

DREAMTIME WARRIOR  
(Based on a True Story)

FADE IN:

MONTAGE - JASON GOES TO THE HOSPITAL

SLOW MOTION, MOS, TENSION-BUILDING SCORE PLAYS

-- EXT. AERIAL VIEW, TEMPE, AZ STREET - NIGHT - Ambulance with flashing lights races down street.

-- INT. AMBULANCE -- Two Paramedics work on JASON, 19, a college student, computer geek and musician.

-- INT. BEDROOM - JASON'S HOME - EARLIER - JASON lies face up on his bed. His mother CAROL, late 40s, calls his name and gently shakes him, trying to wake him. He's unresponsive. She quickly grows despondent.

-- EXT. HOSPITAL ER ENTRANCE - NIGHT - PRESENT -- Ambulance pulls up. Driver jumps out and runs to the back of the rig. At the same time, ER staff emerges from the sliding glass doors.

-- INT. BEDROOM - EARLIER -- CAROL is on the phone. Her free hand grabs a handful of her hair. Panic grips her face.

-- INT. ER RESUSCITATION AREA -- ER staff works feverishly on JASON. A PHYSICIAN shines a small flashlight into JASON's eyes. The doctor shakes his head and has the team prepare to intubate.

-- INT. ER LOBBY -- CAROL runs to check-in desk and asks where her son is. JASON's father BRUCE, early 50s, is at her side.

-- INT. CAT SCAN ROOM -- JASON's prone body glides into CAT scan machine.

-- INT. EXAM ROOM -- Physician looks at CAT SCAN IMAGES of JASON's brain on computer screen.

-- INT. ER LOBBY -- The physician fills CAROL and BRUCE in on JASON's condition. BRUCE, a stoic man, closes his eyes, takes a breath and holds it while CAROL grabs her face in her hands and breaks down.

## TRANSITION INTO DREAMTIME REALITY

INT. JASON'S ROOM IN ICU

The sound of the breathing machine's artificial INHALE and EXHALE and the rapid BEEPING of the heart monitor creep into the soundtrack.

-- JASON's body lies perfectly still. Snippets of distant conversations interspersed with white noise create a feeling of chaos.

-- A flash of white light momentarily blanks out hospital room.

-- JASON's slack, unnaturally pale face shows no sign of life.

-- Another flash of light leaves an imprint of whiteness on the room.

-- The chaotic ambient sounds build in volume and intensity. The whiteness becomes denser and begins to swirl creating a wormhole effect. The increasing sensory tension gives way to a POP.

BLACK SCREEN

BUZZING interrupts the darkness.

DREAMTIME REALITY

FADE IN

A blurry line of white light appears in the distance. The line quickly comes into focus and expands into a curved three-dimensional grid that's moving past as if we're flying above it.

Ahead in the distance is a BRILLIANT WHITE LIGHT.

The buzzing grows faint and is replaced by the sound of the breathing machine. The grid movement stops. Turning around we see the dim light of the hospital room in the distance floating in the darkness.

Instantly we're transported to the hospital room viewing JASON's body, which is surrounded by a very faint light.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

A NURSE is making adjustments to JASON's IV drip. Her body is surrounded by a bright aura of fuzzy white light.

JASON (V.O.)

Am I dead?

JASON's parents enter the hospital room. Their bodies are also outlined with bright white auras. BRUCE kisses JASON's forehead and quietly talks with the NURSE.

CAROL smooths JASON's hair.

CAROL

Jason honey, can you hear me?

JASON (V.O.)

Mom! I can hear you! I'm right here.

CAROL

(tearful)

Please wake up.

We see JASON standing at the foot of the hospital bed looking at his parents and his body.

CAROL (CONT'D)

You're gonna be okay. You can make it.

JASON

Mom, I'm right here. I'm right next to you.

JASON's only sister ABBY, mid 20s, and her boyfriend TIM, late 20s, are in the hallway outside JASON's room looking in through a window. ABBY is distraught; TIM looks uncomfortable.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

BRUCE hugs ABBY.

ABBY  
What happened?

BRUCE  
He lost consciousness. The doctors  
don't know what's wrong.

JASON sees ABBY and TIM through the window. Their bodies  
also emit a glow. He's instantly transported to them.

ABBY  
Was he in an accident?

BRUCE  
No, no. Your mom couldn't wake him up.

ABBY  
It doesn't make any sense...

JASON  
(Overlapping)  
Abby?

ABBY  
...I just talked to him.

JASON  
(louder)  
Abby!

ABBY  
Can I see him?

JASON  
Shit.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON, holding his head in his hands, sits in a chair at  
the end of the hospital bed where his body lays. Days and  
nights pass quickly around him. Hospital staff and family  
members come and go.

JASON notices some staff have bright white auras  
surrounding them while others have only a whisper of light.  
The brightly lit people show more caring.

He hears bits and pieces of conversations.

VARIOUS MEDICAL STAFF (V.O.)  
Encephalitis...very concerning...  
brain damage...spinal meningitis...  
persistent vegetative state.

JASON, still seated, covers his ears with his hands and grits his teeth.

He slips back into darkness; the hospital room recedes. Far behind him we see the silver glimmer of ocean waves reflecting the distant bright white light we saw earlier.

JASON's gaze is a million miles away.

WENDY (O.S.)  
Excuse me...

His eyes move slightly.

WENDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Jason?

He looks up and sees WENDY, a slender woman in her late 30s with long tousled hair, standing next to him. Her dreambody is outlined with a subtle indigo light.

The hospital room comes back into the foreground.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

WENDY  
Hi...How's it going?

JASON squints as if trying to squeeze the confusion out of his head. Uncertainty clouds his expression. He gestures to his body on the hospital bed as if to say, "You have to ask?"

WENDY (CONT'D)  
Are you Jason?

JASON hesitates and then offers a suspicious nod.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
I'm Wendy...Your sister's dating my  
brother.

JASON stares at her blankly.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
Your family asked me to visit you.

JASON struggles to make sense of WENDY's words.

JASON  
None of this makes sense. I don't know  
what's happening to me.

WENDY moves closer and kneels beside JASON.

WENDY  
You're in a coma.

They're distracted by commotion in the hospital room.  
JASON's attention shifts to his body where medical staff  
swarm around it. His family is ushered out of the room.

JASON  
That doesn't look good.

WENDY  
That's why we're here.

JASON  
We?

WENDY  
(jokes)  
Yeah, me and my invisible friends.

Two figures appear at WENDY's side: RAVENTALKER, An Indian woman who strongly resembles WENDY and appears at times to be half human and half raven. She has a thick horizontal stripe of black paint covering her eyes.

And OSHIRA, a female non-human spirit whose robed body is made of swirling iridescent light.

WENDY

This is Raventalker. She's my ancestor.

RAVENTALKER nods a greeting. JASON nods in response. His eyes reveal his disbelief.

WENDY (CONT'D)

And this is Oshira. She's never been human.

As JASON focuses on her, a ribbon of violet light radiates from OSHIRA and surrounds him in an embrace. His body relaxes.

JASON

Man, this is bizarre.

WENDY

This is the part of the story when the cavalry arrives.

WENDY notices that JASON's focus slips as he struggles to understand what's happening.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Jason?

He takes a breath and looks at her.

WENDY (CONT'D)

These are my spirit helpers. They're powerful healers. They can help you through this if you want. But it's your decision.

JASON

I think it's too late.

WENDY

Maybe...maybe not.

JASON

My body's too damaged. I heard the doctors. There's no way I can pull out of this. They're talking carrots and celery.



Wendy squints at Jason trying to understand what he means.

WENDY

You lost me.

JASON

(agitated)

A vegetable. They're saying I'm gonna be a vegetable.

WENDY

Look, they're grasping at straws. They don't know what's going on with you. You probably know more than they do right now.

JASON looks at his body, which is pale and strangely still.

JASON

I don't want to go back in there.

WENDY

I've seen my helpers work some serious magic when people want to heal. You just have to say the word.

JASON

This is one fucked up dream.

JASON covers his face with his hands and shakes his head.

JASON (CONT'D)

But okay, why not.

(looks at WENDY)

Let's do it. Maybe magic is the only thing that can get me out of this mess.

INT. TIM AND ABBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

TIM sits on a couch. He types on a laptop that sits on a coffee table in front of him. The words appear on the screen: "wendy, i know..."

TIM (V.O.)

I know dad called you this morning and asked if you could help out Abby's brother Jason. We're all pretty freaked out. Here's what happened...

FLASHBACK - INT. LIVING ROOM, JASON'S HOME

JASON lies on the couch under blankets shaking. CAROL sits beside him and tries to get him to drink some water.

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Last week he wasn't feeling well. Had flu symptoms and felt really tired...

FLASHBACK CONT. - INT. JASON'S BEDROOM

CAROL tries to wake JASON.

CAROL

Jason, honey, wake up. You're scaring me.

JASON moans.

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Last Sunday, no one could wake him so they called 9-1-1. He had a high fever and his blood pressure was erratic. Then by Tuesday his vitals leveled out and he...

FLASHBACK CONT. - EXT. JASON'S HOUSE

An ambulance sits in the driveway. Paramedics slide a stretcher holding JASON into the back of the rig.

INT. TIM'S LIVING ROOM

TIM continues to type on his laptop. The words appear on the screen: "...a deep coma..."

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...slipped into a deep coma. The doctors think he has a viral infection in his brain stem. If the brain stem is

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
damaged he might not be able to wake  
up.

FLASHBACK - INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM

JASON lays motionless on hospital bed. The room is empty.  
The only sounds are the breathing machine and heart  
monitor.

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
It's really scary to think how fragile  
life can be. I'll try to call you  
tomorrow.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. TIM'S LIVING ROOM

TIM finishes typing. The words appear on the screen: "love,  
tim." He moves the cursor to the send button and CLICKS.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

An Indian man, MOVES LIKE CAT, looks at JASON's body lying  
on the bed. His bare chest is covered by a bone  
breastplate; Stripes of red and white war paint mark his  
face. Next to him is a BUFFALO.

JASON, standing at the end of his bed, looks incredulous  
and gestures to the Indian and buffalo. WENDY smiles.

MOVES LIKE CAT begins a haunting chant.

JASON's eyes suddenly tear up in response.

RAVENTALKER shapeshifts into a Raven and OSHIRA shrinks to  
a pinpoint of light and they fly into JASON's body.

WENDY  
They're gonna check you out. See what's  
wrong.

She closes her eyes and tunes in to OSHIRA and RAVENTALKER.

WENDY

They found some kind of parasite or virus in you. I can see thousands of what looks like...tiny black bugs in your spine.

JASON

Bugs?

WENDY

They want to use salt water...saline to kill the parasite or whatever it is.

MOVES LIKE CAT begins a new, more intense chant. His voice sounds commanding. He raises his face and arms to the ceiling.

JASON

(whispers)

Who's that guy?

WENDY

I'm guessing he's your spirit helper.  
I've never seen him before.

An undulating dark cloud appears above JASON's hospital bed. It starts to rain on JASON's body.

JASON

It's raining in my hospital room.

WENDY

It's a healing rain...  
(glances at JASON.)  
...If you think that's crazy, wait 'til  
you see what's coming.

A LOW RUMBLE churns and the wall behind the bed starts to shake. The rumble grows thunderous until the wall breaks open and releases a flood of water over the bed.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Sea water.

The water rushes through JASON's body, washing away millions of tiny black particles.

The Raven and the pinpoint of light emerge from JASON's body and form back into RAVENTALKER and OSHIRA. RAVENTALKER looks at JASON and gestures to his body lying inert on the bed.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Ready?

JASON

If I don't go back in my body, what'll happen to me?

WENDY looks at her helping spirits and then at JASON.

WENDY

Your body will die.

JASON

Couldn't I just hang out here and wait until they find a cure for the virus?

RAVENTALKER

Your body needs you to survive.

JASON

But...if that's me over there...  
(gestures to the hospital bed)  
...then who am I?

OSHIRA

Jason's dreambody. The you I am talking with right now is only one aspect of your soul. The entirety of your soul...

RAVENTALKER

(points to the sky)  
Your Oversoul.

OSHIRA

...decided before you were born to have this experience.

RAVENTALKER

You don't remember right now, but this is all part of your Oversoul's plan.

JASON

That's so messed up.

WENDY

I know it's hard to believe.

