

Burning Rain
an original screenplay by
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FADE IN:

1 EXT. DEEP SPACE

The Milky Way Galaxy has more than 3 hundred billion stars.

Astronomers estimate that there are at least 2 rogue planets for every star.

What if a rogue planet crashed into the asteroid belt and sent hundreds of giant rocks plunging toward the Earth?

2 INT. BOARD OFFICES - DAY

SUPER: "2030"

On a mahogany door, a brass plate: "Phil Harrison, Chairman"

3 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY

An office the size of a small apartment, furnished with antiques and high tech. PHIL HARRISON(51) stands looking out a large window onto a devastated landscape. Phil is tall, blond, blue-eyed, fit and wears business casual clothes. As he stands there he sees a meteor hit the ground. His secretary, a WOMAN in her twenties, comes in.

WOMAN

Phil, your granddaughter is here.

A 2 year old girl runs over to him.

Phil picks her up and they both look out the window.

PHIL

Someday we'll be able to live out there again. Shall I tell you a story about how it used to be?

LITTLE GIRL

Yes, Grandpa, tell me a story.

4 INT. UPSCALE LAW OFFICE - DAY

Super: 6 years ago

PHIL HARRISON(45), meets another lawyer to discuss a case. Phil is dressed in jeans and a Hawaiian shirt- the other guy wears a shirt and tie.

ATTORNEY

My client has agreed to pay \$40,000 in back wages to the bus boys and dish washers. Is that acceptable?

PHIL
You must be joking.

ATTORNEY
It's the best they can do.

PHIL
I have a friend at Immigration. He
can put them out of business.

ATTORNEY
\$100,000?

PHIL
Done.

5 INT. PHIL'S OFFICE - DAY

An older building with a view of downtown High-Rise
Apartments. Phil's Stanford law diploma hangs on the wall.
Cast-off furnishings. Piles of files on chairs and desk.
Phil studies a brief.

6 INT. MAXINE'S OFFICE - DAY

Maxine Harrison, 42, blond, blue-eyed, petite, is in session
with a 50 year old male wearing an expensive suit.

CLIENT
I keep having that dream.

MAXINE
What dream is that?

CLIENT
The dream about flaming arrows.

MAXINE
What does that mean to you?

CLIENT
I don't know.

7 INT. DAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

SUPER: "2014"
DAN HARRISON(14), blond, blue-eyed,
slightly-built, works on a pencil
drawing. A KNOCK on the door.

DAN
Come in.

MAXINE comes in and looks over his shoulder. His drawing
shows meteors falling, damaged buildings, a screaming woman.

MAXINE

What's that?

DAN

It's just a picture.

8 INT. WINDOWLESS ROOM - DAY

ED HARRISON (75), a representative of Atlantis, meets with the President. Ed is tall, blond, blue-eyed, fit and tanned in spite of his age. He wears a dark blue knit shirt with the winged sun logo. A large screen shows a map of the solar system with the planets and their orbits, and also shows the meteor stream that is about to arrive.

ED

Mr. President, our measurements tell us that the period of frequent impacts will start in about three months.

PRESIDENT

We appreciate your concern, Filo, but my people tell me it's nothing to worry about. We'll be just fine.

ED

You people still think that Global Warming is the biggest threat we face. Sometimes we feel like we're wasting our time talking to you.

The President leaves.

9 INT. PRESIDENT'S LIMO - DAY

The President makes a call.

PRESIDENT

What's the progress on my bunker?
They tell me we have three months.

10 INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Maxine and ELLEN JAYSON(45) meet for lunch. Ellen is a robust but feminine woman. When they hug, Ellen reaches down and pulls Maxine in until their bellies are pressed tightly together. They sit down and start to talk.

11 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S HOME - DAY

Phil's parents come for Sunday lunch with Phil's family. CAROL HARRISON(70) is tall, blond, blue-eyed, well turned out. After lunch the women clean up and Phil and Ed adjourn to Phil's shop area in the garage. Ed takes note of Phil's prepping- a generator, food, campstove, tent, water filter.

ED

You're going in the right direction here, but it's not quite enough.

PHIL

I think I've got the most likely situations covered.

ED

What if the situation goes beyond that point?

PHIL

Not likely.

ED

Not likely, but possible.

PHIL

I have a life to live. I'm not one of those crazies who expect the end of the world.

ED

I just don't understand why you won't let me help you.

PHIL

Dad, I don't want a cushy job with one of your friends.

ED

It wouldn't be cushy. They'd work your ass off.

PHIL

It would still be something you arranged.

ED

No one makes it alone.

PHIL

I want success on my own terms.

ED

Suit yourself.

PHIL

I will.

12 INT. RADIO STUDIO - NIGHT

Show theme plays. JACK PRUSSMAN(55) introduces a guest who claims to be from Atlantis. NICKY TESLA(36) wears a dark

blue knit shirt with the winged sun logo. Nicky is tall, blond, blue-eyed.

PRUSSMAN

Tonight we have a very special guest who claims to be from Atlantis- Nicky Tesla. Nicky, how are you?

NICKY

Just fine, Jack, and you?

PRUSSMAN

Fine. So you said you wanted to get right to the point tonight and fill in the background later. Is that right?

NICKY

Yes, it is.

13 INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Five gallon buckets of stored food. Water storage containers.

Guns on the wall: Custom AR-15, Tactical Shotgun, Glock 9 with laser sight. Cases of ammo.

First aid kit. Communications gear. Gas masks.

Deep cycle batteries, generator, solar panels.

A guy dressed in camo is reloading .223 ammo as he listens.

PRUSSMAN(V.O.)

Listeners, you can go to the website to see the pictures he has uploaded. Nicky, what is your point?

NICKY(V.O.)

The Earth is about to suffer a lot of damage. Your listeners need to prepare.

PRUSSMAN

And a lot of them already are. Can you tell us what's going to happen?

14 INT. SENATOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT

A senator and his chief of staff are pouring drinks from a bottle of scotch while listening to the show. They have a diagram of the solar system up on a monitor. It shows the normal planet orbits and one very eccentric orbit- the orbit of the twin star.

NICKY

Certainly. The Earth is about to be hit by a storm of large meteors.

PRUSSMAN(V.O.)

And that will be caused by?

NICKY

A long time ago a rogue planet came into the solar system and broke up. The fragments formed a stream that circles around the sun. The Earth is about to enter that stream.

15 INT. TRUCK CAB - NIGHT

The truck pulls up to a gate in the desert with the radio tuned to Coast to Coast. The gate swings open. The truck drives up to a door that has a winged sun logo painted on it. The door says "Atlantis Trading Co."

PRUSSMAN

How can you be certain of this?

NICKY

Our satellites in deep space have been watching this for years.

PRUSSMAN

And we haven't been warned?

NICKY

They don't want to spook the herd.

PRUSSMAN

What can we do about it?

NICKY

Dig. Dig deep. Dig fast. Now.

16 INT. PHIL'S HOME OFFICE - EVENING

Phil sits in the big leather chair of his well-appointed home office watching a YouTube.

ON COMPUTER SCREEN: YouTube page playing a video called "Sane Prepping."

MAN ON VIDEO

A lot of my friends think I'm crazy, and maybe I am, but when the shit hits the fan I'll be ready.

He pauses the video and calls his parents number. No answer.

PHIL

Hey mom, dad, just checking in to see you're all right.

Maxine comes in, looks over his shoulder.

MAXINE

You know, you're more like your father than you realize.

PHIL

I don't think so.

MAXINE

He's into all this survival stuff, too.

PHIL

Do you think I'm crazy?

MAXINE

Not really.

17 INT. MAXINE AND PHIL'S HOME - EVENING

Phil and Maxine fix supper.

PHIL

Was there a message from my parents?

MAXINE

No.

PHIL

I'm think I need to call them again.

Phil picks up the kitchen phone and dials a number. The other phone RINGS but no one answers. When the VOICE MAIL ANNOUNCEMENT comes on he leaves a message. Dan comes in.

PHIL (CONT'D)

They didn't mention any plans to go out of town. I think I need to go over there after supper.

MAXINE

They're probably OK.

PHIL

I'm sure they are but I need to check.

DAN

Can I go with you?

PHIL

Sure.

18 EXT. PHIL'S PARENT'S TOWNHOME - EVENING

Phil pulls into the driveway. There are no lights on inside or out. Phil opens the door and goes in.

19 INT. PHIL'S PARENTS' TOWNHOME - EVENING

Phil walks through the living room into the kitchen area, turning on lights as he goes. Nothing unusual.

Phil goes to the master bedroom, then the master bath. No signs of forced entry or foul play.

20 INT. EDS HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

Dan wanders around looking at things. He turns on the computer monitor and the screen fills with strange characters. He rests his hand on a notebook lying on the desk, then opens it and flips through the pages. He takes it to his Dad.

DAN

Dad- look at this.

Phil reads the address.

PHIL

So?

DAN

Maybe they went there.

PHIL

OK, Let's go.

They turn off all the lights, set the alarm, and lock the door.

21 INT. PHIL'S CAR - EVENING

Phil and Dan drive slowly by the address. Above the door, the winged sun logo. The door says "Atlantis Trading Co."

PHIL

Interesting.

22 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - EVENING

Phil and Dan approach the door. Phil presses a button. A man's voice comes from an intercom.

GUARD(V.O.)

We're closed.

PHIL
I'm just trying to find out what
this place is.

GUARD
Read the sign.

PHIL
My parents are missing and I found
this address at their house.

GUARD
Come back tomorrow.

PHIL
Does the name Ed Harrison mean
anything to you?

GUARD
Who are you?

PHIL
I'm Phil Harrison, Ed's son.

GUARD
Wait.

Phil and Dan look at each other.

After a pause, the electronic lock snicks open. Phil pulls the door part way open and sticks his head in. A man sits at a small desk at the end of a hall. He's wearing a dark blue knit shirt with the winged sun logo. They go in. Near the entry, he notices grooves in the floor and sees the edge of the thick sliding door that seals the portal. He touches the door.

23 INT. ATLANTIS TRADING - EVENING

Phil and Dan walk to the guard desk. The guard is an overweight Vietnam vet, 67. His skin is blotched from decades of heavy drinking. The thousand-yard stare still burns in his rheumy eyes.

PHIL
Obviously my name means something to
you.

Guard doesn't respond.

PHIL (CONT'D)
Hey, listen, you let me in after you
heard my name, so you must know
something. Why are you messing with
me?

GUARD

Why don't you leave us your phone number and we'll get back to you.

Phil wrings his watch on his wrist.

PHIL

That's not good enough.

GUARD

It's all I can do.

The guard puts his hand on his gun.

Phil scowls at the man. The guard passes him a paper and pen. Phil writes down his name and cell number.

PHIL

Call me.

The guard stands up.

GUARD

Goodnight.

Phil pauses, then turns away. He and Dan go down the hall and out the door.

24 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - EVENING

Phil and Dan pause before leaving. Phil kicks a small stone.

PHIL

Bunch of bullshit.

GUARD

I heard that.

They walk away.

25 INT. DAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dan lies in bed watching a YouTube on his Pad.

ON COMPUTER SCREEN: A video called "Elite Bunkers"

NARRATOR

All over the world there are ancient man-made tunnels, underground cities, and bunker systems. Today people with money are digging deep bunkers because they fear cataclysmic disasters.

26 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Phil and Maxine are in bed discussing the evening's events.

PHIL

Dan thinks we're going in the right direction on this.

MAXINE

His hunches are usually pretty good.

