

THE SIGNAL

(Pilot)

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ACT I

FADE IN:

EXT. YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK - DAY

Snow-covered peaks of the Sierra Nevada soar above the clouds.

On a rocky trail walks CYRUS EBRAHIM (30s), Persian features, Barton Fink afro. An underlying nervous energy permeates his every action. His attention is more on his phone than the footpath as he plays a dodecadoku number puzzle app.

A few yards behind and struggling to keep up is his Chinese-American assistant ARNOLD LEE (20s). Sporting a ponytail and glasses, he's weighed down by a camel backpack with a UCLA logo, a metal suitcase and numerous scientific instruments hanging around his neck.

Arnold attempts to suck water through the straw attached to his backpack -- empty. He stops at the side of a stream and speaks through chapped lips.

ARNOLD

Professor, we should take a break.

CYRUS

Why?

ARNOLD

Water.

CYRUS

(considers)

I'm not thirsty.

Cyrus keeps walking. With a groan, Arnold hobbles after him.

EXT. MOUNTAINTOP - DAY - LATER

At this height the ground is covered in a thin layer of snowfall. Cyrus references his GPS as they approach a few meters from the edge of the mountain.

CYRUS

Here.

Arnold drops his bags and collapses on the ground in relief.

CYRUS

Come on, can't miss our window.

Arnold unpacks PARTS and begins to assemble a SMALL PARTICLE ACCELERATOR that looks like a large metallic donut the size of a small coffee table. He sets it up on three legs.

Cyrus speaks into a DIGITAL VOICE RECORDER.

CYRUS

1 p.m., May 27th...

Cyrus takes pause.

ARNOLD

Professor?

CYRUS

It would have been my father's 60th birthday today.

ARNOLD

Sorry to hear that. How did he --

Cyrus continues speaking into the recorder.

CYRUS

Intercept site reached. Antenna almost ready.

ARNOLD

Working on it.

Arnold completes building the accelerator.

Cyrus references a TOUGH PAD TABLET with a map of the world. A location in JAPAN is highlighted with a GREEN DOT. A LINE FROM JAPAN CUTS THROUGH THE EARTH and connects it to a RED DOT in NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.

CYRUS

(into recorder)

Convergence point should be stable for the next few minutes. Initialize neutrino array.

Arnold activates the accelerator. Within, LIGHTS zoom around.

ARNOLD

Neutrino array online.

CYRUS

(into recorder)

I predict this test will prove it is possible to control a neutrino field and transmit data directly through the earth. A revolution in communication as the current infrastructure of satellites and cables will become obsolete.

ARNOLD

If you got the subatomic resonant frequency right.

CYRUS

If my assistant coded the transponders correctly.

ARNOLD

If the great professor had a little faith.

CYRUS

If the great professor relied on faith instead of science, he wouldn't be great.

Cyrus continues to speak into the recorder.

CYRUS

Now to send the first ever communication signal through the earth.

ARNOLD

What should the first transmission be?

CYRUS

Ah, I hadn't considered...

Cyrus ponders for a moment, then types out: S-C-I-E-N-C-E.

CYRUS

I imagine this is what Edison felt when playing the first phonograph recording.

Cyrus exchanges a look with Arnold and then hits SEND. He looks to the screen. Their location turns from red to green and confirms the signal cut through the earth.

The word "SCIENCE" pops up on the screen.

CYRUS

It worked!

He jumps up and down with Arnold.

CYRUS

I did it!

ARNOLD

We did it!

Cyrus clears his throat, gives some credit where it's due.

CYRUS

Your computer skills have proven
very valuable, Arnold. Thank you.

Arnold beams at the acknowledgement.

On the screen, OTHER SYMBOLS begin to stream in after the word science. Cyrus spots this and stops celebrating.

CYRUS

What the...

The symbols flood the screen and don't stop.

ARNOLD

What does that mean?

Cyrus shifts through the data.

CYRUS

Doesn't make any sense. There's
other information being broadcast
on this frequency.

ARNOLD

How's that possible?

CYRUS

It shouldn't be. No one's ever run
this experiment.

ARNOLD

It's a lot of information.
(disbelief)
7.6 billion channels or so... It's
gotta be malfunctioning.
Environmental interference?

In the center of the accelerator, a DIMENSIONAL SLIT APPEARS and threads of multicolored light shine through. The entire accelerator begins RATTLING.

CYRUS

Boost the energy shielding!

Cyrus runs up to the accelerator typing into his tablet.

The middle of the accelerator contains GLOWING WISPS OF SHIFTING COLORS like a localized Aurora Borealis.

CYRUS

If only Dad was here to see what
his work has led to.

Cyrus, fascinated leans in closer to peer into the phenomenon.

He TOUCHES the accelerator.

TIME FREEZES.

QUICK ZOOM INTO --

INT. CYRUS' BRAIN - CONTINUOUS

On an ATOMIC SCALE, we see CLUSTERS OF NEURONS.

MULTIPLE DISTANT INDECIPHERABLE WHISPERS DWINDLE DOWN TO ONE WHISPER.

COLORLED WISPS like those in the accelerator appear and attach themselves to the neural clusters.

ZOOM BACK OUT --

EXT. MOUNTAINTOP - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

Cyrus and Arnold are still frozen in time.

QUICK ZOOM INTO --

INT. ARNOLD'S BRAIN - CONTINUOUS

On an ATOMIC SCALE, the color wisps attach to neurons. The whisper track gets unbearably louder.

ZOOM BACK OUT --

EXT. MOUNTAINTOP - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

TIME RESUMES. Whispers cease.

ARNOLD

I understand.

CYRUS
Understand what?

ARNOLD
What to do about your father's
death.

CYRUS
Why would you say that to me?

ARNOLD
It's what we want.

CYRUS
"We"?

BEEPING INDICATORS go wild. Cyrus looks at the tablet.

CYRUS
I speculate that's not good.

With a BURST OF COLORFUL ENERGY, the accelerator EXPLODES --

Shrapnel shoots out, embedding in the tablet in front of
Cyrus and strikes the ground between Arnold's legs.

As the dust clears, Cyrus and Arnold get their bearings.

A large CRACKING SOUND accompanies the CRACK that forms in
the snow. Cyrus' eyes go wide --

With a RUMBLING, the snow closest to the edge of the mountain
slides off in a mini-avalanche with Arnold caught up in the
ride!

Cy holds onto a tree as Arnold helplessly grabs at the snow
around him as he TUMBLES off the mountain, along with gear
and accelerator fragments.

CYRUS
Arnold!

Cyrus peers over the edge of the cliff. The SWIRLING RIVER 50
feet below is barely visible through the mist. No sign of
Arnold.

CYRUS
Arnold! Arnold!

Cyrus CHATTERS from the cold and excess adrenaline.

END OF ACT I

ACT II**EXT. RIVERBANK - DAY**

DEPUTIES scour the riverbank.

A frazzled Cyrus finishes up his account to stone-faced African-American FBI AGENT KIZZY WINTERS (40s), Tommy Lee Jones' spiritual twin sister from "The Fugitive".

CYRUS

We were there to conduct some tests
and the small avalanche just
carried him away.

WINTERS

That's the whole story?

CYRUS

(clears throat)
Yes... that's what happened.

Winters references her notes and a picture of Arnold.

WINTERS

So you say.

She stares at Cyrus until he shifts uncomfortably and wipes sweat from his brow.

FRANKS (O.S.)

Boss, we got something!

Cyrus and Winters rush over to where DEPUTY JOE FRANKS (30s) stands. Clean cut, Midwestern, eager to please yet too inexperienced to be able to do a good job on his own.

Near his feet, caught on some roots, is the UCLA backpack.

FRANKS

This shredding must've happened
over the rapids.