JASON

It's hard to believe because it makes no sense. Why would anyone plan for something bad to happen to them?

OSHIRA

This will all be made clear soon. For now, you have to decide if you want to live out the rest of your life as Jason or if you wish to fully transition to the world of spirit.

JASON reluctantly eyes his limp, soggy body.

OSHIRA

No matter what you decide, you'll be fine.

JASON

I don't want to die.

MOVES LIKE CAT (O.S.)

You're a warrior, young one.

The Indian approaches JASON.

MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)

And you still have important work to do.

Their eyes lock.

MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)

(gestures to the BUFFALO)

We will help you.

The BUFFALO steps toward JASON and snorts; he turns around and runs full speed towards the bed, leaps into the air and merges with JASON's body as if jumping into a lake.

JASON moves to the side of the bed. He looks at WENDY and the others before slipping inside his body.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON is alone, lying still in his hospital bed. The beeping of the heart monitor SPEEDS UP. His eyes open briefly for the first time and then close again.

ABBY and TIM enter the room.

ABBY

Hey, little bro! How are you doing today?

No response. JASON's body is motionless. ABBY starts tickling his chin, trying to get a reaction out of him. Moments later JASON moves his chin.

ABBY

Did you see that?

TIM

Yeah! Do it again.

ABBY continues tickling JASON's chin. This time there's no movement. ABBY looks discouraged.

TIM (CONT'D)

Maybe it was just a coincidence.

ABBY

No. He moved his chin. You saw it.

JASON opens his eyes and looks directly at ABBY. Seconds later he closes them.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Jason! Can you hear me? Open your eyes again!

TIM

Call your parents.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

The hospital room is silent except for the sound of the breathing machine. JASON'S BODY looks like it's sleeping.

JASON flies out of his body looking panicked.

JASON  
I can't do it!

He seats himself in his usual chair at the foot of the hospital bed and talks to himself. He's having an anxiety attack.

JASON (CONT'D)  
It's all wrong! It's all wrong! I can't breathe! I can't move. I don't -

JASON stiffens. He senses something or someone.

JASON (CONT'D)  
Who's there?  
(quickly shifts gaze back and forth)  
Come on. You're freakin' me out.

A white life preserver with S.O.S. written in red flies out of the darkness and lands at JASON's feet. The BUFFALO enters from the same direction.

BUFFALO  
(speaks with Scottish accent)  
There you were...  
(with a thespian's flare)  
...drowning in a sea of worry.

JASON looks at the life preserver.

BUFFALO (CONT'D)  
Just trying to lighten things up a bit.

JASON  
You're a smartass.

BUFFALO  
That offends me. I'm not an ass. I'm a buffalo.  
(bows his head)



BUFFALO (CONT'D)  
Permit me to introduce myself. My name  
is Bill.

JASON  
Buffalo Bill?

BUFFALO BILL nods and snorts.

JASON (CONT'D)  
Maybe I've gone insane.

BUFFALO BILL  
Do you remember me?

JASON  
Can't say I do.

BUFFALO BILL  
I used to visit you when you were  
shorter.

FLASHBACK - EXT. BACKYARD SANDBOX

JASON sees himself as a two-year-old playing with a truck  
in the sandbox, chatting away with BUFFALO BILL as if it  
were the most natural thing in the world. JASON's eyes  
register the memory.

END OF FLASHBACK

BUFFALO BILL  
I'm here to help you.

JASON  
How?

BUFFALO BILL moves close to JASON and looks deep  
into his eyes.

BUFFALO BILL  
Where's your trust? I don't see it  
anywhere.

JASON  
Trust in what?

BUFFALO BILL

A flower never wonders if it will  
bloom.

BUFFALO BILL vanishes. In the distance JASON notices the  
bright light again.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME  
REALITY

Time moves quickly around JASON. He leans against the wall  
and people-watches. He's mesmerized by the different  
qualities of auras surrounding the people who pass him.

One FEMALE NURSE in her 30s stands out to him. Her white  
aura shines brightly and she always seems happy and focused  
on her job.

He also notices a young heavysset female LICENSED NURSING  
ASSISTANT whose aura is so dim it's as though her body is  
in shadow. Her expression is tight and her eyes dull. She  
rushes through her tasks and frequently checks her watch,  
annoyed with how slowly the time is going.

He glides back into his hospital room.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON watches his family keep vigil over his body. The days  
and nights become a blur.

WENDY suddenly appears in JASON's hospital room.

WENDY

Hi Jason.

JASON

You're back.

WENDY

How are you doing?

JASON

I don't know. I guess a little better.  
I've been in and out of my body. Can't  
stay in it for too long. It feels  
claustrophobic.

WENDY

I hear ya.

JASON

I hate doing this to my family.

WENDY

Shitty situation, I know. Certainly an opportunity for growth for everyone involved.

JASON

How the hell does my being in a coma lead to my family's growth?

WENDY

Going through a crisis pushes you into new emotional territory...puts spiritual hair on your chest.

JASON

Nice spin. So, how did you end up here?

WENDY

Your family asked me to -

JASON

No, no...I mean...literally...

(waves his arms)

How did you get here?

WENDY closes her eyes.

WENDY

Listen.

JASON listens, but hears nothing.

WENDY (CONT'D)

No. Behind me.

He hears a faint MONOTONOUS DRUMBEAT.

WENDY (CONT'D)

You hear it?

JASON

Yeah.

JASON (CONT'D)  
(surprised)  
I do.

WENDY  
That's how I got here. I just followed  
the sound until I found you.

JASON  
Where's it coming from?

WENDY  
New Jersey.

JASON  
Of course...New Jersey. I have gone  
insane. Do you think a large  
straitjacket would do the trick?

WENDY  
I think they're one-size-fits-all.

JASON  
That's not helpful.

WENDY smiles and nods as if to say, "I know."

WENDY  
Right now, my body is lying on my bed  
in my house, which unfortunately  
happens to be in New Jersey.

JASON  
You're a real person?

WENDY  
Nutty, I know.

JASON lets out a nervous laugh.

BUFFALO BILL appears briefly in the shadows behind JASON.  
He's eavesdropping.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
It's like I'm dreaming while I'm awake.  
I'm creating a bridge with my  
consciousness between the dreamtime,

WENDY (CONT'D)

where we are right now, and physical reality...where you're in a hospital in Arizona and I'm in a trance in Jersey.

JASON points to WENDY and then himself.

JASON

So, this is a dream. It's not real.

WENDY

It's highly possible that physical reality is an illusion. The more time I spend in the dreamtime, the more I realize that reality is...well, it's complicated. There's lots of layers to it. The physical reality we're all so attached to is not all there is.

JASON looks overwhelmed.

JASON

I don't know what's real anymore. It's one thing to wax poetic about reality in a philosophy class, but actually spending extended periods of time in this limbo hell state is...I don't have words to describe how fucked up it is.

WENDY

I can't imagine what you're going through.

JASON looks at his body and shakes his head.

JASON

I wouldn't wish this on anyone.

BUFFALO BILL steps into the scene, startling WENDY.

WENDY

Whoa. Where'd you come from?

BUFFALO BILL stands in front of WENDY and looks deeply into her eyes examining the shape of her soul.

WENDY realizes that he's checking her out and relaxes into his gaze allowing him access.

After a several intense moments, he steps back and snorts. BUFFALO BILL addresses JASON.

BUFFALO BILL  
She's for real.

WENDY  
That's a relief.

BUFFALO BILL  
Show him how you came to be a  
Dream Walker.

WENDY  
Dream Walker?

BUFFALO BILL  
A shaman.

WENDY  
I'm not a shaman.

BUFFALO BILL lets out an impatient sigh.

BUFFALO BILL  
You walk between the worlds to serve  
others, am I right?

WENDY  
Yeah, that sums it up.

BUFFALO BILL  
Show Jason how you were called to be a  
Dream Walker. It'll help him understand  
who you are.

WENDY  
Okay, if you think it'll help.

BUFFALO BILL nods. WENDY's eyes shift to the right as she recounts her tale.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
It was about three years ago...

FLASHBACK - INT. MEETING ROOM, RUSTIC CABIN, DAY, UPSTATE NY, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY is sitting in a circle of about thirty people. On the floor in the center of the circle is a make-shift altar filled with sacred objects (e.g. statues, stones, crystals, etc) and a candle. A frame drum and rattle sit on the floor next to the altar.

HANK, a Caucasian man in his early 60s, is the instructor. He has salt-and-pepper hair, a goatee, and is wearing an Aloha shirt. HANK talks animatedly to the group.

WENDY (V.O.)

My husband had enrolled me in a week-long shamanic training program for my birthday...

WENDY listens to HANK attentively. Her expression registers deep understanding.

WENDY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Everything I learned that week... about the different aspects of the soul... about healing...it was like all the pieces came together for me...

FLASHBACK - INT. SAME MEETING ROOM, NIGHT, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY is kneeling in front of an ILL WOMAN in her 50s who's lying on a blanket on the floor. Candlelight warms the dark room. The altar seen earlier is behind the ILL WOMAN's head. Sitting on the edge of the altar is a wooden bowl filled with water.

WENDY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The night before the program ended we performed a healing ceremony for one of the women in the group who was very ill. Funny thing...even though I had no freakin' clue what I was doing I found my hand up in the air when the teacher asked for a volunteer to assist in the healing.

The rest of the group stands in a wide circle around the ILL WOMAN and WENDY. They're holding frame drums and rattles. HANK is kneeling opposite WENDY.

The group begins to DRUM and RATTLE a rapid monotonous rhythm in unison.

Not knowing what to do, WENDY looks to HANK for direction. He just smiles at her, nods as if to say "let's do this," and then closes his eyes. So WENDY closes her eyes too.

Still kneeling, WENDY takes several deep breaths. The sound of the drums intensifies.

A surge of power runs up WENDY's spine causing her back to arch slightly. Her head falls forward and then rolls to the side and to center again. Two more surges of power shoot up her spine. At the end of the second surge her eyes open and roll upwards.

WENDY's teeth grit in response and her breaths come in heaves.

HANK cups his hands over the ILL WOMAN's stomach and blows into his hands three times. HANK recedes into the background and watches WENDY.

#### PHYSICAL AND DREAMTIME REALITIES MERGE

The spirit of RAVENTALKER appears behind WENDY. She appraises the situation before merging with WENDY's body.

WENDY's body trembles with power. Her hands, which are sitting on her thighs, begin to tense. The thumb, pointer finger, and middle finger on each hand curl inward like talons.

Large shiny black wings spread from WENDY's back. WENDY's head and neck make subtle bird-like movements.

RAVENTALKER's face, with its mask of black eye paint, is superimposed over WENDY's face. WENDY's eyes open suddenly - only she's no longer WENDY. She's RAVENTALKER. Her eyes dart to the right. She surveys the people drumming and rattling. RAVENTALKER smiles mischievously. She's pleased to be in a body again.



RAVENTALKER/WENDY examines the ILL WOMAN. She runs her hand about two inches over the ILL WOMAN's body, stopping at the solar plexus. Like a bird, RAVENTALKER/WENDY tilts her head with a jerk to the right and then juts her face forward as if she's just discovered something interesting in the ILL WOMAN's solar plexus.

One of the drummers in the circle is watching RAVENTALKER/WENDY closely. She looks to her neighbor and gives him a "do you see what I see?" look. He shakes his head in disbelief and mouths the word "Wow."

The energy of the ILL WOMAN's solar plexus begins to vibrate like static. The static transforms into a putrid brownish-yellow bubbling puddle. Hundreds of slithering maggots emerge from the puddle.

Using WENDY's hands, RAVENTALKER grabs the bowl of water sitting next to the altar and places it on the floor next to her. RAVENTALKER/WENDY reaches into the writhing pile of maggots and grabs a handful. She deftly places the maggots in the bowl of water. RAVENTALKER/WENDY continues this extraction process until the maggots are gone.

The ILL WOMAN's solar plexus is now a spinning disk of bright yellow light.

As the drumming slows, RAVENTALKER slips out of WENDY's body and disappears.

DREAMTIME REALITY FADES

WENDY's body relaxes and her eyes pop open. She looks sheepishly around the room at the stunned faces of her colleagues.

