Brain Invaders from Planet X

by

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FADE IN:

INT. FATHER’S DEN - MONROE FAMILY HOME - EARLY MORNING

A large collection of science fiction memorabilia fills the room. Posters of old sci-fi pulp magazines covers hang on the walls. There are multiple shelves full of books, family photos, autographed pictures of classic television stars, and an assortment of metal and plastic robots.

Placed in the center of the room is an old wooden desk. Papers and old pulp novels take up most of the it’s top, except for an old typewriter that sits with a half written page in it.

The door to the den is slightly open. Movement is seen from the hallway.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)
You have your jacket? Gloves?

YOUNG GIRL VOICE (O.S.)
Yep.

It opens, and a woman walks in. She grabs a small tattered blue book from the desk. The woman takes a long look around before leaving, closing the door behind her.

INT. LIVING ROOM

SARAH MONROE, (45), Wife and mother of two. Too many sleepless nights are taking their toll on her, mentally and physically, and JULIE MONROE, (10), Happy and full of life. She knows her father is sick, but doesn’t understand what is happening to him.

They start to walk out the front door. Sarah stops, noticing CHRISTOPHER MONROE, (16), still sitting on the couch using his cell phone. He is at that moody stage of being a teenager.

SARAH
Where’s your jacket?

He doesn’t say anything.

SARAH (CONT’D)
We’re leaving.

CHRIS
I'm not going?
SARAH
What do you mean you are not going?

CHRIS
I don't want to go!

SARAH
CHRISTOPHER MILES MONROE! Your father's surgery is today, and we are going to be there before he goes in. Now get your jacket on, and get to the car!

CUT TO:

EXT. CAR - HIGHWAY

The family's SUV drives down the wet early morning road. Chris stares out of the passenger side window.

INT. CAR

There is an awkward silence.

SARAH
It's not his fault. It's the tumor.

He doesn't respond to her comment.

SARAH (CONT’D)
Christopher.

CHRIS
(automatic and mumbled)
I know.

SARAH
Boomer!

CHRIS
Christ, I know mom okay!.

SARAH
Watch your mouth!

CHRIS
It's embarrassing, okay. He's embarrassing.
SARAH
He is still your father. God willing everything goes okay today, or your going to be real ashamed of yourself.

Julie pokes her head out from between the front seats.

JULIE
I think he's funny.

SARAH
Julz, sit back in your seat dear.

CHRIS
Yeah, we have our very own Private Buzz Light Year. Hilarious!

JULIE
Yeah!

SARAH
Enough you two! We are all going to be there for him today. He needs to be strong, so we need to be strong.

She starts to get upset.

CHRIS
I'm sorry.

JULIE
You okay mommy?

Sarah throws a fake smile on for her daughter.

SARAH
Mommy's fine. Sit back sweetie.

CUT TO:

INT. FATHER'S ROOM - HOSPITAL

CHARLES MONROE, (50), Retired Air force Captain. Outgoing but laid-back. He has a tumor in his brain that causes him to have delusions.

In his delusions, Charles believes he is Captain Courageous of Space Command. A black and white fifties television show character.
He is sitting up in bed flipping through the television channels. Charles is wearing a hospital gown and a beanie covering his newly shave head.

Charles is having a good day.

The family arrives.

CHARLES
Hey guys!

Sara kisses him.

SARAH
Hey you.

She places the blue book from earlier on the light stand beside the bed.

CHARLES
Thanks.

SARAH
Just don't tire yourself out.

CHARLES
You know me.

SARAH
That's what I'm afraid of.

Julie comes to the edge of the bed and salutes her father.

JULIE
Reporting for duty sir.

CHRIS
Julz!

CHARLES
(Ignoring Chris)
Well?

JULIE
I got an A on my science test.

CHARLES
Outstanding! We'll make a science officer out of you yet cadet. Fall in and give your old man a hug.

She runs over and wraps her arms around his neck.
SARAH
Okay honey, Daddy needs his rest.

CHARLES
She's fine.

A beat goes by with everyone staring at him.

CHARLES (CONT’D)
I'm fine.

He looks at his son standing by the doorway. Charles nods.

CHARLES (CONT’D)
Boomer.

CHRIS
It’s Chris.

CHARLES
Sorry... Chris. The mind ain’t what it use to be.

An awkward silence.

CHARLES (CONT’D)
(to Sarah)
That was suppose to be a joke.

SARAH
(playful)
Stop being bad.

CHARLES
You got a hug for your old man or are you too old for that now?

Chris goes to talk but is interrupted by a female doctor.

DOCTOR THOMPSON (35) is tall and thin. She has Black hair and is beautiful.

Chris watches her with his eyes, taking her all in.

DOCTOR THOMPSON
Morning everyone. It’s about that time. The procedure should take about an hour or so.

She turns from the family to Charles.