

"UNDER THE ROCKS"

"Pilot"

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FADE IN:

EXT. MOUNTAIN/TRAIL - DAY

MICHAEL, 34, fit and somewhat good-looking, is wearing wireless over-ear headphones and is running on a dusty trail.

SUPERIMPOSE: "Angeles National Forest."

Michael looks uphill to his right. He slows down and then stops running.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/FLAT ROCK - DAY

A mid-sized, black BIRD that appears wounded is trying to take off from the surface of a large FLAT ROCK. The rock is smooth and almost horizontal. The area around the flat rock is steep, with loose rocks of different sizes.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/TRAIL - DAY

Michael takes off the headphones and puts them around his neck. He steps out of the trail and starts climbing towards the flat rock.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/FLAT ROCK - DAY

Michael gets to the flat rock and slowly approaches the bird.

The bird's wing is hanging down. It looks broken.

Michael gets closer. The bird starts walking around and flapping its healthy wing.

Michael cautiously tries to grab the bird.

MICHAEL
Relax, buddy. Let me...

The broken wing straightens. The bird flaps its wings and takes off.

Michael is astonished as he watches it fly away. A loud roaring NOISE interrupts.

The ground starts shaking.

Michael looks around. Rocks are starting to tumble down. He looks uphill. A small loose rock hits him on the forehead.

MICHAEL
What the fuck?!

Michael's forehead is bleeding. He touches it and looks at his hand.

A small amount of blood is on his fingers.

The ground continues shaking. More loose rocks are tumbling down.

Michael looks uphill. This time, a significantly larger rock is heading directly at him.

Just as the large rock is about to hit him, Michael falls through the surface of the flat rock.

MICHAEL

Oh, sh...

INT. ANCIENT BEING'S CAVE

Complete darkness.

The cave's floor starts to glow with soft purple light and reveals Michael lying on it. He is unconscious.

Michael opens his eyes. There is no blood or wound on his forehead.

He gets up and looks at the glowing floor.

An ANCIENT BEING speaks with a deep voice.

ANCIENT BEING

Do you delight into that?

Michael is startled.

MICHAEL

What the fucking fuck?!

ANCIENT BEING

You curse plenty. Do you know?

Michael is scared.

MICHAEL

What? Where are you? I can't see anything.

ANCIENT BEING

I am right here.

The cave's walls start to glow with soft purple light. The silhouette of the Ancient Being becomes visible. It is large, and it looks like it is sitting down.

MICHAEL

What is this place?

ANCIENT BEING

Do not be fearful, Michael.

Michael steps forward. He is cautiously trying to take a better look at the Ancient Being.

MICHAEL

Do I know you from somewhere? How do you know my --

ANCIENT BEING

(interrupting)

I know what I know.

MICHAEL

That's not what I... What is this? Did I die?

Michael touches his forehead. He looks at his hand.

There is no blood on the fingers.

Michael starts breathing rapidly. He is panicking.

MICHAEL

Am I dead right now? I must be. I'm dead, am I? Fuck me...

ANCIENT BEING

You are as alive as these rocks.

MICHAEL

What?

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm?

MICHAEL

So, I'm dead?

ANCIENT BEING

No, you are not of the dead, Michael.

MICHAEL

But the rocks. They are kind of... not really alive, you know.

Angered by Michael's words, the Ancient Being stands up.

ANCIENT BEING

The rocks are more alive than you never were!

Michael is startled.

MICHAEL
What the fuck!

ANCIENT BEING
Foolish. Hmm...

The Ancient Being calms.

ANCIENT BEING
Apologies. Forgive.

The Ancient Being sits back down.

MICHAEL
(insincere)
Don't worry about it.

Michael starts looking around at the cave's walls.

The walls are solid. There is no sign of an exit.

The Ancient being makes a gesture with its arm inviting Michael to come closer.

ANCIENT BEING
Come within grasp.

MICHAEL
I think I want to go further from
grasp. Like, away from this place.
Home, maybe?

ANCIENT BEING
Hmm...

MICHAEL
No offense.

Michael is still looking around. He checks the ceiling.

Again, there is no visible exit.

Michael checks the cave's floor.

Still, no exit.

MICHAEL
What the fuck is going on?

ANCIENT BEING
Again, the bad words. Bad word
bring bad thought. Bad thought
bring bad thing. Bad thing... is
not good!

MICHAEL

What?

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm?

