

"GODZILLA: REBIRTH"

by

Adam Baker

Adam.baker84@yahoo.com

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FADE IN:

EXT. WASHINGTON D.C - DUSK

Pillars of smoke billow from a war-torn and ravaged Washington. The White House is almost completely destroyed; a ruined Pentagon is in ruins with large claw marks and foot prints scathed over it.

A strangely familiar voice narrates.

MAN (V.O.)

This is the United States of America,
once a country of over 300 million
people.

EXT. LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA - DAY

Large portions of coastline are sunk into the water. Huge smoldering cracks are etched into the earth.

EXT. CHICAGO ILLINOIS - DAY

Buildings and landmarks line the cityscape, toppled over like fallen trees.

MAN (V.O.)

What has happened here was caused by a
force which up until a few days ago was
entirely beyond the scope of mans'
imagination.

EXT. REMAINS OF NEW YORK CITY - DAWN

The entire city is a scorched ghost town, the sky beyond is burning with ash and fire.

MAN (V.O.)

New York City, a smoldering memorial to
the unknown; an unknown which at this
very moment prevails and could at any
moment lash out with its terrible
destruction anywhere else in the world.

FADE OUT:

Thundering echoes of heavy stomps mount from the darkness.

INSERT - TITLE CARD

FADE IN ON:

EXT. BIKINI ISLANDS - DAY

A serene band of tropical islands line the horizon. A mild breeze combs through the trees and the chirps of sea gulls play over the calming ambience of the ocean waves.

SUPER: Bikini Islands, South Pacific - 1954

A strange CREATURE floats just below the water's surface; ripples fanning out from its dark and scaly form.

A blinding FLASH!

All sound stops. The flash fades to reveal an enormous MUSHROOM CLOUD blooming and throbbing on the horizon!

The mysterious creature panics and dives beneath the water.

A searing AVALANCHE of heat rolls over the islands engulfing everything and approaching fast! Water bursts to steam and trees vaporize before our eyes!

The MASSIVE shockwave HITS like a meteor!

UNDERWATER

The animal plunges into a medley of boiling water surrounded by hundreds of dead fish. We follow the shadowy dinosaur-like animal swimming deep into the depths.

It evades identification, moving into a formation of rocks before disappearing. Its crocodilian tail propelling the reptile through combusting water.

Around him, billions of metallic fallout particles rain down from the surface. The muffled explosion above continues to pulse through the water.

Moving through the murky abyss, we pick up the animal's trail, following it into an underwater cave.

Still unseen the creature slides up and out of the water before we can catch it.

INT. UNDERWATER CAVE

The cave is illuminated by a strange blue-green glow. It's wide and completely submerged, dotted with ancient stalagmites and rock formations. The silhouette of the dinosaur on the far wall of the cave stumbles and collapses on the wet floor.

Still out of sight, its heaving, hyperventilating shadow outlined on the cave wall. It SHRIEKS in pain, crying and wailing on the ground, twisting and contorting, screaming in agony.

He kicks and thrashes, snapping bones and breaking his own back, convulsing in an uncontrollable spasm. Painted in shadows on the wall, the hidden creature begins to change.

It wails again. Throughout the cave, its shrill dying cries reverberate from the darkness.

FADE TO:

BLACK

PRIEST (V.O.)

Even though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, I will fear no
evil-

FADE IN:

EXT. CEMETARY - AFTERNOON - OVERCAST

A portrait of young STEVE MARTIN from the 50's. He has a stern look about him, chiseled, with jet black hair. The PRIEST continues with his eulogy.

PRIEST

For thou art with me; your rod and your
staff, they comfort me.

The priest mumbles through his verses to a small cluster of family huddled around the grave.

PRIEST (CON'T)

You prepare a table before me in the
presence of my enemies. You anoint my
head with oil; my cup overflows.

PRIEST (CONT'D)

Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life, and I will
dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
Amen.

The casket is already in the ground and the few relatives begin to walk away. The sparse group outside is quiet and jaded, as if the man's death were an inconvenience.

The last of the group shuffles away, except one.

He stays behind in solitude, looking at the black and white portrait of Steve Martin. DAVID MARTIN, early 40's, a spitting image of his grandfather, is silent a moment before looking out over the rows of tombstones.

Past David, rows of stone memorials reach towards a vast tree line in the distance. Behind that, Manhattan.

SUPER: New York City, Present Day

David looks out over the skyline; the trees are still and the air strangely silent for a New York afternoon. The cemetery is overwhelmed with an eerie calm.

An elderly Japanese man approaches, HIDE TO OGATA, 70's, with two middle aged military escorts.

HIDETO
David Martin?

David turns.

HIDETO (CONT'D)
I am truly sorry for your loss.

David nods and they shake hands.

DAVID
Thank you very much, how did you know my
grandfather?

HIDETO
I knew him many years ago, as a
journalist in Japan. My name is Hideto
Ogata. Your grandfather and I have been
through quite a lot.

Hideto walks away followed by the two uniformed officers.
David watches him a moment, vaguely puzzled.

There's a tug on his coat sleeve, David's youngest son ALEX
(11-12) is waiting.

ALEX
Dad, I'm hungry, can we go now?

David hesitates, glancing back at the portrait.

DAVID
Sure buddy, go find your mom okay?

The boy scurries off. David looks out over the tombstones
and trees. A small flock of birds navigates out to sea.

EXT. FUNERAL HOME

Three men share cigarettes outside a set of sliding glass
doors. Two of David's COUSINS and younger brother DANIEL are
huddled around the door.

David strolls up, breaking their conversation.

DANIEL
David. I've got granddads' stuff for
you. Let me know when you're heading out
and I'll toss it in your car.

Daniel Martin, 30's, waves the smoke out of his face, and
takes another drag. David puts his hand on his COUSINS'
shoulder exchanging quick smiles with his cousins.

DAVID
(to Daniel)
That's why I came looking for you. The
kids are getting bored so we're gunna

get outta here soon.

Daniel nods, taking another drag.

DANIEL

Sure just lemme finish this?

Daniel holds up his cigarette as David silently agrees. Each of the men seems to be looking down, thought etched into each of their faces.

COUSIN # 1

Sure am gunna miss the bastard, he had some great stories.

DANIEL

Crazy stories...

COUSIN # 1

I knew you guys were close Dave, good to see you and the family though.

David smiles back and nods.

DANIEL

Alright guys, take care.

Daniel flicks his cigarette, straightens his jacket and slides open the door.

INT. FUNERAL HOME

The inside of the funeral home is more populated than the grave sight. Family members chat with each other, children squeal from across the room.

Daniel goes inside while David shakes hands with cousins and follows him in. He politely brushing past others before his wife KAREN (pretty, dark hair) finds him amongst the crowd; she is holding their newborn baby, Susie. Alex is with her too.

KAREN

Oh, hey are you ready hun? I know you want to stay but the minions are getting restless.

Karen tilts her head to a formation of fold out chairs surrounded by children, their daughter SARAH (6-7) giggles with the other children. Karen hoists the baby higher up her chest.

DAVID

Sure, I've gotta get some stuff from Danny. Meet you outside?

She nods and darts toward the cluster of children. David heads for the door, passing several more uniformed military

officers. He does a double take at many of them.

EXT. PARKING LOT

Empty save for a few dilapidated cars. Daniel intercepts David in the center of the lot and tips a cardboard box full of binders and papers into his arms.

DANIEL
Here you go!

David catches it, but exhales from its weight.

DAVID
Lucky me.

Daniel flips another cigarette behind his ear and turns towards his own car.

DAVID
Why did he want me to have all this stuff?

DANIEL
Don't ask me man, I didn't get anything.
(beat)
Hey how's Aaron doing, have you talked to him?

David turns away with a look of uneasiness. AARON MARTIN, 19, David's oldest son, we'll learn more about him later.

DAVID
No. I haven't.
(beat)
He's still a bit distant. Been what, three months?

Daniel manages an acknowledging smirk.

DANIEL
He'll come around. We're all damn proud of him. So we still on for dinner Friday?

DAVID
Definitely! Tell Rachel to bring that cheesecake of hers.

Daniel throws a limp wave while opening his car door.

DAVID (CON'T)
Thanks again.

David lifts the box slightly instead of waving. Daniel slides in his car.

A puzzled look streaks over David's face.

DAVID

Hey Dan!

Daniel sticks his head out his window.

DAVID (CONT'D)

What's with all the military guys, was the old man ever in the service?

They both look back at the funeral home.

DANIEL

Don't think so man; guess he just had a lot of friends from back in the day.

The brothers shrug, David still looks puzzled.

DAVID

Oh well, see you later.

Daniel starts the ignition as David turns to his family moving towards their car.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD - DUSK

David's black Tahoe glides through residential streets, his three children can be heard chatter inside. The orange leaves of trees are falling all around, already shaded for autumn.

David has the radio on. The ANNOUNCER'S voices are filtered through the radio.

ANNOUNCER # 1

In what authorities are calling the worst nuclear accident in history nearly all of the San Francisco Bay area has been evacuated. Rescue efforts are still being hampered...

INT. SUV DASHBOARD

David changes the station.

ANNOUNCER # 2

The California governor has just declared a state of emergency and there has been no word from the White House.

INT. DAVID'S SUV

Alex and Sarah play with their baby sister in the backseat under the watchful eye of their mother.

David slows to halt at a stop sign. He uses the pause in driving to change the station again.

A police car RACES through the intersection, sirens BLARING!
David jerks his neck in an attempt to follow it.

DAVID

Whoa.

ANNOUNER # 3

...still baffling is the strange rise in
ocean temperatures and severe seismic
activity.

Trying to follow the police cruiser, David notices nearby
residents piling bags and boxes into their cars.

EXT. SUBURBAN INTERSECTION

The police car SKIDS around a corner. Neighbors run
frantically around their yards and a news helicopter whirs
by overhead.

INT. DAVID'S SUV

David squints into the sinking sun, curiously scanning the
residents packing their things.

HONK!

A car behind him taps his horn impatiently. David jumps,
tosses a glance in his rear view mirror and creeps through
the intersection.

ANNOUNCER # 3 (CONT'D)

Scientists and seismologists theorize
about an unknown underwater volcano or
fissure may be the cause.

KAREN

More on the accident?

DAVID

Gesso.

David, annoyed, turns down the volume and changes stations
again until music chimes on.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD

The SUV cruises through the street, the impatient driver
following close behind. Around them, a frenzy of packing
neighbors, something is wrong.

DAVID'S DRIVEWAY

David pulls in and the doors to the SUV swing open, letting
the children tumble out. His house is neatly kept, two
stories, lawn and paint near perfection. A neighbor across
the street drops his paintbrush and scoots down his ladder.

TOM
Dave, hey Dave!

David's neighbor, TOM BURNQUIST, a portly man in his fifties shuffles across the street.

DAVID
Hiya Tom, how's the house coming along?
David rolls his eyes at his wife, shutting his car door.

TOM
Great, should be done this weekend. You know the eggshell cream turned out to be beautiful.

DAVID
That's good Tom.
Tom interrupts him with more technical talk about paint.

DAVID
Um, hey Tom I've got some work to finish up so I'll catch you later alright?

TOM
Oh, sure sure. Tell Karen we said hello.
David nods and walks up his driveway, scooping up a newspaper from his lawn.

INT. FAMILY ROOM

Their home is modern and furnished, tidy except for the numerous toys littering the floor and tabletops. A large television sits in a hefty entertainment center.

Alex and Sarah are already watching television and battling over the remote. The news is on...

REPORTER # 1
(filtered)
The earthquake was recorded as an 8.5 and one of the most powerful in California history. Scientists continue to monitor shockwaves being reported as far as Colorado.

The channel changes again, David enters holding his grandfather's box.

REPORTER # 2
(filtered)
Japanese officials refuse to comment on militarization.

REPORTER # 3
(filtered)

The California National Guard has been dispatched and most of the area is now under military quarantine.

David nudges the front door closed with his foot and carries the awkward box across the room and down a hallway to his right.

DAVID
(sarcastic)
Thanks for the help you two.

The children stop struggling with the remote and giggle.

DAVID'S OFFICE

The office is lean and state of the art. Dual monitors are tilted at the perfect angle to his chair, shelves and cabinets are lined with binders and books. Papers and notes are scattered over his desktop.

He pushes the door open and slides the box onto the corner of his desk, exhales. David loosens his tie and hangs his suit coat up in the closet behind him.

Karen enters, leaning against the doorway, mixing something in a bowl.

KAREN
They're sending troops to California to help with the earthquake.

David looks up a moment; he knows what she is going to ask.

KAREN (CONT'D)
Do you think they'll send Aaron?

David rolls up his sleeves and sits at his large desk, covered with papers and notes. His computer flips awake when he slides into position.

DAVID
They might, but I doubt it. They won't send him across the country.

He smiles at her before plucking a small note from his monitor, tossing into a wastebasket beneath his desk.

KAREN
It looks really bad; I even heard they are recalling everyone from overseas.

DAVID
Maybe dear, I just don't know. He said he would call us in the next few days. Why don't we ask him then?

The phone on David's desk rings.

KAREN

You sure he's going to call?

DAVID

I'm sure, and I'm sure he'll be fine.

David smiles simultaneously with her, picking up the desk phone to stop the ringing.

KAREN

I'm sorry sweetie. First Aaron then your grandpa, I shouldn't of...

DAVID

It's alright. Why don't we take the kids to the zoo this weekend? We could all use a break.

Her face brightens and she smiles.

KAREN

I love you. Dinner in twenty.

David shoots her smile and puts an ear to the receiver.

Note: EDDIE'S voice is filtered through the phone.

EDDIE

Crazy shit David, you ready for this?

The man on the other end of phone speaks before David even answers. EDDIE LEE, 40's, is overjoyed. Karen walks back down the hallway. David sits back in his chair.

DAVID

Hello Eddie. Uh, sure, lay it on me.

EDDIE

The Japanese and Russian militaries have been mobilizing overseas, something that is making everyone a little nervous.

DAVID

I'm petrified.

David leans forward, pulling up an internet browser on his computer and immediately clicking to a news website.

EDDIE

No training exercises, no U.N. approval, nothing.

Eddie waits a few seconds for a reply but doesn't get one.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Word is their sinking all sorts of cash into weapons; we're talking tanks, planes, small arms, even experimental

stuff.

David skims the texts on the website, pictures of tanks and soldiers pepper the screen, confirming Eddies' story.

DAVID

Looks like someone's going to war.

EDDIE

You're a riot David. Look, the Russians and Japanese have been buying everything in sight. Stuff that the U.S. can't even see a price tag on before it disappears.

DAVID

No surprise on Russia, but Japan? That's a bit odd.

He scrolls through more photos.

