

Demon Bridge

written by

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TITLE: DEMON BRIDGE

INT. CAR - MORNING

Man, 50's, police shirt, shouting, ANGRY to near exhaustion.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Leave me alone. Oh leave me alone.
[on phone] I can't go on, Susan.

SUSAN JONES O.S.
No, you can't Jason. Been telling
you for years.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
But if they find out, I'm finished.

SUSAN JONES O.S.
You have to speak to someone. Gotto
go, busy busy [off phone]

J reaches for flyer on seat. It reads: "Seance Mental Health
Treatment. Let destiny find your peace with Delores Denton,
Mystique and Registered Nurse."

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Off grid crap. Get what you pay
for. Right [moves car off] day in
the office. Just get through it.
Then who knows? Maybe she can
change my life.

INT. DELORES' SEANCE CHAMBER - NIGHT

Incense sticks. Hippy drapes on walls. Skull on shelf. Circle
of seated people, inc J, heads down, hands on knees. DELORES,
scarf, bangles, walking round them.

DELORES DENTON
You are here today because you are
brave, courageous and have need.
Your need has called me and I have
answered. We are going to work
together. We will pull out your
demons, your core pain, your source
of ill will and blue temper. And
your thoughts, your feelings, your
emotions will come out of our
circle as if lightning has bolted
through them. Trust in me and I
will free you from your curse.

D uses remote control to turn on light in centre of circle.
It throbs.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
Focus. My good people. Focus.

J looks at light in centre. It is a bulb.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
Look into the light and the
darkness will be thrown out.

J sighs, bored. D steps into circle, over bulb, glowing.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
Look into my body, my mind, feel,
feel, feel! Give me your bile, give
me your brimstone. Give it all to
me.

All but J stare at her. J checks her tatty pumps. Sighs.

DELORES DENTON V.O.
Yes. I can feel you, feel you.
More, Jason. You must give me more.

J is surprised. She groans, orgasmically. Rises on tiptoe.

DELORES DENTON V.O. (CONT'D)
You feed me. You feed me. It's you.
It's you.

J sees her tiptoe antic. He fidgets.

Room SHAKES. D rises HIGHER. J sees she's off the floor.

DELORES DENTON
Oh my god! What? What is-?

Floorboards spill out light. Whirl around her.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
[muffled] help, no, this is not

Light shoots into every circle member. They rise. All but J
BURNS. Lights converge on him. D lands, steps back, scared.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
What?

Room bursts light then disappears into J who falls
unconscious.

D stands alone. Carnage all around.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
Who are you?

INT. HOSPITAL - A&E BAY - EVENING

J wakes in bed, nurse, SUSAN JONES, reads notes.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Sue! What did she do to me?

SUSAN JONES
Hypnotised you? Happened before
didn't it?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Once.

SUSAN JONES
Found your underpants on back to
front?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No. That was the eek woman. No one
believed me.

SUSAN JONES
About the eek woman?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
The hypnotism. Too convincing.

SUSAN JONES
S'what being an empath gets you, J
man. You're too nice. S'why you're
not a nurse.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Well, has its perks.

SUSAN JONES
Like?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Not being a nurse. The others, in
the circle, what happened to them?
And that crazy woman.

SUSAN JONES
She's been arrested. Suspicion of
murder. Believe it or not. The
others, did you know any of them?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No, circle of strangers.

SUSAN JONES
They're in the morgue.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
The what? The morgue? They're dead?

SUSAN JONES

Best place for them. Fit for
cannibal dips only.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Dips?

SUSAN JONES

They are cooked. To a crisp. Bit
overdone unless you like em sooty.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Don't like em at all. So, what the
hell then?

SUSAN JONES

What do you remember?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Being fleeced by a phony. Well,
nearly. ["Nearly?"] Thought she
spoke to me ["Really?"] Inside my
head. Just at me. Bit freaky. Mind
trick. As you say, I'm highly
suggestible.

SUSAN JONES

Then what?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

The room caught fire or something.
And I blacked out.

SUSAN JONES

No, they blacked out. You merely
passed out. Not a mark on you,
look. [shows] X-ray checks out, no
breakages. Bloods no action.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Bloods? How long have I been here
for?

SUSAN JONES

Four hours. You and I are ready for
retirement. Should've clocked off
three hours ago, but, of course,
you turn up and we're short, so of
course I stay.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Overtime never hurt.

SUSAN JONES

Lack of sleep does. I'm on my pins.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What did my super say?

SUSAN JONES
He'd like to talk to you, but I
told him, tomorrow. Good night's
sleep first. For both of us.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm fine.

SUSAN JONES
[checks watch] Really? Bed-time,
Big J.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[beat] Can't be on my own, Sue.

SUSAN JONES
Because you talk to yourself? It's
normal.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Not the way I do it. Can't be
alone. It exhausts me.

SUSAN JONES
You're not alone, dafty. You're
never alone. You ill, J?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Have been since birth. Can't bill a
single bastard for the pain I feel.
They never caused it. Only gave new
faces to shout at. Bum deal, Susan.
Big bum deal. Why I went to that
charlaton. Sure you want to be my
friend?

SUSAN JONES
Not that again. Come on. To our
respective pits. Just be glad
you're in one piece.

They EXIT.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

In bed, switches off light, sounds POSSESSED.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
HELL DAY? CRAZY, FUCKING CRACKPOTS.
ROAMING FUCKED UP STREETS. WHY DO I
GET 'EM? WHY ME? WHY FUCKING ME?
THANK MY LUCKY STARS I'M SINGLE.
THANK 'EM. IMAGINE MARRIED TO THAT.
[calmer, more like himself] Funny
thing luck. Never walks alone.
[sleeps]

S.O. CRAWLING. CRACKING. CREAKING.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
 [moans]. . . mad . . .mad . . .
 Leave me alone! Get out of me! Get
 out! Leave me get out leave me
 alone!

He LUNGES for light switch.

VERY tired, he slumps on bed. Collects duvet. Looks at wall
 behind. CONTORTED, TWISTED FINGERS REACH DOWN, FROZEN.

He checks pillow. Checks mutations. NOT connected.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
 What now? What the hell now?

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - DAY

J on bench, day-off clothes. Sal, day-off clothes, walks up
 with two coffees. He takes one. She sits.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 I'm so tired.

SUSAN JONES
 Hence [coffee].

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 I'm fed up, Sue. Can't get any
 rest. Work was a boon, calmed me,
 salvation really, but I've lost it.

SUSAN JONES
 Have you?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Probably.

SUSAN JONES
 That what the super said? ["No."]
 Any letter? ["No."] Phonecall?
 Visit? ["No."] Then you're not
 sacked, are you? Just fantasising.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 What else is there? I'm so empty.
 When I'm alone - you don't know
 what it's like.

SUSAN JONES
 What's what like?

J is silent, chewing lip.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
What's what like?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Promise not to leave me?

SUSAN JONES
Does my friendship mean anything to you?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm alone, Sue.

SUSAN JONES
No, you're not. You mean, something you can't share? Private?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
It never comes up. Impossible to raise. S'why I drink. ["What?"] Can't tell you.

SUSAN JONES
Diary? Texts? Never sent me one.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Sent tons.

SUSAN JONES
Not this.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No. Never wanted to lose you. Sorry sorry.

SUSAN JONES
Should think so. She really upset you, didn't she? Shouldn't be influenced by every brush of wind.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Wish it was just wind.

SUSAN JONES
How you going to tell your nurse?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Well. . there is something. . .

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Wall the same.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.
You sure now?

SUSAN JONES O.S.
Get, get out. [ENTERS]

Can't believe her eyes.

SUSAN JONES
This is why you drink?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No. This was last night.

SUSAN JONES
Oh my god, Jason. It's not real.
You're having me on. [goes to touch
it]

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Don't! It's real!

SUSAN JONES
Well, what are you telling me?
There's a demon in your wall?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm ill! Don't you know that? I
don't know what this is but it
makes it easier to tell you.

SUSAN JONES
Okay. Ill. Mentally? ["Yes"] How
does it manifest? Like this?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No. Screaming, raging, shouting,
punching invisible people.

CUT TO J alone doing just that.

CUT BACK

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Violence in my head. I'm a good
soul, why should it be me? Why me?

SUSAN JONES
And what do you think causes it?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm no threat, Susan!

SUSAN JONES
I know you're not. I know you more
than you do. Depression? PTSD?
Schizophrenia? What, tell me.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
All of the above. And more.

J sits on edge of bed.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
 People without mental health don't know how lucky they are. Why me, Susan? Why me? They say it could be a gift. If 1% have a disease, it's an illness. If 17%, like this, it's some kind of benefit to society. A benefit! Honestly. Can't even hold a job.

SUSAN JONES
 You're an artist.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Poo. Never earned a penny. Just want to die sometimes. [lies down]

S.O. CRACKING, CREAKING.

Fingers REACH OUT, become spider-legs. They DRILL into him. He SCREAMS. They DRAG him over the bed. Wall above pillow BREAKS OPEN. Infinite cavity. PULLS him in. S screams.

It SHUTS. Quiet. It OPENS, SPITS J onto bed. CLOSES to new silence. Wall DISFIGURED. J curled up. Exhausted.

SUSAN JONES
 JASON! JASON! What was that? Can you hear me? JASON!

Checks his vitals. Curls around him.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
 My love. It's okay. God help us. It's okay.

Wall JUDDERS. She SHRIEKS, PULLS J away.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
 Come on. Can't stay here. [EXIT]

INT. PUBLIC HOUSE - EVENING

J, S with drinks.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Thought I had demons enough.

SUSAN JONES
 I know.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Why are they coming for me? Am I cursed? That why? Thought just science hated me.

SUSAN JONES

No one. . . I don't hate you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Don't leave me, Susan. Be the end of me if you do. Sorry, blackmail.

SUSAN JONES

Who do we call for things like this?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Hollywood. They can have their flippin horror film back. Put me in a comedy, please. Could do with a laugh. [sags] Just about finished.

SUSAN JONES

You're not, Big J. You've made it through worse, harder than most. You can get through this. If anyone can, you can. I'm sure of it.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

That loony, says it's me.

FLASHBACK

INT. DELORES' SEANCE CHAMBER - DAY

Charred chamber. J wakes, facing D. She holds his head. AURA wobbles around J's head.

DELORES DENTON

You are real! Demon carrier.

J moans. Aura spikes/sparks THROW D across room.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)

It is you! It is you I've been waiting for! You must die!

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Die? Came for help, you mad cow! I don't want to hurt anyone. Want the pain taken off me-

D grabs skull. Swipes at him. MAYHEM as she throws everything at him. Scratching at him. Screaming.

Demon rises above J, ferocious. D cowers. It stares at her. J is incredulous.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

You're crazy.

J runs outside, demon hides inside him.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

J on kerb, catching breath. Sees policeman walking along. Waves at him. He stands, watching.

D charges at him with KITCHEN KNIFE.

DELORES DENTON
Die, demon! Die!

P runs across. Demon SMOTHERS J's face. He faints.

PRESENT

INT. PUBLIC HOUSE - DAY

Same

SUSAN JONES
You listen to her? Really?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No. You're right. Nurse Jones, ever
always. What do we do? Who can
help? Imagine the crackpots we have
to meet to find one not full of
shit. She's just the first.

SUSAN JONES
Glad you think that. You're right,
J man. Where do we go?

Demon face FLASHES on J's face, looks around, sees S. DIVES
back. J unaware.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
Oh god. Jason. Oh god. [pulls away]

JASON HAMMERSMITH
What?

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

J looking up, S.O. voices.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - UPSTAIRS LANDING - CONTINUOUS

S with two older men in suits.

SUSAN JONES
Please be careful, Doctors.

DOCTOR RADFORD
Seeing is believing, yes? ["Yes."]
If I didn't have the utmost for
you, Ms Jones, I'd dismiss you.

SUSAN JONES
I know, Doctor, but I've seen it.

DOCTOR TAGWORT
Yes. We see it in you. Bear with.

T, R ENTER bedroom.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Overhead S.O. CRACKING, CREAKING.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Oh god. GET OUT OF THERE!

J ELEVATES. Pushing back, his fingers ENTER ceiling, SWIRLING
like water.

S.O. men SCREAMING. Faces/body parts SWIRL like leaves.

S RUNS IN. GRABS J's legs, PULLS.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Can't stop! Help!

He DETACHES from ceiling. It FREEZES. S/J COLLAPSE on floor.
Dr's faces STARE down.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
What's happening to me? Got to get
out of here!

SUSAN JONES
Stay with me.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm not safe! They're coming for
me. You're not safe!

SUSAN JONES
It's not you, J Man. It's the
house. Believe me, it can't be you.
Look [points at ceiling] it's the
house! Come on.

S DRAGS J out.

EXT. JASON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

HEAVY police/ambulance presence. Camera FLASHES from living
room/bedroom.

INT. AMBULANCE - CONTINUOUS

Paramedic scanning J's head. Shakes his own. Nil readings.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

J is cradled by S on sofa. Light on.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Never known the NHS work so fast.

SUSAN JONES
Oi.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Next day appointment? Name once in
your lifetime. Like going private.
Rich at last. Coming with me?

SUSAN JONES
I'll be your private nurse for the
day, yes.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Want the telly on? Should be global
news by now. Least they didn't get
there before we split. Best not
BBC, they'll be featuring jelly
fish. GB?

S turns on GB News. J sits up.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Fame at last and me house is a
mess.

SOUNDS OFF

ON TV: footage inside house, secret camera, past officials,
in living room, warped ceiling. Faces blurred.

TV CUT TO: bedroom, stripped, warped, like inside empty ice
cream tub, claws FROZEN in wall, portal closed.

CAFUFFLE: journo dragged out

TV CUT TO: floor: knees, elbows jut out.

TV CUT TO: Ordinary, boring pic of J

S.O. Sally SCREAMS

Demon's head SMOTHERS J's. S LEAPS away. J TEARS at it.
Stretches rubbery, won't shift.

Demon STARES at far wall. It CONTORTS into outline of portal.

S FIRES foam from extinguisher. No effect. S swings cylinder at J, he catches it, drops it. Demon has gone.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Susan! Susan! It's me! I'm okay!
It's gone!

SUSAN JONES

Oh god! Oh god, Jason. No it
hasn't. It's in you. It is you. It
is you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Come here. [arms out]

They hug TIGHT. S backs off, SCARED.

SUSAN JONES

No. Jason. You've got to
understand. I can't. No one can.
It's in you. It was there. Your
head. You'd gone. Just that, for a
face.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Thought the mute was on.

SUSAN JONES

She's right, you know. That crazy.
What she said about you. Don't
think science can help. We need the
loony. Nine o'clock. The day can't
come fast enough. [clutches his
crying face] I'm NOT leaving you!
[backs away]

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Well [wiping foam] one less worry.
When'd you buy a fire extinguisher?
Didn't know you could.

SUSAN JONES

It was for my candles, but never
mind.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Can I shower?

SUSAN JONES

Yes yes, course.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[moves off, drenched] We need the
loony? Oh god no. Not that eejit.
But she's locked up. CTL's months
away. [EXITS]

S.O. shower.

S on phone.

SUSAN JONES
[quietly] Can you come? It's here.
Jason Hammersmith. My address. He's
just cleaning up. At least, on the
outside.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - SHOWER CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

P.O.V. Foam dribbles down, hands rub over, cover face. Pink darkness.

CUT TO through fingers, demon's face flickers on J's.

P.O.V. Pink turns to black. S.O. GROWL.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.
What's that?

