

"Overwhelming Intelligence"

Screenplay

by

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FADE IN.

INT. COMMUNITY COLLEGE MATH CLASSROOM

Steven Thomas, a math teacher at the local community college, dismisses his class. He leaves the classroom, puts various papers and books into his briefcase and leaves the room.

INT. STEVEN AT HOME IN HIS NEW CONDO

Steve changes his clothes and heads for the tennis court.

EXT. THE TENNIS COURT

Steve shows that he is an excellent tennis player. He enjoys several sets of tennis and goes home.

INT. STEVE AT HOME

One morning Steve awakes with a strange buzzing in his head. He can not understand what it is. He ignores it. Then he notices that the lighting in his new home office is not good so goes out to his car and heads for the hardware store.

INT. THE HARDWARE STORE

STEVE

Hello, Bert. How are you?

BERT

I'm fine. What's going on?

STEVE

I need a fluorescent light for my new home office.

Bert leads Steve to the lighting section.

BERT

Here, this is a great brand.

STEVE

Okay, I'll take it.

Steve buys the new florescent lamp and several sets of bulbs. When he gets home, he decides to test it first

thing. He finds that it doesn't work. He double-checks it with new bulbs, but it appears that the lamp itself is bad. Annoyed, he takes it back to the hardware store.

BERT

Hey, you were just here a little while ago. Did you forget something?

STEVE

Sorry to say this, but this light doesn't work. I checked it with several sets of bulbs, and I know it's the light itself.

BERT

Gee, that's too bad. I've never had this brand fail before. I'll get you a brand new one.

INT. STEVE AT HOME

Steve gets home and tests the replacement, however, he is frustrated to discover it doesn't work either, even with another set of bulbs. Over a beer he contemplates the rather rare occurrence. Then he jumps in his car and heads back to Bert's store. This time he is greeted by a slightly puzzled expression.

INT. HARDWARE STORE

BERT

What the hell is it this time?

STEVE

You'll never believe this, Bert, but this one's bad, too.

BERT

You'll have to prove that to me since after you left I tested the first one, and it works.

STEVE

Really? How can that be? It didn't work at home.

BERT

Let me check the one you just brought back.

Bert tests it and it doesn't work. He tests the first one and it doesn't work either.

BERT

I don't believe this but it seems your presence is what makes them fail.

STEVE

What? I can't believe that. It's like a nightmare.

BERT

I can't believe it either but the facts are staring us in the face. The only thing to do is test it. You leave and I'll test them again. Take a walk.

EXT. STEVE LEAVES AND WALKS AROUND THE BLOCK.

During his walk he still feels the buzzing in his head. He returns.

STEVE

Well, Bert, what's the word?

BERT

It's true. They both work. You're the cause of the lamps not working.

STEVE

This must be a dream. You're not real and neither am I. I'm going home and hope I wake up.

BERT

Wait, don't leave yet. Let's test them again while you're here.

STEVE

Great idea. Why didn't I think of that?"

Bert tests them both again, and neither one works.

BERT

It's definitely you! There must be some kind of rays coming from you. Do you feel unusual in any way?

STEVE

In fact I do. There's a strange buzzing in my brain, which I've never had before. Something like a bee buzzing.

BERT

That's interesting. Maybe there's a connection. Here's my cell phone number. Call me if you want to talk.

Bert hands Steve a scrap of paper with a phone number scribbled on it. Steve stuffs it in his breast pocket and staggers toward the door.

BERT

Don't forget your lamp. Since you paid for it, it's yours. Maybe you can figure out what's going on.

INT.

When he gets home he shakes his head in amazement and then slides into bed.

SHORT TIME LAPSE

He wakes up and looks at his watch.

He is surprised that he had slept so long. He gets up and goes over to the lamp. The buzzing in his head was still there, but it has changed slightly. It is more pleasant and varies in intensity. As he sits there and listens to it, he discovers it is controllable. He can turn it up or down. Then, to his surprise, he finds he can turn it off. He then finds that he can turn it off and on repeatedly. Then he snaps his fingers with a brilliant idea; he would turn it off and see if the lamp worked. Lo and behold, the light worked when he turns the buzzing off. He speaks to himself out loud.

STEVE TALKING TO HIMSELF

So I can control it. Wait, let me turn
the buzzer on to see if the light fails.

He turns the buzzing on, and to his surprise the light fails. He turns it off, and the light works. He shakes his head in amazement. He can turn the light on and off with his brain! He is hungry. He decides it's time for breakfast and goes to the kitchen to fix himself a bowl of old-fashioned oatmeal. After adding water to the oatmeal he puts it in the microwave for the usual two minutes and opens the utensil drawer to get a knife to cut the strawberries. He opens the drawer and reaches for the knife but before he touches it, it pops out of the drawer and flies into his hand. At exactly the same time he hears a slight beep in his head. He frowns pausing in amazement. He puts the knife on the counter several feet away, points his hand at it, and wills it to move. It moves threw the air into his hand. He shakes his head. He decides to experiment further. He tries it with dishes, books, pots, and pans. He can move them all! He can even control the speed that they move and stop them in mid air. He wonders how powerful the force is. He goes to the living room and point to the couch. He lifts it up. He shakes his head again. Then he decides to meet with Bert to discuss his discovery.

STEVE ON PHONE

Hi Bert, this is Steve.

BERT (V.O.)

Hi Steve, the magic guy. What's the
Latest news?

STEVE

Bert, I have to tell you, no,
show you, something you won't believe.

BERT

Well I can't be more surprised than
Yesterday.

EXT.

Steve drives over to Bert's place.

INT. BERT'S PLACE

BERT

So tell me the surprise.

Steve looks around for something to make move. Through an archway he sees the kitchen and spots a dish drainer with a few dishes and utensils in it.

STEVE

Watch!

Steve then mentally picks out a spoon, points to it, moves it through the air, and catches it in his hand. Bert's eyes widen, and his head shoots forward. He just stares at Steve and shakes his head.

BERT

I don't believe that! Do it again.

Steve moves a dish and a frying pan through the air into his hand.

BERT

I was never religious until just this minute. Now I believe in God and you may be him or it.

Steve frowns looking at Bert and shakes his head.

STEVE

I'm not God. What the hell do I do now with this power?

BERT

There must be a reason for all this. I guess you should just try and use it somehow. However, I wouldn't tell anyone else about it—not a soul! If

Comment [KarenB1]: This sentence isn't needed, as it tells what the previous sentence shows; readers will draw the conclusion themselves that Bert is shocked.

reporters find out, you'll be hounded to death. You might even be called Satan by some people and get yourself killed. I would suggest doing something useful with it. Tell me, do you have to point to something to make it move?

STEVE

I don't know. Up to now I've been pointing to the objects. Let me try it without pointing.

He picks out a larger bowl in the dish rack. Without pointing to it, he moves it into his hand.

STEVE

I guess not.

BERT

Maybe you can make money with it.

STEVE

Make money? I never thought of that. How?

BERT

Do you play any sports? In particular, are you good at any?

STEVE

Why, yes. I play tennis. I'm actually pretty good. I'm ranked 187 in the world but that's not good enough to make any money.

BERT

There you go! If you can control the ball, you can get to the top. You'll have to be very careful, though. You'll have to make sure nothing unusual is noticed.

STEVE

Right. Actually, all top players have close to the same ability. A double-digit player often beats a single-digit player, but then again

I'm a triple-digit player.

BERT

It doesn't matter. You can rise up to the top—just not too fast. You should practice your skills to see how it works in detail and make sure your shots are disguised.

STEVE

Right. I have a few buddies that I play with. I can try it on them. Lots of people practice by hitting the ball against a wall, so I think I'll practice on a wall first just to understand it better and practice my control.

BERT

I've just had a thought. One thing you should do is test your powers for speed and strength. For example, can you knock a bird on the wing down? And just how heavy a thing can you lift? Another thing is distance. How far away can something be and still be reached by your powers?

STEVE

You're right, Bert. I'll do some testing. You got any other bright ideas?

BERT

Not for now, but I'm interested in just what you can do. Keep me posted.

STEVE

Thanks, Bert. I'll be in touch. See you later.

TIME LAPSE

Steve decides to test his powers by hitting a ball against a tennis wall.

EXT. 2 p.m. WALKING TO THE TENNIS COURTS THROUGH A PARK

On the way Steve tests his powers in various ways. Grabbing a bird, moving heavy rocks. He is surprised at his power. He arrives at the courts and was happy to see no one else on the courts. He gets out a ball and starts to hit it against the wall. He finds that he can do amazing things with the ball; make it curve up, down, and sideways; make it go very fast; and make it go very slow and even stop it in mid air. Then another person enters the courts, a young woman, kind of good-looking. She glances his way and starts hitting the ball against the wall about two courts away. She seems to have pretty good control. He continues to hit on his wall and is careful in using the force, hitting shots that do not seem unusual concentrating on accuracy and speed. He picks out a spot on the wall and finds that he can hit it exactly time after time. They both hit for about five minutes. Then he noticed that she stops hitting and stares at him, like she is studying him. It was like she recognize him or something. Then she speaks.

THE WOMAN

Hey, do you want to rally?

STEVE

Sure, why not?

She comes over to his court. Then she stops and stars at him again for a few seconds. Then she acts a little embarrassed.

STEVE

You act like you recognize me. Do you?

THE WOMAN

You look slightly familiar, but I don't really recognize you from anyplace I can remember.

At this point Steve thinks how good looking she is. She grabs a few balls out of her bag.

THE WOMAN

I've got some pretty good balls.

STEVE

That's fine, since mine are kind of old.

They start to rally. She has great form and makes excellent shots. She is very athletic. In addition to her looks, her tennis form is great.

THE WOMAN

Say, do want to play a set?

STEVE

At the risk of being humiliated, let's try one. By the way, my name is Steve Thomas. What's yours?

THE WOMAN

Oh, mine is Rebecca Jones, Becky for short. Nice to meet you. You hit the ball very well. I don't think you'll be humiliated. Let me hit a few practice serves.

They play two sets and Steve thinks about how well she plays, almost like a pro. He wins it 6-4 without using the force. The next set was close, but he wins it 8-6.

BECKY

Hey, that was great. I have to go, but we should play again.

STEVE

Yes, we should. You play very well. Are you ranked?

BECKY

Me? Ranked? No, are you?

STEVE

I am, but not high enough to make any money.

BECKY

What's your rank?

STEVE

ATP 187.

BECKY

That's the world tennis organization, right? Well, that impressive enough. So you think I should play in tournaments and try and get ranked?

STEVE

Definitely.

BECKY

I play mainly for exercise, and time is a factor.

STEVE

Oh? What do you do?

BECKY

I'm a computer consultant. I have to do a bit of traveling. What do you do?

STEVE

I teach mostly math at the city college.

BECKY

What do you mean mostly?

STEVE

I have two double-E degrees and teach a basic electric circuits course and also a programming course.

BECKY

That's impressive.

STEVE

I'd say yours is more impressive.

BECKY

Not really. I've been away from the math details for some time. In fact I miss them. Say, do want to go for a cup of coffee?

Steve's eyes open wide in surprise. Then he frowns. He thinks, is this beautiful babe actually asking him to get

together? Under the circumstances, with this crazy power he has, he decides he should say no. Personal involvement would be a bad idea at the present time.

STEVE

I can't make it this time. Why don't we exchange phone numbers for a later date.

BECKY

Great, here's my card.

Her card displays only her name, phone number, and email address. Steve gives her his college card. He jots down his phone and home email on the back.

BECKY

Okay, great. I hope we can get together very soon.

STEVE

Yes, very soon!

She gives him a very seductive smile and pauses, staring at him.

STEVE

Well, until next time. Bye for now.

He waits for her to turn and walk away, but she just stands there looking at him, so he turns, walks over to his bag, and picks it up. When he looks over his shoulder at her, she is still standing there like a statue.

STEVE

You seem deep in thought. What are you thinking?

BECKY

Do you believe in love at first sight?

His eyebrows rise in surprise. She is obviously making a pass at him. He drops his bag, walks over to her, and stands close. She stares into his eyes intently and doesn't move.

STEVE

Before today, no, but right now, yes.

She inches a bit closer to him. He puts his arms around her waist and pulls her slowly closer. She doesn't resist, so he kisses her. She puts her arms around his neck, and they engage in a prolonged kiss.

BECKY

Well, I guess we know where we each stand. How about a date?

STEVE

Definitely. How about lunch or dinner sometime? I'll call you to confirm.

BECKY

Good, I'll wait with bated breath!

TIME LAPSE

INT. STEVE LATER AT HOME

On line, Steve picks a USTA National event in San Diego starting Monday, June 11, and registers.

EXT. STEVE PLAYING ON TENNIS COURTS WINNING GAME AFTER GAME.

The tournament lasts two weeks, and he wins it. It lowers his rank to 158. He wins ten thousand dollars and decides to check for another tournament. He finds one starting in a few days in Portland. He signs up and then flies there directly from San Diego.

TIME LAPSE. STEVE IN PORTLAND.

DIRECTOR

You'll get a bye on the first round. You Start tomorrow at 3:00 p.m.

EXT.

Steve wins match after match. In the finals of the last match his opponent is a player named Sam Finch. Steve wins.

SAM

Where did you get that serve? Your placement is amazing! I think you hit the back service line about fifteen times.

STEVE

I've been working on it lately.

SAM

Well, good job. I hope to see you in the next one.

So far everything is going according to plan. He checks his new rank. It is 132! Progress is being made! He had been gone about four weeks, so he decides to take a break and fly home to San Jose.

