

JOURNEY OF THE SEEDS DAY 1 SCENARIO
GRACE PREPARES TO DIE/MATTHEW CALLS IN THE ARMY

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AS GRACE PREPARES TO DIE

INT.HOUSE.DAY

RICHARD STONE sits in his rented lounge room in Michigan next to a medical bed where his wife CLAIRE lies dying. The beeping of her monitors rings out as the sun begins to rise and the red ash falling can be clearly seen.

CLAIRE
(Labored Breathing)

It's beautiful Richard, what is it?

RICHARD
I'm not sure yet, In all my years exploring meteor showers I've never experienced anything like those we saw last night. The meteors seemed structured to me. Just rest my darling...you're exhausted.

CLAIRE
It was worth it, I got to see something magical with you. It's a sign from God maybe.

Claire closes her eyes and fades in and out of sleep.

Richards computer begins to beep out a Skype tone he gets up from her side to answer it. MATTHEW STYLES his colleague from Pine Gap in Australia is on the other end on a video call.

MATTHEW
Richard, having fun up there I hear.

RICHARD
Never seen anything like it, what's it like down there?

MATTHEW
Not even a faint glow in the distance. Completely isolated to the Northern Hemisphere from what we can work out so far. What do you think it is? We can't find any meteors on the space watch that were even close to Earth 11 hours ago.

Richard pauses before answering looking back towards his wife as her monitors beep irregularly for a moment.

(CONTINUED)

RICHARD

I don't know yet Mat, it feels really off to me.

Richard stands up from his computer and walks over to Claire and checks her monitor while placing his hand on her face. Matthew is watching him through his computer.

MATTHEW

How...is she?

Richard looks down to see that Claire has fallen asleep. He kisses her on the cheek and walks back to the computer.

RICHARD

The treatment didn't work, the cancer is too aggressive. There is nothing more we can do.

Richard pauses as if reflecting, then he continues talking

RICHARD (CON'T)

I brought her bed out here so she could see the meteors with me. I haven't been outside yet to have a look at this ash that's falling. I need to keep her quarantined for the moment from any outside exposures. Her immune system is completely shot.

MATTHEW

Richard...I'm so sorry..

RICHARD

It's OK Matthew. At least...she got to see this.

Richard takes a deep breath.

Now, what do you know about these meteors so far except that there shouldn't have been any? Is there any word from the sub stations?

MATTHEW

Not a word. We have tried to get in contact with the Russian station and the one in Scotland, I guess everyone is out gathering samples, or looking at the sky.

Richard picks up his computer and turns it toward the window placing it so Matthew can see the Ash that is now glowing bright red behind the sun rise.

(CONTINUED)

RICHARD

There is something wrong with this whole scene Mat. The meteors were structured not random. They moved almost as if in teams, I sent through some data I tried to record as it was happening, a timed spreadsheet and some visual images taken from inside this room... This ash, it feels like it's been seeded.

Matthew checks his email and pulls up the sent data while keeping a visual on the live footage from Richard on the screen.

MATTHEW

It's very thick, whatever it is. Where is it sitting in the sky?

He watches Richard walk over to the windows and look up.

RICHARD

It's not space dust falling from the outer stratosphere, this is well and truly embedded in our atmosphere. The sky is completely covered like a clouded red mist...

Matthews phones begin to ring. Richard listens to the one sided conversation.

MATTHEW

Jordie, whats it like...calm down...How many? Are you sure it's the dust?...Hang on a minute I have Richard on Skype, I'm going to put you on Speaker phone.

Matthew moves his mobile phone over towards his computer.

MATTHEW

Richard, are you still here?

RICHARD

Yep I'm here.

MATTHEW

OK Joride, tell Richard what you just told me.

(CONTINUED)

JORDIE (V.O.)

Richard, the ash, I think it's infected with something. A virus, or some kind of hallucinogenic. You have to get me out of here.

Jordie sounds as if he is sobbing in the background. He is frantic and terrified.

RICHARD

Jordie... get yourself together son. What are the symptoms? What did you see?

JORDIE (V.O.)

The team went out to get samples of the dust, I stayed in here to man the phones, I watched as they all started dancing and laughing through the glass windows, they hit a euphoric point for about five minutes, like they were on some kind of drug then the whites of their eyes turn red as if their brain was about to explode, and then they turned into rabid animals and attacked everyone in sight. I locked the doors and put the station into emergency shutdown. Everyone here at the Russian station is dead, they tore each other apart...David...and Eshra.. are both dead.

Jordie again begins to sob again...he gathers himself together enough to continue talking.

JORDIE (CON'T) (V.O)

Whatever you do... don't touch or breathe this stuff. I get the feeling it's no accident...What do I do boss? I don't know what to do.

RICHARD

Jordie calm down, we will get help to you. Just stay out of sight and near the phones, we will keep in contact with you until we find you a way out. If you have any visual data, send it through to Mat, he needs as much information as he can get right now. You did the right thing Jordie.

(CONTINUED)

MATTHEW

You need to get out of there too
Richard. We need you back here.

RICHARD

I can't...I can't move Claire, not
until....

Richard pauses as he looks over towards his sleeping wife.

RICHARD (CON'T)

Matthew, you say there is no trace
of this at all in the Southern
Hemisphere?

MATTHEW

Not yet.. Why? What are you
thinking.

RICHARD

You need to assume that the
Northern Hemisphere is fully
compromised. We don't know what
we're dealing with. It's time to
arm our defenses and at the very
least, you have a head start on
quarantine.

Richard begins typing up an official Government document on
his computer and sends it through to Matthew.

RICHARD (CON'T)

I have sent you an Authorization
with full clearance from me, you
have full control use this as
aggressively as you need. Get hold
of the Government, put Pine Gap
into lock down, get a Marshal Law
in place just in case this stuff
spreads down there. Protect our
country first, that's what we do.
Then try to get in contact with the
rest of our crew up here. Find out
who is alive....Then organise a
rescue team, but Mat, only if it's
safe to attempt it.

The computer still running, Matthew watches as Richard gets
out the gaffer tape and starts sealing up the doors and
windows. Out on the street a shape forms in the dust, a girl
child with red eyes looks at Richard and snarls as if she is
about to attack through the glass. Suddenly someone grabs
the child and throws her violently to the ground tearing at

(CONTINUED)

the side of her face with their teeth. Richard slowly backs away from the window trying not to gain attention.

Matthew has seen the whole thing through the computer cam.

MATTHEW

Oh my God.

RICHARD
(Quietly)

Matthew... protocol... now. You
know what to do.

Richard breaks the communication and shuts down his computer. He carefully closes the blinds and walks over to Claire and turns down the volume on her monitors and takes her hand gently.

MATTHEW CALLS IN THE ARMY

INT.OFFICE.NIGHT

Matthew presses the intercom in his office.

MATTHEW

Cassandra, get me the Head of
Defense on the phone. Get me the
Prime Minister.. Get me everyone!

CASSANDRA - (V.O.)

But Sir, it's nearly 10 pm.

MATTHEW

Now...Cassandra! No questions. Oh
and I need you to capture the
footage from the Skype conversation
I just had with Richard and save it
onto the main frame. Call all off
duty staff back here now, I need a
full media release prepared in the
next hour.

CASSANDRA - (V.O.)

Skype calls aren't automatically
recorded Sir.

MATTHEW

This is Pine Gap Cassie...
everything is recorded.