WINTERS

Keep looking for the body.

She glances at Cyrus. He breaks eye contact and looks away.

EXT. UCLA CAMPUS - THE NEXT DAY

Students study on the lawn, nap and make their way to class.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE LAB - DAY

Cyrus, METAL CASE in hand, unlocks the door to the lab. An troubled DAN MEYERS (50s), an administrator in a button-up collared shirt and khakis, approaches.

DAN
Arnold's dead?!

CYRUS
Maybe I shouldn't have taken him
out there. Maybe I didn't
appreciate the risk. He was the
best assistant I could ask for.
(struggles)
He was my fr--

DAN
Do you know how bad this looks for
the Department?

CYRUS
Excuse me?

DAN
Dr. Cyrus Ebrahim, our very own
crackpot professor, recklessly
causing the death of a graduate
student chasing after a fairy tale
far-field theory.

CYRUS
Dan, It's not a fairy tale. The
results were astounding. I thought
we took all precautions. I've done
nothing wrong.

DAN
Not for you to decide. Regardless
of the investigation results, when
your grant runs out this quarter,
you can find another lab.

Dan walks off giving Cyrus the stink eye.

INT. LAB - CONTINUOUS

A lab filled with physics equipment, wires and schematics. A
a PROTO VERSION OF THE ACCELERATOR lies on the counter.
Smaller, more skeletal, and with exposed wiring compared to
the one that exploded on the mountaintop.

Alone in the lab, Cyrus sets the metal case on the counter next to a FOLDED-UP WEATHER BALLOON.

He goes to his locker. Next to his is another locker labeled "Arnold." Cyrus glances at it in sorrow.

Cyrus picks up the office phone and scrolls to RAZ.

INT. RAZ'S LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

RAZ EBRAHIM (30s), flowery dress, colorful scarf, addresses a group of a DOZEN PEOPLE of all ages. Each person has a canvas in front of them with a PRINTED OUT PICTURE of themselves.

RAZ

Now take those paints and tell your picture how you feel.

Some patients attack their images with slashes of red and black, some outline with bright colors. She walks around encouraging everyone's work.

RAZ

Emotion is the language to talk with your subconscious mind. You have always had this language. Kids don't have language and reasoning skills, yet they manage to work things out because of emotion.

Raz's house phone RINGS in the other room.

RAZ

Keep it up you guys. As your feelings evolve, change up your technique. You have many feelings. Embrace them all. Let them guide your hand.

INT. DEN - CONTINUOUS

Raz picks up the phone that sits next to photos of her summiting a mountain, scuba diving, and competing in a Judo tournament.

RAZ

Hello, and I hope you're already having a beautiful day.

CYRUS (ON PHONE)

Hi, Sis.

Raz's face drops.

INTERCUT DEN/LAB

Cyrus paces around the room nervously.

RAZ

You're not supposed to call me during office hours. We created boundaries.

CYRUS

You created a boundary. That's not my boundary.

RAZ

That's not how boundaries work. I'm hanging up. I'm in group session--

CYRUS

I did it.

Raz stops and looks at a family picture perched on a bookshelf with a younger Cyrus (10), Raz (8), and their father in a suit, HOSSEIN EBRAHIM (40s) in front of the BENZO TECHNOLOGIES building.

CYRUS

Well, I don't exactly know what it is, but I think it's going to change things.

RAZ

What's changed?

CYRUS

(voice cracks)
I don't know.

RAZ

Cy, are you having another anxiety episode?

CYRUS

So much happened the last few days.

RAZ

I think you should see someone. I'll have Dr. Gibbs reach out. He's good with general anxiety--

CYRUS

I'm not calling because I have anxiety!

RAZ

It doesn't matter why you called.
I'm not your therapist.

CYRUS

You're more than that. You're my
sister.

RAZ

Gotta go.

Raz hangs up and breathes deep a few times.

RAZ

(to herself)

Protect yourself. Your emotional
security comes first.

She calmly takes the family photo and walks back into --

INT. RAZ'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

She sets the photo up on an easel and MARKS THE HELL OUT OF IT WITH RED SLASHES OF PAINT in frustration while releasing a few PRIMAL YELPS.

Her patients exchange concerned glances.

INT. UCLA LAB - SAME TIME

A sullen Cyrus puts the phone down.

MONTAGE:

Cyrus conducts a series of exercises:

- He writes out formulas
- He reviews the readings from the mountaintop
- He erases the board and tries new numbers
- He enters results on a computer and generates graphs

END MONTAGE.

Cyrus takes a step back and examines the message on screen:
"ERROR, DATA SETS NOT COMPATIBLE"

CYRUS

But all the data sets are from the same source!

He brings up the schematics to the accelerator.

CYRUS

Arnold, if only you were here to help.

EXT. ARNOLD'S CONDO - DAY

The POLICE TAPE covering the door is ripped open. A welcome mat writes in *Game of Thrones* font, "Hold the Door".

INT. ARNOLD'S CONDO - CONTINUOUS

Dozens of science awards line the walls. They are outnumbered by the collection of action figures, props and other collectibles from various sci-fi and fantasy IPs.

Featured is an ELABORATELY FRAMED PHOTO of a proudly grinning Arnold next to Cyrus presenting at a conference.

A haggard Arnold, still wearing the clothes he fell off the mountain in, sits at the kitchen table in front of his laptop reading about Benzo Technologies. The first portion of his search highlights the market valuation of 35 billion dollars.

He scrolls down further to an image of the CEO, JACK BENZO (60s), white hair, unnaturally bleached white teeth, grinning at the camera from a hospital bed. A fresh SURGICAL SCAR rests on his chest. The caption reads: "Jack Benzo, early recipient of SMART HEART."

Arnold clicks the SMART HEART LINK.

A basic schematic of the Smart Heart appears: An IMPLANTED CARIDOVERTER DEFIBRILLATOR (ICD) that keeps the heart beating in rhythm and wirelessly transmits data for a doctor to monitor in real time.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - THE NEXT MORNING

Jack Benzo sits with his shirt open as a DOCTOR (50s) examines the METAL CONTACT embedded in his chest.

DOCTOR

Three months and no sign of infection.

The doctor references an iPad with Jack's streaming heart information.

DOCTOR

At this rate, your heart will last you until you're a hundred.

BENZO

Only a hundred?

Benzo begins to button up his shirt.

BENZO

About your receptionist, Susan.

DOCTOR

Yes?

BENZO

I asked her out and she said "no."

DOCTOR

(chuckles)

Ah, yes, she has a boyfriend, Clark. Really nice boy from Michigan--

BENZO

Get rid of her.

DOCTOR

(floored)

Excuse me?

BENZO

I don't want to see her when I next come into this office, or else she won't be the only one without a job.

The doctor is resentful but keeps quiet. Benzo stands up.

BENZO

Oh, do I get a lollipop from you or Susan on the way out?

DOCTOR

(begrudgingly)

Susan.

BENZO

Thanks, Doc.

Benzo walks out whistling.

EXT. MEDICAL PLAZA - MOMENTS LATER

Benzo, sucking a lollipop, gets into his MCLAREN sports car --

When a beat-up GREEN NISSAN LEAF tries to ram into him at 40 mph.

Benzo barely dodges out of the way. The car crashes into the side of the MCLAREN.

The dented Nissan quickly speeds off, abandoning its LICESNSE PLATE SPORTING A UCLA SCIENCES FRAME.

INT. LAB - DAY

Cyrus generates a report and reviews it. He glances at the prototype accelerator.

CYRUS

Well, now we know what your optimal frequency range is. But what function are you performing?

He then notices in the TOP-RIGHT CORNER of the computer monitor: "1 OTHER ACTIVE USER." He clicks it for more details. He's shocked to see: "ARNOLD LEE"

CYRUS

(disbelief)
Arnold?

