"QUANTUM LEAP: A LEAP TO DI FOR"

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"QUANTUM LEAP: A LEAP TO DI FOR"

FADE IN:

OPENING MONTAGE/PRINCESS DIANA'S LIFE

We see a serene array of timeless images of the young woman's life. The montage unfolds into her later years, and sadly, her untimely death.

The last image we see is a hand made poster with Diana's picture on it, saying, "We'll never forget you, Di."

The image of Diana suddenly turns blue as...

SPFX - LEAP OUT EFFECT

The familiar bluish light surrounds her face, glowing in blinding white light.

CUT TO:

SPFX - LEAP IN EFFECT

The same white light envelopes Dr. Sam Beckett while he "leaps" into his next host.

INT. HOTEL ROOM, DAY - TIME UNKNOWN

DR. SAM BECKETT falls back upon a bed, as if thrown upon it by someone. Just as Sam acquaints himself with his new environment, MEREDITH JAUSSAUD, a beautiful 26-year-old woman, climbs atop him as she kisses Sam passionately.

Dazed, Sam returns the kiss before she grabs his wrists, pinning him to the bed.

MEREDITH (tempting, low)
I'm gonna make every fantasy you have come true.

(nervous)

I don't doubt it.

Meredith bites her lower lip with a shrewd grin. Next, she reaches over to the nightstand, bringing out a ball gag to put in Sam's mouth.

Seeing it, Sam begins opposing her.

SAM

(anxious)

No, no, really.

Meredith nods yes in seductive understanding. Cramming the ball in his mouth, Meredith's grin grows.

SAM

(muffled)

Oh boy.

CUT TO:

QUANTUM LEAP OPENING MONTAGE

BACK TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

We return to the scene as Meredith assures Sam it's okay. Sam tries to be as polite as possible, but worms his way out from beneath Meredith.

TITLES

"A LEAP TO DI FOR"

SAM

(anxious)

Okay, let's just hang on here.

Meredith swings about on her knees, mouthing "I want you" with an enticing expression.

TITLES

"AUGUST 30, 1997"

Sam rubs his forehead in apprehension; completely lost as to what to do. Meredith continues her alluring acts, but realizes Sam is just not interested.

She SLAMS her fist into the mattress in rage.

MEREDITH

(irate)

Damnit, you bring us all the way here and now you want to 'hang on'?

SAM

I know-- I know! I just need a second to...

(thinks)

... figure this all out.

Sam looks around, desperate to find Al.

MEREDITH

What's to figure out, Mark? We've been planning this trip for five months!

She GROWLS in anger, climbing off the bed and storming into the bathroom, SLAMMING the door.

Sam begins searching the room, and sees his host's shorts hanging off the back of a chair. He scrambles through the pockets, taking out the man's wallet.

SAM'S POV/WALLET

as we see Sam take out a drivers license. It says he is "Mark Hulen of Chicago, Illinois".

SAM/MIRROR

as he slowly gazes up, seeing the real Mark Hulen in his reflection.

SFX - EUROPEAN POLICE SIREN

Puzzled by it's foreign sound, Sam goes to the window to pull apart the shades to see:

WINDOW POV/EIFEL TOWER, PARIS FRANCE

SFX - AL'S HOLOGRAM APPEARS

Sam turns to see AL, his old friend, who is standing behind him, dressed in his typical colorful suit.

Calm and composed, Al casually presses his handlink.

SAM

(whispers, annoyed)
Can't you get here a little quicker
next time?

AL

(keeps eyes on handlink)
Sorry, there was a little hold up.

SAM

Al's hologram FREEZES briefly, as if Sam's question had something to do with it.

ΑL

All right, you're...

Al's hologram FREEZES, and stays locked.

AL (OS)

(cryptic)

Mark Hulen.

The hologram unlocks, as Sam is baffled.

AL

And you're on vacation in Paris France with...
(freezes)

Meredith Jaussaud.

SAM

I know all that-- just tell me what
I'm here to do!

AL.

(uncertain)

Uhh...

The hologram locks up again.

SFX - WINDOWS FATAL ERROR SOUND

SPFX - AL'S HOLOGRAM

as it freezes, distorts, and suddenly turns into the dreaded blue windows error screen with the cryptic text "Windows has encountered a fatal error and must shut down."

SAM

(gives up)

Not again!

Sam throws his arms up, walking away from the hologram as it blinks out and vanishes.

WOMAN (VO)

Project Quantum Leap has deteriorated since drastic reductions...

EXT. HIGH SCALE OFFICE BUILDING, DAY - PRESENT DAY

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME MOMENT

A sharp dressed woman, DR. SAMANTHA FULLER, a strikingly beautiful woman of 35 years, is presenting Project Quantum Leap to two investors. The two older men seem bored and uninterested.

We join the "pitch" midway into the scene.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

... forced the project and it's staff to be reassigned. Our location was expunged, and relocated to a World War 2 bunker inside the Kirtland Air Force base. With less than a ten thousand dollar annual budget, Dr. Beckett is forced to interact with an inferior operating interface based on 15 year old software. With no contact with his time period for over seven years...

