

CHIMERA
PILOT EPISODE:
FINNEAS THE OVERSEER

Written by

Dave Niziolek

121 Jericho Road, Tuckerton, NJ 08087
609-220-4563

DREAM SEQUENCE - INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - BEDROOM

A bed with a MAN (30s) sleeping in it. Large floor-to-ceiling window span across the wall next to the bed. A skyscraper is seen through it, reflecting the morning light.

CLOSE UP - DOORKNOB TURNING

THE DOOR OPENS REVEALING: A CUPCAKE WITH A LIT CANDLE

BACK TO SCENE

A WOMAN (30s) walks in the bedroom holding the cupcake. Walking SLOWLY towards the foot of the bed.

POV MAN - MAN'S EYES OPEN

WOMAN SMILES WIDELY OVER HIM

EXTREME CLOSE UP - WOMAN'S LIPS MOVING SPEAKING THROUGH HER SMILE - We DO NOT HEAR what she is saying.

PAN UP to her eyes squinting from her smile.

BACK TO SCENE

WOMAN
(softly)
Jax.

JAX
(MAN)
Emily.

EMILY (WOMAN) tickles JAX's feet.

Jax squirms over.

JAX (CONT'D)
(laughing)
Ok! Ok!

Jax sits up on the bed.

The two of them are sitting up on the bed looking at one another. Sillouetted by the building through their window.

Emily holds the cupcake between them. The SUNLIGHT on the building dies out as clouds pass.

The candle GLOWS over their faces.

EMILY
(WOMAN)
It's inevitable.

JAX
It is inevitable.

EMILY
(reassuring)
It is. Just like this candle being
blown out.

Jax BLOWS out the candle.

EMILY (CONT'D)
Welcome to the forty club.

JAX
What happens now? What are the
first steps of being in the club?
(poking fun) You've been a club
member for a while so --

EMILY
(sarcastically)
Ha. Ha.

A beat.

They GAZE into each other's eyes. In love.

Emily KISSES him. She FALLS on top of him.

They look at one another.

JAX
This isn't a bad start.

EMILY
Shut up.

Jax FLIPS Emily over playfully. She CHUCKLES with joy.

CUT TO:

INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - KITCHEN AREA

Jax and Emily sit on stools at the kitchen island SIPPING
coffees.

OVEN CLOCK : 7:30

A LOUD THUMP - THE HOUSE SHAKES

Jax and Emily look at one another. Confused.

EMILY
That was weird.

JAX
Yeah. Might just be construction.

Jax gets up and walks towards the window.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - LOOKING INTO THEIR KITCHEN WINDOW

ANOTHER THUMP

Jax looks behind him towards Emily.

INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - KITCHEN AREA

They both look concerned.

CHILD'S VOICE
What's that noise?

CHLOE (CHILD'S VOICE)(8) stands at the end of a hallway facing the kitchen. Rubbing her eyes as she just woke up.

JAX
Probably construction. (worried, but trying not to show it) You hungry?

CHLOE
Yes BUT...I have a present for you.

Chloe puts her hands behind her back.

Jax PLACES his coffee down on the counter and walks over to Chloe.

JAX
Am I going to have to guess which hand my present is in?

Chloe puts her arms out in front of her. Both of her fists closed.

CLOSE UP - CHLOE'S FISTS CLOSED

JAX'S FINGER POINT TO ONE

FIST OPENS - NOTHING

JAX (CONT'D)

Darn.

Chloes smiles.

CHLOE

It's ok! One more try!

JAX FINGER POINTS TO THE CLOSED FIST

IT OPENS - A FOLDED PIECE OF PAPER.

Jax face lights up.

JAX

What is this!?

Chloe laughs.

Jax opens up the piece of paper.

INSERT - DRAWING OF A LION

JAX (CONT'D)

A lion!

CHLOE

Yeah!

JAX

Lions are my favorite.

CHLOE

(twirling with happiness)

I know that's why I drew it.

Emily takes a SIP of coffee. Basking in the happy moment.

A LOUD THUMP

Jax walks over to the window again.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY HOME

Jax looks out into the street. ANOTHER THUMP. LOUDER.

A MYSTERIOUS BLACK MIST COVERS THE STREET.

INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME

JAX - TENSE

Emily gets up.

EMILY
(leaving the room)
I'm going to pack a bag.

Jax stands at the window trying to gather his thoughts.

Chloe still stands in the hallway.

CHLOE
Where are we going?

THUMP. THE HOUSE SHAKES.

CHLOE (CONT'D)
(starting to panic)
What's happening?

Jax walks over to Chloe. He rubs her arms.

JAX
Nothing. It' ok.

POV JAX - CHLOE SCARED. THUMP. THE SOUND GROWS CLOSER. THUMP.

THUMP.

CHLOE'S FACE.

CUT TO BLACK.

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. JAX ROOM - MORNING

CLOSE UP - JAX EYES OPENING

Jax sits up on the side of the bed.

He reaches under his mattress.

He PULLS out a sketchbook and a pencil. He flips the sketchbook open and starts to draw.

A PENCIL SLOWLY DRAWS A CURVE ON A PAGE

The bedroom is bare. It's very clean and nearly everything is white. There is a bed, a kitchennette and a small couch with a television in front of it.

PENCIL SHADING IN AN AREA

REVERSE ANGLE: A large window. Peering into a glass hallway. Layers of the building can be seen. Mostly white with reflecting glass throughout. The SUNLIGHT POURS in the middle of the building. Spots of light are seen on a LARGE TREE that sits in an atrium at the building's center. A door to the hallway with a large handle sits next to the window.

INSERT - DRAWING - It looks like Chloe.

CLOSE UP: A WHITE SPEAKER

VOICE
Rise and shine.