PHIL

We'll see if they call tomorrow.
If not, we have to go to the police.

Phil rolls up on his elbow and gives her a good night kiss.

27 INT. SCHOOL LUNCHROOM - DAY

Dan is sitting at a table with KATY WOLFSON, twelve. Katy is a nerdy tomboy sort of girl.

KATY

Didn't that place seem creepy to you?

Dan has his mouth full.

DAN

Uffhumff.

KATY

Your grandpa must be really weird.

DAN

That's what my dad says. He thinks grandpa is a bad influence on me.

28 INT. PHIL'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Phil sits at his COMPUTER researching a case. The PHONE RINGS.

ED (V.O.)

How ya doing, kiddo?

PHIL

I'm doing fine, Dad. Where the heck are you?

ED(V.O.)

I can't really explain that right now. Are you busy this weekend?

PHIL
Not particularly.

ED
OK. I want all of you pack an overnight bag and go back to that place you visited at nine on Saturday morning. Can you do that? Still have the address?

PHIL
Yeah, I guess so. Why are you being so mysterious? Did you tell that guard to jerk me around?

ED
I wanted you to be motivated. We'll explain everything when you get here.

PHIL
Who's we?

ED
See you Saturday?

PHIL
Yeah, yeah. Jeez.

Phil hangs up.

29 INT. ELLEN'S APT - AFTERNOON

Maxine and Ellen lie naked under the sheet after making love. Maxine cuddles up against Ellen.

ELLEN
Do you think Phil knows about us?

MAXINE
No. Besides, he's so preoccupied with his business he scarcely has time for me anymore.

ELLEN
And then there's all that nonsense about preparing for disaster.

MAXINE
It makes him feel more in control of his life.

ELLEN
He seems to work hard without getting anywhere.

MAXINE

I think he frustrates himself, but he's not aware of it.

The women pause, enjoying their closeness.

MAXINE (CONT'D)

Sometimes I worry about Dan.

ELLEN

About what?

MAXINE

He's very special in some ways, and that also makes him odd compared to a lot of kids his age.

ELLEN

You mean his intuition?

MAXINE

Yes.

ELLEN

You told me that runs in his family.

MAXINE

And causes problems for everyone.

ELLEN

He's still your baby. I've enjoyed watching him grow up.

MAXINE

Yes, and I love him so much...

Maxine hugs Ellen tighter.

30 INT. GUNSHOP - DAY

Phil looks at the array of guns in the racks and under the glass. The owner finishes with another customer and then comes down the counter to Phil

GUNSHOP OWNER

See anything you like?

PHIL

I don't know. I'm new to this.

GUNSHOP OWNER

Didn't your Dad teach you to shoot?

PHIL

Not in Atherton.

GUNSHOP OWNER

What do you plan to do with a gun if you buy one?

PHIL

It's mostly for protection.

GUNSHOP OWNER

A lot of people buy pistols for that, but it's easier to hit with a longer gun.

The dealer turns to the rack and pulls down a black, short-barreled twelve gauge pump with a pistol grip. He lays it down in front of Phil.

GUNSHOP OWNER (CONT'D)

No one will mess with you if you have this.

The gunshop owner takes a spent shell and shows Phil how to load it.

GUNSHOP OWNER (CONT'D)

Don't load it until you need to.

He presses the action release and pumps it.

GUNSHOP OWNER (CONT'D)

This is how you clear a live round out of the chamber.

He tips it over and pushes the safety.

GUNSHOP OWNER (CONT'D)

This is the safety. See the red line? That means it's on safe. If you have to fire it, hold it tight because it kicks hard.

PHIL

I'm not expecting a war.

GUNSHOP OWNER

But you are expecting something.

31 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Phil and Maxine clear the table and load the dishwasher.

MAXINE

This whole thing is pretty off the wall.

PHIL
I think his mind is going.

MAXINE
He still seems pretty lucid to me.

PHIL
He's done some strange things in his time, but this one tops it all.

MAXINE
Well, the address was real, and he didn't seem upset, did he?

PHIL
No code word.

MAXINE
Code word?

PHIL
We have a word we can use to suggest trouble. It's something he taught me early on. We've never used it.

MAXINE
So do you think we should go there this weekend?

PHIL
I suppose I could go alone, or call the cops.

MAXINE
What would they do?

PHIL
Probably not much. He's not really missing. No evidence of a crime.

MAXINE
And Carol must be with him.

PHIL
So- yes or no?

MAXINE
I guess it's a yes. We need to know what's going on with them.

32 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - MORNING

Phil, Maxine, and Dan wait at the door with small rolling suitcases. Phil pushes the BUZZER.

GUARD (V.O.)
Good morning. We've been expecting
you.

Phil points out the camera to Maxine. She makes a face.
The door CLICKS open.

GUARD (CONT'D)
Come on in.

They go in.

33 INT. ATLANTIS TRADING - MORNING

Phil leads the way to the guard desk.

PHIL
We're--

GUARD
The Harrisons.

The guard picks up the phone.

GUARD (CONT'D)
They're here.

WATCHER(V.O.)
I'll be up in a minute.

GUARD
He's on his way.

The family looks around. A door with no handle on the outside
opens behind the guard. The WATCHER (70) holds it open for
them. The watcher is a slender man with a receding hairline
and translucent skin. He's wearing a gray uniform with the
winged sun logo.

WATCHER
This way please.

They hold back.

WATCHER (CONT'D)
It's quite safe. Please.

Phil leads them through the door. They follow the Watcher
down a corridor.

PHIL
Where are my parents?

WATCHER
You'll see them pretty soon.

PHIL
I hate all this mystery.

WATCHER
I'm sorry. We have our reasons.

PHIL
Who's this 'we'?

WATCHER
You'll learn that too.

PHIL
Never a straight answer.

WATCHER
I'm sorry. Procedure.

PHIL
Hmmpf!

They come to an elevator.

The Watcher uses the palm reader.

The door opens and the Watcher motions for them to enter.

34 INT. ELEVATOR - MORNING

The elevator control panel has only up and down buttons.
The elevator falls faster and faster, leaving them slightly
weightless, then slows and stops.

35 INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

The elevator door opens to another featureless hallway.
The Watcher stops at a door and swipes his badge.

The door opens, revealing a small subway station.
They climb aboard a car and are WHISKED away.

PHIL
We've been going for quite awhile.

WATCHER
We're going to the ark where your
parents are.

PHIL
Ark?

WATCHER
We do see the humor in that.

36 INT. RECEPTION ROOM - MORNING

Ed and Carol wait for them. Phil lets go of his bag and rushes over to hug his mom. Then he turns to confront his dad.

PHIL
What the fuck is going on here?
Why all the mystery?

ED
In due course, kiddo.

PHIL
Don't call me kiddo, Dad. I hate
that. I'm not a kid anymore.

ED
OK. OK. Have you had breakfast yet?

PHIL
Of course we did. It's 9 o'clock.

ED
Let's go sit down where we can talk
about all this.

PHIL
I'd like that. I really would.

Ed chuckles.

ED
No need to be so tense.

PHIL
I'm not tense.

Ed smiles broadly.

ED
Whatever. The Watcher opens another
door.

37 INT. CAFE - MORNING

They enter an airy room with tables and potted trees.

ED
Just put your stuff over there and
sit down so we can talk.

Ed turns to Dan.

ED (CONT'D)

I need you to go over there points
to an area where there are some
couches and keep busy while we talk.

DAN

But I want to listen.

ED

You can play with this.

With a wink, Ed hands Dan a tablet computer and taps the
screen. A video about Velikovsky comes on.

ED (CONT'D)

It's all in there.

DAN

Oh. OK.

Dan flops down on a couch and Ed goes back to sit with the
other adults.

PHIL

So what's this all about?

WATCHER

Life on this planet is about to change
for the worse.

PHIL

Oh, really?

CAROL

We're going to have a lot of big
meteors hit us.

PHIL

We have all those now.

WATCHER

Not like it's going to be.

PHIL

And what's going to make it so much
worse?

WATCHER

The meteor displays we have been
seeing are in a part of the meteor
streams where the objects are tiny.

PHIL

And?

WATCHER

We are entering into an area with much larger objects.

PHIL

How big?

WATCHER

Up to house size. They can cause explosions as big as a small atom bomb.

MAXINE

Dan had a dream about rain that caused things to burn.

WATCHER

He's probably a precog.

PHIL

What's that?

WATCHER

Someone who sees the shadow of events before they happen.

MAXINE

Do you know how crazy this all sounds?

PHIL

It just seems like more doomsday crap to me. Twenty-twelve and all that.

WATCHER

Well, there is a lot of crap in all the twenty-twelve hubbub, but there is also a kernel of truth.

PHIL

What is this, the department of tall tales?

WATCHER

I understand your cynicism, but it's not justified.

PHIL

Do you have anything evidence to support this?

WATCHER

We do. In our labs.

PHIL

I'd like to see it, and it better be good.

ED

Phil, he knows you're a lawyer out there.

PHIL

Show me what you have.

38 INT. BUNKER HALLWAY - DAY

They walk toward the lab and see tall, blond, blue-eyed people dressed in the kind of clothes people wear in fashion shows in Paris. They overhear someone refer to them as Moon-Worshippers.

DAN

What do they mean by Moon-Worshiper?

WATCHER

That's for people who only live on the surface. It doesn't make any sense so it's really an insult.

PHIL

And my dad wants us to come down here and live with them.

39 INT. LAB - DAY

A large number of people, each with multiple monitors, track all kinds of information about the Earth, the Solar System, and beyond.

The Watcher introduces them to Dr. Heinrich, who speaks precisely with a German accent.

WATCHER

This is Dr. Ernst Heinrich, who came out of East Germany after the wall fell.

HEINRICH

I am so pleased to meet all of you.

WATCHER

How's it going?

DR. HEINRICH

Activity is increasing, but the worst is yet to come..

WATCHER

I know you're pretty busy but could you take a moment to give these people some background?

The Watcher puts his hand on Phil's shoulder.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

This guy thinks this is all crap.

DR. HEINRICH

I sincerely wish it was. This is not going to be a pleasure cruise for anyone.

Dr. Heinrich touches one of the screens and a cross-section of rock layers appears.

HEINRICH

You have probably seen or at least heard about the meteor showers we have every year.

PHIL

I have. Get to the point, please.

HEINRICH

Those meteors come from meteor streams that have both thick and thin areas. By that I mean that the objects in the stream that hits us are sometimes larger than the average, and can be so large they cause extinction events.

He shows an illustration of dinosaurs, then of the impact area north of the Yucatan.

PHIL

It's been millions of years since that happened.

HEINRICH

Every twenty-five hundred to three thousand years we pass through a very thick part of the stream. It can be very damaging to life on Earth. And at this point in time all of the larger planets are on one side of the Sun, so we have lost quite a bit of our protection. Most of the time the large planets- Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are spread out and tend to attract big asteroids before they become a threat to us.

PHIL
Why haven't we heard about this?

HEINRICH
You would have to ask the CIA about that.

PHIL
First doomsday, now conspiracy theories. What's next?

HEINRICH
Phil, cynicism will not save your life, nor the lives of your family.

PHIL
We've gone from deep space to deep bullshit.

Heinrich brings up a picture of a crater with wrecked houses in the background.

HEINRICH
Do you remember that gas explosion in San Bruno a few years ago?

PHIL
I could see the smoke from the house.

HEINRICH
There was a natural gas fire, but it was caused by a meteor strike. Look at this picture- see the scrape mark on one side and the rubble piled up on the other? That's what meteors do.