(MORE)

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

... Dr. Beckett is virtually isolated in time.

(hollow)

Alone.

INVESTOR 1

So no one is there to oversee the project?

SAMANTHA

Whenever the automated systems crash, contracted security is alerted. If we're lucky, they might reset it on their nightly patrols.

INVESTOR 1

Admiral Calavicci no longer has contact with this-- Dr. Beckett?

SAMANTHA

No, sir. We weren't even allowed to brief him before we were shut down.

Investor 1 glances at Investor 2 with an uncertain expression.

Samantha is desperate.

INVESTOR 1

Two million dollars a year is a lot of money, Doctor. There is no guarantee that you can even bring Dr. Beckett back...

SAMANTHA

Sir, we are...

(re-thinks, fervent)

I am asking you to invest in humanity. One life that can be changed for the better is worth...

INVESTOR 1

(grim)

Our answer is no, doctor.

The two investors stand up, buttoning their coats, and walk out of the room.

Crushed, Samantha lowers her head in defeat.

INT. PARIS, HOTEL ROOM, EARLY AFTERNOON - 1997

Sam stands beside the window, looking out at the sights of Paris. By the look in his eyes, we can see he has found his purpose being there.

SFX - DOOR OPENS

Meredith comes inside, carrying a bag of groceries. Tossing them to the bed, she sits on the bed with her back to Sam.

SAM

I know why we made this trip.

MEREDITH

(cynical)

Certainly not for quality time between us.

Sam walks around to her, kneeling in front of her.

SAM

Meredith, listen to me. I need for you to put us aside for the moment.

Meredith pulls away angered by his words. He takes her hand in reassurance.

SAM

(calm)

No, no, listen-- please.

Meredith shakes her head in sorrow and anger.

SAM

(somber)

Tonight, someone who is very important is going to die here in Paris. I know this sounds really crazy, but I am begging you to please believe me on this.

MEREDITH

(slightly calmer)

Who is it? How would you know?

(intense)

You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

(sighs)

All I'm asking is for you to come with me.

Suspicious, Meredith balks.

MEREDITH

What is wrong with you? All day you've been... different. The way you look at me, walk-- your words.

Sam stands, not sure if he should admit who he is.

MEREDITH

(thinks back)

... like a million volts of power passed right through me to you... I didn't see anything, but I felt... something change in you.

SAM

Like I became someone else?

MEREDITH

(aloof)

In a way.

Sam walks back to Meredith, offering his hand to her.

SAM

Then you should know it all.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARIS STREET, BRITISH EMBASSY - LATER THAT DAY

TITLES: "BRIITH EMBASSY, PARIS FRANCE"

INT. EMBASSY ENTRANCE

Sam and Meredith saunter in, noticing two armed guards on either side of them.

In front of them sits a female receptionist, who greets them with a congenial smile.

RECEPTIONIST

(in French)

Bon apres-midi, monsieur. Est-ce que je peux vous aider?

SAM

(anxious smile)
Oui, bonjour mademoiselle.
Cependant je parle anglais.

RECEPTIONIST

Ah, very well then.

SAM

I need to speak with the consulate, if he or she is in.

RECEPTIONIST

We do ask that all appointments be made through the Ambassador's secretary prior to...

SAM

(urgent)

Madam, this isn't a request for a typical meeting. I have Code One clearance by the US Air Force, requiring immediate attention.

Meredith looks back to see the Guards eyeing Sam, vigilant of his actions.

RECEPTIONIST

Perhaps if you advise me of the nature of your request, I'll see what we can do for you.

Sam glances at Meredith, who isn't sure about what she's gotten herself into.

SAM

(hesitant)

I have... information that the Princess of Wales will die tonight at the Pont de l'Alma tunnel tonight.

The Receptionist's smile vanishes as the two Guards place their hands on their sidearm.

BREAK

BACK TO:

INT. BRITISH EMBASSY ENTRANCE, MOMENTS LATER

The Receptionist stands, nodding to one of the guards.

RECEPTIONIST

Direct threats against a member of the Royal family...

SAM

Ma'am, I'm working with the United States Air Force in a top secret operation known as Project Quantum Leap. You can call the US embassy if you'd like.

Frightened, Meredith steps back, watching the guards stand behind Sam.

RECEPTIONIST

(picks up phone)

Very well then. May I see your credentials?

Sam lowers his head, knowing he's in trouble.

SAM

(low)

They're not with me.

(looks up)

But the embassy...

RECEPTIONIST

(stern)

Impersonating any government official is a punishable crime.

One of the guards places his hand on Sam's shoulders, motioning for him to leave.

The other guard grabs Meredith by her arm, forcefully moving her out of the foyer.

The Receptionist eases back, seeing the sincerity in Sam's eyes.

RECEPTIONIST

(to Meredith)

Are you with him?

Sam motions "no" to Meredith, trying to spare her.

MEREDITH

(assured)

Yes I am.

Sam SIGHS, knowing they are in trouble.

