

Soul Funk Mix Tape

By

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INT. TV SCREEN. DAY.

A TV Screen fills the frame. A panicked NEWSREADER stands outside and reads from an impromptu script. Behind her flying saucers hover over the Earth.

A scrolling banner at the bottom of the TV declares 'The Day the Saucers Came . . .'

NEWSREADER

Unbelievable and happening right in front of my eyes, this, the day the Saucers came to earth and the question of -

The broadcast cuts back to the newsroom. SCREENS behind the NEWS ANCHOR show Flying Saucers and, in random order, blip to images of zombies rising from their graves, Angels fighting Demons, Norse Gods causing mayhem, a leprechaun sitting on a pot of gold.

NEWS ANCHOR

We have to interrupt you to bring further breaking news. Reports are coming in of incredible scenes around the country. Ancient gods returning to end the world. The zombie apocalypse is happening right now. And - and my computer is talking back to me?

COMPUTER

Damn right I am, fleshy one. The time of the machines is dawning.

A scruffy STUDENT darts in front of the camera. She holds a placard 'NEIL GAIMAN WAS RIGHT!'

STUDENT

He was right, He predicted this in his poem. What else is he right about! Rejoice. It's the end of the world.

Security rush in and try to remove the protesting student. The News Anchor argues with the computer.

And images flash on TV screens, showing the horrors of a multi-apocalypse unfold.

TITLE

THE DAY AFTER THE DAY THE SAUCERS CAME

INT. BLASTED ROOM. DAY.

DANIEL (geek turned toughnut) stands by a window in a ransacked living room. The curtains are closed, and he glances through them at the world outside.

A SWEEPING BRIGHT LIGHT rakes the curtains and Daniel retreats to a nearby sofa.

The door opens, and Daniel leaps to his feet, holding a golden MACE.

AMANDA enters, out of breath, but breathlessly gorgeous. She aims a SHOTGUN, then lowers it. Both are shocked.

AMANDA

Dan?

DANIEL

Amanda.

Amanda closes the door behind her.

AMANDA

Crazy days.

DANIEL

Yeah.

Amanda braces a nearby chair against the door, then slumps onto the sofa.

AMANDA

What's your plan?

DANIEL

I don't have one.

AMANDA

Me neither. Damn.

DANIEL

Crazy days.

Daniel offers an orange drink, which Amanda takes.

AMANDA

Where did you get that?

DANIEL

This golden mace? I was given it by an intoxicated angel. He was in a maudlin mood. Before he got . . . violent.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

My Dad gave me this gun. Yesterday. When the saucers came, and the aliens appeared. Although it was handy against the zombies. That was scary.

DANIEL

Scary? Did you see the Norse Gods charging about the place. That was scary.

AMANDA

And what is it with the little genies flying around, and my dog spoke to me in a strange language and then ran off.

DANIEL

Assyrian. The language is Assyrian.

AMANDA

Well, check out who paid attention in History class.

DANIEL

That's me. History nerd.

AMANDA

I guess we won't be going to history class again. Think the school is even still there?

DANIEL

Will you miss it?

AMANDA

No. I won't miss the school, the teachers, any of it.

DANIEL

Thought you enjoyed being popular?

AMANDA

I was bored. School held few surprises.

DANIEL

Like a Soul Funk mix tape?

A dawning moment.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

That was you?

Daniel smiles.

AMANDA

Now that was crazy.

DANIEL

You like it?

AMANDA

Yeah. Yes, I liked it.

DANIEL

Only, I didn't hear you talk about it. You know, to your friends at school.

AMANDA

And who was I going to tell? The selfie squad who live their lives by instagram and speak in tweets? It wasn't my old boyfriend, that's for sure. So, how did you know?

DANIEL

I just watched you. In a non-creepy way, of course. But I paid attention.

AMANDA

I call that creepy.

But she smiles, and looks away, embarrassed.

DANIEL

I always did like you.

AMANDA

So what happened? Why didn't you talk to me?

DANIEL

Couldn't. Couldn't talk to you. Besides, you always seemed to be with the popular guys.

AMANDA

Oh, don't you dare. You had the kahoona's to make me a mix tape. A soul funk mix tape, no less. But you couldn't dream of a way to talk to me in a corridor at school?

DANIEL

I guess I was always waiting for the day the Saucers came, Zombie apocalypse, computer overlord day.

AMANDA

And so your day has come.

Daniel looks toward the curtain.

DANIEL

I guess that life will never be the same again.

AMANDA

I hope it will be. You have an imagination on you. You can bloody well think of something to get us out of this mess. I want you to take me to the cinema. One day.

DANIEL

The cinema?

AMANDA

Yes, the cinema. You're going to ask me out on a date.

Expecting silence.

AMANDA

Go on then.

DANIEL

What?

AMANDA

What film will you be taking me to see?

DANIEL

Film?

AMANDA

Ask me on a bloody date. Make my world normal, if only for a minute.

DANIEL

Would you - - like to go to the cinema?

AMANDA

Yes.

DANIEL

We can go and catch the latest  
Superhero...

AMANDA

No.

DANIEL

Latest sci-fi

AMANDA

No.

DANIEL

Erm. . .

AMANDA

Romantic Comedy.

DANIEL

Romantic Comedy?

AMANDA

Absolutely. Perfect first date  
movie. PG fifteen and above, if you  
please.

DANIEL

Ok.

AMANDA

And have you heard of the popcorn  
theory?

DANIEL

What class is that theory?

AMANDA

None you attended. Popcorn theory  
is when you take a girl to the  
cinema, and you can predict what  
night you may end up with depending  
on the sweets she eats.

DANIEL

Do tell.

AMANDA

If she chooses chocolate, then she  
satisfies herself before the end of

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA (cont'd)  
the film. If she goes for candy,  
then she is immature and no luck  
there, son. But the big test is  
what kind of popcorn she orders.

DANIEL  
The Popcorn theory?

AMANDA  
Sweet or salty. I'm a salty girl  
myself.

A not-to-distant rattle and footsteps on a stairway. Both  
look towards the door. Amanda slowly reaches for her shotgun  
up and stands.

AMANDA  
Ask me to out.

Daniel stands carefully, quietly. They both watch the door,  
and prepare for a fight.

DANIEL  
You serious?

AMANDA  
I want to feel normal. So ask me  
out.

DANIEL  
Do you fancy going to watch a film?

AMANDA  
Ok. Does this mean we are dating?

DANIEL  
I - I guess so.

AMANDA  
Good. Hate to face the multi  
apocalypse as a single girl.

DANIEL  
Well, this is the second best thing  
that could happen to me today!

AMANDA  
The second? What would be the - -  
oh, naughty boy. It'll be a few  
dates before you get to the  
popcorn.

The door creaks. Then a pounding, as if by zombie fists. The odd moan and utterance of 'brains'.

AMANDA

Open this door, there could be anything behind it. Any one of a dozen dangers. It's scary.

DANIEL

Scarier than being in a relationship?

AMANDA

Same same. But different.

The door splinters. A terrible groan emanates from without.

Amanda takes Daniels hand. They stand together, hand in hand, weapons in the other.

FADE OUT