

PETREFLECTORS

Treatment by

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Based on Petreflections, an artistic photographic concept created
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The Characters

The Teens

Adrian Flanders
Emma Gauge
Sophie Elkin
Franklin Hubs
Ramon Villaroso
Susie Chou

The Adults

Rick Blake
Ellie Flanders
Ed Flanders
Harlow Standish
Charlayne Billings
Chief Bill Adams
Deputy Jonah Barnes
Jonah Barnes' wife
Joe Gauge
Patty Gauge
Joe, Jr. Gauge
Patrice Gauge

Caswell
 Diver
 Cops
 Two Guards at Gates
 TV Reporter
 Young Dad
 Female TV Reporter
 Young Naturalist
 Schoolkid
 Three Guards inside Facility
 USGS Scientist
 Twenty Tough Men from Out West
 Man in the Crowd
 Younger Adrian
 Landman
 Franklin's Parents
 Franklin's Sister
 Italia, Ramon's mother
 Two Students at School
 Bartender
 Harlow's Driver
 Adrian's Teacher
 Crowds in Town

The Petreflectors

Trunk
 Eyebrows
 Gnome
 Hornet
 Elbows
 Weeper
 Fuzz
 The Morga King
 The Spiderwolves
 The Greater Morga
 The Lesser Akeeli

ACT I

Halfway up a cliff face we see Rick Blake, 31, jam his right fist into a fissure, hang confidently for a beat, and then pull himself up toward us. He is a lean, handsome man with calloused, strong hands.

Titles read "One Year Ago" and we see a lit compound at night with armed guards. A mega-drill head, six feet wide, is poised beneath an outsized drill derrick under the compound's tall dome. Harlow Standish, 71, stands next to Charlayne Billings, 30 and beautiful, a geologist for Standish Oil and Gas. Harlow has invested a billion dollars in the new equipment on account of Charlayne's discovery: not just ordinary Marcellus Shale, but a dome so rich its natural gas is worth ten thousand wells. The drill bites into

the rock.

Titles read "Deep Space: 10,000 Years Ago" as a supernova explodes, whites out the screen and fades to the dawn sun over Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

Titles read "Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, Present Day" and we meet Ellie Flanders, 41, outside her small rental house in town. Her tires have been slashed. In an angry call to her brother, Chief of Police Bill Adams, Ellie accuses an "old bastard" named Joe Gauge. Caught in the middle of the fracking war in town, Chief Bill knows his sister has made enemies. But there's no proof it's Joe Gauge. Bill tells his sister he'll look into it, that's all, and says this wouldn't have happened if she were at the farm. Ellie gets even angrier when Chief Bill mentions Ed, her husband, and Adrian, her son. She hangs up.

We meet Adrian Flanders, 17, as he boards the school bus, refusing to wave at Ed, his dad. An old Subaru sits on blocks in the run-down organic farm's front yard. As Adrian listens to Skrillex dubstep through earbuds he watches the drill rig and condensation tanks on their property pass by.

Later, at an early rehearsal of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, rock-climber Rick Blake turns out to be Stroudsburg High's beloved drama teacher. Assembled on stage we see that Adrian is one of a group of six teen actors. Emma is pretty and sensitive. Sophie wears a goth look: purple hair, tatoos, ear gauges and piercings. Franklin is a 340-pound black student who's been cast as Caliban the monster and isn't sure he wants to wear the "mark of the alien" and says so. Susie Chou is Chinese-American, vivacious and talkative, willing to do her multiple parts in the short-staffed production. Ramon, an athletic Dominican-American actor with a quick wit, proposes that Sophie would make a good monster. She gives him the finger and Susie Chou defends Sophie's appearance.

Backpacks sit at the teens' feet. *The Tempest* is about a magic island and a monster. Outdoorsman Rick Blake has organized a two-night camping trip for his actors to Depew Island in the Delaware River nearby to inspire them and work on their lines. He says the island is "awesome" and the teens roll their eyes at his old-school adjective, but they love him. Only Adrian, who raises his hand at teacher Blake's question, is familiar with the uninhabited island that divides the shallow river into two channels.

Later, at a riverside campsite on Depew Island, Adrian reads a final Shakespearean line and Rick Blake tells his actors to go explore but not to leave the island. He always likes to know where his students are. In *The Tempest* Adrian plays Prospero the Magician, Emma plays Ariel the Spirit and Franklin plays Caliban -- the three lead roles. Adrian doesn't know Emma very well but is friends with Franklin Hubs, an amateur app designer. The three of them go off but come upon a ten-foot wide circle of frosted dead plants in an otherwise warm meadow. A low hum emanates from the

ground and the plants look like they've been dipped in liquid nitrogen. Adrian touches a white frosted leaf at the edge and it flakes away. On the tip of his index finger is tiny patch of frostbite. All three teens are weirded-out, especially Emma.

Later, the other actors and Rick Blake stand at the circle. Only black, limp plants remain. The frost and hum are gone. Although the three swear it was cold, the others don't believe them. Ramon says it looks like somebody dumped something that killed the plants, but Adrian, Emma and Franklin know what they have seen.

Meanwhile, at a town supervisors meeting, Ellie leans over and quietly accuses Joe Gauge, a crusty ex-logger in his 70's, of slashing her tires. He chuckles and says he wishes he had. Ellie announces to the meeting that her tires were slashed and laments how the town is divided over the fracking issue. We learn that she is mounting a no-racking rally this coming Saturday and is against fracking only in the Delaware basin, not generally. She wants regulations. Joe Gauge publicly doubts her mental stability and says they're all fortunate to have the shale and the money it brings.

Into the meeting walks her husband, Ed, who learns from Chief Bill about the slashing but has something to say Ellie. Ellie gives him the floor and Ed tells the crowd that just this morning his well water went bad and smells of fumes. Angrily Ellie talks about rashes, headaches and hallucinations caused by condensation fumes. Joe Gauge tells Ed to buy a Water Buffalo, a water tank. Joe's got three at his place.

Back on the island night has fallen. As the teens offer Rick Blake new hip vocabulary, a loud pulse shudders the air across the island, startling everybody. They pick up flashlights and run off.

At the shallow back channel near the meadow, their flashlight beams crisscross a boiling crater in the riverbed, still filling with water. Blake thinks a hot spring has broken through and won't let his students go near it. Instead he calls 911. Adrian swings his flashlight from the crater to the dead circle in the meadow and wonders what is going on.

The next morning, Chief Bill, Deputy Jonah Barnes, a diver and cops stand by the water filled crater, no longer boiling. It's a forty-foot deep conical hole in the bedrock with a sealed bottom, the diver reports. Chief Bill wonders if it was a meteor impact but Deputy Barnes, who watches the Science Channel, claims that a meteor would have destroyed the entire island. "Could frackin' do this?" Chief Bill asks.

As a Standish chopper sets down in the shallows and Charlayne Billings steps out with gear, they know they'll soon find out. Charlayne checks out the crater and takes readings and rules out Standish operations. No bubbles of gas from below. No gas,

period. She's brusque with Rick Blake who describes how the crater was boiling and steaming, and doesn't believe his or the teens' story. Chief Bill is mystified, but Rick Blake watches Charlayne as she flies off. Rick calls off the second day's camping on the island, unsure if it's safe.

At the high school parking lot Adrian and Franklin watch Emma drive off in her new red SUV. Susie Chou and Sophie leave in Sophie's old VW and Ramon drives off in his pickup.

Franklin drives a beat-up Civic and offers Adrian a lift home, since his Subaru's leaf springs are shot. In the car they talk about Franklin's newest app, Prayer Circle, one that organizes prayer circles in churches for users worldwide. Adrian is surprised and amused by Franklin's latest invention. Both agree that something strange is going on at Depew Island.

Emma pulls up to Joe Gauge's new big house and her new smaller house next to it. She is Joe Gauge's granddaughter. In BG are six frack rigs. A mobile home is hauled away. Everything says new money.

In the shower back at Flanders Farm, Adrian smells fumes and flies into a rage at his dad, who'd hoped it would clear out by the time Adrian got back from the river trip. "I'm outta here," Adrian yells, and demands that Ed drive him with his canoe back to the river where he can bathe and get away from the farm. Ed feels guilty and agrees.

