

DAWN OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR

Screenplay by

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BLACK SCREEN

INTERVIEWER

So, tell us a little about yourself?

CAMERA FLICKER IN:

1. INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - UNKNOWN

A close-up shot of Reed Richards in front of a black background. He sits as if nervous about being interviewed.

REED

Okay... My name is Reed Richards, I'm a scientist at the Baxter Institute in New York...

We cut to Victor Von Doom's interview, answering the same question. His posture is dominant and his hands held together.

VICTOR

My name is Victor Von Doom, I own the Von Doom Corporation, funding the project.

Then finally to Susan Storm's interview again answering same question. Her posture is confident yet preserved.

SUE

I'm Susan Storm and I'm the project leader for this space expedition.

The interviews begin to merge to reveal information about how they all met each other.

REED

It all started with the incident  
at Brokdorf.  
The whole reactor destroyed in an  
earthquake with no trace of  
radiation exposure.

SUE

...And that was only the beginning;  
reactors across the globe were  
going down almost systematically.

Footage of the nuclear disasters begins to overlap the interviews. Three separate reactors with nuclear implosions.

VICTOR

The company's reactor in Tennessee was the fifth to be hit, and it was clear we had to take action before there's no reactors left at all.

REED

I was approached by Victor Von Doom whom I have collaborated with on a number of occasions to create a global tracking satellite that can plot the seismic activity from the earth to assess the situation.

We see footage of the satellite under construction, with Ben Grimm and Johnny Storm also present. The crew assemble once it is completed, celebrating for a photo in front of the station.

SUE

We hired the best people available to become part of the crew that will go into space, control the satellite and put an end to the disasters.

Televised footage of the crew entering the rocket and waving to a crowd appears over the final stages of the interviews.

VICTOR

We are aware of the dangers of the mission and are prepared to take risks for the safety of humanity. Our launch is concurrent with a cosmic shower which we have taken into consideration during construction.

The crew operate the internals of the rocket and prepare to launch.

REED

The satellite is protected by  
revolutionary pulsing station shields  
which Victor and I developed for  
military applications. These shields  
will protect us from any inconveniences  
during the launch and operation.

The rocket launches into the air, highlighting the face of  
Reed as he leaves the planet.

SUE

The disaster has brought us all  
together as a family, and if we don't  
act now, we could lose everything.  
It's one small step for man -  
you know the rest.

The rocket hits the edge of the atmosphere, with its jet  
stream filling the ground beneath it. As the cloud approaches  
filling the land below, we hear Reed's final line.

REED

What could go wrong?

FADE TO BLACK

TITLE FADES IN:

**DAWN OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR**

FADE BACK INTO SHOT

TITLE FADES OUT

A star filled sky covers the large gleaming silver satellite  
station as it hovers over the edge of the earth. It's glow  
illuminating the underside of the metal base in orbit.

TAG FADES IN

**3 WEEKS LATER**

## 2. INT.SATELLITE - REED'S ROOM

Reed awakens to the droning sounds of ships hum, his eyes fluttering into consciousness. He pulls himself out of bed, drawn to the light in the doorway out of his room, where he can hear the chatter of the crew down the hall.

## INT. SATELLITE - KITCHEN/DINING AREA

Reed slowly walks through the corridor and into a brilliant white room with surrounding white futuristic cupboards and a large round table in the centre. Victor, Sue and Ben sit around it while Johnny sits on top laughing and conversing with the three of them.

JOHNNY

I swear! This guy crashed  
his ride straight through the billboard!

VICTOR

Johnny, you're making this up

JOHNNY

No, I swear it was hilarious! We had  
to sprint ten blocks to avoid the cops!

BEN

You moron, they catch you?

SUE

Oh yeah, guess who had to pay bail?

JOHNNY

You should have seen the officer's face  
when I was announced as the pilot of the  
expedition sent to save the earth.

He was so pissed.

Reed fetches a bowl and cereal from one of the cupboards surrounding the table, and sits between Ben and Victor.

BEN

Morning Sleepin' Beauty

REED

Hey. Did the station pick up  
anything overnight?

VICTOR

Just low levels of radiation  
from the storms up here, expect more  
this evening but it's completely  
harmless.

REED

What about the activity on earth?

VICTOR

No Seismic activity above a  
magnitude of 3 detected.

SUE

Anyone would think we were causing  
the problem.

JOHNNY

Well then, job well done guys  
I'm gonna head to the computer and  
tell everyone we know, we're not  
coming back.

Johnny leaves the room; the sound of the ship doors leaves the  
hum of the station to fill the room.

BEN

I bet that's not all he's doin'.  
Kid's getting lonely up here.

SUE

Ben, that's gross.

REED

He's probably chatting to  
Janet.

Awkward silence fills the room as everyone starts listening.

BEN

So how much longer do you  
expect us to be out here?

VICTOR

Given the lack of Seismic Activity  
it could be a few months.

SUE

I spoke to the general yesterday  
and he says there has been no trace  
of anything on earth, as far as we  
know we can still detect from here.

VICTOR

Until they pull our funding.

BEN

You think they'll still call us heroes?  
When we're back on earth. Built this  
station all for nothin'.

Sue looks down, almost in shame as the project was her idea  
and she feels responsible for its lack of success. Reed  
detects this.

REED

Well Ben... we tried our best.  
we've all achieved great things,  
this shouldn't set us back at all.  
We tried to save the world... that's more  
than what anyone else has done.  
And the one that brought us altogether  
...was Sue.

Sue stares back, thankful for Reed's comforting statement,  
while Ben looks up believing there to be a connection between  
them. Victor also notices this and leaves the room in an  
unnoticed disgust.

BEN

Cute.

## 3. EXT.SATELLITE - HANGING OVER THE EARTH

The hum of the satellite fills the silent vacuum of space, where the station is right in the middle between the blue aura of the earth, and the starry black edge of space.

## INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

Victor and Reed sit at the controls of the satellite with a large glass screen in front of them displaying the bright glow of the earth.

REED

Wind Speed is picking up  
remarkably in the south of Latveria.

VICTOR

You're monitoring wind speed for  
links to seismic activity?

REED

I'm just trying to look at all  
the angles. No signs of nuclear  
radiation leaking once the reactors  
go down is very peculiar...

Factors such as wind speed could  
counteract minor nuclear explosions  
and direct the particles away, which  
could give us some answers...

VICTOR

There were no signs of any nuclear  
radiation surrounding the reactors,  
any explosion would have left some  
traces.

REED

Well, we're not getting anywhere  
anyway.

VICTOR

Mind if I put on a little music?



Reed shakes his head as Victor types into his keyboard and the speakers onboard the station softly play: 'La Gazza Ladra - overture' as he kicks back and puts his feet on the monitor.

REED

Rossini?

VICTOR

The man was a genius,  
he used his talent to change the world.  
He wrote... He played... and people saw him as  
this god among men.

Victor pauses, lost in the music as he stares out at the monitor in deep thought.

VICTOR

My mother bought me this record.  
We didn't have much money in our  
home but we had this record player, and I  
played this piece for most of the day.

REED

It's a lovely piece.

VICTOR

I was eight years old.  
When she died I buried her  
with it.

REED

I'm sorry Vic.

Victor continues to stare in deep thought as Reed attempts to change the subject to bring him back.

REED

I also thought you were more opera,  
never knew you were into  
classical.

VICTOR

It keeps me sane.

REED

Well this station isn't.

VICTOR

At least you are looking in the right areas. Protecting the main company reactor is going to keep the two of us in business back home.

REED

You were lucky you have another.

VICTOR

Reed, the company has two, and you are part of the company. You've helped build things most people couldn't even dream of. Creations that help us shape the world.

REED

The idea was to help save the world.

VICTOR

And it's being saved in our image.

Reed and Victor look out over the earth away from each other.

VICTOR

Kind of makes you feel like you're playing god, doesn't it?

REED

Maybe you can save us then.

Reed leaves the room, leaving Victor staring out at the earth and listening to his music.

#### 4. INT.SATELLITE - SATELLITE CORE

Ben is checking electrical cables underneath the floor grates surrounding a large electrical surge encased in a glass orb. Sue stands working on the computer terminal connected to the orb. Surrounding the back of the orb are several inactive

radiation rods retracting from their casings and controlled by Sue.

BEN

Is there somethin' up with  
the core?

SUE

No, just running Diagonstics.  
Better to be safe while we're  
up here.

BEN

Tell me 'bout it.  
Nothing between us and a giant  
vacuum but a few inches of  
titanium and glass.

SUE

The Shields also store a  
safe amount of oxygen as a last  
resort. It's brilliant really.

BEN

Reed's always been a genius.  
Ever since school, he always had  
an answer to everythin'.  
Kept me from flunking almost  
every class.

SUE

Almost every class?

BEN

I had to help him with Gym.

The two share a laugh.

SUE

You've known him a long time then.

BEN

Yeah, best buddies since we  
were kids. He looks out for me  
and I look out for him.

SUE

Doesn't he need a wife to do that?

BEN

Reed doesn't really talk to girls.

Those I don't need to protect  
him from. You have that problem with Johnny?

SUE

No, I don't really need to  
protect Johnny from anything.  
Most cases he can handle things  
himself.

BEN

Kid's a hothead, no offence.  
One day he'll blow it, and that  
day he'll need ya.

SUE

You could probably say the same  
for Reed then.

BEN

What you think Reed's  
a hothead?

They both laugh as Sue turns slightly embarrassed.

SUE

Oh god no, I just think  
he's a little shy. Probably  
not the guy to take charge,  
You know what I mean?  
He works the hardest out of all

of us here, but he seems to let  
Victor take all the credit.

BEN

He didn't seem so shy, speaking  
about you at breakfast. I think  
he likes you.

SUE

Really?

Ben smiles at Sue, as he believes she has an interest in him.

SUE

If I jump at any man who offers  
me a compliment, I'd be one of those  
girls you'd need to protect him  
from.

BEN

No worries then. Just thought I saw  
a spark.

Reed passing through the corridor outside overhears Ben's  
final line.

REED

WHERE?!

Ben looks at Reed surprised, and then looks directly at Sue,  
smiling as he did when he asked her about his interest in  
Reed. Reed looks at Ben with shock and relief as he believes  
he was joking about the cables and carries on.

5. INT.SATELLITE - JOHNNY'S ROOM

Johnny sits in an office chair facing, several computer  
monitors with reality television programs, video games and  
music playing. Reed enters.

JOHNNY

Reed! What's up man?

REED

Can I talk to you about something?

JOHNNY

Sure. Just give me a second.

Johnny clicks around on keyboard closing all the programs down. A shot of one screen where he is deleting his internet history is shown.

JOHNNY

Ok. Shoot.

REED

Do you think we made the right  
decision coming up here?

JOHNNY

Absolutely, I always wanted to  
be trapped in space with my  
sister and three other guys.

REED

I mean, what if we did build the  
station for nothing? Or what if these  
disturbances turn out to be too  
big a problem for us to prevent?

JOHNNY

Reed. There's been no sign of  
activity, as far as people know  
we're stopping it from up here.  
And besides you and Victor can  
do absolutely anything. If this  
thing blows again, you guys are smart  
enough to come up with some  
device that's gonna rebuild  
the reactors once they explode  
... or something.

Reed smiles, as naïve Johnny believes he has solved all of  
Reed's problems.

REED

Thanks Johnny

JOHNNY

Anytime. To be honest I thought  
you were going to ask if my  
sister was single or something.

Reed begins to back out of the room.

REED

Oh no, nothing like that.  
Sue and I are just colleagues.

JOHNNY

Cause she is, you know. But  
good luck, she has mega high  
expectations.

REED

Johnny, really.  
...How High?

JOHNNY

Well she turned down Vic a  
couple of times, and he's like  
a super rich genius with several  
custom Paganis. I hoped they'd hit it off,  
she doesn't like the man... damn shame.  
But I wish you luck.

Reed leaves the room, as Johnny smiles and returns to his  
computers - playing video games.

6. EXT.SATELLITE - HANGING OVER THE EARTH

A cloudier view of the earth simulates the passing day, where  
the satellite hangs over the now grey aura of the planet.

INT.SATELLITE - KITCHEN

Reed and Ben sit silently around the table, tired and glum at  
the lack of activity on the station. The hum of the satellite

fills the lack of conversation. Ben hears someone sprinting down the corridor and then Johnny enters the room panting.

JOHNNY

GUYS! IT'S HAPPENING!  
GET YOUR ASS TO THE MONITORS

Ben looks at Reed with excitement while Reed just looks shocked.

BEN

Now quit worrying kid.  
Let's do this.

INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

Reed and Ben hurry into the main control room, as Victor, Sue and Johnny are all sitting at individual control stations talking to each other through earpieces. Reed and Ben also sit in their seats, grab an ear piece from the control station and begin operating.

SUE

Tracking Three major seismic  
waves surrounding the European  
sector.

VICTOR

I'll take the Latverian Wave.

JOHNNY

I've got the general on the line.  
He wants to know if we noticed anything?

SUE

Johnny this isn't the time.

JOHNNY

I'm gonna have to call you back  
it's getting a bit hostile up here.



REED

The seismic wave in Bulgaria  
seems to be systematically pulsing  
with a pattern.

Reed begins typing, as the wave disappears off of the monitor.  
Reed watches it vanish and starts to panic.

BEN

I'm only tracking two points.  
Johnny what did'ya touch?

JOHNNY

I didn't do anything!

VICTOR

Reed! What happened?

REED

It just vanished! Like it just  
completely stopped. Keep tracking  
the other two. Do not lose those  
waves.