DAVID (CONT.)

So let's buy what shares we can now, sell it to our boys when they make an offer.

EDDIE

Exactly, I've already got us in the running. Wayne is checking it out now, I'll know more in the morning.

David skims further into the website. Bulletins on American militarization in the Gulf of Mexico catch his eye.

CUT TO: COMPUTER SCREEN

Photos of battleships and helicopters over the water.

Headlines read 'Battle in the Gulf' and 'Pirates or Terrorists?'

EDDIE (CONT'D)

I'll give you a shout or have Wayne call and fill you in.

DAVID'S OFFICE

David's face hovers over the computer screen.

DAVID

That's good news Edd. This could be nothing at all but sounds like it might play out. Hey does this have anything to do with whatever's going down in the Gulf of Mexico?

EDDIE

Hmm.

Eddie pauses a moment. He exhales as if trying to piece together the information.

EDDIE
Don't think so, I'll look into it and
get back with you on both tomorrow
buddy.

Leaning back from the computer monitor David notices a RED JOURNAL resting on the top of his grandfathers' things.

DAVID
Sounds good, talk to you then.

David hangs up the phone, looking intently at the journal.

David reaches over his desk and snags the book, plopping back down into his chair. He thumbs over the frayed edges but there are no words or lettering on the outside.

The poor red cover looks as if it's been through a war. David's finger moves to open the journal-

KAREN (O.S.)
David, Dinner!

Poised to get up, David hesitates a moment, staring down at the journal. He runs his hand over the cover feeling the cuts and burns on the fabric.

David takes a breath and leaves the office.

FAMILY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

David walks through a short hallway to the family room where cartoons bounce around on the television. He picks up a toy dinosaur left on the floor and places it on a coffee table between two coloring books.

KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The kitchen mimics the family room, clean beneath layers of infant supplies, mail, and the new dishes from dinner.

David takes a seat at the end of the table opposite his wife. Karen is meticulously dabbing spoonfuls of baby food between Susie's lips.

Sarah and Alex sit on either side of him toying with their food with oversized silverware. David reaches into the middle of the table to serve himself heavy portions.

David packs his plate with spaghetti but, spooning mounds of food in his mouth. He notices Alex and Sarah stare at him with toothy grins.

SARAH AND ALEX
Daddy?

DAVID
(mouthful of spaghetti)
Hmm?

The two children giggle and inch closer to him, eyes locked, smiles growing wider.

ALEX
We're all done, can we go watch TV?

David looks up for Karen's approval but she hasn't noticed, too busy carefully spoon-feeding the baby.

David nods with a mouthful of food and the two children scurry into the next room.

Seizing the opportunity, David snatches some food off his son's plate and continues to stuff his face.

SARAH (O.S.)
DADDY!

David winces a moment, trying valiantly to shovel in just a few more bites.

SARAH (O.S.)
DADDY!

KAREN
Hey don't yell you two!

FAMILY ROOM

Alex and Sarah are standing a few feet from the television, the screen glimmers as sounds hint of a news broadcast.

ALEX
Um, dad?

KITCHEN

David playfully ignores them, eating whatever he can. He catches an angry look from Karen. Caught in the act he politely wipes his mouth, swallows, and stands.

SARAH (O.S.)
Daddy!

FAMILY ROOM

David walks between the television and his children, blocking their hypnotic stare.

DAVID
C'mon guys you can't yell like that...

NEW ANCHOR (O.S.)
Ladies and gentlemen a terrible tragedy

has just occurred..

Turning slightly to the screen, David's jaw drops.

CUT TO:

THE TELEVISION

Bold lettering streaks across the screen. 'NEWS FLASH' and 'BREAKING NEWS' take up large sections of the screen. A news anchor holding up a thin stack of papers is shown with an intense look.

NEWS ANCHOR

United States military forces have been mobilized but information is still scarce at this time.

A small window beside him fills the corner of the screen showing Humvees and helicopters speeding down a muddy road.

NEWS ANCHOR (CON'T)

For those of you just joining us, we have unconfirmed reports of an attack on a Navy battleship somewhere off the coast of Florida. We will continue to provide you with details as best we can.

FAMILY ROOM

Close up of David.

DAVID

What the?

Alex looks up at his father, grabbing David's right hand.

ALEX

What is it Dad, is something wrong?

David is speechless but holds up the remote, instinctively mashing the volume button up, the news anchor continues.

NEWS ANCHOR (O.S.)

We're now going to go live to our affiliate in Florida.

TELEVISION

The video feed flickers a moment before displaying a man in a raincoat outside in a downpour. The volume bar jumps on the screen.

FIELD REPORTER

(filtered)

There has been no word from the military but both the Navy and Marines have responded to the attack.

Wind whips at his face. He has to yell to be heard over the wind and the thunder of vehicles behind him.

FIELD REPORTER

(filtered)

The military has blocked off the entire shoreline and I've just gotten word that all shipping and trade ships have been diverted to other ports.

The screen cuts to an aerial view of a beached Navy battleship, it's night but the ship can clearly be seen. Helicopters circle the wreckage overhead shining spotlights across the vessel. The mid-section is gone, and huge claw-like marks are raked around the boat.

NEWS ANCHOR

We're getting the images now, what you're seeing is live from Daytona Beach, Florida.

FAMILY ROOM

David is still with disbelief, Alex grips David's arm tighter and Sarah grabs hold of David's left leg. His children tear his eyes off the television long enough for him to lift the remote.

DAVID

Jesus...

NEWS ANCHOR (O.S.)

Of course our hearts and prayers go out to those poor souls aboard the...

David taps the power button on the remote.

ALEX

Dad!

DAVID

Okay then, I think it's bedtime.

David smiles, putting either hand on both the children's heads.

SARAH

I don't wanna go to bed.

ALEX

Dad, is everything okay?

David exhales, thinking.

DAVID

Yes, uh no. No, everything's fine, bud, nothing to worry about.

SARAH

What about Aaron? Is Aaron with them?

DAVID

Aaron is fine honey; he's no where near Florida. I'm sure he's fine.

The children stare at the blank television screen and don't respond, scared and confused.

DAVID

Okay bedtime! School's tomorrow, let's go.

David bends over and nudges the two children past him up the stairs. He smiles, trying to cheer them up.

DAVID'S OFFICE - LATER

David staggers back into his office and sighs, obviously tired. He slides into his chair and flips the small television on in front of him but gets only static.

DAVID

Great...

He drops the remote on his desk and tries the computer; it's powered on but has no internet connection. David grumbles and tries a few more times before pushing back from his desk to examine cables beside his computer.

Quickly giving up, David slumps back in his chair with another long sigh.

On the desk, the tattered red journal sitting atop a stack of papers in his grandfather's box. Abandoning technology, he slides the journal over his desk, finds a bookmarked section and pries it open.

CUT TO:

THE RED BOOK

Page after page is filled with hand drawn charts and graphs. Japanese letters and kanji line the margins, drawings of bones, dinosaurs, and teeth throughout.

David turns a few pages through detailed maps of the Bikini Atoll islands in the Pacific Ocean on the worn paper. Coordinates, scribbled notes, and scratched out words dot corners and separate slices of paper.

DAVID'S OFFICE

David delves deeper trying to understand anything inside the faded, dirty journal. Notes and documents on a military operation called 'Castle Bravo' are tucked between pages.

David looks up at the television, grimaces, then back to the journal, intensely skimming further.

THE RED BOOK

Newspaper clippings taped and folded into place, 'HIROSHIMA IN RUINS' and 'TOKYO BURNS' stand out. Measurements and dates pepper the margins, followed by black and white photos of a devastated Tokyo and scorched victims.

He slowly turns another page-

An old black and white photograph with people encircled around an enormous clawed FOOTPRINT imbedded into concrete!

The image now forever etched into David's memory.

DAVID'S OFFICE

The phone RINGS, startling David who is instantly brought back from a photo he cannot explain.

It rings again before he can react.

The phone rings a third time, David shakes his head and sets the journal down. He glances at the clock reading 2:00 a.m. and answers.

DAVID

H-Hello?

AARON

Dad?

David pauses, unexpectedly.

INTERCUTTING BETWEEN DAVID AND AARON

INT. MILITARY BARRACKS - NIGHT

Aaron sits on a cot clutching the receiver to a pay phone. It's dark in the room but light beams in through the windows overhead.

Soldiers move around all him.

AARON

Dad I've got to talk to you. Did I wake you up?

Aaron looks over his shoulder, he is terrified.

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE

CLOSEUP on David. He looks deeply concerned.

DAVID

No, it's okay bud I'm awake. It's good to hear from you. Is everything alright?

Are you okay?
(beat)
Aaron? Are you okay?

AARON
No. I mean, yes. I'm okay but it's not-
He hides the phone when an officer stomps by.

AARON (CONT.)
It's not safe.

David's eyes narrow and he takes a concerned breath.

MILITARY BARRACKS

Aaron is standing now, looking out the window. Tanks, Humvees and scores of troops scuttle outside.

AARON
I can't talk long, they won't let any of us make phone calls but I had to call you and mom.

He catches his breath after ducking away from a spotlight outside his window.

AARON (CONT.)
Everyone is being deployed Dad, everyone. No one knows where, and all we know is something attacked us.

DAVID
Attacked us? Aaron what...

AARON
(interrupting)
No dad listen, it was something else.

Aaron's breathing becomes more unbalanced.

AARON (CONT'D)
On the news, it wasn't an accident or whatever they're saying... It was something else. Something underground-

DAVID'S OFFICE

David has his elbows propping him up on his desk.

DAVID
Aaron, I-

David pauses again shaking his head.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I don't understand...

AARON
Dad, please. Take everyone and just go.

DAVID
Go where Aaron? What is wrong with you?

MILITARY BARRACKS

A heavy door flies open and SMACKS the wall behind it. Flashlights dart around the room.

AARON
Oh shit!

DAVID
(filtered)
Aaron?

A beam of light punishes Aaron, payphone in hand.

SOLDIER (O.S.)
Hey, you! Get off that phone! Drop it now!

DAVID
Aaron!

AARON
Shit. Dad? Dad?! It's not safe, you've got to go. Please get out of the city!

DAVID'S OFFICE

David stands up at his desk knocking some things over.

AARON (CONT.)
(filtered)
I love you.

The phone line clicks off; David can't seem to react fast enough. He hangs his head and drops the phone. Feverishly concerned, he stares at nothing for a moment.

DAVID
Love you too son.

David takes a deep breath and exhales. He leans back, rubbing at his eyes. The red journal catches his eye. Staring down at the mangled cover his eyelids get heavy...

FADE TO:

BLACK

FADE IN:

BEGIN DREAM SEQUENCE:

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE

David is asleep at his desk; his arms wrapped around his head lying on the desktop, the entire room grainy and fuzzy as if being watched on an old television. A faint orange glow emanates from the two windows outside.

Sounds of distant voices, screaming, and churning fires echo around the room, interrupted by the low THUD of giant stomp outside.

RAWNK!

David bolts awake from the inhuman GRUNT!

He rubs his eyes awake to look around. His office is different, the journal is gone, and color seems to drain out of his surroundings. He listens for the strange sounds again, but hears something else.

Standing from his desk he hears faint voices coming from another room.

Note: All Japanese reporter's dialogue is spoken in Japanese with no subtitles.

JAPANESE REPORTER (O.S.)

It is headed out of Tokyo bay and is now
headed for the heart of the city.
Military personnel can't seem to stop
it!

50'S HALLWAY

David stumbles out of his office to a hallway that is not his home. A long and narrow hotel hall lined with doors that seem to go on forever.

David's eyes still adjusting, he moves towards the only open door, a faint light spills from inside.

STEVE MARTIN (V.O.)

(filtered)

This tape recording is for...

The voice fades in and out.

STEVE MARTIN (CONT'D)

...with United World News.

JAPANESE REPORTER (CONT'D)

It's enormous, and terrible!

The corridor shakes with quick tremors. Rumbling sounds vibrate from the walls. David slowly pushes open the door and peers inside.

50'S ROOM

Scattered radio and typewriters line desks in the center, file cabinets branch around the walls. Several men are huddled around windows, all but one are Japanese.

One man in a dark suit is taller than the rest, unmistakably a young Steve Martin.

STEVE MARTIN

Here in Tokyo, time has been turned back two million years. This is my report as it happens.

David squints through the light and steps deeper into the room, color completely into black and white. Time seems to slow down as he pushes towards the faceless figures.

The other men yell and scream in undistinguishable Japanese.

STEVE MARTIN (CON'T)

A prehistoric monster the Japanese call-

The Japanese men and a loud CRASH interrupt his sentence.

JAPANESE REPORTER

Oh my god!

STEVE MARTIN

Has just walked out of Tokyo Bay. He's as tall as a thirty story building.

(beat)

Now he's making his way-

The room shakes again, the screams of the Japanese men cry louder. Dust and small bits of debris fall from the ceiling, fingers of flame dance outside the windows.

STEVE MARTIN (CON'T)

I can hardly believe what's just happened!

The men press against the windows, David raises a hand and tries vainly to reach towards them.

STEVE MARTIN (CON'T)

I'm saying a prayer... a prayer for the whole world.

David, only a few feet from the dark haired man strains his arm out as the voice continues.

STEVE MARTIN (CON'T)

-has turned the heart of Tokyo into a sea of fire; beneath the flames, thousands lie dead or dying!

Finally reaching the figure, David slams his hand down on

his grandfather's shoulder as the shaking and rumbling pounds to its peak.

A familiar roar rips through the air and the structure violently trembles and collapses.

FADE TO:

BLACK

STEVE MARTIN
(filtered)
Nothing can save the city now...

END DREAM SEQUENCE:

FADE IN:

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - MORNING

David bolts awake covered in sweat. His children chirp and laugh in the next room. Light beams through the cracks in his blinds, he gasps for breath.

Within seconds, Sarah sprints into the room and tries to climb onto David's lap.

SARAH
Morning Daddy!
(beat)
Daddy?

David shakes his head and looks down at her, helping her up with a smile. He wipes the side of his face off with his sleeve, catching his breath.

DAVID
Morning sweetheart.

SARAH
Are you okay daddy? Are you sick?

She brushes his hair like a dog, hoping her touch can somehow heal him. He smiles back at her.

DAVID
I'm fine pumpkin, are you ready for school?

He stands, carrying her out of the room.

SARAH
Yeah!

KITCHEN

Karen is placing sandwiches in lunch bags while feeding the hungry baby sitting high in a booster seat. Food drips from

the infant's mouth, who smiles at David when he enters.

KAREN

There you are, hey honey. Okay,
backpacks kids!

(to David)

Morning! Didn't want to wake you last
night, thought you could have used the
time alone.

David sets Sarah down and rubs his head awake.

