

SPACE FISH & THE HOMELESS CRUSADER

written by

Hank Biro

London, Ontario, Canada
226-377-6164
henb240@gmail.com

FADE IN:

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA

EXT. CITY - DAY

The sun shines super brightly over many tall buildings.

The streets bustle with traffic and people who wear bright and breezy clothes.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '68

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

It's recess and DONNY SPRAT (8), no left arm below his elbow, African-Canadian, turns a plastic steering wheel attached to the playground.

Donny pretends he's the captain of a pirate ship.

His classmate, TRACEY JONES (8), notices him.

She climbs up the playground, stands behind Donny, and tries to get his attention.

TRACEY

Hello.

EXT. PIRATE SHIP - NIGHT

Donny is still in his own world. He imagines she's a CREW MATE on his ship. Rain and lightning crash around them.

CREW MATE

Captain, the enemy is advancing!
What do we do?!

DONNY

We hold steady! Tell the men to
fire on my command!

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Tracey taps his shoulder, Donny snaps back to reality and turns around.

TRACEY

Hi.

DONNY

Are you... talking to me?

TRACEY

Yup.

They smile at each other.

Donny and Tracey play pirates together. They have a stick-fight, then Donny forces Tracey to jump off the playground at stick-point. Tracey pretends to drown. They laugh.

The bell rings.

They say bye and Donny shyly runs back to class.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny's teacher, MRS. STREE, sits at her desk and waits for the children to take their seats.

She moves to the front of the room and addresses the class.

MRS. STREE

Okay, students. I need you all to choose a buddy to pair up with for the next lesson.

Tracey gets up and walks over to Donny.

TRACEY

Do you wanna be my buddy?!

DONNY

Sure.

Donny and Tracey sit beside each other and the teacher writes their next lesson on the chalkboard.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny and Tracey play tether ball, then hide-and-seek.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny reads to Tracey. She helps him annunciate words.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny and Tracey play more pretend pirates. This time Tracey steers the ship and Donny looks through an invisible telescope from higher up on the playground.

Donny points to something on the horizon and Tracey squints to look at it.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Tracey stands over Donny's shoulder and helps him figure out how to multiply. He is ecstatic.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Donny's dad, FRANCIS SPRAT (38), heavy-set, African-Canadian, waits at his truck for his son to get out of school.

The truck's flatbed holds fisherman's gear.

Francis sees Donny made a friend, he smiles, then looks sad.

Francis takes out his wallet and removes a photo. He looks at it blank-faced.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Donny and Francis sit at a picnic table and play chess.

Donny moves his pawn. Francis chuckles.

FRANCIS

That was a foolish move, son.

DONNY

Sorry.

Francis moves his knight to steal Donny's pawn.

FRANCIS

It's okay. Try to be more aware next time.

(beat)

Your turn, Donny.

DONNY

Dad?

FRANCIS

Yes, what is it?

DONNY
What was the war like?

FRANCIS
No. You're not old enough yet.

DONNY
(beat)
Can I see the picture?

Francis smiles and takes out his wallet. He pulls out a picture of Donny's mother, ZELDA SPRAT (27), average build, long hair, African-Canadian.

DONNY (CONT'D)
Can you tell me something about mom?

FRANCIS
Your mother was the coolest. She introduced me to so many interesting things.

DONNY
Like video games?

FRANCIS
Yes, and all kinds of old and different movies. TV shows. Music.

DONNY
And cartoons?!

FRANCIS
Yes, cartoons too. We even went fishing on our first date. She really helped shape me into the man I am today.

DONNY
(beat)
Why did mom leave?

FRANCIS
She wised up to me.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny and Tracey walk side by side.

TRACEY
Have you ever seen the Mega-Action-Ninja-Squad show?

DONNY

Yes, I love that show. My favourite's the one when they're on the submarine.

TRACEY

I never saw that one.

DONNY

My dad owns every episode.

TRACEY

Wow, my dad wishes! Do you like El Larko?

DONNY

Yeah, he's cool. He kind of reminds me of The Neighsayer.

TRACEY

Who's he?

DONNY

He's very old school. I could show you some of his music sometime.

TRACEY

Cool. El Larko's my favourite. My parents don't like me listening to his music. That's why I like going to school, I can listen to whatever I want! Well, when the teacher isn't talking.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny and Tracey make arts and crafts together in art class.

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - DAY

Donny and Tracey choose each other as partners for gym class.

Track and field event stations are set up. Donny and Tracey are at the high jump station.

Donny jumps while Tracey spots, Donny clears the pole and lands on his back on the mat.

Tracey jumps now, while Donny spots. She knocks over the pole and lands on her front on the mat. They both laugh.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - DAY

Donny and Francis sit at their lane. Francis re-enacts when he caught a huge fish. Donny watches with excitement.

INT. SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

Donny and Tracey pick out books together.

Tracey signs out a book on history, and Donny, one on oceans.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Donny watches as his father leaves for work and he's left at home with his babysitter.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny and Tracey grade each other's work and put down many check marks.

They both get up, walk over, and hand the paper back. They are both really happy with their marks.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Donny and Francis stand in line, behind a man with one arm who holds his resume in his free hand. The man, CURTIS RICOTZ (47), steps towards the BARISTA at the counter.

CURTIS

Hi. My name's Curtis. May I please speak with your manager? I have my resume here--

BARISTA #1

I will take that and make sure he gets it.

Donny nudges his dad and points to Curtis' arm. Francis shakes his head, no.

Curtis hands over the paper and walks out with defeat on his face. Francis and Donny approach the counter.

Donny and his father sit at a table. Francis drinks a hot coffee, while everyone else drinks iced.

Francis lets Donny try a sip. Donny's eyes widen.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny and Tracey bring CDs they like to school and they listen to them with each other on a Walkman.

Donny pauses it and turns to Tracey excitedly to discuss parts of the song.

They run around together. The bell rings and Donny and Tracey walk back to class together.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The teacher introduces a new student, WALLACE BIBBONS (8), and he decides to sit beside Donny.

WALLACE

Hi, my name's Wallace, what's your name?

DONNY

Donny.

WALLACE

That's a cool name. You're out of your element, Donny!

Wallace does a near-perfect "Walter Sobchak" from "The Big Lebowski" impression. Donny laughs.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny shows Wallace around.

DONNY

This here's the sandbox.

WALLACE

Well, would you look at that?!

Donny laughs.

WALLACE (CONT'D)

So, were you born here?

DONNY

Yup, how about you?

WALLACE

No, why would I be born in a sandbox?

Donny laughs again.

DONNY
For real, though. Where are you
from?

WALLACE
Me and my fam moved here from
Toronto.

DONNY
That's cool.

INT. WALLACE'S HOUSE - DAY

Donny and Wallace walk through the front door into the foyer, then towards the kitchen. The home's decor and design are very intricate.

Wallace's parents sit at the dining table each well-dressed and with a wine glass.

Wallace introduces them to Donny.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny hangs out with Tracey in the school's sandbox.

Wallace walks up with a basketball, spins it on his finger, and convinces Donny to hang out with him instead.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Francis leaves for work, while Donny and Wallace playfully hit the babysitter with pillows on the couch.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

A group of students play tennis ball soccer. Donny and Wallace run over to them.

Wallace convinces the other kids to let Donny play with them.

Donny and Wallace walk back to class, they put their arms around each other's shoulders and laugh as they try to trip one another.

Tracey walks back to class by herself.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny and Wallace enter fourth grade, and they quickly take seats beside each other.

Their new teacher sits behind his desk. He stands and introduces himself.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny, Wallace, and their classmates play red-ass against the school's wall.

Donny runs after the tennis ball, throws it and hits a high-up window from very far away.

A teacher pokes his head out to yell at them.

Two of Donny's classmates pick teams for red rover. Wallace is chosen right away. Donny is chosen last.

Someone on the opposite team easily breaks through the arms of Donny and his teammate to his left.

Donny's teammates are really mad at him.

Wallace takes Donny to the side to tell him he shouldn't play. Donny walks away, upset.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny and Wallace's new fifth grade teacher sits at his desk and waits for everyone to be seated.

Donny now wears baggy sweaters whenever he leaves his home. Beside him sits Wallace.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Francis sits and waits for Donny to return from school.

Donny walks through the door and wipes his boots off. He spots his father.

In Francis' hand is Donny's report card. Francis stands and walks over to Donny.

Francis places his hand on Donny's shoulder, crouches to his level, and calmly explains why Donny should try his best.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny raises his hand for every question the teacher asks and responds with the right answer, when he is wrong, he quickly writes down the correction.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny plays batter against Wallace who plays pitcher for baseball during recess.

Wallace pitches a fastball as fast as he can down the plate, Donny hits an in the park grand slam.

Donny reaches home plate and cheers as his teammates crowd him. Wallace throws his glove on the ground and kicks dirt.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Donny and Wallace's new sixth grade teacher, MS. SKYLA, stands in front of the chalkboard while students pick seats.

MS. SKYLA

Hello, students. Welcome to sixth grade! I go by Ms. Skylia and I look forward to learning all your names!

Donny sits and holds out the seat next to him for Wallace.

Wallace walks by and sits beside a female classmate instead.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Donny, Wallace, and their classmates play more tennis ball soccer, much more aggressively than before.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Donny and Wallace sit at a table with other male classmates.

Female classmates walk over and hand out invitations to a party to all of them except Donny.

INT. SCHOOL - NIGHT

Students stand in line at the entrance to the gym.

They hand a teacher a ticket that reads: 6th Grade Dance in the Galaxy.

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - NIGHT

Upbeat music plays and there's outer space decorations. The room is darkened except for white lights dimly shining above the crowd set up to look like stars.

Some students dance while the rest stand on the outskirts.

Donny and Wallace stand by the wall. Wallace does a silly dance and Donny laughs.

A slow song starts to play. Tracey taps Donny's shoulder. He turns to see her and her boyfriend, MITCHELL (12).

TRACEY

Hey Donny, wanna dance?

DONNY

Is that okay?

MITCHELL

Of course, bud. It's just a dance.

DONNY

Alright.

TRACEY

Let's go!

Tracey leads Donny closer to the middle of the room where they start to dance.

The song ends and they step apart.

DONNY

Thank you.

TRACEY

Thanks Donny, you're always the best dancer.

They smile at each other for a moment, then Tracey walks away and Donny follows suit.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '76

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - NIGHT

Upbeat music plays and it's dark except for colourful lasers and lights.

Donny (16) grinds on a female classmate in a sea of students who participate in the school dance as well.

The song ends and they step apart.

DONNY

Thanks.

Tracey and Wallace walk up to Donny. Wallace has his arm around Tracey.

INT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

The building is filled with students from Donny's high school. Most with beer in their hands.

Donny tries to flirt with some girls. They all reject him, so Donny binge drinks.

EXT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

Donny and Wallace argue across the street from the house.

DONNY

I'm never gonna get a girl.

WALLACE

Sure you will.

DONNY

That's easy for you to say. The ladies are all over you. God! Why am I such a loser?

Donny turns his back to Wallace, holds his eyes, and tries to fight away tears.

Wallace walks over and hugs Donny's waist tight.

Donny squirms out of his grip and walks home.

