

# Perception

## 6

Vol-2

**“The Gate”**

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He heard Carly calling him, asking why he didn't come for them, he dreamed of finding his daughter and wife alive, kissing them. Jake told her "he was coming", drifting over to his wife, she didn't seem to see him, and he could feel she was frail, sick, desperately; he tried to wake her, to show Her he was there, but she never responded.

Carly cried "Daddy Hurry" Momma sick...

He awoke with a start, aching all over; his head felt like it had been in a blender. Moaning as he was feeling the back of his head he felt a lump and it was tender to the touch and bloody...

Jake felt desperate now. He was sure Carly was still alive.

Fuck what happened, Jake thought, without moving much he opened his Eyes and all he saw was darkness, but of course he was blind what else would he see.

Jake could smell the humid earth below him, reaching out he felt the walls and realized it was stone.

He was in some kind of cave, feeling around more Jake found a door, it felt like metal with rivets, he found a small sliding door about head high, following the door to the rock wall he followed it top to bottom, side to side and couldn't find any gaps, Fuck!

Lying back trying to relax, to think, he knew full well his only escape would come when they opened the door. So he tried to come up with a plan.

Closing his eye's he let his mind drift, trying to find Carly again but all he could barely hear was a little girl crying.

What he heard next was the same song Sue was humming in the shower the day they were killed... "I Will Always Love You" They had  
Gone to a Whitney Houston Concert and Sue fell in love with that song...

It was tearing his heart out, gasping he choked back a scream  
Jake tried to locate her but something/someone was blocking him  
Again, Jake scream "you bloody bastard" I'll kill you and then he  
Sensed someone laughing...taunting him trying to invade his mind  
And Jake forced himself back, jumping up he beat on the door  
Screaming at the door, at his blindness and his unknown captors.  
Falling to his knees, he fell over onto his back sobbing until he

Heard noises on the other side of the door, a light switch, a lock  
Being thrown back, oh my god he saw a dim light. His sight was Blurry but  
he saw something...  
The door was thrown wide open and in walked.....

In the control room Niki looked at Gil and said are you happy now? We  
Wanted him to come in on his own but you've forced us to move up the  
Schedule.

Niki we are under a time constraint and it's taken long enough to get him  
this far.

And that screw up with the cars, Gil, I still can't believe it.

Niki how was I supposed to know they would change cars? And we've  
already hashed this out.

Your right but bringing them here wasn't the best idea.

Niki we can use this to our advantage plus we didn't have a choice in the

matter.

I know, but I think it's time to try and get him to help us on his own and not using his family as bait...

I couldn't agree more Niki.

Niki thought back to when she and Jake were on the plane. She never intended for it to go that far, she only wanted to bait him, but then they made love, now everything was different, she was getting too close, she needed to keep her mind on the mission and not on Jake.

Looking around she shivered from the dampness of being underground, finally she turned from the monitors and Gil, She moved out onto the catwalk that was suspended above a large cavern about as large as the Dallas Dome, the view was breath taking but with her vertigo she kept a hand on the rail as she watched the work being done below.

Gil came up behind her; it's a beautiful sight isn't it...

Yea it's like a mini-city with all the lights.

How is the progress?

Well if we could keep on schedule we are about 3 days away from it, but with the weird accidents that have been escalating for the last week I'm not sure.

Niki shook her head, I couldn't agree more.

OK let's go see Jake and try to appeal to his heroic side...

Gil laughed and said. You'll be lucky he doesn't take your head off for keeping him from his family...

Niki thought to herself and what they did together..

Squinting at the light that flooded his cell, he held up his hand to help block some of the light that now filled his blurry vision. The first

thing he saw was two shapes moving towards him, jumping to his feet he  
Readied himself for attack. But then he heard Niki...

Jake calm down, it's Niki

What the hell Niki did you escape?

Not exactly Jake

What do you mean?

Well Jake let me start from the first OK

Yea that would be smart before I start kicking ass

Jake we need you and your special abilities to help us...

And because of your retirement and your refusal to come back for one last  
mission Remember you were offered a special assignment, to finally get use  
your abilities in the field?

Yea I remember Niki but I couldn't, I had promised Sue that I was done;  
I had to do it Niki I wanted my marriage to work. I needed it too...

Jake I know,

Jake we needed you so we did something drastic and we screwed it up and  
then everything escalated into a big fucking mess...

What do you mean Niki?

Jake...You were supposed to be in the car

What car Niki?

Jakes mind was moving a mile a minute he started to form a thought...he  
was trying to keep his temper in check to not let on that he knew what she  
was going to say..What they did!

Jake your car...

What you wanted to kill me but instead fucked it up and killed my family?  
You fucking bitch you knew all along and never told me?

Jake lunged at her but his vision was still blurry. He missed his mark but

nagging her by one arm he flipped her around and grabbed her around the neck and started choking her, he kicked her in the back of her knees and dropped her to the ground.

She fought him but Jake felt her losing her strength. The next thing he remembered was looking up at the light on the ceiling. What the hell, he ached all over again.

Rolling over he heard Niki saying something.

Finally he could understand her.

Jake quit this bullshit... We didn't want to kill you, we wanted to talk you in to helping us but it got all screwed up...

How could you do this to me...My family goddammit Niki... fucking it up isn't even close to what you did...

I know Jake, Now listen to me, your family is alive

Jake, tried to clear his head as he stumbled to his feet...WHAT!

Jake, Sue and Carly are alive and they are here.

Where I have to see them NOW

Follow me Jake...

Niki lead Jake down a hallway that looked totally different then his cell, it was new, bright and white, and

it almost looked like a hall in a hospital nothing like his cell which was a hole in the wall...

Following Niki Jake couldn't understand the logic that these assholes were using. Making him believe his family was dead, blinding him with their stupid kidnapping shit, He was getting more pissed by the minute.

But then Niki stopped at a door and turned to Jake

Jake, Sue has been sick but we flew in a specialist and she is recovering... It seems that Sue was allergic to the chemical we used on the steering wheel. And she had a bad reaction but she is a lot better now. Fuck you Niki and your idiots, just open the door... Niki knocked and opened the door

Ben Johnson had been on digs before, but he never guessed that he would be over Ten stories underground looking for something that they bosses called "The Gate" Fuck whatever that was and he couldn't get any straight answer to what it was..Hell they probably didn't know either... Maybe it was King Solomon's treasure he laughed.

It was bad enough that they all had to sign confidentiality contracts and be isolated on this island.

Sure they had everything they needed, and first rate at that but, that didn't help, when you wanted to drown out the world around you with your friends and just let loose with some willing strippers, at least they didn't outlaw after sifting drinking Ben thought as he lowered the next team down "The Hole" as everyone called it..

This would be even more tolerable if the strange shit wasn't happening, hell just yesterday Tim his relief operator had some kind of mental break down. He started babbling about voices and something following him, but the hell of it was Tim was the quietest guy he knew and he seemed to have his shit together, but then those are the ones you need to watch. From the corner of Ben's vision he saw something move on the opposite side of the hole, He quickly looked in that direction and his

jaw dropped "What the Hell" is that he thought but as fast as he saw it he slid  
thered down the hole.

Quickly he stopped the Pod that was descending and radioed the team

Jack this is Ben come in

Yea Ben why the hell is up?

I just saw something go in the hole

What was it Ben?

I'm not sure but it was big and crawling

Fuck up Ben you asshole quit fucking around

I'm not Jack do you see it on your tracker?

Wait

Ok we got something heading for us fast...

