

Brian's Path, Episode 5

by Alan Holman

BRIAN'S PATH

Episode 5: "Alien Invasion"

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN  
1995.

INT. VISITING CHAMBERS, WOMAN'S PRISON

BRIAN visits CHERYL in prison.

BRIAN  
You're bad news, woman.

CHERYL  
And you're my first visitor. Isn't the girl who  
ponders under the bridge jealous?

BRIAN  
She's not my girl-friend. The Illuminati want to  
lower the earth's population to 500,000,000.

Pause.

BRIAN  
They are genocidal maniacs. Thirteen families  
are in charge.

CHERYL  
I know. I can list the thirteen surnames.

BRIAN  
The thirteen bloodlines.

CHERYL  
But not everyone with those surnames are evil.

BRIAN  
Just the tycoons.

Pause.

CHERYL  
My instincts tell me to fear Y2K, but my mind

tells me otherwise; it says we're alien robots who don't have to worry about it.

BRIAN  
I'm worried.

CHERYL  
Yeah, it must be tough.

BRIAN  
Infinite love is the only truth.

CHERYL  
Are you in love with me?

BRIAN  
I love everyone.

CHERYL  
Do you got any gum?

BRIAN  
Our creators were advanced humans, so they might have made mistakes in our programming ... but if God exists, did he program anything?

CHERYL  
Do you got any gum?

BRIAN  
No, sorry.

Pause.

CHERYL  
I don't like prison.

BRIAN  
Religions suck. TV sucks. I've got five times more words to play with than Shakespeare did, I can't help but write better than him, but people would rather stick with the classics than try something new.

CHERYL  
Next time, bring gum.

BRIAN  
Okay. I'll bring gum. People only care about

writers the Trilateral Commission wants them to care about. Good writers who aren't in the Masons and the Illuminati -- or good writers who don't have connections with those architects of the media, get gyped.

Pause.

CHERYL

This cell block is underground; it's quite cool, actually.

BRIAN

Last year, a scientist on TV said this cell-block, CELL BLOCK-G, is the only part of SHADY BROOK where we'd be safe from a nuclear explosion.

CHERYL

This is CELL BLOCK-G.

BRIAN

Congratulations: you're the winner of Y2K insurance. But this is a woman's prison, and I'm just a visitor. If I had a sex change operation, would the law still view me as a man?

CHERYL

My insurance is a prison sentence. Messed up or what?

BRIAN

I assume your sentence is Boris' plot to keep at least one of his robots safe: You.

CHERYL

No. You're wrong, because that'd mean Boris knew you'd write the TV-plays that made Monkey and I plot your murder.

BRIAN

Yeah, and plus, Boris would've depended on Cap to put two and two together and inform Trent, and the only people who are that manipulative aren't people.

CHERYL

Boris can't possibly be that manipulative.

BRIAN  
No human could be that manipulative.

CHERYL  
Lucious Piso and Arrius Piso.

Pause.

BRIAN  
Love those who stand with you, but especially  
those who stand against you.

Pause.

CHERYL  
My dream journal mentions you a lot.

BRIAN  
Maybe we weren't made by the same  
creators. Or maybe we were, but maybe we  
were made for each-other.

CHERYL  
Dualities. Complexities.

BRIAN  
Yeah. My instincts are telling me to love you,  
but my calculations are telling me to kill you.

CHERYL  
WHAT!?!

Pause.

BRIAN  
I'm confused. Like I said earlier: you're bad  
news. I'm going home.

CHERYL  
Where's home?

BRIAN  
Darla ... or Cara. Can't decide. If we WERE  
made for each-other, I'm willing to challenge  
fate.

CHERYL  
You make yourself.

BRIAN exits.

CHERYL starts to cry.

EXT. HAWAIIAN BEACH

ANTON and DARLA sit on the beach, drinking coffee, and watching the sun set.

BRIAN enters the scene, and sits next to them.

DARLA  
Trent died.

BRIAN  
How?

DARLA  
Ball lightning.

BRIAN  
It happens. I'm pre-occupied with the place I just went, but does anyone care?

