

A JOURNEY TO PARADISE

By

Andrew Simpson

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Andrew Simpson

Simpson-andrew@hotmail.com

INT. BLACK - INTERIOR OF SHIP COLUMBUS

Complete darkness, we begin to hear electronic sounds boot up. A voice echos through a metallic room.

INTERFACE

Warning, Debris field detected.
Warning, debris field detected.

CUT TO:

INT. LIFE MODULE

Bea is in stasis in her life module, a warning is flashing on a screen in front of her face.

INTERFACE

Route compromised. Attempting new route... Calculating... Error, no satellite link detected. Attempting alternative radio array communication...No response.

we hear a massive boom of scraping and bending metal, then silence. The alarms are suddenly silent except for one. The outside world seems muffled. The module seems to be shaking.

INTERFACE

Warning, critical damage inflicted.
orbit detected. Ejecting life module.

We hear the muffled sounds of the life module being ejected, Beas body begins to shake a small amount.

as the life module enters the atmosphere she begins to be shaken more violently and a bright orange light from the burning shines in through the small opening at her feet.

Eventually the light fades

INTERFACE

Scanning... Calculating trajectory.

EXT. THE SKY - DAY

We see Bea's life module falling though the atmosphere.

EXT. RIDGE - DAY

We see the life module falling towards the camera from a distance. As it gets nearer the ground thrusters engage and soften the landing.

It harshly impacts the ground. the back catches fire. It comes to a stop.

INT. LIFE MODULE - DAY

Sparks are lighting up the cabin.

INTERFACE

Preparing to wake subject. Checking
vitals. Initiating neural jump.

An electronic pound is heard and Bea screws her face in pain as she is violently awoken. We hear a single high pitched tone overpower everything.

EXT. RIDGE - DAY

We see Bea crawling away from her crashed life module. her hand is on her head, she is seemingly in pain. she manages to gain her feet and stand up.

she looks over a vast distance upon a city with smoke coming from it.

As the camera pans round we see the research vessel Columbus approaching Bea, eventually it passes very closely over her.

Instantly the strong high pitched ringing tone is cured by the immense sound of the passing overhead ship, the Columbus.

the camera passes round as the ship passes to reveal a reservoir in the distance surrounded by trees. Bea is in subtle shock.

EXT. RIDGE - DAY

Bea is getting her equipment out from her life module, she collects a box of samples and some more equipment.

Bea opens her water canteen and tries to drink from it, it is empty. she tries to shake some out.

she grabs a portable communication device.

(CONTINUED)

We see Bea Moving the communicator around and pushing buttons, trying to pick up a signal. she speaks into it.

BEA

Is anyone there?... Hello, is anyone there

Bea's voice is somewhat raspy and robotic, almost synthesized.

Bea gives up and looks at the time / date in the device. it reads august 5th 2480 1:46pm. she decides to head down the ridge towards the reservoir.

EXT PLANET EARTH - NIGHT

Debris floats around what appears to be empty space.

A rock moves past the camera to reveal a planet in the distance. the planet is dark and seems lifeless. But it is earth.

JOURNEY TO PARADISE

A rock moves in front of the camera once more

FADE TO BLACK

EXT. FOREST ENTRANCE - DAY

Bea is standing at the entrance to a forest, the path in front of her is long and covered in moss. It's hard to see what it once was, maybe a structure of some kind.

Bea stares down the path, as if she is reluctant to travel it.

she makes the first step but hears a crack under her foot. she bends down to investigate. Bea digs up some dirt and moves some leaves to reveal an old mirror.

she looks at her reflection in it. her head begins to hurt and she moves back. she hears another crack in the distance. she looks up and down the path.

Down the other end of the path is her reflection, her consciousness, staring back at her. Bea slowly stands up. she can't quite make out who is down the other end.

(CONTINUED)

BEA

I am the last remaining survivor of
the exploratory ship columbus. Can
you help me?

her reflection does not reply, it simply walks off.

BEA

Where are you going!?!...

Bea begins to follow her reflection.

EXT. FOREST WATERFALL - DAY

Bea is standing on a rock looking at a water fall, she seems troubled and in thought. she climbs down the side of the waterfall to the bottom.

At the bottom she takes out her water canteen and kneels down to fill it up. she places her hand into the running water and tries to feel it against her hand.

While filling it up she looks at her reflection in the water.

As Bea gets up, her reflection is standing over the other side of the stream that the waterfall has created. she is confused. her shead begins to hurt mildly.

she grabs her shead in discomfort, her reflection has gone when she regains herself.

Bea Looks to her right slowly to see her reflection walking off once again. Bea follows.

EXT. FOREST - DAY - TRANS 1

Bea is walking through the forest, following the stream. she comes across a tree covered in moss, she stops.

She looks at the tree and begins to touch it and look up at its branches.

EXT. FOREST - DAY - TIME

Bea is sitting down on a log / rock. she has a small screwdriver type device in her ear. she seems to be concentrating.

