

THE VOLUNTEER

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FADE IN:

EXT. CRUISE LINE - DAY

A ten year old boy, Young WADE, His eyes filled with fear watching something intently. We HEAR the sounds of People chatting around him, Excited, nervous about getting on the boat.

YOUNG WADE POV: twenty yards away, a GRAY HAIR MAN is being taken away by Police. He looks at WADE and winks.

GRAY HAIR MAN

I wouldn't get on that ship if I were you.

A BLONDE in a Red dress, her face obscured from YOUNG WADE view, rushes to the GRAY HAIR MAN, and grabs one of the Police.

BLONDE

He didn't do anything wrong!

POLICE

We found him with explosives in his pockets.

BLONDE

The wolves must of put it there.

The Police man looks at the Blonde up and down.

POLICE

You want to go in too?

ANGLE ON YOUNG WADE, pulled away by his PARENTS, their faces out of view.

FATHER'S VOICE (O.S.)

Don't worry about them, there none of our concern.

YOUNG WADE resists momentarily, and starts pacing because of the drama. the Mother grabs him and gets down on her knees.

MOTHER

They won't be any problem to us, you're going to be fine.

The Parents board the ship. WADE steps back in the crowd waiting to board. The parent's continue to board not noticing up until they get on the deck. They look down and see WADE and wave at him.

(CONTINUED)

FATHER

Come on, son, it's nice...

Just as the dad finishes his sentence an explosion rips through the front of the ship blowing everybody within 3 yards away. WADE is on the ground bloodied and bruised, he slowly gets up and sees the wreckage on the ship. He looks for his parents in the crowd.

A man in a hazmat suite comes over.

HAZE MAT

We got a live one here.

INT. UNDERGROUND STREET/FUTURE - ETERNAL NIGHT

P.A. SYSTEM

Don't forget curfew starts promptly
at 9:30 P.M.

WADE, late thirties, balding, stands in the middle of an very empty street, he looks up at what is a dark ceiling. He sighs to himself. He looks around nervously, shaken and disoriented.

Then, as he " look around" everywhere, WE GET OUR FIRST LOOK AT HIS ENVIRONMENT...A DARK UNDERGROUND WORLD OF CAMERAS, BUILDINGS SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE...ALMOST VIRTUAL REALITY OF RED INFRARED AND BLUE LINES, SHADOWS SEEM TO EXIST AT EVERY TURN, MUCH MORE LIKE A VIDEO GAME THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

Cameras scan the streets. One Camera scans WADE gets blinded temporarily, then three GUARDS approach WADE with their hand on their weapons.

WADE slowly lifts his hands up high in the air, He looks over at one of the Armed Guards and swallows nervously.

WADE

Wow, you guys look convincing.

JASON's (one of the Armed Guards) face is almost lost in his helmet. What there is of it is

Vigorous. He's just a nervous Hispanic kid!

JASON

We have to move very quickly. The
real guards will be here shortly.

JASON immediately steps asides and puts his head down as FROSTY, a menacing ex guard with a jagged scar running down his cheek, looms close to WADE and looks at him closely in the face.

(CONTINUED)

FROSTY

You get caught, they won't be as nice to you.

FROSTY removes his mask and runs his fingers down his face outline his scar, which goes down his neck too.

WADE

I gain us are freedom, up there find out the truth.

FROSTY

Be careful who you trust up there.

WADE

(controls his excitement)

You saved me, I'll save you.

INT. SERVER ROOM - SKYLIGHTS

WADE looks up, struggling to cut various wires, and avoiding sweating onto the floor in a room where computers are everywhere like an overlord with too much power.

THE CEILING STARTS TO FLASH WITH WHAT SEEMS LIKE LIGHTING

WADE scrambles out of the room and is trying to close the door.

OFFSCREEN VOICE (O.S.)

Intruder alert. Electrical floors activated.

As WADE closes the door he sees a ladder and pulls it down. He climbs up towards a top opening.

OFFSCREEN VOICE (O.S.)

No life signs on the floor found. Moving to spikes on the wall.

The wall has spikes that shoot out from it.