ANTON  
Sure, bud. While you were gone, myself, and Cap, and Gabe -- can't forget rich brat Gabe -- got to thinking about things.

BRIAN  
Thinking is good.

DARLA  
They think that you're a computer disk!

ANTON  
Bitch! You ruined the surprise!

BRIAN  
Don't call Darla a bitch. She doesn't deserve it ... yet.

DARLA  
What's that supposed to mean?

BRIAN  
Darla. You know exactly what it means. You're hiding a secret from us, which when we find out, we're going to laugh at you, rather than congratulate you for getting over that part of your life.

DARLA  
(nervous)  
You know?

BRIAN  
No, but start to develop a thick skin now, so you won't kill yourself when we find out. Now's when you thank me for giving you the advice which'll end up saving your life one day.

DARLA  
Thank you.

DARLA kisses BRIAN on the cheek.

BRIAN blushes.

ANTON  
Weird.

BRIAN  
What's weirder is that I'm supposed to store a whole bunch of data about human idiosyncrasies into my brain. And can you guess why?

ANTON  
Whoever has access to the information which is hidden in your neural net can manipulate world events on all levels of government.

BRIAN  
I wish I had access to me.

Pause.

ANTON  
Plus, Cheryl must be destroyed.

BRIAN  
I know, and it pisses me off.

ANTON  
Yeah?

BRIAN  
She's gonna be a black jet, and I'm gonna be a white Jet, and we're gonna have a huge fight in space.

ANTON  
Cool! I mean...How do you know that?

BRIAN  
It's so obvious that it hurts.

INT. MONKEYBOY'S PRISON CELL

MONKEYBOY plays a video game called FINAL FANTASY 3.

MONKEYBOY  
I wish...

The electricity goes out on the TV set.

MONKEYBOY  
Hey! What gives?

ALEX enters, along with three other agents.

ALEX  
Boris Karlott is a very clingy bastard who must be dealt with in a way that doesn't make him think I can potentially be his friend.

MONKEYBOY  
Precisely. Because if he thinks you can become his friend, he'll point out any rude or impolite thing you do, in that whiny way of his, thereby using guilt as a currency to get you to do his bidding.

The agents point their guns at MONKEYBOY.

MONKEYBOY looks frightened.

MONKEYBOY  
Is this legal?

ALEX  
We're the FBI, and one of these agents is from the CIA. And we're both members of a government controlling cult. We ARE the law. On your knees, boy!

MONKEYBOY falls to his knees.

ALEX  
Put those hands up, boy.

MONKEYBOY raises his hands.

ALEX handcuffs MONKEYBOY.

MONKEYBOY

Cool. This is so cool. It's like I'm being arrested all over again. This is awesome and hardcore!

MONKEYBOY laughs hysterically, which makes the agents look uncomfortable.

MONKEYBOY

You've got nothing to fear, guys; we're all gonna die come Y2K anyway!

ALEX

Our intelligence guys say that Y2K is a computer glitch. They say I can't find the person who created it, but I say I always get my man, so tell me: Who created it?

MONKEYBOY

Secret alien invaders with roots that go back to Babylon!

ALEX punches MONKEYBOY across the face.

ALEX

There is no such thing.

MONKEYBOY

I wish I could share your optimism.

ALEX

Where's Boris Karlott?

MONKEYBOY

No.

ALEX gives the agents a signal, and they all exit, leaving MONKEYBOY alone, in the cell.

MONKEYBOY

I'll talk later. Besides, remember when you said you were gonna free me, and you didn't? It is I who is freeing you, jerks.

INT. POLYGRAPH ROOM

MONKEYBOY is hooked to a lie-detector. An EXPERT monitors the machine's output, and ALEX questions MONKEYBOY.

A video camera records the session.

ALEX  
What is your name?

MONKEYBOY  
My name is Thomas Monkeyboy Curtis, but I prefer to be called Monkeyboy.

EXPERT  
Truth.

ALEX  
Have you ever met Boris Karlott?

MONKEYBOY  
Yes.

EXPERT  
Truth.

ALEX  
What's that large device in the apartment next-door to your own?

MONKEYBOY  
Brian's family.