By early afternoon Adrian is canoeing away from his dad's truck to spend Saturday afternoon and night by himself on the island. From flashbacks we see that Adrian has been there many times, tubing as a kid with friends. Adrian thinks about the good years, when his mom and dad were happy together and he was a kid submerged up to his eyes in the river, watching water striders. As he reminisces, "I Shall Be Released," a Dylan song recorded by The Band, plays in his mind.

Later, at Depew's back channel, he immerses and watches a water strider that suddenly crumples and dies without being touched. Although Adrian doesn't recognize it for what it is, across the water is a reflection of a large rock and dead trees. As the camera tilts to horizontal, the reflection turned vertical resembles a hideous demonic face, a giant body and huge spider legs.

Shortly afterwards, in dry shorts, Adrian stands in the shallows with his *Tempest* script.

On a pebbly beach at the island's tip, a gray driftwood tree reflection emits a low-frequency pulse and up rises a bizarre creature, twenty-feet tall, pulsing like a hallucination. He has stern eyes and a gnarled face. He leaps into the sky.

Behind Adrian, the hideous demon Petreflector walks across the shallows. With black spider eyes, dead limbs for legs and a hideous maw that opens to reveal five more maws of crystal teeth and a long, serrated tongue, the monster's final maw opens. Inside burn flames. The tongue moves to slice Adrian's neck when the other Petreflector, the Tree, suddenly blasts by and tackles it.

The two monsters tumble down the river, fighting. Terrified, Adrian sees that the tree trunk's blows produce pulses like the one they'd all heard the night before, and that each strike blasts a fresh crater in the riverbed.

In a deep, commanding voice, the Trunk yells, "Gua epir!" Titles read: "BE GONE!" Adrian has no idea what it means as he drops his script and stumbles backwards. Trunk hurls the maw beast into its own reflection doorway and it slams shut. Trunk turns toward Adrian.

Adrian loses his footing and falls. Trunk looms behind him. Terrified, Adrian thinks he's going to die. "What are you?" he stammers. Instead, Trunk hands him the wet script and wordlessly strides to the dead circle in the meadow. "Bashal, a te mor," Trunk says. Titles read: "SO, IT HAS BEGUN."

Adrian runs across the island to his canoe but fumbles the paddle, trips as he grabs it and falls face first into the water. Two more Petreflectors, smaller than Trunk, hover up. One resembles a four foot tall moss hornet with side stingers, the other is a five foot tall column of dry grass fuzz. Each emanates an electronic pulse tone as they speak.

"Palee. Beshtin fadeh ahl," the Hornet says: "LOOK. THE BOY IS SCARED."

"Paleah," the fuzz replies: "I SEE."

"Qauo ve Mashal?" Hornet asks: "HE MET THE BOSS?"

"Besh. Elesson morga et," Fuzz replies: "Yes. And a Morga has emerged."

Adrian does not understand their language. He stammers, "No way," and frantically paddles off downriver. His hands tremble as he pulls his cell phone from a baggie.

As Ed drives him home, Adrian thinks he's seeing things and asks about Ellie's claim that frack fumes cause hallucinations. He doesn't tell Ed what he's seen. Adrian is scared.

The next day, Sunday, as Ellie visits the farm and gives Ed a hard time about the four thousand dollar Water Buffalo next to the house, Adrian asks her about fumes and hallucinations. She worries, but he puts her off, saying that kids at school are

talking about it. "Might as well put it in a plastic bag and sniff it like glue," she says, looking over at the rig. The three leave for church.

That night we see Ramon at home with Italia, his mother, who prays for money before a homemade shrine. Early acceptance letters to college sit next to a stack of megabucks tickets.

Sophie slams her bedroom door, yelling at someone that she hates them. "Wonder who my real parents were," she hisses. Later, in her tub, she nicks a tattoo with a razor blade and watches a trickle of blood drip into the bath water. Growing from a tiny tattoo tree above her collar line, we see that her entire back is tattooed with the image of huge root system. "Hate this stupid life," she says.

Franklin sits with his family and types fast into a laptop that reads "Property of SHS." We see what he's typing: endless lines of app code.

Susie Chou is on Facebook posting about how it's important to understand other people's viewpoints. She has 840 friends.

At Joe Gauge's compound, Emma and her parents thank Joe and his wife, Patty, for a dinner and walk across to their new, slightly smaller house. The entire place is still being landscaped.

On the bus to school, Adrian googles "fracking chemicals hallucinations" and gets "Symptoms include headaches, tremors, fatigue, hallucinations, distorted perceptions..." He flashes on the fight between the two monsters.

In the halls at school, he passes Emma and asks her, since she has rigs at her place, whether she's ever seen things that weren't there. She says no. "But we did see that cold spot, right?" he asks. "Hubs saw it," she responds. "How's your finger?"

Ellie's desk at the Friendly Food Kitchen is cluttered. She calls Chief Bill to tell him they're expecting a thousand people at Saturday's rally. "Expect counter-demonstrators," he says, "people are pissed off." Ellie counters that his nephew is asking about hallucinations from fumes, so who should be more pissed off?

Caswell, 40, is Harlow Standish's chief enforcer. He meets with Standish, Charlayne and others in the control room inside the megafacility's dome, near the giant derrick. Caswell, it turns out, slashed Ellie's tires but complains that the bitch didn't get the message and won't slow down. After her no-fracking rally on Saturday, Monday's special referendum on regulating fracking takes place. Standish says he's taken care of making sure the rally goes badly, but hints that something else might need doing.

After school on the auditorium stage, Rick Blake works to explain *Tempest* lines to his actors. Adrian takes Emma aside and tells

her he's seen monsters on Depew Island and that one of them knew what the frost circle was. At first she thinks he's kidding but he adds that there are more craters now and he's scared he's going crazy. They're attracted to each other despite their families' antagonism. There's a cornfield just past some trees near Depew, he says, adding how they could easily wade across to the island. She flashes on Adrian touching the frosted plants with his fingertip.

Later, Emma's red SUV stops in the cornfield.

"Better be craters," she says.

"I know your grandpa and my mom don't get along."

"That's an understatement."

"Well, I'm not her and you're not him, right?"

Emma sees the four new craters. Adrian describes how the tree monster's punches blasted them. When they find a fresh frost circle on the meadow, Emma starts to believe Adrian's story. Across the island he kneels in the water where Hornet and Fuzz appeared. She laughs and tells him he's crazy, but kneels in the water and tilts her head anyway.

Fuzz and Hornet hover up in a sound pulse.

"Ohmygod," Emma stammers.

"Told ya."

"Oh my god."

"Really."

"What are they?"

"I don't know," Adrian admits, but he's relieved that he's not crazy. Emma sees them, too.

Fuzz and Hornet speak again, their words translated onscreen:

"Besh tala," Hornet says, brushing Emma's face with a stringy wing: "SORT OF PRETTY."

"No morde ishla qualshish, Adrio?" Fuzz asks, floating up to Adrian: "YOU ARE NOT AFRAID TO DIE, ADRIAN?"

Astonished, Emma asks, "Did it say your name?"

The two Petreflectors argue back and forth about whether these two are the ones and how the "boss" must be sure. Finally, in a strange struggle, Fuzz adjusts his language and says, "Come. We

can spaaeek what you spaaeek." Sound pulses fill the air as if contact has been made. In a state of wonder, the two teens follow them to the pebbly beach. A deep low pulse blasts the air and Trunk rises up, half-hallucination, half real. He crosses an arm over a knee and says, "Adrio. Ehhma."

We cut to Ellie, alone by her car. She weeps quietly as she looks through trees at Flanders Farm and the rig.

Back at the beach, a fourth creature, Elbows, rises up. Tiny head. Skinny body with long arms and slender fingers. He hovers toward them and asks Trunk, "Thaaeeese are the ones, Commander?" Trunk nods. "Commander?" Adrian asks, looking at Emma.

We begin to cut back and forth between Ellie in her car on a country road edged by a steep rocky ravine and the pebbly beach where more creatures appear. As Eyebrows, a strange face with hidden eyes and huge tufts of grass for eyebrows emerges from a reflection, a black town car appears in Ellie's rear view mirror. As Weeper, a stone body with yellow tuft arms and sad eyes emerges, the town car accelerates, approaching Ellie's car.

