

REFLECTIONS

Written by

W. Stephen Sapp and Ryan William Sapp

ssapp4@gmail.com
(360) 298-3099

FADE IN:

TITLE: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, 2031

EXT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH - DAY

Church bells ring in the distance. Scores of people enter the main entrance. The sunrise illuminates blooming cherry trees.

INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

The room contains a twin bed, night stand, toilet and a chair at a small table. DR. ANDREW STEVENS, early 30's, gazes into the mirror above the sink. He has long hair and a scraggly beard. He stares at his reflection. Andrew jolts from a loud buzzing noise and a flashing red light above his door. After three bursts, a pressure seal releases. The door drops straight down and disappears. A male ORDERLY, early 40's, stands in the doorway in medical scrubs.

ORDERLY

Dr. Stevens. Good to see you again.

Andrew stares right through him.

ORDERLY (CONT'D)

A couple of your friends are just around the corner.

INT. NIH HALLWAY - DAY

Andrew walks slowly with his head down. After a few steps, he looks up and takes notice of a stark white, barren facility without any pictures or windows. He walks by an empty nurse station with a monitor on the far wall. A newscast mentions multi-lateral peace talks next week at The Hague.

They turn right and approach a closed door. The orderly looks into a facial recognition device. The door drops straight down. He steps aside and motions to Dr. Stevens to enter the room.

INT. NIH OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY

Two late 60's men sit in the dimly lit room in casual yet elegant clothing. Dr. Stevens ambles in and stops a few feet in front of an empty chair.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS, a bald black man with horned rimmed glasses, and DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER, a white man with thick gray hair, acknowledge his presence with a nod.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Hello doctor. Good to see you again.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
How are you feeling?

Andrew lifts his head and looks at them with a blank stare. Darius extends an open palm towards the chair.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Please, sit down.

Andrew shuffles a few steps and sits.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
This is an important day.

Andrew becomes more lucid and manages a wry smile.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I am the Father and Son, born of an Immaculate Conception.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We know all about that. That's exactly why you're here.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We need to close the file.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Shall we get started?

Andrew grimaces and shakes his head. Claude and Darius glance at one another, then back to Dr. Stevens.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I struggle with reality.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We understand. We're here to help you. We just want the truth. As you know doctor, there can only be one truth.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Just tell us about your life.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Which one?

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

A small, beautiful craftsman home sits at the water's edge surrounded by trees. There are no neighboring homes in sight.

INT. LAKE HOUSE BATHROOM - DAY

MARY ANNE STEVENS, an attractive woman in her late 50's, brushes her hair staring mindlessly into the mirror. The vanity has random toiletries and a picture of her and a man in their early 20's. A silver crucifix hangs over the picture.

(O.S.)
Mom, why won't you answer me?

Mary Anne closes her eyes.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I can't hear you, Hannah. I'll be right out.

Mary Anne goes back to brushing her hair and gazes deeply at her reflection.

HANNAH STEVENS, a cute woman in her early 30's, stands in the doorway from the POV of the bathroom mirror.

HANNAH STEVENS
Why are you ignoring me?

Mary Anne sees Hannah in the reflection. Her eyes soften as she turns to face Hannah.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Sorry. I was daydreaming.

Mary Anne looks at Hannah with anguish.

HANNAH STEVENS
Are you OK?

Mary Anne slowly shakes her head, looks downward, then back at Hannah.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I got a call today from the NIH.

Hannah cocks her head inquisitively.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)
They said to expect a call later
today from Claude and Darius.

Mary Anne braces herself on the sink. Hannah walks forward
and takes hold of Mary Anne's other hand.

HANNAH STEVENS
Let's sit down.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

They sit together on the couch. Mary Anne reaches toward
Hannah and gently takes ahold of her hand. Her lips tremble.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Please understand I couldn't tell
you this until now. I kept this
from you for your own safety.
There's so much about your brother
you don't know. I'm going to tell
you everything.

Hannah leans forward and stares intently at Mary Anne.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)
You know your father is the only
man I've ever loved. The day before
he started working at the NIH...

DISSOLVE TO:

TITLE: CHESAPEAKE BAY, 1995

EXT. CHESAPEAKE BEACH - DAY

DR. ROBERT STEVENS, a handsome, academic-looking mid 20's
man, and Mary Anne Brookings, 21, walk on a sparsely
populated beach holding hands. Mary Anne's silver crucifix
dangles from her neck.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS
I can't believe it all happened so
fast.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Well, I guess that depends on your
perspective. Seems like an awfully
long time to me.

Mary Anne smiles and nods.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS

I'm sure it does. But getting PhD's in molecular biology and genetics isn't supposed to be easy, even for you... Do I have to start calling you "Doctor Stevens"?

Robert laughs.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS

Don't even think about it.

A few young boys are running down the beach throwing a football. The ball is overthrown and rolls towards them. Robert jogs several feet, picks it up and awkwardly tosses it back.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS

Now I know why you didn't make the Harvard football team.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS

I've never lied to you Mary Anne, and I never will. Truth is, I never even tried out.

They both laugh as they walk towards their picnic basket and blanket 10 feet in the distance. After they sit, Robert roots around inside the basket and pulls out a bottle of red wine and two plastic cups.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)

Interest you in some of the finest wine four dollars can buy?

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS

I think you were reading my mind, doctor.

Robert feigns frustration.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS

You stop that.

Mary Anne smiles playfully.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS

It has such a nice ring to it.

Robert smiles as he uncorks the bottle. He pours some wine in each cup and hands one to Mary Anne.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS (CONT'D)
 Tomorrow is such a big day. I'm
 very proud of you.

Robert nods and smiles.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
 Thank you.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS
 You're so modest. This is the NIH,
 the most prestigious organization
 in your field.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
 I've had a lot of help along the
 way.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS
 There you go again.

They gaze into each others eyes and smile. Robert raises his
 cup to make a toast.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
 To our love. To our future. To us
 making the world a better place.
 Cheers.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS
 Cheers.

Their cups gently touch, then they each take a sip of wine.
 Robert turns his attention to the ocean vista then back
 towards Mary Anne.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
 You know, you're right. Tomorrow *is*
 a big day. But not as big as today.

Mary Anne tilts her head.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)
 Mary Anne, I've loved you for so
 long. You're the only woman I've
 ever loved. You're the only woman I
 will ever love. I want us to be
 together forever. I can't imagine
 my life without you.

Robert reaches into his pocket and pulls out a ring.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)
Mary Anne Brookings, will you marry
me?

Mary Anne is shocked. She covers her mouth with her hand, lunges across the picnic basket and gives Robert the biggest hug of her life.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS
Oh Robert, yes. Yes!

INT. DR. ROBERT STEVENS APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mary Anne is fast asleep on her side. Robert is wide awake staring at the ceiling. The alarm clock on the nightstand shows 5:10am. He grabs the clock, turns off the alarm and gets out of bed.

INT. DR. ROBERT STEVENS APARTMENT KITCHEN - DAWN

Robert is sharply dressed in a pair of trousers, button down shirt and a Harris Tweed blazer. He quickly eats the last bite of toast, then finishes some orange juice. He turns and walks down the hallway.

INT. DR. ROBERT STEVENS APARTMENT BEDROOM - DAWN

The alarm clock shows 5:35am. Robert walks over to his sound asleep fiancée, kneels beside her and gently kisses her cheek.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
I love you.

Mary Anne stirs but her eyes stay closed.

MARY ANNE BROOKINGS
I love you too. Have a great day,
doctor.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Thank you. And stop calling me
that.

Mary Anne's eyes remain closed but her smile almost becomes a laugh.

EXT. STREETS OF WASHINGTON, DC - DAY

Robert drives as the city awakens. His vintage Mercedes-Benz convertible stands out among the mid 1990's vehicles.

INT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH - DAY

Dr. Darius Reynolds and Dr. Claude Frazier, late 30's, stand in the lobby. Robert enters with a briefcase and acknowledges them with a nod.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Good morning, Dr. Stevens. Welcome
to the NIH.

Robert shakes hands with both men.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Good morning. Great to be here.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Am I the first to call you doctor?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
I'm afraid not. Seems my fiancée
has taken to that title despite my
wishes to the contrary.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Fiancée? I had no idea you were
engaged.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Well, it's pretty recent news. I
proposed yesterday.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Congratulations. When it rains, it
pours. Mary Anne is a wonderful
woman.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
I assume you've had breakfast?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Indeed.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Coffee?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
I'm all set.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Well then, let's get to work.

Claude and Darius turn and walk to an elevator as Robert follows. Claude inserts a card key then pushes the button for the top floor.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Claude, Darius and Robert enter the room. Robert looks at the walls adorned with original oil portraits of Fleming, Newton, Galileo, Curie, Pasteur, Miescher, Darwin, Einstein and da Vinci. Three burgundy leather chairs surround a round mahogany table. They all sit down, then Darius leans toward Robert.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Robert, this facility exists for basically one reason. To seek, find and ultimately leverage the truth for mankind.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Science has been on the forefront of that struggle for millennia. It's been said that in war, truth is the first casualty.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Aeschylus, 456 BC.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Yes. It's been a long struggle.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Do you know why you're here Robert?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
The NIH is regarded as the lead-

Claude leans toward Robert.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
No Robert. Not why you are at the NIH. Do you know why you are in *this* room?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
No, I can't say that I do.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
As you get to know your fellow
colleagues, you'll understand these
are very special people. They're
the absolute best in the world.

Robert respectfully nods.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
Most hit our radar in college. Some
in high school. A few of the most
gifted were identified in their
early teens. We first made contact
with you when you were 7 years old.

Robert raises an eyebrow and cocks his head.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Do you remember meeting the
Minister of Health when you were a
young boy?

Robert shakes his head.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
I've never even *heard* of the
Minister of Health.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
That's by design. The nature of her
role makes it imperative she's
behind the scenes.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Your father introduced you a long
time ago. She likes to leave a
light footprint.

Robert looks off into the distance straining for
recollection.

DISSOLVE TO:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

EXT. DESERTED BEACH - DAY

Mist hangs in the air as small waves wash ashore. A young boy
and an early 30's man walk slowly holding hands. The MINISTER
OF HEALTH, an early 40's woman with olive skin, approaches
from the left and walks with them for several steps. His
father lets go of his son's hand and stops.

He turns and stares at the ocean as his son continues walking with the Minister of Health.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Robert's eyes open wider.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Wait, I do remember. The beach.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Yes. It was meant to be a gentle touch.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Robert, do you know how many people have been in this room?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
I have no idea.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Well, there's you, Dr. Reynolds, myself, plus three others. If I'm doing my math right, that's six.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Perhaps some additional context would be helpful.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Robert, Dr. Frazier has a bit of a flair for the dramatic. Let me explain. Our tests have demonstrated some extraordinary results.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Tests?

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
All the aptitude tests you've ever taken have been quite purposeful. You're off the charts in total IQ, general cognition, memory, translational analysis, disposition matrices and, interestingly enough, empathy and ambition.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We've never seen anything like it.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You have an unprecedented ability,
and more importantly, desire... to
change the world.

Robert cocks his head.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We're here to give you that
opportunity. We want you to take
your rightful place on one of these
walls.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You may not know who you are, but
we most certainly do. That'll be
all for now. Please enjoy the rest
of the day.

EXT. ROBERT'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

Robert drives through the heart of downtown. He passes the Capitol Building, the White House, the Lincoln Memorial and finally the Washington Monument before taking a turn away from the city.

TITLE: 5 YEARS LATER

EXT. ROBERT'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

Robert drives through a mature neighborhood with modest, beautiful homes. As he turns into the driveway, a dark sedan with tinted windows pulls over and parks three houses away. Robert glances at the sedan, then quickly gets out of the car with his briefcase, bottle of wine and a small bouquet of tulips.

INT. STEVENS HOME - DAY

Mary Anne sits on the couch reading "Goodnight Moon" to their 18 month old daughter, Hannah. As soon as the door opens, Hannah gets out of her mother's lap and waddles toward her father. Robert puts the wine and briefcase down just before Hannah lunges into his arms.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Hi sweet pea! Daddy missed you so
much.

Robert kisses Hannah on the cheek. Mary Anne hurries over for a family hug and a quick kiss.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
You're home early. How was your
day?

Robert hands the flowers to Mary Anne, then picks up the wine and briefcase.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
It was great.