CUT TO hands PULL at face, only KNEADS spectre. J's eyes are DEMON'S.

P.O.V. Black.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S. (CONT'D)
Why you picking on me? I suffer
enough.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - OUTSIDE BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

S leans on table, sad.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.
Leave me alone, please!

S.O. Doorbell.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - SHOWER CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

J's hands on cubicle. Head contorts into HORNS. Eyes leak PLASMA.

P.O.V. Black. Distant light. Grows. PHARAOH'S face, gloves reach out. Grow closer, bigger. Thumbs PUSH inward.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - CONTINUOUS

S.O. J SCREAMS.

SUSAN JONES
Oh, Jason.

SEES faint imprint of portal. RUSHES OUT.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - BATHROOM - SHOWER CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

J on floor, asleep, normal. Armed officer reaches in, turns off water.

D.I. SWANSON
What's the matter with him?

SUSAN JONES
He has demons.

D.I. SWANSON
We all do.

SUSAN JONES
His are real. I've seen them. You will too. Believe me.

J's body TREMORS in plasma.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
Please take care of him.

Human-sized pod wheels in.

EXT. MORTOMA INSTITUTE - DAY

Sign outside bland building: 'Mortoma Institute'.

INT. MORTOMA INSTITUTE - UNIT 253 - DAY

Large room, J asleep in bed, leads from head. Strapped in.

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.
Benign. ["Hm?"] Zip. My farts make bigger ripples.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK O.S.
Don't need spikes to tell us that. Wouldn't show up anyway.

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.
Melanie's mindfarts would. Just. Sparklers in a blizzard.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK O.S.
Moving on. Yes, we can't get the staff. But what about our patient?

INT. MORTOMA INSTITUTE - 253 ANTECHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

DR's Washburn, middle aged, overweight, grey, balding, and GLADBACK, 40's, dwarf, female, watch through glass.

DR GJ WASHBURN
[reads screens] He's datafree. What
can we say? Got the wrong doctor
killer?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
[re house footage] That's not a
human can-do.

DR GJ WASHBURN
One ping. Just one.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
His address, his friend's shower,
reported by her. Aural shield. But
no residue.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Exactly. It's bollocks. Well,
there's silver, a nurse who cares.
He's lucky to have her. What's her
name?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
[checks] Susan Jones. RGN.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Hm, nice. Knew a Susan once. Legs
like stairways to heaven.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Doctor! Ladies present.

DR GJ WASHBURN
You don't mind do you?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Yes. When you talk about legs!

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh. Oh yes. Sorry. Freud's cigar,
love. Well, no point staring into
space. Coffee and crumpet?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
A Freud crumpet.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Of course, my petite petri. I'm
happily single. Blame Susan! Ha!

They EXIT.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK O.S.
Someone's got a lot to answer for.
And don't walk so fast.

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.
Oh sorry. Piggyback?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK O.S.
Shut up!

J's bed MELTS. Readings UNCHANGED. Wall above J CURDLES. Spider-claws push through, lift J with dripping bed. Pulls him through. Leaves solid, vaginal creases on wall, bed SPLASHES floor.

INT. MORTOMA INSTITUTE - UNIT 253 - LATER

Dr's stand next to puddle. Crumbs on W's shirt.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Ping big enough for you?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Hm. I'm convinced. Typical we should miss it [at wall] Went through there, I take it?

Toes puddle. Hard as rock. Steps onto it. Feels wall.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
Isn't this is a...?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Coincidence, yes.

DR GJ WASHBURN
And not a single reading.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
What can we tell the board?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Botheration, buggeration. That's us, isn't it? Bothered about and buggered up.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Well, don't pack for snow just yet. This is above and beyond even our protocols.

DR GJ WASHBURN
I know. This one's bloody real!

EXT. MONTAGE - NEWS REPORTS/PAPERS

Delores found guilty of attempted murder. "I was protecting you!" "Demons must die!" "He had to die!"

EXT. HMP BRINGSFORD - DAY

S walks to front gate.

INT. HMP BRINGSFORD - VISITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

S, D, sit opposite. Officers close by.

DELORES DENTON

You've seen the dark lord.

SUSAN JONES

It's not *him*. Something inside him.
God knows what. A golem, gargoyle.
Jason's just a host. Tormented
host. And a very bad tenant.

DELORES DENTON

Proves what I'm saying doesn't it?

SUSAN JONES

Proves what? He should be dead?

DELORES DENTON

Yes.

SUSAN JONES

Or should be saved? You know,
helped. Like you.

DELORES DENTON

He's evil.

SUSAN JONES

He's *ill*. Like you.

DELORES DENTON

Had to kill him. To save him.

SUSAN JONES

From what? Life? His gift to live?
It's a parasite, Delores. Jason is
a good, kind, lovely man. He didn't
ask for this. Or the others. Has
enough demons of his own. Poor sod.

DELORES DENTON

There! You've said it yourself,
he's possessed!

SUSAN JONES

We don't call it possession any
more. You know better than this.
Don't you? R.G.N? [BEAT] You've got
to face up to facts. You won't
sleep until you do. You tried to
kill someone, a good one, my Jason.

DELORES DENTON
[doubtful] He had to die.

SUSAN JONES
Like a witch? Like you perhaps?
Ignorant farmers would have drowned
you, Delores.

DELORES DENTON
I'm not a witch.

SUSAN JONES
They'd say you were. And they'd
have killed you. And they'd have
been wrong? ["Yes"] So we agree on
a fine detail. ["Yes?"] A finesse
of a detail actually.

DELORES DENTON
He's a demon.

SUSAN JONES
Or a witch? Would you drown him?

DELORES DENTON
I can see him. For what he is. That
is my gift.

SUSAN JONES
To be better used, I hope, Delores.
Well, sleep on it. I see someone in
you, you know? A good spirit. Like
I say to Jason, you're not alone.
Think about it [STANDS] Get over
this, Delores. Confessions are good
for the sheets. Then we'll see what
we can do for you. And your demons.
[EXITS]

D confused. Alone at table.

DELORES DENTON
I saw the devil in him.

PRISON GUARD
Come on, Delores. Time to go.

DELORES DENTON
[rising] I saw it! I saw it! It was
trying to kill me!

PRISON GUARD
Aha. [THEY EXIT]

EXT. VILLAGE - JASON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Portal THROBS light out of bedroom window. House is crumbling.

Mass coverage, police, ambulance, army, press. Tall, senior police officer, SUPERINTENDANT TRANSON, with binoculars.

Throb pulses louder. House CASCADES to rubble. Portal loci is FIXED in air.

SUPT TRANSON

My god. What the hell is it?

DR GJ WASHBURN

Let us through! We're doctors for Hammersmith. Superintendent! Vouch for us, if you please!

SUPT TRANSON

Yes, let them in. What brings you?

DR GJ WASHBURN

He'll come back. We lost him to the . . .[portal]

SUPT TRANSON

This one?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK

Another sprung up in Mortoma. Same shape, size. It chased him. Damn thing came after him.

DR GJ WASHBURN

He'll reappear here. Guaranteed, on me golden stethoscope.

SUPT TRANSON

Alright. I'll match you, my gold-coloured clock. Given it back twice. Can't throw the thing away.

DR GJ WASHBURN

To see time fly eh?

SUPT TRANSON

Your jokes.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK

Look!

Portal pushes out CHRYSALIS dripping in plasma. It HANGS. Portal DARKENS.

G, W, T have binoculars. SEE J inside.

DR GJ WASHBURN
He's here! Told you he'd come home.
One way or another.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
It's official. We're beyond crazy.

SUPT TRANSON
You can have my bit of gratitude,
gladly.

DR GJ WASHBURN
[checks portal] Another woopsy.
Mother Earth?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Obsessed. Pariedolia.

DR GJ WASHBURN
I'm supposed to see a face?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Genital pariedolia.

DR GJ WASHBURN
That a thing?

SUPT TRANSON
With you it is. Can you see it's
him, Valerie?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Just. Not in pain. Sleeping. As if
cared for. Should we worry about
him or...?

Floodlight shows the two doctor's body parts in suspension.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Or us. *He's* safe as houses. Well,
not that one.

Cocoon SHIVERS.

SUPT TRANSON
Fire marshall!

Fire officers rush under cocoon with giant inflatable,
handling cocoon to fall onto it. J's eyes OPEN! Officers jump
back.

FIREFIGHTER
He's awake!

SUPT TRANSON
Bring him down!

Cocoon easily parts from portal, lands safely on inflatable, and is pulled clear. Medium holding dead doctors glows, body parts swing as if on strings.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Our friends can't stay like that.

DR GJ WASHBURN
[to T] Fire marshalls to the rescue?

SUPT TRANSON
Agreed. Chief Officer Brownley?

CHIEF OFFICER BROWNLEY
It's been impenetrable up to now.

DR GJ WASHBURN
God knows what the rules are.

BROWNLEY gives orders.

CUT TO: fire ladder INCHES under suspended body parts. Firefighter LEWIS climbs up. Reads Geiger counter.

LEWIS
Trace, background, sir.

CHIEF OFFICER BROWNLEY
Tread careful, Lewis.

L reaches up, holds an arm. FREEZES. Turns blue.

S.O. CRACKING CREAKING

CHIEF OFFICER BROWNLEY (CONT'D)
Lewis? [to men] Bring him down!

FF's RACE up ladder, CLUTCH L. FREEZE blue.

CHIEF OFFICER BROWNLEY (CONT'D)
[to driver] Pull back! Reverse!

GREAT REVS, fire engine STAYS. Ladder CEASES rattling from top to bottom. S.O. CRACKING CREAKING.

GREATER REVS, fire engine LIFTS OFF GROUND. Engines OFF, CRASHES. S.O. Ticking, rumbling SILENCED. Driver FREEZES blue.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Oh god.

SUPT TRANSON
Pull back! Every unit! Pull back!

Brushing past, reporter STICKS to fire engine.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Get away from it! Oh god it's
spreading!

Ground turns pale. Veins reach out across street. People
caught become FROZEN blue.

S.O. CRACKING CREAKING LOUDER.

G, W safe distance, up against house.

SUPT TRANSON
Clear the village! Emergency evac!
Now!

S.O. KLAXON

People fill streets, dazed, FREEZE in spreading patch.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
The cocoon! More crazy for later.

Cocoon FLOATS, bouncing off the frozen. Bodies SHATTER. Fire
engine/houses CRUMBLE.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Free floating, untarnished. We
synthesise that pod we can wear it,
for armour.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
You want to go in there, pick it
up? Easier to pocket anti-matter.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Can't be that. Annihilates on
contact. This is new. Too close
now! Time to edge off centre right.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Gotcha.

Veins LASH OUT either side of them. G RATTLES house door.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh shit we're stuck. Where's the
Super?

T BECKONS them from rear of police van. It moves from
advancing rim.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
We can't get out, GJ! Break the
windows!

They PUNCH the glass USELESSLY. Looking back, they SEE:

Cocoon MOULDS around J creating arms, legs.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK (CONT'D)
It's sprouting limbs! What next?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Do I hear rescue? Or gateway to the
next world? Don't mind. Just not
here any more.

J, WRAPPED in pod leather, TOTTERS to feet.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Right behind you. Just don't walk
so fast, you clod. You always did.

DR GJ WASHBURN
I do! No past tense! Not yet!
What's it doing?

Arms in air, J SCREAMS. He POINTS at G,W.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
Can't be more bother? Oh heck.

J RUNS at them!

Rim upon them, G on window sill keeps feet up. W can't.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Help me!

DR GJ WASHBURN
What can I do?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Anythi-

She FREEZES. Holding W's knee, he FREEZES.

EXT. INNER DIMENSION - TIMELESS

Actual vehicles, houses, people from above SINK in milky,
blue world. G,W, last in, SEE it all below. They are inside
VAST column of dense plasma. The sinking DISSOLVE, DRIPPING
onto black base, RIPPLING with each contact.

CREATURES assist break up, CRUSHING, RINSING fluid, EATING
dead husks.

G,W stationary, hold hands. Creatures SNAP UP gaze. ANGRY.

G,W look around them. COCOONED hands hold their collars.

Creatures RACE UP, CLAWS outstretched. G,W are PULLED UP.

EXT. VILLAGE - OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

J,G,W on grassy verge. J releases grip, G,W COLLAPSE COVERED in milky gue.

DR GJ WASHBURN
[eyes closed, holds G tight] Oh my
godfathers.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
[eyes closed, squirms] GJ. That for
you or me? [opens eyes] Fair
enough.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
It's stopped.

G,W sit up.

Milky column DOMINATES landscape, PIERCING sky. But not
expanding.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Anyone know what's going on?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
You're asking us?

J FEELS face. STARES at hands.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
What have I become?

G,W STAND.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Wish we could help you, lad. You've
helped us. Only right.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Our oath won't let you down.

DR GJ WASHBURN
And that.

Police van drives up. T jumps out with officers.

SUPT TRANSON
It's not the only one. Mortoma's
gone. Same.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Our days are done. My life.

EXT. MORTOMA INSTITUTE - DAY

G,W,J,T, officers, press, look up/down column.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Can't believe it. My life's in there.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
C.C. [to J] You've got some explaining to do.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Me? I'm a probationer who can't hold a job to save his life.

SUPT TRANSON
You've made good friends in your short stay. Keep your nose clean, you'll fly through.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Sir. But I've no knowledge of this new crazy. Even if I look like I was born in it.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Let's get you analysed, Jason. We've got a lot to learn.

DR GJ WASHBURN
And me mints.

EXT. HIPPOCRATES CLINIC - EVENING

Police cordon lets in S. Press filming/reporting.

Building WARPS, recovers, WARPS, recovers. S is caught under falling plaster. T pulls her away.

SUPT TRANSON
Careful, Miss Jones.

SUSAN JONES
I've got to go in.

T leads her inside under umbrella

INT. HIPPOCRATES CLINIC - LABORATORY - CONTINUOUS

J is SPREADEAGLED MID-AIR surrounded by upright generators. Panels THROB, cocoon PULLS OPEN. Walls BEND. THROB desists. Cocoon recovers. Walls FLATTEN. J DROPS to his feet.

Room STOPS rattling. Wall CRUMBLES.

Behind screen, W,G.

DR GJ WASHBURN
We got a problem.

ENTER S,T dusting themselves off.

SUSAN JONES
The building's gone crazy.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
My life.

SUSAN JONES
Jason!

She rushes to him. Hugs him tight.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Might lose the house, GJ.

W turns OFF machines. S.O. HOUSE CREAK.

DR GJ WASHBURN
I know what we did there. [to T]
Can you call your men in? Have a
little job for them. [T on radio]

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
[to S] Crazy? How?

SUSAN JONES
It's bending! Could go any second,
you carry on.

S.O. CREAK. NOT a house creak. S.O. CRACK. CREAK-CRACK

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
That's not house.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Not me either. Not guilty.

A hump SWELLS on his shoulder.

SUSAN JONES
Not you, love. But look! What's
happening to you?

His body EXPANDS. Cocoon SPLITS. BLACK LIGHT COILS out.
Cocoon BALLOONS.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[to S] Keep away!

Cocoon BLASTS off J, portal instantly BREAKS through wall. J
FALLS back, shreds of cocoon on his shoulders.

Black light FEEDS into crack, tentacles BURST out. T runs in,
PROTECTS S, is GRABBED, PULLED IN. Portal CLOSES SWALLOWING
black light. Cocoon on SHAKING floor snakes back to J, covers
him like a robe.

