

"2080"

by

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FADE IN:

The date is 26th October, 2106. Bella is sat clinging to a chair in a dark forest. There are people around her stabbing each-other with knives. From the darkness, a man lurches forward towards her with a knife. Bella screams, and presses a button on the side of the chair. The scene freezes. Bella catches her breath.

BELLA

Stop!

COMPUTER VOICE

Thank-you Bella for enjoying another JA&P Holo-TV experience.

A light flickers on and we see Bella sat on the chair inside a small cylinder shaped object made of screens, with a door behind her. She gets up and goes out of the door, into her lounge. She looks back at a screen on the outside of the Holo-TV which has the words 'The most terrifying experience this year, truly bone chilling' scrolling across it.

BELLA

Didn't scare me.

Suddenly there is a high pitched noise.

BELLA

Oh no!

Bella covers her ears and falls to the ground as the noise increases in frequency. There is a 'reverse lightning' effect outside as daylight flickers to night-time for a couple of seconds. The sounds gradually fade out. Bella takes her hands from her ears and grabs onto a near-by chair, bracing herself for something. Then, the ground shakes like an earthquake for about 5 seconds.

BELLA

What the hell is causing that?

Once it's over, Bella rushes to the window and looks across the road. The building opposite has a huge crack almost splitting it into two. People begin running and screaming in the street. A chunk of the building falls to the ground crushing some people below.

BELLA

Oh god, the crack's got bigger! What's going on? That building won't survive many more.

Bella walks across to a flat plate shaped object on a table and swipes her hand above it.

BELLA

News.

A 3D holographic picture flickers up above the disc. It is a newsreader woman sat at a desk reading the news.

BELLA

Larger.

The projected image grows in size. The newsreader is now the same size as Bella as if she's sat in the room.

NEWSREADER

The reward had now gone up to 10 Million pounds for information leading to the whereabouts of the two males in question.

A video is shown of a young man running and pointing at something, his friend behind the camera shooting the film. It is very grainy, and his face can't be made out. The man in front of the camera falls to his knees and points ahead of him.

MAN ON CAMERA

Look man, it's bloody Elvis! It's really him!!

MAN BEHIND THE CAMERA

No WAY! Why is he acting like that? What's wrong with him?

BELLA

(Mimicking) What's wrong with him? God, I'm sick of these two idiots.

Just as the camera zooms in to Elvis, the newsreader reappears and the video is cut off.

NEWSREADER

We are just getting news coming in of more unusual weather disturbances in the city of London. There was another small earthquake, and an electrical interference of some kind.

Bella walks closer to the image.

BELLA

Weather disturbance? Bullshit.

NEWSREADER

There have been no official explanations for the incidents so far, despite the effects of the disturbances seemingly becoming increasingly worse. The Mayor of London, Marcus Doheny, has advised people not to panic and not to evacuate the city, as some have already started doing.

MARCUS (ON THE NEWS)

Please be advised, we are doing all we can to investigate the cause of these disturbances. Once we have found it, we will do all in our power to stop them and return the city back to normal.

There is a knock at the door.

BELLA

Off.

The Hologram TV flickers off. Bella approaches cautiously. From her side of the door, it appears see-through. We see one man and one woman who look as though they are peering at her. Bella approaches the door and stands up close to it, studying them suspiciously. From their side of the door, it appears totally wooden and not at all see-through. Bella cautiously 'answers' the door, (she presses a button and the door becomes see through on both sides, but the door still separates them. The man is wearing quite a lot of make-up.

BELLA

Yes? Can I help you?

MAN

Bella Marosa?

BELLA

Who are you?

MAN

Please come with us.

The man holds up a badge showing he is a government official. Bella presses a button and the door slides open.

BELLA

What's going on?

MAN

Please, you must come with us.
Immediately.

BELLA

Who are you?

Bella becomes afraid and tries to close the door. The man sticks his foot inside the doorframe to prevent it from closing. Bella reaches to a button on the wall by the door, which says 'security' above it, and a force field appears in the doorway. The man quickly pulls his foot away, grimacing in pain.

WOMAN

Bella, please be advised that you do not have to do anything, it is entirely your decision as to whether you come with us or not.

BELLA

Why the hell would I? I don't even know who you are! What is this about? Is it someone in my family? Dad?

MAN

Your Father is fine.

BELLA

So, it's someone else in my family?

MAN

... yes. A distant relative.

BELLA

Have I come into some money or something?

WOMAN

You won't be in any danger if you come with us, and you will be free to leave

whenever you want. But your life will never be the same again.

Bella notices a badge on the woman's coat, which says 'Chief Counselor'. Totally intrigued, confused and scared, Bella flicks the security force field switch off and steps out of her door.

BELLA

Let's go.

The man and woman lead Bella out of her building and into a hover car parked outside. The car, like all other cars, is a pyramid shape. It is parked in a round parking space, many of which line the streets. They all sit inside, the man and woman looking straight ahead with a serious expression. The man looks into a retinal scanner and the car starts up. It is a very quiet engine, barely audible. The song 'Rock with you' by Michael Jackson begins playing quietly in the background. The car moves out sideways and then forwards along the road.

MAN

Work. Building 16.

The car sets off down the road, hovering just above the ground on a smooth plastic looking road. It joins a main road, where all the cars (which look the same) are driving back to back at very high speed. It comes off at a junction and slows down, driving towards a mass of buildings. There are many security gates as they go further into the buildings, the first ones requiring retinal scanners and finger print IDs, the final ones having actual people on the gates checking who is coming in and going out. They arrive outside a building with 'JA&E' written above the door. They get out of the car. Inside, they go through a maze of passages and finally arrive in a dark room with 2 other men inside sat behind a desk, who are wearing black suits.

MR. A

Bella Marosa. Well well. We meet again. Please, take a seat.

Bella doesn't move. Mr. A glances at his watch.

MR. A

Sit!

Bella promptly sits on the single chair in the middle of the room in front of the desk. Mr. A. get some face powder

from his inside jacket pocket, and touches up his face with the powder. He returns it to his pocket.

MR. A

You may refer to me as Mr. A. My colleague here is Mr. B. I expect you are wondering what you are doing here?

BELLA

Yes?

MR. B

First thing's first.

Mr. B produces a wad of paper with tiny writing on it. He throws it onto a table in front of him making a loud bang which echoes around the room. There is a gold pen on the table.

MR. B

Sign it.

BELLA

What ... what does it ...

MR. B

(interrupting) Don't breathe a word, blah blah blah, national secrecy, etc etc, you'll be gotten rid of if you talk, that kind of thing. Get the drift? Even if you don't do it, you'll still know too much at that point so you have to keep your trap shut anyway.

BELLA

Don't do what?

Mr. A angrily gets up from the chair and points at her, Mr. B. stops him before he can speak and pushes him back down.

MR. B

There's a good girl. Sign the form, and you will understand.

Totally confused and a little scared but excited, she picks up the pen on the table and signs the form. As soon as she has done so, 4 other men enter the room. Bella is led by Mr. A through another corridor, the 4 men closely following, (Mr. B and the man stay behind, the woman goes with Bella). They enter a room full of computers, strange equipment, and wires. There is a humming sound in the room from all the equipment. They stand around a table.

MR. A

Good. We're on schedule too. You might be aware of some, how shall we say, disturbances of late.

BELLA

Disturbances?

MR. A

Electrical ... weather phenomena. The press have been making a big fuss over it.

BELLA

Oh, the noises and flashing? Oh god, is that what this is about? What is causing it? It's so awful isn't it?

MR. A

It's just a side effect. We're working on it.

BELLA

Side effect? Of what?

MR. A

You know in all those silly science fiction films when they write storylines about things that'll never happen? Like, say, when they invent something like time travel?

BELLA

Yes

MR. A

Well, it's not silly. They invented it. It was always going to happen sooner or later, of course. But it is happening. Now.

BELLA

Sorry, what has? A film?

MR. A

Time travel. It's a reality. And you're the protagonist in this storyline.

BELLA

How, how, how, what's, I mean, how ...

MR. A

There's already a library full of laws,
of course. And a book full of
loopholes.