You sure it's not a boulder or something?

Goddammit Jack does a Boulder crawl?

Ben have you been drinking?

Fuck you Jack

I'm calling this in Jack

Gil this is Ben do you hear me come in

This is Gil what's up Ben?

We've got an unknown boggy going down the hole after the pod

What the hell are you talking about Ben speak English...

Sir I saw something crawl down the hole and it was big...

I rock?

No sir unless a rock has legs...

What the hell are you talking about Ben? Never mind I'm on my way!

Ben this is Jack. We'll have impact in 2 minutes.



This thing looks big... I'm trying to get a visual from our camera but I don't see anything yet...

Jack I don't like this I know the pod to withstand just about anything but titanium isn't infallible.

90 sec. to impact... God dammit Ben do you have anymore info for us...

No but has seemed have speeded up

Ben calmly said, Jack it's now at 45 meters a sec

Holy shit Ben that's a 100 mph how long?

5 sec Jack Brace for impact!

Ben I see it...

Ben heard Jack yelling at his crew of four to brace for impact

4 Ben now heard screaming in the back ground

3 Ben give us an update...

2 It's to late Jack

1 Pray....

Ben just stood there; he couldn't think he was frozen in that spot

Ben we are still here...where did it go?

Jack are you OK? I don't see it, it off the radar

What the hell is going on Ben?

I don't know Jack, I don't know

Gil came running up,

Ben I've been monitoring the radio, what the hell happened?

It just vanished Sir...

Vanished?

Yes sir one minute it was there and right before impact it vanished...

Ben do you have it on camera?

Yes Sir...

Ok bring those men back up I want to talk to them

Yes Sir

Send them to the conference room when they get here.

Yes Sir

And send that video to the conference room also

Yes Sir

Goddammit Ben shake the shit outta your head and bring the boys  
back up

Sir?

What is it Ben?

What the hell is going on?

I don't know Ben but we are working on finding out and keep this  
under your hat I don't want to panic everyone... That reminds me...Ben call  
in your relief operator and you come along to the crew...

Yes Sir.

Slowly Ben brought up the Pod.

Just as it crested the hole Ben let out a gasp!

Running from top to bottom were small scratches like a cats play toy...A

Holing shit Ben thought

Gil this is Ben come in over,

Yes Ben, Sir you need to get back down here and see this

Ben I don't have time for more false readings

Sir dammit you need to see the POD!

Is it damaged?

YES!

Are the Men OK

Yes Sir!

Ok sorry, I'm on my way Ben

As Gil walked up he stopped in his tracks, looking at the POD

What the hell did that he said more to himself than anyone.

The men were extracting themselves from the POD as Gil walked up; they turned to look at what Gil was staring at

What the Hell did that, In fact what could do that to titanium? Jack said out loud

Gil shook his head and said...I have no idea but I want a full report with the video feed in the conference room right now!

Get yourselves a drink you deserve it! And head to the conference room I'll see you all in 15

Yes Sir!

Jake stood in his spot for minute taking in the scene that was in front of him. He could barely make out a bed and a child standing next to it...

The room was dimly lighted it looked like their bedroom at home.

Sue, Carly, Daddy! And Carly rushed him, Jake swepted her up, hugging her, both of them were crying.

Jake! He turned his attention to the bed; he carried Carly to the bed, hugging them both.

Sue are you OK?

I'm better Jake, they tell me I can go home soon

What? Jake I got really sick and these people have been my savior.

Sue it's their fault you were sick

I know Jake but they explained what happened

Haven't they told you?

Not really Sue

Well it was that new Boss of yours

Sue save your energy, I'll get the totally story from Gil and Niki later  
but right now I want to just hold you two..

I love you Jake

I love you too

Daddy I love you

You're my angel and I love you too

Jake,

Yes Sue, they need your help

I know Sue but I'm not happy with all of this crap they put us through

I know but, something is happening here

What do you mean?

I've heard rumors plus I've seen a dozen or people change over night  
and it's getting worse.

What do you mean change?

Well it's them alright but something is different about them, I can't  
put my finger on it...

OK, hush for now Sue, save your energy.

I'll ask Niki about it.

Niki approached, Jake we need you to be in this meeting that's going  
to happen in a few minutes...

Something has happened to the POD and we would like you to be  
present for the debriefing.

Jake go, Carly and I will be fine, they need you

Are you sure?

Yes they've taken good care of us.

But Jake I'm worried about what they are doing here and why they felt the need to try and kidnap you in the first place

I know, but I think I'm going to find out soon enough

Jake, hugged and kissed both of them, telling them he'll be back soon.

Niki had stayed in the room after asking Jake to be in the meeting, and watching Jake with his family made her a little sad, knowing that life would never be hers.

Jake was a good man, and she would make everything right with him after this; It's the least she could do.

On the way down in the elevator Jake turned to Niki

Niki, Sue tells me something is going on here

Looking up at the camera mounted in the corner of the elevator, Niki grabbed Jake's hand and squeezed it twice as she said, and

oh everything is fine we are just having some problems with people not used to being used to being secluded for so long.

Jake nodded his head like he understood, but he understood the squeezing more.

Maybe we can have a drink later

That sounds good Jake,

Jake and Niki entered the conference room just as Gil was starting the meeting.

OK Ben tell us what you saw.

Well I was lowering the POD into the hole and out of the corner of my eye I saw something move, it was hard to make out because it was the same color as the rocks around it.

Ben looked around the room, I'm not crazy!

Go on Ben

Well it was like it just appeared but maybe it was there before but when it moved I saw it.

What do you mean? Gil asked

Well since it blended color wise so well the only time you could see it was when it moved.

Gil glanced over at Niki and Jake

OK go on Ben

Ben was nervously, talking faster and faster, Sir after that all I saw was it go down the hole after the POD, like a cat after a toy and Sir, it was big!

OK Ben, take a break and calm down

Yes Sir

Jack tell us what you saw and heard...

Well Ben stopped the POD and informed us that something went down the hole.

At first I thought maybe a rock came dislodged or something but Ben told us it had legs...

"Legs?"

Yes sir, I thought he was clowning around but he insisted, so we brought up the outside cameras and at first we couldn't see anything

Jack I just want to clarify something

Ok Sir

Does Ben pull jokes on you often?

Well Sir, yea he does

And you felt this could be a joke?

Well if someone told you something big with legs was after you, how would you feel?

Dammit Sir this is bullshit I saw something and we have film to prove it...

Calm down Ben I have to check out every bit of this story and yes the video will tell all

Well Sir as I was saying, I wasn't sure it was real and I expressed this to Ben, But it didn't take long before I became a believer.

Why is that Jack

Because we picked it up on our radar also... and it was moving fast!

How fast?

Forty Five meters a second Sir

hundred miles per hour?

Yes Sir

Gil whistled, what animal can move that fast?

None that I know of... Niki offered

How about we stop this now and watch the video it might give us more information

Good idea Jake

Gil turning to a laptop, he brought up the video feed and they all sat and watched everything, they heard Ben's alarm to Jack, their back and forth communications

And then he hit another key, bringing up the radar images

They all watched as the object descended down the hole and it accelerate faster and faster...

Then nothing!

Jack what did you feel on impact?

Well something jarred us hard and then we heard a noise like finger nails on a chalk board

Interesting anything else?

That's it Sir

I'm going to bring up the security cameras we have in the Dome.

As Gil panned through the cameras he found the one he wanted.

Ok Ben does this look like the area where you saw the object?

Yes Sir it was on the right side of the screen there.