Reed begins monitoring the Latvian seismic point without  
telling anyone. He pauses and presses his hands to his head  
until he has a revelation. He begins looking for thermal  
activity, zooming in on his monitor to the skin of the earth.

BEN

Now the Serbian wave is down.

SUE

Victor we are losing this. Tell me you've  
got something on that final wave!

VICTOR

The wave seems to be increasing its range  
it's spreading higher into the country.  
The magnitude doesn't appear to be  
affecting structures it's hitting but  
it is increasing.

There is a pause in the conversation, as everyone quietens down hastily tracking the final seismic wave until Reed, leaps from his seat with pride.

REED

It's not a wave!

JOHNNY

What? You're supposed to be smart!

REED

No really. It's not a wave!

BEN

Explain Egghead.

Reed begins controlling the main monitor and pointing up at the screen while it zooms in to reveal a moving red dot.

REED

You see the seismic activity is  
spreading a wave just like an  
earthquake and juddering the ground,  
however, the shift between plates  
cannot move in a straight line, and  
especially not without a fault line  
between boundaries.

VICTOR

My god, he's right.  
It's on the move.  
It's travelling slowly, almost  
undetectable.

REED

Whatever's down there is moving  
underneath the skin of the earth.

VICTOR

And it's heading straight  
for our reactor.

SUE

Johnny you need to contact the  
general right now.

JOHNNY

On it Sis.

BEN

What is it Reed? Some kind  
of creature?

REED

Maybe, a vehicle? I can't tell.

Johnny puts his head to his ear, connecting to the General  
through his ear piece again.

JOHNNY

Hi, me again. I hear there's  
trouble on your end?

BEN

Johnny!

JOHNNY

Alright! Alright! Underground  
activity bearing 43.93 north 21.34  
east! Go Go Go! We believe it's a  
giant... ..thing.

Everyone stares and looks at Johnny.

BEN

Nice One Johnny.

JOHNNY

They said they're on the move.

SUE

How long before it reaches  
the reactor?

REED

Calculating... five minutes

JOHNNY

I hope to god they believed me.

VICTOR

Fighter Jets circling the point  
and a large force of foot mobiles  
heading through the field.  
Must be a base nearby.

JOHNNY

Thank god for that.

EXT. LATVERIA - FIELDS NEAR REACTOR

The fighter jets circle the night sky, swooping around, as the ground shakes. Military forces begin running in unison towards the point of impact in the distance where they take aim. A soldier picks up his radio and connects to the satellite.

INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

SOLDIER

We are ready to attack.  
Standby.

VICTOR

Fire now! We do not lose this  
reactor!

SOLDIER

Over and Out.

The entire crew of the satellite watch the monitor as a fighter jet drops a strange shaped device onto the ground targeting the impact point. On the side of the device reads: Von Doom. The device gives off a larger wave of pulsing energy. That shocks into the ground, knocking the soldiers back and just hits the edge of the reactor walls. No damage is made to the building.

Everyone waits silently for a while, as the wave clears on the monitor screen, revealing no point of seismic activity. Sue looks at Reed with happiness and the crew and soldiers begin to cheer.

BEN

We did it! Haha!

VICTOR

Reactor suffered no damage  
and no casualties.

SUE

We did it! I can't believe it.

JOHNNY

That's right. I saved the world!

VICTOR

Lady and Gentlemen we are going  
home.

JOHNNY

I could hug someone!

BEN

Come here you!

Ben grabs Johnny, almost crushing him with joy as he tries to struggle out of it.

JOHNNY

Okay! Okay! That's enough

VICTOR

Doctor Storm, your operation  
was a complete success.

JOHNNY

Thank you Vic.

REED

No really. Sue, you did it.  
This was all you.

SUE

Thank you Reed. But this was a  
team effort.

JOHNNY

What do you think they're gonna call  
us back on earth?

BEN

The Fearless Five?

The team share a laugh, overwhelmed by the success of their mission.

VICTOR

Whatever it is, it's going  
to be awful.

7. INT.SATELLITE - SATELLITE CORE

Victor stands watching the core, as Reed starts running the diagnostics from the computer.

VICTOR

So do you feel like a god  
now?

REED

We've only stopped whatever  
was down there. We need to analyse  
it when we're back on earth.  
Determine whether there's any more  
of them.

VICTOR

Reed, take the day off. We earned it.  
This is going to bring so much  
publicity for the company. I'm

going to sleep counting the money  
we're making from this.

REED

We're lucky we you're reactor  
wasn't hit.

VICTOR

Tell me about it. The reactor powers  
the cities throughout most of Latveria.  
They're mainly poor areas, it would  
cripple them. And we stopped that  
from happening.

Victor begins to slowly leave the room, yawning in a tired  
state.

REED

Goodnight Vic.

VICTOR

Goodnight Reed. Don't stay up  
too late. And don't forget  
to run one last check on the  
shields. There a small shower  
tonight and I want to sleep  
right through it.

REED

Sure thing. Goodnight.

Victor leaves the room, as Reed begins to close down the  
computer, having one final check of the shields (displaying a  
green active label).

8. INT.SATELLITE - JOHNNYS ROOM

Sue and Johnny are packing their clothes into cases, Sue near  
the bed, with Johnny near his computer monitors.

JOHNNY

First thing I'm gonna do.  
Double Cheeseburger

SUE

I'm going to join you there.

JOHNNY

Oh yeah, I've had it with this  
processed vacuum packed crap.

SUE

I'm so glad it's all over.

JOHNNY

You going to keep in contact with  
the guys?

SUE

Yeah, sure I will. You?

JOHNNY

Well Ben seems cool, and Vic  
promised I could drive his  
cars. And who doesn't like Reed?

SUE

Yeah, they're great guys.

Johnny pauses, aware of what he is about to ask.

JOHNNY

Just out of curiosity.  
Which of them would you date?

The room goes silent as Sue glares, shocked at Johnny.

SUE

Have you been speaking to Ben?

JOHNNY

No, I've been speaking to Reed.

Sue begins to scorn, as she leaves the room, walks down the  
corridor and enters the kitchen where Ben, Victor and Reed are  
sitting laughing.



SUE

I don't know who you think  
you guys are, but I am not some  
prize you can compete for!

Reed, Victor and Ben go quiet staring at Sue in shock.

SUE

I have the right to choose  
who I date and I don't need  
any help doing it. Mind your own  
business!

Sue leaves the room, storming down the corridor and back to  
Johnny's room.

REED

What just happened?

BEN

Nothin' I think she likes you.

VICTOR

Oh yeah, clearly.

BEN

No, No I think she's got a thing  
for Reed, so I told her.

REED

You what!?

BEN

I should probably apologise.

Ben leaves to go after Sue. The hum of the ship fills the room  
again, as Reed slumps in his chair, doubting Ben's initial  
thoughts. Victor stares at Reed quietly with a hint of  
jealousy.

## 9. EXT.SATELLITE - HANGING OVER EARTH

A final display of the earth from its darkest area, with the glow of lights from countries at night below the satellite.

## INT.SATELLITE - SUSAN'S ROOM

Reed looks concerned and on edge, as he quietly paces along the corridor towards Sue's room. He pauses to think of his actions and then goes to knock on the door, before it opens anyway.

SUE

Oh, you.

REED

Sue, I just wanted to apologise for earlier if I gave any wrong impression to you. I really am just proud of the work you're doing. And Johnny...

SUE

Johnny told me what you said.

REED

Then you know you are not some... we're not all competing for... You are so much more than that.

Sue looks down blushing as Reed realises she does in fact have an interest in him.

SUE

Well, I'm going to bed.

REED

Okay... Once again, Sorry. Maybe when we're back you could come visit us at the Baxter Building. When we're back on earth I mean.

SUE

I'd like that.

Sue smiles back at Reed, as Reed looks back both with joy and nervousness.

REED

Goodnight Sue.

SUE

Goodnight.

Reed walks back down the corridor with a faster pace and spring in his step. Sue watches from her doorway, and looks down blushing again as he disappears out of sight.

FADE TO BLACK

ALARMS BEGIN TO GET LOUDER

FADE BACK IN

9. INT.SATELLITE - REED'S ROOM

Reed awakes abruptly to the sound of the ships alarms, and what sounds like an outside hail storm. Reed hears shouting from down the corridor, As the ship begins to shudder.

VICTOR

Reed! We've got a problem  
here!

Reed leaps from his bed, and heads towards the main control room.

INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

Victor, Ben, Sue and Johnny are already watching the main monitor. Reed charges into the room grabbing an earpiece and looks up at the monitor. A flashing red view of outside the ship, covering the earth, with rocks and debris shooting around is displayed. The Ship continues to rumble and rock as the crew begin to panic.

BEN

The shields are down!

JOHNNY

Oh god, this can't be happening.

SUE

General, this is the crew of the satellite, we are experiencing a heavy cosmic shower and our defences are down! We need an emergency shuttle now!

JOHNNY

The radiation is through the roof!

REED

Not literally right?

VICTOR

We are experiencing exposure right now. It's going to increase and kill us if we don't get those shields online.

Sue and Johnny propel out of their seats and sprint down the corridor. Reed and Ben look at each other startled as the alarms continue to resonate through the ship. Johnny looks at the now vibrant red radiation rods around the orb.

JOHNNY

We are at the core, what do you need us to do?

REED

Open the core diagnostics and assess the damage.

VICTOR

Reed we don't have time for this!  
Go to the emergency override  
and force the breaker up.

REED

It could fry him!

VICTOR

We don't have a choice.

INT. SATELLITE - SATELLITE CORE

Sue stands at the computer waiting for Johnny to lift the breaker. Johnny looks back at Sue apprehensive about his actions.

VICTOR

Now Johnny!

Johnny closes his eyes and lifts the breaker, causing the glass orb of the core to explode, and a pulse of the shields energy to hit Sue back against the walls of the room. The pulse causes the canisters surrounding the room to explode and engulfs Johnny in flames. Johnny begins to scream.

INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

BEN

Johnny!

REED

Sue! What's happening?!

Johnny's earpiece disconnects as Victor looks up at Reed.

VICTOR

The Shields are still down  
... I think they're dead.

VICTOR

It's up to us now.  
You guys stay here and pilot  
the station away from the storm.

Victor gets up from his seat and strides towards the corridor leaving Ben and Reed in the ship, as it begins to get pummelled by the flares outside.

## INT.SATELLITE - SATELLITE CORE

Victor walks in looking at the core, and then stares down at Johnny's burning body. Sue lies nearby, her body surrounded by the translucent aura of the station's shields. He begins to operate the computer and glances back at her.

REED

Vic, what's happening?

VICTOR

It... It doesn't look good.

## EXT.SATELLITE - ON THE EDGE OF THE EARTH

The station begins to move towards the earth, as if being pushed by the solar waves and the debris hitting against its side. A large wave resonates through the entire ship.

## INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

REED

We're on the edge of the  
planet. Whatever you're going  
to do, do it now.

## INT. SATELLITE - REACTOR CORE

Victor jumps across the room and lifts the breaker, over Johnny's body.

## EXT.SATELLITE - ON THE EDGE OF THE EARTH

The stations shields give out one last pulse, pushing the collapsing satellite through the atmosphere and causing parts of the ship to break away.

VICTOR

The shields are online, but  
the radiation is trapped in with us.

Victor looks down as Johnny's body begins to glow. The crack in the ceiling of the room reveals the light of day as gravity begins to act on the satellite, as it starts to plummet through the clouds.

VICTOR

Reed! The shields are going  
to give out if we don't...

A grand rupture causes a large part of the satellite to fall and hit the part of the ship the crew are operating in, causing Victor to fall into the core.

INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

The rupture causes the hull of the main control room to break, and as the ship falls, equipment and broken debris begin to get sucked out of the gap. Ben and Reed hold on to their seats for dear life as they are being pulled out of the gap.

BEN

Reed! Hold On!

Reed begins to lose the grip of his seat as Ben lets go with one arms and Ties Reed's seatbelt around his body. Ben unable to hold on is pulled out of the hole, screaming and disappearing into the light.

REED

Ben!

Reed looks through the gap in tears at the sight of losing his best friend.

As the ship begins to plummet across the earth, Reed looks up at the controls for the ship at Ben's station. As he begin to pull himself towards the thrusters, he feels the sickening effects of the radiation and reaches in agony, as his arm begins to stretch and deform.

Reed grabs the control and pulls back to lift the ship, in pain and exhaustion.

EXT.SATELLITE - EARTH ABOVE SEA LEVEL

The thrusters activate and slow the ship down as it rotates and finally hits the ocean causing a huge wave to resonate around it. The satellite sits on the ocean as the wave disappears.

## INT.SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM

A deformed Reed lay on the floor, with electrical sparks going off around him. Water begins to slowly seep in through the floor grates as Reed goes in and out of consciousness.

BEGIN TO FADE TO BLACK

Reed hears the sound of soldiers and ship sirens as his hearing begins to fade. His face showing signs, of worry, relief and regret for the friends he has just lost.

BLACK SCREEN

## 10. INT.BAXTER BUILDING - QUARANTINE ROOM

Reed wakes up to the sound of a heartbeat monitor, opening his eyes and gazing around the room. A mirror glass wall is directly in front of him as he looks to the side, and sees hospital equipment and futuristic chrome panel walls. A speaker from a voice behind the glass is heard.

CUT BACK IN

SPEAKER

Welcome back to the Baxter  
Building Doctor Richards.  
Don't be alarmed. You've  
experienced heavy radiation  
exposure. What's about to happen  
could be a bit of a shock.

Reed begins to stare at the mirror glass looking slightly worried.

