SCRIPT TO SCREEN: A PRODUCTION STORY

TRIMILLENNIAL

HONORS THESIS

Presented to the Honors College of Texas State University in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Graduation in the Honors College

by

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San Marcos, Texas
May 2018
SCRIPT TO SCREEN: A PRODUCTION STORY

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ABSTRACT

_Script to screen: A Production Story_ focuses on the creation of _Trimillennial_ a sci-fi/mystery TV pilot that explores a society that we American’s could be heading towards in a century from now. Imagine living under a New Regime that resembles a Democracy but secretly resembles a Fascist movement. This fascist movement uses progress and technology to hide their deeds while behind the scenes use their justice system of erasing people’s memories to obtain what they want. Episode one will be telling the story of what happened 2 years after Xavier and Zane have their memories erased on purpose. The pre-production to post production process of this creative work include: original screenwriting, location researching, casting, directing, rehearsals, budgeting and scheduling, and editing. The pre-production process began January 18th, the production process took place over two weekends March 2nd - 3rd, March 9th - 11th, and the post production process began March 12th.
Script to Screen: A Production Story began January 2018 when I was challenged to write and direct a TV pilot; episode one of a TV Series. I approached this project by following the notorious Robert Rodriguez “Use-What-You-Got” method of filmmaking to tell a story that was feasible and pleasing to me. The “Use-What-You-Got” method is when you write a script based on the resources at your disposal. Therefore, I wrote a script telling a story that I was proud of without having to go into too much debt. Before writing the screenplay, an essential piece of screenwriting are the characters. I reached out to all actors that I trusted, and nine of them were available. From those nine actors, I created characters that would tell the story of Trimillennial and be the building blocks of the series.

Locations are another essential piece of screenwriting. I found four main locations in total and many of these locations were versatile enough to manipulate and use for different scenes in the project. My friends allowed me to use their apartment spaces as locations for the script enabling me to have three of the four locations no more than 10 minutes away from each other. University Camp in Wimberley was the fourth and final location for filming as I reserved and paid for a 20-person Cabin. Researching props was the last essential piece of screenwriting as I needed to complete the visual aspects of the TV pilot. For example, some props included blank books, tape recorders, and rotary phones.

Using all these components, I wrote a script formulating a story within the science fiction world I envisioned. Based on my actor’s strengths I cast characters to ensure the roles were played by the most fitting actor. As a believer in story and writing; the
majority of the pre-production time was spent in story development. After the script was finished and approved by readers that I trust for feedback and critiques. I then set production dates to get production crew commitments and begin weekly rehearsals with my actors.

Rehearsals started late January, and we had about five weeks of rehearsals. Through rehearsals, changes were continuously made to the script as I give ownership of the characters to my actors. For this reason, the actors told me what they did or didn’t like about their characters's lines to improve the script. Throughout February I budgeted for film equipment to ensure the production value looked professional. February flew by so fast as our rehearsals were concluding and our filming days were creeping up. Our filming days were March 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 9th, 10th, and 11th. Due to my actors taking this project very seriously, they memorized their lines which allowed us to be efficient on set. We only shot 3 to 4 takes of certain scenes but at different angles. These angles include an establishing shot, over the shoulder shot, close ups, and insert shots. The reason for filming different angles is to ensure that I have freedom and flexibility with what I can create in the editing room.

Trimillennial finished wrapping production Sunday, March 11th and post-production began March 12th. Countless hours were spent editing and being nitpicky on every minor detail. Due to filming out of order for efficiency reasons, mistakes were inevitable. However, I used that to my advantage embracing mistakes is a gift in filmmaking. Finding ways to use errors in film allows one to create new visions of work one would not have thought possible. As days of editing stacked on top of each other and March 29th was the day that I finished a cut that had all the footage I wanted in the final
project. I then switched gears from editing to completing special effects and sound effects. Those effects were completed by April 1st to send over to my film composer. To ensure I see my work for what it is, I held a test screening of the project without a score to get director notes and feedback on April 8th. Those notes were used to make changes to the final cut before the official screening. One of the critiques I received caused me to have an Audio Dialogue Replacement Session on April 20th. ADR is a process of getting individual actors into a recording room to get dubbed audio for scenes that would be hard for the audience to hear otherwise. The following week on April 26th, I received the score for the project in time to layer it on the final cut for the premier April 29th, 7:30 pm at the Austin School of Film.

