SHIVA

A COMIC TALE

THE FLUBUX FIASCO

BY

SIMPLYSCRIPTS COLLABORATIVE

INSPIRED BY THE VERY SERIOUS SHIVA WEB-SERIES

WEIRD ADAPTATION

BY

SANDRA E. WATSON
FADE IN:

EXT. NEWCASTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 4TH WORLD - DAY

REALITY RESEARCH

MR. VANMEER O.S.
There is a GAME that a MASTER SEEKER must learn to play.

INT. NEWCASTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLS AND CLASSROOMS

Be swift. Move through those halls and classes - where the old ink wells sit eternally fashioned to the desks. Where the skipping songs whip in and out in the distance as if the dials of an eternal radio are being changed.

MR. VANMEER O.S.
He must learn to travel the realities swiftly, like the creatures of the night.

INT. NEWCASTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AUDITORIUM

At his podium- MR. VANMEER, an ancient man who appears around 50. He's a philosopher, a poet, an artist a doctor, a masterful chef... This man's been around infinity's blocks - well, countless times, since it is infinity.

MR. VANMEER O.S.
He must be willing to play again and again in search of experience, BOTH GOOD AND BAD. You are THE TWELVE SEEKERS... I have selected you for the next 12,000 aeons to move through reality's veils.

This is what a young Seeker looks like, before they become a Master, before they grow in degrees, working towards that elusive status, called angel.

On TWELVE CHILDREN, (8 boys; 4 girls) 10 years old, standing in golden graduation robes IN A CIRCLE.

He walks, solemnly, his shoes knocking echoes about in the empty hall - oh wait, it's not empty. Who sits in the audience? Angels? Ghosts?

He hangs a purple SNAKE MEDALLION, around each one.
MR. VANMEER
Let your new journey's begin.
Together, and as one, you will be
inseparably tied, and though there
may be times when you may forget
each other, you will always have
this bond.

Mr. Vanmeer takes a long golden rope - at least we think it's
a rope - and with it, creates a circle around our Seekers. It
then animates, turning into a gorgeous GOLDEN SERPENT winding
around them.

From above and within the circle, the floor reveals the
Seekers as they stand upon a CLOCK, each one on a number.

A TICKING sound takes us to BLACK

SUPER: 12,000 YEARS LATER
FADE IN:

EXT. NEWCASTLE TOWN SQUARE - CIRCLE SQUARE - DAWN
So here we are again, in the fourth world where brilliant
colors call to us. Sounds like candy would, if it could call.
It does here.

A memorial. A fountain. Mythic creatures might be statues,
but then again maybe they're real.

Very importantly, Lord and Lady Shiva. Different than the
many armed Hindu god. Lord holds an axe. Lady, a wand.

Two flags fly in the early morning light.
One, for the Primitives - a wolf.
One, for the Seekers - a serpent.

There is a HORKING sound over this blissful place, now that
definitely doesn't sound like candy. It's from-

INT. THE O'RIELY'S HOUSE - BATHROOM
A guy that has John Cusack kicking inside him somewhere.
COLIN O'RIELY, 40s-
He SPITS in the sink.
Brushes his teeth.
Drops the cap.
Leans over to pick it up and his tie dunks into the toilet.
As he works to pull off his tie, he notices a stain on his sleeve.
Off comes the shirt and THERE it is, dazzling as ever - that old snake MEDALLION.
He searches through his tie wardrobe. Each one is stained, but one - a godawful print of fruits. Bananas, apples and lemons.

COLIN O'RIELY
Who bought me this ugly thing?


His wife, MARLA O'RIELY, also 40s, sleeps. She looks like an angel with wheat blonde ringlets on a burgundy pillow.

COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
Honey? Honey have you seen my keys?

Marla rolls over.

MARLA O'RIELY
Car's in the shop.

INT. THE O'RIELY'S HOUSE - COLIN'S PRIVATE CHANCEL
Remember, Colin’s in a hurry, so this is all very rushed.
Decor? Very religious, very ornate.
Two pictures catch us first: Our LORD and LADY SHIVA. Two beautiful people with god status.
Colin bows, hands together.

COLIN O'RIELY
Namaste.

Now see the picture beside these: THE BEATLES
Colin makes a “power fist”.

3.
COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
Hey Jude! Power to the People!

Next to them: A CROSS and JESUS

COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
You're a superstar brother. Always wished that I'd be an apostle. Knew that I could make it if I tried.

And then: The KING, ELVIS PRESLEY

COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
You'll always be The King. There are lights burning brighter, somewhere.

Colin turns to THE FIVE LEVELS OF REALITY PICTURE
It's a five tier hour glass, rainbow sand streaming.

COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
That upper 3rd must be brilliant.

More brilliant than Newcastle? Wow.

PULL BACK as Colin leaves and you see we all see:

A whole slew of pictures from different RELIGIONS including newer ones like CHURCH OF AMERICAN IDOL, Simon Cowell, smiling-

But it's time to skiddadle.

EXT. THE O'RIELY'S HOUSE
Colin wheels his bike out of the garage. He's on and away.

EXT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE - REALITY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Colin parks his bike and heads inside.

INT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE - COLIN'S CLASSROOM
Completely empty. Colin looks confusedly around. A student strolls past in the hall, noticing him.

STUDENT #1
Er- Mr. O'Riely? What are you doing in class? (MORE)
STUDENT #1 (CONT'D)

I thought all the teachers were doing a chili cook off this morning.

That's right! Colin dashes.

EXT. STREET

Colin pedals faaaaast.

INT. THE O'REILY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Colin grabs a pot out of the fridge.

EXT. THE O'REILY'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY

Colin has that enormous pot of chili slung over his shoulder in a canvas bag used to deliver newspapers.

EXT. A HOUSE DOWN FROM THE O'REILY'S - A LITTLE LATER

As Colin rides, a dog sniffs the air.

INTERCUT:

EXT. STREET

Colin's bike HITS a big rock, knocking him off balance and yep-

Down he goes, chili and all. It SPILLS onto the cement and here comes the dog.

LAPPING it up the way big dogs do.

COLIN

No-no!

Colin's quick. He smooshes the chili back into the pot.

EXT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE - CHILI COOK OFF SITE

Colin SHAKES in a SECRET SPICE. He stirs the chili in a crock pot and serves it in small sample cups to college attendees.

Various "mmms". He gets a great response despite any grit or doggie fur that might be floating around inside.
TESTER LADY, 50s. She looks too blushed. Must be the chili.

TESTER LADY
Wow, this sure does have a unique texture. Very... grainy.

Colin smiles as sincerely as possible.

EXT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE - CHILI COOK OFF - LATER

MRS. KAISER, 50s, the MC of this C.C., announces:

MRS. KAISER
And the winner of our Chile Cook Off is our own Mr. Science himself, Colin O’Riely.

Colin gets up to claim his prize, a very tacky trophy of a giant bean. And guess what, his fruity tie now has a dollop of chili dripping down.

COLIN O’RIELEY
Thanks. I’m truly honored. Truly.

INT. COLIN’S CLASSROOM - LATER

WAVE/PARTICLE PARADOX tites his white board and lots of physics equations and pictures.

His class files out.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF NEWCASTLE VILLAGE - NIGHT

An owl hootes. A MEEFER, a goblin creature with parrot feathers and a mosquito beak “tries” to mimmick the owl.

MEEFER
Hoopoeocruck. Hotopuck.

Unsuccessfully.

INT. O’RIELEY’S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bird’s view of Colin and Marla in bed.

MARLA O’RIELEY
Everything go alright at school today?
COLIN O'RIELY
I won the Chili Cook Off.

MARLA O'RIELY
Really?!
(realizing)
How come you've been so down tonight then?

COLIN O'RIELY
It's my ties. My keys. I don't know.

MARLA O'RIELY
Everyone gets days like that. You'll feel better tomorrow.

She turns away and clicks the light.

INT. STEAM ROOM - NEXT DAY

Colin tries to sweat it out. His best friend, JACK STONE, late 30s, a Wayne Dyer with a cool man edge. He shuffles a deck of PERIWINKLE cards. They're emblazoned with the symbols of their world:

THE SERPENT and THE WOLF on a swirling blue background.

Jack cuts the cards. He meditates on the concealed top one.

JACK STONE
Number zero. Wellspring Willy.

He turns the card. Indeed. It's a Wellspring Willy.

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
I'm on with the cards today. Periwinkle is the best brand of magic by far.
(noticing Colin's mood)
Colin?

COLIN O'RIELY
I can't pretend any longer. People think I've got it all together. But I don't. And worst of all, I haven't been honest with my wife.

JACK STONE
You cheated?
No. Something a lot worse.

If it would make you feel better, you can tell me.

The past isn’t something I want to dredge up. I’ve got-

Oh he just can’t say it. He gets up to leave. Jack notices a shadow leave too. He chases him out.

EXT. STEAM ROOM

Jack looks around. How could he be gone so fast?

EXT. FRONT DOORS S & P HEALTH SPA - A LITTLE LATER

PRIMITIVES, large cavemen types with Wolf crests on-

Vests and head bandanas and

The SEEKERS have serpents tattooed on their arms or winding serpent bracelets up their legs.

They all come and go through the front doors. Including Jack.

Jack’s POV: Through a crowd of passers by.

THERE’S COLIN. He’s on a bench across the street in front of VANMEER BOOKS.

Jack crosses the street.

EXT. VANMEER BOOKS

If you hold it in, it’s not good. Everyone’s got things they’re not proud of.

Colin looks down.

I’m afraid if I tell Marla, it will be the end.
JACK STONE
If you didn't cheat on her then I think you're safe.

Colin shields his face with SEEKERS DISCOVERY MAGAZINE.

Jack's POV:
NOWHERE LAND AND BLACK HOLES - CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

On Jack: He reads and then his expression turns to FREAK as-

Colin lowers the magazine.

Colin's eyes glint then beam into BLASTER EYES, the golden yellow serpentine that gleams and is fascinating and scary.

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
Blaster! Your eyes! They're-

Colin squeezes them tight and opens back to normal again.

Jack swings around pointing.

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
That explains why you always had such a hard time carrying a tune.

Colin gives a "Yeah well".

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
Isn't that place completely deprived? I heard there's hardly any light there, hardly any color. Music is great if you like- (makes demon noises)

Please release me let me go...

I don't love you anymore...

As Jack "sings", outside passers do the "please get the heck a way from me".

COLIN O'RIELEY
Yeah it was bad alright. I guess.

JACK STONE
What do you mean you guess.

COLIN O'RIELEY
I miss it. I remember my parents and I remember being happy.
Go figure. Wait a second. What were you doing in Nowhere Land. Kids aren't allowed there.

That's why they took me away.

FLASHBACK:

INT. KOLE AND ERIN O'RIELY'S HOUSE - NOWHERE LAND

The family sits together - YOUNG KOLE O'RIELY, 30s, YOUNG ERIN O'RIELY, 30s, and 5 YR OLD YOUNG COLIN O'RIELY. It's after Christmas, but the CHRISTMAS TREE still shines its splendor when hard knocks hit the door.

Erin gets up to answer and guards enter in a flurry. One guard lifts Colin roughly and takes him to the door.

GUARD #1
You Mam, can suffer yourself as much as you like here, but this is your husband's punishment, not your son's.

KOLE O'RIELY
Erin, you must go.
(to the guard)
My wife will go with my son.

Erin's overwrought. She sputters "no" and "please".

ERIN O'RIELY
What about Dreca? He was allowed to stay? He helped build the first rehab center.

GUARD #1
That was then and this is now and no, you won't be going with your son. The 4th world council has already determined that Cole is going to require some special attention due to his blemished childhood.

ERIN O'RIELY
Dreca turned out fine.
GUARD #1
Dreca moved between the worlds and recovered which is what your son will do. The council says he's handicapped - like Dreca was - I'll remind you. Because he's been deprived of the normal sensations that a child should experience. But don't worry, he'll be working with a gifted mystic who I'm sure you'll be pleased to know, is NOT, a Blaster, unlike your husband.

Kole lunges at the Guard. The guard knocks him back easily, laughing.

GUARD #1 (CONT'D)
Your strength is long gone. You're not even a Seeker anymore. And you wanted to be an angel. You just never had what it takes.

Colin cries.

COLIN
Daddy!

EXT. VANMEER BOOKS
Jack's eyes move up to the sky in wonder-

COLIN O'RIELLY
And I never saw my parents again. I don't know when it happened, but my father failed in his mission to become an angel. He fell from his degree and that's when the Blaster genes kicked in.

Jack's been stuck on a different thought train...

JACK STONE
Nowhere Land has Christmas?

COLIN O'RIELLY
No, but my parents snuck it in.

JACK STONE
My kind of people.

COLIN O'RIELLY
What?
since we're sharing secrets, you might as well know that i served as a trickster on vanmeer.

colin o'riely
you never told me that.

jack stone
it's not something i like to dredge up. you and i have been like brothers. i didn't want to ruin it. i guess i just have.

colin knocks jack on the noodle.

colin o'riely
no you haven't. i trust you. you've been my best friend from the beginning. you helped me get through the lonely times when i first got here.

jack stone
motivation is what i do, but that doesn't delineate my nature. i'm a trickster. i could be tricking you right now. i wouldn't know it. when people find out what i am, they don't trust me. it's like i've got a disease. "no don't go near him." so if i give them something they need... and who doesn't need motivation right? then at least i have a job anywhere i go in reality. it's security. comfort.

colin o'riely
to know that you're needed.

jack stone
yeah.

colin o'riely
so you know how i feel then. who's gonna want me around? it's just a matter of time. the blaster genetics could kick in full speed anytime.

jack stone
come on!
EXT. JACK'S OLD HAUNTED HOUSE - NIGHT

They enter into CREEPSVILLE. Colin looks around.

COLIN O'RIELY
What is this place?

JACK STONE
Where I keep my worst memories. Hang on...

Jack disappears into a back room while Colin looks around, checking out the surroundings. On the coffee table: CHEAT BOOK FOR TRICKSTERS.

A little later- Jack reappears. He's dressed very 18th century. He wears all black and a very prominent mustache that is groomed perfectly.

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
This is who I am Colin. I took an oath on Vanmeer that I'd put everything aside for the sake of a higher purpose. I cheat. I lie. But I do it for good reasons.

Colin stares, waiting for clarification.

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
So that people can learn to trust. Everything we ever learn, we learn by comparison. I learned about the bitter/sweet paradox a long time ago in Cosmic Error 101 and I think that's what you missed didn't you?

COLIN O'RIELY
How'd you know I missed the course?

JACK STONE
I've been around Reality enough times to know when a Master Seeker is tripping over a Fundamental Law of the Universe. You've gotta take that course you missed or you'll only be a Master Seeker in name, not in deed.

Colin begins to pace.
COLIN O'RIELEY
I can't do it now. I've just got started with the second term. The wave/particle paradox is important. My students need me. My Blaster genes are starting to show. I need to get my theory paper done before it's too late.

Colin gives him a solid pat on the shoulder and leaves.

JACK STONE
(to himself)
He needs to take that course.