Gnome, a rock creature with a bulbous nose floats up and completes the circle around Adrian and Emma. Each Petreflector pulses and emanates a signature tone. Together the tones create an otherworldly chord. "What are you?" Adrian asks, awed but less afraid. "We are the Akeeli," Trunk answers. "Are you aliens?" The small Akeeli joke about his question until Trunk explains that they haven't been forced to appear on earth for a long time. "Why not?" Adrian asks. "You haven't needed us," Trunk answers, then senses something.

The town car rams Ellie off the road into the ravine. It's sixty feet down. Her car tumbles through the air.

Trunk looks down at Adrian and vanishes.

About to hit the bottom, Ellie's car stops just above the rocks. Upside down in her seat belt, she screams as a low hum fills the air and her car slowly begins to float back up, righting itself until it's placed gently back onto the road. Inside, a terrorized Ellie screams and bangs her head on her steering wheel, unsure of what's real.

Trunk reappears with the other Akeeli.

Emma: "Where'd you go?"

Trunk: "Somewhere."

Adrian: "What was that ... thing ... you fought in the river?"

Trunk: "One of the Morga. Their king."

A conversation begins where Trunk tells them that the two races of Petreflectors, the Akeeli and the Morga, use reflection doorways to enter this world from theirs. For five thousand years they have not appeared on earth, but now the Morga are gathering forces to return. They will bring their own darkness.

Meanwhile, on a back road, men trade places between two identical black town cars. Those who ran Ellie off the road drive off in the undamaged vehicle. The damaged one speeds toward New York City on the interstate.

Chief Bill gets a hysterical call from Ellie that she's been run off the ravine road. He asks her if she's injured and she says she and the car are okay. He tells her to drive to the farm, tell Ed to get out his shotgun and that he's on his way.

Landing with Adrian and Emma in the cornfield, Trunk explains that they and the others who were on the island the night of the pulse have been chosen, and that the Akeeli need their help. The Morga Army will emerge in four days at noon, on Saturday. "Human fate rests in human hands," he says. He won't tell them what they have been chosen for, but tells them to bring the others. They will then receive their powers. He leaps into the sky. Adrian looks at Emma, completely bewildered. "What powers?" he asks.

Chief Bill pulls up to Flanders Farm and notices minor side-swipe damage on Ellie's passenger side. Ellie is safe with Ed, but weeping, head down, almost hysterical. She repeats to Bill what happened, knowing it sounds crazy. Ed and Bill step outside and agree that Ellie's car did not fall sixty feet into a ravine. Ed worries that stress is making Ellie lose her mind. Bill agrees and offers to escort her into town. Ed nods, wondering what she was doing out here near the farm. He says he just wants her to be safe and to come home.

Ahead of Chief Bill's squad car in town Ellie sees a black town car and cuts it off, almost causing an accident. In a rage she bangs on the window, cursing. Bill leaps out and grabs her, seeing that the town car is undamaged.

The rear window powers down to reveal Standish and Caswell. Chief Bill, who has not met Standish, is taken aback when he learns his identity and apologizes for Ellie's behavior. Standish busts a grin and says he'll let it go, eyeing Ellie. As they drive off, Standish asks Caswell if that was the woman. Caswell and the driver swear they saw her car go over the ravine. Standish flies into a rage. He ordered her murder, yet she's still alive.

After nightfall, Emma drives Adrian to Ellie's house in town. Neither Ed, Bill nor Ellie has called him about the incident. None of them is sure it happened and that Ellie's not coming apart mentally. Adrian sees the damage to her car and goes inside, leaving Emma waiting.

Ellie is passed out on the couch, an empty wine bottle and a small pistol on the table. The Band's "I Shall Be Released" plays on her stereo. Shocked by the gun, Adrian gently covers her with a blanket and notices her open laptop's screensaver. He touches a key and reads something she's drunkenly typed:

"Joe Gauge you bastard I might just come over there and kill you."

Adrian deletes the document and sadly leaves. He doesn't touch the gun. In the car Emma asks how his mom is and Adrian tells her if her grandpa mentions his mother, tell him to leave her alone.

Later, they sit in the car at Flanders Farm.

Emma: "I don't know. I think I'm going crazy. What powers was he talking about?"

Adrian: "Don't know."

Emma: "I mean, c'mon Adrian, is this real?"

Adrian: "We both saw them."

Emma: "Yeah, okay. No, you're right."

Adrian: "So tomorrow, we get everybody back out there. After school."

Emma: "You gonna tell your dad?"

Adrian is not sure. He gets out and she drives off. Ed sees her.

Ed: "That Emma Gauge?"

Adrian: "Yeah."

Ed: "You know who Joe Gauge is?"

Adrian: "She's in the play, dad. Just gave me a ride home. She's nice."

Later at the kitchen table Ed has told Adrian Ellie's crazy ravine story.

Adrian: "She said her car floated up?"

Ed: "She's losin' it."

Adrian: "Did she see what did it?"

Ed: "Oh, right. What floated a car fifty feet up a cliff?"

Adrian flashes on Trunk setting them down in the cornfield and wonders.

At Standish's mega-drill facility, he and Charlayne stand before a computer-generated cross-section of the Marcellus Shale. They focus on a huge underground bulge of a different color. It rises to within a thousand feet of the surface. Most shale is ten thousand feet down.

Charlayne: "So you reached it?"

Standish: "Casing and cement goin' in now. Then the big gun. You were right. Like ten thousand wells."

Charlayne: "When you gonna blow it?"

Standish mentions his upcoming birthday. She cautions that the detonation might cause "a little rumble" for his birthday.

Standish: "Dr. Billings, you're gonna be a very rich woman. What's a little earthquake compared to that?"

ACT II

Later, at a bar in town, Rick Blake notices Charlayne. He approaches her and she recognizes him from the river. Agreeing and disagreeing in a flirtatious way about fracking the Marcellus, they are both obviously physically attracted. Looking at his body she's amazed he's a drama teacher and laughs. She wants a stinger, so he orders two and mentions that it's strong stuff for such a young lady. She looks at herself in the bar mirror and says, "Strong stuff, you said it."

At the station, Deputy Jonah Barnes tells Chief Bill that Saturday's rally is going to be a lot bigger than anyone suspected. Hotels and campgrounds are booked solid for fifty miles around.

At dinner in Joe Gauge's dining room, the adults complain about the big no-fracking rally. Eating quietly, Emma looks at her family and says, "Don't go. Don't anybody go. Something bad might happen." Her dad asks what she's talking about and she says she's not really sure and leaves. Later, in her room on Facebook she types in: "Don't go to the rally in Stroudsburg this Saturday. Monsters might be coming."

Along Depew Island's shoreline in the moonlight, dark forms move like immense, unhatched wasps. A low hum emanates from the earth and a frost circle forms on the meadow.

Ellie jerks awake on her couch and hears a sound. Still half drunk she grabs her pistol and moves to the door. She's shocked to find it unlocked. Paranoid and scared, she slides down the wall and bursts into sobs.

Later, Ed opens the farmhouse door to find Ellie standing there.

Ellie: "Sorry, Ed. I'm just so scared."

Ed: "Shoulda called me, babe. Woulda come and gotten ya."

Tousled, Adrian appears. Later, with Ed asleep and his mom sipping coffee, Adrian tells her about the Akeeli on the island and what's coming on Saturday. He tries to convince her that the Akeeli must have saved her in her car, but she refuses to believe it, saying she must have knocked her head somehow. At the mention of Emma Gauge's name she grows furious and tells him to stay away from that little bitch and her filthy money. He begs Ellie to cancel the rally, but she refuses and goes to bed, dazed, frustrated and worried that he's hallucinating from frack fumes.

The next day at lunch, Adrian and Emma join the other actors. Susie Chou immediately asks if they had a good time yesterday and Ramon asks if they're doing La Bamba. Everybody saw them leave together. Susie mentions Emma's post about monsters. Adrian and Emma exchange glances and Adrian says,

"Okay, here you go. There are monsters on Depew Island. This Saturday other monsters are gonna attack everybody but the good monsters are gonna give us powers."

Everybody cracks up except Franklin. Adrian and Emma explain that the pulse they all heard was caused by fighting monsters and that there are more craters now. Adrian turns to Franklin and says the monsters caused the cold circle and there are more circles in the meadow as well. Franklin listens, chewing. Adrian tells them the Akeeli say they've all been chosen. He dares them all to go back to the island after school, with Rick Blake. Nobody really believes him and Emma, but they accept the dare.