Gil, then found the correct time recording, bringing it back 60 seconds before Ben saw it

OK let's see if we see anything...

He hit the start button and they all strained to see something.

Suddenly they saw it...

Gasp around the room as they saw something that was a cross

Between a lizard and spider move... it wasn't there and then it was

Holy Shit Jake said out loud

What the Hell is that

I'm not sure Jake,

But I'm putting us on high Alert and issuing weapons to everyone

Niki get extra security to the hole

Hopefully we won't see it again and we can finish here and get the hell out...

Niki once you get the security down there let's do a sweep of the area.

OK I'm issuing a standing order; none of this is to leave this room.



If anyone ask just tell them we had a problem with a rock slide  
Everyone nodded their heads in agreement  
You men take the rest of the day off and we will resume in the  
morning after we've done a sweep of the area and set up a security fence around the hole.  
Jake and Niki come with me.

Jake followed Gil down the hall to where they entered an elevator, He noticed Gil push the Sub-15th floor.  
How long have you been working on whatever you're working on?  
We've only been here 2 years  
You've done an amazing redecorating job  
Haha well we can't take all the credit most of what you see was formed when this Volcano went silent, air pockets  
These are sure big air pockets  
Well at one time this was the largest active Volcano in the world but that was hundreds of thousands of years ago...  
So it's dormant now?  
Gil hesitated for moment then said "Of course"  
And the slight shaking I've felt doesn't bother you?  
What do you mean?  
You better rethink your attitude about this being a dormant volcano  
Gil looked at Jake, I'll look into it  
Jake felt the elevator come to a stop and Gil lead the way through several Bank vault type doors until he came to one marks "Observation Room"

Why all the vault doors?

To keep out prying eyes and give us extra security just in case

Just in case of what?

You know just backup security

Jake felt something in the pit of his stomach

Why

Well as you probably guessed this is a highly secret operation...everyone here has been screened better than the CIA screens candidates and they have signed contracts...

Plus no one is allowed off the island except for emergencies.

We need to keep this hush until we've accomplished why we are here...

Jake wasn't so sure this was the real reason but he let it go for now.

They enter into a room that was brightly lit with overhead fluorescences and banks of computers off to one side, several technicians were watching their monitors, looking around he saw two military guards. They were watching a large viewing port, like what you see at Sea World that was on one wall, Jake could tell that the glass or whatever the material was it was thick...

Beside the large viewing port was a steel door.

Looking back at the viewing port, he noticed

HiPower metal halide fixtures pointed to a spot on the opposite side of the hole

What is it you need to accomplish?

That, Gil pointed at an object that was lit up on the opposite side of the hole

Jake moved up closer to the glass and peered at the object, noticing how smooth the sides of the hole were it looked almost like glass or ice but he knew that it wasn't cold here.

Jake noticed strong ozone type smell in the air, like after a lightening storm

...

Any idea how this hole was formed?

We aren't sure but it's not natural

What do you mean?

I mean this wasn't made by nature; whoever put the door/gate there probably bored the hole too.

Jake took a closer look

That looks like some kind of door

Yes it is, we are calling it "The Gate"

And what is that writing on it?

Some kind of hi-bred hieroglyphs

Have you been able to translate any of it?

We have the best translators working on it night and day

Any luck?

We think part of it is a Warning

"A warning"

Something about a "Gate to Hell"

You're serious?

That's why your here Jake

Why?

Niki spoke up; Jake we need you to try to get a reading on whats behind it.

You know it's probably just something the natives just threw down the

volcano to appease the God's and it got impaled on the wall

Funny Jake

Hey wouldn't you think that an active volcano would look like Hell to the local natives thousands of years ago?

Of course it would

So

Well Jake here is the interesting part...

We are getting weird readings from behind the Gate...

Like what?

Like a Black hole...

Jake stared at the door...What the Hell!

Well every time we get close to it, all our instruments go crazy, every flashlight/ energy source within a 100 feet loses power. It's like it drains them dry.

Mechanical items that don't need power, malfunctions...

We lost two men on a lift that was going in close to take samples of the metal, the lift just went crazy for a minute and then dropped them down the hole, we've never been able to recover the bodies, and it's just too deep.

I'm sorry; did you get samples of the metal?

Yes, we have built a new lift, well it's more like an airport "Jet Bridge" and we've double insulated the electronics and mechanics

So we can now link that door way next to the viewing port to the Gate

And what did you find out about the metal?

It's nothing that we have in our data base; the metal is of unknown origin and material,

Jake we think it could be Alien

Shit, now I know you both are crazy.

Jake look at everything I've told you

Running his hands through his hair, and I'm suppose to believe you after everything you've done, both of you can go fuck yourselves.

Jake can you at least think about helping us? And at least let us make you an offer

I'm not sure I can be of help even if I wanted too.

Jake we'll pay you \$100,000 to help us...

He was more curious about the gate then the money but he didn't want the m to know how curious he was yet.

I'll have to talk to Sue about this since you put her life in jeopardy once already.

Gil lifted up his hand to shake on it and Jake just ignored it as he turned on his heels and March out of the room.

Niki you better go with him and make sure he makes it back to Sue's room... She didn't feel like getting that close to Jake, She just couldn't trust herself to do the right thing anymore.

Niki caught up with him at the elevators, are you OK Jake

Yea I fine, I'm still trying to get my head wrapped around what you assholes have done because of this "Gate"

I know, but believe me Jake when I tell you this, everything that happened wasn't planned, and

it just escalated out of control, Jake we fuck up! I fuck up! And I'm sorry

As the elevator rose, Jake turned to her, Niki why did you let it happen?

What do you mean? Making love?

Yes

Jake I never planned it, it just happened

I don't want Sue and Carly to pay for my stupidity, so I don't want them to know until I'm ready to tell them.

OK Jake I couldn't agree more.

And this won't happen again!

I agree Jake...

The Elevator stopped and Jake walked out

Jake do you need help getting back to Sue

Turning he stared at Niki for a minute, and said nope and Niki

Hopefully whoever put the Gate there wasn't putting it this deep for a reason...

Jake one more thing... Since I've been back things here aren't what they seem to be...

What do you mean...?

We'll talk more tonight

She watched him walk away, as the elevator doors closed.

What Jake had said, confirmed her worse fears.

Walking up to the door of Sue and Carly's room, Jake stopped for a moment to catch his breath.

Being here was all wrong he could feel it in his bones and he had to

figure out a way to get his family off the island.

He had felt slight tremors since he'd been here, but that was the least of the problems.

He was actually scared to project himself through the Gate, it was a big unknown and his Astra-

Body could get plucked away, the only thing that would be left of Jake Stone would be a hollow body...with no soul

He heard laughing behind the door, pausing for a few seconds more too just hear the laughter.

Smiling he open the door

Sue and Carly were whispering and laughing, when they noticed Jake Carly came running into his arms, hugging him and he hugged her back, trying to hold back the tears he felt would fall any minute...

Sue was sitting on the bed and she looked a lot better the she did a couple of hours ago...

How do you feel?

Since your here, much better and you

I'm good too, it's so good to know it's almost over and we can go home.

At that moment all Jake wanted was to be back at home and let these assholes do it by themselves. He didn't need them or their \$100,000.00

Sue looked at him and she asked Carly to go get the bath ready.

Jake we need to talk

I know Hun but can it wait?

No, I think you need to help these people

I don't want to. I just want to go home with you and Carly

I know Jake but you know what they are doing is dangerous

I know, I can feel it

Maybe you can show them before they go too far

Sue, I don't want to help them, look what they did to us

Look at you, you almost died and what about Carly? She could have been killed in the car...