Building RATTLES. Ceiling RAINS DOWN.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
We gotta get out!

J grabs S, EXITS. G makes for exit, but W RUNS into lab.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK (CONT'D)
Wrong way, Washburn!

W POCKETS a cocoon shred.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Not leaving this ticket behind!
You'll see.

They EXIT. Room COLLAPSES. Portal is UNMOVED. S.O. CLICKING

EXT. HIPPOCRATES CLINIC- NIGHT

Building FALLS to rubble. Heroes WATCH from police van.
Plumes of dust BILLOW high, then CLEAR. Exposing portal.
Vehicles EXIT. Only *in situ* cameras and drones remain.

INT. POLICE VAN - REAR - CONTINUOUS

DR GJ WASHBURN
Well. That's three.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
How many more? Jason, do you know?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm a danger. I can't be near you.

Demon pokes out of J's head. G,W,S SHOCKED. Demon stretches
for rear door. J makes for it. They hold him. Demon THROWS
them aside. J opens door. Looks back at S.

SUSAN JONES
Oh, Jason. Please be careful.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm sorry.

J JUMPS out.

DR GJ WASHBURN
[bangs on driver's wall] Stop the
van! Stop! We've lost our patient!

POLICE OFFICER O.S.
He can stay lost! Bastard killer!

DR GJ WASHBURN
It's not his fault!

POLICE OFFICER O.S.
You sure of that?

Van TURNS sharp left.

INT. POLICE VAN - DRIVER'S COMPARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

RADAR blip onscreen. Van DRIVES after it. INTO Regent's Park.

INT. POLICE VAN - REAR - CONTINUOUS

POLICE OFFICER O.S.
To your left! Look innocent to you?

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

BEAST, on J's shoulders like high collar robe, talking in his ear. Portal IRRUPTS in air. They step in. Column SHOOTs upward, SPREADS outward.

Police van SCREECHES to stop. REVERSES.

INT. POLICE VAN - REAR - CONTINUOUS

POLICE OFFICER O.S.
That's four! When will it stop,
professors?

SUSAN JONES
He's a hostage.

POLICE OFFICER O.S.
We're the hostages! This country's
being invaded by god knows what!
And your friend is the primer!

SUSAN JONES
Not Jason. I know him too well.

POLICE OFFICER O.S.
Pah! Account for that!

They SEE column GROWING.

EXT. HOUSE IN LONDON - NIGHT

Portal appears on wall. J, in 'jedi' cocoon-robe, FALLS out. Plasma DRIPS to ground, EARTHING the breach. Column expands AROUND J.

Column CONSUMES 1,000 metres out then remains stationary HALFWAY through another house. Rear door opens. J EXITS, hood back, kneels on lawn, CRYING. Demons poke out. Dance in RAGE.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Why me? I'm a good person. Why do this to me? Because I'm ill? You picking on me, evil, because I'm not like the rest? Why can't you leave me alone? Just leave me alone. I'm not a hero. Susan. My nurse. I need you.

J pulls hood over, trapping demons. He wanders off.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

S.O. THUNDER, LIGHTNING, helicopters.

S in pajamas; coffee, toast, tv. S.O. phone.

SUSAN JONES

Hello?

OFFICER O.S.

You have a visitor.

SUSAN JONES

Thank god. Well, let him in. He won't hurt me.

OFFICER O.S.

On you. He won't let us search him.

S.O. doorbell. S presses door release.

SUSAN JONES

Search him? God's sakes.

J ENTERS under cloak.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)

Jason? What's happened to you?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Keep back, love!

SUSAN JONES

At least let me see you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Just keep back. Prepare yourself.

SUSAN JONES

Don't be daft. You've got a lovely face.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

It's not my face. [S looks in hood, demons look back] It's my soul. They've chosen me, Susan.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
I have to go. Or they'll breach in
here. Just had to see you.

SUSAN JONES
Sit down, you silly man.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I've killed people. Mag's trash,
but all the same, I killed them.

SUSAN JONES
How?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
They stole my robe. Only thing
keeping them in. Beat me up. Left
me. Then the powers broke free.

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - DAY

J, unkempt in dirty clothes, lying in grass, bruised. Veins
of light branch from fingers. Like hydraulics, PUSH him into
air. He RISES facing three youths tugging fancy, brown cloak.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Give it back to me!

Youths holler, too spaced to be scared.

DEMONS pour out, DEVOUR youths like fishflakes.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
[lands, collects cloak] What do you
want from me?

MONSTER
*OPEN THE GATES, MORTAL. OPEN THE
GATES. OR YOUR WORLD IS DOOMED.*

Monsters disappear S.O. THUNDER. LIGHTNING. Infinity columns
in distance SPIT power. ROTATE. DRAW mist in circles.
Drones/helicopters dot the sky like flies.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

S looks out window. The night is a torrential firework.

SUSAN JONES
This you? [beat] No. Not you. I'll
never give up on you, J man.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I don't know who I am. Neither do
you. Remember what we said, don't
let them in 'til you know em. I
love you, Susan.

SUSAN JONES
I love you, Mad J.

As J EXITS, head down, portal ghost FLASHES on wall.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
Oh not in here.

She runs hands over wall. But it's gone. She is relieved.

INT. HMP BRINGSFORD - STAFF ROOM - NIGHT

Officers drink coffee, tired. S.O. SCREAMS from cell.

OFFICER 1
Bloody Denton. [farts]

OFFICER 2
When's her meds?

OFFICER 1
6 am. She'll have to ride it out.

OFFICER 2
Not the only one. This job, man.
[re jar] Fart jar, you.

INT. HMP BRINGSFORD - DENTON'S CELL - CONTINUOUS

D COWERS, SCREAMING in corner in a GLOW. J stands opposite, portal behind him. S.O. CRACKING CREAKING

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Don't be scared.

Demon claws CURL around hood hem. D SCREAMS. J KNOCKS them back.

DELORES DENTON
What are you?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
You spoke to me in your circle.
Jason?

J PULLS DOWN hood. Demons FLY OUT, FILL room, D SCREAMS under bedsheet. Demons DISAPPEAR through walls. S.O. CRACKING

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
You're safe, Delores. Delores!
[grabs her arms] You were right
about me.

DELORES DENTON
How do you know me?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
In session. You phazed me.
Remember?

DELORES DENTON
The demon carrier! It's you! But
what do you want from me? I didn't
mean to-

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I need to know what you see. You
can help me, Delores. I can help
you.

Portal GLOWS. Column light BREAKS ceiling/floor.

DELORES DENTON
How?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
We've got to get out of here first.

DELORES DENTON
I can't.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
With me, you can. Same way I came
in. [D stares at portal] I'll
protect you. Don't worry. Watch.
[WHISTLES]

Demons re-enter, eyeing D. J WAVES them away. They EXIT
through portal. It GLOWS FIERCELY.

DELORES DENTON
What were they doing?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Cleaning out the cells.

DELORES DENTON
Eating people?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
They don't tell me anything, but
not you. Trust me. I wouldn't be
here if I didn't need you [beat]
I'll protect you.

J opens cloak. D hesitates, then holds him inside cloak. He
closes it. Column EXPANDS. S.O. CRACKING CREAKING LOUDER

PRISON GUARD O.S.
Hell you up to, Denton?

WHITEOUT

EXT. STREET - BRINK OF EXPANDED COLUMN - CONTINUOUS

J,D in cloak, in light of column, looking back.

DELORES DENTON

Didn't see that coming.

D steps away.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Can you see me?

DELORES DENTON

Why do they need you?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

I was coming to you for that. This ride's gone crazy and I want to get off. Didn't ask for this, Delores. Got enough on my plate [taps head] That's what you sensed. My monster only hurts me.

DELORES DENTON

Those creatures?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Gone, far as I can tell.

DELORES DENTON

[waves hand over J's forehead]
Sense a clearness. [J is calmer]

Their eyes CONNECT.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Let's eat. You must be hungry for real food.

DELORES DENTON

Then what? What are you going to do to me?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Oh, have you for dessert. Delores. Will you see me for who I am? ["What?"] [re column] Brought you out of there didn't I? No strings, Delores. Just breakfast. Monster free, porridge free. Unless it's your poison. How about it? You can even talk to me with your mouth full.

D rests her hand on his forehead. Then his cheek.

DELORES DENTON

I know that monster. And I don't talk with my mouth full. I'm a lady of the spirit world.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Right. So, shall we spirit away, breakfast for two?

DELORES DENTON

In the middle of the night?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Is it the middle of the night?
["Yes!"] Oh, well, in that case... where the hell are we?

DELORES DENTON

That was HMP Bringsford. How can you not know?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

I didn't come the usual route.
["How?"] Don't know. Always a blank. [re cloak] This is a mystery. God only knows what's happening, Dolores. Ah!

SWAT team appear. D tucks inside J's cloak.

SWAT

Don't move!

DELORES DENTON

What now?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Breakfast, by the looks of it.

INT. SECRET BASE - FARADAY ROOM - DAY

Walls metallic, ribbed. Whirring, giant fan. J,D alone with empty sandwich boxes, water bottles. Fresh nondescript clothes. Cloak on back of chair. Door HISSES open. ENTER G,W.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Good to see familiar faces.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Precisely why we're here.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[to D] Doctors. Don't know their names.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Call me Washburn.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Valerie. Do you know where you are?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Metal whirry room?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
You're in a. . .

EXT. LONDON CENTRAL - DAY

AERIAL SHOTS: EIGHT pillars in an UNEVEN octagon covering swathe of London. Chopper LOWERS Faraday chamber into centre. HEAVY military presence.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK V.O.
. . . mobile Faraday box. We know the dimensional fissures are due to you, somehow, Jason. We don't know how or why, but wherever you go, the fractures follow. So we can't allow you anywhere other than in the middle of the, now, eight pillars of unique power.

INT. SECRET BASE - FARADAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Go anywhere else, you merely spread the incursion.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
That what it is? An invasion?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
What would you call it?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
A pain in the arse! But they've gone now.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Who?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Demons. They got what they wanted and returned to wherever.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
You sure they got what they came for? [J shrugs]

DR GJ WASHBURN
You know what a Faraday chamber is?

DELORES DENTON

Yes, we're not stupid. We've seen
Dr Who and the ghosts underwater.
It's to block signals?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK

[beat] What did they want?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[shrugs] Don't know, but they've
gone now. Delores can't sense them.
Not them.

D holds J's hand over the table.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK

Our greatest concern, Jason, is
that these are not artefacts of
art, worthless tat. They serve a
purpose. But we can't say what.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

I've no idea. Wasn't in the loop.

DR GJ WASHBURN

But they do form a loop. An
irregular octagon. Our fear is
that, by completion, they will form
a perfect nonogon.

DELORES DENTON

Fearful because nine is a magic
number?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What do you mean? Magic?

DELORES DENTON

Black magic. A force for evil.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

But why evil? Why not a force for
good? I know the three, six, nines.
It was Tesla wasn't it? He said the
universe was made of vibrations and
whatnots. But that's a good thing
isn't it?

DR GJ WASHBURN

Not necessarily.

EXT. LONDON CENTRAL - CONTINUOUS

Columns ROTATE to face centre. Electrical veins travel
inwards DESTROYING vehicles/people/buildings.

DR GJ WASHBURN V.O.
 Magic numbers work on all sides.
 Darkness runs on the same powers.
 The nines are the givers of light
 and dark. And we're highly
 concerned these towers of
 unimagineable energy are building
 up to a ninth column. Only then
 will we understand why they're
 here.

JASON HAMMERSMITH V.O.
 And then it might be too late.

INT. SECRET BASE - FARADAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

S.O. KLAXON

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Oh yes. It might be too late.

DELORES DENTON
 Aren't there any windows to this
 place?

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
 You really want to know?

DELORES DENTON
 How I'm going to die, yes! This
 isn't what I saw.

G operates shutters to reveal windows.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
 Well, you did ask.

Through windows ALL sides, tanks, soldiers, jeeps LIFTED
 HIGH, TOSSED, CRUSHED. Monsters PULL giant veins like tails,
 THROWING all in their path aside. They GRAB Faraday chamber.
 It ROCKS. Everyone SCREAMS.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 We're safe aren't we?

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Hardest structure known to Man.

S.O. METAL PROTESTING.

J dresses in cloak, D dives inside.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Do they know that? [to D] You see
 my death?

DELORES DENTON

Not here, Jason. You're not going to die here.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Well that's a relief. For a second, I thought this was it-

Walls/roof TORN APART. Winds HOWL around them. S.O. Monsters ROARING/world CRASHING. J,D are PICKED UP by claws, almost TORN to PIECES. One monster DOMINATES, carries them away. ALL monsters/veins FOLLOW.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK

What did you see?

DR GJ WASHBURN

We need him!

EXT. LONDON CENTRAL - CONTINUOUS

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.

What do they want with him?

Monsters/veins leave TSUNAMIC DESTRUCTION in wake heading for SPACE in circle.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK O.S.

They're making a circle. A perfect nine. We're going to find out, Washburn!

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.

We need to get out!

G,W jump out of ruins.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Don't stop til you're out the circle!

DR VALERIE GLADBACK

Don't leave me!

DR GJ WASHBURN

Right. This time, piggyback. Don't argue.

EXT. HAMPTON COURT PALACE - INSIDE MAZE - CONTINUOUS

Monster DEPOSITS J,D.

MONSTER

PROTECT YOUR PLANET.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

How?

MONSTER

*OPEN THE GATE WITH THE NINTH
PILLAR. YOU WILL SEE.*

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Don't have much choice do I?

MONSTER

*THAT IS WHY YOU WERE CHOSEN. IT IS
YOUR DARK NATURE THAT ASSISTS.*

JASON HAMMERSMITH

But I don't do anything.

MONSTER

THEY COME TO YOU.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

They. Who are they?

Against maze wall, new portal appears.

MONSTER

[re D] *WHO IS THIS?*

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Delores. My, erm, friend.

MONSTER

*MYSTIC. A BELIEVER. THERE WILL BE
MORE LIKE YOU.*

DELORES DENTON

What's happening to us?

MONSTER

WE ARE SAVING YOUR PLANET.

M EXITS into portal.

DELORES DENTON

I'm scared, Jason.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Hold tight. We're safe in here. [re cloak] Do you remember when the world made sense? ["No"] No, me neither. Well, too late now. World's about to get a whole lot crazier.

DELORES DENTON

It knew I was a mystic. Jason, it recognised me!

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 You're the real deal, Delores, my
 love. Always have been. Not just
 about believing in you. There's
 magic out there and it's real.

DELORES DENTON
 Magic in here too.

Pillar SHOOTS UP.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Here we go. Last time, I reckon.

It expands. WHITEOUT.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

S gazes out window. On wall, trace portal PULSES.

SUSAN JONES
 Oh, Big J, be careful.

EXT. LONDON CENTRAL - CONTINUOUS

Heading for rim, W struggles with G on his back. Stops to SEE
 ninth column shoot up. Catching breath.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Think, time is running out. Quicker
 than me.

Columns HUM LOUDER. Horizontal arms form complete ring.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
 Oh god. What's coming next? Don't
 stop, man, don't stop!

DR GJ WASHBURN
 I can't, Val. You've got to get
 off. I won't leave you. Promise.

G climbs off. W holds her hand.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
 Promise? ["Yes"]

They run.