SPEAKER

I need you to get up  
and put on  
the radiation containment  
suit to your left.

Reed looks over to see a slim blue radiation suit with a glass helmet.

Reed lifts his arm, requiring great force as he throws over his covers and spins around to sit up. He feels concussed, as



he then proceeds to stand up - resulting in his body falling straight to the floor, as if he had no bones.

REED

What is happening?!

SPEAKER

You have experienced heavy  
cosmic radiation exposure.  
You need to adjust.

REED

I can't move!

Reed begins to squirm and attempt to pull himself along the floor, stretching and deforming his limbs as he inches towards the suit, hanging above him. He begins to grunt and moan with fear and agony.

REED

I can't reach it!  
I can't...

As Reed breaks down in tears, Victor enters the room from behind the glass and grabs Reed. Victor is wearing one of the containment suits.

VICTOR

Reed! Reed, it's me!

REED

Vic, you have to help me,  
I don't know what's happening!

VICTOR

It's alright. You're home.  
We're going to fix this.

Victor begins to help Reed into his containment suit. It provides some structure to Reeds deformed body, however he is still weak and stretching with its material.

REED

This is all my fault Vic.

VICTOR

There was nothing you could  
have done.

REED

I checked the shields, they  
were active, I should have ran  
a final diagnostic to detect...

VICTOR

It's not your fault.

REED

I killed them Vic. They're all  
dead because of me.

VICTOR

No, they're not. Everyone is here.

REED

What?

VICTOR

Johnny and Sue are being held in  
quarantine just like this. They  
experienced radiation exposure  
like you did, with remarkably different  
results.

REED

Take me to them.

Victor props Reed up around his arm and begins to walk towards  
the door of the quarantine room.

VICTOR

Also, there's something you need  
to see.

## 11. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - QUARANTINE CORRIDOR

Victor holds Reed and walks him out of the room and down a long corridor, passing the reverse side of multiple two way mirrors.

VICTOR

Analysis of each of us, shows  
that the cosmic radiation altered  
our genes with whatever we came  
into contact with during exposure.

It's remarkable, the radiation  
didn't kill us but rather shielded  
us from harm during the crash.

REED

Where's Ben?

VICTOR

Ben is being kept downstairs.

REED

He fell out of the ship during  
the crash.

VICTOR

I know, he's... lucky.  
Anyway here we are.

Victor props Reed up against a two way mirror looking into an identical room to Reed's. A ghostly translucent figure lays on the bed.

REED

Sue?

VICTOR

When she tried to activate the  
shields, the pulsing wave smashed  
her body across the room.  
She absorbed the radiation, and  
the shields themselves.

REED

But she's almost invisible?

VICTOR

We used the shields for stealth  
applications in military vehicles  
so it's not really surprising.

REED

You're kidding

VICTOR

She's still comatose from the crash.  
It's been two weeks.

REED

We've been out for two weeks?

VICTOR

We've been waiting a long time.  
Anyway moving on.

Victor picks up Reed again, and carries on along the corridor.  
They arrive at another window, with a black panelled room and  
a large container with singed edges in the centre of the room.  
Johnny's glass helmet lies on the floor, melted.

VICTOR

This is Johnny's room.

REED

What happened to him?

VICTOR

A combination of the radiation,  
solar flare and fire from the station  
crash has made him completely  
heat resistant and combustible.  
We've had to keep him in that container  
because he keeps spontaneously  
bursting aflame.

Reed steps back as the container sets alight and burns. Victor looks on with no awe as though he has seen this all before. The burning stops.

JOHNNY

Sorry! I got it now!

REED

How come his radiation suit  
isn't burning off?

VICTOR

The suit is made from an advanced  
space age material, that radiates with  
our cells as we do.  
Your suit can stretch  
because you can.

REED

What about Ben?

VICTOR

First, you need to see this.

Victor goes to help Reed walk again, but he refuses, and begins to attempt to walk out of the doors of the far end of the corridor.

12. INT.BAXTER BUILDING - BASEMENT

Victor and Reed slowly walk down the stairs to the basement of the building with Reed propping himself up on the handrails. They approach an even larger container the size of a shipping crate with titanium bars over the door.

VICTOR

We found this imbedded in the  
ground not too far from the crash.

Victor opens the door and lets Reed enter. Reed notices a large shadowy figure sitting at the back of the container but cannot make out what in the dark. Reed looks confused as the figure begins to rise and approach him. Reed backs away

afraid, as the creature is revealed as a humanoid rock monster with giant orange scales.

REED

Is this what caused the reactors  
to...

VICTOR

Reed, this is Ben.

Reed looks at Ben, in shock as he cannot believe his eyes. Ben looks back at Reed saddened and embarrassed that his best friend could not recognise him.

REED

Ben?

VICTOR

When he flew out of the ship  
he carried the radiation as he  
hit a quarry near the crash.  
His body absorbed the rock that  
he hit, and the impact has made  
his skin virtually impenetrable.

Reed stares at Ben, afraid for his friend, and lost for words.

VICTOR

We ran tests on him, his body  
isn't trapped in the rocks.  
It's all him.  
The military spent a few days  
searching for him, and then  
carving him out of the ground.

Ben, remaining silent, slowly turns around and returns to the shadows out of sight. Victor politely pulls Reed away and closes the container doors locking Ben inside.

VICTOR

Out of all of, Ben was  
the first to wake up. He was  
probably awake before they dug him out.

REED

Wait... Then what happened to you?

VICTOR

My body fell into the core  
when I tried to activate the shields.  
I keep giving off minor  
electromagnetic pulses, but  
nothing drastic.

REED

Sounds like you got off lightly.

VICTOR

Yes, shame really.

Reed looks at Victor as if to question him over his lack of mutation, until a soldier comes down the stairs and alerts the two of them.

SOLDIER

Sir, Doctor Storm is awake.

VICTOR

Thank you, we'll be right up.

Victor and Reed both look at each other worried.

VICTOR

Well then... time for the reunion.

13. INT.BAXTER BUILDING - QUARANTINE ROOM 2

Reed, Victor and Johnny sit in an empty room that has the same chrome panels on the walls and two-way mirror as the other quarantine rooms. They are sitting at a table with four seats awaiting Sue to enter. Johnny looks slightly agitated.

REED

How are you feeling?

JOHNNY

Hot, you?

Before Reed can answer, Sue steps into the room, let in by a doctor in a hazmat suit. She sits down quietly looking troubled and bitter. Johnny goes to get up and hug her but she pushes him away.

SUE

Don't touch me!

VICTOR

Sue we were all affected by  
the storm.

SUE

But why? The shields should have..

Victor looks at Reed, as if to imply he was involved.

VICTOR

The station must have  
malfunctioned. We're all  
lucky to be alive.

SUE

You call this lucky?

JOHNNY

Yeah Vic, you don't keep  
burning alive every twenty  
minutes.

REED

The shields were active when  
I ran the final diagnostic. I'll  
need to check the wreckage for  
what happened.

JOHNNY

So this is your fault?

VICTOR

Reed did exactly what any of us  
would have done.



SUE

We are freaks because of this.

JOHNNY

Yeah, tell 'em sis.

VICTOR

Look Sue, you're in shock,  
you need to calm down.

Everyone in uproar firing blame for the accident around the room looks at Sue who starts to glow in the same translucent energy as the shields.

SUE

Don't tell me to calm down!

Sue unleashes a surge of energy that knocks everyone out of their seats and onto the floor. Johnny gives off a burst of flames but it does not engulf his body, whereas Victor causes the lights in the room to start flickering.

She stands up watching as everyone pulls themselves back up. Reed's helmet has been knocked off by the blast, and his slightly deformed face shocks Sue and Johnny as it begins to remould. He starts shouting at Sue.

REED

That is enough! We came  
out of that crash alive.  
Mutation or not I'd rather live  
than Die!

SUE

Well I wouldn't!

REED

Then maybe you'd like to  
ask Ben what he thinks. Then we'll see  
if you'd rather die.

Sue looks at Reed, ashamed that she has forgotten about Ben. She glances at Johnny and leaves the room in a sullen state. Johnny still in shock looks up at Reed.

JOHNNY

Reed, did I just melt  
you're face?

REED

No Johnny, it's the accident.

JOHNNY

Damn.

14. INT.BAXTER BUILDING - BASEMENT

Sue creeps down the stairs towards the Dark Black cage containing Ben's deformed body. With minimal light, she is apprehensive about opening the door. She lifts the lock and pulls it open with difficulty.

She looks inside, barely able to see anything and calls out-

SUE

Ben?

At first silence, then a growling deep voice echoes through the container from the back.

BEN

Don't look at me.  
I'm a monster.

Sue begins to slowly pace towards the back of the container where the shape of a large human can just be made out. Ben then leaps up and screams into Sue's face.

BEN

Get away!

Sue steps back in fear, as Ben slumps to the ground driven to tears. Sue continues to move forward, and moves closer to the floor where Ben sits. She hugs his huge solid back as he shudders silently crying.

SUE

It's Ok. It's Ok.

15. INT.BAXTER BUILDING - WAREHOUSE

Reed (now able to walk almost normally) and Victor pace through a warehouse full of large tanks, planes and vehicles under construction, being operated on by both scientists of the institute and soldiers. Everyone is staring unnerved at Reed and Victor as they make their way to the satellite wreckage at the end of the room, where they approach the general.

GENERAL

Doctor Richards. Doctor Doom.

VICTOR

General.

GENERAL

We pulled most of the wreckage from the ocean, and debris from surrounding locations, including the big fella. I assume you've seen him.

REED

We have.

GENERAL

Well I doubt, you'll find anything else from this mess. We had our analysis team run every test on the black box and onboard computers. We can only put it down to a technical fault.

VICTOR

Our designs don't have technical faults.

The general looks up at Victor with a confident sly smile, as Victor looks back scorning.

REED

I'm going to tear apart the software and then move onto the internal hardware and see what I can find. I should be a few hours.

VICTOR

Do what you need to do.  
The general and I will analyse the specs of the design.

GENERAL

Doom, this is your problem.  
You fix it.

The General strides away, after giving Victor one last disappointed expression. Victor looks at Reed as if to plead him to find an answer that will put the General in his place, before also walking away. The lights flicker as he does.

INT. SATELLITE - MAIN CONTROL ROOM (Wrecked)

Reed nervously manoeuvres through the wreckage of the ship before reaching the main control room. He stares around the broken area the team once operated, saddened and weighed down by the responsibility of the crash, before moving on to the satellite core.

16. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - SATELLITE CORE (Wrecked)

Hours have passed, Reed looking frustrated and lacking energy, pauses at the core's computer. Floor grates and wires have been pulled up all over the room as Reed has frantically been assessing the ship.

Almost at a loss of hope, he buries his head in his hands (Deforming again) and looks over to the floor grate, where he sees a small black box among the cables. He looks questioning the boxes existence, and then looks at his arms, before attempting to reach to get it from his seat (2-3 meters away).

His arm stretches completely, to Reeds astonishment and goes to grab the box. As he clutches the small device, he begins to lift it with slight discomfort and drags his long arm across the floor grates to him.

The device is revealed to be a signal jammer, alerting Reed to the computer as he disconnects the device and causes the screen to blink and target the causes of the seismic activity.

At first Reed looks disappointed thinking it's just the tracker from the main control room, before realising the causes of the seismic activity had sent the signal that disarmed the shields. He goes to retract the radiation rods from around the orb, but discovers they are all missing.

Shocked and slightly relieved that he has discovered something, he leaps from his seat and runs out the room, almost tripping over his deforming weak legs.

INT.BAXTER BUILDING - WAREHOUSE

Reed, running down the warehouse past everyone working, approaches Victor and the General, lacking the despair from earlier.

REED

Victor!

VICTOR

Did you find anything?

REED

It was the seismic activity.  
It caused a signal that dropped our  
shields.

VICTOR

That's impossible, that thing  
is deep underground, they haven't  
even dug it out yet.

REED

It knew we were tracking it!  
I don't know how, but we need to  
get to Latveria and assess it  
in the field.

VICTOR

I'll alert the reactor crew and get  
a plane out as soon as we can.

GENERAL

You're not going anywhere.

VICTOR

You weren't able to  
track the signal from the wreckage  
of the crash, how do you know  
you won't miss something this time.

GENERAL

Richards, you can join us, but the  
rest of your crew stay here.

REED

General, we all spent months  
on this project. We need to see it  
through to the end.

GENERAL

The press thinks you're all comatose.  
If they catch you outside given you're  
new appearances, especially the big guy,  
there's going to be pandemonium.

REED

It's not their fault what happened.

GENERAL

Until they can get a grip  
on their abilities and return to normal  
lives, they're staying put.  
God knows, you could radiate someone else!

VICTOR

The tests we ran showed no signs  
of giving off radiation, now for the  
safety of my country let me go too!

GENERAL

Doom, you could bring down  
the plane if your mutation gets  
out of hand. Richards is the  
only exception.

REED

But General...

GENERAL

No Richards. It's now or never  
Let your friends rest. They've been  
through Hell.

Reed apologetically looks at Victor, knowing he has to go.  
Victor glares back at the traitor before him, once again  
jealous of his superior position.

17. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - WAREHOUSE

The vehicles begin to get shipped out of the large hangar  
doors, two tanks are being rolled out with colossal carrier  
planes as Reed looks out over the balcony guilty that he is  
leaving his crew behind.

He realises he needs to make things right with them, and  
swiftly leaves the warehouse without being seen.