The yellow light in the ILL WOMAN's solar plexus fades, returning back to normal. The ILL WOMAN opens her eyes, places her hands on her belly and smiles.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON and BUFFALO BILL are deeply engrossed in WENDY's story. JASON's internal wheels are spinning as he wrestles with what he's just been privy to.

WENDY

After that night I knew my life would never be the same again.

BUFFALO BILL

And here you are...

WENDY

(smiles)

And here I am.

JASON

What's it like to have your body taken over like that?

WENDY

It's unnerving. And I feel a little used. No dinner... no foot rub... nothing. She just waltzes right in and makes herself at home.

BUFFALO BILL looks at WENDY strangely. And then sees she's joking.

BUFFALO BILL

(to JASON)

And you say I'm a smartass.

WENDY

The whole process definitely took some getting used to...When I relax into it, my Wendy-ness kinda takes a back seat...

(places her right hand above her head and to the right)

...and watches everything.

(beat)

That night, when it first happened, I didn't really know Raventalker. I'd just met her earlier that week during the training. But she was strangely familiar...I trusted her immediately.

BUFFALO BILL smirks at JASON in response to WENDY's last statement. JASON smiles and rolls his eyes.

WENDY (CONT'D)

I better get going. I'm late for work.  
I'll be back.

Before JASON could say anything, she disappears.

JASON

Must be nice to be able to come and go  
like that.

JASON looks at the floor and notices water pooling up.  
Panic grips him like he's a caged animal.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

BRUCE, CAROL and a doctor stand next to JASON's bed talking  
softly. JASON's body, still on the vent, convulses with  
silent coughs. His eyes and face grimace with terror.

DOCTOR

He has pneumonia. His immune system  
isn't strong enough.

BRUCE

What are you saying?

DOCTOR

He may not make it through the night.  
It's time to call your family.

CAROL

Oh my god, no!

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON flies out of his body, his eyes wide with  
panic. He stands next to the hospital bed. The  
water in his room is now up to his knees.

JASON

I-I'm dying.

The water is pouring into the room more quickly. The heart  
monitor speeds up in response.

JASON (CONT'D)

I don't want to die.

The water is up to his hips. He hears the faint drum in the distance and lets out a breath.

WENDY, RAVENTALKER and OSHIRA appear.

WENDY

Ever hear this one?...Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other...this taste funny to you?

JASON shoots WENDY a "are you kidding me?" look.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Get it? Cannibals eating a clown?  
Clowns are funny?

No reaction from JASON.

WENDY (CONT'D)

What? You don't like jokes?

JASON

First, maybe if I wasn't dying I'd find your joke funny. Second, I fucking hate clowns.

WENDY

Got it. No clowns.  
(looking down)  
Hey, where'd the water come from?

JASON

I'm not sure. I heard them say something about pneumonia.

WENDY

Maybe the water represents fluid in your lungs.

RAVENTALKER runs her feathered arms over JASON's body while softly chanting. Her voice sounds, at times, like a flute.

JASON

They say I won't make it through the night.

The light of OSHIRA's body swirls and brightens, creating a rich tone reminiscent of a Tibetan singing bowl. The swirling light and sound produce a white crystal staff in front of her.

OSHIRA puts the staff into the water and traces a two-foot square in the floor. The square falls away like a trap door and the water quickly drains from the room. The heart monitor slows down.

JASON

Thank you. The water was coming so fast.

RAVENTALKER

Your body is fighting a bad infection.  
But the worst is over.

WENDY

I know it's hard, but try not to listen to the doctors.

JASON

It's strange...just a little while ago  
I was completely freaked out. Now I  
feel strangely calm.

(looks at the HELPERS and smiles)  
You're good!

RAVENTALKER

Remember to laugh.

JASON

I know. I know. Eat a clown.

WENDY and the HELPERS vanish. JASON stands next to his body.

JASON (CONT'D)

(to his body)

We're going to pull through this. Death  
is not an option.

JASON slips back into his body.

INT. TIM AND ABBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM, PHYSICAL  
REALITY

TIM is reclined on the couch. He types on his laptop, which is sitting in his lap. The TV is on in the background.

TIM (V.O.)

Jason spent eight hours off the vent today! He's breathing on his own which means that his brain stem is better.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON's bed is propped up so that his body is sitting more upright. His eyes are closed.

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Abby told me that he's been responding to pain in his feet. A new development.

A doctor runs an instrument along the bottom of JASON's foot. JASON winces and pulls his foot back slightly.

INT. TIM AND ABBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

TIM continues typing his message to WENDY.

TIM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I'm just gonna keep repeating in my head 'Jason can make it happen.' We'll see. Peace out sista.

MONTAGE - JASON'S DAYDREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. DESERT, DAY, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON is hiking with his GIRLFRIEND in the desert on a clear sunny day. They stop at the top of a ridge overlooking the vast desert landscape. JASON pulls deeply from a water bottle.

Eyes closed, he points his face to the sun and soaks up its warmth.

INT. JASON'S BEDROOM, NIGHT, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON is playing his keyboard. He's surrounded by recording equipment. A computer is on next to him. The music is electronic-industrial and sounds futuristic.

-- INT. JASON'S BEDROOM, NIGHT, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON's GIRLFRIEND sits on the edge of his bed. He walks over to her, grabs her face and kisses her deeply. He gently pushes her back on the bed and climbs on top of her.

A voice interrupts his daydream.

DOCTOR (O.S.)  
Your son never had pneumonia.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

The doctor is talking with JASON's parents.

JASON flies out of his body.

DOCTOR  
He had some heavy mucus plugs which we were able to suction out. But...

JASON  
Holy shit. The healing worked!

DOCTOR  
...he may have experienced irreversible damage...cerebral hemisphere...never wake up...vegetative state.

JASON  
No, no, no. You fuckers don't know what you're talking about!! I AM NOT a vegetable. I refuse to be a vegetable. Vegetables suck. YOU suck. Fucking prick.

MOVES LIKE CAT  
That's enough young one. You're carrying on as if your hair's on fire.

JASON

Did you hear what that asshole said? He  
said I'm toast. That's it. No more.  
Dead. Done.

BUFFALO BILL appears behind JASON. The bright light we've  
seen before is behind the BUFFALO, but it's much closer  
now. JASON ignores it.

BUFFALO BILL

Would you like some fries with your  
coffin?

JASON resists laughing. He sits in the chair and puts his  
head in his hands.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Humans these days give too much power  
to other humans. This is a dangerous  
thing.

JASON

So who am I supposed to give my power  
to...

(looks at BUFFALO BILL)

...the buffalo?

BUFFALO BILL snorts and turns away from JASON.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Among my people it was known that there  
are other forces at work in the  
universe. If you were sick you'd visit  
the medicine maker and she would  
commune with these forces to help you  
heal.

JASON

(agitated)

Forces? What forces?

MOVES LIKE CAT

The spirit of the wind, the sea, the  
rocks and trees. The heavens.



MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)

(gestures to the doctor speaking  
to JASON's parents)

The medicine makers of today have lost  
touch with these forces. To heal  
someone is a big job for a mere human.

JASON

Yeah, but look at all the advances  
we've made. Modern medicine has helped  
millions of people live long lives.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Is the goal of being human to live a  
long life?

The impact of the Indian's words hits JASON like cold  
water. He notices the bright light, and stares at it with  
dread.

MOVES LIKE CAT

What's driving your desire to get well,  
warrior friend...your fear of death or  
your love of life?

JASON

(still staring at the light)

I'm afraid to die.

(looks at his inert body)

But I'm afraid to live like that.  
Either way I'm a prisoner.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Death is a prison?

JASON

Who knows, but I'm in no hurry to find  
out.

WENDY appears behind JASON.

WENDY

You don't look so good.

JASON

(startled)

I didn't hear the drums.

WENDY

You were really hard to find this time.  
What's going on?

JASON

Things are looking a little grim.

MOVES LIKE CAT

He's been listening to the sour words  
of the medicine person.

WENDY

They obviously don't realize you can  
hear them. And it's probably impossible  
for you not to listen.

JASON

I'm sick of listening. I'm sick of  
thinking. I wish I could turn  
everything off.

BUFFALO BILL

Ah, but then you'd be dead...  
(cocks head to one side)  
...Or would you?

The sound of CHIMES and sudden movement pulls everyone's  
attention to the ceiling. The ceiling starts to swirl like  
liquid.

WENDY

Fasten your seatbelts.

A bright pinpoint of rose-colored light appears in the  
middle of the swirl. The fluid light expands to form the  
petals of a lotus flower.

An amorphous BEING OF LIGHT similar to OSHIRA descends from  
the center of the flower. It takes the shape of the  
archetypal WISE MAN.

The WISE MAN locks eyes with JASON. JASON shows a hint of  
confused recognition.

JASON

(whispers)  
I know you.

The WISE MAN smiles and gestures for JASON to come closer. JASON touches the WISE MAN's outstretched hand and the two shoot up through the center of the lotus.

They move like a comet through outer space, eventually breaking through a barrier of illuminated fog.

EXT. UPPER WORLD, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON takes in a crystalline city before him. He sees different colored ORBS OF LIGHT, souls, going about their business. The city is bathed in complex, but pleasing musical tones.

JASON  
I know this place.

WISE MAN  
Come. I want you to meet someone.

The WISE MAN leads JASON to a cluster of buildings that looks like a crystal honeycomb.

EXT. COURT YARD, HONEYCOMB PALACE, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON sees a glowing orb of bright white light with hints of yellow on its edge. It emanates a beautiful tone. JASON unconsciously moves closer to it.

His eyes fill with recognition and happy tears. It's his OVERSOUL.

The soft, airy male voice of his OVERSOUL speaks inside JASON's mind.

OVERSOUL  
Welcome home, Jason.

Within the OVERSOUL JASON sees the faces of many different humans, mostly males and a handful of females - each a different age, ethnicity, and from a different time in history - one face morphing into the next. The final face is his own.

His OVERSOUL becomes a mirror of JASON's current life - highlights from birth to the present flash before him. The image freezes on JASON's body lying in the hospital bed.

JASON's eyes reflect deep understanding.

JASON

That's what the Indian was trying to tell me...I've died lots of times already.

The WISE MAN smiles and nods.

JASON (CONT'D)

Everything's happening just as it should.

The WISE MAN touches JASON's crown with an explosion of bright light.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

The lotus in the ceiling is receding. JASON is in a daze.

WENDY

Intense?

JASON holds up his thumb and pointer finger in a "little bit" gesture. WENDY laughs.

MOVES LIKE CAT's eyes assess JASON. He nods with pride.

JASON moves toward BUFFALO BILL, smiles at him and runs his fingers through the kinky fur on top of his head. BUFFALO BILL snorts and nods.

INT. GROCERY STORE, PHYSICAL REALITY

TIM and ABBY are shopping. They're wandering down the frozen food aisle.

TIM

Cryogenics? Seriously?

ABBY

Yeah. He used to always talk about freezing his body. He was really into

ABBY (CONT'D)  
it. He's been petrified of death since  
he was little.

TIM stops and looks at ABBY.

TIM  
Are you guys thinking about freezing  
Jason?

ABBY  
(laughs)  
Ew, no! I just find Jason's whole  
interest in the subject really  
fascinating. Almost like he knew  
something bad was going to happen to  
him.

TIM  
That is a little strange. Do you want  
ice cream?

ABBY  
(nods)  
Just a pint.

TIM  
Maybe Ben and Jerry's will come out  
with a Walt Disney flavor.

ABBY looks at him crooked.

TIM (CONT'D)  
You never heard the urban legend that  
Walt Disney had his body frozen?  
(picks up a pint)  
Look...Disney Sorbet.

ABBY  
That's gross. How about just plain  
vanilla?

TIM  
(flashes a cheesy smile)  
Chocolate Walt Chip.

ABBY  
(ignores him)  
Maybe you should tell Wendy about  
Jason's fear of death.

TIM looks at her uneasily.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
What?

TIM  
I love my sister and all, but don't you  
think you're giving her shaman stuff a  
little too much credence? I mean, if  
what she's doing is for real, wouldn't  
Jason be better by now?

ABBY  
(defensive)  
I don't know. Maybe. But I feel like  
Wendy's the only real connection we  
have to him.

TIM  
I just don't want you to get your hopes  
up.

ABBY  
Are you kidding me? Hope's the only  
thing keeping me going right now.

TIM  
Never mind. Forget I said anything.