An unfamiliar voice. We call her the WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER.

PART OF THE WALL OPENS UP AND A TUBE FALLS DOWN.

Jax tucks the sketchbook under his mattress. He gets up.

He grabs the tube and opens it up.

A PILL HITS the GROUND. It SCATTERS across the floor and falls into a vent.

JAX
Shit.

Jax PRESSES a button on the speaker.

JAX (CONT'D)
Sorry I lost my pill.

A beat.

ANOTHER TUBE FALLS DOWN

Jax swallows a pill.

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER
Good?

Jax PRESSES the button.

JAX
Good. Thank you.

Jax OPENS a cabinet drawer.

DOG TREATS - He GRABS one.

He OPENS the door and leaves.

INT. HALLWAY

Jax walks around the curved hallway. He looks out the glass interior that separates the hallway to the atrium.

A LARGE TREE sits in the atrium as we DOLLY with him walking. People on the lower floors walk in unison. Evenly spread apart.

He looks up.

PAN UP the tree to see the third floor which is the top floor of the building. Surrounded by glass. People are walking freely there. Contrast to the more unison walking on the other floors.

Up against the top floor glass JAX SEES: FINNEAS (60s) holding a coffee mug. Finneas is watching Jax. He lifts his coffee mug as if he was giving him a "cheers".

Jax gives a little smile and a nod.

A BEANIE HANGS ON A TREE BRANCH THAT IS EVEN WITH THE THIRD FLOOR - RACK FOCUS FROM BEANIE TO FINNEAS

Finneas walks away from the glass.

BACK TO SCENE

Jax approaches a door and opens it but he's interrupted.

KLAY

Jax. Yo! You have time to see me today?

JAX

Jax? You mean? --

KLAY

Doctor Jax Fuckhead. You're my friend so I'm not calling you doctor. Fuck you.

Jax laughs.

JAX

I don't have time today. What's going on?

KLAY
I'm feeling strange, man.

JAX
Do you need to quarantine?

KLAY
No, not sick like that. Sick like something's not right inside. I'm breathing weird.

JAX
Probably stress....or farts.

KLAY
Yeah. Ha. Ha. I'm serious.

JAX
No I know. I'll get you in tomorrow. First thing.

KLAY
Thanks man.

JAX
OR we can skip our racket ball game.

KLAY
Not uh. No way. I fuckin' knew you would pull that shit.

JAX
I'm just saying your little tummy hurts and --

KLAY
(taking this too serious)
Nope. No. I'll see on the court.
You're done for.

Jax opens the door.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - HALLWAY

Jax walks through the hallway. He passes a few doors and one opens. SONI (30s) walks out holding a vile.

She looks at Jax. Shaking the vile.

JAX
You got it?

SONI
(excited)
I got it.

Soni joins Jax on his walk.

SONI (CONT'D)
Can you watch Ryder for me
tomorrow?

JAX
Absolutely. I can take him tonight
if you'd like.

SONI
Yeah that would be great.

They turn a corner.

RYDER, a German Sheperd, sits waiting next to a desk. Dog
bowls and toys lie around her.

She lies down. Patient but itching to run towards them.

Jax puts out two closed fists.

SONI (CONT'D)
Come.

Ryder runs up to Jax.

CLOSE UP - RYDER LICKING JAX FIST - FIST OPENS - A TREAT

JAX
(petting Ryder)
Good job.

Ryder eats her treat. Wagging her tail.

SONI
Now that's easy work for you. The
Army didn't train you to sniff out
treats.

Ryder rubs up against Jax.

SONI (CONT'D)
Yea. Yea. You're cute.

Jax pets Ryder and looks at the clock on the wall.

CLOCK 7:30

JAX
 Alright girl. I'll see you later.

Jax pats Ryder on her side.

SONI
 Let's go Ryder. We will see Jax soon.

INT. JAX OFFICE

A PATIENT (60s) sits on the end of a hospital bed.

Jax walks into the office.

He FLIPS up a paper on the clipboard.

INSERT PAPERWORK - OVERSEER DISPATCH

BACK TO SCENE

JAX
 Mr. Jenkins. How are you?

MR. JENKINS
 (Patient)
 I'm doing well, doctor. Ready to --
 um -- well I'm ready for something.

JAX
 You did your time here so it will
 be good to have some light work to
 do. Enjoy life.

MR. JENKINS
 Yeah -- Always wanted to retire on
 a third floor of a post-apocalyptic
 building.

JAX
 (chuckling)
 That's the dream.

MR. JENKINS
 So how do we start this process?

JAX
 I'll start the physical and just
 ask you a few simple questions.

Jax gets up and goes behind him.

He takes out a STETHOSCOPE and PLACES on his back.

JAX (CONT'D)
How has your sleep been?

MR. JENKINS
Oh you know. It's the best it could be.

JAX
The best it could be?

MR. JENKINS
You know the dreams.

Jax nods.

JAX
(remembering Chloe's face)
I do.

Jax pushes lightly on Mr. Jenkins back in various spots.

JAX (CONT'D)
Any thoughts of self harm or suicide?

A beat.

MR. JENKINS
What do you think Finneas does up there? You and him were so close I just hate seeing him give his little cup a nod to you. It's a shame.

JAX
Finneas does his duty. Keeping our supplies or at least what we have left coming to us.

MR. JENKINS
And the Woman in the Speaker?

JAX
Who?

MR. JENKINS
Rise and shine. Now take your wonder pill lady.

JAX
Oh right. Yes. The Woman in the Speaker. What about her?

MR. JENKINS

I always wondered why the Overseers
need to be in charge of that part.

JAX

We only have those pills supplied
for about twenty years.

MR. JENKINS

And?

JAX

We knew people would question it.