Wallace stands there and sheds a tear.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Donny sits at a table with a hot coffee and his laptop in front of him. He types into his laptop.

He sees a girl, LAUREN DOE (16), tattoos of video game icons, African-Canadian, enter the cafe and stand in line.

Donny stands up quickly and heads for the line. He forgets his cup, rushes back to grab it, then back to the line.

He cuts in front of a couple.

DONNY

Sorry.

Lauren reaches the barista at the register.

BARISTA #2

What would you like?

LAUREN

I'll have a large iced coffee.

BARISTA #2

That'll be seven dollars.

BARISTA #1

Would you like a refill?

DONNY

Yes, please.

The barista grabs a pot of hot coffee and refills Donny's cup. Lauren notices.

BARISTA #1

That'll be three dollars, please.

Donny pays her and walks to the condiment station. Lauren quickly pays then walks over beside Donny.

LAUREN

What's that you're drinking?

DONNY

This? This is coffee.

LAUREN

But it's steaming!

DONNY

Believe it or not, this is the way people used to drink their coffee.

LAUREN

I want to believe. It's just so strange.

DONNY

(beat)

You've seen The X-Files?

LAUREN

It's only my favourite show.

DONNY

Would you like to join me at my table and we could talk more about the good old days?

LAUREN

Okay.

Donny leads Lauren to his table and they sit down.

DONNY

I see you enjoy old school video games too.

LAUREN

Yes! I guess my tattoos give it away.

DONNY

I like them too. What's your favourite video game?

LAUREN

I like Mario games.

DONNY

Yeah, Mario games are legendary. I like Samus the best.

Donny pretends his arm is a gun. Lauren nods.

DONNY (CONT'D)

My mother was named after a video game princess from the same era those games are from.

LAUREN

Peach?!

DONNY

No. Guess again.

Lauren takes a moment to think about it.

LAUREN

Zelda!

DONNY

Yup.

LAUREN
That's awesome, I love Zelda.

DONNY
I noticed when you walked in that
you have a Triforce tattoo.

Lauren looks over her body, spots it, and points to it on her
shoulder. It's three small triangles that form one triangle.

Two are black and the bottom-left is gold.

LAUREN
Yup. The Triforce of Wisdom.

DONNY
Check it out.

Donny uses his mouth and struggles to lift his sleeve to show
Lauren his Triforce tattoo on the back of his wrist.

Lauren laughs.

LAUREN
Is your left arm cold or something?

Donny considers it, then removes his baggy sweater he wears
to reveal his missing arm.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Whoa. What happened?

DONNY
You sure you wanna know?

Lauren nods.

DONNY (CONT'D)
Okay.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '65

EXT. FRANCIS' BOAT - DAY

Donny (5) runs around on his dad's fishing boat.

Francis (35) shovels chum into the water from a bucket.

Donny slips by the ledge and falls in the water.

Francis is about to jump in when he sees a shark's fin protrude from the water.

Francis runs to the supply closet.

Donny struggles to stay above water. He sinks slightly and sees the great white shark swim at him.

The shark bites off his left arm.

Donny's blood mixes with the water.

Francis shoots the shark with a harpoon gun as it thrashes around the water. It swims away.

Francis jumps in the water and climbs back on the boat with Donny in his arm.

Francis applies pressure to Donny's wound and tries to calm his son down.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Donny and Lauren are still seated. Lauren appears captivated.

DONNY

That's how it happened.

LAUREN

That's crazy! I didn't know Canada even had sharks.

DONNY

Yup. They usually migrate here from America.

LAUREN

That's interesting.

EXT. RESTAURANT PATIO - DAY

Donny, Wallace, and Tracey sit and eat at a table.

DONNY

She's unbelievable!

WALLACE

What is it about her that has you so loopy?

DONNY

Everything!

TRACEY

What does she like?

DONNY

Video games, mostly. Music and movies.

TRACEY

Old ones?

DONNY

She already knows most video games. I still need to introduce her to classic movies and music.

INT. BAR - DAY

Donny and Francis sit at a booth. Donny drinks a soda, and Francis, beer.

FRANCIS

I tell you, fishing just isn't the same. It used to be I could tell you where all the hotspots were. Now it seems more like a guessing game. I wonder what it is that has the fish acting so different? It's got to be--

DONNY

Dad, how many times do I have to tell you? I'm sick of hearing about fishing.

(beat)

You haven't taken me near the water since my accident.

Francis frowns then chugs the rest of his beer. He calls the waitress over and gets another.

FRANCIS

What should we talk about then?

DONNY

I met someone.

FRANCIS

That's great. What's her name?

DONNY

Lauren Doe.

FRANCIS
Is she nice?

DONNY
She reminds me of mom.

Francis stares forward blankly for a moment, then finishes his beer again.

Donny looks worried for his father.

FRANCIS
(beat)
I think you're ready to learn about the war.

DONNY
Really?!

FRANCIS
Yes.
(beat)
They called it the Laser War. I believed in the cause back then, now, I'm not so sure. We all had weapons that could cut over a hundred people in half in an instant, or it could blow them up into nothing. Millions of lives were taken. I know I took my fair share.

DONNY
Why were you fighting?

FRANCIS
Much of the world felt they were being treated unfairly.

DONNY
Who was fighting who?

FRANCIS
We aren't allowed to say.

DONNY
Why not?

FRANCIS
The victors put this rule in place. I'm afraid I've already said too much.

DONNY
I don't understand.

FRANCIS
That's probably for the best.

DONNY
I want to understand!

FRANCIS
Trust me, you don't.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - DAY

Donny and Lauren walk through the fair and chat.

LAUREN
I'm pretty sure I want to be a
video game designer. How about you?

DONNY
I don't know.

LAUREN
You never thought about it?!

DONNY
No. I have. It's just my dad
wouldn't approve.

LAUREN
I think you should just lay it on
him. Say: dad, this is what I want
to do and I'm not changing it for
anyone. I'm sure he'll accept your
choice eventually.

DONNY
Maybe I could.

Donny and Lauren ride on the fair rides.

They play a bunch of fair games and Donny wins Lauren a big
plush animal.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - NIGHT

Donny and Lauren are on the ferris wheel. Donny puts his arm
around Lauren's shoulder, she cuddles up with him.

INT. CONCERT HALL - NIGHT

Donny and Lauren dance together in the moshpit, listening to one of Lauren's favourite bands.

INT. PIZZA PARLOR - NIGHT

Donny and Lauren enjoy a slice together while they happily discuss the concert they were at.

EXT. UNDERGROUND THEATRE - DAY

Donny leads Lauren to the end of a long line up of people.

They reach the entrance and walk downstairs towards a curtain-covered doorway.

INT. UNDERGROUND THEATRE - DAY

Donny and Lauren sit in a crowded room on foldable chairs and watch a classic movie marathon.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Donny and Lauren enthusiastically pretend to be characters from the movies on the walk home.

EXT. PARK ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Curtis Ricotz (56) sits on the cement, hair unkempt and dressed in raggedy clothes.

He holds out a cup as Donny and Lauren walk by.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

Donny and Lauren walk along the path, hand in hand.

Donny stops and asks Lauren to be his girlfriend.

She happily accepts. They hug.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - DAY

Lauren and Tracey cheer and watch Donny and Wallace as they play one of their high school basketball games.

INT. LAUREN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lauren shows Donny her idea for a video game. Donny shows lots of interest.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

There's many people outside.

Donny and Lauren walk along the grass, holding hands. It's cold outside and it starts to snow.

Everyone stops to admire the sight of snowfall.

Donny and Lauren kiss.

INT. LAUREN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny picks up the phone and calls his dad.

No answer, so he leaves a message.

DONNY

Hey, Pop! I'm just calling to apologize. I'm going to stay at Lauren's until graduation and then go with her.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

The house is a mess.

Francis lays in a slump, drunk, with an almost empty liquor bottle in his hand.

Donny's voice plays on the answer machine.

DONNY (O.S.)

I'm sorry, I know I said I'd see you before. I'll see you at grad, though. Later, Pop!

INT. LAUREN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny and Lauren play video games and chat all day.

INT. LAUREN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Donny and Lauren kiss, then they lie down on Lauren's bed and start to remove their clothes.

It starts to storm outside.

EXT. FRANCIS' BOAT - NIGHT

Francis pilots his boat in a massive storm.

A giant wave forms in the distance.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY

Donny walks on stage to accept his school certificate. He pauses for pictures.

Donny notices the seat reserved for his dad is empty.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

There's a bus full of rowdy graduates.

Donny and Lauren argue on the front lawn.

DONNY

I just wanna check on my dad real quick. I'll meet you there.

LAUREN

No way! You know how much I've been looking forward to this!

DONNY

It'll just take me a few hours.

LAUREN

Well, if you go, then it's over between us.

Donny stares at her, mouth agape a moment. He gives up and gets on the bus.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - NIGHT

Donny, back from his graduation trip, bursts through the front door and checks the house.

DONNY

Dad? Dad?!

Donny finds a piece of paper and reads it. He starts to cry.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

It's a gray and rainy day.

Donny, Lauren, Tracey, and Wallace stand at Francis' gravesite, while two workers shovel dirt over his casket.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - DAY

The funeral director reads Francis' will out loud.

Donny sits and listens with a blank face.

EXT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Donny helps Lauren move her furniture into the building he now has ownership over.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Donny tries to convince Lauren to accompany him somewhere. She refuses.

INT. MORGUE - DAY

The mortician pulls back a sheet. Donny nods.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Lauren sits in front of her laptop. Donny stands close by.

Lauren tries, unsuccessfully, to get Donny to look at different school programs.

INT. FRANCIS' TRUCK - DAY

Donny and Lauren ride down the highway.

Francis' truck breaks down and smoke rises from its hood.

The vehicle slows to a stop at the side of the road.

EXT. CAR DEALERSHIP - DAY

Lauren and Donny stand with a salesperson and pick out a new vehicle to purchase. Donny looks miserable.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Donny types up resumes, Lauren hovers over his shoulder.

Lauren leaves for her job.

EXT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Donny discreetly throws his resumes in the garbage can beside the house.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Donny plays a video game, while Lauren reads.

Lauren shows Donny his bank account on her laptop. She looks at him disapprovingly.

Donny applies for disability cheques on his computer.

Donny sadly stares at his left arm.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - NIGHT

Lauren pops a drug in pill form in her mouth. She tries to get Donny to take one too. He refuses.

Lauren tries to have sex with Donny. He turns her down and exits the bedroom.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - DAY

Lauren approaches Donny with a pamphlet for a beach vacation in her hand. She shows him the brochure.

Donny reads it and shows a slight smile.

INT. TRACEY & WALLACE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Tracey and Lauren sit across from each other on couches.

TRACEY

I'm really looking forward to the new album from El Larko. Here, let me play you some of his stuff.

Tracey presses buttons on a remote and music turns on loud.

LAUREN

I don't really listen to this kind of music!

Tracey turns off the music.

TRACEY

(beat)

Do you wanna play a video game?

LAUREN

No, thanks.

TRACEY

Wanna watch a movie?

Lauren shakes her head, no.

TRACEY (CONT'D)

So, you said on the phone there's something you wanted to talk about?

LAUREN

I'm going to break up with Donny.

TRACEY

What?

LAUREN

He's become so distant.

