

THE CESIUM FLASH

By

Robert Sacchi

LOGLINE: Astronomer ALFRED NORDEEN notices a cesium reading during his observations. The cesium reading only lasted a short time. After some investigating Alfred suspects extra-terrestrial intelligence may be causing these "cesium flashes".

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FADE IN:

EXT: An Airport DAY

A jetliner takes off.

INT: A jetliner in flight DAY

The “No Smoking” light goes off. Moments later the “Fasten Seat Belts” light goes off.

PILOT (OC)

The “Fasten Seat Belts” sign is off and you are free to move about the cabin but you should keep your seat belts fastened while you are seated.

ALFRED NORDEEN, 32, average height and slim build, is seated among the passengers. To his right is a couple who are talking to each other. To his left is a man who is reading a newspaper. Alfred puts his chair back.

FLASHBACK: 7 years earlier.

INT: The Fritz Randolph Observatory, Princeton, New Jersey. NIGHT

Alfred looks at some readings on a computer screen.

ALFRED

(Gives a puzzled Look.)

INT: Alfred’s apartment DAY

Alfred watches television. He switches to a community television station.

SHOW GUEST

I was driving in the desert in Arizona last April on the night of April the 14<sup>th</sup>. Off to my left I saw a cigar shaped object about 12 feet across. I couldn’t tell if it was landed or hovering. I watched it for a good 10 minutes then it took off. It went straight up at a high rate of speed.

ALFRED

(Rushes to his laptop)

He brings up his notes and the application shows a comment about a cesium reading on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

ALFRED

(Gives a smile that turns serious. He whispers.)

Coincidence.

INT: Alfred's apartment.

DAY

Alfred surfs the internet. He stops at a news article. He opens up his notes and adjusts the applications so the article and his notes are side by side.

ALFRED

(Whispers)

A craft about 30 meters in length. The guy in Arizona said he saw a 12 foot craft. The description is the same. A copycat would have matched the sizes. Two different types of craft?

INT: Alfred's apartment.

DAY

Alfred surfs through television channels.

ALFRED

(Sarcastically)

They expect me to subscribe to these channels?

He reaches a series of Spanish language channels.

ALFRED

(Surprised)

I've only been checking the English speaking world.

He switches the channel to a 1990s movie and rushes to his laptop.

INT: Alfred's apartment – later

DAY

Alfred's laptop's screen is in French. Alfred clicks his mouse and the page draws in English. A paragraph reads:

He was on his way back from visiting his family, who lived in a remote village when he noticed something that ascended straight up. He reported it as a dark spot that blocked out part of the crescent moon and some stars as it rose.

INT: Alfred's apartment – Another day

DAY

Alfred surfs the web and switches applications.

INT: Alfred's apartment.

DAY

Alfred sits in front of his computer. He has his landline phone to his ear.

ALFRED

Thank you everyone for joining me. You see here are the dates of what I like to call "cesium flashes". They appear at the same point in space. They only last for a few seconds. Here are 5 cases where UFO reports occurred within 48 hours of these cesium flashes.

MIKE (OC)

These are coincidences.

ALFRED

It happened in 5 times.

MIKE (OC)

It doesn't happen every time. People are always reporting seeing UFOs.

ALFRED

Yes, but the descriptions are the same.

MIKE (OC)

The shapes are the same but the sizes are different. The shapes aren't anything special.

ALFRED

Yes, it's nothing conclusive. I started a blog but I didn't get anything that matches the times yet.

MIKE (OC)

(Chuckles)

You started a blog. That is a good way to get responses from every UFO nut in the world.

ALFRED

I just want to start some research. I could use some help. There was a Dr. Aleksei Popkov, a Russian scientist who was studying EMP. He did some research on what he termed an "electronic pulse". He found there were electronic bursts of energy and in many cases these came shortly before UFO sightings in an area. It was the bad old days of The Soviet Union so he didn't put his findings in print until shortly before his death in 1992.

MIKE (OC)

So what do you want from us?

ALFRED

If would like to try to match these "cesium flashes" with these "electronic pulses".

MIKE (OC)

I think it's a waste of time but as a favor I'll see what help I can give you.

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

Alfred makes a call on his cell phone. The time on his cell phone reads 10:17 PM.

ALFRED

Hello, Mike. It's me Alfred.

MIKE (OC)

Hello.

ALFRED

I just got a call from Oscar. He picked up a "cesium flash".

MIKE (OC)

(In a bored voice)

OK, I'll do some checks

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

There is an *Eine Kleine Nachtmusick* ringtone. Alfred takes out his cell phone. The time on the phone is 10:48 PM.

ALFRED

Mike?

MIKE (OC)

Yes, a got a pulse. It points to an area about 50 kilometers from Peace River.

ALFRED

Where is that?

MIKE (OC)

Alberta, Canada. Hey Alfred, I'm not sure this is caused by ET but I think we may be on to something.

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

Alfred makes a call on his cell phone. The time on his cell phone reads 4:05 AM.

ALFRED

Hello, Mike.

MIKE (OC)

Another one?