Jake we were never in any real danger, that wasn't even your car

It wasn't no they loaded yours up in a semi-

trailer right before you got there, they had another one just like yours that had been already totaled and all they had to do is set the scene and light it on fire...

God dam assholes...

Jake they are desperate

Sue what you want me to do...

Jake, I want you to help them understand how dangerous what they are doing is...

I'll do it only if they will take you and Carly home, I couldn't bare to loose you again and it isn't safe here.

OK talked to them in the morning, but for now come here.

Sue your still not well

I'm well enough to love the man I missed for these last couple of months.

The next morning Gil called and asked him to come to floor sub-15 at his convince.

After breakfast he kissed both Sue and Carly and told them he would be back soon.

Sue looked at him and said Jake do the right thing...



Jake smiled, I'll do my best

On the way down he noticed a lot more activity going on then yesterday, he came to the conclusion that something was happening.

Jake made his way back to the Observation Room, Gil and Niki were standing in front of the viewing port, technicians were running around like the place was on fire...

Gil spoke to one of them, give me an update now!

Sir the hurricane has broken category 5, winds over 175+ mph

What's going on?

We've got a Category 5+ hurricane above us; we've brought all the people from the resort down here.

Fuck! I want to get my family out!

Jake we can't even get ourselves out...

Goddammit Gil if this is another one of your fucking trick I'll kill you...

Jake it's not

How come you didn't tell me about it sooner?

Jake it was on us in minutes

What the hell do you mean?

It started right above us...

What?

Niki finally turned towards Jake, That's right, it was nice a sunny and withi n 5 minutes we had a Category 5 above us and it ain't moving.

Take a look at the radar monitor

Jake could see this massive burst above the island

Jesus! It looks like it goes for miles...

Gil frowned and said. It does!

The only good thing at the moment is the island is in the eye of the

hurricane, so winds aren't too bad but the minute it started to move all hell will break loose and there is no way we can fly through it..

I can't believe this shit...

I'm sorry Jake but the safest place to be is right here.

OK I'll help you but you have to promise that you will take my family home as soon as this blows over...

Of course Jake...It's a Deal...

When do you want to start?

As soon as possible, I want this to be over.

OK Jake, what do you need?

I'll need a chair.

Niki get him a chair.

And I'll need it quiet...

Gil looked around, OK everyone out, and take a break!

As everyone was leaving Niki was bringing in a chair...

Do you want to get closer or is this good?

This is fine for now maybe later I might want to get up close to the Gate

Jake settled into the chair, closing his eyes he leaned back and relaxed.

Letting his mind drift, deeper, deeper, finally he felt him

Astra-body lift from his organic body

Looking down he saw Niki and Gil standing around him, watching him.

He moved over to the viewing port and felt a pull on him from the Gate; something was calling him, trying to get him go to the Gate.

Jake resisted, he floated past the port and into the hole, and

up he went, this was his time to take a look around the base camp to see if

he saw anything weird.

He saw some of the crew standing together and he floated down to them so he could hear what they were talking about.

I'm telling you! Jack and his crew are acting different...Something is weird here and I want out of here

Dammit Don you know that hurricane is right above us and we're stuck here

I know but I don't like this, every time some one goes in the hole they change...

And what about the missing people?

You know Gil said they got sick and he flew them to the mainland

Bullshit.

Hey that's all I know is what I'm told

So you don't find anything weird going on?

Of course I do but the pay is fantastic and we only have a few weeks left here.

Jake moved into the hallways as he approached the cafeteria he heard a heated argument.

You know we have limited time to get the rest here

I know Gil has it handled

Yea he says he does but do you see anything happening?

They have that CIA sensory agent here

I know but all that's done so far is complicate everything...

Hey, I'm just worried, you know we need to make the final shift or we will be thrown back.

I know... I don't want to go back...

Who would?

Jake drifted up and found himself facing the Gate

What the hell!

Up close the Gate took on a Mirror type surface and he was looking at himself.

Reaching his hand up he touched the surface and it shimmered like a rain drop falling on calm water.

It felt like liquid but acted like mercury...

He reached farther in and pulled his hand back out, the liquid followed his arm back out an inch or two but snapped back and nothing was on his hand

This is fucking weird he thought...

Jake put his face in it to get a better look at the other side

What he saw would stay with him for the rest of his life.

He found himself looking at the viewing port from the hole

It was like he stepped through the gate and back out

Looking across the hole he saw the viewing port and he saw Niki and Gil standing around someone seated... Fucking no way Jake muttered

Then someone pointed at him and they all turned to see

Jake stumbled back and instantly he was back in his body

He jumped up screaming,

Niki and Gel wrestled him back into the chair...

Jake, what did you see?

Goddamn you're not going to believe me.

Try us

It was us

What?

I saw us

You saw us on the other side of the Gate?

Yes...Shit

Jake that can't be Niki said

I'm guessing it's a some kind of Parallel Universe or just a reflection of us Gil said

If I believed that stuff I would guess Parallel Universe because it wasn't sync with us

Niki looked at him and said what do you mean?

It was when I first sat down...

The shift is getting closer Gil mumbled

Niki and Jake looked at Gil

What?

Nothing, it's just a theory

What theory?

Time shifts and a Parallel Universe

What?

It's nothing.

What's your theory?

Well we think that if there was a parallel universe and if some how they connected, and if the time differentials equalized one of the universes would cease to exist

And?

That's what could be behind the Gate

Jake looked around the room. No one was laughing

How sure are you of that?

Gil looked over at one of his technicians and nodded

The technician told them to follow him.

As they followed Jake whispered to Niki we've got to get out of here.

She nodded at him and said let's talk after this.

OK Jake said

They followed the technician into another conference room and as they seated themselves the tech brought up a computer and started to show what they have found and what was theory on a Visual board in front..

So you're telling me, there could be a parallel universe?

Yes it has been a theory until about a year ago when we got some weird time shifts around the world.

It started with the reversal of the melting of the ice caps we couldn't any reason why?

And then these tornados and hurricanes have been intensifying,

Volcano's that have been dormant are starting to show signs of being active.

Can't all that be explained in other ways?

Some of them yes, but not this next thing...

We're listening

Well it's hard to explain and not sound crazy

What is it?

We have been noticing planets not where they should be in their rotation, it's like they speed up and down.

Holy shit yea holy shit...

OK I've seen enough...

I'm not done...

Hell, what now?

It's coming faster

The time shift

Yes

And what is your theory if this happens?

Either we are here or they are

Whose they?

Our twins, our equals, our parallel self's

Jake laughed, you're kidding right?

I wish we were

Come on Niki lets go...

They headed to the lounge, Niki whispered, No talking until we are there, "eye and ears in the sky"

Jake nodded.

They found seats in the corner and waited for the waitress to take their order before talking

OK Niki what do you know?

Well I know something is weird here and Gil hasn't been his self since I got back...

What about Sue and Carly?

What about them?

Are they OK...seemed normal?

Niki I know where you're going with this and its bullshit

What is it Jake

What you're implying

And what I'm I employing?

That they aren't my real family

What do you think Jake, Haven't you noticed anything different?

Come on Niki you can do better than this if you really wanted me for all your own.

Fuck you Jake, I would never do that shit, I just want you to open your mind up and put aside that happiness for second and take a Good Look because I think Gil is an impostor

Jake looked at Niki, I'll admit that something like that has crossed my mind , but I just thought it was all this stress I'm under...