Karen pecks a kiss on his cheek, dishing out lunch bags and
backpacks. Alex peers inside his bag and frowns.

DAVID

No I... I just fell asleep, must've been
more tired than I thought. I'm sorry
dear.

KAREN

You're fine, you mind taking them to the
bus stop though? I need to feed Susie Q.

DAVID

Sure thing. Let's go guys.

With a hand on both either head, he leads them to the door.

EXT. DAVID'S PORCH

Their porch sits a few feet above the sidewalk with a brief
set of stairs leading down. David's jaw nails the floor.

He looks around the neighborhood, surveying the soldiers,
tanks, Humvees, and huge crowds of people!

Helicopters SOAR overhead as soldiers escort people out of
their homes and into lines down the street!

ALEX

Whoa! Dad, look at this!

Alex stands wide eyed at the vehicles and troops, Sarah is
having the opposite reaction.

DAVID

What the?

David is stunned for a moment. His eyes adjust and he
remembers Aarons' warning.

He scans the neighborhood again, spots his neighbor Tom, and
hustles down the steps.

DAVID

Stay on the porch, guys. Don't move.

David crosses the street towards Tom.

TOM'S DRIVEWAY

Tom is throwing suitcases and duffel bags into the back of his minivan. His face is beat red, he has a look of terror in his eyes. Tom's two teenage children shuffle in and out of the garage carrying more luggage.

DAVID

Hey uh, Tom, you know what's going on?
Is everything okay?

Tom doesn't stop tossing bags.

DAVID (CONT.)

Tom?

TOM

They closed the schools.

He is short with his answer.

DAVID

I see, but what's going on? Uh, are you
okay?

Tom mumbles something under his breathe that sounds like an obscenity. He stops moving his things to take a step towards David.

TOM

Jesus David, haven't you been watching
the news? Take Karen and the kids and
get outta here. The military is ordering
an evacuation.

The news hits David like a brick.

DAVID

Evacuation!?

Tom shakes his head and goes back to moving luggage. David glances back at his children. Two Blackhawk helicopters cross overhead.

TOM

(to his son)
Hey, hey Tommy, get out here and help me
with the cooler!

DAVID

Evacuation? Tom what for, did something
happen?

TOM

Just get out of here David, do it for
your kids. We're getting outta here too

He tosses the last bag in the side door of his van and slaps the roof several times.

TOM (CON'T)

Let's go, everybody in the car NOW!

Tom starts his car as David looks around; all of the other neighbors are packing up things or leaving with the soldiers. Spinning around more he sees his children on the adjacent sidewalk, alone.

The minivan backs up, the driver's window meets with David.

TOM

Get outta here while you can David,
please.

Tom's van screeches out of the driveway and down the road.

NEIGHBORHOOD STREET

David zips up his jacket, jogging into the street where a SOLDIER is directing traffic and people.

SOLDIER

Sir you gotta keep movin'.

DAVID

Hey, hey wait what's going on?

SOLDIER

Please sir you gotta get out of the
street!

He shouts over the cars and commotion of the morning.

DAVID

Why? Can you tell me what's happening?

SOLDIER

We're evacuating this entire area, go
back inside sir!

His tone changes, more assertive when he realizes David isn't moving.

SOLDIER

Grab what belongings you can and go to
the East Harbor sir, this is a mandatory
evacuation!

Another soldier hustles towards them in the street; they both clench their M4A1 assault rifles. David looks over at his children, flinches, but doesn't move.

DAVID

Look, just tell me...

SOLDIER
SIR! Get your kids, go back inside and
get outta the street, NOW!

More soldiers jog towards them. David backs away shaking his head and heads for the front door.

INT. FAMILY ROOM

The television is on and blaring. Karen sits with Susie on her lap looking terrified when David enters. Alex and Sarah drop their backpacks and climb on the furniture.

The television displays occasional snow and static with a random flicker.

KAREN
I tried to call my parents. The phone
doesn't work. David, what's going on?

DAVID
I'm not sure. There are soldiers
outside, they're telling everyone to
evacuate.

KAREN
What?!

DAVID
Kids, I need you to go upstairs, get
some clothes and put your jackets on
okay? Alex, help your sister when you're
done.

Alex nods and drags his sister upstairs. David opens the closet behind him and pulls out a jacket. He moves to the kitchen.

DAVID (O.S.)
Get your things and the baby's stuff.

He comes back in the room with the jacket on, holding a duffel bag.

DAVID
Karen?

She blinks, motionless.

KAREN
Okay, okay.

David waits for her get up and walk into the next room, his eyes travel to the television.

REPORTER
We're getting word now of massive
seismic activity off the coast of

Manhattan but there has been no report
of an earthquake.

David spins around and rushes up the stairs. We hear the
heavy thuds of helicopter blades THUMPING by outside.

REPORTER
People are calling it Armageddon.

Close on the television, the static intensifies.

TELEVISION

An elderly newscaster is hunched over his desk; someone on
his left slides him a stack of papers.

Whatever is on the paper startles him.

REPORTER
Is this real?

The man looks off to his right; he holds up the papers and
shakes his head.

REPORTER (CON'T)
I, uh... I don't believe it-

UPSTAIRS HALLWAY

David hurries past his children's rooms while they nervously
cram clothes in their school backpacks. Moving down the hall
he kicks into the master bedroom.

DAVID'S ROOM

Flipping the bag open David tosses shirts and socks inside.
He snatches a baseball cap from his bed post before sliding
it on his head.

Sounds echo outside, like distant thunder. Voices and
shouting break the low thundering from the street.

David glances out a window to the street below.

More soldiers are in the street; some of them run between
the houses. Police cars and officers in riot gear scramble
around amongst the civilians.

Feeling the vibration of the distant rumbling, David glances
down at a small nightstand. A family photo rattles off the
table to the beat of the thunder.

The frame shatters on the floor. David takes that as his cue
to run.

FAMILY ROOM

Karen and the children are sitting with bags around their
shoulders and at their feet. David hustles down the stairs.

The television is still on.

REPORTER (O.S.)

Ladies and gentlemen, I can hardly believe what has just occurred. It is like something out of a science fiction story.

David joins his family, the television screen even worse than before. Fuzzy audio and video cut out periodically.

REPORTER

Authorities are asking everyone to evacuate immediately, please stand by-

A loud thundering STOMP shakes the house!

The children cry out and more clamoring erupts outside. A soldier on a megaphone outside blurts out indiscernible orders.

SARAH

Daddy!

Alex and Sarah cling to David's legs right as the television picture scrambles into obscurity. The reporter's words are a gargled mess.

REPORTER

May god save us all-

The television CUTS off!

The noise outside grows quiet and the tremors throughout the home suddenly die down.

The ominous ring of air raid siren BELLOWS over the house. A chilling mechanical cry spreads over everything.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

Soldiers and civilians look up into the sky in wonder. A police cruiser HURDLES by gawking onlookers.

ELECTRONICS STORE

Several shoppers and citizens stare into store windows full of televisions, each showing the same scrambled feed.

Others look into the sky and towards the rooftops while air raid sirens scream over the cityscape.

One of the fuzzy screens shows a map of the United States. Large red and orange circles are display a line from California to the East Coast.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE

The giant screen displays video of military vehicles and troops. Hundreds watch the jumbo monitor; the sirens only distract a few people from the enormous televisions.

On the fuzzy screens, a fleeting glimpse of an enormous object LIFTING out of the water near the Statue of Liberty!

INT. FAMILY ROOM

David and his family, frozen in fear are rocked when another STOMP shakes the house! Lamps tumble off tables; dishes shatter on the floor!

DAVID
Everybody, let's go!

The television flicks back on but is replaced by loud STATIC, a radio chirps comes to life, alarm clocks go off, and car ALARMS outside all seem to be triggered simultaneously! It is electrical interference from some unknown radioactive source.

In the commotion, David helps his wife up and hurries them out the front door.

EXT. DAVID'S PORCH - MORNING

Gunfire erupts the second they exit the home, Humvees and troops firing up over the top of David's home!

Two soldiers are already at the front door. They help Karen and the children outside, pointing them to a large cluster of people running in the street.

David jumps down the steps and strains his neck up at the wall of black haze being riddled with bullets.

Monstrous snarls and growls echo from above, more soldiers shout commands into radios.

David's family is rushed ahead of him, suddenly helicopters BOUND overhead into the smog!

Debris falls all around him! He looks back again when the two soldiers on the porch are engulfed in a plume of smoke!

EVACUATION SITE

Over a small hill, a park across the street has been converted into an evacuation center. Dozens of people climb into M939 army truck beds as troops jump over the sand bag entrenchment.

David catches back up with Karen.

The suburb has become a warzone. People scream, children

cry, soldiers call-out over gunfire and rockets. Distant explosions pummel the ears of everyone for miles.

DAVID

Oh my god Karen, are you alright?

KAREN

Jesus David.

(beat - catching her breathe)

Alex, where's Alex? I thought he was with you?

David stops dead in his tracks, fervently looking for Alex.

DAVID

What? I thought?

KAREN

Oh god no, no not my baby.

He looks back over the hill, pushing people out of his way.

DAVID

Go with them, I'll find him and meet you at the pier!

KAREN

No! No David, come back!

SARAH

Daddy!

David ignores their cries and bulldozes through the panicked crowd towards the gunfire. Behind him, soldiers load Karen and the others onto trucks.

Running up the hill David brushes past more troops. One of them tries to stop him, tugging at his jacket.

DAVID

Let me go! My son, my son is back there!

Other soldiers run behind him but keep their sights trained on the sky.

NEIGHBORHOOD STREET

Soldiers continue to snipe into the soot. A MASSIVE object writhes behind the fire and ash. Monstrous and inhuman groans wail from behind the black wall.

The smoke, created by a plethora of bullets and artillery shrouds an enormous living creature behind its thick ash.

David leaps over giant cracks in the pavement, nearly tripping over the first of countless bodies!

A flaming SUV SLAMS down into another car beside him! He

rolls away and keeps running!

David makes it to his porch and jumps up the stairs shielding his face and eyes.

INT. FAMILY ROOM

David dashes into the open door, dust and debris falling everywhere. His home is now a cracked and ravaged variant of former picturesque self.

An explosion ROCKS the house from outside sending David off his feet!

DAVID
Alex! Alex!

We stay in the family room when David DASHES into the kitchen, then a room upstairs. He coughs and strains through the gloom, his house shaking violently with gunfire increasing outside.

DAVID (O.S.)
Alex!

David lunges back into the family room. An ear shattering howl overcomes the gun shots and rattles his brain.

Before he can react, an explosion outside BLOWS out the front windows sending David SPIRALING into a wall!

Shaken, David limps to his feet and manages to move down the hallway towards his office.

DAVID'S OFFICE

David tumbles inside; a sharp wind blows his singed curtains and papers around the room. The wall is cracked and the house quakes again.

DAVID
Alex!

ALEX (O.S.)
Dad!

David glances back down the hall, nothing. He spins to his office closet, FLINGS open the doors and sees his son huddled in a corner under a row of hanging jackets.

DAVID
C'mon. C'mon kiddo.

Without hesitation he scoops his son up and rushes out of the room.

Left behind, is Steve Martin's box of belongings. It's been knocked on the floor and various photos and books are

sprawled everywhere.

Scattered on the floor, a stack of black and white photos mostly unrecognizable, but each of them unmistakably of a large creature.

Somewhere outside, the ECHO of a telltale ROAR!

EXT. DAVID'S PORCH

Low Angle Shot. David SHOULDERS open his front door and takes a fleeting glance up behind him again at the foreboding wall of darkness!

He springs off the porch with Alex wrapped around him. The smoke and gunfire is intense, deafening shots, grunts, and growls stab at their ears!

NEIGHBORHOOD STREET

Only a few yards off the porch, their entire house EXPLODES into thousands of pieces. A massive shadowy object BURSTS through the line of homes.

The explosion rips through a Humvee and several soldiers knocking David off balance.

David runs at full speed, another Humvee PLUMMETS from the sky and dives into two parked cars beside David.

Alex is knocked off his back, they are sent FLYING in different directions.

The cars explode leaving David's hearing muffled and garbled. He shouts and tries to look around but can't seem to do either.

That's when he sees the carnage. All along the ruined street are layers of burned bodies and bloody debris.

An Apache Helicopter missing its tail comes CAREENING down into the street! The propeller RIPS through the concrete until it SKIDS to a stop only a few feet in front of David!

The two pilots desperately punch the cockpit to escape!

The helicopter EXPLODES! The blast nearly engulfing David in a fireball!

David crab walks backwards until a soldier lifts him to his feet.

More troops file in behind him, firing up at the enormous entity moving behind the silver mist!

SOLDIER

Get outta here now! Go! Run!

David's legs are limp, his ears bleeding. The soldier props him up and tries to shake him back to reality.

Another soldier carrying Alex rushes over and hands him to David. Looking down at his son, instincts kick in and David clenches him tight.

A salvo of rockets SHRIEK overhead jolting David's hearing back to normal! The rocket pierces the smoke above them and COLLIDES with the monstrous gray figure!

A painful variation of an unnatural bellow lingers from the explosion.

Gripping his son, David takes off down the street as an eruption of blazing ash envelops the Humvee and soldiers that rescued him.

David runs full bore from the battle with hundreds of other people between the skyscrapers of New York. The occasional civilian hides in a window or tests their luck in a car.

The sounds of the monster and the fighting subside the further they get, but David doesn't stop.

EXT. CROWDED STREETS - MIDDAY

CRANE SHOT - A horde of people are in an uproar throughout the busy streets. Military and emergency vehicles inch their way through the crowds. Many people curse and whoop at the convoy.

Police decked in riot gear and shields try to control the mob while horse mounted officers vainly attempt to direct the agitated crowd to safety.

MEGAPHONE SOLDIER

(into megaphone)

Please keep away from all military and emergency vehicles; you are interfering with the United States Army. Please head to the East Harbor for evacuation.

He repeats himself. David joins the bustling crowd.

INT. LEAD HUMVEE

Four soldiers sit in a cramped Humvee with another sticking out of the top yelling into his megaphone. Dozens of civilians push on the vehicle causing it to sway.

DRIVER

God damnit people, MOVE! Get outta the way!

An angry civilian SMACKS the windshield with a backpack.

PASSENGER

Jesus!

Another hit! More fists pound on the window beside him.

EXT. LEAD HUMVEE

Several people beat on the sides of the trucks, screaming for help. One man TOSSES a beer bottle that shatters on the side of the Humvee.

PASSENGER

(to driver)

Damnit, just go.

MEGAPHONE SOLDIER

(into megaphone)

Step away from the vehicles! You are interfering with the United States Army! Move to the evacuation zone! It is not safe here!