EXPERT  
Truth.

ALEX  
The device has been emitting radio waves, on the short-wave spectrum. What will happen if we cut off its coded transmission?

MONKEYBOY  
It might trigger nuclear devices.

EXPERT  
Truth.

ALEX  
Might?

MONKEYBOY

I'm not sure.

EXPERT  
He's telling the truth.

ALEX  
What did you mean when you called that  
device Brian's family?

MONKEYBOY  
Brian's not a nuclear device, if that's what  
you're getting at.

EXPERT  
He's telling the truth.

ALEX  
Do you know the nuclear launch codes?

MONKEYBOY  
Yes, I do. But if I don't surrender them to  
Boris right after Y2K, a very bad thing will  
happen.

EXPERT  
Truth.

ALEX  
Why do you know the launch codes?

MONKEYBOY  
Because Boris does not want to know the  
launch codes.

EXPERT  
Truth.

ALEX  
This is interesting. Why would Boris trust  
YOU with such fragile information?

MONKEYBOY  
Because he can kill me. If I so much as  
threaten any harm against him, he'll use his  
remote control to trigger the microchips in me,  
and very bad things will happen to me.

EXPERT  
He believes that to be the truth.

MONKEYBOY

At every moment, my beliefs change. That's what it is to grow.

ALEX

If you're dead, the launch-codes go with you, so how'd he be able to use the nuclear weapons?

MONKEYBOY

I don't know. But if you kill me, the nano-bots in my head might trigger the launch-codes to be transmitted somewhere else, or the nano-bots might broadcast something ... I have no clue what might happen, because there's way too many variables involved.

EXPERT

Truth.

ALEX

Alright. Good enough for now. A guard will escort you back to your cell, and we'll talk again later.

ALEX punches MONKEYBOY across the face.

MONKEYBOY

OUCH! Why'd you do that?

ALEX

My fist got itchy; and that's the truth, bitch. Believe it!

CUT TO:

EXT. HAWAIIAN BEACH - MORNING

BRIAN, ANTON, GABE, DARLA, and CAP, sit on the beach, drinking coffee.

BRIAN

Anyway, it turns out Monkeyboy's friend was Boris, but I'll bet you all knew that and were planning to surprise me, right?

Many UFOs appear in the sky.

CAP

Look: A distraction!

GABE

They weren't supposed to come until after  
Y2K!

BRIAN

Gabe, old pal! So you knew all along!

GABE

Do you hate me?

BRIAN

Naw, we're cool.

DARLA

What should we do, Brian?

ANTON gets his electric guitar, and plays it towards the  
UFOs.

ANTON

(singing)

"If you come in peace, do so. / And if  
you don't come in peace, please go  
peacefully."

COMMERCIAL BREAK

CAP wheels away, quickly.

BRIAN

I can't turn into the jet... hmm ... I feel better  
than ... INCOMING TRANSMISSION FROM  
BORIS KARLOTT.

BRIAN's voice gets a russian accent.

BRIAN

You must hide Brian from the aliens.  
TRANSMISSION OVER.

BRIAN shakes, and loses his russian accent.

BRIAN

What happened?

GABE

Whatever.

DARLA

Brian! Let's go!

The alien ships disappear.

CAP returns.

CAP

What just happened? First, there were alien ships in the sky, and now they're gone. What the hell?

BRIAN

Where did the aliens go?

DARLA

Earlier, Monkeyboy told me that there would be a test of the Project Blue Beam hologram projectors here today, and I didn't believe him.

BRIAN

So there were no aliens, just holograms?

DARLA

Yup.

INT. PRISON

MONKEYBOY watches television with other inmates.

The voice of the reporter JARED is dubbed above a looping video-tape of alien ships flying over Hawaii, then the ships vanish mysteriously.

JARED'S VOICE

These UFOs were caught on tape by tourists.

MONKEYBOY

Hmm ... maybe the Greys were supposed to give Brian to the Reptilians, but Boris stole Brian when no one was looking.

BIG GUY

What?

MONKEYBOY

FunFun.

INT. STARBUCKS COFFEE SHOP - DAY

BRIAN, GABE, DARLA, ANTON, and CAP, sit around a table,

drinking coffee.