ABBY shoots TIM a 'yeah right' look.

ABBY  
(not asking, but telling him)  
I think you should let Wendy know about  
Jason's fear of death.

TIM  
I'll call her when we get home.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

WENDY is visiting with JASON in his hospital room. They're sitting in chairs at the foot of the hospital bed.

WENDY

You look a lot better today.

JASON

I've felt much more peaceful since the the Bright Man was here. I just wanna hold on to what he showed me, but I don't think I can.

WENDY

What gets in the way?

JASON

I dunno...fear, I guess. It's hard not to look at my situation -

JASON looks at his body.

JASON (CONT'D)

- and not lose my shit. The more freaked I get, the less peaceful I feel.

WENDY

The word on the street is that you have a pretty big fear of death.

JASON

Big's an understatement. I've been terrified since I was little.

WENDY

Your family's terrified right now...So I was thinking that it'd be cool if you could give me some information to pass on to your parents so that they'll know I'm really connecting with you. Stuff that only they would know about you.

JASON

Good idea.

WENDY closes her eyes. She receives a quick succession of information.

INT. WENDY'S BEDROOM - NEW JERSEY, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY is lying on her bed. The sound of recorded monotonous shamanic drumbeats can be heard in the background.

An image of strawberries and JASON's smiling mom, CAROL, appears in her mind's eye.

WENDY  
(to herself)  
Strawberries.

WENDY's eyes open wide for a moment and she appears as though she can't breathe.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
Panic attack.

She hears JASON speak in her mind.

JASON (O.S.)  
Quantum mind.

WENDY covers her heart with her hand and immediately sits up.

WENDY  
What the hell was that?

She gets up in a hurry. Turns off the stereo.

INT. WENDY'S LIVING-DINING ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY is at her computer desk composing an email to TIM. She's struggling to remember all the information she received.

WENDY stops typing and talks to herself, ticking off the things she recounts with her fingers.

WENDY  
(holds out her thumb)  
Strawberries and Jason's mom.  
(adds her pointer finger)  
Panic attacks.  
(adds middle finger)



WENDY (CONT'D)

Some kind of funky heartbeat.  
...There was something else. Shit,  
what was the other thing?

WENDY closes her eyes and concentrates.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Quantum something. Yeah.  
Quantum...physics? No, that's not it.  
Quantum...Leap? Maybe he was telling me  
about the TV show.

Satisfied, she resumes typing.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

ABBY has just finished reading WENDY's email to CAROL.

CAROL

I think the heart flutter Wendy picked  
up on is Jason's T-Wave Inversion. I  
don't know if you remember, but he was  
diagnosed with it when he was about 15.

ABBY

Uh huh, I remember.

CAROL

When he was first admitted here last  
month the doctors were really concerned  
that something was wrong with his heart  
until I told them about the T-Wave.

ABBY

I think the panic attack refers to  
Jason's fear of dying.

CAROL

Yeah. I remember his fear of death  
started when he was really little...he  
must have been four years old. He used  
to cry and cry that he was gonna die  
some day.

CAROL casts a heavy look on JASON's body.

CAROL (CONT'D)

Nothing seemed to ease his fear.

(looks back at ABBY)

You know Jason wanted to freeze his head so that if died he could come back when a cure was found. I feel like in a way he kind of froze his head now and is trying to come back.

ABBY

It's funny. We were just talking about his fascination with cryogenics.

(beat)

And the strawberries totally make sense.

CAROL

(Smiles)

Yeah. He always loved my strawberry shortcake.

ABBY

What about Quantum Leap?

CAROL

We used to watch that show, but I didn't think it made any kind of impression on him. He was so young at the time.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON sits in his usual chair eavesdropping on ABBY and CAROL's conversation. He shakes his head.

JASON

That's not what I said.

JASON sees something dart across the room and hears the drumbeat announcing WENDY's arrival. WENDY, OSHIRA, and RAVENTALKER appear.

WENDY

Hey, Jason! How's it going?

Four HUMMINGBIRDS buzz around JASON's body. They stick their beaks in his chest and start sucking fluid out.

JASON  
(more to himself than WENDY)  
Small birds have impaled my chest.

JASON focuses back on WENDY, who listens intently.

JASON (CONT'D)  
Like if I start thinking that  
this...you, them...  
(gestures to the HELPERS and  
HUMMINGBIRDS)  
...are real. Then I think I might lose  
what's left of my mind.  
(sighs)  
My mind must be creating all this  
because I'm sick. Like when you have a  
high fever and hallucinate.

WENDY  
You know, when it comes down to it I  
don't think it really matters how you  
make sense of all this. I mean as long  
as you focus on doing what you have to  
do to get better, it doesn't matter how  
you get there.

JASON looks at the HUMMINGBIRDS.

JASON  
You gotta admit though...this is some  
crazy shit!

WENDY  
Maybe I'll write a book about all of  
this some day. Or a screenplay.

JASON  
Nobody'd believe it.

WENDY  
Yeah, you're probably right.

JASON  
By the way, you screwed up the message.

WENDY

What message?

JASON

I didn't say Quantum Leap. I said Quantum Mind.

WENDY

Shit, you're right. That's what it was! You gave me so much information so quickly that the phrase slipped away from me. Sorry about that.

JASON

You know it's stuff like that that really messes me up.

WENDY

Stuff like what?

JASON

If I'm making all this up, how did my mom and sister know what I told you?

WENDY

Gosh, I don't know. Maybe you pulled off some kind of crazy quantum leap thing, Scott Bakula-style...

JASON rolls his eyes.

WENDY (CONT'D)

...Or, hey, I have an idea. Maybe it was the email I sent them letting them know what you told me...Yeah, it could've been the email.

JASON

Is everyone in coma-land a smartass?

WENDY

I have no idea what you're talking about.

A somber RAVENTALKER approaches JASON.

RAVENTALKER

Your body's in limbo. Your doubt is giving it mixed messages.

JASON looks confused and concerned.

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

The longer you remain unclear and avoid your body, the longer you'll be in this in-between state. Your body will eventually break down and make the decision for you.

JASON looks at his body. He looks sick to his stomach.

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

Remember what the Bright Man showed you. No matter what happens, you'll get through this.

INT. WENDY'S LIVING/DINING ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY is at the computer. She types "quantum mind" in Google and hits enter. She's shocked to see over 600,000 results.

She clicks on the first result. The University of Arizona, coincidentally where WENDY received her B.A., has a Quantum Mind division.

She clicks on a second link and reads.

WENDY

Holy shit.

She immediately picks up the phone and dials TIM.

INT. BMW SERVICE DEPARTMENT, SCOTTSDALE, PHYSICAL REALITY

TIM is hunched over the engine of a car he's working on. His cell phone rings.

He looks at the caller ID, smiles and answers.

TIM  
Helloooo to you.

INTERCUT - TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

WENDY  
Is this Tim, topnotch mechanic guy?

TIM  
I'm an auto technician.

WENDY  
You should consider being a mechanic. I think you'd be good at it.

TIM  
You give the best career advice.

WENDY  
It comes naturally. That's not actually why I called...I called to tell you that I'm a knucklehead.

TIM  
And?

WENDY  
I botched the message from Jason last time I saw him. But today he set me straight. He didn't say quantum leap, he said quantum mind.

TIM  
What's that?

TIM looks impatient, but doesn't let it come through in his tone.

WENDY  
I'd never heard the phrase before either. But I did a search online and found out that it's an actual science that examines the link between quantum physics and consciousness.

TIM

(plays along)

That's pretty cool.

WENDY

It gets better. There's a website listing books written by this couple in Oregon. One of the books is called *Quantum Mind*. It links physics, psychology, and shamanism. Trippy, right?

TIM

Definitely.

She scrolls down the page. Her eyes get big.

WENDY

No way.

(a chill runs up her spine)

Check this out. I just scrolled down the page and found another book they wrote. This one's called *Coma: A Healing Journey: A Guide for Family, Friends and Helpers*. It's a book about how to communicate with people in a coma.

TIM looks genuinely surprised.

TIM

...Are you serious?

WENDY

Couldn't make this shit up.

TIM

Send me the link.

WENDY

I'm on it. You better get back to work, you big slacker.

TIM

(like an eight-year-old)

You're a big slacker. Hey, there's one more thing...

WENDY

What slacker?

TIM

Dad loves me more.

WENDY

That's because he feels sorry for you.

TIM laughs.

TIM

Bye.

TIM shakes his head and hangs up. His expression tells us that his skepticism is starting to melt away.

INT. MOUNTAINSIDE CAVE, DREAMTIME REALITY

A seven-year-old version of JASON, LITTLE JASON, is curled in a ball against the wall of a cave. He's dirty, pale, and afraid. LITTLE JASON sees the silhouettes of two people at the entrance of the cave.

LITTLE JASON

Go away. You're not real.

A flash of firelight reveals RAVENTALKER, who's holding a lighted torch, and WENDY.

WENDY

Jason. It's okay. We're not going to hurt you.

(looks around)

Wow, this is a scary place.

LITTLE JASON tucks his head under his arms as if the sky is about to fall on him.

RAVENTALKER nods to WENDY. WENDY closes her eyes.

A few moments pass and then out of the darkness steps MAMA, an old heavyset Inuit woman. She's dressed in light-colored animal skins and her long white hair is braided.

MAMA goes to LITTLE JASON, kneels, and puts her arms around him.



MAMA  
(whispers)  
I'm here.

She rocks and sings a soft lullaby. By the end of the song  
LITTLE JASON is sitting in her lap.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
Do you like magic, little one?

LITTLE JASON looks up at her and nods.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
I'm going to show you some magic.

MAMA closes her eyes; her mouth spreads into a toothless  
grin. The dank cave morphs into the interior of a cozy log  
cabin warmed by firelight and bearskin rugs.

LITTLE JASON  
How'd you do that?

MAMA  
With wishes. This place can be whatever  
you want it to be. Go ahead and try it.  
Start with something simple...How about  
a tree? Close your eyes and think of a  
beautiful tree.

JASON closes his eyes.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
Imagine climbing your magic tree and  
whispering in its ear. What does the  
tree say?

JASON opens his eyes to see a magnificent oak tree in the  
middle of the cabin.

LITTLE JASON  
You did that. It's a trick.

MAMA  
(laughs)  
Oh, you think so, eh? Try it again by  
yourself. Just make a wish and imagine  
how you'll feel when it comes true.

JASON closes his eyes again and concentrates. Within seconds JASON is surrounded by the towering figures of SPIDERMAN, WOLVERINE, a RED POWER RANGER and the ALIEN from the movie *ET*.

JASON opens his eyes.

LITTLE JASON

It worked!  
(with pride)  
They're here to protect me.

MAMA

Protect you from what, little one?

JASON bites his lower lip. He's afraid to say the answer out loud.

MAMA gives him an encouraging nod.

LITTLE JASON

(in a small voice)

Dying.

MAMA

I see. You're afraid to die.

LITTLE JASON nods.

MAMA (CONT'D)

Is that how you ended up here?

He nods again.

LITTLE JASON

I saw something bad. And then I had scary dreams that something bad was going to happen to me too.

MAMA strokes LITTLE JASON's head.

MAMA

That does sound scary.

MAMA lifts JASON's chin so that he's looking into her eyes.

MAMA (CONT'D)

But death is nothing to be frightened of, little one. When your body dies your spirit goes home. And when you get there everyone throws a big party in your honor!

LITTLE JASON

Like a birthday party?

MAMA

Better than a birthday party! All your spirit friends welcome you home and celebrate how brave you were when you were alive.

JASON smiles at the thought.

MAMA (CONT'D)

That doesn't sound very scary, does it?

JASON shakes his head.

MAMA (CONT'D)

Now...how about some more magic? What else would make you happy right now?

JASON closes his eyes again. The cabin morphs into an amusement park. He climbs out of MAMA's lap and the RED POWER RANGER grabs his hand.

MAMA (CONT'D)

Have fun, little one. And remember...

JASON stops and looks at her.

MAMA (CONT'D)

(with a smile and a wink)

...be careful what you wish for.

JASON and his superhero entourage take off for the Ferris wheel.

WENDY bows her head slightly to MAMA.

WENDY

Thank you.

MAMA gums a smile and disappears.

RAVENTALKER

This is very good. Layer by layer he's  
healing his fear.