Mr. A slams a heavy folder crammed with papers down onto
the table. Scientists and lab technicians begin scurrying
around in the background, preparing things in the
laboratory.

MR. A

The only way we can legally send
someone back to interact with someone
from the past, is with the permission
of the person from the past.

BELLA

Well surely that's impossible!

MR.A

You'd think wouldn't you? That's where
you come into it.

The Counselor puts her hand onto Bella's shoulder.

WOMAN

You don't have to agree to anything.

MR. A

Will you stop saying that – it's highly
irritating. You're another legality we
could frankly do without.

BELLA

How do I come into it?

MR. A

At present we are only able to send
people back to interact with either
themselves or colleagues.

BELLA

This can't be happening! It can't be
true!

MR. A

Unfortunately most people's brains
can't cope with the concept. I was
hoping you'd be different. That you
think outside the box. At least you did
when you cheated on that maths final
exam.

BELLA

Eh? That was ages ago and I ... hang on, how did you know about that? And anyway I didn't cheat, there was nothing to actually state that you couldn't bring the notes into the exam.

MR. A

Creative and sneaky. I love it.

BELLA

How do I know this isn't all some sort of joke?

MR. A

So predictable. 'It's a joke', why do they all say that. Here's the proof.

The doors automatically lock and a red light comes on above all the doors flashing 'Do not Exit, shift I in progress'. A strange noise starts whirling up and there's an odd breeze in the room which becomes more of a wind. The lights go off and flicker on again and a strange almost musical noise resonates through-out the room which sounds like high pitched out of tune violin strings. Suddenly, from inside what looks like a big hula hoop, a strange distortion forms, and another version of Mr. A steps out onto a platform in front. Mr. A 2 is wearing a different suit than Mr. A 1 and looks rather disorientated for a moment. He looks around and takes a while to focus on his surroundings. Mr. A 2 eventually smiles and steps off of the platform onto the floor. Mr. A 1 turns to Bella.

MR. A 1

Tell him ... me ... which exam you cheated on.

Bella's mouth is open and her eyes wide.

BELLA

Eh?

MR. A 1

What you just told me

BELLA

Uh ... I cheated on my Maths exam. Maths final.

MR. A 2

No idea why I need that info, but thanks Mr. A.

MR. A 1

Right, that's it, back you go to five days ago.

MR. A 2

See you soon, Bella. Glad you agree to this meeting.

Mr. A 2 promptly steps back onto the platform and stands before the hoop. The same process as before happens with the noise and wind, and when a loud beeping noise can be heard, Mr. A 2 steps into the hoop and is gone. Bella rushes round the other side of the hoop and looks right through it. It looks like a normal frame now that she can see right through.

BELLA

Oh my! How did that happen? That's how you knew about my exam – I told you!! But then – I told the other you which wouldn't have happened if the older you hadn't of told me to say it – it doesn't make sense.

MR. A

These paradoxes are the very thing we want to research.

BELLA

Surely, it must be dangerous?

MR. A

Bella, just imagine. No more war. No more famine. Eradicating future criminals. A perfect world. I am going to go down in history as the man who created utopia!

Bella looks worried and squints suspiciously at Mr. A.

BELLA

But these things are supposed to happen. It's nature. It's written, surely? There can never be a perfect world ...

MR A.

You are NOT here to think or have the audacity to tell ME what you think! You are here for one reason only. Not because you are special. Because of

this.

Mr. A walks over to a safe and enters a combination code to open it. Inside there is a piece of scorched paper bound inside a plastic sleeve to protect it. He picks it up and hands it to Bella. Bella cautiously takes it. She holds it as if it were the most delicate thing she had ever handled. She reads it aloud.

BELLA

My name is Becky. I am 12 years old. I love science fiction and especially time travel. I was thinking that if I write a time and place to meet someone from the future, and then give the letter to my future child and make him or her promise to hand it down to their children, and keep doing that until time travel is invented, then someone from the future could come back and meet me! I'd really like to meet you and talk about the future, and maybe even visit the future! I think I would be a bit too scared to do it yet, but when I am older I could. I will pick a date when I will be older – let's say 2015, I will be 24 then! Meet me on, let's say, 2nd June 2015. We could meet inside Newtown church, because I think the church will be there in the future. We could meet at midday. I promise I won't forget to go! From Becky Green.

Wow! Oh my goodness, that is amazing. I guess she *did* hand it down to her children, that's why it's here! My gran was called Becky! Her and my grandad died the same year I was born, their house was bombed in the air raids that year, 2071. Hang on ... it can't be ...

MR. A

The penny's finally dropped.

BELLA

... is this letter written by my gran? When she was 12? But it can't be!! Hang on – is this – are you asking me to go

back and meet her? I mean, I can't do, because if I was going to go back and meet her, she would have told my dad about it and he would have told me!

MR. A.

You haven't gone back to meet her yet. It hasn't happened yet.

BELLA

How did you get the letter?

MR. A.

Your father must have inherited it amongst the few boxes of her belongings that remained in the cellar of the house after it was bombed. Evidently your mother must have come across it at some point, read it, and sent it to the 'ministry of defence' for some reason. They sent it to us, and we kept it. It is the oldest permission letter we have which states a time and place for a meeting. The letter states that the meeting must be with a direct relative of the author. That's you.

Bella's eyes almost pop out of her head.

BELLA

I don't understand, what's ...

MR. A

Oh god, I thought you were a bright one. YOUR nan wrote the letter stating she wants to meet her future relative. At this time, that is only you or your father.

BELLA

Whoa! Unreal. I can't believe this is happening. Is it a joke?

WOMAN

Have a glass of water, Bella. Are you feeling alright?

BELLA

So why me? My Father is only 85, he's fit as a fiddle, have you looked him up? He might know about the letter too

if mum showed him when she was sorting through the boxes! Dad's new liver should be ready in a week or two.

MR. A

You nan meeting her own son before he's been born could be too much for her to cope with. Meeting you is different because she dies before you are born and so never actually meets you as her grand-daughter. It's less mentally traumatic. There is one catch, Bella. Something you must understand from the start and something you will be learning about in the following months

WOMAN

Only if she agrees to the experiment ...

MR. A.

You can tell her you are her relative from the future, but *not* that you are her granddaughter. It's too much information on her own personal future. You must not give any information to her about her future son – your father. And most importantly – you must never, ever, interfere with the future. Your Grandparents die when they die, for the reason they die, and you must not try and change what happens.

BELLA

So what would my actual mission be?
What do I need to go back for?

MR. A

We need to do some early experiments to observe and record people's reactions upon encountering a time traveller; see how these sort of meetings effect people mentally – how they cope with the reality of time travel. That's all you would be doing. We would train you to record your findings and note how the meeting psychologically effects your ancestor. And how it effects you, of course. To prepare you, you would need to complete a three month intensive training program, beginning

immediately.

WOMAN

Bella, you must understand that it is entirely your decision and you can walk away from this now if you choose.

A smile creeps across Bella's face. She turns to Mr. A.

BELLA

Let's do it!

1st June, 2015, sunrise. Michael, a young good looking Scientist, and 4 other scientists, are stood in a field looking very nervous. They are stood around what looks like a large hula hoop (similar to the one in the lab in 2105 but slightly cruder; not such a polished and technologically advanced version). There are masses of wires and computers everywhere. Nearby there is a small laboratory, which is where the wires and computers are all coming from. Michael switches on some switches and presses some buttons on a computer. A loud humming sound begins emanating from the hoop. As Michael slides a switch higher up on the computer, the humming noise goes higher in pitch and the hoop begins vibrating slightly. The scientists all look increasingly nervous. The hoop begins to spin.

MICHAEL

We'll get the bloody funding now. JNE will take us seriously this time!

Tension mounts as Michael, his hand trembling, slowly reaches out towards a big red button. The other scientists take a few paces back.

SCIENTIST 1

Do it Michael!

MICHAEL

Count me down

SCIENTIST 1

Three ...

SCIENTIST 2

Two ...

SCIENTIST 3

One ...