PHIL
Shit. Lied to again.

40 INT. UPSCALE RESTAURANT - DAY

They sit around a large round table having coffee and desserts.

PHIL
Why haven't you told us about this before?

ED
I regret having to keep it from you for all these years, but it was necessary.

PHIL
To lie to all of us?

ED
I didn't lie. I just never said.

PHIL
That's a fine point.

ED
Lawyer's are good at fine points,
aren't you?

PHIL
Sheesh!

CAROL
You boys need to stop carrying on
like that. Phil and Maxine need to
make an important decision.

PHIL
What's the hurry?

CAROL
Because there are going to be a lot
of casualties on the surface. We
don't want you to die. Simple as
that.

PHIL
We'll take our chances.

ED
Are you willing to risk Dan's life
just because you're pig-headed?

Maxine gives Phil an angry look.

CAROL
Coming here doesn't guarantee your
survival. It just improves your odds.

MAXINE
What about all the other people on
the outside?

WATCHER
Unfortunately we can't protect
everyone.

PHIL
So you're just going to abandon them?

WATCHER

There's no other choice.

PHIL

You could try.

ED

There's no time.

MAXINE

What about my parents?

WATCHER

We'll invite them if you stay. We don't push too hard on people outside the bloodlines.

MAXINE

What does that make me?

WATCHER

Married into the blood.

MAXINE

So I'm just here to refresh your gene pool?

PHIL

I still think it's a line of crap.

The room shakes.

WATCHER

That's a small one or perhaps one far away. This will happen more and more until no one will doubt what is happening.

ED

It's a lot of new information. Maybe you'd like to rest for awhile?

MAXINE

Sound's good to me.

The Watcher taps his pad.

WATCHER

OK. I've got a hotel room set up for you.

41 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

The phone rings. Phil rolls over and picks up.

PHIL

Yeah?

ED

Rise and shine, kiddo, there's things to do.

PHIL

I'm not your kiddo anymore, Dad.

ED

You're still my son. Be ready in ten?

PHIL

I guess so.

ED

Lot's to see.

Phil hangs up. He goes to the other bed to rouse Dan.

PHIL

Grandpa says they have a lot of neat things to show us.

DAN

They do? What?

42 INT. HOTEL LOBBY - DAY

Phil, Max, and Dan meet Ed, Carol, and the Watcher.

43 INT. MALL - DAY

They walk out of the hotel into a shopping mall filled with people. It's brightly lit and glossy. Tall blond people in outlandish clothes throng the mall. Carol and Maxine pause to look at the displays.

MAXINE

Somehow I don't think we're back in Kansas.

WATCHER

You aren't. Of course, we have operations in Kansas, but most of the people who live there don't know about us.

PHIL

Hiding in plain sight?

WATCHER

You could say that. And of course
we're not the only ones.

The women go into a clothing store.

44 INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

A salesgirl approaches.

SALESGIRL

Can I help you with anything in
particular.

MAXINE

Just looking.

They wander through the racks.

CAROL

These look like things they show at
Fashion Week in Paris.

Maxine flips through a rack and pulls out a dress.
The dress has a sheer white top with a pattern of sequins
and a sheer black skirt. She goes to the mirror and holds
it up in front of her.

MAXINE

What does one wear under this?

SALESGIRL

Nothing.

MAXINE

Is this lingerie?

SALESGIRL

No.

MAXINE

Then where does one wear this?

SALESGIRL

Some women wear them to dinner
parties.

Maxine goes into a dressing room, strips down to her lacy
coral-blue underwear, and tries on the dress. She puts her
street clothes back on and returns to the salesgirl.

MAXINE

I'll take it.

They go to the register. Maxine passes her phone over the payment sensor.

MAXINE (CONT'D)

Have you ever worn one of these?

SALESGIRL

Not yet.

MAXINE

Does one shave to wear this?

SALESGIRL

That's a matter of personal preference, Madam.

45 INT. THE MALL - DAY

Maxine and Carol rejoin the men.

PHIL

Who else is sneaking around?

WATCHER

All kinds of human species from other places.

PHIL

They aren't going to save us?

WATCHER

No. That's why they're going home.

PHIL

So all the psychopaths are just pulling up the ladder?

WATCHER

That's a bit harsh.

PHIL

I'm not sure I want any part of this. Might be better off dead.

MAXINE

Phil, that's a stupid remark.

(To the Watcher)

How does anything survive?

WATCHER

Redundancy- copies of everything everywhere. It makes it possible to rebuild.

PHIL

All this surveillance seems a little creepy.

WATCHER

These days it's the same up top. Everything you do is being watched by someone. They'll use it against you if they need to.

DAN

What's a Watcher?

WATCHER

There are different kinds. Some of us watch people. Some are more on the technical side. Others do intuitive studies.

DAN

What kind are you?

WATCHER

I'm a People Watcher. I tried the technical side and frankly, it bored me, although I do know why it's important. Would you like to see what they do?

DAN

Sounds way cool.

They stop in front of an electronics store.

WATCHER

These are personal electronics. TPM's, NLC's, HoloCubes.

PHIL

Say what?

WATCHER

I'm sorry. TPM's are wireless power supplies. The "T" refers to Nikola Tesla, who invented them. NLC's are computers that have a quantum link to non-local information.

PHIL

That explains everything!

WATCHER

I'm sorry. I don't understand how they work. I'm just a consumer.

DAN

Can I have one of those?

WATCHER

Yes, if your parents decide to stay.

Dan looks puzzled.

MAXINE

Don't worry dear. You'll be OK.

The group moves on. Dan continues to gaze at the "toys."

Maxine comes back grabs him by the shoulders and turns him in the right direction.

MAXINE (CONT'D)

March, young man. We'll come back later.

The group goes into a store with a flashing gold cross.

46 INT. HEALTH STORE - DAY

They go down the aisle, ending at a display marked "The Ninth Ray."

WATCHER

We've found that a computer program can diagnose common ailments as well as human doctors.

PHIL

(sarcastically)

I'm sure the medical profession loves that!

WATCHER

They do, because it gives them more time to heal the whole person. And with more accurate diagnosis we have fewer malpractice suits.

MAXINE

How does it work?

WATCHER

Place your hand on the reader.

Maxine puts her hand on a plastic panel with the outline of a hand.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

Wait a moment.

NINTH RAY

Congratulations, you currently have no clinical or sub-clinical illnesses requiring attention. Thank you for stopping by. Have a nice day.

MAXINE

Some stupid phrases never die.
What would happen if I had a problem?

WATCHER

It might give you a prescription.

MAXINE

For what? Pills?

WATCHER

Some illnesses manifest as vibrations in the body. For that we give you one of these boxes.

The Watcher goes to a nearby shelf and points out an array of small boxes in various colors. He pulls one down and shows it to Maxine. It's marked "Depression."

WATCHER (CONT'D)

This cancels out the bad vibrations.
You get well.

Carol is in the book area, flipping through a book titled Conscious Dying.

CAROL

I've never heard of such a thing.

WATCHER

There's more to our technology than ray guns.

Carol continues to flip through the pages.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

We know for a fact that something survives physical death, so we try to make the transition with as little damage as possible.

They leave the store.

47 INT. THE MALL - DAY

They come to an unmarked door. The Watcher touches the palm pad and then positions himself before a camera. The door unlatches.

WATCHER

I'm going to show you a Watcher room
for the technical types.

They go through the doorway. The door CLOSES SOLIDLY behind them. They walk down a hall to an elevator. The Watcher presses the down button.

48 INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

The elevator has many buttons. The Watcher presses forty.

PHIL

That's a lot of buttons.

WATCHER

We don't do anything for show.

At level thirty-nine, it starts to slow, then stops.

49 INT. SECURITY DESK - DAY

When the elevator door opens, they are at a security point. They approach the guard desk. The Watcher has his palm and iris scanned again. The guard picks up a handset. In a few moments, an escort comes out.

50 INT. WATCHER LAB - DAY

A dozen people sit at work stations with multiple monitors for each person. Off to one side a few people sit quietly apparently doing nothing.

WATCHER

Dan, this is what I was telling you
about.

Dan looks around with wide eyes.

They stop at a Watcher work station. The monitors show earthquake activity, volcanoes, and extreme weather events.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

This is an Earth Watcher. He tracks
all kinds of events like earthquakes,
floods, volcanoes, hurricanes, tides,
pollution, solar storms and so on.

They walk a few steps to another work station that shows a lot of graphs and financial news.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

This woman monitors all kinds of
economic events in your economy and
(MORE)

WATCHER (CONT'D)
 ours. Like many Watchers, she has
 been chosen for her ability to make
 sense out of a lot of random
 information.

Further on, a man tracks a variety of news media.

WATCHER (CONT'D)
 This person is a news analyst- we
 can often see the dim outline of
 future events in current events.

They walk into the quiet area.

WATCHER (CONT'D)
 These people are concentrating on
 the flow of intuitive information.
 We assume that they feel the same
 things other people feel, and that
 gives us clues to the mood of the
 world. It's very important work,
 and everyone takes a turn at it,
 although some are better than others.

The Watcher turns to look at Dan.

WATCHER (CONT'D)
 Does this look interesting to you,
 Dan?

DAN
 Yeah. I think I want to do this when
 I grow up.

WATCHER
 If you stay, you'll get a chance at
 it. Everyone gets tested, although
 not everyone makes the grade.

DAN
 I'll make the grade.

WATCHER
 Yes, I think you will.

51 EXT. THE MALL - DAY

They come to a residential street.

WATCHER
 Perhaps you'd like to see how we
 live here?

CAROL
I'd like that.

WATCHER
My place is just down the street.

52 INT. ENTRY TO WATCHER'S HOME - DAY

The Watcher swipes his badge and opens the door, which is thick steel, with seals and locking lugs.

ED
Built pretty strong.

WATCHER
These are bunkers. Each unit is self sufficient to a degree. It increases survivability.

ED
You're pretty serious about all this, aren't you?

WATCHER
We have to be.

53 INT. LIVING/DINING/KITCHEN AREA - DAY

They walk through an ordinary-looking LIVING/DINING/KITCHEN area.

54 INT. PANTRY - DAY

A good size room filled with food.

WATCHER
I have enough food for at least a month.

55 INT. CLOSET - DAY

He shows them the air processor

WATCHER
This unit takes out the carbon dioxide and injects oxygen if I need it.

PHIL
What if you're somewhere else when you get hit?

WATCHER
That would be a problem.

56 INT. BATHROOM - DAY

He opens the BATHROOM door revealing the composting TOILET.

WATCHER

Everything that eats, shits.

57 INT. LIVING AREA - DAY

They stand in a cluster.

WATCHER

Each unit can last about four weeks on its own. Hopefully the rescue teams would get here by then.

PHIL

And if they don't?

The Watcher goes to the kitchen and brings back a little bottle of black pills.

WATCHER

You can decide if you want to go slow or fast. They say it won't hurt. Even if it does, once you've taken it it's too late.

PHIL

I see. Maybe we'd be better off topside.

WATCHER

It should be obvious that during a meteor shower it's a lot safer underground.

PHIL

How much safer?

WATCHER

We can't know for sure but you'll have a better chance to live long enough to see your son grow up. He'll have a better chance to live long enough to grow up.

PHIL

There are no facts about the future.

WATCHER

Suit yourself. We don't like the situation any more than you do, but that's the way it is.

PHIL

Wonderful world we live in. It doesn't seem fair.

WATCHER

It's not. It just is. It's been this way for millions of years.