Ground SHAKES. Sink holes take buildings. S.O. GREATER
 COMMOTION behind. At top of an incline, they turn, SPENT, to
 SEE centre of enclosure TURNING. Artefacts disintegrate to
 nothing. Spiral WIDENS.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK (CONT'D)
Come on! Stop gawping! You're
window shopping!

DR GJ WASHBURN
[moves off] Can't help it, Val old
love. I'm finished.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
There's the rim. If we make it
there, we're safe. Come on. Come on
come on come on.

G leads W.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Schaufensterbummel. My doctor
warned me. Couldn't help it. I
couldn't help it.

Enclosure SAGS. G,W DROP with it. Rim is now ABOVE them.
Behind, CRUMBLING ground is CLOSING IN.

W STARES at it. In PANIC, he DROPS G's hand, SCRAMBLES for
his life.

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Gordon! Don't leave me! Help me!

A mad dog, he GRAPPLES highest edge, HAULS himself over,
ROLLS under sparking fence. GASPS for breath. CLUTCHES chest.

DR GJ WASHBURN
No. I'm okay. For a second...

DR VALERIE GLADBACK O.S.
Gordon!

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh my god. My godfathers. Oh my
god. Valerie! Valerie, so sorry!

W CRAWLS to edge, SEES G STRUGGLE to climb. Ground turns to
POWDER. G CANNOT lift herself. W REACHES DOWN.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
My hand! Grab my hand!

CLEARLY no good for G. She STARES at him with HATE, HURT,
SURPRISE, ANGER, TERROR.

Entire enclosure COLLAPSES into darkness. W can't tear his
eyes off FALLING G.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
Oh what have I done? What have I
done?

A dreadful SILENCE. Then,

WHOOSH/BOOM!

From the depths SHOOTs UP a COLOSSAL SUCKERED MONSTROSITY. It CHUNNELS straight up, ENDLESSLY. People/cars/trees/etc STUCK to side TEAR APART.

W SEES G's body SPLITTING. He STARES at G STARING at him. W incredibly SMALL in grand scale.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

S fixated at window. SEES through power-fence to OBSCENITY of flesh SURGING into outer space.

Portal OPENS. Giant claw REACHES out, SNATCHES S.

EXT. HAMPTON COURT PALACE - CONTINUOUS

J,D step outside column. SEE ascending worm.

DELORES DENTON

The hell is that? Oh god, Jason,
we've been used.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Save the planet? How does this save
the planet?

DELORES DENTON

[cranes up] Goes forever. Infinite.
We can't undo this! What have we
done?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Never trust a monster. Not you,
Delores. Me. They chose me.
Somehow, I've created a gateway for
evil and can't see out of it. Can
you? With your powers?

DELORES DENTON

No. Can't see anything. What's
everyone going to think? They'll
lynch us.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

It's not human handiwork. They'll
understand they can't pin it on me.
I'm only a pawn, a human pawn, on a
bizarre, insane chessboard. It's
not me.

Chopper lands. SWAT rush to them.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Facing the music. Reading the score. We've got to make it clear we're innocent. Get to the bottom of this madness. And a whiskey bottle. Quickly. Before the whole world goes crazy.

DELORES DENTON

They don't look happy. Be careful, Jason. Their friends were in there. Expect the worst from people angry with you. They ruin your life.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[to SWAT] Before you say anything, I'm as surprised as anyone. I'm in the dark-

SWAT TAZER J,D.

SGT FRASER

Yes, you are. In the black.

Shaking in anger, pulls out pistol. CPL COLMAN stops him.

CPL COLMAN

Orders, Sergeant. Bring back alive.

SGT FRASER

[reholstering] Wake him up so I can taze him again.

CPL COLMAN

Later. We need them to talk sense. O.C. could be right. They open hell, they can close it again.

SGT FRASER

Thought it would be Commies.

INT. ANOTHER FARADAY CHAMBER - LATER

J,D sit close, touching.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

If anything else happens, can I just say before I never get the chance?

DELORES DENTON

I know. I feel your golden glow. When I truly saw you, I knew at once. Always do. You're no monster.

They kiss, hug.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Always? How often-

DELORES DENTON

Not that often! But, you know, when you know you know. I see in people. Saw in you, your future, our future the second I felt you, shining like a lamp in my heart. I love you too.

They kiss, fondle. D stops G.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)

They can see us, sure of it. Two-way walls I bet. Put your loving in my bank, lover. I'll withdraw it later. And try not to leave a deposit.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Or we'll see the interest grow.

They laugh lightly.

Door hisses open. ENTER F, angry, W, drained.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Dr?

DR GJ WASHBURN

Update. People we've lost. Valerie, Dr Gladback to you. Susan Jones RGN.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What? Where? She was safe!

SGT FRASER

Her flat was empty. Traced one of your pussy windows on a wall. We're assuming she's been taken.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

But why?

SGT FRASER

You're asking me? [to W] If he's no fucking use I'm popping him.

Earthquake TREMOR.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Other people we've lost. Two gold commanders, four silver, six bronze. Eight thousand police and fire officers. 129 Field Squadron. Two hospitals. Four fire stations.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
Thirty thousand civilians and
counting. Any thoughts?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Yes, but I can't find the words.

DR GJ WASHBURN
You got us into this-

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I didn't! I'm as helpless as you. I
didn't choose it, it chose me.
Could you say no to power like
that? The only thing I've done for
myself is tell Delores I love her.
And that's biology beyond my
control. ["erm?"] Welcome of
course. Where's your friend?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Where do you think? Like the rest
of them. Dropped into hell and
smeared across the devil's hide.
[whimpers] oh god.

D leaps up and hugs W.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
I'm a coward. Couldn't save her.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[to F] Pointless hating me. I don't
have magic powers. If I did, you
think I'd create this?

SGT FRASER
Reckon not. Look fine to me. Normal
even. Couldn't do ten push ups.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Not in one go. Susan? Definitely
gone?

SGT FRASER
She's professional. Wouldn't vanish
of her own free will. No, taken.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
What a nightmare.

SGT FRASER
You can open those things?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
The pussy windows? You want to go
in there? D'you have to call them
that?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Portals, Sergeant, portals.

SGT FRASER
Can you open them?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I honestly don't know.

SGT FRASER
Close to the fissure. So 128 can
lay charges under its foundations
and detonate the thing off the face
of the Earth.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Have you seen it? It's endless.
There are no foundations. And
beneath the skin of Earth is a
dominion like no other. It eats us,
sucks out our souls to feed an even
bigger creature. We've seen it,
haven't we Dr?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Yes. You'd need nuclear to just
annoy it.

SGT FRASER
Under the skin? Inter-dimensional?
We'll go in and learn what we can.
You eaten?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Sandwich a million years ago.

SGT FRASER
Okay. Mess first then plan a recce
and a team.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Me?

SGT FRASER
Yes. You. You're the only man who
has any chance undoing this fiasco.
[looks at iwatch live feed of worm]
Fucking endless.

D holds J, looks into him.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
What can you see?

D smiles. They kiss.

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

S.O. WORM ASCENDING. Furniture stacked to one side. SGT F, CPL C, three privates, all ARMED, D and W watch J face portal tracing. No change.

SGT FRASER

Is it because we're watching?

DELORES DENTON

You think Susan won't be far away?

DR GJ WASHBURN

What else do we have to go on?
Appears even this avenue is closed
to us. Jason, if it can't be done,
it can't be done. May as well go
home.

SGT FRASER

Do not bring your negative bullshit
to our battle zone. Any more talk
like that and you are dismissed, Dr
Washburn.

DR GJ WASHBURN

You're quite right. I apologize.
[FLASH CUT: G dying] I'm so sorry.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

I should be the sorry one. I'm
letting you down.

DELORES DENTON

Wasn't your power, love. Just shows
doesn't it? The monster isn't you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Got to do something.

J rests head on wall. Depressed. Crawls to floor. Hand up to
stop anyone coming near.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Walls can be very comforting.
Corners are best. But it's here, so
I'll have a min here.

S.O. WORM ASCENDING more pronounced in room's quiet.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Susan. I love you. Please don't
leave me.

DELORES DENTON

[kneels next to him] Darling, I'm
here.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[holds her hand] I know. Two in one
lifetime. I know, Double D. We were
just friends, but the best.

CPL COLMAN
How about we open fire, Sgt?
Anything better than this. Close to
shooting myself.

SGT FRASER
It's not as we planned. [goes to
window] Those power lines, we
access them, you think? Dr?

DR GJ WASHBURN
They're pure physic. Solid energy I
would say. Manhole-free alas.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Sorry, Susan. Sorry.

Portal PUFFS UP on wall.

CPL COLMAN
Sgt!

All attention on portal. It GLOWS 3D.

DELORES DENTON
Someone hears you, Mr H.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Some thing. Not human, whatever
they are. Liars, for sure. Saving
the planet. Like to know how.

CPL COLMAN
We going in?

J steps in, gone. Portal closes. Flat against wall.

DELORES DENTON
Jason?

It puffs up, opens, J comes half out.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Seems I have to keep the thing
open. Who's coming?

INT. INTERDIMENSION - SUSAN'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

D,W,F,C, two privates wait as third private crawls in. J
holds open portal. Room layout same but every corner/edge is
ROUNDED. Floor SAGS under their weight.

SGT FRASER
This gonna hurt my brains?

DELORES DENTON
A dreamworld.

PRIVATE BLOOMS
[in HORROR] sure?

BLOOMS SCREAMS, STARING at NOTHING. His body CLEAVES down the middle, CASCADING over leg stumps.

Guns target ahead but...

CPL COLMAN
Nothing. There's nothing! What the fuck, Sergeant?

SGT FRASER
Don't ask me. [to J] Hammersmith!

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Haven't got special sight. Pull back out. Thought we'd get further.

NO portal in wall. WOBBLES when touched, FRANTICALLY.

DELORES DENTON
We're trapped, Jason.

SGT FRASER
Fuckin thing's toying with us!

JASON HAMMERSMITH
It wouldn't do that.

SGT FRASER
And how do you know? You know zip bout this world.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I just know, it can't see us.

SGT FRASER
It?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
The power.

DELORES DENTON
Those creatures knew you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Yes, but didn't harm me. We got a mystery. And there's only one way to go. Deeper.

SGT FRASER

Deeper? We're in a fuckin fake room. Where do we go?

J heads to window. SEES fairground of monsters.

DELORES DENTON

[behind] Where's the worm?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Different world now. Completely different.

DELORES DENTON

Jason, what are we looking for?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Answers. Susan. I don't know. In the dark as much as you.

SGT FRASER

Great.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

But there's a light inside my head. Calling me. Leading me somewhere. I have to follow it. [to group] I know this sounds incredible but I don't feel malice. No anger, hatred. Something, even someone, trying to help. Can you believe that?

Group look at destroyed private.

CPL COLMAN

What do you think?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

In the Special Boat Service, they have a saying, bullshit baffles brains.

SGT FRASER

Can't argue with that.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

It's their way of pulling through. We can do the same.

DR GJ WASHBURN

But what next? Could be anyone's turn.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

We get out of here, keep moving. Maybe it is punishment. We're not doing it right.

SGT FRASER
You said they can't see us.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
We keep moving. Answers will come.

PRIVATE SHUTE
Way out's all I want.

PRIVATE HARPER
Copy.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[re window] Well, it's not here.
Let's try the door. [goes to door]

SGT FRASER
Long as you lead, we're fine with
that. They know you.

DELORES DENTON
Just hold on, sergeant.

SGT FRASER
I'm holding just fine, Ms Denton!

DELORES DENTON
Humour's a sign of coping. Tell us
a joke, we'll know you're okay.

SGT FRASER
Shut your noise, civilian.
Shouldn't be here. None of us
should.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Easy, Sergeant. World's upside
down. We all need focus.

SGT FRASER
Yeah? What's yours?

W follows D,J. SWAT look at F.

CPL COLMAN
Have to protect them.

SGT FRASER
Tell me something funny. [beat] You
lead, Colman. I'll take the rear.

C, P 2/3 EXIT. F rummages through corpse. Pulls off pouch,
rattles it. Attaches it to his belt. EXITS.

Leg stump TWITCHES.

INT. INTERDIMENSION - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Tubular corridor runs to dark dot. J runs fingers over wall.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Smooth like skin. Like a hairless
cat.

DELORES DENTON
[lifts foot] Moist here. Intestine?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Anything. Could be anything. We
being swallowed?

SWAT ENTER. P2 takes lead.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No.

PRIVATE SHUTE
Huh?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No, could be anything. We'd be
crushed, chewed up if eaten.

SGT FRASER
No portal. That a backdoor?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Think we're meant to go down.

CPL COLMAN
Meant to?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
We're being led. Like in a funhouse
but the ghosts are real.

PRIVATE SHUTE
Sergeant?

SGT FRASER
Yes yes. Go go. Expect crazy shit.

They walk on CAUTIOUSLY, EYEING distant dot.

DELORES DENTON
Dead end, Jason?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Wouldn't make sense. Not if we have
purpose here.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Purpose. Yes. Focus. Bit faster,
private. Let's cover distance.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
 There has to be a reason for our
 lives going insane. Has to be. I
 suggest we're in the right place to
 discover why.

TREMORS. Corridor WOBBLES like a hollow snake. S.O. AVALANCHE

SGT FRASER
 Right place, you mad bastard?

Corridor TILTS. They keep their footing. Distant dot WHIPS
 VIOLENTLY. TEARS. S.O. CLEAR CACOPHANY of BEDLAM.

Distant corridor is WHIPPED clean off. BLACK GUE rises up in
 hole. Spitting, boiling, body parts bobbing.

PRIVATE SHUTE
 Back! Back!

They turn, FREEZE best they can on wobbling floor, STARE in
 HORROR.

Up the corridor, out the door, leg stumps WALK as if
 unharmed. MASH of body drags along. Hand drags rifle.

SGT FRASER
 Oh my god! Oh my god!

Corridor throws up, down. S FALLS into gue. His screams
 DROWNED instantly.

S.O. HOWLING outside, UNHUMAN. S.O. MARCHING thousands goes
 off into distance.

J SLIPS, SLIDES toward gue. D grabs his hand. W grabs D's.
 Human chain right up to F who slides down.

HIS hand is GRABBED. He DAREN'T see by what. They hold.

Corridor stabilises on gradient. Bubbling gue hardens.
 SILENCE. D reluctantly lets J go.

DELORES DENTON
 Sorry!

J lands on top of gue, hard as rock.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 It's okay. It's okay.

Corridor levels off. They all let go, except F. He turns,
 SEES mashed body's hand holding his. YANKS himself free.

SGT FRASER
 Blooms, why you doin this, man?
 Thought you liked me.

Hand POINTS down corridor.

SGT FRASER (CONT'D)
Wants us to go on.

CPL COLMAN
Isn't it blocked?

J walks further on.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.
There's a way through. Can see a light.

CPL COLMAN
Good someone can. [to F] See, Sergeant? We'll make it through. There's a light.

SGT FRASER
A light, yes. Out of this.

CPL COLMAN
Copy.

They walk toward J, leg stumps/bodydash close behind. They look back frequently to check.

DELORES DENTON
So he's not dead? How?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[back to them] Here? Anything's possible. Bit of a creepy walk ahead, I'm afraid.

DELORES DENTON
What's creepy in a place like this?

Into darkness. S.O. SCHLURPING/Dragging

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
A light, love?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Yes, ahead of us.

There is no light. J's POV there is. His eyes are GREEN.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
He's feeding on me.

DELORES DENTON
Who is, love?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
My monster. Feeding on me. Seventeen per cent remember? We are chosen.

