

VORTEX

By

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FADE IN:

EXT.THE SKY.NIGHT

Night falls, and a strange spaceship comes out of the sky and dives into the ocean. It settles at the bottom. A light emerges from the top of it. There's no full moon out. It was not noticed.It could avoid the radar.

EXT. BOAT.DAY

Daylight arrives. Bill and his wife Janet is settling on the boat while Fred, and his wife are unpacking their clothes down below.

BILL

Janet? Did you bring the seasoning for the fish we're going to catch and cook?

JANET

Yes Bill. I told you I wouldn't forget it.

BILL

I know. I just had to ask.

FRED

Bill? Where do you want us to put our equipment?

BILL

There's a compartment underneath the bed. You can store your equipment there.

Janet went down below.

JANET

Is everyone ok down there?

ALICE

Oh Janet. This is going to be just the trip we've been waiting for. We should have done this a long time ago.

JANET

I know. Just because we're sisters doesn't mean that we should stay apart from each other.

ALICE

Yea, I know. It's good that our husbands could arrange the vacation time on their jobs for us. Especially since one is a doctor, and the other one is a cop.

Fred went up on top of the deck to meet Bill.

FRED

Hey buddy. Are you ready to cast off?

BILL

As soon as you can untie those ropes from the pier.

FRED

You got it.

Fred jumped off of the boat to untie the ropes. He tossed the ropes to Bill, who caught them. Then Fred climbed back on board.

FRED

Ok, my friend.

They both walked towards the bow of the ship. Bill took the wheel and started up the motor. The boat coasted out into the sea. He then sped up faster until he was at least a mile off shore. He stopped the motor.

BILL

Let's raise the sails and let the wind do the rest.

FRED

Ok, Mate.

The sails were hoisted upwards, and the wind did the rest. The girls came up topside to join their husbands. After about two hours later, you couldn't see the shoreline.

BILL

We might as well lower the sails and anchor off here.

Bill lowered the anchor into the water while Fred lowered the sails.

BILL

Ok, break out the fishing rods.

The wives brought up the fishing gear for their husbands.

JANET

I'll make some sandwiches for everyone.

ALICE

I'll help.

The men cast their lines into the water.

FRED

You know Bill. This is the life.

BILL

I know. We should do this
once a year.

FRED

It's so peaceful out here.
Just being away from all
of that crime. I even forgot
that I'm a cop.

BILL

When ever I'm out here I let
go of me being a doctor. It
feels good just being an
ordinary person.

The wives brought up the sandwiches and the beer.

FRED

At least the DNR can't spot us
this far out.

BILL

Yea, that's the beauty of
it.

The wives sat down on the chairs and started playing cards. It started getting dark.

JANET

I'll turn on the lights.

Janet hit the switch, and the lights turned on. The boat was brightly lit.

ALICE

This looks beautiful, Janet.

EXT: THE OCEAN-NIGHT

The sun had gone down. The water could not be seen.

FRED

Hey I got a bite. It feels like a big one.

BILL

Pull it in, Fred.

FRED

I'm trying.

BILL

Put your pole into the holder that's on the bow of the boat and we'll try to hoist it in together.

Fred had given the line some slack so he could walk over and place it into the holder. The rod was secured. The line had stiffened up and the boat was being pulled.

FRED

This must be a whale. It's the only thing that can pull this size of a boat.

The wives walked over to the side of the boat.

JANET

What's that?

They all looked at the water. There was a light in the water that was moving across the front of the boat. It went further ahead.

ALICE

What's causing that?

BILL

I don't know. I've never seen anything like it before.

FRED

Neither had I.

BILL

What's it doing?

The light started spinning around. The water started swirling around.

ALICE

Let's get out of here.

The water started rising. Only it wasn't rising normally. It started forming a vertical circle of water. Like a vortex and the boat was being pulled inside of it.

BILL

I can't break away from it.

FRED

You got to, Bill. We're going through the circle.

BILL

I know that and I can't turn it around.

The vortex was right upon them.

FRED

Ok, we're going in.

BILL

Girls. Go downstairs and hold on to something.

Janet and Alice ran downstairs to hold on to the railing that surrounded the boat. Bill and Fred were preparing themselves for the impact.

BILL

Here we go, Fred. Hold on to something.

The boat started spinning around the vortex. As it came closer, it started spinning faster.

FRED
I can't hold on.

Bill grabbed Fred and tied his belt around his waist and the railing. The vortex was upon them.

BILL
We're going in. Fred, hold on
tight.

EXT: THE VORTEX-DAY

Fred held on tight and then they were all inside of the vortex. As soon as they were inside of it the vortex was gone, and daylight came.

BILL
What just happened?

FRED
I don't know. I've never
encountered anything like that
before and now it's daylight
again.

