

# The Bridge Protocol

Screenplay and Story by Merlin Love



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# The Story

Dr. David Dobbs, a grieving father and particle physicist, embarks on a perilous journey through time to save his daughter, April, killed in a school shooting.

David, alongside his colleague Dr. Kelly Richards, discover a method to map and navigate through time using a device that opens a “bridge” between two adjacent time periods in 4D Space. Not able to directly go back to the day his daughter dies, David maps out a journey that will take a dozen time crossings and decades to complete - and if he’s successful he may have the chance to save his daughter.

As David traverses historical moments, his mission challenges the fabric of space-time, offering a profound exploration of love, loss, and the irrevocable flow of time.



# Dr. David Dobbs

Dr. David Dobbs is a man marked by profound loss and driven by an unwavering resolve. A brilliant physicist with a compassionate heart, his life is upended by the tragic death of his daughter, April. This defining moment propels him into an extraordinary journey across time, fueled by the desperate hope of altering his devastating past. David is characterized by his deep emotional resilience, intellectual curiosity, and a palpable sense of grief that he carries with him across the centuries.

David's appearance evolves throughout his journey, reflecting the physical and emotional toll of his quest. Initially, he embodies the contemporary look of a scientist—clean-shaven, with a demeanor that balances professionalism with the raw edges of a man consumed by personal tragedy. As time progresses, his appearance becomes more rugged, marked by the wear of his travels; his attire and grooming adapt to the eras he traverses, yet always maintaining an element that distinguishes him as out of time.



Age Range: 30 - 40  
Race: Caucasian



# Dr. Kelly Richards

In her mid-30s, Kelly's character is a blend of hard science and deep emotional investment in the time-travel project she works on alongside Dr. David Dobbs. Her commitment to the project is rooted not just in the scientific pursuit but in the personal stakes involved, particularly highlighted by her relationship with David and their shared goal of understanding and manipulating time.

Her actions throughout the story, including her preparation to support David's unimaginable journey through time, highlight her loyalty, brilliance, and compassion. Kelly's character is rich with complexity, navigating the realms of cutting-edge physics while grappling with the ethical dilemmas and emotional turmoil that come with venturing into the unknown. She is a testament to the power of human intellect and empathy, driven by a quest for knowledge and a profound understanding of the human condition.

Age Range: 30 - 40  
Race: Any



# Henry Smythe

A black man in his early 20s during the late 18th century, Henry is introduced as an apprentice with a distinguished presence, embodying both elegance and determination. As his story unfolds to reveal a profound connection to the narrative's exploration of time travel and its repercussions. His journey, influenced by his mentorship under David, showcases the narrative's deeper exploration of how individuals navigate their paths through the complexities of time, choices, and consequences.

The narrative subtly weaves Henry's legacy into the fabric of the story, allowing readers to witness the ripple effects of David's time-traveling actions on Henry's life and beyond. Henry Smythe's character serves as a testament to the enduring impact of mentorship, the intertwined destinies of characters across time, and the narrative's overarching themes of hope, resilience, and the pursuit of a better future.

Age Range: 30 - 40  
Race: Caucasian







Age Range: 25-35  
Race: Caucasian

# Nurse Celia Lapin

Celia Lapin, who is revealed to be April in "The Bridge Protocol," is a character of immense emotional depth and significance. Her initial introduction as Nurse Lapin—a compassionate and professional woman in her mid-30s—presents her as a nurturing and competent caregiver. As the story unfolds, it becomes clear that Celia Lapin is not just any nurse but is, in fact, David's now grown daughter, April. This creates a powerful undercurrent in their relationship, as she cares for him with a mix of professional detachment and personal affection.

The revelation of Celia as April adds a poignant twist to the narrative. It suggests that despite the tragic events that tore them apart, there is a way for David and April to find each other again, even if it is in a different form. Celia/April embodies the idea that love and connection can transcend time and space, and that even in the most fragmented of realities, there is hope for reunion and redemption. Her character is a testament to the enduring bond between father and daughter, one that survives even the most extraordinary of circumstances.



# Alan Moss

Alan Moss is a formidable antagonist in "The Bridge Protocol," embodying ambition, ruthlessness, and an insatiable hunger for power. In his late 30s to early 40s, Moss is a wealthy and influential figure who uses his sharp intellect and charisma to manipulate those around him. He is physically imposing, with a sharp, calculating gaze that reflects his cunning nature. Always impeccably dressed, Moss exudes confidence and control, which he wields both in business and in his darker pursuits.