EXT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE
The flags fly high. The Primitives and Seekers head to their various destinations and Jack, very fast, to his.

INT. COSMIC ERROR 101 CLASSROOM

FAIRY TEACHER
Jack, I don't have the authority to give him the class without him knowing it. Even if I did, it's not a good idea. He might never find his way back here. There has to be a MEMORY from the start of the simulation- a memory that he can get back to- or he'll get lost. You can't find your way home if there's no home to go back to.

JACK STONE
But I can be the one with the memory. You and me, right here, right now. I'll go with him and I'll bring him back.

The Fairy Teacher considers. Jack holds tight on hope.

FAIRY TEACHER
OK, but he has to be the one that comes in here and SHOW A NEED. I don't know if that's going to happen too soon. I know he's been really busy. He races around like the world's going to end for him any moment.
Jack's fearful eyes. If Colin's Blaster genes are kicking in like testosterone...

JACK STONE
It might.

INT. THE O'RIELY'S HOUSE - COLIN'S STUDY

Colin's intense. He can't type fast enough. He writes notes and equations and then types again.

COLIN O'RIELY
If I'm gonna turn Blaster, I at least wanna have something good to leave this world.

His paper: FIRST CAUSE - RELATIONSHIPS IN DUALITY

He stares at the clock on the wall too often. Throws crumpled paper too often. Then he hears:

KAZDON O'RIELY O.S.
Roargh! Har-har-har!

He gets up to-

EXT. HALLWAY
And looks in the direction of Kazdon's room.

EXT. KAZDON'S BEDROOM

Colin peers inside. KAZDON O'RIELY- he's 10 year old that's somewhere between really smart and really cool. You know those in-between kids that aren't with the populars or the nerdy crowd? That's Kazdon. Like being a Blaster- in between Primitive and Seeker. You don't know where you belong.

He pushes the button on a toy Seeker man, his snake band bracelet on his leg like we've seen in regular 4th world life.

The TOY SEEKER grows a TAIL and DRAGON SPIKES.

Colin enters:
INT. KAZDON’S BEDROOM

What cha got there son? Colin notices the GAME - HIDE AND SEEKER.

KAZDON O’RIELY
Mom got it for me. Wanna play?

COLIN O’RIELY
OK. What’s the object?

KAZDON O’RIELY
To be the first to have the most experience points and get Angel Status. You trade knowledge points for experience and get these:

Kazdon dumps a bag of LITTLE ANGELS out.

KAZDON O’RIELY (CONT’D)
You put the angels up and then they can collect more experience for you from other players. They help you to hide your knowledge points so it can’t get stolen.

Kazdon jumps his Seeker around the board...

KAZDON O’RIELY (CONT’D)
You go around the board, BUT, if you land on a red square, you’ve gotta push the button on your Seeker. If he turns into a Blaster, you’re banished to Nowhere Land.

NOWHERE LAND is the corner square up from “Go”.

COLIN O’RIELY
Go to Jail go directly to jail. Like Monopoly. Are there “Get out of Nowhere Land Free” cards?

KAZDON O’RIELY
Yeah, but you only can get those by reforming someone else who’s a Blaster. So you put these up on your property.

Kazdon dumps out a bag of little buildings.
These are the Blaster reform centers.

Any other way out of Nowhere Land if you’re unfortunate enough to become a Blaster?

Yeah. You can get out if you roll doubles or if you’ve been stuck there for a couple of bad rolls. Then you get out on your third turn.

Sounds familiar.

Kazdon holds out a SEEKER TOY MAN to Colin.

Wanna see if he’ll go Blaster? Click him into the red square. It’s cool when they do that.

Colin clicks him into the red square. A HAUNTING SOUND as Colin PRESSES the button on the Toy Seeker.

It turns BLASTER. And this Blaster TRANSFORMS into something that’s happening NOW-

EXT. MISTS OF MT ANIK - NIGHT

It’s a creepy kind of beautiful with the fog rolling in the moonlight. The werewolves’ dream come true.

Something crawls out from underneath a rock. BLASTER CRONUS, eternal 30s, the very first Blaster to exit NOWHERE LAND in aeons. Something tells us he might have been good looking in his pre-Blaster days.

I’m in- Where am I?

He turns to see-

The sign: MISTS OF MT. ANIK

MISTS OF MT. ANIK! Gateway to Earth. Har har har har.
EXT. STREET - NEWCASTLE COLLEGE

The wind swirls at Colin's feet as he walks past NEWCASTLE COLLEGE.

The kids hang out, variously laughing together in groups or curled up in pockets of shade, studying.

A small group waves at Colin.

POLKA DOT GIRL
Hi Mr. O'Riely!

He manages a smile and waves back. She rushes up.

POLKA DOT GIRL (CONT'D)
Congratulations on winning the chili cook off.

COLIN O'RiELY
Thanks. The secret is to add a five spiced Periwinkle.

Colin searches his jacket pocket and removes a Periwinkle bottle of five spice, handing it over. Her eyes go bright.

POLKA DOT GIRL
Thanks!

COLIN O'RiELY
Careful it's addict-

But she's gone.

Colin carries on towards the entrance. There's a special engraving here:

Home to Seekers
Wild and Tame
Primitive Wolf
And Serpent Brain
That wills to work
And learn The Game
Cosmic Error
Not in vain - John Vanmeer
GIRL O.S.
There's something for everyone in those words don't you think?

Colin turns.

COLIN O'RIELY
Yeah, Vanmeer, he seemed to know the inside out of freedom and knowledge. Or Wolf and Serpent if you want to call it that.

GIRL
You think that the Serpent side is a lack of freedom? Then maybe it's the pursuit of knowledge that's the error. Makes ya think doesn't it.

A Primitive boy that's got that wild thing happening GRABS the girl. Scares her then-

GIRL (CONT'D)
Oh Bobby!

BOBBY PRIMITIVE
Come on. Let's take a run through the woods and get in touch with nature.

GIRL
I can't. I've got class.

Bobby gives a "please" look.

GIRL (CONT'D)
It would be fun.

She runs off to freedom with her Primitive boyfriend.

Colin stands there staring.

COLIN O'RIELY
Cosmic Error not in vain.

INT. COSMIC ERROR 101 CLASSROOM - LATER
It's dark in here except for the PROJECTION SCREEN that has-

FAIRY TEACHER O.S
The five levels of reality.
A five tiered hour glass with white sand. It spirals down and fills the levels, but it never stops streaming.

FAIRY TEACHER
See the perpetual motion. Infinite.

The FAIRY TEACHER, touches the pointer to the screen as she briefly describes the levels. The names ride in a side column.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT'D)
The first is Never and Forever and beginnings can only be pondered. They are incomprehensible. A spark? A bit of above a bit of below? A piece of grit? A drop of dream?

EXT. COSMIC ERROR 101 CLASSROOM - PROJECTION SCREEN
Colin listens at the door.

FAIRY TEACHER
The second level comprises Hunger - a hunger that comes from the first purposeful cosmic error of deficiency. At the bottom of the second level, the hunger is filled. You can find wisdom here, but it's incomplete.

Streaming down, the sand takes on colors that deepen in tones as they fall.

Colin slips in silently at the back of the class. He's wearing sunglasses. When the teacher glances his way, he uses a book as a shield.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT'D)
It's only in the third level of manifestation that one perceives their incompleteness. This is the beginning of brilliant Awareness. And that brings us to where the big desires are born.

Colin peaks over his book.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT'D)
Us. Right here, in the 4th world. Our world is a combination of Hope and Despair.

(MORE)
Our despair fuels desire. It chases after reason and then, voila:

She points to the lowest world - The 5th.

Earth - made manifest, by the dreams we release into the Mists of Mt. Anik.

Black sand.

EXT. MISTS OF MT ANIK - DAY

The mists are really thick. Hushed voices.

KAZDON O'RIELY O.S.
I don't know if this was such a good idea. We shouldn't be here.

BLASTER CRONUS
No you shouldn't be here.

Kazdon and his friends, BEN MULIGAN, 10, and his brother, ROSS MULIGAN, 17, turn in the direction of Cronus.

The boys alert to the scariness of Cronus, his clothes tattered, his face dirty. He truly looks pathetic if he weren't so scary.

Kazdon and Ben take a step back. But not Ross. He's got the cockiness of a 17 year old.

Ross eyes Cronus up and down.

ROSS MULIGAN
What happened to you? You crawl out from under a rock?

Cronus moves his head around, sniffing the wind animal like a smile creeping over his face.

BLASTER CRONUS
As a matter of fact I did.

He begins to move towards Ross and NOW he loses his cockiness.

ROSS MULIGAN
I was only playing around...
Me too.

Kazdon and Ben look on helplessly.

Ross begins to back up. His foot hits a rock and he turns as he almost falls.

He sees a sign as he backs up:

WARNING - STEEP DROP OFFS

You know what that is?

Another step backwards.

No, I've never been here before.

Again back... Ben and Kazdon breath hard.

Ever been to a lake?

Once more... Ben and Kazdon swallow gusts of wind coming at them.

Yeah.

Only a half step...

Where there's a danger to anyone who can't swim because of the sudden dropping of ground and subsequent deepness of water?

Yeah, I've seen those signs Sir.

Cronus stops.

Sir Cronus. I like the sound of that.

(trying to laugh)
You do? It suits you.

Cronus smiles.
BLASTER CRONUS
I like your DIShonesty. BUT-

He forces Ross back another half step.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)
That sign is the DREAM MIST equivalent to your watery drop offs. You can very quickly be lost in a dream and not even know it. Adult Seekers study these illusionary processes that have the potential to manifest in the 5th world known as Earth. You SHOULD know how to SWIM before coming in this territory don't you think?

ROSS MULIGAN
Yeah. You mean swim as in be an Adult Seeker who knows how to go in and out of DREAM REALITY. Right?

BLASTER CRONUS
That's right? Are you an ADULT SEEKER?

ROSS MULIGAN
No. I'm not supposed to be here Sir. I'm happy to leave right now if you let me just-

No. He's not going to let him.

BLASTER CRONUS
You could always try Mother May I.

ROSS MULIGAN
Mother May I?

BLASTER CRONUS
I would. But I'm NOT your mother. Sorry.

Blaster walks forward once more. Ross backwards-

A final half step... This time Ross's foot SINKS. He's sliding off the edge, holding on for dear life.

Ben and Kazdon with holy terror in their eyes-

KAZDON O'RIELY

ROSS MULIGAN

No!
Blaster Cronus BLOWS Ben and Kazdon away with the SWEEP OF a HAND; then-

PUSHES Ross over the edge. The RUMPLING sound of Cronus pulling up a GOLDEN THREADED ROBE. A Seeker in his day?

ROSS MULIGAN

Ahhhh!

Down he goes. His scream dissipates into the BLACKNESS of the mists below.

Cronus walks off in superior cloth, as if he were a rich man.

INT. COSMIC ERROR 101 CLASSROOM - SAME TIME

FAIRY TEACHER
It’s the darkest place of all because a dream can only be born from a great desire and a great desire is a hunger, without which, reality ends.

She taps the projection screen.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT’D)
Don’t think of the blackness as bad. Think of it as your friend - the fuel that drives your journey.

The teacher gets a strange look as she recognizes Colin, small looking, at the back of the freshman class.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT’D)
I’m not used to teaching Cosmic Error to a Master Seeker.

The class turns. Colin removes his glasses.

COLIN O’RIELEY
Just wanted to see what it felt like to be back here again.
(correcting)
As a student.

FAIRY TEACHER
(to the class)
You’re excused.

Colin gets up to leave.
FAIRY TEACHER (CONT'D)

NOT you, Mr. O'Riely.

Colin sits down.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT'D)

We'll see you all tomorrow - fresh with insight on the first chapter.

The young men and women depart as the teacher travels to the back of the classroom and sits next to Colin.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT'D)

Why are you here? Really.

COLIN O'RIELEY

I failed Cosmic Error 101.

FAIRY TEACHER

You're a Master Seeker. You couldn't have failed it. It's a prerequisite for everything.

COLIN O'RIELEY

I was given a pass due to my handicap.

FAIRY TEACHER

Handicap? What handicap?

COLIN O'RIELEY

My father was a Seeker who transformed into a Blaster. The old caterpillar/butterfly thing, but in a bad way. I have Blaster genetics. I spent my first 5 years in Nowhere Land until they found out and my parents had to give me up.

A beat.

COLIN O'RIELEY (CONT'D)

And now I think the genes are kicking in. I'm afraid I'm running out of time before I go full Blaster.

FAIRY TEACHER

How might I help?

COLIN O'RIELEY

That third world- where you perceive you're incomplete.

(MORE)
COLIN O'RIELY (CONT' D)
Do you perceive it as the past, or as the future?

FAIRY TEACHER
Both.

A beat.

FAIRY TEACHER (CONT' D)
You really wanna take this course again?

COLIN O'RIELY
Yeah, I guess I do.

FAIRY TEACHER
Pass or fail on your own terms?

COLIN O'RIELY
I guess I’m just thinking a lot about the past lately.

Colin gets up, knocks on the desk.

COLIN O'RIELY (CONT' D)
Solid. Old.
(laughs)
Ink wells.

The teacher muses along with him.

FAIRY TEACHER
You know you’re in the 4th world when...

She clicks her tongue and flashes a brilliant teacher smile.

Colin smiles too— the lackluster in his eyes cancels the curve of his lips. The Fairy Teacher smiles and nods.

COLIN O'RIELY
If this whole Blaster thing calms down. And after I get this term finished. Then maybe I’ll enroll in the class.
(laughs)
Wouldn’t they be shocked eh? A Master Seeker in 101?

And continues to nod.

Colin heads out the door.
But just before he does, The Fairy Teacher takes some Periwinkle dust, the finest High Magic of the 4th world, and blows it towards him.

EXT. THE O'RIEYL'S HOUSE - PRIVATE CHANCEL - NIGHT

Colin looks around at the various religious and celebrity icons.

Colin O'RIEYL
What would you do? Would you tell the person that you loved most in the whole world, (correcting) all the worlds, that you might be-

Marla O.S.
Honey? You didn't tell me you were home.

She comes to kiss him. Colin's definitely tense.

Colin O'RIEYL
That's cause, I was... was trying to hide a surprise gift.

A light in Marla's eyes.

Marla O'RIEYL
Really?

Colin reaches under his desk. He hands her a 1970s Partridge Family bus the size of "Barbie" van.

Marla O'RIEYL (CONT'D)
Earth collectibles! Where'd you get it?

Colin O'RIEYL
College had a rummage sale.

Marla O'RIEYL
You are too sweet. I gotta show Kazdon.

She kisses Colin and leaves. His "truth failure" evident.

Marla O.S.
Kazdon?
EXT. KAZDON'S ROOM

Marla peers inside.

MARLA

Kazdon?

EXT. BEN AND KAZDON'S CLUBHOUSE

BEN MULIGAN

What are we gonna do?

KAZDON O'RIELEY

We're gonna get your brother back is what we're gonna do.

BEN MULIGAN

How? We can't go back to the mists. That's what got us into this. I say we tell our parents.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

That's not what your brother would say. That's like ratting on him. He doesn't want to be "saved" by a bunch "Ooh. Did you get a booboo falling into earth" grown ups.