His thoughts are interrupted as --

FRANKS (O.S.)

Cyrus Ebrahim.

CYRUS

It's Doctor Ebrahim--

Cyrus turns and is startled to see Winters and Franks.

CYRUS

Officer Winters.

WINTERS

It's Agent Winters. We have some questions, Doctor.

CYRUS

What type of questions?

DAN

Regarding an altercation yesterday with Mr. Benzo. Seems there's some history there.

CYRUS

Benzo? No, no. I've been here since yesterday.

WINTERS

And why was Arnold's missing car at the scene?

CYRUS

(realizing)

Because he's alive. I saw the login! He must've survived the fall!

WINTERS

You claim he's still alive?

CYRUS

I don't claim, I use inductive reasoning.

WINTERS

So he survived the fall and then went and assaulted the same man that you assaulted last year?

CYRUS

Yes, most curious. But Arnold was acting strange even before the fall.

DAN (O.S.)

In here.

Dan enters.

CYRUS

Dan, not now.

Stepping in behind Dan is SAMSON ORTIZ (40s), a strong, silent type in a pinstripe suit. Very strong. Very silent.

CYRUS

And who's this now in my lab?

DAN

(giddy)

Not your lab, his lab.

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

He just purchased everything here.
Well, Benzo Technologies did.

Samson holds out a business card for Cyrus and Winters to each take.

CYRUS

Benzo? Why?! No, no. This is my
work.

DAN

(to Winters)
Who's this?

Winters flashes her FBI badge. She has a brief stare-off with Samson.

DAN

FBI? What did Cyrus do?

WINTERS

We'll ask the questions. The
purchase of this lab has been in
the works for a while?

DAN

Out of the blue this morning. Seems
they're interested in financing the
department for at least another
decade and securing everyone's job
here.

(smugly)

Well, at my discretion.

WINTERS

(to Samson)

Mr. Ortiz, is this purchase in
relation to the events that
transpired yesterday with Mr.
Benzo?

No response.

FRANKS

(irritated)

You gonna talk?

Winters takes a good look at Samson, sizes him up. He's got poker face through and through. She keeps her cool.

WINTERS

No, this one doesn't.

Samson examines the accelerator.

CYRUS
Don't touch that! We can't risk
another explosion!

WINTERS
Another explosion?

All look at each other, their suspicion aroused.

WINTERS
How forthcoming were you about what
transpired on the mountaintop, Dr.
Ebrahim?

DAN
I've heard enough. Take him away.

Franks shoots Dan a look to shut up.

CYRUS
It was Arnold's fault! His
calculations were off!

Cyrus SMACKS his hand on the counter for effect.

FRANKS
I'm going to ask you to calm down.

Franks places his hand on his gun belt.

CYRUS
No, this isn't happening.

Cyrus backs up.

FRANKS
Sir, I said calm down.

CYRUS
(calmly)
I'm sorry, but this is not the time
to be calm.

He PULLS THE EMERGENCY PARACHUTE TAB on a weather balloon --

SHPOOF! The nylon parachute EJECTS onto the others, engulfing
them all in fabric.

Cyrus grabs the voice recorder and heaves the accelerator
around his neck.

DAN
(from under the fabric)
Get him!

Dan, still engulfed in the parachute, blindly tries to grab Cyrus like a mummy reaching through the nylon.

DAN

Cyrus! You're finished!

Cyrus evades and slips away with the gear.

While Dan flails about under the canvas he KNOCKS some BEAKERS over. The liquids run into each other and combust, catching the parachute on FIRE.

Dan, Winters, Franks and Samson stumble out of the room coughing

The lab goes up in flames.

END OF ACT II

ACT III**INT. RAZ'S APARTMENT - MORNING**

Raz sits on the couch sipping tea. Winters and Franks sit across from her, both with teacups.

RAZ
Cy's not violent.

WINTERS
His record doesn't support that.
You were the last call he made from
the lab. What did you two discuss?

RAZ
He wanted to see me. I said no.

WINTERS
See you why?

RAZ
I don't know. I wouldn't see him.

WINTERS
You aren't close?

RAZ
Not since our father died last
year.

WINTERS
Was this before or after your
brother was arrested for assault on
Jack Benzo?

RAZ
After. More tea?

INT. RAZ'S BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Raz enters the bathroom, the cops still in view. She closes the bathroom door and sits on the toilet seat.

CYRUS (O.S.)
(whisper)
Raz!

She is startled, looks up to see the very top of Cyrus' afro through the bathroom window.

RAZ
 (fierce whisper)
 What are you doing here?

CYRUS
 I watched you drink half a liter of
 tea through the window. Your
 bladder was bound to need
 expelling.

RAZ
 The FBI is here.

CYRUS
 I know. I didn't have anyone else
 to go to. You like flowers.

He fumbles to stuff some FLOWERS through the narrow window
 bars. They drop onto her lap as a mash of stems and petals.

RAZ
 These are from my garden.

CYRUS
 They already reached peak maturity.
 Technically they were dying.

She tosses them aside.

RAZ
 I'm sure it's a misunderstanding.
 Running isn't going to help. Let's
 talk to them--

CYRUS
 No! Just hear me out. Please, help
 me. You're the only one I trust.

FRANKS (O.C.)
 Ms. Ebrahim?

BEAT.

RAZ
 A little privacy, please.

FRANKS (O.C.)
 Yes, ma'am.

Raz resumes whispering with Cyrus.

RAZ
 What happened to Arnold? Why did
 you lie to the police?

CYRUS
Meet me at Dad's grave.

His head ducks out of sight.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - MORNING

Cyrus and Raz stand in front of their father's grave. The backpack with the accelerator lays on the ground.

RAZ
You sure you saw him logged in?

CYRUS
Yes.

RAZ
Someone else couldn't have logged in as Arnold? Or he couldn't have stayed logged in from before?

Cyrus shakes his head.

CYRUS
Only Arnold can log in as Arnold. I have to prove he's alive, find out what Benzo is up to and clear my name. There's something bigger going on.

RAZ
(realizing)
"Something bigger going on," I see. Do you remember the last conspiracy you believed? You only hurt yourself pursuing it.

CYRUS
Just because I couldn't prove it, doesn't mean there wasn't foul play. I'm telling you, the night Dad died --

RAZ
I can't hear this again.

CYRUS
You were there!

INT. EBRAHIM HOME, KITCHEN - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Cyrus sits at the kitchen table in front of a backgammon game in progress with his father, Hossein. They both exhibit similar mannerisms, mumbling and tapping their fingers as they strategize their moves.

Raz studies her psychology books in the living room.

HOSSEIN

Raz.

Hossein motions to Raz to refill his empty tea cup. Cyrus is already sitting right next to the teapot.

Raz rolls her eyes and crosses the room to the kitchen. She makes a show out of having to refill the cup. She gets no attention.

Hossein's phone rings. He picks up, and after a brief pause, begins yelling into the phone.

CYRUS (V.O.)

You heard dad arguing with Benzo on the phone before he drove back to the lab.

RAZ (V.O.)

It was just a work argument.

Hossein hangs up and puts on his coat. He spots a BOOK among Raz's stuff: THE COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS BY CARL JUNG.

He picks it up and walks out, flipping through it.

INT. BENZO TECHNOLOGIES - LAB - THE NEXT DAY (FLASHBACK)

PARAMEDICS and POLICE make way for Cyrus and Raz to walk into the physics lab and see their father's dead body on the floor. A used defibrillator lays next to him. Jack Benzo, withdrawn, stands nearby.

CYRUS (V.O.)

(getting worked up)

Heart attack they said. His heart was fine. And where was Benzo that night? What did they argue about?

Cyrus points to the camera in the hallway and demands to see the footage. Benzo shakes his head, "No."