Michael plunges his hand down on the red button. As he does so, a wormhole opens inside the hoop. An infinity of blackness inside is broken by a tiny white dot in the centre, which rapidly grows in size until it overpowers the blackness and the inside of the hoop is now a dazzling white colour. The scientists all look at each-other. Michael wipes sweat from his brow with his sleeve. The high pitched noise now sounds like some violin strings being played at different pitches. The computer makes a beeping noise. Michael presses some buttons and his mouth drops open.

MICHAEL

It's working! It's detecting some particles! Some matter coming through from the future!

Scientist 1 faints. The other two scientists rush over to the computer and begin making calculations and recording the findings. Suddenly, the musical noise and loud humming noise stops. There is now silence for a couple of seconds. The scientists all stop and look at each-other. They then all look towards the hoop. Out of the silence they hear a distant noise which sounds almost like a train approaching. It gets increasingly noisy very quickly. A wind rushes out from the hoop.

SCIENTIST 2

Turn it off!

MICHAEL

No!

Suddenly a black car comes hurtling out of the wormhole and zooms off through the air, flying. It's so fast it's a bit of a blur. The noise stops and there is silence again, apart from the breeze still emanating from the hoop.

MICHAEL

What have we done.

The backwards lightning effect happens very briefly, but not as bad as the one from 2106. Stunned, Michael flicks the power switch off and the portal stops spinning and closes leaving a see through hoop again.

2003. 12 year old Becky is sat in her bedroom with a pen and piece of paper. Behind her on the bookshelves there are

many science and science-fiction books. She reads aloud a letter as she is writing it.

BECKY

My name is Becky. I am 12 years old. I love science fiction and especially time travel. I was thinking that if I write a time and place to meet someone from the future, and then give the letter to my future child and make him or her promise to hand it down to their children, and keep doing that until time travel is invented, then someone from the future could come back and meet me! I'd really like to meet you and talk about the future, and maybe even visit the future! I think I would be a bit too scared to do it yet, but when I am older I could. I will pick a date when I will be older – let's say 2015, I will be 24 then! Meet me on, let's say, 2nd June 2015. We could meet inside Newtown church, because I think the church will be there in the future. We could meet at midday. I promise I won't forget to go! From Becky Green.

1st June, 2015. 24 year old Becky is walking through a busy shopping mall loaded up with shopping bags. She glances at her watch. A woman approaches her through the crowd. The woman has a pink scarf wrapped around her neck and part of her face making it hard to see her features properly. She hands Becky a card.

BECKY

No it's OK thanks

WOMAN

This is for you

BECKY

I don't want a god-damn leaflet

WOMAN

Becky!

Becky stops in her tracks.

WOMAN

If you want your life to change
forever, call this number.

Becky looks spooked. She turns around and cautiously takes the card. The woman immediately turns and walks off, disappearing into the crowd. Becky looks at the card, then puts it into her pocket. She looks back up but can't see the woman. She slowly continues on her journey, not in such a rush this time, but in deep thought.

Later that evening, Becky is moving from her flat (ground floor with patio doors leading onto a small garden). There are boxes everywhere. She is sorting through piles of old books etc. Some of the books are the same ones we saw on her bookshelf in the background when she was 12. The TV is on in the background. The news reader mentions the strange weather phenomena that occurred that morning. Becky looks up at the screen. It also reports on the news that there was a power cut which lasted about an hour, and that there seems to be no official explanation for it as yet. Becky picks up the card which the woman handed to her that morning. It is written in handwriting and says 'Phone this number to change your life! 23259 47336.'. In the garden, Becky's 2 friends Mark and Joseph are sat around a lighted chiminea, drinking beers and throwing bits of paper on the fire from a box labeled 'rubbish'.

MARK

I'd just want to keep going, you know?
Once I'd started travelling and seeing
the world, I'd never want to come back.
Just keep going, forever.

JOSEPH

You'd find a home eventually, somewhere
where you feel like you belong.

MARK

Yeah, but if I didn't. If I never found
somewhere that made me feel I wanted to
actually stay there, make a home there,
then I'd just keep travelling.

MARK

Well, there is a lot of the world to
see. A lot of places out there to be
discovered. A lot of adventures to be

had!

JOSEPH

Yeah man. Here's to adventures!

The boys hold their beer cans up and have a drink.

BECKY

Hey guys, check this out. Some woman gave it to me earlier at the shopping centre.

Mark takes the card from Becky.

MARK

Change your life forever – it sounds like some con. One of those high rate phone numbers probably. Shall I throw it onto the fire?

JOSEPH

Hang on – why is it hand written? She just gave it to you? Was she giving loads out?

BECKY

Just me, the weird thing is, she knew my name.

Mark and Joseph look up.

BECKY

It was like she knew who I was. She just gave the one card to me and then disappeared.

MARK

Didn't you ask her who she was?

BECKY

... no!

JOSEPH

This number – it's not like a normal phone number, is it? There's no zero at the start, and it's a strange number of digits.

MARK

It's probably a foreign one, a high rate one like I said. Just chuck it.

JOSEPH

No man, wait. This is intriguing! How did she know your name? Hey, it looks like *your* handwriting, Becky!

The three friends laugh, but as they look closer, their faces drop.

MARK

Shit, it does, it is your writing isn't it?

BECKY

How can it be? Don't be silly, how could it be my writing! It must be a co-incidence.

JOSEPH

Well you've got to do it now. You've got to call the number!

Becky picks up her wine glass and downs the remaining bit of red wine in the bottom. Joseph throws the last couple of bits of paper from the rubbish box onto the fire.

JOSEPH

Do it!

Becky gets her home cordless phone and brings it outside. Mark and Joseph bring their chair closer to Becky's, one sitting each side. Becky puts the phone on speaker and dials the number. The three friends excitedly look at each other and listen carefully. There is a few beeping sounds and then a recorded message begins playing.

WOMAN ON PHONE

Becky – do not burn the letter! You have the choice, this is the moment where the universe could split, but you can choose your path.

MARK

It's your voice!! Is this a joke? Becky that's you!!

BECKY

Shh!

WOMAN ON PHONE

If you let it burn, you'll never know. You've made the call. The rest is up to

you.

The phone message cuts off. Becky throws the phone across the garden.

BECKY

Who would do something like this? It's a joke! Someone must be trying to scare me.

JOSEPH

Well it's freaking me out! Unreal! What letter anyway?

BECKY

Do not burnt the letter ...

She turns to the chiminea. She spots something on the fire, about to burn. She squints to see what it is and steps closer. She sees the letter that she wrote when she was 12 to her future relative. She rushes to the fire and grabs it just in time. It's parched but still readable.

MARK

What is that? Is that a letter? The letter the woman on the message meant?

BECKY

It's a letter ... I wrote it when I was little ... I'd forgotten about it ... oh my god, is this, I mean, is this what the message meant? How did the woman know I wrote it? Or that it was on a fire about to burn?! I don't understand ...

Becky is very scared. Joseph takes the letter from her and reads it out. Mark is stunned. After, there is a silence.

MARK

Is this really happening? Does your letter actually survive into the future, and someone has come back to find you?

BECKY

Just burn it! Stop all this! It's frightening me.

JOSEPH

You know what you have to do? You have to go to the church and see if anyone turns up. Becky – look at the date you

wrote on the letter when you were a little girl – it's tomorrow!

MARK

OK – this is getting spooky. That can't be a co-incidence.

JOSEPH

Let's phone the number again, listen to the message again.

Becky gets the phone from across the garden. She dials the number. This time, a message comes up saying the number doesn't exist.

2nd June, 2015, 10.30am. Becky, Mark and Joseph are walking along a long road with a church visible at the end. Mark has a video camera.

BECKY

It's a set up of some kind, I'm telling you, a god-damn set up. Someone found the letter. If this is one of you two behind this, I'm disowning you.

MARK

This is just unreal.

Among the few cars which pass the group as they walk towards the church, chatting, is the black car that emerged from the wormhole the day before.

26th January, 2106. A fully trained and prepared Bella is ready for her mission. Dressed in a black suit with several gadgets and badges adorning it, she emerges from behind some curtains into the laboratory. All the staff clap.