Jake talk a good look tonight, OK

OK Niki I'll play along.

If we are being switched out why

That I don't know Jake unless they know something we don't. Just because we are parallel universe doesn't mean everything is exactly the same...

Some claim one could be good while the other could be evil.

Niki which are we? Are we the good or evil?

Well Jake...they want to be here, that explains a lot.

And each universe could have its own destiny once it's created...

You mean one could end and its equal could go on?

Yes that is the theory.

Just remember one thing...We loosely follow each other except for small hiccups as the Scientist say.

Shit, so what we are doing to stop it...they are doing to keep it going.

Yes

Niki I'm getting a bad feeling about all this...

Plus how do I know you are who you say you are...

You don't, and that is the same for me...We just need to trust each other until we know different.



Their drinks arrived and Jake took a long taste...

Nice

Yea Niki said, it's been a long day

How is your eye sight?

Better all the time, I really thought I had lost it permanently

We were sure it would go away there was no damage to your nerves endings

So it was psychological?

Yea something like that...

You know some of this is making more since

What do you mean?

Those guards... That one tried to kill me...

I know that was one of the red flags for me.

I guess we need to keep our guard up because whoever is behind this will kill to keep it going...

Just then they heard a loud roar and felt the base shake

The lights flickered on and off and finally off...

Red emergency light came on

That's the backup generators kicking on Niki shouted

Jake we need to get to the control room.

You go ahead I need to check on Sue and Carly...

Remember what I said Jake now hurry.

The noise was getting deafening, the wind inside the base was humming with wind and something else...OZONE

Jake ran as fast as he could while holding onto anything that was bolted down...The wind was roaring through the halls, people were being sucked down the hall.

He tried to grab a lady but the wind was too strong and he almost lost his own grip, She screamed as she banged into the walls as she flew down the hall...chairs, Desk, papers...everything not bolted down flew past him Finally large steel doors came down and sealed the base from the outside elements...

Jake caught his breath and moved on down the hall for the room.

Jake opened the door to their room...

What he saw next would change everything.

Sue swung around and lifted up a Beretta 9mm

Why don't you shut the door Jake "baby?"

You've done enough trying to fuck everything up and Gil is a stupid asshole for thinking he could use you to open the gate backup for us.

What the hell Sue what is this about...

What, I thought you'd of figured it out by now lover...

Who are you?

Well I'm not your fucking dumb bitch wife that's for sure...

Jake couldn't get a grasp on what was taking place...One minute he was so happy for finding his family and now this wasn't his family...

He was getting pissed by the moment...

I knew you weren't Sue

What have you done with Sue and Carly?

Well first of all my Name is Linda and how did you know?

Because you couldn't hold a candle to Sue in bed...

Cocking the Beretta, You fucking bastard, we've taken them to our world where they will die.

Jake jumped behind the couch as Linda lit it up with 9mm rounds... crawling into the kitchen he got behind the breakfast bar...

Reaching up he pulled open the knife drawer.

As he did he counted off the shots...12-13-14-15

He jumped up and threw the knife...

Linda looked at him and back down to her chest...She dropped her extra clip and tried to speak but with a knife sticking out of your throat it was a something that wasn't going to happen.

Linda toppled over the coffee table and didn't move...

Causally he called out "Carly"

Yes daddy I'm here... Where baby?

RIGHT HERE DADDY

What he saw next made his blood curdle, his little girl s  
hape-

shifted into the creature that he had saw on the on the video but smaller.

It looked like a lizard but had eight legs and moved like a spider.

Jake moved backwards toward the door, keeping his eye's on the creature...

As he did he Bumped into Linda lying on the floor, reaching down he picke  
d up the Beretta with the full clip.

The creature started talking like his daughter...

Daddy don't you want to play with me?

You're not my daughter

Who cares she will be dead soon anyway

Fuck you

Oh you would like too...

Maybe you'd like me to be Sue?

The creature shifted again

It was like a vibration the creature would start vibrating faster and

faster until it was a blur, making a noise like a hum and as it slowed down a human form appeared "Sue"

Darling come to me, I love you so much

You're not my wife

I could be, just help us open the Gate and everything will be fine

Go to hell

Oh I've been there and I don't want to go back I like it here.

Where is my family

We've taken them

Where

To the other side of the gate before it closed and to get to them you need to help us open it

Why did it close?

We're not sure

So how I'm I suppose to open it?

You need to astral project to the other side and find out what's going on...

If I agree to this, you'll release my family?

Of course, but don't you want to touch me now, to experience how I feel?

Maybe

Then come closer

Jake started to move up close, it was like he was mesmerized by the creature

Slowly he moved closer and closer until he was within arms reach

The creature smiled as Sue...but the mouth peeled back to expose rows and rows of teeth like a shark.

Jake smiled and said "GO TO HELL" lifting up the Beretta he opened right into the creature's chest...all 15 rounds...

The creature squealed falling back dead before it hit the floor...

Turning he moved up to the door and took a quick look into the hall, nobody...

Moved down the hall he had to pick his way through the debris, getting to the elevator, it wouldn't open, Shit! Must be because of being on emergency power

Jake remembered the stair case he saw earlier, opening the door he noticed inside was only lit with the Red emergency lights with gave it a terrifying blood soaked look.

Moving slowly down the stairs he kept his mind blank, so maybe he could pick up trouble before it found him first.

On the sub-10th floor he heard noises coming up the stairs.

Stopping he listened, faintly he heard a shuffle then a humming, then nothing

He started moving down the stairs one at a time..."noise" he heard something again...

He let his mind drift... He saw Niki or was it? She moved stiffly up the stairs . Like in a trance

Snapping back into his body he kept going, whispering Niki is that you?

Yes Jake it's me...

Coming around the next landing he met Niki... She looked at him weird but only said

Its better not to go down there, Gil is losing it...

Jake hesitated for moment; I thought you wanted to go down to the observation room?

I don't know what you're talking about but up is better.

OK if you're sure Niki

Yea Jake up now move it...

They went up a couple of flights when heard a stretching noise with a double click like you hear at the chiropractors

He swung around, Niki lips had peeled back showing the double row of teeth...sharp looking teeth, plus her mouth had dislocated and opened as big as a bowling ball

Jake ain't I pretty she teased while closing in the gap between them

Fuck no and he drove a kitchen knife into her stomach all 10in of it and then he turned his hip into her flipping her off the stair case, she squealed all the way down until there was a splat at the bottom.

Jake shivered for a moment, what hell are those things?

Getting a grip he continued down the stairs until finally he came to sub-

15 he opened the door slowly and peeked around, seeing no one he rushed to the observation room where he found Gil and Niki talking...

There you are Gil said when he heard Jake walk in.

Yea here I am...

Niki we need to talk

Jake are you OK?

Yes and No

Gil can you excuse us we have a personal issue to discuss

Gil looked back and forth at the two of them and smiled...Oh I understand;

We'll take a few minutes and then Jake we need to try again OK...

Yea no problem Gil

Let's go have some coffee Niki

Sounds good

As they walked down the hall

Niki did we ever make love?

Yes and what is this all about?

Answer the questions Niki

OK

Where did we make love?

On the plane

When did we first meet?

Well honestly I was at the crash scene but you didn't see me

When did I first see you?

When I was being pulled behind the Dumpster...

Jake let out a big breath and put the butcher knife back in his pants

What hell was that about?

I'll tell you in a minute

Jake saw a closet marked "Janitor" and he pulled open the door

Get in

Fuck you

Niki please

OK you first...