The guards take Sam and Meredith away.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BRITISH EMBASSY - LATER

INT. INTEROGATION ROOM

CLOSE UP/TV MONITOR

We see Sam's mirror reflection of Mark, sitting at a table handcuffed. An MI6 agent paces the room, questioning him.

Our POV shifts, showing Sam beyond the TV monitor, moving in perfect unison with his 1997 counterpart.

MI6 AGENT

(cynical)

So you're a time traveler-- from what year again?

I told you, I don't know. The affects of leaping create voids in my memory; gaps.

MI6 AGENT

And how is it that you would remember such vivid details from this "accident" at the bridge tonight?

SAM

My previous leaps...

MI6 AGENT

(looks through his notes)
Wait, a leap is...

SAM

A leap is when my being, my soul...

Just then, the door OPENS as two suit clad men, FBI AGENT KEMPH, and BRITISH OFFICIAL RAWLINGS walk in. Rawlings motions for the MI6 agent to speak with him as Kemph goes to Sam to free him from his handcuffs.

As Rawlings whispers to the MI6 agent, he becomes incensed that he can't continue badgering Sam. He quickly leaves the room, SLAMMING the door on his way out.

RAWLINGS

(sits down, kind)

I'm special agent Rawlings with her majesty's secret service.

(points)

Agent Kemph with the American FBI.

SAM

(to Kemph)

Thank you.

RAWLINGS

Your credentials have been verified by your government, Dr. Beckett.

(grim)

But as for your intelligence on tonight's events... well...

KEMPH

I just got off the phone with an Admiral Calavicci, and he informed me that your objectives, laid out by your own mandate, say that you are not to directly interfere with private matters with any government officials.

SAM

The Princess is no longer tied to the monarchy...

RAWLINGS

As mother to the future heirs of the crown, it is a matter of great concern to us, and to your government.

Sam looks down, desperate for a solution.

SAM

So what are our options?

KEMPH

Your option is that you will remain here in custody with your girlfriend until this predicament is addressed by the US envoy.

SAM

(urgent)

We don't have time for diplomatic bureaucracy. All it takes is a phone call to her... just warn her <u>not</u> to leave the Ritz hotel tonight.

RAWLINGS

(skeptical)

And say that a time traveler brings word?

Frustration muddles Sam.

RAWLINGS

Doctor, I've seen your government's dossier on your project, yet I find it most difficult to grasp. The decision to advise the Princess of Wales is not up to us.

Then who?

CUT TO:

EXT. VIRGINIA TIMBERLAND, EARLY MORNING

TITLES:

"PRESIDENTIAL RETREAT, CAMP DAVID, VIRGINIA - PRESENT DAY"
We see the lush scenery of the Virginia timberland.

ADVISOR (VO)

Mr. President, I beg your pardon for the interruption of your morning walk.

PRESIDENT (VO)

Its okay, Jerry. What is it?

EXT. CAMP DAVID TRAIL - SAME MOMENT

We pick up into a conversation between the PRESIDENT of the US, and his advisor, JERRY. The President's demeanor is amiable as he has his dog for a walk.

JERRY

(grim)

There is a... situation that needs your immediate attention, sir.

PRESIDENT

Okay.

JERRY

An exploratory project back in the early 90's was created to... fuse specific periods of time.

PRESIDENT

One of our projects?

Jerry nods yes.

JERRY

Project Quantum Leap, headed by Dr. Samuel Beckett. The project was...
(MORE)

JERRY (CONT'D)

... cut by the previous administration, however the project's developer was... left behind.

PRESIDENT

(unsure)

Left behind?

CUT TO:

INT. SAMANTHA'S CONDOMINIUM, BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING

We see Samantha and her husband, fast asleep.

SFX - CELL PHONE RING

Samantha leaps up, as if expecting a phone call.

SAMANTHA

(groggy)

Samantha Fuller.

VOICE

(from phone)

Dr. Fuller, please hold for the President.

We close in on Samantha's shocked expression.

CUT TO:

INT. QUANTUM LEAP CONTROL ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

Lights are powered on as flickers of light reveal the abandoned, dirty control room. Old cardboard boxes litter the room as Samantha walks in with four technicians and a Marine Corporal.

The four technicians carry in I.T. gear, going over to the dilapidated control board.

SAMANTHA

(excited, but focused)

Set up our servers over there. We'll need those to interface directly with the hybrid CPU.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

(to Tech 2, doubtful)

See what we can do with that control panel. 10 to 1 it won't communicate with what we've got, but we have to try.

TECH 2

(confident)

Oh, I'll make it happen.

SAMANTHA

I love it when you talk like that, Gordy.

Noise FILLS the room as the technicians start to make things happen. Behind her, we see someone walking to her.

SAMANTHA

(loud)

Kristy, see how bad the imaging chamber is, would you? That has to be the first thing to go live.

KRISTY (OS)

I'm on it.

SAMANTHA

(rubs forehead, worried)

Thank you.

AL (OS)

Back in your element, huh kid?

She turns to see Al, dressed in his formal naval uniform. She hugs him in delight.

SAMANTHA

I thought you retired?