TRACEY

That will pass. You should give him time, he lost the most important person in his world.

LAUREN

It's been two years! We barely even have sex anymore, and he's only just recently stopped crying afterwards.

TRACEY

Well, his dad did die while you two were doing it.

LAUREN

(beat)

He told you that? He's totally different now. You know what I mean?

INT. JEWELRY STORE - DAY

Donny looks along the display case, until he spots an item and points to it.

He purchases an expensive ring.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Donny drives down a long stretch of highway with Lauren seated next to him.

INT. DONNY'S CAR - DAY

Donny and Lauren wear their swimsuits.

There's a metal contraption helping Donny hold onto the steering wheel.

Lauren stares out her window.

EXT. DONNY'S CAR - DAY

The passenger side window reflects a rocket as it flies skyward. Lauren watches it.

INT. DONNY'S CAR - DAY

Donny turns his attention to Lauren.

DONNY

What are you looking at?

LAUREN

A rocket just launched.

DONNY

Oh.

LAUREN

Don't you wanna see?

DONNY

Not really. You've seen one rocket go into space, you've seen 'em all.

LAUREN

I wish I could be an astronaut.

DONNY

Really?

LAUREN

You don't think I could do it?

DONNY

No. It's just I had no idea you were that interested in space.

LAUREN

Well, yeah, I thought everyone dreamed of being an astronaut.

DONNY

Not Me. I never understood people's obsession with outer space.

LAUREN

How can you not be interested, especially with everything that's going on. Astronauts are the last hope for the human race.

DONNY

So they say.

LAUREN

(beat)

I was only kidding. Besides, I'll never be able to go to space. I'm not smart enough. It's too much work. You on the other hand...

DONNY

Don't say things like that. You're plenty smart. You read the newspaper too, every year they send more and more people to space. I'm not going to lie, it won't be easy, but if it's what you want to do you should do it.

LAUREN

I'd only go if you come with me.

DONNY

I doubt one-armed pilots will ever be in high demand. I would never be able to get past training.

LAUREN

When have you ever let your arm hold you back? You're the smartest person I know. You can do anything.

DONNY

This may be the one thing I can never do.

LAUREN

You said it yourself, every year the number of astronauts practically doubles. There are rumours that in ten years getting to fly a rocket will be easy as applying for a part-time job!

DONNY

Then it's settled. We'll travel the universe together.

LAUREN

Just the two of us.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

A four-wheel truck turns in front of Donny, it trails a large boat behind it.

INT. DONNY'S CAR - DAY

Donny tries to keep his composure.

DONNY

Let's pass this guy.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

An eighteen-wheeler draws closer to Donny's car and the four-wheel truck from the opposite direction.

The eighteen-wheeler is at a stop, with some of its back wheels broken.

The boat is upside down on the road with wreckage around it and the bottom portion in ruin.

Donny's car is upside down too, on the side of the road.

The driver of the four-wheel truck, CHRIS NESK, drives away from the scene of the accident unscathed.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Donny wakes up in the hospital. He looks around, then calls for a doctor.

A nurse enters and gives him the news. Donny cries.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Donny stands at Lauren's funeral with the rest of Lauren's family in attendance.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

The driver who fled the scene, Chris Nesk, sits on the stand, his lawyer, SIMON RELL, sits on the side of the defense.

Donny sits on the side of the prosecution, and his lawyer, RYLEY BOLET, paces the room.

CHRIS

The AC in my truck was broken. The heat was really getting to me. It was giving me bad thoughts. I think we all know what that's like.

RYLEY

That's true, sir. Although, what keeps us out of prison is having the self control not to follow through with those urges. When you would not let Donny and Lauren pass you in your vehicle and when you made it impossible for them to slow down and get back in the right lane, you were intentionally endangering their lives.

Donny now sits on the stand and Chris' lawyer questions him.

SIMON

Is it true you rammed the fishing boat that my client, Mr. Nesk, was trailing behind his vehicle that day?

DONNY

No, I-- I don't remember.

SIMON

Is it also true your father, Francis Sprat, was a fisherman, and he committed suicide by intentionally piloting his boat during an intense storm?

DONNY

What does that--

SIMON

When my client turned his vehicle in front of yours and you noticed the fishing boat he trailed behind him that day, you couldn't handle it. You couldn't stop thinking about the death of your father. You attempted to pass my client and when you could not accomplish this, you lost your temper. The trailer hitch didn't break on its own. You rammed the fishing boat, which forced it under the wheels of the passing transport truck. The force of the wheels lifted the boat into the air, it landed on your vehicle and this is what caused Lauren's death! It was you. I'd say you are just as responsible, if not more responsible, for her death than Mr. Nesk!

Donny jumps over the stand and lunges at the lawyer, the court guards run to Donny and hold him back.

DONNY

That's not true, you sick son of a bitch!

The judge re-enters the room, sits, bangs his gavel three times, then addresses the court.

Fear covers Chris' face, while Donny looks furious.

Chris is escorted out of the room in handcuffs.

Business people hand Donny a cheque with many zeroes on it. Donny angrily takes the cheque.

INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - NIGHT

Donny awakes from a nightmare, covered in sweat. He slowly gets out of bed.

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny moves into a tiny, fifth-floor, bachelor apartment. He fills it with some of his and Lauren's favourite things.

Wallace shows up and convinces Donny to leave his apartment.

The two friends return angry at each other and argue loudly.

Donny lies alone in his bed with the lights off and the curtains shut.

INT. DONNY'S CAR - NIGHT

Donny drives down the highway with Lauren by his side. She is shrouded in darkness.

LAUREN

Becoming an astronaut is your last
hope. I'll be there in space,
waiting for you. Don't be afraid.
You can accomplish anything. It
will be just the two of us.

Headlights from a passing vehicle lights up the car's interior very briefly.

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Donny wakes up.

He walks to the window and stares up at the sky.

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny pins a poster of the first African-Canadian astronaut on his wall.

He proceeds to work out and study extensive math and science books like he never has before.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '83

EXT. ASTRONAUT ACADEMY - DAY

Donny (23) arrives and stops to admire his surroundings.

He walks towards the main building's entrance.

INT. ACADEMY AUDITORIUM - DAY

The ACADEMY DIRECTOR stands on stage

Donny sits with hundreds of cadets and appears to be the only Black person in attendance.

ACADEMY DIRECTOR

Welcome to Astronaut Academy. The following six month program will be an intense crash course in astronaut training. Only the best of the best of you will be selected to become Canada's next astronaut.

INT. ACADEMY CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Donny raises his hand and answers correctly every question the instructor asks.

Donny is first to finish and hand in a very long test.

INT. ACADEMY GYMNASIUM - DAY

Donny is the first to finish an indoor obstacle course.

Donny and his classmates play zero gravity polo. Most players struggle to move, while Donny has the most control.

Donny awkwardly maneuvers his way to the goal with the ball in hand and scores a point.

INT. ACADEMY TARGET RANGE - DAY

Donny and his fellow cadets are taught to use Space-Grade laser guns. The guns emit a white color laser and has knobs that turn to change functions.

Donny struggles to handle his laser gun with one hand.

He places it on the ground, turns the knobs, picks it up and struggles to hold it comfortably.

Other students walk past and snicker at him.

INT. ACADEMY CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Donny stands in line to receive his schoolwork.

Donny approaches the desk of his instructor. On the desk are four tall piles of paper.

Donny flips through the top of the pile, then grabs from it a thick stack of paper, his after-school work.

INT. ACADEMY LIBRARY - NIGHT

Donny is stuck on a question from his after-school work. He stares at the paper for some time, he looks very tired.

Donny stabs at the piece of paper with his pencil.

The pencil snaps and slices Donny's hand. He winces loudly and tries not to get any blood on his papers.

Donny holds his hand tight against his shirt. He notices peaceful music playing faintly from a COMMERCIAL on one of the TVs mounted on a wall.

Donny gets up and walks towards the TV. He watches and listens closely.

Nature footage plays on-screen while a voice-over speaks, barely audible, accompanied with subtitles.

COMMERCIAL

Lost someone important to you?
Don't want to feel that pain
anymore? Then why not try a Chewie?

A pill bottle with the word "Chewies" on the label flashes on screen for a few seconds. Then back to nature.

COMMERCIAL (CONT'D)

Not only does it numb you from
feelings of depression, anger,
loss, sorrow, sadness, dejection
despair, grief, and heartache. It
also makes you laser focused, in
order to help you get whatever job
done.

INT. PHARMACY - NIGHT

Donny purchases a bottle of Chewies from the pharmacist.

EXT. PHARMACY - NIGHT

Donny exits the store and reads the bottle. It states boldly its contents will help him: "Relieve Heartache, Gain Focus".

He opens his pill bottle, pops one in his mouth and chews.

EXT. ASTRONAUT ACADEMY - DAY

An academy classmate sits inside a G-Force simulation pod, that rides a rail arching over the academy building.

The student exits the pod very sweaty and woozy.

Donny rides in it next. He exits sweaty and with confidence.

INT. ACADEMY DORM - NIGHT

Donny makes a cardboard replica of a laser gun and practices how he will handle it in class.

He tucks it under his left armpit, pretends to tune the dials, then quickly puts his hand around the grip, and holds it out to aim.

INT. ACADEMY TARGET RANGE - DAY

Donny has the best control of his laser gun. He welds metal together and shoots targets from a very far distance, hardly missing any.

INT. ACADEMY AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Donny graduates top of his class. He walks on stage and shakes the Academy Director's hand.

The director pins a gold emblem onto his uniform.

INT. ACADEMY OFFICE - DAY

Donny stands and presents the end to his thesis in front of a large blackboard to the ACADEMY RECRUITER, who sits.

DONNY

So, as you can see from my presented data, I've worked out all simulations and from my findings I learned that this string of planets located in the galaxy known as Goyan S-P have the highest chance ever recorded of being habitable to Earthlings. The only problem, their distance from Earth. As you know, I've logged the most amount of hours within the Iso-Stimulator than any other cadet to ever attend the academy, and after each session I would always receive a flawless mental evaluation. I firmly believe searching out these newly discovered planets will have to be a solo mission, and I am the only astronaut capable of performing the mission. We can assume no other astronaut would be willing to travel such an extreme distance, with these planets still only being theoretical. Also, no other candidate could spend the amount of time in empty space it would take to reach the galaxy without suffering a mental break. It is clear to me this mission is Earth's best chance for survival and I am the best, and only, choice for completing it.

The recruiter smiles.

ACADEMY RECRUITER

Thank you very much. We'll contact you in six months with our decision.

Donny nods, then exits with a smile.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '84

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Donny waits in a chair in the middle of the room, shirtless with a pair of loose shorts on.

He's in the best shape, physically, of his life.

The AC hums.

Donny stares at a fax machine across the room. A bead of sweat rolls down his forehead.

The machine beeps. Donny stands quickly and walks to it.

A fax slowly prints and drops into a compartment.

Donny picks it up and reads it.

He crumples the letter in his fist, then yells while he smashes what little he has in his tiny apartment. He spares Lauren's things and the AC.

Donny's neighbours yell and bang on the walls, floor, and ceiling to get him to be quiet.

Donny runs out of stuff to break, then pops a Chewie.

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny now sits on the floor with his back against the wall.

Wallace knocks on the door.

