

Final Hours

Written by

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Fade in

EXT. A HILL - LATE AFTERNOON

RICKY, 17, sits on a lawn chair at the edge of a hill overlooking highways and houses, on the right of him is a cooler and another empty lawn chair. DANIEL, 17, comes up from behind carrying an old radio and sits down beside him on the empty lawn chair.

DANIEL  
Yo, check it out

RICKY turns to look at the radio, and then DANIEL

RICKY  
(CHUCKLES)  
what's with the piece of metal

DANIEL looks down at the radio and presses play

REPORTER starts speaking indistinctly

DANIEL  
The way I see it

DANIEL sighs as he stares off into the descending sun

DANIEL - CONT.  
(sung to the tune of Samsa's Anthropocene)  
if we're gonna die let's do it on romantic terms

DANIEL nods towards the radio. DANIEL and RICKY grow quiet to hear the REPORTER.

REPORTER  
This is it folks, there's nothing left to say. The world is coming to an end. Soon a space rock will hit the earth, and

nothing will be left. I'm going home to spend these final  
hours with my family I suggest you --

RICKY SHUTS OFF THE RADIO

RICKY

(exasperated)

I don't want to hear about the end of the world, anymore.  
We've known for days. I mean everybody has planned out the way  
they are going out.

DANIEL

Do you think people are wondering where we are?

RICKY looks from the sky past the highways to the cluster of  
houses

RICKY

Nah. Some are hiding in bunkers. Others are in a church.

RICKY looks at DANIEL giving him a knowing smile)

RICKY - CONT

Our parents are throwing an end-of-the-world party.

(beat)

Besides they are so drunk off their asses I'm sure they don't  
even remember what's happening.

DANIEL

I guess you're right.

CAMERA PANS OFF the boys towards the sun.

TIMELAPSE of the sun moving down.

the camera then PANS back to the boys still sitting

DANIEL

What do you think it'll feel like

RICKY

With your luck, Danny boy, you'll pass out the moment  
something moves quickly across the sky.

DANIEL  
(laughs)  
Shut up man

RICKY  
Seriously remember when Martha said she liked guys with ear  
piercings? So you had me pierce them one day after school? And  
then you passed out!

DANIEL  
It fucking hurt!

RICKY  
Man, I didn't even get the needle near you when you fell!

RICKY and DANIEL double over in laughter.

RICKY looks over and notices DANIEL has started to cry a  
little.

RICKY grabs DANIEL'S shoulder

RICKY  
Honestly, I don't know what it's gonna be like. Hopefully,  
it's quick. Painless.  
(pause)  
But there's one thing I do know

DANIEL  
(sniffles)  
What's that, Rick

RICKY  
That we're pretty damn brave

DANIEL  
(Laughs)

Maybe we're damn stupid. I mean we're sitting on lawn chairs in a park that used to be a garbage hill, waiting for an asteroid to come hurling at us.

RICKY

I mean first of all, yeah I'd say that's pretty brave. And second of all, didn't you say romantic terms? What's more romantic than dying on a hill that used to just be a piece of trash, but was overcome by nature. It gives us a little hope, no? That there is something good after something ugly.

DANIEL

It's kinda a corny sentiment, but... hope huh? Do you think we should have had that? Should we have tried to fight this?

RICKY

Fight what? There's nothing to fight. We're two high school boys from Indiana, no one cares enough to save us. Do you think those bunkers people have made are going to protect them? It's useless to have hope against the inevitable, I rather have hope for the unknown.

(pause)

I have hope for something good after death.

DANIEL

So that's it then? These are the last moments of life on Earth .. for everything

RICKY

Maybe not everyone (chuckles)  
they probably stuck some important people, a few livestock, plants,... whatever they need to survive, and shot them into the air. They're gonna wait a couple of months, maybe years, and try this whole civilization thing again. You know how humans are

RICKY swats a mosquito from his leg and looks at it

RICKY

Persistent motherfuckers.

DANIEL

I hope for the planet's sake they stuck some good people on that spaceship. Forgot the corrupt politicians and the 1%. Put people up there that can actually come back and make something good. Like you said, something out of the ugly. Maybe they'll do it right for once.

RICKY

You see the good in everything Danny boy. It's your biggest weakness

DANIEL

Yeah.. but maybe, Rick, right?

RICKY

(Smiles)

yeah maybe.

RICKY turns the radio back on and turns the dial to a channel where music is playing

WHAT A WONDERFUL LIFE plays quietly

CLOSES UP on Daniel's eyes behind glasses. He closes them and the music echoes softly until the camera fades dark,

RICKY jolts DANIEL awake

Ricky

Daniel, it's happening soon.

A beep sounds from DANIELS PHONE. He turns the device over and reads a notification that says "Foreign object a few miles from earth's atmosphere. Prepare for a collision."

Daniel

So this is it. Should we say goodbye?

Ricky

No, no.

\*quiet\*

DANIEL

Don't hate me. But I'm going to close my eyes. I don't want to see it coming. I don't want to get scared and try to run

RICKY grabs DANIEL'S hand.

RICKY

I could never hate you Danny boy, I love you.

RICKY with his other hand turns the radio back up

EXIT MUSIC FOR A FILM by Radiohead plays.

CAMERA ZOOMS in on hands. Seconds pass. RICKY takes a sharp inhale and squeezes harder

DANIEL

Are you ok?

RICKY

It's coming.

DANIEL

What does it look like

RICKY'S eyes swell with tears. In the reflection of his eyes, an object grows bigger and gets closer.

RICKY

It's beautiful.

The screen flashes with a bright, white light as the music swells.

Fade to black

THE END