Ben nods knowingly. Kazdon's right. Ross would hate that.

KAZDON O'RIELEY (CONT'D)

What we need to do is go back to the Mists and find Cronus.

BEN MULIGAN

No way do I wanna go back there. Once is enough 'til I'm grown up.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

We've gotta help Cronus.

BEN MULIGAN

You're mad.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

It's like the game - Hide and Seeker. If we help the Blasters to reform, we get more points.
BEN MULIGAN
Hide and Seeker’s a game. This is real life!

KAZDON O’RIELY
At The College, there’s an engraving of a poem that was written by John Vanmeer. That’s the same name of the book store where we got the game. I think there’s a connection. I think that John Vanmeer puts something more into the toys he makes.

EXT. VANMEER’S BOOKS - AFTERNOON

The man at the counter smiles. This is the owner, with a slender gray tie, a casual sweater. We recall it’s Mr. Vanmeer, but Colin doesn’t. It’s been 12,000 years and a lot of lifetimes later.

MR. VANMEER
I’ve been waiting for the day you’d come in.

COLIN O’RIELY
You knew my parents. Do you think I’ll ever see them again?

MR. VANMEER
Someday always exists, but it’s not the answer you want is it?

COLIN O’RIELY
I want to learn more about Nowhere Land. It’s devastating, but compelling at the same time.

The owner reaches down, he’s had it handy for many years, waiting for this moment.

VANMEER
I knew that someday, you’d come in, asking for it - with the same vacant look I now see in your eyes.

Close on the book. NOWHERE LAND bleeds into Colin’s eyes.
A CROOKED SIGN names this place - a place that Colin yearns for, but how could anyone yearn for this?

EXT. NOWHERE LAND - PRESENT

A fog of uncertainty is the only white thing streaming in this dismal place; so a person is apt to follow what light there is and travel the road up to a small cobbled stone walk.

Here is the home of KOLE O’RIELY, strong 70s, Colin’s father.

INT. KOLE AND ERIN O’RIELY’S BEDROOM

A huge bed for a huge Blaster, his black tattered clothes fall limply down to the floor. He sleeps heavily, snoring in loud rhythmic waves.

His wife, ERIN O’RIELY is beautiful for her 70 years, her soft countenance mingles with the candlelight. A childhood picture of her son, LITTLE COLIN, 5 yrs old, is whipped by the light of the flame.

ERIN O’RIELY

(whispering)
I’m so sorry Colin, but I couldn’t leave your father. What could I have done?

Erin breaks into stifled cries as Kole snores loudly.

KOLE’S DREAM - FROM 44 AEONS AGO

EXT./INT. FOURTH WORLD - KOLE O’RIELY’S HOUSE

A fairy-tale house in the fairy-tale world of the 4th.

Crickets sing in the warm night air. Fireflies blink. An old folk melody plays as Kole and Erin dance.

YOUNGER KOLE, 30s, his clothes are richly woven threads with bits of gold that sparkle like his eyes. YOUNGER ERIN, 30s wears a long lounging dress, equally dazzling.

First, fun; then Kole interrupts - to lift the old record player needle, to stop the music. Silence on Erin’s face.

Kole walks over to her, holding her shoulders gently, stroking her hair, moving his hands and he just can’t make up his mind what to do with them.
KOLE O'RIELY
I must go to earth. A time of despair is manifesting in the Dream Waters and this is the only time that a Seeker can become an angel. I want this more than anything.

ERIN O'RIELY
No. You can do good things for people just as you are. You're a Seeker. A Seeker who truly cares!

KOLE O'RIELY
It's not enough anymore.

ERIN O'RIELY
And what about me? What about your son?

They turn to see THREE YEAR OLD COLIN, on the floor with a paper, ripping it and putting the shapes into five tiers.

ERIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
You are just going to forget us while you find out just how big your ego is?

KOLE O'RIELY
This is something I need to do.

He pulls a silver cylinder out of his inside pocket.

KOLE O'RIELY (CONT'D)
Please, there will be storms, quakes - take the stabilizer and go to Rilon.

ERIN O'RIELY
I want to come with you!

KOLE O'RIELY
No. Helping a broken earth is my destiny. I want you to raise our son in Rilon.

Erin waits, but finally takes the stabilizer.

INT. NOWHERE LAND - KOLE'S BEDROOM - PRESENT

Kole shouts in distress as he awakes.
KOLE O'RIELY

AHHH!

Erin rushes bedside.

ERIN O'RIELY
Just a nightmare again. Shhh...

Kole's eyes beam serpentine gold. Indeed - Blaster.

KOLE O'RIELY
This is my fault. You shouldn't be here. You don't belong here.

ERIN O'RIELY
I belong by your side.

KOLE O'RIELY
Our son is without his parents because of me.

ERIN O'RIELY
Kole, he's a grown man now. You're living in the past. It's been aeons.

KOLE O'RIELY
And still time has not sweetened the bitterness. Where is the reconciliation? If I ever was a Seeker, finding meaning in the need, in the hunger -

FLASHES OF ANIMALS ON THE HUNT. THE RIP AND KILL. God in heaven we better feel for Kole's pain now cause he's at the lowest point ever and he needs compassion.

KOLE O'RIELY (CONT'D)
In the great cosmic error of deficiency, then truly I have fallen and I am a Blaster - a demon who hates the first cause, who blasphemes against our Lord and Lady.

Erin tries to soften Kole's demeanor with the tender sweep of a hand,

ERIN O'RIELY
No. You're still inside despite it all. I know you're there.

But Kole calls out in anger.
And like a miraculous birth, he turns into a GREAT SERPENT that SLIDES down the five tiers of reality into the waters.

EXT. EARTH - NIAGARA FALLS - DAY

of Niagara Falls on earth. The mists surround us along with the roaring splendor of the rushing waters.

EXT. VANMEER BOOKS - A LITTLE LATER

The bell jingles dissonant, as Colin enters into a strangely DARKENED STREET. Again, the wind stirs up, pulling bits of debris in miniature tornado like whirls.

Colin senses something. He walks faster, turns the corner-

EXT. ALLEY

into a more familiar darkness.

FLASHES of his childhood. A dismal place.

Faster. He's knocked down by something invisible.

BLASTER CRONUS V.O.
You're getting wired. You've got powers that shouldn't go to waste. You know what they say, waste not want not.

The invisible Blaster clamps something onto Colin's head. For a moment, the thin copper threads can be seen like a net around him and then, they disappear.

Colin's POV: Above him now, a black foggy thing, part Seeker, part Primitive - the third element, a mistake. Blaster Cronus materializes in his BLACK ETHER FORM.

If you were John Vanmeer, you'd already know what Colin now perceives - a memory, over images of a Blaster's beginnings.

JOHN VANMEER V.O.
That a Seeker once taught a Primitive the ways of knowledge over freedom.
SERIES OF SHOTS:

A Seeker hides in the trees, watching the Primitives around their campfire.

He encourages a Primitive away from his fold.

The Seeker shows him tools. Teaches him language.

JOHN VANMEER V.O. (CONT'D)
And that Primitive went into the Seekers' Village at night, kidnapping a woman, taking her into the mountains, to be his wife...

The Primitive looks upon the lit village in the night.

He sneaks into a home. Steals his chosen mate.

Carries her away into the mountains.

Into his mountain cave.

JOHN VANMEER V.O. (CONT'D)
...and eventually, she grew to love him and they had a child.

The female Seeker and Primitive hold hands.

The female Seeker has a child - a boy.

JOHN VANMEER V.O. (CONT'D)
And that child grew up to be confused.

The boy grows.

Grows confused.

JOHN VANMEER V.O. (CONT'D)
Looking upon the Primitive Lands and the Seekers' Village and not knowing where he belonged.

Looks upon the Primitive Lands.

Looks upon the Seekers' Village.

ATOP THE MOUNTAINS - IN THE MISTS OF MT. ANIK, HE CALLS:

He calls out in RAGE at the realization of what he is: BLACK ENERGY, BRILLIANT ENERGY
All he is - A SWIRLING VORTEX of his strange genetics. Primitive and Seeker both. PARADOX.

JOHN VANMEER V.O. (CONT'D)
And he was the beginning of a new species - between freedom and the ultimate chaos of that path. And the Seekers' knowledge - that leads down the path of obligation.

PARTICLES of light RETAINED: ORDER, CONSTRAINT.
PARTICLES of light EXPLODE: UNBRIDLED CHAOS

JOHN VANMEER V.O. (CONT'D)
That child was a BLASTER.

BACK TO:

EXT. ALLEY

BLASTER CRONUS
Remember me? I was a friend of your dad's. No? Well you were only 3 before they shipped me out to rehab. Didn’t work though. I’VE GOT A PURPOSE! (upswing) Even if I get a bad wrap for it. (downswing). I’m gonna help you get in touch with your Blaster side. Pay sucks, but the benefits are great when the dark tides roll in. THEY'RE ROLLING NOW!

Colin’s troubled eyes turn away at the sight, then he conjures the strength to look into what exists not just outside in infinite worlds of the five realities, but INSIDE himself.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)
You DON'T want to know of Nowhere Land. There’s an emptiness there you wouldn’t like. No. You want Exhilaration. Freedom. That’s what you want. OK?

He pops a “no” candy into his mouth.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)
Forget about the nonsense that’s going on in your head. Forget about it. Relax. OR NOT.
Now he pops in a “yes” candy. Remember those candy hearts?

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)

On the other hand. You DO want to open the book. Learn all about what’s REALLY inside you. Who you are. Let’s get this paradox in gear!


Colin fights. He thrashes about on the pavement until:

The Blaster manifests a piece of Periwinkle Bubble Gum and sticks it inside Colin’s mouth. Colin chews. It helps.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)

Your memory of our little encounter is now gone.

BLIP. Just like that. So is he.

EXT. ALLEY - A LITTLE LATER

Colin awakes to the sound of ALARMS. He walks off, groggy.

INT. THE ATOM’S HOUSE - SAME TIME

LOUD ALARMS infiltrate the walls of a birthday party decorated house.

REANNE ATOM, 40s, the primped up leader of this gala, and a swarm of children cover their ears until the sirens turn off one by one...

CHILD #1
(excited)

Is it the Big One?

REANNE ATOM

No Arthur it’s just another prank.

CHILD #2

How do you know? It could be real this time?

REANNE ATOM

It’s the seventeenth time this month. It’s not real.
NEWCASTLE VILLAGE - TOWN HALL

A highfalutin GUARD pulls the handle, turning OFF the main alarm which reads: MAIN AND POWERFUL UNO ICHI BAN ALARM.

The TOWN MAYOR, 50s, pulls the handle turning on the water cooler - SUPER BRIGHT WHITE WELLSPRING WATER He fills his paper cup; then tops it with whiskey. One good smash.

TOWN MAYOR
Turn down the code level and alert the people it's safe.

TOM THE MAYOR'S ASSISTANT, 30s, looks tense.

TOM THE MAYOR'S ASSISTANT
But Sir, shouldn't we check first to make sure no Blasters are in the area?

TOWN MAYOR
Sure sure Tom. I'll notify. You go home and get some rest.

The Mayor's Assistant leaves with a friendly nod and salute.

TOWN MAYOR (CONT'D)
(to a pretend person)
You are hereby notified that energy disturbances have been detected and the potential for Blasters escaping from their black holes in space is likely. Alert-alert.

He changes location, talking to himself - the pretend person receiving the message.

TOWN MAYOR (CONT'D)
Yes Sir. Code White to be confirmed.

He changes place again.

TOWN MAYOR (CONT'D)
But only when there really ARE aggressive Blasters on the loose. Not when we already know it's the college kids and another silly prank!

And again.
TOWN MAYOR (CONT'D)

Code will be cancelled Sir.

And again...

And again...

Good! Now go and have another whiskey!

Good plan Sir!

EXT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE

Jack is in a hurry.

INT. NEWCASTLE COLLEGE - COSMIC ERROR 101 CLASSROOM

Jack rips around the corner into the class to find THE FAIRY TEACHER slumped over on the floor.

FAIRY TEACHER
You've gotta get Colin back here. We've gotta cancel the simulation.

JACK STONE
Why? What's wrong?

FAIRY TEACHER
Blasters are leaving jail. No simulations can be conducted when there's a Flubux in the Cosmos. The whole world turns weird.

JACK STONE
There's a Flubux?

FAIRY TEACHER
Haven't you heard the alarms?

JACK STONE
I thought they were just pranks.

FAIRY TEACHER
No prank this time. You've gotta bring Colin back so I can reverse it. If I can reverse it.
JACK STONE
What's the matter with you?

FAIRY TEACHER
I've got a bad case of Fairy Flu.
Fairy's are the first to get sick
when the Cosmos goes awry. Then
it's the Dream Waters and then the
poor little things on Earth.

EXT. STREET - NEW YORK - EARTH

Ross Muligan is lost on a busy street. He stares at the sky
scrappers in awe, then down to a NEWSPAPER BOX. The paper
inside reads: BLACK ENERGY - ARE YOU AT RISK?

Ross pulls out a small CARD out of his pocket.

LOCKLEY ATOM - OUT OF LUCK, CALL US UP

MASTER SEEKERS INC. LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COSMOS

(624) 363-6478 Numbers that coincide with MAID OF MIST, if
you were to ever notice. He dials the card. BUSY. Notices one
of the locations:

NAKAHISHMA HEALTH FOOD STORE He's on his way.

EXT. COLIN'S FRONT YARD

He's hosing down the house.

JACK STONE
What are you doing?

COLIN O'RIELY
Some people wash floors when
they're upset, I hose the house.

Good enough answer.

JACK STONE
Listen, I'm gonna say something
right now that you might not like,
but please. I never meant to hurt
you.

Colin turns away from his job.

COLIN O'RIELY
Alright?
JACK STONE
You’re taking Cosmic Error 101 right now.

Colin shakes his head and turns away.

COLIN O’RIELEY
Jack please don’t joke around right now. I’m not in the mood.

JACK STONE
Right now. You’re in a simulation. It’s not real. It’s part of the course.

Colin calmly turns around.

COLIN O’RIELEY
It’s not real.

JACK STONE
No.

COLIN O’RIELEY
Is THIS real?!

He SPRAYS Jack with the hose.

JACK STONE
OK that was real. But you’ve gotta come back to class so the teacher can reverse it. You can’t be involved in a simulation when the Cosmos is in Flubux. We could get trapped in a craziness that’s bad for the health. Not only that, it could kill you.

Too late.

BLASTER CRONUS O.S.
Things are getting a little too crazy.

They both turn. Blaster Cronus is concealed by black veils.

BLASTER CRONUS
Even for me. If you could just hold off on your anxiety about the whole Flubux thing, then it will give me a chance to do my job properly. Without any disruptions. So can you please just relaaax. Caaalm down.
Blaster Cronus BOWS, waving his arms in a “salami, salami bologna” fashion.

Colin and Jack become increasingly carefree.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)

Chill out. Decompress.

Jack looks blissfully relaxed.

