

"OUT OF TIME"

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

An elegant high-end SUV is moving down the rural highway at a reasonable speed.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Celebrity megastars, GERRY NIX (38) and DAPHNE ROCKWELL (36), are driving back from cottage country with their son, MATTHEW NIX (5) strapped into the backseat.

GERRY & DAPHNE

(singing)

Old McDonald had a farm...

Daphne continues the next line of the song but realizes that Gerry has changed the song seamlessly.

GERRY

...and BINGO was his Name-oh.

Matthew appears excited in the backseat.

DAPHNE

(amused muttering)

Not how the song goes.

GERRY

Bee... Eye...

MATTHEW

En-Gee-Oh.

Daphne rejoins the chorus, and they complete singing the song together. Matthew applauds and is happy.

DAPHNE

That's not how Old McDonald goes.

GERRY

Then, croak like a frog, Daph.

DAPHNE
(amused)

I don't croak.

GERRY

In the mornings you do..

MATTHEW

Daddy, put on the hat dance! Hat
dance! Hat dance!

Daphne already has *El Jarabe Tapatio* queued on her cellphone. The iconic song plays, and Matthew begins moving his little arms along to the beat like a band conductor.

Daphne spots fourteen new messages on her cellphone. She ignores them.

DAPHNE

Did you cancel the interview with
Ovation Tonight?

GERRY

Ohh, durn it. Forgot.

Daphne hits Gerry's arm playfully. Matthew continues being amused by the Mexican song.

DAPHNE

Gerry, you liar! You're lying to me.

Daphne starts hitting Gerry on the arm playfully. Gerry plays along that it hurts.

EXT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION - DAY

The Nix car is seen pulling off the highway and entering a gas station.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Gerry and Daphne begin their disguise ritual whereby they attempt to conceal their celebrity identity from the public through putting on large sunglasses, wide-brimmed hats, and average-priced name-brand jackets.

EXT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION - DAY

Gerry and Daphne exit the car, yet some passersby do notice the high-end SUV. Daphne helps Matthew out of his seat.

GERRY

Gonna grab a coffee. You good?

DAPHNE

Be quick, please.

Gerry approaches the gas station's store. Daphne has Matthew out of the car seat. Matthew sees a deer at the edge of the area of the gas station and wants to run toward it, but Daphne holds him by the collar gently while wiping down the child seat.

INT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION STORE - DAY

Gerry moves to the back of the store hoping to not be noticed, but the clerk recognizes him and pulls out his cellphone to shamelessly record a video of Gerry.

Other customers at the counter turn to Gerry and size him up.

EXT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION - DAY

Daphne now sees the small deer that is at the edge of the gas station area. Daphne is carefully leading Matthew by the hand toward the deer.

DAPHNE

Look Matty... baby deer.

MATTHEW

Cap...rio...linae. Mammal Cer...vi...dae.

DAPHNE

Wow, Matthew... what's that?

MATTHEW

White tail deer!

Daphnes appears astounded by her young son's knowledge. Some people behind them are pointing and seem to have noticed that the woman is Daphne Rockwell.

INT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION STORE - DAY

Gerry has his coffee and a pack of chewing gum. He approaches the counter hoping to remain incognito, but then notices he is being recorded by the clerk. The CLERK (25) is grinning from ear to ear.

CLERK

You're Gerry Nix.

Other customers are nodding and there is a buzz in the store. An EAGER MAN (40) holds up a copy of People magazine with the Nix family on the cover and compares it with the real thing.

GERRY

Hey guys.

CLERK

Oh, that's so cool.

EXT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION - DAY

Daphne and Matthew have come up quite close to the fawn. However, a crowd is gathering behind them and beginning to rush forward.

INT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION STORE - DAY

The fast-talking eager man beside Gerry reaches over and touches Gerry's arm. Gerry is attempting to politely encourage the clerk to run the transaction.

EAGER MAN

Mr. Nix, can I call you Gerry? You were amazing in *Freefall 2*. I'm so glad they replaced that stupid Carl Henry with you. You're way better, dude. Way better.

Another ONLOOKER chimes in.

ONLOOKER

You should have won best actor for that George Washington movie. The voting is all political though, you know how it is with liberal...

GERRY

(interrupting politely)
Thanks guys. I'm happy you all are going out and watching the movies. It means a lot. Really does.