TIME LAPSE

INT.

Steve walks into the front door of his condo in San Jose noticed two calls on his answering machine. He listens to the first one, which had been left Sunday morning at 10 a.m., two weeks ago.

BECKY (V.O.)

Hi, this is Becky. I thought I'd hear from you by now. I hope you haven't forgotten me, the loser in our tennis match. Please call me.

He checks the second call.

BERT (V.O.)

Hi, Steve. How is everything going? I think you may be away playing in a few tourneys. Let me know the results. Let's get together.

He calls Becky and gets a message.

BECKY (V.O.)

You have reached the phone of Becky Jones. Please leave a message.

STEVE LEAVING MESSAGE

Hi, Becky, this is Steve. No, I haven't forgotten you. Far from it. I just came back from two USTA tournaments, one in San Diego and one in Portland. To my surprise I won both. I can now afford to take you out to a nice restaurant! Call me, or I'll try you again later.

Next he phones Bert.

STEVE ON PHONE

Hi, Bert. This is Steve. I just played in two USTA tournaments. I won both of them. No one seemed to notice anything strange.

BERT (V.O.)

Great! So everything's proceeding according to plan. Keep at it.

Steve hangs up. Almost immediately the phone rings.

BECKY (V.O.)

Hi, Steve. This is Becky.

STEVE

Oh, hi Becky. I guess you got my message.

BECKY (V.O.)

Yes, congratulations on the wins. I knew you were good. I have some bad news. I have to be out of the country for about six months, but I want to stay in touch. Since we shared email addresses we can communicate that way.

STEVE

Wow, sorry to hear that. Where will you be?

BECKY

Germany for one. Maybe other places.
I need to say one other thing. I guess
you know that I'm very attracted to you,
and I want you to know I am not
interested in anyone else.

STEVE

I'm glad to hear that. Can we get
together one time before you leave?

BECKY

Yes, I want to see you too very much, but
I leave Sunday. Will tomorrow work?

STEVE

Sure. I have a nice restaurant picked out
for dinner.

BECKY

Actually, I'd like to spend the whole day
with you so we can get to know each other
better. How about a hike with dinner
afterward?

STEVE

That sounds good. I know of a couple of
great places to hike. Have you ever been
to Alum Rock Park?

BECKY

Yes, I have, and I love it.

STEVE

Okay, when do you want to leave?

BECKY

I have to do some packing in the morning,
so how about one o'clock?

STEVE

Okay, I'll pick you up at your place then.

BECKY

Good, I'll see you then. Bye.

Steve stretches and heads for the bedroom.

TIME LAPSE

Saturday morning Steve gets up at ten o'clock and makes breakfast. He checks Google Maps and arrives right on time Becky's house. He looks around and finds it is a high-class neighborhood. He rings the bell, and when she opens the door, she already has a day pack slung across one shoulder and a baseball cap on her head.

STEVE

Hello, Becky. I see you've got good hiking shoes on and look like you're ready for an invigorating walk.

BECKY

Right. Be prepared is the Girl Scout motto, not just the Boy Scouts.

EXT. THEY GET IN STEVES CAR AND START OFF.

STEVE (WHILE DRIVING)

You live in a classy neighborhood. Your job must pay well.

BECKY

Yes, I have a great job. It pays well, and there's never a dull moment. The trouble is it's time-consuming. I envy you, having the summers off.

STEVE

Yeah, that's one of the benefits of teaching.

BECKY

So we only have one day, and I want to know everything about you. Tell me your life story.

STEVE

My life story? That's a tall order. Well, let's see. You already know what I do for a living. I've always been a game freak.

In addition to tennis I've played squash and racquetball, but I prefer tennis of course. I learned to play chess in high school and continue to play. I used to play in tournaments but now just play online. I played bridge for a while and also played an oriental game called Go, or Igo. For some reason it has two names. I also did a little gambling playing poker and backgammon. Right now I play only chess online.

BECKY

I played a little chess in college. My grandfather played. He gave me a book once. So do you do any reading?

STEVE

Yes, I occasionally read a novel. I used to like science fiction. I read quite a bit of Dean Koontz. Have you heard of him?

BECKY

Yes, I love the way he writes.

STEVE

Interesting we have that in common. I try to read some of the classics like *Great Expectations*. I really enjoyed *Huck Finn*. How about you? What do you read?

BECKY

Unfortunately not much except technical manuals. I'm really busy at work. In school I read Shakespeare. I also read some of Mark Twain's stuff. I agree that *Huckleberry Finn* was great! So, are you a religious person?

STEVE

Absolutely not. I'm pretty much an agnostic. There may be some superpower out there, but I don't know how anyone can know anything about it. How about

you?

BECKY

I'm very glad to hear that. I pretty much agree. I used to call myself a pantheist. You know, the universe is God sort of thing. But now I'm basically an agnostic like you. That's another thing in common!

STEVE

What was your major in college?

BECKY

Computer science. I was torn between it and math, but I decided that computer science was more practical. I enjoyed it so much I went for my master's degree and got it in one more year.

STEVE

That's interesting. I knew you were not dumb.

BECKY

Thanks. Does intelligence count as having things in common?

STEVE

Sure, why not. It's pretty important.

EXT. They arrive at the end of Alum Rock Drive, and Steve parks.

STEVE

Before we leave, I have a question for you. You seem to be very attracted in me. I've never considered myself great looking, but you're quite good looking and intelligent and could have your pick of any guy. Why me?

BECKY

I don't really consider myself great looking. Not like these models with the

long legs and great boobs. But, as to your question, I don't really have an answer. I've thought about it a lot, and I don't know why. It's like you're some kind of magnet, and your magnetic field has attacked my brain. When I first saw you, I knew you were it! You are pretty good-looking, lean, athletic, and intelligent, but there's something more I can't put my finger on. You must have some power of which I am not aware. Maybe you can tell me what it is?

Steve hesitates, frowns and shakes his head.

STEVE

No, I have no idea, though if I ever find out I'll let you know. Let's head out. I like the south rim trail. It's nice and shady. I hope it's not too steep for you. Then again, you seem to be in good shape, so it shouldn't be a problem.

BECKY

Yes, that's my favorite trail too. You know, it's rather amazing how much we have in common.

STEVE

Yes, it is. Does that seem to be part of the mystery of your attraction to me?

BECKY

Yes, I think so. I almost feel like I'm Dreaming or some god is talking to me. I hope I don't wake up!

Steve smiles. It was a nice, cool day, even cooler in the shade. They head out and hike without saying much to each other. Suddenly she turns, stands in front of him blocking his way,

BECKY

What are you thinking about right now?

STEVE (LOOKING SURPRISED)
I'm thinking about you and how we met.

BECKY
What did you think of me doing what I did?

STEVE
Honestly, I didn't know what to think. I thought that you might be a bit crazy, but crazy and smart, and a good tennis player. As I said, I was surprised that you were attracted to me.

BECKY
I am as surprised as you are. Like it was beyond my control. I know I'm not bad looking, but, as I said, I've never considered myself super-great. Some men are turned off because they consider me too athletic. I've had quite a few dates, but none of them turned me on like you do. I had the impression you weren't really interested in me since you continued to hit against the wall. I was hoping you would ask me to rally, but you didn't so I asked you. Then at the end of our match when you walked away I was afraid that you'd never call, so I had to do something to not lose you. So I said something stupid and asked if you believed in love at first sight. I don't even know how that popped into my brain. But it obviously worked, and I'm very happy about it.

STEVE
Hey, you're giving yourself away. You should be playing hard to get.

BECKY
Yes, I know. I'm playing a stupid game, but I can't help it.

STEVE

I have to ask you something else. Most woman wear earrings. You don't wear them or any other kind of jewelry.

BECKY

No, I never cared for earrings. I hate the idea of poking holes in my body, even my ears. I never cared for necklaces or bracelets either. I even take my watch off at home. Would you prefer me to wear them?

STEVE

Absolutely not! I think they're stupid. I'm really glad you don't wear any. And I take my watch off at home also.

BECKY

You do? Another thing in common!

STEVE

You know, some men do something equally stupid.

BECKY

Really, what's that?

STEVE

They grow mustaches. I've never understood why.

BECKY

But you have a short beard all over your face. Is that different?

STEVE

Yes, I have a short beard for a reason, I hate to shave. One day I got fed up with shaving, so I just decided to let it grow. When it gets a little too long I trim it back severely. I have a shaver that I set to a quarter inch. What do you think of it?

BECKY

I like it. It's nice and short, just the right length. Guys with long beards turn me off, and I agree that mustaches seem rather stupid.

They arrive back in the parking lot and head for the car.

STEVE
Are you hungry?

BECKY
Yes! Where to?

STEVE
Have you ever eaten at the Bold Knight?

BECKY
Yes, some time ago. I recall that they had great prime rib.

STEVE
Right. Are you in the mood for that?

BECKY
Definitely!

They arrive at the Bold Knight.

INT.
They get a table without a wait.

They eat, finish up, and he pays the bill, and they walk out to the car. He drives her back to her place and gets out. He goes around to open her door, but she had already had opened it and got out. He walks her to her door. She opens it, turns around, and stares at him rather stiffly. He stares back at her, feeling a bit awkward. After a brief period of hesitation,

BECKY
Aren't you going to kiss me goodnight?

He smiles and leans over to kiss her. She laughs, grabs him

by the arm, and pulls him through the door.

BECKY
You're not leaving for awhile!

INT. IN BECKY'S HOUSE

BECKY
Care for something to drink?

STEVE
Yes, how about some ice water. I'm a bit
thirsty after that meal.

They sat there sipping the water and stare at each other
for at least ten seconds.

She moves closer to him. He puts his hand against the back
of her neck and pulls her lips to his. They were delicious.
He reached down, inched up her skirt, and slides his hand
along her thigh. She doesn't resist.

BECKY
Looks like you're trying to seduce me.

STEVE
No, it's the other way around of course,
and you're succeeding!

BECKY
I don't think you've seen my bedroom.

STEVE
You're right, but I'd love to.

She leads the way, and he follows. In the bedroom she
stands very close and starts to unbutton his shirt stopping
after about 4 buttons.

BECKY
The sheets feel great, but you have to
be nude to really appreciate them. I'll
be right back.

She turns and disappears into the bathroom, and he promptly undresses and crawled into the bed. The lights dim, and he feels her slide into the bed. They make passionate love. When it is over they just stare at each other.

STEVE

I have never felt this way before. I do believe I'm in love.

BECKY

Not as in love as I am.

STEVE

Yes, more than you.

BECKY

No, less.

STEVE

Hey, I wonder is there's a test for it. On a scale of one to ten I'm an eleven. What are you?

BECKY

I'm a twelve!

STEVE

Oops, I miscalculated. I'm a thirteen.

BECKY

Let's call it a tie at fourteen.

STEVE

Fair enough.

They both laugh. They kiss again and repeat the act. After that he feels his eyelids getting heavier.

BECKY

You look like you're getting sleepy. Maybe too much wine. Oops, I mean water.

STEVE

Actually it's probably the food. It's been an invigorating day. They both gradually drifted off to sleep.

The next morning when he awakes. She isn't there. He checks the time; it is 9:30.

STEVE

Becky?

BECKY (FROM THE KITCHEN)

I'm here. How about a little breakfast? What would you like?

STEVE

Whatever you're having. Let's start with coffee.

After they finish breakfast a thought comes to him.

STEVE

You know, I feel stupid. Something has occurred to me which I should have thought about before.

BECKY (LOOKING PUZZLED)

What's that?

STEVE

Pregnancy.

BECKY

No problem. Everything is under control.

STEVE

I just felt I was obligated to mention it. It was actually stupid of me not to say anything last night, but the whole thing caught me by surprise.

BECKY

I was wondering if you would say anything, and I'm glad you did. Let me ask you something. Do you think I'm a

nymphomaniac?

Steve hesitates eyes widening in surprise.

STEVE

I'm not sure. If you are, you're a very intelligent one. Actually, if what you say about your feelings for me is true, you aren't one. If men can chase women, then women can chase men too, right?

BECKY

Good thought. Actually, around you I am a nympho. Anyway, I have to be at the airport at noon. Can you give me a ride?

STEVE

Of course.

BECKY

Okay, I'm packed, so let's start out.

EXT. IN THE CAR

He pulls up in the airport at the drop-off zone.

STEVE

Have a nice trip. I won't say don't forget to write like they do in the movies, but I hope you won't forget to email.

BECKY

The way I feel right now, it will be like once an hour.

STEVE (SMILING)

I'm going to really miss you. Anyway, see you whenever.

They engage in a prolonged kiss until an airport employee comes and grabs her bags and they have to say good-bye.

Monday morning, July 23

INT. STEVE AT HOME

Steve walks into his condo and immediately goes to his computer, finds the USTA, and looks for tournaments. He goes to the ATP site to check his ranking. There he is, ranked 132. He goes down the pro circuit list and picks out four of the biggest and registers online. He then books airline tickets to get to the Aptos tourney, which starts on Thursday.

Ext.

Steve is in Aptos, signing up for the tournament and playing, making good telekinetic shots. He then plays in several other tournaments and wins making more telekinetic shots. After winning four or five tournaments he decides to head for home.

INT. STEVE AT HOME

He checks his email and noticed one from Becky and one from Bert. He opened Becky's.

BECKY'S EMAIL

Hi handsome. What's the latest news?

He replies.

STEVE

Hello beautiful. Guess what. I've just Won five tournaments. The money is good. When are you coming back to San Jose?

