

Finis

By

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FADE IN:

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY - NIGHT

Three people sit in listening to the radio. JIM EASTWOOD is in his early forties wearing black suit trousers, a white shirt and a yellow tie that has loosened around his neck. ALICE DAVIS is in her late thirties wearing a sensible work clothes and a grey cardigan. Her husband JOHN DAVIS is in his late thirties wearing a black suit with a blue tie.

RADIO PRESENTER

You're listening to the eleven o'clock news, its Friday the 23rd of February 1926. People are gathering in the streets again tonight for the 3rd week running in the hopes of viewing the first light from a not yet discovered sun that, twenty six years ago was predicted to reach earth this month.

John Davis hunches over the back of his chair, arms crossed.

JOHN DAVIS

Come on we've been here four nights now, can we go now? If this god damn sun was going to show up it would have already.

JIM EASTWOOD

Go if you want, I'm not stopping you.

JOHN DAVIS

I wasn't really asking you. Alice?

ALICE DAVIS

I want to stay, what if we miss it?

John rolls his eyes and doesn't respond

JIM EASTWOOD

So Mrs Davis, what do you do in your spare time?

ALICE DAVIS

(looks embarrassed)
Um, well...

JOHN DAVIS

Ha, she doesn't do anything, she just sits and reads her books.

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY - LATER

Ice drips down from the window sill of the laboratory window sill, no one notices.

Alice takes off her cardigan.

JOHN DAVIS

If this new sun was going to show up wouldn't the temperature be rising?

JIM EASTWOOD

Well, yes.

JOHN DAVIS

And is it? No. So lets just go.

ALICE DAVIS

Can we at least wait until morning?

JOHN DAVIS

Fine.

An icicle breaks from the top of the window and smashes on the window sill, everyone notices.

JIM EASTWOOD

Ok, you all saw that, right?

Alice sits on a chair by the window looking out at the sky. She notices a ball of light. She taps Eastwood on his arm and points at the light.

Eastwood glances at the light, barely taking any notice.

JIM EASTWOOD

That's just the moon I'm afraid.

Alice looks at the light through the telescope.

ALICE DAVIS

(mutters)

I don't think so, if you look closely its red.

John interrupts Alice .

JOHN DAVIS

Oh my god, look!

The American flag outside the observatory catches fire, John points at it.

Easwood looks through the telescope at the light in the sky.

JIM EASTWOOD

Wait a minute, it's red and much bigger than the moon.

The glass on the window cracks.

The three rush backwards away from the window.

The glass breaks inward on the laboratory floor.

John looks out onto the street by the docks as people rush inland away from the sea, away from the red light.

Outside a tree catches fire, and then they all do one by one.

People stampede, screaming in panic.

John grabs Alice arm and drags her toward the door.

JIM EASTWOOD

Where are you going?

JOHN DAVIS

Where are we going? We're getting out of here, come on Alice.

JIM EASTWOOD

That's a bad idea, i don't think we should come into contact with the light directly.

ALICE DAVIS

I think he's right, we should stay until this blows over.

JOHN DAVIS

Well I'm not staying, and neither are you!

John pulls her harder.

JIM EASTWOOD

John don't, its not safe out there.

JOHN DAVIS

Stay out of this.

JIM EASTWOOD

John!

JOHN DAVIS

I said stay out of this!

ALICE DAVIS

Please, John!

Eastwood rushes toward the door.

John opens the door to leave.

Eastwood reaches over John's shoulder and closes it in front of him.

John turns around and looks up at it Eastwood.

JOHN DAVIS

What the hell do you think you're doing?

JIM EASTWOOD

(staring down at John)

You're not taking her.

John and Eastwood stare at each other, neither blinks or looks away.

John reluctantly lets go of Alice's arm, turns and looks at her.

JOHN DAVIS

You really want to stay with him?

Alice says nothing.

John shakes his head in anger and leaves the observatory

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY - LATER

A glass laboratory beaker smashes and sprays glass across the room, then more and more do the same.

ALICE DAVIS

I won't leave the observatory but we can't stay in here.

JIM EASTWOOD

Yes, you're right.

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY STAIRCASE - MORNING

Alice and Eastwood climb down the stairs toward the basement.

The heat becomes unbearable.

JIM EASTWOOD

I'm sorry Mrs Davis it's too hot,
would you mind if i took off my
shirt.

ALICE DAVIS

OK, if you are i suppose I will
too.

Alice takes off her shirt and stockings and now wears just her skirt and vest.

Alice and Eastwood are on the ground floor and Eastwood looks out the window at the light, the new sun is much bigger than the old sun.

The streets are now empty.

Alice and Eastwood open the door to the basement.

The whole ground shakes, knocking them both to the ground. Walls and metal beams crash down beside them.

JIM EASTWOOD

Quick lets go down.

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY BASEMENT - DAY

The basement is dark, apart from a flickering light bulb that swings from the ceiling.

A drop of water falls onto Eastwood's arm, he screams.

ALICE DAVIS

Whats wrong?

JIM EASTWOOD

It's boiling hot.