CROWDED STREETS

David becomes entangled in the crowd, everyone covered in blood and dirt. One man with them weeps uncontrollably, clawing at his missing arm.

David is lost in the maze of frantic people, spinning around and pushing through the mob. He tries to soothe his son.

DAVID

Hang in there buddy. Just relax, we're going.

ALEX

Why are they angry dad? Why aren't they running?

DAVID

Because, because they don't know. They haven't seen it...

He buffets a wall of immobile people and quickly gets upset. Alex holds tight slung over Davids neck, dried tears streaked down his cheeks.

DAVID

Move! Get out of the way! Let them through and move!

(beat)

Please...

A group of helicopters SWOOPS overhead! People duck try to shield themselves from the force.

David desperately looks around for a way through the mob.

DAVID

It's okay. Hang in there, stay with me
bud.

The megaphone soldier can still be heard amidst the rabble.

MEGAPHONE SOLDIER (O.S.)

(into megaphone)

Keep away from the vehicles! Head to the
East Harbor for evacuation!

Darting his head around, David spots a chunk of concrete teetering on the sidewalk. Ever so slightly, the broken shard subtly wobbles back and forth.

David stares down at it; the chunks wobble turns into a violent seizure. David's eyes widen and the familiar tremors return.

DAVID

Oh god.

Smaller pieces of debris tremble on the sidewalk and a rumbling sound WASHES over the street! The megaphone squawks and malfunctions with distortion!

The crowd ruptures when a massive shockwave BOUNCES the Humvees into the air! Hundreds of people fall over, others are tossed into the air; everyone screams.

INT. LEAD HUMVEE

The Humvee and other vehicles wobble back to the street. The DRIVER clutches the wheel, the two troops in the back fall out of their seats.

DRIVER

The hell?

The megaphone soldier slides inside, white as a ghost.

MEGAPHONE SOLDIER

We've gotta get out of here.

EXT. CROWDED STREETS

The sea of people gawk, each of them looking up at something that terrifies them. The ROAR of the creature sends their panic into sheer mindless horror!

The mortified screams of everyone ERUPT; the crowd CHURNS with frenzied turmoil!

The mob panics. Ripping open the doors to ambulances, squad cars or military transports, clawing for safety. Others fight with police and soldiers!

A row of riot policemen are pushed down and trampled over,

everyone running in frantic disarray.

Another heaving shockwave splinters the street! A woman is sucked into a gaping crevice of concrete. A man is flung through a nearby store window.

INT. LEAD HUMVEE

The troops try and hold the door closed. They curse as people strike their vehicle and yank a soldier from the backseat! Another ominous growl wafts from outside!

MEGAPHONE SOLDIER (O.S.)
Get back! Get away from the vehicle!

DRIVER
Fuck!

PASSENGER
(into radio)
We need support; I repeat we are being
overrun!

EXT. CROWDED STREETS

Behind David a condominium TOPPLES over birthing a PULSING cloud of smoke moving like a TIDAL WAVE through the street!

The monsters horrific HOWL mixes with the tumbling building and encroaching black cloud!

Seizing the opportunity, David ZIGZAGS through the crowd passing a Humvee as civilians pull another soldier out.

A row of riot policemen topple like dominos to the mob and give David a path away from the madness.

The nebula of ash barrels towards them, engulfing the crazed horde and the helicopters above. Explosions erupt from behind the thick ash and flaming cars tumble down around them.

Despite his mad dash, the cloud catches up to David; he takes a deep breath and is consumed for a moment in a swarm of ash!

The black wall snarls. David and Alex disappear inside!

Whether luck or skill, David LEAPS from the vapor still clutching Alex! Coughing, they sprint away from the bubbling murk, leaving the screams of the dying behind.

EXT. EVACUATION PIER - AFTERNOON

A mass of people collide against a military checkpoint. Rows of makeshift barricades and fences funnel the crowd towards ferries, military hovercrafts and helicopters behind tanks and Humvees.

Beyond the pier a handful of Navy battleships glide over the water.

David arrives covered in ash and dirt, breathing hard. He sets Alex down and they make their way into the crowd. David keeps an arm on his sons shoulder while he catches his breath but gets pushed by a passer by.

ALEX
Is mom here?

DAVID
Yeah buddy, she's here. Keep an eye out for her or your sister, they're here somewhere.

A pair of commercial helicopters take off across the river. Alex carefully survey's the crowd for his family. He notices his uncle, Daniel, making his way towards the checkpoint. He is bloodied and bandaged.

ALEX
Uncle Danny!

DAVID
Danny?

David looks up. Daniel hears his name and spots them through the lines of people. A crude blood soaked bandage of gauze is wrapped over his forehead and left eye. Dried clots cake his face and hands.

DAVID
Jesus, Danny! Danny, you're okay!

Daniel shambles towards them but David gets to him first, Alex follows. They all embrace warmly.

DAVID
Never thought I'd see you again Dan.
God, are you alright?

David inspects the large bandage on Daniels' head.

DANIEL
Yeah, yeah, it doesn't hurt anymore. My arms pretty jacked up though. Broken.

Daniel lifts his left arm but winces, managing a smile.

DAVID
Dan have you seen Karen and the kids?
They were headed this way.

David looks around still holding Danny and Alex close. Daniel coughs.

DANIEL

Yeah, yeah I was with them. They're okay. Army started to round up some of the women and children.

David sighs in relief. Daniel points to the blockade, interrupts himself with a cough and wipes at his mouth. More blood.

DANIEL

They're up there. They're fine.

David breathes out in relief, takes another look in the direction but notices Daniel. He is silent, staring into the ground.

DAVID

Danny? Oh Dan...

DAVID (CONT'D)

Rachel... God Dan. I'm sorry...

Danny looks up at David, a tear trickles down his good eye.

DANIEL

It came out of nowhere... What the hell's going on David?

DAVID

I'm so sorry Dan... I don't know.

Someone shouts near the blockade and David spots his wife near an unruly civilian trying to pry his way through the checkpoint.

DAVID

C'mon Dan, were getting you out of here. Let's go.

David grabs Daniel's functional arm and scoops up his son and pushes his way to the front. The crowd unwillingly parts as David darts towards his wife.

EXT. MILITARY CHECKPOINT

Rows of armed soldiers are checking identification of people as they file through metal detectors single file. The battleships escort the craft moving through the water.

Karen turns when David emerges from the masses.

KAREN

David? Oh my god David!

SARAH

Daddy!

Sarah bolts towards David and he bends down to hold her,

dropping Alex, who runs towards his mother.

KAREN
You found him!
(to Alex)
Hey baby, I'm so glad you're okay!

They meet still holding their children, hugging, kissing.

KAREN (CON'T)
You found him, thank you so much. I love
you.

A CHECKPOINT SOLDIER behind them steps forward.

CHECKPOINT SOLDIER
Ma'am, we're ready for you now, and your
children.

KAREN
I have my son now, and my husband.

CHECKPOINT SOLDIER
I'm sorry man but I have specific
instructions for women and children
only.

Karen looks back, mortified. She and David look into each
others eyes for a moment; he knew it would come to this, but
smiles anyway.

DAVID
(to Karen)
It's okay honey.

David moves to Daniel and shoves him towards the soldier,
helping him stand.

DAVID (CONT'D)
(to soldier)
Sir, sir please, my brother. He's hurt
very badly. Please let him board.

CHECKPOINT SOLDIER
I'm sorry sir.

DANIEL
No. David, no it's fine.

DAVID
Please soldier, he needs help...

SARAH
What about you Daddy? Aren't you coming
with us?

David crouches and holds Sarah's hand. The soldier looks
down, touched.

DAVID

No baby I can't but you go with mommy
and I'll see you soon.

The crowd around them seems to get louder. A few men scoff at them from the mob to hurry. The soldier turns to his superior and whispers in his ear, then nods.

CHECKPOINT SOLDIER

Alright ma'am lets go. Sir?

The second soldier moves to help Danny through the gate.

DAVID

Thank you guys, thank you.

David pats Daniel on the back, smiling at his family.

KAREN

David...

They hug once more

DAVID

It's going to be okay. I'll find a way
across and meet you there. Head for your
sister's okay?

She nods.

CHECKPOINT SOLDIER

Ma'am?

The crowd grows even more restless. Two soldiers are leading Karen and Daniel away when Sarah and Alex suddenly break away from their mother and cling to David's legs.

ALEX

I wanna stay with Dad!

SARAH

Me too, I want Daddy!

Karen stares in pain but manages a teary eyed smile.

DAVID

No guys, you stay with Mom now.

ALEX

No. No Dad!

CHECKPOINT SOLDIER

Ma'am we have to go now! Let's go!

David shakes his head but can't loosen the children's grip. He looks up at Karen, accepting it.

DAVID

I'll get to the other side. Keep Susie safe!

(to Daniel)

Danny! You take care of my girls!

Daniel manages a limp wave and smiles back at his brother. The troops usher Karen up a ramp to a ferry. Another soldier, a CORPORAL closes the fence and turns to David.

CORPORAL

They'll be fine, they're taking them to the-

The crowd behind them shrieks!

Everyone spins around! A rumble shatters their peaceful goodbye. Down the street a high-rise near the waterline crumbles!

CORPORAL

Jesus, it's back. It's back! Get those people up. Squads two and three move!

We get lost in the panic, trying to spot the creature through the crowds until a massive splash in the water diverts our attention. The tip of a tail slips into the river, sinking fast.

David pulls Alex and Sarah close. They look out over the water.

THE HUDSON RIVER

Dozens of boats, ferries, and hovercraft take off from the port. The last of the helicopters lift off and the people left on shore cry and scream.

The entire Hudson River pulses with ripples. The group of Navy Destroyers prepares for war!

INT. LEAD BATTLESHIP

Aboard the USS Mason, an Arleigh Burke Destroyer class battleship, Navy officers stand over a large sonar screen. Several other OPERATORS man the stations around him. The CAPTAIN looks out over the water.

OPERATOR # 1

Sir, we have positive identification on sonar. Bogey moving at forty knots.

OPERATOR # 2 (O.S.)

Confirmed, we have contact, battle stations, battle stations!

OPERATOR # 3 (O.S.)
USS Cole reports target confirmed!

A Klaxon alarm BLURTS out in the room. Flashing emergency lights paint the room red!

EXT. LEAD BATTLESHIP

Several crewmen run across the deck as rows of TURRETS swivel out towards the water! The Klaxon alarm blares over the deck!

OPERATOR # 2
(filtered)
Battle stations, battle stations!

MILITARY CHECKPOINT

Ground forces scramble onto elevated positions. Gunfire erupts from the shoreline atop towers and ramps.

Civilians jump and scratch to get away from the water while David fights for a view of the river.

Amidst the pack of ships, the ferry that's carrying his wife and brother.

DAVID
Oh god...
(beat)
The boats... it wants the boats...

David shouts at the soldier in front of him.

DAVID (CON'T)
Get those boats back! Get them back here!

No one can hear him over the intense gunfire. Alex and Sarah hold onto their father tight, paralyzed in fear.

INT. LEAD BATTLESHIP

The Klaxon BLARES! The operators steal the show!

OPERATOR # 1
Captain we lost sonar.

OPERATOR # 2
We're getting interference, target lost.
I repeat lost contact.

CAPTAIN
What?!

OPERATOR # 2 (O.S.)
We can't see anything!

The Captain forces himself out a large doorway for an unobstructed look.

EXT. LEAD BATTLESHIP

The USS Mason suddenly rocks back and forth!

A loud metal on metal scrapping rises from the below the surface of the water!

The sailors that don't trip peer over the railing. The water below is BOILING!

COMMERCIAL FERRY

Karen and Daniel stand on an outside deck of the ferry looking out towards the battleships with dozens of others. The gunfire from the shore has stopped and dozens of other people hover around the open deck.

DANIEL

What the hell was that?

REFUGEE (O.S.)

Where is it?!

Daniel rushes to a railing and peers over the deck of the ferry. Below them he sees the water under the boat boiling, churning, giving off a faint blue-green glow - it is the creature's radioactivity at work once again.

The metal scrapping ECHOES again! This time the ferry shakes and begins to LIFT out of the water!

A giant bone-like spine BURSTS from below the ferry!

The monstrous screech of GODZILLA emanates over the river!

People topple off the railings! The ship SPLITS in two!

The ferry is violently HOISTED skyward by rows and rows of jagged dorsal plates!

EXT. THE HUDSON RIVER

Three rows of twisted coral-like spines rise from the water below the ferry!

The boat SPLINTERS to pieces on his back and he roars again! Crimson claret STAINS the water.

Godzilla rises from the depths in full terrifying glory!

Godzilla is covered in jagged scales and spines. A saurian nightmare! He is enormous and horrifying, a true radioactive abomination. His eyes are white and pupil-less, and his mouth lined with rows of needlelike teeth!

The remains of the ferry PILFER around him, gore trickles

down his spines. His monstrous lungs produce his unique BARK that threatens our ear drums!

MILITARY CHECKPOINT

David's eyes bulge out of his skull; he can't believe the sight. The screams of everyone around him are drowned out by explosions and gunfire.

Another signature SHRIEK radiates over the harbor!

The last chunks of the ferry TOPPLE off Godzilla's spines and SHATTER on the water's surface!

INT. LEAD BATTLESHIP

Several of the operators and officers are speechless; the Captain stands in shock and awe.

This is their first time seeing the monster. They look out as Godzilla SMACKS a small civilian boat.

Reality sinks in, the Captain twitches.

CAPTAIN

Fire god damnit, fire!

OPERATOR # 1

All batteries fire!

OPERATOR # 2 (O.S.)

All forward batteries open fire!

EXT. THE HUDSON RIVER

Godzilla stands waist high in the water and swipes at another transport. He tears the top off and whips around to a hovercraft.

In a flash the artillery from the USS Mason BELTS over his neck and chest!

Godzilla YELPS in pain and anger!

Godzilla smashes his claw down through the hovercraft, and turns to the battleship.

His tail PEELS out of the water behind him, long and whip-like. A helicopter ZIPS past him; he tries to SNAP his jaws around it but misses.

Another barrage from a destroyer behind him!

The two battleships circle their prey.

MILITARY CHECKPOINT

David sits on his knees holding his children with either arm. Soldiers hustle around them firing their weapons out

over the water.

ALEX
Dad? Dad is Mom okay?

David looks up at his son, then his daughter.

David wipes at his face and swallows hard. He fights back a floodgate of tears.

DAVID
We've gotta run guys okay? Are you ready?

The children nod, their faces streaked in dirt and tears. David clasps both their hands, holds them up in sync like barbells and they take off across the pier.

THE HUDSON RIVER

Godzilla's tail rises and SLICES through the battleship behind him!