ALFRED

Yep.

MIKE (OC)

Okay, I'll call you back.

EXT: Outside the observatory

DAY

It is a clear morning. Alfred is walking to his car when his ringtone goes off. He gives a look at his phone then puts it to his ear.

ALFRED

Mike!

MIKE (OC)

Alfred! I checked it a few times to make sure! It's in upstate New York!

ALFRED

New York is a big state.

MIKE (OC)

I'll give you the coordinates! It's 2 or 3 hours from where you live, depending on traffic!

ALFRED

That's great!

MIKE (OC)

Are you going to go?

ALFRED

Of course I'm going to go.

MIKE (OC)

I just emailed you the location.

EXT: On the road

DAY

Alfred drives his Toyota Corolla. Clouds roll in.

EXT: By the road

DAY

Light snow is falling. Alfred steps out of his car with a camera and GPS in his hands.

ALFRED

(Shivers a moment then  
closes and locks his car.)

EXT: In the forest

DAY

Heavy snow is falling. Alfred is walking through the snow.

ALFRED

(Has a cold and tired look.  
He checks his GPS.)

EXT: A hill at the edge of a meadow.

DAY

Alfred sits on the hill between two trees. He has a camera inside his coat and another in his pocket. His clothes are covered with snow.

ALFRED

(Has a beaten look on his  
face.)



What appears to be a white cloud descends to the meadow. There is a whirring sound. The object has a cigar shape.

ALFRED

(Unzips his coat and takes out the camera. He snaps a picture and waits for the hourglass on the viewfinder to go away. He snaps a few more pictures with his camera. He takes the camera out of his coat pocket and snaps a couple of pictures. He takes two steps towards the UFO. He stops and shakes his head “no”. He snaps 2 more pictures. He turns and walks into the forest.)

EXT: Near the road.

DAY

Heavy snow is falling. Alfred is panting heavily as he stumbles through the snow. He sees his snow covered car in the distance.

ALFRED

(Unlocks his car and steps inside. He puts his key in the ignition and breathes a sigh of relief when the engine turns over. He steps out of the car and leaves the door open and engine running as he brushes the snow off the windows. )

INT: Inside Alfred's Apartment

NIGHT

Alfred enters his apartment and turns on the light. He scrambles to his laptop. He turns on the power.

ALFRED

(He catches himself falling asleep as his laptop boots up. He plugs his camera into his laptop and looks at the pictures he took. He shakes his head in disgust.)

INT: Inside Alfred's Apartment

DAY

Alfred punches Mike's number on the telephone.

ALFRED

Hello Mike, it's me, Alfred.

MIKE (OC)

What happened!

ALFRED

It came. I saw it.

MIKE (OC)

That's great! You got pictures?

ALFRED

Yes, they aren't any good.

MIKE (OC)

What do you mean?

ALFRED

They came down in a snowstorm. The pictures I got are of the quality skeptics laugh at.

MIKE (OC)

That's bad news. We've got a system that works though. There will be other landings.

ALFRED

(Sounding dejected.)

I'm going to email you the pictures. Then tomorrow I'll put a couple of them on the blog.

MIKE (OC)

Alfred we both know we are being visited and we know we have a way to know when and where a visit will take place. It's only a matter of time before we get good quality evidence.

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

There is an *Eine Kleine Nachtmusick* ringtone. Alfred takes out his cell phone.

ALFRED

Yes Mike?

MIKE (OC)

I got the coordinates. It's in Arizona. It's not far from a main road. Do you have anyone in that area?

ALFRED

There are 2 followers in Arizona that I know of. I'm going to see if I can get a plane ticket and fly down there.

MIKE (OC)

Fly down?

ALFRED

Yes, why don't you see if you can fly down? You send me the exact location. I'll put it on my blog. If these aliens are waiting for

us to get the technology to know about them  
then we can show them we have it.

MIKE (OC)

Shouldn't we wait until we can get some  
reputable scientists onboard?

ALFRED

We'll never get enough proof to satisfy them.

MIKE (OC)

I'll see if I can get off.

ALFRED

(Hangs up the phone and logs  
onto his blog. The blog  
shows he has 986 followers.)

EXT: An Arizona desert, summer

NIGHT

Alfred has about 50 people in the area around him. There are many other people scattered  
around the desert.

A local news van arrives. A few other vehicles arrive.

TIFFANY WELLS, (23) the reporter, is a pretty, petit woman, with a bubbly personality.

TIFFANY WELLS

(Facing the news camera.)

I'm here with Alfred Nordeen an astronomer  
at the Fritz Randolph Observatory at  
Princeton. Mr. Nordeen you started this  
gathering?

ALFRED

You can say that. All our indicators are  
there will be a UFO landing tonight right  
back there.

TIFFANY WELLS

So you're saying the flying saucer is not only going to be here but it will land?

ALFRED

Yes.

TIFFANY WELLS

You say all your indicators.

ALFRED

Yes, several other astronomers and I have been taking readings from various sources and found when there are certain readings there will be a saucer landing.

TIFFANY WELLS

Have you ever seen such a saucer landing?