MR. JENKINS

(laughs)

Like me.

JAX

Like you. BUT it's normal.

MONTAGE: Jax checks Mr. Jenkins tonsils, gums, teeth, eyes,
ears, carotid arteries and nose.

MR. JENKINS

Am I clear?

JAX

You dodged my question earlier.

MR. JENKINS

I did?

JAX

Any thoughts of self harm or
suicide?

A beat.

Mr. Jenkins nods. He wish he didn't ask again.

MR. JENKINS

Before the blackout I did.... I was
in a bad spot for a while. When I
look back I can see I wasn't happy
with my life but I don't feel it.
It's the oddest thing.

Jax sits in front of him. Intently listening.

MR. JENKINS

Then that day. The day of the blackout. There was something I felt good about. Something that was going to happen. I can't remember what it was for the life of me.

JAX

How do you feel now? Post blackout let's say.

MR. JENKINS

(confused but smiling)

Amazing! Like I never felt those feelings of suicide were ever part of me.

Jax knows something is off but smiles anyway.

INT. OBSERVATION AREA - LATER

A LARGE WINDOW OUTLINING A VAST DESERT

JAX - A WARM GLOW on his face from the sand reflecting the sun.

SILLOUETTE of Jax SITTING on a bench in front of the window. The desert sand swirls in the distance.

URSA (60s) walks in. She is dressed in a suit. She sits next to him.

A SMALL HAIRLINE CRACK FORMS ON GLASS

JAX

What are your dreams of the blackout like now, Ursa?

URSA

Oh. Well not a fun way to start a conversation.

She settles in. A deep breathe.

URSA (CONT'D)

Unfortunately they haven't changed.

A beat.

URSA (CONT'D)

The Woman in the Speaker said you lost your pill this morning.

JAX
Dropped it.

URSA
And it's gone?

JAX
Went down the vent.

URSA
Ok. Try to be more careful next
time please.

JAX
The Woman in the Speaker. She's an
Overseer, right?

URSA
Yes. She is.

JAX
And when she dies?

URSA
When she dies there will be a new
person put in her place. You know
this Jax. Why are you asking?

JAX
I guess I'm just not... convinced.

URSA
Of the Woman in the Speaker?

JAX
Why are we separated?

URSA
The Sections are designed to keep
us whole, keep us safe. We're here
to build again. The Overseers can't
be inside the trivial, the day to
day. It was decided, and we must
see it through. It will keep us
together.

JAX
Or tear us apart.

Ursa STARES off into the desert through the window.

The desert sand SHIFTS with the wind.

URSA

The good news is anything that has come our way we have overcome. What we've built isn't perfect but it's ours, and we must protect it.

The HAIRLINE CRACK GROWS a little more.

JAX

You believe in the system we built?

URSA

I do.

JAX

The blackout dreams. Do you remember it like it happened yesterday? The detail...

(a beat)

It's not like my other memories.

URSA

We all feel these things Jax. The blackout isn't like any other memory we've ever had. That's why.

JAX

What were you doing that morning?

URSA

I was with my family. We were having breakfast and...

(avoiding)

Then it just happened.

EXT. OBSERVATION AREA

Ursa and Jax look out the window as we HEAR the desert wind begin to SWELL.

LOUDER.

AND LOUDER.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. RACQUETBALL COURT - LATER

THWOCK! A BALL BOUNCES off a wall. The sound of sneakers SQUEEKING and short INTENSE breathes echo in the small room.

A RACQUET HITS the BALL.

The Racquetball Court has two solid walls. The two opposing walls are glass. They are on the second floor and the glass side wall overlooks the atrium. The sprawling tree can be seen as they play.

INT. ATRIUM

The tree stands in the sunlight. People are walking through the glass hallways that surround the racquetball area. Jax and Klay can be seen playing.

INT. RACQUETBALL COURT

Klay let's out a deep breathe.

JAX
Losing your touch.

KLAY
Serve it.

The BALL BOUNCES.

RACQUET HITS IT.

Jax breathes heavily as he hits it repeatedly.

The BALL BOUNCES through the frame over and over. The focus changes to Finneas on the third floor. Watching them. He SIPS on his mug.

Klay slips and FALLS.

JAX
Point.

Klay gets up.

JAX (CONT'D)
Match point.

Klay squints with pain. Sweat pours down his face. He's having a hard time keeping his eyes open.

The BALL BOUNCES across frame.

RACQUET HITS IT.

Jax is in front of Klay now as they volley.

Klay FALLS to his knees. Jax WACKS the ball.

The ball doesn't get hit back. Jax turns around to see Klay on the ground passed out.

JAX (CONT'D)

Klay! Hey!

Jax checks his pulse.

Klay's eyes roll back.

JAX (CONT'D)

Klay. Buddy.

Klay starts convulsing.

INT. ATRIUM

The large tree casts a shadow on the hallways in the building. Through the glass of the racquetball court we hear Jax muffled screams for help.

JAX

(yelling)

Help! Help!

INT. RACQUETBALL COURT

The ball SLOWLY stops bouncing.

Finneas SIPS his mug. Watching with no change of emotion.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SURGERY ROOM

DOORS SLAM OPEN

Klay lies on a gurney in a medical patient gown.

DOCTOR #1

Vitals are good, but breathing is erratic. He's not getting enough oxygen.

CLOSE UP: A MEDICAL LIGHT is SWUNG AROUND.

Klay's eyes FLICKER.

Three DOCTORS surround Klay who is now hooked up to monitors.

Jax stands in scrubs aside them.

DOCTOR #1 (CONT'D)
Turn him to his side.

The Doctor puts Klay's side in the light.

A scar. Healed but recent.

DOCTOR #1 (CONT'D)
He had a recent surgery?