At rehearsal, Adrian tells Rick that they've figured out how the crater formed and that there are more now. Emma begs him to come with them. It's a quick drive to the cornfield, she says. Amused, Rick tells them to bring their scripts for legitimacy's sake and asks who's got wheels.

On the island, Rick Blake stares across the meadow. "Okay, this cannot be," he says. Numerous frost circles pock the meadow. Four new craters darken the river. The sun dips below the trees and a shadow sweeps them. The back channel's far shore moves and a dozen small Morga emerge and splash into the water. The size of wolves, they have rock bodies, stick legs and needle fangs in wide, slavering jaws. After hesitating in horror, everybody runs. Inside the spiderwolves' mouths, crystal tongues flick like snakes. As sparks pour like saliva from their maws, we dive down one of their throats into roaring flames.

Adrian and Emma run for the campsite but the others split down

different trails in the woods. The pack splits up to chase them. Susie Chou runs slowly and a spiderwolf bites her calf, tearing away her spirit flesh in a bundle of sparks. Her physical calf looks normal as she runs onward. The spiderwolf stops to eat the spirit flesh as others pounce on it, tearing it to sparkling shreds. As Susie runs, her calf bleeds a stream of sparkles and something has happened to her eyes. They have dulled.

Adrian and Emma dash to where they met Fuzz and Hornet and yell for help. A low electronic hum shudders the air across the island.

We see a series of quick scenes where each human is attacked by spiderwolves and saved by an Akeeli.

Eyebrows emits blasts of lighting from beneath his eyebrows and saves Emma.

Fuzz saves Adrian by drilling through a spiderwolf's body, ripping it to sparkling shreds.

Sophie screams just as Weeper cries and his sad eyes shoot projectile tears down the throats of two attackers. Their inner flames hiss out and they explode.

Hornet rescues Ramon by stabbing spiderwolves with his side stingers.

Gnome blasts Rick Blake's attacker with low sounds but not before it bites Rick's left hand.

Elbows spins his long arms like twin swords and slashes apart the spiderwolf about to bite Franklin.

Susie Chou is pinned to a tree by a big spiderwolf until Trunk lands, hand-crushes it and leaps with Susie into the sky to far above the island. Only for a moment, high above the island, does she stop screaming from terror.

Into the dusk-filled campsite, Sophie, Franklin, Ramon and Rick Blake stumble together, terrified, looking around. Trunk lands with a crash next to them, holding Susie. She's still screaming. He gently sets her down and says, "Be calm. You are safe now."

"They won't hurt you!" Adrian calls as he and Emma run in from the gathering dark. The smaller six Akeeli hover in, glowing and pulsing. The newcomers are astounded.

Trunk looks at Susie's dull eyes. "It is not your flesh they want," he says. "Who else has been bitten?" Hornet hovers to Susie and injects a twig hair into her calf, withdrawing dark sparkles and injecting bright ones. Her eyes return to clarity, as if she's come back to life.

Rick Blake is astounded and completely confused.

Adrian: "Meet the Akeeli, Mr. Blake."

Blake: "No. No, I don't think so."

Franklin: "Damn. You weren't shittin'. Monsters."

Emma: "Sorry, Mr. Blake. Like I said. Kinda hard to explain."

Sophie clicks a photo of Trunk with her cell phone. Nothing appears. Just the surrounding trees.

Later, around a campfire, Trunk explains that they are the forward guard of the Akeeli Army. The small creatures that chased them are just little Morga. The Greater Morga are coming and they don't just bite. The Boundary between worlds, usually well-established, will thin when the "light front" arrives. Upon its arrival the Morga Army will emerge effortlessly. The greed has thickened sufficiently, he says. The Morga will kill everything and initiate an ecological cascade of death across earth. Everyone's friends and family will die. The world will follow. All higher life forms will vanish.

The humans ask why Akeeli have never been seen before and Trunk replies that long ago they were seen. "We take many forms," he says, and adds that the Akeeli now need the humans' help. In order to free the Akeeli Army to fight the Morga, the chosen humans must deliver "the Origin." To do that, they will each need their powers.

Confused, Ramon asks, "Powers? What powers?" Trunk tells them they will each be granted one minute of extraordinary power if they choose to accept it. Sophie asks about "the Origin" but Trunk will only explain if they accept their powers first. He warns them that they cannot tell each other what their different powers are or the powers will "cease to reside" in them. Adrian has seen the Morga King and describes him. "Unless you can free us all," Trunk goes on, "there will be no stopping him. All on earth will die under his darkness."

Susie wants to know why this is happening here. Trunk explains that here, in this place, humans are battling over water and what it means. Choose to foul it forever here, he says, and the planet's death cascade will begin with the Morga invasion. The Akeeli reflection doorways depend on the water level, he goes on. Too low or too high, the Akeeli cannot pass through. For Morga, who worship death and can take any form, he says, it does not matter.

The teens accept their unknown powers. Rick Blake, whose left eye is blinking, accepts last.

Scenes follow where each human goes off with the Akeeli who saved

them earlier and is bathed in light. Gnome, who saved Rick, bathes him, too, but his bitten left hand remains dark. Gnome either doesn't notice or doesn't mention it.

Back at the campfire, everyone now has a secret power only they know and cannot share. Trunk pulls from his body a small geode the size of a large marble. He hands the Origin to Adrian.

Trunk: "Small, but it carries great hope and power. You, Adrio, were first here, so you are the Keeper. Keep it safe. Use it once the light front arrives and it will free forth all the Akeeli."

Adrian closes it in his palm as Rick Blake's left eye narrows.

Trunk: "Find out where and how to use it. When the light comes, so will the darkness. Act swiftly."

The teens ask if they can warn people about Saturday, and Trunk tells them they can try.

Trunk rises and says his Akeeli need to rest and gather their force because their enemies are gathering theirs, then adds one last warning about the humans' secret powers. "Summon them only once," he says. "Summon your power twice and its force will kill you."

Ramon apologizes to Sophie for saying she'd make a good monster. She struggles to accept his apology and finally touches his arm, forgiving him.

Driving through the night, Ramon, Sophie, Emma, Susie and Adrian ride in Emma's SUV. Franklin leads the caravan, alone in his Civic. Behind them all, Rick Blake follows in his muddy Xterra, filled with rock climbing gear.

In the back seat, Sophie and Susie text madly.

Emma: "I can't get my head around this. I can't."

Adrian: "Really."

Sophie: "My power's so weird. I have no idea ..."

Susie: "Don't talk about it."

Adrian: "Forget about all that for now. We gotta warn people. If I call my uncle on speaker, you guys'll back me up, right?"

On speaker phone Adrian rings Chief Bill. Awkwardly, Adrian tries to tell the Chief that something bad is going to happen on Saturday and asks him to cancel the rally. Chief Bill grows increasingly serious and annoyed at Adrian's vague description of explosions and craters in town until Adrian finally spills the

truth:

Adrian: "Okay, this Saturday, uh, the Akeeli are going to war here against the Morga? They're ... monsters."

Sophie: "We are so dead."

Chief Bill: "Who's that with you?"

Emma comes to Adrian's defense and backs him up. Thinking the kids have called in a false threat of terrorism, Chief Bill angrily tells them what they are doing is serious. Adrian cuts in and asks Chief Bill to call Mr. Blake, that he was there and he knows about it. Chief Bill agrees but demands that they all drive to the station immediately and hangs up. "We are very so dead," Sophie groans.

Behind them in his Xterra, Rick Blake takes Chief Bill's call. In the dark car we see Rick's left hand bleed sparkles. His eyes are glazed. He speaks strangely, from the left side of his mouth and lies to the Chief, telling him the kids are full of crazy stories and he's been trying to talk them down. It's either fracking fumes or drugs, he suspects. Emma Gauge, too. All of them. Hanging up, he flashes on Adrian holding the Origin, then peels off from the caravan into the night.

In Chief Bill's office at the station, the teens are shocked by Rick Blake's denial of their story. Threatening to tell their folks about reporting a false threat, Bill finally relents:

Chief Bill: "You're lucky I'm a little too busy right around now to deal with this. If you're seeing things from rig fumes or whatever, well maybe that's what I'm gonna tell myself today. And as long as I don't hear any more about this, I'll let it go."