ALFRED

Yes, last winter in upstate New York.

TIFFANY WELLS

So you've seen the flying saucer before?

ALFRED

Yes.

TIFFANY WELLS

Have you actually spoken with these aliens?

ALFRED

No, this will be the first time for me, and as far as I know for everybody here.

TIFFANY WELLS

Thank you. This is Tiffany Wells here waiting for ET.

Tiffany Wells and her crew move on.

INT: A Hotel Room

DAY

A TV set shows a newscast.

The LEAD ANCHOR, a man in his mid 40s.

LEAD ANCHOR

(With a broad smile)

Next is a story that is out of this world.  
Tiffany.

TIFFANY WELLS

(With a cheerful voice)

Yes, here I am out in the desert with a couple of hundred people who believe some aliens will come here. The difference with these aliens is they're not coming from down there but from up there.

A YOUNG WOMAN with wire glasses and in need of a hair comb is on camera.

YOUNG WOMAN

This is so like cosmic. Like wow. Beings from another planet and I'm gon'a be right here. This is so amazingly happening.

A MIDDLE AGED MAN with his gray hair in a pony tail is on camera.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

I waited for this my whole life. This time the government isn't going to be able to cover it up. This is groovy.

ALFRED (OC)

(Speaking to himself in the  
hotel room.)

Of all the people out there they got  
statements from the two people who looked  
and sounded like social rejects.

TIFFANY WELLS

I'm here with Alfred Nordeen an astronomer  
at the Fritz Randolph Observatory at  
Princeton. Mr. Nordeen you started this  
gathering.

The television people waving in the background and a man is holding a sign that has the  
peace symbol, a heart, and a flying saucer.

ALFRED

You can say that. All our indicators are  
there will be a UFO landing tonight right  
back there.

TIFFANY WELLS

So you're saying the flying saucer is not  
only going to be here but it will land?

ALFRED

Yes.

TIFFANY WELLS

You say all your indicators.

ALFRED

Yes, several other astronomers and I have  
been taking readings from various sources  
and found when there are certain readings  
there will be a saucer landing.

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Have you ever seen such a saucer landing?

ALFRED

Yes, last winter in upstate New York.

TIFFANY WELLS

So you've seen the flying saucer before?

ALFRED

Yes.

TIFFANY WELLS

Have you actually spoken with these aliens?

ALFRED

No, this will be the first time for me, and as far as I know for everybody here.

TIFFANY WELLS

Thank you. This is Tiffany Wells here waiting for ET.

The view shifts to the anchor desk where the LEAD ANCHOR has a big smile and the others are holding back laughter.

ALFRED

(Sitting in the room's  
armchair and shaking his  
head.)

I made an absolute fool out of myself. Mike had the good sense to keep his face out of the camera.

Alfred clicks on his laptop that is connected to the television to replay the broadcast.

INT: Alfred's apartment.

DAY

Alfred is at his desk. He has a letter of termination taped to his credenza. He clicks on a "Submit" button on his screen. The screen changes to one that informs him his job



application has been sent. Alfred switches to his blog. The blog screen shows he has 4 followers.

ALFRED

(Sadly shakes his head.)

The phone rings. He checks who it is.

ALFRED

Hi Mike.

MIKE (OC)

How are you holding up?

ALFRED

Alright I suppose. Unemployment is no fun. It's a lucky thing you couldn't get the time off otherwise there would be 2 astronomers looking for a job.

MIKE (OC)

Yea, they me gave a good talking to. So I'm going to have to be low key on this.

ALFRED

I understand. Did you go over the figures again?

MIKE (OC)

Yes, I went over them 3 times. They should have landed there.

ALFRED

Yes, I rechecked the figures also. Why didn't they come?

MIKE (OC)

Maybe they detected the crowd and changed their landing site.

ALFRED

That makes sense. If they wanted us to know about them they would have landed in a place like Central Park, step out of their space ship and say, "Take me to you leader."

MIKE (OC)

(In a commanding voice)

The Prime Directive.

ALFRED

(Chuckles)

Thanks I needed a laugh.

INT: An apartment in Manhattan

DAY

The window gives a view of Manhattan. There are numerous boxes in the room. Most are unopened. Alfred's laptop sits on one of the boxes. Alfred makes a call on his cell phone.

MIKE (OC)

Hello Alfred.

ALFRED

Hi Mike.

MIKE (OC)

How are you doing?

ALFRED

I've got my stuff in my new apartment.

MIKE (OC)

How is the job at the Rutherford  
Observatory?

ALFRED

It's a good job. They didn't mention my  
UFO interest but I'll definitely have to keep  
my research low profile.

MIKE (OC)

That makes sense.

ALFRED

I didn't mention anything about my job or  
move on the blog. I set up another email  
account with my old apartment as my  
address. My account name is "Watcher167".

MIKE (OC)

That seems a bit paranoid.

ALFRED

I think it's necessary to keep my job. If I  
mention I'm working at the Rutherford  
Observatory eventually someone there will  
find out and that will end my career as an  
astronomer.