JAX
(confused)
No.

Doctor 1 and Doctor 2 lock eyes.

DOCTOR #1
We need to scan him.

DOCTOR #2
Do you think he's missing organs?

JAX
Missing organs?

Doctor 1 glances at Jax.

Doctor 3 takes Jax gently by the shoulders.

DOCTOR #3
You're not sterilized, sorry we
need to clear the room.

She starts pushing Jax toward the door.

As Jax is ushered out he hears--

DOCTOR #1
Find out what he's missing
immediately.

INT. URSA'S OFFICE - DAY

CLOSE UP - A BLACK SPEAKER - URSA'S finger PUSHES the button
on it. A green light ILLUMINATES next to it as it's pushed.

URSA
I need to speak with you.

Silence.

CLOSE UP - Her finger PUSHES the button again.

The GREEN light goes ON AND OFF.

URSA (CONT'D)
I was told this wouldn't happen
again.

Silence.

A KNOCK at the door. Ursa composes herself.

URSA (CONT'D)
Come in.

Jax walks through the door.

URSA (CONT'D)
Jax. Hi, what can I do for you?

JAX
It's Klay. He has a scar and we
don't know why. The doctor said --

URSA
He's had an operation. Yes.

JAX
What operation?

URSA
Jax what happens here is designed
to keep us safe.

JAX
Are we safe?

URSA
No. No we're not. You seem to
forget the reality of our
situation. We are here to survive,
and we are doing all that we can.

JAX
And who is we?

Ursa takes a pause. She doesn't want to lose her control.

URSA
Remember when we tried to go
outside? I lost friends. You did
too. I dream about those people
every night. I have blackout dreams
like everyone else, but then I see
them. Their faces. We built this
place for a better future Jax.

JAX
It's a prison.

URSA
It's a sanctuary.

JAX
It needs to change.

Jax gets up.

JAX (CONT'D)
And we should stop calling them
dreams.

He grabs the doorknob.

JAX (CONT'D)
They're not dreams. They're
nightmares.

Jax leaves and closes the door behind him.

Ursa looks over to the speaker. A RED light ILLUMINATES next
to the speaker.

CLOSE UP - THE LIGHT TURNS OFF

INT. OBSERVATION AREA - SUNSET

The desert sand blows through the large window. A dark mist
cloud approaches, out of focus. Something in the distance is
getting closer. The wind continues to grow.

CLOSE UP - The crack in the glass grows. A SMALL HOLE opens
as the wind WHISTLES through it.

DREAM SEQUENCE - INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - BEDROOM

CLOSE UP - Emily smiles.

A CANDLE IS BLOW OUT.

INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - KITCHEN AREA

Jax at the window. A THUMP.

CLOSE UP - A drawing of a lion.

CHLOE (O.S.)
What's happening?

CHLOE'S FACE

KLAY (V.O.)

Jax?

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Jax eyes open. He is slumped over on a chair next to a bed
Klay is laying on.

Klay is looking over towards Jax.

KLAY

What's happening?

Jax composes himself on the chair.

JAX

I don't know. You have a scar. A
surgery scar.

KLAY

A scar? Where?

JAX

On your back. Under your shoulder.

KLAY

I don't have a scar.

JAX

They said that your lung was
removed.

KLAY

You're kidding. You're fucking with
me.

JAX

You're not the first one. I don't
know what's going on, but something
is seriously fucked up in here.

Klay lets out a heavy breathe.

KLAY

Why are we doing this to ourselves?

JAX

Doing what?

INT. OBSERVATION AREA - NIGHT

The HAIRLINE CRACK spreads and a hole forms. The desert sand starts making it's way it.

KLAY (V.O.)
Living here.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM

JAX
What do you mean?

INT. OBSERVATION AREA

The hole in the glass GROWS BIGGER.

KLAY (V.O.)
I dreamt of a blackout. Not ours. I was in here, in the atrium. A new blackout came.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JAX
You were here?

INT. OBSERVATION AREA - CONTINUOUS

The room FILLS with a sand SWIRLING THROUGH. PUSHING it's way out into the halls.

KLAY (V.O.)
Maybe everything was supposed to end.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A beat as Klay looks at Jax.

KLAY
Like we were never supposed to be here.

SIRENS. Jax opens the door and sees flashing lights fill the building.

An oxygen mask falls down above Klay. Jax walks over to help him put it on.

They pull the mask over Klay's mouth.

KLAY (CONT'D)
There's only one mask in here. Get
to your room!

Jax RUSHES out of the door, and tries to close it behind him.
The door malfunctions.

CLOSE UP - The mechanism inside of the door is stuck.

BACK TO SCENE

Jax tries to jerk the handle over and over but it doesn't
budge.

INT. OBSERVATION AREA - CONTINUOUS

The window SMASHES OPEN as the WIND AND SAND FLOOD the room.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

The hallway lays silent as the WOOSHING of the wind SHOOTs
through it.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jax RUMMAGES through the drawers in the room.

CLOSE UP - Drawer OPENS - Tools neatly in a row.

Jax GRABS a scalpel.

BACK TO SCENE

He tries to work the lock out.

KLAY
You have to go!

JAX IS SWEATING.

He torques the scalpel as hard as he can.

SNAP. The scalpel breaks and the lock pops out.

Blood drips from Jax's hand.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jax SLAMS the door shut. It locks behind him.

The sand storm is RAGING down the hallway.

Jax is barely visible as he FIGHTS through the sand to get to his room. He COVERS his face with his shirt and tries to HOLD his breath.

Jax reaches the door to his room and OPENS it.

A gust of wind LIFTS his drawing of Chloe into the air. Jax tries to GRAB it but the storm pulls the drawing out of the room.

Jax is STRUGGLING to BREATHE.