EAGER MAN

Oh, I was a huge fan before you were acting, Gerry. I've been following you since you were a tight end at Ohio State.

ONLOOKER

Show us the ring!

Gerry nods politely and then takes his right hand out of his pocket and shows off the Superbowl ring on his ring finger. The eager man goes in for a closer look.

EAGER MAN

Look at that... Superbowl 44... New York. Wow. Amazing.

Gerry is humoring the crowd with polite nods and smiles. The clerk has rung up Gerry's items. Gerry pays with cash and subtly makes his way to the exit of the store.

GERRY

Alright guys... gotta run. Don't forget to root for those Jets this year. They're counting on you.

There is a MAN IN THE BACK of the group of customers that calls out as Gerry is leaving the store. Gerry ignores the question.

MAN IN THE BACK

Gerry... is Daphne with you?!

There is a buzz in the store regarding Daphne Rockwell and several customers are heard uttering her name.

EXT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION - DAY

Gerry exits the store and notices the crowd around Daphne and Matty. Many people have their phones out and are recording. A camera flash scares the fawn which runs away.

Gerry politely pushes past the crowd and rejoins his family.

GERRY

Hey guys. C'mon, he's just a little boy. Give him a bit of room to grow here huh.

Gerry motions to the crowd in a friendly way and the crowd backs up a bit and some put their phones away.

GERRY

Thank you, that's great. We love you fans but we're just doing family stuff right now. You understand.

Some of the crowd disperses while others remain gawking. Gerry leads his family back to the car.

A FEMALE FAN reaches out for Daphne as the Nix family pass by the small crowd. Gerry takes Matthew's hand while Daphne is slowed by the fan.

FEMALE FAN

Daphne, I follow you on everything. Please, do more of your dancing in the next movies. Your dancing is way better than your acting..

Daphne furrows her brow not knowing how to react at first to the backhanded compliment.

FEMALE FAN

Oh shit... no I meant that you are way better at..

Daphne stops and takes the female fan's hand for a moment.

DAPHNE

I understand. And there will be more dance numbers in the next one.

The female fan is visibly ecstatic.

DAPHNE

Count on it.

Daphne catches up to Gerry and Matthew. Gerry lets Daphne pick up Matthew just before a gawker gets too close to snapping a closeup photograph of young Matthew with his DSLR camera. Daphne turns her back and covers Matthew's head with her hand.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Daphne carries Matthew into the front with her and then sets him up in the backseat from inside the car.

Daphne and Gerry look at each other in their ridiculous disguises and they laugh while shaking their heads.

EXT. HIGHWAY GAS STATION - DAY

The Nix car turns around and pulls up to the gas pump. There is a large billboard above the gas station advertising the construction of a giant skyscraper for the Munday Solutions Corporation. The billboard reads, "EVERY DAY IS MUNDAY".

CUT.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

The Nix car has picked up speed and the city skyline is now visible in the distance.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Daphne is writing some notes on a pad of paper. Matthew is napping in the back.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

A big rig truck is driving away from the city at high speed.

INT. BIG RIG TRUCK - DAY

The driver of the truck is napping.

ECU - ELECTRONIC CONTROL UNIT (ECU)

The truck is driving using an ECU computer.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

ECU - MARKED LINES ON HIGHWAY

The marked lines on the highway begin fading and the big rig truck is drifting out of its lane slightly.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Gerry is drinking his coffee and Daphne is still busy writing.

GERRY

What are you writing?

DAPHNE

Acceptance speech.

GERRY

(cooly)

Fancy.

DAPHNE

Should I thank you?

GERRY

Who have you got so far?

DAPHNE

Crystal, the producers, Dave, Arnie,

I don't know... the choreographer.

(pause)

Did you even watch the movie yet?

Gerry makes a tense face indicating he is probably in trouble for not having watched his wife's latest movie.

DAPHNE

Pffft... I'm not mentioning you then.

Gerry attempts to defend himself, but Daphne waves him off signaling with her hand that she is concentrating on her speechwriting and doesn't want to be distracted by Gerry's lame excuses.

INT. BIG RIG TRUCK - DAY

The truck driver remains asleep. A red light is flashing on the ECU located under the passenger side dashboard.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

The truck is drifting out of its lane once more. Cars are coming the other way, and one car quickly makes room on the shoulder as the irate driver honks while narrowly missing a collision.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Gerry is looking back at Matthew. Matthew is still napping.