WENDY

You think he's ready for the next step?

RAVENTALKER

Let's find out.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON's bed is elevated so he's sitting upright. He's  
breathing on his own. His left arm and hand are beginning  
to fold inward towards his chest, in contorted positions.  
He looks alert.

ABBY is with him.

ABBY

You look good tonight, little bro.  
Really good. Kinda calm and chill.

He looks at her as if he understands.

ABBY (CONT'D)

How would you like to be my hero?... I  
know I'm a pain in the ass. I ask you  
every time I see you, but it would make  
me really happy if you would move your  
legs for me.

JASON looks away as if he's distracted or doesn't  
understand.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Just a little bit?

ABBY stares at his still legs.

ABBY (CONT'D)

You can do it. I know you can. I swear  
I'll stop asking if you do it just  
once. Just move your legs a little.

Ten long seconds later, JASON moves his legs.

ABBY (CONT'D)

You did it! Oh my god! Do it again Jay!  
Move your legs one more time.

JASON looks at her and moves his legs again.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

BUFFALO BILL is standing next to JASON's bed. JASON comes out of his body.

BUFFALO BILL

Hello Jason! Need a lifeguard?

JASON

Come on, Billy boy, I'm doing much better. I haven't taken a swim in the sea of anxiety in a long time. My worries have evolved. They've sprouted legs and crawled on to the shore of pain and discomfort.

BUFFALO BILL

Very poetic.

JASON

Thank you.

BUFFALO BILL

I'm happy to see that you're feeling better.

JASON

Me too.

BUFFALO BILL

(smiles)

Perhaps the worst is over.

JASON

On a good day, like today, I can see that in a twisted way my getting sick

JASON (CONT'D)  
has given me the chance to face my fear  
of death. Until I got sick I don't  
think I realized how much the fear was  
fucking with my life.

JASON hears the drums announcing WENDY's arrival.

JASON (CONT'D)  
Company's coming.

WENDY appears with ADAMSON, a white winged horse. Sitting  
on top of ADAMSON is THELONIUS MONKEY, a white-faced  
capuchin monkey.

JASON (CONT'D)  
I see you brought some new friends with  
you.

WENDY  
(gestures to ADAMSON)  
Yeah, this is Adamson...And this is  
Thelonious Monkey.

JASON  
(to THELONIUS)  
Jazz fan?

THELONIUS winks and smiles at JASON.

WENDY  
You ready for some hard-core healing?

JASON  
More hard-core than I've already been  
through?

WENDY  
Well, different. Deeper. If you're up  
for it we can catch your lost soul  
parts.

JASON  
What are you talking about?

WENDY

It's big medicine. During trauma people  
can lose parts of their soul.

JASON

Where do they go?

WENDY

They hide out in the spirit world...  
confused, lost.

JASON

Maybe I don't have any missing parts.

WENDY

You have at least one. We've already  
met him.

MAMA appears next to WENDY.

MAMA

Is it time to bring the little one  
home?

WENDY

Yup.

(to JASON)

Get some cookies and milk ready. We'll  
be back soon.

WENDY, MAMA, ADAMSON and THELONIUS MONKEY fly away in a  
stream of silvery light.

JASON

Cookies sound good.

The hospital room transforms into an extraordinary natural  
scene, WENDY's INNER GARDEN. A grassy clearing is  
surrounded by redwood trees. A small waterfall feeds a  
brook that flows through the middle of the clearing.

JASON's body is now lying on a table in a Japanese-style  
pagoda that sits on the far side of the brook. The timber  
framed pagoda has no walls. A small arched wooden foot  
bridge crosses the brook.

The otherworldly landscape morphs back into JASON's hospital room.

JASON squints and looks at BUFFALO BILL.

JASON  
You see that?

BUFFALO BILL  
See what?

JASON  
Nevermind.

BUFFALO BILL shoots him a playful smile.

INT. LOG CABIN, DREAMTIME REALITY

LITTLE JASON sits on a bear rug playing with a Gameboy.

WENDY and the gang appear next to him.

WENDY  
Hi Jason! Where are your protectors?

Too focused on his videogame, LITTLE JASON motions over his right shoulder. SPIDERMAN, WOLVERINE, the POWER RANGER, and ET come into focus.

MAMA  
I see you've been enjoying your magic.

Her warm voice pulls LITTLE JASON's attention away from his game.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
You can play again later. But now we need to talk about important things.

LITTLE JASON nods. THELONIUS MONKEY climbs into LITTLE JASON's lap and pinches his cheeks. JASON giggles. MAMA sits beside him.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
Would you like to go back to your body, little one?



LITTLE JASON shrugs. THELONIUS gets up and tugs on LITTLE JASON's arm.

LITTLE JASON  
It's scary there. I like it here better.

MAMA  
I know you feel scared. But feelings come and go. Who you really are, that never changes. Do you know who you really are Little Jason?

LITTLE JASON shakes his head. THELONIUS mimics him.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
(whispers in his ear)  
You...are a superhero.

MAMA grabs his face in her hands and pulls it towards her face until their foreheads and noses are touching. She looks into his eyes and breathes into him.

Still holding his face, she pulls back and smiles at him.

LITTLE JASON  
(whispers back)  
I'm a superhero?

THELONIUS, now sporting a red cape, black eye mask, and the a big sparkly letter T on his chest, jumps up, throws out his chest and poses with his hands on his hips.

MAMA  
HmMMM. I think you are the bravest of all superheroes.

LITTLE JASON  
Like Luke Skywalker?

MAMA  
Braver. I think I'll call you Little Dream Wizard.

LITTLE JASON  
Dream Lizard?

MAMA laughs.

MAMA  
No, little one. Wizard.

LITTLE JASON  
I like wizards! I'm really a wizard?

MAMA  
You can make magic happen just by  
wishing it so. That's what wizards do.

LITTLE JASON looks at his protectors as if to say, 'did you  
hear that? I'm one of you!'

MAMA (CONT'D)  
Now that you know how powerful and  
brave you are, are you ready to go  
back?

LITTLE JASON bites his lip.

MAMA (CONT'D)  
Much time has passed. Did you know that  
you're a grown-up now? Big Jason was  
telling me how much he misses you.

LITTLE JASON  
A grown-up? I can stay up as late as I  
want...and drive a car...and eat ice  
cream for breakfast?

MAMA  
Yes, you can do all those things. But  
right now, Big Jason is very sick and  
needs to get better. He needs your  
magic to do this. Would you like to  
help?

LITTLE JASON's eyes fill with purpose. He nods. THELONIUS  
MONKEY jumps up and down, screeching with delight.

MAMA places LITTLE JASON on ADAMSON's back and THELONIUS  
hops up and sits in front of him.

With a stomp of his hoof, ADAMSON spreads his wings and  
takes off into the vast darkness.

EXT. WENDY'S INNER GARDEN - DAY, DREAMTIME REALITY

ADAMSON sets down in the grassy clearing by the pagoda where JASON's body lies. Big JASON emerges from his body and stands next to WENDY.

MAMA helps LITTLE JASON off the horse and looks deep into his eyes.

When JASON sees the young version of himself his eyes fill.

JASON  
(to himself)  
I remember you.

MAMA hugs LITTLE JASON. LITTLE JASON sees the grown-up version of himself and smiles at him.

MAMA  
It's time, Little Dream Wizard.

LITTLE JASON runs over to JASON and jumps into his arms. They squeeze each other until they can't breathe. JASON buries his face in LITTLE JASON's neck.

LITTLE JASON pulls back. They take in each other's faces.

LITTLE JASON  
I'm here to help you get better.

JASON  
I'm glad you're back.

JASON hugs LITTLE JASON tightly again.

JASON (CONT'D)  
We'll get through this.

LITTLE JASON nods and places his head on JASON's heart. LITTLE JASON's body melts into JASON's.

JASON (CONT'D)  
(to MAMA)  
Thank you.

MAMA smiles and bows her head slightly before disappearing.

JASON shakes his head and looks at WENDY.

JASON  
That was intense.

WENDY  
Need a nap?

JASON  
Actually I feel like playing a  
video game. Tetris. I haven't thought  
about that game in years.

Movement on the other side of the brook catches JASON's  
eye. He sees a small group of foot-tall BEARDED MEN wearing  
red pointy hats sitting at a small table.

JASON  
Are those leprechauns?

WENDY  
No, garden gnomes. I wouldn't say  
leprechaun too loudly around them.  
You'll piss 'em off.

JASON  
What are they doing?

WENDY  
Playing poker, I think.

JASON  
Poker.

WENDY  
They take care of this place.

JASON  
What is this place?

WENDY  
It's my garden. The place I've created  
in the dreamtime to do shamanic work.

JASON  
How come I've never seen it before?

WENDY

I don't know. Maybe you're finally relaxed enough to be able to perceive it.

JASON watches THELONIUS approach the GNOMES. One of the GNOMES gives THELONIUS a lollypop.

WENDY (CONT'D)

It's strange. When I come here to meet with you, I actually see more of my garden than your hospital room. And you seem to see more of your hospital room than my garden. Crazy. Two realities at once.

JASON

Maybe a nap would be good.

WENDY

Hey, one more thing. How'd you hear about the quantum mind concept?

JASON

(smiling)

A good friend of mine.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

ABBY is sitting on the edge of JASON's bed. JASON is propped up in the bed and he's breathing on his own. His left arm is in a brace. ABBY begins undoing the brace.

ABBY

That looks uncomfortable. Let's get it off.

When she slips it off his arm, JASON clamps on to ABBY's hand with his left hand. ABBY looks surprised.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Does that feel better?

JASON looks at her and gives a jerky half nod.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Good. Tim wanted to be here, but he had to work late. He says 'hi.'

JASON seems to understand her.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Mom's looking for a new place for you to live. Like a rehab-type place. I bet you'll be glad -

JASON smiles.

ABBY (CONT'D)

You're smiling. What are you thinking about? An inside joke?

JASON, still smiling, squeezes her hand.

ABBY (CONT'D)

That's the first time I've seen you smile since you've been in here.

EXT. DESERT CAMPFIRE - NIGHT, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON, LITTLE JASON, and BUFFALO BILL are sitting around a campfire. Also with them are a giant female PANDA BEAR and an OBNOXIOUS GUY, an intolerable teenager JASON knew in high school.

JASON sticks a marshmallow on the end of a long stick and places it in the twisting flames.

JASON

(looks up at vast night sky)  
I'm convinced that there's life out there.

BUFFALO BILL

What's your fascination with space creatures?

JASON

I don't know. It gives me hope, I guess. There's gotta be a more advanced race of beings out there who can teach us more about the universe. I really want to explore -

OBNOXIOUS GUY

...where no man has gone before.

JASON

Fuck you.

OBNOXIOUS GUY

Sorry Cap'n Kirk.

PANDA BEAR

Now boys.

The PANDA is twirling an impaled fish over the fire.

OBNOXIOUS GUY

I think aliens are a manifestation of man's fear.

JASON

Definitely, if you look at the way they're portrayed in the media. That's the government's way of keeping the masses in check. It's so obvious. They want to keep us afraid.

JASON eyeballs the OBNOXIOUS GUY.

JASON (CONT'D)

But that doesn't mean aliens don't exist. I think it's pretty ignorant to say they don't exist. Who invited you here anyway?

WENDY appears, but stands in the darkness outside the firelight, eavesdropping.

BUFFALO BILL

I once saw a space creature.

Everyone looks at BUFFALO BILL.

BUFFALO BILL (CONT'D)

Back when I was alive and wandering through the plains of what is now Wyoming. I was milling about with my herd when all of a sudden, a white sun appeared in the sky. We panicked and a stampede ensued.

OBNOXIOUS GUY

Would you say there was 'panda' monium?

PANDA BEAR

(dryly)

That's really very funny.

OBNOXIOUS GUY

What do you know about humor? You're a freakin' panda -

JASON

Hey, knock it off. Don't pick fights with the panda bear, alright? Shit.

LITTLE JASON flicks a melted marshmallow at the hateful OBNOXIOUS GUY.

LITTLE JASON

Leave her alone.

OBNOXIOUS GUY

Alright, little man. I'll stop.

WENDY steps into view.

WENDY

Hi everyone.

As soon as JASON focuses on WENDY, the campfire scene disappears and JASON's hospital room takes its place. JASON is now alone with WENDY.