An oxygen mask hangs above his bed.

He STUMBLES to the bed, GRABS IT, PRESSES it on his mouth.

He TAKES a DEEP BREATH.

He turns back towards the door and goes after the drawing, now blown against a pillar down the hallway.

Jax attempts to FIGHT the storm to retrieve the drawing. The drawing is blown from the pillar.

Jax watches it FLOAT OUT OF SIGHT.

Jax TURNS BACK to his room.

He quickly makes his way back down the hallway, into the room and fights the door SHUT.

He SECURES the oxygen mask to his face and LAYS in his bed, TAKING DEEP GULPS of air.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

The sirens STOP.

The hallway quiets.

CUT TO:

INT. ATRIUM - NIGHT

A crowd forms around the tree.

Ursa walks over towards the front to address everyone.

Jax walks up and stops at the back of the crowd. His hand wrapped from the scalpel wound.

CIVILIAN #1
What happened?

CIVILIAN #2
Are we compromised?

URSA
Everyone needs to calm down. We have a protocol, everything will be fine. The doors to the observation room have been sealed for the time being.

CIVILIAN #1
The air...from outside. Are we breathing it?

URSA
Yes.

Everyone begins to talk to one another.

URSA (CONT'D)
But that doesn't mean anything.

Everyone stops talking.

Jax looks up to the third floor.

FINNEAS - SIPPING his cup of coffee.

The other Overseers stand against the glass around Finneas.
Watching.

URSA (CONT'D)
We don't know what we were exposed to.

CIVILIAN #2
What are we supposed to do?

(CONT'D)

(CONT'D)

URSA

We are researching, we are assessing the damage. We are doing all that we can do. Everyone keep to their jobs and tasks for now. If we need to make a change, we will adapt, we will compromise, we will survive.

Ursa walks away.

Everyone is frustrated with how little they know at this point.

Jax catches up with Ursa. She's walking quickly.

JAX

What about Finneas and the Overseers?

URSA

There's no exposure in Section Three. They have their own air supply.

JAX

Well what are they going to do?

Ursa STOPS.

URSA

I know Finneas was your friend. He was mine too....but they're on the third floor now.

JAX

Finneas is brilliant. We need him down here.

URSA

You need to stick with what you know. Obey the chain of command Jax.

Ursa leaves.

Soni and Ryder approach Jax.

Ryder has the beanie from the tree in her mouth.

Jax watches Ursa leave.

SONI

You ok?

JAX

Yeah.

Jax pulls his focus off of Ursa and looks to Ryder.

CLOSE UP: Ryder's mouth holding the beanie.

BACK TO SCENE

JAX (CONT'D)

Finneas' beanie.

Jax looks up to the tree.

The branch is cleared off. The ceiling skylight is closed.

SONI

Wind blew it off. Ryder went
running after we got out and found
it.

Jax pets Ryder.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Klay lies awake in bed as Jax enters.

JAX

Are you ok?

Jax sits next to Klay.

KLAY

What happened out there?

JAX

The glass in the observation room
shattered.

KLAY

We were compromised?

JAX

No one knows. And the testing
starts again.

(CONT'D)

(CONT'D)

JAX
Did you know there's a different
oxygen supply on the third floor?

KLAY
I mean it makes sense. If one of
ours is compromised the other group
would be safe.

Jax nods.

KLAY (CONT'D)
I can feel it now. My lung. I just
don't understand.

JAX
I don't either.

KLAY
Did you talk to Ursa?

JAX
She's closed lipped.

KLAY
If Finneas was here what would he
do?

Jax shakes his head. Unsure.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jax knocks on a door.

The door OPENS and Soni walks out.

SONI
Ok Ryder.

Ryder walks up to Jax and sits.

Soni hands Jax a leash.

Jax pets Ryder.

SONI (CONT'D)
Let me know if you need anything.
I'll be lounging by the tree.

JAX
Are you worried?

SONI
No. We've been through worse.

JAX
I just wonder what Finneas would say.

SONI
I think you need to ask yourself that question. Not me.

JAX
He would probably tell me to wait for a sign. Meditate. Something like that.

SONI
Well there you go.

Jax takes a deep breathe.

JAX
Thanks and you're right. We've been through worse.

INT. JAX'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jax sits crossed-legged on his bed.

Finneas' beanie sits in front of him.

He picks it up, EXAMINING it.

Ryder lies on the floor next to his bed.

Jax closes his eyes and breathes.

FLASHBACK - INT. ATRIUM - DAY

Ryder sits at Finneas' feet. She licks his hand.

Finneas, wearing the beanie, bends down.

FINNEAS
Thanks for the friendship Ryder.

Finneas gets up. Jax stands next to him.

Jax holds back tears.

Finneas hugs Jax.

FINNEAS (CONT'D)
I love you Jax.

JAX
We'll miss you.

Finneas takes a moment. He removes his hat. He holds it in front of him.

Ryder gets up and sniffs it.

JAX (CONT'D)
Go ahead. You've graduated.

The large tree sits in the sun as people go about their day.

Jax and Finneas' stand at the foot of the tree.

Finneas THROWS his beanie into the air.

FINNEAS
(a big smile)
I always wanted to do that.

CLOSE UP - The beanie rests on the tree branch.

END FLASHBACK

INT. JAX'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jax opens his eyes.

Ryder has her nose buried in Finneas' beanie.

She cries and goes towards the door.

She looks back to Jax, crying.

Jax opens the door. Ryder BOLTS out.

JAX
Ryder!

Jax GRABS the beanie off of the bed and RUNS out after her.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

A LONG empty hallway. Ryder runs through and stops abruptly.

Ryder sits in the middle of an empty hallway. Waiting for Jax.

Jax turns the corner to see her.