Jake went in after taking one last look around to make sure no one

was watching.

After shouting the door, Jake told everything to Niki

Are you sure Jake this sounds like a bad nightmare?

Well it is

What do you want to do about it?

Well I need to play along with them until I get my family back and then we need to shut that door permanently

I agree what's the plan.

While Jake was explaining, Gil got a report that they have lost contact with 3 of his crew.

Which ones are they, the two playing Jakes family, Linda and Celia and a guard watching the staircase,

Gil thought Jake just got here a few minutes ago...How long have they been out of contact?

Only about 30 minutes, Ben about 15min

OK do a search I want them found now!

Yes Sir.

Niki nodded her approval, OK I'm going and Jake, Take care these creatures are here for a reason and if this doesn't work all mankind could loose.

Jake looked pained as he said. Niki you take care also and Niki

Yes Jake, our making love was beautiful and I've come to the conclusion that it wasn't anyones fault, it just happened...

Your right Jake

Niki one last thing, Stay away from Gil

Why?



Just do it Niki, keep a distance between you and him

Niki tilted her head like she was trying to understand; finally she just shook it and turned walking down the hall

Jake watched her leave and wondered if this was the last time he would ever see her? Had he sent her to her death? As much as he can see things he also knew the future could change in a heart beat if something changed its path.

Jake headed back to the Observation Room where he found Gil still standing in front of the viewing port

Well Jake you want to try again?

I'm ready

Gil wheeled up a chair for Jake

Settling into it Jake let the tension float away and his mind drift

Floating above Gil he moved out of the room and down the hall

He found Niki at the communication room, she was arguing with the radio operator there.

All of a sudden she hit him; he collapsed onto the floor, where she dragged him farther into the room

Sitting down she started using the radio, He could hear Mayday-mayday this is Paradise Island come in over.

His hearing would waver in and out and he saw her smile and give thumbs up to nobody but he knew it was for him.

OK first part of the plan is done.

He floated back down the hall to the viewing port; Gil was still standing there watching the Gate.

Moving past him he came up to the Gate and touch it again it looked like liquidized metal but as he put his arm through it felt like quick

sand, pulling him in.

Jake let himself just float in he had no other way to find Sue and Carly, and if he didn't find them he just as well as die here too...

He floated up to his "Other" body and dropped down into it...

Gil was looking at him,

Jake are you OK...

Yea I am

What did you find out?

They want Sue and Carly back, and if you send them back they will open the Gate

No Goddammit I don't trust the humans

Look they know your world is ending and they want to help but you need to show some faith...Send them back

We can't

Why not

What the hell if we could send them back don't you think we would just go and invade the humans, killing them all?

Sorry my head is still screwed up from the projection...

But Gil I have an idea...

I'm listening

If I can get through while I'm in my Astra-

body maybe I can extend it around them to get them through...

That's a pretty big gamble,

I'm willing to try

All around them the ground would shake and roll it was hard enough just to stay on his feet let alone kill this murdering bastard...

At that moment Niki walked in

Niki welcome I have a job for you...

Yes Sir

I need you to go get the humans Sue and Carly

Yes Sir

Gil went back to watching the viewing port

Jake you know that behind that gate over there is our savior, with our world dying we need to get through that gate soon or we will all die here...

Leaving them alone Jake tried to find a weapon he could use against this creature posing as Gil

Finding nothing he frozen at the sound of a humming sound,

He pivoted on his left foot, sweeping his right around knocking down Gil who was in the process of shifting...

As Gil got up he said

Jake don't you think we would know it wasn't our Jake that came back?

Just like your Niki has terminated our Jake and Gil

Our Niki will kill you and your family.

Not if I can stop it! And Jake hit the creature with a ridge hand to the throat

.

The creature staggered back and then came at Jake with a roar

Side stepping the creature he hammer fisted in the back of the neck

The creature went to all four coughing, Jake then kick it as hard as he could between the legs hoping these things had balls.

Gil groaned and fell over...curling up in a ball

Just then he heard a scream and Sue and Carly broke free of the creature Niki and ran to Jake... Oh my God Jake are you OK...

No time he managed to get out before Niki jumped on him

Falling back he fought her with all his strength but these things were strong, Parana mouth was coming closer to his face and snapping at him, if it got him it would tear his face off...

Jakes strength was ebbing away when he heard, gun fire...

Niki tensed up and fell over dead...

Jake looked over at Sue and saw she had a handgun she must have got from Gil...

While he watched she lifted it again and shot Gil in the head...

Jake got up and said. Honey who taught you to shoot?

You did smart ass...

Now that's my Sue

They all hugged as Jake told them what he had planned

Are you sure we can get through the gate?

Yes I'm pretty sure, I carry ed this knife here over with me so why couldn't I take people?

OK we better in going...

I need to move the boom over to the Gate so you two can get up to it...

Jake grabbed the joy stick and started moving the Jet-way over to the Gate

Jake look at this,

After he finished adjust the enclosed Jet-way to the Gate

He looked at the monitor that Sue and Carly were watching...

Whatever city it was panning on, it was a total destruction, buildings where leveled and fire was everywhere...

And jolt rocked the base

We need to leave now Jake yelled...

At the door of the Jet-

way he hugged both of them and told to move up to the door but don't go

through it

He would lead them through

Jake how are we suppose to know when your there?

He looked over at Carly smiling

Carly will know

Now go

As they went through the door and jolt hit the base and he could hear something boom and falling debris

The place is tearing itself apart...

As he was getting ready to set down to drift he looked at the monitor one last time...

What the hell! He saw flying aircraft like nothing he had ever seen...they were firing on the city, pounding it into dust...

So this is what it's all about...and invasion and they are trying to come into our world the bastards...

Boom ....Jake was thrown to the ground...rolling over he had a hard time standing with all the ground shifting...

He staggered back into the chair.

He tried to relax but with all the noise, shaking, dust and debris floating in it took him longer then normal...

But as he drifted...He heard Carly... hurry daddy the jet-way is moving...

His Astra-body shot up...moving towards the Gate

Sue and Carly were hanging on for dear life; the jet-way was bouncing around, throwing them to the floor.

Sue heard metal grinding and she felt the jet-way drop several inches

Rocks were falling past the jet-way and some were hitting it putting larger dents in the top  
Carly squeezed her hand and said daddy is coming...  
Jake flew to them; he started talking to Carly... Ok Carly take your mom and move up to the Gate...  
I'm scared daddy  
It's ok I'm here  
But I can't see you  
I know but you can feel me right?  
Yes I think so...  
Ok Carly we have to move now...  
OK  
Carly told her mom "OK Mom it's time to move up to the gate"  
Are you sure Carly?  
Yes daddy just told me  
Ok Carly...  
They moved up to the Gate, holding onto the hand rails to help keep their balance  
And big jolt hit the Observation deck and Jake saw it was a direct strike...  
fire and smoke belled down the jet-way  
Ok Carly we have to go now!! Jump through!  
Looking behind them they saw the cloud of fire and smoke come after them  
...  
Carly said Jump mom!!  
As they started through the Gate they felt it give a little but they only went half-way through and stopped  
Jake was fighting the liquid metal with all his strength, he had surrounded

them with his aura but it was wavering, he just didn't have the strength to pull them all through

But he had too...

Jake felt another pulling on him, helping him pull them through...

As they went through Niki grabbed them and help back through the Jet-way

Jake turned to see who had helped... And he looked into a mirror

Instantly he realize his double from the parallel world was the one...

