

ALIENATED

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FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

The alarm BEEPS.

JACK (15) slowly reaches out his hand and WHACKS the alarm.
SMASHES it to pieces.

BEGIN CREDIT SEQUENCE:

His glasses are next to it.

LADY (O.S.)
Jack! Get your butt up! You'll be
late for school, again!

Jack is fast asleep.

SUSAN (45) loudly opens Jack's bedroom door while carrying a present wrapped up in paper with the number '18' covering it.
She spreads Jack's blinds apart. The sun shines through, blindingly.

Jack turns away from the sun's rays.

SUSAN
I know you're awake!

JACK
(drowsy)
Okay, okay.

Susan walks over to Jack's bed and notices the broken alarm.

SUSAN
Another alarm, Jack?

Jack looks at the broken alarm clock.

JACK
I... don't know.

Susan hands Jack his present.

SUSAN
Happy birthday, Kiddo.

Susan kisses Jack on the forehead.

Jack sits up and rubs his eyes.

He puts on his glasses.

JACK
Thanks mum.

Jack begins unwrapping his present.

SUSAN
Imported straight from Japan.

Jack finishes unwrapping a cardboard box.

He opens it and takes out a watch:

JACK
A Kinetic Watch! How did you--

SUSAN
Your cousin.

Jack puts it on.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
It's supposed to suppress up to
half a million Joules.

Jack tosses his blanket aside and stands up.

He looks at Susan.

She smiles at him.

Jack punches the wall.

It doesn't break.

JACK
It works!

Susan smiles, proudly.

JACK (CONT'D)
Thanks so much, mum.

SUSAN
I'm so happy it works.

Jack and Susan embrace for a moment.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
Now, time to get ready for school.
And don't forget your birthday
dinner after school.

END CREDIT SEQUENCE.

EXT. HIGH-SCHOOL - MORNING

Students are scattered around the front of the school. Kissing, laughing and playing sports. Some are even sitting on blankets in the sun.

The school bus arrives.

It's doors open.

Students begin walking out:

BRAD
(laughing)
Oh, man - tell me about it. If I
can hook up with Cheryl at the prom-
-

LANCE
You couldn't hook up a fishing rod.

BRAD
You'll see. One more day, my
friend. One more day.

More students come out:

GABBY
I found my dress!

CHERYL
Really?! Why wasn't I informed
earlier?

GABBY
Sorry, I found it shopping with my
mum, yesterday.

CHERYL
My place after school?

GABBY
Definitely.

Jack hobbles out of the bus.

Brad and Lance spot him and his new watch.

BRAD
What's you got there, Weirdo?

GABBY

Leave him alone Brad. It's eight
forty five in the morning.

Brad brushes Gabby's remark off and notices Cheryl:

BRAD

Hey Cheryl. I hired a sick limo for
tomorrow night!

CHERYL

I was thinking of going with Gabby,
actually.

BRAD

What?! But you're MY date!

(beat)

Gabby can come, too!

GABBY

Yeah, I think I'll pass.

CHERYL

Sorry, Brad. I have to get to
class.

Gabby and Cheryl walk off.

LANCE

Smooth, man.

(sarcastic)

She's definitely keen.

BRAD

Shut up.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The students are seated, listening to LAUREL (36), the
Astrophysics teacher, as he writes on the whiteboard.

He turns to face the class.

LAUREL

So much evidence of life has been
found. NASA, in fact, is building
another, more powerful, drone to
begin exploring other galaxies.

Lance passes Gabby a note.

LANCE

For Cheryl.

Gabby hands Cheryl the note.

Cheryl unfolds it.

Reads it.

CHERYL

(to Gabby)

He wants to meet up after school.

GABBY

He's just gonna try and convince you to go with him to prom.

CHERYL

He is my date, Gabby.

(beat)

You should come! It'll be fun.

GABBY

Fine. The damn limo better have alcohol--

LAUREL

Ladies! I see your enthusiasm for extraterrestrials can't be contained.

(beat)

How many known galaxies are estimated to exist? Answer correctly and skip detention this afternoon.