INT. BAXTER BUILDING - QUARANTINE ROOM 3

The black quarantine room, where Johnny was held, now has its  
container singed to the ground, as Johnny sits on the bed in  
his containment suit setting different parts of his body  
alight. On the television in his room, news footage of the  
satellite crash and 'memorial-like' pictures of the crew are  
displayed.

NEWS REPORTER

It's now been two weeks since  
the devastating crash that brought down  
the global protection satellite carrying  
the crew of Victor Von Doom,  
Reed Richards, Susan and Johnny Storm  
and Benjamin Grimm...

JOHNNY

Hey! I think I'm getting  
the hang of this.

NEWS REPORTER

...Reports say they are still hospitalised  
and our thoughts are with them  
and their families.

Reed enters the room with haste.

REED

Johnny! I need your help.

Johnny smiles as suddenly a forceful blow hits Reed across the  
face, straight out of thin air, moulding into his jaw.

REED

What the hell?!

A translucent figure begins to take shape and appear into  
existence revealing an enraged Sue.

SUE

We're done with this.  
No more. You should have told  
me about Ben.

REED

There was a jammer in the cables  
of the ship, blocking a signal that  
turned off the shields!

SUE

What do you mean?

REED

Someone wanted this to happen.  
Someone involved in the construction  
must have installed it.



JOHNNY

You don't think it was...

SUE

Victor? There's no way he would  
attack his own reactor, and he  
experienced radiation exposure just  
like us so it can't be.

REED

This does however confirm that what's  
down there is a vehicle of sorts.  
The General is sending me to analyse  
it in Latveria.

SUE

Well good for you.

REED

The General has forbid it but I want you  
to come with me. We started this mission,  
now we need to finish it.

Johnny laughs, as Sue becomes less fierce in stance, warming  
to the idea.

JOHNNY

Sue may be able to turn invisible, but the  
general's gonna stop me the second we leave.

REED

If my logic is correct,  
I think Sue might be able to help  
you there.

Reed and Johnny look at Sue, implying she has more  
capabilities than she is aware of.

REED

If you can sustain a wave  
around an object, you might be  
able to conceal it.

Sue looks at the hospital table and doubtfully lifts her hands towards it. Reed and Johnny watch on in suspense as an orb of the translucent energy encases the object, raising it into the air and shaking it, before making it oscillate in and out of view.

Reed smiles at Sue. Johnny aware of what Reed is implying stares at the hospital table horrified and afraid before whimpering -

JOHNNY

Please try that again.

REED

Here's what we're going to do.

18. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - BASEMENT

Johnny creeps down the stairs of the basement carrying a large travel bag and approaches Ben's cage. Although a little jittery, he knocks on the bars and approaches him.

BEN

Go away Johnny.

JOHNNY

No way Ben, I'm getting you  
out of here.

BEN

I'm not going anywhere.

JOHNNY

Ben, Reed tracked the signal.  
What caused the earthquake in  
Latveria, caused the shields to break.

Ben remains silent, listening to Johnny from the shadows. Johnny pulls a large containment suit from the bag, burns a hole in the cage wall and throws the suit through.

JOHNNY

We're sneaking out there to find  
whoever did this to us.

JOHNNY

If you're in, you get first dibs on  
smashing the crap out of them.

Johnny melts down the cage door with his flaming fists,  
smirking with ease and wonderment at his new abilities, as Ben  
watches looking shocked.

JOHNNY

You're not alone Ben.

Johnny then looks through the gap of the cage, smiles and  
sprints back up the stairs and out of sight. Ben's cage is  
left silent as he ponders his decision to leave the building.

19. EXT. BAXTER BUILDING - RUNWAY

The outside of the Baxter Building is revealed. A shimmering  
glass structure reaching for the sky, filling out at the base  
where the hangar doors of the warehouse sector is revealed.  
Carrier planes loaded with tanks, vehicles and foot soldiers  
begin to shift out onto the long runway, overlooking the edge  
of the North Atlantic Ocean.

INT. CARGO PLANE AND TANK

The rear plane has its back door still open as soldiers  
continue to load cargo in final preparations of the mission.  
The General and Reed walk along the plane towards the cockpit  
next to a large secured tank.

GENERAL

You made the right decision  
Richards.

REED

How long before we reach  
Latveria?

GENERAL

ETA Nineteen hundred hours

REED

Umm... You mind if I have one final  
check of the tanks systems?  
I'm making it a habit now.

GENERAL

Go ahead, I'll be in the cockpit  
when you're done.

Reed pulls himself up stretching his body as he clambers into  
the tank and closes the top lid.

Inside the dimly lit space with a red glow, he whispers -

REED

How's Johnny doing?

Sue and Johnny flicker in and out of view as Johnny begins to  
shake inside the orb Sue had created for him.

SUE

Reed! Don't scare us like that  
I can't control it properly.

JOHNNY

I'm gonna throw up.

REED

Just stay here and stay hidden  
when we land, I'll make sure  
you're out before they start  
operating this thing.

From inside the tank, Reed, Johnny and Sue hear voices  
shouting.

SOLDIER

Last call for cargo!

At this point a large shudder in the tank occurs that nearly  
knocks it out of position. Reed opens the lid and looks around  
the cargo plane, for what caused the disturbance, until he  
gives up and returns to the tank interior after a few seconds.

JOHNNY

What was that?

The cargo doors of the plane begin to close and the engines fire up.

REED

We're taking off.

EXT. BAXTER BUILDING - RUNWAY

From inside the cockpit of the carrier plane, the pilot initiates the launch and prepares the flight.

PILOT

Herbie Leader this is the  
captain, we are clear for take-off.  
Stand by.

The plane builds up pace along the runway, and lifts into the air soaring towards its destination with great speed, following the front plane's path and disappearing into the clouds through the daylight.

20. EXT. DOOM REACTOR - FIELDS NEAR REACTOR (Crater)

The Reactor in the distance provides a heavy light in the dark of the night as the planes arrive from the murky sky above. The fields containing a temporary excavation site with floodlights and a crew operating a digger sit below, as the carrier plane prepares for landing.

The planes arrive and touch-down on a dimly lit landing strip next to the crater that the crew are digging into.

Reed and The General exit the plane as the tanks are rolled out and the soldiers get into position.

GENERAL

Richards when we get down to  
that vehicle you need to make  
sure it's deactivated.  
We'll have the tanks on standby.

REED

Understood.

They reach the edge of the crater looking down, as the site digging goes on for hundreds of meters into a very deep pit.

A scientist in a white hazmat suit approaches the two as they begin to climb down into the crater.

SCIENTIST

Evening General, Doctor Richards.  
Where is Doctor Doom?

GENERAL

This is no longer Doctor Doom's  
jurisdiction.

SCIENTIST

We plotted your co-ordinates  
Doctor Richards and began targeting  
our efforts to the exact point.

REED

Have you found anything?

SCIENTIST

We found a piece of equipment we  
are unable to identify, here I'll show  
you.

EXT. LATVERIA - CRATER

The scientist leads Reed and the General towards a white tent halfway down the crater, where a small team of excavators are analysing a small black device inside. Reed approaches the table on which the device sits and picks it up, rotating it to discover what it is.

GENERAL

Well?

REED

Seems to me like it's a... wait.

GENERAL

What?

Reed goes over to a computer in the tent and begins typing, bringing up a map with a pin point to the device.

REED

It's the signal relay that  
transmitted to the satellite.  
Are we sure the vehicle is still here?

SCIENTIST

Positive. The GPR shows a large  
solid body down here.

The ground begins to shake as everyone looks up and out of the tent towards the quarry. Excavators run away from the deepest part of the crater, as it rumbles and begins to crack.

GENERAL

Ready the tanks, this thing  
is on the move!

The general runs back up to the top of the crater as foot soldiers begin to enter. Tanks roll down with difficulty as the ground continues to shake, Reed gazing at the centre point of the activity.

The shaking continues to intensify as Reed cannot hold on, and falls down to the bottom of the crater, stretching and tangling his legs as he hits the base.

GENERAL

Doctor Richards! Get out of there!

Everyone looks on in horror, as Reed pulls himself up next to the edge of the crater as it cracks and causes rocks to fall and nearly crush him. The dust spreads through the deep pit as a huge tank-like structure the size of the carrier plane, cuts through the wall with several large sharp drills and stops right in front of Reed.

GENERAL

Oh my god.

As the area goes silent, a speaker from the vehicle resonates through the abyss.

VEHICLE SPEAKER

You've dug you're grave...  
Now you will lie in it Richards.

Reed stands stunned as the vehicle begins to charge at him. He manages to turn and run, approaching the wall of the crater and realising he has trapped himself. He closes his eyes and awaits death, as a bright swoop of flames pushes him out of the way.

JOHNNY

Got you!

Johnny rolls along the floor of the crater, on fire as Reed tumbles with him out of the way of the enormous drilling rig.

The vehicle crashes into the wall doing no damage to itself, reversing and turns to fight Johnny and Reed, as Johnny begins to try to ignite his body again.

REED

Johnny run!

JOHNNY

I can't get it working!  
It was working a second ago!

Reed grabs his arm and pulls him away attempting to run up the walkway to the top of the crater, as the tanks fire at the rig.

GENERAL

Show no fear men, you are  
American soldiers! Do not let  
that vehicle disappear!

The pathway towards the top of the crater becomes blocked, as the rig takes it out with its upper drilling pieces creating a gap, that Johnny jumps over. His body ignites and he shoots off into the ground pathway above, almost flying before falling and losing his flames.



JOHNNY

Reed you have to jump!

Reed looks at the gap, which he knows would be near impossible to cross. The rig begins to climb the walkway, destroying the side walls of the pit with its size and closing in on Reed. Something stops him from moving, as the rig approaches fast.

A large surge of Energy comes from the front of Reed as the wave hits the rig, and knocks it back against the crater walls. The tent and a few of the surrounding floodlights go down as the wave pulses out into the open.

Reed looking bewildered is joined by a Sue, who phases into view, right next to him, holding his chest.

REED

Thanks.

SUE

Don't mention it.

They turn back to the gap as Sue throws Reed across the gap, causing him to stretch out his body, as she holds onto his leg. As Reed starts to pull himself to the other side, she leaps over the gap and him, and safely lands to help Reed up.

REED

That was incredible!

SUE

Keep running!

The rig begins to manoeuvre back into position and chases the three up the crater until they reach the top. Johnny faces the rig as it crosses the gap it caused with ease, and attempts to burn it with his hands, causing his whole body to ignite, and the ground around him. This has no effect on the rig.

It finally approaches the top and crushes a tank on the edge facing the soldiers, Excavation crew and General.

## VEHICLE SPEAKER

What else have you got?! Huh?!  
Give me everything!

Before Sue can attempt to generate another force field, Reed stops her, believing she will hit the crew by accident. As it begins to move towards them, from the landing strip charges a large orange human shaped creature in containment suit trousers growling into battle.

REED

Ben! No!

Ben smashes against the rig causing it to fall back into the crater. Ben falls with it pummelling its body, as it falls before hitting the ground with a heavy bang. Without warning Reed, Johnny and Sue run back down towards the wreckage where the now broken debris of the rig starts smoking.

JOHNNY

Ben! Can you hear me?

SUE

Ben!

Reed begins pulling the rig apart looking for Ben, as he discovers a cockpit filled with empty bottles and opened dirty food cans. A small grovelling man, damaged by the fall is hiding at the back of the vehicle, as Reed angrily grabs him stretching to do so, and throws him out of the rig.

HARVEY ELDER

No! You can't win!

The soldiers and general, now at the base of the crater aim their guns at his head as he moans about on the floor.

Reed continues to search for Ben without looking at the driver of the rig they have just captured. From the back of the wreckage, Ben's large orange cracked body rises and stands tall over everyone, staring with rage at the driver of the rig, as he stares back with fear.

GENERAL

Take him away boys.

The drive is dragged away by the soldiers as Reed, Sue and Johnny approach Ben. Sue hugs Ben smiling and relieved he's alive.

JOHNNY

You did it Ben! That was  
amazing!

REED

Ben, I just want to say..  
I'm sorry.

Ben looks up at Reed, ashamed and still dismal as he glances over at the soldiers dragging the driver away.

BEN

It ain't your fault Reed.  
It's his.

JOHNNY

Jesus Ben, I didn't know  
you looked this rough!

Ben glares at Johnny as Reed and Sue looks at him disapprovingly.

JOHNNY

I can't tell if you've hit  
the rock or the hard place!

Ben moves over to square off with Johnny.

BEN

Maybe you'd like to see which  
end hurts more then, huh?

REED

Guys, calm down.

The general approaches the four of them, anxious of standing near Ben as he moves towards Reed.

GENERAL

Doctor Richards. We want you  
to be present for the interrogation  
of this man back at the base.

REED

Interrogate? No General I...

The floodlights around the crater begin to heavily pulse, as everyone looks up to the area where the tent used to stand, revealing Victor glaring down upon them, out of his radiation suit.

VICTOR

General, I see you saved my  
reactor once again.

GENERAL

Actually it was Doctor Richards  
and his team.

VICTOR

Ah yes. The fearless four who  
decided to come and stop the Mole-man.

JOHNNY

Haha! The Mole-man?

VICTOR

Living underground? It made sense.  
Anyway it looks like the four of you  
have been through hell. We  
should retire to my mansion and  
celebrate the success.

GENERAL

Later Doctor, Richards needs to...

VICTOR

I don't believe you were invited  
General.

Victor glares at the general as he looks up shocked at Doom's patronising blow.

SUE

Johnny and I will go with  
Victor. We need some rest.

JOHNNY

Yes! Can I drive the car when  
we get there?

VICTOR

I promised didn't I?