He then opens the one from Bert.

BERTS EMAIL

Hi Steve. What's the latest news? Are you winning?

Steve hits reply.

STEVES EMAIL

Hi Bert. I've just won my first five Tournaments. My pro rank is down to 119.

TIME LAPSE

It was September already, and Steve continued to play in the circuit. He has made well over one hundred thousand dollars. After he plays in three more big matches he checks his rank and is surprised that it is down to 76. On December 1 he gets an unusual email which he opens.

**ASSOCIATION OF TENNIS
PROFOSSIONALS**

Hello Steven Thomas. We noticed your rapid improvement in your rank and are impressed. You are hereby invited to play in the French Open Tennis tournament beginning Monday, May 6. You will receive a formal invitation by mail. Housing will be provided. You must arrive by April 29, one week before play starts. We suggest you arrive at least a week earlier than that since we like players to see Paris and meet other players. Please reply if you are interested in playing.

Steve grins. He is ecstatic. The French Open! He can not believe it. He might be on TV. In fact, with the force on his side, he will be. He immediately replies and accepts. He decides to email Becky.

STEVE EMAIL

Hey, beautiful, guess what. Due to my success on the circuit I have been invited to play in the French Open Tennis Tournament in Paris! It starts on May 6, but I have to arrive there by April 29. I will probably arrive a week or two before that. They provide housing.

He hit Send. Then he sends Bert the same news. He gets an immediate return email from Becky.

BECKYS EMAIL

What? I can't believe it. That's an amazing piece of news. You must have been holding back when you played me.

Unfortunately, I have to remain here a little longer than expected. I'd like to see you play in the French, but maybe I shouldn't since I don't want to distract you. Anyway, maybe you can come earlier and we can visit ha-ha. Right now I'm at the Grand Hyatt in Berlin, room 307. I'll let you know if there are any changes.

He hits Reply.

STEVES EMAIL

I'm as surprised as you are. I'll try to make it to Europe in early April. I can buzz over to Berlin and, as you say, we can visit (smile).

TIME LAPSE

EXT. Steve arrives in Paris and gets his housing at Roland-Garros, the tournament location. He meets a few of the other players and practices with them.

INT. Tournament office.

He examines the schedule. His first round is the round of 128. He recognizes a few of the top names, including the number-one player, Bruce Clark. According to the schedule, assuming he wins all the previous matches, he will play Clark in the semifinals.

TIME LAPSE

EXT.

As planned, Steve flies to Berlin on the Friday the twelfth.

He checks his watch; 6:30. He goes over to the hotel phone and dials her number. She answers.

STEVE ON THE PHONE

You're back from work.

BECKY ON THE PHONE

Oh, Steve, it's great to hear your voice.
I just arrived. I'm starved. Are you
hungry?

STEVE

Yes, I am.

BECKY

Good, I'll be right down.

She comes down, they kiss, and they head for the hotel
restaurant.

STEVE

You look like you've been working hard.

BECKY

You don't know the half of it, but
today's Friday so I have two days of
rest. Did you sign up in Paris?

STEVE

Yes, I went there first. I'm going back
on the twenty-second, so we have some
time.

BECKY

Well, we have this weekend, but
unfortunately I'm back to work Monday.

They order a meal, and they each order a beer.

STEVE

German beer is great.

BECKY

You're right. It beats American beer
by a mile.

They finish eating and take the elevator up to her room. It
was 9:50. She turns around and puts her arms around his
neck. They kiss.

BECKY

I'm beat. I'm going to take a shower and turn in for the night. This room has two single beds, so you can have the other one. Is that okay with you?

STEVE

Yes, that's fine. I'll grab a shower and turn in also.

They both shower and turn in. He dreams about the tournament. The ball doesn't behave. He loses. Then he wakes up. A dim light is on. Someone was touching him, and he knows who.

STEVE

Hello, my sweet!

BECKY

Hello. I woke up early and couldn't resist joining you.

He caressed her beautiful body and kisses her. They make love and fall asleep in the same bed.

He awakes around 9 a.m. There she was cuddled asleep next to him. He studies her. She is beautiful as usual. She stirs.

STEVE

Good morning. Are you rested?

BECKY

Yes, well rested. Are you ready for breakfast?

They get dressed and go down to breakfast. Afterward they take a walk around town.

EXT.

They continued to walk and talk. They find that they have much in common.

She shows him around Berlin. They spend the day walking and chatting and getting to know each other better. They have supper and take in a movie and go back to her hotel. On

Sunday, they do the same as Saturday, walking around Berlin and talking. Upon returning she gives him a key card to the hotel room and says he can stay there.

TIME LAPSE

He stays that week and another weekend and then returns to Paris.

He spends the time before the tournament practicing with other players and gets to know several fairly well.

TIME LAPSE. THE FRENCH OPEN TOURNAMENT BEGINS

Steve plays well in the first three rounds using his telekinetic powers when needed. He plays and wins the the round of 16 making more telekinetic shots than before.

He is tired but he is glad there is a day of rest before the next round. Steve frowns when he finds that he will be playing Sam Finch in the quarter finals.

TIME LAPSE

EXT. The quarter-finals tennis court.

STEVE

Hi, Sam, nice meeting you again in this round.

SAM NODDING

Yes, good luck.

An exciting match is played, Steve winning the first set 6-4. He decides not use the force in the next set and loses it 6-3 but by carefully putting some extra, magical force on his serves wins the next two 6-4 and 7-5. Sam congratulates him.

SAM

Good match, Steve.

They shake hands. Steve notices a slight expression of wonder on Sam's face, as though he could not quite believe what had happened.

TIME LAPSE, STEVE IN HIS ROOM

Steve emails Becky.

STEVE EMAILING

Guess what, I won my quarterfinal match.
That means I'm in the money. \$200,000
at least. Wish me luck in the semifinal.

SHORT TIME LAPSE

BECKY'S EMAIL

Congratulations, handsome! I recorded
your match and watched it when I got
back here. I was a little worried when
you lost the second set, but it was
great that you pulled out of it. I'm
going to record your semifinal against
Clark. I wish I could be there to root
for you. Anyway, I'll see it. I wish
you luck, but I hope you won't need it.
Watch out for the groupies. I love
You. Becky.

He was tired, so he lay back down on the bed and took a
nap.

TIME LAPSE

EXT. THE SEMI-FINALS TENNIS COURT

He and Bruce enter the court. The coin toss gives Bruce the
serve. Clark serves two aces and wins the first game. In
the second game Steve also serves two aces, the first by
use of the force, the second naturally. He loses the next
point but wins the next two. He ends up winning the first
set 7-5. He decides to win the second, so he turns the
force on, mainly on his serves, and wins it 6-4. He was
ahead 2-0. He decides to play without the force in the
third set and loses it 6-3. Should he win the fourth set?
For some reason his ego turns on, and he decides he wants
to show the world that he is a great player. He wins the
set 6-2 and the match with a final score of 3-1. The crowd
cheers loudly. He and Bruce shake hands. As Steve leaves
the court the crowd cheers again. Steve is headed for the

finals. He is congratulated by lots of people, including good-looking girls.

INT. He enters the lounge bar, where a large group was gathered. Many say, Great match! Great last set, 6-2! He looks up who his opponent would be in the final. It is a tall Swedish guy named Alex Bergman. Alex is ranked seventh. He had climbed the ranks very fast and has a great first serve. Steve retires to his room. Before going to sleep that night he checks his laptop and finds an email from Becky.

BECKY EMAIL

I don't believe it. You won again!
You're a superstar! I hope you don't
ditch me. Luck in the final.

There was no email from Bert. He guesses Bert thought it was obvious he would win.

TIME LAPSE

EXT. TENNIS COURT, THE FINALS

Steve goes out to center court. After a brief warm-up they start. Alex wins the toss and serves the first game. Steve decides not to use his power in the first set, and Bergman goes on to win it 6-3 on his great serve. Steve doesn't worry, since he knows he can always win his own serves. In the second set Steve wins his serves with the force when necessary, brakes Alex's serve once, and wins the set 6-3, so they were at one set each. Bergman won the third set, and Steve the fourth. In the fifth set Steve wins the first game with his serve and loses to Bergman's serve in the second game, wins his serve in the third and loses to Bergman's aces in the fourth. The score is two games each. In the next four games they alternate again, each winning his own serves. The score is four games each. Steve wins the ninth game on first serve aces. He was ahead 5-4. In the tenth game Bergman did not serve a first-serve ace, and they had a long rally, Steve hitting a shot deep to his backhand, coming to the net, and putting Bergman's halfhearted lob away. He leads 15-love. With good first serves Bergman wins the next two points, but his serve did not come through on the next, and Steve was able to win it

on a force-field lob. The score was 30 all. Bergman then got his first serve in, but Steve was able to get it back. Bergman then flubbed a shot, hitting it into the net. Steve had the advantage and match point! He plans not to use the force on the next point, but it isn't even an option because Bergman double faults to end the match. Steve wins it 3-2. The crowd cheers wildly. He is a hero!

The TV announcer interviews him. She asked him how he feels. He tells her he feels great but he knows he was a bit lucky winning on a double fault.

SHORT TIME LAPSE

At the main desk he receives his check for 2.9 million dollars. He knows Becky will be working the next week, so he asks if he could stay in his room another week. The tournament manager says yes.

INT. He retires to his room. He lays down and falls asleep. He wakes up around 8 p.m. and is hungry. He decides on a good meal with of course a beer. He comes back to his room and noticed an email from Becky.

BECKY'S EMAIL

Wow, you did it. I don't believe it. Now you can have all the groupies, one at a time. Can I be one of them? Will you be coming back to Berlin? I hope so.

He hits Reply.

STEVE'S EMAIL

Yes, but I thought that since you are working next week I'd stay in Paris to see the sights. I'll head over there on Friday. I'm ignoring the groupies, they can't top you!

He hangs around Paris for the week and plays chess online. On Thursday night he eats a late supper. Since it was his last night in Paris, he decides to take a stroll around town. It was late, and he decides to head back to his room. As he was walking down the rather dark street, he sees

another guy coming toward him. The guy stops about twenty feet in front of Steve, pulls out a gun, and says something in French. Steve shrugs and put his hands out to indicate he didn't understand.

THE MAN

Give me your wallet and ...

He points to his wrist. Obviously he wants Steve's money and his watch. Steve stares at him, thinking to himself, Can the force stop bullets? He has little time to think. Thinking to himself, what the hell—if I die and go to heaven, or somewhere else, I may find out about the force. He throws the force field out about ten feet in front of himself, turns, and starts to run. He hears two shots but doesn't feel a thing. He turns, looks back, and is astonished to see two bullets sitting in the air about six feet in front of him. The guy fires two more, and they join the first two. What should he do? Without thinking it through, Steve sends them back to the shooter at top speed. They all hit him in the chest and knock him flat. The guy doesn't move. Steve looks around expecting to find people who might have seen the event or heard the shots, but it seems no one is around. He turns around and walks as fast as he can away from the scene. Walking at top speed, he heads back to his room.

Comment [KarenB2]: Deleted because if he turned, then backing up would move him closer to the mugger.

TIME LAPSE - FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 24

INT.

After breakfast he buys an English-language newspaper and glances at the front page. The headline read *Parolee Shot with Own Bullets—Police Confused*. He sits down and reads the article. The parolee is still alive but refuses to tell the police how he ended up with four bullets from his own gun embedded in his chest and stomach. It also mentions that the bullets had only gone in less than one centimeter into the parolee's flesh. Steve smiles.

EXT. STEVE ENTERS THE PLANE.

TIME LAPSE

EXT. STEVE LEAVES PLANE IN BERLIN

He gets his bag, clears customs, and catches a cab to her hotel. He checks the time, 6:05. He rings her room.

BECKY (V.O.)

Steven, my hero. You won it. Come on up.

When he gets there, the door is open with her standing in the doorway.

BECKY

I wouldn't have believed it. Not that I didn't think you were good but not *that* good.

STEVE

Well the double fault on the last point proves that luck played a factor.

She puts her arms around his neck and lifts her feet up. He holds her and swings her in a three-hundred-sixty-degree circle while they kiss a long one.

BECKY WITH A SUGGESTIVE GRIN

I think you're about to get lucky again.

She pulls him into the bedroom, and they made passionate love.

SHORT TIME LAPSE

STEVE

Boy, it's nice to see you again. You look so great.

They get up and dress.

BECKY

How about celebrating with a beer?

STEVE

I'd like nothing better.

Her suite has kitchen facilities. She goes to the kitchen and comes back with a couple of bottles. They sit on the

couch. Steve takes a swallow.

STEVE

The first swallow is the best one!

BECKY

You're right. So tell me about Paris.
Did you meet any nice women?

STEVE

Not one. You were on my mind the whole
time.

They finish their beers.

STEVE

Shall we go out to eat?

BECKY

No, I have a surprise. My suite has
cooking facilities, and I did a little
cooking. I made my favorite Mexican dish.
I hope you like Mexican food.

STEVE

I do. I never thought of you as a
homebody knowing how to cook.

BECKY

I cook for myself often. That way you
can make the food exactly the way you
like it. Salads are almost always better
at home than the ones you get in a
restaurant. Would you like another beer
with dinner?

STEVE

No, I'll just have some ice water if you
have it.

BECKY

Okay, I'll have the same. So what are you
going to do with all that money you made
in the French?

STEVE

I haven't really given it a thought. I
I'm probably expected to play Wimbledon.

They finish eating.