ΑL

Kind of hard to say no to the President. Plus I've been waiting for this day for way too long.

SAMANTHA

(smiles)

We tried finding a handlink for you, so I guess we'll make...

With a sly smile, Al takes out his old handlink from his pocket, winking in his typical manner. He hands it to her as she nods in delight.

But then she smells something odd...

AL

Peanut butter. The uh, grandkids got their hands on it.

Al wipes it off as Samantha smiles.

She tosses the handlink over to Technician 4, knelt underneath the control panel. Catching it, the Technician looks over the odd contraption.

SAMANTHA

Can you see if we can modify that to link up with Ziggy?

TECH 4

(dubious)

This thing couldn't sync with an iPod, let alone...

Samantha glares at him, as if to say, "do it".

TECH 4

I'll get right on it.

CUT TO:

EXT. EVENING, BRITISH EMBASSY - 1997

INT. EMBASSY GUEST QUARTERS

Meredith sits on a couch, watching a BBC report on Princess Diana. As she watches the TV, we see Sam in the background, staring out the window.

BBC REPORTER

(from TV)

... recently seen in the company of Dodi Al Fayed, heir to the "Fayed" fortune. Word of their possible romance has inflamed Buckingham Palace...

Meredith shuts OFF the TV, tossing the remote to the side in hopelessness.

Sam glances back to her with an uneasy look.

SAM

(low)

Thank you.

MEREDITH

(stands)

For what?

SAM

For staying here with me.

She saunters over to him...

MEREDITH

(curt)

Its not like I had anything else better to do.

SAM

Why did you do it?

MEREDITH

(shrugs)

Pity... intuition maybe. Maybe I'm just curious to see if Mark and I make it. I mean, if you know all this about Diana, then you'd know about my future too, right?

SAM

If everything was working the way it was supposed to be, then yes.

MEREDITH

(bitter)

When does anything work the way its supposed to?

Sam notices Meredith's sadness as she steps away with her back toward Sam.

SAM

I take it there's a lot more to that statement.

Meredith crosses her arms, resisting to answer.

MEREDITH

It uhmm... gets old, you know? First dates, getting to know someone... then it all ends.

SAM

But you and Mark are together.

MEREDITH

(huffs)

If that's what you want to call it.

(turns to Sam in sorrow)
See... Mark and I were high school
sweethearts. And uhmm... I made a
mistake, and ended up pregnant by
another man.

(remorseful)

And he dumped me, just as anyone in their right mind would. So... flash forward to seven years later, and we meet up again. And I find out that I'm still in love with him, just as much as I was, if not more.

SAM

(knowing)

But he can't forgive you for what happened.

Tearful, Meredith nods yes.

MEREDITH

I worked overtime and double shifts for almost five months to save for this trip thinking it would convince him that I was sorry...

(breaks down)

That I still loved him.

Touched by her plight, Sam places his hands on her shoulders in comfort. She embraces him, weeping in his arms.

MEREDITH

God, you're so lucky. To go back and change things.

(distant)

Yeah... I guess I am.

SFX - IMAGING CHAMBER DOOR OPENS/CLOSES

Hearing it, Sam thinks it's the same computer generated guide, not turning to look at it.

AL

(relieved)

Sam?

Sam recognizes something different in the voice. Its sincere.

Looking back, he sees Al walking towards him.

SAM

(to Meredith)

Just a second.

Sam breaks from Meredith.

MEREDITH

(wipes her eyes)

What is it?

Sam faces Al, but not quite sure if it is him.

SAM

(resolute)

What's the primary purpose of project Quantum Leap?

AL

What? Sam, its me! I swear! We have everything back up and running! Oh, I know its been forever, buddy. I'm sorry.

SAM

(hopeful)

Al?

AL

(happy)

Yeah, buddy. I'm here.

Sam is overcome.

SAM

I can't remember the last time I saw you.

AL

I know. The whole thing went a little kah-kah.

Sam LAUGHS, glad to hear his friend's old adages again.

Suddenly, Al's image distorts as he furiously strikes his handlink.

AL

(upset)

Ahh, this stupid pile of gummy bears-- where's Gooshie when I need him?

(to control room, loud)
Keep me on Sam, whatever you gotta
do!

SAM

What's wrong?

MEREDITH

(to Sam)

Who are you talking to?

ΑL

Well, we loaded Ziggy with new operating system see, and... (notices Meredith)

Oh la la. I love Pair-eee.

SAM

(in shock)

Al! You're a married man!

(to Meredith)
It's a hologram from my time period
tuned to my brain waves. That's why

you can't see or hear him.

Al's image distorts again as Al growls in futility.

MEREDITH

(sarcastic)

Oh yea. That was my second guess. (grabs Sam)

You're not dropping acid, are you?

SAM

No.

Al's image comes back into focus.

AL

Sam, we gotta talk. Whatever it was you did is getting a lot of buzz back home.

SAM

(to Meredith, smiles)
He uhm, wants to talk to me now.

MEREDITH

Oh, well... don't let me stop you. (shoos him on, cynical)
Go on, go talk to your friend.