INT. JASON'S HOSPITAL ROOM, DREAMTIME REALITY

WENDY

I just wanted to check in on you.



JASON

I'm doing okay, I guess.

WENDY

So...who's the panda?

JASON

I have no clue. She just showed up.

(smiles)

I've stopped questioning what happens anymore. If a panda bear wants to hang out at my pretend campfire with various versions of me, a talking buffalo named Bill, and an obnoxious guy I barely knew in high school, then so be it.

WENDY

I know the feeling. I struggle with all this stuff myself.

JASON looks surprised.

WENDY (CONT'D)

I can't help but wonder what your family thinks of these meetings we're having. I email them after every visit and I don't leave anything out.

JASON

My father probably thinks you're a freak.

WENDY

He wouldn't be the first.

WENDY looks at JASON's body, which is sitting upright in the hospital bed.

JASON

I wish I could lie on my side. I hate not being able to move the way I want to. I'm also really hungry. I can't wait to eat real food again.

Images of tacos, french fries, and ice cream float in the air in front of them.

WENDY

At the rate you're going, you'll be hittin' the drive-through windows in no time. I can't believe how much progress you've made.

JASON

Are you kidding? You ask me, I'm way behind. Getting better is taking for fucking ever.

WENDY

I'm sure if feels slow to everyone - you, your family, your friends - but remember, two months ago you were out of commission. You weren't breathing or swallowing on your own. And now look at you.

They turn their attention to JASON's body. It's staring at the TV, which is tuned in to a daytime game show.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Your body seems more aware then I've ever seen it before.

JASON

Yeah, I guess.

WENDY

Well, I think you're doing great. I've gotta go to a meeting. I'll see you next time.

EXT. WENDY'S INNER GARDEN - NIGHT, DREAMTIME REALITY

WENDY shifts her focus to her garden. There's a small open fireplace in the center of the pagoda. RAVENTALKER and OSHIRA are sitting next to the fire on thick cushions, waiting for WENDY, who joins them.

WENDY

Have I thanked you for everything you're doing?

They smile and nod.

WENDY

Jason's pretty frustrated with how slow it's going.

OSHIRA

We're aware of his frustration.

RAVENTALKER

This may be difficult for him to understand, but Jason's illness is a gift. Not only is it allowing him to face his tremendous fear of physical death, but everyone connected to him is forever changed because of what he's going through.

The firelight dances on RAVENTALKER's painted face.

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

Of course, this is true for some more than others. Before Jason got sick, everyone in his life, including Jason himself, was going about the very predictable routines of their lives... living each day as if the next was a given.

WENDY

Now everything's changed.

RAVENTALKER

Jason's family and friends...they ask, why did this happen?

One of the GARDEN GNOMES steps on to the platform of the pagoda. He's carrying a few logs. He grumbles as he tends the fire.

OSHIRA

The people in his life are struggling and searching right now. Trying to make sense of this seemingly horrible turn of events.

RAVENTALKER

Some will become angry and cynical. Maybe they'll run from their fear...

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

escape further into distraction. Others will dig deep inside themselves and uncover a strength they didn't know they had. And because of that, they'll cherish life and their relationships more.

WENDY

So, Jason's illness is giving everyone the same opportunity, but not everyone's going to take advantage of it.

OSHIRA nods and RAVENTALKER smiles at WENDY.

WENDY (CONT'D)

I know Jason's illness has changed me. I hope you don't take this the wrong way, but sometimes I feel like I'm making all this up.

WENDY looks around at her garden. Her eyes catch THELONIUS MONKEY, who's hanging from a nearby tree dressed like Santa Claus. WENDY laughs and makes a 'need I say more' gesture.

WENDY (CONT'D)

I mean, you gotta understand. Having these experiences is a big leap for me. I've been a card-carrying atheist since I was twelve. And now, by Western psychological standards, I'm delusional. It's a lot for a girl like me to come to terms with.

The GARDEN GNOME looks at WENDY and rolls his eyes unsympathetically.

WENDY (CONT'D)

The more time I spend with you, the more I see how you impact people's lives in really positive, sometimes miraculous ways, the more my rational mind shrinks. And that can't be good!

OSHIRA

You're learning to trust these experiences.

WENDY

Yeah, I guess I am.

RAVENTALKER

Our work together will only get stronger.

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON is sitting in a power chair in his new room. JASON looks alert, but he keeps squinting and closing his eyes. CAROL stands next to him, looking proud.

KIM, a respiratory therapist, switches off his vent.

KIM

Okay Jason. You're breathing on your own now. We're just giving you moist air. Breathe nice and easy.

They watch JASON breath. His breathing is relaxed.

KIM (CONT'D)

That's it. Perfect!

(to CAROL)

I've got to make the rounds. Just have me paged if he starts struggling.

CAROL

Okay.

CAROL strokes JASON's head.

CAROL (CONT'D)

Look at you! You're getting stronger. You're sitting in a chair, holding your head up, breathing on your own. I'm so proud of you!

CAROL turns JASON's chair toward the wall behind JASON's bed. Hanging on the wall is a computer-generated poster that reads "Super Brain" surrounded by colorful swirls and patterns.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
Do you remember creating that artwork  
for school?

JASON looks at the poster.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
You made it a few days before you got  
sick.

She watches for a reaction, but there is none. JASON is  
still squinting and closing his eyes.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
Jason, did you know what was going to  
happen to you?

A NURSE enters, interrupting them.

NURSE  
Hey, they got you in the Cadillac  
chair!

JASON squints. He shows discomfort in his eyes, has trouble  
keeping them open.

NURSE (CONT'D)  
Are your eyes bothering you?

CAROL  
He's been doing that since I got here.

NURSE  
Jason, open your eyes and look at me.

JASON opens his eyes and looks at the NURSE. The NURSE  
examines his eyes.

NURSE (CONT'D)  
Do your eyes burn?

JASON gives a jerky nod.

CAROL covers her mouth with her hands as if to say 'Oh my  
god.'

NURSE (CONT'D)

I'll have the nurse practitioner order  
some drops for you.

The NURSE leaves.

CAROL

You're shocking the hell out of me  
today! You just communicated to that  
nurse! Way to use that super brain!

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON is restless. He looks out the window of his room,  
watching people in the parking lot as they get in and out  
of their cars and walk to and from the building.

JASON

(to himself)

They don't know how lucky they are.

MOVES LIKE CAT (O.S.)

What do you mean, lucky?

JASON turns and smiles when he sees MOVES LIKE CAT. JASON's  
body, in bed, is propped up behind him.

JASON

Hey! Where have you been?

MOVES LIKE CAT

I'm always with you...Explain "lucky,"  
please.

JASON

(with resignation)

Yeah, lucky.

JASON glances out the window.

JASON (CONT'D)

Look at those people. How much do you  
think they appreciate being able to  
walk around, drive a car, eat food, or  
even move their fucking arms and legs?

MOVES LIKE CAT

How does that make them lucky? Because they're not you?

JASON

Yeah, because they're not me.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Every human being on this planet suffers.

MOVES LIKE CAT looks deeply into JASON's eyes.

MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)

The suffering varies from person to person, but the end result is still pain. It's part of the experience of being human.

JASON

(sarcasm dripping from his words)  
I guess that makes me lucky too.

MOVES LIKE CAT

It's not luck. It's choice.

JASON

I know. I know. I chose to be a prisoner in my body so I can evolve...If one more person...or whatever...tells me I chose this shit, I'll scream so loud that Satan himself will complain.

MOVES LIKE CAT stifles a smile.

JASON (CONT'D)

I need to ask you a serious question. Am I'm gonna end up like Stephen Hawking? Is that where I'm headed? Talking through a computer?

MOVES LIKE CAT

I don't know who Stephen Hawking is. Give me a moment.



MOVES LIKE CAT closes his eyes for a few seconds. He nods when he gets the information.

MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)  
This man...he's done much with his  
life. He's a well-respected scholar.  
Why would you not want to be like him?

JASON  
Well, he's basically a brain in a  
useless body.

MOVES LIKE CAT  
I don't think Stephen Hawking sees it  
that way. Anyway, your physical  
problems are different than his.

JASON  
(looks down and mumbles)  
Yeah, well that doesn't comfort me.

MOVES LIKE CAT  
The biggest difference I can see  
between you and Stephen Hawking...

JASON looks up at him.

MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)  
...is that he accepts his situation.

JASON  
You don't pull any punches, do you?

MOVES LIKE CAT looks quizzically at his fist.

MOVES LIKE CAT glides over to JASON and places his hand on  
his shoulder. JASON visibly relaxes.

JASON (CONT'D)  
That's nice. Why don't you come around  
more often and do that.

MOVES LIKE CAT  
I do.

JASON smiles.

JASON

You know...I have no idea what your name is.

MOVES LIKE CAT

You can call me Moves like Cat.

JASON

Moves like Cat. Just rolls off your tongue, doesn't it?

MOVES LIKE CAT touches his tongue trying to understand what JASON means.

JASON (CONT'D)

(laughs)

I didn't mean it literally. It's an expression. So how did you get your name?

MOVES LIKE CAT

When I was human, I was a warrior. I was given the name because I could sneak up on others without them knowing I was there.

JASON

I could see how that would be a helpful trait. Did you have to go to warrior school or something?

MOVES LIKE CAT

No. Everyone has the spirit of the warrior in them. Some more than others, but everyone has it. It's what keeps you alive.

JASON

I'm guessing the warrior in me wants overtime.

MOVES LIKE CAT

(confused)

Overtime?

JASON  
(laughs)  
It's not important.

MOVES LIKE CAT  
If your warrior is motivated by fear,  
then his goal will be to coerce using  
force. If your warrior is motivated by  
love, then he will persuade with  
compassion.

JASON  
What do you think motivates my warrior?

An image of a SAMURAI dressed in armor holding a sword  
appears in front of them. JASON looks at MOVES LIKE CAT.

JASON (CONT'D)  
Is he my warrior?

MOVES LIKE CAT raises his eyebrows and nods.

The SAMURAI readies his sword and leaps towards JASON with  
a growl as if to attack.

JASON jumps back. The image fades.

JASON (CONT'D)  
I guess that answers my question.

MOVES LIKE CAT  
When you can move from fear to love you  
can achieve mastery. You have a  
powerful intellect, young warrior. Your  
brain is filled with glorious theories  
and ideas. But you lack wisdom. Wisdom  
comes from experience. And to have  
experiences you need to take risks.

JASON's ego takes a blow.

MOVES LIKE CAT (CONT'D)  
Before you got sick you had confidence  
in your ideas, am I right?

JASON

Yeah, I thought I had it all figured out.

MOVES LIKE CAT

And if you remember, you asked for this experience.

JASON

Well, yeah, I needed to face my fear of death.

MOVES LIKE CAT

That's only part of the reason you're having this experience.

JASON looks confused.

JASON

What am I missing here?

MOVES LIKE CAT

You also longed for an opportunity to meet other life forms...aliens, the angelic ones, spirits. Remember telling others how you wanted to experience these otherworldly entities? How you longed to understand...how did you put it...the quantum mind.

JASON

Well, yeah. But not like this.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Your human self makes the wish, your oversoul responds. How the wish is fulfilled is out of human hands.

Understanding emerges in JASON's eyes.

MOVES LIKE CAT

You've been gifted with much time to spend with beings like me, yes?

JASON

(whispers)

I asked for this. You're right. I really did ask for this. I never connected my desire to meet Aliens and stuff to this experience. But you're right. I've met all kinds of ethereal beings in coma land.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Everything is beautifully orchestrated ...whether we're aware of it or not. There is purpose for everything.

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, PHYSICAL REALITY

JASON is propped up in his bed. KIM, the Respiratory Therapist, is working with him, teaching him how to use a speaking valve.

KIM notices a picture of a panda taped on the wall next to the Super Brain poster. She takes the picture off the wall.

CAROL walks in and kisses JASON.

CAROL

How's he doing today?

KIM

Not bad. We've been working with the speaking valve. He's having a tough time getting the hang of it. But we'll keep trying.

KIM holds up the panda picture.

KIM (CONT'D)

Is Jason into panda bears?

CAROL

It's kind of a long story. But we're looking at the panda bear as sort of an animal totem.

KIM

Really? That's so interesting. I'm kind of obsessed with panda bears. In fact -

KIM pushes up her sleeve and reveals a panda bear tattoo on her upper arm.