Johnny sprints up the track to join Victor as the rest of the group walk back to the top of the crater. Reed grabs Sue's hand as they let everyone walk ahead of them. Victor notices this.

REED

You... You saved my life.

SUE

I said not to mention it.  
Anyway you did kind of save us  
all when the satellite crashed, so  
we are even.

Sue continues to walk up the crater with Reed as they reach the top. They appear happy to be friends once again.

EXT. LATVERIA - FIELDS NEAR REACTOR (Crater)

As Sue and Johnny walk off towards Victor's private plane, she has one last longing look back at Reed before boarding. Victor approaches Reed in an agitated state.

VICTOR

The next time you leave  
me behind you won't be working  
at Baxter anymore.

REED

Victor... I had no choice, the  
General has it in for you he was watching  
your back the whole time!

Victor pauses and looks straight at the General, easing up a  
bit.

VICTOR

I... I know. He's tearing us apart.

Victor sighs losing his raged expression.

VICTOR

Tell me everything you learn  
from the driver. Promise me?

REED

I... Ok.

Victor goes to turn away as Reed grabs his arm.

REED

I meant to say earlier, the  
radiation rods. The ones we used as a last  
resort in case the core failed...  
they're gone.

VICTOR

What?

REED

I couldn't find them on the ship.

VICTOR

Do you think the military...

REED

I don't know but I'm going to  
find out. I think there's more  
to this than meets the eye.

Reed shakes hands with Victor leaving him to join the carrier plane with Ben. Victor holds the side of one of the floodlights. Staring out at the General with anger causes sparks to shoot from his hand. Shocked by this he releases it, and hastens towards his jet. He looks around to check that no one saw his reaction and closes the doors.

Reed sits on the end of the carrier plane's back doors with Ben standing over him.

BEN

You need my help?

REED

Oh yeah, desperately.

BEN

So are we going good cop  
bad cop on this guy?

Reed smiles and looks up at Ben.

REED

I'll let you know when to  
come in.

21. EXT. DOOM MANSION - MAIN GATE/GARAGE

An Hour has passed and the still night air still lingers. Victor, Sue and Johnny arrive at the gate of Victor's mansion having taken a limousine from the airport. The tall black gates open as the car continues its journey towards the haunting structure. Storm clouds brew over its sharp spires as the car drives down a spiralling tunnel and into a large area containing many exotic vehicles.

JOHNNY

It's heaven.

The limousine comes to a halt, and everyone exits.

VICTOR

If you'll follow me up to the  
main house...

JOHNNY

Yeah... can I take the car for a  
spin now?

Victor looks at Johnny with disappointment before smiling.

VICTOR

Keys are in the ignition.

JOHNNY

Yes!

Johnny runs over to the gleaming green sports car as Victor  
calls out -

VICTOR

And Johnny... don't burn  
too much rubber.

Johnny laughs as he leaps into the car. Victor turns to Sue.

VICTOR

Make yourself at home

Sue follows Victor to the elevator, while Johnny drives the  
car up the spiralling tunnel and out of the gates.

INT.DOOM MANSION - STAIRCASE/MASTER BEDROOM

Victor leads Sue up the staircase and into the master bedroom.  
A spacious room with a large king sized bed, and a modern  
stone interior design.

VICTOR

Anything you need, please  
come to me.



SUE

Thank you Victor, For Everything.  
I'm sorry you're stuck in this  
mess with us.

Victor moves forward towards Sue, perceiving her sympathy as an advance.

VICTOR

There's no need for apologies.  
I'm right where I want to be.

Sue backs away slightly realising Victor's intent. He pauses and smirks almost irritated and confused.

VICTOR

Just tell me one thing.  
What is it you see in Reed Richards?

SUE

I'm not having this conversation.

VICTOR

No really? What is it?  
He can't protect you, but I can!  
He is nothing compared to me!

Sue backs away further as Victor becomes enraged, causing the lights to fizzle and electrical discharge to fire from his arms, stronger than before.

VICTOR

Why him?!

Victor falls to the floor, and realises he can use this to lie to Sue.

VICTOR

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry.  
Forgive me. It's happening  
more and more and I can't control it!

Sue begins to approach Victor the same way she did for Ben, when he broke down in his containment.

SUE

None of us can. We need to  
remain strong, otherwise we  
all fall apart.

Sue begins to lie to Victor, thus not to hurt his feelings  
anymore.

SUE

I feel nothing for Reed.  
And that's the truth.

Victor rises from the floor with the help of Sue, looks her in  
the eye and realises she is lying. He feigns agreement and  
goes to leave the room. His mind now twisted in a silent rage.

VICTOR

Goodnight Susan. Sleep Well.

Sue follows Victor to the door, as he disappears along the  
hall, she closes the door quietly and locks it.

22. INT. MILITARY BASE - HALLS

Reed and the General walk along the corridor towards the  
interrogation room, discussing the files found about who the  
driver of the rig is. The walls are silver and soldiers are  
pacing around in and out of rooms busy with equipment and  
paperwork.

GENERAL

Welcome to base, it used to be  
the Werner Academy school's building, now it's  
an off the books site for us.

GENERAL

We ran DNA tests and  
Facial Recognition. Guys name is  
Harvey Elder. A Latverian, He was one of Doom's  
senior engineers on the satellite  
construction, probably the one  
that put the jammer in place.

REED

We need to find out why he attacked  
us and if there'll be any more  
attacks to come.

GENERAL

Unless he's got friends, this  
guy's going away for the rest of  
his life.

The general stops at a room with a two-way mirror, where Elder  
sits on one side of a table blankly staring at the opposite  
seat inside. Reed looks at the mirror.

REED

I'm getting pretty sick of these.

GENERAL

He hasn't spoken a word since  
we brought him in. You think  
you can get him to talk?

REED

Oh yeah, when we're done,  
you may need a new one.

Reed taps and alludes to the two-way mirror as he slowly  
enters the room and sits at the table opposite Elder, who  
continues to stare in the same spot without moving.

REED

My name is Doctor Richards.  
What's yours?

Elder continues to stare in the same spot, as if he hadn't  
heard Reed speak.

REED

But you already know that,  
and I already know who you are  
so let's skip the formalities.

REED

You're going to tell me where you  
got the rig. Why you attacked the reactors  
and if it's going to happen again.

Elder looks up at Reed's face and smiles impressed with his  
attempt at a menacing confrontation.

HARVEY ELDER

You don't scare me Richards.

Reed sighs, looks down and smirks, which makes Elder slightly  
anxious.

REED

Very Well, I guess *I* don't.

Reed stands up from his chair, looks at the door and goes to  
stand in the frame after opening it. He yells down the hall.

REED

Ben!

It's Clobbering Time.

Elders face drops to a comedic white cowering panic as from  
the other side of the door, the two-way mirror and the  
surrounding wall get smashed into the interrogation room. Ben  
stands enraged staring down at Elder amongst the debris and  
dust, as Reed continues to stand in the door frame smiling.  
Ben enters and grabs Elder.

BEN

I'm gonna rip your limbs from  
limb if you don't answer!

HARVEY ELDER

No! Please!

Ben proceeds to pick Elder up and humorously smash his body  
over the table as he continues to whimper in fear. Reed still  
stands watching and smiling.

BEN

Why did you do it!

Ben then grabs Elder by the scruff and proceeds to punch him in the face, giving a solid comic thud sound, that prompts Elder to shout. He repeats until suddenly..

HARVEY ELDER

Okay! Okay! I'll tell you everything! We took out the reactors to cripple the world's supply of nuclear power! For the glory of Latveria! That way people would only use our reactor and our beloved country would become an economic super-power.

BEN

That's bull crap! You were going to attack your own reactor!

HARVEY ELDER

No it was a ruse! My employer sold his stock in the company to profit, but you got in the way! He built the drilling rig and I piloted it for many months under his command. I was trapped underground for 2 weeks in that infernal machine!

REED

You're employer's a He, how much stock did he have invested in the company?

HARVEY ELDER

He didn't sell all of it, but he would have lost millions on this one. Maybe billions.

REED

Do you know who he is?

HARVEY ELDER

I never knew!

Ben goes to punch Elder in the face again, stopping to allow him to speak.

HARVEY ELDER

No I swear!  
He used a voice changing device,  
I never saw his face or name!  
that's the truth!

REED

Will there be another attack?

Elder pauses to think, and then gulps. Prompting Ben to growl at him.

HARVEY ELDER

There was another rig.  
A prototype bigger and more  
powerful than the first.  
The one you destroyed runs on nuclear power,  
that's why we were stealing the rods but he had  
this crazy idea about using cosmic radiation.  
If my employer knows I told you,  
he's going to kill me!

REED

Thank you Harvey. Ben we've  
learned a lot today.

Ben looks at Reed releasing Elder into a shaken up stance.

BEN

Reed, Don't I get one more?

Reed looks back at Ben, and then glances over to Elder.

REED

Sure, why not.

Ben smiles at Elder before unleashing a powerful kick to the chest that blasts him into the wall and leaves him hanging there in a comedic fashion.

He and Reed leave through the door and walk off down the corridor as the soldiers and general watch in bewilderment, before looking back at Elder wedged into the wall, wheezing.

23. INT.DOOM MANSION - VICTOR'S STUDY

Victor sits menacingly by the fire in a large armchair, pondering the events that took place earlier in the evening. Gazing into the flames he hears the General's statements from earlier, and Sue's affections towards Reed as he twists into madness.

He walks over to his desk where several shards of metal lay in an ordered scale. He proceeds to pick up one at the furthest end of the scale with his left hand, clenches it and creates a surge of electricity with his right.

Looking amazed as he does it, he puts down the shard, and picks up the next in the order of metals. Repeating the experiment he creates a slightly larger force, before picking up the largest shard and generating a huge amount of electricity from his entire body.

Excited and Maniacal, he places the shard down discovering the name of the element, before looking over at his family suit of armour in the corner of the room (as if remembering it is entirely made from the same material).

24. EXT.LATVERIA - CITY STREETS

Johnny driving around in Victor's sports car pulls over in the middle of the city.

Johnny looks down at his phone and calls Ben, though is contact is now: 'Benny on the rocks'.

JOHNNY

Benny! How did you answer  
the phone with those hands?

BEN

Funny kid, Funny.

JOHNNY

You interrogate that guy?

BEN

Oh yeah, he got what was coming.  
What did you want?

JOHNNY

I was just wondering, with you...  
Is it all still there?

BEN

What do you mean?

JOHNNY

You know...

Johnny pauses and waits for a response from Ben.

BEN

Why you little... Of course it's sti-

Johnny hangs up the phone laughing. He stares out of his tinted windows at a street corner where a crowd of hooded citizens stare at him. Johnny looks on confused, as they all raise their arm and fist in unison looking straight at him. Johnny laughs this off as he realises they believe he is Victor.

JOHNNY

Ha! I could get used to this.

He speeds off through the streets heading back to the mansion, as the crowd watches on, lowering their arms as the car disappears into the distance.

25. INT.DOOM MANSION - MASTER BEDROOM

Victor walks along the hall back towards the master bedroom where Sue is staying. He knocks on the door.

VICTOR

Susan, I've come to apologise.  
I...

He pushes the door open to reveal Sue and Reed both passionately kissing on the bed. They stop startled by Victor.



SUE

Victor I...

REED

Vic, leave us alone. She doesn't  
want you. Nobody does.

VICTOR

What are you doing here?

REED

I stopped the Mole-Man and I  
came here to claim what is mine. The General  
has awarded me the medal for valour you know.  
Once again, I am better than you.

Reed turns back towards Sue who is smiling at him, as he  
begins to kiss her again.

Victor becomes enraged, his eyes begin to fizz with  
electricity as he unleashes a huge bolt of lightning from his  
arms (now wearing gauntlets).

SUE

Reed look out!

Sue pulls Reed away and takes the blast of Victor's attack.  
There is a steaming hole through her side, as she begins to  
bleed out and die.

REED

Victor! What have you done?!

VICTOR

Sue! I'm sorry! It's going to be  
alright! I didn't mean to...

SUE

Reed, hold me.

Sue begins to shiver as Reed holds her. Reed looks up at  
Victor and smiles, signifying that he is still better than  
him. Victor (Now completely in his armour and mask) then

unleashes an enormous amount of electricity that fills the room as he screams for his lost love.

VICTOR

No! Curse you Richards!

Curse you!

26. INT.DOOM MANSION - VICTOR'S STUDY

Victor awakens from his chair, sweating and in a state of panic. Although he realises he experienced a nightmare, his body begins to fill with rage as he strides towards his suit of armour.

27. INT.DOOM MANSION - STAIRCASE

Sue unlocks her door and scans the corridor for signs of Victor. She closes her eyes and becomes transparent as she makes her way down the staircase inside the mansion.

She creeps along the many rooms of the mansion discovering hallways filled with suits of armour and ancient artefacts of rare value.

INT.DOOM MANSION - DUNGEON

She follows the corridor before reaching a flight of stairs going down into a stone arched hall filled with prison cells. The room appears empty until she attempts to create an orb around the walls of the room.

Behind one wall a pulley is revealed, which she operates and opens a panel in the stone floor revealing more stone steps.

INT.DOOM MANSION - SECRET CONTROL ROOM

No longer invisible, she anxiously steps down through the secret path until a room is revealed.

Several Screens actively showing parts of Latveria are displayed in front of a large desk, with several high-tech pieces of computer equipment including the same model signal jammer that was placed in the satellite.

Sue looks down as file information on Reed, Ben, Johnny and herself are in view on the table. As she looks through, she assumes them to be related to the expedition. She discovers another file pertaining to Harvey Elder and a list of the

nuclear reactor attacks with dates, including reactors that have not been hit with future dates attached to them.