Cast and crew combined, it took 30 people to make Trimillennial. The cast and crew’s time and commitment would be the main reason the final project turned out so well. This TV pilot required so many moving parts to make sure production days were efficient. In conclusion, I am proud that I was able to accomplish such a big project. The premier went well as over 60 people showed up, and the pilot received an ovation.
Trimillennial

FADE IN:

INT. CABIN - DAY

Xavier’s arms are behind his back. Zane forcefully ties them with a rope. Zane tapes Xavier’s mouth shut.

INTERCUT BETWEEN SCENES

Zane is rushing to leave and quickly packs clothes in his bag.

Stanley’s arms are behind his back. Zane forcefully ties them with a rope. Zane tapes Stanley’s mouth shut.

Zane packs water and snacks into his bag.

Jason’s arms are behind his back. Zane forcefully ties them with a rope. Jason is the last person Zane ties up. Zane tapes Jason’s mouth shut.

Zane packs the rope, duck tape, and Reminiscence equipment. Zane puts his backpack on and walks off screen.

Zane is running through the woods/outside. After a while, Zane slows down and finally stops. Camera pans up on Zane’s upper body. His face isn’t shown. Zane ”New Regime” salutes to identify with the New Regime. Camera pans up to his face. Zane is wearing a kangaroo head mask.

END INTERCUT

Title Card: Trimillennial Episode 1 Edd-Mun-Dash

INT. VERONICA’S HOUSE - NIGHT

Veronica is sitting in her house. Zane and Stanley are there. On the table are Veronica’s Reminiscence gloves, headset, and button.

VERONICA
You sure you two want to do this?

XAVIER
Zane and I got this.
VERONICA
(Worried)
Ok.

Veronica grabs the Reminiscence gloves and puts it on.

ZANE
Veronica, I’ve calculated it.
Everything will go according to plan.

VERONICA
After this, I can’t help much.

XAVIER
Yes, you can. We need to make sure we get the code.

Veronica nods.

VERONICA
Eddmun Dash.

A black and white Speeding Hallway of Light is seen. Veronica, Zane, and Xavier’s conversation rewinds backwards to the beginning.

Title: Memory wipe complete

Title: 2 years later

INT. VERONICA’S HOUSE – NIGHT

Veronica scrolls through pictures of Xavier and Zane and puts them in an envelope.

INT. ZANE’S ROOM – DAY

Zane opens up an envelope and scrolls through pictures of Xavier and Zane.

INTERCUT BETWEEN VERONICA AND ZANE

Veronica scrolls through blank books with different names on them.
Zane scrolls through the same blank books that Veronica scrolls through.

Veronica scrolls through cassette tapes with different names on them and packs them in an envelope.

Zane opens up another envelope that has the same cassette tapes that Veronica had.

Veronica packs a cassette player in an envelope.

Zane is listening to the same cassette player.

Veronica is packing notes into envelopes marked with the letter Y in blue.

Zane is opening envelopes marked with the letter Y in blue with notes in them.

Veronica is packing everything she’s scrolled through inside a box.

Veronica packs another note in a envelope marked with the letter Y in red. The letter reads "In order to take down the New Regime. Remember Alliance 333"

Veronica puts on a Kangaroo Head Mask on.

END INTERCUT

Xavier pins a picture of him and Zane on a poster board with the word Eddmun Dash.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Xavier stands next to his power point presentation. He looks at Stanley who is sitting down on a chair with a notepad in his hand.

XAVIER
Do you have any questions?

STANLEY
( Unsire)

No.

XAVIER
Great, now we can move on.

Xavier turns around to put down the poster board.

    STANLEY
    Wait...

Xavier turns around and looks at Stanley.

    XAVIER
    Yes?

    STANLEY
    (Nervous)
    Could you explain that to me one more time?