MICHAEL

What the fuck is this shit?! Let me out!

The Ancient Being gets up and starts to walk towards Michael.

Michael takes a few steps back.

As the Ancient Being approaches, the soft light reveals its features. It is tall, and its body is made out of different types of rocks. Various plants are growing between the cracks in the rocks.

The Ancient Being is now in front of Michael and leans forward. Its eyes are made out of numerous gemstones with vivid colors.

Michael is stunned. He is staring at the Ancient Being with eyes wide open.

ANCIENT BEING

Do not be alarmed, Michael.

MICHAEL

My God!

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm...

MICHAEL

What are you?

ANCIENT BEING

I am, and I always will be, Michael.

Michael looks at a flower growing from a crack in the Ancient Being's shoulder.

The Ancient Being takes notice and looks at the flower as well.

ANCIENT BEING

You like?

MICHAEL

What? No. Actually, I am allergic to those.

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm...

The Ancient Being picks the flower and quickly puts it next to Michael's nose.

Michael sneezes.

MICHAEL

What the fuck is wrong with you?!

The Ancient Being chuckles.

ANCIENT BEING

No?

MICHAEL

No! I just told you, I'm allergic.

The ancient being takes a deep breath and closes its eyes. It breathes out slowly and opens its eyes.

ANCIENT BEING

Try again?

MICHAEL

No! Why would I do that?

The Ancient Being quickly puts the flower next to Michael's nose. Michael turns away but does not sneeze this time.

Michael turns back. He hesitates but smells the flower.

MICHAEL

It smells so good. I don't think I've ever smelled something this good before.

ANCIENT BEING

Mmm.

MICHAEL

How is this possible? I'm no longer allergic to it. I'm definitely dead.

The Ancient Being looks at his right arm and starts searching for something.

It finds it, and childlike happiness appears on its face.

ANCIENT BEING

There it resides!

The Ancient Being picks a flower from its arm and puts it next to Michael's nose.

Michael smells the flower.

MICHAEL

Wow! This one smells even better!

The Ancient Being smells the flower as well.

ANCIENT BEING

Mmm... Purification.

The Ancient Being throws the flower on the cave's floor.

The flower turns to dust that quickly gets absorbed by the glowing floor.

The Ancient Being reaches behind with its left hand and starts vigorously searching its butt cheeks.

ANCIENT BEING

Patience until you smell the one from behind!

MICHAEL

Uhm, what are you doing?

The Ancient Being continues searching.

ANCIENT BEING

Where are you...

MICHAEL

I'm actually good with the flower-smelling for now. You don't have to...

The Ancient Being finds the flower and picks it with effort. It brings the flower in front of its face and smiles.

ANCIENT BEING

There you exist!

MICHAEL

Yeah, I think it's a pass on that one.

The Ancient Being smells the flower.

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm... Purification.

The Ancient Being makes a gesture, offering Michael to smell the flower.

MICHAEL
Thanks, but I'm good.

ANCIENT BEING
Certain? Times do not reverse for
you, Michael.

MICHAEL
You are so weird.

ANCIENT BEING
Eh?

MICHAEL
Definitely a "No" on the flower.

The Ancient Being is disappointed.

ANCIENT BEING
Mmm, forget.

The Ancient Being throws the flower away.

Michael points to a flower growing on the Ancient Being's
forearm.

MICHAEL
I'd smell that one.

The Ancient Being looks at the flower.

ANCIENT BEING
Hmm...

Michael gets closer to the Ancient Being.

MICHAEL
What are you?

The Ancient Being is about to pick the flower but then
abandons the task.

ANCIENT BEING
Hmm, I am what you are not, and
more.

MICHAEL
What are you talking about? Can't
you speak like a normal... I guess
you're not a normal person, are
you?

ANCIENT BEING
I am, and I always will be,
Michael.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I got that. Doesn't really answer any of my questions.

Michael looks around.

MICHAEL

What is this place? Can you at least tell me that?

ANCIENT BEING

Home.

MICHAEL

Your home?

ANCIENT BEING

Mmm.

MICHAEL

How did I get here?

ANCIENT BEING

I let you inside.

MICHAEL

You saved me, didn't you?

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm.

MICHAEL

So, I'm not dead.

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm...

MICHAEL

Thank you, I guess.

The Ancient Being lifts its left arm, reaches under its armpit and picks a carrot growing out from one of the cracks. It offers it to Michael.

ANCIENT BEING

Hunger?

