

DEUS EX INTRO

written by
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for
Ion Storm

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NOTE: This screenplay is not in correct screenplay format; this is a rough approximation I use when composing drafts, prior to importing into Final Draft for clean-up.

FADE IN:

INT. VERSALIFE - NIGHT - CLOSE ON - EARTH

rotating beneath the sculpture of a giant, grasping hand. TILT DOWN to REVEAL BOB PAGE and WALTON SIMONS in quiet discussion, the globe and hand reflected in the marble at their feet. As they talk, MAGGIE CHOW walks past.

PAGE

Your appointment to FEMA should be finalized within the week. I've already discussed the matter with the Senator.

SIMONS

I take it he was agreeable?

TWO SHOT - PAGE AND SIMONS

The globe hangs overhead; their faces are shrouded in shadows.

PAGE

He didn't really have a choice.

SIMONS

Has he been infected?

PAGE

Oh, yes, most certainly. When I mentioned that we could put him on the priority list for the Ambrosia vaccine, he was so willing it was almost pathetic.

SIMONS

This plague -- the rioting is intensifying to the point where we may not be able to contain it.

As Page speaks, PUSH IN on his eye -- right up to the point before it CLIPS.

PAGE

Why contain it? Let it spill over into the schools and churches, let the bodies pile up in the streets. In the end, they'll beg us to save them.

CUT TO:

INT. FREE CLINIC - NIGHT

The camera TRAVELS low to the floor like an animal prowling along the dingy linoleum. It PUSHES through the door and along the overcrowded clinic hallways, filled with the listless walking corpses of those afflicted with the Gray Death. Here and there a doctor can be seen in avid conversation with one of the poor souls, but it's quite apparent that they're overwhelmed -- it's simply a matter of numbers.

NOTE: Can the mouths of the doctor and patient be animated so that it appears they are in conversation even if we can't hear them? Is it possible to feed them a "dummy" voice file?

SIMONS (V.O.)

I've received reports of armed attacks on shipments. There's not enough vaccine to go around, and the underclasses are starting to get desperate.

PAGE (V.O.)

Of course they're desperate. They can smell their death, and the sound they'll make rattling their cage will serve as a warning to the rest.

The camera circles the hallways of the clinic and PUSHES back through the door and CONTINUES straight through the wall and into a --

EXT. PARIS ALLEY - NIGHT

A motley group of resistance fighters is being methodically slaughtered by a squad of MJ12 troops and bots.

SIMONS (V.O.)

Mmm. I hope you're not underestimating the problem. The others may not go as quietly as you think -- intelligence indicates they're behind the problems in Paris.

PAGE (V.O.)

A bunch of pretentious old men playing at running the world.

TILT DOWN to the fallen bodies of the resistance fighters, then TILT UP to the moon hanging lonely in a cloudy sky.

PAGE (V.O.)

(continuing)

But the world left them behind long ago. We are the future.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. STATUE OF LIBERTY - NIGHT - ANGLE ON - MOON

If possible, match the position of the moon from the previous scene. CRANE DOWN to the broken husk of the Statue of Liberty and then PAN the crowd standing on the plaza below before coming to rest on Manderly as he paces back and forth in front of his podium. NOTE: As before, can we make Manderly's mouth animate?

SIMONS (V.O.)

We have other problems.

PAGE (V.O.)

UNATCO?

As Simons speaks, PUSH IN on Manderly.

SIMONS (V.O.)

Formed by executive order after the terrorist strike on the Statue. I have someone in place, though. I'm more concerned about

Savage -- he's relocated to Vandenberg.

CUT TO:

INT. UNATCO MEDLAB - NIGHT - CLOSE ON - GREAZLE

pacing in its cage. PULL BACK to show a scientist nearby who paused to inspect the greazle and now continues on her patrol. Keep PULLING BACK to show the whole of the mysterious medlab.

PAGE(V.O.)

Our biochem corpus is far in advance of theirs, as is our electronic sentience. And their...ethical inflexibility has allowed us to make progress in areas they refuse to consider.

SIMONS(V.O.)

The augmentation project?

CUT TO:

INT. VERSALIFE - NIGHT - EXTREME CLOSEUP - PAGE'S EYE

PULL BACK from Page's eye until he and Simons appear in a TWO SHOT once again, a reverse of the earlier scene transition.

PAGE

Among other things -- but I must admit that I've been somewhat disappointed in the performance of the primary unit.

SIMONS

The secondary unit should be online soon. It's currently undergoing preparation and will be operational within six months. My people will continue to report on its progress. If necessary, the primary will be terminated.

CUT TO:

INT. AREA 51 LAB - NIGHT - GLASS TUBE

seen from behind. Inside can be glimpsed the dim outline of a naked human body, floating suspended and silent.

PAGE(V.O.)

We've had to endure much, you and I, but soon there will be order again, a new age. Aquinas spoke of the mythical City on the Hill. Soon that city will be a reality, and we will be crowned its kings.

SMASH CUT TO:

BLACKNESS

PAGE(V.O.)

(nearly whispering)
Or better than kings. Gods.

TEXT: SIX MONTHS LATER...

FADE OUT.