He tells them all to get out, except Adrian. Emma gives Adrian a determined look as she leaves. Chief Bill tells Adrian he has to tell Ellie about this, but Adrian says he's already told her and she doesn't believe him, either. Adrian denies using hallucinogens with his friends, but then backs off his story to appease his uncle. It's probably fumes, he lies. Chief Bill softens somewhat, tells him to see a doctor and asks how Adrian is going to get home. Ellie's office is just down the street, Adrian says. He'll catch a ride to the farm with her. Her rally is coming up and she's been working late every night.

Adrian leaves the police station and walks down the sidewalk that borders Courthouse Square. The rally stage is up under lights. It's Tuesday night.

We cut to two bus stations out West, one in Grand Junction, Colorado, the other in Ft. Worth, Texas. At each one, ten lean, hard-faced men in a group board an NYC Express Bus and sit together.

Standish's black town car drives along Main Street by Courthouse Square. He asks Caswell if they are all set for Saturday. "Yes sir," Caswell replies, "black bandanas, ball-peens, the whole nine yards." He spots Adrian walking. "Look. The Flanders kid." Standish narrows his eyes and tells the driver to pull up to Ellie's kid. He powers down his window and yells, "Hey, kid! Your momma like all that money from that well?"

Adrian does not know Standish and yells back, "Blow me, dude!"

Standish darkens and the town car speeds off.

At the farm later, Adrian hides the Origin beneath a hay bale in the barn.

The next morning at school, two students accost Emma about her monsters post on Facebook. "Everybody's comin' now," one says. "Don't wanna miss 'em!" Emma scowls and says, "Don't go." They laugh, "Gettin' weird Emma, you and Susie and the goth bitch."

The angry actors wait onstage for Rick Blake. He breezes in as if nothing has happened and they confront him about lying to Chief Bill. He tells them all he remembers about Depew was some crazy story they told him about monsters. They throw their scripts to the floor and walk out. His cell phone rings. It's Charlayne. "Well, hello," he says, seeing her name, "how nice." His left eye has a strange glint.

That night at Joe Gauge's dining table, Patrice, Emma's mom, demands to know why she's posting about monsters on Facebook. She's heard about it. She forbids Emma to have anything to do with Adrian Flanders or she'll take away Emma's car keys. Emma angrily leaves the table. Joe Gauge growls about how he's logged all his life and suddenly has money from nowhere and now his own granddaughter is hanging out with hippie dirtbags who are trying to shut his wells down.

Along Depew's shore, Morga stir in their confinements. Trunk is still, just a driftwood tree in the moonlight.

At home, Franklin chews pizza and types rapidly on his school-issued laptop.

In his apartment, Rick Blake grunts and chugs scotch. His left fingernails are thickened and turning yellow. He dials his cellphone and calls Charlayne, his voice hoarse:

Rick Blake: "Got your call ... Don't know ... Cook you dinner ... Get to know each other better ... Place like this can be lonely ... "

The next morning, Thursday, Chief Bill stands with Deputy Jonah Barnes on Courthouse Square and openly worries about keeping the

demonstrators and counter-demonstrators apart on Saturday. He knows it's going to be ugly. Jonah has ordered orange crowd control mesh. Chief Bill asks Jonah to drive out to the cornfield near Depew to see if any more craters have appeared in the river. "Just take a look," he says.

In a robe, Rick Blake stands at his bathroom mirror. Now dressed, Charlayne leans against the doorjamb on her way out and Rick hides his left hand in his pocket. They've slept together and Charlayne says let's do it again soon. He agrees and she leaves. He takes out his hand and examines his yellowed, thickened nails, then checks his teeth. On the left side of his mouth they are turning gray.

Rick's normal voice: "This isn't good."

Rick's dark, hoarse voice: "Sure it is."

There is an entity inside him.

At Flanders Farm, Ed drives off with Ellie toward town. A beat and Rick's Xterra drives up slowly. He gets out and finds the front door unlocked. Nobody is around.

Rick's normal voice: "Shouldn't be doing this."

Rick's hoarse voice: "Oh, yes we should."

He licks his teeth and goes inside.

On Depew's back channel, Deputy Barnes scratches his head at the four new craters. The Morga King rears up behind him and slices his neck with his long whip tongue. Out spurts spirit blood. Jonah stands for a second until the maws open and suck him in like an anglerfish. The sound is like a semi roaring by.

At school, Emma passes Adrian and Ramon in the halls and completely ignores Adrian. Ramon notices but Adrian tells him not to worry. Later, in class, Adrian is distracted, looking out the window and misses a question from his teacher.

At the cornfield, lights on, two cop cruisers are parked next to Jonah's empty vehicle. Standing on top of the King Morga's rock, Chief Bill orders his men to search for Jonah.

Later, at Jonah's house, he asks Jonah's pregnant wife if they've been having difficulties. They've searched for him with a bloodhound and scoured the river. He has vanished.

At home that evening, Ellie, Ed and Adrian survey Adrian's room. It has been torn apart. In the barn, Adrian is relieved to find the Origin where he left it. He pockets it. Inside he hears Ellie on the phone with Chief Bill, reporting the break-in and overhears that Deputy Barnes has disappeared out by Depew Island.

In his room he rings Franklin.

Adrian: "Hubs. Somebody broke in here. Went through all my stuff ... No, no I got it ... Don't know, but we gotta do something. Find out where to take this thing before we lose it ... Well, it's gotta be around here, right? ... Okay, tomorrow night ... Nah, Emma's parents threatened to take her keys ... Let's get Ramon ..."

Friday morning in the halls Emma passes Adrian. Expressionless, she takes the note he slips her and walks on. At lunch the girls sit apart from the boys and Ramon mentions that Mr. Blake has been calling in sick. Nobody's seen him.

In his apartment, Rick Blake slumps in his chair. We do not see his face, but his left hand's fingers are gnarled and crusted. Charlayne calls. His left hand picks up and he answers in a weird, guttural voice. She says he sounds terrible. "Musta caught a bug," he replies. She wants to get together tonight. Suddenly Rick's normal right hand grabs the phone and his normal voice yells, "Some other time. Sorry. Gotta go!" and he punches end. We see his mouth. His lips on the left are swollen and crusted. His evil half laughs.

Evil Rick: "Well, well. Look who's fightin' back. The good little drama teacher. Don't wanna get laid?"

In a chopper, a jilted Charlayne stares at her phone, furious, and curses him. The chopper is above the mega-facility's dome, built deep in the woods. Behind it rises a mountain with a rocky outcrop summit. As the chopper flies over the summit, we see that just below lies the Delaware River and Depew Island.

At her office, Ellie learns that *The New York Times* has done an article on a town torn apart by fracking controversy. She's thrilled and calls Chief Bill. Expect over ten thousand people tomorrow, she says. Bill still hasn't found Deputy Barnes.

Late afternoon at the farm, Adrian tries to convince Ed that monsters probably got Deputy Barnes, but Ed will hear none of it. He's worried about Adrian's and his friends' hallucinations. Ellie and Chief Bill have told him all about the teens' claims. He asks if Adrian is coming to Ellie's big event tomorrow. Adrian says no, and that he's going out tonight with friends. Disappointed, Ed leaves to pick up Ellie early so she gets a good night's sleep.

Franklin arrives in the Civic shortly afterwards. Ramon jumps in the back seat and the three drive off.

At sunset, they stand by Trunk's silent tree. There is no sign of the Akeeli.

At home, Emma watches the sunset.

Looking out her window at people on the street below, Susie Chou cautions herself to wait until it's time.

In her bathtub, Sophie pours water through her hands and stares at it.

In Rick Blake's apartment, a hideous stone arm with a claw reaches for the scotch. From the right, we see Rick's human face, sagged as if from a stroke, tears dripping. The demonic voice speaks.

Demon-Rick: "Don't worry so much. It'll all be over soon."

The left side of his mouth is filled with needle-like fangs. He drinks and smacks his lips.

Demon-Rick: "Ah. Aren't you lucky to always know where your students are. That's quite the power to have. Thanks to me, it's gonna last longer than a minute, too."