ED

Makes me feel awful small.

WATCHER

You have a lot of company. It's like being an ant on a pool table.

Ed laughs.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

A lot of people are vaguely aware that something is going on, and more and more of them are preparing for it.

CAROL

People have seemed on edge for awhile.

WATCHER

Our scientists can see what is coming. But it seems like such a crazy notion that most people just go back to sleep.

ED

Their normal state.

WATCHER

Afraid so.

PHIL

I've been meaning to ask if the word "Atlantis" in the company name means anything?

WATCHER

It's just a company name.

PHIL

It looks like more than that. The people, the technology.

WATCHER

I'm not at liberty to discuss that. Perhaps you'd like to see the gardens?

CAROL
You have gardens?

WATCHER
Even advanced civilizations need to
grow food.

ED
Lead on.

58 INT. GARDENS - DAY

The huge room has a high ceiling and very bright lights.
There are fruit trees and all manner of vegetables growing
in hydroponic troughs. WATCHER It's basically a food forest.

They hear the SOUND OF WATER MOVING. They walk by TANKS
FILLED WITH FISH.

WATCHER
We use the fish water to fertilize
the plants.

A few CHICKENS strut about.

PHIL
Where does the power for all of this
come from?

WATCHER
We have cold fusion.

PHIL
I thought that was a fraud.

WATCHER
Just a cover story.

PHIL
Why keep it to yourselves?

WATCHER
We don't want to.

PHIL
Our controllers?

WATCHER
Yes.

PHIL
Shit... But you seem pretty self-
contained.

WATCHER

We are. About ninety-five percent over time, one-hundred percent for a short time.

PHIL

Where do you get the five percent?

WATCHER

We trade with you.

They pass by a VAULT DOOR. The Watcher notices their curious glances.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

Seed bank.

They pass by large TRAYS OF GREENS.

PHIL

What do you trade?

WATCHER

Expertise, old technology, whatever.

PHIL

Why would we want your junk?

WATCHER

Our old technology makes up a significant portion of your new technology.

PHIL

Ouch! And we think we're so smart.

They pass by TOMATOES CLIMBING TRELLISES.

WATCHER

You are. We just have a head start. And you do come up with some pretty smart things on your own.

PHIL

Glad to hear that. I was beginning to feel like a Neanderthal talking to a Cromagnon man.

WATCHER

No. We're essentially alike biologically. The main difference is culture and time. We've had more time to build our culture or screw it up, depending on your point of view.

59 INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY

The Harrison clan waits for the next car.

ED

Are you ready to come in?

PHIL

I don't see anything happening outside that justifies a move. And I have my own plans.

ED

It's here when you need it. Rodger Dodger.

The subway stops at the platform. The family hugs and Phil, Maxine, and Dan board. The subway leaves.

60 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Phil and Maxine lie in bed.

MAXINE

Do you think the threat is real?

PHIL

I think there's some kind of problem out there, but my Dad is way crazy on this one.

MAXINE

Are there things we should be preparing if we do want to go in?

PHIL

Our bank accounts and investments. I don't think we should rush to sell the house.

MAXINE

You always seem to resist your father on every issue. Do you hate him?

PHIL

I just wish he'd get off my back.

61 INT. SCHOOL LUNCHROOM - DAY

Dan and Katy are having lunch.

KATY

That sounds like the most amazing place.

DAN

It is. We may want to move there.

KATY

Why?

DAN

Something about a disaster from space.

Two buxom girls in their class watch them from another table.

FIRST GIRL

Hey, mosquito bite, getting any bigger?

SECOND GIRL

He's such a nerd.

62 INT. PHIL'S OFFICE - DAY

Phil checks his email, and finds one from Ed.

On the screen: "You should have a two meter radio. We monitor one forty-six point seven nine, simplex. Don't worry about a license. It won't matter when the shit hits the fan."

We see Phil opens up Amazon, where he orders a small 2 meter radio.

63 INT. ELLEN'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Ellen and Maxine are in bed after an afternoon tryst.

ELLEN

That's an amazing story. Are they for real?

MAXINE

They think they are.

ELLEN

That's an odd name for a company. I looked to see if they are public. There's not record of them.

MAXINE

They probably want to be somewhat invisible, given what they are.

ELLEN

Am I part of this plan?

64 INT. DAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dan dreams about an Aztec priest dancing on a pyramid.

65 INT. HARRISON'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Phil and Maxine are watching the news from Mexico while fixing dinner.

MAXINE

It's so awful.

PHIL

I hear that quakes are bad there because it sits on a lake. But I've never heard about one triggered by a meteor.

MAXINE

It seems like we've had a lot of disasters lately. I wonder if what they told us is true?

PHIL

I'm not convinced. I am worried that Dad's craziness is having a bad effect on Dan.

MAXINE

What if there really was a problem?

PHIL

I'm sure the government would tell us. But my dad did use the code word.

MAXINE

What was that?

PHIL

Rodger Dodger.

66 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

They're in bed- both reading something.

PHIL

I think one thing we could do that wouldn't be too disruptive would be to move our money. Dad says Atlantis trading has a bank.

MAXINE

Why would we do that if you don't think we need to move into the bunker?

67 INT. BANK OFFICE - DAY

Phil meets with a banker.

BANKER

Are you sure you want to do this?
They aren't a very reputable bank.

PHIL

And you are? I'm not asking your
advice. Just move the money.

68 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Discuss Ellen while cleaning up.

MAXINE

If we go, can I take Ellen with us?

PHIL

I'd be leaving my friends behind.
Why should it be any different with
her?

MAXINE

She's more than a friend to me.

PHIL

I know.

MAXINE

You do?

PHIL

Silly girl, I've known for a long
time.

MAXINE

You never said anything.

PHIL

Didn't need to. When I was growing
up I had an uncle who visited most
weekends. The master bedroom and
guest bedroom shared a bathroom.

69 INT. PHIL'S HOME OFFICE - EVENING

Phil watches videos about simulations of meteor strikes.

70 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Phil and Maxine are settling into bed.

PHIL

I moved the money.

MAXINE

You did what?

PHIL
I moved our savings to Atlantis Bank.

MAXINE
Without asking me?

PHIL
We need to hedge our bets.

MAXINE
Ellen thinks it's a bad idea.

PHIL
She's not part of our family.

MAXINE
Well, I am!

Maxine rolls away from Phil and curls up. Phil makes a resigned noise.

71 INT. HIGH-RISE APARTMENT HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Maxineine knocks on the door of one of the apartments.

72 INT. HIGH-RISE APARTMENT ENTRY - AFTERNOON

The HOSTESS opens the door for Maxine. Maxine steps in and takes off her coat. The Hostess folds the coat over her arm and steps back to take in Maxine's outfit- the sheer dress from Atlantis. Her eyes scan down Maxine's body- her erect nipples poking at the fabric, the spiked barbell piercing her navel, her shaved pubes.

HOSTESS
My, my, my. The butterfly has emerged.

Maxine walks toward the living room.

73 INT. HIGH-RISE APARTMENT LIVINGROOM - AFTERNOON

Heads turn and conversations stop as Maxine walks in. Many eyes follow her as she walks over to Ellen. Ellen picks morsels from a table laden with a gorgeous array of food, wine, and flowers.

ELLEN
Where did you get that amazing thing?

MAXINE
Down in the bunker. I saw it in a shop. I wasn't sure I could actually show up in it.

ELLEN

It is quite a show. Everyone here
wants to fuck you.

MAXINE

Don't worry. It's all for you.

ELLEN

Except the parts you keep for Phil.

Maxine and Ellen circulate, catching up with old friends. Many of the women can't resist the urge to touch Maxine. A butch girl wearing blue jeans and a tight t-shirt plants herself in front of Maxine.

BUTCH GIRL

I wish I had the nerve to do that.

MAXINE

You look like you do. Come with me.

74 INT. PENTHOUSE APARTMENT KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Maxine takes the woman to the kitchen, finds a pair of scissors, and cuts away the cloth covering the tips of her breasts. She gives each nipple a little suck to make it pop out.

MAXINE

That's much better.

A woman who watched this scene approaches the butch girl.

WOMAN

May I?

The butch girl nods. The woman sucks her.

75 INT. PENTHOUSE APARTMENT LIVINGROOM - AFTERNOON

A woman dressed in a dark pinstripe suit comes up, pulls her close, grabs her ass, and whispers in her ear.

SECOND WOMAN

You are so hot! Gimme your number.

Ellen looks on with a mixture of pride and jealousy.

After a few moments Ellen comes over, takes Maxine by the hand, and leads her down the hall to a darkened bedroom.

76 INT. PENTHOUSE APARTMENT BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Ellen gently pushes Maxine up against a wall and kneels. She slides Maxine's skirt up to her waist and starts licking her. Maxine moans loudly as she comes.

77 INT. PENTHOUSE APARTMENT HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Ellen and Maxine come out of the bedroom.

All the women are looking down the hall as Ellen and Maxine emerge.

ELLEN

I couldn't wait.

The women laugh and applaud. The party resumes. Ellen and Maxine are hugged and kissed as they move through the crowd.

78 INT. MAXINE'S OFFICE - EARLY EVENING

Maxine comes in wearing her coat. She checks for messages, then goes to the closet. She takes off her coat and dress and hangs them up. She puts on plain white panties and a plain white bra. Pulls on pantyhose. Buttons up a prim white blouse. Finally a boxy gray suit. She puts on the coat and leaves.

79 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Phil is lying in bed reading The God Problem by Howard Bloom. Maxine, naked, jumps into bed and snuggles up to Phil.

MAXINE

Fuck me, baby.

Phil puts down his book and turns off the light.

80 INT. BREAKFAST BAR - MORNING

Dan eats while Maxine loads the dishwasher.

DAN

I had another dream last night.

MAXINE

What about?

DAN

I dreamed that Abraham Lincoln was drowning.

Maxine bites her lip.

81 INT. PHIL'S OFFICE - DAY

Phil watches cell phone videos about a tsunami that hits the East Coast, causing major damage in New York and Washington. His cell RINGS.

MAXINE

Have you heard the news?

PHIL

About the tsunami?

MAXINE

I told you about the dream Dan had.

PHIL

Ready to go in?

MAXINE

I think we need to give it some serious thought.

PHIL

It was on the other side of the country.

MAXINE

The earthquake in Mexico was closer.

82 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Phil and Maxine clean up after supper. They talk about selling the house as part of prepping for disaster.

MAXINE

I love this house.

PHIL

So do I, but we might be better off with cash.

MAXINE

I don't want to disrupt Dan's life.

PHIL

I hear those refugees from the East are paying top dollar.

MAXINE

So we should take advantage of their pain? If we sell and things aren't as bad as your dad says it will be hard to buy back in.

PHIL
My parents are renting.

MAXINE
So are mine. That doesn't mean they're
expecting the end of the world.

83 INT. DAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Maxine rushes in and kneels by Dan's bed. She gently shakes
him to wake him up.

MAXINE
What's wrong, Dan?

DAN
I saw a giant egg crack open. People
were running away and screaming.

Maxine strokes his head.

MAXINE
Try to get some sleep.

Maxine leaves. Dan lies in bed with his eyes open.

84 INT. MAXINE'S AND ED'S OFFICES - DAY

Intercut:

Maxine sits on the couch in her office, talking on the phone.

Ed leans back in a large leather chair in an executive office.

MAXINE
I'm getting worried about Dan.
These dreams keep getting worse.

ED
I'm sorry it's so rough on him.
The gift has a price. Ready to come
in?

