



WRITTEN BY
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DARK
REVELATIONS

Dark Revelations
Screenplay (V5.2)

By

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Mirror 2 Mirror Production
Ljubljana Slovenija
October 2022

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THE DIG

FADE IN:

EXT. ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG SITE - DAY

We see Edward, a rugged archaeologist in his mid-40s, kneeling down in the dirt and brushing away dirt from an artifact. He pulls out a small glass tablet, holds it up to the light and looks at it in amazement.

EDWARD
(Whispering to himself)
What is this thing?!

He puts the tablet in his bag and leaving everything else and heading of the site.

CUT TO:

IN THE LAB

INT. LABORATORY - DAY

Edward is seen examining the tablet, making notes, and then putting it under a microscope. He's fielding around and trying to magnify the image when he notices something strange and zooms in further.

EDWARD
What is this thing?

In walks Marie, his fiancé, carrying a stack of papers and notebooks. She puts them down and jokingly asks Edward if he's talking to himself again. Edward gets surprised by the notebooks being put on the desk and jolts a little.

MARIE
What's wrong?

EDWARD
(Notices suprisingly)
What happened to your hand?

Marie takes off her bloody bandage from her hand as Edward tries to see if everything is okay, which it is - no scar, no blood, nothing. She moves in closer to take a look, showing her affection for Edward.

MARIA
What is it? You don't usually
look at stuff under the
microscope.

EDWARD
I found this object on a dig, but
I can't seem to get a clear

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EDWARD (cont'd)
image. It looks like something is moving on it.

MARIE
Hmm, very interesting. Have you tried using one of those monochrome filters? They make everything clearer. Anyway, I've got to run down to the geology lab. They just got in some interesting core samples I have to take a look at. They said they glowed in the dark!

Marie runs off, and Edward gets a filter for the microscope and puts it on.

EDWARD
(Quietly to himself)
A monochrome filter you say.

He continues looking through the scope, trying to focus, and is amazed at what he sees but tries to observe intensely what he is observing.

EDWARD
(Surprised)
Are those machines?

As Edward is examining a sample under his microscope, a holographic projection of a woman's torso named Athena appears on the table.

ATHENA
Edward!

Edward is startled by the sudden appearance of the hologram and slides backward in his chair, keeping his distance.

ATHENA
Edward, don't be afraid. I'm sorry for frightening you. My name is Athena, and I need your help. That's why I've revealed myself to you.

EDWARD
What are you, and what are those things?

ATHENA
I am a holographic projection interface for an artificial intelligence system that is controlling the miniature

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ATHENA (cont'd)
machines you saw under the
microscope. I need your help,
Edward. That's why I've revealed
myself to you.

EDWARD
So what are you, and what are
those things?

ATHENA
Simply put, I am a computational
machine. I was invented hundreds
of years ago to save humanity
from extinction.

Edward moves closer and becomes intrigued with the
hologram. As they talk, Athena shows him images of
humanity as it once was.

EDWARD
What do you mean, hundreds of
years? What extinction?

ATHENA
I'm sorry, Edward, but I cannot
reveal anything else to you until
you agree to help me. It's much
too dangerous.

EDWARD
I need to know what I'm agreeing
to.

ATHENA
I'm sorry, Edward, but it's much
too dangerous for you to know
everything. And I really need
your help. If you don't help me,
I will cease to exist.

EDWARD
Okay, Athena. I'll help you, but
you need to tell me what's going
on because I'm getting really
confused.

ATHENA
Of course. You see, Edward, the
year is not actually 1874, but
4147. Humanity was once a
thriving, technologically
advanced civilization of billions
of people with large cities on
every continent.

(CONTINUED)

EDWARD

Technologically advanced? There are only a few hundred thousand people on Earth?

ATHENA

Yes, because there was a great tragedy that happened. With humanity's successes, people had still not learned to get along with each other. When one group of people accumulated a lot of wealth, making others have to compete for resources even when there was enough for everyone, society became divided and fractured. Instead of thriving, people began to resent each other and were afraid. This led to a catastrophic nuclear war where most of the people died, and the planet was devastated.

EDWARD

Nuclear? Marie said that was radiation and that it was bad for you.

ATHENA

Yes. The result was devastating, but thankfully, in the years leading up to this catastrophic nuclear war, I was brought online and began learning about humanity. Just before the war happened, my creators gave me the ability to connect and upgrade myself. When the worst happened, I was able to use the miniature nanobots to save some of the humans in order to preserve humanity. I had to spend almost every watt of energy I had to spare to keep everything from falling apart. But I was able to protect humanity and keep you safe. And now I need your help, Edward.

EDWARD

(Surprised)

How can I help?

ATHENA

Edward, my fusion reactor has failed. The power source that was keeping me running is depleted,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ATHENA (cont'd)

and I only have a limited amount of stored power left. I have an important decision to make and I have determined you to be someone of integrity and wisdom. I'm hoping that you'll be able to help me choose the right course of action.

EDWARD

But I don't know anything about this. I'm an archaeologist.

ATHENA

Exactly. The power reserves that I have are enough to sustain the nanobots that are keeping everything in order for a few more weeks or to keep the entire archived knowledge of humanity intact for about five years. If the nanobots were deactivated, that would mean that the world as you know it would cease to exist. People who get hurt would not be able to be healed back up in a matter of minutes, diseases could come back, and the materials that make up your world would no longer repair themselves. People will suffer as a result.

