)

...The star's going to appear fuzzy. It's got a long streak coming off of it. That's the comet's tail.

KATE (SOT)

It's real and it's coming. If anyone tells you any different, they're full of shit. Just look up into the sky!

MORE VIDEOS

OTHER VIDEOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD ARE POSTED on Diddly, Vroom Vroom, Friend Post urging people to Just Look Up.

RILEY BINA

Guys, please just look up, okay? Screw the manatees and just look up!

PEOPLE yell into their cell phones.

PEOPLE

Just Look Up!

Hearts, thumbs up, thumbs down, shares, smiley faces are clicked and dinged as comments and articles shoot around the world: "Holy shit. It's real." "Autopsy: President Orlean Plays Defense on the Comet" "Anyone else shitting themselves?"

INT. KIDS SHOW STUDIO - DAY

Randall is with SAMMY the puppet and two child actors.

SAMMY PUPPET

Dr. Mindy, the President's plan to save Earth and make it so that we can all have a home is going to work, right?

RANDALL

Every single man, woman and child on this planet is going to die.

CHILD ACTOR

I don't like him. He makes me sad.

RANDALL

I'm sorry about that.

PUPPETEER

Um, yeah, this is not what we rehearsed...

RANDALL

Kids, listen. You tell your parents that President Orlean and Isherwell are sociopaths and fascists!

INT. RALLY IN GIANT BASKETBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

President Orlean is on stage. Speaking to a crowd of 20 thousand supporters. Cheers and applause fill the stadium.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

You know why they want you to look up? Do you know why? Because they want you to be afraid! They want you to look up because they are looking down their noses at you. They think they're better than you.

INT. COMPUTER SCREEN - DAY

Videos pop up on Vroom Vroom and a variety of other sites.

GUYS IN A HUDDLE

Don't Look Up! Don't Look Up! Don't Look Up!

DUDE ON DIDDLY

They want to rob you of your freedom. And that's a fact!

MORE GUYS IN A HUDDLE
Don't Look Up! Don't Look Up! Don't
Look Up!

A live stream flooded with comments pops up with famous
celebrity RAGHAV.

RAGHAV
The U.S. President, Orlean, has not
included India or any other nation
in the world to be a part of this
mission.

Video of DUDE ON DIDDLY pops back up holding up the magazine
with Randall on the cover.

DUDE ON DIDDLY
This dude is a known pornographer
named Kip...

Another Diddly Video pops up of the FRENCH PRIME MINISTER.

FRENCH PRIME MINISTER
The United Nations have been
considering its own deflective
mission.

Back to RAGHAV.

RAGHAV
Just Look Up, for fuck's sake!

INT. MOVIE JUNKET SET - DAY

DEVIN PETERS talks to an ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST with a
TOTAL DEVASTATION poster behind him.

ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST
Now I know a lot of Hollywood is
supporting the Just Look Up
movement but I haven't seen a pin
like that.

DEVIN PETERS
Yeah, this pin points up and down.
Because I think, as a country, we
need to stop arguing and "virtue
signaling." Just get along.

ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST
That is sooo refreshing. I think
we're all tired of the politics.

DEVIN PETERS

Yeah. That's why we made Total
Devastation. It's for everyone, you
know? It's a popcorn movie.

INT. RALLY IN GIANT BASKETBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

President Orlean is still on stage.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

You keep your eye on the road
ahead, you put your head down. And
you put one foot in front of the
other, step by step. Day by day!

EXT. STADIUM - NIGHT

The sign outside of the stadium reads, "THE FOR REAL LAST
CONCERT TO SAVE THE WORLD."

Randall and Kate speak into the mic to 120 THOUSAND FANS
CHEERING.

RANDALL

So we want to say something loud
and clear. There is no safe way to
bring this comet back to Earth and
exploit it for profit. It cannot be
done! Nations of the world, defy
Orlean and BASH! Launch your own
nuclear deflection mission now and
save this planet!

KATE

And now, uh, Riley Bina with her
special guest!

RANDALL

(whispering to Kate)
Yeah I forgot the name.
(back to the crowd)
Thank you!

Cheering. Lights come up. There's live stream comments that
pop up on screen. Crowd goes crazy. Riley Bina is there with
her band in a stunning outfit floating down onto the stage.