BILL
I'll go check on our wives.
Hold on to this wheel, Fred.

Bill went downstairs to check on Janet and Alice.

BILL
Is everyone ok?

ALICE
We're fine here. What
happened up there?

BILL
We're trying to figure that out
ourselves.

ALICE

Is Fred alright?

BILL

Fred's fine. He's holding onto the wheel. You can go up topside if you like, but get this. It's morning again.

JANET

Morning?

ALICE

For real?

They all went up topside to join Fred.

FRED

Is there rain in the forecast?

ALICE

No, why?

FRED

Because the sky looks kind of strange, that's all.

BILL

Strange? Like how?

ALICE

Look at it. Besides the morning coming so soon, the clouds are not right either.

Bill looked up at the sky and so did the rest of them. The sky was clear except it looked kind of wavy. Behind them, the liquid vortex was dwindling into a mist. Then it was just a light fog. Daylight was coming.

FRED

There's fog all around us,
except in that direction.

BILL

The ship's compass is not
pointing anywhere. It's
just going around in circles.

JANET

So I guess we're lost.

ALICE

We can't even navigate by the
stars since they're not there
anymore.

FRED

Hey Bill. Do you have any
binoculars?

BILL

Yes. Why?

FRED

What do you see straight
ahead?

BILL

I can't make it out. It looks
like some kind of shoreline.
I'll go get the binoculars.

Bill went down below to find the binoculars while the rest of the crew stared over the bow of the boat, trying to make out if what they were seeing was indeed a shoreline.

BILL

Ok. I've got them.

Bill put the binoculars in front of his eyes to take a look.

BILL

Fred. You've got to see this.

FRED

What do you see?

BILL

Look for yourself.

Fred put the binoculars in front of his eyes.

FRED

That is a shoreline but there's no island out here.

JANET

An island?

BILL

That's what it looks like.

ALICE

Let me have a look. My God, Janet. You've got to see this.

Alice handed over the binoculars to Janet.

JANET

There's an island out there. How could we have missed it?

BILL

We didn't miss it. It's not supposed to be out here.

FRED

I've read somewhere that a volcano can rise out of the ocean at anytime.

BILL

Well maybe so, but Janet and I were just here last year and there was no sign of any volcanic activity going on.

FRED

Well, I suggest we go and investigate it.

ALICE

Just like a cop for a husband. Always sticking his nose into something that might one-day kill him.

FRED

That's what I've been trained for honey. That's why I'm a detective. If something strange is going on, I should detect it. Ok?

JANET

Hey. Hey. There's no reason to argue with each other about it. We're on a vacation. I agree with Fred. Let's investigate it. We'll call it an adventure that we didn't plan on but we went on it anyway. Ok?

BILL

Are you sure about this, honey?

JANET

As sure as I want to be, dear. How about you, Alice?

ALICE

Well, if you all are so set on seeing this thing, then I guess I'm in.

FRED

I love you, babe.

ALICE

Yea, right.

BILL

Ok, I'll start up the motor.

Bill started up the motor and headed towards the island. They were about a mile away.

BILL

Will you look at that thing. It reaches all the way up through that fog. You can't even see the top part of it. I suggest that we drop anchor here and ride the dinghy to the shore.

FRED

I agree.

Fred and Bill lowered the dinghy. Bill steady it for the ladies to climb in. After Janet and Alice had climbed inside, Fred tossed the life jackets down for them to put on.

FRED

You better put these on.

Fred had put on his life jacket, then he climbed down into the dinghy.

BILL

Are we set?

EXT:THE ISLAND-DAY

They all said that they were ready. Bill started the motor. A short while later they were on the shore. They stepped out of the dinghy and turned around to look across the ocean.

ALICE

This is all so strange to me.

JANET

yea, look at that ocean. It looks different.

FRED

I can't get over at the way the sky look.

BILL

Hey look over here.

They all turned around to look at what Bill was pointing at. It was a cave.

FRED

I don't see anything else out here. I suggest that we go inside.

ALICE

What if there's a bear in there?

JANET

How could bears be here, Alice?

ALICE

Well, suppose something alive is inside of there?

Fred reached around the back, inside his pants, and pulled out his cop gun.

FRED

If something is inside of
there we won't be
defenseless against it.

BILL

Gee, Fred. We're supposed
to be on a vacation.

FRED

A lot of strange things can
happen while people are on
vacations.

BILL

Let's go then.

INT: THE CAVE-DARK

They all walked inside of the cave.

FRED

Does anyone have a flashlight?

BILL

I have a lighter.

FRED

Good. We can use that so we
don't trip over anything.

JANET

The cave leads to a corridor,
and it's leading downward.

The lighter started getting hot.

BILL

Ow! That's it. There's no more light. Wait a minute. There's light coming from somewhere over there.