MAXINE
It's not that close to us.

ED
It will be. Can you get Phil to
decide?

MAXINE
I'll try, but you know how stubborn
he can be.

85 INT. PHIL'S OFFICE - DAY

Phil works on a case file. His cell RINGS.

ED

It's me.

PHIL

What's up, Dad?

ED

Did you hear about Dan's dream last night?

PHIL

Yeah.

ED

Dan wasn't the only one who had that dream.

PHIL

And?

ED

If you won't come in, will you at least send Maxine and Dan?

PHIL

Maxine is the holdup.

ED

She thinks you're the holdup. If you wait too long, it may be too late.

Phil hangs up.

86 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Maxine stands by the front door and calls to Dan.

MAXINE

Get a move on, Dan. It's already seven forty-five.

DAN(OS)

I don't wanna go. I have a bad feeling.

87 INT. PHIL'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Phil's windows rattle from an explosion. He looks out his window just in time to see a flaming object hit a tall building. Shards of glass rain on the street.

There is a huge gap in the side of the building. Phil grabs his cell and calls Maxine.

PHIL
Something just hit downtown.

MAXINE(V.O)
Something hit over here, too.

Flaming objects continue to fall in the distance. Phil opens Twitter on his phone. He sees a lot of tweets about the meteors in San Francisco. Then it starts to chirp about a massive strike in Los Angeles.

He searches and a video feed from LA comes up. There are scenes showing damage to the city, then scenes of a nuclear power plant with a large plume of steam billowing from it. He glances out his window as another nearby building gets hit.

PHIL
Maxine, we need to get the hell out here. Meet me at the school.

Phil goes to the closet in his office. He pulls out the gun case and checks the contents of the bug out bag.

He takes a last look around his office and goes out, locking the door behind him.

88 INT. MAXINE'S OFFICE - DAY

Maxine calls Ellen.

MAXINE
It's time.

ELLEN
I'll be waiting in the lobby.

89 EXT. ELLEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Maxine's SUV screeches to a halt in front of the building.

Ellen runs out with her bag, throws th bag in the back and jumps in next to Max.

90 EXT. DAN'S SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Cars jam the street. People mill around. Parents look for children. Crying children look for their parents.

Phil drives up in his Mini Cooper and finds Maxine, Dan, and Ellen waiting in their SUV.

Phil opens the back and puts his gun case and brief case inside.

He comes to the driver's door and beckons Maxine to change seats so he can drive.

He nods to Ellen.

PHIL

Why don't you get in the back with Dan.

She does.

91 INT. SUV - DAY

Phil gets into the drivers seat.

MAXINE

I can't go without her.

PHIL

We have to get to the shelter.

92 EXT. STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO - AFTERNOON

A few blocks from the portal the streets are so filled with rubble that the SUV can't continue.

They get out. Phil goes to the back, opens the hatch, and pulls out the gun case.

He takes out the shotgun, loads 5 shells in the magazine and stuffs more shells in his pockets.

Maxine is surprised.

MAXINE

I didn't know you had this.

Phil shrugs.

PHIL

You didn't need to.

He pulls the radio out of his bag and turns it on.

He checks the frequency.

(Insert) One forty-six point seventy nine.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Atlantis, do you read me?

ATLANTIS OPERATOR
Loud and clear.

PHIL
This is Phil Harrison. We're on our way in. Just a few blocks away.

ATLANTIS OPERATOR
Call us when you're at the door.

Dan hands the radio to Dan.

PHIL
Don't drop it.

DAN
I won't.

Phil hands his bag to Maxine so his hands are free for the gun.

93 EXT. CITY STREET - MORNING

They walk several blocks and turn a corner.

Three punk guys dressed in black leather and chains block their way, standing in threatening postures.

Phil raises the shotgun, releases the safety, and points it at the leader.

PHIL
Your move?

The leader raises his hands and backs up a few steps, then turns and runs, taking his friends with him.

94 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - AFTERNOON

Rubble partly blocks the damaged outer door. Phil and Dan pull it away and manage to wrench the door open. The sliding door is closed.

Phil tries the radio.

PHIL
Atlantis, this is Phil Harrison.
We're at the door.

ATLANTIS OPERATOR
Pffffffft. Pft. Pffffffft.

Phil presses the button on the intercom.

GUARD
Atlantis Trading.

PHIL
This is Phil Harrison. Ed Harrison's
son.

GUARD
We'll send someone up immediately.

They wait. The door opens.

GUARD (CONT'D)
Hand me your weapon, sir.

Phil hesitates.

GUARD (CONT'D)
You can't have that gun inside.
Muzzle down, safety on, now.

Phil sets the safety and hands him the gun.

They go through the door and scurry down the hall to the
elevator.

95 INT. SUBWAY CAR - AFTERNOON

They all slouch on the seats.

ELLEN
Phil, I'm sorry you found out this
way.

PHIL
Maxine didn't tell you I've known
for a long time?

Ellen looks at Maxine.

MAXINE
Guess I forgot in all the excitement.

PHIL
We're going to need a bigger bed.

The women look at each other. They laugh.

96 INT. ATLANTIS TRADING - AFTERNOON

The subway stops. Ed, Carol, and the Watcher are waiting for
them. Group hug.

They leave the station.

CAROL
We're so glad you're safe.

PHIL
Too close. I feel like such an idiot.

WATCHER
I could use a cup of coffee. How
about you?

97 INT. CAFETERIA - AFTERNOON

After they get their drinks they find seats at a table. They relax. They hear a loud THUD. Dishes slide off the table and clatter to the floor, shattering. People fall down. The lights flicker.

WATCHER
That was close.

MAXINE
How close?

WATCHER
Watch that screen.

In a few moments they see a map of the Southeastern US. There's a bulls-eye over the location of the meteor strike. The words come up: Atlanta, estimated 3 meter diameter.

WATCHER (CONT'D)
Not so close, but that's a big one.

Maxine comes un-glued.

MAXINE
That's where my parents are!

PHIL
How fast can you get damage
information?

Maxine covers her face with her hands, crying. Phil stands up and puts his arm around her shoulders.

WATCHER
Let's go back to my place. We can
get more details.

98 INT. THE WATCHER'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Maxine sits on the couch, sobbing. Phil sits beside her with his arm around her. The Watcher talks to the screen on the wall.

WATCHER

Computer, damage report, meteor
strike, Atlanta, Georgia, US.

A satellite image appears on the screen.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

Zoom in. Search pattern.

The camera shows progressive strips of the damaged city.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

Damage level?

COMPUTER

Point five megaton explosive force.
Sky burst. Eighty percent of
structures damaged or destroyed.

Maxine looks up, then resumes crying. The Watcher watches
the images of the damage for a few seconds, then turns to
Maxine:

WATCHER

What's your parent's address?

MAXINE

Four-nine-five-oh-one Fair Oaks Lane.

WATCHER

Their names?

MAXINE

Stewart and Linda Alsop.

The Watcher turns and talks to the TV.

WATCHER

Computer, show me four-nine-five-oh-
one Fair Oaks Lane.

They see an aerial view of the house. Not severely damaged.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

If they were home, they're probably
OK. Computer, scan casualty lists
for Alsop, Stewart or Alsop, Linda.

Brief pause as computer scans.

COMPUTER

Not on current casualty lists.

WATCHER

Keep scanning and alert me if their names show up. Computer off.

The Watcher comes to sit near Maxine and Phil.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

I'm afraid that's all we can do for now.

PHIL

Thanks. Hopefully we won't hear their names.

WATCHER

If they survived we'll send a Floater to get them.

MAXINE

You'll really try to get them out?

WATCHER

Yes, if they'll come.

Maxine slumps back, too tired to cry anymore.

DAN

What's a Floater?

WATCHER

Think of it as a little airplane that doesn't make any noise and is very hard to see.

Dan looks satisfied by that answer.

Exhausted, they all settle down for naps except for the Watcher, who makes himself a drink and continues to watch the monitor.

99 INT. WATCHERS BEDROOM - MORNING

Maxine wakes up.

MAXINE

Dan? Phil? Anyone?

Silence. She gets up and stumbles into the living room.

100 INT. WATCHER'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Maxine sees a note on the table.

"You were sleeping so well we didn't want to wake you. Press the red button to reach me."

There's a small black box on the table with a red button. She presses it. After a short pause, Phil's voice comes from the wall display.

PHIL

Hi, hon! How ya doing? We're just down the street having breakfast. Why don't you join us?

MAXINE

Just let me freshen up a bit.

PHIL

Turn left outside the door. It's about 50 yards down.

101 INT. WATCHERS BATHROOM - MORNING

Maxine brushes her hair and applies lipstick. She takes one last look at herself before going out.

102 EXT. SIDEWALK CAFE - MORNING

Maxine walks up to the group. Phil gets another chair from a nearby table. The Watcher gestures to the waitress. She comes over and pours coffee for Maxine.

CAROL

How do you feel?

MAXINE

Like I could sleep for days.

Maxine turns to the Watcher.

MAXINE (CONT'D)

Any news?

WATCHER

No.

MAXINE

So they aren't known to be hurt or dead?

WATCHER

Correct.

MAXINE

How soon can we try to find them?

WATCHER

We'll send a Floater as soon as I get a picture for them. Are you ready for your close-up?

MAXINE

Just do it.

The Watcher points his phone at Maxine and snaps a picture. She sips her coffee and nibbles on a piece of cold toast, looking into the distance.

103 EXT. OCEAN - DAY

A silvery globe rises out of the water. It disappears when it turns on its cloaking system.

104 EXT. ALSOP'S BACK YARD - DAY

A shiny globe becomes briefly visible and two men dressed in black suits step out. They walk to the back door. The screens hang partly out of their frames and the glass in the sliding door is broken.

105 INT. ALSOP'S KITCHEN - DAY

Inside, the floor is littered with items that fell out of the cupboards. STEWART and LINDA ALSOP sit at the breakfast bar nursing cups of coffee. They are both in their early 70's and look their age. They look dazed. There's a camp stove on the island with a coffee pot and frying pan. They look up, startled, when one of the men gently raps on the door frame.

STEWART

Jesus H Christ! Men in black! Are you shitting me?

Stewart gets up, picks up a baseball bat and walks to the door. He puts his hand on the frame, blocking it.

MAN IN BLACK

No, we're rescuing you. Maxine is waiting for you.

LINDA

Maxine? How do you know her?

MAN IN BLACK

We met her just before we left. Is this her?

Man In Black 2 holds out a tablet that shows a picture of Maxine.

LINDA

That's her. Where are they?

MAN IN BLACK

In a safe place. They want you to join them.

STEWART

Look around you. How the hell are we supposed to go anywhere?

MAN IN BLACK

We have transport.

STEWART

Where the fuck is it?

Man In Black 1 touches the screen on his tablet and the craft uncloaks for a moment, then cloaks again.

STEWART (CONT'D)

You expect us to go with you in that thing, whatever it is?

MAN IN BLACK

You can stay here if you wish.

LINDA

Stewart, things aren't going to be very good here for quite awhile, if ever.

Stewart scowls.

STEWART

Can you give us more proof?

Man In Black 1 touches a place on the surface of the tablet and turns it to face Stewart and Linda. Maxine appears on the screen.

MAXINE

Mom, Dad, it's me.

LINDA

Where are you, dear?

MAXINE

Someplace safe. Please come.

LINDA

Stewie, is that enough proof?

STEWART

Can we collect a few things?

MAN IN BLACK

Sure. We have time.

LINDA
Do you gentlemen drink coffee?