She turns, rolling her eyes in shock.

AL/SAM

as they walk away.

SAM

(troubled)

What the hell is going on, Al? All I see of you for the past however many years is some stupid computerized duplicate of you...

AL

Sam, we'll get into that later. Right now, we gotta figure this mess out.

Sam assures Al he knows what he's doing.

SAM

I know why I'm here, Al.

We don't know that yet.

SAM

Well I do. Run it by Ziggy, and she'll tell you the same thing.

AL

Uhh, well, we could if Ziggy was running.

SAM

Ziggy's not running?

MEREDITH'S POV

of Sam talking to himself.

SAM

What do you mean? How can we run the project without Ziggy?

MEREDITH

(low)

Oh my god this in insane.

SAM/AL

SAM

Doesn't it seem pretty clear, Al?

ΑL

How do you even know about Diana getting killed? Your first leap was in 95', so you couldn't possibly remember...

SAM

You told me all about it.

ΑL

(shifts)

Oh yea... I guess I did.

Al hits the handlink, OPENING the imaging chamber door.

ΑL

Look, just stay here and don't do anything.

(shocked)

You're leaving? You just got here!

AL

(steps through)

We gotta save power until we get Ziggy back up. Just trust me.

The door CLOSES.

CUT TO:

INT. IMAGING CHAMBER, EXIT - SAME MOMENT

Al walks through as Samantha rushes to him.

SAMANTHA

(excited)

How was he, Al? Did you see him?

AL

Yea, oh it was great. He hasn't changed a bit.

Samantha smiles, walking back to the:

INT. CONTROL ROOM

as Samantha walks behind the control panel.

SAMANTHA

Don't get too comfortable. We were able to bring Ziggy back on-line.

She lays her hand on the activation trigger.

SPFX - INITIATION BOLT

as the familiar bluish streak races to the ceiling.

SAMANTHA

Hello, Ziggy.

ZIGGY (OS)

(from computer)

Good morning, Dr. Fuller. I was beginning to think I wasn't loved anymore.

SAMANTHA

(amused)

Never.

(switches controls)
We're downloading all relevant data
from 2001 on, but we need you to
center on August 30th, 1997. A
Mark...

ZIGGY (OS)

... Mark Hulen, yes. I already have a theory on Dr. Beckett's objective.

PAUSE

as Samantha waits for her answer.

SAMANTHA

And?

ZIGGY (OS)

Estimates give Dr. Beckett a 98 percent probability that he is in Paris France to prevent the death of the Princess of Wales.

Shocked, Samantha looks to Al.

BREAK

BACK FROM BREAK

EXT. CAMP DAVID, LATER - PRESENT DAY

INT. CONFERNECE ROOM

We see the President sitting across the table from the British Ambassador, who we do not see yet.

PRESIDENT

(troubled)

What you're asking, Mr. Ambassador... is something I'm not sure we can resolve.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR (OS)

It is clearly your decision, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT

Have you brought this to the attention of the Royal family?

BRITISH AMBASSADOR

We finally see who it is. Agent Rawlings from 1997.

RAWLINGS

No, sir. It wouldn't be prudent at this time.

PRESIDENT

I've ordered all key personnel back on the project, but from what you and my advisors tell me... we stand a good chance at averting this entire thing.

PAUSE

RAWLINGS

Sir, if I may.

The President nods yes.

RAWLINGS

One must take into account the moral and spiritual ramifications of this situation.

PRESIDENT

(disagrees)

This decision will be made as a elected official of the people of this country, regardless of what my religious convictions are.

RAWLINGS

Of course, Mr. President.

(ponders)

But as a human being, sir... meddling in something of this magnitude should not be left to a politician to decide. With all due respect, sir.

PRESIDENT

Thank you, Mr. Ambassador.

With that, Rawlings gathers his papers, and leaves.

As he exits, the President's wife, VANESSA, passes him on the way in.

VANESSA

(concerned)

Dwayne?

He stands, immediately embracing his lovely wife. As the door shuts, they are alone.

VANESSA

Oh baby, I got here as fast as I could.

PRESIDENT

Thank you, sweetie. Where are the girls?

VANESSA

With Trudy's folks in Richmond.

(a beat)

Is it true? What the advisors said?

Troubled, he looks down. He nods yes.

Shocked, Vanessa steps back in dismay.

VANESSA

(low)

Oh my God.

The President steps back, sitting down in his chair, SIGHING heavily.

VANESSA

What are you going to do?

PRESIDENT

(cracking)

I don't know.

Seeing her husband's affliction, Vanessa sits beside him, rubbing his back in consolation.

PRESIDENT

(helpless)

To decide something like this... to think I have the authority to stop it from ever happening.

VANESSA

But she was a mother too, Dwayne. Don't look at it from the outside... look at it as a parent.

Vanessa sees her husband's eyes well up in tears. She embraces him, kissing his forehead in grief.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PARIS, BRITISH EMBASSY, EVENING - 1997

A black Mercedes pulls up to the embassy as a team of guards swarm about Princess Diana. She and her guards rush inside.