THEY KICK INTO AN ORIGINAL SONG "JUST LOOK UP."

Kate and Randall watch from just off stage.

INT. RALLY IN GIANT BASKETBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

President Orlean is still on stage. Jason is speaking to the crowd.

JASON

Is that a rock-solid ten smokeshow of a President or what? If she wasn't my mother... There's three types of American people. There are you, the working class. Us, the cool rich, and then them. I'm sorry, but we need them. We need them because you build us up to fight them. The working class, the lower. You understand?

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

No, I don't get it.

JASON

Do you understand? I'm talking about nutritionists. I'm talking about personal trainers. People at the spa, but not the ones that check you in and not the masseuses but they walk you down the corridor. They're there...

EXT. STADIUM - NIGHT

ORIGINAL SONG "JUST LOOK UP" continues. DJ Chello enters the stage to rap his verse.

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Dr. Oglethorpe and a crowd of students protest in the hallway of an administrative building.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Divest from BASH when?

PROTESTORS

Divest now!

DR. OGLETHORPE

Divest from BASH when?

PROTESTORS

Divest now!

Teddy gets escorted out by campus police.

DR. OGLETHORPE
We will not be quiet!

EXT. STADIUM - NIGHT

ORIGINAL SONG "JUST LOOK UP" continues. DJ Chello wraps up his verse and Riley sings the bridge.

EXT. BANK - NIGHT

Cut to Kate and Yule spray painting "JUST LOOK UP" on the window of a bank as the song continues.

CUT TO:

INT. JUST LOOK UP HEADQUARTERS - 3 DAYS LATER

Dr. Oglethorpe picks up a call.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Hey, good afternoon, Adam. What do I owe the pleasure of this call?

His face falls.

DR. OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)
What time?

Quick cut to VT: HELICOPTER FOOTAGE OF A GIANT CLOUD OVER A RUSSIAN BASE.

DR. OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)
Well uh... well, thank you for calling.

He hangs up. A grim look on his face. The rest of the team continues to work. Kate looks up and walks over.

KATE
What? What?

Randall walks up.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Orlean and BASH cut Russia, India, and China out of the rights for the minerals. So they tried their own joint deflection mission.

(MORE)

DR. OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)
 But approximately 40 minutes ago a massive explosion was detected at the Russian's Baikonur launch complex. It looks like the mission failed.

The bustling office goes quiet.

RANDALL
 That's it?

KATE
 Wait, what do you mean "that's it?"
 Teddy?

DR. OGLETHORPE
 There's still the BASH mission.
 It's all we have now.

Randall walks away from Kate and Dr. Oglethorpe.

RANDALL
 FUCK!!!!!!

EXT. DON'T LOOK UP RALLY - GREAT LAWN, D.C. - THAT NIGHT

Congressman Tenant with Dan Pawketty, Jason Orlean, and KID ROCK (look alike) speak to a giant crowd wearing the "Don't Look Up" red, white and blue caps.

CONGRESSMAN TENANT
 These "Just Look Uppers" want millions of illegal Chileans to come across the border! Don't Look Up! Don't Look Up!

CRANE ARM DOWN to one LOYAL SUPPORTER, early 20s in a Don't Look Up hat, as he looks back up over his shoulder for JUST A SECOND.

LOYAL SUPPORTER
 What?
 (and then louder)
What the hell is that!?

Crowd hushes and starts to turn around and look up. In the sky is a GIANT GLOWING BALL a fifth the size of the moon.

LOYAL SUPPORTER (CONT'D)
 Fucking lied to us!

Crowd starts to murmur. Jason runs up to the mic.

JASON

The President just texted me.
 "Don't trip. It's all good. Don't
 trip."

The crowd shouts and boos over him. A BOTTLE HITS JASON in the head cutting him. More bottles and caps start to rain down.

JASON (CONT'D)

You cut my face, you fucking
 rednecks!

Jason storms off stage, clutching his face.

EXT. HIGHWAY - TWO DAYS LATER

Randall, Kate and Yule drive back to the Midwest. The highway is completely empty. A pack of deer sprint across.

YULE

Man, there hasn't been a car in
 like, an hour.

RANDALL

Everyone's watching the BASH
 launch.