As much as it was him it looked different older...hardened

Thank you

I'm not sure why I helped you, but when I saw you struggling to get them through I couldn't to see them die as I saw my Sue and Carly die

Your family died?

Yes we were invaded and I lost them in the first hours...

I'm sorry

Also there isn't must left of your world and I think your body is gone

Not yet it will do for what I need...

What are you going to do?

I'm not sure yet, but you better get your family off the island, I'm going to shut this gate for good so nothing can get through.

OK

Once I shut the Gate the storm will lift and you can leave.

What do you mean the storm will lift?

This isn't normal hurricane/Vortex it's induced by the Gate being open

I'm not following you

Our two universes are not suppose to touch, it's causing storms/Vortex's

like this all over the world, both worlds,, In mine it doesn't matter our time has come but in yours you haven't made the mistakes we have but stop your looking for others, stop sending out signals, Trust me you don't want to be found, Just realize this is your little garden of eden and do what you can to keep your people from listening to the serpents..Now go

With that Jakes co-Astra-body turned and went back through the Gate,

Jake moved to his body and rejoined it,

Getting up he went to Sue and Carly hugging them...

He looked over at Niki and he could see the pain in her face and he gave her a little smile.

Niki we have one our to get everyone off the island before they destroy the gate and everything else here

What about the hurricane?

It will stop soon... Just get the people heading for the aircraft, boats, everything, How far off is the coast guard?

Should be here within 20 min...

Perfect now go,

Niki walked over to an alarm and pulled it...

Sirens blasted throughout the halls and complex

Sue you and Carly need to be on the first transport leaving I've got some unfinished business here,

But Jake

No but's I'm not losing you twice

Sue tried to insenced more but Jake put his fingers to her lips and said...

Please!

OK, Jake but you be on the last transport "OK"

OK, let's go get you on that transport...



Fire had broken out and smoke was starting to fill the hallways and another alarm went off...

Jake saw the Gate melt away...Like a liquid chrome waterfall then it was gone,

All of a sudden the noise from outside reduced and then it was gone and it was as quiet as a grave...

Jake said that's our cue, let's go!

As they ran down the hallway to the elevators Jake grabbed some towels and told them to keep going.

He headed into the bathroom and watered down the towels so they could put them over their heads to keep the smoke out...

He found Ben in the bathroom nursing a cut on his arm...

You ok?

Yep just got cut by flying debris

Looks like you got it under control...

Yea hurts like hell though

Ben we are evacuating the complex it's going to explode within the hour

What about the Gate?

It's gone already

Come on, I've got my family and we are heading for the boats...

Ben had a pained expression Jake figured it was his arm...

How did you get family?

Later Ben lets go....

They found Sue and Carly at the elevators, Ok looks like are back on line let's going...

Finally getting to the ground floor after filling up with others at each floor...

Jake took them to the fastest looking Boat...

Who's the Caption here?

I am, a big guy with a beard stood up...

I'm Jake Stone and this is Sue and Carly and Ben

As soon as you're full, you need to contact the Coast Guard Cutter and head for them...

I've already got their location and it looks like with you four I'm full

I'm not coming yet, I've got to help evacuate and secure everything...

As the Caption responded another large man hopped aboard, He seem to know Ben, So Jake turned his attention back to the Caption...

Looks like your full

Yep and we're setting sail.

Good Luck! And Ben watch my family

No problem Jake...

Jake found the captain of an Air-Boat

I need you to give me 25 min, if I'm not here in 25 min...Leave without me

Ok I'll do it, I don't like it but I'll do it.

Thanks!

As Jake moved off he had a nagging feeling, but he was too busy to drift, he wanted to find Niki and help make sure everyone was off the island

He was yelling now, we've got to get off the Island; it's going to blow...

People were running to find space on the boats and air boats...

30 minutes...to go

He ran into Jack from the POD and asked him if he had seen Niki

Yea I saw her chasing Gil; they were heading to the sky-walk and pointed up

Shit Jake thought, He hated heights, and remember Gil showing him the SkyWalk, it was over 100 feet up running the full length of the cavern and braced out like spider legs... it was how they built the lighting system and ran conduit for the complex..

He headed for one of the maintenance lifts that were at the base of each of the legs...

He took the lift to the top and moved out onto the Sky-walk...

He kept telling himself not to look down; as he scanned the Sky-walk he saw them over to the other side

Shit he thought to himself, to reach Niki he would have to go over the center, the highest point...

Well fuck he thought and started to run over the walkway...it was swaying just enough to keep him off balance and he almost went over the edge twice

..

Finally he got within 30 feet and he could see Niki struggle with Gil

Dam I thought he was dead.

Gil saw him coming and threw Niki to the catwalk, He started Shape-Shifting and he did Niki clawed her way backwards down the catwalk.

With the creature between them Jake had no Choice but to lead it away from Niki

20 Minutes...to go

The Lizard-Spider moved after Jake...

Ok you fuck come and get me...

Suddenly it spoke, well, well Jake, it hissed

Haha now there is a sight for you a lizard that can talk, hey we could make a fortune at the circus.

You'll think circus with we invade your little world here and kill all you all

Now Gil calm down...

Fuck you Jake

And the creature rushed Jake

Jake braced himself. Knowing he couldn't out run it

Just then he here Niki open up with her Beretta 9mm

The Creature jerked a couple of times, turning around it headed for Niki

Jake jumped on its back and drove his 10in butcher knife into the side of its head

The creature let out a scream and dropped to the catwalk...not moving.

15 minutes to go

15 minutes to go

Helping Niki up Jake asked her if she was OK...

Yea I'm fine, you'll have to stop saving me or I'll never be able to pay you back

Jake grinned ...grabbing her by the hand he said we've only 15 minutes before everything goes to hell...

Taking the man-

lift back to the main floor they hurried to the boat launches...

Pointing Niki to the Air-Boat

OK Captain looks everyone's been loaded up...

Looking around Niki turned to Jake, Where is Sue and Carly?

They took one of the first launches with Ben and another big guy,

Niki had a Look of terror on her face,

Jake! Ben is one of the Sentries and so is his friend... Ben attacked me and I cut him, I was ready to finish him when his friend came after me, I barely escaped

That's how I knew Gil was one of them I saw them talking...

Goddammit...Captain Can you put a rush on we only have 5 minutes to go... Before this place blows

Hell yes and the Captain pushed the throttles full-

on, the engines roared with the strain of pulling the overloaded frame off the water...

Captain did you see which way the blue and white 30 footer go?

Yea I saw it head west but then I get distracted...

Check your radar for hits...

Niki I've got to drift to see if I can find them...

OK.

Jake sat down; closing his eye's he prayed that they were OK and that Ben hasn't hurt them

He drift up and called Carly...Carly where are you?

Daddy come quick there are bad people on the boat...they are fighting other  
s...Hurry Daddy

Carly you and your mom hide...

There is nowhere to go. Lots of blood Daddy...

Carly you and your mother Jump off the boat we are coming...

OK...

Jake waited for a few minutes... Carly, Carly

The Captain called out I've got a hit 2 miles out, going about about 20 knots  
, we should be on them in 10 minutes...

Just then they are heard an explosion that rocked the Air-  
Boat...Looking back at the Island, Jake saw a large black cloud shoot up  
from the Volcano

Niki whistled...Boy look at that, I guess they dormant Volcano still  
has some life left.

Lava was flowing down the sides burning everything in its path...

What was left of the resort after the vortex was catching fire and  
burning.