DELORES DENTON
But, but for what?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
The light.

Total darkness. S.O. dragging.

Ahead, blackness shifts into giant reptile hide brushing past. Walls vibrate.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Can't you see it? ["What?"] End of the tunnel.

SGT FRASER
[alarmed] What you doin?

J's POV [green haze]: hand picks pouch off F's belt.

SGT FRASER (CONT'D)
Oh, right. Thought you didn't need it anymore.

CPL COLMAN
You okay, Sergeant?

SGT FRASER
Only sane one here.

Exit clears as tail shrinks.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Come on. I'm not scared. You shouldn't be.

DELORES DENTON
But how do you know, Jason?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
My monster. Here, is our friend.
Let's get out, then I'll show you.

INT. INTERDIMENSION - PANORAMA - CONTINUOUS

Choruscuro light. Heroes step out onto broad plain. Bump into each other as J stops. Half mile away, curve of beast BURSTS out of nowhere, curls back in ENDLESSLY. In sky, flock of reptiles fly like starlings, EATING themselves. On horizon, giant cavemen run from limbless claws GRABBING them, FEEDING many-toothed floating cavity. And so on. Heroes VERY small.

DELORES DENTON
This isn't out.

PRIVATE 3
Can't see a thing, Hammersmith.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

And we can't be seen. Too small. We have no meaning here. Wait, being told...Okay. You want to see? ["No"] Unless we itch like fleas, we will not be scratched. Spiders don't know you exist, neither do these, things. We're safe in our monsters' spectrum. Watch.

From J, GREEN haze EXPANDS, envelopes whole panorama.

Massive tendril BREAKS OUT of dark ceiling, SUCKS on outer corridor, WRESTLES, WRENCHES it free, PULLS it into darkness.

DR GJ WASHBURN

No way back.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

No. There never is. Every moment creates something new.

DELORES DENTON

Is that you, love? Oracle. Fountain. Well of wisdom I've been looking for. True messiah.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What is locked inside us, fortune teller? Why is it only released when our monsters speak?

DELORES DENTON

What is your monster?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Misery. It thrives here. Why do we see numbers, Delores? What did we see before we had them? Can we see here? Actually see? No numbers, no words, glyphs. Pure existence. Before human. Who were we? [taps head] It's in this box. Eternity of existence. And this is it.

S.O. Ground CRACK, land OPENS. River SPILLS in. Shapeless creature FLOPS half out. Is CRUSHED by closing fissure.

PRIVATE HARPER

We came from this?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Never left it. Can't see it for evolving. . . I feel. . . Like I've never felt before.

D holds him passionately.

DELORES DENTON
What's going on?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Nothing. Nothing significant. Just
life passing through us as the worm
passes through Earth. No biggee.
Just as it is.

S.O. GUNSHOT! H on floor, rifle smoking.

SGT FRASER
Couldn't take it.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[to F] Thought that would be you.
Stronger than you think. All that
moaning, your way of coping.

SGT FRASER
Stronger than you think. Still
standing, Hammersmith. What are we
doing here? Remember?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Valerie. Must save Valerie.

CPL COLMAN
[spooked] Gotta move!

SGT FRASER
What?

CPL COLMAN
Now! Move! Harper just gave 'em an
itch! [points at half beast,
sniffing air]

SGT FRASER
Where to? Hammersmith, where to?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Valerie, sir. Um, Susan.

J looks up, panoramic green haze shrinks around group, shoots
beam over ridge.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
This way.

They run. Stumps' body flops violently.

Halfbeast POUNCES on/CHEWS rifle. SNIFFS H, EATS him. Mangled
flesh FALLS OUT its half belly. Looks around, SNIFFS air,
SCENTS heroes disappearing over ridge. SWALLOWS SCREAMING
head. CHASES them leaving trail of masticated H.

INT. INTERDIMENSION - OVER RIDGE - CONTINUOUS

S.O. H SCREAMING. Group under ridge.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh god no. Life does not die here.
[re stumps] Is he...

W SEES stumps' roving eye in flat skull.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
We can't let this madness reach
Earth.

CPL COLMAN
How can we stop it? Planet's
penetrated. We're powerless.
Firestrikes u/s, only fuel the
beams. Why are we here,
Hammersmith?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Looking for answers, corporal. When
questions escape us. [holds out
hands] Think I know what this is?
[glow green like mitts] Goes
without saying, we're in the da-

J GASPS. Halfbeast DROOLS over them on ridge crest.

SGT FRASER
Q&A can wait.

F,C OPEN FIRE. Bullets SHRED jelly body, BOUNCE OFF
skeleton/jaw/skull. It LEAPS. They SCATTER.

Stumps' can't raise rifle. J grabs it. Stumps won't let go. J
points, S fires. Halfbeast ADVANCES. ROARS. Teeth fly out of
jaws. Rifle clicks empty. HB POUNCES on J, SWALLOWS him.
RAVAGES rifle and stumps' body. THRASHES left/right. J FALLS
OUT of skeleton.

DELORES DENTON
Jason!

SGT FRASER
Shush shush! [fingers to lips]

HB SWALLOWS stumps, who FALLS OUT rear.

Heroes stay SILENT, don't move. HB crawls off. Eventually,

DELORES DENTON
Jason [runs to him] You okay?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Bruised, not broken. I was only
gummed. What was left of them.
How's our stumpy friend?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Still standing.

SGT FRASER
He's called Blooms. Gotta help him.
Thought the world was fucked up,
til I came here.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I can help. ["How?"] Not entirely
sure, but this is a thing now.

J's green haze LEAVES him, SMOTHERS stumps, lifts him into
standing human shape. Becomes opaque.

SGT FRASER
You okay, Blooms?

B gives thumb up.

SGT FRASER (CONT'D)
Can't speak, huh?

B shakes head. Haze tendrils touch heroes, DROP morsals into
ears.

BLOOMS
But you can hear me.

SGT FRASER
Wo. Holy. Can't this crazy shit
just stop for a second?

BLOOMS
*Sorry, Fraser. But it's no picnic
for me either.*

SGT FRASER
Got that right. Sorry, friend. Need
to regroup. Here's as good as
anywhere. Colman, ammo count?

BLOOMS
*I have some. ["Where?"] Here. But
no gun. That thing hates guns.*

B pushes uniform/webbing/pouches/clips OUTSIDE as if dressed.
Hands clips to F.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Distresses them. We got in the way.
But if they get a taste for us
we're finished.

DR GJ WASHBURN

They? How would they know? And how do you know?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

I don't. It makes sense to me. Can't explain. My thoughts are alive here. As if meant to be. Susan's somewhere nearby. One step at a time, away from the crazy. We can do this.

DELORES DENTON

Are you connected?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Think we all are. We're also in a spot of trouble. [points to ridge] They heard their comrade in pain. And are starting to see us.

DELORES DENTON

That's bad. That's very bad.

F,C load rifles having shared rounds.

SGT FRASER

We aint got the bullets for too many. How many?

Ridge horizon is BREACHED by DOZEN GELBEASTS.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Like your idea of a spot. They see us?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Learning to. Luckily, Susan's this way.

SGT FRASER

Still don't know why we need her, but I'll take any dewdrop. Fallback!

They RUN to field of giant lily pads with spikes. J STOPS them.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Tread carefully! Step in those you're gone.

SGT FRASER

Okay, let's go.

Gelbeasts NEARING. Heroes CREEP around pads. W kicks one clumsily. It SHIVERS. Spikes VIBRATE. Sides RISE, fall.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Meateaters. Haven't stopped feeling
scared since Valerie. . .

J,D hold hands. D reaches out to W, they hold hands.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
To be reduced to a fly. It's too
much.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Nearly at our pitstop, Dr. Hold on.
In a way, these things are
protecting us.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh? How?

They SEE Gb's FEARFUL of entering field. They BELLOW anger.

DELORES DENTON
Something on our side at last.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Happenstance, I'm afraid, DD. The
sun doesn't shine for us.

CPL COLMAN
Wouldn't get too hopeful.

C motions to other side of field. Familiar monsters GROW from
ground. Susan FLOATS inside biggest. Asleep.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
So near, Susan. So near.

SGT FRASER
So what then, Hammersmith?
Stalemate? We finished? Three
things want to eat us! And no way
out. Now what?

Gb steps forward onto pad, brushes spikes. Pad CLOSES,
CRUSHES. Gb HOWLS. Pad SHRINKS like vacuum wrap.

CPL COLMAN
Least we got small feet.

SKELETON of Gb PUSHES out as if pad were mist. Pod FLOPS
uselessly. Skeleton advances to another. Same thing. Gb's
behind step onto safe trail made by leader.

SGT FRASER
Oh shit! Oh fuck no! Give me a
break! Give me a break!

Monsters ADVANCE SAFELY over field. C OPENS FIRE.

F puts muzzle in MOUTH. "Sergeant, no!" B WHIPS rifle to J.

F JUMPS on pad. KICKS spikes.

SGT FRASER (CONT'D)
Let me die! God let me die!

B runs in, COVERING him.

BLOOMS
If I'm living so are yo-

Pad snaps SHUT.

DR GJ WASHBURN
You can't die here! Look at your
friend! [re skeleton] Look at that!

DELORES DENTON
Jason, what are we going to do? Can
you make a portal?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
We came for Susan! [points] She's
there! What do they want with us?

Brain box of front gelbeast SHATTERS. It COLLAPSES.

CPL COLMAN
Headshots. That's something.

ONE pad between heroes and gelbeasts. Monsters LOOM over.

CPL COLMAN (CONT'D)
[to J] Headshots, Hammersmith!

J FIRES with C.

Final pad swallows Gb. Skeleton walks out. Monster cloaks it.
CRUSHES skull.

GBs and monsters CLASH. C,J FIRE at Gb heads. W holds D. Gb's
skulls CRUSH/SHATTER. Monster TORN APART, its light DOUSED.
Another EATEN, FILLS gel with colour. TWO Gb's, [one
coloured] SHREDDED, turn, RUN.

J,C,D,W rush to erect pad. Can't shift it. MONSTERS pull it
open. B,F DRIED husks. C TAKES F'S POUCH.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Thought we couldn't die.

MONSTER
MATERIALS BURN. SOULS NEVER DIE.
LOOK AT US. ETERNITY WILL NOT
RELEASE US.

DELORES DENTON
Who are you?

MONSTER
ANCIENT.

CPL COLMAN
So where've they gone?

MONSTER
*DEEP BENEATH. A TITAN FEEDS IN
SLEEP. WHEN IT WAKES, THIS EARTH
WILL BE GONE.*

DR GJ WASHBURN
These pads feed the beast? And they
still can't die?

MONSTER
HELL PERMITS NO REST.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Can I please have Susan?

MONSTER
HERE. SHE HAS SERVED US.

S GENTLY drops into J's arms. She sleeps.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
What do you mean, served you?

MONSTER
SHE BROUGHT YOU.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Me? What does everyone want with
me?

S.O. SLURPING. First pad to flop, SINKS.

DR GJ WASHBURN
What now?

Pad is SUCKED UNDER.

MONSTER
WE MUST LEAVE. FOLLOW.

M floats away with others.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
But why? God just tell me!

MONSTER
NOW.

C trains his rifle on pads. W,D help J carry S.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Nightmare.

DELORES DENTON
If I pinch you, will it all be
over?

CPL COLMAN
Try wetting the bed.

S.O. SLURPING. Another used pad goes under. Then another.

CPL COLMAN (CONT'D)
Fuck knows what it all means, but
we gotta move faster!

S.O. SLURPING INCREASES. S.O. GREAT UNDERGROUND RUMBLE.

DELORES DENTON
Someone's alarms gone off. Not
yours, Jason.

Unaltered pads VANISH. Whole field UNSTABLE, like sand.
Ground SAGS.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh no.

W RACES to edge. D,J DROP S.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Come back! Hey!

DELORES DENTON
They've left us!

J throws S over C's shoulder. They RUN. Make it to edge.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Help us, doctor! Grab her!

W pulls S over edge. J pushes D,C up. Ground SAGS. J out of
reach!

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Wait!

J FALLS OUT OF SIGHT. Heroes SCREAM for him.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Not again! Not again! Oh Valerie!

DELORES DENTON
You left us!

DR GJ WASHBURN
I'm sorry! I couldn't.

DELORES DENTON
Valerie? Wait, where did *they* go?

Monsters at safe distance, beckon them.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
Cowards.

W,D,C pick up S, rush toward M's.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)
How could you leave us? You're
worthless!

DR GJ WASHBURN
Wait, Delores. Wait. I know what's
coming. Watch. No, don't watch. Not
going to leave you, believe me.
First Valeria, now Jason. Well, you
can't scar a scar, but you don't
have to have one. [ground RUMBLES]
Please, Delores, look away!

W twists D so she can't see irruption, D turns to face it.

Colossal worm BURSTS out of chasm, SHOOTS up into sky into
vanishing point. Endless.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
Wait. Where is he?

DELORES DENTON
Jason? He's gone, you fool.

DR GJ WASHBURN
No. Valerie. She was stuck to its
side. Like a wasp. Why isn't he?
Where did he go?

MONSTER
HE IS NOT DEAD.

DELORES DENTON
Where is he?

MONSTER
DO NOT KNOW. HE IS NOT DEAD.

DELORES DENTON
You sense him?

MONSTER
*WE DO. WE MUST GO. THERE ARE NO
BARRIERS TO PROTECT THIS WORLD.
THERE IS WORSE, FAR WORSE TO COME.*

S awakens.

DELORES DENTON

Susan! You're with the living again!

DR GJ WASHBURN

Quick, we have to go. They're leaving without us!

MONSTER

NO. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW.
COME.

DELORES DENTON

What do you mean, worse?

MONSTER

COME!

They follow M's away from ascending worm. From different vanishing point, worm CRASHES into earth mile away. Weaves in, out randomly. Ground SHATTERS in its wake. BURSTS out of ground where they stood.

SUSAN JONES

Oh my god! What the hell! Where's my J?

DELORES DENTON

We don't know. He's alive somewhere, they say.

Worm CRASHES close behind. They run FASTER. W can't keep up. C goes back for him.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Not going to make it!

CPL COLMAN

Stow it! One foot at a time.

DELORES DENTON

Make it where? We don't know where we're going.

SUSAN JONES

You think you're lost?

M's DROP over edge.

DELORES DENTON

They've gone! They've gone! Done it again, the bastards!

M rises up.

MONSTER

FOLLOW. WE WILL CATCH YOU.

DR GJ WASHBURN

What?

They run to cliff edge. Stop. Peer over. SEE massive broad plateau 400 ft below. M's hover like blankets underneath.

MONSTER

*JUMP. YOU MUST JUMP. CAN'T PROTECT
YOU UNLESS YOU JUMP.*

Worm BURSTS OUT side of cliff. INSTANTLY REPELLED by force field. RETREATS. Ground SHAKES. S.O. ANGER from worm. Getting LOUDER.

W looks back. TERROR seizes him. He points.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Look! We're finished. We're finished.

Worm chunnels ACROSS land like a train, STRAIGHT FOR THEM! ROARING! C's rifle clicks EMPTY.

CPL COLMAN

Didn't work anyway. Go go go!

They JUMP as worm FLATTENS their spot, RECOILS off invisible force field. It THRASHES ground in RAGE.

INT. INTERDIMENSION - CRACK IN CRUST - CONTINUOUS

Monster-beast, ENLARGED, full colours, carries DEAD, DRAINED Gb in jaws to crevice. Drops it by edge.