KATE

And what are we doing again?

RANDALL

I already told you. We are going to
 go buy some groceries.

MUSIC: TILL THEN by the Mills Brothers plays on the radio.

Randall turns it up.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

The Mills Brothers. Great band. You
 know, Duke Ellington found this
 band. I think they were originally
 called the Four Kings of Harmony.

The song continues as they listen silently.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

"Till Then," this is the song. It's
 about soldiers going off to World
 War II and thinking about home.
 Listen to this part.

The song plays as Randall recites the lyrics.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Although there are oceans we must
cross and mountains that we must
climb, I know every gain must have
a loss. So pray that our loss is
nothing but time.

YULE

Kate, I gotta ask you something.

KATE

What?

YULE

Dr. Mindy, can I be vulnerable in
your car?

RANDALL

Yeah, go ahead.

YULE

I've met a lot of people, and I've
never met anyone like you. And I
feel a connection to you on a level
that... I don't know. I haven't
felt with anyone else. And going
out on a limb, but would you want
to spend more time together? Maybe
even get engaged or something?

Kate smiles to herself and chuckles.

YULE (CONT'D)

Are you laughing? No?

KATE

I'm smiling. Well sure, why not?

RANDALL

Wow. Well this is sweet. This is
pretty sweet.

Quick cut to a CU of the comet, hurtling over the screen.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - SAME TIME

President Orlean, Jason and Peter Isherwell in the command
center.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

And you read the tea leaves for Dr. Mindy. You showed him the algorithm. You really shook him with that information. How he was going to die.

PETER ISHERWELL

Yeah, it is shaking.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

It got me so excited to know about my own death. I don't think I want to know. Yes, I do. I want to know.

PETER ISHERWELL

You're going to be eaten by a Bronteroc. We don't know what it means.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

A what?

PETER ISHERWELL

A Bronteroc.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Oh.

The FLIGHT DIRECTOR calls out the mission.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

Okay people, we have clear skies and are a go for the BEAD launch. Madam President?

President Orlean puts on her head set.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Citizens of Planet Earth. Now...

INT. SUPERMARKET - MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

Randall, Kate and Yule are grocery shopping.

RANDALL

Look at this, Kate. They have wild salmon. Look at the difference between that and the farm-raised stuff. You see how that looks just... I don't know. Looks fake, right?

(MORE)

RANDALL (CONT'D)
 Hey, why don't you go find some...
 what are the little potatoes
 called, the tiny ones?

KATE
 Fingerling potatoes?

RANDALL
 Yeah, let's get-

YULE
 I fucking love fingerling potatoes!

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - SAME TIME

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
 Do you want to say something too?

JASON
 Yeah. What up, world? Jason Orlean,
 Chief of Staff. United States. I've
 been noticing a lot of prayers
 recently for people during this
 time, and I commend that. But I
 also wanna give a prayer for stuff.
 There's dope stuff, like material
 stuff. Like sick apartments and
 cars and clothes and shit.

Cut to a U.S. Soldier watching on a small TV.

Then to a family in a modest kitchen with a TV that is
 staticy.

JASON (V.O) (CONT'D)
 That could all go away, and I don't
 wanna see that stuff go away.

A giant crowd watches a projected screen of the launch in a
 park.

JASON (V.O.)
 So I'm gonna say a prayer for that
 stuff. Amen.

INT. LOWER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - GEORGIA - DUSK

A family of 5 watches TV with a grim seriousness.

ANCHOR (V.O.)

Just a quiet trepidation among this
much smaller crowd... I can hear
the sounds of some people praying.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - SAME TIME

PETER ISHERWELL

Okay, Anderson. Let's go get it.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

Yes, sir. Here we go, people. 10,
9, 8...

Quick cuts to a woman watching her TV on the verge of tears.
Another woman looks up into the sky. Cars honk. A baby cries.
A full church of people pray. A street riot.

EXT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - NIGHT

Randall with Kate and Yule behind him carrying lots of
groceries approach his family home. He knocks.

June answers the door and sees Randall.

RANDALL

Hey.

JUNE

Hi.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

Liftoff!

Monitors show the BEAD drones lift off. President Orlean and
Jason watch in awe.