MICHAEL

No.

ANCIENT BEING

I sense your desire, Michael.

MICHAEL

Not for armpit carrots, you're not!

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm. What do you desire? According to Michael.

MICHAEL

Do you mean food?

ANCIENT BEING

I inquire for all. All things natural and of the spirit. What is it, which makes Michael desire lasting existence?

MICHAEL

It doesn't matter what I desire.

ANCIENT BEING

Answer this and granted shall be.

MICHAEL

So, you make wishes come true? Is that it? Like a genie? This is not real, is it? I'm probably unconscious right now. I'm dead. I'm definitely dead. I'm dead as a rock!

The Ancient being frowns.

MICHAEL

Sorry, I forgot. Rocks are great.

Michael reluctantly slaps his face, then shakes his head.

MICHAEL

Wake up!

The Ancient Being gets closer to Michael.

ANCIENT BEING

Assurance you shall have.

MICHAEL

Again, what are you talking about?

ANCIENT BEING

I will quench your thirst. Tested must be first. For three beings, three things you can do. They will come true. After, you come back.

MICHAEL

Okay, that last part didn't really rhyme, but sure.

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm...

MICHAEL

I don't understand. What are you trying to...

The Ancient Being quickly taps Michael on his forehead with one of its rocky fingers.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/TRAIL - DAY

Michael opens his eyes. He is lying on the dusty trail. His forehead where the small rock hit/the Ancient Being tapped him is bleeding a little bit.

PETER, 28, jacked, high energy individual, and ERIKA, 25, beautiful blond, very fit, are dressed in running gear and are standing over Michael.

Peter offers his hand to Michael.

PETER

Let me help you up.

Michael grabs his hand and gets up. His clothes are dusty.

MICHAEL

Thanks. Appreciate it.

PETER

Are you okay, bro?

Michael checks out his legs, arms and torso.

MICHAEL

I think so.

PETER

There was an earthquake. Looks like you hit your head. You were out, bro! Let me call you an ambulance.

Peter reaches into his pocket and takes out his phone.

MICHAEL

No, I'm okay. You really don't have to.

PETER

You sure?

MICHAEL

Yeah, I'm good. I'm fine.

ERIKA

We can give you a ride to --

MICHAEL

(interrupting)

Yeah. No, I'm fine. My car's nearby.

PETER

Okay, man. You're positive, though? I don't want you passing out driving or anything like that.

MICHAEL

I'm good.

PETER

Alright. I'm Peter, by the way. This is my girlfriend, Erika.

ERIKA

Hey! Are you sure you are okay?

MICHAEL

Hi. Yes, I'm sure. Nice to meet you, guys. I'm Michael.

PETER

Good meeting you. We've seen you around. You're doing the work.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I try to come when I can.

Peter points to Michael's forehead.

PETER

Get that shit looked at, okay!

MICHAEL

Will do. Thanks.

PETER

You got it, bro! Take care, alright!

MICHAEL

Will do.

PETER

See you around!

ERIKA

Bye.

MICHAEL

Bye.

Erika and Peter walk away.

Michael looks around, then up at the flat rock. He looks at his fingers. There is some dried blood on them. He touches his forehead and looks at them again.

There is a little bit of fresh blood on top of the dried.

MICHAEL

What the...

Michael looks at himself and starts to dust off his clothes.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/PARKING LOT - DAY

Michael walks up to his parked car. He searches his pockets and finds the key. He unlocks the car and enters it.

INT. PARKING LOT/MICHAEL'S CAR - DAY

Michael sits in the driver's seat. He takes his phone out of his pocket and looks at the screen.

The phone's screen is broken.

MICHAEL

Motherfucker!

Michael unlocks the phone. It is still working. There are notifications for multiple missed calls. Michael taps to call back, puts the phone on speaker and places the phone on a stand attached to the dashboard. He starts the car.

CARL, 34, answers.

CARL (V.O.)

Dude, where are you?

MICHAEL

I went for a run. What do you want?

CARL (V.O.)

There was an earthquake. I was freaking out hard, dude.

MICHAEL

How high are you right now?

CARL (V.O.)

Dude, I'm not that high. I'm not making this up. There was an earthquake, like half an hour ago.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I know. Is it bad over there?
Any damage to buildings and stuff?

CARL (V.O.)

Nah, everything's still standing.
Wait! Actually, one of my bong
fell and broke.

MICHAEL

You should take that as I sign.