MAN IN BLACK
We do.

LINDA
Help yourselves.

MAN IN BLACK
Thanks.

Stewart and Maxine leave the room. The Men in Black find undamaged cups and pour coffee for themselves then settle back to wait.

106 INT. ALSOP BEDROOM - DAY

The windows are broken and the pictures are off the wall. Broken glass CRUNCHES underfoot. A few birds break the quiet. They pull down suitcases and knapsacks and fill them with clothes and family pictures.

107 INT. ALSOP KITCHEN - DAY

Stewart and Maxine come in lugging their suitcases.

MAN IN BLACK
Ready to go?

STEWART
Not really.

108 EXT. ALSOP'S BACK YARD - DAY

They cross the yard following the Men in Black. The Floater uncloaks. Stewart goes ahead and pauses a moment at the door to see what they are getting into. The door closes and the floater disappears. The grass underneath it rustles as it takes off.

109 INT. FLOATER PORT - DAY

The Watcher, Ed, Carol, Phil, Maxine, and Dan are standing before a thick window watching the water drain off the Floater. The Floater door opens. The Men In Black come out, followed by Stewart and Linda, who look around, amazed and confused at the same time. Man in Black 1 points them toward the door.

110 INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Stewart and Linda come through the door. Maxine rushes up to hug them.

MAXINE

I'm so glad you're safe. It must have been awful.

LINDA

We could city that Atlanta is shattered. I'm not sure there's any reason to go back.

WATCHER

We'll sort all that out.

STEWART

Thank you so much. I don't know how we can ever repay you.

WATCHER

That's not a consideration. We're glad we can help.

111 INT. THE WATCHER'S APARTMENT - DAY

They are sitting on various pieces of furniture.

WATCHER

OK. The first thing is to make some sleeping arrangements because there aren't enough beds here.

The watcher turns to the TV.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

Computer, housing assistance.

A reservation page comes up.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

8 people, 3 couples, 1 child, 1 single adult.

A picture of an empty place nearby comes up. A large suite for the Alsops and Harrisons and a single for Ellen.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

Computer, accept.

He briefly checks his cell phone to make sure the information has been downloaded.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

All set. I'm sure you could use some private time.

112 INT. TEMPORARY QUARTERS - DAY

The family lounges on the large couch and chairs. Linda comes back from inspecting the bedrooms.

LINDA

OK. There's three bedrooms. I suppose Dan could be with his parents.

DAN

Do I hafta?

MAXINE

I suppose you could sleep out here and have it to yourself.

DAN

Sound's great, mom.

LINDA

Stewie, ready for beddy bye?

STEWART

Don't call me that. I'm not a kid.

LINDA

Kinda irritable, aren't we?

STEWART

The shock wave threw me out of bed. My ribs hurt.

Stewart pulls up his shirt to show some bruises.

LINDA

I'll kiss it and make it all better.

Stewart grins.

The other adults are a little surprised by sexual undertone of this exchange.

Maxine kisses Dan good night. He has the remote and turns on the wall display.

MAXINE

If you're going to watch that use the headphones, and do try to get some sleep.

Dan continues flipping through the channels, ignoring his mom.

DAN

Sure, mom.

Maxine and Phil leave, turning out the lights as they go. The flickering light of the TV plays over Dan's face.

113 INT. TEMPORARY QUARTERS - NIGHT

Maxine comes out of the bedroom in a night gown, hair tousled. She walks over to the couch and sees Dan sleeping, uncovered, the TV still on. She covers him with a blanket and tries several buttons on the remote until the TV turns off.

114 INT. TEMPORARY QUARTERS - MORNING

They are gathered around the table having breakfast.

STEWART

Do you really believe this was part of Atlantis?

ED

I'm not sure that matters. What does matter is that we have a better chance to survive here.

MAXINE

Don't you feel guilty about that?

ED

Yes, I do. But in the end, I'd rather be guilty than dead.

MAXINE

That's cold.

ED

So is the grave.

Uncomfortable silence. Dan stares at his food.

STEWART

I get the feeling that you've been involved with all of this for years.

Linda gives Stewart a sharp look.

ED

I have been.

STEWART

But you've kept it a secret.

ED

Of necessity.

PHIL

We could be anywhere.

ED

True. We're not at the final destination. We're waiting for arrangements to be finished.

STEWART

Arrangements?

ED

We had made plans for Phil and Maxine and Dan.

An uncomfortable silence.

MAXINE

I wonder if he has a family?

CAROL

Who?

MAXINE

The Watcher.

CAROL

He hasn't given any hints.

Maxine comes to the table with the pan.

MAXINE

Do you want more pancakes, Dan?

DAN

No. Can I have more juice?

MAXINE

Can I have more juice what?

DAN

Can I have more juice, please?

Maxine gets the pitcher and tops up his glass. Dan gulps it down, then grabs his plate and stands up.

MAXINE

Where are you going?

DAN

To watch TV.

MAXINE

Not with syrup dripping off your plate. Stay and finish your pancakes.

DAN

Aw, Mom.

MAXINE

Just a few more bites and you can go.

Dan gobbles down the last of his pancakes and rushes away from the table. The TV volume come up in the background.

DAN

Hey Mom, Dad- they're showing pictures of the damage in Atlanta.

They all leave the table and gather in front of the TV. Linda puts her hand to her mouth in shock. There are rows and rows of bodies laid out. People are walking by to see if they recognize anyone.

REPORTER

And so, on this terrible day in Atlanta, many victims of this disaster are beyond help, and many see little reason to hope. From Atlanta, this is Sandy Hirsh, Skywatch News.

There's a knock on the door.

Phil opens it- the Watcher comes in.

WATCHER

How are you all today?

PHIL

We're OK but the news from Atlanta is terrible. It's almost been wiped out.

WATCHER

I know. I was watching before I came over. Normal won't be coming back on the surface for a long time, if ever.

The others look up and greet him as he comes in. They all watch for a few minutes.

WATCHER (CONT'D)

I'm sorry to interrupt, but we have urgent business to attend to.

PHIL

What might that be?

WATCHER

Getting you relocated to your permanent quarters.

ED

Thanks for getting that done quickly.

WATCHER

Glad to be of service.

ED

The Board will appreciate it.

The Watcher beams.

Phil turns to Ed:

PHIL

What makes you think we want to be here long term?

WATCHER

Because it's started.

PHIL

What?

WATCHER

The high activity phase. Atlanta wasn't the only place that got hit hard. And it hasn't stopped.

PHIL

Permanently where?

WATCHER

Your parents had reserved space for you and your family. We found room for the others nearby.

PHIL

Is that any safer than here?

WATCHER

It's a crap shoot all over the planet.

PHIL

Cold comfort.

WATCHER

It's the same for all of us. Please pack up. There's a Floater waiting for you.

They quickly round up their few possessions.

115 INT. ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARK - DAY

They are in a waiting room. A large window gives them a spectacular view of the rugged terrain. In the distance a meteor strikes.

MAXINE

At least we can tell if it's day or night up here.

LINDA

I think it'd be depressing to be underground for a long time no matter how much they pretty it up.

MAXINE

Yeah, for sure.

Dan studies a map on the wall. It shows the mountains and the ark with green lines that run off the edge of the map. Linda comes up to see what it is.

LINDA

I wonder what those green lines are?

A woman comes through a hidden doorway.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Can you tell us what those green line are?

HOSTESS

Tunnels to other arks. Sorry, I didn't mean to surprise you.

LINDA

Are you a Watcher?

HOSTESS

I'm in Relocation.

MAXINE

(Pensively)
Always new things.

HOSTESS

It gets easier after awhile.

LINDA

Voice of experience?

HOSTESS

Yes. I didn't always live here.

LINDA
Where were you before?

HOSTESS
I lived in Boulder until I was recruited.

MAXINE
Recruited?

HOSTESS
Yes, I'm not a member of the blood but I have skills they want to preserve. I worked in one of their companies and lived outside but also spent time in here.

LINDA
Member of the blood?

HOSTESS
That's the term they use in reference to people who share their DNA.

LINDA
Don't we all share the same DNA?

HOSTESS
No, and they are very concerned about maintaining the quality of their genes.

LINDA
Sounds a little bit like the Nazi's, if you ask me.

HOSTESS
It's not about racial purity or any of that. Just about preserving the genetic repairs they've made over the centuries.

Linda looks puzzled.

HOSTESS (CONT'D)
Past catastrophes sometimes damaged our DNA, causing all kinds of health problems. They have made careful improvements over time. It's very delicate and very expensive, so they want to protect it.

Linda and Maxine give each other a look.

HOSTESS (CONT'D)

Don't worry, it doesn't really affect anyone in any obvious ways. It's just something they watch.

MAXINE

There's that word again.

HOSTESS

What word?

MAXINE

Watch, watching, watchers. It seems a little creepy.

HOSTESS

I suppose. But from what I've seen it's benign. It not like some paranoid government agency looking for enemies under every rock.

LINDA

I hope not.

HOSTESS

Frankly, we have more pressing concerns. Our lives depend on doing what's necessary to survive.

MAXINE

What can we do to help?

116 INT. INTERNET CAFE - DAY

Dan is online trying to connect with his friends outside. He reaches Katy with Skype.

DAN(WORDS ON MONITOR)

What's going on out there?

KATY(WORDS ON MONITOR)

It's pretty bad.

DAN

Like what?

KATY

We're still getting meteor hits.

DAN

I was trying to find my friend Tyler.

KATY

I heard he was killed.

DAN

Shit.

KATY

A small meteor hit our house, but we can still live in it.

DAN

I'll ask my dad if I can get you in. Mom brought her girlfriend and parents.

117 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S APT - DAY

The Watcher stops to visit while in transit to a new assignment.

WATCHER

How's it going so far?

PHIL

As good as can be expected.

WATCHER

Frankly, we didn't think it would be this rough.

DAN

My best friend was killed by a meteor.

WATCHER

I'm sorry to hear that.

MAXINE

Is anything being done to help the people out there?

WATCHER

Not much, I'm afraid. We have our hands full just taking care of the people inside.

MAXINE

Isn't there anything you can do?

WATCHER

Not really my department.

118 INT. INTERNET CAFE - DAY

Dan connects on Skype to Katy.

DAN(TYPING)

We came in through a door that said
"Atlantis Trading." It was on Harrison
near 5th.

KATY(TYPING)

What's the point?

DAN(TYPING)

Maybe you could get in that way.

KATY(TYPING)

I'll ask my dad.

119 INT. DOOR TO ATLANTIS TRADING - DAY

Total darkness.

A loud hissing sound and then sparks start to fly on the
inside.

The door is pulled open.

120 EXT. ENTRANCE TO ATLANTIS TRADING - DAY

The people outside see the thick sliding door sealing the
entrance.

The torch has no effect on the door.

The crowd makes noises of dismay.

121 INT. ENTRANCE TO ATLANTIS TRADING - DAY

Some senior security people, surrounded by armed men, watch
the activity outside on monitors.

SECURITY 1

Will that hold?

SECURITY 2

It'll resist anything they have,
including lasers and plasma.

SECURITY 1

Do we need to do anything about this?

SECURITY 2

Not yet.

122 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - EVENING

Spotlights highlight the company name "Atlantis Trading
Company, Inc."

Atlantis security men wearing black knit shirts with the winged sun logo stand on the roof overlooking the street.

Thousands of people have gathered in the street. Many carry signs with "Sanctuary Now" printed on them. They are chanting "Sanctuary, Sanctuary."