Cyrus gets in his face. Benzo motions to the security guards to restrain him. Raz stands off, distant.

EXT. BENZO TECHNOLOGIES - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Cyrus and Raz are escorted out of the building.

INT. UCLA MEDICAL BUILDING - MORGUE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Cyrus pulls a body out of a refrigeration unit -- it's Hossein's.

MONTAGE:

- Cyrus begins to perform an autopsy on his father, focusing on his chest.
- A security guard finds Cyrus and calls for backup.
- Cyrus is arrested and taken away in a police vehicle.

RAZ (V.O.)

Dad donated his body to the university for the students. Not so his own son could chop him up!

CYRUS (V.O.)

Don't be so sentimental. I'm an MD. His body was a vessel. There were too many unanswered questions. What was on that footage? Why wouldn't they let me probe Dad's body?

END MONTAGE.**EXT. GRAVEYARD - MORNING (BACK TO PRESENT)**

Raz looks Cyrus with a mix of irritation and pity.

RAZ

The findings by the coroner had already been entered into the official record.

CYRUS

I wanted a second opinion so I got it. Dad was killed by the defibrillator.

RAZ

Yet it's just that, an opinion. Just because you have every hard science degree under the sun, doesn't mean you're the only one that can interpret data.

CYRUS

No, but I'm better at it than everyone else.

RAZ

Dad's dead. And now so is Arnold.

CYRUS

But Arnold's not. I saw his login. He's alive and out there somewhere.

RAZ

So why hasn't he revealed himself?

CYRUS

I'm investigating the correlation.

RAZ

"Correlation." Correlation between Arnold and what? Is there something you're not telling me?

CYRUS

Nothing relevant.

RAZ

If I'm going to help you, you need to be totally open with me. Tell me what happened, I'll decide if it's relevant.

Cyrus sees his sister means business.

CYRUS

You won't believe me. I don't believe me.

RAZ

Maybe if I hear it, I'll believe.

CYRUS

Okay, so hear it.

Cy takes out the recorder.

ARNOLD (ON RECORDING)

I understand.

CYRUS (ON RECORDING)

Understand what?

ARNOLD (ON RECORDING)
What we have to do about the man
responsible for your father's
death.

CYRUS (ON RECORDING)
Why would you say that to me?

ARNOLD (ON RECORDING)
It's what we want.

CYRUS (ON RECORDING)
"We"?

BEEPING INDICATORS sound from the accelerator followed by the
explosion.

CYRUS
You see? Benzo is involved.

RAZ
So Dad's death, part of a
conspiracy, is linked to another
conspiracy involving Arnold's
death.

CYRUS
Don't do that! These are related...

Cyrus takes a deep breath.

CYRUS
I know it makes no sense. That's
why I have to find Arnold.
Something's not right. Raz, they
think I killed him. You know I
couldn't ever do that, right?
And... I'm worried about him.

RAZ
Okay, let's go find Arnold.

She walks off. Cyrus' face lights up, he grabs the
accelerator and quickly catches up.

CYRUS
Wait, you'll help me?

RAZ
You're going to end up in jail if I
don't. And the fact that you care
about someone else is refreshing.

(MORE)

RAZ (CONT'D)

I believe your search for Arnold can help you face some personal truths about losing Dad.

(shakes her head)

All this triggers my penchant for reckless behavior, which is really something I need to work on.

CYRUS

Where are we going?

RAZ

Arnold's place. If he's still alive, maybe he's gone back there.

CYRUS

Ingenious.

RAZ

Not quite, merely Maslow's hierarchy.

CYRUS

Can you help me carry...

Raz takes a part of the accelerator to lighten Cyrus' load.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Cyrus and Raz approach a HARD TOP 3-WHEELED ELECTRIC GOLF CART. In the back are HALF-A-DOZEN BANKERS BOXES.

CYRUS

(excited)

You brought Supercart?

RAZ

Mine's in the shop, so I took Supercart out of Dad's storage.

Cyrus loads in the accelerator and excitedly pulls out a few notebooks packed with formulas.

CYRUS

Dad's old notes!

RAZ

(underwhelmed)

Page-turners, to be sure.

CYRUS

Isn't this one of yours?

He holds out her Jung book. She flips through it, spots a handwritten note on the inside cover with a CRUDE SKETCH OF EARTH labeled "~7.5B??".

RAZ

Don't know how that got here.

She tosses it back in the box, starts up the cart.

EXT. STREET INTERSECTION - CONTINUOUS

Raz pulls up to a red light. A TEENAGER IN A MUSTANG pulls up next to them and scoffs at the cart. He REVS his engine.

Raz narrows her eyes.

CYRUS

(to teenager)

You shouldn't have done that. Her dad was a great engineer in the field of electrostatic motors. Her brother is too. And a few dozen other fields.

The teenager gives Cyrus a look of "so what?" Cyrus grabs the "Oh shit" handle, the traffic light turns green --

Raz smokes the Mustang. The teenager is left in shock.

INT. UCLA LAB - DAY

Half the lab has burned down. Dan sits across from Winters who reviews a file on Cyrus. Franks stands nearby.

DAN

Pshh. Always knew he was a nut.

WINTERS

Oh?

DAN

You can't really tell what he's up to. "Ebrahim." With a name like that, you know what I mean?

WINTERS

I do, it's the Arabic derivation of Abraham. Any out of the ordinary behavior?

DAN
 If he did anything ordinary, that'd
 be out of the ordinary. So, you're
 stationed in Yosemite, huh? Long
 way from home.

WINTERS
 FBI has jurisdiction in federally
 protected land. It's my duty to
 investigate any incidents.

DAN
 (badly flirting)
 And where are you staying while in
 town?

Winters and Franks exchange a glance.

FRANKS
 How about you leave the questioning
 to us?

DAN
 (intimidated)
 Oh, yeah, sure. I'm not the
 questioning type.

EXT. UCLA ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES BUILDING - DAY

Agent Winters reads from a folder as she briefs Franks.

WINTERS
 Dr. Cyrus Ebrahim possesses a
 multidisciplinary skill set
 virtually unheard of in the
 sciences. Multiple PHDs and
 published works in statistical
 analysis, physics, biochem,
 physiology, pathology,
 biometrics...

INTERCUT ULCA/GAS STATION

INT. GAS STATION BATHROOM - DAY

Cyrus washes his hands -- or at least attempts to. He can't
 get the motion-activated faucet to work.

WINTERS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 ...Ecology, molecular biology,
 microbiology, geology, ...

Cyrus puts his hands under the faucet repeatedly.

WINTERS (V.O.)
 Geomorphology, toxicology,
 metallurgy, polymers, meteorology.

Cyrus gives up and moves to another sink. WATER DISPENSES AT EXTREME FORCE causing a SMALL TSUNAMI of water to LEAP out of the sink and DOUSE Cyrus' shirt and pants.

Cyrus puts his hands under the AIR DRIER -- nada. He gives up and wipes his hands with his shirt.

BACK TO UCLA

FRANKS
 And the broad?

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

Raz TOSSES SUNFLOWER SEEDS in front of a SMALL BIRD, but a LARGER BIRD steals the food. She keeps shooing away the larger bird and attempts to feed the smaller bird.

WINTERS (V.O.)
 His sister, Dr. Raz Ebrahim, head shrink. Another set of PHDs up the wazoo. Humanistic psychology, social psychology, psycholinguistics. Published essays on singing to plants, dancing to the moon, hippie stuff. Author of best seller: "The Mystical Mind".

She holds up a printout of the book that has a floating Raz on a psychedelic background. Franks smirks.

EXT. GAS STATION BATHROOM - DAY

Cyrus walks out, has a wet crotch and shirt and looks a mess. He shoots Raz a lopsided grin. She shakes her head.