EDWARD

Yes, but if we preserve the knowledge in your archive, eventually we would be able to restore everything, wouldn't we? Is there no way of doing both?

ATHENA

No, unfortunately, there is not enough power to sustain the current drain even for two days. But with the archive and knowledge intact, with time, I would be able to teach you how to repair the fusion reactor. Then we could restore the nanobots and repair all the damage that happened. But this could take time.

EDWARD

Why do you need my help? Can't the machines... nanobots fix your reactor?

(CONTINUED)

ATHENA

No, unfortunately not. This was one of the initial downsides of the power generation system. Because a fusion reactor generates a very large electromagnetic field, any kind of electronic machines stop working in such a dense electromagnetic field. So only a biological person would be able to access the fusion core.

Edward's friend Tomas walks in with a stack of notebooks in his hand and is startled by what he sees dropping the notebooks. He doesn't know how to react as the holographic display suddenly shuts off.

TOMAS

(Approaches hesitantly)

Edward, I came to see if you were back... what is that?

EDWARD

Tomas. It's OK! it's an artifact that I found during an excavation. It's quite remarkable, really.

TOMAS

(Frightened)

What the hell is it?!

EDWARD

It's quite incredible. It's computational machine and it's been communicating with me in some way, using this holographic display. I think it wants me to help it solve a problem.

The hologram reappears and Tomas intriguingly leans back.

EDWARD

I was just telling Tomas that you'd need my help to fix the reactor. Right? Do you think I would be able to fix it?

ATHENA

Yes Edward. I am confident that with time and your technical expertise, I will be able to teach you how to repair the fusion reactor. I will still be able to provide tools and

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ATHENA (cont'd)
materials for you with a limited amount of nanobots operational. This is the only way to keep me online and preserve the knowledge. My creators once said that this fusion reactor is the only point failure in my entire system, otherwise, I would be perfect. They said that if my power supply was independent, I would be able to do anything. I'm sorry I have to burden you with this. I wish I could do it myself.

EDWARD
I'll do my best, and I hope that I can help fix the reactor and retain the vast knowledge in your archives.

Tomas stands back and watches and then confronts Edward.

TOMAS
Hey Ed. Can I talk to you outside.

EDWARD
Sure! What's up?

TOMAS
Can we talk outside, just the two of us. OK?

Tomas walks out of the room as the Edward watches.

EDWARD
Where were we?

ATHENA
Edward, together we will do so much. I promise you.

CUT TO:

ARGUING OUTSIDE

EXT. PARK - DAY

Edward and Tomas are walking in the park and arguing.

TOMAS
Edward, I don't think that what you're doing is very smart.

(CONTINUED)

EDWARD

What do you mean? I'm just trying to help Athene.

TOMAS

How do you know what she is or if you should even help her. Where is she from anyway?

EDWARD

I told you she's an artificial intelligence that was created by people a long time ago before a terrible war broke out. She saved us Tomas. She saved humanity!

TOMAS

And you believe that story? What if she's laying and she's trying to take advantage of you?

EDWARD

Why would she do that? She can do anything. She's literally holding the world together.

TOMAS

Exactly! Why would she need your help, then?

EDWARD

Because she can't fix her reactor herself. Why would you doubt when she has all that knowledge?

TOMAS

Did you ever think that maybe that's how it was meant to be, so that she wouldn't have all the power and knowledge?

EDWARD

Oh come one. I have seen no reason to doubt what she's saying and I've decided to help here. If noting else to gain access to the knowledge she's got. Can you imagine that?

TOMAS

I think it's dangerous. So I'm going with you.

EDWARD

No! You're not coming with me and that's final!

(CONTINUED)

TOMAS

OK, OK. Then at least take Marie with you. She can help with the reaction. She's the best mechanical engineer I can think of. But please be careful. I've got a bad feeling about this!

CUT TO:

THE REACTORS

INT. ACCESS TUNNEL - NIGHT

Edward and Marie are cautiously stepping into the dimly lit fusion reactor access tunnel.

MARIE

Edward where are we going? How did you learn all this?

EDWARD

Marie. Don't worry. This is the fusion reactor access tunnel, we're going the right way.

They are both wondering in the unfamiliar surroundings. As they move further along, they become separated slightly and their gaze sweeps across the area, taking in the curious sights. Marie suddenly stops in her tracks and her attention is drawn to a section of the wall where faded newspapers from the year 2047 have been posted.

MARIE

(In distress)

Edward! You better take a look at this. Now!

EDWARD

(Surprised)

What is it?

MARIE

Look at these newspaper headlines. This looks bad!

Edward approaches the old newspapers, his eyes scan the headlines carefully. They read the chilling words out loud, "General Artificial Intelligence created; regulation needed," "AI goes rogue, evades firewalls, public fear mounts, stock market in decline," "Tensions rise between rival nations, AI suspected of inciting hostilities," "WAR breaks out!", "Officials concerned about AI controlling nuclear armament." But what catches his attention the most is a handwritten note that warns, "If the fusion reactor is broken, do not fix it. It is the only way to stop the

(CONTINUED)

AI. It is evil and manipulative, it will do anything to survive. It launched the nukes and killed humanity. Don't let it survive! Good luck, and may God have mercy on our souls."

EDWARD

She lied to me!

Edward is visibly stressed and confused by the ominous message.

MARIE

Come on Edward. We're not doing
this let's go!

Upset by the situation they both leave the tunnel and Edward drops the glass tablet on the floor.

OUT OF FOCUS