

NEWS ANCHOR
In town today for the conclusion of the Pentagon hacker trial, Director of Homeland Security Frank Willow made a statement in front of the Federal Courthouse.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. SMALL APARTMENT - SAME

An older TV (still with the curved TV tube) sits in the corner of small living room showing the SAME NEWS.

ON THE TV SCREEN

Homeland Security Chief Wilcox's statement outside the Federal Courthouse.

A crowd of reporters swarm around Wilcox who stops and turns to the cameras.

WILCOX
Today is an important day. I am confident that justice will be served and a clear message will ring loudly in cyberspace.

BACK TOFTHE LIVING ROOM

George limps into the living room, holding a white plastic space gun.

He quickly picks up the remote and turns off the TV. He waits a moment with his space gun ready. No one comes.

GEORGE

(loudly)
Hey, Space Cowboy, what do you want
for lunch?

No answer. Concern washes over George's face.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

David sits on the floor holding a similar white space gun with his back against the bed.

He's wheezing and short of breath.

DAVID

Sorry, daddy.

George enters and squats down next to David.

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GEORGE

No. You're a strong boy. You're just sick. I'm sorry, I should have had you resting more.

DAVID I thought I felt better.

GEORGE

You will. We'll go see the doctor.

David tries to smile for his daddy, hopeful.

DAVID

Okay, when I'm better I will the Alien King, okay?

George puts on an unconvincing smile.

GEORGE

My only son is an extraterrestrial.

David tries to smile but his labored wheezing interrupts the attempt so the boy just nods.

GEORGE

If you are the King then I will be your General.

With his head still hanging low David manages to glance up at his father.

DAVID

You mean my War Commander?

Yes. I will be the Commander and you will be the King and we'll win for sure.

DAVID

(weakly)

George rustles David's hair, then helps him to his feet.

DAVID

But we can't win, Daddy.

GEORGE

No?

DAVID

Course not. We're the bad guys.

George grins proudly, but then David starts to cough, hunching over as he does. George holds onto him, careful to give him room to breathe.



GEORGE

It's alright. You'll feel better. I promise. Rest now. Relax, Davey.



David nods as he recovers a little and stands up into his father's arms.

INT. COURTROOM LOBBY - DAY

JOSH MARTIN, 20s, handsome for a computer geek, is lead down the marble hallway by JIM STRICKLAND, 50s, a hard nosed, no nonsense KOMELAND SECURITY FIELD AGENT for the Cyber Terrorism Wnit.

STRICKLAND we early. I'll check you We' Stak put.

JOSH

I grab a candy ba Mind 🐹

STRICKLAND

ine there. Twenty seconds. That mack

Josh nods his head.

STRICKLAN I'll be watching.

heads to the candy machine. Josh rolls his eyes as he

Strickland steps up to a C

STRI

(to clerk) Agent Strickland, Homeland Security.

At the vending machine, Josh stares vacantly at the many choices. A SMALL BOY with messy hair appears next to him.

BOY

That one has chocolate and calamel hmallows too. and mar

JOSH

Yeah, you right. That's the bomb.

The boy smiles but stares longingly at the cardy

I know that look. You a little short on funds, huh?

The boy looks up at him, unsure, eventually nods.

JOSH

Okay. Alright.

