

DEATHMARE

Written by
Wesley Trower

Copyright (c) 2025
Draft One
Contact Information
wdtrowe@pointpark.edu

PROLOGUE

EXT. SPHINX OBSERVATORY- NOON

FADE IN WIDE SHOT OF THE SPHINX OBSERVATORY.

Groups of folks begin to make their way into the Observatory for today's special demonstration.

INT. SPHINX OBSERVATORY- NOON

CROWD SHOT OF THE CROWD MAKING THEIR WAY IN AS IT ZOOMS IN ON THE SCIENTIST AT WORK.

A fellow scientist wearing glasses and holding a clip board walks up to a female Scientist at the control monitor.

SCOTT

Hello Dr. Crispin

DR. CRISPIN

Hello back to you as well Scott. You excited for today's experiment.

SCOTT

I'll be excited when this is finally over and I can catch up on some sleep.

DR. CRISPIN

You and me both Scott. But just know that me and Matthew appreciate your continued work and support in this project.

SCOTT

Thanks, and I hope that the Boss can show me how much he appreciates me in my next paycheck.

DR. CRISPIN

Ha, don't push your luck just yet there.

SCOTT

Don't worry I'll hold onto it for after the demonstration.

Dr. Crispin takes a sip of her coffee next to her.

SCOTT

Oh right that leads to why I'm talking to you now. Just making the last rounds with everyone making sure that everything is working properly.

DR. CRISPIN

Well the monitors are currently showing everything's a go and the energy levels are safely contained and ready for show.

SCOTT

Well that is a relief.

Scott adds a check into his clipboard.

SCOTT

My works done, now if you'll excuse me I'll try to sneak in a quick nap before the fireworks go off.

Scott walks away while Dr. Crispin continues to look over the monitors.

DR. CRISPIN

What was that?

She temporarily notices a quick glitch on the levels screen before it goes back to normal.

ZOOM IN ON MATTHEW

Matthew(38) African American man wearing a black suit with a blue tie walks alongside a journalist Kelly(32) Asian wearing a tan pants suit giving his comments on the project.

MATTHEW

As I was saying Kelly, this kind of energy here is revolutionary.

KELLY

Ectoplasmic energy.

MATTHEW

Yes Ectoplasmic

KELLY

And how did you find this kind of energy that you are presenting to all of us here today.

MATTHEW

It's kind of a long story but this very type of energy here is showing true promise so far. And the capabilities of what it can do could be endless here.

KELLY

And how long have you been working on this project again?

MATTHEW

For almost seven years now to be exact.

KELLY

Well do you feel that it may be a bit early to truly show this to an open crowd?

MATTHEW

As Benjamin Franklin once said "Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise". I believe presenting this to the public can help really get baby across to everyone.

KELLY

And if it doesn't?

MATTHEW

Pardon me Kelly.

KELLY

Well do you feel that everything is in place for project or could something go terribly wrong here today.

Kelly leans over to whisper in Matthews ear.

KELLY

And I am not looking to die today after having to fly coach on a shitty little plane yesterday.

Kelly backs away from Matthew

MATTHEW

Look Kelly, this is my passion project here ok. I have missed birthdays, holidays, and even time with my late and wife and son to focus on the company and on this very project that you see here today.

Matthew points towards the ectoplasmic reactor.

MATTHEW

And believe me Kelly, with every fiber of my being. I certainly would not have brought everyone here today if I felt that this experiment wouldn't be safe to view in person today.

KELLY

And what if this energy were to ever fall into the wrong hands.

MATTHEW

I never dwell on those types of scenarios. Not when I only think about what it could do to help the world. But if it were to ever happen God forbid. Then I advise those individuals to tread very lightly.

KELLY

Well ok, I think that's everything I need for the article.

MATTHEW

Good, now how about you go on ahead and find a good spot to view the demonstration for today.

Kelly starts to walk away.