MIKE (OC)

Treading lightly makes sense. That's what  
I've been doing.

ALFRED

One thing, I keep going over in my head if  
they didn't want to disturb our development  
then why would they land on our planet?  
Radio and television signals should give  
them more than enough information for pure  
research.

MIKE (OC)

That's a good point. Landing on the planet would seem risky.

INT: Alfred's apartment in Manhattan

DAY

Alfred talks on his cell phone.

ALFRED

Yes, I'll keep your name out of it. Welcome to the team and good-bye.

(He puts down his cell phone. He brings up a spreadsheet on his laptop. He types in a name. He looks anxiously at his cell phone.)

There is an *Eine Kleine Nachtmusick* ringtone. Alfred snatches his cell phone and gives it a quick look.

ALFRED

What did you get?

MIKE (OC)

It's in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

ALFRED

The Sierra Nevada Mountains?

MIKE (OC)

Yes, the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

ALFRED

Send me the coordinates. I have a follower who lives in Oakland. Maybe he can get there.

MIKE (OC)

Is this follower okay?

ALFRED

Yes, he doesn't seem like a kook.

MIKE (OC)

Hopefully he is a better photographer than you are.

ALFRED

Cheap shot Mike.

Alfred puts down his phone and waits by his computer. He nods as he sees Mike's message with the coordinates.

ALFRED

(To himself)

What if coordinates don't mean anything to Jay?

Alfred types on his computer. He brings up a hybrid satellite and map image. He brings up a set of directions. Then he sends an email to JAY LYONS.

ALFRED

(Stares into his computer. He nods. Then opens a chat session and types.)

JAY, are you there? I just sent you an email.

JAY (Types response)

I got your email. This is great news. Yes I can go there. I waited my whole life for something like this. I will go there!!! :-)

ALFRED

(Out loud)

Yes!

(Broadly smiles as he waves  
his fists in the air. Opens his  
palms and turns serious.)

Science is a slow and deliberate process.  
This is just another step along the way.

INT: Alfred's Workstation

NIGHT

Alfred talks to another ASTRONOMER on his tablet.

ALFRED

What I'm worried about is the reason why  
they don't just land on the White House  
Ellipse is they want to access the situation to  
decide how to make their initial contact.

ASTRONOMER

The scientific community would seem the  
logical choice. The scientific community  
could best decide how, or if, they should  
break this information to the public.

ALFRED

Exactly, but with the earth's disbelieving  
scientific community they could decide  
we're not ready and say good-bye earth for a  
couple of centuries.

ASTRONOMER

You're saying we have no idea how much  
longer they will keep coming?

ALFRED

Exactly!

INT: Alfred's Apartment

DAY

Alfred rushes into his apartment. He turns on his laptop and impatiently waits for it to boot up.

ALFRED

(To himself)

If this leads to direct contact me, Mike, and the rest of us can get kicked to the sidelines. The skeptics would proclaim themselves the experts. That would be an ironic turn of events. We would have to quietly submit or give the space visitors a close-up view of human pettiness. Alfred, get this idea out of your head. The most momentous event in human history can be happening soon. Don't let such personal concerns get in the way.

The computer boots up and Alfred checks his email and blog.

ALFRED

(Has a disappointed look.)

INT: Alfred's Apartment

DAY

Alfred checks his email and blog.

ALFRED

(Gives a frustrated look and exits the apartment.)

INT: Inside Alfred's Car

NIGHT

Alfred's phone rings. He talks to the speaker.

ALFRED

Hello.

MIKE (OC)

Any word from your man in Oakland?

ALFRED

Nothing.

MIKE (OC)

Did you leave him a message?

ALFRED

No, I figured I should give it some time.

MIKE (OC)

Why?

ALFRED

Maybe there is a dumb reason why he wasn't able to make the trip and he is too embarrassed to admit it.

MIKE (OC)

Maybe he went there and didn't see a UFO and feels like he was Sally waiting in the pumpkin patch with Linus.

ALFRED

Maybe he is talking to friends and lawyers about how he should and could protect "his" discovery.

MIKE (OC)

(chuckles)

ALFRED

I shouldn't be thinking this way.

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

Alfred types out an email message to Jay. He puts his pointer on the "Send" button. He hesitates. He cancels the message.



INT: Inside Alfred's Car

DAY

The car's air conditioner is on. The news is on the car radio.

ANNOUNCER (OC)

Searchers in the Sierra Nevada Mountains are looking for Jay Lyons who has been missing for a week.

ALFRED

(His expression changes to one of shock. He pulls his car to the side of the road. He breathes heavily. He closes his eyes. He opens his eyes and cautiously drives back on the road. He drives his car slowly.)

INT: Outside Alfred's apartment

DAY

Alfred fumbles with his keys and has trouble getting the key into his door.

ALFRED (Tracking)

(Alfred steps inside his apartment. He is quivering. He picks up his phone then hesitates with his finger at the "9" button.)

Let me think this out. This would be worse than Arizona. I might also be charged with a crime. I didn't do anything wrong. My father always told me, "If they want to get you they're going to get you." If he is found dead I might be sued for wrongful death.