JACK STONE

Thanks.

BLASTER CRONUS

You’re very welcome. Two down. Ten to go.

Cronus’ BEEPER goes off.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)

Oh! There we go. I’ve got business in The Mists. See ya. Har-har-

He coughs and pops a cough drop.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)

Ahem. Must be the cold night air in The Mists of Mount Anik.

POOF! He’s gone.

EXT. NAKAHISHMA HEALTH FOOD STORE - EARTH - NEW YORK

ROSS MULIGAN

Why do I have the strangest craving for Goji berries? Must be Lockley trying to drum up business. Those Mystics! They’re all alike. All they care about are their profit points.

EXT. MISTS OF MT. ANIK - DINNER TABLE

Ben and Kazdon are back. Full of confidence. At least that’s what they’re trying for.

If you look into the distant mists, you might be able to see Cronus, flying around, fixing THE DINNER TABLE.
KAZDON O'RIELY
We gotta believe in ourselves.
We've gotta know that this is the
RIGHT thing to do.

BEN MULIGAN
We're doing the right thing.
Sneaking around where we're NOT
supposed to be - looking for a
Blaster. Yeah. Aha. We're doing the
RIGHT thing.

And THERE is Cronus. Sitting at a GORGEOUS TABLE FULL OF
FOOD. He looks very different than before. He's DRESSED FOR
DINNER, wearing his fine golden robe.

BLASTER CRONUS
I admire your braveness. Why don't
you come join me.

Kazdon and Ben sit and Cronus pours them grape juice. They
drink, cautiously.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)
It's only grape juice. I have
"some" rules.

KAZDON O'RIELY
We've come because of The Hide and
Seeker Game. It's real isn't it.

BLASTER CRONUS
Very smart for-

KAZDON O'RIELY
Ten.

BLASTER CRONUS
Must take after your father. Yes,
there are many aspects of reality
in it.

KAZDON O'RIELY
Then if a Seeker can turn Blaster.
A Blaster must be able to turn
Seeker.

BLASTER CRONUS
Bingo! We've have a winner!

KAZDON O'RIELY
And that means "you" can be
reformed.
BLASTER CRONUS
No. I'm not in the mood for reformation right now. Sorry.

BEN MULIGAN
But look at you. My brother insulted you about the way you looked before, but now...

KAZDON O'RIELY
Now you look so fine. Where did you get such cloth? It looks royal.

BLASTER CRONUS
I was a Seeker once. Like you, like your father. I aspired for the highest degrees. Angel Status. Until the day I took the big test. You never know how hard it is until you get there. And I fell. One taste of ALL that I COULD have. And I wanted it all.

KAZDON O'RIELY
What if you could try again. Fix things. Put things right.

BLASTER CRONUS
I'm kinda doing that right now kid.

Quizzical looks from the boys.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)
Let me tell you the facts of life. I've been released from Nowhere Land to do a job. Part of that means that I ensure The Great Serpent gets fed with the food that Great Serpents eat. You might think it's chicken and shrimp, but it's not so easy. It's despair. So that's where I come in. I create despair and then- there's the feast. And everything's cool.

KAZDON O'RIELY
Then what happens to you?

BLASTER CRONUS
That's the problem. I've gotta finish my sentence in jail even after I do the dirty work. And I'd really rather not.

(MORE)
I like my freedom. Do you know how bad it is in Nowhere Land?

EXT. NOWHERE LAND FOOD LINE

The Blasters hold out their plates and there it is: Ooglies which are the ugliest green slimy things ever and heaped on the side of that is the mash—some kind of plastery gruel that is supposed to fill the gap.

BLASTER CRONUS
This is what my life has been reduced to.

LUNCH LADY BLASTER
Well at least it fills the gap.

BLASTER CRONUS
That plaster doesn't just fill it, it sticks in my windpipe, stops up my intestinal track and—

The Lunch lady backs off for a moment as do several in the line. Plbbphbbph!

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT'D)
Gives me gas.

EXT. MISTS OF MT. ANIK - DINNER TABLE

BLASTER CRONUS
So why would I want to go back there?

KAZDON O'RIELY
Maybe we can help?

BLASTER CRONUS
You're a couple of kids? How could you help me?

KAZDON O'RIELY
If we could find a way to help you reform, would you?

BLASTER CRONUS
I don't want to go back to Nowhere Land with a bad name. The other Blasters would make fun of me. I've gotta keep up the image you know.
KAZDON O'RIELEY
But would you?

BLASTER CRONUS
I'll tell you what. I'd rather feed
The Serpent with the power of
paradox rather than despair. It
saves me a lot of work. You
convince your Dad to give me the
paradox when it hits critical mass
and I'll consider it.

BEN MULIGAN
Critical mass? That sounds-

BLASTER CRONUS
I know. It's got that critical
sound to it.

BEN MULIGAN
Why's it bad?

BLASTER CRONUS
Cause it is! Having a paradox
growing inside you is serious
business.

EXT. THE O'RIELEY'S HOUSE
A single moon rises in the sky.

INT. THE O'RIELEY'S HOUSE - ONE WEEK LATER
Colin, Marla and their son, Kazdon, slurp soup together.
Kazdon wears a clean pressed shirt he's neat compared to-
Colin who looks a mess. NOWHERE LAND is closed in front of
him.

KAZDON O'RIELEY
You wanna open the book don't you?

COLIN O'RIELEY
But I can't. I don't know why.

MARLA O'RIELEY
If you tell us what's bothering you
maybe we can help.

Colin looks so lackadaisical.
I don't know.

I think you need to do what they do in The Game.

Colin looks very curious to hear what Kazdon has to offer.

Yeah? What's that?

Build the power of paradox points and then turn it into food for The Great Serpent.

Colin turns to Marla.

Honey I really think that he's a little too young for the Vanmeer stuff. It's like on Earth when you play around with Ouiji boards and-

You said it was like Monopoly.

That's how it STARTS. Starts out with Monopoly, then before you know it you're playing Dungeons and Dragons and Quija boards and then Role Playing Games and before you know it you're UP HERE- THE FOURTH WORLD - DOING SIMULATIONS THAT YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

Colin feels his eyes turning. He pulls his head down and pretends he's got some fuzz in his eyes.

You OK?

A little bit of fuzz sure feels harsh.

He rubs, then removes his hands because he can't stand it any more. He's GOING BLASTER!

Colin?

Cool!!!!
He GROWS a tail. He GROWS spikes. His EYES gleam serpentine.

**COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)**
Har-har-har!!!

And then, as quickly as it happened, he shrinks back.
Marla's EYES would pop if they were any bigger.

**COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)**
I'm sorry! I should have told you. But I was scared you wouldn't love me anymore. You DO still love me?

Marla recovers her composure.

**MARLA O'RIELY**
Of course I still love you. You're still the man I married. Well, almost still the man I married. Aren't you?

**COLIN O'RIELY**
Of course I am. I think.

Looks down at the soup and plays with the noodle letters.

**COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)**
Good soup. You use any kind of periwinkle?

**MARLA O'RIELY**
That stuff can be addictive if you overuse it, Colin. I try and save it for special occasions.

**COLIN O'RIELY**
No matter what, you two are always my special occasion.

Now, he completely turns back to his languid state.

He kisses Marla and Kazdon; then leaves with the book.

Marla gets up to take the soup away. The noodles say:

**ERROR**

**EXT. CASTLE BEHIND NEWCASTLE - MORNING**

The sun rises and shines magnificently inside the windows-
INT. SEEKERS' PLAZA - MEETING ROOM

Maybe it's not so magnificent for our Seekers seated for conference.

MICHAEL WEBSTER, 17, pulls his baseball cap down to shield the sun. Good idea. SAMANTHA VIS ONE, (Vis-i-oh-nee), 37, a beautiful French Italian psychic with provisions - namely: A PACKED PURSE. She pulls out two cucumber rings, places them on her eyes and leans back.

LOCKLEY ATOM, 40s, the mystic teacher, wears mood glasses, currently in orange mode. His hair is long and tied back. He directs an important meeting for our twelve master SEEKERS - of whom Colin is one.

LOCKLEY ATOM
I've called this meeting because you guys have been schlepping about lately. Even when alarm bells go off, you still aren't moved. Have you forgotten who we are? What we stand for?

The sound of a burp. Lockley winces.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Every timeline has its own Doomsday. The dark night of the soul when one must find meaning in the hopeless pit of despair. For help with that, God created you, the master Seekers-

- preoccupied with their doodling, clipping fingernails, fidgeting, blowing bubble gum or snoozing.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Here are your names, gilded without any need for introductions in SEEKERS GOLD EDITION.

He holds up a MAGAZINE, the twelve shine their teeth at us. Indeed, intros this sizeable should be lopped off; so fast forward.

Colin is stuck in the middle of these guys and gals that are too difficult to figure out in one go. Their nametags:
Have holographic imprints that shine like mini lasers.

All have a tendency to yawn a lot at present. Must be intros.

OR - Cronus undoing their Seeker fervor.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
You aren't just researchers of reality. You are aspiring angels - the lights for dark times -

Lockley's phone rings.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Hello Halo. No problem too big or too small we handle 'em all.

EXT./INT. - EARTH - NAKAISHMA HEALTH FOOD STORE

Ross Muligan, stands, bewildered, holding onto an old spiral-corded black telephone receiver.

ROSS MULIGAN
Are you Lockley Atom, owner of The Nakahishma Health Food Store?

INTERCUT:

LOCKLEY ATOM
Yes.

ROSS MULIGAN
This might sound strange, but I kind of fell into earth, found my way into your store. Ate a few Goji berries and now I'm trapped in here with a big-

Next to Ross, stands Blaster Cronus - looking spiffy in Earth attire - Kind of got his freak goin' on. A Saturday Night Fever vibe.

ROSS MULIGAN (CONT'D)
Big and not very happy looking...

The sound of A Blaster's HAR-HAR-HAR alerts Lockley.
ROSS MULIGAN (CONT' D)
He calls himself a Blaster and says he’s gonna feed every single soul on earth to the Great Serpent beginning with me unless you bring him a suitable replacement.

LOCKLEY ATOM
A replacement?

The Blaster rips the phone away from Ross.

BLASTER CRONUS
Let’s see... How ‘bout a nice big juicy paradox with fries on the side. None of that tofu and sprouts. Oh no. And certainly not ooglies and mash or I’ll be very blasted.

BLASTER CRONUS (CONT’ D)
Bring it to earth - Niagara Falls on The Maid of the Mist. You know the drill in troubled times now don’t you Lockley? Or have you and your weakling Seekers forgotten what it’s like to be really hungry? Well let me assure you, The Great Serpent hasn’t- and awaits his meal.

Lockley’s eyes show the reality: This is not a prank. His glasses do too. The frames are now black.

EXT. NIAGARA FALLS

People in raincoats ride on The MAID OF THE MIST. They’re happily being sprayed with the mist of water when: SHOCKED FACES scream What is that?! A GIANT SERPENT disappears under the water.

INT. NAKAHISHMA HEALTH FOOD STORE

The Blaster knocks back a GOOD FOR YOU juice.

BLASTER CRONUS
One way or another, he needs to be fed. That’s not my law- that’s your law. Har-har-har-har!
INT. SEEKERS' PLAZA - MEETING ROOM

Like children, the 12 are alert for what they're not supposed to hear. All their eyes are on Lockley, waiting.

Lockley waves, feigning that nothing's wrong.

LOCKLEY ATOM

Just an old friend. Now then-

COLIN O'RIELY

That was your work phone.

LOCKLEY ATOM

Was it? Oh-

COLIN O'RIELY

Well what's the job?

LOCKLEY ATOM

Job?

COLIN O'RIELY

Who called for help?

LOCKLEY ATOM

Beh-bah. False alarm.

Ring-a-ding again. The twelve throw their hands up.

JACK STONE

And he complains about us.

INT. THE ATOMS' HOUSE - KITCHEN

It's Lockley's wife, REANNE ATOM, 30s, surrounded by out of control children stacks of dishes and blinking lights.

REANNE ATOM

Honey do you think you could stop by the Mystic Casserole and pick up something for supper. The pranksters must have fiddled with the power 'cause it's been blinking on and off ever since the first bout with the alarms. Try roasting a chicken in a cold oven. It doesn't work.

INTERCUT:
INT. SEEKERS’ PLAZA - MEETING ROOM

LOCKLEY ATOM
The power blinking?

REANNE ATOM
That’s what I said. Lockley? Can you hear me? I’m getting static-

Lockley eyes looks sunken. He tries to be bright.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Stop by the Mystic. Sure will Reanne. (hiding himself) Kissy-kissy moo-moo.

INT. THE ATOM’S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Mrs. Atom smiles adoringly and smooches a goodbye.

INT. SEEKERS’ PLAZA - MEETING ROOM

Lockley clears his throat, then stops. Thinking real hard.

LOCKLEY ATOM
You all wouldn’t object to me stepping out for a few minutes into the Dream Waters would you.

Samantha squints at him. His glasses are askew.

Lockley excuses himself. His POV: Door placard: DREAM WATERS

Two steps and a door closed is all it takes. WHOOSH.

EXT. DREAM WATERS

It doesn’t look dreamy at all. The grim circumstances can’t be equivocated here and Lockley’s expression shows it.

He turns around in grievous awe. When he’s grabbed from behind.

KAZDON O’RIELY O.S.

Please!

Lockley SPINS around.

It’s Kazdon.
LOCKLEY ATOM
How did you get in here?

KAZDON O'RIELY
Came through the mists...

Lockley's hit with anger.

KAZDON O'RIELY (CONT'D)  LOCKLEY ATOM
I know I'm not supposed to go You're too young to go into there, but this is important! the mists!

Lockley sighs, then relaxes.

GREEVIS O.S.
As you can see, the boy is right.

Lockley turns to see GREEVIS, ancient, an eccentric old man with a PATCHWORK COAT of a thousand pockets.

Greevis has many jobs; here, he's the captain of a boat that transports souls through-

LOCKLEY ATOM
This place has sure changed.

A REMEMBRANCE of the DREAM WATERS FORMER BEAUTY.

-the shimmering dream waters into glorious caves and through to the magical castle.

But now the place has changed. These are SWAMPLANDS and what was once a castle, is now a JAIL. Lockley sees what he feared: The Dream Waters are a nightmare.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Did you know the boy was here?

GREEVIS
Yes. It seems the fates are moving swiftly. The boy's father is beginning to show his genetic lineage. The time of time's turning has come.

KAZDON O'RIELY
I met someone by the name of Cronus. He needs help. I can sense it.

Lockley bends down, takes hold of Kazdon's chin, and searches his eyes.
LOCKLEY ATOM
And how might that be?

Scrutinizing a little more.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Ahhh! Well I’ll be. Sometimes it
skips generations and sometimes-

He ruffles Kazdon’s hair.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
You’ve got some Blaster blood
flowing inside you too.

KAZDON O’RIELEY
(to Lockley)
He needs a chance to change. He’s
not as bad as he seems. He’s...
Conflicted.

GREEVIS
(to Kazdon)
And you would understand that
wouldn’t you?