He snarls, heading for the lead battleship. The same helicopter WHIZZES by again but this time he BATS it out of the air with his hand!

The helicopter's flaming wreckage SKIPS over the water. A gargantuan shadow looms over the USS Mason.

EXT. LEAD BATTLESHIP

The cannons on the deck expel again, exploding on the encroaching creature. They do not stop him.

Godzilla raises a gigantic arm and SLAMS down on the front portion of the ship!

The front quickly SLUMPS into the water while the back of the ship FLIPS and SOMERSAULTS topside into an explosion of water and steam!

The foam clears and Godzilla emerges from the smoke and ROARS triumphantly once again!

PIER

David and his two children run along a ravaged dockyard. Remains of the military blockade are badly damaged and charred.

Small fishing boats line the river bank, a charred and twisted helicopter lay crashed into the ground nearby.

Godzilla wades through the water beyond the pier. A firestorm blankets the waters surface. The vicious aftermath of the failed Naval skirmish.

The sounds of gunfire and explosions in the distance, a huge inferno paired with pillars of smoke drift upward.

The family runs and doesn't look back.

EXT. WRECKED STREET

Buildings are toppled over leaning against others, flattened cars line the sidewalks. The screams of the dying linger through the hazy wreckage. David cautiously moves down the road, a child by either hand.

DAVID

Holy god...

Massive cracks and huge footprints have permanently remodeled the street.

Shops on either side are caked in human remains, cars overturned and scorched, lifeless bodies are scattered everywhere, and pieces of the even less fortunate are strewn about.

David lifts his daughter up with both hands and motions for Alex to follow close to continue through the carnage.

To their right, a man smashed from the chest down struggles to drag his upper half from a foot impression on the concrete. He moans with his smashed entrails draped behind him. David buries his daughters head in his neck and holds another hand over his sons wandering eyes.

DAVID

Don't look guys...

David tries to look away.

A train BARRELS overhead on elevated tracks. It startles the children. They watch it move like a clattering snake aboard its tracks.

Up ahead, the train enters a wide turn.

INT. TRAIN CAR

People of all ages are huddled together in the cramped car. Everyone looks tired. A message is being played over the speaker.

CONDUCTER

(filtered)

Evacuation of Manhattan in effect, all passengers are required to stay on board until arrival at John F Kennedy Airport.

They sway with the train as it moves. Parents comfort their children; a woman cries in the rear car, a man tries to talk into his cell phone.

EXT. OUTSIDE TRAIN CAR

The train streaks past columns of buildings when Godzilla suddenly BURSTS through a glass structure and SWIPES through the elevated train track!

Godzilla HOWLS and snaps his gaze onto the incoming train!

The front car FLIES off the track and SMASHES into the ground below!

Bodies and metal SPEW everywhere!

The second car is snatched by Godzilla; the cars behind it COLLIDE with its rear end!

INT. TRAIN CAR

The passengers are flung all around the car! Huge bloody claws rip into the sides! Everyone screams!

The train car is hoisted high into the air. Godzilla's teeth and eyes gleam through the windows.

EXT. WRECKED STREET

David looks up at the monster when he takes a bite out of the second train car. The final screams of a dozen people triggers a gruesome spray of gore from the train.

A large chunk of metal PLUMMETS down onto a parked car blowing out its windows!

David leaps backward, catching his daughter on the way down. He isn't able to escape the downpour of blood, shrapnel, and body parts as they RAIN from the sky to drench the street!

Godzilla chokes down the steel before tossing the remains of the train into a high-rise beside him.

The train car SCRAPES down across the glass face of the skyscraper and settles several yards to David's right.

He scrambles to his feet as more body parts and metal pieces explode on impact from the aluminum car.

A screaming mob comes running down the street away from Godzilla. He grumbles, finishing the train in his mouth, noticing the hundreds of people.

The churning flocks of civilians all run for their lives!

Godzilla tramples into them, crushing hundreds to pulp!

A MISSILE!

It ROCKETS overhead followed closely by two Apache Helicopter gunships!

Missiles strike Godzilla and he immediately retaliates when the choppers swoop in close!

He swats the first down like a fly sending it SPIRALING into a column supporting the elevated train tracks!

David seizes the opportunity and runs with his children; they pass a VAN with a family inside.

It's Tom, but debris has pinned the doors closed to the van. The front two tires are torn to ribbons. Tom's family is screaming for rescue.

TOM

David! David, help us!

David pushes Alex and Sarah behind an overturned fire truck and yanks on the van's driver door.

David flinches from another helicopter behind him.

DAVID

Tom! Help me get the door! Push!

Tom, his wife, and two children wail from inside their van. Their cries and moans are muffled.

TOM

It's stuck, we tried all of them! Help David!

DAVID

Damn, I can't get it, it's stuck!

One of the teenagers in the van looks up and screams!

CRASH!

David JUMPS back when the giant foot of Godzilla STOMPS on the van! The family's screams are instantly snuffed out!

The van is crushed. Blood, glass, and steel explode from beneath the scaly foot. Arterial spray spurts across the street like a Rorschach painting.

David crab walks backward, spinning to his feet.

A third chopper SWOOPS in!

Godzilla SMACKS the second, sending it HURDLING into the third!

The two helicopters COLLIDE and DIVE BOMB into the street next to David. Their blades SLICE through the concrete before exploding.

David rolls away unfazed.

David scampers away with his Alex and Sarah and huddles near

the fallen train car.

Godzilla's screech bounces off the towering buildings.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRCRAFT CARRIER - SUNSET

The flight deck of the USS Gerald S. Ford supercarrier adorned with dozens of crewman and pilots dashing to their planes. Several more battleships dot the waterline.

A Klaxon alarm squawks! A massive aerial offensive is about to begin.

WARLORD (V.O.)
Target is inside the quarantine zone,
Manhattan Island!

INT. AIRCRAFT CARRIER COMMAND CENTER

The high tech room is filled with operators sitting at rows of glowing screens dishing out commands over headsets.

Several officers stand behind them, their commander codenamed WARLORD gives his orders.

WARLORD
This is Warlord, execute strike package
Titan!

EXT. AIRCRAFT CARRIER FLIGHT DECK

Pilots check their gear, ground crew assemble, and jets prepare to launch out over the water.

A Catapult Deck Officer signals for jet launch.

WARLORD (V.O.)
Weapons free. Roll in hot.

INT. AIRCRAFT CARRIER CONTROL TOWER

The last of the jets streaks off the runway. A pair of flight control officers follows them with binoculars.

CONTROL OFFICER
Echo Flight clear.

EXT. AIRCRAFT CARRIER

A large formation of F-35 jets joins together and THUNDER away from the carrier headed for New York!

EXT. WRECKED STREET

Night is falling fast over the city. David is still huddled next to the train car with Alex and Sarah. He wipes the dried blood off Sarah's face, both children are crying.

DAVID
Shh, shh, it's okay baby, calm down.

ALEX
Dad?

SARAH
Mommy. I want mommy.

DAVID
Mom isn't here right now.
(beat)
She's gone, you guys, just stay calm for
me okay?

David brushes their hair with his hands simultaneously
looking over his shoulder. Godzilla is gone. Only a few
people dash through the streets, dozens more lie dead.

He looks around again, slowly moving to his feet.

DAVID
We've gotta keep moving you two, stay
here. I'll be right back.

SARAH
Daddy no!

David leans back down to eye level.

DAVID
I'll be back, I promise you.

David strafes across the bottom side of the train car. Its
silver carriage protruding from the skyscraper it hit,
creating a bridge from the street to the inside.

Hopping over some rubble, David finds the door to the train
car and pries it open. He nearly vomits when-

Blood POURS from the inside of the car!

Gallons. A wave of warm death drenches his legs, emptying
into the road. Chunks of flesh and bone bounce off his
shins.

David closes his eyes and cringes.

He peers inside, hesitates, and moves out of the doorway.

INT. BLOODY TRAIN CAR

Our surroundings are hard to make out, but are undoubtedly
disgusting. David returns with Alex and Sarah outside the
train car doorway.

The inside of the train is dark but there are hints of a
bloodbath. He kneels down with his two children.

DAVID

Alright guys we're going to be safe inside but I need you to close your eyes and keep them closed.

ALEX

Why?

David glances inside the train car.

DAVID

Just... keep them closed. Understand?

The children nod.

David picks up Sarah and holds Alex by his arm. As they move, more of the train's insides are revealed. David follows us through the car.

Human remains are everywhere; those that weren't eaten have now become a living plaster caked to the inside.

Blood is splattered in thick splashes on the walls and ceilings. Torsos and skeletons are mashed together. Severed arms and legs dangle from fixtures and holes in the walls.

David forces his eyes to stay open and carefully navigates the dark and gruesome train. Flesh and tissue blot out any light from the cracked windows.

Someone miraculously still alive gurgles something beside them. David painfully ignores them and tugs on Alex's arm.

Carefully ascending the morbid tomb, David holds Alex close as he trails behind him. The boys eyes still closed, he forcefully holds them shut.

DAVID

Keep your eyes closed guys. Alex, don't open your eyes no matter what...

One of them steps on a bloody arm with a CRUNCH!

David winces, takes a deep breathe, and continues.

Moving steadily to a light at the end of the car they finally reaching the front of the bloody train torn open by a gaping, clawed gash.

INT. RUINED BUILDING

Once the lobby of a fancy corporate office, the elaborate plants and furniture are now covered in dust and dirt furnish the once elegant entryway. Nearly all the windows are broken and dim lights flicker above.

David hops from the hole in the train and helps his children down. He moves to a concierge desk and tries the phone,

rummaging through drawers.

DAVID

Damn!

David moves to the back of the room to an emergency exit but the door is jammed.

Another HOWL echoes from outside!

Dust trickles from the ceiling; a large crystal chandelier sways above. From outside, the booms of jets shake the entire structure, followed by the distant barks of Godzilla.

DAVID

C'mere guys, hurry, get away!

The children scurry for cover as the train car is nudged by something outside. The train BUCKS and TWISTS out of place then rolls down the rubble into the street.

David and his children run for the stairs. Outside, an M1 Abram Tank crawls by the opening backed up by more helicopters above.

ALEX

They can help us dad! Should we go with them?

DAVID

No.

(beat)

No, we don't wanna be near them when it finds them.

David looks up the stairs.

DAVID

Upstairs, let's go.

RUINED BUILDING STAIRCASE

The stairwell is wide and fully enclosed in the center of the sanctuary. Emergency evacuation posters cover the walls. David and the children hustle up the stairs.

Sarah trips. She falls whimpering. David boosts her up, putting his lungs into overtime.

ALEX

Dad, I can't run anymore.

David looks at Alex, then Sarah, helping her up before resting them on a wall. He hesitates.

DAVID

Okay. Okay let's rest a bit.

David turns and divides them, his back smacking hard against the concrete wall.

DAVID

Just a few minutes though.

He slides down his back and rests on the wall. Sarah tucks under his right arm, Alex under his left. They're heavy breathing subsides to reveal-

A distant battle outside of gunfire, explosions, and the monsters wails.

DAVID

Alright we need to-

He looks down at his two children already asleep, and knocks his head against the wall behind him.

Looking out of a large gash in the high-rise, his eyes well up with tears. The sounds of a losing war creep over them.

David hugs his sleeping children and dips his head down, weeping in silence.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. MILITARY TRANSPORT TRUCK - NIGHT

Two rows of soldiers in full combat fatigues sit in the bed of a covered M939 transport truck.

Focus on Aaron Martin, his head down like David's. A Sergeant commands his men as the trailer bounces.

SERGEANT (O.S.)

We've cornered him inside the Central Park area but it won't last! Nothing we have seems to stop it but we're to trying to contain it until support arrives! Martin!

Aaron perks up and looks at the Sergeant.

SERGEANT

Look alive! We're oscar mike in thirty seconds!

Aaron looks back down at his boots. He tries to concentrate to stop the fear. The sounds outside grow louder, gun shots, screams, roars.

SERGEANT

Contain and keep it away from any civilians!

The truck abruptly screeches to a stop.

SERGEANT
Move, move, move!

The Sergeant is the first one out.

He hops down and a huge chunk of concrete NAILS him like a giant tennis ball!

What's left is just a smear of filth!

Godzilla's blood-curdling HOWL chills them to their bones!

The truck shakes, prompting more soldiers to jump out!

EXT. WARZONE

The street is a battlefield. Humvees unload .50 caliber machine guns into the sky; tanks catapult artillery in unison, infantry hustles around the bombardment!

Aaron leaps from the truck bed as the truck is hoisted into the air and yanked into the abyss by a huge menacing claw!

The troops still inside cry out and slide to the back of the truck bed.

An ear shattering bellowing breaks out, pummeling Aaron like a gust of wind!

Soldiers shout and run for cover. A tank in front of Aaron fires its cannon over his head!

BOOM!

The ground splits open to Aaron's right consuming more troops and a Humvee.

A batch of helicopters cuts through the smog overhead, firing their chain guns!

SOLDIER # 1
INCOMING!

Aaron grabs another soldier and dives for cover when clawed truck PLUMMETS from above into the ground!

The truck RIPS through a group of soldiers behind them!

Two Humvees SCREECH around the corner!

The first ramps off Godzilla's foot, flipping into an electronics store! The next skids to a stop, firing its mounted machine gun!

A row of tanks roll in and lift their barrels to Godzilla. They fire, BOOM, BOOM, BOOM!

A soldier next to the tanks with a large radio pack yells into his hand held device!

RADIO SOLDIER
No effect, no effect! Target advancing,
moving east!

The chaos grows. A soldier with night vision goggles darts around the troop's entrenchment. Aaron raises his gun and fires off multiple shots at the monster wrapped in smoke!

SOLDIER # 1
Fire! Fire! Fire!

Night Vision POV - He looks around at the tanks and soldiers, up through the ash.

Godzilla is holding a tank!

At his feet, Aaron rolls out the way of a flaming Humvee!

RADIO SOLDIER (O.S.)
Requesting air support, danger close,
danger close!

Godzilla lunges forward and STOMPS on a Humvee, then SWIPES at a helicopter flying by!

Opposite Aaron, a group of jets glide into position high in the sky.

INT. FIGHTER COCKPIT

A fighter jet pilot flips open the lever on his flight stick and pushes a button on his console.

He banks left!

PILOT # 1
Target acquired. Halo One, fox three.

EXT. FIGHTER PLANE

The missile ignites and speeds towards its target!

Missile POV - We travel with the missile as it tears through the foggy ash and DETONATES on Godzilla's chest!

EXT. WARZONE

Godzilla BELLOWS at the planes!

ANOTHER missile to the neck, a huge explosion!