They walked over to where the light was coming from. They were at the edge of an opening.

JANET

My God! What is it?

FRED

It looks like a city. A whole city and look at the people. It looks like it's right out of a science fiction movie.

ALICE

Those aren't people. Lets get out of here.

Alice ran back into the cave. She was followed by the rest of them. When they came out at the other end they couldn't find the dinghy.

JANET

What happened to the dinghy?

BILL

What happened to the boat?

ALICE

We're stranded on this island and with those monsters.

FRED

Look around for the dinghy. It must have drifted with the current.

They all walked around the edge of the mountain.

BILL

This is a dead end.

FRED

Here too.

JANET

It's as though someone wanted us to stay here.

ALICE

Someone? You mean like those things in there?

JANET

I'm just being realistic. It's the author in me.

FRED

Well, someone took the boat for a reason. I'm beginning to believe that Janet is right.

VOICE FROM BEHIND

There's no reason to be afraid.

They all turned around to see a skinny seven foot man standing in front of the cave. He was wearing a white robe and sandals.

FRED

Who are you ?

ISHTAR

I am Ishtar.

BILL

What do you want with us?

ISHTAR

Only to show you something
and to let you take with you
a message.

JANET

What's the message?

ISHTAR

First, I must show you what
you've been denying for so
long.

ALICE

Then will you let us go home?

ISHTAR

I will send you on your way.

Ishtar turned and walked inside of the cave. He was followed by the rest of them. Once they had arrived at the edge, Ishtar had disappeared.

JANET

Where did he go?

BILL

There he is.

Ishtar had turned to walk down the edge of the cave. Apparently there was a passage way that goes downward. They all walked the path that Ishtar had taken and were soon at the bottom of the cave. Ishtar was waiting.

ISHTAR

If you would follow me.

They walked into the city.

ISHTAR

Some of the people you see
here have been here for
thousands of years. Here, time
does not exist. There is but one
purpose and that is to maintain
each culture. We've tried to
make ourselves known to you
but you act like we are not
here. Take a look around.
What do you see? All kinds
of people living together.
They are from different
planets and from different
galaxies. They are your
neighbors.

FRED

Ishtar? My people are not
ready to meet visitors
from another world.

ISHTAR

Your world is going to face
it's own doom in two years
and we will live on top as
the new species. Your people
are so worried about us
taking over the planet, they
just choose to ignore our
existence.

ALICE

Ishtar? What's wrong with the
sky?

ISHTAR

This city was built under
water and as you can see.
An energy field is holding
it all up in place.

FRED

Do you mean we are under
water and the ceiling over our
heads is the water?

Just then a little gray creature had walked up to Ishtar.

GRAY

Ishtar? Some of the mothers
are getting tired of nurturing
the children and the
half-breeds are getting restless.

ISHTAR

Come, follow me into the
nurturing center.

They all walked into a large stone building. Inside were thousands of babies being nurtured by half-breed women, human women, alien women.

ISHTAR

A lot of the helpers came
from different time periods.

FRED

You mean you can manipulate
time?

ISHTAR

Yes. I can go back into your
planets time period and take
back people who are only
seconds away from dying
and bring them back here.
Therefore, a paradox would
not start.

ALICE

How long have you been
here?

ISHTAR

Since the dawn of mankind.

BILL

Wow. Were you here when
The dinosaurs roamed the
land?

ISHTAR

Yes, I've transported a lot of
them to other worlds where
they could survive. Man and
beast in that time period
could not live side by side.
Mankind would lose.

JANET

What message do you want
us to deliver to mankind?

ISHTAR

Asked for our help. Admit
to our existence. Ask for
us to appear and we will
come with open arms. We
can save your planet and
help you to grow. Be
willing to except us as
neighbors.

BILL

But our people will not listen
to us if we start talking about
you.

ISHTAR

You have to try. You see.
We can't interfere, but if you
invite us into your home we
will see that you will prosper.

BILL

Ishtar? What if our people
won't listen to us. Then what?

ISHTAR

Your planet will be doomed
in two years.

BILL

Well, how can we get back?
I don't know how we got
here.

FRED

The boat is gone too.

ISHTAR

Your boat is waiting.

ALICE

How can we find you if we
get the right answer?

ISHTAR

Ask your leaders to announce
it on your broadcasting stations.
Then we'll come.

JANET

I guess we better go.

ISHTAR

Yes. You should go. I'll pave
the way for you to return
home.

EXT: OUTSIDE OF THE CAVE-DAY

They all left through the cave and was out through the other end.

BILL

Hey, there's the boat and
there's the dinghy.

EXT: THE BOAT-DAY

They all ran to the dinghy. Got inside and made their way back to the boat. Once inside Bill started up the motor and they left towards the open sea.