ANTON  
So little time, so many memories.

DARLA  
Growing up is crazy.

BRIAN looks at something off-screen, then he looks astonished.

BRIAN  
I caught a fleeting glimpse.

DARLA  
Of what?

BRIAN  
I think I'm a real boy now.

BRIAN's friends applaud, as a tear rolls down BRIAN's face.

EXT. LIBERTY ISLAND, NEW YORK CITY - DAY

CHERYL takes pictures of the World Trade Center, then she drops her camera.

CHERYL  
What's happening to me?

CHERYL transforms into a giant, black Jet, with impressive wing-span, and two exhaust pipes.

CHERYL'S THOUGHTS  
My past is coming back to haunt me.

A ball of electricity is emitted from one of her exhaust pipes.

CHERYL'S THOUGHTS  
Oops!

A second ball of energy comes from the other exhaust pipe; it joins with the first ball of energy, forming one huge ball of energy, which flies into the Statue of Liberty, snaps, instantly turning the Statue of Liberty into a pile of ash.

CHERYL'S THOUGHTS  
Take that, Queen Simirimus!

CHERYL flies away.

INT. SHADY BROOK FUNERAL CHAPEL - DAY

It's TRENT's funeral. A lot of people -- including many police officers -- are in attendance.

An urn of ashes is inside an open casket, beside a picture of TRENT's face.

PRIEST

An act of God which killed Trent, and now he's with God.

The PRIEST continues as BRIAN, CARA, ANTON, and GABE, whisper to each-other in the back of the church.

CARA

Brian. Thank you for letting me read your story.

BRIAN

You're welcome, Cara.

CARA

In fact, a Space Ark would be a perfect place for me.

BRIAN

What? Why?

CARA

Brian. Look at my face.

BRIAN

Okay.

CARA

What do you see?

BRIAN

Beauty.

CARA

You see freckles. On a Space Ark, my face wouldn't need to make the pigment for freckles, at least I don't think it would.

BRIAN

Your freckles are beautiful.

CARA  
Why?

BRIAN  
Because they're a part of you.

They kiss.

INT. MONKEYBOY'S JAIL CELL

A GUARD approaches.

GUARD  
You have a visitor.

MONKEYBOY  
Who?

The GUARD unlocks the door, and DARLA enters the cell. The GUARD locks the door, and leaves.

DARLA  
Hello, Monkey!

DARLA and MONKEYBOY hug.

MONKEYBOY wipes a tear from his face.

MONKEYBOY  
You're my first visitor since I've been in here!

DARLA  
So what's the deal with Boris, huh?

MONKEYBOY  
Let's ...please... not talk about this, alright?

DARLA strikes a seductive pose, and smiles at MONKEYBOY.

MONKEYBOY  
Don't do this...

DARLA  
You don't like girls?

MONKEYBOY  
I don't like young women who accuse me  
of being unempathetic towards women

because I honestly call some  
women - such as you -- skanks.

DARLA punches MONKEYBOY across the face.

DARLA  
I'm sorry.

MONKEYBOY  
I'm to blame.

DARLA  
No.

They hug.

MONKEYBOY  
No one knows what they're doing, or why.

DARLA  
This corny Tire dealy gave the Greys a new  
home; they don't care about taking over the  
earth anymore.

MONKEYBOY  
How many more episodes of this crap must  
we be characters within?

DARLA  
It's not so bad. Besides -- the longer it lasts,  
the more time we've got. So come, return to  
the gang.

MONKEYBOY  
They hate me.

DARLA  
You've been nothing but polite to all of us,  
Monkeyboy. No one hates you. Anton told all  
of us how you turned his life around. And  
Brian and Gabe and everyone; they all realized  
you were doing what you thought you had to  
do. You're a great guy. Let's get you out of  
this joint.

MONKEYBOY  
But I kept it from Brian, that he was a robot all  
along. He probably hopes I never get out of  
prison.

DARLA

You weren't trapped into doing what you did.

MONKEYBOY nods.

DARLA

You can always control your fate.

MONKEYBOY nods.