(He hangs up the phone.)

If they ask me I'll tell them what little I know.

(He sits in a chair in his  
kitchen nook.)

I'll lurk on my blog. I'll only answer direct  
questions on my blog. At least until I figure  
out what to do.

INT: Inside Alfred's Apartment

DAY

The curtain is open. There are snow flurries outside. Alfred is at his laptop. Alfred types in, "That was most likely the moon reflecting off a lake." His followers counter changes from 985 to 986.

ALFRED

(Gives a slight smile.)

Alfred checks on his most recent follower. Her name is SUSANNA PICKET. She lives in Lithia Springs, Georgia. Her online picture shows her as a young woman, early to mid-20s, with the look of classic southern beauty. She had straight shoulder length golden blond hair and blue eyes. She also had a voluptuous body.

ALFRED

(Jokingly.)

I wonder if that is really a picture of her?

INT: Inside Alfred's Apartment

DAY

The news page on his web site has a story about Spring Break in Florida. The screen shows the time as 12:18. Alfred composes an email. The email is to himself and to 18 people as Blank Courtesy Copies.

ALFRED (typing)

Does anyone know anyone in Ireland?

The laptop's screen shows the time as 5:26. The computer gives a chime.

ALFRED

(Opens his mail.)

SUSANNA (typed)

No, why do you ask?

ALFRED (typing)

I heard rumors of UFO reports in central Ireland.

SUSANNA (typed)

I'm real sorry I don't ☹

ALFRED

(Sadly talks to himself.)

I hate to lie but telling anyone about the electronic pulse would be a bad idea.

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

The Workstation's date shows June 1. Alfred looks intently at his screen. He takes out his cell phone.

ALFRED

Mike, I've got another one.

MIKE

Ok, I'll send you back the coordinates when I get them.

INT: Alfred's workstation

NIGHT

ALFRED

(Checks the coordinates against a map. His look changes from anticipation to amazement.)

Alfred changes the computer screen to a personal page. He composes an email.

ALFRED (typing)

Susanna, I have reason to believe there will be a UFO landing in your area. I am

planning to go to where I believe the landing will be. Could you meet me at the airport in Atlanta?

SUSANNA (Types)

Yes.

ALFRED (Typing)

My real name is Alfred Nordeen.

FLASHBACK: End

EXT: Atlanta airport

DAY

A wide-bodied jetliner lands.

INT: The Atlanta airport terminal

DAY

Alfred steps outside the security area and spots Susanna holding a sign, "Alfred Nordeen". Susanna has on a white blouse, blue jeans, and hiking boots. Her online pictures don't do her justice. She is gorgeous.

ALFRED

Susanna?

SUSANNA

Yes, glad to meet you Alfred, or should I say "Watcher167?"

ALFRED

(Chuckles)

Alfred please.

SUSANNA

(With a broad smile.)

OK provided you avoid saying "Oh, Susanna".

ALFRED

Agreed.

They walk towards the baggage area.

SUSANNA

Tell me about this UFO.

ALFRED

It's best if we don't talk about that until we are out of the terminal.

SUSANNA

I see. How was your flight?

ALFRED

It was good. How long have you lived in Lithia Springs?

SUSANNA

All my life, I've never been out of Georgia. New York, is that where you're from or did you take a connecting flight from somewhere else?

ALFRED

I live in New York now but was born in New Jersey.

SUSANNA

Wife, children?

ALFRED

No, I've never been married or engaged for that matter.

SUSANNA

I had a boyfriend when I was in high school. He went on to college at Texas A & M. Six

months later he broke up with me. I haven't had a serious relationship since then.

ALFRED

(Has an uneasy look.)

EXT: In the airport parking lot.

DAY

Susanna takes out her keys and unlocks her pick-up truck. Alfred puts his bags on the truck bed. He opens one of the bags and takes out a GPS device and a video camera. They get inside the pick-up truck.

INT: Inside the pick-up truck.

DAY

SUSANNA

How do you know where this space ship will land?

ALFRED

There is a signature it leaves before it lands. It apparently targets its landing site.

SUSANNA

You mean it's like the radars on airplanes?"

ALFRED

"That's as good an analogy as any."

EXT: A wooded area.

DAY

Alfred, GPS device and video camera in hand, and Susanna step out of the truck. They walk into the woods.

ALFRED (tracking)

(Looks at Susanna.)

SUSANNA

(Has a nervous look.)

ALFRED

(Increases his pace so he is a few steps ahead of Susanna.)

SUSANNA

(Increases her pace and catches up with Alfred.)

ALFRED

(Looks at Susanna.)

SUSANNA

(Appears more nervous.)

EXT: A wooded area.

DAY

The space ship comes into view. Alfred videos the craft as it descends.

SUSANNA

(In a screaming voice.)

We have to get out of here! We have to get out of here!

ALFRED

Susanna calm down.

SUSANNA

The plan is to kill you, just as they did to Jay Lyons in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

ALFRED

(His face is white and he has a fearful expression. He hesitates then runs in the direction of the pick-up truck.)