Cheryl and Gabby stare at each other, blankly.

Gabby shrugs.

GABBY

A hundred?

LAUREL

Add a million to the end of that and you'd be correct. I'll see the both of you after class--

JACK (O.S.)

Add an extra hundred, sir.

LAUREL

(to Jack)

Excuse me?

JACK

There are approximately two hundred million galaxies estimated to exist in the universe... with that number increasing as telescope technology improves. By two thousand and twenty, more than two hundred and fifty million galaxies are estimated to be discovered.

LAUREL

Stick around after class, Smarty Pants.

(to the Cheryl and Gabby)

Don't let it happen, again.

The bell RINGS.

The students begin, quickly, leaving the classroom:

LAUREL (CONT'D)

Don't forget to read chapter ten for homework.

Slowly the room empties:

LAUREL (CONT'D)

We have a pop-quiz tomorrow so make sure you're prepared!

Jack is the last one to leave:

LAUREL (CONT'D)

Mr. Kent. Where did you get that information from?

JACK

My cousin... he works for NASA. Tells me a bunch of stuff.

LAUREL

NASA?

Jack nods.

LAUREL (CONT'D)

Well, try not to say anything when I'm disciplining students next time.

Laurel notices the Kinetic Watch.

LAUREL (CONT'D)

Where did you get that?

JACK
My cousin sent it... for my
birthday.

LAUREL
Why on EARTH would you even need
something like that?

Jack begins sweating, nervously.

JACK
I have to go, sir. Mum's making me
a birthday dinner.

Jack quickly leaves.

Laurel stares at the door in deep thought.

He's suspicious.

EXT. NIEGHBOURHOOD - AFTERNOON

Jack is walking home.

A car pulls up.

It's Brad and Lance:

BRAD
Hey, Jack! What's ya doing?

Jack ignores Brad.

BRAD (CONT'D)
You hear me, freak?

Brad swerves and stops the car blocking Jack's path.

Brad and Lance get out of the car.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Nice watch, Four-eyes.

Brad attempts to take the watch:

JACK
(attempting to stop Brad)
Stop!

Brad wrestles with Jack.

Lance holds Jack down on the ground.

LANCE
Hold still, Shorts!

Brad removes the Kinetic Watch.

JACK
You shouldn't have done that.

POW!

Jack pushes Brad and Lance and they go flying over the parked car.

Brad releases the watch in the air.

Jack grabs his watch, quickly gets up off the grass, and runs off.

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

Jack and Susan are eating:

SUSAN
Did Cheryl like your watch?

JACK
She was busy.

Susan notices the watch is scratched:

SUSAN
(sigh)
You scratched it, already?

JACK
Sorry, mum. Brad jumped me--

SUSAN
That little shi--!

JACK
It's fine! It still works.

SUSAN
Did you hurt him?

Jack stays silent.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
(nervously)
What did you do, Jack?

JACK
They took my watch off. I pushed
them.

SUSAN
Them?!
(beat)
More than one?!

JACK
They went flying over Brad's car.

SUSAN
Oh my god... I have to call his
mother.
(beat)
Go to your room.
(beat)
I bought you that watch for a
reason, you know.

JACK
Why?! Because I'm different?
Because this isn't really my home?!

SUSAN
Do not raise your voice at me!
(points upstairs)
Go to your room.

Jack angrily gets up and storms off to his room.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
And you're grounded for the rest of
the night!

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

The alarm BEEPS.

Jack reaches out, wearing the watch, and WHACKS the alarm.

His glasses are next to it.

LADY (O.S.)
You're going to be late, again!

Susan loudly opens Jack's bedroom door.

She spreads Jack's blinds apart.

Jack rolls over away from the sun's rays.

SUSAN
I've finished the alterations.
Don't forget to come straight home
and try on your suit.

JACK
Do I have to go to prom?

Susan shoots Jack an annoyed look.

EXT. CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

School bell RINGS.

The class is working on their pop-quiz.

Lance is using crutches.

They are leaning on his desk.