CARL (V.O.)

A sign? Like a premonition or
something? Do you think that it's
starting?

MICHAEL

What's starting?

CARL (V.O.)

The end of the world, dude! What do
you think?!

MICHAEL

Forget it... I got to go. I'll be
home soon.

Michael taps and ends the call.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Michael drives away.

EXT. PARKING LOT (LOS ANGELES) - DAY

Michael parks his car.

INT. MICHAEL'S APARTMENT/LIVING ROOM - DAY

Michael enters the living room. It is foggy. Carl is sitting
on the couch typing on his laptop. His hair is in desperate
need of attention.

MICHAEL

Jesus, open a fucking window, will
you! I'm getting high just by
breathing the air here.

CARL

Dude, I'm about to order the
sickest bong you've ever seen,
dude. I'm a fill that empty spot.

Carl points to a shelf on the wall, where there are a dozen different bongos. There is a missing space for one.

MICHAEL

I mean it! Open a fucking window!
Right now!

CARL

Okay, okay. What's with you today?

Carl gets up.

MICHAEL

You know, I could get tested at
work for this shit. I can't be
breathing your exhaust fumes.

Carl opens a window.

CARL

There. Happy now?

MICHAEL

Ecstatic.

CARL

What's with your forehead? Did you
get into a fight with a mountain
lion or something?

MICHAEL

No, I didn't get into a fight with
a mountain lion.

CARL

Did you trip on your run? And I
mean like physically, 'cause I know
you don't do any of that shit.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I tripped... physically.
Listen, I got to get ready for
work.

CARL

Are you gonna be back on time to
hang out tonight?

MICHAEL

Probably not.

CARL

I'm hitting the mikes.

MICHAEL

Again?

CARL

Fuck yeah. You got to do the work.

MICHAEL

Sure, because you love work. That's why you don't have a job or your own place.

CARL

Why do you have to be so mean?

MICHAEL

I'm just telling it how it is. Anyway, just go have fun.

Carl sits back down on the couch and grabs his laptop.

CARL

You bet you serious ass I will.

Michael shakes his head and leaves the room.

MICHAEL (O.S.)

Lazy fuck.

CARL

I heard that.

MICHAEL (O.S.)

I was hoping you would.

CARL

He doesn't get it. That's all it is.

Carl looks at the laptop screen.

CARL (CONT'D)

Dude, look at that sick bong.

Carl starts typing on the laptop keyboard.

CARL (CONT'D)

Let me order you real quick. Maybe I should order two. In case there is another earthquake. Dude, I got to be some kind of a genius or something!

INT. MICHAEL'S APARTMENT/BATHROOM - DAY

Michael is looking at himself in the mirror. He takes a deep breath. He carefully touches his forehead where the wound is.

MICHAEL

There is no way. I was dreaming.
Yeah, that's it. There is just no
way...

Carl opens the door and startles Michael.

CARL

Can I borrow your car?

MICHAEL

For fuck sake! Could you knock, for
once?!

Carl theatrically knocks on the door.

CARL

Happy?

MICHAEL

You need to grow up.

Michael reaches into his pocket, takes out the car keys and gives them to Carl.

Carl takes the keys.

CARL

Why you got to be so angry all the
time? You need to chillax.

MICHAEL

No one says that anymore.

CARL

Well, I do! Thanks for the car.

Carl leaves.

Michael smiles and shakes his head. He closes the bathroom door. He looks at himself in the mirror, and his smile disappears.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Michael is walking down the street. He has a small medical tape covering the wound on his forehead.

A middle-aged BLIND MAN is standing on the sidewalk. He has his hand out, holding a paper cup.

Michael reaches into his pocket and grabs some change. He puts it into the Blind Man's cup as he passes by him.

Michael continues walking. After a few steps, he stops.

Michael remembers the Ancient Being's words.

ANCIENT BEING (V.O.)
...For three beings, three things
you can do. They will come true...

Michael hesitates. He then takes a deep breath and closes his eyes. He breathes out slowly.

The Blind Man's eyes are cloudy. Suddenly, his eyes start to clear. His face is trembling as he realizes what is happening. He blinks hard a few times.

The Blind Man's eyes are now clear. He starts to look around.

Michael opens his eyes, turns around and looks at the blind man.

The Blind Man is looking around. He notices Michael staring at him.

BLIND MAN
You...

Michael is astonished. He stares a bit longer, then he turns around and starts to walk away.