    XAVIER
    (Fed up)
    Stanley! This is the last time! alright? After this, we’re moving on. Focus!

Stanley clings to his notepad. Xavier resets his poster board and covers it with a blanket. Xavier walks off screen and back on again. He is renewed and ready to present.

    XAVIER
    Wow! I did not expect this many people to make the cut. I’m so glad that everyone could join us.

Stanley looks around and sees that he is the only one there.

    XAVIER
    My name is Xavier, Manager of Reminiscence Technologies, Branch 333, and today we’ll be discussing the history of our business and what we will be expecting from you.

Xavier starts booing.

    XAVIER
Boooo. Boooo. I know, I know. It’s boring but if you want to be a future employer for our regime, listen very carefully.

Xavier gets serious.

XAVIER
(Threatening)
Because if you don’t and people find out what we’re really up to, then our leader will...

Xavier points at Stanley, then points at his own neck, and suggests that he will die.

XAVIER
Now that I got your attention, let the training begin!

Xavier winks.

INT. SAFE HOUSE – DAY

Christina opens the door of a safe house and enters. She rushes to lock the door and begins to check her surroundings. She has an envelope in her hand and frantically opens it. The envelope is marked with the letter Y in red. She reads the note in the envelope then grabs her walkie. As she grabs her walkie, we see a ring on her finger to indicate that she is married.

CHRISTINA (INTO WALKIE)
Christina, calling in.

She hears no one on the line.

CHRISTINA (INTO WALKIE)
Christina, calling in.

CHRISTINA (INTO WALKIE)
Christina, calling in.

Christina looks through the peephole/eyehole of the door that she came through. She takes a moment to scan through. Christina moves away from the door and makes a call.
CHRISTINA
It's been 20 years since the New Regime took power and I finally got a message from the man on the inside.

CHRISTINA (CON'T) The message is, "In order to take down the New Regime, Remember Alliance 333." Alliance 333. If anyone knows what that is, please call in.

Christina goes into another room of the safe house.

INT. ZANE'S ROOM - DAY

Zane in front of the poster board with the name Eddmun Dash and is listening into the walkie talkie.

ZANE
Remember Alliance 333...Remember Alliance 333...

Zane gets up and points at the Edd part of Eddmun Dash. Underneath that part of the name is a picture of Xavier and Zane giving each other a handshake. Zane touches the picture.

ZANE

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

While Christina is in the other room of the safe house, someone tries to open the door to enter the apartment. A couple seconds later the door unlocks and Malcolm, a man in a suit wearing a kangaroo mask walks in.

The man in the suit sits down on a chair and seems to be waiting for Christina. He activates the Reminiscence glove.
Christina walks out of the room and sees the man. She is startled. The man reaches his hand out and signals for Christina to come toward him. Christina instead runs towards the patio door to escape.

Christina opens the patio door and Tim, another man in a suit wearing a kangaroo mask is standing there.

She turns around and the man in the living room is behind her.

    CHRISTINA
    (Yelling)
    It doesn’t matter what you do to me. You can’t stay in power forever.

Behind her, the man in the living room puts one of his gloved hands on top of her head. Christina gets knocked out.

Christina is lying on the ground wearing a Reminiscence headset. The two men in the suits, put on teleportation wrist bands. One of the men presses a Reminiscence button. They teleport and Christina’s head snaps up.

A black and white Speeding Hallway of Light is seen. Christina, Malcolm, and Tim’s encounter rewinds backwards to the beginning.

Title: Memory wipe complete

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Xavier and Stanley meet a potential customer named Jason. Jason scans the area.

    STANLEY
    (Nervously)
    Hello, I’m Stanley.

Stanley gives Jason a handshake.

    STANLEY
    (Nervously)
    This is my assistant Xavier and he’ll be shadowing me today.
Xavier gives Jason a handshake.

**STANLEY**

Please, have a seat.

Jason, Stanley, and Xavier sit down.

**STANLEY**

I’m surprised you didn’t have any trouble finding this place. I know I do.

Stanley chuckles. Xavier turns his head and looks at Stanley intensely. Stanley notices.