BILL

There's only one direction to
go. The direction where there's
no fog. That's the only
direction where I can see open
water.

FRED

I'm for that.

They headed for the open fog that led to the open sea.

BILL

I'm steering straight ahead.

JANET

Go ahead honey. Lets get
out of here.

EXT: THE VORTEX-DAY

A few miles out the water began to swirl again.

BILL

Hold on tight. Here we go again.

The water started to rise and form a circular vortex that pulled them through. Once through the vortex the water was calm again.

EXT: THE OCEAN-NIGHT

They looked back and there was no more island or fog. The moon could be seen. Bill checked his compass.

BILL

I don't believe this. The day turned into night and the lights on the boat is on. My compass is working again. I can take us home.

FRED

So Bill. What do you make of that?

BILL

That's just it. Were we asleep or did all of this really happen?

JANET

We couldn't have dreamed the same dream could we?

ALICE

Maybe we were suffering from mass hallucinations.

BILL

Look. All I know is. If we go and try to tell important people about what we had seen, we are going to be placed inside of a mental hospital.

JANET

You heard what Ishtar had warned us about. Are you going to stand by and let it happen?

FRED

Look. He said the world will
be doomed in two years.
Maybe things can change on
their own. Plus,I'm a cop. I
have a career to think about.

BILL

Do we all agree that nothing
will be said about all of this?

FRED

I agree.

ALICE

Yea. Me too.

JANET

I agree also.

ALICE

Good. Right now, I just want
to go home and take a hot
bath.

BILL

Ok,home it is.

EXT:THE DOCK-DAY

Two years later. Bill, Janet,Fred,and Alice met on the dock.

BILL

Well, here we are again. I'm
glad we decided to go on
another fishing trip.

FRED

Yea,lets cast off.

They all sailed out into the open sea.

FRED

The sun is just right for
fishing.

BILL

What's that up above us?

JANET

They're planes. Jet planes.
Over fifty of them. Where
are they going?

BILL

Bring up the radio so we can
hear what's going on.

Janet ran down to the bottom of the boat. She grabbed the portable radio and brought it up top.

JANET

I have it.

Janet turned on the radio. They all listened.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

There are sixteen nuclear
missiles heading towards the
United States. I was told to
tell you to go to your nearest
bomb shelter. The United
States had retaliated by
launching nuclear missiles of
our own. This is it America.
I'm signing off.

BILL

I don't believe this. Ishtar was
right.

JANET
I don't want to die Bill.

EXT:THE VORTEX-DAY

Alice had placed her head on her Lapp and cried while Fred held on to her. The water started swirling around and a liquid vortex started to form.

JANET
Look. It's happening again.

They all looked up to see the giant vortex forming. They were being pulled in. Then suddenly a loud explosion and a bright light had appeared from behind them. They turned around to see the buildings crumbling around the mushroom cloud. The shock-wave was coming towards them. Along with a huge tsunami, but by then they were through the vortex. Everything had disappeared. The sea was calm again.

ALICE
Did you see that?

BILL
We all saw it Alice. Ishtar was right. If only we had tried to do what he had asked. Look. The island. It's straight ahead.

JANET
We're saved.

FRED
Come on Bill. Speed this boat up. We're going to our new home.

JANET
We'll get to know our new neighbors.

EXT-THE ISLAND-DAY

They anchored the boat. Jumped into the dinghy and made their way to the island.

FRED

I can see the cave.

ALICE

I have the flashlight.

BILL

Let's go.

JANET

I'm right behind you baby.

They all ran inside of the cave.

FRED

It's this way.

They kept on running.

BILL

Wait a minute.

JANET

What's the matter?

BILL

Something's not right.

FRED

What's not right?

BILL

There's suppose to be a blue
light right about now.

FRED

You're right. The edge of the
cave should be right about here.

BILL

Hand me the flashlight Janet.

Janet handed Bill the flashlight and Bill shined it straight down the opening of the cave.

BILL

There's nothing down there.

FRED

What do you mean, there's nothing down there. They got to be down there.

JANET

Let me see. You all are not looking in the right place.

ALICE

They're here. They got to be here. Otherwise who sent the vortex?

The battery power was dying out.

BILL

Lets get out of this cave before the battery is completely dead.

They ran out of the cave.

ALICE

What will we do now? We're stranded without food or water.

BILL

There's food on the boat.It can last us for at least a week. Maybe something will happen by then.

JANET

What's that out there?

They looked straight ahead and then upward. That's when they all started screaming. The liquid ceiling was coming down around them. It started out by where the vortex had appeared. The wall was getting closer and soon it was upon them. Their screams were suddenly muffled and they were crushed from the pressure of millions of tons of water.

THE END

FADE OUT