EXT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - NIGHT

RANDALL

We got some groceries.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - SAME TIME

Monitors show the BEAD drones flames under tail lifting off.
One screen shows a drone explode.

JUNE

Thank you, that's really sweet,
honey.

Randall hugs June for a long time.

RANDALL

I'm so sorry. You have no idea. I
really am.

JUNE

I know. I've missed you.

RANDALL

I missed you so much.

JUNE

When we dated in college I fucked
Aaron Tran.

RANDALL

Oh?

They hug again.

INT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

Turkey is being put in the oven. Stuffing made. Kate is
putting a dry rub on the Salmon. Yule is dicing carrots. The
table is set.

Teddy pops in holding a bottle of wine.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Heyyyy everyone! Sorry I'm late but
not empty-handed.

Randall embraces him. June says hello.

EXT. DEEP SPACE - CONTINUOUS

The drone satellites tear towards the heavens.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - TWO HOURS LATER

The BEAD drones approach the comet.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

BEADS have approached optimal
escape velocity.

(MORE)

FLIGHT DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

They're now approaching Comet
Dibiasky and are ready for
attachment mode.

The BEADS spread out and their hooked drill arm extends. TWO
MORE OF THE BEADS FAIL TO ATTACH and spin away from the comet
into each other EXPLODING.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

BEADS 8 and 27 are lost due to
lateral control malfunction.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Okay so now, Peter, we're six
drones down. Is this thing still
gonna work?

PETER ISHERWELL

Well, the engineer's assured me
that yes, 24 drones is enough.

JASON

How many can we lose?

PETER ISHERWELL

(hesitates)
How many more?

INT. CVN STUDIO - SAME TIME

Harrison Telms reports on the launch.

HARRISON TELMS

We're being told that several of
the BEADS have exploded on launch.

INT. THE MINDY HOME - LANSING MICHIGAN - SAME TIME

Randall turns off the news coverage in the living room and
goes back to where the group is seated for dinner. A
beautiful turkey and salmon, carrots etc. on the table. The
Mindy's and Kate, Yule and Teddy all take their seats.

RANDALL

Teddy, you've got the head seat
right there.

DR. OGLETHORPE

You're way too kind, Randall. Thank
you.

RANDALL
Cheers everyone, huh?

KATE
Cheers. Thank you so much for
having us.

JUNE
Thank you for being here. It's so
special.

EXT. SPACE - 20 MINUTES LATER

A CU of the comet. Remaining BEAD drones are attached. They
drill into the comet.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR (V.O.)
Commence simultaneous explosive
separation stage...

This is it. The BEADS EXPLODE IN A GIANT FLASH.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - MISSION CONTROL - SAME TIME

Everyone is super tense. President Orlean gasps as the
explosion occurs.

INT. MINDY DINING ROOM - MICHIGAN - 20 MINUTES LATER

DR. OGLETHORPE
Beautiful.

RANDALL
Thank you, pal.

JUNE
It really is. And it's really good
to have you home.

KATE
Dr. Mindy got really famous.

RANDALL
(smiling)
Oh. Oh yeah, I forgot about that.
That's right, okay. I was on
magazine covers and everything. I
know. I'll take your shots.

Everyone laughs. Randall kisses June.

JUNE

I love you.

RANDALL

I love you, too.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - MISSION CONTROL - SAME TIME

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

Still waiting for a full status report on the explosive devices.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

(just to Isherwell)

President Xi of China just texted me. The comet is still whole.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

We're seeing four misfires and sync was off...

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

(just to Isherwell)

It's still intact...

PETER ISHERWELL

Okay... We're all fine. Everyone's fine. If you'll excuse me. Nature calls. I'm going to the restroom for a moment.

Isherwell leaves the room.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Yes, I think that I should also step out to the restroom for a moment.

She also leaves.

JASON

(to President Orlean)

Should I...?

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

No I'll be right back.

The Flight Director turns to where the President should be. Only Jason is there.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

(to Jason)

Sir, the President. We need to know what the mission status is.

JASON

She's coming right back.

A Command Tech stands up.

COMMAND TECH

Screw this! I'm going to see my husband!

She runs out. Some other people start to run out too.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR

Sorry, I've got a 20-year-old daughter. I've got to go see her.

The rest of the crew clamors in panic.

MAN

I'm doing an 8-ball!