WALLACE (O.S.)

Donny? You in there? Look, the C.S.A. obviously don't know you like I do. I know you'd make an amazing astronaut. The best there is. You worked for it like crazy, you deserve it. Think about it, though. Maybe this isn't such a bad thing. Space must get pretty lonely, and, I would miss you.

Donny doesn't move or respond. Wallace gives up and leaves.

Donny pops another Chewie.

INT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY HQ - DAY

Donny checks a map and locates where to go.

INT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY OFFICE - DAY

Donny knocks on the door to the office of BILL GREENE.

BILL

Come in.

Donny enters.

DONNY

Hello, sir. My name's Donny Sprat.

BILL

Please, call me Bill. What can I do for you, Donny?

DONNY

Well, Bill, recently I attended Astronaut Academy. I graduated top of my class. I consistently received perfect to near perfect grades. I was deemed the fittest cadet at the academy. I presented my thesis on why I should pilot a solo mission, which I believe went extremely well. Still, I was denied. I need you to reconsider.

BILL

(beat)

I'm sorry to be the one to have to tell you this, Donny. You would need the use of both arms in order to perform solo missions.

DONNY

(beat)

What if I get a new arm?

BILL

Arms are extremely expensive. Are you positive you can afford one?

DONNY

I'll find a way.

BILL

Well, you better hurry. Solo missions have been discontinued.

DONNY

What?

BILL

Yes, I'm afraid so. They haven't been as successful as we'd hoped. There will only be three more solo rockets left that will be prepped for flight, then no more solo missions.

We'll be selecting those three solo pilots at the start of next year.

DONNY

Listen. The love of my life died recently and the last thing we talked about was the two of us going to space together. Please, I need to fly in one of those solo missions. I have to do this for her.

BILL

I'm sorry. I can't help you.

EXT. ELECTRONICS SHOP - DAY

Donny walks out of the shop with Wallace. Donny carries a small fan in its package under his arm.

Wallace carries a small TV and an old school media console.

Hardly any home-dwellers walk the streets, sweat covers the ones who do.

Almost naked, very tan homeless people now litter the streets, most with missing limbs.

Some futuristic cars drive through the street.

Boards cover most stores.

EXT. RESTAURANT PATIO - DAY

Donny and Wallace sit and eat lunch. All other customers are inside where it's cold.

Donny winces loudly and grabs his chest.

WALLACE

What's all that about?

DONNY

It's nothing.

Donny pops a Chewie.

WALLACE

Why do you take those things?

DONNY

I need them.

WALLACE

No you don't.

DONNY

These are legal. I'm not the only one using them, and it's not like they're bad for me. Why do you care?

WALLACE

They could be dangerous. Do you even know what they put in them? Not to mention they're expensive as shit!

DONNY

Yeah, well, you don't need to worry about me. I'm fine.

WALLACE

You're not fine. These things fuck with your head, and you're not the same when you're on them.

DONNY

You think these are what changed me?

WALLACE

You got to let her go, bro.

DONNY

You're asking me to do something I can't do. I won't stop taking these until I reach my goal. They numb the pain and make me focused like never before. They'll help me get what I want.

WALLACE

What if you don't know what you really want?

EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY

Donny floats below the sea in his clothes. He sees a mermaid in the distance, her fin is green but the sun makes it look all kinds of colors.

Donny swims towards her.

The mermaid is Lauren. They hug and Donny now has fins too.

Donny and Lauren swim together and explore the colourful body of water.

Lauren swims further ahead.

Donny tries to follow but he can barely move.

It goes dark.

The water environment disappears behind Lauren in a split second and leaves behind empty space and stars.

EXT. OUTER SPACE

When all the water recedes, Lauren transforms into some kind of red figure.

Donny's legs are back but he still can barely move. He moves towards the red figure.

He gets close enough to examine it. It resembles a mannequin with red, velvety fabric wound tight around it. One of its hands reaches out and the face resembles Lauren's.

Donny slides his fingers under a lace of fabric at the side of the face and pulls it away slowly.

There's nothing underneath. The fabric unravels and quickly drifts away.

Donny opens his mouth to scream but no sound comes out.

The stars start to burn out behind him.

Blackness surrounds him, then a giant pair of serrated teeth close around him and the mouth of a giant great white shark, over a hundred times larger than Donny, swallows him.

The creature moves as though underwater and swims away deeper into space.

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Donny wakes up with a start. His breath is heavy and sweat covers him and his bed.

DONNY
What the fuck?

The TV is still on and Donny turns to watch. He catches the end of a commercial.

A SPOKESPERSON advertises an artificial limb device, the Arti-Limb, that uses the same fabric from Donny's dream to replicate missing limbs.

DONNY (CONT'D)
What the fuck?!

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: 2 HOURS EARLIER

INT. DR. WARDER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

DR. SAM WARDER (44), bald, bushy beard, sleeps in his bed. The phone rings and wakes him.

He answers it on the fourth ring.

DR. WARDER
Do you have any idea what time it is? How the hell did you get this number?

An UNKNOWN MAN speaks on the other line.

UNKNOWN MAN
Dr. Warder, I have information you might find interesting.

DR. WARDER
This better be important. Who is this?

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '45

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - DAY

Sam Warder (5) cries as his dad says goodbye to him and his mother. His dad wears very bright-green military attire.

Sam's father picks up his duffel bag and exits the home.

EXT. SAM'S HOUSE - DAY

A black vehicle pulls up and parks across from the house.

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - DAY

Sam's mom sobs loudly on the floor. Sam walks over and tries his best to comfort her.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '52

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sam (12) watches as the Laser War veterans return home now that the war is over, most missing limbs.

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - DAY

Sam's bedroom is cluttered with books, some in tall piles, others scattered on the floor open at a certain page.

Sam sits at his desk, and draws a design for his invention, an artificial limb device.

He is unhappy with the first design, so he crumples and tosses the paper.

He reaches for then draws on a new piece.

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sam is pleased with the design, and retrieves a large sheet of blue paper.

He begins work on blueprints for the device. He writes the name of the invention at the top: The Arti-Limb.

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - DAY

The Arti-Limb prototype is complete. Sam stands over it and admires his handiwork.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '57

INT. BUSINESS ROOM - DAY

Sam (17) is in a meeting with many business people. One BUSINESS PERSON speaks, then another takes over.

BUSINESS PERSON #1

We gotta tell you Sam, we love the Arti-Limb! We want to start shipping it to stores immediately. There's just one concern, and that's the cost.

SAM

The Arti-Limb is extremely inexpensive to manufacture.

BUSINESS PERSON #2

The concern is for the price point you've set.

SAM

I want anybody in need to be able to afford a working limb.

BUSINESS PERSON #3

This is the price we would like to see this product selling for.

They slide a piece of paper down the table to Sam. He turns it over and reads it.

SAM

I'm sorry, there's just no way-- Besides, we haven't even done any trial-runs on the Arti-Limb. There could be issues we overlooked.

BUSINESS PERSON #2

We're well aware the Arti-Limb hasn't been fully tested. We don't have the time to wait around for the completion of that process. We must start thinking about profits immediately.

BUSINESS PERSON #3

We're ready to offer you this amount.

A business person taps on a different piece of paper.

BUSINESS PERSON #3 (CONT'D)

If you are willing to adjust the price.

They hand him the piece of paper. He turns it over and reads. His eyes widen.

EXT. DR. WARDER'S MANSION - DAY

Workers move Dr. Warder's many things into his new home.

INT. ARTI-LIMB STORE - DAY

A one-legged office worker, JIM O'KELLY, buys an Arti-Limb.

A store employee explains to him how it works.

INT. JIM'S OFFICE - DAY

Jim wears his work clothes and name tag and types on his computer in his cubicle.

He moves his new leg under his desk.

Jim is much paler than usual and starts to doze off.

A needle from inside the Arti-Limb draws more blood from Jim's vein.

JIM

Ouch.

Jim searches the internet for ways to modify his Arti-Limb.

He finds someone who can help.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Jim meets with an anonymous who fiddles with his Arti-Limb, gives him a briefcase of supplies, then departs.

INT. JIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jim opens the briefcase and uses the supplies to draw his blood himself into a bag.

INT. JIM'S OFFICE - DAY

Jim's supervisor hassles him soon as he walks in and hands Jim lots of work to do.

Jim sits at his cubicle. His Arti-Limb powers down and the fabric unravels back into the device.

Jim takes out his blood bag and a funnel with a hose.

He puts the end of the hose into the device and begins to slowly pour blood into the funnel.

A CO-WORKER interrupts.

CO-WORKER

Hey Jim! Did you get that thing I sent you? What are you doing?

Jim is startled. He squeezes the bag, the nozzle comes off, and he spills too much blood into the funnel.

The red fabric from the Arti-Limb forms his missing leg, but also wraps around his waist.

The Arti-Limb needle pops into his vein yet again.

JIM

Ouch.

The needle draws lots of blood really fast.

Jim yells in pain.

The red fabric quickly wraps around Jim's other leg.

Jim gives his co-worker a death stare.

Jim stands up super fast, and kicks his co-worker's head so hard that it explodes.

Fear now covers Jim's face as he no longer has control over his legs.

Jim rapidly goes about the room, while his red legs gruesomely massacre the workers who are unable to escape.

Bodies and blood are strewn all over the office.

Jim looks very weak and pale, and his legs pace back and forth around the office.

The Arti-Limb draws more of Jim's blood. His legs gradually stop moving.

Jim has control of his legs again. The red fabric begins to wrap around his stomach.

Jim searches the office.

He finds a pocket knife in a co-worker's cubicle.

Jim contemplates, then slits his throat with it. He dies.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: '65

INT. BUSINESS ROOM - DAY

Sam (25) strictly goes by DR. WARDER now. He sits across from a dozen business people.

One business person leans forward.

BUSINESS PERSON #4
We've discontinued the Arti-Limb,
Dr. Warder.

DR. WARDER
You can't do that!

BUSINESS PERSON #5
It's already done.

Dr. Warder slams his fists on the table and stands angrily.

DR. WARDER
You wretched scum! How will I
live?!

BUSINESS PERSON #4
That is no longer our concern.

INT. DR. WARDER'S MANSION - DAY

Dr. Warder's servants continue to wait on him daily.

A doctor examines Dr. Warder, and gives him a handful of medicines regularly.

Dr. Warder inspects himself in the mirror and decides his hair is quite long.

Dr. Warder puts on a white filtration mask before he exits his mansion.

INT. DR. WARDER'S LIMO - DAY

Dr. Warder rides in the back, now without his mask.

There are vents in the limo that ventilate something which puts Dr. Warder at ease.

INT. SPA - DAY

Dr. Warder walks to the counter and hands the receptionist a bank card.

The receptionist types in her computer, she loses her smile.

She turns the computer screen to show Dr. Warder his bank account is in the red. His eyes widen.

EXT. SPA - DAY

Dr. Warder informs his limo driver of his situation through the passenger side window. The driver speeds off.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Dr. Warder slowly walks down the side of the highway, far from passing vehicles.

He reaches a bus stop and waits.

INT. BUS - DAY

Dr. Warder frantically pleads his case to the driver, who rolls his eyes and lets Dr. Warder on the bus.

Dr. Warder sits down close to the front entrance, with a look of disgust in his eyes.