Godzilla twists, stomping on another tank and KICKING an M270 rocket-launching vehicle onto a group of soldiers!

INT. FIGHTER COCKPIT

The plane swoops down into the mist.

PILOT # 2 (O.S.)
No effect, no effect, pull up!

Godzilla breaks through the night, seething with rage, mouth open wide full of razor sharp rows of teeth!

EXT. WARZONE

Godzilla BITES down on the plane! It explodes in his mouth!

Another plane soars by but Godzilla CLAWS it out of the sky with uncanny reflexes!

Godzilla approaches the remaining ground troops, soot and slag billowing from his mouth. Aaron is among them, his rifle pointing up at Godzilla!

The giant monster's shadow looms over them, and he ROARS down at him!

Aaron's eyes widen. He nearly drops his gun. Soldiers around him scream! Godzilla's shadow takes over and-

CUT TO:

BLACK

FADE IN:

INT. RUINED BUILDING STAIRCASE

David gasps awake. The corridor is silent, the exact same as when they fell asleep. Most of the dust has settled onto a thick layer on top of the three of them and the sounds of war have faded.

David hears something downstairs. He moves trying not to wake them, but fails.

David looks down the center of the stairwell.

People! A dozen REFUGEES, as dirty as they are, are rushing up the stairs.

A pair of soldiers on the ground floor guide them up.

DAVID
Wake up guys!

David turns to an awakening Sarah and Alex already as the first refugee runs by.

DAVID (CON'T)
Hey!

The next few ignore him too. David grabs at the fourth.

DAVID (CONT')
Hey, where are you going? What's going

on?

The man looks back, as if offended. David lets him go.

REFUGEE

The roof. Army is air lifting anyone on
the rooftops to safety.

(beat)

Those your kids?

David's nods.

REFUGEE (CON'T)

C'mon, hurry and come with us man.

David helps his children up but the building shakes. A woman among the refugees screams. This is not a tremor from Godzilla or explosions, but something else.

SOLDIER (O.S.)

Be quiet! Keep moving! Go!

David shoots a look down at the soldiers. The staircase shakes again and a thick explosion of dust blows the troops against the wall.

Something is outside the skyscraper. He turns and runs with the others. The grumble of the 'earthquake' is different somehow.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

The door to the stairs SWINGS open and the sharp wind stings the first of the refugees; everyone covers their eyes from the shearing gale.

The roof is a large flat surface with generators lining the most of the rim. In the center is a large helipad.

Ash and embers float with the harsh winds outside. The glowing cinders would be a beautiful sight under any other circumstance.

REFUGEE

Where is it?! They said it would be
here!

David hunkers down near the door trying to protect his children from the elements. He looks out at the skyline of ruined buildings and burning sky.

An orange glow from below radiates up from the streets. Thousands of cinders dance through the clouds all around the cityscape.

REFUGEE # 2

Damnit, where are you! Help!

The refugees holler and wave their arms. One tries to look over the roofs edge. David holds his children tight, the wind whipping at his skin.

Thud.

The faint sound of helicopter blades.

Thud. Thud. Thud.

The thumping of the turbines grows louder and suddenly a spot light illuminates David from above!

HELICOPTER PILOT

(filtered)

Stay where you are. This is the coast guard, were going to lift you off the roof!

The refugees cheer and rejoice, embracing each other. David smiles and kisses both his children's heads.

INT. HELICOPTER COCKPIT

Two pilots descend through the smoke until they spot the survivors waving their arms.

PILOT # 2

Copy two-four. Looks like ten or so survivors.

EXT. ROOFTOP

The helicopter lowers closer to the roof and a winch drops from its passenger side. David slowly stands and moves with his children towards the helicopter.

He can hardly hear himself over the helicopter and wind.

DAVID

C'mon guys, lets go!

A man eagerly wraps himself in the winch and waves to the pilot, who rises towards the hovering helicopter.

Thud.

That's when David stops dead in his tracks.

Thud!

Through the beating of the helicopter blades, the wind, and the cheers of the others, he hears the same ominous stomps.

THUD!

David's eyes shoot open! He looks behind him just as Godzilla's menacing head rises up through the gloom and embers between the buildings.

The female refugee lets out a mortified shriek!

Godzilla HOWLS, knocking David over! The sound is paralyzing!

INT. HELICOPTER COCKPIT

The two pilots panic, one of them banks the helicopter away from Godzilla! The console beeps with caution!

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

The man on the winch is yanked through the air. He screams and flails his arms.

MAN IN WINCH

Pull me up! Pull me up!

He swings around again, this time another man jumps to the winch spearing the first. The two collide and the JUMPER loses his grip, falling fast!

The jumper CLIPS the rooftops edge and SPIRALS between the buildings into obscurity!

David breaks towards the stairway door. Behind him Godzilla's slithering tail SPLITS the helicopter in two.

The rest of the refugees run for cover as Godzilla claws away at the corner of the helipad.

SNARLING and GROWLING at his prey, only a handful of people make it inside!

INT. EMERGENCY STAIRWELL

The survivors from the rooftop BARREL down the thin metal emergency stairs of the narrow corridor!

Cracks split across the walls and ceiling, the sounds of the monster loom right outside!

A man trips and SPILLS down the stairs, trampled by the others!

David leaps to the bottom of the staircase, pushes his children through the door and desperately tries to help the fallen man!

Debris topples down, crushing the man before David can pull him out.

PENTHOUSE

The top floor of the office is a large reception area lined with several conference rooms. A cluster of elevators waits in the center. The entire floor is encased in wide glass windows. The ruined cityscape outside can be seen in all

directions.

David tries the elevators. Nothing!

DAVID

Damn! C'mon!

He looks around frantically.

Outside the windows, Godzilla's jagged spines sway back and forth. The entire superstructure TREMBLES!

David spots another stairwell exit on the opposite side of the room. A florescent 'EXIT' sign glows in the shadows.

DAVID

There! Hey, hey over here!

David waves his arms to a group of people behind him and points to the new stairway.

Sudden silence grips the room before-

SMASH!

Godzilla's giant hand BURSTS through the side of the tower scraping out survivors!

The impact knocks David to the ground, bits of glass showering the entire floor! David helps his children up, and they run!

The wind tears into the building, whipping papers and debris everywhere! Desks and chairs slide across the floor as the entire frame shifts and sways!

The floor beneath David buckles, sending a hefty portion into the flame filled abyss of the crumbling skyscraper!

David falls to stable ground but Alex is caught in the landslide; he struggles to grab something, anything!

ALEX

Dad!

With lightning fast reflexes David pounces over the hole and thrusts his hand into the darkness of the gaping opening!

The smoke and ash are totally impenetrable. Did he catch him?

The dust clears.

He caught him! David hoists Alex up and moves to the exit.

The monstrous hand recedes back outside when David reaches the new stairwell.

He pushes Alex and Sarah inside, waiting for the last two

survivors making their way towards them.

Another hand BURSTS through the wall only a few yards in front of David! It scrapes the flooring, pinning the people before dragging them outside!

Outside the window, David can see Godzilla.

The toothy maw of the monster instantly paralyzes David with fear!

Godzilla rears back for one more attack! Its claws come DOWN and-

BOOM!

A missile CRACKS Godzilla in the side of the head! Another strikes his neck!

Two jets SCREAM by Godzilla with afterburners blazing!

The explosion blows out the rest of the windows but David slams the exit door just in time!

GLASS STAIRWELL

David and his children enter into a remarkably clean and untouched glass encased staircase leading down the side of the high-rise.

The windows show them their newest view of the streets littered with the dead, melted vehicles, and ruined buildings.

David looks out the window a moment, soaking in the devastation. Alex moves to the railing, peering down.

DAVID

We're getting out of here guys. We just need to make it down these stairs.

(beat)

Alex I need you to be a tough guy and go down by yourself. I have to carry your sister but I'll be right behind you.

Alex looks up at him, shivering as he nods.

DAVID (CONT.)

Hold on guys, okay let's go.

David carries Sarah and ushers Alex in front of him down the wide steps. We follow them down the center of the stairwell and move lower as they do.

The railing vibrates. David's heart skips a beat. The thunderous footsteps rattle our fillings.

David stops a moment; Alex looks back with a pause.

DAVID

Run, hurry!

Godzilla ROARS from outside!

A blazing fighter plane PLUNGES from over them and DIVES into the ruined streets!

Single Shot. With the three of them scurrying down the stairs. Outside the large windows the tanks and helicopters line up in formation. Godzilla lurches from around the structure and engages the ground forces!

Missiles streak across the sky, the entire view outside is a cauterized wasteland of oblivion.

Outside, Godzilla stomp on the remaining tanks and swipes at aircraft. The military struggles with a losing battle.

EXT. GLASS STAIRWELL

Godzilla's reflection in the glass is more horrific than in person. He finishes off the remaining military forces leaving a trail of incinerated rubble in his wake.

Snarling in victory, he turns back to the skyscraper. David is still behind the glass, bounding down the stairs.

Outside, Godzilla moves in and quickens his pace!

The ominous beast growling and snarling as he moves closer and closer!

INT. STAIRWELL EXIT

David and his children reach the bottom corner of the high-rise but it has been severely damaged. The entire outside wall is gone letting brutal wind pump inside.

David moves to a large piece of concrete, sets Sarah down and slides to the bottom of the slab. The ground quakes around them, the grunts of Godzilla grow louder.

The rumbling earth below is still not from Godzilla.

DAVID

C'mon guys, we've gotta hurry. Slide down!

David holds out his arms for Alex to slide down first. He sets him aside and pushes him towards a hole in the building, the only exit for their escape.

DAVID (CONT.)

Alex run, run as fast as you can we'll be right behind you.

Alex hesitates.

SARAH
I'm scared Daddy, I can't!

Sarah shivers at the top of the rubble; shrieking as a heavy STOMP from Godzilla shakes the earth.

DAVID
(to Alex)
Run Alex, please. Go now!

Alex flees, hopping from rock to rock.

DAVID (CON'T)
Okay honey just slide down you'll be fine. Come on now.

David hides his impatience. The stomping and rumbling fluctuate, the monstrous growls even louder now.

Sarah closes her eyes and slides down the slab.

David catches her and quickly runs for the exit, right as the buildings walls are TORN APART by an enormous foot!

EXT. STREETS - NIGHT

The ravaged staircase disintegrates behind them!

Alex is several yards in front of David. The boy stops to turn when he hears the bawl of Godzilla.

DAVID
Don't stop, Alex! Run!

Alex takes off at full speed with David close behind!

Low Angle Shot. Godzilla rips down the rest of the glass tower and lunges!

The street buckles and shifts, huge chunks of concrete jut up and down. Street signs tilt over; buildings crumble.

Godzilla BREACHES the smoke behind them!

A crack splits across the street catching David's foot.

He and Sarah both land hard! David SKIDS across the pavement! Sarah SLAMS onto a cluster of shrapnel!

David rolls to his feet and scoops her up. Alex fades into the haze ahead of them.

The earthquakes' presence peeks, and suddenly an ear splitting screech SHATTERS the air!

The violent tremors send David off his feet; he rolls clutching Sarah tight this time! Another sharp, piercing roar shrieks from the bowels of the earth!

The cry does not belong to Godzilla!

David looks behind him; Godzilla, head down and mouth GAPING, BARRELING full speed towards his prey, like a crocodile darting for its victim!

DAVID

Close your eyes!

David holds Sarah tight, bracing for their death until-
The ground beneath them EXPLODES!

The street sinks fast into the darkness underground and another brain rattling SCREECH bellows out!

David scuttles to his feet wrapping Sarah around him and leaps over a growing crevice in the road. Chunks of rock split apart and a massive form emerges from the debris!

ANGUIRUS, a spinney, brown behemoth crawls from a gigantic hole barely missing David! It is even more frightening than Godzilla. Armed with a spiny shell and a thorn lined tail, like a bastard child of snapping turtle and armadillo.

The creature cries out again, shaking off dirt and rock before squaring off with Godzilla with David caught in between!

Anguirus' roar is a high pitched shriek! It SPLINTERS the glass from the surrounding skyscrapers!

Instilled with fear, David looks up at the towering behemoths. The two monsters growl and snarl at one another, ancient enemies preparing for battle in a modern world.

In a flash Anguirus rears back and snaps at Godzilla. He staggers back and swats at the toothy jaws of Anguirus; below David sprints between their mammoth legs.

David runs full speed down the street. The epic confrontation engaged behind him.

Anguirus pounces, smashing through an apartment complex with Godzilla, with vice-like jaws puncturing his throat.

From the carnage Anguirus flips to his feet and lumbers after David!

Anguirus closes in! Its mouth opens in stride, wide and thin, filled with thousands of razor-sharp fangs.

David nearly loses his footing; he stumbles only a few feet from the monsters maw!

Death closes in on them!

KABOOM! A grenade! It arcs through the air and TAGS Anguirus

in the head!

Machine guns erupt behind them; missiles from a helicopter
DETONATE on Anguirus' face!

Astounded, David rolls, surprised at an entire army of
troops, tanks and helicopters! They dispatch volley after
volley of missiles and grenades into Anguirus!

SOLDIER # 1
We got civilians!

A soldier helps them up into the troop's formation. All of
the forces surround David and Sarah. David dodges soldiers
trying to get past them.

Behind them Godzilla grabs Anguirus' tail and YANKS him back
to him! They bark at one another!

SOLDIER # 2 (O.S.)
Jesus there's two of 'em!

Anguirus screams again, arching his back and spreading his
legs out to strike. He curls his lips back, barring his huge
fangs at Godzilla!

SOLDIER # 1 (O.S.)
Confirmed. I repeat we have two
creatures!

Anguirus JUMPS! He hammers into Godzilla with a body slam
sending them both into a cluster of buildings!

Anguirus clamps his teeth around Godzilla's neck! The two
monsters wrestle in the debris!

Soldiers push towards them; David uses the duel to run
further from the battle!

SOLDIER # 1 (O.S.)
Move, move, move!

The entire detachment of troops and vehicles dart down the
street after the creatures! The sounds of the monsters grow
distant as David bounds into a formation of Humvees.

DAVID
Alex! Alex?

David runs full speed scanning the crowd of troops for signs
of Alex.

MILITARY CONVOY

The loud mechanical noises of engines and tank treads drone
out the gunfire. Scores of troops are running past them
towards the fray.

SOLDIER # 1

Let's go!

SOLDIER # 2 (O.S.)

We lost sight of it!

DAVID

ALEX!

David cries out but gets no answer, frantically looking up and down the devastated street.

He collides with a soldier, nearly falling backwards.

It's AARON. Bruised and disheveled from battle, holding a XM25 grenade launcher.

AARON

Dad?

David blinks his eyes as if staring at a mirage. Sarah's face lights up with joy.