Sue recognises the Mole-man, realising that Doom is involved with the attacks she turns to run back up the stairs only to come face to face with Doom's suit of armour in a hooded cloak, as he swiftly raises his arm and chokes her.

VICTOR

I never wanted to kill  
you Susan.

His voice has been made electronically deeper and menacing. Sue squirming and suffocating releases a massive pulse that causes Victor to drop her, as she falls to the floor and turns invisible.

VICTOR

You can run, but you  
can't hide forever!

Victor begins to stride up the stairs, laughing along the halls of his mansion, firing shots of electricity with ease in the hope of hitting Sue as she runs away towards the garage.

VICTOR

You made me Susan, you made  
me murder you right here in my  
own house!

28. INT.DOOM MANSION - GARAGE

As she hides amongst the cars, Sue begins to cry, afraid of Victor's insanity and new found power. The elevator doors slide open revealing the suit of armour in a dominant stance. The lights go out as Victor eerily strolls around firing bolts at the walls destroying his vehicles to scare her. One to his left, his right and one in the distance, which is right next to the vehicle Sue is hiding behind.

VICTOR

I'm going to do it you know.  
I'm going to kill Reed Richards.

VICTOR

It's all your fault, and there's  
nothing you can do to stop me  
because you're already dead!

The game of cat and mouse endures, as the screeches of Victor's car appear from the spiralling garage entrance road. Johnny pulls up in the car, at the sight of the burning vehicles and Victor in his armour.

JOHNNY

Who the hell are you?

Victor looks at Sue, although invisible he realises her position, and turns to Johnny inside the car, firing an enormous surge of electricity that causes it to explode with Johnny inside.

VICTOR

I am a god among mortals.

Sue enraged, releases wave after wave of her pulsing ability knocking Victor back against the wall screaming.

SUE

Don't touch my brother!  
I'll kill you! I'll...

Victor pushes Sue away into one of the broken vehicles, as he stands tall over her. From the wreckage of his car he pulls Johnny's unconscious body and walks back towards the elevator without even looking Sue in the face.

VICTOR

You're nothing to me anymore.  
If you want him..  
Come and get him

Victor stands in the elevator holding Johnny's body, as Sue watches the doors close. Injured and completely outmatched alone, she climbs into an undamaged vehicle and drives out of the garage, knocking down the gate as she speeds off to find to find Ben and Reed.

## INT.DOOM MANSION - DUNGEONS

Victor throws Johnny into a cell and locks him in, as Johnny begins to regain consciousness.

JOHNNY

Victor?

VICTOR

Yes Johnny

JOHNNY

What's going on, let me out!

VICTOR

You are bait in a trap.  
She will come for you and then -

Johnny attempts to burn through his cell to no success, until Victor knocks him back against the wall with a small bolt of electricity.

JOHNNY

I trusted you!

VICTOR

You need to grow up boy.

JOHNNY

My sister's coming for me,  
and when she does she's gonna  
kick your ass.

VICTOR

No one can kill Doom.

Victor walks back up the stairs leaving Johnny in his cell, haunted by his fallen idols change in appearance and mentality.

## 29. INT.MILITARY BASE - RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Reed sits in a dimly lit room at the base with only the light of computer monitors present as Ben stands over him watching. At his desk are several files much like in Doom's secret control room, and a few small pieces of the rig's wreckage. Some test-tubes and pipettes are scattered across the workspace as Reed begins to identify the material made from the rig.

Typing away he brings up a search on his monitor, labelling the material as: 'Latverian Steel'. Bewildered he begins a search for the country in the armed forces archives, and brings up several pictures of Latverian citizens making the same fist action that Johnny had seen previously. Information on several small underground terrorist groups in Larveria beheading their prime minister unsettles Reed, as he continues to discover more about the country.

BEN

Well that's, freaky

He begins to frantically search for more information, a soldier opens the door and Sue comes bursting through and into Reed's arms, frightened and weeping.

SUE

He's got Johnny!

We need to go...

BEN

Whoah Sue, whos got Johnny?

SUE

Victor! He's behind the attacks!

He's going to kill us if...

Sue releases Reed as Ben hugs her to calm her down. Reed unable to take the shock slumps to his chair as he realises the link between the people of Latveria, the attacks and their leader. He looks down at Sue's leg and see's the burn marks from Victor's attacks.

REED

How could this happen?

BEN

By the looks of things, if he's been working with the terrorists he's been at this a long time.

REED

Ben, I don't think he's working with them, I think they're working for him.

SUE

He's a monster.

REED

Sue, you're safe here, Victor doesn't know where we...

Reed's phone rings (Highlighting Victor as the contact) as Sue and Ben look at him. Incredibly unnerved he goes to pick up the phone.

BEN

Wait Reed, the only way we're gonna get Johnny is if he thinks we are on his side.

REED

What are you saying?

The phone continues to ominously ring.

BEN

Lie. We know nothin'.

Reed turns away from Ben and answers the call. The room goes silent.

REED

Victor, I just...

VICTOR

Reed, Hi. I've been meaning  
to ask about the interrogation.

Reed turns stunned, unable to understand Victor's normal tone  
of voice.

REED

We learned all we could...

VICTOR

Fancy filling me in?

Ben and Sue continue to stare at Reed as he struggles to find  
answers for the conversation.

REED

I'll drop by the mansion,  
say have you seen Sue Or Johnny?  
I haven't heard from them and they're  
not answering my calls.

Everyone goes silent, as Victor pauses on his end of the  
phone. Tension increases as Reed closes his eyes, until -

VICTOR

They're staying with me, they're  
both fine and resting.  
Say, it's nearly afternoon, and we  
haven't celebrated the mission.  
Why don't you meet us at this  
restaurant down town and we can  
talk there.

REED

Sounds good.

VICTOR

Noon at the Lanzarini then,  
I'll be waiting.



Victor ends the call first leaving the droning dial sound to fill the silence of the room. Everyone looks at each other unnerved at the conversation that took place.

BEN

I'm coming with ya.

Sue looks at Reed and hugs him again. Reed appears stunned knowing he has to step up to save Johnny's life.

SUE

You keep him distracted  
I'll go after my brother.

REED

Sue, if we screw this up  
he'll kill you!

SUE

I won't leave him there!  
You take care of Victor.

30. INT. RESTAURANT

A formally dressed waiter shows Reed and Ben to a table in the centre of an orange tinted room with wooden interior. The sound of cutlery and chatter among customers fill the ambience as Reed and Ben, now dressed in suits over their containment attire sit down next to each other facing a large chair across the table.

BEN

This suit itches.

REED

It was the biggest they had  
stop complaining.

Reed and Ben lift their menus up to their faces and continue to chat. Ben frantically asks questions while Reed remains nervous.

BEN

So when do you think he'll show?

REED

I don't know Ben, he said noon.

BEN

Does this place do Pizza?

REED

I don't think so.

BEN

Did you suspect, him. Like at all?

The room goes silent, unbeknown to Reed and Ben who continue to talk.

REED

When Elder suggested  
cosmic radiation rods I thought it...

Reed and Ben both lower their menus to see Victor sitting in the opposite chair, wearing his suit of armour and a large green cloak hooded over his mask. The surrounding customers sit silently watching him.

VICTOR

Evening Doctor Richards,  
Mr. Grimm.

Reed and Ben stare back slight unnerved by Victor's new appearance.

VICTOR

Leave us.

Without question, every other person in the restaurant abandons their meal and slowly walks out of the room, as Victor sits in his seat with his hands placed together staring at Reed.

BEN

What's with the tin-man  
costume?

VICTOR

It contains my radiation exposure.  
What's with the monkey suit?

BEN

It's a rental.

REED

Where is Sue and Johnny,  
I thought we were celebrating?

VICTOR

They need a bit more time to rest.  
They won't be joining us.  
Now tell me what you've learned.

Reed sits slightly stunned as if Victor implied he knew they were aware of his betrayal.

REED

The drivers name is Harvey Elder.  
He's one of your engineers who built  
the satellite, and probably the  
one who put the jammer in the ship.

VICTOR

My engineers?

REED

He works for the company.

Reed continues to feel anxious, trying not to give away his knowledge.

REED

He has an employer of a higher power  
who orchestrated the attacks on  
the reactors and built the rig for him.

VICTOR

A higher power?

REED

Well... we don't know who it is.

VICTOR

Sue suspected there would be someone  
else, although we had... disagreements.

Victor looks down at his hands. Reed now feels angry, as he  
knows Victor attacked Sue and tried to kill her. His answers  
begin to sound more forceful.

REED

The driver said there's  
another rig, bigger and stronger  
than the one we took down.

VICTOR

Is that so?

REED

The one we tore apart was made  
from Latverian Steel. I'm willing  
to bet the other rig is made from that.

Victor realises that Elder, may have revealed too much about  
Victor's involvement in the attacks.

VICTOR

Why don't you take me to  
the base and we can look over  
the evidence together.

REED

We're done with the military now,  
we're not going back to base.

VICTOR

What have they done with the driver  
of the rig?

BEN

Oh, he's still there. Few pieces  
of him are lodged in the wall.

VICTOR

Where is the base?

REED

There's no need to see the base.

BEN

I doubt you can see anything  
through those tiny eye-slits.

Victor looks down and sighs, aware that he has to reveal his  
true intent to Reed and Ben.

VICTOR

Ben, you asked about the armour.  
My body can produce vast amounts  
of electrical energy.  
The more contact with metal,  
the more power I have.

REED

Because you fell into the satellite's  
core?

VICTOR

And the radiated rods I placed  
on the satellite.

REED

You increased you're exposure?

VICTOR

Taking down the shields during the  
storm didn't affect me as it did  
the four of you. Knowing what the  
radiation can do to us... I want more.

BEN

This is a curse, not power.

VICTOR

To you maybe, but to me...  
I always had the power to change the  
world, now I've got so much that  
no one can stop me...

REED

You couldn't have possibly known  
the radiation would give you  
abilities. Why bring down the shields?

VICTOR

Nuclear radiation just won't do anymore.  
If we want to be the best we have to look  
for alternatives.

REED

So you thought cosmic radiation?  
You installed the rods on the satellite  
to absorb the energy but...

VICTOR

There was no way to radiate the  
power rods of the ship without  
deactivating the shields. I thought  
they could be used for the company...

REED

And the new rig, it seems.

Doom realises that Reed knows of his involvement but continues  
to act completely unaware.

VICTOR

You dare interrupt me?

BEN

So you irradiated yourself and all  
of us for your company? You're insane.

Ben begins to clench his fists in anger, as Reed still remains puzzled trying to work out Victor's actions.

REED

How did you make everyone here leave?

VICTOR

The people of Latveria  
understand royalty. They believe  
in the rule of a monarchy.

BEN

And you're the king of Latveria?

VICTOR

This whole country has been  
doing my bidding for the past  
fifteen years, after we threw  
out the democratic filth of a  
government.

BEN

Why?

Victor rises from his seat and slams his hands on the table.

VICTOR

Because they killed my mother!  
They're the reason she is dead.  
And I rose from nothing so that  
one day I could tear them apart.

Reed and Ben go silent as Victor's eyes begin to give off  
electrical discharge.

VICTOR

But I realised it doesn't  
stop there, the whole world is  
corrupt and it needs to be remade.

REED

How have you kept this a secret  
for fifteen years?

VICTOR

I've paid off officials and  
kept the citizens out of poverty  
since my reign. They understand  
a dictatorship under my rule is  
the only way to live, and  
they remain silent for their own good.

REED

So, do you feel like a god now?

VICTOR

I was always a god compared to you,  
Richards. And if you want Johnny to live  
you will tell me where Elder is being kept.

Reed stares into the eye-slits of Victor's metal mask at his  
crazed bloodshot eyes. Victor remains still and statuesque in  
his chair. Reed sighs -

REED

The base is in the old  
Werner Academy.

Victor smiles from behind his mask and raises his head.

VICTOR

Thank you.

He unleashes a large wave of electricity, sending Reed soaring  
into the upper wall behind him. Ben leaps from the table and  
goes to strike Victor, before he dodges his attack and places  
his hands on Ben's head, electrifying it and firing Ben to the  
floor. Reed and Ben lay injured and defeated at Victor's metal  
boots, as he turns around and leaves the room.

Reed takes his earpiece from his pocket, which has been  
destroyed by Victor's blast.

REED

I can't contact the General,  
We need to get to Sue now!



31. INT. DOOM MANSION - DUNGEONS

Johnny lay on the floor of his cell, burned hand marks over the bars and a completely singed Stone ceiling. He sings as the room echoes his tired voice.

JOHNNY

♪So Now we're back... From outta  
space... I just walked in to find you here,  
with that sad look upon your face!♪

The sound of the dungeon doors opening, alert Johnny as he continues to sing, as if directing the lyrics to whom he assumes is Victor.

JOHNNY

♪You should have changed this stupid  
lock, you should have thrown away the  
key, If I'd have known for just one second  
you'd be back to bother me!...♪

SUE

Johnny shut up.

Sue appears in front of the cell doors, in a bold stance as she arrives to rescue her brother.

JOHNNY

Sue! You're alive!  
Where's Victor?

SUE

Reed and Ben have bought us some time.

Sue begins to actively search around the cell for signs of weakness in the structure.

JOHNNY

He really did throw away the key.  
What an asshole.

SUE

Can't you burn through it?

JOHNNY

I tried everything; it must be  
the same material as the drill.

Without warning, Sue unleashes a pulse of energy against the cell, knocking Johnny to the back wall as the bars rattle. The dust on the old stone walls falls to the floor as Sue apologises.