A long beat as they stare at each other.

KAZDON O’RIELEY
I know what Cronus wants.

Eyes on Kazdon.

KAZDON O’RIELEY (CONT’D)
He wants to use the power of the
paradox inside my dad to feed the
Great Serpent.

LOCKLEY ATOM
But he could just feed him Despair.
Why would he go through the trouble
of extracting the power of paradox
when it’s EASIER for him to just
command his demon army to earth?

KAZDON O’RIELEY
That’s not what he said. He said it
was a lot of work to create despair
and he’d RATHER use the paradox.
GREEVIS
Well I'll be a Meefer's uncle.
Cronus getting soft. After all these aeons.

LOCKLEY ATOM
There's obviously SOME light in these dark times. Who'd ever think it would be in Cronus?

GREEVIS
Go through winter and you'll soon find spring.

Greevis pulls something out of his coat. He offers it, kindly. It's the BRANCH of a Level Tree with GREEN BERRIES.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Gadsbeeks alive Greevis. Have things gotten so bad that's all you've got for a gift? Those things are so bitter they make lemons taste sweet. (handing one to Kazdon)...just so you can say you've had one. But it's nothing to brag about.

Kazdon makes a face as he chews.

GREEVIS
But you've seen these.

Greevis pulls out another one, similar with RED BERRIES.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Now you're talkin'.

Lockley takes it and eats it; hands one off to Kazdon again. Their faces melts in satisfaction.

GREEVIS
Something no one knows is that they're the same fruit.

Lockley's astonished.

LOCKLEY ATOM
What? Did I miss something in The Joy of Mystique?
GREEVIS

The mystery of the Level berry is the meeting of the two ends of reality. Bad/good. Bitter/sweet.

He holds out the red berried Level branch in his right hand and the green one in his left hand.

GREEVIS (CONT'D)

They both exist for the purpose of comparison, without which we don't experience life at all. Can you handle that right now?

LOCKLEY ATOM

I can handle it. It's the "now" part I'm having trouble with. I think I know what needs to be done. Set your intentions. We're goin' to earth.

Kazdon, hopeful.

KAZDON O'RIELY

Me too?

Lockley fixes on Kazdon for a moment.

LOCKLEY ATOM

How skilled are you at Hide and Seeker?

KAZDON O'RIELY

I've won four tournaments... just last year.

LOCKLEY ATOM

Earth it is.

Kazdon jumps up cheering. Very strange looking in these surroundings.

KAZDON O'RIELY

(realizing)

Oh. Sorry. Not the place. OK.

Lockley turns just as Greevis gives his shoulder a pat. Yeah, difficult work ahead.

INT. SEEKERS' PLAZA - MEETING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Lockley enters. He rolls his shoulders, preparing for truth.
LOCKLEY
I lied about there not being a job.

The group doesn’t look surprised. They’re half asleep.

LOCKLEY ATOM
For this one, we have to review the natural laws and of course you know that some laws are harder to keep than others.

A few murmurs from those mildly cognizant...

SEEKERS
I’ll say. Got that right. Betch your patootie.

That bit of talk prompts Colin to twitch as he snorts awake.

LOCKLEY ATOM
The hardest law of all...

That triggers it! They’ve played this game before and-

The twelve INSTANTLY wake up, ready to gamble.

Colin puts on a POKER HAT. Jack puts on a POKER FACE. Samantha empties a whole whack of QUARTERS.

EDDIE (wants to be a movie star) STEINER, 20s. LIGHTS his bestest cigarette with his favorite zippo. Colin SNAPS a $20.

COLIN O’RIELEY
I got twenty bucks says it’s conflicts of interest between worlds.

ALBERT RYST. 71, bright and wirey, matches the twenty.

ALBERT RYST
I’m in-

Lockley half heartedly pulls down a white projection screen.

LOCKLEY ATOM
It’s my fault. They warned me. Don’t get too friendly with your students. But would I listen- nooh.
At the table-

INNOCENCE TEMBU, late 20s, Nigerian. A protective nature.
INNOCENCE TEMBU
I’ll go with not sneaking magic over to the next world. That’s gotta be the hardest.

Innocence throws in thirty. Samantha starts counting quarters.

SAMANTHA VISIONE
Yeah that’s a good one Innocence. one. 1, 2, 3, 4, two...

Eddie takes a big puff and blows a smoke ring.

EDDIE STEINER
I’ll see you on that one.

Everyone is busy calling their bets except James and Father.

FATHER ROBERT HOLMES, 40s, has a far off look. JAMES FLEMING is intense with his notes.

HEIDI WINSLOW, 30s, a petite powerhouse, dabs perfume.

Lockley, who knows it’s going to be awhile, closes his eyes. James has this humongous grocery list of laws and he’s assigned a point value to each and titled the page:

METHODOLOGICAL SYSTEM FOR THE ADVANCED UNDERSTANDING OF MORAL LAW IN CROSS REALITY JUMPING.

All except Father are staring at James.

LEONA CARTER, 20s, mostly serious, a rosary at hand.

LEONA CARTER
Well, James?

James doesn’t hear. He’s now drawing out a table. Heidi pulls down her top to show some cleavage and leans over James.

HEIDI WINSLOW
James, honey...

James is still oblivious.

MICHAEL WEBSTER
James you got some dirt on your wrist.

JAMES FLEMING
What?!
He looks. Cleansy peansy so it's back to the calculations.

ALBERT RYST
You think you might bet before Christmas?

JAMES FLEMING
I’ll stay on the conservative side but I’ll go with innocence on keeping Magic this side thus.

Father has come to and Father- oh Father! He brings out the big bills.

FATHER HOLMES
I think it’s what Flin said when he left the Dream Waters.

EXT. DREAM WATERS - LAKE WONDERFUL - FLASHBACK
FLIN THE TALKING FISH burbles:

FLIN THE FISH
You mustn’t remember this reality. You must go there as a blank slate. Or it breaks cosmic code. Very bad consequences.

Didn’t Ross do that when he took that plunge?

BACK TO:

INT. SEEKERS’ PLAZA - MEETING ROOM

BRUCE JARSE, 30s, a big bouncer type with an Australian accent, shakes Lockley who now has a far off look.

BRUCE JARSE
Well?

Lockley blinks and snorts.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Well what?

BRUCE JARSE
Well, was Flin right when he said that not taking a memory from this life is the hardest law to keep?
LOCKLEY ATOM
Oh yes, Flin was right.

Father cashes in. The others shrug "oh wells".

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Leaving a life in the 4th without any memory is the hardest law to keep and we need to do that. Even in the hard times. The hardest of times. The worstest and hardest of-

Look, I'm not too good with things right now so-

FATHER ROBERT HOLMES
There's only one thing to do at time like this?

LOCKLEY ATOM
Pray?

FATHER ROBERT HOLMES
No. Why do you think God gives us diversions? It helps us gain a new perspective.

Lockley's eyes show hesitant agreement.

FATHER ROBERT HOLMES (CONT'D)
The best place for us in these times is the House of Chance.

Big cheers from the table.

EDDIE STEINER
Better bring more than your winnings Father cause I'm ready for a return on my deposit.

Lockley gets a notion.

LOCKLEY ATOM
That might be the perfect place to find out what's going on in the universe.

SEEKERS
Huh?

LOCKLEY ATOM
You'll see. Work before play.

They're off and in a hurry.
EXT./INT. HOUSE OF CHANCE

The Seekers follow Lockley over to the WRESTLE-MIGHTY slot machine. They take turns - actually they shove like school children, to get a place in front.

EDDIE STEINER
Thanks Lockley. I love your idea of work before play.

LOCKLEY ATOM
I'm not playing around here. This baby's gonna tell us what's going on in the cosmos.

Lockely SMACKS a large magnet down on the side of the machine then pulls the lever.

A wheel spins. The seekers watch.

HEIDI WINSLOW
Weirdest slot machine I ever saw.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Watch and learn. These two might look like just a couple of fighters-

Ya swear you've seen these types before.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
-but they're angels and they're good at what they do.

It looks like Wrestlemania. Two enormous beings appear in a ring, doing what they do best - fight.

A PRIMITIVE, 8 Ft., like a caveman and a civilized SEEKER, 7 Ft., circle the ring, eyes fixed on each other.

These are WOLF WILDERMYSTER, (leader of Primitives) and AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS, known as PESCO, (leader of Seekers), both as if 30s, but they're actually ancient eternal beings.

Their cause is to keep the forces of wild and tame balanced. See the scale at the top? Wild and Tame are tipping to either side erratically.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
Behold! Wolf Wildermyster-

Wolf is the great wildman, his hair looks like it's been brushed with a blender. Wolf turns.
WOLF WILDERMYSTER

Hoobie doobie Lockeroonie!

Lockley waves.

LOCKLEY ATOM
And Agkistrodon Piscivorus.

Agkistrodon is leaner, but equally muscular. He turns too.

AGKISTRODON
Ah Lockley? Just call me Pesco will ya?

Holy House of Chance! A BLASTER appears, tapping Lockley on the shoulder. It’s BLASTER RUCKUS, big awkward bad guy.

BLASTER RUCKUS
Hey what about me?

LOCKLEY
You’re a mistake.

BLASTER RUCKUS
Shouldn’t of said that...

POOF! Another Blaster pops into their midst. BUSTER (aspire for more) BLASTER. Where’d he get that satin jacket?

All the while, Pesco and Wolf continue to fight in the slot.

The Seekers are entertained by the fight and don’t even notice BUSTER, who’s bent down to tie his SATIN SHOELACE.

CORDELIA, 20s, a black haired cross between Pipi Longstocking and the Beetlejuice girl, rushes in with a newspaper.

CORDELIA
Don’t you guys read the news?!

Sheepish looks. They squirm.

COLIN O’RIELY (to Lockley)
Who’s she?

LOCKLEY ATOM
Believe it or not- Shiva’s daughter. She’s got a very split personality so you never know with her.
CORDELIA
And don’t you realize who’s standing in your very midst?

They look around and-

HEIDI WINSLOW
It’s a Blaster! Two!

CORDELIA
Something’s gone loopy in the cosmos and Blasters are leaving their prison in Nowhere Land every time you say “mistake” oops.

Another Blaster POPS in the meeting room. He looks smart.

BRAINY BLASTER
Har-har-har-har!

Ruckus, Buster and Brainy. Three of them altogether.

Colin gets up. He’s small and wimpy compared to the Blasters.

COLIN O’RIELEY
In the name of Shiva I am making a citizen’s arrest right now and you’d better get back to the black hole in space from which you came and are sentenced to spend the next ten Aeons or I’ll-

BUSTER BLASTER
You’ll what?!

COLIN O’RIELEY
Make sure you live on boiled ooglies and mash even after your prison term.

BUSTER BLASTER
You don’t scare me.

COLIN O’RIELEY
Wait a second...

Colin turns to Lockley.

COLIN O’RIELEY (CONT’D)
What was the job?
LOCKLEY ATOM
To feed The Great Serpent and send these grumpy fellows back to Nowhere Land.

BRAINY BLASTER
We'll see about that.
(to his buddies)
Come on.

LOCKLEY ATOM
With them popping up again, it proves: It is time again for the Great Fight between Wolf and Agkistrodon-

In the slot, Pesco turns just in time to say-

PESCO
Pesco please.

And that gives Wolf the chance to land the perfect punch. He starts to laugh heartily. Pesco gives a "dirty rat" look and lunges.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Sorry, er, Pesco... This is The Prophecy of The Greatest Fight for the 39th Aeon in the 165 dash 2214...

Lockley's numerical description slows as he tries to retrieve it from memory.

LOCKLEY ATOM (CONT'D)
...37 dash ... something-something quadrant of reality.

Wolf and Pesco realize what they've just heard.

WOLF
The big one?

PESCO
The big balancing-fight-of-the-39th Aeon-that-involves-death fight?

Lockley nods.

LOCKLEY ATOM
Mmh mm.

PESCO looks fondly at Wolf.
It seems like just yesterday we were little Seekers, practicing reality jumping, learning moral lessons, playing in the Dream Waters.

I know.

But balancing the universe is what we do.

With that, Wolf HEAD BUTS Pesco and the fight continues.

Wolf does a BACK BREAKER and Pesco falls unconscious.

VICTORY SONG PLAYS AS FIVE SMILING PICTURES OF WOLF RING UP KA-CHING

SLOT VOICE
The battle of the 39th Aeon goes to Wolf Wildermyster!

Tokens slide down.

I won! I won!

But - Pesco's on his feet. He gives a DEATH JAB into Wolf's temple and

VICTORY SONG PLAYS AS FIVE SMILING PICTURES OF PESCO RING UP KA-CHING

SLOT VOICE
The battle of the 39th Aeon goes to AGKISTRODUN PISCIVORUS.

Pesco. Pesco.

More tokens slide down.

Bruce scrunches his face.

What?! They both can't win.
SLOT VOICE
That is right. Neither wins. The fight doesn't happen.

JAMES FLEMING
They're the ones that balance the forces of the universe. The fight has to happen.

SLOT VOICE
I'm only a slot machine.

The slot machine whirs down to a complete stop.

Colin turns to Lockley who proclaims:

LOCKLEY ATOM
I need some time alone.

INT. THE ATOM'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

LOCKLEY ATOM
They're like my very own and I could lose them for aeons.

REANNE ATOM
What's happened to you? Why is this mission any different?

LOCKLEY ATOM
Because all the power problems today, the alarms...

REANNE ATOM
Just the college kids again. You know that.

Lockley nods, deadpan.

REANNE ATOM (CONT'D)
Ohh! The Big Balancing Fight-of-the 39th-aeon-that Involves-Death fight. So you're all going to earth to make sure the serpent gets fed.

LOCKLEY ATOM
But our mission is complicated this time.

Reanne thinks on this.
REANNE ATOM
It's always complicated.

LOCKLEY ATOM
You're right. It is. But maybe this is the mother of all complications. We're dealing with a Blaster who doesn't even know he's turning to the Light. He wants to feed the Serpent with the power of paradox.

REANNE ATOM
How's that bad?

LOCKLEY ATOM
Very dangerous. Do the words Big Bang ring a bell?

Reanne Atom faints.

EXT. GOVERNMENTAL OFFICES OF THE GREAT LORD AND LADY SHIVA
Two beautiful people god pictures hang on the wall.
Lord holds an axe. Lady, a wand.
Lockley paces to and fro.

LOCKLEY ATOM
OK remember - for this mission to have the greatest power of success. You've gotta have the greatest belief in its power for the greatest good. You've gotta request what you want with the most sincerity. For the good of all concerned...

He's still talking and the Seekers are waved in further to:

EXT. SHIVA'S OFFICES LOUNGE AREA - RECRUITING CENTER - LATER
WE WANT YOU! says a large poster on the wall.
Innocence comes from a back office, smiling.

INNOCENCE
So far, so good. Looks like we got ourselves a mission IF, Colin gives a good enough case for getting the job done.
My plea will be from the bottom of my heart. They can't refuse that.

The LEAD RECRUITMENT OFFICER FOR SHIVA enters, smartly uniformed, she smiles, but she's all business as she calls:

RECRUITMENT OFFICER
Mr. Colin O'Riely please?