**STANLEY**

(Nervously)

I mean, when I was first working here it was hard, but now that I’m accustomed to it, it’s easy to find. I’m just impressed that you didn’t have any trouble at all.

Stanley laughs awkwardly. Xavier is constantly looking at Stanley intensely. Jason is still scanning the area. Stanley is trying to regroup his thoughts.

**JASON**

For an organization that’s supposed to be off the radar, it’s always easy to find.

**STANLEY**

Easy? It’s not easy.

**JASON**

You just said that after you got accustomed to working here it was easy to find.

**STANLEY**

I...I work here.

**JASON**

(Chuckling) If I were an anti-regime organization, I would relocate every week and make sure
it’s difficult to find. Even for myself.

STANLEY

.....

JASON
I question if Reminiscence Technologies works for the people or for the government.

STANLEY
(snaps)
We’re for the people.

JASON
Hmmm. How do I know? Maybe there’s a conspiracy going on.

Stanley begins to worry and tries to look to Xavier who is still glaring at him.

JASON (CONT’D) Let’s cut to the chase. I’m sick and tired of going to another Reminiscence branch to get my memories back, getting caught by the regime, and then having to go back to square one.

STANLEY
I understand your frustration sir, but if you get caught by the regime, we’re not responsible for

INT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY

Christina wakes up. She gets up and looks around. She is disgusted by the place she is in. She begins moving furniture, turns around, and is startled by Malcolm standing nearby.

CHRISTINA
Whoa!
MALCOLM
Don’t be scared, Christina. It’s just me.

CHRISTINA
(Confused)
Right. Why are you wearing that?

MALCOLM
Oh, this? It’s for fun.

CHRISTINA
Ok.

MALCOLM
Anyways, thank you again for all your help.

CHRISTINA
For?

MALCOLM Helping
me fix my business.
Rrreemmmeemmmbbeer.

CHRISTINA Right,
right. Of course, no problem.

MALCOLM
Well, I think you can go now.

Malcolm puts Cristina’s wedding ring on the counter. Christina walks over to it and grabs the wedding ring. She feels a connection to it. Flashes of her wearing a wedding ring flashback and forth over and over again but stop. She puts the ring down and leaves.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

JASON
(Chuckling)
I’m not stupid! Just because I was deemed a "threat", I have to pay for my memories time and time again. I might not remember who I once was, but I do remember all
the Reminiscence meetings. It’s a continuous cycle.

Stanley looks at Xavier.

JASON (CONT’D) Is it really a coincidence that the government gets fat off our backs after each Reminiscence test?

Stanley looks over to Xavier who is still staring at him intensely. Stanley is having trouble finding words to say.

STANLEY
I’m sorry but/

JASON
//but? but? I want my memories back for free, and to figure out a way for them to not get wiped, you traitor!

Stanley gets up.

STANLEY
(Frustrated)
We can’t figure out a way to do that, okay? We’re not traitors. We’re for the people. (Pause) This organization has worked for years to ensure that people live the lives they once knew. We work for you, not for the regime, but we have families to take care of and this money helps us do that.

Xavier and Jason smile at Stanley.

JASON (TO XAVIER)
He’s good.

XAVIER (TO JASON) I’m a bit surprised myself. The ones that make the cut typically can’t act the part.
JASON (TO XAVIER)
Yeah and then we have to erase
their memories!

Xavier and Jason laugh.

STANLEY
(Confused)
What’s going on?

XAVIER (TO STANLEY)
Stanley, I would like you to meet
my assistant, Jason.

STANLEY
You two work together?

XAVIER
Yes, sir.

Xavier gets up and heads towards a pile of files.

STANLEY
Jason isn’t a client?

JASON (TO STANLEY)
Hypothetically, a "client".

Stanley gets up to look at Xavier.

STANLEY
Xavier?

Xavier finds the file he was looking for and walks towards
the group with file in hand.

XAVIER
Stanley, Jason is my partner. We’ve
retrieved multiple memories
together. This whole
"client-meeting-thing" was just a
test. You passed, so congrats.

Xavier and Jason clap.