INT. GUEST QUARTERS/WINDOW

Sam sees Diana's entry, rushing to Meredith.

SAM

She's here, she just pulled up!

Meredith stands up, going to the window as Sam goes to the door.

MEREDITH

Are you serious? (looks)

Oh wow.

(amazed)

I got up at 3am to watch her wedding. God I must have been seven or eight...

SFX - DOOR OPENS

DOORWAY

as a burly guard turns to stop them. Sam comes to a dead halt.

(modest)

Oh... hi... just uhmm, just checking out the lovely antiques here.

(chuckles)

Guess I... better head back in now.

(a beat)

Yeah.

Sam closes the door.

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

MEREDITH

What?

SAMANTHA

They put a guard at our door!

MEREDITH

Well, there's gotta be a way.

Sam shrugs his shoulders, as if to give up.

But then, an idea strikes Meredith as her expressions turn sexy. She begins to unbutton her blouse.

SAM

(startled)

Oh boy.

INT. HALLWAY, DOORWAY - MOMENTS LATER

The door flings open as Meredith steps out, vamping it up to the guard. She saunters to the guard, who checks her out.

MEREDITH

You know, being cooped up in there with that idiot...

(sighs)

I just had to get out.

She runs his fingers down his chest in a suggestive manner.

MEREDITH

I heard Paris is the place for lovers... and maybe when you end your shift, we could-- you know.

The guard melts as she coaxes him from the door.

Behind them, we see Sam quietly open the door, sneaking out.

MEREDITH

God, I'm so turned on by a man in uniform.

Just then, Al appears.

AL

(loud)

Sam you gotta...

Al sees Meredith's wanton actions.

AL

(provoked)

Oh, boy.

Sam motions for Al to follow him. At first, Al ignores Sam, but then sees him.

Meredith then kisses the guard, peeking to see Sam signaling Al. She waves Sam to go on.

AL

Oh, if I wasn't a married hologram.

SAM

(loud whisper)

Al!!

The guard looks up, having heard Sam. Meredith quickly interrupts.

MEREDITH

(to guard)

Al...

(a beat)

... do whatever it is you want.

They kiss again as Sam races away.

Al still stands, smitten by Meredith. He rubs his forehead in torment, looking around for Sam.

(loud)

Shoot-- center me on Sam!

ADJOINING HALLWAY - SECONDS LATER

Sam quickly rounds the corner, safe from the guard's view. Al waits on him, tapping his handlink.

AL

(urgent)

Sam, you gotta stop! Ziggy has a new theory on...

SAM

(winded, quiet)

Where is she, Al?

AL

Oh, she's back there...

(envious, smug)

... living it up with the luckiest guy in the world...

SAM

Diana, Al! I need her location!

AL

That's what I've been trying to tell you, Sam. You're here...

Just then, Sam and Al see Diana's entourage round the corner. The guards see Sam as Rawlings orders the men to stop Sam.

With no where to go, Sam decides to rush them head on.

ΑL

Sam, don't! You're outnumbered!

SAM

No, Al. This is why I'm here.

Sam turns to see Princess Diana a few feet away.

(Author's note: We do not see the actual face of Diana at all.)

Your majesty, my name is Sam Beckett-- I've been sent here to warn you about...

Just then, one of her guards NAILS Sam in the stomach, sending him to the floor. Then, three more guards pile atop Sam as a commotion breaks out.

AL

(worried)

Sam, just give up. You're not here to save her!

DIANA

(to Rawlings)

What's all this? Why are they pummeling that poor bloke?

RAWLINGS

This man is a demented drifter from the United States, madam.

The guards lift Sam to his feet.

Al gazes at Diana, stunned to actually see her alive.

SAM

That's a lie. You said you believed me.

DIANA

(appalled)

He said he had a warning for me.

(to guards)

Release that young man now.

The guards resist.

DIANA

Do I have to repeat myself?

RAWLINGS

(dire)

Your Highness, I tried to stop this man from contacting you.

DIANA

I'm not having people dictate to me what they think is best. Do I make myself clear?

AL

You tell him.

RAWLINGS

(low)

Yes, your Highness.

Diana goes up to Sam.

DIANA

Very well, what's all this about then?

SAM

(catches breath)

Your majesty, tonight, when you leave the Ritz with Mr. Fayed...

AL

(warning)

No, Sam.

SAM

(sees Al)

Just... please take a different route. Or delay leaving the Ritz. Your driver...

DIANA

Stop-- how did you know I was to be at the Ritz? That's privy information.

SAM

I work for a special US government project that... helps good people avert possible threats.

AL

(looks at handlink)
You're not changing anything, Sam.

DIANA

And you've come all this way to speak of this?

Farther than you'll ever know.

Diana considers his petition.

DIANA

(to Rawlings)

Is it true he is with the Americans?

Rawlings hesitates...

DIANA

(strong)

Is it?

RAWLINGS

Yes, your majesty.

Diana looks to Sam, accepting his story.

DIANA

Yes, well then. Meet us in the royal suite in seven minutes, and you can tell me everything you know.

She abruptly walks off.