COLIN O'RIELY
That's me!

He jumps up, heads quickly and trips over the coffee table leg. Recovering, he follows the R.O. into her office.

INT. OFFICE OF RECRUITMENT CENTER
Colin squirms like a grade one his chair.

COLIN O'RIELY
You kinda remind me of Mrs. Rigby, my first year Cosmic Error teacher. Eleanor was her first name believe it or not. I think her parents named her after the Beatles song...

RECRUITMENT OFFICER
Mr. O'Riely, if you'd like to just chat and shlep about as I've been hearing, perhaps you might like to go back and take 1st year Cosmic Error again?

COLIN O'RIELY
I thought that was what I was doing.

The R.O. searches the paper.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER
Indeed you are. You shouldn't be. There's a Flubux in the Cosmos. Oh my.

He nods "them the breaks".

RECRUITMENT OFFICER (CONT'D)
Let's proceed shall we? Well then, What does my reality researcher request this time?
Colin gives a tense look.

**COLIN**
To test my willpower. To take a paradox over the veils so it can be transmuted as food for The Great Serpent.

**RECRUITMENT OFFICER**
Do you understand what you ask for?

**COLIN**
Yes?

The R.O. officer’s eyebrow rises.

**COLIN O’RIELEY**
No. I’m probably definitely confused about the whole matter, but I really-really-really wanna bring some light to the planet earth and feed our new but old serpent of ages.

**RECRUITMENT OFFICER**
You’re right. I’m afraid you don’t understand the consequences of your request. The times you about to enter are the most difficult. It’s very presumptuous for you to think you can resist the power of paradox. It’s like a cosmic magnet that pulls you in. To give it up takes enormous strength.

**COLIN**
All angels need to be able to resist the temptation of the paradox power. How can I get the experience I need to become an angel if you won’t give me the job?

The R.O. taps her pencil. Colin makes puppy dog eyes.

**RECRUITMENT OFFICER**
Hmmm, the perpetual dilemma. Well, satisfying the serpent without any substance? That is a task for an experienced angel, not a Seeker.

**COLIN**
Master Seeker. I am a MASTER.
RECRUITMENT OFFICER
Not only are you presumptuous, but you have the determination I admire in a Master Seeker. Unfortunately, determination can be for fools when its foundation is misplaced reason.

COLIN
A Seeker seeks reason in the mystery that is you our Lord and Lady Shiva.

The R.O. moves behind a Japanese style screen for a moment and proceeds to wheel out a small baptismal basin.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER
Here then, I give you access to the healing powers of the Dream Waters—May you have the strength you so desire. But beware. Nothing leaves these waters without demanding payment afterwards. If you borrow, you must repay.

COLIN
I will. Seeker’s honor.

The R.O. hands Colin a clip board with the APPLICATION FORM

On it is the list of possible health conditions with boxes to tick off:

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
ALLERGIES
THYROID DISORDER
DIABETES
HIV POSITIVE
ASTHMA
HEART CONDITION
OTHER

Colin T IC KS THEM ALL. (Of course. He’s lived so many lives!)

As he starts to fill in OTHER, the R.O. places a hand on Colin’s to stop him...
RECRUITMENT OFFICER
I think that’s enough.

Colin smiles.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER (CONT’D)
Just sign here and we’re ready.

Colin signs, then bows his head. The R.O. scoops water that rushes over him and at this moment he has a vision.

COLIN’S VISION - DREAM WATERS
He stands before a metallic sea, shimmering resplendency in purple, green and gold hues that defy our normal world’s perceptions.

About twenty feet in front of him: Lady Shiva rises upon her majestic throne. She’s beautifully human looking right now, jewelled like a queen.

Colin is filled with awe by her stunning beauty and then-

Lady Shiva stands up and waves her arms, which causes her thrown to fly off, and a giant pier to appear as her platform. Another wave and she’s wearing a white frilled t-shirt and faded blue jeans.

LADY SHIVA
Oh it really feels good to go casual for a change. But don’t tell Lord Shiva. We’ve been having our differences lately and he might flip his Godly lid if he finds out.

Colin stands there amazed.

COLIN O’RIELY
No. Certainly no. Everyone needs time to kick back a little.

LADY SHIVA
That’s right. I’ve just thrown my throne. And made a pier appear. And you know that feels really liberating! How often does a God get to do that? It’s lonely at the top Colin. Really lonely. And it’s really hard for me to give you this whole spiel, but this, I’m afraid, I can’t lighten up on.
Lady turns very serious now, sounding like a genuine Goddess.

LADY SHIVA (CONT'D)
Do not come back empty handed, but come with your life and your lesson and I will give you peace. But if you come with death and displeasure, I will thrust you out just as a Blaster. Into the Nowhere Land, to remain there until the bitterness is sweetened by time.

COLIN O'RIELEY
Is it too late to change my mind?

LADY SHIVA
Sorry, you've already signed up.

Shiva picks up a mercurial droplet from the waters and flings it towards Colin where it lands.

Ping! In the center of his forehead

It is the memory of Cordelia, Lord and Lady Shiva's very own daughter.

CORDELIA
I have it all Colin. EVERYTHING you could ever want. The INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF NOWHERE LAND.

She holds the book. OPEN. CLOSED.

CORDELIA (CONT'D)
BUT, you must resist me.

Cordelia turns to walk in what becomes a mist.

Colin calls to her. He begins to run after her.

COLIN O'RIELEY
Don't go Cordelia! Come back! Where are my parents? Will I see them again?

He too into the mist.

INT. RECRUITMENT OFFICE

Kazdon sits alone, waiting, swinging his legs. The R.O. calls him back in.
RECRUITMENT OFFICER

I’m sorry. But you’ve been declined. There’s a Flubux in the Cosmos and we don’t make any exceptions during times like this. You’re too young.

Didn’t you always hate that when you were a kid? Kazdon is completely devastated.

MONTAGE:

FEET TAP TO A BEAT.

On the Mists of Mt. Anik, it’s an impossibly confident, Cronus, dressed completely for success.

Seekers, arrive on EARTH as a POWERFUL GROUP, like superheroes, claiming their roles to the fullest.

On EARTH, they step over dead bodies, but look closer: They’re NOT dead bodies. They’re DOLLS. Seems the FLUBUX is messing with everything.

They supply a HEALING TOUCH and people resurrect.

Cronus wears THE MEDALLION OF A SEEKER, AND A SMILE NOTHING LIKE A BLASTER.

He WALKS A STRUT, to the IMPOSSIBLY HAUNTING SOUND of Ten CC and A “DREADLOCK HOLIDAY” remix that’s SPOOKY -

Concentrating on trucking right,

He hears a dark voice beside of him,

And he looks ‘round in the state of fright,

He sees four faces-

One mad,

A brother from the gutter,

They look him up and down a bit

And turn to each other-

BLASTER BUSTER

He’s been consorting with a Seeker.
BLASTER RUCKUS
Could it be? Is Cronus on the verge of transformation BACK to his SEEKER SELF?

BLASTER BUSTER
A pact with his old friend Kole? Who's NOT currently a very merry old soul, but a VERY HUNGRY SERPENT?

BLASTER RUCKUS
I don't think we can trust him anymore.

BLASTER BUSTER
There's ONE way to find out.

He wears THE MEDALLION OF A SEEKER, AND A SMILE NOTHING LIKE A BLASTER.

BLASTER CRONUS
I don't like magic oh no! I love it!

BLASTER BUSTER
I think you should prove just how MUCH of a Blaster you still are?

BLASTER CRONUS
Don't you walk thru my words. You got to show some respect. Don't you walk thru my words because you aint heard me out yet.

And he looks down at his SNAKEY CHAIN. And says.

BLASTER BUSTER
I'll give you one dollar.

BLASTER CRONUS
You gotta be jokin' man. It was a present from my mother.

And then... A FIGHT ENSUES. And the medallion is RIPPED from his neck and THROWN to the ground.

BLASTER BUSTER
So you were Shiva's little FOOL? Or would that be a Wellspring Willy in the 4th world?
BLASTER RUCKUS
You kill the boy. Kazdon is his name is it? That, I think will prove your loyalty to our cause and ADD to our DESPAIR BANK. IF you DON'T, then consider it a mutiny. We'll handle the matter of feeding The Serpent. OUR WAY. THE WAY IT SHOULD BE - WITH ALL PURE AND NATURAL DESPAIR!!! HAR. HAR. HAR.

At Niagara Falls, THE GREAT SERPENT ROLLS THROUGH THE WATERS

END MONTAGE

EXT. MISTS OF MT. ANIK - LATER

Kazdon and Ben arrive to see Cronus, beat up, on the ground. They see his MEDALLION, lying on the ground.

KAZDON O'RIELY
What happened?

BEN MULLIGIN
Are you OK?

BLASTER CRONUS
I can't do it Kid. I can't do the deal with you on the paradox. I can't try and reform. I really AM sorry.

And this time he really means it.

KAZDON O'RIELY
Why? Tell me.

BLASTER CRONUS
Some very bad Blasters gave me a hard time. And if I don't prove my loyalty to them, they're gonna mutiny. If they mutiny, there won't be no room left for me to acquire the power of the paradox and feed Kole.

KAZDON O'RIELY
Kole?

BLASTER CRONUS
Your Grandfather.
KAZDON O'RIELY
How do you show your loyalty?

BLASTER CRONUS
By killing you. I can’t do it. I can’t kill you. There’s gonna have to be a lot of despair on Earth.

KAZDON O'RIELY
No! This can’t happen!

Kazdon grabs Ben.

KAZDON O'RIELY (CONT'D)
Come on!

BEN MULLIGIN
Where are we going?

KAZDON O'RIELY
The Nakahishma and we’re taking Agkistrodun with us.

BEN MULLIGIN
Agkistrodun? Agkistrodun?

KAZDON O'RIELY (CONT'D)
One of the most powerful Seeker Angels in the Cosmos- PESCO!

BLASTER CRONUS
Oh HIM. What about Wolf?

KAZDON O'RIELY
He will follow Pesco by default and THEN, the Big Balancing Fight of the 39th aeon can take place. The power of that WITH Dad’s paradox, will be enough to banish the bad Blasters back.

BLASTER CRONUS
How do you know all this?

Colin pulls out a book from inside his coat.

HIDE AND SEEKER RULE BOOK

KAZDON O'RIELY
Hide and Seeker. It’s in the rules.
EXT. DARKEST OF ULTRA DARK LANDS

BLASTER BUSTER
We need all of you to gather at the falls. Our young Seeker seems to be planning to employ the help of the greatest balancing angels. We need to stop the fight.

BLASTER RUCKUS
Release the... Cracken? Dragon? Big and scary alien?

BLASTER BUSTER
Release them ALL!!!!!

Oh MAN!

EXT. EARTH - NIAGARA FALLS

SERIES OF SHOTS
The CRACKEN leaves its cave.
DRAGONS FLAME their fiery breath.
BIG SCARY MONSTERS roam the earth.
PRIMITIVES THUMP AROUND.

INT. NIAGARA FALLS HOTEL - CONGRESS ROOM

THE POWER'S IN YOU - THINK POSITIVE are the words on the BANNER

Jack Stone is holding a motivational seminar where our Seekers are spreading LIGHT.

JACK STONE
... so you see, the POWER of positive thinking is real.

He holds up a flask of POWER MEDICINE.

JACK STONE (CONT'D)
If you THINK it will work, it will. You've all had the chance to try; so you KNOW it works.

Various happy nods from the crowd. WHEN-
- A big hairy PRIMITIVE busts through the door.

PRIMITIVE
Give me the medicine!

The people rush chaotic to the exit.

JACK STONE
In all honesty, I don't think the medicine is going to help you.

SAMANTHA VISIONE
I've got a free day pass for a spa treatment that includes a free waxing.

PRIMITIVE
Roargh!!!

SAMANTHA VISIONE
(digging in her purse)
Ha-ha. Cucumber?

JACK STONE
You'd really like it. They offer fabulous foot massage. Steam baths...

SAMANTHA VISIONE
I guess he's not really the spa type.

The Primitive, thumps towards them as they retreat backwards, hands giving the whoa sign.

The Primitive suddenly SNIFFS. Leona dabs perfume.

The Primitive's in LA-LA land and Eddie says,

EDDIE STEINER
Let's get outta here.
(big smile)
I always wanted to say that.

And the rest say,

SEEKERS
I'll say. Got that right. Betch your patootie...
Thanks for your participation. I now call this meeting officially closed.

And they SCRAM.

EXT./INT. TEMPLE - 1ST WORLD - NEVER AND FOREVER

Lovely SERENE MUSIC plays, but-

LORD SHIVA
You let him take the Dream Water's memory without restricting access?

LADY SHIVA
It was a momentary lapse alright? That time of day when it's neither dark or light and the deer pops on the road and you wonder where it came from.

LORD SHIVA
That's THE TIME dears travel-deeaar. That's when you've gotta be especially careful.

LADY SHIVA
Are you insinuating I'm a bad driver.

LORD SHIVA
I'm just saying that you aren't the most comfortable behind the wheel all the time; so you should tell me when you're having problems and I can help.

LADY SHIVA
I wasn't having problems and I don't need help deeaar.

LORD SHIVA
Then why am I the one changing tires and oil.

LADY SHIVA
Because-
GREEVIS
Ahem! Excuse me, but do you two even know what you’re arguing about anymore?

LADY SHIVA Driving!

LORD SHIVA Driving!

GREEVIS (CONT'D)
Sorry. With all due respect, but you should get back on topic- and that topic IS the fact that our Seeker, Colin O'Riely is running around with a dream memory that has now been REPLICATED by the Blasters who are using it to create chaos in all five worlds and- and He’s hyperventilating.

GREEVIS (CONT'D)
The Great Balancing Fight of the 39th Aeon might be going DOWN TO EARTH due to a very resourceful young Seeker who doesn’t realize that it could put the cosmos in JEOPARDY!

LORD SHIVA
I love Jeopardy!

LADY SHIVA
Me too!

They agree on something!

LORD SHIVA
Ding-ding-ding-ding. Ding-dong ding.

LADY SHIVA
Ding-ding-ding-ding. Ding-dong ding.

GREEVIS
Not the game show!

Lord and Lady fall out of their reverie.

LADY SHIVA
The real show?
LORD SHIVA
The Big show?

GREEVIS
What's the matter with you guys?!
You're supposed to be clued in on these things?

LORD SHIVA LADY SHIVA
We're only gods! We're only gods!
They turn to each other, a little bit of complaining.

LADY SHIVA
I mean really.

LORD SHIVA
They expect us to be perfect?

LADY SHIVA
Yuh. Like we're not supposed to ever make a mistake.

SHUCKS!

LADY SHIVA LORD SHIVA
Oh no! Oh no!

BLASTER RUCKUS POPS INTO NEVER AND FOREVER.

BLASTER RUCKUS
I MADE IT! I MADE IT INTO NEVER AND FOREVER!

LADY SHIVA
Sorry... THAT was an accident.

LORD HAULS ON HIS AXE.