MR. A.

Your vehicle is finally ready. Please, reveal it.

A sheet covering the time vehicle is pulled off and a futuristic and fast looking M3 from the year 2015 sits gleaming in front of her.

BECKY

What the hell is this piece of crap? I thought I was getting something new! I can't be seen driving this – no matter

what century I am in!

MR. A.

Trust me, where you're going, they will think this is the bees-knees. Now, you aren't here to go joy-riding. You're here to complete one of the most important scientific experiments ever in the history of man.

Mr. A. touches up his lipstick.

MR. A.

OK, everyone, gather round.

All the people in the room excitedly congregate around Mr. A and Bella, who are stood by the car, which is in front of the hoop in the centre of the lab on a raised platform. In the corner of the room there are some men in suits looking concerned.

MR. A.

This, everybody, is possibly one of the most significant experiments in the history of man. We welcome the presence of M15, and the government members today, to witness this momentous achievement. Bella Marosa has been fully trained and briefed on her mission. I will now hand you over to Marcus Doheny, the brains behind the science, who will take it from here.

Marcus, who we saw on the news earlier (the Mayor of London), walks into the room. Bella looks shocked.

BELLA

You're the Mayor! I didn't know you were behind this? Why aren't you doing something to stop the effects of time travel? You've seen the destruction it is causing?

Marcus looks furious. He is just about to begin shouting, when Mr. A rushes over to try and defuse the situation.

MR. A

Marcus, Marcus, it's OK! She's just a little fiery that's all ...

MARCUS

Stop this experiment now! I told you not to pick someone who *thinks!* Do you not realize how lucky you are my girl, to be in this position?

Mr. A glares at Bella. Bella thinks quickly and then smiles sweetly.

BELLA

I'm sorry, Marcus. Uh, Mr. Doheny. Of course I understand how lucky I am. There's bound to be consequences of time travel, isn't there. Ignore me. I'm fully trained now, I know what I am doing. I won't let you down.

There is an awkward silence.

MARCUS

This is the first ever time travel experiment to send a human being so far into the past. 91 years into the past. Bella will travel to the year 2015 to meet with her Grandmother, Becky Green, when she will be aged 24. Bella will never know her Grandmother as an old lady, as she dies before Bella is born, in the year 2071. This will not be altered. The trip will be monitored at all times, and the knowledge we will gain from this will be invaluable and contribute towards all future travelling.

The Government men in the corner look twitchy.

MARCUS

The purpose of the mission today, is to observe the physical and mental effect of time travel on the traveler, and observe the mental effect the meeting has on the person in the past. We will also observe the effect of the travel on our present day, amongst other things. We hope to be fully funded by the government once we have the results of this trip. Please, Bella. Enter the craft and begin proceedings.

Suddenly, a young girl from the crew leaps forward and

grabs Marcus.

GIRL

No, please, wait! This could have terrible consequences! Please reconsider your decision to do this!

The girl is frantic. Marcus takes a device from his pocket, and puts it in front of her face. He presses a button and it emits a laser. The girl collapses.

BELLA

Oh my god, have you killed her?

MARCUS

She'll be OK, it'll keep her unconscious and quiet for a few hours.

Bella thinks quickly.

BELLA

Do you think I could take that with me? You know, in-case of danger? Just as a precaution?

MARCUS

I don't think ...

MR. A

That's a good idea. Marcus, give it to her.

Marcus looks annoyed. He reluctantly hands it to Bella. Bella steps into the car and starts setting up various computers inside. The car has dark windows making it hard to see inside. Bella leaves her door open as she prepares for her journey.

MARCUS

Of course, we cannot travel back to before the first wormhole was opened. The quantum computers inside the machine will make contact with this first wormhole and use it to propel the car from now to then. We'll let Michael know he will be successful and is on the right track. Remember rule 1, Bella.

BELLA

I will not inform Becky who I am. I will not tell her that I am her Grand-

daughter, just that I'm a distant relative.

MARCUS

You have pleased me greatly, Bella. Now, are you ready to make history and see history?

BELLA

Ready, sir.

MARCUS

And now, ladies and gentleman, I invite you to watch history. Are we recording?

One of the scientists nods and glances up. There is a red light flashing in the corner of the room. Bella closes the car door. Once she has done this, she grins to herself and moves the car forward.

BELLA

This is it Bella. Down to you now.

One of the scientists presses some buttons on the lab computers and the hoop begins spinning. The high frequency humming sounding like violin strings can be heard getting louder and louder. Bella stops the car at a white line about half a meter before the hoop. On one of the computer screens inside the car, a countdown flickers on. It is also shown on a screen in the lab. 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 ...

Bella flicks a switch and puts her foot on the pedal. The car jolts forward and seems to be sucked into the hoop. The hoop seems to go into overdrive, spinning and making a screeching noise. Some smoke seems to emanate from around it. As the car moves into the hoop, it disappears. Inside the car, Bella sees a blackness encase the car. Looking forward, she sees a small white dot ahead of her which grows in size rapidly. The sounds of the violin strings is almost deafening. She sees a picture in the white dot ahead. As it gets bigger, she sees some people in a field looking at her. It is Michael and his scientist friends, in the field in 2015. Behind Bella's car, the picture of the laboratory she has just left in 2106 seems to freeze. It gets smaller and smaller, until it becomes a tiny dot and then disappears. The picture in front of her opens up rapidly (as if she is in a tunnel. It seems to be running backwards like a tape being re-wound. As she approaches it, it gets slower, until she enters the picture, at which point it plays at normal speed and she flies out of the hoop across the field, as in the scene we saw earlier, 1st

June, 2015. We see Michael and his friends looking stunned as she flies overhead very fast and out of the field.

BELLA

Woo-hooo!

Bella flies the car rather bumpily across to the nearest road and lands it carefully like an aircraft landing. She looks exhilarated.

BELLA

Single carriageway – 60 miles an hour.
Oh my god. Oh my god. I did it! It
can't be happening, I'm really here in
the past! This is it, I can change
things now! I can do it! Shit I can't
believe I've done it.

The following morning, 2nd June, 2015. Bella has changed into 2015 looking clothes. She drives passed Becky, Joseph and Mark as they walk on their way to the church. We saw Bella's car drive passed them earlier as they walked. Bella does a double take as she goes by.

BELLA

Oh my god, that's Mark and Joseph!

Bella looks amazed and begins thinking.

BELLA

I can't believe it! Mark and Joseph.

Bella stops the car in a car park behind the church at the end of the road. She takes a book which is on the passenger seat, opens up the inside back page, thinks for a moment, and then scribbles some co-ordinates down on the front page. She stares out of the window, her eyes wide, deep in thought. Suddenly, the backwards lightning effect happens briefly. Mark, Joseph and Becky, while walking down the street, stop in their tracks. They look around them, wondering what that was. There's a strange silence. Bella, in the car, also looks concerned and glances up.

JOSPEH

Did I just imagine that? What was that flickering?

BECKY

Oh god. I have never felt like this before. I feel as though I am at a turning point, like something major is about to happen. Can this be real? What if it's some weirdo, it might be a pedophile who found the letter, and, and ...

MARK

You're about to find out.

BECKY

I should go in on my own. You two stay outside.

They reach the church. The three friends stop outside and look up at the door. Eerie music is being played inside. Becky looks at her friends.

MARK

If you need us, shout. We'll be here.

JOSEPH

It's time. Do it!

Becky takes a deep breath. She steps forward into the church door. She takes one last look back at her friends, and enters the church. Slowly she walks down an aisle to the end. It is dark and cold inside. She sees a girl with her back to her, facing a stained glass church window. Becky approaches slowly, not able to take her eyes from the figure. Once she gets near, Bella slowly turns and faces her. Becky stops. The two girls study each-other for a few seconds before Bella smiles. Becky looks petrified.

BELLA

Nan!

BECKY

What?

BELLA

You – you're my Grandmother!

BECKY

It can't be possible. I don't believe it.

BELLA

Neither do I. But here I am. I don't think this is a dream, but I can't be

certain.

BECKY

Where are you from?