SUSANNA

(Yells)

Wait!

(She catches up with Alfred.)

Give me your camera!

ALFRED

(Reflexively hands her his  
video camera.)

SUSANNA

(She throws the camera in the  
direction of her vehicle.)

They'll expect us to go to the vehicle. That  
will confirm their expectations. This way!

She runs perpendicular to the direction where she threw the camera. Alfred hesitates for a moment then runs after Susanna. He catches up with her. He takes a series of photos with his cell phone.

SUSANNA

(Yells)

Hurry! This is no time to take pictures!

ALFRED

(Puts his cell phone in his  
pocket and runs at full speed.)

Alfred glances behind him and sees he is running faster than Susanna. He slows down. When Susanna catches up to him he puts his arm around her and they run together. They run through heavy underbrush.

EXT: Outside the space ship.

DAY

A CREW MEMBER passes out wands as other crew members exit the space ship. The crew members would take a wand then run off.



UTALK, appears in her mid-20s, a thin woman with short black hair. She has a mannish face. She exits the space ship.

CREW MEMBER

(Presents a wand to her.)

UTALK

(Has a confused look.)

CREW MEMBER

(Shakes his wand hand.)

UTALK

(Takes the wand.)

CREW MEMBER

(Points his hand in a different direction from where the other crew members went. He speaks to her in the staccato sounds of their language.)

UTALK

(Runs off.)

EXT: A lightly wooded area.

DAY

Alfred and Susanna come out of heavy underbrush into the lightly wooded area. Alfred looks and sees Utalk.

UTALK

(She has a blank look. She aims her wand.)

A bush turns to black ash flakes. The flakes slowly float to the ground.

UTALK

(In a curt voice.)

I'll tell them that was you.

(She turns her head slightly  
and makes a few staccato  
sounds.)

SUSANNA

Utalk, only speak what he can understand.  
I'm not leaving him. Even if I wanted to I  
can't. If I go back with you they will kill me.

UTALK

(She aims her wand.)

A bush turns to black ash flakes. The flakes slowly float to the ground.

UTALK

That one is for you. Now, both of you go.

SUSANNA

(She motions for Alfred to  
stay.)

Utalk, they will debrief you. In that process  
they will learn the truth from you. It would  
be best for all of us if you stay with us.  
Understand?

UTALK

(She gives a reluctant nod.)

SUSANNA

(She puts her hand out.)

Utalk, give me the weapon.

UTALK

(She hands the weapon to  
Susanna.)

SUSANNA

(She takes the weapon,  
hesitates for a moment then  
fires the weapon.)

A bush adjacent to a pile of ashes turns to black ash flakes.

SUSANNA

They will think there was a struggle and we  
killed each other. Now let's get away from  
here.

They run through the woods.

EXT: A road through the woods

NIGHT

Alfred, holding his GPS device, Susanna, and Utalk emerge from the forest. They are all  
breathing heavily.

ALFRED

Susanna, why did you save me? Why did  
you throw in with us, Utalk?

SUSANNA

(Takes a deep breath.)

They call us 'erratics'. We don't have a  
good control over our emotions. We are  
sentimental, overly animated, and have a  
bunch of psychological problems. The  
result is we are unpredictable.

ALFRED

You didn't let them kill me because you  
were sentimental?

SUSANNA

Yes, you could say that. Just killing  
someone, I couldn't bring myself to let them  
kill you. I'm not making much sense am I?

ALFRED

I'm grateful for what you did. Believe me  
I'm grateful. They didn't know you were an  
erratic?

SUSANNA

They knew. There aren't too many of us.  
For generations they have tried to cure us.  
Drugs that can control us also make us too  
lethargic to be of any use.

ALFRED

Why did they trust you on such a mission?

SUSANNA

They want to see if we could be of any use.  
They probably figured my highly emotional  
behavior would make me less suspicious to  
you. That is probably why they gave Utalk  
a weapon and sent her out.

ALFRED

(He turns to Utalk.)

Do you know why they gave you a weapon  
and sent you after us?

UTALK

(She speaks in a low stoic  
tone.)

They gave me no explanation. They handed  
me the weapon told me the direction to take  
and said if I see you I should kill you both.

SUSANNA

They neither explain nor question orders.  
They just give and follow them.

An SUV approaches. Alfred waves his hands furiously. The SUV drives past them then pulls over to the shoulder of the road and stops.

EXT: A gas station

DAY

The SUV stops and Alfred, Susanna, & Utalk step out of the SUV. Alfred and Susanna scan the area. There is no one close by.

ALFRED

We'll take a cab to the airport and fly back to New York.

SUSANNA

We always have plans within plans. They would probably send people to the airport, if they didn't find or completely believe the ashes. Keep in mind we never completely believe anything.

ALFRED

What about taking the train?

SUSANNA

The train is good. I don't think they would consider a train or a bus as a possibility. You're smart.

INT: A train station

DAY

Alfred buys the tickets. Then they rush onto the train platform and board the train.