SUE

Johnny, I'm sorry...  
are you ok?

Johnny picks himself up, his eyes still closed as he holds his head and smirks.

JOHNNY

I'll survive...

Sue looks at him disappointed through the undamaged bars of his cell.

32. EXT. MILITARY BASE - FRONT GATE

Storm clouds hang over the entrance to the Werner building as two guards watch a green cloaked figure stride forward. The speakers around the building begin to play: 'Overture to the Thieving Magpie'.

GUARD

Don't move or we will open fire!

Victor doesn't look up or stop; he continues to move forward as two bolts of electricity fire up at both the guards one after another from his chest and shoulder, striking humorously in time with the music.

INT. MILITARY BASE - HALLS

Victor moves along the corridors, soldiers shooting at his impenetrable armour and then getting zapped by Victor, without him lifting a finger. He does not stop, as he checks each room, killing everyone he sees as they scream in fear. The music begins to appear on every speaker in every room as he strikes to every beat and swell of the orchestral piece.

Scientist try to run from out of the research facility and down the hall, to which Victor stops and watches them, before unleashing one bolt that passes through them all, leaving holes in their chests. He turns and continues to walk.

33. INT. DOOM MANSION - SECRET CONTROL ROOM

Sue checks Victor's secret control station for something to open the cell with. Johnny calls to her from his cell.

JOHNNY

Anything?

REED

Johnny!

Sue runs back up the steps to discover Reed and Ben have made it to Victor's mansion. Both damaged and out of breath, Reed grabs Sue in panic.

REED

Contact the General Now!

Ben grabs the bars of Johnny's cell and tears them apart with force.

JOHNNY

Pebbles! It's good to see ya!

BEN

C'mon kid... you get first dibs  
on smashing the crap outta this guy.

JOHNNY

Oh, I'm looking forward to it.

Ben pulls Johnny towards his face as he steps out of his cell.

BEN

And don't ever call me  
pebbles again.

Sue places her hand to her earpiece trying to contact the General back at the base.

SUE

General! Can you hear me?

34. INT. MILITARY BASE - MEETING ROOM

The General sits at the head of a table with several high ranking government officials sit along both sides of the table. Everyone is silent as they listen to the music and screams of people outside.

GENERAL

Stand together men, we do  
not bow to this terrorist.

Doom steps in through the door as it slowly shuts behind him, hiding the bodies and bloodstained walls in the corridor.

GENERAL

Victor, what do you want with us...

Victor remains silent and unleashes several bolts of electricity from his body without moving, and takes out all of the other people in the room to the finale of the musical piece, leaving the General.

VICTOR

Where is Elder?

The general stutters, afraid as Victor moves forward towards him from around the table.

GENERAL

If I tell you, will you let me go?

Victor moves closer to the general and goes to imply that he will let him go.

VICTOR

You're not going anywhere.

GENERAL

We're keeping him in the isolation  
chambers upstairs.

VICTOR

Thank you.

Victor holds the General's head with both hands and stares him in the face.

GENERAL

But you said...

VICTOR

I know. It's a technical fault  
of mine.

The general's ear piece is activated as Victor generates electricity from his hands and shocking the General through his skull.

SUE

General! Can you hear me?  
Victor is coming! I repeat!  
Doom is coming for Elder!

The General screams in agony before Victor finally causes his head to explode and splatter over the walls. As his body drops to the ground, Victor turns around and walks over the dead bodies of the officials and out of the door to look for Elder.

35. INT.MILITARY BASE - ISOLATION ROOM

Elder sits chained to the floor of a padded cell, as Victor blasts through the door and strides over to grab Elder.

HARVEY ELDER

Don't you people ever knock!?

Victor grabs Elder by the scruff with both hands and brings up towards his face. Elder shakes, whimpering with fear.

VICTOR

You told Richards everything.

HARVEY ELDER

You? Oh god...

VICTOR

Come with me. We're going  
to send a message.

Victor blasts his chains and drags him out of the room and along the corridor filled with bodies, with one arm. Elder continues to cower along the floor.

36. INT. DOOM MANSION - DUNGEON

Sue takes her earpiece off, looking shocked and frightened.

SUE

I... I think everyone's dead.

BEN

Ok, now I'm gonna kill him.

Everyone stops as a fizzling sound from the secret control room downstairs can be heard. The four of them follow the steps down (with Ben having to crouch) as the main monitor displays live footage of Victor, in his cloak and armour sitting in a large chair, with Elder at his side.

VICTOR

Good evening, citizens of  
Latveria. Tonight we initiate our  
biggest attack on the western world  
for their crimes against our  
beloved country.

For too long were we forced  
to abide by the rules of democracy...  
until *I* set you free, a system of  
government that imposes its ideology  
on everybody else because it believes  
that it is the only way to live...

Ben looks at Reed unsettled by Victor's mad speech, as the monitors surrounding Victor's image display crowds of Latverian citizens applauding and raising their arm in unison as they watch large screens around the city.

JOHNNY

They did that to me when  
I was in Victor's car.

VICTOR

Tonight we attack the NASDAQ  
stock exchange in New York  
to bring back a depression that will put their  
feeble minds into perspective. From there  
we can cripple the economy across the  
whole of the United States, so they  
can understand the poverty we have endured.  
It's no longer about nuclear power...  
It's about the real power...  
Money.

Footage of the larger drilling rig is played over Victor, as  
it is pushed out and onto one of the militaries carrier  
planes.

SUE

Why attack the stock exchange?

REED

He's going to erase his transactions  
and claim his company stock back after  
betting on losing the reactor.

BEN

You need to contact state-side,  
somebody else must be seeing this?

REED

He's using the signal jammer,  
it's only being televised here.  
And it looks like no-one is going to  
oppose Victor's ideas.

Reed stares at the citizens of Latveria shocked at their  
belief in this mad titan, as Victor appears back on screen.

VICTOR

This is the day we have  
been waiting for, all this time.  
Doomsday is upon us!

The crowds cheers as Victor raises his arm, signalling every other citizen to do so. Victor's footage disconnects as Sue, Johnny, Reed and Ben remain horrified at the extent of Victor's control.

SUE

We need to get back to  
the base and stop him.

JOHNNY

How? He took us all out!

REED

But not together, if we  
work with each other, we could stand  
a chance of beating him.

BEN

It's worth a shot. Otherwise  
the world's gonna go to hell.

Everyone leaves the room and heads back up the stairs towards the garage, where the jeep that Reed and Ben arrived in is parked amongst the wreckage of Victor's vehicles.

Reed, Sue and Johnny get into the front of the vehicle, while Ben climbs in the cargo hold, rocking the whole jeep as he does.

37. INT. CARRIER PLANE 1

A latverian pilot takes off in the carrier plane with Elder sitting in the back next to a large vehicle under covers. Other people continue to work around the cargo bay as Victor approaches Elder.

Victor opens a metal chest next to where Elder is sitting and reveals the cosmic radiation rods from the satellite. He stares at them in awe before closing the case and turning towards Elder.



VICTOR

All these hard working  
citizens, who remain silent  
for the good of their country,  
and you...

HARVEY ELDER

They forced me! The big guy...

VICTOR

You were too weak for the job!  
I never should have trusted you!

Elder raises a slight smile, believing he will be spared by  
Doom.

HARVEY ELDER

But you need me to control  
the new rig right? To steer them  
away from you?

Victor laughs.

VICTOR

No I don't, the rig is automated.

He signals his workers to open the cargo bay doors with plane  
in midflight. A clash of lightning and rain strikes outside as  
Victor begins to drag Elder to the back.

ELDER

No please! You need me!

VICTOR

You failed me! I don't have time  
for human errors! Now suffer the  
consequences!

Victor throws Elder out of the plane, as his screams disappear  
into the bellows of thunder and rain. He looks out at the  
weather and stares above.

VICTOR

If you want something done right,  
you do it yourself.

He signals to his workers to close the doors as he strides off towards the cockpit of the plane.

38. EXT. MILITARY BASE - AIRFIELD

The jeep pulls up on the airstrip, as Reed Johnny and Sue look out at the destroyed array of vehicles and human bodies all over the place.

SUE

He's gone. We need to reach  
New York as soon as possible.

JOHNNY

We need to get the other plane.  
I'm flying.

BEN

No, I'm flying.

Ben gives Johnny an evil driven stare, as Johnny backs down.

JOHNNY

No I... Ok, you're flying.

Johnny ignites his arms and, ponders for a second as everyone heads to the plane.

REED

Hurry Johnny!

JOHNNY

Ok, sorry, just had an idea.

Johnny runs over to the rear end of the plane, and jumps onto the back door as it lifts and rises for take-off procedures.

39. INT. CARRIER PLANE 2

Hours have passed as Ben sits in the cockpit with Reed, and Sue sits in the cargo bay with Johnny, everyone sombre and almost awaiting death.

Reed leaves his seat and heads to the back, where Johnny and Sue are hugging.

REED

Johnny, I'd like to speak  
to Sue for a moment.

JOHNNY

Sure thing.

Johnny gets up and heads to the cockpit closing the doors.  
Reed watches him leave and then faces Sue, sitting beside her.

REED

I need to tell you something,  
because I might not get a chance later.

Sue places her hands on his, and her head against his heart.

SUE

You really don't, and you  
never did.

Sue places her hands around Reed's face and kisses him on the lips.

SUE

If we die tonight, we die  
together.

Reed holds her tight, as if this really was their last embrace.

BEN

Cute.

Reed looks around to see Ben who is standing by the side of them, and releases Sue slowly. Johnny is also watching from the cockpit with the door open.

BEN

Vic ain't gonna lay a finger  
on you two. I won't let him.

Reed smiles at the courage of his best friend.

JOHNNY

Have we got a plan for when  
we get there?

Reed stares into the floor, desperately trying to find an  
answer, until he smiles and looks straight at Ben.

REED

We use his rig against him.

40. EXT. EDGE OF NEW YORK (Approaching the Baxter Building)

Ben's speaks over the intercom of the carrier plane.

BEN

Team we are ready for landing.

Suddenly from a balcony on the Baxter Building, Victor  
unleashes a large surge of electricity into the air that  
strikes the plane, causing its wing to fall off and the rear  
section to break apart.

INT. CARRIER PLANE 2

BEN

Reed! We're hit!

The plane begins to spin towards New York as Ben holds on,  
alarms ringing around the entire wreckage that he is still  
piloting.

BEN

I've gotta put it in  
the water!

As everyone holds on for dear life, Reed slips and let's go,  
flying out of the back hole of the plane.

SUE

Reed! No!

EXT. EDGE OF NEW YORK

In a split second, Johnny also lets go, igniting his body and falling towards Reed as he hits terminal velocity. Johnny catches his rippling body mid-air and clenches his legs, grunting to generate more heat.

Just before they hit the ground, Johnny lifts Reed and takes off along the streets, dodging vehicles and buildings.

REED

Johnny! You're flying!

INT.CARRIER PLANE 2

Quickly realising he can't stop the plane, Ben jumps out of the cockpit and grabs Sue before leaping out and onto street level. His impact, causes the road to crack and shatter, cradling Sue's body while she protects herself inside an orb of her energy.

BEN

You Ok?

Sue nods, as she looks around to see a crowd of New York residents watching the crashing plane. Johnny lands next to the two of them with Reed, as Sue goes to hug him. A cop watching the plane crash in the distance, looks at Johnny in the face, realising who he is.

COP

What is it with you and  
crashing vehicles?

JOHNNY

You don't know what's  
coming man, you need to get  
everyone out of Time Square!

COP

And why should I trust you now?!

A huge crashing sound occurs as the drilling rig emerges from the ground along the streets next to Johnny and the cop. There's street lamps flickering and falling, rubble is flying everywhere and dust clouds hanging over as the rig continues to move down the block towards its destination.

The cop pulls out his radio staring at the disappearing vehicle.

COP

Chief! You are not gonna  
believe this! Evacuate Time Square!

The rig continues to charge along the streets, as Johnny ignites his body and runs in to take flight. He raises his arms and fires streams of flames at the rig, causing no damage as it ploughs towards Time Square.

Reed, Sue and Ben sprint after the rig through its destructive path.

BEN

We could do with a car

REED

If we get out of this alive,  
I'll buy you one.

41. EXT. NEW YORK - TIME SQUARE

The rig arrives in the middle of Time Square as Johnny, lands right in front of the doors to the NASDAQ building blocking its path. Reed, Sue and Ben arrive and join him in bold stance against their enemy.

Victor launches from the top of the rig, spreading his arms as his cloak ripples in the wind, landing with finesse in front of his rivals.

VICTOR

You dare stand in my way?

REED

Victor this is madness, why attack  
the stock exchange?

VICTOR

You have no idea how much I have lost,  
and not just money!

REED

You've lost your mind!

VICTOR

The western world will fall,  
and we can rebuild in my image.  
I offer you this one last chance.  
Join me, or die.

REED

And I offer you the same.

The lights and screens in the whole area begin to flicker and illuminate.

VICTOR

Very well.

As the lights return to normality, Rossini's: 'William Tell overtures finale' begins to fill the air from the speakers of the rig.

Victor unleashes a huge wave of electricity with his hands at the floor where the four stand and knock them all down. He then turns to the rig and turns his hand face down, causing the rig to move forward.

Ben quickly leaps into action and smashes the rig away from the building. Sue raises her arms from the floor where she lie and creates a shield which stops the rig tumbling into a building.

Victor approaches her, slowly walking and toying with discharge in his left hand as Reed pulls him away - stretching his body and launching him across the street like an elastic band.

Victor rises from the ground and blasts Ben away from the rig, to start it moving again. He fires a bolt at Reed, which just misses as Johnny flies in on fire - picking Victor up and taking him high into the sky.

VICTOR

Johnny, don't do this.

JOHNNY

You tried to kill me..  
you locked me in a cell..  
Flame on, bitch.

Johnny releases Victor from the air causing him to free fall. He fires a bolt at Johnny as he does, knocking him out and causing him to fall with him.

Reed stretches up as Victor falls and grabs his shoulders, pulling him into the ground to causes a great impact.

Sue catches her falling brother mid-air in an orb of her shielding energy just before he hits the ground. She releases him and runs to his body as he awakens.

The rig still continues to move towards the building as Ben starts pushing it away from its front, with several of the drill shards turning against his rock-like skin.

BEN

Little help?!

The rig is now so close to the building, Ben cannot build up enough charge to knock it back. Sue creates a large force-field blocking the rigs way as Ben holds the rig back, crushing between it and the shield.

SUE

Reed! I can't hold much  
longer!

Reed stretches his way over to the rig and climbs in through the hatch that Victor ejected from in the top. A vast array of controls and screens stop Reed from acting quicker as he finds the emergency shut off switch that stops the rig.

The large drilling machine begins to slice through Sue's shield as it powers down and reaches its target, only to stop at the slightest dent in the building.



BEN

We did it!

SUE

Johnny!

Ben and Sue turn around to see Victor with his hand around Johnny's throat. They appear shocked that he managed to survive the fall, as Johnny begins to struggle.

VICTOR

No one can stop me now.

Come out and face me Reed, man to man.

Reed looks around the controls for another button, which he presses to releases the nuclear rods that power the rig. These rods eject from the back of the machine and stick out, glowing a vibrant red colour.

REED

Okay Victor, I'm coming.

Reed slowly stretches out of the cockpit of the rig with his arms raised. He steps out and onto the ground where he confronts Victor (still holding Johnny).

REED

You don't want to hurt him,  
you want to hurt me.

Reed continues to advance, apprehensive of Victor's next move.

REED

Let go of him Vic, it's over.

VICTOR

You're not in a position to  
give orders.

REED

It's over Victor, we've won.

VICTOR

How have you won, I could destroy  
you all right here, this second.

REED

She doesn't love you, and she  
never did.

Victor pauses, becoming more enraged while tightening his grip  
on Johnny.

REED

Together we are the family that  
you threw away.  
We were your friends Vic.

VICTOR

I am above you all! I need  
no-one!

REED

Now Johnny!

Johnny engulfs his body in flames and grabs Victor's throat as  
he ignites Victor's body.

Victor releases Johnny screaming in pain, as he burns from  
behind his armour. His cloak remains unburned however the skin  
from under the armour begins to sizzle and smoke.

As his body cools, he rises again, and he shouts with a husky  
damaged electrically altered voice.

VICTOR

Blasphemy!  
You will all burn in hell for this!

Victor unleashes a large blast of energy, as Reed dives in  
front of Sue to protect her. The blast hits Reed and creates a  
hole in his side before Sue can generate a shield to protect  
him.

SUE

Reed!

Sue cradles Reed's bleeding body as Victor approaches, barely able to walk from his burns.

VICTOR

I foretold this.  
I have finally saved you.

Sue cries out in rage as she unleashes a huge surge of her shield energy and blasts Victor into the power rods of the rig, knocking them out and radiating Victor.

As he touches the rods, his metal armour begins to melt into his skin, and form his body, as he begins to scream again.

Ben uses all of his strength to lift the inoperable rig and smash it into Victor's body, as Johnny unleashes a surge of Fire causing the vehicle and rods to explode.

Before the blast can expand beyond the size of the rig, Sue screams and releases the largest shields around the explosion, protecting both Ben and Johnny from the blast.

She maintains control of the shield until she begins to shrink it in size and contain the flares of the radiation and explosion. Gradually decreasing, it eventually fizzles out into nothing. Victor's body has disappeared from the wreckage, presumed cremated in the explosion.

Ben and Johnny stand back, amazed at Sue's power as she holds Reed, weeping over his body as he goes in and out of consciousness.

SUE

Please come back to me.  
Don't leave me here.

Ben and Johnny stand back and watch also tearful as Sue cries in the empty street. Ben bows his head to hide his tears but then looks up at Reed in amazement.

BEN

Look!

Sue and Johnny also stare at the hole in Reed's side as his skin begins to stretch over and stop the wound from bleeding.

SUE

We need to get him to a hospital now!

BEGIN TO FADE TO BLACK

From Reeds perspective, he is falling unconscious as Johnny grabs his body. Sound begins to fade as he here's one final sentence.

JOHNNY

Hold on Reed!

BLACK SCREEN

BEGIN TO FADE IN

42. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - QUARANTINE ROOM

Reed wakes up in similar fashion to when he first woke up from the crash. He looks to his right, and see's no-one but the two-way mirror, and then around the room until he is greeted by Sue smiling next to him.

SUE

Hey.

Reed pulls himself up to sit at his bed, pained by the scar in his side.

REED

Hey.

Did you stop him?

SUE

We did.

Johnny leaps into the room as Ben follows from behind the door.

JOHNNY

You're awake! My god!

BEN

How you feeling buddy?

Ben stands back and smiles as Johnny goes in for a hug with Reed.

REED

I'm feeling a bit  
stretched out.

Johnny laughs at Reed's terrible joke.

JOHNNY

Ooh that was bad. You should  
hear what they're calling us now.

REED

What do you mean?

Johnny walks over to the television in the room and turns it on to reveal the news channel displaying footage of the Time Square battle. Sections of the explosion and the four fighting Victor from a helicopter's view plays over a new reporter.

NEWS REPORTER

The battle of Time Square  
features four seemingly unknown heroes  
squaring off against a giant  
drilling rig, and a man made from  
metal.

Eye witnesses report that the  
Fantastic Four are in fact the  
members of the crew of the global  
satellite that crashed into the  
ocean weeks ago.

REED

The Fantastic Four?

JOHNNY

Stinks doesn't it!

SUE

I think it's way too cheesy.

The news reporter continues after a brief interlude of footage.

NEWS REPORTER

Amongst the line-up we have  
Reed Richards, Sue Storm  
her brother Johnny and Benjamin  
Grimm. No word yet on the  
location of Victor Von Doom, who  
went missing after the crash  
and is presumed dead.

Join us for the live interview  
tomorrow where we chat to the  
fantastic four, America's first  
family of superheroes!

Johnny turns off the TV and turns to Reed, grinning with joy.

JOHNNY

So what do you think!?

Reed pauses and smiles, ready to sarcastically answer Johnny's question.

REED

I think it's fantastic.

He looks up at Sue, and smiles again as the four rejoice in surviving the battle against Victor.

BEN

Heroes.

Ben looks up smiling and nodding to the idea of being called a hero once again.

43. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - HALLS

Reed now out of bed and in his containment suit strides towards the doors of the press conference with Sue, Johnny and Ben. Upon their chests, their suits now bare the logo with a bold '4'.

REED

Okay, are we ready?

JOHNNY

Hell yeah!

BEN

I don't think I can do this.

SUE

Ben, you saved the world! They're  
going to love you.

Ben and Johnny walk ahead to the doors, as Sue pulls Reed back  
and kisses him.

SUE

You're getting better at that.

REED

I'm gonna need to run some  
more tests.

Sue laughs as they hold hands and catch up with the others, as  
the door opens to reveal a large crowd of people, with cameras  
flashing and an array of shouts.

44. INT. BAXTER BUILDING - PRESS AREA

PRESS 1

Mr. Richards! Doctor!

PRESS 2

Doctor Storm! Over here!

PRESS 3

We love you Johnny!

The four enter the room smiling and waving, amazed at the  
overwhelming positive response for their efforts, before  
sitting down and adjusting their seats ready for the  
interview.

As the room quietens down, one reporter stands up and asks the question -

PRESS 1

We all now affectionately call you  
The Fantastic Four, but what are your  
individual superhero names?

The four go silent, as everyone awaits their answer. Cameras continue to flash and click as Reed prepares an answer.

REED

Well, uh...

Johnny gets up from his seat and places his hands on Reed's shoulders. He whispers into his ear.

JOHNNY

Relax, I got this.

He walks over to Sue and prepares his speech, slightly nervous as he improvises.

JOHNNY

Let's start with the most self  
explanatory name in our team,  
My sister Sue... is The Invisible Woman.

The press start to awe, chatter and clap amongst themselves, taking more pictures and causing more flashes.

PRESS 2

She can turn invisible!?

JOHNNY

And create force fields... as you  
saw... a few days ago... now Reed!

Johnny walks behind Reed, again placing his hands on his shoulders and continues, thinking desperately for his new identity before suddenly realising.



JOHNNY

Reed is the leader of the  
team, with the technical know-how  
and natural instinct of a leader,  
and now also the ability to  
stretch his entire anatomy,  
he is... Mister Fantastic.

Reed looks out at the press, nervous of his new position  
within the team but smiles at their response who cheer and  
clap.

JOHNNY

Me, I can create fire  
and I can fly.

The crowd begin to ooh as Johnny enjoys the press' new love  
for him, so he ignites his arm and shows the crowd. They  
applaud and begin to increase the flashes of cameras.

JOHNNY

I am not a bird, I am not a plane,  
I *am*... the Human Torch!

The crowd's applaud increases as Sue leans over to Reed and  
whispers in his ear.

SUE

These are getting worse  
by the second.

Reed smiles before Johnny approaches Ben. Both he and Sue  
nervously watch as Johnny prepares to give the final team  
member his name. The press go silent.

JOHNNY

Now this guy... Has  
impenetrable rock skin.  
He has super-strength...  
and he has a heart of gold.

Ben looks up at Johnny with approval as the crowd awe.

JOHNNY

Ben Grimm is...

Johnny begins to seriously struggle and squint to find a name.

JOHNNY

The Thing?

Ben scorns at Johnny as Reed and Sue looks on in shock. A swoop of silence as every camera and sound in the room disappears.

The four look out towards the press, as they begin to cheer and whistle louder than before in approval Ben's name.

Johnny bends down to speak to Ben amongst the rabble of the crowd.

JOHNNY

They love it!

BEN

When we get outta this,  
I'm going to kill you.

Johnny pats his back and returns to his seat as the cheer dies down ready for another question.

PRESS 3

So Invisible Woman!

Sue suddenly remembers her new name and looks out to the standing press agent.

PRESS 3

Were the nuclear attacks  
linked to your powers or have you  
always had these strange abilities?

SUE

We experienced a cosmic radiation  
storm that altered our DNA.

SUE

The storm caused the satellite to crash and  
we found ourselves with these strange  
abilities weeks later.

PRESS 1

But Doctor Richards, your last  
interview stated you had shields in  
place, designed to protect the  
satellite?

REED

We did, until someone shut  
them off.

PRESS 2

Who?

Reed looks at Sue, who realises he is about to lie to protect  
the reputation of his friend turned enemy.

REED

An Engineer, who worked  
on the satellite. He was the  
one who attacked the reactors  
with the drilling rig you  
saw in the footage.

PRESS 3

What's his name?

REED

Harvey Elder.

The press start to mutter and write, as Johnny steps in to  
complete the answer, loving his new fame.

JOHNNY

Also known as the Mole-Man!

The crowd laughs as Ben pulls Johnny back down to his seat.

BEN

Just let Reed do the talking kid.

PRESS 2

Is there any news on the location  
of Victor Von Doom?

Ben looks at Sue, knowing they were the ones that finished him  
off in the Time Square battle.

SUE

Doctor Doom perished in the  
satellite crash. He was a genuine  
hero and shall be sorely missed.

Reed looks down saddened, realising his once great partner has  
now gone forever.

PRESS 1

Just one final question...  
What do you plan to do now  
the reactor disturbances have  
been resolved?

REED

We intend to continue to provide  
security for the world, in any  
incident that we can resolve.  
And find a sustainable way in replacing  
the reactors that have been  
destroyed at the hands of,  
The Mole-Man.  
Our friends are our family, and  
we take care of our friends.

The crowd cheers as all four members of the team rises from  
their seats. A huge surge of camera flashes and cheers sparkle  
around the room, as they leave through the doors they came in.

FLASH WHITE

WHITE SCREEN

FADE BACK IN



## 45. INT.DOOM MANSION - STAIRCASE

Following along the halls of Victor's mansion, where the suits of armour and artefacts once stood, now covered with sheets and police-tape, a cop travels down the stairs and into the dungeon.

## INT.DOOM MANSION - DUNGEON

He pulls out his radio when he reaches the back wall, where Sue discovered the pulley to open the secret room.

COP

You sure that's it?

He pulls the device and nothing happens. Startled, he tries again before shaking his head.

COP

There's nothing here, this  
thing must have broke a long time  
ago.

He leaves and returns up the stairs.

## 46. INT.DOOM MANSION - SECRET CONTROL ROOM

Victor sits in his cloak watching the monitors, with footage of the news interview of the Fantastic Four being displayed and areas of Latveria.

His arms crossed as he observes areas of his country, he brings up footage of the people cleaning up the rig from the battle in time square, where he highlights the man-hole cover under the wreckage of the rig from where he escaped.

He turns to his monitors of Latveria, as citizens look up at the cameras and notice that someone is watching them. They raise their arm in honour of Doom, as Victor turns around - revealing his face.

The metal from his armour HAS melted into his body and hideous scars and gashes cover him as his eyes begin to electrify.

CUT TO BLACK SCREEN

**THE END**