Night falls. Franklin stops at a wooded crossroads as Adrian notices that the Origin is glowing slightly. Franklin turns right and the glow fades.

Adrian: "Wait."

Franklin: "What?"

Adrian: "It's doing something. Go the other way."

Franklin turns around and the glow increases. Later, they see a charter bus up ahead turn right onto a dirt road. As they pass the road, the Origin fades.

Adrian: "Back there. Where the bus went."

They turn off their lights and follow the bus. The Origin glows brighter. They see the mega-facility's perimeter lights and pull off into the woods.

Hidden outside the fencing, they see armed guards let the bus into the yard. Adrian holds the Origin.

Adrian: "It's warm. That's new."

Franklin: "Hide it, man. They're gonna see us."

Ramon: "Dudes have guns. What is this place?"

Ramon inhales deeply and stands up.

Franklin: "What are you doin'?"

Ramon: "Gonna use my power. No, really. Think so, man. Gotta

see what's inside."

Ramon opens his arms and vanishes. Adrian and Franklin are stunned.

Ramon teleports into the facility and finds himself behind a stack of wide drill pipes. Amazed that it worked, he starts to count down his minute and crawls through a pipe toward the derrick. He sees roustabouts loading high explosives into a giant tube suspended above a wide hole in the ground. Caswell enters with the twenty men from out West as a guard spots Ramon. Ramon scuttles back down the pipe but two more guards grab his feet and hold him. Standish and Charlayne run from the control room as Ramon struggles, curses and yells, "Get off me, assholes!" Standish is enraged that a kid penetrated his security and has Ramon hauled into the control room. Ramon recognizes Charlayne from the river but she does not recognize him.

In the control room they throw Ramon in a chair.

Ramon: "What's that big hole in the ground?"

Standish: "Shut up! A damn kid! Now what?"

Standish nods and a guard aims a Glock at Ramon.

Standish: "Better tell me, son. How'd you get in here?"

Ramon vanishes from the chair.

Standish: "What the hell?"

Ramon reappears next to Adrian and Franklin in the woods as alarms sound and the facility lights up.

Adrian: "Jesus, man! Where were you?"

Ramon: "I got inside. Jumped."

Franklin: "You mean, that was your ... "

Ramon: "Yeah. Let's get outta here."

Later, speeding away in the Civic, Ramon tells them the people inside were going to kill him and that the lady geologist from the river was there. He describes the big hole and the huge thing full of dynamite suspended above it. The Origin's glow has faded.

Franklin: "What did it feel like, to jump like that?"

Ramon: "Don't know. I was just there."

Adrian: "So, the powers work."

Ramon: "Oh, yeah. This is for real."

Inside the mega-facility, a guard reports to Standish that there's no sign of the kid, nothing on security cameras and no breaches in the perimeter.

Standish: "Who is this kid, Houdini?"

In her bedroom, Emma's cell phone buzzes. Adrian tells her they know where the Origin goes. Some big place in the woods. They agree to meet at the cornfield with the other girls at ten tomorrow morning.

Back home, Adrian slips into the barn and takes down a bolt cutter.

Saturday dawns. As we listen to a radio announcer, V.O., describe a perfect fall day, clear and mid-seventies, we see shots of Stroudsburg preparing for the rally. Police barricades, orange crowd control mesh and vendor stalls are set around Courthouse Square. Chief Bill oversees preparations along with blue-shirted no-fracking volunteers.

Outside town, fields for parking fill with demonstrators watched over by cops. Thousands of people carry pro- and anti-fracking signs and head toward town. A long line of vehicles stretches down the road.

Ellie prepares herself on the rally stage as Ed sits vigilant in the grass, watching over her. The rally begins at 11:30 a.m.

At the mega-facility, the twenty men file past Caswell then board the bus. Each is handed an Occupy Wall Street black t-shirt, an anarchist's black bandana and a ball-peen hammer.

At the cornfield, Emma's red SUV is parked next to Sophie's VW, Ramon's pickup and Franklin's Civic. All are amazed to hear Ramon's story from last night and how his power really did work for one minute. Adrian knows they have to get inside the facility somehow once the "light front" hits, whatever that is. The problem is, he says, what to do with it once they're inside. That and the seven armed guards Ramon counted while inside. Susie Chou speaks up.

Susie: "How long will it take to get inside? If we run?"

Ramon: "Thirty seconds, maybe, if we book it."

Susie: "Not saying how, but I might be able to help with the guards."

Franklin: "Yeah, okay, but where does it go? Inside there somewhere? What if we put it in the wrong place?"

Emma closes her eyes and comes to a decision. She tells them to wait and walks to the river alone, puts her hands to her temples and uses her secret power.

A rush of images floods her mind. Darkness overhead. Roaring winds. An earthquake. What looks like a volcano erupting from a mountaintop. Spiderwolves and Morga swarming out from a nearly empty riverbed. A small new sun below the Sun in a clear sky. Thousands of people screaming in terror. The Akeeli trapped inside vanished doorways. The Origin falling down a dark shaft past black cables. A stack of pipes where Franklin kneels next to Adrian's dead body. He's been shot in the chest.

She screams "No!" and staggers back to the others. Adrian runs to her. They crowd around her and she tells them she used her power -- to see the future for one minute. She is shattered by the vision and can't take her eyes off Adrian.

Emma: "All the water was gone from the river. These horrible things were coming out, under like a storm or something. The Akeeli's reflections were gone and they couldn't get out! People were getting killed, I don't know! It can't be real! The Origin, it was falling into a tunnel or something."

Ramon says it has to be the drill hole he saw in the floor. Adrian tells Ramon and Emma that they're done, but both say no way. Emma walks off with Adrian and tells him what she saw. She kisses him, in tears. She doesn't want him to get killed.

In a dark, undefined space, the seven Akeeli float, creating their deep chord. Gnome doubts a bunch of kids can do it. Hornet asks about the teacher, and Trunk says what will be will be. Weeper feels like crying, but Trunk says don't cry yet, you never know.

At the cornfield, Adrian tells Emma that if they don't try, all their friends and families will die. Then the world. She understands and kisses him hard. He kisses her back and smiles.

Adrian: "So at least we make it inside the building. That's good. 11:40. We better go."

They return to the group but Sophie says she's not going. "Trust me," she says, "my power won't do any good where you guys are going. My place is here. I know that." Ramon asks if she's sure and she says no. She's scared. They all hug each other and get into Emma's SUV, leaving Sophie alone.

In the crowd near the stage in town, a TV reporter interviews a young dad with a toddler about why he's against fracking. The dad holds a blown-up photo of a frack pad on a drinking-water reservoir peninsula. In BG, Joe Gauge and his wife, Patty, counter-protest loudly behind orange mesh.

At the podium, Ellie begins her speech as boos and noisemakers

from the counter-demonstrators honk in the background. She laments how the town has been torn apart by the controversy and describes how water is going bad and people are getting sick.

Over local public access radio in the SUV, Adrian, Emma, Ramon, Franklin and Susie listen to Ellie, V.O., as they drive to the facility.

Ellie's speech continues, V.O., as Sophie wades across to Depew Island.

Ellie's speech continues, V.O., as in the facility's control room, Charlayne, Caswell and others back-slap and Standish blows out birthday candles. Charlayne hands him a detonator remote. On a computer screen, we see that the mega-drill shaft, a red line, extends from the facility beneath the mountain to under the Delaware River for miles. As Ellie finishes her speech about regulations, Standish presses the button.

At Depew's main channel, Sophie watches the river surface grow choppy and feels a rumble.

At the podium, a USGS scientist takes the stage. He and the crowd feel the slight tremor.

The red SUV turns onto the dirt road to the facility.

At shop windows along Courthouse Square, the twenty provocateurs from out West, now wearing Occupy Wall Street t-shirts, pull up black bandanas over their faces and smash windows with their hammers. The TV reporter yells into the camera that the peaceful demonstration has just turned ugly. Chief Bill runs toward the disturbance with his walkie-talkie. The provocateurs drop everything, strip off their shirts, don baseball caps and shove into the giant crowd.

By the river, Sophie's face is suddenly illuminated. She looks up and sees a second, smaller sun shining near the Sun. The Akeeli's light front has arrived.