Jake went back to drifting... Carly, Carly

Yes Daddy

Where are you,

We are in the water, the boat kept going, they never saw us...

Wait Daddy they are coming back...

We're coming Carly....5 minutes...

OK Daddy

Jake looked up at the Captain.

The hit has turned around heading our way but now about 5 knots...

Looks like they are looking for something...

Niki looked at Jake...

Sue and Carly jumped overboard during the fighting that was going on. But now they are going back after them

Ship up ahead the Captain yelled...

Captain I need a gun

The Captain hand him a S&W 44mag, Jake looked at him with a puzzled look

Hey we've got Sharks around here.

Handing Jake a pair of binnacles He searched the ocean for his wife and daughter.

They were about a 100 yards from the other boat when he saw two heads bobbing in the water...

Suddenly they were under fire. Bullets zinged of the cabin...

Others on the Air-Boat opened fire also...

Jake yelled at them they his wife and daughter are about 75 feet to the left of the boat...Keep their shots on the boat...

Niki said... I'm going and before Jake could say anything she had dived into the water...Heading for Sue and Carly

Son-of-

bitch,, by this time they were within 50 yards and he could see the Malay that had fallen on the other boat,,, blood and gore was all over the boat, What was left could only be the creatures

So he fired on targets with the 44mag...The head exploded on one...

Another lost an arm...

He saw Niki holding Carly while pulling along Sue... they all looked exhausted...

He kept firing to keep keep their heads down and give Niki time to get back on board

Finally they we're next to the boat...Niki handed Carly to Jake and was in the process of helping Sue up when she, Gaspd and started struggling with a unknown source under the water..

Pleadingly she looked at Jake...

I'm sorry Jake... with that she was pulled of the ladder

Jake screamed...NIKI!

Then AL he saw was blood in the water...turning it a crimson

He started to dive in but Sue yelled at him....Jake it's too late...

Suddenly Ben's face crested the water...with a big ugly smile on it...

We are coming for you Jake...

And as it started to slid back under Jake brought up the 44 mag , aiming it, he pulled the trigger...

On an empty chamber...



**See Book #3 of the Perception 6 Series**

# **Perception**

**6**

**Vol-3**

**"Rapture"**

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# “Rapture”

## Preview first Chapter:

### Chapter 1

#### Missing

Mack liked his life, nice and simple the only worries he had was were his next meal and drink came from oh of course his little heinz 57 mutt Zoey. They made a great team, Mack panhandled for food and Zoey gave him companionship and a warm body on those cold Idaho nights..

It wasn't always like this Mack was from Texas, entering the Army at 17 in 1967, doing two tours in Vietnam, getting wounded, medal of honor, purple heart, what all the good that did for him now..

After he left the Army he took his last dollar and bought a ticket on a Greyhound bus and came to Idaho to see the place his best friend was from and to talk to his parents, to tell them their son died a hero saving his life. They just looked at him like it was his fault and he just walked out..

Well he just never left Idaho after that.. Working here and there, but no one wanted to hire ex-vet's during the hippie era, to them he was a baby killer and this made him want to just check out of civilization.

They didn't want him and he didn't want them.. fuck them  
And he fell off the face of the map.

Mack and Zoey had their own little spot down by the river..Nice and dry and it even had a roof, yea they had it made..

Some of his friends had taken up spot in the old Chinese tunnels that ran under Boise, He had heard they were built back in the 1800's by Chinese immigrants,

Mack didn't like the tunnels, reminded him of the vietnam and being a tunnel rat.

But he was headed there today to check on his friend billy, Billy was a down on his luck native Indian from Salt Lake City.

Mack hadn't heard from him for a few days and that was unlike Billy.

So he and zoey decided to go find him and make sure he wasn't on another bender, last time he went on one he ended up in the hospital.

Mack turned into the alley at Idaho and 9th, looking around to make sure no one was watching him.. He pulled up the steel doors that use to be coal chute doors back in the day,, grabbing zoey he slid down the chute into the basement..

Looked like no one had been there for years but he knew better, it was a main entry into the subterranean tunnels that were under Old Boise running to the river and Garden City.

There were other ways in but this way was close to wear Billy sleeps and he didn't want to be there anymore then it took to find him.

Looking around he made his way to an old rusted steel door set into the far wall.

Unlatching the door he pulled it open on well oiled hinges. Moving inside he lit a torch that was always there ..

Pulling the door closed behind him he felt the cold drift in. Shivering a little he picked up Zoey and pulled his coat up around his neck trying to keep out the humidity of the dank tunnels,,

Zoey whined, So Mack pulled her close and whispered in her ear that everything was ok

Mack moved down the tunnel listening for sounds, but it was dead quiet.

Back in the late 1800's and early 1900's the tunnels were used by the chinese to move black markets goods from one part of town to other places, they were also used for opium dens and prostitution, gambling and other stuff, So there was hiding places and rooms off to the sides,,with the tunnels branching all over the city, it was like a city under a city and the night people could moved from place to place without being harassed by the police or the flat landers. (daylight people)

But Mack had a plan because he knew where to look for Billy.

Billy like the tunnels he always said it was like being in a tomb , whatever that meant Mack thought., But he was beinging to feel what Billy kidded about.. The tunnels felt closed in, damp and dark...Dam Indian has got him spooked now..

Mack called out "Billy" it's me Mack..

Mack didn't hear anything at first, but then he heard some noises down a side tunnel so he headed that way,,

"Billy" where are you?

Mack is that you?

Yea

Billy where are you?

Just keep coming Mack

Are you hurt Billy

No Mack and shut up..

Mack walked up on Billy, he was crouched down looking over a pile of debris

What the fuck Billy..

Get down Mack, they are in there

What?

They

Who in the hell is they?

Night Creatures

Fuck Billy you've been drinking again..

Shhhhh Mack they'll hear us

Fuck you Billy

Mack please, they'll hear you..

Who Billy? your dream monster or maybe Custer..

Fuck you Mack this is real and I'm somber

Mack was about to say something else when he heard a strange cluck and rattle

What the hell is that Billy?

I told you and I think they may have heard us.

Who Billy

Godammit Mack the creatures who are feeding

Feeding?

Yea they got Johnny and Steve...

What?

They are eating them.

Oh fuck..

Zoey started to whine...and Mack tried to comfort her but she wasn't have any of it..and started to bark

Both Billy and Mack looked toward the black doorway and saw a large black object rise up

Mack thought holy shit it must be nine feet tall

He grabbed Billy by the collar and pulled him up and said run..

They made it about 75 ft to the first turn and Mack had a chance to turn and look..

What he saw froze his blood cold...

It was a lizard with spider type legs coming after them.. It had blood and gore all over it's face and it was grinning

Mack turned and ran as fast as he could, He kept thinking that Billy was up ahead and he was until something reached out and grabbed him right off his feet..

Mack heard Billy screaming.. And then there was a bloody gurgling and nothing..

As he raced to the door of freedom he heard Billy calling him..But Mack knew it couldn't be Billy, he kept telling himself...as he reached the door he heard something right behind him...He struggled with the door a what seemed like eternity finally he turned to face death...

What he saw would stay with him as long as he lived..

The face of Billy was on the creature, and it was talking but he didn't hear anything..suddenly Zoey jumped from his arms and attacked the creature..

The creature backed up and grabbed Zoey ripping the dogs head off..

Mack screamed and fell backwards out the door into the cellar, he kicked the door shut and latched it

Crying he stood and ran out into the basement and up the chute, into the daylight..

**On Sale Oct 6th**