AARON

Dad, you're alright!

DAVID

Aaron. Oh Aaron...

His words fail him. He jumps forward and embraces his son in a hard bear hug.

AARON

I'm so sorry Dad, for everything.

David smiles, tears jerking at his eyes. Sarah feels safe pinned between them both.

DAVID

You don't have to be sorry, you're alive. We're all alive. Jesus I was worried.

The two men break apart, holding each others shoulders, still smiling.

AARON

When I saw Alex I was hoping you'd be here, close by.

David looks around, realizing Alex was still missing.

DAVID

Alex, Alex... Where is he?

Aaron smiles and grips his father shoulder. He points to another large M939 transport truck packed full of civilians driving the opposite way down the street.

AARON

He's fine; I just put him on the transport out of here. It's...

(beat)

Damnit it's the last one. Dad we've gotta get you out of here. The last transports are leaving the city right now!

Beside them a communications soldier relays orders.

RADIO SOLDIER (O.S.)

Both targets moving south.

David stares into the back of the transport truck. Aaron drags David and Sarah to a parked Humvee. He barks into his radio.

AARON

Rescue one, rescue one we've got civilians approximately two clicks south of Times Square!

OPERATOR

(filtered)

Roger that.

RADIO SOLDIER (O.S.)

We lost sight of one of them!

Down the twisted road, Alex pokes his head up from the trailer of refugees. He notices his father and stretches an arm out behind the canopy.

RADIO SOLDIER (O.S.)

Confirm! We lost visual!

AARON

He's gunna be fine dad. You've gotta move. Something big is going down!

The radio inside the Humvee chirps with another conversation.

OPERATOR (O.S.)

(filtered)

Operation Destroyer in effect, I repeat Operation Destroyer in effect.

DAVID

Before what? Aaron... before what?

AARON

Something big.

(beat)

All I know is, we've gotta keep it contained.

DAVID

What is it Aaron? What is that thing?
Now there are two! What are those
things?

AARON

We know the brown one came from
California and-

Aaron pauses, looking over Sarah.

AARON

Jesus. Sarah, are you alright? Are you
hurt?

He points to a bloody patch on her jacket where something
sharp has pierced her belly. David holds her up to examine
the wound, lifting the leaf to her jacket.

DAVID

Oh god, baby what happened?

Sarah sniffles.

SARAH

When I fell. It hurts daddy.

DAVID

It's going to be okay sweetie, your
gunna be fine.

AARON

Dad you gotta go, get her out of here.
There are medics at the evac zone!

Aaron strips off his radio and shoves it into David's chest.
It repeats the same messages about 'Destroyer'.

AARON

Take this, and go to Times Square.
That's where the evac helicopters are.
They're the last ones out of the city.

The radio blares with the shouts of other soldiers.

SOLDIER # 1 (O.S.)

(filtered)

Can't make to EVAC zone, request to
delay Destroyer!

SOLDIER # 2 (O.S.)

(filtered)

We need reinforcements! Target heading
north!

OPERATOR (O.S.)

(filtered)

Negative, negative. Destroyer in effect!

RADIO SOLDIER

Where the hell is it? Where did the other one go?

David takes another look at Sarah's wound. Down the street the truck speeds away with Alex inside. His brow tightens and he grimaces at the decision he must make.

The familiar static on the radio scrapes at his ears.

It's low at first, but ramps up in forms of chirps and interference.

The ground trembles. Only David knows what's coming.

DAVID

Aaron...

A moment of calm before the storm...

Anguirus BURSTS from a skyscraper beside the fleeing transport truck!

The occupants scream over the shrill call of the monster!

AARON

Jesus!

SOLDIER # 1 (O.S.)

He's back, he's back! Move!

The truck tries to veer out of the way but Anguirus stomps on the front cabin and bites down on the trailer bed! Human pulp SPEWS from the canopy, bodies flail through the air.

Anguirus tears the bed of the truck off the front and gulps it down. He turns his head and BELLOWS at the soldiers surrounding David!

DAVID

Oh god. God no...

Aaron winces at the sight. David falls to his knees, Sarah's blood dripping down his pants.

Close-up of David's knees hitting the pavement. Droplets of Sarah's life follow suit.

SOLDIER # 2 (O.S.)

Second company move, move, move!

Dozens of troops dash past them while tank turrets swivel ignite Anguirus! The giant monster CHARGES the forces head on!

Aaron stares helplessly at his father on his knees.

AARON

Dad! Dad, you've gotta go RIGHT NOW!

Aaron jerks his father up off the ground and holds him so their faces meet.

AARON

Get her out of here. You have to go!

David stares blankly back at his only remaining son.

DAVID

You're, you're coming with us...

Aaron looks back, more troops rush by them.

SOLDIER # 2 (O.S.)

Incoming!

AARON

No. No dad I have to stay and keep it in the city!

Godzilla LUNGES, grabbing Anguirus by the muzzle!

He wrestles him to the ground and bites down on its neck. Anguirus topples down behind them, landing on a tank, screaming in agony!

DAVID

I can't leave you.

AARON

You have to Dad; you have to get Sarah to out of here.

Aaron brushes Sarah's hair, looking at her a moment.

AARON (CON'T)

She's hurt bad Dad, please. Get her to the EVAC choppers!

The gunfire worsens, the ground trembles even more. Aaron breaks his grasp on David to lift his grenade launcher.

The two share a final look at one another, father and son.

The terrifying HOWLS splits their gaze and the two monsters SLAM down behind Aaron!

Aaron quickly crouches, spins, and fires up through the smoke, leading other soldiers into a charge! The last memory David has of his son.

David looks on for a moment, glancing around to gain his bearings, and turns away from the firefight.

Holding Sarah in his arms, he holds her head next to his and

whispers.

DAVID

Hold on now, and don't look back. Close
your eyes and don't look back baby.

(beat)

Okay?

Sarah nods.

She slowly follows her father's wishes and closes her eyes,
gripping onto his jacket even tighter.

David takes a few deep breathes, crouches down, and SPRINTS
down the street!

STREETS

He dodges more soldiers moving towards the fray, then tanks
and Humvees; past the group of military forces just in time
to out run an explosion that rips through the vehicles
behind him.

David peels around a corner seconds after a fireball engulfs
the rest of street!

A flaming Humvee tumbles into a semi-truck!

The metropolis topple around him, the ground shifts and
splits beneath his feet! Behind them, the charred remains of
an entire military convoy.

David runs on, further away from us. We move out over the
maze of wrecked cars and clawed architecture ahead of him.

EXT. NEW YORK HARBOR - DAWN

A black submarine rises up out of the water.

A United States Navy Ohio-class ballistic submarine armed
with nuclear missiles.

OPERATOR (V.O)

Sir we've made contact. Targets in
range, all systems green.

INT. SUBMARINE CONTROL ROOM

The state of the art submarine is compacted with dozens of
computer monitors, lights, and switches. A full crew mans
the helm.

The captain, DOUGLAS GORDON, a stocky veteran in his 50's,
stands behind several operators drenched in sweat.

OPERATOR # 2

Launch tube three prepped!

OPERATOR # 1 (O.S.)
Launch tube two prepped sir!

One of the operators spins around to the captain.

OPERATOR # 1
Confirmed, target acquired. Destroyer
One ready for launch sir!

Captain Gordon gives the two operators an unpleased look. He glances over to a red phone attached to a steel column to his left.

CUT TO:

NIGHT VISION VIEW OF A TANK TARGETTING SYSTEM

Low Angle Shot. Godzilla and Anguirus continue their violent struggle with one another. The turret view rises to meet Godzilla's chest and FIRES a heavy round that BLINDS the screen!

The tank round HITS Godzilla! An explosion blurs out the image a moment, then-

MANHATTAN STREETS - DAWN

Anguirus is on top of Godzilla; perched on his chest and shoulders with his thorny tail wrapping up Godzilla's arm!

Godzilla strains to stay standing, shaking and bucking against Anguirus' weight! He lurches forward, shoulder throwing him onto a row of tanks!

Anguirus rolls through a skyscraper! It topples down, burying him.

Godzilla pushes forward, the remains of a tank drag beneath his foot, SCRAPING gore and metal across the asphalt!

Behind Godzilla in the murky sky, a massive plane high circles above the battle.

THE SKY ABOVE MANHATTAN

An AC-130 Hercules banks left letting rows of turrets attached to its top and bottom sides to pivot in unison.

The turrets IGNITE with a VOLLEY of artillery!

MANHATTAN TRENCHES

FAVOR AARON - Among the ruins the ground, Aaron runs across the street right at Godzilla's feet. Just beyond his cover the HAIL of artillery from the AC-130 BOMBARDS Godzilla!

Aaron DIVES behind an upside down APC with three other soldiers, one of them still equipped with his large radio

pack.

CLOSE ON - Aaron. He grabs the radio from the soldier and belts into the receiver.

AARON

Charlie two, Charlie two! Need immediate air support! Target still approaching!

Godzilla's roar overwhelms his attempted radio calls.

AARON (CONT.)

Say again! Immediate air support, danger close, danger close!

Aaron tosses the radio back to the soldier and hoists up his hand held grenade launcher and fires a round that detonates on Godzilla's leg.

A formation of F-22 Raptor jets THUNDER over the city!

INT. FIGHTER COCKPIT

The lead pilot dips down between the buildings. Godzilla is in the center of a ruined intersection, his tail whipping behind him.

PILOT

Bogey acquired. Danger close Raven flight. Fire at will.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

A trio of missiles CAREEN through the air and SMASH into Godzilla! Another misses and strikes a nearby high-rise!

Godzilla looks up and BELLOWS at the jets!

In a flash he spins and sends his tail FLYING through the air breaking their formation.

The first few planes bank and evade but the reptilian whip SWATS the rear plane into a condo!

INT. FIGHTER COCKPIT

A pilot levels his plane out to find a row of razor sharp spines protruding in front of him!

PILOT

Jesus, look out! Pull up, pull up!

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

The lead plane and his wingman SHATTER into Godzilla's spines. He has crouched and used his fins as a weapon!

Godzilla hollers again and rises up! Pieces of plane debris trickle down his back!

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING

A group of soldiers, carrying large Javelin missile launchers hustle up a flight of stairs in a fire damaged apartment. Their leader huffs into his radio.

SERGEANT
(filtered)
Twenty seconds.

EXT. ABANDONED ROOFTOP

A door to the roof is kicked open by the lead soldier. The team spreads out over the rooftop.

Godzilla is in the street beside them. Bullets and missiles ZIP up from the battle into the air.

The Javelin team prop their weapons on the rim of the rooftop and take aim. They stand at shoulder level to the gigantic beast.

SERGEANT
Javelin team in position!

SOLDIER # 1
I've got target locked!

SOLDIER # 2 (O.S.)
Target lock!

SERGEANT
FIRE!

The four soldiers with missile launchers all trigger their weapons in unison! The ordinance JUMPS out of the tube and IGNITES, carrying the explosives straight up in the air!

The missiles journey upwards!

The four Javelin missiles peek and arc down onto Godzilla's head and back!

Four enormous explosions fill our view. A painful cry from Godzilla echoes from beyond the explosion, but-

Godzilla bursts from the fireball!

SNARLING in anger, he pushes through the flame, surprises the soldiers on the rooftop, and swipes the entire top of the roof with his claws!

Chunks of metal and brick SCATTER everywhere with the troops SPIRALING along with them!

EXT. ROAD TO EVAC ZONE

David slides over the hood of a damaged car. Sarah is still

wrapped around his torso. Breathing heavy they run past a ruined SCHOOL BUS covered in bite and claw marks.

David hops into the bed of a charred truck.

Only a few blocks away, a military camp with tents, sandbags and a few Humvees. A beacon of hope.

A lone helicopter waits in the center with its blades twirling, ready to take off.

DAVID

Almost there baby, just hang on!

David jumps off the truck and runs towards the camp; we move out across the smoldering, barren, and desolate streets around him.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

Favor Godzilla. He screeches and squawks, holding an M1 Abram tank with both hands. A missile STREAKS by his head, but he dips down and dodges it!

Angry, he CRUSHES the tank in his hands! It folds like a tin can after a quick SCREAM from inside.

Another Apache Gunship SWOOPS in firing its machine guns!

Dropping the tank Godzilla LUNGES forward and bites down on the helicopter. Before it explodes, he twists his neck and FLINGS the chopper into a skyscraper.

The explosion from the helicopter stabs a hole in the building. It collapses as Godzilla ROARS triumphantly!

His ominous howl is drowned out by the high-pitched cry of Anguirus. Godzilla turns, his opponent poised to strike once more!

Another missile! Tagging Godzilla in the neck!

He cries out and flinches. Anguirus seizes the opportunity and tackles his foe, biting down on Godzilla's throat!

MANHATTAN TRENCHES

Aaron covers his head from falling debris. The radio soldier is still beside him shouting in his ear.

More soldiers run around them, everyone yelling and firing up at the two leviathans.

Aaron blinks, straining to look through the chaos.

Anguirus is on top of Godzilla, biting down hard!

Aaron grabs a radio soldier by the collar.

AARON

Divert all fire to the brown one!

The radio soldier can't hear him over the battle.

RADIO SOLDIER

What?

AARON

Tell them to shoot the brown one! Kill
the spiky one on all fours now!

Aaron points with a purpose.

The radio soldier nods and barks into his receiver.

RADIO SOLDIER

Bravo two-one, Raven flight lead. Fire
on second target, I repeat all forces
fire on new target!

MANHATTAN STREETS

The ground forces all change targets. Tank barrels swivel,
soldiers on Humvee turrets yank their guns to Anguirus.

A small pack of other troops hoist their rocket launchers up
at the subterranean beast.

EXT. NEW YORK HARBOR

A trio of battleships tilt their cannons to set coordinates
and let loose a devastating shower of artillery!

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

In a astounding BARRAGE a hail of artillery reign down on
the spiked monster.

Anguirus YELPS and reels back!

Godzilla KICKS his foe off of him, flipping up to his feet!

With uncanny speed Godzilla paws at Anguirus' head, gripping
him by his horns!

Their struggle is intense! Godzilla flicks his arms; a heavy
SNAP cracks Anguirus' neck!

EXT. MANHATTAN TRENCHES

The troops holler and cheer!

Godzilla tosses his enemy to the ground! He shakes off the
wound to his neck and moves again towards Anguirus' body!

Aaron and the others watch in astonishment. The radio
soldier hands him the receiver. His victory smile is wiped
off his face.

Aaron turns to the radio soldier, who looks back in horror.
The sounds of war fade...

GENERAL (V.O.)
We've outfitted one of our ballistic
submarines with the weapon. We just got
word that they're in range now.

Aaron looks at the radio soldier dumbfounded, slumping
against a Humvee.