SAM

Thank you.

The Princess' entourage walks away as Rawlings glares at Sam.

AL

(pleading)

Sam, this isn't working. Diana still dies at 3:40am on August 31st, 1997! You haven't changed a thing!

SAM

... in here.

(sad)

I know, kid. All of us felt the same. But Ziggy didn't have all the data loaded when she originally said you were here to save Diana.

SAM

What?

AL

You're not here to save Princess Diana, Sam. You're here to save Meredith from getting killed.

Sam is stunned.

BREAK

BACK TO:

EXT. NIGHT PARIS, 1997

We see the beautiful sights of the elegant city.

SAM (VO)

Of all my leaps, I had never felt so right in correcting an obvious tragedy. A calamity that brought the entire world to its knees in absolute sorrow.

INT. BRITISH EMBASSY, ROYAL SUITE - LATER

Diana walks in with two assistants, going over her schedule. Al paces the room as Sam stands still, trying to summon the courage to tell her of her demise.

Sam and Al glare at each other in regret.

SAM (VO)

Yet even now with all the factors telling me that saving Diana was wrong, I simply couldn't buy the fact that the people's Princess was truly meant to die. Of every other leap before, this one felt like the perfect wrong to set right.

My God, she's so young.

Diana signs off on a paper, approaching Sam as she sits across from him on a couch. Sam respectfully follows suit.

DIANA

So why would a Quantum Physicist come all this way to warn me of something?

Now is his chance to change everything.

SAM

Well, that all depends on your point of view, your majesty.

DIANA

Of what?

SAM

Time... fate... destiny.

DIANA

I don't seem to recall the United States being so interested in my fate, Dr. Beckett.

Sam nervously stands, fidgeting with his hands.

SAM

A lot of people care about your fate, not just Americans.

DIANA

Agent Rawlings gave me the dossier on your project. Making lives right where they went wrong... are things about to go wrong here?

SAM

(nervous)

In a manner of speaking, yes.

DIANA

(stands, ironic laugh)
What other manner would there be?

(warning)

Sam.

SAM

Tonight... all you have to do... is to...

(looks down)

Just stay at the Ritz, or stay here. Just don't leave. Cancel whatever plans you have.

Diana steps off, pondering what Sam says.

Al TAPS his handlink.

ΑL

(excited)

Her odds just shot down to 23%--you're doing it Sam!!

DIANA

(sullen)

What happens tonight?

SAM

Does it matter if you just stayed here?

AL

Good, Sam. Good. 17%!!

DIANA

(somber)

I suppose not.

(pauses)

I should call the boys.

Sam closes his eyes, delighted that he is changing history for the better.

Diana goes to a phone nearby, picking it up to dial...

But then she suddenly stops, holding the phone in her hand.

AL

(alerted)

Uh-oh, Sam.

DIANA

Just a moment...

SAM

(alarmed)

What?

Diana sets the receiver down.

DIANA

(changes mind)

No, I won't do this.

SAM

Calling your children...

DIANA

(adamant)

No, this is paranoia -- superstition.

AL

as he hangs his head in sorrow, motioning no to Sam. Sam looks to Al, as if to say "what do I do?".

SAM

No, no, no!! Its fact, your majesty!

DIANA

(adamant)

I vowed years ago to not let fear control my thoughts. What you're telling me is nothing but dread.

SAM

But...

DIANA

No, Dr. Beckett. I will not choose to give in to this. I have to live my life as to what I feel is right; never questioning where I should have turned left instead of right. Those decisions are the very thing that make us who we are, Doctor. If we lose them, we lose ourselves.

DIANA

(a beat, upset)

Bloody hell, what would be the purpose of even being here if we knew where the pitfalls and mistakes were? What would we learn-- what would we experience?

PAUSE

as Sam knows she's right.

AL

rubs his forehead, glancing at his handlink in anguish.

AL

(low)

One hundred percent.

SAM/DIANA

as she goes to the door, opening it up to leave.

DIANA

Please express my gratitude to your colleagues. I'm sure everyone's intentions were only for the best.

SAM

(bittersweet)

They are.

DIANA

Right... very well then, I'll see to it you and your lady are released.

SAM

Thank you, your majesty.

DIANA

(hopeful)

Perhaps we'll meet again.

SAM

(forced smile)

I'd like that.

With that, Princess Diana leaves the room.

SFX - DOOR CLOSES

Sam SIGHS, knowing he has failed.

AL

(sympathetic)

I know that was hard, kid.

SAM

(painful tears)

Why, Al-- why?? I devoted my entire life to save good people like her.

SFX - HANDLINK BEEP

ΑL

I don't know.

Al brings the handlink up, seeing an alert.

AL

(startled)

Damn!

SAM

What?

AL

(loud)

Meredith's getting strangled right now, Sam!! Oh, I forgot all about it... go, go go!!

Sam races out as Al hits the handlink, vanishing.

INT. CORRIDOR - SECONDS LATER

as Sam runs around a corner.

Al suddenly appears, pointing Sam in the right direction.

AL

This way, this way!

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

The burley guard is strangling Meredith on her bed.