Moss is driven by a deep-seated resentment towards those who, in his view, squander their potential or resources. His envy and disdain for people like David Dobbs, who use their genius for altruistic purposes, push him to exploit the Bridge Device for personal gain. Unlike David, who is motivated by love and loss, Moss is motivated purely by the pursuit of power and the desire to bend reality to his will.

He is a master manipulator, adept at reading people's weaknesses and using them to his advantage. This makes him a dangerous opponent, as he is willing to cross any line, even altering the fabric of time itself, to achieve his goals. Moss's presence in the story raises the stakes, challenging David not only in a battle of wits but in a moral and ethical confrontation.

Age Range: 30 - 40  
Race: Any





# Time Travel: A new concept

A person stands on the edge of a dark, rocky cliff, looking out over a vast, desolate desert landscape. In the distance, several large pyramids are visible under a dark, cloudy sky. A bright, glowing, circular portal or vortex of light is positioned in the background, partially obscured by the person's silhouette. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and otherworldly.

In "The Bridge Protocol," time travel is conceptualized through the discovery and manipulation of previously unknown quantum particles, referred to as Dev Particles. These particles are integral to the fabric of space-time and have unique properties that allow them to interact with and traverse the fourth dimension. The mechanism of time travel is explained by Dr. David Dobbs and Dr. Kelly Richards, who illustrate time not as a linear progression but as a complex, overlapping, and interconnected structure, much like a crumpled string, where different points in time can touch or overlap.

The Devereaux Institute's team, through their research, has mapped a significant section of this four-dimensional space using the Dev Particles, creating a working model of space-time. This model demonstrates how three-dimensional space interacts with the fourth dimension, and it identifies specific points where space-time overlaps. At these overlapping points, they theorize the possibility of creating a temporary "bridge" that allows for crossing from our three-dimensional space, through four-dimensional space, and back into three-dimensional space at a different point in time.

The only way to get to a specific time and place is to map out when and where to go and how long the journey is to get there, assuming you can get there within the mortal existence of a single lifetime.



# Supporting Players

- Anastasia “Dev” Devereaux: Head of the Devereaux Institute. Female / 35-45 /any race.
- Rae Dobbs: David’s husband. April’s father. Male / 30 - 40 / any race.
- Richard Brown: David’s friend and house boy. Male / 20-25 / caucasian.
- George Washington: General of the Continental Army. Male / 50 - 55 / caucasian
- Alexander Hamilton: Lt. Col. of Washington’s army at Yorktown. Male / 20-30 / mixed race
- Aaron: One of Hamilton’s Spies. Male / 20 - 30 / any race.
- Patrick: One of Hamilton’s Spies. Male / 20 - 30 / any race.
- Khabul: An old Mongolian farmer. Male / 50 - 60 / Mongolian.
- Temujin: Mongolian Child. Male / 3-7 / Mongolian.
- Thomas Edison: Inventor. Male / 50s / Caucasian.



# Themes

"The Bridge Protocol" delves into the profound complexities of time, ethics, and human emotion through Dr. David Dobbs' journey across temporal boundaries.

Central themes include the malleable nature of time, challenging its linear perception and exploring the possibilities of navigating and altering historical events. The narrative is deeply rooted in personal loss, as David's quest for redemption through time travel is driven by the desire to amend his past tragedies, highlighting the intense human yearning for closure and healing.

The story celebrates humanity's relentless pursuit of knowledge and exploration, from historical figures' influence to speculative future advancements, embodying the spirit of discovery that transcends epochs. "The Bridge Protocol" weaves a rich exploration of how past, present, and future are inextricably linked, provoking thought on the essence of existence, the weight of decisions, and the indelible human footprint on the universe's vast timeline.





# Target Audience

The target audience likely includes adults and young adults who are fans of science fiction and drama. This audience would appreciate the depth of character development, the philosophical questions raised by time travel, and the emotional journey of the protagonist. The intricate plot and the blending of historical events with futuristic scenarios suggest an appeal to viewers who enjoy thought-provoking stories that challenge perceptions of time and reality.

## Comparisons

*Interstellar* (2014): Like "The Bridge Protocol," it combines emotional depth with speculative scientific concepts, focusing on the lengths to which individuals will go to save loved ones and humanity itself.

*Predestination* (2014): Both films delve into the complexities of changing events in the past, the consequences of these actions, and the intertwined destinies of characters across different timelines.

*The Time Traveler's Wife* (2009): It presents time travel as an uncontrollable force that profoundly affects the lives of the protagonists and those around them, focusing on love, loss, and the human condition.



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