STANLEY
Thank you.
JASON
(Mockingly)
I really love what you said at the end. "We can’t figure out a way to do that okay? We’re not traitors."

Jason laughs.

JASON (CONT’D) You’ve got the acting down. Also, we’ve never had a client like that. All the meetings they have with Reminiscence get wiped too.

XAVIER Let’s make things clear one more time Stanley. Explain back to me how the New Regime and Reminiscence Technologies work together?

STANLEY Well the New Regime takes away people’s memories. Then Reminiscence Technologies "helps" get those memories back. People don’t know that the regime actually created us.

JASON
Exactly.

XAVIER Like I said in my presentation, it’s a cycle and that’s how we, the regime, and people at the top, make money.

STANLEY Makes sense. No one goes to jail anymore. There’s no death penalty. No more trials. Our regime figured out a way to punish those that do wrong and make a quick buck out of it.

Xavier and Jason smile.
JASON
I like this kid!

XAVIER
He’s catching on.

Stanley "New Regime" Salutes.

STANLEY
All hail the new regime!

Jason and Xavier "New Regime" Salutes.

JASON AND XAVIER
All hail the new regime!

A sound goes off indicating they have a client meeting.

JASON (TO XAVIER)
We have a client today?

XAVIER
Yes sir.

Xavier hands out the files to Stanley and Jason.

XAVIER
His name is Edmmun Dash. Today is your lucky day, Stanley. Read the report and just follow our lead.

STANLEY
Can I take notes?

Xavier looks at Stanley strangely.

XAVIER
Sure.

Stanley sits, opens the report, and starts taking notes. Xavier and Jason smile at each other and look at Stanley.

STANLEY
Did I take one of your seats?

Stanley points at the seat that he’s sitting in.

XAVIER
No, you’re good.
Xavier and Jason grab their things and head out of the conference room. Stanley sits there, confused. Stanley collects his things and follows them.

STANLEY
This isn’t our real location?

JASON
Hypothetically, a "location".

STANLEY
Are we meeting a real client or...?

INT. ZANE’S ROOM – DAY

Zane takes down all the notes, pictures, and puts it all in a box. He grabs his suitcase and leaves.

EXT. FIRE PIT – DAY

Zane is standing in front of a fire. A now empty box is next to him.

He throws the remaining envelopes marked with Y in the fire.

Zane turns around, grabs his suitcase, and leaves.

INT. CABIN – DAY

Stanley is disappointed that he has been through this before but continues to keep writing down notes on his notepad.

Jason has Eddmun Dash’s report.

JASON

The camera is over Jason’s shoulder as he puts the paper down. Zane is sitting, staring at Xavier.

JASON
There are two things that I can’t stand: liars and traitors. Who are you and what are you doing here?
Zane stays quiet and continues to stare at Xavier. Xavier stares back and feels like he has seen him before. Jason is becoming irritated.

JASON
(Irritated chuckle) I don’t know how you contacted us as Eddmun Dash, but we need to know who you are.

Zane doesn’t move. Stanley stops taking notes.

STANLEY
Jason, I think he’s working for them.

Jason smiles a little then looks at Zane as if he were shocked.

JASON
You’re with the regime aren’t you? Xavier, we’ve been compromised. I’m proceeding with a Recall.

Jason puts his Reminiscence glove on. Zane, startled by the word "recall", grabs his briefcase and opens it in front of them. Jason’s jaw drops. He looks around, smiling.

JASON
Eddmun Dash. We’ll be more than happy to get your memories back.

STANLEY
Wait. You’re not a hypothetical client?

Jason and Xavier stare at Stanley. Stanley puts his head down and takes more notes. Jason roles his eyes, grabs the briefcase, closes it, and hugs it tight. Xavier begins speaking to Zane.

XAVIER
Now that we have our payment, we can proceed with the process. First...

CUT TO:
Jason uses the Reminiscence glove to put Zane to sleep. Then, he puts the Reminiscence headset on his face, presses a button on the headset, and it makes a sound effect.

CUT TO:

Xavier speaking to Zane.

XAVIER
Second...

CUT TO:

Jason, Xavier, and Stanley put on their Reminiscence wristbands. Sounds effects go off for each of them.