INT: Inside the train

DAY

SUSANNA

(In a low voice)

We should take those seats in the back. This way we could tell if there is anyone nearby who could overhear our conversation.

They sit in three seats at the rear of the car. The nearest passengers are three rows ahead of them.

UTALK

(Has a blank stare.)

ALFRED

This is probably a bit of over caution. I doubt an ease dropper would take our conversation seriously.

SUSANNA

(Whispers)

We are cautious and calculating.

ALFRED

It might be difficult to demonstrate that wand. A skeptic would think it's some kind of trick. Anyone who isn't a military expert probably wouldn't be considered credible. Maybe if a doctor examines you two. Then we have an expert witness who would refer to other expert witnesses.

SUSANNA

(Gives a broad smile and suppresses a laugh.)

Alfred, this isn't a mask. There is no plastic surgery. There are no anatomical differences between us.

(She lets out a laugh.)

Except the differences a doctor would normally find between a man and a woman.

ALFRED

How is it possible?

SUSANNA

The acceptable theory is evolution, as with a chemical reaction, will eventually lead to a similar end regardless of where in the universe the reaction started.

ALFRED

What do you mean by acceptable theory?

SUSANNA

There is a forbidden theory. It is similar to the one in your book of Genesis. We were made in the image and likeness of the Primary Entity.

ALFRED

(Gives a bewildered look  
then regains his composure.)

Susanna, there are no differences between us?

SUSANNA

There are none that could be found with your current technology.

ALFRED

So there are differences.

SUSANNA

We have artificial anti-bodies and similar medical treatments. With your current technology they wouldn't look any different than what is normal in a human body.

ALFRED

(Glances at Utalk)

UTALK

(Has a blank stare.)

ALFRED

Her clothes?

SUSANNA

We thought of that. Similar materials and weaves as in clothing on Earth.

ALFRED

(Exhales.)

What is your real name?

SUSANNA

(Smiles)

I really prefer Susanna.

INT: Inside the train

NIGHT

Susanna is sleeping.

ALFRED

(Moves his head from side to side and has a worried look on his face. He looks over at Utalk.)

UTALK

(Sits motionless and is staring straight ahead.)

ALFRED

(His look turns to confused, then a forced grin, then back to confused.)

INT: Alfred's apartment

DAY



Alfred opens his door. He, Susanna, and Utalk step inside the apartment. Utalk has an expressionless stare.

SUSANNA

Maybe we should get ourselves cleaned up first?

ALFRED

Good idea, you and Utalk get cleaned up first.

SUSANNA

(With a broad smile.)

Thank you.

UTALK

(Shows no emotion.)

ALFRED

(Points to the bathroom.)

There are some towels in the bathroom. I will get some more.

SUSANNA

(Steps into the bathroom)

ALFRED

(Opens a closet and hands a pair of towels to Utalk.)

UTALK

(Takes the towels and shows no emotion as she stands as if at attention by the bathroom door.)

ALFRED (tracking)

(Quickly walks to his laptop and presses the power button. He gives a quick nod then quickly walks into his bedroom. He rifles through his clothing drawers and bedroom closet. He grabs two pairs of sweat pants and two sweatshirts. He steps out of his bedroom and hands these clothes to Utalk.)

You and Susanna might want to change into something else. I suppose one of the first orders of business is to buy some women's clothes.

UTALK

(Gives an emotionless nod.)

ALFRED

(Walks to his laptop.)

UTALK

(Separates out the sets of clothing. She opens the bathroom door.)

Clothes.

(She tosses one set inside the bathroom, closes the door, and resumes her attention like posture.)

INT: Alfred's apartment

DAY

There is a list of Alfred's contacts. Susanna, wearing the oversized sweat pants and shirt, steps out of the bathroom. Utalk steps into the bathroom and Alfred motions for Susanna to join him. Susan walks over to Alfred.

ALFRED

Here is my list of contacts. Most of them don't have occupations that can give us any serious help. A few of them, like Mike here, can be of great help. I have listed their occupations.

SUSANNA

How do you know when one of our ships is coming?

ALFRED

You use a cesium gas to make your ships travel faster than light.

SUSANNA

Yes.

ALFRED

A cesium reading appears at the same point in space relative to The Earth. That was the easy part. There is an electronic pulse that points to where your ship will land.

SUSANNA

I see. Very clever, we underestimated your ability to apply your technology to such research.

ALFRED

Yes, the scientific community frowns upon such research. They generally don't believe interstellar space travel is possible.

SUSANNA

(She walks a few casual steps towards the kitchen. She

turns around and takes out  
the weapon and points it at  
Alfred.)

If there is anything you have to say to  
forestall your demise now is the time.

ALFRED

Why didn't you kill me in Georgia?

SUSANNA

We wanted to test an erratic to see if, despite  
their emotions, would in the end follow  
orders. Utalk failed. That question  
answered the protocol called for me to learn  
all you know.

ALFRED

You willingly walked into a death trap?

SUSANNA

Orders are to be obeyed.

Utalk, wearing the sweat shirt and pants, quietly steps out of the bathroom. She creeps  
into the kitchen nook.