Gb's surge out of crevice, circle Mb. One ATTACKS. BITES him, is POISONED with colour, wobbles about. Others make ready to POUNCE.

Mb horns GLOW. PORTAL appears. J FALLS OUT.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

All going a bit too fast. [checks around him] Guys, pause pause! [T-shape] God's sake.

Mb JAWS open as if to eat him. J SCREAMS. M shroud COVERS J. [Leaving an ordinary Gb behind] As before, he rises.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

This again. [to Gb's] If you can understand, call it a draw. [Gb's close gap] Wouldn't if I were you. [they charge] You were warned!

Monsters spill out of J, CLASH with Gb's. Oddly even fight. Gb's don't bite. M's don't eat.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Just humans you eat then.

Stand off. S.O. ANGRY worm. Gb's turn in TERROR to SEE worm DESTROY ground as if paper. Gb's COWER amongst M's.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
[alights] Common enemy. Makes friends of us all.

Worm DIVES. Moment of fading echoes.

COLOSSAL thorn BURSTS out of ground close to them. ANOTHER closer. ANOTHER closer. They PUSH OUT revealing spine.

Ground TREMBLES UNDERFOOT.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Run! Run! Run!

MONSTER
FOLLOW.

M lifts J, spearheads retreat. Heading for edge to plateau.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
You know where you're going?

MONSTER
TO OUR CALLING. MY BEACON. MY SALVATION.

Thorns burst out, ripping earth apart. Stragglers fall into chasm. Coloured Mb rises, safe. Gb's can't keep up.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Help them. Give them flight.

MONSTER
HOW?

J turns, DIVES onto one. BITES its ear. Colour BLEEDS inside. It rises! Then lands.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Like that. Bit of poison and all that.

J leaps onto another Gb. Same. Coloured Gb returns to pack, Gb's willingly let them bite them.

Untouched Gb's fall away.

They skid to stop at edge of cliff. J SEES HQ colony ship. Saucer shaped.

Colour not completely spread, Gb's only bounce like balloons.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

What can we do? We're not ready.
Wait, ready for what? That your
base?

MONSTER

HOME, YES. WE JUMP. NOW.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

We'll lose too many.

MONSTER

THE PLANET IS DEAD. WE CANNOT WAIT.

Whole landscape DETERIORATES. Giant beasts SHAKE FREE, pass
in/out of dimensions. Atmosphere THINS. Starfields BREAK
THROUGH.

Standing in front, J EXTENDS his monster arms like wings.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Hold tight! Come on! Bite me!

Gb's CLING to his wings with their teeth.

MONSTER

NOW! WE GO NOW!

They RUSH off the edge as it CRUMBLES. And DROP out of sight

INT. INTERDIMENSION - CLIFF FACE/ABYSS - CONTINUOUS

J STRAINS incredibly. *Not enough.* They LOSE altitude.

MONSTER

LET THEM GO!

JASON HAMMERSMITH

I won't!

Into darkness, Gb's bodies FILL with colour, they RISE like a
PHOENIX. Climbing, climbing up to HQ that SHIFTS on loose
ground.

HQ LIGHTS UP like xmas tree. Central part ROTATES.

Hangar door OPENS.

MONSTER

QUICKLY! NO TIME LEFT!

They FALL into bay, door CLOSES. HQ lifts off as entire
plateau COLLAPSES. Giant tentacles FLAY in the dust ocean.

INT. MONSTER HQ - HANGAR BAY - CONTINUOUS

A tangle of bodies. M SEPARATES from J. Gb's DISTRESSED. J shrouds them in blue shade. Colours inside them turn COOL BLUE. They CALM DOWN.

MONSTER
INTERESTING.

Inner door opens. D,S,W run in. J SWAMPED by the ladies.

SUSAN AND DELORES
Jason! Jason! Oh, Jason!

JASON HAMMERSMITH
I'm alright, loves. I'm alright.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Good gracious, we thought you a goner.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Haven't had time to *think*. It's mad isn't it? Completely mad. Rather it than me. How we coping?

MONSTER
COME. SEE OUR SENSIENT.
[fades/reappears walking off]

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Your what?

SUSAN JONES
You'll see. They have a wizard at the wheel. Answers are coming. Trust me.

S,D,W EXIT. Gb's wimper as J exits reluctantly. Gb's go green.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.
They be okay?

MONSTER O.S.
THEY WERE BORN HERE.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.
Not from Oz is he? The wizard?

SUSAN JONES O.S.
No, he's real. Real enough.

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.
Far as nightmares go.

INT. MONSTER HQ - CAPTAIN'S DECK - LATER

Central chair: Space Age PHARAOH. Ancient. Withered. Long fingers on control pads. Tesla beams shoot out to upturned green pool floating high overhead. Mist falls, P INFLATES.

C at separate console, beams FILL his eyes/ears.

J,S,D,W ENTER. RUSH to C.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Corporal!

PHARAOH
He is mad. Do not touch.

SUSAN JONES
Mad? But-

PHARAOH
He knows who he is. What he must do. The gods oppose him. His brains are killing him. He will change soon.

SUSAN JONES
What are you doing?

PHARAOH
Sustaining him. For now.

DR GJ WASHBURN
The gods are real?

PHARAOH
All thoughts are real, somewhere.

Ship DIPS violently. Pool becomes storm, swamping room as hologram. P corrects flight with pads. Storm becomes pool against wall.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Is Valerie alive?

PHARAOH
You see me *busy*. Alive somewhere. Not in your world, Washburn. You saw her die. In your mind, she lives.

DR GJ WASHBURN
She's dying all the time.

PHARAOH
You wish to join her?

DR GJ WASHBURN
Don't know.

PHARAOH

Make your mind, one or the other.
Or perish. Enough.

Tesla beams return pool to ceiling. More mist for P.

DELORES DENTON

What's happening to us?

PHARAOH

A selfless being. I'm grateful.
Your world is crossing a highway.
Greater beings than you have [DIP,
correction] destinations beyond
your knowledge. You are a mist to
them. A fog. Where you walk, they
see death, no interest in your
lives or your pain. Your planet not
even a stepping stone. Your world,
badly drawn and disposable. You
must tread without breaking a
spider web. They may destroy you if
they see you. Or step on you, if
they don't.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

How do we excise them?

PHARAOH

Excise them? Who do you think you
are? You are irrelevant. I was the
gods' navel, and look at me. Too
human for their needs. We are waste
now. I am the last and your
planet's saviours are ancient and
forgotten. Think you can expel
them? With what powers? Look at
what they do.

Pool fills side of room. Shifts to outside view. Magma
hardens. Cracks apart to core. Roiling furnace cools.
Worms/tentacles shatter it all passing through.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

You can't stop a meteor and you say
'excise' to me? No no. You must
abide. If they let you.

DR GJ WASHBURN

We're stuck with it?

PHARAOH

[laughs] They are stuck with you. A
mild irritation. Not even a cough.

DELORES DENTON

Why do you hate us?

PHARAOH

Hate? Is not hate. Do you hate the baby that makes you laugh? WAIT-

Pool shows multi-tentacled shape heading for them.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

They don't know we are here.

P takes evasive action. Tentacle sticks to craft. They are pulled along.

DR GJ WASHBURN

We're going to die!

PHARAOH

We are *all* going to die. For some, a blessing. We seek the blessing and need your help.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

How? Sir.

PHARAOH

Let us help you. ["Ok"] Return to your cursed world and fulfil our wish that this [outside] does not come to you. [mist falls] Blessed relief all too brief. Such is existence.

DELORES DENTON

Aren't you bothered? They've got us!

PHARAOH

Lesson to be learned. Being bothered or even aware is inconsequential to the grandest of all schemes.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Which is?

PHARAOH

We are nothing.

EXT. INTERDIMENSIONAL UNIVERSE - OUTER SPACE - CONTINUOUS

Tentacle-beast departs from broken planet. Ship stuck as if fly on paper.

JASON HAMMERSMITH O.S.

Even you?

INT. MONSTER HQ - CAPTAIN'S DECK - CONTINUOUS

PHARAOH

Of course. How curious, mortals wish for eternity, eternal long for death. I can give you life, if you take mine from me.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What do we do, sir?

PHARAOH

To return, you open a portal. They are the barriers. The gods hate them. When you open a portal, you alert the gods. You must leave quickly or become flies on a timeless web.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

The spirits help us?

PHARAOH

The spirits? You believe in such things?

DELORES DENTON

I do.

PHARAOH

How we comfort ourselves with fancy. They are not spirits. They are demi-souls. Cursed to exist between life and death.

DR GJ WASHBURN

What happened to them? Sir.

PHARAOH

I gave them power. And they broke this world. Gone forever.

P LOOKS out. As tentacle rises/falls, they sometimes SEE rubble/dust of planet shrinking away.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

That could be Earth?

PHARAOH

Earth? You call it Earth? Because you stand on earth and think you central? How sad. Egocentricity. Disease of thought.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

We have to think we're special. It's how we survive. Without it, we'll go mad.

PHARAOH

[re C] Precisely. A dead end with no way out.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Can you give us a minute?

PHARAOH

A minute? [laughs raucously] Yes, you can have a minute.

J,D,S,W group around C.

DR G J WASHBURN

[quietly] I'm going mad. [re C] Can he do this for me? I don't want to go back if Earth is to be destroyed.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

He says we can save it.

SUSAN JONES

He says we're stuck with the invasion. But it could get worse.

DR G J WASHBURN

How can anything get worse?

SUSAN JONES

The planet we saw die. We can prevent that.

DELORES DENTON

With those demi-souls though? What do they want from us? I don't trust them. They hate us. Laugh at us. It's obvious.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

He laughs like a minute is nothing to him. Maybe we have more time than we think. Hold on, Dr.

They turn to P.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

We've been discussing-

PHARAOH

I was listening. Take all the wasted life you need. Come to me when you are ready to leave. I can wait. An hour in eternity is but a second of breath.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Will it kill you? If we open a
portal here? Is that what you want?

PHARAOH
An end? There will be an end. But
you must save your 'Earth'. We have
a balance to pay. Then we can rest.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
These demi-souls? You were going to
tell us about them.

PHARAOH
Wander for a mortal hour. Then we
shall talk in preparation for your,
and our, departure. Go. Wander. I
must close my affairs.

Tesla streaks STOP. Pool DRIES. P FREEZES in chair. Every bit
of tech TURNS into white stone. They are ALONE.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Well, might as well wander, like he
said.

Lights DIM. Ship powers DOWN. C is RELEASED. GASPS for air.

CPL COLMAN
Stop them, must, stop them...

His chair DROPS into floor, they CATCH him. Room is BARREN.

SUSAN JONES
What's the point? If it's all the
same.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Might not be. Let's see. [to C] Can
you walk?

CPL COLMAN
[shaken] Hard as nails,
Hammersmith.

Murky green SPREADS over them.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Oh great. Spooky. What for?

MONSTER O.S.
FOR USSSSS. . .

DELORES DENTON
What do you mean?

DOZENS of M eyes GLOW before them. Form WIDE GRIN.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Thought we were friends.

MONSTER O.S.
HA HA. RUN, BEFORE WE EAT YOU.

Grimace opens into JAWS.

They RUN.

INT. MONSTER HQ - CORRIDOR - LATER

White lit. Heroes pause for breath.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Doesn't stop does it?

SUSAN JONES
Your moaning doesn't.

CPL COLMAN
Wrap it up, Washburn. Need uppers
not downers. Laughing at us, aren't
they?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Not even ants to them. Bad as the
worms. Or the same.

DELORES DENTON
We're the good ones, Jason.
Specially you. Why do you think
they chose you?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Chose me? Happenstance, all I can
think of. Think too hard, me
brains'll melt.

DELORES DENTON
Because you're a hero. All your
pain. The demons invaded you when I
sensed you. Did we open it
together?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
No me without you. What have you
been doing?

DELORES DENTON
Nothing. It's not just cards and
voodoo, you know. I must be chosen
too. [beat] We're gifted together,
Jason. You and me. It isn't an
illness. It isn't you. Only counts
as part of your soul if you hurt
others with it.

DELORES DENTON (CONT'D)

And you don't, Jason. You're a good man with a golden aura.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[bit embarrassed] But then am I chosen to do this?

DELORES DENTON

I don't know. I got you so wrong. Maybe they did too.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

But what do they think I am?

SUSAN JONES

Evil. Your rages, Big J. Gives the wrong impression, every time.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

They thought I'd be willing.

DR GJ WASHBURN

A gateway. You're a bridge, Mr Hammersmith. Planet to planet, people like, or unlike, you. For once, they got it wrong.

DELORES DENTON

You don't hurt anyone. Imagine how much worse life would be if you did. Things can always get worse.

SUSAN JONES

Spesh with mental illness.

CPL COLMAN

They are worse. We got a great fucking worm bursting through our planet. You forgotten?

DELORES DENTON

But that's just it. It could get a lot worse. We may have to settle for that. Little bit of invasion does you good.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

That's what I say. ["Really?"] Yes, but for debauchery, not invasion.

DELORES DENTON

Same thing.

CPL COLMAN

Christ, I'm stuck with you lot. Get worse, you say? ["Yes"] How about this?

CPL COLMAN (CONT'D)
 [points to far corner, DIMMING]
 Gotta keep moving, til the hour is
 up.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Chasing us. Oh god, it's chasing
 us.

CPL COLMAN
 Leave the blues behind, Washburn,
 or I'll throw you at 'em.

Rounding corner, more green haze faces them.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Oh shit, surrounded.

Eyes GLOW as mouths open either side. Tongues LASH out,
 SLIMING the walls, CRAWLING forward.

DR GJ WASHBURN (CONT'D)
 We've gotta get out!

SUSAN JONES
 Big J! Time to shine!

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 What can I do?

CPL COLMAN
 Give us a fucking door!

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Can't do it on my own!

SUSAN/COLMAN/DELORES/WASHBURN
 Try!

J presses against wall. Jaws close in.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Hurry!

Portal pushes out. J steps in, keeps it open. W barges past,
 dives in.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Come on!

DELORES DENTON
 Where's it go?

SUSAN JONES
 God knows! Anywhere but here!

First S, then D, then C dive in.

Mouths make one giant cavity covering portal.

INT. MONSTER HQ - EMPTY CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Another lit room.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
We're still here.

SUSAN JONES
So you need them to travel.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Just a doorkeeper me. An usher
without magic.

DELORES DENTON
I'm your magic. [they hug, kiss]

DR GJ WASHBURN
God we're stuck here. How do we get
back home?

SUSAN JONES
You don't deserve to!

CPL COLMAN
No, man, ladies first.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Can't help it. I panic. Feel so
scared. Look at me. Not built for
high jinks. [CLUTCHES cocoon patch]

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Dr, we've all been taken out of our
comfort zones. We're just doing the
best we can. Think of others. Is
all we ask.

DR GJ WASHBURN
Thank you. I'm not good enough to
live. Should have saved Valerie.
Her little legs couldn't keep up.
Should have held back. At least.
Died with her. See her die every
second. She'll never forgive me.

SUSAN JONES
Then be heroic, learn to forgive
yourself.

DR GJ WASHBURN
But if I die here, I live in
perpetual damnation. There's no way
out for me.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Back home there is. As long as
Earth stays ours, we can die there.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
 But if the gods take over, we'll be
 damned forever. Like the demi-
 souls. We've got to get back.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Yes.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 As a team.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Five a side team. I'll be goalie if
 that's okay?