EXT. DR. WARDER'S MANSION - DAY

Dr. Warder stands outside his home, while his things are taken away. His hair is much thinner now.

EXT. DR. WARDER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The phone rings four times from inside Dr. Warder's bedroom.

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Donny waits for the Arti-Limb commercial to come on again. It does and he writes down as much info as he can.

The product spokesperson appears on-screen, excited.

SPOKESPERSON

Want a new limb and can't spend robotics money? Well then, pick up the Arti-Limb! It's only this much money!

The price flashes on screen then spins away, almost too quickly to read.

SPOKESPERSON (CONT'D)

That's the price of a car! Someone needs saving?

An old man is trapped in his vehicle. He knocks on the back window and waves frantically.

Someone with an Arti-Limb arm walks over and tears the back door off. The old man gets out and shakes his hand.

SPOKESPERSON (CONT'D)

The Arti-Limb is here to help. It's one hundred percent indestructible!

A blowtorch torches an Arti-Limb and leaves no damage.

SPOKESPERSON (CONT'D)

Just put it on, and it works automatically.

A deformed arm with an Arti-Limb device on pops on-screen.

Red, velvety fabric shoots out of the device and quickly wraps around nothing to form the rest of the arm.

SPOKESPERSON (CONT'D)

So, would you rather have this boring deathtrap?

A picture of a car spins on, then off screen.

SPOKESPERSON (CONT'D)

Or, do you want an exciting, new Arti-Limb?!

The spokesperson waves his hands in the air, while confetti falls from the roof.

Donny looks away from the screen and down at his notepad. He sees the price of the device.

He stares at his handwriting, enraged for some time, then he looks down in defeat.

Donny walks over to the window and looks up at the sky.

He hears the noise of glass smashing from inside a closed shop across the street.

Two robbers, BLADE and REV, quickly exit the building, each holding a bag full of loot.

Donny reaches into his pocket and takes out his bottle of Chewies. He pops one in his mouth and chews, before he runs out his apartment.

EXT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Donny rushes out the building and down the sidewalk, in search of the two robbers.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Donny slows down to peer down the nearest intersection, he spots them in the distance.

Donny turns onto the street and resumes running full tilt.

Donny quickly catches up to the crooks.

Rev turns his head when he hears Donny's footsteps.

REV

What the--

Rev taps Blade's shoulder.

REV (CONT'D)

There's a shirtless man chasing us, Blade.

BLADE

I think we got ourselves a concerned citizen.

Blade and Rev both slow to a stop and turn around. Donny also stops running.

REV

Concerned about whether or not there's a bounty on us, maybe. Why you following us?

DONNY

I need both your help making money within a limited timeframe. We're going to rob six banks in six weeks.

I can pay each of you ten thousand dollars now and you can have the majority of our earnings.

REV
Why so generous?

DONNY
That's my business.

BLADE
Rev?

REV
I don't know. This person seems crazy to me.

BLADE
We'll be fine. Twenty grand goes a long way, remember?

REV
(beat)
Okay, let's do it. Tell us your masterplan.

DONNY
It's simple really. All we need are old clothes, an old car, masks, and a bag of dirt.

REV
Don't forget about guns.

BLADE
You can cross clothes and masks off the list. We got those covered.

EXT. STORAGE UNIT - NIGHT

Blade unlocks his unit, with Rev and Donny beside him. A large bag of dirt rests at Donny's feet.

Blade lifts the sliding door and overhead lights flicker on, revealing long racks of decades-old clothes, and numerous sealed boxes.

INT. STORAGE UNIT - NIGHT

Donny sits on the floor and cuts holes into clothes from a large pile he made.

Donny then tosses the torn-up clothes over to Blade, who smears dirt on them.

Rev searches through boxes, until he finds a few of them labelled: Halloween.

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

Blade, Donny, and Rev walk up to the front door wearing the altered clothes and Halloween masks.

Blade knocks on the door. A FARMER answers, and loses his smile when he sees them.

FARMER

You boys weren't lying when you
said you had cash?

Blade pulls a wad of money out of his pocket and hands it to the farmer, who puts it in his pocket.

The farmer reaches into his other pocket, takes out a pair of keys, and hands them to Blade.

FARMER (CONT'D)

You'll find what you're looking for
out back.

Blade, Rev, and Donny walk around the house to the backyard.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Donny, Blade, and Rev pull up in a rusty, old car, in their tarnished clothes.

They park, then put on their masks.

Blade wears an almost realistic wolf mask with fake fur.

Rev, a mask with an almost blank white face on it.

Donny, a circular, yellow smile face mask.

They get out and go to the trunk. Blade opens it and lifts a blanket to reveal three guns.

One very old pistol and two war-era laser guns.

DONNY

What are those?

BLADE
Don't play stupid.

DONNY
Those aren't part of the plan.

BLADE
If you want us to help you, we need
some insurance we don't all get
killed or captured.

Donny picks up one of the laser guns and examines it.

DONNY
You two know how to use these?

BLADE
Of course!

DONNY
Show me.

Donny shoves the laser gun at Blade. He tears it from him.

BLADE
Listen man! There's only two
reasons I've used one of these bad
boys. One is to rob banks, and the
other was to help bring your sorry
ass onto this God forsaken world!
Trust me, I know how to use one of
these.

Donny looks over at Rev, who just stares back.

DONNY
You'd better.

Donny picks up the pistol.

They tuck their weapons under their coats.

BLADE
This is going to be fun. I haven't
robbed a bank in years.

They take about a four block stroll to the bank.

INT. BANK - DAY

Donny, Blade, and Rev enter the bank.

The BANK GUARD notices and walks up to Blade. The bank's keys jangle on his belt.

BANK GUARD

Excuse me. Gentlemen? You can't be in here. I'm going to have to ask you all to go back outside.

The guard places his hand on his gun on his belt.

Blade busts out his laser gun from underneath his outer layer and shoves it in the guard's face.

BLADE

Did you just tell me where I can and cannot go?!

BANK GUARD

No! I mean yes! I mean you can go where ever you want!

BLADE

In that case I'll be going to the vault. Move it!

Blade grabs the guard's gun, puts it in his coat pocket, and walks the guard to the vault.

Rev calmly walks around and points his laser gun at the customers and employees.

Donny stands there, nervously.

EXT. BANK - DAY

Donny, Blade, and Rev burst out of the bank, each with a large bag of loot.

Blade and Rev run one way, and Donny the other.

Donny reaches an alleyway and enters it.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Donny quickly removes his outer layers of clothes and tosses them in the loot bag. He removes his mask and tucks it in the bag too then zips it up.

Donny now looks like a housed citizen again.

Donny tucks his pistol in his waistband then exits the alley.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Blade and Rev pull up outside the alleyway, Donny enters the backseat. They drive away.

INT. UNDERGROUND RECORD STORE - DAY

Donny checks a bunch of CDs outside of their original cases. He locates and purchases a "The Neighsayer" CD.

INT. BLADE & REV'S CAR - DAY

Blade drives with Donny beside him and Rev in the backseat.

Donny puts the CD in the car's player.

A song starts.

BEGIN MONTAGE

- Mid-way through the second robbery, Donny walks around the bank with Rev, and points his gun at people too.

- Blade pours a bunch of diamonds and jewels from a vault into duffel bags.

- Blade and the guard exit a vault with the bags of loot. Blade tells the guard to drop his bags, he does, then Donny and Rev pick them up. The criminals back up towards the exit.

- That night, Blade and Rev exchange the loot for cash from someone in an alleyway.

- Wallace calls Donny's cellphone while he lays low in his apartment. Donny doesn't answer.

- News footage of the robberies play on TV. A bank's camera zooms in on Blade, Rev, and Donny.

- An officer cruiser slowly drives by Donny, Blade, and Rev when they have their disguises on, on their way to a bank. They all make eye contact.

- Donny, Blade, and Rev run out of another bank each carrying a full bag of valuables. Donny fires his pistol into the air as he runs away.

- Donny lies on his bed looking up at the ceiling. He winces loudly and clutches his chest. He goes to take another Chewie, except he's all out.

- Donny approaches the pharmacy counter and places his order. The pharmacist shows him the pill bottle and tries to tell him about a new listed side effect.

- Donny doesn't pay any attention to him, buys the Chewies, and quickly takes one.

END MONTAGE

INT. DONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

There's three knocks from outside the door.

Donny quickly answers.

There stands Blade and Rev, for their fourth bank robbery.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Donny, Blade, and Rev exit an alley in their costumes, and walk up a large incline on their way to the bank.

INT. BANK - DAY

Blade exits the vault with the guard and the bags. Donny and Rev wait by the front doors.

The voice of an OFFICER booms into the building from a megaphone outside.

OFFICER #1 (O.S.)
We have the building surrounded!
Drop your weapons, exit the front
of the building, and surrender with
your hands up!

This distracts Blade.

The bank guard quickly drops the bags and knocks the laser gun out of Blade's hands.

The guard shoves his hand in Blade's face, while he reaches into the coat pocket and pulls out his pistol.

Blade pushes the guard down and runs behind a marble pillar.

Rev points his laser gun at the guard.

REV
Drop it!

The guard gets up quick and fires a bullet at Rev.

He misses, barely. Rev smirks.

Rev retaliates and shoots the guard with a gold-colour laser that leaves a hole in his stomach, and also through the back of the bank, and the walls of many other buildings.

The guard's blood and guts spill out and he drops to his knees, then the floor, dead.

A WOMAN screams behind him.

The woman drops a hand on the floor, which came from her young son. His arm is gone from the laser.

The BOY is in too much shock from the sight of the guard to notice, but he looks up at his mom after she screams.

BOY

Mom? What's wrong?

The boy is about to look at his missing arm. His mother quickly hugs him and hides his eyes.

WOMAN

Don't look! Don't look.

Blood begins to pool around them.

Donny rushes over to them and is about to tear off a piece of his clothes, then he runs over to one of the hostages and rips off his shirt instead.

BOY

Why can't I feel my arm?

Donny tries to wrap the wound.

WOMAN

Get away from him you monster!

DONNY

We've gotta put pressure on it.

The woman nods in agreement and Donny tightly wraps the shirt around the wound.

Donny escorts the woman and her boy to the front doors.

EXT. BANK - NIGHT

The woman and her son exit the bank and the officers outside detain them.

INT. BANK - NIGHT

Donny walks over to Rev, who holds out his laser gun and stands dumbstruck.

REV

It was an accident.

Donny tunes the dials on the laser gun Rev holds.

Donny takes the gun from him and shoots off Rev's leg. The laser cauterizes the cut this time.

Rev screams and falls to the floor.

Blade runs over to stop Donny.

BLADE

What are you doing?!

Donny pushes him away.

REV

You fucker--

Donny shoots off Rev's other leg. Rev screams some more.

Blade points his laser gun at Donny.

BLADE

I should kill you right now, you son of a bitch.

DONNY

He deserves worse.

BLADE

You're crazy.

DONNY

Pick up his legs and put them in the corner.

BLADE

What?

DONNY

We can't leave behind any traces of our DNA. I'm going to get rid of them.

Blade thinks a moment, then lowers his gun, picks up the legs, and places them in the corner.

Donny turns the dials on the laser gun, he points it at the legs and shoots.