BECKY

The only thing I ever eat for dessert is
ice cream, and I only eat that about once
a week, but I'm in the mood for it today.
Would you like some?

STEVE

I'd love some. What flavors do you have?

BECKY

I'm a vanilla freak. But I have pralines
and cream and coffee.

STEVE

I'll try the coffee. Do you think it will
keep me awake?

BECKY SMILING

No, but I will.

STEVE LAUGHING

I'm looking forward to it.

They chat for awhile, and go to the bedroom.

BECKY

I'm grabbing a shower. Do you want one?

STEVE

Yes, I could use one.

She goes into the shower. She comes out of the shower, and
he goes in. When he finishes, he towels off and comes out.
She is standing there nude.

BECKY

I don't think we've ever really looked

at one another completely nude, so I thought this might be a good time.

They looked at each other up and down.

STEVE

I think I have the best view.

BECKY

Well, mine is excellent.

They move closer and stare at each other's face.

STEVE

I love your face. It's perfect.

BECKY

I never thought it was perfect, but I love yours.

They kiss and go to bed.

SATURDAY MORNING

BECKY

By the way, did you hear about that crazy thing that happened in Paris, a guy getting hit with his own bullets? Nobody can figure it out.

STEVE

Yes, I read about it in the paper. Unbelievable. I can't imagine how it could have happened. It's a mystery.

She looks at him in a strange way and then glances away, hesitating.

STEVE

What's that strange look for? You don't think that I had anything to do with that, do you?

BECKY

No, of course not. But then there is this

strange attraction I have for you, which I really don't understand. There seems to be some strange force acting on me.

STEVE

Force? What force? I don't know how you can think that I was involved. I'm as confused as you are. Maybe the authorities will figure something out.

TIME LAPSE. SATURDAY NIGHT

BECKY

It's midnight. Shall we turn in?

STEVE

Good idea. They went to bed and melted together as usual.

Sunday morning, May 26

BECKY

I wonder if you know how much you turn me on. I can't believe last night.

STEVE

You turn me on more.

BECKY

Let's not start that again.

TIME LAPSE

INT.

They go back to her hotel, dress for dinner, and then go out to eat.

EXT.

After dinner they stroll over to a park. They walk around for a few hours.

BECKY

Hey, I know of a neat game store. Do you want to go take a look?

STEVE

Sure, why not. I'm really not in the market to buy anything, but it would be nice to look.

They take a walk down a rather narrow side street and come to the store.

BECKY

Oh, nuts, it's closed. Wow, it's 11:30. I didn't realize it was so late. Oh, well, we can look in the window.

In the window were some nice chess sets, a backgammon set and a Go set. They leave and head down the block. Down near the corner a van is parked. As they approach two guys get out. One has a gun. They say something in German. Becky translated for him.

BECKY

They want our money, your wallet, and my purse.

Steve thinks to himself; I can't believe this—two muggings in one week?

STEVE

Well, they probably need the money more than we do and we can't fight a gun. We might as well cooperate.

He reaches for his wallet. They approach, and the first guy looks at Becky, says something in German, and moves toward her and put his arm around her waist. She backs away. It was clear to Steve that they were going to grab her and take her away. She tries to free his grip. He speaks again.

BECKY

I am not!

He grabs her arm pulls her toward the van while the second guy slides open the van's side door.

It is obvious that they intend to grab her. His face

reddens in anger. He adds a force field about eight inches deep to his right fist and at the same time uses the field with his left hand to grab the gun. He swings his right hand, accelerating the field forward, and hits the guy squarely in his forehead. He hears a loud crack and the guy goes down. The second guy swears and pulls out a gun. Steve grabs it with the field pulling it to his left hand and with the force punches him in the ribs. He hears another crack. The guy folds in pain to the ground. Steve knows he has to get rid of the guns, so he tosses them down the street. The second guy groans. He thinks, what if this guy has other guns and comes after them? He doesn't want that to happen, so he hit his lower leg in sort of a force-field karate chop and hears the leg break.

STEVE

Come on, let's get out of here.

Becky just stands there, staring at the disabled men. She then stares at him. He grabs her arm, and they start walking. After walking about two blocks she stops.

BECKY

Who are you? What are you?

STEVE

I'll explain later. We have to get out of here now.

They walk quickly together, Steve glancing around to see if anyone notices them. His heart races. What else could he have done? He glances over at her and sees fear in her eyes. They walk another several blocks. She stops. She is trembling.

BECKY

You have to tell me right now.

STEVE

Please don't be afraid of me. It's a long story. I'll explain everything in your hotel room.

She frowns and grimaces and and resumes walking. They

arrive in her hotel suite.

INT. BECKY'S ROOM

STEVE

Becky, I'm really sorry for what happened. I do have this strange power. Don't ask me why, because I don't know. It just suddenly appeared last year.

He tells her the whole story from the florescent light bulbs onward. He tells her that Bert is the only other person who knows about it, and that was because he had been involved in the discovery.

BECKY

So I was right. Why couldn't you tell me before?

STEVE

I was afraid of what you'd think. Maybe you'd ditch me. I was never going to tell a soul. If I told anyone, I'd have to demonstrate it, and it's the kind of thing that wouldn't be kept secret for long. It would become news fast, and I'd be the center of attention. I wouldn't be left alone. What would happen to me then? I'd be a freak. Actually, I am a freak. Some people would think I was a god. Some would think I was the devil. Some people might try and kill me. They might put me in a zoo. It has to be kept a secret. Do you understand?

She pauses staring and thinking.

BECKY

I understand. Part of me doesn't believe it. I feel like I'm having a nightmare. So you are the cause of the bullets in that guy's chest in Paris.

Steve nodded slowly.

STEVE

Yes. To my surprise I stopped the bullets in midair and turned them around and accelerated them back to him. I shouldn't have done it, but I was so surprised at being able to stop bullets that I couldn't think of what else to do. I didn't realize it would become news. I shouldn't have made them go as fast as they, did but there was no time to think.

BECKY

And that's how you won the French Open?

He stares at her for a few seconds wondering how she figured that out.

STEVE

Yes, I'm ashamed to admit it. It was Bert's idea to turn the power into money. I thought it was a good idea at the time. Why not? Nobody gets hurt, and I get rich. Before all this I was a reasonably happy guy. I really wish it all hadn't happened. The real question is why and how? Will I ever know?

BECKY

Now I don't know what I should do. My boyfriend is a god. There has to be a connection to how I feel about you. It was unreal because you are unreal. So why am I involved? If there is a god controlling you, it's also controlling me. I feel that you're so far above me that I shouldn't go to bed with you.

STEVE

No, you are part of it. I really believed your feelings originally and thought there must be a connection to my powers, but I had no idea what it could be. Somehow you were meant to be part of it. You are part of it and

can't deny it. We were meant to be together, don't you see?

BECKY

Yes, you're right. Am I a goddess? I really don't feel like one. I guess I'm going to tag along for the final event if there is one. By the way, according to your story you demonstrated your powers for Bert. I'd like you to give me one, too, right now!

He stares at her for a few seconds and then looks around.

STEVE

See that salt shaker over there on the table? Keep an eye on it.

He picks it up with the force and floats it over to his hand.

BECKY

My God! I can't believe it. This must be a dream. Anyway, I have to go to work tomorrow. Will I be able to function? I hope so. I guess it's time hit the sack.

STEVE

Wait. You can't tell a soul! Absolutely, positively no one! Do you understand?

BECKY

I do. You can count on me.

They undressed for bed.

STEVE

You know, if you really don't want to engage in sex, it's okay with me. I'll understand.

Becky frowns and then grins.

BECKY

I've made love to a god in the past so

why should I stop now?

Steve smiles then shakes his head.

STEVE

You know, after today I think I've had it with Berlin. I think I'm going to head back to San Jose tomorrow.

BECKY

I understand. Since I'm working we wouldn't be able to spend a lot of time together anyway.

Then she shakes her head and adds.

BECKY

It's amazing that you were attacked twice here in Europe.

STEVE

Yes, it is too much of a coincidence. Maybe its part of the plan of providence for me.

She looks at him strangely.

BECKY

The plan of providence?

STEVE

Well, you have to admit that what's happening to me is very unusual. Something must be behind it.

BECKY

You're right. I guess only time will tell.

STEVE

When will you be back in San Jose?

BECKY

I never know from one day to the next.

I'll say good-bye now since I'll probably leave before you wake up.

They kiss good-bye, dress for bed, and turn in.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 27

INT.

Steve awakes. Becky is not there. She has already gone to work. He manages to find a flight that is to leave at noon, so he dresses, packs and calls a cab.

EXT.

He enters the cab and goes to the airport.

INT.

In the airport he picks up an English newspaper and orders breakfast. An article on the second page read,

NEWSPAPER

Gang member Albert Faust was found dead with a broken cranium, apparently struck with a blunt object. His friend Jon Spitz, found nearby, had two broken ribs and a broken leg. Guns were found on the street nearby, apparently belonging to the two of them. Faust and Spitz are wanted for kidnapping and murder. Police were pleased, but they were confused as to what happened and who disabled them.

INT. STEVES HOME

He reads a few emails from guys in the club congratulating him by winning the French. He decides to email Bert.

STEVE'S EMAIL

Hello Bert. I'm finally back in San Jose. How about getting together tonight?

Another email popped up on his computer. It was from Becky.

BECKY EMAIL

Hello, my sweet. Guess what, Friday will be my last day of work for awhile. They owe me lots of vacation time and I decided to take it. I will be back in San Jose this coming Saturday. Can you pick me up at the airport? I assume yes.
Love, Becky.

He hits Reply.

STEVE EMAIL

Hey, that's great news! Of course I'll pick you up. I still love you.

He thinks about her and longs to see her. The phone rings.

STEVE ON PHONE

Hello?

BERT ON PHONE (V.O.)

Hi Steve. I got you email. Sure come over.

He eats supper, cleans up, and heads over to Bert's place.

BERT

Hi champ, come on in.

He enters, and they sit down in the kitchen.

BERT

How does it feel to be the winner of the French Open?

STEVE

Well, you and I know it wasn't really me. It was this strange power that I have. I don't mind the money though. The news is that I was attacked again. This time I was with Becky. There were these two guys. They wanted our money, and I was willing to give it to them since I didn't want to let Becky know anything about my powers. But then, in addition

to our money, they were going to take her away. I found out later that they were kidnapers. I remember her saying something like 'I'm not going anywhere,' but this guy grabbed her by the arm. At that point I didn't have a choice, so I blew up and knocked the shit out of them using the force field.

BERT

Force field, that's an interesting term. You used it in your previous email. Reminds me of electric and magnetic fields in physics.

STEVE

Yes, I think that it's appropriate, don't you?

BERT

Definitely—it is exact. What happened next?

STEVE

Anyway, We were lucky there was no one else was around, so we bugged out without being detected. Becky saw the whole thing, and now she knows all about my powers. There was no way to avoid telling her. I told her the whole story from the very beginning, florescent lights and all. I swore her to secrecy. I'm sure she will keep it quiet.

BERT

That's an interesting turn of events. I really would like to meet this woman. Is she coming back to town anytime?

STEVE

Yes, she's arriving this coming Saturday. She's taking time off from her job. I don't know if I ever told you this, but she claims there's some kind of force causing her attraction to me. She says

it's not natural, and since she found out the truth about my telekinetic powers she believes there's a connection.

BERT

That's interesting. She may be right. Since we don't know anything about the source, the force may be applying itself to her in a strange way. Hey, I'm using the term the force too. It's just like in *Star Wars*, but it's a different kind of force. All this stuff is boggling my mind. I need a drink. How about a rum and coke?

STEVE

Yeah, I need one too. Make it a double.

BERT

I'm going to have a double too.

Bert mixes two drinks. For a while they just sit there sipping and thinking. Neither one speaking.

BERT

You know, maybe you can use your powers to straighten out the world. It's a mess. For example, Hamas firing rockets on Israel. The Jews should have never left Gaza. Why don't you go over there and make believe you're Superman. They'd listen to you if you showed them a little power.

STEVE

That would be an interesting experience, but I don't want any part of it. You got any other bright ideas?

BERT

Yeah, how about this one. Our calendar is crazy. Some months have thirty days, some have thirty-one, and of course February has twenty-eight or twenty-nine. I have a suggestion for a new calendar. We should

have thirteen months of twenty-eight days each so each month is identical. Thirteen times twenty-eight is three hundred sixty-four, so you have an extra day as a holiday per year. That could be treated like a kind of leap day or something. Of course on leap years you have two days off. With that calendar every month of the year would be the same. The date would be on the same day in every month, so for example if the seventh is a Friday in January the seventh will be a Friday in every month.

Steve thinks about it for a few seconds.

STEVE

You know, that's a great idea. I just thought of why it works. Fifty-two, the number of weeks in a year, is divisible by thirteen.

BERT

Hey, that's interesting. I guess only a mathematician would think of that. But it won't work. Do you know why?

STEVE

No, why?

BERT

Because too many people consider thirteen an unlucky number, that's why.

STEVE

I think your right but maybe it will catch on.

BERT

By the way, are you going to shoot for Wimbledon?

STEVE

I think I should. If I don't people are going to ask why not.

BERT

As I said before, I think you should consider doing something more significant than winning at tennis.

STEVE

Yeah, but what? All right, I'll think about it. I'll see you later.

BERT

Okay, it was a great evening, very informative. See you later.

TIME LAPSE-SATURDAY

He heads up to the airport to pick up Becky. When she sees him she runs over and hugs him. They kiss.