Laurel is watching the clock:

LAUREL
Pencils down!
(beat)
Place your quiz into the box on my
desk on your way out.
(beat)
I'll also be supervising the prom,
tonight, so don't even think about
bringing alcohol!

BRAD
(smirks to Lance)
Yeah, right.

Brad and Lance laugh.

LANCE
I can't go, man. That asshole
sprained my ankle.

BRAD
Just rock up with your crutches.
Don't be a bitch!
(beat)
I'll come around to get you around
four.

LANCE
Whatever, man.

BRAD
And I'll sort out, Shorts.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - EVENING

Susan is smiling, proud:

SUSAN
You look so handsome! I still can't believe you don't have a date for this thing.

JACK
Thanks, mum.

SUSAN
You're welcome! Now, come. I wanna take a photo.

Jack shuffles over and stands in front of a white wall in the lounge room for a picture.

SNAP!

EXT. PROM - NIGHT

The school hall's exterior is decorated with balloons and lights along with signs created by the students.

INT. PROM - NIGHT

A band is playing "Earth Angel" as students are dancing.

Some students are eating...

Some are sneakily pouring alcohol into their drinks.

Brad and Cheryl enter the hall.

Lance and Gabby follow behind them.

BRAD
Let's grab a drink.

CHERYL
Don't you think we had enough in the limo?

BRAD
Come on! It's prom!

GABBY
You don't have to drink Cheryl

LANCE
How about some champagne? I snuck
some in.

Laurel is standing near the food table, eating.

LAUREL
Love crab cakes!

The band changes SONG:

LAUREL (CONT'D)
Love this song!

Laurel begins swaying.

Jack enters the hall.

He spots Cheryl dancing with Brad.

Jack walks over to Laurel.

LAUREL (CONT'D)
Jack. Glad you made it. Any more
tidbits from your cousin?

JACK
Not, yet...

Jack notices Laurel's mouth is full:

JACK (CONT'D)
Crab cakes?

LAUREL
Love 'em... Try one.

Jack grabs one and slowly takes a bite:

LAUREL (CONT'D)
I was thinking, Jack. Why an
eighteen year old boy would need a
Kinetic Watch? And how an eighteen
year old boy could know so much
about the galaxies?

Jack looks at Cheryl.

She's alone.

She smiles at Jack.

JACK
Excuse, sir.

Jack begins walking toward Cheryl.

Laurel lingers a look at Jack.

Cheryl takes a sip of her drink:

JACK (CONT'D)
Hey, Cheryl.

CHERYL
Hey... Sorry about Brad and Lance.

JACK
How are they?

CHERYL
Lance's ankle is twisted but he'll survive.

Jack looks away in disappointment.

CHERYL (CONT'D)
Do you dance?

Cheryl smiles.

JACK
I'm not good--

BRAD (O.S.)
What's going on here?

Brad, Lance and Gabby return.

CHERYL
We're just talking, Brad.

JACK
I didn't mea--

BRAD
How about I get my payback for yesterday, Shorts?

Lance chuckles.

Cheryl walks off.

JACK
Come on, man.

CHERYL
(to Brad)
You're such an ass sometimes.

Brad pulls out a pistol from under his jacket.

LANCE
Whoa, man! What the hell are you
doing?

BRAD
I'm sick of that freak!

The band stops playing.

The students begin screaming and causing a commotion.

Lance attempts to stop Brad.

BANG!

The Kinetic Watch slowly drops to the floor.

Jack is standing in front of Lance.

BRAD (CONT'D)
What the hell?!

Brad throws a left jab toward Jack.

CRUNCH!

Brad's hand is broken:

BRAD (CONT'D)
AHHHH!!!

Jack pushes Brad to the ground.

He picks up the gun.

EXT. PROM - EARLY MORNING

The students are scattered.

The paramedics are attending to students and teachers while
police officers question them.

Jack is sitting with Cheryl, Gabby and Lance - wrapped in a
blanket.

CHERYL
How did you do that, Jack? Where
are you from?

 JACK
I'm... I'm a...

CUT TO:

TITLE: "ALIENATED"

THE END.