(CONTINUED)

She begins to twist the screwdriver, and begins to feel pain. she twists it more and finally she lets out a subdued noise in pain. her head begins to hurt again and then it subsides.

In front of her, her reflection is now standing. her reflection looks at herself.

REFLECTION
I was once alive...

Bea stares at her reflection.

REFLECTION
But Not now, not for a long time...
You don't look surprised.

BEA
Should I?

REFLECTION
When a woman walks out of the woods
who's identical to you, that's
casue for concern.

BEA
Where is everyone? Where is
commander Lupe, I must deliever
these samples.

REFLECTION
Tell me why you did it

there is a pause in the conversation

BEA
I needed more time. I had to
survive. Wouldn't you have done the
same? to survive.

Bea's reflection seems upset.

REFLECTION
At what cost? No longer can I feel.

There is another pause in the conversation as Bea's reflection exams her hands.

REFLECTION
Is it because you're scared?

BEA

I did not want to die. I am not ready yet.

REFLECTION

Nothing lasts forever. What is time? Is time a line? Is it a circle? Does it even exist? If time is a line, then surely it is continuous, with no beginning, no end. For if you were to have a "beginning of time", it would surely already need to exist. It is infinite. If your energy manifests into what you are at one point, it will be carried down the stream until the inevitable change, the end point. When you die, then what was YOU changes into something different, but it will still be carried down the stream, just as a different form. Forever. Then what if time is a circle? You are doomed to live this life forever, to repeat everything. You will keep coming back here, you will keep having this conversation. But eventually, to start that circle again, you're going to have to die. You are stuck in an infinite loop of something you can't change and have no control over. What if there is no time, what if it's all just perception of matter, then when we die, nothing. the empty eternal void, back to the beginning. You can try and prevent it all you want, but we're all going to die, accept it and I will find you.

Bea looks at her reflection, she is about to speak. Suddenly in the distance booms are heard which breaks her concentration. she looks to where she thinks they may be coming from.

she returns her focus to her reflections, but it has disappeared. she sits for a while, her hand twitches a little, as if a trait she used to have in her past human life. Bea does not notice.

she gets up and heads off.

EXT. FORREST - DAY -> NIGHT - TRANS 2

Bea is standing in the forest, light dances across her face. The noise of wind blowing the canopy and birds singing fills the scene. Bea is stood ridgid, listening, as if it reminds her of something.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT - DREAMS

Bea is sitting down round a camp fire, she has a screwdriver pushed into her communicator. her reflection is sitting opposite her.

REFLECTION

It's said that if you see your doppelganger, you will die shortly thereafter. You don't want to die, do you... Bea.

Bea's reflection smiles at her but Bea ignores it.

REFELCTION

Tell me, do you still dream?

Bea looks up into the distance.

BEA

Dream...I do not think I do dream... Or even, can, dream.

She goes back to tampering with her communicator.

Beas reflection gets up and begins to approach her.

REFLECTION

Let me help you dream Bea.

Bea allows her closer and stops tampering with her communicator. she puts the screwdriver down beside her.

Bea's reflection picks up the screwdriver and pusses it into Beas ear. Bea begins to twitch.

Something is happening, Bea becomes slightly more human. More emotion comes through and she seems somewhat overwhelmed.

BEA

In the end... Is it really worth it?

(CONTINUED)

REFLECTION

You were doing it wrong.

Bea's reflection twists the screwdriver suddenly and a small spark emanates from Bea's ear. Bea goes into shock and collapses. her reflection is gone.

INT. LIFE MODULE - DREAM

Bea is laying peacefully "asleep", pannels around her show small amounts of data. Suddenly the screen in front of her boots up.

the screen in front of her displays verious infomation. the date and time displaed is may 20th 2390 1:46pm. the screen states that there is an incoming transmittion.

COMMANDER LUPE

Bea... I fear you are all that's left. Colinization has failed. the moon is lost to us. Now, Less than 1% of the population survive. I hope you have our answer. Gods speed.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE MOON - DREAM

We can see the moon, illuminated by the sun. there is strange activity around it from verious large space craft and space stations.

We float through space, getting further and further away.

It explodes in a flash of light.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - MORNING - ANGER

Bea is laying on the floor, she is not moving. Nature grows around her, she does not belong, she is not organic.

Bea ridgidly jolts awake as her system rboots and shocks her brain. her reflection is standing over her.

REFLECTION

You see Bea. We built too high, and we were Punished. WE, a race fallen victim to our own success.

(CONTINUED)

Bea stands up and looks around her home planet.

BEA

It has been 90 years since that
transmission.

REFLECTION

they are dead... Everyone is dead.

BEA

No

REFLECTION

Except it. You're all alone now.
Nothing but a dead planet, just
like all the others you've been to.