BLIND MAN
Wait!

Michael starts walking away faster.

The Blind Man is excited.

BLIND MAN
I can see! I can... I can see.

WOMAN #1 passes by the Blind Man. The Blind Man looks at her.

BLIND MAN
I can see you.

The Blind Man looks in Michael's direction, but Michael is gone.

BLIND MAN

Where did you go, my friend? I must
find you. Ha! I can see!

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Michael opens a glass door and enters the store in a hurry.
He is out of breath and distressed.

ANN, 58, wears glasses and has a name tag on her shirt,
approaches Michael.

ANN

Are you okay? Can I help you?

MICHAEL

Yeah, no, I'm just looking. I'm at
the "still looking" phase.

Michael walks up to a rack of clothes. He pretends to be
checking the clothes.

ANN

These are for small children.

MICHAEL

What? Yeah, it's for my friend. My
friend's kid. Very active boy.
Ruins his clothes all the time.

ANN

Sounds just like my nephew. Do you
know his size?

MICHAEL

I, uh... I'm eyeballing it.

ANN

Oh, okay. I'm right here if you
need me.

MICHAEL

Sure. Thank you.

Michael takes a kid's shirt out and moves to another rack
with clothes for men. He takes a t-shirt and heads for the
fitting room.

Ann is carefully watching Michael.

Michael notices as he enters the fitting room.

INT. CLOTHING STORE/FITTING ROOM - DAY

Michael closes the curtain and hangs the clothes. He looks at himself in the mirror.

MICHAEL

This is not real. It's not real!
This is not happening. Blind people
don't just start seeing. Maybe he
was a con artist. Yeah, that's it.
He was a crook!

Michael laughs.

MICHAEL

That's it! And why am I hiding from
him?!

Michael is startled by Ann.

ANN (O.S.)

Are you okay in there?

MICHAEL

(yelling)
Jesus! Give a minute, will you?!

ANN (O.S.)

Okay. No need to get excited.

Michael gets the clothes and opens the curtain. Ann is standing right in front of the fitting room.

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Michael walks out of the fitting room and hands Ann the clothes.

MICHAEL

Didn't fit.

Ann looks at the clothes.

ANN

I can offer different sizes.

Michael walks by her.

MICHAEL

No, thank you. I got to go.

He stops and looks back at Ann.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I yelled. I'm having a really weird day.

ANN

That's okay. We all have one of those now and then.

Michael gets to the front door. He looks through the glass, checking the outside, then he opens the door and leaves.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Michael exits the clothing store. He looks around, then takes out his phone and looks at the screen.

MICHAEL

Shit!

INT. HOSPITAL/BATHROOM - DAY

Michael is looking at his face in the mirror. He touches the medical tape on his forehead when he is startled by knocking on the door.

TERISA (O.S.)

Are you in there? Doctor Berg?
Michael?

INT. HOSPITAL/HALLWAY - DAY

Michael comes out of the bathroom. He is wearing a white lab coat.

TERISA KANTZ, 28, attractive, dressed in scrubs, is waiting for Michael. She is carrying a tablet.

TERISA

You're late.

MICHAEL

Sorry.

TERISA

Where were you?

MICHAEL

I'm here now. What do you have?

Terisa hands Michael the tablet.

Michael starts walking. Terisa walks with him.

TERISA

Matty is back. It's not good, is it?

Michael taps on the tablet's screen, checking results from tests. He stops walking.

MICHAEL

No, it's not.

TERISA

You can tell even by the way he looks.

Michael taps on the tablet.

MICHAEL

Room 311.

TERISA

Yeah.

INT. HOSPITAL/ROOM 311 - DAY

Michael enters.

MATTY, 10, is lying on a bed. His head is bald. He looks pale. Close to the bed, JACK, 44, Matty's father, is sitting on a chair. Next to the bottom of the bed, Doctor VICENTE COPP, 55, short with white hair, is holding a tablet.

VICENTE COPP

(to Jack)

...I can assure you...

Vicente turns towards Michael.

MICHAEL

Apologies. The traffic was --

VICENTE COPP

(interrupting)

There he is. The sun rises to see him. The rest of us are just along for the ride.

Michael gives Vicente a stern look, then turns to Matty and smiles.

MICHAEL

How is my favorite patient doing today?

Michael gets close to Matty's bed.

JACK
He's not in good spirits.

MICHAEL
Let's talk outside for a moment.