Matthew hears a familiar voice from behind him.

DAVID

Hey is that Big Brain Matt.

Matthew turns around and sees a Caucasian man(37) wearing shades and a leather jacket with a bag walking up towards him.

MATTHEW
Now you know I hate that damn
Nickname.

DAVID
Hey it was always to show some
endearment to you.

MATTHEW
How about torment?

DAVID
Eh let's say that it can be
subjective.

MATTHEW
Sure, why not.

Both men shake hands then embrace one another.

MATTHEW
Shit, its so good to see came Dave.

DAVID
Hey, did you really think that I would
miss this for anything else.

The two men start to back off from one another.

MATTHEW
Of course not, but with your work back
in London and all I wasn't so sure
that you would come.

DAVID
Yeah well my workload has gotten
lighter so I made sure to catch the
first plane here.

MATTHEW
That's awesome man. Do you mind if we
can continue this in my office?

DAVID
Sure, wait do you really have an
office here?

MATTHEW
Just a temporary one.

The two men start to walk upstairs.

INT. SPHINX OBSERVATORY OFFICE- NOON

Both Matthew and David enter the room.

DAVID

Oh before I forget, I got you a little
congratulatory gift.

David takes out a bottle of alcohol from his bag of alcohol
and hands it over to Matthew.

MATTHEW

Cascahuín Blanco.

DAVID

This shit was pretty expensive by the
way so you better not waste it.

MATTHEW

I think I'll save it for afterwards.
Were not out of the ballpark just yet.

DAVID

Yeah but you have already accomplished
so much that set out to do though.
Genius, Philanthropist, Millionaire.

MATTHEW

Actually, as of last week I'm a
Billionaire.

DAVID

Well we have to drink that at least.

MATTHEW

Later, but tell me what is going on
with you and work now.

DAVID

Well, I'm moving on from field work
now. Now it's just suits and office
pizza parties for me.

MATTHEW

Really, you in a suit pushing pens and
pencils in a cubicle.

DAVID

I know, if you would have told my teenage self this he would have shoved my head in the toilet until I finally woke up.

MATTHEW

Hahaha. Good one. But what really changed your mind.

DAVID

Courtney did. She made me realize that I should leave that behind and live life like it's actually worth something.

MATTHEW

Well she sounds like a keeper.

DAVID

Yep, well I've been at this for so long and done some bad things along the way that I think it's for the best to be honest.

MATTHEW

I understand, and since you'll have more free time. Can you do me a favor?

DAVID

For you, almost anything what is it?

MATTHEW

Spend some time with Wes.

DAVID

Your kid.

MATTHEW

Of course, he's here now actually if you would like to see him really quick before the demonstration.

DAVID

Wait, Matt I don't know if I should. It's just that kids aren't really my thing.

MATTHEW

I know that but Wes needs a friendly face to see from time to time.

DAVID

Even this one.

MATTHEW

Even that one. Plus Wes hasn't been himself since well.

DAVID

Sophie and William's passing.

MATTHEW

Yeah, and I haven't been there enough for him lately because of the company, meetings, this project. Basically the whole wood works holding me up so much.

DAVID

I can't blame you Matt. Your providing that kid with everything he needs. That's more than my shit hole dad ever did for me.

MATTHEW

Except I'm providing him with everything except a father being present next to him.

DAVID

Huh.

MATTHEW

And I'm afraid that he might be going down a path that I may not be able to pull him back from.

Matthew places his hand on his face.

DAVID

Look Matt.

David places his hand onto Matt's shoulder.

DAVID

Give me a few days and I'll find some time to hang out with Wes.

MATTHEW

Do you really mean it?

DAVID

Of course, he should get to know his uncle more. Take him out to a ball game, get a slice of pizza, then try to set him straight.

MATTHEW

Good luck with that he's pretty stubborn.

DAVID

He's a teenager, they all are.

MATTHEW

Very true.