

S P A C E S

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Open on a desolate, empty desert. Suddenly DEREK JONES, clad in space suit and helmet, emerges from the sand a la Mad Max. He is sneaking up on something. We see that he's watching KATE JONES, his sister. She is wandering just off the road, holding a piece of paper with the directions that have led her here. Looking down at the directions, she doesn't see Derek approaching in his space getup until he's super close.

KATE
AUGH! Derek?

She recovers, used to his weirdness, though maybe not this extreme.

KATE
You look so... much older than I remember, wow! Why the helmet, buddy?

DEREK
Oxygen.

KATE
(noncommittally)
Mmm. What happened to, I thought Dad got you that job, the banking one? Or investing, or whatever?

DEREK
Wasn't conducive to my research.

KATE
(accidentally harsh)
What, having a job?

DEREK
The tie. It was a choking hazard. Could get caught on some flotsam out there, and then I'd be in trouble.

KATE
(echoing him)
Out...

He points up at the sky.

(CONTINUED)

DEREK

Out there.

KATE

Oh, okay, great, cool.

He starts walking. She looks up at the sky for a moment before following him.

KATE

Hey, so how have you been? I heard about... everything... and I just wanted to make sure you're-

DEREK

I'm fine. Things happen, you know, but I'm back to normal.

Kate looks at the helmet.

KATE

Right. Are you sure? Derek-

Derek bends down and picks up some pebbles, then starts walking again.

KATE

Look, can we talk?

Derek turns to face her.

DEREK

Of course we can.

Beat.

DEREK

Up there.

He points up a mountain of rocks.

KATE

Uhhhhhhhhh... Derek, remember, I don't really do...

DEREK

SCIENCE WAITS FOR NO ONE!

He starts sprinting up the rocks.

KATE

Fuck.

She starts following him.

EXT. SOME ROCKS- MOMENTS LATER

She catches up to him, following him on the hike.

DEREK

Did you know that Venus doesn't get any moons at all? Isn't that sad?

KATE

Yeah, that's a real shame. Derek, how's life?

DEREK

Oh, it's great!

He taps his helmet.

DEREK

This is pretty much the last thing I needed to get... and you're here.

KATE

Yeah... Listen, Derek, I came out here, I just wanted to tell you-

DEREK

No time!

He starts moving faster again, Kate in hot pursuit. The two of them reach higher up on the mountain.

DEREK

You're gonna love this-

KATE

Derek, can we just-

DEREK

You can see the whole-

Kate grabs Derek's arm out of frustration.

KATE

You're not *listening to me!* I have to-

DEREK

Look.

KATE

Derek, I'm not gonna-

(CONTINUED)

DEREK

Kate. *Look!*

His raising his voice gets her attention.

DEREK

I have been listening. Do you understand how much of our lives you've spent worrying? I forgive you, of course I do, you never had to ask. But could you just look, and not worry, for once?

She looks at him. He tilts her towards the fabulous view of the desert below.

DEREK

Besides, I'm the crazy one. If anyone should be worried, it's me. And I'm fine!

He stumbles a little bit. Kate smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROCK FACE - LATER

The two of them sit, back to back, looking out over the desert.

KATE

Wooooooooooooow.

DEREK

(echoing her)

Wooooooooow.

They're quiet for a moment.

KATE

What ever happened to dinosaurs?
Didn't that used to be your thing?

DEREK

Yeah, eons ago. It went dinosaurs,
then the ocean, then cars, and now
space.

KATE

And then what?

(CONTINUED)

DEREK

I don't know. I like space.

She smiles at him.