CAROL

Oh my god. You're the panda.

KIM looks perplexed.

CAROL (CONT'D)

How much time do you have?

INTERCUT - WENDY'S KITCHEN/TIM'S LIVING ROOM, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY's leaning on the island in the middle of the kitchen. She dials the phone. A piece of paper is in front of her.

TIM's watching television; his cell phone rings. He looks at the caller ID and answers.

TIM

This better be good. I'm watching South Park...the one with Mr. Hankey.

WENDY

A holiday classic. That's a lot of pressure. But I suspect I might be able to blow your...

(dramatic voice)

...quantum mind.

TIM

Hold on. I'm distracted.

(mutes the TV)

Okay, lay it on me sista.

WENDY

Alright, so I think it was like a month ago, Abby suggested I connect with a friend of Jason's...a UFO researcher guy named Stuart. She thought he might know something about the whole quantum mind thing.

TIM

Yeah, that sounds familiar.

WENDY

I just got an email back from him. This is what Stuart had to say...

WENDY picks up the paper on the counter and reads.

WENDY (CONT'D)

"Jason and I first spoke about the Quantum Mind in front of the UACT school, where I had just lectured. We were talking about his music and the possibility that angels, aliens, and earthly spirits were affected by it, through the doorway of intention. I do recall being intoxicated by our communication, as it is not very often that younger folks like Jason are interested in the topic, let alone invigorate the concept."

TIM

Jason and this guy Stuart actually talked about the quantum mind? For real?

WENDY

Hang on, there's more. He also said that "Jason seemed to know a lot about the concept, be it naturally, intuitively, or scholastically. He was prepared to apply it in his own life, in his own supra-conscious mind."

TIM

Is he saying that the coma is Jason's way of connecting with aliens and shit?

WENDY

Sounds like it.

TIM

That's a bit of a stretch.

WENDY

You think that's a stretch? I'll tell you what's a stretch... that I'm

WENDY (CONT'D)

talking to a guy in a coma. My rational mind is so stretched right now it feels like it got huge breast implants.

TIM

...Did you just say that your rational mind got breast implants?

WENDY

Actually, I think I said "huge" breast implants.

TIM

Wow.

WENDY

You feel me?

TIM

You know what makes less sense than you talking to a guy in a coma?... Saying that your rational mind got breast implants.

WENDY

Now you're just being mean. Hey, I gotta go. I need to take my rational mind shopping for a new bra.

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON is in his body when WENDY and RAVENTALKER arrive. His body is sitting upright in bed watching TV.

WENDY

Hey Jason.

JASON emerges from his body. He looks grim.

JASON

How long have I been sick?

WENDY does the math in her head.

WENDY

Over five months.



JASON

Really? My whole concept of time is warped.

JASON looks at his body. It's lost weight over the months - his face is sunken, his eyes are vacant, his left arm is folded against his chest in an awkward position.

WENDY

(concerned)

What's up?

Shakes his head and sighs.

JASON

New doctors were in here talking about...

(makes quote marks in the air with his fingers)

..."my condition." It doesn't sound good at all. It looks like my brain is permanently damaged.

JASON stares at his body and shakes his head.

JASON (CONT'D)

You know what frustrates me the most? I can't talk. I keep trying, but I can't get my mouth to cooperate. I can make sounds, but no words.

(looks at RAVENTALKER)

This is as good as it's going to get, isn't it? I can't get my body to do shit.

RAVENTALKER

Your life will never be the same Jason. But even with your...limitations, I believe you'll be able to find ways to communicate again.

WENDY shoots RAVENTALKER a 'how can you say that?' look.

JASON

Oh, that's fucking reassuring.

RAVENTALKER moves back to give him space. JASON notices this and softens.

JASON (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. It's a lot to digest.

WENDY

I haven't seen it all, but I've seen enough to know that when someone wants something bad enough they can beat some pretty impossible odds. I have this friend Chris...who I haven't seen in like ten years. Around the time you got sick I started getting these emails from Chris's wife. She was sending them to a group of us, letting us know he was in the hospital recovering from a pancreas transplant and things weren't going well. He kept getting worse. I guess his body was rejecting the new pancreas.

The scene before them shifts as if they're watching a movie. They see another hospital room.

FLASHBACK - INT. CHRIS'S HOSPITAL ROOM, ICU, DREAMTIME REALITY

CHRIS, mid-30s, is lying in a hospital bed. He appears unconscious. His pallor is off. He's hooked up to machines and tubes.

Another version of WENDY, RAVENTALKER, and OSHIRA enter CHRIS's hospital room. WENDY approaches his bed.

WENDY

Chris, can you hear me?

CHRIS's dreambody slips out of his physical body.

CHRIS

Who are you?

WENDY

This is gonna sound crazy, but we used to work together at the University of Arizona.

CHRIS  
You look familiar.

WENDY  
I'm Wendy.

CHRIS  
Wendy? What are you doing in my dream?

WENDY  
Remember how strange I was back then?

CHRIS  
(laughs)  
You were definitely different.

WENDY  
Well, I'm even stranger now. But we  
won't get into that. I'm here because I  
heard you were really sick and wanted  
to see if we could help.

CHRIS takes in WENDY, OSHIRA, and RAVENTALKER.

CHRIS  
This has gotta be the strangest dream  
I've ever had. It seems so real.

WENDY  
These folks here...they can help you  
heal if you want. But they won't help  
unless you ask.

CHRIS looks at his body lying so still. The pressure of  
trying to understand what's happening and having to make a  
decision weighs on him.

CHRIS  
This is crazy...I'm gonna die if  
something doesn't happen soon.

WENDY  
Does that mean you want help?

CHRIS  
(slowly nods)  
Yes, please help me.

OSHIRA and RAVENTALKER move closer to CHRIS's bed. They see strands of energy - like glowing meridians, circulating through his body. Everything is flowing as it should except for a section in the middle of CHRIS's abdomen.

The energy strands avoid an area shaped like a sausage, which is dark and has a cord of energy shooting out of it. The HELPERS follow the cord away from CHRIS's body.

The other end of the cord connects to the DONOR, a man in his late 20s with dark hair, who's now standing next to the bed. The DONOR points to the dark spot in CHRIS's abdomen.

DONOR  
That's mine...I want it back.

OSHIRA approaches the DONOR and surrounds him with lavender light. OSHIRA speaks softly to him.

OSHIRA  
There's no need to be confused.  
Everything is okay. There's someone  
here for you.

OSHIRA gestures over the DONOR's shoulder. Behind the DONOR appears the spirit of the DONOR's GRANDFATHER. The DONOR turns around and instantly recognizes him. They embrace and speak in hushed tones.

By the end of the conversation, the DONOR seems to understand that he's dead.

OSHIRA (CONT'D)  
If you'd like to go home, you'll have  
to sever your connection to your  
physical body.

A glowing golden knife appears in RAVENTALKER's hand. She holds it out to him. The DONOR grabs the knife and looks at his GRANDFATHER who gives him a gentle nod.

The DONOR cuts the energy cord connecting him to the pancreas in CHRIS's body.

The DONOR joins his GRANDFATHER and together they leave.

RAVENTALKER works on integrating the energy of the pancreas with CHRIS's body until the pancreas looks like it's a part of CHRIS.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON looks at WENDY and RAVENTALKER.

JASON

Damn. Did it work?

WENDY

About twenty-four hours later I got an email saying that doctors didn't know why...

(exaggerates a wink)

...but his counts were improving and he was getting better.

JASON looks at his body, which is now sleeping.

WENDY (CONT'D)

I know that Chris's situation is completely different, but I wanted to show you -

JASON turns to WENDY and sees the bright white light behind her, far-off in the distance.

JASON

I know. I appreciate it. Look, I've got a lot to think about...

WENDY

Sure, we'll get going then.

The scene shifts.

EXT. WENDY'S INNER GARDEN - NIGHT, DREAMTIME REALITY

WENDY looks at RAVENTALKER.

WENDY

Can we talk?

RAVENTALKER nods. They sit by the fire in the pagoda.

WENDY (CONT'D)

So that's it...Jason's not gonna get better?

RAVENTALKER

We did all we could.

WENDY looks at her with anger and disappointment.

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

Some things are out of our hands.

RAVENTALKER looks at the fire and then at WENDY.

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

There's a big difference between healing and curing. Everyone can be healed, but not everyone can be cured.

RAVENTALKER lets her words sink in.

RAVENTALKER (CONT'D)

Please be assured that...everything is unfolding for Jason as it should. Sometimes Oversouls choose very difficult life circumstances - there's a reason, but that's between Jason and his Oversoul.

WENDY

What's the point then? Why do any of this?

RAVENTALKER

What's been Jason's goal since we met him?

WENDY

To stay alive.

RAVENTALKER

He's still alive. And he's alive because your connection to him has allowed us to work with him...to keep him alive. Because of the work we're all doing, he's overcoming his fear of death. That's the point.

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, PHYSICAL REALITY

CAROL and ABBY are sitting with JASON, on either side of his bed. ABBY is poking his right side, trying to tickle him.

CAROL

What are you doing?

ABBY

I want to hear him laugh. I know all his tickle spots.

ABBY continues poking him. JASON squints his eyes as if he's concentrating.

CAROL

I think you're annoying him.

JASON eyes dart to CAROL with purpose. He looks to his right and then back at CAROL. She notices this.

CAROL (CONT'D)

Jay, is Abby annoying you?

CAROL watches JASON's eyes. He looks at CAROL, then to the right, then back at CAROL again.

CAROL (CONT'D)

Do you want her to keep poking you?

JASON quickly shakes his head "no." CAROL looks like she just discovered a pile of money.

CAROL (CONT'D)

(excited)

Do you want her to stop?

JASON looks at CAROL, to his right, and then back at CAROL again.

CAROL (CONT'D)

Oh my god! You're communicating!

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON's body is sitting upright. His left elbow is clutched to his side and his clenched fist is bent downward in an awkward position on his chest.

He's staring at his left hand as if it were his mortal enemy.

JASON (V.O.)

Move damn it.

JASON's left thumb moves slightly.

WENDY appears in the room and sees the look of intense concentration on JASON's body's face. She closes her eyes and tunes in to JASON.

JASON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Come on motherfucker...Give me a thumb's up, you piece of shit.

JASON's left thumb separates slightly from his fist.

JASON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Move, motherfucker...move.

JASON's curled thumb raises about an inch.

JASON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

That's right. That's what I'm talkin' about.

WENDY

(her voice sounds distant)

You know your thumb's gonna have low self-esteem if you keep talking to it that way.

JASON slips out of his body.



JASON

When did you get here?

WENDY

About two motherfucker's ago.

JASON

(laughs)

Doing the simplest things takes all I got. Did you see my thumb move? I'm actually quite proud of myself.

WENDY smiles and nods.

OSHIRA materializes and heads directly to JASON's body. She feels around the crown of his head for an edge. OSHIRA peels back a cloudy membrane hugging JASON's body like skin.

The aura around JASON's body brightens.

JASON

What's that?

WENDY

She took off a layer of sleep.

JASON

That's so cool. I wish I thought of that...Maybe I'd be outta coma land by now.

OSHIRA turns to JASON.

OSHIRA

This is your dream, Jason.

WENDY

Except for the gnomes and the monkey. Doesn't seem fair to lay them on you.

JASON

I thought you said I'm not dreaming. That this is really happening.

OSHIRA

I'm not talking about the dreams you have when you're sleeping. I'm talking about the dreaming of life.

JASON

You lost me.

SMELLY, a fat white duck with a square beak and bloodshot eyes, walks by JASON, WENDY, and OSHIRA. He's smoking a cigar and singing in a gruff Brooklyn accent.

SMELLY

(sings)

Merrily, merrily, merrily,  
merrily...Life is but a dream.

They all stare at SMELLY as he strolls by.

JASON

...I dreamed that?

WENDY

Nope. He's one of mine too.

WENDY points to her head and shrugs.

JASON

Whose dream is this?

OSHIRA

Ah, now that's the question, isn't it?

JASON looks at WENDY.

WENDY

If you figure it out, let me know.

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, PHYSICAL REALITY

Two rehab STAFF have just finished getting JASON into his fancy wheelchair. CAROL and BRUCE are standing in front of him.