JASON
Teleportation band activated.

STANLEY
Teleportation band activated.

XAVIER
Teleportation band activated.

CUT TO:

Xavier speaking to Zane.

XAVIER
Third...

CUT TO:

Xavier grabs the Reminiscence button.

XAVIER
You boys ready?

CUT TO:

Xavier talking to Zane.

XAVIER
Then we’ll be on our way to getting your memories back.

CUT TO:

Jason, Stanly, and Xavier sitting.
JASON (TO STANLEY)
Don’t be scared. This is the fun part.

STANLEY
Okay.

JASON
(Yelling)
Ready when you are, Xavier.

XAVIER
Jason, I’m sending you in
3....2....1....

Xavier presses the button. Jason teleports. Stanley looks over and is freaking out.

XAVIER
Stanley, I’m sending you in
3....2....1....

Xavier presses the button. Stanley teleports. Xavier takes a deep breath.

XAVIER
3....2....1....

Xavier presses the button. Xavier teleports. Zane’s head snaps up.

CUT TO:

Speeding hallway of light. Light slowly fades to black and white.

INT. CABIN - DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)

The cabin room is empty except for an envelope at the center of the room, a pile of books, and a rotary phone. Stanley teleports into the room.

CUT TO:

The cabin room is empty except for an envelope at the center of the room, a rotary phone, a pile of cassette
tapes, and a cassette player. Jason teleports into the room.

CUT TO:

The cabin room is empty except for a man asleep in a sleeping bag in a corner. Xavier teleports into the room. Xavier looks to his left then to his right.

INTERCUT BETWEEN XAVIER, JASON, AND STANLEY.

XAVIER
Jason? Stanley?

JASON
Xavier?

STANLEY
Xavier? Jason?

Xavier, Jason, and Stanley try to use their Reminiscence teleportation band to communicate with each other.

XAVIER
Jason? Stanley?

JASON
Xavier? (Pause) Stanley?

STANLEY
Xavier? Jason?

END INTERCUT

Xavier is puzzled. He scans the room. He turns around and notices the man in the sleeping bag. Xavier approaches cautiously and kneels down.

XAVIER
Hello?

Zane wakes up and freaks out.

ZANE
(Panicked)
Ahhhhh! (Pause) Xavier Wells. How long has it been?
Xavier grabs his head. Fade to white. Xavier remembers something.

INT. VERONICA’S HOUSE - NIGHT

Veronica is sitting in her house. Zane and Stanley are there. On the table are Veronica’s Reminiscence gloves, headset, and button.

VERONICA
You sure you two want to do this?

XAVIER
Zane and I got this.

INT. CABIN - DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)

XAVIER
Zane? We know each other?

Zane gets up with the sleeping bag still over him. He grabs Xavier.

ZANE
Xavier, you don’t remember?

CUT TO:

Stanley is in the cabin. He is looking through his notes and beginning to panic.

STANLEY
This is not in the notes! I wrote everything down, Xavier. You said we would all be here together and I’m looking but I don’t see you!

Stanley puts his hands over his face.

STANLEY
(Sighs)
Breathe.

Stanley scans the room and looks at the envelope, books, and telephone. He grabs the envelope and opens it. He reads the letter.
STANLEY

F. Read.
O. Message.
R. Phone.

Stanley is confused.

STANLEY
F. Read. O. Message. R. Phone.
(Pause) F. Read. O. Message. R.
Phone. What in the world? Okay.

Stanley puts the letter down and looks through his notepad.

STANLEY
Cryptic notes, cryptic notes.

Stanley’s eyes widen. He puts his notepad down. He grabs the letter.

STANLEY
F. Read. O. Message. R. Phone.
Read. Message. Phone. FOR...  ugh,
this guy...  Read. FOR. Message.
FOR. Phone.

Stanley chuckles.

CUT TO:

Jason in the cabin looking at the letter.

JASON
Listen. Message. Phone. FOR...  HA!
This guy is good. Listen. FOR.
Message. FOR. Phone. Duh.

Jason puts the letter down. He grabs the cassette tapes, messes with them, then begins to read them.