A long gold laser forms from the laser gun, hits the legs, and there's a small red explosion.

EXT. BANK - NIGHT

The officers out front watch as the red glow shines through the bank's glass windows and door.

INT. BANK - NIGHT

The room still glows red.

Donny's clothes flutter slightly and him and the rest of the people in the bank shield their eyes.

The legs blow up into nothing and there are scorch marks left in the corner.

INT. BANK - DAY

Donny sits on the ground, his back against the wall. Pistol in his hand and laser gun at his side.

Blade walks over to him.

BLADE

Most of the officers are gone.
Something big must be happening.
Making a break for it now would be our best bet.

Donny gets up and he and Blade walk over to the bank till.

Donny and Blade remove a plate of bullet-proof glass from the bank's counter.

Donny and Blade walk towards the front windows and aim the laser guns at the closest police vehicles.

EXT. BANK - DAY

Two gold lasers form and shoot through the large glass windows. They make contact with two cruisers. The cars are enveloped in red explosions that evaporate them into nothing.

The officers all scatter to a safer distance.

The next laser shots shatter the glass windows and blow up five more cruisers.

The vehicles are gone.

The officers return to their posts and ready their pistols.

Another laser explosion disintegrates the front doors of the bank. The officers shield their eyes.

Donny, Blade, and Rev burst out of the building. They ride on a bank cart down the front steps.

The bullet-proof glass has been welded onto the front and back of the cart as shields. Rev lies on top of the cart, while Donny and Blade hang onto each side.

The officers fire their guns at them, but they either miss or hit the glass.

Once they hit the ground, Donny and Blade hop off, spin the cart around, and run with the cart to the edge of the hill. Officers chase after and fire at them.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Donny and Blade hop back on the cart and ride it down the hill. The officers stop and watch.

One lifts his walkie to his face.

OFFICER #2
Send backup.

The three robbers jump off the cart when they're outside the alley their car rests in.

Donny and Blade get up, Blade picks up Rev.

They run into the alley, into the car, then peel off back onto the street.

BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: 12 WEEKS AGO

EXT. STREET - DAY

The one-armed homeless man, Curtis Ricotz (63), talks to the voices he has in his head while he walks.

CURTIS

Probably the usual. I know I said that, it's been a slow week. You're being paranoid. I'm not worried. I'm not. Thank you! Why can't you all be that positive?

EXT. STREET - DAY

Curtis approaches a run-down building and enters it.

INT. COMMUNITY KITCHEN - DAY

Activists hand out soup and bread and sunscreen lotion to a long line of homeless people.

Curtis sits at a table and eats some soup in a bowl.

Footsteps can be heard as they go up stairs.

Officers break down the door. They swarm and arrest all of the activists and homeless.

An officer interrogates Curtis, who stares forward blankly.

INT. CURTIS' CELL - DAY

Curtis sits inside his tiny, soundproof confinement.

CURTIS

He's not going to do it this time. We aren't going to let him this time. That's right! We almost beat him last time. What the fuck are you talking about?! I've never given up without a fight!

A bell rings and Curtis' cell door slides open. A large, muscular man stands at the entry-way.

Curtis stands up quickly, and readies his fists for a fight.

INT. PRISON BLOCK - DAY

The large man enters Curtis' cell and the door slides shut.

Another cell door opens and another large man exits. Blood covers him head to toe, and he holds a wound at his side.

On his way out, the large man walks past a prison guard who reads a newspaper inside his booth.

The large, bloodied man passes a doctor in white scrubs. Next to him, a cart full of needles and syringes containing a gold-colour liquid.

The doctor injects the gold liquid into the biceps of more large men, before they enter the prison block.

There's a very long line of muscular males waiting to enter the block, with no end in sight.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Curtis walks down the sidewalk.

EXT. ELECTRONICS SHOP - DAY

Curtis stops when he notices the NEWS REPORT that plays on one of the TVs on display.

He watches footage of Donny's bank robberies.

NEWS REPORT

The bandits call themselves The Homeless Crusaders and during their latest robbery they declared that they quote: will take no more. It is due time for the homeless to be given some respect. Now we're taking it. End quote.

Curtis looks down away from the TV, his face contorts.

NEWS REPORT (O.S.) (CONT'D)

The string of bank robberies began almost three weeks ago and officers are baffled, since the culprits wear masks to conceal their faces. Only, these masks are much different from the ones people are used to seeing--

Curtis stomps away, furious.

INT. COMMUNITY SHELTER - NIGHT

Curtis stands and delivers a speech to dozens of other homeless people.

There's also a group of activists and a group of insurgents who look like activists in attendance.

CURTIS

Two months ago, I risked visiting a community kitchen. It was raided by officers, of course. My sisters and brothers and I were arrested and thrown in prison. We were all of us abused. Some disappeared completely!

An ACTIVIST steps to Curtis.

ACTIVIST

May I? We sympathize with you, truly we do. We lose friends because of the system, the same as you. We risk our lives to help! I say this because I care about you people: Please, don't do anything drastic!

CURTIS

Do not speak for us, unless you walk our path!

The activist looks away and backs down.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

We try to uncover what happens to us. Perhaps, it is already common knowledge. Media, our own neighbours, our own government! They do not care about us!

(beat)

Today, I was released from prison, and what was one of the first things I see after I got out? I'm sure most of you are aware of these so called Homeless Crusaders. I tell you, the instant I saw them I knew those people aren't actually homeless! They pretend to be us, so they can get away with their crimes, and so this city's homeless will be left to inherit all the blame! I propose we band together, protect one another!

If any officer, if any person tries
to abuse one of us, we stop them!

Many of the homeless people cheer Curtis on, while the
activists express worry to each other.

An INSURGENT approaches Curtis.

INSURGENT

My team and I have been planning
something similar to what you speak
of in your vision. We feel we have
a lot to offer your cause. Please,
hear us out.

INT. STADIUM - DAY

Curtis stands on a make-shift stage inside a dingy, run-down
sports stadium.

This time there are hundreds of homeless in the audience.

There are flood-lights set up around the complex, and the
sky-dome is half-open, shining light onto the stage.

Curtis' crew of insurgents sit to his left, and the activists
on the right.

CURTIS

Our newly accepted comrades have a
plan, seven years in the making.
They will equip us so we have a
means to defend ourselves, and the
best part is we are not alone! At
this moment, thousands of homeless
people in cities all over Canada
are preparing for the same exact
task that we are!

Among the cheers, an activist hurries to where Curtis stands.

He snatches the microphone from Curtis' hand.

ACTIVIST

I'm through listening to this! I
cannot believe any of you are
listening to this man! He's in a
very dark state of mind, and what
he's proposing is going to get all
of you killed! Violence only leads
to more violence.

Those of you who still stand for
peace and righteousness, join us!
Or, follow this lunatic to your
deaths.

The activists lead some of the homeless out of the stadium.

Once at the building's exit, the lead activist turns around,
much to his disappointment.

Hundreds of homeless people remain in the stadium.

CURTIS

I am happy you all decided it is
time we no longer live in fear. Our
dream is unreachable without the
strength of sisters and brothers
who will stand by each other's
sides and keep one another safe,
always!

More cheers ring out from the hundreds of homeless people.

INT. STADIUM - NIGHT

The insurgents use crowbars to open large crates.

Inside are old, very heavy robotic limbs.

Curtis watches two insurgents lift a robotic limb and
struggle to carry it onto a table.

CURTIS

Is this a joke? These look ancient.

INSURGENT

Don't let the appearance fool you.
True, these are very old models.
They are also the most efficient
robotic limbs ever created. These
were taken off the market for
having nothing wrong with them.

An insurgent attaches the limb onto Curtis.

He cannot move it.

CURTIS

How the hell does it work?

The insurgent places a small computer chip on Curtis' temple.
A blue light lights up on it.

Curtis can move the robotic limb.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
Very good. Now show me the guns.

The insurgents open the crates holding the firearms.

Curtis quickly notices a small, metal, half-circle device on top of all the gun barrels.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
I've never seen those things on guns before. What are they?

INSURGENT
They increase stopping power immensely. The difference is uncanny. See for yourself.

Curtis is handed a pistol without one of the half-circle devices attached.

He aims and shoots three bullets into a concrete wall, leaving small holes.

INSURGENT (CONT'D)
Now try one with upgraded tech.

The lead insurgent hands Curtis the same type of pistol, except with the device attached to its barrel and loaded with armour-piercing rounds.

Curtis shoots the wall again, and this time the bullets leave much bigger holes and cause large chunks of concrete to crumble away.

Curtis stares approvingly at the pistol in his hand.

One HOMELESS PERSON takes a seat at the table where the insurgents fit the robotic limbs.

Two insurgents lift a robotic arm onto the table and it lands with a crash.

The homeless person looks fearful.

The insurgents attach the arm. The homeless person tries to move but cannot. He panics.

HOMELESS PERSON
I can't move! I can't move!

An insurgent places a computer chip on his temple, the blue light turns on and the homeless person can now move his robotic arm freely.

He looks down at his new arm and smiles, then he curls his fingers into a fist.

There's a seemingly never-ending line up of homeless people waiting to be equipped with limbs.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Curtis and his army of homeless people march through the middle of the road.

Most brandish guns, the rest hold another type of weapon.

INT. CITY HALL - DAY

Guards stand and watch Curtis and a large group of other homeless people waltz through the building.

Curtis and his crew burst into a meeting. The city's MAYOR and his council people are in attendance.

MAYOR

What's going on? What is the meaning of this?!

Curtis hurries over and slams the mayor's head on the table, then places the end of his pistol on the mayor's temple.

CURTIS

You're under arrest, mayor. For abandoning your people.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Curtis walks a few paces behind the mayor. Beside him a homeless man holds the end of a rope that binds around the mayor's hands at the other end.

Once at downtown's core, Curtis is handed a megaphone.

CURTIS

We are the homeless people of Vancouver and we have had enough of the constant injustices that we face!

A drone hovers above and videotapes the scene.

INT. DR. WARDER'S MANSION - DAY

In front of an extremely large TV, Dr. Warder sits on his luxurious couch.

He flips through different news channels, that all show the usual-fare.

He then switches to the local news station.

Dr. Warder stands up slowly as he watches the news report on the event of the homeless uprising.

NEWS REPORT

If you're just joining us now, it has been reported, and would appear to be, in fact, happening right before our eyes, Vancouver's very own mayor is being held hostage by a crazed army of homeless people. That's right, homeless people. Hold on a moment, it would appear the leader is saying something. Can we get--

The drone camera zooms in on Curtis.

CURTIS

That is why we are doing this! This man has made promises to his people that he has no intention of keeping! He turns his back, while the homeless people of this city are forced to die! From starvation, dehydration, illnesses, drug overdose! Even at the hands of people! This all happens in the city this man swore to make prosperous! He failed his city, and he failed its citizens, and the penalty for his crimes is death.

Curtis nods to a group of homeless.

The drone camera zooms out and adjusts its angle slightly, to show two homeless people kick the back of the mayor's knees to make him kneel.

A third homeless person proceeds to walk over and shoot a single bullet into the mayor's head.

The mayor crumples onto the pavement, dead.

Dr. Warder looks down from his TV in deep thought.

CURTIS (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 He was just one of many who abused
 their powers--

The audio from Curtis' speech cuts out, and the newscaster's voice returns.