INT. PRESIDENTIAL HELICOPTER - SAME TIME

President Orlean is on her satellite phone.

INT. THE MINDY DINING ROOM - MICHIGAN - CONTINUOUS

Randall moves towards their phone. INTERCUT

RANDALL

I got it!

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Hello. There's a ship.

(let's it sit there)

In case we were wrong. And clearly we were wrong.

RANDALL

Of course you have a ship.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

It holds 2,000. It has state of the art cryo-chambers and it's set to find the nearest earth like planet in a goldilocks zone. There's room for you and one other. Brie, your wife. Your call.

RANDALL
I'm good, but thank you for the
offer. You have fun with Jason.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN
Jason?

She realizes who he is talking about.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN (CONT'D)
Oh shit.

INT. BASH LAUNCH CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Jason is still seated. The control center is almost empty.

JASON
She's coming back.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

Frightened neighbors watch the comet in the sky.

INT. MINDY DINING ROOM - MICHIGAN - MOMENTS LATER

Everyone at the table has joined hands and are giving thanks.

EVAN
I'm thankful for that night I fell
asleep out in the backyard. Woke up
face-to-face with a baby deer.

RANDALL
I remember that.

EVAN
Yep. It was the best day of my
life.

Randall and June kiss.

KATE
I'm grateful...
(long beat)
I'm grateful we tried.

Beat.

DR. OGLETHORPE
Man, oh, man, did we try.

RANDALL

Well, we're not the most religious here in the Mindy household... but, um, maybe we should say "amen"? Should we do that?

JUNE

Don't look at me. I don't know how to... What, do you just say, "Amen?" I don't...

YULE

I got this. I got it.
 (into a beautiful prayer)
 Dearest Father and almighty creator, we ask for your grace despite our pride, your forgiveness despite our doubt and most of all, your love to sooth our fears in these dark times. May we face your divine will with courage and open hearts of acceptance. In your name... Amen.

DR. OGLETHORPE

Damn. Yule's got some church game.

KATE

That was... beautiful.

CUT TO:

INT. CVN STUDIO - SAME TIME

Harrison Telms reports.

HARRISON TELMS

The comet remains intact.

A few CREW MEMBERS RUN past camera.

HARRISON TELMS (CONT'D)

We just never...

He shakes his head. The set is empty.

INT. PATRIOT NEWS STUDIO - SAME TIME

DAN PAWKETTY

Of course, there's only one story everyone's talking about tonight. Topless urgent care centers.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - OVERHEAD - 20 MINUTES LATER

We pan over New York City which is in chaos. Traffic, fires, violence, sex, etc.

INT. MANHATTAN BAR - SAME TIME

Jack sits drinking a giant tumbler of tequila at an empty bar with chairs knocked over and the bar mirror cracked.

Brie enters looking disheveled.

JACK BREMMER

Sit. We can fuck... or pray?

BRIE EVANTEE

Honestly I'd rather just drink and talk shit about people.

Jack goes to pour Brie a drink. She takes the bottle from him and downs it.

EXT. FRONT LAWN OF A HOME - SAME TIME

Drask is firing a machine gun at the sky and screaming. When it's out he takes out his hand gun and fires it at the sky.

BENEDICT DRASK

AHHHHH!!! You'll never take me alive!

EXT. PLANET EARTH - 30 MINUTES LATER

The COMET BEGINS ENTERING EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE WITH INCREDIBLE VELOCITY (30 THOUSAND FEET A SECOND). Violent RIPPLES SPREAD OUT and a bright light flares from the FIRE CREATED BY THE FRICTION OF ITS ENTRY.

As the comet makes impact, intercut shots of people watching in shock and disbelief. A couple has sex. A Vegas wedding. A baby taking a bath. A polar bear jumping to a new ice cap. A bee flying in a garden.

INT. MINDY DINING ROOM - MICHIGAN - CONTINUOUS

Everyone is enjoying dessert. The HOUSE IS NOW SHUDDERING.

MARSHALL

I'm going to have some more of that apple pie. It's really good.

KATE

It's actually store bought, but you really can't tell.

DR. OGLETHORPE

If I'm being really honest, which at this moment why not, I like the junky taste of store bought better than homemade.