BACK TO UCLA

WINTERS
 Saw a shrink with my husband once.

FRANKS
 They don't know anything, right?

WINTERS

Opposite. Shrink was right about everything. Didn't help though, we got divorced anyway. What's the update on the Benzo interview?

FRANKS

Won't see us. Can we subpoena?

WINTERS

He's so lawyered up it'd take the yearly budget of our department to get him in a room for five minutes.

Franks' phone buzzes. He picks up and listens for a beat.

FRANKS

Cyrus Ebrahim's car was just ID'd in Echo Lake.

WINTERS

I want every traffic cam in a ten block radius queued and ready for review by the time we arrive.

INT. SECURITY ROOM - NIGHT

Agent Winters views the footage of Cyrus hopping into Supercart with Raz. She turns to the security cam operator.

WINTERS

They're heading east in that thing. Track 'em.

END OF ACT III

ACT IV**INT. SECURITY ROOM - MORNING**

A bleary-eyed Winters, Franks and the security cam operator review footage.

FRANKS

We lost them. They cut through the park and don't get picked up again.

WINTERS

Go back to the closest frame we have of them.

The operator does. It's a HIGH-ANGLE FRONTAL SHOT of the cart pulling out of the lot.

FRANKS

What are you looking for?

WINTERS

Don't know, just looking till I see something... There.

ANGLE ON: A GREEN STICKER behind the rearview mirror.

OPERATOR

It's an old model Speedpass.

WINTERS

Would it still register?

Franks hops on the computer.

FRANKS

Bringing up toll road database.
Searching for older model Speedpass
and family name.

Franks shoots up.

FRANKS

Rejected Speedpass for Ebrahim just registered in Pasadena.

Franks quickly leafs through the case file.

FRANKS

Pasadena, Pasadena... I saw something... here: Arnold's place.

Winters nods in approval.

WINTERS

Good work. Let's move.

Franks beams at having pleased his boss.

EXT. ARNOLD'S CONDO - EARLY AFTERNOON

Supercart pulls up, the expired green Speedpass taped to the back of the rearview mirror.

Raz checks the MAILBOX, it's labeled "Arnold Lee." She rings the doorbell.

No one. The siblings exchange a look.

RAZ

I'm going around the back.

EXT. ARNOLD'S BACKYARD - SECONDS LATER

Raz comes from around the side of the house. The backyard has a STANDING DECK.

Raz peeks through the windows on the deck.

WHACK! The BACK DOOR SLAMS into Raz as Arnold BOLTS out of the house, knocking her through one of the wooden guard beams, off the deck and into a dense hedge.

Cyrus comes around the other side of the house.

CYRUS

Raz!

Cyrus runs to her side. She has A CUT on her forehead and is in a daze.

CYRUS

Are you okay?

The green Nissan Leaf emerges in reverse from behind some trash cans and rams into Supercart -- knocking it into a SMALL DITCH and overturning it.

The Leaf zooms away.

CYRUS

Supercart!

RAZ

That was Arnold!

CYRUS
Are you sure?

RAZ
Asian with pony tail, glasses and
came out of his own house? I would
think so.

CYRUS
(relieved)
He's alive. I was beginning to
think I was crazy.

RAZ
(concerned)
I'm beginning to think you're not.

She stands up and almost falls over, woozy.

CYRUS
Let's get you inside for a minute.

Cyrus helps Raz inside.

INT. ARNOLD CONDO - KITCHEN - DAY

Cyrus and Raz step into the kitchen as a TEA KETTLE WHISTLES.
Next to the kettle is a pre-prepared mug and a tea bag.

CYRUS
Ooh, tea.

RAZ
That would be lovely.

CYRUS
I'll pour us a couple.

Raz takes a seat at the kitchen table. She looks at the wall
of collectibles and other display items.

Raz notes the hanging framed photo of Arnold with Cyrus.

RAZ
No family photos.

CYRUS
Oh, Arnold lost his mom when he was
young.

RAZ
And his dad?

Cyrus shrugs, hands her a cup of tea. She sips and looks at the open laptop screen with BROWSER TABS about Benzo, the Smart Heart, and Wi-Fi protocols.

RAZ
Cy. Check it out.

He follows her gaze to the monitor.

CYRUS
Arnold's very interested in the Wi-Fi capabilities of the pacemaker.

Cyrus scans through the tabs.

CYRUS
Sweet Shelly of Mary! I think Arnold's going to hack Benzo's heart.

RAZ
(horrified)
Oh my God! He wasn't at Benzo's doctor's that day to run Benzo over.

CYRUS
He was hanging out to gather wifi data on the heart to kill him remotely.

SAMSON (O.S.)
When he saw Benzo, he tried to impromptu kill him. That's why it was such a messy and ultimately aborted attempt.

Cy and Raz are startled to see Samson in the corner with a tea he already poured for himself. They cautiously move away from the computer as Samson reads.

CYRUS
How did you find...

SAMSON
Card.

Cyrus pulls out the business card from earlier, holds it up to the light.

CYRUS
Ah, RFID.

SAMSON

So next time Arnold's on the same network... Does he have the ability?

CYRUS

(insulted)

I wouldn't select just anyone to be a computer specialist.

SAMSON

Gotta call the boss.

INT. BENZO'S CAR - SAME TIME

Benzo drives with his hand on Susan's lap. She couldn't care less, she's transfixed on the new diamond bracelet on her wrist.

He ignores the incoming call.

INT. ARNOLD'S CONDO - SAME TIME

Samson looks at his phone. A BLUE DOT APPROACHES on the GPS.

SAMSON

Feds on their way. You two get out of here. Save the boss. The Lincoln.

He tosses Cyrus his KEYS, who sucks at catching things and fumbles them before dropping them. Raz picks them up.

RAZ

I'll drive.

EXT. ARNOLD'S CONDO - SAME TIME

Winters and Franks pull up. They see the overturned Supercart and Samson's Black Lincoln Navigator. They get out apprehensively.

They approach the front door, see the ripped police tape. They draw their guns, try the door, it's locked.

They go around to the back.

INT. ARNOLD'S CONDO, KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Winters and Franks bust in guns drawn.

Samson sits and sips tea. He nods.

FRANKS
Great. Mr. Mute.

Samson toasts them as the sound of the Lincoln PEELING OUT is heard.

Winters rushes outside, but it's too late --

Raz and Cy are gone and Winters' car tires have been slashed.

INT. WINTERS' CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Raz drives, checking the rearview mirror. Cyrus sits with the box of Hossein's papers.

RAZ
I think we're good.

CYRUS
We're on the run, damaged a federal vehicle and Arnold is on his way to stop Benzo's heart. We're good she says!

RAZ
We have to stop Arnold from killing Benzo.

Raz clocks that Cyrus has a dreamy look on his face.

RAZ
We have to stop him, right, Cy?

CYRUS
Yes, of course.

EXT. BENZO'S HOUSE, BEL AIR - SAME TIME

A mansion with a long private driveway cutting through a small wooded area. Arnold is parked on a nearby side street.

He gets out and walks 100 yards into the foliage, referencing his phone that is searching for a local network.

"BenzoTheGreat" pops up.

A few keystrokes later, Arnold connects to the home network.

INT. BENZO'S LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

In a cabinet, next to the modem and router, is a SMALL HUB that is labeled with the logo for "Smart Heart." An LED labeled "ACCESS" goes GREEN.

INT. WINTERS' CAR - DAY

Raz drives. Cyrus repeatedly SMACKS the dashboard in frustration.

RAZ
Hey! Stop that!

CYRUS
I can't make any sense of this!
What's happening here, Raz? Why is
Arnold going to kill Benzo?

RAZ
Somehow your desire -- you
projected it onto Arnold.