INT. HOSPITAL/HALLWAY - DAY

Michael, Jack and Vicente walk out of the room.

JACK
How bad is it?

MICHAEL
Well, we still have options.

Michael is pensive.

VICENTE COPP
Doctor Berg?

Michael snaps out of it.

MICHAEL
What? Oh, would you excuse me for a
minute?

Michael walks away.

VICENTE COPP
Berg? What are you doing?

MICHAEL (O.S.)
I'll be right back.

INT. HOSPITAL/BATHROOM - DAY

Michael is looking at himself in the mirror. He closes his eyes, takes a deep breath, then slowly breathes out. Michael opens his eyes.

INT. HOSPITAL/HALLWAY - DAY

In a hurry, Michael passes by Jack and Vicente. He enters Matty's room.

INT. HOSPITAL/ROOM 311 - DAY

Michael walks up to the bed. Matty looks better. His color has returned.

MICHAEL
How are you feeling?

Jack and Vicente walk into the room and approach the bed.

Matty sits up in bed.

MATTY

I feel okay.

MICHAEL

You do, huh? You know what? Let's run the tests one more time.

Michael taps on the tablet, ordering new tests.

VICENTE COPP

What are you doing, Berg? These tests just got done.

MICHAEL

Yeah, well, mistakes happen. Things change. Let's run them again.

VICENTE COPP

What are you talking about?

JACK

What's going on?

Michael puts his arm on Jack's shoulder.

MICHAEL

I have a good feeling about this.

JACK

Really?

MICHAEL

I do.

Michael leaves the room excited.

INT. HOSPITAL/HALLWAY - DAY

Michael is walking. Vicente catches up with him.

VICENTE COPP

What the hell are you doing, Berg?

MICHAEL

Saving a child's life. What have you been up to, Copp?

VICENTE COPP

You can't order the same tests two times in a row based on a feeling.

Michael stops walking and turns to Vicente.

MICHAEL

Look, I get it. You are a dick. We all know you are a dick, okay? But can you be a soft dick today? You know, the kind that doesn't really bother anybody?

Michael walks away in a good mood.

VICENTE COPP

You know what, Berg? I woke up this morning, and I gave birth to this beautiful... "shit baby"!

Michael stops and turns around.

MICHAEL

What the fuck?

VICENTE COPP

Then I got up, looked at it, and immediately thought of you. Do you know why?

MICHAEL

I don't know. Was it good-looking shit? Was it already a better doctor than you are?

VICENTE COPP

Fuck you, Berg!

MICHAEL

Yeah, yeah... Just wait for those tests to come back. You'll see.

VICENTE COPP

Yeah, sure. We'll see about that.

Michael walks away.

MICHAEL

Yes, we will.

INT. HOSPITAL/CAFETERIA - DAY

Michael is carrying a tray with food. He walks up to an empty table and sits down. Michael puts the tray with the food on the table. He is about to eat when Terisa sits opposite him and interrupts him.

TERISA

Matty is feeling so much better. It's like he's not even ill anymore. So weird, right?

Michael acts nervous.

MICHAEL

These things happen. Let's wait for the results. Sometimes, things get better before they get worse. You know that.

TERISA

I know, but this feels different. Are you okay?

MICHAEL

Sure, why wouldn't I be?

TERISA

I don't know. You've been a little... off.

Terisa laughs.

MICHAEL

What?

TERISA

I heard what you said to Copp.

MICHAEL

Yeah?

TERISA

Yes. He is furious.

Michael pushes away the tray with the food.

MICHAEL

That's his natural state anyway. I'm not hungry. I got to go.

Michael gets up.

TERISA

Where?

MICHAEL

I got to check something.

Michael walks away.

Terisa looks concerned.

EXT. HOSPITAL/SIDEWALK - DAY

Michael is looking around.

MICHAEL
(to himself)
Come on.

On the opposite sidewalk, MAN #1 is walking with a limp.

MICHAEL
(to himself)
Not good enough.

MAN #2 is in a wheelchair not far to the right of the limping man.

MICHAEL
(to himself)
Could be faking it.

Michael continues to look around.

MICHAEL
(to himself)
Wait! What am I doing! I know just
the right place.

WOMAN #2 is walking nearby and is staring at Michael.

Michael notices.

Woman #2 slows down. She looks scared.

MICHAEL
Oh, don't worry. I'm a doctor.

Michael points at the name on his coat.