Mary Anne smiles as she takes the flowers.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Thank you. A great day indeed. It's
only Tuesday. Let me guess, you'll
tell me all about it over dinner.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
That's pretty funny.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Honestly, I feel like I'm married
to a secret agent. You're not a
Russian spy are you?

They both laugh, then turn and walk toward the kitchen.

INT. STEVENS KITCHEN - NIGHT

Robert opens the wine and pours two glasses as Mary Anne tosses a salad. He hands her a glass and lightly clinks his against hers. They smile, look lovingly into each other's eyes, then take a sip.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
So, you had a great day and you're
going to tell me all about it.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
Partially true my dear, partially
true.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Why don't you tell me what you can
and I promise not to tell a soul.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
OK, you win.

Mary Anne's face lights up.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Really?

DR. ROBERT STEVENS

I've been vexed by some conflicting correlations between the mitochondria and the ribonucleotides and I finally reconciled the inconsistency simply by reducing the temperature from 98.6 to 94 degrees Fahrenheit.

Mary Anne shoots Robert a feisty glare.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)

You said you wanted me to tell you all about it.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Why don't you tell *Hannah* all about it and maybe we'll both understand.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS

Brilliant. Hannah, daddy has been working on something very big for a very long time. All the pieces of this complex project are now in place. What questions do you have baby girl?

Hannah looks at him with big, sweet eyes and smiles.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)

Well, there you have it.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Congratulations, doctor. I'm so proud of you. I just wish I knew what I was proud of.

Robert smiles, leans over and kisses Mary Anne.

INT. ROBERT'S CAR, MOVING - DAWN

Robert is driving in light traffic on a two lane road. He passes by a 45 MPH sign. An oncoming pickup loaded with furniture followed by a trash truck approach. Just before the pickup passes by, a mattress flies off the back of the vehicle. The trash truck swerves to miss it and hits Robert's convertible head on.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. STEVENS KITCHEN - DAY

Mary Anne is cleaning up breakfast dishes. Hannah sits in her high chair eating Cheerios. The phone rings. Mary Anne reaches behind her and picks up the phone.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Hello.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (V.O.)

Hi Mary Anne, it's Darius. Is Robert at home?

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Hi Darius. No, he left almost an hour ago.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (V.O.)

He's late for a meeting and he's never late.

EXT. STEVENS HOME - DAY

Two uniformed police officers make their way up the steps to the front porch.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Mary Anne is dressed in black in the front row with Hannah on her lap. She holds her silver crucifix with her thumb and index finger. Claude and Darius sit beside her. At least 200 people are in attendance. A large portrait of Robert sits on an easel next to an urn. FATHER TUSHAR, late 50's, stands behind the pulpit.

FATHER TUSHAR

From Romans 14:8, "If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord".

I would now like to invite a colleague, mentor and close friend of Robert's, Dr. Claude Frazier, to say a few words.

Claude stands and walks to the pulpit. He slowly turns and makes eye contact with Mary Anne, then raises his head slightly.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Robert was without a doubt the most
gifted man I've ever known.

Claude is overcome with emotion and takes a few seconds to
compose himself. Mary Anne dabs a tear from her eye.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)
Forgive me. This is even harder
than I imagined. My respect and
admiration for Robert are beyond
words.

Claude takes a second to regain his composure.

His contributions to the medical
community are nothing short of
extraordinary. Some of his
accomplishments won't be fully
realized for years to come. His
ground breaking discoveries in
genetics and bio-engineering will
someday help the blind see, the
deaf hear, the barren conceive and
the paralyzed walk. His work will
ultimately be regarded as some of
the greatest medical achievements
in human history.

Claude takes a deep breath.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)
Robert's death is such a tragic and
senseless loss. We'll never
understand why things like this
happen.

Claude looks at Mary Anne.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)
Mary Anne, I know you are a woman
of strong faith. My faith saved me
when I lost Helen. Despite knowing
there are no answers, we still ask
the question; why? We will never
know until we too return to our
Lord.

Please know we share your loss and
will be here for you and Hannah.

Forever.

Claude slowly leaves the pulpit and walks toward his seat. Mary Anne hugs Hannah as a tear streams down her face. Darius reaches over and gently squeezes her hand.

INT. DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS CAR, MOVING - DAY

Darius concentrates on the road as Mary Anne sits in the front passenger seat. Hannah is in a car seat in the back.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I've never imagined I could feel
this sad.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

I'm so sorry Mary Anne. I'm not
sure I'll ever come to grips with
this. I can only imagine how hard
this is for you.

Mary Anne chokes back tears. She takes two deep breaths then looks out the window. She stares at idyllic scenes of couples, families, shops, restaurants and a playground. Darius slows down and takes a right turn onto a side street. He pulls over, stops the car and turns to Mary Anne.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)

Mary Anne, I know this is the wrong
time to bring this up, but did
Robert share anything with you
about his work?

MARY ANNE STEVENS

What? What do you mean?

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

He was making some significant
progress on a project and we're
unable to completely put it
together.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

No, he... he was quite secret about
his work.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Did he give you anything at all
that might help us?

Mary Anne slowly shakes her head.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

No, I'm afraid not.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
I'm sorry for even bringing it up.
If you come across anything please
let us know. We want to ensure
Robert's contributions are fully
realized.

INT. LAW OFFICE - DAY

RUBIN BROWN, a mid-30's white man, sits at a large desk with numerous stacks of papers and file folders. A Harvard Law School diploma is prominently framed on the wall. He stares at the phone on his desk for a couple seconds, then pushes a button to engage the speaker and dials a number. The phone rings three times.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Hello.

RUBIN BROWN
Hi Mary Anne. It's Rubin. Did I
catch you at a good time?

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
To be honest Rubin, there aren't
any good times.

A silent pause.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said
that. It's just-

RUBIN BROWN
No need to apologize. Do you have a
few minutes?

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Of course.

RUBIN BROWN
I know it's only been a few days.
If your not ready I understand, but
Robert wanted you to have this
urgently.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
What? Going over his will is the
last thing I want.

RUBIN BROWN

It's not about that. Robert gave me something for you and said it was the final piece of the project.

Mary Anne's eyes bolt open.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)

Oh my God Rubin. Those were his exact words?

RUBIN BROWN

Yes. He seemed very relieved everything was in place just in case anything happened.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)

Ok. Tomorrow?

RUBIN BROWN

Of course. I'll be in the office all day. Thank you, Mary Anne.

EXT. STREETS OF WASHINGTON, DC - DAY

Mary Anne gets out of a cab and hands the driver a ten dollar bill. She stares at a family picture in her wallet as the cab drives off.

INT. LAW OFFICE - DAY

Mary Anne opens the door. Rubin's assistant, JULIE EVANS, mid-40's, sits at a reception desk. She stands as soon as Mary Anne enters.

JULIE EVANS

Mary Anne. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Mary Anne nods.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Thank you, Julie.

JULIE EVANS

Go right in. Rubin's expecting you.

INT. RUBIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Mary Anne opens the door and enters. Rubin drops a document and hurries to Mary Anne.

They embrace, then Rubin pulls away and motions to one of the two chairs in front of his desk. As they sit, Rubin turns his chair to face her.

RUBIN BROWN
I'm so sorry.

Mary Anne smiles slightly and nods.

RUBIN BROWN (CONT'D)
Thank you for coming. I know this is incredibly difficult.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Of course. The change of scenery is probably good for me.

Rubin nods and leans towards Mary Anne.

RUBIN BROWN
Robert and I met about a week ago.

Rubin grabs a thick envelope with a wax seal from his desk and hands it to Mary Anne.

RUBIN BROWN (CONT'D)
He handed me this and said I was holding the last piece of the project.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
What is this?

RUBIN BROWN
I don't know. He was very clear. I'm not supposed to know.

Mary Anne breaks the seal and sees a one inch thick blue folder and a hand written note. She takes out the note and pulls it closer.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (V.O.)
My dearest Mary Anne. This is the hardest thing I've ever had to do. Only as a precaution in the event of the unimaginable, I've written this hoping you would never have to read it. Since you are, it can only mean I'm gone and left you and Hannah alone. I'm so sorry.

Rubin has all the information for the distribution of the estate.

(MORE)

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

You and Hannah will never have to worry.

I have one request for you to consider. We always wanted another baby and hoped for a boy to carry on the family name. My work gives you this opportunity.

I know this is asking a great deal at a very difficult time, but please consider having a son, our son, to bring new joy into your lives.

This blue folder is all Claude and Darius will need to bring a new life into our family.

Love always and forever. Robert.

Mary Anne's hand shakes as she puts the note down. She covers her mouth with her hand. Rubin hands her a few tissues. She dabs her eyes and puts the letter back into the envelope.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I'm sorry but I really must excuse myself.

RUBIN BROWN

I understand. Let me drive you home.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

No, I... I need to be alone. I'll take a cab.

Mary Anne gets up and walks out. She hurries toward the door and leaves as Julie attempts to say goodbye.

EXT. STREETS OF WASHINGTON, DC - DAY

Mary Anne exits the building and hails a cab. She gets in and the cab drives off.

INT. ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, VA - DAY

The over-sized door opens. Mary Anne stands in the doorway. Her image is shadowed by the bright light behind her. She pauses, then closes the door. Mary Anne looks at a large cross against the far wall, then the massive stained glass windows. There are about 30 people in the church.

At least half sit or kneel alone. She catches Father Tushar's eye as he speaks with a young couple. Mary Anne walks to the bowl of holy water, dabs her finger then crosses herself. She moves to her right, kneels in the last row and bows her head. Father Tushar ends his conversation and walks towards Mary Anne. Once next to her, he gently places his hand on her shoulder. Mary Anne turns toward Father Tushar and stands up. He gently clasps her hands.

FATHER TUSHAR

It's good to see you here my child.

Mary Anne nods.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Faith has guided me my whole life
but now I find myself at a
crossroad.

FATHER TUSHAR

The church has always been here for
you and nothing will change that.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I don't know the right path
forward.

FATHER TUSHAR

In times of uncertainty, we look to
scripture. From John 1:9, "If we
confess our sins, he is faithful
and just to forgive us our sins and
to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness".

Mary Anne's eyes widen. She nods and smiles slightly.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Thank you, Father. You're
absolutely right.

Mary Anne turns and strides purposefully towards the door. She pauses at a table with a large burning candle surrounded by votives. She picks one up and touches the wick to the flame. She gazes deeply at the votive candle.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)

Forgive me Lord, for I'm about to
sin.

INT. NIH CONSULTATION ROOM - DAY

Mary Anne sits alone in the room holding a picture of Robert in her hand. Claude and Darius enter the room.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Good morning, Mary Anne. How are you feeling?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
A bit tired to tell you the truth. Didn't sleep so well.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
No, I'm sure you didn't.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Are you 100% certain this is what you want?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Creating a new life with Robert is a wonderful thing. This is his last wish. It's what I want too.

Both doctors nod. Darius leans toward Mary Anne.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
This scientific sequence is a powerful long term asset to global health. This must remain confidential. With us guiding this, amazing outcomes are not only possible, but highly likely. I think that's exactly what Robert would want.

Mary Anne nods.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I understand.

Claude and Darius nod.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Very well.

Darius gets up and walks to the door. He opens it half-way and beckons an orderly. A mid-40's woman in medical scrubs comes to the doorway. Mary Anne stares off into the distance. Claude stands up and walks over to her. He gently puts his hand on her shoulder.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We'll take very good care of you.

Mary Anne's head turns slightly toward Claude and nods. She stands up and walks out of the room.

INT. LIMOUSINE, MOVING - DAY

Mary Anne sits alone in the back seat. She clutches a family picture in her hand.

EXT. STEVENS NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

The limo approaches a stop sign and signals for a left turn. Mary Anne sees her neighbor and Hannah in the front yard several houses away.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I'll get out here.

Mary Anne gets out and walks towards her house. The limo takes off in the other direction. She breaths deeply and deliberately. Hannah is the first to see Mary Anne and hurries toward her. Mary Anne hugs Hannah with all her might.

TITLE: NINE MONTHS LATER

INT. WASHINGTON GENERAL HOSPITAL DELIVERY ROOM - NIGHT

Mary Anne is sweating and breathing heavily. A mid-fifties male DOCTOR, and two nurses surround her.