CYRUS
Not possible.

RAZ
In psychology there's the
phenomenon of transference--

CYRUS
What pat psycho-babble. You lack
objective formal assessment as a
student of the psychiatry field. A
soft science provoking conclusion
based on assumption rather than
methodically replicated results--

RAZ
Here we go. Thank you for reminding
me why I distanced myself from you.

CYRUS
Which you were wrong to do so, but
I understand why you did.

RAZ
You're making a syllogistic
fallacy. If you did understand,
then you wouldn't think I'm wrong.
You also wouldn't extend that
perspective to Übertragung just
because I mentioned it.

CYRUS

Über-what-now?

RAZ

Übertragung, transference in German. What are the mechanisms behind it? I don't have an answer, but it's very common among father-son, teacher-student, therapist-patient dynamics. All which apply here. You and Dad split your dice in the 3rd quadrant the same way in backgammon. Why the same way each time when it's a 50/50 chance?

CYRUS

You're right, we did... You play backgammon? How come you never played with us?

RAZ

You never asked. Now, I'm not saying that's what this is, but it seems like we are seeing a similar phenomena somehow executed in an incredible instant, all beginning with this signal you intercepted. Tell me, what were you thinking when you and Arnold had your breakthrough on the mountain?

CYRUS

(recalling)

That I had finally done it. I had made the discovery of my life. That the world would be different... That Dad should be there.

RAZ

And...

CYRUS

And that Benzo should be dead instead so Dad could be there.

They exchange a glance. This affirms quite a bit.

CYRUS

This is impossible. This isn't transference. It's... mind control.

RAZ

Anything else out of the ordinary?

CYRUS

There's was this odd reading. Like there were other channels transmitting on the frequency. About 7.6 billion.

RAZ

The population of the earth.

CYRUS

Well, a number is just a number. Like saying the number "two." Are we talking about two ants, two days, two bananas--

RAZ

I'm talking about 7.6 billion people. Dad was onto something. Pull out the Jung book. Inside cover.

Cyrus reaches into the banker box in the back seat and pulls out the book. Inside is written "~7.5B??" He gulps.

CYRUS

Every person, a channel.

RAZ

And you tapped into Arnold's, influencing his mind.

CYRUS

(dread)

Why am I really scared of the idea there's a phenomenon connecting the minds of billions of people?

RAZ

Because we have no idea what the mind is really capable of.

CYRUS

We have to find out how it's all connected.

RAZ

That, Brother, is the smartest thing I've heard you say all day.

END OF ACT IV

ACT V**EXT. WOODED DRIVEWAY - DUSK**

Raz and Cyrus pull up into the long driveway.

INT. WINTERS' CAR - SAME TIME

Raz points to Arnold's car.

RAZ

There's Arnold's car. It's empty.

CYRUS

If he's already hacked the home network, the second Benzo gets home, he'll connect and the killer instructions will be uploaded to his pacemaker.

EXT. BENZO TECHNOLOGIES - DUSK

Jack Benzo gets in his MCLAREN SPORTS CAR and drives off the property.

RAZ (V.O.)

How do we stop that?

BACK TO WINTERS' CAR

CYRUS

We have to get into Benzo's house and find the router.

Raz floors it -- they shoot up Benzo's driveway.

CYRUS

We're trespassing.

RAZ

I think he'll understand.

EXT. WOODED DRIVEWAY - SAME TIME

Arnold, tucked away behind some dense bushes, sees Raz and Cyrus zoom by up the driveway towards the house.

EXT. BENZO'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Raz frantically rings the doorbell in front of the thick wooden door.

RAZ
Nobody's home.

CYRUS
Or we're too late. How are we going
to get--

Raz is already getting back into the car. She hands Cyrus the backpack.

RAZ
(to Cyrus)
Move!

Cyrus moves out of the way just as Raz CRASHES into the front door. A HOME ALARM SYSTEM GOES OFF.

The airbag has deployed. Raz groans. Cyrus, wearing the backpack, runs up to her.

CYRUS
Raz!

RAZ
Ugh. That was not as cool as I
thought.

CYRUS
That was incredibly reckless! An
airbag deploys at 200 miles per
hour!

RAZ
(shakes it off)
Yeah, but it worked.

The front door is indeed cracked open, allowing them to slip in.

Cyrus helps Raz out of the car and they enter the house.

INT. BENZO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Cyrus and Raz scour the living room and kitchen.

CYRUS
Find that router!

INT. BENZO'S CAR - SAME TIME

Benzo pulls into his neighborhood and drives by some other mansions on the way to his own.

INT. BENZO'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

Cyrus spots the router in a cabinet.

CYRUS

Found it!

Just as he's reaching for the cabinet --

Arnold TACKLES him.

CYRUS

Arnold! You're alive!

As they wrestle --

CYRUS

Arnold, what's wrong with you?

ARNOLD

I'm doing this for us!

Raz enters the room and sees them on the ground. Cyrus looks towards the cabinet.

CYRUS

The router.

Cyrus and Arnold go at it as Raz pulls the modem, router and Smart Heart hub out from the wall.

INT. BENZO'S CAR - SAME TIME

Benzo pulls into his driveway and sees the car crashed through his front door.

BENZO

What the...

Benzo pulls a PISTOL out of his glove compartment.

INT. SQUAD CAR - SAME TIME

Winters and Franks zoom through the streets.

INT. BENZO'S LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Benzo enters holding the pistol to encounter Cyrus and Raz struggling to restrain a livid Arnold.

BENZO
What's going on here?
(to Cyrus)
You...

ARNOLD
You killed our father!

BENZO
(confused)
That's your brother?

CYRUS
No. He's confused.

BENZO
He's not the only one. What the hell have you been trying to pull?

CYRUS
Your hub: it was hacked to stop your heart when you reconnected to your home network. I stopped it.

Benzo's face goes pale with dread. He puts a hand to his heart. He motions to Arnold with the gun.

BENZO
This man is the one responsible?

CYRUS
Well, kinda.
(glances at Raz)
But not really. Kinda my fault, maybe?

BENZO
Somebody better start making sense real quick.

CYRUS
You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

BENZO
If you told me what?
(softens)
(MORE)

BENZO (CONT'D)

That your actions are the result of
some motivations beyond your
control?

CYRUS

(surprised)

Well, yes.

Benzo gets contemplative. While keeping his gun trained on
the group, he motions to a painting.

BENZO

Wall safe. 05-27-55.

Raz moves the painting aside, opens the safe. An SD CARD lies
inside. Benzo motions for her to pop it into a nearby laptop.

Cyrus cues it up.

INTERCUT LIVING ROOM/FOOTAGE ON LAPTOP

INT. BENZO TECHNOLOGIES - LAB - NIGHT

From the POV of the security camera: On the counter is the
most CLUNKY VERSION OF THE ACCELERATOR we've seen so far.
Hossein scurries around, twisting knobs and calibrating the
device. Benzo watches from nearby.

BENZO (V.O.)

All the R&D into our new
communications research wasn't
producing results, and then Hossein
had a breakthrough.

Hossein runs the accelerator and it hums to life. Light
begins shooting around in it.

BENZO (V.O.)

And then, I don't know what
happened. I didn't realize until
after what it was I had done...

Benzo goes into a trance. He walks over to the EMERGENCY KIT
hanging on the wall.

BACK TO LIVING ROOM:

Benzo has tears in his eyes.

BENZO

I was compelled to do it by a force
I didn't know.

ON LAPTOP:

Benzo removes the defibrillator paddles, approaches Hossein.

BENZO (V.O.)
I took out the defibrillator...

Hossein gives Benzo a hug, sits down on a chair and pulls his shirt open.

BENZO (V.O.)
And I killed my best friend.

Benzo leans in with the paddles as Hossein passively lets him.