CAROL

You ready for your first trip home?

JASON looks at his parents and then down at his curled left hand. His thumb slowly lifts away from his hand until he's giving them a thumb's up. JASON gives his parents a crooked smile.

BRUCE and CAROL are astounded.

BRUCE  
I'd say that's a yes!

EXT. DESERT CAMPFIRE - NIGHT, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON sits alone. He stares at the fire and then looks up.

JASON  
Hey Bill. You there?

He hears a snort and BUFFALO BILL appears next to him.

JASON (CONT'D)  
There you are. You gotta minute?

BUFFALO BILL  
I've got nothing but time.

Bill looks JASON up and down, assesses him, and nods his approval.

BUFFALO BILL (CONT'D)  
You're looking well, my friend.

JASON  
Yeah, I'm feeling much better. That's kinda why I wanted to talk to you. I can't figure out what's changed.

BILL moves closer to JASON and looks deeply into his eyes.

BUFFALO BILL  
I see you've found it.

JASON  
What, my sanity?!

BUFFALO BILL  
No...trust.

JASON

Maybe I'm just used to all this now.

BUFFALO BILL

It's there. I can see it.

BUFFALO BILL breathes a confirming snort.

BUFFALO BILL (CONT'D)

Your fear, your anxiety...it's under control.

JASON takes a moment to consider BILL's statement and nods.

JASON

Yeah, I guess it is.

BUFFALO BILL

When you can trust, there's nothing to fear.

JASON

Maybe you're right.

BUFFALO BILL

Of course, I'm right.

JASON smiles and rolls his eyes.

JASON

Geez and it only took months of being in a coma to figure out that death isn't a ticket into an existential wonderland of nothingness... But it's seeming apparently clear that this was the only way I was gonna get it.

BUFFALO BILL

But you did get it.

BILL bows his head theatrically to JASON.

BUFFALO BILL (CONT'D)

Bravo, my friend. Bravo.

JASON smiles and jokingly bows back.

JASON

Thank you. Thank you. You're too kind.  
I couldn't have done it without my  
friends in coma land -

JASON hears the drums.

JASON (CONT'D)

I think Wendy's coming.

WENDY arrives alone.

WENDY

Hey you.

WENDY notices he looks different.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Man, you look good. New haircut?

JASON

No, actually I had my colors done. I'm  
an autumn.

WENDY

That's what it is. Fall colors suit  
you...So, I have this idea. You game?

JASON

Sure, why not. I trust you.

JASON gives BUFFALO BILL a semi-sarcastic smile.

WENDY

Okay then. Here's the plan. All you  
gotta do is think about something you  
don't like about yourself. Something  
that no longer serves you, that you'd  
like to see die.

JASON

I can do that.

JASON closes his eyes.

WENDY

Now invite this part of you to show  
itself.

They hear a tiny SQUEAK. JASON opens his eyes and sees a  
cute little gray MOUSE scurrying in circles at their feet.

JASON points to the MOUSE.

JASON

That's my fear of death.

The MOUSE stops and looks up at JASON and WENDY. It morphs  
into a CARTOON MOUSE; bares its teeth like a lion and ROARS  
at them. Its fangs are enormous and dripping with saliva.

The CARTOON MOUSE transforms into a RAT trapped in a wooden  
maze. The panic-stricken RAT races through the passageways,  
desperate to find a way out.

JASON (CONT'D)

That's what I used to think being dead  
was like.

WENDY

No wonder you were so afraid to die.  
Existing like that...  
(points at the maze)  
...would completely suck.

They watch the RAT run through corridor after corridor.

WENDY (CONT'D)

Okay, this is torture. How would you  
like to put the poor thing out of its  
misery?

JASON manifests an empty glass mayonnaise jar and a piece  
of cheese.

JASON

I think I'll suffocate him.

JASON looks at WENDY for approval.

WENDY

Hey, it's your dream.

WENDY steps back.

JASON places the cheese in the jar and the jar on its side in the maze. The RAT crawls into the jar. JASON quickly picks up the jar.

The RAT turns back into the CARTOON MOUSE and bares its fangs at him. JASON puts the lid on the jar and screws it closed. The CARTOON MOUSE turns back into a real MOUSE.

The DEAD MOUSE rests on a tiny funeral pyre made of twigs. JASON sets the pyre on fire. He steps back, hands clasped loosely in front of him, and bows his head.

Primal AFRICAN DRUMMING kicks in.

JASON looks up to see WENDY, OSHIRA, RAVENTALKER, BUFFALO BILL, MOVES LIKE CAT, the GNOMES, SMELLY THE DUCK, the PANDA BEAR, THELONIUS MONKEY, and LITTLE JASON standing in a circle around the fire.

Everyone stomps and moves to the rhythm. The fire grows immense.

After the celebration, WENDY approaches JASON.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
How do you feel?

JASON  
I guess I feel lighter. A little -

JASON is distracted by something in the sky.

A triangular spaceship with glowing pale green lights lands in the desert not far from them.

A hatch opens and out walks three sinewy gray ALIENS with bulbous heads and large black almond-shaped eyes (a la *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*).

The ALIENS silently approach JASON. One is carrying something made of white cloth.

The ALIENS stop in front of JASON. The one carrying the cloth presents it to JASON with a bow. JASON accepts the gift.

The ALIENS turn around and go back to their ship. The spaceship takes off.

JASON looks at the object in his hands. It's a t-shirt. He holds it up. On the front is a picture of the CARTOON MOUSE baring its fangs with the caption "I Survived My Fear of Death."

INT. FAMILY ROOM, JASON'S FAMILY HOME, PHYSICAL REALITY

BRUCE pushes JASON in his wheelchair up to the computer desk.

BRUCE  
How 'bout some solitaire?

BRUCE immediately finds that JASON's chair won't fit at the desk. So BRUCE fashions a mouse pad out of a piece of flimsy cardboard and places it on JASON's lap.

BRUCE (CONT'D)  
We'll make this work.

He puts the mouse on the cardboard.

CAROL walks in with a glass of water for JASON. There's a bendy hospital straw in it.

CAROL  
Thirsty Jay?

JASON is focused on trying to control the mouse. With jerky movements, he slides the mouse on the uneven surface without success.

JASON's frustration builds until he finally pushes the mouse off the cardboard and onto the floor where it lands with a CRACK.

BRUCE grabs the pieces of the mouse off the floor and tries, without success, to put them back together.



BRUCE

I think the mouse is dead.

INT. JASON'S ROOM, REHAB FACILITY, DREAMTIME REALITY

MOVES LIKE CAT is watching over JASON's body. His eyes are soft and his smile shows great pride.

WENDY and RAVENTALKER arrive.

WENDY

He's come a long way.

MOVES LIKE CAT looks at WENDY, nods once, and smiles.

MOVES LIKE CAT

Our young friend has shifted his awareness from the world of spirit to the world of flesh.

RAVENTALKER

He has a long, difficult road ahead of him.

WENDY

Does that mean our work is done?

RAVENTALKER smiles and nods.

RAVENTALKER

For now.

JASON slips out of his body. His dreambody is noticeably dimmer.

JASON

I could feel you talking about me behind my back.

WENDY

Technically, we're not behind you.

JASON

(smiles)

It's still impolite.

WENDY

(gestures to JASON's body)  
I think a certain Mouse Killer is  
leaving coma land.

JASON

No turning back now.

WENDY

I'm really proud of you.

JASON

Maybe the idea of death doesn't send me  
into fits of panic anymore...

JASON glances at the bright white light in the far  
distance.

JASON (CONT'D)

...but I'm in no hurry to die...

JASON shifts his gaze to RAVENTALKER. He looks deeply into  
her eyes. RAVENTALKER smiles and bows to JASON.

JASON turns to WENDY. WENDY holds her arms open. JASON  
embraces her.

JASON (CONT'D)

(whispers in her ear)

Thank you.

Their embrace is interrupted by THELONIUS MONKEY who pops  
into the scene. He's wearing a blond wig, red lipstick, and  
black sunglasses. THELONIUS blows JASON a kiss and scurries  
away.

JASON and WENDY laugh.

JASON

I'm gonna miss coma land!

WENDY

Hey, I'll check in on you from time to  
time.

JASON

I better get back now. I've got a ton  
of fucking work to do if I ever want to  
eat real food again.

He smiles a goodbye to RAVENTALKER and WENDY before  
disappearing inside his body.

INT. WENDY'S BEDROOM, NEW JERSEY, PHYSICAL REALITY

WENDY is lying on her bed. The sound of the drums fades.

She opens her eyes and smiles.

FADE TO BLACK

SUPER: "THREE YEARS LATER"

EXT. AERIAL VIEW, OCEAN - DAY, DREAMTIME REALITY

A beautiful wooden sailboat gently sails on an ocean of  
silvery waves.

Instead of the sun, the sky is illuminated by the same  
bright white light that's previously caught JASON's  
attention. The light sits port side, miles in the distance  
on the horizon.

EXT. SAILBOAT - DAY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON is reclined in the cockpit in the back of the boat.  
He holds the tiller in one hand. He looks relaxed.

WENDY suddenly appears on the deck of the boat. She's  
wearing her tousled hair long in the front and short in the  
back now. Her indigo aura is a little more pronounced.

WENDY looks around and orients herself.

JASON looks at her. He doesn't seem to recognize her at  
first. WENDY notices this.

WENDY

You don't remember me, do you?

JASON

You look familiar.

WENDY  
I visited you after you got sick.

JASON searches his memory.

WENDY (CONT'D)  
...in the hospital?...Coma land?

Recognition lights up JASON's eyes.

JASON  
That's right. I remember now. You came  
with the monkey who likes to play dress  
up.

WENDY  
Yeah, that's my pal Thelonius...You  
been out here a while?

JASON  
Hard to say. I think so. I couldn't  
take being in my body anymore.

WENDY  
I heard that you were real sick again.

JASON  
Yeah. Got the wind taken out of my  
sails.  
(looks up at the sails and  
chuckles)  
No pun intended. Not fun...for me, for  
my family. Definitely not the rock star  
life I'd always dreamed of.

WENDY looks disheartened for him.

JASON (CONT'D)  
But it's peaceful out here.

WENDY  
I'm glad.

JASON

It's funny. I actually thought I could get better. Get my old life back. Make music again.

(shoots WENDY an impish smile)

Get my fifteen minutes...It might seem kinda lame, but I wanted my life to have an impact.

WENDY

That's not lame. I think we all kinda want that...But hey, you never know. Maybe your life will still have an impact, but in a different way.

She shoots JASON a mischievous smile back.

JASON

What are you talking about?

WENDY feigns ignorance. JASON smirks.

JASON

Fine. Be that way.

WENDY looks at the white light.

WENDY

Looks like you're winding down.

JASON

I'm wasted. I've never been so tired.

WENDY

I can't believe you've hung in there as long as you have.

JASON

Seemed important to try. For lots of reasons.

WENDY

It's good to see you, Jason.

JASON smiles.

JASON  
Tell my family I'm okay.

WENDY nods.

WENDY  
I'm sure our paths will cross again.

JASON  
Man, I hope so.

WENDY waves and smiles as she fades from view.

DISSOLVE

EXT. AERIAL VIEW, SAILBOAT - DAY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON, BUFFALO BILL and MOVES LIKE CAT are sitting in the boat's cockpit. LITTLE JASON is sitting on the deck in the front of the boat, looking ahead.

The bright white light is still port side.

EXT. SAILBOAT - DAY, DREAMTIME REALITY

JASON, MOVES LIKE CAT and BUFFALO BILL take in the vast ocean vista. The wind blows gently.

MOVES LIKE CAT turns to JASON. The two seem to be communicating without words. MOVES LIKE CAT puts his hand on JASON's shoulder.

BUFFALO BILL turns and looks at JASON and smiles a toothy grin.

JASON looks at BUFFALO BILL and then MOVES LIKE CAT. He takes a deep breath and nods.

JASON steers the tiller. The boat turns and points directly at the bright white light. The mainsail shifts in response.

LITTLE JASON turns and looks at JASON and smiles.

JASON's face is illuminated by the brilliant, but not blinding, white light. His eyes reveal fierce determination and acceptance.

EXT. REAR VIEW, SAILBOAT - DAY, DREAMTIME REALITY

The boat's silhouette is centered in the white light as it sails out to meet it.

FADE OUT

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