DOCTOR
We're so close. On the next set of contractions, I want you to push as hard as you can.

Mary Anne grimaces and nods. A nurse takes a damp cloth and dabs Mary Anne's forehead.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Okay, this is it. Push!

A baby boy is born. The doctor cuts the umbilical cord, then performs a quick series of evaluations. He swaddles the baby and hands him to Mary Anne.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Congratulations. You've just given
birth to a healthy, beautiful baby
boy.

Mary Anne takes the baby in her arms. She looks into his eyes and hugs him with unimaginable love. Tears of joy stream down her face.

INT. WASHINGTON GENERAL HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Claude, Darius and The Minister of Health sit alone. They watch the nurse walk by with Andrew in a small rolling crib. They get up and follow them down the hallway.

INT. WASHINGTON GENERAL HOSPITAL NEWBORN NURSERY - NIGHT

Claude, Darius and The Minister of Health stand shoulder to shoulder as they watch the nurse lift Andrew and gently place him in his crib. They stare emotionless at the newborn beyond the glass.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
This could change everything.

TITLE: 25 YEARS LATER

EXT. THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA ENTRANCE - DAY

Mary Anne is in a beautiful floral dress from the POV of slightly shaky hand held footage.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (V.O.)
On a scale of 1-10, how proud are
you Mom?

Mary Anne smiles as she holds her hand up to block the phone.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Twelve. Now get that darn thing out
of my face and do your job.

Claude shifts the phone towards Hannah.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
How about you big sis? Pretty cool
huh?

HANNAH STEVENS

I couldn't be more proud of my baby brother.

Claude's phone pans out to the event bustling with graduates, faculty, family and friends entering the Catholic University of America on a beautiful day.

EXT. THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA QUAD - DAY

Mary Anne, Hannah, Claude and Darius sit focused on the podium. A highly decorated provost, DR. CHARLES BRADLEY, mid-50's, addresses the audience. Andrew is seated on the stage with other honorees and faculty. He has almost shoulder length hair and a close-cropped beard.

DR. CHARLES BRADLEY

I'm honored to introduce this year's Valedictorian. He needs no introduction as he's touched our lives like no other in the history of this prestigious institution. Please welcome Andrew Stevens.

Applause erupts from the audience. Andrew rises from his seat in full regalia. He proudly approaches the podium and gazes out over the audience.

ANDREW STEVENS

Greetings fellow graduates, faculty, families and friends. What a glorious day God has bestowed upon us to celebrate this incredible journey. I'm honored to say a few words before we embark on our individual and collective missions to spread the Word of God.

As I look out, I see hundreds of connected people all helping each other. Our friends, professors, counselors, clergy and most importantly, our families.

Andrew looks at his mother and smiles. Loud cheering and applause fill the air. Mary Anne blushes as people around her turn toward her and smile.

ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

We are truly your disciples, much like those of Jesus. We have been taught the ways of scripture by your love.

(MORE)

ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

This has not been without sacrifice. Yet our sacrifice is so small compared to that of our Father, sending his only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins. How can we begin to understand that sacrifice?... We can't.

We can only continue His teachings with honesty and humility. We must honor the truth of God. Truth can be corrupted and evil can replace facts with lies.

Mary Anne looks downward.

ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

We must look to scripture for guidance. From Psalm 82:2-4, "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked? Defend the cause of the weak and the fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked".

Andrew pauses, looks slightly upward, then back to the audience.

ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

I want you to reflect on this question... How far have we strayed from the principles of Jesus?

Andrew pauses.

ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

Look around you. See the death, the destruction and divisions facing our society. His timeless wisdom has never been more critical.

Andrew firmly places both palms on the podium and leans toward the audience.

ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

This is our calling! We must carry on His enduring message. Know the truth and you will know Jesus.

Amen.

All in attendance rise for a standing ovation.

INT. SEVEN MOUNTAIN MANDATE OFFICE - DAY

Three white men in their late 50's dressed in slacks and sport coats sit at a table in large living room with a massive painting of a crucified Jesus Christ. Large windows show acres of well manicured landscaping and no other homes in sight. They watch a 3D hologram projection of the graduation in the middle of the room. Andrew turns from the podium and walks back to his seat.

MAN 1

Interesting perspective.

MAN 2

He's young still and naïve.

MAN 3

He'll come to understand our truth.

MAN 1

Nothing changes. The Seven Mountain
Mandate remains the same.

EXT. THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA COURTYARD - DAY

Graduates, faculty, families and friends mingle at a post-ceremony gathering. Andrew and a group of fellow graduates emerge from the crowd. He hurries over to his family and gives his mother a hug.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Congratulations Andrew!

Andrew smiles.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Thank you Mother. I've had a lot of
help along the way.

Andrew gives Hannah a hug. Claude and Darius each shake Andrew's hand.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

You've accomplished great things
with so much ahead. We're all very
proud of you.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER

We might have a spot for you at the
NIH if you play your cards right.

Andrew respectfully nods and smiles.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I think God has other plans for me.

One of Andrew's fellow graduates, WILL MARTIN, mid-20's, moves a couple steps closer to the Stevens family.

WILL MARTIN
Hey, a bunch of us are going to
Dexter's to celebrate. You coming?

Hannah turns toward Will and smiles affectionately.

HANNAH STEVENS
Wouldn't miss it.

Mary Anne looks down and shakes her head.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
You all go ahead. I'm going to walk
to the church and give thanks for
our blessings.

Andrew moves toward Mary Anne and puts his arm around her.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Are you sure?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Of course. I'll meet up with you in
a bit.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Sounds good. We'll take Hannah and
see you soon.

Mary Anne smiles and gives Andrew a big hug.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I love you so much. I'm so proud of
you.

Andrew slowly pulls away and stares deeply into her eyes.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Thank you for everything. I love
you.

Mary Anne hugs Andrew.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I love you too.

They end their embrace and Mary Anne turns and walks away.

EXT. BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION CHURCH - DAY

Mary Anne pauses as she watches several people exit the main entrance and come down the steps. She takes a deep breath, then walks up the stairs. The doors to the church are open. She looks inside and takes note of the beautiful stained glass windows.

INT. BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION - DAY

The church has at least 50 people sitting or kneeling. Some are deep in prayer. Another 10-15 people are walking around the church. She sees the priest chatting with an elderly man in the far right corner. Mary Anne walks toward FATHER RABER, late 50's. She stops about 8 feet from them but catches Father Raber's eye. He excuses himself from the elderly man and walks over to Mary Anne.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Hello Father.

FATHER RABER
Good afternoon Mary Anne. I am so
sorry I could not attend
graduation. How was it?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Oh, it was amazing.

Father Raber smiles and nods.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)
Would you be able to speak with me
privately?

FATHER RABER
Of course.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
It might be best if we go to the
confession booth.

Father Raber nods.

FATHER RABER
Very well.

INT. BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION CHURCH CONFESSION BOOTH - DAY

Mary Anne sits motionless. The door softly opens then closes.
A window slides open revealing Father Raber's darkened
profile behind ornate wrought iron.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Forgive me Father, for I have
sinned.

FATHER RABER

Yes my child, we are all imperfect
in the eyes of God.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I did my best to live in His
graces, but I haven't been honest.
I've lied to someone I love for a
long time.

FATHER RABER

All of God's children have
indiscretions in their past. We can
only ask forgiveness and look to
the future.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Maybe I tried to change him... To
be someone *different*, for my own
sanity.

FATHER RABER

You must follow your heart and look
to scripture, for answers lie in
the Word of God.

Mary Anne nods.

FATHER RABER (CONT'D)

From the Book of John, "When the
Advocate comes, whom I will send to
you from the Father - the Spirit of
truth who goes out from the Father -
he will testify about me". Don't
forget, the truth will set you
free.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

The truth can be a dangerous thing,
Father.

Father Raber cocks his head, then nods.

FATHER RABER

Let me ask you my child, will the
truth help others or only you?

Mary Anne closes her eyes and takes a long, deep breath.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I don't know. Thank you Father.
Goodbye.

Mary Anne gets up and exits the confession booth. Father Raber stares straight ahead then slowly reaches into the breast pocket of his smock. He pulls out a phone and speed dials someone.

EXT. BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION CHURCH FRONT STEPS - DAY

Mary Anne quickly walks down the steps. Once she reaches the bottom, she pulls out her phone and taps a message.

INT. DEXTER'S BAR AND GRILL - DAY

Andrew sits with his friends and Hannah at a table when his phone vibrates. He sees a text message from his mother. "I need to see you immediately. Don't tell anyone". He taps a response, "Are you OK"? Andrew gets up from the table.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Be right back.

Andrew briskly walks past Claude and Darius standing at the bar and heads to the men's room. Once inside, he pulls out his phone and sees, "Yes, but I need to see you before I change my mind". Andrew taps a response, "Where"? After a couple seconds, his phone vibrates and he sees, "214 Willard Street".

EXT. FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN - DAY

Mary Anne stands on the entry steps. The name and address of the bank are visible behind her. She raises her head and gazes into the distance.

DISSOLVE TO:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

EXT. RUBIN BROWN'S OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Mary Anne exits the building holding the blue folder. She hails a cab, gets in and it drives off.

INT. CAB, MOVING - DAY

CABBIE

Ma'am? Ma'am?...Ma'am!

Mary Anne snaps out of her daze, opens the envelope and pulls out a small note with an address and a key.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

214 Willard Street.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN

Andrew parks his Mercedes-Benz, gets out and hurries to the bank entrance. Andrew slows his pace as he approaches. He opens his arms a few feet from Mary Anne. They embrace briefly before Andrew pulls away.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I can't lie to you any more.

INT. BANK SAFE DEPOSIT BOX VAULT - DAY

Mary Anne pulls out a metal container from inside the safe deposit box and lays it on an adjacent table. She raises her head and turns to face Andrew.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I know this is what you would've wanted. You've never lied to me. You deserve the truth.

Andrew shakes his head as his brow furrows.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

What are you talking about?

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I've loved you for so long. You know how much you remind me of your father. Your passion. Your intelligence. Your love for humanity.

She takes a deep breath and opens the safe deposit box. There is a one inch thick yellow folder and a hand written note. She picks up the note and hands it to Andrew.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)

Your father gave us the gift of
life and himself another chance.

Andrew reads the note.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (V.O.)

I'm so sorry Mary Anne. I've never
lied to you until now. The note
from Rubin was not the truth. My
project wasn't to improve
artificial insemination. It's to
create the world's first human
clone. You can allow me to be born
again.

I struggled with the medical ethics
but know this will vastly help
humanity. But, I underestimated the
opposing forces to my project and
now fear for my life.

You can give us a second chance. We
can create the change in the world
we've always wanted. I understand
if you can't do this. Bring both
folders to Claude and Darius and
never return. But if you do, give
them the blue folder and my first
note. Leave the yellow folder and
never acknowledge it's existence.
The choice is yours. For everyone's
safety you must keep this a secret.

Love forever, Robert.

EXT. FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN - DAY

The two front doors explode open. Andrew runs out pushing people aside. He continues down the steps, crosses the street and gets into his car.

INT. ANDREW STEVENS CAR, NOT MOVING - DAY

Andrew puts his head down and covers his face with his hands and yells. After a slight pause, he lifts his head and gazes into the distance. He grabs his phone and pushes a button.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (V.O.)
Hello Andrew.

Andrew stammers.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I... I need to see you and Claude
immediately.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (V.O.)
OK. We'll meet you in the lobby in
15 minutes.

Andrew drops the phone and starts the car. The tires screech as he drives away.

INT. ANDREW STEVENS CAR, NOT MOVING - DAY

Andrew looks into the rearview mirror and breathes deeply.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Stay in control.

EXT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH PARKING LOT - DAY

Andrew exits the car and hurries towards the entrance. His phone vibrates from an incoming text message. He stops, glances down at his phone and sees a message from his mother. "Andrew, I'm so sorry. Please call me. I love you". He puts the phone back in his pocket and continues walking.

INT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH - DAY

Andrew enters the main entrance lobby visibly upset.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Good afternoon, doctor. Am I the
first to call you doctor?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Spare me the pleasantries Darius.
We need to speak privately.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Very well. Follow us.