SUSAN JONES
 Promise you'll let us through?

W nods. C looks out window. Godbeast enters whirl of stars.

CPL COLMAN
 Transitting. New dimension. God,
 not Earth. We're not ready.

They look. Red landscape appears. Charging into mountain.

HQ is flicked off tentacle. Lands on dusty surface.

In a jumble, they pick themselves up.

CPL COLMAN (CONT'D)
 Mars. One more planet hop we're
 finished. We're running out of
 time.

DELORES DENTON
 And space.

D points at portal, glowing dank green. Tendrils seep
 through.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Hour up yet? Can't he help us?

SUSAN JONES
 Where to go, J Man?

CPL COLMAN
 Not this way [by window]

SUSAN JONES
 That one?

J pushes opposite wall. Portal puffs out. He looks back.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Give me a second.

J EXITS. Tendrils ADVANCE. Harden into tongues. S,D,C,W SLASH at them with C's weapons. D is SWUNG around. SCREAMING for help. Tongue PULLS her back to portal. Her feet SUCKED in. Heroes can't hold her.

INT. MONSTER HQ - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Jaws slobber at portal, sucking feet out. Further down corridor, a portal appears. J climbs out. He faces them.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Looking for me?

Jaws stop sucking. Feet disappear.

INT. MONSTER HQ - EMPTY CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

They COLLAPSE backwards in a heap. Room FREE of tendrils.

INT. MONSTER HQ - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Green-mist eyes GLARE at J. They form one mouth.

MONSTER
WHY WOULD WE WANT YOU?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Your bridge keeper.

MONSTER
*YOU ARE NOT OUR KEEPER. YOU'RE AN
EMPTY VESSEL TO US. WE HAVE NO NEED
OF YOU.*

JASON HAMMERSMITH
How rude. Try this empty vessel for
size.

J reaches out. Concentrates. SUCKS green haze inside him.

He opens new portal, BLOWS them inside. Closes it.

Opens old portal, lets his friends out.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
C'mon, quick. It won't hold them.
Got to wake the Pharoah. They're
not our monsters.

DELORES DENTON
But who? Where did they go?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Quick!

They EXIT.

New portal SEEPS green. Eyes CHASE them.

INT. MONSTER HQ - CAPTAIN'S DECK - CONTINUOUS

They ENTER.

SUSAN JONES

Wake up! Wake up! We need you!

S knocks on pharaoh stone.

Corridor DARKENS green.

J places hands on P's head. It throbs. Comes alive.

DR GJ WASHBURN

Close the door! [RACES to door
scrabbling for controls]

P awakens. Pool rises, rains on P. Room comes alive.

PHARAOH

There is no need.

W retreats as corridor darkens to black. Nothing enters.

DR GJ WASHBURN

But why not?

PHARAOH

We have rules. They are not your
allies. They are undershades. The
darker spirits that run the gods'
errands.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

You wanted us to see them.

PHARAOH

You must understand. When you
return to your Earth, they are in
the shadows. You must not release
them.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

How could we release them?

PHARAOH

By closing the bridge.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

They created it.

PHARAOH

Your allies opened the bridge.
Without it, your Earth would be
rubble.

CPL COLMAN

It's breaking through us. We keep
it alive?

PHARAOH

If you choose to. Fate rests with
you. It always does.

SUSAN JONES

But this planet didn't survive.
Fates, you say, must have been
against them.

PHARAOH

It destroyed itself.

SUSAN JONES

That was its fate? But how?

PHARAOH

It chose to fight and lost.

CPL COLMAN

It? Fucking planet. You mean the
people?

PHARAOH

I refer to the end result. The
planet wasted itself. You are the
power to save or destroy.

CPL COLMAN

We have to keep the alien.

PHARAOH

The gods do not care what you do.

DELORES DENTON

Neither do you.

PHARAOH

One so old as I must first be
impressed. You are no outliers to
me. I've yet to meet anyone to
leave a mark. Every outcome a
disaster. Save yourselves, I will
consider you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

But how?

PHARAOH

Abide. You must abide. You will not fight the gods. You will fight yourselves. Throughout my days those who destroy their worlds failed to learn to abide.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Why me though? How is it about me?

PHARAOH

Your kind call the demons. They answered you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Demons? My kind?

PHARAOH

Your demons, Hammersmith. Your condition, your rage, your bile.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

How do you know?

P waves hand over J. Golden aura billows around him.

PHARAOH

Particularly strong in you. Growing. You are becoming one.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Of them?

PHARAOH

Of them. You must return now.
[waves hand, aura vanishes] I fear your armies are trying too hard.

Moving image appears in pond. Artillery striking columns. Force field shimmers with each strike.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

If they penetrate the bridge, the gods will be angry. They must be stopped.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

By us?

PHARAOH

By you, Hammersmith. They will listen to you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Me?

PHARAOH

You are a messiah. They have been waiting for you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

They have messiahs.

PHARAOH

Words and promises. You are real.

SUSAN JONES

They'll kill him.

PHARAOH

As you defend the bridge. The army defend you. Colman will speak for you. He is not alone.

P waves hand over C. C's pouch lights up. Shimmering forms of B,F emerge alongside C.

DR GJ WASHBURN

My sanity. Oh my sanity.

PHARAOH

To Earth you go. Much to do. You are stronger than you believe. If you believe in yourselves. And nothing else.

DELORES DENTON

Like what else?

PHARAOH

Words and promises. You are real, fortune teller. [beat] Here they are. To lead you to your world. They know the way.

M's ENTER. Hero's startle.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

Do not fear. They are friends.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

For how long?

M's create portal.

PHARAOH

They have the means to open portals. You, Hammersmith, have the means to travel through them. Off now. We'll meet again.

SUSAN JONES

Coming to visit us?

PHARAOH

To live with you. Die with you. My journey is tired, old. My resting place calls me. Please, go now.

Ship SHUDDERS. S.O. HOWLS. Heroes thrown around.

Pool, sloshing over wall, shows outside ship. TWO gods fighting, thrashing limbs.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

Yes, they do this. All gods fight. Please, Hammersmith. Make Earth ready. Yours is the last.

Pool splashes against portal. Is half sucked in. Pool shows outside.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

Oh dear.

EXT. INTERDIMENSIONAL UNIVERSE - OUTSIDE SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Gods STOP fighting. TURN to ship. SNIFFING. SEE pool waving helplessly.

PHARAOH O.S.

It's too late! Why do you delay?

INT. MONSTER HQ - CAPTAIN'S DECK - CONTINUOUS

J rushes to pool, draws it in, throws it above P. It rains on P.

PHARAOH

Thank you.

J holds portal. It throbs. Ducks inside. Comes out.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Now. We go now.

Ship flips upside down. J hangs on portal. Cracks open in walls. P phases to white. Dark green wraiths leak into room. Grab D! W runs to P. C,B,F wrestle with fronds.

To M's unaffected by rocking:

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Some help?

W stares at D being flung.

INT. DR WASHBURN MIND - CONTINUOUS

Valerie torn apart on tentacle. STARING BACK at him.

DR GJ WASHBURN O.S.
No! No! I'm sorry, Valerie! I'm
sorry!

DR VALERIE GLADBACK
Help me, Washburn! Help me!

INT. MONSTER HQ - CAPTAIN'S DECK - CONTINUOUS

S is picked up.

SUSAN JONES
[to D] Help us, Dr!

W cannot move. C,B,F hack at fronds. C throws grenade into doorway. They pull D, S free as explosion is muffled. They run to J.

Doorway billows with fog, REDDENING. It leaps out to grab D, W shouts, "No! Not again!", holding talisman aloft, dives straight into it. It grabs him and pulls him in.

Flickering alive, P shuts the door.

PHARAOH
Go now, go!

SUSAN JONES
Come with us, Pharaoh! There's
nothing for you here!

S.O. Horrendous tearing of metal. Wind howling.

P wraps pool around him, prises himself free, leans on S to join them.

One by one, they disappear into portal. M's do nothing.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Fat lot of use!

M's come alive, most barge through J into portal. J grabs last M.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Wait! Wait!

He closes portal. Runs off.

MONSTER
WHAT ARE YOUR GAMES?

INT. MONSTER HQ - HANGAR BAY - CONTINUOUS

Gb's in a panic, reflected by their mad colours. Giant door OPENS. J runs in. Gbeasts jump EXCITEDLY. Colours become yellow/blue.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Didn't think I'd forget you, did
 you? Come on.

Gbeasts CHASE after J.

INT. MONSTER HQ - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Round corner, J FREEZES. Gbeasts halt behind him. Captain's Deck is FULL with demon eyes in black fog. W floats on top. Alive, catatonic. M stands upfront.

DR GJ WASHBURN
 Cocoon, Jason. Your cocoon. Will
 save us. God save us.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 What are your games? Can't work you
 out.

MONSTER
 YOU WILL WAIT.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
 Uh uh. Don't need you now. Got my
 own travel.

J creates portal by himself. Beckons GBs in.

MONSTER
 YOU WILL JOIN US, HAMMERSMITH.

Eyes follow J into portal as it closes.

Portal SWELLS suddenly, vibrates VIOLENTLY. Another portal opens. Eyes are thrown out by J. He gives V sign to M and disappears.

Ship RATTLES, CREAKS, CRACKS.

MONSTER (CONT'D)
 THE END AT LAST.

Ship is PULLED APART by tentacles.

Black fog, M,W sucked into worm mouth. W's weak scream DIES.

Gods, disinterested, dive into another dimension.

INT. INTERDIMENSION - PANORAMA - CONTINUOUS

Remnants of passageway to Susan's portal, floating, tunnel shards trailing.

Godworm appears. SNIFFS portal. Inserts tentacle, probing...

END OF ACT 2

ACT 3

INT. SUSAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lights OUT. S.O. Organic RUMBLE, military FIRE

Second portal OPENS, heroes/M's fall in. J lastly.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[into portal] Wait there. Just wait
now. I won't leave you. [S.O. Gb's
beying]

S turns light ON. They SEE first portal is swollen, hard.
Windows blasted out. Room flattened. Crowded.

B,F hide inside C. M's become one. P at missing wall. Watches
military FIRING at bridge.

PHARAOH
We must stop them. Hammersmith.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
A light display maybe?

PHARAOH
Have you learnt to fly?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Haven't learnt anything. Except it
could be worse.

SUSAN JONES
Worse?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[taps head] I only hurt myself.
Others are not so lucky. The bridge
[outside] has taught me that.

CPL COLMAN
This is lucky?

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Could be worse. Is the point.

DELORES DENTON
Poor doctor. Thought he called
himself a coward. He saved my life.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
Came true didn't he? Said something
about my cocoon. Could save us.

DELORES DENTON
He was full of pain. For Valerie?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Yes. No fraud claim would stick on you.

MONSTER

NO. YOU ARE REAL, DELORES DENTON.

DELORES DENTON

Sorry?

S.O. BANGING. Old portal RATTLES with BANGS.

BANG. BANG. BANG.

CPL COLMAN

What the hell now?

House SHAKES.

SUSAN JONES

[looking over edge] Why're they always miles off the ground?

CPL COLMAN

Who cares, nurse?

DELORES DENTON

Think it makes a difference?

SUSAN JONES

Staring in our faces. Sure of it.

Casing of portal SWELLS. MOVEMENT through thinning shell.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)

Never have time to think!

PHARAOH

Close it, Hammersmith! Only you can!

J rushes to portal, hands out, glow on contact.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Can't do this alone!

M envelops J, glow intensifies. Banging stops. Pause.

S.O. Hideous gurgling gets louder, louder. Portal explodes!

M takes full blast. Heroes thrown out.

Tentacle pushes out of gaping hole, endlessly expanding.

EXT. SUSAN'S APT - CONTINUOUS

J,S,D,C, scattered over street. P floats down in cloud.

CPL COLMAN

It's worse, Hammersmith [B,F
appear] Good news for you.

SUSAN JONES

What's that?

CPL COLMAN

They can die here.

PHARAOH

Until the gods rule, we can all die
in our sleep. But it is too late.
We cannot put an end to the
inevitable.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

It's definitely over?

PHARAOH

You're welcome to try.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

You said something about flying?

PHARAOH

Powers manifest, albeit in myriad
ways. If you cannot, you cannot.
You cannot. [looks at D]

Tentacle topples onto bridge, wraps around beams. Yanks them
open. Sticks to upward worm, gets pulled up.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Hold up. Problem might solve
itself.

Appears to, but S.O TORRENTIAL tearing from Susan's.

SUSAN JONES

Wouldn't waste hope. No good's
coming out of my digs.

Portal wrenches wide open. Old planet debris is rapidly
pushed through. Dropping like hail. Not connecting portal
with ground. YET.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Who's being hopeful?

Soldier's head rolls out, screaming. Dies at M's feet.

MONSTER

WHY RUN? OUR WORK IS DONE.

They walk away.

SUSAN JONES

We need you!

MONSTER

WE HAVE NO NEED OF YOU. OUR DEATH
HAS COME.

As debris rolls out, M's face the carnage. Heroes pull each other to safety, opposite direction. Looking back, see M's swamped by debris.

Army fires on portal.

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

On hill, J,S,D,C,P look around.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Seen this before, Pharaoh?

PHARAOH

[nods] And now I have nowhere else to go. I notice the phantoms have died. The gods' powers have yet to overwhelm your planet.

F, B come out of C.

CPL COLMAN

You leaving us, Sergeant?

SGT FRASER

One last mission, Corporal.

DELORES DENTON

Thought *they'd* help us.

PHARAOH

They were not heroes. Heroes die first. They were the dregs too scared to step forward.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Why have they done this?

PHARAOH

To die. It was all they wanted. The cost to your people never occurred to them. They finally found the courage to die.

SUSAN JONES

Why the bridge?

PHARAOH

To prevent the gods destroying your whole world.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

Their arrival predictable. Though not for your sakes. Eager to be at an end, they leave you to fight alone.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Monsters by name. Well, they've gone now. Just me own.

D holds his temples, SEES ravaging demons above him.

DELORES DENTON

You were calm in the demon world. What can we do, James?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Pool our talents. We're all gifted somehow. I've got my cloak. Washburn thought it important. [to S] And what you said. ["Huh?"] The gap [the portal] something in it?

PHARAOH

[to D] You can help us, Fortuna.

DELORES DENTON

Me? How?

PHARAOH

It was you who called the demons. You killed those people. You are no fraud, Delores. Your powers can save us. You and Hammersmith. All of you play a part.

DELORES DENTON

How, Pharaoh?

PHARAOH

It is you. You who are the conduit. The bridge. Hammersmith is merely a carrier. But together you can save your world.

DELORES DENTON

How?

PHARAOH

You must close the bridge.

DELORES DENTON

We can't go near it, Pharaoh!

P points at portal as the spillage rises up to it. Portal throbs, hungry, stretching to meet the rise.

PHARAOH

Something is happening, finally, in our favour. At least, I think so.

SUSAN JONES

It's connecting!

Everything it touches FREEZES. Portal exodus is cut off. Blue stillness spreads outward. Ice veins grow up tentacle that cannot exude from portal.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

It can't break free! Is this it? Have you seen this before?

PHARAOH

I have not. And feel oddly hopeful.

Torrential noise.

CPL COLMAN

Gonna kill itself! Bit off more than it could chew!

Veins race up tentacle toward endless worm.

SUSAN JONES

This is it, Jason. We needn't worry.

Veins nearly at worm, ["Go on! Go on!"] tentacle shrivels and detaches, becoming frozen in air. Worm is untouched.