ACT III

On the back channel, the Morga King explodes from his reflection and juggernauts through the cornfields and woods toward the mountaintop, flipping trees and cars. The mountaintop stands between the river and the facility. The Morga King reaches the rocky summit, falls onto his back and opens all six maws. From the flames inside belch dark, volcanic clouds, like an eruption. The clouds spread outward fast. Beneath them are darkness and high winds. We see the Shadow Storm approach the still sunny river.

In their confinements, Greater Morga shudder and swell, about to

hatch.

Ramon, Franklin, Susie and Emma run up to the facility's perimeter fence. Adrian carries the bolt cutter in one hand and the glowing, warm Origin in an oven mitt in the other.

Emma: "Adrian, look up!"

The twin suns shine in the sky.

Adrian: "Yeah. It's the light front."

Adrian pulls out his cell phone.

On the Courthouse Square stage, Ed runs to Ellie and holds her. The crowd is terrified, looking up at the twin suns. The USGS scientist at the podium checks his phone and reports to the crowd that NASA has identified the second sun as a supernova in the Andromeda system, 10,000 light years away. The light is not dangerous, he yells. Ellie moves next to him and begs the crowd to calm down. She adds that whoever is smashing windows isn't part of their group.

Chief Bill's cell phone buzzes. It's Adrian.

Chief Bill: "Yes! We see it! We all see it!"

In rock layers beneath the river, Standish's bomb has destabilized the rock above and fissures rapidly spiderweb upward toward the surface.

At the facility fence, Adrian tells Chief Bill where the facility is located. Susie sees the Storm Shadow on the mountain. They all see it rapidly expanding, coming their way.

At the turnoff to the facility's dirt road, Rick Blake's Xterra turns in fast. From inside the car, Demon-Rick sees the Storm Shadow.

Demon-Rick: "Right on time."

At the river, Sophie sees fissures open in the riverbed. In puffs, the water pours into them, closing the Akeeli doorways. She takes off her blouse. Beneath her bra straps we see the root system tattoo. She folds her hands across her chest and falls backwards onto the drained rocky riverbed. Her body explodes into a volume of clear, still water that opens the Akeeli doorways.

Trunk and the six Akeeli burst forth. They gather and see the Storm Shadow racing toward the river. Suddenly the earth rumbles. This surprises them.

Fuzz: "What's going on?"

Trunk: "Don't know. Not good."

Elbows: "Gonna be too many for us without the Origin."

At the facility perimeter, Adrian has cut a hole in the fence. The teens crouch behind a stack of pipes in the yard. Two guards with automatic weapons stare up at the twin suns. One barks into his walkie-talkie. Adrian turns to Susie.

Adrian: "Do what you're supposed to do!"

Susie: "Not yet."

Franklin: "Jesus, man. I'm dyin' from this."

Ramon: "What's your power?"

Susie: "Shut up, Ramon."

A third guard runs out a door, leaving it open. Susie walks out from their hiding place and yells at the guards. As one draws a bead Susie lifts her palms and the guards go motionless, eyes glazed.

Susie: "Go! Run! We've got one minute!"

Franklin: "What's your power?"

Susie: "Controlling minds. Everybody in the place at the moment. Go!"

The Origin smokes the oven mitt as they dash for the open door. As they run inside they don't see Demon-Rick stop at the gates. He is half-human, his left side a hideous stone demon, his right side human. His left claw slashes the gate apart and he hops grotesquely toward the dome's open door. At that second, the Shadow Storm's high winds and darkness strike and wind slams the door shut. Demon-Rick roars in fury and swipes at the three motionless guards. They fly ten feet.

At the river, Sophie drags herself onto shore, leaving the still water in place. Darkness and winds roar through the trees as the Shadow Storm reaches the river. Hundreds of Greater Morga explode into being from their doorways. All shapes and sizes, some twenty feet tall and wide as tanks, they begin to move down the river toward town. Some walk on dead tree legs, others grind deep troughs in the riverbed and shove trees over. Hundreds of Spiderwolves swarm out and race in a giant pack toward the mountain. A giant Morga sees Sophie and opens its maws to suck her in.

Trunk attacks it and Sophie cowers against a tree, shivering, watching a battle unfold along the river. From above we see the Akeeli form a protective ring around Sophie as Morga attack from

all sides.

Like a dual swordsman, Elbows whirls into Morga, slashing them apart with his arms. Eyebrows blasts them with lightning from his hidden eyes. Gnome explodes them with low sound pulses. Fuzz bores through them like a flying drill. Weeper cries out and douses their maw flames with jets of tears like firehoses. Hornet stings them into dying sparkles. The Akeeli's sonic signatures scream, making a wild music with each strike.

But as we widen we see that under the sweeping Shadow Storm, Morga are emerging from both shores, hundreds more. The six Akeeli are outnumbered.

A riverbank cabin's walls explode as a Morga shoves in and opens its maws. A woman at her stove is sucked in.

Trunk lands with a crash on the mountaintop and strikes the Morga King, who tumbles away. His maws close and they charge each other, clashing with a sonic boom.

Inside the facility, Ramon and Franklin strip machine pistols and automatic rifles from four motionless guards, but neglect their sidearms. Inside the control room, Standish, Charlayne and Caswell stand motionless. Susie's palms are out as Emma yells, "Twenty seconds in!" After figuring out the safeties with Franklin, Ramon fires off a burst of bullets upwards. Emma screams at him not to shoot anybody. Just then Demon-Rick slashes through the sheet metal garage door and bursts in. The teens turn in horror.

Franklin: "Mr. Blake?"

Emma: "Oh my God."

Demon-Rick: "Adrian!"

The red hot Origin is burning through Adrian's oven mitt.

Adrian: "Mr. Blake? Is that you?"

Demon-Rick: "The Akeeli lied! That Origin will destroy the world! Your families will die!"

On the mountaintop, Trunk is flung against stone. Exhausted, he watches the Morga King approach as the hundreds of spiderwolves reach the summit and surround him, closing in.

In the facility, Demon-Rick throws lies at Adrian, who backs toward the drill hole under the derrick.

Adrian: "You don't sound like Mr. Blake. Mr. Blake?"

Emma: "Thirty-five seconds!"

Demon-Rick: "When they wake up, they'll kill you! I can protect you!"

Dragging his unwilling human half, Demon-Rick hops to the derrick. Rick Blake's strong rock climber's right hand grabs a stanchion. The demon claw angrily yanks it loose and opens his claw.

Demon-Rick: "Give it to me, Adrian."

Rick Blake's right hand waves madly, as if saying, "Don't do it!" Emma calls that there's fifteen seconds left.

Adrian turns and runs for the hole but Demon-Rick leaps from his stone leg and tackles Adrian. The Origin breaks from Adrian's grip and rolls, now flaming hot, to an inch away from the hole. Demon-Rick balls a stone fist to punch Adrian's face but Rick's right hand stops the punch. Rick Blake's agonized face twists to life and in a bizarre fight with himself, Rick uses his rock climber's strength to wrestle with his left half.

Rick Blake: "Go, Adrian! Go!"

Adrian: "Mr. Blake! That you?"

Rick Blake: "Go!"

Adrian fast crawls toward the Origin but the demon claw grabs his ankle. Rick's normal hand grabs at the stone claw, dripping blood, and tears off its grip.

In the control room, Standish, Charlayne and Caswell awaken, as do the guards. Standish sees Adrian's frostbitten finger flick the flaming Origin over the edge into his gas well.

The Origin plummets past black cables into darkness.

Demon-Blake screams, "No!"

A rumble builds underground and an earthquake shakes the concrete floor up and down. Everyone falls down. Demon-Rick bounces on the floor. Objects tumble from the derrick and ceiling.

In his cruiser, Chief Bill swerves around a bulldozer Morga as the asphalt spiderwebs into cracks. Two other cruisers follow him.

Chief Bill: "Jesus! All right, Adrian, this sure as hell ain't fumes."

At the river, Sophie sees that the outnumbered Akeeli are losing the battle. The island shakes from the earthquake.

Elbows: "The Origin!"

Gnome: "I don't believe it."

Fuzz: "Free the Akeeli army!"

Other Akeeli begin to emerge from reflection doorways but the earthquake opens a chasm at midriver and the water plummets into it. Half-formed Akeeli tumble down into the chasm.

Fuzz: "No!"