INT. UPPER TIER - MINUTES LATER

WADE, now in a panic sweat sees a helmet with a plastic visor on the wall. He puts in on and looks up. Above him is a very tiny chamber with an air lock.

WADE

Come on!

WADE struggles with it but gets the door open.

(CONTINUED)

OFFSCREEN VOICE (O.S.)
No life signs on the wall found,
moving to fire ball.

A fireball shoots up quickly as WADE jumps through the opening and closes the door. He's alone. WADE's breath comes slower, as he searched the wall for an oxygen tank. He hooks one up to his helmet. He sucks Oxygen from the air tanks on his back. On the opposite wall Wade sees an octagon shaped window. WADE breaks it with his elbow and jumps out.

EXT. BUILDING - SECONDS LATER

WADE is standing on top of a huge skyscraper. He looks down at a crudely drawn map he holds in his hand. The map shows an brief outline of the city of Philadelphia.

EXT. BUILDING - MINUTES LATER (NIGHT)

WADE looks up at the sky memorized at the stars. He looks down at the ground. WADE jumps down and he reaches his hand out and grabs a ledge. He climbs up on the ledge and is a little closer to the ground. There is a rusted ladder. Reaching the rusted ladder, WADE starts to climb awkwardly.

EXT. CITY STREET/FUTURE - MOMENTS LATER (NIGHT)

WADE hits the snow with a heavy oomph. He picks up the snow he can't believe what he sees. WADE sees a giant Spider in the distance.

WADE'S POV THROUGH HIS PLASTIC-VISORED HELMET: a city in moonlight! A surreal image of abandoned buildings. Shadows everywhere. The only sounds are the FOOTSTEPS and WADE'S BREATHING.

EXT. ANOTHER CITY STREET - MINUTES LATER (NIGHT)

WADE walks by an abandoned vine-covered automobiles. Inside he sees human remains. Inside he sees a praying mantas feasting on human remains.

Moving to the nearest car, WADE searches for something. Finds a key. He quickly opens the door grabs the keys quickly. The praying mantis jumps over and angrily hisses. WADE backs away very slowly. He takes the map and waves it around.

The Praying mantis follow his map, like a vampire to blood. WADE throws it and runs.

(CONTINUED)

WADE turns around and is startled by a BLUE BEAR. It's a terrifying amazing sight to be hold. The animal blinks, then stands on its rear legs and roars and an frozen ice ball comes out. WADE jumps out of the way.

ANGLE ON WADE, in absolute shock.

Then, the BEAR sinks down onto all fours, it's ears shoot up it dashes down the street.

INT. BAKERY SHOP - NIGHT

WADE quickly swings to see rats bigger his head chomping down on crumbs on the black glass. GROWLS!

WADE steps very slowly. The rats sniff in his direction and loses intrest.

Then, 3 different RATS. They surround WADE. Then they pounce on top of each other. They begin to wrestle. WADE finds a breaker box and turns it on.

EXT. STREET - (DAY BREAK HAS BEGUN)

A GREEN OWL, perched on an overhead traffic light, raises its wings shoots poison down at WADE and lifts off...rising higher and higher into the brightening sky.

Below, on the street, WADE trudges along, passing deserted buildings, windows broken, rusted signs dangling.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE -DAYBREAK

As WADE enters the store, like a fairy tale comes to life, the lights come up and an announcement comes over the PA.

PA ANNOUNCMENT (O.S.)
Welcome to Effingham Superstore. We
thank for your patronige.

Then footsteps behind WADE. He turns around quickly to see DIANA, INDIAN GODDESS bow and arrow in hand.

EXT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAWN

WADE very slowly comes out of the store, the first rays of the sun hit the building. WADE stops looks at DIANA.

DIANA
A spaceman? You have two seconds.

(CONTINUED)

WADE
I'm here to help start a
revolution.

WADE and DIANA look up.

WADE AND DIANA POV: high up on a building across the street,
a STONE LION patrols a ledge, pauses, looks out majestically
over his world.

DIANA takes her arrow and shoots the stone Lion, she hits it
squarely in the chest. The Lion falls three feet away from
WADE.

DIANA
What revolution?