

GREETS FROM COUNTER-EARTH

© COPYRIGHT 2015

FADE IN:

INT. HOBBY ROOM - NIGHT

P.O.V. (through telescope): Sky, a bunch of blurred stars becomes clearer

while Beethoven's Fifth symphony thunders in the background.

The static image of stars oversharpenes, then re-adjusts to perfect shape --

by the small hand of NICKY who carefully lets off from a control knob. The brunette girl of ten, one eye closed as a pro, stares into a telescope's eyepiece and mumbles:

NICKY

Grandpa, why are we always
listening to this old music?

She looks back at GEORGE who reduces the loudness on the rotating record player at the cabinet, puts Beethoven's cover to a collection beneath.

GEORGE

Well, girl. Although the music's
very old, it has gone farther than
any music before.

NICKY

Farther than any music?

The walls of the hobby room are full of astronomy photos, NASA souvenirs, clippings, graphs... every piece in good order and condition.

GEORGE

Yeah. Have I told you about the
Voyager project?

NICKY

That spacecraft going nowhere?

George steps to a framed picture of a SPACE PROBE: It looks like a satellite. From the central dish antenna several metallic installations stick far out into dark space.

An engraved GOLDEN RECORD is attached to the probe's body.

GEORGE

Maybe... nowhere. Can you see the
golden plate on it? That's earth's
cultural transmission. Including my
good old music.

Nicky stands beside him.

NICKY

If they think there are others,
then perhaps we should've sent some
better songs out there.

He leans down to her...

GEORGE

Oh, Nicky.

... and gives her a kiss on her cheek.

She chuckles.

NICKY

No, really, grandpa.

George stares through the pane into the clear night sky.

GEORGE

For thirty-nine years the Voyager's
drifting out there. You know, when
I was your age, I used to think
about a solar system such as ours,
and that there might be another I
waving back at me.

NICKY

That sounds a bit silly, grandpa.

GEORGE

Yeah. But I liked the thought of
it.

He glimpses at his watch.

GEORGE

It's about time you went to bed.

Nicky darts to the telescope.

NICKY

I'm coming, grandpa.

She takes a last look through the eyepiece.

George waits at the door for her. He smiles as he caught
Nicky wave goodnight to the night sky.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Nicky lazes at the breakfast bar and watches TV.

She munches away on a bowl of cereal when the commercials finish and the Science Channel attracts her attention with its broadcast:

TV PRESENTER

We're back at "top twenty astronomic myths". Although Aliens in Rosedale must have deeply disturbed you, folks, let's take a look at number three.

A flashy insert fills the TV screen **#3 EARTH 2.0**,

followed by an animation of two earths parallel to each other orbiting the sun:

NARRATOR

While the theory of a counter-earth circling at the other side of the sun has been destroyed long ago,

A bold "DESTROYED" stamps the animation.

NARRATOR

...there are still some gonzo scientists coming up every now and again with some truly crazy theories in their luggage. According to them, a wormhole would let us reach further away places.

A wormhole's shimmering throat of electrified vapor spirals to a narrowing tunnel of blackness.

Back to the studio

TV PRESENTER

And as many theorists believe, in a world of many universes everything's possible, right? Well, we're talking about a second earth. So ask yourself: Do we all have some terrific doppelgangers out there?

NICKY,

with the empty cereal bowl in hand, gets up. She places it into the sink, takes her school bag and leaves through the front door.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The board reads "Geometry".

Nicky uses a tablet pc for her task. On the screen - there's a photo of her waving one hand. Beside this image of her, there's a vertical line labeled as "reflection line".

Nicky draws her finger over the touch screen and uses some menus to copy her image.

Then she flips it, mirrored, to the other side of the reflection line. The success makes her smile.

EXT. SPACE

SUPER: 2028

The space probe Voyager One slowly drifts toward the mouth of a wormhole passage.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

NICKY, 22, tips her pen onto a notepad. With rapt attention she listens to the lecture of PROFESSOR KYLE.

Kyle's animated presentation shows ten bubbles on the canvas. Each of them includes a whole universe with stars, purple nebulas, spiral galaxies and other mysterious objects from space.

KYLE

So, here we can see how the theory of parallel universes or nowadays called the multiverse gave a completely new insight about room. Unfortunately, we're once again getting smaller as we already thought we are. Maybe we would have to find a passageway such as the recent science fiction interpretation of wormholes. A spaceship going through a passageway could reach places far beyond our imagination. The problem of reaching light speed would be gone.

Nicky raises her arm.

Kyle's a bit puzzled.

KYLE

Please!?

NICKY

Professor Kyle, while we debate about the possibility of parallel existing universes, what do you think about real reflections of universes? Even the ancient Greeks thought about a counter-earth.

INT. INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Through a small pane, we see Voyager One passing and floating towards earth with the distinctive golden record attached to the craft's body.

ASTRONAUT#1 (O.S.)

It's the Voyager.

ASTRONAUT#2 (O.S.)

It is.

ASTRONAUT#1 (O.S.)

It shouldn't be here.

ASTRONAUT#2 (O.S.)

Nope.

ASTRONAUT#1 (O.S.)

Commander. Can you please confirm that the space probe Voyager One, original set course "interstellar space", has right passed the ISS?

EXT. EARTH ATMOSPHERE - DAY

A glowing fireball enters from outer space, quickly shatters into burning pieces.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Nicky relaxes at the lakeside.

She throws a stone onto the water surface. It bounces as a thing from above strikes close beside her into the sand.

Shocked, Nicky jumps to the side.

She discovers a glimmering thing in the sand.

It's a golden shard.

INT. HOBBY ROOM - DAY

Nicky dashes inside. She takes a seat at the desk, rummages in a drawer, and fishes out a blueprint.

It's a drawing of the golden record.

She takes the golden shard out of her pocket, compares it - the distinctive embossing on the plate's and those from the blueprint match.

NICKY

We send the Voyager to reach them.
So did they--
They send the Voyager to reach us.

She looks to a picture of her and George.

Right when she grabs at the photo

THE SCREEN SPLITS

and Nicky's on either side, holding the photo:

NICKY
Grandpa,
this can't be true.

NICKY
Grandpa,
this can't be true.

Both Nickys simultaneously stroke George's portrayal.

NICKY
You were right.

NICKY
You were right.

They put it back.

Both Nickys look directly to us:

NICKY
We're not alone.

NICKY
We're not alone.

Further SPLITSCREENS pop up; Four, eight, sixteen Nickys saying: "We're not alone"

Their voices overdrive and reverberate.

The screen continues to split into more and more Nickys since everything's black.

FADE OUT.