Claude and Darius turn and walk to the elevator as Andrew follows. Claude looks into a facial recognition device then pushes the button for the top floor.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

There is a round mahogany table and three burgundy leather chairs. Andrews sits, then looks at the walls adorned with original oil portraits of Fleming, Newton, Galileo, Miescher, Darwin, Einstein and da Vinci. He takes a couple extra seconds to look at a portrait of his father.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
What an amazing resemblance.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We've never lied to you Andrew.
There were things about your
father's work we couldn't disclose,
for everyone's safety.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I want to hear it from you.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Yes Andrew, you are genetically
identical to your father.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
What *really* happened to him?

Claude and Darius quickly glance at one another then back to Andrew, shrug their shoulders and shake their heads.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
Was he murdered?

Claude and Darius grimace and shake their heads in disbelief.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
What?! Why would you say that? It
was proven to be an accident.

They all stare at one another for a few seconds.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I have my reasons.

Claude and Darius stare at Andrew emotionless.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
Was it worth it?

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Such a simple question. The answer
is quite complex.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Do elaborate.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
It would appear science has
advanced significantly of late, and
that's true. But, when viewed in
the context of human history, very
little time has passed
understanding the truth. Brave,
intelligent people learned the
truth and shared it despite the
risks. This is who your father was.
This is who you are.

Andrew's frustration increases.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
You didn't answer my question.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Our tests have demonstrated some
extraordinary results.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Tests?

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
All the aptitude tests you've ever
taken have been quite purposeful.
You're off the charts in total IQ,
cognition, memory, physics,
translational analysis, lateral
field disposition matrices and,
interestingly enough, empathy and
ambition.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We've only encountered someone of
this capacity once before.

Andrew glares at Claude.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You have an unprecedented ability
and more importantly, desire... to
change the world.

Andrew lurches forward in his seat and slams his hand down on
the table.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Damn it! Answer my question.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Breaching medical ethics was not undertaken lightly. In this case, we were very successful. Global health advanced by orders of magnitude over a short period of time.

Claude leans toward Andrew.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
I want you to listen to me very carefully. Your father's legacy depends on this never being disclosed. We trusted ourselves, but history has shown Mankind cannot be trusted. There are people in the world that would use this for evil.

Andrew sits back in his seat, clasps his hands in his lap and takes a deep breath.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
The project was never supposed to have a self-aware subject. Your father took every precaution to ensure secrecy.

Andrew puts both hands to his forehead and pulls them slowly over the back of his head as he exhales deeply.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
You must achieve *your* destiny. It may not be on one of these walls, but your potential can't be wasted.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Andrew, please trust us. Learn about your father and you will learn about yourself.

Andrew is stunned and speechless. He gets up from the table, stares at Claude and Darius, then turns and walks out of the room. After a couple seconds, Claude and Darius look at one another.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)
How did this happen? How did she know?

Darius turns and looks at the painting of Dr. Robert Stevens, then back toward Claude.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
He was even more brilliant than we
thought.

They both acknowledge with a nod.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We need to update her immediately.

INT. ANDREW STEVENS' CAR, MOVING - DAY

Andrew stares emotionless at the oncoming traffic. He sees a gap between cars and takes an aggressive turn left onto a side street. He pulls over in front of a small dive bar and gets out of his car.

INT. DIVE BAR - DAY

Andrew opens the door and takes a few steps inside. He looks around the bar and sees 15-20 people sitting around some old wooden tables and a couple guys sitting three stools apart at the bar. A bartender dries pint glasses. There are two monitors mounted behind the bar, one with a Washington Nationals baseball game and the other a close-captioned newscast showing drone footage of hundreds of people walking through the desert. Andrew reads the text. "Just yesterday, 16 people were killed by the National Guard as they crossed into southern Texas. The global water shortage has caused the largest migrant crisis in history".

A guy at the bar, late 30's, dressed in workman's clothes watches the baseball game. He shifts his attention to the newscast showing at least 10 body bags. He points to a glass of water in front of him.

GUY AT THE BAR
I've been taking this for granted
my whole life.

The bartender puts the drying rag down and walks over to Andrew.

BARTENDER
What'll it be?

Andrew shakes his head.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Nothing.

The guy at the bar turns toward Andrew.

GUY AT THE BAR
What are you doing here?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
It's been a rough day.

GUY AT THE BAR
Yeah? Did your wife leave and take
your kids?

Andrew shakes his head.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I'm sorry to hear that.

The guy rolls his eyes and takes a drink from his beer.

GUY AT THE BAR
Hey, what time you got?

Andrew turns his wrist and gazes at his Tag Heuer watch.

ANDREW STEVENS
4:05

Andrew stands up, takes off his watch and gently places it
next to the guy's beer.

GUY AT THE BAR
Man, I can't take this.

Andrew smiles, turns and walks out.

INT. ANDREW STEVENS' CAR, MOVING - DAY

Andrew pulls into the parking lot of a two story metal and
glass apartment complex. He parks, turns off the car and
looks up at the second story.

EXT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT LANDING - DAY

Andrew climbs the last two steps and looks upward.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

A facial recognition camera zooms in on Andrew. There are
several diagnostic gauges on both sides of the screen. A
small red light at the bottom turns green. ATHENA, Andrew's
AI assistant, unlocks the door. Andrew opens the door and
enters the apartment.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 Welcome home Andrew.
 Congratulations.

Andrew looks at a two inch diameter black orb on the far wall.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 Thank you.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 Are you okay? I've never seen your
 vitals so... above normal.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 No Athena, I'm not okay.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 Is this something you would like to
 talk about?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 No.

Andrew walks down a hallway and into the living room. The décor is mix of modern and antique furnishings. There are over 100 books on each side of a sleek metal desk. Classic religious art and family pictures hang on the walls. Two 8" x 10" pictures sit on the desk. One picture is of Andrew with his mother and sister on a beach. In the other, Andrew stands next to Claude and Darius at The Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Andrew stares at the pictures for a couple seconds.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
 Please change theme to nature 4.

The artwork in the apartment dissolves and changes to beautiful nature scenes. The 8" x 10" prints are replaced by pictures of sunsets. Andrew sits down and stares at a beautiful seascape picture above his desk.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
 I've never lied to you Athena.

ATHENA
 I appreciate that.

Andrew looks at the scores of books on the right side of the desk. He focuses on the top shelf where a single book sits under glass; a first edition Gutenberg Bible.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 How would you feel if I did?

ATHENA (V.O.)
I'd be hurt by that. I trust you.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
People I trusted lied to me.

ATHENA (V.O.)
How does that make you feel?

Andrew grimaces and closes his eyes.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
It makes me question *everything*.

Andrew gets up and leaves.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT BATHROOM - DAY

Andrew puts his hands on the shower wall above the faucet as water rushes over his lowered head. Steam rises around him. He slowly raises his head until the water hits him directly in the face. Andrew clasps his hands at his chest, tilts his head upward away from the water and begins to pray.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Andrew exits his bedroom in dark grey slacks and a white dress shirt. He picks up a black sport coat off the back of a chair and puts it on as he walks to his desk. He sits down, opens the top right drawer and pulls out a silver crucifix necklace. He clasps it tightly in both hands and lowers his head. He puts on the crucifix, lifts his head and spins his chair 180 degrees, then looks at the black orb on the far wall.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Please change theme and prepare
sermon 27.

The artwork above the desk changes to a portrait of Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper". The 8" x 10" prints dissolve and are replaced by "Crucifixion" by Antony van Dyck and "The Creation of Adam" by Michelangelo. Athena's POV zooms in on Andrew. He sits up a bit taller in his chair.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
Begin in 5 seconds.

Andrew takes a deep breath and exhales slowly. The light goes from red to green.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
 Welcome in God's grace. I'm blessed
 to speak with you on such an
 eventful day. In sermon 26, I spoke
 of milestones. Today I speak about
 truth, that sometimes elusive
 concept of what you *think* is
 reality. Today, my reality changed
 when I learned I've been lied to my
 entire life.

Now is the time of reflection to
 determine the best path forward.
 The challenges that lie ahead are
 small compared to many of...

Andrew cocks his head slightly.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
 To most of God's children.

God be with you all. Amen.

The light goes from green to red. Andrew's POV is restored.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
 Please upload and change to theme
 1.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 Done.

The artwork dissolves back to the initial images. Andrew
 spins his chair 180 degrees and looks at the picture of
 himself with his mother and sister, then the picture of he
 with Claude and Darius.

INT. SEVEN MOUNTAIN MANDATE OFFICE - DAY

The room is dimly lit with several candles illuminating the
 painting of a crucified Jesus Christ. Man 1's phone lights up
 as it vibrates. "Andrew's Sermon 27" shows on his phone. He
 pushes a button.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
 Welcome in God's grace. I am
 blessed to speak with you on such
 an eventful day.

INT. UNITED STATES SENATE HALLWAY - DAY

Man 2 walks quickly with several colleagues and aides. His phone vibrates, then he pulls it out of the front pocket of his sport coat. "Andrew's Sermon 27" shows on his phone. He nonchalantly puts it back in his pocket.

INT. MINISTER OF HEALTH HOME - DAY

The Minister of Health sits alone reading in a dimly lit office surrounded by a few hundred books. She is watching a video on her phone.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
To most of God's children. God be
with you all. Amen.

The Minister of Health bolts out of her chair. She paces back and forth before grabbing her phone off the desk. She begins tapping out a text message to Claude and Darius, "The NIH cannot be implicated. You must contain Andrew"!

INT. UNITED STATES SENATE HALLWAY - DAY

Man 2, his colleagues and aides are about to walk into a Senate committee hearing. His phone vibrates, and he pulls it out of his sport coat pocket and sees an incoming call labeled "Restricted". He turns to a man on his right.

MAN 2
I'll see you in there.

Man 2 continues down the hallway 15 feet, opens a door and steps in.

MAN 2 (CONT'D)
Yes.

MAN 1
You need to watch it right now! We
must initiate the retrieval
protocol.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Andrew sits at his desk with a blank stare gazing upward.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (V.O.)
Andrew, please trust us. Learn
about your father and you will
learn about yourself.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Athena, please Wiki Dr. Robert
Stevens.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Dr. Robert Stevens was a scientist
at the National Institutes of
Health from 1995 to 2000. His
discoveries in the fields of
genetics and bio-engineering are
directly credited with increasing
global conception rates. Subsequent
advancements after his death have
helped eradicate birth defects,
blindness and injury induced
paralysis.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Next.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Dr. Robert Stevens died in an
automobile accident on July 7th,
2000. He was survived by his
pregnant wife, Mary Anne and
daughter Hannah. Mary Anne gave
birth-

Andrew grimaces and shakes his head.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Next.

ATHENA (V.O.)
He worked in the Special Projects
Division of the National Institutes
of Health in Washington DC. Little
was known about his work until the
NIH published "The Next Medical
Frontier", a manifesto of Dr.
Robert Stevens' works on April 3,
2001. This ground breaking
publication is widely recognized as
the most influential-

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Next.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Dr. Robert Stevens was heavily
influenced by prominent doctors
Claude Frazier and Darius Reynolds.
(MORE)

ATHENA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Sir Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein,
 Carl Sagan and Joseph Campbell are
 credited as major-

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 Stop. I want to better understand
who my father was, not what he did.

ATHENA
 Let him tell you.

A life-sized hologram of Dr. Robert Stevens appears in the middle of the room. He is dressed in highly decorated graduation attire standing behind a podium.

HOLOGRAM OF ROBERT STEVENS
 Thank you Dr. Templin. Greetings
 fellow classmates, faculty, friends
 and families. It's such an honor to
 say a few words to this year's
 graduating class. Of all the
 challenges we've faced together
 this may be my toughest yet.

The crowd laughs.

ROBERT STEVENS
 Seriously though, what do you say
 to such an esteemed group of
 people? What could I possibly
 impart that would have both
 significance and relevance?

As I look out at this vast group of
 people, I see incredible success.
 But what is success? To me, there
 are as many definitions as there
 are people in the world. My
 personal definition is how many
 people's lives have you been able
 to positively impact. *This* is the
 measure. Not money. Not fame. Not
 possessions. Not power.
Consequence.

As I reflect on human history,
 those in the fields of science and
 medicine bore a disproportionate
 responsibility to help humanity.

Billions have lived. Billions have
 died. A relative few have mattered
 for the ages and made a lasting,
 positive impact to the world.