A man gets up on small platform, motions for the crowd to quiet down, and then starts to speak with a megaphone.

SPEAKER

It is not just unfair but totally evil for some to hide in safety while we are out here being killed. We need to...

A muffled POP from a silenced rifle. His chest explodes. Blood and bone splatter the people close to him.

Several other people are injured by the same bullet. A child screams.

CHILD

Mommy! Mommy!

Dozens of people in the crowd pull out pistols and start shooting at the top of the building.

It looks like people holding up lighters at a rock concert, but the flashes of light are from guns.

The Atlantis security men duck and crawl to the elevator.

123 EXT. STREET - MORNING

"If we can't get in, you can't get out" has been painted on the buildings across the street from Atlantis Trading. Men with rifles are stationed on nearby buildings.

124 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - MORNING

The sliding door inside the entrance to the building starts to open.

Bullets from across the street PING off the door. The door closes.

125 INT. ATLANTIS SECURITY OFFICE - MORNING

An officer stands before the desk of the commander, who wears a black knit shirt with the winged sun logo.

COMMANDER

You asshole. Who told you to shoot?

OFFICER

The nail that sticks up gets hammered down.

COMMANDER

What the hell does that mean?

OFFICER

I did what needed to be done.

COMMANDER

That wasn't your call. Now this situation is totally fucked. You'll be under house arrest until we decide what to do with you.

Two officers come up. They grab him by the arms and take him away.

126 INT. ATLANTIS TRADING BOARD OFFICE - DAY

Phil stands before the Chairman's desk.

PHIL

At least let me try to talk to them. I'm from there. They might listen.

CHAIRMAN

I don't see any point in that. All they want is the blood of the man who shot their leader. Maybe when they calm down a bit.

PHIL

Given what just happened, do you think we'll be able to just stay down here in peace?

CHAIRMAN

We'll do what is necessary to preserve humanity.

PHIL

Aren't they part of humanity?

CHAIRMAN

Of course they are.

PHIL

What if they were in here and we were out there?

CHAIRMAN

They'd take the same approach because it's necessary.

PHIL
How do you sleep at night?

CHAIRMAN
Men like me are paid to make the
hard decisions.

The Chairman stands up.

CHAIRMAN (CONT'D)
I believe we're done here.

Phil glares at him for a moment, then turns and leaves.

Watching him go, the Chairman shakes his head.

127 INT. ATLANTIS SECURITY - DAY

Two black-uniformed security men sit in front of a monitor.
They are looking at a log of messages.

SECURITY 1
I think we've got him. Same kid,
same computer.

SECURITY 2
His Dad is well-connected.

SECURITY 1
Someone else will take care of that.

128 INT. CAFE - DAY

Dan sits at a table tapping at his tablet.

Two men from Atlantis security quietly come up behind him.

SECURITY 1
We'll have your table.

DAN
What? Why? I'm not doing anything.

SECURITY 2
You are breaching our security. We
can't have that.

DAN
Are you arresting me?

SECURITY 1
Not today, but we'll be talking to
your Dad.

129 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S APT - EVENING

The security men meet with Phil and Maxine.

PHIL
He's just a kid.

SECURITY 1
Of course, but he's a kid who is
causing serious problems for us.

MAXINE
By talking to his friend? What's
the harm in that.

SECURITY 2
He told her where the entrance is
and that led to a confrontation where
someone was killed.

PHIL
By us.

SECURITY 1
True, and that was a terrible mistake.
But we're playing for bigger stakes
here, and we all have to abide by
the rules to increase our odds of
success.

PHIL
I'll talk to him, but I think you're
making something out of nothing.

SECURITY 1
We don't agree, and if he keeps this
up there'll be serious consequences
for all of you.

PHIL
We'll see what my father has to say
about this.

SECURITY 2
He understands the situation better
than you do.

130 INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

Ed and the Chairman sit at one end of the heavy table.

CHAIRMAN
I don't think I need to tell you
that this is a serious matter.

ED

Of course not.

CHAIRMAN

We're in a delicate situation here. Everyone needs to be focused on doing what's necessary. He can't be allowed to create new problems.

ED

I'm surprised he can even do that.

CHAIRMAN

Of course he can. The web was designed to survive a nuclear war.

ED

I'll talk to his dad and make it clear what has to be done.

131 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Ed and Phil meet over coffee.

ED

You have to make sure he understands he can't do that.

PHIL

His best friend has been killed, and he wonders why other people he knows can't come in.

ED

There's just no room. Even if we wanted to, we couldn't take them all.

PHIL

There must be a way to do something.

ED

Just keep him off the damn computer.

Phil stands up, puts his hands on the table, and leans over his father.

PHIL

Listen Dad, what you don't get is that you and the other board members come across as a bunch of greedy old farts who don't care about anything but themselves and their stupid little empire.

Ed looks around and sees other people staring at them.

ED
It's not so little.

132 INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Phil and Dan sit at the kitchen table.

PHIL
I've just come back from a very unpleasant meeting.

DAN
About what?

PHIL
You telling Katy about the portal.

DAN
She's my friend. And Terry was killed. Mom's friend came in.

PHIL
Stop right there. Now is not the time.

Dan stares at his hands.

DAN
When will it be time?

PHIL
Your access is canceled until further notice.

133 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Dan come in, looks around, sees someone he knows.

DAN
Hey, Jason, Can I use your pad for a minute?

JASON
Sure.

Dan takes the tablet and connects with Katy.

DAN(typing)
There are probably entrances in other places.

KATY(typing)
How would people know?

DAN(typing)
There was that sign- a disk with
wings. Maybe that's it.

134 EXT. NEW YORK PORTAL - DAY

An angry crowd has gathered demanding sanctuary.

135 EXT. HOUSTON PORTAL - DAY

A mob of people watch as a tow truck slams against the portal.

136 INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - EVENING

A knock on the door. Phil goes to open it. Two security men
are outside.

SECURITY 1
You and your son need to come with
us.

PHIL
For what?

SECURITY 1
Someone wants to talk to you.

PHIL
About?

SECURITY 1
I don't know. You need to come with
us.

Maxine and Ellen watch the men anxiously. Phil deflates.

PHIL
Max, get Dan.

Maxine leaves the room and returns with Dan. Phil and Dan go
out with the security men.

137 INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - EVENING

Phil, Dan, and the Commander sit at a bare table in a bare
room under a glaring light.

COMMANDER
I hope you understand the seriousness
of the situation. We can't tolerate
this.

PHIL
Tolerate what?

COMMANDER

He's been talking to the outside again, and people have been mobbing our portals all over the place.

PHIL

I didn't know that.

COMMANDER

You do now. You must stop it.

PHIL

Is this true, Dan?

Dan maintains a sullen silence.

PHIL (CONT'D)

OK. He'll just have to stay home unless one of us goes with him.

138 INT. ATLANTIS BOARD ROOM - DAY

Haggard, the board members sit around a table.

BOARD MEMBER 1

We simply can't let them in. They've turned into a mob, and they have guns.

BOARD MEMBER 2

Even without that, there's no room.

ED

We all have connections to the outside.

BOARD MEMBER 2

And we may have to live with that.

ED

Can we?

CHAIRMAN

What's our moral obligation here? Save a few people in good shape to start again? Or save more who may be too weak to rebuild?

BOARD MEMBER 1

I agree. In a moral sense saving more may be the right thing, but not at the risk of having humanity die out.

ED

Is it really that black and white?

CHAIRMAN

The information has been out there for years. It's not our fault if other people didn't pay attention.

ED

I don't recall seeing any kind of massive campaign to bring them up to speed.

BOARD MEMBER 2

You know how it is. We don't want to spook the herd.

ED

For Chrissake, they aren't cattle.

BOARD MEMBER 1

Suppose we do open the gates. Where will we put them? We're close to the limit as it is.

BOARD MEMBER 2

And we're not even sure we'll survive.

CHAIRMAN

We aren't going to decide this right this minute. If there's no other business I'm adjourning the meeting.

139 INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Phil walks toward the Board Offices.

There is a loud CRASH up ahead.

Phil runs toward the noise, and finds the Board Offices have been seriously damaged by a meteor.

140 INT. BOARD OFFICES - DAY

He picks through the rubble and is finds his father, partly covered by chunks of concrete.

His father has a gash on his head and seems confused.

Phil clears the rock and then cradles his father in his arms.

His father looks in his eyes, paws at him, says nothing, then dies.

Tears run down Phil's cheeks.

141 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S APT - DAY

Phil slumps on the couch watching an old movie. Maxine comes in.

MAXINE

You can't spend the rest of your life watching old movies.

PHIL

Why not?

MAXINE

If you don't get some help I'm going to take Dan and get a place with Ellen.

Phil says nothing.

MAXINE (CONT'D)

Being depressed has a lot in common with being dead, and that's how you are now. Do what I say.

142 INT. BAR - DAY

Phil sits at the bar looking pretty out of it.

BAR TENDER

I have to cut you off.

Phil struggles to his feet and staggers out the door.

143 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S APT - DAY

Phil comes in, unsteady.

PHIL

Maxine? Dan?

No response.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Shit.

Maxine and Dan come in.

PHIL (CONT'D)

I thought you had left me.

MAXINE

I should, but we were just out shopping.

PHIL
I don't know what I would have done.

MAXINE
Hold that thought.

144 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Phil meets a therapist. The therapist has a Sigmund Freud beard.

THERAPIST
Tell me about your family.

PHIL
My Dad was regarded as one of the
founding fathers of Silicon Valley.
That's a lot to live up to.

THERAPIST
Was?

PHIL
He was killed by a meteor.

THERAPIST
I'm sorry to hear that. So many died.

PHIL
There was always a lot of pressure
on me. Make grades, get into Stanford.
I hated it.

THERAPIST
Did you hate him?

PHIL
Not really. But he was gone a lot.

THERAPIST
What about your Mom?

PHIL
She was pretty high-powered, too.

THERAPIST
Is she dead?

PHIL
She fell apart after Dad died. She
needs a full-time nurse now.

THERAPIST
How did all that affect you?

PHIL

I fell apart too, but eventually I realized that someone had to take charge.

145 INT. MEETING ROOM - DAY

The surviving board members and new members sit around a table in a makeshift board office.

CHAIRMAN

I'm so sorry about your dad, Phil.

PHIL

Thanks.

The board lapses into a numbed silence.

PHIL (CONT'D)

I think we need to start by repairing the offices.

Silence.

CHAIRMAN

Can you organize that?

PHIL

Yes.

CHAIRMAN

OK.

Board members slowly leave the room, shaking hands, patting shoulders as they go.

146 INT. BOARD OFFICES - DAY

Scaffolding holds up the ceiling. Board members meet.

CHAIRMAN

Good to see you all. And thank you, Phil, for getting us back in operation.

PHIL

You're welcome.

CHAIRMAN

Anything else you need from me?

PHIL

Not inside. We do need to work outside.

CHAIRMAN
Any luck with negotiations?

PHIL
No. They insist on having the shooter
stand trial up there.

BOARD MEMBER 1
Just a lynch mob.

CHAIRMAN
I think so too. Phil, how's it going
out there?

PHIL
From what I'm told, pretty bad.
Almost Mad Max.

BOARD MEMBER 1
Could be some leverage there.

PHIL
Maybe we can help them without
overwhelming the bunkers.

CHAIRMAN
Bring me some ideas.

147 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING COMPANY - DAY

Phil talks to a representative of the "Sanctuary Seekers."

PHIL
We're not going to give him up.

SANCTUARY LEADER
He killed one of us without cause.