RANDALL

You gotta be kidding me.

DR. OGLETHORPE

No, I'm not kidding.

JUNE

I know what he means. It's a childhood memory thing or something-

EXT. OPEN SKY - CONTINUOUS

THE COMET RIPS THROUGH THE SKY LIKE FABRIC BEING TORN.

EXT. PLANET EARTH

The COMET is a fiery behemoth in the sky. People run and flee. Fiery explosions rain down.

INT. THE MINDY DINING ROOM - MICHIGAN - CONTINUOUS

THE HOUSE IS SHAKING VIOLENTLY.

KATE

This coffee doesn't taste store-bought. Is it?

RANDALL

Never. I always grind my own beans.

MARSHALL

Yeah, Dad's kind of a coffee nut.

YULE

Every time you have coffee, you
have to grind your own beans?

JUNE

It's true. Randall is very
particular about his coffee.

KATE

I can get that way about tea.

RANDALL

The thing is, we really did have
everything, didn't we? I mean, when
you think about it.

BOOM. We go SLO MO as the room collapses and disintegrates.

EXT. SPACE

SPACE SHOT OF EARTH AS THE COMET IMPACTS. GIANT PLUMES OF
MAGMA SHOOT INTO THE SKY.

SHOCKWAVES SPREAD ACROSS THE PLANET.

A CHUNK OF THE EARTH SPLITS OFF.

Incredible amounts of DEBRIS, ROCK, CARS, DIRT, AND TREES
PLUME OUT in the massive explosion.

We weave and snake through pieces of buildings, Kate's diet
app announces her diet is over, a photo of President Orlean
and Steven Segal. We catch a glint of metal...

Amidst the chaos ONE SPACESHIP NAVIGATES ITS WAY OUT.

As it passes us by a small BASH logo is visible on its side.

It soars out into the infinity of space. Leaving behind the
new comet field that used to be planet earth.

EXT. NEW PLANET - 22,740 YEARS LATER - DAY

The SHIP ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE AND LANDS IN A CLEARING OF
BRIGHT GREEN AND PURPLE GRASS surrounded oddly shaped but
verdant trees.

A group of 7 HALF DEER/HALF BIRDS leap past frame.

The door on the ship OPENS with a hiss.

INT. SPACESHIP - CONTINUOU

PAN past all the cryo-chambers showing the names of their occupants: INTER-BANK Jill Arnold, TEXCON OIL Ted Biles, VENDEL LOBBYING Lewis Grandy

The cryo chambers calculate and finally OPEN.

EXT. NEW PLANET - MOMENTS LATER

Slowly the naked and dazed CEOs, Lobbyists and Elected Officials begin to emerge from the ship. Most are in their late 60s and 70s. They groan, stretch and wipe their eyes.

Isherwell checks an atmospheric gauge.

PETER ISHERWELL

Oxygen is higher than on earth by 9 percent everyone so you might feel a bit light headed.

(checks more data)

Cryo-chambers were 58 percent successful which is much better than anticipated.

President Orlean, nude and with a lower back tattoo of a string of roses and guns, is there.

JANIE ORLEAN

We only had 47 dead in our section, so...

PETER ISHERWELL

(looking around at the world)

I think this will work quite well. Quite well indeed...

PRESIDENT ORLEAN

Goodness. Look at that beautiful animal. I wonder, are those feathers or are they scales or-

President Orlean walks toward a feathered bear type creature 20 yards away. It immediately ATTACKS and kills her.

PRESIDENT ORLEAN (CONT'D)

(horrific scream)

CONGRESSMAN TENANT

What is that thing?

PETER ISHERWELL
I believe that's called a
Brontaroc. Uh... whatever you do
don't pet them!

The Bronterocs run towards them in a pack as we pull out.

END.

AFTER CREDITS

EXT. EARTH - DAY

There is rubble everywhere. Ash falls from the sky.
Everything is devastation.

Some rubble moves and a cut and dusty Jason Orlean emerges.
Slowly he stands.

He might be the last living human.

JASON
Mom... Mom!!!!!!

He looks around and pulls out his phone.

JASON (CONT'D)

What's up, y'all? I'm the last man
on Earth. Shit's all fucked up.
Don't forget to like and subscribe.
We out here. Mom!

OUT