BELLA

The future.

BECKY

The letter – I didn't really think it would work ... I was just a kid, it was just a stupid thing I wrote when I was a kid ...

BELLA

Yes. And now it's one of the most significant pieces of literature in history.

BECKY

I'm scared. I, I don't believe it. It's a joke. You're winding me up. It isn't true.

Bella looks twitchy. She keeps looking around the church suspiciously.

BELLA

They told me I would have to prove myself. Your reaction is, apparently, quite normal. I have bought some things to help your mind come to terms with what your eyes are seeing.

Bella opens up her bag which she had placed on the floor. She takes a clear sheet from the bag.

BELLA

This is something which people from my time use regularly. It hasn't been invented yet here. Look. Try and lift this statue here.

Becky tries to pick up a heavy statue. She has no chance of lifting it, it is so heavy. Bella takes the clear plastic looking sheet and seals it around the statue. She inserts a small tube into a hole inside the sheet. The sheet inflates like a bubble, then reduces down to same shape as the statue like vacuum packaging.

BELLA

Pick it up!

Becky reaches down and picks up the statue. She expects it to be extremely heavy but it's light as a feather.

BECKY

How, how, how does ...

BELLA

Anti-gravity. You've got a few years yet until it becomes commercially available. Of course, it has already been invented, you just don't know yet. What else. Oh – here, check this out.

Bella rolls her sleeve up and exposes what looks like a watch to Becky. She presses a couple of buttons and whispers 'news' into it. She shows Bella the picture. It's a hologramatic TV news recording. Becky is amazed.

BELLA

I recorded this for you. So you can see the future. This is a news clip of the future. Watch.

NEWSREADER

The death count is now estimated to be around twenty thousand just this year alone, which is why it is astounding that the only official explanation that can be given is that it is an unusual weather phenomena

Bella flicks the watch off. Becky looks shaken.

BELLA

It isn't a weather phenomena. You know the funny flickering that happened before, when you were on your way here? A bit like backwards lightning?

BECKY

Backwards lightning! That's exactly how I'd describe it, yes!

BELLA

Well, it isn't backwards lightning. It's a symptom of time travel. And it's going to get a whole lot worse in the future.

BECKY

The future ...

Becky seems like she is in a daze.

BELLA

You've got to listen to me Becky. These experiments will become even more frequent. Not only do the scientists end up in power and corrupting the government, they'll end up destroying the planet. Space time is disturbed so much when there is a travel that ... well, it doesn't matter how it works. The thing is this. I am here on a simple mission. But I am abandoning that mission, Becky. You and me, we're going to save the earth!

BECKY

You're really my grand-daughter? Who do I marry? My god, my letter really worked!

BELLA

Becky - you have got to listen to me. I know it's hard to take in, but you have got to try to listen to what I'm saying, do you understand?

BECKY

Yes, yes I do.

BELLA

The real reason I have come here is to stop time travel from happening and to save the earth. And I need your help.

BECKY

Is it my fault? Did I cause all this trouble?

BELLA

Absolutely not. It would have happened anyway. They just chose the wrong person to send back. I'm going to put the future right. We don't have long though, do you understand? I need you to do as I say or we could be in trouble. Now you really must follow me.

Bella takes Becky's hand and leads her cautiously out of the church, hiding behind pillars and trying to mingle in with a small crowd of people while they sneak out of the

church. She rushes over to an old stone wall near-by and they crouch behind it. Becky holds a small make-up mirror out and moves it around. In the mirror, she sees Marcus approaching the church.

BELLA

I knew it! Marcus has come back to stop me from interfering with time travel being invented.

BECKY

Are we in trouble?

BELLA

In a word – yes.

BECKY

How will he stop you?

Bella looks at Becky and Becky looks scared.

BECKY

Oh my – my friends ...

BELLA

Mark and Joseph? Oh, don't worry about them! They will be fine!

BECKY

How did you know who they were?

Becky laughs.

BELLA

Everyone on the planet knows who they are! I've no time to explain now. Follow me.

A bus stops at a stop by the wall, and Becky takes Bella's arm and leads her to the bus, running to catch it. They jump on it just as it drives off. Marcus appears at the door of the church looking sinister. He looks up and down the road.

MARCUS

I'll get you, wherever you are.

Mark and Joseph, still with the video camera, are around the back of the church.

MARK

We really should go inside!

JOSEPH

Hey – check this out!

Joseph approaches the time machine.

MARK

Cool, nice wheels.

JOSEPH

Look, the door is open! Whoa, look at this! All these computers!

MARK

Let's see, what's ... hey, check this book out. 'Major historical events of the past 50 years'! Joseph, look at the publish date – it's 2080!

JOSEPH

If this is a hoax, it sure is an elaborate one.

Mark and Joseph get in the car and close the door.

MARK

Look here, on the back page there's some numbers written! At the top there's a code – 776659. Try typing that in there!

In the middle of the steering wheel there is a large panel and screen. Mark types the code in and the car starts up. Both boys gasp.

JOSEPH

What do we do?

MARK

Drive!

JOSEPH

We shouldn't be doing this!

MARK

I know!

JOSEPH

Could this really be a time machine that you and I are sitting in?

Mark leans forward onto a switch by accident and the car lifts up and starts hovering.

MARK

Whoa!

Mark is so scared he jumps out and lands in a heap on the floor. Joseph is incredulous.

JOSEPH

I just can't ... get back in, quick!
Look, this controls it!

Joseph slowly lowers the switch and the car lands itself gently. Mark gets back in.

MARK

Jesus Christ.

JOSEPH

Where's that book ...

Joseph flicks through it.

JOSEPH

Look, someone has written a number on each page for each event, see!

MARK

They look like ... co-ordinates?

Joseph looks more closely.

JOSPEH

They could be! Look, three co-ordinates in space, and the fourth number, at the end, could be the time one.

MARK

We have to try this out.

All of a sudden, above them, a second copy of Mark and Joseph sat in the black car bursts into existence from what resembles a rip in the air. There is a high pitched noise and a lot of wind which lasts a few seconds. Mark 1 opens his car door. As he does so there is a warning beeping noise. Mark 2 and Joseph 2 scream with excitement. The backwards lightning effect happens slightly.

MARK 2

It was meant to be! No way!

JOSEPH 2

Let's go, that was it.

Mark 1 slams the door again. The car hovers above for a few

seconds and then disappears again as a rip seems to open out in front of them. Mark and Joseph just sit in stunned silence glaring into space.

MARK

Someone say something.

Joseph takes the book. He looks at the first co-ordinate written down on the front page and types it into the keypad.

MARK

What are you doing?

JOSEPH

This co-ordinate must be here for a reason. Look, this must be the co-ordinate in space for where we are now. Look, when you type it in, it comes up on the map! A 3D map on the computer in the car flickers up and zooms in to the destination of the co-ordinates that Joseph has just typed in.

MARK

Yes! Look, that's where we are! And the last co-ordinate? It's the time – about 1 minute ago according to the time on the computer.

JOSEPH

You know what this means? What we just saw, that's us, what we're about to do!

MARK

Do it!

Mark types the final co-ordinate number in and presses a button. The car smoothly moves up in to the air and hovers. The high pitched noise begins. They see a rip open up before them. The car jolts through and they appear in the same place, but 1 minute in the past. They see a copy of themselves 1 minute ago, gasping up at them. Mark in the car below opens the door to see better, and Mark and Joseph in the car above scream. The flashing lightning effect occurs as before.

MARK

It was meant to be! No way!

JOSEPH

Let's go, that was it.

Mark slams the door.

JOSEPH

That was all we said! It was just as it happened! This is messed up! Type in the next number!

Mark types in the co-ordinate below the first one and presses the button, and the car jolts off again through a rip in space time. They re-appear in the same place but later that night. It is dark and quiet.

MARK

Why here again? Maybe to give us time to think. Do you think this was meant for Becky?

JOSEPH

Think about it – we can travel where ever we want!

MARK

But, Becky might need the car! The relative she met might need it! To complete their mission or whatever. We should go back – now ...