She cries as he approaches her. Jax has the beanie in his hand and Ryder is fixated on it.

Jax puts the beanie out in front of him.

She sniffs it and starts running again. Jax understands. She's following the scent.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ryder runs down as Jax quickly follows behind.

EXT. GREENHOUSE - NIGHT

A clear bubble dome inside of a stark white warehouse looking room.

Ryder stops at the door.

Jax approaches it and opens. Ryder SLIPS her way through right when the door has enough space.

INT. GREENHOUSE - NIGHT

MIST sprays onto plants. A few WORKERS are seen walking through rows of plants.

Ryder runs through a few rows.

Jax follows.

Ryder stops at a back door.

Jax opens it.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. MAINTENANCE ROOM - NIGHT

A light TURNS ON.

Racks of tools, ladders and supplies are stacked around the room.

Ryder sits in front of a rack. She faces towards it. Crying. She claws at the rack.

Jax tries to push the rack but it doesn't budge.

He pulls items off the rack one by one.

He tries to push again.

SQUUUUEEEAAAK. The rack moves a few inches.

Jax pushes it more.

SQUUUUEEEAAAK. The rack is about a few feet away from the wall now.

Jax observes the wall.

There is an indent, an inset handle.

He LIFTS the latch and turns the handle.

He pulls. It's a pocket door. It SLIDES OPEN.

It's dark inside. He puts his hand inside. Moving his arm around to find a switch.

CLICK. A light turns on.

A STAIRWELL, LEADING UP.

CLOSE UP: Jax eyes in wonderment.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. THIRD FLOOR - NIGHT

Finneas takes a sip of his coffee. Observing the atrium.

An OVERSEER flips through a book sitting on a couch behind him.

Another OVERSEER walks through towards a kitchen.

This portion of the third floor is open. Sprawling with couches, exercise equipment, chess tables and a dining area.

A door in the far corner CRACKS open. It's Jax.

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

A slash of light illuminates Jax's face, looking in on the overseers.

Ryder sits at his feet.

CLOSE UP - JAX peeks through the crack in the door.

POV JAX - Finneas walks away from the glass where he was overlooking the atrium.

BACK TO SCENE

JAX
Ryder. Sit.

Ryder sits.

JAX (CONT'D)
Stay.

INT. THIRD FLOOR - NIGHT

Jax slips through the door and closes it behind him.

He starts walking.

Finneas is seen in the distance. Slowly wrapping around the curve of the building.

INT. ATRIUM - NIGHT

Soni sits under the tree in a lounge chair. She is sewing a shirt.

CLOSE UP: Thimble PUSHING a needle through.

BACK TO SCENE

Soni looks up and sees Jax on the third floor.

She sits up sharply.

SONI
(to herself)
What the hell?

Soni looks around to see if anyone else is watching.

Ursa walks towards the tree.

Soni gets up and walks towards her.

SONI (CONT'D)
Ursa!

Soni walks passed Ursa so she's not facing the Atrium.

URSA
Hey Soni.

Ursa continues toward the tree.

SONI
(grabbing her attention)
Sewing!

She holds up the shirt.

URSA
What?

SONI
I can't seem to get this stitch.
Can you...

Soni hands the shirt over to Ursa. Ursa takes it.

CLOSE UP: SONI HOLDS THE THIMBLE TO HER.

URSA
Oh I've developed calluses after
sewing for years. I don't think
I'll need that.

CLOSE UP: Ursa's finger PUSHES into the sewing needle.

URSA (CONT'D)
Ow.

Ursa observes her finger.

CLOSE UP: Blood starts to spread from a tiny hole in her
finger.

SONI
Are you ok?

URSA
Sorry -- I -- I'm fine.

Ursa opens her hand.

URSA (CONT'D)
I guess I need a thimble after all.

Soni hands Ursa the thimble.

CLOSE UP: THIMBLE PUSHING THE NEEDLE

CUT TO:

INT. THIRD FLOOR - NIGHT

Jax passes a few OVERSEERS. They don't seem suspicious of him at all.

Jax walks quicker.

He is getting closer to Finneas.

Finneas opens a door to a room.

JAX

Finneas.

Finneas opens the door and walks in. Closing the door behind him.

INT. FINNEAS' ROOM - NIGHT

Finneas sits on the edge of his bed looking out a large window. A warm glow hits his face from lights outside the window.

The window shows the vast desert.

CLOSE UP: Finneas expressionless as he stares out the window.

CLICK. The door opens behind Finneas.

POV JAX : SLOWLY approaching Finneas from back to front as he sits motionless on the edge of the bed.

CLOSE UP: Jax concerned. Confused. *This isn't the Finneas he knows.*

JAX

Finneas?

SILENCE. Finneas stares at the window. Jax looking at Finneas and then to the window.

CLOSE UP: WINDOW. The desert sand DANCES across the surface.

Finneas gets up.

He walks passed Jax.

INT. THIRD FLOOR

Jax follows Finneas through the hallway.

Passing by Overseers who pay no mind to them.

Finneas stops and pours himself a coffee.

Jax watches him.

Finneas takes a sip and walks towards the interior glass looking over the atrium.

CLOSE UP: Finneas SIPPING the coffee. Watching the atrium.

Jax is behind Finneas. Observing him.

Finneas starts walking down the hallway again.

Jax GRABS his shoulder.

JAX
Finneas?

Finneas stops.

JAX (CONT'D)
Finneas.

Finneas turns around.

CLOSE UP: Finneas looks at Jax but doesn't react.

CLOSE UP: Jax knows somethings not right.

CLOSE UP: Finneas opens his mouth as wide as he can.

The Overseers throughout the hallway turn towards Jax. They all open their mouths.