BECKY

You don't know how glad I am to see you.

They get her bags, put them in his car, and climb in.

STEVE

Are you hungry?

BECKY

Yes, very.

STEVE

How about the City Diner? It's kind of on the way to my place.

BECKY

Sure, that's one of my favorite places to eat.

STEVE

Wow, another thing we have in common.

They head over to the diner and order.

They finish eating, and he takes her back to her house, unload her bags, and carry them in.

INT. IN BECKY'S HOUSE

BECKY

If you have this strange power, you shouldn't be bothering with tennis. Think big! Use it for some good.

STEVE

You and Bert have given me the same advice. It is food for thought. I really don't know what I should do now.

BECKY

Simple—formulate a plan. Let's talk to Bert tomorrow. By the way I'm a bit tired from my trip, so I'm really not in the mood for lovemaking.

STEVE

I understand. I have a lot to think about. I'll call Bert tomorrow and keep you posted.

BECKY

Okay, see you later.

They get up and walk over to her front door. She opens it, and Steve starts to leave.

BECKY

Don't I get a kiss goodnight?

STEVE

So you're not too tired for a kiss.

They kiss, and it turned out to be a long one.

BECKY

I just changed my mind. You're not leaving for awhile.

STEVE

I remember you using those exact same words once before.

BECKY

I remember them, too.

Becky closes and locks the door. They go to bed, and make passionate love.

Sunday, June 2

He awakes around nine and glanced over at her. She stirred and opened her eyes.

BECKY

You're studying me.

STEVE

Yes, and it's giving me much pleasure. Ready for breakfast?

While she is cooking he calls Bert.

STEVE

Bert said 7:30 tonight is fine. Is that okay with you?

BECKY

Sure, I'm looking forward to it.

TIME LAPSE-THE EVENING

BECKY

Do you have any new ideas on planning for the future?

STEVE

No, nothing more than we discussed earlier. Do you?

BECKY

If you're going to try and change things, the first step is to let your powers be known. How do you go about it? It should

not be through the public, nor the press. I think you should contact the government. In fact it should be the president. You should prepare a very, very convincing demonstration.

STEVE

Are you serious about all this? I should contact the president? How would I go about that?

BECKY

Well, you can't just call him up and make a date. You'll have to talk first to an underling and work your way up of course. I think there's a web site called The White House or something like that. Send them an email or call them. Well, it's about supper time. How about if I broil a nice steak with a salad and rice. Care for a beer?

STEVE

Definitely.

They open two beers and toast to the future. She prepares the meal, and after dinner they head over to Bert's place. They knock, and Bert opens the door.

INT.

BERT

Come on in. You must be Becky. Nice to meet you.

BECKY

And of course you're Bert I've heard a lot about you.

BERT

All good I hope. I've heard good things about you too. You all sit down. How about a drink?

STEVE

I'm thirsty after that meal we just had, so I'll just have some ice water. How about you, Becky?

BECKY

I'll have the same. Bert, we, as you, have been thinking about Steve's future. I think he should do more than win tennis tournaments with his remarkable powers. He says you agree. What do you think he might do?

BERT

I believe I suggested something of that sort, but he said does not seem to be interested. He seems to want to go to Wimbledon next.

BECKY

He has a few ideas about straightening out the USA. Why don't you tell him what you think, Steve?

STEVE

Well, for example if the politicians had any sense they would give free health care for everyone like there is in many other countries. Also I believe in free college education for all. Also the drugs that are now illegal should be free, and prostitution should be legal. How is that for starters?

BERT

Becky, I'm in favor of all of that. But, Steve, how in the hell would you use your powers to change things?

STEVE

Becky suggested that the first thing would be to contact the president somehow. If I could meet with him, and a few others in Congress, say, and convince them of my power, that would be the first step.

BERT

Right, and the next step would be for you to be put in a position of power. Actually, the first step is to determine if you're really serious about all this.

STEVE

Well, it's a choice between that and me continuing to win tennis tournaments. The latter is the simpler, of course. The other is too risky. The government might consider me dangerous and try and lock me up.

BERT SMILING

Yeah, but you know they can't do that. They couldn't come anywhere near you.

STEVE

You forget they have the army and all their weapons. They could probably annihilate me.

BERT

You have to convince them you're on their side. Then they'll welcome you with open arms.

STEVE

But then when I tell them about my plans, they might change their minds.

BERT

Maybe. Anyway, Steve, the ball is in your court. Let us know your decision regarding solving the world's problems.

STEVE

I have a lot to think about. I'll let you know. See you later.

EXT.

They leave and head for the car. Steve said,

STEVE

Becky, you've never seen my condo. We can go there for the night.

BECKY

Good idea. I'd like to see it.

They headed over to Steve's place. In the car they talk.

STEVE

So what do you think I should do, keep playing tennis or save the world?

BECKY

Save the world. Why not? Somebody needs to do it. I think you were chosen for it. Why else would you have the power that you have? It must be part of a general plan by God or whoever or whatever is out there.

INT. STEVES PLACE

BECKY

The government email address is *whitehouse.gov*. I think you can respond via email or call them on the phone. You'll probably get some low-ranking person, but what else can you do?

STEVE

Okay, let's do it.

Steve goes to *whitehouse.gov* and clicks on the link that says Email the White House.

Comment [KarenB3]: Deleted because he was just sending email.

STEVE

Okay, now what do I say?

They discuss it and agree on a message that he types into the appropriate box on the form.

STEVES EMAIL

Dear Sir. I have something very important to explain. I would consider it of international importance. Unfortunately, if I told you about

it you wouldn't believe me, so I have to show you. It is something that very few people should know about, so I would like to meet with someone of the utmost responsibility to demonstrate it and would ask that it be kept a secret. Thank you, Steven Thomas.

After they both review it, he hits Send. He gets an almost immediate reply.

Thank you for contacting the White House. Due to high volume we are unable to answer every email. We do, however, read every email and may respond if we feel that the issue is important. Thank you again.

BECKY

The obvious canned reply.

They turn in for the night.

TIME LAPSE-THE NEXT MORNING

STEVE

Well, it's time for breakfast. On most days I have oatmeal with fruit and of course coffee. Do you want to try it?

BECKY

I'd love to. In fact I often have oatmeal and sometimes some other types of cereal like bran flakes, shredded wheat, or Grape-Nuts.

Steve's eyes widen and he shakes his head.

STEVE

Believe it or not, I sometimes have those same three. I try to eat high-fiber stuff.

BECKY

Wow. Add another one to your list. Oh, I forgot, you really don't have one. When are you going to make one?

STEVE

It's on my list.

They both laugh. Steve makes breakfast, and they eat without saying much.

BECKY

I'll clean up, which is what we women are supposed to do, right?

STEVE

Wrong! The duties should be shared.

BECKY SMILING

I knew you would say that, handsome.
Give me a kiss.

Just then the computer beeps. It is an email from the White House. They read it together.

WHITEHOUSE EMAIL

We have just reviewed your email and would like more information as to what you have to show us, but if, as you say, you can't tell us, we are willing to meet with you for a demonstration. Your information seems to come under the category of intelligence, and as you said, of international importance, so we are asking that you meet with our CIA representative. This coming Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. is a convenient time. Please reply to confirm.

STEVE

Wow, that was fast. The CIA! I really don't want to talk to them.

BECKY

Looks like you have no choice. At least that seems to be pretty high up. I think if you impress them, the president will hear about it soon enough. I think you

should accept.

STEVE

I guess you're right.

He hits Reply and agrees to the time.

STEVE

I can't believe how fast we actually got an appointment. Maybe they are paranoid about terrorist threats. How do you think they'll react when I demonstrate my powers?

BECKY

I have no idea. I'm a little worried about it.

STEVE

I am too. I don't think you should go. Just in case they get a little crazy, I don't want you to be involved.

BECKY

But I would really like to see their faces when you demonstrate.

STEVE SMILING

I know. I'll just tell you all about it. I insist that you don't go.

BECKY

Okay, whatever you say.

STEVE

Gosh, I forgot to email Bert to keep him informed.

He sends an email to Bert. They spend Monday and Tuesday together and get to know each other better. They play a little tennis, chess. They take a hike at Alum Rock Park.

TIME LAPSE.

Wednesday morning, time to meet with the CIA.

STEVE

Let me take you home. I'll call you when
I get back and fill you in on the details.

BECKY

Okay, good luck. Call me immediately.

STEVE

Yes, will do. Don't worry.

TIME LAPSE-STEVE DRIVING TO SAN FRANCISCO

Steve finds a paid parking lot near the CIA office.
He walks over to the building, which has *Central
Intelligence Agency* in big letters on the side.

INT. He enters the building and is confronted by a
woman.

WOMAN

Hello, can I help you?

STEVE

I am Steven Thomas and have an
appointment.

She checks a list.

WOMAN

Oh yes you do. Go on in.

He passes through an inner doorway and is immediately
confronted by two tall, husky gentlemen and a lady.

LADY

Welcome to the CIA headquarters. I'm
sorry, but we have to check you for
weapons. It's standard policy.

One of the guys frisks him.

LADY

Okay, you're clear. I will take you to your appointment. I'm sorry for that. I know they seemed impolite. It's unpleasant, but it's unavoidable.

They go through another doorway into a lobby with elevators. They go up two floors, get out, and enter another room. The room is large, containing about ten desks and about that many people. There are two aisles leading to back rooms. At the nearest desk is a woman, obviously the secretary for the room. He is introduced to to her. She looks down at a list.

SECRETARY

Oh, yes, just go to room two down the left hall. You will be talking to Mr. Harper. He is one of the assistant vice presidents in charge of intelligence here in San Francisco.

Steve nods and smiles. They go down the hall and enter another office. There sits a secretary with a door right behind her.

LADY

Hello, Maggie, this is Mr. Thomas here to speak with Mr. Harper.

MAGGIE

Oh, hello. Yes, we have been expecting you. Have a seat right here, and I will let Mr. Harper know you are here.

She enters the rear door. Steve sits down. She finally comes out of the back office.

MAGGIE

You can go in. Mr. Harper will see you now.

Steve enters Harper's office. He comes over and offers his hand to shake. He is a wimpy-looking guy who seems to have

no confidence at all.

MR. HARPER

Nice to meet you. Please sit down. Your email sounded interesting. You don't seem to be carrying anything to show. What do you have to show me?

STEVE

It's something I don't want to show to just anyone. I'd like to show it to the person in your organization who is as high up as possible.

MR. HARPER

Unfortunately you'll have to be satisfied with me at the present time. So what is it?

Steve stars at the back wall and thinks for a few seconds about what to do next.

MR. HARPER

Well, what is it? You're wasting my time, let's have it!

Steve decides he has no choice. He turns his head and faces Harper. He looks around for an object to pick up. He sees a rather large paperweight in the shape of the world on Harper's desk.

STEVE

Do you see that paperweight over there?

Harper frowns, glancing at it. He turns back to face Steve.

MR HARPER

Yes, I see it, so what?

STEVE

Look at it again, and keep looking at it.

Harper turns and looks at it, and Steve picks it up with the force and moves it up to the ceiling and then to his

hand. He then puts it on the desk in front of Harper. Harper's eyes and mouth open wide.

HARPER
How did you do that?

There is a coffee cup on Harper's desk.

STEVE
Look at that cup.

While Harper is looking he picks it up and floats it over to his hand and looks into it.

STEVE
It's empty. No coffee for now.

He then floats it over to a nearby file cabinet and places it on top.

Harper stares at it and then at Steve. He then grabs the phone, dials a few digits.

HARPER ON PHONE
Send them here right away.

STEVE
What are you doing?

HARPER
You may be dangerous. I sent for security.

STEVE
What? What do you think I am going to do, kill you with a paperweight?

Harper says nothing and just stares at Steve like he can't believe what had just happened. The two lugs who'd frisked him earlier come in. Steve stands up.

STEVE
What are you doing? What are you going to do, arrest me?

HARPER

Let's not call it an arrest. We just have to confine you for awhile. Take him away.

STEVE

I'm sorry I can't let you do that.

Harper giggles, and the two guys laugh and moved toward Steve. With a sweep of his right hand Steve used the force to knock their feet out from under them. They fell in a heap on the floor. Harper frowns and glares at the two guys, seeming not to believe what he just saw. The two guys get up, and each one pulling out a gun. Steve grabs the guns with the force and yanks them from their hands. The guns just hang in the air for a few seconds. Steve glances around and notices the nearest wastebasket. He moves the guns above the waist can and drops them in. The two lugs back up against the wall, and all three of them stare in wonder at Steve. He thinks Harper is about to cry.

STEVE

I came here to show you something useful, and you treat me like a criminal. What I want is to see your boss. No, not your boss, your boss's boss. In fact I want to see the top dog in this outfit.

HARPER

Yes, sir, right away sir. Please let me make a phone call.

STEVE

Go ahead.

Harper turns to the two guys.

HARPER

You two can leave.

ONE LUG

Can we have our guns?

STEVE

No!

They leave, still looking rather astonished. Harper talks shortly on the phone and then hangs up. A few seconds later he gets a return call. He answers it.

HARPER ON PHONE

Yes, Rich, it's very urgent! Okay, I'll be right up.

HARPER

Richard Edwards is in charge on the west coast. I have to speak with him before I introduce you. Please wait here.

Harper leaves and after about five minutes he returns.

HARPER

We can go up to Dr. Edwards's office now.

When they go through Harper's outer office many workers are standing around talking to each other. When he appears they all stop talking and stare.

STEVE SMILING

Good afternoon.