GERRY

Look Matthew... you can see the city.

Matthew wakes up and looks out the window as instructed.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

The big rig truck is back in its lane but beginning to drift once more. The next car coming the other way is the Nix SUV.

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

The whole Nix family is looking out the side window at the city skyline which has come into view. Gerry notices at the last moment that the truck is merging into his lane. It is too late to veer off onto the shoulder of the highway.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

The big rig truck collides with the Nix car and the damage is severe. The truck rolls into a ditch, but the Nix car is spun half a dozen times and collides with a tree off the shoulder of the highway. Glass, plastic, and metal pieces fly in all directions.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. NIX CAR - DAY

Gerry is coming to consciousness in the driver's seat of the SUV. Part of his door is pinning him down inside the car. Gerry is woozy but begins to get his bearings.

Gerry looks around the SUV, but Daphne and Matthew are not in

their seats. Gerry checks his head for cuts.

Gerry looks outside the car for Daphne and Matthew, but from the driver's seat he can't see anything. Gerry begins to panic. He yells for his wife.

GERRY

Daphne! Daphne! Daph!

Gerry is struggling against the part of the door pinning him down. Gerry is barely able to slide out of his seat and crawl out the blown-out passenger side window. He lands on the ground with a thud.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

Gerry gets to his feet gingerly. He looks around. The big rig truck is gone. The highway is silent. Gerry begins calling out again.

Gerry is pacing up and down the side of the highway confused by the absence of his wife and son. Gerry looks up and sees birds flying overhead. Gerry walks in from the highway and toward a small patch of forest dozens of meters away.

As he continues toward the patch of forest, every few meters he notices items belonging to his wife and son. He notices Daphne's notepad. He picks it up and pockets it.

There is a boy in the field with what appears to be a dog walking beside him, however, the dog has robotic legs and a panel on its back. The boy notices Gerry bending over as if he were picking up an item, yet there is nothing on the ground. The boy is puzzled.

Gerry continues moving toward the forest oblivious to the boy's presence. Then, further along the path, Gerry finds Daphne's hat on the ground, and later Matthew's shoe.

The boy turns to the highway and sees a half dozen suited TECHNICIANS busy checking their digital tablets while watching Gerry's behavior. The techs notice the boy but pay him no mind. The car wreck has vanished, and the techs have a large futuristic van which they enter and drive off in. The boy with the robot dog is spooked and he runs away with his dog following behind.

EXT. PATCH OF FOREST - DAY

Gerry enters the patch of forest and discovers a futuristic metal door to a bunker.

ECU - FUTURISTIC BUNKER DOOR

The door has no natural place in the setting and has futuristic features such as an advanced holographic keypad and ornate mosaic patterns etched into the metal frame.

GERRY

What is this?

Gerry feels around at the door hoping to trigger it to open. An alarm sounds and Gerry steps back.

GERRY

What the Hell!?

The bunker door opens, there is mist seeping from the bottom of the door and a bright light from within. Gerry shields his eyes. He squints to make out what is beyond the doors.

He can see Daphne and Matthew standing together holding hands, and then the bright light behind them becomes blinding and a strong gust of wind blows out from inside the bunker. Gerry is pushed back to his knees and must cover his face with his hand.

The alarm ceases, the wind breaks, and the light fades. Gerry gets to his feet and the bunker door is closed once more. He races toward it and pounds on the door.

GERRY

No! No! Open, God damn you!

Suddenly, Gerry hears the buzz of machines behind him. He turns and there are drones flying around outside the patch of forest.

Gerry leaves the bunker door and rushes back toward the field between the woods and the highway.

EXT. UPSTATE RURAL HIGHWAY - DAY

Gerry gets to the edge of the patch of forest, and he can see

half a dozen drones hovering around him. He notices that the car from the accident has vanished.

The drones are still hovering above his head, but they are getting closer as he moves toward the highway.

At the highway, Gerry can see cars and trucks passing by. The cars and trucks are futuristic models, and they appear to be self-driving based on Gerry noticing the activities of drivers in the vehicles, such as reading and sleeping.

GERRY

What is going on here?

MEDIA DRONE (O.S.)

Gerry Nix, how does it feel?

Gerry spins around and the drones are now at his eye level. The drones have small video monitors attached and a different news reporter is in each monitor of the half dozen media drones.

GERRY

How does what feel?

MEDIA DRONE

How does it feel to be back after
thirty years?

Gerry's jaw drops. He turns to look past the swarm of media drones and toward the city skyline. The city skyline is futuristic, with several megatowers dwarfing the notable skyscrapers of the skyline Gerry was once familiar with.

[OPENING CREDITS]

The futuristic skyline is juxtaposed with the serene countryside where Gerry remains standing in shock. One of the media drones ascends and flies away at high speed toward the city.

CUT.

INT. MATTHEW NIX APARTMENT - DAY

The apartment is lined with paintings of animals and there is a large canvass depicting a deer showcased on the far wall.

Matthew Nix (35) is sitting on a couch with a holographic monitor displaying a news story. The title card for the news story has an image of Gerry Nix standing in the field bewildered by the media drones. A caption reads across the screen in bold typeface, "WILL HE FIND OUT?".

A news broadcaster is in a studio reporting and begins speaking to cover the story.

Matthew appears disgusted and shakes his head. He turns off the display. Matthew takes a deep breath. There is a chime.

MATTHEW

Answer.

SANDY WALSH (V.O.)

Sandy Walsh from Media-One. Can you answer some questions, Mr. Nix?

Matthew sighs and stands up. He moves toward the front door of his apartment.

MATTHEW

I'd rather not. I can't see why you need a statement from me. He isn't my real father.

SANDY WALSH (V.O.)

I see what you mean. However, the Munday Solutions Remembrance Android Project is now launched.

Matthew has opened the door to his apartment and a drone flies along the hallway and drops a small package into his hands and then flies off. Matthew closes the door and enters his kitchen.

MATTHEW

Your point...

SANDY WALSH (V.O.)

Willem Munday has presented the world with one of its most popular icons... actor and athlete, Gerry Nix. Your father...

Matthew has opened the package in his hands and pulls out some groceries. He opens his fridge and there is a scanner near the top of the door. The scanner reads the expiry date of the products by their barcode.

MATTHEW

My father died in a car accident when I was five years old. You people have a sickness. You treat tin men like they are flesh and blood. A bundle of circuits as a heart. It's perverse.

Matthew's fridge has shelves that light up with green, amber, and red neon lights around the products. Matthew puts the new items away and the neon light underneath those items is green indicating the goods are fresh.

SANDY WALSH (V.O.)

Yes, I understand your luddite sensibilities, Matthew. I remember covering your trial, in fact. But, the world is now excited about Gerry all the same. Any comments?

Matthew pulls a carton of milk out from the fridge that has a red light under it. He inspects the expiry date and shakes his head.

Matthew moves over to the sink and begins pouring out the spoiled milk. The sink scanner turns on the water automatically to wash away the residue.

MATTHEW

Did you ever hear the expression, "rest in peace"?

SANDY WALSH (V.O.)

Can I quote you on that?

MATTHEW

Fuck off. End call.

Matthew leaves the kitchen and puts on his jacket in the lobby of his apartment.

MATTHEW
"Luddite sensibilities". Try, human
nature, you cyber-jackals.

Matthew opens the door to his apartment and is annoyed by the drones buzzing around as he waits for a safe space to enter the hallway.

CUT.

EXT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS HEAD OFFICE - DAY

The Munday Solutions head office building is one of the most magnificent new megatowers in the city and was the one featured on the billboard.

INT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS MEDIA JUNKET HALL - DAY

WILLEM MUNDAY (60) and his corporate entourage stand on stage with Willem in front of a podium. The Munday Solutions banner hangs overhead and reads, "THANK GOD IT'S MUNDAY".

On stage at either of the far sides are two androids standing still. They are noted as androids because they are not clothed (Barbie-Ken doll style lack of genitals) and they have branding and a panel on their upper thighs. Behind the nude androids are vertical banners advertising the Remembrance Android Project.

LARGE MONITORS around the hall feature highlight footage of Gerry Nix's human life intercut with clips of Munday Solutions techs working in engineering labs on the Gerry Nix Remembrance Android.

Several dozen news reporters sit in the front rows of a large audience. The din of the reporters' unanswered questions is silenced by enigmatic Willem pointing at one of the reporters queuing their question.

BRAD FAXON
Brad Faxon, All-media-all-the-time-
all-for-you network..

Willem rolls his eyes at the long-winded network moniker.

BRAD FAXON

...Mr. Munday, your first Remembrance Android is now active. The world will be expected to treat this synthetic being as the real thing. This is a brand-new approach to how people deal with synthetic beings. Don't you think that you are playing God, right now?

WILLEM

No, God killed Gerry Nix. I'm just bringing him back.

The reporters are agitated as they whisper notations into their streamlined headsets.

WILLEM

For twenty years, Munday Solutions has brought the people what they wanted to ease their minds. We brought you robots, and then androids... to do the cooking, the cleaning... to play cards with the kids, and walk the dog.

The reporters continue with their whispered transcriptions through their headsets. The collective whispers of the reporters are sufficiently noisy that Willem pauses during his answers.

WILLEM

All that eased your minds. And now, with Remembrance Androids, Munday Solutions presents the possibility of easing your heart, as well.

TEUTA SHARKA (30) is Willem Munday's press secretary and she handles all the media-related business for Willem. Teuta is tall with long, raven-black hair. She cuts an intimidating shadow and wherever Willem is, Teuta is not far behind.

Teuta leans into whisper to Willem's head of security, DAN BOLINGBROKE (40). Bolingbroke signals to some of his security agents who slowly walk toward the back of the hall.

Another reporter is signaled for a question. The reporter is

SANDY WALSH (30).

WILLEM

Yes, Sandy.

SANDY WALSH

Sandy Walsh. Media-One, Mr. Munday, you have mentioned in the past that androids are quote, "bonding partners". Does that notion apply differently with these new Remembrance Androids?

Willem clears his throat as he prepares his answer.

WILLEM

Vinculum alius ergo sum - another bond, therefore I am.

(pause)

We here at Munday Solutions believe that you being reunited with a lost loved one produces a new bond. And it is bonds that make our lives meaningful, and it is bonds that bring us happiness.

SANDY WALSH

Follow up... how do you imagine Matthew Nix will feel about the Gerry Nix Remembrance Android, in the likeness of his father who was lost so tragically to him - to all of us - thirty years ago?

WILLEM

There is no underestimating how loss is felt by the soul. It leaves an indelible gap. But, a gap that can be filled with love... and care... and concern. The more we treat these Remembrance Androids the way that they would want to be treated, the more love, and care, and concern we give. That is great for all of us. That forges the bond.

A CRITICAL REPORTER pipes up and interrupts Willem.

CRITICAL REPORTER

...that why you have naked synthetics on stage? Is that how **they** want to be treated, do you think?

There is a stir in the hall and Willem tries to calm his audience by motioning gently with his hands. He begins addressing the critical reporter's question.

Meanwhile, the two security agents are now situated at the back door entrance into the hall. Matthew Nix enters the hall and begins listening to Willem answer questions.

A BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE (50) is also standing at the back listening to Willem. He notices Matthew Nix enter. The security guards are staring at Matthew which Matthew notes. Teuta is standing behind Willem on stage but keeping an eye on Matthew.

The blissful technophile turns to Matthew.

BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE

Hi, Matthew.

MATTHEW

(dismissively)

Do I know you?

BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE

(nonchalant)

No.

Matthew focuses his attention back on the stage and Willem Munday. The blissful technophile keeps his eyes locked on Matthew.

BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE

Just think, that in a thousand years human beings will hook up to computers and simulate life across a vast interconnected web of thought.

As the technophile continues his soliloquy, Matthew begins to pay greater attention to the man's words.

BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE

Spines and brains in giant cookie jars of protein amino acid goop. Advanced robotics engineered into a complete workforce to sustain the lives of mankind and serve the will of their creators.

Matthew realizes he is dealing with a technophilic zealot and turns back to listen to Willem and the reporters.

BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE

The cookie jars are cleaned. A nil economy for all. We each live for hundreds... of thousands of years before eventual cellular meiosis sterility. The birth of the undead cell.

The security agents move forward toward Matthew and the technophile.

BLISSFUL TECHNOPHILE

And then, 'poof', no more us.

The technophile makes a bomb exploding hand signal. Matthew looks back at the technophile with some concern as the security agents are now on top of the pair.

The security agents direct themselves to the technophile and one puts his hand on the technophile's shoulder.

SECURITY AGENT

You... out, now.

The pair of security agents escort the technophile out of the hall. Matthew sighs and locks eyes with Teuta. Willem continues fielding questions.

EXT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS HEAD OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

Matthew leaves the hall and watches the security agents escorting the technophile out of the building. Matthew's cellphone chimes but he ignores it.

Teuta leaves the hall and approaches Matthew.

TEUTA

Curiosity killed the cat...

MATTHEW

Is that a threat? Miss...

TEUTA

Miss Sharka. Teuta Sharka.

(pause)

We've met by the way.

MATTHEW

All you Munday goons look the same.

TEUTA

Charmed. What can I do for you,
Matthew?

MATTHEW

I'm beginning to regret the deal I
made with your boss.

TEUTA

Not really a "deal". You signed a
contract. You transferred your
rights to your late father's life.
We paid you.

Matthew cracks his neck out of frustration that he must listen
to the corporate doublespeak.

MATTHEW

I'm starting to get media attention
again. I was enjoying the peace and
quiet before... all this.

TEUTA

I can make a statement to the media,
if you would like?

MATTHEW

What kind of statement?

TEUTA

That you don't intend to be involved
as family in the life of our Gerry
Nix. Ergo, to leave you alone.

MATTHEW

Good enough, I suppose.

TEUTA

Anything else?

Matthew sizes up Teuta.

MATTHEW

Where is he? The robot Gerry Nix?

TEUTA

Undergoing maintenance, I believe.
He didn't... react to the programming
parameters as well as we would have
liked.

MATTHEW

So, you'll keep nuking his circuits
then. At least **my** father only had
to die once.

Teuta's look is stone cold. Matthew huffs in disdain.

MATTHEW

You people are shameless.

TEUTA

And you took our money. What does
that say about you, I wonder?

Matthew stares daggers at Teuta.

TEUTA

Willem once said something... pithy,
that might apply here: "it isn't the
recognizing your wicked acts that
makes you evil, but rather the
denying it."

Matthew sways uncomfortably.

MATTHEW

I'm not evil.

TEUTA

I imagine that's true.
(pause)
Go find a bar and have a drink,
Matthew... on us.

Teuta excuses herself and re-enters the press junket hall. Matthew is visibly disheartened by the interaction and what is weighing on his mind.

He notices through the giant glass windows of the lobby that the blissful technophile is standing outside with a soothsayer sign prophesizing that the end is nigh. The security agents stand at a distance from the technophile and keep a close eye on him.

CUT.

INT. DAVIS STREET BAR - NIGHT

Matthew is at the bar nursing a pint of lager. The bartender, MICK (35), is instructing an android barback where to put an empty beer keg.

MICK

In the back... in the back. Don't
bring them out here.

The android barback has a Munday Solutions brand on the back of his neck. The android continues with the task.

Matthew is watching the television monitors lined above the bar. There are sports on most of the screens, but the screen at the end shows the android Gerry Nix being accosted by the media drones in the field outside the city.

Matthew watches as Gerry seems panicked and upset. Gerry is pushing the drones away from him and running back toward the patch of forest. The drones pursue him into the forest.

MATTHEW

Can you switch that one to something
else?

MICK

Switch it?

MATTHEW

Well, turn it off then. Just that one.

Mick throws up his hands.

MICK

How do you turn it off!?

Mick thinks he is joking with Matthew, intimating that technology has a mind of its own. Matthew rolls his eyes and sighs.

Mick starts cleaning the glasses. The android barback returns and Mick hands the glass to the android who continues the task.

Matthew turns to look out into the bar. Most of the bar area is set up like a small stadium with comfy seats that form spectator stands all around an open floor in the middle.

There is a holographic basketball match taking place on the open floor in the middle which emulates an experience of the sports match actually taking place in the bar.

Matthew compares the holographic and relatively miniature basketball court in the bar to the same game being shown on the television monitors around the bar. It is the same match.

Matthew turns back to the bartender.

MATTHEW

Just the bill...

There are small touchscreen monitors built into the bar in front of each seat. Mick taps a monitor behind him, and the digital bill pops up on the monitor in front of Matthew. Mick sizes up Matthew.

MICK

I recognize you now.

MATTHEW

It happens.

MICK

Sure, but what happened to you?
Didn't you go nuts, or something?

MATTHEW

Not how I would put it.

MICK

Yeah, I remember now. They were
always following you around when
you were a kid. The media drones.
Hounding you.

MATTHEW

It's what they do best. They do it
for you.

MICK

Yeah, it must have been rough, man.
I feel for you. I do. And I was
rooting for you during that whole
court trial. And with all the
cameras, and with who your parents
were there was no way you were
getting a fair trial. That blows.

Matthew stands up from the bar.

MATTHEW

That's life.

Mick sighs.

MICK

Well, I heard you got paid big
bucks from Munday so they could do
this whole dead droid thing with
your dad.

MATTHEW

And now I feel like Faust.

Mick is confused, not understanding the reference.

MATTHEW

Nevermind.

MICK

Just take the money and run then.

MATTHEW

Can I ask you something?

MICK

Shoot.

MATTHEW

What do you think about Gerry Nix being back... an android Gerry?

(sarcasm)

The big football hero. The super action movie star. The great philanthropist. The icon.

Mick takes a moment to pick his words carefully.

MICK

Well, you might not like my answer.

MATTHEW

I asked, didn't I?

MICK

I think it's a cool idea... if it works. Androids aren't the most intuitive but that's good. Then, we can tell them apart from real people. We get what we want from them and not much of what's a pain in the ass when dealing with real people.

MATTHEW

You didn't really answer my question.

MICK

Gerry Nix is back. We know it isn't really him, but we loved your dad. And I lost my mom to breast cancer and she died way before her time.

MATTHEW

I'm sorry for your loss.

MICK

Thank you. But, the point is that if what Munday is doing works out then maybe I can experience some of my mom again with a synthetic. It's like an old photo album come to life, ya know?

MATTHEW

But, they aren't "alive".

MICK

How do you know?

Matthew must pause to contemplate the serious question.

CUT.

INT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS MAINTENANCE BAY - NIGHT

Gerry is lying on a slab with half a dozen technicians moving around the pristine and bright maintenance lab, working on him, and checking diagnostic readouts on their tablets.

Gerry's eyes are open, but he seems unresponsive. Then, he blinks.

CUT.

EXT. DAVIS STREET - NIGHT

Matthew exits the bar and starts down the street. At the end of the street is a park. Along the street, there are cafes at the street level of a megatower.

EXT. DAVIS STREET PARK - NIGHT

Matthew reaches the park. There is a small stage in the middle of the park designed for live performers. There are a dozen people standing looking at the empty stage. Each of them has a visor and headset on. The dozen people are all standing separately, but they are rocking-out in sync.

Matthew walks over to a stand in the middle of the area where the people are rocking-out. There is an android at the stand. Matthew is scanned by the android's eyes using a diffused

green beam of light. The android then hands Matthew a visor and headset.

Matthew steps back from the stand and puts on the visor and headset. The empty stage now has the Rolling Stones rock band in their prime represented through holographic digital technology. The simulated band is playing the song, "Start Me Up". There is a holographic crowd generated to give the impression that the near-empty park is a packed house.

The holographic tech has extremely high resolution, and with the studio quality sound, the experience is akin to being at a real rock concert.

Matthew smiles for the first time and is happy to be listening to the amazing rock music.

CUT.

INT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS GERRY UNIT - NIGHT

Gerry is experiencing being in a hotel room. He unlocks the minibar and peruses the items.

GERRY
Synthetic alcohol... don't know about
that..

He checks the bedroom and notes the turndown service.

GERRY
Not bad. Not bad at all.

However, Gerry is being programmed to see the room as a luxury hotel room. It is revealed that the hotel room is in fact a sparsely decorated, sterile, bright lab room attached to the maintenance bay.

INT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS MAINTENANCE BAY - NIGHT

One of the technicians is looking through a window into the lab room that Gerry is in. The techs are still buzzing around the maintenance bay working hard on the Remembrance Android Project.

CUT.

EXT. DAVIS STREET PARK - NIGHT

Matthew is swaying to the music and nodding his head. Suddenly, a hand reaches out and pulls at his shoulder.

Matthew turns and is faced with his ex-girlfriend, NIKKI (30). She appears excited to see him. Matthew takes off the headset and visor.

MATTHEW

Nikki!

They embrace.

MATTHEW

What are you doing here?

NIKKI

Happy coincidence?

MATTHEW

Yeah, sure.

NIKKI

Are you busy?

The android has moved toward Matthew and Nikki. Matthew looks at the android servant and hands over the visor and headset.

MATTHEW

No, not at all.

NIKKI

Good. Maybe we can... hang out? Catch up?

MATTHEW

Yeah, sounds good. Where do you want to go?

NIKKI

Cosmic mini-putt?

MATTHEW

Bogey... bogey... bogey.

They laugh at the inside joke.

NIKKI

How about your place, then?

Matthew raises his eyebrow and smirks affirmatively. They leave the park arm in arm.

CUT.

INT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS GERRY UNIT - NIGHT

Gerry is lying in the bed of the sterile lab room that he perceives as a luxury hotel room.

His eyes are open, and he seems unresponsive. He closes his eyes.

CUT.

INT. MATTHEW NIX APARTMENT - NIGHT

Matthew and Nikki are having sex in his bed.

EXT. MATTHEW NIX APARTMENT BALCONY - NIGHT

Matthew is standing on his balcony with a towel around his waist. Nikki comes out in one of Matthew's shirts and her panties. Nikki holds onto Matthew from behind.

NIKKI

Are you still thinking about him?

MATTHEW

I shouldn't. It isn't really him.

NIKKI

Those Munday synthetics fool me all the time.

MATTHEW

That's why I hate them. They're unnatural.

NIKKI

I don't think you need to feel so strongly about it.

Matthew sighs. He turns and faces Nikki.

MATTHEW

What would you have done? If it was your parents?

NIKKI

I don't know. I'd explore the possibilities, I guess. Maybe meet him. Get to know him.

Matthew huffs. Nikki gets more affectionate. They kiss.

NIKKI

Keep an open mind.

MATTHEW

Are you saying I'm stubborn?

NIKKI

Like an ox.

Matthew laughs under his breath.

NIKKI

Come on, ox. You're not done ploughing yet.

Nikki takes Matthew by the hand and pulls him back into his bedroom with enthusiasm.

CUT.

EXT. MUNDAY SOLUTIONS HEAD OFFICE ROOFTOP - DAY

Gerry and Willem Munday are walking through the extensive gardens on the roof of the head office megatower.

WILLEM

How did you sleep?

GERRY

Alright, I guess.

WILLEM

I can imagine this is all very strange for you.

Gerry and Willem walk past some security agents.

GERRY

It is. It's completely unreal.

WILLEM

You just need to give it some time.
Let it sink in, that you are back,
yet not how you expected.

GERRY

I'm having a difficult time wrapping
my mind around this. So, I was in
the car accident... thirty years ago?

Willem stops and faces Gerry.

WILLEM

You were. And so was Daphne. The
medical specialists did not have
the technology at the time to
remove a piece of shrapnel that had
lodged itself in your brain from the
car accident.

Gerry is shaking his head in disbelief. Willem pats Gerry on
the shoulder and they continue walking.

WILLEM

Removing that tiny piece of metal
would have resulted in brain death.

GERRY

So, I was frozen?

WILLEM

I am told that the correct term is
"vitrified sleep". And yes, you
were preserved...

Gerry exhales, finding the story overwhelming.

WILLEM

...on the instructions of your power
of attorney at that time.

GERRY

And now... here I am.

Gerry and Willem walk past two technicians. They are busy working on their tablets, while observing Gerry.

WILLEM

Yes, of course.

GERRY

And your company saved me?

WILLEM

Munday Solutions among other world-leading scientific undertakings, has made great leaps forward in medical science. Our technicians pioneered the procedure that saved your life.

Gerry stops walking. Teuta Sharka is wearing dark sunglasses and standing stoically near the entrance to the rooftop lobby.

GERRY

It's so much to take in.

WILLEM

Gerry, you have to move through this slowly, and trust **me** and my people. We can get you through this. Your life will make sense again - I promise.

Willem keeps walking and heads toward Teuta. Gerry is following behind.

GERRY

What about my son, Matthew?

Willem stops and turns around with a look of concern. The concern quickly shifts to a sardonic smile.

WILLEM

Matthew is well.

GERRY

I want to see him.

WILLEM

Gerry, your son, Matthew, his life has had obstacles. Meeting him now may make this transition for you more difficult. You have to understand, thirty years have past for him. The two of you are almost the same age now.

GERRY

Fair enough.

Willem appears to be appeased and he continues walking.

GERRY

Still, I want to see my son.

The reflection in Teuta's sunglasses reveals a grimace on Willem's face as he walks past her toward the rooftop elevator.

CUT.