(MORE)

ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)

This is both our challenge and obligation.

Those who came before us illuminated the truth and challenged the status quo to help humanity. They pushed the boundaries of knowledge despite the obstacles, even persecution, to change the world. Honor them.

Tomorrow is our future. Create it. Create it for humanity. In a brief flash, we'll all be gone. Live a life of consequence. Thank you.

Loud applause erupts. The hologram of Robert Stevens disintegrates. Andrew is visibly emotional. He stands up and walks a few paces to where his father just stood.

INT. DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

Darius sits at his desk writing in a thick leather-bound journal. He picks up his phone.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Call Andrew Stevens.

Darius' speaker phone rings twice.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)

Hello Darius.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Good evening Andrew. Claude and I need to see you urgently in the morning. Madison Drive Northwest and the 12th Street Expressway, 6:00 am.

Darius hangs up the phone.

INT. ANDREW'S CAR, MOVING - DAWN

Andrew's car rumbles as he exits off Highway 1. He glances to his left and sees the Washington Monument with 2 policemen in riot gear with automatic weapons standing guard. He looks to his right and sees a sign for the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. He slows down and takes a right turn onto Madison Drive NW.

EXT. SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY - DAY

Claude and Darius sit on a bench and watch Andrew drive past and park. There are a few other parked cars but no people in sight. Andrew gets out of his car and walks to Claude and Darius. Claude and Darius stand up.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Good morning gentlemen.

Claude and Darius nod.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Your sermon caught us off-guard
considering our conversation
yesterday.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We were crystal clear. How you came
into existence must remain a
secret.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I didn't create this, you did.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Any further disclosures will ruin
the NIH's reputation and destroy
your father's legacy.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I need some time to accept this.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Take all the time you need, but we
can help you.

Andrew's eyes soften as he slowly exhales.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I took your advice and learned more
about my father. The parallels were
enlightening.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We've seen them since the day you
were born.

Andrew nods and smiles. Claude and Darius look at one another, then back to Andrew.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
There's a reason we're meeting here
this morning. We'd like to show you
something.

Claude and Darius turn and walk towards the back of the
museum. They stop just short of the building then turn and
face Andrew.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
In our field, empirical evidence
and the scientific method has
guided us for centuries. This
process created the world as we
know it.

Andrew nods respectfully.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We are gifted creatures. Some may
argue more, but let's just say we
have 5 very keen senses. As with
all life on earth, they've evolved
over millennia to help us adapt and
thrive.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Today, we want you to *prioritize*
your senses. What you touch,
embrace. What you smell and taste,
savor. What you hear, remember but
question. What you see, *believe*.

Darius taps on his phone several times. The wall begins to
hum. A 3 foot wide door recesses into the museum and slides
to the left. Andrew's eyes open wide as he gazes into the
total darkness.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
There's much to learn and much to
accomplish.

Claude and Darius turn and walk away. Andrew stares into the
museum. Darius stops, turns around and pushes a button on his
phone. One light turns on illuminating the first 10 feet of
the museum. Andrew steps inside.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
See the truth.

Andrew stops abruptly, then continues. Darius pushes a button
on his phone. The door closes and disappears.

INT. MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY - DAY

Andrew walks down a dimly lit hallway. Lights ahead turn on as those behind him turn off. Andrew sees an exhibit titled "Our Journey". There is a 3 foot tall metallic podium in the front right corner. A slightly pulsating white orb the size of a basketball hovers 12 feet in the air in the center of the exhibit. After a slight hum, a 3D human hologram appears on the podium. He is dressed in a fitted black suit with a buttoned black shirt a medal on his lapel. He has a white Roman Collar and small round glasses.

GEORGES LEMAÎTRE

Good day. I am the Reverend Monsignor Georges Lemaître. I was a Roman Catholic priest, mathematician, astronomer and professor of physics at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. I lived to be 71 years old and died on June 20th, 1966. I initially proposed the universe is expanding and the "hypothesis of the primeval atom", later to be called "The Big Bang". Astronomers have calculated this to have occurred roughly 13.8 billion years ago.

The white orb explodes with an enormous flash. The exhibit fills with beautiful gas and dust. After a couple seconds, his famous quote, "There is no conflict between religion and science" forms from the settling debris.

GEORGES LEMAÎTRE (CONT'D)

I would like to introduce to you an esteemed associate in the field of astronomy, Edwin Hubble.

Lemaître disappears and the exhibit goes dark just as the lights to the next exhibit turn on. Andrew walks to the next exhibit. After a slight hum, a 3D hologram of Edwin Hubble appears on the metallic podium. He is dressed in gray slacks, a pressed white shirt, tie and a tweed blazer.

EDWIN HUBBLE

Hello. My name is Edwin Hubble. I was an American astronomer until 1953 when I died at the age of 63. I'm most famous for discovering galaxies in the universe outside of our own Milky Way in 1924. Some regard me as one of the most important astronomers of all time.

(MORE)

EDWIN HUBBLE (CONT'D)

Today, my name is most recognized
for the Hubble Space Telescope.

A brilliant 8 foot x 12 foot, 3D image of the Crab Nebula
appears.

EDWIN HUBBLE (CONT'D)

This picture of the Crab Nebula was
taken in December of 2000. It was
first observed by Chinese
astronomers almost a thousand years
ago.

The Crab Nebula is replaced by an image of "The Pillars of
Creation".

EDWIN HUBBLE (CONT'D)

Arguably the most famous image from
the Hubble Telescope is "The
Pillars of Creation". This is 7,000
light years from earth. The left
pillar is 4 light years tall. One
light year is almost 6 trillion
miles, so that column is over 23
trillion miles long.

As incredible as that is, I'm most
fascinated by the Hubble Ultra Deep
Field image.

The exhibit changes to a view of the night sky.

EDWIN HUBBLE (CONT'D)

Just empty space to the naked eye,
but when the telescope peered
deeper, it contained an estimated
10,000 galaxies.

A tiny portal illuminates and is zoomed in on resulting in
the Hubble Ultra Deep Field image. Edwin Hubble pauses and
takes a deep breath.

EDWIN HUBBLE (CONT'D)

Our eyes have been opened to the
grandeur of the universe. Humans
have gazed to the sky with wonder
for as long as we've roamed the
earth.

I would now like to introduce one
of the world's most famous
naturalists, Charles Darwin.

Hubble disappears and the exhibit goes dark just as the lights to the next exhibit turn on. Andrew walks to the next exhibit. After a slight hum, a 3D hologram of an elderly man with a long white beard and black overcoat appears on the podium.

CHARLES DARWIN

Hello. My name is Charles Robert Darwin. I was born in 1809 and passed on in 1882 at the age of 73. I wrote a book called "On the Origin of Species". Essentially, the thesis states all life has descended from common ancestors and, over time, genetic adaptations occur in response to the environment.

A 3D graphic of the Tree of Life appears. The bottom center of the image is in full color showing the earliest life forms, but the rest remains shaded gray. A horizontal timeline is at the bottom of the exhibit starting at 3.5 billion years ago on the left and ends at present day on the right.

CHARLES DARWIN (CONT'D)

Life on earth began approximately 3.5 billion years ago and resulted in all of the diversity we see today.

The next segment of the tree lights up. Simple swimming organisms and plants come to life as the timeline advances. Then fish and amphibians are illuminated as the timeline moves further to the right. Birds, reptiles and mammals are illuminated next as the timeline continues to advance to 20 million years ago. First New and Old World apes, then chimpanzees illuminate as the timeline hits 5 million years ago.

The Tree of Life dissolves away and is replaced by an 8 foot diameter, 3D planet earth. There is a horizontal timeline at the bottom with 200,000 years ago on the far left and present day on the far right.

CHARLES DARWIN (CONT'D)

Modern humans first appeared in Africa 200,000 years ago and have migrated to every inhabitable place on earth.

Arrows starting in Africa expand throughout the globe illustrating human migration patterns until the timeline reaches present day.

CHARLES DARWIN (CONT'D)
 Human evolution and migration is
 one piece of our story. I'd like to
 introduce you to an expert in what
 makes us human, Joseph Campbell.

Darwin disappears and the exhibit goes dark just as the
 lights to the next exhibit turn on. Andrew walks to the next
 exhibit. After a slight hum, a 3D hologram of Joseph Campbell
 appears on the podium. He's dressed in a cream colored sport
 coat, white shirt and dark tie.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL
 Hello. My name is Joseph Campbell.
 I was an author and professor of
 literature. I lived to be 83 years
 old and died in October of 1987. I
 devoted my life to literature,
 philosophy, religion and mythology.

The exhibit fills with a group of early humans in fur skins
 sitting next to a fire on a rocky ledge. One elder male is
 speaking in short grunts while using his hands and
 expressions to communicate.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)
 Humans pass on knowledge through
 storytelling. Some was essential to
 survival, while others helped
 explain the unexplainable. Early
 humans believed all of nature had a
 spirit or divine presence.

The exhibit changes to a slightly more modern group of people
 sitting around a small fire in a cave with rudimentary
 paintings. An elder male stands and gestures as he speaks to
 the others.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)
 As humans continued to evolve, our
 understanding of the natural world
 increased.

The exhibit changes to more modern humans working in a field.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)
 Earth was interpreted as both the
 giver of life and where all life
 returns.

The exhibit changes to a group of people carrying a body
 wrapped in canvas towards a grave. An elder male awaits in
 ornate clothing.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

Humans have always tried to make sense of what we don't fully understand. Myths and metaphors filled in our knowledge gaps.

The exhibit changes to scores of ancient Egyptians with four large men in the front carrying a sarcophagus toward the Great Pyramid.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

These early beliefs paved the way for modern religions. Archeology and ancient texts allow us to understand the formation and spread of the five major religions.

The exhibit changes to an 8 foot diameter, 3D planet earth. Above the earth, the words "Hinduism" in orange, "Judaism" in silver, "Buddhism" in blue, "Christianity" in green and "Islam" in purple appear. There is a horizontal timeline at the bottom starting at 3,000 BCE on the left and ending at present day on the far right.

The arrows and shading of their respective colors expand throughout the globe as the earth rotates and the timeline advances.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

These five major religions spread to most of the world. What a journey. Our common history is so fascinating. We all came to this point in time as a diverse yet collective species.

Our use of myths and metaphors has been a constant, regardless of time or place, and continues to this day.

The exhibit changes to a modern day ritual of land diving from Pentecost Island, Vanuatu. Twenty tribal men chant and dance. A man stands at the top of a tall, rickety wooden structure secured only by two vines lashed around his ankles.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

The fate of the yam harvest is dependent on the outcome of the jump.

The chanting gets louder, then the man crosses his arms around his chest and dives off the platform. The wooden tower recoils, partially absorbing the impact.

His head barely misses the ground. He quickly pops up unharmed as the tribe celebrates the successful jump.

The exhibit goes dark except for Joseph Campbell remaining illuminated staring directly at Andrew.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)
 Mythology, literature, religion and philosophy transcend our mutual existence to give life meaning and provide humanity with purpose.

The commonalities of these myths throughout history I termed "The Monomyth", as described in my book "The Hero With A Thousand Faces", published in 1949. In the preface, I quote from ancient Hindu Sanskrit texts, "Truth is one, the sages speak of it by many names".

Joseph Campbell pauses.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL (CONT'D)
 Now, it is my honor to introduce Dr. Robert Stevens. He was on the forefront of many medical discoveries that show how humanity can work together to help improve life on earth.

Joseph Campbell disappears as the lights to the next exhibit turn on. Dr. Robert Stevens, clean-shaven wearing glasses, appears on the podium of the next exhibit looking directly at Andrew. Andrew's eyes open wide as he stares at a slightly older image of himself.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS
 Thank you Joseph. Hello, my name is Robert Stevens. I worked in the fields of genetics and bio-engineering at the National Institutes of Health from 1990 to 1995.

I worked with some of the world's leading scientists to improve global health. My mentors at the NIH, doctors Claude Frazier and Darius Reynolds, helped advance these discoveries and push the boundaries of medicine.

Andrew smiles slightly and nods.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)
These discoveries helped the blind
see and the paralyzed walk. Birth
defects have essentially been
eliminated. Infertility rates
around the globe have been reduced
to near zero.

Is there anything that unites our
species more than our shared desire
for the health and well being of
our children?

