

Manifest Destiny

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INT. NASA CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

Famous NASA engineer Bobby Higgins young African American male early 30s sits at a desk as he types on a computer. *

BOBBY

(yawns)I cant wait to finish this image, Nasa has finally put me in a position to make history. *

His cell phone sits beside him, it begins to ring. He answers it.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Captain Myers I was just about to call and let you know Im almost done with the image. *

CAPTAIN MYERS

(v.o) *

Good, Higgins, you truly are a hard worker staying late on New Year's Eve to finish this assignment shows your dedication. CNN will be calling soon so have it ready. *

Higgins smiles ear to ear while he continues working, the glare of the computer screen reflects on his glasses.

BOBBY

Its no problem sir, this company is my life, so don't you worry. But for dramatic purposes it will be sent as soon as the New Years countdown ends.

CAPTAIN MYERS

(laughs)

Thats good to know, and to think it still amazes me how much of a waste your brother turned out to be. One of the most brilliant minds in the world. Well, alright Higgins make us proud, goodnight. *

BOBBY

Will do, goodnight sir. *

Bobby ends the call, sits his phone on his desk, and starts back editing.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

My brother, pfft I'll never be like that fool.

(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

But I am tired maybe I should get up and walk for a minute.

Bobby rubs his eyes, yawns, and walks around the room. He is soon startled by a red light emitting from his computer screen. He rushes back to the computer and sees a big red envelope on his screen. It reads "open me now."

BOBBY (CONT'D)

What the hell is this ?

Bobby sits down and clicks on the envelope. The envelope contains coded numbers. Bobby quickly figures it out. It says "I know your secret."

(panics) This is a
cybersecurity breach. Of
all the days it just has
to be this one. I'll just
have to take care of this
one myself I don't need
Myers finding out.

*

He responds back with a message that says. "You are interacting on an unauthorized web address. Remove yourself immediately."

BOBBY (CONT'D)

If they respond back I'll be able to pinpoint their location.

Another message comes through with a video attachment, when he clicks on it, he finds a video of himself being recorded live. He looks around the room frantically and searches.

*

BOBBY (CONT'D)

(yells) Whose doing this?
Whose here, dammit show
yourself.

*

Bobby looks at the clock he has less than ten minutes left. He wipes the sweat from his face, takes a deep breath and sits back at his desk.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Everyones counting on me, I cant afford to let this person live.

He checks the location status of the emails origins.

The status shows his current location. The power goes out followed by a knock at the door. Bobby reluctantly approaches the door slowly.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Who is it?

*

Silence befalls the room followed by a second knock.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I said who is it?

ROBBY (V.O.)

It's me brother, open the door.

BOBBY

Robby?

*

Bobby opens the door and the power comes back on, he stares at his brother Robby standing in the hallway. African American male with thick glasses late 20s.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Robby, what are you doing here? You scared the hell out of me.

ROBBY

Still giving your life away to this place I see.

Robby walks into the control room and walks around the room.

BOBBY

You're not allowed on this premises littler brother, how did you get in here? Because I don't have time for one of your episodes I have my own problems right now.

Robby sits at Bobbys computer

ROBBY

Oh you mean the hacker interrupting you and this company's attempt to yet again fool the human race.

BOBBY

How did you know about a hacker? What are you up to Robby because if its that same crap you tried two years ago Im putting an end to it now.

Bobby pulls Robby out of his seat, grabs his collar and pulls him close.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

That big brain of yours has always gotten you into trouble and I always had to save you. I know you hacked into the database.

ROBBY

Duh, you big idiot, now unhand me as I continue my mission to save the world. Because no matter what you and these puppets say, the world deserves to know the truth.

Robby pushes Bobby off of him.

BOBBY

If they knew the truth their would unrest and chaos until the day we cease to exist. You know the truth and look how mad its driven you. My poor sweet shy younger brother, well once upon a time that was you.

*

ROBBY

Oh brother I can assure you Im still the same little brother that you once loved...

BOBBY

I still love you dammit, just walk away and never come back. Telling you that means I love you, because I will do whatever it takes to keep this company's secret. So please Rob, leave.

Robby smiles and starts to cry, he wipes his face and rushes Bobby and punches him. The two stumble over a nearby table fighting. Bobby chokes his brother and takes a quick look at the clock he has six minutes left.

ROBBY

I've made my mind up brother, one of us wont be around for the new year. So what will the overachiever do to keep his employers happy?

BOBBY

Don't make me do this Rob, please.

Bobby throws his brother on a table and holds him down on it. He stares at him with tears in his eyes.

ROBBY

Its just like when we were kids
playing WWE in the living room,
good times huh?

BOBBY

Yeah and I'd always let you win.

ROBBY

Yeah only because mom would give
you praise about how you were such
a good big brother. I always saw
right through that little brain of
yours I just never said anything.

BOBBY

You got it all wrong little
brother, I just always wanted to
see everyone happy just like Im
still trying to do.

ROBBY

I just tell you right now, you're
going to have to kill me to achieve
that.

Bobby looks at the clock he has three minutes he looks back
at his brother and smiles. He chokes his brother until his
last breath, rushes over to the computer, pulls the image
back up and quickly sends it to CNN. He grabs a remote and
turns a t.v. To CNN where he watches with a glare on his
glasses. *

NEWS ANCHOR (V.O.)

This just in we've just gotten a
new image from Nasa. A planet that
may be able to hold life. Wow just
think of the possibilities, when we
finally settle on a new planet in
space. Look at that people, as we
count down in a few seconds. The
new year will bring us closer to
the stars.

Bobby turns around and looks at his dead brother on the
table. He hears the countdown on the t.v. He grabs his phone
and calls his someone.

BOBBY

Hey mom Happy New Year

MOM

Happy New Year son, did you see the
new planet.

BOBBY

Yeah mom you wont believe but it
was me who uploaded it, Im big time
at Nasa now.

*

MOM

Wow Im so proud of you son, you and
your brother. Hey have you heard
from him?

BOBBY

Nope I haven't in awhile.