NEWS REPORT (O.S.)
 It appears we have lost audio of
 the homeless ringleader. Our
 station will be addressing this
 issue immediately.
 (beat)
 Is that who I think it is? Yes!
 Vancouver's finest have arrived on
 the scene!

Dr. Warder exits his living room.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Close to one hundred officers stand one hundred meters down road from the homeless army.

Curtis riles his people up for a fight.

CURTIS
 This is it, everyone! Those people
 want nothing more than to end our
 dream!

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

An insurgent watches Curtis through the window of a long-abandoned apartment.

CURTIS (O.S.)
 We will no longer fall prey to
 their abuse! They are evil and we
 must bring an end to their kind!

Resting on a table at one end of the room are three small devices each with tiny antennas and a button.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Curtis paces around while he addresses the enormous crowd before him.

CURTIS
 Now! Everybody! Charge!

Curtis turns and charges at the officers, his followers quickly join him.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

The lead insurgent walks over to the table. He picks up one of the devices, and presses the button.

EXT. STREET - DAY

As they all run at full speed, all of the homeless' robotic limbs power down. The homeless all collapse to the ground.

Bodies fall on top of Curtis.

The officers cheer, then stroll over to the fallen bodies.

INT. DR. WARDER'S MANSION - DAY

The TV continues to play local news. The report shows the pile-up of homeless people.

They writhe around slightly, still stuck in place.

NEWS REPORT

It appears the homeless terrorists have lost their mobility, and thankfully the officers can now safely deescalate this situation.

The camera pans to show the officers walk towards the homeless on the ground.

They all take out their stun batons as they close-in on them.

The drone camera footage cuts away to the newscaster.

NEWS REPORT (CONT'D)

It appears we're having some technical issues connecting to our live footage of the events. Although, if what we just witnessed was any indication, I'd say Vancouverites are now safe for another day. Thanks to the vigilant work of our city's finest, who's job it is to protect us and deliver justice, one day at a time.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The officers close-in and the homeless ready their guns to fire at them.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

The lead insurgent picks up the second device on the table, and presses the button.

EXT. STREET - DAY

A tiny, circular red light turns on on the small devices attached to the homeless' guns.

Metal rods from the devices slice through the barrels of all of their guns.

Some of the homeless pull the trigger on their weapons. Their guns and their hands explode.

They scream in pain, while the rest of the homeless throw away their guns.

Curtis lays under cover in a trap of bodies.

CURTIS

Shit! Shit! Why are they screaming like that? What the fuck happened?!

(beat)

Those bastards! They fucking double-crossed us all! Fuck you! So did you! How was I to know?! Those no-good, rotten-- Oh, God! Those officers out there, they're going to--

Curtis starts to hear dampened sounds of the officer's clubs striking flesh. More screams and shouts from the homeless.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Oh, Jesus. Fucking cowards! Someone stop them!

(beat)

No. No. No! It's their fault, not mine!

(beat)

Stop it. I said stop! Please, make it stop.

(beat)

No. Wait! Don't leave! Don't leave.

The sounds of the police clubs cease, then the sounds of gunfire start.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
Jesus, when will they stop?

The officers finally finish their job and leave the scene.

INT. ABANDONED APARTMENT - DAY

As the other insurgents pack up and get ready to leave, the lead insurgent picks up the final device and presses it.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The robotic limbs detach from the homeless on the ground.

Survivors who had the cover of other homeless crawl out from underneath the dead bodies and carefully step off of them.

Curtis is one of the survivors.

The others flee, while Curtis remains and looks around, thinking about what he has done.

CURTIS
Dear, God.

In the distance, Donny, Blade, and Rev drive by. A couple of officers in their cruisers trail them closely.

Curtis falls to his knees.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
What have I done? I know. I know.

Curtis begins to cry.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
I've killed them all. How can I?
How do I--
(beat)
Please, God. Please save us.

The shadow of Dr. Sam Warder appears behind Curtis.

Dr. Warder places his hand on Curtis' shoulder.

EXT. UNDERPASS - DAY

The getaway car is at a stop. Blade sits in the driver's seat, and Rev in the back with sunglasses on.

Donny stands next to Blade.

BLADE

This is goodbye, kid. I had a bad feeling about you from the start.

DONNY

Just give me my share.

Blade hands him a bag of money.

BLADE

I bet that's more than you were expecting. Especially considering what you did to Rev.

Donny removes a handful of money from the bag, and crams it in his wallet.

He hands the bag filled with cash back to Blade.

BLADE (CONT'D)

You're sure?

Donny stares at Blade, blank-faced.

Blade puts on his sunglasses.

He starts the car and drives away.

INT. ARTI-LIMB STORE - DAY

Donny sits in front of a desk. A SALESPERSON types into his computer, then reads what's on the screen.

SALESPERSON

Alrighty. Your background check is clean.

The salesperson slides Donny a piece of paper.

SALESPERSON (CONT'D)

Just sign here and you'll be walking out of here with a brand new limb. Now, that contract basically states--

Donny quickly signs the contract and hands it back.

SALESPERSON (CONT'D)

It is customary I give you a tutorial on how the Arti-Limb works.

DONNY

The commercial said it works automatically.

SALESPERSON

Yes, although there are some fitness and dietary concerns. Legal restrictions, of course.

DONNY

Just give me my arm.

SALESPERSON

Very well.

A different employee fits Donny with the device.

Donny waits a moment, then winces when the needle within pricks his vein.

The red fabric shoots from the device, and forms his left arm. Donny smirks.

INT. TRACEY & WALLACE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny knocks on the door. Wallace answers.

WALLACE

Where have you been?

DONNY

Can't you tell?!

WALLACE

You know? I forgave you after you chose to ignore me for over a year. All so you could workout and study for the academy. You never even bothered to see me until after you graduated. I'm beginning to think forgiving you was a mistake.

DONNY

What are you talking about?

WALLACE

Where did you even get the money for that thing?

I thought you were broke, and I know why. It's from chewing those pills all the time!

DONNY

What's your problem, man?

WALLACE

Look at you! You may be buff now, but you look like shit. When's the last time you slept?

DONNY

I don't have time to sleep.

WALLACE

You need help, and I've tried. I'm done trying.

Wallace slams the door shut. Donny stands there a moment.

DONNY

I don't need help! You need help!

Donny winces, grabs his chest, pops a Chewie, and walks away.

EXT. TRACEY & WALLACE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Donny exits the building. Tracey runs out after him.

TRACEY

Donny, wait!

Donny stops and turns.

TRACEY (CONT'D)

Why are you doing this?

DONNY

To honour Lauren. She believed I could do this.

LAUREN

Going to space won't bring her back.

DONNY

I know that!

TRACEY

You have friends.

Tracey starts to cry.

TRACEY (CONT'D)

Here on Earth. One's who need you.
They need you to give up this
obsession and go back to normal.

DONNY

Lauren made me feel a way nobody
ever had before and I haven't felt
that way since she died. I know
that going to space is my only hope
at bringing that feeling back.
Hell, feeling something even
remotely similar would be
worthwhile.

TRACEY

Donny, please don't do this.

DONNY

My mind is made up.

Donny turns and walks away.

TRACEY

You don't have to do this.

EXT. ELECTRONICS SHOP - DAY

The PRIME MINISTER of Canada, equipped with a fancy, gold
robotic left-arm, stands on-screen behind his podium and
addresses the public on some TVs on display.

PRIME MINISTER

My fellow Canadians. These have
been trying times. Vicious acts of
terrorism are becoming a commodity.

Images flash on-screen:

Buildings on fire.

Cell phone footage shows an army of protesters who rush an
army of officers.

The officers open fire on them.

Security footage from different angles shows a group of
terrorists who hold business people hostage in their office.

A person stands in front of a camera and holds up various
signs with the letters blurred out.

The person goes and grabs a shotgun.

His head blurs out seconds before he shoots himself in the head. Blood and brain matter splatters the wall behind him.

News footage of a parade, showcasing a newly built rocket.

The space ship rests sideways on a very large float and inches its way down a street. Thousands of spectators clap and cheer on the sidewalks.

Someone with a bandana on their face runs onto the street and throws a Molotov cocktail at the rocket.

The TV screens cut back to the Prime Minister.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

We must give thanks to our country's brave officers, who defend us twenty-four-seven. Next topic. Temp-Fluxes are at an all-time high and affect us daily. Our planet, unfortunately, is on its last legs. Terraforming of neighbouring planets has, so far, been a failure. We will keep moving forward and always have hope. Hope that our astronauts find us a new home. Have hope that day is near.

The address ends and a commercial for something plays.

A couple of officers lower their weapons pointed at a small crowd in front of the shop, Donny included.

The crowd slowly disperses.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Donny walks by a group of officers as they interrogate a group of homeless who have missing limbs.

The officers hold up photos from one of Donny's bank robberies and compare.

One officer notices Donny and his Arti-Limb. He holds out a device, and uses it to scan Donny from a distance.

EXT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY HQ - DAY

Donny enters the building.

INT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY OFFICE - DAY

Donny knocks on the door to Bill's office.

BILL

Come in.

Donny enters.

BILL (CONT'D)

Donny, I didn't think you'd be back so soon.

DONNY

That's right, I'm back, and I'm qualified now.

Donny shows Bill his new arm.

BILL

(beat)

Donny sit down.

(beat)

I'm sorry, Donny. The remaining solo pilots have all been selected.

DONNY

You said--

BILL

The time frame I gave to you was really more of an estimation. Even if you had applied sooner it was highly unlikely you would of been selected.

Bill holds up a piece of paper full of names.

BILL (CONT'D)

We've had an extensive list of candidates since--

DONNY

Let me see that!

Donny snags the paper out of his hands and reads it.

DONNY (CONT'D)

Let's see here... Jerome Kenny. Does he fill the quota for the next five years on the number of Black pilots you're sending to space?

BILL
Jerome Kenny is White.

DONNY
Of course he is.

BILL
I assure you, your race is in no way a factor in our decision.

DONNY
Then why?!

BILL
(beat)
You have only one arm.

Donny raises his artificial limb.

DONNY
I got that fixed.

BILL
I'm afraid not. Those devices are known to malfunction. It just wouldn't be safe.

Bill picks up the phone.

BILL (CONT'D)
In fact I'm going to have to call security to escort you off the premises.

DONNY
No. You can't do that.

BILL
Security, please.

DONNY
(beat)
I'll fly with a crew! It doesn't have to be a solo mission!

BILL
There's nothing I can do.

Donny snaps.

He brings his left arm back and swings it around to hit Bill in the face, this knocks Bill's head right off his neck.

It bounces off the wall and rolls onto the ground.

Donny sits there in shock, then stands and moves quickly over to Bill's headless body.

He grabs him by the scruff of his clothes, lifts him onto his feet, and examines the damage.

DONNY

You're okay. Everything's going to be okay.

A SECURITY GUARD bursts into the room, pistol drawn.

SECURITY GUARD

Put the body down, dirt bag!

DONNY

It was an accident. Please, don't shoot--

The security guard fires a bullet, it travels right beside Donny's head.

Donny shields himself with Bill.

The guard fires the rest of his bullets into Bill's body.

Donny fills with rage again.