JOSEPH

Think about it! We're in a time machine! We can go where we want for as long as we want – as long as we return the car to the same time and place as we left it, they won't even know we have left!

Joseph and Mark look at each-other and smile.

MARK

This will be the adventure of our lives!

JOSEPH

This last co-ordinate must be the one to return it to ... it's like someone left the car for us to find!

MARK

To joy-ride in time!

JOSEPH

Maybe it was supposed to be for Becky to find?

MARK

Maybe – but we can use it first! She won't even know we've gone!

JOSEPH

So – where shall we go?

MARK

Pass me the book!

Mark and Joseph fight over the book, flicking through various events in history. The book flicks open on a page entitled 'Elvis was the first celebrity to be bought back to life! But did a cloned Elvis live up to the hype?'. The boys stare at each other and smile.

MARK AND JOSEPH

Elvis!

Back to that morning: Becky and Bella get off the bus.

BELLA

I'm starving, let's grab something to eat.

The girls walk into a McDonalds on the high street they are on.

BELLA

(to the girl behind the counter) What is the burger in a bun made of?

LADY

Excuse me?

BELLA

The burger – what is it? Protein?

LADY

Uh ... there is protein in meat I suppose, yes. It's beef.

BELLA

(gasps) meet as in a dead cow?

LADY

Are you being funny?

BELLA

I know it's wrong, but I've gotta try it. I'll have one!

BECKY

Uh, make that two.

The confused waitress goes off to prepare the food.

BECKY

Don't you have meat in the future?

BELLA

Have meat?! We have animals but we don't eat dead ones! Do you eat dead human meat too?

BECKY

Urg! Of course we don't! That's disgusting!

BELLA

And this isn't? I just can't believe you can go into a shop or restaurant and buy meat! Actually eat it? You actually eat dead animals still! That's so ... wrong! So – taboo! It's only the aristocrats who still see it as some sort of *right* or *tradition* where I come from. Only the aristocrats who can afford it too, come to that. Mind you, we have the cloned animal parts. Chicken legs that have been grown in a lab. It solved world hunger, but really, how disgusting ...

BECKY

Where *do* you come from?

BELLA

Well ... here! Just a different time. I'm not supposed to say the exact year.

The food arrives and the girls take a seat at a table.

BECKY

Do you think we look alike?

BELLA

Yes!

BECKY

What do you do in the future?

BELLA

Well, for fun, I play football. That's

my hobby I suppose.

BECKY

Really? We have that too. Not many girls play it though. It's more of a man's sport.

BELLA

Football is football where I am from!

BECKY

Yeah, but men and women don't play on the same team?

BELLA

They do in my time! Man, this place is so weird! I can't believe you guys are so ... sexist!

BECKY

Do you have to go to school still in the future?

BELLA

Well, that's all changing at the moment, with the nano-stuff.

BECKY

Nano-bots? I have heard of them!

BELLA

Things are really going to change soon. People will never age. Everything will be virtual reality, our whole lives. There is a big back-lash starting about it at the moment. I just can't get my head round it really. People will be 150 but still mentally and physically be 30 thanks to nanos re-generating everything.

BECKY

Am I a good Nan when I'm old?!

BELLA

Yes - I don't know ...

Bella quickly changes the subject.

BELLA

Anyway, we need to focus on our mission. We need to track down the

person who first invented time travel.
He's called Michael. A scientist.

BECKY

He's already invented it? Surely it
hasn't been invented yet?

BELLA

You cannot travel back in time to a
time before time travel has been
invented. The first wormhole was opened
up on the very day I arrived from the
future. Yesterday. The gateway has been
opened, but we must close it again,
Becky. Before it destroys everything.
Now, where are the chip records held,
do you have those public libraries here
still?

BECKY

The what?

BELLA

The micro-chip records, they've always
been public haven't they?

BECKY

I, I'm not sure. What micro-chips?

BELLA

Of course ... you don't know yet that
you've been chipped!

BECKY

Chipped?

BELLA

At birth. You'll find out. Everyone is
micro-chipped at birth, it started a
few years ago. OK, this is going to be
tougher than I thought.

BECKY

Do you want to stay at mine tonight? Or
we could stay in a hotel – I could go
and book one now if you like?

BELLA

Uh, I need you to stay with me. You
have to meet Michael, it is very
important.

BECKY

Why do I have to meet him?

BELLA

Otherwise – my future could be in jeopardy ...

BECKY

Huh? What do you mean?

BELLA

... look, never mind. We don't need a hotel. We don't need sleep. It's nearly lunch-time. Take this.

Bella produces a bottle of pills from her bag.

BELLA

It means we can work through-out the night tonight if we need to, you won't need to sleep.

BECKY

What? Surely that's dangerous! You need sleep!

BELLA

Do you? It's standard practice where I come from. Why waste time sleeping when you can be doing other things? Why waste half of your life in bed?!

Becky holds her hand out and takes a pill from the bottle. Bella and Becky swallow a pill each and smile.

BELLA

Where is the local library?

BECKY

Not far from here.

BELLA

Oh god, please tell me you have the internet here? That has been invented, hasn't it?

BECKY

Yes of course!

BELLA

Thank goodness for that. OK, let's go. Keep your head down, your hood up, and follow me.

Across the other side of town, Michael is in the laboratory that we saw earlier, with piles of books and papers everywhere. There are several computers around the room, and a big blackboard full of scrawlings of equations and notes. Michael picks up a piece of paper, a letter, and looks at it. It is addressed from the JNE and confirms a meeting he has with them that evening. Michael puts the paper down and nervously smiles. He seems relieved. He looks over at the hoop time travel/wormhole device which is now in the laboratory. He almost can't believe he has got that far with his project. There is a large window at the back of the lab. We see through the window, across the field outside where the experiment took place, behind some trees at the other side of the field, Marcus. He is watching Michael through some binoculars, which are from the future and extremely powerful. They can also form a (slightly distorted) image through the wall of the lab. Marcus is watching Michael, as Michael gets up and wanders over to the hoop. He looks at his invention, still shaking his head in disbelief at what he has managed to achieve.

MARCUS

That's it my friend. You just carry on and take your little invention to the JNE. That's all you need to do Michael. Then it's out of your hands – and into ours!

Michael's computer makes a noise. An instant message has come up. Michael clicks on it to read it. The message says: 'Michael, you are being watched. Do not look out of the window. Carry on reading this and do not look alarmed'. Michael looks alarmed and looks out of the window. The sun shines off of Marcus' binoculars and Michael sees the sparkle. He notices Marcus and turns back to the computer. Marcus isn't sure whether Michael has seen him or not and looks a bit concerned. The instant message continues: 'Michael, this will seem hard to understand, but I am your grand-daughter here from the future'. Michael looks very shocked.

Becky and Bella are sat in a library on a computer. Becky is watching Bella type the message. When Becky sees what Bella has just typed, she leaps out of her chair.

BECKY

You're his GRAND-DAUGHTER?

Everyone in the silent library turns to look. Becky apologizes and sits back down again.

BECKY

But that means ...

Becky thinks for a second. Then she jumps up again.

BECKY

You're his GRAND-DAUGHTER?

BELLA

Shh! Sit down Becky. Yes, I am. Sorry, should have mentioned it.

BECKY

But I am your Grandmother!

An old lady browsing books near-by looks around at the two girls and raises her eyebrows. Bella laughs as if it is a joke. The lady carries on, on her way, and Bella and Becky huddle close to the computer and lower their voices.

BECKY

Are you telling me that the person I am going to marry and have a child with ...

BELLA

My Dad ...

BECKY

Is Michael? This scientist guy?

BELLA

Well, strictly I haven't told you that, you have worked it out for yourself. I need to concentrate.

Bella continues typing. Becky watches over her shoulder. We see the words Bella is typing onto the library computer, and then the words appearing on a still shocked Michael's computer. 'The recent weather disturbances – they are a result of your experiments. And they get a lot worse in the future. I am here to stop time travel from destroying the planet. In the hands of the JNE, time travel will end up destroying the earth. We must not let that happen. You cannot allow your invention to go any further. It must be destroyed, it's the only way. The person watching you is also from the future. He is here to ensure you will take your invention to the JNE. You must lead him to believe that you still intend to and everything is OK. Do you understand?' Michael, his hands trembling, types 'yes'. He

wipes the sweat from his brow. 'You want me to corrupt the machine and destroy all evidence?'. The phone rings and makes Michael jump. He picks it up.