THEN LADY HOLDS UP HER WAND

LADY SHIVA (CONT'D)
You've got a nasty BLASTY. I'll make it better.

She WAVES her wand and it fixes his blasty.

BLASTER RUCKUS
Thanks.

LADY SHIVA
Now get lost.
EXT. MISTS OF MT. ANIK - BALANCING RING

Kazdon steps into THE BALANCING RING area.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

Where's Wolf?

PESCO


Pesco has a good laugh then Kazdon spills his plea.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

You've gotta help us down on Earth. If you bring your balancing powers down to Earth, it will be enough to power to help my dad and feed my grandpa.

PESCO

The Great Serpent is Kole? Well I'll be. Wait. How do you know all this? You're just a kid.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

I'm a champions at Hide and Seeker.

PESCO

Oh. That's a good game. I learned a lot that way. Kind of like War Craft on steroids.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

Please, can you help us?

PESCO

I don't think Wolf would go for it. He hates Earth right now. All the skyscrapers. In Wolf's world, that's far too much stress to deal with.

KAZDON O'RIELEY

I brought something I think you'd like.

Pesco's eyes light up childlike.

PESCO

Really?
And there it is. THE PARTRIDGE FAMILY BUS.

PESCO (CONT’D)
An Earth collectible. How’d you know? Oh yeah. Hide and Seeker.

KAZDON O’RIELY
And the best part is. It comes completely enchanted!

PESCO
No way!

KAZDON O’RIELY
Really!

PESCO
Well lets poof out shall we?

KAZDON O’RIELY
We’ve gotta go and get my friend’s older brother. He’s been trapped in Lockley’s Health Food store on earth. He’s probably pretty sick of goji berries by now.

PESCO
I’ll do that... You know what? You need a superhero name!

Kazdon likes the sound of that.

PESCO (CONT’D)
How ’bout KAZ. THE KAZ.

KAZDON O’RIELY
(smiling)
The Kaz!

PESCO
OK I think we’ve gotta do some fight preparations. I like confetti. How do you feel about streamers? Too much?

KAZDON O’RIELY
Poor Ross. I get to be a hero and he’s stuck at the Nak. Things just aren’t fair.
INT. NYPD - JOHNNY BAUMAN’S OFFICE

JOHNNY BAUMAN, 25, (soon to be Pesco) a burnt out cop digs through a file cabinet. a file over to Colin O'Riely, science reporter for The New York Sun.

JOHNNY BAUMAN
So the Blue Rock last night? Feel good to be back in your old stompin’ grounds?

COLIN O’RIELEY
Kind of nerve-wracking actually. Actually, I don’t remember a thing.

JOHNNY BAUMAN
New York does that to people. We just grin and pretend we’re used to it, but it’s grating on the nerves alright.

Johnny finds what the file he was looking for and tosses it over to Colin.

JOHNNY BAUMAN (CONT’D)
Anyways, you asked me for info on the cases... That’s about as scientific as it gets around here. It’s confirmed as Lyssavirus-Rabies. But I don’t have to tell you that Mr. Science Guy.

The FAIRY TEACHER is a shadowy manifestation behind Johnny.

INVISIBLE FAIRY TEACHER
It’s not rabies. It’s NOT rabies. How could they lie?

COLIN O’RIELEY
Mmm... Twenty forty-eight was a good year up until six months ago.

Colin flips through the files.

JOHNNY BAUMAN
I stopped counting the dead a long time ago...

Johnny’s face goes numb. He looks dead. Colin looks up from the files.
Johnny?

What was Johnny is gone. JOHNNY IS PESCO. His face alights again.

PESCO

Pleased as punch to meet you. My name's Agki- well, just call me Pesco.

COLIN

What the-

PESCO

You wanted to know how many have died- I'd estimate about 10 million. And you're right. The petrol wars are over, we've got hydrogen fuel cells, the globe has cooled a quarter of a degree. Things are really looking up - were looking up - except for (his finger and thumb pinch again) a teensy rip in the veil between here and the hereafter. It happens every 50 gazillion aeons and really disturbs everyone a great deal. Especially my wife, Cordelia. Who, by the way, has the misfortune of having the responsibility of leading you to Niagara. It's worse than your postal strikes ever were. Ha-ha or Gmail goin' down. I really hate it...

Pesco continues to ramble as Colin's eyes narrow. Pesco then realizing his indulgence: waves off.

PESCO (CONT'D)

Ugh-ah... I can't expect you to understand all the details. I'm sorry, but it turns out that rabies aside, me and my brother - Completely opposite me in every way shape and form by the way - have a score to settle. It happens like I said about every 50 gazillion years or so, Earth years that is, but who's keeping track? Really. (laughs) Well, Shiva keeps track that's who and well- I hate to say it but it's that time again. (MORE)
PESCO (CONT'D)
Comes as faithfully as Christmas,
Death and Taxes.

EXT. BEYOND THE VEIL - THE FIFTH WORLD

Wolf clings to Pesco. He holds a knife to Pesco's throat.

WOLF
Thought you were going on a magical mystery tour without me eh?! May I remind you that you can't be in two places at once?

PESCO
Too late Wolf. I've already taken up residence in the body of Johnny Bauman.

WOLF
I think you forgot one little thing...

INT. NYPD

Pesco/Bauman goes numb again. Colin scrutinizes the process.

EXT. BEYOND THE VEIL

Wolf throws Pesco back and holds up a small Charlie Brown Christmas tree, roots dangling limply.

WOLF
You forgot to ground yourself upon your arrival dear brother. Now tell me, what was your little plan?

INT. NYPD

Colin draws close to Bauman's face. Touches it. He looks completely dead.

EXT. BEYOND THE VEILS - 4TH WORLD

PESCO
I was just going to combine business with a little pleasure. That's all. I always wanted to be a New York cop. What can I say?
Wolf throws down the little tree.

WOLF
A city slicker through and through.
Wants to play police man. Wants to fix nature. If you’d just leave nature and let it take its course everything would be fine, but you’ve got to build everything into neat little boxes and stack them to the sky and then what happens? The Twin Towers disaster is what happens. That’s where you and I differ Pesco. Cities like New York are what kill places like the mountains of Virginia. Eventually, they do.

PESCO
Let’s fight. We’ll settle this as we always have.

WOLF
How ‘bout Niagara?

PESCO
It’s a date, er, a fight... Wait, I thought you’d show a little more resistance to Earth and all that 2048 Concrete Jungle stuff that’s going on?

WOLF
Earth’s got some “Go Green” congresses going on. Might be fun.

INT. NYPD

COLIN O’RIELY
Shoot man you scared me. What just happened?

JOHNNY BAUMAN
I don’t know, but I don’t think I’m ever gonna be the same again.

He won’t. He changes again to Pesco.
COME ON. LET'S GO HAVE A LITTLE FUN. I THINK THE STRESS IS GETTING TO YOU.

They exit to-

EXT. NEW YORK STREETS

The Partridge Family toy bus has manifested itself into Earth reality and Lockley's Driving.

It's now a Seeker Bus. And Pesco wants to get happy.

They're on their way...

Picking up their Seeker Friends...

Drive through the clogged streets of chaos. And as they do...

The Monsters wave,

The Creepy Aliens wave,

The Crackens wave...

It must be that happy song. Either that or a very High Magic like Periwinkle.

INT. SEEKER BUS

EDDIE STEINER

You know what?

MICHAEL WEBSTER

What?

EDDIE STEINER

We all just broke the biggest law in the universe. I remember the 4th world with perfect clarity.

MICHAEL WEBSTER

Well, that sucks I guess, but I like living on the wild side.

EDDIE STEINER

I knew you had Primitive in you.
LOCKLEY ATOM
Destination, NIAGARA FALLS.
Mission, to feed-

BRUCE JARSE
Slinky.

SEEKERS
Slinky?!

BRUCE JARSE
Well you don’t think I wanna keep going around calling him The Great Serpent do you?

COLIN O’RIELY
Oh geeze!

BRUCE JARSE
What? It’s not that bad.

COLIN O’RIELY
It is too. This paradox inside me feels like it’s gonna blow!

Cordelia sits next to Colin. She’s got the look of a very eccentric little 12 year old, but she’s as eternally as old as Pesco.

CORDELIA
Just find your happy place.

COLIN O’RIELY
You’re my happy place! You’ve got all my memories that I want!

CORDELIA
OK forget I said that. Let’s try a different tactic...

Thinking.

CORDELIA (CONT’D)
I really don’t think well under pressure.

BLASTER HEADQUARTERS

A HUGE ENIAC of a computer. A big SCREEN and an even bigger gas like gage with its needle pointing close to FULL.

The needle bounces erratically.
BLASTER RUCKUS
Be prepared to SNAP UP that paradox when it hits critical.

BLASTER CRONUS O.S.
The only one gonna do the SNAPPING...

BLASTER CRONUS
Is ME!

BLASTER RUCKUS
You're history Cronus and you know it. The Seekers won't be able to pull of the fight in time. Colin's going full borg Blaster any moment. He won't be able to think of others when he FEELS THE HUNGER OF HIS FATHER. Har-har-har.

EXT. NIAGARA FALLS - MAID OF THE MIST

The Maid of the Mist doesn't usually sail at night, but THIS TIME IT DOES cause it's a weird Maid of Mist that's MADE OF MIST. OK, they're where they're supposed to be, kind of.

LOCKLEY
All aboard the Maid of the Mist. Except...

He turns to Wolf and Pesco.

PESCO
You two.

And right then, underneath our two angels, MOUNTAINS ARE MOVED as they RISE TO THE GREAT MT. ANIK OF THE EARTH PLANE

INTERCUT:

Lockley steps on the Maid of the Mist's GAS PEDAL and it SAAAILS high speed.

PHOOOSH!

UUUURCH!

THERE'S WOLF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD
WOLF
You guys crazy?! You just about forgot me! There's NO fight without me!

And they're moving as fast as they can INTO THE FALLS. And it's WEIRD BECAUSE WE'RE-

EXT. NIAGARA FALLS CANADA - NIGHT - PRESENT
Colin is rolled out in a coffin.
THUNDER

JACK STONE
I promise this won't hurt a bit.

Jack EXTRACTS a little bit of blood.

COLIN O'RIELY
Ahhhhhhhhhh!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

JACK STONE
OK, sorry. I lied, but you're under enough stress right now.

COLIN O'RIELY
Cordelia!!!!!!!!

Cordelia starts to sing.

CORDELIA
Bouncing babies. Bouncing babies.
You can kiss 'em you can hug 'em
you can bounce 'em you can love 'em
bouncing ba-bies. Bouncing ba-bies.

EDDIE STEINER
WHAT!? ARE YOU SINGING?

CORDELIA
My Mom used to sing it to me. It always helped ok! I just HATE the whole daughter of Shiva thing!

Colin is drenched with sweat.

COLIN O'RIELY
I can't hold it much longer!

His eyes are GLEAMING GOLD SERPENT EYES.
AND REALITY IS BLINKING BACK AND FORTH TO:

EXT. 4TH WORLD - MT. ANIK - PRESENT

MASTER IF CEREMONIES
Tonight is the night of transformation. Tonight, on earth, the serpent lives, waiting to devour the despairing souls.

-dressed as a circus ringmaster, his hat so fine and studded with gems. Around his stunning appearance and down the center isle, only to see the waists and feet on either side of our audience.

Now from the back, we see the torches burning on both sides of the platform where the leaders will renew their vows.

The crowd from behind appears a colorful sort, but how much so is still hidden.

Oh geeze. There’s a coffin on the platform where the Master stands. Not a casket, but a coffin— the ugly vampire kind.

As the Master fumbles with his papers, a sound comes from the coffin. Here Colin is quite normally dead.

COLIN O.S.
I- I- I-

Although the Master hears it, it’s too faint for the crowd to hear. He moves to the coffin and sees Colin staring at him.

COLIN V.O.
No way this is happening. What’s going on? Where am I?

The Master of Ceremonies swishes curtains around the platform.

The crowd whispers uncertainties about the delay.

In the coffin, Colin’s eyes have a live/dead thing goin’ on. Colin’s POV: On the Master.

COLIN O’RIELEY
Where am I?

The Master blows a shush through his thumb.

Colin corrects him.
COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)

(through his index finger)
It's "shhhhh".

The Master holds up both hands. He's missing the tops of both index fingers.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
I lost my tops when a witch cursed me for pointing her in the wrong direction. They're growing back though.

COLIN O'RIELY
Where am I?

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
That's not an easy question to answer at the moment.

COLIN O'RIELY
I can't move.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Well, considering you're half dead, I'd say you're doin' pretty good actually. Your lips move real well.

(Moving Colin's arm) Arm seems good. Try rubbing your stomach and patting your head.

Colin realizes he's in a coffin.

COLIN
Get me outta here!

The Master shushes him again.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
We don't wanna cause mass hysteria. People get spooked easily when there are ten full moons in the sky.

COLIN O'RIELY
What am I doing in a coffin?

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
They were all out of caskets.
COLIN O'RIELY
Do you know who you're talking to? I'm a Master Seeker of the highest degree.

MASTER IF CEREMONIES
Do you know who you're talking to? I've got to make sure this whole transformation process you're going through runs smoothly and so far you've really messed things up.

COLIN O'RIELY
What did I do?

MASTER IF CEREMONIES
It's what you didn't do that's the problem. You're supposed to be dead. Look.

The Master holds his Rule Book over Colin and reads aloud:

ON THE NIGHT OF THE TEN MOONS:
TWO ANGELS SHALL FIGHT ON MT. ANIK
A SEEKER SHALL DIE AND PROCLAIM HIS TRUTH

MASTER IF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
I needed a dead Seeker and you were listed on the master panel as being dead as a doornail.

Weird FLASHES of LIGHT.

COLIN O'RIELY
I'm getting weird flashes.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
So is my wife. Don't worry, they won't kill you. Seriously though, I'm getting them too. It's The Light. It's telling us not to sweat the small stuff-

COLIN O'RIELY
(relieved sigh)
Oh yeah. Yeah I always forget that.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
BUT THIS IS BIG STUFF COLIN!!!!!

Colin starts to stutter "I"s again.
Outside the curtain, the crowd is stirring.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
You wanna know the truth?

COLIN
Yeah. Straight up and no holds barred.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
The flashing means that you are experiencing a kind of quantum entanglement. You're here in the 4th world and down on earth at the same time. It seems you've been split in two.

COLIN
I tried to go back when they were bringing me across the veil into earth.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Well that explains it.

COLIN
I'm getting queasy feeling.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Look at the bright side. You know when you're really busy and you wish you could be two places at once?

Colin gives an uncertain nod.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
Voila!
(looking back)
I can't stall 'em any longer. Just pretend your dead and I'll figure something out.

The Master swooshes back the curtains.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
I thank you all for your patience while we've sorted through some of the intricacies of this most grand event in the history of historical histographers. Ahem... To continue... Rise oh Great One from the depths of Mists.
CROWD
The serpent must be fed.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
And so, tonight in the presence of mother moon, the opposite tribes gather in mutual respect to drink and to fight.

CROWD
To worship the fearless one, who honored his mission and chose his calamity for the sake of renewal.