ALFRED

Do you think I would have everything here?

SUSANNA

Yes.

ALFRED

I have a duplicate of this in a safety deposit  
bot.

UTALK

(Quietly takes a knife out of  
the knife block.)

SUSANNA

You aren't that clever.

Utalk stabs Susanna in the back. Susanna drops the weapon. She turns to Utalk. Susanna throws herself on the weapon. Utalk jumps back. Alfred runs towards Susanna. He stops short when Susanna bursts into black ash flakes.

UTALK

(Quivers.)

ALFRED

(Looks at the ashes on the  
floor that was Susanna then  
looks at Utalk.)

UTALK

(Looks frightened.)

ALFRED

Thank you. You saved my life.

UTALK

(In a meek voice.)

She was going to kill us both.

ALFRED

Yes.

UTALK

(Her eyes widen.)

She probably had tracking fluid in her. We  
have to get out of here. They'll know she's  
gone. They'll come for us.

ALFRED

OK, how much time do we have?

UTALK

(In a frantic voice.)

I don't know, I don't know, they can come  
anytime.

Alfred undocks his laptop. He closes his laptop and put it in his computer bag. He takes his computer bag.

ALFRED

Go into the bedroom and grab an armful of  
clothes.

Alfred grabs his address book and his DVD tower. Alfred opens a drawer and grabs a checkbook. Utalk comes out of the bedroom with her arms full of clothes.

ALFRED

Let's go.

They rush out of the room.

EXT: A sidewalk

DAY

Alfred and Utalk rush to Alfred's car. He unlocks and opens the car. They quickly put everything they have with them in the back seat. They step inside the car and they drive away.

INT: Inside Alfred's car.

DAY

Alfred drives. He watches the car behind him. It turns at a corner.

ALFRED

(Breathes a sigh of relief.)

He drives onto the FDR drive.

ALFRED

Money, we'll need money.

UTALK

(Nervously)

I have no money.

ALFRED

I know. I'm going to turn off and find an ATM machine. On second thought, I'm going to go onto the New Jersey Turnpike. The rest stops have ATM machines.

EXT: A rest stop on the New Jersey Turnpike

DAY

Alfred puts money into his wallet as he walks back to the car.

INT: Inside Alfred's car.

DAY

Alfred drives back onto the New Jersey Turnpike.

ALFRED

(His eyes light up.)

Did they put tracking fluid in you?

UTALK

No. I don't know that they did.

ALFRED

Could they have done it without your knowledge?

UTALK

(Has a worried look.)

Yes. They could have done it while I was asleep, or put something in my food.

ALFRED

Would you feel anything? Any signs at all?

UTALK

(Nervous)

I don't know!

(Closes her eyes.)

You will have to put me out of the car. If they did this they know exactly where you are as long as you're with me.

ALFRED

I can't just leave you alone.

UTALK

(Breaks into a cry.)

If they have tracking fluid in me they will catch us and kill us both.

ALFRED

What if they didn't do that?

UTALK

We have no way of knowing.

ALFRED

Is there anything that can neutralize or block this tracking fluid?

UTALK

I don't know anything about it except that tracking fluid exists and is used to track people on missions.

INT: Inside Alfred's Car

DAY

Alfred stops his car by the curve at a road adjacent to the New Jersey shore.

ALFRED



(Distressed)

If I leave you here, how long before?

UTALK

(Shakes her head)

I don't know.

ALFRED

Here take this.

(He takes all the money from  
his wallet and hands it to her.)

I will come back in a couple of days.

UTALK

(Takes the money.)

Thank you, in a couple of days.

Utalk steps out of the car and closes the passenger door. Alfred slowly drives away. He keeps glancing at Utalk in his rear view mirror until she is out of sight.

EXT: On the sidewalk

DAY

Utalk looks down the road in the direction where Alfred left. She sees a restaurant sign across the street. She walks across the street and into the restaurant.

EXT: Along the beach

NIGHT

Utalk is walking along the beach. She sits on the sand and watches the white ripples of the waves in the darkness.

EXT: On the beach

DAWN:

Utalk watches the sun rising.

An elderly couple walks along the beach. They turn slightly and walk towards Utalk.

UTALK

(Has a frightened look.)

ELDERLY WOMAN

Are you alright dear?

UTALK

I am well.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Are you sure?

UTALK

Yes, I am sure.

The couple walks two steps away.

ELDERLY WOMAN

(Turns back to Utalk)

No man is worth that.

The couple walks away.

UTALK

(Breathes a sigh of relief.)

ALFRED (OC)

Utalk

UTALK

(Turns around.)

You said 2 days.

ALFRED

If they haven't closed in yet you don't have the tracking fluid. I shouldn't have left you alone this long. Come on let's go.

Alfred and Utalk walk away.

EXT: Top of Parking Garage view of the street.

DAY

In the distance Alfred and Utalk get into Alfred's car. They drive off.

In the foreground two men watch Alfred's car.

MAN ONE

Sentimentality will be their undoing.

FADE OUT: