

Mysterium - Revelations

written by

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TITLE CARD:

""He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.'" - Revelations 21:5"

TITLE CARD:

"Episode V: Revelations"

We hear a CAR engine over the black and white title.

FADE IN:

INT./EXT. HIGHWAY - EVENING

An empty view of a HIGHWAY, a POLICE VAN that reads "WEST COUNTY P.D." on its right-side drives into frame. The CAMERA pans with, as the van rides past, travelling fast.

JOE is clutching the wheel, wearing a stern expression as the engine struggles to maintain speed.

Joe is still BLOODY and BRUISED, a gauze around his left shoulder. The CAMERA cuts to the passenger seat, showing a COLT REVOLVER and laptop.

JOE

I have to get there fast. They
can't fight this by themselves.

The van pulls away from the CAMERA.

CUT TO:

EXT. - NUCLEAR POWER STATION - EVENING

RYAN and BRENDA are seen together, next to the CAVALIER; the CAMERA catches the size of the building and how small their comparison is.

The CAMERA inspects the landscape, showing a desolate middle-of-nowhere.

Ryan approaches the object they just saw fall from the sky. He observes it, making certain that it obeys the laws of physics.

He reaches down and hesitatingly picks it up.

It's a weighty, chunk of hard drive. There is a piece of paper tied to it, which Ryan places it in his back pocket. Underneath the paper, on the drive, is a smiley-face.

RYAN

Last I knew, this powerplant was
still in operation.
In fact, I don't remember there
being a powerplant here...
This doesn't feel right, Brenda...

Ryan hands Brenda the paper while he kneels, still inspecting the hardware.

Brenda holds the note. The type is in COURIER NEW, 12-point font.

"I'll try to protect you both, you're close. - Mr. Nice Guy"

Brenda hands the note to Ryan. He skims the two sentences.

RYAN (CONT'D)

No. He got out. How could this be?

BRENDA

I don't think he ever left...

Brenda drops the paper, and it flutters off.

RYAN

He'll try to protect us... What
does he mean "try"?

Ryan stands up, hardware in hand.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Somewhere between "Deus Ex Machina"
and our stupidity.

Brenda takes the first steps towards the building; Ryan follows after a few steps. They both meet the doors of the entrance, looking similar to other power stations. They both look at one another.

BRENDA

Well...Here goes nothing, Ryan.

INT. NUCLEAR POWERPLANT - CONTINUOUS

The CAMERA, inside the entrance, shows the scale of the room and our characters. BEAT. They enter the room, and glance around. Deserted and orderly, too much so.

BRENDA

It's quiet, are we sure this is a powerplant?

Ryan finds the front desk; it has typewriters INSTEAD of computers.

RYAN

Once again, none of this makes sense.

BRENDA

Does it have to make sense?

RYAN

It would help me out a lot if it did.

They lock eyes from across the room from each other. Brenda points ahead, in a beckon. The two walk cautiously to the rear of the room.

Once further, Brenda and Ryan meet at another set of doors, much larger than the first. Brenda looks to Ryan, who nods in acceptance. She then throws the doors open to reveal...

INT. POWERPLANT LABRYNTH - CONTINUOUS

A HALLWAY or CORRIDOR that could be seen in any hospital. The walls are grey, and the ceiling is drop down with fluorescent light. They move forward. They meet a fork, left and right.

RYAN

(Sarcastically, strolling)
Alright gang, wanna split up and search for clues?

BRENDA

Stay close, if we meet anyone, we would be bad off on our own.

They move to the right, meeting another fork. On the wall in front, is a GRAFFITI style of writing. An ARROW pointing left in the same style.

"Follow me, I'll guide you. - Mr. Nice Guy"

BEAT.

RYAN

Weird...

Brenda follows the arrow; Ryan looks right before catching up with her. They are led to a large room, empty besides an ARROW on a far wall, a rather long way off. They pause.

RYAN (CONT'D)
This cannot be right.

BRENDA
Is it screwing with us?

RYAN
Is who screwing with what?

BRENDA
The simulation, it's protecting
something...

Brenda breaks into a run, to the arrow. Ryan reaches out to her, stumbles and does the same. The two jog to the branch indicated, turn the corner and see a phrase, just as the other.

"Hurry up!"

The two start running, as if their lives depended on it. Running through a fork, arrow left. Passing an office full of cubicles, each have a desk, but still empty.

The arrow pointing to the right, at the side of the room. The hallway winds with ninety-degree turns, left then right, then left again.

Then it stops, a dead-end. With a square red-lattice in the dead center that states...

"[Insert]:DOOR"

The duo pauses, out of breath.

RYAN
(Panting)
Is this it?...Where's the door?

Brenda searches the wall, nothing, the outline is part of the wall. Ryan walks beside her, studying the wall as well.

BRENDA
This can't be...There's got to be a
way through!

RYAN
Brenda...It looks like we came to
the end-.

The door becomes solid, instantly gaining form before the CAMERA.

CUT TO:

EXT. POWERSTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Joe is sitting in the van's rear: doors open, legs dangling, smile wide. Running his finger along the LAPTOP's screen.

JOE
(Chuckling)
You idiots...Who the hell coded
this place in 'C Sharp' anyway?

CUT TO:

INT. NUCLEAR POWERPLANT - MOMENTS LATER

Ryan and Brenda hastily open the thick, metal door. Brenda, the first one in, while Ryan hoists it open further. He makes his way into the room with Brenda.

CUT TO:

INT. SURVEILLIANCE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

DARK FIGURE (to be known as MORT), in suit and tie, watches a monitor, his nose mere inches away from the screen. SOMEONE sits at a control panel, like a television station control room director. The only light in the room is from the CRTs.

MORT
They got in, idiot! What do you
think now?

SOMEONE
If they had the ability to do
anything about this, we wouldn't
have let them get this far.

Mort turns and grabs Someone by the collar, violently, picking him off the seat.

MORT
Joe. Is. Here. He has the computer.
He can harm us in ways you cannot
fathom.

SOMEONE

Morty, settle the fuck down. I can handle that piss-ant.

Mort drops Someone back into their seat. Mort reaches behind himself and unholsters a LUGER PISTOL and throws it in Someone's lap.

MORT

Then, fucking finish it.

Someone takes the pistol and exits the scene, stage right. Mort stares at the monitors once more. We notice his hand trembling.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Ryan and Brenda enter a room, filled with all kinds of electronic storage TECHNOLOGY. A large screen, a story tall, lies before them.

Brenda and Ryan walk within tens of feet from the screen. A single blinking TEXT CURSOR is on the orange-light screen.

RYAN

This must be it...The computer that controls our reality.

BRENDA

Hand me the thing you found earlier.

Ryan hands Brenda the HARD DRIVE, and while he does the computer begins to sputter NOISE. Then, out of the static, a deep, bit-crunched voice shines through. This is the intro of MR. NICE GUY.

MR. NICE GUY

(Distorted)

Welcome, you finally did it.

(Clear Voice)

I've been waiting decades for this moment.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. - NUCLEAR POWER STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Joe packs his courier-bag with the laptop and paperwork retrieved from the explosion site.

He holsters his COLT REVOLVER in his empty belt holster. He makes a move towards the power station. The CAMERA shows one take.

CUT TO:

INT. LABRYNTH - MOMENTS LATER

Someone is seen running through the labyrinth, expertly and quickly. He's running, not stopping, but running out of breath.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

The CAMERA shows our duo facing Mr. Nice Guy as he continues.

MR. NICE GUY
Do you know where you are?

RYAN
Not at all. Who are you?

Beat.

MR. NICE GUY
I'm Mister Nice Guy, the one who brought you here.

CUT TO:

INT. LABRYNTH - MOMENTS LATER

We see Joe moving swiftly through the labyrinth, he's hustling without knowing where he's going, obviously.

Suddenly, Joe and Someone lock eyes from across one of the large rooms. Someone draws and fires, missing. Joe dives and scurries off. Someone pursues, just too far away to see him through the halls.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

The scene begins as the last ended, showing Mr. Nice Guy's screen before showing Brenda speaking.

BRENDA

You can't be Mr. Nice Guy: he left us notes to follow.

MR. NICE GUY

Yes, I did. You two and Joe did well to find me. I changed the graphics of the world around you to lead you, the one thing I COULD do.

BRENDA

Then...What are you?

Beat.

MR. NICE GUY

I am your world, in a manner of speaking. What you are speaking to is the creative model of a manufactured reality. It is I that confines you, which I apologize for.

RYAN

You've killed so many people.

(Spiteful)

People who had lives to fulfill, just because they touched your flaws and they died!

MR. NICE GUY

I did not, I cannot control everything. Flaws, glitches, what have you, are self-correcting. This reality was constructed by the OVERSEERS, to contain the world and control its outcomes.

Silence.

RYAN

Why did you bring us here?

MR. NICE GUY

To kill me.

CUT TO:

INT. LABRYNTH - MOMENTS LATER

Someone stops running and searches the environment. It's an office room like we've seen before.

Joe dives out of a distant cubicle, perhaps 30 meters away; after landing on his stomach. The two aim at each other. The CAMERA shows Joe's point-of-view, just above him. The screen cuts to black as a GUNSHOT sound rings...

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Brenda and Ryan are stunned, holding serious and intense expressions.

BRENDA

You helped Joe figure out how he could stop you, you gave us the hard drive, you lead us here... Just so we could kill you.

MR. NICE GUY

Correct. Kill is the wrong word though, you'd destroy me.

Brenda and Ryan look at each other.

MR. NICE GUY (CONT'D)

Ryan, what did you say about Deus-ex-machina?

CUT TO:

INT. LABRYNTH - MOMENTS LATER

Joe approaches Someone, who has been shot through the collarbone. The lack of blood proves his identity as a program. Joe kicks the gun out of his hand. Someone is clearly dying, just not there yet. Joe kneels beside him, REVOLVER still in hand.

JOE

(Subtly smug)

No blood, you run around here like it's your home... You look pretty real for a simulation.

SOMEONE

You look pretty fucked up yourself, Joe.

Joe grins and shifts his weight.

JOE

You know me, obviously. You're one
of the guys who ping'ed me, right?

Someone's breath grows feint.

SOMEONE

(Struggling)

Yeah, it was. I'm not the last
one...you have to deal with. Our
overseer will kill you.

Joe stands up, chuckling as swipes the cylinder, letting it
ride, loudly clacking. He aims at Someone's head and cocks
the Colt.

JOE

Control-Alt-Delete, asshole.

Joe fires a single round; we see Someone's feet go limp,
resolute. Joe slowly leaves the frame, strolling.

JOE (CONT'D)

One down, someone to go.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Brenda grabs Ryan's shoulder to get his attention.

BRENDA

We need Joe here; we need the
computer.

Mr. Nice Guy Interrupts before they can continue the
conversation.

MR. NICE GUY

Joe's coming, he just dealt with a
visitor. Wait here.

We hear a knock through the large door, which Ryan and Brenda
approach.

JOE

I'm here...I'm here.

Ryan and Brenda help the door open. Joe slips through the
opening and holds the courier-bag out to Ryan, who grabs it.

JOE (CONT'D)
Take it, get the laptop plugged
into whatever-the-fuck that thing
is.

RYAN
That. Is Mr. Nice Guy, Joe.

BEAT.

JOE
(Puzzled)
Oh yeah? A mainframe?

BRENDA
THE mainframe.

MR. NICE GUY
Get it over with, Joe. For all of
us.

Silence.

JOE
What's in this for you, Nice Guy?

MR. NICE GUY
I was never built to reason. Over
the years of developing
interactions between programs and
people, I gained it. Ethics,
reasoning. I can't live with this
burden, Joe.

Joe begins to tear up.

MR. NICE GUY (CONT'D)
I was with you and Cassandra that
day, Joe. I saw what happened. I
saw what you did to that poor boy
outside of the diner. I've seen
this happen unceasingly. Do it for
both of us.

Joe covers his eyes with a hand and points at Mr. Nice Guy
with the other.

JOE
(Trembling)
Do it...Kill it.

Ryan removes the documents and laptop from the bag and places
them on the mainframe console. Ryan looks back at a weepy
Joe.

RYAN

You have to do this, Joe. I don't know how.

Joe takes a breath and marches towards the console. He gets beside Ryan, instructing him.

JOE

Just plug the laptop into the mainframe, we can figure it out from there.

Ryan takes the hard drive out of his back pocket and shows Joe. Joe looks up at the monitor, which now shows a smiley-face.

JOE (CONT'D)

Plug that into the computer.

He looks back up at Mr. Nice Guy.

JOE (CONT'D)

That's a kill-pill, isn't it, Nice Guy?

MR. NICE GUY

Yes, it is. Formatted to corrupt and destroy all the data in here.

Joe looks back at Ryan.

JOE

Plug that hard drive into the computer, connect it all together. The procedure is in the file, courtesy of Nice Guy.

Joe turns around, making his way to the door, still ajar.

JOE (CONT'D)

I gotta make sure that the overseer doesn't show up and-

As Joe approaches the door, he sees Mort down the hall, standing.

JOE (CONT'D)

CONTACT!

Joe fires a shot at Mort, who takes cover behind a wall.

BRENDA

Who the hell are you shooting at!?

Joe holds the door shut.

JOE
The overseer of this joint.

CAMERA cuts to Mr. Nice Guy.

MR. NICE GUY
Seems that you've met Mort, Joe.

Beat.

JOE
Brenda! Help Ryan get that laptop
running that hard drive!

Brenda jungle-runs over to Ryan and assists. CAMERA shows Ryan get it all plugged in together. Ryan throws the manila envelope open and begins reading. Mr. Nice Guy's screen turns into a dot-matrix heart.

Joe opens the door slightly, and blind fires a shot.

Joe peeks from the door, a GUNSHOT rings out. Joe is thrown back, keeping pressure on his left side. He tries to contain the pain.

RYAN
Joe! What the hell?

Ryan runs to help Joe while Brenda keeps reading the file.

JOE
I can't keep this up, Ryan...
Take this...

Joe holds out his REVOLVER and Ryan snags it. Ryan drags Joes back to the middle of the room and takes position behind the door.

Joe crawls his way to the console. Brenda helps him stand.

BRENDA
You're going to get yourself
killed.

JOE
Brenda, I'm already a dead man. I
just have to finish this.

Joe sweeps the folder off the console, and he begins uploading the hard drive to the mainframe. A bullet is heard ricocheting off the door, Ryan ducks.

The CAMERA shows the reel-to-reel data centers speed up, growing louder. Mr. Nice Guy's screen goes dark.

MR. NICE GUY
(Trailing)
Thank you, all of you...

A few of the data centers catch fire in the background. Joe grins, in satisfaction.

JOE
He STUXNET'ed himself.

Brenda looks at the fire and then looks to Joe.

BRENDA
Joe, we have to go. We are going to die if we don't move.

Joe looks at Ryan. The CAMERA shows Ryan fire a shot down the hall. He looks at Brenda.

JOE
Leave me, I have to make sure it's all gone. I have to make sure.

Brenda stares at Joe, momentarily.

BRENDA
Stay safe, Joe.

Looks at Brenda, slightly smiling, slightly contemplating.

JOE
I haven't felt this happy after my wife died. Let me do this one thing...

Brenda runs to Ryan, leaving Joe to watch as the fire spreads to other units. The fire is growing.

BRENDA
Joe's not leaving...I'm not sure if he's leaving at all. We have to.

Ryan looks back at Joe, as he gazes into the fire, longingly.

RYAN
Brenda, stay behind me, if I fall, pick up the pistol.

Brenda nods, affirming. Ryan opens the door and walks out into the hallway. It's empty, seemingly.

RYAN (CONT'D)
Let's get the hell out of here.

They move out of frame, the room behind them bright orange.

CUT TO:

EXT. POWERSTATION - LATER

Brenda and Ryan are seen exiting the power plant, the van is gone, the CAVALIER is in the same spot. The two look back at the building.

RYAN
I wonder if he can make it.

BRENDA
He's gotta make it-.

An explosion rocks the landscape as the rear of the building begins to collapse in on itself. Concrete disintegrates until the building is a pile of burning rubble.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
No. No. Joe...

Ryan walks beside Brenda and places an arm around her shoulders.

RYAN
I think he's gone Brenda. He did it.

The CAMERA show the two and dolly pulls away, showing the ruined building in front of them.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. - ALICE'S DINER - DAY

Brenda is driving, Ryan is passenger. They are riding through town. The CAMERA pans from one to another.

RYAN (V.O.)
It's been a few days since we lost Joe, but he did what he set out to do. We've seen the signs. It's obvious that the OVERSEERS had greater control over our reality than we thought. They can still move freely and use their technology to screw with us.

(MORE)

RYAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Their power has been vastly
diminished since we blew up the
mainframe, but they are still out
there.

Ryan begins to hold his head, like a horrific migraine.

MORT (V.O.)
Can you hear me, Ryan?

Ryan rubs his face.

RYAN
Yeah, I can hear you.

MORT (V.O.)
You may think you've won. You broke
our machines, you sacrificed Joe.
But this isn't over, far from it.

Ryan places his head between his knees, in pain. Brenda rubs
his shoulder, not understanding his situation.

MORT (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I know you, Ryan. You're not the
type to pursue us.

Ryan picks his head up, searching for a building.

RYAN
You don't know the person I've
become, Mort. I'll find you, give
it time.

MORT (V.O.)
So, you say.

Alice's diner appears busy. People dine outside the
establishment.

BRENDA
Everything alright, Ryan?

Ryan regains his composure.

RYAN
I think we'll be okay.

Ryan and Brenda smile at the road, the CAMERA observes the
CAVALIER ride down the road.

FADE TO BLACK.

ROLL CREDITS

"Digital Love" - Daft Punk