DARLA

Brian will understand that you're a good guy, if you explain your situation like that.

MONKEYBOY laughs hysterically, and DARLA laughs as well.

MONKEYBOY

GUARD!

DARLA

What are you doing?

MONKEYBOY

Leaving.

DARLA

Huh?

The GUARD approaches.

GUARD

What do you want?

MONKEYBOY

Boris Karlott can be found in a basement apartment below a prominent coffee-shop in downtown Moscow. He's a teenage computer nerd who runs an internet auction site, and he accidentally hacked into a dead guy's database, where he found sixty thousand years of journal entries from teenage kids in love-triangles on a Space Ark. He's pissed off that America won the cold war. His real name is Deven Blanski, and...I know where the nuclear bombs are hidden. I'm ready to talk.

INT. MONKEYBOY'S APARTMENT

MONKEYBOY, DARLA, GABE, CAP, ANTON, and BRIAN, are eating pizza, drinking Jolt-Cola, and having a party.

MONKEYBOY has new, normal-sized ears.

DARLA

The best parties consist of pizza, pop, and friends.

BRIAN

I'll drink to that!

BRIAN drinks some of his Jolt-Cola.

MONKEYBOY

It's great to be back. I'm sorry, Brian.

BRIAN

Hey, don't mention it. Thanks for taking me into your apartment, and ... And let's never speak about any of the confusing stuff that happened to us recently. Let's just be young, have fun, and eat pizza; that's all that matters.

ALL

I'll drink to that!

They all drink jolt, and eat pizza.

GABE

My hands sweat too much.

They all laugh.

GABE

Hey guys: What about Y2K?

BRIAN

I say we listen to Alex Jones, and tape Bill Cooper for later listening.

DARLA

I'll drink to that!

MONKEYBOY laughs a bit, and pats BRIAN's back.

MONKEYBOY

Congratulations on becoming a human, Brian.

BRIAN

I used my first band-aid ...What happened to Cheryl?

MONKEYBOY

After they found out that you're alive, the police corrected their nonsense paper-work, and they released her.

BRIAN

Where is she?

MONKEYBOY

Cheryl was through with this crazy town, so she moved to New York City.

BRIAN

That's very good for her. Is she still a robot?

MONKEYBOY

I don't know. If she was, I never found out what her purpose was supposed to be, but she probably isn't.

BRIAN

No matter how hard we try not to, we keep on talking about this crap.

ANTON

It's not crap; it's our lives, Brian.

BRIAN

It'd be normal and ordinary if everyone were truly open all the way about all their thoughts.

INT. CAFETERIA, SHADY BROOK HIGH SCHOOL

THE COMPUTER ROOM GANG, except for Anton, sits around a table in the cafeteria.

DARLA

MUDs and Descent brought us all together, and now that the gaming is gone, all we ever do is talk about stupid anime cartoons. This is stupid...you're all stupid, except for Anton.

BRIAN

Lucky Anton and his lucky passing of a lucky test for a lucky class at the lucky University.

EXT. BEACH-SIDE ICE-CREAM STORE - MORNING

DARLA and ANTON sit together, eating ice-cream.

DARLA  
Has anyone ever told you that you're beautiful,  
Anton?

ANTON  
I don't think so.

DARLA  
Well, you are. You're nice and thin and pasty.

INT. ANTON'S DORM, UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - MORNING

ANTON and DARLA wake up beside each-other.

DARLA  
Sing me a song, with your beautiful voice.

ANTON  
Okay...

Anton sings: "You're my little anxious song-bird, My  
charismatic..."

ANTON'S VOICE CHANGES TO A CRACKLING, NERDY  
NOISE...

"...lioness, work of art..."

DARLA  
Yuck! What's happening?!

ANTON  
I must be entering puberty.

DARLA  
But we just...oh my god.

ANTON  
You made me into a man, Darla.

INT. A GARAGE.

The band THE SEX WHISTLES are talking to Anton.

BAND LEADER  
Sorry, Anton. The guys and I feel that your  
voice is good but we want to do adult  
activities which are inappropriate around  
you.

TO BE CONTINUED ...