Gnome: "Told you."

On the mountaintop, Trunk is overrun by spiderwolves. They tear off chunks of his spirit flesh and he falls. The Morga King flops onto his back and belches more Shadow Storm.

In neighborhoods outside town, Morga smash into houses and devour people.

At Courthouse Square, Ellie and Ed see the Shadow Storm advance over town. Buildings collapse and fires explode. The crowd panics and runs. People are trampled.

At the river, Sophie sees the defeat of the Akeeli. She blinks, calmly gets up and walks to the river chasm. She remembers Trunk's words:

Trunk (V.O.): "If it's too high our doorways disappear. Too low, we become too heavy to move. For Morga, it does not matter. They worship death and can take any form."

As we hear this, Sophie looks radiant and at peace. She crosses her arms and falls backwards, using her power for the second time.

Water explodes from her body and fills the chasm. Along the river, the Akeeli army surges forth from thousands of doorways and the tide of battle turns.

In the facility, the earthquake passes. Scared, Franklin and Ramon aim weapons at the stunned guards. Standish, Caswell and Charlayne stagger from the control room. In horror, Charlayne sees Demon-Rick as he rises. Pieces of hot stone fall from his face, revealing his former self beneath.

Charlayne: "Rick?"

Rick: "Never should have touched you. I know what you're doing here!"

Emma and Susie run to him and kneel. Standish and Charlayne walk to the drill hole and look down. They hear a deep rumble. Standish draws a pistol and yells at Franklin and Ramon, asking if they're going to shoot anybody. Blake yells at them not to do it. In a blind fury, Standish aims at Adrian.

Standish: "But you. You rolled somethin' into my gas mine. I don't like sabotage. Hope your mother misses you. She oughta be dead herself!"

He shoots Adrian through the heart and Adrian falls. Emma screams. Ramon curses Standish. As the guards go for their sidearms Ramon looses a burst of bullets upward. The guards hesitate. Standish aims at Ramon.

Standish: "Hey, Houdini!"

At the drill hole's edge, Standish and Charlayne are engulfed in flames that explode from the opening.

Far below, the Origin is now three feet wide, erupting flames upward.

A ball of flame explodes to the dome's ceiling and everybody runs for the door. Susie helps Rick Blake stagger for it. Franklin picks up Adrian's body and runs as Emma cries, running alongside them.

Outside, Chief Bill bursts the gates with his cruiser and skids to a stop just as guards, Ramon, Susie, Emma and Franklin run outside. Caswell is last. Flames explode from the door behind him, igniting his back.

The cops jump out and draw sidearms as Franklin runs to behind the stack of pipes and sets Adrian down. The dome's roof opens up and out pour flames.

Franklin kneels beside Adrian as Emma, Ramon and Susie look on. Chief Bill runs up, sees dead Adrian.

Franklin: "Say your prayers."

He puts one hand on his heart and the other on Adrian's and closes his eyes.

Franklin: "Okay. Start now."

Adrian lies dead.

Franklin: "Come on. Come on, Flanders."

In FX we see Adrian's shattered heart extrude a bullet and begin to heal itself. It starts to beat.

Adrian opens his eyes and breathes. Emma kisses him and drips tears as Franklin wipes sweat, rocking back on his knees.

On the mountaintop, Trunk feels a surge of renewed strength. He casts off the spiderwolves and stands, but the Morga King is gone.

Trunk thunders to the edge and sees, far below, the Morgia King scuttling across the cornfield toward the river. Trunk leaps down onto his back and plunges in a fist, probing, until he pulls out a man-sized egg, covered in slime. As the Morgia King roars in pain, Trunk pulls out more and leaves them in a pile, then pulls apart the Morgia King's maws one by one, tearing them off, until he reaches the flames. "Gua epir!" he yells and the Morgia King shudders and explodes into sparks.

Outside homes, along roads, along the river, in town, all Morgia and spiderwolves stop and turn into inanimate boulders, limbs and sticks.

Deep underground, the Origin pulses and explodes into magma.

In the facility yard, all feel an immense rumble and a column of flame a thousand feet tall explodes upwards then collapses, melting the dome. Everybody runs for the gates as frack trucks, pipes and equipment slide toward the white hot drill hole.

At Flanders Farm, the rig explodes in the same way, sucking in equipment.

In the shale beneath Monroe County, magma surges along fissures, melting pipes and grinding the fissures shut.

From above Monroe County, we see hundreds of rigs exploding and melting into the earth.

The river chasm grinds shut and riverwater begins to flow over the new riverbed. The lesser Akeeli dive back into their reflection doorways and are gone.

Chief Bill is on the phone with Ellie. He and the other police officers watch in awe as Trunk lands with a crash and the six Akeeli hover to before Adrian, Emma, Franklin, Ramon and Susie. Rick Blake hangs back.

Adrian: "Where's Sophie? She okay?"

Trunk: "She chose to use her power twice."

Susie: "What? What does that mean?"

Trunk: "She saved us. All of us."

Emma: "Oh, God. Her power. What was it?"

Fuzz: "Water."

Hornet: "Lots of it."

Trunk: "It was her choice. She chose it bravely. Remember her forever."

Susie and Emma sob, hugging. Trunk turns to Chief Bill.

Trunk: "These children have been brave beyond anything you know. Honor them. Remember what you have seen."

In the twin sunlight coming through the dispersing Storm Shadow, Chief Bill and the officers catch a momentary glimpse of shadows cast by the Akeeli. The shadows are those of winged angels. The shadows vanish. Trunk turns to Rick Blake.

Trunk: "Hmmm. Very interesting. Well done."

Rick looks at his right hand and nods.

Trunk: "Farewell, young friends."

Trunk leaps over the mountain followed by the six Akeeli.

Along Depew's main channel, the Akeeli each dive into their doorways and are gone.

At the facility, the teens hug in a circle.

Adrian: "Thanks, Franklin."

Franklin: "We kicked it."

Susie: "Poor Sophie."

Emma: "She was always so brave. Maybe too brave."

They pause, remembering, then Ramon looks over at Adrian.

Ramon: "Adrian. Your power. Did you ever use it?"

Adrian: "Never did."

They all realize that Adrian still has a secret power.

Credits start to roll to Dubstep.

Then, on the cornfield, a naked Deputy Jonah Barnes claws his way out of one of the slimy eggs. Other eggs in the pile move, human hands inside.

More credits, then ...

Titles read "One Year Later"

Ed and Ellie stand before Flanders Farm. A TV reporter interviews them. In BG we see their former frack field now surrounded by a white picket fence near a full parking lot. People wander inside the fence, gazing down, then up.

Reporter: "One year after an extraordinary geological event that remains a mystery to science, citizens in this small Pennsylvania community have come together over what the fracking industry have termed wild assertions about the unexplained disappearance of billions of dollars worth of equipment, formerly in place here in Monroe County."

We see quick shots of other former frack sites, now fenced in.

Reporter: "Standish Oil and Gas, whose president, Harlow Standish, disappeared in the event, is still attempting to sue for damages. However, with no photographic evidence of any kind surviving what locals, even some police, are calling the appearance of angels, Standish's case may soon be thrown out of court. Psychologists have labeled what took place here a mass psychosis in the face of a natural disaster."

We see quick shots of clear streams.

Reporter: "With videos of sworn police testimony about angels gone viral, attention has been non-stop for over a year. To add to the mystery, EPA reports that all groundwater and soil in Monroe County, Pennsylvania has tested clean of all contaminants. Tourists from around the world are flocking to what some claim is America's first Holy Site."

Tourists walk the fields reverently.

Reporter: "Hotels and local shops are full, and local produce is bringing extraordinary prices. Ed Flanders is a local farmer here on the site where one of the wells stood. Mr. Flanders?"

As credits roll, we hear Ed, V.O.

Ed: "We got the purest groundwater around. Want a free range organic chicken? Buy Monroe County brand. Costs more, but hey, these chickens drink the best water on God's earth."

More credits roll, then, finally:

A young naturalist walks schoolchildren along Depew's shore. She kneels in the water and the kids do so as well.

Young Naturalist: "Now tilt your heads. You'll see angels."

Schoolkid: "Where?"

Young Naturalist: "In the reflections. On the water. They are there. Just look. You will see them."

Credits roll to end.

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