JASON
Edward Jules the II. Alexis
Stewart. George Pippin. Stephanie
Strait. Emily Clark. Simon Noel the
II. Michael Foster.
Stanley looking at the names on the books.

STANLEY
Edward Jules the II. Alexis
Stewart. George Pippin. Stephanie
Strait. Emily Clark. Simon Noel the
II. Michael Foster.

STANLEY
If this is anything like last
time...

Stanley starts rearranging the books in a different order.

STANLEY
Michael Foster. Emily Clark.
Stephanie Strait. Simon Noel the
II. Alexis Stewart. George Pippin.
Edward Jules the II.

CUT TO:

Jason is staring at his cassette tapes in the same order as
Stanley’s books.

JASON
Also known as M.E.S.S.A.G.E.
Message.

Jason grabs the first cassette tape and listens to it. He
plays it back and forth.

JASON
Listen. FOR. Message. FOR. Phone.

Jason looks at the rotary phone. He continues to play the
tape over and over again.

JASON(CONT’D)
I don’t hear any numbers.

CUT TO:

Stanley puts the books in a 3-4 pattern. He begins flipping
through the blank books and sees a mark in one of the
pages. He flips back to that mark.
STANLEY

M.

Stanley puts the book on the ground open and flips through all the other books in the order they were in.

CUT TO:

Cassette tape cases lie all over the ground. They’ve all been listened to and Jason is listening to the last one.

JASON
Don’t tell me, it’s...

Jason listens to the tape.

CUT TO: Zane speaking to Xavier while shaking him.

ZANE
That’s all that I remember.

XAVIER
Your memories are fragmented.

ZANE
So are yours.

XAVIER
If what you said earlier is true...
What is the regime planning?

INT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY

Malcolm and Tim, the two men in the suit wearing a Kangaroo mask are sitting at a table in the same apartment where Christina was. They’re talking with files in their hands.

MALCOLM
We’ll set up shop here. For now.

TIM
Is this one of their locations?

MALCOLM
Yes, and more will come.

TIM
Perfect. How are we doing along the phases?

MALCOLM
People are becoming more dependent on us as years go on. Our fathers in the 21st century did a great job.

TIM From VHS tapes, to DVDs, to streaming. From cassette players, to MP3s, to smart phones. From books to Ebooks. People were dependent on us back then and now look how far we’ve come.

Malcolm "New Regime Salutes"

MALCOLM
All hail the new regime!

Tim "New Regime Salutes"

TIM All hail the new regime!

Tim starts flipping through the files.

TIM Christina Kane. Another revolutionist. What should we write up?

MALCOLM
Christina Kane. Drug addict, thief, and estranged wife.

TIM
I like it.

Tim begins typing up the report.

TIM
Reason for memory wiping?

MALCOLM Killed a homeless man for drug money.
TIM
Estimate time it’ll take for her to contact Reminiscence Technologies?

MALCOLM
With the dosage I gave her, give it about 6 months. She’ll vaguely remember she was married.

TIM
I’ll upload the file on her now.

Jessica walks in the door.

JESSICA
Christina!

Jessica looks and sees the two men in suits.

JESSICA
Crap!

Jessica starts to run away. Tim and Malcolm get up from their seats. Tim chases after her as Malcolm slides on the Reminiscence glove.

INT. CABIN – DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)

Xavier talking to Zane. Zane is pacing back and forth.

XAVIER
How do I know you’re not making all of this up?

ZANE
Xavier, you know I’m telling the truth.

Xavier takes a moment. Zane is still pacing back and forth.

XAVIER
Eddmun Dash. Why’d you go by Eddmun Dash?

Zane stops pacing and faces Xavier.
ZANE

Xavier grabs his head. Fade to white. Xavier remembers something.

INT. VERONICA’S HOUSE – NIGHT

Veronica, Zane, and Xavier speaking with each other.

VERONICA
(Worried)
Ok.

Veronica grabs the Reminiscence gloves and puts it on.

ZANE
Veronica, I’ve calculated it. Everything will go according to plan.

VERONICA
After this, I can’t help much.