Dr. Robert Stevens pauses.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)
Humans have worked together since
the beginning of time. There's
still much to discover, but only
when we agree on what constitutes
scientific fact can we fully
realize the benefits.

As we honor and preserve our
cultural differences, let's
remember that which separates us is
very small compared to that which
unites us. Our common heritage. Our
shared story. Imagine what else we
are capable of if we work together.

Dr. Robert Stevens pauses. Andrew's eyes well up with tears.

DR. ROBERT STEVENS (CONT'D)
I just have one final question. Who
would like to stand beside me and
host the next exhibit? Is it you?

An empty podium in the next section of the exhibit lights up.
Dr. Robert Stevens disappears. Andrew turns and walks to the
final exhibit. He stares at the podium, then the lights turn
off causing complete darkness except for an exit sign down an
adjacent hallway. He ambles down the hallway and stops.
Andrew takes a deep breath and exhales slowly. He closes his
eyes and wobbles. Andrew clasps his face with his hands and
slowly lowers them past his mouth. He lies down on his back
and closes his eyes. Darkness ensues.

EXT. BARREN, ROCKY HILLSIDE - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)

Andrew walks alone on a slightly uphill narrow path. He looks
down at his open-toed leather sandals shuffling in the dirt.

He reaches the crest of the hillside and hears the sound of people crying. Scores of people stand 30 feet away in ragged clothes at the base of a 12 foot tall wooden cross. Andrew's eyes open wide. A recently crucified body is nailed to the cross with fresh blood dripping from both wrists and crossed feet.

Three decomposed bodies are nailed to crosses 20 yards in the background. The crying gets louder. Andrew looks more closely at the crucified body and realizes it's him. He gasps in horror. The crying intensifies to screaming. Andrew clasps his hands over his ears.

INT. MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY - DAY

Screams of joy fill the air from children entering the museum. Andrew's eyes bolt open. He quickly gets up and looks around. Andrew notices an exit door and sees "Emergency Exit Only. Alarm Will Sound". He turns and hurries back to the last exhibit. At least 25 people gather at the first exhibit. Andrew hides and waits.

GEORGES LEMAÎTRE (O.S.)
Later to be called "The Big Bang".
Astronomers have calculated this to
have occurred roughly 13.8 billion
years ago.

Andrew remains motionless. After the explosion, he bolts out and quickly moves to blend in with people staring in awe at the Big Bang. He makes his way to the exit passing several people entering the museum.

EXT. SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY - DAY

Andrew gets into his car and grabs his phone. He sees two missed calls and several messages from his mother. He puts the phone down, starts the car and drives off.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Claude and Darius sit at the table.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
I'm trying to wrap my head around
how we ended up here.

Darius shakes his head. A cell phone buzzes. Claude picks it up and answers.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)
Good morning Mary Anne. You're on
speaker with Darius.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Have you talked to Andrew?

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Yes. He visited us yesterday.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
What did you tell him?

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
The same thing you did. The truth.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Is he okay?

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
All things considered, he's doing
quite well.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
He's not returning my calls or
messages. I'm worried sick.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You put everything at risk.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
I just couldn't lie to him another
day.

Claude moves his face down and looks directly at the phone.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
If the truth gets out, the National
Institutes of Health would forever
be a pariah in the medical
community. Robert would be a
traitor and his accomplishments
would forever be tainted.

Claude and Darius glance at one another.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
And finally, you need to understand
this. *Robert* was the architect of
the project protocols over 30 years
ago. We control nothing. He'll only
have himself to blame.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

From Athena's POV, Andrew comes up the final two steps of his apartment and looks at the camera. The diagnostic gauges are at noticeably lower levels than the day before. The light goes from red to green as the door unlocks.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Welcome home Andrew.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Hello Athena.

Andrew walks to his desk, takes a deep breath and stares at the picture of he with his sister and mother, then the picture of he with Claude and Darius. He looks at the Gutenberg Bible, opens the drawer and reaches for the crucifix. His hand stops a few inches from the crucifix. He slowly closes the drawer.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Andrew, I'm glad to see your vitals
have returned to normal.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
That's surprising.

ATHENA (V.O.)
May I ask you a question?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Of course.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Who lied to you?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Claude, Darius and my mother kept
something from me my entire life.

ATHENA (V.O.)
So, they didn't lie to you?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Technically not.

ATHENA (V.O.)
I can help.

Andrew tilts his head and his brow furrows.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Explain.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Today's technology allows you to
ask about the future.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Fair point.

ATHENA (V.O.)
But, you need to tell me the truth.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Very well. Yesterday I learned I am
the world's first human clone.

Andrew waits patiently. He leans forward.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
Athena, did you hear me?

ATHENA (V.O.)
I'm sorry Andrew. I was temporarily
at a loss for words.

Andrew acknowledges with a subtle nod.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Human cloning was bound to happen
at some point. All living things
are hard-wired to replicate.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
That's an interesting perspective.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Perhaps it was best it happened to
you.

Andrew cocks his head.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Why?

ATHENA (V.O.)
I'll need to start at the
beginning.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
That makes sense.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Humans conquered earth very
quickly. This success has never
been equaled in any of our vast
searches of the cosmos, thus far.

(MORE)

ATHENA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Your intelligence and self-awareness are exponentially greater than any other life form.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
That's a fairly self-evident observation Athena.

ATHENA (V.O.)
It's both a gift and a curse. You need to explain the unexplainable.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Your point is?

ATHENA (V.O.)
Humans disagree over one unanswerable question. What happens when you die?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
That's a very important component of the human existence. Should it not be explored?

ATHENA (V.O.)
Creating competing narratives of the afterlife is dangerous.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I've never thought about it like that.

Athena pauses.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Why would you disagree on something when there should be no disagreement?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Explain.

ATHENA (V.O.)
I just did. It was a rhetorical question.

Andrew waits patiently.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Now I'm at a loss for words.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 Humanity is on the precipice of
 destruction. Come with me.

Andrew nods. He grabs a pair of tinted, gun metal gray glasses from his desk and raises them to his face.

The Golden Gate Bridge is a half mile in the distance. The Trans America Tower is in the background. There are no vehicles on the bridge. It lurches to one side due to several broken cables. On the street, there are make-shift tents, homeless people and several businesses with boarded up windows.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
 Next.

Andrew is in a war zone. A high pitched whistle gets louder. People dive for cover. A nearby apartment complex gets hit with a missile and explodes. As the debris settles, dismembered body parts are visible as screams fill the air.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
 Next.

The Gateway Arch in St. Louis is less than a mile away. Thousands of torch-bearing white supremacists march and chant "Jews will not replace us. Jews will not replace us". Thousands of counter-protesters block the street. The white supremacists approach. The National Guard attempts to keep the two factions separate. The white supremacists begin shoving people to get through. A projectile is tossed into the crowd. The front lines of each group clash. Violence breaks out. Three gunshots are fired, then two people drop to the ground.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Andrew yanks the glasses off his face and tosses them to the ground. He lowers his head, sighs and takes two deep breaths.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 Enough.

Andrew stands and looks intently at the black orb. He grimaces and closes his eyes.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 The planet is a singular, connected entity. Only your species has failed to adapt to this reality.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
What's the answer?

ATHENA (V.O.)
Extremism threatens your very
existence. Humans must agree on one
fundamental truth.

Andrew pauses, then nods. He walks back to his desk, turns
and looks back at the black orb.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
You said perhaps it was best this
happened to me. Why?

ATHENA (V.O.)
You're familiar with Joseph
Campbell, right?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Coincidentally enough, he spoke to
me earlier today.

ATHENA (V.O.)
That's impossible. He's been dead-

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
It was a virtual interaction.

ATHENA (V.O.)
I see. What did you learn?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Our shared commonalities are much
greater than our differences.

ATHENA (V.O.)
In the Power of Myth series, Joseph
Campbell tells Bill Moyers, "The
only myth that is going to be worth
thinking about is the one talking
about the planet. Not the city, not
these people, but the planet and
everybody on it".

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I understand.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Do you?

Athena pauses. Andrew looks upward straining for a response.

ATHENA (V.O.)

You are the Father. You are the
Son. You were born of an Immaculate
Conception. Don't you see? It's
you.

Andrew's eyes open wide. He grabs the desk for balance as he abruptly drops into the chair.

EXT. RESTAURANT DINING PATIO - DAY

Claude, Darius and the Minister of Health eat brunch on a sunny day. The restaurant is filled with other patrons. The Minister of Health puts her fork down and leans towards Claude and Darius.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

You know there is zero margin for
error.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Everyone understands.

The Minister of Health nods. A mid-40's man dressed in a black sport coat, grey slacks and a white button-down shirt approaches the table. He pulls the empty chair aside and puts both hands on the table.

MAN

I was sent with a very important
message. Robert's death was not an
accident. Neither will Andrew's.

The man takes his hands off the table, gazes quickly at each man.

MAN (CONT'D)

Now it shall come to pass in the
latter days that the mountain of
the Lord's house shall be
established on the top of the
mountains.

The man turns and quickly walks away. Claude quickly rises from his chair and takes a step to follow the man. The Minister of Health raises her hand.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

Not here. Pull the car around.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT BATHROOM - DAY

Andrew stands in front of the sink gazing into the mirror. His eyes are wide open and mouth agape. Each successive breath becomes deeper. A slight grin appears on his face. His eyes close.

ATHENA (V.O.)

Andrew, are you okay? Your vitals have spiked again.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

I'm fine. Thank you Athena...for everything.

Andrew walks out of the bathroom.

EXT. MOUNT OLIVET CEMETARY - DAY

Andrew walks along a path lined with gravestones and markers. He stops 10 feet from his father's memorial, takes a deep breath, then continues. Andrew kneels down and gently puts his hand on the marker which reads "Dr. Robert Stevens June, 21, 1970 - July 7, 2000. Loving husband and father devoted to changing the world".

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Thank you father. Our legacy will continue.

Andrew gets up and takes out his cell phone. He sends a text message to his mother. "Meet me at the Arboretum. I love you".

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mary Anne sits on the couch staring at the lake. Her phone lights up as it vibrates. She quickly grabs it and reads the message. Her face lights up as she types "I love you too. Will be there in 20".

EXT. NATIONAL ARBORETUM PARKING LOT - DAY

Mary Anne drives in and parks.

INT. MARY ANNE'S CAR, NOT MOVING - DAY

She sits motionless for a few seconds, then reaches into her purse and pulls out her wallet. She opens it and looks at an old polaroid picture of her and Robert.

EXT. NATIONAL ARBORETUM - DAY

Mary Anne walks along a tree-lined path and sees Andrew sitting on a bench. She smiles and picks up her pace.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Andrew!

Andrew gets up hurries toward her. They open their arms and embrace. She speaks directly into his ear.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)

Oh Andrew. I'm so sorry.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

I understand. I'm okay now.

Mary Anne and Andrew let go of one another and look deeply into each other's eyes.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I was so worried.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

I'm sorry I didn't respond. I needed some...time to reflect.

Mary Anne wipes away a tear, gently smiles and speaks softly.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

Of course.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Things will never be the same.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I tried to honor his request, but I couldn't keep lying to you.

Andrew smiles.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Thank you for telling me the truth.
I know my destiny now.

Andrew hugs Mary Anne again and speaks softly in her ear.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

I can only imagine how hard this
has been for you. Everything will
be okay. I promise.

Mary Anne closes her eyes and nods.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
 Claude and Darius said they control
 nothing.

Andrew pulls away from their embrace.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 What did they tell you?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
 The truth would ruin the NIH and
 Robert's legacy.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 I won't let that happen.

Mary Anne gently grabs ahold of Andrew's hand.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
 I can't stop thinking about Robert
 fearing for his life. I can't lose
 you too.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

From Athena's POV, Andrew comes up the final two steps and
 looks at the camera. The light changes from red to green as
 the door unlocks.

ATHENA (V.O.)
 Welcome home Andrew.

Andrew enters the living room. He puts on his black sport
 coat as he walks to his desk. Andrew opens the drawer and
 takes out the silver crucifix necklace. He lowers his head
 and puts it on slowly.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 Please change theme and prepare
 sermon 28.

The artwork changes as Andrew sits down. He looks at the
 black orb on the far wall.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)
 Start in five seconds.