PHARAOH

Curses. I felt sure. But it is so different. There must be a reason.

As blue wave travels through debris, M's rise out of it, clawing to get away.

SGT FRASER

They're not dead! We is fucked!

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Don't be too sure. The Pharaoh's right. Something different and we're in the middle of it.

M's freeze. Ripple carries on, toward heroes.

CPL COLMAN

We need to go!

JASON HAMMERSMITH

No! We're not monsters. Delores, how do you feel about this?

DELORES DENTON

We have to stay. What happened before? When you went under?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

There were imps and things, devils doing their god's work. There was a greater god, beneath us.

DELORES DENTON

We have to face it.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

They'll eat us.

SGT FRASER

No they won't. [Blooms comes out with Sgt] This is where we come in.

PHARAOH

And your protective cloak. Here.

P waves hands over J's cloak it divides into cloaks for D, C. They wear them.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[eyeing P] Many hidden talents.

PHARAOH

Many indeed. I'll explain, if there's a later, later.

Blue wave stops before them, at edge of debris.

SUSAN JONES

It's stopped. Why would it stop?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Stage one. Stage two is a new column. A tenth column. [to P] What does that mean?

Lightning bolts from nonogon whip outward for portal.

PHARAOH

The bridge will widen. The parasite will grow. And Earth will be devoured. We cannot let the gods win. They have no plan. Jason? You know what to do.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Yes. All of us together. [to S] Susan, my love, you stay here. Your special powers will be in caring for us, if we come back. Stay with Pharaoh. But we have to go.

Portal glows white.

SUSAN JONES
Take care, crazy J. I love you.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
[they hug] Love you too, nurse.

J,D,C,F,B approach edge. J turns to S.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Run now! We got this!

They jump, landing instantly freeze to blue and SINK.

P picks up S and they lift off ground.

Portal light grows, wider, wider, taller. Electric bolts more frenzied, nearly hitting P,S. Tentacle SHATTERS, showering P,S.

SUSAN JONES
Why can't you go? Not ungrateful.

PHARAOH
I am an oracle. Not a fighter. I
pass knowledge from one
civilisation to another, should
they choose to listen.

SUSAN JONES
Oh. Right.

WHITEOUT covers blue zone. Nonogon OPENS, receives tenth column.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
Think this one will listen?

PHARAOH
They will have to. But only if our
friends survive.

SUSAN JONES
Oh, Jason.

INT. INNER DIMENSION - TIMELESS

In milky world, godworm EXPANDS throwing up buildings, cars, M's, heroes etc in a maelstrom. BEAMS provide light.

Soldiers head rolls around, eyes wide scared. Ghost hands collect it, they are F's.

SGT FRASER
Got you, soldier. [pushes head
inside his chest]

J,D,C, cloaked, and two ghost soldiers group together. Sink as the current steadies.

CPL COLMAN

Now what?

Looking down, they SEE debris dissolving in black floor.

SGT FRASER

That's gonna be us!

They paddle to stay afloat. M's from afar turn to them.

SGT FRASER (CONT'D)

Can't stay like flotsam. And those bastards have seen us. What now, Hammersmith?

JASON HAMMERSMITH

We could do with a helping hand.

SGT FRASER

No shit.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Bear with. Back in a tic.

With ease, J creates portal. Vanishes inside.

DELORES DENTON

Jason?

CPL COLMAN

He gone? Just left us like this?

DELORES DENTON

He wouldn't, corporal. I know him. He thinks straighter in the other dimension. I'm not worried he might go for good, not without me.

SGT FRASER

They's coming! Brace up!

M's swim toward them, angry.

SGT FRASER (CONT'D)

Hurry your ass, Hammersmith!

M's nearly upon them, RAGING hate.

MONSTER

YOU! CLOSE THE BRIDGE! WE CANNOT DIE!

DELORES DENTON

This was your undoing. You never cared for anyone.

MONSTER

*WE ARE SAVING YOUR PLANET! DO NOT
OPEN MORE GATEWAYS! THE GODS WILL
TURN YOUR WORLD TO DUST.*

DELORES DENTON

What did you do to me and Jason?

MONSTER

*NOTHING. ASK YOUR ETERNAL ORACLE.
WE DID NOTHING TO YOU. CLOSE THE
BRIDGE! SACRIFICE YOURSELF. AND
YOUR CARRIER. YOU HAVE TO DIE. JUMP
INTO THE FIRES OF DARKNESS. CLOSE
THE BRIDGE AND LET US SLEEP. WE
CANNOT LIVE FOREVER.*

Dark servants pounce on M's from beneath. They fight fiercely. Falling to bottom they are torn apart.

DELORES DENTON

You were saying?

Portal swells to giant proportion. It opens. GBEASTS, with J riding, run out. BOUYANT.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

One stead apiece.

J's Gbeast bucks like newborn fowl, flies around, back to mounted friends.

JASON HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

These fellas can fly. Delores, look at me. What can you see?

D SEES his calm aura.

DELORES DENTON

[not happy] You belong here, Jason.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

[SEES M's dragged to bottom] Same for those cowards. Found the death they were looking for. Just what we want to avoid.

Servants push down on M's to dissolve quicker. They look up to J's team.

CPL COLMAN

The next fucking instalment.

Godworm rumbling upward endlessly, gets LOUDER. Beams shift into new circle, surrounding everyone.

CPL COLMAN (CONT'D)

That worm's going from strength to strength. Got to do something.

SGT FRASER

One thing at a time. Delores, you know what you gotta do yet? ["No."] Then we gotta make time. Blooms, Corporal. Take the fight to the enemy.

HEAD

And me, sergeant. Don't pass me by.

SGT FRASER

One of the team, Harker. On me.

F's Gb dives. B's, C's follow. They clash with servants.

DELORES DENTON

Jason. We have to die.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What? I've just found you.

DELORES DENTON

Love. We have to go. They said so.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Them? You listen to them?

DELORES DENTON

Look at you, making gateways, falling into the gods' hands. You've got to, we've got to stop.

J's, D's Gb's BEY angrily seeing friends hurt. J,D see basement shifting/roiling.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

What's that? Thought it was a floor.

Beams' perimeter shifts outside black basement. LOCKS in place. Basefloor boils aggressively.

DELORES DENTON

It's never what it seems.

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

P,S hovering as new perimeter forms around godwurm.

PHARAOH

The Decagon. Finally.

SUSAN JONES

Sorry?

INT. INNER DIMENSION - TIMELESS - CONTINUOUS

Whole base VIBRATES, contained within new boundary. Beam lightning WIDENS forming solid circular wall. Sound reverberates/DOMINATES.

PHARAOH O.S.

Godvurm is rising.

Servants/mounted soldiers bounce HELPLESSLY. Servants SUCKED in. Gb's gallop UPWARD. C is WHIPPED AWAY by tendril.

SGT FRASER

Colman!

C bobs on basement waves, his cloak saving him.

CPL COLMAN

Damn you, Hammersmith!

Tendrils pass through F,B. Head is knocked out of F, matter knocked out of B, disappear in crashing waves.

SGT FRASER

God help us!

Black gue chunnells into C's cloak leaving it empty/flat.

F's steed is grappled, dragged backward, BAYS in fear. J's,D's Gb's holler and CHARGE DOWN.

JASON HAMMERSMITH

Oh god, no! Pull back pull back!

DELORES DENTON

We die together, Jason!

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

P glows with BLACK sparks.

SUSAN JONES

Why can't we trust anyone?

PHARAOH

You are insignificant.

SUSAN JONES

You've been lying to us?

PHARAOH

No. The truth is bigger than you.
Trust in your gods. Love them and
do well. As I do mine.

Ground rumbles. Surface cracks next to worm.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)

The time prepared for.

SUSAN JONES

What did you do?

PHARAOH

Fortuna was chosen. Living over my
lord.

SUSAN JONES

And Jason?

PHARAOH

Never called. He conjoined with
Fortuna by chance only.

SUSAN JONES

Love's like that.

PHARAOH

It is said. Do not look upon me
with those eyes, Susan. We are
filled with regrets enough.

Ground BURSTS. Colossal, black worm, BIGGER than first worm,
BREAKS surface. TOWERS above London.

SUSAN JONES

Are they dead? Jason, my lovely
man, is he dead?

INT. PORTAL - TIMELESS DARKNESS

Featureless soft room. SHAKING violently. Gb's, J,D,F,B CRASH
in heap.

PHARAOH O.S.

Not yet.

SUSAN JONES O.S.

What do you mean, not yet?

PHARAOH O.S.

What is written will not be spoken.
Will yourself to be patient. Nurse
Susan.

SUSAN JONES O.S.

There's a portal! It must be Jason!

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

Portal slides down Godvurm. Long way to go.

INT. PORTAL - CONTINUOUS

J on Gb's back, head through portal. Comes back in.

JASON HAMMERSMITH
We're outside, and going down. (to
D) This is it. What do we do?

DELORES DENTON
Beyond me. [concentrates] I can see
our future, my love.

INT. INTERDIMENSION - PANORAMA - NIGHT

J,D, cloaked, riding Gbeasts, shooting from fingers.

DELORES DENTON O.S.
We don't die, Jason. We live in the
other world.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH O.S.
Not Earth? London?

DELORES DENTON O.S.
No. It's why I thought we'd die.
Our presence leaves Earth. But we
live on.

Laser battle over a hill.

INT. PORTAL - CONTINUOUS

SGT FRASER
And us? What about us?

DELORES DENTON
Can't see you. You could stay.

SGT FRASER
Great. Can't go back.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
Or come with us. All of us.

SGT FRASER
One big happy family.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
Well, yes. One gripe at a time.

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

P,S watch Godvurm explode in shape as an octopus, grappling, biting into pinkworm. S.O. thunderous screeching.

SUSAN JONES
This your plan, Pharaoh?

PHARAOH
My vision. Only gods make plans.

Pinkworm halts shooting upward, slowly sucked into Godvurm, tendrils/arms whap out and clutch Godvurm.

SUSAN JONES
It's saving us?

PHARAOH
Seeking peace, *for itself*. Can't you understand? Now watch. This is where Hammersmith comes in.

Head of pinkworm breaks from other dimensions into sky, writhing in/out of ground, racing for Godvurm. Trail of destruction, obliterating city.

Head of pinkworm wraps around Godvurm, tightening, pulling it away. Godvurm sinks jaws deeper. Wrestle causes earthquakes. Cracks open in crust.

S falls, P hovers over her. Mist clouds surround them.

PHARAOH (CONT'D)
Are we too late?

SUSAN JONES
You're asking me? This is it, isn't it? This is what you see over and over again. There is no end. There is no helping us.

PHARAOH
I fear not. Jason must save us. He must act now. Or I am lost.

SUSAN JONES
We all are. Jason, please!

INT. PORTAL - CONTINUOUS

DELORES DENTON
We all are. Jason, please.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
Come again?

DELORES DENTON

That wasn't me. Susan's calling. We
have to do something. Do it now!

Portal tears wide open. Blasted with wind, F,B lift. Hold on
as chain to a Gb. Gb lifts! Other Gb's bey. Another grabs
rising foot in mouth. Dragged along, hooves scraping.

PHARAOH O.S.

Who answers prayers, my friends?
Only the gods. Only the gods. Do
what you must do. But do it now!

JAMES HAMMERSMITH

There's something we've got to do.
Only us. Our robes were always
there to protect us. This is why.
Come on! [to Gbs] Hold tight, all
of you, together. Hold together!

J,D lead them to link up mouth to tail, mouth to tail. They
stop sliding out of portal.

Holding D's hand, J stands on edge.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Did you see this? [D nods] Do we
jump, what?

DELORES DENTON

We jump. I love you.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH

I love you too.

They quickly kiss. Then jump toward pinkworm.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

Sergeant!

Hands outstretched, F reaches for J, misses J, just grabs D's
hand. J swings to pinkworm, pushes free hand into it.

Sudden blue flash. Pinkworm freezes outward from J's contact.
Veins spread rapidly. Up to Godvurm's jaws, that quickly
detach.

J looks back, SEES F,B,Gb's FROZEN.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)

I'm sorry.

EXT. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

P,S SEE pinkworm rapidly FREEZE into infinity.

SUSAN JONES
 He's done it. Oh you lovely man,
 you've done it!

Head of pinkworm HOWLS, releasing Godvurm. It THRASHES in/out
 of dimensions. Sky turns RED/BLACK.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
 You see this too?

P's mist SHOOTS LIGHTENING, DARKENS.

PHARAOH
 My god. The first time ever, I am
 linked to a world. No, Nurse Jones,
 never before, never in my life.
 This brings hope eternal. Oh my
 god.

Pinkworm flitting through dimensions, turns blue. SHATTERS,
 cascading over Earth and into other worlds.

SUSAN JONES
 He's done it.

Sky BRIGHTENS, as does P's mist.

PHARAOH
 Saved. We are saved.

S looks to shimmering Godvurm, frozen pinkworm and
 desolation.

SUSAN JONES
 But at what cost?

EXT. BETWEEN GODS - CONTINUOUS

J,D can't move. S.O. Cracking, splintering small scale.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
 Now what?

J,D SEE frozen F,M,Gb's FRACTURE, EXPLODE, fall away,
 emptying portal. J,D swing against pinkworm and hang by J's
 glued hand.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
 Care to join me, double D? Just
 climb up. ["Ok"]

D climbs up J. Godvurm RUMBLES.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
 One last cuddle.

Godvurm ARCHES, its top tilts down toward them.

J embraces D. They look up.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
Get the feeling he's looking at us?

DELORES DENTON
Wants to eat us. Or swat us.

S.O. MASSIVE BELLOW. Portal pushes TOWARD them, wide open.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
Yep. That's it then.

DELORES DENTON
Ending on a cuddle, my love. Saw
that, would you believe?

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
You betcha.

Portal SWALLOWS them, then retreats.

Godvurm descends, portal rises up its side.

Ext. REGENT'S PARK - CONTINUOUS

S,P bathed in mist/sunshine, same as sky.

SUSAN JONES
It's going. Goodbye, J man. I knew
you had it in you.

They SEE portal rise to top of blackgod as it completely
disappears.

SUSAN JONES (CONT'D)
Gone. [to P] So what do you do now?

PHARAOH
Oh, I'll be busy. Very, very busy.
To find my way home.

SUSAN JONES
Your home?

PHARAOH
You'll see.

INT. INNER DIMENSION - TIMELESS

Godvurm settles into floor, all cracks sealed. Portal opens.
J,D climb out.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
Letting us live.

DELORES DENTON
To eat us?

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
I don't think so. He's fed to the
brim for a god's lifetime. Think he
was being kind. Wait...

New portal appears upright.

JAMES HAMMERSMITH (CONT'D)
That wasn't me.

It glows, opens to a brightness that lights inner dimension.

DELORES DENTON
Looks like an invite, darling.
Shall we? Together?

JAMES HAMMERSMITH
Oh yes. Always together.

They walk in. Portal closes. Darkness.

S.O. LOW RUMBLE as if SLEEPING.

EXT. EGYPT - GIZA PLATEAU - NIGHT

P alone on plateau, gazing at Kufu.

PHARAOH
How you've been neglected, my dear.
Well, I'm here now. As one god
sleeps, so another wakens.

P walks into pyramid.

CUT TO

Later. Kufu GLOWS. Tesla beams connect to other pyramids.

CUT TO

Earth shot. Around globe, lights sparkle, linked by Kufu.

PHARAOH O.S.
Finally.