ADVISOR (V.O.)
That's correct. USS Maryland reports
Destroyer is armed, Sir.

CUT TO:

INT. OVAL OFFICE

CLOSEUP of a manila folder with large red stickers on it.
'TOP SECRET' is pasted on the front.

The folder sits on a large oak desk. There is movement
around the room; a GENERAL is speaking with the PRESIDENT.

GENERAL (O.S.)
Mr. President?

The President hesitates.

PRESIDENT (O.S.)
What is this weapon exactly, General?

The General clears his throat. On the folder, the words
'Destroyer Project' are printed on a tab.

GENERAL (O.S.)
It breaks down and disintegrates matter
Mr. President. Similar to the implosion
effects of a hydrogen bomb, designed
specifically for use against biological
and chemical agents.

PRESIDENT (O.S.)
What about radiation, how bad will it
be?

GENERAL (O.S.)
Minimal sir. It is radioactive to a
degree but it's designed for these exact
types of situations.

The President scoffs, his hand reaches from across the desk
to pull the folder away from us.

PRESIDENT (O.S.)
These types of situations.

We pan around slowly, revealing more of the Oval Office. Several men in full military uniform stand around the desk, no one's face can be seen.

The President flips open the folder showing the schematics of a bizarre cylindrical device.

PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

You realize what you're asking General?

GENERAL

Mr. President, we've exhausted all other efforts and now we've got them both in the same area. We may not get another shot at this.

PRESIDENT

Two? Where did the other come from?

GENERAL

We're not sure sir. It came ashore in San Francisco and somehow traveled underground to Manhattan.

The President sighs. The receiver of a telephone clicks.

PRESIDENT

Captain?

(beat)

Destroyer strike approved. May God forgive us all.

INT. SUBMARINE CONTROL ROOM

A red light flashes behind the Captain, the two operators looking back for their orders. Captain Gordon stands motionless with the red phone in hand.

CAPTAIN GORDON

Yes sir.

Gordon slowly hangs up the phone but doesn't move. He takes off his hat, wipes the sweat off the back of his neck and takes a deep breathe before turning around.

CAPTAIN GORDON

Lieutenant?

OPERATOR # 1

Launch codes received and... authorized.

The operator flips open a clear covering to a red switch. The operator next to him thumbs a button and does the same.

OPERATOR # 2

Destroyer one ready to fire on your mark Captain.

Captain Gordon sets his hat on the console beside him. He looks deep in thought. His face is covered in sweat.

OPERATOR # 2

Sir?

Close on Gordon.

CAPTAIN GORDON
(murmurs) Fire...

OPERATOR # 1

Sir?

CAPTAIN GORDON
Fire the damn missile.

EXT. NEW YORK HARBOR - DAWN

The large missile doors atop the submarine slide open. A large white and black missile flickers and BOOSTS up from the tube and ROCKETS into the sky!

We follow it upwards a moment, watching it gleam its way through the ash and fog creeping off the city.

EXT. EVAC ZONE

David is being guided into the last helicopter. A medic runs with them. Two other soldiers help them inside while the medic tries to look over Sarah.

The heavy blades of the Black Hawk helicopter drown out their sounds; words can barely be heard over the noise.

INT. EVAC HELICOPTER

The sliding door slams shut and the helicopter immediately lifts into the air. The small windows blotted out by dirt and tiny fingerprints.

DAVID

I'm not hurt, I'm fine. Is she okay?

David sits in across from the medic who immediately crouches down over Sarah; David looks at him as he inspects the wound on his daughter.

The look on the medic's face is a bad one.

DAVID (CONT.)

Is she okay?

After a quick inspection the medic notices David staring. He slowly looks back and shakes his head. Both their eyes almost well up in tears.

MEDIC

I'm sorry.

David caresses Sarah's dirty hair. He kisses her with tears in his eyes. The entire helicopter shakes and vibrates while they ascend through the chaos.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

Looming over his foe, Godzilla flexes. At his feet Anguirus lay punctured and bloody from the military ordinance.

Anguirus' neck is now a lumpy, twisted mass of broken bone.

Their eyes lock. Anguirus gasps for air with failing lungs.

Godzilla waits for one last attack, but it never comes.

Anguirus blinks and his heaving breathes vanish.

Godzilla roars in victory! King of the Monsters indeed.

MANHATTAN TRENCHES

The ground forces are in pieces. Almost no Humvees or tanks remain. Soldiers are scattered amongst the ruins, Aaron huddles with a dozen others firing occasional shots.

The transmissions on their radios become clearer between artillery.

OPERATOR

(filtered)

Destroyer in effect, destroyer in effect!

The message repeats itself. Aaron turns to another soldier.

AARON

Keep it in the city understand! Hold him here!

Godzilla's growls and screeching seems to come from all around them.

Beyond their emplacement, Godzilla writhes between a shower of bullets and rockets.

INT. EVAC HELICOPTER

David holds onto his daughter, kissing her forehead and trying to make her feel safe.

Two jets SOAR dangerously close to the helicopter, violently shaking and rattling everyone. A beeping erupts from the cockpit, the pilots struggle for control.

DAVID

It's okay baby, you're going to be just

fine.

Sarah slowly lifts her head; her face pale beneath the layers of dirt and blood.

David looks down into her eyes wrapped in tears.

SARAH

Are the good guys going to make the monster go away? Can we go home now daddy?

David holds his composure and pulls her in tighter, trying not to break down.

DAVID

Yes baby, yes. We're going home now.

The pilots shout over the noise from the cockpit.

PILOT

E.T.A. 30 seconds! Brace for impact!

SARAH

Daddy?

(beat)

I love you...

David wipes his eyes, managing a smile for his daughter.

They gaze into each other's eyes a moment and despite the pain, Sarah smiles back at her father.

The terrible ROAR of Godzilla breaks out over the city, so loud it startles Sarah.

David winces from the sound.

As the helicopter flies away, he looks out the window back at the ruined city. He sees Godzilla, amidst the burned skeletons of buildings and wrecked vehicles, standing over the lifeless body of Anguirus.

CUT TO:

CLOSEUP GODZILLA

Towering over the inferno, carnage all around him, Godzilla stands. His fierce look has receded, his mouth closed, his fangs and rows of jagged teeth hidden within his maw.

The towering behemoth looks back at David. Their eyes meet.

Thousands of feet between them, Godzilla stares right back.

CLOSE IN ON - Godzilla's Eyes

INT. EVAC HELICOPTER

David slams his head against the seat. He takes a breath and holds back the anger.

He turns to Sarah and brushes her hair.

She isn't moving. Her skin now lifeless, pale, and cold.

The tears return and streak down David's face. He holds her to his cheek and sobs.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

Aaron leads more soldiers and they push forward. The haze clears revealing Godzilla standing over them.

He GNASHES his teeth, flexes his claws and BARKS at the line of troops at his feet!

REFUGEE MONTAGE

We journey through the wasteland of New York. Cars smoldering, houses in splinters, bodies lie strewn everywhere.

-A woman covered in dirt screams, holding the head of her husband. Moving back, the head is not connected to a body. The corpses of their children are scattered all around her.

-A small lone boy staggers around debris in shock. He kneels down to pick up an armless teddy bear covered in blood before shuffling away.

-A young couple crying and holding one another. Cuts and bruises cover their bodies, their clothes torn to shreds.

-The limp body of Anguirus lies entrenched in the charred rubble of the apartments, half buried in a massive crater.

MANHATTAN TRENCHES

Pinned down again, Aaron and the other soldiers huddle down behind a tank. One of them catches a light in the sky. He nudges Aaron and points up into the morning horizon.

The MISSILE silently cuts through the sky, a trail of white wisps behind it, moving closer and closer to its target.

We follow the missile moving through the haze.

MANHATTAN STREETS

Godzilla stares up at the missile descending towards him.

His ferocity subsides and a look of recognition sweeps across his face.

EXT. BIKINI ISLANDS

BEGIN FLASHBACK

Back in time, when Godzilla was a young dinosaur, he stares out over the water of his home, peaceful and happy.

The serene image is burned away when the ominous mushroom cloud awakens and pulsates in the distance.

INT. UNDERWATER CAVE

Inside the damp cave, a simple dinosaur is painfully and grotesquely transformed into a MONSTER!

Godzilla cries in agony, writhing on the ground as the transformation takes control of his body.

The cave glows with a strange blue-green light, the dying cries of Godzilla emanate from the recesses of the cavern.

END FLASHBACK

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS

Godzilla's fierce look returns! He bares his fangs and snarls up at the strange device!

His challenging roar BELLOWS out across the city!

The gleaming missile crescendos down on Godzilla and in an instant-

The missile punches into the city!

A detonation so bright, it could be seen from space!

A GIGANTIC explosion RIPS through people and buildings within its massive radius! A blast so powerful it voids all other sound!

A curtain of purple-orange annihilation WASHES through the streets like a tidal wave!

INT. EVAC HELICOPTER

The helicopter lurches forward, the cabin churning with violent thrusts!

David clings to his dead child and glances out the window at the enormous mushroom cloud erupting over New York.

EXT. EVAC HELICOPTER - SUNRISE

David is at the window.

Sunlight struggles to seep through the deathly smog.

The momentous shockwave of the explosion glances the

helicopter and knocks it from view!

The blinding flash of light takes over.

FADE TO:

BLACK

FADE IN:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY RUINS - DAWN

ESTABLISHING SHOT - A devastated and necrotic down New York City. The skeletons of structures are charred, the entire town nearly reduced to ashes.

Huge piles of rubble cover the ground. The fires have begun to subside and the smoke is beginning to clear.

SUPER: New York City, 72 Hours after 'Destroyer' Detonation

A tiny moth flutters in and lands on a mangled piece of rebar jutting up from a pile of debris. Its wings share a unique pattern to MOTHRA.

It rests a moment, but gets scared away by the mechanical GRUNTS of an armored vehicle rumbling by.

The reinforced tank-like truck veers around rubble and scorched vehicles towards the blistered metropolis.

INT. RESISTANT VEHICLE

The inside is a cramped and dimly lit shelter. Five men in heavy hazmat suits sit huddled close together.

Two of the men sit at high tech computers housed on a wall of the vehicle. The operator of one of the computers relays information into his radio.

OPERATOR # 1

Defiant One to command we are entering red zone. Repeat we are entering quarantine zone.

OPERATOR # 2

Infrared and thermal readings active.

EXT. CITY RUINS

The large vehicle climbs over rocks and debris. It sways from side to side over a small embankment.

A thick mist coats the air inside the city ruins.

COMMAND

(filtered)

Roger that Defiant, what are your current radiation levels?

INT. RESISTANT VEHICLE

Two SCIENTISTS behind the operators secure their boots. They strap on air tanks. One pulls a GEIGER COUNTER.

OPERATOR # 1
Radiation levels are uh-

He checks a screen, flips a switch, and looks again.

COMMAND
(filtered)
Defiant One?

OPERATOR # 1
Command, we are reading radiation levels below normal. Request permission to run system diagnostic.

COMMAND
(filtered)
Roger that. Standby.

Thunk.

The vehicle abruptly stops as if it hit the bumper of another car. Sounds of gears scraping together and tire treads clanking rattle the tank.

The first scientist is armed with an industrial sized FLASHLIGHT.

LIGHT SCIENTIST
We hit something?

DRIVER
I can't see a thing, I don't think so though.

LIGHT SCIENTIST
Alright then, good a place as any.

The two scientists stand up and move to a side door.

OPERATOR # 2
Command, we are beginning manual sweep at coordinates four-zero four-seven, seven-three five-eight.

The radio emits a slight static.

COMMAND
(filtered)
Roger Defiant One.

The heavy door to the outside pressurizes and hisses before opening for the two scientists.

EXT. CITY RUINS

The entire area is covered in a dense fog. No one can see more than a few feet.

Trash, wrecked cars, debris, and rubble are everywhere. The scientists step out into a clearing, head mounted lights blink on automatically.

GEIGER SCIENTIST

Jesus.

LIGHT SCIENTIST

Looks like some of the fallout is still in the air, this fog seems unnatural.

OPERATOR # 1

(filtered)

We're getting some interference from the surroundings. You're breaking up, guys.

The door to the tank clasps closed behind them. The two men step further into the mist, a thick beam from the flash light dances for a glimpse at something.

GEIGER SCIENTIST activates his device.

GEIGER SCIENTIST

I've never seen anything like this.

The Geiger counter immediately chirps to life.

LIGHT SCIENTIST

The blast was bigger than we calculated.

The radios in their ears pick up a familiar static.

GEIGER SCIENTIST

What is that?

LIGHT SCIENTIST

What?

The static gets louder, followed by a heavy hum that vibrates through the air, like a magnet.

The magnetic sound grows louder and louder, like the humming of a microwave.

GEIGER SCIENTIST

God, it hurts. Are you hearing this?

A low groan emanates through the mist, freezing the men in place. The Geiger counter suddenly sparks to life!

Their radios suddenly ERUPT with cries from the operators! The Geiger counter GARGLES over the commotion!

OPERATOR # 1
(filtered)
Jesus Christ, help!

The men in the tank let out deathly screams!

The two scientists spin around when the reinforced tank is HOISTED into the air, disappearing into the fog.

The cries of terror stop short when a CRUNCHING sound pierces the mist.

LIGHT SCIENTIST
Oh my god...

The tank SMASHES into the ground beside them, spilling remains out the side door!

Huge claw marks are raked over the sides; the front end has been bitten off!

The hum and static grow even louder and a bolt of blue lightning strikes the ground between them!

The second scientist falls back, unable to form words.

He scrambles on the ground, looking up into the eerie haze!

The reflection in his visor shows us a MASSIVE figure emerging from the mist! Monstrous grunts waft from the fog!

The magnetic sound is DEAFENING!

Small rocks literally vibrate off the ground!

The scientist's eyes widen and the humming stops...

LIGHT SCIENTIST
Oh no, it's still...

BLUE FIRE RAINS DOWN!

The blue flame thrashes the two men like a hurricane, first melting off their suits then disintegrating their bodies to skeletons!

The blinding light fades and the scorched bones stagger before collapsing into ash!

Godzilla emerges! The mist clears around him with blue lightning FORKING over his spines through the fog.

The hum picks up again, rocks tremble, and Godzilla's spines glow with a thick blue-green energy!

His mouth radiates and seeps with thermonuclear plasma.

He opens his mouth and throws his head back in preparation of his atomic ray!

CUT TO:

BLACK

The awesome explosion of the king of monsters distinctive beam rattles from the abyss! It pulsates and tears through the void with catastrophic concussion!

The explosion dies down; we sit in darkness until-
GODZILLA ROARS!

THE END

FADE OUT.

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