CAMERA POV MONTAGE:

- Hossein collapses.
- Cyrus rushes past cops and Benzo to his dead father's side.
- Cyrus points to the security camera.
- Cyrus assaults Benzo.
- Cyrus is escorted out of the building.

BACK TO LIVING ROOM:

Cyrus interrupts Benzo's story.

CYRUS
Why would he let you shock him?!

BENZO
I ask myself that every day. That's why I keep the footage, to remind myself that it really happened.

RAZ
(to Cyrus)
You were right. Benzo killed Dad.

Cyrus is stunned with the revelation of it all.

CYRUS
I was right.

RAZ
Maybe he was under control like Arnold.

REVEAL: The unattended Arnold has discreetly plugged the router back in. The connectivity lights blink back on.

SFX: The BUM-BUM of Benzo's heart beat.

Benzo clutches his chest, drops the gun.

ARNOLD
And now you will feel what he felt.

BENZO
No...

Arnold grabs the gun, trains it on Cyrus and Raz.

CYRUS
Arnold!

ARNOLD
Don't come any closer!

Benzo collapses. Arnold opens the door to the basement and motions for Cyrus and Raz to enter.

RAZ
What are you going to do Arnold?

ARNOLD
What I have to.

As soon as they step through the basement door, Arnold locks them in.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRS - SAME TIME

Raz tries the door. Locked.

RAZ
This is murder.

CYRUS
Me? What am I supposed to do?

RAZ
Stop Arnold.

CYRUS
He has a gun! There's nothing I can do.

RAZ
Or nothing you want to do? Run the accelerator.

CYRUS

We don't understand how it works.
It could cause a bigger problem.

RAZ

You weren't worried about that the
first time you ran it.

CYRUS

This is preposterous--

RAZ

Yes, it's all been rather so. So
perhaps the solution follows as
such.

CYRUS

(taken aback)

I'm disturbed how much sense that
actually makes.

INTERCUT BASEMENT/LIVING ROOM

Arnold grins in anticipation as Benzo gasps in pain on the
ground.

SFX: BUM-BUM BUM-BUM BUM-BUM. FASTER AND FASTER.

BASEMENT

Cyrus spins the accelerator up.

The color wisps form within. Raz is enthralled.

He alters the frequency on the pad.

CYRUS

That should keep it from blowing
up.

RAZ

I trust in your science. Now forget
about the technical.

CYRUS

Will you help me?

RAZ

Close your eyes. Take a deep
breath.

Cyrus takes a deep breath closes his eyes.

LIVING ROOM

Benzo rips open his shirt to clutch at his chest. He grunts in pain.

BASEMENT

RAZ

Don't force an opinion. Be open,
like a great scientist.

This resonates with Cyrus. He TOUCHES the accelerator.

QUICK ZOOM INTO --

INT. MINDREALM - MENTAL DESKTOP

Cyrus finds himself in a Tron-esque reality, standing on a giant-sized Windows computer screen desktop that is 100 yards wide. The desktop wallpaper is a picture of Arnold that morphs from his childhood to his current age and back again.

The morphing image is squishy. Standing on it creeps him out.

As he glances around, he sees a FLOATING COLOR WISP with the Aurora Borealis properties of the accelerator. It disappears into a FOLDER laying on Arnold's forehead.

Cyrus walks up and sees laying on the desktop a MANILA FOLDER titled "ARNOLD LEE." He STEPS ON IT, and equivalent to clicking on a folder --

IT LAUNCHES THE FILE EXPLORER that opens up into a directory of Arnold's psyche, populated by subfolders. These include folders labeled INTERESTS, FEARS, MEMORIES, SENSES, QUESTIONS, BELIEFS, RELATIONSHIPS and more.

Cyrus sees the tail end of the color wisp disappear into the memories folder. He walks over and steps on it --

THUMBNAIL VIDEOS of various memories fill the desktop. Arnold twelve years old crushing on the girl next door, Arnold at nine years old getting his first computer, Arnold picking out Yorkie at the pound.

One of these videos is highlighted by the wisp: YOUNG ARNOLD (7) at a Pee Wee league baseball game. Cyrus STEPS on it.

EXT. MINDREALM - BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

Young Arnold is up to bat. Coke bottle glasses, untied shoes and a grip on the middle of the bat, he's not exactly on the path to the big leagues.

It's bottom of the 9th with two outs. Bases full.

Arnold's father, PETER LEE (30s), decked out in a jersey and baseball hat, screams from the bleachers.

Cyrus stands next to Peter, unnoticed.

PETER

Come on! Keep your eye on the ball!

Young Arnold glances back at his father, nervous.

PETER

Keep your eye on the b--

WHACK! Arnold gets beamed in the helmet with the ball. He falls over, more stunned than hurt.

Peter marches out onto the field. Arnold is already petrified of his dad, who pulls him up to his feet.

YOUNG ARNOLD

I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

PETER

What did I tell you!

YOUNG ARNOLD

Keep my eye on the ball.

PETER

And what did I tell you in the car?

YOUNG ARNOLD

If I don't win, I'm a loser.

The coach motions for Peter to leave the field.

Arnold gears up for the swing. The ball is pitched --

It knocks the bat out of Arnold's hands.

That's the end of the game. The other team celebrates.

PETER

Come on! Can't you hold a damn bat!?

Arnold hangs his head, too embarrassed to look at his father.

PETER

Pathetic. I'm going to the car. You can walk. Winners ride.

Peter leaves and drives off.

Young Arnold holds the bat, hate in his eyes.

As everyone else leaves the field, he BEATS on the plate with the bat.

It begins to RAIN.

Cyrus finds herself standing with Young Arnold.

CYRUS

Arnold?

He keeps hitting the plate.

CYRUS

Arnold.

YOUNG ARNOLD

I'm a loser.

CYRUS

No you're not.

YOUNG ARNOLD

I lost the game.

CYRUS

I don't care about that.

Young Arnold begins to walk, dragging his bat behind him.

CYRUS

Where you going?

YOUNG ARNOLD

You said only winners get a ride home.

CYRUS

I never said that.

YOUNG ARNOLD

In the car. On the way here.

CYRUS

When did I--

Cyrus looks down at herself -- he is now dressed like Peter in his jersey and a baseball hat.

CYRUS

Wait a minute, I'm not your father.

YOUNG ARNOLD
I'm sorry I can't do anything
right.

Cyrus kneels down and puts his hands on Arnold's shoulders.

CYRUS
Arnold, listen. You can't make me
happy because I... I'm just not
a happy person. And that's not your
job. You are a smart, wonderful
person. Whatever you do from now
on, you do it for yourself. Don't
do it for me.

Arnold looks up at Cyrus, wide-eyed. With that, the wisp
escapes from Arnold and engulfs the screen.

INT. BENZO'S HOUSE - BACK TO PRESENT

Arnold, in a daze, lowers his gun and drops it to the floor.
The spell is broken.

LIVING ROOM

Arnold and Benzo are frozen in time.

QUICK ZOOM INTO --

INT. ARNOLD'S BRAIN - CONTINUOUS

We are back in Arnold's mind, the colorful wisps at work
between the synaptic connections DISSIPATE. The whisper FADES
AWAY. Brain function is back to normal.

ZOOM BACK OUT --

LIVING ROOM

TIME CONTINUES AGAIN.

Arnold drops the gun and it clatters to the floor. The spell
is broken.

SFX: THE RAPID HEART BEATS STOP.

Benzo's hand balls into a tight fist. The blood drains out of
his face and his eyes roll up into his head. He's motionless.

Arnold, pale face, opens the basement door.

ARNOLD
(in shock)
I didn't mean to. I thought I had
to, but I didn't want to.

Raz and Cyrus rush past him.

Raz rushes over and unplugs the router.