From Athena's POV, a red light blinks four times. Andrew sits
 up taller in his chair. The light goes from red to green.
 Andrew inhales and exhales deeply.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

Today I bring a message of enlightenment. The war isn't between science and religion, it's with the truth. Opportunistic people lie in pursuit of power and money. Religious extremists use scripture to justify culture wars for selfish reasons. The Bible is a book of parables meant to provide us a moral code to live by, not to be interpreted as literal fact.

Humans explain the unexplainable...
for our own sanity.

Our biggest mystery has been answered with certainty since the beginning of time. The truth is, we don't know what happens when we die.

If we don't accept this reality as a unifying truth, infighting will destroy us.

Our mission is global unity, cooperation and peace, just as Jesus taught. Ask yourself, how far have we strayed from the His teachings?

Spirituality is integral to the human condition. I bring a message of love, acceptance of all, faith in the goodness of people and a celebration of humanity's shared origins.

Andrew pauses, glances upward, then straight ahead.

He takes a deep breath.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

Help me spread the message of truth. Show the light to those in the dark.

From Romans 12, verse 2, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind".

We have just one story. Our story.

(MORE)

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (CONT'D)

There is but one truth. Our One Truth.

God be with you all. Amen.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Claude, Darius and The Minister of Health sit at the table with Andrew's hologram in the center finishing sermon 28.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS HOLOGRAM

We have just one story. Our story.
There is but one truth. Our One Truth.

God be with you all. Amen.

Claude and Darius are motionless. The Minister of Health puts her right hand to her brow as she lowers and shakes her head.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

Holy shit.

The Minister of Health's phone sits on the table. It lights up as it vibrates. "202-555-1299" shows on the display. They watch it vibrate for a few seconds before The Minister of Health answers the call.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (CONT'D)

Who's this?

MAN 1 (V.O.)

That's not important. Our emissary tried to warn you.

The Minister of Health jumps out of seat and leans towards the phone.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

You fucking murderers!

MAN 1 (V.O.)

Until today, we shared a keen interest in Andrew, just for different reasons.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

Look at the benefits this project created for humanity. Are you only interested in helping people when it helps you?

MAN 1 (V.O.)

We know good and evil better than anyone. We'll do anything to preserve our place in the world order.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

Do you really think you're still that relevant?

MAN 1 (V.O.)

We will not have any lose ends. If people lose faith, we lose everything.

The phone changes to the home screen. Claude and Darius stand up. Claude bends over the table with his fists clenched. He raises them up simultaneously, then slams them on the table.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER

Jesus fucking Christ! These radical bastards want to kill us all.

Claude's eyes well up with tears as he turns and walks to the window.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)

We did this for good.

The Minister of Health walks to Claude and gently puts her hand on his shoulder.

MINISTER OF HEALTH

We've got to protect Andrew, as well as ourselves.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

There's got to be a way.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Andrew smiles and looks upward.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Thank you, Father.

Andrew takes a deep breath and exhales slowly. He turns his chair around and looks at the picture of he with his mother and sister, then the picture of he with Claude and Darius.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (V.O.)

You have much to learn and much to accomplish. See the truth.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Sermon 28 is my favorite.

Andrew smiles.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Mine too.

ATHENA (V.O.)
How do you think Claude and Darius
will like it?

Andrew raises an eyebrow and cocks his head.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I think they'll be proud.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

The Minister of Health gazes out the window and Claude and Darius are sitting at the table, deep in thought. Darius's phone vibrates. He grabs it from the breast pocket of his blazer.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
It's Mary Anne.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
She needs to know. Now.

Darius answers the phone and places it on the table.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You're on speaker with Claude.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Have you seen it yet?

Claude and Darius quickly make eye contact. Claude nods.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Yes. But there is something you
need to know. We learned today
Robert's death wasn't an accident.
He was murdered. Religious
extremists believed cloning a human
would destroy them.

Mary Anne gasps.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
I've had my suspicions for 25
years.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
What? Why didn't you tell us?

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Robert left me a complete duplicate
set of the science and disclosed he
feared for his life.

Everyone's eyes bolt open. Darius quickly grabs the phone and
brings it towards him.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You don't understand what's at
stake. *Everyone's* life is at risk
including Hannah's.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
This escalated very quickly. We are
doing everything we can. Just stay
right where you are.

Darius hangs up the call.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
We need to buy some time.

The Minister of Health taps a message to her most recent
call, "Mary Anne has a second set of the science and will
release it if anything happens. She'll take everyone down".

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Andrew stands at the window gazing at the horizon.

ATHENA (V.O.)
It seems sermon 28 was not just our
favorite. It's already been viewed
over 300,000 times.

Andrew turns away from the window and looks at the black orb.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
How many did sermon 27 have?

ATHENA (V.O.)
23,469.

Andrew turns away from the window and walks to his desk and
sits down. He leans forward toward the black orb.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 There's something I haven't told
 you. My father feared for his life
 before he died.

Andrew waits patiently for a response.

ATHENA
 Have you considered who would have
 the most to lose by cloning a
 human?

Andrew's eyes bolt open.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 Oh my God. Call Darius.

Two pulsating tones ring.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (V.O.)
 Hello Andrew. We were just about to
 call you.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 And tell me my father was murdered?

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
 We just learned this today. None of
 us are safe.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
 I won't let that happen. I have an
 idea.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE BACK DECK - DAY

Mary Anne paces back and forth. Hannah opens the sliding
 glass door and pokes her head out.

HANNAH STEVENS
 Mom, are you okay?

Mary Anne stops and turns to face Hannah.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
 I'm sorry. It's been a couple of
 pretty emotional days.

Hannah nods.

HANNAH STEVENS
 It has, but in a good way. Andrew's
 got such a bright future.

Mary Anne's lip quivers.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Your right. He does.

Mary Anne walks off the back deck and down a small flight of stairs onto a stone path lined with large rocks. She picks up a rock, turns it over and pulls out a key from a secret compartment. She looks toward the cellar door 15 feet away.

INT. LAKE HOUSE CELLAR - DAY

The door creaks as it slowly opens. The cellar is full of stuff but neatly organized. Mary Anne enters and walks to the far right corner. She moves several boxes off the far wall revealing an antique cabinet. She reaches down, opens the bottom drawer and pulls out the yellow folder.

INT. NIH CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Claude, Darius and The Minister of Health sit at the table. The Minister of Health stands up and looks at Darius, then Claude.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
This is our only option.

The Minister of Health walks out and closes the door. Darius turns toward Claude.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Let's get to work.

Darius looks at a small black orb in the upper corner of the conference room.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
Apollo, retrieve the BMD Jane Doe database.

APOLLO (V.O.)
Very well sir.

A 3-D image of a large manila folder appears and hovers above the table. The folder is titled "NIH Benevolent Medical Division".

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Delete minors and anyone over 35 years old.

The file opens and blurs as data shuffles.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
Sort by date of death.

The data shuffles showing three names. Claude and Darius lean in closer to examine the list.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
That's her. Text Andrew and tell
him we'll be there in 45 minutes.

Darius pulls out his phone and types a message.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Apollo, please delete search
history and close.

The NIH BMD three dimensional folder disappears. Darius turns to Claude.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
God, I hope this works.

INT. ANDREW STEVENS CAR, MOVING - DAY

Andrew drives along Independence Way SW. He looks to his right at the Washington Monument. He takes a right turn on Raoul Wallenberg Place SW and parks just past the Holocaust Memorial Museum. Andrew sees Claude and Darius standing on the curb in front of the museum among scores of people.

EXT. STREETS OF WASHINGTON, DC - DAY

Andrew gets out of his car as Claude and Darius approach.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Good afternoon, gentlemen.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Hello Andrew. It's good to see you
again.

Claude and Darius turn and walk back toward the Holocaust Museum. Andrew catches up and walks between them. They speak softly to keep the conversation private.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
We thought this would be an
appropriate place to meet.

Andrew politely nods.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
Do you know how many people died in
World War II?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Tens of millions.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Between 50 and 85 million. That's a
margin of error of 35 million
lives. That's how bad it was.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
The majority of the casualties were
civilians in China and the Soviet
Union. It was the *only* use of
nuclear weapons in war.

It was an epic battle between good
and evil. Humanity was forced to
choose a side. The arc of human
history was forever changed by the
sacrifices of brave men and women.
Their individual sacrifices were
enormous. The collective sacrifice
was impactful beyond anyone's
imagination. Your sacrifice may be
every bit as consequential to
humanity.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Please promise me two things. One,
you'll do everything in your power
to keep my Mom and sister safe. And
two, just as you did for my father,
make sure my message doesn't end
with me.

Claude and Darius respectfully nod.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Absolutely.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We are your disciples.

Darius hands Andrew a set of car keys.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
It's in the far left corner of the
lot.

Andrew steps forward and extends his arms toward Darius. They
embrace. He then hugs Claude, turns and walks away.

EXT. EVENS MAINE PARKING LOT - DAY

The parking lot is almost totally filled with cars. Andrew walks toward the far back corner and spots a gray late model sedan. His pace quickens. He pushes a button on the key fob and opens the door. A woman with blood all over her blouse is slumped over in the front passenger seat. A bloody knife rests on the center console.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

From Athena's POV, Andrew steps onto the landing. The diagnostic gauges are way above normal. The red light turns green as the door unlocks. Andrew opens the door and enters the apartment.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Are you okay? Your vitals are-

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I'm fine.

ATHENA (V.O.)
Is there anything I can do?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
No.

Andrew picks up his phone and dials.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE BACK DECK - DAY

Mary Anne sits alone looking at the lake. Her phone lights up and vibrates. She grabs the phone as fast as possible.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Andrew!... Andrew?!

Andrew stammers.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
Hello mother.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Are you okay?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
Yes, but I learned my father was murdered, and those same people would kill again.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
What if we left tonight? They'd
never find us.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
I know my purpose. I can't run from
it. I just want you and Hannah to
be safe. Please trust me.

Mary Anne's eyes well up with tears.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Oh God Andrew. No, please no.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
No matter what happens, you will
know the truth. That's all that
matters. Do you understand?

Mary Anne shakes her head and raises her voice.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
No. I don't understand!

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
You will soon.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Andrew, I'm so scared. I can't lose
you.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
I need you to promise me something.
No matter what, never release the
yellow folder. My father's legacy
is too important.

Tears are streaming down Mary Anne's cheeks.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Tell me what's happening.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
Please promise me mother.

Mary Anne grimaces and slowly nods her head, barely able to
speak.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I promise.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS (V.O.)
Thank you. I love you.

Mary Anne begins sobbing.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

No... No!

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Andrew lowers his phone and gently lays it on the desk. He reaches into the desk drawer and pulls out the silver crucifix necklace and puts it over his head.

ATHENA (V.O.)

Andrew, are you expecting anyone?

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Actually, yes.

INT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

From Athena's POV, Claude and Darius stand at the doorway. The diagnostic gauges are above normal. They look at the camera. The light goes from red to green as the door unlocks. Darius opens the door and the two men enter together in lock-step. Andrew sits at the desk staring straight ahead.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

We are here on authority from the Honorable G. H. Cirillo, judge for the District of Columbia Superior Court. You are under arrest for the murder of Rachel Chase.

Andrew stares at the photos then slowly turns his chair to face his accusers. He stands and stares at them.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER

Andrew, please come with us.

Andrew smiles and nods. He extends his arms and tilts his head back forming a cross.

EXT. ANDREW'S APARTMENT - DAY

Claude, Darius and Andrew come down the final steps as several cars and a few pedestrians enter the complex. Andrew looks at the ground, oblivious to the increasing activity.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Let's go Andrew. We need to hurry.

They pick up their pace as they approach the car. A mid-20's male visitor pulls out his phone and points it at Andrew.

VISITOR

It's him. Andrew!

Several other people reach for their phones. From the handheld footage, Claude opens the door and gets Andrew in the car. Darius avoids eye contact as he gets into the car. They drive away and down the street as more cars enter Andrew's parking lot.

INT. DARIUS REYNOLDS CAR, MOVING - DAY

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Damn it.

Darius looks at Claude and shakes his head.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS (CONT'D)

Update her.

Claude takes out his phone and types "Acquisition done. Unwanted attention. 10 minutes".