GUARD

(in rage)
You little tease!!

He slaps her before grabbing her by the throat again. Meredith GASPS and fights it, but slowly starts to pass out.

GUARD

(growls)

Bloody American tramp.

INT. CORRIDOR

as Sam reaches the door.

AL

It's locked, Sam!

BACK TO:

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

as the door is suddenly KICKED in.

Tossing Meredith aside, the Guard turns to face Sam, who charges him, swinging his fist into the guard's face.

The Guard swings, but misses Sam as he drops out of the way. Taking the advantage, Sam grasps the guard by the throat, LIFTING his knee into the Guard's stomach three times!!

ΑL

(cheering)

Yeah, yeah!!

Tossing the Guard up, Sam NAILS him across the jaw once more, sending him to the ground.

Catching her breath, Meredith watches Sam's brave actions.

Sam quickly goes to her, checking on her condition.

SAM

(concerned)

You're safe now... you're safe.

Meredith CRIES in Sam's arms, thankful and horrified.

Sam holds her close, nodding to Al in success.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BRITISH EMBASSY, ENTRANCE - LATER THAT NIGHT

With everything now calm, Meredith clings to Sam in aftershock.

Rawlings walks up to Sam and Meredith.

RAWLINGS

(humble)

I... apologize, Dr. Beckett. I
lied, and I was wrong.

Rawlings extends his hand in good faith. Sam takes it, accepting his apology.

SAM

Thank you.

RAWLINGS

As a token of my sorrow, I'd like to offer you and your beautiful lady friend a two week all inclusive stay in Morocco at a five star facility.

(smiles)

Anything you wish for... compliments of the British Government.

Meredith smiles, amazed by his offer.

SAM

Well, we'd have to talk about...

MEREDITH

We'll take it!

Rawlings hands Sam and Meredith their tickets and vouchers.

RAWLINGS

Very well... goodbye, Dr. Beckett.

(to Meredith, bows)

Madam.

Rawlings leaves as Meredith happily squirms in delight.

(sincere)

Thank you, Meredith.

MEREDITH

(unsure)

For what?

SAM

For believing me.

Meredith sees something in his eyes.

MEREDITH

(sad)

You're leaving, aren't you?

Sam nods yes.

Meredith abruptly kisses him, cherishing their last moment together.

WOMAN (OS)

Dr. Beckett? Excuse me, Doctor?

Sam breaks his kiss to look around, seeing the hologram of Samantha standing behind him.

Sam doesn't know who she is.

SAM

Yes?

SAMANTHA

I'm Dr. Fuller -- with the project.

SAM

Where's Al?

SAMANTHA

(warm)

He had his grandson's birthday party.

MEREDITH

Is that your friend from the future?

Sam nods yes to Meredith. Looking back, Sam sees the Princess' entourage down the corridor, preparing to leave.

Sadness creeps into Sam's thoughts.

SAMANTHA

Al mentioned you always like to know what comes of your leaps... so Mark and Meredith wed in Morocco next week, now living in Chicago with four children.

SAM

Diana?

SAMANTHA

(morose)

No change... but Ziggy did see one slight change in history.

As Sam listens, he keeps his eyes on the Princess as she goes to a house phone to make a call.

SAMANTHA (OS)

In the original history, Diana never called her children the night she died. Ziggy says that although you were here to put Mark and Meredith together, you were also here to make Diana call them one last time.

Sam looks down in bittersweet victory.

SAMANTHA

The President wanted to pass along his thanks. He also said that you'll never have to worry about the project being shut down again.

Still gazing at the Princess, Sam glances back at Samantha.

SAM

That's great, I...

Stopping, Sam recognizes something unique about Samantha. Seeing his curiosity, she blushes.

SAM

Have we met before?

SAMANTHA

No, sir. I started on the project a couple of years after it began.

SAM

(sure)

No, I've seen you somewhere before.

A Samantha motion "no" as they gaze into each other's eyes... there is a much deeper connection.

SAM

(low)

Sammy Jo?

SPFX - LEAP OUT

as the familiar blue light envelopes Sam, taking him away from 1997, and to a new life.

SPFX - LEAP IN

CLOSE UP - SAM

as he arrives, Sam ROLLS down a hill, YELLING in surprise.

EXT. HILL, DAY - 1975

Sam comes to a stop as he tries to acclimate to his new surroundings.

SFX - FOOTSTEPS

as someone approaches him, offering their hand to him. It is a woman's arm, decorated with a large gold wristband.

WOMAN (OS)

(hurried)

Come on! The Nazis will see us!

Shaking off his bewilderment, Sam grabs the woman's hand as she helps him stand up.

As he stands, he sees the female is Wonder Woman. She looks about knowing trouble is near.

SAM

(recognizing her)

You're...

WONDER WOMAN

(urgent)
This way-- quickly!

The pair runs off as GUNFIRE erupts all about them!

They jump down into a hole, hiding from the enemy. Startled, Sam realizes he's in another bizarre situation as usual.

SAM

(groans)

Oooooh boy.

FADE OUT:

THE END