Cyrus runs to Benzo and opens his shirt. He listens for a
heartbeat.

RAZ
Do something!

CYRUS
Nothing is best.

RAZ
Cy, help him!

CYRUS
I mean it -- we don't want to
interfere with the pacemaker
kicking back in to restore his
heart rate... If the device still
works.

Cyrus listens.

A WEAK BEAT: BUM.

THEN ANOTHER: BUM-BUM.

AND ANOTHER AND ANOTHER: BUM-BUM BUM-BUM BUM-BUM

Benzo GASPS for air. Coughs. He's been revived.

Arnold collapses and sobs into his hands.

Raz hugs and comforts him as they rock slightly back and
forth.

RAZ
It's okay. He's alive. You didn't
kill him.

Raz looks to Cyrus.

RAZ
How'd you do it? How'd you release
Arnold?

CYRUS

I had to let go of my power over him. I had to let go so Arnold could let go.

(beat)

And I know, it was because of you in my life that I knew what to do, even though I don't understand how. I see there's something great, meaningful in what you do. In your field. Thank you.

Raz is blown away at her brothers' revelation. At his affirmation.

RAZ

(humbly)

You're welcome.

Cyrus is shaken, reflective.

CYRUS

The heart stops beating. The brain doesn't get any more blood. Within minutes, all a man's experiences, his ability to think, to solve problems, to play backgammon with his son, over, because a piece of muscle stops beating in repeated motion.

RAZ

(to Arnold)

How are you not dead after that fall?

ARNOLD

The backpack.

CYRUS

Ah, of course!

Cyrus does some mental arithmetic.

EXT. RAPIDS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Arnold plummets through the fog into the water.

CYRUS (V.O.)
(rapidly mumbles)
10,000 feet elevation, 80 pascals,
70 foot drop, impact pressure of
hitting the river must have
inflated the empty water reservoir!

Arnold bobs up to the top, his backpack INFLATED with air.

ARNOLD (V.O.)
Just like a life preserver. Pulled
me right back up to the water line.

BACK TO LIVING ROOM

CYRUS
(delighted)
Science solves everything.

Winters and Franks rush into the room guns drawn, all
business.

WINTERS
Nobody move!

FRANKS
Down on the ground!

Winters examines Benzo as Franks handcuffs Cyrus.

CYRUS
Ow! Those are not good for blood
flow!

FRANKS
You're under arrest for the
disappearance of Arnold Lee--

ARNOLD
You mean me?

A weary Arnold waves from down on the ground.

WINTERS
Arnold Lee?

ARNOLD
That's me. Again. Finally. I think.

Winters and Franks take in that Arnold is still alive.

CYRUS
See, all a big misunderstanding. So
if you can just let us go--

WINTERS

Misunderstanding? Lying in your original statement, assaulting two agents, a campus lab destroyed, fleeing the authorities, and we find you trespassing--

BENZO

(weakly)

No trespassing charges. They're my guests.

A confused Winters looks at the damaged front door and back to Benzo, the gun on the ground.

ADDITIONAL POLICE OFFICERS and an AMBULANCE pulls up.

WINTERS

(to Cyrus)

I don't know what's going on, but there's a lot to explain and you're going to do it at the station.

Winters heaves Cyrus to his feet.

CYRUS

Ow-ow! I'm cooperating!

BENZO

Don't say a word. I'll post bail and my lawyers will take care of the rest.

CYRUS

I don't want anything from you.

BENZO

I have resources you couldn't dream of. We both know there's something bigger going on here.

EXT. BENZO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Winters tosses Cyrus into the back seat of a police car. Raz joins him seconds later on the other side.

Cyrus wears a big grin.

RAZ

What's wrong with you?

CYRUS

I wish Dad could see us now.

A grin creeps across Raz's face.

RAZ

Me too.

The car drives off with the two beaming siblings.

END OF ACT V

CODA**INT. BENZO TECHNOLOGIES - LAB - WEEKS LATER**

In the physics lab Hossein used to work in, Cyrus examines the NEW ACCELERATOR. More sleek and contained than the previous two designs, it is the size of a golf ball.

Raz, Benzo and Samson stand nearby.

BENZO

Told you, resources you never could
have before.

Cyrus, resentful look on his face, continues working.

BENZO

I know you still don't trust me.
But we've seen to much not to try
working together.

Cyrus nods. It's not a total capitulation, just an acknowledgment of circumstance.

CYRUS

Arnold, coffee.

Arnold works at a computer.

ARNOLD

In the middle of something.

CYRUS

(clears throat)
Arnold Lee, a coffee now.

Arnold looks up, exchanges glances with Raz.

ARNOLD

Are you... are you trying to mind
control me to get you a coffee?

CYRUS

What? No, I would never.

RAZ

It sounded like you were.

BENZO

Definitely sounded like you were.

CYRUS
I just wanted to make sure that he
wasn't under mind control anymo--

ARNOLD RAZ
I can't believe you! Cy!

CYRUS
It was for science! I did it for
the sake of science. That's why it
was an innocuous request.

BENZO
Can we run this thing?

CYRUS
Yes, of course. Run it. Run it.

Arnold inputs some commands into the computer.

CYRUS
Arnold?

Arnold looks up.

CYRUS
Good to have you back.

Arnold beams. Cyrus shares a loving look with his sister.

Arnold executes the command. The accelerator spins up.

ARNOLD
Here we go.

SYMBOLS begin populating the screen.

ARNOLD
We're on!

Cyrus and Arnold begin running the numbers on their computers
and rapidly drawing conclusions.

CYRUS
Is it?

ARNOLD
Could be.

BENZO
Could be what?

ARNOLD
The previous pattern has shifted.

CYRUS

The signal is now connected to
another location.

RAZ

Location... or person?

Cyrus compares the two graphs displayed on the screen.

CYRUS

I don't know the origin of the
signal, but I can triangulate the
destination.

With a BEEP, the triangulation finishes. He brings up a MAP
with a DOT in Lower Manhattan.

CYRUS

New York City, Wall Street.

INT. NYSE - SAME TIME

DOZENS OF PEOPLE frantically shout into phones, bark orders
at YOUNG TRADERS, buy and sell at terminals. An overworked,
sweaty TRADER (40s) tries to keep up.

QUICK ZOOM INTO --

INT. TRADER'S HEAD - SAME TIME

We hear whispers and see the rearranging wisps at work.

ZOOM BACK OUT --

INT. NYSE - SAME TIME

The trader comes out of a trance, walks over to a terminal
and shoos away the YOUNGER TRADER using it. He takes a seat
and begins typing.

ANGLE ON TICKER BOARD: The DOW plummets 500 points. The floor
erupts with ALARM BELLS and a frenzy of new activity.

BACK TO LAB.

They look to each other in dread and realization.

BENZO

There are others being signaled?
How many?

ARNOLD
Who's behind it?

RAZ
Or what? And what do they want?

They are all intimidated by the questions. Raz stands up.

RAZ
Only one way to find out. Let's go.

CYRUS
(concerned)
Raz... there are so many people out there. Illogical, irrational, tribal creatures. How very dangerous this could all be in the wrong hands. It's not good science to be playing around in the real world like this.

RAZ
If this thing is happening out there, then where else is it we should play? And what if what we're dealing with isn't science?

CYRUS
Everything is science.

RAZ
Doesn't feel like just science. Look, I'll take care of the people. You take care of the science.

It's a good enough arrangement for now. Cyrus grabs his coat.

CYRUS
Arnold, you coming?

Arnold exchanges a look with Benzo, who gives a friendly nod.

ARNOLD
I'll stay in the lab, thanks.

EXT. BENZO TECHNOLOGIES - DAY

Cyrus and Raz pull out of the parking lot in Supercart.

END OF EPISODE