INT./EXT COFFIN

COLIN O'RIELY
Fearless one?

The Master spins around.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
(whispering)
That would be your father, and you're not supposed to know, but ever since a guy named Ross Muligan took an earth memory across, well, there's been lots of exceptions and curious amendments.

COLIN O'RIELY
This really sucks.

Colin turns a wee bit vampirish.

COLIN O'RIELY (CONT'D)
I really suck. No-no! Blaster genes are bad enough. Not vampire ones too!

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Think of yourself as one of the lucky ones.

The Master quickly regains himself in front.

Coming 'round, these people turn out to be a curious assortment of humans, aliens and wild men and women.

Dotting the left side of the isle that separates them are THE SEEKERS with a clearly refined sense.
They like to wear jewelry and peer into little disky things they keep in their pockets half of most of the time. The other half of most of the time, they can’t help themselves: compulsively checking on the order of business like this chap:

Seeker #1 checks his Peekra. A horse race is in progress. Seekers love to gamble as you can see.

SEEKER #1
(whispering)
Come on Monty! You can do it. Show ‘em the way!

Not appropriate behavior for such a ceremony. The Primitives would never do such a thing.

On the right, THE PRIMITIVES are 7-8 Ft. Some are furry like Sasquatch; some are more human as Cavemen.

Primitive #1 braids his long beard, apparently feeling some wantonness as he peers over at the bedecked Seekers. It must be wrong to indulge in Peekra activity but quite respectable to engage in personal grooming.

Or not. SNIP.

PRIMITIVE #1
What did you do! You cut my beautiful beautiful-

Primitive #1’s wife puts the braid in her animal skin purse.

PRIMITIVE #1’S WIFE
I’ll give it back after the ceremony.

The leader of The Seekers, Pesco, stands tall (and he must) next to the leader of The Primitives, WOLF, about 8 inches taller.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
That we know peace, we know war. Let us honor our Lord and Lady in the Great battle for the 39th aeon.

PESCO
Tonight we honor our Creators, Lord and Lady Shiva.

Two magnificent statues of Lord and Lady stand tall at the face of the altar.
WOLF
Our Lord and Lady that cast down and bring up.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Pronounce who you are and your intentions.

WOLF
We honor the sides of wild and tame and fight to their glory and the glory of our Lord and Lady. We are brothers and fight in respect of the two divine powers that are to leash and unleash.

PESCO
We honor the sides of wild and tame and fight to their glory and the glory of our Lord and Lady. We are brothers and fight in respect of the two divine powers that are to leash and unleash.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
Bring forth the Meefers!

Two sorry looking caged Meefers are wheeled in their cages to the altar.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
As a sign of respect for the Primitives, their Shamans and the intuition they govern, the Meefers shall be set free at the end of this fight.

The Meefers jump excitedly. The Primitives hoot their applause.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (CONT'D)
As a sign of respect for the Seekers and their domestication, one or the other will be hunted and brought back to live as a pet for Shiva's daughter, Cordelia.

Inside the coffin, Colin whispers, Cordelia.

The Meefer's play out a possible life of domesticity, filing their nails and beaks, combing their fur and fluffing their feathers, putting on glasses and reading TWILIGHT TALES BY THE GRAY GHOST.

The drums begin to beat. An eerie glow rises as various herbs are tossed upon the coals of the altar.
Bursts of flame. Bursts of cheers from the crowd as Wolf and Pesco remove their robes, revealing their stripped down muscular bodies.

They walk to the great outcropping of Mt. Anik. The crowd follows, manic in anticipation of the great fight.

Two feet step inside a crop circle type of ring and Holy high mountain— it's breaking off from the mainland. Upon an island in the sky, Wolf and Pesco are transported on their fighting grounds to float in an acrophobic's nightmare.

Both Wolf and Pesco give only brief glances downward.

Like all primitives, Wolf is large and strong, but very slow. He just manages to grab Pesco's arm as he gets in a jab. Wolf lifts Pesco and throws him. Pesco lands hard, but gets up, calling Wolf on with his hands.

PESCO
Come hither Big Boy.

Wolf thumps forward, but amazingly Pesco heads to the edge where he back flips his way around the circumference.

The Crowd's mouths hang open.

Wolf becomes dizzy from Pesco's antics. He falls, crashing to the ground.

CROWD
Eeeew!

But Pesco is dizzy himself and he looks over the edge where he feels his wooziness.

PESCO
Ew is right. I hate this part.

Teetering, but he recovers and jumps Wolf while still in his lapse. In a smooth and certain movement, he reaches for the long iron shaft and raises it above Wolf's chest.

Many in the crowd are holding their hands over their hearts in empathy.

Pesco nods his honor to the crowd and prepares to slam it through his heart with a hearty gasp of air.

WOLF
Wait a minute! I died the last time it's your turn to die.
The crowd begins their own questions and arguments about who died last.

PRIMITIVE #1
Aeons of time are long. It's easy to forget. Can you remember what you had for lunch last Tuesday?

The Seeker grips his baby finger, in a counting expression.

SEEKER #1
(trying hard)
Let's see yesterday I had couscous and the day before I had...

PESCO
Your last turn was because you owed me when the old kingdom fell in the renewal of the 35th Aeon- anyways, Shiva doesn't make any mistakes.

WOLF
She made the first cosmic error what are you talking about?

PESCO
Besides that necessary burden- 0.

Again, Pesco sucks in a hard breath. He plunges the rod-

WOLF
Wa-wait! But then the other tag team match up happened and it shifted the balance so that made it your turn to die.

Then Pesco stops, halfway. Thinks.

PESCO
For a Primitive you're pretty smart.

WOLF
(smiling)
I have my moments.

PESCO
Then if it's my turn to die? Then what's going on?

The crowd unanimously scratching their heads. A Harley Davidson Seeker finds his helmet is stuck so he scratches his helmet instead.
EXPLOSION! And then a whirlwind smoke and fire and THE THIRD ELEMENT of reality blasts onto their floating island.

PESCO
It's a hallucination. A mirage. A distortion.

WOLF
Na-ah. I think we're both seeing the same ugly thing that the prophets said would be released.

PESCO
A Blaster?

Indeed a Blaster, yellow serpent eyes, a tail that whips. A real BIG BAD BLASTER.

SEEKER #1
This isn't The Big Fight. This is The Bigger than Big Fight.

And that means:

PRIMITIVE #1
Reality is getting a nasty rip in one of its veils.

By the Big Bad Blaster who:

rips the ether between Wolf and Pesco and it sucks them in:

The tearing sound is so awful it causes the mountain to quake and the crowd to flee.

The Master runs to the coffin.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
It's OK to scream now if you want.

Both Master and Colin get the scream out of their system and then Master goes to work fast.

He pushes a lever on this remarkable James Bond Coffin. It becomes like a stretch limo except it's a stretch coffin with a hemi engine and a silver steering wheel.

Master jumps into the driver's seat, screeches forward, stops quickly to hitch up the Meefers in their cage.
They are pulled roughly along in their cages, very scared and shivering amidst the panicked crowd.

Behind:

IT’S KAZDON, skateboarding on a hover-board. He manages to unlock the cages and

THERE GO THE MEEFERS! FREE!

Kazdon uses enormous hand gestures to speak to our friends.

KAZDON O’RIELY
It’s silver and shiny and you’ll get a big reward! Remember where Erin is? She’ll give you the Reality Stabalizer and you’ll be heroes! Go you two! Go Meefers!

MEEFER #1
Meefer!

MEEFER #2
Meefer

And the Meefers have found their calling. They’re off into the mists.

EXT. NIAGARA FALLS - IN THE MISTS

Colin is really weak as he stands at the edge of the water and THE GREAT SERPENT ROLLS IN.

COLIN O’RIELY
I feel his hunger!

HEIDI WINSLOW
(handing a large sword)
Colin, this has to stop. You’ve gotta kill the serpent.

What?!

COLIN O’RIELY
No. The serpent needs to be fed. It’s the law!

HEIDI WINSLOW
Yes it’s the law. The law of paradox. You’ve saved it before, but this time you kill it.

And there’s a sudden SHIFT in Colin.
COLIN O'RIELEY
I've got the food! I can have it all! Cordelia! Take Cordelia!

Cordelia stands next to him, STANDING HER GROUND. As his hands rise in a "$\text{choke hold}$" motion.

CORDELIA
It's your DECISION Colin.

Colin moves his hands around Cordelia's neck. He doesn't squeeze, but he's draining the life out of her.

The Seekers are tense. It could go either way.

COLIN O'RIELEY
I want more! Give me more!

The Nowhere Land book SHAKES. Cordelia falls.

ALBERT RYST
Listen to me Colin. Nature is a perfect web of life and EVERYTHING has it's place. But the Blasters were never meant to exist! They're a mistake! Kill the serpent and stop all this!

No Blaster pops up this time.

COLIN O'RIELEY
No!!!! I AM A BLASTER!!!

He goes FULL BLASTER!!!! He grows his spikes, his reptilian tail and SUCKS THE DREAM MEMORIES OUT OF CORDELIA.

Cordelia CRIES OUT.

CORDELIA
He's losing control completely!

The Seekers are stirring with: "What can we do?" and "This is out of our hands!"

Then Heidi turns to see KAZDON running towards them.

HEIDI WINSLOW
Look who's here!

Heidi pushes Kazdon forward.

KAZDON O'RIELEY
Dad? Come home. Kill the serpent.
Colin looks defeated.

**COLIN O’RIELY**

I am a Blaster. I am a mistake.

The serpent rises in the waves... closer, closer...

Very HUMBLY, Kazdon says,

**KAZDON O’RIELY**

I am too.

It’s clear that Colin’s pain is rising again, he’s RELEASING HIS LOOSE GRIP ON CORDELIA.

**COLIN O’RIELY**

I can feel it. I can feel your pain. Our pain.

Colin raises a great rod and stabs the serpent. It collapses down and so does Colin, but he’s still in his Blaster form.

**COLIN O’RIELY (CONT’D)**

I have failed.

But slowly HE CHANGES BACK.

And he cries like the child he was on that Christmas the guards came to take him away.

And then. THE SERPENT TRANSFORMS. It waves at first like waves do. And blinks like particles do. Then syrupy and bubbles that pop on the surface until it sinks into the ground to nothingness.

And the nothingness fashions itself into Kole O’Riely. He’s dead. As dead as the dolls in the streets.

Colin stops crying for a moment of killer shock before he screams Otot-otot- Bring him to meeeeeeetttttttttttttttttttttttt!

His father RESURRECTS to life as Colin cries.

**COLIN O’RIELY (CONT’D)**

Father. I’ve failed.

Looking up-

**COLIN O’RIELY (CONT’D)**

Father?
KOLE O'RIELEY
You did not fail Colin. You were willing to fail. There's a difference.

COLIN O'RIELEY
Were you willing to fail? Cosmic error 101?

He remembers.

KOLE O'RIELEY
I didn't think I was, but now that you're here, I guess so. But then, I guess it wasn't really failure after all.

COLIN O'RIELEY
Paradox.

HEIDI WINSLOW
You've still gotta open the book.

COLIN O'RIELEY
I can't.

HEIDI WINSLOW
What do you mean you can't? This is over. You open the book and the Blasters go back to Nowhere Land.

Seems Colin has something else in mind.

COLIN O'RIELEY
First we build some more rehab centers. We give them the opportunity to change. That's what they do in the game.

REALITY IS BEING ROCKED, but just in time.

MEEFER #1
Meefer!

The Meefer HANDS over the REALITY STABALIZER to Lockley and he engages it.

HHHRRRROOOO GURU.

And they're BACK IN COSMIC ERROR 101.

The Fairy Teacher looks very pleased. THEN she TURNS INTO LADY SHIVA.
Colin is no doubt FLOORED. He actually falls off his chair. Jack helps him up, he’s wearing his TRICKSTER GARB and looks rather spiffy.

FAIRY TEACHER LADY SHIVA
It’s a multi-dimensional mind trick. You wanna take a course in that?

COLIN O’RIELEY
No thanks. I’m kind of full from Paradox right now.

FAIRY TEACHER LADY SHIVA
You did a FINE JOB considering you were dealing with a FLUBUX scenario. Those are the hardest tests of all.

COLIN O’RIELEY
You mean it really WAS A SIMULATION?

Colin looks suspicious.

FAIRY TEACHER
I really don’t have the authority to say how much was real.

EXT. NAKAHIISHMA HEALTH FOOD STORE
Ross is pounding on the door. It seems he’s locked it.

ROSS MULIGAN
Get me outta here! Lockley!

He dials the card.

ROSS MULIGAN (CONT’D)
When you’re out of luck, call us up remember?!!!!

INT. BLACK HOLE IN SPACE
Wolf and Pesco walk. And walk...

PESCO
Come on. We’re not stuck here.
WOLF
What makes you say that?

PESCO
You've gotta learn to think like Christopher Columbus.

Late...
They're still hiking...

WOLF
This is way worse than walking 10 miles to school uphill in the snow.

PESCO
Yeah well it kind of puts a damper on my 4 day weekend.

WOLF
You get 4 day weekends?

PESCO
It's in the contract.

WOLF
No wonder you Seekers are so small. It's all your slacking.

PESCO
Hey. We don't slack. We work hard with our brains. You Primitives are the slackers with all your I want freedom. We labor over the books while you guys are partying it up with your campfire rituals or whatever it is that you do.

WOLF
It's our Shamans connecting to the spirit realm. It's beyond all your intellect. It is the whole truth of reality. You should try connecting with your inner Primitive.

EXT. THE O'RIELY'S HOUSE

Colin gives Kazdon a hug, then shakes his hand.

KAZDON O'RIELY
Congratulations son. I think you took that course as much as me.
Grandpa Kole smiles, looking on.

KOLE O'RIELEY
I was going to say that.

Marla and Reanne Atom call them in for supper.

COLIN O'RIELEY
I'm starved. What are we having?

Cronus shows up, looking very unbelievably normal.

BLASTER CRONUS
Please make it anything but a nice juicy Paradox with a side of fries.

EXT. NOWHERE LAND REHAB CENTER

They're eating dinner, quite nicely actually. Looks pretty good. Yeah.

BLASTER BUSTER
I think we came out of the deal pretty good this time don't you?

BLASTER RUCKUS
Yeah. They took ooglies and mash right off the menu.

BLASTER BUSTER
What is this anyways.

BLASTER RUCKUS
The lunch lady said liver.

The Blasters laugh.

BLASTER RUCKUS (CONT'D)
Har-har-har-har.

BLASTER BUSTER
Har-har-har-har.

EXT. DREAM WATERS - LATER

Greevis transports a whack of DREAM CARGO over to THE MAGICAL CASTLE.

It's PRISTINE AGAIN.

JOHN VANMEER
Alvederzane.
He waves at Greevis as he steers towards the Magical Castle.

He looks up into the Dream Waters Sky. And back down to the illuminated ground.

JOHN VANMEER (CONT'D)
It feels good to be back in the waters. Very good indeed.

He plucks up a SEEKERS' MEDALLION and disappears out of frame.