MICHAEL

Hello?

VOICE ON PHONE

Michael Marosa? This is Simon from the JNE. Just to confirm your appointment at 4.30?

Michael isn't sure what to do. He thinks desperately for a few moments.

MICHAEL

I ... Uh, I'm afraid I haven't made the progress that I expected during the last few days. I'm sorry. I will have to cancel the meeting.

VOICE ON PHONE

Mr. Marosa, we do not take kindly to being messed around like this. We are running out of patience with this whole situation. How much more time do you need?

MICHAEL

I am sorry.

Michael puts the phone down. He glances in the mirror at the reflection of Marcus across the lawn. Marcus is going to the loo behind some bushes. Another message pops up on the computer. 'Meet us in the field in an hour'.

BELLA

Before I return to my time, I need you to do something.

BECKY

You're going back already? But what about ...

BELLA

Once I know everything is OK I must return to my own time.

Bella produces what looks like a small make-up mirror from her bag. She presses the screen and some flat buttons appear. Bella holds it up to Becky's face.

BELLA

You need to record a message.

BECKY

Message? Who for?

BELLA

For you, Becky. Tell yourself not to burn that letter. If you do, this whole thing won't ever happen and ...

BECKY

Whoa, this is too complicated for me. I can't take it all in, it's like a god-damn dream! OK, here goes. (Coughs). Becky – do not burn the letter! You have the choice, this is the moment where the universe could split, but you can choose your path.

Becky looks at Bella, who smiles and mouths 'go on',

BECKY

If you let it burn, you'll never know. You've made the call. The rest is up to you.

Bella stops the recording and smiles.

BELLA

Well done my love.

BECKY

This is just so strange. I, I heard that message!

BELLA

One more thing.

BECKY

Yes?

Becky produces a card from her bag.

BECKY

I know what you want me to do.

She picks a pen up from a table in the library. She writes on the card: Phone this number to change your life!

BELLA

23259 47336

Becky continues to write: 23259 47336. Becky hands the card back to Bella. Bella puts it in her bag. She takes a pink scarf from the bag and wraps it around her face. Bella is wearing the same outfit that she was wearing when she met Becky in the mall and gave her the card.

BECKY

I have just realized who you are! From the mall – that was you?

BELLA

Before I go back to my time, I need to go back to yesterday and give you the card in the mall.

BECKY

Oh my god, what about your time machine? Where is it?

BELLA

Come with me!

Marcus, still behind the tree, receives a phone-call. Looking shocked, he puts his sunglasses on and answers cautiously, pressing a button and looking at the screen.

MARCUS

... Yes?

Bella, now walking down the street with Becky, holds her phone up to a device. It is the device Marcus used to stun the girl in the future; the one he gave to her. Bella presses a button on the device which emits the rays.

BELLA

Come on ...

The device seems to be running out of power. Marcus can't make out what the picture on the screen is. He takes his sunglasses off and holds the screen closer to his eyes to see.

BELLA

Come on please ...

Finally the laser blasts from the device in a short burst. Marcus, looking closely at his phone, falls backwards unconscious.

BELLA

Yes!! I just hope that was enough.
Let's go. We need a fuel station on the
way ... what are they called ... petrol
station. Come on, quick!

Bella rushes off down the road, Becky closely following.

Michael is still in the lab. He casually puts the blinds down, still thinking Marcus is watching, and then frantically starts gathering all his important papers and laptops, and shoving them into his safe. He then pretends to go to the loo, in-case Marcus can still see, but in fact sneaks out of the building. Once out of the back door, Bella and Becky arrive, rushing from the road down to the lab by the field. Bella is carrying a canister full of petrol.

BELLA

Michael?

Michael smiles, amazed.

MICHAEL

Wow, this is ... surreal!

BELLA

Uh, this is Becky.

Becky holds out her hand to shake Michael's

BECKY

Nice to meet ... you ...

There is an obvious instant attraction between Becky and Michael as they shake hands.

MICHAEL

Well, what an amazing co-incidence that
you come back in time and turn out to
be my Grand-daughter!

Bella smiles

BELLA

Maybe it's not such a co-incidence!

Bella winks at Becky.

MICHAEL

I just can't believe you are from the

future! I am so sorry for all the damage and destruction I have caused.

BELLA

You haven't caused it yet!

MICHAEL

But I had no idea my invention would end up destroying the planet! I would never have gone through with it if I had known.

BELLA

Michael, your invention is extraordinary. And perhaps it will be invented in the future anyway, who knows. But we cannot let this go ahead at this time and end up in the hands of the JNE. They are morally corrupt and their own financial gain is more important to them than leaps forward in science.

Bella looks at her watch.

BECKY

What happens now?

MICHAEL

What about that man, he's behind a tree over there across the field, the other side of the lab.

BELLA

He's been taken care of, for now. We don't have much time though. First of all, I need my car back.

BECKY

So why are we here? Is this where the car is?

BELLA

You'll see ... just a few more seconds ...

Suddenly the flashing and noise begins that we now associate with the time travel. Bella, Becky and Marcus all look at each other. A slight wind begins which gets stronger and stronger, until Bella's time machine appears from a rip in the air, and hovers above them. Everyone gasps. The car slowly lowers until it rests on the ground. The car looks worn now, old and tatty. The door of the car

opens. Everyone waits in anticipation to see who gets out. Two men slowly emerge from the car, looking old (about 60).

BELLA

Hi boys. Right on time! My god, I didn't think you'd last that long! Usually just a few weeks is enough to drive people mad!

BECKY

Who are you guys?

MARK

Becky, you still look the same! So young!

JOSEPH

It's us! Mark and Joseph!

BECKY

Don't be stupid! You're not old! I only saw you two this morning ... it can't be?

MARK

This morning for you. About forty years for us!

Becky's mouth falls open.

JOSEPH

Becks, the things we have seen. We've seen the ...

BELLA

Uh! One shouldn't know too much about the future.

JOSEPH

Bella, something happened in the future, we are so sorry. It was because of our video camera ...

BELLA

It's OK. You are safe here. It hasn't happened yet. No-one will know you.

MARK

So it's all OK?

BELLA

It's fine.

Mark and Joseph looks relieved.

BELLA

I actually thought you'd be older when you decided to return!

JOSEPH

Why did you give us these return coordinates?

BELLA

This is the end of the road for me here. I need to go back and give Bella the card in the mall next.

MARK

I *told* you that was Bella!

Becky's mouth is still open in disbelief. She is looking Mark and Joseph up and down, unable to quite believe it's them.

BELLA

OK guys listen up. As soon as all the documentation for the machine is destroyed, the future will change as time travel will not be invented. Time travel will not be a reality in my time.

BECKY

What are we waiting for? Let's do it now! Burn the lab down!

BELLA

Well, that would be nice, but it would mean I would be stuck here! You have to wait until I am back in my own time. Then time will adapt around me.

BECKY

What about Marcus?

BELLA

As soon as the machine and all evidence of it is destroyed, time travel will never have been invented and Marcus will not have travelled back in the first place.

MICHAEL

I understand what I have to do. I regret having invented this.

BELLA

It is an incredible invention. Unfortunately, your name will not go down in history along with Newton and Einstein, but at least you will know that your actions have saved the world. If you had invented your machine in another time, maybe it would have fallen into the right hands and been used for good purposes. Right now – it just wasn't meant to be.

There are sad goodbyes as Bella leaves the group, hugging everyone and getting into her car. The inside of the car is quite dirty from Mark and Joseph, and is covered with litter and food/drink wrappings from various stages of the future. She finds a piece of rock under the seat.

BELLA

What' this?

MARK

Oh! That's a gift for Becky!

JOSPEH

I forgot about that! God, we got that about 10 years ago!

Mark takes the rock from Bella and hands it to Becky.