CLOSE UP: A LOUD SCREAM exhales out of Finneas' mouth but he remains emotionless.

All of the surrounding Overseers SCREAM.

They begin walking towards Jax slowly.

Jax backs up. Confused. Frightened. He trips over a chair and falls to the ground.

Jax picks himself up and runs passed them into the door he came through.

He closes it shut behind him.

INT. MAINTENANCE ROOM - NIGHT

Jax RUSHES through the door and quickly pushes the rack back against the door.

He sits down. Out of breathe.

He looks around the room.

JAX

Ryder?

He walks through the maintenance room.

JAX (CONT'D)

Ryder?

Nothing.

INT. THIRD FLOOR

The hidden door on the third floor opens. Jax pops his head out.

POV JAX: An Overseer sits in a chair reading a book as if nothing happened. Overseers pass Jax. Another Overseer pours a cup of coffee.

The Overseers go about like nothing happened. Back to their routine.

Jax walks through the hallway of the Third Floor.

He approaches Finneas' door. It's open.

INT. FINNEAS' ROOM

Finneas stares out the window.

Ryder sits next to Finneas.

Finneas pets Ryder's head.

Jax walks in.

JAX

Ryder.

Ryder turns to see Jax.

JAX (CONT'D)

Come on. Let's go.

Ryder jumps off the bed and exits the room.

Jax takes a last look at Finneas. Sitting there motionless. His hand still up from petting Ryder.

Jax leaves.

CLOSE UP: Finneas smiles. Something has sparked in him.

INT. THIRD FLOOR

Jax and Ryder walk through the hallway past the Overseers.

They go through the hidden door. Jax closes the door.

INT. FINNEAS' ROOM - NIGHT

Finneas' beanie sits at Finneas' feet.

INT. URSA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Ursa sits at her desk. Observing her finger. Confused.

CLOSE UP: A band-aid wrapped around her finger.

CLOSE UP: The speaker light turns red.

BACK TO SCENE

Ursa looks at the speaker light.

We DOLLY in towards the speaker and hear an unfamiliar voice from an older man. His voice is broken up from his old age. We call him the MAN IN THE SPEAKER.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER

Are you ok?

Ursa pushes the button to talk.

URSA

Yes.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER

You look confused.

URSA

My memories. My dreams. They don't seem real.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER

But they are.

URSA

They are nightmares.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER
That's Jax talking.

URSA
He's right.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER
I know Jax too well. He doesn't
know as much as he thinks.

URSA
Before the blackout I would sew. I
had built up calluses. I stopped
for years and years. Those calluses
never went away. A scar.

CLOSE UP: Ursa feels her fingertips. They are perfect with no
blemishes.

BACK TO SCENE

URSA (CONT'D)
I had a scar. It's gone.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER
The blackout was an unexpected
phenomenon.

URSA
An unexpected phenomenon that lead
to things that were unexplainable.
I know the line.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER
I know you're frustrated.

URSA
We can't go on like this. We all
need to talk to you. To the
Overseers.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER
We can't do that.

CLOSE UP: The light on the speaker turns OFF.

BACK TO SCENE

Ursa sits back in her office chair.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jax walks through the hallway with Ryder by his side.

SONI
Jax. What the hell?

Jax turns to see Soni walking quickly to catch up with him.

SONI (CONT'D)
How did you get up there?

JAX
Come with me.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Klay lies on the bed. Soni and Jax sit next to him. Ryder lies on the floor.

KLAY
So Finneas is a...zombie?

JAX
I'm not sure what he is but he isn't the Finneas we know. He doesn't remember me.

KLAY
I don't understand.

SONI
The Overseers run everything here. There's no way. Without them we wouldn't have anything.

JAX
The third floor means nothing. It's a death sentence, I'm telling you. Maybe it's where they send us when we're not useful anymore.

KLAY
Jax hasn't been useful for a while, and he's still here.

JAX
I'm serious, they're bodies are up there but...there's no one there.

KLAY
Why would they keep them up there. For us to see.

JAX

Maybe for hope. Hope of something better, some imaginary promotion to Overseer. Or to keep us in line.

SONI

So the Woman in the Speaker? The pills?

JAX

I don't know.

SONI

We stop taking the pills.

JAX

You know we can't do that. You've seen what happens...

KLAY

So we take more pills. Overdose. See what that does.

SONI

They never give you more than one.

JAX

That's probably why.

KLAY

It still doesn't explain my lung.

JAX

Ursa knows something.

SONI

Maybe she's behind it.

JAX

So the Overseers are just a pawn.

KLAY

That's why we are told to stay doing our jobs.

JAX

It can't be just Ursa.

SONI

Who?

JAX

People on the outside.

A beat. *Could there really be people living out there?*

KLAY
What should we do?

CUT TO:

INT. THIRD FLOOR - NIGHT

Jax slowly walks through the door.

The hallway is empty. A row of dim lights fills the walkway.

Jax walks into Finneas' room.

INT. FINNEAS' ROOM - NIGHT

Finneas sits on the edge of his bed. Staring through the window at the dark desert.

Jax watches Finneas for a moment -- *What happened to his friend?*

Jax opens a drawer.

CLOSE UP: JAX CONFUSED

CLOSE UP: A DRAWING OF A LION LIES IN THE DRAWER

FLASHBACK - INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME/KITCHEN - NIGHT

JAX FINGER POINTS TO THE CLOSED FIST

IT OPENS - A FOLDED PIECE OF PAPER.

Jax face lights up.

JAX
What is this!?

Chloe laughs.

Jax opens up the piece of paper.

INSERT - DRAWING OF A LION

JAX (CONT'D)
A lion!

CHLOE
Yeah!

JAX
Lions are my favorite.