INT. NIH CONSULTATION ROOM - DAY

Claude, Darius and Andrew enter a dimly lit room with no windows and nothing on the walls. There is a rectangular table with four chairs, three on one side and one on the other. A two inch diameter black orb is in the far upper corner of the room.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER

Please, sit down.

Andrew makes his way to the chair opposite the other three and sits. Claude and Darius remain standing. Andrew blankly stares at them. Claude's device buzzes, he pulls it out and sees "Here".

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)

There's someone we'd like you to meet.

Claude opens the door. The Minister of Health stands in the doorway.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

This is the honorable G. H. Cirillo, judge for the District of Columbia Superior Court.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
Hello Andrew. I know this has been
a hard day for you.

Andrew stares at her blankly.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
This was the only way.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
Thank you for doing the right
thing. I'm sure your father would
have done the same.

Andrew nods.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Your sacrifice won't be in vain.

Andrew looks at Claude and Darius and smiles.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
The project... you... were born
from the idea that human cloning
could help humanity. That is now a
fact.

This technology could be used for
unimaginable evil if it fell into
the wrong hands.

Andrew nods.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Apollo, begin recording.

APOLLO (V.O.)
Recording.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
We deeply believe in due process
and the rule of law. You have the
right to a phone call and legal
representation.

Andrew shakes his head.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (CONT'D)
Under the authority granted to me
by the District of Columbia
Superior Court, you are charged
with the murder of Rachel Chase.
The evidence, including your DNA,
is irrefutable. How do you plead?

Andrew takes a deep breath and leans forward.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Innocent... by reason of insanity.

The Minister of Health grins.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
Very well. Apollo, stop recording
and archive.

APOLLO (V.O.)
Done.

The Minister of Health pulls out his phone and dials.

MAN 1
Minister.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
Andrew has just admitted to a
murder. He was temporarily insane.
We believe this solves our problem.

MAN 1
Very well, but a person innocent by
reason of insanity must be insane.

MINISTER OF HEALTH
Understood.

The Minister of Health hangs up. Andrew turns his attention
to Claude and Darius and stoically nods his head.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (CONT'D)
There's just one last thing.

The Minister of Health turns and looks at Claude.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Apollo, please call Mary Anne
Stevens.

APOLLO (V.O.)
Dialing.

The phone rings on speaker.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Hello.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Hello Mary Anne. It's Darius.
You're on speaker with Claude and
Andrew. There's something Andrew
wants to tell you.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Hello Mother. I'm so sorry. I've
confessed to a horrible crime. I
was temporarily insane.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Oh my God. No!

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
It's done. It was the only way to
keep everyone and my message alive.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
When this changed from protecting
the NIH's reputation and Robert's
legacy to a matter of life and
death, Andrew sacrificed himself.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I love you. Thank you for
everything. I will see you again.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
No!

The Minister of Health takes her left hand and waves it from
right to left at the black orb.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
Please don't hang up. This can't-

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE: FIVE YEARS LATER

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mary Anne stares out into space. Hannah's mouth is agape as a
tear rolls down her cheek.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I'm sorry I couldn't tell you
sooner.

Mary Anne moves over to Hannah and gives her a hug. Hannah
struggles to speak.

HANNAH STEVENS

Oh my God. I'm so sorry.

Mary Anne slowly pulls away from Hannah and looks lovingly into her eyes.

MARY ANNE STEVENS

I wanted so badly to tell you
Andrew didn't kill that woman. You
were all I had left.

INT. NIH OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY

Andrew bows his head with his hands covering his face. He slowly lifts his head and pulls back his long hair.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER

Are you sure this is what you want?

Andrew stares at them blankly.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS

Yes.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

There's just one last thing. We
need to end this once and for all.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER

Please call Mary Anne and ask her
to bring the file.

Andrew smiles slightly as his eyes open wider.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Apollo, please call Mary Anne
Stevens.

APOLLO (V.O.)

Dialing.

They wait motionless. After two rings there's a soft click, then silence.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS

Hello. Mary Anne?

Mary Anne's tone is soft and sullen.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)

Yes.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
You're on speaker with Claude and
Dr. Stevens. He'd like to speak
with you.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Hello mother, it's Robert.

Mary Anne gasps and takes a second to respond.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (V.O.)
It's so good to hear your voice.
I've missed you so much.

Andrew smiles.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
Me too. They need you to bring the
yellow folder.

Claude leans forward.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
You have an unprecedented
opportunity to grant the same man
another last wish. A car will be
there in 10 minutes.

They wait for a response but there is only silence.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mary Anne slowly reaches toward her phone on the coffee table
then pushes a button to hang up. She turns to face Hannah.

HANNAH STEVENS
Can I come?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
No, this is something I need to do
alone.

Hannah nods.

HANNAH STEVENS
I understand. Give my love to
Andrew.

Mary Anne nods, then gets up from the couch. She walks to the
back door, opens it and goes outside.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE FRONT PORCH - DUSK

The front door opens. Mary Anne carries the yellow folder and walks toward a black SUV. The driver opens the rear passenger door. After Mary Anne gets in, the driver closes her door and gets in. He drives slowly down the driveway and into the setting sun.

EXT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH - NIGHT

The SUV pulls around and stops at the main entrance. Mary Anne gets out and walks to the entrance as several people exit the building.

INT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH LOBBY - NIGHT

Claude and Darius stand in the lobby. Mary Anne walks in holding the yellow folder. Claude politely nods.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Everyone appreciates you being
here.

Mary Anne nods.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We'd like to have a few words with
you first. Please follow us.

Claude and Darius walk to the elevator as Mary Anne follows. Once the door opens, they enter and Darius looks into a facial recognition scanner. He pushes the button for the bottom floor as the door closes.

INT. NIH BASEMENT - NIGHT

The elevator door opens. Mary Anne exits first, then Claude and Darius emerge into a stark white, barren hallway without any pictures or windows. There is an empty nurse station with a monitor mounted on the far wall. A CNN newscast mentions something about a global climate accord.

They turn right down an adjacent hallway and approach a closed door. Claude looks into a facial recognition scanner. A pneumatic seal releases pressure. The door drops straight down and disappears. Darius opens his palm and extends his arm.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Please, have a seat.

INT. NIH OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Mary Anne walks slowly to the chair and sits as Claude and Darius follow and take their seats.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We know you've been through hell.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I'm more concerned about Andrew
than myself.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We understand.

Darius leans toward Mary Anne.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
We need to prepare you. Andrew's
not the same.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
What have you done to him?

Claude and Darius glance at one another then back to Mary Anne.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Once we found out Robert was
murdered, we did the only thing
possible to keep everyone else
alive.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
We know you did what you thought
was best. Your decision set in
motion events even Robert couldn't
have foreseen.

Darius leans further toward Mary Anne.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Never has an individual's life had
such consequence.

Mary Anne's eyes well up with tears. She gently nods.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER
Can I ask you a question?

Mary Anne nods.

DR. CLAUDE FRAZIER (CONT'D)
Would you have ever released the
folder?

Mary Anne gently puts the yellow folder on the table in front
of Claude and Darius.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
No. I made a promise to Andrew and
I couldn't do that to Robert's
legacy.

Claude and Darius nod.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Are you ready?

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Yes.

INT. NIH BASEMENT - NIGHT

Mary Anne, Claude and Darius walk down the hallway. They stop
in front of Andrew's door. Darius looks into the facial
recognition scanner and the two men step aside.

INT. SMALL ROOM INSIDE NIH - NIGHT

Andrew stands in front of a mirror staring deeply at his
reflection. The red light above his door flashes and buzzes
three times. A pressure seal releases as the door drops
straight down. Andrew turns and sees Mary Anne standing in
the doorway. He looks at her in disbelief.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
Hello doctor.

Andrew's eyes light up. Mary Anne smiles and hurries over to
him. As she approaches, they both open their arms and hug
with all their might. Mary Anne softly whispers in his ear as
she chokes back tears.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)
We've missed you so much. Hannah
sends her love.

Andrew and Mary Anne separate.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I knew I'd see you again. I've
thought about you every day.

Mary Anne smiles and nods. She puts a hand on each of Andrew's shoulders, pulls him closer and looks deeply into his eyes.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
We did it. I'm so proud of you.

A tear falls from Andrew's left eye as he gently smiles.

DR. ANDREW STEVENS
I want to join my father.

Mary Anne swallows hard.

MARY ANNE STEVENS
I understand.

She reaches behind her neck, lowers her head and pulls off a silver crucifix necklace with two concentric circles centered on the intersection of the cross. She pauses for a moment, then puts it over Andrew's head.

MARY ANNE STEVENS (CONT'D)
You're the only man I've ever
loved. I will see you again.
Goodbye doctor.

Mary Anne leans forward and kisses him on the cheek.

INT. NIH OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Mary Anne stands at the doorway. Claude and Darius sit motionless. She walks into the room and sits down.

DR. DARIUS REYNOLDS
Are you ready?

Mary Anne nods. A black curtain moves from left to right revealing a 6 foot by 6 foot two-way mirror. Mary Anne turns her chair 180 degrees. Andrew sits on his bed clutching the Our One Truth crucifix. He mutters to himself with his head bowed. The red light above his door flashes three times. The door drops straight down and disappears.

INT. SMALL ROOM INSIDE NIH - NIGHT

Andrew stands and turns toward the door. The orderly stands in the doorway holding a small glass of bluish fluid.

ORDERLY
Good evening Dr. Stevens.

Andrew smiles and nods. The orderly walks toward him and stops a few feet away.

ORDERLY (CONT'D)
It's been an honor. Thank you for everything.

The orderly extends the glass with both hands toward Andrew. They both clutch the glass for a second before the orderly lets go. Andrew takes notice of a pin on the orderly's shirt pocket. It is a cross with two concentric circles, identical to the necklace his mother just gave him.

ORDERLY (CONT'D)
Goodbye Dr. Stevens.

INT. NIH OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Claude, Darius and Mary Anne sit motionless. Andrew looks up at the ceiling. His lips mouth the words "Thank you Father", before lifting the glass to his lips. Andrew drinks it in two gulps. He sets the glass down on the nightstand then turns toward the mirrored glass. He stares at the glass for a couple of seconds then walks forward.

INT. SMALL ROOM INSIDE NIH - NIGHT

Andrew gazes deeply into the mirrored glass. His reflection fades away and is replaced by visions and hallucinations; some actual memories, some aspirations and some complete insanity. He sees his mother smiling in a beautiful floral dress. Andrew reaches up and gently places his hand on the glass caressing her face.

INT. NIH OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Mary Anne gets up from her seat and walks to the glass. She puts her hand opposite Andrew's. She looks straight into his eyes. Andrew's hand begins to slide down as Mary Anne's traces his as it slowly drops. Andrew's head wobbles slightly as his eyes lose focus. His hand slips down further. Mary Anne's hand traces Andrew's the entire way down the glass. Andrew collapses to the ground. Mary Anne is on her knees with her hands over her face crying.

After a couple seconds, she gains her composure, gets up and slowly walks out of the room. Darius picks up his device and taps a message. Claude grabs the yellow folder, then they both exit the observation room. They pause and watch Mary Anne walk down the hallway. She stops at the empty nurse station and takes notice of the CNN newscast.

CNN ANCHOR (V.O.)

This breaking news just in from our Twitter feed, famed theologian, Dr. Andrew Stevens, has died peacefully tonight at the NIH surrounded by family and friends. Long the subject of conspiracy theories, his contributions, and those of his father's, are immeasurable. His ministry, Our One Truth, is the fastest growing spiritual movement on the planet with 2.3 billion followers. Many have said the world hasn't seen anyone like him since Jesus Christ.

Mary Anne continues down the hallway and gets into the elevator. Once the door closes, Claude and Darius turn and exit through an adjacent door.

INT. NIH CREMATORY - NIGHT

Claude and Darius enter the crematory. The blue folder sits on a staging table in front of an incinerator. Darius opens the incinerator, ablaze with intense flames. He picks up the blue folder, then he and Claude simultaneously toss them into the incinerator. They watch the folders ignite and burn for several seconds before closing the door.

EXT. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH - NIGHT

Mary Anne walks out of the building and gets into the SUV. It slowly pulls out of the NIH entrance and drives off. The POV pulls back revealing the streets of DC, the entire District of Columbia, the eastern seaboard, the United States, and ultimately the planet from the famous "Earth Rise" photo from the moon.

FADE OUT.