XAVIER
Yes, you can. We need to make sure we get the code.

Veronica nods.

VERONICA
Eddmun Dash.

INT. CABIN – DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)

CUT TO:

Stanley has the books opened and lined up in the 3-4 pattern. The camera looks over it and sees that it says Mun-Dash.

CUT TO:
Jason is puzzled and shocked.

   JASON
   Listen. FOR. Message. FOR. Phone. Edd-Mun-Dash. That’s the message.


   JASON
   Weight: 274 pounds.

CUT TO:

Stanley types in the numbers on the rotary phone. 333-686-3274.

CUT TO:

Xavier is talking to Zane while Zane is pacing back and forth.

   XAVIER
   Veronica. We need to find Veronica so she can help us.

   ZANE
   Who?

   XAVIER
   The one that met with us. Eddmun Dash. She knows what that is too.

   ZANE
   I don’t remember.

   XAVIER
   There’s a reason we both don’t remember certain things.

Stanley and Jason teleport to where Xavier is.

   JASON
   Xavier! Edd-Mun-Dash. That was a code.
STANLEY
A code to/

XAVIER
//to get his memories back.

Xavier grabs a Reminiscence teleportation band and throws it to Zane. Zane stops pacing and puts it on.

XAVIER
Stanley, Jason, I would like you to meet my friend Zane.

Zane stops pacing. Jason and Stanley give him a handshake and introduce themselves.

JASON
Jason.

STANLEY
Stanley.

JASON
(Questioning)
Friend? Is Zane even your real name?

XAVIER
Jason?

JASON
What?!

Zane grabs his head, yelling in pain.

ZANE
Aagggghhhhh!

Zane falls to the ground.
XAVIER

Zane!

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jessica is lying on the ground with a headset over her face. Tim and Malcolm put the wrist bands and Reminiscence button down. Tim begins removing off the headset.

TIM
It's a shame. Why can't people just be on board with our regime?

INT. CABIN - DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)

Xavier, Jason, and Stanley rush to aid Zane. Xavier, Stanley, kneel as Zane rolls on the ground. Jason doesn't kneel. He suddenly relaxes.

ZANE
They're coming.

Xavier and Jason's eyes widen.

JASON
Crap!

STANLEY
Who?

INT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY

Malcolm and Tim talking to each other.

MALCOLM
We need these types of people to make money.

INT. CABIN - DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)

XAVIER
(Anxious)
Okay, Okay.

INT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY
Malcolm’s cell phone rings.

MALCOLM
Hello?... Zane is back?... Send me the location. I’m on it. (Pause) Wait... He’s on it already?

INT. CABIN - DAY (BLACK AND WHITE/ZANE’S MIND)
Xavier contemplates ideas. He finds one. Xavier stands up.

XAVIER
I have an idea but you’re going to have trust me.

Xavier puts his hand out. Zane grabs his hand. Xavier lifts him up.

CUT TO:

INT. CABIN - DAY
Xavier’s arms are behind his back. Zane forcefully ties them with a rope. Zane tapes Xavier’s mouth shut.

CUT TO:

Zane is in a rush to leave and quickly packs clothes in his bag.

CUT TO:

Stanley’s arms are behind his back. Zane forcefully ties them with a rope. Zane tapes Stanley’s mouth shut.

CUT TO:

Zane packs water and snacks into his bag.

CUT TO:

Jason’s arms are behind his back. Zane forcefully ties them with a rope. Jason is the last person Zane ties up. Zane tapes Jason’s mouth shut.
Zane packs the rope, duck tape, and Reminiscence equipment. Zane puts his backpack on and walks off screen.

CUT TO:

Zane is running through the woods/outside. After a while, Zane slows down and finally stops. Camera pans up on Zane’s upper body. His face isn’t shown. Zane does "New Regime" salute. Camera pans up to his face. Zane is wearing a kangaroo head mask. Standing in front of him is a man in a suit holding a bat. The camera pans up and that man is wearing a kangaroo head mask as well. Zane is still in the salute stance. The man in the suit tightens his grip on the bat and swings.

FADE TO BLACK:

END