He pitches Bill's decapitated body fast enough at the guard to smooch both of them into pulp against the concrete wall.

Donny pauses a moment, grabs some tissues from Bill's desk, and cleans himself up.

The voice of MISSION CONTROL plays throughout the building.

MISSION CONTROL (O.S.)

Rocket launch in T-minus twenty minutes.

Donny hurries out of the room.

EXT. ROCKET - DAY

Three astronauts walk down a long walkway towards the rocket's entrance. They wear sleek, white spacesuits with small Canadian flag badges on their shoulders.

Mission control radios the lead astronaut through a device around his wrist.

MISSION CONTROL (O.S.)

Be alert. Trouble headed your way.

The lead astronaut does hand signs to his fellow astronauts.

They all turn towards the entrance to the walkway, and place a hand on their firearms attached to their hips. The guns match their spacesuits.

Donny turns the corner and runs full speed down the long walkway right towards them.

Once he's close, the astronauts each draw their pistols and aim them at Donny.

Donny jumps out of the way and sits behind cover. The astronauts approach slowly.

Donny peers around the corner.

The lead astronaut fires a shot that ricochets off the metal barrier between them, inches from hitting Donny's face.

Donny quickly goes back behind the barrier, panicked.

Donny clutches his chest and yells out in pain.

He shakily reaches for and opens his pill bottle. He pops a handful of Chewies.

Donny's heart beats rapidly. Too rapidly. His heart explodes, filling Donny's veins up with extra thick blood.

Donny crawls out from his cover. The astronauts lower their weapons and watch.

Donny stops, reaches his hand out to the rocket's entrance, then he dies.

The astronauts laugh to each other. The lead astronaut presses a button on his wrist device.

The three astronauts enter the rocket.

The tiny needle within the Arti-Limb pricks Donny. The thick blood from Donny's vein rushes into it.

INT. ROCKET - DAY

The inside of the rocket is dingy and built like a tank. There's three long ladders leading up to the flight deck.

The astronauts climb their designated ladders.

EXT. ROCKET - DAY

The red, velvety fabric from inside the Arti-Limb wraps around Donny's entire body.

He starts to move.

INT. ROCKET - DAY

The astronauts reach the flight deck, buckle themselves into their seats, and prepare for lift off.

MISSION CONTROL (O.S.)
Launching in T-minus ten. Nine.
Eight. Seven.

EXT. ROCKET - DAY

Donny gets up.

He enters the rocket and the hatch closes.

MISSION CONTROL (O.S.)
Six. Five. Four.

INT. ROCKET - DAY

Donny examines the inside of the rocket. He walks over and looks up the middle ladder.

MISSION CONTROL (O.S.)
Three. Two. One. Lift off!

INT. ROCKET - DAY

The astronauts remain in their seats as the rocket rattles and flies skyward with incredible force.

The lead astronaut seated to the right turns his head to see Donny's fabric-covered face inches from his.

Donny's fist punches through the astronaut's helmet and face, leaving a crater in his head.

Donny moves behind the seat of the second astronaut and pulls off his helmet, then his head along with his spinal cord.

Donny lets go of the head and it drops with extreme force down the center ladder.

The head and spine crash into the bottom portion of the rocket, creating a misty cloud of blood and bone.

The third astronaut unbuckles her belt and jumps out of her seat before Donny gets to her.

She crashes hard into the back of the flight deck.

Donny takes her place at her seat.

The final astronaut struggles to press a series of buttons on her wrist device.

The rocket is about to exit Earth's atmosphere.

The astronaut presses the final button. The rocket explodes.

INT. TRACEY & WALLACE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Tracey cries silently in the kitchen.

She stares out the window above the sink.

EXT. TRACEY & WALLACE'S APARTMENT - DAY

The kitchen window reflects the explosion of the rocket Donny's dead body hijacked.

INT. TRACEY & WALLACE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Officers speak with Wallace in an adjacent room.

Wallace stands there and nods his head in agreement as they talk to him.

EXT. SKY - DAY

The rocket's fiery debris rains down onto the city, along with Donny's fabric-encased body.

EXT. CITY - DAY

The streets are all empty except for homeless people.

The vagrants stand at random spots on the sidewalk and the road. They look up and point at the remains of the broken rocket in the sky.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

DELMAR, the manager of a company, stands at the front of a very large table with his top-employees all seated around it.

A projector screen displays a slideshow behind him.

DELMAR

These figures are accurate, people!
Good work, all of you! Year after
year you exceed my expectations.
Keep in mind this is a quarterly
report. Let that sink in a moment.

(beat)

Soon, everyone in Canada will want
their very own Mobile All-In-One
Cookery!

Delmar pauses to sniff the air.

DELMAR (CONT'D)

Does anyone else smell that? Smells
like... fuel--

A piece of rocket debris shoots through the building diagonally and strikes Delmar where he stands.

Some of his employees scream, then they all get up and examine the fiery damage the debris left behind.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

A family of five sit and eat at their dining room table. At the head of the table is the kids' mother, BRIDGETTE.

BRIDGETTE

So, everyone, how was school?

The older kids all use their cell-phones. The last-born CHILD is first to answer.

CHILD #1

School was good, mommy. Today I
learned about--

CHILD #2

My day was brutal! Did you hear
there was another fight? I think
someone got stabbed.

BRIDGETTE

That's the sixth time this month,
isn't it?

CHILD #2

Seventh.

BRIDGETTE

I'm glad you're okay, sweetie. If anything were to happen to you--

CHILD #2

Why did you have to send me to that school?! I can think of at least five others that would have been better choices for me!

BRIDGETTE

We've been over this, those schools are much too expensive. I would have to get a third job and then I would never see you kids.

CHILD #3

That reminds me, mom. Can I borrow some money to buy some new clothes at the mall with my girlfriends?

CHILD #2

That's not fucking fair!

BRIDGETTE

Language!

CHILD #2

You can shove it! Why does she always get money when I'm not allowed to even transfer schools!?

CHILD #3

Because you're a little punk!

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Bridgette exits her apartment out onto the balcony.

Her two children argue angrily at each other, the youngest stares downward sadly, and the eldest is still on his phone.

CHILD #2

Fuck you! At least I'm not--

Bridgette closes the balcony door.

She takes out and lights a cigarette. She inhales then exhales from it.

A large piece of rocket debris crashes straight down through the tall, twenty-floor structure.

The debris demolishes the building entirely and brings death to almost all inside.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Various homeless people hurry to a safe distance, away from the fiery wreckage that pummels the pavement.

Donny hits the pavement too. The red, velvety fabric originating from his Red-Grade artificial limb device still wound tightly around his dead body.

The smart fabric picks Donny up off the ground and moves his legs and arms to walk.

EXT. ELECTRONICS SHOP - DAY

A group of more homeless people watch TVs on display in the storefront window and they cheer at what they see.

It is a news report that shows Curtis Ricotz, equipped with an incredibly powerful artificial limb device of his own. The War-Grade Arti-Limb.

The news footage shows him as he battles dozens of the city's officers with ease.

The cops unload their clips into Curtis's suit of armour, made of a black-and-red-striped, velvety fabric.

The bullets flatten and bounce off an invisible force-field, generated by the armour's powerful vibrations.

Curtis shoots a long strand of sharp fabric from his wrist and skewers about a dozen cops.

He lifts them into the air and admires his handiwork, while the officers still living cry out in agony.

Curtis quickly retracts the blade, then dual fabric laser blasters rise from behind his shoulders.

He shoot holes through the city's finest while a news person gives their report.

NEWS REPORT

Once again, we have no idea who or what this armoured monster is!

All we know is it has laid waste to
already half the city's police
force in a matter of hours, and if
nothing is done to stop this for
lack of a better word, weapon, I
fear all of Vancouver will soon
face the same fate as its brave
officers. For if even our
designated defenders fail to
protect us, what hope is there?

One of the homeless people turns her attention away from the
screens when she hears the almost silent footsteps of Donny.

She watches Donny's lifeless body walk past the group, on his
way to achieve his dying wish.

EXT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY - DAY

An alarm goes off as Donny approaches the guard gate.

Two guards open fire at him.

Their bullets flatten and drop to the ground when they strike
the red fabric around his body.

Donny walks between the guards and they both take out their
stun batons.

One of the guards goes in front of Donny to block his path,
while the other attempts to bash Donny's head in from behind.

Donny very rapidly sweeps the legs of the guard behind him,
then while his body is still mid-air, Donny kicks him
downward into the pavement.

The guard's bloody, torn up uniform drags along the ground,
then comes to a halt, leaving behind a streak of blood that
gets darker and gorier the closer it gets to Donny.

Donny walks up to the second guard, who stands petrified.

Donny uppercuts the second guard in his stomach. Many of his
bones shatter and his body launches straight into the sky.

Donny makes his way to the entrance to the main building and
enters it. Still, the guard's body is many meters from
reaching solid ground.

INT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY - DAY

Donny walks through the halls while employees cower at his presence or hurriedly sneak past him.

People who work on mission control all remain at their posts inside the control room.

Some pray, the others do nothing but stand and watch the door blockers lock into place, afraid, tearful, or straight-faced.

Once the three sets of thick metal doors close, a few of the employees let out sighs of relief.

Before the workers have time to settle, Donny throws a volley of punches and kicks at the metal doors.

In seconds, the metal begins to bend with Donny's furious strikes, until he is able to tear through the metal like it were paper.

Donny enters the room.

A woman in the room screams, while Donny advances on his first victim.

Donny, or rather the Arti-Limb he had on when he died, spares no one inside mission control.

Donny exits the blood covered control room.

INT. CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY - NIGHT

Donny walks through empty hallways.

He stops suddenly, then turns and walks over to the wall on his right.

Donny presses his finger against the wall and it lights up. He's located a secret keypad.

Donny types in three different codes before guessing the correct sequence.

A hidden door slides open, revealing a circular staircase leading down.

INT. ROCKET - NIGHT

The Arti-Limb places Donny into the pilot seat, then presses and flips various buttons and switches.

The roof slowly slides open, revealing a starry sky.

The roof fully opens and Donny presses one last button.

The underground reserve rocket's thrusters ignite and the ship rises slowly into the air.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Curtis adds two more dead bodies to his pile of officers and military soldiers.

He tosses them to the very top of the pile, containing hundreds of bodies.

Curtis' Arti-Limb system informs him of the rocket about to depart from Earth.

He turns around, looks to the sky, and watches the rocket. A long trail of light traces its trajectory.

Curtis uses his hi-tech armour to zoom his focus in on the flight-deck window of the rocket.

He can clearly see Donny seated stiffly in the pilot's seat.

Curtis scans Donny's Arti-Limb, then Donny's life-records pop up at the corner of Curtis's field-of-view.

Curtis returns to normal vision to watch the rocket exit Earth's atmosphere.

Curtis resumes collecting more of his dead enemies.

INT. ROCKET - OUTER SPACE

The deceased Donny continues to sit stiffly in the pilot's seat, totally motionless.

The rocket follows its set trajectory, moving slowly through space. Through the window in front of Donny is blackness with white stars scattered throughout the emptiness.

Donny's veins run out of blood and the Arti-limb powers down.

The fabric quickly unravels back into the device attached to Donny's elbow, leaving his pale and lifeless body behind.

FADE OUT.