Alice and Eastwood sit down next to each other in the corner of the room. Tiny drops of water drip through the cracks in the ceiling, engulfing the floor very slowly.

Alice and Eastwood's skin is red.

JIM EASTWOOD

Lets talk about something to try
and keep our minds off it.

ALICE DAVIS

Ok.

JIM EASTWOOD

You never got to answer my question earlier. What do you do?

ALICE DAVIS

The sad thing is John was right, I don't really do anything but read. I wish i did but I wouldn't know where to start, what to do.

(pause)

I've never felt content sitting at home waiting for John to come back from work, all the other wives I know seem fine with it, but not me. And it doesn't help that when he does come home its after he's been out at bars with his colleagues.

JIM EASTWOOD

Can I ask you something?

ALICE DAVIS

OK.

JIM EASTWOOD

What do you see in John? He treats you dirt. I've seen the way he talks to you.

ALICE DAVIS

My relationship with my husband is my business, not yours.

JIM EASTWOOD

Ok, I'm sorry I just wondered that's all.

ALICE DAVIS

Our parents are friends, they pushed for us to get married. In all honesty i didn't have much of a choice, it just sort of happened. We used to talk about having children and how we'd play with them in the back yard, but those conversations stopped years ago. I know how he feels about me, he thinks I'm boring, too shy. I can't really help it though, I've always been too scared to do anything, if it didn't work out the day it did, I don't think I would have met anyone.

ALICE DAVIS

OK so now can I ask you something?

JIM EASTWOOD

Go ahead.

ALICE DAVIS

Why did you invite us here to see this new sun?

JIM EASTWOOD

You know why, Johns my friend.

ALICE DAVIS

Yeah but is he though? He never talks about you, I've only met you a few times.

JIM EASTWOOD

Yeah well who else am i going to ask? You know I'm not married.

ALICE DAVIS

Did you know he was going to bring me?

JIM EASTWOOD

No, i thought he might though.

Eastwood pulls out a cigarette case from his trouser pocket.

Alice's skin is blistered and so is Eastwood's.

Eastwood lights his cigarette.

ALICE DAVIS

Do you think it'd be alright if I had one of those?

JIM EASTWOOD

Uh, yeah sure. I thought John didn't like you smoking.

ALICE DAVIS

I know. He doesn't like it, even though he smokes. Do you think this is going to blow over?

JIM EASTWOOD

Honestly I don't know, I want to go look outside but the doors blocked up.

ALICE DAVIS

I suppose it doesn't matter then.

Eastwood hands Alice a cigarette, she leans forward and he lights it for her.

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY BASEMENT -LATER

Eastwood and Alice sit in the same place.

JIM EASTWOOD

Can you feel that?

ALICE DAVIS

Feel what?

JIM EASTWOOD

I think it's getting a little cooler. It must be night time again.

ALICE DAVIS

Does that mean it's over? We can go home?

JIM EASTWOOD

I don't think so, Its probably all gonna start again tomorrow, and probably worse. Plus the way outs blocked anyway.

ALICE DAVIS

So this it?

JIM EASTWOOD

It seems that way.

Alice and Eastwood huddle closer and closer together.

Alice links her arm with his.

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY BASEMENT - DAY

Eastwood wakes up to Alice asleep with her head resting on his shoulder.

JIM EASTWOOD

I think it's getting hotter, it must be day time again.

Alice wakes up, confused.

ALICE DAVIS

I wonder where John is, if he's even alive. I hope he's ok.

JIM EASTWOOD
I'm sure he's fine.

ALICE DAVIS
We've got to try and get out, we
can't just sit here and wait to
die.

JIM EASTWOOD
How? We're stuck.

ALICE DAVIS
We can try and move the rubble
out the way.

Alice rushes toward the basement door frantically moving bits of cement and metal.

ALICE DAVIS
Come on, help me!

Eastwood darts towards Alice, grabbing her by the arms.

JIM EASTWOOD
Alice, stop! There's no point.

Alice falls into Eastwood's arms and cries.

They sit down, Alice rests her head on Eastwood's chest.

INT. NEW YORK OBSERVATORY LABORATORY BASEMENT - DAY

The dripping water has not yet covered the floor, The pools of water on the floor start to bubble.

Alice and Eastwood's skin is bright red, their skin is covered in blisters and peeling, so are their lips.

ALICE DAVIS
(Panting)
I'm so thirsty.

JIM EASTWOOD
Me too.

ALICE DAVIS
How will it happen?

JIM EASTWOOD
What?

ALICE DAVIS
The end. How will it happen?

JIM EASTWOOD
I don't know, and I don't think I
want to.

ALICE DAVIS
Kiss me.

JIM EASTWOOD
(Shocked)
What?

ALICE DAVIS
Kiss me.

JIM EASTWOOD
What about John?

ALICE DAVIS
What about John? He could be
dead, we're going to die. I've
never lived, never done anything
I've wanted to to do, if I'm
gonna die, why the hell not?

Eastwood kisses Alice, she kisses him back.

Alice rests her head back on Eastwood's chest and closes
her eyes.

Eastwood looks across the room, then closes his eyes too.

FADE OUT

THE END