PHIL
That's true. Think he can get a fair
trial?

SANCTUARY LEADER
He'll have to take his chances.

PHIL
He's under house arrest down below.

SANCTUARY LEADER
Not good enough.

PHIL
What would be?

SANCTUARY LEADER
A trial we can watch. Punishment.

PHIL
I'll see what I can do.

148 INT. BOARDROOM - DAY

Phil makes a presentation at a board meeting.

He shows a picture of a spider pit in Hanoi during the Vietnam War.

PHIL
This is a pretty crude approach but
if you don't take a direct hit it
will protect you from flying debris.

He shows a mockup of a computerized warning system.

PHIL (CONT'D)
I call this the Swarm Warn system.
The scientists tell me that the
meteors will tend to come in bunches.
In most cases those bunches can be
detected in enough time for people
to take whatever shelter they can.
It's kind of like London during the
blitz in World War Two.

CHAIRMAN
Anything else?

PHIL
We're making some progress organizing
the boring tools to make the
dormitories. The plasma machines
are putting a little strain on our
power systems, but so far it hasn't
caused any breakdowns.

149 INT. SEX THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Phil, Max, and Ellen meet with a therapist who specializes
in polyamorous relationships.

THERAPIST
Do you all have sex together?

MAXINE
We all sleep together sometimes.

THERAPIST
That's not what I'm asking.

PHIL

Uh, no. We have sex separately. If Maxine and I want sex, we do it without Ellen. Same with Maxine and Ellen.

THERAPIST

Sounds like a good deal for Maxine. Does the person who's not having sex watch?

MAXINE

Why would they?

THERAPIST

Ellen, have you always been exclusively lesbian?

ELLEN

No. In college I slept with both boys and girls.

THERAPIST

Why did you give up men?

ELLEN

Being gay meant I could concentrate more on my career.

THERAPIST

Do you think you could learn to enjoy sex with a man again?

ELLEN

Sometimes I miss the heat of having a real cock inside me.

Maxine gives Ellen a look.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

Don't look at me that way.

THERAPIST

Maybe you could try bringing Ellen back into the heterosexual world.

ELLEN

How would we do that?

THERAPIST

Touching, snuggling, kissing with Phil. In our world there is nothing unusual about having a mixture of lovers.

MAXINE

How do you deal with jealousy?

THERAPIST

Jealousy usually arises when someone feels neglected. We all pitch in, so to speak, to reassure them. It can lead to fantastic sex.

ELLEN

I'm willing if they are.

150 INT. PHIL AND MAXINE'S APT - DAY

After they all finish dinner, Dan leaves to meet some friends.

PHIL

Shall we?

MAXINE

Ellen?

ELLEN

Why not.

Ellen gets up and walks toward the bedroom, starting to unbutton her blouse.

Phil and Maxine exchange looks because she seems so eager.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

I have some lost time to make up for.

By the time she reaches the bedroom door she has unbuttoned her blouse, pulled it out of her slacks and dropped it to the floor.

Phil and Maxine follow.

151 INT. ATLANTIS COURT ROOM - DAY

The shooter is on trial. The new Sanctuary leader and several other outsiders observe. TV cameras take the trial to the outside world. The shooter and his attorney stand to receive the verdict.

JUDGE

You've been found guilty of second degree murder. I sentence you to 20 years in prison.

The prisoner slumps. Guards come and take him away.

152 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING - MORNING

Phil meets with the sanctuary leader to discuss starting work.

PHIL
Can my crews start?

SANCTUARY LEADER
Yesterday.

A twenty-two caliber bullet splats on the building above them.

SANCTUARY LEADER (CONT'D)
Don't worry. That's just to show we're serious.

PHIL
So are we.

SANCTUARY LEADER
You better be. We know where your air shafts are.

153 INT. HARRISON/JAYSON APT - DAY

Phil comes into Dan's bedroom.

PHIL
I just want to let you know that the Board has decided to help people outside.

DAN
Does that mean Katy can come in?

PHIL
She's one of the first on the list.

154 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING COMPANY - DAY

Part of the wall slides away, revealing a garage door.

The garage door quickly opens and an armored vehicle dashes out.

Bullets PING off it.

155 EXT. KATY'S HOME - DAY

Katy's family quickly loads a few of their possessions into the armored car.

Neighbors watch with envy.

The car drives away.

156 INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

Phil reports on progress.

He shows office buildings where glass has been replaced by concrete panels.

PHIL

These panels won't stop a direct hit, but when a meteor strikes it often sends debris flying for a considerable distance, so the panels afford some protection against that.

He shows a small tractor with a large augur on the front.

PHIL (CONT'D)

This can drill a four foot wide, four foot deep hole in about a minute.

He shows a spider pit being completed

PHIL (CONT'D)

Then they drop in a concrete liner. We've done almost a million of these all over the world. Many people are digging their own holes.

He shows a computer screen.

PHIL (CONT'D)

The beta version is running pretty well. We miss some but we catch more than we miss. The casualty rate is going down steadily.

CHAIRMAN

How about the expansion of the dorms?

PHIL

We're making progress, but it takes longer because these are living quarters, so we need power, water, sewage.

157 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - DAY

Phil gets in an armored vehicle to go out to inspect.

A door opens quickly and the vehicle dashes out.

Bullets hit his armored vehicle as they travel to their destination.

158 INT. REFUGEE SQUAT - DAY

People live in a ruined office tower with odd collections of possessions.

They are armed with all sorts of weapons to protect themselves from marauders- guns, crossbows, kitchen knives strapped to broom handles, baseball bats studded with nails.

159 INT. REFUGEE SQUAT - DAY

Phil inspects a soup kitchen set up by Atlantis Trading. A woman approaches a server.

WOMAN

Can I have more? I haven't eaten for days.

SERVER

Neither have a lot of these people.

WOMAN

Pleeease!

SERVER

Oh, OK.

The server gives her an additional small portion.

SERVER (CONT'D)

Next!

160 INT. REFUGEE SQUAT - DAY

Doctors and nurses do what they can. A doctor gives bad news to a mother.

DOCTOR

I'm terribly sorry. We just don't have what we need to save her.

Just then Phil's party comes into the area, and one of the people notices them.

MAN

Hey, that's Phil Harrison.

DOCTOR

Who's that?

MAN

One of them- the underground people.

The doctor strides purposefully over to Phil.

DOCTOR
Can you come here a second?

PHIL
Sure. What for?

They walk to where the girl lies, in obvious terrible pain.

DOCTOR
This girl has acute appendicitis.
She needs surgery. We can't do it
here. She'll die without it. Will
you help us?

Phil takes out his cell.

PHIL
(on the phone)
This is Phil Harrison. Get me someone
in medical.

A pause.

ATLANTIS ADMINISTRATOR
This is Dr. Wilson.

PHIL
I have a girl out here with
appendicitis. They tell me she'll
die without surgery.

ATLANTIS ADMINISTRATOR
Bring her in.

The girl is placed on a stretcher and carried out, with her
mother trailing anxiously behind.

161 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING COMPANY - DAY

A large door opens and construction equipment emerges.
Outside police are doing crowd control.

LOUDSPEAKER
Do not attempt to cross the barricade.
If you cross the barricade you will
be shot.

As the last vehicle comes out, a man ducks under the barricade
and runs toward the door.

A cop raises his shotgun, aims for the man's legs, and fires
a load of bird shot.

The man rolls on the ground, screaming.

MAN

"You shot me! You shot me!
Goddam, you shot me."

Two medics run up with a stretcher, tranquilize him, and carry him into the bunker.

ONLOOKER 1

That's one way to get in.

ONLOOKER 2

But what if they shoot to kill?

162 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

A armored Bobcat with a 3 foot augur digs a hole for a spider pit.

Once the hole is drilled, another Bobcat places the cement cylinder.

Two men with shovels fill in dirt around the cylinder.

163 INT. SWARM WARNING CENTER - DAY

Technicians sit at monitors that show a map of the sky. An alarm goes off. A technician picks up the phone.

TECHNICIAN

We have incoming. Expected target area is Denver. Sound the alarm.

164 INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

The members are gathered, but most of the faces are new, including Phil.

CHAIRMAN

Can we start with the report on housing.

PHIL

In the past 6 months we've cleared about 2,000 miles of old tunnels in North America. About 25 million people now have shelter in tunnels when we detect a swarm coming in.

CHAIRMAN

And what about housing units?

PHIL

Globally, we're building about 10 million deep refuges per quarter,
(MORE)

PHIL (CONT'D)

and another 500 million people have pit shelters near their homes. Deaths are down to about 80,000 a month.

CHAIRMAN

That's good progress. What about energy?

BOARD MEMBER 1

We've roughly tripled cold fusion capacity and we're making good progress with the tidal system in San Francisco.

BOARD MEMBER 2

And the warning system?

PHIL

Swarm Warn is up and about 85% accurate.

CHAIRMAN

Can we improve that?

PHIL

Bit by bit.

165 EXT. ATLANTIS TRADING PORTAL, SAN FRANCISCO - LATE AFTERNOON

Hundreds of people have been waiting in line all day. The gate closes.

GUARD

I'm sorry folks. We've taken all we can for now. Come back in a week.

As people walk away we can see that the area around the portal looks like a giant homeless camp.

166 INT. BUNKER SYSTEM - DAY

Phil inspects one of the new bunker apartments. It's tiny.
PHIL Where's the bathroom?

FOREMAN

It's more like a dorm. Shared bathrooms.

167 INT. BUNKER SYSTEM - DAY

As he walks along, Phil sees a recruiting poster. "Wanted: A few brave men and women. Earn high pay and get a bigger place. Rescue Corps."

168 INT. BUNKER SYSTEM MESS HALL - DAY

Residents of the new shelters eat in a mess hall.

MAN 1

They think we should be happy just because we're alive.

MAN 2

Motherfuckers.

MAN 1

I hear they have mansions down here just like they did up there.

MAN 2

It never changes, does it?

Super: Three years later.

169 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Dan, now a high school junior, sits in the first row.

TEACHER

OK. It's time for our practice session. Feet on the floor, arms on desk.

Teacher looks around to see if everyone is set.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Close your eyes and imagine that a warm orange fluid is filling your body.

Teacher pauses for a few seconds.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Now imagine that the orange fluid is draining out of your body, taking all tension and anxiety with it.

Teacher pauses for a few seconds.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Think about a time 5 years from now and draw what you see. Or write.

Super: Seven years later.

170 INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

Phil sits at the right of the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN

As you all know, I've reached the mandatory retirement age. I'll continue to serve on the board. Over the past decade Phil Harrison has demonstrated commitment and leadership of a high order. He has earned the gavel I am passing to him today.

Chairman and Phil change chairs.

PHIL

All of us have lived through events that have challenged us to the limits of our ability. Many people have contributed to our survival. I'm looking forward to working together to make a better future.

171 INT. GARDENS - DAY

Dan meets Katy where she works. They hug and walk arm in arm to a lunch area, where they converse affectionately.

KATY

How's your class going today?

DAN

Pretty good.

KATY

What are you doing?

DAN

The usual. Looking farther and farther out.

KATY

Are you seeing much?

DAN

It's not changing very fast. Fewer meteors. Safe to go out in some places. How 'bout you?

KATY

We're fighting mold in our roses.

DAN

I thought you just grew food.

KATY

We need food for the soul, too.

172 INT. DAN AND KATY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dan and Katy lie in bed.

KATY

Dan, I'm pregnant.

Dan rolls over and hugs her.

FADE OUT