Woman #2 backs up and starts crossing the street.

MICHAEL
I really am.

OLDER MAN walks by Michael, also staring at him.

Again, Michael points at his name on his coat.

MICHAEL
See?

Older Man turns his head forward. He picks up the pace as he is walking by Michael.

MICHAEL
There is no reason to be afraid of
me, people. What the fuck?!

INT. HOSPITAL/EMERGENCY ROOM - DAY

The ER is busy.

Michael is looking around.

On one of the beds, a PATIENT is flatlining. There is DOCTOR #1 and NURSE #1 trying to resuscitate him.

Michael walks up closer to them.

DOCTOR #1
It's been too long. I'm calling it.
Any objections?

Nurse #1 says nothing.

Michael takes a deep breath and closes his eyes. He breathes out slowly. He opens his eyes.

The Patient opens his eyes wide. He takes a deep breath and sits up in the bed.

Doctor#1 and Nurse #1 are startled.

DOCTOR #1
What the hell!

There is a faint smile on Michael's face.

DOCTOR #1 (O.S.)
Just calm down and lay back on the
bed, please.

Michael starts to look around again.

PATIENT (O.S.)
I feel great...

A sick BOY is lying in a bed nearby. The Boy is having trouble breathing. DOCTOR #2 and NURSE #2 are tending to the Boy.

Michael walks up to the Boy's bed. He takes a deep breath and closes his eyes. He breathes out slowly and then opens his eyes.

The Boy continues to be as sick.

Michael does it again - he takes a deep breath, closes his eyes and then breathes out slowly.

Michael opens his eyes.

The Boy passes out.

MICHAEL
(under his breath)

No...

The Boy is dying.

As Michael watches the Boy dying, he starts to breathe heavily and becomes more and more upset.

EXT. HOSPITAL/BENCH - DAY

Michael is sitting on a bench. He looks defeated.

Terisa comes and sits next to him. She is holding a tablet.

TERISA
Are you okay? I've been looking for you.

MICHAEL
Something happened.

TERISA
What is it?

Michael is hesitant. He turns to Terisa.

MICHAEL
It's something... It's kind of insane. I'm pretty sure it's real. But, I'm not... I'm not a hundred percent.

TERISA
You can tell me anything. You know that, right?

MICHAEL
I'll tell you. I promise. But I want to make sure first.

TERISA
Okay. I guess I can wait.

Terisa shows Michael the tablet.

MICHAEL
What?

TERISA
It's Matty's results. It's like he was never ill. Look for yourself.

Michael doesn't take the tablet.

MICHAEL
Well, miracles can happen.

TERISA
Not like that, they don't. Are you
not going to even look at it?

MICHAEL
I have to go.

Michael stands up.

Terisa is agitated.

TERISA
Am I going to see you tonight?

MICHAEL
I don't know. I'll try.

TERISA
Whatever.

Terisa gets up.

MICHAEL
Look, I have to do this one thing.

Michael gets up as well.

TERISA
Fine. Do your thing.

Terisa walks away.

MICHAEL
Come on. I'll call you.

Terisa keeps walking without responding.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Fuck...

EXT. MOUNTAIN/PARKING LOT - DAY

Michael's car pulls over.

Michael gets out of the car. He locks it and starts running.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/TRAIL - DAY

The sun is close to setting. Michael is breathing heavily.
He is standing on the trail, looking up at the flat rock.

EXT. MOUNTAIN/FLAT ROCK - DAY

Michael gets to the flat rock and sits on it.

MICHAEL

I don't know if it's real or not.
There is no way it's not real,
though. Two people, including a
kid, live. A blind man got his
sight back. I saw it. I'm the one
that did it. I know you are real. I
know what happened to them is real.
And I... I know... I know you are a
fucking asshole!

Michael gets up. He stomps on the flat rock with his left foot.

MICHAEL

What about the other kid that died?
What about all the other kids,
blind men and everyone else? All
the other creatures? All the
suffering... I mean, the things
I've seen...

Michael stomps the flat rock again.

MICHAEL

Let me in! You asshole... made of
fucking rocks!

Michael looks down at the flat rock.

MICHAEL

You know what? Rocks are dead, and
they suck!

Michael is breathing heavily. He looks around and notices the setting sun. His breathing calms as he is looking at it.

Michael falls through the flat rock.

INT. ANCIENT BEING'S CAVE

Darkness.

ANCIENT BEING

Hmm...

THE END