BECKY

What is it?

MARK

It's a piece of earth from right here! Right on this spot! The co-ordinates we had for coming back here – except it's not from this time

JOSEPH

It's from the end of the world! The very last day of earth's life, right here!

Becky takes the rock.

BECKY

Wow! ...

Bella has the card in her hand to give to Becky in the mall. She wraps the pink scarf around her face. She puts the petrol canister on the ground.

BELLA

You'll need this. It's been unreal guys. Just remember, there may be no free will, everything may be written, but you must live your life as though you are free. No-one knows the future, and I don't know the final outcome of the story, but I know we are doing the right thing. The right path will open up before you in the end.

Bella closes the door. She opens the window.

BELLA

One last thing – *do not* move to Reinholt Road!

Becky and Michael look confused. Bella puts the window back up, and then she is gone. The car quietly starts up and lifts off the ground, and moves through a rip in space which opens up before her. She is gone. The noise and wind dies down and the friends are left stood in silence.

BECKY

Come on, we need to go back to the lab now and destroy everything.

MARK

What happened that we have to destroy everything?

BECKY

It's a long story. Basically – time travel ends up in the wrong hands and ends up destroying the planet and corrupting the government! Let's go!

Joseph, Mark, Becky and Michael all head back to the lab. As they open the door to the lab, they find Marcus, now awakened from the laser, riffling through the contents of the safe. He has managed to break into it.

MARCUS

I am taking these papers to the JNE myself, and you will not stop me.

29th January, 2106: Marcus is just leaving the lab in his car through the wormhole. Behind the car, the blackboard has written on it: 'Mission – destroy Bella before she interferes with time line and prevents time travel from happening'. Just as he leaves and disappears through the

wormhole, Bella arrives back. Everyone in the lab walks over and surrounds her car. Bella opens the door and gets out.

SCIENTIST

What have you done?

BELLA

I'm sorry. I had to do it. For human kind.

2015: Michael frantically pours petrol all over the lab, including the machine. Marcus is throwing papers aside as Michael covers them in petrol. Joseph and Mark try to grab Marcus, but they are now old and Marcus is young. He fights them off. Becky begins fighting with Marcus to get the papers he has got off of him.

2106: Bella has been arrested in the lab and is led away roughly in handcuffs. Suddenly, the time travel effect from her trip back to the lab happens, and it is the worst one yet. The ground shakes violently, and the piercing noise ringing around the room makes everyone fall to the ground in agony. It lasts a long time, and we see the noise is heard not just in the lab, but in the whole of the country. We see the building opposite Bella's flat that we saw earlier with the crack in it, collapse completely, killing many, and crashing into Bella's building, destroying her flat.

2015: Mark and Joseph manage to get hold of all the papers from Marcus, and throw them into the centre of the room as Michael lights a match.

MICHAEL

Everyone out – now!

Joseph grabs Becky, and Joseph, Becky and Mark all manage to bundle outside. Michael rushes back to the door, before throwing the match inside. As it he throws it, it goes out. His hands trembling, he reaches for another match, his last. Marcus takes his chance and leaps at Michael. Michael manages to light the match and throw it, just as Marcus is about to land on him.

MARCUS

Noooooo ...

Marcus disappears in mid-air above Michael as the fire erupts, destroying everything. Joseph reaches into the doorway and grabs Michael, dragging him out before the fire engulfs the room.

2106: The scene of Bella in handcuffs and everyone on the floor in agony from the noise pauses, like a DVD being frozen. Everyone starts fading away. There is an odd noise like a fax machine receiving a fax. Things in the room disappear and re-appear as time re-orders itself. The wormhole is no longer there. The time machine Bella arrived in fades from existence. The lab morphs into a public library, and Marcus fades in, working as a security guard in the library. The noise of the hustle and bustle of the library slowly fades in. Bella comes to, lying on the floor of the library. Marcus is standing over her.

BELLA

Marcus!

MARCUS

How do you know my name? Are you OK?
Did you faint?

Bella gets up, confused. She looks around.

BELLA

They did it! It worked! This is an
alternate reality!

MARCUS

Huh? I think you'd better go home and
have a lie down, love.

BELLA

Yes! Home!

Bella rushes from the library in a euphoria; people look at her oddly. We see Bella walking home, looking around her at her town which is now a lot different, a better place, cleaner and safer, with no cracks in the buildings. She arrives back to her flat.

BELLA

Why do I remember what has happened? I
should have no memories of it. Strange.
She puts the TV on. The TV comes on
'The Vintage' channel and the film
'Back to the Future' is on.

BELLA

Time Travel! ...

Bella looks out of the window and smiles. The crack in the building opposite isn't there and the building looks good.

2015: Mark, Joseph, Becky and Michael all sit in the field in silence, watching the lab burn down. The sun is setting. The machine is visible amongst the wreckage, just a smoldering outline of what it was. Becky and Michael look at each-other. Michael takes Becky's hand.

2106: Bella is walking around her flat, noticing little differences such as photos in different places than they were before. She takes a photo from the kitchen and puts it on the window sill, where it was in the first reality.

BELLA

It belongs there! That's better.

There is a knock at the door. Bella turns and sees two old people stood there.

BELLA

It can't be ...

Bella walks closer to the door. She stops opposite and studies the old couple.

BELLA

Is that really you?

BECKY

We know you're stood there watching us!
Open the god-damn door!

BELLA

Oh my god!

Bella flicks the switch and the door is open. Becky and Michael walk in and stand in front of Bella.

BECKY

We've waited 91 years for this moment!

MICHAEL

Until you remember us again! Do you remember us?

BELLA

I ... I do! I can't believe it! How old are you?

BECKY

How rude to ask us that! We're 115, both of us.

MICHAEL

We don't look it though, do we!

BECKY

We saw you when you were born, Bella! We saw you grow up! And now here you are, the girl we remember from all those years ago.

BELLA

You did it, you burnt the lab!

BECKY

Of course we did!

MICHAEL

It's been so hard, not being able to talk to you about it until now.

BECKY

What was I like, before the time-lines shifted?

MICHAEL

Exactly the same! You just had no memory of what happened!

BELLA

The time lines must have merged! But I don't know why I remember what happened before, I have no memories of the me that was in this time line.

The three of them hug.

BELLA

So, you didn't move to Reinholt Road?

BECKY

No we didn't, and if we had of moved into that house we liked ... I wouldn't have been here. No wonder you didn't talk about me as an old lady – I died didn't I? If I had moved to Reinholt

Road, the house would have been bombed
in the raids of '71?

Bella nods. Suddenly, the time lines catch up. Bella holds
her head in her hands.

MICHAEL

What's happening? Bella?

Bella falls to the ground and the 'her' of this reality and
the last reality merge together. Bella gets up again.

BELLA

What happened ... Nan! What are you doing
here?

BECKY

You don't remember? The passed?

MICHAEL

You must have fainted love, are you
alright?

BECKY

Bella! Do you remember us? From before?

BELLA

What do you mean Nan?! Hey, who moved
this photo?

Bella goes to the window sill and moves the photo back to
the kitchen. Becky and Michael look at each-other. Becky
looks upset, and Michael puts his arm around her.

MICHAEL

We had a few brief moments, now she's
gone.

BECKY

It's not fair, I have waited so long to
talk with her ...

MICHAEL

Maybe she is better off having no
memory of the whole thing.

Becky and Michael put their arms around each-other.

FADE OUT:

THE END

PART 2: DISCOVER THE STORY OF JOSEPH AND MARK'S TIME TRAVELLING ADVENTURES! THEY RETURN FROM FUTURE WITH KNOWLEDGE THAT THIS IS A FUTURE SIMULATION IN SOMEONE'S HOUSE. SIMULATION IS SWITCHED OFF? THEY GO TO REAL WORLD?

PART 3: GIRL WRITES LETTER TO SELF, HER FUTURE SELF AGED 850 TURNS UP TO MEET HER. OLDER VERSION TRIES TO KILL YOUNGER SELF? (AS CANNOT DIE IN FUTURE DUE TO NANOBOTS REGENERATING EVERYTHING).