CHLOE
(twirling with happiness)
I know that's why I drew it.

Emily takes a SIP of coffee. Basking in the happy moment.

A LOUD THUMP.

END FLASHBACK

INT. JAX'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jax lies asleep on his bed.

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Rise and shine.

CLOSE UP: Jax eyes open.

Jax pulls the sheets off and sits on the end of the bed.

CLOSE UP: A tube with a pill inside.

Jax looks at the pill and then to the floor.

CLOSE UP: Floor vent.

Jax GRABS the tube.

He pulls the pill out of the tube, cocks his head back and swallows.

He puts the tube back in.

JAX
All done.

The tube shoots back through.

Jax OPENS a drawer and GRABS a butter knife.

He gets on his knees and begins to UNSCREW the vent.

Jax POPS the vent open and puts his arm down the hole.

He pulls out the LOST PILL.

He swallows it.

WOOMP. The tube drops again.

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
We found this.

Jax gets up and grabs the tube.

He opens it.

THE DRAWING OF CHLOE

Jax presses the button on the speaker. Frantic.

JAX
Where are you? How did you get
this?

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
I'm just doing my job. We found the
drawing.

JAX
Who's we?

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
I'm not authorized to say.

JAX
Can you meet me in the atrium?

A beat.

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
I shouldn't.

Jax looks back at the drawing.

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Who's the girl you are drawing?

Jax presses the button again. The image starts to warp.

He's starting to feel disoriented.

JAX
(getting angry)
Where are you? I need to know how
you got this. It left the building.
There's no way.

WOMAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
I'm sorry but we can't talk about
this any further.

Jax presses the button forcefully.

JAX
(manic)
YOU NEED TO TELL ME WHERE YOU ARE!
WE NEED HELP!

Nothing.

Jax presses the button again. His face is red. The pills act quickly.

JAX (CONT'D)
ANSWER ME! PLEASE!

THUMP. Jax PUNCHES the speaker.

JAX (CONT'D)
ANSWER ME!

ANOTHER PUNCH.

THUMP.

SMASH CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. NEW YORK CITY HOME/KITCHEN - DAY

CHLOE'S FACE - WORRIED

THUMP.

Emily jumps off her seat.

EMILY
I'm going to pack a bag.

Jax stands at the window trying to gather his thoughts.

Chloe still stands in the hallway.

CHLOE
Where are we going?

THUMP. THE HOUSE SHAKES.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY HOME - DAY

Jax looks out into the street. ANOTHER THUMP. LOUDER.

A MYSTERIOUS BLACK MIST COVERS THE STREET.

Jax looks down at the busy street. Confused. *He is controlling a part of his memory.*

A BUSINESS MAN walks towards the black mist while everyone runs away from it.

Jax watches the Business Man quickly walk towards the black mist.

People running from it. Screaming in horror.

The Business Man stops.

He turns and looks at Jax. It's FINNEAS.

Finneas smiles and raises his coffee mug to Jax as a "cheers".

END FLASHBACK

INT. JAX'S ROOM - DAY

Jax lets out a deep breathe. Sweating. Confused.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Jax walks around the curved hallway. He looks out the glass interior that separates the hallway to the atrium. He's struggling to keep it together.

He looks up.

TILT UP the tree to see the third floor which is the top floor. Surrounded by glass. He sees the people walking freely.

Finneas stands there. He lifts his mug. Cheers.

Jax doesn't react. He is not himself. Sweating. Panting.

Finneas walks away from the glass.

INT. URSA'S OFFICE - DAY

Ursa sits at her office desk.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
The third floor will be back in
operation soon.

URSA
People are getting restless.
Suspicious.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Jax visited Finneas.

URSA
Look we've come so far, we can't
throw away our progress...

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
It has to happen. Same as last
time.

URSA
When?

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Tomorrow.

INT. FINNEAS' ROOM - DAY

Finneas stares out into the desert. Emotionless.

He looks down and sees his beanie. He smiles WIDELY.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Before then we need to keep
everyone in check.

Finneas slowly puts on his beanie.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
The third floor must be contained.

A SILHOUETTE of Finneas in front of the window of the vast
desert. The BLACK MIST is seen approaching closer.

INT. THIRD FLOOR - DAY

Finneas walks down the hallway. Emotionless. Holding his cup
of coffee.

He stops. His head TILTS as he notices something different.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
If we don't. Humanity is at risk.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Soni sees Jax. Concerned she walks over to check on him.

SONI

Jax. You ok?

Jax stops walking. Trying to concentrate on her face. It's blurry. MORPHING. He's trying to respond.

INT. URSA'S OFFICE - DAY

Ursa stares at the speaker. She presses the button to speak.

URSA

Why. Why are we at risk?

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Jax falls over. Soni holds him.

SONI

Jax?

A few PEOPLE walk over to help.

Jax looks at everyone. Their faces start looking like his own face. EVERYONE IS LOOKING LIKE JAX.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)

Because we are not supposed to be here.

INT. THIRD FLOOR - DAY

Finneas approaches SOMETHING. Confused he gets closer and closer. We still don't know what he's looking at.

INT. URSA'S OFFICE - DAY

Ursa presses the button. Concerned.

URSA

And what do we do now?

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)

We wait for tomorrow's blackout.

URSA (V.O.)

And the people on the third floor?

INT. THIRD FLOOR - DAY

Finneas creeps closer to his new discovery.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
We keep them contained.

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

BLACK, but a CRACK OF LIGHT seeps through.

A shadow passes over the light.

CLOSE UP: Finneas' eye appears in the sliver of light.

The third floor door was left cracked open.

MAN IN THE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Whatever you do, you keep them
contained.

Through the crack of the door Finneas smiles wide with
EXCITEMENT.

CUT TO BLACK.