BEA

No! I don't Believe you

REFLECTION

This life as you now live it and
have lived it, you will have to
live once more and innumerable
times more; and there will be
nothing new in it, but every pain
and every joy and every thought and
sigh and everything unutterably
small or great in your life will
have to return to you, all in the
same succession and sequence - even
this stream and this sunlight
between the trees, and even this
moment and I myself. The eternal
hourglass of existence is turned
upside down again and again, and
you with it, speck of dust.

BEA

STOP!

Bea jumps at her reflection grabbing her round the throat.

REFLECTION

There you are...

Bea pushes her reflections head under the water. her
reflection struggles and Bea fights back. Eventually her
reflection stops moving.

Bea kneels back, not needing to catch her breath. she brings
her hands up in front of her face and stares at them,
studying them. Almost human.

(CONTINUED)

she parts her hands and For a while she stares at the body before her, laying in the water.

Bea stands up and turns around. Her reflection is behind her.

REFLECTION

One day, we are going to have to
look past our own desires.

Emotionlessly, Bea turns around to see that the body now behind her has gone.

REFLECTION

the reality of our nature is that
we believe we are in control... But
really it's just instinct. You can
not stop what is in your nature
Bea.

Bea looks angered at her reflection.

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST - MORNING -> DAY - TRANS 3

Bea is sitting down, staring into nothingness and deep in thought.

the sounds of the forest fill the shot.

EXT. FOREST - DAY - NATURE OF HUMANITY

Bea is running her hand slowly over her cheek, ear and to the back of her neck. she is staring at the ground. her reflection is sitting down watching her.

REFLECTION

If we were created in gods image,
does that make us his reflection?
What does that make me... What does
that make you...

Bea stops.

BEA

Creators. Survivors. We are able to
create life from nothing and
prolong it. Help people

Bea begins to run her fingers up and down her forearms.

(CONTINUED)

REFELCTION

Help people... If you look up to the stars for too long seeking guidance, eventually you're going to believe there is something up there. there are no Gods or great instructor, only dangerous ideas. Because of that, We are children of infectious thinkers... the need to rise above humanity, is humanaties main characteristic. And its greatest flaw.

BEA

And I am proof of that?

REFLECTION

If an alien race, came down from the skies and made themselves known, they would be like gods to us. When it comes down to it, all it is, is a matter of technology and atmospsheric conditions. Life is created for noting more than to persistantly survive, in any way neccesary. No life is created to destroy itself. We however, succeeded in both.

BEA

I survived...

REFELCTION

Plants grow, the animals grow, they have somewhat an equilibrium. Nature creates, But nature also destroys, it is violent and unforgiving with a powerful lust and unforgiving tendencies. We are no different... I think we were created in natures image.

EXT. FOREST - DAY - TRANS 4

Bea is standing next to a large tree, previously in its prime it must've been glorious, but now just a burnt and broken shell.

As she stares at it, it fades back into its beauifful prime. Bea rests her shead against it.

EXT. WATER FRONT - DAY / EVENING

Bea's reflection walks up to the waters edge and turns round to Bea who is close behind.

REFLECTION

You've been holding on for so long,
don't you want to see what comes
next? just let go. You don't belong
here anymore, We've had our time.
Now it's time to leave.

Beas reflection kneels down and looks into the water

REFLECTION

look at your reflection. what do
you see, a human? life? or a robot.

Beas reflection places her hand on the surface of the water,
appearing to be touching her reflections face.

REFLECTION

become human again Bea.

Beas reflection turns to look at Bea over her shoulder.

REFLECTION

Do not deny me my fate.

BEA

You are right. I do not belong
shere.

Beas reflection stands up and looks over the resivour.

REFLECTION

we shall become the infinite, and
travel to where it is white and the
stars are black.

Beas reflection steps into the water up to her waist. she
turns around to face Bea and holds out both her hands and
waist height.

REFLECTION

(overly robotic)

Come with me, do you remember.

Bea steps into the water and slowly walks towards her
rfection up to her waist. she stops in front of herself.

her reflection digs her fingers into the top of Beas
foreshead and begins to tare off Beas synthetic face skin.

(CONTINUED)

We see close ups of the skin ripping off. we see synthetic liquid dripping into the lake. Bea is now standing alone holding her hands up, covered in blood and bits of synthetic skin.

we see her skull is metallic, with all sorts of wires and tubes sticking out and snaking over it.

Bea brings her hands up and lifts off the cap of her skull, revealing a brain, partially formed of organic matter and robotic parts.

Bea slowly submerges herself in the water. the surface bubbles for a while then stops. the camera pans up to view the distant trees and ridge where Bea originally crashed.

Animals begin to make noise, it gets louder and louder. It stops. flocks of crows fly away from the forest trees. We slowly slip underwater.

FADE TO

EXT. SPACE

We travel through space. viewing beautiful images of nebulae, galaxies, stars, and other wonders.

CREDITS

FADE TO BLACK

END