They don't say a word but just keep staring. After they leave the room Steve shakes his head. His powers were becoming known. He didn't like it. They take the elevator up two floors, get out, walk over to another door, and enter. They are greeted by a secretary and another guy who looks important.

THE GUY

Come in. My name is Tony Wallace. Dr. Edwards's office is right here.

They all enter another door. Sitting at his desk was a professional-looking gentleman. He rises.

DR. EDWARDS

Steven Thomas, I believe. My name is Richard Edwards. Nice to meet you. Have a seat.

Edwards does not offer to shake hands. Once everyone was seated, he says,

EDWARDS

I have just heard of your amazing ability, being able to move objects with your brain. Where did you get this ability?

STEVE

One day it just happened. I may write a book on it some day. It's called telekinesis. Have you ever heard of it?

EDWARDS

I have, but I never believed it was possible.

STEVE

Neither did I until it happened to me.

EDWARDS

I would like to see a demonstration myself. Can you perform one for me?

After a few moments Steve moves a pen from Edwards's pocket and floats it over to his own hand then and then lays it on the desk. Then glancing around he notices a bookshelf containing several large volumes.

STEVE

Look at the bookshelf,

Pointing to the bookshelf against one of the walls. Everyone looks. He picks out two large volumes and draws them out, turned them upside down, and slides them back in. Edwards frowns looking rather amazed.

EDWARDS

I'm convinced. I understand you defended yourself very well against our two security men. Is there a limit to your power?

STEVE

My power seems to be quite strong, but I don't really know about any upper limit. As you already know I can disarm an attacker and probably kill one if necessary.

Edwards stares at Steve for a few seconds. A few beads of perspiration appear on his forehead.

EDWARDS

I see. So tell me, why did you come to us, and what do you want us to do?

STEVE

I thought I might be of some use to our government. I really didn't know how to contact anyone, so I went to *whitehouse.gov* and said I wanted to show something to someone important who is in charge. I ended up here. I would really like to see the president.

Edward's eyes widen.

EDWARDS

You mean the president of the United States?

STEVE

Yes. Why not? I have a few ideas about changes that can be made. My power seems exceptional. Why shouldn't I use it?

EDWARDS

Well, you have made your powers and your wishes quite clear. I will pass this information on to the higher ups. The president will definitely be informed about you and your powers. However, your wishes to meet with him personally may not be possible since you are in a position to do him harm. Perhaps you should write down the things you would like to see him about.

STEVE

Okay, I'll do that.

EDWARDS

I guess that will be enough for today.
Tony will see you to the door.

STEVE

Okay, thank you for seeing me. By the way, on my way up here I passed through Mr. Harper's office, and several people stared at me like I had a disease. I think it advisable that they do not know my name and that they keep the incident a secret.

EDWARDS

You're right. We will take precautions to keep your identity a secret. Thank you for sharing your powers. It has been an amazing experience for us.

TONY

Okay, Steve, follow me.

He leads Steve out to the main corridor. Then, after looking to see if anyone else was around.

TONY

I guess you know you have to be very careful. Some members of this organization may want to get rid of you. I don't know if they can, but they may try.

Steve's eyes widened in surprise.

STEVE

Thank you for your concern, Tony.
Perhaps we can keep in touch.

Steve pulls out his card and gives it to Tony.

TONY

Thanks, Steve. Here's my card. You can take the elevator down and leave from there.

STEVE

Okay, thanks again.

EXT.

Steve goes to the parking lot to pick up his car, pays the parking fee, and leaves.

TIME LAPSE

INT. STEVES PLACE

He was tired, so he takes his shoes off and lies down on the bed. In one minute he was asleep. He dreams that the CIA was after him. They had bazookas. The marines joined them. He ran, but they caught up with him and fired. He woke with a start. It was 6:30. He thinks about the dream but then remembers the day's experience. Then he calls Becky.

STEVE ON PHONE

Hi, Beck. I'm back. It was an interesting experience. I can come over, and we can talk.

BECKY (V.O.)

Sure. Come on over. My parents used to call me Beck. I like it. It's an even better nickname than Becky. See you soon.

He arrives at her place.

BECKY

Come in, handsome.

He goes in, and they sit down on the couch.

BECKY

It's way after five. Time for a beer?

STEVE

Good idea. I can use one.

She goes to the kitchen, fetches two bottles of beer.

BECKY

Okay, I'm ready for the news.

Steve explains the sequence of events to Becky.

BECKY

That's interesting. It looks like you made progress and you had fun. This guy Tony seems interesting. Maybe he's a mole.

STEVE

Yeah, maybe he works for the FBI.

She really laughs.

BECKY

One thing I love about you is your sense of humor. The FBI. That's really funny.

STEVE

If you hadn't said mole, I would never have thought of it.

They laugh again.

BECKY

How about dinner, a salad, a steak, and a baked potato drenched in butter and sour cream?

STEVE

That sounds great. Will you marry me?

BECKY

Yes, but only after you speak to the president.

They laugh again.

BECKY

Here's a nice salad. Chow down!

They eat and chat and they finally turn in.

TIME LAPSE

The next day, Thursday, after breakfast, he calls Bert.

STEVE ON PHONE

Hi Bert, let me tell you what happened.

BERT (V.O.)

Lets not talk on the phone. Come on over.

TIME LAPSE.

That evening they both go over to Bert's. Bert opens the door and they go in. Steve explains what happened. They spend the remainder of the evening and chatting about the future. Then Steve and Becky leave and head for home. Steve takes her home and leaves for his place.

TIME LAPSE

Time passed, and the three of them, Steve, Becky, and Bert, all separately keep tabs on the news; in fact, they all watched the same channel on TV.

THE TV NEWS

Several CIA employees have reported that the main office in San Francisco was visited by a man having strange powers that may be considered telekinetic. Telekinesis is the ability to move objects through mental power alone and has never been scientifically verified. When asked who this person was, they said they did not know. They asked to remain anonymous since they were afraid of losing their jobs. We were at first skeptical, but more than one person gave the same report.

The phone rings and Steve picks it up.

BECKY (V.O.)

Well, the cat's out of the bag. I hope nobody believes it. At least it

isn't the CIA officials who are talking. They seem to be keeping it quiet.

STEVE

Yes, but I may hear from them soon. Do you want to get together?

BECKY

I would but I have a strange headache.

STEVE

Okay, I hope your feeling better.

TIME LAPSE - SUNDAY.

Around nine o'clock Becky called.

BECKY ON PHONE

Hi Steve, I'm feeling better. That headache was kind of strange. It really wasn't much of a headache, just kind of a purring in my head.

STEVE

Wait a minute, a purring in your head? Do you remember my story about the florescent lights? It started with a buzzing in my head. You called it a purring. Could you call it a buzzing?

BECKY

No, it was more like a cat's purring.

STEVE

That's strange. I guess we'll just wait And see what happens. I'm a bit tired, so let's skip getting together tonight. Why don't you come over tomorrow.

She agrees. He hangs up and pauses contemplating the situation. He decides to turn in early and goes to bed.

TIME LAPSE. THE NEXT EVENING

He hears a knock on the door. He checks his peep hole and sees Becky. He opens the door and they hug.

STEVE

Just in time for a beer.

He opens two bottles and they sit down and sip the beer.

BECKY

I have some bad news-I have to go back to work next Monday.

STEVE

Oh, no-Berlin again?

BECKY

No, thank God. I'll be right here for awhile.

STEVE

Oh, great. You know, you can quit that job and marry me.

BECKY

Steve, I want to marry you, too. But I keep thinking that you're not really human. You're more like God.

Steve stops and stares at her shaking his head.

STEVE

I know I have this ridiculous power, but I'm not God.

BECKY

You're not God, but you're halfway there.

STEVE

Yeah, you're right. Let's try and lead a normal life and forget about all this. By the way, what's with this purring in your head? Is it still there?

BECKY

No, it went away and never came back. It was kind of strange though. I never had it before. Oh, and I told my boss at work that I'm thinking about leaving.

STEVE

Really? How come?

BECKY

I'm kind of fed up with it. It's a lot of work and responsibility, and it's not exactly safe.

STEVE

You've never really told me what you actually do.

BECKY

I can't. I can tell you that I have a top-secret clearance, but that's all I can say.

STEVE

I see. Well, the decision is yours.

They enjoy a meal together.

BECKY

I'm going to leave you now since I have to go to work tomorrow. It's been an exciting week!

BECKY

Interesting. Keep me posted. Let's see, today is Thursday. Would you like to spend the weekend with me?

STEVE

You needn't ask. Your place or mine?

BECKY

Mine. Come over for dinner tomorrow. I'll try and cook up a pleasant surprise. I'll stop at the grocery on the way home.

STEVE

Okay, see you tomorrow around five.

Becky drives to the Safeway, parks, and starts walking toward the store when a large van pulls up next to her. Two guys wearing masks jump out, grab her, and drag her into the van. She tries to scream, but they muzzle her and tape her mouth shut. Then they blindfold her and tie her hands.

JAKE

Okay, Nick, let's go!

NICK

You got it, Jake!

JAKE TO BECKY

You're going to make us a lot of money. Your boyfriend Steve is going to pay for your return to the tune of two million bucks.

Eventually they come to a stop and take her out. Once they were inside a building, they ungag her and removed the blindfold.

JAKE

Now you're going to call your boyfriend on your cell phone and explain the situation.

He takes her cell out of her purse and gives it to her. She is able to hold it even though her hands are tied.

JAKE

Now call!

She hesitates and thinks about not calling but decides her only hope is for Steve to free her. Vic slaps her across the face.

VIC

Quit stalling and get on the phone.

JAKE

Hey, Vic, take it easy on her. We want her in prime condition!

VIC

Right, Jake, but she has to call.

She finally calls Steve on his cell. Steve is watching the eleven o'clock news when his cell phone rings. He is a bit surprised and wonders who would call at this hour. He answers it.

BECKY

Hello, Steve, this is Becky. I've been kidnapped.

STEVE (V.O.)

What? What?

Becky doesn't answer; instead a male voice says,

JAKE

Hello, professor. We have your little darling here, and she is for sale. For only two million bucks you can have her back in good condition.

Steve's eyes widen, and he can feel the sweat beading on his forehead.

STEVE (V.O.)

Kidnapped? Who are you?

JAKE

That's obviously none of your business. We want you to get the cash ready in a briefcase or two or three. We will call you back Monday night. That will give you plenty of time to get the money. We'll then tell you how to deliver it. If you don't deliver she gets hurt.

Steve hesitates.

STEVE (V.O.)
Okay, I'll have it.

Jake then gives the phone to Becky.

JAKE
Tell him he better get it or else.

She takes the phone.

BECKY
Hi, Steve. I guess you heard him. I
have no choice.

STEVE (V.O.)
Don't worry—I'll get the money, and
you'll be free Monday.

Jake grabbed the phone and hangs up. They take her to a
back bed room and lay her on a bed.

NICK
Boy would I like to get at this babe!

JAKE
Forget it. This is strictly a business
proposition. We don't want the
merchandise damaged.

She hears a click and knows they locked the door. Her
forehead starts to sweat. Tears fill her eyes. Here she
was, hands tied, locked in a room. She thought briefly
about the possibility that if she could untie her bonds she
might be able to escape through a window but then notices
that the single window in the room has bars on the outside.
There is no hope. She winces and cries again.

INT. STEVE'S PLACE
Tears come to Steve's eyes.

STEVE TALKING TO HIMSELF

What can I do? The only hope is the money.
I have to pay them off. How can I get a huge
amount of money out of the bank without
Arousing suspicion?

Then he pauses and gets an idea. He calls the CIA,

STEVE ON PHONE

Hello, this is Steven Thomas. My
girlfriend has just been kidnapped.
I've worked with Richard Edwards in
the past. Please call me back.

After a few minutes his phone rings.

EDWARDS

Hello, Steve, this is Richard Edwards.
We're sorry about the kidnapping. Under
the circumstances this is an FBI problem,
but we can handle it. What are their
conditions?

STEVE

They want me to have two million dollars
ready by Monday night. They'll call then
and tell me what to do. I have the money,
but I really want to catch the bastards.

EDWARDS

We can come to your place on Monday. When
they call back we can trace the phone to
find out where they are.

STEVE

They called from my girlfriend's cell
phone.

EDWARDS

That may be hard to trace. We'll just
have to wait and see what they want you
to do. I guess if you're willing to pay
you should get the money. We can contact
your bank tomorrow and let them know that
the withdrawal is legitimate. You can get
the money on Monday morning. We'll show

up at your place Monday evening so we can be there when they call. And here's my cell phone number just in case you need to contact me. We'll see you Monday.

Steve hangs up. He was very glad the CIA was going to help.

INT. HOUSE WHERE BECKY WAS CAPTURED

Becky eventually dozes off to sleep. It is a very uncomfortable night with her hands tied. She awakes Friday morning and stares at the cord tying her hands. It would not be easy untying it, even with her teeth. After about an hour Jake comes in.

JAKE

Hello, Becky, did you have a nice night's sleep?

She pouts, and tears came to her eyes.

BECKY

It was horrible with these ropes on my hands.

JAKE

I'm sorry about that, but we can't take any chances about you getting away.

She yells in fear,

BECKY

How am I going to get away, with bars on the windows and the door locked?

Jake ignores her.

JAKE

Here, we have some breakfast for you and even some coffee. Let me untie you so you can eat. This room has an adjoining bathroom if you need it.

He unties Becky's hands and leaves, relocking the door. There is a small table and folding chair in the room so she could sit and eat. Breakfast is scrambled eggs, white toast, and coffee. She isn't particularly hungry but figures she'd better eat since she doesn't know how often they will offer her food. Then Jake comes back, picks up the plate and silverware.

JAKE

We won't tie you up this time. We know you're not going anywhere. He then leaves, relocking the door.

TIME LAPSE. SATURDAY EVENING

After giving her some supper, Jake leaves, relocking the door. After a little while she hears the outer door open, close, and lock. She lies on the bed staring at the ceiling and dozes off. She then wakes up suddenly to the purring in her brain. She listens for awhile and then was surprised that she could turn it off. She could turn it on and off repeatedly. She is hopeful, remembering Steve and his buzzing. She looks around the room to see what she could move. On the table were a place mat and a salt shaker. She concentrates on the shaker, and it moves! She picks it up and moves it around the entire room. She picks the place mat up and turns it over. Then she picks up the chair, turned it upside down and moved it around. She experiments moving items around in the room. She is surprised at how adept she is with the force. She thinks, out loud.

BECKY

Wow I have the force! Is it strong enough for me to defend myself?

She looks at the lock. The door is flimsy, having a space between the door and the frame, and she can see the lock. It was a deadbolt. She tried pushing the force field through the crack in the door and pushed it against the lock thinking about sawing it. Instead of using a back-and-forth motion with the force, she finds she can use it like a knife cutting vegetables, and it slices through the lock with ease. She opens the door. The outside room is dark. She turns the light on and sees her cell phone on the

kitchen table. She sees a full bottle of wine on the counter. She grabs it with the force and lifts it in the air. She moved it around quickly and found that she can accelerate to a high speed if necessary. It takes no effort at all. There are other bottles of wine and booze around. She puts several bottle on the table in front of her. She could call Steve, and he could come and get her. But, wait, she doesn't even know where she is. The front door is locked. She checks the back door and finds that it is unlocked. She thinks about running away but she has this feeling of power and wants revenge. She grabs her phone and goes out, walks around to the front, and looks at the house number, 916. She walks out to the street, looks up and down and finds that the house is fairly near the corner. She walks to the corner and looks at the street sign: Park Place. She immediately dials Steve from her cell phone. He answers.

BECKY

Hi, handsome, this is Becky.

STEVE

What? You sound happy—what's going on?

BECKY

I'm free. The address of this place is 916 Park Place. The gang's not here right now. If you get over here right away, though, we can catch them.

STEVE

Maybe you should leave before they get back.

BECKY

I don't think I need to.

STEVE

What? Why not?

BECKY

I'll let you guess, but just in case you should get here fast.

STEVE

Guess? How can I guess? Anyway, I'll be there as fast as I can make it.

INT. BACK IN THE HOUSE

She goes back in the house. She picks up a bottle of whiskey with the force and accelerates it against the wall for practice. She looks at the clock on the kitchen wall, which shows the time as 12:15. She moves the kitchen table between her and the door and pours herself a glass of wine. It is cheap wine, but it tastes good. She turns off the kitchen light. The streetlight outside is bright enough for her to see her wine glass.

INT. STEVES PLACE

Steve looks up the address in online maps. He find it, goes out, and jumps in his car.

INT. THE HOUSE

After about another ten minutes she hears the door lock click. The three guys come in and turn the light on. When they see her sitting at the table drinking wine they gasp in surprise.

JAKE

How did you get loose? How did you get out of the room?

She leans back confidently and smiles.

BECKY

Oh, I'm a magician—didn't I tell you?
Oh, I guess I forgot.

NICK

Well, you're going right back in there.

BECKY

You mean you don't want to join me in a glass of wine?

JAKE

I don't know how you got free, but we're going to tie you up right this time.

Nick and Jake approach her.

BECKY

Here have a whole bottle.

She throws the wine bottle at Nick and with the force accelerating it. It hits him squarely in the forehead.

She hears a loud crunch sound, and he falls. Vic pulls out a gun and approaches her. Since they want money for her she know he isn't going to use it, but she uses the force to grab it, yanks it out of his hand, and moves it to her own hand. She then points it at him. He backs up.

VIC

H-h-how did you do that?

He stands there in awe, staring at her.

BECKY

You have to be careful with guns. They are dangerous. Now why don't you just sit down until the police arrive.

Vic starts to back up toward the door. She looks at him and thinks about grabbing him with the force, but at the same time Jake charges at her. Instinctively she turns to face him and pulls the trigger. Jake grabs his chest and falls. Vic opens the door and starts to rush out, only to run into Steve, who pushes Vic back into the house and knocks him to the floor. Steve looks at Nick and Jake, lying on the floor, and smiles.

STEVE

It looks like you got the power at just the right time.

BECKY

You can say that again. Now we are finally equals!

STEVE

Are these guys dead?

Instead of answering, Becky shouts,

BECKY
Behind you!

Vic had gotten up and with a switchblade was about to attack Steve from behind. Steve turns around and punches him hard in the head accelerating the force at the end of his fist. There is a loud crack, and Vic goes down. Steve and Becky grab each other and hug.

STEVE
So did they beat you or molest you?

BECKY
No, I'm okay. That guy Nick wanted to rape me, but the leader, who I think was Jake, the guy I shot, prevented him from touching me. He just wanted the money.

They check the bodies of the three hoodlums and find that they are all dead.

BECKY
I guess I hit him pretty hard with that bottle of wine and must have shot Jake dead center in the heart. You must have hit that guy, Vic, pretty hard also.

STEVE
Yeah, I was pretty mad. I actually wanted to kill him, and I guess I did. What the hell do we do now? Call the Cops? No, the trouble is they might convict us of the crime of murder. I say we just vacate the premises and call the cops later.

EXT. IN THE CAR

While he drives back home, she calls the police from her cell phone and gives them the address where they would find three dead gangsters. They arrive back at his place.

INT. STEVE'S PLACE

They sit at the kitchen table and stare at each other.

BECKY

Well, it happened. I got the power. Boy, I can't believe the timing.

STEVE

Yes, it happened as I thought it might, and at the perfect time. It seemed to take a while, and I really wasn't sure if would ever occur. The question is whether some godlike power planned it that way.

BECKY

I thought the same thing. I believe there is a godlike force operating.

STEVE

This calls for a celebration stronger than beer. I just happen to have a bottle of cold champagne. How about a glass?

BECKY

I'd love it!

He uncorks the bottle and pours two glasses.

STEVE

Here's to the both of us and the power!

She nods, and then they tip their glasses and drink.

BECKY

Boy, that's delicious. I feel like a brand new person, but what am I going to do with such power?

STEVE

Become a tennis pro and play Wimbledon!

She laughs hysterically. They have a second glass of champagne.

STEVE

Hey, I just thought of something we can do. We can play tennis, and both of us use our powers. It will be a fascinating match.

BECKY

Yes, but no fair yanking the racket out of the other guy's hand.

He roars with laughter.

STEVE

Hey, another thing we can do is give tennis exhibitions, like the Globetrotters in basketball.

BECKY

Yeah, we could rally with twenty balls at the same time. If four or five balls came to me at once I could just pause them in mid air and hit them back one at a time.

He really laughs. They keep drinking and laughing. They eventually finish the bottle, get up, and kiss. They are really feeling the champagne. He slides his hands down to her butt.

STEVE

You know, you've got a great ass.

She grabs his.

BECKY

Yours isn't bad either.

STEVE

I'd like to give yours a serious inspection.

BECKY

And I yours, not to mention that stuff hanging between your legs.

They both laugh. They check the time; it was 2:20 a.m. They go to bed.

TIME LAPSE

The next morning Steve opens his eyes and rubs his forehead with his hand. He checks the clock; it is 11:15. Becky continues to sleep. He gets up, goes into the kitchen, and puts on a pot of coffee. He thinks of something and laughs. Becky enters the kitchen.

BECKY

I heard that laugh. What's so funny?

STEVE

I was just thinking with the power we both have, if we had a fight things could get a little dangerous.

BECKY

And you think that's funny?

STEVE

Right now I think everything is funny.

She pauses.

BECKY

Maybe you're right. Everything is funny, not to mention unbelievable. But we have to get serious. There must be a way to find out why we have this power.

STEVE

I've thought a lot about that and have

come up with nothing. I think the reason will eventually become apparent. I have a slight headache. Do you?

BECKY

Just a little one. Nothing a cup of coffee won't cure.

He pours two cups of coffee.

STEVE

Hey, let's check the news.

He turns on the TV news.

TV NEWS

Scientists from Near Earth Asteroid Tracking, NEAT, have noticed a large object, apparently an asteroid that seems to be heading toward Earth. It is still a long way off and will continue to be studied. In local news, police received an anonymous tip about a house containing three dead men. When they entered, police found the bodies of gangsters Jake and Vic Ford and Nick Anderson. The three men were wanted for kidnapping, robbery, and murder, and the FBI had offered rewards of two hundred thousand dollars each for information leading to the arrest of the men. One was shot, and the other two were bludgeoned to death. Police have no suspects for the three killings and are investigating ties to gang warfare.

BECKY

Wow, gangsters was the right word! By the way, I need to go shopping for some clothes and food.

STEVE

Do you need any money?

BECKY

Yes. Those guys took my money but luckily left everything else.

He takes out his wallet and pulls out two fifty-dollar bills.

STEVE

Is \$100 enough?

BECKY

That's plenty. My car is over at Safeway where the gangsters grabbed me. I'll need a ride there.

He drives her to the Safeway lot.

BECKY

Thanks. I still have to go to work tomorrow. Let's have our dinner next Friday. I'll see you then if not sooner.

STEVE

Okay.

TIME LAPSE. SEVERAL DAYS LATER AT STEVES PLACE

Steve has trouble getting to sleep so he gets up for a snack. It is late, 2:00 a.m. Suddenly the phone rings. Steve is surprised but answers it.

BERT (V.O.)

Hi, Steve. This is Bert.

STEVE

Hi, Bert. Nice to hear your voice. Your Calling a bit late. Is everything okay?

BERT

I'm fine. I'm sorry about calling so late but something suddenly occurred to me. Have you ever tried to use the force to lift yourself up?

STEVE

Lift myself up? No, I'd never even thought of it. I guess I can try it right now. Wait a minute, and I'll try it.

Steve puts the phone down, moves into a clear space in his living room, and applies the force to himself. He moves himself a foot off the floor. His eyes widen, and he shakes his head in shocked disbelief. He gets back on the phone.

STEVE

I can't believe it, Bert. I actually lifted myself up about a foot.

BERT

Wow, that's amazing! The next question is how far can you lift yourself, and can you move yourself around. Try moving yourself around the house.

STEVE

Okay, let me experiment and call you back.

Steve hangs up and tries moving himself around. He raises himself about a foot again and moves himself from room to room. He experiments with speed and finds that he can speed up and slow down. He decides to go outside and continue experimenting.

EXT.

Outside he lifts himself up above the roof and looks around. He then lowers himself immediately to about three feet and moves himself around the area. He is surprised at how fast he can go. He goes inside, sits down and stares at the wall. He gets up, goes to the kitchen, open the fridge, gets out a beer, and takes a few swallows, then a few more. He calls Bert.

STEVE ON PHONE

Bert, I can't believe it. I can fly!

BERT (V.O.)

Holy smoke, or should I say holy hell! You're like Superman. In fact, you're better. Superman didn't have telekinetic

powers as you do. How high can you lift yourself?

STEVE

I lifted myself above my rooftop, but I came down as soon as I could since I didn't want anybody to see me. Then I did an experiment. I think I can go quite fast, maybe 40-50 miles per hour. How the hell am I going to use flying to do anything?

BERT

Well the news is amazing. There must be a Reason. Only time will tell.

STEVE

Right you are. I'll keep you posted.
Bye.

Steve hangs up.

EXT. BECKY AT THE GRANT RANCH

Becky decided she had to check her powers. She goes to the Grant Ranch picnic area and in a rather large, desolate area she experiments. She picks out a large boulder three feet in diameter, and to her surprise she can lift it. She finds she can move things a rather long distance away. Suddenly she wonders if she can pick herself up. She tries, and she lifts herself. She shakes her head in amazement. She experiments some more, moving herself around at various speeds. she finds that she can actually fly! She goes home.

TIME LAPSE. TWO DAYS LATER. STEVE AT HOME.

The doorbell rings. Steve checks the peep hole and sees Becky. He opens the door.

STEVE

Well this is a surprise. What's up?

BECKY

I wondered if I could catch you with

Another woman.

STEVE
Surely you are joking.

BECKY
Actually I was wondering if you have
you discovered anything new lately?

He frowns and looks at her suspiciously.

STEVE
How come you use the word discovered?
It seems like you think there might be
something unusual.

Her eyes widen briefly, and then she looks down, blushing
slightly.

BECKY
I use it because I have discovered
something. Do you want to guess what
it is?

Steve stares at her.

STEVE
Is it something very significant?

BECKY
Yes, it is, *very!*

Then he knows.

STEVE
You can fly!

Her eyes widen in surprise. She grins.

BECKY
You know that because you can do it too,
right?

STEVE

Yes, I was worried about whether I should tell you, but now that problem is solved.

BECKY

How did you discover it?

STEVE

I'm ashamed to admit that it was Bert's idea to see if I could lift myself up. How about you? How did you discover it?

BECKY

I went out to Grant Ranch so I could be alone in a big space to experiment with my powers. It just suddenly occurred to me to try and pick myself up.

STEVE

Congratulations—you have a better imagination than I.

BECKY

Thanks, but that's neither here nor there. What the hell do we do now? How do we use it?

STEVE

I say we just leave it to providence, like the force itself. It's just part of the puzzle.

TIME LAPSE

9:00 a.m., *Wednesday, March 4.*

INT. STEVE AT HOME

Steve checks the news.

TV NEWS

Scientists from Near Earth Asteroid Tracking, NEAT, continue to study the asteroid. It is quite large. It seems to be in Earth's orbit around the sun

but moving in the opposite direction as Earth in its orbit. It's possible that it's not an asteroid but some kind of satellite.

Steve frowns and wonders what it could be.

TIME LAPSE

Thursday, September 10

TV NEWS

Scientists at NEAT, who had been studying the approaching object for months, announced that it was not an asteroid. It was cylindrical, with a diameter of about four hundred meters and a length of about fifteen hundred meters. They believe it is actually a spaceship. It was headed directly toward Earth. Governments around the world react with worry, and the developed countries, led by the United States and Russia, start to increase their military readiness for possible conflict.

TIME LAPSE. *Thursday, October 15*

TV NEWS

Scientists now definitely called it a spaceship, and it was orbiting Earth and slowing down. It appeared to be seeking a geo-stationary orbit. People are alarmed, and some people call for the military to shoot it down. The leaders of the world say absolutely not, as it might be peaceful.

TIME LAPSE. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

TV NEWS

The spaceship parks itself over Washington, DC. Congress and the president

agree to postpone the coming presidential election. The military is on full alert. Many residents of Washington begin leaving out of fear of an invasion by aliens. Many aspects of the economy have already come to a halt over the past week. People are no longer buying houses, cars, appliances, or any other large items, just food and essentials.

Steve calls Becky inviting her over.

STEVE

My god, aliens from outer space. What are those old movies about aliens—*E.T.*, *Close Encounters*, what else? The ship is just sitting there high up over the White House. They must know a lot about us, like we're the most powerful country. And they must have known the location of the capital. I'm willing to bet that the government will ask me to come to Washington. If so, I think we should go.

In the next two days the military had trained its large guns on the alien ship. Jets fly by it inspecting it.

TIME LAPSE. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Steve is at home relaxing over a cup of coffee telephone rings.

CHARLES

Hello, is this Steven Thomas?

STEVE

Yes, it is.

CHARLES

Steven, this is Vice President of the united states, Andrew Charles.

Steve's eyes widened in surprise.

STEVE

Yes, sir.

CHARLES

Have you been keeping up with the news?

STEVE

Yes, and it is alarming. What's going on?

CHARLES

Well, the visitors seem peaceful, but one never knows. The president would like you to come to Washington in case you are needed.

STEVE

Yes, I can come. Can I bring my girlfriend?

CHARLES

Certainly. If it is not too short notice a person named Anthony Wallace can pick you up and fly you here. He can come by tomorrow around ten a.m. He'll call you first.

STEVE

Yes, I remember him. We'll be ready.

Steve hangs up and he immediately calls Becky.

STEVE ON PHONE

Guess what, I got a call from the Vice President. He wants me to come to Washington tomorrow. You can come to, in fact you should since you have the power as do I.

BECKY (V.O.)

Wow, just as you suspected. Okay, I'll be there.

TIME LAPSE. THE NEXT DAY

Steve packs a bag. Becky appears before nine. At 9:30 the phone rings.

TONY (V.O.)

Hello, Steve. You remember me of course,
Anthony Wallace. You can call me Tony.
Are you ready to go?

STEVE

Hello Tony. Yes. You know that there are
two of us, right?

TONY (V.O.)

Yes, I do. I'll be there in about
thirty minutes.

Tony arrives, and Steve introduces Becky. He drives them to
the airport in an SUV, and they board a plane and take off.

TIME LAPSE 9:00 a.m., Saturday, October 24

A smaller ship leaves the large mother space vessel. As it
nears the city one could see a large sign on the front. It
says PEACE. People hug one another and shake hands in
happiness. The ship was about the size of a large bus, with
four cylinders, one on each corner, that seem to be forcing
air downward in helicopter fashion. It floats down to land
on the center of the south lawn of the White House. No one
gets out. The police and the marines cordon off a large
circle around the entire lawn. The press is busy taking
pictures and capturing video. After an hour goes by with no
activity, the president decides to use the public address
system to talk to the vehicle.

BROWN

Hello. Welcome to the United States of
America. We are very happy that you come
in peace and are pleased that you know
something of our language. My name is
Gerald Brown. I am the president of this
country, and we would like to meet you
and find out more about you. We believe
you would like to do the same with us.
Please let us know who you are and from
where you come. We will be happy to
provide for any needs that you have.
Please make yourself known to us. Thank

you.

After about fifteen minutes a voice from the ship booms out,

ALIEN VOICE

Thank you for your peaceful reception. We have been studying your radio signals for some time and have learned your language. We look very similar to you except that we are quite a bit taller. Our average height is 7.2 of your feet, or 2.2 meters, so please do not be alarmed when you see us. We would like to meet with you and your leaders. Perhaps you can provide a vehicle to take us into your building.

After a brief pause Brown gets back on the loudspeaker system.

BROWN

We can certainly do that. Please allow us a little time to make preparations. How many individuals will be visiting, and by what name or title would you like to be addressed?

ALIEN VOICE

There will be five of us. You can call me Omar.

The historic conversation between the US president and the visiting aliens was captured by all the TV and radio crews crowded around the White House and broadcast live around the world. Knowing that he was speaking not only to his own citizens but to virtually everyone on the planet.

BROWN ON THE RADIO

This is probably the most important event in the history of the world. We have the opportunity to learn about life in other parts of the universe and to perhaps increase our knowledge of science and

technology. The aliens come in peace, and we should give them a friendly reception. Let us all be friendly toward them.

The welcoming committee sits in a large room. In the front are five large chairs facing the committee for the visitors. The group consists of the president, vice president, several cabinet members, including the Secretaries of State and Defense, and a few high-ranking members of Congress. Richard Edwards of the CIA and Frank Dillon, head of the FBI, are also present, as are several Secret Service agents. In the back of the room, well behind the committee, are about twenty marines. They wear bulletproof vests and are well armed, having their weapons hidden at their feet. A large limo approaches the shuttle, and five aliens emerge from the ship and walk up to it. They wear rather bulky coats that could possibly conceal weapons and hats that look a little like helmets. The hats have a strange peak that looks like it could be pulled down to cover the eyes. Other than being indeed tall, the aliens look like humans except they have only four fingers on each hand. They board the limo and are taken to the entrance of the White House. Within a short time, the five aliens have entered the meeting room. They introduce themselves and thank the audience profusely. They are given seats in front of the hall. Finally the president speaks.

BROWN

Can you tell us who you are and why you came here?

OMAR

We are from a planetary system in your galaxy, which of course is also our galaxy. We estimate that our civilization and technological progress is about two thousand years ahead of yours. We have been exploring space for a long time, say five hundred of your years. We came here on a self-sufficient vehicle that you might call a planetoid. It provides all the food we need. It also provides fuel.

Our vehicle is currently parked in essentially the same orbit as Earth on the other side of the sun. The planetoid's gravitational effects on the movement of objects in your solar system are too small to be detected. We have been there for about thirty years and during that time have been monitoring your radio waves. We are pleased with your fairly recent technological progress but not pleased with your political problems. We have chosen your country to visit because we found that you are the most powerful country on your planet. We can help you solve your problems. In exchange, we would like you to provide a space for us to live.

Steve and Becky have been studying them with binoculars and listening carefully to their talk. They also notice the aliens' hands, which have three fingers and a thumb.

STEVE WISPERING

I wonder if their number system is of base eight.

BECKY WISPERING

There's absolutely no reason why it would be ten, that's for sure. Don't you think we should formulate some kind of plan in case of trouble from the aliens?

STEVE

I think you're right. The worst case is if they pull out weapons. If that happens we can try to disarm them. Let's call that phase one. If that fails, in phase two we should use the force directly to attack, punching them in their heads and bodies with it. Hopefully, though, they are peaceful, and none of that will be necessary.

The president gasps in surprise at Omar's request for space. He turns and whispers to the small group around him

and then turns back to the aliens.

BROWN

It seems you are planning to move into this country. Is that right?

At that comment Omar frowns and appears disturbed, but he quickly smiles.

OMAR

Yes, your planet is very plentiful, and we would like to live here.

Just then Richard Edwards from the CIA speaks up.

EDWARDS

How many people are we talking about?

Omar frowns, appearing to show annoyance.

OMAR

About one thousand to start.

EDWARDS

How many are on your planetoid ship?

Omar squints, acting like the question annoys him.

OMAR

Let us say twenty thousand.

BECKY

He doesn't seem very friendly, does he?

STEVE

No, I detect trouble!

BROWN

And you want that many to come to Earth?

OMAR

Well, not quite all. We will keep about one thousand in our planetoid and other ships.

BROWN

So how large a space do you think you will need?

OMAR

We are thinking of maybe eight or ten square miles. Maybe a small island or space in a remote spot in your country.

At that point the president whispers again with his small group, which includes Edwards. Finally he says,

BROWN

Thank you for your questions, Richard. Omar, it will take us some time for us to consider your request. At this time we ask that you return to your ship.

OMAR

Can't you provide us with a place to stay while you decide?

The president glances at the others in the group, most of whom shake their heads.

BROWN

I'm afraid not. The decision is an important one and will take time. We prefer that you leave.

Omar rises, signaling for the others in his group to do the same. They stand up, pull down the peaks from their caps and simultaneously pull out weapons that looked like guns. Their hats were definitely helmets. Members of the government hit the floor. It was clear they had been briefed on this possible situation and were getting out of the way so the marines in the rear could shoot if necessary. Secret service agents immediately move in front

of the president and vice president and draw guns.

OMAR

I'm afraid you have no choice. We are staying, and you should consider yourselves hostages.

The marines pull out their weapons, and both sides open fire, the alien weapons appearing to shoot some kind of laser rather than bullets. Several marines are hit. The remainder duck behind protection in the back and continued to fire. Bullets appeared to have no effect on the aliens. The marines, realizing this, stop shooting.

OMAR

As you can see we are not affected by your weapons.

Omar then pulled out a device resembling a cell phone and makes a call. People watching the large mother ship observe two other small ships leaving, and at the same time more aliens emerged from the ship on the ground.

Steve's head jerks back in surprise. Becky grabs his arm.

BECKY

This is it! We act!

Steve glances at Tony, who signals the go-ahead.

STEVE

Right, what we do is grab their weapons. Becky, from what you told me about your kidnapping you seem to know how to grab a gun.

BECKY

Yes, it was easy. I can handle it.

STEVE

I don't know if our force field can stop laser fire, but if we act fast we can disarm them before they fire. We proceed slowly from both sides. If it works, bring

the weapons that you grab to yourself. We may be able to use them later. We enter slowly so as not to make them suspicious. When I raise my left hand, do it immediately! You disarm the two on the left. I'll take the three on the right. Good luck, though I hope we don't need it. Let's go!

OMAR

We have reinforcements arriving, so you have no hope.

The Steve and Becky enter the room simultaneously and slowly. Steve quickly raises his left hand, and in the next instant the alien weapons all fly out of their owners' hands. Steve and Becky each catch one, and the other weapons land on the floor in front of them. Omar shouts in surprise and members of his group look at each other in shocked amazement. Edwards stands up.

EDWARDS

You see, Omar, we are not as backward as you may think. We have learned the power of telekinesis, mind over matter, and we order you to leave.

Just then several new aliens enter the room with guns drawn. With one of the laser weapons, Steve pulls the trigger and fires, hitting an alien, who falls. Becky shoots at another one, who also falls. The third one, obviously realizing they were defeated, rushes out. Omar pulls out his phone and seems to be giving an order. He then speaks to the group of government officials on the floor.

OMAR

We are beaten. We will return to our ship. We apologize for our action, but we were desperate.

Then the five of them file out of the room, taking their wounded comrades with them. They walk to their small ship,

get aboard, and leave. The small ship takes off and heads back to the main one. The two other small ships that had been headed for Earth turn around and return to the mother ship. That spaceship remain over Washington for about fifteen minutes but then leaves.

Many of the committee members present shout for joy, shaking Steve's hand and hugging him. Steve looks at Becky.

STEVE

It's now clear why we have this power;
to save Earth from an alien attack!

BECKY

Yes, it seems so. But it seems we didn't
need to fly. That unsolved problem still
exists.

There was some worry that the aliens might return, and there is talk about sending a ship to the other side of the sun to see if they were still there. It was decided to wait a few months. Steve, however, is sure that the shock of humans having telekinesis has rocked the alien's confidence.

TIME LAPSE

Steve and Becky decide to marry. They do it quietly in the Unitarian Church in San Francisco. Bert is their witnesses.

TIME LAPSE.

Becky becomes pregnant.

STEVE

We have to think of a name for him or her.

BECKY

I'm against naming boys after the father.
How about you?

STEVE

I agree. It's too egotistical. I like
Michael for a boy.

BECKY

I like Shakespeare's Miranda for a girl.

STEVE

Okay, that settles that.

TIME LAPSE

About nine months later a son is born. Then, a year later, a daughter is born. They find that their son is very bright and their daughter is not far behind.

TIME LAPSE-FOUR YEARS LATER

Then one day little Mike speaks.

LITTLE MIKE

Mommy, look what I can do. See that teddy bear over there on the couch?

Becky gasps as the teddy bear rises and floats across the room into Mike's hand.